

### CTSA UPDATE

#### Volunteer Drivers Needed to Support Community Transport Across the Region

Residents across Tailem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda, the Riverland and the Limestone Coast are being encouraged to consider volunteering as drivers to help support a vital community service that connects people with essential medical care.

Community Transport South Australia, based at the Tailem Bend Community Centre, is currently seeking volunteer drivers to assist people who may otherwise struggle to access medical appointments and essential services. The organisation plays a critical role in supporting older residents, people with limited mobility, and those without reliable transport.

Many country residents face long journeys to reach specialist care, particularly in Adelaide. Volunteer drivers help bridge that gap, ensuring people can attend hospital visits, medical consultations, and other important appointments safely and affordably.

CTSA rely on the generosity of volunteers to keep this service running. Without volunteer drivers, many people in our communities would simply have no way of getting to the care they need.

Community Transport South Australia operates from the Tailem Bend Community Centre and currently assists residents across a wide regional footprint including Tailem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda and surrounding districts. The service continues to expand and is close to establishing vehicles based in both the Riverland and the Limestone Coast, which will allow even more residents in those regions to access transport support closer to home.

The organisation has also recently expanded services in the Murray Bridge region thanks to ongoing support from the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council. Funding from the Council has enabled the purchase of a new Toyota RAV4 Hybrid to support transport services in the area.

With an increasing number of volunteer drivers now assisting in the Murray Bridge region, Community Transport South Australia is pleased to have two vehicles operating locally.

The organisation has also expressed its appreciation to both the Rural City of Murray Bridge and the Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital for their support, including allowing our vehicles to be stationed at the hospital to help improve accessibility for patients needing transport.

Another important service supporting regional patients is the Coorong Coaches service, which operates Monday to Friday. The coach travels from Keith through to Adelaide, transporting passengers to major hospitals and medical facilities located in the Adelaide CBD. For residents in Tailem Bend, the return fare is just \$33, making it an affordable option for those needing regular medical visits in the city.

Volunteer drivers play a vital role in helping passengers connect with services like these, assisting with local transport needs and ensuring people can travel safely and comfortably. Volunteering as a driver can be a rewarding way to give back to the community while making a real difference in someone's life. Drivers meet new people, help reduce isolation for vulnerable residents, and support their neighbours in maintaining their health and independence.

Community Transport South Australia welcomes enquiries from anyone interested in becoming a volunteer driver across the Tailem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda, Riverland and Limestone Coast regions.

Those interested in learning more about volunteering are encouraged to contact Mel at Community Transport South Australia at the Tailem Bend Community Centre 0875 3513. By volunteering a small amount of time, local residents can help ensure that vital transport services continue to support the health and wellbeing of communities across the region.



## PETER GREAVES

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

#### WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER DRIVER?

MY AVAILABILITY RECENTLY INCREASED; I WAS INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING MORE TO THE LOCAL AND WIDER COMMUNITY - AND HAVE PLENTY OF SUITABLE EXPERIENCE - DRIVING AND CHATTING TO PEOPLE :)

#### 🎵 FAVOURITE ROAD TRIP SONG NOPE - IT'S ABC NEWS FOR ME

☕ TEA OR COFFEE ON THE ROAD: AN EXTRA HOT COFFEE!

#### 🏠 DREAM ROAD TRIP DESTINATION: ANY NEW ROAD IS GREAT FOR AN ADVENTURE AND EXPLORING

👛 BEST SNACK FOR THE ROAD: NO SNACKS, JUST ANOTHER COFFEE!

❤️ WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?  
THE SATISFACTION OF HELPING OTHERS

# NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



## C4C UPDATE

**Parent Child Mother Goose (PCMG)** invites parents and carers to cuddle, communicate and connect with their child through songs, rhymes and stories. Through this fun and simple program children are provided the opportunity to develop their speech through singing and to enhance and encourage connection with their parent/caregiver in a relaxed environment. The program also provides a positive and fun space for families to connect with community.

Our PCMG sessions are held each week for 45 minutes, during the school terms. PCMG is currently being held at the following locations:

### Tuesday – Mannum

Mannum Leisure Centre  
Senior Citizen Room - 9:30am

### Wednesday – Meningie

Meningie Kindergarten – 11am

### Thursday – Tailm Bend

Tailm Bend Primary School  
Community Library – 9:30am

## Celebrate Connection

### Pool Days

Over the 2025 December/January school holidays, the C4C team held two Pool Days at the Murray Bridge Swimming Centre – 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January, with two hours exclusive use of the waterpark area on both days and a special visit from the Murray Bridge police for families to have a close up look of a police car, play with the sirens and lights and spend some time getting to know our local police officers. With 100 free tickets available, both events were booked out.



## Celebrate Connection - Upcoming Events

**Wilbur's Wildlife** at the Bowhill Community Centre – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026, 11am -12pm - Forget the zoo – Wilbur's Wildlife brings the magic of native Aussie animals right to your doorstep, providing unforgettable encounters with our furry, feathered, and scaly friends. Bookings are essential and can be made from 16<sup>th</sup> March-14<sup>th</sup> April.

**National Families Week** – the C4C team are collaborating with other services in the area to celebrate this week. More information to come!

## CHSP UPDATE

### My Age Care helpful information

**CHSP Commonwealth Home Support Program** – Tailm Bend Community Centre provides with referral codes [MyAgedCare.gov.au/Support-Home-Program](http://MyAgedCare.gov.au/Support-Home-Program) Entry-level care at home Ongoing or short-term care and support services through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). You can get help with housework, personal care, meals and food preparation, transport, shopping, allied health such as physiotherapy and social support. You can also apply for planned respite, giving your carer a break. The CHSP will become part of the Support at Home program no earlier than 1 July 2027. Until then, the CHSP will continue for current and new clients with low-level support needs

**My Age Care** – ph 1800 200 422 or request TBCC to help you with an inbound referral

The Support at Home program provides access to care and support services, transport, meals, home maintenance, social groups, one on one chats, equipment and home modifications to help older people remain healthy, active and socially connected to their community. Support at Home provides a higher level of care for those with complex needs who require more help to remain at home. For more information, visit: [MyAgedCare.gov.au](http://MyAgedCare.gov.au) or visit any Services Australia Service centre

### Steps to accessing aged care

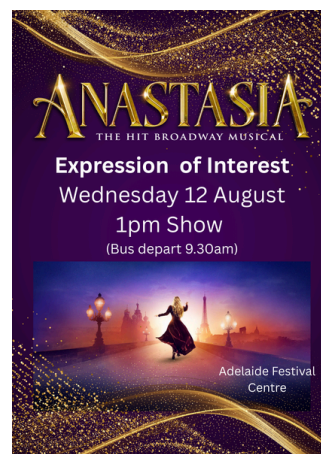
**Step 1 Explore if aged care is right for you** – If you are starting to think about aged care, this is your first step. See what services have helped people in similar situations and what support is available, whether you want to stay in your own home or move into an aged care home.

**Step 2 Get assessed** - If your ready to find out what aged care services your eligible for, the next step is to apply for an assessment. Find out how to apply for an assessment and understand the process.

**Step 3 Find a provider** - After your assessment, learn how to find a provider in your area that meets your needs and preferences.

**Step 4 Set up your new services** - Once your decided on a provider, learn what to expect when finalising your agreement and setting up your services

## UPCOMING EVENTS



FREE

Tailm Bend Community Centre  
141 Railway Terrace Tailm Bend

Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) is funded by  
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA).