

Main streets to shine for state conference

DRIVE into any town in Australia, and the 'main street' is generally the hub, where the action is at and where people congregate.

Yet there is much more to the humble main street than might first meet the eye.

According to peak SA regional local government body Legatus Group chief executive officer Simon Millcock, a vibrant main street requires strong partnerships between local government, community and business.

"The main street isn't just about what it looks like, it's providing a sense of place, liveability and community performance areas," he said.

"Main streets are quite significant in communities.

"There're not too many towns that don't want their town hall or institute to remain, in fact they're quite often a focal point.

"Many of our main streets in our small communities have significant input from local community groups and local business, not just

Gabrielle Hall reports:

council."

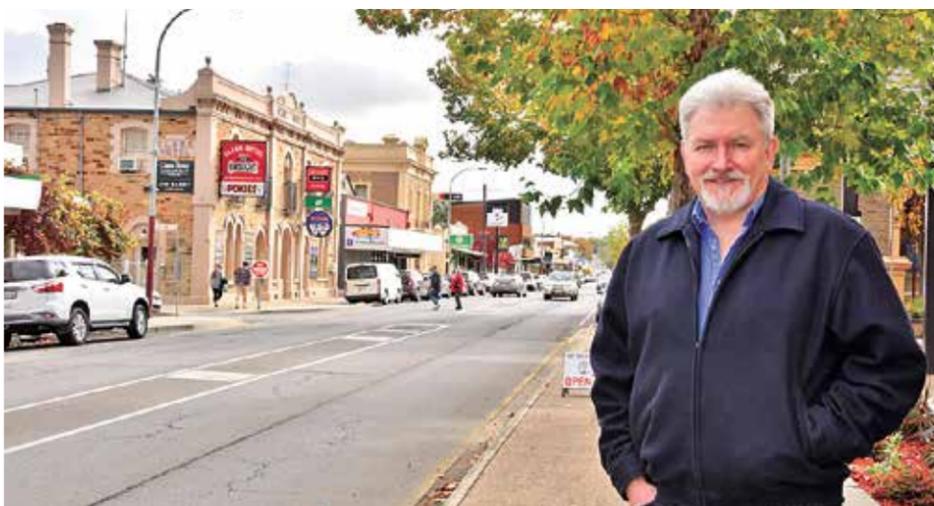
It is those partnerships, along with first hand stories of what has worked for other regions, both in Australia and overseas, that will be the focus of 2021 Mainstreet SA Conference to be hosted in Clare on June 7-8.

Mainstreet SA acting chair David West said the theme for the 2021 conference was 'Embracing the New Normal'.

"With the past 12 months shaping up so far to be one of the most challenging for main streets in living memory, the conference will be an opportunity for main street practitioners to come together to discuss COVID-19 main street recovery," he said.

"As the economic, social and cultural heart of each community, main streets will play a vital role in rebuilding post-pandemic community cohesion and prosperity.

"The program includes an international perspective



Legatus Group chief executive officer Simon Millcock in Clare's main street, ahead of the Mainstreet SA conference next week.

and local success stories and is sure to stimulate robust discussion as our main streets strive to 'Embrace the New Normal'."

Among the speakers will be Paul Lonsdale from the Central City Business Association in Christchurch, New Zealand, who will give a keynote address titled 'From Earthquakes to Pandem-

ics - Lessons in Managing Disruption'.

Jane Laverty from Northern Rivers, New South Wales, will speak on 'Regional Economic Strategies for Mainstreets'.

Dean Cracknell from Town Teams Movement will speak on 'Leading Positive Change at the Grass Roots Level', and City of Adelaide

Lord Mayor and Mainstreet-SA patron Sandy Verschoor will cover the 'Evolution of placemaking in the City of Adelaide'.

Among the other presentations will be stories shared from Two Wells, Peterborough, Aldinga, Gumeracha and Prospect.

A walking tour of Clare's main street will also feature,

along with panel discussions about attracting new businesses to your main street.

A masterclass titled 'Country Pubs & Town Halls - when to hold and when to fold', will round off the event.

Mainstreet SA is a membership-based not-for-profit organisation with a vision that "every South Australian community has a thriving main street".

Almost 100 people have registered for the two-day Mainstreet SA conference, which will no doubt boost Clare's own main street vibe with visitors.

Legatus is a regional organisation comprising 15 local government associations with its head office based in Clare.

It seeks to increase the level of productivity, safety and community connectivity through increased funding for local significant roads.

For more information take a look at the Mainstreet SA website www.mainstreetsa.com.au

New website puts youth wellbeing in spotlight

YOUTH wellbeing is at the forefront of a new website launched recently by the Kade Macdonald Foundation (KMF).

The initiative was established in memory of Kade Macdonald to provide support for youth suffering from mental health challenges and highlight opportunities to improve their general wellbeing.

Foundation chairperson Meg Macdonald said the website provided another platform to spread the message and provide clear information on how to access local services.

"We hope the website can increase overall awareness and continue to maintain our strong message, supporting our youth's overall wellbeing and assisting to have better access to local and metropolitan services," she said.

"We designed the website

Gabrielle Hall reports:

to be very user friendly, easily accessible for a varying age group and also offer a variety of ways to access services available.

"We understand not everyone is comfortable with face-to-face, so phone and online support is there."

The new portal will also link to the KMF social media sites for regular updates on information and also upcoming events, such as the Ride for a Brighter Side (RFABS) on October 24 - a 12-hour team stationary bike 'ride' to help "keep the pedals turning for mental health".

"This event is being driven by Sonia Goss and the RFABS committee," Meg said.

"To have such an inclusive event, where all age groups

can participate, attend or support is a milestone for us."

Initially established in the Mid North where Kade lived, the KMF is extending its work far and wide in an attempt to direct young people struggling with mental health to support services.

And the message really is spreading.

In the Barossa recently, the annual Kade Macdonald Tribute match was held at the Barossa Rams rugby club in Lyndoch.

The game was played between Burnside Rugby Club (where Kade had played in 2016 while at boarding school in Adelaide) and Barossa, where Kade's friendship left an indelible mark on fellow players, club members and supporters.

Both teams wore official Kade socks and a memorial shield was presented at the end of the match to the U18

winning side - the Barossa Rams - by Kade's parents Meg and Sam Macdonald.

All proceeds from the day including KMF rugby socks, photo sales and raffles, went to the KMF to help continue its valuable work.

It is anticipated some of the funds raised will assist in KMF's aim to install a reflection bench at the Ram's home ground.

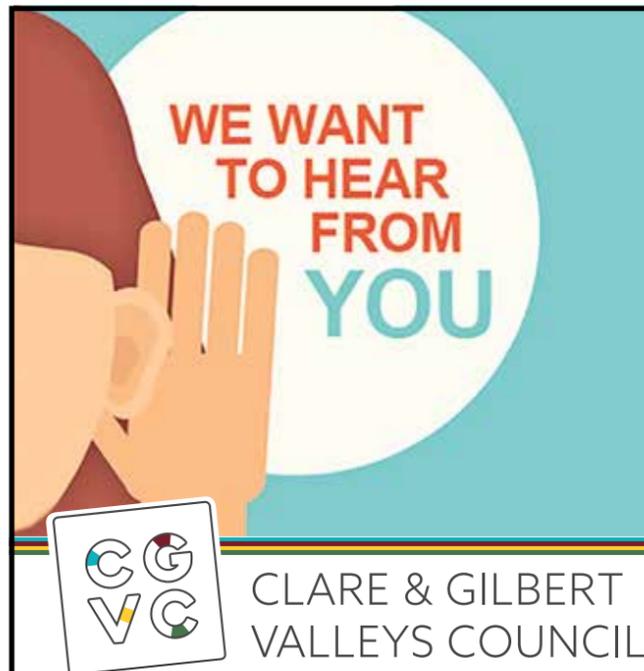
KMF has also pledged support to a Barossa participant in the Operation Flinders youth program, along with a second student from Clare High School.

Take a look at the new website at kademacondonald-foundation.org.au

If you or anyone you know needs help, call Lifeline Australia on 13 11 14; Beyond Blue 1300 224 636; Suicide Call Back 1300 659 467; e: headspace 1800 650 890; Kids Help Line 1800 551 800.



The Kade Macdonald Tribute game was fiercely contested between the Barossa Rams and Burnside, coinciding with the launch of the new Kade Macdonald Foundation website to promote its ongoing work in improving youth wellbeing. PHOTO: VANESSA SIZE PHOTOGRAPHY



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

CLARE & GILBERT VALLEYS COUNCIL

Draft Annual Business Plan & Budget for 2021/22, incorporating a review of the Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2020/31 is open for public consultation.

Copies of the document are available for inspection at:

- Council Office - 4 Gleeson St, Clare
- Riverton Community Library - Oxford Tce, Riverton
- Saddleworth Community Centre - 19 Belvidere Rd, Saddleworth
- Clare Library - Old North Rd, Clare

Document is also available: www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au

Comments can also be made through: www.letstalkcgvc.com.au

Register to present verbally to Council on June 21 - email: tdodd@cgvc.sa.gov.au

Written comments to Council, 4 Gleeson St, Clare. SA 5453 by June 23, 2021 or email: admin@cgvc.sa.gov.au

4 Gleeson Street, Clare SA 5453 P: (08) 8842 6400 F: (08) 8842 3624 E: admin@cgvc.sa.gov.au W: www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au