



December 2024 Issue 60

Hello Readers

Welcome to the Christmas 2024 edition of The Laura Standard. Some recent heavy falls just north of us saw the Pine Creek come down and flow into the Rocky, and despite the fact that any rain now is too late to have a positive effect on the season, it was nice to have some water flow through town.

The LCDTA was recently involved in helping Wirrabara celebrate their 150th anniversary. This was a great event enjoyed by a big crowd and we were happy to be asked to run the canteen for them. Thank you very much to Cathy Combe and Sophie Millington for organising everything and to all the volunteers who helped the day go smoothly. Just over \$1200 was raised and will go towards the Nature Playground project.

The Nature Playground sub committee have had some recent good news with the Variety Club pledging some financial support towards the project, and especially towards the purchase of the accessibility play equipment. There are some hurdles still to get over but this project continues to move forward and is a credit to all the volunteers involved.

The Jamestown Apex club are holding a Drought Relief event at Victoria Park in Jamestown on December 14th from 4pm. This should be a fantastic evening with a meal, soft drinks and entertainment provided for free and alcohol available for purchase, and a great way for families from around the district to come together and enjoy a sense of community. You can get your ticket by scanning the QR code on the posters that have been put around town.

Continued on page 2

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

Continued from page 1

The Community Calendar has again been very well supported by local businesses, with another 2 new businesses coming onboard this year. The calendar continues to be a great resource for the local community. Please keep an eye out for it as volunteers deliver it around town in the lead up to the New Year.

The LCDTA will again be running a Christmas Raffle this year with some great cash prizes on offer with thanks to the Laura Information Centre. This has been a very successful fundraiser for many years now. Volunteers will be selling tickets at the front of the IGA on Friday and Saturday mornings starting from November 29th, come say hello and buy a ticket.

After the amazing success of the last 2 years the LCDTA will again be holding a Christmas Lights competition. People's Choice will this year be voted on via the "Laura Christmas Party in the Park" Facebook page and there are great cash prizes again on offer with thanks to the Laura Community Caravan Park. You can enter your house by uploading it to the Facebook page by December 10th with winners being announced at the Party in the Park.

The Christmas Party in the Park will take place this year on Friday the 20th of December. There will be a BBQ, sweets and soft drinks available, with live music, kid's activities, the announcement of the raffle and lights competition winners and of course a visit from Father Christmas. Hopefully we can again score some nice weather, and a good crowd can enjoy a great night out.

On behalf of the LCDTA I'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. And look forward to seeing what 2025 brings.

Thanks

Gerald Higgins

Chairman LCDTA



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT

LAURA PRIAMRY SCHOOL



WOODHOUSE ADVENTURE CAMP
FOR THE YR2-YR6 STUDENTS

STUDENTS REPRESENTED
L.P.S AT SAPSASA
CRICKET AND TENNIS

SAPOL Road Safety Visit



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES



DANCE LESSONS



SPORTS DAY AND
COLOUR RUN



EMERGENCY SERVICES
VISITED THE PRESCHOOL



YR.6 STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED IN
MASTERMIND

SHOUTOUT

to all our locals,
we are here to support you!

Look no further, O'Deas are now a

MAKITA

STOCKIST



O'Dea
POWER + WATER

20 Herbert Street
LAURA SA 5480
8663 2284



LCDTA Christmas LIGHTS COMPETITION

LET'S LIGHT UP LAURA THIS CHRISTMAS

Prizes kindly donated by the
Laura Caravan Park

1ST PRIZE: \$300

2ND PRIZE: \$200

PEOPLES CHOICE: \$100

BEST 'SILLY SANTA': \$100

Best business display receives a business
promotion prize pack

TO ENTER AND VOTE:

Peoples choice voting to be conducted via
facebook 'Laura Christmas Park Party' page.

Upload your house before 10/12 to enter!

(more details on facebook page)

winners announced at party

in the park, 20th December.

A community run initiative



Laura Markets

Indoor and Outdoor stalls

Laura Memorial Civic Centre

Open 9am - 1pm

*Nikki & Dan would like to wish you a
Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.*



2025 Market Dates:

Sat 1st March

Sat 3rd May

Sat 5th July

Sat 6th Sept

Sat 1st Nov

&

Christmas Market 2025

on Sat 13th Dec



Stallholder /market enquiries:



Nikki: 0410 459560

or Dan: 0434 371116



Laura Information Centre

Open Daily 10 - 4
Ph: 8663 2260



Christmas is coming.....no, it's already here at the Laura Information Centre!
Come and see the wonderful range of gifts.
There's something for everyone:

- ☐ something in every price range
- ☐ goodies to make up a special hamper,
- ☐ books for old and young,
- ☐ things to wear,
- ☐ things to use,
- ☐ even treats for the dog!



Hats & Caps,
Apron & tea towels
& bags

Doggy Treats

Aromatics
& Candles

Dried fruit, Honey,
Jams & Chutneys
& Olive Oil

Arts &
Crafts

Postcards &
greeting
cards

Books, basketry
& glassware

Flinders Mobile Library

www.onecard.network/flindersmobile

	December	January	February
LAURA 12.45 - 4.15pm	Tuesday 3, 17	Tuesday 14, 28	Tuesday 11, 25
WIRRABARA 10.15 - 11.45am	Thursday 12	Thursday 9, 23	Thursday 6, 20
APPILA 2.30 - 3.30pm			

RETURN BOXES are located at the Gladstone Council Office, Laura IGA, Wirrabara Lucky 7 and Booleroo Centre IGA.

For more information -

email: flindersmobile.library@gmail.com

Phone: 8662 2305

Wishing all of our borrowers and the community a Merry Christmas.

The Library Truck is off the road from the
21st December—5th January,
but is always open online!

Library membership gives you access to a 300,000+ e-books, e-audio books and e-magazines on your digital devices for FREE.

The 2 apps the Library uses are:



Libby



BorrowBox

There is a wide variety of material available, both children's and adults fiction, non-fiction from cook books and biography to weekly magazines and scientific publications—in both e-book and e-audio format. All for free and available wherever you are!

Links to download the apps are available from our website:

www.onecard.network/flindersmobile

Library staff are always willing to help in the setup of the apps so you can take full advantage of these resources.

**Flinders
Mobile Library**



Laura Oval Playground

Our recent fundraiser was the Wirrabara 150th Celebrations Canteen. A very successful day.

A big thank you to Catherine Combe for all her help with organising the food for the day, as well as everyone that was involved with either working in the canteen or supplying goods.

The baked spuds were a hit and completely sold out by 1pm. Some of the other items were slower to move with little left over.

Overall, it was a great celebration to be involved in and we are very thankful that the Wirrabara 150th Committee asked us to help out!

Our total profit for the day was \$1210.69.

Playground Update - We have received the quote for stage 1 of the playground, which has come in as quite a bit more than expected, this is due to the soft fall needed around the carousel and trampoline. Although we still believe this is achievable with further fundraising, support & grants. Our aim in the coming weeks is to receive the quote for stage 2 of the playground design and then apply for funding through Variety and also the Thriving Community Grant. We recently applied for the NAC Project Grant.

Sophie Millington



The O'Dea Team would like to wish all our clients a wonderful and safe Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Thank you for your support throughout the year and we look forward to working with you in 2025.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The business will close on
Tuesday 24th December at 12:00pm
and Reopen on
Monday 6th January 2024 at 8:30am

FOR EMERGENCIES DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD
PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE NUMBER AND YOU WILL BE DIVERTED TO
OUR ON CALL WORKER **8663 2284**





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+ HICAPS +

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LAURA SPORTING RESERVE

MON/WED/FRI – 5.45AM

TUES/THURS – 7.30AM

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YOUR
TRAINING
TODAY**



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Ph. Wayne: 0428 810 338 or Joel: 0457 846 033



Come and see us at the
Laura Markets
we are inside the
Laura Civic Centre

Sat 7th Dec from 9am - 1pm.

Christmas Gift Hampers available to buy



Nikki & Dan would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year. We will see you at the Laura Markets in 2025.



Candles Diffusers Room Sprays Gifts

Also available to buy at the Laura Information Centre



Media release

21 November 2024

Green Organic Waste Collection Set to Roll Out



Northern Areas Council's new kerbside organic green waste collection service is just around the corner and the green lidded bins will be delivered to residents from 2 December 2024. The first waste collections are to commence in February 2025, representing a significant step towards reducing waste sent to landfill and enhancing sustainability in our region.

As part of the rollout, new organic green waste collection calendars will be distributed to keep residents informed about collection dates. Stay tuned for Council updates detailing what can and cannot be placed in the green waste bins.

Mayor Sue Scarman said over 890 tonnes of general household waste was collected across the Northern Areas area and sent to landfill in 2022/23. "This figure underscores the importance of reducing waste and improving waste management practices – we want that tonnage to be significantly reduced," Mayor Scarman said. "The introduction of the organic green waste service is an essential part of Council's commitment to sustainability and delivering effective, efficient services to our community."

Meanwhile, Council will be seeking community feedback in relation to other parts of the Council waste service, with a region-wide survey soon to be launched to better understand the community's waste and recycling needs. Residents are encouraged to share their thoughts by completing the survey that will be delivered in hardcopy Council's newsletter – to be delivered in mid-December – or online via SurveyMonkey. Community members will be able to provide survey feedback:

- ☐ **By email** Send your completed survey to admin@nacouncil.sa.gov.au
- ☐ **By post:** Mail it to PO Box 120, Jamestown SA 5491
- ☐ **Online:** Complete on [SurveyMonkey](#)

"By embracing the new green waste service and contributing your ideas through the survey, we can work together to create a greener community for everyone," Mayor Scarman said.

For more information about the organic green waste collection service or the waste survey, please contact the Northern Areas Council on 8664 1139 or visit www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

For Media inquiries: Sue Scarman, Mayor

Email: sue.scarman@nacouncil.sa.gov.au Phone: 0418 844 935



Best wishes to all our clients for Christmas and the New Year

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SEASONS GREETINGS FROM COUNCIL

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Seasonal office closure

JAMESTOWN - 5PM 20 DECEMBER - 02 JANUARY 2025
GLADSTONE - 5PM 20 DECEMBER - 06 JANUARY 2025
SPALDING - 5PM 19 DECEMBER - 16 JANUARY 2025

COUNCIL CLOSED
5PM 20 DECEMBER TO 2ND JANUARY

NORTHERN AREAS COUNCIL
96 AYR ST, JAMESTOWN / 8664 1139
WWW.NACOUNCIL.SA.GOV.AU

NORTHERN AREAS COUNCIL

Lions News



Members of our Rocky River Lions Club attended the S A District C1 Convention in the beautiful coastal town of Cowell SA held on the 11th to 13th October. A great time was had by one and all. During the opening ceremony we heard those words we Lions are very familiar with “Lions Clubs are the best kept secret known to man” and I think it is true. If you were to ask the average Joe on the street “what are Lions clubs and what do they do” you would probably get a shrug of the shoulders and that iconic Aussie Quote “I Dunno.”

From the Convention it became clear that Lions need to step up and inform our communities just what we, as Lions, are all about.

Lions Clubs International is the World’s largest service club organisation with 1.3 million members worldwide in 49000 clubs represented in 206 countries and geographic areas.

Lions was founded by business leader Melvin Jones in 1917 in Chicago, Illinois when he encouraged his fellow members of his local business club that they should reach beyond their business issues to address the betterment of their community and the World more generally. His group agreed and Lions Clubs International was born.

The Lions club motto is “We Serve”

Our mission is to empower Lions Clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve the health, wellbeing, and strength of communities, and support those in need through humanitarian service and grants that will impact lives globally and encourage peace and international understanding.

Did you know that Lions Clubs throughout the world have supported the work of the UN (United Nations) since that organisation’s inception in 1945, when Lions was one of the non-government organisations invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco, California.

Over the past 107 years Lions have provided aid and manpower for many of the UN Agencies, such as UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund), WHO (World Health Organisation), and UNESCO (UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation).

Continued on page 15

Continued from page 14

In times of disasters, you will find Lions Club members shoulder to shoulder with other Aid Organisations providing assistance to those in need. There are also 7 global causes that Lions currently pursue, which are: Diabetes, Hunger, Environment, Youth, Humanitarian Efforts, Disaster Aid, and Childhood Cancer. With your help we aim to defeat Diabetes and Childhood Cancer and make giant strides in the other causes.

If you would like to make a difference, enjoy the satisfaction of volunteering and benefiting your local community, you would be most welcome to join us at a work meeting 2nd Tuesday of each month or join us socially on the 4th Tuesday. Please contact (Pres). Don Hucks 0428912085, (Sec) Don Pritchard 0417835761 (Treas) Wayne Miller 0428887550 or any Lions member.

Lion Wayne Miller
Rocky River Lions Club



Flower Storm Florist is expanding

To better serve we are now phone and online ordering with extended trading hours.

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Shop **24 hours a day 7 days** at www.flowerstorm.com.au
Member of Interflora - flowers anywhere - anytime



Trading hours: Monday to Friday **8:30am to 5:00pm**

Artists and their Art forms.

In this edition of the Standard we meet Ben Cleggett, whose mediums are wire and wood, from which he crafts wire trees and handmade bikes.

In other words, another of our talented local crafts people.

Ben's love of making began when in 1978 he started to build the house he and Jenni still live in. It wasn't until he retired the trees we know him for became part of his life. On holiday in Melbourne he saw a street artist making a basic tree from wire. Ben said, "that's when the bug hit, I thought I could do that."

The key elements of his trees are galvanised wire, copper wire or garden wire with a plastic coating and occasionally spray paint and nail polish! The trees invariably sit on a wooden base which are often decorated with small stones or structures like a bench. His tools are basic hand tools, plyers, wire cutters an adapted hand screwdriver and an adapted bit for his electric drill. He has not set up a special workshop for his work, often sitting on the lounge and watching TV once he has prepared all the components. When on Information Centre duty Ben could be seen sitting on the front verandah of the centre making his trees.

Apart from the early inspiration while on holiday in Melbourne Ben uses the internet and YouTube in particular, for ideas which he then adopts or adapts.

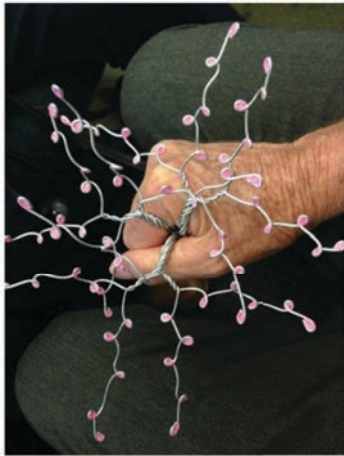
As you can see from the photos, Ben's trees have evolved over the last six years. He has now made more than 400 trees, and they have homes not just in SA but interstate and overseas. He was saying that he packed a tree very carefully for a person to take back to the United Kingdom.

For a market, be it the Laura Fair or the Kadina Market Ben likes to make at least 35 trees to sell, which is about 3 months work.



Continued on page 17

Continued from page 16



Ben's handmade bikes are a work of pleasure for him. His first bike was nearly all wood, which was either hand carved or in the case of the frame marine ply hand bent on a frame Ben designed. Metal components are sourced from overseas. The second bike is still a work in progress, but nearly completed. Less wood and more metal in this version. Ben's bikes are on display at The Laura Emporium, with first bike already there and the second not far behind.



Ben's work is regularly on sale at the Laura Information Centre and The Emporium.

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*Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year
from the team at JP Build*

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BLD: 254571

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**Orders by phone & internet - Member Petals - Interflora – Delivering – Locally
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Flower Storm Christmas Closure 23rd December 2022

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LCDTA PRESENTS

2024 Christmas Party in the park

Friday 20th December, 6pm at the Laura Parklands

BBQ, dessert and soft drinks available

Visit from Santa, face painting and kids activities

BYO chair and picnic rug





Summertime Floods in Laura

Just within the last few weeks the Pine Creek flowed into the Rocky River at North Laura. Although the Rocky flows occasionally (every few years!) it's a rare occasion to have water in the Pine Creek.

This rare occasion therefore has brought up again the topic of floods and Laura, as in recent times some residents have been faced with insurance difficulties because of Laura being flood prone. This probably seems like a furphy as the last major flood was in 1941 – over eighty years ago

Floods affected Laura in the 1870s, 1893, 1894, 1914, 1916 and 1919.

The man made banks which surround the town on three sides have been a great asset since their construction in 1919, but were no match for the flood waters of 1921 and 1941.

Both of those floods occurred in mid summer; in late February 1921 and late January 1941, flood waters from Pine Creek broke the banks which protect Laura from floods.

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, resulting in flooding most of the township from both ends. These three 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 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.”

“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 her 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.”

“...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.”

Continued on page 23

Continued from page 22

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 until 1948 Laura did not even have mains water, so all cleaning had to be done using well water or precious rain water.

The media occasionally reports on the devastation caused by so called 'hundred year floods'. We have no control over such acts of nature, but as a community have a responsibility to ensure that the flood protection measures are maintained, especially the levy surrounding the town.

Councillor John Barberien has been a strong advocate for such action, and it is pleasing to note that undergrowth in 'the drain' near the southern bridge has finally been cleared after years of agitation. This was also a topic brought up at the NAC Community Forum held in Laura in May.

However more work is still to be done, including the eradication of rabbit burrows in the bank which has protected the town since 1919.

Greg Slattery

President

Rocky River Historic & Art Society



Photo Left:

1914 Hughes
Street in flood near
the old Town Hall

Photo Right:

Looking
towards Tom
Catt Hill and
the Catholic
church





2025 is shaping up to be very busy.

Below is a list of our activities for your calendars.

*Laura Events
wishes everyone
a very Happy &
Safe Christmas
and New Year.*



DATES	EVENTS	DETAILS
1 March 2025	Laura Markets	Promoting Laura Trails Bike and Hike Festival
5 - 6 April 2025	Laura Fair	Promoting Laura Trails Bike and Hike Festival
2 May 2025	Laura Markets	Promoting Laura Trails Bike and Hike Festival
10 May 2025	BikeSA	Outback Odyssey Hosted Dinner Laura Civic Centre
5 July 2025	Laura Markets	Promoting Laura Trails Bike and Hike Festival
6 September 2025	Laura Markets	Promoting Laura Trails Bike and Hike Festival
18 October 2025	Laura Trails Bike & Hike Festival	10.00 - 4.00: Trail riding, Hiking and Walking 6.00 - 7.30: Dinner @ Laura Civic Centre 8.00 - 10.00: Live Music @ Laura Civic Centre
19 October 2025	Laura Trails Bike & Hike Festival	8.00 - 10.00: Long Breakfast Herbert St 8.00 - 4.30: Laura - Community Festival Herbert St
6 December 2025	Laura Markets	Christmas Celebrations
14 December 2025	Laura Events	Committee Christmas Dinner

ENQUIRIES

Contact info@lauraevents.au
or visit our website www.lauraevents.au



Laura Trails SA: The Gateway to the Southern Flinders Ranges

**Laura Community
Development & Tourism
Association**

C H R I S T M A S

A

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**Drawn at the
Park Party
Friday 21st
December
2024**

**Raffle tickets \$3
Or 4 for \$10
Or book for \$25**

CASH PRIZES

1st Prize: \$300, 2nd prize: \$150,

3rd prize: \$100 , 4th prize : \$50

Laura Community Caravan Park News:



It has been another busy year in the park, our third as the managers. The caravan park continues to grow and evolve, and we enjoy meeting people from all over Australia and overseas that pass through the park.

Our hard-working committee and band of volunteers share our pride in keeping it looking fantastic for travellers to the Southern Flinders to assist them in choosing Laura as the base for their exploring of our region. The park plays an important part in attracting visitors to Laura so that the other businesses in town can benefit from the money our guests spend around town.

Our new amenities block is on site in the park with the septic tank going in recently and the plumbers and electricians going about their duties getting it ready for use. The deck has also been built now and the ramp is in progress. Stay tuned for photos when it is all finished.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all and again a huge thank you to everyone that chips in around the park or simply recommends us as the place to stay in the Southern Flinders.

Naomi & Simon Purdue



Under New Management

Stone Hut Bakery, selling quality pies, pastries and cakes.

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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Dan & Nikki

BLD225910

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NORTHERN AREAS COUNCIL





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- # Meryle's Café
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- # Antiques
- # Candles and Soaps
- # Shell Display

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Finding a Justice of the Peace:

Jon Hawkins-Clarke	0417 849 441
James Heaslip	0408 635 001
David Medlow Smith	0403 035 231
Lynette Pech	0418 892 131
John Stevens	8663 2303
Jodie Zwar	0457 745 586



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 2025 please continue to forward your articles to fit the A5 layout of the Standard in a word document, font set at Arial, size 11 with photos attached in jpeg format, along with a logo if required to lcdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

*** Jan 24th ** March 14th ** May 23rd ****

Contacts:

- **Council Office** Jamestown 8664 1139, 1300 664 108
(Please Note: The 1300 number is only available for landlines)
- **Council Office Gladstone** 8662 2018
- **Council's After Hours mobile number** 0488999808
- **Dog Control** Mick Tobin 0499 651 990
- **NAC Fire Prevention Officer** Tim Zander, 8664 1139
- **Mayor 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
- **Councillor John Barberien** 0418 804 416 or john.barberien@nacouncil.sa.gov.au



SH♥P LOCAL

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

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 and Articles: Contact: Wayne Gifford on **0419 816 976**.
Bronwyn Weston on **0438 635 061**

*As an incentive for supporting The Laura Standard with your advertisements you will receive your 6th advertisement **free of charge**.*

Please Note:

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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'

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Claudia camel and the laughing child

Claudia camel was very, very clumsy. She was always falling over her own feet, and could never be trusted to carry anything delicate. So people were unhappy with Claudia, and she was unhappy too, because more than anything she wanted to dance. It was her dream.

But, as you know, its very hard to dance when you're unhappy.

Then one day some rich wise men asked her owner if they could borrow her for a long journey they had to take. So they decorated her with a colourful halter, with bells and fringes and a shiny saddle. But the bells startled her, and she jumped sideways, and knocked over one of the wise men. Luckily, he was very understanding, and with some soothing words, calmed her down.

So that night they set off on a very long journey, but Claudia kept bumping into the other camels, or tripping over every little bump in the desert. But the wise men were very kind and encouraging, and eventually they arrived at a little town called Bethlehem, and a small stable there.

There was a bit of discussion as to whether Claudia could be trusted in such a small space, given her clumsiness, but eventually they agreed to try, and led her into a stall. From there she could see two people, and a tiny baby lying in some straw in a manger, who was crying. The baby looked so lovely, and his crying worried her. She really wanted to help, so she stepped forward to get a better look. But she didn't notice a goat in front of her, tripped over it and fell flat on her tummy. And then something beautiful happened.

The baby began to laugh, and it sounded so lovely that Claudia laughed too, and began to dance. She danced all around the stable, in and out of the stalls, and amazingly, didn't fall over anything! And the baby laughed and laughed, until he fell asleep. And so did she. That night she dreamed her dancing dream, but this time she knew it was real.

The next day they headed for home, and all the way home and from that time onwards, Claudia never put a foot wrong, because the laughter of the little child in the stable danced through her for the rest of her life.

The Rev'd. Sr. Sandra Sears CSBC