



Winter 2017



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AGL Hallett Wind Farm Community Fund Presentations Held

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### My Local Services App Launched

Up to date Council information now available for smartphones and tablet computers

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# From the Council Desk

## Budget Time, Strategic Planning and Asset Management Planning in Full swing

It's difficult to think that 2017 is nearing the half way mark, with the year proving to be a very busy one. The 2017/18 budget process is nearly complete, with the final public consultation currently underway. Having recently reviewed its long term financial plan, Council remains in line with the targets set back in 2011/2012, with the original ten year plan now having reached its half way point.

Effective, economical and sustainable infrastructure management remains a key focus for Council, with several asset management plans having been already completed, with others very near completion. Council has been working with its road and associated infrastructure plan for some years, whilst further plans for plant and machinery, a strategic plan for storm water assets and a plan for the Common Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS) at Jamestown, Laura and Gladstone are all now complete and in operation. The advantage of the plans is that it creates a long term management plan and financial projection, enabling Council to maintain these assets in the most cost effective way, providing a long term saving to the rate payers.

The new financial year will also involve the next phase of Council planning, with Council due to undertake its next strategic plan. Council is looking to partner further with the community through this process, with community forums having recently commenced and a community survey to be also undertaken.

With the current financial year nearing completion, so are several of Council's key capital projects. The storm water management upgrade at the corner of RM Williams Way and the Goyder Highway in Spalding is almost complete, whilst Council's unsealed road re-sheeting program is also nearing completion. Work is busily continuing on the Laura Flood Mitigation Program, which is earmark for completion shortly, whilst several projects at halls and other community buildings are also nearing the final stages.

## Your Elected Member contact information

### **Spalding Ward** *Spalding, Yacka & surrounding areas*

Cr Ben Browne  
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### **Yackamoondie Ward** *Georgetown, Gulnare & surrounding areas*

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### **Jamestown Ward** *Jamestown, Caltowie & surrounding areas*

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Deputy Mayor - Hank Langes  
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### **Rocky River Ward** *Gladstone, Laura, Stone Hut & surrounding areas*

Cr. Geoff Lange  
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# Community News

## Council Launches My Local Services App

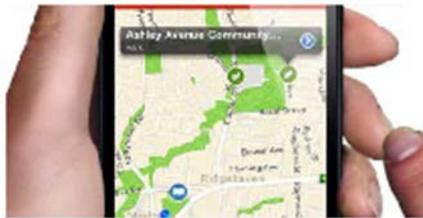
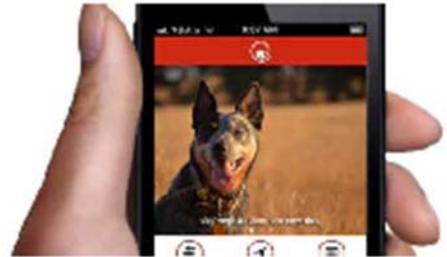
Northern Areas Council along with the LGA of SA has developed a My Local Services App which delivers local information about local services to all residents of the Northern Areas Council

The App has been implemented to provide kerbside collection schedules and reminders, information on parks, events and libraries and communicate direct with the community.

### FEATURES OF MY LOCAL SERVICES APP

#### Spotlight

This feature delivers key messages to the community using the home screen of the App. We can link you to our website to give you all information on upcoming events within the community. We can also send notifications to your phone so your phone will display the information we are sending out straight away.

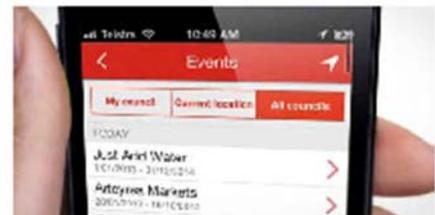


#### Near me

Easily discover nearby council facilities such as parks, playgrounds and libraries. It has inbuilt mapping and can guide you to where you want to go.

#### Events

We will keep you up to date with any and all community events within the region. Information will be sought from community newsletters and forums to make sure as much community event information is added for your reference.



#### Kerbside collection services

This is a great feature, by entering in your address you will be notified with a reminder the night before your bins need to be put out onto the kerb – it will remind for both your general and recycling bin collections.

#### Report it

This feature of the App allows you to report any issues you find whilst out and about, the App provides an option to take a photo, give a description of the problem and all other details provided to ensure the problem is inspected in a timely manner.



#### Download My Local Services App

Download the App through Apple Store or Google Play and enter in Northern Areas Council!



## Community Forums - Strategic Plan

In response to community feedback and Council's strategy to engage the community, Council has set itself a task of conducting five community forums over a five month period in five different locations in the council region.

The aim of these community forums is to give the community updated information on the structure of council, council finances, general project information, what is happening in the local area where the community forum is being held and then taking questions from the people attending on a number of issues.

For some of these issues we can give answers immediately others we have to research before responding.

Over the last four months council has conducted community forums in Gladstone, Laura, Jamestown and Gulnare. The forums have had good outcomes with many questions being asked and suggestions being made for future projects.

There will be one more community forum to be held in Spalding on the 27 June 2017, I encourage you all to attend and have your say.

The information gained from these forums will also flow through to the formation of a new Council Strategic Plan which will take place in the third quarter of this year.

To assist in the formation of this new Strategic Plan a Community Survey will be undertaken in the next few months. This survey will be asking the community a range of questions about facilities, services and what the community require of council.

## Single Farm Enterprise

Section 152 of the Local Government Act 1999 provides that "if two or more pieces of rateable land within the area of the Council constitute a single farm enterprise, only one fixed charge may be imposed against the whole of the land".

If you have not completed an application form or have purchased, sold, subdivided or amalgamated any land or changed your entity and need to complete an application form, forms are available from the Jamestown, Gladstone and Spalding Offices and must be completed and returned by **5:00pm on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017**.

If the application form is not been received by Council by the due date, no exemption will apply to the 2016/2017 financial year fixed charge component of your rates.

A majority of farming entities have already completed a form and are receiving a Single Farm Enterprise, and therefore a reduction on the fixed charge component of their rates.

For further information please contact Tanya Francis or Bernadette McCarthy at the Jamestown Office on 08 8664 1139.



## Receive your rates notices via email

Have your rates notice delivered to any device or computer. It is a quick, easy and secure way to view your rate notice. Scan the QR code printed on your rates notice or go to [www.nacouncil.formsport.com.au](http://www.nacouncil.formsport.com.au) Register your details (See "Steps to register" below) and the next rates notice will be conveniently delivered to your nominated email address.

### Steps to register:

#### Step 1

- Complete the online registration form once you have scanned your QR code or have gone to [www.nacouncil.formsport.com.au](http://www.nacouncil.formsport.com.au)
- Click on the "Register" tab in the top right hand corner.
- Enter your name exactly as it appears on the rates notice, including spaces and symbols.
- Enter your assessment number and email address.
- Choose a username, make it easy to remember so you can log in later.

#### Step 2

- Check your inbox.
- Click the link, it lasts for 48 hours.

#### Step 3

- Choose a password. Use this along with your username to log in.
- You will now receive notices in your inbox, and you can log in and view them online at any time.

For more information or assistance with this process, please contact Bernadette McCarthy or Tanya Francis at the Jamestown Office on 08 8664 1139.

# Community News

## AGL Hallett Wind Farm Community Fund

AGL recently presented \$25,000 in funding to community organisations across the Council area as part of the 2016/17 AGL Hallett Wind Farm Community Fund. Since the fund's inception in 2007, over \$200,000 has been distributed to community organisations across the Council area.

AGL have developed the community fund in order to make a positive contribution to the communities in which it operates. Successful groups from this year's funding round were:

- Caltowie Memorial Hall and Progress Association \$3000 for the construction of a shade structure at the Caltowie Playground
- Jamestown Development Association \$3000 toward the Ayr Street irrigation upgrade
- Jamestown Mural Festival \$2000 toward the 2017 Jamestown Mural Festival
- Jamestown Swimming Pool \$2500 toward an upgrade of kitchen items
- Laura Memorial Civic Centre \$2500 toward an air-conditioning upgrade
- Jamestown R & SL Sub Branch \$2500 toward the repair and repainting of the Rotunda at the Jamestown Memorial Park
- Spalding District \$2000 toward the kitchen upgrade at the Spalding District Hall
- Gladstone Ex Service Personnel Group \$1250 toward a native garden at the Gladstone War Memorial
- Gladstone Hall Management Committee \$1250 toward the installation of an access ramp
- Jamestown Hydrotherapy Pool and Gymnasium \$1000 toward an AED defibrillator
- Jamestown Junior Cricket Club \$1000 toward a new shelter for players and spectators
- Jamestown Lawn Tennis Club \$1000 toward new seating
- Spalding Sports Association \$1000 toward a pass through dishwasher
- Spalding Swimming Pool \$1000 toward a new fridge/freezer



*Pictured during the presentation was from left: Bill LePoidevin (Gladstone Ex Service Personnel Group), Clare Wilks (AGL) and Mayor Clark*

# Fire Prevention News

## Winter Fire Prevention Update

**The Northern Areas Council wishes to remind private property owners that it is their legal responsibility to manage the vegetation on their property.**

It is the property owner's responsibility, not the Council's, for private properties to be maintained before and during the fire danger season to reduce the probability of their property being affected by bushfire/ grassfire. Property owners who regularly maintain the vegetation on their land during the cooler months are likely to have less bushfire prevention work to do in September and October before the Bushfire Danger Season starts.

Correctly managed vegetation can provide many benefits during severe weather and bushfire including: reducing wind speed (all year round); reducing fire intensity; deflecting and filtering embers; and providing shelter from radiant heat. Go to the 'landscape' section of the CFS website to find information on windbreaks, fire retardant plants, locating and maintaining vegetation, and other landscaping tips.

The Council's Fire Prevention Officer will be reviewing properties before the commencement of the Fire Danger Season and issuing fire hazard reduction - Section 105F Notices (under the Fire and Emergency Services Act, 2005). In situations where the property owner does not comply with the 105F Notice, the Council will be issuing an expiation notice (\$315- which is set by the legislation) and arrange for a contractor to carry out the work. The contractor's fee, plus an administration fee of \$50- will be forwarded on to the property owner.

## Backyard Burning and Keeping Warm in Winter

Outside the fire danger season (1st May to 31st October) burning in the open, both inside and outside townships is only permitted under certain conditions.

### Burning Requirements in a Township

The table below refers to burning in the open outside the designated Fire Danger Season. Burning must be in accordance with CFS codes of practice for Broad Acre Burning and Vegetation Pile Burning (Give your neighbours as much notice of your proposed burn as possible).

Burning Activity	Conditions/Requirements
Fire for the preparation of food and beverages (i.e. BBQ, Pizza Oven, Weber BBQ Kettle, camp oven).	<b>No permit or permission required.</b> Fuel is charcoal, dry wood, or other dry plant material.
Use of a brazier, chiminea or a fire pit for outdoor domestic heating.	<b>No permit or permission required.</b> Fuel is restricted to charcoal only.
Campfire in the course of camping, scouting or a similar outdoor recreational activity that isn't being used for food preparation.	<b>Requires Council approval by permit.</b>
Burning agricultural or forestry waste. (i.e. vegetation pile burning in yard, not including plastic, wooden pallets or cardboard boxes, treated timber or tyres. All materials should be dead and completely dry).	<b>No permit or permission required Monday to Saturday 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.</b>
Burning for bushfire hazard reduction. (i.e. vegetation pile burning in yard, not including plastic, wooden pallets or cardboard boxes, treated timber or tyres. All materials should be dead and completely dry).	<b>No permit or permission required Monday to Saturday 10.00 am. to 3.00 p.m.</b>

### Burning Requirements Outside of Townships

The table below refers to burning in the open outside the designated Fire Danger Season. Burning must be in accordance with CFS codes of practice for Broad Acre Burning and Vegetation Pile Burning.

Burning Activity	Conditions/Requirements
Fire for the preparation of food and beverages (i.e. BBQ, Pizza Oven, Weber BBQ Kettle, camp oven).	<b>No permit or permission required.</b> Fuel is charcoal, dry wood, or other dry plant material.
Use of a brazier, chiminea or a fire pit for outdoor domestic heating.	<b>No permit or permission required.</b> Charcoal, dry timber or other plant matter.
Campfire in the course of camping, scouting or a similar outdoor recreational activity.	<b>No permit or permission required.</b>
Burning agricultural or forestry waste.	<b>No permit or permission required.</b>
Burning for bushfire hazard reduction.	<b>No permit or permission required.</b>

# Infrastructure Update

## Capital Projects

Works are progressing well across the council area as the 2016-17 financial year and program comes to a close. Projects to improve accessibility at the cemeteries in Gladstone, Laura and Spalding are well advanced.

Building projects are almost all complete for this financial year and civil storm water projects at Laura and Spalding are progressing.



Construction of the Laura Flood Mitigation Project is in full swing, with the capital works earmarked for completion by the end of the financial year

## CWMS Projects

Various CWMS projects are also advancing with the irrigation water re-use at Laura oval commissioned and operational. Staff of council and volunteers were recently inducted into the use of the system to ensure there are people able to manage the system requirements.

A pump and valve failure under light rain at Jamestown's CWMS recently highlighted the fragility of the existing emergency capacity of the system and has led to commissioning of design for storage capacity solutions for both Dunlop Terrace and South Terrace.

Smoke testing has been done in some areas of the town and a number of properties have been found to have connections into the sewer mains. Under the Water Industry Act 2012, Part 6, Division 1, 56 – Discharge of unauthorised material into sewerage infrastructure (5) *A person must not, without the authorisation of the relevant water industry entity, cause permit or allow any rainwater, stormwater or surface water to flow into, or to otherwise enter, any sewerage infrastructure*



CWMS pump and valve infrastructure unfortunately failed to perform adequately

In order to help manage the pressure on the CWMS systems, storm water from properties must be turned out to the street water table or contained in water tanks for use within the property.

Council will work with property owners who may be found to have illegal connections to resolve the infringement.

Plans for the increased area of irrigation at Jamestown have been submitted to the Department of Health and Aging for approval prior to commencing construction.

It is hoped that this project will commence very soon and provide a solution to the water reuse gap we have as well as providing an enhanced source of revenue for the Apex Club to put back into the community.



Storm water diversion work is nearing completion at Spalding

## Tresylva Park, Gladstone

A draft Management Plan for Tresylva Park is being developed by representatives of various Gladstone community groups in conjunction with council and will provide a platform for accessing funding to develop this key community asset.

## Responsible Dog Ownership

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. Penalties apply for unregistered dogs. Council carries out registration checks at varied times.

If a dog is brought into the Council area the registration must be transferred from another Council if it is current or a new registration must be taken out with Northern Areas Council.

The Dog and Cat Management Board has also directed that all councils must offer two mandatory registration fee categories in 2017/18 registration year.

1. **'Standard' (mandatory legislated rebate)** – this applies only to a dog that is both desexed and microchipped. All councils are required to provide a mandatory percentage rebate off the 'non-standard' fee, for a 'standard' dog registration.

2. **'Non-standard' (full fee)** – this applies to all other kinds of dogs, even if they are exempt from the requirement to desex or microchip (e.g. dogs belonging to registered breeders, working livestock dogs etc.).

Council has the discretion to offer additional non-mandatory fee rebates (e.g. for concession card holders, working livestock dogs) as in previous years.

Please note: The Dog and Cat Board has also advised Council that from July 1 2018 all dogs **must** be desexed and microchipped.

Dog owners are encouraged to be responsible owners by desexing and microchipping their dogs which will mean cheaper registration.

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

## Calendar of Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings of the Northern Areas Council are held at venues across the Council area, on the third Tuesday of each month commencing at 2pm

The general public are always welcome to attend

Upcoming meeting dates and venues are:

Tue 20th June	<b>Yacka</b>	2pm
Tue 18th July	<b>Jamestown</b>	2pm
Tue 15th August	<b>Gulnare</b>	2pm
Tue 19th September	<b>Jamestown</b>	2pm

For further meeting dates please visit

[www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au](http://www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au)

## After Hours Council Contact

Please call

0488 999 808

## Collection of Waste and Recycling

Don't forget to put your bins out the **night before** your collection day. There is no guarantee of the time the bin will be emptied on your collection day.

**Putting your bin out the night before ensures collection.**



## Rocky River Bus Volunteers Needed

The Rocky River Bus Committee are urgently seeking Volunteer Drivers for the Rocky River Health & Care Bus.

The Laura Hospital will provide support to those seeking the required accreditation including funding to undertake the Light Rigid Bus Licence, Criminal History Check and Annual Medical Check. Conditions apply.

Any person interested please contact Julie Arthur: EO/DON Laura Hospital 86633100. It is important to remember if wishing to use the service to book through the Laura Hospital administration department on 8663 3100



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