

# The Laura Standard



February 2015 Issue One

## From your LCDTA Chairman:

Dear Community Members,

It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity in this newsletter to speak to you about some of the things happening around our town that the Laura Community Development & Tourism Association (LCDTA) has been involved with.

The two major projects are the new homes completed by Unity Housing in Victoria and Bristow Streets as well as the Streetscape Upgrade. Our town numbers continue to grow and we extend a warm welcome to new residents.

Seeing the new paving go down so quickly gives a visual as well as safety uplift to our footpaths and we eagerly await the completion of this part of the project. Although the work has caused some inconvenience, I believe this project will have long lasting benefits for our lovely town.

The street upgrade has given us an opportunity to refurbish the seating along the street and I am sure they will look like new; similar to the seating installed in the BBQ shelter at the North Parklands.

With work on the Community Gymnasium well under way and opening soon this facility will provide the community with the opportunity to enhance their fitness in safety and comfort.



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

*From page 1...*

Our caravan park has long been regarded as a great place to stay for a night or more and I am pleased to say that the new reception building is progressing quickly and would like to thank all the volunteers assisting in the construction of another facility our town can be proud of.

A few years have gone by since the town entrance signs were installed and we have recently been able to enhance them by adding solar lighting.

All of these projects are supported by the Northern Areas Council and I thank them for their time, effort and financial contribution.

It was also encouraging to see a good turnout to our Christmas party; a day late and even with an impromptu change to the oval, it was great to see so many families get together and enjoy the evening.

My thanks also go to the volunteers compiling our first newsletter. I ask you to support this bi-monthly publication by ensuring that newsworthy items from individuals & groups are submitted to [lcdta5480@gmail.com](mailto:lcdta5480@gmail.com) or in boxes provided in the Post Office & IGA.

**This is your newsletter; please use it to inform everyone of the activities in our town!**

May this year bring you many good times and blessings,  
Andrew Zanker, Chairman LCDTA

### **From a grateful resident:**

A big thank you to the caring local people who collected pine trees, and installed and decorated them along Herbert Street just prior to Christmas. The big red bows on the street trees also helped give our town a real festive feel.

I was also delighted to see that all the pine trees and decorations were removed in early January leaving the street neat and tidy.

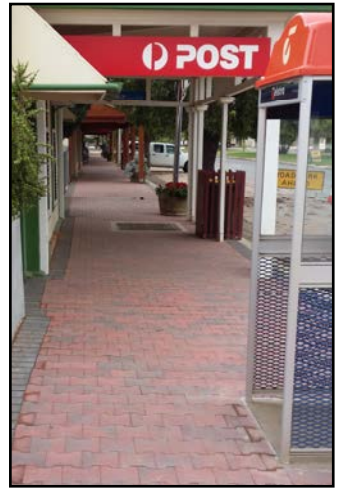
Thank you to all concerned, your efforts were appreciated.

Eleanor Harvie.

## Laura Main Street Upgrade:

Whilst much has already been achieved with the laying of pavers and preparation for the car parking areas, there is still a lot to do before completion of the project. It is anticipated that all work for this section of the project will be completed by the end of February.

To date, root barriers have been installed to a depth up to 1.2m to prevent roots moving in under the newly paved area. Flush kerbing has been laid to act as a separation tool between the paving and parking area which also provides easy access from the parking area to the footpath.



Excavation was required prior to commencement of new works, which involved some of the surface roots (due to previous bitumen under trees) being removed. As Kurrajongs are deep rooted trees this should have minimal, if any, impact on the trees. A very good watering will also help!

### Work still to do:

- Construction of concrete protuberances around trees with quality soil and bark chips infill.
- Bitumen to be laid in car parking areas along with line marking.
- Final improvements of concrete areas at intersections.

It's finally taking shape and looking very appealing!





## Laura Twilight Market

Hosted by Laura Events Committee at  
**Laura Civic Centre**

**Friday 6th March 2015**  
**4.30pm to 8pm**

Entertainment, Food, Plants, Produce & more!  
BBQ, Golden North Ice-cream

**Enquiries for stalls to:**

**Joyce:** 8663 2660, 0437 345 211 or **Ian:** 86632 581



**NORTHERN AREAS  
COUNCIL**

### **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**, Garry Harris 0419 858 375
- **Manager 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](mailto:sue.scarman@icloud.com)
- **Councillor Geoff Lange**, 0427 632 334



## LAURA FOLK FAIR INC. Update February 2015

### What's happening for event 2015

- Stalls: A selection of new craft, produce & food sites.
- Entertainment: SAPOL Dixie Band, Wonderful New Bush Band, Animals Anonymous.
- Returning: Circus Elements, Pipes & Drums, Showman's Guild
- Parade Theme: Ancient History
- Facebook: Have you seen the photos? Can you assist with identity?  
[www.facebook.com/laurafolkfair.com](http://www.facebook.com/laurafolkfair.com)
- Website: Updated regularly with all information you need.  
[www.laurafolkfair.com.au](http://www.laurafolkfair.com.au)
- Event Dates: 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Working Bee: Hessian Session will be held 9am Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the Civic Centre. Manufacture of stall dividers.
- Diary Dates: Marquee Assembly Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April
- Site Assembly: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April
- Fireworks Site Clean: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Site Dismantle: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Site Clean / Equipment return: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April
- Commemorative Port Label 2015: Featuring Laura Agricultural Bureau. Cartons can be ordered at carton (12) price \$120
- Entry: Donation effective from 2015 event.
- Volunteer Pool: Short Term Projects. Including programme folding, poster distribution, site holder package assembly & dispatch. Folk Fair weekend Rosters - Bar, Soft-drink Van, Folk Fair Administration Site & Sandwich Bar. If you are interested please contact secretary (08) 8663 2221.
- Friends of Folk Fair: Please consider being a Friend, your annual financial commitment can assist with the truly huge entertainment budget (2014 \$16,400).
- Committee Membership: Sue Scarman, Geoff Lange, Julie Nettle, Barry Harvie, John Barberien, Ian White, Amy Simons, Jan Barberien.

**We welcome new members.**

## **Laura Country Music Festival:**

The 2014 *Laura Country* Music Festival was another success. The headline acts; Doug Bruce, Johanna Hemara and John O'Dea were all well received, along with the bands; Key Country, Heartland, Ian List, Cactus Martens, Trevor Philbey and Ernie Schulz. One of the weekend's highlights was Johanna Hemara singing 'The Indian Love Call' solo without the band. One could hear a pin drop, the audience were totally spellbound; an awe inspiring performance!



## **2015 Laura Country Music Festival:**

2015 promises to be an even bigger and better event with Bill Chambers - that's right, Kasey's father - Wildcard and Fiona Holliday from Mt Gambier and the always popular Craig Giles. Kiera Smith, Bernie & the Bandits, Ian List, Des Will, Trevor Philbey and Ernie Schulz will also be appearing in this top line up of country music artists.

Friday afternoon will set the tone of the weekend with the popular Golden Oldies show, followed by a fun night with Bernie & the Bandits and invited guest artists. Bernie's band will also back the entrants in the 'Come & Try Country' Star Search program to be held Saturday. Contact (08) 86632614 for an entry form. Saturday Night will feature the awards Presentation, Bill Chambers, Wild Card and Fiona Holliday.

### **A must attend event!**

Join in for a 'country brekky' at the Laura Caravan Park on Sunday morning, followed by the 'Country Gospel & Open House Country' featuring Craig Giles, Wild Card, Fiona Holliday, Kiera Smith plus other invited artists which will round out a very full-on weekend of country music.

The weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, the fifth time for *Laura Country*, promises to be the best yet. Tickets will be available from mid-May; book early to secure your seats, tickets & accommodation. This sensational weekend is all under cover at the Laura Memorial Civic Centre Hall.

**We look forward to seeing you sometime over the weekend.**



## Laura Community Caravan Park News:

Have you ever wondered just what a "community" caravan park is?

Laura Community Caravan Park is run by the LCDTA and income from the park is distributed throughout the community for projects such as; the playground, street seating, Christmas party, etc. Members of the community who are interested in volunteering for any working bees are invited to contact the caravan park co-ordinator Barry Harvie on (08) 86632187 or the park managers on (08) 8663 2296.

After years of talking and planning, work has commenced on the new reception building on the north side of the park residence. When the work is completed the park entrance will be via Victoria Street and the exit via North Terrace.



Another project completed recently is the camp kitchen which is really appreciated by caravan park guests. Donations of crockery and/or cutlery that you no longer require would be most welcome.

The Caravan Park is pet friendly, but we have never provided accommodation for a "camel caravan" before! The team walked from Alice Springs to raise funds for drought relief, and plan to take up residence in this area.



During the winter months, park guests really enjoy getting together around the camp fire on a Friday night for camp oven dampers. One caravan club is planning to return this year when we will hold a "My **Camp** Kitchen Rules".

## Upgrade Laura Sporting Reserve:

Work is currently underway to restore the old grandstand at the Laura Sporting Reserve to comply with current safety regulations.

New graded timber flooring, timber seating, balustrades & handrails are being installed and once painted will ensure that our 'faithful old grandstand' will continue to serve current users as well as future generations in a more comfortable and safe fashion.



The grandstand is an important part of Laura's history; many generations have enjoyed the seating and shelter whilst witnessing many fierce sporting contests!



## Laura Community Gymnasium Inc:

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

The long awaited gymnasium will be opening in February. Special thanks to JP Build and Mid North AC for work in kind, along with some dedicated workers who have turned a storeroom under the grandstand into a very impressive gym.

The roller door has been replaced with security glass doors, and walls and ceiling lined and painted. Electrical wiring, alarms, multiple power points, timed downlights and air conditioning have been installed. Once the rubber safety flooring is laid, we will install state of the art fitness equipment acquired through project funding.

Lots of help is still needed to set up the gym equipment; if you can lend a hand, give Deb Palmer a call on 0408 082 614.

Early membership fees have helped fund the project. Enter the early-bird member's lucky draw on opening day, the winner will double the length of their membership! Membership information is available at the Laura Post Office.

Support us by buying Laura Gym fundraising merchandise from the Laura Hair Affair.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**





## LAURA FOLK FAIR INC

### Become a *"Folk Fair Friend"*

Would you please consider becoming a supporter of Laura Folk Fair by becoming a "Friend"?

Your annual contribution as a *"Friend"* will assist the Committee in its effort to continue delivering a successful Folk Fair weekend.

The Folk Fair weekend facilitates the opportunity for local and surrounding district clubs, schools and community organisations to action their major fund-raiser. The economic benefit of the Laura Folk Fair to the community and business is very considerable.

Being a *"Friend"* realises you the opportunity to support our Community's Award Winning Event by assisting with entertainment expense.

The Committee will be most appreciative of your assistance either financial or in-kind. Thank you.

The Secretary, Laura Folk Fair Inc. PO Box 18, LAURA SA 5480  
T: (08) 8663 2221 E-mail: [secretary@laurafolkfair.com.au](mailto:secretary@laurafolkfair.com.au)

I wish to support the Laura Folk Fair by becoming a *"Friend"*.

Please find enclosed my/our choice of annual donation:  
\$10 / \$20 / \$

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Family

.....

Contact Details:

.....

**CHANGES TO THE SOUTHERN  
FLINDERS HEALTH UNDER 5  
IMMUNISATION CLINIC AT LAURA  
& GLADSTONE:**



The under 5 year old immunisation clinic will continue to be provided at the Laura Hospital and Gladstone Health Centre by Dymph Catford (Registered Nurse – Immunisation Provider).

Immunisation day will be on the first **Tuesday** of the month (not Wednesday).

Immunisation clinics will **alternate** between the Laura Hospital (86633124) one month and Gladstone Health Centre (86622180) the next.

Bookings will be arranged via GP surgery as it is coordinated by Rocky River Medical Practice (not Northern Areas Council).

This means you will see the GP (Dr Anantheswaran Tharmalingam) who will then authorise the RN to administer the vaccine/s.

Upcoming 2015 immunisation dates are as follows:

- **Gladstone Health Centre** February 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am – 1pm
- **Laura Hospital** March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2pm – 5pm
- **Gladstone Health Centre** April 7<sup>th</sup> 10am – 1pm

A complete list of 2015 dates will be made available at a later date.

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# RRHAS

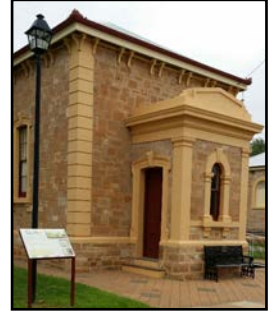
You are invited to attend:

the **OPENING NIGHT**

of the **LAURA ART EXHIBITION**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm**

At the Courthouse Gallery, Hughes St, Laura.  
Admission: \$10 per person (price includes refreshments and a souvenir wine glass)



**Visit the Gallery & Archives Folk Fair Weekend**

**Saturday 11am – 7pm**

**Sunday 11am – 4pm**

This year's display in the Archives is courtesy of the Laura Agricultural Bureau. Included is a DVD of their Centenary celebration in February 2014.

Former 'Laura-ites' are invited to meet others Saturday & Sunday, 3 – 3.30pm

### **Cemetery Shelter and Noticeboard:**

A new 6m x 6m shelter will soon be erected in the Laura Cemetery car park, situated near the Niche Wall and Cross of Memory. The shelter will contain seating and a 3m noticeboard; the noticeboard will provide a map of the cemetery to assist in locating graves. Also, as part of the project, each row within the cemetery shall be numbered.

The project has been instigated by the Rocky River Historic & Art Society (RRHAS), assisted by the Northern Areas Council, and the funding is a bequest from the late Margaret (Maggy) Ragless, historian and friend of the RRHAS. The Society felt that the best use of the bequest would be a permanent and practical memorial for a woman who dedicated her life to South Australian history and who had a strong affinity for the history that is in every cemetery, including that of Laura.

**Rocky River Historic & Art Society Inc.**  
*cont.*



### **Anzac Commemoration:**

In August 2015, the Rocky River Historic & Art Society is planning to commemorate the centenary of World War I.

Because of heightened national and international interest in 2015 regarding the events of Gallipoli, we want to look at Laura and the district during this time; Laura's contribution to the war effort, what life was like at home, and the effect the war had on everyday life of the local people. We intend to hold a display in the Courthouse Gallery.

We will look at several areas of importance to life in Laura at this time, including education, medical care, local churches, local businesses and agriculture. Central to the commemoration will be the men and women of the district who served in the armed services, and we invite any community members or groups who would be interested in joining us to set up a section of the gallery dedicated to this period. Memorabilia and artefacts that we could borrow to display would also be very welcome.

We have begun our research into this historical period of the town and welcome you to our meetings which take place on the last Tuesday of each month in the Laura Archives building in Hughes Street, Laura.

**The February meeting will be on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm.**

### **Laura Flood Mitigation Project:**

Southern Flinders Regional Tourism Authority has been successful with a funding submission to PIRSA Regional Flood Initiative Program for the amount of \$333,869 for flood mitigation works.

To date no information is available as to when this project will commence. We hope to bring you more news in the April edition of this newsletter.

At least things are now *'flowing'* in the right direction!

## **Laura Information Centre (LIC):**

The Laura Information Centre has started the year successfully and is now open 7 days a week with thanks to the 30 dedicated volunteers. Locals and tourists alike come in for information, brochures, maps, and to exchange ideas. A four minute video that features the manufacture of our famous Golden North Ice-cream is also very popular!

Since November 2005 the Centre has hosted over 25,000 visitors; these visitors have arrived from all parts of the world, including all states and territories of Australia. Even the locals call in!

With growing interest in local produce, the Centre specialises in showcasing a wide range of locally produced food, drink and unique Laura souvenirs, all of which are available for purchase. We welcome local producers to become consignees (we already have over 40).

As well as encouraging you to visit the Centre – if you haven't already done so – we also welcome you as a volunteer. Committee members are always available to answer questions, deliver training before you start, and to provide any ongoing support you may need during your time in the centre.

Laura Information Centre is a great spot to look for that special gift or ingredient!



## **Self-serve Ice & Filtered Water Vending Machine:**

Council recently approved the installation of this machine adjacent to North Paddock Antiques, near the public amenities. This is a joint venture between PRN Vending and Regional Hardware Suppliers, and is for the use of locals and visitors alike.



## **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 April Newsletter can be submitted by email to [lcdta5480@gmail.com](mailto:lcdta5480@gmail.com) or placed in boxes at the Post Office and IGA no later than 5pm Friday March 20th 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.

### **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 **April**  
edition of *The Laura Standard* is  
**5 pm Friday 20th March 2015**

## History of the Laura Standard:

The name and masthead design for this newsletter was borne from a desire to remember and honour past printed Laura publications.



*The Laura Standard* newspaper was established in 1888 to service the towns of Laura, Beetaloo, Melrose, Booleroo Centre and Yarrowie. The first issue (using the original artistic masthead) was printed from the Laura Standard printing office situated at 36 Herbert Street on April 11<sup>th</sup> 1889 and continued with this masthead style until Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 1889.

The new curved design was used from December 20<sup>th</sup> 1889 up to 1916 when the name of the newspaper became the Laura Standard and Crystal Brook Courier due to the publication covering a larger area.



In 1942, *The Laura Standard* was taken over by the *Northern Review* of Jamestown.

The graphic of the distinctive shop fronts, which was designed by the late Dick Biles, was used for the publication Laura Cares Incorporated. Laura Cares was first published in May 1996 and ceased publication in Jan 2001. **Note:** also during this time a privately produced and edited publication, the Rocky River Standard, was available and ran from March 1<sup>st</sup> 1999 to May 31<sup>st</sup> 2000.



The Laura Cares logo was then used for the LCDTA community newsletter *Looking at Laura* which ran from November 2000 through to 2002/03. After a period of time without a newsletter, production started again in autumn 2005 until April 2007, when *Looking at Laura* was incorporated into a new privately produced publication: *Laura & District Community News*, which continued through to October 2011.

**We are happy to present you with the new publication:  
*The Laura Standard!***

Further history information is available from the Laura Archives which is open on the first Tuesday of every month, 2 – 4pm.