

# Student pushes for better bus service

By **Dani Brown**

ONE Murray Bridge boy is campaigning for a better bus system around Murray Bridge and surrounds, launching a petition to State Minister for Transport Services Chloe Fox.

Josh Bradlington, 14, said an expanded bus service, like the Adelaide Metro bus scheme, would enable people to complete every day tasks affordably.

"I want a cheaper public service for buses up here - it would be easier to see family and friends and it would keep me from feeling isolated," he said.

Josh said he was told by Ms Fox the town did not need an expanded service.

"Chloe Fox said there was no demand for it based on numbers (on Link SA buses)," he said.

"The numbers on the LinkSA service are no indication because no one can afford it.

"I want a "use it or lose it" service here ... from Murray Bridge to Strathalbyn, Adelaide and Mannum, or cross Adelaide out and go to Mount Barker instead."

Josh's mother, Peta Moyses, said Josh was able to get successful services at Willunga and Strathalbyn

through petitions and wanted the same for Murray Bridge.

"They gave us a "use it or lose it" bus for a year, and now they've expanded their services," she said.

Each of the five candidates running for Hammond said they would support the move for an improved system.

Family First candidate Daniel Gutteridge had previously launched his own bus service petition in 2011, when he was 15.

"As a member of parliament, part of the policies I would be pushing for include an improved bus service," he said.

Nationals candidate Rachel Titley said she wanted to improve infrastructure in the area including public transport, which needed to be addressed immediately.

"During my campaign, I've had many conversations with students studying, and one priority was a lack of frequency in Murray Bridge and the city," she said.

Greens candidate Damien Pyne said he wanted Murray Bridge to have a stronger emphasis on a better bus service such as the metropolitan areas.

"We'll look at increasing subsidies, especially concessions, to make transport around Murray Bridge

and Hammond more affordable, and from Hammond to the city," he said.

Labor candidate Lou Bailey said the current service needed to facilitate the growing number of people in the town.

"Infrastructure is at a point where we need improvement in Murray Bridge and surrounds," he said.

Liberal candidate Adrian Pederick said an improved service would benefit the elderly and students studying in Adelaide for an economic form of transport.

"I would like one from the city to Murray Bridge, as well as out to Victor Harbor and Goolwa, because there's better access for everyone, whether it's to the city and back or from the city to Murray Bridge," he said.

- Details: To sign Josh's petition, visit [www.change.org/en-AU/petitions/chloe-fox-adelaide-metro-in-murray-bridge](http://www.change.org/en-AU/petitions/chloe-fox-adelaide-metro-in-murray-bridge).