



# Cherry Chatter

Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

## EDITORIAL – MARCH/APRIL POST COVID-19

Firstly, we have to apologize for the delay in getting this edition of the Cherry Chatter out to you. This is a combined edition with content from the March and April editions. When we met back in early March, we had held back on the March edition due to the rapidly changing situation that was taking place due to the Corona Virus or COVID-19 as we now refer to it.

A number of the articles were referring to meetings and gatherings which looked like being cancelled due to the new situation being referred to as “Social Distancing” which was unheard of just a few short months ago. Then we had to cancel the ANZAC Day service and breakfast. So many changes in such a very short time including all sports and meals at the Recreation Ground along with people having to work from home and in many cases, people losing their jobs.

What we have prepared for you in this edition is an edited version which hopefully represents what is still going on.

If you have not yet visited the Cherry Chatter Facebook page then please visit us by clicking on the link or typing into your search engine (google) “cherry chatter facebook” and then clicking on our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/92CherryChatter/>

Once you are on our site then please “like” our page so that you can keep in touch with what is going on.

Cherry Chatter also has a very good website and, on the website, you can find an online version of the Cherry Chatter newsletter along with lots of other interesting information about our community and district.

<https://www.cherrychatter.org.au/>

The Cherry Chatter group would like to put it out there that if anyone in the community has any needs then we will do our best to help out. We can be contacted by email at [cherrychatter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherrychatter@yahoo.com) or the committee phone numbers are listed below in each Cherry Chatter. Let us know what the needs are and we will do what we can.

While things appear to be looking up right now with the number of new cases on COVID-19 being fairly low, this

really just means that all the changes made, and social distancing are working. Let’s all hope that things can get back to normal (if they ever will be normal as we knew it before COVID-19) sooner rather than later.

**And some very late breaking news!!** During a ZOOM online meeting with Corey Wingard (state government MP) the Recreation Ground was informed that they have been successful in receiving grant funding to build new changerooms. What a great win for our community and sporting clubs. They now have to work with the Onkaparinga Council to get approval for the balance of the required funds and work can commence. The Don

## EDITORIAL – MARCH PRE COVID-19

Our January edition of the Cherry Chatter went to print on the December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 which is a day we would all prefer to be able to forget. On a catastrophic fire ban day, the unthinkable happened and a bushfire took hold at Cudlee Creek. We all know what happened on that day and for weeks following both in the Adelaide Hills and then on Kangaroo Island.

The impact of these fires on those people that lived in the path of the fires, the wildlife the business and of course the volunteers and emergency services has been the focus of so much attention in the news and on social media.

Our CFS brigade, including the Air Support crew have been actively involved in all the major fires this season. Apart from the big fires we had 3 local fires in one week. The first was a fire started by an angle grinder in Ironbank. It escalated quite quickly and thanks to the efforts of the local CFS brigades and the Bombers it was contained before it got into the heavy scrub and before it impacted on other properties. Then a fire started a couple of days later at Clarendon also from an angle grinder. A number of houses were threatened by this fire and the CFS with the support from the bombers manage to contain it from crossing Potters Road and potentially burning through to Cherry Gardens. The next day a fire

started in Scott Creek purportedly from someone smoking beehives and again thanks to the efforts of the CFS and the bombers it was contained before getting into the scrub of the conservation park.

All 3 of these fires had the potential, on a bad fire ban day, to threaten our district. I am sure that many of the people around Lobethal, Woodside, Charleston, Mount Torrens, Gumeracha never really imagined that a fire such as the Cudlee Creek one would impact them but on a catastrophic fire ban day, anything can happen.

It reinforces the need for everyone in the Adelaide Hills to have a bushfire plan. While this year's fire season appears to be behind us, I would suggest using the next few months to be prepared for the next season.

It has been interesting to see Cherry Gardens in the news quite a lot this year. The Recreation Ground found themselves in the limelight as a player in the Sports Rorts affair. You read more about this in the Recreation Ground section of this edition.

Very frustrating for them to have rated so highly in the assessment by Sports Australia only to have their application not funded due to a decision by the Federal Government.

Also, there were quite a number of locals turned up to the public meeting regarding the council boundary issue previously discussed in an earlier edition of Cherry Chatter. The Weekender Herald published an article about the meeting.

A subcommittee has been formed to look further into the process and put together a formal application.

The Weekender Herald published an article about the meeting. Check out the article on page 13.

Finally, there is a petition the Cherry Gardens Community Association is backing to present to the CFS headquarters to allow our Cherry Gardens brigade to be allowed to use their siren to warn residents if there is a fire in our district. The CFS has instructed our brigade not to use the siren as they believe residents should use the AM radio station, 891 Adelaide, and the Alert SA APP on your phone to get fire warnings and not rely on the siren. Our petition is seeking to have this ban overturned as we believe that the siren should be included as part of the emergency warning system. If you have not signed it yet then please track down one of the committee or sign one of the forms at the CFS or the Recreation Ground.

**Next meeting was the AGM – at 7.30pm on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Hall.** Great to see one new member – welcome Mel Williams to the Cherry Chatter gang!

**Articles must to be received by email to our email address of [cherry chatter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherry chatter@yahoo.com) by 5<sup>th</sup> of each month – without exception.**

## PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Opinions and articles printed in the Cherry Chatter are not necessarily shared by the members of the Cherry Chatter Committee.

NOTE – The Cherry Chatter Committee will not approve any controversial article for publishing unless the name and address of the author is supplied.

## RAINFALL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2019

### Cherry Gardens Rainfall

Rainfall for December 2019	29.4 mm
Rainfall for December 2018	58.6 mm
Average rainfall for December	40.3 mm
Rainfall to the end of December 2019	773.0 mm
Rainfall to the end of December 2018	806.4 mm
Average rainfall to the end of December	920.3 mm

## RAINFALL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2020

### Cherry Gardens Rainfall

Rainfall for January 2020	51.4 mm
Rainfall for January 2019	00.0 mm
Average rainfall for January	27.8 mm
Rainfall to the end of January 2020	51.4 mm
Rainfall to the end of January 2019	00.0 mm
Average rainfall to the end of January	57.2 mm
Number days of rain for January 2020	7
Number days of rain for January 2019	0

## RAINFALL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020

### Cherry Gardens Rainfall

Rainfall for February 2020	60.0 mm
Rainfall for February 2019	22.2mm
Average rainfall for February	29.4 mm
Rainfall to the end of February 2020	111.4 mm
Rainfall to the end of February 2019	22.2 mm
Average rainfall to the end of February	57.2 mm
Number days of rain for February 2020	8
Number days of rain for February 2019	6

## 2020 CHERRY CHATTER COMMITTEE

Chair	Don Watton
Deputy Chair	Kerry Hughes
Editorial Team	Don Watton, Vicki Kirss, Emmanuelle Harrington
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## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Cherry Gardens:	Michael (Mike) Deare Ph 83882185 648 Cherry Gardens Road
Coromandel East:	Baldev Singh Dhaliwal – Ph 82707267 Mob 0411 113 331 Mrs Vicki Hayman Ph 0405 015 411
Blackwood:	Darren of Kruse Legal Ph 82781779 Office of Sam Duluk MP Ph 82785844 JP Services are available Mon–Fri 9-5

**JP's work at no charge, so please CALL FIRST to book an appointment.**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS for JAN/FEB/MARCH

### JANUARY

Bev Watton  
Mark Fox  
Leonie Kruse  
Karl Kruse  
Jayden Hughes

### FEBRUARY

Kerry Holtham  
Rick Chenoweth  
Ben Kirss  
Stefan Chenoweth  
Joel Pillar  
Tamia Porter-Wright  
Mike Smith

### MARCH

Nikki Chinner  
Matthew Linn  
Rachel Pillar  
Kelsey Tarabini  
Kathy Meister  
Ray Wise  
Lyn Walker

Trina Howlett  
Denis Perry  
Chris Crichton  
Jennifer Meister  
Abigail Weir  
Kerry Hughes

## HALL NEWS

### CHERRY GARDENS

#### MEMORIAL HALL FOR HIRE

Available for hire for all functions,  
meetings & social occasions  
Very reasonable rates  
For bookings and more information  
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### AGM

The Hall recently held the AGM for the 2020 year. At the meeting committee members put themselves forward to serve for the next 12 months. The only exception was Belinda Angus, who has stepped down for family reasons. Belinda has been a great contributor to the committee and has indicated that she will still assist where possible. The committee consists of Adrian Mallin, Andrew Desteno, Bill Semple, Edie Brooks, Helen Whittle, John Duckmanton and Terry Whittle.

At the meeting following the AGM, the following people were nominated for, and accepted, these positions:

Chair: Bill Semple  
Secretary: Helen Whittle  
Treasurer: Bill Semple  
Bookings: Terry Whittle

The committee would welcome any new members, please contact a committee member if you are interested.

### Improvements

We anticipate the extension to the storeroom to pick up pace over the coming weeks. Other improvements are also in the pipeline, we will keep you updated as these roll out.

## CHERRY GARDENS CFS



*We train every Monday night for those who may be interested in what we do.*

### News From the CFS

This seasons fire season has been a busy one for the Cherry Gardens brigade, we have sent multiple firefighters to Queensland, New South Wales, York Town, Kangaroo Island and round the clock trips to Cudlee Creek. The brigade is made up of truly remarkable people who put their own lives and at time safety on hold to go and help others in distress. I hope everyone has their bush fire action and puts it into place on fire ban days as there are many months to go before this fire season is over. Even days severe fire danger if a fire starts and takes hold, it will be hard for fire fighters to bring under control. Under extreme conditions homes that are well prepared may be defended, but the safest place is away from the area. Under catastrophic fire conditions home are not designed to withstand a fire in these conditions. The fire will not be able to be controlled until cooler conditions prevail. Fire crews will focus on saving life and protecting areas where people are gathered.

The Country Fire Service encourages everyone to have a bush actions plan. What does your plan look like? Are you physically fit enough to face a front approaching your home? Are you emotionally strong and fit? Do have the right equipment and clothing? Do you have an independent water source? The mains water may run out, do you have fire pumps? The electricity may be turned off.

Are you prepared for the smoke to black out the sun? Visibility will be reduced by the smoke. The fire will be hot, do have a solid structure in which you can protect yourself from the radiant heat? Before the fire front comes spot fire will move ahead of the fire kilometres in front, embers may rain down from every direction, Do not wait until conditions get bad and then flee, if you are going to leave, the earlier you leave the safer you will be. These are just some things you need to think about if you are going to stay and defend your home, in addition to having a well thought out plan to defend you home. For information visit the CFS website [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) Thank you to everyone who has supported us and donated to us during the current fire season, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Lawrie Linggood

Captain

Cherry Gardens Country Fire Service.

### Recollections of a Cherry CFS Volunteer

Hi, my name is Alan (Barra) Mundy and I am a firefighter at Cherry Gardens.

In Late October last year, we received a call from the RFS for volunteers to deploy to NSW. I volunteered as a truck driver. And so, began my first of 3, five-day deployments.

In my first deployment we flew out of Adelaide to Armidale. We then transferred to the Base camp at Glen Innes. We were briefed and shown to our accommodation in one of many 12 person tents.

The next day started with another briefing and vehicle allocation. I was put in a 3-person small NSW RFS tanker. Our task was to drive in a convoy to the Drake Long Gully fire and secure the fire edge. This was a 3 ½ hour drive through some heavily fire ravaged areas. We spent 5 hours blacking out hot spots then a return drive back to Glen Innes.

The next two days were more of the same. By this time, we were able to make this fire 'SAFE'. The final day was travelling back home. So ended my first deployment.

My next deployment was to Armidale, in the evening we were briefed on the next day's activities. We were to drive to a local fire and do more blacking out etc. Then, much to our surprise 10 minutes later we were told there would be 'a change of plans', tomorrow you will drive the SACFS trucks to Texas Queensland which was about 450 kms away to work on a new fire at Yetman. This fire was started by lightning and was in a National Park.

Next day we drove to the Yetman fire. I was driving a bulk water carrier this time with a crew of 2. At Yetman we were met by a couple of NSW National Parks firefighters who briefed us. They would monitor the fire overnight and tomorrow we would commence back burning operations to contain the fire. We then drove through a large dust storm to our accommodation at Goondiwindi.

For the next 2 days we were involved in lighting a number of back burns and blacking out to make this fire contained and then 'SAFE'.

Again, the final day was travelling back home.

On my third deployment I was sent to Kempsey.

Again, I was assigned to a small NSW RFS Tanker. This time we were tasked to help the National Parks crews to do a back burn in a remote rainforest area inland from Kempsey. This involved a fair bit of 4-wheel driving on narrow, slippery and hilly tracks.

We were back burning on a track where a large fire was expected to impact the area in a couple of days. We were protecting an area of the forest where there were some rare and endangered species of trees and shrubs. Unfortunately, we were only able to back burn a small length of the road due to high humidity and unexpected thunder storms.

Over the next couple of days, it was more of the same and we were a bit disappointed that we could not fulfil our task completely.

So, after 3 days of working in a beautiful environment we headed back home to Adelaide.

To conclude, over the past couple of months I have been deployed 15 days to NSW, 3 days at the Cudlee Creek fire, 2-night shifts in Port Lincoln and 5 days on Kangaroo Island. Not to mention a couple of local fires in Clarendon and Scott creek.

I'm lucky to have the support of my family, a wonderful Brigade and being retired.

Alan

## CHERRY GARDENS CFS - APRIL

Thank you to everyone who supported the Cherry Gardens Brigade over the last summer. We received donations, letters of thanks, support, funding of get-togethers (thanks Brandwood Drive and Edialta Rd!) and general wishes of goodwill from many people. It really means a lot to us as a group to know the community is behind what we do, so thank you all.

This summer saw us heavily involved interstate in Tasmania, NSW and Queensland, as well as the Yorke Peninsular, Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island fires. As an aside, our crew on Cherry Gardens 34P was instrumental in saving Melba's Chocolate factory at Woodside on the first day of the Cudlee creek fire.

Most firefighters in the Brigade spent time assisting with the Kangaroo Island fires, I deployed for three nightshifts on the 8<sup>th</sup> January. It was a remarkable deployment and many people have asked if I could share the experience, so I will give it a go over this and next month's article.

### ***My Deployment to KI.***

The strike team gathered at Adelaide Airport for a 6 P.M. charter flight to Kingscote. It was just one of many - there had been deployments previously and many still to follow. There were approx. 100 people on the flight, and we arrived at Kingscote just after 6:30 P.M. Busses took us to a camp on the Western side of the airport that had been set up by the SES. This was home for the next three days; we slept in newly developed SES "Humanihut's", six firefighters to a hut. A mess tent, showers and portable toilets made it all quite comfortable.

After dinner we formed into allocated crews -we were unknown to each other until then, but we worked together really well. Our appliance was from the Riverland and it served us well. Crew leaders were briefed as to allocated sectors and priorities for the night and we set off around 7:30 PM for what was to be a very tough night. Our first task was to protect a group of houses on the Northern coast approx. 50 km west of the airport. We travelled to this area with the rest of our strike team, along the way having to pass through the current fire front. We were now seeing first-hand the enormous scale of these fires. Beyond the front, literally everything was burning. On arrival at the houses, we assessed the threats and likely fire behavior for later that night. We managed to protect and save the main group of three houses after many hours of firefighting, but some others were undefendable due access and being surrounded by thick scrub. I will never know if they survived the night or not. We were then tasked further west to assist with more properties under threat, along the way found the road blocked by a large tree, which had fallen after the base had been burnt out. This took significant time to chainsaw a section big enough for the appliance to get through. The area we were travelling through had been previously burnt, and small and large spot fires were everywhere, making it a very eerie landscape in the early hours of the morning.

-to be continued next month - May 2020 edition-

## CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB - MARCH

Meeting Monday March 16th - Richard Heathcote from Carrick Hill spoke on the history of garden tools

### George's Gardening Suggestions for March 2020

St. Patrick's Day is on the 17th, traditionally this is the day to plant sweet peas – I don't know why, any time in March would be OK. Apply superphosphate at the rate of 1 handful to 3M of trench and plant seeds 2cm deep and 8cm apart. Use 'sulfine' for powdery mildew – nothing copper based – will kill sweet peas!

Other flower seeds or seedlings to plant are poppy, wallflower, lobelia and linaria.

Spring flowering bulbs make a great show. There are a wide variety to choose from. Refrigerate tulip and hyacinth bulbs for 6-8 weeks before planting.

Prune pelargoniums by 50% to stimulate basal growth and then tip prune new shoots regularly until July.

Harvest thyme, rosemary, bay, and oregano – bundle and hang in a dry place.

Prune Lorraine Lee or Nancy Hayward roses to give them a chance to come back into foliage for flowering in the winter. Prune French lavender to keep compact.

While the soil is still warm it is a great time to start planting brassicas such as broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower, try also beetroot and broad beans.

## CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB - APRIL

NOTICE: Meetings cancelled until further notice.

Our first meeting of the year was a good time to catch up and recap. We initially met at Adelaide Advanced Trees, which is located in a disused quarry behind the Cherry Gardens CFS station. Guided by Corin we wandered along in the balmy evening, enjoying a most enlightening tour of the beautiful, orderly rows and rows of amongst others, advanced Bottle Trees – *Brachychiton rupestris*, Native Frangipani - *Hymenosporum flavum*, Flowering Gum - *Corymbia* (prev *Eucalyptus*) *ficifolia*, Crepe Myrtle – *Lagerstroemia* varieties.

We asked many questions and learnt a great deal about many, many interesting trees and shrubs, often of the newest varieties.

Of course, the biggest matter on all our minds for a while has been the bushfires, more specifically the damage from the Cudlee Creek fire. We heard from Helen Whittle who, along with her husband, has been volunteering, by replacing fences in the Cudlee Creek area and so has seen the devastation caused to people's gardens, where all that remains is bare black earth. They are desperate for donations of pots and potting mix at this stage and plants a little later and will accept donations anytime. John Duckmanton can be contacted on 0455 822 487 for picking up or dropping off donations on Cherry Gardens Road.

Elizabeth Dobson reported on the Garden Clubs of Australia AGM that:

- 1) A new Constitution had been passed
- 2) It was their 70<sup>th</sup> birthday

3) a vacancy exists for a zone co-ordinator for the 23 clubs in our zone.

Back at the Cherry Gardens Church Hall the program contained a new item which proved very popular. Folk were asked to bring a gardening question they'd like answered by fellow members.

Members' entries for the annual Tomato Challenge were judged by members. The winner was one of our longest standing members, Marilyn Marsh.

As Feb was the club's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the highlight of our delicious supper was the cutting of our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday cake by the three most longstanding members: Lyn Meese, Meredith de Roos, and Marilyn Marsh.

### George's Gardening Suggestions for April 2020

If you have a moth orchid and would like it to flower again, try to maintain night temperatures above 19C.

Keep it in a light window, over pebbles and water.

Plant winter flowering annuals – linaria lobelia, alyssum, cornflower, nemesia, poppy, primula and sweet peas.

Plant bulbs of anemones point down and 5cm deep. Plant ranunculus claws down 5cm deep and 10-15cm apart.

It is a good time to divide and replant clivea, agapanthus, daylily, and hippeastrum.

Foliar fertilise mandarins with a zinc/manganese spray to avoid thick skins. Dwarf citrus in pots on trifoliata rootstock don't grow in winter so only apply liquid fertilizer in warm months.

Plant quick growing leafy winter vegetables and prepare soil for later plantings of asparagus, artichoke and rhubarb by adding lots of manure.

## OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish

Greetings Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

For many of us it has been a stressful summer so far; for those who have lost homes and animals and also those who have done the hard (and dangerous) work on the ground fighting the fires, cleaning up and protecting those properties at risk.

Fortunately for most of us this summer has served as a wakeup call to be organised in regards to having a fire plan in place.

A local network via emails/phones is useful. Knowing who is staying and who is going is also a good idea, so the fires can act accordingly. My owners have a fire plan which actually gets updated/changed every year. It is stuck to the kitchen door so all can see. It has been called into use 3 times so far and it was interesting that on each occasion it took less time to implement.

Having stock/horses brings extra worry. If moving off the property, this needs to be done a day in advance, especially where there are large numbers. Unbroken horses (foals) can be a problem, so a special plan should be in place for these as they generally will not load



willingly in a stressful situation. Last minute training does not have a high chance of working!

Do have a written record of your horses describing age, sex, height, colour, brands and any other distinguishing details. Make sure that the horses do not have any gear on such as rugs or halters. Manes and tails can be well trimmed as they can catch fire. It also may be useful to speak to your vet about your plans to stay or leave. A ready to go first aid kit for horses and humans is essential. Also include spare halters, water buckets, hay nets and other feed. These are just a few of the many things to think of.

The CFS and Horse SA are also contact points for helpful information, so plan ahead, don't wait 'til the last minute. Having a plan will enable you in that possible stressful situation to stay calm, go through your list of actions to take and work from there. I have only mentioned a few of the myriad things to remember, because the list will be different for each family and each property. Best to check with the experts as well as comparing notes with neighbours and other locals.

Back to myself, my owners think I am doing rather too well on the grass this summer (nothing new there!). I am kept pretty fit as I am so prone to putting on those kilos. I am weighed (with a weight tape) most days and usually before and after work, as I always seem to weigh less after working! Mind you my paddock mates are also looking rather good and are subject to the weight tape too. It is not the weight so much as the change in weight which could be of concern, so I'm pleased that my owners care so much about me that they monitor me every day. The daily check is so important for a horse owner (and the horse) as it creates and maintains a bond and the owner gets to know the horse intimately, noticing every little small change. It could be in the temperature of the feet, a small paddock cut or the horse's general demeanour. For the horse too, he/she gets to enjoy that daily routine of being handled and groomed. For the 'only' horse who doesn't have a companion, this could make all the difference in the world as we are social creatures who not only enjoy but must have that social and physical interaction. Sometimes a human is the only connection we have, which has got to be better than nothing.

We can't be left out in the paddock like a car in the garage when it's not being used. So even when not being ridden, we still need that care and attention! Personally, I really enjoy it, even though I have my equine paddock mates to play with, that daily care and groom is an important part of my life.

So, keep prepared everybody and be a part of your horse's life every day!

Safe riding,

Hamish

#### **HAMISH - APRIL**

Greeting Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

Hopefully by now we have seen the worst of the summer season as far as fires go. We certainly live in a wonderful country, albeit one of extremes!

In recent times, the welfare of the horse has been mentioned in the media. As the general public becomes

more aware of standards of horse treatment (both good and not so good), horse owners are becoming more accountable for their practices. In the big picture this is largely to the benefit of us equines, but sadly the wheels of change move slowly. However, progress is being made and standards are being put in place. One such set of standards if you like is called the 5 Freedoms. Briefly put they include:

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst.
2. Freedom from discomfort.
3. Freedom from pain, injury and disease.
4. Freedom to express normal behaviour.
5. Freedom from fear and distress.

The first is pretty obvious you would think, as it covers providing adequate feed and ad lib access to clean water. The second includes things such as the environment – a paddock with good ground cover, safe fencing, shelter, free from hazards and weeds.

Thirdly the horse should be well looked after, teeth attended to on a regular basis, a worming program in place and feet regularly trimmed, cleaned etc.

Fourthly it is important for the horse to be able to move around, forage and have social contact.

Lastly the horse needs to be treated kindly and consistently.

These 5 freedoms also come under a more detailed heading called the 5 Domains. So what this means is that the first freedom comes under the heading of nutrition. This includes not just feed, but the value of that feed, the proportion of bulk to concentrates, the ratio of kg of feed according to the weight of the horse, his age, activity, health and as an individual.

The second freedom refers to the horse's environment. If stabled, this must be roomy, warm, comfortable, well ventilated and with other horses visible close by. If in a paddock, this should have good forage, no weeds, safe fencing and gates, shelter and preferably other horses as companions. The ground should be well drained, with no rabbit holes, wire or rocks.

Thirdly, the horse needs to be looked after well and this can include all manner of things from cleanliness, simple skin conditions, allergies, hoof problems (probably the most common), teeth and worming. Good horsemastership means checking on a daily basis and helps to strengthen that horse/human bond.

Fourthly, being able to express normal behaviour is vital. Horses are a herd animal and as such need to have social contact, preferably with their own kind. They have also evolved to move – i.e. travel kilometres to forage and find water. So, it is important that a stabled horse has regular access to outdoors for some period of time during the day. Also, because they have evolved to forage, a large part of their day is spent chewing (something in the region of 40,000 chews per day). So, when the human pops along, keeps a horse in isolation, restricts paddock access and feeds less bulk and more concentrates, here we have a recipe for disaster.

Removal of that freedom to express normal behaviour can result in many stereotypic coping behaviours such as crib biting, fence walking, weaving etc.

Lastly, freedom from fear and distress means that the horse's mental state should be taken into account. Treating each horse as an individual with kindness and consistency will go a long way in keeping your horse mentally relaxed. This goes along with good sound training, the principles of which I will discuss next time around.

Safe riding everyone and look after your neddies!  
Hamish

## MINTON FARM

Phone 82701169  
Mobile: 0422938439



### Minton Farm

Minton Farm is a not for profit charity which for the past 28 years has provided a free community service to assist injured and orphaned native animals and birds. No funding is given to perform this service. Over 12,500 creatures have been assisted onsite over that time, with equally as many helped via Facebook, website, email and telephone inquiries. Throughout the recent wave of bushfires Minton Farm has received vast numbers of heat stressed and burnt animals. These have been admitted to our intensive care unit for medications, wound treatments and therapy to recover. The aim of the Centre is to rescue, rehabilitate and release wildlife back into their territories to continue to be a part of that area's biodiversity. Animals treated include burnt and heat stressed possums, burnt kangaroos, burnt echidna, burnt koala, plus heat stressed wedge tail eagle, brown goshawk, parrots, kookaburra, Boobook owl and tawny frogmouth.

In addition to this work, Minton Farm has been the collection point for SA to receive donated medical supplies generously donated by hospitals, Doctors, Podiatrists, Dentists, Chemists, Nurses, Aged care Homes, remote communities health centres, medical suppliers and members of the public to be distributed to bushfire areas. In conjunction with Creating for Conservation, 20 volunteers worked 13-hour days for a week to sort the donated supplies into groups. Pallets were then packed each containing a variety of burn medications, animal formulas, pouches, syringes, pet crates, tables, vet wrap, fluids, bowls, soft ban dressings, etc. that would be useful to use immediately to save lives. 26 pallets were distributed via truck, car, trailer and even plane to Kangaroo Island. They were gratefully received and invaluable to the Vets, SAVEM (SA Vets Emergency Management), RSPCA and wildlife carers there. After two weeks had passed sending supplies every couple of days, enough medical supplies were supplied to the Island, so fodder was then sourced. Carloads of carrots, sweet potato, apples, kangaroo pellets, Wombaroo nectar mix, bird seed etc. has been collected at Minton Farm and distributed to the surviving animals that are now starving as their food sources have been destroyed. This work

will be continued over the following months until the land has regenerated enough to support the wildlife again. Minton Farm has also provided water stations to burnt out areas such as Lobethal, Birdwood, Woodside and Cudlee Creek. These were donated by Master Plumbers in conjunction with Catalyst Cloud Solutions. The pipes provide water via a PVC pipe which can be refilled when empty. Each person installing these were also supplied with cartons of sweet potato to give the kangaroos as food and water point.

All of this assistance has been supplied free of charge and has been possible because of the over whelming support of the community, both local, national and overseas. Minton Farm has sought no funding but instead chose to provide, support and advertise links to funding required for KI Dunnart recovery, Glossy Black cockatoos, Parndana Wildlife Park, Mayors recovery fund, Paul's Place etc. We are grateful for the positive way people have embraced such a strong, selfless, community spirit; to band together for the greater good; and very proud of the kind, positive influence that we have had during such distressing times."

Sincerely, Bev. Langley 0422938439

**Website-** [www.mintonfarm.org](http://www.mintonfarm.org)

**Facebook-**

<https://www.facebook.com/mintonfarmanimalrescuecentre>

## FRIENDS OF SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK

With so much of Australia impacted by fires, then storms and flooding in some locations, it seems like a lot has happened since the last Cherry Chatter went out.

Our thoughts are with all those who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods. There has been an enormous impact on communities, wildlife and the environment. A huge thank you to all the emergency services personnel who have responded to these events, from our local Cherry Gardens CFS and Cherry Gardens Air Support, through all the other South Australian, Australian and international volunteers and staff involved. It has been wonderful to have such an outpouring of support for affected communities, both locally and around the world. This support has come in many forms, from donations and volunteering to simply offering an exhausted firefighter a cup of tea. There has also been much contributed to saving our wildlife, with rescues, treatment and provision of food and water. Already there is much regeneration of native vegetation in the Cudlee Creek fire area, and even on Kangaroo Island where the area burned seemed less patchy.

Unfortunately, we are now getting to the time when some people are looking to cast blame. Hopefully this will not deflect from sensible discussions about what happened, what worked well and what didn't, so that we



can improve things for the next time. Fires have happened in the past and will happen in the future, it is a fact of life in Australia and has been for millennia. The sheer number and breadth of fires over the past few months has caught many by surprise, but perhaps shouldn't as our summers continue to get longer, hotter and drier.

The Australian bush has evolved with fire, both wildfires and Aboriginal cultural burning. Many of our native plants are adapted to fire, and some even require fire to germinate. In most cases, the bushland will regenerate and we need to give it time. This bushland is the home for our unique and diverse wildlife, so aiding in its recovery is helping our wildlife.

Bushfire encourages mass germination of weeds, and this is going to be the biggest threat to the regeneration of our bushland. Weeds compete for resources with native plants (space, light, nutrients and water) and can increase the fuel hazard, thereby contributing to a higher fuel load and potentially more intense fires.

However, immediately following a fire, weeds can help protect the topsoil from erosion. In some cases, leaving weeds in place for 6-12 months can be helpful as long as they are dealt with after that time, and definitely before they flower and set seed.

Anyone wanting more information about the Friends of Scott Creek CP, or wanting to get involved, can contact us on [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au) or visit our website [www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](http://www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au). You can also follow us on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp) where you will find up to date information about our activities, including photos of the park's diverse flora and fauna.

All working bees and bird banding activities have stopped as a result of the COVID-19 situation and the need for social distancing.



*Regeneration of a eucalypt just three weeks after the Cudlee Creek fire.*



*Regeneration of native grasses three weeks after the fire*

### **FoS CCP - APRIL**

In addition to our regular activities in Scott Creek CP, including bushcare and bird banding, our group has regular social outings. On the last Sunday of February we had one of our regular visits to the Laratinga Wetlands in Mount Barker, with eight of us attending.

It was a clear and sunny day that started out a bit chilly, but turned out pretty warm by the time we headed to Millie's Bakery, after three hours wandering about, enjoying some good birding and good company. Our bird list was a respectable 52 species, with a couple of highlights being the local family of Crested Shrike-tit, including mum, dad and their youngster, Blue-billed, Freckled and Pink-eared Duck, and a range of other water, wader and woodland birds.

Anyone wanting more information about the Friends of Scott Creek CP, or wanting to get involved, can contact us on [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au) or visit our website [www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](http://www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au). You can also follow us on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofscottcreekcp) where you will find up to date information about our activities, including photos of the park's diverse flora and fauna.

**PLEASE NOTE: All group activities are cancelled until further notice due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.**



*Some of our group at Laratinga Wetlands in Mount Barker.*





The young Crested Shrike-tit with mum doing some acrobatics.

## CHERRY CHURCH

Where I grew up, in the South-East, I knew my neighbours and most of the people in my country town and many of them went to the local church service. Church was where we shared, fellowshiped and cared for one another. It was the core of the community where help was given when needed. The general store, too, was a place of greeting or a chat; somewhere to catch up on local news.



Cherry Gardens doesn't have a general store, but we certainly do have the Church.

For over 170 years, Cherry Gardens Church has been an integral part of the local community – a centre of fellowship, worship and pastoral care. Situated on Hick Hills Road, it was at one time part of a bustling hub of Cherry Gardens. For many residents it was the centre of their lives. Today, located off the main road, many may not realise it exists. But the Cherry Church is very much alive and active.

You may never have attended a local church service at Cherry, but **you are always welcome** to come along. Our services are about 1 hour in length and are followed by a shared, delicious morning tea.

Matthew 18:20 "for where two or three gathers in my name, there am I with them" Ruth Work

**Please note that due to the COVID-19 situation there are no church services at present.**

## RECREATION GROUND

### Recreation Ground – Crackers Cup

On Sun 9th Feb the Footy, Cricket & Netball clubs came together to host the Cracker's Cup at the Recreation Ground. Held in honour of club legend Dave 'Cracker' Pole, the day held extra meaning this year given the recent bushfires, with funds raised being donated to the two local CFS brigades of which Crack had a large

involvement. A huge crowd was in attendance along with many CFS members and fire trucks from both Brigades. The day kicked off with what is sure to become a new tradition, the Netball club taking on the Women's football team in a modified rules T20 cricket game. In what was an entertaining battle for the large crowd assembled, the Women's footy prevailed 91 runs to 50. The Cherry Chatter, Noarlunga Packaging, the Cricket Club & the Pole family donating money for every boundary and six scored, the 'curtain raiser' had already contributed \$500 to the fund raising for the CFS. Up next was the 8th running of the Cracker's Cup which is always a hotly contested battle with bragging rights on the line for either the Cricket or Footy Clubs. Two rather youthful teams with lots of fresh faces to the Cup experience took to the field.

The Footy club won the toss and decided to bat first. They started strongly, raining fours and sixes on the crowd and upping the donation total rapidly. A few quick wickets by the cricket boys slowed the run rate down and the footy players ended up settling for 125 runs off their 20 overs. (5 ball overs)

It was the Cricket teams turn to bat, and with "runs on the board" it was always going to be a good game. Boundaries again flowed early in the innings and after some confusion over the 'first ball of your innings' free hit rule along the way, it was the Cricket Club who prevailed with 3 balls to go

Ezma Pole on behalf of herself, her husband the late Bill Pole, and the family presented the Cup to the winning captain Beau Thomas and then the final tally was announced.

With the previously mentioned donors, along with Delco Removals, Stuart & Dale Wells, Steve Murray MP, Josh Teague MP and all that donated in the coin tins, bought raffle tickets & the BBQ we were able to donate **OVER \$5,000** to the Ironbank CFS & Cherry Gardens CFS.

What a great day, a great community event and a great result!!

Thanks to everyone who attended and made the day so much fun for all and such a great fundraiser for our CFS volunteers. After such a busy season already the CFS will be using the donations to buy much needed equipment for their brigade.



The Recreation Ground has been in the news thanks to the Federal Government "Sports Rorts" affair. The Rec

Ground submitted a Grant Application back in September 2018 for funding to build a new changeroom facility to meet the needs of all players but in particular the women and kids who play all sports at our grounds. We were advised early last year that we were unsuccessful but it has come to light that our application scored 94/100 which was the highest score in SA that was not funded and the 5<sup>th</sup> highest in Australia that was not funded.

Very disappointing for all our players. Some examples of what's been written in the papers.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020 WEATHER FORECAST TODAY ☀️ VERY HOT, SUNNY, 42°C TOMORROW 🌧️ HUMID, POSSIBLE STORM, 36°C \$1.90

# The Advertiser

We're for you

## Revamp aiming to end ramp

**BRAD CROUCH**  
UP to 200 people a day who will be an ambulance for life-threatening issues will be redirected to other services in a landmark move to end ambulance ramping at hospital emergency departments.  
SA Ambulance Service (SAS) chief executive David Place told The Advertiser the move was the "biggest game changer" to address the ramping crisis.  
**CONTINUED PAGE 4**



## Australia escalates virus plan

**CLAIRE ARMSTRONG**  
AUSTRALIAN health authorities say anyone who has recently visited China's Hubei Province should self-isolate themselves for two weeks, amid fears the coronavirus could be transmitted without symptoms.  
Australians trapped in the province could also be evacuated to Christmas Island, as the Federal Government ramps up its response to the crisis.  
**PHIL STORY PAGE 10**

## Sports clubs heartbroken at missing out on funding as so-called sports rorts affair deepens



# OFFSIDE

**JUDE GALLAGER**  
**SCOTT WALSH**

Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground missed out on the government grant. The clubs featured on a list of the 50 most deserving, with the top 50 most deserving, with the

**NO MONEY:** Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground missed out on the government grant. **Nathaniel Holly Field, footballer Callum Culler, cyclist Corey Lidson and tennis player Tom Hattison met at the rort yesterday.** Pictures: TOM HUNTLEY



PHONE 8391 1388 MT BARKER, SA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020 48 Pages - \$2 (inc GST)



Netballer Eva Dawson, left, cricketer Zane Lewis and footballer Henry Hegarty outside the recreation ground's 30-year-old shed that serves as its change rooms.

# 94/100 IS A FAIL

## SPORTS MINISTER SNUBS CLUBS TO PLAY POLITICS

**By Nick Grimm**  
Four local sporting organisations have missed out on \$250,000 of funding despite being deemed worthy of Sport Australia grants.  
The Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground (CIRG) missed out on \$400,000 to build new female change rooms, while the Echunga Netball, Hills Hawks Football and Lobethal Tennis clubs weren't given the \$40,000, \$27,800 and \$33,712 they were deemed worthy to receive through a \$100m grant scheme.  
The clubs featured on a list of the 50 most deserving projects across Australia that weren't funded despite meeting the criteria, but were not included in the final list of 100 to receive funding.  
"It was obviously found that we needed the upgrade," he said.  
"The facilities at the moment are points out of 100 to receive funding. Senator Bridget McKenzie resigned and got Federal Sports Minister on Sunday office a long running future in which she was successful of winning funds to 50 projects that failed to meet the threshold.  
CIRG president Andy Adams said it was "very disappointing" to not receive funding despite their project scoring 94 out of 100.  
"We need these facilities for our fast growing women's and girls teams - they need female friendly facilities and at the moment we can't provide that."  
CIRG has raised about \$11,500 to make improvements to its clubhouse and has made other club applications for the change rooms.  
Mr Adams said most country clubs relied on funding to improve.  
"We can wait, but want to thrive," he said.  
"We need these facilities for our fast growing women's and girls teams - they need female friendly facilities and at the moment we can't provide that."  
CIRG has raised about \$11,500 to make improvements to its clubhouse and has made other club applications for the change rooms.  
**Continued page 9**

# SPORTS GRANTS SCANDAL

## Cherry bombshell as clubs rage over funds



**FROM PAGE 1**  
Prime Minister Scott Morrison was yesterday on the front foot and was adamant that the \$100 million grants scandal did not compare to previous sports rorts affairs.  
But angry sports clubs from around Australia have called for former sports minister Bridget McKenzie to stand down, after learning they missed out on the \$100 million grant scheme despite topping the list of candidates.  
Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground applied for a \$400,000 grant for new change rooms that would cater for female players.  
"Our at the moment are basically a 30-year-old large shed that gets very cold in winter and doesn't have adequate shower facilities," president Andy Adams said.  
"It's pretty deplorable. I guess that's why we scored 94." Sport Australia set a rating threshold of 74 out of 100 in order to receive funding.  
But the community-owned grounds, which are home to four clubs - football, netball and tennis - and 600 members still missed out.  
"It's frustrating and disappointing," he told The Advertiser. "A lot of hard work from volunteers and members went into writing the application. It's quite heartbreaking actually."  
Mr Adams said the grounds relied on grants because funding was difficult to come by.  
He hoped the Federal Government continued with the grants program.  
Victoria's Kyneton District Soccer Club president Ron Cole said he was "gutted" and called for Senator McKenzie to be punished. "It is unacceptable what she has actually done and she probably should stand down," he said.  
"The damaging saga comes after an Auditor-General's report revealed earlier this month that the fund had been used to funnel cash into marginal seats ahead of the 2019 election.  
A document later leaked to the ABC revealed the top 50 of 2000 applicants from around the country that were denied grants.  
Mr Morrison has declined

### THE DIRTY DOZEN

The 12 SA clubs which scored the highest on their application rating but missed out on funding

<b>Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground</b> \$400,000 Application: New change rooms catering for female players Application score: 94 Electorate: Mays, a seat	<b>Centre Alliance MP Rebekha Sharkie</b> President Andy Adams: "Our (change rooms) at the moment are basically a 30-year-old large shed that gets very cold in winter and doesn't have adequate shower facilities. It's pretty deplorable. It's quite heartbreaking, actually. A lot of hard work from volunteers and members went into writing application."	<b>City of Salisbury</b> \$200,000 Application: To part-fund a \$6m athletics centre Application score: 90 Electorate: Speace, held by Labor MP Nick Champion	<b>Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club</b> \$40,000
<b>City of Salisbury</b> \$200,000 Application: To part-fund a \$6m athletics centre Application score: 90 Electorate: Speace, held by Labor MP Nick Champion	<b>City of Salisbury</b> \$200,000 Application: To part-fund a \$6m athletics centre Application score: 90 Electorate: Speace, held by Labor MP Nick Champion	<b>City of Salisbury</b> \$200,000 Application: To part-fund a \$6m athletics centre Application score: 90 Electorate: Speace, held by Labor MP Nick Champion	<b>City of Salisbury</b> \$200,000 Application: To part-fund a \$6m athletics centre Application score: 90 Electorate: Speace, held by Labor MP Nick Champion

**McLaren Football Club**  
Application: A contribution to part-fund a clubroom and public toilet  
Application score: 90  
Electorate: Mayo  
Matt Smith, president: "We don't have a club room so all we want is somewhere to call home - that's how we worked it in our applications. The total project is about \$740,000, we've raised about \$50,000 ourselves across 10 years, from a small club of 150 to 180 members. We still need funding, so having missed out on this one we're relying on other grant applications. This is the first time we've ever seen any ratings, so it's pleasing to see our application was highly rated - but it's also disappointing to think there might be other factors at play."  
Echunga Netball Club  
\$40,000  
Application: To remove old training courts and replace with two new asphalt courts  
Application score: 89  
Electorate: Mayo

## IRONBANK CHERRY GARDENS NETBALL CLUB

### Summer Netball

Thanks to Donna Gunn and her team for organising these games again for 2019/2020. The Grand Finals will be played on Thursday 27th Feb.  
We have had a great Summer season with many teams playing in the social competition. It's been great to see so many players and spectators at the club each Thursday afternoon/night and staying to enjoy meals.

### Net Set Go junior program

The "Net" activity and skills sessions was held on Saturday mornings at 9am for 6 weeks from 8/2/20 until 21/3/20.  
If you know of someone who is aged 6 - 9 years and are new to or have limited experience with netball please encourage them to enrol them in our program. Go to netball SA (<https://sa.netball.com.au/suncorp-netsetgo>) click on Get Involved and Find a Club then search for postcode 5157 then click on the green register button adjacent to IBCG.  
The "Go" program for kids turning 8 or 9 during 2020 will be involved in the Saturday morning competition

against other Hills clubs (formerly called 9 and under competition). Starts 2/5/20 until 12/9/20 Cost \$170 (register similar to above)

### Winter Netball Competition

Unfortunately all winter netball is cancelled due to COVID-19

Please email [ibcg.vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:ibcg.vicepresident@gmail.com) with any netball queries.

And last but not least, the IBCG Netball club congratulates Layla Wigzell for making the U17 State netball development team.

### IRONBANK CHERRY GARDENS FOOTBALL CLUB

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 all winter football is cancelled till further notice. There has been some talk about starting midway through the season however that looks to be unlikely.

We were disappointed to hear about the Sports Rorts affair and the fact that our clubs missed out of getting some new changeroom facilities.

When the Advertiser asked to take some photos a bunch of our players turned up to support us and they took a club photo.



### REBEKHA SHARKIE

#### The People's Climate Assembly – what is it?

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/peoples.climate.assembly/>

The People's Assembly is a coalition of activist groups and supporters who are ready to make a stand to our government to demand that they stand up and do something to help fix this problem we now face. We gathered on the lawn outside of Parliament House in Canberra to show a united front against the ignorance shown by our government in the face of this climate emergency, and to demand that they step up and do something.

Our main demands are that the government:

- Tells the truth
- Declares a climate emergency
- Acts now according to the science
- Implements a just transition to a renewable and sustainable future

Rebekha Sharkie spoke at the People's Climate Assembly organised outside Federal Parliament and she ran into Anna Medlin from Aldgate and Pam White from Emu Bay on KI and Sally Cornish and Lynn Wood from Willunga.



Anna Medlin from Aldgate, left, and Pam White from Emu Bay on KI caught up with Rebekha Sharkie, the Federal Member for Mayo, at the People's Climate Assembly.

Rebekha Sharkie has also added her support to our Recreation Ground who have been caught up in the "Sports Rorts" affair. She wrote to the Federal Government.



**Rebekha Sharkie MP**  
Federal Member for Mayo



The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister *Scott*

#### COMMUNITY SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

I write on behalf of the community sporting clubs in Mayo who were rejected in subsequent rounds of the Community Sport Infrastructure Grant (CSIG) Program whilst it was under the stewardship of the then-Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie.

Like so many in my community and across Australia, I was very disappointed to learn that Minister McKenzie had politically intervened in a merit-based process. Community sporting organisations within my electorate and across the nation have together wasted many thousands of hours in the misplaced belief that their applications would be assessed purely on merit. These organisations are staffed by volunteers, and their time is valuable, especially so because it is unpaid and contributed on behalf of the communities they love.

Yesterday, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (the ABC) issued a list of the 50 top-scoring community sporting organisations that missed out on funding despite meeting Sports Australia's recommended merit threshold of 74 out of 100.

The Federal Government should make good, and make good soon, on delivering an apolitical, merit-based process for all community sports organisations across the country that applied and received above this merit score cut-off from Sports Australia.

According to the ABC list, the following clubs within my electorate of Mayo were affected:

Score	Applicant	Funding Denied
94	Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground	\$480,621
90	Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club	\$50,000
89	Echunga Netball Club	\$40,000
88	McLaren Football Club	\$50,000
88	Adelaide Hills Hawks Football Club	\$27,850
84	Lobethal Tennis Club	\$3,372

There are, no doubt, additional organisations within Mayo outside of the 'top 50' that received above the 74 out of 100 merit score cut-off but have yet to be publicly disclosed. These details should be disclosed, and the affected organisations should also be supported through timely Government funding.

The Government has a moral duty to make good on its promise to deliver merit-based outcomes to community sports organisations in Mayo and across the nation. I strongly urge you to follow through on that duty.

Yours sincerely

  
REBEKHA SHARKIE MP  
Federal Member for Mayo

## STEVE MURRAY – DAVENPORT MP

Cherry Chatter Article

February 2020

It has been a less than ideal start to 2020 with devastating bushfires in the Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island destroying property, livelihoods and wildlife.

All CFS Units have been actively involved and many units travelled to other regions to fight the fires and risk their lives helping others.

I pass on my thanks to all the CFS Volunteers for their tireless commitment to their communities and beyond. Cherry Gardens are well served by a fabulous CFS and I am privileged to know many of the volunteers and support their efforts in every way possible. I salute you and hold you all in the highest regard.

I have written to the Minister for Emergency Services Hon Corey Wingard seeking his support for the connection of mains power to the Cherry Gardens CFS Air Strip which was pivotal during the Cudlee Creek and Clarendon fires. The Fire bombers use the airstrip and a reliable power supply is essential and long overdue.

I continue to work with Telstra, Rebekha Sharkie MP your Federal representative and the State Government regarding enhancing the mobile services in the Cherry Gardens and Iron Bank area. A solution soon looks promising.

I visited the Cherry Gardens/Ironbank Sports Ground with Minister Wingard in December 2019 to show him firsthand the need for upgrading the facilities for the many sporting clubs who use the ground. I am optimistic about a positive outcome which will enhance this community asset.

Parliament resumes this week and I am looking forward to representing my constituents in this session. I look forward to a productive 2020.



Steve Murray MP  
Member for Davenport



Government  
of South Australia

Hon Tim Whetstone  
Minister for Primary Industries  
and Regional Development  
GPO Box 1671, Adelaide SA 5001  
Tel: 08 8229 2929  
Minister.Whetstone@sa.gov.au

eA188859

Mr Steve Murray MP  
Member for Davenport  
PO Box 3020  
ABERFOYLE PARK SA 5159

Email: [davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:davenport@parliament.sa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Murray 

I write regarding the mobile coverage at Cherry Gardens and surrounds. I recently received advice from the Hon Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government confirming the Commonwealth Government's funding commitment to support a mobile infrastructure upgrade for Cherry Gardens.

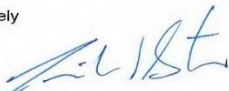
The Marshall Liberal Government delivered on its election commitment by establishing a \$10 million fund to bring forward mobile phone coverage upgrades in South Australia.

Although the Cherry Gardens site was not eligible under Commonwealth Mobile Black Spot Program guidelines, it is pleasing to be able to work with the Morrison Liberal Government to return a positive result for the Cherry Gardens community. As confirmed previously, I have also committed funding from the State Government Mobile Black Spot Fund toward contributions from the Commonwealth Government and industry.

The Department of Communications and the Arts will work with my department to administer a competitive tender process in early 2020.

I understand you have long championed this site for funding and I look forward to joining you in announcing this news with the Cherry Gardens community.

Yours sincerely



Hon Tim Whetstone MP  
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
2012 / 2019



## City of Onkaparinga Councillor Update

### Community Grants

The community grants program for 2020- 2021 opened on 20 January and closed on 10 March. Grants can be sought for the following categories:

Community Grants, Public Place Improvement Grants, Community Training and Development Grants, Environment Grants, Event Sponsorship, Every Generation Onkaparinga Grants – Celebrating Positive Aging, Heritage Grants, Minor Capital Works and Facilities. Groups within the Cherry Gardens area were successful in achieving grants last year for the Memorial Hall and oval. Further details are available through Council's website at [www.onkaparingacity.com/grants](http://www.onkaparingacity.com/grants). I am the elected member on the Community Grants, Community Events and Minor Capital Works grants committees.

### Australia Day Breakfast, Tour Down Under, Australia Day Awards Presentation, Citizenship Ceremony & Bush Fair

I attended all these events representing Mayor Erin Thompson at the BBQ breakfast at the Aberfoyle Community Centre. Sixty of our residents became Australian citizens at the Citizenship Ceremony held just before the start of the Australia Day Bush Fair at the South Adelaide Oval Noarlunga.

### 2020 – 2021 Budget

Following the series of community budget workshops Council has commenced the budget process

### City of Onkaparinga Clubs Forum

I unfortunately do not yet have the date of the next forum meeting at the time of writing but would hope that our sporting clubs receive an invitation to these meetings, as they are a means of seeking support for our sporting clubs and prioritisation for funding.

### Disclaimer

The views expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of Council.

Geoff Eaton, Councillor  
Thalassa Ward, City of Onkaparinga  
Email: [geoff.eaton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:geoff.eaton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)  
Mobile: 0416 637 351

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### MY TIME ON KANGAROO ISLAND

I headed over to Kangaroo island (KI) early in the New Year looking for a week or so of reading a book, doing some walks, bike rides and generally having a relax. Instead what I experienced was 2½ weeks of volunteering at the Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park and Aquarium run by Sam and Dana Mitchell after the bushfires in January 2020. This fire was started by a lightning strike in late December and burnt most of the Flinders Chase National Park, caused significant stock losses, destroyed more than 60 homes and a hundred of other buildings and the deaths of 2 locals.

Large contingents of volunteer firefighters, army personnel and volunteers all pulled together to help local

residents, their stock and the wildlife. I worked long hours, learnt how to wrangle a koala, feed joeys and generally look after injured wildlife. I met and worked with a wonderful group of people, many of whom I have kept in contact since leaving. The work we did made a huge difference to the large numbers of native wildlife that was bought into the park, most of which were koalas.

A day or so after my arrival on KI I heard that there was callout for volunteers for a variety of different jobs. As I'm a Registered Nurse I thought I could help out at the local hospital and I also volunteer at the Adelaide Zoo and am a member of Fauna Rescue looking after injured animals to then release them so had experience with animals. I was asked if I was happy to travel out to Parndana to the wildlife park as they were beginning to get some burnt animals in and needed help. Local resident, Phoebe and I headed out the first day and after a tour around the park started off by feeding bottles to the koala joeys.

Every day I would get out to the park by around 8.30am and then start working on anything from cleaning out cages, getting fresh water, moving koalas to and from the hospital, helping to change bandages, give subcutaneous fluids to rehydrate them, triage injured animals as they were bought in by locals and rescuers, organise fresh brush and helping to sort through the immense amount of goods that were donated by people from everywhere. Early on in my time there we had to evacuate from the park as another fire came through the area but although a lot of the area was burnt, the park and nearby township of Parndana escaped unscathed. However, as some of the photos will show the road and surrounding area out did not.

After the first week, my daughter Lara joined me on the island to help as well. She is 17 years old and loves all animals. Currently she is doing Year 12 at Urrbrae so felt she could help out and learn something as well. I believed she enjoyed her time out there, met a variety of people including 'Vet on the Hill' star Scott, but obviously saw some animals with severe injuries that needed to be euthanized.

During the time that I spent there so many animals came through the park that we had to increase the numbers of enclosures for the immediate care of the burnt koalas, have new 'soft release' enclosures built and work out where koalas could be released once they were given the all clear by the vets. A hospital was needed, and this was one of the first things that Sam and Dana organised by buying a transportable which was then bought over by ferry and placed out near the enclosures. Up till this arrived we used a table in a small garden shed, the kitchen in the park, a table in the outdoor eating area and finally an inflatable hospital. After I had left, people from 'The Block' on Channel 9 came over and built a house in a week for the koala joeys which up till then were all living in Sam and Dana's lounge room. This experience is something I will remember for the rest of my life and I hope to return to the park very soon to help once again and see firsthand the changes and how everyone is.

Barb

## A few photos taken during this time



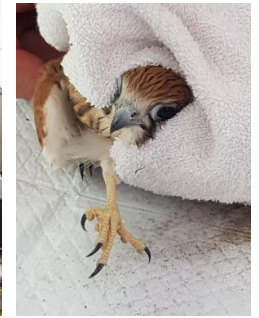
Single – one of the first



Wheelbarrow Ambulance



SAVEM Inflatable hospital



Kestrel



Echidna sedated



Orphaned Joey's



Orphaned Wombat



Pygmy Possum

## Group formed to look at switching councils



A meeting was held at Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall to talk over proposals

by Nick Ward  
A community's decision whether to switch councils has progressed with the formation of a committee to undertake the formal process.

Around 40 residents from Cherry Gardens, Coromandel East, Chandlers Hill and Iron Bank attended a meeting at Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall to discuss whether to leave the largely urban Onkaparinga Council and join the Adelaide Hills

Council (AHC). The meeting was convened by the Cherry Gardens Community Association (CGCA) and attended by local legal practitioner Darren Kruse, who initiated the proposal and Onkaparinga deputy mayor Geoff Eaton and councillor Sandra Brown.

CGCA chair Don Watton said it was an information seeking event to weigh the pros and cons of a move and the group convened the

meeting on neutral terms.

"The association does not want to be seen to have influence either way in this debate," Don said.

"Attendees were interested in seeking additional information as to why a move to AHC would be better for the community."

Darren's petition to switch councils, which has received over 100 signatures, sites lower council fees, greater representation and proximity to service

centres as reasons to join AHC.

"Darren made it clear that the meeting was to rally support for a subcommittee to chase up an official application with the Boundaries Commission and a team of five has been put together," Don said.

"Some public concerns were about what the Boundary Commission criteria is, the relevance of fees and location and a remaining lack of information for some people.

"Our association made it clear that residents consider the broad range of services that the councils offer as well as issues of rates and representation."

"We'd like to hear from AHC but we will be leaving progress of this issue to the new committee."

Ten percent of the area's 1,933 residents would need to support a council swap before an application can be lodged with the Boundary Commission.