



03 MAR, 2024  
**WILL KING**

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Adelaide

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## READY TO RIDE

**JEFF BLANCO** reminds me the Rotary Club of Campbelltown today is once again having its Classics on the Park event to raise money for the local CFS brigades at Athelstone, Montacute and Norton Summit Ashton. More than 200 very cool cars will converge on the oval at Thorndon Park Reserve, Hamilton Tee, Paradise, including classic, modern and rare cars from 15HP to 1500 HP. It is a fun, family friendly event in a good cause. Open 10am-2pm, with hot food,

*coffee, cold drinks, doughnuts and gelato ice cream available to enjoy while checking out the prized vehicles, entry is a gold coin donation and last year's event raised \$20,000 for the CFS.*

### 1 BAROSSA LONG LUNCHES

Two gourmet long lunches are planned, for April 25 and 26, at the Wonderground art gallery at the Mirus Vineyard at Seppeltsfield to celebrate the next stage in the evolution of this heady mix of art, wine and community. **JARRED WALKER** Photography's picture shows hosts **NICK RADFORD** and **LUKE EDWARDS** from Mirus, chefs **CLARE FALZON** and **SANDOR PALMAI**, **MEL HAMILTON** from Fino Barossa and artists **RENEE DE SAXE** and **KIRSTY KINGSLEY** from Wonderground. Limited tickets at [trybooking.com/cobdn](http://trybooking.com/cobdn).

### 2 NO STOPPING SOPHIE

Adelaide's **SOPHIE LINN** is making the world her oyster. Growing up she competed in Little Athletics and Norwood Swimming Club which saw her become a nationally-ranked junior swimmer and a long-distance track and cross-country runner. She took up triathlon after graduating with degrees in sports business and human-computer interaction from the University of Michigan in 2018, won the Gold Coast Triathlon in April 2022 and finished fifth at her first Commonwealth Games in

Birmingham where she also won bronze as the anchor on the mixed team relay. Sophie just won the 2024 Napier World Triathlon Cup – a 750m swim, 20km cycle and 5km run, with US\$7500 prizemoney. Sophie is a designer for a bike technology company in Boulder, Colorado, and trains with boyfriend **ALEXEY VERMEULEN**, a former professional bike rider.

### 3 DRINK UP

Some of our brightest young people go to university. Well that's the theory, but after seeing this sign at a UniSA drinking fountain I am beginning to wonder. First of all, do the uni students of 2024 really need a sign to tell them this is for drinking water? And if such a sign is necessary, what the heck has been going on at uni drinking fountains? Are people bathing, or perhaps washing their pets? Or is this now (eww) the preferred teeth cleaning station for students less schooled in hygiene etiquette? The mind boggles.

### 4 EYES OF BEHOLDERS

Love this pic sent in by **VICKY**, of a plaque at Brighton made from Mintaro slate by **EVAN MARKER**

announcing it is there in honour of itself, as in "this stone was placed here to celebrate the placing of this stone here."

### 5 LEAPING LAURIE

Happy 23rd birthday to **LAURIE FLETCHER**, 92. Laurie was born on a leap day, February 29, 1932, so Thursday was the 23rd time he has been able to celebrate on the actual date of his birth. The Resthaven Onkaparinga Community Services client marked the day with the Men's Group he attends fortnightly. "I've



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always had the choice of either February 28 or March 1 – so I’d

usually choose the one closest to the weekend,” Laurie says. Adding interest, his older brother was born on February 28 so not surprisingly would always prefer Laurie to pick March 1. Did any women readers propose marriage, as is one of the traditions?

### 6 BLOW HARDS

In the wake of **BARNABY JOYCE’S** stumbumbling fall from grace there have been MPs admitting to drinking on the job, and a lot of tut-tutting about alcohol being available in the Parliament House workplace. It rang a bell, and took a bit of digging, but I found this front page of the defunct Sydney Daily Mirror from the early 1990s, when South Australia’s own then-senator **AMANDA VANSTONE** reportedly suggested drug testing all MPs. Like many great ideas such as MPs having to serve their full term or pay for the subsequent by-election, self-interest won and nothing happened. Thirty years on, Prime Minister **ANTHONY ALBANESE** rejected the idea of random alcohol testing in parliament, saying – apparently seriously: “I don’t want to see us be in a position where we say we are unable to act like adults.”

## RETIREMENT PROTECTION

Good to see the state government moving amendments to the Retirement Villages Act for more protection for residents. There are some 26,700 residents in 520 retirement villages in SA. Amendments include reducing the statutory buyback period from 18 months to 12 months so vacating families receive their exit entitlements sooner; capping

increases on charges to the inflation rate; and capping the amount a resident or their family pay for capital maintenance when they leave to 12.5 per cent. This is a massive growth sector, with a predicted shortfall of 49,000 retirement dwellings by 2040 as the current cohort of 2 million people aged over 75 soars to 3.4 million.

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