

Hewett Centre Welcomes New Services and a Fresh Start

The Hewett Centre is back under Council care, and it's stepping into an exciting new chapter! After five years with Belgravia Leisure, we say a big thank you for their contribution - and now it's time to open the doors to fresh services and new energy.



From Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm, drop in for library and customer services all in one place. Borrow from a refreshed library collection, jump on free Wi-Fi, get tech help, join free kids' programs, or simply enjoy a comfy spot to connect.



Need help with rates, dog rego or a Council question? Our friendly team's got you covered.

Planning a meeting or event? Booking the Auditorium, Brolga or Ibis Rooms is now simple online at spacetoco.com - even after hours.

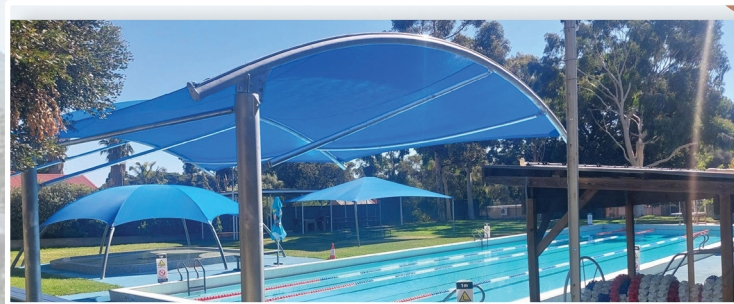
Coffee? Vending machines are onsite while café options are explored.

Come in, settle in, and make the Hewett Centre yours again.

Tarlee Road Safety Upgrades

The Department of Infrastructure and Transport are upgrading Tarlee Road between Tarlee and Kapunda to improve safety.

When: Wednesday 18 March to early June 2026, weather permitting.



Kapunda Community Swimming Pool Gets New Shelter

Your swim at Kapunda Pool is about to get even better. The new pool shelter means more shade, more comfort and safer poolside time - whether you're watching the kids splash, catching your breath between laps, or spending a whole afternoon at the pool.

It's all part of Council's strong focus on doing things well and keeping our community safe—and it's already earning recognition beyond our region. For you, that means practical upgrades that make everyday experiences better.

More protection from the sun. More enjoyment at the pool. Noting that Council has won the most prestigious Risk Management Major Award at the 2024/2025 LGA Scheme Awards for 'Championing Swimming Pool Risk Reduction'.



Upcoming Council Meetings

Council Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month (except for December where the meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday) commencing at 5:00pm in the Kapunda Council Chambers

JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT
TUESDAY 28	TUESDAY 25	TUESDAY 22	TUESDAY 27

INSIDE:

- Celebrating Australia Day
- Welcome to our new CEO
- Kapunda Pool gets new shelter and MORE!



Australia Day Awards 26 Jan 26

This year's Australia Day celebrations in Freeling were a wonderful reminder of what makes our region so special – community, connection and generosity of spirit.

Held at the FARM Centre and proudly hosted by the Freeling Rec Park Committee, the morning brought residents together to celebrate citizenship, recognise outstanding local contributions and reflect on the values we share as Australians.

A highlight of the day was welcoming 12 new Australian citizens, each beginning an exciting new chapter as part of our diverse and inclusive nation.

The 2026 Australia Day Awards celebrated local legends and initiatives, including:

* Citizen of the Year – Mick Schluter

* Young Citizen of the Year – Jessica Paley

* Active Citizenship – Lynne Harrison

* Community Event of the Year – Kapunda Kindergarten's Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

* Community Project of the Year – Kapunda Silo Art Project

Thank you to the many volunteers, performers and community groups who helped make the day such a success.

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A New Park to Love - Harvest Green Opens!

A brand-new place for the whole family to play, relax and connect has opened in Roseworthy.

Council was thrilled to celebrate the official opening of Harvest Green Park on Saturday 7 February, and the community turned out in force. Even with the temperature hitting 35 degrees, more than 2,000 people came along to enjoy a free, fun-filled morning in Roseworthy's growing Evergreen Estate.

Valued at \$2.5 million, the park is already winning hearts, with locals praising it as a go-to spot for regular catch-ups and outdoor fun.

There's something for everyone: a flying fox, climbing fort, nature play area for little ones, wide open lawns for kick and play, plus BBQs, shelters and toilets.

Harvest Green Park is now open – bring the kids, pack a picnic and make it yours.



Opening address - Mayor Bill Close

Welcome to our new CEO - Mr Darryl Whicker

We're pleased to welcome Darryl to Light Regional Council as our new Chief Executive Officer.

Joining us from the District Council of Grant, Darryl brings **more than 20 years** of local government experience and a strong focus on delivering for communities.

Mayor Bill Close said Darryl's appointment is an exciting milestone, strengthening Council's leadership as we continue prioritising infrastructure, services and opportunities for our region.



New Chief Executive Officer - Mr Darryl Whicker



ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A CRIME

Illegal dumping across the Light Regional Council area has escalated sharply, placing increasing pressure on Council resources and creating significant environmental and safety risks.

Over the past 20 months alone, 620 dumping incidents have been reported, with a notable surge in the disposal of car and truck tyres in the southern parts of the district, including Gawler Belt, Gawler River, Kingsford, Shea-Oak Log and Ward Belt.

Council staff are regularly encountering dumped materials ranging from household rubbish to industrial waste, green waste, construction debris and asbestos. In several recent cases, tyres and other waste have been found in watercourses, raising serious environmental concerns and complicating clean-up efforts.

The clean up burden is substantial. Waste disposal to a Materials Recovery Facility now costs Council \$90,000-\$100,000 annually, while staff time diverted to clean up and investigation is estimated at \$380,000 per year - a figure that continues to rise.

This work is often difficult, labour intensive and presents Work, Health and Safety risks.

Light Regional Council believes much of the dumped material is likely coming from outside the district, given its proximity to northern metropolitan Adelaide. Council is exploring opportunities to work more closely with State authorities to address the issue and strengthen enforcement.

Investigations are often complex and rely heavily on community information, witness statements, and collaboration with neighbouring councils, SAPOL and the EPA. Surveillance tools such as remote cameras assist, but the size of the Council area makes comprehensive coverage challenging.

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