Quorn Mercury

Recording Quorn's History while it's Being Made

March 2026 | **Established 1895** | **Number 30/329**

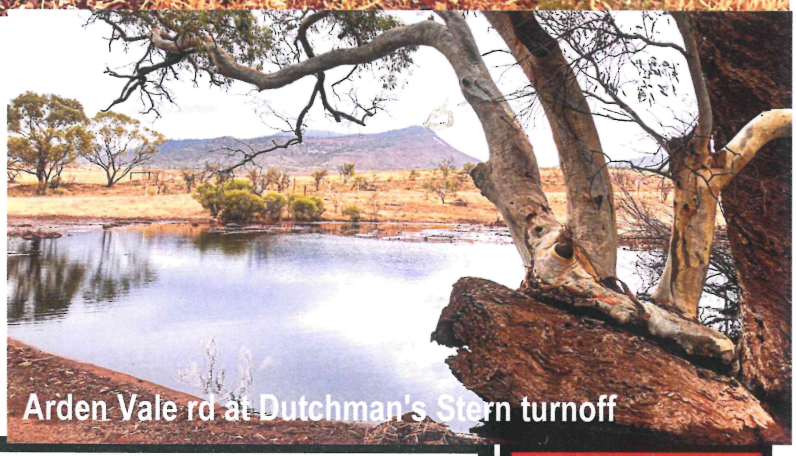
When it Rains in Quorn



IT WAS FORECAST, but would it happen? Thankfully, the predictions were fulfilled, and the beautiful, steady rain began at five AM on Sunday 22 February.

The reports published on Pastoral Rainfalls included: 66ml at Almerta, 64mm on the outskirts of Hawker, and a report of 77mm in Quorn before the end of the day.

More rain is expected.



Arden Vale rd at Dutchman's Stern turnoff

➔ **See pages 8-10 Quorn CFA Awards**

$2.50

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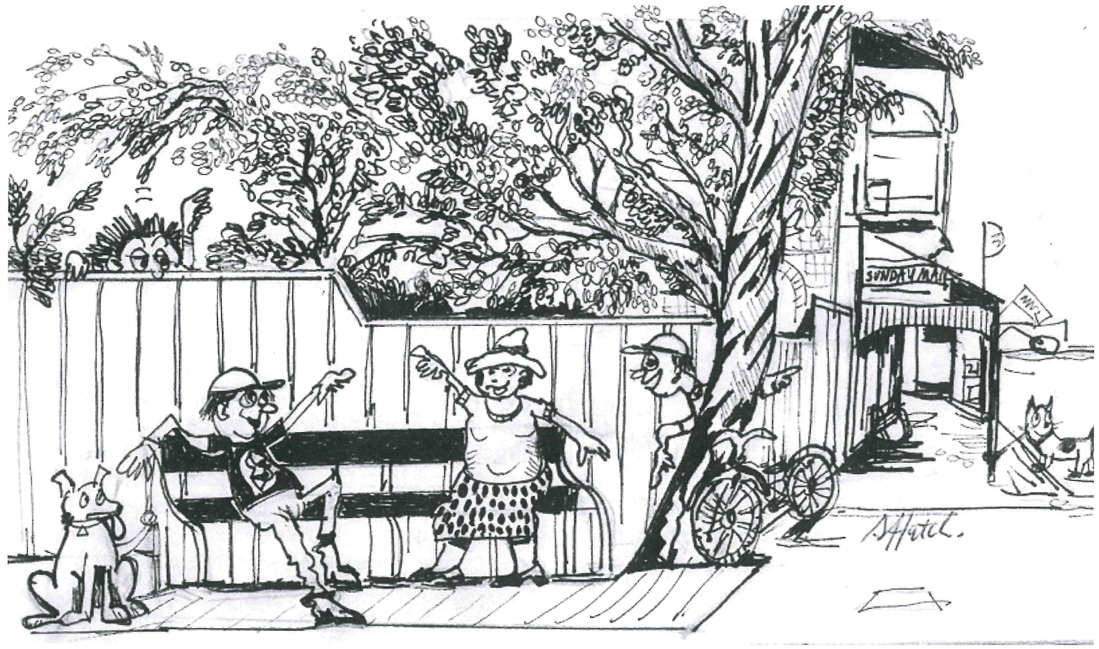
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Flash As

Chat with a Quornie
Michelle Densley



Let me begin by explaining why I am in Quorn. My childhood was spent on our farm near Keith in the Southeast. My father had become good friends with the local stock agent, Bob Hondow, who many of you may remember. In my teens, my family went on a camping trip to Arkaroola. On the way, we stopped in Quorn to visit Bob and Pat. The town, with its old buildings, left a strong impression, because fast forward to 2026, and here I am.

A lot happened in my life between those times. I grew up on the farm, completed all my schooling at Keith Area School. I had always wanted to be a teacher, like my mother and grandmother. It wasn't unusual for me to have my two younger siblings, Jan and Nigel, sitting in front of a chalkboard while I pretended to be the teacher.

However, I also had a strong desire to head to the outback and work as a governess. My mother wisely encouraged me to complete my teaching degree first and then go, which I did—much to the horror of my father when he wondered why I had done 3 years of study to earn a pittance. The only family member who truly supported my move to the Northern Territory was my grandmother (she loved travelling also).

I worked as a governess to four children on Scott Creek, a cattle station out from Katherine. I loved station life - camping in swags, watching the ringers work in the stockyards, and swimming in creeks. While there, I put out feelers for a teaching position and was offered a job on the spot. After six months on the station, I took my first teaching position at Beswick for a term, then taught for the next two- and a-bit years at Kalkarindji, formerly known as Wave Hill.



On the farm at Keith Michelle and her two sisters, Jan and Fiona (brother Nigel missing).

I once wrote home saying, "You know how you can drive through a town and say this is the end of the earth? Well, that's where I live now." Kalkarindji is about 450 kilometres south-east of Katherine and is a Gurindji Aboriginal community, famous for the Wave Hill Walk-Off led by Vincent Lingiari.

It didn't take long to settle into life there. Most social life centred around Frank's Bar, an outdoor bar with a thatched roof. The town was known for its cricket ground and the annual match between Katherine and Wave Hill, where I was invariably the scorer.



Relaxing with two students at Kalkaringi (Wave Hill) in the Northern Territory.

Three highlights from this time were taking students to Sydney and Canberra and seeing these places through their eyes, putting on a play, '*A Streetcar Named Desire*' to a wide audience at Frank's Bar and experiencing part of a men's ceremony. At the end of my second year, I applied for Australian Volunteers Abroad and received a placement in the Solomon Islands.



Michelle's home at Luesalemba in the Temotu Province of the Solomon Islands.

The position was in the remote Temotu Province on Santa Cruz Island, at Luesalemba. It was a secondary boarding school and the only secondary education available in the province. I lived in a leaf hut with wooden floors—so open you could see the ground beneath. There was no electricity, a hole in the ground for a toilet, and cold running water. Two other volunteers and I cooked together having a shared kerosene fridge and gas stove. I walked to neighbouring villages to buy food at markets. Students were self-sufficient and worked in the school gardens, helped to cook their meals, and washed their own clothes in the river. The classrooms had coral floors, no windows, and it wasn't unusual to have animals skitter across the room during lessons.

After returning home from this year-long experience, I still had a strong desire to travel. I spent the next 12 months backpacking firstly with a Danish girl I had met while home on the farm. We travelled through Thailand and India—where I experienced both true culture shock and true awe when visiting the Taj Mahal. I travelled back to Denmark with Britta before I made my own way to England. I was fortunate to find nanny work with two British families, in Italy. Between jobs, I travelled to Greece and could recognise town names, book rooms, and order food in basic Greek after studying it as an extra at teachers' college.

To finish that year, I joined a group travelling across Spain and into Morocco on the back of an old Bedford truck. Many adventures followed, including being taken to a police station after our organiser pulled out a toy gun during a dispute with some local lads. Once it was established the gun was fake, we were released and allowed to continue.



On the truck Michelle making her way across Morocco

On returning to South Australia, I picked up various teaching contracts and eventually returned to my hometown of Keith. Unfortunately for my parents, I still felt the need to keep moving. I returned to the Northern Territory and worked for the next five years at an independent Aboriginal bilingual school in Alice Springs. The children spoke their traditional language as well as English, and the school had begun under trees in the town camps before gaining funding and moving to a permanent site. I taught the Luritja students. No two days were ever the same.

During this time, I bought my first home and met Mark Tuckwell, who was a police officer. We enjoyed all that Alice Springs had to offer. Back then, you could drive just a few kilometres out of town and camp anywhere. Not long after meeting, we discussed some future plans. I mentioned I was applying to teach in China, but there was something I wanted to do more, travel through South America. So that's what we did.



Michelle waiting for a bus somewhere in South America

We spent six months backpacking through Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, and Uruguay. On returning to Australia, I went back to teaching, and Mark, having resigned from the NT Police, applied for a retread course with the Queensland Police Service.

After completing the course in Brisbane, he was to be posted to Cairns. I went ahead earlier as I had gained a position at Yarrabah about 50 kms southeast of Cairns. By the end of the year, we bought a house between Cairns and Yarrabah.

We didn't stay long, as Mark was offered a senior position on Thursday Island in the Torres Straits. I also gained a position at the local primary school, and we spent the next five years there. I remember walking to school and being able to see the sea and islands in both directions, thinking how lucky I was.

I was fortunate to work with two outstanding principals throughout my teaching career, the one on TI saw potential in me and with her bidding I took on a literacy coordinator role that focused on training teachers to teach the differences between Torres Strait Creole and Standard Australian English.

We bought a boat and, although neither of us were keen fishers, we loved exploring nearby islands. Just after turning 37, I found out I was pregnant. Our son, Abraham, was born in Adelaide a week before Christmas in 2001. We spent nine months on Thursday Island, before we moved to Mount Isa where Mark took up a training position. I worked part-time, training teachers across remote communities in the region, including Doomadgee and Mornington Island.

After a couple of years, Mark gained a position on Mornington Island, and I became deputy principal at the school. Abraham was just old enough to start preschool. his experience was very different from the idyllic life on Thursday Island. During this time, I noticed Abraham switching between Standard English at home and Aboriginal English when playing in the school yard, something that reinforced the importance of my work around code-switching!



Mark and Michelle on Thursday Island

Midway through our second year, Mark retired from the police service and joined the school staff. We later returned to the Northern Territory when I was appointed principal of a remote community school at Yuendumu, 300 kilometres from Alice Springs. Abraham was home-schooled for the next few years, with Mark as his tutor. While I valued being able to implement change, the community was unsettled, and there were challenging moments, including conflict between families that spilled into the schoolyard. Just after we had left, the community split over the conflict with many moving for a while to Adelaide.



Abraham and Michelle at Michelle's sister's wedding

After leaving Yuendumu, we travelled to Tanzania for work, though plans fell through and we returned earlier than expected. Abraham and I went to Bradshaw Primary School in Alice Springs, while Mark eventually took a role with the NT-SES. At this time, I did a leadership course that involved implementing change in the school. I looked at the attitudes of teachers to Aboriginal English and how this could impact on students' learning. I also provided ways teachers could address these differences through code-switching. After presenting my research to others in the course I was asked to present my findings to all the Principals and the Director of Education in Central Australia.

It was during this time Mark applied for a position with SES in South Australia and was offered employment in Port Augusta.

Although I was initially reluctant to move, I said I was prepared to move if we could live in Quorn (because of my fond memories from before) and things subsequently fell into place. The Alice Springs house was sold the day it was put on the market, and I gained a teaching position at Augusta Park where I worked with another outstanding principal, Fiona Voigt who provided opportunities for me to continue learning.

We nearly didn't relocate to Quorn due to childcare issues, until we discovered the care provided by Nancy Norris after school. Over the next decade, I worked across Port Augusta, Quorn, Meningie (to spend time supporting my father after my mother passed away) and a short contract as Principal at Curramulka.

Eventually, I took long service leave, which coincided with Nancy's retirement from the library. I took on her role and have loved the change, meeting so many people in the community. I feel my teaching days are now complete and are happy to see out my working years in the library.

Whilst Abraham was at school we were involved in and supported various sporting clubs - Quorn Swimming and Cricket Club, BMW Football Club and Lone Scouts. It is now with more time on my hands I feel I can offer back in other areas to the community. I have been a member of the Show Committee, enjoy regular Pilates sessions and organising events for the community through the Library such as Firstival, Being Digital and various exhibitions.

My greatest joy is seeing my son Abraham, after completing his schooling in Quorn, go on to study medicine at Adelaide University. When he wanted to take a gap year to work on a station, I encouraged him, knowing that medicine would always be there. He has continued working with the Greenfields on and off at Bila Killina and Pernatty, and seven years on, still returns when he needs funds for his next adventure. He has certainly inherited his parents' wanderlust. He has gone back to complete his last year after another gap year which concluded with a 20-day solo hike through a part of the Himalayas in Nepal.

Reflecting on my journey to Quorn, I initially thought I had little to say, but once I started writing, I couldn't stop and it has been quite therapeutic. Thankyou ■.



Round Two of The Flinders Ranges Council Community Grants Program for 2025-2026 is now open.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5PM FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2026

Applications can be emailed to council@frc.sa.gov.au

Quorn Pioneer Machinery Society News

G9 Chamberlain tractor relocation

PREPARATION TO SHIFT the G9 Chamberlain tractor started back in 2025.

After the Cummins family sold the farm, the tractor was parked under the shade of the trees in the back yard by the then chook house. Wisely, it was tarped up so that the weather did not rot the machine away.

It was tarped so well the kids could not get to it to play farmers, so nothing was damaged over the years.

The plans for the use of the tractor never came to fruition and basically it remained untouched for some 40 years.

The tyres went flat and the rubber deteriorated badly but when they were pumped full of air once more, they stayed up, other than one front tyre that slowly leaked.

The trunk of a 150mm tree had grown right alongside the front left wheel and was going to make things difficult for moving the tractor. After spraying lots of anti-seize spray on levers and linkages and making sure that the unit could be shut down if needed the time had come to massage it into life. A fully charged battery was installed and one more going over all the controls, the time had come to start the old G9.

First go, no go, second time a longer crank and bingo, engine came to life and fluttered for a bit and then settled to a high idle. Brilliant.

Now to get it moving. The front wheel was hard up against this 200mm tree trunk which had grown over the years.

First gear, low range and drive forward and it pushed past the trunk and some more steering manoeuvering, was free to be driven to the museum.

A prayer that the tyres would stay up, a safety car in front and off the G9 chugged.

It is now parked up at the museum ready for some TLC. ■



The G9 Chamberlain tractor travelling under its own power to a new home.



Charlie Lorrimer in the G9 Chamberlain Tractor arrived at the museum.

Country Fire Service 2025 Presentations

Cameron Saxton, Quorn Brigade Captain's speech

AS WE REACH THE END OF ANOTHER YEAR, it's a time when many are winding down spending time with family, enjoying a well-earned break, and celebrating the Christmas cheer and New Year spirit, but for us in the CFS, this time of year often looks a little different. While some are switching off, we're gearing up. The fire season is here, and we know all too well that our busiest days may still be ahead.

This year has already brought some challenging callouts, I want to thank each of you for the way you've turned out, supported each other and represented this brigade. I also want to acknowledge and thank the families and loved ones who support our members behind the scenes. Your understanding, patience, and quiet sacrifices especially during late-night callouts, training, or fire season commitments don't go unnoticed. We couldn't do what we do without you.

I also want to take a moment to thank our previous leadership team. Your commitment and hard work over the years have left a lasting impact on this brigade. We're grateful for the time, knowledge, and stability you've provided. To the new leadership team thank you for stepping up. It's no small task, but with the strong team we have behind us, I'm confident we'll continue to meet whatever challenges come our way. As we move into the new year, let's keep looking out for each other and for our community. Thank you again for your service, your time and your dedication.

I do want to take a moment to recognise a few individuals for their service and contribution to the brigade. These members have gone above and beyond, whether through years of dedication, leadership or stepping up when it mattered most. Their commitment helps keep this brigade running strong and it doesn't go unnoticed.

I am proud to acknowledge Modris as a Life Member of the CFS. He exemplifies dedication, professionalism, and generosity in service. From starting as a basic firefighter, he progressed through the ranks as Lieutenant, Training Officer and Captain, always bringing a wealth of knowledge and skill. Modris is always the first to step up, whether it's working bees, training sessions or whatever else is needed. He willingly shares his expertise with both seasoned members and newcomers. The Quorn CFS would not be where it is today without Modris' knowledge and guidance, building the strong foundation that supports every member. Over the years, he has contributed thousands of hours of service, consistently going above and beyond without ever seeking recognition or reward. Thank you Modris for your unwavering dedication, mentorship and friendship. Your legacy will be felt in the Quorn CFS for generations to come.



Modris receiving his CFS Life Membership

Today we gather to honour an incredible milestone of 50 years of service dedication and community spirit. It is a privilege to present Modris with his Fifty-Year Service Medal, and Life Membership. Across five decades, Modris has been there through some of the toughest moments. Answering call outs in all conditions, supporting our region and assisting Interstate when needed. He has been a steady, reliable presence who always puts the community first.

What truly stands out is everything he has done behind the scenes without expecting recognition. From working bees to equipment checks and preparing the station to help keep things running smooth. Modris has always been one of the first to pitch in. These tasks don't make the headlines, but they are the foundation of a strong brigade, and he has been doing this for 50 years.

His CFS journey has been one of steady growth. Starting as a basic firefighter, he built his skills and experience and eventually stepping into key leadership roles as Lieutenant, Captain and Training Officer. He guided others and shared his knowledge and helped shape the next generation of volunteers, and of course, we can't forget his legendary driving skills. To this day, no one is quite sure how he manages to get a fire truck into some of the places he does, and at full pelt too. More than one crew member has quietly wondered whether they should jump out or just hang on for dear life. True to form, and under Modris's watch, the crew always comes out unscathed. Modris, your dedication, both on the fire ground and countless hours behind the scenes, has helped build this brigade into what it is today. Few people embody the spirit of service the way you do. On behalf of our Brigade, the CFS and the community, thank you for every working bee, every call answered over the past 50 years.



Phil Tapscott presenting Modris Ozolins with his 50 Year CFS Service Medal and 2nd and 3rd Clasp.

Today it is my honour to recognise someone whose commitment, dedication and community spirit has been the backbone of our brigade for three decades. I feel privileged to present not only a 30 Year Service Medal but also Life Membership to Graeme Geldard. Over 30 years you have shown up, often in the toughest moments, ready to protect lives, property and the community. Not just here in our region but also on deployment Interstate. You have answered the call at all hours and in all conditions. You have been a steady and calm leader when it mattered most. Your knowledge and experience have helped shape this brigade into what it is today.

As many of us know, Graeme's journey through the CFS is a story of commitment, growth and leadership. He began as a basic firefighter. Turning up, learning the ropes and putting in the hard work. Over the years he has worked his way through the ranks, taking on roles that shaped both himself and the brigade. He has served as our Finance officer keeping everything on track, as our Captain, leading from the front and staying composed under pressure and as our Training Officer, passing on his knowledge and helping develop the next generation of firefighters.

So, on behalf of our brigade, the CFS and the community, thank you for your commitment.



Graeme receiving his CFS Life Membership



Phil Tapscott awarding Coil McColl, Mark Tuckwell and Modris Ozolins their 3rd clasp.

10 years CFS Service Medal

- Cameron Saxton
- Glenn Collins
- Mark Tuckwell
- Norman Bee

National Medal 15 years Service

- Jim Meyers
- Feyne Kaesler
- Graham Geldard
- Dale Hilder

1st Clasp 25 years Service

- Graham Geldard
- Terry Smith

Graham Ash

2rd Clasp 35 years Service

- Terry Smith
- Graham Ash

3rd Clasp 45 years Service

- Mark Tuckwell
- Colin McColl
- Modris Ozolins

30year CFS Service Clasp

- Graeme Geldard

Life Membership

- Modris Ozolins
- Graeme Geldard



Left: Phil Tapscott presenting Cameron Saxton his 10 year CFS Service medal.

Below: Phil Tapscott presenting Colin his 3rd Clasp for his CFS Service Medal



Left: Phil Tapscott presenting Terry Smith with his Service Medal

Right: Graham (Ashy) Ash awarded his 2nd Clasp



Left: Group Officer, Shannon Dobbell and partner giving support to Quorn CFS





Above: Phil Tapscott presenting Feyne Kaesler, Dale Hilder and Graeme Geldard the CFS National Medal.

Left: Quorn's CFS Captain, Cameron Saxton and 1st Lieutenant Ben Hilder.

Right: Maia, Geri and Kurt Tschirner enjoying the good charcoal rotisserie dinner.



South Australian Country Fire Service

Serving our community with commitment and integrity

Fearless Fifteen Rocks

by Wayne Miller

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REFLECT on our year without thinking about rocks – rocks to walk over, rocks to wonder at in this amazing landscape.

Our journey took us from Mt Zion to Calabrinda Creek – the essential Flinders Ranges – on Nukunu Country. Fourteen walks were based out of Laura, Melrose, and Quorn.

From the first weekend's walks, loose stones underfoot saw some of our most experienced walkers on the seats of their pants — literally. The steep undulations on the ridgetop fire tracks around The Bluff presented challenging descents.

Further north, the narrow trail up Mt Remarkable was crossed by steep scree slides, reminding us to keep strictly to the track. The seven kilometre climb before dawn to the peak was just a warm-up for the 18 km walk towards Alligator Gorge to complete the day.

The walking was hard, but the views more than compensated - from the ridges, views of farmlands and ranges to the east and the Spencer Gulf to the west. And in the gorges, walking along the creeks, we marvelled at the rock faces folded and faulted some 400 million years ago. The sun highlighted the colours changing throughout the day.

Mt Brown was literally a high point in our northward quest.

After Dutchman's Stern, we headed west to the gibber plains and to Eyre Depot. This barren place is the westernmost point of the Heysen Trail, and it was a relief to head back into the creeks, where rock hopping and cascade scrambling kept us alert to what was underfoot.

We were lucky to have Simon Cameron to guide us through this spectacular section, giving us a quick geology lesson - including spotting some of the first life forms on Earth: stromatolites, ancient colonies of single cells on the seabed that formed patterns on the 450-million-year-old rocks resembling ringworms.



Another mountain loomed large ahead of us - Mt Arden - a mere 840 m high, while Mt Brown and Mt Remarkable, conquered earlier, were both around 957 m. From there it was "all downhill", as our leaders like to claim.

Apart from being a very rewarding walking year, it was a great season socially. With each passing year, the cohesion of the group grows, helped enormously by the efforts of our social committee who keep us entertained and fed — and provide lots of laughs.

None of it could happen without Mark and our great leadership team.

Thanks to all. ■

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SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group

THE SA ARID LANDS LANDSCAPE Board (SAAL) supports seven Landscape Groups across the arid lands region to ensure it remains connected with community and local landscape issues. The Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group Quorn-based members are Richie Paynter, Renata Hackett, and Pauline Zanet. The group meets every two months with the next meeting to be held at the Quorn Bowling Club on Friday 27 March 2026.

If you have an item to raise or would like to attend a meeting, please contact a local member or Community Landscape Officer Brett Devitt on 0409 753 495 or Brett.Devitt@sa.gov.au

Chemcert Training Held in Quorn

On Thursday 5 February, Chemical Handling 'Chemcert' training for thirteen local farmers, landholders and volunteers was held in Quorn.

The course was run by Stewart McIntosh, who shared his knowledge and experience as a trainer and a farmer. Richie Paynter, landscape group member, and Quorn local, was excited to see the course offered locally and face-to-face without the need for assessments to be completed virtually by computer.

The Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group has been advocating for stronger weed control in the local area.

The course demonstrates its commitment to supporting landholders achieve improved weed control outcomes.



Across the Outback Magazine

The latest edition of the Board's *Across the Outback* was released in December,. The next edition is due in April. Subscribe now to have a copy delivered directly to your inbox. https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/news-resources/publications/subscribe

Upcoming Information session: Things that Bite and Sting

The Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group is bringing Julian Craig Training to Port Augusta to deliver his informative session *Things That Bite & Sting.*

If you are interested or wary of creatures that bite and sting, you won't want to miss our free educational session to be held in Port Augusta on Tuesday 10 March.

The three hour session will cover, venomous invertebrates, medical reasons for avoiding venomous animals, fear of snakes, snake bite risk groups and snake behaviour and their will be an opportunity to handle a non-venomous snake in a safe environment.

Tuesday 10th March

Registrations are open via the Humantix link https://events.humanitix.com/things-that-bite-and-sting

or by using the QR code. ■

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SA Ambulance Service News

A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS to Travis for his 20 years of service to volunteering with SAAS.

Quorn volunteer ambos enjoyed a Christmas breakup dinner together at the Transcontinental. This was only a break from training not service. Training starts when the school year begins.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help our much-depleted crew with cases. There are only four active members available for any local cases and three of those cannot cover day shift. If you can only offer one day a week that would be terrific. There are not too many cases to attend and more often or not, it is quite quiet, but, important cases need a local to attend before paramedics arrive. As you know every minute counts in an emergency. There are several Port Augusta Members who take the time to help Quorn. Often, they sleep over at the SAAS complex to make sure that response times are not too long.

Modris Ozolins was presented with a 40 Year Service Certificate and a bookshelf plaque by Adrian Stevenson. He started with St Johns Ambulance with Joy Finlay as a trainer, who told him that he only needed Senior First Aid and CPR Certificate, a driver's license and you're in sonny. Today vastly more training is required and vastly more services offered.





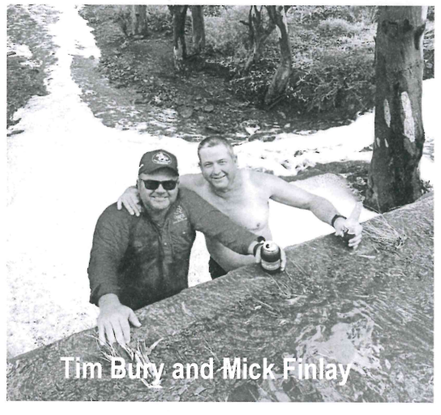
Above, Modris receives his 40 Year Service Certificate. Old news but still a great effort.

At right, Janet Brewer (RTL SAAS) presenting Travis McDonald with his 5 Year bar to add to his SAAS Service Medal

Puddling around



Declan, Jackso and Darcy enjoying the flood



Tim Bury and Mick Finlay

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Quorn Swim Club Community Trivia Night

By Elspeth Lyman

On Saturday 14 February the Quorn Swim Club brought the community together for a lively Trivia Night at the Quorn Town Hall, aiming to raise funds to buy more flippers and equipment for the 2026/2027 season. More than 130 locals, including club members, families and friends, turned out for the evening, enjoying good company and friendly competition.

The night, organised by Elspeth Lyman and Maia Tschirna, began at 7.00pm with teams forming and brainstorming creative team names. Trivia questons covered a mix of general knowledge, aussie icons, history and geography, sports and a fan favourite: local legends. Well-known community members were recognised in a "Who am I?" round. The evening concluded with a "sink or swim" round where each table selected someone to get up on stage and compete against 16 others in a 20-question challenge. Between rounds participants enjoyed snacks, refreshments and plenty of friendly banter and laughs.

Teams competed enthusiastically and after a close finish *Black Powder* claimed first prize, followed by *Nuts and Bolts* with the *QuornFlakes* in third place. A special mention goes to the *Dapto Dogs* who finished in 16th place with plenty of good humour from the crowd. There is always next time!

Lucky square raffles and a guess the goggles in the jar competition added even more excitement with small prizes awarded throughout the night. The Quorn Swimming Club would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the local businesses and sponsors who generously donated prizes and supported the event. Thankyou to our local businesses for your support! It helped make the night a fun success and contributed to the club's fundraising goals. Maia and Elspeth would also like to thank Coles and Woolworths Port Augusta for generously donating vouchers that covered the cost of 16 beautiful platters.

A heartfelt thankyou goes to Bryan Crosby who dedicated his evening to marking all the answer sheets and scoring the leaderboard.

The energy, the laughter and the sense of community were truly special, and thanks to the amazing turnout the club exceeded its fundraising goal of $1000, which means there will be more than enough flippers to go around next swimming season.

Many attendees and residents have said they would love another swimming club Quiz night later in the year, and Maia and Elspeth might just make that happen. The night was a perfect reminder of how Quorn comes together for fun, laughter and community spirit. ■



Quizmasters Elspeth Lyman and Maia Tschirner

Right: Bryan Crosby marking the answer sheets in preparation for updating the leaderboard.





Mystery Blackboard Competition

QUORN
Business Group

Interested in being part of the Quorn Business Group?

If you're a Quorn business and you would like to join, membership is just $50 per year.

Members have access to these great benefits:

- Networking events with other local business owners
- Discounted training opportunities
- Information nights with expert guest speakers
- Current information about grants that can help your business

It's a great opportunity for us all to share information and to collaborate with like-minded business owners.

We want to support sustainable business growth and make it easier to do business in Quorn.

If you're a local business and you'd like to find out more, contact:

President – Stu Hackett 0475 410 127
or
Secretary – Ellenor Day 0403 011 230

Upcoming meeting and event details will be posted in the *Quorn Out and About* group on Facebook soon.

Probus News

50 Years of Probus Australia

At the recent Probus meeting, in February, the branch celebrated the 50th Birthday with a special cake.

The Quorn chapter of Probus began in 1998. Over the past 28 years there have been many interesting times, trips and friendships made.

Probus was originally born out of Rotary, accommodating the more senior, retired business members. Now the criteria is less stringent and open to all over 60.

The Quorn group sees interesting guest speakers each month, with some fun outings for members. Each month the Augusta Cinema has a movie with morning tea at a reasonable price.

Come along and join Probus for friendship and some interesting journeys to new places. Probus meets at 10am on the first Tuesday of the month at the Town Hall. See you there. ■



Right: Fanny Coulthard officiated by cutting the cake, commemorating the special event.

Quorn Book Club

The Quorn Book Club met for their first gathering for 2026 on Thursday evening 20 February.

The book group meets monthly February to December. The gathering offers informal conversation about the book of the month they are reading as well as all the other books members have enjoyed.

New members welcome. Details about the book club at the Quorn Community Library.



Book Club Members: Sam Nester, Christine Johnston, Pat Wiseman, Janet Thomas, Jackie Vonow and Yvonne Bailey





At left: Bake Sale crew, from Left: Claire Moran ,Addison Saxton, Lily Hackett , Ruby Connell ,Evie Hackett, Maddison Pyman, Charlie Skull



Red Hat Ladies out to Lunch At the Transcontinental Hotel
Left: Shirley Carn, Barbera Fels, Betty Eckert, Heather Roberts, Sandra Everett, Mary Francis



And on the other side of the table: - From Right to left: Yvonne Player, Anne Freebairn, Pat Wiseman, Jan Noden, Cheryl Hilder, Jan Jarvis

Out and About in Quorn

Below: mid picture to left:
Old Boss from Mt Serle Station greeting NanFan



From Left Back: Dierdre Coulthard (great niece), Janet Patterson (niece) Linda Coulthard (niece)Donna Coulthard (great niece) and Veronica Coulthard (great niece)

Celebrating with Nana Fan, seated at centre



Right: Nanna Fan's 80th Birthday Cake



Family and Friends



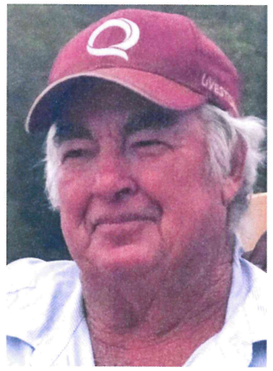
Roger (Broom) Hilder's 70th Birthday

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CAME together at the Quorn Community Oval on Saturday 21 February to celebrate the 70th birthday of long-time local identity Roger (Broom) Hilder.

The evening took a light-hearted and humorous tone, featuring a mock wake and plenty of laughter as loved ones helped Broom mark the milestone. Poems shared by David (Freddi) Freeman and Cheryl Finlay were warmly received by all in attendance. In the spirit of the mock wake Pauline Zanet shared a poem providing a heartfelt and humorous touch.

Adding to the significance of the occasion, the night also commemorated the 29th anniversary of the shared 21st birthday party held in 2006 by long term friends Lional (Socky) Ryan, Broom Hilder, and the late Kevin Fitzgerald. Both Socky, his family and members of Kevin's family attended the celebration, honouring past memories while creating new ones.

The gathering reflected the strong community spirit of Quorn, with attendees celebrating not only a birthday, but decades of friendship and shared history. ■



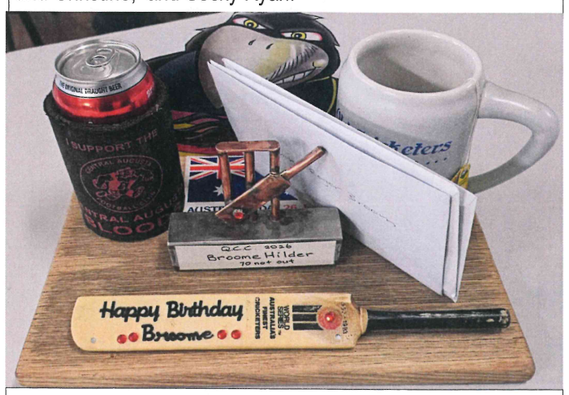
Good Cheer, Old Mate

We gather here for
Broom today
A Quorn man, tried and
true
He'd share a yarn with
anyone
Who wandered into
view.
He loved this town
Its dusty streets
Its characters he knew.
Where mates would
wave from ute or gate,
and call "How are you?"
He loved his land
The stubborn soil, the scent of rain come through.
He'd swear that farming's hard, old son,
But by heck …..Its fun too.
He'd boss the cows, debate the sheep,
and argue with the gear,
A farmer with a cheeky grin,
A mate we all held dear.
Our steadfast mate,
A man of fun and cheer,
Who called us all his family —
Each Uncle, Aunty and dear.
So from all of us…
Its Good Cheer, old mate —
Its time to leave for the pearly gates.
It's not goodbye –
He's not gone far —
Just gone ahead…
To cross that final grate.

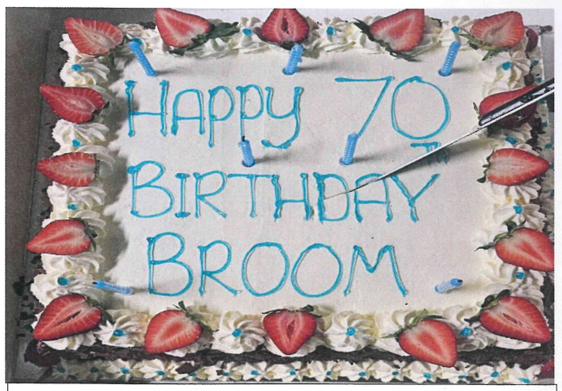
Pauline Zanet (with a little help from the electric sheep)



Broom Hilder, grandson Curtley Hilder, Christine Fitzgerald, wife of Kevin Fitzgerald, James Fitzgerald eldest son of Kevin and Christine, and Socky Ryan.



A gift for Broom designed by Frank Lathbury



The Birthday Cake

20 Years Ago

March 2006



50th Birthday—Lionel (Soccy) Ryan, Roger (Broom) Hilder and Kevin (Fitzy) Fitzgerald celebrated the 29th Anniversary of their 21st Birthday Party at Broom's *Kyoota* property on Saturday 25th February.

10 Years Ago

March 2016

TURNING OF THE SOD - GREAT NORTHERN LODGE



The construction of the Great Northern Lodge is finally underway following the 'Turning of the Sod' ceremony held on Monday 29th February 2016. The ceremony was well attended by locals, dignitaries and the media, with Premier Jay Weatherill and Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock turning the actual sod.

Speeches followed in the shade inside Emily's Bistro, with Peter Slattery, Dr Tony Lian-Lloyd, Geoff Brock, Wendy Brown, Tourism Minster Leon Bignell, thanking the Brown family, the local council and the Regional Development Association.

Above: Wendy Brown, Jay Weatherill, Geoff Brock, Sally Brown and Eddie Hughes MP.

Right: Premier Weatherill plays with the flying fox in Emily's Bistro.



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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

Fellowship 2026



Left: Di George, Cathy George, Sarah Kruger, Dorothy Crosby



From Left Pam Rogers, Di George, Cathy George



From Left: Di Williams, Nes Lian Lloyd, Anne Collins



Left; Shirley Carn, Pam Hunt, Minette Gorecki, Anne Freebairn

THE FELLOWSHIP GROUP kicked off the year at their annual Chinese Dinner in Port Augusta, recently.

There was the usual fun and fellowship followed by some brain teasers to stretch the cerebral space, from the organizers, Di and Pam.

Come and join the group, which meets the third Wednesday of the month.

Watch Quorn Out and About for details. ■

Quorn Agricultural Show 2026

At the Quorn Agricultural Show Committee AGM the new Office holders were elected as follows:
President: Sue Trittmacher
Vice President Modris Ozlins
Treasurer: Lisa Southon
Secretary:Vacant
Public Officer: Pat Wiseman
Senior Steward: Clarinda Ellis
Trade Spaces Coordinator: Tara Hooker
Show Book Coordinator: Michelle Densley.

Proposed Date for the Quorn Show for 2026 is Sunday August 30th

The committee hopes to attract community groups to participate in implementing the theme of *Yesteryear* for the 2026 Show.

We are looking for individuals, groups, and organisations who would like to help bring the theme to life. If you are interested in running an activity, we'd love to hear from you!

Some ideas so far have been: Coconut Shy, Sack races, Quoits, Peg-doll making, Vintage dress-up photobooth, Antiques Curiosity tent, Old fashioned toy station (spinning tops etc)

Please contact the committee with your ideas. ■



Quorn Agricultural Show Society Inc

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 79
March 2026

Editor
Dave Wingrove

IT HAS BEEN yet another busy start to the year and our books have quite a few projects listed.

The Preloved Shop had their counter altered and a bench made for the sorting room. We also repaired some of the floorboards for them so that new flooring can be laid.

We are in the process of making five mini golf structures for the local children's use.

The change to Monday mornings for the ladies is working well and many projects are being done by them.

Some members of the community contacted us as they had cans and bottles to donate to us and so we happily collected them. Thank you all very much, it all helps with our running costs.

We have been able to assist some Quornies who are leaving the area and we are disappointed to see them go but wish them well in the future.

Our next big project is making tables for an outdoor kitchen for a local business. These jobs are keeping us very busy.

Our breakfast Thursdays are being well attended with the addition of four men from Port Augusta and some local new faces.

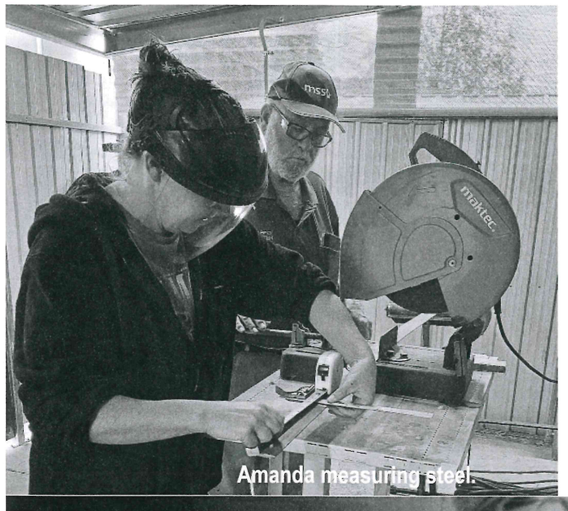
Ian Carpenter



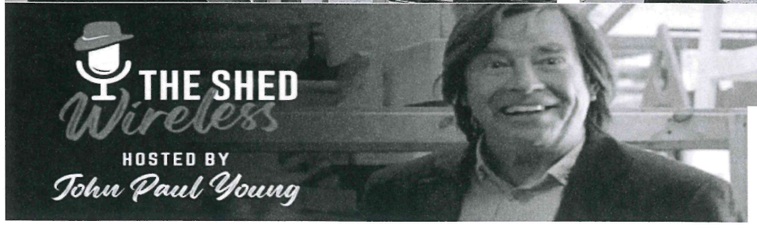
Kathy & Narelle cutting board with miter saw.



Kathy using drill press.



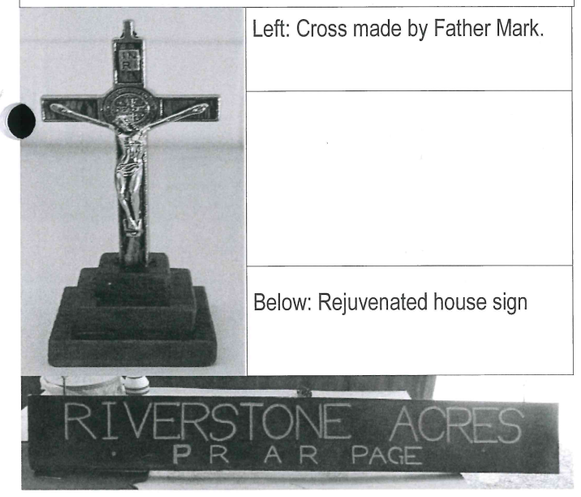
Amanda measuring steel.



30 years OF SHEDS



Andrew using thicknesser purchased with FRRR



Left: Cross made by Father Mark.

Below: Rejuvenated house sign



Father Mark with Brother Louis.

Shed breakfast at 0900hrs
on 12 and 26 March.
Hamburgers for workers lunch,
on 5 and 19 March.



Ladies workdays Monday Mornings

Shed Funnies

A man visited his doctor, and the doctor checked him over before saying "You obviously get a lot of exercise."

The man replied, "Oh yeah, in fact, just the other day I walked 5 kilometres over rugged terrain as I climbed over rocks and trees. I also waded along the edges of a lake, pushing my way through tall thistles and sliding down sandy slopes whilst getting sand in my eyes."

The doctor was quite impressed, "Well you are certainly a dedicated outdoor enthusiast."

The man replied, "Not really doctor, I'm just a really bad golfer."

Why don't scientists trust atoms?
Because they make up everything!

What did one ocean say to the other ocean?
Nothing, they just waved.

Why don't skeletons fight each other?
They don't have the guts.

Why did the scarecrow win an award?
Because he was outstanding in his field!

Why did the bicycle fall over?
Because it was two-tired!

Why don't some couples go to the gym?
Because some relationships don't work out!

How do you organize a space party?
You planet!

What did one hat say to the other hat?
You stay here, I'll go on ahead!

Why did the tomato turn red?
Because it saw the salad dressing!

Why don't you ever see elephants hiding in trees?
Because they're really good at it!

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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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

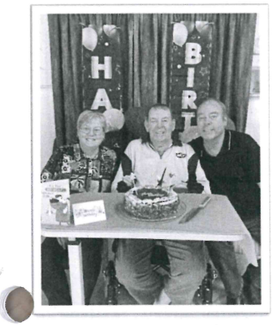
Contact your aged care provider

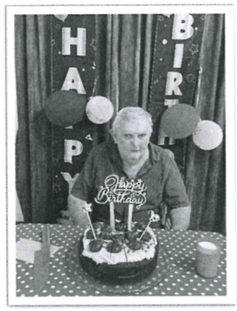
or

Kath Altmann on 86486058 for more information.

FLINDERS HOUSE NEWS

WE HAVE HAD A GREAT MONTH at Quorn Health Services celebrating the birthdays of Trevor, James, and Marie: pictured below.







We've watched some movies in the hotter weather, played mini golf, had a Valentines Day lunch, celebrated Shrove Tuesday, and had happy hour.



LEADERBOARD

Word Flip Competition: 18 - 25 February 2026

Results are preliminary and not final until approved by Teamific. Refresh page for latest results (allow up to 5 - 10 minutes).

Rank		Total	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	Flinders House	50	10	10	10	10	10
1	Hilton Park Aged Care	50	10	10	10	10	10
1	Jindalee Aged Care Residence	50	10	10	10	10	10
1	Moyne Health Services-Moyneyana House	50	10	10	10	10	10
2	HammondCare Mason	49	10	9	10	10	10
2	Opal Healthcare (Western Port Bay Care Community)	49	10	10	9	10	10
2	St Vincent's Aged Care Bronte	49	10	10	9	10	10

Residents did exceptionally well in the Global Word Flip scoring a massive 50/50. We compete against other care homes in Australia and New Zealand for cash prizes. Congratulations and well done on a great effort. ■

The residents had a happy hour where they enjoyed cheese and biscuits and nibbles all washed down with some froth and bubbles.



Back table – Pat, Alan, Kerry, and James.
Front table – Marjorie, Elaine, Yvonnie and Carmel.



Marlene, Maureen, Sherree, Trevor, Joan, Ray, and Carmel.



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

Fiction

The Women on Platform Two – Laura Anthony. A moving story about women in Ireland fighting for reproductive rights in the 1970s, linked with a modern-day woman facing her own choices. A novel about courage, friendship, and standing up for change.

The Devil's Daughter – Danielle Steel. The story of two very different sisters whose lives take opposite paths. It explores ambition, family loyalty, and the consequences of choices.

Down Under Heroes: Sexy Single Dads – Fiona Lowe. A light-hearted romance collection set in Australia, featuring single fathers finding love. Warm, feel-good stories about family, second chances, and relationships.

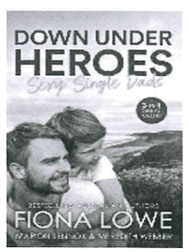
Non Fiction

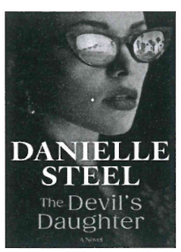
Very Good Salads – Louisa Allan & Shuki Rosenboim. A fresh, colourful cookbook inspired by Middle Eastern flavours and seasonal produce. Perfect for sharing plates, simple salads and vibrant vegetarian dish

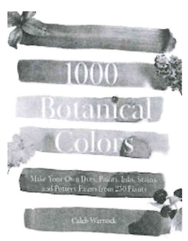
1000 Botanical Colors – Caleb Warnock. A practical guide to making natural dyes, paints and inks from plants. Ideal for artists, crafters,and anyone interested in creative nature-based projects.

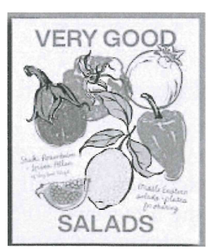
Math Games with Bad Drawings – Ben Orlin. A fun collection of simple maths games for all ages explained with humour and quirky drawings. Great for making maths playful and engaging.

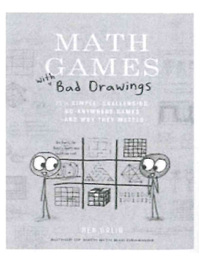












LIBRARIES SA one card

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

Quorn Area School Annual Book Fair

You are invited to the Scholastic Book Fair
Dates: 17th to 20th March 2026
Place: Quorn School and Community Library

Come browse and pick up affordable children's books — perfect for reading and great as gifts!



Justice of Peace Service

Quorn School & Community Library

Wednesday 4th March
(10 am to 12 pm)

Wednesday 18th March
(10 am to 12 pm)

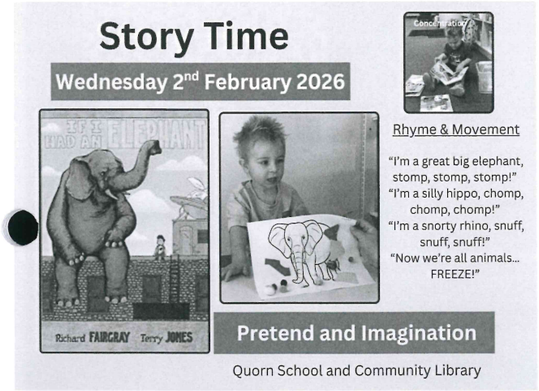
Wednesday 1st April
(10 am to 12 pm)

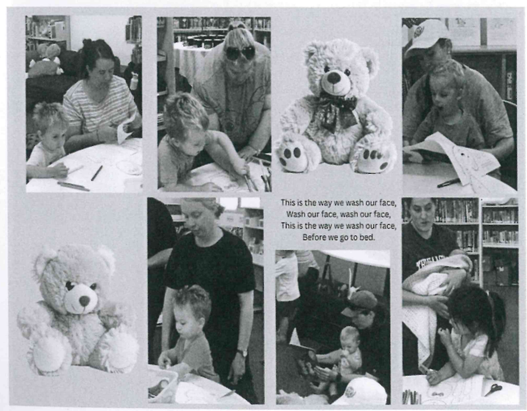
Tim Hobbs (JP) is also available to help with Advanced Care Directives during this time.

Tim Hobbs JP
ID 32451
Member of the Royal Association of Justice of S.A. Inc.

If the advertised JP service times do not suit, please contact the Library to enquire about other available options.

Story-Time is up and running again for 2026

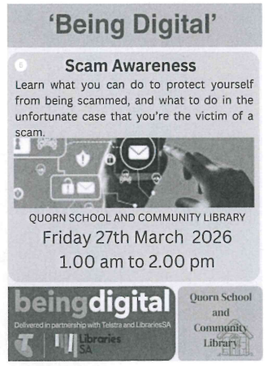




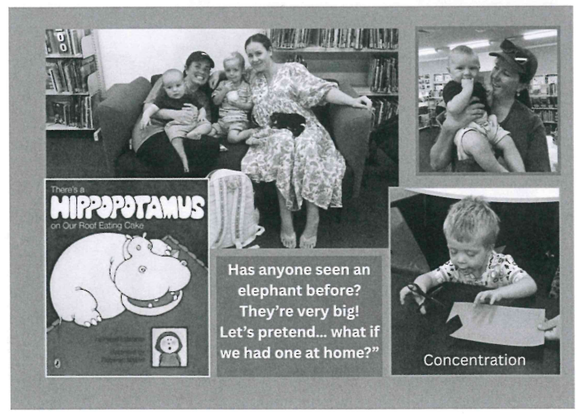
Help Us Complete Our School's History

Our school library is currently binding past school magazines into decade volumes to help preserve them for future generations. This project will ensure our students and community can continue to enjoy and learn from our rich history. We are missing several editions and would greatly appreciate the community's help. We are looking for any magazines published prior to 1955, as well as the following years: 1958, 1959, 1966, 1973–1980, 1983 and 2003. If you have copies of any of these editions and would be willing to lend them to us for photocopying, we would be very grateful.









Hi Flinders and Upper North LHN community!

We want to hear from you...

The Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network (FUNLHN) is reviewing and updating their strategic suite of documents including:

- FUNLHN Strategic Plan (2022-2026)
- Consumer and Community Engagement Strategic Framework (2022-2026)
- Clinical Engagement Strategy (2023-2026).

Survey closes Friday 17 April 2026

In response to changing community needs, policy directions, and system priorities, it is essential that these strategic documents are current, relevant, and aligned with FUNLHN's vision for excellence in health care for everyone, every day, all the time.

To have your say...

- scan the QR Code with your smart phone camera
- pick up a paper version from your local health service and submit in the returns box nearby.



Government of South Australia | Health
Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network

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CHAPMAN FAMILY HISTORY

PART 16

The family of James and Elizabeth Chapman: children of Robert William Chapman.

EDNA MAY CHAPMAN, the second child and first daughter of Robert William Chapman and Mary Jane Chapman (nee Rogers) was born at Hammond in South Australia on 29 August 1911.

Edna moved to Kingoonya where her father worked on the construction of the Trans Australian Railway.

It was here that she met and in 1936 married Ernest Simpkins.

Edna and Ernie had a varied life as shown in Ernie's obituary (right) ■



Outback character's death mourned

1988

After a career ranging from horsebreaker and mailman to appearing in a movie, Outback character Ernest Simpkins has died in Port Augusta, aged 80.

Put into an orphanage because his mother had too many children to look after, Ernie began his working life breaking police greys at the Thebarton police barracks.

But he was attracted to the Outback and moved to work on various sheep stations in the State's North-West, sinking bores for dams and driving the mail truck from Kingoonya.

He married Edna May Chapman in 1936 at Kingoonya and the couple had six children.

Until he joined the railways in 1939, Ernie spent some time carting gold ore to Tarcoola in model 'T' Ford trucks.

He loaded coal for the troop trains at Abminga during World War II and remained in the railways as a fetler and ganger after the war ended.

In 1950 Ernie took to the road doing contract fencing, building cattle yards through the bush, many of which are still standing.

Using World War II 'Blitz' trucks and living in tents, he and Edna worked as a husband-and-wife team doing cooking and station work.

Ernie later joined the Highways Department in Port Augusta, and continued doing odd jobs around the town after his retirement.

He had a small part as a drinker in a bar scene of the movie 'Sunday Too Far Away', an Australian movie which starred Jack Thompson.

Ernie died on August 15, leaving his wife, six children, 16 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Extract from The Transcontinental Newspaper , August 1988.

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	

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Country Health Connect Quorn Update

March 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 January 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
61	277	15	3	8

Allied Health Professionals March Visiting Schedule				
11th March	**12th March**	**19th March**	**25th March**	**26th March**
Occupational Therapist	Physiotherapy	Dietetics	Diabetes Ed 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

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.

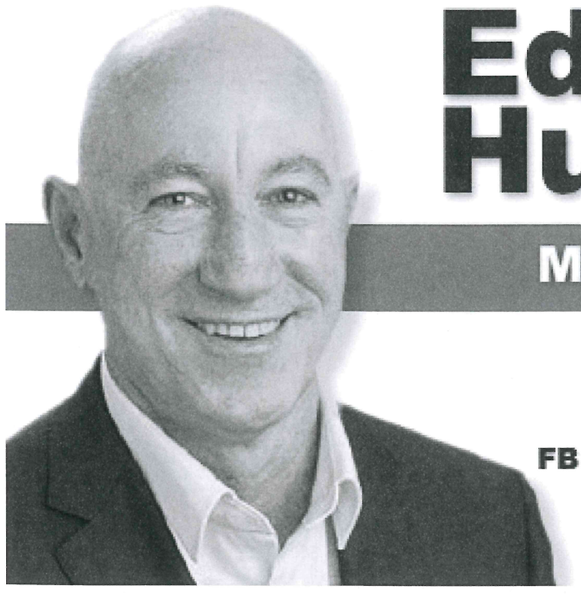






My office can help you with

- 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
E | giles@parliament.sa.gov.au
P | (08) 8645 7800

March 2026

Contact Quorn Hospital 8648 7888 for dates

Podiatrist
Diabetes Education
Dietitian
Physiotherapist
Occupational Therapist
Speech Pathologist
Social Worker

Country Health Connect 8668 7706

March2026

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 6th March 2026

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Postal Address—PO Box 367, Quorn, SA 5433 ***Email***—*mercury@quornmercury.com.au*

Public Officer—Tarla Kramer

Next Issue's (April 2nd 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 27th March 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. with caption info giving peoples' first and last names, what's happening, where and 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

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.

Classified Adverts

Rainfall 2026

January	0.0mm
February	73.4mm
YTD	73.4mm



Change of Address

Has your Mercury email gone astray?
The Quorn Mercury email address changed about a year ago.

Check you are using the new address

Mercury@quornmercury.com.au

The former frc address is no longer in service and will not reach us.

Please also note that the small team of volunteers only has capacity to monitor emails on publication days 2-3 days per month.

Don't panic if you didn't hear back from us and you know you've used the correct email address. We will respond when we come into the office for publication days.

Thanks for all your wonderful contributions to your local newspaper. ■

Easter Church Services

Flinders Ranges Catholic Parish

Holy Thursday:
Quorn 7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday:
Quorn 11:00am Stations of the Cross
Hawker 3:00pm The Lord's Passion
Carrieton 6:pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday:
Quorn 7:00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday:
Carrieton: 8:30am Holy Mass
Hawker 10:30am Holy Mass
Leigh Creek 5:00pm Holy Mass

SAVE THE DATE



GREAT NORTHERN WAR MEMORIAL / HAWKER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL REUNION

SATURDAY 3RD OF OCTOBER, 2026

HAWKER COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE

More information to follow

All queries to
Julie Brown - vanbrown@bigpond.com
Carmel Reynolds - carmel.t.reynolds@gmail.com



Quorn Hawker Cradock Events March 2026

Regular Events

Quorn

Story Time
Wednesday 4th and 18th at 10am
at the Quorn Library

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.
[redacted] 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
[redacted] 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

Quote of the month

Between saying and doing, many a pair of shoes are worn out.

Italian Proverb

Up Coming Events

FRINGE 2026

Fringe in the Flinders
Quorn Arts Precinct
Saturday 28th A free event with a world class line up of music, circus & comedy. Local food & drink facilities available to purchase on night.

Tickle Belly Hill
Show line-up for Fringe 2026 is here Kicking off on Saturday the 14th February through to March
All shows are now available to be booked via the Fringe website.https://adelaidefringe.com.au/.../venues/tickle-belly-hill
or phone 0498 747 357

Quorn Community Library
5th at 6pm with light supper to follow Join Leanda Herring as she shares the inspiration behind her debut novel 'Beneath Her Lies' set in the Flinders Ranges

Pichi Richi Railway
Season start, first Sundowner 7th March 2026. Information for the Pichi Richi Railway Season is available by collecting a timetable from the Quorn Visitor Centre or go to www.pichirichirailway.org.au

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

Phone 08 86200510
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 Night Owls Bowls All welcome Fridays at 7:00pm for 7.30pm 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 4th 10am to 12pm

Spirit of the Flinders Makers Centre
Book our Maker's Centre Workshops
https://spirit-of-the-flinders.square.site/

Check out Facebook and or notice boards for future events

PICHI RICHI • RAILWAY •

FEBRUARY REMAINED A BUSY MONTH for the Pichi Richi Railway as the volunteers continued to get ready for the first Sundowners of the season with trains running on both Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 March.

Activities included:

- Sleeper installation near Footner Road which included the first newbies gang of the season
- Commencement of major repairs to the culvert on C81/82 - see photo below



- Ongoing restoration works to the Goods Shed including door installation and sheeting works
- Vegetation clearance works at the Railway Station and Quorn Yard
- Ongoing restoration and repair of the



Rain is always welcome and it was delivered later in February which has refreshed the town gardens and filled water tanks including those used by steam locos on the PRR railway. Unfortunately it can cause runoff and or drainage problems.
(photo below: Saltia creek flowing by Damien Butler).



Volunteering

There are lots of interesting areas for volunteering in the PRR.



If you love the outdoors, track work could be for you.
(photo: Don B enjoying the fun and teamwork in the Carriage Shed)

Some volunteers are also supporting PRR at the Flinders Ranges Tourist Operators Association booth at the Adelaide Caravan and Camping Show.

Please contact John Humphries if you would like to volunteer on 0427 602 886 or john.humphries@prr.org.au

To obtain a printed copy of our timetable and brochure, visit the Flinders Ranges Council Visitors Information Centre at the Quorn railway station.

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

Flinders Tradition since 1973 :: September 2026:: pichirichirailway.org.au :: 1800 777 245

Pichi Richi Railway acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways on which it operates.