



Cherry Chatter

Incorporated by the Cherry Gardens Community Association Inc.

AIRSTRIP HISTORY CORNER

With summer approaching we are looking to document some history of the Air Support activities that originated in Cherry Gardens. Cherry Gardens was at the forefront in development of the Air Support equipment and activities as the advent of aircraft to support the ground crews started in South Australia.

One of the Cherry Gardens CFS volunteers, Brian Geue, was instrumental in the development of some of the early equipment used to mix the fire retardant and fill the aircraft. It was a messy job as in the early days the fire retardant was red. The Cherry Gardens CFS had a number of volunteers that supported the Air Operations, and an Air Operations vehicle and trailer was housed in the old CFS fire shed opposite the current CFS building.

If there are any locals who have any recollections, they would like to share then please contact Cherry Chatter.

Here are a few photos from the early days.



One of the Air Operations vehicles



Filling one of the early "Bombers"



Preparing the retardant packs for mixing



Dropping a load of retardant

Articles for Cherry Chatter must 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 SEPTEMBER 2020

Rainfall for September 2020	111.6 mm
Rainfall for September 2019	66.6
Average rainfall for September	99.8
Rainfall to the end of September 2020	842.0
Rainfall to the end of September 2019	657.8
Avg rainfall to the end of September	758.2
Number days of rain September 2020	15
Number days of rain September 2019	13

2020 CHERRY CHATTER COMMITTEE

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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 NOVEMBER



HALL NEWS

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

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



Laughing Lama Dance and Drama

This group is holding classes at the Hall, and they are going well. Check our Facebook page for more information.



Now available for birthday parties!

Laughing Llama
Dance & Drama
Little Llamas Creative Lab (Dance/Drama) 3-5 yrs 3:45-4:45pm
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.instagram.com/laughingllamadd) www.laughingllamadanceanddrama.com.au

CHERRY GARDENS CFS

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



On Sunday the 6th of September firefighters were responded to a fire at the Almond Co packing facility at

Pike River, near Renmark in the Riverland. Not only were a semi-trailer and a loader destroyed by fire, crews also found the very large almond husk piles alight. Due to the size and nature of the fire, local Riverland CFS crews were unable to extinguish using normal rural tactics. The almond husk piles were extremely large and fire was burning deep inside the mounds.

On Tuesday morning, the Sturt bulk water carrier (BWC) based at Cherry Gardens station with its Compressed Air and Foam System (CAFS) capability was responded to support local crews. It assisted with protecting the remaining packaging facility and the extinguishment of the burning husk piles. Later the same day the remaining CAFS appliances in the CFS fleet from Eden Hills, Tea Tree Gully, and Blackwood were also requested to attend. Multiple crews were deployed from these brigades, including ours from Cherry Gardens who crew the Sturt BWC, and were on scene assisting local firefighters from first deployment on Tuesday the 8th of September through to Monday the 14th.

All CFS and MFS firefighters and heavy machinery operators worked well to minimise damage to the Almond Co facility and bring the fire under control.

We are proud of the efforts of our brigade's firefighters for giving up their time to deploy for multiple days to assist with this large-scale commercial fire. Pictured is the BWC assisting with the extinguishing of this fire.



CFS REGION I Air Operations Brigade

With summer rapidly approaching, your Air Support Brigade has already been brushing up on our skills and getting the Air Support station ready for when we are needed.

Last season was very busy and while we don't wish to be needed it is time for us to get ready. We have had a couple of Sundays already at the Air Strip getting the equipment ready and running through our training drills.

Over winter we extended the shelter thanks to a donation from Cherry Chatter for the materials and the labour from Andrew Harrington to erect it. We now can offer some shade for the volunteers while on duty supporting the Air Operations when fighting any fires.

At the last training we were visited by one of the helicopter teams who were inspecting the high-tension power lines. They landed at the Air Strip to refuel and invited us across to inspect the helicopter. We took the opportunity to have a photo taken in front of the helicopter.



Our official pre-season training will be held at 9.00am on November 22nd. At this training, an aircraft will attend so we do live filling of the aircraft and they do test drops around the air strip. If you have not seen the Air Operations team at work, it is quite something to see.

Anyway, we all hope for quiet season as none of us want a repeat of last summer. Please do your bit by cleaning up around your place and have a Bushfire Plan that everyone in your house knows and understands. If you don't have the equipment and ability to stay and fight, then get out early.

CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB

Meetings are currently held at the Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall at 7.30pm usually on the second Monday of the month February to November.

President; Ray Wise Phone: 0405 273 003 8383 6011
Secretary; Jan Ball Phone: 0432 550 274

Next Meetings

Monday 9th November – Mark Smith from Adelaide Vegie Gardens will talk on wicking beds

Sunday 6th December – Christmas Lunch 12noon

Our second Garden Club meeting since lockdown, the August meeting being our AGM, on the 14th September 2020, in our larger, Covid safe venue, sported social distancing, well organized by our fully trained, competent Covid Marshall in the Cherry Gardens Memorial hall - our home for the foreseeable future.

Our guest speaker, Richard Heathcote, former director of Carrick Hill is director of benefaction of the planned Australian Museum of Gardening at Carrick Hill, which will hold an exhibition during April to May 2021. At last year's Carrick Hill open day I was fascinated to view the fantastic collection of 800 garden tools gifted by Richard Bird of Armidale, AKA "The Old Mole", who acquired them as he travelled around Australia last century, repairing, selling and trading garden tools.

Richard's presentation, "The Blade", is also the title of an exhibition and film he prepared for the Garden History Society. It was about a very well-known and most times, beloved feature of gardens: Lawns and Lawn mowing.

There is more lawn grass in the world than any other plant and most people have had to deal with a lawn for some or most of their lives. We followed the development of lawns, but specifically, their methods and tools of maintenance. From early European Royal and Aristocratic great houses, where five men with scythes might be employed five days a week keeping a large lawn clipped to perfection, right through to today when most suburban homes sport a well-maintained lawn. Lawn condition can be a matter of great pride to the person maintaining it, and to the owner of the premises, but as they push what may be an Australian made Victa mower, with its slicing action blades, a mountain of historical development lies between it and the scythes used centuries ago.

We saw the difference between scythe type lawn mower blades and the cylindrical type blade holder of the first push lawnmowers and of lawn mower greats like Edwin Budding who patented the first lawn mowing machine in Oct 1830 and learned among other facts that:

"Shanks Pony" the first horse drawn mower, transcended labor-intensive scythes, Regent Park Zoo used a camel drawn lawn mower, Adelaide Scott Bonnar was making Lawn mowing equipment by the 1930's 90% of Bowls Greens had helical bladed mowers.

Due to high import duty on the 500 mowers brought into Australia on ships like the Mahout, a lawn mower factory was established in Fitzroy, Melbourne.

At conclusion of the evening our plant auction made a roaring trade but sadly, due to COVID 19 we had to do with a cuppa minus our usual delicious, supper.

George's Gardening Suggestions for November 2020

Vegetables and summer-flowering annuals will respond to a side dressing of blood and bone or an all-purpose fertiliser watered in well. Leafy vegetables will benefit from a foliar fertiliser best applied in the late afternoon

Watch out for caterpillars on vegetables and vines. Codling moth can be a problem on apples and pears at this time of the year. A spray with the hose of an evening will kill off a few but preventing them from hatching should have been done in the spring using a band of corrugated cardboard on the trunk to encourage the eggs to be laid there, which can then be disposed of every couple of weeks.

Lawns should be mowed regularly without cutting them too short.

Plants transpire huge amounts of water at this time of the year, hot winds make it worse so some sort of windbreak will help. It could be a tough hedge, or a trellis covered with creepers, or a row of trees.



Jacaranda Trees

The Jacaranda is a beautiful tree around this time of the year, and it is an ideal time to plant one, easy to grow, not subject to pests or disease. In frosty areas it will need protection until it is established.

Roses are in their prime at the moment (have you seen them at the Flemington racecourse when the Melbourne Cup is on?). Now is a good time to make your choices for next year's planting season when you can see exactly what they look like.

Tomatoes should be in strong growth by now, do not over-fertilise them with nitrogen-rich fertiliser as it will encourage soft leaf growth without setting much fruit. An ideal fertiliser is one rich in phosphorous and potash.

Plant out cucumbers, zucchinis, squash, lettuce, sweet corn, pumpkins and French beans.

Snapdragons, phlox, petunias, lobelia, and portulaca will make a good showing in summer if planted now.



Portulaca Grandiflora

OVER THE STABLE DOOR with Hamish



Greetings Fellow Equines
and Horse Owners!

Reasonably good news all
round, with some rainfall
and supposedly more to
come – bring it on!

Also my hoof abscess seems
to have cleared up completely now, so things back to
normal in that department.

The next issue on the horizon is the spring flush in the
grass. So far I am keeping my weight fairly constant at
around 480kg. My owners are still using the weight tape
on me most days and always before being ridden. It's
not so much what I actually weigh, but the change in my
weight which is significant. I did founder once 10 years
ago due to getting an abscess and not being able to be
worked. I piled on the weight and of course founder. Hence my owners are super vigilant now and keep an eagle eye on my weight during the season changes. I am prone to be on the cuddly side, but laminitis can affect any breed of horse (I am a welsh cob). By making sure that your trusty steed gets around 80% roughage (read dry hay) that will help to keep him safe from foundering.

If you feel that there is too much of the green lush
pasture around and want to confine your horse, ensure
that he has ad lib quantities of the dry stuff; and the
plainer the better. Some horses will cope better than
others when confined, so if you need to let him out for R
and R, then make it later in the day when the sugars are

not rising in the grasses. Unfortunately laminitis can
onset in a matter of a couple of hours and those early
hours of the morning from sunrise to around 3pm are
the most risky. Once a horse has foundered, they can be
more susceptible to a recurrence of the condition (hence
my owners concern). It is a very painful condition,
causing separation of the hoof wall and rotation of the
pedal bone. It is usually irreversible and in extreme
cases, the horse may have to be put down. So prevention
is the key here.

When a horse is brought in in preparation to be ridden,
the very first thing to do is the cleaning out of the feet.
This way, heat can be detected as a hoof is picked up
and a comparison done between each hoof. Laminitis
commonly affects front feet, but it can be one or all, no
hard or fast rule.

A horse has a digital pulse just down below and at the
side of the fetlock joint. In normal conditions, this is
difficult to detect, but in founder, it can often be easily
felt. If in doubt, don't hesitate to contact your vet. Again,
the old adage 'no hoof, no horse' is so true, so feet first
before you ride!

Happy and safe riding everyone,
Your trim Hamish



Phone: 8270-1169 Mobile: 0422 938 439

Website- www.mintonfarm.org

Facebook-

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

CHERRY CHURCH

Cherry Gardens Church
87 Hicks Hills Road, Cherry Gardens

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



The Cherry Gardens Church, its garden and its
gravestones are an integral part of the heritage of our
district. They're a reminder of those who have gone
before, paving the way for our generation, and of the
Christian faith that underpinned the community.

Headstones, etched in scrolled lettering and made by the
likes of Thomas Sara at Willunga from the slate quarries
nearby, are intermingled with heritage roses and other
plants. In one section, there is a clump of kangaroo

grass. At first glance it's insignificant. But there is a meaning behind it. The grass was placed there, carefully, by Dr Alan Dube as a reminder of those first European settlers who came to the region. For it was that grass, abundant in district in the late 1830s, that attracted them there in the first place as a source of pasture for livestock.

That native grass is very much a reminder that all of us in Cherry Gardens are really privileged to be here. And, over the decades, families have tended the soil, maintained the beauty of the district and provided, for us, this beautiful environment.

It is also a reminder that, like all humanity, in God's scheme of things our days are few. Our forebears, guided by their faith, not only put aside the land for the Church, but also built it, tended the plot around it and provided for us a rich heritage.

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 of those who are true to his covenant and who faithfully obey his commands.' Psalm 103.

Just a reminder that the Church community is always available to assist anyone who has a pastoral need.

FRIENDS OF SCOTT CREEK CONSERVATION PARK



Continuing our group's 30th anniversary celebrations, we will be running our annual Almanda Open Day on Sunday 15th November, followed by our AGM on Tuesday 17th. In addition to the usual self-guided walk along Almanda Creek, with guides provided with a gold coin donation, John Wamsley will again be giving a couple of talks for those, interested in hearing from the Prime Minister's 2003 Environmentalist of the Year, about his passion for biodiversity.

Being very mindful of the continuing shadow of COVID-19 hanging over us all, we are using Eventbrite for our Open Day, so that we can limit the numbers of people coming along, whilst also having attendees' details from their registration, for future tracing if necessary.

It continues to be rather strange, the restrictions and rules we need to put in place to keep everyone safe. If you are interested in attending the Open Day, please go to the Eventbrite page using the following link

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/almanda-open-day-tickets-124047634815>. COVID-19 restrictions and protocols are listed on the registration page.

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.

November

Sat, Sun	31, 1	Bird banding
Tue	3	Bushcare
Sun	8	Bushcare
Sat, Sun	14, 15	Bird banding
Sun	15	Almanda Open Day
Tue	17	AGM
Sat	28	Bushcare



John Wamsley talking to attendees at last year's Almanda Open Day

COUNCILLOR UPDATE

CITY OF ONKAPARINGA THALASA WARD COUNCILLOR UPDATE

ON Business Awards/Go South Go Local

The ON Business Awards are a tremendous opportunity to recognise and celebrate the success of businesses within the City of Onkaparinga in what has been a very difficult year for our economy. I participated on the awards committee in September and community voting closed on 18 October, with the final judging of the winners by the committee in late October. The award recipients will be announced at the ON Business Awards event to be held this year at the McLaren Vale Fleurieu Visitor Information Centre, McLaren Vale on the evening of Wednesday 11 November.

A big thank you to everyone that nominated businesses last September to produce the shortlist. The awards come as our Go South Go Local campaign hits its strides, with hundreds of businesses across the city using the campaign messaging on their websites, social media and shop fronts, and more than 1,300 posts on Instagram using the #GoSouthGoLocal hashtag.

The campaign is aimed at supporting local businesses to recover and grow amid COVID-19, showcasing the amazing products and services available in the region, and promoting the incredible stories of Onkaparinga's business community. Remember – you can make a difference simply by buying local. Every dollar spent with a local business helps to rebuild our local economy, grow our local business community, ensure local people continue to be employed, and so much more!

For business-owners, council has developed a toolkit to help your business get involved and spread the Go South Go Local message. Go to the ON Business website to download digital assets, receive an introductory pack including in-store displays, learn how to get your business listed in our free directory and gain access to events, business advice, offers and promotions. www.onbusinesspartnerprogram.com Together we can help our economy recover, assist our business community to grow and showcase what our region has to offer.

Welcome Cr Sue Tonkin

Council welcomed the City of Onkaparinga's newest councilor Sue Tonkin at the September council meeting following her success in the recent Mid-Coast supplementary elections. She was officially sworn in following former Councilor Beau Cowan resigning due to illness. Sue was an inaugural Onkaparinga councilor and also served on the former Happy Valley Council. She joins Councilor Bill Jamieson on the ward and we're excited to see them enact some positive change on the Mid Coast.

Shellfish reef announcement

(See Onkaparinga News for more information.)

Agricultural Town of the Year Award

The iconic towns of McLaren Vale and Willunga have been nominated for the 2020 South Australian Agricultural Town of the Year award and voting closed on 30 October. The award, presented by Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) and Solstice Media, recognises SA towns that excel in agricultural practices and the positive flow-on effect they have on communities. Voting for 70 nominated towns closed on 30 October 2020 with a judging panel to determine the top five finalists. Finalists will be announced on 20 November, with the winner announced in February 2021.

McLaren Vale is a premium grape growing and food production area, renowned for some of the world's best wines produced from some of the world's oldest grape vines.

Willunga is home to gorgeous olive groves and vineyards, with organic farming, on-farm compost, reclaimed water and solar power underpinning the town's commitment to sustainable living and farming.

Main Road, Cherry Gardens/Chandlers Hill

A road safety issue was raised in September by residents relating to the access of heavy vehicle B Doubles using Main Road Cherry Gardens/Chandlers Hill. As a consequence of an assessment by council administration I have recommended that council will make a submission to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport to restrict the use of these types of vehicles along this section of road.

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

Geoff Eaton

Councillor

Thalassa Ward

City of Onkaparinga

Email: geoff.eaton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Mobile: 0416 637 351

RECREATION GROUND

NETBALL

Summer Netball has again started up at the Cherry Garden Recreation Ground on a Thursday evening. Games start at 4.30 and finish approximately 9.30. Meals are available every week and the Bar is also open. Looking forward to a fun and exciting summer season on Netball There is a great vibe and lots of netball being played.

Please remember to Sanitise hands when you arrive and social distance.

We managed to get a Winter season in after a rocky start. During 2020 IBCG had 20 teams playing in the Hills Netball assoc –

11 junior teams and 8 senior teams. We had 14 teams playing in the finals last week with 7 of these making it through to the Grand Final (5 junior and 2 senior)

3 Premierships to 11.3 green, 13.2 gold, Inters 3

4 Runners up to 11.1 (3 goals), 13.1 (1 goal), B2 (3 goals) and A1 (1 goal)



The Hills Netball Association Best and fairest medal winners for our club were:

B&F Caitlyn McMartin(Inter 3), Chantelle O'Brien(C1)
 B&F runner up Freya Powell(11.3), Ashlyn Ambler(13.2),
 Molly Field(Inter 3), Tegan Morgan(A2)
 HNA Team of the year (chosen from A1 senior teams)
 Clare Petalow Stacey Briggs
 Tayla Stapledon Layla Wigzell



HNA representative players for 2020 were

UNDER 11- Emily FARRELL and Summer HUSTON
 UNDER 13 -Kari HUSTON, Eliza WEGNER and Ellenor HAIGH
 UNDER 15 -Layla WIGZELL and Jess Hocking
 Under 17's - Shakaya HEMBURY

We expect our AGM to be held early in the new year and as there will be a couple of positions vacated PLEASE consider OFFERING YOUR SUPPORT TO THE CLUB by joining our committee.

COACHES WANTED IN ALL GRADES. We are Looking for an experienced A1 coach along with all

other grades in both Seniors and Juniors. If you are interested in coaching next season__please [email ibcg.vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:ibcg.vicepresident@gmail.com) with your expression of interest.

We also wish to thank our sponsors for this year and look forward to next year.

Sincere thanks to Dr James Moxham, Nicole and family from Aldinga After Hours GP who continued as our Gold Sponsor during 2020. We also had support from Cool & Cosy, Cherry Chatter and Summit Glass.

IRONBANK CHERRY GARDENS TENNIS CLUB

We are looking for a boy who would like to either play full time or just fill-in for our Saturday morning junior boys' team. Teams are made up of 4-5 players (We currently have 3 players and require a 4th or even 5th player) where players play both singles and doubles matches. The team will be playing Division 5 in the Hills Tennis Association on Saturday mornings. Matches are played at 8:30am or 10:30am at either our home courts at the Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground or at the opposition club's courts. Boys need to be 17 or under at 30/09/2020.

If you're interested or would like more information send us an email at ibcg@bigpond.com or call our Secretary Phil Battersby on 0417 215 647

CRICKET

And just like that the 20/21 cricket season is upon us and its sure to be a memorable one as it celebrates our 30th season since the Ironbank and Scott Creek clubs merged to create the great club we have now.

Two senior teams have started their season, both an A Grade & C Grade and we have plenty of depth with over 30 players keen week in week out. Hopefully, we can keep them all keen and with a few returning players and some juniors promising, we can eventually build up to having 3 senior teams next year. That's a bit of a dream but it's something worth striving for.

We again have entered 3 junior teams (U12, 14 & 16) and although numbers are a little thin in some, we know everyone will have a fun time. If any potential juniors are out there, we are always open to new players and we have as players as young as 8 playing. Training is Thursday @ 4:15 so come out for a go or contact Scott on 0417 874 763.

We'd like to welcome and thank our sponsors who have come on board for this special season. Plumbing & Pipeline Solutions, Noarlunga Packaging & Mortgage Choice Adelaide Hills.

GO SCIBBIES!



\$200,000 for Cherry Gardens mobile coverage to improve bushfire safety in Federal Budget.

Reprinted with permission from the Adelaide Hills Messenger

A dangerous mobile black spot in the Adelaide Hills that has left locals in fear during destructive bushfires, will be fixed with hundreds of thousands of dollars in federal funding.

A dangerous mobile black spot in the Adelaide Hills will be thrown hundreds of thousands of dollars to prevent a bushfire disaster.

New mobile phone towers will be installed in Cherry Gardens to fix mobile and digital black spots. A spend of \$200,000 was revealed recently in the Federal Budget.

The funding pledge is aimed at ensuring safety during the hills in the event of a bushfire, such as last year's Cuddlee Creek fire which ravaged large parts of the hills.

Budget papers described Cherry Gardens as a "high risk" bushfire area. It follows years of calls from local councils and politicians to improve mobile coverage in the Adelaide Hills.

Mobile phone black spots have long dogged the hills, particularly during emergencies such as bushfires. Hills communities have previously been left without mobile coverage for as long as 5 days during fire danger season because of storms.

A royal commission into Australia's bushfire response last month heard large parts of the hills were left without telecommunications during the Cuddlee Creek fire. The situation was exacerbated by power outages. David Waters, from the Adelaide Hills Council, told the royal commission that communications were "challenging" during the fire and it put residents and emergency services "at risk".

He called for better mobile phone coverage in areas "at higher risk of natural disasters".

WELCOME TO CHERRY GARDENS

The Cherry Chatter Committee would like to welcome Sam and Eliza Sullivan to the area.

Some more photos of the early years with Air Operations and Cherry Gardens brigade.



Preparing the fire retardant



The Air Operations unit



Loading an Aircraft



Observing Aircraft dropping a load of Foam & Water



Manning the pumps



The Retardant Mixer



Dropping a load



Pumping water from the DAM to refill storage tanks



MAYOR ERIN THOMPSON'S
CHRISTMAS
LIGHT DISPLAY
Competition

Entries
now
open



Best house • Best street

Entries close
Friday 27 November 2020

For more information phone 8384 0666
or email mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

onkaparingacity.com/awards



Photo courtesy of Heath Riggs, Mono Design.

Members of the Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground's sporting teams (from left) Maddi Taylor, Mikayla Sharrad, Jack Sharrad, Brianna Hobbs, Logan Pullford and Jayden Hughes.

UPGRADES ON THE MARK

New changerooms will keep local sporting clubs in winning form.

Work is getting under way on building new male and female changerooms in community sporting and recreation centres at Cherry Gardens, Flagstaff Hill and Hackham.

Funding for the new buildings is being contributed by council and the state government's Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing through its Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program.

The aim of the program is to increase participation and improve gender equity in the sports for the benefit of the community through the development of good quality and well-designed amenities.

The projects will provide the local communities with significantly improved sports, recreation and social facilities.

The Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground is a community-owned facility, managed on behalf of the community by a committee of volunteers. The ground is home to a growing number of football, netball, cricket and tennis teams. President of the

Cherry Gardens Ironbank Football Club, Don Watton, welcomes the renewal of the facilities built in 1988 for players and the community.

After a funding agreement was reached in July this year for \$277,000 to be delivered by council and \$255,000 from the Grassroots Program, Don and fellow committee members drew up detailed specifications of the changerooms and selected an architect and builder. Designs of the new buildings were being finalised at the time of writing, with a goal to turning the sod in December.

"The sporting clubs are excited about the new buildings, as is the entire Cherry Gardens and Ironbank community," Don says. "This is the first real infrastructure that we've been able to have funded.

"This is a significant project for our club. We hope that having good facilities brings a level of confidence in the community that our club is growing and that we're a good recreational organisation to be part of," Don says.

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



Nominate
now!

2021 CITY OF ONKAPARINGA
**AUSTRALIA DAY
AWARDS**

Friends, relatives, neighbours, co-workers
... if you know someone who is making a
difference, why not nominate them today?

Nominations close
Friday 20 November 2020

onkaparingacity.com/australiaday

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



Port Noarlunga, potential location for a shellfish reef.



Leatherjacket fish at the Windara shellfish reef on the Yorke Peninsula.

Photo courtesy of Anita Nedosyko

NEW SHELLFISH REEF FOR ONKAPARINGA

The City of Onkaparinga’s push for a shellfish reef will now become a reality following a \$20 million Australian Government funding announcement, aimed at boosting marine environments and economies of COVID-hit communities.

The region is one of at least 11 around Australia where the reefs will be built thanks to the Australian Government’s partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), which is on a mission to restore the critically endangered ecosystems across southern Australia.

Shellfish reefs were once abundant in Australia’s bays and estuaries, but they were decimated by overharvesting, dredging and pollution from the 1850s to 1960s. Less than 10 per cent of them remain.

The Reef Builder – Coastal Communities Recovery Project is partly aimed at restoring these ecosystems. Shellfish reefs provide benefits such as cleaner oceans (each hectare of reef filters 2.7 billion litres of seawater), more fish and other species, and safer coastlines through erosion protection.

The partnership is also aimed at supporting coastal towns and areas in need of recovery from COVID-19 and recent bushfires, with the initiative tipped to create up to 170 jobs and engage up to 120 subcontractors.

It hasn’t yet been revealed when or where the reef will be built in Onkaparinga, but Port Noarlunga and O’Sullivan Beach were identified as potential sites earlier this year when the state government’s Department for the Environment and Water and TNC partnered to choose the location for the first metropolitan Adelaide project.

Council had earlier committed \$40,000 in 2020-21 towards a shellfish reef, which will now be allocated to this project.

City of Onkaparinga Mayor Erin Thompson said it was great news for the region.

“The community’s strong support for a shellfish reef in the south played a significant role in the announcement, which will add to Onkaparinga’s 31 kilometres of stunning coastline,” she said.

“We’re committed to making sure our region’s natural environment thrives and our economy benefits everyone, so I’m looking forward to seeing the impact the reef has on our precious marine life and jobs.

“A big thank you to Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley and The Nature Conservancy for the announcement, and to South Australia’s Minister for Environment and Water, David Speirs, for his support in getting this over the line.”

ONKAPARINGA NOW SURVEY

Onkaparinga Now is one of our council publications and your source for news and stories from right across the City of Onkaparinga.

We’re currently seeking feedback on this publication and would like to hear your views.

To have your say on Onkaparinga Now please visit onkaparingacity.com/yoursay or complete one of the surveys in the printed version of the latest spring magazine. Magazines are available at council offices and centres, libraries, the Arts Centre, Sauerbier House and the McLaren Vale and Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre. Feedback closes on Wednesday 11 November.



ONKAPARINGA EVENTS UPDATE

The beautiful spring weather we’ve seen lately means we’re coming into the busy events season.

Like most things in 2020, this year will look a little different. With safety being our priority, we won’t be holding our upcoming major events, such as Touch a Truck and the Christmas Pageant, in the usual format. Instead, we’ll be looking at smaller activations spread across the city.

To keep up to date with our events visit www.onkaparingacity.com/events

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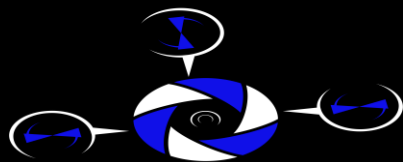
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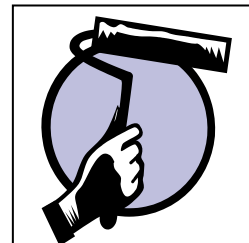
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