

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 6 July 2017



Pictured: 'Deep Bulldust' by Mark Thompson, from the recent project - Advice to Travellers

Long Story Short

Following its nationally recognised arts lead renewal program “Creating Coonalpyn”, Council is excited to announce the receipt of funding to develop its next ground breaking regional arts project. The \$5,000 co-contribution grant from Country Arts SA will scope potential community projects to determine creative partnerships with lead artists, to deliver a series of public artworks within the Coorong region.

‘Long Story Short’ will see Council push the arts frontier with new audio and visual works that interpret stories about human experience, personalities and fables that reflect its local environment and communities. For travellers, these stories have been mostly invisible, unknown and unshared. This project will bring these stories to life, with an objective to encourage commuters to connect and think broader via humor and optimism. Whilst this grant will be used to scope the project, the anticipated outcome will be the branding of our region, via its highways as one that is rich in stories and culture rather than merely a conduit to a another destination.

Mayor Neville Jaensch said “storytelling connects men and assists them weather the daily challenges of many aspects of regional life during times of historical, cultural and personal upheaval.” He said “this rich form of connection will underpin a community project that translates these stories and folklore through art works and innovative digital strategies.”

Postal Address:

PO Box 399
TAILEM BEND SA 5260
Email: council@coorong.sa.gov.au
Web: www.coorong.sa.gov.au

Coorong Civic Centre

95 – 101 Railway Terrace
TAILEM BEND SA 5260
Phone: 1300 785 277
Fax: 08 8572 3822

Meningie Customer Service Centre

49 Princes Highway
MENINGIE SA 5264

Tintinara Customer Service Centre

37 Becker Terrace
TINTINARA SA 5266

'Long Story Short' will work with experienced community facilitator and cultural researcher, Mark Thomson, who has spent decades working with regional men through his writing and projects. He is familiar with the importance of men's roles and of keeping men meaningfully connected. The project will focus on addressing the high risk category for suicide in regional areas by using humor to counteract depression, isolation and assist in building connectivity.

This project reinforces the leadership Council has shown through its Coorong Suicide Prevention Network (SPN) and as a key partner and stakeholder. The SPN action plan will be updated to include this outstanding community project.

With the success of this grant application from Country Arts SA, Council will look to the next major round of funding opportunities which will activate these projects with engaged community partners.

ENDS

Contact

Nat Traeger
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY & CORPORATE
Phone: 1300 785 277



Postal Address:

PO Box 399
TAILEM BEND SA 5260
Email: council@coorong.sa.gov.au
Web: www.coorong.sa.gov.au

Coorong Civic Centre

95 – 101 Railway Terrace
TAILEM BEND SA 5260
Phone: 1300 785 277
Fax: 08 8572 3822

Meningie Customer Service Centre

49 Princes Highway
MENINGIE SA 5264

Tintinara Customer Service Centre

37 Becker Terrace
TINTINARA SA 5266