



Note From Gabby

Hi everyone,

In challenging times, I've found myself really noticing the quieter moments - the ones that don't always get seen, but mean so much. **The small acts of kindness, the check-ins, and the support given without hesitation.** These are the moments that bring comfort, build resilience, and remind us that we're never alone.

Lately, it's been a real reminder that across GSSA, we show up for each other. No matter the challenge, there's a collective effort, a shared commitment to getting through it side by side.

If you're looking for connection, please remember our **\$10 meal and drink** deals down at the GSSA Ability Cafe each Friday. It's more than just a meal - it's a space where people come together, where conversations happen, and where people genuinely love to give back.

If you're in need of a hot meal, we'd love to share that with you. And even if you're not, you're always welcome to come down - meet new people, have a coffee, enjoy some scones or a meal. In these challenging times, it's important to remember that these spaces exist, and they're here for all of us.

There's something really special about being part of a community where people genuinely want the best for one another. It's felt, it's real, and it's what carries us through.

So in the words of Bob Marley, one love, one life - let's get together and feel alright.



Take care,

Gabrielle Mackenzie

Managing Director



Adam "The Bike Man" Back on Track

Many of you will know Adam, affectionately known as "The Bike Man," who spends time each week in his shed at Genuine Support Services repairing and restoring bicycles.

Recently, Adam faced a setback when his shed was broken into (twice) with bikes and tools stolen. It was a tough blow, but what followed has been nothing short of inspiring.

Thanks to the **incredible generosity** of our staff and the wider community, including contributions from Bridge Salvage and several kind anonymous donors, Adam has been able to rebuild what was lost.

We're thrilled to share that Adam is now back doing what he loves, fixing bikes and bringing joy to others. His story is a wonderful reminder of the power of community and what can be achieved when people come together to support one another.



Adam pictured here with a representative from Bridge Salvage.

Staff Milestones



MAY - JUNE - JULY 2026

We are proud to celebrate some incredible milestones, with a number of our valued team members reaching 5 years of service with Genuine Support Services Australia.



Rachel's journey is a special one, having started with GSSA as a young person in the café and growing into a confident and capable support worker in the field. She has consistently stepped up where needed, showing maturity, reliability and a strong commitment to her team and the people she supports.



Olivia also reached this milestone, progressing from Rostering Officer to Senior Team Leader. Throughout her time, she has shown resilience, adaptability and strong leadership, supporting her team with care and integrity.



We also celebrate **Bee, Nigel, India, Heather, Kayla, Laarni** and **Adut** on reaching 5 years with GSSA, a fantastic achievement and a testament to their ongoing commitment and dedication.



Congratulations and a **huge thank you to all** for the dedication and passion you bring each day, we are grateful to have you all as a part of the GSSA team.



YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME



Each day, we're reminded why we do what we do. The people we support generously share their ideas, their hopes, and the little things that matter every day.

.....♥.....
Every suggestion is a gift, helping us shape and refine our support so it feels more personal, more meaningful, and more empowering.

.....♥.....
We're grateful for the trust placed in us and proud to walk alongside each person on their journey. By learning together, we continue to grow, ensuring our support stays genuine, thoughtful, and focused on what really counts: helping people live the lives they choose with confidence and dignity.

Celebrating Our Team



Rachel & Gabrielle



Gabrielle & Olivia



Bee & Gabrielle



Gabrielle & Nigel



EMBRACE CONNECT GROW

GOOD NEWS STORY

Smiley The Steam Train Driver

Young creative Cadeyrn Smith is once again bringing imagination to life, supported by the Coorong District Council, and Genuine Support Service Australia's Fresh Perspective Photography, Cadeyrn's second children's book, "Smiley the Steam Train Driver" will soon be available around the Murraylands districts.

With the help of ChatGPT, Kellie Jaensch, and local retired photographer Glenn Power, both of Tailem Bend, Cadeyrn's voice and dreams of sharing his love of storytelling continues.

Set around the historic railway hub of Tailem Bend, the story follows a young boy who dreams of becoming a steam train driver. Under the watchful eye of Sir Reginald Pott, the railway overseer, Smiley begins a journey filled with adventure, discovery, and friendship.

From Tailem Bend, Smiley travels along his beloved, now disused, Loxton and Pinnaroo main branch lines, visiting places like Karoonda and exploring the region's rich railway heritage. Along the way, he inspects tracks for safety, visits Tailem Bend's Roundhouse, and learns the stories behind the rails - including time spent at the Tailem Bend Information Station and the dark and mysterious railway master's home at Peake.



Cadeyrn Smith "Smiley", researching his second children's book at the Tailem Bend Information Station

Smiley is never alone. His loyal engines bring the journey to life Tomlin the bright blue engine, Edwin the dependable tender, Harold the steady green companion, Grayson the powerful express, and others, each with their own personality and purpose.

Beyond the tracks, Smiley finds joy by the river, explores local landmarks, and forms a lifelong bond with "Jack", the mysterious lost railway puppy.

Cadeyrn's heartfelt story celebrates dreams, community, and the enduring spirit of regional rail. With proofreading underway, the book is set for release soon - another proud achievement from a talented Murraylands creator.



Cadeyrn pictured here with his first book "Smiley's Steam Train Dream".

If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact Jessica on
8166 7577



SPECIAL EVENTS

Easter Bowling

A fantastic night was had at the GSSA Bowling Night, with an amazing turnout and plenty of fun on the lanes! It was great to see so many people getting into the spirit and dressing the part, adding to the lively and fun atmosphere.

Events like these are a wonderful way to bring our community together, and it's always special to see everyone connecting and enjoying themselves.

Be sure to join us for our next Country & Western Superhero's Bowling Night on Friday 31st July 2026 - we'd love to see you there!



★ COUNTRY & WESTERN SUPERHEROES! ★

BOWLING




BRIDGE BOWL

6A MAURICE RD MURRAY BRIDGE

\$9 - ONE GAME
\$15 - TWO GAMES




FRIDAY - 31 JULY 2026
6PM - 9PM

Come along dressed up for a fun night of bowling!

Phone Jessica on 8166 7577 to put your name on the list!



JURLIQUE Farm Tour

Exploring nature, connection and community

MAY - JUNE - JULY 2026

The Jurlique Farm tour held on Saturday 14th March was a truly special day, with the gardens looking lush, vibrant and filled with the most beautiful aromas at every turn. From the moment we arrived, there was a real sense of calm and connection with nature that made the experience even more memorable. Walking through the farm and learning how the products are grown and made using organic and biodynamic methods was fascinating, and it gave everyone a deeper appreciation for the care and detail that goes into each product.

We were also able to see firsthand the different stages of the growing process and hear from knowledgeable staff who shared insights and answered questions along the way. It was a wonderful opportunity to slow down, take it all in, and enjoy something a little different together.

To top off a perfect day, we finished with a wonderful picnic together. There was plenty of chatting, laughing and good company, all while enjoying the gorgeous weather. It was one of those days where everything just came together perfectly, leaving everyone feeling relaxed, refreshed and grateful for the experience.



*Our next Jurlique Farm Tour is coming up 14 November, 2026
Trust us.... if you missed this one, you'll definitely want to be at the next!*



UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER BY THE FIRE

Night

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026
6 PM - 9 PM

EGO FARM
2776 JERVOIS RD, JERVOIS

JOIN US FOR A HEARTWARMING EVENING!
A cosy, soulful night of music, quiet moments and storytelling under the winter sky.

OPEN MIC
Bring along your guitar, instruments, or just your voice and share a song or story.

BYO
Campfire chair and marshmallows.

DON'T FORGET TO DRESS WARM

- ✔ Sausage Sizzle \$2.50
- ✔ Coffee & Hot Chocolate \$5.50
- ✔ Soft Drinks \$3.50

FREE ENTRY
Bookings essential to help with catering - phone Jessica on 8166 7577





Genuine Support Services Australia

COME & TRY

Crochet

Relax, Create & Learn Something New!

Tuesday 5th May
&
Tuesday 12th May
9.30am - 3.30pm

GSSA Activities Room
6 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge




Join us for some fun, hands-on crochet sessions. Learn the basics or build on your skills in a relaxed and supportive space.

EVERYONE WELCOME
Bookings Essential
10 Places Available
To secure your place, please call Jessica on **8166 7577**
BYO - Lunch

Cost/Session
\$5 - NDIS Clients
\$10 - General Public
Crochet Kit & Morning Tea Supplied



Genuine Support Services Australia

Client & Staff Lunch

Date: 16th June 2026
Time: 11.30am

LUOGO
56 Bridge Street, Murray Bridge

DELICIOUS REGULAR LUNCH SPECIALS AVAILABLE

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Call Jessica on 8166 7577 to book your spot




Community Rallies Behind Wendy’s Fight Against MS

Easter Saturday brought more than just long-weekend cheer, with local Tailem Bend Indoor Bowling resident, Wendy Johnson, turning her Purnong garage into a hub of generosity and hope.

Wendy hosted a community garage sale to raise funds for her upcoming 50-kilometre walk in May as part of her ongoing fight against multiple sclerosis (MS). Thanks to strong local support, the sale has already raised an impressive **\$1,100** - and counting.



A CLIENT’S INSPIRING JOURNEY

A client of Genuine Support Services Australia, Wendy continues to inspire those around her with her determination and resilience. Despite living with MS, she reports her health as stable and remains focused on staying active. “I’m motivated by the generous people who not only have my back, but continue to donate to my cause,” Wendy said. “Keeping walking helps not only raise funds but also supports my physical and mental health.”

“*I won’t let the disease beat me.*”



ONE STEP AT A TIME

Wendy draws on a simple but powerful philosophy: “If you don’t use it, you lose it.” It’s this mindset that keeps her moving forward—both in her daily life and as she prepares to walk 50 kilometers next month. Her message is clear and heartfelt: “I won’t let the disease beat me.”



STRONGER TOGETHER

Now a familiar face in the community for her annual fundraising efforts, Wendy’s commitment continues to grow each year, inspiring others to get behind the cause. Wendy Johnson’s journey is a powerful reminder of strength, community spirit, and the impact of giving.



With May fast approaching, Wendy is encouraging the community to get involved. “Please donate and support my 50K walk,” she said. “Together, we can help kiss goodbye to MS.”



.....♥.....
Wendy Johnson of Purnong taking a quick break from her weekly Tailem Bend Indoor Bowls, Willow Street Precinct, Tailem Bend - April 9, 2026.
.....♥.....



MAY - JUNE - JULY 2026



GSSA MAIN OFFICE

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Genuine Support Services Australia