



August/September 2025, Issue 64
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Hello Readers,

July's weather has been a very nice change from last year's, and it's great to see some green again. The season is far from locked in to be an above average for our farmers, but we're heading in the right direction for June and July, so let's hope the next 3-4 months are wet and free from damaging frosts and hot north winds.

A few new faces to welcome in our businesses in town, with Elishia and Steven Sanders having purchased and now well installed into the **Post Office**, and Tristan and Melissa Wong now the new Caretakers of the caravan park, taking over from Naomi and Simon Purdue during mid-July. We wish them well in their new ventures.

On the 2nd July, our district received some sad news that **Golden North** will be moving their factory facilities from Laura to Murray Bridge during 2026. It is with great sadness to hear this news, having been the home of Golden North for 102 years, but unfortunately the cost of freight has become too great to continue to produce ice cream here in a financially viable manner, with milk supplied to Golden North coming from 200km away. We hope that the many employees affected can find new places of employment, either redeploying to the new site or to other jobs locally and abroad.

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This will be a tough time for our town and area, but we must be proud of the many other business and tourism offerings we have, and look to build and capitalise on these to help buffer this loss of employment.

On a brighter note, works have begun on the much-anticipated **Nature Playground** at the oval, and we look forward to watching it come together and be completed ready for kids to play and explore. It is a great example of what can happen with some vision and big ideas from a group of mums, and while it does seem like a mountain to climb to get the funding required, with the right planning and groundwork, a 'white knight' can appear and get the project over the line.

The Laura Fair held its AGM on the 7th July, and it was pleasing to see a good roll up of people to the meeting. With a number of past committee members retiring at the AGM, a great number of new committee members were voted on which puts the future of The Fair in good hands. They will still be looking for many volunteers in the planning and on the weekend's running, so look out for future information and call outs to the community, to help take The Laura Fair to the next level, to keep the town of Laura in people's minds, as we move forward with the eventual closure of the Golden North factory.

While on AGM's, the LCDTA will be holding its **AGM** on the 20th August at 7:30pm, at the Laura Civic Centre. Please come along to hear the annual reports from all the different community groups that come under the LCDTA such as the Caravan Park and Information Centre.

If you are wishing to volunteer in our community, to help improve Laura and its surrounds for our residents and visitors, please come along and stand for election on our community, as we'd love to have you onboard.

Darren Pech
Secretary, LCDTA



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Golden North Factory circa 1950

News of the relocation of the Golden North factory from Laura has taken the town by surprise, especially considering the recent capital developments on the current site.

A remarkable aspect of the story of Golden North, is that the manufacturing of ice cream today is

on the original site on which William Bowker commenced dairying in the 1870s – about 150 years ago.

It is to the credit of the integrity of Golden North management in recent times that they celebrated their centenary in 2023. This was actually in recognition of the formation of the Laura Ice Co when production of ice cream commenced.

In reality the story started way before 1923 when William Bowker a stone cutter came to Laura in the 1870s and established himself as a builder. He also had a garden and cows, and within a few years was sending scalded cream by rail to Broken Hill, it being covered with wet bags for the overnight trip from Gladstone.

With the imminent changes next year it is timely to reflect on the origins of this iconic brand and its early significance to Laura.

The evolution of Golden North is similar to many other businesses which had small beginnings, including Holdens, which really came to the fore in 1948 with the Holden car. However the many enterprises of the Holden family date from 1859 when a leather and saddlery business was started in King William Street, near the Beehive Corner. Later trading as Holden Motor Body Builders they made bodies for almost twenty makes of cars in the 1920s. They also had a saddlery business in Laura in the 1870s.

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There are many other examples of businesses which morphed with the times such as the Stevens family of Laura and Rosewornes of Kadina, both of which started as blacksmiths and transitioned to the motor car era. Such enterprises are entitled to claim their 1800s origins.

From the innovative concept of supplying cream to Broken Hill the Bowker enterprise grew into Golden North.



In 1923 an ice tank and two cold rooms were installed, the ice being sold locally for domestic ice chests, and also used for packing of railed cream and other produce. By

this time ice cream was being produced and the Laura Ice Co was formed as a private limited company. This was the fore runner to Laura Ice and Produce Co which became Golden North Dairies Ltd in 1948.

Processing and distribution of milk and ice cream became a large part of the company's focus with milk pasteurization and bottling plants and depots being established at Port Pirie, Clare, Broken Hill and Whyalla. The difficulty of returning empty bottles and crates over vast distances led to Golden North pioneering the introduction to Australia in 1958 of triangular Tetra Pack cartons and later Tetra Briks of Swedish design. This radical move also involved the homogenization of milk. Milk was now being distributed across Eyre Peninsula, to Woomera, Broken Hill, Alice Springs and beyond, with the milk run to Tennant Creek of 2,034 kms being declared the longest milk run in the world.

Amongst other claims to fame is that Golden North was the first to introduce the half gallon ice cream container to the Australian market.

Diversification saw the establishment in 1953 of Golden North Honey Industries as a means of supporting local apiarists.



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The company exhibited at International Trade Fairs in Japan at Tokyo and Osaka, and exported honey to

Great Britain, Germany, Italy and Japan, once again defying the 'tyranny of distance'.

Golden North Ice Cream was declared a Bank SA Heritage Icon in 2006, joined the SA Food Industry Hall of Fame in 2016, and in recent times won for five consecutive years the Canstar Blue Award.

William Bowker the stone cutter who came to Laura in the early 1870s and established himself as a builder had no concept of the



now common term, 'tyranny of distance', despite the fact that within a few years his own industriousness would epitomise just that; in sending cream to Broken Hill. His grandson John (Jack) Bowker continued this visionary approach with expansion during the post WW11 period and the introduction of the Tetra Pak packaging.

During the SA History Festival in May the History Council of South Australia in conjunction with Wakefield Press launched the book, *Nooks and Crannies, Stories of South Australia*, which is available at the Laura Information Centre.

One submission is titled, *Tyranny of Distance, From the Golden North of SA to Britain, Germany and Asia*. You can guess the subject of that chapter.

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

ART HAPPENINGS IN GLADSTONE

The time for the Gladstone Annual Art Exhibition is drawing near. How are your creations coming along? There's still time to get entries in. The closing date for entries is August 29th.

There is a diverse range of categories including:

- fine art
- junior fine art (open to under 18)
- sculpture
- digital art and photography
- applied art
- fibre and fabric arts
- jewellery
- paper art

Nearly anything you create could be suitable.

This year there will be a monetary prize for each category with a major prize of \$500 for the open fine art category. Get your entry forms online via the Gladstone website (www.gladstonesa.com.au), the Southern Flinders Discovery Centre, Gladstone or contact Cheryl Gericke on 0488978778.

The art committee has been successful in our application for a grant from Neoen to help with the costs of running the exhibition. However, we welcome any individuals or businesses who would like to sponsor a particular category prize, or part thereof. Any sponsorships can be acknowledged on our promotional materials or be anonymous if preferred. Contact Cheryl Gericke on 0488978778 for details.

The Gladstone Annual Art Exhibition committee hosted a democracy sausage sizzle on May 3rd for the election. We are planning to have another on the first weekend of September when the town will host its Spring garage sales. We'll be set up on the corner of Cross St and Fifth St. Be sure to grab a snag while on your bargain hunt.

The Gladstone Annual Art Exhibition will be open from 10am to 4pm everyday from 13th September until the 9th October. Throughout this time we need volunteers to attend daily to open, close and welcome visitors. If you can spare a few hours in the morning or afternoon please add your name to the roster located at the Southern Flinders Discovery Centre, Gladstone or contact Cheryl on 0488 978 778.

We are really looking forward to seeing what people are creating.

Keep making, and be happy.





BLD: 254571

- | | |
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The members of The Laura Standard committee express their thanks and appreciation for the five years of committed service provided by Mr. Wayne Gifford, in his role as editor of *The Laura Standard*. He has consistently provided a well presented newsletter and set a good professional standard for future issues.

Thank you Wayne.

LAURA WEATHER STATION

Many locals would be aware that Laura has a local weather station, located on the edge of the town.

This is used not only by local farmers, but many community members also like to keep an eye on what our weather conditions are, especially the rainfall.

Agbyte, the business that installed and supports this weather station, has gone through some business changes, including the 'dashboard' that displays this information.

Due to this, the 'link' that people used to access the station has changed. The new link to use is: <https://bushlinx.au/agbyte/login>.

Then put in the user name as 'Laura_Town', and the password as 'laura25'.

This will bring up a screen like the one pictured here, displaying all the previous information but in a different format.

We thank the many community groups that put money into this local asset, being from Bundaleer CFS Group, Laura Community Caravan Park, Laura Community Development and Tourist Association, Laura Racing Club, Laura Ag Bureau and the Rocky River Lions Club.

We also thank Region 4 CFS, who continue to pay the several hundred dollars a year to keep the station sending the data and upkeep, and hope you all will continue to use it.





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AUS CONDON MEMORIAL GOLF DAY

A most successful fund raiser for the LCDTA



Anthony Lines welcoming golfers

A beautiful day, with just a hint of rain saw 14 teams of 4 hit off at 10am after a welcome from Anthony Lines on behalf of the LCDTA. Game rules were then provided by Bev Marron our golfing organiser and aficionada. A big thank you to Bev for her work ensuring the golf ran as it should. Her work meant that all golfers could enjoy their day. Bev also contacted many

sponsors for donations (see the list on page 15), containing many new "out of town" sponsors donating goods for the day.

A big thank you to all who supported the day in some way, be that working on the day, donating homemade food or via the list in IGA. A huge thank you to Julie Nettle for her work organising the food and in the kitchen and to the day "staff" including Kelly Burton, Denise Higgins, Peter Higgins (who stood with his hands in the sink for hours, making it easier for the rest of the team!) Anthony and Chris Lines, Sophie Millington, Dean Nettle and Joyce Wode, working part or all of the day. We had many compliments about the catering.

Our sponsors were generous as they have been in previous years. A special thank you to Peter Condon who is our major sponsor. Sponsorship raised \$3,525 this year, \$425 more this year than last, a nice result. Total takings on the day were \$1,583, being team fees, raffle and spinning wheel. Costs for the day are still being finalised but are not likely to be more than \$700. Hopefully between \$4,400 and \$4,500 raised for community projects.

Another highlight was Anthony Lines in his Variety Car chauffeuring teams of players and the occasional refreshments to teams.



Golfers listening to instructions



The Variety Taxi chauffeuring a team

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Golfers in action

Golf results

- Champions were Will Griffin, Jackson Staker, Jaxon Brand and Caleb Page with a team score of 68
- Runners up were Terry Ridge, Gavin Sismey, Darren Monroe and Barry Rotauney with a team score of 69.
- Handicap winners were Max Rutjens, Col Huxtable, Ashley Lines and Max Smart
- Handicap runners up were Kath McCreanora, Julie Archer, Rosalie Herbert and Janet Lynch
- Longest drive Men – A Grade – Gavin Sismey, B Grade – Travis Edwards and C Grade Harry Millard
- Longest drive Women – A Grade – Catho Combe, B Grade – Emily Alm, C Grade Ros Harris
- Nearest the pin Men – Bradley Lines
- Nearest the pin Women – Catho Combe
- Longest putt Men – Ayden Georgensen
- Longest putt Women – Minnie Reynolds
- Logger (most tree hits!) prize - Col Huxtable
- Juniors Award – Harry Staker, Connor Lavis, Ashton Grey and Liam Wright



Junior golfers

With many golfers indicating their return next year we look forward to another Golf Day in 2026.

See *Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day* Sponsors on page 15.

Painter Dan

0434 371116

- Wallpaper installations
- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Repairs
- Based in Laura



BLD225910



Diffusers Candles
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Hampers Gifts

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Come and see us at the
Laura Markets
Laura Civic Centre

Also available to buy at the Laura Information Centre

***The LCDTA would like to thank our sponsors for their ongoing support of the Aus Condon Memorial Golf Day.
A total of \$3,525 was raised for community projects.***

Major Sponsor

Mr Peter Condon – North Laura Nominees

Platinum Sponsors

Alm Builders

Laura Caravan Park

LH Perry

Lines MultiAg

Stevens Motors

Gold Sponsors

Beetaloo Grove

Elders

Hunts Fuels

Kalisch Builders

O'Dea Power and Water

Nettle Electrical

Silver Sponsors

Laura Emporium

Little Blessings Brewing

Northern Machinery

Vouchers and Goods Donated

ANZ Bank BWS (Elder Tce and Ellen St) Cape Jaffa Wines

Caputo's Fish Flow Remedial Massage Golden North

Laura IGA Laura Information Centre Loop Hole Brewing Co

Mark Hanlon Sportscene Moose Electrical

O'Dea Power and Water Woolworths

Total donations in excess of \$700, excluding donated food

Northern Areas Council

Response to Golden North Relocation



FORUM

Northern Areas Council, in partnership with Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North, will hold a Community Forum on the evening (start time to be confirmed) of **Monday, 18 August 2025**, at the Laura Civic Centre, with Golden North in attendance, following the recent announcement of their relocation.

The forum will bring together residents, businesses, and community groups to share information, discuss the impacts, and outline the support available.

This event follows Council's recent media release announcing a SA Government \$1 million support package aimed at strengthening the local economy and assisting affected workers and businesses.

All community members are encouraged to attend and be part of shaping the region's response and recovery.

More details, including a poster and promotional material, will be shared soon.

Northern Areas Council
Mayor
Sue Scarman | 0418 844 935

Laura Memorial Civic Centre AGM

27th August 7.30pm
Civic Centre supper room
All welcome!

The 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

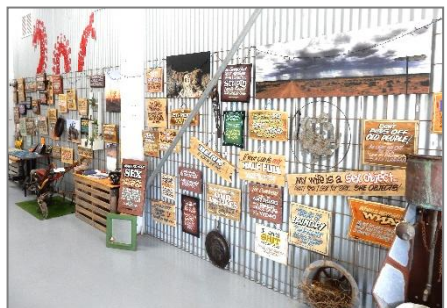
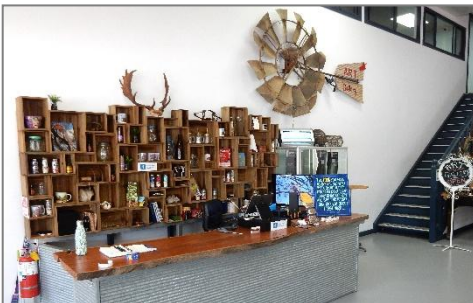
Meryle's Café

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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 Meryle's 0460 648 118





LAURA
RSL SUB-BRANCH

Email: Laura@rslsa.org.au
President: Ian McLaren
Ph: 0400 275 073
Secretary : Colleen Ryan
Ph: 0400 267 072

President's Update,

Since commencing in the position of president in 2024 after Trevor McKerlie along with his wife Heather had taken on the roles required to administer the Laura RSL for many years (21) they decided it was time to enjoy some greater time with family and travelling. Their contribution to ensuring our SUB-BRANCH continued to be viable and a valuable asset to the community cannot be understated. We thank them immensely for their contribution and wish them well.

Coming from outside of the Community I decided to research some of the names associated with the Laura RSL. Having served in the RAAF for 25 years my interest in fellow aviators is high, therefore coming across the records of AUSTIN (Aus) SYLVESTOR CONDON 437779 that included his Service Record, Flying Log Book and the Warrant promoting him to Warrant Officer, my interest was aroused as finding all this information together is unusual. Austin enlisted on 27/3/1943 as an Aircraftman and Demobilised on 19/3/1946 as a Warrant Officer after serving as an Air Gunner and Wireless Operator (Air).

He went on to be involved with the LAURA RSL SUB-BRANCH for many years often filling all of the elected positions along with any other tasks including encouraging the comradeship of members and their families to bond and support each other establishing an annual Christmas Gathering for all members and partners. After his passing this tradition was then continued by his son Peter with the funding of an annual gathering prior to Christmas for members and partners.

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Over the years the Condon family have contributed to the community in many ways without seeking recognition for their activities.

We all know how much our way of life, freedom, community cohesion and well being is dependent upon many who operate silently, often behind the scenes, just doing what they consider is morally right and a part of our community and national heritage supporting various organisations in our local communities.

As a fellow serviceman, C130 Loadmaster and believing we should all help our fellow Australian Citizens, the incumbent President of Laura RSL along with Colleen our Secretary/Treasurer on behalf of all the Laura RSL SUB-BRANCH members and families would like to say THANK YOU to the Condon family for all they have contributed to our freedom and way of life along with the fantastic service to the RSL and our members. Your family commitment to the freedom of our nation and ongoing contribution to our community and the RSL is appreciated in many ways and deserves to be publicly stated.

The support by community members like the Condon family provide the backbone for so many organisations within our communities, from local sporting teams, community welfare and more. Without these people the success and welfare of our communities would be severely denigrated. We are extremely grateful for the contribution to our wonderful society and life as we know it provided by their commitment to supporting all aspects of our community-services.

Note: Our RSL hall has pictures of many ex service members, along with a small display of memorabilia. I intend to add the documents of Austin to the display; these sort of records are becoming scarce and reflect so much in recognition of people who have served.

UPDATE: The RSL SUB-BRANCH building is presently having some internal maintenance and upgrades done, hoping to be completed by end of November.

Ian McLaren

President

LAURA RSL SUB-BRANCH

**WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM
LEST WE FORGET**



CYBER SAFETY SESSIONS



Did you know that from 2026 onwards 3 yr olds in the Laura area will be eligible to attend preschool. If this is something you may be interested in or know of someone who may be interested, please share and contact the school office on 86632543.



Can you believe it's already Term 3?

The year is flying by! We wrapped up Term 2 with plenty of exciting learning and a few special events before heading off for a well-deserved two-week break.

During the holidays, our wonderful Rural Care staff kept things running smoothly, providing a warm and engaging environment for the children in care to play, learn, and grow.

Here are just a few of the highlights coming up this term—you'll be able to catch updates and photos on our Facebook page:

- 4/5/6 Students – 5-a-side Soccer Carnival
- Kindy – Forest Kindy adventures
- Regular school assemblies
- R-2 Students – Patch Theatre excursion
- **Book Week Parade – Tuesday 19th August at 9am**

We'd also love a few extra hands for Breakfast Club, held Monday mornings in the school Multipurpose Room. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact the school office on 8663 2543.



RURAL CARE FUN



KINDY ADVENTURES



BREAKFAST CLUB



VARIETY CLUB BASH CAR VISIT @ O'DEAS



TAG RUGBY CARNIVAL



LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES



Notice of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 27 August 2025

7.30pm

Laura Civic Centre – Hughes Street Laura

Presentation – Events 2025-2026

Light Refreshments and Networking

Information – Contact

Sharon Medlow Smith – Secretary

Email: info@lauraevents.au

Mobile 0411 760 236

We're Looking for Volunteers in Laura!

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Rocky River Community Shed News



On the 25th June 2025 the Rocky River Community Shed Inc held its Inaugural Annual General Meeting. Committee members elected were Chairperson Robert Hanley, Secretary Karen Zwar and Treasurer Warren Mack.

Committee members elected were Anthony Lines, Malcom Pech, Peter Smallacombe and Bevan Smith.

The Committee thanks interim chairperson Anthony "Julla" Lines for his work. Some of his chairperson's report is included in this article.

Anthony said "finding a *home* for the shed has presented some challenges. Fortunately, Frank from the Emporium kindly offered part of his own shed space for us to use. However, there's been a hold-up, as Council has since asked Frank to submit an application to rezone his premises to meet the regulations required for a community facility". Frank's shed also requires some significant electrical work to be able to accommodate the needs of the shed. The Committee is continuing to look for a home and is exploring alternatives to get the shed up and running soon. Our first meet will be to sort through the equipment we have been so lucky to have donated.

The Chairperson's report went on to say "In terms of funding, we're off to a strong start. Thanks to Karen's hard work, we've secured a \$9,000 grant, which gives us a solid foundation as we prepare to open our doors. ... Looking ahead, I believe the Rocky River Community Shed has a bright future. It offers a space for retirees to stay active and connected, and in these challenging dry times, a place for younger and older generations to come together, share knowledge, and support one another."

An opportunity to sort through the tools and machinery already collected and stored at Anthony's place will be on **Monday 4th August** at:

Anthony Lines Shed, 41 Stock Route Road from 10 am.

The Shed is now affiliated with the Australian Men's Shed Association; the AMSA are Federally funded to provide practical support to Men's (and community) sheds.

We welcome members from right across the Rocky River region including Stone hut, Wirrabara, Appila, Gladstone, Georgetown and surrounds.

If you are interested in joining the Rocky River Community Shed you can contact the committee by email at rockyrivercs@gmail.com

Karen Zwar, Secretary RRCS

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LAURA COMMUNITY GYM

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Join the Gym now as a permanent member

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6 months \$150, 12 months \$200

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Laura Markets

A community fundraising event

Indoor and Outdoor stalls

Laura Civic Centre, Hughes St

Open 9am - 1pm

Remaining Market
dates for 2025:



Sat 6th Sept
Sat 1st Nov
&



Christmas Market Sat 13th Dec

All enquiries by email:
lauramarkets5480@gmail.com

Supported by:





Changing Hands at the Park:

A Fond Farewell and a Warm Welcome

July brought a changing of the guard at our local park, as we said goodbye to long-standing managers Naomi and Simon, and welcomed new faces Melissa and Tristen to the role.

Naomi and Simon have been at the heart of the park for over three years, and their dedication, hard work, and friendly presence have left a lasting mark on the community. A farewell event was arranged to thank them for their service, but in true Laura fashion, the weather had other plans — delivering a cold and blustery day. Thankfully, Frank kindly opened the doors of Meryle's Café so the event could go ahead in the warm and dry. A huge thank you to Frank for his hospitality!

The local community came together to celebrate Naomi and Simon's contributions and to wish them all the best for the next chapter. Their efforts over the years have helped shape the park into the welcoming place it is today, and they'll certainly be missed.

On the 7th of July, we also had the pleasure of welcoming Melissa and Tristen as the new park managers. This dynamic duo is no stranger to the caravan park life or Laura — they've been travelling around Australia with their family for the past two years, gaining valuable experience and stories along the way.

With strong backgrounds in business management and maintenance (plus a knack for baking a seriously good scone!), Melissa and Tristen bring a great blend of warmth, know-how, and energy to the role.

We're thrilled to welcome them to our community and wish them every success as they take the reins at the park.



Flinders Mobile Library

www.flindersmobile.sa.gov.au

	August	September	October
LAURA 12.45 - 4.15pm	Tuesday 12, 26	Tuesday 9, 23	Tuesday 7, 21
WIRRABARA 10.15 - 11.45am	Thursday 7, 21	Thursday 4, 18	Thursday 2, 16, 30
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@libraries.sa.gov.au

Phone: 8662 2305

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**Flinders
Mobile Library**



Stone Hut Cottages

4 Star Accommodation

11 fully self contained open plan cabins and units to choose from in a tranquil bush setting.

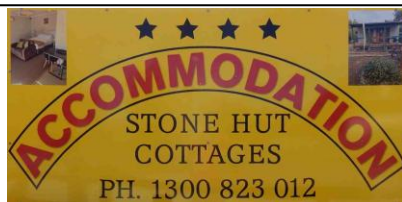
Inspection more than welcome.

Come and enjoy the walk in our aviary and petting zoo.

55 Horrocks Hwy Stone Hut SA 5480.

Free Call 1300 823 012

Call or text Jean Bishop on 0420 647 236



Laura Information Centre

Open Daily 10:00am – 4:00pm

Ph: 8663 2260

E: laura.sa.information@gmail.com



For all your local and state information, maps and pamphlets.

And lots of quality local products and souvenirs

We also stock: ** Golden North Giant Twins **

As we plan a small celebration of the 20 years of service provided by the Laura Information Centre, we have been looking back not just at the number of visitors, but also at the comments many have written in our Visitors' Books.



They are a testament to the quality of service LIC has provided over the years and reflect the pleasant surprise at the small gift provided to visitors who themselves are called Laura and we wanted to share some of them with you.

From Rock Creek, Canada: **Love it!**

From Eden Hills: **Great Information Centre**

From Capalaba Qld: **The most helpful staff you could ever meet!**

From Thailand: **Good to see a small country town still a reality!**

From Adelaide: **Fantabulous!**

From Alice Springs: **Great, delighted I called in!**

From Whyte Yarcowie: **Lovely place, yummy ice cream**

From Strasburg, France: **Laura was in Laura!**

From Broome: **I brought rain to Laura!**

From Blackwood: **Fantastic volunteers – helpful, friendly, knowledgeable**

Laura Orange: **Great Town, Great People, GREAT NAME!**

Need 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

Northern Areas Council



- **Council Offices:**

Jamestown: 8664 1139
1300 664 108 (from landlines only)

Gladstone: 8662 2018

After Hours: 0488 999 808

- **Dog Control and Fire Prevention Officer:**

Adam Kotaras 0499 651 990

- **Mayor:**

Sue Scarman 0418 844 935 sue.scarman@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

- **Rocky River Ward Councillor:**

Denise Higgins 0428 222 610 denise.higgins@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

- **Rocky River Ward Councillor:**

John Barberien 0418 804 416 john.barberien@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Bin Collection Dates

Red (Laura) Every Wednesday

Yellow (Laura, Friday) August 1, 15, 29 September 12, 26 October 10, 24

Yellow (Appila Rd, Friday) August 8, 22 September 5, 19 October 3, 17, 31

Green (Laura, Thursday) August 28 September 25 October 23

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
Treasurer: Wayne Miller

For enquiries about *The Laura Standard*, contact:

Warren Mack (editor): 0417 131 758
Bronwyn Weston: 0438 635 061



The Laura Standard team, together with the LCDTA, thank all contributors for their articles and advertising.

Please forward articles in a Word document (Arial, size 11), with embedded photos and logo if required, to lcdta5480@gmail.com before 5.00pm on the following dates:

September 19, November 21

If you know someone who unfortunately hasn't received a copy of *The Laura Standard*, copies are available from the Laura Information Centre.

This edition, and all previous editions, can be viewed and downloaded in colour and printed, at www.laurasa.com.au/News. To receive a copy of *The Laura Standard* by email, contact the editor.

The Laura Standard is a community publication. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Association. The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse articles.

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Thanks where thanks are due



My husband and I have just returned from a month in the eastern states. Some of that time was spent with family in Taree on the midcoast of NSW where devastating floods occurred earlier this year. We drove over Martin Bridge on the edge of town, not able to comprehend that the river way below us had completely covered the bridge. We saw rubbish in trees that demonstrated how high the water had risen, as well as abandoned businesses and homes where the damage was most destructive. The contrast between the floods they had experienced and the drought our region faced was stark.

But as we made our way home, heading into a storm as we drove, we were greeted by an entirely different landscape from the one we'd left behind a month ago. No longer bleak brown, it was now green - even verdant green in parts. Our rain gauge confirmed the story behind this glorious sight – we'd had over 100mm of rain while away.

And so we paused and gave thanks....

No amount of wishful thinking or desperate hoping brought the rain.

No rain-dancing in the streets resulted in this changed landscape.

I believe the rain came in response to heartfelt cries to God.

The God who sees the hardship and anguish drought brings.

The God who cares for every person in our region.

The God who hears our cries and prayers.

And the God who loves to answer when we call to him.

Some may ask: "But wouldn't the rain have come anyway?"

Maybe. Maybe not.

But we DID pray. And it DID rain.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Jenny Pryor (0407 999 871)

Laura Baptist Christian Community: House of Hope