



A snapshot of 2024

Our Vision

**An engaged & connected community
that values all people equally,
including our own & other's health &
wellbeing.**

Our Purpose:

**To continually build a mentally
healthy & resilient community whilst
creating safe spaces & an
environment of acceptance &
belonging.**



**We acknowledge the
Barngarla People & their strong connection to
Country, culture, & heritage in the Kimba region.**

**We respect the threads of reconciliation are all
our responsibility, to walk together towards a
future that values all human beings.**

**We appreciate that diversity and acceptance is
essential to grow, learn and value each and
everyone's unique lived experiences.**



Thank you

To anyone who has been involved in whatever capacity that was, we appreciate your input & hope you keep contributing however you can in 2025.

To those that have never been in & don't know what we do, that is totally fine, but we encourage you to be involved.

Our Town Kimba would not be here if it weren't for the passionate team, volunteers, Community members & organisations that keep the initiative growing in hearts and minds.

This might be by:

- filling in a survey,
- reading our emails/posts/newsletters,
- Giving us constructive feedback
- Coming in with an idea you want help pursuing
- Telling others community members about what we do
- Popping in for a yarn or a cuppa
- Reaching out for support
- Attending activities/workshops/groups
- Volunteer with us on a project

Our Town Kimba is here to listen and support our community however we can with the capacity we have at the time.

Kimba's Insights

These are what we discovered in our community that contribute to poor wellbeing which Our Town Kimba is contributing to support to mitigate.

Like sweeping things under the rug.

We don't speak about & work through some significant emotional events.

Being yourself is hard when you think you're being judged for it.

It's like when you can't be, do or have what you really want.

It's like a train to nowhere.

Knowing how to help or how to connect to supports is hard because pathways are disconnected, unclear or invisible.

Investing in your roots.

Farming families, business owners & local families sometimes carry a heavy burden which can lead to investing less in themselves & their relationships than their business or work.

Our principles help to guide us

They inform how we make decisions, keep us accountable, help us to evaluate the project and to share back to the community with clarity and ease.



Our Community

We have the community at heart in all we do & we work on meaningful projects. We draw upon & listen to diverse community voices, perspectives and experiences to guide us.

We strive to make everyone feel welcome, safe, listened to & included.



Our Connection

We believe that creating healthy relationships through connection is key.

From linking people through a shared interest to connecting people to the place we live or the supports they need wherever they are on their life's journey.



Our Wellbeing

We take a holistic approach to wellbeing by creating safe spaces and encouraging vulnerability to be open & honest in order to support our own & our community's health & healing.

We embrace our uniqueness and celebrate that we are all different yet belong.



Our Strengths

We build on existing capabilities, knowledge, strengths, assets and relationships.

We trust each other to share what we know to grow as individuals and as a community to learn together & influence positive change.

Our Community

We're engaging more community than ever before!

We now have 2 years of comparable data. The numbers are up but some of what we do can't be shared as it is not our story to tell.

"I heard this was the place to be"
- Community member

Our Wellbeing

Continuity to support wellbeing

With Craft & Connection into its 3rd year and Men's Morning Tea 1.5 years in, we heard connection is important and knowing we're here every week is appreciated.

We have noticed some of these connections ripple into people connecting beyond the Our Town space:)

Stats we love

Unique Visits

2023 vs 2024

Men's Morning Tea:

102 vs 336

Craft & Connection:

176 vs 257

2023:

1080 visits with 449 different people

2024:

1549 visits with 646 different people



Our Connection

Our Young people are connecting in a safe & inclusive space.

At Youth hub we have witnessed the confidence grow in our young people through their attendance and being brave enough to try new things.

Numbers might be lower but the foundation of good relationships & connection are more important at Our Town. Who's keen for this year?

Youth Hub: 265 in 2023 vs 201 in 2024



Our Strengths

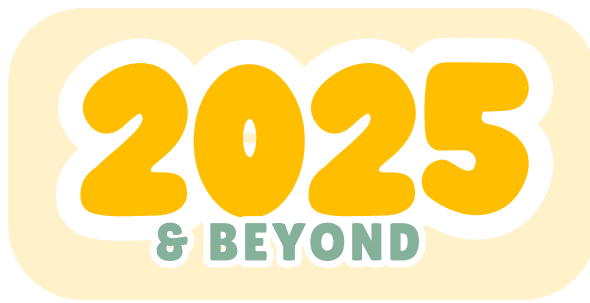
Just Listening can be enough...

We have been building capability in the Our Town team & volunteers to be here for our community which also flows onto looking after our own wellbeing.

"It's not just about supporting others, you indirectly learn a lot about yourself." What community capability building would you like to see?



"It's a very relaxed & accepting environment"



Our Community

How do we keep sustainable ...

We are hosting 2 Occupational Therapy students again for their community engagement placement. They will be looking into Volunteering and how to prevent burnout.

We appreciate anyone who engaged with the previous OT students and this project leads on from what we heard from you.

Our Connection

Shed Happens!

How can community utilise our non judgemental and supportive space to create connection that lasts?

Our regular groups will keep using the shed and we are keen to hear who else has an idea on how to use the shed for more community connection...

We heard people want to know more about what we do...

Our Strengths

We will continue to share what we do but we will also endeavor to share our ways of working with community in the future. Our Town is a unique initiative and how we do things might be helpful for others to know.

Or another way to find out is to come and join us...

Do you have a great idea to support community wellbeing?

Our Wellbeing

Cooking up connection for wellbeing

We heard from Fusion Festival how community members like to share their culture through food and how much we all enjoy something new to the palette. So we added a kitchen to the Community & Youth Hub plans to be able to come around more of this & continue the sense of belonging created from the Fusion Festival in 2023.



One thing you may not know.... We are advocating for Regional areas

We are 1 town in a network of 6 towns and 2025 is the mid way point of the Our Town Initiative. What we collectively discover during the 10 years will hopefully influence future positive changes in regional areas to support our wellbeing, like funding streams.

Not just for us but for other regional communities with placed based community led initiatives like we have pioneered here in Kimba, Cummins, Kangaroo Island, Ceduna, Berri & Mid Murray.

We encourage people to be involved so we can all continue beyond 2030.

What innovative idea are you passionate about that other community members might want to come around and how can we support you to make it happen?

We are community supporting community
Another reason to be involved



A colorful collection
of moments that will
make you smile





Goodbye

A message from our own Erin, known to many as 'Ez'.

As I write this message, I find myself filled with mixed emotions—sad to be leaving, but excited for the future, not just for myself, but also for Our Town Kimba. With new team members joining, I'm confident the community will continue to thrive, supported by the passionate people who already call Kimba home.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Kimba community for the time I've spent here. Kimba will always have a special place in my heart, with fond memories of living here and the people I had the privilege to meet along the way.

A special thank you to the Our Town team, both past and present. It has been a true pleasure working alongside such dedicated individuals, and I'm incredibly proud of what we've accomplished together. I look forward to seeing how the project evolves as more community members get involved and new partnerships with community groups & organizations continue to grow.

While I may be stepping away, I'm not completely gone. I will continue to serve on the Our Town Kimba Board and will contribute from afar where I can to the Our Town Network. Though my visits may be less frequent, I'll remain connected to this place I have called home.

My time here has reaffirmed the importance of community, and I encourage everyone to stay engaged. If you're able to contribute in any way, whether through Our Town or in another capacity, your involvement can make a meaningful difference in creating positive change for individuals and the collective well-being of this wonderful community.

As I reflect on my growth, two key lessons stand out that have shaped both my personal and professional life: Be vulnerable and listen. It's simple, but when we allow ourselves to be real and open with others, and when we truly listen, we forge deeper connections. It's in those moments of authenticity that we find a sense of belonging and the strength to achieve great things together.

Take care of yourselves and one another. And above all, be kind—to others, but most importantly, to yourself.

Until we meet again... Love & Laughs, Erin



“Where everyone belongs”

Want to get involved?

The best way to know what Our Town Kimba is about and what we're up to is to be involved in any capacity you can. Pop into 47 High Street for a chat.



Photo courtesy of Doddlife Photography