

MEDIA RELEASE

Our Ref: T15:0032

25 January 2017

Attention: News Editor

Plantagenet District Hall

The revitalised Plantagenet District Hall was officially opened on Saturday 20 January by Regional Development Minister Alannah MacTiernan.

The two-year project commenced in 2016 with extensive planning and community consultation and has completely transformed the existing Hall into a state-of-the-art multi-purpose venue.

The upgrade was supported by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC), which allocated \$140,000 to the project through State Government funding.

Significant contributions were also made through Lotterywest funding and a grant from the Regional Venues Improvement Fund through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Much of the work undertaken throughout the refurbishment was done by Shire of Plantagenet employees, which has ensured the community has received an extraordinary facility for future use.

The project has seen the entire stage moved forward to allow for new back stage facilities such as change rooms, a green room and a much-needed storage mezzanine.

Electronically retractable tiered seating for 224 people has also been installed which allows for hall space to be used when the seating is put away. Audio visual equipment has all been updated and extensive upgrades have been made to entrances including garden beds and disability access to two of the entrances.

GSDC Chair Ross Thornton said the facility is a credit to all those involved and it is pleasing to see such foresight has gone into this project.

“The standard of this facility is now such that it gives scope for greater capacity to host community and regional events to a wider audience range,” Mr Thornton said.

“With strong regional collaboration, the facility has the scope to strengthen Mount Barker as a tourism destination by attracting festivals, performances and events.”



The four-stage project was initiated by the Shire of Plantagenet executive team in conjunction with the Plantagenet Players after the suggestion was made to relocate their performing arts to the Plantagenet District Hall, which was better suited to be utilised by the entire community.

The Plantagenet Players have entered into a 10-year lease for the Plantagenet District Hall.

Media contact: Bruce Manning, ph. 9842 4888

