

# Hahndorf Community News & Views village voice

Edition 79 2024



Wishing You a Joyful Christmas Season!

As we approach this Christmas season, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the support of the *Village Voice* and the projects the Hahndorf Community Association (HCA) take on to further enhance our Village. Without the tireless support of local volunteers, the *Village Voice* and HCA would not be able to run as it does, and we thank each of them.

May your festive season be filled with warmth, joy, and the company of loved ones. Let's embrace the spirit of giving and continue to uplift and support one another as we step into 2025! Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and bright New Year.

“Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly Merry Christmas”.

– Peg Bracken



## Councillor's Corner

Hello everyone,

At our August Council meeting, we endorsed a \$200,000 plan to increase the maintenance of the Hahndorf Main Street. The project will address over 30 maintenance issues, ranging from fixing footpaths and kerbing to improving stormwater drainage and sprucing up the overall look of the street. These upgrades are crucial, not just for keeping the street looking good, but also for making sure it stays safe and functional for everyone. With all the foot traffic Hahndorf gets, especially from visitors, it's important to extend the life of this iconic street. The good news is that Council are aiming to complete the work before the busy Christmas and holiday season.

In other news, I attended the Hahndorf CFS 75th anniversary celebration recently. It's incredible to think the brigade has been serving our community for 75 years. It was fantastic hearing some of the old memories and listening to the plans for the future. As part of the celebration, they launched a Fireman Calendar, but not the kind you'd expect! This one is called "Icons of Hahndorf," and it features brigade members alongside some of Hahndorf's most well-known businesses on the Main Street. Honestly, the photos are stunning! They really capture the heart and soul of the town—its people and businesses. The calendar is only \$15! It's a fantastic way to support the CFS – visit their website for details.

And just a quick reminder—don't forget about the Council's app! The free My Local Services app offers a wealth of Council-related information. It's a handy tool for reminders about which bin is being collected and for reporting issues like potholes or damaged Council infrastructure while you're out and about.

Enjoy the change of season as winter breaks and we start to see our gardens come to life again.

Take care,

**Narelle Hardingham,**

South Ward Councillor  
0411 144 544



## Hahndorf Community Association

The HCA's annual fundraising event was held on September 13th at the Hahndorf Bowling Club. Once again it was a roaring success and was enjoyed by the 80 plus ticket holders. Guests savoured the many high tea delicacies while watching seven local models parade the latest in fashionable wear.



Models were fitted out by *Blue Belle Boutique* in the Main Street. Proprietor Tracey Lamshed provided professional commentary and dressed the volunteer models in a variety of stunning outfits much to the delight of the audience. Thank you Tracey. Thank you and congratulations to all involved in organising and running the High Tea and Fashion Parade. Special thanks to Mayor Leach for successfully "auctioning" his raffle prize and Councillor Hardingham for modelling once again.

Proceeds will go to the HCA's Heritage Barn re-erection project to commemorate the 185th anniversary of Hahndorf's founding.

Following suitable location research by the HCA and Mount Barker District Council, the plan is to re-erect the barn in Alec Johnston Park where it can be seen and enjoyed by locals and visitors. It will make a fine picnic shelter while serving as a reminder of our early settler rural heritage. The barn which was tucked away out of view in Church Street has been systematically dismantled with every piece of timber labelled to assist reconstruction. This work has been done with great care and the barn is currently in safe storage and out of the weather. The next steps are to raise the \$20,000 we have committed to Council to assist with re-construction costs, provide all technical data in our possession to council to enable a costing exercise to be done. Council staff will prepare a report for councillors and the Mayor to vote on. This will take some months to finalise. Donations to the Heritage Barn Fund can be deposited with the Hahndorf Community Association (please mark as Barn donation). BSB 805 050 Account no. 102 212 676. All donations are gratefully received and will be receipted if required.

We are very pleased to confirm that Julie Klau has joined the HCA Committee as Treasurer and Jaz Swan is our new Secretary. Welcome ladies and we all look forward to working with you and appreciate you community spirit.

Sincerely,

**Greg Lomax**  
Chairperson, HCA  
0414 500 150

## Hahndorf Business and Tourism Association

Ever so slowly spring is poking its head out, the leaves along the entrance to Hahndorf are turning their luminous green and there is lightness in the air.



The month-long *Immersed Festival* is finishing up, a fun and interactive event showcasing our wonderful traders. It gives participants an insight into the how and the why and highlights the incredible diversity, and offerings of Hahndorf traders, showing off the skills of our artisans, producers and creatives, continuing the legacy of those that founded Hahndorf.

We are pleased by the recent decision of Council to commence much needed maintenance on the Main Street. We have all been patient awaiting funding for the Main Street upgrade, so appreciate this work being undertaken in the interim. This has been a collaborative exercise identifying what is needed with representatives from Council, our local Councillor, HBTA and HCA. Much can be achieved when we work together.

As we approach the summer months, I encourage our residents to visit our local businesses and **Shop Local**. Understanding that living pressures affect all of us, it is a wonderful opportunity to support the Main Street and surrounding businesses who support our local community organisations, sporting clubs and schools, employ our residents and together we will continue to thrive as a vibrant community.

Regards,

**Carolyn Catrall**  
Chairperson, HB&T



**HAHNDORF**  
EST. 1839

## Help for Captain Hahn's Bust in Pioneer Memorial Gardens

Local resident and owner of Hahndorf Walking Tours, Sharon Pippas has recently raised her concerns about the condition of Captain Hahn's statue in Pioneer Park. In particular, as the photo shows, the plinth has a significant built up of calcification around the base and some brickwork has cracked in two.

Visitors to Hahndorf have often quizzed Sharon during her walking tours around town about why the community allows a statue of its "founder" to remain in this condition. Good question! Sharon decided to do something about it so she lobbied Council and various individuals who share her passion for the town and its presentation.

As a result, Mount Barker District Council stepped forward and attempted to remove the calcification but were only partially successful. They learnt that it has become embedded into the bricks and mortar joints and could not be removed without a high risk of permanent damage to the plinth. Local historians advised that the original plan for the statue was for the plinth to be solid stone but at the time this proved to be expensive and logistically difficult. This renovation opportunity may be the chance to incorporate a stone plinth as originally intended.

The Hahndorf Community Association expressed its concern about the statue's condition and resolved at the October meeting to adopt the restoration as a community project. Mount Barker Council have offered support through their Community Grants program and with the removal and replacement of the plinth. At the time of writing we are seeking a volunteer to help "project manage" or co-ordinate this renovation. Please contact HCA Chairperson

2 Greg Lomax on 0414 500 150.





# CHRISTMAS IN HAHNDORF



## 2024

### ★ DECORATE YOUR HOME THIS CHRISTMAS

The competitive spirit this Festive Season will hopefully be back on show with local residents embracing the Village's Christmas Lights competition for a fourth year. For the month of December, let us decorate our homes in the Christmas spirit, then take a stroll through our beautiful Village with your family to enjoy seeing others doing the same. Let the community know about your street by posting about it on the HCA Facebook page. Hahndorf Business & Tourism Association have kindly donated prizes for the best displays. No Registration. No Fee. Just Fun.



Images: Winner of best display (Day and Night) 2023– St John's Lane

### ★ ST NICHOLAS COMES TO HAHNDORF– Alec Johnston Park, Friday 6th December

'St Nicholas Comes to Hahndorf' is an annual community event, sponsored by St Paul's Lutheran Church on the Friday evening closest to 6th December. This year, it will be held on Friday 6th December, the actual day!

The event is built on the tradition of 'St Nicholas', whom was not only a real person (and a Saint), but he was also known for the many wonderful deeds that we all associate with Christmas and the Holiday Season. The event being themed around the life of St Nicholas therefore hopes to bring the community together in a spirit of celebration at Christmas and caring about others.

The schedule for this years' event is planned as follows:

**6.30 – 7.15pm-** Craft activities for the children will be held in the Alec Johnston Park, during which time there will be a FREE sausage sizzle for families to enjoy.

**7.15 – 7.20pm-** A short parade will progress from the rear of the park with the Hahndorf Town Band leading the entrance of St Nicholas and his helper characters following alongside.

**7.20 – 8.00pm-** After the arrival of St Nicholas, near the central part of the park between the fountain and the creek, the program continues with:

- A short 'St Nicholas Message' to the children - 'Giving to Others'
- Community Carol Singing
- Distribution of FREE ginger bread biscuit gift to the children
- Musical entertainment by Hahndorf Town Band
- FREE cold drink, Tea/Coffee, and Cake/Biscuit available



Donations to Hahndorf CFS and their volunteer work is encouraged, consistent with the event theme.

### ★ WEEKEND OF CHRISTMAS - 13th, 14th & 15th December

#### Main Street Christmas Village

The Hahndorf Business & Tourism Association will once again put on the Hahndorf Christmas Village, decorating the street with lights and decorations, including the Gingerbread Family, the Christmas Elves, and a photo booth competition along with extended trading hours. Stay tuned to our social sites for more details.

#### Gathered Design Market - 3pm - 9pm

The Gathered Market will feature in Landhaus Lane (Thiele House– 102 Main St) with over 70 local stalls. 3pm–9pm daily, 13th-15th December. \$3 entry, with part proceeds donated to *Love Out Loud*. Kids enter free.

#### Christkindlmarkt - 3pm - 10pm

The European-inspired Hahndorf Christkindlmarkt family friendly event will run over 3 nights with market stalls, food, drinks, entertainment and Carols by Candlelight. Cnr Main Street & Auricht Road. Open 3pm-10pm daily. Entry is free.



### ★ CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES:

Christmas Eve - 24 December 2024  
Christmas Day - 25 December 2024

#### St Paul's Lutheran

7:30pm  
9:30am

#### St Michael's Lutheran

7:30pm & 10pm  
9:30am

#### C3 Hahndorf

-  
9:00am



On Tuesday 8 October 2024, I was pleased to attend the Mt Barker Council Community Forum preceding a Mt Barker Council meeting held at Hahndorf. The Council has a stated aim of holding three meetings per year throughout the district. Hahndorf was one such meeting and I am glad to see the Council out and about in Heysen.

The meeting took place at the Hahndorf Memorial Institute, which is deeply rooted in Hahndorf community history. The Memorial Institute has served as a place of reflection and community connection for over 65 years. Today, the building is owned by the Mt Barker Council and is cared for by a dedicated team of volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the hall and keep it in good shape to continue serving the community. I particularly therefore recognise the Hall committee, all its members and those who are doing similar work for our community throughout the Hills.

I want to take this moment to reflect and acknowledge 'Village Voice' founder Mrs Ann Haines OAM. In 2006 Ann received her award in the Order of Australia for her Service to the community of Hahndorf. She continues to put the Hahndorf community first by preserving the legacy of the Hall as its current committee president. It's the dedication and passion of volunteers like Ann that are at the beating heart of our Hills Community. I commend and thank all the hard-working volunteers in Hahndorf and beyond.

**Josh Teague MP**

T: (08) 8339 5077 E: [heysen@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:heysen@parliament.sa.gov.au)  
14/10 Druid Ave, Stirling



## Hahndorf National Trust

We have a number of projects completed and underway:

### PIONEER WOMEN'S TRAIL

We are absolutely delighted that, after a number of years, we now have large trailhead signs on the Pioneer Women's Trail, one at the foot of Silver Road in Bridgewater, and one at the city end in Brock Reserve. This was achieved with the support (including financial) of the Adelaide Hills and Burnside Councils for which we sincerely thank them.

However, we are disappointed that when the freeway interchange project was scrapped, the much anticipated footbridge over the Onkaparinga was also abandoned once again. This means that the trail cannot be marked from Hahndorf.

Our next project is to design, produce and install smaller trailhead signs that we would like to put in Bridgewater, Stirling and Eagle on the Hill. That will be followed by 'storyboard signs' along the trail.



### PLAQUES FOR HISTORIC HAHNDORF BUILDINGS

We are now working with Mount Barker District Council to design plaques for State Heritage listed buildings in Hahndorf's Historic Zone, which will be installed by the Council and largely paid for by the Hahndorf National Trust. With any luck, all the appropriate permissions will be received, and residents and visitors alike will appreciate knowing something of the interesting history about our village.

### ADVOCACY

I would love to be able to write of successes in opposing inappropriate building, and, indeed, demolition of historic places within the State Heritage Zone. Unfortunately, the current Planning and Design Code has rather pulled the rug out from under us. And we certainly don't have the influence that developers seem to be able to exert when they want exceptions to the rules to be made.



### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I know that these are generally pretty boring and brief affairs, but we hope that some of these items may interest you;

- \* More detailed reports on what we have been doing this year;
- \* An opportunity to get to know some of the brave few who try to keep the history of our village alive;
- \* A talk by the CEO of the National Trust of SA on the bigger picture of its activities across the State;
- \* Supper, conversation, new friends, perhaps.

Everyone is cordially invited; please phone or text me if you would like to join us. Hahndorf Bowling Club, Thursday 7th November at 7.00pm

Annette Humphries, Chairperson 0451 030 357

## MBDC Community Forum in Hahndorf



The Mount Barker District Council held a Community Forum in early October in the Hahndorf Institute. This event is part of a program where Council conducts its meeting away from the Council Chambers and into local communities. The Forum took place immediately prior to Council's October meeting and took the form of a question and answer session chaired by Mayor David Leach. A panel of MBDC Councillors and Council staff were in attendance to answer questions from the floor. South Ward Councillors in attendance included Narelle Hardingham, Rebecca Hewett and Rowan Voogt. Councillors representing the North and Central Wards were also in attendance.

Approximately 35 residents attended. Residents proceeded to ask a variety of questions relevant to our township and the broader community. As Chairperson, Mayor Leach received all questions individually and directed them to the appropriate Councillor or staff member to respond. In some cases the Mayor handled the question himself once it was determined he was the best person to respond. Questions from the floor covered a broad spectrum of subjects including climate change, open spaces, parking, dry zone, Heysen Boulevard, River Road, rubbish bins, condition of Totness Road, Council's mandate and others.

The forum enabled residents to air their concerns and ideas and ask questions directly to Council in a courteous and respectful environment. Attendees appreciated the opportunity to interact in this way and the event was considered a success. Locals also expressed their appreciation to Council for the opportunity. We look forward to Hahndorf being included in the next round of Community Forums in 2025.

## New Zealand Signage Relevant to Dog Owners in Hahndorf

After a recent visit to New Zealand, and reading Fergus' article in the previous *Village Voice*, a local resident shared with us a relevant poster, which she thought was 'fun' but also a highly relevant reminder about picking up after your dog.

In accordance to the Mount Barker District Council, Dogs By-Law 2017 Part 3, section, 11. Dog faeces- No person is to allow a dog under that person's control, charge or authority to be in a public place or on Local Government land unless that person has in their possession a bag or other suitable container for the collection and lawful disposal of any faeces that the dog may deposit (for the purpose of complying with their obligation under section 454(6) of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.



Your Dog, Your Responsibility.

## Early Learning St Centre at Michael's School



Exciting News: St. Michael's Early Learning Centre Stage 1 Construction begins St Michael's school is buzzing with excitement as construction begins on the first stage of St. Michael's Early Learning Centre (ELC), set to welcome young learners in January 2026! This new facility is located on Church Street adjacent to the school.

Stage 1 will cater to 33 children aged 3 and 4 years old, providing a nurturing and engaging environment for our youngest community members. Stage 2 of the project will extend this care for children from 6 weeks of age.



The ELC aims to foster curiosity and creativity in early childhood education, laying a strong foundation for lifelong learning. With a focus on play-based learning and continuing our alignment with the IB Primary Years Program, children will have the opportunity to explore, discover, and grow through hands-on experiences in a safe and supportive setting.

Enrolments will begin in the middle of 2025, so parents looking for a quality early learning option for their little ones should keep an eye out for more details. St. Michael's ELC promises to be a welcoming place for families, offering a blend of educational programs and community involvement.

As the construction progresses, we look forward to sharing updates and sneak peeks of the new facilities. We believe that this Early Learning Centre will play a vital role in our community, enriching the lives of our children and supporting families in Hahndorf.

For more details about enrolments and the upcoming ELC, feel free to reach out to us or visit our website. We can't wait to welcome our first group of curious learners in January 2026.



**Terri Taylor**  
Principal  
8388 7228

## Support Our Remembrance Day Service

Join members of our community, and visitors, at the War Memorial in front of the entrance to Alec Johnston Park for the annual Remembrance Day service on Monday, November 11th . The Hahndorf Community Association organises this important acknowledgement of the service and sacrifice of members of our Armed forces over the decades, and this year promises to again be a moving occasion.

A 'river' of red and purple poppies will once more herald the event, raising awareness about the sacrifices made to ensure we live in this wonderful country.

The Service, which will commence at 10.30am, will include prayers led by Pastor Fin Klein, of St Michael's Church, and for the second year, members of Mt Barker's Choir Cecelia will sing the emotive 'Spirit of the Anzacs', a tribute to the men and women who have served their country, penned by Australian Country Music singer/songwriter Lee Kernaghan.

Community groups, businesses and individuals will have the opportunity to lay a wreath to honour our service personnel, and the Ode of Remembrance, and the playing of the Last Post, will mark the historic 11am timing of the signing of the Armistice which marked the end of World War One.

Following the Service, the Hahndorf Community Association will host Morning Tea in the Institute's Supper Room, and invites those people attending the Service to participate.



## Learn A New Skill and Help in The Remembrance Day Wreath Making

In preparation for the Remembrance Day Service on November 11th, members of the Hahndorf Community are invited to help make wreaths for Community organisations to lay on the War Memorial.

We make the wreaths in the kitchen at the Institute, starting at 2pm on Sunday 10th November. All are welcome to help – if you are new to this craft, the 'old hands' will advise and help, and all the materials will be available to complete the wreaths.

This is a creative and enjoyable afternoon, and the wreaths are a true symbol of community involvement. We look forward to seeing you there!



## LOST & FOUND

The Mount Barker District Council has coordinated for *The Manna* to be the central contact point for Lost & Found items within the precinct.

We kindly ask that only valuable items (i.e. handbags, phones, wallets, children's comforters) be handed in at *The Manna Reception*. Please refrain from submitting items that are easily replaceable (i.e. cheap sunglasses, umbrellas, headphones, containers, water bottles) or likely to be forgotten.

Unclaimed items will be kept for two weeks before being donated or disposed of. The Manna Group Reception is open every day from 7:30am until 6:30pm.

## FIRE DANGER Season is Upon Us, Time to Plan Ahead



The Fire Danger Season is approaching, and while the dates are yet to be declared (at the time of writing), now is the time to develop or review your Bushfire Survival Plan.

You and your family's safety and survival during a bushfire will depend on how prepared you are, and the decisions you make. Most people who die in bushfires die leaving their homes at the last moment. Leaving late is a deadly option.

On the CFS website you can create your own 5 Minute Bushfire Plan. There you'll also find up-to-date lists of what you can and can't do during the Fire Danger Season and on Total Fire Ban days. Visit [cfs.sa.gov.au](https://cfs.sa.gov.au).

The Mount Barker District Council's website is another great resource, providing information about Fire Prevention and Permits. Visit [mountbarker.sa.gov.au/council/new-residents/fire-season](https://mountbarker.sa.gov.au/council/new-residents/fire-season).

Fires can threaten suddenly and without warning. You need to be prepared to enact your Bushfire Survival Plan without receiving any emergency warning. Do not rely on a single source for emergency warning information.

The CFS provides information to the community through the Information Hotline on 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677). The Alert SA app provides timely and relevant bushfire information: [alert.sa.gov.au](https://alert.sa.gov.au).

The ABC is the official Emergency Broadcaster - our local ABC radio station (891 AM) broadcasts emergency warnings and alerts relevant to our area. We recommend you keep a battery powered or wind-up torch and radio ready in case the power fails during an emergency. Test the batteries regularly. And as always, to report fires or other emergencies dial 000.

Our volunteer firefighters stand ready to assist when our community needs us. Wishing you a safe and prepared Fire Danger Season.

Captain Ros Smith  
Hahndorf CFS

**5 MINUTE BUSHFIRE PLAN ACT NOW**

## 75th Anniversary Commemorated with a 2025 Calendar

We have launched an exciting new calendar to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of the Hahndorf Brigade. It's called the 'Icons of Hahndorf 2025 Calendar', and it features iconic Hahndorf businesses and our wonderful volunteer firefighters! Everyone in them is a Hahndorf resident of course...and it was photographed by Hahndorf photographer Tricia Watkinson! You can check it out at [www.hahndorfcs.com.au](https://www.hahndorfcs.com.au) where the calendar can be purchased for \$15 (+\$5 postage).



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS  
South Australian  
Country  
Fire Service  
Hahndorf  
Brigade



## Take a Walk Down Heritage Way

As you stroll around our township there are many interesting historical surprises that you may not even know exist. One of these is the Heritage Walkway on the Main Street.

Built in 2010, the Heritage Walkway is located adjacent to 'Hahn Court/St Paul's Resident Units' and links it to Main Street. It is accessible to the general public via a gateway from Main Street diagonally opposite Otto's Bakery.

The Heritage Walkway features 7 free-standing interpretive signs along its length each "Dedicated to the Early Pioneers Who Settled Hahndorf". The detail contained within these signs incorporates help from the late EA Wittwer's writings and especially contributions by Reg Butler and Anni Luur Fox.

The titles of the signs are as follows:

First Sign: 'Their Predecessors - 'The Peramangk People'

Second Sign: 'Why Did They Emigrate?'

Third Sign: 'From Where and When Did They Leave?'

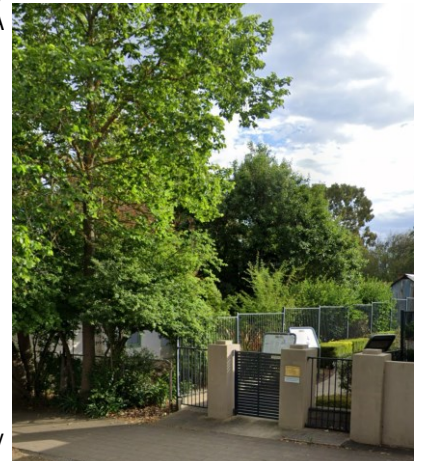
Fourth Sign: 'Where Should They Live?'

Fifth Sign: 'Hahndorf - The First Planned Settlement East of Mt Lofty'

Sixth Sign: 'The Schmidt-Rodert Farm'

Seventh Sign: 'The Market Trek to Adelaide'

Do yourself a favour the next time you are walking along the Main Street and walk through the gate and enjoy learning more about Hahndorf. The Walkway is open during the day.



Heritage Walkway entry point on Main Street

## Silver Mine, Hahndorf

Yes! During the 1880s a small silver lead mine was worked on the outskirts of Hahndorf. While it was only a small mine, a quantity of ore was raised, said to be of rich quality and which, when assayed, gave an average of 71 per cent lead with 21ozs (650gms) of silver per ton. The quartz reef on the property contained galena (a lead sulphide mineral) which contained the silver.

Mining was stopped when the main shaft was flooded, and this shaft, over the years, was gradually filled in with rubbish and soil. Little remained of the mine in the 1950's, but for a small heap of rubble, and this covered by blackberries. During this period traces of pyromorphite (a secondary lead mineral) could still be found on the site, but, within years even this dump was ploughed over leaving nothing to show. Now, as one leaves Hahndorf, driving up Pine Avenue past the oval, all we see on the right hand side is an open paddock straddling a shallow valley. But back in the 1880's, that was the Hahndorf 'silver mine'.

Harold Gallasch

## Hahndorf's Mining History and Link to South Australia's Pioneer Geologist

Finding minerals was important in motivating the founding of South Australia. At its second meeting in London in 1834, two years before South Australia was colonised, The South Australian Literary and Scientific Society's principal lecture was on "The geology of Australia".

In 1835, a public company was planned in England to explore for minerals in South Australia. The colony's founding *South Australian Company* in 1836 appointed the German Johannes Menge as mine and quarry agent and geologist.

Born in Stainau, Hesse, Germany, Menge had little formal education, but was a keen learner and quickly gained a broad knowledge of languages, philosophy, medicine, religion, and geology. His particular interest in geology developed after working for privy councillor Karl Cäsar von Leonard, who collected and sold mineral specimens.

He became friends with South Australian Company chairman George Fife Angas who encouraged him to go to the new province of South Australia to work for the company. Menge arrived aboard the *Coromandel* in January 1837 at Kangaroo Island. Menge moved to the South Australian mainland, travelling widely, exploring alone as far north as Mount Remarkable, searching for minerals, while engaging in many other interests. He was the first to discover copper in the Adelaide Hills. He kept regular contact with Angas through letters and reports. This encouraged the spread of settlement, and minerals being explored by others, ultimately leading to a mining boom that saved the fledgling province.

When the first German Lutheran immigrants arrived in South Australia, Menge helped them resettle in the Adelaide Hills then to the Barossa Valley. In 1845 Johannes Menge taught at the Hahndorf Congregational School. Menge had a real influence on young men in Hahndorf, as at one stage most of the male population of Hahndorf at some stage were looking for gold within the region.

Source: <https://adelaideaz.com/articles/minerals-help-motivate-founding-of-colony--johannes-menge>;  
<https://www.mininghistory.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/17-AMHA-Proceedings-Volume-compressed-2.pdf>



Johannes Menge. Image courtesy State Library of South Australia.

Johannes Menge (1788–1852) The South Australian Company's Mine and Quarry Agent and Geologist

## Grunthal Mine, Verdun

The Grunthal Mine began mining copper in 1870 after the highly sought mineral was discovered the previous year. It was named after the nearby town of Grunthal - German for *Green Valley*. The Grunthal Mining Company erected a smelting works which produced about 409t of 50% copper matte between October 1874 and May 1876. The mine was closed in 1876. Three brick chimneys 21m high were still standing in 1915.



Source: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/the-disused-grunthal-gold-and-copper-mine/>; <https://www.mininghistory.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/17-AMHA-Proceedings-Volume-compressed-2.pdf>



Stone buildings and chimney stack of the old Grunthal Mine. Source- <https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/B+46509>

# JOSH TEAGUE MP

MEMBER FOR HEYSEN

**Proudly supporting the  
Hahndorf Village Voice**

Contact Josh Teague MP

☎ 8339 5077

✉ [heysen@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:heysen@parliament.sa.gov.au)

📘 /JoshTeagueHeysen

📷 [josh\\_teague\\_mp](https://www.instagram.com/josh_teague_mp)

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Spring is in the air, and we have been enjoying lots of activity in the street and in our beautiful heritage building. Did you know that the Hahndorf Academy was built over a 70-year period starting with one small building in 1857? Now in 2024 we celebrate the new Bukatilla studio building and did you know we are the second most visited gallery in South Australia!

We also celebrate the success of the FRONT ROOM STUDIO which has been buzzing with hundreds of people drawing their own self-portraits, visitors of all ages have enjoyed this free and fun activity. Come and try it, you don't need to be an artist.

HAHNDORF ARTIST Sheila Whittam's abstract paintings are in Gallery 2 until November 10, Sheila has opened her studio to visitors in October and November and her exhibition has been popular with everyone.

THE HEYSEN PRIZE FOR LANDSCAPE is up next, this national arts prize commemorates Sir Hans Heysen, and we have received 275 entries this year. 67 artworks have been selected for the Finalist exhibition in November– January. Please join us for the opening launch on November 23 when the winner will be announced and awarded \$15,000.

THE MUSEUM received an Activating Tourism and Heritage Grant to reinvigorate the space with new designs and stories. We will connect history and tourism to inspire and enrich the history of Bukatilla and Hahndorf and we are also planning on a new book!

JOIN US. Do you like sharing stories and talking to people? We are looking for guides to join our volunteer team, all training is provided, we have a friendly team and great social gatherings including discount in the shop.

VALE RITA HALL, a wonderful local Hahndorf artist and friend who exhibited with us in August 2023. Throughout her arts practice Rita has been highly regarded in South Australia. She inspired so many people and will be dearly missed.

Thank you for supporting us, keep in touch, pop in and say hello, visit our exhibitions. You are always welcome!



Sheila Whittam. Image courtesy of Hahndorf Academy



Rita Hall. Image courtesy of Hahndorf Academy



Warm wishes, Rachel and the Team, Hahndorf Academy - 68 Main Street  
email: [contact@hahndorfacademy.org.au](mailto:contact@hahndorfacademy.org.au) or call 8388 7250

#### BUKATILLA

Hahndorf Academy, acknowledges that we work and walk upon the ancient lands of the Peramangk Nation and pay our respect to Peramangk Elders past and living today as the traditional custodians of this traditional land.

## Hahndorf Echoes of the Past

As we all know people love visiting our Village. We have our friends and family visit, encouragement by businesses and tourist companies, and also by Australian Tourism and South Australian Tourism. I have lived here for 25 years but visitors don't always appreciate that about 3,100 people actually live here. I have been asked if people live here or only work here? Strange but true.

South Australia became a colony in 1836, my ancestors have been around the area since 1837. The Prussians arrived in our area in 1838. We are not just a spot on a tourist map. As a resident and of owner/operator of historic walking tours the curiosity of the visitors in regard to the original Prussian settlers have prompted me to set out on a project involving the descendants of our founding families. Visitors want to know - Where are the indigenous? and are the descendants of the founding families still in the area?

There are numerous books on the original settlers but I am taking a different approach in a project I have undertaken called 'Hahndorf Echoes of the Past' I have conducted 11 interviews with locals along with Elder Ivan Tiwu Copley and three academics - South Australian History Advocate, Dr Kiera Lindsay, Dr Amy Morrison, from the Centre of Democracy and expert German builder and architect Lothar Brasse. Angelo, my husband has given of his time to film the interviews. They are on average 25 minutes long.

Examples are: The Paech's here at Beerenberg Farm are 7th generation from their ancestors who fled Prussia because of religious persecution. Sally Paech has been interviewed. Cherie Hutchison, farm manager of Jurlique Farm is also a 7th generation descendant and on it goes.

They will go on my website in full but I am also developing a documentary called 'Hahndorf Echoes of the Past' which includes vinettes from the interviews along with the reason for settlement here in the beautiful landscape of the Adelaide Hills and South Australia. Some background history and special stories of our Village will be included to add context. It will be a 45 minute documentary in which I received a grant from our local Beerenberg Foundation for this purpose so that the compilation of the documentary can be put together professionally.

Hahndorf Community Association is auspicing the grant for which I am grateful. I consider the public need to see Hahndorf from our eyes and not just a dot on the tourist map. Launch date is February, 2025 in Hahndorf with a small group and then it will be available during History month to view at the Mount Barker Town Hall (an evening and daytime viewing) as well as Murray Bridge Library an evening and daytime viewing.

Everyone has been so supportive and willing to assist. I really want this to be special and feel a real responsibility to everyone involved. Still more to do but I'll keep the community informed.

Sharon Pippas (nee Hill)



## Hahndorf Institute President's AGM Report 2024

The small but dedicated Management Committee working as trustees for this Council facility continues to work toward the ultimate goal for the building **access for all persons**. A sum of \$10,000 was allocated within the Council budget for 2023/24, to develop a Concept Design for access to halls and toilets, to be undertaken during the year. This Concept Design provided by Architect Hoskin Willis was based on consultation with committee, Council managers, the DDA Report of 2022 and an Audit report from Building Certifiers and Consultants, Trento Fuller. We, the Committee reviewed and dissected the report, recommended some changes for Council consideration, then requested that having looked at our preferences, move ahead to seek timeline and costings. The elephant has been pushed up the hill just a fraction.

This building requires constant maintenance and attention to unexpected breakdowns in the functioning of the old plumbing, drainage, electrical system, and building movement. The urinal in male toilet, lights in bathrooms, heaters in hall, shifting door frames and swelling floors have been corrected during the past year. All at Committee expense.

On the positive side the Committee has installed 6 reversable fans in the main hall, (\$8,500) replaced the cistern in the disabled persons toilet, acquired a lightweight PA system (\$1,500.00), refurbished an old cupboard with lockable doors to contain electronic items, (\$560.00) and most costly, engaged a contractor to add pigeon spikes on the roof (\$4,500). We believe this should come under Council maintenance as part of the Management Agreement. Committee is aware that any improvements made for the comfort and functionality of clients needs to be made so that there will be no impact on the future plans for Access and no waste of funds.

Bookings have increased considerably with more multiple day bookings, in addition to the regular clientele, thanks to the ever alert Booking Officer, Graham. He has introduced digital hirer agreements, has an efficient information system, and efficient invoicing system with the Treasurer. Thus all clients understand their responsibilities, pay reasonably promptly, ensuring a smoother cash flow.

The increasing usage means extra cleaning. The contract with *Dab Hands* has been renewed and hours extended. General depreciation of furniture, floors and internal infrastructure is monitored.

Future plans include acoustic work in the supper room, possible painting, kitchen upgrade (in partnership with Council) greater interest and assistance from residents and, above all movement with the All Person's Access project.

I thank the loyal committee. Each one of you pulls weight beyond that in your "job description" Kate keeps us aware of the potential for the building as well as doing the ground work for projects. Wendy keeps communication with committee, Council and community well to the fore, Tony is the "go to person" for electronic and building advice and assistance while Lisa from accounts ensures that invoices are relevant and paid. We acknowledge and thank the input from June as Treasurer who is now unable to continue in that role. Thank you too to the outside helpers who lessen the load... Alison for the carpark garden and Angela who moves the bins each week.

WE have a great responsibility to keep the Hahndorf Institute as the Grand old Lady that she is.

Ann Haines

## Harpist Enthralls Hahndorf Audience

Did you know that Hahndorf's 'Grand Old Lady' – the Memorial Institute- has particularly good acoustics for live music performances? She does, and an enthusiastic and very appreciative audience thoroughly enjoyed the Harp Concert which featured French harpist and conductor Sylvain Blassel on Sunday afternoon, July 7th. Organised by Carter Harps Australia, in conjunction with Camac Harps France, the harp concert was the third to be presented at the Institute, and another is planned for December.

What a treat it was to listen to Sylvain Blassel's recital. The first part of the programme comprised five of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsodies, and after intermission, six of Schubert's Lieder, transcribed by Liszt and adapted for the harp by Sylvain himself. At the end of the concert he couldn't escape from the stage, and delighted the audience with two encores – firstly Liszt's 'La Campanella', followed by an exquisite rendition of Francisco Tarrega's 'Memories of the Alhambra'. Sylvain Blassel is Professor of Harp at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, and regularly gives masterclasses around the world. He specialises in the virtuoso adaptation of music that was not written for the harp, including music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt and Haydn. It was a pleasure and privilege to hear his performance.

Carter Harps Australia is presenting a final concert for 2024 at the Institute on Sunday, December 8th, 2024 from 2 to 4pm, when Esther Swift will be performing. The promotional flyer describes her thus:- 'A prolific, boldly innovative harpist, composer and singer, Esther works across genres as diverse as classical chamber music and free improvisation and writes for ensembles large and small. Likened to Kate Bush, Anna Meredith and Björk, her style is influenced by her love of jazz, minimalism, and dance music alongside her Scottish folk background.' Definitely one not to miss!

Tickets @Humanitix

Deb Painter



## Summers Bowls at the Hahndorf Bowling Club



It's on again, great fun for all ages, no experience necessary.

Don't spend these lovely summer nights in front of the TV—come along and have a great time with family, friends, and other members of the Hahndorf Community.

November Night Bowls – Played on Tuesday nights from the 5th to the 26th of November.

Summer Night Bowls - You can choose to play either Tuesday or Friday nights. The season starts on Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th of January 2025. This season runs for seven weeks.

You can register with single entries or teams of 4. Coaching available and bowls are provided.

It all starts at 6.00pm with registrations, BBQ & bar and a bit of practice. Games played from 7.00pm to 9.30pm.

Cost is \$5 per person per week

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**Come along and try it - you'll have a ball**



## The Journey of Journeyman

In the European apprenticeship tradition, the journeyman years (Wanderjahre, also known in German as Wanderschaft, Gesellenwanderung, and colloquially sometimes referred to as *Walz* lit. 'waltz') is a time of travel for several years after completing apprenticeship as a craftsman. The Australian song *Waltzing Matilda* is based on the journeyman's "Walz". The tradition dates back to medieval times and is still alive in France, Scandinavia and the German-speaking countries. Normally three years and one day is the minimum period for a journeyman apprentice. Crafts and trades in which that tradition persists to the current day include roofing, metalworking, woodcarving, carpentry and joinery, millinery and musical instrument manufacture (including organ building).

In the Middle Ages and Renaissance, when the guild system still controlled the professions and trades in the visual arts, the *Wanderjahre* was also taken by painters, mason-architects and goldsmiths; and it was important for the transmission of artistic style around Europe. The development of late modern nations and their borders within Europe did not have much effect on the journeyman tradition until the 19th century.

In medieval times, an apprentice was bound to his master for a number of years. He lived with the master as a member of the household, receiving most or all of his/her compensation in the form of food and lodging. In Germany, an apprentice normally had to pay a fee (known in German as *Lehrgeld*) for his or her apprenticeship. After the years of apprenticeship (*Lehrjahre*), the apprentice was absolved from his/her obligations (this absolution was known as a *Freisprechung*). The guilds, however, would not allow a young craftsman without experience to be promoted to master – apprentices could only choose to be employed, although many of them preferred to travel around instead.

Until craftsmen became masters, they would only be paid by the day (the French word *ournée* refers to the time span of a day). In parts of Europe, such as in later medieval Germany, spending time as a journeyman (*Geselle*), moving from one town to another to gain experience of different workshops, became an important part of the training of an aspirant master. Carpenters in Germany have retained the tradition of travelling journeymen even today, although only a small minority still practice it.

Over the years several journeymen have stayed over in Hahndorf for weeks or months. In the Middle Ages, the number of years spent journeying differed according to the craft. Only after half of the required journeyman years would the craftsman register with a guild for the right to be an apprentice master. After completing the journeyman years, he would settle in a workshop of the guild and after toughing it out for several more years, he would be allowed to produce a "masterpiece" (German: *Meisterstück*) and to present it to the guild. With their consent he would be promoted to guild master and as such be allowed to open his own guild workshop in town.

The tradition of the journeyman years (*auf der Walz sein*) persisted well into the 1920s in German-speaking countries, but was set back by World Wars, the division of Germany into East and West. Beginning in the late 1980s, renewed interest in tradition in general together with economic changes, especially after the fall of the Berlin Wall, have caused the tradition to gain wider acceptance. The tradition was brought back to life mostly unchanged from the medieval concept since the journeyman brotherhoods never ceased to exist.

The journeyman brotherhoods had established a standard to ensure that wandering journeymen are not mistaken for tramps and vagabonds. The journeyman is required to be unmarried, childless and debt-free—so that the journeyman years will not be taken as a chance to run away from social obligations. In modern times the brotherhoods often require a police clearance. Additionally, journeymen are required to wear a specific uniform (*Kluft*) and to present themselves in a clean and friendly manner in public. This helps them to find shelter for the night and a ride to the next town. (Only in Australia are they permitted to buy a motor vehicle because of the distances.)

A travelling book (*Wanderbuch*) was given to the journeyman and in each new town, he would go to the town office asking for a stamp. Former Mayor of the Mount Barker District Council, Anne Ferguson has stamped these books for journeymen staying in Hahndorf. This qualifies both as a record of his journey and also replaces the residence registration that would otherwise be required in some parts of the world.

In contemporary brotherhoods, the "Walz" is required to last at least three years and one day (sometimes two years and one day). During the journeyman years the wanderer is not allowed to return within a perimeter of 50 km (30 miles) of his home town, except in specific emergency situations, such as the impending death of an immediate relative. At the beginning of the journey, the wanderer takes only a small, fixed sum of money with him (exactly five Deutsche Marks was common, now five euros); at its end, he should come home with exactly the same sum of money in his pocket. Thus, he is supposed neither to squander money nor to store up any riches during the journey, which should be undertaken only for the experience.

The Graham family from the Hahndorf Leathersmith has engaged and accommodated several pairs of journeymen over the years. There is a unique symbol painted on the wall to the left of the Leathersmith's front door which indicates to journeymen that they are welcome here.

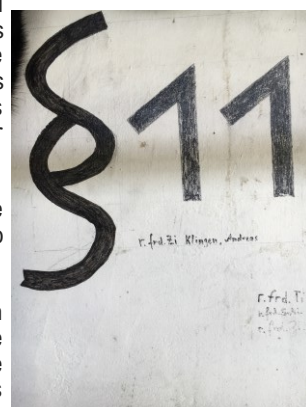
There are secret signs, such as specific, involved handshakes, that German carpenters traditionally use to identify each other. They are taught to the beginning journeyman before he leaves. This is another traditional method to protect the trade against impostors. While less necessary in an age of telephones, identity cards and official diplomas, the signs are still retained as a tradition. Teaching them to anybody who has not successfully completed a carpenter apprenticeship is still considered very wrong, even though it is no longer a punishable crime today.

As of 2023, there were about 800 journeymen "on the Walz" either associated with a brotherhood (*Bruderschaft*) or running free. While the great majority are still male, young women are no longer unheard of on the Walz today. (Image right- A journeyman climbing a town sign, celebrating his return home, as his friends and family welcome him).

continued on page 13



Carpenters "On the Walz" 1990



Symbol painted on the wall of Hahndorf Leathersmith Shop, 46 Main Street, Hahndorf



## The Journey of Journeyman– continued

The journeyman years include traditional events, like regional meetups where people share their stories and recommendations for good companies to visit. The biggest celebrations for each journeyman are the leaving day and the day he returns home, after not being allowed to enter the hometown for 3 years and a day by traditional rule. The journeyman is required to climb over their town sign on returning home. Journeymen can be easily recognised on the street by their clothing. The carpenter's black hat has a broad brim; some professions use a black stovepipe hat or a cocked hat. The carpenters wear black bell-bottoms and a waistcoat and carry the Stenz, which is a traditional curled hiking pole. The clothes are made to be practical and sturdy for travelling and work – the hat protects from the sun, wide-legged trousers keep sawdust away from the socks and shoes, the pockets are made to fit a basic set of tools for each trade.

Since many professions have since converted to the uniform of the carpenters, many people in Germany believe that only carpenters go journeying, which is untrue – since the carpenter's uniform is best known and well received, it simply eases the journey. Since journeymen often travel by hitchhiking, the traditional outfit helps them find people who are willing to exchange a ride or a meal for a story from their journey.

The uniform is completed with a golden earring and golden bracelets—which could be sold in hard times and in the Middle Ages could be used to pay the gravedigger if any wanderer should die on his journey. The journeyman carried his belongings in a backpack called the Felleisen made of a coarse cloth, and often attached to their walking stick.

Keep an eye out for a journeyman or journeywoman in the Main Street. You just never know!



Monique Lomax with two visiting Journeymen to Hahndorf in 2017.

Source and images: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journeyman\\_years#cite\\_note-Palgrave1896-4](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journeyman_years#cite_note-Palgrave1896-4)

## Hahndorf Community Association Fundraiser- High Tea Fashion Parade 2024

A marvellous afternoon was had by all at The Hahndorf Bowling Club on Sept 13th as 80 people gathered in anticipation of an afternoon of fun, bubbles, food and fashion. The room was quickly abuzz with laughter and conversation as our inimitable volunteers served a wonderful selection of delicious sweet and savoury offerings.

The lovely Tracey and her team of stylish volunteers then modelled a selection of the latest in wonderful day and evening fashions from her beautiful store, Hahndorf's very own *Blue Belle Boutique*. Please do make sure to visit *Blue Belle*, as Tracey has exceptional skills in perfectly “frocking up” ladies of all shapes and ages, whatever the occasion.

We were honoured to have our very own South Ward Councillor Narelle Hardingham both as guest and model and she did a sterling job once again. The Mt Barker District Council Mayor, David Leach, and his wife Natasha were our invited guests. Between them, they not only purchased many raffle tickets but happily won a few prizes also. Mayor Leach graciously elected to informally auction off one of their prizes and a fun exchange occurred between two guests, resulting in an unexpected \$85 toward our fundraising efforts.

Many terrific prizes and vouchers from numerous and very generous, local businesses ensured the raffle tickets were in hot demand. We sincerely appreciate the support of all the contributing businesses and individuals.

As is always the case, this event would not have occurred without time spent in weeks of detailed planning by our valuable volunteers. We are most indebted to Deb Painter, Julie Habner, Ann Haines and Jan Adcock and Monique Lomax, who all lead busy lives but added planning meetings to their agendas and then whipped up most of the food! Many other helpers also assisted with the flowers, as models, setting up tables prior to the event, and cleaning up afterwards (never a small task) and we thank them all most sincerely. We could not have done without all your help, whether your contribution was a big or small one.

The High Tea tickets were sold out about 2 weeks before the event and we thank all those who came along to ensure that this was a successful fundraising opportunity for the Hahndorf Community Association. A significant part of the proceeds will be put towards the costs associated with the re-erection of the Heritage Barn that we saved from demolition earlier this year. This reconstruction is intended to occur in a location where it can be enjoyed by visitors and residents of our wonderful township and to celebrate 185 years since the founding of Hahndorf.



Some of the High Tea organisers and helpers



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**Hahndorf Inspired Word Search**

p y g s b n y g o h z e b r a e l w d r  
 p e b b f g o u h y u g i h y h u d z y  
 e t l a a e i n c u f q x k y n t j w e  
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| strassendorf | german      | wheelwright |
| blacksmith   | captainhahn | carpenter   |
| hufendorf    | bukatilla   | peramangk   |
| publican     | shoemaker   | fachwerk    |
| lutheran     | ambleside   | pioneer     |
| heritage     | hahndorf    | butcher     |
| miller       | zebra       | baker       |



**FREE GREEN WASTE DAYS 2024**

Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd November  
Friday 6th and Saturday 7th December

8:30am - 4:30pm DAILY  
Windmill Hill Transfer Station



**CONTACT US**

PO BOX 518, HAHNDORF 5245  
 Email- [hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com](mailto:hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com)  
[www.hahndorfcommunityassociation.com.au](http://www.hahndorfcommunityassociation.com.au)  
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**ALL CORRESPONDENCE WELCOME**

**Useful Local Phone Numbers:**

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency                           | 000          |
| Police Assistance                   | 131 444      |
| SES                                 | 132 500      |
| Mount Barker Police                 | 8398 1700    |
| CFS Bushfire Info Hotline           | 1300 362 361 |
| Hahndorf Medical Centre             | 8388 7066    |
| Hahndorf Academy                    | 8388 7250    |
| Hahndorf Institute (to book)        | 0438 812 355 |
| Hahndorf Primary & Preschool        | 8388 7058    |
| Mount Barker Council                | 8391 7200    |
| Mount Barker Hospital               | 8393 1777    |
| St Michael's Lutheran Primary       | 8388 7228    |
| St Paul's Church Hall Bookings      | 0417 835 837 |
| St Paul's Lutheran Residential Care | 8398 8600    |
| Visitor Information Centre          | 8393 7600    |

**The Hahndorf Community Association:** To get involved or for further information please contact Greg Lomax on 0414 500 150, or [hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com](mailto:hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com)

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**Input and Advertising:** If you have any articles or advertising to include in the *Village Voice*, please contact the Editor: Nadia Fountas on 0401 881 730 or preferably by email to [hahndorfvillagevoice@gmail.com](mailto:hahndorfvillagevoice@gmail.com)

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT CONTENT BE RECEIVED BY 5th FEBRUARY 2025**

For past issues, please access: [Hahndorf.org.au/villagevoice](http://Hahndorf.org.au/villagevoice)

We send our grateful thanks to all our contributors, the HCA editors and our valiant distributors—a wonderful help!

**Sponsors:** Thank you to Josh Teague MP Member for Heysen for his help and assistance in printing the *Village Voice*. We know the community appreciates receiving the VV as a hardcopy publication.

Thanks too, to all those who have presented us with interesting articles for this edition.

**Disclaimer:** Whilst every effort is made to report community information fairly and accurately, the Hahndorf Community Association accepts no responsibility for errors, omissions or unauthorized photography which may occur. The views of contributors are not necessarily shared by the HCA.