



MEDIA RELEASE

15 November 2024

“OUR STORIES – OUR HISTORY”: COMMUNITY HISTORY EVENT DIVES DEEPER INTO THE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH EAST

What makes the history of the South East so distinct? Is it its shipwrecks, its sinkholes and famous volcano, its rich Indigenous heritage or the tribulations and triumphs of its settlers?

It's all of that and more – as a free, day-long history event organised by the History Council of South Australia will explore.

To be held at the Mount Gambier Public Library on Thursday 28 November, “Our Stories – Our History” will feature a line-up of fascinating local and visiting speakers, culminating with the History Council's 2024 Regional Lecture by Peter Christopher OAM: “Diving deeper into what makes the South East unique”.

Peter Christopher OAM will reflect upon his decades of traveling, working and diving the depths of the South East as a researcher and writer of shipwrecks and paddle steamers, a daring diver on sea and on land and most intrepidly, perhaps, his previous role as the Chief Industrial Officer of the Public Service Association.

The day will also feature a series of interactive round tables and workshops bringing together professional and amateur historians, representatives of South Australian archives and libraries as well as local history luminaries.

Everyone is welcome, from the seasoned researcher through to those who are curious to know more about the region they live in. If you love family history, local history, delving deep into old collections, visiting museums, stately houses and cemeteries, this all-day history 'get-together' is for you.

The event will run from 9am to 5.30pm, with full program details below. For further information and to reserve your free ticket, check the Mount Gambier Library Website under 'Events'

https://mountgambier-events.bookable.net.au/#!/event-detail/ev_3b7f0317fc034c8287d5ac584c1eea76

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For further media information, please contact History Council of South Australia president professor Matt Fitzpatrick on matthew.fitzpatrick@flinders.edu.au.

“OUR STORIES – OUR HISTORY”: DAY-LONG PROGRAM

9.15 - 11am: Adelaide history institutions show & tell: Join representatives from leading South Australian institutions as they discuss their collections and access for regional users.

Chair: Dr Kiera Lindsey, South Australia’s History Advocate

- History Trust South Australia
- Genealogy SA
- State Library of South Australia
- State Records of South Australia
- National Archives of Australia

11.30am - 1pm: South East/Local History Organisations' Round Table: Local history organisations discuss their achievements and challenges.

Chair: Danni Reade, Local History Officer, City of Mount Gambier

- Mount Gambier History Group
- Mary MacKillop Centre Penola
- Sheep's Back Museum Naracoorte

2pm – 3.30pm: Our Stories - Our History Panel

Chair: Dr Carmel Pascale, Treasurer, History Council of South Australia

- Uncle Ken Jones, Boandik Elder, author and educator.
- Ian Lewis, Hydrogeologist and pioneering cave diver.
- Angela Goode, Author, former journalist, and now Regional Ambassador for the History Trust of South Australia

4pm – 5.30pm Keynote Address by Peter Christopher OAM

'Diving Deeper into what makes the South East unique': Peter Christopher OAM will reflect upon his decades of traveling, working and diving the depths of the South-East as a researcher and writer of shipwrecks and paddle steamers, a daring diver on sea and on land and most intrepidly, perhaps, his previous role as the Chief Industrial Officer of the Public Service Association.

Ends

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