

MASLIN BEACH NEWS

Your Maslin Beach Community Association Newsletter



Photo courtesy of Linda Brockenbrow

Winter Arrives with Wet Weather

Winter has well and truly arrived and brought some much-needed rain. We should all make the most of it as there are predictions of a long dry spell to come with El Nino having been announced by the Bureau of Meteorology. Autumn has been fairly quiet for community events but we have a musical bingo and SALA to look forward to, and I know the events committee are planning more goodies for the rest of the year.

On the council front there are several items that are of interest to the community going on so please take time to read Lauren Jew's article and provide any feedback to her or Paul Yeomans.

We would encourage all members of the community to provide feedback to council as that is the best way for us to make sure council works in all our interests.

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_us



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MBCA website

maslinbeach.com.au

Facebook groups

[Friends of Maslin Beach](#)

[Maslin Beach Produce Swap](#)

Jenni Mitton MP

State Member for Mawson

Of our Community, For our Community



Shop 36, Aldinga Central Shopping Centre

08 8556 5722

mawson@parliament.sa.gov.au

Authorised by Jenni Mitton, Shop 36 Aldinga Central Shopping Centre, Aldinga Beach SA 5173



MBCA UPDATE

As we have entered our winter months with plenty of rain and strong winds, Maslin Beach has not been the usual hive of activity.

We held our annual Heros and Villains Trivia night on 2nd of May. This was another successful night with 77 community members participating. We saw some fantastic costumes and this night was certainly lot of fun.

With the help of Jenni Mitton our local MP, the Government has committed \$50,000 for upgrades to for the Maslin Beach Community Hall. We are currently organising quotes for a kitchen refurbishment, and we will keep you updated on how this will look.

Due to the success of last year's event, we will be holding another Singing Bingo night on July 25th. Tickets are almost sold out so if you want to enjoy a great night, please go to

www.maslinbeach.com.au/public/schedule/events/83459-maslin-beach-singing-bingo-saturday-25th-july-2026

for your tickets.

Maslin Beach SALA (South Australia Living Artists Festival) Opening Night will be Friday August 7. The hall will be opened on the weekends of 8 and 9 August and 16 and 17 August. Further details will be posted on our website (as above). This is a great opportunity for local artists to display their talent and artwork and for the public to purchase some beautiful items.

If you are interested in showing your artwork, then please email artists@Maslinbeach.tidymail.co and John Antastasiou will contact you.

Keep an eye out in the Maslin Beach website for the event to purchase a free ticket.

Thank you

Rose Bockman (Secretary) on behalf of Chairperson Jon Owen.



MASLIN BEACH MUSICAL BINGO

Saturday July 25th 2026

\$15.00 per MBCA members and \$20.00 non-members

BYO nibbles and drinks

To purchase a ticket go to:
www.maslinbeach.com.au

Sing along , dance and enjoy the fun.

Council Update

By Councillor Lauren Jew

Beach access stairs in the southern carpark at Maslin Beach.

We advise that the scoping, design and engineering work to fix the beach access have progressed. This work has identified that new foundations are now required. We are also transitioning to Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) mesh for the steps in place of timber. FRP offers greater durability and the open mesh treads allow water to pass through, reducing wave impact on the structure and minimising future damage. We are currently awaiting delivery of the FRP mesh panels. In the meantime, we plan to pour the new concrete foundations next week from Wednesday (10 June), followed by the timber construction. Once the FRP steps arrive, we will install them to complete the lower section of the staircase. We remain hopeful that the work can be completed by the end of June, subject to favourable weather conditions. The Maslin Beach dune system is highly mobile, which makes retrofitting the existing stairs within the dune particularly challenging. Nevertheless, we are confident that the current design will better withstand future storm activity and remain in place following storm surge events.

26/27 Budget Council will make a decision about the budget this week

The council has budgeted to invest \$262.42 million in 2026-27 to deliver key projects and continue providing services across the community. The March 2026 CPI for Adelaide was 4.9 per cent. Rates contribute significantly to Council's annual revenue. It is important to recognise that rising costs for fuel and core materials such as bitumen have all increased significantly, which means that delivering essential and greatly needed services like waste collection, roads and community facilities have become more expensive. Rate increases reflect the increase in costs to maintain and renew existing infrastructure and services. We have been working hard to ensure council identifies opportunities to expand revenue opportunities beyond rates and grants. We will continue to ensure this is explored and actioned.

Seaford Food Hub

At the Council Meeting last week Council approved a food hub in partnership with Good Shephard, The Food Centre and City of Onkaparinga. This has been funded by Department of Human Services. The food hub will provide: - Low cost, quality food; No Interest Loans; Food vouchers; Cheap nutritious meals; Affordable Café; Cooking classes; Financial support; A weekly pop up in Aldinga; For everyone; No proof of hardship required - and so much more. Opening later in the year; stay tuned for more information.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have a concern or question that needs to be followed up.
Email: Lauren.Jew@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Extract from City of Onkaparinga – Latest News

The City of Onkaparinga is considering a proposal to establish a recreational vehicle (RV) park on a portion of largely vacant Willunga land, and the council wants your feedback by Tuesday 7 July.

Willunga Recreation Park Incorporated (WRPI) is proposing to establish the low-cost RV park at Pear Tree Paddock – located at allotment 27, Main Road – which would provide short-stay accommodation for up to 15 fully self-contained vehicles.

The proposed RV park would be operated by volunteers as a community service, offering overnight stays of up to 3 nights at a cost of \$10 per night.

The proposal aims to provide a low-cost accommodation option for visitors to Willunga and support local businesses through increased tourism and visitation.

The council wants your feedback on the proposed Community Land Management Plan amendment, the RV park proposal, and the proposed lease, and you can do so at the council's Your Say Onkaparinga page by Tuesday 7 July.



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Welcome to Jenni Mitton our New MP

By Jenni Mitton

Hi, I'm Jenni, a proud Maslin Beach local, mother of three, and your newly elected Member for Mawson, I am honoured to represent the community that my family and I call home.



Jenni and family by the beach

Having grown up in the country town of Pinnaroo, I learned the importance of hard work, resilience and looking out for your neighbours. Those values have stayed with me throughout my life and continue to guide me as I serve our community.

For many years, I have lived and worked across the Fleurieu region, building strong connections with local families, businesses, volunteers, sporting clubs and community groups. Through that work, I have gained a deep appreciation for what makes our region such a special place to live.

During the election campaign, I had the privilege of speaking with thousands of residents across Mawson. Listening to your stories, concerns and aspirations reinforced my commitment to being an accessible and approachable local representative who genuinely listens and acts on the issues that matter most.

I am passionate about helping build a strong future for our region. One that supports local families, creates opportunities for the next generation and strengthens our vibrant communities from McLaren Vale and Maslin Beach and across to Kangaroo Island.

As your voice in Parliament, I am committed to working hard every day to deliver practical outcomes for our community and to earning your trust through action.

My electorate office is located at Aldinga Central Shopping Centre, and I encourage you to drop in, get in touch, or say hello when you see me out and about in the community. I look forward to working with you and serving our region for years to come.

PS. I often take a morning walk down the beach, if you see me, feel free to sing out and have a chat.

From the editors

Jenni moved to Maslin Beach in 2022 and has joined the MBCA and has helped out with many activities, including letterboxing and organising the movie night earlier in the year. During her time in McLaren Vale Jenni spent 6 years managing the Willunga market before joining Leon Bignell's office in 2023.

Jenni has been very active in the community; serving on several school governing councils as well as multiple committees.

Jenni says that she feels very fortunate to now live in this "little slice of paradise", amongst a friendly and welcoming community.

The newsletter, and MBCA, have enjoyed various forms of support from Leon Bignell's office for a number of years (including printing the paper copies of the newsletter) and we look forward to working with Jenni, and her support staff, in the years ahead.



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

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

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

Chair: Jon Owen

Secretary: Rose Bockman

MBCA COMMITTEE MEETING

7:00 PM on Wednesday 8th July.
All welcome!

UPCOMING MBCA COMMUNITY EVENTS

Musical Bingo – 25th July
 SALA Opening Night – 7th August

Greening Report

By Garry Simmons

The clifftop garden is looking a little rejuvenated after the recent rains and Kathy and myself have been undertaking a general tidy up and pruning. We have also been digging out the invasive Mexican Gazania Daisy which is crowding out other species along the Adelaide coastline. We have planted extra cuttings of Carpobrotus (Pigface) to fill in gaps and create more groundcover.

People may not know but 90% of plants in the clifftop Garden have been grown from seeds collected within a 5km radius of Maslin Beach - so if you're planting out a new garden, look at the species in the Clifftop Garden to see what grows well here, or consult "Coastal Gardens – A planting guide" by the SA Govt (link below) - to avoid planting invasive species!

<https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/greenadelaide/images/1076105-GA-Coastal-Gardens-Booklet-2025-FIN.pdf>

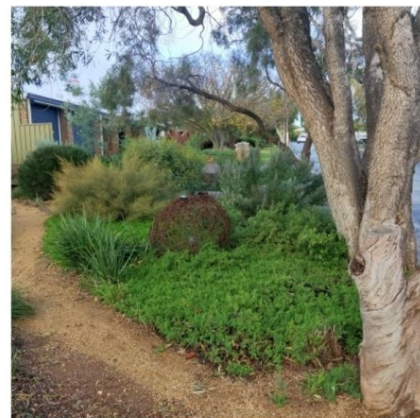
Meanwhile, enjoy the views!

Garden Gazing

By the Garden Gazer

Nick and Jess moved to Maslins about five years ago , they inherited a front yard that was primarily lawn. Both being passionate about Australian native plants and realising water is a scarce resource they set about planning a drought proof garden that required minimal water and would be a bird & insect friendly garden with good displays of colour all year round. This has been enhanced by the clever use of paths, rocks and Nick regularly 'topiaring' many of the native shrubs e.g. leucaphyta to create a visually interesting profile, as can be seen in the photos below. They have also paid attention to not planting species that are invasive coastal plants as noted in "Coastal Gardens - a planting guide".

Take a look when you wander up Seaview Crescent just past the Butterfly House.



Hoodies: Australia's Most Threatened Beach-Nesting Bird

In the lead-up to the next breeding season (usually from late July through to the end of March), the two pairs of Hooded Plovers that frequent Maslins and Ochre Cove are also visiting other metropolitan beaches. In June, RV (the female hoodie that has a wonky-looking left leg) was, for example, sighted at West Lakes shore beach.

So far this season, the hazardous algal bloom doesn't appear to be a threat to the hoodies, but erosion of the beach continues to be a problem, impacting where the birds can nest. Hoodies nest in the foredunes, where the slight rise above the beach gives safety from high tides, and the minimal vegetation affords clear sightlines of ground predators. The foredune location for their nests (which are simply a scrape in soft sand) also enables newly hatched chicks to make their own way to their food sources at the sea's edge. But even though it is only early winter, most of the foredunes have been washed away, leaving only cliffs of sand, which are entirely unsuitable habitats for hoodie nests. So, we're hoping for a gentle winter...and from around the end of July, we'll be keeping our eyes peeled for hoodie nests, possibly in unusual locations...

We hope you'll be keeping an eye out too. Thanks very much to all the beachgoers – especially dog-walkers – 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.

In light of the recent news articles on Avian Flu - if you see a sick or dead seabird, shorebird, waterbird or bird of prey, or small groups (5 or more) of any sick or dead other wild birds, here's advice for what to do:

- **AVOID** contact with the bird and prevent pets from having any contact.
- **RECORD** what you've found: photograph or video it and note the location.
- **REPORT** it to the national Emergency Animal Disease Hotline as soon as possible: 1800 675 888.

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

Do you have some spare time and enjoy visiting the beach?

You could help save a threatened species

Find out more on BirdLife Australia's Beach-nesting Birds website:
www.birdlife.org.au/beach



Keen to get involved?
Scan here.



Have you Heard of Maslin Bread?

By Caroline Phillips

Maslin Bread is a medieval peasant bread, first documented in the thirteenth century. It derives its name from the French word “mescalun” which means mixed. The bread is made from a mix of wheat and rye grains and sometimes others like barley, which were mixed and sown together in the same field, rather than the monoculture we have today. All this was hand sown, or broadcast, and hand reaped. Seed was saved for next year’s crop. The mix was never the same from year to year due to variable weather conditions, so that the bread also varied. It was hand milled or taken to a small local mill for a fee. A wheat loaf makes a greyish bread - there was very little white flour and that was reserved for the lords as it took a lot of work to sift and refine the grain. Rye makes a darker bread, denser and very filling.

Why did they sow like this? Well, the mix of crops was more resistant to pests and disease. It also did not need fertilising. Wheat has shorter roots than rye and so gets its nutrients from a different soil level. In a wet summer, wheat can get waterlogged and die, whereas rye can still obtain its nutrients from lower down. The opposite is true in a drier summer where wheat outperforms rye. So, despite adverse conditions some of the crop usually survives.

Why did this form of sowing die out? The gradual enclosures by landowners meant peasant farmers lost their strips of land, and the 3-field crop rotation method of farming gave way to larger fields. With the agricultural revolution in the eighteenth century, the development of machines to help with harvesting meant that a single type of grain became easier to harvest. The development of monoculture meant the slow demise of Maslin style bread.

Monoculture gives a greater yield, but the crops are far less resistant to pests, weather and disease unless a lot of chemicals are sprayed on them and fertiliser is used. This kills the natural soil microbes. In 1930’s the US agricultural areas in states like Kansas turned into dustbowls due to intensive farming and

massive fields that allowed the topsoil to dry out and be blown away when there was a drought. But there is hope in some places, for example Ethiopia, the Maslin mix is still farmed. Scientists are studying its benefits hoping to find ways of making modern farming less dependent on artificial fertilisers and sprays. In these times of unpredictable weather and conflict, hopefully a way of adding to the growing culture of organic and sustainable farming can be found at scale.

If you want to make your own Maslin Bread, there are many different versions on the web that have been updated for modern cooks, using yeast rather than a natural ferment like proper sourdough breads do. Here is a relatively easy one:

Ingredients.

200g wholemeal flour, 100g dark rye flour, 3g (1 tsp) dried activated yeast, 5g (1.5 tsp) salt,

250ml lukewarm water.

Method

Sift flours over a large bowl to separate the bran from the finer flour.

In a smaller bowl mix the sifted bran with half the water. This hydrates it so it does not draw water out of the dough. Leave for 10-15 minutes.

Add yeast and salt to the flour in the large bowl and stir in. Add the hydrated bran and remaining water. Mix well but do NOT knead.

Rest the dough for 10-15 minutes.

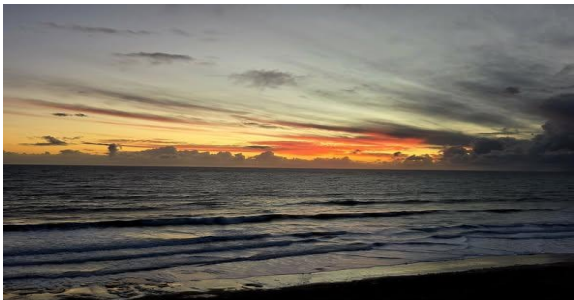
Add to a lightly oiled small loaf pan. Smooth top with a spatula.

Leave to rise for 1.5-3 hours, depending on room temperature, until it has expanded to the top of the tin.

During this time preheat oven to 250C.

Bake for 10 minutes, then reduce oven to 220C for 25-35 minutes. Remove from oven and turn out onto a wire rack to cool.

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

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

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.