

# Learn how to stop violence

BY PENI STRATHAERN

## Murray Bridge

THESE is always hope.

That will be the message propagated across Murray Bridge during a day of awareness-raising about domestic violence on Wednesday.

An evening seminar featuring researcher Sarah Wendt and MP Adrian Pedrick will shine a spotlight on

the issue, and two daytime workshops will teach bystanders safe ways of intervening in violent situations.

Event organiser Annette Korzeba, of Soroptimist International Murray Bridge, said nine South Australians had been killed by family members in the past year.

"The last one was Jody Meyers, from Mannum," she said.

"As males and women, we've got to do something about this.

"There's a double-digit number ... of high-risk families in our area, people at risk of dying, death, murder."

She gave the recent example of a woman who everyone had thought was "oopy" until they realised she was being "absolutely controlled" by her partner.

Their landlord had evicted the couple; now service providers had no idea about the woman's welfare.

"I don't know if you've seen something suspicious and thoughts 'I'd like to help my neighbour but I don't know what to do and I don't want to risk making it worse, so I don't think I'll do anything'," she said.

"Debi (Alexandridis), she'll

talk about (how) we can address domestic violence if we see it happening: what to say, how to say it so it won't be taken the wrong way."

She also endorsed the idea behind the federal government's current anti-violence campaign, which has the theme "stop it at the start".

"When I was in the school system I used to go through the staff room and, on a

whiteboard, see the faces of all the kids who were suspended," she said.

"It bothered me the boys would be suspended for unruly behaviour and the girls would hide or abscond."

■ Workshops: 10am-12 noon and 1-3pm Wednesday, Murray Bridge RSL.

■ Seminar: 6.15-8pm Wednesday, Murray Bridge Town Hall.

## Amnesty for unregistered dogs soon

OWNERS of unregistered dogs in the Murray Bridge district may register them for free between now and the end of June.

Dog owners would usually have to pay a registration fee of up to \$72, plus a 25 per cent late fee if they missed out on registering their dog between June and August.

The council already knocks on residents' doors in search of unregistered dogs each year, but staff are unable to inspect every property in the district.

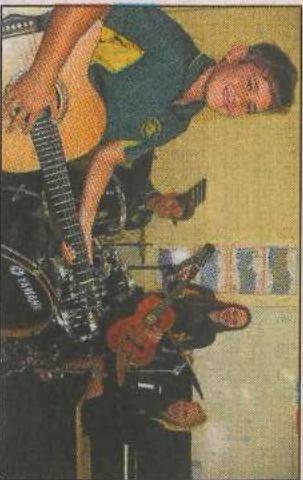
By obtaining the contact details of people with unregistered dogs, the council will be able to send renewal notices next financial year.

Development and regulation manager Geoff Parsons said registration was important.

"It allows easy identification of the dog and owner; provides council with a contact point for each dog and assists in ... reuniting dogs with their owners should they become lost," he said in a council report.

"The fees obtained from dog ownership are reinvested back into dog management."

Councillor Karen Eckermann called the idea a "fantastic initiative".  
Legally, all dogs over three months of age must be registered under the Dog and Cat Management Act.



TALENT: Nahum Rasigatale, Micah Rasigatale, Tahlea Loechel, Nikayla Clark.

## JAM SESSIONS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

YOUNG budding musicians from across Mid Murray will have the opportunity to expand their skills and their network through a new program.

Mid Murray Council, in partnership with The Emu Tree, are bringing Jam Club to the Mannum Leisure Centre on Wednesday, June 1.

Organiser Jarrod Manuel said the five week program is free for youths of all ages and all experience levels.

■ To register, contact Jarrod at jamanuel@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

# ENROL TO VOTE

## BEFORE 8PM MONDAY 23 MAY



### The federal election has now been announced.

All Australian citizens aged 18 years or over must be enrolled to vote now.

If you've recently turned 18, become an Australian citizen or changed your name or address, make sure you are enrolled.

Enrol or update your details online at [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or pick up an enrolment form at any AEC office or post office and return it to the AEC before 8pm Monday 23 May.

Your vote will help shape Australia.

To learn more

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Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 50 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra ACT.