Quorn Mercury

Recording Quorn's History while it's Being Made

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The World Beyond Quorn





Top: Quorn Area School Students enjoying the snowfields on their school excursion.
Below: standing on the Steps of Old Parliament House, Canberra ACT

➔ **See inside for QAS camp report pages 13 and 14, photos in the centrefold**

$2.50



Quorn Meals on Wheels

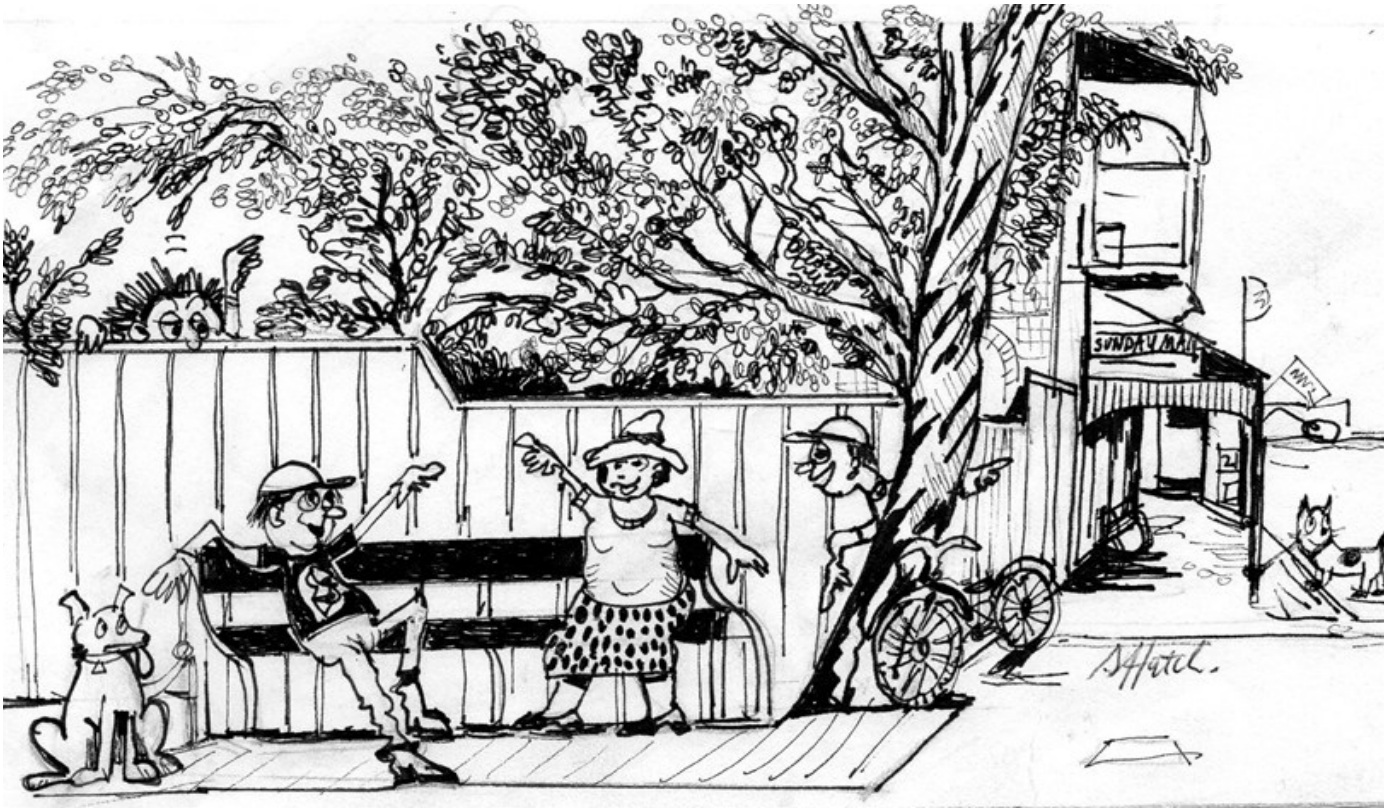
Quorn Meals on Wheels has been delivering fresh meals to residents in Quorn for nearly 50 years

Meals are cooked fresh at the Quorn hospital and delivered five days a week
The service is run by volunteers

If you are on a Commonwealth Home Support Program or a home care package, you are able to access Meals on Wheels

Contact your aged care provider
or
Kath Altmann on 86486058 for more information.

Chat with a Quornie
The Heinze Family



Sarah grew up in the Adelaide Hills on an 80 -acre hobby farm, where family, community and sport played a central role in everyday life. Her family was heavily involved in local sporting clubs, not only as participants but also as dedicated volunteers. Sarah played netball as her main sport all her school life, and enjoyed a few seasons playing tennis, softball, cricket and football, while being a good long-distance runner. After school Sarah was introduced to field hockey and spent the next 20 years loving it. She had several bad injuries over the years, including a knee reconstruction, so had no plans to ever play netball again!

One of Sarah's fondest childhood memories was the annual September family camping holiday. Every year, the family would travel far and wide within Australia, creating lifelong memories together. Whenever sport didn't fill the weekend calendar, the family would load up the surfboards and travel three hours south-east to Robe, her mother's hometown. Robe holds a special place in Sarah's heart and remains an important gathering place for her extended family today.

Both of Sarah's parents worked off the farm, as well as the farm being a busy job for all. Sarah and her brothers would ride their bikes to the bus stop, leave them in a nearby shearing shed, and catch the bus to school. Sarah attended Cornerstone College in Mount Barker with her brothers.

All three children went on to university, with



Sarah playing Hockey

Sarah completing a Commerce degree majoring in Accounting and Management before later attaining her CPA qualification while working in the accounting profession.

After finishing school, Sarah spent ten months managing the Wendy's Ice Cream store in Mount Barker, saving enough money to fund a six-month camping adventure around Australia. Following university, she embarked on an 18-month overseas

working holiday, travelling extensively through Europe, England, America and Africa. It was a trip of a lifetime. Travelling on a tight budget, Sarah experienced an era before smartphones and laptops were common. Communication home consisted of occasional emails sent from internet cafés, simply reassuring her parents that she was safe and enjoying the adventure.

Upon returning home, Sarah settled back into life in Adelaide and continued building her professional career.

Josh grew up in Adelaide's western suburbs throughout the 1990s and early 2000s. He attended Fulham North Primary School before moving on to Henley High School.

Sport was a huge part of Josh's childhood. He played tennis and football, while his involvement with the Henley and Grange Swimming Club eventually led him to water polo with the Henley Sharks. The swimming club became a significant part of family life, with several generations of the family contributing to the club and earning life memberships.

Josh also grew up attending AFL football matches every week. Family loyalties were divided between the Adelaide Crows and Port Adelaide, making match days memorable occasions filled with friendly rivalry and great family memories.

When Josh was eight years old, his parents separated, resulting in him spending much of his childhood living between multiple households. Summer holidays were often spent travelling across regional South Australia following swimming carnivals with fellow club members, experiences he still remembers fondly.



Josh on the Tennis Court

After completing Year 12 in 2003, Josh worked a variety of part-time and casual jobs before making the decision to join the South Australia Police (SAPOL) in 2004.

Following his graduation from the Police Academy, Josh received his first taste of regional living when he was posted to Whyalla in 2005, where he spent three years. He later returned to Adelaide and served in a range of policing roles including General Duties, weapons trainer at the Police Academy, STAR Force and Water Operations Unit.

In 2022, Josh entered the commissioned officer promotion pathway, ultimately leading to his appointment as Operations Inspector of the Far North Region, based in Port Augusta, in April 2024. The promotion required significant consideration and ultimately led to the family's decision to relocate to regional South Australia. Covering a region stretching from Port Augusta to the Northern Territory border, the role involves extensive travel and engagement with police stations, officers and communities throughout the far north. In July 2026, Josh was promoted to the rank of Superintendent and now serves as Officer in Charge of the Far North Region.

Josh and Sarah met in 2011 through a mutual friend, someone Sarah had attended school with and Josh worked alongside in policing.

The connection was immediate and unlike anything either had experienced before. Their relationship developed quickly but naturally, and within six months they had purchased a home together in Glenelg North.

In 2012, Josh proposed to Sarah while holidaying in Bali with friends. They then planned a relaxed and enjoyable wedding in a place that held special significance for Sarah's family: Robe. They were married there in March 2013 and had an amazing honeymoon for five weeks travelling throughout America and the Bahamas.

Their first son, Lachlan, was born in February 2014, followed by Samuel in October 2015. Around this time, the family purchased a home at Henley Beach, providing access to excellent public schools and a fantastic lifestyle close to the coast. Their Henley Beach home would remain the family base for the next decade.

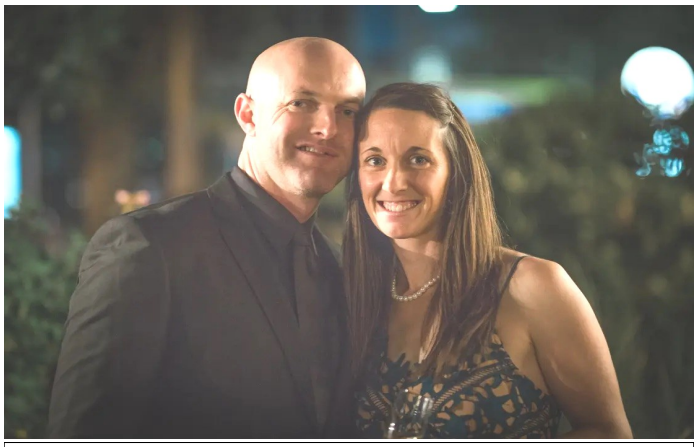
Life at Henley Beach was filled with friendship, sport and community. With bike trails, sporting facilities and beaches at their doorstep, and a swimming pool in the backyard, the Heinze home quickly became a favourite gathering place for family and friends. Their open-door policy ensured it was rarely quiet and always full of laughter.

Despite loving their coastal lifestyle, the family continually found themselves drawn to the country. Many weekends and holidays were spent on family farms near Keith and Beachport or

holidaying in Robe. These experiences fostered a love of rural life in both Lachy and Sammy.

From the time the boys were just five and four years old, Josh and Sarah often discussed whether they should one day leave city life behind and move to the country. While they loved where they lived, there was always something about rural communities and open spaces that felt right.

Each year they continue Sarah's family tradition of camping holidays, exploring different parts of Australia and creating lasting memories together.



Josh and Sarah

In early 2024, Josh was approached about accepting a minimum two-year posting as Operations Inspector at Port Augusta Police Station. His initial reaction was to decline.

When he called Sarah to discuss the opportunity, he asked: There's no way we'd move our family there, is there? Sarah's response was simple: Why wouldn't we?

While their families, friends and support networks were all based in Adelaide and the South East, Sarah encouraged Josh to at least explore the opportunity before making a decision.

In March 2024, they travelled north to visit Port Augusta, inspect local schools and look at possible housing options. The landscape was a stark contrast to what they knew, hot, dry, dusty and rich red coloured earth.

During that visit they spoke with friends who had made similar moves to regional South Australia. Through a series of fortunate connections, they were introduced to Ian and Pam Rodgers, a local farming family near Quorn who were renovating an old farmhouse on one of their farming properties.

While Josh may not have been instantly convinced, particularly after being told that fixing a toilet might involve manually pouring a bucket of water into the cistern, Sarah could see something much more significant: an opportunity for the family to experience the rural lifestyle they had always talked about.

The decision was eventually made to rent the farmhouse on 1,800 acres rather than live in government housing in Port Augusta. Josh relocated in April 2024, and Sarah and the boys joined him in June. It certainly wasn't smooth sailing.

The boys struggled to adapt at first; the dry,



Farm life for Sammy

harsh landscape full of flies and the prospect of starting at a new school where they didn't know a single soul felt worlds away from the life they'd left behind. Josh and Sarah began to wonder if they'd made a terrible mistake. Josh was committed to two years in Port Augusta and the



Lachy during the recent heavy rains

boys were miserable; what a start. But Sarah's stubborn personality came out and it was not in her nature to give up. So the Heinzes persisted in trying to make this into a positive and happy life changing adventure. Anyone would say they had the odds firmly stacked against them.

Both boys were fortunate upon starting at Quorn Area School to have incredible teachers, Miss B and Mrs Reed, who took them under their wing and helped them settle in, along with Michelle Baker who regularly checked in on them. Josh and Sarah were especially grateful for Mrs Reed who completely changed Sammy's life for the better. Honestly, most Henley Beach families wouldn't have lasted a month. The contrast with their old life was stark, but with time and the right people, the move began to feel possible.

The Heinze family have embraced Quorn life wholeheartedly. Sarah joined the Quorn Area School Parents and Friends Committee and returned to netball for the first time in more than twenty years. In 2025 she was part of Quorn's B Grade premiership-winning team. Josh became involved in helping re-establish the Quorn Tennis Club in 2025 and actively coaches the Hot Shots tennis program.

Lachy plays netball for Quorn and cricket for the Quorn Kernels, while Sammy is set to join him in the 2026/27 cricket season. Both boys play football for the South Augusta Bulldogs.

In July 2025, Sarah was appointed Finance Officer / Business Manager at Quorn Area School, a role she continues to enjoy immensely. Having once considered studying teaching, working within a school environment provides a rewarding connection with students and the broader community.

Birthday celebrations with special friends





The first tractor, and it works.

For the Heinze family, relocating to Quorn has been one of the best decisions they have ever made. Friends and family who visit regularly comment on the quality of life, but for Josh and Sarah the true difference has been the genuine country people. The welcoming nature of the community, the friendships formed and the opportunities available have made Quorn feel like home.

In 2025, they sold their Henley Beach home and committed fully to their new chapter. In early 2026, they purchased a small 12-acre property just outside Quorn, where they may one day build a family home.

For now, they are content enjoying the life they have built: living amongst a working farm, surrounded by open space, supporting their children's sporting pursuits, riding motorbikes, catching up with friends, travelling with family and embracing everything rural life has to offer.



The Heinze family farmhouse

The Heinzes thank the Rodgers family and all of the wonderful people of Quorn, for welcoming their family with open arms. They are truly grateful for the friendships, opportunities and remarkable lifestyle that this community has provided. ■

PICHI RICHI • RAILWAY •

WITH SCHOOL HOLIDAYS in the first two weeks of July, it was a very busy time for the Pichi Richi Railway. Nine Pichi Richi Explorers ran in this period with excellent passenger numbers which was great to see. Later in the month, we also ran our first YX Commissioners Explorer service as a Christmas in July train. Two further services are planned before the introduction of these trains on our timetable in 2027.



Although not in July, we must mention the highlight of providing the Brill Railcar on 28 June 2026 to transport 60 runners to Willows Halt ready to commence the 10.5km run to support the Pichi Richi Marathon Event. The competitors were very appreciative of Driver Dave Southon and crew Ethan and Wayne for providing this unique method of transport to the start of the race. Well done to members Dani and Patrick Mackay for completing the full 42km course in great times and also members Andrew Magarey, Arnold Kruger, Todd and Jarrod for completing the 10.5km course.



Maintenance activities have of course continued including:

- Trackwork between C62 and 75 with over 180 sleepers installed and over 180 sleepers cross-bored
- Ongoing repair works to W934 and restoration works to 873 to enable the locomotive to return to service this year
- Rolling stock maintenance works to the ballast plough and spare Brill bogies
- Ongoing works to the Goods Shed roof and external drainage works.

Led by Julie Johnson, our marketing team were busy during the month, culminating with promoting our rail journeys at the SA Caravan and Camping Show between 23 and 26 July. Thanks to members Bruce, Wayne G, Wayne H, Nicole, Jim, Don, Jeanette and Jeff for representing the Pichi Richi Railway, meeting and greeting the many attendees. We are always on the lookout for new volunteers so please contact John Humphries at volunteer@prr.org.au or on 08 8641 1527 if you would like to volunteer at the Pichi Richi Railway. ■





Considering Volunteering?

Join us in one of many roles Phone John to discuss a role to suit you and your availability.

Timetable & tickets

2026 timetable: www.pichirichirailway.org.au/train-services/timetable

Fossils in Them Thar Hills

By Alan Collins

HAVE YOU HAD A CHANCE to go to Nilpena National Park and see the incredible Ediacara fossils that eloquently demonstrate the diversity of life that was crawling, waving in the currents, and floating through the ancient seas that once flooded this part of South Australia? These creatures are thought to represent the first animals ever known on Earth and study by researchers such as Dr Jim Gehling and Dr Diego Garcia-Bellido (SA Museum and Adelaide University) and by Mary Droser (University of California, Riverside) has led to us being able to reconstruct the complex ecology of the seas at the time these creatures lived. The SA Museum in Adelaide also has a gorgeous display of these on the third floor.

Scientifically, these fossils are important as some of the first evidence of life building large, complex, multicellular forms that feed off other life forms (animals) and interact with each other. They occur in a specific layer of rocks that is known as the Ediacara Member of the Rawnsley Quartzite formation. The terms 'formation' and 'member' have specific meanings in earth science. A formation is the fundamental unit of the science of stratigraphy, that is: the study of strata; those layers of rock that you see in road cuttings and creek sections. Basically, a formation is a package of strata (layers) that all share similar properties and can be followed and mapped over a region. The strata in the formation will all look the same, have a similar colour, be a similar thickness, that sort of thing.



Tribrachidium
Photo: The Natural History of the Flinders Ranges
ED; DWP Corbett 1969

A member is a finer subdivision, where strata share many similarities, but may not occur everywhere at the same place within the formation. So you see the Rawnsley Quartzite through the Flinders Ranges. As the name suggests, it forms Rawnsley Bluff and is the ridge around Wilpena Pound. In fact, many of the hills of the Flinders Ranges are capped with the Rawnsley Quartzite because it is made of hard and resilient rocks that once formed a river delta deposit like the mount of the Nile in Egypt. The white quartzite is made of lots of grains of sand all cemented together after burial over time.

Devil's Peak (Nhawarinha) is also capped with the Rawnsley Quartzite. In the central Flinders Ranges, there is a characteristic red sandstone layer within this formation that is the Ediacara Member. And yes, we also have the Ediacara Member on Nhawarinha. Ediacaran fossils have been found there in the past. In fact there is a fossil that was first described from Nhawarinha and was found by an Adelaide University student undertaking their field class in the region, a field class that is still going strong every April, after more than 60 years. His name was Anthony Kym Hansen and the fossil was named after him – *Phyllozoan hanseni*. Tragically, Anthony Hansen was killed in a seismic survey in Western Australia a few years after he discovered the fossil.



Dickinsonia fossil, one of the most famous Ediacara creatures in Nilpena National Park. Photo: Alan Collins



Photo : The Natural History of the Flinders Ranges ED; DWP Corbett 1969

I've mentioned that these fossils are old, that they are amongst the oldest fossils of complex animals that we have on the planet. But how old are they?

The rocks that make up the Flinders Ranges span an immense time range. Most of the rocks we see in the Flinders Ranges were deposited as sedimentary rocks in a rift-valley that formed as North America ripped off Australia due to the ever grinding action of plate tectonics. This started about 850 million years ago and the oldest rocks that formed in this rent in the crust can be seen at Arkaroola, near the Arkaroola waterhole. North America moved east, we stayed where we are and the Pacific Ocean formed – layers and layers of rocks were deposited on the edge of this ancestral Pacific basin and these are what we see now forming the mountains and valley of the Flinders. The Rawnsley Quartzite was deposited at about 550 million years ago, long into the history of this sedimentary basin (that we now call the Adelaide Superbasin). Five hundred and fifty million years ago lies within a time period known as the Ediacaran. It is the only time period named after anything in the Southern Hemisphere.

(Geological periods are a fundamental division of time – you've probably heard of the Jurassic, for example. That is a 'period'.)

So next time you glance at Nhawarinha, or drive past Nilpena National Park, have a think about the Ediacaran fossils that have been lying there for 550 million years—our extreme ancestors. ■

Author: Professor Alan Collins. Douglas Mawson Chair of Geology, School of Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences, Adelaide University.

Quorn Probus Club

Understanding our local Council

Guest speaker for July was Paula Osborn, Governance Officer for the Flinders Ranges Council.

Paula approached the meeting with an open forum format. Members asked questions and Paula obliged with answers. It was a most informative meeting with Paula shedding light on a few important issues such as parking in the town and whether the Pichi Richi Railway would make the rail yard available for parking; the new Journey Beyond Rail excursion from the Ghan service that will be coming to Quorn in 2027; and the high visibility of the untidy alley between the Quornocopia and the Criterion Hotel, and whether council could tidy up that area.

Thanks go to Carlene Voigt and Kingsley Marr who organises the many wonderful guest speakers who address the club each month.

The ever-popular raffle was won by Margaret Rankin.

July's Probus Movie in Port Augusta was Animal Farm. The animated movie was met with mixed reviews, but as they say 'You can't win them all'.

Probus meets on the first Tuesday each month in the Town Hall at 10am. Everyone is most welcome. ■



At Left
From Left, Carlene Voigt, Paula Osborn, Margaret Rankin.



Below:
Mary Francis, Sue Holmes, Lyn Flockton, Wandy Smith, Di Williams at the Movies

Flash As
Fashion & Home Décor

Casual Resort Clothing & Dreamcatcher Fashion
Seedlings, Potted Colour & Planters
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Flash As

Crow Eaters



THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL Crow Eater's Veterans Retreat was held over three days, 30 April to 3 May 2026 at the same venue as for previous years. The Retreat has grown over the past seven years from a two day to a three day gathering to accommodate out-of-state attendees travel time.

The Retreat's aim remains committed to the welfare of past and present Deforce Force (Army) personnel in a relaxed and friendly environment. Over the years the Retreat has hosted Vietnam War Veterans, East Timor Peace Maker Veterans, Iraq and Afghanistan War Veterans and present and past veterans of the Australian Army. The total number of veteran attendees for the 11 year period is 117.

The overall structure of the Retreat has evolved over the years, with a Bush Games competition now being conducted on Friday afternoon consisting of darts, hookey, quoits, indoor bowls and bean bag throw being contested by teams of two competing against each other on a rotation basis. This is followed by a Veterans and Friends BBQ, allowing the veterans to say thank you for their support over the years and to allow the veterans to meet and mix with local identities and characters of the Quorn community.

The FRC Mayor, Ken Anderson, has honoured us by attending for the past three years. This year we were also honored to have Councilor Ian Carpenter, Grant Lever, Broom Hilder, Toby Bury, Richie Paynter and Doug Francis attend. On Saturday veterans played in a bowls competition held at the Quorn Bowling Club, with lunch outside their clubrooms made by Barb Walker, followed by a visit to Jane and Richies property for a shearing and wool classing presentation, followed by tea, coffee and scones.

Thanks to Jane and Richie for accommodating the veterans and demonstrating the intricacies of a shearing shed during shearing time. Last year we had a group booking at Flinders Gin, with thanks to Alby and Leah Trotta and their staff for an excellent talk on the gin distillery and of course the tasting. Each year I try to have different activities arranged for the veterans to participate in to showcase the many attractions in Quorn and the surrounding district. The Quorn Bowling Club and our local IGA have supported us for the past 11 years and I thank them for their support. Thanks to the Quorn Visitor Information Centre for their support over the years and to our local volunteer ambulance officers for their automated external defibrillator (AED) demonstrations.

All this highlights the genuine support and goodwill that the Retreat has had over the years from the Quorn community, local businesses and individuals. Each Retreat we conduct a raffle with the proceeds being donated to the RFDS, with over $3500 being donated so far ($505 this year), which we as a group are very proud of and our thanks to the many raffle prize donations that we receive from local businesses and individuals.

Saturday night we had a campfire roast consisting of three legs of lamb, potatoes, onions and carrots served with peas and gravy cooked by yours truly. Dessert is Quandong pies, made by my wife Barb and served with ice cream. We present prizes to the winners of the 'Bush Games' and 'Bowls Competition', which is an excellent way to complete the official activities. Sunday morning, we pack all the items used to support the Retreat, clean the venue then drive back to Quorn to say thank you to Val and Graham Francis and to have a group photo taken with them.

I cannot stress enough that the Retreat is not just one big piss up, but a genuine way to assist veterans with both their mental and or physical problems and to demonstrate that the mate ship they had whilst serving/ still serving their country, is still well and truly alive and to promote other organisations that may be able to assist them if needed. Paratus (prepared in all things) ■

Lou Walker, OAM (organiser/ coordinator)



Departure Photo with Val Francis at her Gallery

Quorn Area School
July 2026

Year 7 Students Developing Practical Design and Woodworking Skills

Year 7 students have been busy developing their practical skills in Design and Technology, learning how to safely use a range of hand tools and workshop equipment to measure, mark, cut and shape timber accurately.

Throughout the term, students have continued to build their confidence using equipment such as the disc sander and drill press while learning the importance of precision, safety and problem-solving during project construction. Students have also been introduced to the Design, Make and Appraise (DMA) process, which encourages them to research ideas, develop designs, create solutions and evaluate their finished products.

Students began by designing and creating their own timber spoons, transforming their original sketches into practical items while refining their skills in shaping and finishing timber. They are now applying these skills to their next design challenge — creating a timber cutting board.

As part of this project, students are exploring different design ideas, producing sketches and developing possible solutions. They are also learning new construction techniques, including the use of a dowel jig to accurately join pieces of timber together, strengthening their understanding of how materials can be combined to create functional and durable products.







Above Left: Ashley Scott
Above Right: Chace Mason
Right: Dacie Wright

Through these projects, students are developing valuable skills in creativity, planning, practical problem-solving and safe workshop practices — skills that will support them in future design and technology challenges.

Celebrating Community Connections at School

Our school community has recently enjoyed some wonderful opportunities to come together, celebrate and strengthen connections.

Harmony Day was a fantastic success, with students, staff and families gathering to celebrate diversity, inclusion and the many cultures that make our school community special. A big thank you goes to all staff members who helped make the morning such an enjoyable occasion, with a special mention to Miss Evans for her fantastic efforts in preparing and cooking the BBQ. It was wonderful to see so many families attend, share in the celebrations and enjoy time together as a community.



Learners and families enjoying breakfast on Harmony Day

Our weekly Breakfast Club continues to be another highlight of the school week. Held every Tuesday and Thursday, the Breakfast Club provides a welcoming space for learners to start



Miss Evans, Mahalia and Clancy Cummins



Lily Mae Butler and Ebony Worth

their day, connect with friends and enjoy a nutritious breakfast before classes begin. It has been fantastic to see so many students taking part, and families are warmly invited to join us as we continue to build a strong and supportive school community.

We value the ideas and contributions of our families and community members. If you have suggestions or would like to share your thoughts,

Principal's Comments

One of the great strengths of our school is the learning that takes place beyond the classroom.

Cass Evans beautifully showcased this strength through her leadership of the recent six-day Canberra trip. Our learners were given an exceptional opportunity to deepen their understanding of Australia's history, government, and national identity through visits to some of our nation's most significant institutions and landmarks. Experiences such as these create lasting memories while bringing classroom learning to life in meaningful ways. We extend our sincere thanks to Cass for her organisation and leadership, the volunteers who generously gave their time to support the excursion, and the many community members and organisations whose financial contributions helped make this incredible opportunity possible for our learners.

Year 10/11 Geography

Year 10/11 students have been taking their learning beyond the classroom, combining research, practical experiences and local community connections through their Geography and Business and Economics studies. As part of their Geography Bush Tucker unit, students visited the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden to explore Australia's unique native flora and learn more about the traditional uses of native plants. The excursion provided students with the opportunity to see firsthand the diversity of Australian plant life and deepen their understanding of bush foods. Students then brought their learning back to school, where they experimented with native ingredients and prepared dishes using bush tucker flavours, putting their knowledge into practice through cooking activities.

The class has also been exploring the important role of small businesses in regional communities as part of their Business and Economics studies. A visit to Quorn's new bakery, Spirit of the Flinders Bakery, gave students insight into the opportunities and challenges involved in establishing and operating a small business in a regional town.

Through these hands-on learning experiences, students are developing a greater appreciation of their local environment, understanding the importance of regional businesses and making valuable connections between classroom learning and the wider community we would love to hear from you. ■

A full report of the Quorn Area School Canberra camp is on the next two pages.



Quorn learners in Canberra in front of Parliament House

Quorn Area School

Canberra Camp 2026

During week 9 of term 2, 30 learners and six adults from years 6 to 11 went to Canberra for five days. We left QAS at 11am on Monday 27 June and travelled by bus to the Adelaide Airport. Everyone was very quiet on the ride, even though they were all very excited. We stopped at Lochiel and had a play on the playground equipment. At the airport, we checked in our bags and got tags. We each had a group with an adult to ensure we didn't get lost. Flying was fun and some were lucky enough to get a window seat to see out. For many learners, it was their first time on a plane and they really enjoyed it.

In Canberra, we met Peter, our bus driver, and headed to our accommodation for dinner. It took a while for everyone to fall asleep on the first night.

On a very cold and frosty Tuesday morning we got to feed and pat all of the animals at the accommodation. There was a llama, alpacas, a miniature horse, sheep, goats and chickens.



Learners on the aeroplane

We went to the War Memorial and learnt about Australians who had served in the wars. We saw the Roll of Honour that listed a lot of names of people who had died serving in Australia's military. We would have liked to spend longer there. Next stop was the view from Mount Ainslie because the fog had dissipated, then a tour of the ANZAC Memorial Parade and we learnt about the memorials for the Vietnam and Korean Wars.

After lunch we went to Parliament House and sat in on Question Time. Two representatives were sent out of the House because they were rude to the people speaking. We saw Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese. We went up to the roof and explored; did a role play about how to pass a law; and had a tour of Parliament House where we met our representative Mr. Tom Venning and Senator Kerrynne Liddle. We headed back to our accommodation for dinner and then had fun playing laser tag and arcade games. The adults especially had fun sneaking up on everyone.

On Wednesday we headed to Questacon for the morning to experience hands on science.
For lunch we went to a huge playground to run around, before visiting the High Court and learning about the seven judges and what cases are sent to the High Court.



The Australian Mint

At the Australian Mint, lots of learners minted their own 2026 coin. They were each the very first human to touch the new coin. After some free time to chill and an early dinner, we headed to the Australian Institute of Sports. A tour was provided by an Australian Olympian volleyball player and we had at go a range of different sports in Sportex.

On Thursday we had an early start for a three-hour journey to Mount Perisher. Luckily Peter was prepared and he put on *The Minions* movie for us. Unfortunately, the promised blizzard had not arrived so there was little natural snow and only a little from the snow-makers. It was also warmer than forecast; however, we were able to make the most of the snow that was there. Learners had a great time making snow angels, snow people and even a snow-duck. They staged an epic snow ball battle against Josh and Spog, although we're not sure who actually won in the end as both sides claimed victory. Learners also spent hours riding toboggans down the mountain and trekking back up again. Despite the lack of snow, a lot of fun was had and there were no injuries.

On Friday we started with a cycle tour around Lake Burley Griffin in fresh 3-degree weather, followed by visiting the Australian National Museum. After lunch it was off to the Australian Museum of Democracy in Old Parliament House, some fun in the sun in the museum gardens and then into the National Electoral Education Centre where learners participated in a role play about how voting works in Australia. Our last activity was

orienteering in the National Arboretum and it was nice to get outside and run around in the fresh air and watch the sunset; then, Canberra Airport and home. Learners had a great time on the plane followed by a quiet, sleepy bus ride home to Quorn, arriving at about 2:30 in the morning.

We, the learners, would like to say thank you to Kat, Spog, Josh, Steph, Miss Stowe and Miss Evans for everything they did during our week in Canberra.

We would also like to say thank you to the generous people who donated to this camp. Our major sponsors include:

- BHP
- Flinders Ranges Council
- Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society
- QAS Canteen
- QAS Parents and Friends
- Quorn Cricket Club
- Quorn Jockey Club
- Quorn Lions Club
- Quorn Netball Club
- Quorn Pre-Loved Boutique
- Quorn Recyclers
- Quorn Tennis Club
- Quorn Trans Patrons Club
- Variety Club of NSW/ACT
- Wiltja Constructions, and

the many other people who made this camp possible. Many people contributed in a wide variety of ways to the camp and we would like to say thank you to everyone who worked hard behind the scenes to make sure that we had this incredible opportunity to have a lot of fun on camp.

Learner Comments:

My favourite place that we visited was the War Memorial. I really enjoyed going to the snow. One thing I learnt was that there are over 2500 clocks in Parliament house and there is a green light and a red light on each. The green light is for the House of Representatives and the red light is for the Senate. When the lights turn on, a buzzer sounds and the representatives have four minutes to get to the House so they can vote on a bill. They get locked out if they take more than four minutes. The best part of the camp was going home to my own bed. *Ebonie*

My favourite part at our camp was definitely the War Memorial. It was very cool and interesting to hear about and look at the history of the war and the people who helped us during those wars. My favourite activity was Questacon when we got to interact with a lot of scientific things and we got to do a free fall. One thing that I learnt was that the Parliament House has two different Houses and each one has many different rules. The best part of the camp was going tobogganing in the snow with everyone. *Ella.*

My favorite place that we visited was probably Perisher Valley Ski Resort, or Questacon. My favorite activity was bike riding around Lake Burley



In the Snow

Griffin. One thing we learnt was that there used to be a rule book called the “Magna Carta”. The best part of the camp was that we all got to spend time together. *Clyden*

My favorite place that we went to in Canberra was Parliament House because I loved learning about how laws are made. My favorite activity was the laser tag because it was fun running around shooting people. One thing I learnt was how problems get to the high court. The best part of camp was the snow because I really enjoyed tobogganing. *Saskia*

My favourite things about the Canberra camp were laser tag because it was fun and we were able to play lots of arcade games. The snow was also fun because we got to have snow fights with each other. *Jac*

My favourite place that we visited would have to be Questacon or The Royal Australian Mint, Parliament house and the Australian Electoral Commission. My favourite activity was laser tag and the arcades, as well as feeding the animals. One thing that I learnt was that our government is run by a big group of people and how the AEC works. The best part of the camp was the big



Parliament House

scarecrow at Westwood lodge and the free fall at Questacon, as well as going with friends and having Peter as our bus driver. *Taitum* ■

To view a video of our time in Canberra, please visit this link: https://youtu.be/Kao9herfnYU

See the centrefold for more school camp photos.

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Quorn's Bushfood Garden



Stirling North Market Day

Markets are held on the **3rd Saturday** of the month at **Stirling North Progress Association,** 32–40 Quorn Road, Stirling North SA

ONLINE MARKET STALL BOOKING FORM

MORE INFORMATION:

LISA

0427 436 597

stirlingnorthmarkets@gmail.com

facebook.com/stirlingnorthmarkets

MARKET DATES 2026

9:00am-1:00pm	11:00am-3:00pm	3:30pm-7:30pm
FEBRUARY 21ST	JUNE 20TH	OCTOBER 17TH
MARCH 21ST	JULY 18TH	NOVEMBER 21ST
APRIL 18TH	AUGUST 15TH	DECEMBER 19TH
MAY 16TH	SEPTEMBER 19TH	

Observing John

By Sandra Wittwer

JOHN CSONGEI FIRST ran the Pichi Richi marathon in 2006. When you enter a marathon, your first priority is to finish it – all 42.195km of it. Next you aim to improve on your personal best (PB). A podium finish, the fastest on the day, then ultimately to break the track record. John has run the Pichi Richi marathon seven times and won it three times. The announcer at the finish line this year invited John to give an interview, once he'd recovered a little.



Port Augusta Lions Club volunteered at the water stations

Although John was runner-up this time, he could talk about 'the old days' when he'd run it in 2hr 36min 22seconds in 2017 and broke Ian Hill's record which had stood for thirty years. For marathon data on any runner, you can search their name on the ausrunning.net website – John has run 25 marathons. Ian Hill put an 11-page article online, still accessible, describing the 2017 Pichi Richi.

John's brother Michael and his fiancé Nat planned to run in the 40th Pichi Richi and were considering entering the half marathon. John advised them to enter the full marathon instead as the hardest part of the race is the second half, through the hills. In 2026 this was not the case.

In John's interview after the race, he acknowledged that the Pichi Richi course is difficult. No doubt he was referring to the hills - the 'elevation' in runner's language. But this year it was the first half that made the marathon more difficult than other years, with a cold headwind holding everyone back. Ian Hill will confirm that this was the case - yes, he entered the Pichi Richi this year.

Nat commented on her own marathon: a bigger day out than expected for my second Pichi Richi marathon but I had loads of fun chatting to some great people along the way, seeing the amazing green hills, and having John join me for the last five kilometers. Today I'm proud of my mental stamina in keeping positive despite a five hour plus (5hr 6min 21.2sec) finish. And big congrats to John for taking 2nd place in 2:54, very commendable especially with the headwind conditions. Love doing this stuff together.

To prepare for the race, one must do the training. John's preparation, the year he broke the record, was to run twice a day. Twice a day and a total of two hundred kilometres a week, every week. With work and family taking up more of his time, he only runs once a day now. If you need financial advice, that's John's 'day job'. Let's not talk about how long John has run in ultra marathons this year. (Nat, too.)



Nat at McConville Rd, finishing her marathon, with John keeping her company.

One must also get your nutrition right: hydrate well the day before and 'carbo load'; don't eat too much in the morning; work out what sports drink, coke, gels, sweets or salts you require. John's fiancé, Nat, labelled small packages of food and drink to be delivered to designated water stations – I couldn't crew for her at the same time as for John. At the safety briefing, people were advised to wear clothing that was highly visible. That is very handy for safety reasons and it helps your supporters ('crew' if you have one) to catch sight of you. You don't want to wear clothes that are too warm, as John's brother Michael discovered during the 40th Pichi Richi. You need shoes that give you support but are lighter than those you train in.

My experience of the race has been to drive back from Port Augusta, catching up with John at the aid stations. Apart from walking the 10.5km event in the 40th year. Fortunately John does not run more than 60kph, but one year he did frighten the bus driver taking a load of runners to

the 10.5km start, when John ran towards him at the entrance to Quorn.

Since then, and especially this year, the police presence has made running a lot safer. Thanks to the police, ambulance and council workers who protected the right of way for runners during the race.



The police escort and the three lead runners, near Stirling North.

In a couple of John's Pichi Richi marathons, his little boys did some 'pacing' with him: running with their dad for a short distance until he outran them. There could have been a special award for the runners who picked up their toddler for the last twenty metres to the finish in 2026 – I saw four do this.



John's boys encouraging him to put the effort in, 30 June 2013.

The three podium finishers in the full marathon on 28 June 2026: David Staehr, John Csongei and Ryan Davis are the same three podium finishers in the most recent Pichi Richi marathon that John entered. John finished in 2hr 54 minutes. David crossed the line 5 minutes 37.6 seconds earlier. Both these times are 'sub three hours'. That's another measure you can use for yourself: completing the marathon in less than six hours; less than five hours; less than four hours. Or you can check on yourself, all the way through, whether you are running at 8 minutes/km; 6 min/km; 4 min/km; 3min/km. The same technology which gives you that information will tell you what your heartrate is – you are a living being, after all.

John does seem to take Hebrews 12:1 rather too literally: "And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." But – I'm just his Mum. I observe the running community enjoying the air we breathe, the earth beneath our feet, the winter sun, the birds, the trees, the camaraderie, life in its fullness. On YouTube, John Csongei generously shares his experiences of racing on some amazing trails: filming and commentating at the same time as running – or is it flying – along. I recommend you take a look – no training or other preparation required. ■



On the podium: David, John and Ryan.



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Quorn Cemetery Vandalism Update

The Flinders Ranges Council

FOLLOWING THE THEFT of 101 memorial plaques from Quorn Cemetery in early March 2026, Council staff have been working diligently to restore the memorials and support affected families.

As of the end of July, the majority of plaques in the Charlie Hill Garden have been reinstated, with the remaining plaques within the cemetery scheduled for installation in early August.

Thanks to the full support and funding provided by the Premier and the South Australian Government, the replacement and reinstatement of the plaques has come at no cost to either the affected families or Council.

Council also worked closely with the Office of Australian War Graves to replace plaques belonging to ex-service personnel, ensuring these important tributes were respectfully restored.

A small number of ancillary works remain to be completed, including the replacement of the Charlie Hill Garden sign and some landscaping improvements.

Once these final works are complete, Council will host a remembrance ceremony to mark the completion of this significant and emotional project. All affected families and members of the community will be invited to attend as we come together to remember loved ones and acknowledge the restoration of this special place. Details of the ceremony will be announced in due course.



War graves plaques belonging to ex-service personnel replaced



Council staff have been working diligently to restore

Council sincerely thanks all affected families and the wider community for their patience, understanding and support throughout this challenging project.

Looking ahead, Council is also investigating options to install CCTV coverage at the cemetery to help deter future acts of vandalism and improve







At the Meals on Wheels AGM Held on 13 July at the Quorn Bowling Club
From Left, Miriam Lehman, Betty Eckert, Di Williams, Elaine Wakefield, Anne Freebairn, Kath Altman, Yvonne Player, Sue Kelly, Marlene Gloede, Hick Wright



Fellowship Group attend a Go
at *Scruffy Fellas for*

Out
Abo
Qu



Mini golf activities in the July School Holidays



More fun and putting practice



QAS Canberra Camp
Preparing for the Commonwealth G



QAS Canberra camp
Australian Electoral Commission



ogle Meet information presentation
the MABLE organisation

and
ut in
orn



Games



QAS Canberra Camp
scraping together enough snow at
Perisher to make snow sculptures



QAS Canberra Camp
at Questacon



QAS Canberra Camp
Experimenting at Questacon

Quorn Netball Club

Celebrating 80 Years!

Let's make our 80□year celebration a tribute to everyone who's been part of the Quorn Netball Club family.

We're seeking your stories, photos and memorabilia

In **2026**, Quorn Netball Club proudly celebrates **80 years** of netball, teamwork, and community spirit. We're creating a special presentation to honour the people and moments that shaped our club through the decades.

If you have:

- Photos from past seasons
- Old uniforms or merchandise
- Memorabilia or trophies
- Stories and memories to share

We'd love to include them in our celebration!

Get in touch

Claire Moran

0413 290 816

moranclaire@hotmail.com

---

20 Years Ago

August 2006



Laurie's Harem—Catching the sun outside the Post Office recently was Laurie Fitzgerald and his lady friends. L-R Marg Summerton, Laurie, Yvonne Player, Rene Reschke. Front, Joanna Finlay.

10 Years Ago

August

TRIPLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Tarryn Battersby, Catherine Battersby (50th birthday) & Mary Francis celebrated their birthdays at Skillogalee Restaurant in Sevenhill on Sunday 3rd July 2016. The three generations share the 4th of July birthdate which is apparently a one in 272,578 chance of happening to three female generations. The ladies had a lovely day celebrating with immediate family.

QUORN MEN'S SHED

ALL WELCOME

QUORN MEN'S SHED
10 Seventh Street
PO Box 108
Quorn SA 5433
PH: 0417 810 324 Ian Carpenter (Chairman)
PH: 0488 069 943 Terry Smith (Sec / Treas)
PH: 0407 607 847 Dave Wingrove (NewsLetter)
Email: quornmensshed@gmail.com

Issue 84
August 2026
Editor Dave Wingrove

WE HAVE HAD a really good month. A lot of projects have been completed including some pull alongs for the Quorn Show. Some of our members tried out the putt putt game we had made and enjoyed it immensely.

Kindling. Well a lot of people have taken advantage of purchasing kindling and it has proven very popular. Demand meant we had to purchase some equipment to make splitting a bit easier.

Donations of cans and bottles helps us to purchase some tools for the workshop and we really appreciate your generous donations. You probably see Paul and Lyall around town picking up the cans from the various receptacles. Their efforts are appreciated.

Breakfasts have been well attended and members enjoy the get together. Monday is

Ladies day and they obviously enjoy completing their various projects.

We will be selling raffle tickets at the Quorn Show so look forward to seeing everyone enjoying the day.

Since our last newsletter, our Toastmaster Brian has passed away, he will be sadly missed.

Ian.

Shed Funnies

I find it ironic that the colours red, white, and blue stand for freedom, until they're flashing behind you.

I changed my password to "incorrect" so whenever I forget it the computer will say, "Your password is incorrect."

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

I'm great at multi-tasking--I can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

Never tell your problems to anyone, because 20 percent don't care, and the other 80 percent are glad you have them.

Doesn't expecting the unexpected mean that the unexpected is actually expected?

Take my advice — I'm not using it.



Shed breakfast at 0900hrs on
13 and 27 August.
Hamburgers for workers lunch,
on 6 and 20 August.
Ladies workdays Monday Mornings



Nice to see Ian back in the shed working with his son Tim.



Kathy working on fence palings



Addy sanding timber



Native pine sewing machine tabletop.



Kingsley and Geoff assembling shelving.

Lyall's Ute loaded with a donaton of cans and bottles





Ian, Jordan and Lothar testing new log splitter.



Lanz Bulldog drag along made by Ken.



30 years OF SHEDS

AUSTRALIAN MEN'S SHED ASSOCIATION

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

Library NEWS

Libraries SA

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday	10am-5:30pm
Wednesday	9:30am-5:30pm
Thursday/Friday	1pm-5:30pm
Closed :	Sat/Sun/Mon



Phone Number
86486705

Quorn School Community Library Group

Join to keep up to date with Library events (story-time, book fairs etc), services and notification of new books on shelves

New Releases

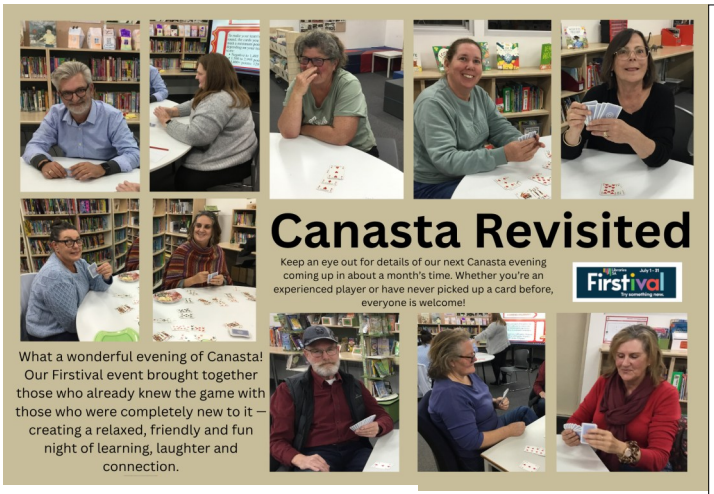
- Daughters of the Tide – A captivating historical novel about family secrets, resilience, and the enduring bond between generations shaped by the sea.
- Enough – A heartfelt and humorous story of one woman's journey to rediscover her confidence, self-worth, and happiness.
- The Divorce – A gripping psychological thriller where a seemingly straightforward divorce unravels into a web of shocking secrets and danger.
- The Midnight Train – A thought-provoking novel exploring hope, second chances, and the lives we might have lived.
- The Yacht – A suspenseful mystery set aboard a luxury yacht where hidden motives and long-buried secrets come to light.
- Out of the Blue – A warm Australian romance about healing, family, and finding unexpected love in life's second chances.
- The Blood Trials – A thrilling fantasy following a determined young woman who enters brutal military trials to uncover the truth behind her grandfather's death.
- The Butler – A tense psychological suspense novel in which loyalty, wealth, and deadly secrets collide inside an exclusive household.
- 3D Printers: A Beginner's Guide – An accessible introduction to choosing, using, and getting the most from a 3D printer.
- The Places in Between – A remarkable memoir recounting the author's solo walk across Afghanistan shortly after the fall of the Taliban.
- What Can I Say? – A compassionate guide offering thoughtful words and practical advice for supporting people through life's difficult moments. (Teenage book)
- Penning Your Past: A Writer's Guide – A practical handbook filled with tips and exercises to help writers capture and preserve their personal stories.
- The Red House: Kumanjayi Walker and Zachary Rolfe: An Australian Reckoning – An investigative account examining the fatal shooting of Kumanjayi Walker and the broader issues of justice, policing, and Indigenous Australia.
- 10 Minute Chair Yoga Exercises for Seniors – A simple guide to gentle chair-based yoga routines designed to improve strength, flexibility, and wellbeing in just ten minutes a day

LIBRARIES SA one card

Our Library is a One Card Library, that enables you to use your card at any South Australian Library.

Celebrating Firstival at Quorn Library

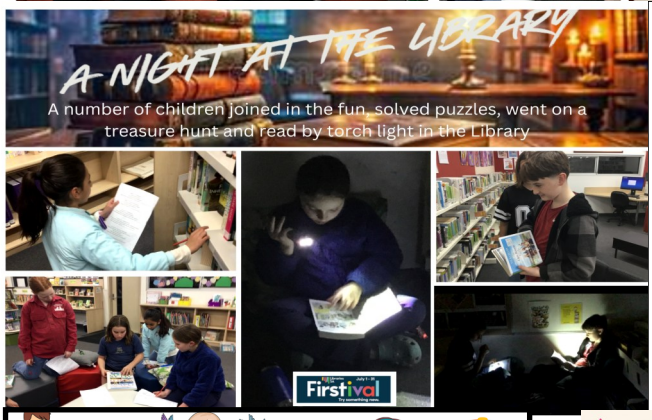
Firstival has brought a wonderful sense of excitement and community to Quorn Library, with people of all ages embracing the opportunity to try something new. From creative activities to social gatherings, each event has encouraged participants to step outside their comfort zone, learn a new skill and connect with others in a welcoming and relaxed environment.



A highlight has been our Canasta evening, where experienced players were paired with complete beginners for a fun-filled night of cards, laughter and new friendships. The enthusiasm and positive feedback have been overwhelming, proving that trying something different is even better when it's shared with others.







As darkness fell, the library took on a magical atmosphere. The lights were switched off, torches were switched on, and everyone settled in to enjoy the simple pleasure of reading by torchlight. Surrounded by shelves of books and the quiet of the evening, it was a memorable experience that reminded us there is something truly special about getting lost in a good story. ■







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

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Westland Shopping Centre
PO Box 2465, Whyalla Norrie SA 5608
FB | www.facebook.com/EddieHughesGiles
E | giles@parliament.sa.gov.au
P | (08) 8645 7800

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group

The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board (SAAL) supports seven Landscape Groups across the region to ensure it remains connected with community and local landscape issues. The Port Augusta-

Quorn Landscape Group's Quorn-based members are Richie Paynter, Renata Hackett, and Pauline Zanet. The group meets every two months with the next meeting to be held on Friday 18 September 2026. If you have an item to raise or would like to attend, please contact a local member or Community Landscape Officer Brett Devitt on 0409 753 495 or Brett.Devitt@sa.gov.au

Port Augusta-Quorn and Gawler Ranges Landscape Group members learnt about iconic marine species of the Upper Spencer Gulf at their meeting in July. Present are Rebecca Buono, Richie Paynter, Pauline Zanet and chair Renata Hackett with Gawler Ranges Landscape Group members and guests.



Rebecca Buono, Richie Paynter, Pauline Zanet and chair Renata Hackett with Gawler Ranges Landscape Group members and guests.

African Rue (Peganum harmala) (pictured right)

African rue is a deep-rooted perennial that grows to 90cm. Its bright green, fleshy leaves are divided into narrow segments and produce small, white, five-petaled flowers. It is a highly invasive weed that competes with native plants and pasture species. A deep root system makes it difficult to control and its seeds enable rapid spread. Alkaloids in the plant make it toxic to livestock.

The best control results come when early detection enables targeted herbicide application during flowering. Manual removal is ineffective due to the root system depth, and soil disturbance should be avoided. Landowners must report infestations under the *Landscape South Australia Act* 2019. For detailed control guidelines, visit the SA Weed Control Handbook at www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/managing_weeds

Chemcert in Quorn

The Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group subsidised a Chemcert course in Quorn on 21 July for 12 people. The course certifies landholders to undertake weed control with further skills and knowledge to prepare, apply, transport, handle and store chemicals safely, including Schedule 7 and Group 4 herbicides. ■



Landholders at he Quorn Chemcert Course

Below: African Rue Plant

Weed profile Perennial Herb Shrub Toxic to livestock Habitat: pastures, rangelands (PIRSA)





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3:15pm Thursday – fortnightly beginning 13th August 2026

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QUORN
HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Health Advisory Council (HAC) is the primary advocate for local healthcare interests. Surprisingly, many people are unaware of HAC's existence and the significant contributions HACs make. HACs were created as part of the Healthcare Act 2008, after significant reforms to our healthcare system such as disbanding local hospital boards. The replacement governing boards brought valuable relevant expertise to the table, but often lack the understanding of local needs that only comes from living within the community

The purpose of HACs is to advise health services on priorities and issues from the perspective of health service consumers, carers, and volunteers. They focus on engaging with the community, assessing its health needs, and understanding attitudes toward health service development. In doing so, HACs ensure that local input remains a guiding force in decision-making, reflecting the genuine concerns and aspirations of the people they represent.

This community-based approach is particularly vital in rural and regional areas. While metropolitan hospitals tend to have more centralised resources and decision-making, rural communities rely heavily on local participation. Historically, many small country hospitals began as true community assets, built and maintained through fundraising and volunteer efforts

As an example of this is our Quorn's Health Services local hands-on history. The first hospital in Quorn was a private institution established by Mrs. Brewster. Following her death, it was handed over to the community and became a cottage hospital. In 1950, the local community raised £4,000 to match government funding of the same amount for the construction of a new hospital.

Community engagement continued well beyond the hospital's construction. In 1960, the Country Women's Association (CWA) founded Flinders House, a care facility for elderly residents, inside the former cottage hospital. The CWA managed Flinders House for three decades, expanding the premises by purchasing the neighbouring cottage. However, rigid changes in the early 1990s came into effect making continued management beyond the CWA's scope, and responsibility for Flinders House returned to the community.

This transition led to the creation of a community -based Board of Management and a Fundraising Committee, which worked tirelessly to raise funds for a new Flinders House adjacent to the hospital. With land donated by the hospital and support from government, The Kanyaka Quorn District council, and the community, the new facility was built at a cost of $1.52 million.

Health Advisory Councils represent this spirit of community involvement. By maintaining close connections with those who use health services. HACs can provide relevant advice that reflects local priorities and conditions. Given that many health choices are now determined by a higher level of administration, their contributions play a crucial role today.

Without HACs, there is a risk that the unique needs of rural and regional communities could be overlooked in favour of centralised policies. These policies may not suit every locality.

The current community representatives on the Quorn Health Advisory Council are:
Patsy Reynolds, Presiding Member; Caroline Waters, Deputy Presiding Member; and community representatives Shahbaz Khan, Ruth Tulloch, Ian Rodgers, Kathy Rabig, Steve Glover, Lizzie Britza and Tony Llian Lloyd.■



Quorn Community Landcare Group

A SEASON FOR GROWTH AND REGENERATION

What a great year so far. As a result of the beautiful rains, mild temperatures and higher relative humidity than normal, we have seen successful germination of many native plants around the region.

Why is this important? Without germination and recruitment of important perennial (long-lived) species, there won't be vegetation cover 50 or 100 years down the track. Good vegetation cover in a region like Quorn, means shade, dust suppression and is an important part of the water cycle. This year has seen the successful germination of a lot of vulnerable understorey species, like some of the super palatable saltbushes, Acacias and regrowth of Bullock bush. Many native species of insects, birds and reptiles need a diversity of plants to survive. These species also need understorey



Waterhouse's Hairstreak Butterfly

and dense undergrowth structure to hide from predators (like cats and birds of prey) and find food. Without understorey and 'messy layers' many species (like small gleaning birds that eat pest insects) cannot survive.

The Waterhouse's Hairstreak Butterfly feeds and lives primarily in *Acacia victoriae*. This butterfly is endemic to the Quorn region, and is the only butterfly only found in SA. This photograph was taken on roadside shrubs on the edge of Quorn in May this year. When we went back to see if they were still there, the shrubs had been all cleared. The same site is now covered in fast growing weeds including barley grass and turnip weed. This site is now a fire risk area in summer, before clearing, it was a low risk site. Please check local regulations before clearing and spraying, big fines are not uncommon.

The lovely Superb Fairy-wrens that have



moved into the Bush Food Garden in the last few months are a great example of why understorey is important. At an average of only 10 grams in weight, these little guys are very vulnerable to predation by cats. They like dense and messy vegetation to live in.

Straight lines and neat edges don't exist in nature, so we have been busy explaining to guests (who may have commented on things looking "messy" at recent landcare events) about the importance of structure and understorey in natural systems. The more structure, the fewer pests we have in our crops and gardens. The diverse structure in a garden, paddock or habitat encourages a host of species that eat and control pest insects (like scale and lerps).

In Autumn, Quorn Landcare volunteer Andrea Tschirner worked with groups of High School students staying at Argadells. As part of their school curriculum, they experience outdoor education activities and give a full day of community service while on camp. The students have helped with weeding, mulching, building a



Walford College students with Andrea

rockery around the newly planted Dutchman Daisies, and native grass seed collection. A big thanks to the students and teachers for fun and productive Saturday mornings around the Quorn parklands.

A tray of Common Wheat Grass (*Anthosachne scabra*) seedlings was planted in the Thutha Patch in May, just in the nick of time before the rain set in, what perfect timing. Germinated and nurtured to planting size by Quorns' fabulous green thumb Naomi Maloney, this native perennial grass has a dense root system, making it a wonderful soil stabiliser. Its foliage can stay green throughout the year if there is adequate soil moisture, and is very palatable to livestock and roos. It was once widespread throughout the Quorn region and we are excited to encourage its reintroduction in paddock projects by having it grow seed for our community as part of Quorn's Thutha Patch (located in the Bush food Garden). Grow you good things.



So far this year, more than eight pastoral stations and grazing properties have sourced perennial native grass seed from Quorn's Thutha patch to support regen projects at a paddock scale. Quorn Landcare Volunteers have helped with collection and delivery of seed to many grateful graziers and pastoralists in the wider area around Hawker, Yunta, Cradock and Quorn.



Louise Watson broadcasting seed collected by Quorn Landcare volunteers on their property near Hawker.

The value of native perennial summer growing grasses to Quorn

We have an amazing range of summer-active grasses native to Quorn that are effective at slowing or reducing fire risk by maintaining moisture and green leaf in the fuel load during hot days. These clever plants are also extremely palatable to livestock and kangaroos, so if you want to see them you will find many of them growing along our roadsides (the road sides that are not sprayed.) Spraying kills summer natives and encourages winter weedy grasses (like Barley Grass) which are highly flammable. Want to address fire risk? Slash, don't spray.

We have some great examples of the grasses in the bush food garden (there are also some great video links on our Facebook page). Over winter, summer-active grasses go dormant and often look red-brown or grey in appearance. A great contrast to the vibrant green of winter growth, but don't be fooled, they aren't dead, they are just sleeping. There are a huge number of local native plant species that are very good at suppressing or slowing fire, make sure you check them out before you plant gum trees around your house.

At our latest AGM – committee members were elected. President – Iain Dunk, Secretary – Pauline Zanet, Treasurer and Public Officer – Andrea Tschirner.

Want more info? Follow our Facebook page "Quorn Community Landcare Group" or keep an eye out for posters with up-coming events in the window at the library or IGA. ■



Aaron trialling an offset pitter in a badly scalded paddock north east of Carrieton. This area was treated with seed spread and a range of different soil ameliorants to test germination response in semi-arid soils

Aussie Discount Chemist

QUORN PHARMACY

Our Services:

- Flu Vaccination
- Whooping Cough Vaccine
- Webster Packs
- Immunisations
- Vitamins & Natural Health
- Diabetic Sub Agency
- Covid-19 Vaccinations
- Cosmetics & Gifts









MedAdvisor

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quorn.pharmacy@frednet.com.au

+61886486883

Country Health Connect Quorn Update

July 2026

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 June 2026 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
59	368	38	1	11
Allied Health Professionals August Visiting Schedule				
			20th August	**27th August**
Occupational Therapist	Physiotherapy	Diabetes Educator	Dietetics	Physiotherapy
Community Care Nurse in the Quorn Community Visiting Schedule				
Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
9am – 3pm **Hours available to provide services as needed. Based on Quorn Medical Practice**				

COUNTRY HEALTH CONNECT

Call us on 1800 944 912
www.countryhealthconnect.sa.gov.au

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health. Although funding for these services has been provided by the Australian Government, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Australian Government.

Government of South Australia
SA Health

MID NORTH SCOOTERS





Sales and service of Mobility Scooters

SHOPRIDER *MERITS* *AFIKIM*

Wheelchairs, Walking Frames Independent living equipment

Pickup and delivery available

Third Street Orroroo **Ph 0427 581 058**

Do you need support with meals as you grow older?

Bungala Food Service are delivering freshly cooked 3-course meals to Quorn every weekday.

Meals are delivered hot for immediate consumption or can be arranged to be delivered cold so that they can be conveniently reheated in the oven or microwave whenever required.

For those on a Commonwealth Home Support Program or a Home Care Package, meals can be subsidised in conjunction with your aged care provider.

Our home style meals are cooked fresh in our Port Augusta kitchen using ingredients that are in season, creating flavours that you can actually taste!

For any enquiries, please contact your aged care provider or

Bungala Food Service on 8643 5500

Bungala
FOOD SERVICE

Flinders House

ANOTHER BUSY AND ENJOYABLE MONTH has been had by our residents, with a wide range of activities on offer. These included cooking sessions, bingo, carpet bowls, exercise groups, and movie afternoons, just to name a few.

Residents also enjoyed outings, including bus trips to Hawker, Wilpena Pound, and Port Augusta, as well as local morning tea excursions. These activities provided wonderful opportunities for social engagement, enjoyment, and exploring the local region.

A highlight of the month was our success in the Global Quiz, where residents achieved a perfect score of 50 not once, but twice, earning prizes for their outstanding efforts. Congratulations to everyone involved on this fantastic achievement.

Senior management visited to celebrate NAIDOC Week with residents and staff. They spent time mingling with residents, engaging in friendly conversations, and sharing in the spirit of the celebration, creating a warm and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone involved.



(L- R) Back - Ashley Parkinson, David West, Craig Packard, Dr. Lindy Washington, Ros McRae, Eugene Warrior, Jodi Cuffe, Front – Dr Gani Mlawanda, Lisa Taylor, Dr. Nadee Assiriyage, Angela McLachlan.

Residents were treated to a delicious selection of cheeses, biscuits, and dried fruits, accompanied by a variety of wine and beer. The afternoon provided a wonderful opportunity for everyone to relax, socialise, and enjoy each other's company. Laughter and conversation were shared throughout the gathering, contributing to a warm and enjoyable atmosphere for all who attended.



Trevor, Leveena, Maureen, and Marjorie were among the residents who attended and enjoyed Happy Hour.

We set off early to Moralana Gorge for a beautiful day of adventure, although the weather kept us guessing with alternating misty rain and sunshine, creating plenty of stunning rainbows along the way. Not letting the conditions dampen our spirits, we made our way into Moralana Gorge.



Unfortunately, persistent rain meant we only ventured less than halfway before turning back.

Between showers, we enjoyed morning tea by the creek, admiring the magnificent gum trees and the lush countryside, which is looking fantastic after the recent weather.

We continued on to Wilpena Pound, stopping to take a look at Rawnsley Park along the way.

Surrounded by breathtaking mountain scenery and vibrant greenery, we took a tour around Wilpena Pound, feeling a little envious of the holidaymakers enjoying their stay. Afterwards, we headed to Hawker for afternoon tea at the General Store before our journey home. Despite the unpredictable weather the residents agreed, it was an epic day filled with beautiful scenery, great company, and memorable experiences. ■



Stunning gum trees in the creek

QUORN
Business Group

CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY NEEDED

At our AGM late last year, the Quorn Business Group was unable to fill the positions of **Chair and Secretary** for 2026. These are essential roles for the continuation of the group.

Quorn Business Group supports local businesses through networking opportunities, information sharing, training access, and collaboration. Without volunteers to step into these leadership roles, the group cannot continue to operate effectively.

The outgoing Chair and Secretary will assist with a handover to ensure a smooth transition.

If you are a business owner and willing to contribute a small amount of time each month to support the small business sector in Quorn, we encourage you to get in touch.

Please email:
quornbusinessgroup@bigpond.com

Let's work together to keep the Quorn Business Group active and moving forward!

August 2026

Contact Quorn Hospital 8648 7888 for dates

- Podiatrist
- Diabetes Education
- Dietitian
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Pathologist
- Social Worker

Country Health Connect

8668 7706

August 2026

Anglican Church of St Matthews

3rd Sunday of month 10am

Contact Number

Ph: **0447711056 or 0407640425**

Catholic Church
Flinders Ranges Catholic Parish
Ph : 86486185
Parish Priest: Father Mark Whybrow
Mass Times:
Quorn Weekday Masses:
Tuesday, Thursday, Fridays 9am
Wednesday Mass and Adoration 4.00pm
Saturday Carrieton 6pm
Sunday Quorn 8.15am
Hawker 10.30am
Confession Times
Carrieton Saturday 5.30pm
Quorn Sunday 8.00am Hawker 10.10am

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

Uniting Church
Sunday Services 10am

Quorn Mercury 7th August 2026

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

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Public Officer—Tarla Kramer

Next Issue's (September 4th 2026 Deadlines:)

- Submissions preferred as email attachments using Microsoft *Word* or *Publisher*
- Other submissions to Visitor Information Centre, Quorn Railway Station before 4.30 pm 26th Aug 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, Visitor Information Centre, 8620 0510
- **News in Brief—***mercury@quornmercury.com.au*

Charges

- ***Annual Subscription*—**12 months (11 issues) $50 including postage
- ***Major Adverts*—**

	Single	Year
Full Page	$30	$275
Half Page	$15	$145
Quarter Page	$10	$ 80

- ***Classified Ads***—$1 per line or part line, on the form provided at the Visitor Information Centre
- Bank Details BSB 105-028
  Account No. 063 601 740

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Classified Adverts

Support your Community

Volunteers required for Quorn Pre-loved Boutique

Please contact Carlene Voigt

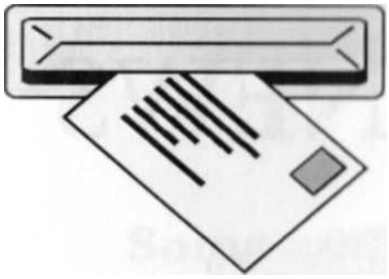
Ph:0447711056

Rainfall 2026

January	0.0mm
February	73.4mm
March	122.4mm
April	7.8mm
May	37.0mm
June	43.8mm
July	17.0 mm
YTD	308.6mm



Letters to the Editor



Letters must be no longer than 200 words

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

Dear Editor,
Most of what comes out of a Canberra sitting fortnight feels like a broken record. But this fortnight, we landed a win for commonsense. The Senate passed our Bill to restore human override for aged care needs assessments.
In plain English: when it comes to deciding the level of care older Australians receive, a real person gets the final say… not a computer algorithm.
We've all yelled at a robot on a helpline that just doesn't get it. Now imagine that robot deciding whether your grandmother can stay in her own home. That's what we were facing. The Government rolled out a computerised assessment tool, and Senate Estimates revealed it went out untested. Review requests jumped nearly six-fold. The Ombudsman and the Inspector-General of Aged Care both raised the alarm.
Credit where it's due: the Government is starting to listen. Minister for Aged Care Sam Rae announced the algorithm's decisions can now be changed in "extenuating circumstances." A welcome concession, and proof that strong advocacy pays off.
But the job isn't finished. Around 100,000 older Australians are still stuck waiting on assessments, and we need the House of Representatives to bring this Bill to a vote. Let's unplug the algorithm and let people with beating hearts look after our seniors.
Tom Venning MP



Quorn Hawker Cradock Events August 2026

Regular Events

Quorn

Flinders Flicks Friday See posters around town for the date. Hosted at the Great Northern Lodge for the Movie and Dinner bookings required by phoning 86486940

Story Time
Wednesday at 10am
at the Quorn Library check for dates

Women's Fellowship
3rd Wednesdays
see Facebook *Quorn Out and About* for details of what activity is happening

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 (excluding school holidays)

Run-Walk-Push – Saturday mornings 8am from Quorn Pool car park -2km, 5km All creatures great and small welcome

Lion's Club
On the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm
New members welcome
Email: aefreebairn@hotmail.com

Local History Group
Quorn Court House
2nd Saturday of the month 11am to 2pm

Hawker

Fellowship –4th Wednesday Uniting Church Hall

Hawker Community Singers Everyone is welcome. Come along to sing Friday 3.30pm to 5.00pm Hawker Uniting Church Hall

Quilting and Handicraft Group
Alternate Wednesdays
Uniting Church Hall

Friendship Group 3rd Thursday 12pm
Venue TBA

Up Coming Events

Quorn Races Saturday 15th
Quorn Racecourse gates open 11am. TAB, bookmakers, fashion of the fields, fully catered, shuttle bus available on day to and from the racecourse or join in on the night before for the Calcutta night draw at 8pm with schnitzel teas from 6pm provided by the Quorn Netball Club at Community Hall.

Quorn Show - *A fun day for all ages*
Sunday 30 August 9am to 4pm
Quorn Community Oval
Show rides, food stalls, craft, flowers, cooking, jam & preserves, poultry, photography, wool, show bags, vintage cars, wool demonstrations, pioneer machinery, horses in action and lots of entertainment and fun to be had by all.

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. A great free show.

Quorn Cars & Coffee at Scruffy Fellas
Join people who share a passion for gasoline and caffeine. It doesn't matter if you've got 4 wheels or 2, old or new, schmick or a pile of sh*t - all are welcome! Last Sunday of every month, 8:30am, First Street

Quorn Produce and Craft Market
Homemade goods, fresh local produce, handmade knits, crafts, cards and so much more! At the Town Hall 8:30am - 1:30pm
Last Sunday of each month

Check out Facebook and or notice boards for future events

Phone: 08 8620 0510
Email: vic@frc.sa.gov.au

Regular Events

Quorn

Exercises
Town Hall 10:30am Wednesdays
Step, Squat and Razzle
Low impact

Yin Yoga
Monday nights 6.30pm
Quorn Town Hall
Contact: Sharon 0429 197 290

Quilting/Sewing/Knitting Group
1st and 3rd Friday of the month at the Lions Club Rooms. Everyone welcome

Quorn Bowling Club
Social Bowls All welcome
Wednesday at 1:00pm for 1.30pm start.
cost $5 per player No bowls, you can borrow them from the club

Pilates
Wednesdays at 9am and 6:30 pm at the Quorn Town Hall

Step Aerobics
Monday and Thursday 5.30pm
St Mathews Church Hall $2
Restarts mid-January 26

Chair Yoga
Tuesdays 10.00am
St Matthews Hall

Quorn Pioneer Machinery Society
Wednesdays from 9am at the Lions Park
Everyone welcome

Quorn School and Community Library
Justice of the Peace available at library 10am to 12pm for dates check facebook

Spirit of the Flinders Makers Centre
Book our Maker's Centre Workshops
https://spirit-of-the-flinders.square.site/
check the upcoming workshops on their website

Quote of the month
Be nice to people on your way up because you'll meet them on your way down.
Wilson Mizner

QUORN AGRICULTURAL YESTERYEAR SHOW

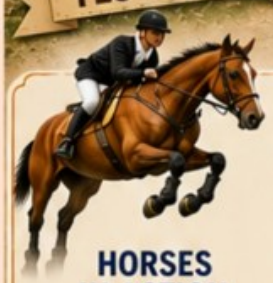
A DAY OF COUNTRY FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 2026

10AM – 4PM

QUORN SHOWGROUNDS



HORSES IN ACTION



POULTRY & PIGEONS



HOME BREW RETURNS!



MEMORIAL HALL EXHIBITS & SCHOOL DISPLAYS



YESTERYEAR DISPLAYS



FAMILY FUN!

- HOBBY HORSE COMPETITIONS
- TRACTOR PULL RACES
- YESTERYEAR NOVELTY RACES
- OLD-FASHIONED NOVELTY RACES
- DINOSAUR SHOWS
- ROCK CLIMBING WALL
- JUMPING CASTLES & SPRINT AND MAZE COURSE
- MINI GOLF
- QUOITS
- PET DOG COMPETITION







YESTERYEAR NOVELTY RACES



ACTIVITY TICKETS

10 TICKETS FOR ONLY **$5**

Available on the day at the Show Office.

★ DON'T MISS! ★

- SHEEP SHEARING
- OLD FASHION TOYS
- CAMP OVEN COOK-OFF
- SPINNING & TATTING

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION & EXHIBIT DROP-OFF

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST
Flinders Ranges Council Meeting Room

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST
Memorial Hall, Quorn Showgrounds
2.00pm – 5.00pm

SHOW BOOKS AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE LIBRARY & POST OFFICE

ADMISSION

Adults	$12
Concession Card Holders	$7
Ages 13 – 17 years	$7
Children 12 years & under	FREE

OR BECOME A MEMBER!

Adult Membership	$10
Family Membership (2 adults & 2 teenagers)	$25

MAJOR 2026 SPONSORS

Scotch College SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Quorn Pioneer Machinery Society

OTHER SPONSORS
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quornshow@gmail.com | Quorn Agricultural Show Facebook Page | SCAN HERE for more info!