

MEDIA RELEASE



Subject: **Historic Captain's Cottage Museum in Murray Bridge Reopens After Revitalisation**

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The Rural City of Murray Bridge Council proudly announces the much-anticipated reopening of the Captain's Cottage Museum. This iconic site, nestled in the heart of Murray Bridge, has been revitalised through renovations, promising visitors a more immersive and educational journey into the region's rich history.

Constructed in 1890 by the notable Captain Adam Johnstone, the Captain's Cottage Museum stands as a testament to the area's vibrant past. Captain Johnstone, a key figure in introducing steam navigation on the River Murray, laid the foundation for what would become a central repository of Murraylands' history. Since its acquisition by the Council in 1990, the museum has been a treasure trove of artefacts, photographs and memorabilia, narrating the story of Murray Bridge and its evolution.

The recent renovation, initiated in January 2023, was designed to enhance the storytelling of the Johnstone family's pioneering life and the development of transport and agriculture in Murray Bridge. The museum, reopening 2 December 2023, invites visitors to step back in time and explore the turn-of-the-century lifestyle, the dairy industry's evolution, the enchantment of paddle steamers and the advent of railway transport.

Heather Barclay, CEO of the Rural City of Murray Bridge, is looking forward to the Captain's Cottage being open for visitors again.

"The reopening of the Captain's Cottage Museum marks an exciting moment for our community. We are eager to welcome visitors and residents alike to reconnect with the rich heritage of Murray Bridge and explore the stories that have shaped our region", said Heather.

The Captain's Cottage Museum features an extensive collection of historic engines, farm machinery, model boats, trains, toys and a remarkable photographic collection. Visitors can immerse themselves in the detailed model dairy and after exploring the exhibits, relax in the serene surroundings of the lawns, set amidst beautiful cottage gardens and historical relics.

Reopening 2 December 2023, the Captain's Cottage will be ready to welcome visitors on weekends and public holidays from 10 am to 4 pm. It is an ideal destination for families, history enthusiasts and anyone interested in the rich tapestry of Murray Bridge's past.

For more information, visit the Captain's Cottage Website at www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au/captainscottage