# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

# MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

#### **CEO NEWS**

#### THE RACE FOR THE FINISH LINE

As we race towards the close of 2021 the completion of our Foreshore remains the priority, but we now know that we simply cannot complete it by year end which is hugely disappointing. I have said many times over the last two years that there is nowhere that I would rather have been during the time of COVID than here. Compared to the rest of the world, and indeed the rest of Australia, its impact has been minimal and everyone has worked hard at doing the right thing. I see that Franklin Harbour are doing exceedingly well in the "vaccination race" with 93.19% of us now having had the first dose, and 87.62% now being double dosed. If you haven't been vaccinated I would suggest now would be a very good time. Covid has impacted our Foreshore project though, causing extreme delays for some key components, and putting some serious strain on our budget with rapid increases in the cost of materials, and a lack of competitive tendering due to the "flood" of stimulus money flowing into the economy and the resulting uptick in large infrastructure projects. Nonetheless, we are almost finished and remain on budget. It now looks like end of January for completion of the water park and the "bouncy pillow". It is very tempting to stretch that date to avoid further embarrassment but let's keep the pressure on and get it done! In the first quarter of 2022 our focus moves to landscaping which is where the real transformation will occur.

That is what we didn't quite manage in 2021 but a lot has been achieved, including :

- The completion of the new Marina at Cowell The completion of the new road across the foreshore and additional parking areas
- More than 90% of the foreshore works will have been completed by Christmas.
- The foreshore project was originally budgeted to add \$3.5 million to DCFH debt but will in fact add less than \$1.0 million to our debt upon completion.
- All but 3 km of the Cowell Port Gibbon Road has now been sealed (the remainder will be completed in the first half of 2022)
- We have been successful in obtaining grant funding to widen and reseal our 48km of the Cowell-Kimba road, a project that will commence in 2022.

- Eco-Eyre is up and running with two "eco-pods" overlooking the beach at Port Gibbon being available since June. This project has been a resounding success.
- Construction of new toilets at Point Gibbon will be complete by year end
- A new 30 year lease for Lucky Bay has been signed with the State government
- Our finances are "healthy" and we have a plan to both repay debt and continue to grow and improve the Franklin Harbour area.

In a little over 2 years this small regional council will have successfully completed more than \$10 million worth of major projects, projects that have been transformational to our area.

This is a remarkable achievement for a council with less than 20 employees, and for the council that continues to have the lowest in the dollar rates in South Australia. (from 68 councils)

Anyone that works in local government knows that you get a lot of "darts" thrown at you and little thanks but I would like to go on the record and thank the dedicated team at DCFH for their outstanding efforts and dedication over the past two years, you have been superb! And you need to be superb next year too, as we have a lot on.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2022. We have a lot to be thankful for living on the beautiful Eyre Peninsula, and 2022 is shaping up to be a much better year for the wider world as well. Let's hope it turns out that way.



#### Message from the Eyre and Far North Local Health Network Chief Executive Officer, Verity Paterson

South Australia's borders reopened on 23 November and already there is local transmission of COVID-19 in the community in Adelaide.

The best defences against COVID -19 remain:

Getting vaccinated Wearing masks Maintaining good hand hygiene Maintaining social/physical distancing



At this time, Cowell has among the best vaccination rates in the Eyre and Far North and is doing well against State averages too:

92% of the population 16+ have had a first dose 85% of that population have had a second dose.

Don't forget to have your second dose.

Evidence from across the world shows that people are at much higher risk of severe illness or even death, if they remain unvaccinated and contract COVID-19.

There is a lot of misinformation being spread about COVID-19 and about vaccinations. All COVID vaccines in use in Australia have to go through a formal approvals process to be allowed to be supplied to the public and are only approved if the benefits outweigh the risks.

There are still opportunities to get vaccinated, including at the Cowell Pharmacy, at the Port Lincoln COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic, and there are options in Whyalla as well.

Check vaccine appointments at <u>www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidvaccine</u> and follow the Eyre and Far North LH Facebook page for updates about our mobile vaccination team clinic visits.

SA Health has put in place a COVID Response Plan for the State, which sets out that:

85% of COVID cases will be safely managed at home 10% will recover at supervised COVID-19 facilities (not hospitals) 5% will be cared for in hospital

This is to ensure there is capacity in the State's hospitals to care for those who become seriously unwell.

The majority of people who test positive for COVID-19 are planned to recover at home, monitored by a team in Adelaide using technology and regular checks, and supported if they deteriorate, to receive care and treatment.

In cases where people cannot recover safely at home, for whatever reason, there are plans to set up supervised COVID-19 facilities. These are not hospitals but places where people can recover with some support.

At this point in time, the nearest facilities to Cowell are planned to be in Port Augusta and Port Lincoln, and there are also medi-hotels in Adelaide where some people may go.

Eyre and Far North Local Health Network has developed a local COVID-19 Response Plan, working with local General Practitioners, the SA Ambulance Service, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOS) and District Councils.

As the local health service, our top priorities are to:

keep our communities and staff safe

protect our vulnerable, elderly residents living in our aged care facilities.

We will do all we can to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to those vulnerable, elderly residents.

Under our local plan, Cowell District Hospital will not be accepting COVID positive patients.

Three hospitals have been designated as COVID hospitals – Port Lincoln, Ceduna and Coober Pedy.

Our three COVID hospitals will be separated into COVID (red) and non-COVID (green) zones. Red zones will be restricted to essential personnel only and staff will wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times.

Patients and staff in each zone will be separated to reduce any risk of transmission.

If there is a COVID outbreak in Cowell or surrounding areas, anyone who comes to the hospital's Emergency Department will be treated as potential COVID positive patients. They will undergo a risk assessment to determine if they are a high COVID risk or are COVID positive.

Patients who do not require admission but are still considered high risk, will be referred for a COVID test, discharged and advised to quarantine at home until they receive their test results. Many people who test positive are expected to be able to recover at home with home monitoring.

Anyone who requires admission will be taken to one of the three COVID hospitals or could be sent to Whyalla Hospital.

Any COVID-19 positive patients who become unwell will be transported to Adelaide for treatment; they will be cared for at a COVID hospital while awaiting transport.

You can find more information about SA's COVID response at: SA.GOV.AU: COVID-19 | SA.GOV.AU: COVID-19

District Council of Franklin Harbour Notice of Road Closure

#### **Annual Christmas Pageant**

Notice is hereby given that the District Council of Franklin Harbour, pursuant to Section 33 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 1961, declares the Annual Christmas Pageant and arrival of Father Christmas an event to which section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 applies and makes an order that the following roads on which the event is to be held, be closed to traffic from the period between 5pm-12am Friday 24 December 2021.

- South Terrace, from West Terrace to Fifth Street
- Fifth Street, from South Terrace to Main Street &
- Main Street, from Fifth Street to the Esplanade

#### Shane Gill

**Chief Executive Officer** 



**COWELL LIONS PARK** WEDNESDAY 26th JANUARY 2022 7:30am BREAKFAST

8:45am PRESENTATION OF AWARDS and CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

**ALL WELCOME!** 

# SAVE THE DATE **Cowell Pyrotechnics Display & Markets**

# 12th March 2022 **Further details to follow**



## **COWELL LIONS CLUB**

## MAIN STREET MARKET DATES

Sunday January 9th, Sunday February 6th,

Sunday March 6th & Sunday April 3rd.

P: Mark 0487 296 147 P: Alan 0427 292 088

District Council of Franklin Harbour Temporary Road Closure

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1961, as amended, the following roads are closed to vehicular traffic

For the Lions Market Day

Sunday – 9th January 2021 Schedule of Roads Main Street - Between Third Street and the

Esplanade

Between the hours of 8.00am to 2.00pm

Shane Gill

**Chief Executive Officer** 

### **Contact details & Elected Members**

**Mayor RJ Walsh** 0429 862 922 walsh@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au

**Cr. S Franklin** 0427 296 001 franklin@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au

**Cr. DM Wagner** 0428 618 175

**Cr. AG Giles** 0428 855 909 wagner@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au ggiles@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au Cr. TP Rehn 0428 292 239 rehn@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au

Cr. RL Deer 0427 005 720 deer@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

**P** 08 8629 2019 council@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au www.franklinharbour.sa.gov.au

**Emergency / Out of Hours** 0428 292 019

# Community News

#### **COMMUNITY OPENING HOURS**

<u>1<sup>st</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Dec:</u> Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am - 4pm 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am - 4pm

LIBRARY NEW

#### **Christmas Closure**

The library will be closed from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and reopen Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

#### Library closed & need something to read?

Don't forget all library members have free access to our digital books & audio books. Simply download the Libby or Borrow Box Apps from Googleplay or the App Store, select our library and enter your library card number and pin. If you can't remember your library number, pop in or give us a call for assistance.

#### <u>Dr Joy O'Hazy</u>

Please be advised that Dr Joy O'Hazy a Women's Health Practitioner will be conducting appointments at the Cowell Medical Practice once a month on the following dates: 15th December, 9th February, 23rd March, 20th April, 18 May and 29th June. Please contact the surgery on (08) 8629 2504 for an appointment.

#### **Community News**

If you would like something put on the community news page, please let the Council Office know via email to <u>council@franklinharbour.sa.gov.au</u> or in person by the 2nd Friday of each month. Topics can include (but not limited to) sports results, births, deaths, special birthdays and good news stories.

#### **Events Calendar**

If you have an event or meeting that is open to the public please notify Council and we will promote it in our dates to remember and on the Council website events calendar.



#### Feel Like Trying Your Hand in a Game of Cards?

Every Monday & Wednesday from 12:45pm to 4pm Cowell Uniting Church Hall located in Second Street

Cost: \$2.00 with afternoon tea provided

Card Games Include

Bridge, Hand & Foot and many more

For further information please contact Angie Turner on 0429 150 545

#### Thankyou

A huge thank you to Pat Wood for her volunteering efforts throughout the year. No matter what the task, Pat always has a smile. Thank you also to the Cowell Uniting Church Op Shop for their donation earlier this year to new furnishings.

#### Keeping up to date

To keep track of our new additions we are emailing a monthly newsletter called *Latest Additions* to members and it highlights a variety of new items received the previous month as well as some information on the newest releases. If you'd like to keep in the know, please email us at <u>cowell.library@libraries.sa.gov.au</u> or call us on 8629 2320 to be added to the list. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep in the know.

#### **Merry Christmas**

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and all the very best for the New Year. We're thankful for your patience & understanding with our changes in processes and opening hours during such a challenging year. Fingers crossed 2022 is a better year for us all. *Merry Christmas from Maria & Nicole.* 



# Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch







With Covid again shaking things up we had to do things a little different for this year's Senior Citizens Christmas Luncheon. We would like to thank Parent's and Friends for their catering contribution once again and all those who assisted or volunteered their time. A wonderful day had by all.







## LIONS CLUB CAKES, PUDDINGS & RAFFLE TICKETS

Christmas cakes & pudding orders can be placed with:

Bruce Francis: 0428 894 645 or will be on sale out the front of IGA along with raffle tickets.

#### Dates: Thurs 16th Dec,

Thurs 23rd Dec 9am to 1pm

Friday 24th Dec 9am to 7pm

## PRICES

Large 1.5kg cake: \$17 Small 1kg cake: \$13 Pudding 900g: \$13



CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMP

Get your Christmas lights out of the cobwebs! Its time to decorate your house and get in the Christmas spirit. Judging of the Christmas lights will happen Sunday night

(19th December). Winner will be announced on Pageant Night.

#### "CALLING ALL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY GROUPS"

With Christmas starting to creep up on us, it is time to put a reminder in your diary for the Lions Christmas Pageant which will be held on Friday 24th of December.

The Lions Club are encouraging all Local Businesses and Community Groups to put their creative flare

together and join in on a not to be missed event.



Charles Sturt University

for Rural & Regional

FRRR

» When you complete the program you become part of the ARLF network of alumni of over 1,700 members who are working for the greater good of rural, regional and remote Australia.

All places are funded by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund. The program is free of charge, however you will be responsible for funding your own travel and some meals. An allowance of up to \$500 to cover up to 50% of your travel costs is available at the end of the program.

To find out more or apply visit: rural-leaders.org.au/drought-resilience-leaders-development-program

#### COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (PART 1)

At the first Franklin Harbour Council elections William Jacobs submitted his name as a candidate. He was successful and at the first regular meeting of this council he was elected Chairman, in 1888. This was a significant step in the community affairs of the district. When William and Mary left Echunga to come to Franklin Harbour they were presented with a scroll signed by prominent people connected with the Methodist church of the district. They were also presented with a silver cake tray suitable inscribed.

When they arrived in the Franklin Harbour area they carried on with their church work. William gave a small piece of land so that a Sunday school could be built. This site was later bought by the Education Department for a school, so in a minor way William was still involved in community affairs. By being elected to council this work was greatly extended. When this land was donated to the Sunday school it was in the state of virgin scrub.

He use to meet many new settlers arriving by boat from Wallaroo. On the north side of the gully, on top of a hill, there was a rock formation and out of a split in the rock grew a she-oak tree, its trunk grew parallel to the ground, with the branches and leaves turning skywards.

When the time approached for the boat to arrive again at Cowell, William would spend time waiting for the boat to appear before harnessing his buggy team to travel to Cowell to meet the people about to make their homes on Eyre Peninsula.

He served the district as councilor for eight years, two as Chairman. He succumbed to a brain tumor and died at Poodra in 1899. His wife, Mary carried on with the farm with the aide of her sons until 1915, when Bert (my father) married. Mary then left Poodra and lived with various members of her family. William junior was also attracted to the council, but only had two short periods as a councilor. His energies were spent as overseer for a period of ten years. During this time there was a large work force of Italian immigrants employed on road construction. Two of Grandpa William's nephews also served as councilors. They were Francis Jacobs and John Pellew Story, who each served as Chairman of the council for a period of two years. Francis was a councilor for a period of fourteen years. Ivan, the youngest son of Francis and Cicely, follows in his father's footsteps and served the community for about ten years giving the district good solid service.

John Story was the longest serving member of the Jacobs clan. He was councilor for some twenty-four years. In that time he would have seen many changes. Colin Story, the youngest son of the Story family served several years as assistant clerk. Harry Schiller, son-in-law of John Story, entered Council as the member of the Miltalie ward. Later when he moved to the Mount Ghearthy farm, he again nominated and won the Minbrie Ward. Harry gave thirteen years of very valuable service to the

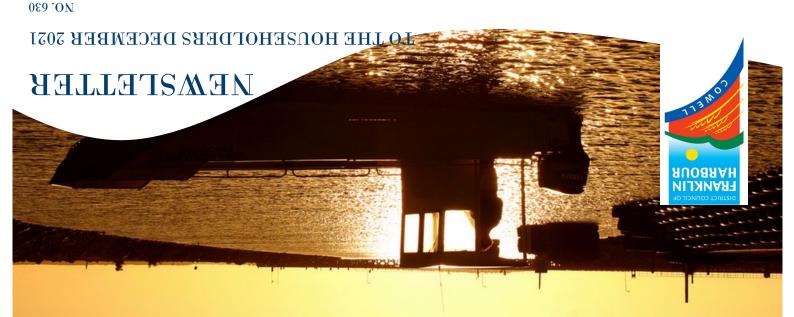
council, seven of these as Chairman.

I nominated for council and was elected for three terms, six years. These years were very demanding, but rewarding. Perhaps inspection fire breaks and giving permits was rather daunting, but I found the landowners very understanding.

This represents a total of seventy-nine years active service given to the Franklin Harbour Council by various member of the Jacobs family and twelve years by William Junior as overseer. This is an outstanding community service



To be continued......





## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FRANKLIN HARBOUR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 19th January 2022 @ 1:00pm in Council Chambers

#### LIONS CLUB MARKET DAY

Sunday 9th January 2022, 8.00am to 2.00pm

LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Friday 24th December 2021

# upping Around Tranklin Harbour

Did you know that camping areas are provided in the following areas within the Franklin Harbour:

The RV Park, Beach Access Sites on Beach Road, Port Gibbon , Lucky Bay and Ulbana Weir (Payne's Weir)

All campers must have self contained toilet facilities except where toilet facilities are provided.

Permits are required to camp within the Port Gibbon & Lucky Bay area for \$15 per night per vehicle or \$75 per week per vehicle with a maximum stay of 14 days. These can be purchased at the allocated pay stations at the locations listed as well as the Council Office, Cowell Hardware, Cowell Roadhouse.

Permits are required at all other camp sites including Ulbana Weir, RV Park and accesses along Beach Road for \$10 per night per vehicle or \$50 per week per vehicle with a maximum stay of 14 days.

Local Residents and Rate Payers are able to camp at no cost.