

Enlightened

News and Views for the Light Electorate

Edition 38 February 2019

FREE



SERVICES
TO BE
AXED
P3



MARKET
TOWN
P4-5



COUNCIL
FAILS
RESIDENTS
P6



EMBRACING
disABILITY
P11

CUP COMES HOME

After a 10-year absence, the Gawler Harness Racing Club will hold its Cup meeting on its own track on Sunday, February 24.

The last Cup held locally by the Club was on March 28, 2008 when Zerrafoss, trained by Jeremy Seal at Angle Vale, and driven by David Harding, scored a half head win after coming off a 20-metre handicap.

At the time, the Gawler Harness Racing Club knew its property on Weaver Road had been compulsory acquired for the building of the Northern Expressway.

The final meeting was held on Friday June 6, 2008 with Roseworthy trainer Toby Ryan producing Crusaders Crest as the final race winner with David Harding in the sulky.

Gawler Harness Racing Club President, Mr Peter Bain, said the committee at the time had determined that despite the loss of the track, the club would continue.

Continues on Page 20



GHC President Peter Bain with Gawler Cup hopeful "Ideal World"

FROM THE EDITOR

LIFE FROM OPPOSITION

A year has almost passed since the last State Election and I have spent a great deal of time working out how I can best serve my community from the opposition benches.

When I was in Government I was able to pick up a phone and speak to the relevant Minister, Ministerial Adviser or Public servant and get things done pretty quickly. As I no longer have that access, it takes me just that little bit longer to get a good result for my constituents and community, but it is still happening.

On a more positive note, it is great to see some of the initiatives funded by the previous State Labor Government are starting to happen, namely, the Main North/Dalkeith Roads intersection upgrade, construction of the East Link Road, and work should start shortly on the Tulloch Road intersection upgrade.

Sadly, the new Liberal Government has decided to cut or close a number of public services. Cuts to public services unfortunately have a disproportionate negative impact on those on lower incomes (e.g. pensioners), or those who have higher expenditure, like families with children. We need to defend our public services to ensure we have a healthy and fair community.

On a disappointing note, the Town of Gawler has continued to hide behind a veil of secrecy on two important projects. We are no wiser as to how much the Civic Centre redevelopment has cost ratepayers and the residents in the southern rural areas of Gawler still don't know what the Gawler Council want to do to them.

The redevelopment might be a good project, but ratepayers and residents can only form their opinions as to whether it is good value when they know the cost, and in particular, the opportunity cost. When you live on an unsealed road, or have no footpaths or properly constructed reserves, you may think the priorities are not quite right.

At a time when trust in political and public institutions is at an all time low, we need greater participation and engagement, not less.

Transparency and accountability are not merely words – they only have meaning when they are converted into actions.

In this edition of Enlightened there are a range of good news stories, none more so than the Gawler Harness Club's annual Gawler Cup returning to their track on Two Wells Road.

Congratulations to all the volunteers who are the backbone of this club.



18-year-old Isaac Solomon, a recent Trinity College graduate and Gawler Youth Advisory Committee member, has become the newest addition to the Light Electorate team.

Taking the reins from previous trainee Bradley Johnson, for the next 12 months Isaac will be undertaking a Certificate III in Government while working at the Light Electorate Office for Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said Mr Solomon is not only keen in developing his administrative skills but also has a particular interest in politics.

During 2018, Mr Solomon undertook a week of work experience in Mr Piccolo's office and he enjoyed it so much that he applied for the traineeship when it became available at the end of the year.

During the traineeship Isaac will undertake a range of administrative tasks within the

office but will also attend a number of events in State Parliament and in the community to support Mr Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said Isaac will work on a broad range of administrative tasks in the Electorate and will have many opportunities to interact with the community.

"Our aim is to skill up Isaac so he can find long term employment in his chosen field, including some ongoing study," Mr Piccolo said.

Isaac welcomed the new opportunity saying, "One of my main passions has always been helping to build a strong and happy community, and who better to learn from than Tony and his staff".

"In my first month I have learnt so much about how an electorate office works and have gained some great insights into the issues affecting our community," said Mr Solomon.



Under laws introduced into State Parliament during January 2019, councils like the Town of Gawler will no longer be able to hide behind 'commercial in confidence' to keep information about project cost blowouts from ratepayers and residents.

The Ratepayer Protection Bill 2018 prepared by local Member of Parliament and Shadow Minister for Local Government, Tony Piccolo, said that ratepayers and residents have the right to know when project costs blowout, as they impact on Council rates.

Under the proposed laws, Councils will be required to prepare a report for publication in a prominent place on their website when a new service or project exceeds 10% of the amount allocated in council's annual

business plan or project budget. "More importantly, Councils will be required within 30 days of receiving the report to publish it on a prominent part of their website," Mr Piccolo said.

Mr Piccolo said that he understands the Civic Centre redevelopment has blown its budget by over 1.2 million dollars.

"That adds up to a lot of unmade footpaths and unsealed roads," said Mr Piccolo.

"I can't confirm the figure as Council have refused to make the information available, but clearly, the ratepayers have a right to know."

"Additionally, Councils will need to be more open about how well they maintain its infrastructure.

The proposed laws seek to improve Council transparency, accountability and disclosure.

Enlightened

Enlightened is published and distributed by Tony Piccolo MP, Member for Light. For further information on any of the articles in this edition, please contact the Light Electoral Office on (08) 8522 2878 or email light@parliament.sa.gov.au

Keep in touch with Tony



(08) 8522 2878



/tonypiccolomp



light@parliament.sa.gov.au

148 Murray St Gawler, 5118

Mr Piccolo said that some Councils do it quite well and have ongoing engagement with their community, while others treat their ratepayers and residents like children and talk down to them.

"In my view, Gawler Council doesn't do transparency and accountability very well at all," said Mr Piccolo.

"For whatever reason, Gawler Council believes that local ratepayers and residents must be protected from the truth.

"It is a very paternalistic and disrespectful way of treating the community."

"It has denied:

- Kudla and Hillier residents vital information about future plans for

their community; and

- All Gawler residents information about the million dollar blow out on the Civic Centre redevelopment

In addition, when they were caught out charging people parking fines illegally, they discussed it behind closed doors.

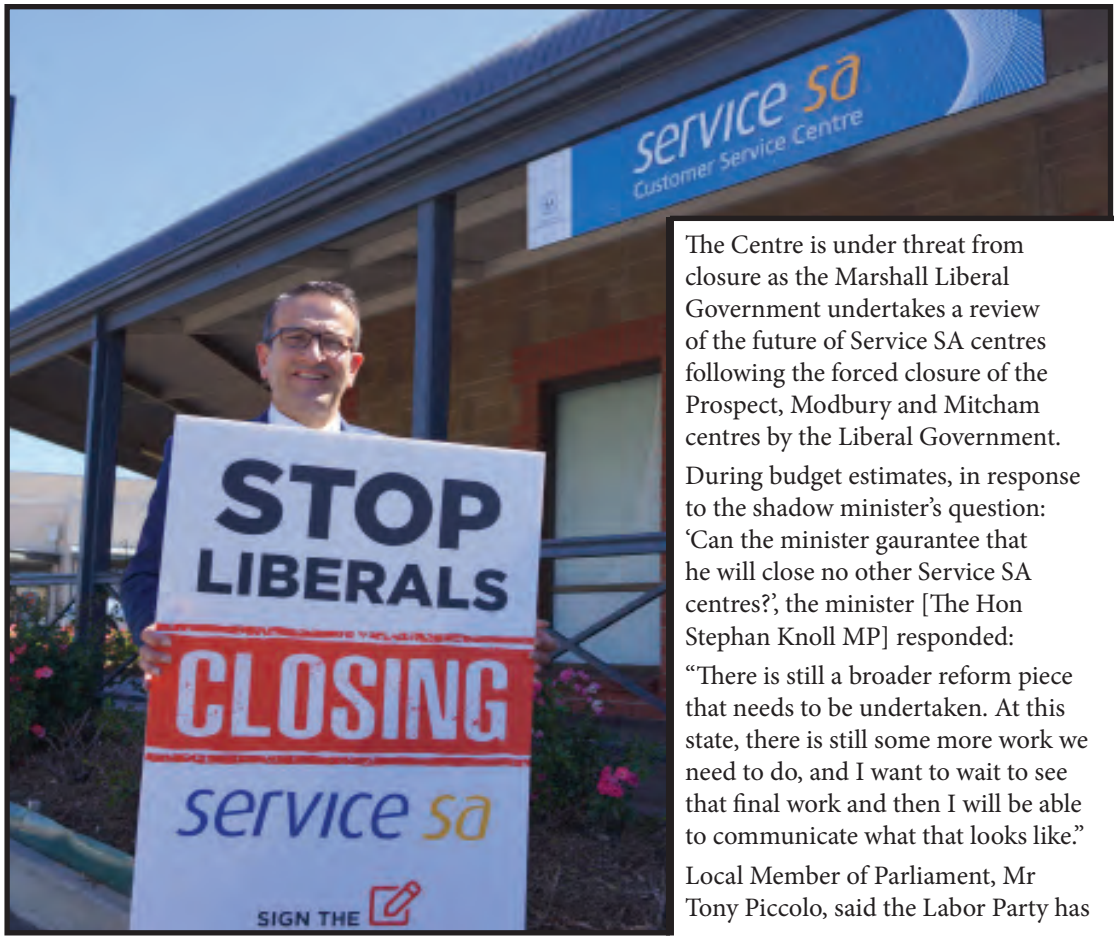
"This lack of transparency reduces the community's trust in their Council.

"Council decisions impact on the daily lives of people, so they owe it to them to be open.

"I'm hoping the new Council will be more open with the community," Mr Piccolo added.

SERVICES TO BE AXED

The Gawler Service SA Centre will stay open if Labor is re-elected to Government at the next State Election.



The Centre is under threat from closure as the Marshall Liberal Government undertakes a review of the future of Service SA centres following the forced closure of the Prospect, Modbury and Mitcham centres by the Liberal Government. During budget estimates, in response to the shadow minister's question: 'Can the minister guarantee that he will close no other Service SA centres?', the minister [The Hon Stephan Knoll MP] responded: "There is still a broader reform piece that needs to be undertaken. At this state, there is still some more work we need to do, and I want to wait to see that final work and then I will be able to communicate what that looks like." Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, said the Labor Party has

today committed itself to re-opening the three centres already closed by the Liberals and will also explore service improvements at all Service SA Centres.

Mr Piccolo said a Malinauskas Labor Government would explore:

- What additional services could be provided at Service SA centres
- Whether extended opening hours are needed at busy centres
- How waiting times can be reduced

Mr Piccolo said many South Australians rely on Service SA centres to access essential services such as: vehicle and boat licensing and registration, and special vehicle

number plates. "People also access a range of SA Government forms and other services through Service SA centres", Mr Piccolo said. "To close the centres down and move all services online will disadvantage a number of people who don't have access to a computer, or do not have the computer literacy required. "Invariably, those who use the centres cannot access the online services currently available. "This Liberal policy of cuts, closures and privatisation hurts the most vulnerable in our community." Mr Piccolo said that the closure of the Gawler Service SA Centre would also impact on people in the Barossa, Adelaide Plains and Mid North areas.

TRANSPORT SERVICES TO BE CUT

Bus services across the Light Electorate will be cut from January 27, affecting people in both the Gawler and Munno Para West areas.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, said the cuts to Gawler services were particularly galling as it had taken the community many years of campaigning to get bus services introduced in the town. "Of greater concern is that the worst is yet to come. These cuts represent just a fraction of the full \$46 million worth of public transport cuts introduced in last year's Budget," Mr Piccolo said. "For some passengers these changes mean they will face longer waits at the bus stop, longer travel times and more convoluted multi-bus journeys. "For others it means they will have to use more expensive alternatives to link to other services or get to their destination. "For affected passengers, these service cuts effectively represent an increase in their cost of living." The first two Monday-Friday morning services on the 491 route - which services the Hewett area - will be cut.

The 451, 451a and 452 routes - which link Munno Para West residents to the Munno Para and Elizabeth shopping centres and the Smithfield and Elizabeth train stations - have also been affected by the cuts. The cut services include: the first service on the 452 route to Elizabeth (Mon-Fri); the last service of the 451a route from Elizabeth (7 days); and the first two services of the 451 route to Elizabeth (Mon-Fri) and its first service to the Munno Para Centre (Mon-Fri).

Mr Piccolo observed that families in the Munno Para West area will be particularly hard hit by the cuts, as they link to major shopping centres and rail services. "While it is not unusual to change services to

improve patronage and access, these changes represent cuts as no new alternative services will be provided", Mr Piccolo said. "The Marshall Liberal Government's cruel cuts to public transport will hurt thousands of people who rely on these services. "Workers in the electorate who rely on these bus services to get to and from work will be reeling from these harsh and unnecessary cuts. "There are limited transport options in these outer metropolitan and Gawler areas, so these cuts will hit some passengers hard. "We need to campaign hard against these cuts, or else the Marshall Liberal Government will slash more services in the coming months and years. "Tell Steven Marshall that these cuts are completely unnecessary by signing the petition at stopliberalcuts.com. "By working together, we can stop further cuts to public transport services, which are likely to be more severe than these. "We need to stop the Liberals from axing Gawler Bus Services."



Tony Piccolo MP at the last run of the early morning 491 service. Local commuters will now have to find alternative transport to get around



Munno Para residents are concerned their bus services are being axed

Market

A MARKET FOR ALL MARKETS

Gawler like most country or rural townships has had markets for decades with the first produce market opening on the 10th December 1870 at the corner of Murray and Finnis Streets opposite Kneese's Exchange Hotel.

The proprietor of the first market was a Mr Edward Lane who advertised the market as “for the sale of every description of General Produce, Wholesale and Retail”.

While the Lane market was the first known to sell produce

stock and sundry, markets had operated in Gawler for many years prior.

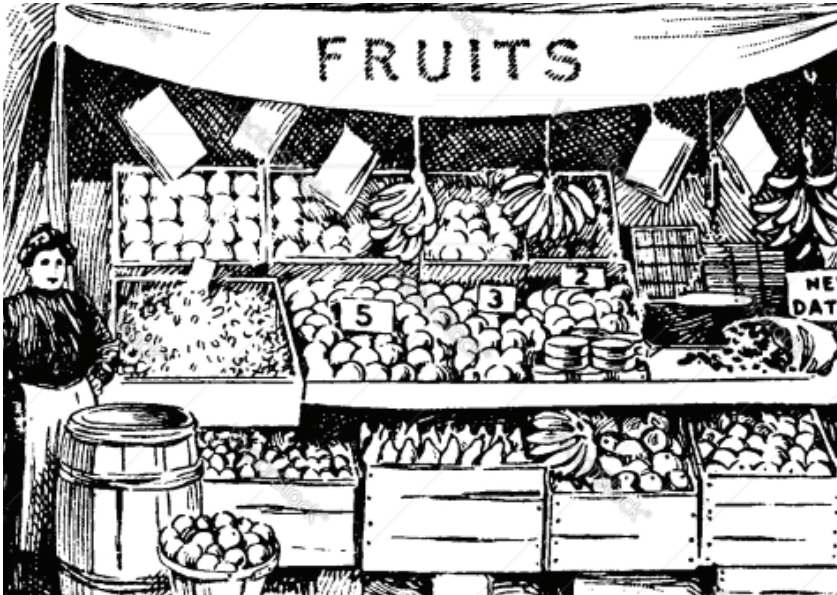
Local Member of Parliament Mr Tony Piccolo said perusal of early editions of The Bunyip carry many advertisements for various stock and sundry markets.

Stock markets continued in Gawler township until the Cowan street site was razed for the new shopping centre.

Mr Piccolo said the Light Electorate has a number of regular markets meeting the needs of different people.

Gawler boasts a weekly produce and poultry market at Hayles Road, Evanston South every Wednesday morning, the new Farmers Market in the Visitor Centre carpark on Saturday mornings and the Lions Club holding a weekly market on Sunday mornings at the Gawler Railway Station Carpark.

The Munno Para community holds a quarterly market at the Munno Primary School on the first Saturday of March, June, September and December to coincide with the changes in seasons.



The carpark at the Gawler Visitor Centre came alive with the hustle and bustle of people searching for fresh food bargains on Saturday 12th January as the Gawler Farmers' Market returned.

The management of the market has been taken over by the Frangos family of Virginia, who have plans to provide a wider range of fresh fruit and vegetables as well as other locally produced foods, at affordable prices.

Market spokesperson, Mr Andrew Frangos, said they are aiming to give local growers and food producers an opportunity to sell direct to the customer and improve farm gate returns.

“Customers will be able to buy fresh products, grown or produced either locally or in other parts of the State and Australia, depending on seasonal conditions”, Mr Frangos said.

“We will focus on fresh products, so we need

to source them from whichever regions support seasonal growing patterns.

“Wherever products are sourced, market sellers will strive to provide a consistent level of service and product availability, at affordable prices.

“Having grown up in the region, we are keen to serve our community,” added Mr Frangos.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, is supporting the market, commenting that he is glad to see that stalls will be owner-operated and reflect mum and dad small businesses.

“The new market will include more affordable produce and stall holders will be required to be present at every market”, Mr Piccolo said.

“Farmers’ markets are not only important to give growers a better return and enable customers to buy direct, they also play an important social role in helping to build a sense of community.”

One stall will also be reserved (at no charge) for local service clubs and community groups to provide catering, with all proceeds retained by the organisation.

More information about the Gawler Farmers’ Market can be found at its Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/gawlermarket>

The new market opens at 8 am every Saturday.



Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said the Gawler Lions Station Market has been a long-time fixture on the Gawler social calendar.

The Gawler Lions Station Market held every Sunday morning from 8 am till 12 Noon offers the bargain hunter a wide



range of food, produce and bric-a-brac.

There are stalls selling local fresh produce, bakery products, flowers, plants and bric-a-bric, not to mention the gems found in the occasional car boot or trailer sale.

Mr Piccolo said personally he liked the second hand book stalls where he has picked up some great history books.

The Market, which now boasts up to 50 stalls, proves that only Gawler can offer the best of town and country, where you can not only enjoy a hot latte but find preserves just like your grandmother used to make.

If you haven’t visited the Markets before, just follow your nose to the Gawler Railway Station where you will be guided by the sweet smell of bacon and eggs or a sausage sizzle.

If you are interested in securing yourself a stall at the Market be sure to contact the Market Coordinator, David Schwartz on 0437 675 653, otherwise pop on down to the Market where you will no doubt bump into a friend while picking up a bargain.

A stall costs \$12 per site with a set up time of 6:30 am to 7:30 am and all proceeds going to community projects or charities.



Town



The Gawler Poultry and Veg Markets have been operating on a Wednesday in Gawler for over 70 years and are currently located at 56 Hayles Rd, Evanston South.

Market operator Karen Grocke said the market is part of the community and has offered people a place to not only sell poultry, fruit and vegetables, sundries, hay and grain, but also is a huge social outlet for all – men, women and families.

“The markets also offer families a place where they can purchase cheap fruit and vegetables which helps families and communities greatly, in our economic times,” Ms Grocke said.

“The Gawler Poultry & Veg Markets conducts a series of auctions to sell items for customers. I take a commission for selling their items, whether it is a duck, a car, or an apple.

“We have auctions selling small boxed animals, young chickens, ducks, birds, fertile eggs, rabbits and even guinea pigs.

“Sundry sales include tools, furniture, knick knacks, basically, anything that is not live!!”

Auctions start at 9am and are normally completed by approximately around 2:00 or 2:30pm.



The Munno Para Community Market will spring into action on Saturday 2nd March from 9 am at the Munno Para Primary School to usher in autumn.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, said the purpose of the community market is to give local residents a place where they can meet and chat with other people in the local area while browsing the various stalls. “It is the traditional town square community market offering a variety of items from fresh produce to bric-a-brac and more,” said Mr Piccolo.

“Local people are able to purchase some great bargains, chat to neighbours and provide feedback on any concerns they may have about their community.

“The market is run by local people for the benefit of local residents”, Mr Piccolo said.

The market organisers said that there will be something for the whole family.

Market organiser, local resident Ms Sandra Watherston, said the market aims to have 30 stalls from the local community, and support services including sports clubs.

“There are many transport options including walking, the Gawler train and the 440 bus and there is plenty of parking on surrounding streets,” Ms Watherston said.

Created in 2017 with full consultation and support from the Playford Council, Renewal SA, Tony Piccolo MP, City Gospel Church and the Munno Para Kindergarten, it is run by volunteers in the local area to promote community engagement.

Stalls are available for \$10 (this is a non-profit market with all booking fees covering the market expenses, licenses and given back to the community i.e free activities).

For details or to book stall contact Sandra on 0434643087 or munnoPARACOMMUNITYMARKET@gmail.com



COUNCIL FAILS GAWLER SOUTH RESIDENTS

A parliamentary committee has heard explosive evidence that the Gawler Council failed to go into bat for residents seeking improvements to the intersection of Coleman Parade and Potts Road with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI).

In late January the Public Works Committee (PWC) of State Parliament commenced an inquiry into the Gawler East Link Road.

The Bunyip recently reported that local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, was disappointed that the new Liberal Marshall State Government had not made any funding available to meet the concerns of local residents.

Mr Piccolo has previously said that the residents in the Coleman Parade precinct have been left and “high and dry” by a Gawler East Link Road sweetheart deal between the Gawler Council and the Marshall Liberal Government.

Mr Piccolo said that evidence tendered to the PWC has unfortunately supported his worst fears.

“While I was lobbying hard for the local residents, my efforts have been undermined by a Council that was sitting on its hands.”

When asked what representations the Town of Gawler had made regarding the intersection of Coleman Parade and Potts Road, the PWC was told the Council was relying on DPTI’s design process to come

up with a suitable solution that meets the relevant [engineering] standards?

Mr Piccolo sought clarification: “Your evidence to the committee is that essentially, for want of a better word, Gawler council haven’t gone into bat for any additional works at Coleman Parade and Potts Road?”

The DPTI witnesses confirmed that that was correct.

Mr Piccolo said he was shocked by the revelation, given the council have spent tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of ratepayers’ dollars fighting the overall alignment of the link road because they did not accept the design advice of DPTI.

“They spent ratepayers’ money fighting DPTI for a road alignment no residents liked, but have spent zero dollars fighting for improvements local residents want.”

Mr Piccolo said the Town of Gawler has prioritised its own agenda over the real needs of local residents, in its haste to achieve a ‘win’ with the new Marshall Liberal Government.

“I am particularly concerned about the wellbeing of residents in the Vines Lifestyle Village who will find it difficult to access Potts Road during peak times,” Mr Piccolo said.

Under the current plan, Evanston Park residents north of Potts Road will not be able to access Tulloch Road direct from Morrow Avenue.



Tony Piccolo has said that the sweetheart deal between the Marshall Liberal Government and the Gawler Council has left residents “high and dry”

“While I welcome moves to keep additional traffic along Morrow Avenue to a minimum, it is a backward step not to provide a safer intersection at Potts Road and Coleman Parade,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Some Coleman Parade residents will have to drive north past Ames Drive and turn left onto Sherriff Street if they want to access

Main North Road safely.

“It is unfortunate that the needs of local residents come a distant second to Council’s political priorities.

“At some point in time it would be great if Council’s priorities could reflect the people’s agenda, rather than their own.”

TULLOCH ROAD DELAYS

Despite funding having been secured back in November last year, a start date for the installation of traffic lights at the Tulloch Road / Main North Road intersection has not yet been confirmed.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, is disappointed with the lack of progress at the intersection adjacent the Gawler Green Shopping Centre.

“The road safety risks and frustration presented by the traffic congestion at this intersection have not gone away”, Mr Piccolo said.

At a parliamentary Public Works Committee hearing last Thursday, Mr Piccolo was surprised to learn of the project’s timelines.

“Construction is not scheduled to begin until the 2nd quarter of 2019, and the works are not expected to be completed until the end-of-2019”, Mr Piccolo said.

“The project has been funded for almost a year, so why hasn’t a suitable contractor been found and works commenced already?”

While critical of the project’s timelines, Mr Piccolo emphasised that his criticisms were not directed to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) but rather the new Marshall Liberal Government that has destabilised the Department through sackings and budget cuts.

“For about six months DPTI did not have a Chief Executive Officer. The previous one being axed by the incoming Marshall Liberal Government.”

“This lack of leadership has clearly not



Tony Piccolo is disappointed with the lack of progress at Tulloch Road

helped DPTI meet its project targets.”

“DPTI are in the process of combining the works at this intersection with the road traffic upgrades associated with the Gawler East Link Road at the Potts Road and Main North Road intersection.

Upgrading both intersections at the same time will lessen the traffic disruption associated with these projects”, Mr Piccolo said.

“But service relocation works at the Potts Road / Main North Road intersection have already commenced. So why couldn’t a contractor have already commenced works at the Tulloch Road intersection as well?”

Last year Mr Piccolo lobbied strongly to have the project funded, with over 30,000 people joining in the social media and doorknocking campaign in some one, as they concerned about the safety and amenity of the busy Tulloch Road intersection.

This pressure contributed to the previous State Labor Government’s decision to commit \$4 million for the installation of traffic lights to assist vehicles entering and exiting the Gawler Green Shopping Centre.



RESIDENTS SEE RED OVER COUNCIL YELLOW LINE PROPOSAL

Some Queen and Jerningham Street residents are seeing red over a Gawler Council proposal to paint solid yellow lines on Queen Street, which would outlaw parking in front of some of their homes.

While Gawler Council has sought feedback regarding the proposal, residents believe the short consultation period and its timing brings into question how genuine the process is.

Council has proposed changes to on-street parking because Queen Street is narrow and parking on both sides of the street can block cars from driving through, and in particular, emergency vehicles.

After receiving a lukewarm response from Council, residents approached local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, to help them with their cause to find a better solution.

In response, Mr Piccolo met with some residents of Queen Street on a warm 42°C Thursday night - an indication of how hot under the collar some residents are with the proposal.

Mr Piccolo said the residents acknowledge that on-street car parking issues exist, but believe that better solutions could be found through collaboration with residents.

“The residents believe that had Council engaged with them earlier, a whole range of possible options may have been considered that could deliver a better outcome for affected residents and road users,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Affected residents are unhappy that no consultation took place before the proposal was put to them in writing, but they are willing to engage with Council to identify a range of possible options to improve traffic flow on Queen Street.

“Residents are asking that Council take a holistic approach to the problem, rather than deciding on the quickest and cheapest option, leaving residents carrying the burden of ongoing inconvenience.

“Residents would also like the opportunity to put their case direct to the Council or relevant committee, prior to a decision being made.”

Mr Piccolo said since writing to the Council, the feedback period may have been extended to mid/late February and Council may meet with the residents on-site.

“While greater engagement by Council would be a welcome intervention, it is unfortunate that residents have to protest before Council listens,” Mr Piccolo said.



RESIDENTS RALLY FOR BETTER SPACES

About 60 residents living in the Aspire Development at Evanston South held a meeting on an undeveloped reserve within the new estate in late November, demanding a better deal from the Gawler Council regarding public spaces and reserves.

Residents were angry about what they perceive was Council's plan to provide a lower standard of amenity in the new estate in an effort to keep maintenance costs down to the lowest level possible.

The community forum was arranged by local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, in conjunction with a group of local residents who want council to take heed of their concerns about the future of their estate.

In addition to the 60 residents, Gawler Council Mayor Karen Redman, existing Cr Ian Tooley and new councillors Paul Little and Cody Davies also attended.

Shawn Bowden from the developer, Lanser Communities and Sam Dilena, Director of Infrastructure from Gawler Council addressed the residents and answered many questions.

Mr Piccolo said the residents have had no say in the development of the public spaces and reserves to date, and they are annoyed that they would be presented with a fait accompli.

"While Council has every right to keep a lid on maintenance costs it should not be at the expense of a lower standard public of space and reserves," said Mr Piccolo.

"Residents were concerned that Council has been following the wrong priorities and residents were then left with poorer public spaces and amenities."

"At a time when we as a society are encouraging people to live healthier lifestyles, council is cutting back funding on creating spaces which are designed to encourage physical activity."

Mr Piccolo said that the developers were keen to deliver the public spaces and reserves which had been approved in the master plan for the area, but protracted negotiations with the Gawler Council has meant very little has been delivered to date.

The meeting was told that discussions and negotiations between the developers and council for this particular reserve started in the middle of last year with no end in sight.

Mr Piccolo said Gawler Council has to improve its decision making processes if it wants quality development to take place.

"When residents are siding with the developer, then you know there is something significantly wrong in Council's

priorities, policies and decision making processes.

Residents at the meeting signed a petition calling on the Council to enter into prompt negotiations with the developers to approve the public space plans and consult with them along the way.

Mr Piccolo said that the petition would be lodged with council and another residents meeting will take place when both council and the developers have agreed to a draft plan for the reserve.

"The council members and staff present were left with no doubt about what residents expect from them and in what time frame."



Around 60 locals turned out to voice their concern at the Council's plan to cut costs and reduce amenities



DANGEROUS PATHS

Two young residents of Gawler's Church Hill love the area, but not the roads and footpaths.

Samara Bellchambers (12) and Arrabella Haaren (10), of Finnis Street, Gawler, have both contacted their local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, to seek his advice on how to get the Gawler Council to investigate their concerns.

Mr Piccolo met with both Ms Bellchambers and Ms Haaren onsite to discuss their concerns and said he had also written to the Council outlining their case for improvements to road and footpath surfaces in the area.

In their letter to Mr Piccolo, the Church Hill residents state that, "Finniss Street is a non-smooth road surface, causing it to be challenging for people to walk on or ride on."

They have also stated that they "find it hard to ride on this road because it is unmaintained (and) when we ride our bikes we end up on Cameron Street as it is the only smooth road next to us, making it easier to ride on."

Ms Haaren, a beginner on bikes, said she

finds it hard to ride on the road and has already injured herself because of the very uneven road surface.

Mr Piccolo said the young residents have stated that the problem with the paths on Finnis Street is that there is no drainage and on a rainy day the road floods and the paths are slippery to walk on, given the amount of small loose pebbles.

Ms Bellchambers also commented that the wall connected to her house on 30 Finnis Street is unsafe as it is on a lean and is very easy to move or push down. They are worried that the wall could fall on their neighbour's children who play in the street.

"The footpaths are unsuitable for gopher riders who are forced onto the roads which is not ideal from a safety perspective," Mr Piccolo said.

Mr Piccolo said it was great to see young people take an interest in the state of their communities and be prepared to take action to remedy identified problems.

"I am now waiting on a response from the Town of Gawler before advising the young residents what actions they can take(if any) to rectify these problems", Mr Piccolo said.

DUST CLOUDS RESIDENTS PAIN

Evanston Park residents, whose homes about the under-construction Gawler East Link Road, are angry at the huge amount of dust emanating from the worksite.

Having been rebuffed by the Gawler Council, some residents have sought the assistance of Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said the major issue appears to emanate from the mounds of soil which have been put aside for later reuse.

"While residents were prepared to accept some inconvenience, they believe the Government could do a better job of ensuring the contractors use dust suppressant measures, to ensure that dust is kept to a minimum," Mr Piccolo said.

Residents Mrs Sue and Mr Marco Longo said that their Christmas/New Year period was ruined, as they had to cancel family events at their home because of the dust.

"The dust has been unbearable since the covering vegetation



Local member, Tony Piccolo inspects the site with local resident Marco Longo and Robin Blown

has been removed," Mr and Mrs Longo said.

Neighbours Mr Robin and Mrs Heather Blown said that they could not use their air conditioner on very hot days because dust has entered the filters and they need to keep their windows closed.

"The dust has just been shocking," Mr and Mrs Blown said.

Mr Piccolo has also received a number complaints from residents in the adjoining The Vines retirement village. Mr Piccolo said that he wrote to the Transport Minister, the Hon Stephan

Knoll MP, some months ago drawing his attention to concerns residents have with dust and noise during the construction of the Link Road.

"The Minister gave an assurance that measures would be put in place to protect residents," Mr Piccolo said.

"It's unfortunate that that promise has not been kept.

"The residents do not oppose the construction of the Link Road but ask that contractors take reasonable measures to control the dust."

SOME LIGHT AC

CHANGING LIVES ONE CUP AT A TIME

A new project was launched in Gawler on Saturday, 2nd February to provide people with mental health issues a safe place they can chat over a cup of coffee and cake.

The project, called The Human Bean Project, is the brainchild of two local residents and former nurses, Lisa Combe and Kelly Brealey, both who have experience with mental health on a personal and professional level.

Ms Combe said in an era where most people communicate online, combined with stressors of modern-day life, mental illness and suicide are at an all-time high.

"We aim to do our part and have a positive impact on this," Ms Combe said.

"The project is about providing a safe space to sit and talk over a tea or coffee.

"The conversation can be about anything-it doesn't have to be about illness.

"It's about talking, human to human, with kindness, acceptance, no judgement and with compassion.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo welcomed the initiative and said the project is about reducing the isolation

which can be a part of mental illness and reconnecting with people.

"When Lisa and Kelly approached me about their idea last year, I was more than happy to assist them to get it off the ground," said Mr Piccolo.

"I spoke with Hope Chapel who agreed to make part of their church site available for the weekly event.

"It is great to see community organisations and members of the community working together for the wellbeing of others.

"Their aim is to change lives, one cup at a time and all conversations and names will be kept in the strictest confidence.

The project is open every Saturday morning 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at Hope Chapel, 8 Cowan street, Gawler and can be contacted on 0488 220 491.

Tea, coffee and light snacks are provided for a small donation and all donations go straight back into the project to fund the above as it is a not for profit venture.

In the future the project hopes to provide workshops and seminars.



At the official launch were Tony Piccolo MP with Lisa Combe (to his left) and Kelly Brealey (to his right) with other supporters.

PORTRAIT OF A PLAZA

Local artist Maxine Donald has won the 2018 Briant Mahoney Memorial Art Award as part of the Biennial Gawler Community Galley Art Awards.

The \$500 acquisition award, sponsored by local Member of Parliament Tony Piccolo, is for a work of art that captures the

essence or character of Gawler or portrays a historical aspect of the town.

Ms Donald's painting is of the rear of Gawler Arcade, also highlighting the River Red Gum that takes pride of place in the plaza at the rear of the arcade.

The painting is from the perspective of the multi-level carpark and is an innovative presentation of the plaza area contrasting the new with the old and displaying a technical attention to detail.

The Award is named after the late Briant Mahoney who was affectionately known in the town as the "man with the dog".

His family say Briant was complex and shy person, but at the same time drew people towards him.

Briant, an avid Power supporter, is remembered as a good-natured person who just preferred to live by himself.

One of six children, Briant attended the local Samaritan school in his early days and his family still recall him racing down the main street of Gawler in a horse and buggy.

Briant passed away in 2010 aged 68 and spent most of his working life in labouring and gardening jobs.

Mr Piccolo said Briant was one of those characters that added 'heart and soul' to the community and he was very pleased when his family gave him permission to name the award after him.

Entirely run by volunteers, more information about the Gawler Community Gallery can be found at <http://gawlergallery.blogspot.com.au/>



(R) The winning work by local artist Maxine Donald depicts the rear of the Gawler Arcade, shaded by it's magnificent old gum tree

GAWLER INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Our theme for 2019
Women for the Future

Friday, 8th March, 2019
Gawler Greyhound Clubrooms
Nixon Tce, Gawler
7.15 - 8.30am
\$25

Guest speaker: Franke Agenbag, an inspiring local/young woman and recipient of many awards including the University of Adelaide STEM award.

Pleasin' Choir performance

Tickets available now!
Admission via pre-paid ticket only

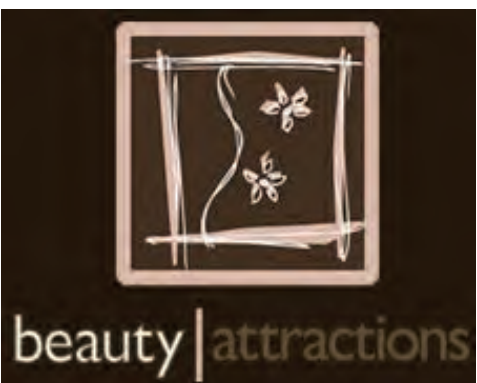
Phone: Maggi on 0407391344 for further details

Book on line: <https://www.trybooking.com/2RJP> or <https://www.trybooking.com/451141>
Bookings close on Wednesday 6th March 2019

ACTIVITY

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

It's always great to see new businesses opening up around the electorate, providing services and creating jobs for locals. Why not check out some of these new businesses in the electorate, buy local and support locals!



**BUY LOCAL
SUPPORT LOCALS**
Every dollar spent in Gawler supports local jobs and industry.

OPENING A NEW BUSINESS?

I'd love to help you get known. Call or email the Light Electoral Office and see what we can do to help your new business get off to a great start!

light@parliament.sa.gov.au (08) 8522 2878



PROVIDERS EMBRACE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SEMINAR

A very successful disability employment seminar was held Monday 3rd December to mark the 2018 International Day of People with Disability.

The seminar assisted people living with disability or their families or carers gain a better understanding of the training and employment options and opportunities available direct from disability employment service providers.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, who said that in many cases people living with disability are performing work below their capabilities, hosted the seminar.

“People living with disability have a right to live a dignified life and be treated with dignity and that includes being able to undertake work which is meaningful to them.”

“People living with disability have a range of abilities and there is the right job for them in our community. We need employers to keep an open mind when it comes to employing people living with disability.”

The disability employment service

providers at the seminar provided valuable information about the various training and employment opportunities available to people living with disability.

“Additional training opportunities exist to help people living with disability gain the skills required to compete on the open employment market.”

Mr Piccolo said that Feros Care who work on behalf of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provided an overview of the employment elements of the NDIS and how various programs are designed to assist people living with disability enter the workforce.

“Enabling people living with disability find meaningful work is about developing important life skills, gaining independence, new opportunities for social interaction and just simply, living a dignified life.”

The exhibition had a number of service providers and advocacy groups from both the not for profit and for profit sectors, all of whom aim to help everyone gain the satisfaction and pride of having a meaningful job.



Tony Piccolo with Carers and DisAbility Link staff members Annette and Coralie at the Disability employment seminar held on December 3rd



NEED HELP WITH THE NDIS?
Drop in to Feros Care on Fridays
The Feros Care Local Area Coordination Service is available to answer your questions about the NDIS and to help link you to mainstream and community supports.
FEROS CARE OFFICE
Level 1, 83-85 Murray St, Gawler SA
EACH FRIDAY*
No appointment necessary, drop in between 9.00am and 4.00pm. *Public Holidays Excluded.
ndis feros care
Delivering the NDIS in your community

NorthernVolunteering (SA)Inc
(08) 8250 1582



CARERS & ABILITY LINK
Inclusive Enabling Caring Local
Call us for your
Disability Support Services
We are a community-run not-for-profit organisation
8562 4000
barossa@cadl.support
www.cadl.support
Servicing Adelaide Hills/Flourey, York Peninsula, Gawler & Barossa areas
I ♥ ndis

AUSTRALIAN WORKPLACE TRAINING
Invest in your Future Enrol to Study Today!
www.awt.edu.au
RTO Code: 40037

Get job-connected
If you're living with a disability or health condition and looking for work, we can help you find the right job and support you the whole way.
T. 8377 0101
E. status@status.net.au
STATUS
Disability Employment Services

Holiday Explorers
SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
HAVING FUN IN THE COMMUNITY
LEARNING NEW SKILLS
Registered NDIS provider
en: holidayexplorers.com.au p: 0831 2379

maxima JOBS
Get working with Maxima
If you have a disability, injury or health condition, Maxima can help you get a job for life! We offer NDIS and DES supports to help you find a job sooner.
You can contact us now on **1300 629 462** or visit **maxima.com.au** to get started with Maxima today.

DISABILITY HOPES DASHED

Hopes for a better future for people living with disability have declined as the Federal Liberal Government turns the National Disability Insurance Scheme into a political plaything, according to local Member of Parliament Mr Tony Piccolo.

Speaking to his motion in State Parliament to acknowledge the International Day of People with Disability Mr Piccolo said, “two decisions that have been made over the last few years by the federal Liberal government I think are quite disconcerting.”

“First of all, they said that they would need the Medicare levy to be increased to provide funding and then, as part of their tax rhetoric and to give them the excuse to be able to cut taxes for corporates, they reduced the Medicare levy,” said Mr Piccolo.

“They then withdrew that levy because there was enough money in the scheme to do so.”

“There was enough money in the scheme to do that, but it is interesting that almost every week, without fail, my office gets complaints about the slow rollout of plans and the slow rollout of funding to people living with disability.”

“These are people who have actually had their plans approved and who are waiting months, if not years, due to lack of funding for services to be delivered, or they are waiting to have their plans approved and there are enormous delays.”

“The second decision that has been made is the recent one where they took \$3.9 billion from the National Disability Insurance Scheme to fund the Drought Aid program.”

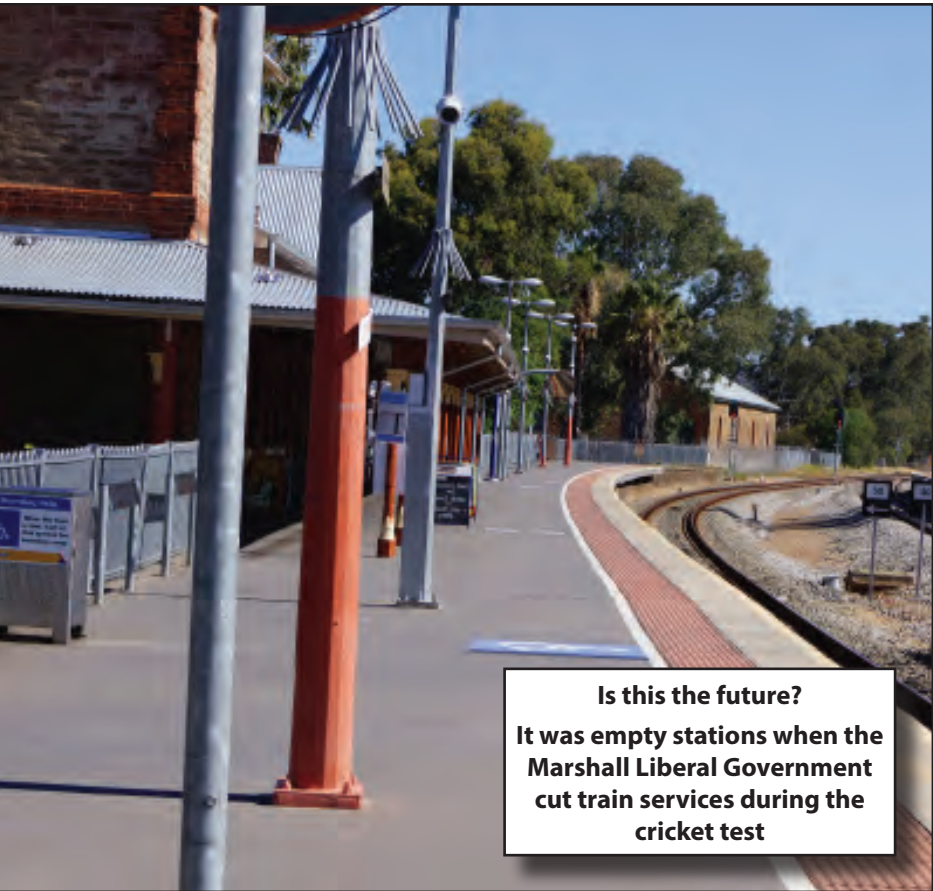
“I have no argument with the drought aid to farmers, as it is very important to do that and I have spoken to people who are affected by the drought.”

“They tried to play one vulnerable group against another, and this is what they have done again on this occasion—this time, the vulnerable group is the farmers, who are under drought pressure—and they took money away from the National Disability Insurance Scheme to do that.”

Mr Piccolo’s motion called on the “Liberal-National federal government to ensure that the NDIS is properly funded so it can improve the quality of the lives of people living with disability.”

Mr Piccolo said to his utter dismay this part of the motion was deleted by the State Marshall Liberal Government, as sadly it appears the State Liberals are too busy cosying up to the Federal Government than standing up for people living with disability in this state.

COMMUNITY BACKLASH OVER RAIL SERVICES SHUTDOWN



Is this the future?
It was empty stations when the Marshall Liberal Government cut train services during the cricket test

The Marshall Liberal Government received a backlash from the local community for closing down the train services during the Australia-India test match weekend at Adelaide Oval. Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said one of the main reasons that the new Adelaide Oval is so successful, is the availability of public transport to the stadium. “The availability of a diverse range of public transport services to the Adelaide Oval has made the stadium much more accessible for families,” said Mr Piccolo. “To close the train services down during a major sporting event is just ridiculous. It is just a nonsense and the local community know that. “My Facebook page has received numerous critical comments from the local community, expressing their disbelief that this Liberal Government could be so out of touch with ordinary people so early in its term. “While I do not agree with the tone of some comments made, they do reflect the frustration and anger felt by the local

community. “The sheer arrogance of the decision has been derided by the local community. “The community deserves better than the platitudes provided by the minister for Transport and Infrastructure. The train services have been shut down to enable signalling changes and substitute bus services will be provided. Mr Piccolo said while the bus services are better than nothing they will take much longer to arrive to the city and it does make it more difficult for families to travel. “The outer metro areas suffer the tyranny of distance and cost already, so I can understand while people are angry over this decision that seems to drive roughshod of the local community,” said Mr Piccolo. “Unfortunately it’s not the first or last bouncer to be bowled to the local community when it comes to public services, with cuts expected in a range of areas.” “Like underarm bowling the decision is just not cricket!”

TEMPORARY POST OFFICE WINS STAMP OF APPROVAL

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, has welcomed the announcement by Australia Post that the Munno Para Curtis Rd Post Office has re-opened this morning in a temporary location within the Playford Shopping Centre. Mr Piccolo said he has been working with Australia Post and the City of Playford since fire damaged the current Post Office to ensure that local people could access a Post Office in the Munno Para area in the lead up to Christmas. “In my discussions with Australia Post, I expressed the view that should the existing Post Office not be able to re-open by early December, then an alternative temporary site should be found,” said Mr Piccolo. “When it became clear from my discussions with the City of Playford that the existing site could not be re-opened

until next year some time I asked Australia Post to open a temporary site as soon as practicable. “I am pleased that Australia Post have accepted the request with the temporary Post Office located at Shop 12 / 297 Peachey Road, Munno Para. “I have found both the City of Playford and Australia Post to be very co-operative and this is a good result for the people in the Munno Para area. Normal trading hours will resume at the temporary location, with normal electronic counter transactions, banking services, mail products and postpak, mail collection and posting. Mr Piccolo said he has been advised that the Post Office box mail would be available for box holders to collect at the new site with the same box number and key, as they will be relocated to the temporary location.



Tony Piccolo outside the Curtis Road Post Office that was damaged by fire. A temporary PO will be in operation until repairs can be made

LISTENING IN THE REGIONS

Under the leadership of Peter Malinauskas, SA Labor is prioritising community consultation.

In the period since the 2018 State Election, Tony Piccolo has taken this consultative approach to regional South Australia, discussing prominent issues under his shadow ministerial responsibilities: Local Government, Planning and Veterans' Affairs.

Coinciding with regional meetings of the Local Government Association (LGA), Mr Piccolo has visited: the Eyre Peninsula; the Iron Triangle cities; the Legatus councils of the Mid-North and Barossa region; the South East; and the Riverland on 3 separate occasions – the last of which included an official visit of Labor's Shadow Cabinet on 18 and 19 November 2018.

For Mr Piccolo, consultation has long been his modus operandi. He understands the vital importance of directly hearing the concerns of communities, their leaders and interested parties.

Mr Piccolo says that in serving his local constituents and through his previous work as a government minister, he has consulted widely and has sought to facilitate constructive dialogue and productive outcomes amongst groups with vastly differing points of view.

"The process of consultation with regional councils and veteran Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs), has provided me with opportunities to advocate on their behalf and use their insights to inform SA Labor's policy-making," Mr Piccolo said.



Selfie Time! The Labor Shadow Cabinet has been meeting across the state to hear your views on issues that affect our communities

VETERANS NEED SUPPORT

Local Member of Parliament, and Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Tony Piccolo, is encouraging South Australian Veterans and their families to make submissions following the release of a Australian Productivity Commission (APC) draft report in early December.

The APC has recommended major changes to the way veterans and their families are supported by the Australian Government.

The APC found that the "veterans' compensation and rehabilitation system is not fit-for-purpose and it requires fundamental reform.

It asserts that the system "is out-of-date and is not working in the interests of veterans and their families or the Australian community."

The APC goes on to say that the "system fails to focus on the lifetime wellbeing of veterans."

The current veteran support system is described by the APC as legislatively and administratively complex, difficult to navigate and inequitable.

Mr Tony Piccolo said of greater concern was the finding by the APC that the Veterans' support system is poorly administered and places unwarranted stress on veterans who make claims to the various schemes.

Mr Piccolo said the findings by the APC did not surprise him as they mirror the feedback he has received from veterans across the state and who he meets with regularly.

"From Mt Gambier to Wudinna to Pt Augusta to the Riverland, I have heard from veterans about the difficulties they experience



Tony Piccolo discussed the APC Draft report with Gawler RSL Club President, Mr Paul Little.

accessing services and having their claimed recognised by the Department of Veterans Affairs," said Mr Piccolo.

"Veterans in regional areas of the state have told me that the decision makers are so remote from them that they fail to understand the difficulties they experience in obtaining the support they need.

"While ex-service organisations [like the RSL] provide a great deal of support to veterans, they are run by volunteers which are stretched to the limit".

Mr Piccolo said he would consult with the various ex services organisations to assess what is the best response to the Commission's recommendations.

"We need to ensure that veterans who have put their lives on the line for our nation are provided with the right support when they need it.

"I will discuss the report with my Federal counterpart Amanda Rishworth MP as most of the schemes are federally funded."



DISADVANTAGED BY DISTANCE

In meetings the Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Tony Piccolo, has had with regional veterans, one clear message has been received: the support needed to overcome the vast distances regional veterans experience accessing specialist medical and advocacy services, is not available or is insufficient.

Mr Piccolo has observed that veterans who reside furthest from the Greater Adelaide area – those who live in the South East or Eyre Peninsula – are those most impacted by inadequate supports.

"What I have heard from regional veterans is that they are grateful for the medical benefits a Gold Card entitles them to, but they are disadvantaged relative to those who live in the Adelaide suburbs," Mr Piccolo said.

"For instance, while the travel and accommodation costs of veterans are covered on those occasions when they consult a medical specialist in Adelaide or Melbourne, the travel and accommodation costs of their carers - who they rely upon - are not covered.

"Unfortunately, veterans in regional communities are not always offered a continuity of care from medical professionals, who practise in faraway capital cities. For instance, Mount Gambier veterans can be approved for a specialist consultation in Warrnambool, because of the reduced travel costs involved, without consideration of an existing doctor-patient relationship with a medical specialist in Adelaide or Melbourne."

Mr Piccolo has also encountered the difficulties some RSL (Returned Services League) sub-branches have had in accessing grant funding support for advocacy work and club room upgrades.

"I have been able to access some grant funding support through the SA-based division of the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs, so I encourage any RSL sub-branch who would like to explore a worthy project to contact my office."

Mr Piccolo will continue connecting with regional veterans' organisations as part of his schedule of regional visits in 2019.



REGIONAL COUNCILS SPEAK THEIR MINDS

Throughout regional South Australia, from the Eyre Peninsula to the Limestone Coast in the south-east of the State, Tony Piccolo has discovered that the challenges which consume local councils are remarkably similar.

The isolation of many regional councils from the Greater Adelaide urban area, places significant pressures on them to provide or facilitate the delivery of services which suburban communities take for granted.

“The concerns of regional councils hit right at the heart of their communities’ livelihoods,” Shadow Minister for Local Government, Tony Piccolo, has observed.

“When regions are without health professionals, for instance, councils step in with innovative ideas to attract and retain GPs.

“But councils can only do so much with limited rate bases and bureaucratic decisions which can sometimes stifle innovative ideas.”

Mr Piccolo has also observed a widespread dissatisfaction amongst regional councils, with the growing cost-shifting occurring as the Marshall Liberal Government cuts services and leaves councils with the burden of supporting their communities.

“The harsh education cuts in the Marshall Government’s first budget, which included the closure of some TAFE campuses - such as the one I visited in Wudinna on the Eyre Peninsula – are taking their toll, as are the cuts to Country Arts SA,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Regional mayors and chief executives have emphasised the absolute necessity of funding maintenance for services and a flexible public service, willing to support innovative ideas



Regional Mayors and staff meet with Labor Shadow Cabinet at Parliament House

which save taxpayers’ money.”

One remedy for council reform, for which a clear majority of regional councils have rejected, is the imposition of the Marshall Liberal Government’s Rate Oversight Bill. The Bill proposes the regulation of council rates by ESCOSA (the Essential Services Commission of South Australia).

Pointing to their limited rate bases and their close understanding of the demands of their communities, regional councils have emphasised their strong opposition to the Government’s Bill. Only two of the State’s 46 regional councils formally support it.

“Regional councils support reforms designed to genuinely improve the transparency, accountability and performance of councils. They don’t support legislation which places

council revenue in the hands of an unelected bureaucracy,” Mr Piccolo said.

“The Marshall Liberal Government also talks at length about support for population growth and skills funding. But regional councils want action now. Many areas, such as the South East are already experiencing skills shortages and the big investment projects in the pipeline in the Upper Spencer Gulf region will require skilled workforces in the very near future.

“The rate exemptions applicable to renewable energy assets and community housing rate rebates are also issues regional councils expect action on.”

Looking forward, Mr Piccolo plans to visit each regional council area at least once throughout 2019.

GOVT TOLD TO EXTEND NEWTON BOULEVARD



Member for Light, Tony Piccolo at the intersection where Newton Road could provide easier access for locals to the Munno Para West shopping precinct

Pressure is mounting on the State Liberal Government to extend Newton Boulevard to Stebonheath Road to help ease congestion on Curtis Road and make it easier for Munno Para residents to access local schools and shops.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, said residents in the Munno Para and Munno Para West areas are very critical of the performance of Curtis Road and complain about long delays during peak times.

“Currently, Curtis Road is the only link between the Munno Para residential areas and the education and retail precinct,” Mr Piccolo said.

Mr Piccolo understands that there are plans to extend Newton Boulevard to

Stebonheath Road and he is lobbying to have the construction of the road extension brought forward.

“With schools re-opening today, the traffic delay issues in the area become worse as parents try to negotiate Curtis Road to get their children to school or go to the local shops and other services,” Mr Piccolo said.

Mr Piccolo has written to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon Stephan Knoll, asking that the Newton Boulevard extension be constructed and opened for use as soon as is practicable, to provide a valuable link between the residential and retail/education precincts.

“It would also shift unnecessary traffic away from Curtis Road and reduce congestion on it during peak times, assisting with traffic movements for people living in Munno Para (Playford Alive part),” Mr Piccolo said.

“While I fully support the opening of the Boulevard as soon as is practicable, I would like to be reassured that appropriate traffic management treatments are undertaken at the intersection of Newton Boulevard and Stebonheath Road, as I don’t believe a normal T-junction will be safe enough.

“It is also important that the extended Newton Boulevard alignment does not cut off any opportunities for the development of car parking areas on the western boundary of Mark Oliphant College.”

Mr Piccolo said the Liberal Party campaigned heavily on improving traffic flows in the area at last year’s State election, so they are duty bound to deliver on that promise.

PICCOLO WELCOMES GELR COMMENCEMENT

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo has welcomed the commencement of work on the Gawler East Link Road.

Mr Piccolo said the previous State Labor Government funded the link road as a priority project to the tune of \$55 million but it took the Gawler Council two years and hundreds of thousands of ratepayer’s dollars later to make a decision.

“Had the Council agreed to the original plan, it would have saved Gawler ratepayers hundreds of thousands of dollars and the road would, more than likely, now be open.”

“More importantly, it would have caused

less stress for residents along the two Council preferred routes which were later found to be unviable.”

Mr Piccolo also highlighted the fact that the Liberal Party had campaigned during the recent State Election to have the road extended to Tiver Road.

“We now know, like the right hand turn on North Terrace for the trams, it was a phony campaign and a false promise by the Liberals.”

“They can’t use the cost as an excuse as they were known at the time.”

“Since the state election the new Liberal Minister, the Hon Stephan Knoll, has

walked away from the campaign to extend the road to Tiver Road.”

“Unfortunately, both the new State Liberal Government and the Gawler Council didn’t consider it necessary to provide a roundabout at the intersection of Coleman Parade and Potts Road. This will cause many difficulties for the older residents in the area once the link road is open.

“On a positive note it is great to see work commence. This will deliver many construction jobs and a better route for Gawler East residents to travel to the southern parts of Gawler.”



NEW RIVERSIDE CENTRE A SALVATION



The Salvation Army have been in Gawler for over 135 years and on Saturday the 6th October it opened their new Riverside Centre in Edith Street.

According to local pastor, Major Darren Cox, the focus of the new Centre is ministry to the local community not only through worship, but supporting all those in need in our community.

The new centre incorporates a place for worship, various rooms to provide counselling and support services, and the centre of the building is the soon to be open Riverside Café.

“We are here to serve God by being of service to our community,” Mr Cox said.

“Our centre is open to the community to use.”

Speaking at the official opening, local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said several localities lay claim to having held the first Salvationist meetings in Australia.

“These pioneering meetings were conducted by various

immigrants who had been converted by The Salvation Army back in Britain,” said Mr Piccolo.

“It is Adelaide, however, that owns the right to claim the first official Salvation Army Corps in Australia.”

According to the Bunyip of Friday 27 July 1883 Page 2, the Salvation Army commenced operations in Gawler on the afternoon of Saturday 21st July, on the Market Allotment, at which a large number of persons were present.

“On the Sunday three sermons were held to the largest gatherings ever seen in Gawler, not only was there no standing room in the hall, but the back of the stage was also filled.”

At the time The Bunyip reported that there is no question but that the Army has already done some good, if it is only to show those young men who are in the habit of making a noise at the back that there are those who will not have it.

Mr Piccolo said the Salvos continue to do work in Gawler to improve the wellbeing of people in our community.



Salvo volunteers serving breakfast at the new Riverside cafe

FAITH GROUPS PLAN FOR A GAWLER NIGHT SHELTER

In recent years the level of evident “rough sleeping” in Gawler has concerned many Christian leaders, charitable organisations and the Member for Light, Tony Piccolo.

Based on these concerns, in August last year, Mr Piccolo engaged the South Australian Housing Authority to request that they expand the regional bounds of their planned “rough sleeping” count (scheduled to take place on 28 February 2019) to include the Gawler township.

Mr Piccolo also initiated a series of forums with leaders of churches and charitable organisations in the Gawler region, to discuss the possibility of establishing a night shelter.

Through these forums, valuable insights have been gained from the “Do Unto Others” (DUO) night shelter program, formerly run in the city through the Salvation Army.

While planning for a night shelter project in Gawler is still in its early stages, the hope is that a volunteer-staffed night shelter service can be provided, featuring a free

evening meal and safe and secure shelter.

Once the available resourcing of the churches, charitable organisations and Gawler Council has been established, Mr Piccolo is confident a strong grant application can be made to assist with the running costs of a night shelter service.

“I have been very impressed with the energy and commitment shown by the church and charity organisations in this endeavour,” Mr Piccolo said.

“There is certainly a shared desire to assist some of the most needy and vulnerable people in our community.

“It is only right that we as community and church leaders do what we can to provide safety and shelter to people in need, particularly when the weather is at its most inclement.”

Forum participants are favouring a night shelter pilot trial during the winter months of 2019.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the night shelter is encouraged to contact the Light Electorate Office to express their interest.



Hope Central Church have opened a worship centre in Gawler.

The Elizabeth based Church had its first service in Gawler on Sunday 11th November 2018.

According to Gawler Campus Pastor, Peter Heyworth, who is responsible for the pastoral care of the Gawler congregation, the local church has gone from strength to strength with more than 50 people attending the weekly services held at the Gawler Community and Sports Centre at 9:30 am on a Sunday morning.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, who was a guest of the congregation at their first service, welcomed the new church to Gawler.

Mr Piccolo told the congregation said the church could do so much great work in the local community by reaching out to those who live on the margins of society.

“There are those who have been left behind by the economy or society require the support of their community, and churches are well placed to provide that support,” said Mr Piccolo.

The Church is committed to the Gawler community and are looking for a permanent home in the greater Gawler area.

In addition to the Gawler services, worship also takes place at 10.30 am at 51 Goodman Rd Elizabeth South and at 4pm at the corner of Park Tce. and Main north Rd, Salisbury.

Pastor Peter Heyworth can be contacted on 08 8252 9011 or you can go to their website at www.hopecentral.org.au if you would like to know more about the church.



Tony Piccolo MP with members of the newly convened Faith Forum, is seeking ways to help conquer homelessness and rough sleeping in the electorate.

LIGHTING UP THE PAST

NEW FREDERICK MAY HISTORY PUBLISHED

Descendants of Gawler inventor John Frederick May (Fred) have published a second volume about the life and times and work of the Gawler inventor.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said Andrew May, the great-great grandson of Fred May has spent many years researching the founder of the May Brothers & Co Foundry and Engineering Works in Gawler.

The two handsome volumes cover the breadth and depth of the work of Frederick May in Gawler and the influence his work had in agriculture.

Andrew May believes Fred May made a greater contribution to Gawler than James Martin.

Mr Piccolo said Andrew believes Fred's achievements have not been properly acknowledged by the South Australian community and that his inventions, such as the adjustable combine harvester and the ore concentrator, revolutionised Australian agriculture and mining.

"Andrew is determined to correct the record and ensure that Fred receives the recognition he rightly deserves and has published a book to demonstrate his importance to the town," said Mr Piccolo.

"Andrew said that their research [with his son James] unearthed so much historical material that he is working on the second volume of Fred's



Tony Piccolo and Gawler Books owner Allison Sadler show off the new history of the May Brothers with author Andrew May (Centre)

life in South Australia."

The centenary of the first trials of the May Brothers' Climax Harvester took place in Gawler River on 5 January 2017.

Mr May said that what distinguished this harvester from earlier models was that it had an adjustable comb and was wider.

"That patent went worldwide and it's still used today," Mr May said.

"Fred deserves great acknowledgement for what he did not only for Gawler,

but Australia and beyond, in relation to mining and agricultural machinery," he said.

Mr May is available as a guest speaker.

Remnants of the May Foundry in Bassett Town (Gawler South) still exist with the old showroom now a series of townhouses.

The books can be purchased online at <http://mechanicalgenius.wixsite.com/home> or you can pick up a copy at Gawler Books located at Willaston.



A restored May Bros 19th Century harvester of the type that revolutionised farming in the early colony

THE OLDEST SCHOOL

On January 24th 1878, the very first State School opened it's doors on Nixon Terrace, bringing public education to Gawler. We now know it as Gawler Primary School

The eventual cost of the building was £4,931. 18.0 (about \$1million in today's money) and had space to teach 600 children. Thousands of Gawler's kids have been educated here since then, including multiple generations of some families!

Can you spot anyone you know in the photos?



BAH, HUMBUG!

The Bunyip Newspaper, subtitled "Gawler Humbug Society's Chronicle" was first published on 5 September 1863 and consisted of eight pages.

With the paper's success, publication increased to bi-monthly in February 1865 appearing on the first and third Saturday of each month. Then, with the installation of new printing machinery its title became *The Bunyip or Gawler Chronicle and Northern Advertiser*.

On January 6th in 1866 The Bunyip became a weekly published every Saturday.

Today, The Bunyip Newspaper is part of the Taylor Group Newspapers with their HQ in the Riverland



A FARMERS' CO-OP

On December 26th December 1895 about 100 farmers met at Eudunda, South Australia to discuss the formation of a Farmer's Co-operative Society.

By July 1896, it was decided to establish a store for the sale of household goods and farm requisites, and the first store was opened at Sutherlands on 1 February 1897.

The first Eudunda store opened in 1902 and in the next sixty years, forty-four stores were established in country towns all over the state. There was even a Eudunda Farmers' Store in Gawler (pictured), and if you look closely at the photo, you might see someone you recognise!



The staff of Eudunda Farmers Co-operative Ltd (Gawler branch) taken in 1947
Standing back row (l to r) F Davidson, G Dawkins, B Eckerman, D Cullen
M Smith, G Lang (manager) D Milton, Dealy, W Bywaters
Front row (l to r) M Kaehne, L Chapman, S Davidson, B Hayles, G Jackson
W Shannon, R Davis, R Shannon



BUILDING BRIDGES

Imagine how we'd get around Gawler without a proper bridge over the river.

Back in the early years of last century it was a problem the residents of Gawler were considering. The current bridge was inadequate for the amount of traffic, and when Premier Thomas Price visited Gawler he was shown how the bridge vibrated under the weight of the traffic it was carrying.

Soon after the call went out for tenders, and the bridge's construction commenced in December 1907, with the bridge opening on the 22nd of January 1908.

Wholly constructed in Gawler, it was built to the design of Mr W.M. Stevens, Engineer for Roads and Bridges. The contractor was Mr A Schneemilch, and the sub-contractor for the iron and steel work was James Martin & Co.

The final cost was around £7000. Not bad for two months work!



Gawler National Trust Museum

Present

staying Alive

Another Fashion Parade from Violet Rowe

13th July 2019 commencing at 7.00pm
at the **Gawler Elderly Centre**



celebrating Fashions from 1960's and 1970's
(remember previous parades "From Parachutes to Pinnies" and the 50's "Rock around the clock")

Tickets \$30 (includes light supper)

For Credit Card Bookings Contact Gary Fremonger at the Eagle Foundry B&B 85223808

Bookings for cash may be made at the Museum 59 Murray St on Wednesdays between 1.00pm and 4.00pm



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS COME TO THE FORE

11 young people from Gawler and the Northern Suburbs graduated from the Young Entrepreneur Program at a ceremony held in November last year.

The program was designed to provide young people with an “entrepreneurial mindset” with the knowledge and skills to successfully undertake a social or business project.

The projects developed during the program ranged from a webpage which teaches people comedy, to an infant photography business, a custom clothing store, women's online store, kindness greeting cards, and raising beef cattle.

The pilot program was delivered to young people, aged 15-26 years, living or studying in the Greater Gawler and City of Playford areas, with students selected through a competitive process.

The program was managed by the Stretton Centre, a business unit of the City of Playford, and engaged a range of collaborators to deliver the whole program during 2018.

In launching the program, former Education Minister, the Hon Susan Close said she was pleased to launch the Young Entrepreneurship Program to provide students in the North of Adelaide with the opportunity to develop their passions and products into marketable skills and ideas.

“We know that the students who take part

in this program are tomorrow's business owners, entrepreneurs and industry leaders,” Ms Close said.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said he was excited about the opportunities the program will provide young people in area.

“The young people who were selected for the program have an entrepreneurial and innovation mindset and with the right guidance and support will be able to achieve great things,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Some young people often have the ideas and passion to succeed but sometimes lack the support to help them to convert them into reality.

“The program involved formal presentations, access to a mentor and webinars for just in time information.

“The young people learnt what is required to convert a great idea into a great product or service.

“This program inspires the next generation of business ideas that will create the jobs of the future for our local community,” Mr Piccolo said.

The program was funded through a \$120,000 grant provided by the Departments of Premier and Cabinet, Communities and Social Inclusion, State Development and Education.

SECURING OUR FOOD FUTURE

During the second half of last year, Year 9 Xavier College students undertook studies in food security through project-based learning, culminating in a presentation to the wider community on the 25th and 26th of September.

The students worked in groups to try to find solutions to the food security issue.

The task required students to find solutions to the problem that the world will run out of food in 2050, and that they needed to find global, national and local solutions to try to solve this issue for the Gawler and Light council areas.

The students presented to the school leadership team and a number of community leaders, including the Member for Light, Mr Tony Piccolo. In their presentations, the students had to explain to the various guests their project and their local solution

to the problem. Mr Piccolo said the students delivered a wide range of solutions such as community gardens, phone apps, setting up charities, new bin and wastage plans and water processing ideas.

“All in all, the ideas were incredibly impressive with the thought and the quality of the solutions,” Mr Piccolo said.

“The students were professional and persuasive in the delivery of their presentations.

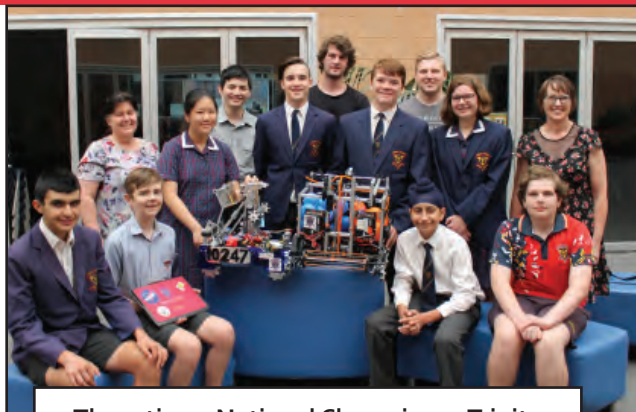
“Several of the students' ideas have been selected to appear in local newsletters and to local conferences which just goes to show the quality of the students' work.”

When asked by Mr Piccolo what was the most challenging part of the project, all the students said that working as a team and working together was the hardest.

BaCoN CONTINUES TO SIZZLE

Trinity College Gawler's Team BaCoN school robotics team has returned fresh from their third win at the National Championships.

Their win means they are eligible to compete at the International Robotics Competition to be held in Houston, Texas, during 2019. It is fantastic to see a group of young people working together so closely and enjoy learning.



Three times National Champions - Trinity College's very own Team BaCoN



Xavier student presenting his project to Local MP Tony Piccolo

AWARDING ASHLEY



Congratulations to Ashley Fisher for winning the 2018 Gawler and District College B-12 “Ploughshare Award” for academic effort in the humanities/social sciences.

The Award is in honour of the late John Chambers, an Economics teacher at Gawler High School during the 1970s/80s, and celebrates excellence in academic achievement.

GRADUATION DAY



As an old scholar of the former Gawler High School I was very proud to be able to attend the 2018 Year 12 graduation ceremony of Gawler and District College B-12 and present two awards



The University of Adelaide School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences is producing some wonderful graduates if those winning prizes and awards is any indication.



The 2018 graduating class of Mark Oliphant College



A great day for all at Immanuel Lutheran Primary School's Year 7 Graduation



Gawler Primary School's graduating class of 2018



Congratulations to St Patrick's Technical College graduate Jarrod Morton (Centre) for winning the Apprentice of the Year Award at the Annual South Australian Training Awards



Tony celebrated Multicultural Celebration Day with the students at the Mark Oliphant College

Bottom photos are from the Special Education class at end of year celebrations at Gawler and District College



CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA DAY IN GAWLER

Another huge crowd attended the annual Apex Club of Gawler Australia Day Breakfast.

Raff Stomaci, President of the Apex Club of Gawler welcomed all present at the event, thanked all the volunteers and congratulated all the award winners and new citizens.

Mr Stomaci said his club is proud to be in Gawler and to work closely with the

other local service clubs and volunteers and Council to host this traditional annual event.

“Apex Club of Gawler has been serving the local and far outback communities since 1952,” said Mr Stomaci.

The national anthem was sung by Jessica Rowley while the Australia Day address was delivered by Federal Member, Mr Nick Champion.



Tony Piccolo with Federal Member for Wakefield Nick Champion



Australia Day Citizenship Ceremonies, conducted by Mayor Karen Redman, marked the 70th anniversary of the granting of Australian citizenship.

“On 26 January 1919, we mark 70 years since Australian citizenship was introduced into law, creating for the first time a legal status of being uniquely Australian,” said Mayor Redman.

“The first Australian citizenship ceremony was held on 3 February 1949, with seven men— representing each Australian state and territory, like the Commonwealth Star on our flag— swearing their allegiance to Australia.

“They hailed from Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Greece, Norway, Spain and Yugoslavia.”

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said that despite their varied backgrounds, they were united by their commitment to Australian values —equality of opportunity, mutual respect and tolerance, freedom of speech and religion, and commitment to democracy and rule of law.

“While our reconciliation with our indigenous people is still a work in progress, today, Australia is one of the most successful multicultural nations in the world,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Since 1949, we have welcomed more than five million new Australian citizens to our shores, including my own family.” Mr Piccolo said.



Our newest citizens are welcomed to the nation by Mayor of Gawler, Karen Redman (Centre)

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Each a worthy recipient, some of Gawler’s hard-working citizens and volunteers were recognised on Australia Day for their efforts to make our community a better place to live.

The community event of the year was awarded to the Mother’s Day Classic.

For three years in a row Renee Platt has hosted the Gawler Mother’s Day Classic. The 4km Fun Run held at Clonlea Park on Mother’s Day has to date raised \$36,000. Along with the proceeds of 2018’s event, which will be announced by the National Breast Cancer Foundation in October (National Breast Cancer month), it is estimated that the past 3 events will have raised a combined total of close to \$50,000.

Pat Sheehan accepted the community group of the year on behalf of Fred’s Van.

Fred’s Van offers a free food service for people who are marginalised in Gawler through unemployment, social isolation, homelessness or other personal crisis.

Every Thursday evening from Pioneer Park, Fred’s Van provides a hot nutritious meal, blankets, clothing, food vouchers, donated books, social connection and referral to other community services and government agencies.

People in the community who are living rough or in squalid or insecure accommodation are encouraged to access the service. People are under no obligation to pay for the meals or goods provided, but they do encourage people to stay and chat with the Fred’s Van community.

Mr Piccolo said by being a visible, no obligation, welcoming service run by local volunteers, the organisation provides a tangible benefit to the whole community.

Husband and wife team Renee and Mark Dutton team took out the Corporate Citizens of the Year award.

The dynamic team use their businesses to help others. 11 years ago, Renee started her business Heart n Soul Hair and Beauty in Murray St Gawler, next to the Town Hall.

Mark rebuilt the Salon from scratch whilst running his Dulls Culls lawns and maintenance business, making it the busy little hub it is now.



Mayor of Gawler, Karen Redman (left), with the recipients of Australia Day Awards

Being in a business such as hairdressing and gardening you always hear of people having a hard time, who are down and out and need a hand!

Renee and Mark also sponsor local sporting clubs by donating a lot of their business vouchers for fundraising.

The Young Citizen of the Year Award was shared by Ethan White and Jessica Maiolo.

Ethan is an active fundraiser for Gawler Relay for Life. His fundraising efforts have raised approximately \$5,500.

Ethan has initiated and negotiated with Channel 44 the broadcasting of his own television program “Off the Couch with Ethan.”

The program is aimed at getting teenagers off the couch and getting out and about with their families with a focus on South Australia.

Jessica is a senior youth leader with the Salesians of Don Bosco through Xavier College. Her dedication to youth in her community has resulted in her being selected for a number of training camps for leaders in Dromana, Victoria

which enabled her to attain her senior youth leader status.

Jessica was a recipient of the Visionary Leader Award in the 2018 Zonta Young Woman of Achievement Awards.

The 2019 Citizen of the Year Award went to Hewett resident and volunteer Ms Cheryl McKibben.

In 2017, Cheryl set up a parkrun event in Gawler. Parkrun is an inclusive 5km run or walk held weekly. After applying for grants and obtaining the necessary equipment and signage, the first park-run occurred and has really taken off.

Attended by up to 150 participants each week, Cheryl perfectly coordinates the event to make sure it runs safely and smoothly. Maintaining the groups Facebook page and uploading the photos keeps Cheryl very busy.

Cheryl is also a member of the Gawler Suicide Prevention Community Group, a friend of Rotary and a friend of the Community House in Gawler.

With looking after her own family, working and studying, Cheryl is a very busy member of the Gawler community who deserves our recognition and appreciation.

Happy Anniversaries

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH

There's been more celebrations for the people of Light in the last few months, with couples celebrating their gold and diamond anniversaries, residents turning 90 years young, and some of our local community organisations have been celebrating the milestones as well.



Con & Carmel Argy celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary



Gordon & Jeanne celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary



Mr & Mrs Murdoch celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary

GOLD, GOLD, GOLD



Mr & Mrs Loller celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary



Mr & Mrs Elsworth celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary

YOUNG AT HEART



Cynthia Turner joins Rudi in the gos club and still going strong.



The University of the 3rd Age (U3A) celebrated 30 years of continuing education and and learning into later life



Rudi Wallstab celebrated being 90 years young!

About to celebrate an anniversary or milestone?
Let us know at the Light Electoral Office and get your
photo featured on this page!



(08) 8522 2878



light@parliament.sa.gov.au



It was all hats on deck when the VIEW Club of Gawler celebrated their 15th anniversary at the Gawler Arms



In November the Gawler Branch of the Australian Labor Party celebrated 110 years of fighting for the worker

CUP COMES HOME

“The committee, with unconditional support from Tony Piccolo, the Member for Light, was able to secure our current 14-hectare site on Two Wells Road,” Mr Bain said.

“Our initial plan was to build a track to give the local trainers somewhere to prepare and train their horses, with the vision of one day returning Harness Racing to Gawler.

“Then the next stage was to hold trials in September of 2017, and finally with support from Harness Racing South Australia, the state’s controlling body, and Tony Piccolo, we were able to run a race meeting in March, 2018.

“It was something the club had not dare dream of after the closure of our previous property, but the meeting was a tremendous success.

“Now, on February 24, the ultimate achievement by staging our own Cup meeting for the first time in a decade.”

Mr Bain said the Gawler Pacing Cup would revert to a standing start event after being a mobile start for the 10 years at Globe Derby Park.

“Our Cup meetings held at Globe Derby Park Cups were great races and produced some thrilling finishes, but the history of the Cup in Gawler has been about standing starts.

“Five of the last eight winners at the old Gawler track came off handicap marks.

The \$14,500 2019 Gawler Pacing Cup will be run over 2540 metres.

Other feature races at the meeting will be the \$10,000 Gawler Pacing Derby (2070m), a mobile race for three-year-olds, and the Gawler Hambletonian Trotters Cup (2540m), also a standing start.



NORMAN'S STRONG RECORD

Trainer-driver Greg Norman has a good record of winning feature races on Gawler Cup night.

Based at Gawler, but training at Two Wells for the Cormack family, Norman has an impressive record in the Gawler features.

He trained Mythical Beast to win the 2007 Gawler Cup at the old track, then prepared Ti Vogliobene to win the 2012 race at Globe Derby Park.

Both were driven by Jock Dunlop.

Norman has trained the past two winners of the Gawler Hambletonian, Al Bundy and Rocknroll Baby, both owned by Terry, Adam and Ben Cormack.

The trainer hopes to be involved again in 2019.

“I’m pleased for the club that the meeting will be at their own track,” Norman said.

“They have done well, it is a lovely, big track.

“The Cormacks are hoping to have a runner in the pacing cup and have completed the purchase of a horse from New Zealand which will be aimed at the race.

“You never say never but it is unlikely we will have a runner in the Hambletonian.

“Rocknroll Baby is currently in Western Australia and it is unlikely she will be back, but you never know.”

