

# MASLIN BEACH NEWS

Your Maslin Beach Community Association Newsletter



Photo courtesy of Linda Brockenbrow

## Community Support in Challenging Times

Well, 2026 has turned out to be a very challenging year for many people. Like everyone we are seeing the cost of living rising almost daily, so are watching developments such as the proposed Seaford Food Hub with great interest.

At times like this it is great that the MBCA is working hard on projects to bring the community together. After the success of the open-air cinema event the next quiz night has now been arranged for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. Work is also underway to plan for the next SALA exhibition, and we encourage keen artists of any age to register for this year's event (see details on page 9).

Finally, we were saddened by the loss of local artist John Davis (See Evelyn's tribute to him on page 4) but trust that his spirit lives on in the works he left behind and in the memories of friends and family.

If you would like to volunteer to help with any community events, then please contact us through our website [www.maslinbeach.com.au/public/contact](http://www.maslinbeach.com.au/public/contact) us



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### MBCA website

[maslinbeach.com.au](http://maslinbeach.com.au)

### Facebook groups

[Friends of Maslin Beach](#)

[Maslin Beach Produce Swap](#)



State Member for MAWSON

*Working hard for our area*



PO Box 1080, Aldinga, SA 5073  
Telephone 8556 5722  
Email [mawson@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:mawson@parliament.sa.gov.au)

## MBCA UPDATE

By Jon Owen

I'm pleased to share another positive update for our community, with the highlight of the past month being the outstanding success of our Outdoor Cinema Event.

Held under clear skies and with a fantastic turnout, the evening brought together families, friends, and neighbours for a relaxed and enjoyable night by the coast. It was wonderful to see so many members of our community embracing the opportunity to connect, unwind, and make the most of what Maslin Beach has to offer. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, with plenty of smiles, laughter, and a real sense of community spirit throughout the night.



Photo by Kate Saxton

Events like this don't happen without effort, and I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to all the volunteers and organisers who contributed their time and energy to make the evening run so smoothly. Your commitment is what helps turn simple ideas into memorable experiences for everyone.

The strong attendance and positive feedback we received reinforce just how valuable these types of events are for our community. They not only provide entertainment but also strengthen the connections that make Maslin Beach such a special place to live.

As always, we welcome your ideas and suggestions for future events and initiatives. If there's something you'd like to see happen in our community, please don't hesitate to reach out—we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued support.

## SEED BANK

By Karl Phillips

For those who didn't know, a new Seed Bank has been set up on Seymour Avenue. The idea is to share seeds amongst the community.

If you have any spare seeds, then please deposit them, in suitably labelled containers, and feel free to help yourself to any seeds already present.

A big thank you to Sabrina and Ella for doing this.



Photo by Sabrina Oliver

As a side note, there used to be a Facebook group called "Maslin Beach Produce Swap." If anyone knows if this group is still active, or who the admin might be, then please reach out to the editors at

[hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co](mailto:hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co)

## Council Update

By Councillor Lauren Jew

Firstly, congratulations to the Maslin Beach Community Association for hosting what looked like a fantastic outdoor cinema.

I can't believe we are in March already, Council has been as busy as ever, Cr Yeomans and I are always happy to follow up any issues or questions you have so please don't hesitate to get in touch:

Lauren.jew@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Paul.yeomans@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

The stairs in the southern carpark were damaged last year during a series of storm events. With widespread damage across multiple beach access points, we prioritised repairs at locations with the highest need, with the intention of returning to the remaining sites once there had been sufficient natural sand build up. Since there is a reliable and functioning beach access within 50m of this location and considering the extent of damage and exposed foundations, these stairs were not prioritised for immediate repair. We have been monitoring sand accretion at this location following the erosion. Fortunately, the sand has rebuilt very well along the whole of Maslin beach, despite the significant dune erosion experienced over winter. Given this improvement, we will plan to undertake the repairs and re-open the stairs by the start of April.

Some of the items discussed at the last council meeting:

- Bollards to be installed to stop vehicles driving in the no drive zone on Sellicks Beach
- City of Onkaparinga to plant approximately 200,000 trees by 2055
- A report back to council with further information regarding the proposed food hub on Hastings St at Seaford
- The mayor to write to the Minister for Local Government, local Members of State Parliament, and the Local Government Association of South Australia, advocating for legislative reform to provide councils with clearer and more effective powers to manage long-term vehicle storage on public roads

Noarlunga Aquatic Centre Refurbishment - What's happening now:

- Most of the new roofing has been completed, with only the lower roof remaining
  - A new acoustic ceiling has been installed in the pool hall
  - New pool filters have arrived on site
  - Scaffolding has now been removed from the pool hall
  - Work has started on upgrading the family change area
  - Electrical upgrades are continuing throughout the facility
  - Concrete works are underway for the new pool separation and accessibility ramp
  - Installation of the new pool liner has begun
  - New double-glazed windows have been installed to improve energy efficiency and comfort. Work is also underway to replace the centre's gas systems with electric infrastructure, helping reduce emissions. This work is supported by funding from the Australian Government's Community Energy Upgrade Fund, with installation of the upgraded electrical transformer expected in mid-April 2026. Other works in planning
- Design and planning is continuing for additional improvements including:
- refurbishment of the spa and sauna
  - upgrades to reception and the café area
  - a new first aid room
  - external landscaping around the centre

Can't wait for it to reopen down the track!

## John Davis Remembered – Thank you from Evelyn



*Portrait of John Davis by Devi Lodge, 2021*

I'm writing this missive to thank all our Maslins neighbours for their kind and gracious concern over my husband John Davis's passing on Saturday morning December 27, which also happened to be the date of the gathering for my 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. So many people have stopped to commiserate with me as I write in my morning seaside journal.

John was born in 1958, a descendant of the Barkindji people, along with Welsh, Spanish and German ancestry. He had a close connection to the earth and its creatures, and his art echoed his concerns for many endangered species. He was a very sensitive and fine artist, a self-taught painter, selling his first work at age 15. He exhibited at Red Poles Gallery, Port Noarlunga Art Centre, Black Cockatoo Arthouse, and in many SALA group shows.

John had a hippy life travelling around Australia, and then a bachelor life in Port Willunga with his dogs and a skinny cat. He loved dogs, he swam in the sea every day, and he had many acquaintances.

John was asked by Kurna elder Georgina Williams to be a caretaker of Karrungga (Ochre Cove), a sacred site on the Tjilbruke trail that travels the coast from further north, south to Pariwarangga (Cape Jervis). John was honoured to take on this role and he

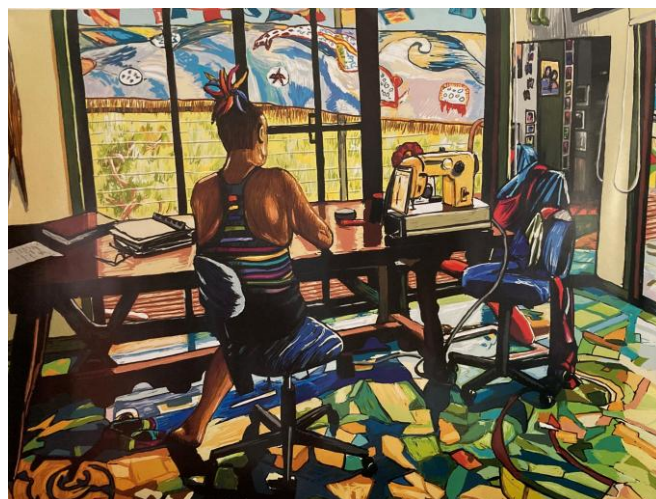
stopped motorbike riders from damaging the local coastal dunes and cliffs.

John entered my life with a personal ad in the *Messenger* newspaper in 1998: 'Quiet, sensitive 40 y.o. bearded artist, seeks down to earth lady to share my life with.' I wrote to his request, and we met at the Star of Greece for lunch. In courting, we walked between Port Willunga where his house was, and mine in Maslin Beach. We married in Canada in 2000 and lived a happy, creative life together at Maslin Beach for over 25 years.

A selling exhibition of John's paintings will be at The Cheese Factory Studio Gallery in Meadows throughout April; call 8388 3725 to make a viewing time. To view other paintings by John, contact Evelyn on 8327 0196 or email: [evelynroth1@tpg.com.au](mailto:evelynroth1@tpg.com.au)

Friends and family of John's are planning a ceremony in celebration of his life, to be held in April.

Evelyn Roth



*'She sews', portrait of Evelyn by John Davis*

## Use of e-Bikes and Personal Mobility Devices

*Extract from Onkaparinga Council*

Onkaparinga calls for stronger e-bike and PMD (Personal Mobility Device) laws to improve shared path safety. Council unanimously resolved to advocate for stronger state regulation of electric bikes and personal mobility devices (PMDs), following growing community concern about safety on the Esplanade and shared pathways across the region. Council will now formally write to the South Australian Government, SAPOL and the Local Government Association of South Australia seeking stronger regulatory controls and clearer enforcement mechanisms. “We recognise that e-bikes and personal mobility devices are becoming more common and can play a positive role in active and sustainable transport,” Mayor Were said. “However, we’re hearing increasing concerns from residents about excessive speeds, near misses and the presence of high-powered devices in areas heavily used by children, older people and people with disability. “Our advocacy is focused on ensuring the regulatory framework keeps pace with technology and prioritises community safety.” Under the motion, Council will write to the South Australian Government, SAPOL and the Local Government Association to seek:

- stronger regulatory controls for e-bikes, and PMDs capable of travelling above 10km/ in pedestrian environments
- enforceable speed management mechanisms

- consideration of device identification and/or registration requirements
- clearer regulatory definitions and stronger importation controls to prevent illegal high-powered devices entering the market
- advice on current enforcement strategies and their practical limitations
- consideration of enhanced enforcement tools, including portable motor testing technology used in other jurisdictions.

Council has expressed concern that the current framework permits PMD use in pedestrian-heavy environments while not requiring rider licensing, registration or mandatory device identification, which can limit effective enforcement. In addition to formal advocacy, the council will:

- initiate a community conversation involving experts, relevant agencies and user groups
- consider installing signage on high-risk shared paths
- seek to contribute to any current or future state-wide review of PMD and e-bike regulations
- produce a further report outlining the legislative changes that permitted PMDs on footpaths and shared paths, enabling Council to consider whether to oppose aspects of the framework in high-use and high-risk locations.

**MBCA INC.**

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

**MASLIN BEACH HALL**

**RAFFLE TICKETS & MERCHANDISE WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

**HEROS & VILLIANS NIGHT** BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May | 7:00PM**

To purchase tickets go to our website <https://www.maslinbeach.com.au>

**\$10 A TICKET**



*Absolutely brilliant space. The hall is a perfect size for an event. Easy to set up because of its practical space. (Hirer comment)*

**CASUAL HALL HIRE**

Visit the Maslin Beach website <https://www.maslinbeach.com.au/public/pages/hall>

All bookings through SpacetoCo. Click image below.



**CONTACT US**

Correspondence can be posted to Maslin Beach community hall, 5 Parkway Drive, Maslin Beach 5170 or dropped in the letter box.

Alternatively, email: [hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co](mailto:hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co)

Chair: Jon Owen  
Secretary: Rose Bockman

**MBCA COMMITTEE MEETING**

7:00 PM on Wednesday 1st April.  
All welcome!

**MASLIN BEACH COMMUNITY HALL  
REGULAR HIRER ACTIVITIES**

MONDAY	Gymbaroo	9am – 2:30pm	Fiona 0408 770 225
TUESDAY	Gymbaroo	9am – 2:30pm	Fiona 0408 770 225
WEDNESDAY	FLOW AND GROW YOGA	10am – 11:30am	Antje Guenther 0403 937 582
FRIDAY	ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS	7pm – 8pm	John 8221 6999
SATURDAY	OCEAN FLOW	9am – 10am	Lauren Holmes 0433 207 682
SUNDAY	SEAFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH	10am – 11:30am	Jim 0434 570 523

**HIRE RATES**

Type	Per hour	Admin fee	Public insurance (PLI)
Casual	\$23	\$12.50	\$15.00 (Ad hoc only)
Regular	\$17.50	\$0	Required to provide own PLI



**UPCOMING MBCA COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Heroes and Villains Quiz Night – 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

## Garden Gazing

By The Garden Gazer

In my wandering around the streets of Maslin Beach I have been struck at the amazing gardens and gardeners amongst us.

Following my curiosity, I've decided to profile a garden and a gardener each MBCA newsletter.

So, this issue I went to have a chat to Ryan Pagano who has a garden that is a cornucopia full of tropical and sub-tropical trees as well as vegetables.

Ryan has been here for nearly fifty years starting on land that was primarily grassland he has built up the soil with manure and compost.

The entrance is dominated by a huge White Sapote tree the planting, in part, inspired by his Father who was a member of the Rare Trees Society, the orchard is completed by plantings of apple, pear and fig trees as well as tropical guava, and feijoa trees.

He also has a substantial seasonal vegetable garden as well a shade house of tropical plants such with orchids, bromeliads and ferns and if that isn't enough, he also has a great collection of succulents and cacti, look out for the big twister cactus.

Finally on the verge outside, in a gesture that represents his generosity to our community there is a curry leaf tree and a tamarind tree which people can use to make that dish even more flavoursome.

Ryan says his garden is his recreation where he spends up to 20 hours a week maintaining it.

If you see Ryan in his garden say Hi ..and take a look it's an inspiration!



## Hoodies: Australia’s Most Threatened Beach-Nesting Bird

The 2025–26 breeding season of the Hooded Plover is almost over, with no nests recorded at Maslins or Ochre Cove. Birdlife Australia volunteers began observations at these locations in 2009–10, and this is the first season on record (i.e. in 17 years) that Hooded Plovers have not attempted to nest here.

The combination of significant erosion of the coastal foredunes, and the presence of the hazardous algal bloom and its foam, have heavily impacted the hoodies. This has been the pattern throughout the Onkaparinga region with just one exception: in January/February, a pair of Hooded Plovers nested at Southport. Two chicks hatched in late February, and volunteers witnessed the chicks successfully swimming across the Onkaparinga River to a quieter location when they were only one day old! While it was known that hoodie chicks can swim, this appears to be the first observation of chicks swimming at such a young age. Sadly, however, the two plucky chicks survived only two days. The cause of their deaths is unknown.

Hooded Plovers are territorial birds, and the pair at Ochre Cove has been frequently sighted feeding there since the retreat of the hazardous algal bloom, among sometimes large numbers of Crested Terns and Silver Gulls. The hoodie with leg-flag ‘RV’, who usually nests with her partner at Maslins, has not been seen so often; she has more regularly been sighted at Snapper Point.



Maslins local ‘RV’ at Snapper Point North late January; photo by Barry Simes

Across the whole of the Fleurieu Peninsula and metropolitan Adelaide beaches this breeding season, there have been very few nests. Fewer than 5 young hoodies fledged, and these were all at sites on the south coast (e.g. Middleton). This small an increase in the population is a very serious setback for a species already assessed as threatened.

Thanks very much to all the beachgoers who look out for and care about Hooded Plovers. We also acknowledge the support of Onkaparinga Council’s Natural Areas Conservation team, and Greening Adelaide.

Graham, Sue, Ash, Julia, Trish and Karin, local BirdLife Australia trained volunteers

<https://birdlife.org.au/programs/beach-nesting-birds/>



Hoodie parent with one-day old chick at Southport; photo by Sue Read

## Maslin Beach Policing

*By Senior Constable Luke Czulowski*

Dear Maslin Beach Community Members,

As most of you are aware there has been a rise in the use of Personal Mobility Devices (PMD). PMD’s are a small, portable motorised device designed to be used by a single rider and are generally used for short to medium trips. E-scooters and e-skateboards are known as a PMD.

Rules around PMD’s are that the rider must be over 16 years of age, wear a helmet, the rider not to be under the influence of alcohol and drugs, obey the speed limits and areas where access is permitted and are not allowed to carry pillion passengers.

PMD’s that are e-scooters are allowed to be used on the roads with a speed limit of 50km/h, can be used on a footpath, shared path, the beach and along 60km/h roads (in an active bicycle lane).

For further information please visit SAPOL website.


Between 1st December 2025, and 1st March 2026, the following incidents were reported to SAPOL:

- On 25th November 2025, property damage to a balcony window on Oleander Road.
- On 19th December 2025, rocks thrown at a vehicle and house on Martin Avenue.
- On 8th December 2025, theft of grocery items from a property on Tuit Road.

We sincerely appreciate the ongoing support of the community. To report any suspicious activity or criminal behaviour, please contact:


131-444 For non-urgent matters

1800 333 000 - Crime Stoppers



**CALLING ALL MASLIN BEACH ARTISTS**

**SALA EXHIBITION 2026.**



**Once again, the Maslin Beach Community Association (MBCA) are looking forward to supporting local artists in contributing their masterpieces in the South Australia Living Arts Festival.**

**Entry for locals is free; prizes will be on offer for adults and young persons who produce shining pieces of work.**

**All you have to do is register your interest in being involved at [artists@maslinbeach.tidymail.co](mailto:artists@maslinbeach.tidymail.co)**

**Let’s show off our talents and put on your creative hats on and enjoy the arts festival.**

### Community Photos



*Pictures courtesy of Kathy Sexton, Linda Brockenbrow and Richard Morton*

#### Message from the Editors

Putting together the Maslin Beach newsletter could not be done without the help of volunteers. We are always looking for articles, images and editorial support. If you have an idea for an article, some photos to share or would like to help in some way the please email us at [newsletter@maslinbeach.tidymail.co](mailto:newsletter@maslinbeach.tidymail.co)

Current editors of the newsletter are Karl Phillips and Caroline Phillips

Disclaimer: Views, opinions or claims expressed in any article, letter or advertisement are not necessarily the views held by the executive and committee of the Maslin Beach Community Association or the editors.

### NEWSLETTER DELIVERY REQUEST FORM

If you would like your newsletter delivered to your letter box, please provide us with your details below, cut out, place in a sealed envelope, and leave in the Maslin Beach community hall letter box (next to the car park sign at the hall) or send us an email: [hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co](mailto:hello@maslinbeach.tidymail.co)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Newsletters

You can pick up a printed copy of the newsletter from the hall. They can be found in the alcove by the main door.