

# Quorn Mercury

Recording Quorn's History while it's Being Made

June 2022

Established 1895

Number 27/288

## Sunday Morning in May



THE SCENE IS SET for the last Sunday in May. A cold but beautiful morning sees visitors exploring the market and looking forward to enjoying the Pichi Richi train journey.

Residents begin to queue for their appointments at the Lions Skin Cancer Screening caravan, pleased that this service is available locally.

And even better, rain is on the way! ■

*Left—with the Quorn Railway Station in the background, visitors examined the variety of native plants on sale at one of two plant stalls at the Quorn Market*



The many stalls inside the Town hall market were well patronised



The Lions Skin Cancer Screening Caravan was busy on the weekend.

**Quorn wins Tiny Town Award  
Quorn's Navy Cadets Promoted**

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# Big Win for Tiny Town

## Quorn named best Tiny Town At SA Tourism Town Awards

### QUORN HAS BEEN NAMED SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S BEST TINY TOURISM TOWN IN THE SA TOP TOURISM TOWN AWARDS

MAYOR, GREG FLINT says "We are thrilled for Quorn to receive this award. As a town and community we have come a long way in the past few years in lifting the profile of tourism and encouraging more businesses to town as well as increasing visitation. This has been achieved through a forward thinking and supportive Council and of course community."

"We have fantastic award winning new and old attractions such as the Pichi Richi Railway and Quorn Silo Light Show and are continuing to grow our accommodation and attraction experiences. We are embracing native food through Pithi Kawi – Quorn Bush Tucker Trail and the Quandong Festival and improving the amenity of the town through projects such as the main street facelift, town entrances and extensive streetscaping and capturing our history with the Quorn History Trail."

The Award was announced by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, at a Government House reception on 18 May 2022.

The Top Tourism Town program, delivered by South Australia's peak tourism body, the Tourism Industry Council South Australia (TiCSA), recognises towns that offer amazing visitor experiences and are committed to working collectively to increase visitation to their region.

As winner of the Tiny Tourism Town category, Quorn will receive an extensive marketing and development package courtesy of the program's valued sponsors, including FIVEaa, Shop Local SA, Adelady and SA Life.

Quorn will also go on to represent South Australia at the national Australian Top Tourism Town Awards later this year, competing with towns from across the country.

Mayor Flint concluded by saying "As a town and community we have so much more on the horizon to achieve. Again, we are very excited to have won this Award and look forward to representing South Australia at the national awards and also to promoting this wonderful town and region further."

The South Australian Top Tourism Towns Program is delivered by TiCSA, with support from the South Australia Visitor Information Centre Network, Local Government Association of South Australia, SA Life, fiveAA, Adelady, Adelaide Airport, and Shop Local SA.

Media enquiries  
Mayor Greg Flint  
The Flinders Ranges Council  
0403 409 034



# Chat with a Quornie

## Caroline Walters



**WHEN I WAS ASKED** if I would like to provide my story for the Mercury, my first reaction was ‘No-way. I am not a *Quornie*. Who would want to know about me?’ Then I thought, ‘Why not, there are a lot of people moving into our beautiful region who are outsiders, so why not hear from one?’ My life really is in three distinct parts, so here goes:

I was born in the UK just after the Second World War. My family moved around a bit, initially in Essex, but we ended up in Hertfordshire in the New Town of Stevenage. I know very little about my family history. But more on that later.

After training at Pitman’s College, London as a Secretary and Shorthand Typist, I wanted to go into the Police Force. But my Dad said ‘No’, and at that time you had to have the permission of your parents. Instead, I found employment in the administration area. My first job was trainee secretary at Brooke Bond Tea Company in London.

When my parents moved to Hertfordshire, I decided to move with them. I had a few false starts, but found employment as divisional secretary with International Computers in their Quality Assurance/Control Division.

Two years later, I stood in as PA (Personal Assistant) to the Divisional Director of Personnel and Administration, as his PA was on long term sick leave. She didn’t return, so I stayed in the role for eight years.

It was a joy to work there, predominantly in Industrial Relations. 1960-70 was an interesting time, particularly during the miner’s strike, which resulted in the *Three Day Week*.\*

At that time, I met my future husband, Brian. We’re still together after 50 years!

I left ICL (as it later became), and went to work for the Chairman of Polycell Holdings (part of the Sanderson & Walpamur Group). Free Paint and Wallpaper—an amateur decorator’s dream.

At Christmas time, 1975, my parents and I came to Australia for a three month holiday. When we returned in February Brian had been asked to move from Hertfordshire to Cheshire. When I got home, we decided to get married on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1976, and move to the North West of England.

After 18 months our daughter Rebecca (now Lyman) was born. And 18 months later she was joined by Jessica. Life was hectic—no mobile phones, internet and the UK had huge Industrial Relations (IR) problems.

The IR situation was becoming increasingly bad, and Brian’s working hours were huge. He missed out on his family so much. We decided that we needed to change our way of life.

*\*In the 1970s most of UK ‘s electricity was produced by coal-burning power stations. A miner’s strike (1973-4) caused a scarcity of coal, so the Government imposed a three day working week on industry to save coal. Most pubs closed and TV finished at 10.30pm.*





Brian and Caroline on their Wedding Day, 21 May, 1976

### Visa battle

**WE APPLIED** to come to Australia to join my brother, sister and their families.

We were turned down as Australia was limiting European immigration, to concentrate on Vietnamese refugees. And, there was something odd about my paperwork.

After six months arguing, we gave up, sold the house and bought the Post Office /News-agent and Supermarket in our village.

We thought that this would give us more time with our children, but it didn't quite happen like that.

The Post Office was so busy. This is before pensions, unemployment were paid directly into the bank, and everything was paid by Giro Cheque, which was cashed on a Thursday.

The newsagency had 17 morning paper rounds (Delivery through the letter box), and a Land Rover delivery into the Cheshire Peaks. We also had the local supermarket. Hard work is an understatement.

After three years we decided to retry for Australia, but were blocked again and arguing with the Australian Consulate. We couldn't understand why our visa application was rejected—we knew we met all the criteria.

During one of our robust discussions I learned that there was something different about my birth certificate, something that did not add up—why my visa wasn't granted.

I found out the problem with my birth certificate was that I'd been adopted after the war. I had no idea—it was a really great shock.

Leaving UK was a totally different experience, as we were emigrating on a family reunion basis. But we decided to come anyway. My 'adopted' brother and sister welcomed us with open arms. Brian and I have never been back to the UK.

On 1 November 1984 we landed in Adelaide and decided the first one to get a job would take it so we weren't dipping into our savings. I dropped into Centrelink, and on 5th December started work as an Office Manager.

What an eye-opener I must have been for some pretty tough (but lovely) Aussies, with my broad English accent. From a Computer Company employing 26,000 to a construction company of 30—a shock to the system.

It took me a while to understand what a *double cut roll* was. But we managed and taught each other a lot. I really enjoyed my time there, and it was through this job I met a couple who were to become our best friends.

### Showing

They bred Cocker Spaniel American dogs, and were very successful in the show ring. A litter was due so we bought our first dog in Australia. She became a stunner, and within three months started her show ring career.



Our first show dog Sunny at the (freezing) Adelaide Royal Show with me, Rebecca and Jessica

We were hooked, and from that time we showed and bred Yanks. Our *Sunny* went on to gain an Australian title and produce some top winning puppies.

In the meantime, Brian had secured a position with T. O'Connor and Sons, as their Personnel Manager.

But all good things come to an end, and in 1989 both our employers went into liquidation. We were unemployed!

I answered an advert for a position in the Human Resources Department at Coca-Cola Bottlers on Port Road.

Working for CCA (as it became) was a joy, but it was extremely hard work. In my 14 years of employment I learned so much, particularly in the area of negotiating Agreements for our Employees. I was part of every agreement negotiation that took place.



CCA SA manager presents Caroline with her 10-year Service Award, Adelaide, 1999

## Retirement

**SHOWING DOGS** is time consuming. I didn't have the time to dedicate to such a demanding breed, so the dogs were clipped and retired. I missed showing, but something had to give.

Both of us decided to retire in February 2001, but we somehow became owners of a glorious 10 week old Rottweiler.

(Rottweilers are a much misunderstood breed. The breed is not the problem, it's how they're trained).

We joined the Northern Districts Kennel and Obedience Club to make sure our dog got the best training. We called her Sunny after our first Yank who had passed away.

Again we were hooked on obedience, so decided to become accredited obedience instructors. It was great fun, and we ended up buying a second Rotty to train.

After nearly three years of retirement, I got a call from CCA to ask if I'd go back to help on a project that sounded great. I refused full time work, so they agreed that I could do three days a week. (Which gradually crept to four).

After eight months, I was offered a position on my original contract. Again it was full-time, so I refused, and Management agreed that they needed a full time worker. I resigned, thinking that I'd go back to happy retirement and our dogs. This, however, was not to be.

The partner of CCA's state HR Manager, was Marketing Director of Angas Park Fruit Company (AP), in Angaston. They wanted a part-time HR/Payroll Manager. A week after leaving CCA I went to AP three days a week.

I'd never done payroll, but found that it was just perfect for me, and I ended up loving it. After a while I was 'encouraged' to increase my days from three to four. But I was having such a good time, I really didn't mind.

It was soon obvious that I couldn't have dogs, three miniature ponies, look after our Lewiston property, and work in the Barossa.

So our ponies moved next door to someone who wanted to show them, and we moved to live in Gawler with the dogs.

Brian had joined forces with someone to start a Men's Shed in Gawler (Now known as *Willo's Men's Shed*).

As a Justice of the Peace, he was Secretary of the local Para Districts Justices Group, and in charge of the daily room at Elizabeth courts.

It was a heavy load, so he gave up the Justice's work and concentrated on the Men's Shed. He is recognised as one of the Shed's original members.

We'd always planned to retire to Yorke Peninsula. I booked a holiday at Wallaroo in 2010, to look for land for our retirement home. We wanted to experience building something for ourselves, particularly by the sea.

Our daughter Rebecca, and her husband Frank, had returned to South Australia and settled in a house in First Street, Quorn.

At Easter time 2010, Frank was overseas for work. Rebecca invited us to spend time with her and (grandchildren) Richard and Elspeth. Little did we know that the next phase of our lives was about to start.



We drove up on Good Friday. Jenny and Sean Everett invited us for dinner next day, at their home on Freebairn Road.

As Brian sat outside with Sean in the closing light of day, looking up at Devils Peak, he said the fateful words 'This is just my handwriting'.

Quick off the mark, Rebecca looked up land for sale in Quorn, and we spent Sunday looking at the available blocks.

### **Our Home**

**BRIAN SAID** he didn't want to live on the flat, so after a bit of research we found an empty block on Pearce Road. We'd found home!

We needed to sell our home in Gawler. We thought it would take a few months—things were quite slow—but 10 days later we had a cash buyer who wanted us to move out.

After four weeks we were on the move into the lovely cottage on West Terrace, which would become home for the next 14 months. Thank you, Penny Finlay.

Everything fell into place, except my job. What to do?

I explained the situation to a friend at AP, and said I was going to look for a unit or rental in Angaston. She said she and her husband would love me to stay with them in their huge, five bedroom house with plenty of room.

So I did, and we had such fun. I travelled down to the Barossa on a Monday at crack of dawn, and back on a Thursday to meet Brian in the Trans for dinner.

### **My Formal Retirement**

**EVERYTHING WAS GOOD**, but after two years of travelling, I became very tired. In 2012, I decided to retire—formally this time. Brian had overseen our build, we're pleased with our choices and have no regrets about the move.

Once we'd settled, Brian was adamant that the town needed a Men's Shed. So, from arriving in August 2010, he crusaded to get one started. Julie Campbell and Lisa Pearson were a great help, as he was a stranger in town.

Slowly and surely the plan evolved into what is now Quorn Men's Shed.

Brian was involved for many hours until a couple of years ago, when he decided that someone else should take over as Secretary, and move the shed forward.

Rebecca, now happily living in Quorn, decided she wanted to follow her dream and become a nurse. She applied for and gained a cadetship at Quorn Hospital. We helped with the children, and she started her new career.

Rebecca loved nursing, and went on to become a Registered Nurse. She is now a Diabetes Educator. We like to think our move has enabled her to achieve her dream.

We've spent a lot of the last 10 years being involved with our grandchildren, which has proved to be wonderful and worthwhile. Our relationship with them is so blessed.

Our family, like many others, has felt the effect of Covid19. It impacted dramatically on the life of our younger daughter who lives in outer Melbourne with her two little girls. We didn't see them for 15 months.

Now, with borders open we're able to visit as often as we can. We drive, rather than fly, and try to go every three months, spending some time visiting other places on our trip.



Caroline and Brian celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary

Like many small country town people, we have volunteered in many capacities, including Lions, Quorn Agricultural Society and the wonderful Op Shop.

I am now Presiding Member of Quorn Health Advisory Council (HAC)—much more work than I envisaged, but hopefully I can advocate for community health needs. It's a bit of an uphill battle, but we are slowly getting there.

Neither Brian nor I have ever regretted our decision to move to Quorn, and not by the sea on Yorke Peninsula.

Life throws things at you wherever you live, you just have to deal with it. We are lucky in this town to have such a great community.

This was proven to us at the beginning of the pandemic, when total strangers put a note in our post box, giving us their phone numbers and offering help if we needed it. You wouldn't get that in a big city or town.

Perhaps it's because we *are* outsiders that we appreciate just how good it is. We wouldn't want to live anywhere else. ■

# Quorn Pick Up and Delivery

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# Great Northern Lodge Apprentice



Kathleen Medlam with Bronwyn Liaster of MEGT

ON THE 24TH of May this year, Kathleen Medlam entered into a contract with Bronwyn Liaster of MEGT and Wendy Brown, as an apprentice cook at the Great Northern Lodge.

This is a 4 year term which will give Kathleen the required points necessary to complete her South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), in addition to experience working full time with the great northern Lodge team. As part of the apprenticeship Kathleen will be doing part of her training at Regency TAFE in Adelaide to complete certain modules that are prerequisite to completing the apprenticeship.

Great Northern welcomes Kathleen and we look forward to working with her over the next few years. ■

## Quorn Community Landcare Group News

The Quorn Community Landcare Group held its AGM on the 20<sup>th</sup> May which included a BBQ at the Bush Food Garden. A good attendance saw Tim Connell elected to continue his efforts as President, and Andrea Tschirner as Secretary. The three positions of committee members were also filled.

The evening included the harvesting of seed heads from the perennial grasses beds to expand the seed bank to further expand this area and provide options for planting out at other sites.

Coming events include a Worm Farm Workshop scheduled for Saturday 2 – 4pm, 4<sup>th</sup> of June at 16 McHugh Street. Please RSVP via SMS to 0437 287 130.

The community is encouraged to put forward ideas that the Landcare Group can assist with, and new members are always welcome. ■



Seed collecting



Andrea Tschirner and Anne Collins



## PORT AUGUSTA-QUORN LANDSCAPE GROUP

The Port Augusta/Quorn Landscape Group provides an important link between the local community and the SA Arid Lands (SAAL) Landscape Board. Group members are local people who ensure there is community input into the development and delivery of the Landscape Board's regional plan.

The group works with community members to care for the local environment by building awareness, skills and networks. The Quorn members are Richie Paynter and Renata Hackett, with Kurt Tschirner also attending group meetings as a board member. The group's next meeting will be in Quorn on 21 June. If you would like to attend, contact a local member or Community Landscape Officer Brett Devitt on 0409 753 495 or [Brett.Devitt@sa.gov.au](mailto:Brett.Devitt@sa.gov.au)



## BUILDING PASTORAL SUSTAINABILITY

Round three of the Building Pastoral Sustainability (BPS) grants are now open. The program offers grants between \$10,000 and \$30,000 to support pastoral businesses in trials of new practices and technologies to improve the sustainability of businesses in the

SAAL region. The project is supported by the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program. You can read more about previous projects and grant guidelines on our website [www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal](http://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal). The latest Across the Outback magazine has a story on a fencing program at Wintinna, an implemented feed yard design at Pine Grove, near Craddock and a regeneration project at Yednalue. Applications close 20 June.

## INJECTION SERVICES

The Biteback team is looking to schedule an injection service in Quorn in coming months. Manufactured baits: De-K9, Doggone and Foxooff are also available. If you are interested in a fox baiting service this year, register your interest with Chris Havelberg on 0458 566 536 or email [Chris.Havelberg@sa.gov.au](mailto:Chris.Havelberg@sa.gov.au)

## ACROSS THE OUTBACK

The next edition of the board's *Across the Outback* will be released as an e-version in July. Sign up now to keep up to date on projects and events of the SAAL Landscape Board at <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/news-resources/publications/subscribe>

Articles cover sustainable agricultural production, plant and animal ecology projects, water management, and events.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>Wednesday 8 June</b> 8.30am-1.00pm	<b>Livestock Forum with PIRSA</b> Learn ways to improve your flock and herd with producers, veterinarian and production specialists. Black Smith's Chatter Function Room, 7 First Street, Orroroo. <a href="https://livestockforum-orreroo.eventbrite.com.au">https://livestockforum-orreroo.eventbrite.com.au</a>
<b>Tues 14 June</b> 4.30-6.00pm	<b>Nature Play SA with SA Arid Lands Landscape Board</b> The Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group is hosting professional development sessions for teachers with Nature Play SA, utilising outdoor classrooms in the curriculum.
<b>Wednesday 15 June</b> 4.00-5.30pm	Contact Brett Devitt to register. 0409 753 495 <a href="mailto:brett.devitt@sa.gov.au">brett.devitt@sa.gov.au</a>
<b>Thursday 30 June</b>	<b>Burra to Bird Lake with Upper North Farming Systems</b> Save the date - A tour of regenerating grasslands. Visiting revegetated sites and learning what processes were used. Learn from the experts in the field.



# Quorn Aged Care News

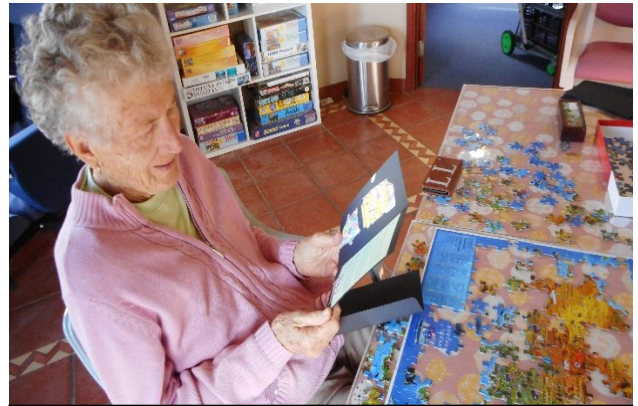
What a beautiful surprise to get a cheer up pack from Wilmington Primary School

A recent surge of Covid-19 in the area saw us having to go into lockdown. Having family come to visit, mingling with other residents and being able to go out and about is vital to us all. And although our residents took it all in their stride, it does become very worrying and isolating for some.

The amazing children at Wilmington sent us a butterfly garden for us to enjoy and wrote some beautiful cards. The act was really heart warming and bought a smile to many faces. ■



Mary



Lois



Coral



Ross



Peter & Sue



Eric



## **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- Provide advocacy, development and networking opportunities to the Quorn and District Business community
- Support sustainable business growth and make it easier to do business.
- Share information on what is happening in the community i.e., events, activities, visiting groups.
- Current information on training, funding, and grant opportunities
- Information evenings with expert guest speakers
- Network with other local business owners

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Quorn Business Group Executive Committee

President – Kevin Woolford

Secretary – Sharon Hooper

Treasurer – Stuart Hackett

Committee Members – Pat Gilbert, Mel Bowman, Hamish Gibson, Eric Brown

## **Next Meeting – To be advised**

See Quorn Out and About for date and venue





# Quorn Walking Tours

## Jacinta Hannigan

### 0427 148 432

[www.quornwalkingtours.com](http://www.quornwalkingtours.com)

QUORN WALKING TOURS came about because of my love of Quorn, history, walking and talking to people! (Just ask Darryl my husband how long he has had to wait for me to come out from IGA!)

I have volunteered with the Quorn District Local History Group and worked as a contractor for the Flinders Ranges Council entering historic information on to the computer, also researching and writing historical information for the new Flinders Ranges Self Drive Loop signage.

My plan is to share the history and advertise all the good things our little town and the surrounding areas have to offer.

Currently I am hosting a 1 hour guided Grim stories and other tales tour, it reveals the hardships of our pioneering families as well as the quirky side of Quorn. I have many ideas and can't wait to share them with you and our visitors to Quorn.

During a tour one afternoon, my group which included a couple from Switzerland, and I noticed the Masonic Lodge was open. I cheekily approached a couple of Masonic members who were dressed in their suits, to see if we were allowed to enter for a look.

We were lucky enough to be taken on a tour throughout this historical and somewhat mysterious building. Our visit began by entering through the big wooden double doors,

we walked up through the long concrete passageway which opened up to a long room, on the day we were there had a white tablecloth and a delicious supper laid out.

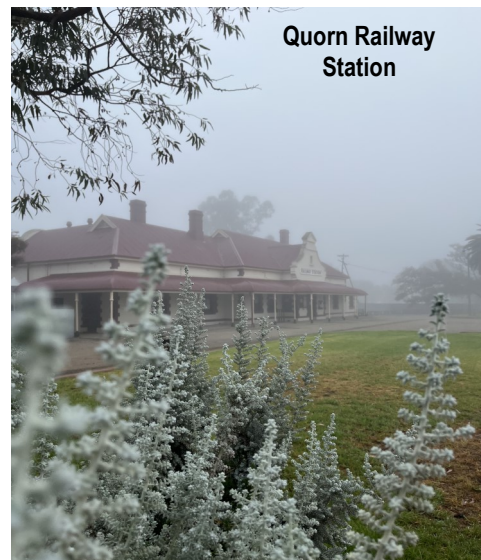
We were then led into a grand room with blue carpet. It was nothing but majestic. The members were keen to share information about the Masonic Lodge. I have come to realise that the Freemasons Lodge raise money and donate to causes.

Over many years at special Lodge functions a raffle has been held and all proceeds have been given to Flinders House. It is only in the past few years that this money has been kept, going towards maintenance and improvements to the Lodge building.

Quorn Lodge has for more than 20 years, in conjunction with, The Masonic Foundation given a dictionary and later a calculator to students of Quorn and Hawker Schools graduating to high school. This was initiated by Mrs. Gwenda Shakeshaft after the passing of her husband Howard who was a Past Master of Quorn lodge.

One of the members I spoke to suggested that he wished he had joined the Lodge sooner because of the fellowship he had received.

To say the least our visitors from Switzerland were very impressed with access to this rather secretive building. ■





“Every Dish Tells A Story” features stories that document important foods and recipes of the Flinders Ranges and chronicles their evolution and significance ... from bush tucker, settlers’ fare and local produce, right through to innovative cooking and growing techniques for the arid region. This project was researched and written by Tarla Kramer and John Mannion, and involved dozens of local contributors.

*We bring a new story to you each month—this month features.....*

## Ernie Ash—22/2/1933-11/12/2018

### “Overall I couldn’t really complain .....

Ernie Ash has worked in shearing sheds since he was fourteen years old. During that time he reckons he has eaten lots of shearers tucker and while “some of it was bloody disgusting, overall I couldn’t really complain ...”

Up until only a few years ago, Ernie was a shearer, “well I shore for quite a few years yeah ....worked for a couple of contractors but usually two or three of us would pair off and go out shearing ... it’s been three years since I’ve shorn a sheep due to ill health.”

Whilst sheep shearing is an iconic 'Australian' occupation, very little is heard of the shearers’ cooks. These men and women refuel the stomachs of shearers, shed hands [in the case of young boys—like all young boys they are always hungry], and wool classers—often five times a day, and fill them up with gallons of strong hot tea. Often the only mention of the cook often referred to, as the ‘babbling brook’ or ‘bait layer’ is “who called the cook a bastard?” To which the classic response is “who said the bastard could cook!” The truth is that being a shearers’ cook is hard work—when they aren’t asleep they’re working and when they aren’t working they’re sleeping.

Ernie and his three siblings Joan, John and Brian grew up out on the Willochra Plain north of Quorn. Notorious for its droughts and dust storms where their parents had a sheep grazing property. “Dad had 4,000 acres, but worked in the railways as well, so we would help our grandfather Bill French run the place”.

While Ernie is a Quorn bloke, whether he is locally bred he doesn’t know, because he was born at Wauchope, near Port Macquarie, NSW [pronounced ‘War hope’] in 1933. During the 1930s Depression the Ash family left Willochra for a while and headed east in search of work. They didn’t stay that long, “less than 12 months” Ernie reckons. The return trip to Quorn and Willochra took six months, Ernie was six months old and they travelled in a spring dray, a buggy and five horses. The journey



Ernie as a young roustabout looking for a shed in 'Sunday Too Far Away', 1974. Buck Everett in background....

featured in the *Quorn Mercury* 1933 (page 17), and Ernie recalls being told “along the way dad got ptomaine poisoning from eating sardines which had been left in the sun”.

Ernie went to school at Willochra and as was the norm at the time, left when he was fourteen. Ever since then he has been mixed up with sheep and shearing sheds. “After I started working in the sheds an Elders [stock agent] bloke wanted me to become a wool classer, but I didn’t want to go to Adelaide”. So apart from helping run the Willochra place Ernie stuck with being a rouseabout. “I helped milk cows on the grandfather’s place after he died, just after the war until the 1950s ... the cream went to the butter factory by train, Hall’s at Peterborough or Farmer’s Union at Orroroo, usually Orroroo”. “I always wanted to be a grazier... the home place wasn’t big enough to support one [family] let alone three, but we eventually got our own property out on the plain in the mid ‘60s and only sold it a few years back and more or less retired.”

Ernie reckons he more or less taught himself to shear, “I just watched the shearers and got to taking the belly off, and doing the long blow when one of



them wanted a spell, then I'd get up earlier and do a couple before the first run, and at smoko and dinner time".

Back to shearers cooking, "I can't remember the name of a cook we had once at Bill Hannan's near Saltia. Harry Whitehead might remember, anyway he was off a ship, an old seaman, and he made one of the best pressed meats I've ever tasted, I've got no idea what was in it ... he had a tin press thing, don't know what was in it, but it was bloody beautiful."

Then Ernie remembers shearing out at one place where an old bloke was cooking, "well he tried; but he was no cake cook, he made some little cakes one day and they come up to the shed and we tossed 'em over into the catchin' pen ... the boss looked over the rails and this wether had one of the cakes in its mouth, I'll never forget that as long as I live."

He also remembers going out to Pernatty [station], "I was only a boy at the time and the cook sent me out to cut some firewood, Myall wood it was, and it was hard work. He said 'have a rest lad, come and have a cuppa tea. What did you think of the meat at dinner time?' I said yeah, it was alright, and he told me it was emu; the boys had gone out and shot a heap of emus, and he told 'em to go back and get a young one. He was a good cook and reckoned you could eat everything in Australia bar crow."

Ernie's shearing mentors included "Alf Hancock, Georgie Pradel, John and Brian Reschke from Parachilna way, they were around back then too, their father had a place down here, and Ted and Ken French, who were only a bit older than me, and Harry Groth he was around—old Harry." Back then unionism was a big thing in the shearing industry and shearers had to have an AWU 'ticket'. This covered the grower as well, as if sheep were shorn by 'scabs' the wool was blackballed and Ernie recalls, "the wool from one station around here couldn't be handled for about 12 months. Shearers couldn't use their own handpieces then either. "You had to supply your own tools, but the owners, or growers supplied the handpieces, and some of them were old rubbish ... if you got a crook one you had to have a tin of water alongside you to cool it off ... you'd get a bit of a telling off from the boss, but if he couldn't supply decent gear ... I started with narrow gear, a Cooper first off, then a Lister, Cooper made the EB, they had two or three others too, which weren't very popular, too big and heavy and the Lister Ace was a big thing too, but they did make a smaller model and then came the Golden Lister." Ernie's highest tally on 'narrow gear' was 186, "four times I had 200 in my sights, but either the engine broke down or we ran out of sheep." Years ago, when there were plenty of shearers around, many northern blokes, including Ernie used to head down to the South East during the early summer. "I remember once we had a big night out ... and next day we had to front up to these big Border Leicester's [sheep] ... I got about 80 that day." He

did not shear very much with wide gear but believes it made shearing a lot easier, once the shearers got used to it.

Back in the early 1970s the iconic Australian film *Sunday too Far Away*, based on the 1956 shearers strike, was filmed in and around Quorn, and Ernie, along with quite a few other locals was an extra. The phrase *Sunday Too Far Away* comes from what Ernie's wife Elaine explains "is the shearers lament; Friday night he was too tired, Saturday night too drunk and Sunday night too far away" adding, "but Ern wasn't too bad though".

Ernie can't remember a lot about the 1956 strike, but "I was shearing at Argadells where Maurice Mannion worked at the time, I filled in for another bloke ... we weren't game to shear during the strike ... you really got in the gun if you got caught ... and the white sheep could be seen for miles. Unionism is not so strong these days, and not too many cocky-shed shearers have got 'ticket's these days".

As portrayed in *Sunday too Far Away* the cook sometimes got on the vanilla essence, which was very high in alcoholic content and often had adverse effects. "Have you ever tried it?" Ernie asks, "It's as bitter as hell".

He recalls Colin French from Pernatty "telling me about one cook who got to the essence and how he was walking around in broad daylight striking matches to see where was going ... that cook was taken into Quorn and put on the train!" Now Ernie has never cooked for shearers but recalls cooking for the mustering team at Pernatty station for over a week and never got abused. With a ready supply of sheep meat on hand, shearers cooking was mostly mutton-based; "roasts, stews, and a few shepherd's pies, and chops ... didn't see any beef, and we usually got sweets of some sorts" Ernie says. Chops were the mainstay, but he never went to a shed where chops were served up morning, noon and night. "You'd often get cereal and eggs for breakfast too, didn't see too much bacon though." In the contract sheds, apart from smoko's, meals were a communal affair around one or two dining tables, and you served yourselves. Morning and afternoon smoko was brought to the shed and was usually sandwiches, sausage rolls, pies and pasties, cakes and biscuits and tea, and you still helped yourselves there too. I never liked a heavy meal at dinner time, it's a bit hard bending over with a full belly, I'd sooner have a big meal at tea time, and for morning smoko I preferred something heavier than in the afternoon.

Ernie says that back then, "Most of the cooks were men, though a lot of the cooks are women now. They worked very long hours and they had to get up around four o'clock in the morning to light the fire. They cut lunches for the musterers to take with them, cooked breakfast, did all the dishes, made morning smoko and on and on it went. It was at least half past nine, ten o'clock before they got to

bed—some cooks had an offsider.”

The image of shearers is often one of hard working and hard drinking men, but Ernie believes that is a bit overdone, “some used to have a bottle [beer] at dinner time ... it had to be very hot for me to have one at dinner time unless a couple of us shared a bottle, but after work others would drink six or eight bottles—most would just sit around and talk.” Being a grazier and a shearer, which had its pros and cons, Ernie mostly preferred cocky sheds, “but in the big sheds you shore your eight hours and you didn’t have to worry about doing anything else and that was that, and the sheep were often cleaner and less wrinkly than ‘inside’ sheep too.”

When asked what he misses about shearing Ernie replied, “the company and the spirit of the teams, I missed that a lot when I gave it away, and even these days in the middle of the day when you’ve got no mates around ... I couldn’t stand being in a shed today, what with these ghetto-blasters radios.” The other thing that’s changed over the years is women in the industry, “once you’d never see a girl in a shed, but I’ve seen them shearing big wethers and getting over 200 a day, they’ve got a lot of ability and style.”

Now according to the cooks, shearers and shed hands are pretty well looked after. In the bigger sheds years ago the cook was paid by a subscription from the shearers and shed hands. Nowadays the cook is paid by the property owner or contractor and in cocky sheds it is accepted that they [shearers etc.] are ‘found’, or supplied with smokos and dinner or lunch. Ernie said that this was “just part of the life. The locals fed us in return for doing our own grinding.” However this tradition too may become a thing of the past. Many women ‘on the land’ now work off-farm and don’t have the time, or the inclination, to cook at shearing time so shearers bring their own tucker. This arrangement is ‘not found’ and shearers are paid an allowance for meals. Consequently many shearers now turn up with shop-bought pies and pasties, cans or cartons of cool drink, packets of chips and health food snacks. Occasionally they will bring a sandwich, but Ernie reckons the majority are young single blokes and are not inclined to get up earlier and prepare their own meals.

Anyway he reckons the BYO, “is alright I suppose, and shearers are always in a hurry to eat anyway and get back [to the shed] and wash your tools, do something to your handpiece and have a lie down on the board to straighten your back out”. Ernie, Elaine and their children, Graham, Neville, David and Rosalie lived in Quorn before moving out to their place at Willochra 11 miles north of the town in the 1980s until they sold out and moved back into town in 1996. During that time Elaine cooked for three shearers, three shedhands, Ernie, a couple of offiders and a couple of musterers. “Between a dozen and fifteen at times, I didn’t have to supply breakfast or tea and sometimes I had a

girlfriend who’d come up at shearing time and help.”

Elaine was working at the time too and believes she couldn’t have coped without a freezer. “I’d make sandwiches and cakes and freeze them, freezers have made a big difference.” At first Elaine used to dish their meals up “but some complained that I was giving them too much, so I put the food into bowls and they could help themselves. On Mondays it was always roast, Tuesday it was a stew, then it was rissoles and gravy with vegies, or chicken meat or I used the leftover mutton in a potato or shepherd’s pie, whatever you like to call it— with vegetables. For dessert it was light or heavy, tinned fruit and custard, or a bread and butter pudding or similar ...

I gave them a different meal everyday. For morning smoko it was sandwiches with assorted fillings, pies, pasties or sausage rolls and cakes, buns or biscuits. For afternoon smoko something lighter, SAO biscuits and some sandwiches and another three kinds of cake or biscuits - they were well looked after!”

Incidentally, the going rate (as from 1 July 2010) for shearers cooks is \$203.03 per day (\$15.62 per person), whilst shearers are paid \$253.42 per 100 sheep).

### Elaine’s Shepherd’s Pie.

Take a leg of cold roast mutton and mince it up with an onion and put in a two-litre Pyrex dish. Cook and mash enough potatoes to cover the filling by about half an inch. N.B. – pour the water from the cooked potatoes, into the dish until level with the minced meat, mixing in a packet of French onion soup. Cream the potatoes with butter and milk and spread over the minced meat. Use a fork to form the potato into a number of ‘Devils Peaks’ and cook in oven at 180 degrees for 45-60 minutes. When the ‘peaks’ are golden brown it is usually done. For a complete meal in the pie add carrots and peas. ■



Elaine and Ernie Ash, Quorn 2010



# Early Quorn News

IN THE EARLY 1960's the Quorn News was run from the Quorn High School. The typing class, with Mrs Clissold, typed the publication every month.

In those days, there was no computer with a touch of a button and the pages were sent to the printer. Oh No. There was only the Gestener with a wind handle to copy the typed manuscript. These were typed on specific paper that needed to be carefully attached to the Gestener. You had to ensure there were no creases or crinkles and it was perfectly square on. At times this was a bit of a dirty job with fingers getting in the way of the ink rollers.

I had a trusty push bike with a basket on the front. My brother had taught me well on doing repairs when needed—like fixing a flat tyre, loose chain, repairing brakes, loose mud guards and scraping wheels. I went all over town gathering news and information every month.

Mrs Burden was my main go to person for the social news. She had a very comprehensive diary of any forthcoming events to the town.

Mrs Roma Schmidt was another lady who was a wealth of information, especially recording the Quorn Shows.

Robyn Oliffe worked at Burden's Electrical Store. Robyn had the neatest hand writing that I have ever seen. Every month Robyn gave me the titles of the

forthcoming pictures that were to be screened in Quorn. Mr Burden was the projector operator. Robyn also gave me an updated ad for the shop with all the new appliances that were available.

I gathered ads from other places too—Quorn Taxi, two food stores, chemist, corner stores, etc.

A big event during my time as the 'Roving Reporter' was the official opening of the town swimming pool. What a day!

Once the paper had been put together, and typed and copied, the pages were then stapled and delivered. On my trusty bike again and copies of the Quorn News in my basket, I would proudly deliver to many outlets to be sold. Some residents, I would deliver their copy personally.

These were exciting times and at times it was very busy. I had to still do my schoolwork, homework and of course sports.

In my retirement, I have now come 'full circle' and am volunteering to assist the editor of the Mercury. I travel three hours to Quorn and then back home every month.

I am enjoying this new phase in my life.

June Blaschek (nee Hudson)

## ***Quorn Mercury, Friday 17 November 1933***

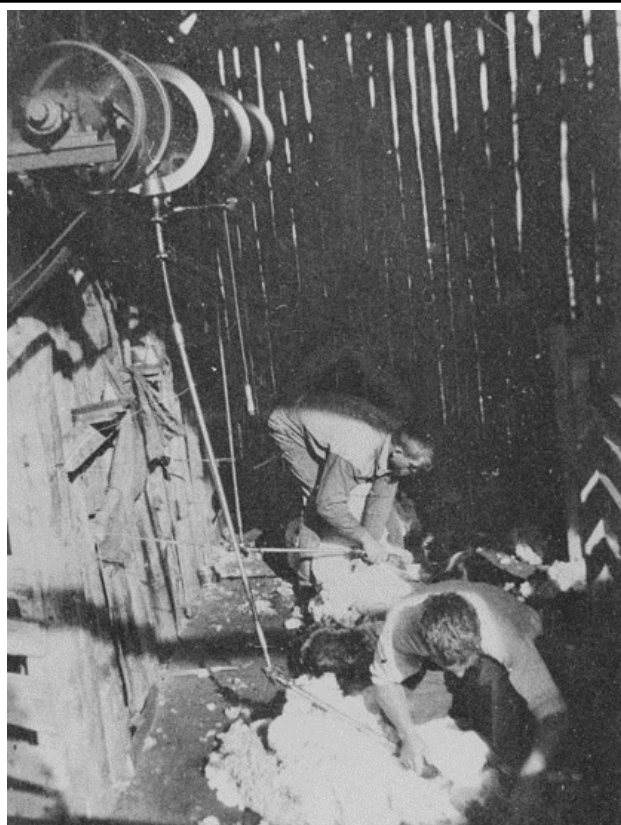
**Mr. and Mrs. W. Ash  
1300 miles Overland**

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ash have just completed a trip of 1300 miles overland from the East Coast of N.S.W. to the home of their parents at Willochra. Their travelling outfit comprised a light buggy, light cart and four horses. Mrs. Ash is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. French, of Willochra, and has kept a diary of the journey, which will be published in a later issue.

## ***Quorn Mercury, Friday 24 November 1933***

Mr and Mrs W. Ash were given a warm welcome home at Willochra on Saturday. All the neighbours for miles around attended, and a happy evening was spent.

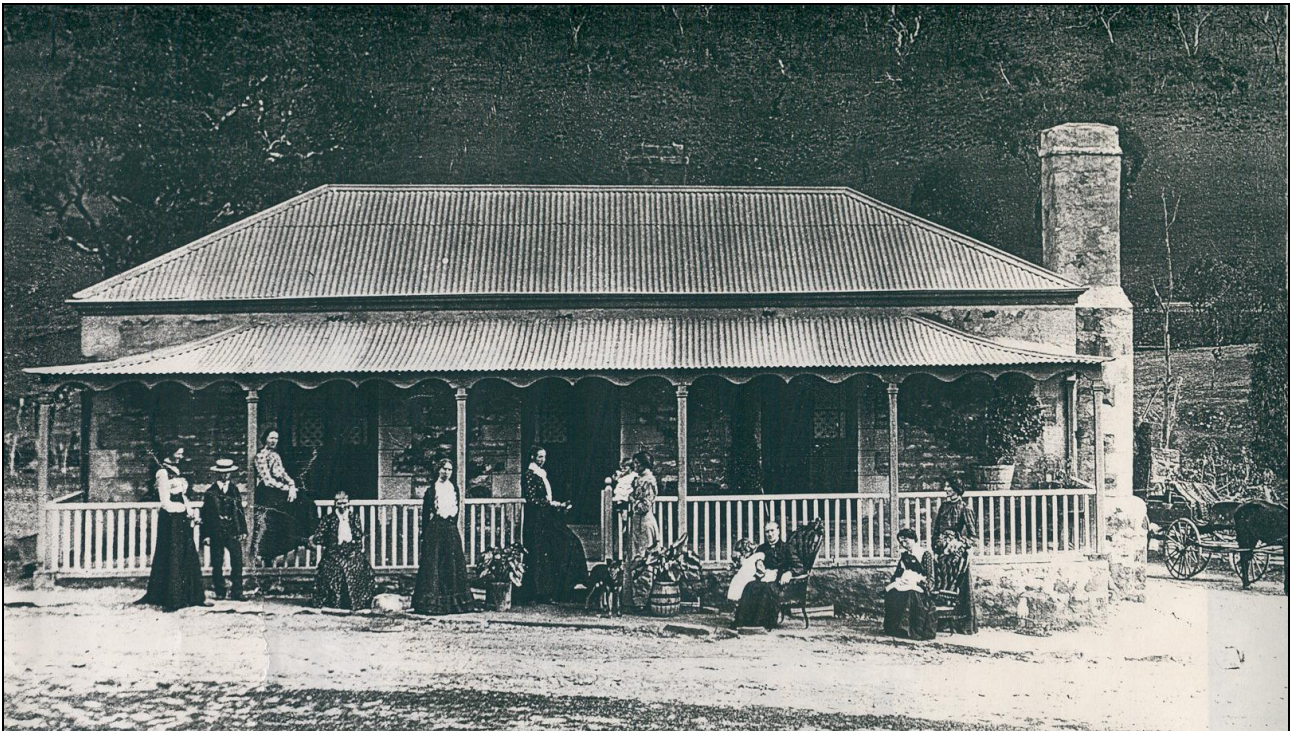
## **Ernie Ash Tidbits**



Ernie Shearing at top



# Pictures — From the Past



**THE ABOVE PHOTO** is of the Taylor family who, at the township of Pichi Richi were the first settlers to occupy what is now the Browns' Farm. They're gathered around the farmhouse's front verandah. What is fascinating is that the same family members are also in the bottom photo, that must have been taken that day too. Study the clothing of the group below, and you can then identify those same people in the group above. Below, you might guess that the central figure all the others are clustered around is the family's Matriarch.







**ANOTHER PHOTO** from the Taylor family's collection. It's unfortunately in very poor condition. It's of a picnic on top of the Devil's Peak. Most remarkable about it, and making it well worth while featuring here, is that one of them has *carried* his bagpipes up to the summit, and is playing them for the group! The view is looking east, with the Little Devil's Peak on the left, the Devil's Peak itself on the right where they're picnicking, and the great chockstone jammed between the two Peaks. The top of the Devil's Peak fell off in the mid-19th century and the chockstone is a remnant of the much higher top. Photos courtesy Wendy Brown. ■



**STIRLING NORTH** in 1916. The car is a T Model Ford, the most popular car of the time. It's a much emptier street than you'd find today! Can anyone identify the buildings? And is that possibly a railway line cutting across the street, partly-hidden by a hump of dirt on the road—or perhaps they're nothing else but a pair of cart tracks? Photo Reg Mayes, *Pictorial History of Port Augusta* (Adelaide, Rigby Ltd, 1974), p 100. ■



# ‘The Game’—a Fairy Tale

**THE FAIRIES** IN Queen Renarta’s Clan were even more merry than usual. Most of them were still sitting beside the remains of a feast. And they were all watching the few Fairies whom Renarta had ordered to entertain them. Each of these few had to take her turn to magick the most far-out thing she could imagine.

Hastol had just produced a giant Owl with two bodies joined together so that each head was opposite the other. Or you might say, instead of feet the Owl had another body stretched the opposite way. The poor bird struggled to fly anywhere because each body’s wings were trying to take it in a different direction, so it kept flopping down on the grass.

Yet, when on the grass, each head tried to be up on top, but at the same time was trying desperately to stand on the feet it no longer had. So instead, it was standing on its other head. It was hooting in shock whatever it managed to do.

The Fairies were shrieking with laughter watching it. Some of them were laughing so much that they were falling off their seats at the long table, where they’d just finished eating.

Now Hastol vanished the poor double-bird, and Frentia produced a Wolf. But its body was monstrously long, like an immense snake with his head and two front legs at one end, and the two hind legs so far away at the other end, that the poor creature couldn’t control them.

It tried to escape from the squealing, laughing Fairies, by rushing its front end into the nearby forest. But its overlong body kept wrapping around several trees as its rear end tried to follow its front. Then it frantically tried to untangle itself while it was howling in terror, as the Fairies laughed themselves breathless.

Jenis was one of the Fairies playing the game. She was always trying to show that she was as much a Fairy as any of them, because her Mam had been a Human, a Changeling\* that the Clan had sneaked away from a nearby Village. And when her Mam had grown up enough, she’d had Jenis by one of the Elves who lived nearby. So Jenis was half-Fairy and half-Human, though all of her body was Fairy, of course.

She watched impatiently as Winnitin magicked a gigantic bodiless mouth hanging in the air

nearby. The mouth opened and shut, and stretched into a huge yawn, and sang a little song, and poked its tongue out at them, and grinned at them all. And they howled with laughter at it.

Then it was Jenis’s turn at last. She hadn’t even thought yet what she would produce. But she cried out, ‘*Nothing* any of you can think of is more than tame! *Tame! Tame!* Only birds and animals? You’ve no imagination at all!...’

But this made a few of the seated Fairies jeer at her. They shouted, ‘Oh, get on with it, Jenis!’ and ‘You even boast like a Human!’ and ‘Don’t talk! Do something!’ and ‘You do nothing but talk talk talk!’ and other such impatientcies.

Jenis was as usual angered by how they sneered at her, so she shouted, ‘Nothing? Is *that* all I can do? Well, *I’ve* got a Nothing for *all* of you!’

And she magicked up a total Nothingness.

Instantly all around her was utterly black! No—more than that, it wasn’t any colour at all. It just wasn’t! And she herself was, well, just a speck in it. And before that speck of her dissolved into nothing too, she gasped, ‘So *this* is what Noth...’

■ Tale © Ray Wood



\* *Changeling*—Fairies steal a Human baby, leave a wooden doll or aged Fairy in its place, and take the Human back to Fairyland, to live with them for ever.



# Lions Club News

THE WEEKEND of the 28th and 29th of May was a busy one for the local Quorn Lions Club! The club brought the Lions International skin cancer screening van to the town. It was located at the car park adjacent to the skate park for the two days!

The prime mover, from Adelaide, with a 12KVA generator and screening van with three individual consulting rooms, is worth in excess a half a million dollars! Bringing with it a crew of eight including medical staff, administration officers, a driver and a sanitising officer all giving up their time, to give free skin cancer checks to around a hundred and fifteen people from the local community!

Anne Freebairn, Minette Gorecki and Loraine Pumpa from the local Lions club, organised the event and the appointments. The end results found it to be a busy two days!

Most that attended commented how good it was to have the unit in WRAP also visits part of the Northern Territory and Victoria.

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, four members of the club served a barbecue at the local market, which they do every month.

The Lions Club is always looking for new members so if you find you are bored at home and need an outlet to help out, join the local group to help others in community in some way!

Lions meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm at their clubrooms on Railway Terrace here in Quorn! The clubrooms are located between the bowling club and the children's playground with a newly paved footpath. The garden out the front is looked after by Barb Walker, yet another caring person in the community!

Interested? — If you don't want to become a member but would like to help at Lions events. contact any member of the Lions Club of Quorn.

**President, Loraine Pumpa, can be contacted on her mobile  
0498 951 238 for more information**



Above—The Lions Skin Screening Van parked at the Quorn venue.



Quorn locals waiting to be screened.



Pauline Hill on BBQ duty at the Quorn Market



# Quorn Out and About



Pictured above and below show Dr Tony's medical students training day  
Thank you to all concerned—it is a wonderful effort put in by all



Jenny Crisp at Mt Lofty



Carmel Reid and Mary Francis at Taillem Bend museum



Jenny Crisp at Adelaide Oval Tour



Jan Jarvis at Mt Lofty Botanical Gardens



Presentation of Tidy Town Award  
Paula Osborn, Greg Flint, Jillian Wilson



From left—Tim Webb, Pauline Hill, Mal Madigan, Pam Hunt.  
Cooking the Lions BBQ at Quorn Market



# Quorn's Navy Cadets

## Locals Promoted

QUORN YOUTHS HAVE had a long history with TS Augusta and the Australian Navy Cadets.

Just recently the Port Augusta unit has been involved in a number of activities including ANZAC Day and the opening of the New Joy Baluch AM Memorial Bridge across the Spencer Gulf.

At the forefront of it all have been two Quorn locals, Simon and Ruby Meyers who officially obtaining their latest Promotions just this weekend, Simon to Cadet Petty Officer (CDT PO) and Ruby to Cadet Leading Seaman (CDT LS).

The ANC is a great way for young people to connect to and be involved in the community while they learn teamwork and leadership skills.

If you know a young person who is about to turn thirteen and is interested in joining the local Australian Navy Cadets at TS Augusta, please call or text 0448356503 for more information or join them on a Friday Night at the Westside Reserve Burgoyne St Pt Augusta from 6pm - 9pm. ■



ANZAC Day Port Augusta



Parade for opening of new bridge



Left: L-R—Simon Meyers, — ,Ruby Meyers

# Chicken Noodle Soup

1 Brown Onion diced  
 1 Carrot diced  
 1 celery stalk diced  
 400 ml Chicken Stock  
 85gm packet 2 minute Noodles  
 1 cup shredded cooked Chicken  
 Chopped Parsley to garnish



Heat 2 tsp Oil in saucepan over medium heat and cook the onion, carrot and celery until tender. Break up noodles and add to soup with the shredded chicken. Cook until noodles are tender and chicken heated through.

Ladle into bowls and sprinkle with parsley.

This recipe can be doubled to serve 4 people.

Instead of noodles, use rice noodles or egg noodles and flavour with Mediterranean herbs.

*Taken from Readers Digest Healthy One Dish Cooking.*



Lawrie Fitzgerald, Anthony Gloede and David Reubenicht with Lawrie's 1958 Shearer MS Harvester after it's delivery to the Quorn Pioneer Machinery Society shed at the Lions Park. The harvester was built in Mannum south Australia and delivered by rail to Quorn. It will be a fantastic addition to our display.



# Quorn's Quorns

## Answers



Quorn Information Sign

1.



Quorn Town Sign

2.



The Quorn-er House

3.



Quorn IGA

4.



Quorn CFS

5.



Quorn Netball Club

6.



Quorn Viterra

7.



Quorn Quongdong Cafe

8.



Quorn Post Office

9.



Quorn Health Centre

10.



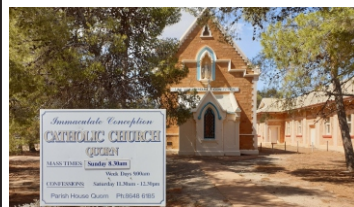
Quorn and District War Memorial Swimming Pool

11.



Quorn Pharmacy

12.



Quorn Catholic Church

13.



Quorn Railway Station/  
Information Centre

14.



Quorn Area School  
Agricultural Studies Shed

15.



Quorn Caravan Park

16.



Welcome to Quorn  
Petrol Station

17.



Quorn Cricket Club

18.



Quorn Autoport

19.



Quorn Community  
Pre Loved Boutique

20.



Quorn & District  
Memorial Hospital

21.



Quorn Ambulance Station

22.



Quorn School  
Community Library

23.



Quorn Community  
Recreation Park

24.

# Where is Quorn?

Match the places with their distance from Quorn

BRUCE	40km
ROXBY DOWNS	2760km
PERTH	384400km
DARWIN	114km
THE MOON	336km
WHYALLA	2424km
HAWKER	296km
ADELAIDE	66km
PORT AUGUSTA	23km

Mixed up Quorn critters – answers

MICE	SHEEP	CORELLAS	BLUE TONGUE
HORSES	GALAHS	KOOKABURRAS	MAGPIES
GOAT	KANGAROO	FOXES	DOGS

Match the scientific name to the common name - answers

OLD MAN SALTBUSH	SANTALUM SPICATUM
QUANDONG	CITRUS GLAUCA
BUSH BANANA	ATRIPLEX NUMMULARIA
TURPENTINE BUSH	SWAINSONA FORMOSA
REDGUM	EREMOPHILA STURTII
RUBY SALTBUSH	SANTALUM ACUMINATUM
YAKKA	MARSDENIA AUSTRALIS
WILD LIME	ENCHYLAENA TOMENTOSA
SANDALWOOD	XANTHORRHOEA QUADRANGULATA
STURTS DESERT PEA	EUCALYPTUS CAMALDULENSIS



## ATTENTION NEW PEOPLE TO QUORN!

### *What can you do at your local library?*

There are more than 130 public libraries across South Australia - all FREE to join. Thanks to One Card, Quorn Community Library customers can use any of these libraries with a single card and have access to over 3 million items. This provides convenient access for the whole community to the entire public library collection.

### *Not a member? Signing up is easy and free!*

**Once you are a member, you can borrow or access:**

- The latest releases
- DVDs, audiobooks, children's books and more
- Your favourite magazines, fiction, non fiction and large print novels
- Free access to the internet
- Books from all around SA
- Printers, scanners and the photocopier in b/w or colour  
(small fee)

## OPENING HOURS

SUNDAY CLOSED

MONDAY CLOSED

TUESDAY 1:00 - 5:30PM

WEDNESDAY 9:30AM - 5:30PM

THURSDAY 1:00 - 5:30PM

FRIDAY 1:00 - 5:30PM

SATURDAY 10:00AM - 12:00PM

## ***FUN FACTS ABOUT READING!***

The most overdue  
book was 122  
years late

Your eyes look in  
different directions  
when you read

Reading reduces  
stress by 68%

## ***NEW RELEASES AT THE LIBRARY***

What Eden Did Next by Sheila O'Flanagan

Sheltering Rain by Jojo Moyes

When The War Was Here by Roxanne Veletzos

The Italian Girl by Anita Abriel

The Party Crasher by Sophie Kinsella

The German Wife by Kelly Rimmer

Graveyard To Hell by Jack Higgins

The Winter Dress by Lauren Chater

### **JUNE BOOK CLUB**

**CONTACT SAM NESTER FOR INFO: 0456 129 870**



# *Murray Gibb*

## *Funerals*

OFFERING THE COMMUNITY  
DIGNITY AND COMPASSION.

Funerals arranged to your wishes

Servicing Orroroo, Peterborough, Booleroo Centre,  
Melrose, Wilmington, Wirrabara, Carrieton,  
Quorn and Hawker

ORROROO SA  
PHONE 0484 004 815 24 HRS

# Quorn Show 2022



**Thinking of putting a stall in the show? Contact us.**



**Are you interested in becoming the Horses in Action Convenor ?**



**Birthday Cake decorating!**



**Make a scarecrow?**

**Drone Photography!**

**Best Selfie photo!**

**Show Day  
Sunday Sept 25th**

MEETING HELD ON 26th May. Items raised were:

- Welcome to Trade Space Co-ordinator, Mark Tuckwell
- Now looking for a Horses in Action Convenor - Can you help?
- Best Scarecrow made from recycled materials - Patrons on the day to vote for their favourite.
- A special Child's Birthday Cake Competition
- New Classes in Photography section—eg Best selfie!

Please contact the secretary with your ideas or enquiries. ■

## FEES FOR 2022

### Admission:

<b>Adults :</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>School age Children:</b>	<b>\$ 2.00</b>
<b>Concession</b>	<b>\$ 5.00</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Membership 2 Adults \$15.00**

**Family Membership**

**2 Adults, 2 Children \$20.00**

### Save money!

**Purchase a show membership!  
Contact Jillian at the VIC for details**

**Proceeds from memberships help with preparation and planning costs incurred in lead-up to the event.**

## Horses in Action Convenor

**We are in need of a person to run the Horses in Action Programme on Sunday September 25th. If you are keen please contact Amanda O'Loughlin for further information.**

**Mob: ph 0488 580 148**

**Email: a-oloughlin@hotmail.com**

## Next Committee Meeting

**FRC Council Chambers**

**Thursday the 23rd of June**

## Enquiries to current Office holders:

**President :- Amanda O'Loughlin**

**ph 0488 580 148**

**email: a-oloughlin@hotmail.com**

**Secretary:- Michelle Densley**

**ph 0459 334 062**

**email: michelle.densley600@schools.sa.edu.au**

**Treasurer:- Jillian Wilson**

**ph: 0428 855 519**

**email: jkw@frc.sa.gov.au**

**Trade Spaces:- Mark Tuckwell**

**email: mark.tuckwell@gmail.com**



# Quorn Mercury Revisited

## Friday Night Netball

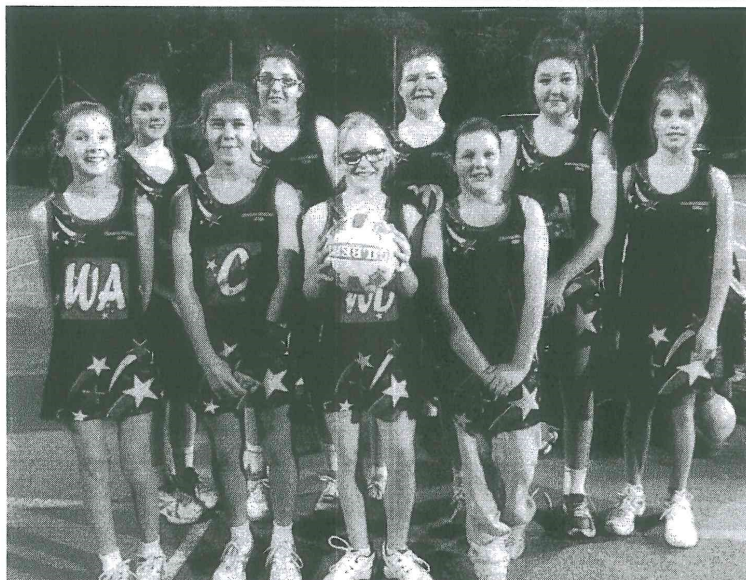
10 Years Ago

On Friday 4th May Quorn hosted Vikings in two matches in U15 and A1 Reserve. The Under 15's had a draw and the Quorn A Team defeated Vikings comfortably.

Pictured below are the Under 15s.

Back: Jemma Taylor, Stacey Brown, Tricia Slattery, Billie-Jo Grantham and Shanaii McCarthy.

Front: Grace Smith, Fallon Bowden, Bree Elliott and Jaquarra Chapman.



## Successful Olive Harvest

20 Years Ago

**THE FIRST COMMERCIAL** size harvest from Anne and Glenn Collins Old Gunyah Olive Grove has been completed.

Over two weekends in May, approximately 1.8 tonnes of fruit was picked by hand.

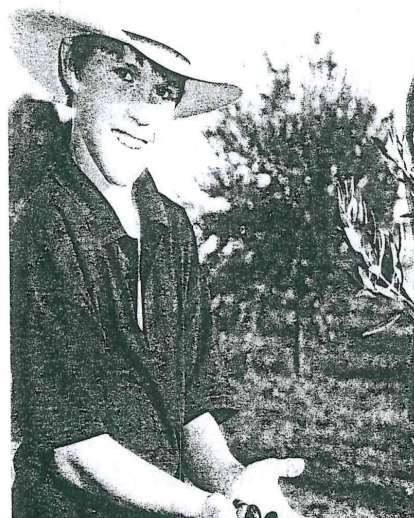
The grove contains 400 young trees.

The fruit was transported to Riverton for pressing and produced just over 400 litres of top quality Extra Virgin olive oil.

The oil will be available to purchase locally both in bottles and in bulk.

Nine local youths picked up some pocket money by helping with the harvest.

Below—Ben Carn



# PICHI RICHI • RAILWAY •



Welcome to the June edition for the Quorn Mercury with news from Pichi Richi Railway. COVID RESTRICTIONS HAVE finally lifted and we will be able to fit more passengers onto each train, although masks are still required. There are even more people wanting to travel after seeing PRR on Travel Guides Railways Australia last month. Unfortunately Covid is still causing staff shortages, particularly in the refreshment department, but we will get there. Many thanks to local woman Chris Hughes for stepping up and helping.



## Training weekend

OUR TIRELESS Training and Assessment Manager and Puffing Billy member, Gavin Clark is going up to be up on the first weekend in June, for a special training weekend for volunteers who want to become Rail Safety Workers with PRR. A particular focus is on recruiting a few trainee diesel drivers for the railcar for those Sundowners and Special Hires, and the NSU.



## Scheduled Trains in June

**Saturday 4th** Afghan Express – dep Port Augusta 10:30am, return PA 16:30

**Saturday 11th\*** Afghan Express – dep Port Augusta 10:30am, return PA 16:30

**Saturday 11th\*** Pichi Richi Explorer – dep Quorn 10:30am, return Quorn 13:30

**Sunday 12th** Pichi Richi Explorer – dep Quorn 10:30am, return Quorn 13:30

**Sunday 12th** Coffee Pot Heritage Rail Experience – dep Quorn 12:00pm, return 16:00

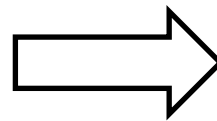
**Monday 13th** Pichi Richi Explorer – dep Quorn 10:30am, return Quorn 13:30

**Saturday 18th** Afghan Express – dep Port Augusta 10:30am, return PA 16:30

**Sunday 26th** Pichi Richi Explorer – dep Quorn 10:30am, return Quorn 13:30

\*annual double header train

**BOOK YOUR  
JOURNEY HERE**



Driver Hayden Hart and Guard Walter Woods completing the brake test prior to the departure of the Pichi Richi Explorer

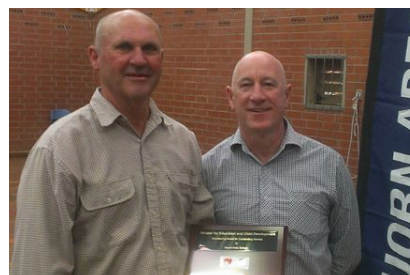
Would you like to learn more about #teamPRR? Why don't you call our Members Services Manager, Bronwyn Ingram, to chat about the range of roles that may suit your availability, interests and capabilities. Bronwyn can be contacted on 08 8641 1527



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

# What is behind these doors

*I WILL TELL YOU*, almost *112 YEARS OF QUORN HISTORY*, including *FRIENDSHIP, FELLOWSHIP SELF ESTEEM, CONFIDENCE* and *CHARACTER BUILDING*. While meeting in a beautiful Lodge room. Freemasonry is a brotherhood of men committed to lives of honour, integrity, and character. The history of this Lodge (Quorn Lodge No. 59) is your history if you live in Quorn.

Most likely your father or grandfather was a member of this lodge maybe your husband or son would also like to join. If they were interested, they should join while they still have a Lodge in Quorn to join. Lodges are slowly disappearing from country towns in northern South Australia there is only a Lodge at Jamestown, Port Broughton, Port Pirie, Quorn and Whyalla. There are only two practicing Freemasons who live in Quorn, the rest come from other towns.

Many Quorn family names of Past and Present have been in Quorn Lodge No59, some of those are Hughes, Abbott, Thompson, Hill, Brown, Treloar, Voigt, French, Stoner, Robson, Barnes, Wilton, Butcher, Bury, Cradock, Salmon, Sims, Cooke, Abbott, Smith, Roberts, Lessue, Klæbe, Reid, Turner, Napier, McHugh, McColl, Franklin, Hilder, Paynter, Leslie and Pratt to name a few.

In Freemasonry the joining procedures are the same now as it was for the men of the past. You may have heard about 'riding the goat' and other silly things like that. These sorts of things are myths and ridiculous. You may rest assured that there is nothing in any of our ceremonies that could offend your moral,

cultural, religious or family values, as these values are of prime importance to all Masons. The men of today if considering joining should ask themselves would grandfather or father have joined if it was not a worthy organisation.

The Quorn Lodge room is one of the older buildings in Quorn, now more than 140 years old.

The information below comes from the book by the Late Mrs Maureen McColl. "Quorn Masonic Lodge No59" SAC 1910 -2010 A History Compiled by the Maureen McColl.

"The Lodge building is now 130 years old and has an interesting history. In 1878 William Greenslade obtained a fourteen-year lease of Lots 12 and 13 Railway Terrace. He built the Transcontinental Hotel on Lot 12 in 1878, and soon afterwards he built the first Hall in Quorn on Lot 13. This was known as the Assembly Hall and was erected by 1880. "

The Quorn lodge was formed on the 7th of July 1910 and used the building in conjunction with the school until the present school was completed.

The first officers appointed for the Lodge came from the following occupation, School Teacher, Chemist, Commercial Traveller, Graziers, Draper's Assistant, Engineer, Carpenter, District Foreman, Laborer and all gave their address as Quorn.

Many say Freemasonry is good for men and it makes their life better.

John Teague Hawker 0427 484 014

Kevin Paynter Port Augusta 0412 733 847 ■







**ALL WELCOME**

**QUORN MEN'S SHED**  
10 Seventh Street  
PO Box 108  
Quorn SA 5433  
ABN 80 684 435 275



PH: 0429 977 015 Andy Smith (Chairman)  
PH: 0488 069 943 Terry Smith (Tres)

Email: [quormensshed@gmail.com](mailto:quormensshed@gmail.com)



Shearing at MARTIMIA. Above Col, Ian and Below: Paul



Anyone can drop in for a cuppa and a chat on  
Thursdays any time between 8.30am and 2pm  
Shed breakfasts at 0900hrs on 9th & 23rd  
June  
Steak sandwiches for workers lunch, only  
\$4—on 2nd, 16th and 30th June.



Tim painting Coffee Pot parts



Lyall and Terry setting up for steak sandwiches



**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





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**PH: 0429 977 015 Andy Smith (Chairman)**  
**PH: 0488 069 943 Terry Smith (Tres)**

**Email: quormensshed@gmail.com**

## **Vale Andy Smith 15-05-2022**

ABOUT 2½ YEARS AGO Andy became a member of the Quorn Men's Shed and since that time he quickly established himself as a constructive member of the group and readily made friends with other members.

Andy brought valuable skills and words of experience into the workshop and as a result the Quorn Men's Shed made changes in a positive way, his effort in submitting for grants and seeing projects through made great improvements, like the paving project, purchasing and setting up the storage container and the construction of a vegetable garden and a lot more.

Andy contributed more to the Men's Shed by being willing to share his knowledge and would help other members on a more personal basis, helping with electrical problems or passing on advice or even just passing on his valued opinions.

Many of the Quorn Men's Shed members would enjoy time over a coffee telling yarns of times gone by and Andy could easily recall experiences of his past working behind the bar, the places where he worked and the people he had met, much to the enjoyment of the other members.

Now with the passing of Andy the Quorn Men's Shed is feeling a significant loss, and many of the members who had the time to talk to, work with and simply get to know Andy feel even a greater loss at losing not only a member, but someone who was a friend. ■



Lyall painting Quorn racing Club lottery barrel



**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**



## Connecting your health and wellbeing with Community based health professionals from Country Health Connect

### Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network

#### To Access these services

Over 65 years Register for Aged Care Services – CALL 1800 944 912

Under 65yrs register for any care needs: CALL 1800 003 307

Quorn April 2022 Service Report:				
New referrals received	Number of in person services	Number of phone services	Number of telehealth / video conferencing services	Number of "consumer not attended" services
42	235	39	2	8
Allied Health Professionals June 2022 Visiting Schedule				
9 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	15 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	16 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	23 <sup>RD</sup> JUNE	30 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE
Podiatry Social Work Dietetics	Podiatry OT Physio Speech	Speech Social Work Podiatry	Podiatry Social Work	Podiatry Social Work Dietetics
Community Care Nurse in the Quorn Community Visiting Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9am – 3pm				
Hours available to provide services as needed. Based from Kanyaka Surgery				



This QR Code will enable you to put in feedback, or phone 8668 7583, or send an email [Health.FUNOCEOCorrespondence@sa.gov.au](mailto:Health.FUNOCEOCorrespondence@sa.gov.au) Alternatively chat directly with the staff providing your care

# Now This is Very Strange

I HEARD THIS from someone else. Some women were looking at a photo of lots of children from long ago. And one said, 'Look how *skinny* they all are!' But an older woman there said, 'No. That's just how *all* children looked back then.'

It had me think back to when I was a child—I was born in 1936. And no way could I remember a single child then, who was fat. Not one! I asked other people as old as me, and they couldn't remember a single fat child either, from way back then....



I've heard all kinds of reasons why people today are fat. Some say it's in their family's genes. Some say they suffer from a medical condition. Etc, etc, etc. And then something clicked. There *is* a way to show there were no fat children back then.

It's simple! Who doesn't have school class photos from when they were young? *I* do.

The top one is of St Faith's School in 1944. The second is of North Broken Hill Primary in 1946. And the third is of Penola High School in 1962....

Now why is it that there isn't a single fat student in any of these? You might say that a few are sturdy, or solidly built, but certainly not fat!

So should we now argue that 'fat genes' and 'medical conditions causing fatness' did not exist back then, in 1944, 1946, or even as late as 1962?

Do *you* have pics like these? Does anyone in Quorn?....



*This* is very strange, surely. But in fact, there's a very simple answer—the Second World War from 1939 to 1945. During that, and for several years after it, *food was rationed!* Everyone had ration books, and so you couldn't eat more than your ration. Some foods weren't even available during the war, such as chocolate. (Clothes and petrol were rationed too.)

Rationing stopped gradually, such as sugar in July 1947, meat November 1948, (and petrol June 1949). So how could people possibly eat themselves fat? And you can see in the 1962 school photo that the habit of eating yourself fat had not yet become at all common, either. Probably people's willpower was still quite strong up to at least 1962! **RW ■**



# **Flash As Fashion & Home Décor**

Casual Resort Clothing & Dreamcatcher Fashion

Seedlings, Potted Colour & Planters

Wall Art, Signs, Dream Catchers & Wind Chimes

Macramé Hangers, Hats & Bags

Incense, Perfume Oil & Jewellery

Man Cave Accessories

Giftware

Lisa Pollack – Art from the Heart

**42 First Street, Quorn  
Open 7 Days 9:30am – 3pm**

(Please note: Hours of trading are subject to availability and can change at any time)

**Personal Shopping Welcome by Appointment  
Cindy Veen 0428 855 639**



***Flash As***



## Classified Adverts

### Rainfall 2022

Jan	342mm
Feb	14.6mm
March	0.2mm
April	14.8mm
May at 28/5	2.6mm
YTD	66.6mm

### Quorn Craft Group

I would like to thank everyone who has helped over the years with the Easter Fair.

Maureen McColl and Eire Mills started the fair in 1992. Marie Zanet took over from Maureen and I took over from Marie. It has been a great tourist draw card for the town.

I would like to thank stall holders for helping clean and tidy the hall after the fair. I would also like to thank the council for allowing us the use of the hall. Thank you every one who has helped in any way and for your support.

*Betty Eckert*

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](mailto:rowan.ramsey.mp@aph.gov.au)  
PO Box 296 PORT PIRIE SA 5540



## June 2022

Contact Quorn Hospital 8648 7888 for dates

Podiatrist  
Diabetes Education  
Dietitian  
Physiotherapist  
Occupational Therapist  
Speech Pathologist  
Social Worker

Country Health Connect 8668 7706



## June 2022

**Anglican Church of St Matthews**  
3rd Sunday of month 10am  
Contact Number  
Ph: 0447711056 or 0407640425

**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 3rd June 2022

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

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

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

**Email**—mercury@frc.sa.gov.au

**Public Officer**—Tarla Kramer

### **Next Issue's (July 1st 2022) Deadlines:**

- Submissions preferred as email attachments using Microsoft Word or Publisher
- Other submissions to Visitor Information Centre, Quorn Railway Station before 4.30 pm 28th June  
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

### **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 June 2022

## 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 Thursdays

#### Quorn Play Group

Mondays 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

#### Quorn Business Group

Meetings are quarterly

See Quorn Out and About or Facebook for details

**Flinders Flicks** Friday 24th at 6:00pm Bookings – 8648 6940

### Hawker

Community Group—Tuesday fortnightly

**Yoga with Polly** at the Hawker Gym

#### Development Board—

2nd Wednesday of the Month 2022

#### Friendship Group—

3rd Wednesday

#### Hawker Community Singers -

welcomes everyone to sing Friday 3.30pm to 5.00pm Hawker Hospital Community Room

**Quilting Group**—Friday fortnightly

## Events

### Pichi Richi Railway

Afghan Express 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

Pichi Richi Explorer 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

### Quorn & District Local History Group

Saturday 11am to 2pm at the old courthouse

### Quorn Silo Light Show

Free projection every night, projecting onto the Quorn Silo. Viewing times are on the website and on the sign at the Railway Station

### Quorn Product and Craft Market

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

Sunday 26th at the Town Hall 8:30am – 2:30pm.

### Worm Farm Workshop

4/6/22 RSVP via SMS to: 0437 287 130.

**Check out Facebook and or notice boards for future events**

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive.

C. S. LEWIS

## Regular Events

### Quorn

#### Hannifitt

School gym from 6.30pm Thursday nights

Low impact 10:30am Wednesdays Town Hall

#### Boot Camp

Tuesday & Fridays 6.30am Quorn Oval

#### Yoga

Thursday nights 6.30pm

Uniting Church Hall

#### Quilting/Sewing/Knitting Group

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at the Lions Club Rooms.

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 evenings at 7pm at the Quorn Town Hall. \$15 per session \$10 concession

#### Austral Inn Hotel

Sunday Pizza, Tuesday Seafood and Wednesday Schnitzel Night

#### Transcontinental Hotel

Tuesday Night Schnitzel Night

#### Wellbeing through Meditation

Held every Tuesday at the Catholic Church Hall on Railway Tce from 6:30

Cost is by donation

#### Quorn Pioneer Machinery Society

Wednesdays from 9am at the Lions Park Everyone welcome



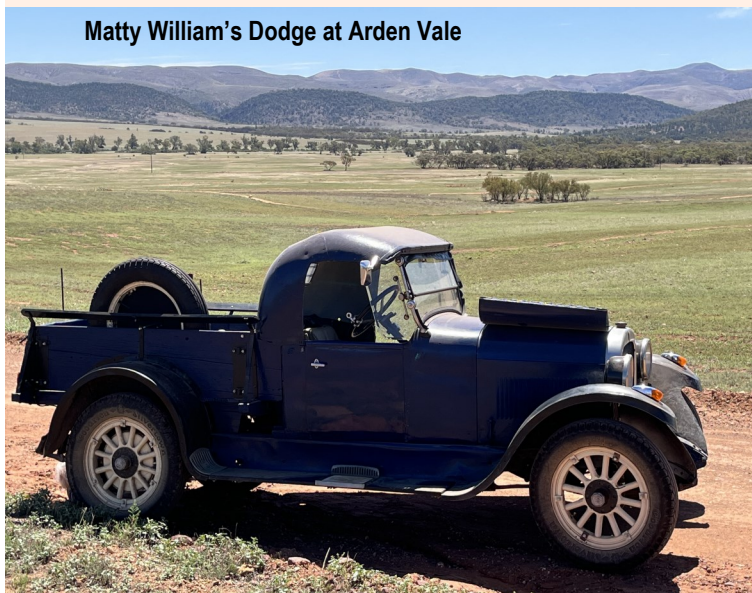
PO Box 2, Quorn SA 5433  
P: 08 8620 0510 Free Call: 1800 220 980  
E: [vic@frc.sa.gov.au](mailto:vic@frc.sa.gov.au) W: [www.frc.sa.gov.au/tourism](http://www.frc.sa.gov.au/tourism)



SEE YOUR PHOTOS HERE.....Email to—[mercury@frc.sa.gov.au](mailto:mercury@frc.sa.gov.au)



Matty William's Dodge at Arden Vale



Yakka at Dutchman Stern at sunrise



Sunrise from Dutchman Stern 2022

