

# Quorn Mercury

Recording Quorn's History while it's Being Made

November 2020

Established 1895

Number 25/271

## Sold—Just in Time



A successful clearing sale was held on the property of Mr Lawrie Fitzgerald, completed just hours before severe thunderstorms deluged Quorn with heavy rain and flooding on Friday 23rd October



Umbrellas at the ready as the sale proceeds

SHOWERS AND THREATENING cloud did nothing to hamper the progress of the recent Clearing Sale.

All descriptions of Mr Lawrie Fitzgerald's farm and household equipment went under the hammer, representing more than eight decades of the farm's history.

Fortunately most buyers were able to remove their purchases before severe storms and flooding inundated Quorn at the end of the day. ■

**In this issue:**

**Award for Silo Projection**

**A Life with Horses—Jenni Reschke**

**page 5**

**page 28**

**\$2.50**

# Walking Trails

*All five Trails cleared and signposted  
1–4 offer spectacular Summit Views*

## **1. *The Dutchman's Stern Park***

*8.5 km via Arden Vale Rd from Quorn to Car Park  
10.6 km circuit (easier clockwise) or  
8.4 km return via Terrace/Northern Trail or  
6 km return to Stony Creek Lookout or  
5 km return to Terrace Lookout*

## **2. *Warren Gorge***

*22 km via Arden Vale Rd from Quorn to Trailhead  
5.2 km circuit (easier clockwise)*

## **3. *Devil's Peak***

*10 km via Richman Valley Road & Devil's Pk Rd to start  
2.6 km return (some scrambling near top)*

## **4. *Mount Brown Park***

*14 km via Richman Valley Road to Olive Grove to start  
15 km circuit or 12 km return via Western Trail or  
5.4 km return to Bald Hill Lookout*

## **5. *Waukarie Creek***

*14 km via Richman Valley Road to Olive Grove to start  
12 km return to Woolshed Flat Railway Station or  
2 km return to Heysen Trail Shelter*

*Details & Leaflets Flinders Ranges Visitors Information Centre Quorn, Quorn Railway Station*



# Lest We Forget



Lance Corporal Frederick William Holmes  
VC, the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

SYLVIA BEAL'S GRANDFATHER, Frederick William Holmes was a Lance Corporal in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in the First World War. He was awarded the Victoria Cross and the Medaille Militaire (France).

Frederick Holmes, who became a Captain, was the first British soldier to be awarded the VC in the First World War. He was aged 24 on 26th August 1914 at the Battle of Le Capeau, France.

The order to retire had been given, but it was very dangerous, as each man had to run under close fire from the enemy.

When his turn to run came, Holmes noticed the bugler lying nearby with both legs broken.

Regardless of his safety Holmes carried the injured man two miles to the next village from the trenches, where he found stretcher bearers.

He returned to his lines, dodging German shells, and saw an unattended British 18-pounder gun with six horses standing idle, surrounded by dead and dying artillerymen.

A wounded man asked him if he could ride a horse as the gun had to be got away. He put the man on a horse and mounted the leading horse himself.

The unfortunate wounded man fell off as Holmes urged the horses along the roads in the dark. The gun made terrible noises every time it hit the hedges and flopped onto the road. After three miles they were out of range of the shelling and at the rear of a retiring column.

Holmes rejoined his company but was twice seriously wounded, and sent home in 1918. He left the army in 1921, and came to live in Port Augusta, where he died in 1969. ■

# Publication Day for local poet

ONE OF OUR very own Mercury volunteers has had some poetry published through Friendly Street Poets.

Tarla Kramer appears in *Friendly Street New Poets 21*, along with fellow poets Doug Jacquier and Mark Ritchie. The three winning collections were selected out of nineteen entries, which were judged by NT poet Kaye Aldenhoven.

The book was edited by Steve Evans and launched in Adelaide on Monday 26th October.

Tarla wrote her first poems when she was eight, but was not really interested in poetry until a couple of years ago, when she did surprisingly well in her final subject of a Grad Dip in Arts (Creative Writing) through Tabor.

'I didn't trust poetry for a long time, but I've really enjoyed wafting around writing it the past couple of years.' ■



Tarla at the launch



Showing off FSP New Poets 21. From left—Kaye Aldenhoven, Tarla Kramer, Doug Jacquier, Mark Ritchie, Steve Evans

# Free show under the stars

TRAVEL WRITER PAULA MCMANUS recently came to Quorn and wrote an article about the Quorn Silo Light Show which was published in Weekend Notes a couple of weeks ago.

## Quorn Silo Light Show by Paula McManus

*Photography obsessed writer and urban explorer. Lover of nature, art and long weekends—Adelaide, South Australia.*

<https://www.facebook.com/paula.mcmanus1>

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOWNS have embraced silo art with a passion. Silo Art is a tourism lifeline for our country towns and brings visitors to rural areas.

There are many towns across the state which have magnificent displays of silo or street art. The number of towns on the Silo Art trail is rapidly expanding—so much so that there are now Silo Art Trails that you can follow throughout the state and the country!

Quorn is a town that should be on your list for a special visit—the silo art display is different from any other you'll see in South Australia. Illuminart has created an incredible projection display onto the silos. We recently visited Quorn to see the light show and if you're familiar with Illuminart, you'll know that the show was colourful, entertaining, educational and full of local history.

We arrived just before sunset and claimed our spot on one of the permanent seats that have been built on the edge of the Pichi Richi Railway yards. The silos are in the centre of Quorn, almost across the road from our accommodation.

Before long, there were approximately 50 people of all ages sitting with us. Chairs, picnic blankets, snacks and drinks were organised and we all settled into our spots, awaiting the show.

We chatted to the people sharing our bench and like us, they had come to Quorn specifically to see the projection. They told us that they were on their way home from a holiday on the Eyre Peninsula when they heard about the light show. They turned off the main Augusta Highway and headed to Quorn. One more night was happily added to their holiday and they said it was a wonderful way to finish their great trip.

In the little tin shed alongside us, we heard a whir and then a beam of light projected onto the silo. The Light Show started at sunset with a countdown. It would be approximately 15 minutes before it was dark enough for the show to begin.

Intermittently through the countdown, we saw the letter Q evolve four times. On speaking to Illuminart's founder, Cindi Drennan, she explained that what we saw was the tail of the Flinders Ranges critically endangered Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby, the vine of a bush tomato, an Australian cattle dog's tail and a branch from a eucalyptus tree.

Once the sky was dark enough, the stars in the sky shone and we all sat back and watched this amazing show.

Straight away, we all knew we were in for a treat. The show started with a story on water and its importance to the Flinders Ranges; how much, where and when the water goes. We heard about Goyder and his line and saw how Dorothea Mackellar's famous poem speaks loud and clear here in the Flinders.

The projection told us of the stories of the travel-weary soldiers that passed through Quorn on their way to the war. Local CWA members, with Mrs Pearl Hastwell in charge, saw the need for the men to have a hearty home-cooked meal to see them on their way. By 1944, more than 137,000 meals had been served to the men who stopped at Quorn. It's a story I'd not heard before and I was amazed and in awe of the people of Quorn who came together as one to help the boys on their way north. What an amazing town to have rallied and worked so hard to make meals that were fit for kings. What a proud history this town has!

Following the projection which combines, film, artwork and animations there's a running slideshow of artworks, photos and imagery sourced from people who live and work in the local area.

Quorn is Cindi's home town and she was honoured to have been asked to create a permanent installation in the town. It took four years to get to where it is now, and it is sure to be a huge boost to tourism in the area.

If you wish to watch the Light Show from the comfort of your car or caravan, tune into 87.6 FM. The best sound will be as near as possible to the railway yards, but it's definitely possible to watch and hear the Light Show from further away.

Illuminart has projection Light Shows on the silos Quorn and at Karoonda.

The Karoonda silos feature an ever-changing projection by night, all driven by the local council and the community. By day, you can marvel at the mural painted by Mongolian-born Melbourne artist HEESCO. Karoonda is on my list of silos to visit next! ■

# QUORN SILO on the Australian Silo Art Trail

QUORN SILO HAS recently been in the media, as one of the presentation sites in illuminart's Travelling Light tour. The event was the National winner of the award for Best Regional Event, and was accepted by director and Quorn resident, Cindi Drennan, on behalf of all involved communities and team members.



The Quorn Silo was a highlight of the Travelling Light Tour, with the event held on 17 August 2019. The event partners were Flinders Ranges Council, Vitterra and Pichi Richi Railway. The event attracted over 300 local people and was blessed by perfect balmy weather (for August) with a full moon rising during the projections.

The August projections offered the opportunity to carry out a technical test and begin the community consultation for the Permanent Projection System which was later installed on the silo, and is now a major tourist attraction in the region.  
[www.quornsilolightshow.info/](http://www.quornsilolightshow.info/)

Below pictures of the event on 18 August 2019 are courtesy of Janet Thomas and Ellenor Day.

The Quorn Silo Light Show has been operational for over six months, and continues to have art added. One of the most recent developments was the addition of an FM transmitter, so people watching from cars may tune in using their FM radio. The frequency is 87.6 and can be received up to 700m from the Silo viewing area.

If you have an interest in Silo Art and would like to participate in a University research project to give your thoughts about, as a resident or tourist, please get in touch with Amelia Green below. ■

## CALLING FOR INTERVIEW VOLUNTEERS



### Stage 1 of Research Project: Silo Art and Wellbeing

Research team: Dr Amelia Green, Dr Helen Perkins, Professor Scott Weaven  
GU Ref No: 2020/824

#### We would like to hear from:

1. People who live in towns with silo art; and
2. People who have visited silo art (anytime).

#### What you will be asked to do:

Spend about 30 minutes discussing your experiences of silo art with a researcher (Amelia), via telephone or online (e.g. through Skype), at a time that is convenient for you.

These interviews will inform Stage 2, an online survey.

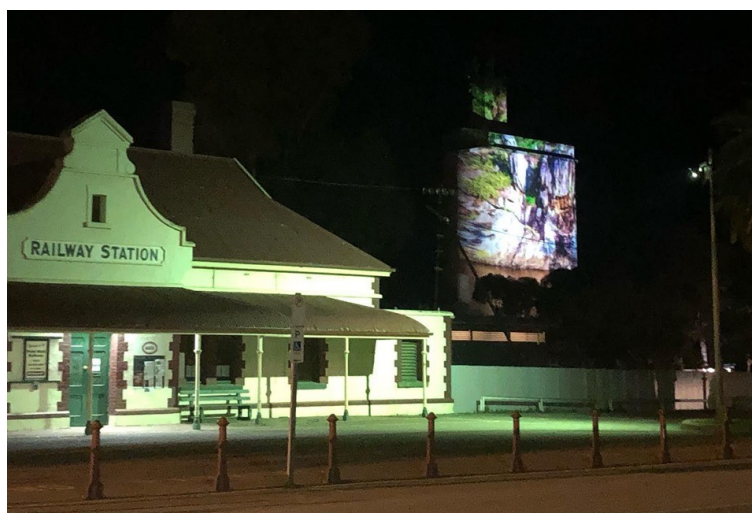
#### Prize draw:

Interview participants can enter the draw to win one of 2 x \$200 Coles Group and Myer vouchers.

If you would like to participate in an interview, or if you have questions, PLEASE CONTACT:  
[amelia.green@griffith.edu.au](mailto:amelia.green@griffith.edu.au)



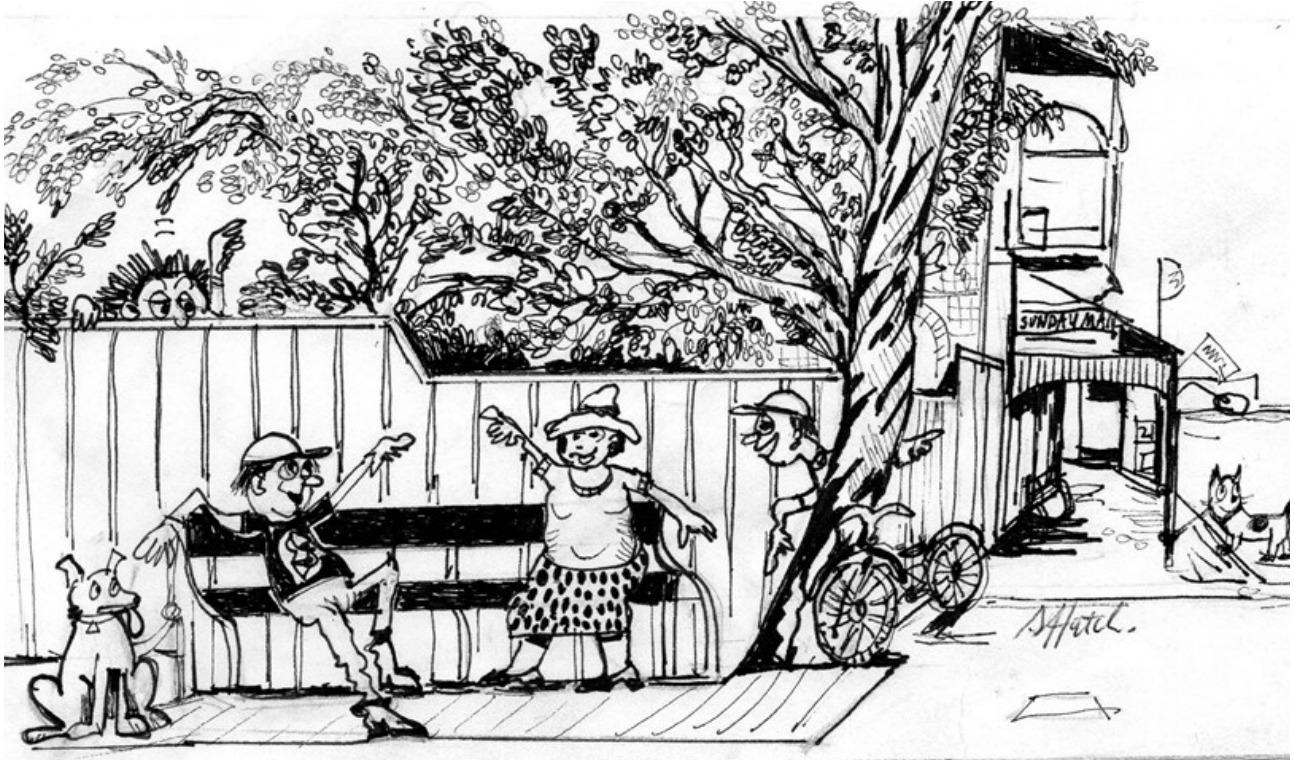
THANK YOU!





# Chat with a Quornie

## Don Calliss



**I WAS BORN** 88 years ago, in what is now ward 10 of the Hawker Hospital.

My father, George, worked as a Station Hand, and mother, Hazel, cooked for shearers, and at the Hawker Hospital.

Mum's family—the Sanders—were farmers in the 1880s. They grew wheat successfully on their unploughed land.

Government regulations stated that farmers weren't allowed to harvest the sandalwood trees that grew on their block, but Grandpa made a fortune out of them.

Mum, her two sisters, Gladys and Sylvia, and two brothers, Hurtle and Rob, went to school at Wirreanda by horse and cart. They told me many stories of their early lives, such as:

One cold day when they were sheltering in the straw shed, they lit a fire to keep warm. The shed caught fire; the kids hid down the creek, too scared to come home; the pig ran home; chooks scattered all round the farm. Their parents were so happy to see the kids alive, they didn't rouse about the fire.

For my first 16 years, I lived at *Worumba* Station, Hawker, that dad managed. When the owner was killed practising for the Hawker rodeo, his wife offered the station to Dad.

He knocked it back, because 'they use a drum of petrol a month.' He had no idea of money, having grown up in the Depression.

I was late starting school, as I was born with an eye deformity. It wouldn't focus, and at about nine, I spent seven months at Minda Home having daily treatment, exercises, and finally an operation.

In later years I had a cancer in the eye. Luckily, Dr Tony picked it up, and I had an operation to remove it in Adelaide. But the eye's still not much good.

My early schooling was by correspondence. I can remember the big envelopes that the lessons came in.

A number of small schools around the district were struggling to stay open due to falling numbers. I was used to make up the number needed to keep them open. I rode a horse or bike up to 11km each way daily.

At 14, I left school to go trapping rabbits at *Worumba*. The drought had broken, and rabbits were plentiful.

I took them by packhorse over the ranges to Holowiliena Road. Jesser Meats, Orroroo, collected them twice weekly, paying a shilling (10 cents) a pair—big money then.

I could carry 100 pair of rabbits hanging from the saddle. Dad only earned a shilling a day working on the Station.

In 1948, I worked on a farm, carrying bags of wheat, weighing 160lb (72.5kg) up a ramp, and loading them on the train at Wilson at night.

I got my driver's licence at 16, and began a 48 year association with the transport industry. Dad and I chopped wood for Grandpa (Ted Sanders) at his Hawker woodyard; carted pine posts to the west coast and mallee stumps home.

I'd saved 30 shillings, and bought the land where the Hawker Caravan Park is now. When I sold it, Dad and I bought the woodyard and a 26hp, 4-gear Chevrolet truck from Grandpa.

We won the contract for the weekly mail run to Oraparinna, and carted wool to the rail at Hawker and Adelaide. I'd bought my first truck, new, in 1949—a Bedford OL, and a British Dodge Diesel 6. (*Photo below*).



In the early 1950s, we carted barytes from Oraparinna mine near Blinman, to the rail at Hawker, for \$3.00 a ton.

The standard gauge railway line to Marree was being built. I carted bagged cement off the train at Neuroodla siding, to build bridges and culverts over the Commodore Swamp section of the northern line.

By then I had a Bedford S model, and a '52 Chevrolet. The first driver I employed was Colin Woodland, Rene Reschke's brother.

In mid-1953, I went to Lyndhurst to do two weeks work for Harry Wenzel, manager of Mt Fitton talc mine, owned by John Dunstan of Adelaide. I must have been a slow worker, as I was there for 18½ years!

I contracted, and subcontracted other trucks to cart the talc. 1955 was a very wet year. Six trucks were carting from the mine to rail at Lyndhurst. All pulled out, except Monty Scobie and I. Someone had to deliver supplies to the 10 or 12 men at the mine.

The miners dug out and loaded the talc by hand, piece by piece. Then we unloaded it into 12-ton rail wagons at the siding. When I sold the contract in 1972, a load was 40 ton and filled a rail wagon, and a frontend loader was used to load and unload.



Don's truck on the road to the talc mine, 1955

The Strzelecki Track had been closed since 1938. It was reopened in 1958 when oil exploration began in the far north east of the state. There were no roads or tracks anywhere.

I contracted to United Geophysics, the first company doing seismic survey work in the Cooper Basin. I guaranteed to deliver fuel to any location they could take a Landrover, on condition they made the track straight over the sandhills. Turning a loaded truck on a sandhill could result in hours of digging, to get out of a bog and get moving again.

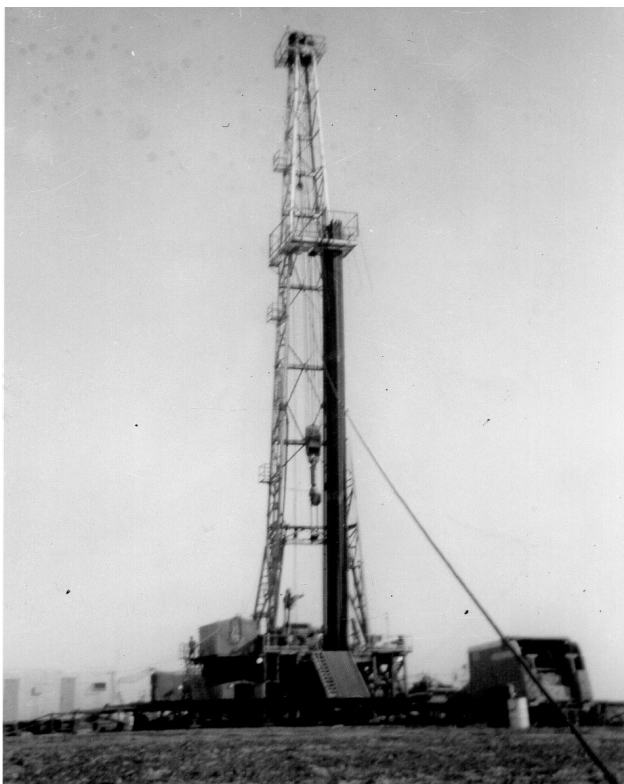
Fuel came in 44 gallon (200litre) drums. We delivered loads of about 100 drums.

I had the first road train to operate in this area—a 1961 AEC Mammoth Major 200hp, eight-wheel, 35 foot tray top. It was specially built and cost £12000 (\$24000). AEC (*shown below*), towing a single axle 35-foot dog.



My brother, Trevor, and I had eight trucks, and worked with six or eight other owners.

In early 1962, we moved equipment camp and a *Drillcon* rig, weighing 1000 ton, for Delhi Petroleum (Average load, 12-20 ton). We went 2000km via Broken Hill, from Orientos, NSW, to Pandiburra near Clifton Hill Station on the Birdsville Track, as flood in Cooper Creek at Innamincka had closed the Strzelecki Track.



Gidgealpa no 1 oil rig. Drilled to 10,000 ft in the 60s

Floodwaters had also closed the Birdsville Track. We crossed the *Cooper* on a punt—two 30 x 2'6" long pipes welded together with a plate/platform in between. It was propelled by men pulling on a cable (*below*).

We took a couple of days to ferry vehicles, trucks, trailers and loads across—extremely hard yakka, and we were all feeling buggered.



We were cooking tea, when a truck loaded with frozen rabbits arrived wanting to cross.

The punt operators were reluctant because of the time and deteriorating weather, but finally agreed to take them over.

They had just started when, in their haste to get the job done, all the men went to one side of the punt. They pulled the cable, flipping it over the punt. The truck and everyone was dumped into the water.

A young man from Quorn, Richard Pearce, was injured, and sadly drowned, trying to swim to safety against the current.

In 1965, I had an accident, unloading large pipes to be used as dam fluming on *Clifton Hill Station*. A pipe shifted, crushing my foot.

I contacted the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) radio channel in Pt Augusta. The duty doctor advised me what to do and dispatched an aircraft. 12 hours later, I was in hospital having my big toe amputated.

Northern roads were improving in the 1960s and 70s. Stations had begun sending cattle and other stock to market by road transport, so I built cattle crates and started carting stock.

These were big, wild, old bullocks that had never seen man before. We also carted horses, donkeys, camels, sheep, goats and pigs.

I carted wool from *Mt Lyndhurst Station* to SA Railways, Quorn (One year I delivered 1000 bales); and from *Witchelina Station*, Farina, to Adelaide.



Loading wool at *Witchelina* woolshed, about 1970  
Don's Mercedes and pig trailer

Magnesite was mined at *Witchelina*. I carried it to Adelaide for FH Faulding to use in the manufacture of Epsom Salts. SN Rodda, refined it for use as flux on welding rods.



In 1963, I married Anne Miller. We had three children—Pauline (Deceased. Cot Death Syndrome at 17 months), Jane and Richard.



Jane, Anne and Richard, Hawker PO, 1969

1972 marked a change of lifestyle for us, when we bought the Hawker Deli. This meant we could send our children to school.

I carted our shop's supplies from Adelaide, so my association with trucks continued.

From 1975 to 1982 we catered for the Birdsville Race crowds of 4000 people. Our van was a converted Bedford bus.

In about 1983, we bought Flinders Auto Service from Hedley Searle, and leased it to Anthony Ashenden, who apprenticed our son, Richard. We sold the service station in late 1980s. Richard is now driving B Doubles and road trains interstate. He lives in Adelaide.



Jane and Richard, Hawker, about 1990

In 1988, Jane, entered Miss SA Quest, and raised \$13000 for Adelaide Spastic Centre. We had great fun. The highlight was a fund-raising bus trip, to the Lake Eyre floodwaters.

Jane and her husband, Mick Ticehurst, are now Discovery Caravan Park managers living in Forster, NSW.

For twenty years I was a member of Hawker CFS—Captain for about 10 years. We organised functions to raise money to build the existing CFS and SES shed. I served on numerous committees and sat on Hawker Council for four years.

When we sold the shop in 1990, we bought the Adelaide to Birdsville Freight Service. We ran it till 1995, carting all manner of goods to the townships and stations in far north SA and southwest Qld. We often loaded cattle and horses back to the southern markets.

One of my greatest pleasures was training and racing my few horses in country SA, Adelaide and Melbourne. I was brought up with horses. My father was probably one of the best horsemen around the bush.

My best horse was *Irish Heiress*, who won a major race at Caulfield, and was equal Horse of the Month with *English Wonder*. An injury ended her career.

Like all families, we've had sad times. Anne's 19 year old sister, Patricia, was on a working holiday in NZ when she was killed in a road accident. My brother, Trevor, was killed in a truck accident—run over by his own truck.

In 2004, we bought a house, and retired to Quorn, where my chief interests are travelling, playing lawn bowls and Probus.

On one trip, Hawker-Adelaide, police at Quorn pulled me over with a message from Anne. Our cat, *Bear*, was on my truck. After a night in the cells. I collected her next day. ■



What I gave up to retire! Sheba and Don, Frome Downs, 1995



# RUMINANT NUTRITION WORKSHOP

WITH DEB SCAMMELL FROM TALKING LIVESTOCK

Monday 23 November  
Quorn Bowls Club  
4-6.30pm followed by a barbecue tea

*Supported by the Quorn Landcare Group*

## TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Sheep and cattle nutrition relevant to your area
- Effects of nutrition on animal performance and offspring
- Supplements and minerals
- Horse nutrition and health

Includes a session with Mary O'Brien from  
'Are You Bogged Mate?' as seen on ABC Landline

## PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE

by contacting your local Community Landscape Officer Hannah Ling  
on 0409 753 495 or email [hannah.ling@sa.gov.au](mailto:hannah.ling@sa.gov.au)

This workshop is part of the Building Pastoral Sustainability project is delivered by the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



National  
Landcare  
Program



WAV LANDSCAPE  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
SA ARID LANDS



# Warndu Mai–Good Food

## News from the Bush Food Garden Walking Trail Working Group



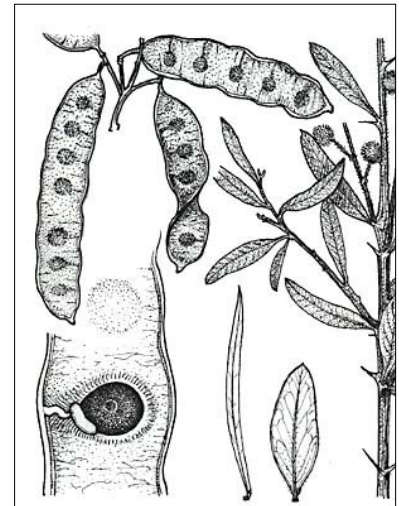
Adnyamathanha name - Minga  
Common name - **Elegant Wattle**  
Scientific name - *Acacia victoriae*



### Plant Information

MINGA IS IN full flower this month. It is a common wattle in the central Flinders region and can be seen growing extensively throughout paddocks and along road sides. For most of the year, the appearance of this medium-sized spiky shrub is nothing extraordinary, but once in flower it truly lives up to its English name of ‘Elegant Wattle.’

Minga is an Acacia and therefore a legume and nitrogen fixer. These shrubs provide great shelter to livestock and native animals, particularly birds. Young foliage is good forage for sheep and the shrubs help soil health. Seeds are mature and ready to harvest in February.



### Favourite Recipe ideas

A TEASPOON OF ground seed whipped with cream to accompany homemade scones and Quandong Jam.

Added to the custard base when making homemade ice-cream gives



ice-cream a delicious nutty flavour, but incorporated into a Wattle seed ‘crème brûlée’ is our absolute favourite

### Eating Minga Seed

WATTLE SEED IS high in protein and rich in minerals like potassium and magnesium. When it is prepared and ground, the seed has a delicious nutty coffee-like flavour.

*Acacia victoriae* is the most commonly harvested and used seed in the bush food industry. The seed coating is hard and needs preparation before consumption, but this plant has high yields and exceptional nutritional qualities.

To prepare clean seed, it can be roasted on a tray in the oven until it starts to smell aromatic (same as coffee beans). The seeds need to be ground before use. Store in a sealed jar after grinding. ■



Bush Food Garden Working  
Group contact—

Andrea Tschirner 0437 287 130





in  
partnership  
with



Film Club of the Flinders Ranges, South Australia



*Enjoy a night out at the Flicks*  
**BOOK NOW—Numbers limited**



## BOOK CLUB

**Friday 27th November**  
**7.00pm for 8.00pm start**  
**Est 10.00 pm finish**

**MEAL TICKETS \$15**  
*Includes coffee/tea pot*

**And remember to leave**  
**your donation to**  
**Flinders Flicks on the film night**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**Phone EMILY'S BISTRO 8648 6940**

### **ABOUT THE MOVIE:**

*Book Club* is a 2018 American romantic comedy film. It stars Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen, and Mary Steenburgen—four friends who read *Fifty Shades of Grey* as part of their monthly book club, and subsequently begin to change how they view their personal relationships.

**RATING PG-13**  
**COMEDY, DRAMA, ROMANCE**





# Quorn Pioneer Machinery Museum

DESPITE HEAT AND rain the compound fencing is almost completed. The remaining gaps will be fenced off after heavy items are transferred from the display area. This work will be undertaken by the council.

A general tidy up of the Park is underway, and several items have been moved under cover.

One of the projects at hand is the Caterpillar Tractor which hopefully can be started and returned to operating capacity.

Quorn Pioneer Machinery Museum volunteers meet each Wednesday at Lions Park from 9.00am. Volunteers are always welcome. ■



Post hole digging for the compound fence.  
David Reubenicht and Julian Hipwell



Another post in.  
Julian Hipwell and Tom Hackett



## Working Bee at Powell Gardens

To repair some damage to paths from  
the recent rain

**Saturday morning November 14th**

**Starting 7.30am for about 3 hours**

Council will provide a BBQ  
after the working bee

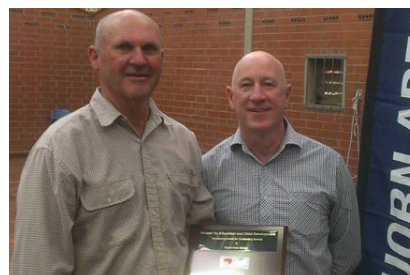
Contact Greg Bannon for more information—  
0427 712 864



I have been the Member for Giles since 2014 and was appointed Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development in 2018.

Giles is the largest South Australian state electorate and covers Whyalla, Quorn, Hawker, Kimba, Cowell, Roxby Downs, Coober Pedy and the APY Lands reaching all the way out to the Western Australian and Northern Territory borders.

Please contact my office if you require assistance with State Government-related matters.



### My office can help you with

- Community or individual advocacy, engagement and consultation
- Provide advice and assistance on State Government matters relating to the Giles electorate and Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Refer you to the appropriate service provider or Government agency if we cannot provide the service
- Assist community organisations and sporting clubs with grant applications
- Provide advice on possible funding sources for community projects
- Assist with the preparation of petitions and table them in State Parliament
- Justice of the Peace Services



**Eddie Hughes**  **MP**

**Member for Giles**

#### **Giles Electorate Office**

Westland Shopping Centre

PO Box 2465, Whyalla Norrie SA 5608

**FB** | [www.facebook.com/EddieHughesGiles](https://www.facebook.com/EddieHughesGiles)

**E** | [giles@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:giles@parliament.sa.gov.au)

**P** | (08) 8645 7800



# Quorn Aged Care News

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR footy tipping winners! This year we had Maureen Paynter taking out the top position followed closely by Eric Rands and George Laidlaw.

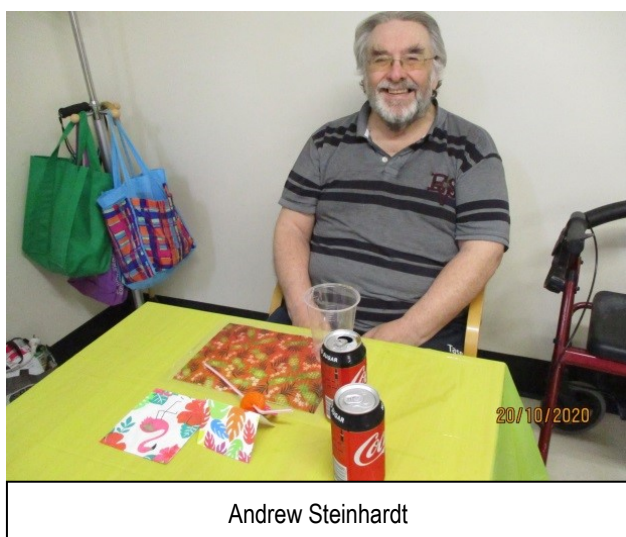
We have just had our Hawaiian Luau. We try to keep these events as close to authentic as we can but when we learnt that Hawaii consumes more spam than anywhere else in the world, we had to come up with other options.

Luckily for all who were eating, our chef makes fantastic Hawaiian pizzas. They were a big hit and a real treat!

This year, Christmas will look very different for us. We won't be able to hold a Residents/Family Christmas party. But we have come up with an idea to dedicate a space for residents to have a private Christmas lunch, including all the trimmings with their family or friends. Cost for family/friends is \$14 per person.

**All COVID 19 restrictions will be followed at all times.**

This will be available for all of December.



Bookings are required to ensure that the room is free and that food has been organised.

Please ring /email Bronwyn to book no later than November 23<sup>rd</sup>:

8648 7888 or

[bronwyn.millington@sa.gov.au](mailto:bronwyn.millington@sa.gov.au)

## Seniors Dinner

This year things will be a bit different. Family members are required to book residents in with the Council. Slips to use for bookings are in the October issue of the FRC Newsletter.

Please notify us no later than November 20<sup>th</sup> if your family member will be attending and if assistance is required. ■

# Prosperous Quorn,

*Illustrated and Described by J. Edward Robertson.*

QUORN, FEBRUARY, 1909.



**CAPT. J. A. WATT,**  
Who commanded the Fifth South Australian Contingent in South Africa, and proved himself one of the finest leaders of men who left the shores of Australia. He received much kudos for his bravery and diplomacy in managing his men, who, one and all, spoke so highly of him.

The total revenue on the Town Accounts for 1908 was £843 9s. 3d., and the total expenditure, £812 16s. 1d. The assessment was £5,411, and there is little doubt that the 1909 assessment will exceed that amount considerably, on account of the new buildings that are being erected, and the improvements that are being made to the old ones. The Town is well lighted with acetylene gas, yet another half-dozen at various places would be much appreciated, and add to its appearance. A well-lighted Town is similar to a well-lighted

business place -- it attracts people -- attracts them to leave their homes at night, and draws



**MR. ROBERT THOMPSON,**  
The present Mayor of Quorn, at the age of 16, in the Uniform of the First Fife-shire Volunteers.

them into shops. The sanitary state of Quorn is excellent, and the death rate in 1908—Seven per the whole population is a great record, and demonstrates the not sufficiently well know fact that Quorn is one of the healthiest towns in Australia. There is absolutely not a vacant house in Quorn, and although buildings are gradually being erected, yet the demand is greater than the supply. Also, another fact worth recording is



that in 1908 in 1908 only 11s. 3d. Remained unpaid on the Town rates. This breathes prosperity — at one time it was difficult to collect 11s. 3d. Out of several hundred outstanding accounts.

## QUORN AS A TOURISTS' RESORT

Quorn is a fine little Town, with many natural beauties surrounding it, and offers to the tourist a pleasant and memorable holiday.



*Hunt*

FINE SNAPSHOT OF DONKEY TEAM UNLOADING  
WHEAT AT QUORN STATION,

*Photo*

The streets are well laid out — metalled, and the footpaths excellently formed. The people are well provided for by the various sects. The Methodist Church is a handsome little building, which claims many adherents. Then there is the Church of England, Catholic and in Quorn, as elsewhere, the glorious Salvation Army raises its standard, and puts in good work in the saving of souls, and taking around the c'lection plate. There are four hotels - - The Criterion, Grand Junction, Transcontinental and Pinkerton. Each is well managed and conducted, and reflects credit on the licencees. The business done by each at the present time is a solid one, and recompenses them for the many lean years they went through.

The air is exceptionally bracing — clear and pure. Even in summer, although it be decidedly hot, the heat doesn't depress one. The peculiar clearness — crispness it may be, seems to prevent one from feeling tired or depressed. Then at night one can always rely on a delightful sea-breeze from Prt Augusta direction.

During the visitors' stay, he. If a lover of rugged natural scenery, will find many places of interest. One of the finest drives which the writher had the pleasure through the courtesy of Mr. Bruse, was to Warren's Gorge (photos of which appear), situated some 13 miles from Quorn. The country passed through is most



magnificent, also many farms, with wheat crops newly taken off, rather interest one, and illustrate the tenacity — real bull-dog pluck of the farmers who fought against all kinds of bad luck — the principal of which, of course, is “rain failure,” they have gone on, and during the past few years have appreciated the meaning of the work “prosperity.” At the end of the thirteen miles drive Warren’s Gorge is reached, and one has the pleasure of gazing on the wonderful effect of nature.



MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON,  
Proprietor of the Far-famed Thistle Stud  
Poultry Farm.

A creek runs quietly through the gorge and this adds to the comfort of the picnickers. The writer has visited the Narracoorte Caves, Mt. Gambier, and every other portions of South Australia, and willingly awards this rugged scenery at the Gorge first place. The Cataract Gorge in Launceston, Tasmania, cannot be compared to it. There are many other places

equally interesting and quite sufficient to cause the visitor to feel he has had a very pleasant, instructive and interesting stay in the Quorn district. ■



Photo by Stump & Co., Vice-Regal  
Photographers

J. EDWARD ROBERTSON,  
Journalist and Publisher.



Rock Wallaby



# Pictures — From the Past



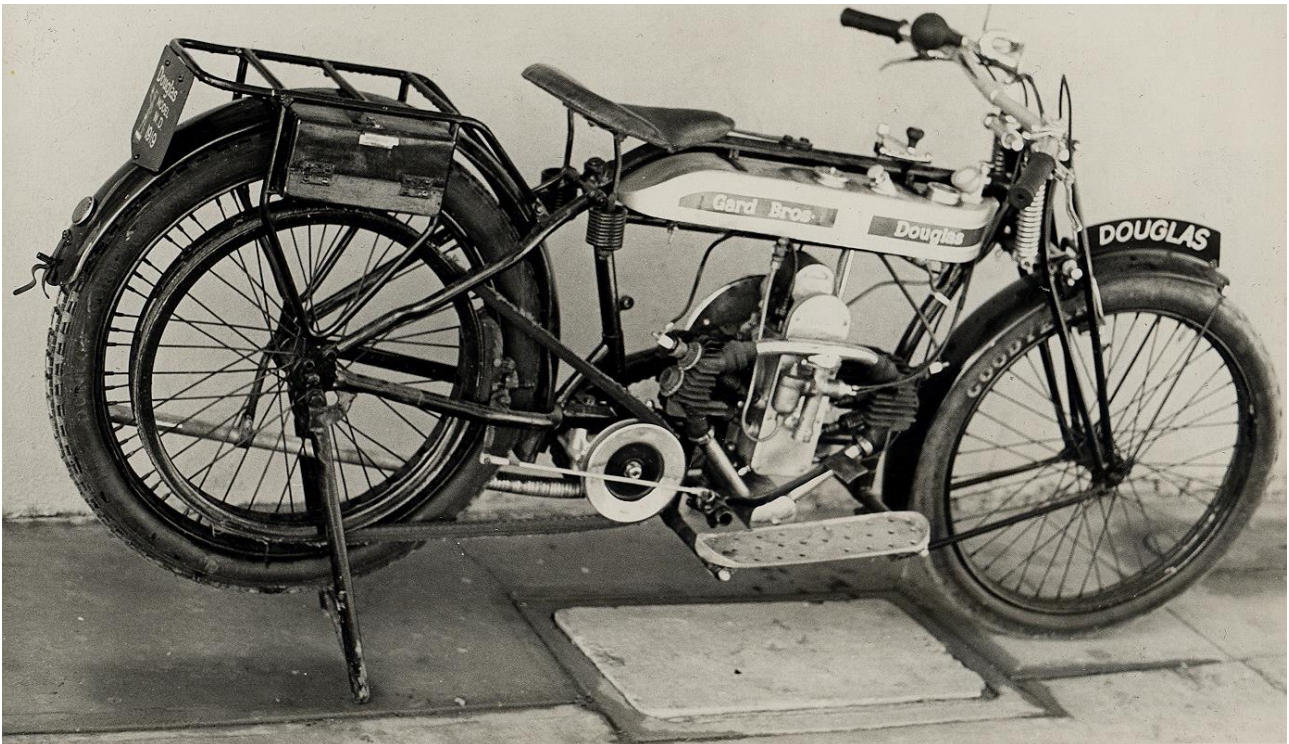
ONCE A FAMOUS journalist was asked if he could think of any human invention that could be used *only* peacefully. He thought for a while, then said, 'Yes. The bicycle.'

For a long time cars and even motorbikes were too expensive for most people to own. And so the Autocycle came into being. It was a bicycle with the usual pedals, but with a miniature engine as well.

You could either pedal it or let the tiny engine do the work. Usually, you'd pedal hard enough just to start the engine. Then you could sit back and ride

in comfort. I remember seeing quite a lot of Autocycles being ridden in the late 1940s and in the 1950s.

Well, the pic above is of a truly odd form of transport—a *steam-powered* Autocycle...chimney, and all!



**THE UK DOUGLAS** Motorcycle Company lasted from 1907 to 1957. They were famous for their horizontally-opposed twin-cylinder engines. Notice the belt drive on the 1919 Model WD in the photo above? During the First World War, Douglas provided the British Military Forces with around 70,000 of their bikes. This photo was taken in Wilcannia, NSW, around 1970, where this restored bike was on display. ■

\* Note: the photo in last month's *Mercury* of water falling over the Waukarie Falls was taken by Janet Thomas in 2007.



# At the Clearing Sale



*Back row from left—Kaila Mason, Amey Solly, Debra Solly,  
Reuben Solly  
Front row from left—Edee Webb, Fleur Solly*



*Catholic Ladies  
serving sandwiches, tea and cake  
From left—Shirley Carr, Naomi Maloney, Imelda Coverdale*



*Madison and Kyel Pyman*



*Lions Barbeque  
From left—Lorraine Walsh, Ann Freebairn*



*Catching up at the sale*





Lawrie Fitzgerald



Gathering outside the refreshment shed



Another chance for a catch-up



Plenty of parking space for the large attendance at the sale



# QUORN OUT AND ABOUT



WELL DONE to our Postmaster (and now retiring as Mayor after ten years) Peter Slattery, together with all the other intrepid postie bikers. 1130km riding postie bikes (some on rough bush roads) is a great achievement



Spectacular roses blooming in Quorn are loving the spring weather



A golden hillside of Sennas blooming at Woolshed Flat  
Photo—Katrina Bohr



A pleasant evening for visitors on the Silo Trail  
See the article by travel writer, Paula Mcmanus page 4



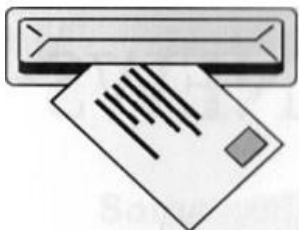
From left—Di Skull, Andrew Eckert, Greg (Hick) Wright, Peter Crisp, Caroline Eckert, Bev Dutschke, Julie Lewis, Jenny Crisp, Marlene Gloede and Kym Dutschke, Leigh Lewis took this photo of the Quorn Crows at Kings Beach near Victor Harbour. More information about the group on page 38



Rock the Ranges was enjoyed by many attendees, Saturday 24.10.20. After extensive flooding in Quorn the previous night, the rain held off long enough for a great event







*Letters must be  
no longer than  
200 words, or  
they will not be  
published*

## Letters to the Editor

### To the Editor

About the article, “‘Wot’s in a name?’ she sez...” in the October *Mercury*, country towns are the last bastion of Australian-ness, which is rapidly disappearing, more’s the pity.

The C.J. Dennis article resonated; I have two of his books, and the reference to ‘tucker box’ reminded me that this was what the big lead-lined boxes my mother packed for the railway-men were called!

I quite agree about the Bush TUCKER Trail—this is more Australian. But TRAIL is also not appropriate—very American, and Quorn is NOT the Wild West. Why not BUSH TUCKER TRACK?

Remember the anger when the Kokoda Track began to be called the Kokoda Trail a few years ago when people began visiting it? Same thing, same reason.

Jan Arnold

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## Flinders Food Break



Fanny Coulthard of Quorn, enjoys morning tea with her family, at Flinders Food Co, Hawker



Billy, Melanie, Tidda and Sunny Coulthard

SUNNY COULTHARD and her two daughters, Melanie and Tidda took Aunt Fanny Coulthard, and Melanie’s baby, Billy, to morning tea at Flinders Food Co, Hawker in September.

They enjoyed the busy, colourful shop décor, and the wide range of delicious food available. Many customers stopped at their table to say ‘Gudday’.



LUKE THODAY (LEFT) is the grandson of Gar and the late Elizabeth Michael, and son of their daughter Heidi and son-in-law Corey Thoday.

Luke has received an Australian Defence Force Lon Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award at Rostrevor College Presentation Night on 26th October 2020.

Congratulations to Luke, and his proud parents and grandfather.



# No Country for Old Men

‘**THAT IS NO COUNTRY** for old men’, is how the Irish poet Yeats begins his poem, ‘Sailing to Byzantium’. (But *do* include women as well.)

I keep thinking of this, because I’ve grown old, too. And things that you took for granted when you were young, you can no longer do.

Would you believe how tough it is to push a pill out of its foil wrapper? Or to walk in a (non-alcoholic) straight line when you can no longer feel exactly where your feet are? Or to have a go at operating a can-opener?

In his poem, Yeats goes on a little further:

An aged man is but a paltry thing,  
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless  
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing  
For every tatter in its mortal dress,...



Seat on the Mt Maria Trail’s summit, overlooking Wilmington. You don’t need anything more complicated than that!

So, yes, *I’m* singing right now, because no matter how old I am (84), I love to walk. Not just across Quorn, but also along our walking trails: Warren Gorge, The Dutchman’s Stern, Devil’s Peak, Waukarie Creek, and Mt Brown.

However, on our walking trails, where are the seats at regular intervals for us ‘aged’ walkers to take frequent rests? When you get old you need to sit down quite often—once every km, I find.

Sit on the ground, you might say? That alone is a great recipe for falling on the rocks flat on your face. And after sitting down, try standing up again—if you dare. Shrunken 84-year-old muscles simply don’t work like that. Of course, you might find a high enough rock, or a fallen tree trunk big enough to sit on—if you’re lucky.

But my complaint is that there are scarcely any seats along our SA National Parks Trails, mostly none at all. (The Mt Maria Trail in the pic above isn’t a National Parks Trail, however.)

Now, how often are we oldies told to *exercise!* to *keep fit!* to *stay healthy!* How often are

we told the cost of caring for old and unfit people is monstrously large? Yet don’t expect seats at regular intervals along our Parks’ walking trails to help us achieve those aims.

Some of us pleaded for a seat at Terrace Lookout (2½ km up The Dutchman’s Stern). The answer was, No. Parks apparently don’t believe in them. Yet in the *Sunday Mail*, 9-8-2020, p 21, this is what SA’s Environment Minister, David Speirs, is quoted as saying: ‘We want our parks and walking trails to be as accessible to as many people as possible...’

Well, how true is that? Nah! in reality our Parks’ walking trails are designed only for the young and the fit. The rest of us aren’t included.

Same around Quorn too, though that wouldn’t be deliberate, like Parks’ rules may be. Yet how many seats do we have at *regular* intervals in Quorn to encourage us oldies to go walking from one seat, to another, to another?

No...once you’re old, you’re nothing but a nuisance. It’s not worth the bother of encouraging you to walk all over the place to keep yourself fit and healthy. Better to shove you into a Home for the Aged, and spend a fortune on keeping you there, and doping you up on pills.

Yet who saw the article in the *Sunday Mail*, 27-9-2020, p 23, ‘How laziness is killing too many Aussies’? It began, ‘Laziness is killing tens of thousands of Australians a year and costing the health system \$4.5 billion annually.’ ■



This is one of the rare seats on an SA National Parks walking trail. It’s on the Bald Hill Lookout (with the Devil’s Peak on the distant horizon near the centre). It doesn’t need to be fancy, it doesn’t even need a back. It’s all an oldie like me needs to let him/her sit down, and *comfortably* get up from, after a rest

— Ray Wood

# Jan Arnold's Quorn Memoirs

*(In the last extract from Jan's Memoirs she'd begun describing the 2nd World War troop train hospitality provided by the Quorn Country Women's Association (CWA). In 1993, Quorn's Maureen McColl published her well-illustrated book, A Salute to Quorn, about this. It's out of print, but copies can be found in the Quorn School-Community Library.)*

## Troop Train Hospitality (contd)

**DURING THE 2ND** World War right to its end, the Quorn programme to provide free meals for troops, evacuees, and other wartime groups passing through, involved the whole town.

Meals were served at first on the station verandah. Then the Army built a canteen in the station yard [today, restored to this site]. When numbers overflowed this, the Memorial Hall was used, just across the creek from the station.

A wood and iron kitchen, open on three sides, was added to this, built by the Army. It had three wood-burning stoves, three coppers for hot water, three large cooking pans, buckets, and other utensils. The men used their own dixies, etc, and washed them in a tub of hot water after eating.



Troops lined up with their dixies and mugs at the railway station

Ten women were rostered for a train-load of men, walking or biking to the station or the hall. Women who had jobs helped at breakfast or supper, and older men cut wood, carted water, collected supplies, etc. Farmers supplied wood free.

## The Meals

**MANY OTHER** women as well as CWA members helped and cooked. A hot stew of meat and vegetables, cooked at home, and brought to the kitchen in buckets, was the norm. The stew was followed by fruit pudding and custard. In hot weather it was cold meat and salad, and cold fruit, custard and jelly.

The puddings were made in their dozens, and hung in calico cloths in homes and sheds to be

re-boiled and served when required. Forty loaves of bread were needed per train, made by a local baker, as well as sausage rolls, fruit buns, etc.

Two troop trains arrived every other day, requiring over 600 meals per day. In early March, 1941, over 1000 men of the 2/3 Pioneer Battalion, together with equipment arrived, en route from Cowra to Darwin. As well, ammunition trains



By coincidence this photo was used in *Pictures—From the Past* in last Jan-Feb issue. Jan has now supplied details. *From left—* Val Gloede (from Wilmington?), Sister Richards, Dr Ferdinand Tippelt, Matron Jean Dix, Hazel Reeves. Jean was Jan's Aunt. Sister Richards trained with her, and became Matron after Jean married. Jan says, 'Both Jean & Dr Tippelt look as if they've just come out of the operating theatre (last room in the Hospital wing, nearest First Street). After each operation the whole room had to be scrubbed out with, I think, carbolic.' Jean had the front bedroom on the left in the Nurses' Quarters, the little house next to the Hospital in First Street

arrived between 10pm and 4am with ten to twenty Army guards, who required a cold supper or hot breakfast. Times and numbers were mostly advised earlier, but it was not unusual for a train whistle to be the first sign of arrival. This would cause a mad scramble for the food.

Ingredients were bought in huge quantities: 12 lb [5½ kg] lots of butter, bags of potatoes, cartons of custard powder, dried fruit, condensed and dried milk, and fruit and vegetables by the box-load. Locals contributed the latter when in season, and local businesses gave help in cash and kind. South Australian Railways gave free transport for all the goods needed for meals.

## Part Five

Jan Arnold (née Eley) and her family lived in Quorn 1931–1950, and held the lease of the Austral Hotel. This series of her Memoirs began in July's *Mercury*, pages 28–29



By June, 1942, 32,000 meals had been served at a cost of £619 (\$1238). The next year, 104,073 meals costing £2184 (\$4368); the next, 137,000 costing £3630 (\$7261); and so on. [The Basic Wage for a man per week in 1941 was £4-6-0, ie \$8.30. A woman's was a little over half that.]



Nell Eley with Janice in the Quorn Memorial Gardens

This required much money-raising, and not a week went by without a fancy-dress parade, or a ball, a Queen competition, a fete, a raffle, a concert, pasty sales, donations from other CWA Clubs—whatever.

In 1944 mobile cookers were placed on troop trains, but the women continued to serve hot meals to men and evacuees on emergency and freight trains; and eggs, fruit, and salads were placed on troop trains. This continued until 30th October, 1945. As well, garments were knitted, sewn, and made from sheepskin; camouflage nets were made; and bags of clothing were collected for refugees.\*

Pearl Hastwell was awarded a well-deserved MBE at the end of the war.

### Wartime

**AT THE OUTBREAK** of the war, enlistments had been sought by Army officials from Adelaide, in a hall facing Sixth Street at the back of the Criterion Hotel. My father, at 49, and a 1st World War veteran, went to enlist, and was devastated when he was refused!

At our hotel, staff were hard to come by, and my parents had to work extraordinary hours. My mother often had to do the cooking, as well as being up at 4am to do the washing, and would still have to be on deck in the evening to welcome train arrivals, and see to our residents.

The interstate railwaymen boarding with us took tuckerboxes with them on their trips north. These were large metal trunks slung over their shoulders with a leather strap, packed by my mother or staff with bread, butter, tinned meat,

\* See this issue's *Locomotives of the PRR* about soldiers' names scratched into the walls of a carriage, Car 5.

fruit, vegetables, and fresh meat for the first day away. The trip to Alice Springs generally took five days up and back, but could take up to three weeks if there were floods and washaways.

Ration tickets for everything further complicated things. *Everything* was rationed—I learnt to ride a bike only when my mother appealed to the Commissioner for Rationing for one to cycle to a farm for butter. It certainly made getting to music lessons before 8am a lot easier!

My enduring memory of the end of the war is of the return home of Allen Smith, son of Fred Smith the stock and station agent. Several young Quorn men had enlisted, and some did not return. Allen had been either a prisoner in Changi, or on the Burma Railway.

Some time after the war ended, he came home by train. He was greeted at the station, and chaired on the shoulders of two men to meet a waiting crowd from the back of Brewster's (?) lorry, parked in front of the town hall. He was welcomed home by the Mayor, and in reply this gaunt, emaciated, ginger-headed young man said simply, 'I'm just bloody glad to be back!' and got down to the townspeople's cheers.

### School

**I WAS BY NOW** at primary school, and making friends, who would sometimes come to stay overnight, as I did in their homes too. They have often talked of the excitement of things I took for granted: a room of my own, someone else to make my bed, a bookcase for all my books, raspberry cordial or lemonade at any time and not just for special occasions, being waited on at mealtime, and no washing up! However, *I* loved the normalness of *their* family life. ■



1946-7. There were always two long stools to sit on at the front

**Note:** In the September episode, p 27, there is an error caused by an errant full stop. Lois (Lowitja) O'Donoghue, and her sister were not Inland Mission Sisters—they were 'sisters' in the Colebrook Home, not staff.

(Continued next month)

# A Life with Horses

## Jenni Reschke



JENNI'S LIFE WITH HORSES began very young, first officially riding by the age of five. The adventurous young Jenni would try to climb on board her Dad's horses by lining them up with a yard rail, usually bareback with no bridle. Her first pony came along when she was 9, *Light Fingers*.

Once in the saddle there was no stopping Jenni. She has competed in most disciplines including eventing, showjumping, barrel racing, team penning, camp-drafting, gymkhana, track work and mustering.

At the age of 18, Jenni started what was to be a lengthy career as Clerk of the Course at the local racetracks. She has done this important job for 32 years, no mean feat in a mainly male dominated position.



It's the Clerk of the Course's job to make sure jockeys, horses and handlers are safe. If there is a loose horse it's the Clerk's job to chase and catch, no easy job considering the speed of a racehorse.

Jenni also owned, trained, track worked and jockeyed on her own racehorses for many years, from 18 to 39 years old. A big commitment considering the hours of work that goes into producing a racehorse. It is a tough job with early mornings and a lot of hard work and the odd disappointment thrown in for good measure.

With horses when you place your foot in that stirrup, you are signing an imaginary contract stating you know that sooner or later you are going to have an accident.



Like all horse riders Jenni has had her fair share of bad tumbles. One particularly bad fall from a racehorse saw her in the Port Augusta hospital in an induced coma for four days and afterwards, memory problems for another year. Like most riders she was back in the saddle as soon as she could—just a part of the learning curve for this horsewoman.

Horses will always throw you a curved ball and you never stop learning better ways to approach the training of a horse—something Jenni embraces. She happily concedes that her training methods have changed dramatically from the past for the better.



As you travel the road of horsemanship you find better ways to educate a horse and the journey makes you a more understanding horsewoman/man.



Recently, Jenni and her crew, made the trip to Strathalbyn to compete in the Lower Lakes Stockman's Challenge. Many hours had been spent training for this event, which is a test of all-round horsemanship very much in the same vein as the famous *Man From Snowy River* event in Victoria.

Little did the Quorn crew know that the organisers, because of COVID restrictions on numbers, had turned the event into a 'come and try' day.

Jenni had trained and was expecting serious competition against very competitive fellow horse riders, so it was a bit disappointing. But she can be proud of one of the organiser's comments of, 'you are too good for this competition.'

Even though the event was not what was expected, Jenni still learnt a lot and everyone had a great time.

I think we should all be encouraging Jenni, once COVID restrictions are relaxed, to cross the border and compete in the prestigious *Man From Snowy River* event and do Quorn proud.

I'm sure this accomplished horsewoman will hold her own against the best in Australia. ■

Lisa Simpson



## Park Closure

### THE DUTCHMANS STERN CONSERVATION PARK MOUNT BROWN CONSERVATION PARK

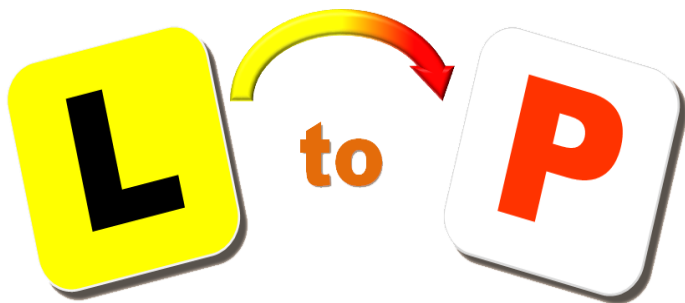
For the purpose of undertaking a pest control program, public access will be temporarily prohibited at The Dutchmans Stern Conservation Park & Mount Brown Conservation Park from:  
**6am Saturday, 7 November 2020 until 2pm Friday, 13 November 2020**

We apologise for any inconvenience



Government of  
South Australia





## Do you or your children need Motor Vehicle Driver Instruction (MVDI) Training??

- Just got your *Learner's* and want to learn how to drive or have a Pre-test?
- Auto or Manual Vehicle training available
- Do you have an *International License* that needs to be converted to an Australian License?
- Want to get your *4WD Training* done ready for possible employment opportunities?

I can train you here in Quorn (to get you started) and in Port Augusta in our new modern SUV, using the VORT method and get you ready for your Driving Test.

Contact **Norman** on: **0410 511 633** for more details



- Certified MVDI and member of the Australian Driver Trainers Association of S.A.
- Nationally Accredited 4WD Trainer & Assessor (for over 20 years)

See our *Website* and *Facebook* page for 4WD Courses and loads more info!

[www.pindantours.com.au](http://www.pindantours.com.au) and [www.facebook.com/PindanToursAnd4wdTraining](https://www.facebook.com/PindanToursAnd4wdTraining)



## Kylie Finlay Quorn 5433

**Kyliepw@hotmail.com**

**0448658720**

**ABN: 33425604569**







# LIBRARY NEWS



It's story  
**TIME**  
@your library

When in  
doubt,  
visit your  
**LIBRARY**

**Quorn Book Club** – Enquiries please contact **Jacky** at **0407 640 425** or **Sam** on **0456 129 870**.

**Unavailable: Library Justice of Peace** – Currently we have no JP services. If you would like to volunteer to hold JP services in the library please call us.

**Storytime** – Wednesdays **11<sup>th</sup> Nov and the last one for the year 25<sup>th</sup> November**. There will be NO shared food, and there will be individual activity packs. We ask that you complete the contact tracing register available upon arrival and exit. **\*\*Due to COVID restrictions: Please note, these dates may be subject to change at short notice\*\*** We thank you for your patience, and understanding.

## ADVANCE NOTICE:

### END-OF-YEAR LIBRARY CLOSURE

We will be CLOSING the library for the summer holidays from:

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.**

**\*\*The last library deliveries will be done by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2020 so if you would like to request for books and pick them up by this date please do so.\*\***

We will be RE-OPENING on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.**

**\*\*Deliveries to the library will re-commence 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.\*\***

*See you all again soon...in 2021!  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*

## OPENING HOURS:

SUNDAY CLOSED

MONDAY CLOSED

TUESDAY 1:00-5:30PM

WEDNESDAY 9:30 AM-5:30PM

THURSDAY 1:00- 5:30PM

FRIDAY 1:00- 5:30PM

SATURDAY 10:00AM-12:00PM

# QUORN MEN'S SHED

**ALL WELCOME**

**QUORN MEN'S SHED**  
10 Seventh Street  
PO Box 108  
Quorn SA 5433



PH: 0429 977 015 Andy Smith (Chairman)  
PH: 0458 190 418 Ken Faulkner (Tres)  
Email: quornmensshed@gmail.com



Don't forget, 0900 on  
Thursdays for Coffee &  
Bullshit. A chance to catch  
up on what's going on.

Coffee time, Lyall, Andy & Dave conducted Cool  
Drink sales at L Fitzgerald Auction sale



The crowd at Lawrie Fitzgerald's sale of Plant & Machinery



A selection of crowd and sale items at L Fitzgerald Auction sale Friday 23rd October 2020



# QUORN MEN'S SHED

**ALL WELCOME**

**QUORN MEN'S SHED**  
10 Seventh Street  
PO Box 108  
Quorn SA 5433



PH: 0429 977 015 Andy Smith (Chairman)  
PH: 0458 190 418 Ken Faulkner (Tres)  
Email: quornmensshed@gmail.com



Dave constructed a set of quick fit ripper tynes for Kanga loader



Quick fit ripper tynes fitted to bottom of loader bucket



Andy testing out ripper tyne in preparation to laying pavers



Paul and Lyall busy sanding back a pair of bar chairs ready for staining



Jeff working on a dining room chair



Finished shelving done by Rob



**Australian  
Men's Shed  
Association**  
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

AMSA Registration No. AMSA100844

**Shoulder to Shoulder**

Patron: Dr. Tony Lian-Lloyd B.M.B.S, Dip, R.A.C.O.G, F.A.C.R.R.M



# Quorn Mercury Revisited



10 Years Ago

## Ex Quorn Students

At a recent get-together sharing a Chinese banquet at the Ginling Restaurant in Adelaide 16th October.

**Standing**—Sue DeLawyer (nee Ganley), Jenny Crisp and Sandra Crombie  
**Seated**—Dianne Turner (nee Kipling), Lee Reid, Lyn French, and Marlene Gloede joined in with the group

20 Years Ago

## Olympic Volunteer—Paula Osborn



Olympic Volunteer—Paula Osborn recently took leave from her job at Transport SA to be involved in the Sydney 2000 Olympics as a volunteer. Paula worked as Supervisor of the Results Print Distribution Area at the Olympic Football (soccer) in Adelaide at Hindmarsh Stadium.







# Home Recipes

## Rachel's Lemon Drizzle Cake



### Ingredients

3 lemons  
100g plain flour  
100g margarine/unsalted butter  
130g granulated sugar  
50 ml milk  
2 medium eggs  
1/2 tsp baking powder

### Method

Preheat the oven to 180°C.

Beat together the eggs, flour, 100g sugar, butter, baking powder, the juice of one lemon and lemon zest until smooth in a large mixing bowl and turn into the prepared 1lb loaf tin.

Bake in the preheated oven for 35-45 minutes, or until golden brown.

While the cake is still warm, mix the juice of two lemons together with 50g sugar over a medium heat until the mixture thickens.

Pour over the cake and serve!

For the drizzle to soak into the cake perfectly, use a skewer to make 'holes' in the cake (about 6 holes) and then pour the drizzle on.

Serving Size: makes 10-12 slices  
Spark People user: Rachel Dargan

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## Mercury Camera

THE MERCURY TEAM has been sorting out archive boxes in the Mercury office and have located some old photos on the Mercury camera.

We have not thrown them in the bin. If you would like to see them, just in case you are in them or would like them, please contact the Mercury staff and you can view them. Please contact Peter Sandals on 8648 6768.

In colour

2 Jan 2002	Gladys Bond and family (celebrating a birthday?)—10 pictures
1 Jan 2002	Meals on Wheels (Awards presentation)—two pictures
17 Mar 2002	Quentin Smith (plus family?)—five pictures
13 Aug 2002	Max McHugh, Colin Davies with others in group—three pictures

And three miscellaneous monochrome from Mercury Jan 31 2005—a Bowls club presentation (Peter Crisp), birthday cake cutting, with Modris and a fancy dress of younger people . ■

# PICHI RICHI • RAILWAY •



**WELCOME** to the November edition for the Quorn Mercury with the latest news from Pichi Richi Railway

## **2020 Steam Season Comes to a Close**

**Well what a steam season 2020 has been!**

THERE HAVE BEEN many highs and some lows.

A limited season of operation from July to the end of October and the need to social distance our passengers had a significant effect on our revenue.

Our income is totally dependent on ticket sales and hence revenue this season has been reduced by 40%. Every department of PRR has been affected by budget cuts due to the limited funds available.

Cleaning and sanitising material and equipment have been an enormous expense not required prior to COVID -19.

It has been very exciting to see a huge influx of visitors to the Flinders Ranges from all parts of South Australia, as tourists explore their own state.

With the exception of the first train out of Pt Augusta on July 4<sup>th</sup> all have been full. If we had double the number of trafficable carriages our passenger numbers would have exceeded our record figures in 2019.

In July, Southern Cross Austereo ran ads to promote volunteering with Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society. As a result of this great promotion we warmly welcomed many new members and volunteers to the Society.

Brenton Ragless, Channel 9 news presenter, has accepted the role of PRR Ambassador and in July he visited us with his family.

Brenton is an ardent steam enthusiast and is encouraging his two young sons to enjoy his passion. On July 12<sup>th</sup> Brenton accompanied the crew to Woolshed Flat. The photo seen here has been the most liked on Facebook in 2020.



W22 ready to depart Quorn on July 12<sup>th</sup>  
From left—Brenton Ragless, fireman Jarrod Smythe and driver John Smythe

## **Scheduled Trains in November**

Sat Nov 7<sup>th</sup> The Sundowner—dep Quorn

17.30 return Quorn 19.30

Sat Nov 14<sup>th</sup> The Sundowner—dep Quorn

17.30 return Quorn 19.30

Sat Nov 21<sup>st</sup> The Sundowner—dep Quorn

17.30 return Quorn 19.30

Sat Nov 28<sup>th</sup> The Sundowner—dep Quorn

17.30 return Quorn 19.30



The Brill Rail Car takes passengers on the evening Sundowner trips to Woolshed Flat

**A Flinders Tradition since 1974**

[pichirichirailway.org.au](http://pichirichirailway.org.au)

**1800 777 245**



# Locomotives of the PRR



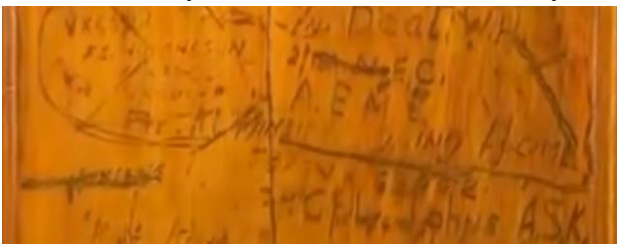
Car 5 on display in the Quorn Railway Station, 11-11-2018, for the Centenary of the 1918 Armistice. Photo. Lisa Southon

**ANOTHER CHANGE FROM** locomotives to rolling stock. But this time the reason is the coming Remembrance Day at 11am on 11th November.

The above photo is of Car 5, which was built in 1905 by the South Australian Railways at its Islington Workshops. It entered service on the Northern Division on 22nd April, 1905.



During the Second World War it was necessary to transport our troops to Darwin via train to Alice Springs. (Then by truck the rest of the way by dirt road.) Many carriages were used for this purpose, including Car 5, on the Commonwealth Railways' Central Australia Railway.



A patch of the Soldiers' graffiti photographed in Car 5

When the Pichi Richi Railways were restoring Car 5, panels were uncovered displaying soldiers' names, carved as they travelled north.

Soldiers identified with their service nos. are :

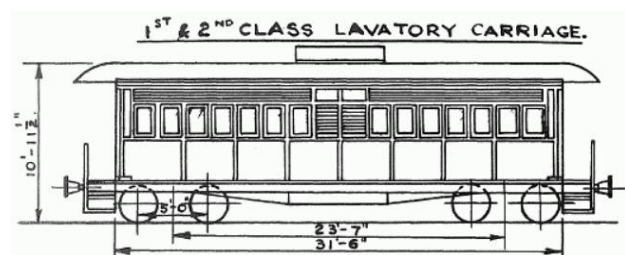
William Henry John Deal (VX72569)  
Sgt Frank Stuart Hutcheson (VX83761)  
William Fredrick Newell (T156069)  
Albert Edward Street (VX5853)

Other names are :

Blackmore	Little
Booth	Nash
Giblin	Willoughby
Graham	



Servicemen aboard a SAR carriage on the narrow gauge line to Alice Springs c 1945. Photographed by Richard P. Nicholas, 87th Squadron. State Library of SA, PRG 1435/4/14



General arrangement drawing of South Australian Railways Short Toms 5, 6, 154, 155, 159, & 160, after modifications

— Lisa Southon, Archivist

# Quorn Crows Group Celebrate 20 years

THIS YEAR WAS the 20th Anniversary of the Quorn Crows Group.

Due to Covid restrictions the group was unable to travel to Melbourne for the match scheduled for July 25th at the beginning of the year—Crows vs Essendon.

Instead they were all invited by Caroline and Andrew Eckert to get together at their home in Victor Harbor.

Throughout the weekend they visited Nangawooka Flora Reserve, Kings Beach, various landmarks around Victor, and Hindmarsh Tiers waterfall. There were quizzes, scrumptious food, Kym's RC model aeroplane display and Andrew's shed heritage items. The view from their balcony was just beautiful.

Leigh's Quorn memorabilia DVD's were a real hit. He had videos of Quorn Show; Cricket Auction; Cricket Grand Final; Greg (Wright) and Malcolm Eckert's tennis singles highlights; Canteen fund raiser with Miss World competition and Opening of QAS Agricultural centre.

The 20 year old flag travels with the group every year. It has all place names they have visited within Australia to watch The Crows, including home matches. ■



The group with the flag  
Front row, from left—Marlene and Greg  
Back row, from left—Leigh, Caroline, Andrew, Julie, Peter, Di, Kym, Jenny and Bev.  
See Centrefold for another picture of the group

## Ladies Bowls Spencer Gulf Pennant Team

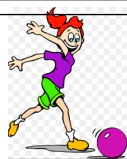


From left—Jenny Crisp, Barb Flower, Bronwyn Rigden, Dianne Paynter, Jane Paynter, Kath Altmann, Mary Collis and Carmel Reid.

THIS YEAR IS THE FIRST time Quorn has entered a team in the Spencer Gulf Ladies Pennant competition. The first match was against ETSA Gold and we had a win by 2 shots overall. ■



Port Augusta Team  
From left— Sandra Thomas, Irene Brushnahan, Elaine Dodd, Kath Banks, Peter Banks, Chris Couzner, Chris Radzik, Neeleen Thompson



### QUORN BOWLING CLUB WOMEN'S MEDLEY DAY

Date—4<sup>th</sup> December. Sponsored by Carling Fuel and

Quorn Pharmacy

Start 9:00am. Entry Fee \$20 per player

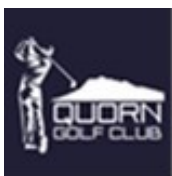
Includes: Morning tea, Lunch and Afternoon tea.

Format: 2 games of fours and 2 games of three bowl pairs.

Entries close Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Entries to Kath Altmann 86486058 and Dianne Paynter 0428648634





# Quorn Golf Club

QUORN GOLF CLUB held its annual presentation night on Friday the 9th of October after a successful season, which in April looked like it may never get off the ground due to Covid19.

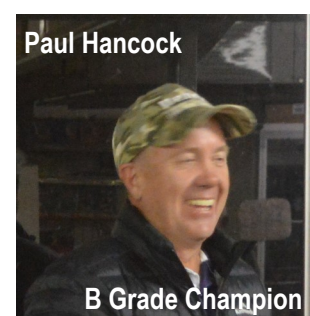
The pandemic sadly saw the cancellation of the Golf Club's major days, including both the men's and ladies' opens. However, there was a silver lining with the delayed start to all other winter sports. Our club has seen an increase in new people taking up the sport for the first time, and old members returning to the club.

The committee would like to thank sponsors, members and the Quorn community for their support through the 2020 season, and look forward to seeing everyone in the 2021 season.

## 2020 Trophy Winners

- Club Champion—Robert Britza
- Club Champion R/Up—Mathew Britza
- B Grade Champion—Paul Hancock
- B Grade R/Up—Tom Carling
- C Grade Champion—Dave Coverdale
- C Grade R/Up—Dayne Hancock
  
- June Monthly Medal—Liam Bury
- July Monthly Medal—Terry Smith
- August Monthly Medal—Liam Bury
- September Monthly Medal—Darren Bury
  
- President Trophy—Mathew Skull
- Captain Trophy—Tom Carling
- Secretary Trophy—Liam Bury
- Handicapper Trophy—Tom Carling
- Treasurer Trophy—Tom Carling
- Vice President Trophy—Robert Britza

(Photos from 2019)



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## Swimming Club News

QUORN AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB has held its AGM, and due to lack of numbers will be going into recess for the 2020/21 Season. The situation will be reviewed in 12 months time.

For further information please contact:

Bronwyn            0499 777 486  
Amanda            0488 580 148

The Club would like to thank the Flinders Ranges Council, Local Businesses, and Quorn Community for their continued support.

# Fixer Upper North

Carpentry and General Maintenance  
Fly and Security Screens, Built in Robes  
Based in Quorn

Contact Stu Hackett

Ph: 0475 410 127

Email: [stu@fixeruppernorth.com.au](mailto:stu@fixeruppernorth.com.au)

ABN: 58623603361

BLD 280721

## Quorn Newsagency & Gift Store



**Lotto  
Keno  
Scratchies**  
Gamble  
Responsibly

*Help Line:*  
**1800 858 858**

**Hours:** Monday — Friday 8am—5.30pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8.30—2.30pm  
Stationery, Papers and Magazines  
Giftware, Quilts, Embroidery, Haberdashery and  
more

*Call in and see Alan and Leslee*  
**EFTPOS AVAILABLE**  
5 Sixth Street  
Phone: 8648 6042

## LANDMARK Port Augusta-Quorn



See the team at Landmark Port Augusta-  
Quorn for all your Merchandise, Insurance,  
Livestock, Real Estate and Finance needs.

**Tim Wooley 8648 6048**  
**0427 086 020**  
**Port Augusta 8642 4344**





## Classified Adverts

### Rainfall 2020

Jan	39.0mm
Feb	70.4mm
March	8.6mm
April	37.6mm
May	10.4mm
June	14.5mm
July	10.8mm
August	44.2mm
September	63.8mm
October	147.2mm
YTD	446.9mm

### South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

Pastoral Field Day  
Port Augusta—Dec 3 & 4

REPRESENTING THE QUORN COMMUNITY



**Rowan  
Ramsey MP**

Federal Member for Grey

My office can help with Federal issues  
including Centrelink, Immigration,  
Communications, Veterans Affairs and  
many others.

Please contact Rowan's office 1300 301 742 or 8633 1744  
Email: rowan.ramsey.mp@aph.gov.au  
PO Box 296 PORT PIRIE SA 5540

### Roy Oliver Summerton

Dad, you fought to the very end.  
I would not have expected anything else.  
Rest in Peace

Love Karen and Steve



## 2020 QCC Auction Postponed

The Quorn Cricket Club Committee has made the decision to  
postpone the QCC Auction scheduled for November 2020,  
due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19.

We would like to thank everyone that supports our biggest fundraiser  
and hope to offer the event in 2021.

**Quorn Cricket Club Committee**

## Health Calendar

**November 2020**

**Contact Quorn Hospital 8648 7888 for dates**

Podiatrist  
Diabetes Education  
Dietitian  
Physiotherapist  
Occupational Therapist  
Speech Pathologist  
Social Worker

**Country Health Connect 8668 7706**



## November

**Anglican Church of St Matthews**  
Services postponed until further notice  
If required for a funeral service  
Ph: 8648 6162 or 8648 6763

**Catholic Church**  
**Flinders Ranges Catholic Parish**  
Parish Priest: Father Harold Camonias

Mass Times:  
Weekdays: Tuesday— Fridays 9am Quorn.  
Friday 11am Hawker  
Saturday Carrieton 4pm  
Sunday Quorn 8.30am Hawker 10.30am  
Leigh Creek 5pm 1st Sunday of the Month

**Flinders Christian Fellowship**  
Sunday Church 10am  
Monday and Thursday lunch 12pm  
Tuesday Bible Study 12pm

**Uniting Church**  
Sunday Services 10am

## Quorn Mercury 6th November 2020

**Published**—First Friday monthly, except January,  
Quorn South Australia 5433

**Address**—Town Hall, Sixth Street, Quorn

**Postal Address**—PO Box 367, Quorn, SA 5433

**Email**—[mercury@frc.sa.gov.au](mailto:mercury@frc.sa.gov.au)

**Public Officer**—Tarla Kramer

### **Next Issue's (December 4th 2020) Deadlines:**

- Submissions preferred as email attachments using Microsoft Word or Publisher
- Other submissions to Visitor Information Centre, Quorn Railway Station before 4.30 pm 27th November
- Classified Ads on Visitor Information Centre form provided. Must be paid for when submitted.

### **Guidelines for Submissions:**

- **Text** on white A4 with 2cm margins all sides, Times New Roman black type 12pt min 11-pt
- **Photos** jpg. w. caption info giving peoples' first and last names, what's happening, where & when (where relevant). Nicknames may be included
- **Submissions** must include separately: author's name, with address or phone number

### **Contacts**

- **Coming Events**—Jillian Wilson, Visitors Information Centre, 8620 0510
- **News in Brief**—Peter Sandles, 8648 6768 or [mercury@frc.sa.gov.au](mailto:mercury@frc.sa.gov.au)

### **Charges**

- **Annual Subscription**—12 months (11 issues) \$40 including postage
- **Major Adverts**—

	Single	Year	Discount
Full Page	\$30	\$250	\$80
Half Page	\$15	\$130	\$35
Quarter Page	\$ 8	\$ 75	\$13
Eighth Page	\$ 5	\$ 50	\$ 5
- **Classified Ads**—\$1 per line or part line, on the form provided at the Visitors Information Centre

**All views & opinions expressed in the *Quorn Mercury* are those of the authors and contributors. The *Quorn Mercury* is not responsible for these views & opinions, and publication in the *Quorn Mercury* does not in any way guarantee their accuracy.**





# Quorn~Hawker~Cradock Events November 2020

## Regular Events

### Quorn

#### Quorn Book Club

Phone Sam Nester for info  
0456 129 870

#### Women's Fellowship—

3rd Wednesdays  
see poster in Laundromat  
window or Facebook for  
details

#### Quorn Men's shed

Breakfast 12th & 26th from  
8.00am

Coffee and Bullshit Thursdays  
9am

#### Quorn Play Group

Monday's 10-12 at the Quorn  
Kindy. Gold Coin Donation

#### Probus

1st Tuesday of the month  
10am

#### Line dancing

Tuesday nights, 7pm, Town  
Hall. Cost \$10

### Hawker

**Community Group**—Tuesday  
fortnightly

#### Development Board—

3rd Monday of the Month

#### Friendship Group—

3rd Wednesday

#### Community singing Group

**Hawker-** welcomes everyone  
to sing Friday 3.30pm to  
5.00pm Hawker Uniting  
Church

**Quilting Group**—Friday  
fortnightly Hawker Uniting  
Church

## Events

### Quorn Produce and Craft Market

Homemade goods, fresh local produce,  
handmade knits, crafts, cards and so much  
more!

29<sup>th</sup> November 8:30am – 2:30pm

### Quorn Silo Light Show

Every night from sunset at the Railway Yard  
Precinct. Update coming soon – watch this  
space!

### Nunga Screen 2020

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm  
58 Elder Tce, Hawker. Book through  
Hawker Community Development Board  
event page on Facebook

### Ruminant Nutrition Workshop with Deb Scammell from Talking Livestock

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November @ Quorn Bowls  
Club. 4-6:30pm followed by a BBQ tea

### November Blessing of the Graves

**Quorn Cemetery** – 7<sup>th</sup> November 8am

Mass & Blessing of the Graves

**Hawker Church/Cemetery** – 8<sup>th</sup> November

6pm Mass then proceed to the Cemetery

### Remembrance Day Wreath Laying ceremony

11am – 11<sup>th</sup> November at War Memorial

### Quorn and Hawker Swimming Pool

Both pools are now open for the  
2020/2021 season. Please see Council  
website or call them on (08) 8620 0500 for  
opening times

### Australia Day Nominations Now Open!

Get the nomination form online at Councils  
Website or at the Council Office

## Regular Events

### Quorn

#### Aerobics/Walking Exercise

Monday and Thursday  
Anglican Church Hall 6pm. Cost \$2.

#### Boot Camp

Tuesday 6am & Fridays 6.15am.  
Quorn Oval. Cost \$2

#### Yoga

Thursday nights 6.30pm  
Uniting Church Hall

#### Quilting/Sewing/Knitting Group

Fridays at the Austral Hotel  
Everyone welcome

#### Quorn Bowling Club

Interested in playing social bowls?  
Tuesday 1:00pm  
Saturday 1:00pm  
Everyone is welcome to join in the  
fun.

#### Pilates

Wednesday mornings at 9am and  
Wednesday evenings at 7pm at the  
Quorn Town Hall.  
\$15 per session

**Suzanne's Dancers** Quorn Tuesday at  
Quorn Parish Hall for children

#### Austral Inn Hotel

Sunday Night Pizza Night and  
Wednesday Night Schnitzel Night

#### Transcontinental Hotel

Tuesday Night Schnitzel Night

### Quote of the Month

*'Find an aim in life before you run  
out of ammunition'*  
- Anonymous

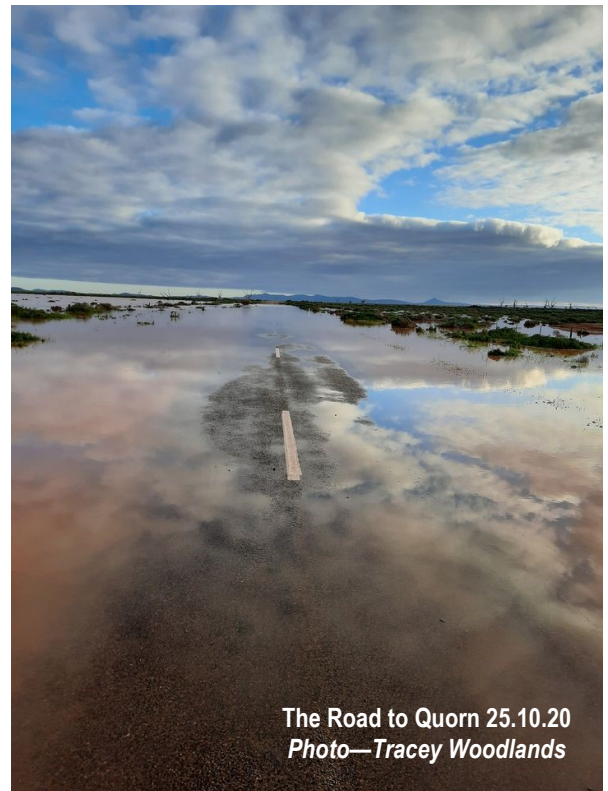
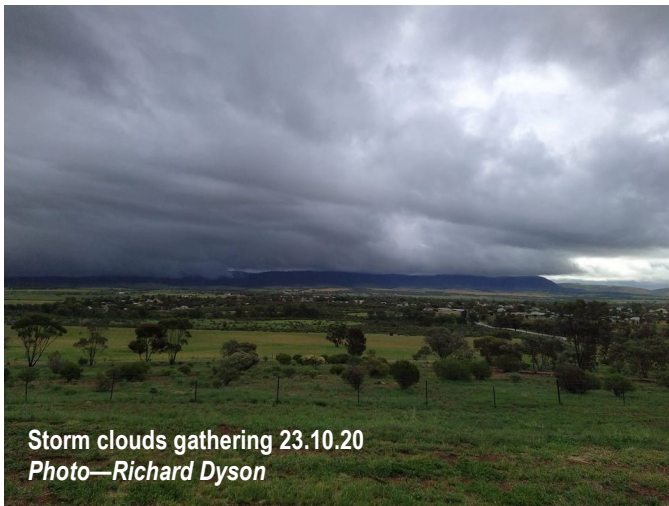


PO Box 2, Quorn SA 5433

P: 08 8620 0510 Free Call: 1800 220 980

E: [vic@frc.sa.gov.au](mailto:vic@frc.sa.gov.au) W: <https://www.frc.sa.gov.au/tourism>





Bearded dragon 2m high in the tree—how did it know the flood was coming?

