Media Release

15 October 2026

Barunga West Council

School Holidays Bring the Top of the Yorke to Life

Barunga West Council is reflecting on a successful October school holiday period, with community events, family activities and local businesses bringing residents and visitors together across the region.

From bustling foreshore markets to skateboarding, live entertainment and community celebrations, the school holidays showcased the variety of experiences available across the Top of the Yorke and provided a welcome boost for local businesses.

Port Broughton's foreshore was a hive of activity on Sunday 4 October, with around 50 stalls lining the foreshore for the Broughton Seaside Markets. Hundreds of families enjoyed the sunshine and made the most of the region's coastal setting and facilities.

The Broughton Rubber Duck Race added to the day's entertainment, with footage of the event featuring on Channel 7 Adelaide News.

Local businesses also benefited from the increased activity, with new café Jetty Brew opening over the October long weekend and welcoming customers throughout the school holidays. The Port Broughton Bakery also experienced its first school holiday period under new ownership, selling out of pastries on most days.

The following weekend brought a focus on sport and participation at the Port Broughton Skate Park, with two days of free activities delivered through Skate Park Leagues.

Ten young skaters took part in Saturday's Learn to Skate sessions, building confidence and trying new skills, before around thirteen competitors returned on Sunday for the Skate Park Leagues competition. Participants showcased their abilities on scooters, BMX bikes and skateboards, with the event welcoming all skill levels.

The Thomas Plains Tennis Club also marked a significant milestone on Sunday 11 October, celebrating 125 years at the former Thomas Plains School site.

Mayor Leonie Kerley said the school holiday period demonstrated the value of local events, community initiatives and businesses working together to create an inviting destination for families and visitors.

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"These events take a great deal of effort from local businesses, community groups, volunteers and organisers. Their contribution helps create memorable experiences for families while supporting our local economy and showcasing what makes the Top of the Yorke a great place to visit.

"It has also been encouraging to see new businesses opening their doors and welcoming both locals and visitors."

The school holiday program concluded without any reported safety issues, rounding out a positive period of activity for the Barunga West region.

Council thanks the local businesses, community groups, volunteers, event organisers and participants who contributed to the program and helped make the October school holidays a success and looks forward to welcoming people back to the region for the next school holiday period.

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