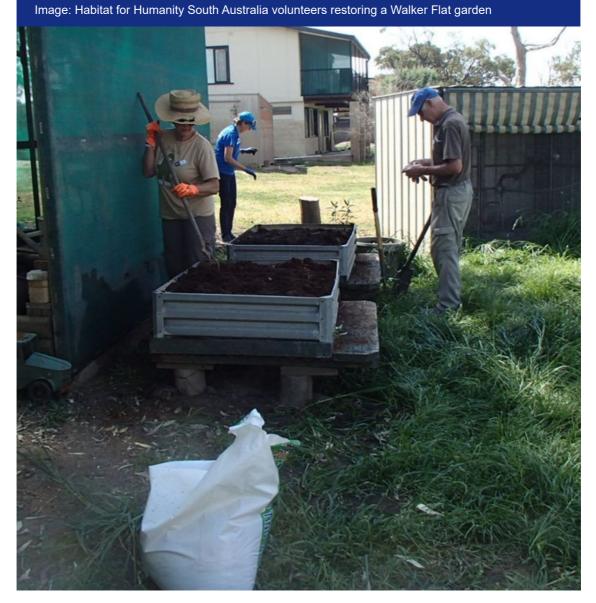
River Murray Flood Community Newsletter Issue 26: Friday, 6 October 2023

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Message from Alex and Deb

Welcome to the latest edition of the River Murray Flood Community Newsletter. It was great to see so many people flock to the river over the Labour Day long weekend, with numbers expected to remain high for the rest of the school holiday period. The continued support for impacted communities and businesses is much appreciated.

Time is running out to register for clean-up assistance, with registrations closing on Friday, 13 October. It is imperative to register for this assistance before it's too late. If you haven't done so already, please register by calling the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787 as soon as possible. Beyond the closure date registrations will be taken on a case-by-case basis, and will be accepted for exceptional circumstances only.

Community recovery events are continuing, with a new Women of the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas (LMRIA) session to be held at Younghusband later this month. The "Floody Hell Recovery Party" is also being held in Blanchetown tomorrow. These events are an important step forward on the recovery journey, supporting our communities and helping to develop their collective resilience. Please feel free to attend these events where you can.

A big thank you to the many volunteers assisting communities on the ground. One such volunteer group is Habitat for Humanity South Australia, who recently helped rejuvenate a Walker Flat garden which had been flood-affected. These simple acts of kindness do not go unnoticed, and are an important part of the recovery process. More information can be found in this week's newsletter.

For any flood-related queries call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787, visit <u>recovery.sa.gov.au</u>, visit a <u>Recovery Centre</u>, or contact us directly. We hope you enjoy this week's newsletter.



Alex Zimmermann

Community Recovery Coordinator

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Deb Richardson

Community Development Officer

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Flood clean-up registrations closing soon

Registrations for the flood waste clean-up program are **closing on 13 October 2023**.

Please ensure you have registered before this date to secure your place and take advantage of the support and services provided by the program.

The clean-up will continue beyond the closure date. Those who have registered will continue to have their works completed.

For more information about the registration closure, <u>click here</u>.

Registrations for flood cleanup support closing on 13 October

Ensure you are registered before 13 October to take advantage of the support and services provided by the program

Update from Johns Lyng Disaster Management Australia

Registration closure reminder

Another important reminder to all members of the community that registrations for program support will close on 13th October 2023. The works approved under the program will continue beyond this date, to meet the ongoing clean-up needs. Please note: This is separate from opting in for works under the program. If you have already registered, you may still opt in to receive works after the 13th October. Although you can still opt in after this time, we do encourage you to consider your options and opt in as soon as possible. We urge those still awaiting insurance outcomes to register before this date.

If you know of anyone yet to register, please encourage them to reach out to us at 1800 302 787 to explore available options and initiate the registration process for clean-up support. You may also assist another person and register on their behalf (with their permission) where they are unable to do this for themselves.

Registrations continue to increase

As a result of program promotion initiatives, we are continuing to see an increase in the number of new registrations each week. This is encouraging, as it means that we can continue to assist those affected by the floods on the path to recovery.

Opting in

A reminder to all who have already registered, once you receive your Assessment Report with recommendations, if you would like works to commence, you must contact DMA to opt in for the works you require. This can be done by calling DMA at 1800 418 491, or by emailing your Case Manager.

If you previously registered but have since opted out of the program, you may still be eligible for works. If your circumstances have changed or you are unsure of your eligibility, please call DMA at 1800 418 491 to discuss your personal situation and the possibility of opting back into the program. Several registrants who previously opted out have since spoken with DMA and have managed to opt back in and receive works.

Progress in demolitions and hazard reduction

Substantial progress is being made on demolitions and hazard reduction. Under the program, we have successfully demolished over 80 structures, and completed multiple hazard reduction engagements for property owners. With a high number of demolitions forecast for this period, peak activity levels will be reached.

Waste management commitment

We remain committed to responsible waste management, maintaining a diversion rate of over 40% of all flood-affected waste from landfill. We are striving to improve on this figure by implementing strategies to efficiently separate waste and re-purpose where appropriate and possible.

Waste collection and illegal dumping

A reminder to all members of the community: kerbside waste collection is for the removal of flood-affected waste only. We have noticed an increase in the dumping of waste that is not flood-affected, including building materials and personal items.

River debris collection: Stage 2 in motion

The historic river debris clean-up is continuing, with planning to remove the larger items well underway. We expect to commence this stage within the coming month. Large items that pose navigational or environmental hazards are included in this stage, and include items such as caravans and water tanks.

Program registration assistance

If you are yet to register your property and require assistance, please promptly register with Green Industries SA at 1800 302 787 during office hours from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have already registered and need further assistance, or wish to discuss your case, DMA is available at 1800 418 491 to support you.

We also encourage you to stay updated with program information and highlights through our <u>Facebook page</u>.

Free Purnong and Caurnamont flood recovery community dinner



A flood recovery community dinner organised by the Purnong Caurnamont & District Progress Association was held on Sunday, 1 October. Approximately 70 people attended and enjoyed a three course meal. Image: Supplied

"Floody Hell Recovery Party" in Blanchetown tomorrow

A reminder to secure your tickets for tomorrow's "Floody Hell Recovery Party" in Blanchetown.

Organised by the Blanchetown Shack Owners Association (BSOA), the event will help the community share their stories and connect with one another, locals and weekenders alike.

Live music will be provided by the band Acoustic Fix. Barbecue and bar facilities will be available throughout the afternoon (at own cost - club prices on drinks).

Where:

Blanchetown Combined Sporting Bodies Inc Onslow Street, Blanchetown SA 5357

When:

Saturday, October 7th 2023, 3pm to 8pm. Entertainment from 4pm.

Entry:

\$10 entry which includes an event stubby holder. Child entry is free with a ticketed adult.

Camping will be available around the oval with toilet & shower facilities open overnight for people wanting to camp.

For more information and to secure your ticket <u>click here</u>.



FLOODY HELL - Blanchetown 2023

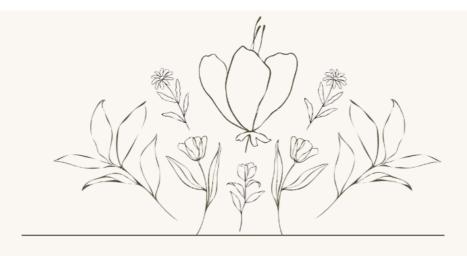
Women of the LMRIA event

All women in the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas (LMRIA) are invited to an upcoming women of the LMRIA community event.

Theme: A country morning tea Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023 Time: 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Venue: Younghusband Hall, 2215 East Front Road, Younghusband.

Please RSVP for catering purposes to Alexandra Westlake via www.womenofthelmria@gmail.com.



WOMEN OF THE LMRIA

COMMUNITY: TOGETHER

a purposefully curated community event for the women of the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas

"A COUNTRY MORNING TEA"

& OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE WITH GUEST, CLAY ARTIST.

TUESDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 9.30 - 11.30AM

YOUNGHUSBAND HALL
2215 EAST FRONT ROAD, YOUNGHUSBAND

Children are welcome.

RSVP FOR CATERING PURPOSES TO ALEXANDRA WESTLAKE (OF LONG FLAT) womenofthelmria@gmail.com

This Project is being delivered in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions.

It is jointly funded by the South Australian and Australian Governments under the

National Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

The Hope Project

iReach Rural Health held a hope workshop in Mannum last week, with another session scheduled for Murray Bridge on Monday, 9 October.

For more information and to register your interest, view the flyer below.



Centre, Tailem Bend

Afternoon Tea Provided

For More Information:

Supported by



Contact iREACH Rural Health on 8531 1303

at Tailem Bend Community



Wellbeing SA

Book Now via the Location Specific QR Code

Supported by funding from Wellbeing SA's Suicide Prevention Grant program

Upcoming yoga workshops

Neami National have organised free yoga workshops in Bowhill and Mannum to help improve community resilience following the flood, and ease the stress and trauma river communities are experiencing.

FREE EVENT

YOGA CLASSES

NEAMI NATIONAL

ADRRESS: BOWHILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION, 88 WEBER ROAD, BOW



Week 1: 4th October Week 4: 25th October Week 5: 1st November Week 2: 11th October

Week 3: 18th October

Yoga focuses on gentle stretches, mindful breathing, and relaxation techniques to improve flexibility, strength, and over-all wellbeing.

Jamey is a qualified Yoga instructor of 18 years and uses a trauma sensitive approach where people are given choice around what they participate in.

The class aims to bring an awareness to the mind and body and how they can interact and influence each other to bring a sense of wellness and vitality.



Friday 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Week 1: 6th October Week 4: 27th October Week 2: 13th October Week 5: 3rd November

Week 3: 20th October

For information and registration please contact:

Jamey: 0437 161 260 Reed: 0467 319 313







FREE EVENT

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA CLASSES

NEAMI NATIONAL

8 WEEKS

WEDNESDAY' S $10{:}00-11{:}00\mathrm{AM}$

STARTS OCTOBER 4th

Mannum Leisure Centre Seniors Room





Chair Yoga focuses on gentle stretches, mindful breathing, and relaxation techniques to improve flexibility, strength, and over-all wellbeing.

Jamey is a qualified Yoga instructor of 18 years and uses a trauma sensitive approach where people are given choice around what they participate in.

The class aims to bring an awareness to the mind and body and how they can interact and influence each other to bring a sense of wellness and vitality. For Information and Registration Please Contact:

Jamey: 0437 161 260 Reed: 0467 319 313













Habitat for Humanity help out Walker Flat



Habitat for Humanity SA volunteers hard at work repairing a Walker Flat garden recently. Works included installing new raised garden beds, cutting back high lawn growth, and cleaning dirt left behind by flood waters.

If the outdoor area of your primary place of residence is located in Mannum and surrounding areas and was impacted by the flood, contact the Mannum Recovery Centre to find out if Habitat for Humanity can help. Image: Supplied

Understanding the river levels

The Department of Environment and Water (DEW) continue to update river communities on the latest river levels and forecasts.

For more information, please visit <u>DEW flows and daily water levels page</u>.



Flood grants for small businesses

River Murray Flood

Small business grants

Application periods extended & eligibility updated





The <u>Flood Recovery Grant</u> has been extended until 31 December 2023. The Flood Recovery Grant is available to help pay for costs of clean-up and reinstatement of small businesses and not-for-profit organisations that experienced damage as a result of the River Murray flood. Recently the definition of a sole trader small business changed, to those that derive at least 50% of the income from the business.

The <u>Industry Support Grant</u> has been extended until 31 December 2023. The Industry Support Grant is a \$10,000 payment for an eligible business that usually operates in the affected area and has experienced a downturn of 30% or more in revenue over three consecutive months, up to and including April-June 2023. This grant may cover your usual business costs or used to make changes to your business so it can operate effectively post-flood.

Eligibility now includes businesses that have been operational for less than one year, if the business can demonstrate that income received was 30% less than anticipated.

Information on all small businesses flood supports, including guidelines and eligibility criteria can be found <u>here</u>.

Financial counselling through Rural Business Support (RBS) is available to help you on 1800 836 211 (freecall), email enquiries@ruralbusinesssupport.org.au or visit Rural Business Support.

Non-Government Organisations (NGO) grants



Funding is available to support non-government and not-for-profit organisations assisting flood-affected communities to recover from the flood event.

Grants of up to \$15,000 can be used towards supervising or training volunteers, purchasing critical supplies and assist with the rapid deployment of crews on the ground to assist with recovery activities.

The first round of NGO recovery grants was announced in February 2023 and round two is now open. If you are an eligible organisation, please <u>view the fund</u> <u>guidelines</u> and submit your application to help you help others.

There is no closing date for round two at this time. For more information or to apply, please visit Relief and financial assistance | Recovery

Riverland & Murraylands mental health support



Fact Sheet

Riverland and Murraylands mental health support

When a disaster happens, it is common to feel stress and grief. Some people will recover without formal help, and others might need some extra support to help get things back on track.

If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed and struggling to cope, reach out to local services that can provide mental health and wellbeing support – they're here to help.

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View the <u>Riverlands and Murraylands mental health support fact sheet</u> to find the relevant contact information for each service and provider.

Visit a Recovery Centre



Recovery centres are still operating in Mannum and Murray Bridge, with recovery services also available at the Berri Housing SA office. A range of referrals are available through these centres including Disaster Ministries, Services Australia, Good Shepherd, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) and the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS).

Berri

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm Housing SA office 29 Vaughan Terrace, Berri

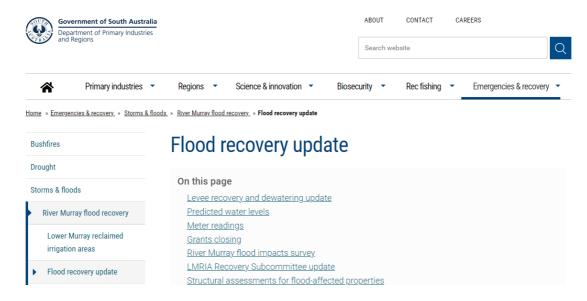
Mannum

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30am to 4:30pm
Mannum Institute
47 Randell Street, Mannum

Murray Bridge

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm 28 Bridge Street, Murray Bridge

PIRSA's flood recovery update

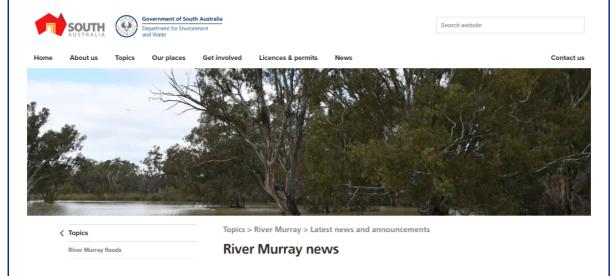


The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) continue to provide regular updates through their flood recovery update web page.

The web page provides important information on flood recovery activities undertaken by the PIRSA and the Department of Environment and Water (DEW), including the dewatering progress and levee assessment and stabilisation. Key flood recovery contacts are also provided.

<u>Click here</u> for more information and to view the latest updates.

News from the Department for Environment and Water



The Department for Environment and Water's (DEW) *River Murray SA* newsletter will help keep you updated on the latest environmental projects, opportunities and events for industry and community in the River Murray area.

To read more or to subscribe, click here.

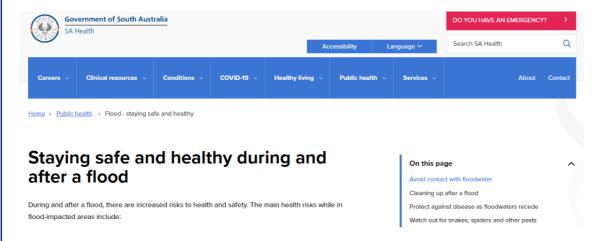
DEW have also updated their web page with information regarding the LMRIA levee banks. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine (JEV) still available



For more information, including eligibility requirements and where to access a vaccine, <u>click here</u>.

Flood recovery health fact sheets



SA Health has developed a series of fact sheets to assist flood-affected communities recover from the River Murray flood event. These fact sheets cover a range of topics including managing flies after flooding, dealing with mould and snake bite first aid advice.

For more information and to view these fact sheets click here.

Keep informed



Recovery can be complicated so we are frequently updating our website to ensure you remain up to date.

Visit <u>sa.gov.au/floods</u> for information on the River Murray flood recovery.

Tell us what you think

Please use the link below to let us know what you would like to see in upcoming newsletters.

Provide your feedback

Missed a newsletter?

Missed a previous edition of the recovery newsletter? Catch up on all the recovery news.

Please share this newsletter with anyone interested in the River Murray flood recovery.

See previous editions

Sign up for future newsletters

Share this newsletter











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