

Matthews Hospitality acquires Salisbury Hotel

One of the state's largest family-owned pub groups has acquired the Salisbury Hotel as part of a \$13m investment in its Adelaide and regional venues.

Giuseppe Tauriello

@gtauriello



Matthews Hospitality chief executive Andrew Kemp, hospitality general manager Lee Cook and Salisbury Hotel venue manager Naomi Dunn at the Salisbury Hotel. Picture: John Kruger

ONE of the state's largest family-owned pub groups has bought the Salisbury Hotel as part of a \$13m boost to its metropolitan and regional portfolio.

The investment by Matthews Hospitality includes an extensive renovation of the Maylands Hotel, due for completion in June, and [planned upgrades worth more than \\$1m to the Mount Gambier Hotel](#).

The purchase of the Salisbury Hotel, brokered by McGees Property's Grant Clarke, boosts the group's workforce to around 350 employees across 10 venues, including the Feathers, Buckingham Arms and Eyre hotels.

The Salisbury Hotel is one of Adelaide’s larger gaming venues with 40 machines, and in recent years was upgraded with a \$2m-plus refurbishment.

Matthews Hospitality chief executive Andrew Kemp said the company had a strong presence in the eastern suburbs and regional South Australia, and the acquisition of Salisbury Hotel would extend its footprint into Adelaide’s north.



The Salisbury Hotel on Commercial Road in Salisbury.

“We want to maintain everything that customers enjoy about the Salisbury Hotel while enhancing its offering through an expanded bistro layout and food offering,” he said.

[Matthews Hospitality received a \\$336,740 Tourism Industry Development Fund grant](#) to go towards the upgrade of the Mount Gambier Hotel, including accommodation improvements and the creation of local tourist packages. The works will include updating all rooms to a four-star standard and elevating the hotel’s food and beverage offering to create “a superior experience”.

Mr Kemp said the investment followed a strong trading period across the group’s portfolio as the hospitality sector bounces back from COVID-19.

“The resurgence of intrastate travel as a result of COVID-19 has resulted in strong patronage at our regional hotels, and we are pleased to create new tourism experiences in the South East,” he said.

“Meanwhile, we will soon complete extensive renovation works at the Maylands Hotel, maintaining its position as a premium hospitality venue for the local community.”

Technology upgrades are also being rolled out across all Matthews Hospitality venues.



The Mount Gambier Hotel will undergo a \$1m-plus redevelopment. Picture: Spring Studio

[The Matthews family has operated hotels in South Australia for more than 70 years](#), since family patriarch Seymour Matthews and wife Doris (Dossie) started investing during World War II.

[Last year the family split its pubs portfolio](#) as part of a succession plan to pave the way for a fourth generation of hoteliers.

Siblings Lisa, Scott and Ward Matthews own Matthews Hospitality and its portfolio of venues, while their uncle Guy and cousins Shaun, Brett and William took over the Flagstaff and Mansfield Park hotels.