

### Message from the Mayor



On behalf of the Northern Areas Council, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all the community volunteers who have worked hard to bring together the many activities that will take place over the long weekend in October as Laura celebrates its sesquicentenary.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to all visitors who have come back to Laura to help celebrate 150 years of the Laura community. We are now in the caretaker period as Council Elections are underway, so it is not appropriate to mention Council activities. However I would like to take the opportunity to wish all community members and visitors the very best for a successful weekend.

Ben Browne Mayor NAC





October 2022 Issue 47

Hello Readers,

Welcome to this very special, colour edition of the Laura Standard to help celebrate 150 years of our beautiful little town. The Laura 150 Year Committee have been working hard for the last 18 months and we hope that everyone who attends the celebration on the October long weekend will have a great time. Please keep reading this edition as there is a great report from the 150 Committee Chairman Anthony Lines as well as a listing of the weekend's program and our sponsors, whom we thank very much.

The LCDTA held their AGM on Wednesday 17th of August with a good turnout of old and new faces to the meeting (including new people to our town).

The following committee members were elected:

CHAIRMAN – Gerald Higgins VICE CHAIRMAN – Emily Alm SECRETARY – Darren Pech ASSISTANT SECRETARY – Sophie Millington TREASURER – Bevlee Reidy CARAVAN PARK TREASURER – Geoff Lange AMENITIES – Val Thomson CARAVAN PARK – Barry Harvie FUNDRAISING – Denise Higgins LAURA INFORMATION CENTRE – Sue Scarman STRATEGIC PLAN/COUNCIL LIASON – Sue Scarman LAURA STANDARD – Wayne Gifford CIVIC CENTRE – Sue Scarman MEMBERS – Hannah Pech, Annette Baillie, Bevan Smith, Michelle Goode and John Cleggett.

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There were no new members to the committee this year, but it was great to have some of the newer members take on more senior roles after only 12 months on the committee. With the easing of COVID restrictions over the past year, combined with the injection of new blood has come fresh ideas and enthusiasm, not only for fundraising ideas but for new projects such as a Nature Playground.

In October last year the Planter-box seating were delivered to the Cenotaph and have since been planted with Anzac Rosemary. The installation of a light on the stobie pole in March keeps the area lit 24 hours a day. This brings to a close a project that was many years in the making for the LCDTA and extremely well supported by the local community. This is an area that can be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike for generations to come.

The Laura Lights project was another success this past year with a well-attended working bee in late November to add more lights to the trees in the Median Strips. This is something that we will continue to expand into the future as we design different ways to make the lights more permanent and less susceptible to nature.

The Directional Sign at the Lookout was also installed in November and is a great addition to the area. Along with the sheltered Bench Seating it makes the lookout a great attraction well worth visiting.

At the end of 2021 the committee was also very busy with the introduction of "Meals to You" and "Slice Drives" as new fundraisers. A lot of hard work went into coordinating these fundraisers and on behalf of the LCDTA I would like to thank not only the people who provided meals for these fundraisers but also those who enjoyed them.

December is always a busy month, not only for our committee with the Party in The Park, but for the entire community as everyone winds down towards Christmas. With the addition of a highly successful "Gingerbread House" making night as a new fundraiser for our committee. Hopefully something that will continue and grow into the future making the end of the year just that little bit busier for some members of the committee but very enjoyable for our community. The "Laura SA Community Notice Board" Facebook page was also started in December and has been well used and supported by the local community.

The last few months have also been very busy with the successful return in July of the "Aus Condon Golf Day". After 3 years the new Bin Surrounds have been installed.

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The positive comments coming from locals about the Bin Surrounds have been great to hear. In early August the 8 banner poles were also installed in the Median Strip, and now that banners have been fitted, they look amazing (pictured on page 2).

The Laura Standard has had another very successful year with Wayne Gifford doing an excellent job and his many helpers running a very tight ship. The Standard continues to be a much-appreciated community service. Other sub-committees having very big years are the Caravan Park and Laura Information Centre. Both have very healthy bottom lines at the moment and are always receiving positive comments from visitors and locals alike.

As we wind our way towards Christmas the LCDTA will still have a busy couple of months of fundraising ahead. In November there will be a "Pop-up Op Shop" and after the success of last year will be hosting another "Gingerbread House" making evening. This, along with the very popular "Party in the Park" should fill the rest of the year in nicely.

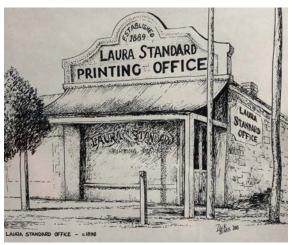
On behalf of the LCDTA I'd like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous next few months and to all those attending our 150 celebrations, I hope you have a fantastic weekend catching up with friends new and old.

Thanks Gerald Higgins Chairman LCDTA

# The Front Page

The Laura Standard was first published on Thursday April 11,1889 in our printing office here in Laura so we have used this as our front page for this special edition.

The Laura Archives holds a special copy of the first edition printed on silk. Limited copies printed on silk were occasionally presented to special people such as the mayor or share holders of a company.



#### The Laura Fair Chairman's Report to AGM 4/7/22



I sincerely hope this is the last time I have to say: we did not hold an event this year due to COVID restrictions.

Once again, we have done our fundraising so that when we return next year, we have the funds to hold a fabulous event.

I would like to say a big thank you to the community which supports The Laura Fair during our fundraising. To the ladies who cook for the Trading Table, to the Quiz Night lovers who attend and businesses who support the Quiz Night with vouchers and goods and to all the tourism businesses who so generously give vouchers for our Facebook Auction. And to all those people who bid on the items and make it such a fun and very successful fundraiser. A big thank you to Anna who does the Facebook part of this. Also, to Kat for her background in tourism who is able to coerce friends into being so very generous. Thank you!

We intend holding more fundraising events over the coming months plus kickstart our search for sponsors as without their generous support The Laura Fair would not be able to offer such diverse activities over the whole weekend.

The shed is very close to being finished although it seems to have taken way longer than it should, but we are getting used to this state of affairs when we are told it is due to COVID the supply of goods and labour are scarce. A sign of the times.

A big thank you to the outgoing committee and in particular to those leaving us after many years of support. Amy Simons who started whilst very young as secretary, a role which she took on and changed the way we do things, then she took on the Promotions role and handled that with her ever efficient manner; a huge thank you. Hans Simons, who has managed the sometimes-challenging role of working with Stallholders and the spreadsheet which comes with this, and all the other tasks associated with Stallholders. To Peter Hay for being our Treasurer for many years, your efficient and easy manner was always appreciated.

I wish the incoming committee a successful year and I am sure the event will run again on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023.

Sue Scarman Chairman The Laura Fair



### You know we sell fuel, but did you also know about our range of rural supplies?

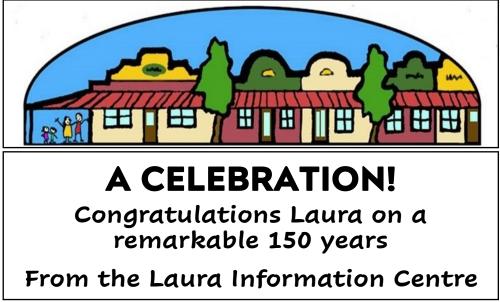
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### **Stevens Motors**

Visitors and newcomers to Laura can't help but be impressed by the presence of a well established Mitsubishi dealership in a small town. Also remarkable is that it is the only new car franchise between Clare and Port Augusta, a stretch of road that once had about a dozen dealerships. Also remarkable is that it is a single franchise, something becoming increasingly uncommon in todays business world.

In 1879 James Stevens came from Strathalbyn to Laura when the township was just seven years old, and commenced an engineering and blacksmithing business near the North Laura Hotel and subsequently operated at various sites in Laura until his son Hedley moved to the present site in the early 1920s. As well as general blacksmithing, the original enterprise produced German wagons, buggies and sulkies as well as windmills.

The present day Stevens Motors is the continuation of the Dodge dealership which was secured by Hedley Stevens in the early 1930s.

Continuing through the years the Chrysler/Dodge umbrella also included Standard Vanguards, Hillmans and Simcas.

Through the years Plymouths, Desotos, Chrysler Royals and hundreds of Valiants along with the flagship Dodge Phoenix were sold by Jim and his son John Stevens.

It is now the fifth generation of Paul, Mark and Michael who continue the traditions of service and integrity which have been the hallmark of this family business since 1879

The Stevens enterprise is the longest established business in Laura and the longest running Dodge/Chrysler/Mitsubishi dealership in Australia.



# **Rising Star**

**Chloe Nettle** has recently represented the state in the inaugural under 12 girls football carnival held in Adelaide last week. Chloe attended a three day trial in the April school holidays and was selected in a squad of 28. She then continued to travel to Golden Grove on Friday nights to train and was selected in the final squad of 23. Training continued in town for the remaining 12 weeks before the carnival in August. Chloe's position for the carnival was Centre half forward which was not familiar to her but she enjoyed the challenge of learning this position. Chloe finished the week as the leading goal kicker and was the only remote country girl in the team. The team were undefeated until the last day going down to VIC by 3 points therefore recipients of the Silver Medal. The team also received the Fair Play Award which is voted by all other states. Chloe was extremely honoured to have the opportunity to represent the state, she learnt a huge amount from all of the trainings and games and enjoyed her week in Adelaide making lots of lifelong friendships.



### JAMESTOWN HYDROTHERAPY POOL & GYMNASIUM FITNESS CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

# Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022, 5.30 PM JAMESTOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

94 Ayr Street, Jamestown

Jamestown is fortunate to have a Hydrotherapy Pool and Gymnasium available for use by the community. The Committee gives their time to ensure these services not only continue, but improve. Without volunteers, this service would not be available.

If you would like to show your support and appreciation for these services, we invite you to attend our Annual Meeting & ask you to consider becoming a Committee member.

If you would like further information on becoming a member of the Hydrotherapy Pool & Gymnasium Fitness Centre Management Committee, please contact Brooke Hansen at Northern Areas Council on 8664 1139.

Your support as a volunteer is vital for the continuation of these



### LAURA RSL SUB-BRANCH ACTIVITY REPORT.



With the abatement of the COVID-19 restriction both State RSLSA and Laura RSL are now on track for a normal year of activities. The trials and tribulations of COVID-19 has certainly had a detrimental effect over the past two years especially in our Remembrance ceremonies and fundraising. The Laura RSL **ANZAC DAY CEREMONY** held at the Laura Cenotaph was very well attended by the community. It is a pleasure to see our Service men and women who gave all for their country are still held in such high esteem, may this always be the case.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May the Laura RSL had the pleasure of participating in a sunset service at the Laura Cenotaph with the Cooma RSL-Mawson Trail Bike Riders (Trekkers). The rendition of the Last Post, Reveille and National Anthem played by the bugler was tremendous and the Service conducted by Geoff Stokes (President Cooma RSL) was inspiring for our community. The main purpose of the Trekkers visit was to help the communities visited become more aware of our RSL brand and promoting it nationwide. Some of the Laura RSL members dined with the Riders at the North Laura Hotel where comradeship was prime and meal perfect for the occasion.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY** is fast approaching, we intend to revert to our past activities, if possible, in reverence to all Service men and women who have served their country. The RSLSA and Sub-Branches are in the process of adopting a new constitution that more aligns to the National RSL constitution. Now without amendments the Laura RSL could lose its status as a Sub-Branch. A group meeting of local Sub-Branches will be held in September to debate and propose amendments to keep the status quo. Further information will be provided as events unfold.

This year Laura celebrates its 150th year anniversary. All members of the Laura RSL give our best wishes on this special year and hope for many more. To be a part of this very vibrant, clean, integrated community is something other districts hope to attain. The Service men and women would be proud to see what they fought for and what the community has achieved. The Laura RSL is still seeking members of all categories. As we have seen in cities, big numbers make good RSLs, small numbers in the country areas leads to the demise of country RSLs.

The Laura RSL will continue after REMEMBRANCE DAY with our usual Christmas dinner at the North Laura Hotel for all members.

Keep the Flag Flying, Trev McKerlie President Laura RSL.



# **Back To Laura** October 1&2 2022 Celebrating 150 years of Lovely Laura

'Back to the town by Beetaloo. Where the Rocky River strays Back to the old kind friends you knew in the good old Laura Days.'

Join us at the Laura Sporting Reserve for a jam-packed weekend of period parade, food, drinks, fun & entertainment for the whole family

> FREE EVENT Register via

Laura150Years@gmail.com

# **CONGRATULATIONS!**

# The residents of Stone Hut congratulate the Laura Community on the celebration of 150 historic years. Stone Hut Development Committee.

# Water Boring at the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

A special activity at the oval on Saturday afternoon of the 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations will be the operation of a water boring plant supplied and operated by Graeme Werner of Horsham in Victoria.

This plant is almost identical to the '*mud puncher*' plant used by Will Wurst (grandfather of Geoff) who until 80 years of age regularly went to the Hermannsburg Mission in Central Australia to drill for water. Similar Southern Cross plants were also used in the rural areas of SA which were desperate for water prior to mains water becoming available.

His interest in water divining was shared with Wilhelm Lange who made his first visit to Hermannsburg in 1932. Known as Vater (Father) Lange he identified many sites on which wells were later dug. They both made several trips to divine for water in the 1930s. In 1957 Will Wurst purchased a boring plant and by the time of his retirement in 1966, aged 80 years, he had to his credit 25 successful holes ranging up to 300m deep, as well as

many others which were either fruitless or had salty water. His boring rig remained at the Finke River Mission and has been restored as a tribute to this legendary and generous man.

Speculation is rife that the hole drilled at the oval may be auctioned, and that a local contractor may be available to deliver the long load !



### **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 Pire 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 Sarah Drogemuller or Administration at the Laura Hospital on (08) 8663 3100.



In 1932 most people travelled by train for the back to Laura Celebrations.

# BACK TO LAURA OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> CIVIC CENTRE



### THE BEAUCAT SESSIONS

#### 6PM-8PM

Join Acoustic Folk & Rock Duo for some soulful sounds while consuming your Dinner Box & catching up with mates

# **DINNER BOX \$25**

(IDS UNDER 10 FREE TICKETS \$15 available at information centre

OR contact Julie 0418832556

COMBO \$35 Pre-Order preferred

#### 8PM-12AM

Stay around for 4 Piece Cover Band putting a unique twist on all the Unexpected Classics.

Check out their facebook page, these guys are sure to entertain & not to be missed.





# LCDTA Fundraising

As we continue our work of improving our town's amenities it is my pleasure to report on our diverse range of fundraising activities.

Total fundraising for 2021/22 was, \$38,614 with \$17,144 from the community activities plus \$21,470 from grants and donations.

*Community activities* included for the first time the Gingerbread House making night which raised \$1,190. The Raffle and the Party raised a combined total of \$1,100, while profit from the 2022 Calendar was \$974. Meals to You – another new fundraising activity for us raised \$4,587 in 6 months of meals produced by our local "kitchen cooks". The Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day returned on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July and raised \$3,500. The Nature Playground subgroup raised a total of \$5,739.

*Grants and Donations* –The LCDTA has benefitted significantly from these in the 2021/22 year. The new bin surrounds in the street were paid for predominately by donations and grants. NAC has supplied \$19,470 which went towards Bin Surrounds, Solar Lights, the Nature Playground and the printing of the colour Laura Standard you see this article in. Approximately half of that figure was from wind farm grants applied for by the LCDTA. NAC have also provided \$9,500 to the Laura 150 committee. The Lions Club provided \$3,500 towards the Bin Surrounds. The Laura Website was upgraded at a cost of \$1,000, thanks to the LIC and Caravan Park committees. The Caravan Park committee also provided \$2,000 to the committee for general use and the \$500 for the Community Raffle. As described, the 2021-22 year was a highly productive year for the LCDTA. Fundraising in and for a community relies on both those doing the work and those supporting the fundraising events. A big thank you to all those who contributed in any way.

Kind regards,

Denise Higgins



# **LCDTA Fundraising Plans**

2022-23 plans include:

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – O'Dea Power & Water Spring Sale Day catering 10am-2pm BBQ Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration catering – Devonshire Tea Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Meals to You Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Pop-Up Op Shop – venue Laura **RSL** Building Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Gingerbread House – venue Laura Civic Centre Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Slice Trays 9th/ 10th & 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Sell Raffles 9am–1pm IGA and at the Party in the Park Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Party in the Park, children's stall and Slice Trays Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Meals to You Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Laura Fair Devonshire Tea and Showbags Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Meals to You Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Raffle Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day

The above plans include money for LCDTA general use and money dedicated to the Nature Playground.





**Golden North's** link with Laura can be traced back to the 1870's when the Bowker family moved to the area. They began selling garden produce, fresh milk and scalded cream to locals in the 1880's and eventually established the longest milk run in the world, from Tennant Creek in the north to Gawler in the south and Ceduna in the west to Broken Hill in the east.

The Bowker family started making ice cream in Laura in 1923 and the first to introduce pasteurised milk to the area. 1940 saw the launch of the 2 litre round ice cream container in the market place. They also produced bulk flavoured milk, cream, butter and fresh honey. Export markets were established for Honey in Europe, UK and Japan. Operations sites expanded to include Pt Pirie, Clare, Whyalla and Broken Hill.

The Bowker family sold the business to Farmers Union in 1983 where it stayed until 1991 when it was part of the National Foods float on the stock exchange. In 2001, four local businessmen acquired the business and in 2008 new owners came on board consisting of 5 South Australian families.

The new owners have revitalised the brand by retaining their recognisable brand ethos of regional production, utilising quality ingredients and sustaining product integrity. This has seen the business awarded the National Canstar Blue award for five years running for the Most satisfied customers in Ice Cream tubs.

Golden North is an iconic brand in South Australia offering premium quality ice cream products to the domestic and international markets, proudly produced in Laura.

Golden North is a part of Laura as much as Laura is a part of Golden North.

Congratulations to Laura for its 150 years. We look forward to being there for the next 150 years.

Golden North 1939

Golden North 2022





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It's been 150 years coming and now it's on our doorstep.

On the Saturday of the October long weekend 2022 we have the pleasure to invite

countrymen and women from far and wide to a great, entertaining event to celebrate the town of Laura's Sesquicentenary.

Our committee have been working tirelessly to put this history making event together.



The committee have embarked on several historical projects over the last 18 months including refurbishing the centennial plough that is situated in front of the Civic Centre.

We've refurbished a historical stump puller which is one of the first pieces of equipment made in the Forsaith Laura foundry, This will be unveiled on the Sunday of the long weekend as a part of our 150 Years celebrations. We held a fundraiser with the entertaining Whyte Yarcowie Vaudeville Troupe that was well supported and successful.

It is without doubt the support from local community groups including the Laura Community Development and Tourism Association "LCDTA", private enterprise and personal pursuits that this is all possible with monetary donations and in kind support.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Laura 150 Years Celebrations Committee.

I would especially like to thank Ricky Pech who has brought together the parade and marching bands; Val Thomson who has collected and presented Laura history in the IGA windows and organised all the fun events at the sporting complex on the Saturday; Geoff Wurst on pulling together an array of machinery for the agricultural and industrial display for the day and the community groups that have volunteered to supply food and drinks at the celebrations over the weekend.

Also everyone who has contributed to the celebrations via email.

The programme for the weekend is in this copy of The Laura Standard for your perusal. Please lift it out and have it handy for the celebrations, it will also be posted on the Laura 150 years Facebook page and the Laura website <u>www.laurasa.com.au</u>

I encourage everyone that has had a local connection or would like to join us for the celebrations of 150 years of our lovely town of Laura to come and enjoy the weekend. Catch up with friends and family, reminisce on the memories from the past and make memories for the future.

Chairperson Anthony Lines

# Back to Laura Celebrating 150 years Events Program

October 1 & 2 2022

# <u> Saturday – Laura Sporting Reserve</u>

- 11:00 Period Parade from Laura Civic Centre to Laura Sporting reserve
- 11:30 Food & Market stalls open
- 12:00 Traditional 'Welcome to Country' National Anthem 'Sing Australia' Chairman 'Anthony Lines' Official opening by "Laura Hughes" Descendant

1:00 - 5:00

Novelty games including egg & spoon, frisbee toss, 3-legged race & more.

Children's activities, face painting & 'CJ Dennis' Story Corner by 'Miss Nikki'

Whip Cracking, singer sewing, milk separating & drilling demonstrations.

#### 1:00 - Police Band

- 1:30 Clare Valley Concert Band in the Grandstand
- 2:00 'Golden North' Ice-cream eating competition
- 2:30 Police Band
- 3:00 Cricket Match "Creamies VS Greasies"
- 3.30 Connor Hogan Motorcycle Demonstration
- 4.00 'Elders & Blundstone' Boot Toss
- 4:00 Bus Tour of Historic Sights \$10 per ticket payable upon bus entry

# Laura Civic Centre

*Tickets \$15 Dinner Box \$25 or Prepurchase Combo for \$35 available at Information Centre* 

6:00 - Cabaret Style Dinner with Entertainment from "Beaucat" 8:00 - Band GenX

# Back to Laura Celebrating 150 years Events Program

October 1 & 2 2022

# Sunday – Laura Sporting Reserve

- 8:30 Church
- 9:00 Bowls Club Open
- 9:30 Egg & Bacon Breakfast at Primary School
- 10:00 "Back to School' Roll Call
- 11:30 "Stump Puller" unveiling at site. Corner of Herbert & White St
- 12:30 Unveiling of "Laura Hughes" Sign between Courthouse & Archives
  - 1:00 Farewell BBQ lunch on the Archives Lawns with entertainment by the 'Mill Street Band'
  - 2:00 4:00

Archive & Courthouse open for viewing.

"Yarning Corner" to share your stories of the good ol' Laura Days.

'CJ Dennis' Story Corner for children with 'The Ant Explorer & Triantiwontigongalope' Childrens activities. Thank you to the 150 Years Committee for the time and effort you have all put into this project.

Chairperson: Anthony Lines Minute Secretary: Julie Thomson Secretary: Deidra Klemm Treasurer: Kimberly Higgins Committee members: Kelly Burton Gerald Higgins Robbie Klemm Greg Slattery

# The Laura 150th Committee thank the following Sponsors

Blundstone Boots Elders Flinders Shoes Flower Storm Golden North Hanley's Bus Services Ian White Jared Building & Development JP Build Kaye Matthews Laura Caravan Park Laura Caravan Park Laura Events Laura Garden Bees Laura Information Centre Laura Meat Store

- Laura Post Office
- Laura Race Club
- Laura Sporting Reserve

Lines Multi Ag Meryle's Café MWG Event Hire North Laura Hotel North Paddock Antiques O'Dea Power & Water Peter Condon P. Schultz Electrical Schultz Earthmovers Stevens Motors The Laura Soap & Gift Shoppe Tumble Tots WA & DJ Palmer

LAURA

150

YEARS

1872-20

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# **Rocky River Lions**



Congratulations to our Laura Community on the staging of the 150<sup>th</sup> milestone in Laura's history.

May everything go to plan and the get-togethers and reminiscing be of a high standard!

The Lions Club of Rocky River began in September 1970, known then as Gladstone & Districts. For greater inclusion of members from Stone Hut to Yacka in the south, the name was changed to Rocky River in 1984. The Club also currently includes members from the Crystal Brook community.

Our Club works under the Lions International banner of "We Serve" and our members are proud of their volunteering for the community.

The main fundraising is from the sale of donuts at The Laura Fair and local football/netball matches and the sale of 'sample grain' at the Gladstone Silo Complex during harvest. Every dollar raised is ploughed back into our communities for the betterment of the community. "We Serve".



# LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

Providing an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to

Join the Gym now as a permanent member Membership fees: 6 months \$150, 12 months \$200

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









### Laura Community Caravan Park News:



The winter tourist season has been fantastic for the park and fantastic for the town with many, many visitors enjoying the local area.

The Laura Community Caravan Park with a wonderful collection of caravans, from tiny to not so tiny, from basic to luxurious and everything in between is a pleasing sight to behold and one that is very beneficial to the local economy.

In August we welcomed the Southern Cross Caravan Club to the park, 14 caravans and 2 cabins. This friendly group informed us on Saturday that they had already spent over \$3000 in the town and were yet to tour Coco Laura with David providing them guided tours through his kitchen on Sunday afternoon. They were very impressed with our town and the welcome they received from the park including their scones, jam and cream. Studies have shown that for every dollar spent in a caravan park that visitors spend \$5 more in the town.



Scones for morning tea





The reviews and comments this group along with others that stay in the park on Facebook, Wikicamps and TripAdvisor go a long way to attracting more and more visitors to Laura.

Naomi & Simon Purdue



# Candles - Melts - Gifts Hand Made in Laura

# Available to buy at the Laura Information Centre

Candles in a gift box, Wax Melts Glass Melt burner with Wax Melts

### www.sugarcandlemelts.com.au

# Southern Flinders Health Advisory Council Annual General Meeting

You're invited to meet with your local Health Advisory members, who advocate for new and improved health services on behalf of the community.

#### **Event Details**

Date: Thursday, 27 October 2022 Time: 6.30 pm Location: Laura Football Clubrooms

All members of the public are welcome to attend

For more information, visit: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SouthernFlindersHAC



### Laura Memorial Civic Centre Management Committee News

The Laura Memorial Civic Centre (LMCC) Management Committee held our AGM on August 18 2022.

The new elected Executive committee members are: Ian White (President), Deb Palmer (Vice President), John Cleggett (Secretary) and Felicity Vear (Treasurer), Sue Scarman is the N.A. Councillor representative to our general meetings.

The elected committee members are Mel Broadbent and Robert Hanley. The LMCC committee would like to thank Jack Wallis as he retires from the committee for his contribution and many years service. A great stalwart to our community.

The LMCC kitchen upgrade is almost complete. New wall mounted cupboards are in. The new dual basin steel sink assembly and cupboards S/Steel sheeting are in fabrication progress. Estimated all to be completed by the end of September.

The LMCC committee would like to welcome an open invitation to the public to be the new faces and extension of our committee team.

John Cleggett LMCC Committee Secretary

	September	October	November
LAURA 12.45 - 4.15pm	Tuesday 13, 27	Tuesday 11, 25	Tuesday 8, 22
WIRRABARA 10.15 - 11.45am APPILA 2.30 - 3.30pm	Thursday 8, 22	Thursday 6, 20	Thursday 3, 17

#### Does the library have a website?

#### YES we do!

#### www.onecard.network/flindersmobile

There are lots of things our website can do for you:

- Search the entire catalogue & place holds on items
- Check what items you have on loan/on hold
- Extend any items which are approaching their due date
- Borrow eBooks, eAudio books & eMagazines
  Browides link to the timetable
- Provides link to the timetable
- Links to all the e-resources that membership of the library gives.

#### How do I Join?

Membership of the Library is free to all residents of South Australia. You can join by coming into the Library at any stop with proof of ID and address. Or you can join on-line via our website to access e-resources without ever coming into the Library.

# LAURA BAPTIST CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

The names of two significant people stand out in the written history of Laura Baptist Church.

**Henry William Alexander Walter** came to the district in the very early 1870s. Within a short space of time he built an iron-clad structure on his farming land just north of the town, so that people had a place to gather for worship. Before long, he replaced that with a stone building where visiting pastors and preachers were always welcome. By 1874 land was given and plans were made for the building of the chapel we know on Victoria Street. He was a man who honoured God.

**Rev David Badger** was recognised by the Baptist denomination as a significant preacher and evangelist. In 1871 he was appointed the Baptist Bishop of the Northern Areas. He was one of the first to preach in that room on the farm, preaching also at the first baptismal service held on the banks of the Rocky River. He spent his life introducing people to Jesus and building communities.

The building of the chapel was completed in 1875, but the actual formation of the church took place on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1876 when the first constitution was adopted with Rev Badger as Pastor.

And so, 150 years on, the members of Laura Baptist Christian Community have a fresh vision to create a welcoming worship and community space on Herbert Street - one that emerges from the story of the living, loving LORD JESUS who came from God and *made his dwelling among us* (John 1:14). This is the same story that inspired HWA Walter and Rev David Badger.

Rev Jenny Pryor currently ministers to the Baptist community of Laura



### **Catholic Church**

Even before the township of Laura was established the Catholics of the area were being served by the Jesuit priests from Sevenhill. These Austrian priests travelled by horseback as far north as Blinman, ministering mainly to miners, and shepherds and labourers working on sheep runs such as Booyoolee. In this area, the first baptism recorded was on Whites Run in 1854 and the first Catholic marriage was celebrated at Booyoolee in 1856.

Midnight Mass was held in the partially completed church for Christmas 1874. Bishop Reynolds of Adelaide formally opened the church on 14 November 1875, dedicating it to St John the Evangelist. On this trip to the Northern Areas he also opened churches at Port Pirie, Narridy, Jamestown and Caltowie, and laid and blessed foundation stones for churches at Whyte Yarcowie, Appila, Gulnare and Redhill. Such was the feverish development of the newly opened up agricultural lands of the young colony.

A Northern Mission Centre was established at Georgetown in 1874, and at Laura a Catholic school staffed firstly by a lay person, and later by the Sisters of St Joseph, attracted enrolments of about fifty students in the 1870s and 1880s. It is a mystery as to why the school was closed, especially as Laura was a progressive town at that time, and was also the railhead.

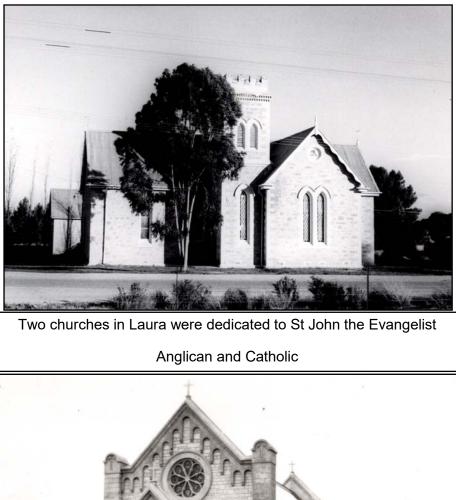
In 1929 the original church was replaced by a new building at a cost of  $\pounds$ 3,057. Built just east of the original church by local contractors CG Maywald and JJ Acott the classic architecture is much admired. In 1996 Laura became part of the Booleroo Centre Parish.

Laura was served by the Jesuit priests based at Georgetown until 1900, these being all Austrians except for one Irishman. The first secular priest was Fr Napoleon Louwyck, a Belgian, followed by six Irish born priests. In the early days the Catholic church in Australia was a mission church, its clergy being supported by funds through the Propagation of the Faith from Rome. This missionary aspect is evidenced in that of the fifteen priests who have served Laura, only five have been Australians, with the most recent being two from Tanzania (Fathers Julius and Ben) and now myself from the Philippines.

It is my privilege to bring the Word of God, and to administer the Sacraments of the Church to the people of this region, just as my predecessors of other nationalities have ministered faithfully through the life of this faith community. I was naturalized as an Australian Citizen last year, and having served in Port Pirie, Whyalla and Kadina, I look forward to serving the people of the Diocese of Port Pirie for many years to come.

God bless all of the faithful people of the Laura district who have worshipped in any way, anywhere, over the past 150 years.

Fr Ramel Morales Parish Priest of the Booleroo Centre Parish (Serving Orroroo, Pekina, Booleroo Centre, Wirrabara, Laura and Peterborough)





## A brief history of the Lutherans in Laura



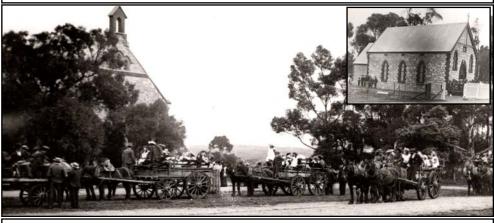
The Lutheran congregation in Laura began at Easter *where to the come to type* Lutheran Church in 1909. The Lutherans purchased the old Methodist Chapel in 1903, with a new church built on the site. The foundation stone laid on the 20th April 1909. Since the dedication took place soon after Easter, the name "Easter" Lutheran Church was adopted. The church was dedicated on 1st August 1909 with a total cost of £130. Over time, the Easter Lutheran congregation formed a Ladies Guild, Sunday School and additional building extensions made.

In the 1990's with the pending closure of the Laura Uniting Church, the Lutheran Church of Australia entered into discussions to purchasing the Laura Uniting Church building. Settlement of the purchase occurred in July 2000 and the name "Redeemer" Lutheran Church was adopted replacing "Easter" Lutheran Church. The current Redeemer Lutheran Church building (which began as the Emmanuel Methodist Church and dates from 1887) was dedicated on 20th August 2000.

Originally, Easter Lutheran Church was a member of the Appila Parish, but over the years there have been a number of realignments, and Laura Lutheran Church is now part of the Southern Flinders Lutheran Parish which also includes the congregations of Appila, Booleroo Centre, Jamestown and Wirrabara.

Thanks be to God for what he has worked in the past and praise be to him for what is yet to come!

Stephen Noblett (Pastor) Southern Flinders Lutheran Parish.



An early Methodist Sunday School picnic with the first Lutheran Church as an insert

# St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church Laura.

I'm indebted to the booklet 'The Church of St. John the Evangelist, Laura 1875 - 1975' for the following information. The town of Laura was surveyed in 1871, and in August 1873, the Church of England congregation acquired Blocks 1 and 3 at seventeen pounds ten shillings each. The church, plus a parish hall, stands on a portion of Block 1. The first known Church of England service was held in that month by the Rev. Hartley Williams from Melrose, in a room at the Laura Hotel, and until the church was built, the congregation met in a room in the home of Mr. Alfred Smith. The foundation stone for St. John's Anglican Church, Laura, was laid on the 16th of August, 1875, by Mrs Sabine, wife of Thomas Frederick Sabine, a lay reader and prominent businessman in the district. At the time, the Parish was, like all in the rest of S.A., under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Adelaide. The first Rector, the Rev. E.C. Spicer, was not appointed until 1876. In 1915 the Mid North along with a large part of the State became the Anglican Diocese of Willochra. Mr. Melville Burgess of Laura, recorded that the stone for the church was quarried, carted and given by his grandfather, Levi Burgess, and his 6 sons. The pews were crafted by C.F. and C.G. Maywald, and were gifted of Mrs. Levi Burgess. They remained in the church until it was sold in 2021. In 1883 additions were made to the church, and in 1924 the foundation stone of the parish hall was laid. The congregation, along with the people of Laura, endured two world wars and the depression, as well as with some high points worth celebrating, but in 2020 dwindling numbers and ageing members meant that the church was no longer viable. A service of decommissioning was held on Saturday, February 6, 2021, with the Bishop of Willochra, John Stead, officiating, and the property was subsequently sold. In the light of COVID19 pandemic, it's worth noting that an entry in the vestry book during 1924 was, 'Influenza epidemic, no congregation.' And on a lighter note, one entry in 1891, apparently by an animal lover, read: '44 in the congregation, that includes the parish dog.'

Rev'd. Sr. Sandra Sears CSBC

Rocky River Historic & Art Society



As we commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the settlement of the township of Laura it is timely to reflect on the preservation of our history. Laura, like many other towns is fortunate to have a historical society which collects and preserves our history. But many other towns do not have such an organization or facility to store historically significant items, and with the advent of celebrations such as our 150<sup>th</sup> they lament the lack of resources. Rocky River Historic & Art Society was formed a few years after our 1972 centenary celebrations. Initially the former courthouse was used as an art gallery for occasional exhibitions, with limited space to store some 'old stuff'.

Some ten years later the Areas Masonic Lodge ceased meeting in Laura and offered their building to the then District Council of Laura. Rocky River Historic & Art Society was fortunate to gain the use of the Masonic Temple to be used as the **Laura Archives**. It is an ideal compact building with good environmental aspects – small high windows which restrict the amount of light and heat which are the primary requirements for

conservation. Just recently extensive repairs and painting have been made possible through Drought Funding Grants through Northern Areas Council. The 150<sup>th</sup> celebration is an opportune time to consider donating items to the Laura Archives for their long term survival

In recent times we have received these gems:

Areas Lodge, Diamond Jubilee Program (1938)

Souvenir folder from Unveiling of the Honour Roll at the school (1919)

Tea spoons with badge of Laura and Appila Camera Club (1963 & 1964)

Bone handled knife, embossed, Eudunda Farmers Co-op, Laura Similar cutlery is known to exist embossed, SA Import Co, Laura Tidy Towns photo album (1983)

A few Laura Standard newspapers from the 1930s

Also on offer some early Masonic Lodge Regalia from the Laura Lodge Golden North Honey labels printed for export to Germany

Please consider the future welfare of any Laura items which may be of interest to the archives and contact the society regarding their safe keeping.

Greg Slattery President Rocky River Historic & Art Society Inc Box 18, Laura, 5480

# **Condon Family**

The Condon name is well respected not just in Laura but across the state. Sylvester and Gertrude Condon ran the North Laura Hotel from 1928 until it was transferred to their son Austin and his wife Bet in 1971 who operated the hotel for another ten years until leasing it out in 1981. Their son Peter has reason to be proud of their long association with the hotel, but also of his father's war service. Austin was one of the local men who enlisted in the RAAF during the Second World War. At war's end he had successfully and safely completed seventeen missions with Squadron 101 RAF based in Britain.

Returning from the war, Aus hit the ground running, working with the family serving behind the bar at the Mount Pleasant Show the day after his discharge. 'Outside liquor catering' was an important part of the Condon business from the early 1930s until Peter relinquished it in 1996 because of his other business interests. It was an amazing feat for the Condon team to provide catering at race and trotting meetings, agricultural shows and other events including the Royal Adelaide Show (for several years in the thirties, forties and fifties). Catering was provided as far away as Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Pinnaroo, Mannahill and Whyalla – the list is huge. All of these contracts were won by competitive tendering. Catering was provided for the Smelters Picnic (1947-1984) and in 1997 the Balaklava Racing Club presented a plaque in recognition of provision of services from 1932 to 1996.

Austin's RAAF service kindled his interest as an amateur radio enthusiast,

a hobby which fostered contacts across the world. But it was in Laura that Austin's heart lay, resulting in generous sponsorships to many local organizations especially the RSL and the cricket, golf and racing clubs, support which Peter has continued.



Pictured Austin Condon OAM



# Annual Green Waste Collection

# NORTHERN AREAS

### 25<sup>th</sup> October to 1st November 2022

This collection service is primarily aimed to assist the elderly and the incapacitated.

Council's Annual Green Waste Collection will be held from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021 until Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

### Please note that the Green Waste Collection will work on a booking system only. All bookings must be made by COB Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> 2022.

# Residents <u>must</u> ring Council offices to book a collection: Jamestown 86641139; Gladstone 8662 2018; Spalding 8845 2017

The Green waste that will be collected is tree, rose and bush type material only, <u>no lawn clippings or weeds.</u> Green waste to be collected must be placed on the edge of the roadway, the evening prior to your scheduled pickup. **No repeat trips will be made** and large piles **will not** be removed from private property.

Green waste must be placed so that it does not interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic and must not be placed over service pits or hinder access to fire hydrants. No tyres, no cars, no chemical. A limit of 3 cubic metres (i.e. 8x4 trailer load) per household will be allowed.

Council reminds residents of their obligation to prune trees overhanging the footpaths. This is a good opportunity to do so.

### Township

Spalding Yacka Gulnare Georgetown Gladstone Caltowie Jamestown Laura/Stone Hut

### **Collection Date**

Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup> Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup> Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup> Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> / Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> Tuesday November 1st

Peter Ward Acting Chief Executive Officer

### Laura Bowling Club

At the end of the 2021/22 season the Laura Bowling Club was very proud to award Ruth Combe a Life Membership at our end of season wrap up. She was awarded for all her contributions to the club on and off



the green. She has been the Laura Bowling Club Singles Champion five times as well as Club Pairs Champion and she has represented the club at association level many times, with much success. She has also been president of the club numerous times and association president, as well as holding many other vital roles on the committee. Ruth has been a great mentor to new players and a great supporter of all representatives of the club.

The club has had a very busy and productive off season with the committee and club volunteers installing a brand new Hunter Sprinkler system which is fully automated and far more water efficient.

Also we have had new ceilings in the clubhouse installed and will give the premises a much deserved facelift, a big thank you to JP Build and Nettle Electrical Services who are big supporters of our club for their wonderful work.

Also the club was very pleased to receive a Neoen Energy Grant for the installation of solar panels; this will be very welcome to assist in soaring energy prices.

The Women's competition has now been re-zoned and Southern Flinders and Northern Flinders Divisions are now amalgamated and will be known as North Western Bowling Association Division 1 and Division 2. Laura Women's Bowls teams will be represented in both divisions.

The club will be opening on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September and will be open

Thursday and Friday nights every week for anyone who would like to come down and have a try and have a roll of bowls or even if it is just to have a drink from our bar facilities.

The Women's Bowls Pennant season commences on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.

The Open Gender Pennant season will start on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.

If ANYONE is interested in playing bowls we would love to have you and you are more than welcome to come and join our very progressive and successful club

Karin Lynch

# **One Night of Country**



Laura Events Incorporated decided to hold a Country Music

Festival for a one night only event this year, due to the Covid-climate, we didn't hold an event for the past 2 years. Attendance numbers were down this year due to Covid infections.

The event started with a Welcome to Country by Nukunu elder,

Lindsay Thomas as the Laura district is part of Nukunu territory.

The Hon. Geoff Brock MP who is our patron was unable to attend and in his place the L/E committee asked Stuart Wilson, manager of O'Dea

Power & Water to open the show. We had a "Come and Try" section at the start of the event and we had 3 very talented singers take part. It was a good way to start out getting used to an audience.

The star attraction was local Country singer John O'Dea from Orroroo and The Midnight Special band, both are very talented and the audience enjoyed some great music.

Jasmin Kimber had a supporting role in the event and it was her second time taking part in our festival, as she was a contestant in the talent quest here as a young girl many years ago.

Caitlin Drew has the most beautiful voice and will be a talent to watch in the future. Dave Prior has a deep and smooth voice that pleased the audience with his choice of songs.

Food and bar were laid on for customers, with a barbeque meal available on the night.

The Laura Events Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all those businesses who sponsored our Country Music show, because we wouldn't be able to have an event without your contributions.

Next year we will have our 2 days Country Music Festival back on the July 29th -30<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Laura Events Committee AGM to be held on Monday October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Centre 7:30pm.

The AGM is open for the public to attend.

Thanks,

Joyce Wode Laura Events Coordinator



# MEALS TO YOU

# MEALS READY TO HEAT

Home cooked meals to serve 4-6. Vegetarian options available. Prices from \$25



For full list of meal options call Denise Higgins 0428222610

# COLLECTION/DELIVERY 7TH NOVEMBER. ORDER CUT OFF 2/11.

Collection from front of 4 Campbell street, Laura. Between 4-6pm. Payment via cash or transfer.



# **GET READY FOR SUMMER** Licensed installers of split system air conditioners

# Phone Koby Nettle for a free quote 0418 562 626

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The Laura Standard

October 2022

PGE 207037



LAURA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



# DECORATING EVENING





Friday | November 25, 2022 7:30pm Laura Civic Centre

Tickets \$55 BYO Drinks & Nibbles Raffles on the night with tea & coffee provided For bookings contact Michelle via Text on 0421709902 Bookings close October 21st

The Laura Standard

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### Finding a Justice of the Peace:

Barry Harvie8663 2187 or 0409 698 009Geoff Lange0427 632 334Jon Hawkins-Clarke8663 2172John Stevens8663 2303

Laura Community Development & Tourism Association Inc. PO Box 149 Laura SA 5480 www.laurasa.com.au

Chairman: Secretary: Laura Standard Editor:

Gerald Higgins0431 754 429Darren Pech0429 705 520Laura Standard 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.

Advertising: Contact: Wayne Gifford on 0419 816 976.

John 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
н 19.35cm	н 9.6cm x	н 6.32cm x
x 12.75cm	12.75cm	12.75cm
\$40.00	\$25.00	\$15.00

### Latest time to submit articles

for inclusion in the

edition of The Laura Standard is

5pm Friday November 25th 2022

# Special items for the Laura 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations available at the oval on Saturday

### **Commemorative Medallions**

\$30 each Only 150 of these have been struck so be quick They come in a presentation case to give long lasting protection to this quality, collectible item.

### Rulers

An economical but useful keepsake – only \$3

In 1972 students were presented with a plastic mug as a souvenir of the centenary celebrations. In 2022 the committee will be presenting a ruler to all students at the Primary School. Secondary students will be able to collect a ruler during the school holidays at the Laura Information Centre

### Port

The Laura Fair Committee has commissioned a commemorative Port which will be available from the bar at the oval on Saturday.

### **Embossed Pavers for Farmers**

A lasting project of the 150<sup>th</sup> Committee is to honour the pioneering farmers of the district. The pavers will be laid near the plough which was unveiled during the centenary celebrations of 1972, and which has recently been refurbished. Pavers are \$70 each and provide an opportunity for families to give recognition to all farmers – past and present. Buy a paver for each generation of your farming family as a lasting tribute for future generations.



#### The Laura Standard