

# NEWSLETTER

## AUGUST 2025



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### CEO UPDATE

#### CTSA Tender Offers Lifeline for Rural Transport Services Tailem Bend Community Centre Set to Expand Regional Support for DHS

The Tailem Bend Community Centre (TBCC) is excited to announce its submission for the *Community Transport South Australia (CTSA) tender – P353*, funded by the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS).

TBCC will significantly expand its vital transport services for people under 65 years of age, growing its footprint from **six** to potentially **fifteen** local government areas (LGAs) and increasing its geographical coverage from **35,000km<sup>2</sup>** to **56,000km<sup>2</sup>**.

Currently servicing the Coorong, Karoonda East Murray, Southern Mallee, Tatiara, Mid Murray, and Rural City of Murray Bridge, TBCC aims to expand under the CTSA model to also support:

- Berri Barmera Council
- City of Mount Gambier
- District Council of Grant
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- District Council of Robe
- Kingston District Council
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- Renmark Paringa Council
- Wattle Range Council

This expansion represents a lifeline for thousands of regional South Australians who consistently identify transport as a barrier to inclusion, wellbeing, and independence.

To support this growth, TBCC will employ two full-time staff and deepen its partnership with the *Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMLHN)* through an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). We also plan to formalise fleet sharing and resource agreements with local government partners, ensuring coordinated, cost-effective service across all 15 councils.

As the current *Community Passenger Network (CPN)* agreements conclude on 31 August 2025, TBCC will transition to the new CTSA model from 1 September 2025. As part of this preparation, we're calling for more community-minded individuals to volunteer as drivers.

*"We're proud to be bucking the national trend when it comes to volunteer retention,"* said Judy Bagg, Chair of TBCC. *"Unlike traditional rosters, our model gives volunteers full flexibility. We simply offer trips, and our drivers choose what suits them. That freedom, combined with the meaningful impact they make, is why our volunteers stay."*

Volunteer drivers play a vital role in helping people attend medical appointments, access essential services, and stay socially connected. Whether you're available once a week or once a month – every drive counts.

*"This is more than just transport – it's vehicles for connection, independence, and dignity,"* added Bagg.

With 17 Community Passenger Networks in South Australia and over two decades of rural transport expertise, it's time to grow visibility, secure more volunteer involvement, and meet the increasing demand for accessible community transport.

Interested in becoming a volunteer driver or want to learn more? 📞 Call (08) 8572 3513

CTSA Operations Manager, Katrina Fromm, welcomes any questions you may have about transport services or how to get involved.

🌐 Visit [www.tbcc.org.au](http://www.tbcc.org.au)

Together, let's keep rural South Australia moving – by connecting the communities we serve.



#### Station Master's House Development in Full Swing

*Exciting Progress & Funding Applications to Support New CTSA Project*

The transformation of the historic **Station Master's House (SMH)** is gaining momentum as the TBCC continues to breathe new life into this iconic site. With a vision to support the rollout of the **CTSA** model from **1 September 2025**, the SMH is being carefully restored and upgraded to serve as a functional base for regional staff and operations.

To support this work, TBCC has been successful with three funding opportunities:

- **\$17,710 (GST inclusive)** from the **Good2Give Community Fund** and **Aurizon Community Giving Fund** to construct a SMH Pavilion, creating a sheltered outdoor space for staff and community use.
- **\$4,500 (GST exclusive)** from the **2025 Vena Energy Community Sponsorship Program** to concrete the veranda, improving access and safety.
- **\$16,666 (GST Inclusive)** **Community Centres South Australia (CCSA)** in partnership with the **Australian Hotels Association SA (AHA|SA)** and **Clubs SA** through the **Independent Gaming Corporation (IGC)**. This funding will enable us to install the outdoor kitchen under the Pavilion.

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### CEO UPDATE (Continued)

#### Station Master's House Development in Full Swing

Alongside these applications, a wide range of infrastructure and building upgrades are either completed or in progress, including:

- ✓ **Roof replacement**
- ✓ **Ceiling replacements**
- ✓ **Fascia and gutter upgrades**
- ✓ **Bathroom wall modification**, including cutting through concrete, installing a lintel, and creating a new doorway to the laundry
- ✓ **Bricking up the old laundry entry**
- ✓ **Planning for shed installation**
- ✓ **Electrical upgrades** to ensure the property is safe, efficient, and fit-for-purpose
- ✓ **Network and telephone system improvements** to support seamless communication for staff and service delivery.

These upgrades are essential to prepare the Station Master's House as a regional hub for community transport services, and to accommodate the increased workforce required to deliver transport across up to 15 local government areas under the new CTSA model.

With multiple trades onsite and strong partnerships forming across local government and health networks, the SMH is quickly evolving into a dynamic and professional space ready to meet growing community needs.

"This project is more than just a renovation — it's a reinvestment in our region's capacity to deliver meaningful services and support to those who need it most," said Tammy Shepherd, CEO of TBCC.

Stay tuned as we continue to develop the site, secure funding support, and prepare for the next exciting chapter in TBCC's commitment to connecting communities across rural South Australia.

📷 To see progress photos and stay updated, visit the TBCC Facebook page: [facebook.com/tailembendcommunitycentre](https://facebook.com/tailembendcommunitycentre)



#### The new Aged Care Act puts you at the centre of your aged care

It will make aged care safer, fairer and more respectful.  
This infographic outlines the main parts of the new Act and how they work together.



#### New Aged Care Act Deferred to 1 November 2025: What It Means for Older Australians

The Australian Government has announced a brief deferral of the new Aged Care Act 2024's commencement date, moving it from 1 July to 1 November 2025. This adjustment aims to provide aged care providers with additional time to prepare their systems, train staff, and ensure a smooth transition for older Australians. [health.gov.au](https://health.gov.au)

#### Key Changes Under the New Aged Care Act

The Aged Care Act 2024 introduces significant reforms to enhance the quality and safety of aged care services:

- Rights-Based Approach:** Establishes a Statement of Rights, emphasizing respect, dignity, and autonomy for older individuals.
- Streamlined Access:** Simplifies the assessment process for aged care services, making it more transparent and user-friendly.
- Enhanced Protections:** Introduces stronger safeguards against abuse and neglect, including improved complaint mechanisms and whistleblower protections.
- Support for Decision-Making:** Allows older individuals to appoint supporters to assist with care-related decisions, ensuring choices align with personal preferences.

#### Implications for Community Members Over 65 or 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

For older Australians, particularly those over 65 and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples over 50, the deferred start date means:

- Continued Access:** Current aged care services will remain unchanged until the new Act takes effect.
- Preparation Time:** Additional time to understand upcoming changes and how they may impact individual care plans.
- Engagement Opportunities:** A chance to participate in discussions and provide feedback on the implementation of the new Act.

The government encourages all stakeholders to stay informed and engaged during this transition period to ensure the reforms meet the needs of older Australians.

For more information, visit the [Department of Health and Aged Care's website](https://health.gov.au).



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## C4C UPDATE

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Free Session**

**SCIENCE WEEK**  
8 - 17 AUGUST  
Decoding the Universe - Exploring the unknown with nature's hidden language

# Pattern Play: Decoding Nature

Get ready to explore, create, and discover with exciting sensory science activities for all ages!

**FRIDAY 15 AUGUST 2025**  
**3:15pm-4:30pm**  
**Tailem Bend Community Centre**  
**141 Railway Tce**

Bookings Required  
Scan QR code or go to:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DDHSK>

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**  
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141 Railway Tce Tailem Bend  
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Funded by Australian Government Department of Social Services and delivered by Tailem Bend Community Centre

# FRIDAY FUNDAY BINGO

**8 August 2025**  
**12 September 2025**  
**10AM - 12:30PM**

**10 GAMES**  
**\$6.00 PER BOOK**

Tea & coffee are available  
Gold coin donation

# PARENT CHILD MOTHER GOOSE

**FREE SESSIONS**

**CUDDLE... COMMUNICATE... CONNECT...**  
USING SONGS, RHYMES AND STORIES TO SUPPORT CONNECTION BETWEEN CHILD AND PARENT

**TERM 3 2025**  
22ND JULY - 25TH SEPTEMBER

<b>Tuesday's</b> 9:30am <b>MANNUM</b>	<b>Wednesday's</b> 11am <b>MENINGIE</b>	<b>Thursday's</b> 9:30am <b>TAILEM BEND</b>
Mannum Leisure Centre - Senior Citizen Room Intergenerational Aminya village 18:30am 22nd July	Meningie Kindergarten Intergenerational Jatirah Homes 10am 13th August	Tailem Bend Primary School Intergenerational Tailem Bend Hospital 9:30am 18th September

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for 10.30am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 at the Tailem Bend Community Centre.

## TBCC MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships for 2025/2026 are now due.

Membership cost \$5.50 per annum which includes 50% off service charges, bi-monthly newsletters, a birthday card and voting rights at the AGM.

# CHRISTMAS PARADE DATES 2025

MURRAY BRIDGE: 4PM SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER  
MENINGIE: 5PM SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER  
MANNUM: 6PM SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER  
TAILEM BEND: 6PM SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER  
LAMEROO: 5PM FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER  
PINNAROO: 7PM FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER

# OUR GOLDIES LUNCHES 2025

**FRIDAY'S 12 NOON - 1.30PM**

Join us at **TBCC** for a Social Lunch and Chat.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE TO AND FROM LUNCH (TB CONSUMERS ONLY).

**CHSP \$10 P/P**  
**NON CHSP \$15 P/P**

EVERYONE WELCOME | BOOKING ESSENTIAL

**TAILEM BEND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

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COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME (CHSP) IS FUNDED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE. COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CND) IS FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

29th August 2025  
26th September 2025  
4th November 2025  
5th December 2025