

June 2020 Issue 33

Hello readers,

Welcome to the June edition of the Laura Standard. Hopefully everyone has been keeping fairly well during this period of lockdowns, which seem to have, at least at this stage, had the desired effect of stopping the spread of COVID19.

Whilst the LCDTA haven't been able to run like normal of late (with restrictions on monthly meetings and fundraising efforts), we, like many other businesses and community groups, have managed to stay connected using modern technology. We've also tried to keep improvements to the town moving along by moving the recently painted "Laura Council" grader to be on display at the Parklands and by getting Council approval and winning grant money for the soon to be started War Memorial Wall.

You may also have noticed that Caravan Park managers Mandy and Peter, along with a group of dedicated volunteers, haven't been sitting on their hands during this enforced quiet time. The paddock behind the Caravan Park is being turned into a great space for more visitors.

Hopefully once things return to relatively normal this will encourage more tourists to stop and stay in our beautiful town, using it as a base to explore the many attractions our area has to offer.

Bev, our visiting Sydney artist, has also been busy brightening up our town with her colourful murals. Having started with murals in the Caravan Park she then completed murals on both sets of Public Toilets in the main street and went on to do some work at the Primary School. As a community we owe Bev a debt of gratitude for her time and work. Please see inside for more on Bev and her work.

Another great thing to come out of our current situation is the amount of "younger" people who have stepped up to volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

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

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With a lot of the volunteers being in the older and therefore more vulnerable bracket it's fantastic to see a service like "Meals on Wheels" has continued.

With the easing of restrictions starting in the coming weeks and months, I think we as a community, state and country need to be thankful that by doing the right things we have avoided the outbreaks that other countries have suffered.

The support that people have shown to each other, as well as our local businesses, has been inspiring, but we will need to continue as we come out the other side of this pandemic.

Lastly, LCDTA member Val Thomson has taken it upon herself to spread some cheer around the district by putting up signs in the main street reminding people, amongst other things, that a smile can go a long way. This message, through the power of Social Media, has travelled a lot further than just our small community and hopefully inspired other communities to spread good vibes in their own ways.

Please stay safe and continue to look out for each other.

Thanks, Gerald Higgins Chairman LCDTA.







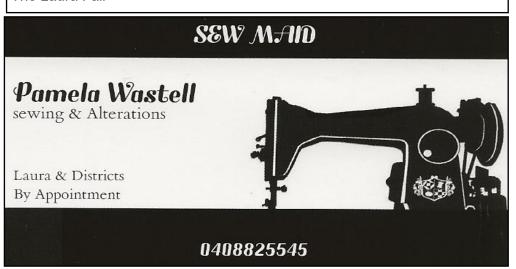
#### **Laura Fair News**

We will be holding our first meeting post lockdown in June sometime (probably via zoom). There will be a lot to talk about regarding the possibility (as this is all we can predict at this stage) of holding a Fair in 2021 and if we do, in what form could it possibly be held. The next few months will be very interesting and we can only work towards holding an event next year. I know quite a bit of work we did towards this year's cancelled event will be able to be carried over but there will still be plenty to do. Our AGM will be held as normal on July 6th at 7.30 in the Civic Centre.

If you have any interest at all in assisting with the running of The Fair whether it be on the committee or assisting as a team leader or team member (these two latter roles do not require you to attend every meeting, you may be asked to attend one or two), please come along to the AGM or contact the secretary via secretary@laurafolkair.com.au or me on 0418 844 935.

We look forward to hearing from anyone with an interest.

Sue Scarman Chairman The Laura Fair



#### Laura Information Centre



The Laura Information Centre is again opening its doors to all! From Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> the Information Centre will be open from 10 am to 4 pm daily.

This is as always subject to the availability of our volunteers, but as you have seen in the past, we do manage to be open most days.

The invitations have gone out to our consignees and we hope to have a full range of products back on our shelves as soon as possible.

Hope to see you soon!
Laura Information Centre



Need your dog or cat microchipped? John is fully certified and can come to you! Call or email him now for a quote

### SAND & METAL SUPPLIES

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#### Laura War Memorial Commemorative Wall Fund

The wall has been started....it is part one of a project that will cost an estimated \$40,000. What we see now is the first part of a 3 stage project as described in the IGA and Laura Information Centre (LIC) windows. At this time we have gained a \$5,000 grant towards the Commemorative Wall and will continue to use grant applications as part of our fundraising. Previous fundraising efforts are being used to (part) finance the

We now need to raise money to help us proceed with the other 2 stages. In the next week or two all individuals, sporting and community bodies and businesses will receive a donation envelope. The envelope ensures donations are confidential. Donations to this fund will be banked in the LCDTA Account and each donor will receive a receipt.

Donations can be left at the LIC, at the Laura Post Office or given to one of the contact people, - Gerald Higgins, Darren Pech, Val Thomson and Denise Higgins. Donations can be also made by Direct Deposit into the LCDTA

account: ANZ Bank, BSB 015-580, Acc. No. 2812 69451.

Commemorative Wall. .

All donors will be recognised in an alphabetically ordered, ongoing list published in the Laura Standard and later stored in the Rocky River Historic and Art Archive Building unless they indicate the donation is anonymous.



# PORT AUGUSTA OFFICE 2/5 Young Street (PO Box 350), Port Augusta

P: 8642 3633 W: www.danvhp.com.au

E: stuart.portaugusta@parliament.sa.gov.au



Rocky River Historic & Art Society

#### Remember my story - Covid-19

Local historical societies such as Rocky River Historic & Art Society have endeavoured to collect and preserve local history in recent times. Since the settlement of the colony in 1836 it has been the State Library's community role to be the state's keeper of stories in order to preserve our identity for the benefit of future generations.

Although Covid-19 has not affected the health of Laura-ites it is a major event in the history of the world, with wide ranging economic and social effects felt locally. The *Smiley* signs around Laura are a constant reminder that we are lucky to live on an island continent, in South Australia in particular, and in turn to enjoy the fresh air of a country town.

Indeed the people of Laura were also fortunate just a hundred years ago when the Spanish Flu, also known as the Black Plague, swept across the world claiming more lives than World War One. Whilst millions died overseas, 12,400 Australians lost their lives of whom 563 were South Australians.

The 1919 Mayor's Report of the Corporation of Laura, included the report of the Health Officer, Dr L Llewellin Davey. "I have the honor to report ...there were numerous mild cases of influenza throughout the year, but the great scourge – pneunomic influenza – did not once visit our town, for which we should all be devoutly thankful."

As with Covid-19, authorities bickered about the best way of dealing with the crisis, newspapers raised alarm with their regular comparisons with the Black Death of medieval times, advertisements for quack cures abounded, just as dodgy advice can be found on social media today. Churches and places of entertainment such as theatres, cinemas, and dance halls were closed. Both the Sydney Easter Show and the Royal Adelaide Show were called off in 1919 (as for 2020), and many regional and local events were cancelled. However some good came of the crisis; the formation of a federal Department of Health in 1921 was a response to the failure of the states to cooperate in matters such as quarantine.



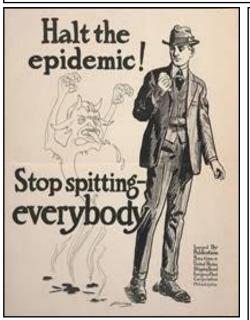
Remember, shopping locally all year long keeps our community viable!

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But there are also plenty of warnings for us from the Spanish flu pandemic. Some thought the crisis under control early in the autumn of 1919, with state governments lifting restrictions. But it reared its head again and carried off many more Australians. Amongst other places this happened in Port Pirie. Five days after South Australia had been declared free from infection on 14 March 1919 concerns were raised in Port Pirie and within a week there were 86 cases with two deaths in our regional city. By 2 April there were 207 cases and 19 deaths in Port Pirie. Another 274 cases were reported in June; a rather embarrassing scenario for the Central Board of Health which had preciously declared the state free of infection. Other outbreaks followed across the nation with Sydney having fourteen deaths over one weekend. State and Commonwealth officials met again to prepare another strategy – we hope that such history isn't repeated in 2020.

Participate in the State Library initiative, 'Remember my story' and share the challenges that this current pandemic has brought to your life. By posting the changes to your work, home and social life you can help share history.

Or, just have a look at what others have contributed. Google the home page of the State Library of SA, to find the link.





#### Laura Murals by Bev Oakford.

Bev and Terry Oakford arrived in Laura in August 2019 on a trip from Sydney.

After a short stay they continued to the West Coast and then returned to Laura after being asked to paint a mural at the Caravan Park.

With a very positive response the LCDTA asked Bev if she would like to continue with some other murals.

This lead to the two public toilet blocks being completed here in Laura with a C.J. Dennis theme and then onto the Primary School. Bev continues to paint her fabulous murals as we go to print.

Please take the time to have a walk around Laura to view these beautiful art works.

You may also find the travelling stones around town.

These stone are also painted by Bev and are placed around the town.

The next few pages are just some examples of the magnificent art work.







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#### **Golden North Ice Cream**



Laura's very own Golden North Ice Cream has been rated Australia's favourite ice cream for an unprecedented third consecutive year.

The iconic South Australian-made ice cream received the top rating from an independent survey of 2,791 consumers, conducted by Canstar Blue, earning the only 5 Star rating for Overall Satisfaction as well as top marks for Taste, Consistency and Packaging in this very competitive category.

Canstar Blue's 2020 survey ranked 18 ice cream tub brands, including Golden North, Connoisseur, Bulla, Peters, Magnum (Streets), Haagen-Dazs, ALDI Monarc, Sara Lee and Ben & Jerrys.

Golden North Marketing Director, Trevor Pomery said the entire team were overwhelmed with the news. "We were humbled the first and second year to receive such an amazing accolade, but to be consecutive winners 3 years running has completely blown us away"

"To be rated in this category amongst some pretty impressive competitors is truly amazing. To us it is recognition that our decision to continue making our ice cream with fresh milk and fresh cream was the correct decision."

"This award is a huge win not only for us and our 65 factory employees, in SA's mid-north town of Laura, but for South Australia as a whole. What a win for our state. We're so grateful"





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# Laura Community Caravan Park news:



The park has had a resurgence of people which has been wonderful, The atmosphere is buzzing with excitement. People have come from all over SA wanting to get away from it all. Even though distancing is to be upheld no one seems to mind both indoor and outdoor fires are in operation so happy faces.

We would love to thank the committee and volunteers for their endless support with gardens, painting and greening up the back area. We are still on the look out for any machinery laying around that could be donated to the walkway out the back. June is starting to fill up fast, so local businesses be prepared for the onslaught.

Pictures below are of the work being done at the park.







#### Laura RSL News

RSL celebrated their centenary year at a Christmas dinner on 6th of December 2019.

Paul Slattery gave a exceptional speech on the history of the Laura RSL This speech is available in written form from Paul if you are interested.

Please contact Paul on 8663 2452.

# LAURA WELDING SERVICE

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#### LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

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



#### GYM EXTENSION FUNDRAISER

\$1,000.00 Cash Raffle (\$2 ticket) and Cookies for a Cause (\$5 a bag)
Available at Laura IGA, Koffi and Kandi and the Laura Post Office
Contact Deb Palmer on 0408082614 for Online and Direct Debit Sales.
Please Stay Safe Everybody

### Laura Hospital Auxiliary.

In the past the Laura Community have been very supportive when asked for help be it cooking or help with catering. Without such support it would have been difficult to continue, so thank you all.

We now are looking for new members with a fresh approach so that the Auxiliary may continue to serve the clients and residents making their stay comfortable and pleasant.

The next meeting will be held on September 7th 2020 at 2p.m. in the activity room of the Hospital.

Thank you all. Judy Zwar President.



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### **JOURNEY TO A HEALTHIER YOU!**

Please Call Deb Palmer on 0408082614

LOVE YOUR GUT & LOSE THE REST



YOUR WELLNESS JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP...
We look forward to supporting you on this journey!



The above photo is the old "Laura Council" grader at the parklands.



# Deadline dates for the Laura Standard:

The Newsletter team, together with the LCDTA wish to thank all contributors for their newsletter articles and advertising. In 2020 please continue to forward your articles, along with a logo to lcdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

July 24th 2020 \*\*Sep 25th 2020 \*\* Nov 20th 2020 \*\* Jan 22nd 2021

#### Contacts:

 Council Office Jamestown 8664 1139, 1300 664 108 (Please Note: The 1300 number is only available for landlines)



- Council Office Gladstone 8662 2018
- Dog Control Garry Harris 0419 858 375
- NAC Fire Prevention Officer Gabby Swearse, 8664 1139
- Manager, Regulatory Services Alan Thomson 0409 286 542
- Councillor Sue Scarman 0418 844 935 or Sue.Scarman@NACouncil.sa.gov.au
- Councillor Denise Higgins 0428 222 610 or Denise.Higgins@NACouncil.sa.gov.au

#### Finding a Justice of the Peace:

Barry Harvie 8663 2187 or 0409 698 009 Geoff Lange 0427 632 334

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: Gerald Higgins 0431 754 429 Secretary: Darren Pech 0429 705 520

Newsletter Editor: Newsletter Committee

Reports, articles and advertising for the **Laura Standard** can be submitted by email to **Icdta5480@gmail.com** 

Receiving articles, photos and logos electronically assists in the production of the newsletter.

#### Advertisina:

Contact John 'Bugs' Cleggett on 0439 098 612 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 н 19.35cm	1/2 Page н 9.6cm х	1/3 Page н 6.32cm х
н 19.35ст		н 6.32ст х
x 12.75cm	12.75cm	12.75cm
\$40.00	\$25.00	\$15.00

#### Latest time to submit articles

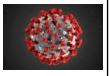
for inclusion in the **August** edition

of The Laura Standard is

5pm Friday 24th July 2020



#### **COVID-19 and Community.**



Covid-19 Virus

One thing we all desire is community, but what is community? A relevant question in this time of COVID-19 when so many of our long-held beliefs and practices of life are being tested.

Community can on occasions mean just society in general. Community can be a physical community or a virtual community (something which many of us have been forced into in this time of COVID-19). Generally, community is any group of people who live socially together, on the basis of work life, basic needs, racial, religious, family or political association. They have common goals and interests. So central to community as the word itself says, is unity.

Unity of the heart, mind, and spirit of the community. That being said there are certainly sub-groups of community within the larger community, and people live with that happily. There is the school, sporting, faith, business, and farming communities just for starters.

If the community is wounded in some way, the whole pulls together to heal the wounded. If the community is threatened in some way, the community often chooses to face the threat together. If there is a joy or a celebration in the community, usually the whole community celebrates.

With COVID-19, the very core of community is tested. It can so easily become a divisive issue if part of the community does not want to comply with the restrictions in place. So, with COVID-19 we see also on a political level that most of these sub-groups are competing for a restoration of activity in their community, and in some cases see it as a battle for survival.

From where I sit as a Christian, for the faith community, our unity is never under question. It is anchored in and through a relationship to Jesus Christ. Without Jesus Christ, our unity counts for nothing. In the unity of the faith in Jesus Christ, the community of faith is maintained – there is hope and there is a future. By His resurrection, Christ Jesus is a witness of this. Beyond COVID-19 there is a place for us all to co-exist as community. Blessings in that.

Robin Zadow (Pastor)

Southern Flinders Lutheran Parish. 0427 881 540