



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH NEWSLETTER

The Local and Surrounding News, Updates and Events



COUNCIL NEWS!

*Council Office is now located at
2 Telford Avenue Peterborough
SA 5422
Open 9:15am to 4:30pm*

Council Meetings
*18th of May 2026
15th of June 2026
20th of July 2026*

Upcoming Events
*150 Years Celebration
Location - Peterborough Town
Hall
Date - October Long Weekend
2nd and 5th of October*

It is always a busy time for Staff and Councillors alike. The task of looking at the responsibilities of providing Services, Wages, Equipment and Facilities whilst keeping the lights on, the doors open and the machinery on the road weigh heavily at this time of the year. The balancing act of satisfying the legal requirements, the wants and the actual needs of a community are not without much angst and deliberation. Our efforts are open and honest and we are lead by our CEO and the Finance Team with the Staff input and consideration given to the requests and suggestions of the Ratepayers and Residents. We are all Ratepayers and we all want the best for the Community.

I applaud the efforts of community groups who are stepping up to assist the community by taking on endeavours that Council can no longer undertake. I think of the Christmas Pageant, the 150 year Celebrations for the Long Weekend in October, the cleaning and part restoration efforts of the RSL Group of the carriages in the Roundhouse down at Steamtown, plus the production and work involved in the New Informer - to name a few. The hours spent providing assistance, volunteer hours, thought and just plain hard effort are to be applauded. Thank You to all involved - you are appreciated by all those who benefit from your efforts.

HENRY INAT

Message from the Acting CEO

It is a privilege to commence as Acting Chief Executive Officer of the District Council of Peterborough, and I look forward to working with Elected Members, staff, and the community.

Since starting on 23rd of March, I have been focused on gaining an understanding of Council's operations, current priorities, and the opportunities ahead for the district. Peterborough has a strong sense of community, and I am committed to building on this by ensuring Council continues to deliver essential services, maintain infrastructure, and support local initiatives.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Lisa Stares for her leadership as Interim Acting CEO, ensuring a smooth transition and continuity of operations.

Looking ahead, my focus will be on strengthening governance, improving financial position, and working collaboratively with the community to achieve sustainable and positive outcomes for the region.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months and working together to support the future of our district.



RUTH WHITTLE

Message from the Mayor

It is always exciting when something new is suggested, attempted, researched, compiled and finally ready for presentation. So it is with this Council Newsletter. Residents of Peterborough have asked for it and made many submissions and comments urging its' inception. Well here it is! Thank you to all the Staff of the District Council who have made it happen. It will be interesting to receive comments about this edition and suggestions for the future offerings. Council is at one of the most important times of the Fiscal Year - our Budget discussions deliberations, considerations and presentation of the final product to the Public.



COUNCIL UPDATES

Financial Management & Sustainability

Council continues to closely monitor its financial position, with a strong focus on maintaining liquidity, managing operational expenditure, and delivering capital projects within available funding.

Council's cash position remains a key priority, with ongoing efforts to improve financial sustainability.

A significant positive outcome has been achieved through the Local Government Finance Authority (LGFA), which has confirmed 100% funding (\$200,000) for the preparation of Council's Asset Revaluations and Asset Management Plans. This will strengthen long-term financial planning without impacting ratepayers.

Council has also undertaken a targeted rates recovery program, issuing over 100 notices to overdue accounts, improving cash flow and ensuring fairness across the community.

Council has recently commenced its preparations for the 2026/27 Budget and will over the coming months release a draft Business Plan/Budget for community consultation. Look out on our facebook and websites for relevant information and get involved.

Flood Recovery & Emergency Response

Recent rainfall events across the region resulted in flood damage to both State and Council-managed roads. While Peterborough received around 100mm of rain, surrounding areas experienced significantly higher levels, leading to widespread impacts.

Council staff have been actively assessing damage across affected areas including Dawson, Orroroo/Paratoo, Nackara and surrounding districts. These works support submissions for Disaster Recovery Assistance funding, helping to reduce the financial burden on Council and ratepayers.

Town Maintenance & Service Delivery

Council's outdoor teams continue to deliver essential services across the township, including:

- Footpath maintenance, mowing and weed control
- Ongoing street and public space upkeep

Correctional Services crews have also assisted with cemetery maintenance and footpath works, enhancing community spaces at reduced cost.

Council has had some staff turnover in our outdoor crew and we are low in staff numbers at the moment, resulting in some delays in keeping up with some tasks and responding to customer request. Hoping you can be a little patient with us over the coming few weeks.

Infrastructure & Road Improvements

Council continues to invest in maintaining and improving the district's road network. Under the Roads to Recovery Program, approximately 16.4km of roads have been prioritised for re-sheeting, including Black Rock, Dawson, Tarcowie, Yatina and Old Orroroo Roads, with several already completed or underway.

Ongoing inspections and maintenance ensure roads remain safe and accessible, with works progressing across both sealed and unsealed networks.

Parks, Gardens & Public Spaces

Recent rainfall has contributed to improved conditions across parks and reserves. Council has continued:

- Regular mowing and garden maintenance
- Irrigation system repairs
- Weed control programs

These efforts ensure public spaces remain safe, attractive and enjoyable for residents and visitors.

Waste & CWMS Services

Waste collection services continue to operate reliably, including weekly collections and supervised waste facilities.

Council's CWMS system is also regularly monitored, with increased inflows following recent rains. Ongoing management ensures the system continues to operate effectively for the community.



COUNCIL UPDATE CONTINUED

Community Safety & Compliance

Council is currently working with the Dog and Cat Management Board to review local detention facilities. This process has identified opportunities to improve compliance and animal welfare standards.

Council is exploring more sustainable and cost-effective options, including potential shared service models with neighbouring councils.

Work is currently underway to update Council by-laws which will soon be released for community feedback. Look out on our facebook and websites for relevant information and get involved.

Regional Planning & Future Direction

Council recently participated in the Southern Flinders Destination Management Plan (DMP) presentation, contributing to regional tourism and economic development planning.

This work supports future opportunities to grow visitation, strengthen the local economy, and position Peterborough within the broader regional tourism strategy.

Council has also recently decided to not continue with the long standing Tourism Committee and is looking to establish a Working Group. Council is hoping this will trigger a revitalisation of our collective efforts to improve tourism to the town, create some economic activity and create new jobs.

Looking Ahead

Council remains committed to delivering essential services, maintaining infrastructure, and improving long-term financial sustainability. Through careful planning, external funding opportunities, and ongoing maintenance programs, Council continues to ensure value for money for ratepayers.



Dawson Road Completed



Tarcowie Road Before and After



COUNCIL OFFICE HAS MOVED

Council thanks the wider community for its patience, understanding, and ongoing support throughout the relocation process. This transition represents a significant milestone for Council, and the cooperation and encouragement of residents and visitors has played an important role in ensuring a smooth and successful move.

While periods of change can present challenges, the community's willingness to adapt and remain supportive has been greatly appreciated. Council recognises the value of this continued engagement and the role it plays in delivering effective and accessible local services.

Council is pleased to confirm that the new office is now open at 2 Telford Avenue, Peterborough SA 5422. This new location provides an improved and more accessible space to better meet the needs of the community, both now and into the future.

Council looks forward to welcoming residents and visitors to the new premises and continuing to provide a high standard of service from this updated facility.



PAST EVENTS

*Australia Day 2026
26th of January*



The District Council of Peterborough was proud to present the Australia Day Awards, recognising individuals and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to the local community.

Citizen of the Year – Grace Joan Campbell

Grace Joan Campbell was named Citizen of the Year in recognition of her long-standing dedication to caring for others and strengthening community connections across Peterborough and surrounding areas. Widely known and trusted, Grace has spent many years supporting residents through regular visits, companionship, and practical assistance, often at her own expense.

At 89 years of age, Grace continues to give generously of her time, ensuring community members feel supported, valued, and connected. Her compassion, reliability, and lifelong service exemplify the spirit of community service.

Young Citizen of the Year – Marguerite Deanne Walker

Marguerite Deanne Walker received the Young Citizen of the Year award for her strong work ethic, positive attitude, and commitment to serving the public. Through her role at Foodland Peterborough, Marguerite consistently demonstrates professionalism, courtesy, and reliability, regularly working weekends, public holidays, and additional shifts when required. Her dedication and enthusiasm make her a positive role model for young people within the community.

Event of the Year – Peterborough Miniature Railway Father's Day Event

The Peterborough Miniature Railway Father's Day Event was recognised as Event of the Year. Held on 7 September, the event marked the culmination of seven years of volunteer effort, planning, and community support. With strong attendance and a festive atmosphere, the event showcased the success of a community-driven project built by the community, for the community.

Council congratulates all award recipients and nominees and thanks them for their valuable contributions to the Peterborough community.

The awards were presented following the Australia Day Breakfast hosted by the Rotary Club of Peterborough. The breakfast provided an opportunity for community members to come together to celebrate Australia Day and recognise the achievements and contributions of local residents in a welcoming and inclusive setting.



Grace Campbell

Marguerite Walker

Miniature Railway



Citizen of the Year Group



PAST EVENTS

*Anzac Dawn Service
25th of April 2026*



The ANZAC Day Dawn Service held in Peterborough on 25 April saw a strong and respectful turnout from across the community. Gathering at the Rotunda on Main Street in the early morning, residents and visitors came together to honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed.

The service provided a moving opportunity for reflection, with the quiet atmosphere at dawn reinforcing the significance of the occasion. As the first light of day broke, those in attendance stood together in silence, acknowledging the courage, service and sacrifice of past and present servicemen and women. It was encouraging to see such a large number of community members in attendance, demonstrating the continued importance of ANZAC Day within Peterborough.

The ceremony itself was conducted with great respect, with attendees engaging thoughtfully throughout the service. The strong community presence highlighted the shared commitment to preserving and recognising the legacy of those who have served, ensuring their stories and contributions are not forgotten.

Following the service, attendees gathered at the Town Hall for a community breakfast, providing an opportunity for people to come together, connect and reflect further in a more informal setting. This gathering continues to be an important part of the morning, strengthening community ties and fostering a sense of unity.

Council extends its sincere thanks to everyone who attended and supported the service, as well as those involved in its organisation. The strong turnout and respectful participation helped make the morning a meaningful and memorable tribute, ensuring this important tradition continues to be honored locally for years to come.

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ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Ruth Whittle OAM — Mayor
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*Peterborough sits near the edge of the
Goyders Line, a historic boundary that marks
where reliable rainfall for cropping generally
ends in South Australia.*