



February 2021 Issue 37

Hello Readers,

Welcome to the first edition of the Laura Standard for 2021. Hopefully after the interesting year that was 2020 things this year can continue to return to normal and sometime soon COVID 19 and all its associated challenges will be a distant memory.

The fantastic weather that we had leading into Christmas last year meant that we were able to have the “Party in the Park” back in the northern parklands. It was one of the best crowds in years and people were more than happy to follow the COVID guidelines. The LCDTA would like to thank everyone who volunteered or just showed up and had a great night.

You may have noticed that the main street was looking brighter in the lead up to Christmas last year. The LCDTA spent \$750 on fairy lights for the main street businesses and the trees in the median strip after being approached by Annette Baillie and Steve Doddridge from Flower Storm with the idea. Steve and Annette did an amazing job in sourcing the lights and delivering them to all businesses. An enthusiastic group of volunteers worked with Annette and Steve decorating the trees in the median strip. I’m sure that locals or visitors who have driven through the town lately will agree that they were a great addition.

By now most of you are probably aware that the “Laura Fair” has been cancelled for 2021. While it’s a pity that this event couldn’t go ahead, I’m hopeful that it will be back next year, bigger and better than ever. At this stage the LCDTA are still planning on having the “Laura Long Lunch” this year, but obviously with COVID, we will have to keep everyone posted.

On behalf of the LCDTA I’d like to wish everyone in the community a happy and prosperous 2021.

Thanks
Gerald Higgins
Chairman LCDTA

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

Lions Club News



Covid-19 has had a distinct effect on the Club's fundraising through the sale of donuts during 2020. The cancellation last year of the Folk Fair and the uncertainty of crowds at the footy/netball with the added Covid restrictions on the serving of food to the public meant not one donut was sold last year. The cancellation of the Folk Fair this year is disappointing but was the only decision that could be made. The Folk Fair Committee is to be commended on the efforts it has taken to work within the confines of the restrictions and uncertainties that still prevail.

Fortunately, the harvest has generally been good and the sale of sample grain at the Viterra Silo Complex in Gladstone has seen over 40 tonnes of grain delivered into the system by our Club's bins and trailers. Estimation of monies raised is in the vicinity of \$9,000 to \$10,000. We will know the exact figure when it is in the bank. These funds raised are earmarked for projects within the Rocky River district giving community benefit to the most residents. We thank Peter Smallacombe for volunteering to deliver the two grain trailers through the system and the very helpful Viterra staff who delivered the wheat, barley, peas, beans and canola in our five specialist bins.



Photo Above:
Harvest 30/11/2020 at 8.30pm.
Looking east towards Caltowie with the moon rising in the back ground

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News from Rocky River Historic & Art Society Inc

Vandalism to Heritage Building

The heritage precinct in Hughes Street attracts many favourable comments from visitors to the town, as well as from some locals. Listed on the State Heritage Register since 1983 the former Court House (built in 1878) is the only building in Laura with such protection, and one of very few in the Northern Areas Council. Unfortunately, some unwanted vandalism has recently occurred to the former Court House, necessitating a police report.

Under the terms of the State Heritage Act, intentional damage to a registered place attracts significant fines and possible imprisonment. Anyone seeing any '*unusual activity*' around this area is urged to contact our local police (8662 2001)

In the meantime the area will be under increased surveillance and any donations to the maintenance of the building may be made to Geoff Lange, Treasurer of Rocky River Historic & Art Society Inc.



Laura Court House in 1932

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Laura Art Exhibition - Help needed

Laura, our region and the state are all suffering from cancellation of events due to Covid19. Whether it be for fundraising or socializing, our communities are needing some activity. Despite the cancellation of the Laura Fair this year, our society will stage the annual Laura Art Exhibition. This annual exhibition is one of the longest running exhibitions in rural SA having been staged continuously since the year before the first Laura Folk Fair.

YOU CAN HELP –

- By advising any potential artists of the impending exhibition
- By volunteering to help with the exhibition by unpacking paintings, helping in the gallery or with administrative affairs such as preparing the catalogue.

The exhibition will be held over the Anzac Long Weekend

Further details regarding times etc and the possibility of an Opening Night (due to Covid implications) will be advised later.

Greg Slattery 0417 877 145
President RRHAS

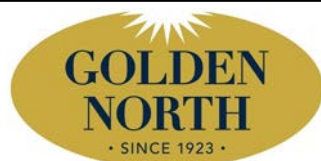


Golden North Ice Cream Sales

Our very own Golden North Ice cream
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Laura IGA
Laura Information Centre
Laura Community Caravan Park

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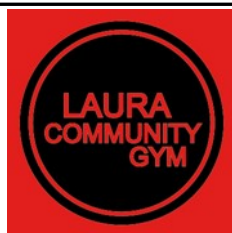
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The Laura Fair



I'm sure most of you have already heard that The Laura Fair will once again not be happening this year. Not a great decision to be made but with restrictions still in place and not likely to change for some time we really had no other choice. Our location, our small population (which equates to number of people needed on the ground), the onerous tasks that would need to be achieved and then the ever present cloud hanging over everything at the moment of once again needing to cancel at the last minute and the costs that incurs all weighed heavily during the committee's deliberations. In the end the decision was made for us by our inability to conform to all the restrictions placed on events the size of The Laura Fair.

This year we hope to be doing more fundraising so keep an eye and ear out for them. The Trading Table/Cake Stall we hope to hold at the end of April; Quiz Night in the middle of June; we have a couple of other ideas for the year but will keep you posted with those details in the next Laura Standard, our Facebook page and noticeboards. As always your support with these ventures will be much appreciated.

The Laura Fair has been successful in getting grant funding to replace the 3 sheds on Hughes St and so need to remove the current sheds to make way for the new one. The little building in the middle is already spoken for but the other two zincalume, Steel Framed sheds are up for grabs.

The purchaser is to dismantle and remove to a clean concrete level ie all nuts and bolts removed.

The shed's dimension are:

Shed 1. 7m x 8m x 2.4 high

Shed 2. 6m x 5m x 2.4 high

2 swing doors per shed

EOI to secretary@laurafolkfair.com.au

Any questions please call Sue 0418844935



150th celebrations of the establishment of the town of Laura

Significant celebrations for the anniversaries of the establishment of the town of Laura have been held in 1932 and for the centenary in 1972.
...and so now looms our 150th in 2022

Three public meetings have been held over the past couple of years to gauge expressions of interest, and possible names put forward for a potential committee.
Now is the time to start some definite action. Many suggestions have been proffered for the celebrations – now we need to plan and act.

A general meeting will be held at
the Courthouse Gallery in Hughes Street
Tuesday 2nd March at 7.30pm
This meeting is open to ALL

A working executive committee will need to be formed.

This committee will probably coordinate or co-opt convenors for specific aspects of the celebration (eg publicity, back to school, activities at the oval and civic centre, perhaps a street procession)
So whatever your interest or perceived role, come along to this meeting and contribute your thoughts and cooperation.
Enquiries or apologies

Gerald Higgins	President of LCDTA	0431 754 429
Greg Slattery	President of RRHAS	0417 877 145



Back to School 1932 Jubilee Celebrations

LCDTA Community Activities and Fundraising

War Memorial Commemorative Wall.

Many thanks again to the members of our local and wider community for your support of the Commemorative Wall Fundraiser. We now have the amazing total of \$11 821.30 from the community plus \$10,000 grant funding. The metal artwork – stage 2 of the work has now been ordered from Profile Cutters in Taillem Bend. The seating / planter boxes will be ordered in the next month or two.

Community Calendar

The Community Calendars were completed and distributed to community and businesses in December. The art work / calendar design makes the different category of advertiser easy to find and feedback continues to be positive. The LCDTA Committee would like to thank all contributors to the calendar for your ongoing support and the deliverers for their efforts. The total raised is still to be finalised and currently sits at \$1295.45 with 6 payments yet to be settled.

Community Raffle

Congratulations to our 5 prize winners this year

1st Prize – Mary Scarman, Port Pirie

2nd Prize – Derek Combe, Laura

3rd Prize – Tom Walton, Laura

4th Prize – D Nunan, Port Pirie

5th Prize – James Cheffers, Spalding

Our thanks to all those who bought and / or sold raffle ticket. Our thanks also to the Laura Caravan Park, Beetaloo Grove B&B and the Laura Information Centre for their contribution to the raffle prizes. The raffle raised \$1415.75.

Party in the Park

The party in the park was a wonderful success with the weather being more than kind. The COVID Plan asked that the formal part of the afternoon / evening be 2 hours only and this condition was met. Our thanks to the Lawn Bowls Ladies for making the fruit salad again this year and then serving dessert. Our thanks also to the Tennis Club for again cooking and serving the BBQ and to Helen Wurst for the Christian message for the children. Face painting was replaced with balloon animals. This COVID change was well received. Father Christmas was booked to arrive by CFS truck only to have the truck go out to a fire and so needed to arrive by ute.....all in all a fun time for all. Our aim is to make the party a break even event and it did so this year.

Laura Community Caravan Park News:



What a year the park has had, record numbers for our normal quiet season with travellers staying in their own state.

Peter and I would like to thank those that have helped and are continually helping around the place, it is appreciated.

The forest walk is certainly coming along, the trees and bushes are growing quickly very much taking shape to what will be a local and tourist attraction for the area.

Here is just one review from WIKI camps (thanks BOGGER)

We have passed through Laura many times and watched this park grow and become very attractive, so this time we stayed. Loved the welcome of scones and the friendly caretakers. The park is attractive and has a great vibe. Love the walk behind which is being developed. A lovely town and plenty to drive and see. We enjoyed our visit, thought it was good value and will return.

We are still trying to obtain a southern cross (or similar) windmill to finish off the look of the forest walk, so if you know of one laying in a paddock or one that needs to be removed please give us a call.





Stone Hut Christmas

Christmas is a time for Stone Hut residents and friends to get together and wish one another well. This Christmas was no exception – we spent an enjoyable evening at the Soldiers Memorial Hall catching up and for new residents, getting to know their neighbours. It was a very pleasant night and as is our tradition, we took up a collection in support of the Diversional Therapy Program within the Laura Hospital. This year we were able to hand over to Ryan Ackland, Director of Nursing, the sum of \$205.00

(The Diversional Therapy programme involves events and activities for residents supported by Volunteers as well as Nursing Staff, with community members always welcome to join in).

With the number of new residents in Stone Hut, we find ourselves talking more about the history of our little village and looking for answers to their many questions. Which leads us to ask:

Have you done the Stone Hut History Walk? (Which will also tell you about the location of the original Stone Hut).

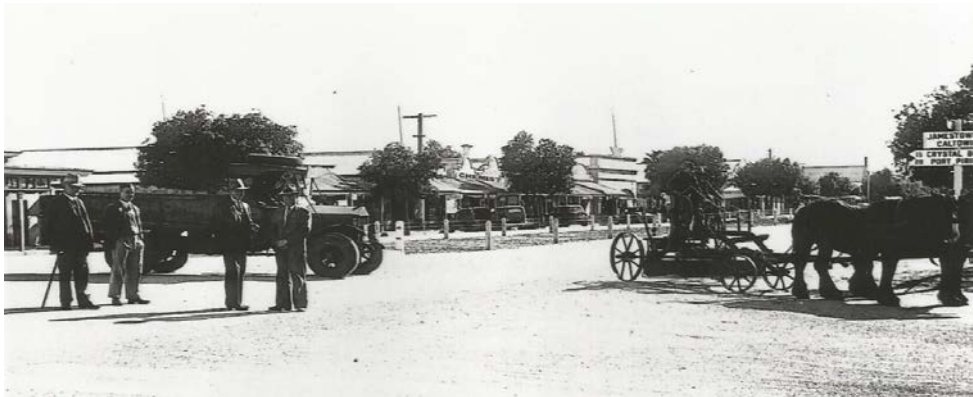
Perhaps next time you visit the Bakery, make time to pick up the information leaflet about the little town and go for a stroll.

Heather Hunt, Ryan Ackland and Anne Schaffner when Anne and Heather presented the donation to the Diversional Therapy program from the Stone Hut Community.



Can You Help

The Laura Archives has many unidentified photographs in its collection. These have usually come to us amongst general donations. If you have any clues please phone 0417 877 145 or you are welcome to have a look at them during one of our open afternoons on the first Tuesday of each month (between 2-4pm)



Two images are reproduced here –

Corner of Herbert and Hughes Streets c 1938 just after reconstruction of main street with median strip

WJ Stockdale and his son in law Ted French, and two unidentified men



Group of Laura ladies visiting Adelaide in 1960s, possibly CWA or WAB ?. One lady unidentified ?

May Scott, Grace Reichstein, Laurel Sims, Nancy Davis, Francie Coles, Eileen Slattery, Clarice McKenzie, Thelma Smith, ?, Hazel Bowker, Coral Clogg.

Laura Sports Corner

Laura Tennis Club

The Laura Tennis Club will be holding a Friday Family Fun night early in March. The date to be confirmed.

Please contact Lucas Woolford on 0428 304 470 for more information.

Laura Cricket Club

The Laura Cricket Club is on top of the Rocky River Association A grade ladder after 12 rounds, following closely at 2nd spot is Redhill and Crystal Brook 3rd. There were 2 rounds cancelled due to Covid-19 and heat rule (over 38 degrees). The Semi Final and Grand Final are scheduled for February 27th and March 6th. The finals locations will be decided at the completion of the minor competition rounds.

Laura Bowls

Laura Boucher division remain on top of the ladder and in the O'Shaughnessy division are in 3rd position after 14 rounds. Two rounds of the competition were cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions and Heat rule over 38 degrees.

Congratulations go to Gary Smith (pictured) who plays in the Laura Boucher team had recently entered in the Men's State Singles competition, He won the final at Holdfast Bay, North Glenelg on Friday January 29th 2021. The club has 10 players (6 men & 4 women) Garry Smith, Todd Brand, Ben Hopgood, Jake Prior, Steven Brown, Brad Page, Judith Millington, Pat Hannan, Leanne Tenney and Karin Lynch who have been selected to represent Region 3 in Country Round Robin for the week commencing in February.



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Missing Boy Found Safe Mount Remarkable National Park SA 7th January 2021

Late Wednesday evening 6th January following a short family Bush Walk, Logan Good was reported missing to the SA Police and Emergency Services Port Pirie.

Following the amazing action of Country Fire Services (CFS) Volunteers, State Emergency Services (SES) Volunteers, SA Police and Polair, for a very intense 24 hours, Logan was reported safe and well at Alligator Gorge mid afternoon on the 7th January. Bush Walking is one of the family's regular past times and Logan drew on the "rules of bushwalking" making very sensible choices to keep himself safe and well during the time he was missing.

As Grandparents; David & Sharon Medlow Smith of Laura, extend our most sincere thanks for the speedy actions in which the search was commenced, the caring support offered to our daughter and her partner, and the amazing support our close friends provided to the entire family whilst Logan was missing. We truly do live in the best Country in the world and we wish all volunteers of CFS, and SES, the SA Police, SA Ambulance and Polair our indebted thanks. We pray for their ongoing safety, and a Happy New Year. Logan and our family have returned home to New South Wales and are looking forward to returning to Laura for their next holiday.

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Photo Above:

Laura Bowls Round 13 Jan. 23rd 2021 played at Laura.

Division 1 (Boucher)

Laura defeat BHAS

Division 2 (O'Shaughnessy)

Laura defeat Jamestown

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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:

**** March 26th 2021 ** May 28th 2021 ** July 23rd 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 **April**
edition of The Laura Standard is
5pm Friday March 26th 2021



I am back – briefly...

One last opportunity to share with you something of Central Australia as the new parish pastor is installed in the Southern Flinders Parish.

Words are a very powerful thing in most peoples lives. They either empower or deprive people of worth in their life – no more less so here in the Centre of Australia where you have the melting pot of many cultures. From one of the oldest indigenous cultures in the world, to multiple nationalities of Africa, South and North America, Asia, and Europe. To communicate across these cultures words are spoken, but is it not a given that they are understood by everybody else in the same way as the speaker.

So one is always working on the frontier of seeking to work together for better understanding, and that goes for all facets of the community, health and medical, education and training, policing, business, tourism, local government and the faith communities.

The Christian faith communities are one place where there is common ground in that they centre on a person – Jesus Christ.

In our worship we have people whose mother tongue is Arrarnta, Pitjantjatjarra, Pintupi/Luritja, Alyawarr, Anmatyerr, Kaytetye, and Warlpiri. These are just the local indigenous languages within 500klms or so of Alice, let alone all the other different nationalities and languages.

They come together regularly to hear a common voice, the voice of the Saviour as He speaks through the words of Scripture. As they pray together, as they sing together, and as they share in fellowship together. So worship is an exciting place to be when you realize that there is a lot more going on than what you see.

For centuries people have gathered around the words of Jesus and that is not likely to change any time soon – especially as ultimately humankind will be gathered together around that one voice when He returns. Listen for His voice. His words have the power to empower your life.

Robin Zadow (Pastor)

Alice Springs Lutheran Church, and Tennant Creek.
0427 881 540

The LCDTA committee and the people of Laura sincerely thank Robin Zadow for his contribution over the years to The Laura Standard.