

BEYOND THE GAME



Welcome to the first edition of the Connected & Active Communities Program Newsletter - Beyond the Game!

We're excited to bring you the latest updates on how sport and recreation is helping to create a healthier, more inclusive community here in Port Lincoln.

Over the past few months, we've been laying the foundations for big things to come – and we're thrilled to share some of the early wins and upcoming opportunities.

This monthly newsletter is only going to be as good as we make it – so please share with us your latest news to keep our community up to speed with what's going on in your club or organisation.

Introducing Your CAC Officer

We're pleased to welcome Georgie Shirley, who joined us in late July as the new Connected and Active Communities (CAC) Project Officer. Georgie has got off to a great start, meeting with local sporting clubs and community organisations to better understand the unique needs and opportunities across our sporting network.

If you haven't already had a chance to connect, don't hesitate to reach out – she'd love to hear from you!

Georgie Shirley

georgina.shirley@plcc.sa.gov.au
(08)8621 2319

In this newsletter you can expect:

CAC Updates

Available Grants and Training

Stories of Impact

Spotlight on a Sport

Sports Voucher News

Good Sports Program Update

Community Spotlight: Kindergym Connect Expands to Empower More Port Lincoln Families

Port Lincoln Gymnastics Club is pleased to receive funding for the second round of its “Kindergym Connect” program – an inclusive initiative supporting families with children aged 0–5 years who have sensory differences or developmental needs. This heartwarming program has been made possible through the Connected and Active Communities Program.

What's it all about?

Kindergym Connect was launched to address a critical need for children under five with sensory differences or developmental needs, including children on the autism spectrum. It offers a safe, sensory-friendly space where children can thrive through tailored activities that promote motor skills, confidence, and joy. Just as importantly, the program provides parents and caregivers with access to peer support, resources, and opportunities to connect with others who understand their journey.

Born from lived experience

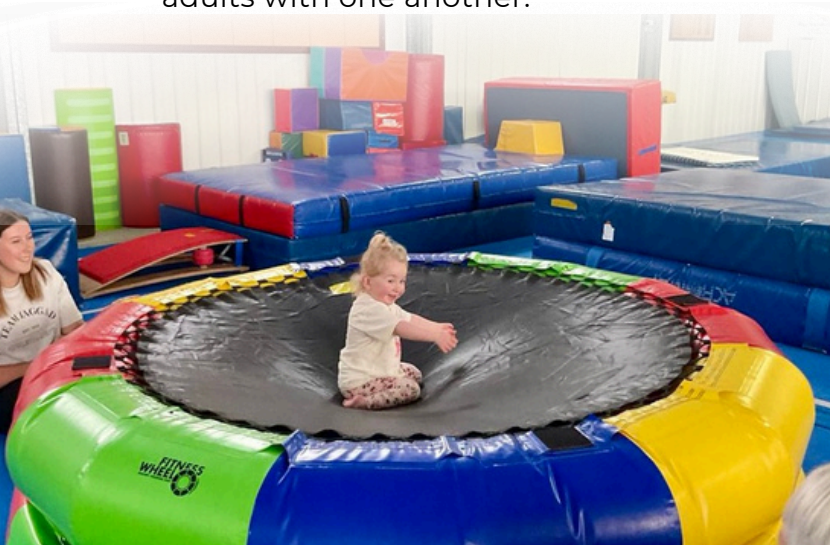
After discussions with member parents, Kirton Point Children's Centre, Tobruk Centre, and the City of Port Lincoln, it became clear there was a real need for a program specifically for children under five. Learning Together Communities educator Zoe Foord helped enable “a closed group for kids with developmental needs or difficulties in a small group setting – connecting children with programs and peers, and adults with one another.”



Families within the gymnastics club community shared stories of isolation and limited access to suitable spaces where their children could participate in a supportive and accessible environment, tailored to individual needs and abilities. “Kindergym Connect has been a lifeline for parents in Port Lincoln whose children’s needs aren’t met by mainstream programs. It’s so lovely to see the kids freely explore and express themselves in a safe space, which then makes the outside world easier for them to deal with.” — *Laura Hennebery, parent of Sadie from Kindergym Connect.*

After a successful first year in 2025, the Gymnastics Club is thrilled to continue this offering in 2026. Program co-developer Annie Jantke shared: “Kindergym Connect is more than just a gymnastics program – it’s a safe haven for families seeking connection, understanding, and a space to grow together.” With a greater goal of increasing awareness in the community about inclusiveness and safe sport and recreation participation spaces, Kindergym Connect is a testament to what can be achieved when community, compassion, and movement come together.

For any enquiries please contact the Club Admin on 8683 3055.



Future Sport Leaders Program

Ages 15 - 17



We are developing the next generation of sport and recreation leaders

Nominations close 12 November 2025

Expression of interest →

Connected and Active Communities

Port Lincoln

georgina.shirley@plcc.sa.gov.au

We've recently opened nominations for the Future Sport Leaders Program, aimed at youth aged 15–17 who are ready to step up, lead, and grow through sport.

This flexible program supports physical activity, volunteering, and skills development, and will award participants 10 SACE points on successful completion.

This is a great chance to empower our youth to shape the future of sport in our region. Click on the image to find out more.

Applications close midnight 12th November.



Club Training Calendar on the Way

Following on from feedback received in the April 2024 club survey, we're developing a training calendar to upskill and support our clubs.

Topics will include:

- Grant writing
- Increasing participation
- Strategic planning
- Communications and marketing

The full training offering will take place in early 2026 – watch this space for further news!

CAC NEWS

Early Wins: Two Projects Funded!

We're pleased to report that two locally driven projects have already secured funding under the CAC program:

- Kindergym Connect – Port Lincoln Gymnastics Club - Supporting connection and physical literacy for young children and their families.
- Women's Wellbeing Program, Yarredi Services Inc. An empowering wellness program supporting women impacted by domestic and family violence.

These projects are fantastic examples of how sport and recreation can support social inclusion and community wellbeing. We look forward to seeing the outcomes from these fantastic locally driven programs!

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Preventive Health's Suicide

Prevention funding program

Up to \$5,000 available for projects that help clubs respond compassionately and effectively to suicide-related incidents.

Closes 31/10/2025.

[Visit website](#)

City of Port Lincoln

Community Quick Response Grants

Up to \$1,000 are available to support small-scale community events, activities, and programs (not equipment).

Application forms available on the [City of Port Lincoln website](#).

Congratulations to the successful recipients of the City of Port Lincoln 2025/26 Community Sport and Recreation Grants! [Read about it here.](#)

New Grant incoming!

The Office of Recreation, Sport and Racing will shortly be opening a new funding program- the Sector Success Program. Watch this space for more info to come!

Funding Opportunity through the Connected and Active Communities Program - We Want Your Ideas!



Are you part of a local sport club or community organisation looking to grow your membership and make a difference?

We're inviting applications for funding to support programs and projects that align with the following Connected and Active Communities (CAC) initiatives:

Champions of Change: Identifying young people who have a positive influence on their peers and giving them chances to grow into leadership roles

Club Health Check: Understanding what support clubs need and providing them with appropriate training

Facility Coordination: Promoting collaboration and sharing of resources to maximise facility usage

Continues on next page...

Heart of the Community: Removing barriers to participation and using sport to address social problems such as domestic violence, mental health challenges, supporting First Nations communities, and helping families in need.

Funding Priority will be given to the following key areas:

- Domestic and Family Violence Prevention
- Female Inclusion within Clubs
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Support for Disengaged Young People
- Partnering with First Nations People
- Working with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities

Whether you're launching a new initiative or expanding an existing one, this is your chance to improve your club or organisation, while making a positive impact on people's lives through sport.

Follow this link to reach out to the Connected and Active Communities Project Officer today to learn more.

Sports Vouchers – Where We Stand vs the Rest of the State

Thanks to the SA Sports Vouchers Program, Port Lincoln currently ranks 4th out of 100 in SA, with 1,599 vouchers claimed in 2025 so far!

Here's a snapshot of what we're seeing:

- Soccer and netball clubs are seeing strong growth in usage
- Gymnastics continues to climb
- Football voucher claims remain steady post-COVID
- Baseball and basketball are needing a boost!

We want to encourage further uptake, especially in the lead-up to the summer sport season. Clubs can help by checking voucher data and promoting eligibility among families.

👉 Find out more and apply and claim for a Sports Voucher **HERE**.





More than a Game - A Local Story of Growth and Connection through Sport

What started as a casual invite at the gym turned into a life-changing journey for one passionate local from Port Lincoln.

With no prior experience beyond kicking a footy at school and with her brothers, Tammie Waters took a leap into the women's football (then) 9-a-side competition, and hasn't looked back since.

"I'd never considered playing football before," she recalls. "But I joined a Friday night team and discovered a whole new world."

Since then, footy has become more than just a sport, it's a community. Having spent over 20 years in netball, she found something uniquely special in football. "Maybe it's the amount of people that are involved to make the game happen or that I joined women's football in its early stages in Port Lincoln. There is a community element that is hard to describe."

Over five years, her confidence and personal growth have flourished. "I'm not the same person I was before. The sport has given me so much."

She's passionate about the benefits of sport for young women in regional areas. "Team sport teaches commitment, connection, and confidence. It's not just about winning- it's about those little personal victories that build you up."

Volunteering is another area close to her heart. "It's vital." Tammie says. "If you love your sport, give back - even small efforts help. Too often, a few people carry the load for many. There's always a way to pitch in and lighten that load."

For those unsure where to start, her advice is simple: "Just ask. Message the club, talk to someone - there's always a way to get involved."

Women's football in Port Lincoln has come a long way. "Every season gets better. The skill level has grown, and the game has become more strategic. It's amazing to see."

She reflects on the power of visibility in sport and the notion of "if you can't see it, you can't be it".

"Growing up, I never imagined playing footy. So having the opportunity for girls to see not only AFLW, but a local women's leagues now, is very powerful."

Standout moments include progressing from playing on a modified oval to moving to the full-sized Poole Oval and witnessing teammates' first goals and tackles. "That look of pride and joy on a teammates face - it's unforgettable."

Looking ahead, she hopes the league maintains its supportive spirit. "We can be competitive, but let's keep that camaraderie that made the early years so special."

Her message to the community? "Go watch a game. Cheer someone on. And if you've ever thought about playing- just take the leap. You'll never know what you're capable of until you try." ♦





West Coast Swimmers Shine at National Meet

Four talented swimmers from the West Coast Swimming Club recently returned from the 2025 National Country Championships in Darwin, where they delivered outstanding performances and proudly represented Port Lincoln on the national stage.

Ebony Wright, Lacey Cullen, Dusty Siviour, and Bradley Wright each achieved personal bests in every event they entered, earning national JX rankings and showcasing the strength of regional swimming. Dusty broke a South Australian Country Record in the 50m Breaststroke, while Ebony was named Best 11-12 y/o Female Swimmer of the Meet after winning ten events.

The swimmers also teamed up for the Open Water Relay, finishing in third place. Their success highlights their dedication to the sport and the supportive environment fostered by the West Coast Swimming Club.

Coach Nicol Wright praised the team's efforts, noting the meet was a fantastic start to the season and a testament to the club's commitment to excellence and inclusion in sport.



Bryce Hammond to Represent Australia for Hockey in Malaysia This Week!



Mia and Javier set to compete at State Tennis Regionals!

Congratulations to Mia Schlink for taking out the under 14 Girls State Regional title recently at the Tennis SA Foundation Cup in Berri!

A huge shoutout also to both Mia and Javier Keatley for earning their spots in the State Regional Team set to compete in Queensland this December.

Amazing effort, and all the best guys!

Port Lincoln's own Bryce Hammond is heading to Malaysia to compete in the prestigious Sultan of Johor Cup as part of Australia's Under 21 hockey team. He was recently honoured with the SA Regional Championships Junior Ambassador Award for his outstanding achievements in state and national hockey. Over the October long weekend, he also gave back to the sport by coaching the Port Lincoln Under 19 boys' team at the SA State Regional Junior Championships. Bryce moved to Adelaide in 2022 and has been playing with Adelaide Fire in the Hockey One League.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Blue Ball Tennis Program for 3-5 YO's

HOTSHOTS JUNIOR TENNIS PROGRAM

🎾 Get your little ones engaged in sports 🎾

30 minute classes with creative play based activities that stimulate and appeal to your child's curiosity and imagination!

BENEFITS

- Improve perceptual movement skills like throwing, catching, balancing & running
- Encourage a healthy lifestyle
- Develop important social skills

Contact Mat Brown for more Information

📞 0405 703 692

✉️ lowereptenniscoaching@gmail.com

📘 Lower EP Tennis Coaching



LOWER EP TENNIS

COACHING
MAT BROWN

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

25 NOVEMBER – 10 DECEMBER



Join the global movement to end gender-based violence and promote human rights. Wear **ORANGE** to show your support and stand for a future free from violence.



From 25 November to 10 December, stand with our community in support of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, culminating on International Human Rights Day on the 10th of December.

Invite your sporting club to wear orange during competitions throughout the 16 Days of Activism to help shine a light on gender-based violence.



Zonta Dinner

 25th November 2025

An inspiring evening hosted by Zonta. Come along, connect, and show your support. Tickets and further details available soon.



We would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to Beck who is working with sporting clubs in Port Lincoln as part of the **Good Sports Program**.



It is wonderful to hear that many sporting clubs in Port Lincoln have joined the program and six clubs have achieved gold accreditation.

The Good Sports program is a free initiative designed to support community sporting clubs by promoting safer, healthier and a more family friendly environment for all. Over the past 25 years, it has helped over 12,500 clubs across 120 sports codes nationwide.

The program strengthens club policies and practices around alcohol consumption, illegal drug use, safe transport, safe celebrations, and mental health support.

Key benefits include:

- Free online program to help clubs build policies around alcohol, smoking, mental health, drugs, safe transport, and junior safety
- Access to a wide range of tools, resources, and educational modules
- Grant support, including a database of opportunities and letters of recommendation
- Awards program with recognition and cash prizes
- \$175 merchandise credit for Gold Accredited Clubs
- Dedicated Relationship Manager support, including workshops and incident assistance

You can learn more about the program here [Become a Good Sports club](#) and register your club here: [Sign Up - Good Sports](#).

Beck would love to see how Good Sports can assist your club and further support those clubs who have already joined. Beck can also support you with registering the club and accessing the resources and information on the portal.

If you have any questions or require support, please contact Beck on 0438 010 252 or rebecca.ainsworth@adf.org.au



**GOOD SPORTS
AWARDS 2025**



**NOMINATE NOW FOR THE
GOOD SPORTS AWARDS!**

**Celebrate your best and
nominate today - your club
could win up to \$2000 by
doing so!**

LEARN MORE



SPOTLIGHT On a SPORT

Photos taken by
Glyn Chillingworth
during the Masters
Games held in Port
Augusta, April 2025.



Blue Water Raiders Dragon Boat Club

The Blue Water Raiders Dragon Boat Club is a group of men and women who share a passion for teamwork, fitness, and fun—on and off the water.

Since our founding in 2005, we've celebrated many achievements, including Gold and Silver medals at the Masters Games in Adelaide. Today, we proudly operate dragon boats in both Tumby Bay and Port Lincoln.

Our members have paddled in events across Australia—from Broome's Pearl Festival Regatta to the 57km Ord River Marathon in Kununurra, and even 58km along the Murray River. We've competed in Adelaide, Mildura, Ceduna, Streaky Bay, Wallaroo, and Melbourne. Some members have gone on to represent South Australia and Australia at national and international levels!

We train regularly in Tumby Bay and Port Lincoln, and often explore other bays and coastlines for endurance and adventure paddles. It's a great way to stay active, meet people, and enjoy the outdoors.

We welcome new members of all ages and experience levels. Our club members meet 7:30am each Saturday morning at the Marina ramp for a one hour paddle followed by coffee and breakfast. Anyone who would like a "come'n try it" paddle is most welcome, the only proviso is the ability to swim 50 metres.

Interested in joining or learning more? Reach out to us on 0437 038 416 - or email bluewaterraiders@gmail.com

PORT LINCOLN WORKSHOP

Little Athletics SA & Disability SA Proudly Present:

INCLUSION AND SUPPORTING NEURODIVERSE ATHLETES FREE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP

 **Ravendale Sporting Complex, 40
Stamford Terrace, Port Lincoln**

 **Wednesday 29 October 2025**

 **6:00pm - 7:00pm**

 **Disability SA**

SCAN ME



Little Athletics & Disability SA will be running an Inclusion Workshop dedicated to educating SALAA members on how to support neurodiverse athletes in sport.

- Learn practical ways to support neurodiverse athletes so they feel included and confident at Little Athletics.
- Gain a better understanding of how clubs can adapt activities to meet the needs of all children.
- Feel more confident in supporting your own child, as well as others, to enjoy athletics in a safe and welcoming environment.
- Contribute to building a more inclusive and supportive culture within your Little Athletics community.

DETAILS

Location – Ravendale Sporting Complex, 40 Stamford Terrace, Port Lincoln.

Date – Wednesday 29 October.

Time – 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Cost – Free.

[**Register here**](#)

Know a volunteer who's gone above and beyond this year?
Now's your chance to recognise their incredible impact!
Nominate them for the 2025 [Australian Sports Commission Sport Volunteer of the Year Award](#) and give them the national spotlight they deserve - with a special guest presenting the award at their club
Nominations close Sunday 26 October 2025.
[Submit your nomination](#)



2025 SPORT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominate today!


Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

**PLAY
WELL**



PORT LINCOLN SCOUT GROUP

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

JOIN THE ADVENTURE!



**LEADERS
ASSISTANT LEADERS
ADULT HELPERS
COMMITTEE**

 **JOEY SCOUTS** 5-8 YRS
MON 6 - 7.30PM

 **CUB SCOUTS** 8-11 YRS
MON 6 - 7.30PM

 **SCOUTS** 11-15 YRS
THUR 6.30 - 8.30PM

0437 380 823

gl.ptlincoln@sa.scouts.com.au

The Port Lincoln Scout Group is back for Term Four and welcoming new members! Vacancies are available across all sections, including Joeys (5-7 years), Cubs (8-11 years), and Scouts (11-15 years). Adult volunteer roles are also open.

First Night Back:

 Thursday, 16th October

 Joeys & Cubs: 6:00-7:30pm

 Scouts: 6:30-8:30pm

We are an approved Sports Voucher provider!

For more details, message us on Facebook or visit

www.sa.scouts.com.au/portlincoln.

Be prepared for a new adventure!

Squash is Back!

Lincoln Squash mixed Pennant Adult Competition starts on the 25th of October at 5:30pm.

Juniors coaching also recommences 21/10/25 at 4:30pm.

Venue: Lincoln Leisure Centre
All grades welcome.

Further information contact:

Adam Manders: 0438124828

or

Lucas Wheeler: 0417706478



**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED
ASSOCIATION**

PORT LINCOLN CENTRE

www.rdasa.org.au



Rider Registration

contact for enquiries & paperwork

0476 266 665 or

portlincolnrdasa1@gmail.com

Riding for the Disabled South Australia is a non-profit organisation providing opportunities for anyone with a disability to participate in and enjoy horse-related activities in a safe and inclusive environment for recreation, sport and therapeutic purposes.

Riding for the Disabled was first incorporated here in South Australia in 1972 and currently operate at nine metro, regional, rural and remote sites including our Port Lincoln Centre.

Mini Movers

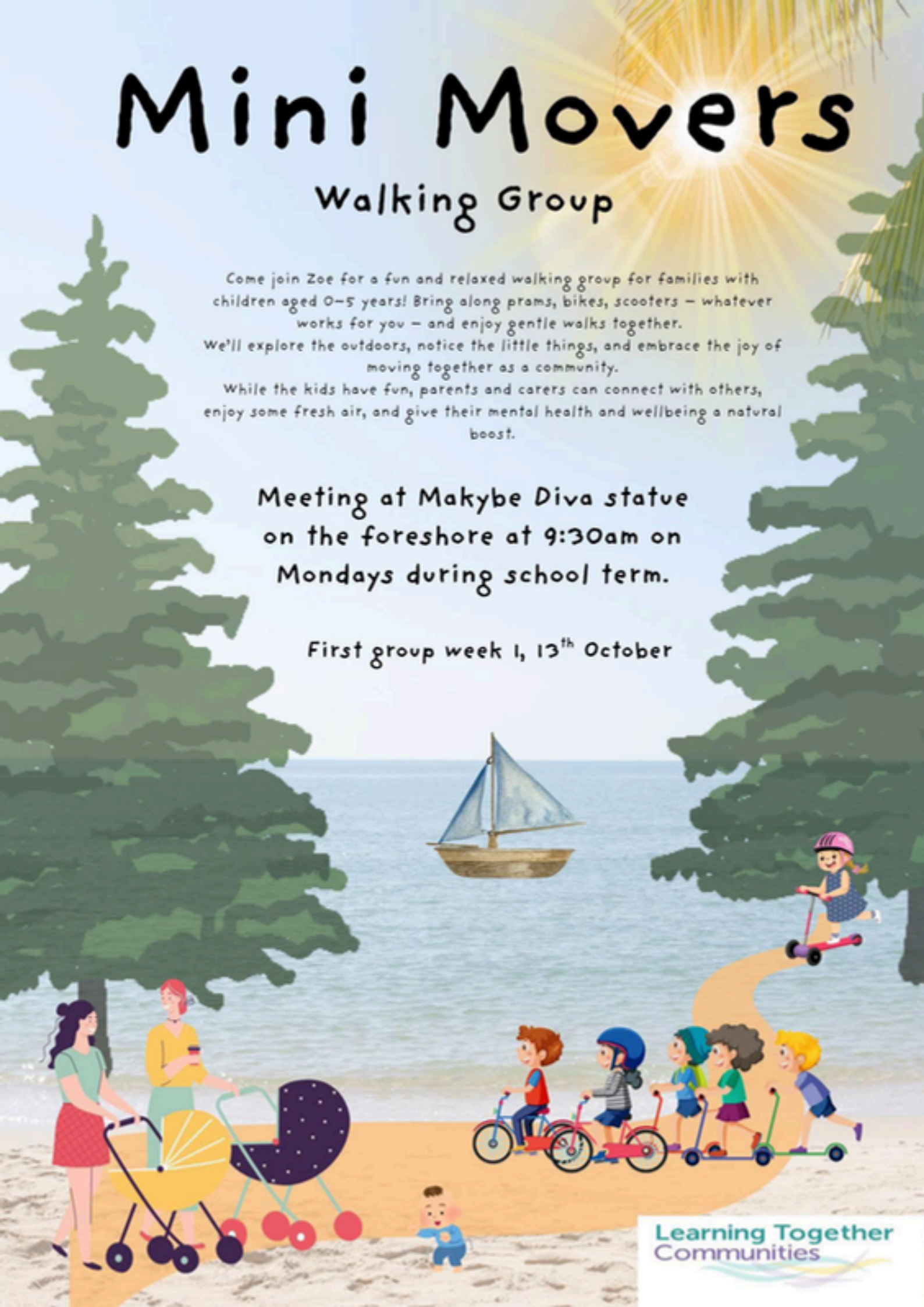
Walking Group

Come join Zoe for a fun and relaxed walking group for families with children aged 0-5 years! Bring along prams, bikes, scooters – whatever works for you – and enjoy gentle walks together. We'll explore the outdoors, notice the little things, and embrace the joy of moving together as a community.

While the kids have fun, parents and carers can connect with others, enjoy some fresh air, and give their mental health and wellbeing a natural boost.

Meeting at Makybe Diva statue
on the foreshore at 9:30am on
Mondays during school term.

First group week 1, 13th October





Your Stories Wanted!

A big thanks to the clubs and organisations who contributed to the augural edition of “Beyond the Game” e-newsletter. We are now looking towards the next one, to celebrate local wins, highlight upcoming programs and events, and share inspiring stories from across our sporting network.

Each edition will feature:

- Community impact stories
- Grant funding and training opportunities
- Upcoming events
- A spotlight feature on a different local sport or club

We’re calling out for content – so if your club or organisation has a Come & Try Day, an inclusive initiative, or even just a great story to share, we want to hear from you!

Email your news and we’ll help turn it into a professional, eye-catching feature to inspire the broader community.

We’re Building the Heart of the Community – Together

At the core of the Connected and Active Communities Program initiative is the belief that sport connects us – across generations, backgrounds, and communities.

Whether it’s through leadership, inclusion, or simply getting more people involved, we’re working together toward one shared goal: healthy, inclusive clubs that sit at the heart of our region.

We’re looking forward to building this momentum with you.



Get in touch today:
Georgina.Shirley@plcc.sa.gov.au
 (08) 8621 2319

We work on Barngarla Country.

The City of Port Lincoln acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and their continuing connection to land, sea, culture and community.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and are committed to working together on our reconciliation journey.