

Gather round in Tanunda

Barossa ground a chance to host two AFL games next season

Matt Turner

An oval in the Barossa Valley is in the box seat to host at least one regional AFL match in next year's Gather Round.

Tanunda, located 75km north of the CBD, is firming to stage a game during the second edition of the football festival, to be held in April.

SA Premier Peter Malinauskas has pushed for a Gather Round fixture in the Barossa Valley tourist region, believing it to be an ideal location to showcase the state.

AFL officials ruled out Ta-

nunda for this year because its clubrooms and change rooms were undergoing a \$6.5m redevelopment.

To earn the chance to host, Tanunda's ground would need to be widened and be able to fit 6000-plus spectators.

AFL officials reinspected the venue a fortnight ago as part of a Barossa visit that also took in Nuriootpa's Centennial Park.

The AFL and SA government are believed to prefer two regional matches as part of the next Gather Round.

Adelaide Hills town Mount Barker staged the sole game

outside the metropolitan area this year and remained very much in the frame to host again in 2024 after its stellar job three months ago.

Nuriootpa, which is considered only a slim chance of hosting, gets to show what it can offer when Central District plays Adelaide in a SANFL match there on Saturday.

A raft of councils across the state have pushed their cases, prompting the government to do its due diligence on grounds outside the Barossa and Mount Barker.

Aldinga, south of Adelaide, is

viewed favourably because of its proximity to the McLaren Vale wine region but is regarded as an outside chance.

If Tanunda was approved, it could stage both regional matches across the weekend – one early on Saturday afternoon, the other about 12.40pm on Sunday.

The ground's redevelopment is expected to be completed by December. It is understood to be unlikely that any other SANFL grounds besides Norwood will be used.

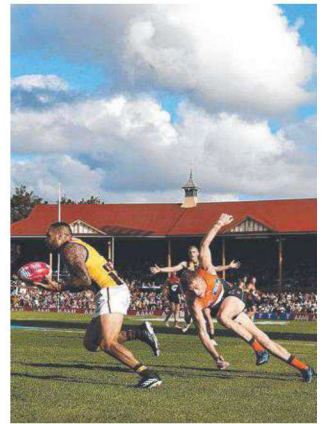
Norwood hosted two matches this year – a twilight Friday

clash along with a Sunday afternoon game – and had the broadcast quality lighting and LED signage to meet AFL standards.

Other venues, such as Glenelg, South Adelaide, West Adelaide, Sturt and North Adelaide, loomed as potential future options, but would struggle to get themselves broadcast ready for 2024.

Adelaide Oval hosted six Gather Round games this year, Norwood had two and Mount Barker the other.

SA will be home to the football festival until at least 2026.



Hawthorn's Jarman Impey at Norwood Oval this year.

Vehicle slams cop car

Shashi Baltutis

Two men have been reported for drink driving after a patrol car was rear-ended while administering a breath test in Adelaide's north in the early hours of Thursday morning.

Emergency services were called to the North-South Motorway at Waterloo Corner after a black Jeep that was heading north lost control and crashed into the centre median barrier about 1am.

When police officers arrived at the scene they parked their car behind the crashed vehicle with their emergency lights activated as they spoke to the driver.

The 34-year-old male driver from Smithfield was breath tested and allegedly returned a reading of .236, almost five times the limit.

While police were speaking with the driver, a silver Mitsubishi Magna travelling north crashed into the rear of the parked police car.

The driver of the Mitsubishi, a 56-year-old Hove man, was breath tested following the smash and allegedly returned a positive reading of .183.

The police officers involved were not injured in the incident.

Both men were reported for drink driving and the Hove man was additionally reported for driving without due care.

Wild winds and drenching rain ahead



Freeling farmer Corbin Schuster watches the weather roll in. Picture: Brett Hartwig.

Shashi Baltutis

South Australia was lashed with strong winds and rain early on Thursday and there could be thunderstorms ahead.

Adelaide will see a top of 16C for Friday with winds westerly 20 to 30km/h tending north-westerly 25 to

35km/h early in the morning. They will increase to 35 to 50km/h in the middle of the day.

"There's a front moving through with gusty showers and a chance of thunderstorms," Bureau of Meteorology senior meteorologist Tina Donaldson said.

The chance of rain will be about 80 per cent, with a possible thunderstorm in the hills and southern suburbs in the afternoon and evening.

Into the weekend, the strong winds will be "quite widespread", Ms Donaldson said. The Bureau's updated forecast yesterday afternoon said it would be

windy with showers easing on Saturday, with a very high chance of showers in the morning.

Severe weather warnings could also be issued for Saturday as authorities monitor the situation. Across the weekend, temperatures will hit a top of 16C.

Elsewhere in the state in

the Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker will see a high of 12C on Friday with showers increasing.

In Freeling, 60km north of Adelaide, up to 15mm of rain is expected to fall on Saturday. Local farmer Corbin Schuster said the high rainfall had proved to be a boon for crops.

Walker killed by 'gator Transplant patients' fluids breakthrough

NEW YORK: A woman on a morning walk with her dog has died in the latest fatal alligator attack on a patch of marshy coastline in South Carolina.

The woman, who was 69 and has not been named, was walking her dog along a lane that skirts a golf course close to the eastern shore of Hilton Head Island. Her body was found near a lagoon on the edge of the course.

It was being guarded by a 9ft alligator, according to the Beaufort county sheriff's office.

Sheriff's deputies, paramedics from the fire department and security guards from the Spanish Wells residential community, through which the woman had been walking, responded and the alligator was removed before the woman's body was retrieved.

Brad Crouch

A simple change to routine procedures for kidney transplant patients could cut their need for dialysis by 25 per cent, a landmark study lead by a Royal Adelaide Hospital expert has found.

The trial assessed the use of an intravenous fluid containing sodium, potassium, magnesium and chloride in proportions similar to human

blood — instead of the usual practice of using normal saline, made up of sodium chloride and water.

The BEST-Fluids trial was conducted by the Australasian Kidney Trials Network (ATKN) in collaboration with researchers from the universities of Adelaide, Queensland and Sydney.

ATKN chair UQ Professor David Johnson said 30 per cent of study participants who re-

ceived the trial solution needed dialysis after their transplants, compared to 40 per cent for those given normal saline. "This is a significant improvement in outcomes," he said.

RAH nephrologist Dr Michael Collins led the study and said the findings would change world practice for kidney treatments.

"Based on these results, we believe that balanced crystalloid fluids should be used for all

patients during and after kidney transplant surgery," he said.

"Balanced fluids are relatively cheap and widely available, which makes them a useful treatment for most of the estimated 200,000 kidney transplant operations conducted globally each year."

More than 800 transplant recipients participated in the study 16 Australian and New Zealand hospitals.