



Cherry Chatter

Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

CHERRY GARDENS CFS

The Australia Day long weekend this year will go down as a time we were tested - as individuals, as a Brigade and as a community. What the CFS subsequently referred to as the "Cherry Gardens fire" started for us with the following page at 4:15 PM Sunday 24 Jan -
MFS: *CFSRES INC0120 24/01/21 16:15 RESPOND GRASS FIRE, ALARM LEVEL: 1, 117 HICKS HILL RD CHERRY GARDENS,MAP:ADL 167 K12,TG 146, =SMK FROM ORCHARD RD :AIRDESK4 CHRY34 CHRY34P IRBK24 IRBK34 R1_PHILLIP STUG_BW11C :

This saw all of our appliances (plus Ironbank) immediately dispatched to Hicks Hill Road. At the time we were crewed and on active standby at the station due to the severe fire weather conditions. We went to work quickly upon arrival, immediately calling for more support. Within thirteen minutes the response had escalated significantly with more units called plus water bomber support. During this time, numerous other 000 reports were made for different locations in the area and a major outbreak had started in Scott Creek Conservation Park. The incidents were further upgraded four minutes later to call in strike teams from further afield - from places such as Hahndorf, Mylor, Bradbury, Mt Barker, Meadows and Nairne. Ultimately, CFS crews and other emergency service providers would be called from all parts of the State to battle these fires over the coming days.

The Cherry Gardens brigade was primarily involved with the fires at Hicks Hill Road, which was brought under control by late Sunday night. Numerous houses were successfully defended by the various units assigned to this area, but some sheds and fencing were unfortunately impacted. Our thoughts and best wishes are with those families. We all tried hard to avoid any loss.

Over the next couple of days, we supported the crews dealing with the major fire at Scott Creek Conservation Park. This fire was virtually unstoppable during the initial stages and well into the early hours of Monday morning. It had the potential (and was predicted) to impact on the Cherry Gardens area. Lack of overnight wind and some morning rain allowed crews from neighbouring areas to get the upper hand with this fire. They did an outstanding job.

Since these horrific fires, the community support for our Brigade has been overwhelming. Donations of supplies, drinking water, cakes, food and well wishes has been incredibly humbling. We are very grateful for this support and cannot thank the community enough.



At a State level, we have subsequently hosted His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le, Governor of South Australia, Premier Steven Marshall, Vincent Tarzia - member for Hartley, Steve Murray MP, Member for Davenport, Josh Teague - Member for Heysen and CFS Chief Officer Mark Jones at our station. They were all interested in hearing first-hand how our community was affected, how the brigade was dealing with events and what further support was needed.

Much more can be written regarding the events of 24/25 January and perhaps in coming months we will share

some more stories and photographs. Fighting a fire is a team effort on so many levels but the main message from the Brigade to the Cherry Gardens Community is how grateful we are for all the support and well wishes. Thank you!



Many of you would also know that a Community Meeting was held at the Memorial Hall on Friday 5th Feb with a great turnout of people all coming together to share experiences and hear about the various support services available.

Council and State Government representatives attended along with many CFS crew members (who received a huge amount of well-deserved thanks and recognition on the night) as well as our neighbours from Bradbury, Ironbank and Scott Creek who were directly impacted. It was a great chance for everyone to reflect on what had happened and hear about the many organisations that are available to assist with recovery which we'll share via Face Book and on our website.



Please 'Like' us on Facebook

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

Articles for Cherry Chatter must to be received by email to email address cherrychatter@yahoo.com by 5th 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

DECEMBER 2020

Rainfall for December 2020	28.4 mm
Rainfall for December 2019	29.4
Average rainfall for December	40.3
Rainfall to the end of December 2020	992.0
Rainfall to the end of December 2019	773.0
Avg rainfall to the end of December	920.3
Number days of rain December 2020	5
Number days of rain December 2019	4

CHERRY GARDENS RAINFALL REPORT

JANUARY 2021

Rainfall for January 2021	31.4 mm
Rainfall for January 2020	51.4
Average rainfall for January	27.8
Rainfall to the end of January 2021	31.4
Rainfall to the end of January 2020	51.4
Number days of rain January 2021	5
Number days of rain January 2020	7

2020 CHERRY CHATTER COMMITTEE

Chair	Don Watton
Deputy Chair	Kerry Hughes
Editorial Team	Don Watton, Vicki Kirss, Emmanuelle Harrington
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CC Email address:	cherrychatter@yahoo.com

THE CHERRY CHATTER AGM

WILL BE HELD AT THE CHERRY GARDENS MEMORIAL HALL ON WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH AT 7.30

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Please come along and get involved with a fun group, doing some wonderful community work.

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HALL NEWS

The Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hall on Tuesday 23rd February 2021 at 7:30pm.

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3 – 5 yrs 10:30am – 11:30am
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CHERRY GARDENS CFS

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



If you have not thought about this yet, then please stop and get your Bushfire Safety Plan prepared and clean up around your place. You can follow this link to do a 5-minute plan.

5 MINUTE BUSHFIRE PLAN ACT NOW

<https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/prepare-for-a-fire/5-minute-bushfire-plan/>

Finally, a reminder again that we are looking for any information that anyone might have on the early days of the Cherry Gardens Air Strip.

CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB

Contact Ray Wise – President 0405 273 003 83836011

Next Meetings

Monday 15th March

Trevor Nottle, well known garden writer, will talk about the South Australian Open Garden Scheme.

Monday 12th April

Rosalie Lawrence will speak on native orchids of the local area.

GEORGE'S GARDENING SUGGESTIONS for MARCH 2021

- Cut back fuchsias and geraniums this month. The long spindly branches should be reduced by two thirds, but don't be tempted to prune too hard or they may die!
- It's time to think about spring flowering annuals like pansies, alysum, linaria, lobelia and nemesia which all can be relied upon to put on a good show.



Sweet Peas

- Sweet peas should be sown this month but at the time of writing I have some self-sown ones looking healthy and about 5cm tall already! Make a trellis about 2m tall and include some superphosphate in the well-rotted compost you add to the planting trench and they will reward you with weeks of flowers with a fragrance second only to the rose.
- There will be a good selection of bulbs at your garden centre right now, so make your choice and plant into some enriched soil for a great spring show.

- Some gardeners lose interest in their vegetable patch after the summer crops have finished however autumn plantings of cool weather crops are just as rewarding and probably easier to manage.
- Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, broad beans and peas are a few you could try.

OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish



Greetings Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

It seems like such a long time between articles and I remember wishing you all a safe and uneventful summer break. Unfortunately that was not to be and many of us

found ourselves in the midst of a frightening summer fire. As bad as these events are, hopefully there are some positives to be taken from them. From my perspective, my owners had a fire plan and had also planned to stay. The plan took around 20 minutes to be put into effect and we were calmly moved into a safe area on the property. The stables were secured and closed, surplus equipment was stored indoors, all outdoor baths were filled with water, leaving my owners free to use hoses around the property to protect us. According to my owners the CFS crews did a fantastic job, they couldn't praise them enough, so on behalf of us equines, thank you also!

What my owners have taken out of this is yet another update of their fire plan. It did work, but improvements have been made. Hopefully next time around (and we have to expect that there may be a next time) preparation will be even better.

Not only were the CFS crews great, but it was both amazing, moving and humbling to be contacted by so many old friends offering their thoughts and offers of help. My owners seemed to spend as much time holding the hoses as answering the phone/computer.

The loss of animal life and material possessions affects all of us as we come out the other side, but hopefully again there positives to be taken from this -it could have been much worse.

What can be taken out of this is yet another update of your fire plan. Knowing what to do with your livestock, working in with neighbours and generally keeping your property clear of surplus materials will all go towards helping the firefighters do their job and help to keep them safe while they do it. Even if you have to leave, make sure that water points are clearly indicated and gateways accessible.

Now that the crisis has passed, this is a good time to check around your property for any areas which could benefit from extra clearing, removing surplus debris and so on. We haven't had much of a summer yet and there is still time for another hot spell. Forearmed is forewarned so they say.

Keep safe everyone,
Hamish and pals

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH



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As the day comes to a close, the swallows have returned to their favorite roost, (albeit blackened) the kangaroos are coming out of the scrub to eat pellets supplied by land owners to counteract their loss of grazing, and the burnt scrub takes on a beautiful face belying the grief of the loss of Scott Creek Conservation Park and the wonderful birds and animals within its arms. Such a loss to so many.





It's so rewarding to have the Roos coming out of their burnt homes and accepting carrots, sweet potato, hay and pellets and drinking from the water stations today. Minton Farm provided the items and land holders and friends have installed and fed them out.

CHERRY CHURCH

Cherry Gardens Church
87 Hicks Hills Road, Cherry Gardens

Services held on Sundays at 9.30am
Chairperson: Rob Linn 0407971650



*'O Lord, hear my prayer,
Listen to my cry for mercy;
In your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.'*
Psalm 143:1

There are many times when it is difficult to discern what exactly is going on in our world.

Probably the most recent example for the Cherry Gardens community and our neighbouring communities is how to deal with the frightening reality of fire. Especially those fires which have been deliberately lit.

The ferocity of a major fire event is overwhelming and its impact, in physical, human and emotional terms, enormous.

Somehow, through the ash, the smoke and stench even these natural disasters have their positive side. In the case of the most recent fire it has been amazing to see – what we already knew – the commitment and skill of the

CFS personnel, their care and compassion for others and their willingness to go the extra mile. There is nothing sufficient to praise these people and their actions; they are wonderful. Thank you all.

Moreover, the aftermath of the event has also highlighted the closeness of the Cherry Gardens community, the encouragement we can share and the care we feel for each other. In the case of the Cherry Church we received messages, emails and contacts from all over the world from those who had either worshipped with us or originally came from Cherry Gardens.

At times such as these, we can know that we are cared for by a living God and that His son, Jesus, cared so much for us that he dared to die. God knows tragedy and disaster and provides loving comfort during times like this. We pray that you may also know the wonder of this comfort.

As a place of Christian worship, the Cherry Church and its lively congregation welcomes everyone to drop in. Sunday morning worship is held each week at 9.30 am, followed by a cup of tea. Please come and join us, we'd love to see you.



MARION RIDING CLUB

EXCITING NEWS!

MARION RIDING CLUB is under new management!

New faces and a new spirit.

We are looking forward to an exciting year with new activities in our calendar.

Our grounds are in the Marion Reserve off Ayliffes Road. It is a lovely sheltered area with room to park.

A Come and Try Day is being held on the grounds starting at 10 am on Sunday 7th March. All welcome!

Proposed activities will include Working Equitation and its associated skills. It is open to all levels of riding, be it led or under saddle.

Plans are still progress at present, so we will be looking for interest from riders as to what you would like to do.

We welcome all combinations, whether you have an inexperienced horse or you are an 'old hand'.

Please contact either Ruth Flaherty 0401126114 or Sandy Doig 0467028640.

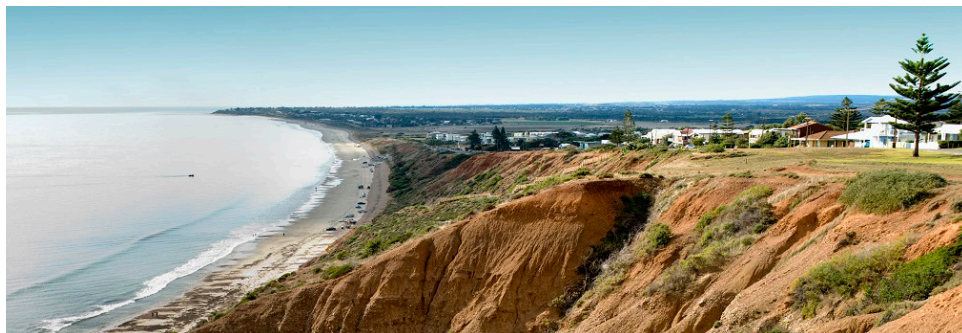
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CITY OF ONKAPARINGA LAUNCHES ONLINE TRANSPARENCY HUB

The City of Onkaparinga has launched a new Transparency and Integrity Portal, to improve the visibility of its operations and accountability to its community.

The portal provides a single point of access for a range of information such as expense reporting, policy documents, and gift and benefit registers for employees and elected members.

"This is about council being open and transparent, and freely sharing information about council operations and the expenditure of public funds," said Mayor Erin Thompson.

"Our community has been very clear that transparency is the cornerstone of building greater trust and I can assure you we've listened. This portal is the latest demonstration of this council's willingness to be accountable for our actions and serve our community with integrity.

"It will also help our residents to better understand Council decisions, activities and operations," Mayor Thompson said.

The council will continue to add content to the portal in coming months, and has welcomed community feedback either via the portal, by phone or email.

"We're proud of the work we do for our 170,000 residents and we hope our commitment to transparency will help

our residents feel proud to live in the City of Onkaparinga," Mayor Thompson said.

You can view the Transparency and Integrity Portal now at onkaparingacity.com/transparency-portal

The portal currently includes:

- Expense reporting – corporate purchase cards and travel
- Released confidential items
- Elected Member Code of Conduct
- Elected Member register of allowances and benefits
- Gifts and benefits
- Register of interests
- Allowances and benefits
- Complaints management
- Audit Risk Value and Efficiency Committee (ARVEC) agendas and minutes
- Freedom of information process
- Project information
- Tenders and procurement
- Publications
- Delegations
- Annual Business Plan
- Policies and procedures

For more news and information on projects, events and initiatives in the City of Onkaparinga visit onkaparinganow.com

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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 to council services, centres and events on our website at onkaparingacity.com/COVID19

CONNECTING WITH STURT RIVER

Pedestrians and cyclists are enjoying the third stage of the Sturt River Linear Park Master Plan which has recently been completed in Coromandel Valley.

The master plan was developed in 2005 by the former Adelaide and Mount Lofty Natural Resources Management Board – now Green Adelaide. It forms an integral part of Adelaide’s Metropolitan Open Space System and is identified within the state government’s 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide as part of its greenways policies.

As part of the project an 800 metre sealed asphalt path has been constructed, providing safe pedestrian and cyclist access from Horner’s Bridge carpark adjacent Coromandel Parade to Frank Smith Park on Magarey Road. The continuous path connects to other community hubs including Watchman House, Coromandel Valley Shopping Centre and Coromandel Valley Primary School. In future, it will create a continuous trail link all the way to Patawalonga Basin in Glenelg North.

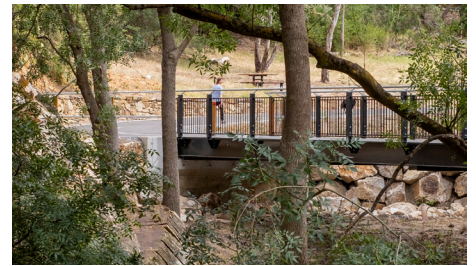
The construction of a pedestrian boardwalk and bridges at river crossings and in

low-lying flood plain areas provides the community with the opportunity to enjoy views of the wildlife and rock formations along the river. Stacked rock retaining walls, signage and bench seats, shelters and tables for picnics have also been installed.

Restoring watercourse habitat to improve the natural ecosystem function of the Sturt River was also a key component of the project. The river corridor has been planted with more than 20,000 native seedlings including trees, large and small shrubs, ground covers, and non-invasive heritage plant species to complement the historic character of the area.

The \$3.5 million project was co-funded by the state government’s Department for Infrastructure and Transport, and the City of Onkaparinga and City of Mitcham as the path crosses land in both council areas.

Read the full story on Onkaparinga Now.



RUNNING ‘ROUND THE SOUTH

Start stretching those hamstrings – one of South Australia’s premier running events, the Leconfield Wines McLaren Vale Marathon, is headed to town April 9–11.

There are several different courses on offer to cater for runners of all abilities, including a half-marathon, 13km and 6km races, and a free kids’ run, with options for runners and walkers alike.

Presented by Great Southern Runs, this year’s event also features the City of Onkaparinga Mile – a 1.6-kilometre fun run, giving everyone the opportunity to join in and get active.

With a focus on participation and inclusion, the Mile is perfect for kids and athletes with a disability, and carers, guides or parents are welcome to accompany their runners around the course.

Head to the Great Southern Runs website for more information, including extracurricular

activities, such as the movie night, presentations and post-race party at Leconfield & Richard Hamilton Wines.

Finally, South Australia’s premier half-marathon, the Great Southern Half Marathon (also presented by Great Southern Runs), is headed to Aldinga Bay on Sunday 16 May, also offering 10km and 5km races, with options for both runners and walkers.

City of Onkaparinga Mayor Erin Thompson says the events offered residents and visitors perfect opportunities to keep healthy and active while experiencing Onkaparinga’s charming townships and vistas.

“I’d urge anyone looking to keep fit in 2021 to give one of these events a go,” she says.

“There’s something to suit everyone, whether you’re a walker, a child, an athlete with a disability, you’re looking to start your running journey, or you’re a seasoned marathon pro.

“Our towns and suburbs offer an incredible diversity of scenic roads, trails, parks and tracks, and it’s great to see these events

building on our credentials as a premier running and cycling destination.”

Other options to keep healthy and active in the City of Onkaparinga include:

- **OUTFIT Onkaparinga** – free group exercise sessions outside in a welcoming environment with a personal trainer, various times and locations
- **Recreation centres** – jump-start your training by visiting one of our four recreation centres for swimming, group fitness or court sports
- **Parkrun** – a free weekly 5km timed community group run or walk, with groups at Aldinga Beach, Christies Beach, McLaren Vale, Moana and Reynella East
- **Heart Foundation Walking** – a free community initiative using local volunteer walk organisers to lead small groups of people on walks in their local area
- **Heritage walks** – small guided history leisurely walks that promote significant local history.

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

We understand that this fire event has had an effect on many people and we are here to support where we can. Thank you to Cherry Chatter, the Hall committee, Cherry Gardens CFS, and supporters who organised the community meeting on 5 February.

We are working closely with Adelaide Hills Council and there are a number of support services available to our residents impacted by the fire.

Learn more at onkaparingacity.com

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Cr Marion Themeliotis

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Rebekha Sharkie MP

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CHERRY GARDENS PLUMBING

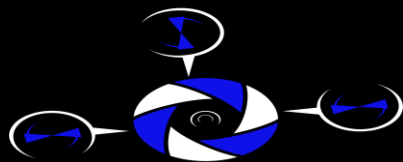
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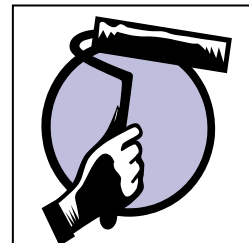
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Ironbank Cherry Gardens Tennis Club



QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday March the 13th at 7:30pm
Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground

Everyone's welcome, get together with family, friends or team mates and organise a table (up to 10 people). These nights have always been good fun, so come along and support the club.

As the club is licensed and bar facilities are available no drinks will be permitted to be brought into the club.

Cost is \$10 adult, \$5 Children (Under 18yrs)

For more info or to book a table, email the club at IBCG@bigpond.com or contact Graham Bate (8270 3041) or Phil Battersby (0417 215 647)