

August 2015 Issue 4

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the winter edition of the Laura Standard. We have certainly had some winter weather, with frost, rain and even snow not that far away.

This year we again held the community golf day. It was wet under foot, sunny at times with a good flow of water in the Rocky. It's been a good fundraiser for our community and we thank the Golf Club for presenting the course in lovely condition.

Thank you to Marg Thomas and Val Thomson for organising the day. Thank you also to the volunteers, the cooks who always look after us so well and the many donations we received ensuring a successful day.

As I write this the Country Music Festival is under way and I hope it is as successful as previous years or perhaps even better.

Great to see the Caravan Park full again and I hope all visitors enjoyed their stay.

Our next LCDTA meeting is the AGM to be held at the Civic centre August 26th, everyone is welcome to attend.

Great to see the Folk Fair committee continue with some new faces from our community along with previous committee members. Good luck with your preparation and I hope you again get outside help to run another successful event in 2016.

Keep warm
Andrew Zanker
LCDTA Chairperson



Your FREE bi-monthly newsletter of Information produced by the Laura Community Development & Tourism Association (LCDTA) Inc.



LCDTA Golf Day:

The A.S. Condon Memorial Golf Day was held at the Laura Golf Club on Tuesday July 14 on a day that was overcast, cold and drizzling rain. Needless to say the casks of port, donated by the Laura Hotel, and placed on Tee Blocks #1 & #5 went down very well!

- Thirteen teams consisting of 4 players each, made up the Ambrose event with each team paying an entry fee of \$80 each.

LCDTA Chairman, Andrew Zanker, welcomed everyone to the day. Players then proceeded to the nominated Tee Blocks on course – the air horn sounded to start the event.

Scott Watson and the Laura Hotel team came well prepared, with a novelty ride-on esky to keep their alcohol on hand for the day.

After 9 holes played, players were treated to a hot lunch provided by Marg Thomas and her faithful 'band of workers'. A warming meal consisting of hot soup (pumpkin or vegetable) and beef or chicken schnitzels (cooked by 2 stalwarts of the Laura Community, Barrie Harvie & Geoff Lange) with hot vegetables & gravy. Golden North supplied Giant Twins for sweets.

The day of golf ended around 5pm with a few getting wet. Afternoon tea was served followed by trophy presentation.

Andrew Zanker and Marg Thomas presented the following trophies:

- Champion Winners: Georgetown Hotel
- Champion runner up: Pt Augusta 'Crows' Ladies
- Handicap Winners: Cathy Combe Team
- Handicap runner up: Golden North Team
- Nearest Pin Ladies: Cathy Combe – Mens: G Nicholson
- Ladies Long Drive: A Grade: C Combe B Grade: Bern Geddes
- Mens Long Drive: A Grade: David Hunt B Grade: Brad Lines
C Grade: Ashley Lines
- NAGA Trophy: Tim Higgins Team

Special thanks to Lorraine Griffin for doing the score cards, checking entries and checking the cards at end of play with Janine Higgins - a 'Big Job' - well done!

Peter Thomas' spinning wheel raised approximately \$400 - great effort Pete!

.....continued on page 3

The day was a great success!

Many thanks to all the workers and people providing food. We sincerely thank the 25 out of 35 businesses contacted who have provided in excess of \$2000 in sponsorship, your continued support of this event is greatly appreciated. A full list of sponsors will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

Lastly, thank you to the Laura Golf Club for the use of their facilities.

This event started in 1997 with funds raised being used for the playground. We look forward to the next event scheduled for the second week of July school holidays 2016.



Palmer and Combe do us proud in WA:

Northern Areas footballers Joel Palmer (Southern Flinders) and Campbell Combe (Crystal Brook) played in the interstate clash of SA Country and WA Country at Bendigo Bank Stadium in Mandurah WA held on Saturday 25th July.

Their selection in the State side was from the recent SA Country Football Championships at Pt Augusta.

The SA side had a very big win, SA 19-16(130) to WA 6-12(48). Our local lads did their respective clubs proud with Joel playing a solid game in defence and Campbell kicking two goals as an on baller.

Congratulations to them both!

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'LAURA COUNTRY' Music Festival 2015:



The Saturday night concert with Bill Chambers has been described as *awesome*. The audience was spellbound!

Ably backed by Wildcard from Mt Gambier, Bill covered most genres of Country Music; from Bluegrass to traditional to Australian ballads through to an exciting off the cuff duet with Barrie Case (lead guitarist for Wildcard) in the Dueling Banjos style. Some members of the audience would have stayed all night listening to Bill's wide repertoire. He is a true laid back, friendly, professional entertainer.

The remaining shows over the weekend were all well attended and enjoyed by all. The Golden Oldies Show was well received, another relaxing Friday afternoon. It was good to see a bus load of people from Peterborough attend! Bernie & the Bandits raised a chuckle or three with their antics.

Due to the cancellation of the Talent Quest, entrants were offered some stage time. Backed by Bernie & the Bandits a fun day was had by those who attended.

The Country Gospel Session showcased a variety of gospel styles.



Artists included; our headline acts, some local acts including The Caltowie Harmony Chorus and our own Emily Smith along with some up and coming artists.

Open House Country was a day of more relaxing Country Music with Wildcard, Megan Laurie and Reg Poole. Reg certainly entertained us with his selection of ballads; some humorous, some thought provoking through to the older hits from the 50's and 60's.



A great weekend, enjoyed by all. A special thanks to all our volunteers, especially Joyce in the kitchen, our sponsors and supporters.

Hope to see you all next year!



The Laura Folk Fair AGM was held on July 6 2015, where the following Committee Members were elected:

Allan Woolford (Chairman), Amy Simons (Secretary), Sue Scarman (Treasurer), Barry Harvie, John Barberien, Marius Venz, Irene Scott, Jim Lynch, Joyce Wode (LCTDA Rep.) and Geoff Lange (NAC Rep.).

The Folk Fair is a major event for Laura, the Region and the State. We should all be very proud of what has been achieved by our Community over the last 36 years.

In order for this great Event to continue we need to keep moving forward with new ideas and people. This can be achieved with creative input and enthusiasm from our Community members. Everyone has the opportunity to have their say in what will be happening for Folk Fair 2016.

We are very thankful to those in our community who have given their time to become committee members but we still have three positions vacant that can be filled.

As they say, 'many hands make light work' and we look forward to seeing new people getting involved to share the workload in our much loved local event. Being a Committee Member is a very rewarding and satisfying experience!

If you are not interested in becoming a full Committee member, consider becoming a Team member under one of our Team Leaders.

Being a team member is a great way to get involved if you want to have creative input but don't want to take on a larger workload over the course of the year.

What we need is enthusiasm and new ideas for areas such as Stall-Holders, Entertainment, Street Parade, Fund Raising, Website and Facebook etc.

You can join our volunteer pool, as we always need extra hands for short term projects; fundraising events such as Clare Valley Show, Working Bees like our Hessian Sessions, Programs and Advertising, selling Raffle tickets, the list goes on...

If you're a bit of a handy man, our Maintenance team can use a wide range of skills.

The myriad of processes involved in running our event mean that we can match any skill set to a job. We welcome anyone who would like to help out, whether it be a small or large contribution of your time.

As always, we will need your assistance at next year's Folk Fair during the week leading up to the event and the days after.



Laura Information Centre (LIC):

We wish to extend a sincere *thank you* to Dan the Solar Man from Regional Hardware.

As a service to the Community, Dan generously donated paint to the LIC for a much needed facelift to the exterior of the building.

Many thanks to Tony Case (who carried out the work at cost) and also to Rhonda & Robert Pech and Anne Schaffner for their efforts to prepare the area for painting.

Well done to all concerned – another fine example of Communities working together!

New in the Information Centre!

We have two new digital tours around our region for you to check out on daytrippa.com.au (or pick up the brochure from the Information Centre):

- **Explore the Southern Flinders Producers Trail** – it includes food producers, food outlets, accommodation and much more.
- **Explore the Heritage Rail Trail** – it tells the story of the Broken Hill to Port Pirie Rail Line while you follow the remains of the line and listen to the stories of the old men who were part of that time.



Use the QR app on your phone to listen and learn as you drive!



This year is the Centenary of the publication, 'The Sentimental Bloke'. The Centre now has available for purchase, new cards featuring the poem *Laura Days*.

Remember – you are very welcome to join us as a volunteer, with all training and support needed to get you started.





It's a busy time in the RRHAS – in April we had History month and a display featuring the centenary of the Laura Agricultural Bureau.

Then we looked at the history of houses in Laura with the primary school students who investigated the history of their homes and displayed what they found in the Courthouse Gallery.

And now again in August the Courthouse Gallery will be a hive of activity with the exhibition:

1915 A Centenary of WWI – Life in Laura

This exhibition will be open from August 2nd – 23rd 2015:

- Tuesdays, Thursdays 2.00 – 4.30pm
- Sundays 10.00 - 3.00pm

Once again the Laura Primary students have contributed to our exhibition with their research comparing utensils from 1915 with those of today.

The opening of the exhibition by Local Member, Minister for Regional Development, Mr Geoff Brock will be on Sunday August 2nd at 2.00pm, followed by afternoon tea. **Everyone welcome!**

We also need to say thanks to:

- The Northern Areas Council for a Community Project Grant to help us with the maintenance and repairs to the buildings and to Dave Hammond for the work done in painting and repairing the doors to both the Courthouse Gallery and the Laura Archives.
- To the Premier's Department for 2 computers in this round of the Smart State PC Donation Program 2015.
- To the community who supported our vote for The Laura Standard to be put on the research program called TROVE. To access this site, put the word 'TROVE' into your search engine. **Thank you!**

September is fast approaching, entries for Brush with Art Photographic Exhibition, **Focus on the Flinders** are out now!

Check the Newsagency, Post Office or Laura Information Centre or email laurarrhas@gmail.com.au



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Beetaloo Grove:

Beetaloo Grove has long been known as an olive grove but now it also has the option of Bed & Breakfast accommodation.

The cottage was built in the late 1800's as a school, for which it was never used, as Beetaloo did not grow to the levels that were expected.

The secluded rustic style cottage has everything you need for a comfortable stay, including; queen size bed, breakfast provisions, combustion fire and tranquillity.



At the end of the day after you've spent your time wandering through the 200 acres of private, heritage listed native scrubland or been touring around the beautiful Southern Flinders Ranges there's a nice hot shower waiting for you.



Median strip revitalisation project:

The LCDTA members have discussed revitalising the median strip as the deterioration of some plantings and the poor health of the lawn in many areas has become quite unattractive.

In the first instance we have spoken with Northern Areas Council re: aeration and fertilising the lawn which will help water and nutrients soak in, rather than run off as is the current situation, encourage good growth and reduce weeds.

We have consulted a Horticulturalist and taken a full inventory of all the plantings. From this consultation process there has been a recommendation to remove and replace some trees and shrubs.

The plantings recommended for removal are either diseased, unhealthy, poisonous, not suited to the area therefore growing poorly or have reached their life expectancy. This will also be discussed with Council.

The replacement plants will, in some cases, be the same or replaced with something more suitable and prettier. After all, we are known for our *beautiful* median strip and wish to keep it that way. We will also look at consolidation, some areas look a little haphazard!

There will be a reduction in the number of end plantings to four as we no longer have the volunteer numbers for the satisfactory upkeep of these areas. We will retain the North & South ends and the Hughes/Herbert Street intersection. They will be replanted uniformly with low maintenance shrubs which flower during our busiest tourist months.

Another suggestion was to relocate some of the furniture and erect shade sails making them more user friendly. This idea will be considered in the overall project.

We recently purchased street art in the form of copper sculptures which will be used in the median strip and Caravan Park. These pieces were purchased from artist Dave Griffiths, the maker of our CJ Dennis statue. We're really looking forward to adding these original art pieces to our township!

Naturally, we would like to hear from the Community on this latest project so if you have any input or would like to volunteer some time tree planting in the future please don't hesitate to contact the Chairman or any LCDTA members.

FLINDERS HEALTH UNDER 5 IMMUNISATION CLINIC AT LAURA & GLADSTONE:



Upcoming 2015 immunisation dates are as follows:

- Tuesday **August 4th in Gladstone** from 10am to 12.30pm
- Tuesday **September 1st in Laura** from 2pm to 4.30pm
- Tuesday **October 6th in Gladstone** from 10am to 12.30pm
- Tuesday **November 3rd in Laura** from 2pm to 4.30pm
- Tuesday **December 1st in Gladstone** from 10am to 12.30pm



Probus News:

The Laura and Districts Probus Club meets monthly (except January) in various towns in the area. The August meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th at the Laura Civic Centre, starting with a cuppa at 10 a.m. Following the meeting and guest speaker lunch will be enjoyed at the North Laura Hotel.

The September meeting on Tuesday 8th will also commence at 10 a.m. with a cuppa, this time at the Gladstone Hall Yanga Room. Following the meeting and guest speaker, lunch will follow provided by St. Joseph's.



Laura Community Gymnasium Inc:

'Providing an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to live a healthier lifestyle'

The Laura Community Gym is proving to be very popular and getting used regularly.

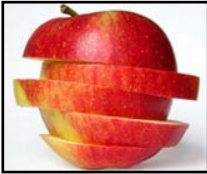
The membership numbers continue to grow; we now have over sixty members, with many due to renew their membership which can be done at the Post Office.

Casual visits are available by going along with a member and paying \$5.00 or visiting the Post Office to pick up an access button.

A special thank you to our sponsors for their support, the gym couldn't have happened without your help. When you next visit the gym look up on our walls and take note of those businesses that have supported us and remember to support them too.

Any enquiries, call Deb Palmer 0408 082 614





Southern Flinders Health Advisory Council (SFHAC) Report – July 2015

Country Health SA Scholarships:

Country Health SA has awarded thirteen undergraduate and fourteen postgraduate scholarships to students from Regional SA in the 2015 round of it's annual scholarship program.

These scholarships support the studies of country students who have chosen to work in health related fields in regional areas.

After graduation, recipients are required to work in a country health service for a term equal to the duration of scholarship funding awarded.

The SFHAC extends it's congratulations to Ella Head from Crystal Brook, who was awarded an undergraduate scholarship in the 2015 round. Ella is currently studying a Bachelor of Nursing.

Applications for the 2016 scholarship intake are expected to open in August of 2015.

For up to date information about the 2016 scholarship intake visit the Country Health SA website www.countryhealth.sa.gov.au in August.

SFHAC Annual General Meeting:

The SFHAC Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 22 October at 7:00 pm in the Crystal Brook Hospital Activity Room.

Community members are both very welcome and encouraged to attend. Current resident members of the SFHAC are Catherine Klingner and John Slattery (Crystal Brook), Jan Crawford and Llyndell Duffy (Georgetown), Colin Raison (Gladstone) and Lorraine Griffin, Brian Higgins and Colleen Slattery (Laura). Sarah Ashby (Staff Representative), Geoff Lange (Northern Areas Council Representative) and Dr Helen Robertson (Medical Representative) are the remaining members.



Did you realise that the physical compilation of the newsletter is done by volunteers?

The cost of paper, printing & delivery is largely met by the limited funds of the LCDTA along with a few adverts. If you enjoy the newsletter and would like to be proactive in ensuring it's continued production any donation to defray these physical costs would be greatly appreciated.



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Senior Citizen



They've got nothing to lose and they play for keeps.

Laura Seniors Play Bingo for Charity:

Laura Senior Citizens Club is alive and going strong in it's 48th year, despite our shrinking membership which seems to be prevalent now in country clubs.

We meet monthly on a Wednesday afternoon in the R.S.L. Hall for a varied programme which includes; visits to places of interest, talks, lunches out or in the Hall, and afternoons of fellowship.

Due to our small numbers, we recently amalgamated with both the Gladstone and Wirrabara Senior Citizens Clubs to visit each other's meetings or join their various activities.

In April 2011 we introduced an afternoon of BINGO which is open to all comers every Thursday at 1.30pm in the Hall. This is a friendly fellowship where folks can enjoy the very simple games, no-one wins or loses much and all enjoy an afternoon tea and biscuits at half-time.

Players now come from Gladstone, Stone Hut and even Crystal Brook as well as the loyal local folks. Everyone is made welcome. Just \$5 dollars for six Bingo tickets and afternoon tea.

On 27th May 2015, Senior Citizen's Bingo held a successful fund-raiser; the Biggest Morning Tea in aid of research into Breast Cancer.

All takings and donations during the afternoon's play were earmarked for this very worthy cause, and a total of \$700.00 was forwarded to the Cancer Council.



Rocky River Lions Club news:

Lions held their annual Changeover Dinner in June and the following Club Board for 2015/16 was inducted:

President:	Bevan Smith
Secretary:	Greg Wheeler
Treasurer:	Sam Smith
Immediate Past President:	Tim Zander
1 st Vice President:	Colin Raison
2 nd Vice President:	Allen Weston
3 rd Vice President:	John Kitto

The Club currently has 17 members and is supporting a group of women and men working to start up a Lions Club in Crystal Brook.

Fundraising is achieved through the sale of donuts at the Laura Folk Fair and Laura and Gladstone home football/netball matches.

The sale of sample grain at Gladstone's silo complex during harvest also raises funds that are ploughed back into projects supporting residents in our Rocky River district. The sale of Lions Christmas cakes add to the fundraising mix.

If you are interested in becoming a Lion to help within our community, do not hesitate to contact any member of the club for further information. As Lions world-wide say, "We Serve".

LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

Providing an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to live a healthier lifestyle.

Join the Gym now as a casual or permanent member

Membership fees casual visit ~ \$5.00

1 month ~ \$30.00 - 3 months ~ \$70.00 - 6 months ~ \$120.00

12 months ~ \$200.00

Application forms at Laura Post Office or call Deb Palmer on 0408 082 614



Council News:

The major news from the Council at present is the adoption of the budget. It has been approved. Use the link below for more information.

Due to the wet winter conditions there is not a lot of earthworks being undertaken for the Laura Flood Mitigation Project. Spring will be the optimum time for the staff to undertake some significant work.

Link to 2015/16 Annual Business Plan and Summary

<http://www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/2015%20-%202016%20Annual%20Business%20Plan%20&%20Budget.pdf>

James Lang
Manager, Community Development
Northern Areas Council
8664 1139



Wondering what has happened to the Median Strip Flagpole?

The flagpole has been removed for refurbishment, replacement of the flag rigging and redesigned to make it more accessible for future maintenance.

Thank you to Richard Kruger and Rob & Sue Scarman.

Contacts:

- **Council Office** Jamestown 8664 1139, 1300 664 108
(**Please Note:** The 1300 number listed in Laura Community Calendar is only available for landlines)
- **Council Office Gladstone** 8662 2018
- **Dog Control**, Gary Harris 0419 858 375
- **Manger Environmental Services**, Alan Thomson 0409 286 542
- **Councillor Sue Scarman**, can be seen personally at the Laura Visitor Information Centre (check roster for times when she is there) or 0418 844 935 or sue.scarman@icloud.com



Finding a Justice of the Peace:

Barry Harvie 8663 2187 or 0409 698 009
Geoff Lange 0427 632 334
Jon Hawkins-Clarke 8663 2172
John Stevens 8663 2303

Laura Community Development & Tourism Association Inc. PO Box 149 Laura SA 5480

Chairman: Andrew Zanker 0438 118 227
Secretary: Lorraine Griffin 8663 2412
Newsletter Editor: Newsletter Committee

Reports, articles and advertising for the October Newsletter can be submitted by email to **lcdta5480@gmail.com** or delivered to The Laura Soap & Gift Shoppe no later than 5pm Friday September 25th 2015. Receiving articles electronically assists in the production of the newsletter.

Advertising:

Contact Hans Simons 8663 2170 or 0439 093 100 for details.

This is a community publication. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Association. The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse articles.

Please Note:

If you know of someone who unfortunately hasn't received a copy of the Laura Standard, extra copies are available from the Laura Information Centre.

Laura Standard Advertising Fees:

Full page	-	\$40.00
Half page	-	\$25.00
Quarter page	-	\$15.00
One Line	-	\$2.00

Latest time to submit articles

for inclusion in the **October**

edition of The Laura Standard is

5 pm Friday 25th Sept 2015



Update on the nbn™ fixed wireless service for Laura:

In early June the Council Development Assessment Panel meeting of the Northern Areas Council approved both planning applications for the nbn™ fixed wireless facilities at Laura and Gladstone.

Whilst the decisions were unanimous across the Panel, both sites have been conditioned with painting and landscaping around the base of the facility.

The painting of the monopole structures is required to be similar to the existing Telstra facility in Laura.

nbn™ and its delivery partners, subject to the conditions above, will now commence the construction, incorporating a 30m high monopole with antennas at the top and associated equipment at the base.

This work is forecast to take approximately 6-months and once complete the facility will be tested prior to being turned on.

High speed broadband services are forecast to be available for Laura and surrounding rural living properties late 2015. Coverage of the Laura facility will be available once construction has commenced and can be viewed at www.nbnco.com.au/maps.

The nbn™ fixed wireless network is designed to deliver significant improvements in broadband speed and capability; wholesale speeds of 25Mbps down and 5Mbps up.

If you have any questions please contact either nbn™ **co** or your preferred telephone and/or internet service provider.

nbn™ **co** can be reached on:
1800 687 626
info@nbnco.com.au
www.nbnco.com.au

Interesting fact:

The first issue of The Laura standard: and Beetaloo, Wirrabara, Melrose, Booleroo Centre and Yarrowie advertiser Vol. 1, no.1; 11 April 1889 was printed on silk as a gift to the newspaper's sponsors. It is held by the State Library of South Australia.