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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Happy 2025!

The start of a new year brings optimism for what's ahead. For us at council, we're gearing up for another busy 12 months across all sectors of the community – from hosting world-class events to caring for our environment, looking after our young and elderly to maintaining our buildings and community assets.

Investing in our city's future will ramp up significantly this year with the Transforming Jetty Road Glenelg project.

Construction is well underway in the City zone, which is the eastern end

between Brighton Road and Gordon / Partridge streets.

We had a short break over the Christmas and New Year period, which was important to allow our local businesses to trade normally during that very busy time of year.

We're very mindful of ensuring that pedestrians can still navigate the street without too much disruption, so you'll see that most of the street is still operational with only small sections under construction at a time, while the footpaths are being rebuilt and new greened spaces are added.

Street parking remains available and importantly, you can still continue to visit your favourite shops and traders.

Concept plans for the Transition and Coast zones will be released for community consultation very soon and we encourage all members of our community to view the plans and to share their views with us.

In this edition, see all the events we have coming up over the next few months and learn more about our local, and unique, stingray population.

Lastly, a big thank you to the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who contribute so much to our community, among them surf life saving sisters Leilani and Daisy, who are pictured on the front cover of this magazine.



Amanda Wilson
Mayor, City of Holdfast Bay

Our Community Safety Officers are the first in the state to undertake beach patrols on a bike.

And being an e-bike, it means they can travel on the Esplanade or down on the sand, giving them far more flexibility than being on foot or in a car.

Our Community Safety Officers step up their beach presence in summer and regularly patrol our beaches and walkways to ensure dog owners are doing the right thing – including leashing their dogs when required, picking up their dog's waste and ensuring their dog is under effective control, especially when off-leash.

Dogs are required to be on a lead on the beach between 10am – 8pm during daylight saving hours – except near the Hooded Plover breeding sites, where they are required to be on a lead at all times. This is essential in protecting the endangered birds and their chicks.

If you see our Community Safety Officers travelling around Holdfast Bay on one of the e-bikes, be sure to give them a wave.

PEDAL POWER FOR OUR SAFETY OFFICERS





This is what a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) looks like before buried under the roadway. We now have nine of them along the coast, with two more to be installed this year.

As part of the Somerton stormwater upgrades at Tarlton and Whyte streets, this GPT was installed in December along with a new coastal outfall to alleviate street flooding in the area.

The GPT was installed next to John Miller Reserve with two more going in at Harrow Road this year as part of the stormwater works.

GPTs are important pieces of infrastructure as part of our stormwater system. They collect large debris, leaf litter, rubbish and pollution and work together to keep our oceans clean.

Follow the project: yourholdfast.com/somerton-stormwater

Seacliff beach ramp accessible for all

A Disability Discrimination Act compliant ramp at Seacliff Beach is now open to the public, which was the final component of the recently completed Seacliff amenities building.

Council committed \$1.3 million to bring the project to life, with an additional State Government grant of \$1 million. The old toilet block was replaced with a modern, accessible building with seven toilets, outdoor showers and continuous widened footpaths to improve accessibility for everyone in the community.



On weekly FOGO? Upsize your bins

Did you know that if your household is on our sustainable kerbside bin collection service – in that you get your green-lid FOGO bin collected weekly – you could upsize your red-lid landfill bin or yellow-lid recycling bin. This could be helpful in managing your household's waste.

holdfast.sa.gov.au/bins



Hundreds more trees across the Bay

More than 860 new trees have been planted across the city over the past year, with a significant greening boost to the Green Triangle - an area bounded by Diagonal, Brighton, and Oaklands Roads.

As part of the Adopt-a-Tree program, 70 residents have helped establish and water 126 new trees, strengthening community involvement and ensuring tree survival.

holdfast.sa.gov.au/trees



WHAT'S ON

Moseley Beach Club

Until 31 March 2025
Glenelg Beach

Mix 102.3 Giant Wheel

Until 11 May 2025
Moseley Square, Glenelg

Santos Tour Down Under Ziptrak Women's Stage 1

17 January 2025
Jetty Road, Brighton

Glenelg Sunset Markets

Various dates
Moseley Square, Glenelg

Brighton Jetty Sculptures

22 January - 2 February 2025
Bindarra Reserve and Esplanade, Brighton

Glenelg Ice Cream Festival

23 January 2025
Jetty Road, Glenelg

Santos Tour Down Under Hahn Men's Stage 4

24 January 2025
Glenelg

Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony

26 January 2025
Stamford Grand Adelaide, Glenelg

Brighton Street Party

1 February 2025
Jetty Road, Brighton

I Do, Stiches in Time: A Bridal Fashion Retrospective, 1880 – 1900

1 February – 1 June 2025
Bay Discovery Centre, Glenelg

Brighton Jetty Classic

2 February 2025
Brighton Beach

Asia Oasis Street Food Festival by the Sea

13 - 16 February 2025
Jimmy Melrose Park, Glenelg



CYCLISTS, SORBET, SCULPTURE

It's shaping up to be a mega weekend in Holdfast Bay from Wednesday 22 January to Sunday 26 January 2025.

We have the state's biggest outdoor sculpture exhibition, a street party celebrating all things ice cream, a world-class cycling event and the announcement of our new Australian citizens and our community award winners.

Add to this, we also have the world's tallest portable giant wheel in Glenelg, which is

spinning daily until May and the European-inspired Moseley Beach Club on Glenelg Beach. There is something for everyone for enjoy.

This year is the 18th anniversary of the Brighton Jetty Sculptures exhibition, which has grown to be the state's largest outdoor sculpture exhibition featuring local and interstate artists and all sorts of artworks – many of which are installed on the Esplanade along Brighton Beach.

The exhibition continues until Sunday 2 February





URES AND AUSTRALIA DAY

2025 with sculptures also on display on Bindarra Reserve next to the Brighton Surf Life Saving Club.

On Thursday 23 January 2025, the Glenelg Ice Cream Festival will transform Jetty Road, Glenelg into an ice cream lovers' paradise. There's pop-up bars, great food, music, fashion, kids' activities and a dedicated Ice Cream Village.

The next morning, on Friday 24 January 2025, the Santos Tour Down Under rolls into Glenelg

for the Hahn Men's Stage 4: Glenelg to Victor Harbor. The race starts at 11.10am.

The weekend of celebrations wraps up on Sunday 26 January 2025, with our Australia Day Awards and Citizenship ceremony.

This year, the free community event will be held inside the Stamford Grand Adelaide at Glenelg and the public is welcome to attend.



Accessible beach days are back

Glenelg Beach will host five more accessible beach days this summer, between January and March 2025.

Council is working with estara, formerly PQSA, to host the beach days and will

make available beach wheelchairs and Mobi-chair floating wheelchairs. Volunteers will also be on hand throughout the day.

The accessible beach day events will be held between 10am – 2pm on Saturday 25 January, Sunday 9 February and Saturday 22 February. Two more events will be held in March - on Friday 9 and

Saturday 22 March.

The blue beach mat is situated just north of the Moseley Beach Club on Glenelg Beach and can be accessed 24 hours a day until the end of summer.

Seacliff Beach is home to another accessible beach mat thanks to volunteers from the Seacliff Surf Life Saving Club. To find out more, visit seacliffslsc.com.au



SEACLIFF'S STINGRAYS UNIQUELY OURS



If you've ever been swimming, stand-up paddleboarding or have just dipped your toes in the water at Seacliff Beach, it might surprise you to learn that you weren't alone.

Seacliff is home to a cluster of large, mature female stingrays - smooth rays and southern eagle rays - who live in the shallow waters all year round.

While locals have seen the rays for years, Flinders University PhD student Chloe Roberts recently discovered that most are females.

"I tagged 13 rays and only one was male, so from that, we can infer that at least the ones who come close to shore are females. It could be that the males are in the area, but just further offshore," Chloe said, who's been studying the diet and movement of different marine species, including southern eagle rays, for the past few years.

Chloe's study on southern eagle rays is only the second done in South Australia, so there's still a lot that is unknown about these amazing sea creatures who love coming close to the shoreline.

Although rays can live up to 30 years in captivity, it's not yet known exactly how old the tagged Seacliff stingrays are or how many live together at one time.

"I'd wager that they probably live about 20-30 years but we can't confirm that for sure at the moment," Chloe said, explaining

that the age of a ray can only be determined by measuring its vertebrae after the animal has died.

"Every time one does wash up that we can collect, we gather information and samples and hopefully in future there will be enough samples there for a study to be done."

Chloe says that it's likely Seacliff's stingrays stay close to the shore because there is easy access to food, shelter and warm water, which helps with their metabolism and also provides a safe haven for their babies.

Eagle rays give birth to live offspring, potentially several at a time.

"They are completely independent once they're born....they go off on their own and fend for themselves," Chloe said.

While Chloe has caught and tagged the rays for her research - with approval from Flinders University's ethics board - beachgoers are urged not to touch or catch the rays, as they're not only very strong, they also carry a barb on their tails.

While they're not considered aggressive animals, they may attack in self-defence if provoked and the venom from their barbs could be lethal.

"They're lovely animals, and members of the Seacliff community are very protective of those rays," Chloe said.

If you have any anecdotal information about the Seacliff population that could assist Chloe's research, please email chloe.roberts@flindersuni.edu.au

STINGRAY FACTS

Stingrays is a general term for any ray with a barb.

Within our population there are two main species of stingrays.

Southern eagle rays, which have a mottled appearance with pointy fin tips, a small fin on the tail and a blunt snout.

Smooth rays, which are plain grey with an irregular pattern of small white spots, rounded fins and a pointy snout.

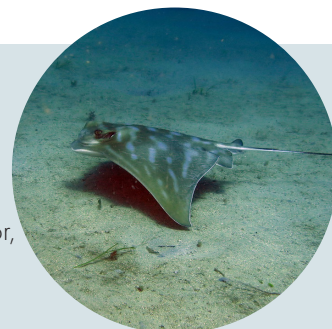
Both have a large hole behind each eye. This is called a spiracle, which allows them to draw in oxygenated water from above their body, so they can breathe even when lying flat on the sea floor.

They also use the spiracles to pump water into the sand to hunt for prey.

Their flat shape means that they are specialists in feeding on the sea floor, targeting prey such as crabs, squid and fish.

In marine ecosystems, they play an important role as mesopredators (middle predators), which means they help to control prey populations and provide large predators, such as sharks, with food.

The smooth ray is the largest ray in Australia. It can grow to 4.3 metres in length, 2 metres wide and weigh up to 350kg.



PARKS

Everyone has their favourite local park or playground – but did you know we have 49 parks to explore in Holdfast Bay, which includes 33 playgrounds?

You can find them all the way from Glenelg North to Kingston Park, with many on the foreshore or overlooking our beautiful beaches.

One that stands out is the upgraded Paringa Park Reserve playspace at Somerton Park.

As part of a recent upgrade, it is now the first playspace in Holdfast Bay to have an Auslan communication board.

This is to encourage people to try Auslan, which is Australian sign language, and promote alternative methods of communication.

The new inclusive playspace at Glenelg Oval is fully accessible thanks to a Disability Discrimination Act-compliant access ramp, which also leads to a wheelchair viewing area that overlooks the oval.

At Glenelg's Wigley Reserve, just next to the playspace, there's a new addition to encourage people to be active and have fun at the same time.

And it's come in the form of a table tennis table, which was tested out by our Depot team soon after they installed it.

BYO bats and balls or pop past the Little Eatery café who are looking after the equipment on Council's behalf.

It's all free to use but please make sure to return it to the café so others can use it.

There is recreational equipment in other parks across Holdfast Bay including mini soccer goals at Dover Square Reserve, South Brighton and in Margaret Messenger Reserve next to Glenelg Oval, as well as steel cricket wickets at Dulcie Perry Reserve, North Brighton.

Every three months, playground equipment and structures are inspected by Council's Open Space team, to check for safety and compliance.

holdfast.sa.gov.au/parks



EVERYONE HAS A PLACE TO PLAY IN HOLDFAST BAY



BEACH VOLUNTEERS OF YESTERYEAR



St John exhibition at Glenelg's Bay Discovery Centre.

Three Centuries of Service

St John Ambulance South Australia

The Beginning
The Venerable Order of St John traces its history back to the 12th century. The modern Order, of which St John in South Australia is a part, began in England in the mid-1800s and was granted a British Royal Charter in 1888.

St John in South Australia began its work in 1885 but fortunes fluctuated. A combination of determined and influential people, men employed in the railways and police force and the women placing the organisation on a firm footing by the First World War.

A Shaky Start
The Order of St John in South Australia was considered a prestigious organisation from its beginnings in 1885. It attracted the support of prominent and influential citizens; annual reports list names such as Samuel Way, Henry Ayers and Samuel Davenport, who undertook leading roles in its foundation. This type of support was critical in the early years when enrolments in first aid classes varied and government assistance was intermittent.

Support of Working People
St John needed the support of working people for its first aid classes. The interest and involvement came largely from workers in the railways, police force and factories. Such occupations attracted hazards including risk of accidents and injury. First aid classes gave men the skills needed to assist in many situations and potentially save lives.

The women of Adelaide were also vital in their interest in the home nursing classes offered by St John in a period when the sick and elderly were nursed at home the burden of care fell upon women.

Long before surf life savers became the protectors of Aussie beachgoers, St John volunteers held that mantle.

And it was a woman called Vi Watson who started it all - way back in 1915.

The St John Ambulance volunteer popped up on Glenelg Beach over the Christmas holidays to offer first-aid to those who needed it, be it for sunburn to jellyfish stings.

She was joined by a small group of women and two years later, the trademark black and white uniforms appeared, followed by small tents which offered privacy for the sick and wounded but little protection from the heat.

Before long, St John volunteers were seen all the way along Adelaide's beaches, mostly on weekends.

When surf life savers joined them on the sand in the 1930s, they worked together to care for the hordes of people who flocked to the coast over the summer, including reuniting lost children with their parents.

Their story - which dates back to 1885 when the St John Ambulance first arrived in South Australia from

England - is on display inside Glenelg's Bay Discovery Centre museum and at their own dedicated museum in Brighton.

As part of the Glenelg exhibit, there's a mock-up of the beach tents, bandages, ointments and powders used by the volunteers and their distinctive uniforms.



It wasn't until 1932 that the St John volunteers were given their own treatment room at Glenelg Beach - which lasted until 1953. That was the year a severe storm decimated Adelaide's coastline, with Glenelg bearing the brunt of it.

A year later, the Glenelg Council erected a new building with a casualty room incorporated with the Glenelg Life Saving Club. One of the volunteers who worked there in the 1970s was Pat Osborne.

"On a hot day there would be three or four volunteers, and the room had three or four beds - it was a mini hospital," Pat said.

"There were a lot of stings, mainly jellyfish.

"One day there were 50 to 100 people lining up at times - it was unbelievable."

Pat said the casualty room closed as patient numbers declined in the early 1990s, possibly because more beachgoers had cars to drive themselves to seek care elsewhere.

The St John Ambulance Museum is packed with memorabilia and interesting displays. It is open to the public on Fridays and Sundays at 7 Arundel Road, Brighton.

SISTERS PART OF BRIGHTON'S SUMMER PATROLS

Surf life saving sisters Leilani and Daisy Snell are regulars on Brighton Beach over the summer.

They are both volunteer surf life savers with the Brighton Surf Life Saving Club and have been for more than a decade.

Daisy was just five and Leilani was aged 10 when their family joined the club, with their parents still heavily involved along with the sisters.

"We've always loved being down at the beach and helping everyone out, being involved in the community," Leilani said, who said surf life saving was a natural progression from swimming lessons.

The Snell sisters say their main tip for beachgoers is to swim at a patrolled beach and between the red and yellow flags.

"Definitely swim between the flags, wear sunscreen as you forget just how easily you can get burnt, be aware of drifts and know your abilities," they said.

The beauty of swimming at a patrolled beach – which includes Brighton, Seacliff, Somerton or Glenelg – is that there are volunteer life savers keeping watch on weekends and public holidays, from October to March.

At Glenelg, professional lifeguards patrol the beach from Monday to Friday, 12pm - 6pm, from December to March, with volunteer lifesavers covering the weekend and public holidays.



L-R Daisy and Leilani Snell



Surf Life Saving SA has a series of beach safety videos on their website, which are available in different languages.

Scan the QR code to watch them or visit surflifesavingsa.com.au



TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE AT THE BEACH

- Always swim at beaches with patrolling lifesavers or lifeguards
- Stay between the red and yellow flags
- Never swim alone
- Don't swim under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Learn how to spot a rip and keep clear of it
- If you get into trouble in the water, stay calm. Signal for help by holding up one arm and waving, float and wait for assistance
- Be sun smart: slip, slop, slap, seek, slide
- Keep out of dunes and fenced areas
- Avoid dangerous activities such as jetty jumping or venturing near the breakwater rocks



WHAT'S IN A NAME...

WHO WAS ISABEL MAY HACKETT?

It was an act of remarkable generosity - a gift of prime seaside land to help children with disabilities and the wider community, that has seen the Hackett name remembered - most recently with the naming of a street in honour of this local philanthropist.



In 1934, Isabel May Hackett - the daughter of a prominent Brighton farmer - donated the family home and 14 hectares of land to the neighbouring Minda Home for children with disabilities.

But her generosity did not stop there. She also gave 65 hectares to Brighton Council to expand the Esplanade and the North Brighton Cemetery, as well as another gift of land for the now Brighton Secondary School.

Known as May, she lived all her life in Brighton and was the youngest of eight children of Walter and Emmeline Hackett.

According to local history book *Vanishing Sands* by Averil G. Holt, Miss Hackett's father had arrived from England via the Victorian goldfields in 1852. When he died in 1915, he left his Brighton property to his daughter May and son George. For the next two decades, she lived there caring for her disabled brothers Elisha and Samuel.

With the loss of Samuel in 1934, and her brother George five years earlier, Isabel no longer needed such a large property and decided to donate it to Minda.

Holt says it was "a gesture which took her family by surprise. Her reasons for doing so are not known but her father had been a life founder member of Minda".

"A quiet, reserved lady, she shunned publicity and refused any suggestion that her name be commemorated in any way. But after her death (in 1953), the oval at the Brighton High School was named Hackett Oval," Holt writes.



Her home, Avenue House on King George Avenue, is now part of the Minda site.

Earlier this year, Council named a road Hackett Way in her honour following community consultation. The road is located at a new housing development on Sturt Road - not far from Hackett's final resting place at Brighton's St Jude's Cemetery.



Minda - a place of shelter and protection

The word Minda is today associated with the state's largest not-for-profit disability service provider, Minda Inc.

But the organisation has had Minda in its name since it was first established in 1898.

Now, connected to the organisation's Brighton site are the Minda Dunes and the Minda Coast Path, which was completed in 2019.

To acknowledge the importance of the organisation and the fact that Minda is a Kaurua word meaning shelter and protection, Council commissioned the Imprints of Time artworks for the Minda Coast Path.

The artworks demonstrate the connection to the coastal environment, Kaurua culture and reflect the natural

environment of the Minda site.

Created by artists Allan Sumner and Karl Meyer, the series of 'pebble' sculptures include two gently resting together which symbolise the community coming together.

Minda artists were also involved in developing the imprints that reflect the coastal dunes.



HOLDFAST HERO

Keeping active and contributing to the community is important for Georgette-Juliette Bajut.

Having recently turned 90, she keeps fit by going to the gym and yoga classes and also finds time to volunteer twice a week at Alwyndor in the laundry department.

"I enjoy it as I'm doing something," she said. "I worked all my life until I was 65 and when you finish, you don't have anything to do – so I am here."

Georgette-Juliette started volunteering at Alwyndor in 2011 and delivers the residents' clean clothes to their rooms. She also enjoys time to chat to the residents, including one who was also French.

"It's a good thing to do so as long as I'm alright, I will keep volunteering," she said.

Georgette-Juliette is among more than 300 volunteers who give up their time each week to assist Council to deliver valuable community services, from driving the Community Bus to removing weeds from our nature reserves.

We also have volunteers who help preserve Holdfast Bay's history, or organise initiatives to benefit young people through the HoldUp Youth Committee.

Explore all the opportunities at holdfast.sa.gov.au/volunteer



ELECTED MEMBERS



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Seacliff Ward



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Somerton Ward



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alwyndor.org.au
8177 3200

CONTACT US

Brighton Civic Centre opening hours
8.30am – 5pm Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)
24 Jetty Road, Brighton

All enquiries (including after hours):

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8229 9999

Brighton Library
8229 9988

Glenelg Library
8179 9555

Bay Discovery Centre
8179 9599

Holdfast Bay History Centre
8229 9999

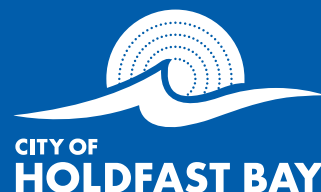
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