



YOUR LETTERS

Council has my full attention

Mid Murray encourages all ratepayers and residents to enrol and participate in local government.

State Government sets the rules for this to happen.

Debt is a way of life for most people: homeowners, new car or credit card.

It is about management; that is why council has an independent auditor and an audit committee.

Council takes a professional approach to managing all of its assets and people with the resources it has available, whilst also supporting communities and volunteers.

Illegal developments are always an issue due to people ignoring their responsibility.

A balanced proportion of the budget, not all (lawyers make enough), is allocated to combat these law breakers.

Mid Murray is fortunate enough to have strong, responsible members, acting in a professional manner.

Debt level is closely monitored and well within manageable levels.

Council boundaries remain the same; the restructure from five to three wards will bring a saving to council through fewer councillors.

It is responsible governance by members that reduces the number of councillors.

Finally, I am very proud of Mid Murray, its people and achievements.

I certainly have the pride (gall) to nominate for council again.

Dave Burgess,
Mayor, Mid Murray Council.

Level of disgust

I am writing with disgust at the three levels of government in Australia.

My grandfather, Stan Fountain, died on July 13th of this year, and if that were not bad enough, Government red tape and unsympathetic public servants have only added to the pain of our loss by holding up the finalising of the estate and double-dipping with fees and charges.

I ask why this legal red-tape is allowed to add stress to grieving families, by treating the grieving relatives like cash cows to be milked for every cent at a time when they

don't need this?

I know our family is not the only one to be put through the wringer, but would urge strongly our political leaders to look into changing these sorts of nightmares as a way of doing something to regain the trust

of the people as losing a loved one is bad enough but to create more grief and stress for grieving people is disgusting and needs change.

On Saturday December 21, my family attended the Adelaide Road cemetery to lay my grandfather's ashes to rest beside my beloved grandma's only to find the hole they dug was not on the RSL plot where my grandma is buried, but in a lone plot two rows away, further adding to our disgust and dismay.

What a way to treat the family of a deceased war veteran, after the instructions were to have my beloved grandparents ashes buried together.

So we ended up digging the hole in the correct plot, but I must ask what are Murray Bridge council workers doing to make such an awful mistake?

And how many other families been effected by such inefficient and incompetent work by council staff?

In closing I implore all levels of government to look at yourselves to ensure no other family has to endure such upsetting and unprofessional service.

Stephen Fountain,
Murray Bridge.

Thanks to community

We would like to thank the community for their generous donations towards Christmas hampers for children, families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

The generosity shown by individuals, businesses and organisations was sincerely appreciated and will help bring smiles to faces of people going through a tough time.

On behalf of ac.care's Communities for Children Connecting Neighbours program we would also like to thank all the people and organisations who worked with us on the "Connecting our Community" art project at Homburg Park.

These include the Rural City of Murray Bridge, Fraser Park Primary School, Learning Together, community members of Homburg Park, Cycle Speedway, communi-

ty artist Gaynor Hartwigsen and the local individuals and families who contributed to the successful completion of this project.

Thank you also to Adrian Pederick MP and Barry Laubsch, Deputy Mayor, for conducting the official opening and to the Homburg Park Mums' group, who were instrumental in obtaining the community grant.

The local community has been involved in this project from the very beginning when we consulted them on the initial idea

through to the installation of the art work now in Homburg Park.

The success of this project is reflected by the positive feedback we have received and over 200 people attending the opening on December 15 at Homburg Park.

Ac.care's Communities for Children is proud to have been able to fund and develop the "Growing our Community" Art Project in Homburg Park.

Our staff were very excited to have this finished in readiness for Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity to wish the community a safe and happy Christmas and festive season.

Rob Foggo,
Chief executive officer, ac.care

Seeking Vietnam vets

We are seeking Vietnam veterans in South Australia to inform them of our reunion over the Anzac weekend 2014, which will be held in Mildura.

The reunion is for four days starting on April 24.

The reunion is for members who served with Headquarter Company 1st Australian Logistic Support Group who served in Vietnam from 1966 til 1972.

Tis reunion also includes the wives and children of veterans who have since passed on.

It is a significant reunion for us all as it is the first time that we will march under our own banner, and along with the two flags that were brought home after the conflict had finished in 1972.

Mildura Returned Service Club has asked us to lead the march this Anzac day, which in itself is an honour.

For more reunion and accommodation details veterans can contact me on (03) 5021 2066, mobile 0428 852 736 or email tonyraye11@bigpond.com.au

Tony Brown.