

Hahndorf Christmas 2025

DECORATE YOUR HOME IN CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

This December, light up your homes with holiday cheer and wander our charming streets with family and friends to admire the magic created by our neighbours. Share the joy from your corner of the Village by posting your street's display on the HCA Facebook page. No registration. No fees. Just pure Christmas fun with prizes awarded for displays in different categories.

ST NICHOLAS COMES TO HAHNDORF

'St Nicholas Comes to Hahndorf' is a free annual community event, sponsored by St Paul's Lutheran Church on **Friday 5th December at Alec Johnston Park 6:30pm- 8pm**. Come and join in the fun helping to kick off the start of the Village's Christmas celebrations.

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Time to decorate your home and light up the village

MONTH OF DECEMBER

ST NICHOLAS COMES TO HAHNDORF

05 FRIDAY DEC
6:30PM

MAIN STREET CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

12th-14th December

GATHERED CHRISTMAS MARKET

12th-14th December



GATHERED CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Gathered Design Market is back, this time in a brand-new, central spot at **Alec Johnston Park**.
Friday 12th December: 5pm - 10pm
Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th December: 3pm - 10pm.
\$3 entry at the gate, kids under 12 free. Part proceeds donated to Adelaide Hills Dementia

MAIN STREET CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

The Hahndorf Business & Tourism Association will once again put on the Hahndorf Christmas Village with some new activities including a brand-new family zone for 2025! The Main Street will be decorated with lights and decorations. Thanks also to the Re-Imagine Christmas Volunteer team. Santa can be found over the three days at Santa's Hub at Comida Hahndorf, ready for plenty of photos, smiles and Christmas magic. This year at Santa's Hub, the team from Lions Assistance Dogs will be setting up a gift wrapping station for a gold coin donation so save yourself the hassle whilst supporting this great organisation.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES 2025:

Christmas Eve - 24 December
Christmas Day - 25 December

St Paul's Lutheran

7:30pm
9:30am

St Michael's Lutheran

6pm(kids activities) 7:30pm & 10pm
9:30am

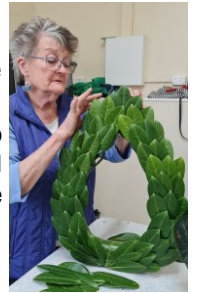
C3 Hahndorf

-
9:30am



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2025

WREATH MAKING. WOW!! What stunning wreaths were created by a group of 10 ladies, who gathered in the Institute kitchen on the eve of Remembrance Day to make 20 wreaths, mainly using laurel leaves once again gathered from Eli Sleiman's laurel hedge in Stirling. Thank you, Eli, we greatly appreciate your generosity. Thanks also to Joan Metcalfe, who raided (with permission) her friend's garden to provide armfuls of colourful gold pincushion flowers which provided the basis for the wreaths' decorations, along with other gathered foliage from around the parks and gardens in the Village. The wreaths are provided to community groups and businesses to lay on the War Memorial during the Ceremony, and they looked beautiful. Thank you, ladies!



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE. Red poppies are the well-known symbol of Remembrance Day, and the eye-catching swathe of red and purple poppies onto the lawn beside the Hahndorf War Memorial in Alec Johnston Park was again a reminder to residents and visitors of the sacrifice of those who fought to keep our beautiful country free and safe. The lawn display was joined this year by red and purple knitted poppies wrapped around the trees on the footpath at the front of the Cenotaph, which helped to draw the attention of people passing by to the War Memorial. Thanks to Pam, Ann, Julie, Ann and Deb for your help in adding to, and creating the new display, and to the HCA members who helped install it. The Hahndorf War Memorial, at the entrance to Alec Johnston Park, was again the focus of attention on the morning of November 11th, as around 100 Hahndorf residents and visitors gathered for the ceremony to honour those Australians who served our Country in times of conflict, especially remembering those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. The Hahndorf Community Association organised the ceremony, which involves a number of community members and groups who combined to present a moving tribute to our past and present serving personnel.



We were grateful to the Hahndorf Lions Club for once again providing gazebos to shelter the members of Choir Cecilia and their electronic equipment, as the morning was drizzly, however we were fortunate that the rain cleared before the event, although the wind was chilly. Thanks also to members of the Hahndorf CFS who ferried chairs to and from the Ceremony for the audience and Choir.

Our service was again led by Master of Ceremonies, Michael Robin, with Pastor Finn Klein of St Michael's Lutheran Church leading the prayers. Senior students from the Hahndorf Primary School read the poem 'We Shall Keep The Faith', and St Michael's School students read the iconic poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

Ms Shirley Howe, a retired Army Major and newly elected Chair of the Hahndorf Community Association was our Guest Speaker. In her speech, she urged us to not forget the immense sacrifice of those service personnel who not only gave their lives, but whose service had an ongoing impact on them. She reminded us of the huge debt we owe them, a debt that we must honour by upholding the principles they fought and died for - peace, freedom, and the desire for a better future for our nation and the world.



We greatly appreciate the attendance of our Bugler, Lester Francis - the Last Post and Reveille are the iconic elements of the Ceremony, never failing to generate strong emotions and memories, and we are very grateful to Lester for his musical prowess and support.

21 Wreaths were laid by members of the community, including representatives of Federal and State Governments, the Vietnam Veterans, and two of the Mt Barker Council South Ward Councillors. Also laying wreaths were representatives from local community groups including service clubs, schools, churches, and businesses, while individuals also had the opportunity to lay personal tributes.

It was wonderful to have around 20 choristers from Choir Cecilia join us again this year. It is the third year that the Choir has performed at the Ceremony and this year they sang the hymn 'I Vow To Thee, My Country'. The Choir were joined in singing the second verse, as well as the National Anthem, by those in attendance. Choir Cecilia is based in Mt Barker and we hope this connection with our Remembrance Day Ceremony will continue in future years.

After the Ceremony, a delicious morning tea of sandwiches and scones, catered for by Chunki Cakes, was held in the Institute Supper Room and attended by many from the service.

Thank you so much to those HCA members who assisted with various aspects of the Remembrance Day Ceremony, and to Mt Barker Council who provided a Grant and practical support, in addition to those mentioned above who all contributed to a solemn and successful event. Also, special thanks to Julie Klau for assistance with the program, and to Cartridge World in Mt Barker for printing the program.

Top image: Deb Painter busy making wreaths. Students from St. Michael's Lutheran School laying a wreath. Images courtesy of: Julie Klau and Monique Lomax

Deb Painter

RE-IMAGINE CHRISTMAS is a community led project to decorate the main street of Hahndorf during the month of December. This year with the support and funding of the Hahndorf Business and Tourism Association and funding from other Hahndorf establishments we have been able to extend and grow our original project. A group of local residents have been meeting since January to create decorations using a variety of skills and crafts. The group formed back in 2023 when they created the giant crocheted Christmas Tree which was displayed on Balhannah and Main Street.

This year has seen that same tree dismantled and recreated with thousands of pom poms which were made in conjunction with the Hahndorf Academy several years ago, as part of the "Re-Think - Re-Use - Re-Cycle" theme the pom poms have been given a new life. The crocheted squares from the original tree have been turned over and re-cycled to form another large wall hanging which will feature on the face of the Hahndorf Institute.

During the year a variety of decorations have been fashioned from re-cycled coke bottles, wood, timber, wool, discarded fabrics, Christmas decorations and just about anything that was donated. Thousands of small flowers have been crocheted and knitted and will form flower panels in the street. A herd of tiny reindeers has been made for Alec Johnston Park and seats in the town will feature many of the crocheted squares from the original project.

There will be a large variety of Christmas Wreaths made by our volunteers to decorate the doors of the town with an emphasis on native plants and flowers.

We look forward to sharing our creations with the residents and visitors to our lovely village. Hopefully next year our ranks of volunteers will grow when people see what we have been able to create.



Front centre- Gail Vort-Ronald and Hahndorf volunteers with the newly created pom pom Christmas Tree. Images courtesy of: Gail Vort-Ronald

Gail Vort-Ronald

Co-ordinator Re-Imagine Christmas

Hahndorf Community Association

As your new Chairperson, my responsibilities include providing leadership and guidance to the committee, managing meetings, assisting the committee in making informed decisions, reporting our activities to the broader community, representing the Association at external meetings and functions, and strengthening our team while ensuring oversight of policies and procedures. Additionally, I am committed to supporting the Hahndorf community by advocating for practical solutions that align with our Association's purpose and objectives, aiming to enhance the liveability and connectivity of our town for both the present and future.



Over the past month, the Association has actively engaged with Mount Barker District Council by providing feedback on their Open Space Strategy and Action Plans. We have also been raising funds for the reconstruction of a historic timber slab barn in Alec Johnston Park, which will serve as both a picnic shelter and a heritage installation. The HCA has continued to administer the Hahndorf Community Association Facebook page and has liaised with Council, State Government, and, where applicable, the Federal Government regarding key infrastructure opportunities such as traffic and parking management. Additional activities include delivering the annual Remembrance Day service and offering a wreath-making service and poppy display as part of the commemoration.

Support for the Barn Reconstruction- If you would like to support our fundraising efforts for the historic barn reconstruction, please direct your donation to Hahndorf Community Association BSB 805 050 Account 102 212 676. Mark your payment as "Barn" and receipts are available upon request. For more information, contact us at hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com or call 0432673339.

Upcoming Community Meeting- Our next Community Meeting will be our Christmas gathering, featuring a festive celebration after the meeting. Please join us at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 10th December 2025, in the Hahndorf Institute Supper Room (side entry). I strongly encourage all residents to join us at our next meeting—not only to enjoy yourselves, but also to become active participants in the community and have a say in Hahndorf's future.

Sincerely,
Shirley Howe, HCA Chairperson
0432 673 339



This December, immerse yourself in the joyful spirit of Christmas with the uplifting sounds of the Hahndorf Town Band;

St Michael's Christmas Fair:
Fri 5th Dec 3.30pm-5.00pm

St Nicholas Comes to Hahndorf:
Fri 5th Dec 6.30pm-8.00pm

Hahndorf Village Christmas:
Sun 14th Dec 2.00pm-4.00pm

Hahndorf Carols in the Street:
Sat 20th Dec 10.30am & 12.30pm

Hahndorf Business and Tourism Association

It is beginning to look like Christmas! It really is the most wonderful time of the year.



From Friday 12th December until Sunday 14th December, the Main Street will be activated into The Hahndorf Christmas Village.

With Gathered Market in Alec Johnston Park the street will come alive with wandering artists, Bamboozed and musicians. Pop into Comida to visit Santa with your wish list, and while you are there, have your gifts wrapped by the wonderful team from Lions Assistance Dogs. The Hahndorf Academy will be activated into an artist's market with a DJ to entertain you while the children can participate in artist workshop.

Traders will be open late each night, with their businesses lit up and decorated in all the sparkle of Christmas. The perfect time to get all your Christmas shopping completed.

We have seen a number of new businesses open along the street; take a walk and discover what is new. Shop local and support your Main Street.

HBTA wishes all residents a wonderful Christmas, and while the Main street becomes extra busy, we invite everyone to take a wander and discover the new businesses that have joined our community and reacquaint those that have been here a while.

Carolyn Catrall
Chairperson, HB&T



HAHNDORF
CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

Tribute to HCA Chair, Greg Lomax.

The Hahndorf Community Association would like to share a big thanks to former HCA Chair, Greg Lomax for his unwavering commitment to the HCA and local community for the past three years. Serving as Chairperson is no small undertaking, yet Greg embraced the role with humility, energy, and a deep sense of purpose that has left a meaningful mark on the Hahndorf community. From the outset, Greg brought thoughtful leadership, a collaborative spirit, and a determination to pursue positive outcomes for everyone. His willingness to listen, to engage, and to step forward on behalf of the community has strengthened the Association and helped guide it through important and delicate periods of growth and change involving our Village, in particular the heavy vehicle traffic and bypass project. Greg's countless volunteer hours reflect a genuine dedication to service.

On behalf of the HCA and the broader community, we extend our sincere gratitude to Greg for his time, effort, and exceptional leadership. We thank him for his steady hand, his thoughtful approach, and his commitment to fostering positive outcomes for our town. Hahndorf is stronger for his service, and his legacy will continue to shape the work of the Association for years to come. **Thank you, Greg, for everything you have given to our community.**



Hello Hahndorf! 2026 is fast approaching, and we are busy with the festive season with lots of activities for everyone to enjoy. Pop in as we love to say hello to our locals. The local community spirit keeps Hahndorf vibrant, and helps enrich the past, present and future with storytelling.

Hahndorf's treasure and our beloved local historian Lyndell Davidge passed away in July 2025, and she is greatly missed. We especially miss her positive attitude, contagious laugh, her kindness and generosity and she knew everything and everyone, with incredible knowledge about history and heritage.

Lyndell helped Hahndorf Academy become what it is today. She was passionate about preserving Hahndorf's heritage and we are grateful for her passion and dedication to Hahndorf and our organisation.

Lyndell volunteered with us for 25 years, she managed the museum and the preservation of artefacts in the museum's collection, and we want to carry on Lyndell's legacy.

To continue Lyndell's legacy we are looking for volunteers to join the museum team. We have vacancies for welcoming volunteers in the museum and for helpers in the collection room. Let us know if you are interested.

Meanwhile we cannot wait for Hahndorf's Christmas Village event from December 12th – 14th December 2025. There will be lots of festive entertainment on the Main Street and we have a Christmas Market at Hahndorf Academy. With market stalls in our garden with food and drinks from Ambleside Distillery, Comida, Vice coffee, Emmalene Wine, plus we have a kid's zone with free workshops plus, arts and crafts stalls full of handmade gifts. You can also get your Christmas gifts from our shop which supports local and SA artists and our exhibition program is full of bursting.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay in touch, pop in to say hello, and don't forget to visit our exhibitions. You are always welcome.

Warm wishes, Rachel and the Team, Hahndorf Academy. 68 Main Street email: events@hahndorfacademy.org.au or call 8388 7250

BUKATILA- 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.



Lyndell Davidge (right) with volunteer Callum Docherty at the Hahndorf Academy Museum. Image courtesy of Hahndorf Academy

Hahndorf Community Association and Hahndorf Village Voice wishes you and your loved ones a happy and safe Christmas and prosperous New Year.

LYNDELL AND THE NATIONAL TRUST

Lyndell Davidge OAM 30/10/1951 - 04/07/2025

Passion; enthusiasm; commitment; creativity; imagination; perseverance; dedication; friendship; respect: These words describe Lyndell's association with the National Trust.



She was, most of all, passionate about discovering and preserving Hahndorf's history. This led to her being a founder member of the Hahndorf Branch of the National Trust in the mid-1970s. Throughout her nearly 50 years of enthusiastic membership, she was an effective and committed advocate in the struggle to protect the Village's heritage. This included numerous submissions, court appearances and petitions, even after part of the Village was declared to be a State Heritage Area.

Lyndell was the go-to person for anyone interested in researching family history. She helped to discover and preserve a phenomenal amount of information, much of which was stored in her own amazing memory. However, Lyndell was never just a record keeper. She used her creativity and her imagination to think up ideas for, and to organise events to raise money and publicise the National Trust. This brings us to her major and most memorable achievement: The 26km Pioneer Women's Trail from Hahndorf to Beaumont.



She was one of five Hahndorf Branch members who helped to rediscover the route of the trail. It had been regularly walked by Hahndorf's pioneer women in the early years of settlement, and by generations of Peramangk, Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri people before that. The Hahndorf Branch members completed their first walk in 1980, following as closely as possible the original trail. The Trail was walked many times in the next two and a half decades by various groups. Lyndell was always there, committed to encouraging the walkers to honour and celebrate those pioneer and First Nations women.

In 1999 Lyndell, with her usual perseverance and dedication, started working with Anni Luur Fox to have the Trail officially recognised by the South Australian Office for Recreation and Sport. They succeeded in 2007, when way markers were first installed. With Anni and Terry Cleary she organised the first annual walking and running event on the Trail. It eventually grew from 100 participants in 2009 to over 1000 in each of the years since 2020.

When we began, people completed a paper registration form at the start, and threw \$10.00 into a bucket. That was it. Formalities completed. Since then, of course, bureaucratic requirements and increased participation has resulted in the need for a great deal more official organisation. Lyndell was there, every step of the way.

Last year the Hahndorf Branch was thrilled when Lyndell was awarded a highly deserved Life Membership, for her significant contribution to the National Trust. "For me, it's mostly about helping people to make a connection to the past, being a conduit for sharing stories. The Pioneer Women's Trail may only be a dirt track but it's the story that goes with it, and people make the story. Every time we walk that trail, we are following in someone's footsteps, and the German women were following in someone's footsteps, and we hope that in the future someone will follow in our footsteps."

She will be sorely missed by all of us.

Annette Humphries, Chairperson 0451 030 357

HISTORICAL BUILDING PLAQUES

The blue historical building plaques that are dotted throughout the Village were installed many years ago by the Hahndorf National Trust and the Hahndorf Community Association to help people to identify and appreciate the old buildings in Hahndorf's Main Street. With the permission of the buildings' owners, they were fixed with adhesive to almost all of them. An information booklet with a brief description of each was designed by Anni Luur Fox, and was available at the Visitor Information Centre and other outlets after the plaques were installed.

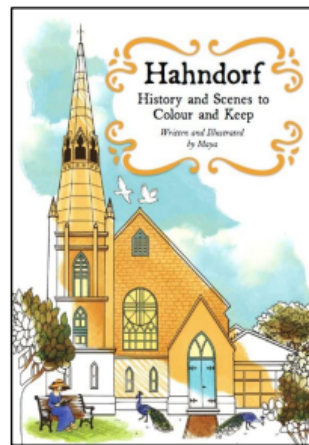


Over the years some of them have deteriorated and others have been deliberately removed from the premises.

The Hahndorf National Trust is now working on upgrading the existing plaques where necessary, and replacing those that have disappeared. We are hoping that the owners and occupiers will support the project. Once the plaques are all in place we are excited by the possibility of having a ceremonial 'unveiling', perhaps including the primary school children, but details are yet to be formulated.

If you would like to know more please contact Annette Humphries, Chairperson 0451 030 357.

Book Launch



HAHNDORF: History Colouring Book

Colour and learn about the history of Hahndorf, Australia's oldest surviving German settlement.

Unique among Australian towns, Hahndorf is steeped in tradition, vibrant with culture, and warmly welcoming to all: locals, visitors and international tourists alike.

Each narrated scene invites you to become a quiet observer of the past, like a 'fly on the wall', while the accompanying colouring page helps bring the story to life and deepen your connection to the people, places, and historical moments that shaped this remarkable town in the Adelaide Hills.

RRP: \$24.95

Written and Illustrated by Maya

SATURDAY 10am - 12noon, 13th December 2025
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 10 Main Street Hahndorf SA

Guest Speaker: Tanya Lyons (Publisher)
Book Signing • Light Refreshments
Plenty of onsite parking

RSVP: by Tuesday 9th December 2025

CONTACT: Maya M 0422 994 087 E jmaya8077@gmail.com

Jump Into Kindergym!

Fun, movement and discovery for kids 0-5.

Thursdays 9:30 - 10:30
(term time) in the
St Michael's school gym.

stmichaels.sa.edu.au/learning/kindergym/



REMEMBERING HAHNDORF— by Milton Collins

I am a lifetime resident of Hahndorf, and here are a few memories. I've only ever made one move in my 77 years—a massive shift from 19 to 21 English Street, previously known as Billygoat Lane. I guess that qualifies me as a local! My Dad (Alec Collins) owned several paddocks around here. He baled hay on the block just behind us, but being a sports enthusiast, he decided it would be the perfect spot for a lawn bowling green. That was about 50 years ago. So it happened—and Dad became its first Life Member and full-time greenkeeper. He'd still be mowing and preparing the greens minutes before matches, then jump the fence, change into his creams, and be ready to play. That used to drive Mum mad! We still remember him fondly, with the Collins family playing night owls as the team "The Colliwobbles." We're not experts by far, but we have lots of fun.

Hans Heysen once lived across the road, and he painted a portrait of my grandfather, "Old Man Collins," who also lived nearby—right where I live now. Back then, English Street was a narrow dirt track that ended just past our place. We'd kick the footy, play cricket, and practice tennis using a ball tied to an elastic string (which would often snap and fly down the road and into the creek). We didn't have a car or a television, so we had to make our own fun. It was bikes or walking everywhere.

Whenever Mum heard a car come up the road, she'd quickly take off her apron and throw on a clean dress—visitors were on the way! We had lots of chooks and rabbits of all colours. We'd tie ribbons around the rabbits' necks and take them to the local pet shows at the primary school. They'd usually chew off their prize tags the moment they were let out. They ended up in the cooking pot, along with the chooks, so between them and the eggs, we were pretty well self-sufficient. We had a large woodshed, and one of our regular jobs was chopping wood for the fireplaces and our trusty Metters wood oven. Mum did a lot of baking in that oven—for countless 21st birthdays and weddings around town.

On weekends and after school, we'd head out to our paddocks to dig up potatoes by hand, filling hessian sacks and loading them onto Joe Kramm's truck to take to Adelaide. There was no freeway then, so all the traffic—including semis bound for Melbourne—travelled the winding road straight through Hahndorf's main street. I went to school at St Michael's in Hahndorf, where we had only 20–30 students and one teacher. If he was away, school was off! If we behaved, we'd earn a threepenny bag of mixed lollies from the little shop across the road, which—until recently—still had tin Bex and Alaska ice cream signs in the front window.

At midday, when someone passed away, the church bell would toll—one ring for each year of their age. We'd all race outside to count the bells and guess who it was. Like many locals, I celebrated my 21st at the Hahndorf Institute. Everyone came along. We had a live band, and the gifts included the classic BBQs on three legs that folded into a cardboard box, and Onkaparinga rugs. A massive homemade supper was put on in the supper room—mainly thanks to Mum—who made cream curls, cream puffs, and all sorts of yummys. By then we had cars. I had several Ford Cortinas, and we used to pack people into Minis just to see how many could fit. No seatbelts in those days! I played tennis all my life for Hahndorf and had hoped to keep playing until I turned 100—but the body had other ideas. We formed the Hahndorf Lutheran Tennis Club at the school and played there until the club disbanded. Then we moved to the courts behind the Hahndorf Oval. Just behind them was the rifle range, so you'd often hear a shot ring out mid-serve—which made for some wild hits! And when balls went over the back fence, no one volunteered to retrieve them!

We prepped our Dunlop Volleys the night before using white sandshoe cleaner, and we kept our wooden racquets in presses so they wouldn't warp. Uniforms had to be all white—no black, not even a stripe (despite black and white being our footy colours!). Even on scorching days well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit, matches went ahead—no heat policy back then! I remember once after we won a premiership, my teammates, in true celebratory spirit, threw me into the horse trough outside the Hahndorf Inn!

The milkman would come in the middle of the night and fill our billies out front, with coins inside. The Tip Top bread man also did home deliveries. We played carpet bowls against other towns in the little Church Hall on Windsor Avenue. Back then, players smoked so heavily we had to open windows and doors just to see down the mat—not something that would go down well today!

I taught generations of Sunday School at St Paul's Lutheran Church for around 50 years. I also sang in the church choir—though rehearsals were often more about acting the goat than singing, much to our conductor's frustration. Like many others in town, I caught a private bus to the city for work. I was a ticket seller on the bus, collecting Pounds, Shillings, and Pence in a leather bag, using paper tickets on the front. It was tricky standing in the aisle collecting fares around all the corners—and I often ended up in passengers' laps! There were no metro cards or credit cards. I never worried about missing the bus—the driver would just look up the road and wait for me. On the way home, many would fall asleep, and the driver would stop and give me a nudge to get off.

Despite living through two Ash Wednesday bushfires and many ice-cold frosty mornings, Hahndorf is by far the best place to live. Who would want to live anywhere else?

Expressions of Interest now open

OPENING TERM 2, 2026

St Michael's Lutheran Early Learning Centre is a purpose built centre in the heart of Hahndorf.

Preschool and Long Day Care offered.

Open 7am–6pm for children aged 3–5 years.



St Michael's

Early Learning Centre



stmichaels.sa.edu.au

FIRE DANGER SEASON

Fire Danger Season is upon us in the Mount Lofty Ranges. Our firefighters are ready for the season, but there are things you and your family should do too.



What is Fire Danger Season?

The 2026 Fire Danger Season runs from 1 December 2025 to 30 April 2026 (TBC) in the Mount Lofty Ranges, and during this time restrictions are in place to reduce the chance of bushfires starting.

What is a Total Fire Ban day?

Total Fire Bans may be declared on days when high temperatures, strong winds and low humidity could cause fires to become uncontrollable. Total Fire Ban are declared for days where the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme or Catastrophic.

To find out what you can and can't do during the Fire Danger Season and on a Total Fire Ban day, visit cfs.sa.gov.au.



Your To Do List

1. **Know your bushfire plan and be ready to action it.** Know what you will do when a bad fire day approaches – including when you will leave, where you will go and what you will take. Be prepared to leave early. Make your plan at cfs.sa.gov.au. Include the whole family (including your pets) in bushfire preparations.

2. **Prepare your home and property.** Slash or mow long grass and remove cut material. Remove weeds. Cut back trees overhanging your home. Remove fallen branches and other debris. Remove leaves from gutters. Check and service all mechanical equipment including water pumps, sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers. Maintain defensible space of up to 20 metres around your home (greater if on a slope) and 5 metres from sheds and garages.

3. **Prepare access for CFS trucks.** If our trucks won't fit, we can't go in. We require access (driveways) with a minimum of 3.5m width, 3.5m height, wide turning clearances/entrances, and bridges and pipes rated to 15 tonne weight loadings.

4. **Stay informed.** Check the Fire Danger Ratings on the CFS website each day and stay informed using multiple sources of emergency warning information. Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a bushfire could be if it did occur. Subscribe to CFS warnings through the CFS website, download the Alert SA app and have a battery-powered radio on stand by.

JOIN HAHNDORF CFS

We currently have vacancies for volunteer firefighters. It's an incredibly rewarding role arming you with lifelong skills. Visit our website at hahndorfcfs.com.au to register your interest, or drop into the station on a Monday evening at 7.30pm.

Join us.

HAHNDORF CFS HAS
9 FIREFIGHTER
VACANCIES

TOWN SIREN TESTING

With the commencement of the Fire Danger Season, Hahndorf CFS will resume testing of the town siren on the first Monday of each month - listen out for it between 7.15 - 7.30pm.

Ros Smith
Captain, Hahndorf CFS

STAY INFORMED THIS SEASON –

Bushfire Info Hotline– 1800 362 361
Emergency– 000
ABC Local Radio– 891
Website- www.cfs.sa.gov.au

HAHNDORF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION'S HIGH TEA & FASHION PARADE

Another fun and successful High Tea & Fashion Parade took place on Aug 29th 2025 at the Hahndorf Bowling Club. As the HCA's only fundraiser for the year, much effort goes into ensuring it is a great afternoon for everyone quick enough to purchase one of the 80 tickets. We often wish we could double the number of tickets available. Or maybe do more than one a year!

The highlight of the afternoon was undoubtedly the parade of beautiful fashions from Hahndorf's very own Blue Belle Boutique. Tracey, the Boutique's glamorous owner and her friendly team, will always ensure customers find something perfect for day to day wear, office wear or whatever occasion you may have coming up. Please do support her terrific shop. We are very grateful for Tracey's generosity in giving her skill and time to our event. A big thanks to the local ladies and Tracey's daughters, who modelled! You all did a terrific job.

A capable team of local volunteers offered their talent and tenacity to orchestrate the event. We are SO appreciative for the time given in planning, discussing, coffee drinking, refining, cooking, emailing, donation requesting and collecting, wrapping and a myriad of things that needed the crossing of T's & the dotting of I's. Deb Painter, Julie Klau, Jan Adcock and I met for many weeks leading up to the day. Along with the organising team, Jill Chenery, Julie Habner, Kath Hastie, Ann Haines and a host of other wonderful people (and often their husbands too) prepared all the delicious food and offered their services to assist on the day with the necessary set up, service and clean up rosters. The HCA's new Chairperson, Shirley Howe, handled the Raffle draw and PA system with panache – welcome Shirley! There is NO chance this event could have occurred without you all “rolling up your sleeves” as you did. We really do appreciate you. And a very special thank you to Hahndorf Bowling Club's own Shelley Howe for all her help before, during and after!

A large number of Hahndorf businesses donated wonderful raffle prizes, for which we are very grateful! Please make a special effort to support the local businesses for your purchases as “Buying Local” ticks a lot of boxes, economically and environmentally.

The weather was wild on the day and we are entirely thankful that the power wasn't lost to Hahndorf. Those of us warm and toasty inside the Bowling Club very much enjoyed each other's company and wonderful food, crossed our fingers to win one of the terrific raffle prizes, admired the beautiful Blue Belle fashions and laughed along with our generously gregarious auctioneer, Mayor David Leach (thanks so much David). All proceeds will go towards the Hahndorf Barn Project and we look forward to seeing you again next year- all going well!



Images above courtesy of: The Courier Newspaper, Mt Barker. Back row L-R- Robin Lewis, Greg Lomax, June Ross, Janet Prentice. Front row L-R- Liz Ampt, Natasha Mallen, Mayor David Leach, Meg Hayward



Guests enjoying the day. Images above courtesy of: Monique Lomax

FOR EDUCATION AND ENTERTAINMENT... The Hahndorf Memorial Institute 1861-1982 Written by E.A. Wittwer

Hahndorf's first Institute building was officially opened on Saturday 4 November 1893. Reports in the Mt Barker Courier and the Register are noted in abbreviated form as....

Courier. "The Institute plays such an important part in the educational and social life in the country township that nearly every little Village possesses one. It is therefore surprising that Hahndorf, one of the earliest established townships in South Australia should have lacked such an institution for so many years. For over half a century residents of the pretty German village, have been excluded from the advantages accruing from an institute, but it has not been for the want of energy or persistence for several times a movement has been made to attain the desired result...."

Register. " That pretty little hamlet of Hahndorf, nestling cosily among verdant clad hills with its beauteous gardens radiant with roses. And the Main Street bordered by handsome trees was en fete on Saturday when a long desired object was attained- the opening of the local Institute. The little German village dates from almost beyond the memory of the oldest inhabitants for only one or two of the pioneers recollect when the foundations were laid two years after the company gathered at Glenelg to hear read the proclamation of the colony....."

Courier continues. "The building, centrally and prominently situated on a rise a little back from the Main Street, is a substantial stone structure. The view obtained from the steps is excellent. The front door opens into a hall"

This important record of our Institute history has been handed to current Committee from long ago members.

So much information to share.

SUPPER ROOM MAKEOVER - HAHNDORF INSTITUTE

The Management Committee is delighted to present a fresh and welcoming supper room. For many months and with input from clients, Council, and a successful grant application through Thriving Communities, PIRSA, the Committee has; painted the room, removed the old electric heaters, installed air conditioning, placed rails around the walls to carry acoustic panels (local contractor), contracted with Maccy Men's Club to custom build 14 panels.

Next step is to pressure wash the exterior of the building. This has been a giant step for benefit of our residents and other users.

HOWEVER, The Management Committee needs 3 new members to keep up the momentum for the future survival of the Institute and to keep it in resident's hands. There is a strong likelihood that the system for booking and control will fall into a digital program, which will not be as accommodating as the current system.

Are you a doer? There are project funds available, a strong client base, and satisfaction of keeping the building and business attractive and active.



MAYO SUCCESS IN NATIONAL SHOWCASE

Federal Member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie, has congratulated local businesses for their success at the National Showcase at Parliament House. South Australian products are featured in the month-long Showcase at the Parliament Shop in Canberra.

Of the seven featured businesses, four are based in Mayo. "We've known for a long time what a great range of products are made in South Australia. Now our federal representatives and Parliament House visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy a little of what our state, and especially Mayo, has to offer." The four products from Mayo are all from the Adelaide Hills.

Ms Sharkie shopped the Showcase with Speaker of the House of Representatives the Hon. Milton Dick MP. Businesses from across the state had the opportunity to apply for inclusion in the October South Australian Showcase and the chosen products were; Jurlique Rose Hand Cream (Mayo), red Cacao Raspberry Dark Chocolate Block (Mayo), Etikette Candles Wilpena Cactus Flower Candle (Mayo), Beerenberg Strawberry Jam (Mayo), Mintcloud Studio Kevin Kookaburra Studs (Boothby), Threefold Distilling Aromatic Gin (Boothby) and Singing Magpie Produce Sticky Quince Syrup (Barker).



Rebekha Sharkie MP



Images above courtesy of: Rebekah Sharkie MP. Above: Rebekha Sharkie MP with Milton Dick MP

WANTED NIGHT BOWLERS

Come along and have some fun. Don't waste the beautiful summer evenings sitting at home, grab family, friends or neighbours and put a team in for our 2026 night bowls season.



We play from late January to mid March on Tuesday and Thursday nights. We supply bowls and coaching. BBQ and bar available. Only \$5 per player per night (members free).

Note - Students from Hahndorf Primary School have been having coaching sessions with us so form a team with the children and let them show off their new skills. When: Tuesday 27th January to 10th March, Or Thursday 29th January to 12th March Teams of 4 or single entries available. Register at hahndorfnightbowls@gmail.com. Enquires to Chris 0409 089 203



PROJECT RIPPLE - Spreading Kindness in Our Community.

As part of their Community Focus Project-Based Learning Unit, our Middle Primary students embraced the spirit of the Blue Tree Project and combined it with the message of R U OK? Day.

The students painted beautiful pots and crafted bracelets with uplifting, positive words as a way of spreading joy in our local community. On 17 September 2025, they enthusiastically walked along Main Street, delivering the pots to businesses and handing out bracelets to passers-by.

Their efforts not only brightened the day of many but also showcased the power of kindness, creativity, and community connection. A huge well done to our wonderful students—you've truly made a meaningful impact!



Images above courtesy of: Hahndorf Primary School Facebook page



MEMBER FOR HEYSEN JOSH TEAGUE MP



Bradley Orr candidate for Kavel, Josh Teague MP and Shadow Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Ben Hood MLC

Great news for Hahndorf

I am pleased to let you know that a new Liberal government will directly address the traffic congestion that blights our beautiful town.

Merry Christmas

Wishing you all a very happy, safe and relaxing Christmas. My thanks and best wishes to all who are working over this time.

A brand new Park n Ride at Verdun and a third lane on the Freeway

The Adelaide Hills needs real investment in transport infrastructure. Congestion is getting worse, the Freeway is increasingly unsafe, and too many communities, particularly Hahndorf, still lack reliable public transport.

A new Liberal Government will fix this. We will fully fund a new Park 'n' Ride and public transport hub at Verdun and add a third lane to the South Eastern Freeway between Hahndorf and Bridgewater. These are practical upgrades the community has been calling for.

These commitments are part of our broader plan for better transport across South Australia, including 50c public transport fares and improved regional services.

The Hills deserves infrastructure that keeps up with our growing communities. These upgrades will make a real difference now and set us up for the future.

The Verdun Park 'n' Ride will:

- Provide more public transport options for Hills residents
- Reduce congestion on Hahndorf Main Street
- Improve public transport connectivity across the region, including for Oakbank, Balhannah, and Mount Barker users
- Support local businesses and ease tourism congestion

The third lane between Hahndorf and Bridgewater will:

- Improve safety on one of the most crash-prone sections of the Freeway
- Ease the notorious on-ramp bottleneck at Hahndorf
- Improve commuter travel time reliability, including for express bus services using the new Park 'n' Ride

Let me know what you think: heysen@parliament.sa.gov.au, 8339 5077

Authorised by J Teague, 10/14 Druid Avenue, Stirling SA 5152

KTA Financial Services, proudly taking care of the local community's financial advice needs since 1980 ... delivering the same great service by the same great people ... under our new brand

wealth logic

Strathalbyn

5 Swale Street
8536 2022

www.wealthlogic.com.au

Kent Town

8/26 The Parade West
8364 1555

info@wealthlogic.com.au

Offering a broad range of financial services including:

- lending
- wealth protection
- wealth accumulation
- succession planning
- risk management
- retirement
- self-managed superfunds
- aged care
- Centrelink planning
- wealth creation

Wealth Logic Pty Ltd (ABN 44 605 995453), trading as Wealth Logic, KTA Financial Services and GANT Financial Management, is an authorised representative and credit representative of Hillross Financial Services Limited, Australian Financial Services Licensee and Australian Credit Licensee.



Hahndorf & Districts
Lions Club

SWAPMEET



Auto Parts Horse Tack & lots more



This year we are promoting horse tack as a new category.
Preregister for a horse tack promotional price of \$20* per site

*Discounted site price only available to dedicated horse tack stalls



Sunday January 18th 2026

Hahndorf Oval

6am -12 Noon

Sellers 6am Start: \$25 per site
(No Food or Beverage Vendors please)

Buyers 8am Start: \$5 Admission
(Under 14 Free)

Hahndorf CFS BBQ Breakfast
Peeky's Coffee, Bridgewater



Hahndorf & Districts Lions Club & this event are assisted by these generous sponsors

Enquiries: Steve 0421 548 919
hahndorf.sa@lions.org.au

FREE GREEN WASTE DAYS

**FREE GREEN WASTE
DAYS 2025**

Friday 12th and Saturday
13th December
8:30am - 4:30pm DAILY
Windmill Hill Transfer
Station



Paid Carparking in Hahndorf — Profit Ahead of the Village?

TALKING POINT

First there was one, now there are two privately owned car parks who have installed a Paid Parking system. Will Hahndorf soon be the only Hills based township with paid parking? As the second paid car park appeared, many locals are beginning to ask: why are private landowners driving this push, what role does Council have in this, and what does it really mean for the Village, its residents and Main Street Traders? Is this simply a new way to make money from visitors, and if so, at whose expense?

Residents are wondering why they should have to pay to access their own main street. Others are asking whether visitors might cut their stay short—or avoid the area altogether—because of parking fees. And with more paid parking on the Main Street, another question keeps coming up: will this push even more cars into Hahndorf's already crowded, residential back streets?

Most importantly, people are questioning the bigger long term picture for the Village? What kind of Village will it become? These are the conversations many feel should happen before paid parking stealthily reshapes the heart of Hahndorf.

Should The Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Return to Hahndorf?

TALKING POINT

Hahndorf is one of South Australia's most visited towns—so why does it continue to be without a Visitor Information Centre, not only for Hahndorf but the greater Hills region? Since its removal by Council, locals and businesses are asking some important questions:

- How are visitors expected to find their way without on-the-ground help?
- Can phones and websites really replace personalised local guidance?
- Has the visitor experience suffered? Without friendly knowledgeable volunteer staff sharing recommendations, are people missing the town's hidden gems?
- Is the local economy taking a hit? Visitor centres encourage longer stays and more spending—are businesses now losing out?
- What message does this send about commitment to tourism in the Adelaide Hills?
- Would reinstating the centre strengthen the town's identity and welcome?

With tourism at the heart of Hahndorf's success, the question remains: Is it time to restore this key resource and give visitors the support they deserve?

Useful Local Phone Numbers:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency | 000 |
| Police Assistance | 131 444 |
| SES | 132 500 |
| Mount Barker Police | 8398 1700 |
| CFS Bushfire Info Hotline | 1800 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 |
| Bene St Paul's Residential Care | 8398 8600 |
| Infinite Residential Care | 8398 8000 |

The Hahndorf Community Association: To get involved or for further information please contact Shirley Howe on 0432 673 339, or hahndorfcommunity@outlook.com

Next Edition of the Village Voice: No.82, will be printed and delivered approximately in March 2026.

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

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT CONTENT BE RECEIVED BY
8th February 2026**

For past issues, please access:
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.

Disclaimer: While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of content, including appropriate referencing of sources, the HCA and Editor accept no responsibility or liability for any errors, omissions, or outcomes arising from the use of the information provided. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Hahndorf Community Association (HCA) or the Editor. All photos are published in good faith and the HCA and Editor accept no responsibility for any issues arising from errors, omissions or unauthorized photography use which may occur.