



February 2019 Issue 25

I hope everyone had a good Christmas with their families and friends.

The Christmas party in the Park Lands was well attended. I think Santa is getting fatter and jollier each year!

Thank you to Anne-Marie Holt for organizing the choir who provided some wonderful carols for us. Once again our appreciation to the Laura Tennis Club for the barbeque and the Laura Ladies Bowling Club for the sweets.

The food was enjoyed by all those who attended. Golden North again provided the dixie cup ice creams for the children to enjoy. There has been a suggestion that next year the party be held behind the old court house on the lawns with a stage for the singers and try to make it more of a family night, as with such an open area groups gather separately and we lose that community spirit. Any comments and suggestions are most welcome by the committee.

Thanks must also go to Joyce Wode and her team for providing some wonderful Christmas spirit in our town. The lights and decorations are a credit to her small group of volunteers.

The caravan park again provided a festive entry to the town with their colourful light display.

Congratulations to Amy Simons, being awarded the Northern Areas Council "Young Citizen of the Year" for her magnificent work with the Laura Folk Fair over many years.

The Laura Community Calendar has been produced and delivered with some printing problems. Again any suggestion on how we can improve it, let a committee member know. The cost of the calendar is \$2,700 which is covered by the business advertising.

continued on page 2....



Amy Simons

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

....continued from page 1

Thank you to Denise Higgins for the work in producing this year's calendar under such frustrating conditions.

The weather has been challenging over the last weeks, so keep cool and be mindful of your neighbors and friends.

Happy new year to you all and remember 2019 is the year of the POWER.

Thank you

Geoff Lange

Chairman LCDTA



Valentines Day



February 14th Open 8:00am

Roses-Cut Flowers-Teddy's-Chocolates-Giftware

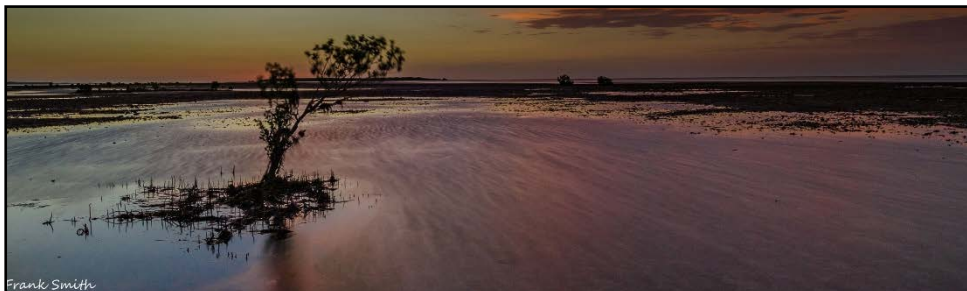
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Frank Smith



Laura Twilight Market

Hosted by Laura Events Committee
Laura Civic Centre, Laura Archives lawns
Friday 15th March 2019
4.30pm to 8pm

Last time everyone enjoyed themselves immensely, so come along and check out the food, plants, produce, delicious homemade cakes and more!

Entertainment will be provided.

BBQ and Golden North ice-cream will be available

Enquiries for stalls to:

Joyce: 8663 2660, 0437 345 211 or Ian: 8663 2581



Save the Date

Second Annual Laura Long Lunch –

The next Laura Long Lunch will be held on

Sunday 28th April.

Come along to enjoy a day of good food, friends and
entertainment.





New Respiratory service to Laura and Gladstone:

We are pleased to advise that Glenda Woodward, Respiratory nurse from Country & Outback health is now visiting Laura Medical and Gladstone Health Centres on a regular basis.

Glenda is an experienced Respiratory nurse, having previously worked in Yorke Peninsula and is very popular with people who have ongoing respiratory conditions and those who are experiencing breathing difficulties and require further investigation.

The service is free to the public and appointments take approximately 1 hour. If you are interested in seeing Glenda, please talk to your GP at Laura, Gladstone or Crystal Brook Medical Centres.

This program is funded by Country SA Primary Health Network, A Federal Government initiative.



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Laura Community Caravan Park news:



Hi to all.

As expected the weather has slowed our occupancy rate and we have had a little time to do odds and sods to improve the look of the park.

The old caravan has now been sold and moved and the ground is under repair.

Just waiting to have a few trades jobs completed before we begin to get busy again.

Once again I would like to thank our volunteers for their help.

Hoping all stay safe.

Trish & Peter.



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Frankie Smith

TESTIMONIAL:

Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would ever step foot inside a Gym – I'm a spectator, not a participator, of sport and exercise.

Having been advised that my bone density is poor, and needing to do low-impact exercises, when I saw an advert for Circuit Classes at the Laura Gym I thought I'd see if that would help my bones.

On making a phone call to get details, I was offered the opportunity to look around the gym and discuss classes. The decision was made to have a go at this fitness thing.

Well, what can I say...I absolutely love it and always look forward to gym day.

How very fortunate are we, as a small Community, to have this great facility in our Town; it's a credit to so many that worked hard to achieve it. Even better still is the fact that we now have a qualified trainer living in Laura offering classes.

Marian Floyd (Wingstar Fitness & Weight Management) focuses on many aspects of health care including cardio, strength training, weight management, healthy eating etc.

For me, Marian has been fantastic with developing a program that encourages me to continue to participate. She explains clearly the exercises we're doing and what effect they have on the body. Her encouragement and assistance mean that sessions are enjoyable, and I have noticed a positive difference in my health, especially mental health, after only a few sessions.

I encourage anyone of any age to consider classes as part of their overall health care plan. The Laura Gym has a variety of equipment, there's something suitable for all abilities, and Marian will guide you all the way.

If this 58-year-old woman who has never exercised in a gym can not only do it but enjoy it, I'm sure anyone can.

Be Active – Be Healthy (Name supplied)

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Stone Hut Bakery, selling quality pies and sausage rolls, including the famous crocodile pie.

With over 14 different types of pies, you will definitely find your favourite. Try our gourmet pie range: Wild boar, Crocodile or Seafood. We sell the best pies in the universe.

Enjoy a bottle of wine and your favourite pie in our tranquil setting in Stone Hut. Try our famous quandong and apple crumble and vanilla slice as you travel through, you will not be disappointed.

Summer hours, starting 3rd Dec - 28th Feb
Mon - Fri 8am - 3pm, Sat - Sun 8am - 5pm



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LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

Providing an excellent opportunity for people of all ages

Join the Gym now as a casual or permanent member

Membership fees:

Casual visit \$5, 3 months \$80, 6 months \$150, 12 months \$200

Concessions available

Enquiries and application forms available from the Laura Post Office
or call **Deb Palmer: 0408 082 614.**



Find us on:
facebook®

Hello friends from Laura and surrounding areas.

Are you a singer who has nowhere to sing?

If you are, we would love you to come and sing with our choir, the

SOUNDS of LAURA

Please come and join us - We sing a variety of genres and
meet together during school terms on

Mondays 1pm-3pm at the Baptist Church, Laura

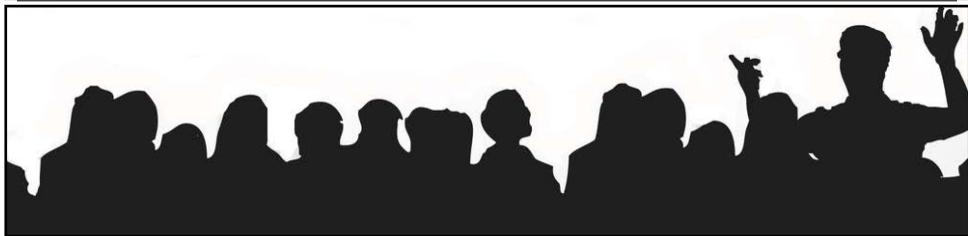
The *only* expense is a small weekly fee of \$5 to cover costs

and your 1st week is absolutely free!

For more information, phone

Ann Marie Holt: 8663 2614 or Anne Hansen: 0429 866 242

Hope to see you soon!





SH ♥ P
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*Remember, shopping locally all year
long keeps our community viable!*

Dan

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RRHAS

Art Exhibition at the Folk Fair:

Entries are now open for the 41st Art Exhibition at the Folk Fair. Entry forms for artists may be collected from the Laura Information Centre or accessed on the Folk Fair website.

An open welcome is extended to all residents to the opening of the Art Exhibition on Friday evening of the Folk Fair weekend.

After a busy day (or days) of preparation for this busy weekend attending the opening is an ideal way to have a time of relaxation and enjoyment. It is also the opportunity to have first selection of the paintings for sale! This exhibition is one of the longest running in rural South Australia attracting entries from artists across the state and interstate.

FREE ADMISSION on opening night includes refreshments.

Gold coin admission during the weekend.

HELP required over the Folk Fair weekend:

Most organizations require assistance over this busy weekend, but we can offer an easy and pleasant task as a gallery attendant.

We need to staff the marquee in front of the Court House Gallery.

The tasks are simple - greet people and take gold coin admissions and distribute exhibition catalogues.

As a bonus, from the marquee you can see and hear most of the action of Folk Fair....and the LCDTA tea and coffee is very close. Time slots of an hour or so can be arranged.

Please contact Greg Slattery 0417 877 145 if you can assist.



Lovely Laura, the town with many tags!

Laura has had several 'tags' through the years. From being known as the garden of the Northern Areas, the town with the nice main street, the town where the flour or ice cream was made, it is now commonly referred to as the home of the Laura Folk Fair.

The Folk Fair has developed from a fledgling event to that of a significant regional tourism attraction which has done much to put Laura on the map. It was conceived by the late Dick Biles, inaugural President of Rocky River Historic & Art Society, as an added attraction to the Laura Art Prize.

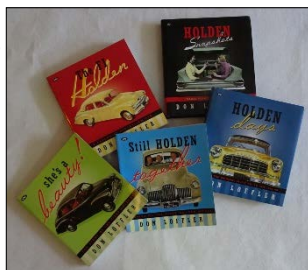
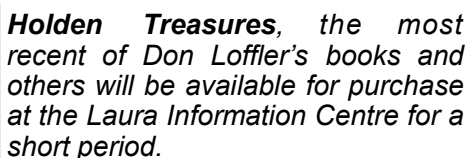
The first Folk Fair was organized by RRHAS in 1980 and included the unveiling of the bust of CJ Dennis which had been commissioned by the society. Since 1981 the Laura Folk Fair Committee has organized the fair.

Through the years the Laura Folk Fair has been the recipient of various regional and state awards and provided residents, visitors, vendors, artists and musicians with a great event. The art exhibition is one of the longest running in rural South Australia, and it, together with the Folk Fair, are testimony to the vision of Dick Biles, and the support of the successive committees.



Northern Areas History Group:

Some people guess that **Don Loffler** is the son or relative of a Holden dealer, or a former Holden factory employee. He is none of these, but a retired German, Latin and Chemistry teacher, who is enjoying the process of writing books on his passion - the early Holden models and the history behind them. Born in Kapunda, South Australia, Don gained an Arts degree and two Education diplomas from the University of Adelaide.



Latin linguist's literary life lampooning Lion lore

Loffler's obsession with Holden began, as usual, in childhood. "I was nine years old when the Holden came out in 1948. I have the most vivid memories of the drama of that appearing. I had an instant love affair with Holden. I was already interested in cars, but this affair never left me.

"But I was totally disloyal. I was madly keen on VW Beetles. I owned five of them, one after the other, then I had a VW 1500 sedan, then a special-import 1500 S Variant twin-carb. But the flame for Holdens never died!"

Amidst discussion at the meeting including the background of the former Yacka Motors was the reduction of rural car dealerships in general.

Just as banks, bakers and butchers are no longer common in all towns, so are car dealerships. In fact along the main road between Clare and Port Augusta there is now only one new car franchise, whereas at any one time in the post war period until about 1960 there were possibly a dozen, including three at Laura - Dodge, Ford and Austin.

We at Laura are fortunate to have that only franchise operating on the stretch between Clare and Port Augusta.

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Stevens Motors is one of very few multi-generational motor businesses to have survived. Another is the Rosewarne family of Kadina.

The Stevens story dates back to 1879 when James Stevens, formerly of Strathalbyn ventured to Laura, a township just seven years old, and established an engineering and blacksmithing business near the North Laura Hotel. His son Hedley later joined him as an apprentice. Hedley ventured into the world of motoring with a Ford agency in 1924. After the depression years the Dodge agency was secured in 1933. At the Laura Show in 1935 Hedley Stevens proudly displayed five locally owned Dodges.

The Dodge connection continued through the Valiant successes of the Chrysler era, to the current Mitsubishi franchise under the direction of the late Jim Stevens, his son John, and now Paul. Stevens Motors as a sole franchise is one of relatively few in the industry not to trade with multiple franchises. It is rare also for a business to remain with the same agency.

Laura can be proud of the Stevens tradition which through five generations has served our district and the broader region with integrity – the recipe of their success.



James Stevens circa 1910



HS Stevens Dodge agency since the 1930s



Laura Motor Garage - a Ford dealership in the late 1940s and 1950s with the Kleinig family





The value of young energy!

In 2014 Amy Simons came voluntarily to Laura Folk Fair as an eager and enthusiastic 19-year-old with a lot of energy and great ideas.

Her skill set was amazing and with these attributes she has worked hard over the last 4 years to bring the Folk Fair into a better and more modern space. She has restructured, re-shaped and remodelled the Fair and all those involved with it by subtly and efficiently going about her business. Amy has also rebranded the Fair with a new colourful look which will see us continue to move forward for several years to come. We believe this fresh look has been one of the reasons for an increase in patrons coming to the Fair in recent years.

Since Amy's arrival the demographic of the committee has changed with several members now being under 40 and most of them under 30 which is something, I'm sure, many local committees would be most jealous of.

Amy has been a great asset to me as Chairman with her diplomacy and professionalism. She is non-judgemental and treats everyone fairly. Amy is a quiet achiever who leads by example. We wish her well with her studies at Uni for the next few years and expect to see her doing great things once she has attained her degrees.

Some comments from our Facebook page on her being presented with this award have been: "Congratulations Amy! Well deserved.... You go girl." But more importantly another comment from Carly Archer from Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North: "Amy totally deserves this acknowledgement – creative, driven, passionate, with a great community focus. Wishing her all the best for her future studies and life adventures."

I think Carly summed it up for everyone who has worked with or knows Amy.

Amy, we wish you well and congratulate you on being named the Northern Areas Council Young Citizen of the Year for 2019.

Sue Scarman,

Chairman, Laura Folk Fair



Contacts:

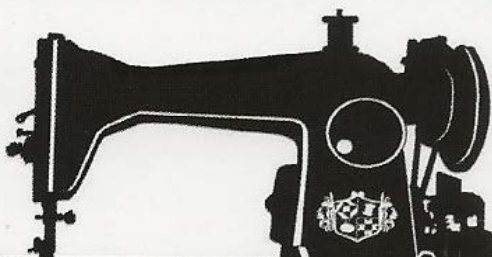
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- **Council Office Gladstone** 8662 2018
- **Dog Control** Garry Harris 0419 858 375
- **NAC Fire Prevention Officer** Jennie Window, 8664 1139
- **Manager, Regulatory Services** Alan Thomson 0409 286 542
- **Councillor Sue Scarman** can be seen personally at Laura Visitor Information Centre (check the LIC roster for times when she is there) or 0418 844 935 or Sue.Scarman@NACouncil.sa.gov.au
- **Councillor Denise Higgins** 0428 222 610 or Denise.Higgins@NACouncil.sa.gov.au



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Deadline dates for the Laura Standard Newsletter:

The Newsletter team, together with the LCDTA wish to thank all contributors for their newsletter articles and advertising over the past year.

The continued success of this publication relies on contributions from community/service groups, sporting clubs, and local residents and businesses.

In 2019 please continue to forward your articles, along with a logo to lcdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

- Jan 25th
- Mar 22nd
- May 24th
- July 26th
- Sept 27th
- Nov 22nd



January 2019 Laura Folk Fair Update:

The Laura Folk Fair is fast approaching, and the committee is hard at work getting together the entertainment programme, sponsorship, promotion and stallholders amongst all the other tasks that make this

Fair great.

Thanks to all that have put in their stall holder's and entertainment applications. We have completed the first-round of stallholder entries and still have room for a few more. Make sure you get your applications in quick as sites are filling fast.

Towards the end of February, we will be holding a silent auction on social media for locals to bid and buy local goods and services as a fundraiser for the Fair, we will be posting information on how to include yourself into the auction to grab a bargain. If you are interested in helping the Folk Fair, donations of goods and services over the next month will be greatly appreciated. Goods can be all kinds of things including firewood, wool bale clips, oil, food items, craft goods, gardening supplies, plants..... any ideas would be considered and gratefully received. Services could include, car detailing/washing, babysitting, gardening, haircuts, manicures, cleaning..... Anything really! If you have something you would consider including into this fundraiser we would really appreciate the donation.

Please contact Anna on 0458 532 732 or Sue on 0418 844 935

Keep an eye on Laura Folk Fair Facebook to see what is happening!

March the 15th is the Laura Twilight Market so come on down and buy a beautiful homemade cake from the Folk Fair Stall.

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Rocky River Lions Club news:

The winner of the Lions Club Christmas Raffle was Maria Kitto of Gladstone. Thank you to everyone who supported this annual fundraiser. The prize was valued at over \$400.

Funds raised from the sale of sample grain at the Viterra Gladstone Silo Complex was well down due to the poor cropping conditions this harvest. Every dollar raised through this source will be distributed by supporting community projects within the Rocky River district. Last year's sample grain collection allowed Lions to purchase and install three defibrillators for public use in emergencies at Laura, Gladstone and Georgetown. We thank Peter Smallacombe for volunteering to empty our two grain trailers throughout the harvest season.

Lions will again be a major sponsor of the upcoming Laura Folk Fair in support of this most valuable community event. The Folk Fair has proven over the years to be our major fundraising event with the sale of donuts.

**'Communities that
work together,
thrive together'**





Annual General Meeting:

The AGM of the SFHAC was held on 25th October 2018 at the Laura Hospital. All positions have been filled and current community members are: Brian Higgins (Presiding Member), Catherine Klingner and John Slattery (Crystal Brook), Jan Crawford and Lynn Duffy (Georgetown), Colin Raison (Gladstone) and Colleen Slattery and Lorraine Griffin (Laura). Bronny Perry continues as staff representative with Kathy Webb as the Local Government representative, - replacing Geoff Lange on his retirement from the Northern Areas Council and Kerry White as Local Member of Parliament Representative.

Lisa Donnon, - Healthy Aging team Leader, Country Health Connect, attended the meeting as guest speaker and gave an informative presentation on the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Liz Traeger Retires:

After nearly 30 years of working at the Crystal Brook Hospital, 22 of these years as EO/DON, Liz Traeger is retiring. A farewell was held on Wednesday 30th January at Crystal Brook to recognise Liz's contribution to health in our region. Representatives of volunteer groups, local nursing and medical staff and Regional Health Services joined Liz for an enjoyable afternoon tea. We congratulate Liz on her outstanding career and wish her well in her retirement.



Left to right: Colleen Slattery, John Slattery, Roger Kirschner



Left to right: Kerry Norris, Brian Higgins, Helen Greig, Tess Noonan, Liz Traeger, Richard McKinnon, Chrissy McKinnon

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 www.laurasa.com.au

Chairman: Geoff Lange 0427 632 334
Secretary: Darren Pech 0429 705 520
Newsletter Editor: Newsletter Committee

Reports, articles and advertising for the **April** Newsletter can be submitted by email to lcdta5480@gmail.com or delivered to The Laura Soap and Gift Shoppe no later than **5pm Friday 22nd March 2019**. Receiving articles, photos and logos electronically assists in the production of the newsletter.

Advertising:

Contact Hans Simons **0439 093 100** for details.

*As an incentive for supporting the Laura Standard with your advertisements you will receive your 6th advertisement **free of charge**.*

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. Newsletters in colour can also be emailed to you by providing us with your email address.

This edition as well as all previous editions can be viewed, downloaded and printed in colour by visiting www.laurasa.com.au and clicking 'News'

Please keep articles short and concise as room is limited.

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	1/2 Page	1/3 Page
H 19.35cm x 12.75cm \$40.00	H 9.6cm x 12.75cm \$25.00	H 6.32cm x 12.75cm \$15.00

Latest time to submit articles

for inclusion in the **April**
edition of The Laura Standard is
5 pm Friday 22nd March 2019



It's Hot!!!

I have had the privilege of living in many different places in my lifetime. In that is the opportunity of experiencing the extremes of our Australian climate.

Part of my time growing up was in the South East of SA. In the 60's there was years where the drains were full and overflowing. The swamp systems were all connected and it was said that you could canoe from one town to another using the swamps. Then came the drought of '67. The cattle as they walked along scuffing the surface of the soil, (no grass) raised clouds of dust.

Training in the army at Kapooka in June '70 with snow coming down (seems they always put defence training facilities in places with the most extremes of climate), then to see the rain pouring out of the sky in a tropical storm at Amberley Air Force Base. To working in late '70s to early '80s the shearing sheds in the wheat belt of WA where in the summer every day seemed to be over 40C – drank lots of water!

Arriving at Barmera in the Riverland in February 2000 and unloading the removal van in 45C. To seeing the River in mini-floods (never saw a real flood in the seven years we were there) seems so long ago now since we saw the Rocky in flood at the entrance bridge to Laura.

Also the opportunity to experience the brisk desert frosts out of Alice Springs to the harsh summer heat in the high 40s.

Get the message, Australia is a land of stark contrasts. There is always something more around the corner – life's like that.

There is a book called Ecclesiastes. It has a beautiful poem which talks of *"There is a time for everything"* (Ecclesiastes chapter 3 verse 1 and following). It talks of the counter-balance in the seasons and activities of humankind. Ultimately the message is that *"there is nothing better for people than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all their toil – this is the gift of God"* (Ecc 3:12-13).

Looking forward in 2019!

Robin Zadow (Pastor) Southern Flinders Lutheran Parish. 0427 881 540

