

A walk on the Stobie-side of life



Weekly Round Up

6 February 2026

TOWN OF



WALKERVILLE

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The W: Family Fun Day

Council is excited to officially announce the opening celebration for The W: Walkerville Recreation Centre.

Come down to The W between 11am-2pm on Sunday, 1 March 2026, to enjoy a Family Fun Day out!

There will be kids' activities, come and try sports sessions, a raffle draw, face painting, live music and entertainment, food trucks, a flagship basketball game and so much more!

This **free event** is not one to miss and is a great opportunity to check out the new Walkerville Recreation Centre.

Event schedule:



- **11am – Official opening**

Join us for the official unveiling of The W: Walkerville Recreation Centre, with speeches from special guests and enter into the raffle draw to win some great prizes

- **11am-2pm – Kids' Court (whole event)**

Court W2: Jumping castle, soft play, mini ball pit and ride-on cars

- **11am-12pm – Walkerville Netball Club**

Court W1: Come & Try netball sessions

- **12pm-1pm – 22 Too Gymnastics & Volleyball SA**

Court W1: Come & Try sport sessions for gymnastics and volleyball

- **1pm – Adelaide 36ers with ACBA & Norwood Basketball Club**

Court W1: Flagship basketball game featuring the Adelaide 36ers and special VIP guests

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2026 Volunteer of the Year Award nominations

Town of Walkerville is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Volunteer of the Year Awards.

Council encourages people to nominate a volunteer in our community by putting their name forward for an individual or local community event in the 2026 Volunteer Awards.

There are three volunteer award categories, plus a Mayor's Choice Award category – with a recipient selected from the pool of nominations by Council Members.



The below categories are:

Category 1: Volunteer of the Year

For exceptional voluntary service by an individual who has benefited the Town of Walkerville. This award is only for people aged over 35 years.

Category 2: Young Volunteer of the Year

For exceptional voluntary service by an individual who has benefited the Town of Walkerville. This award is only for people aged 35 years or under.

Category 3: Community Event of the Year (this can be in-person or virtual)

For a local event held between February 2025 and February 2026 that demonstrated a strong local community focus and volunteering element. Organisations can nominate their own events for the Community Event of the Year Award.

Nominations are now open, and will close at 5pm on Tuesday, 7 April 2026.

If you are interested in nominating a deserving person, [click here](#).

Let's reminisce: Yatala escapees car chase through Walkerville

Four prisoners escaped from Yatala Gaol in 1930, at the beginning of their day's work in a quarry, and led the police on a car chase through Payneham, St Peters, Walkerville and Enfield.

"It was the most daring and carefully planned that has ever taken place from the prison to that date. Armed with three shotguns hidden in the quarry in which they were working, the men

overpowered their ganger and escaped in a car that had been left outside the prison boundary." – *Register News-Pictorial*, 19 July 1930.

Forcing a guard to run with them, they escaped in the car and headed towards Tea Tree Gully.

They kept the guard a hostage for a time, with three of the prisoners having to convince the fourth prisoner not to kill their hostage, before throwing him out of the vehicle (alive) along North East Road.

After making their way to Summertown and being spotted while trying to find the residence of a Local Member of Parliament, they returned to the city.

They were recognised again in Payneham and a dramatic chase by constables in a car followed.

An exchange of shots was opened between the escapee's car and police vehicles near the Sussex Arms Hotel, and running fire continued until Main North Road was reached. Tyres in both cars were punctured by rifle bullets and the battle proceeded on foot.



Meanwhile, reinforcements in other police cars and motorcycle and sidecar outfits were arriving.

Desperate beyond measure, the convicts fought a determined rear-guard action through a number of backyards and the grounds of the Nailsworth Public School.

With the odds against them, they separated. William Henry Hayes escaped over fences and through backyards, Joseph Dawson was captured and the other two – Arthur Harold Harrison and John Eustace Newchurch – were shot dead while trying to take a lorry.



A local newspaper - The Register Adelaide - published a breakdown of how the prisoners escaped from the quarry.

Two traffic constables and two civilians were injured. All available police cars and cycles were out on the hunt for the last convict.

When Hayes – the only one to escape the car chase – was finally arrested later that night, he was disguised as a woman – as what *The Chronicle Adelaide* described as a “flapper” – wearing a print dress, stockings, shoes and a “smart” hat.

The two men recaptured were charged with attempted murder and with having escaped from custody.

This throwback is part of Town of Walkerville’s monthly history series, touching on iconic and famous moments, people and places in Walkerville history.

The history of this 1930’s Yatala prison break and car chase was researched and collected by local historian, Lyn O’Grady.

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Sports Round Up

Walkerville Cricket Club

Men's A Grade:

12.50pm, Saturday, 14 February 2026 & 12.50pm, Saturday, 21 February 2026 (Two days) – Round 9 against Gepps Cross at Walkerville Oval.

12.50pm, Saturday, 28 February 2026 & 12.50pm, Saturday, 7 March 2026 (Two days) – Round 10 against Goodwood at Walkerville Oval.

All other junior competition fixtures for the club are available [here](#).

Walkerville Football Club

Community Event of the Year winner

Walkerville Football Club won the Community Event of the Year award for their Big Freeze event at Council's 2026 Citizen of the Year Awards. The Big Freeze raised over \$13k for motor neurone disease research and raised awareness for FightMND.

125th Anniversary Gala

The Walkerville Football Club is hosting a 125th Anniversary Gala Dinner to celebrate 125 years of the Club. This special night will bring together past and present players, officials, supporters and friends to honour its history, share stories and celebrate the Club.

6.30pm – 11.30pm on Saturday, 21 March 2026, at the Ian McLachlan Room at Adelaide Oval. Tickets are \$160 per person or \$1,500 for a table of ten. To book a ticket or to find out more information, [click here](#).

Walkerville Netball Club

Coaches callout

The Walkerville Netball Club is calling on people to put their names forward for coaching roles for the 2026 season, across the juniors and seniors, AMND and SAUCNA squads.

Contact the Walkerville Netball Club directly for more [information](#).

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Walkerville Oval Football Netting Consultation closes soon

The Town of Walkerville is seeking community feedback on a proposed change to Walkerville Oval to allow for the installation of football goal netting at the northern and southern ends of the Oval.

Following the completion of the new Walkerville Bowling & Community Club, including the expanded car park, concerns have been raised about the increased risk of footballs striking parked vehicles during the upcoming football season.

To improve safety for pedestrians and reduce the risk of vehicle damage, Council is considering adjustments to the Oval layout, including installing goal netting at both ends of the Oval. This solution aims to prevent footballs from landing in nearby streets, including Smith Street and Warwick Street.

The proposed works include:

- installing 10-metre high football goal netting at both ends of the oval:
 - 30 metres wide at the northern end;
 - 21 metres wide at the southern end; and
 - the goal netting posts would be permanent, with retractable netting.

Council is seeking feedback to ensure this proposal appropriately balances safety and community use of the Oval.

The Walkerville Oval Football Netting Consultation is closing to feedback at 5pm on Tuesday, 10 February 2026.

For more information or to undertake the survey, [click here](#).



'Elly' The Elephant

For the next month, Town of Walkerville is hosting 'Elly' The Elephant in the foyer of the Civic & Community Centre, as part of the Elephant In The Room project.

This project was created by Women's Safety Services SA and aims to give a voice to women with lived experience of domestic and family violence.

'Elly' also aims to raise awareness in the community about what domestic and family violence really is, how it can show up in everyday life and what options are available for people seeking support.

Give 'Elly' The Elephant a visit at Council to learn more.



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Stobie stroll

Local artist, Travis Cox, took a group of people on a leisurely stroll through the streets of Gilberton to discuss seven of his Stobie pole mosaic artworks.

He shared the inspiration behind each piece and demonstrated how ordinary Stobie poles can become canvases for community art.



Mixing mocktails workshop

Attendees enjoyed a tasty workshop where they learnt how to make a variety of unique mocktail drinks.

The hands-on session had attendees mixing fun and nutritious drinks – without the booze!



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Wallaby Workout at The W

The improved Wallaby Workout has held its first few sessions at its new location at The W: Walkerville Recreation Centre.

With expanded play equipment and a jumpy castle, our little wallabies near and far are enjoying the new offerings in the program.

The Wallaby Workout runs a drop-in session **between 9.30am-11.30am every Wednesday** (excluding School and Public Holidays) at The W. **\$5 per family per session**, pay on arrival. You can also buy our Wallaby Workout Visit Pass, which gives you access to six Wallaby Workout sessions for the price of five. If you are interested in the Wallaby Workout and want more information, head to [The W's website](#).



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2026 SA Voice Elections

Nominations are open for the 2026 SA Voice Elections.

In March 2023, South Australia became the first Australian State to pass legislation to establish a First Nations Voice to its Parliament. This followed extensive engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in South Australia.

South Australia's First Nations Voice is an advisory body. Through the Voice, First Nations people are having their say on issues that affect them, at the highest level of decision-making in South Australia.

First Nations Voice members are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, elected by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The first election of the First Nations Voice was held on 16 March 2024.

South Australia's First Nations Voice has two levels. There are six elected Local First Nations Voices and a State Voice. The State Voice talks to the SA Government and Parliament, while Local Voices talk to the community and provide advice to the State Voice on the issues to be raised.

Members are normally elected for four years. However, the next election of members will be on 21 March 2026, so that First Nations Voice elections occur at the same time as the SA State Elections.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and you are eligible to be a candidate, you can get involved by nominating for a Local Voice elected member position.

You can otherwise get involved by voting in the election in March.

Applications for the 2026 SA Voice Elections will close on 10 February 2026. The election will occur on Saturday, 21 March 2026. To learn more, [click here](#).



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Increase in school safety patrols

To improve safety around local schools, Council's Community Safety Officers will be undertaking additional patrols during busy drop-off and pick-up times.

The safety of students is a top priority for Council, especially at the start of the new school term.

Over the coming weeks, Officers will have an increased presence around school zones to encourage safe driver behaviour and support a safer environment for children, families and school staff.

Council staff will also be visiting schools during this period to engage with parents and caregivers to provide school safety information and answer any questions.

These patrols form part of Council's ongoing commitment to student safety and focus on education and awareness.

Officers will initially issue warnings to help raise awareness, however, vehicles found breaching traffic or parking regulations may face penalties following this period.

Council encourages all road users to take extra care when travelling near schools and to respect parking restrictions. By working together, we can create a safer environment for students, families and the wider community.



Future of South Australia's libraries depends on updated funding deal

State Government funding for public libraries in South Australia is falling short of what's needed to maintain existing service levels and staffing, placing further pressure on one of the State's most heavily used and trusted institutions.

Ahead of the March State Election, the Local Government Association is urging the next State Government to commit to a funding model that recognises the increased public demand, rising operating costs and the expanded role public libraries are facing in communities.

This includes adding annual indexation as part of a new public libraries funding agreement that will ensure existing programs, staffing and other key services remain sustainable in the future.

Under the current agreement, which must be renegotiated by the end of January, the State Government's annual contribution of \$20.7 million toward public libraries has dropped to \$20.1 million.

LGA is calling to increase funding and include indexation in a new agreement, worth close to \$3 million over the next two years, based on average CPI figures.

Town of Walkerville is asking you to show your support for public library funding by contacting your local State MP, [the Honourable Lucy Hood](#), to let her know why you value the Walkerville Library and want the State Government to continue funding public libraries.



Outdoor Movie Night

The Walkerville Community Committee proudly invites you to the first Outdoor Movie Night at Walkerville Oval.

Join the Walkerville Community Committee for a viewing of *Smurfs* on Friday, 13 February 2026. Gates open at 6.30pm, with the movie starting at 7.30pm.

Smurfs is a fun, family-friendly movie to enjoy on the big screen at the Walkerville Oval on Smith Street, Walkerville.

Enjoy a sausage sizzle, some popcorn and fairy floss while the Smurfs entertain you for the evening with their antics. No bookings required, just turn up! BYO chairs and picnic rugs.



Hand in your Walkerville Big Summer Read logs

With the Big Summer Read challenge now finished, all participants need to hand their reading log into Walkerville Library!

Reading logs are due back by Monday, 9 February 2026.

If you registered your reading log through Walkerville Library, make sure to finalise your log through the [Read Books website](#), and then download and print it off to hand in to the Walkerville Library.

Your finished reading logs will go into the running to win a prize through the national Big Summer Read draw.

There is one winner per category: 0-4 years age category, 5-8 years age category, 9-12 years age category and 13-18 years age category.



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Walkerville Residents' Association AGM

All residents of Gilberton, Medindie, Vale Park and Walkerville are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Walkerville Residents' Association (WRA).

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will feature guest speakers Mayor Melissa Jones and Mr Phil Harris, architect and Adjunct Professor from the University of Adelaide.

Phil Harris is a founder of Troppo Architects (established in 1979) and has practised widely across Australia, working in bush, regional and urban settings. His work spans more than 50 Aboriginal communities, as well as projects for local, state and federal governments, private clients, NGOs and commercial entities. Troppo Architects has also undertaken work internationally, including in Vanuatu, Malaysia and Africa.

Phil and Troppo co-founder Adrian Welke were recipients of the Paris-based Global Sustainability Award in 2010, and the Australian Institute of Architects' highest honour, the Gold Medal, in 2014. Phil has delivered numerous public addresses in Australia and overseas and has held a professorial role at the University of Adelaide.

A long-term local resident, Phil has lived on Gilbert Street, Gilberton since 1987. His work is driven by a passion for designing with and for people, with a strong focus on the fine grain of neighbourhoods, adaptive reuse and the character of traditional high streets. His thinking has been shaped by studies throughout Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

At the AGM, Phil will speak on *Challenges of planning inner city areas – a call for a more strategic pro-active approach to planning in the Town of Walkerville*.

The AGM will be held from 5.30pm to 7pm on Monday, 9 February 2026, in Room 1855 at the Walkerville Civic & Community Centre, corner of Walkerville Terrace and Stephen Terrace, Gilberton.

Nominations for the Management Committee for 2026 can be sent to contact@walkervilleresidents.org.

Nominations are particularly encouraged from residents of Vale Park and Medindie. For more information or to keep up to date with WRA news, head to www.walkervilleresidents.org.

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ENGLISH



SUPPORT

ASSISTANCE

STARTING WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2026

10AM-11.30AM | MEETING ROOM 2

FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.

EXCLUDES SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

JOIN ONE OF OUR FRIENDLY SESSIONS, DESIGNED FOR ANYONE LOOKING TO IMPROVE THEIR ENGLISH AND GAIN CONFIDENCE. THE SESSIONS ARE LED BY A VOLUNTEER AND FORMER TEACHER WITH YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HELPING PEOPLE WITH THEIR ENGLISH.

WE CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH:

- PRACTISING EVERYDAY ENGLISH CONVERSATION AND WRITTEN SKILLS
- COMPLETING FORMS AND UNDERSTANDING DOCUMENTS

**FREE, DROP-IN SERVICE
NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL COUNCIL 8342 7100
DURING BUSINESS HOURS

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Safer Suburbs Grant Program

Helping residents and businesses feel safer at home and at work, the Town of Walkerville's Safer Suburbs Grant Program offers eligible applicants funding support for the installation of safety cameras.

The program reflects Council's commitment to fostering safe, resilient and connected communities, and directly supports the delivery of the Strategic 10-year Plan – TOWards2035.

This Policy applies to eligible applicants, including residents, local businesses, not-for-profit organisations, community groups and volunteer-based entities operating within the Township.



To be eligible for a Safer Suburbs Grant, applicants must be:

- a Town of Walkerville ratepayer living in the Council area;
- a resident living within the Town of Walkerville area (must provide written approval from property owner or landlord for installation of equipment);
- a not-for-profit organisation or community group based in the Town of Walkerville; or
- a local business operating within the Town of Walkerville that has an Australian Business Number, has current public liability insurance and, where relevant, have landlord and/or development approvals.

Funding will be provided towards the purchase of security camera/s, including CCTV installation and home security doorbells.

Residential applicants are eligible for a grant of up to \$100 per application, priority residents may be eligible for up to \$200 per application, and businesses and not-for-profit/community groups are eligible for a grant of up to \$500 per application.

For more information regarding the Safer Suburbs Grant Program, including the relevant Policy, and how to apply, [click here](#).

Your Art, Our Walls: Exhibit at the Theresa Walker Gallery in 2026

Are you looking to showcase your work and take your artistic practice to the next level in 2026?

The Town of Walkerville invites artists to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for upcoming exhibition opportunities at the Theresa Walker Gallery, located within the Civic & Community Centre.

Whether you're a painter, photographer, or a textile artist — we are looking for passionate, innovative and diverse creators to showcase their work in this open community space.



For more information or to apply, [click here](#).

Waste tip: Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is coming up, so don't waste it!

Make love, not waste! If there's anything the world needs, it's less stuff and more love.

Why not reduce what you buy for your loved one by showing caring gestures or thoughtful words?

To reduce your waste during Valentine's Day, you can avoid purchasing single-use items, like heart-shaped balloons or plastic roses.

Instead, why not recreate your first date, sign up for a couple's pampering session, go out for dinner or to the movies, or take a painting or dancing class?

For more ideas on reducing waste at Valentine's Day, [click here](#).

**It's Valentine's Day
so, why waste it?**



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Learn



Laugh



Inspire

Wiggle, Giggle, Bubbles

Come along to Wiggle, Giggle, Bubbles! With songs and rhymes, lots of smiles, bubbles and special times! Wiggle, Giggle, Bubbles is a weekly interactive session focused on the first three years of development.

Every Monday morning. 10am-10.30am at the Walkerville Town Hall. Free to attend. *Excluding School and Public Holidays. Suitable for children 4+. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times. Bookings: [Click here](#) or call 8342 7100.



U Can Uke Term 1

Beginners Ukulele - 4pm – 5pm

This course introduces participants to learn the ukulele in a fun way. Basic chords and strums are included for new beginners and those who have just begun to play.

Beyond Beginners - 5.30pm – 6.30pm

The course is for ukulele players who have mastered the basics and want to move on. The course content varies to accommodate skill levels of participants.

Course material included. Bring your own uke or borrow one of ours. **Every Monday at the Walkerville Town Hall.** \$6 per person, single session; \$45 per person, eight weeks. Bookings: [Click here](#) or call 8342 7100.



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Learn



Laugh



Inspire



My Aged Care information session

Find the help you need from the representatives at My Aged Care in this handy information session. My Aged Care is the starting point to access Australian Government aged care services and information about the different types of services available. There will be a short presentation and plenty of time for a Q&A.

Services Australia will be in attendance on the day.

10.30am-11.30am, Tuesday, 10 February 2026, in the Walkerville Town Hall. Free, suitable for adults. Bookings: [Click here](#) or call 8342 7100.

Author Talk: An evening with Lainie Anderson

Come along to an evening with murder mystery author, Lainie Anderson. Lainie will talk about her new book, *Murder on North Terrace*, the second book in the *Petticoat Police Mystery* series. This book is packed with Australian history and follows *The Death of Dora Black*, Lainie's best-selling debut cosy crime book, inspired by the true story of Adelaide's pioneering policewoman, Kate Cocks.

Glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage on arrival. Books available to purchase on the night.



6pm-7pm, Wednesday, 18 February 2026, in the Walkerville Town Hall. \$10 per person, suitable for adults. Bookings: [Click here](#) or call 8342 7100.

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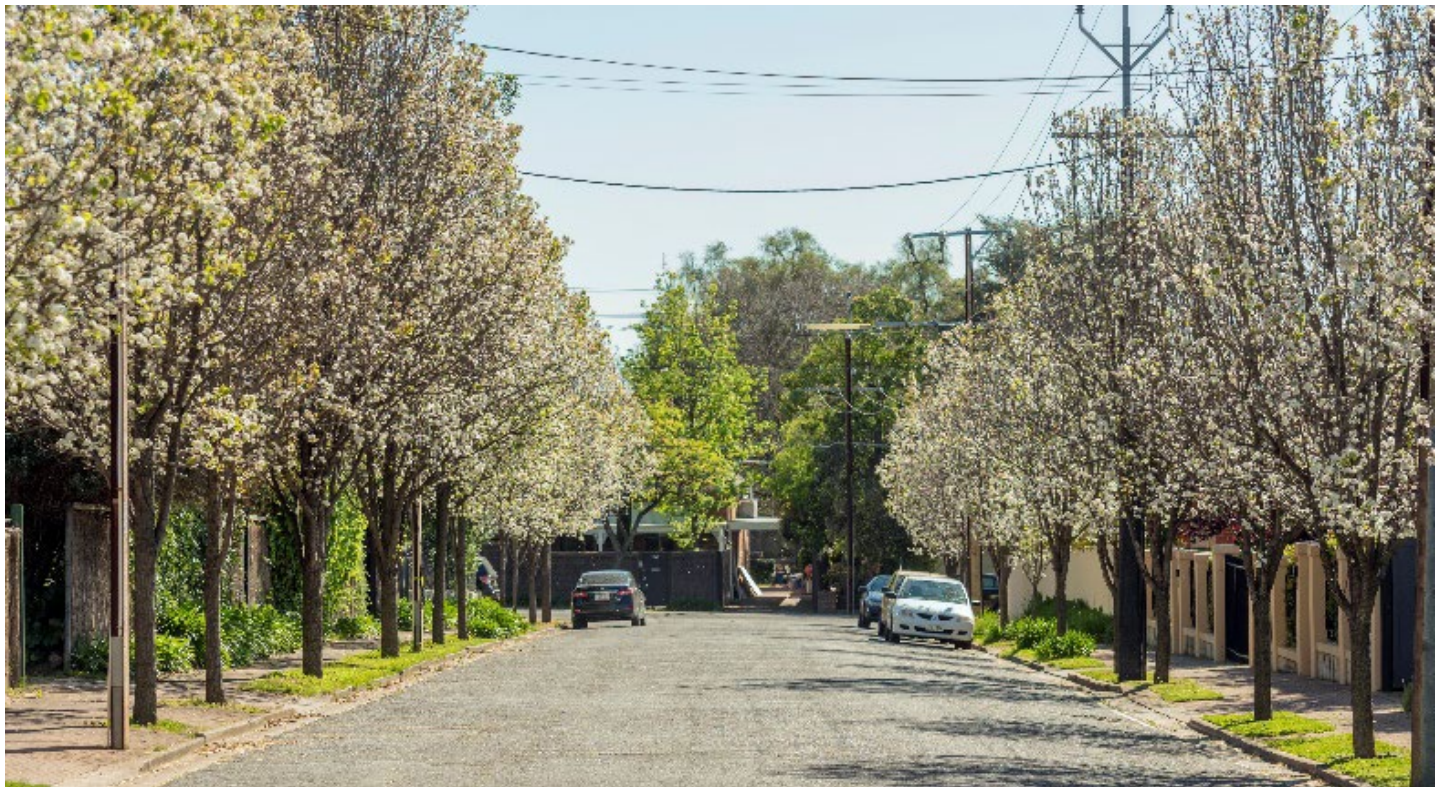
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Street sweeping helps keep the Township clean

Our street sweeping programs are seasonally adjusted to effectively manage the level of risk relating to street tree litter.



While we make every effort to keep our streets clean year-round, you can help out by doing the following:

- avoid sweeping leaves or clippings onto the road; and
- do not park caravans, trailers or boats on the road for extended periods.

Main Roads	Gilberton/Medindie	Walkerville	Vale Park
	11/2/2026	19/2/2026	25/2/2026
4/3/2026	11/3/2026	19/3/2026	25/3/2026
1/4/2026	8/4/2026	16/4/2026	22/4/2026
29/4/2026	6/5/2026	14/5/2026	20/5/2026
27/5/2026	3/6/2026	11/6/2026	17/6/2026

Council meetings

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Monday, 16 February 2026.



All community members are welcome to attend the gallery and ask questions of Council Members during meetings, without prior notice.

For further information or to email a question in advance, please contact Council's Governance Team via governance@walkerville.sa.gov.au

Council meetings are held at the Civic & Community Centre, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton.



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Sign up to the Town of Walkerville e-news

Do you want to stay connected with news, information and events in the Town of Walkerville?

Sign up to the Town of Walkerville e-news today!

The e-news is a weekly newsletter that provides you with all you need to know about what is happening in and around the Township.

It is also an important avenue for you to keep up to date with Council projects and initiatives.

For instance, Council regularly provides updates on major projects, like The W: Walkerville Recreation Centre or the Walkerville Bowling & Community Club, in the e-news.

To subscribe, click here: www.walkerville.sa.gov.au/subscribe



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