



Message from the Mayor of Walkerville

Local Government operates within the context of the State's planning system, so the ongoing challenge for myself and the Elected Members is how we align local interests and concerns with State and Federal agendas.

As your elected representatives we exercise our role to advocate and influence as best we can, even when issues are outside the scope of our authority. We are often called upon to represent the views of our community to the State Government by providing feedback, facilitating communications and making submissions on major projects and proposed legislative changes.

An example of how we have been effective in this arena has been Council's involvement with the State Government's O-Bahn City Access Project. Last year, we facilitated a public meeting in the Town Hall for residents and representatives of the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). We maintained regular contact with DPTI to ensure that the views of residents were heard and acknowledged. Our ongoing discussions with

DPTI resulted in maintaining the right hand turn off Hackney Road into Park Terrace, with some peak time restrictions [am and pm] - quite a good outcome for the smallest Council in inner metropolitan Adelaide.

The Walkerville Town Centre Development Plan Amendment (DPA) was another matter that entailed intensive public consultation and evoked a groundswell of local community response.

Notwithstanding State Government mandates in relation to urban infill and development, Council understands that how we manage our built heritage has a real impact on the character of the Township. The Elected Members were extremely proactive in driving a review of the initial Town Centre Development Plan Amendments. Throughout this process, Council and Administration worked in a cohesive and consultative manner to ensure that the legitimate concerns of the community were incorporated into the DPA.

The overall aim of the DPA is to support diverse retail, community and business opportunities that will activate the Town Centre bringing more people into the area and attracting a greater mix of new businesses.

This translates into economic benefits for local businesses and traders and increased social and cultural opportunities for the community.

The changes to the DPA will take the Town of Walkerville closer to achieving its full potential as a thriving retail and recreational destination - and there are provisions in the DPA to ensure proper guidance and consideration is provided to local residents living adjacent to future developments areas in the Town Centre.

The redevelopment of Mary P Harris Reserve on Walkerville Terrace which is expected to be completed before Christmas will be a tremendous asset to the revitalisation of our Town Centre.

In September, extreme weather brought the State to a standstill and highlighted how we share resources and connections that go beyond our boundary lines, particularly in relation to the management of Linear Park. In the interests of public safety, our Council, as well as neighbouring Councils, responded immediately to the directive of the SA State Incident Controller to close the Linear Park to the public and I commend the work of our field staff throughout this process. >

Message from the Mayor of Walkerville continued

Whilst day to day we manage our section of Linear Park, it is a responsibility we share with other Councils who adjoin rivers, creeks or streams. At a State level, Linear Park as whole is overseen by various agencies.

As many of you know, the September storms caused significant damage throughout the Park; destabilising trees, damaging riverways and destroying built infrastructure such as the Gilberton and Frome Reserve Lower level bridges, Willow Bend Reserve Bridge and the St Andrew's Boardwalk. It's been the same for our neighbouring Councils who have also been cleaning up and bearing the significant cost of recovery. Our field staff, as well as external contractors and consultants are still working in sections of the Park.

To date, some areas remain closed - and it will be some months before all damaged infrastructure is replaced or completely repaired. Whilst I know this has been frustrating - people's safety and responsible environmental management is our priority. Safety first is also the priority when it comes to the Gilberton Swing Bridge which has been closed for most of 2016. The much-needed refurbishment of this iconic Heritage listed bridge is expected to commence in early 2017.

In closing I think we can all agree it has been something of a tumultuous year - events on the world stage such as Brexit and the US elections have taken many by surprise.

While these events may seem a world away from our concerns in the Town of Walkerville they are reflective of the changing world in which we live.

As 2016 winds to a close let's take some time to focus on what unites in this era of the global village - as opposed to what divides us.

“ I wish you, your families and friends, a safe and happy festive season. ”



Ray Grigg
Mayor of Walkerville

A perfect storm

Council staff and contractors continue to work in Linear Park to clean up and repair the considerable damage left by the storms in September 2016. Council's priority is to re-open bridges as soon as they are structurally sound and it is safe to do so.

Due to the time taken for flood waters to recede, it was almost three weeks before Council field staff could safely enter areas of the Park to assess the damage and determine work plans and repair schedules. An engineering consultant was brought in to carry out a full audit of all damaged structures. The majority of Council's lower level bridges and boardwalks sustained so much damage that Council has had no option but to close them to the public.

Below is an snapshot of some of the major activity undertaken so far:

- A contractor has been engaged to landscape open spaces where silt and storm debris had accumulated - this included Willow bend, Frome Reserve and Creswell Reserve. Work included removal of excess top soil, rolling grass to reduce unevenness and top-dressing areas where soil has been eroded. Backfilling of holes was also undertaken where trees had been removed. Volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia are currently on-site replanting and carrying out a general tidy up of these areas.
- A contractor has been engaged to repair the boardwalk and Frome Reserve Bridge as well as structural work along the river banks - some of these works will be finished before Christmas.
- A contractor has been engaged to repair Creswell Bridge and it is expected that the bridge will reopen in late February 2017.
- As a direct result of the storm damage, Council was obliged to remove approximately 30 trees. There are still a number of compromised trees within the waterways and Council is awaiting advice from SA Water before taking further action.
- There are 100 lights in our section of the Park and it is believed that a significant number were partially underwater for an extended period of time and will need to be replaced. A detailed assessment of lights and a repair schedule has been developed and work will be completed early in 2017.

Storm impact: frequently asked questions:

Q: Does the Council budget for natural disasters such as a storm?

A: Due to the unpredictable nature of natural disasters, most Councils, including the Town of Walkerville, generally do not budget for a contingency fund for natural disasters.

Q: Does insurance cover costs?

A: Council will apply for compensation from its insurers for urban infrastructure damage.

Q: What about trees?

A: Natural assets such as trees are not covered by insurance - nor are general clean-up costs and rubbish disposal.



Council photo

2016 Walkervillage Christmas Fair



On Sunday 27 November the Walkervillage Christmas Fair was held on Levi Oval.

This was a 'first' for Council who trialled a new format and a new location for its annual Christmas community event. Hundreds of people came along on the day to enjoy a host of festive entertainment.



Representation review

From a wellbeing strategy through to parking and heritage matters – Council has consulted on a range of issues in 2016.

In 2017, Council will be seeking the views of the community on the current representation quota for the Township – in other words, the ratio of electors to Elected Members.

An elector representation review is a legislative requirement under the *Local Government Act 1999*. Councils are required to undertake a review every eight years to determine whether the local community would benefit from changing the existing structure of the representation quota.

In 2017, Council will undertake a review of its current representation quota. Through the process of public consultation and engagement, people will be invited to make written submissions and express their views on this matter.

Consultation is expected to commence in mid-to-late January. Check the website in the new year for information on how to have your say.

Representation quota for the Town of Walkerville as 29/02/16*

605
electors



9
elected members
including Mayor



*Provided by the Local Government Association of South Australia.

Things to do, people to see, places to go

With a range of social activities in the pipeline – Town of Walkerville is the place to be this summer. Here are some of the highlights:

December 2016

Father Christmas visits the Civic and Community Centre



10.30am, Tuesday
20th December

Come along and say hello to Father Christmas. While you are there why not pick up a selection of books, CDs and DVDs to enjoy over the festive season from our extensive library collection.

The meat pie: Australia's own fast food

Walkerville Library is one of only 10 public libraries selected to display this entertaining exhibition which delves into the history of the not-so-humble meat pie – from its origins in the ancient world to its place in the supermarket freezer! Free

19th December – end of January

Civic and Community Centre foyer during business hours
66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton.



Lawn tennis anyone?

The Walkerville Lawn Tennis Club season is in full swing and continues every Saturday and selected weekdays until May 2017. This is social tennis at its best and ideal for people who prefer playing on a casual basis. New players are welcome. So if you prefer your summer holidays to have more racquet and less racket, contact Club President Rick Underdown on 0408 855 442 or runder@adam.com.au for details.

The courts are located at the corner of Stephen Terrace and Creswell Court, Gilberton.



January 2017

Night owls / Walkerville Bowls

Classic summer twilight fun at one of Adelaide's most beautifully maintained bowling greens and friendliest Clubs. New and experienced bowlers are welcome, there will be loads of free give-aways and loan balls are available.

Wednesday Night owls starts 11th January

Thursday Night owls starts 12th January

BBQ and bar open from 6pm and bowls starts at 6.45pm until 9pm

Walkerville Bowling Club is located on the corner of Smith Street and Church Terrace, Walkerville. Cost: \$8 per weekly game

Contacts: Tel 8344 2064 secretary@walkervillebowls.com.au
Ray Mercer 0427 564 651 ray.mercer@acslink.net.au

Robots, gadgets & gizmos

Interact and experiment with a range of robots, gadgets and gizmos including MiP, the special balancing robot and MiPosaur the robotic dinosaur, and zoom around with remote control vehicles and devices. Presented by Walkerville Council.

10.30am – 11.30am, Thursday 12th January

Walkerville Town Hall, 66 Walkerville Terrace Gilberton

Suitable for ages 8+. Bookings tel 8342 7150 or library@walkerville.sa.gov.au Cost: \$2

Walkerville Men's Probus Club: Introducing Dr Jack White, Forensic Psychologist

Dr White, gives a fascinating insight into the workings of the criminal mind from the perspective of forensic psychology

10am, Tuesday 17th January

Walkerville Town Hall, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton
Visitors welcome. To book contact Ross Fletcher tel 8344 2389.

The magic of reading magic show

The joys of reading come alive through a fun magic show, suitable for all ages. Presented by Walkerville Council.

10.30am, Wednesday 18th January

Walkerville Town Hall, 66 Walkerville Terrace Gilberton. Cost: \$2
All ages. Bookings: Tel 8342 7150 and library@walkerville.sa.gov.au

Animals anonymous

This popular activity returns in 2017. *Animals anonymous* is a native wildlife show which brings children face to face with a collection of Australian animals, such as a baby crocodile, big python, goanna, and squirrel glider. The show is very hands on and is designed to introduce children and young people to our native animals and to develop a greater understanding of our fragile ecosystems and an awareness of conservation issues. Presented by Walkerville Council

10.30am, Tuesday 24th January

Walkerville Town Hall, 66 Walkerville Terrace Gilberton. Cost: \$2
All ages. Bookings Tel 8342 7150 or library@walkerville.sa.gov.au

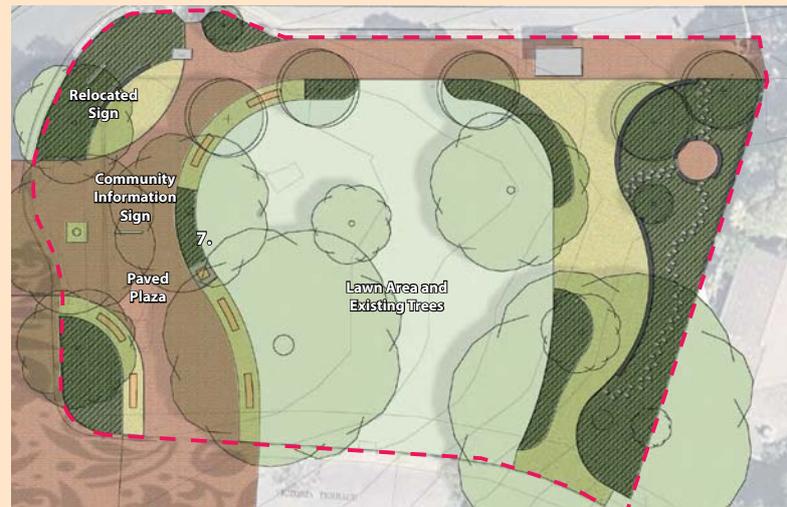
For more information on what's on in the in the Town of Walkerville go to www.walkerville.sa.gov.au and check out our events calendar. Local groups and organisations are welcome to add their events to the calendar by submitting an online form.

A new place to play

Next time you are visiting Walkerville Terrace, be sure to visit the newly completed stage 1 of the Mary P Harris Reserve redevelopment. At the time of going to print the reserve was just days away from its 'big reveal'.

Mary P Harris Reserve is located on the corner of Walkerville Terrace and Victoria Avenue, just across the road from the Walkerville Woolworths Shopping Centre. New landscaping, creative paving and quirky stone walls have been designed to encourage play in the natural environment. The reserve's location - just a hop, skip and a jump from the Town's shopping precinct make it an ideal spot for people to meet, as well as for community activities.

Stage 1 of the Mary P Harris Reserve will be officially opened by Mayor Ray Grigg during the 2017 Australia Day Citizenship Ceremonies.



What lies beneath...

The Walkerville Wesleyan Cemetery, located between Smith Street and Gawler Terrace is one of the most fascinating historical sites in the Town of Walkerville. Opening in 1849, it is also one of the earliest village cemeteries in Adelaide.

In January 2016, the survey area for the investigation was decided upon during an on-site meeting with Dr Ian Moffat (Archaeometry Pty Ltd), John Linsell and Brenton Light (Mosel Steed), Gareth Griffiths (Friends of the Wesleyan Cemetery) and Walkerville Council's Manager, Property and Contracts.

Dr Ian Moffat (who led the project), has significant experience in archaeological geophysics, particularly in the location of unmarked burials using ground penetrating radar and other techniques.

Prior to the investigation, historical research suggested that the cemetery housed 3785 burials in 1008 plots (McDougall and Vines 2012). The data that emerged from this investigation revealed 168 probable and 20 possible unmarked graves, as well as 69 additional areas that contained an unknown number of multiple burials.

A high resolution aerial image was made of the survey area using an ITW ultrafoil 15 aerial photography kite with a camera taking photos every 3 seconds.

However, the site has not revealed all its secrets. Any geophysical investigation can only indirectly locate burials and as interesting as the findings have been, the results don't provide an absolute map of locations of unmarked graves. Many areas of the cemetery are located beneath headstones, trees, gardens and other surface infrastructure and no GPR survey was undertaken in these locations. Due to the age of the cemetery and the spatial complexity of the GPR survey it is likely that, even in areas where no marked or GPR identified graves have been located, additional unmarked graves could exist.

“During the last 12 months heritage and history has come face to face with the sort of cutting edge technology that *Indiana Jones* could only dream of.”

Sections of the site were subject to a ground penetrating radar (GPR) investigation to locate unmarked burials or other archaeological material. GPR is a non-invasive geophysical method that uses radar pulses to 'image' the subsurface.



Into the swing

The Gilberton Swing Bridge which connects Player Court, St Peters and Severn Street, Gilberton has been closed to the public for most of 2016 and works on a significant refurbishment will commence in the new year.

The Heritage-Listed bridge has been used by pedestrians for almost 100 years and is jointly owned by the Town of Walkerville and the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters. In December 2015, both Councils co-signed a Deed for the refurbishment and ongoing maintenance of the bridge, ensuring that the two Councils shared future responsibilities and costs.

As a result of extreme weather in September the bridge sustained further damage and remains closed to the public for safety reasons.

“Both Councils are committed to working together to ensure this unique structure is still in daily use 100 years from now.”

“While we regret the inconvenience caused by closing the bridge to the public, a quick fix was never going to be a viable option. The bridge needs to undergo substantial repair and refurbishment and our foremost concern is, and remains – people’s safety”, said Mayors Robert Bria and Ray Grigg in a joint statement.

The refurbishment project will be entirely managed by the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters.



Immunisation clinics

Drop-in immunisation clinics are held at Walkerville Council on the third Monday of each month from 4-6pm. For more information contact Eastern Health Authority on 8132 3600 or www.eha.sa.gov.au

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
16	20	20	Public Holiday	15	19
JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
17	21	18	16	20	18



We're taking a short break

Christmas/New Year operating hours

Council offices and library will close from 12pm Friday 23 December, reopening 9am Tuesday 3 January 2017.

During this period, emergency calls to tel 8342 7100 (24 hour)

Photos: Simon Casson (unless indicated otherwise)

Town of Walkerville

Civic & Community Centre:
66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton SA 5081 T 08 8342 7100 (24 hours)
walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au

[@walkerville5081](https://www.facebook.com/walkerville5081) [/TownOfWalkerville](https://www.facebook.com/TownOfWalkerville) [/WalkervilleLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/WalkervilleLibrary)

Council offices: Mondays to Fridays 9am-5pm.

Library: Mondays 9am-7pm, Tuesdays to Fridays 9am-5pm, Saturdays 9.30am-1pm.

walkerville.sa.gov.au