



December 2020 Issue 36

Hello Readers,

Welcome to the Christmas 2020 edition of the Laura Standard. I hope that everyone is coping well at this busy time of year as we get closer to what will hopefully be a semi-normal Christmas. In what has been a very interesting and challenging year on many levels I think that we as a community have been very lucky to have avoided some of the harsh measures taken in other parts of the country to keep a lid on COVID-19. Hopefully we can continue this into the New Year and continue to head back to business as usual.

Harvest is underway with some great looking crops in the district. After 3 pretty average years its nice for the farmers to again have a decent year which in turn should help confidence grow amongst our other local businesses. Lets hope that the rain can hold off now for long enough for everyone to get their crops off.

The LCDTA was approached recently by Annette and Steve Baillie (Flower Storm) about brightening the businesses and Median Strip in the main street with Christmas Fairy lights. We thought this was a great idea and resolved to fund this project but leave it up to Annette and Steve to research and purchase the lights on our behalf. They have done an amazing job of this and have recently delivered a set of lights to all the businesses in the main street. In the next few weeks the trees in the Median Strip will also be decorated making our beautiful little town even more appealing to locals and visitors alike. We would like to thank Annette and Steve for their passion and enthusiasm to this project and hope that this will become a focal point in our town for many Christmases to come.

Continued page 2

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

Stage two of the War Memorial project will commence very soon with the LCDTA lucky enough to have won a "Saluting their Service" grant.

This means that much of the money donated to the project can now be set aside for the third and final stage of the project. This is something to look forward to over the next few months and for the community to enjoy into the future.

The Caravan Park continues to evolve with the help of Park Managers Mandy and Peter and a very willing group of volunteers. The paddock behind the Cabins has been transformed into an area of unpowered sites and looks amazing. This along with paving and an upgrade of Cabin 1 continues the theme of constant improvement.

The Christmas "Party in the Park" will again be held in the North Parklands this year on the 18th of December, starting at 6pm, weather permitting. While I'm sure you'll agree that last year's party was a success, especially considering the last minute change of venue, I'm sure everyone is looking forward to it being back down the park this year. COVID will dictate to us that hand sanitisers, sign in sheets and COVID Marshalls will be a requirement this year. Santa will have to socially distance himself from the kids this year but we can't be too safe especially considering the amount of countries that Santa visits at this time of year. Even still it should be a great night of family entertainment and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

On behalf of the LCTDA I'd like to wish everyone a safe and prosperous Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thanks

Gerald Higgins

LCTDA Chairman



Gilbert Beekeeping SA

Laura Gardens Bees Honey

Marty, Lorraine & 'Flin the Husky' are grateful to the community & local trades for their input over the past 2½ years, assisting us to develop the honey processing base on the Horrocks Highway North Laura. Its great to be home.

Special Thanks to :- *Northern Areas Council, Alan Thomson, Denys & Marie Cooper, Schultz Earth Moving, Graham Zanker, Matt Lowe Constructions, Andrew & Bevan Smith, Graham & Lee Pech, Geoff and Joy Lange, Barry & Eleanor Harvie, Suzie & Tony from Koffi n Kandi, Barrie & Staff at Northern Machinery, Andrew & Henry of Woodlands Constructions, Trott Electrical, Joel & Wayne Palmer, Laura Information Centre Volunteers, The "Bee Shed Team" ~ Eli, Connor, Samuel, Chelsea & Riley, Our landholders and growers, & supportive beekeepers across SA.*



Retail Honey is available at the following locations:-

- Information Centre - Laura
- Post Office - Laura
- Caravan Park - Laura
- Over the Edge – Melrose
- Croissant D'Or Bakery – Lonsdale

Bulk Bees Wax and 20kg buckets of honey are available for purchase via phone appointment only ~ 0417824739 or by contacting us via the website www.gilbertbeekeeping.com

***We hope your harvest has been
successful and best wishes as you
celebrate Christmas and the New Year of 2021***



COVID Christmas Party in the Park

Let's come together as a community to celebrate the year, COVID style!

Friday 18th December 6-8pm

North Laura Parklands, Laura

BYO chairs/tables

BBQ, drinks, fruit and ice cream available

Father Christmas 7.30pm

Raffle drawn 7.50pm

Free music, bubbles and balloon animals for the kids

Please respect general COVID regulations, 1.5m distancing and use of hand sanitisers provided.

Enjoy a night out with family and friends together!



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Dan

VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN MP

Parliament of South Australia
MEMBER FOR STUART



*Wishing everyone in the
Laura and surrounding
districts a safe and happy
Christmas and New Year!*



Port Augusta: 8642 3633
Kapunda: 8566 2099
Website: www.danvhp.com.au

stuart.portaugusta@parliament.sa.gov.au
stuart.kapunda@parliament.sa.gov.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/danvhp

Laura Information Centre



Once again we're open, with plenty of information and local produce on hand.

The annual volunteers' get-together over dinner was held at the North Laura Hotel on November 12th and as usual it was a very enjoyable evening.

The winners of the raffle were:

1 st	Lorraine Griffin	2 nd	Kyron Pitman
3 rd	Darren Pech	4 th	Ben Cleggett
5 th	Pam Pitman	6 th	Anne Schaffner

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.

After last week's closure, volunteers are happy to be back – especially as Christmas is just around the corner and we're sure you still have presents to buy. As you know, gifts for the 'hard to buy for' is our specialty. We're also happy to make up a Christmas 'hamper' of local produce for you. Call in and have a look.

JOURNEY TO A HEALTHIER YOU!

Please Call Deb Palmer on 0408082614

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& LOSE THE
REST



YOUR WELLNESS JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP...

We look forward to supporting you on this journey!

Deb Palmer would like to wish everybody a Healthy and Happy Christmas
Please stay safe everyone

Commemorative Wall Update

We were notified on the 6th November that we were the lucky (and grateful) recipients of \$10,000 through the Saluting Their Service Grants process. This was our second application for the grant and so now have 12 months to complete the project.

Financially we are now in a particularly good place to complete the work. Between the grant mentioned and the community donations we have a current total of \$21,671.30. Your support has been integral to our success.

Regional Profile Cutters from Tailem Bend have been engaged to make and install the metal artwork onto the wall. We look forward to seeing their work in the new year.

The final stage of the project is the seating / planter boxes, flagpole and lights. More news on these in the next Standard.

Anonymous x 28; Amey Jean; Adam Janet; Belcher Frank & Tricia; Bentley Toni; Bishop Colin; Blake Gay; Brand Helen & Geoff; Cleggett Beryl; Cleggett Gavin; Clogg Wendy & Family; Combe Ruth; Condon Peter; Cummins Lyn & Ray; Dever Sam; Dierickx Mariette; Dohle Lyn (KI); Flower Storm; Hartman Sue; Heffernan Milt & Maureen; Higgins Peter & Janine; Hoare David; Klemm Kym Leanne Hamish & Hannah; Klemm Nita; Kruger Marie & Family; Lange Geoff & Joy; Laura Bowling Club; Laura Caravan Park; Laura Memorial Civic Centre Laura Racing Club Committee; Laura RSL Branch; Matthew Kaye; McDonald Joan; Meaney Trev; McKenzie Ruth; McKerlie Trev & Heather; Moore Brian; Northcott Maxine; Owens (Reid) Margaret; Pech Graham & Lee; Rausell David (KI); Scott Doug & Aileen; Slattery Greg; Slattery Paul; Smith Fraser & Merylyn; Memory of George W Smith; Thomas Pauline; Thomas Peter & Marg; Thomson Alan & Julie; Thomson Brett; Thomson Clive & Val; Thomson Peter, Karen, Amelia & Eloise; Memory of RJ (Jim) Thomson; Wallis Jack; Wills Taryn, Simon, Brodie & Beau; Memory of Dan Whalan (WWII); Memory of Ferg Whalan (WWII); Memory of Calvin Whalan (WWII); Memory of Trevor Whalan (WWII); Wode Joyce.



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Best wishes for a Merry Christmas & Happy New year,
sincere thanks for your patronage
Annette & Steve



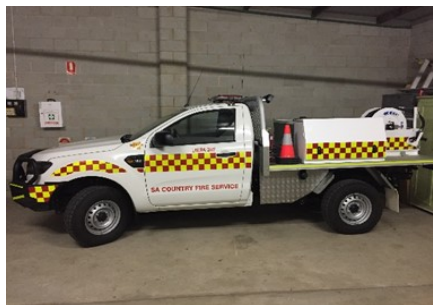
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0457 846 033 LAURA SA

The Laura CFS is gearing up for our next fire danger season, which started on the 15th November, and is planned to finish on 30th April 2021. Our members have completed their 'Burnover Drills, which involve simulating fire trapping fire-fighters in a CFS appliance for a period of time, and the steps required to protect themselves in the cab, and breath through oxygen masks.

As many people would now be aware, Laura not only has a traditional fire truck (ours being Laura 34, meaning 3000L of water on board, and 4 wheel drive, hence the 34 designation), but in 2019 we also house a QRV (Quick Response Vehicle), being a 4WD ute, with a 400L water tank on the back. This smaller vehicle allows access into areas that a truck may be too large for, and get to fires quicker.



We are very lucky that our local farmers are an integral part of local fire fighting efforts, and are always there to help when there is an incident in the local area. A lot of work has been put into building relationships and co-ordination between farmers and the CFS, with our Laura CFS Member Nigel Clogg being our Farm Fire Unit Co-ordinator for the Bundaleer Group, and helps to give farmers directions at a fire where their efforts can be best utilised in conjunction with CFS units at a fire.

Continued page 10

Many people around Laura would have the local Laura Weather Station link on their phone/computer, which was a local initiative for farmers and townspeople to access local weather information of Laura, particularly farmers for spraying and harvest. If you haven't got this link so far, please type in <http://120.150.31.37:8080/custdata/agbyte/lauracfs/weather.html> , or go to the Agbyte.com.au website, and search the many public weather stations that are available on this page.

Although the Laura CFS has a good number of members, many of our members work outside the township during weekdays, and this can sometimes mean we are unable to get enough members to crew our vehicles to attend a callout. Many of our callouts do not involve going to a fire, but other incidents such as assisting Ambulance officers to retrieving a patient out of their house into the Ambulance, or stopping traffic at a vehicle accident.

If you are looking to be a part of our local emergency services, and donate some time to serve our community, please make contact with one of our members listed below.

Laura Captain –	Brett Woolford 0408 803 083
Laura CFS President –	Geoff (Stumpy) Sleath 0429 458 005
Lieutenants -	Nigel Clogg 0427 632 540
	Darren Pech 0429 705 520
	Luke Gabell 0432 718 960
	Kym Klemm 0407 632 448
Bundaleer DGO -	Robert Palmer 0428 859 985

Otherwise come along to our training nights on Tuesdays, which are listed on the community calendar.

Keep yourself updated on local incidents, by using the CFS app on your phone, or by listening to the ABC radio, where any warning messages will be broadcast.





HAPPY HAVEN

Happy Haven OSHC are Hiring!

**Are you interested in working with children?
Are you trained in OSHC/Childcare/Teaching?**

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE!

Happy Haven OSHC are looking for enthusiastic and professional Qualified Educators at our OSHC sites at

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Interested applicants will require as a minimum:

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- First aid training (course code HLTAID004) and
- A Diploma in Children's Services/OSHC or equivalent (2 years full time teaching degree)



**If interested please send through your resume and any relevant certificates to
recruitment@happyhaven.sa.edu.au**

PROBUS NEWS:

Our October meeting was held at the Wirrabara Sporting Complex with 34 members present and 5 apologies.



Guest Speaker was Ben Hall a detective who has been based at Port Augusta since 2015. His work covers a large area and involves a lot of travelling. Fraud and cybercrime affect older people, they mainly target 50+ age group and use charities, tax office, lottery and online shopping. Need to keep mobile phone secure and security around the house to prevent the opportunist person for example coming in through the front door and taking your purse and keys from the table.

In November we had Lynette and Ian Pole from the St. John Ambulance in Port Pirie. St. John came to Australia in the late 1900's. In 2020 their group has 4 adults and approx. 12 (11 – 18 yrs.) Cadets. They do not work on ambulances – attend a few events including bushfires or major events. They have a mobile first aid van, a large first aid caravan and an equipment trailer. Like everyone they need more helpers, first aiders and cadet helpers. Recommend that everyone should know where an AED defibrillator is located in each town. Using a defibrillator is very simple – anyone can use one and no training is required.

The St. John DRSABCD Action Plan is a vital aid in assessing whether a patient has any life threatening conditions and if any immediate first aid is necessary.

- D – Danger
- R – Response
- S – Send for help
- A – Airway
- B – Breathing
- C – CPR
- D - Defibrillation

Thank you message from Bob

I have stayed in Laura in the past and for over 40 years I have travelled through it to go to the Flinders Ranges. As a child, whilst staying with my relatives in Tarcowie I also visited Laura for sports events and dances, so I know Laura well or so I thought. Last week I travelled back from the Flinders Ranges through your beautiful town and was so pleasantly surprised. Your messages of support and love down the centre strip brought tears to my eyes. Laura is so pretty and clean. You have done such a fantastic job and I applaud you. Thank you.



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Laura Civic Centre

The Laura Memorial Civic Centre Committee has continued to make progress in the upgrade of the kitchen. Recently two new stainless-steel island benches fabricated by Ben Van Boekel and team from Caltowie, replaced the original timber benches. There will be further works in 2021 to replace all kitchen wall cabinets

Photo below of new kitchen island benches assembled in the Civic Centre June 30th. L - R, Ben Van Boekel, Ian White and Max Voumard.



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Australian Poets and Christmas

Recently Eudunda celebrated the 100th birthday of Colin Thiele, respected for his many publications, especially *Sun on the Stubble* which was a school text book, and the legendary *Storm Boy*. Another of Colin's works was *Gemma's Christmas Eve*, (published 1994) in which Gemma had great joy giving crumbs and leftovers to the insects and birds, and extra food for the farmyard animals as a Christmas present. After attending a church service and viewing the nativity scene she was reminded of the real meaning of Christmas.

Our own local son, CJ Dennis, also wrote of Christmas.

A Bush Christmas was first published in the Melbourne Herald, on Christmas Eve 1931. The full version of **A Bush Christmas** will be posted on the local notice board, but here is a short extract.

*"...and then dishevelled, hot and red,
Mum, thro' the doorway puts her head
And says, "This Christmas cooking, My!
The sun's near fit for cooking by."*

*"Your fault," says Dad, "you know it is.
Plum puddin'! on a day like this,
And roasted turkeys! Spare me days,
I can't get over women's ways.
In climates such as this the thing's all wrong.
A bit of cold corned beef an' bread
Would do us very well instead."*



For all your Hairdressing, Beauty & Nail needs
**Wishing Everyone A Merry
Xmas And A Happy New Year xx**



Government of South Australia

Southern Flinders Health Advisory
Council

Rocky River Health and Care Bus News



We know that accessing transport to get to country health services can be difficult when you are isolated. Therefore, the Rocky River Bus Service is designed to help you get to the services that you may need.

The Laura Hospital and Community Health Services partner with the Rocky River Health and Care Bus Committee to provide a local community bus to people living in Rocky River and surrounding areas.

The bus transports community members to Port Pirie to attend appointments, access specialist services and visit retailers. The bus service is available on the first Thursday every month.

Volunteer Bus Drivers Wanted

We are currently recruiting volunteer bus drivers willing to transport community members to Port Pirie. Volunteers are essential to keep the service going. This is a valuable opportunity to give to the community, and if you would like to volunteer, we would love to hear from you.

For more information regarding the service or volunteering, please call Leah Palmer or Administration at the Laura Hospital on (08) 8663 3100.

WINGSTAR

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**Wishing everybody a
safe and Happy Christmas**
**Wingstar will be closed from the
18/12/2020 through to the 13/01/2021**



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Community Invitation 2020

Laura Lights

Owing to a light bulb moment it was agreed that the formation of Laura Lights was a great way to embellish our pretty little town. This Christmas called for something special and what better way to illuminate the festive season than with sparkling lights all over Laura. The median strip and participating business will take care of the CBD section whilst the wider communities streets and farming properties will shine with even a single string of solar lights.

Laura Lights will officially commence on the 1st December however whilst the Christmas theme will be taken down in the New Year the lights will remain on.

This initiative gives another reason for people to come and stay perhaps longer than a brief stay and Laura will be known as that gorgeous little town with all the lights in the Flinders Ranges.

Any frail, aged or residents with disabilities who would like to participate but are unable to manage placing of solar lights and need assistance, please leave your name, address and phone details with the Laura Information Centre.

We welcome you all and look forward to brightening up the remainder of 2020 and beyond.

LCDTA Community initiative



LAURA RSL SUB-BRANCH NEWSLETTER



Here we are stumbling stop-start to our Xmas of 2020. Thanks to COVID-19, a year we will not forget for a long time. The activities of the RSL throughout the State were certainly modified to suit the circumstances. Firstly our Anzac Day and Remembrance Day became a casualty of the regulations put in place by the State Government and RSL Adelaide HQ. It was very gratifying to see that our local persons were not completely dissuaded by the edict specified for Anzac Day and respectfully honoured our past Departed Defence Force Members. It was very heart - warming to see the display at dawn in our main street and the initiative shown that **WE DO NOT FORGET.**

Remembrance Day ceremony was held basically under the same rules of **social distancing** which curtailed the participation of the Laura Primary School and the social "after gathering" back at the Club rooms. Two students and teacher attended and placed wreaths representing their school.

Even though the COVID-19 virus is on all our minds, the ceremonies certainly showed our community '**REMEMBERED TO REMEMBER**' and appreciate our military history.

The RSL Xmas Dinner is again being held at the North Laura Hotel, unfortunately with the limitation of Social Distancing (80) down to (40) our list had to be refined. I sincerely thank the members and invited guests who voluntarily opted to forgo the occasion.

We certainly cannot foresee the future but we can certainly hope that next year the world may offer us a better ride and we can return to something near normal.

EVEN THOUGH IT HAS BEEN A TOUGH YEAR, AS A DISTRICT WE DID NOT FORGET OUR HERITAGE AND HOW IT WAS ACHIEVED.
All members of the RSL LAURA wish all '**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**'

LEST WE FORGET.

TREV MCKERLIE
President



Office Closures

Jamestown Administration Office

Closing: 3.00pm Wednesday 23 December 2020

Reopen: 9.00am Monday 4 January 2021

Normal business hours resume 4 January 2021

Gladstone Administration Office

Closing: 2.00pm Wednesday 23 December 2020

Reopen: 9.00am Monday 11 January 2021

*Reduced business hours during January 2021
and February 2021 are outlined below:*

Open 2 Days a Week during January 2021

Mon	11	Wed	13
Mon	18	Wed	20
Mon	25	Wed	27

Open 3 Days a Week during February 2021

Mon	1	Wed	3	Fri	5
Mon	8	Wed	10	Fri	12
Mon	15	Wed	17	Fri	19
Mon	22	Wed	24	Fri	26

*Gladstone Office will resume normal business
hours from Monday 1st March 2021.*

Flinders Mobile Library Christmas Closure

Flinders Mobile Library will be closing for the Christmas/New Year holiday break from 4pm on Friday 18th December 2020.

We will re-open for business as usual on Monday 4th January 2021.

You can find us back on the road in Northern Areas Council starting on the 5th January 2021 in Laura.

Please check the timetable on our website for more information
www.flindersmobile.sa.gov.au



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



Exciting news - the Laura Community Gym extension is looking amazing and is near to completion. It is a credit to our local tradies, Joel, Dale and Stevie from JP Build and Koby, Daniel and Shane from Nettle Electrical Services. We can't thank you enough it is a great asset to our town. We appreciate all the support and guidance from Alan Thomson. This project would not have happened without your passion to help community projects like this. We are still madly fundraising to get the gym finished. Thank you to Karen, Marian, Bec and Leah for running an awesome online auction and to all the people that have supported it and our \$1,000 Cash Raffle so far. We couldn't have made this happen without your help.



LAURA WELDING SERVICE



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Call Trevor

0488 681 614

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**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 2021 please continue to forward your articles, along with a logo to lcdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

**** Jan 29nd 2021 ** March 26th 2021 ** May 28th 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
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

Laura Standard Editor: Laura Standard Committee

Reports, articles and advertising for **The Laura Standard** can be submitted by email to **lcdta5480@gmail.com**

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

Advertising: Contact: Wayne "Stick" Gifford on **0419 816 976**.
John 'Bugs' Cleggett on **0439 098 612**.

*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 **February**
edition of The Laura Standard is
5pm Friday Jan 29th 2021



Christmas – in the heat of Summer!

It is HOT! It is the 28th November. Did my bus run this morning to pick up indigenous adults, and children for teaching Christian faith? It was just after 9am and the temperature is rising, only 38 degrees then. Locals are out doing their daily routine, running, walking the dog, riding the bike, it is only 38 degrees after all.

We sit on the church lawn under the shade of the trees and talk on things of life and faith, it is only 40 degrees now. The hot wind is blowing in from the north, but everyone is oblivious to that, there are more interesting things to talk about – God talk, Altjira in their language, or pepa (talking about the Book).

Big celebration is about to happen – Christmas. Families go bush, home to country. Whole family gets together to celebrate. That it is hot is irrelevant. Only difference is I know there are places down south where it is cooler. Here I sit in the afternoon and it has now reached 43 degrees – people are still out and about doing stuff.

If we were in the northern hemisphere, it would be cooler. Two thousand years ago, it was quite brisk and cold when that first momentous evening came along. It is amazing that an event two thousand years ago still holds sway on the calendar for peoples of many different tribes, races, and languages. For 2 billion people in the world it is a pivotal event. So the reason to celebrate.

What started with a simple birth of a child, a non-descript group of shepherds and a heavenly realm of angels, has become the foundation event for Christian's knowledge that there is a Saviour – one who was sent into the world to save.

You may not hear the cry of the baby, the sheep, the shepherds, or even the angels this Christmas, but the event still remains pivotal because it is the outflow of the promise, "Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.

May your faith not be hot or cold but brimming with the joy and assurance that there is a Saviour who reaches out to you and your loved ones this Christmas. Blessings and looking forward to seeing you at the end of 2021.

Robin Zadow (Pastor)

Alice Springs Lutheran Church. 0427 881 540