



NEWSLETTER

Issue: March, 2019.

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Kapunda: honouring the past, planning for the future

CHAIRMAN's MESSAGE:

Welcome to 2019 and KBA's first newsletter of the year. I wish you all a most successful year: it is shaping up as a very exciting one, building on many initiatives started in 2018, or before.

It is great to see construction start on the new supermarket and Litl Mo's Bakery.

The New Town Square is having its final outstanding items completed ready for the official opening by Minister and Local Member, Dan van Holst Pellekaan, at 2 pm on Saturday, March 23, in conjunction with a gourmet food and wine event organised by the North Kapunda Hotel, and entertainment using local artists, organised by the Kapunda Business Alliance. This event will run from 1.30 pm until 8 pm, and will showcase some of the activities possible in the square.

The Kidman exhibition, donated by Sir Sidney Kidman's Great Grandson, Christo Reid, and curated by him, is currently being installed in the upstairs room of the library, and will be a significant tourist attraction, judging by the increase in visitation when it was temporarily installed there a few years ago.



The accelerated infrastructure program should be completed this year, and has already made a huge difference to the town and the amount of dust long-suffering residents have had to bear in the past. It includes sealing of roads to tourist attractions like the mine site. There are several other initiatives likely to make significant progress in 2019. Previous developments, such as the new Bowling Club, continue to attract new visitors to the town.

The KBA will hold a workshop on Monday March 25, 2019 from 6 pm to 9 pm at the new Kapunda Bowling Club complex to develop strategies and priorities for the future of Kapunda. KBA is seeking input from as many businesses as possible. Please come along and contribute your ideas – together we can achieve so much!

—Deane Rohrlach

KBA working party:

Deane Rohrlach,

Chairman & Deputy Mayor 0417 829 631

Bill Adams, Secretary & Treasurer 0408 811 840

John Shane, Consultant 0418 859 680

Dorian Chambers, Committee member 0403 915 385

Leonie Boyd, Facebook Administrator 0422 194 560

Michael Golding 0450 343 474

Kapunda: Town Square update



Construction begins May, 2018.

Town Square Official Opening

Gourmet in the Square, 23 March, 2019

Official opening at 2 pm by Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan.
Entertainment starts at 1.30 pm and continues to 8 pm with performances from
Kapunda Primary Choir, Kadence, Kapunda Musical Society, Steve Grant,
Michael Golding = “Xntricity” - Aussie Rock Show.
Food and wine stalls and much more!



Photo credit: Kieren Chappell



Town Square by night facing the North Kapunda Hotel.
Photo credit: Deane Rohrlach



Another view of the area from the Main Street, with the North Kapunda Hotel on the left. Circa 1907.
Photo credit: State Library of SA B12124

Kapunda: what's happening around town?

BUILDING BOOM

New Foodland Supermarket under way!

Site works have now commenced, with mounds of soil moved to prepare the site; engineering and prefabrication work has happened off site at Ahrens—the contracted builders of the supermarket. KBA believes the new supermarket will be an excellent addition to Kapunda and hopefully will encourage more people to shop in the town, to the benefit of other businesses. It is expected that it will also employ more people than the current supermarket. It has been a long time coming, but will be worth the wait. Work is due to be completed in October, 2019.



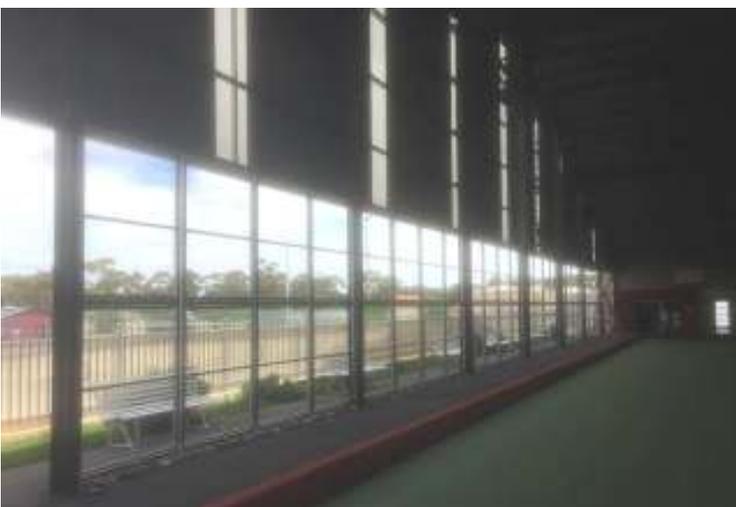
Artist's impression of the new supermarket.



Litl Mo's Bakery

At the other end of the Main Street, Brendan and Deb Moten are having Litl Mo's Bakery and Cafe built across from where their current bakery is located. Local company, Bishop Building, have been contracted to do the work.

Photo credit: Deane Rohrlach



The Kapunda Bowling Club has recently installed louvre windows to the facility, ready for this winter's tournaments, so it will be much more comfortable for all users. View more photos on the club's facebook page — it is an outstanding facility and available for hire and regularly used for bingo and darts events.

Photo credit: Kapunda Bowling Club facebook.

Davidson Reserve

Since remedial works were completed by Council, and after the last rains, the duck pond in popular Davidson Reserve has returned to its picturesque self, to the delight of locals and tourists. A plant, possibly Azolla, a native floating fern that does not detrimentally affect the quality of water, is now growing in the pond and appears to be providing a source of food to the ducks. There have been reports of frogs and turtles now returning to the pond.



The “duck pond” at night. Photo credit: Deane Rohrlach.

First Charge?

Is this the first charge of an electric car at the recently installed Tesla Car Charger in the Council’s new car park behind the North Kapunda Hotel? The car belongs to Cr Paul Koch from Gawler, who while attending a meeting in Kapunda took the opportunity to charge his car. Paul is President of an electric car owners’ group and he said the charger will attract electric car tourists to Kapunda where they can have their car charged while enjoying the sights or taking in a meal.



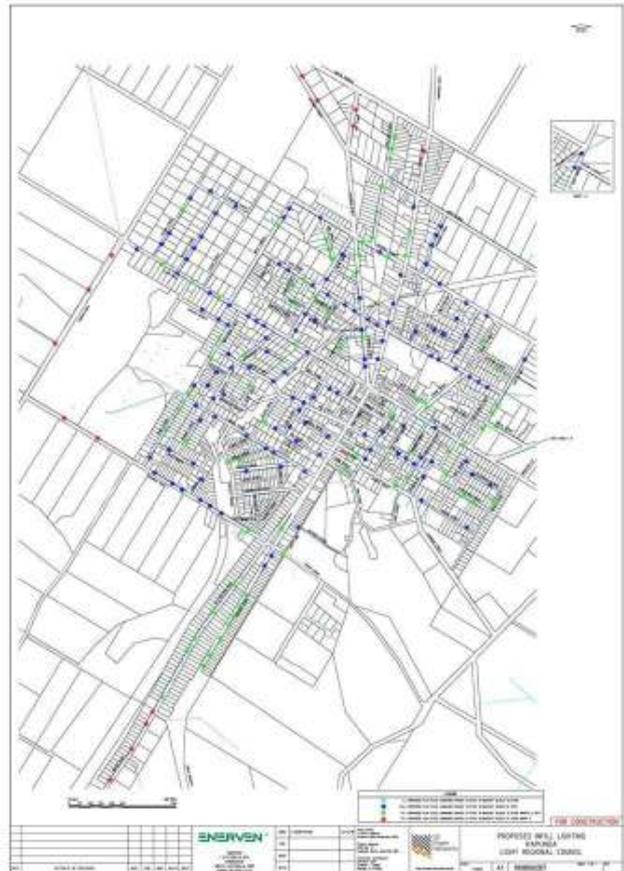
Photo credit: Deane Rohrlach

Roads

many roads, footpaths and associated drainage works are being carried out making a welcome addition to the town’s infrastructure.

Street Lights

Light Regional Council has been working with SA Power Networks (SAPN) to replace street lights with energy efficient LED lights. These have a more even light spread, do not spill light onto properties and are brighter than the ones they replace. Council requested 233 additional lights to be fitted on existing stobie poles. SAPN will be fitting 190 new LED lights. Information will be updated on Council’s website as developments occur. The map shows the additional lights only, not existing lights which will be converted to LED. The map can be viewed on Council’s website.



KAPUNDA MURALS

Blending art and history, the Kapunda Mural Committee have transformed the Light Regional Council offices using a montage of pictures, articles and other material showcasing 180 years of local history. The concept for the mural was created by local graphic artist and Mural Committee member Laura Gully of GraphixSA. The concept was enthusiastically received, and Laura then created the high resolution graphic image and arranged for this to be printed as a long life image and installed by Gadget Graphics. This required a huge amount of time and effort by Laura in gathering and assembling suitable images, arranging them in chronological order and obtaining all the permissions to use them. The mural was fully funded by the Light Regional Council and is protected by an anti-graffiti coating.



Photo credit:
Maxine Donald

KAPUNDA COMMUNITY GALLERY

NEW SILK PAINTING WORKSHOP: 9 May, 2019, 10 am to 3 pm. Rachel's demonstration at KCG a couple of weeks ago was fantastic and everyone who attends the workshop will go home with their very own painted silk scarf.

KAPUNDA COMMUNITY GALLERY SILK PAINTING WORKSHOP COLOUR EXPLOSION SILK SCARVES	
	
Date Sunday, February 24, 2019 Time 11am to 3.30pm Location Kapunda High School West Terrace Kapunda Fee \$110 per person Maximum number of participants is 10 Bookings close February 8	
<i>All materials and equipment will be supplied by Rachel. The workshop is suitable for beginners. Rachel will take participants through the basics of stretching silk, painting and steaming silk. At the end of the workshop participants will have a one of a kind scarf to take with them</i>	TUTOR RACHEL PORTER
Please make payment in person to Kapunda Community Gallery 67-69 Main Street, Kapunda SA 5373 or post cheque to this address. Payment can be made by direct debit. CONTACT 85663159 email lu@gkapundagallery.com	Tea Coffee & Biscuits will be provided. Please bring your lunch. Lunch 12n to 1pm

Update on Mining at Kapunda Mine Site



Research Focus into Possible In-Situ Recovery of Copper mining at Kapunda Mine Site
by Cr Deane Rohrlach, 5/2/19

Note: The information in this article (written in my role as Chair of the Kapunda Business Alliance) is as accurate as I can make it but it is not an official Council document. Any errors are mine.

Mining in general

If you live in a house, use any form of transport, use anything that runs on electricity, wear clothes, or rely on medical intervention, then you

are saying by your actions that you support mining, because none of these would be possible without it.

Possible recommencing of mining in Kapunda

The question then becomes “Can mining occur at the Kapunda Mine Site in an environmentally safe way, that does not impact on nearby residents due to excessive noise (e.g. blasting, loud machinery), significant amounts of dust or extensive ugly, highly visible structures, and which does not compromise the tourism and heritage aspects of the mine site?”

Supplementary questions:

Assuming the answer to the question above is yes, is there a worthwhile economic benefit to the Light Regional Council area if mining occurs?

If the above answers are yes, can it be done in a financially viable manner?

Deciding the answer to these questions involves a very thorough, systematic and rigorous one to three stage process with roles played by Council, The Government and the mining company - Environmental Copper Recovery (ECR). The first stage is a research stage and information discovered in this stage will determine if ECR proceeds to the next two stages (Application for a Mining Lease and preparation of a Program for Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation (PEPR)). The research stage is being informed by a \$2.85 m Commonwealth Govt. Research Grant. The research is being conducted by CSIRO and Adelaide University experts.

Council

Since the mine site is owned by Council and zoned as recreational land, Council needs to provide a waiver to allow any mining related activity (including testing) to occur on the site. However, Council cannot make an arbitrary decision based on pre-conceived notions for the following reasons:

The Councillor Code of conduct that is binding on all Councillors, requires councillors to be unbiased in their decision making, i.e. requiring them to consider all relevant facts and arguments before deciding and not decide before this occurs.

Council must also support Government Strategic Priorities, one of which is to triple copper mining output by 2030, which means it needs to support careful investigation to see if copper mining can occur while satisfying the conditions outlined in paragraph 2 above.

Government

If the results from the Research Phase suggest it is worth applying for a mining lease, there is a long and rigorous step by step government mandated process, covering environmental and all other aspects that must be satisfactorily negotiated before approval to mine is given. Failure to satisfy any of several requirements would mean approval to mine would not be given. The chart at the end of the paper shows what is involved in these two stages.



Mining Company

ECR has responsibility for the research phase. I believe the \$2.85 m Federal Government Research Grant is valuable because it ensures highly skilled researchers provide independent answers to key environmental and other questions, so there can be no perception that results are slanted due to

financial self-interest. All the research into what is underground in the mine site and the movement of ground water will be of great benefit to Council, even if mining does not occur.

It is also responsible for determining if the project is financially viable. If the research stage suggests proceeding to mining, ECR is responsible for all the paperwork for the Mining Lease application and Environmental Protection program, in what is a very rigorous, step by step process with extensive mandated community engagement at several stages. I think it is safe to say that mining will not proceed if any uncontained threat to the environment is identified.

What I have done to date

I have made it my business to understand as much as I can about the proposed mining and its likely impact if it proceeds. To this end I prepared a list of questions I wanted answers to, circulated them to Councillors and staff and sent a copy to ECR. These formed the basis of a presentation Leon and Philippa Faulkner made to the Kapunda Business Alliance and the basis of several questions in the Q and A section of the ECR website.

Answers to date

From the questions I have asked, and answers received I have learnt the following:

Likely duration of mining activities if mining is approved

Given the estimated amount of copper available to be mined (119,000 tonne, of which 70,000 to 80,000 tonne may be extracted) and the anticipated rate of extraction, the expected duration of mining activities would be around 7 years, after which infrastructure would be removed, the site returned to what it was before, and infrastructure moved to another suitable site elsewhere.

Mining Process

The in-situ recovery (ISR) process involves drilling a pattern of up to 5 150 mm diameter bores at approximately 20 m spacing to a depth of 120 m, injecting a leaching solution (called a lixiviant) down some and extracting the solution, now containing dissolved copper from the extraction bore at a rate slightly greater than the injection rate (to ensure a flow towards the extraction bore) and transporting this via a pipe to a processing plant (which may be in the nearby industrial zone) where the copper is extracted. The water is then re-used as the cycle continues. At any one time there would be a bore field operating, containing most likely between 10 and 20 bores (the actual number is yet to be determined). Visible infrastructure would consist of the bore heads, each of which is small and not very intrusive, a Well House (standard 12 ft shipping container), and some pipe work, which may be buried where it needs to be.

Environmental safety

Measurements show the water in the mine has high levels of dissolved copper (roughly 300 ppm) and that of the Light River and surrounding aquifer is very low, suggesting the water in the mine is contained relatively well by rock with low permeability. Further work needs to be done to confirm this and I understand the research project will provide more definitive answers.

The lixiviants likely to be used include glycine, sodium thiosulphate and dilute acetic acid (vinegar). These are environmentally friendly and biodegrade. Mining won't be permitted to occur, however if there is a risk of these contaminating the aquifer and there are several safeguards that would be required to be in place to ensure this does not happen.

Noise

I understand it has been established that the proposed mining area will largely be within the current fenced off area of the mine, and there are enough fractures and tunnels to ensure ready passage of the lixiviants, so no blasting will be needed to fracture the underground area. The only noise will be a faint hum from pumping of lixiviants and low-level noise coming from the processing plant. I would expect nearby property owners would not notice any change in noise levels, but this is yet to be confirmed.

Visual Impact

As outlined above, the visual impact of the infrastructure is likely to be minimal and likely to be located where it will not impede tourism activities. Further information on this is needed and will occur as the step by step process continues. Once the mining operation is completed, there is likely to be little evidence that it occurred.

Dust

Because of the nature of the mining operation, dust arising from mining operations should not be visible at any time. There'll be minimal dust during bore installation and no dust at all during mine operation.

Bore Drilling

This may be one of the more intrusive operations and may require temporary restrictions in some areas while it is occurring. There are very strict guidelines that must be followed to minimise negative impact during drilling operations.

Heritage

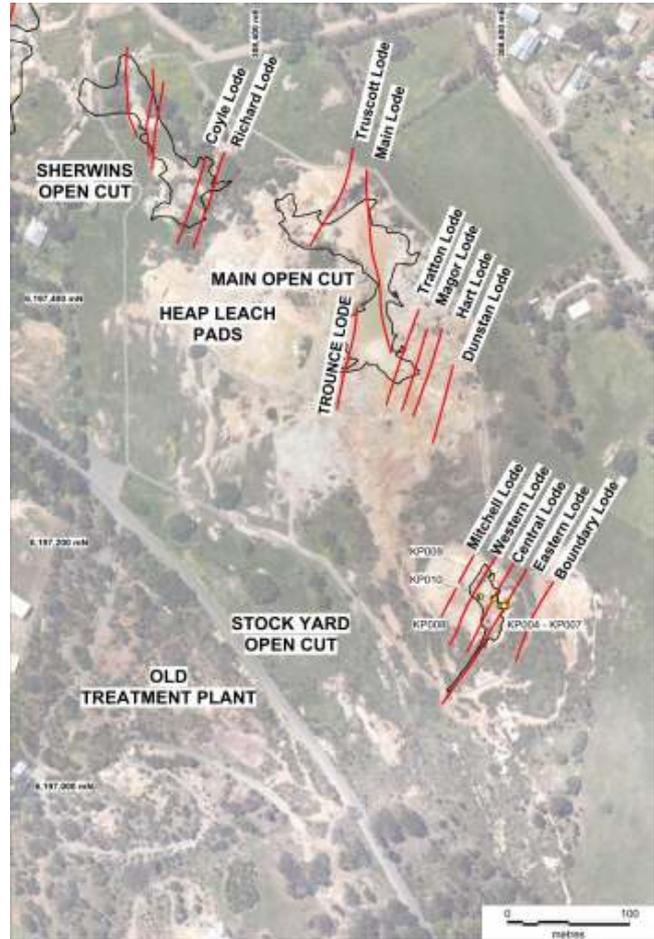
ECR have met with State Heritage on site and I understand they have determined that the proposed mining operations will not negatively impact on the heritage aspects of the mine and will not encroach on the western side of the site, where much of the remaining infrastructure and tourism development is situated. They require an archaeologist to be on site any time any aspect of the site is likely to be disturbed.

Tourism

From the time I first heard of this proposal I thought it had the potential to provide a tourism boost for Kapunda, provided it was environmentally safe and did not compromise existing heritage and tourism assets of the mine. Kapunda Mine was the first Copper mine in Australia and the first commercially viable metal mine, it had the first open cut copper mining operation, and if the In-Situ Recovery process can be implemented successfully, it should increase visitation to the area. It would be another first for Kapunda – the first use of the environmentally friendlier in-situ recovery of copper process in Australia. As such, it would be likely to attract professional visitors interested in the mining operation itself, as well as tourists who would be able to see past and present mining operations in the one area, with the experience enhanced by appropriate signage.

Employment opportunities

Light Regional Council covers a large area, and it is likely a significant proportion of jobs would be filled from people from this area, particularly given ECR's commitment to employ local contractors where possible. Their actions to date have demonstrated they are genuinely committed to using local contractors and suppliers where possible. Job numbers, although not huge (possibly around 20 to 25), would provide benefit to local employment.



Kapunda Mine circa 1847. Photo credit: State Library of SA B15276/31

Conclusion

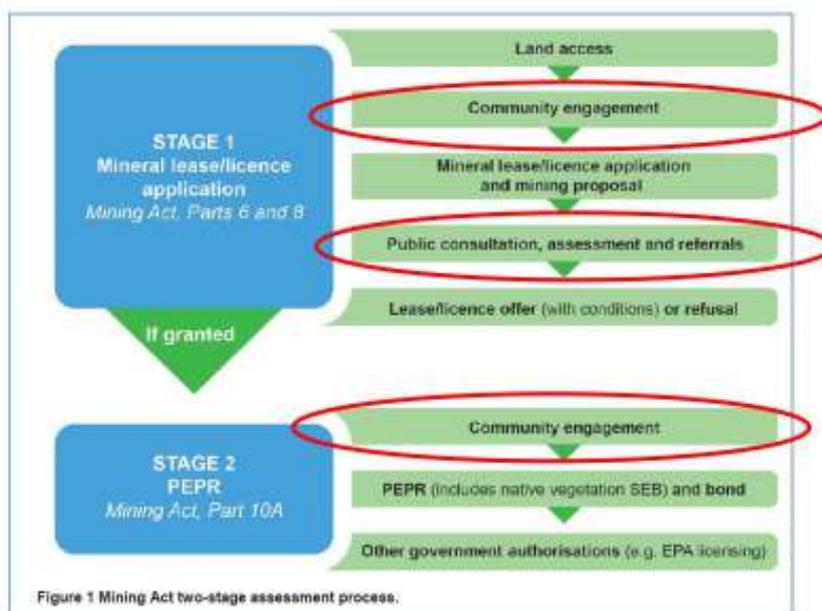
While there is still much work to be done to get final definite answers in many areas, I believe preliminary information suggests the careful, step by step process currently occurring should continue, with Council continuing to provide the necessary waivers with any appropriate safeguards to allow this to occur. The result of this process should result in a clear-cut decision as to whether an application for a mining lease (and subsequent operation plan) would be lodged with State Government.

The mining lease application process is rigorous and robust, with mandatory community engagement and public consultation with concerned stakeholders (council, public and government). It is conducted in the public space with oversight by the various government departments (DEM, EPA, DEW and Heritage). This stage is where public opinion is best voiced and will get the best hearing. The diagrams below are taken from Government guidelines MRGM2A and MRGM2B available from the DEM website.

I have had considerable contact with Leon and Philippa Faulkner of ECR in my quest for comprehensive answers to my questions and have on every occasion been impressed by their open and honest approach and willingness to listen to concerns and address these. They are happy to engage with members of the community at any time.

The table below outlines the mandatory requirements for Mining Proposal (MP) and a Program for Environmental Protection (PEPR), and the Mining Act 2 stage assessment process.

Content of a MP (MD 006 and Mining Regulations 2011)	Content of a PEPR (MD 005 and Mining Regulations)
Description of the existing environment	
Description of proposed mining operations	Description of mining operations
Consultation	Consultation
Environmental impact assessment	Environmental outcomes including mine completion outcomes
Measures to manage impacts (control strategies)	Strategies for achieving the outcomes
Statement of proposed environmental and mine completion outcomes	
Draft measurement criteria for measuring achievement of the outcomes	Measurement (compliance) criteria
Draft leading indicator criteria	Leading indicator criteria
	New environmental impact assessment (if relevant)



Spotlight on a Kapunda business

Twelve months ago, Leonie Boyd, owner and manager of Hair Off The Dog Grooming Salon turned her passion for animals, and dogs in particular, into a successful business. Well known for her artistic and photographic abilities—for which she has won awards—Leonie converted a Main Street shop into a haven for playful pups.

Leonie's furry clients enjoy pampering and a play after their grooming session. Her human clients speak highly of Leonie's empathic ability with animals. Salon Assistant, Charlie, Leonie's dog, meets and greets new arrivals.

Leonie offers a range of grooming options, including nail trims, full body makeovers, shampoo and dry and style, as well as treats for the pampered four legs of the family.

Leonie says that regular customers who come to the Salon every 2 months receive discounts on their dog's treatment.

Appointments are necessary, so contact Leonie to arrange to pamper your fur kid. 0422194560

Open Monday to Saturday,
92 Main Street, Kapunda.
<https://www.facebook.com/MainStreetKapunda/>



As a financial member of KBA you can advertise your business, community group or event within the KBA website, facebook and newsletter. You are also welcome to have your own "spotlight" page. Please contact Bill Adams tel. 0408 811 840. email: billyboy88@bigpond.com



Special offer from
the Sir John Franklin Hotel,
 Main Street, Kapunda,

Tel. (08) 8566 3233



Kapunda Library is starting a regular Book Club.

KBA working party:

Deane Rohrlach, Chairman & Deputy Mayor 0417 829631

Bill Adams, Secretary and Treasurer 0408 811 840

John Shane, Consultant 0418 859 680

Dorian Chambers, Committee member 0403 915 385

Leonie Boyd, Facebook Administrator 0422 194560

Michael Golding 0450 343 474

details to our librarians.
 Times and dates to be confirmed.

The KBA will hold a workshop on Monday March 25 2019 from 6 to 9 pm at the new Kapunda Bowling complex to develop strategies and priorities for the future of Kapunda. We are seeking input from as many businesses as possible. Please consider coming along and contributing your ideas – together we can achieve so much!

If you enjoy discovering new books, meeting new people, and sharing lively conversation please give your

Thank you to Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP for the generous sponsorship of the printed version of this newsletter.

