



A letter from Nick

We are now half way through the Parliamentary year – and consequently, into the winter break. I hope that where ever you are in my vast electorate, you've received some welcome rain – but we all know – so much more is needed to assist our farming communities.

Last month, I was pleased to welcome the Premier to the region to discuss the Government's Drought Assistance Package with a small group of farmers. Each had different perspectives on what was required, but I know the Premier & Primary Industries Minister, appreciated the important feedback they received.

Work is continuing on a new Electorate office opposite the Town Hall in Tailem Bend. Following the 2020 redistribution, the MacKillop electorate boundaries were changed – increasing its size by more than 9000km². It now includes the entire Southern Mallee Council and the remainder of the Coorong District Council. This added towns including Tailem Bend, Lameroo, Pinnaroo, Peake, Sherlock and Wellington East. The new office – which will be open 2 – 3 days/week, will make it easier for those living in the north of the electorate to meet with me – or a staff member.

If you are busy juggling children at home – I hope you enjoy the school holidays – and if you are travelling – please take care on the roads.

Thank you for your continued support. I will continue to work hard to represent, and advocate for issues that matter in MacKillop.

Nick McBride

Always here for MacKillop



FARM FIRE UNITS

Round 4 of the Regional Capability Community fund is open! This program re-imburses between \$300 - \$5000 to farmers and farming businesses to purchase equipment to support the safe use of Farm Fire Units (FFU)

Additionally, the fund will re-imburse approved water tank purchases – up to \$10,000. This will allow for the purchase of a minimum 22,000 L tank, fire service fittings and other items used for firefighting.

Applications close on Friday 8th August.

For more information : www.cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/business-farms/farm-fire-units/



Viewer Access Satellite TV

Did you know that if you live in an area with poor free-TV coverage you may be able to receive VAST. VAST is funded by the Australian Government and can help you receive regular TV services access to free-to-air TV or radio services by satellite. If you are in a caravan, boat or campervan travelling through areas without reliable TV signals, you may also be able to get VAST.

Head over to www.acma.gov.au/viewer-access-satellite-tv for more information. Or contact your local TV antenna installer to help with the process.



Digital Donation Program

Are you a community based, not for profit organisation?

Would you like access to an excess Government computer ?

If so – applications will open for the State Government's **Digital Donation Program on July 28th.**

Organisations can apply for a maximum of 2 devices, and there's no charge.

For more information on the program go to: [SA.GOV.AU - Apply for surplus government computers](https://sa.gov.au). Alternatively call (08) 8226 9500 and leave a message for someone to call you back – or email commservices@sa.gov.au

Applications close on the **15th August.**



Sports Vouchers

In 2025 every child from Reception to Year 9 is eligible for 2 x \$100 Sports vouchers. These can be also used for dance lessons, learn to swim, scouts/guides registration fees and now - music lessons.

The two vouchers are available in the calendar year - which helps families and carers cover the costs to participate in a range of activities.

For more information on how to use you voucher or to find a provider, head over to: www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au

Birthday Celebrations

There must be something in the water or the air in MacKillop because we have had so many amazing milestones to celebrate of late.

The biggest happy birthday to Lorna Henstridge who has the honour of being the oldest women in Australia recently celebrating her 111th birthday, Norah Sambell who turned 101years and Joan Obst who turned 100years.

It has been such a pleasure to catch up with these ladies and find out their secrets.

Good eating, spending time with loved ones and a sneaky afternoon wine each day were definitely some of the secrets I was lucky enough to be told.



Seniors Card Application

If you are aged 60 years or older - you are entitled to apply for a Seniors Card if you are a permanent South Australian resident and you are not working more than 20 hours per week in paid employment.

To apply for a seniors card you will need to prove your identity with either a drivers license, Medicare card or pension card.

To apply for a card you can come into my office at 146 Smith Street Naracoorte and pick up an application, or call the office on 8762 1211 and we will be happy to put one in the post to you. Your nearest Library may also

have copies of the application or you can apply online at
<https://seniorcard.my.salesforce-sites.com/SeniorsCard>

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