

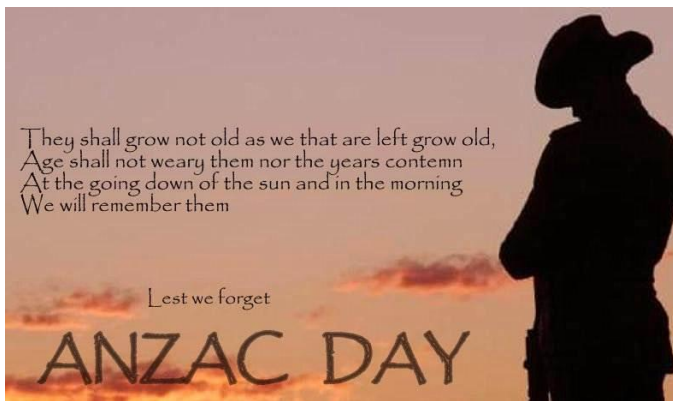
April 2023

#342



Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE



Tuesday 25th April 2023 at 8.30am

The Committee of the Cherry Gardens Community Association (Cherry Chatter) invite you to join with us and our Community to Celebrate Anzac Day Service

To be held at The Cherry Gardens Soldiers Memorial Park, Cherry Gardens Road, Cherry Gardens.

All Welcome
No Breakfast

2023 CHAIRPERSON'S AGM REPORT

Welcome to the 2023 AGM for the Cherry Gardens Community Association and Cherry Chatter. Thanks for being here.

Thanks to all our committee members and Cherry Chatter deliverers for their ongoing efforts in 2022 and a very big thank you to all the regular contributors to the Cherry Chatter newsletters and all those local businesses that advertise and help us to be sustainable year after year. It is always good to see a few new advertisers join the Cherry Chatter and advertise their business and services.

2022 saw us coming out of the COVID pandemic and trying to get back to the new normal. It was great to be

able to travel again, meet and greet and here in Cherry Gardens we survived well and have carried on with our role to represent the local community and continue to publish the newsletter each month.

ANZAC Day 2022 was again a quiet and simple affair which actually suited us nicely. All sports managed to get a full season in, and the Recreation Ground continued to be a popular meeting place and somewhere to exercise the dog and catch up with friends.

In 2022 we continued to publish the newsletter and we assisted a couple of local organisations including

- The local football club with a \$500 sponsorship
- The Marion Riding Club with a \$500 donation to be used for yards to improve safety
- The Recreation Ground with a \$1,000 donation towards the cost of a new portable stage for the clubrooms

The council has once again supported us by paying the Cherry Chatter to include their 2-page information flyer each month. This small amount helps us with the monthly printing costs.

2022 was a sad year for many of us as we lost one of our own, Gill Sims, who was a founding member of the Cherry Gardens Community Association and Cherry Chatter stalwart. Having Gill and Brian move out of Cherry Gardens was quite sad for many of us but then for Gill to become so ill so soon after leaving was so unexpected. The Cherry Gardens community also lost a number of other locals including Rob Linn, Gwen Deare and Don Reid who all have been active in the community in their own way.

In 2022 we continued to see a number of properties get sold and new arrivals into the community. We hope they are enjoying the Cherry Gardens way of life and hope they will join in with community events that the different groups put on. We welcome new arrivals and if anyone has missed out on a Welcome Pack let us know and Kerry will drop one off.

The CFS Siren issue seems to have sorted itself out this season however we are still waiting for the upgrade to the Mobile Phone coverage with a new repeater that

supposedly will be installed on the NBN tower. We were promised this would take place before the end of 2021 but still waiting now in March 2023! The contentious issue for the year was the abundance of new roadside barriers that the council installed along Cherry Gardens Road that seemed to be for the benefit of those who use the road as a thoroughfare but penalised and cause problems for us, the residents. The lack of meaningful consultation by the council prior to installing them was disappointing. Hopefully something of value comes out of the "Your Say" survey that was conducted earlier this year.

2022 was the Cherry Chatter 30th birthday and I commend all those volunteers and locals that have supported, contributed and kept the newsletter and community association active and meaningful for these 30 years. Well done to all of us!

Finally, 2022 again saw us without power for an extended period of time due to the storm that lashed the Adelaide Hills and saw multiple trees downed, taking with them power lines and damage to many houses. Fortunately, while we were without power for around 5 days there was only superficial damage to Cherry Gardens in general.

I would like to extend thanks to those other organisations within our community that volunteer their time and service to the community including the CFS, The Memorial Hall, The Recreation Ground, Scott Creek Conservation Park, Minton Farm, Garden Club. I encourage everyone in our community to support these organisations, be grateful for what they do for us and join in whenever you can.

Let's hope that 2023 is a good year for the Cherry Gardens community.

Don Watton
March 2023

2023 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
Committee	Bill Semple, Julie Martin, Edie Brooks, Bec Wilson, Mel Williams, Kerry Holtham & Wayne Venables

Address: 409 Cherry Gardens Rd, Cherry Gardens SA 5157
Website: www.cherrychatter.org.au
Email address: cherrychatternews@gmail.com

Articles for Cherry Chatter must be received by email to cherrychatternews@gmail.com by 5th of each month – WITHOUT EXCEPTION. Please provide in a WORD document (no spacing format) and .JPG picture files to assist us with editing.

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.

Please 'Like' us on Facebook 

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

CHERRY GARDENS RAINFALL FEBRUARY

Rainfall for February 2023	30.8 mm
Rainfall for February 2022	6.2
Average rainfall for February	29.8

Rainfall to the end of February 2023	59.3
Rainfall to the end of February 2022	51.0
Average rainfall to the end February	58.4

Number days of rain for February 2023	5
Number days of rain for February 2022	6

CHERRY GARDENS MEMORIAL HALL NEWS

CHERRY GARDENS MEMORIAL HALL FOR HIRE

Available for hire for all functions, meetings and social occasions.
Very reasonable rates.
For bookings and more information phone 0414 824 110

Full kitchen facilities available



Why not "Like Us" on Facebook to keep up to date with coming events

www.facebook.com/cherrygardens/

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Cherry Gardens: Michael (Mike) Deare
Mobile **TEXT ONLY** on 0458 642 321
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.

We can offer advice with all wildlife enquires and provide support for you. Call Bev on 0422 938 439 or Glenn on 8270 1169. Happy to assist where we can.

www.mintonfarm.org

CHERRY GARDENS CFS

If you would like more information or a visit to the station, please contact Lawrie Linggood on 0400 285 697.



February 2023 saw a new appliance delivered to our station as a planned replacement for Cherry Gardens 34, but not before one last job.

Late in the afternoon crews were responded to a grass fire in Coromandel Valley burning in steep, challenging terrain. Quick work by CFS water bombing aircraft and ground crews prevented the fire from impacting nearby homes.

All three Cherry Gardens fire appliances were responded to this incident, giving crews one last chance to get to work using Cherry Gardens 34 which has been with us for over a decade. This particular appliance gave great service in the Kangaroo Island / Adelaide Hills bushfires of 2019/2020 and was the first appliance to arrive at the Cherry Gardens fires of 2021.



Our new appliance, assigned Cherry Gardens 44 (pronounced "four four") is a purpose built rural type fire appliance carrying an additional 1000 litres of water (compared to 34) with rural firefighting focused equipment. This appliance upgrade will assist us to continue providing emergency fire response to our local area, as well as being our strike team appliance for out of area assistance. It provides enhanced crew safety,

modern lighting, better firefighting systems and will be an asset to our area.

Cherry Gardens 34 will be refurbished and eventually re-allocated to a quieter brigade somewhere in the state to continue serving the community.

Keep a look out for this new appliance. It is destined to give many years of service not only to our area but to the wider South Australian community.

For more information on bushfire preparedness, fire bans, what's allowed/not allowed and incident information, visit www.cfs.sa.gov.au



Blackwood Golf Club is open daily for lunch between 12.00 – 2.00pm and very much welcomes visitors. Bookings are recommended on 8388-2313.

See more news of what our club has to offer in our advertisement at the back of your newsletter.

www.blackwoodgolf.com.au

CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB

Meetings are held in the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church meeting room at 7.30pm on the second Monday from February to November

President - Darryl Parslow 0408 847 293

djparslow@bigpond.com

Secretary - Jan Ball 0432550274

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday April 17th - A visit to Kangarilla Floral Art and Garden Club

Monday 8th May – Mike Quamby will be speaking on Bush Tucker

GEORGE'S GARDENING SUGGESTIONS FOR APRIL 2023

- Now that summer is behind us it is a good time to take stock of the successes and failures of your summer garden. Give some thought to removing plants that didn't cope well in the heat or at least transplanting them to a more sheltered spot. You may consider planting more of the ones that survived well. Have a look around your neighbourhood to see what survived well.
- Now is the time to plant garlic – you can use supermarket garlic or purchase named varieties from a nursery or mail order. Split the head of garlic into separate cloves and plant pointy end up about 5cm deep and 15cm apart, in a sunny position. Try Italian white or New Zealand purple.

- Spray peaches and nectarines at leaf fall as part of your preventative program against fungal diseases.
- Plant quick-growing leafy winter vegetables while the soil is still warm.
- Plant strawberries in containers where they can spill over the edge.
- Harvest pumpkins leaving a long stalk, and store in a well-ventilated cool area for use through the winter.
- Empty your compost bins and make good use of the soil enriching material when preparing for your winter vegetables, or mulch around new plantings.
- Spring flowering bulbs can be planted from now on.

GARDEN CLUB MEETING NOTES

We were so privileged to hear the amazing information on soil which was brought by February's meeting speaker, Mary Raymond.

Mary stressed that soil is absolutely the most important factor in our gardens and in fact in our environment. Living soil is an imitation of the processes in the natural environment which you can recreate in your veggie garden. By careful observation and knowing the characteristics of your soil you can build a very healthy functioning ecosystem in which to grow your crops. She recommended we read 'The Call of the Reed Warbler' written by Charles Massy. We learned about the ways to build excellent soil structure. Mary advocates minimal soil disturbance. Organic matter is absolutely essential in ensuring that our soil has the maximum living organisms, microbial and bacterial life and moisture holding capacity, to really make our plants thrive. Traditional methods of ploughing and deep digging were challenged. Digging a fork in as far as it will go and turning that large clod really upends and destroys the layers of established underground life. This gentler approach re-enforced all we've heard over the years about no-dig gardening. Mary told us that, at the very most, one should just dig a fork in and lift it slightly at an angle, thus aerating the soil and giving vital underground life access to oxygen in spaces amongst soil particles, without destroying the habitat and order of essential organisms. Add essential organic matter by gently scratching it in. Mulch ensures the maintenance of the moisture in the soil and keeps it cool.

We also learned about how to build up correctly proportional moist and dry layers for a great, efficient compost bin. Mary explained the necessity of having layers of green, food scraps - wet, and dry ingredients - hay, leaves bark and twigs in the bin. Any waste which was once a living plant or creature may be composted. She recommended a T handled cork screw type compost aerator. Aerating compost is a must and enables the microbes to breathe and function well. It should be kept slightly damp.

To ensure healthy soil always remove any sickly looking plants, especially tomato plants and place in the council green bin where the compost produced is sterilised, to prevent the spread of nematodes, mites and other

nasties. To kill nematodes in the soil grow mustard and turn the plants into the soil as a green mulch. Mary handed out a Plant PH preference guide, a table showing the amount of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur, Calcium, Magnesium, Iron, Manganese, Boron, Copper and Zinc and Molybdenum under the various readings of PH ranging from strongly acid at 4.0 PH to strongly alkaline at 10. We also got a sheet showing the optimum PH for each type of Food plants, Fruit, Herbs, Nuts, and vegetables.

The plant auction included some interesting plants at very reasonable prices. A great selection of scrumptious - savoury and sweet supper dishes was enjoyed by all.

OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish



Greetings Fellow Equines and Horse Owners!

The last few topics have concerned safety, but we mustn't forget safety with gear either, specifically rugs as the colder months approach. It is wise to

check through last year's horsey wardrobe for missing or broken buckles, leg straps and other fittings. Also if it hasn't already been done, clean all the inside linings of fur and old dirt. A hardy rubber curry comb will work with most of the dirt. A dandy brush is also handy for brushing the outside of the rug too. Even old rugs that are no longer completely waterproof will benefit from a check-up and clean. They could be useful as spares in case the lovely new rugs get ripped or parts broken (and doesn't this happen, always at the worst times too). When a rug is completely useless and ready for the bin, cut off the good metal buckles and attachments, they may be able to be used again on another rug. Or the old rug might become a doggy bed!

If your equine is stabled or yarded through winter, a top up of sawdust might be due, or the yard may need to be resurfaced. Old sawdust can become quite dusty and powdery, so is best replaced completely. The old stuff can be mixed in with manure compost. Remove cobwebs where possible (I know, spiders eat flies), but they do tend to catch more dust and dirt, are unsightly and can even be a fire hazard! Check all stable fixtures for things such as loose bolts, wire, splintery wood etc. A horse's respiratory system is quite sensitive, so keep dust to a minimum where possible. Also ensure good ventilation without being too draughty. Once the stables are all ready, ongoing cleanliness is very important, so, if your equine is fully stabled overnight, all manure should be removed daily. Urine patches on a concrete floor can be sprinkled with lime, then covered over once dry. When stabled, (or anywhere) horses need ad lib access to clean fresh water, so this needs to be checked regularly too. Any uneaten hay should also be removed. Remember a

horse needs 80% roughage (hay) as part of their diet, so ensure plenty of hay in a net (or similar) for him or her to browse through overnight.

Sadly I have been diagnosed with Cushings. Fortunately it is only mild and my medication is working well, so I am a happy chappy at present. My owners are keeping a close eye on me and ensuring that I get regular exercise, my weight checked regularly and just generally monitoring my overall health.

That's all for now readers, until next month,

Yours healthily, Hamish

FRIENDS OF SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK



Following some interrupted regular years due to covid-19 and the 2021 Cherry Gardens fire, this April we will once again hold an autumn walk in the park.

At 9.00am on Saturday 15th we will meet at gate 3 on Scott Creek Road and head up Bandicoot Track to the Crossroads. Here there will be the opportunity to have a look at one of our bird banding activities, to see what is involved in this long running scientific research project.

We will then head north along Currawong Ridge Track and up Cup Gum Track to Tom's Outlook, having ample opportunity to see the post-fire regeneration of the vegetation as we go.



Common Heath (Epacris impressa) has already started flowering in the park.

After a break for morning tea (byo), there will be the option of returning the way we came or continuing the circuit along Mount Bold Ridge Track, down Stringybark Track and back to gate 3.

The walk will follow established vehicle maintenance tracks in the park, which can have some uneven and loose stony surfaces, reasonably steep in some parts.

All are welcome, bring along your cameras and binoculars, but leave your pets at home. The walk will be cancelled if a total fire ban or severe weather warning is issued for the Mount Lofty Ranges district.



Mosses and fungi may be more common in autumn.

Anyone wanting to learn more about what we do and how you can help us with our restoration work, or simply wanting more information about the Friends of Scott Creek CP, 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.

April

Sat, Sun 1, 2	Bird banding
Tue 4	Bushcare
Sun 9	Bushcare
Sat 15	Autumn walk
Sat, Sun 15, 16	Bird banding
Sat 22	Bushcare

CHERRY CHURCH



Cherry Gardens Uniting Church

87 Hicks Hills Road, Cherry Gardens

Services held on Sundays at 9.30am – all are welcome



Cherry Church Easter 2023

The members of the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church invite you to join us for our Easter services, to remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

Sunday, April 2nd, 9.30am - A Christian reflects on the Jewish Passover.

Friday, April 7th, 9.30am - Good Friday service.

Sunday, April 9th, 9.30am - Easter Sunday service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Stronger Communities Programme Round 8 Grant

Closing date: Wednesday 26 April 2023 5:00pm AEST

The Stronger Communities Programme supports the Australian Government's commitment to deliver social benefits in communities across Australia. Round 8 of the program will provide \$22.7 million to fund small capital projects in each of the 151 federal electorates. The program is part of the government's 2022–23 budget initiatives focussed on making local economies stronger and boosting community organisations.

The program intends to encourage and support participation in local projects, improve local community participation and contribute to vibrant and viable communities. Round 8 of the program aims to support communities recover from the widespread impacts of adverse weather events and current economic pressures. For this round, grant funding will be up to 100% of eligible project costs except for local governing bodies where grant funding will be up to 50% of eligible project costs.

Community consultation is a critical element of the program. In consultation with their community, each MP must identify potential applicants and projects in

their electorate and invite them to apply for a grant. Invited applications will be assessed against the program's eligibility criteria through a closed non-competitive process.

Each electorate has total funding of up to \$150,000 that can be allocated to successful applications. A maximum of 20 projects will be funded in each electorate.

You must complete your project by 31 December 2023.

Your project must:

- be located in Australia
- be a small capital works or capital expenditure project
- deliver social benefits to your community
- be nominated by your MP
- be located in your MP's electorate
- include eligible activities and expenditure.

Eligible activities can include:

- fit-out, alterations and/or extensions to existing premises e.g. air-conditioning, kitchen upgrades, fixtures and fittings, painting
- purchase and installation of equipment to be used by your organisation for the benefit of the community, such as ICT hardware and software, or creation of a website
- modifications to leased buildings or grounds, with approval of the owner
- upgrades, fit-out and construction of community spaces, e.g. men's sheds, community centres, scout halls etc.
- development or upgrades of bike paths, streetscapes, skate parks or community gardens
- upgrades of sporting facilities and fields, e.g. scoreboards, seating, goalposts, fit-out of change rooms, canteen, lights, upgrade drainage and water systems, medical equipment, gyms
- musical instruments, sports equipment and uniforms that remain the property of the organisation
- inclusive access to facilities
- upgrade or installation of park furniture and facilities
- State Emergency Service and rural fire brigade equipment
- vehicles and trailers for community transport or services
- projects on school grounds or school property that demonstrate social benefits to the broader community outside the school.

You can apply for a grant between \$2,500 and \$20,000.

The grant amount is up to 100% of eligible project costs, except for local governing bodies where grant funding will be up to 50% of eligible project costs.

The maximum cost of your project cannot exceed \$50,000.

You can use this grant funding for the cost of:

- suppliers, consultants and contracted labour for eligible project activities

- regulatory approvals for eligible capital works or expenditure
- assets such as office furniture, TVs and equipment, motor vehicles, ICT hardware and software
- equipment for eligible project activities
- materials for eligible project activities.

ONKAPARINGA COUNCIL REPORT



CITY OF ONKAPARINGA

Update - Main Road Coromandel Valley – Pedestrian Crossings

Main Road, Coromandel Valley is under the care and control of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT). Whilst councils are typically responsible for the installation of footpaths adjacent state-maintained roads, the provision of pedestrian crossing facilities within the roadway is the responsibility of DIT.

Concerns regarding pedestrian connectivity along Main Road have been raised by many members of the community and we continue to advocate to DIT on behalf of the community for improved pedestrian infrastructure at this location. Enclosed are the most recent letters we sent to DIT about this issue, dated December 2020 and July 2021.

We note that DIT recently announced their 'Adelaide Hills Productivity and Road Safety Package', which includes the subject section of Main Road, Coromandel Valley. Details of this project can be found via DIT's their website.

Our next step is for the Mayor to write a letter to DIT as per your NoM resolution 21 February 2023 regarding pedestrian safety and connectivity in this area.

Thank you. Civic Governance Team

Cherry Gardens Road - Guard Rails

Following on from our previous updates below, community consultation for Cherry Gardens Road verge improvements has now closed.

Council received funding from the Federal Government's Black Spot program to improve safety for road users at Cherry Gardens Road. The project included works to improve road shoulders and install guard rails at specific locations.

The installation of the guard rails has highlighted differences in the way locals interact with the roadside environment compared to motorists. We received requests indicating concerns from residents regarding impacts on the use of the area including pedestrian and horse access issues.

We set up a YourSay platform to enable the local community to inform us of their concerns and provide suggested alterations to the recently completed project.

Next steps - We will be acknowledging and thanking the respondents for their comments and are currently assessing the feedback to provide a detailed response by Friday 17 March 2023.

Prepared by Thalassa Ward Cr Marion Themeliotis. If you have any local issues, you would like me to follow up on or require any assistance with Council, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mobile: 0413 747 351

Email: marion.themeliotis@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Facebook: [facebook.com/Cr-Marion-Themeliotis-City-of-Onkaparinga-Thalassa-Ward](https://www.facebook.com/Cr-Marion-Themeliotis-City-of-Onkaparinga-Thalassa-Ward)

CREEPER ALERT!

On Tuesday 14th February a group of people from *Green Adelaide* (a statutory board established in July 2020 by the Government of South Australia) and four residents met on Ackland Hill Road to identify and assess the extent of the threat to our bushland from a creeper that has emerged in recent times.



From left to right: Nick, Chris (residents), Julie, Jack, Elisa (Green Adelaide), Maxine (resident)

The creeper has been growing rapidly and spreading, smothering native shrubs and ground areas. It has been identified through DEW *Native Vegetation Branch*:

*"The plant in your pictures is Bluebell Creeper (or Sollya) either *Billardiera fusiformis* or *Billardiera heterophylla* and either way is a Declared Weed.*

*Just be careful if you see a small more delicate version of this in your Heritage Agreement because there are native species of *Billardiera* that look very similar. The natives aren't as robust, have flowers that are more tube-shaped and have shorter fruit.*

*See <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/5248e332-b8d8-4632-b25f-f3bb1a119357> for some pictures of one of the natives (*Billardiera cymosa*).*

The PIRSA website has some info on how to control the weedy Bluebell Creeper at this link:

<https://pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/controlling-weeds/bluebell-creeper>

Many readers will be familiar with our bushland areas as seen in the photos included below.

Other pictures illustrate how the creeper can climb up to 5 metres smothering shrubs and smaller trees and is putting at risk orchid and wildflowers. It is spreading rapidly and is difficult to remove.

Be alert for this weed and coming information. Please check if this weed is on your property and try to control it so that it does not spread further. A fact sheet will be out shortly and additional information followed up in future Cherry Chatter editions.



The *BLUEBELL CREEPER*. Pretty but.....



Creeper take-over around base of tree



Creeper spread and invasion of the scrub



It is a definite climber.

HEATHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

PLAYGROUP – Term 2 Starting Soon



PLAYGROUP
At Heathfield Primary School

COME AND JOIN US!
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
9:15 - 10:15
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM
TEA AND COFFEE
\$2 DONATION

STARTING
TERM 2

WHY PLAY WITH US?
• Come and join in the fun and watch them grow in Heathfield Primary's beautiful bush setting.
• Educator Days, themed events and hands on investigations with the support of facilities and educators from Heathfield Primary School.

2023

Heathseeds
playgroup
Heathfield
Primary
School

Onkaparinga Council – Your Say

Your Say is open for community to 'Help shape council's major events'.

<https://yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/help-shape-councils-major-events>

We want to hear what you think about the events presented by council, what might make them more appealing to you, and what suggestions you have for the future.

In addition to numerous smaller events, council delivers and hosts five major events each year:

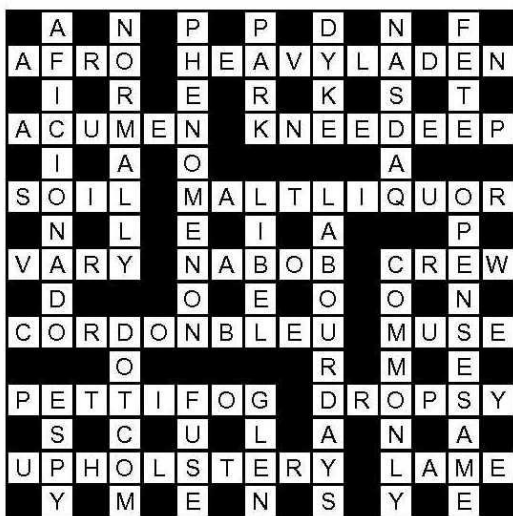
- Trucks on Tour (October)
- Onkaparinga Christmas Pageant (November)
- Tour Down Under stage(s) – in partnership with Events South Australia (January)
- Australia Day Bush Fair (January)
- Beachside Food and Wine Festival (February/March).

Events play an integral role in enhancing the lives of our residents through improved community wellbeing, building social capacity, instilling a sense of community pride and creating vibrant places.

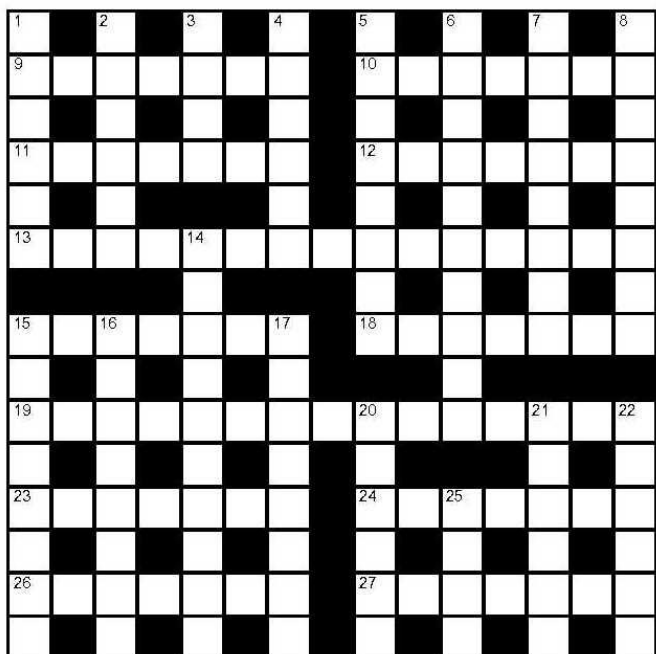
Please give some consideration to completing the survey to have your say.

MONTHLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

MARCH SOLUTION



APRIL CROSSWORD



Across

- Artists (especially musicians) of exceptional skill (7)
- Aromatic Eurasian perennial (7)
- Forsake, leave behind (7)
- Territory over which rule control is exercised (7)
- RNA, spelled out in full (11,4)
- Someone who imputes guilt or blame (7)
- Free someone temporarily from his or her obligations (7)
- Taken for one's use in violation of a trust or obligation (15)
- A wide belt worn over the left shoulder to support a sword on the right hip (7)
- The feeling that everything is tedious (7)
- An athlete who does not play for pay (7)
- Rude expressions intended to offend or hurt (7)

Down

- Make worse or less effective (6)
- Spread or daub (a surface) (6)
- Macho-man (4)
- Having particular physiological functions augmented or replaced by electronic or electromechanical components (6)
- United States inventor of vulcanized rubber (8)
- Pasta in strings thinner than spaghetti (10)
- Kill a large number of people indiscriminately (8)
- Constitutionally lazy (4-4)
- A person who meddles in the affairs of others (4-6)
- The child of an officer in the Army (4,4)
- The number of matters a doctor (or similar) has to deal with at a particular time (8)
- (To) record again (8)
- Not private (6)
- Slightly drunk (6)
- A richly figured woven material with a pattern visible on either side (6)
- A type of microprocessor capable of a limited set of operations (4)

Onkaparinga Now



Beating bushfires before they begin.

A new, state-of-the-art purchase puts the City of Onkaparinga at the forefront of modern bushfire management.

The City of Onkaparinga's bushfire preparedness was bolstered this year, with the purchase of a tough new machine.

Introducing the Green Climber, a high-tech remote-controlled slope mower (nicknamed within council as 'Robochop'), designed to assist with the upkeep of natural areas, including reserves and roadsides.

Its greatest advantage? An ability to tackle problem areas that were previously too difficult or dangerous to access, and the capability of navigating slopes of up to 60 degrees.

Robochop can be operated from a distance of 350 metres and slashes much more than grass, making light work of thick brushes, spindly bushes, saplings and noxious weeds.

With a range of heavy-duty attachments, it can also cut down trees and grind stumps, making it an effective, multi-functional tool to clear vegetation that typically fuels bushfires.

Joel Caddy, the Bushfire Preparedness Project Officer at the City of Onkaparinga, emphasised the importance of being prepared for bushfires in the council area, especially given its diverse terrain, susceptibility to dry conditions and gully winds.

"The Green Climber enhances our efforts to reduce fuel loads, allowing us to quickly—and safely—maintain slopes and other areas that were previously inaccessible or unsafe for human-operated slashers," Joel said.

The City of Onkaparinga is the first council in Australia to purchase a machine of this kind, and it forms just one part of council's efforts to reduce the risk of bushfires in the community.

The council's Bushfire Preparedness and Resilience Project—which includes the purchase of the Green Climber—has been made possible thanks to a \$3.57 million grant from the National Emergency Management Agency.

The grant was received in mid-2022, with the project commencing shortly after.

The project brings together multiple stakeholders including the CFS, state government departments and bushfire specialists, and aims to identify problem areas and find solutions before disaster strikes.

In addition to resident education and support for community-led disaster resilience groups, the three-year project will see fuel reduction work roll out in stages—starting with areas of greatest

risk—as determined by the state government's Bushfire Management Plan.

With a dedicated Bushfire Management Plan also in place, the City of Onkaparinga provides support and advice to residents via community development programs.

"Our goal is to create a safer, more resilient and bushfire-aware community, and develop effective strategies to prevent fires from occurring," Joel said.

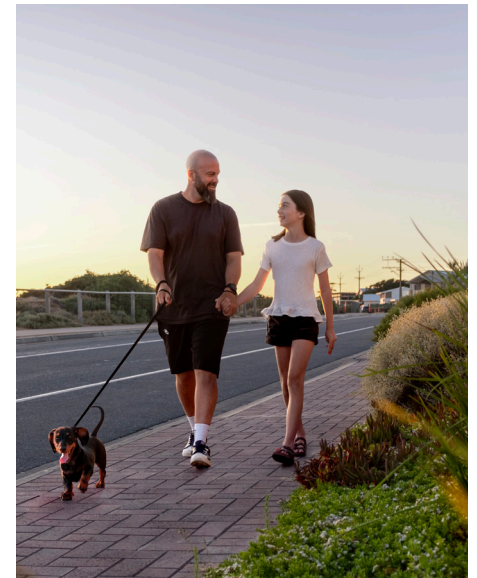
While the new technology is fascinating, and the operators a friendly bunch, the community is reminded that Robochop is a heavy-duty tool and should be observed from a distance.

"If you see Robochop out and about, feel free to stop and watch it in action from afar."

The City of Onkaparinga's Bushfire Preparedness and Resilience Project is estimated to be complete in 2025 when funding ceases.

More information

- Watch Robochop in action
- For project information visit yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/bpp
- To read the Bushfire Management Plan visit onkaparingacity.com



Grave Tales – The Stories Behind the Stones

Tiptoe through the tombstones this May during South Australia’s History Festival.

Tours of the Bains Cemetery in Morphett Vale and the McLaren Vale Congregational Cemetery will feature the fascinating life (and death) stories of those who lie beneath.

There’s the tragic tale of Constance Kate Bain, murdered in 1916 before her marriage to a police sergeant.

Or the inspiring story of Miss “China Lady” Aldersey who opened the Tsong Gyiaou school in McLaren Vale, named for the Chinese village where she had once taught as a missionary.

There is the case of the mysterious headstone laid in the floor of the Morphett Vale courthouse.

And there’s the local link with Jamaica and the slave trade of the 1800s.

Kelly Hudswell-Strahan, Onkaparinga’s Local History Officer, is excited to get the Grave Tales – The Stories Behind the Stones tours underway.

“Each grave has a story to tell,” she says. “We are the product of history. Understanding the past is essential to understanding ourselves as humans and our place in the world.”

Book your tour on Eventbrite for the Bains cemetery or McLaren Vale cemetery tours or phone the Noarlunga Library on 8384 0655.

On the verge of beauty

The City of Onkaparinga’s new *Verge planting guide* helps you make your verge a thing of beauty.

It offers tips on creating a plan for your verge – the area between your house and the road – selecting plants, and bringing your garden to life. It also includes five great design ideas to spark your imagination: dryland, natural coastal, flowering meadow, edible plant and native formal gardens.

But there’s no need to limit yourself to these designs. Your verge can be as unique as you are, providing you adhere to a few rules and make sure the area is safe and accessible.

Matt Briggs, Coordinator Open Space Operations at Onkaparinga, says there are so many good reasons to plant on your verge.

“You can make your neighbourhood attractive while you help cool streets and reduce the rate of global warming,” he says.

“Your planted verge will also retain rainwater and create habitat for creatures like butterflies.”

Verges are owned by the council but if you plant on your verge in line with the guide you do not need council approval.

The Verge planting guide is available on the City of Onkaparinga website.



YOUR SAY

Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2023-24

Each year, we invite community feedback about our draft annual business plan and budget which sets out the essential services and projects we'll deliver in the next financial year, and how it will be funded to meet the needs of our city.

Community consultation is open from 21 April – 15 May.

onkaparingacity.com/yoursay





Rebekha Sharkie MP

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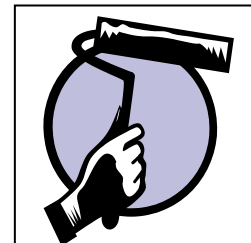
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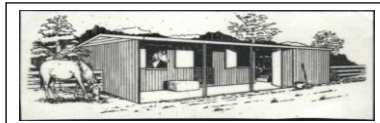


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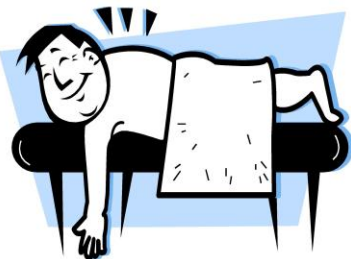
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