

September Newsletter

The World is changing and it's not all bad!

I woke up on Saturday feeling less than best with that unmistakable feeling that I was getting a cold. There is nothing remarkable about this, everyone gets them, and luckily for me I rarely do so it's nothing to complain about. Typically a Cold is nothing but a minor inconvenience for a few days. The difference in the era of Covid-19 is that having a Cold or Flu today is a bit like having Leprosy in days gone by, you almost feel ashamed and certainly you don't want to pass it on to anyone else so you isolate yourself.

So here I am working from home for a few days until the cold runs its course. What I have found is that with the technology we have at our fingertips in 2020 it really is not difficult to work from home, in fact with less interruptions it may well be more efficient. Meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams have become normal. My wife works in the IT sector and she was working from home before Covid-19 but now all of her colleagues work from home as well, and the company that she works for is seriously considering making this the new norm. I don't doubt that for a lot of industries and professions this will become the new norm.

When I was growing up, country kids that were even a little ambitious had very few options other than to head for the city once they finished high school. For some of us this was very exciting, and for some very daunting (and definitely daunting for parents) but the common theme was that we really didn't have a choice. In recent years, with great advances in technology and the internet/NBN it has become a viable and an increasingly common option to study online. This has meant that country kids do often have a choice, they can stay home for longer, and they can study from a vast array of courses and university's across the country, and indeed across the world if they choose.

Invariably though, they will still need to move to the city once qualified.

Australia's most famous demographer/futurist, Bernard Salt, and many others are of the view that the post Covid-19 era will see a significant shift to people working from home. This new disconnect from a geographic location/office will give people much more flexibility and no doubt they will be starting to think about where they would really like to live, where they would really like to see their kid's grow up! Some businesses will also reassess where they are located. Country towns will be the beneficiaries of this shift. The 'trendy' and relatively close to capital city locations are likely to see a growing influx. In SA that will be areas like Victor Harbour, Clare and the Barossa but many other areas will also benefit. For country kids in certain jobs/professions, going home will become a very real option. I don't doubt that Franklin Harbour and the wider Eyre Peninsula will benefit from this change. Technology has greatly reduced "the tyranny of distance", and the resumption of the Ferry service between Lucky Bay and Wallaroo reduces it even further. Unlike most country towns, Cowell has, in recent decades, not been declining but has been growing, albeit slowly. It would seem to me that with some of the initiatives happening locally, and now the wider shifts/changes that are occurring in the world, we are very well placed to benefit and continue to grow in terms of both population and facilities/businesses.

After 10 months now in Cowell, myself and my family can say without reservation that Cowell is a very nice place to live and we are not alone there. I see that at least one of the caravaners that stayed here for the Covid-19 "lock down" period has purchased a property and is going to call Cowell home. One of the workers on the marina is looking to purchase a property and make Cowell home, and put a boat in the marina.

Really, what's not to like!

Foreshore and the Marina

Progress continues with both pylon installation and the digging of the marina basin going very well. It must be starting to look like a marina now as we are now getting a steady flow of enquiries about marina berths, and we haven't even advertised yet.

Marina pontoons will be installed in October, the building overlooking the marina will commence in November, as will the landscaping of the large newly created space between the marina and the Fishbox. We are also aiming to have a new "Bouncy Pillow" with a shade structure installed near the skate park by the end of the year.



Its Christmas time

The Annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party is On!!

Sunday 6th December

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, Council will be providing a home delivered meal (within the town limits) to those who wish to participate. If you are a resident and have reached pension age, you are eligible to attend. Invitations will be sent out soon.

We are encouraging you to arrange a 'party' at your home, complying with the current restrictions of no more than 50 people and the required social distancing. Council will supply you with a cold serve and dessert with the regular xmas cake and other little surprises.



Make sure your name is listed so you don't miss out on this great event and we look forward to seeing you in December.

Pool Inspections

Council's Building Inspector will be undertaking swimming pool inspections in the coming months, he will be inspecting all swimming pools in our Council area.

If you have a swimming pool please contact Council to ensure we can make contact with you prior to the inspection.

Dr Joy O'Hazy

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: 14th October, 18th November and 16th December. Please contact the surgery on (08) 8629 2504 for an appointment.

Dog Registrations

Dog registrations are now overdue. A late fee will be applied after the 1st October.



Council After Hours - Friendly Reminder

Please ring Council on 0428 292 019 for after hours emergencies. This phone is only monitored after hours so don't ring it during office hours.

August Rainfall - 27.4mm

Shane Gill

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Silo Art Trail – Calendars

The Cowell Silo Art features in the 2021 calendar, to purchase yourself a calendar visit the below link:

<https://www.australiansiloarttrail.com/store/-c53479469> or visit the Council office and we can assist you in ordering your calendar.

The cost of each calendar is \$24.95, profits made from the sale of these calendars will be distributed back into the featuring silo art communities.



Contact details & Elected Members

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CONTACT DETAILS

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Emergency / Out of Hours

0428 292 019

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S NEW PLANNING SYSTEM

www.plan.sa.gov.au

PlanSA

A new planning system is now in place across South Australia's outback and rural areas*.

This new system is fully electronic, providing online development assessment and processing via a modern ePlanning platform.

Everyone living and working in outback and rural South Australia can submit and track development applications from the comfort of their home, office or whilst on the go using their computer or mobile.

Clear and consistent planning policies, relevant to your area, is now easily accessible by all to help shape your community, both now and into the future.

To find out more visit www.plan.sa.gov.au, email DPTI, PlanSA@sa.gov.au or call the PlanSA Service Desk on 1800 752 664.

South Australia's new planning system will help you to:

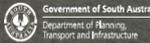
- Search zoning for your property
- Review development rules
- Lodge and track an application online
- Track major projects and development activity
- Find an accredited professional.

A series of community webinars will be conducted to help support outback and rural areas with the launch of the new planning system.

These sessions will explore how to use the new planning system, how to access South Australia's online Planning and Design Code and how the Code applies to rural South Australia.

For more information visit EventBrite or the PlanSA events calendar.

*the new planning system will be implemented in large regional towns and metropolitan areas later this year.



LIBRARY NEWS

Community Opening Hours - Monday to Thursday 2pm to 5pm

After the school holidays we will be continuing with our previous Monday to Thursday hours after school. Our Call & Collect and Drop & Wave services are continuing for those people unable to access the library during new opening times. If you receive a hold message for an ordered item and wish to collect your book outside of above opening hours, please don't hesitate to call and organise another collection time.

School Holidays – opening hours Tuesday to Thursday, 8.30am to 4pm

The library will be open during the school holidays (28/9/20 – 9/10/20) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday's, with the opening hours of 8.30am to 4pm.

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 some information on the newest releases. If you'd like to keep in the know, please email us at cowell.library@plain.sa.gov.au or call us on 8629 2320 to be added to the list. Don't forget to follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** to keep in the know.

LIBRARY RECYCLING HUB

We've recently created a space near the front doors for our recycling. We are collecting household batteries including hearing aid batteries, bread & potato bag tags, stamps and x-rays.

Feel free to pop in and add to our collection or place items in a small bag through our return chute.

Bread & potato bag tags are sold to a recycler with the money going to fund wheelchairs. X-rays are stripped of their silver for recycling, stamps are forwarded on to a Mission and the batteries are recycled in bulk by our local Council.

New Magazine Additions

We've just added two new magazines to our collection,

Breathe & Country Style.

Breathe's message is to 'make more time for yourself', a body-and-soul guide to a happier, healthier life. Each issue contains five pillars – Wellbeing, Living, Mindfulness, Creativity and Escaping. Feature articles focus on how to achieve relief from stress, increase resilience, find greater happiness and lead a more fulfilling life. Country Style celebrates the diversity of modern country living. Brings to life the stories of inspirational people and places from around Australia - coast to coast. We visit amazing homes and gardens, travel through Australia's most vibrant regional centres and sample all the good things the country has to offer.

P: 08 8629 2320



Doggy Doo's and Don'ts

A friendly reminder that whilst you are out walking your four legged friend that you clean up any mess they may leave behind with the bags that are provide by Council on our green bins located around town.

Tourism Advertising

Are you a business that offers tours, a place to eat or stay?

If you answered yes then you will benefit from listing your business on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) website, this free listing will ensure websites including the Eyre Peninsula and South Australia capture your service.

If you already have a listing it is important that information is up to date, now is a good time to review your listing.

Visit the ATDW website at <https://atdw.com.au/>

Contact Stacey at the Council office if you require assistance with your listing.



Camping Around Franklin 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.