

June 2025 Issue 63

Hello Readers,

Welcome to the June 2025 edition of The Laura Standard. It's been a busy couple of months in our town, with the Laura Fair, the completion of the North Parklands project and Football and Netball season now well under way. Also, despite just a small amount of rain over Easter, many farmers have started their sowing programs, so let's hope for some more substantial rain soon and that we may once more enjoy some green fields around the district.

After 18 months of planning and fundraising, the North Parklands Basketball Half Court and Outdoor Table Tennis table project is very near completion. On April 12<sup>th</sup> Laura Locals Bradley Alm, Michael Lynch, Koby Millington, Travis Edwards, Steven Haynes, Rick Pech, Mark Lange, Todd Brand and Darren Pech poured the 2 slabs measuring nearly 300m2, a mammoth effort and great show of community spirit. On Anzac Day Darren Pech, Mark Lange, Rick Pech and Michael Lynch returned to install the equipment along with help from Scott Combe and Jason Cleggett. Thanks to all involved and special thanks also to Bradley Alm for completing the initial earthworks and to Darren Pech, who, with the loan of his father Robert's tractor, spread the remaining soil.

A massive thanks also to the Rocky River Lions Club for their donation of the Basketball ring and to Energy Australia whose grant money paid for the Table Tennis table. The Northern Areas Council will soon be installing a light on top of the toilet black to make this area safer at night and then the project will be complete. It has been great to see this area already being well utilised and I hope this will continue into the future.

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

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A new look Laura Fair was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and once again we enjoyed great crowds and beautiful weather. As with any changes, there were a few teething problems, but the new layout seemed to be popular with both vendors and customers. The LCDTA's "Devonshire and More" stall was this year moved to the Civic Centre kitchen and proved to be very successful with over \$3000 raised. Many thanks to everyone who donated food (scones, toasties, slices), time, or both, and to all our wonderful customers who sought us out in our new location. The LCDTA will be hosting a community meeting in the Civic Centre on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of June at 7:30pm. If you have any ideas for the future of the Fair or would be interested in becoming involved we would encourage you to attend. All ideas will be shared with the new Fair Committee at their AGM in July.

Our next fundraiser will be the annual "Aus Condon Memorial" Golf Day, to be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> of July at the Laura Golf Club. This has been a fantastic fundraiser for the LCDTA for many years and is always well supported by players, sponsors and volunteers alike. Many thanks to Bev Marron who has taken over organising the teams this year, to Julie Nettle who is in her second year organising the catering, to Denise Higgins who in her role as the LCDTA's fundraising coordinator organises the sponsorship and to the Laura Golf Club for manning the bar and allowing us to use their facilities. Please see the fliers around town and in this edition of The Laura Standard for entry details.

In early April the "Laura Nature Playground" committee received the amazing news "Variety – The Children's Charity" had agreed to come onboard and provide the required funds to secure the project's completion. This, after lots of hard work in recent years, fundraising, grant writing, planning and seeking approval for the project by what is essentially a group of very determined young mothers. Thank you to everyone who donated and/or supported fundraisers (sausage sizzles, slice drives, raffles), I'm sure the whole community will join me in congratulating this committee and look forward to enjoying this playground for many years to come. Council and other volunteers have been busy getting the site ready in recent weeks with Landscape Logix hoping to start the project on the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> of July, just in time for the Variety Bash to pass through town and check progress on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of August.

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The "Rocky River Community Shed" have been busy working in the background and have managed to secure a \$9000 grant from Centacare's "Community Connection" program, to help with the initial cost of setting up the shed. This, along with the tools already donated from the Parafield Men's Shed and the offer to use the space behind the Laura Emporium should see this initiative have an exciting future.

Fundraising to cover the costs incurred with the "Laura Units Airconditioning" project have continued to be well supported, with the raffle organized by Frank Bernhardt at Meryles Café almost sold out. This along with generous donations from the Laura Racecourse committee, MP Geoff Brock, Laura Bowls Club, Laura Information centre, Flower Storm and Gibba (a Laura Units resident) are very much appreciated. There are some great prizes to be won in the raffle, with thanks to all who donated. The raffle will be drawn on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, after nearly 3 years, Naomi Purdue informed the Caravan Park committee of her and Simon's intention to leave as managers of the Caravan Park. I'd like to personally thank Naomi and Simon for all their hard work. The Laura Community Caravan Park has continued to go from strength to strength over recent years and this is in no small part thanks to the efforts of the managers. There has been significant interest in this position, thanks to advertising on both TV and in the Plains Producer and the committee hope to start the interview process soon after the closing date of May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Lastly, after 5 years, Wayne Gifford has decided to hang up his keyboard and mouse as editor of The Laura Standard. Wayne has done an outstanding job as editor and has taken The Laura Standard to the next level with how professional our little town's newsletter presents. For me, I think this was especially highlighted with the special, massive, colour edition that he produced for the Laura 150 celebration back in 2022. I'd like to personally thank Wayne for all his efforts and for how passionate he has been towards putting out such a great publication for the past 5 years. I'm sure everyone in the community will join me in thanking Wayne and wishing him well with all the other groups that he volunteers with.

We will introduce our new editor Mr Warren Mack in the next edition of The Laura Standard.

On behalf of the LCDTA I hope everyone stays safe and warm in the coming months and lets hope for some rain.

Thanks Gerald Higgins Chairman LCDTA

# Stone Hut Cottages



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# Flinders Mobile Library

www.onecard.network/flindersmobile

	June	July	August
LAURA	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
12.45 - 4.15pm	3, 17	1, 29	12, 26
WIRRABARA			
10.15 - 11.45am	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
APPILA	12, 26	24	7, 21
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

# Need a little help with technology?



Need a little help accessing the digital world, be it downloading apps to your phone, setting up an email account, accessing government service, using social media or doing your shopping online?

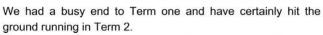
#### We are here to help!

Contact us for session availability and one-on-one booking times.



Phone: 08 8662 2305







At the end of last Term we held Harmony Day celebrations, had educational talks with local emergency service people. We even hosted the SAPSASA t-ball carnival for the yr4-6students organised by Amanda Bowman, with the local schools participating. During the holidays our school leaders represented the school at the Laura ANZAC Day dawn service, they did a fabulous job, displaying our school values and did us all very proud.



This term we've been just as busy with lots of learning as well as our school leaders along with Miss Opperman travelling to Port Augusta to attend the GRIP leadership day, learning how to be a good leader. The Preschool students went for their first forest Kindy visit of the term and will visit again. We've celebrated National Walk/Ride to school Day and participated in National Simultaneous Storytime. If you'd like to see more of our learning check out our Facebook page, Laura Primary School



# Principal Leanne Opperman was thrilled to receive the following email from a community member.



"To Headmaster Laura Primary School. My name is Les Worden and I am an old resident from Laura who attended the Laura Primary School in the late 60s. I attended the Anzac Day March this year and was impressed by the Laura Primary School Children, especially how they handled themselves in their performance. They were polite and very courteous to the veterans that marched. My personal thanks go to Ruby Jackson for her help in laying my wreath on the Cenotaph. I am a Vietnam Veteran, who unfortunately has a broken back and am unable to bend, I approached your School group and asked for assistance



to see her so willing, but it reflects well on your School. It is my request that she has this read out in class and to let her know that she is upholding the good tradition that I learnt when I attended this wonderful place."

and Ruby was the first to volunteer. This not only impressed me





# **New CEO appointment**



Council is excited to announce the appointment of its new CEO Mr Ross McNeil

Mr McNeil will join the Northern Areas Council having held senior executive positions in various Councils in New Zealand.

Mayor Scarman reflects on the recruitment process and the appointment of Mr McNeil saying "Council is excited by the appointment of a local government professional 'from over the ditch' understanding that local government in New Zealand is highly regarded in respect to progressive and innovative governance and service delivery outcomes".

Mayor Scarman is looking forward to working with Ross and is confident that Ross will help Council progress many creative outcomes here at Northern Areas.

Mr McNeil is equally confident in starting his first job in Australia saying "residents and ratepayers, whether they be in South Australia or New Zealand, expect their local council to deliver quality services, be good stewards of community finances, assets and infrastructure and work together with communities, stakeholders and government agencies on a better future for all".

Mr McNeil advises that there are many successful New Zealand local government initiatives that can be readily adapted to a South Australia context, which will build on the good work being done locally. "I'm excited at the prospect of working together with the elected members, staff and communities of Northern Areas to progress those opportunities".

Mayor Scarman would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Henry Inat who is currently the interim CEO until Mr McNeil commences at Council on Monday 21 July 2025.

There will be a short hand over period between Mr Inat and Mr McNeil to ensure a smooth transition occurs.

Mayor Scarman looks forward to both Council Members and staff continuing to work together and effectively and efficiently deliver much needed services to our local community.

Northern Areas Council Mayor Sue Scarman | 0418 844 935

# **Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day**

Thursday 17th July 2025 at Laura Golf Club 10.00am start Team 4's Ambrose competition

# layers ONLY per team







\$100.00 per team & includes; Morning tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea

Championship Event **Handicap Event** 

Long Drive (Ladies No 9 & 18: Men No 7 & 16)

Nearest to the pin; Ladies No 1 & No 10 Men No 5 & No 14

Prize money for Hole in One

No 1 & No 10 No 5 & No 14



All proceeds to the Laura Community Development & Tourism Association

Entries to Bev Marron by Monday 13th July 2025. Entries by email: bjhrwm54@gmail.com or text 0429 066 654

Please provide GA numbers for all team members

### LAURA AGED CARE WING UPGRADE





On Friday 2 May, we officially opened the Aged Care Wing redevelopment at Laura and District Hospital.

Community members, residents and staff from across the region attended the celebration at the hospital's garden, enjoying afternoon tea and a tour of the new space.

The redevelopment includes:

- Three new resident rooms with ensuites
- Onversion of two existing shared rooms into single rooms with private ensuites
- Construction of an additional 2 ensuites within existing structure
- New flooring, joinery, fresh paint and an updated fire sprinkler system

Laura residents are now settled and enjoying the improvements which have resulted in

- \$\displays 12 single rooms all with private ensuites
- \$\top Direct outdoor access from their rooms through new external glass doors
- ☆ A new sun-filled communal lounge space for gathering

The new exterior has been completed with Mount Gambier Stone to complement the existing hospital structure and maintain the historical integrity of the building.

The redevelopment also allowed the return of one acute bed to the hospital's acute services.

These improvements offer comfort, dignity, and quality care for our residents.

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate this milestone and for helping us have a meaningful event!

The \$2.4 million upgrade was made possible thanks to the Southern Flinders Health Advisory Council via a generous bequest from the late Ada Hincks, together with State and Commonwealth funding. Thank you to the Northern Areas Council for generously gifting the hospital a small piece of land to support the project.

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From left to right:
Kym Thomas
(YNLHN Governing Board
Member) and
Denise Higgins
(Community Member and
Northern Areas Councillor



From left to right:
John Voumard (Governing Board Chair),
Judy Zwar (past President of the Laura
Hospital Auxiliary),
Geoff Brok MP Member of Stuart,
Ryan Ackland (EODON), and
Deb Black (local Nukunu Elder).



John Voumard (YNLHN Governing Board Chair) speaking at the event



From left to right: Fred Crossman (resident) and Tilly Wickham (assistant in Nursing/ Services Assistant).



### Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day

LCDTA's next fundraiser will be the Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day on 17<sup>th</sup> July. Please find the poster in this edition of The Laura Standard. Bev Marron is now managing the Golf part of the day, a big thank you to her. You will also notice that Bev has asked for team GA. If you don't know what that means (and I don't!) let her know when you contact her that you don't know / don't have a GA.

# **SAND & METAL SUPPLIES**

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- Seasoned and split
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- Offering full loads or partial loads to campers and visitors

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# To The Laura Community.

Peter and I leave with mixed emotions as you have been a wonderful community to us with all your support especially through a bit of trauma over the 13 years. We have watched children grow up to be adults and near adults, we have seen children grow up to get married and have their own babies, we have seen other community members leave the area and others go on their rainbow bridge journeys.

We believe that you will give as much support to the new owners of your Post Office as they are a wonderful couple.

If you have not met Elishia and Steven please call in and introduce yourselves.

Unfortunately, Bonney crossed her rainbow bridge on the 24<sup>th</sup> March and we would like to thank those that especially doted on her and made her life special as the Post Office Dog. You all know who you are so I will not embarrass you by naming you here but Peter and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We wish everyone all the very best. We will still be around for a while but will be resting up ready for our house renovation journey.

Felicity & Peter



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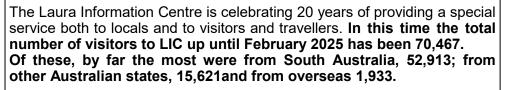
## **Laura Information Centre**

Open Daily 10 - 4 Ph: 8663 2260



We also stock: \* Golden North Giant Twins
The Laura Information Centre -

#### Celebrating 20 years in 2025!



Volunteers in LIC during these years would have spoken to people from Darwin, from Dalby, Queenstown, Albany and Coober Pedy; but also from Germany, Canada, France China, Korea, India and Uzbekistan.

What interesting conversations could be had telling people about our

What interesting conversations could be had, telling people about our corner of the world and hearing about where they come from.

Most overseas visitors came from the United Kingdom (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland) followed by Germany, New Zealand, USA and Canada.

### Which brings us back to the questions:

Are you interested in your community?

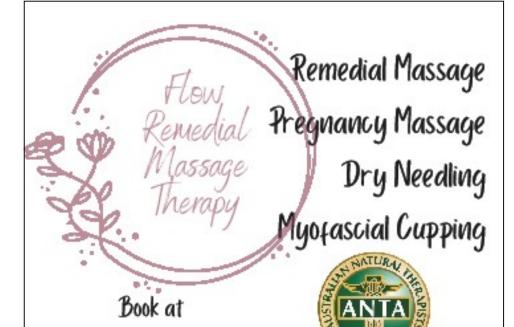
Do you like meeting interesting people?

Would you like to be part of a team promoting the town of Laura and the surrounding district?

We'd love to have you join us. Call in to LIC and have a look around and talk to the volunteer who is working there, take a list of Committee members and talk to one of them about the training you will receive before you start, or email us on <a href="mailto:laura.sa.information@gmail.com">laura.sa.information@gmail.com</a>







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or call Nicole 0438 681 614



HCAPS

# **Council Representation Review**



Council has over the past 12 months undertaken a Council NORTHERN AREAS Member Representation Review as required by Section 12 of the Local Government Act.

The last representation review occurred in February 2017.

The process has involved public consultation, which culminated in Council making a final decision on how Council and Council Members can best represent the community and its interest over the coming years.

Mayor Scarman notes "a key outcome of the review has incorporated the recent amendments to Section 51(1) of the Local Government Act which prescribes that from the 2026 Council elections, the principal member (Mayor) is to be elected as a representative of the area as whole and will not be chosen by Council".

This is a significant change for the Northern Areas Council which has historically elected its Mayor from within the Council itself.

A further significant change that will come from this most recent representation review is the decision of Council not to have wards. Council currently has four wards covering the district.

Council as part of the representation review process at its meeting in July 2024 resolved as follows:

The Council area not be divided into wards (i.e. the existing wards be abolished), and Council be comprised of an elected Mayor, as per Section 51 of the Local Government Act 1999, and 8 area councillors, all of whom shall be elected by the community to represent the whole of the Council area

Mayor Scarman reflects on the representation review as endorsed by Council at its meeting held on 15 April 2025 saying, "the outcomes from the review present a significant change to Council representation which will lead to Council further and increasingly ensuring decision making processes continue to be made from whole of community perspective".

Members of the public who are interested in the details of the Council representation review are encouraged to source information from Council's website and or have follow up discussions with Council's administration or Council Members themselves.

Northern Areas Council Mayor Sue Scarman | 0418 844 935



Rocky River Historic & Art Society

A Peep into the Past – and the role of the puff puffs

There are many aspects of Laura's past that aren't known to our newer or younger residents, or forgotten by others.

Laura had a race course Laura had a show Laura had a railway

The only real evidence of the three is the former show pavilion on the road to Port Pirie. The first show was held in 1873 and subsequent shows held in various locations until 1881 when the society bought land from the Booyoolee estate. The pavilion was built in 1907 but the site was abandoned in 1914 due to flooding. The show then operated in the east parklands until it ceased in 1940 during the Second World War.

The Laura Jockey Club was formed in 1884. The club had its heydays during the 1920s when attendances of 10,000 earned it the reputation of being the Onkaparinga of the North. The club went into recess during the Second World War, but racing was revived in the 1960s for a couple of decades until going into recess again. Since the sale of the course, the Race Course Management Committee has generously assisted many organisations in the town with donations from the interest on their capital account which has been of continuing benefit to the community.

The railway played an important role in our community, and especially for the show and the races.



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Special trains brought punters and show goers to Laura from Port Pirie, Terowie and Port Wakefield with links to Wallaroo. There was even a platform near the race course allowing passengers to disembark and also for the unloading of horses.

The railway line to Laura was opened in 1884 and was important to the development of the town, especially when Laura remained the railhead until the extension of the line to Booleroo Centre in 1910, and ultimately to Wilmington. In its early days cement for the Beetaloo Reservoir and produce from Wirrabara for Broken Hill were important commodities. From the 1950s to the late 1980s it was possible to catch a train (an American Brille railcar) and change trains to the broad gauge Bluebird at Gladstone and spend about six hours in Adelaide and arrive home late evening – what a wonderful service that was, and made even better by having Railway Refreshment Rooms at Gladstone and Balaklava, and in the latter period with 'on train' facilities on the Bluebird

The Bluebirds were totally designed and manufactured at the Islington workshops of the South Australian Railways. The last passenger service ran in 1969, being replaced by a Stateliner bus. Goods trains still ran, but despite approval for conversion to standard gauge in 1987 this narrow gauge line was officially closed in 1990 and the station buildings demolished in a disgraceful act of bureaucratic bungling.

Greg Slattery President, Rocky River Historic & Art Society Inc.



# **Rocky River Community Shed**

The Rocky River Community Shed Inc. (RRCS) is almost ready to open its doors! While it offers space to create and build, the true purpose of the shed is to foster connection, provide support, and celebrate the community spirit driven by the volunteers who make Laura such a special place. It's not just about creating with your hands—it's about creating a community, and adds to the appeal of living in Laura.

Thanks to the strong network of community sheds across the region, we've received generous donations of several wooden workbenches from the Rosefield Community Shed in Wayville, courtesy of Malcolm Pech. We're also excited to welcome Warren Mack to Laura—his efforts contributed to incorporating RRCS, and he has secured a thicknesser and dust extractors from the Brooklyn Park CoC Men's Shed to help get us started.

We're thrilled to announce that RRCS has been awarded \$9,000 in funding through the Centacare Community Connections Program! This funding will help us equip the shed with toolboxes, lockers, a fridge, PPE, gardening tools, a sandwich press, chairs, crockery, and more—everything we need to create a safe, functional, and welcoming environment.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Frank, who has generously offered part of his own shed to get our activities up and running—this means woodwork, metalwork, gardening activities sooner rather than later.

But RRCS is about more than just tools. It's about community, volunteering, and making a difference. We're proud to be part of maintaining Laura's soon-to-be-completed Nature Playground, continuing improvements at the Caravan Park, and lending a hand with other local projects.

Membership will be open to all residents aged 18+ from Laura and nearby towns. We'll continue fundraising for a permanent space, and grow to meet the needs of our community. You can stay updated by following our Facebook page.



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### **Artists and their Art Forms**

This time we meet Glen Cannon, winner of this year's Laura Art Show's Dick Biles Encouragement Award for an emerging local artist. His artist's eye sees things in fine detail and so – stippling is his chosen art form. Stippling is an old art form using just ink dots (believed to be European and revived in the 1970's) made with a fine nib pen. Glen uses a 0.5ml nib.

Glen is from a family of artists and musicians. He is also a songwriter and instrumentalist, having played many Adelaide venues before moving to the thriving Stone Hut community with partner Leanne. His previous work life revolved around guitars, working as a technician / repairer and teacher. "I have enjoyed the music industry and have been privileged to jam with many accomplished musicians over the years.

Glen chose stippling to challenge his abilities as an artist. "It has a mystique – transferring our coloured world into a black and white one". He will sometimes choose faces as they are interesting and often less than perfect. The work you see here is often 60 hours and done over about 6 weeks. Glen will take a number of photos and from those he will pencil sketch the outline, checking proportions and shading. In reality the more dots the darker the image.

Much of his work is locally inspired and reflects a personal passion. The Port Germein Jetty was one of his first. The Pichi Richi Steam Train won the Gladstone Art Show Award. The old Holden belongs to Stone Hut couple Alan and Brenda Bishop.

There are pictures that have quite a story. Paul Kretchmer from Wirrabara Forrest rode an old tractor in the Wirrabara 150 Parade. It took Glen's eye and he took photos to begin his work. Glen volunteers in the Wirrabara Craft House and takes his art with him for quiet times. Paul has had the opportunity to admire the work in progress. The bearded dragon is resident in Glen and Leanne's yard and has done so for the last 3 years. It would feed from Leanne and as it became more familiar would run up her leg looking for capsicum. Lastly the dray of wheat, inspired by Alan Woolford's recollections of his time as a young boy in and around the Stone Hut Railway Station and called "Taking instructions from the farmer".

Glen's work is on display the Wirrabara Craft House and directly from Glen by phoning or emailing him on 0417 641 238 or g.cannon@live.com

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# Laura Primary School – Celebrating 150 Years!

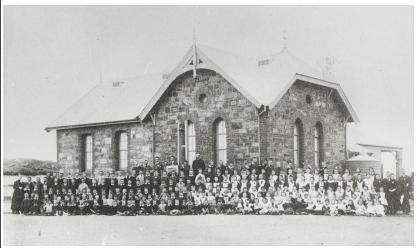


We're currently seeking expressions of interest from community members who would like to as-

sist in planning the event to celebrate this exciting **milestone** – 150 years of Laura Primary School – anticipated to take place in **2027**.

If you're keen to get involved and help make this a celebration to remember, please contact the school on **(08)** 8663 2543 or email dl.0220.admin@schools.edu.au.

Let's celebrate 150 years of learning, growth, and community!





# Hi Everyone

Well, that was a successful Fair. Despite the economic downturn, the drought, the cost-of-living crisis, and a minute committee, we managed to come away with a great couple of days, happy stallholders and a healthy profit.

We invested heavily in infrastructure this year, upgrading the electrical on the hall and depot, installing new fencing, gazebos, seating, and signage, and our new power extension poles worked exceptionally well.

A huge thank you to Koby Nettle for making all the 3-Phase cabling and electrical upgrades we needed.

Also, I need to mention Danny Palmer and thank him. He did such a magnificent job on the blue poles and bases. This was a labour of love and made our vision for the Fair come to fruition.

Alan Thomson deserves a huge pat on the back for working tirelessly making our picket fence for the newly created Children's area. I think you would all agree that it was worth all his time and effort. It looked amazing.

Thank you to the people who helped out with the setup and knockdown. In particular Jim Lynch for his ongoing support, Joel Palmer and Co, you went above and beyond as usual. Without you hanging out of the Manitou hanging the lights, the car park would have been very different indeed!

The Committee did such a tremendous job; I can't thank you all enough. This year, it was really tough, but we got it done, and you should all be extremely proud of yourselves.

The church service was really well attended, and the new location of the marquees worked extremely well. Thank you to Jenny Prior and co for the additional prayers for us and for helping with the cleanup of the area Sunday morning before the service, which was a huge task.

The relocation of the LCDTA Devonshire tea stall to the hall, in an area that was so underutilised, was so successful that they have now found their forever home. Thank you for the scones throughout the weekend x. The new lawn chill-out zone was a fantastic addition. We will look at improving it next year with additional seating, shading, and activities...

Stay tuned; I have lots of ideas.

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While the new layout gave me many a sleepless night, it worked so well that the stallholders, food vans, and the public loved it.

We couldn't allocate anyone to organise a parade this year, and we apologise to the school children for omitting it this year. Mums, we need you!!!!! If we are to have a parade next year, we will need you to jump on board and join the committee in some capacity.

Arwen Pratt needs a very special mention here after multiple years on the committee she will be stepping aside as Vice chair, entertainment co-ordinator and children's zone co-ordinator. I can't thank her enough for helping me and the committee for all the years she has committed to the Fair. We wouldn't have got it done this year without her. She was my rock and I thank her from the bottom of my heart.

I'm sure you all are aware that we need to fill positions on the committee. Without the community stepping up, we cannot make next year's Fair a reality! I cannot emphasise this enough. Please see the poster in this Laura Standard on page 22. Looking for your input prior to the AGM.

Listed are the positions vacant.

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Logistics

Entertainment co-ordinator

Sponsorship

Grants

Stallholder co-ordinator – Food Vans

Stallholder co-ordinator – Stalls

Children's zone co-ordinator

Parade co-ordinator

As you can all see, there are multiple positions available. Splitting up the workload will make everyone's life a little simpler with this committee. If you think you would be willing to help out, come along to our AGM next month.

Kindest

Virginia Ferguson Chairperson (outgoing)

# Laura's Help 5480

It was a Sunday morning, listening to Macca's Australia All Over Stories of the going ons of people doing it for the country.

A call came in from Thargomindah Queensland from the Principal of the local primary school. The school library had done a duck dive, completely submerged in flood waters of the Bulloo River swollen to record depths due to record rainfalls inland.

All the children's reading matter had been destroyed.

I was divesting my collection of Australian birds, flowers, trees etc., so I decided to send them across to Tharga!

Talking with others, more books came in. We filled a couple of old milk crates, a local truckie/farmer Anthony Lines said he could transport the books as far as Cobar (at the Ampol) 800 kms toward their destination; only 600 kms to go. (As always with country/outback people Jodie Collier at the Ampol has ways of getting them to their final destination). People started to come on board and a Laura 'Helping Hand' was loosely formed. Laura Fair stepped up, contributing about 1000 suitable books left over from the Yellow Brick Road a couple of years ago ready to be packed up ready to send.

So slowly, slowly Laura-ites are contributing to help in an Australian disaster.

I thank all who have helped, local councillors, Laura Emporium, truckies and individuals too numerous to mention.

Thank you everyone,

Gibba

Australia is proud of you all.

PS Thargomindah now has lots of books so they are no longer in need but thank everyone for their time and effort

Photos:First 2 boxes in Phylis's boot ready for Anthony to pick up and head for Cobar.

Boxes sitting in Cobar ready for the next leg of their trip









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PGE 207037

# Laura Markets

A community fundraising event

**Indoor and Outdoor stalls** 

Laura Civic Centre, Hughes St Open 9am - 1pm

2025 Market Dates:
Sat 5th July
Sat 6th Sept
Sat 1st Nov

Christmas Market Sat 13th Dec

Stallholder/market enquiries:

Nikki: 0410 459560







# Devonshire and More – the new look Devonshire Tea Stall

Our move to the Civic Centre kitchen proved to be highly successful. Setting up was so much easier with thanks to the Laura PS and the House of Hope / Baptist Community for the loan of tables for the 2 days.

Our tear drop flags were bright and obvious and thanks also to Kelly Burton for her hand painted sign. Both made us easy to find. The extra seating spaces, both inside and outside were also a boon for us.

The addition of toasted sandwiches and slices were welcomed by our customers and made a positive financial difference for us.

Thanks to all who volunteered / supported us in any way. From those who made scones, toasties, slices and sandwich fillings to those who worked on our stall, each one of you makes a difference.

The toasted sandwiches proved so popular we revisited the IGA 3 times to continue with sandwiches....6 loaves of bread wasn't enough!

Our total takings for the 2 days were \$3435.40 with \$88.30 in expenses. With so much donated we have cleared more than \$3347. As a Laura Community group, the Laura Fair Committee have chosen not to charge us hire fees. Basically a \$400 bonus for us. A big thank you to the Laura Fair Committee for this support.



Continued from page 31

# Continued from page 30











Government of South Australia
Southern Flinders Health Advisory

#### **Gladstone Health Centre Services**

Gladstone Health Centre continues to serve the community for their health needs. Community Health provides multiple clinics with the following services provided from this site:

- Physio service- booking and referrals made through GP+ Port Pirie phone 86381100
- Podiatry service bookings and referrals via GP+ Port Pirie phone 86381100
- Speech Therapy- bookings and referrals via GP+ Port Pirie phone 86381100
- Respiratory Registered Nurse- Clinics about to re-commence
- Care workers based at Gladstone providing home based services for all eligible consumers in the region (ie home care package/ commonwealth home support program)
- Community Palliative Care nursing service- referral required
- Community Nursing service (either Centre based, or home based depending on criteria) referral & bookings essential 86622158
- Blood clinics provided by community nurse every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning phone 86622158 for an appointment
- Community Nursing & Palliative Care Team Leader for Northern (covering 9 sites in the Mid North) area also based at Gladstone Health Centre.
- Admin Officer for Community Health works casually usually on site Tues/Wed/Thurs
- Storage site for Community Nursing (regional nurses often call in for their supplies)

Govt car located here for Community nursing & care worker staff Opening hours are generally Monday- Friday 9am- 2pm however on occasions the building is unattended. Contact number is 86622158 with an answering service attached to this line for any messages.

To access a medical appointment/ GP please attend Laura or Crystal Brook, phone number: 86432500. Consults or appointments can no longer be made through Gladstone Health Centre.



#### LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

Providing an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to become fit and have fun.

Participation fees 6 months \$150, 12 months \$200

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





# **GLADSTONE SYSTEMS**

Call out IT service for the Southern Flinders Ranges

Fixing most household systems, Including

smart phones, local networks, smart devices and many others.

Find out more at: gladstonesystems.com or Call **Fil Kowalski** on 0434068440

# <u>ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE</u>

This 1/3 of a page advertising space in The Laura Standard could be yours for just \$15.00 each edition.

We distribute over 500 black and white copies every second month and The Standard is available in colour on the website laurasa.com.au

All the proceeds help fund projects around our beautiful township of Laura.

Please see page 39 for different advertising rates



# <u>The</u> Laura Emporium

# Local arts and Crafts

# Gifts and Cookware

# Jams and Spreads

# Boiled Lollies

# Funny Signs

# Art Gallery

# Meryle's Café

# Knives

# Pickles and Sauces

# Antiques

# Candles and Soaps

# Shell Display

If we don't have it you don't need it!

Buying and selling antiques and household items

# Meryle's Café

Open Weekdays 7am to 4.30pm
Weekends 9am to 4.30pm
Come on in and enjoy a coffee and of course
something nice to eat. Choose from their large range
of cakes, pastries and cooked food

Emporium 0473 656 807 or Meryles 0460 648 118





# Lions club news.



#### What is the Lions Club?

A service club based in our community that supports local, state, national and international needs

#### Who are we?

Ordinary people in our local community that want to help others and are prepared to offer a little time, effort and commitment to do that.

#### Where are we?

Lions clubs are found in most countries of the world, but our local Lions club, the Lions Club of Rocky River, serves our local area, from Gulnare to Wirrabara and Caltowie to Beetaloo and Crystal Brook

#### What do we do?

We arrange, work, and provide funds, to improve our communities in playgrounds, recreation areas and public facilities, and provide funds and support to fulfil our commitment to:

#### <u>Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Environment,</u> Humanitarian efforts, Hunger, Vision and Youth.

We have club meetings, working bees, and functions with a strong emphasis on enjoying ourselves and socialising. We encourage and support young people to be better leaders and better students. We also have a monthly dinner meeting where we invite interesting people, usually from our community, to speak to us. We specifically do not involve ourselves with partisan politics or religion.

#### Who can join?

Anyone. We welcome any community member to help us, and we particularly encourage younger people to come and help. Any time that you can commit to us is helpful and we can fit in with your busy schedule.

#### How do we raise money?

By a range of community activities, such as cooking and selling donuts at the local football, fairs, and community events, by donations and occasional garage sales. The local farmers donate their grain samples to us to sell to raise funds, and we sell Lions mints and Christmas cakes as well. We undertake to spend ALL of the money that we raise to help others. None of this money is used for club administration or other costs.

#### What do we do with the money?

In recent times we have catered for the Need for Feed hay convoys coming through, we have donated AED's to the local community, we have helped with upgrades to Tresylva Park, the Gladstone stadium precinct, the Community areas and main street in Laura, and much more. In the near future we hope to be able to help with bike paths, river bank beautification, and cemetery upgrades.

#### How can you join?

if you would like to help us, please feel free to contact our President Don on <u>0417 835 761</u>, club secretary Greg <u>0418 756 676</u> or any of our members.

Or, come to one of our meetings in the Yangya room behind the Gladstone town Hall any 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm (8.00 in the Summer) and just see what we do. Membership is not free, there is a small annual cost which is used for club administration, but this is very much outweighed by the benefits we can provide to those who need us.

Note the Lions clubs of Rocky River and Port Pirie are holding a joint SKIN CANCER SCREENING CLINIC, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 from 9 am to 3.30 pm at the Crystal Brook Recreation Centre. <u>Appointments are essential</u> as the clinics are always busy, so please phone 0400970800 to make a booking.

### 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 Icdta5480@gmail.com by 5pm on the following dates:

\*\* July 25th \*\* Sep 19th \*\* Nov 21st \*

## **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 Adam Kotaris 0418 886 288
- 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



# 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 **Icdta5480@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.

Future Standards: Warren Mack on **0417 131 758.** 

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
н 19.35cm	н 9.6cm х	н 6.32cm х
х 12.75cm	12.75cm	12.75cm
\$40.00	\$25.00	\$15.00

#### Latest time to submit articles

for inclusion in the June edition of The Laura Standard is **5pm Friday**, **July 25th 2025**.

#### **Prayer and Blessings for the Season**



Rather than including the usual message, for this edition I have included prayers and blessing for the season ahead. I invite you to join with me in praying these and putting your faith in God to provide for the season ahead.

Gracious God, creator and keeper of all things, we acknowledge your power and wisdom in the wonderful creation of fertile and productive soil. It is a gift of your goodness to us. You have entrusted it to our care. We ask you to bless the soil of our fields that it may produce pasture for sheep and cattle, and grain and fruit for mankind. Bless our cultivation and care of the soil, and keep us conscious of our stewardship that we may use and not abuse the precious gift of soil that you have given us,

Gracious God, Lord of the seasons and giver of seedtime and harvest, we ask you to bless the seed that is sown in our fields. Grant seasonable weather, cause the sun to shine, and let the rain and dew refresh the ground to give growth to the seed that it may mature and bear a harvest of grain to provide food for both humans and animals.

Heavenly Father, we pray for your blessing upon those who work the soil and plant the seed. Strengthen and support them, enabling them to continue their work with diligence and trust in you and always remembering that you supply the harvest. We look to you to protect our crops from drought, frost, pests and disease. Help us to be thankful for whatever yield you decide to give us.

We pray for those who carry out the many additional functions of life that support the efforts of farmers. We pray for the business of various kinds so that life may continue and that the food which is produced may be processed and distributed

We remember before you the many other people who serve others in various tasks in our community: those who support us in health and well-being, those who assist others in times of physical and mental need, those who provide avenues of relaxation and those who carry out all the other the tasks of life that help and support others. May they be assured that their work is appreciated, beneficial and valued.

Help us all to learn to appreciate all the gifts small and great that we receive from you and we ask that this coming season will be a successful, safe and prosperous one. We pray in Jesus' name Amen.

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