



# Port Julia Progress Association

## MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first Newsletter for 2025, and we trust that the New Year has been good to you all so far. We are seeing a lot of warm weather, and some of the rainwater tanks are getting low. Hopefully we will get some rain soon. The Bush Campground has seen a steady influx of visitors travelling around our beautiful region.

Our Caretakers, Belinda and Chris, left us on 10 January to move to Price. Thank you to our past Caretakers, Robyn and Joe Garland, for looking after the campground until 27 February. Our new Caretakers, Bruce and Jenny Dowell, commenced on 21 February. Please make them welcome, and say hello if you're in the area.

On a sad note, we extend our sincere condolences to Robyn, whose mother passed away in January. Robyn returned to New South Wales to support the family and then came back to Port Julia.

### **Christmas Dinner**

A wonderful night was held on 8 December when 34 people gathered at the Dalrymple Hotel in Stansbury to enjoy some great fellowship, drinks, jokes, prizes and a scrumptious meal. Thank you to Sophia and Bohdan Dorniak for donating some of the raffle prizes.



Progress has received feedback about the cost of the Christmas dinner and the need to drive to Stansbury for the event. A proposal has been made that in 2025 Progress investigate the option of having the dinner at our hall. This event would be catered for, and with the ability of those attending to bring their own drinks. Progress would welcome any feedback on this proposal.

## **Australia Day Brunch**

The theme for this year - “Reflect, Respect, and Celebrate.”

Our Australia Day brunch held on Sunday, 26 January at the Reichenbach Bush Campground was well attended. Approximately 95 people came along and took part in the short ceremony, where everyone was welcomed.

Jane Baird read the Acknowledgement of Country.

Roger Underwood contributed to the ceremony by reading a poem – an excerpt from AB Paterson’s “Song of the Future”.

The singing of the National Anthem and raising of the Australian flag (thank you Greg) was then carried out. This was followed by a scrumptious brunch of sausages, bacon, onions, eggs, tomatoes, baked beans and toast with orange juice, tea and coffee in the Brian Cherry Community Hall, which had been decorated in a very Australian manner.



We would like to thank you all for the hard work prior to, and on the day of the Australia Day brunch. Your efforts made everything seem to roll smoothly. A big shout out and heartfelt thankyou also to Pam, Carol, Steve Lewis, Rick and Delice who also rolled up their sleeves and helped out. Without all our wonderful team of volunteers the day would never have come together in such a great way.

**\$500** was donated to the **Royal Flying Doctor Service**.

## **Jane's Garden Corner**

In the prophetic words of Bananarama in 1983, "It's a Cruel, Cruel Summer"! With the lack of rain, scorching temperatures and strong drying winds, it has been a really tough summer to keep any of our plants alive. It certainly has been an initiation test for the young plants in my garden. The place you have been most likely to run into Port Julia locals, this summer, has been at the Standpipe at Pine Point filling up IBC tanks to keep our gardens watered.

I have been grateful to have my 'wicking boats' which have a water reservoir in the base and allow for the plant roots to draw up the water they need gradually. This has allowed me to keep some natives such as Kangaroo Paws flowering through the summer when I couldn't be there to water them frequently. The 'wicking beds' make the best use of what little water we have to spare.



I am planning on making some 'wicking beds' from IBC containers soon, and I hope some of us can share our experiences and work on creating these together. If anyone is interested, please feel free to get in touch with me. Fred and I can share with you how we have made our wicking beds.

I am hoping that we will be able to host a "Coastal Gardens" workshop at the Brian Cherry Community Hall in May this year presented by the Northern and Yorke Landcare Board. These workshops present relevant information about local indigenous plants which thrive in our conditions, and also about feral plants which outcompete the local varieties. I will let you know more details and how to register when details are finalised.

The Spring Garden Walk held last year was a great success, and we are planning on repeating it again this spring. It was great to meet others in the town and learn about their experiences of gardening in this challenging environment. It is great to share tips and successes and get ideas from other residents' gardens. We will keep you informed when a date has been finalised.

I will keep doing my rain dance and, hopefully, it will change from Bananarama's "Cruel Summer" to the Eurythmics "Here comes the rain again"!

Cheers,  
Jane Baird - [jbaird@internode.on.net](mailto:jbaird@internode.on.net)  
0419 865 211

**Membership Renewal** - Thank you to those who have paid their 2024/2025 memberships already. If you haven't done so, please renew your membership as soon as possible.



## **Australia Day 2025**



Congratulations to Jenny Mason who received her Australian Citizenship Certificate at the Yorke Peninsula Council Australia Day Ceremony held at the Maitland Town Hall.

Jenny was a member of the PJPA Committee about ten years ago, including the role of Vice President during her time on the Committee. She is a valued member of the Port Julia community.

Mayor Darren Braund presented the certificate to Jenny.

## **Community Noticeboard**

**Free** - Jenny Mason has an electric organ she is willing to give to a new home.

It is a Technics organ, approximately 30 years old. Contact Jenny if you are interested – phone 0458 475 676.



## **Sand and metal supplies – Pine Point**

All types of gravel; quarry rubble; dolomite; concrete sand gravel mix; garden soil loam; garden feature rocks. Delivery available from Ardrossan to Stansbury. Phone 0418 820 459.

**Men's Barber at Rogues Point** – contact Hong, phone 0418 820 459.

## **Speed Signs**



The PJPA has raised this issue with Yorke Peninsula Council regarding the lack of speed signs when entering Port Julia, especially Active Road and on the Old Coast Road from Sheok Flat. Speed signs are controlled by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, and YP Council has forwarded our request to them for consideration.

## **Port Julia Community Feedback**

### ***Port Julia Pontoon***



There is the ongoing debate re our pontoon. As you will be aware from the press, pontoons are an item of discussion for many seaside communities across the state. A number of concerns have been raised, in particular the need for public liability insurance. Progress was initially approached by YP Council in late 2024 about the possibility of “gifting” our pontoon to Council.

However, we have now been informed by Council that is not interested in taking ownership of pontoons across Yorke Peninsula.

At this stage it appears that PJPA has 2 options.....if we decide to keep the pontoon then public liability insurance will have to be taken out at a cost of the order of \$500 per annum. Furthermore, there are a number of conditions that Progress will have to abide by as part of the insurance, including regular inspections by an authorised person, regular cleaning and regular maintenance (the shackles are currently in disrepair and need to be replaced).

The second option is to permanently remove the pontoon. Progress will survey the community for feedback following the next meeting on 7 March.

### ***Replacing beach sand at Port Julia***

The second issue relates to the loss of sand on our beaches. One of the residents has requested Progress investigate the options for replacing the sand. Progress has approached YP Council which has responded that it will not be able to carry out this task.

Progress is aware that sand replenishment has/will happen at Black Point and Foul Bay with Council assistance, but there may be differences in circumstances at those locations....eg at Foul Bay/Mud Alley the funding is largely aimed at preventing flooding of the shacks.



Major sand replenishment at Port Julia will be an expensive process, depending on quality and quantity of sand needed. Coastal Watch has specific criteria re the type of sand that can be used.

When Progress has more details, a proposal with more detail will be put to the Port Julia community for feedback.

**Northern & Yorke Landscape SA** is conducting a survey on the Yorke Peninsula Coastal Access Strategy - which will guide responsible and sustainable access to Yorke Peninsula's coast. It balances the ongoing enjoyment of our beaches with conservation of the natural environment. The link is:  
<https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ny/get-involved/have-your-say/draft-guuranda-yorke-peninsula-coastal-access-strategy>

### **For your information...**



- The Port Julia Community Noticeboard next to the telephone box was in very poor condition, and has now been replaced with a brand new one. Next time you are going for a walk, have a look.
  - A reminder that calls can be made at the phone box free of charge.
  - There is also an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located at the entrance to the Brian Cherry Community Hall.
- 
- Working bee – at the hall every Tuesday morning from 8.30am to 10.30am, followed by morning tea. All welcome.
  - Stitch & Bitch (Chat & Craft) – at the hall every second Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm. Contact Margie for more information: 0477 082 219.

**Website** - Please check out the Port Julia Progress Association website where there is a lot of information included at [www.portjuliapa.org.au](http://www.portjuliapa.org.au)

If you have any issues please email our Secretary, Colleen Bennett – [secretary@portjuliapa.org.au](mailto:secretary@portjuliapa.org.au)

**Kingsley Coulthard**  
**President and Committee Members,**  
**Port Julia Progress Association**