



Cherry Chatter

Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

BEV'S INSPIRING STORY

I covered my face with a pillow to block out the blinding light.

"Can you draw the curtains, please?" I begged my husband, Glenn.

For months, I'd been suffering debilitating migraines which left me hiding out in my darkened bedroom.

It turned out I had encephalitis and meningitis but as the weeks passed, I started to overcome my illness. Finally feeling like I could handle an outing, I took my kids, Nathan and Jessica, to the local show.

As we strolled around, I spotted a stall where a woman had a live possum on her head.

"What's all this?" I asked her.

"We're from a wildlife rescue group," she explained.

"We help native animals in trouble."

How kind, I thought.

Glenn and I owned a six-acre block of land, Minton Farm, and we were always spotting kangaroos, possums and koalas roaming around.

I realised that if we learnt how to care for them properly, we could help any that were injured or abandoned.

"I'd love to do what I can," I told the woman.

She invited me to join the rescue group's weekly session where I learned how to rescue possums and kangaroos.

I hoped it would give me the boost I needed to get back on my feet and love life again.

When I came home from the sessions, I passed my new knowledge on to my family.

"You should do this as a job, Mum," Jessica said. "So many animals out there need you."

For now, it was just a hobby. I had so much more to learn.

Soon, I noticed the majority of local incidents involved cats attacking birds, so I joined the Bird Care society, too.

It wasn't long before rescuing animals became my passion. Word spread to the wider community and

people from across the state began asking for my help.

Every week, a new possum or kangaroo was dropped at the house and I'd mend their injuries on the kitchen table.

Soon, there were more animals than I knew what to do with and I had to rope in my family to help out.

Jessica would hand me bandages as I fixed a wound on a kangaroo, and Nathan usually followed me around the farm each morning, helping to feed the animals.

Most nights we'd sit down to watch the telly with possums running up the curtains and little bettongs hiding in our slippers. It was mayhem, but we all loved it.



Bev with Emilou the Emu

When we had more animals than the four of us could cope with, I recruited volunteers to help and created the Minton Farm Animal Rescue Centre.

Over the years, we rescued more than 12,000 animals.

Our main aim was to release the animals back into their natural habitat but that wasn't always possible. Some were too sick to return to the wild, so they came to live with us. They were a welcome addition to our family.

One day, a friend who worked at a cattle station up

north called me. "We've got a wedge-tailed eagle chick whose mother was shot... the siblings have all died," he said. "Our farm hand has been looking after her, but we're not sure what to do from here."

When the chick arrived at our place, she was just a white ball of fluff. The farm hand had done the right thing – she never would have survived in the wild.

But since she'd been raised around humans, we couldn't release her, so she moved in with us.

Soon after, we received an owl egg that was found in the ruins of a fire at a piggery.

"Let's keep it warm and see what happens," I said, unsure if it was already too late. Days later, a baby barn owl emerged from the egg.

"We'll call her Ewok," I smiled to the kids, cradling the tiny animal in my palm.

We built another enclosure next to the eagle.

Now we have possums, kangaroos, wombats and a whole range of birds.

With the recent bushfires, we were inundated with calls about burned animals.

One was from a chap who lived down the road. "I've got an echidna under my property that won't come out. She looks in bad shape," he said.

"Wait for her to come out overnight, then put her in the bath tub and we'll come and collect her," I told him.



Ethel the Echidna

Next day, the echidna still hadn't come out. A week passed before we caught sight of the damaged creature, whose weight was only half of what it should have been. "She's a little skeleton under her quills," I gasped as I inspected her.

She couldn't get out to feed because her toes had been scorched in the fires.

We named her Ethel and promised to get her better.

After giving her antibiotics, we bathed her burns, then bandaged up her feet.

Within days she started to respond to the treatment and

began to eat again. Our whole family was stoked.

I shared updates on Ethel's condition on our Minton Farm Animal Rescue Centre Facebook page and followers fell in love with the sweet, spiky creature.

Ethel's injuries were too severe for her to ever return to the wild, so we brought her to nearby Cleland Wildlife Park.

Now she lives in an enclosure with fellow echidnas and even a couple of bandicoots!

Looking to the future, I know there will be plenty more animals like Ethel who will come into our care.



Bev and Glenn releasing the Kestrel

We have exciting plans for our rescue centre, like building extra enclosures for our birds of prey and improving the facilities for our volunteers.

I never imagined when I signed up to the wildlife group all of those years ago, I would find my life's purpose. But now I'm living life to the fullest and can honestly say that saving animals has helped me, too.

- To donate, visit www.mintonfarm.org

Thanks must go to Courtney Greatrex and Take5 Magazine for allowing us to reproduce this article.

Articles for Cherry Chatter must to be received by email to email address cherry chatter@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

FOR JUNE 2020

Rainfall for June 2020	181.6 mm
Rainfall for June 2019	140.4
Average rainfall for June	130.2

Rainfall to the end of June 2020	577.2
Rainfall to the end of June 2019	387.6
Average rainfall to the end of June	412.1

Number days of rain for June 2020	15
Number days of rain for June 2019	16

2020 CHERRY CHATTER COMMITTEE

Chair	Don Watton
Deputy Chair	Kerry Hughes
Editorial Team	Don Watton, Vicki Kirss, Emmanuelle Harrington
Secretary	Bev Watton
Treasurer/Ads	Marg Macks pmmcacks@bigpond.net.au
Newsletter	Vicki Kirss 0412 364 180
Address:	409 Cherry Gardens Rd, Cherry Gardens SA 5157
Website:	www.cherrychatter.org.au
CC Email address:	cherrychatter@yahoo.com

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 BIRTHDAY FOR AUGUST

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Jolanda Tree	Felix Tree
Kylie Porter-Wright	Marni Porter-Wright
Quinn Spencer	Edie Brooks
Glenys Brooks	Charlotte Poker
Raelene Lewis	

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
Full kitchen facilities available



Good News...

The good news is that with the lifting of restrictions we are planning for the Community Campfire this year. We have set the date as September 12th.

Mark it in your diary, and we will post A-frames around the area as soon as we are sure it can go ahead.

As usual, a 5pm start, damper and soup, sausage sizzle, wine for sale and marshmallows for the kids.

Laughing Lama Dance and Drama

This group will be holding classes at the hall starting in July. See the flyer below and make contact if you are interested.



Now available for birthday parties!

Laughing Llama
Dance & Drama

WEDNESDAYS:
Little Llamas Ballet:
20 months – 3.5 yrs 9:40am – 10:25am
3 – 5 yrs 10:30am – 11:30am

FRIDAYS:
Little Llamas Creative Lab (Dance/Drama) 3 – 5 yrs 3:45 – 4:45pm

  [laughingllamadd](https://www.facebook.com/laughingllamadd) www.laughingllamadanceanddrama.com.au

Why not "Like Us" on Facebook to keep up to date with coming events www.facebook.com/cherrygardens/

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It was good news to read that the Recreation Ground has received a grant from the State Government, with matching funding from the Onkaparinga Council, for the much needed change room facility. As a resident of Cherry Gardens for 40 years, I and my family have been beneficiaries of being able to use the Recreation Ground for a variety of activities. These days when our grandchildren visit us, one of the first things

we hear is "Pops, can we go over to the oval please". They enjoy flying kites, kicking footballs, throwing Frisbees, searching for golf balls, and of course using the swings and playground.

For my part, my connection with the "Oval" was in the 1980/1990s as a member of the Cherry Gardens/Ironbank Cricket Club, where I opened the batting for the club along with Bob Evans (brother of MP Stan Evans), for the best part of a decade I think. In one match I managed to score 86 runs in the first innings, including a "six" over the south-eastern fence. If there are any cricketers reading this article I would be interested to hear how many other "sixes" have been hit out of the "Oval"?

All that aside, it was in the mid-1980s that I and 3 other parents in Cherry Gardens, sought a grant from what was then our local Council, Happy Valley Council, which swallowed up Meadows Council, and has obviously been swallowed up subsequently into Onkaparinga Council. The Council gave us a grant to build a children's playground at the Cherry Gardens Recreation Ground (I don't remember the monetary amount), which we did, about where the Oval's football change rooms are today. I may be wrong, but I think the existing swings at the back of the club rooms, are the swings that we built as part of that project, the remainder of the playground, has been superseded by the new, and improved, current playground facility, which our grandchildren enjoy immensely.

The motive for writing to the Cherry Chatter is to plead to those managing the proposed new sports change rooms at the "Oval", to remember that it is a community recreation ground; and while I wish all concerned every success in the management of the project, and with the successful outcome for the benefit of the sports clubs, I sincerely hope that the "little people", who get so much enjoyment from visiting the Recreation Ground, are not forgotten, and that first class playground facilities will continue to be available for their use long into the future.

Kind regards,
Mike Deare, J.P., 648, Cherry Gardens Road, Cherry Gardens.

CHERRY GARDENS CFS

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



We have now passed mid-2020; here's hoping the next six months return to a more relaxed pace! With the COVID 19 situation following on from the busy bushfire season it has been quite a year so far. At the time of

writing, the CFS is returning to normal operations behind the scenes to better support all the work we do in the community. Training is now back to pre COVID 19 rules.

In June this year, we had a station visit by the State Emergency Services Minister Cory Wingard, our Local Member Steve Murray and Region 1 Commander Peter Phillips. The reason for the visit was for the Minister to make contact and express both his and the Government's appreciation for the issues we have faced this year. The Minister mentioned that including deployments, we have been called out 99 times this year which is an enormous effort from our Brigade. The Minister was also impressed with how we have improved the Station and listened to our plans for the future. In particular we were pleased to show off the stations recently installed new kitchen, funded by our Region but designed and installed by our own members.



Pictured is Cory Wingard meeting with Brigade members in our training room at the station.

The CFS 2020 yearbook has just been released and it contained a wrap up of this very busy year, looking at the whole state. It came to pass that the 2019/2020 fire season predictions proved to be very accurate.

Statistics for the last season overall were as follows –
195 Total Fire Bans issued
3 Catastrophic Fire Days
1,930 CFS call outs
2.6 million volunteer hours
480,000 hectares burnt
188 houses destroyed, 890 homes and buildings impacted.

This gives a picture of the size and role of the CFS – 2.6 million volunteer hours is an amazing figure!

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There are magazines, newspapers and much, much more available as online content so why not browse the website and see what SA Libraries have available for you and the whole family?

CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB

NEXT MEETINGS

We are hoping to hold our AGM and quiz night on Monday August 10th

Monday 14th September we have again invited Richard Heathcote from Carrick Hill and the Garden History Society to talk on "The Blade", a light-hearted history of garden tools.

GEORGE'S GARDENING SUGGESTIONS FOR AUGUST 2020

Most plants, shrubs and trees will appreciate some fertilizer at this time of the year in readiness for the strong growth of Spring.

Soursofs can multiply rapidly because of the many 'bulblets' it produces each year. They drop away as you pull the mother plant out so instead of one plant you have many. Poisoning with glyphosate is a better option as it is translocated to the bulb and eventually the plant turns yellow and dies. The best time to spray is just before flowering when the plant has used most of its energy. Repeat applications will be necessary and again the following year. In difficult areas like between plants, you can use a brush dipped in poison and apply to the weeds.

Corn is a great Summer crop to grow and can be planted from now on after frosts have finished. Make regular sowings to ensure a continuing harvest. Corn should be planted in blocks, not long rows because it is best for wind pollination. Corn can be used as a windbreak to protect other vegetables. Keep them moving with ample waterings and liquid feeds to encourage tender plump cobs.



- A lemon tree is a must for the home garden – if you have a spare sunny spot, this is a good time to plant one.
- This is the last month for planting out bare rooted roses and fruit trees.
- Plant snapdragons, linarias, stocks, cleome and dianthus.
- Vegetables to plant this month include potatoes, carrots, parsnips, tomatoes and parsley.

OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish



Greetings Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

We are well into winter now and with the change in seasons often comes a change in routines for owners and equines. Some of us may find ourselves being yarded or stabled more often and for longer periods. We may also find ourselves feeling a little more neglected due to inclement weather. Horses, although sensitive are actually quite adaptable to the most amazing variety of things. Providing we are given ample time to adjust to changes of feed and routine, we can survive quite well!

Three essentials for the maintenance of our wellbeing include the opportunity to forage (chew), move (up to 30km per day) and access to social company. When we are yarded or stabled, these 3 essentials can be quite compromised. In extreme situations, it can lead to ulcers

(through stress), explosive behaviour or neurotic behaviour such as fence walking, crib biting or weaving. Each horse is different and will cope with confinement in different ways, but all of the above behaviours are just 'coping' behaviours, not naughtiness of behaviour with some evil intent. In the natural, free ranging environment, a horse can chew up to 40,000 times a day as he forages. This is why when he is stabled, that it is important to mimic this need as much as possible. The easiest and safest way is to provide ad lib meadow hay.

This keeps the gut active, keeps him warm and satisfies that chewing need. Of course the hay needs to be plain, clean and fresh. The horse has evolved to eat around 20 hours a day. Unlike humans whose digestive juices are active only when we eat, the horse continually secretes these juices. So ideally he should never be without some food to chew for more than 2 to 3 hours per day. Over a prolonged period, absence of food can lead to ulcers and other 'cranky' behaviour. As far as movement goes, a horse completely confined to his stable may try to compensate by walking around and around his stable and then when he is let out, he explodes out through the door! So ideally, a stabled horse should have some free paddock time every day to compensate for that loss of movement. The last need is the social one and is absolutely vital for the horses' mental well-being. If you have an 'only' horse, you have an added responsibility to provide him with company, and that may well be yourself. Horses can form attachments to other species such as donkeys, sheep or goats too, but at the end of the day, it is another horse which they will prefer.

When horses are mostly in the paddock, the routine may not be as regimented as when they are yarded or stabled. They love routine as it makes their life predictable and therefore safe. However, they can become so addicted to their routine, especially at feed time, they can become quite anxious. So to counteract this you can slightly alter the daily routine so that it is not all that predictable. This way they get used to seeing you walking to the stables for example and this may not always mean 'food'! It may mean just coming out for a groom.

As always with any changes in routine or environment, make the changes gradual and be aware of any alterations in behaviour. For yours truly, I really enjoy coming out of my yard in the mornings as it means I get that freedom to move and I know there is a feed of meadow hay to come! My paddock mates are with me, so I get plenty of social contact. My special mate and I love to have a session of mutual grooming just to get the day going!

Happy munching and safe riding, Hamish

Phone: 8270-1169 Mobile: 0422 938 439

Website- www.mintonfarm.org

Facebook-

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



CHERRY CHURCH

After many, many weeks of closure for worship, Cherry Church is beginning its Sunday services on 12 July, at 9.30am. It's a welcome

return to our worship in our community after the first break in over 170 years.

The life of the Church though, hasn't ceased during the closure.

We want to emphasise that we provide pastoral assistance and support for anyone who requires it. We have also taken on board the sponsorship of a child through Compassion Australia.

"Compassion Australia" provides wonderful support for children in countries less fortunate than our own particularly at the present time – and, through a sponsorship program, assists in that child's development through provision of quality education and support.

Our child, Ezra Mayemba, aged 9 years, lives in Tanzania with his mother. He hopes one day to become a farmer.

Even as we are exposed to a pandemic, the impact of which on our community and economy is unprecedented, it is heartening to think that God, as a loving Father, cares for his people everywhere. The Psalmist reminds us of this certainty, in Psalm 103:

As kind as a father is to his children,
So kind is the Lord to those who honour him.
He knows what we are made of;
He remembers that we are dust.
As for us, our life is like grass.
We grow and flourish like a wild flower;
Then the wind blows on it, and it is gone –
No one sees it again.
But for those who honour the Lord,
His love lasts forever.
And his goodness endures for all generations.

FRIENDS OF SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK



As COVID-19 restrictions continue to ease, our activities are almost back to pre-coronavirus levels, though we continue to maintain protocols regarding social distancing, hygiene and asking that people who are feeling

ill stay away until they are better.

Other than the social distancing, these should have always been practiced, but we often feel obliged to continue to work or go about our daily lives despite having a bit of a cold. It's at times like these that we realise just how silly that is – if you're sick, make sure you don't risk spreading whatever you have to other people.

Since getting back into the park, we have had a few interruptions due to wet weather, which has been very welcome (the rain, not the interruptions). The park is looking wonderful, with many wildflowers progressively coming into bloom and a great variety of fungi this season. The native animals are also active,



A nationally endangered Chestnut-rumped Heathwren, one of two banded in the park in July

from insects and other invertebrates to the lizards that are still around as things cool off, while the frogs are getting started, and the ever present birds and mammals.

As July 1st comes and goes, our State Government's natural resource management reform is almost in place. The Landscape South Australia Act 2019 replaced the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 on that date.

The previous NRM Boards have been replaced by Landscape SA Boards, with a new Green Adelaide entity established for the Adelaide region. National Parks and Wildlife SA (NPWSSA) has also been separated out from the new Boards and will be responsible for supporting National Park Friends groups such as ours.

Among other aims, the change is designed to "get back to basics", with a focus on soil, water and pest plants and animals. After much discussion and insistence from environmental groups, biodiversity was added to this list.

We will very much miss the NRM Volunteer Support Program, which was disbanded on June 30th. This program has supported our group and many others like it across the region for a number of years. Groups received a relatively small amount of funding and equipment without having to write grant applications. We could get a few tools and safety gear, an updated first aid kit, and maybe a bit of money to engage a contractor to do some of the work in the park that is not suitable for volunteers. There was also a Volunteer Support Officer, in our case Kat Hill, to offer us advice and encouragement as we went. While there was also an NRM grant program where we could apply for additional funding, we were able to run most of our group activities using the Volunteer Support Program support.

We will also miss the support offered by our local NRM District Officer, Mark Fagan, and his team. The ability to access three year work plans was crucial in managing follow-up weed control after treatment by contractors. Weed management is a long-term process, as there is always seed and other propagules remaining in the soil after primary treatment of weed infestations. Only with persistent and long-term follow-up of weed regrowth, as the native vegetation regenerates, can we turn these degraded landscapes into the diverse native habitats in which our wildlife can thrive.

While it is only early days for the new Landscape SA Boards and Green Adelaide, we can only hope that sufficient funding and resources will be provided to NPWSSA for our groups to continue to restore and preserve our parks for all South Australians, so that future generations will have the same opportunity to receive the positive mental and physical health and wellbeing benefits these parks provide, not to mention preserving the native flora and fauna which live in these special places.

Anyone wanting more information about the Friends of Scott Creek CP, or wanting to get involved, can contact us on info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au or visit our website www.friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au. You can also follow us on our Facebook page 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.

AUGUST 2020

Sat, Sun 1 & 2	Bird banding
Tue 4	Bushcare
Sun 9	Bushcare
Sat, Sun 15&16	Bird banding
Sat 22	Bushcare
Sat, Sun 29&30	Bird banding

IBCG NETBALL

Great news, the netball season has now officially started. We have had a couple of games and we have also had some great wins to get the season started.

1st of August we have the majority of the teams playing at home so it would be a great day to come and see some great netball.

A1 playing at 1.45 (our 1st team)

A2 play off at 3.30

B2 playing at 3.30

C2 playing at home also at 3.30

U11 2 teams at home

Inters at 10.30 we have all 4 teams playing home

12.15 also 4 teams at home

Canteen will be open all day so come and support the club and have some food.

With the COVID-19 restrictions we ask if everyone can continue with using the hand sanitizer before entering the courts and abide by the 2 square metre ruling for spectators. Spectators also need to be on the outside of the fenced court area most of the restrictions being lifted please remember not to become complacent and help to keep us all safe

Please also be aware that the club with committee and coaches are doing their utmost to ensure the health and safety of all players and families. We will be working tirelessly to ensure regulations are adhered to and equipment is sanitised and safe for all players.

Winter Game times:

Go (9's) 12.15pm (not starting until July)

11 & under 9.00am

13 & under 12.15pm

Inters (15/17) 10.30am

Seniors – either 1.45pm or 3.30pm

Please email ibcg.vicepresident@gmail.com with any netball queries.

We wish to also acknowledge and thank our sponsors

Please support the people who support us:

GP Aldinga After Hours (ph 0410 190 291) (Bulk billed)

Gavin Chant from Summit Glass

Bickfords for the supply of the hand sanitizer

Looking forward to the continuing season

What Have Been The Positives From the Coronavirus?

The weekend is upon us and it is pouring with rain and freezing cold outside. So, with some time on my hands

(the positives of not being able to go outside) and sitting in front of our lovely warm fire with some magazines, my computer and settled in for some “me time.” After some time reading about all sorts of things my mind began to think and wonder about my world and what has been happening in it and the world these past several months!

I came across an article written by Professor Debbie Haski-Leventhal from the Macquarie University which is interesting to read and provides an interesting perspective on the COVID-19 impacts.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) has had undeniable and horrific consequences on people's lives and the economy. With sickness, death and unemployment rates soaring almost everywhere on our planet, it is easy to despair.

However, notwithstanding the gruesomeness of this situation, when reflecting back there has come some positives! Some outcomes could have a long-term positive impact on the planet and humanity.

The first positive aspect of COVID-19 is the effect on the environment. Carbon emissions are down globally and with manufacturing and air travel grinding to a halt, the planet has had a chance to rejuvenate. China recorded an 85 per cent increase in days with good air quality in 337 cities between January and March. With tourists gone from Italy, the long-polluted canals of Venice now appear clear as fish and other wildlife start returning. Elsewhere, wildlife is also reappearing in other major cities and the biodiversity is slowly starting to return in various parts of the world.

With Self-isolation/restrictions forced upon us it meant our life as we knew it was challenged! Humans are known to be social animals who desire relationships, contact and interaction with other humans.

However, people all around the world are finding new ways to address the need for interconnectedness. In Italy, one of the worst-hit countries, people are joining their instruments and voices to create music from their balconies. People are leading street dance parties while maintaining social distancing.

People are using social media platforms to connect, such as the Facebook group *The Kindness Pandemic*, with hundreds of daily posts. The *bin challenges* have also brought many a laugh from all over the world with all the different ways to take your bins out! There is a huge wave of formal and informal volunteering where people use their skills and abilities to help.

COVID-19 is a major market disruptor that has led to unprecedented levels of innovation. Due to the

lockdown, so many businesses have had to reinvent themselves with a new 'business as unusual' philosophy. This includes cafes turning into takeaway venues (some of which also now sell milk or face masks) and gin distilleries now making hand sanitisers.

Many businesses have had to undergo rapid digitalisation and offer their services online. Some could use this wave of innovation to reimagine their business model and change or grow their market.

COVID-19 is driving a new wave of corporate social responsibility. The global pandemic has become a litmus test for how seriously companies are taking their corporate social responsibility and their work with key stakeholders: the community, employees, consumers and the environment.

Companies are donating money, food and medical equipment to support people affected by the coronavirus. Others are giving to healthcare workers, including free coffee at McDonald's Australia and millions of masks from Johnson & Johnson.

Many are supporting their customers, introducing an exclusive shopping hour for seniors and people with disabilities, to Optus giving free mobile data so its subscribers can continue to connect.

There has been a positive outcome and a massive transformation in education. True, most of it was not by choice. With schools closing down all around the world, many teachers are digitalising the classroom, offering online education, educational games and tasks and self-led learning.

We are globally involved in one of the largest-scale experiments in changing education at all levels. Home-schooling is becoming the new way of learning, exposing many parents to what their children know and do.

Finally, the gift that COVID-19 is giving us is a new sense of appreciation and gratefulness. It has offered us a new perspective on everything we have taken for granted for so long – our freedoms, leisure, connections, work, family and friends. We have never questioned how life as we know it could be suddenly taken away from us.

Hopefully, when this crisis is over, we will exhibit new levels of gratitude. We have also learned to value and thank **all the Frontline people** who are at the frontline of this crisis, risking their lives every day by just showing up to their vital work. This sense of gratefulness can also help us develop our resilience and overcome the crisis in the long-term.

All of these positive aspects come at a great price of death, sickness and a depressed global economy. As heartbreaking and frightening as this crisis is, its positive outcomes can be gifts we should not overlook. If we ignore them, all of this becomes meaningless.

It will be up to us to change ourselves and our system to continue with the positive environmental impact, peace, connectedness, innovation, corporate responsibility, re-imagined education and gratitude. This crisis will end. We will meet again. We can do so as better human beings.

CHERRY CHATTER DELIVERERS

Over the years there have been many volunteer deliverers of our beloved local newsletter - The Cherry Chatter.



Bec and Vicki Kirss delivering Cherry Chatters in the early 2000's

Some of these deliveries have been done by foot, others by bicycle or car, but probably the most novel, and for some the most fun way, is on horseback. It does come with challenges though because, unlike the other methods of delivery, not only do you have the issue of riding your horse on sometimes busy roads carrying a bag of newsletters attached to your saddle or shoulder, you also have to maneuver your horse to sidle up to the letterbox, stand while you reach into the bag for the newsletter hoping the horse will stand quietly while the newsletter is taken out of the bag, maybe fold it, then as you reach over to put it into the letterbox slot, hoping your horse isn't going to move, the saddle isn't going to slip, and the newsletter is going to slide into the slot the first go, without dropping to the ground, then having to dismount and try all over again.

Many years ago, my daughter Bec and I used to do this regularly, but now we have a new pint sized deliverer on her pony.

Meet Lyra Lawson, granddaughter of Margy Pillar, delivering the Cherry Chatters on her pony on Star and Arrow Road.



I'd like to thank all of our volunteer deliverers for the wonderful job they do to ensure we receive our monthly newsletters.

Thank you so much Margy and Lyra, Edie and Julie, Jenny, Melissa and her son, Bill and Gill, Liz, Ray, Alan, Bev and Kathy.

You probably wouldn't know this, but some of our deliverers have been delivering for us for over 20 years. Fortunately, we have gained a few more recent volunteers, but some of our runs are long and a shared load is easier to carry so ... if YOU would like to get involved in the community by doing a regular Cherry Chatter delivery along your section of road, please contact a committee member, or email cherrychatter@yahoo.com and a committee member will get in touch with you.

Vicki Kirss

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RECREATION GROUND

Over the last few weeks along with so many things in our state we are finding that the relaxation of the COVID-19 restrictions means our club and the sports clubs have been able to get back to the new normal. We are allowed up to 90 people in the clubrooms and up to 1,000 spectators to watch games (which is a lot more than we would ever expect).

So being winter it is so great to see people using the Rec Ground most days either for footy/netball training or games on the weekend.

There are meals on Thursday nights after training and everyone is welcome.

We are already working on the new changeroom project and hope to be to offer plans that the members of our clubs and the community have a chance to review in the next month or so.

FOOTBALL CLUB

Everyone in the club is feeling so happy and grateful to be playing footy in 2020. A couple of months ago we all held little chance it would happen but here we are.

The Seniors have been doing very well. Nearly all players were key to play in this shortened season and this has meant lots of blokes out having a kick and enjoying themselves. We have lots of junior players as well and they are also loving their footy.

The women were the first to start training and have been playing hard on Sundays.

If you get a chance, then there are only 2 more home games for the season so come along. The first is August 1st and this is our All Clubs Day where all sports clubs work together for the day. The Ironbank CFS will be cooking 2 Spits which will be the evening meal.

CLUB DAY

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR TEAMS ACROSS THE CLUB!

SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST - THUNDER PARK
COME AND JOIN YOUR FELLOW THUNDERERS
FOR CLUB DAY!
WITH THE MAJORITY OF NETBALL AND FOOTBALL SIDES
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LAMB ON THE SPIT FROM 4PM

WINE TASTINGS FROM LOCAL SUPPLIERS

RAFFLES

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE THUNDERERS AND
THUNDERETTES!
*NUMBERS MAY BE CAPPED AT 500 DUE TO COVID-19
RESTRICTIONS*



ZERO RATE INCREASE FOR ONKAPARINGA RATEPAYERS IN 2020-21

Most Onkaparinga ratepayers will see no increase in their rates in 2020-21, with council recently adopting a zero rate rise.

City of Onkaparinga Mayor Erin Thompson said council identified \$5.6 million in savings to deliver a budget to help ease the financial strain on ratepayers amid COVID-19.

"The pandemic has affected so many in our communities, so council strived for a budget that will provide relief to households while stimulating the economy and delivering essential services," she said.

"The majority of Onkaparinga ratepayers may see either no increase, or a decrease, in their rates bill, and there will be no interest or fines charged on rates until 1 November 2020.

"This adds to the COVID-19 relief measures introduced in April, which included establishing a \$50,000 community wellbeing and resilience fund; waiving lease and associated costs for businesses and community and sporting clubs using council facilities for six months; and a 'Think Local, Buy Local' campaign to promote local businesses and support the local economy.

"The new \$206.6 million budget also features a \$55.9 million capital works program that will help stimulate the local economy, create jobs and improve infrastructure.

"I'd again like to thank everyone that provided their feedback on our draft budget, and I look forward to an exciting year ahead guided by our new Annual Business Plan."

Some of the major projects in 2020-21 include:

- Constructing the Witton Bluff Base Trail between Christies Beach and Port Noarlunga
- Delivering the Morton Road Sport and Community Hub in Christie Downs in partnership with the state government and Roger Rasheed Sports Foundation
- Implementing the Wilfred Taylor Reserve Masterplan
- Redeveloping the Port Noarlunga Sports Complex (subject to external funding)
- Upgrading Aldinga Sports Park in partnership with the federal government
- Upgrading Port Noarlunga's Wearing Street Arts and Aquatics Precinct (subject to external funding)
- Upgrading Hackham South East road and stormwater infrastructure amid new residential development.

Infrastructure projects across the city will also receive a boost thanks to \$2.46 million in federal COVID-19 stimulus funding, with council recently submitting a list of 20 "shovel ready" projects for government approval, which will be delivered in addition to council's budget commitments.

Explore the services, programs, projects and initiatives that will be delivered through City of Onkaparinga's Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2020-21 at council's website, where you can also find out more about the relief measures implemented in response to COVID-19.

2020 COUNCIL SUPPLEMENTARY ELECTION

NOMINATE
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CITY OF ONKAPARINGA

Authorised by Scott Ashby, CEO, Ramsay Place, Noarlunga Centre 5168

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 www.onkaparingacity.com/COVID19

RESTORING OUR ROADSIDES



Earlier this year, Blewitt Springs residents Becky Hirst and Dan Procter called council about the narrow weed-choked lane alongside their property, which they thought might be a fire hazard.

They were pleased to receive a call from Ben Moulton, City of Onkaparinga's Senior Natural Areas Conservation Officer, days later.

"I was so impressed that within days his team had looked at their mapping system and knew this was a woody weed hotspot, and he'd been in touch with Dana [Miles, Communication and Engagement Officer – Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board]," explains Becky.

"Dana helped me understand that some of the trees are worth freeing."

Weeks later, the lane's long stretch of Pink Gum (*Eucalyptus fasciculosa*) woodland was being freed from a dense infestation of feral olive trees, which are a significant bushfire hazard and a major pest plant that displaces native species and damages habitat for native wildlife.

"The visual impact was immediate, with streams of sunshine now filtering through the canopy to the understorey, revealing the gnarled shapes of the Pink Gum branches," says Ben Moulton.

"With some follow-up bush regeneration work, smaller native species will now benefit from the additional light and space, including *Drosera planchonii* (Climbing Sundew) *Tricoryne elatior* (Yellow Rush-lily) and regenerating *Xanthorrhoea semiplana* (Yacca).

Becky says she's not only impressed by the lane's visual transformation and reduced bushfire risk, she's pleased for the native bird species that call the lane home.

"It's an absolute haven for so many species of local birds so it's going to be a treat watching them thrive with the olives gone," she says.

The project is part of council and Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board's Free the Tree initiative, which aims to remove woody pest species that smother and threaten important trees, and to educate the public about the value of native vegetation and old remnant trees.

Woody weeds have also been removed from around Old River redgums, Grey Box, SA Blue Gums and Drooping Sheoaks across the Willunga Basin, and Dana says it has been extremely satisfying to see the trees' health improve and new growth sprouting from previously shaded limbs.

"The installation of bright eye-catching signage prior to woody weed removal has generated great interest as the community can watch the progress like a before-and-after health promotion," Dana says.

The initiative is just one facet of a 10-year partnership with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board (part of the former Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board) to protect Onkaparinga's 1200 kilometres of roadside vegetation, helping biodiversity bounce back and reducing bushfire risk across the region. Achievements include:

- Establishing woody weed control zones on more than 480 kilometres of rural roadsides, which are revisited annually to control regrowth.
- Protecting and restoring more than 120 kilometres of native vegetation across 120 sites as part of a statewide roadside marker system of blue and white posts, including council signage to discourage spraying and dumping.
- Mapping and controlling high-priority weed infestations such as African lovegrass and Texas needlegrass each year.

The natural areas conservation team's efforts have been bolstered by advances in GIS technology, allowing them to collect data on their smartphones to create weed-distribution maps and use the data to develop effective control strategies.

"We've now mapped locations and infestation levels of woody weeds – such as feral olive, boxthorn and briar rose) across more than 1100 kilometres of our roadside, providing us with a clear picture of what we're dealing with," says Ian Hockley, City of Onkaparinga's Trails and Roadside Vegetation Officer.

"Using this data, we've applied criteria to help us prioritise what areas we target, including how high the fire risk is, whether the area contains important native vegetation and whether it's adjacent a conservation reserve."

City of Onkaparinga's work with the state government is critical to successfully deliver annual rural roadside projects, but it also relies on local communities.

Working with landholders is vital because private property often sits alongside rural roadside native vegetation, and fence lines don't prevent the spread of invasive weeds.

City of Onkaparinga also supports the Wine Grape Council South Australia's EcoVineyards project, incorporating native insectary plants (which attract insects beneficial to pest control) in biodiverse ecosystems around vineyards.

The project, which includes three McLaren Vale wineries, hopes to reduce running costs and the use of chemicals, increase appeal to tourists and international wine customers, and contribute to biodiversity corridors (which allow animals to travel from one patch of native forest to another).

"By exploring ways our local native plant species contribute to vineyard health and ecosystem processes, our community is recognising that the protection of native vegetation also makes economic sense and is critical for the long-term sustainability of our region," says Ben.

The fight for Onkaparinga's roadsides is ongoing. Feral olive trees, for example, remain on 20 per cent of the city's rural roadsides.

With the state government and community's continued support, there's hope the battle will be won.



Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo

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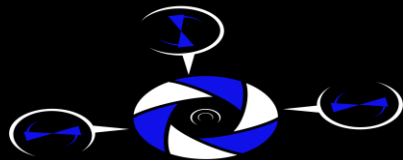
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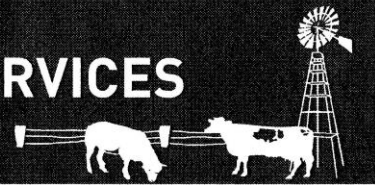


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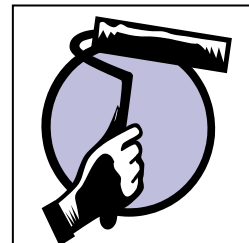
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