

# viewpoint

## 'Bridge gives helping hand

At a special meeting of the Rural City of Murray Bridge on Monday, February 3, 2014, council agreed to partner with Mid Murray and Barossa councils with shared financial support to assist BlazeAid with the establishment of a base camp at Palmer.

Recommendation was also received from CEO Peter Bond to further donate \$5000 to the local appeal in support of those residents of Rockleigh impacted by the fires.

This was unanimously supported by council.

Rural City of Murray Bridge is also assisting with in kind support with provision of equipment such as graders, water tanks and other necessary equipment on a needs basis.

Mayor Allan Arbon,  
Rural City of Murray Bridge.

## Rare boating courtesy

We are regular visitors to the river as we are keen skiers.

Last weekend we experienced something that rarely happens - as unfortunately many boaties don't seem to have any etiquette.

I had a barefooter behind our boat and a gentleman - and I use that term deliberately - stopped, dropping his knee boarders in the water and waited until we had gone past.

This may not seem such a big thing but rather than cause a wake on the glassy water (which was perfect for footing) and certainly ending our run, he showed some rare courtesy.

It would be great if your boat licence taught some of this etiquette, because it is so rare.

A big thank you to that boat driver - its a pity there aren't more like you, it would be a safer and more enjoyable river.

Phillip Giles,  
Padthaway.

## Smelling sweetly again

It is with the greatest relief that we have started 2014 with a much improved situation with the Mannum Road ponds.

Our last bad day was December 2, 2013.

Since then we've had wonderful living conditions and we can all hopefully get back to living normally again.

Many thanks must go to the hard working and tireless efforts of our group on Mannum road, in particular those of Ceri and Malcolm Johns and Jeff and Sharlene Fox - it has been a long and stressful battle.

Also thanks must go to those at Thomas Foods International and the EPA for their efforts in finding what appears to be a solution to a major problem.

Brian and Maureen Welch,  
Murray Bridge.

## Heading out to Tailem

I want to pass on my congratulations to your journalist, Peri Strathearn, for his excellent photographic display of the residents of Tailem Bend in Tuesday's Standard (February 4).

The photos are all really well presented in an artistic way.

They make you want to go straight to Tailem Bend and meet all these lovely people.

Excellent work!

Gail Manson,  
Murray Bridge.

## Guaranteed posting

Australia Post is proposing to increase the cost of a stamp to 70 cents, a rise of 10 cents.

I am happy for this to occur if it guarantees the continuation of daily delivery.

Having lived in regional Australia I know how vital the local post office is to many communities.

Keeping these hubs open is also critical to ensuring towns and villages not only survive but thrive.

The organisation's further proposal to lock-in discounts for concession card holders is a nice idea to help people on limited incomes.

Andrew Heslop,  
Sydney.

## Trade centres to deliver

It was a tremendous pleasure last week to visit Unity College with my friend and state colleague Adrian Pederick MP to meet with school principal Ilene Thiel and discuss the new Trade Skills Centre which will be located at the college.

Funding confirmed by the Federal Government last week will see two new trade skills centres built in Barker - one at Unity in Murray Bridge and the Coorong Mallee Trade Skills Centre, which will have its facilities shared between the Coomandook Area School and Meningie Area School.

The two centres will forge closer links with business and industry while underpinning the Federal Government's focus on vocational education and training in schools.

The Federal Government's funding package of \$1,048,899 for the new centre at Unity will enable the construction of an engineering

workshop, adjacent welding, fabrication and machining areas, design room and theory rooms and also the provision of equipment.

The centre will deliver qualifications in engineering to address skills shortages in the trades of fitter (general), fitter and turner, fitter-welder, metal fabricator, metal machinist (first class) and sheetmetal trades worker.

Federal funding of \$269,400 for the Coorong Mallee centre will go towards the construction of an equipment shed, livestock shelters and upgrading of an aquaculture shed and also the provision of equipment.

The centre will deliver qualifications in agriculture to address skills shortages.

These new training centres are very exciting for our region and reinforce the pride I have in being member of a Federal Coalition Government which is working towards better delivery of vocational education and training in schools and improved industry engagement and collaboration.

Tony Pasin MP,  
Member for Barker.

## Looking for workmates

I am looking for people who worked at the Nilsen Cromie Pty Ltd electrical factory between 1969-1978.

Will also take some people before or after these dates.

Wanting to get together for a reunion.

Please phone Denise Masters on 0408 081 316 by March 10.

Denise Masters,  
Murray Bridge.

## FACEBOOK COMMENT

**Riding for Disabled seeks volunteers** - MV Standard, January 30, 2014 (Facebook)

Just put up my hand & my husband..... This place does such an awesome job.....

Posted by Belinda Therese Wilson

**Riding for Disabled seeks volunteers** - MV Standard, January 30, 2014 (Facebook)

Mrs Nance is a wonderful lady doing great things. Look forward to working with her

Posted by Trish Carter

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

Rest Peacefully Harold. You will be missed by so many from all aspects of sport. Your

attention to detail and unbiased reporting is an absolute credit to you. Fond memories of many nights spent on the baseball bench. You always had time for a chat, and I will cherish our last one.

Posted by Jenny Brown

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

RIP....wonderful ambassador for all sports in Murray Bridge, he will be sorely missed!

Posted by Diana Cutting

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

Shared some great sporting and political stories with Harold. I had huge respect for him! RIP Harold.

Posted by Vanessa Juergens

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

RIP Harold, a true gentlemen and murraylands sporting icon

Posted by Tyron Hill

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

A tragic loss for the murraylands, he dedicated his life to sport and history of this district.

Posted by Dianne Paech

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

Thanks Harold. will miss you on the Power bus. Rip.

Posted by Ian Backen

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

RIP Harold. Your service to sport in the Murraylands - particularly soccer - and our community at large was remarkable. Thank you and goodbye.

Posted by Megan N Shane McCormick

**Vale Harold McLaren** - MV Standard, January 31, 2014 (Facebook)

Completely devastated to learn of the passing of this great local man. He was a hero of mine in his passion and commitment to the preservation of local history and he will be sorely missed. A true legend.

Posted by Toni Scarlett