



Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

## EDITORIAL - CORONAVIRUS

How has the Coronavirus (COVID-19) affected you and living in Cherry Gardens?

What has happened to us and the world in the last few months is hopefully a once in a lifetime event that will be remembered and affect all of us for years to come. Our normal from 6 months ago, we will probably never get back again.

The Cherry Chatter would like to record for the future generations how this crisis affected our community and the people who live and work here. We will gather whatever you send us and collate it for our website and as part of the history of our district. Just as we may read with interest what happened many years ago, we can ensure that what we have and are going through will also be recorded and read with interest by our future generations.

What we are interested in are those personal stories and local accounts of how you have been affected, and the impact to Cherry Gardens.

Please send us an email to [cherry chatter@yahoo.com](mailto:cherry chatter@yahoo.com) or drop a letter in the mail box at 620 Cherry Gardens Road, Cherry Gardens and we will ensure that everything gets retained.

Some immediate impacts are:

- The Church is closed
- No Garden club meetings
- Bird banding and working bees in Scott Creek Conservation Park cancelled
- The Recreation Ground clubrooms are closed
- All Sports clubs are closed, including no training
- A new term called Social Distancing has become the norm. 1.5m is the closest we can come to others
- While the Golf club is open for playing golf, all facilities are closed. This has resulted in small groups of players occasionally meeting at the Recreation Ground for a catchup while observing the Social distancing requirement
- ANZAC Day service and breakfast was cancelled

- A new way to commemorate on the day was the “Light up the Dawn” where people stood at the end of their driveways at 5.30am and live streamed the dawn service from their smart phone.

- Handshakes are no longer an acceptable way of greeting
- Thank goodness for social media
- We can no longer visit our elderly family members
- The economy takes a back seat to health and wellbeing
- So many people lost their jobs overnight
- Those people who kept their jobs in many cases had to adapt to working from home
- A lot of families withdrew their kids from school and home schooling started
- Families started doing things together like playing games, cards and just spending time together
- Each state essentially closed their borders and people were asked not to travel
- No international flights allowed
- Domestic flights cancelled
- No long weekend holiday travel
- We learnt quickly what “essential services” really meant and football players were not on the list.
- We recognised how important nurses and doctors are to us all
- We finally figured out that as a country it is better to be self sufficient rather than relying on buying cheap stuff from China all the time. When our doctors and nurses could not get face masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and face shields we finally “got it”
- We are thankful to be living in Australia (and Cherry Gardens)

**Articles must 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.

## CHERRY GARDENS RAINFALL REPORT FOR APRIL 2020

Rainfall for April 2020	140.6 mm
Rainfall for April 2019	7.0
Average rainfall for April	71.2

Rainfall to the end of April 2020	260.0
Rainfall to the end of April 2019	48.0
Average rainfall to the end of April	166.8

Number days of rain for April 2020	13
Number days of rain for April 2019	5

## 2020 CHERRY CHATTER COMMITTEE

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY for JUNE

### JUNE

Margy Pillar	Gill Sims
Jenni Edwards	Jim Powell
Margeurite Smith	Sheryl Glassmith
Mack Porter-Wright	Jane McCarthy
Graham Dellow	Martin Weir
Bill Semple	Paul Heck

# SUPPORT LOCAL

Remember when you asked  
that small business to  
support your fundraiser?  
It's time to support them.  
They're the heart of a town.

**Local businesses need our help more than ever so here are a few ideas:**

- Buy gift certificates
- Reschedule events (don't cancel) appointments or events you had planned
- Give them a shout out on social media, share their page or leave a good review
- Show your appreciation by giving a tip
- Order take-away – many local businesses are offering delivery or pick up options
- Consider sending someone some flowers which could be the perfect pick me up during these times
- Donate your skills or services
- Be Patient!

## 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  
phone 0414 824 110



The current situation with COVID-19 will mean that we will be unable to hold the annual Community Dinner this year, normally held around the end of June, and it would seem that the Community Campfire, our August function, will suffer the same fate.

The State Government Emergency Management Direction 2020 in relation to COVID-19 lists all premises that are prohibited from operating, and clearly prohibits the use of the hall for any and all functions, including “outdoor spaces associated with the above venues”. We have had a number of cancellations as a result.

We hope you are coping with the restrictions that have been part of our life for some time now. At the time of writing the number of new cases in South Australia is decreasing at a very pleasing rate. Australians, and in particular South Australians, have shown great discipline and understanding of the situation and the potential consequences of not following the guidelines. Well done, and we look forward to a time when we can again gather and enjoy each other's company.



## HALL UPGRADE



We mentioned recently that we were undertaking some upgrading at the hall. The latest project is to replace the water pipe from the meter to the hall. Over the last few months we have had some underground leaks and they have been traced to problems with the original plastic pipe, which was buried and covered with dirt which contained rocks, broken tiles and other items that have over time, damaged the pipe. One leak lost over 500 kilolitres (yes, 500,000 litres!) and resulted in a water bill of nearly \$2,000. SA Water reduced our bill by around \$900. This was one of 3 or 4 leaks, none of which were quite that major.

Our decision is to circuit the old pipe and lay new blue-line pipe in a bed of sand. The photos show the work being undertaken. Thanks to Andrew's front end loader and Terry's, tractor the task (underway as I write) should be completed in a few days.

There is always something...!

The Hall Committee

Why not "Like Us" on Facebook to keep up to date with coming events [www.facebook.com/cherrygardens/](http://www.facebook.com/cherrygardens/)

### CHERRY GARDENS CFS



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

Your CFS brigade has been extremely quiet for the last few months. With the COVID-19 restrictions, many of us in the area are at home and leading a quieter lifestyle. As a brigade we are also working to a modified set of rules – all training, major projects and community/social events

have been cancelled until the government lifts its current restrictions. We can still respond to incidents normally, and provide the same level of assistance as before the shutdown.

Monday nights currently still see a small group at the station carrying out truck checks to ensure we are always ready to assist as required. The current situation is quite a contrast to the bushfire season which saw us very busy around South Australia and interstate!

We have been able to continue during the shutdown with our recycling efforts – thanks to the many residence who support us by dropping off bottles and cans. This is a major source of income for the Brigade and really does make a difference. In the past we have funded road crash rescue equipment, extra handheld radios, better portable lighting, and improvements around the station. This is sometimes a slow process, but it is great to know we have local support. Our goal is always to improve the way we operate and give as much value back to the community as possible.

While on community, ANZAC day commemorations recently have been held. It always is a special day which reminds us of the great community in which we live. The best way we can describe this year is "apart, we came together". For those who were out at daybreak with their own private thoughts, it certainly was a spectacular sunrise! As we have done in the past, it was with pride we set our own soldier at the front of the station for this year. Just to show how fast the years moving – the next visitor to the tractor will be Father Christmas!



### CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB

**Unfortunately, there will be no meetings until further notice**

### GEORGE'S GARDENING SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNE 2020

June is a good time to plant bare-rooted fruit trees and roses. Take into consideration how big they will grow and space them accordingly.

There has been much said about grafted Passionfruit recently, and the consensus seems to be that grafted varieties are losing favour because of their propensity to

send up suckers of the rootstock which invariably take over. Seedling grown varieties are a better alternative but only prepare the soil now with plenty of manure (and maybe a liver for good measure) in readiness for planting when the soil warms up.

Some bulbs can be planted now such as Calla, Dutch Iris, Gladioli and Liliums.

Have you thought about growing some Hollyhocks? A great old fashioned flower that gives a bit of height to the middle of your flower bed, rust can be a problem with them but 'Zineb' should fix that.

Plant out or sow seeds of Beetroot, Broad Beans, Peas, Silver Beet. Rhubarb crowns and Strawberries can still go in at this time of year.

Snails are always a problem at this time of the year as are weeds, get control of them early and stay on top of the problem before they take over.

Spray deciduous fruit trees with a copper spray as soon as they lose their leaves; try to avoid the spray hitting the soil as it will kill off earthworms (use a tarp or old sheet under the tree). Prune fruit trees towards the end of the month and roses can be done a bit later.

June is the time when we become aware of how much growth trees have made during the previous year and some branches may need to be removed to allow more sunlight to penetrate to plants growing close by. When taking off a branch, do it in stages to avoid damage to the garden and yourself. Do not leave a stub of the branch, but cut it back almost flush with the trunk, just leaving a collar of the branch. Always under-cut first to prevent tearing of the bark on the trunk.

### OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish

Greetings Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

The rain has arrived and the paddocks are green once again. As usual there are various maintenance chores to be attended to with the onset of winter. Rugs hopefully have been stored away correctly ready for use. If not, then get those fittings repaired and patch any rips or tears. With the modern synthetics rugs, they will generally with good management, last 3 winters. If your rugs have a bit of age on them and you need to use them, do check underneath for water proofness after the first rain. They are always handy to keep as a backup should a new rug get damaged. Also check riding gear for soundness. If synthetic, wash with warm water and sponge dry. Leave in an airy place to dry. With leather, also clean down with saddle soap, wipe off surplus and apply leather conditioner, also wiping off any surplus. Whatever the material, riding tack should always be stored in a temperate area. Never in the boot of your car or a tin shed. Neither synthetics nor leather will keep well in extremes of temperature. Also check your gear for wear in the fittings such as stirrup leathers and buckles, girths, bridle fittings and the condition of the bit. Bits do wear and can become loose at the sides,



causing pinching on the side of the horses face. Something easily overlooked is the saddlecloth. They come in all shapes, sizes and materials! Care can be as simple as a good brush down after use, removing excess fur, or if dirty and sweaty, then brush fur off and wash. Be careful when washing not to use too much suds, as this could have a reaction to your horse. In any case, make sure that the rug is well rinsed. They can be washed by hand or in the machine, depending on the material. If the cloth is woollen, then washing by hand is preferable to prevent shrinkage and matting. Also keep some saddlecloths for spare (we all have them!).

While we are still social distancing, (and maybe not competing or going to clubs) lots of time spent bonding with your horse will be enjoyable and beneficial to both parties. Revisiting some work in hand to check on your horse's responses never goes amiss, or maybe practising some positive reinforcement (clicker training) can be useful and fun too. Remember with the clicker, if you are using food as a reward and your nedly is a bit of a piglet, then first train him/her to look away from you for the reward. This really does work and may save you from being 'mugged'!

Your truly is actually well mannered and I don't snatch. My weight is under control (just). My teeth have been done, my hooves trimmed, worm counts are down, so ... all in all, I am in good health. Most importantly, I have some paddock mates to talk to, also groom, play with, and have the occasional roll.

Keep safe everyone, happy munching,  
Hamish

### MINTON FARM

#### Befriending the animals



Cherry Gardens animal rescue centre Minton Farm, is restoring native wildlife back to health and home in the Onkaparinga region and beyond.



The genuine affection Bev Langley has for the creatures in her care is evident as she walks around her property talking to the "kids". Minton Farm was established in 1992 as a free community service to rescue and rehabilitate injured, orphaned or

unwanted native animals. The centre's focus is squarely on the animals' quality of life. The goal is to rehabilitate the animals as quickly and as completely as possible so they can be safely returned to their territory. The centre receives no core funding, relying entirely on fundraising efforts, grants, donations and its band of



volunteers. In nearly 30 years of service, more than 12,500 animals have been on Minton Farm's rescue table. There are around 300 animals permanently onsite. There are many success stories of healthy animals leaving Minton Farm. During the recent bushfires in the Adelaide Hills, Bev took in Simon the koala, from Birdwood, and Ethel the echidna, from Lobethal.

Simon had suffered burns to his hands, chin and eye. After having his wounds treated and enjoying a nourishing feast of leaves, Simon was returned to a continuous canopy of River Red Gums along a creek line on a no-through road.

"Simon's release was so emotional because he watched me the whole time. The idea is not to bond with the animal so that it remains wild, but I definitely have a connection with the kids. They trust me, and that's the best part," Bev says.



Ethel hid under a house at Lobethal for more than a week with severe burns to her feet, her rear and her beak. Slowly, Ethel recovered, but her missing toenails prevent her from digging

for white ants. She could not be released back to her territory. Instead, Ethel is living in Cleland Wildlife Park, which has a close partnership with Minton Farm.

"Ethel is safe at Cleland, which is all we want," Bev says.

A modern continuous flight enclosure for birds of prey has recently been constructed and put to use on the grounds of Minton Farm. The 'freedom flight' is the first of its kind in South Australia, spanning 12 metres and standing six metres

high, with an enclosure in the centre. Minton Farm received a grant from council to help fund the project. Allowing a bird to fly continuously, rather than up and back, rapidly builds its muscle tone and hastens its recovery.

"We've had a few bird releases in recent months and the birds wouldn't have achieved such high levels of fitness without the freedom flight," Bev says.

If you find an animal in need of care and want to bring it to Minton Farm, Bev has some advice. The most



important thing, she says, is to record where the animal was found.

"Animals are territorial; they have families, food sources and homes that they know. That's how they can survive. If an animal is dumped into another territory, the animals that live there will kill it. If nothing else is recorded, simply jot down on a piece of paper where the animal was discovered," Bev says.

"It's also critical that an injured animal is not fed too soon. The animal will be in shock and in pain, and it needs blood to flow to its essential organs, rather than its digestive system.

"Cover the animal to minimise stimulation. Keep it quiet and keep it warm. A box with a covered hot water bottle at one end so that animal can move off it will keep it warm without becoming dehydrated. Then bring it in so we can start administering pain relief and antibiotics.

"These things will help give the animal the best chance."

Members of the public are frequently coming down the driveway with an injured animal, and Bev says they're always welcome. "Ideally not at 2am!" she says with a laugh. If the gate is shut at Minton Farm upon arrival, an injured animal can be placed in the aviary on the footpath along with a note stating the rescuer's name and telephone number, and where the animal was found. It's the volunteers that are the backbone of Minton Farm, according to Bev.

A group of 10 to 12 adult volunteers are onsite every Tuesday and Thursday.

"Some of our volunteers have been here for 10 years or more," Bev says. "The camaraderie here is beautiful. We have lots of coffee and lots of laughter."

Aside from donations of money to aid Minton Farm in its service, Bev and her team are in constant need of food for the animals. Donations of fresh fruit and vegetables, small parrot mix, plain breakfast cereals, and hay, chaff and pellets are appreciated.

Phone 82701169      Mobile: 0422938439

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

Facebook-

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

## CHERRY CHURCH

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.**

## MAYBE WE DON'T HAVE IT SO BAD?

It's a mess out there now. Hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria. For a small amount of perspective at this moment, imagine you were born in 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I starts and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy.

When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war.

Smallpox was epidemic until you were in your 40's, as it killed 300 million people during your lifetime.

At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. From your birth, until you are 55 you dealt with the fear of Polio epidemics each summer. You experience friends and family contracting polio and being paralyzed and/or die.

At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. During the Cold War, you lived each day with the fear of nuclear annihilation. On your 62nd birthday, you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, almost ended. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they endure all of that? When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85-year-old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art. Refined and enlightening as time goes on. Let's try and keep things in perspective.

Your parents and/or grandparents were called to endure all of the above – we are called to stay home and sit on our couch!

## FRIENDS OF SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK

Well, a lot has happened since my last article in the April edition of Cherry Chatter!

It seems so long ago that the destructive forces of wildfires impacted large parts of the country, to be replaced almost immediately by the worldwide outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia (NPWSSA) implemented measures to prioritise the health and safety of its staff, volunteers and park visitors. This included a decision that Friends of Parks members cease all organised activities in our parks until further notice.

While volunteering has had to cease, many people have taken the advantage of extra time on their hands to visit parks, including Scott Creek CP. I, and other members of the Friends group, who have gone for a walk in the park,

have seen many others from the broader community out there enjoying the many health and wellbeing benefits of being in nature.

As the Federal and State Governments slowly relax the many

restrictions that have been placed on us all, we hope that people will continue to enjoy the values of the park. While

dogs and bikes are not

permitted in

Scott Creek CP, you can visit the NPWSSA website to find a nearby park that does allow these activities. In the meantime, continue to take in the fresh air and many wildflowers and the abundant wildlife in the park.

It is important that we all continue to follow the protocols put in place by the South Australian Government and SA Health. These include practicing social distancing, maintaining good hygiene and maximum group sizes.

The good news for our Friends group is that from May 13<sup>th</sup>, following the easing of relevant restrictions by the SA Government on May 11<sup>th</sup>, NPWSSA have advised us that we can re-commence volunteering in the park. Like the rest of the community, these activities still require us to follow the above protocols.

While we are still working out which activities are safe to restart straight away and which may be delayed a little longer, you will certainly see us out and about again from now on.

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.



*One of numerous fungi found in the Park*



*Western Grey Kangaroo in the Park*



## MT BOLD RESERVOIR - Minor Works

There are upcoming works relating to the drainage of Mount Bold Reservoir.

Since around February this year they have been gradually emptying the reservoir, to prepare it for some minor works scheduled for early May. The works will involve replacing some ageing ancillary equipment (isolation gates) which are used in the operation of valves and pipework. At the same time, they will undertake a detailed conditions assessment of parts of the structure which would usually be underwater.



*Mt Bold Reservoir*

The conditions assessment will help to inform works for the proposed Mount Bold dam safety upgrade project (construction expected to begin in 2022/2023). A licensed commercial fisher is engaged to catch fish, predominantly carp once the water levels are lowered to an appropriate level, and the fish will be sent to Sydney fish market or supplied for fertiliser.

They have also liaised with NRM to commence environmental flow flushing at Clarendon Weir. Water will continue to be diverted to Happy Valley from Mount Bold, until the reservoir is empty, after which the Happy Valley Water Treatment Plant will be temporarily taken offline for planned essential maintenance. The Adelaide Desalination Plant will then provide the majority of supply for customers in the area during the time Mount Bold is offline.

The works are expected to take around four weeks to complete and during this time Mount Bold Reservoir Reserve will be closed to the public. Following the completion of works, winter rains will assist to slowly and naturally refill the reservoir.

## CITY OF ONKAPARINGA THALASSA WARD COUNCILLOR UPDATE

The first 5 months of 2020 have had a significant impact on everyone's lifestyle. First, we had to deal with the bushfires then we got hit with the Coronavirus, resulting in significant changes to how we interact with one another. May I thank all our emergency services volunteers and full-time staff over these months for their effort. Unfortunately, this self-isolating had a significant impact on me, resulting in an altercation with my chainsaw and a 24 hour trip to Flinders Medical Centre with some 30 stitchers to my left little and ring fingers. But I still have the "pinkies" thank goodness. Coast FM has referred me to as the "Chainsaw Warrior" recently during an interview. Love the sense of humour with an old work colleague having some fun.

The last couple of months due to restrictions on gatherings Council meetings and workshops are being held via videoconferencing so one does not necessarily have that interaction with their fellow elected members that one would like. I have also had to deal with NBN "drop-outs" quite regularly during these meetings. Similarly, meetings with the various community groups and residents have been restricted, so one needs to rely on telephone calls, emails and social media to interact with them.

### COVID-19 relief, programs and services

Council's priority is to maintain continuity of the services we provide to ensure our entire community is supported during this unprecedented time, with the following range of relief measures being implemented:

- Giving ratepayers a longer period to pay fourth quarter rate instalments without incurring penalties, for up to eight weeks past the due date.
- Waiving lease and associated costs for businesses and community and sporting clubs using council facilities for a period of three months between 1 April and 30 June 2020, with an extension if required.
- Establishing a \$50,000 community wellbeing and resilience fund to support existing community groups to tackle social isolation, mental health, financial security and food security.
- Establishing a Think Local, Buy Local campaign to promote our local businesses and support the local economy.

Consideration of additional relief measures, including the extension of existing measures, will be undertaken during council's 2020-21 budget deliberations. Many of our council's services have also been affected by COVID-19 restrictions, but I have been impressed by the way we are all adapting, whether it is through our positive ageing centres delivering meals to socially isolated residents, or our libraries offering online story time for kids. Council is currently working hard to reopen sites such as our libraries and community and youth centres following [the](#)

[state government's lifting of some COVID-19 restrictions](#), which came into place on Monday. You can find a full list of our COVID-19 relief measures and affected services at [www.onkaparingacity.com/covid19](http://www.onkaparingacity.com/covid19)

### Supporting Local Businesses

On Monday 11 May [restrictions were eased on non-essential travel](#) and the state government is encouraging regional travel, provided you follow social distancing restrictions. If you are planning on heading further down south for the day, there are still plenty of things to see and do in our region. Many of our cellar doors, wineries, restaurants, cafes, craft beer and gin distilleries are offering pick-up and takeaway wine and food, so it's still a great time to support local and have a bite or a drink at one of our iconic townships before you go for a walk at one of our beaches or national parks.

### 2020/21 Budget

Council is well into the process of developing the 20/21 Budget and it is very obvious that the impacts of COVID-19 will be significant. A report has been prepared for Council following our workshops and is to be considered at the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 19 May before going out for public consultation. One major point is that Council wishes to have a zero percent rate increase for the year. Can I encourage all residents to participate in this consultation process.

### Disclaimer

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

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## BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

With its vivid blue-and-black feathers, the male Superb Fairywren is one of the more stunning and recognisable of our native birds.

Unfortunately, [the species](#) – once common in parks and gardens – appears to have started disappearing from urban areas, often replaced with more aggressive species such as noisy miners.

It's believed the birds have moved away as dense cover and low shrubs – which the Fairywrens need for food, shelter and nesting – have been removed from urban environments.

Some of native birds have adjusted well to living in urban areas such as magpies, galahs and rosellas but other birds have more specific habitat needs that have been cleared to make way for houses and roads. These can often struggle to find enough food or safe places to rest and make a home.

Biodiversity Month is held in September each year and aims to promote the importance of protecting, conserving and improving biodiversity both within Australia and across the world.

The aim is to ensure our important environments and habitats are preserved for future generations of Australians to appreciate and enjoy.

The City of Onkaparinga's Natural Area Conservation Team is working to protect and increase populations of many different species of wildlife, including the Superb Fairy-wren, through actions such as:

- Controlling weeds that push out native plants, wreck habitat and increase bushfire risk.
- Creating new habitat by planting more than 50,000 native seedlings each year to make remaining native vegetation patches bigger, and to make it easier for wildlife to safely travel from patch to patch across our landscape.
- Helping bring back native plant species that have disappeared from an area by growing and planting some of the rare plant species.
- Protecting and rehabilitating natural areas from damage such as people walking and driving over sensitive native vegetation and fragile soils.
- Introducing other wildlife habitat features such as logs and rocks into some areas.
- Working with passionate community groups that help look after our natural areas and teach others about our amazing plants and animals.

### Make a difference at home

You can help protect biodiversity in your own backyard and in our local communities in a number of ways.

- **Create a wildlife friendly garden.** Look for plants native to your region and help create a backyard sanctuary for local birds and wildlife. Find out what is living or should be living in your suburb and see what you can do to help. You can find out more by taking part in nature based activities, searching national database [Atlas of Living Australia](#) or joining one of many citizen science projects.
- **Let nature feed wildlife.** When our native animals use native plants and natural habitat to feed, it's not only better for their health, it's better for biodiversity.
- **Be a responsible pet owner** by not letting your dog or cat interfere with wildlife. And never release an unwanted pet such as a fish, frog or turtle into the wild.

You can also help with important biodiversity research by joining one of many citizen science projects:

- **Join the [Aussie Backyard Bird Count](#)** – provides an opportunity for everyone to help provide important information on birds for one week every October. Last year 399 observers participated in the Onkaparinga region, observing 25,525 individual birds and recording 134 bird species.
- **Become a Frog Spotter by joining [FrogWatch SA](#)** – download the free FrogSpotter app from the Apple iTunes or Google Play store to help collect information about our frog populations and the health of their habitats.





Some of our more vulnerable native birds

## COVID 19 Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants – NOW OPEN

As [announced by Mayor Thompson](#) last week, Council approved a new community grant to support community groups to provide services to our residents during the Coronavirus pandemic.

The \$50,000 [COVID-19 Community wellbeing and resilience grant](#) will support community groups working with individuals and families, particularly disadvantaged ones to:

- expand or adapt existing programs/activities to meet increased need due to COVID-19 or to cater for COVID-19 restrictions (such as shifting to an online or contact-less model) or
- create new programs/activities to meet a need that has emerged due to COVID-19.

The grants of between \$500-\$2000 are open to any incorporated community group operating within the City of Onkaparinga.

Examples of community-led programs that could be funded include those that:

- support residents to have access to safe, affordable, culturally appropriate and nutritious food
- enable communities to support each other to reduce social isolation
- up-skill workers to move into another career path
- provide financial advice and support to those that have lost jobs or suffered a drop in income
- enable young people in the community to provide support (e.g. replacing at-risk volunteers)

More details on the COVID-19 Community wellbeing and resilience grant, including guidelines and a link to the online application form are available at [onkaparingacity.com/grants](http://onkaparingacity.com/grants)

Please direct any enquiries to Sophie Rogers, Grants Officer (08) 8384 0666 or email [grants@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:grants@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

Apologies for any cross-postings

Regards  
Justin Ifould  
Community Wellbeing and Recreation Services Officer  
City of Onkaparinga

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Mob: 0408 600 639  
Email: [Justin.Ifould@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:Justin.Ifould@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

.....

**NEIGHBOURS.....**Who'd have 'em, who'd be without 'em?

The English Dictionary definition of a neighbour is “a person who lives near another; a person or thing situated next to another; a fellow human being.”

The same dictionary definition of neighbourly is: “characteristic of a neighbour, friendly”. The adverb being: “in a neighbourly or social manner.”

We, living here in Cherry Gardens usually class anyone else living in Cherry as being our “neighbour”, even if they live some distance away.

Someone asking if we know a particular person in Cherry and we say, “Yes, they're our neighbour, they live about half a kilometre away on the other side of the road”.

Such is the feeling about neighbours in Cherry Gardens.

Being “neighbourly” in suburbia is different to that in the country. Sometimes though, people don't realise the importance of being neighbourly. I don't mean living in the neighbours pocket, so to speak, but being there when there is a need to borrow a cup of sugar, or a couple of nails (and believe me that, or something similar, has been done by me on more than one occasion.) It would be a different situation in suburbia where the “local shops” are just around the corner and not 10 kilometres away.

Being neighbourly also means helping out if their car is broken down, running their kids down to school, doing a bit of shopping for them while you're there, just to help out. Or them coming over helping to shift something too big to handle by yourself. The neighbours just come on over for a coffee and to lend a helping hand.

Being neighbourly can also mean phoning around if you're having a burn-off so they can put off their washing for another day.

By neighbourly I mean, what if there were a bushfire.....? Your neighbours may be your first line of defense. They very possibly will be the ones who will try everything in their power to prevent damage to your property in the event of you being unable to get home in time. They will phone you to tell you if there is a problem in the first place. They will remove your animals, if possible, to a safe place; they will turn on your fire pump and douse your roof for you. They in turn will expect similar from you in the same situation.

When you've been away for a while, coming back to your neighbourhood gives you a wonderful feeling, and neighbours are sometimes there to help feed your animals and water your plants while you're away.

Hopefully your neighbourhood is also a safe place to be. Neighbourhood Watch, or Rural Watch, was a very special programme, which unfortunately is no longer in operation in the community, but with great neighbours around, you can be assured that they will be there to keep an eye out for you when you're not home, listening

for alarms and checking out strange cars and people in the area.

We are very fortunate where we live that we have fabulous neighbours.

Unfortunately for some, their neighbours leave something to be desired. Not friendly, thinking only of themselves, being unreasonable when the situation calls for reason.

There is an old adage, it goes something like this:-

“What you give out today will come back to you, in some way, sometime.

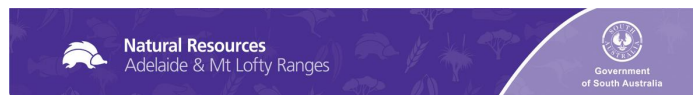
Very rarely will it come from the same source, but be assured, it will return.”

In other words – “what goes around, comes around.”

Something very important in those words for us all to remember in all parts of our lives don't you think?

I know it's naïve of me to think that everyone can get along in this world. We are all so different. Different upbringings, different belief systems, but when we're living in the confines of a beautiful area and community like Cherry Gardens; surely every effort should be made to make life enjoyable. To get on with your neighbours. Who wants to live a life whining about their neighbours when it's so much more beneficial to expend our energy on more worthwhile projects?

*(Reprinted from December 2003 – still applicable 17 years on)*



## Nature passion pays off for Adelaide schools, community

**Environment grants totaling over \$200,000 have been awarded to schools and community groups across Adelaide and the Mt Lofty Ranges.**

“The grants are funded by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board from the NRM levy.

NRM Board member David Greenhough said the grants will go to fund the exciting and innovative ideas submitted by 59 schools and 19 community groups.

“The Community Environment grants support community groups to do projects which promote the sustainable management of natural resources while helping to build skills, awareness and knowledge in the community.

“The School Environment grants help support students to lead sustainability projects, or to connect with nature, biodiversity and outdoor learning,” he said.

Successful recipients of the **Community Grants** include, for example, Conservation Volunteers Australia to investigate how barn owls can help control rats, Friends of Merchants Road for creek restoration, Girl Guides SA and Friends of Dry Creek Trail to build nest boxes, Two Wells Community Nursery to train volunteers, Estuary Care to run guided eco tours at Port Adelaide, Permaculture SA for workshops, the Prospect

Local Environment Group for a sustainable living market and Trees Please! to undertake biodiversity conservation work.

The 59 recipients of the **School Grants** include Bridgewater Primary School who will study how the Australian bush responds to fire and how students can help in the process. Seacliff Primary School will use its grant to publish books about the environment in Japanese, Chinese, Spanish, Norwegian and Polish. At Hove, McAuley Community School will use its grant to develop an inter-cultural garden incorporating Kurna, Italian and Japanese elements.”

“I'd like to congratulate all the recipients, and I look forward to seeing the results of these great projects,” Mr Greenhough said.

## MEDIA CONTACT

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Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges  
Department for Environment and Water  
P: 0417 975 597

E: [abigail.thomas@sa.gov.au](mailto:abigail.thomas@sa.gov.au)

## CONGRATULATIONS to Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park for celebrating 30 years restoring Scott Creek Conservation Park.

They received a grant of \$7598 for a public walk, an Open Day and continuing to restore habitat within the Park.

For more information on grant recipients, please go to [www.cherry chatter.org.au](http://www.cherry chatter.org.au)

## CITY OF ONKAPARINGA DRAFT COMMUNITY PLAN

Onkaparinga Council has prepared a draft Community Plan and they are seeking feedback from the residents of Cherry Gardens.

Phase 2 engagement for the draft Community Plan is open until Monday 8 June.

Community members are invited to share their feedback via a short survey on Your Say, which can be accessed by clicking [this link](#). The website address is: <https://yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/draft-community-plan-1>

The council is promoting this engagement through:

- Facebook posts
- Direct emails to an extensive stakeholder list, including everyone registered for the Low Income Forum
- On-hold messages
- Letters to our local MPs



## ANZAC DAY REMEMBERING OUR LOCAL HEROES

As mentioned earlier in this edition the ANZAC Day service was cancelled for this year and many locals participated in the “Light up the Dawn” reflection.

This year we also saw many locals with their own memorial on their front gate or fence and we thank everyone for participating and took a few photos.

We hope this will become a new tradition in years to come.















## BUILDING RESILIENCE

### COMMUNITY GRANTS

On 23 April, Council approved a new community grant to support its residents' social isolation, mental health, financial security and food security in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

The \$50,000 community wellbeing and resilience fund will be used to support existing community groups that are working with individuals and families, particularly disadvantaged ones, by expanding their programs or creating new ones.

The grants – with between \$500–\$2000 available to each applicant – are open to any incorporated community group operating within the City of Onkaparinga.

Examples of community-led programs that could be funded by the grant include those that:

- Support residents to have access to safe, affordable, culturally appropriate and nutritious food.
- Enable communities to support each other to reduce social isolation.
- Up-skill workers to move into another career path.
- Provide financial advice and support to those that have lost jobs or suffered a drop in income.
- Enable young people in the community to provide support (e.g. replacing at-risk volunteers).

The funds allocated to this grant are from savings identified in a 2019–20 budget review, and it aims to fill a gap between other COVID–19 relief measures council

is providing, as well as those provided by organisations, businesses and the state and federal governments.

More details on the community wellbeing and resilience fund are available at [onkaparingacity.com/grants](http://onkaparingacity.com/grants) with applications for round two closing on 22 June.

"Times are tough right now, but we're all in this together and this fund adds to a suite of COVID–19 relief measures already introduced by council to help ease the strain on our communities," says City of Onkaparinga Mayor, Erin Thompson.

"We're continuing to work through what other support options can be offered to our community as people continue to be impacted by the virus.

"It's important we make sure that meaningful relief is provided to those who really need it."

Other COVID–19 support measures implemented by the City of Onkaparinga to date include:

- A longer period of time to pay fourth quarter rates instalments without incurring penalties, for a period of up to eight weeks past the due date, and looking at what other options we can provide our ratepayers through the budget process.
- Waiving lease and associated costs for businesses and community and sporting clubs using council facilities for a period of three months between 1 April and 30 June 2020, with an extension if required.
- A buy local campaign to promote local businesses and support the local economy.

- Reducing the payment terms for small-to-medium local businesses to 14 days.
- Pivoting the Southern Business Mentoring Program—jointly funded with Cities of Marion and Holdfast Bay—to respond to business issues relating to COVID–19. All appointment fees have been waived until June 30 and two new specialist streams—mental health and wellbeing and specialist retail support—have been added.
- Establishing a dedicated COVID–19 business support page and distributing weekly COVID–19 business support emails, as well as publishing a COVID–19 business resource guide with links and support.
- Creating a local Jobs Board Directory that lists local job providers, agencies and recruiters to assist job seekers in our community.

COVID–19 responses aside, City of Onkaparinga is focused on maintaining continuity of the services it provides to its community to ensure residents are supported during this time and the crisis is not exacerbated.

Residents and businesses are using council services more than ever, as well as seeking support for the new challenges this crisis has presented.

To keep up to date with the City of Onkaparinga's relief measures and affected services, visit [www.onkaparingacity.com/COVID19](http://www.onkaparingacity.com/COVID19)

## COVID-19

We are continuing to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation.

The safety of our community, customers, staff and volunteers is our number one priority.

We're keeping our community up to date with information about changes, closures, and cancellations to council services, centres, and events on our website at [www.onkaparingacity.com/COVID19](http://www.onkaparingacity.com/COVID19)

## COMFORT FOOD

The teams at Elizabeth House and Wakefield House are preparing tasty and wholesome meals to deliver to vulnerable and socially isolated local residents.

For three decades, council-owned and operated positive ageing centres Elizabeth House, in Christie Downs, and Wakefield House, in Morphett Vale, have been a safe and welcoming meeting place for members of the community. The friendships fostered through the social activities at the centres are a lifeblood for visitors. Attendees enjoy gathering to share a delicious and wholesome meal, prepared in-house by the healthy eating facilitators using vegetables grown in the centres' own community gardens.

Sadly, though, both centres were closed to the public in March as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. An immediate and coordinated effort ensued to deliver meals to the homes of vulnerable and socially isolated residents who normally use the centres, as well as anyone else who is struggling to access food.

The meal deliveries provide a way for staff to stay in touch with many older residents and make sure they are okay, as well as giving them nutritious food.

"From the day we received the news that we would have to close, we set about reassuring the community that we would continue to provide them with a daily meal," Elizabeth House Centre Coordinator, Sophie Lawrence says.

Staff held meal-planning sessions to ensure the food on offer would be enjoyable to eat and bring comfort to people. Elizabeth House offers wholesome one-pot-wonders such as casseroles and stews presented as a generous main meal for \$5 per serve, plus a soup available for \$2.50. Wakefield House has a meal pack available for \$8, including a soup, main meal and a small dessert. And, there's no extra charge for delivery from either centre. People are welcome to order multiple meal packs to store at home too.

"Our freezers are continuously being topped up," Sophie says. "In collaboration with the council's community transport service, we have expanded our reach to offer free delivery of food anywhere within the Onkaparinga region."

Support from volunteers who chose to continue with their effort in preparing, packing and delivering food has allowed the council staff in the centres to increase their work in feeding the community.

"The food delivery service would not have continued at all if it weren't for the volunteers," Sophie says.

Safe social distancing and thorough hand washing and hygiene practices are employed throughout the supply chain, right to the community member's home, where the food is placed at the door for the customer to collect. Cash payments left at the door are collected by gloved hands.

For the past five years, Rudi Ehrich has been enjoying a meal at Elizabeth House. Aged in his 90s, Rudi says the food delivery service has been essential for him. "Most of the food I get now is from Elizabeth House," Rudi says. "I can't cook, but the meal they bring me is perfect. The people are very friendly. They're doing a good job."

Gardeners at both centres are growing as many winter vegetables as possible to be able to meet an expected increase in demand for meals in the colder months. Wakefield House Centre Coordinator, Verna Saunders says the need for food assistance in the community is vast.

"We are preparing hundreds of meals," Verna says. "Although Wakefield House is a positive ageing centre, there is no age limit to who we will support. We are delivering food to people younger than 65, including people with disabilities and families. If anyone needs a meal and can't access food, we are here to support them. If people are under financial stress, we won't turn them away."

### MORE INFORMATION

For details about accessing meals from Elizabeth House phone 8384 5170 or email [Sophie.Lawrence@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:Sophie.Lawrence@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

To arrange food delivery from Wakefield House phone 8384 6158 or email [Verna.Saunders@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:Verna.Saunders@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)



Wakefield House staff members Nicola Chadburn (left) and Verna Saunders (right) ready to deliver meals to vulnerable community members



Resident Shirley Butler receives a meal pack from Wakefield House's Nicola Chadburn



Wakefield House chef, Terry Downes (left) with Steve Fiford



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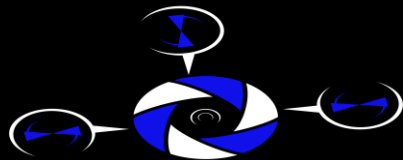
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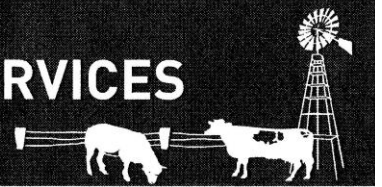


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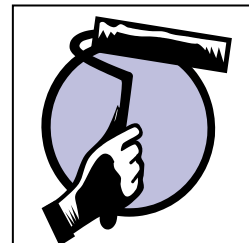
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