



Summer 2017/2018

International Spotlight Returns

Elon Musk launches Tesla Powerpack Celebration at the Hornsdale Wind Farm and Power Reserve

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Mayor's Christmas Message

With 2017 fast coming to a close it is time for my Christmas message. It has been a very busy year at the Northern Areas Council with the ever increasing pressure on finances in Local Government. Our Chief Executive Officer, Colin Byles and his staff have been working very hard to increase efficiencies across the sector. Elected members also play a very important role in the process working together in setting the Long Term Financial Plan and the setting of the budget.

During the year Council embarked on a series of Community Forums throughout the Council area, visiting five different locations over a period of five months. The forums allowed council and the community to come together to be made aware of council activities and how council is currently conducting the business of Local Government and then discuss any issues that the residents had.

These Community Forums were very well received and provided invaluable information from the community for council to work on and develop programs for the future, I thank you all for your contribution.

Another major activity in the last few months has been the conducting of a Community Survey. This survey was responded to by almost three hundred people almost four times more than the last Community Survey conducted in 2010. The information collated from this survey will provide a strong background to the development of council's Long Term Financial Plan and ongoing capital programs. The Chief Executive Officer has provided a report on the findings of the Community Survey in this newsletter.

Council has had a number of positives during the year but I think the announcement of the world's "Biggest Lithium Ion Battery" being built at Hornsdale has definitely put the Council area on the map. Having the Chief Executive Officer of Tesla here at Hornsdale was a major coup for the region and gave us national and international recognition.

A big thank you to Chief Executive Officer Colin Byles and all of his staff, elected members and you the community for your support over the last twelve months.

Christmas is a time to spend with family and friends and enjoy the Christmas festivities, but please drive safely if you are travelling and enjoy the break.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Cr. Denis Clark
Mayor
Northern Areas Council



Your Elected Member contact information

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Community Survey Update

Community Survey

The Northern Areas Council Community Survey has been an outstanding success with almost 300 responses, 4 times the response to the last community survey held in 2010. The community survey was conducted electronically and by hardcopy with the response rate being a 1/3 online and 2/3 by hard copy. All the hard copies were then inputted by council staff into our survey software where the analysis took place of the responses.

The gender split of the survey was approximately 60% female and 40% male, not surprising as the female gender in all survey's I have seen tend to be the higher respondents.

The age grouping of the respondents was interesting with 45% being over 65 years old, 53% between 25 to 64 years old and only 2% under 25 years old. The older population certainly have a greater interest in council operations.

Council has by conducting this survey, received an enormous amount of information relating to council services and performance which we will use in various ways over the next few months.

Council overall performance was rated in the following terms, Very Good 6%, Good 41%, Average 32%, Below Average 14%, Poor 7%.

I consider from these figures that council is performing well but needs to keep improving to pull up the Average, Below Average and Poor scores to ensure we are satisfying all the community .

From the community survey the top 5 Most Used Services ranked highest to number 5 are;

- Sealed Road Network
- Footpaths
- Garbage Collection
- Unsealed Road Network
- Street Lighting

The top 5 Most Important Services from the Community Survey are;

- Sealed Road Network
- Garbage Collection
- Public Toilets
- Health Services
- Unsealed Road Network

The top Performing Services provided by Council

- Garbage Collection
- Public Toilets
- Library
- Aerodrome
- Cemeteries

The top 5 Lowest Performing Services were;

- Footpaths
- Stormwater Drainage
- Street Lighting
- Unsealed Road Network
- Street Cleaning

The information in the lowest performing services gives us valuable information in that these are areas we as a council need to focus more on.

Over the coming months Council will be providing more information to the community on the results of the Community Survey to enable the community to understand where council needs to improve and have more resources available.

In the short term if members of the community would like more information on the Community Survey I have loaded onto the Council website a Power Point Presentation I gave to council that summarises the Community Survey, relevant information but in a summarised format.

I would like to thank the community for their involvement in the survey as council now has, as I have said earlier an enormous amount of information to develop our programs

Colin Byles
Chief Executive Officer



Community News

Tesla Launches Hornsdale Battery

Friday the 28th of September saw the Northern Areas Council district again placed in to the international spotlight, with the CEO of Tesla, Elon Musk travelling to Jamestown to officially launch the Tesla Battery Storage Project at the Hornsdale Wind Farm.

He was joined by Premier Jay Weatherill, members of State Cabinet, representatives of Council, energy industry and community members in a celebration. The event also featured a strong media contingent, with some correspondents travelling from as far as the USA.

Members of the Tesla Owners Club of Australia were also present, many having driven from Sydney and Melbourne in their electric cars, with Jamestown now joining other communities in offering charging.

Whilst the project has created a localised economic boost during the construction phase, it is anticipated that numerous maintenance jobs will be ongoing post completion of both the wind farm and the battery project.

Details of the project are available via the website: www.hornsdalepowerreserve.com.au



The Tesla Battery on display



Tesla CEO Elon Musk addressed the crowd, providing background to the battery project and his thoughts on renewable energy opportunities in to the future



A large contingent of Tesla Car owners made their way to Jamestown for the event

Fishing Underway at the Bundaleer Reservoir

Monday the 16th of October saw the official commencement of recreational fishing at the Bundaleer Reservoir.

Minister for Regional Development Hon. Geoff Brock MP, was joined by Ian Fitzgerald from Recfish SA, Mayor Denis Clark, CEO Colin Byles and dozens of keen anglers who took part in fishing at the site for the first time.

The area also features a public toilet, car park and park furniture, with recreational fishers able to access the site from the Northern Gate, which can be accessed from Bundaleer Road.

Recfish SA have stocked various fish species at the site, including Murray Cod, Golden Perch (Callop), Silver Perch, Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout.

To be able to fish on the site, people simply need to register with Recfish SA for a permit, which can be done via:

Recfish SA website: <https://recfishsa.org.au/reservoir-fishing/>

Email: oa@recfishsa.org.au

Phone: 08 8340 0777



Infrastructure Update

Roadside Spraying

Roadside Spraying takes place in townships and roadsides at various times of the year. While this activity is carried out with minimal impact to property owners, there are some circumstances where the spraying program has an impact on individuals and the outcomes that are important for them.

To assist in managing the outcomes that are important to all, Council is requesting advice from property owners who do not want the roadside directly aligned with their property boundary sprayed. A register of "No Spray" properties will be established based on this information and provided to the spraying crew in advance of spraying programs.

Capital Works

Council's capital works program for 2017-18 is well underway with the re-sheeting program half completed. The plant room upgrade for the Jamestown Pool was completed prior to the pool opening date and the pool lining project for Spalding has been successful in gaining grant funds to enable these works to be carried out at the end of the swimming season.

CWMS capital works continue at all three sites with pump upgrades, valve replacements, renewal of electrical and telecommunications componentry. Irrigation system projects for all sites continue to assist in managing the reclaimed water volumes generated.

The bridge replacement funding Deed for the replacement of the Broughton Valley Road Bridge has been signed and preliminary works commenced on the bridge replacement. The new bridge will improve the road alignment and provide a greater mass capability and two way access

for heavy vehicles enabling an increase in vehicle size permitted to use this road.

Design is well underway for the Eastern side of Herbert Street in Laura with construction works programmed for the first half of 2018. Consultation with property owners and stakeholders is commencing to enable completion of the design prior to tendering.

Works at the Bundaleer Reservoir were completed ahead of the opening, facilitating the operation of this new tourism and recreation destination.

The Huddleston Floodway design is being reviewed with geotechnical assistance from consultants to confirm the original model. It is likely the review will result in a simpler design and reduced construction cost. This project is expected to go to tender soon.

The roof on the main section of the Jamestown Memorial Hall has been replaced, protecting the ornate ceiling from additional damage as roof leaks were becoming increasingly frequent due to the deterioration of the existing roof materials.



A view from the recently completed car park at the Bundaleer Reservoir



The main section of the roof has now been replaced at the Jamestown Memorial Hall

Operational Works

A Management Plan for Tresylva Park has been developed in conjunction with representatives of community groups in Gladstone. Following an initiative by the Rocky River Lions Club, it was considered an appropriate mechanism for demonstrating the unity of the community in a desire for renewing this valuable open space asset. The completed plan becomes a tool in demonstrating community support and a comprehensive program with measurable goals to indicate progress and eventual completion. Projects from within the plan are implemented through funding grants, community support and operational activities of council.

The initiative of forming a "Green Team" and programming works return cycles to all townships has met with great support from the community based on much positive feedback. The program will continue to develop however it is not intended or budgeted to increase the areas of council responsibility. The intent is to equitably meet reasonable service level requirements for visual amenity and address risks associated with fire and tree hazards.

Desludging Septic Tanks Connected to CWMS

The de-sludging of septic tanks connected to the Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) in Gladstone, Jamestown and Laura is continuing. The program ensures all tanks in the district are cleared of sludge at least once every four years.

The Contractor advises property owners with a notice prior to desludging tanks, however if a property owner requires their tank to be de-sludged earlier than programmed or has an emergency please contact the Council. Arrangements will be made with the Contractor to de-sludge the septic tank immediately.

Infrastructure Update

Kerbside Waste Collection over Christmas and New Year

Reminder: Waste Collections continue over the Christmas New Year Period with adjustments as below:

**MONDAY 25.12.17 CHANGED TO SATURDAY 23.12.17
AND MONDAY 1.1.18 CHANGED TO SATURDAY 30.12.17
AND FRIDAY 30.3.18 CHANGED TO SATURDAY 31.3.18**
PLEASE PLACE YOUR BIN OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE.

The calendar can be viewed or downloaded from Council's website www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection

Properties who take part in the collection pay a separate fee for the service so there is an additional cost for participation in this service where it is offered. That cost is currently \$160 per year and entitles the participant to a weekly 140 litre waste collection and a fortnightly 240 litre recycling collection.

Council periodically has requests from one or another rural resident with respect to inclusion in the waste collection service. Subject to demand, service routes can be adjusted with a need for 3 services on average per kilometre to keep the service costs within their existing budget. Fewer than two per kilometre puts upward pressure on the cost of the service for all participants.

Do you currently not receive a waste collection?

Are you interested in being considered for inclusion in the service in the future?

Council is seeking expressions of interest from property owners who would like to be considered for inclusion in the service and who are happy to pay the additional fee for the service.

Please advise council of your interest in being included by the **31st January 2017**. Council will then review the expressions of interest to determine if the service can be extended in the areas of interest and provide advice back to interested respondents.

Proposed changes to Dog Registration

From 1 July 2018, dog registration, along with the way you manage your pet dog and cat's microchip, health and breeder information, will be simplified with the introduction of a new website.

Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) will be the central point for all dog and cat management payments and information, replacing the 68 individual council systems and private microchip databases currently in place.

From 1 July 2018 all cats of a certain age in the Northern Areas Council area will be required to be microchipped. This information will need to be included into the DACO system but will not attract a registration fee since Council does not require the registration of cats.

Not only will DACO simplify your dog or cat management needs, but it will streamline the process for councils, vets and animal welfare agencies too, giving these organisations instant access to information from around the state. This will help them reunite you and your lost dog or cat quicker.

Further updates on the DACO Project will be included in future editions of Council's newsletter and information about the DACO Project and the new dog and cat laws can be found on the Dog and Cat Management Board website <http://www.dogandcatboard.com.au>.

Once again Northern Areas Council dog owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their dogs are registered from 3 months of age. If you purchase a new dog 3 months or older then you have 14 days in which to register it. It doesn't matter at what time of the year the first registration is done but re-registering is due between July 1 and August 31 each year

Unregistered dogs attract an expiation fee of \$170. Council carries out registration checks at varied times.

Current dog registrations can be transferred from another Council with a payment of \$5 per dog.

Community members who have concerns with dogs barking, harassing people or other animals are encouraged to contact Council's Dog Management Officer, Garry Harris on 0419 858 375.

Council Community Project Grants

Council recently allocated \$20,000 in funding across 12 different projects as part of its annual Community Project Grants.

Organisations to receive funding were:

- Belalie Arts Society—\$800 toward the upgrade and installation of new exterior lighting
- Gladstone Community Development and Tourism Association—\$935 toward a new community notice board in Gladstone
- Gladstone History Group—\$650 toward repairs and re-painting of the buffer truck located opposite IGA
- Jamestown Community Garden—\$950 toward maintenance equipment for the Jamestown Community Garden
- Jamestown Development Association—\$2300 toward upgrades to the Jamestown Memorial Hall
- Jamestown Flying Group—\$1200 toward the 2018 Jamestown Fly In and Air Spectacular
- Jamestown Hydrotherapy Pool and Gymnasium—\$2300 toward the purchase of a new electronic security card system
- Jamestown Mural Festival—\$1200 toward promotional items for the Jamestown Mural Festival
- Laura Memorial Civic Centre—\$2300 toward a replacement stove and range hood in the kitchen area
- Laura Folk Fair—\$530 toward directional signage for the Laura Folk Fair
- Rocky River Garden Club—\$600 toward a guest speaker for a garden club event
- Rocky River Historic and Art Society—\$935 to preserve current art collections and provide an honour roll
- Spalding District—\$2300 toward a further stage of the Spalding District Hall Kitchen upgrade
- Spalding Swimming Pool—\$3000 toward painting the main building and pump house



Fire Prevention Update

Summer Preparation and Monitoring Checklist

- Maintain a 20-metre fuel reduction zone around your home and a 10-metre zone around sheds
- Clear around trees.
- Remove leaves from gutters.
- Slash stubble near sheds/buildings.
- Check reserve water supplies.
- Rehearse your Bushfire Action Plan with your family
- Prepare evacuation kit.
- Ensure you have a portable battery-powered radio to hear bushfire warnings.
- Monitor fire restrictions.

Keep informed:

- CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au
- CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: 1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677)
- On local ABC radio, FIVEaa, or one of the other Emergency Broadcast Partner radio stations

Calendar of Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings of Northern Areas Council are held each month at the Council Chambers at 94 Ayr Street, Jamestown.

The general public are always welcome to attend.

Upcoming meeting dates are:

Tuesday 19th December	2pm
Tuesday 23rd January*	2pm
Tuesday 20th February	2pm
Tuesday 20th March	2pm

For further meeting dates please visit

www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

**Changed from original calendar*

Christmas Closures

Office Closures Over Christmas

Jamestown Administration Office

Closing: 3.00pm Friday 22 December 2017
Reopen: 9.00am Tuesday 2 January 2018
Normal business hours resume **2 January 2018**

Gladstone Administration Office

Closing: 2.00pm Friday 22 December 2017
Reopen: 9.00am Monday 8 January 2018
Reduced business hours during January 2018 and part of February 2018 are outlined below:

Open 2 Days a Week during January 2018

Mon	8	Wed	10
Mon	15	Wed	17
Mon	22	Wed	24

Open 3 Days a Week during February 2018

Mon	29 Jan	Wed	31 Jan	Fri	2
Mon	5	Wed	7	Fri	9
Mon	12	Wed	14	Fri	16
Mon	19	Wed	21	Fri	23
Mon	26	Resumes to 5 days a week			

Gladstone Office will resume normal business hours from **Monday 26 February 2018**.

Spalding Administration Office

Closing: 12 Noon Thursday 14 December 2017
Reopen: 10.00am Tuesday 9 January 2018
Reduced business hours during January 2018 and part of February 2018 are outlined below:

Open 1 Day a Week during Jan/Feb 2018

Tuesdays	Jan	9	16	23	30
Tuesdays	Feb	6	13	20	27

Spalding Office will return to normal business hours opening two days per week from **Tuesday 27 February 2018**

Hydrotherapy Pool Christmas Closure

The Jamestown Regional Hydrotherapy Pool will close over the Christmas period as per below.

Closing: Friday 15 December 2017
Reopen Tuesday 3 January 2018
Gym access will be unchanged

Waste Transfer Station Hours

Gladstone

Sunday 24 December - 1pm to 4pm
Wednesday 27 December - 11am to 1pm
Sunday 31 December - 1pm to 4pm

Jamestown

Sunday 24 December - 10am to 1pm
Wednesday 27 December - 12pm to 3pm
Sunday 31 December - 10am to 1pm

Spalding

Sunday 24 December - 3pm to 5pm
Tuesday 26 December - CLOSED
Sunday 31 December - 3pm to 5pm

After Hours Council Contact During Christmas Closure Period

Please call 0488 999 808

Flinders Mobile Library Christmas Closure

Flinders Mobile Library will be closing for the Christmas/New Year holiday break at 4pm on Friday 15 December. We will re-open for business as usual on Tuesday 2 January.

You can find us back on the road in Northern Areas Council townships on the following dates:

Laura	2 January 2018
Gladstone	3 January 2018
Gulnare	10 January 2018
Spalding	10 January 2018
Georgetown	10 January 2018
Yacka	12 January 2018

Please check the timetable on our website for more information www.flindersmobile.sa.gov.au

Don't forget, if you run out of reading material you can always borrow eBooks and eAudio items via our website. All you need is your library card number and PIN.

Flinders Mobile Library staff would like to wish all their borrowers celebrating the season a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Northern Passenger Transport Network Christmas Closure

Office

Closing: 5pm Friday 22 December 2017
Reopen Monday 8 January 2018

Volunteer Transport

Closing: 5pm Friday 22 December 2017
Reopen Monday 8 January 2018

For further details contact Lyn Forster via:

Phone: 08 8666 2255 Email: lyn@mtr.sa.gov.au



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Gladstone Office
Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
Town Hall, Fifth Street
GLADSTONE SA 5473
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Spalding Office
Tuesday 10am-2:30pm
Thursday 9am-5pm
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