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River Murray Flood Community Newsletter

Issue 13: Friday, 19 May 2023



In this issue

- [Message from the Community Recovery Coordinator](#)
 - [Riverlands & Murraylands mental health support](#)
 - [You're not alone - Lessons from lived experience](#)
 - [A message from Johns Lyng Disaster Management Australia](#)
 - [PIRSA Survey](#)
 - [Power Shut-Off Generator Grant closing soon](#)
 - [Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine Program Expansion](#)
 - [DEW & PIRSA's flood recovery newsletter](#)
 - [New River Murray newsletter](#)
 - [Visit a Recovery Centre](#)
 - [Meet Recovery Centre staff member Jade Krebbekx](#)
 - [Flood recovery health fact sheets](#)
 - [Portaloo request](#)
 - [Keep informed](#)
 - [Tell us what you think](#)
 - [Missed a newsletter?](#)
-

Message from the Community Recovery Coordinator

Welcome to the latest edition of the River Murray Flood Community Newsletter.

The next round of pop-up Recovery Centres are well underway. I appreciate it can be difficult to visit a Recovery Centre based on your location, so we hope this new round of pop-ups have helped you access the support you need. More pop-ups are being held in Swan Reach and Bowhill next week. Details can be found further on in this newsletter

The Recovery Centre staff are eager to assist you, so please don't hesitate to drop by and say hello.

Clean-up efforts are continuing in top gear, with approximately 3000 tonnes of flood-waste removed so far. As we all know, there is still plenty more to do still but it is encouraging to understand just how much has already been done. If you haven't registered for clean-up assistance, please contact the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787.

As the clean-up progresses, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) are assessing flood impacts. Please see below for information on the PIRSA Impact Survey as this will help identify the longer-term recovery needs.

Looking after mental health remains high on the agenda as you can imagine, and I encourage anyone who can attend to come to the Chew the Fat night organised by Save Our Mates (Flyer below). I think you might find this very worthwhile. Notwithstanding that, please see below for more mental health support provided to River Murray communities. Remember, you are not alone, and we will support you in any way we can through this. You can find the details below in this newsletter.

On another health topic, the Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine (JEV) program has been expanded and it is vitally important to consider protection against this virus, especially as we all go about the clean-up and recovery efforts.

We can confirm some public utilities are coming back online, so we are implementing a draw-down strategy of the portaloos which have been provided. These are only anticipated to be removed where viable alternatives exist, such as public toilets within a reasonably short travel distance or communities have a return of functioning systems.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me should you need further information or be linked to someone who can assist with issues you may be confronting.

For any flood-related queries call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787, visit sa.gov.au/floods, visit a [Recovery Centre](#), or contact either Deb Richardson or myself. I hope you enjoy this week's newsletter.



Alex Zimmermann

Community Recovery Coordinator

[0455 984 411](tel:0455984411)

alex.zimmermann@sa.gov.au



Deb Richardson

Community Development Officer

[0459 283 878](tel:0459283878)

deb.richardson@sa.gov.au



CHEW THE FAT night

Grab a feed, drink some beer
and catch up with mates.

**Poor mental health is like cancer.
Ignoring it can be fatal**

If you had a broken leg, you get help, you'd be honest with your doctor about your leg and you'd be looked after. We need to get to a point in Australia where if we BR! struggling with our mind, we seek and get that same help.

Come and listen to our speakers - a couple of typical Aussie blokes hit by huge personal life challenges.

- Hear their confronting stories
- Learn how they overcame their personal challenges

Come enjoy some good food, drink beers and learn how we can help ourselves and others better confirm health issues of the mind.



FREE pig on the spit

BYO CHAIR



Find out more at:
saveourmates.com.au

Got questions?
Anthony 0419 188 208
Gavin 0428 811 407

FRIDAY 19 MAY @ 7pm
The HABY SHED
2400 Purnong Rd, Walker Flat | NO NEED TO BOOK

OTHER NIGHTS:

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
The KONZAG SHED
53 WASLEYS RD, MALLALA

Riverlands & 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.

Click here to view the [Riverlands and Murraylands mental health support fact sheet](#).



Meeting of the River Murray Well-being Working Group in Murray Bridge on 18 May 2023. The group was formed to facilitate a coordinated, multi-layered and community-informed approach to supporting wellbeing and providing mental health services to flood-affected communities and individuals. Thank you to iReach Rural Health (<https://ireach.org.au/>) for hosting the meeting. For more information, contact Malinda Steenkamp at 0427 007 368 or malinda.steenkamp@sa.gov.au.

You're not alone - Lessons from lived experience

Over the coming weeks we hope to be posting short articles/narratives from people just like you from this event and other relevant disaster events. We are keen to hear and share their stories, understand experiences, and learn from successes of navigating through disaster into recovery and rebuild.

If you, or anyone you know would like to share their experiences and how they worked through their recovery, please send to Community Recovery Coordinator, Alex Zimmermann or Community Development Officer, Deb Richardson via email and it may help to learn from the journey of others.

A message from Johns Lyng Disaster Management Australia

Over the past week, the program has seen a shift from kerb-side clean-up to site assessments as the main effort. Disaster Management Australia (DMA) has reached out to all registrants, and the triage process and our understanding of what support registrants require are evolving as the recovery continues. Our assessment teams have now completed over 200 assessments, which are

ongoing. We are also witnessing a notable decrease in the amount of kerb-side waste, requiring the scheduling of work to be an efficient and targeted approach.

Our assessment teams are making good progress in conducting site visits and assessments. There is still a considerable number of assessments to be completed, and we thank the community for their patience and cooperation during this important step of the program. If you have not had an assessment booked, we are methodically calling registrants to secure a convenient time.

Kerb-side collection processes will evolve to meet the demand in a more targeted method and then transition to a longer-term roving schedule. This will allow registrants who have not yet cleaned out their flood-affected waste the opportunity to benefit from the program. Registrants will continue to be informed of the schedule through this newsletter, the Green Industries SA (GISA) website flood clean-up map, and SMS messages.

DMA will be conducting shoulder works and street sweeping as secondary kerb-side clean-up works. This is intended to remove any residual waste and repair any road shoulder damage as a result of the kerb-side clean-up. If you are aware of any areas which need this work, please call DMA on the number below.

Our subcontractors are separating asbestos and regular waste before transporting them to the respective waste facilities. We have received feedback from the community who have identified asbestos ready to be collected, which will occur based on the scheduled days that the waste facilities are prepared to accept and dispose of appropriately.

Sandbag collection is now being managed as a stand-alone collection. We have started collecting sandbags for those who have registered for this support. If you have not been contacted for sandbag collection and would like this service, please call DMA on the number below.

If you are a resident who cannot clean out flood-affected materials from your home Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) will be providing volunteer support. We are working with the Recovery Officers from the Recovery Centre, in addition to those who have registered, to address the demand for this support. We anticipate that the DRA volunteers will be deployed in the coming week and DRA are looking forward to commence work on the program.

DMA has attended the Pop-up Recovery Centres at Pompoota, Morgan, and Blanchetown. We will have a representative at Swan Reach on May 22 and Bowhill on May 23 for those who would like to discuss the SA flood waste clean-up program.

If you have not yet registered your property and would like assistance, please register with GISA on 1800 302 787 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have already registered and wish to discuss your case, please contact DMA on 1800 418 491.

Kerb-side collection schedule

This schedule is as accurate as possible and seeks to meet the demand of a dynamic waste collection requirement and is subject to change based on workload. DMA is coordinating the collection of all eligible flood-affected waste in the following areas:

Monday, 22 May 2023

Brenda Park
Murbko - Idyll Acres
Mannum Marina – Pelican Drive
Cowirra – Porter Street
Cowirra – Hallam Terrace
Pellaring Flat – Pellaring Lane
Pellaring Flat – Salisbury Road

Tuesday, 23 May 2023

Morphetts Flat Road
Murbko – Idyll Acres
Wongulla – Cliff View Drive
Punyelroo
Punyelroo South
Blanchetown – Page Drive

**Wednesday, 24 May
2023**

Morphetts Flat Road
Murbko – Echidna Avenue

**Thursday, 25 May
2023**

Morphetts Flat Road
Murbko – Echidna Avenue
Paisley – River Drive

Friday, 26 May 2023

Paisley – River Drive

If you have not yet registered your property and would like assistance, please register with GISA on 1800 302 787 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have already registered and wish to discuss your case, please contact DMA on 1800 418 491.

PIRSA Survey

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is working with industry, State and Commonwealth agencies to conduct an evaluation of the economic impacts of the 2022–23 flood event. Information collected is confidential and will be used to identify longer-term recovery needs and continue supporting primary production industries with recovery from the flood. Information provided will not impact any financial claims you have made or plan to make.

PIRSA understand that not everyone may know the extent of the impact at this stage. Do the best you can when completing the survey – best done on a computer rather than a mobile device.

Take the [River Murray flood survey](#).

Power Shut-Off Generator Grant closing soon

River Murray Power Shut-Off Generator Grant closes soon! If you purchased a generator for your household or business during the River Murray flood due to a notified power outage, and you have proof of purchase, you can still apply for reimbursement before 31 May 2023:

<https://business.sa.gov.au/floods/generator-grant>

River Murray Flood

Generator Grant

Applications close
Wednesday, 31 May



Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine Program Expansion

Eligibility for the Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) vaccine has been expanded in South Australia.

The expansion removes the requirement to be outdoors for four hours on most days for people living or engaging in outdoor flood recovery (clean-up) efforts in eligible high-risk areas adjacent to the River Murray.

This expansion criteria brings South Australia in line with Victoria and New South Wales, and includes those who:

- regularly spend time outdoors placing them at risk of mosquito bites, or
- are experiencing homelessness, or
- are living in conditions with limited mosquito protection (e.g. tents, caravans, dwellings with no insect screens), or
- are engaging in outdoor flood recovery (clean-up) efforts, including repeated professional or volunteer deployments.

It follows an expansion in December, in which the vaccine became available to shack owners who have, or were expecting to have, their holiday property flooded.

Eligible emergency services workers supporting the Riverland community were also included in that expansion.

Since the targeted JEV vaccination program began in October last year, almost 23,800 JEV vaccinations have been administered in South Australia. The vaccine continues to be available at participating local pharmacies and GPs.

The increased eligibility comes as 9,000 extra vaccines are available to SA Health with limited stock nationally.

People are encouraged to book their vaccination now.

Nine people in South Australia acquired JEV in South Australia last year – with all cases hospitalised and sadly two deaths. There have been no cases reported this year to date.

For more information about JEV, eligibility, and where to get vaccinated please follow the link below:

[Japanese encephalitis virus \(JEV\) vaccine | SA Health](#)

★ ★ ★ ★ AT HOME OR ON HOLIDAY ★ ★ ★ ★

★ FIGHT *the* BITE ★

PROTECT YOURSELF *against* **DISEASE-CARRYING MOSQUITOES**

★ COVER UP. REPEL. ELIMINATE. ★

WEAR LONG, LOOSE FITTING CLOTHING. USE INSECT REPELLENT. ELIMINATE THE WATER THEY BREED IN.

Mosquitoes spread serious and potentially even deadly diseases when they bite. For more important information on how you can Fight the Bite, contact your local council or visit sahealth.sa.gov.au/FightTheBite

Government of South Australia
SA Health

Foundation SA's Disaster Recovery Grants remain open

Applications for Foundation SA's Disaster Recovery Grants remain open, offering South Australian-based non-profit organisations up to \$10,000 to support community-led recovery initiatives in the Riverland and Murraylands areas.

The South Australian Disaster Recovery Fund was developed by Foundation SA as a disaster response for non-profit organisations working in impacted

regions.

Foundation SA activated the fund to gather donations and support flood-impacted communities.

Thanks to the generous support of four South Australian philanthropic foundations and the general public more than \$75,000 for these grants has been raised so far.

Who is eligible to apply?

All local South Australian community organisations, non-profits and local councils working in flood-impacted communities across the following LGA's are invited to apply:

Alexandrina
Berri Barmera
Coorong
Karoonda East Murray
Loxton Waikerie
Mid Murray
Murray Bridge
Renmark Paringa

Applicants do not require DGR 1 status, however organisations must prove charitable purpose, ideally through registration with the ACNC.

How much funding is available and when do applications close?

Grants will be offered between \$5,000 to \$10,000 depending on the nature of the proposed project.

Foundation SA understand not all organisations are ready to apply for funding. Applications will remain open until all funds are expended. Foundation SA encourage you to apply when you are ready. Applications will be assessed as they are submitted.

Grants will be offered for projects in two focus areas

Community Recovery

Grants to support the delivery of programs, initiatives and events that bring people together, enhance community resilience and support local needs throughout the long-term recovery efforts; and programs that build preparedness for future disasters.

Environmental Recovery

Foundation SA will fund projects that aim to restore natural environments and leverage positive environmental outcomes the floods have presented, such as native flora and fauna restoration and recovery projects, cultural site protection measures and research and education for future resilience and preparedness.

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



**APPLY NOW — GRANTS TO SUPPORT
RECOVERY INITIATIVES FOR FLOOD
IMPACTED COMMUNITIES**

DEW & PIRSA's flood recovery newsletter

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) continue to provide regular updates through their flood recovery newsletter.

The newsletter provides information on flood recovery activities undertaken by the two departments, including the dewatering process and levee assessment and stabilisation. Key flood recovery contacts are also provided.

[Click here](#) for more information and to view the latest newsletter updates.

New River Murray newsletter

Subscribe to the new River Murray SA monthly e-newsletter to help keep you updated on the latest environmental projects, opportunities and events for industry and community in the River Murray area.

For more information and to subscribe [click here](#).

Visit a Recovery Centre

Recovery centres are operating in Mannum and Murray Bridge, with recovery services also available at the Berri Housing SA office. A range of agencies 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).

In addition, another round of pop-up recovery centres are continuing. Have a chat with a friendly Recovery Officer who can help with:

- Access to recovery information and referrals
- Quick and easy grant assessments
- Well-being check-ins and referral if needed
- GISA clean-up registrations and assistance with follow up
- Access to clean up suits, paint brushes and cleaning products
- A friendly ear to talk to
- Assistance with recovery grant applications

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](#)

Swan Reach pop-up Recovery Centre

Monday, 22 May
10:00am to 3:00pm
[Swan Reach Town Hall](#)
[3-5 Nildottie Road, Swan Reach](#)

Bowhill pop-up Recovery Centre

Tuesday, 23 May
10:00am to 3:00pm
[Bowhill Community Centre](#)
[88 Weber Road, Bowhill](#)

Meet Recovery Centre staff member Jade Krebbekx



My Name is Jade Krebbekx and my current role is Administration Officer. This is my first time working in the government sector, my previous job was at Inghams Feedmill and I was doing administration, accounts and logistics.

I was born and raised in Murray Bridge and have three children that go to school locally.

My goal is to continue working in the government area and would really like to try a lot of different departments within the government. I am always up for learning and trying new things. I really enjoy being a part of the Recovery team here in Murray Bridge.

I enjoy listening to music, watching Netflix and dance on Tuesdays.

A quirky fact about me is that I love anything speedway or motorbike related, and I own a pet lizard.

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](#).

Portaloo request

Portalooos along the River Murray provided by the State Government are intended for community use while local services impacted by the flood event are repaired.

Please do not move these portalooos as they are positioned to ensure impacted communities can access them as required. Please do not place locks on these portalooos as this causes servicing issues and prevents community access.

Please direct any portaloo servicing requests along the River Murray to the after-hours contact number of your local council.

Keep informed


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

Visit sa.gov.au/floods for information on the River Murray flood recovery. You can also view details of upcoming community meetings, subscribe to this newsletter and view previous editions.

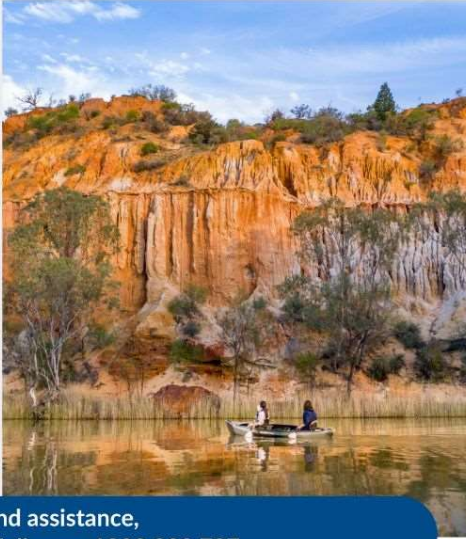


Government of
South Australia

Helping flood-affected River Murray communities recover

 **1800 302 787**
State Relief and Recovery Infoline

 **sa.gov.au/floods**
Latest recovery information,
financial assistance and support



For clean-up information and assistance,
call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787

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**



Government of South Australia
Department of the Premier
and Cabinet

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