



April 2021 Issue 38

Hello Readers,

Welcome to the April edition of the Laura Standard. It's great to see a lot of the COVID 19 restrictions lifting and life continuing to return to normal. Let's hope that after a mild summer and not much rain we can get a good break to the season and the area can enjoy a prosperous year.

On Tuesday the 2nd of March at 7:30 a town meeting was held in the old courthouse (Art Gallery). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the upcoming 150-year celebrations of the founding of Laura and to try and set up a committee to coordinate the celebrations. The meeting was well attended and there were a lot of good ideas thrown around as to what the celebrations should look like. A video was also shown to attendees of the 100-year celebrations in 1972 that was put together by former local Geoff Purdie.

At the end of the meeting a committee was formed that included: Diedre Klemm, Robbie Klemm, Anthony Lines, Greg Slattery, Kelly Burton, Julie Thomson, Kim Higgins, Gerald Higgins

While it is still early days, the feeling at the meeting was overall a positive one and I am confident that we can put together a great event. It was decided that we would hold a committee meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 in the courthouse.

We should see some good progress on the war memorial project soon, with the final design from the profile cutters being signed off on. Once these have been completed and installed, we can then move forward with stage three, planter boxes and seating. Thanks again to everyone who donated to this project, your generosity, as well as some grant money received will mean that this area will be a great focal point for our town as well as a nice place to sit and reflect about the sacrifices made by previous generations.

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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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It's great to see the Football and Netball back for 2021, with Netball back on the court again after a year off. From what I have seen on Social Media the Football seem to have recruited well with a new coach and quite a few players that have a connection to our town, either having previously lived here or having a connection through their parents. I'd like to wish all teams best of luck for the upcoming season.

On behalf of the LCDTA I'd like to wish everyone an enjoyable next few months.

Thanks

Gerald Higgins

Chairman LCDTA

THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA LAURA SUB-BRANCH



Presidents Report 2020-2021

This year has again been a very tumultuous year for the brand name **RSLSA**, more so for the State HQ.

While just overcoming the mismanagement of the mid-late teens of this century we were plunged into the **COVID-19 VIRUS Epidemic**. The management of the RSLHQ has been exceptionally good over the last few years and now having to face this challenge will test all our resolve. The decline in opportunity for fund-raising and donation collection has made it extremely hard to meet commitments to our declared principles. One good outcome is the **Avoca Hotel** management/results, with a Covid-19 small business grant and patronage from local RSL members the business is a glimmer of light for the future. I attended a RSL-Presidents Forum at the Parade ground and was impressed with the enthusiasm of the management and attending personnel. Overall the RSLSA is in good hands for the future.

The Laura RSL monetary input to RSLHQ was markedly down this year due to lesser activity on **ANZAC Day & REMEMBRANCE Day**.

With the event of COVID-19 virus and the government Social distancing regulations RSLSA-HQ had to restrict the Memorial Services on both occasions in the city and country areas to light-vigils in city and suburbs. In Laura on **ANZAC Day** the RSL Exec Committee laid wreaths at dawn at the Cenotaph.

It was very heart warming and commendable to see the "light-vigil" in the main street of Laura on this day.

On **REMEMBRANCE Day** the government conditions were relaxed enough for us to participate in a Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph but social distancing prevented the after service social activities at the Club rooms.

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Two selected pupils and a school teacher from the Laura Primary School laid wreaths at the Cenotaph honouring the memory of our past service men and women.

Throughout this year the activities of the members of the Laura RSL have been kept to a minimum in conjunction with the government decrees so there is little to report from this perspective but it did not stop our Laura citizen **VAL THOMSON** from her commendable activities at the Cenotaph. Val reports the project is coming along fine with all aspects in hand.

We did manage to hold our **Xmas Dinner** at the **North Laura Hotel** thanks to Luke & Georgina and their Covid-19 social distancing planning. The overall comments were very favourable and members enjoyed this much appreciated occasion. Unfortunately our patron **Mr. Peter Condon** could not attend this function so in his absence I thanked him for his outstanding generosity on behalf of all members.

In October I had the pleasure at our RSL Club rooms to be present for the presentation of a commemorative medallion to one of our Laura expats **Mrs Pat Dowling (nee Collins)**. The medallion acknowledged her service in WW2 on the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the ending of WW2 Pacific hostilities.

Our member Ray Blackshaw at the same time attended a similar presentation to Mr Bill Stiller residing in the Aged Care section of the Laura hospital.

This year our financial situation has remained reasonably static due to low activity. The Financial Report is very favourable and I thank our **Treasurer Heather Mckerlie** and **Auditor/checker Christine Kalisch** for their efforts.

There has been little maintenance activity at the RSL this year and we still await the NAC to rectify the large cracks appearing in the Annex. I believe this is in this years budget for rectification.

It is from all members that I thank the following for their extra efforts for our RSL

Senior Citizens,
Brian Beyer,
Leon Pollard (RSL- Regional Co-Ord)
RSL Executive Committee (2020-2021)

This year some of our members have had 'set backs' in their health, on behalf of all members we wish them a speedy recovery and good health in the future.

Trevor Mckerlie
President 2020-2021.

Laura Community Caravan Park News:



Well what another bumper month the park has had. Firstly we would like to thank Wayne, Eddy, Steven and a few others for their hard work getting the grounds looking a million dollars, loads of positive feedback from customers new and old how good it looks. Cabins full of workers during the week and tourists on the weekend, the long weekend was a buzz, people travelling our region visiting the local pubs, cafes and wineries.

A review from David Macklin on Google

Just spent six nights at the park. Great site by the camp kitchen. All sites are being levelled and roads are being resurfaced. Will look great when finished. A quiet park with excellent management. Would highly recommend a stay. Thanks for the scones.

Peter and I would like to thank all the volunteers that help make the park what it is today, also the local people that have donated goods for the back area. We have even made a little Gnome garden out the back for the kids and have noticed some kids have added to it. Thank you.



Please Be Advised that the Uniting Country SA blue bins outside the Lutheran Church are for clean reusable clothes only.

Any good quality items other than clothing are to be donated to one of the charitable organizations in Port Pirie.

It has been noted that recently a number of larger items have been left beside these bins which then have to be disposed of by the Lutheran church.

Phone Numbers for the organizations

Vinnies 8633 2419

Lifeline shop 8633 1790

Goods on Gertrude 8632 3880 (will arrange pick up of large items from you if required)



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The Laura Fair



Save the Date:

30th April 9am - 12.30 Trading Table at the **CFS Shed**. If you have produce, preserves or cakes to offer please bring them along from 8.30. If making isn't your thing but eating is, check it out!

18th June 7.30pm Quiz Night at the **Sporting Reserve**. \$10 per person, 6 per table. BYO drinks and supper. Limited tickets. If interested please call 0418844935 or 0458532732.

Our new shed will be arriving soon and the old ones will not be moving very far as the SES is taking them.

Diabetes Screening



Rocky River Lions have organised a Diabetes Screening Day at the Laura Civic Centre on **Thursday June 10th** between **9.30am and 4.00pm**. The Screening Test will be carried out by one of three Diabetes SA specialists. Each participant will be provided with resources and information relating to interpreting the screening results and lifestyle changes for the prevention (or management) of Type 2 Diabetes.

All residents, no matter where they live, are invited to call in during those times for the screening test. A full report will be published in the next issue of the Laura Standard just prior to the event.



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(Laura resident)

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Commemorative Wall Update

Thanks everyone for your patience with this project.

The contract was signed on 15/3/21 with Profile Cutters at Tailm Bend to complete the wall artwork as shown below.

Community contributions to the War Memorial fund has made this possible.

We are hopeful that some or all of the work will be finished by ANZAC Day.

Steelsculpt at Angaston are preparing a re-quote for the 2 planter boxes to be placed in the same area. We plan to have those installed by the centenary of the War Memorial in November.





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Laura Sports Corner



The Laura Tennis Club wrapped it's season up a few weeks ago, senior side filling a side when we could and put 110% in every week. Well done to the C1 and C2's for making the finals with C1's winning the premiership and C2's finishing second, we're mighty proud. Huge congratulations to Stephen Bosch on receiving Life Membership of the Tennis Club. Steve has been playing for 33 years, which includes 6 premierships and 14 years as president. It is an outstanding effort which has not gone unnoticed and without his dedication we would not be where we are today. As always, we welcome new members to our club, so please don't put away that racket, better yet leave it out ready for the 21/22 season. Enjoy the winter sport and look forward to the Tennis season.
Lucas Woolford



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8.30am beginners-seniors)

Starting on May 4th 2021
7.15am to 7.45am
over 65s beginners strength
and mobility training

Laura Bowls Club

Laura Division One Boucher has won its fourth premiership in a row on Saturday 20th March 2021 at Georgetown. Laura defeated BHAS 112 shots to 85, a 27 shot victory.

Garry Smith, Jim Lynch, Shane Woolford, Karin Lynch lost to Glen Jackson 22 - 28, Todd Brand, Ben Hopgood, Dylan Amey, Josh Brown defeated John Casey 27 - 25, Jake Prior, Brad Page, Joel Palmer, Ron Hannan defeated Judy Underwood 33-11, Geoff Brand, Anthony Kleinig, Steven Haynes-Nayda, Daniel Kerr defeated Mat Traeger 30-21.

Laura Black Women played in the Grand Final on Thursday 18th March 2021 at Port Pirie but unfortunately lost to Crystal Brook by 6 shots. A good performance coming from 3rd on the ladder to contest the Grand Final. Presentation and Wind-up was held on Saturday night 20th March. Trophy winners for the 2020/21 season were:-

Men's Champion Pairs - Winners Josh Brown and Daniel Kerr. Runners Up Shane Woolford and Dylan Amey.

Men's Champion Singles - Winner Brad Page. Runner Up Daniel Kerr
Women's Champion Pairs - Winners Leanne Tenney and Karin Lynch.
Runners Up Judith Millington and Gay Blake

Women's Champion Singles - Winner Karin Lynch. Runner Up Leanne Tenney

Congratulations to all trophy winners and a special congratulations to a very successful championship side Division One Boucher Premiers - 4 in a row.

A fantastic night and great finale to a very successful season for the Laura Bowling Club. Division One Open Premiership, Division One Women's Runners Up and Division 2 Open side finishing 3rd.

Until next year and hopefully another premiership or two.

Geoff Brand

M: 0407 001 900





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The Laura Cricket Club defeated Redhill in an evenly fought contest on March 6th to successfully win back to back premierships. Laura won the toss and chose to bat first finishing 8/161 off 42 overs. Koby Millington top scored with a patient 36 supported by 24 from skipper Michael Gaunt and 20 from Scott Brand. 8 of the 10 batsmen scored double figures to round out a good team effort.

Redhill commenced their run chase and after losing their first wicket on 8 runs were in control of the run chase losing their next 2 wickets at 61 and 102. With Redhill in control needing a 60 to win off 10 overs and 7 wickets in hand Laura was able to take the crucial wickets of Dan Hayes and Cameron Kerr to have Redhill 5/123. The next 5 wickets fell with 10 runs added to the total and Redhill was all out for 135. Rick Willis took 5/42 off 12 overs and Andy Horace 4/29 off 10.4 overs to secure the victory.

Rick Willis was named the “Graham Pavy Medal” for player of the match. Andy Horace and Will Smart tied for the association fielding trophy. The Club Presentation night was held that evening with the following trophies presented:

Batting Trophy – Michael Gaunt 272 Runs

Bowling Trophy – Rick Willis 23 wickets

Feilding Trophy – Andy Horace and Will Smart

“Bruce ‘Boris’ Wallis” Captain’s Trophy – Koby Millington

Aus Condon Medal – Rick Willis

A massive thank you to all the sponsors, supporters and families that continue to get behind our club and support us,



The Laura Riverside Golf Club are preparing to get up and running for a fantastic Men's 2021 Season.

The club sincerely thanks all local businesses that have sponsored us for the 2021 season, your generosity is greatly appreciated and is allowing us to continue on and make some improvements.

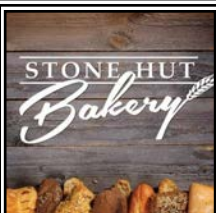


This year we have plans to implement some new and exciting competitions, including the Junior Orange Tee program, which allows juniors to have a handicap and for the club to run a junior competition if this gains the interest we are hoping for. The Orange Tee program basically shortens each hole allowing junior players to tee off closer to the pin, which creates a course that juniors are able to play competitively with other ages and standards of player. We encourage any young person out there that is interested in learning to play golf to get in touch with the club and we will happily assist in learning the sport.

We encourage new players, anyone with an interest in learning golf and enjoys a social good time to come along and get involved. If you have never played we would love to see you come out and give it a try.

The Golf Club currently runs their Men's competition on Sundays starting on the 2nd May 2021. If you would like a copy of the program we would be more than happy to email/post you one. Just get in touch!

For more information or any queries please don't hesitate to contact our Secretary Anna Bottrall on 0458 532 732 or anna.bottrall@hotmail.com



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RRHAS

Rocky River
Historic & Art
Society

LAURA ART EXHIBITION

Anzac Weekend April 2021

Despite the cancellation of the Laura Fair again this year due to the restrictions of COVID-19 Rocky River Historic & Art Society has decided to run the art exhibition as a 'stand alone' event over the Anzac long weekend.

The Barbara Kleinig Junior Art Award will also provide an opportunity for students of Gladstone High School and primary schools from the catchment area of Gladstone High to participate.

Artists from throughout Australia are now being invited to submit works for sale in the 43rd annual Laura Art Exhibition. Rocky River Historic & Art Society was one of the first to curate regular art exhibitions in regional South Australia.

Entry Forms for artists are available at the Laura Information Centre or phone 0417 877 145 Entries close Tuesday 13 April 2021

Invitation

You are invited to attend the **Opening Night**
commencing at **8pm** on **Friday 23 April 2021**
at the Court House Gallery, Hughes Street, Laura
Free admission Friday evening
(Gold coin admission over the weekend)

Come along and meet some of the artists
Catering arrangements will depend on
COVID-19 conditions There may be refreshments...
there may not be !!



Embroiderer's Guild of SA,
Flinders Branch, held at the RSL Building, Laura SA

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The Flinders Branch is extending an invitation to anyone who may be interested in what we do or if you are interested in learning a new skill, or even advancing a skill that you may already have in the embroidery field. There are many fields within the embroidery realm, surface stitchery, lace work, basic embroidery skills, crewel work, gold work, black work and many more; they are all beautiful works of art.

The Guild branch is open to all community members on the first and third Monday's of the month from 10:00 am through till 3:00 pm. If you wish to become a member please visit us at the Laura RSL building. Should you require further information please do not hesitate in contacting the Branch President, Janice Taylor on 08 8663 2561 or the Branch Secretary, Judith Welgraven on 0402119798, they will be only too happy to assist.

You are welcome to come and just sit and chat while you have a cuppa with a great group of like-minded people. You are welcome to bring your hand sewing, patch work, quilting, knitting, tatting or crotchet and sit in this friendly environment. The Embroiderers Guild of SA offer all aspects of needle work, so please come along and join us. The larger the group the larger the ideas are for what you may like to do,



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

**Can you believe that flooding was a problem for early Laura?
It happened a hundred years ago in mid summer
It happened eighty years ago in mid summer**

In late February 1921 and late January 1941 flood waters from Pine Creek broke the banks which protect Laura from floods.

Floods also affected Laura in the 1870s, 1893, 1894, 1914, 1916 and 1919, with relatively minor flooding in 1975. The man made banks which surround the town on three sides have been a great asset since their construction in 1919.

However in January 1941 the ravaging waters of the Pine Creek broke the banks at the northern end of West Terrace and at South Laura on Tom Catt Hill Road on the way to the Catholic Church, flooding most of the township.

These two snippets from various sources give a little insight into the effects of the great flood of 1941 when businesses, homes and farming land were all affected.

"The 41 flood went through the house that Mum and Dad were in on West Terrace it came in through the kitchen window and Mum, six months pregnant, stood on the kitchen table and put the toddler on top of the kitchen dresser – must have been scary, and a filthy mess to clean up afterwards, and there wasn't any mains water at that time, just precious rain water."

"...the paddocks near the town were not very productive for some years due to the build up of silt which had washed down the Pine Creek... held in by the embankment at the bridge where the tributary of the Pine Creek runs into the Rocky River."

"...there were a few feet or so of water in the house which had to be cleaned out. It was just a fortnight or so before my parents were moving in to start their married life."

The media has reported on the devastation from the recent floods in New South Wales. It is timely to reflect on the aftermath of the Laura floods. In that era there were no generators, high pressure cleaners or efficient pumps which were needed to empty cellars and underground tanks which had been contaminated. Indeed Laura did not even have mains water, so all cleaning had to be done using well water or precious rain water.

Greg Slattery



Picture Left
The 1941 flood

Picture Page 17
Looking
towards Tom
Catt Hill and the
Catholic Church



Government of South Australia
Southern Flinders Health Advisory
Council

Southern Flinders Health Advisory Council (SFHAC) Report Annual General Meeting

Due to COVID 19 restrictions the AGM of the SFHAC was held on 26th November 2020 via MS Teams. Catherine Klingner and John Slattery from Crystal Brook plus Colin Raison from Gladstone retired from SFHAC at the AGM. Richard Stumpf, also from Crystal Brook retired during the year. We thank these members for their service over the years. We welcome new members - Jo Grossman and Shane Kirk from Crystal Brook and Phillip Heaslip from Wirrabara. Continuing community members are: Brian Higgins (Presiding Member), Colleen Slattery, Lorraine Griffin and Robyn Johnson (Laura). Bronny Perry continues as staff representative with Kathy Webb as the Local Government representative from the Northern Areas Council and Tim Zander as Local Member of Parliament Representative. Dr. Helen Robertson continues as the Medical representative.

Vacancy on SFHAC

Currently there is a vacancy on SFHAC for another community member. Preferably but not necessarily a community member from the Gladstone / Georgetown area would be ideal. Please contact one of the SFHAC members listed above if you are interested or want more information.

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.

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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 in a word document if possible, along with a logo to lcdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

**** May 28th 2021 ** July 23rd 2021 ** September 24th 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.

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
edition of The Laura Standard is
5pm Friday 28th May 2021



True Glory

AFL football season is here again. Many of us like following a particular team. For some people though, it goes far beyond that. They take every mark, make every kick or handpass and complain about every umpiring decision that goes against their team! These fans feel the elation of a win and the disappointment of a loss as much as the players.

Every once in a while, their team actually wins the premiership and their supporters can't be happier and they share in the glory. It is time to celebrate – and these celebrations can go on for some time.

But then it is time to get ready for the next season and go through it all over again!

The glory of the premiership does not last, it fades away and over the years simply becomes a distant memory. Let me prove it to you.

How many of you can name any of the players from the 1921 VFL or SANFL premiership teams or even who they played for? Come on – that is only 100 years ago. At Easter we celebrate something that happened nearly 2,000 years ago! See, how quickly earthly glory fades away! (By the way it was Richmond and Port Adelaide.)

God's glory is different. If we want to see the true glory of God it is to the Christ and his cross that we need to look.

On the cross Jesus won the grand final over all the forces of evil. Now nearly 2,000 years later the glory of that win hasn't faded and it will never fade. (Unlike the glory for whichever team wins the AFL premiership this year.)

We can't even begin to imagine just how wonderful and marvellous life in heaven with Jesus will be. But that is the glory that we have to look forward to. All because Jesus was lifted up on a cross to die and rise for you! Now that is true glory.

I hope you have had a Happy and blessed Easter!

Stephen Noblett (Pastor) Southern Flinders Lutheran Parish.
0439 346 972