Quorn Mercury

Recording Quorn's History while it's Being Made

December 2025 | Established 1895 | Number 30/327

Merry Christmas!



THE 2025 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, with the largest float parade in recent years, added to a weekend of special events Quorn.

It was a huge weekend of cricket with teams from Roxby Downs - Hornridge, Hawker/Blinman, Copley, Scotch College and Blind Cricket SA in Quorn to compete in four days of day and night matches..

The Pageant then took centre stage followed by an evening of fun, food, dance, and community carol singing.



➔ See inside for Christmas Pageant and Cricket pics

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Flash As

Chat with a Quornie
Ian Carpenter



I was Born in Whyalla 1951, one of five siblings and was schooled in Whyalla .
I hated school and as I tell people 'I rode my bike through school - in the front door and out the back door'. I worked from age of 12, working for a local business helping in their fruit and veg shop and general store throughout my high school years until I started my apprenticeship.

In my early years I participated in motorbike trial riding and car racing at Whyalla Speedway, of which I am a Life Member, and once I stopped racing became their track manager and had a crash course on how to operate graders. I then got involved in off road racing and my brother and I built an off-road buggy, taking out the State Titles in our class. There was a major race at Hawker and my brother had to work so my father who was in his eighties said he would navigate for me. There was an off-road track at Hawker and it was rated as one of the best tracks in SA, being 6 laps each 50km long. When we



Ian and his father at Carpenter Road Hawker

finished the race Dad couldn't find his feet and was exhausted. It was of the proudest days of his life to have competed at Hawker. On that note, my father was not only my dad, but he was also my best mate.

I left school and commenced an apprenticeship at Whyalla Shipyards.
At the age of 17, along with a group of mates, I joined the Citizens Military Forces and did three years part time service. This was probably the best years of my youth, and I would like to see military training reintroduced in Australia as it instilled great ethics which I still adhere to today.

On leaving the shipyards I commenced in the car industry in Whyalla and ended up as sales manager for the Whyalla Ford dealership.
To most people that know me one of my favourite sayings is "you can trust me! I used to sell Ford Falcons." Lol

My association with the Flinders goes back many years - to my parents Jack and Betty and also my grandmother Mary Gibson.
My father was born and raised at Gordon, north of Quorn, and my mother raised at a Mern Merna gangers house north of Hawker. My father played both cricket and football for Quorn riding his push bike from Gordon to play sports.

They both gained work at Kelly's farm just out of Quorn where they met, married and then moved to Whyalla in the war years.

I have been going to Merna Mora Station, north of Hawker, at a relative's station in the Flinders all my life. The Flinders is in my blood.

I am not going to give you my whole life story as the things I've done should make me 120 so I will dwell on my love of the Flinders.
In 1971, I married my wife, Denise, and adopted two girls raising them in Whyalla.

The first time I took my wife to the Flinders she was amazed that there was no bitumen north of Hawker as she was from Yorke Peninsula.

The Fels family took up another pastoral lease out on the edge of Lake Torrens, called Wintabatinyana, which became their cattle raising property. As a family we spent most annual leave and numerous weekends up with them and I helped with mustering and working cattle and a lot of early development of that block. This gave me broad experience in windmill repairs, cattle yards etc and I developed a love of cattle. I definitely don't like working sheep!

On one of the few occasions I helped Donald lamb tailing, my position on the lamb tailing table was to castrate the young lambs. Back in those days, a long, long time ago, the method was to use your teeth in their removal. I remember saying I cannot do it as I have false teeth. I was soon told: well Max Jones has false teeth and he can do it. So I had no choice. After the first ten or so lambs I stopped gagging and got on with the job. Those who know me would know I have always had a beard so you can imagine what I looked like at the end of the day. When my young daughter came down she asked what I was doing. As I turned to talk to her I spat out said "testicles". She looked up, saw me spit them out, saw the blood in my beard, screamed and ran to the homestead calling out: mum, mum dad's cut his bloody tongue off. I am so glad modern technology has changed the way of lamb marking.

In 1992 a caravan park, which was closed on the Leigh Creek Road side of Hawker, was put on the market so Denise and I went to the auction and purchased it. This was a real-life changer for us.

The park had fantastic amenities and infrastructure, but no house and Denise put a condition on our move saying we had to purchase an ex Leigh Creek house to live in as they were coming up for auction. I would have been happy living in a van but had to appease my wife and was glad that, for once, I listened to her. The caravan park had been closed for some time and when the RAA did their rating, they apologised saying they couldn't rate it at this time. My wife, being the person she is, insisted that they supply a book of information on their requirements. So for the next ten years we worked our little butts off and brought the park up to a 4 1/2-star park which was the highest rated park in the Flinders. Whilst doing that I conducted a fibreglass business, relining tanks and troughs in the north of South Australia and into Queensland.

When Quentin Smith and Brian Dobson, tour operators in the Flinders both retired, I commenced doing 4WD tours from our park and thoroughly enjoyed showing people from all over Australia and especially overseas people our wonderful Flinders Ranges.

In 1999 I had a heart attack and because of my health in 2001 we reluctantly sold the park and moved to Wallaroo to be close to Denise's family. We purchased a second-hand furniture business and because we had great staff, I was still able to spend a lot of time in the Flinders. Ironically many of my friends said I bet you go swimming, fishing etcetera now, and my answer was always: don't be silly I might drown! I hate sand and I miss the Flinders Ranges creeks and gum trees.

About 2005 we purchased a little, two bedroom house in Hawker as a holiday house and started spending more and more weekends in it. We named it 'Homely' and it is still known as that today.

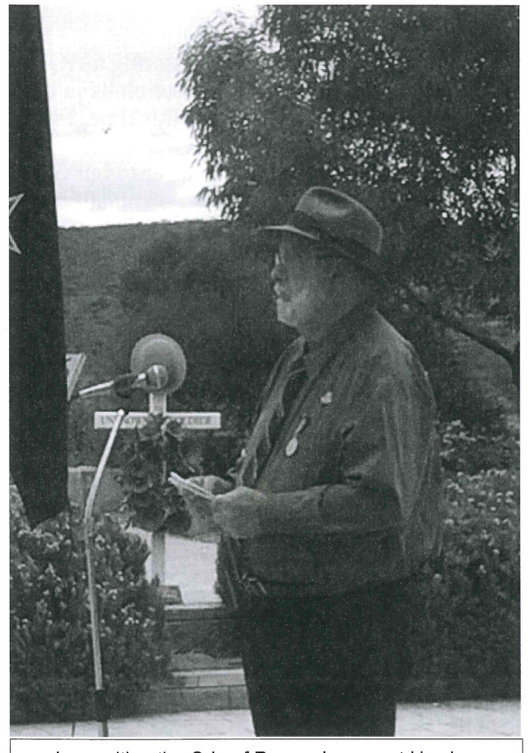
One Sunday morning whilst at our holiday house the local land agent, Geoff Williams, who had sold us Homely pulled up at the house opposite us and started to put a for sale sign on its fence. Denise said to me we should buy that and my answer was 'what the bloody hell for?' Denise's answer was it would be a bigger house for us to live in when we move back to Hawker permanently. Consequently it was one of the quickest sales Geoff ever made.

After Denise's father passed the lure of the Flinders got to us and we sold our house and businesses and returned to Hawker permanently, retaining Homely as a bed and breakfast.

Both of us gained employment at Wilpena Pound, Denise managing the Visitor Centre and I was employed as their Tour Manager. After three years I purchased another tour vehicle and commenced doing my own tours again. Denise worked first at Jeff Morgan's and then Hawker Motors.

On returning to Hawker, I became involved with the Hawker Community Development Board and one of my greatest pleasures was working with the Board, Steve Taylor, Kevin Hucks and some Work for the Dole members, developing the Hawker War Memorial. With support from the Flinders Ranges Council, we transformed the old swimming pool site into an iconic memorial. Steve Taylor's wife, Asha, and Denise threatened to buy a caravan for Steve and I to place at the memorial to live in as we spent so much time there.

I was also on the Hawker HAC, Wirreanda Cottages board, a CFS volunteer and did small maintenance jobs for the elderly in Hawker and helped some station owners with water runs etc. About this time, I started to manage Wallerberdina Station that Punk Davidson, a Yorke Peninsula farmer, leased for four years. He told me, on offering me the job that all I had to do was a water run once a week and I laughed at him and said if I can't do it three or four times a week, because of the water infrastructure, I didn't want the job. He soon understood that it wasn't cereal growing but station country and the necessity of keeping water up to the stock became very obvious. Thoroughly enjoyed these four years looking after Wallerberdina. My longest water run was about 13 hours repairing broken pipes. One funny occasion, on a water run, I had Steve Taylor with me for company and came across busted pipes. We isolated the said broken pipe, and I had to crawl through muddy clay ground to get to and repair the pipe. I sent Steve back to turn the isolating valve back on as I could not get in the car being absolutely covered in mud. When he returned I was waiting for him in only my undies with an armful of filthy, muddy clothes. I explained I would drive to the next tank and wash my clothes out as we continued the run. Steve said what if someone sees you like this and my reply was "don't worry I'll tell them we are just good friends". I have never seen someone jammed up against the passenger door like Steve did that day.



Ian reciting the Ode of Remembrance at Hawker Anzac Day 2024



Ian representing the Flinders Ranges Council presenting David Meekhums with an award

Whilst in Hawker I started restoring a HQ Holden ute and joined vintage car clubs in both Port Augusta and Whyalla. By this time, I was retirement age and we decided that we should sell up and move to Quorn to be closer to our car clubs, friends, health facilities and planned a quieter retirement. Boy, was I wrong, "retirement" is just a word!

We were looking for a house, and Judy and Max McLeod helped us find the perfect one, I must admit sheds were very high on my priority list. We purchased it in Quorn in 2021, not able to believe our good luck in finding exactly what we wanted for our old age. Our intention was to slow our lifestyle down but it didn't happen.

Since moving to Quorn, I have been elected to the FRC as a Councillor and find this a very rewarding and challenging position.

I joined the Quorn Lions Club, which is low in numbers, deciding to join as they do great work for the community raising money by way of the chip van and sausage sizzles and it is very rewarding. All money raised by Lions goes back into the community by way of donations and sponsorships. Lions are always looking for new members.

In 2024 I started attending the Quorn men's shed as a council rep. At first, I thought this shed was only for old men, then I looked in the mirror and realised that I was an old man anyway. I now hold the position of Chair and find it is a great meeting place for the men. We now have a designated ladies day and that is proving very successful and would love to see more men and women come along and enjoy the fellowship. We now do quite a few jobs for community members in the town like restoring furniture, building tables and benches etcetera.

My motto has always been I would rather be a do-er not a gunna and I live by that motto. I was a proud recipient of the Flinders Ranges Council Citizen of the year in 2017.

Since moving to Quorn I have dabbled in metalwork, making garden ornaments, emus etcetera which I find an enjoyable pastime in my later years.

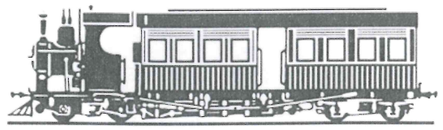
We have gained lots of friends and are enjoying our 'semi' retirement in this wonderful town. In closing I still hold Hawker close to my heart and feel Quorn is now our home and it's great to be a Quornie.

As stated above this is only a condensed version of my life as people would think I was 120 if I mentioned everything I have done and achieved. Friends and family remain ultra important to me. ■



Ian at the Men's Shed

PICHI RICHI • RAILWAY •



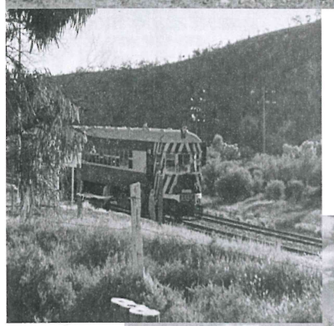
THE BUSY PRR 2025 season concluded with three Sundowner train services from Quorn to Woolshed Flat, one in the heritage diesel Brill Railcar and two hauled by NT76.

These trains carried many passengers who enjoyed the journey and catering at Woolshed Flat in cooler temperatures than last year.

Passengers and crew enjoyed the scenic vistas of the Pichi Richi Pass and magnificent sunsets as we returned to town.

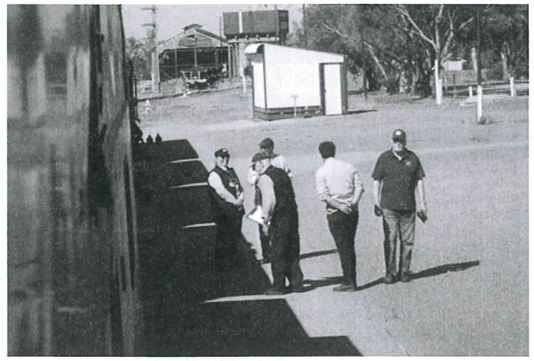
Thanks to our drivers Kingsley Marr, Dave Southon and Dave Fisher.







Meanwhile back at the depot, as well as many working bees, our members have been active in training. Thanks to our trainers Leanne Mc Gill, Dave Fisher and Phil Mellors who mentored members Stan and Ethan and others as they continued their training recently.



Our 2026 new Timetable is now out! Please visit Quorn station for more information.

Finally, we would like to wish all our passengers, community and PRR members a very Happy Christmas Season.



Considering Volunteering?

Join us in one of many roles. Phone John Humphries, our Membersip Officer on (08) 8641 1527 #3 to discuss a role to suit you and your availability.

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

A Flinders Tradition since 1974 pichirichirailway.org.au 1800 777 245

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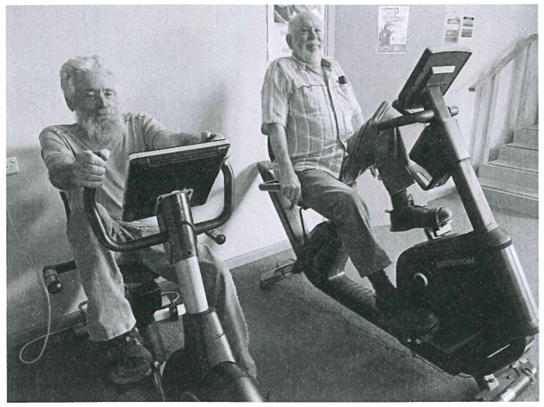
Passionate about helping clients find their perfect home, Phallen is a motivated and dedicated Elders Real Estate Agent eager to make a positive impact in the community. With a fresh perspective and a commitment to personalised service, Phallen works tirelessly to guide buyers and sellers through every step of the real estate journey. Known for excellent communication and a genuine approach, Phallen is ready to help you turn your property goals into reality.

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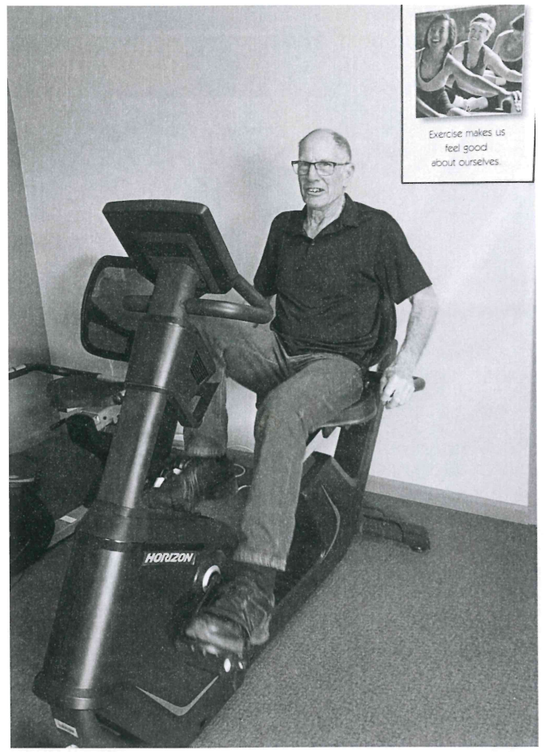
Recumbent Bike Donation by Quorn Preloved Boutique

THE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS who run our Quorn Preloved Boutique have very generously donated the funds to buy a recumbent bike for the rehabilitation room in Quorn.



The recumbent bike is a great piece of equipment and is used daily by a very diverse range of consumers.
Recumbent bikes benefit seniors by providing a low-impact cardiovascular workout that is gentle on joints, thanks to their reclined seating and back support. This design reduces stress on the spine, hips, and knees, making exercise accessible for those with arthritis, balance issues, or mobility limitations. Other benefits include improved muscle strength in the lower body, better circulation, and enhanced mood and cognitive function.
The reclined position distributes weight evenly, putting less stress on joints like the knees, hips, and ankles.
The smooth, circular pedalling motion helps improve joint flexibility and mobility.
It is often recommended for individuals recovering from injuries or with conditions like arthritis, as it helps restore movement and circulation.
The design, with the pedals in front of the body, makes it more stable and easier to balance than a traditional upright bike, which is ideal for those with balance or mobility issues.
Customisable workouts: Users can adjust the speed and resistance to suit their fitness level and needs.
The recumbent bike is fantastic and enjoyed by all!

A huge thank you to all at the Quorn Preloved Boutique



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Probus News



From Left Carlene Voight with guest speaker Paul Smith, and President Bob Rankin



Newest Probus Member, Lyn Flockton accepting her badge or maybe a dance lesson from President Bob Rankin?

THE NOVEMBER MEETING SAW guest speaker, Paul Smith, give an interesting talk on cemeteries. Not a macabre thing at all, but an interesting view on what is behind a headstone!

Paul, a member of the Port Augusta Probus club recounted many interesting stories of what is behind the many headstones in a graveyard. He has also led some interesting cemetery tours during the hours of darkness, where his group appreciated the many stories behind the headstones.

With a keen interest in local history, Paul recounted some interesting and somewhat tragic stories from our area. One such story told of a drowning in Port Augusta and the use of dynamite to recover the body! Paul was a most interesting guest speaker.

Our Christmas Lunch was held at the Great Northern Lodge on Tuesday 9th December with super chef Wendy serving her usual fabulous fare.

Thanks must go to all the Probus Committee for another great year of interesting guest speakers, fabulous outings and great movies.



See you all next year and Seasons Greetings

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20 Years Ago

December 2005

Rural Doctor of the Year

Dr Tony Lian-Lloyd has been named the Rural Doctor of the Year for 2005.

He received the inaugural award presented by Rural Doctors Association of Australia.

Dr Lian-Lloyd has provided medical services in Quorn since 1992 at his private practice and at the Quorn Hospital. Dr Lian Lloyd won the award from a very strong group of dedicated rural and remote doctors who were nominated.

Dr Lian-Lloyd also provides obstetric, surgery and anaesthetic services for the Port Augusta Hospital and travels 90km to Booleroo Centre.

"Tony is dedicated to providing rural medical services to his community, and to encouraging a new generation of doctors to take up rural practice".

Dr Lian-Lloyd has been passionate about the need for people living in rural communities to access medical services locally and close to home.

He has been instrumental in providing significant exposure to country medicine and the rural lifestyle for many rural medical club students from both the Flinders University and Adelaide University medical schools each year. Dr Lian Lloyd believes the negatives of solo practice are outweighed by the positives.

Dr Lian Lloyd acknowledged the support that was given to him by his wife Ness. "I couldn't do this without my wife, it's as simple as that" he said.

Dr Tony has two children Jo and Christopher and is a keen member of the stockyard arena.

Congratulations Tony on a well deserved award.

Excerpts courtesy of the Flinders News and the Advertiser.

10 Years Ago

December 2015

Pool Opening Day 8th November

People came from far away to take advantage of the free entry and BBQ offered on the day the pool opened. Below: Shirley Hughes chatting to a WA couple - Jannene and Cody Cannard.



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.

Flinders House News

November has been a fulfilling month where we have celebrated Dougie, Muriel and John's birthdays, Melbourne Cup and Remembrance Day, had a film crew through working on a workplace promotional video, and a visit from the optometrists.



Maureen, Fran and Beryl enjoy lunch at the Pastoral Hotel after their Cinema outing



Residents glued to the screen to watch the Melbourne Cup.



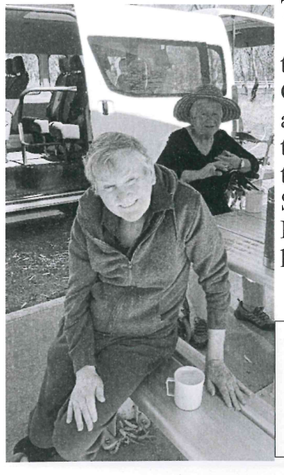
Jai the cameraman works with Tej and resident Pat to get the perfect shot.



Mel delivers a moving Remembrance Day service to 14 residents. Lest We Forget.

We have been on bus trips to the cinema to watch *Regretting You.* We had a lovely trip to Port Pirie and had morning tea along the way at Mambray Creek, then a nice lunch at Sporties Tavern.

We travelled back through the Port Germein Gorge road, and stopped to look at the Big Thong. We then cut off down the Survey Road to Melrose and then to home.■



Trevor and Beryl enjoy morning tea at Mambray Creek.



Fran, James, Trevor and John wait for lunch to be served



Maureen, Yvonne, Myrl and Beryl wait for lunch to be served.



The Big Thong along the Port Germein Gorge Road.

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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.

Meals on Wheels

50 Years in Quorn

THIS MONTH MARKED 50 YEARS of Meals on Wheels in Quorn. Volunteers celebrated with a luncheon cooked by Wendy at the Great Northern Lodge.

Mark Kearns, General Manager Business Sustainability, presented Yvonne Player with her 50 year award. Kathleen Altman received her award at the Awardee Afternoon on Friday 21 November 2025.

Today, the Quorn branch assists three regular customers, supported by around 40 volunteers who prepare and deliver weekday meals, supply frozen meals, and provide a friendly, daily wellbeing check.

In a small regional town like Quorn, Meals on Wheels is essential, offering vital welfare checks, reducing social isolation, helping older residents stay in their own homes and strengthening the community.

'You feel pride in being able to give back to the residents who have given so much to the community' volunteer Susan Smith says.

As we celebrate this 50-year milestone, we recognise the volunteers whose kindness and commitment keep this service strong. Their efforts ensure that Quorn remains a caring and connected community.

Congratulations to Quorn on reaching this special milestone!



Kath Altmann, Mark Kearns and Yvonne Player



Back row L-R Jan Jarvis, Jenny Crisp, Brian Hartin, Mark Kearns, Leeann Slattery, Shirley Carn, Jayne Paynter, Marlene Gloede, Sue Kelly, Miriam Lehmann, Elaine Wakefield, Gar Michael, Mary Francis, Pam Rodgers, Jan Jarvis, Mandy Coad , Sam Hartin, Di Williams, Sue Smith, Kath Altmann, Naomi Maloney, Loraine Pumpa, Pam Hunt, Anne Freebairn, Betty Eckert, Penny Hooper
Sitting Rod Jarvis and Yvonne Player



Judith and Alicia Finlay

Leading the 2025 Pageant



Frankie Carling, Sam Hartin and Serena Smith Brown travelling in comfort



Renata Hackett and Andrea Tschirner, seated!

Out and About in Quorn



At Back, Keiran and Banjo Wright, Front, Flynn Saxton



Busy behind the scenes at the Mayor's Seniors Lunch

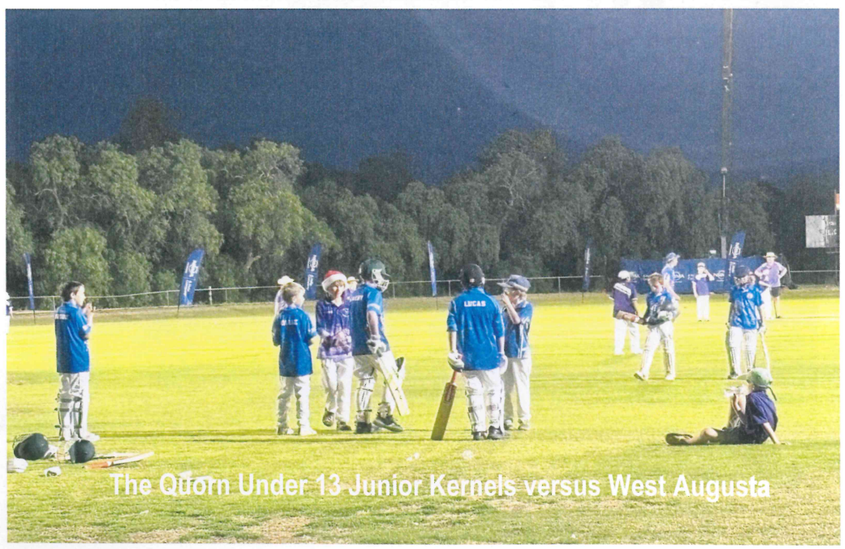


Fun and Games at Fellowship

Left: Patsy Reynolds, Di Williams, Jenny Crisp



After the Saturday evening game between Quorn and Hornridge (Roxby Downs)

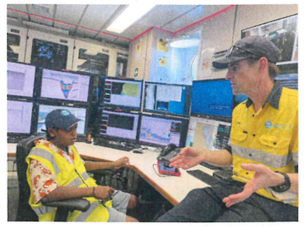


The Quorn Under 13 Junior Kernels versus West Augusta

Clyde Weetra's cool Brisbane Adventure

By Clyden Kelly Weetra

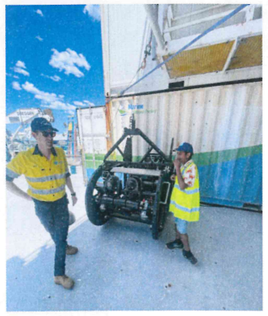
My name is Clyde, I'm 12 and I go to QAS. I have been to Brisbane on a once in a lifetime adventure. I want to tell everyone about it. I really think it's amazing that a kid like me could do something as cool and interesting as what I did.



This year in March, I applied to the CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation) to be one of their Young Future Shapers. I had to say why I wanted to be chosen and why I thought I would benefit from their program. Out of around 600 kids who applied I was chosen with 25 other kids from all over Australia (only two in SA) to be a part of the Young Future Shapers for 2025. Young Future Shapers helps kids who want to be involved in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) career later on to have good experiences and explore STEM in different ways. We had many online sessions using a program called Photovoice so we could explore what our strengths were and what we were interested in now and for the future. I want to be an engineer or scientist. There's so many cool jobs you can do in STEM. We met many inspiring and interesting people like a neuroscientist and other scientists.



As well as the Online sessions I got a prize which was made just for me. I worked with someone from the CSIRO called Amy to find out what was going to be the best prize for me. I was interested in the CSIRO Research Vessel Investigator and Amy organised a trip to Brisbane to have a personalised tour onboard the ship and do a heap of other cool stuff.



Mum and I were flown to Brisbane in November where we explored and had so many cool experiences. Among them was going to 'Ifly' for indoor skydiving. I was amazed at how it worked. They put you inside some sort of tank that has powerful wind speed coming from underneath and you can fly! I did 3 flights. I also did swimming, ate loads of really good food (pizza, pasta, Ben and Jerry's to name a few yummy things), swam in an infinity pool, saw my Aunty and cousin, went to the Dutton Park CSIRO offices and into the quarantine areas, went on a City Cat, went to Queensland museum and Sparklab, went to the Howard Smith Wharf at night, had the greatest breaky ever and loads more. A man from the CSIRO called Royden met us to show us around and he was really cool and knowledgeable.

The RV Investigator is the CSIRO's research ship and it goes all over the world conducting research and collecting data from many kilometres under the sea. Recently they discovered and were able to map and sample a really deep trench in the Coral Sea that hasn't ever been mapped before. On board we met with a Marine Biologist called Ben Arthur and



and he was so inspiring. He showed us the special equipment they use to collect data and how it's stored and processed. I was able to see and touch some of the research equipment. I asked loads of questions and it was great because it was just me so I got lots of answers too. Ben was so interesting and so was everyone else on board. We ate lunch on the ship which was lamb racks and veggies. After lunch we went to see where the Captain sits and I was able to sit in the Captain's chair and saw all the equipment they use up there. I met so many interesting people on board the ship and they all were happy to answer all of my questions. There's so many different types of jobs to do on a big ship.

At the museum they took me to the back of the museum where I met really interesting people who showed me artefacts that aren't on display to the public. There were thousands of Aboriginal artefacts that are really old and can only be touched with gloves on. They are really special. We spoke with a man who specialises in shells and he showed us all different types of shells. He was really interesting. We also saw the croc exhibition which was really cool. Sparklab was amazing too and made me really think about how things work.

When I went to the Dutton Park CSIRO office we met with lots of inspiring and motivating scientists and other people. I met a scientist called Quinton who is looking at ways to help Australian aquatic weed growth using the Cabomba weevil. It eats the weeds that shouldn't be there in the water but leaves the native plants alone. I thought that was clever.

We came home really tired but we had an amazing time. I'm really grateful I got a chance to be a Young Future Shaper for 2025. I'm also really grateful to everyone who helped me with teis amazing experience. I can't remember everyone's names, I've met so many incredible and inspiring people. The CSIRO has given me such an amazing experience and I hope I can work for them one day.

Thanks for reading my story. ■



After the Pageant





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 76

December 2025

Editor
Dave Wingrove

Well 2025 is drawing to a close, so much so that we have "closed the books" as we have a list of jobs to complete before Christmas.
We have been busy, not only doing jobs for community members, but completing our welding area, getting the veggie garden up and running, making table tops, just to name a few things.
We hosted Booleroo Men's Shed on Thursday and had an excellent turnout. It was great to exchange ideas on what can be done by the members. A light luncheon was had and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie.
This year has been rewarding and enjoyable for all and we have welcomed new members. We are looking forward to having more men joining us in 2026.
Our Christmas lunch will be held at the Lions Clubrooms this year and Terry our 'chef in residence' will again showcase his talents.

We wish everyone a happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.
Last day is the Christmas Party Thursday 18th December at the Lions Building Railway Tce Quorn. Next year starts Jan 15th with breakfast.
Ian Carpenter



Modris cleaning up rocker cover.



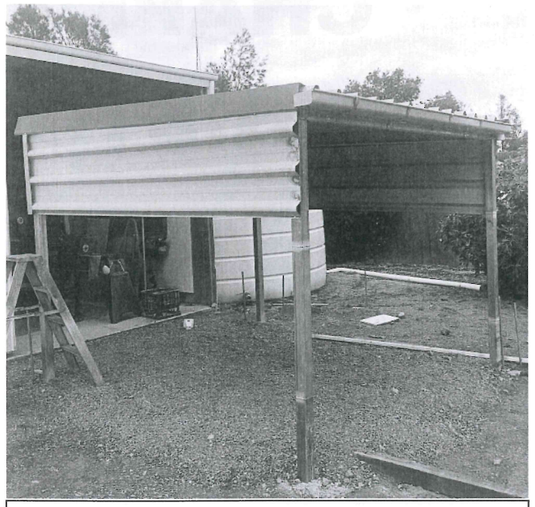
Pauline and Ron of Wilmington enjoying refurbished park bench.



Photos 1 and 2 Toilet roll holder by Addy.



Garden tunnel up and running.



Lean-to finished.



Booleroo Men's Shed visit 20 November BBQ.



Lean-to being used by ladies.

Shed Funnies

Two crows were in a field when they noticed a figure that looked like a man in the distance.
"See that over there? What is that?", says the first crow. The second crow takes a long look, "That's a scarecrow. Looks authentic, doesn't it."
"How can you tell it's a scarecrow and not a person?", replies the first crow.
"Look at its hand. No mobile phone", says the second crow.
A guy walks into the psychiatrist wearing only Clingfilm for shorts. The shrink says, 'Well, I can clearly see you're nuts.'
A man came round in hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, 'Doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!' The doctor replied, 'I know you can't, I've cut your arms off'.
Man goes to the doctor, with a strawberry growing out of his head. Doc says 'I'll give you some cream to put on it.'
My friend drowned in a bowl of muesli. A strong currant pulled him in.
My manager told me to have a good day. So, I didn't go in to work.
Why do spiders know everything? They get their information from the Web.
Phone answering machine message - '...If you want to buy marijuana, press the hash key...'



Shed breakfast at 0900hrs
on 11th December.
Hamburgers for workers lunch,
on 4th December.
Xmas Lunch18th December

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

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069005856706

CHAPMAN FAMILY HISTORY (Parts 11- 14}

Children of James and Elizabeth Chapman

Part 11 - Sophia Chapman

Sophia Chapman was their first born child. Born at Bungaree Station near Clare.

Sophia Chapman was born on 7 November 1877 and died a day later on 8 November 1877.

Sophia is buried in the Bungaree Station cemetery adjacent to St. Michaels Church at the Station near Clare in South Australia.

During a school visit to Bungaree by students of Seymour College, the students were taken with the story of Sophia and undertook a project replacing the original headstone in 1996.



Original headstone, and original headstone now preserved in St. Michaels Church at Bungaree Station.



Peter Chapman at Sophia's gravesite

Part 12 - Lucy Chapman

Lucy Chapman, their third child was born on 23 March 1882 at Coonatto Station in South Australia. Lucy Chapman died 27 February 1895.

Lucy is buried at Hammond in South Australia.

DEATHS.

Chapman.—At Hammond, on February 27th last, Lucy, the dearly-loved daughter of James and Elizabeth Chapman. Aged 14 years. Deeply regretted by all of her acquaintances.

Extract from Port Augusta Dispatch 22 March 1895



Christine and Shirley Chapman in front of St. Michaels Church with Sophia's original headstone preserved in the brown wooden frame inside the Church foyer between Christine and Shirley.



Headstone now on Sophia's grave site replacing the original in 1996

Part 13 - Teresa Maud Chapman

Teresa Maud Chapman was their seventh child was born on 7 November 1890 at Hammond in South Australia.

Teresa married Thomas William Bawden in the Office of the Registrar General in Adelaide South Australia on 27 December 1911.

Teresa and Thomas had one child who died in infancy, at about nine months of age. Apparently the trauma associated with the child's death led to Teresea and Thomas parting company. Teresa later moved to Victoria.

Teresa then had a child with George Morey. Teresa named her child Ellis Malcolm Clarendon Chapman. He resides in Victoria. Teresa later married Stanley Verno Le Plastrier in Victoria

Teresa died 9 March 1940. Teresa is buried at Edon, Victoria.

Part 14 - Gladys Evelyn Chapman Gladys Evelyn Chapman, their eleventh child, was born 14 October 1889 at Hammond in South Australia.

Gladys married John William Stewart in Adelaide 8 November 1915, later moving to Queensland.



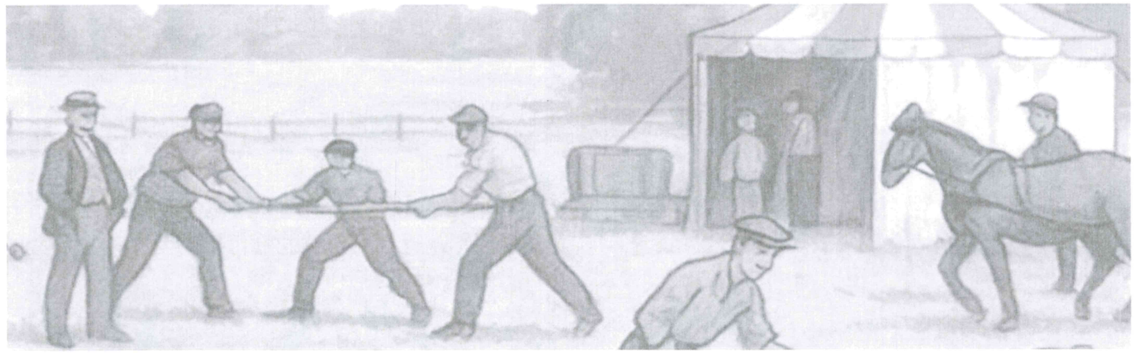
Teresa Maud Chapman1890-1941
Nursing her first born infant

Gladys died 26 July 1940 in Queensland and is buried in Queensland ■

Quorn Agricultural Show Society AGM and 2026 Theme Announcement

We are getting in early! The Quorn Agricultural show will be held a month earlier next year, on Sunday August 23 2026, and we are kicking off preparations now.

Our Annual General meeting will be held at the Flinders Ranges Council Chambers on Thursday February 19 2026 at 7:30 pm. We welcome all community members to come along and share ideas and get involved.



2026 Show Theme Yesteryear

Step back in time with us as we celebrate the charm, fun and creativity of days gone by. 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)



Updating Our Pavilion Entries

We are also looking for new suggestions to refresh and expand our Exhibition Pavilion categories. Our goal is to encourage more people to enter and help bring back the bustling, jam-packed pavilion we remember from years gone by. Whether it is a modern twist on traditional crafts, creative new categories, or family-friendly group entries, we would love to hear your ideas to help revive this much-loved part of the show. If you have the enthusiasm, skills, props or just a great idea, we would be thrilled to have you involved in making the 2026 Show extra special.

To get in touch to express your interest or find out more. Email: quornshow@gmail.com

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



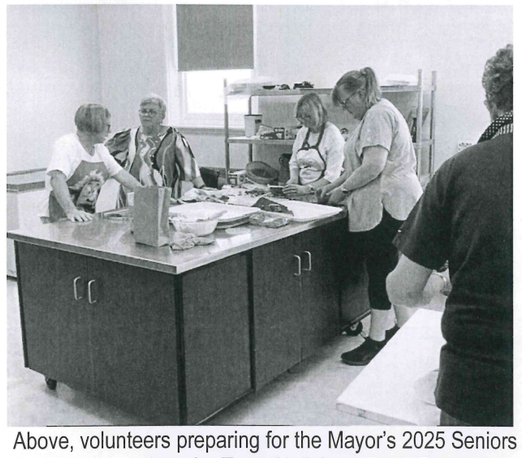
The Quorn Auxiliary and Seniors Lunch











Above, volunteers preparing for the Mayor's 2025 Seniors Christmas Lunch at the Town Hall, Tuesday 2 December



Above, Senior Citizens attend the Mayor's Christmas Lunch. With a special citizen cutting the Christmas Cake, and entertainment provided by the Line Dancers

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA EST. 1964

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Library NEWS

Libraries SA

OPENING HOURS

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



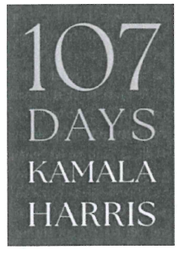
Phone Number
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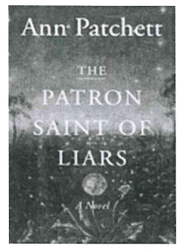
Quorn School Community Library Group

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

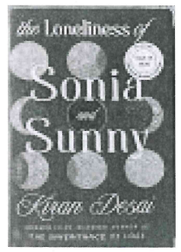
New Releases

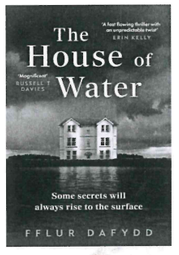
The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny by *Kiran Desai* – A tender story about two isolated people whose unexpected friendship helps them rediscover connection and hope, with their ties to India deeply shaping their journeys.
The House of Water by *Fflur Dafydd* – A poetic exploration of family, identity, and belonging as a woman returns home to confront long-buried truths.
The Land in Winter by *Andrew Miller* – A reflective tale of grief, resilience, and renewal set against a stark and beautiful winter landscape.
The Patron Saint of Liars by *Ann Patchett* – A young pregnant woman seeks refuge at a home for unwed mothers, where her secrets shape the lives of everyone around her.
107 Days by *Kamala Harris* – A firsthand account of Harris's intense and transformative final stretch of the 2020 U.S. presidential campaign.
The Wisteria Crescent Chronicles by *Kate Forster* – A charming, character-driven story blending mystery, relationships, and small-community drama on a picturesque Australian stree

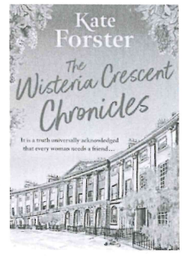












Christmas Holiday Closure & Activities at the Library

The Quorn School & Community Library will be closed from Tuesday, 23 December, and will reopen on Tuesday, 6 January 2026.

Please note: Story-Time will take a break over the holidays and will return in February when school resumes.

But there's still fun to be had! During the holiday break, we'll have cardboard construction materials available for children and parents to get creative together. Drop in when we reopen and enjoy some hands-on building fun!

LIBRARIES SA one card

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

Libraries SA

Being Digital Update

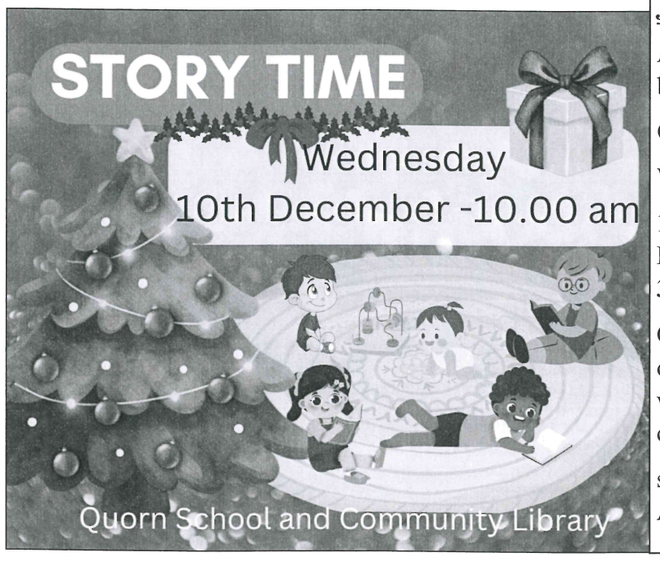
The second *Being Digital* session was held at the Quorn Men's Shed on Thursday, 27 November. This session focused on safe and effective online shopping. The participant also explored how to access The Advertiser and Sunday Mail online through the State Library of South Australia. The only requirement for accessing these newspapers is South Australian residency; registration with the State Library is free and can be completed online.

Community members who would like assistance with accessing these resources are welcome to visit the Quorn School and Community Library, where staff can guide you through the process.

The final community session for the year will be held on **Tuesday, 3 December**, from **10.00 am to 11.00 am** at the Quorn School and Community library. This session will again focus on online shopping, along with any other digital topics or questions that may arise.

We look forward to recommencing the *Being Digital* sessions in the new year.

Wishing all our Library patrons a warm and joyful Christmas season.
Thank you for your support throughout the year – we look forward to sharing many more great reads and moments with you in the new year.



Justice of Peace Service

A **Justice of the Peace (JP)** service will be available at

Quorn School & Community Library

Wednesday, 3rd and 17th December

10:00 am to 11.00 am
Provided by **Tim Hobbs, JP (ID 32451)**.

Come along for document witnessing and certification services.
All welcome!

Library NEWS

Libraries SA

Story-time: 12th November 2025

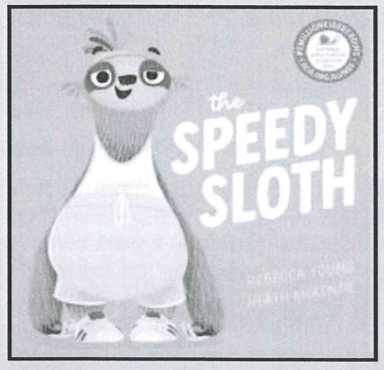



Ron watching Autumn pull spaghetti through the holes in the colander.


Dusty watching his meatball roll off 'on top of spaghetti'.


Cole painting with spaghetti.

Story-time: 26th November 2025

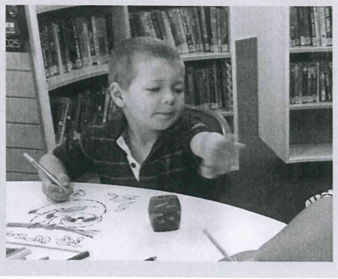












We read the book about 'The Speedy Sloth.'

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

December 2025

Contact Quorn Hospital 8648 7888 for dates

Podiatrist
Diabetes Education
Dietitian
Physiotherapist
Occupational Therapist
Speech Pathologist
Social Worker

Country Health Connect 8668 7706

December 2025

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 12th December 2025

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

Address—Town Hall, Seventh Street, Quorn

Postal Address—PO Box 367, Quorn, SA 5433

Email—*mercury@quornmercury.com.au*

Public Officer—Tarla Kramer

Next Issue's (February 6th 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 30th Jan.. 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

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

Classified Adverts

St. Matthew's Church

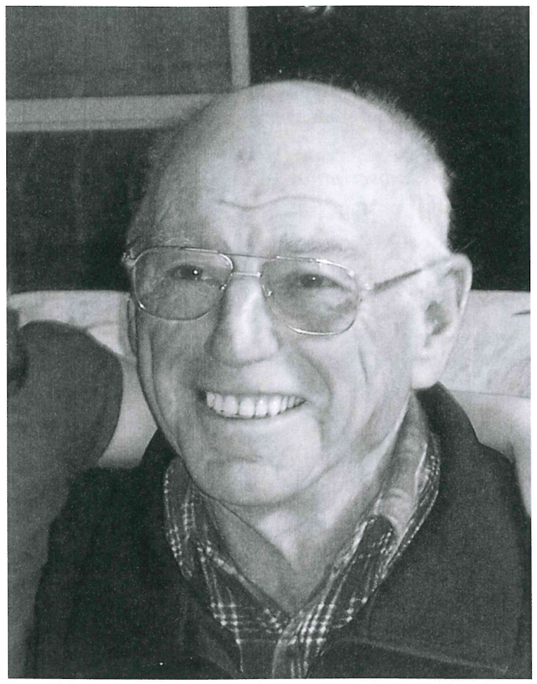
An Anglican Christmas Service
will be held at St. Matthew's Church
21 December at 10.00am

THE FAMILY OF BRIAN ASH are deeply appreciative for the sympathy and kindness expressed and we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Quorn Golf Club and the Hospital Auxiliary for all of their work and support.

We wanted him to ' tee off ' one last time and you helped provide us with the perfect celebration of his wonderful life.

Thankyou.

Debra Turner (Ash)



Brian Ash (Ashy) 08/10/1938 - 30/10/2025

Rainfall 2025

Jan	3.4mm
Feb	1.6mm
March	6.4mm
April	1.8mm
May	0.2mm
June	27.4mm
July	94.8mm
August	30.4mm
September	25.3mm
October	21.8mm
November	41.2mm
YTD	254.3mm

Flinders Ranges Catholic Parish Christmas service times

Hawker Wednesday 24 December 6.00pm
Carrieton Wednesday 24 December 9.00 pm
Quorn Thursday 25 December 9.00am

Quorn Preloved Boutique

is having a break over the summer

The Op Shop will be closed from
19th December—January 20th





Quorn Hawker Cradock Events December 2025

Regular Events

Quorn

Story Time
Wednesday 10th at 10am
at the Quorn Library (recommences in Feb 26)

Women's Fellowship
3rd Wednesdays (recommence in Feb 26) - see Facebook *Quorn Out and About* for details.

Quorn Men's Shed Thursdays
Recommencing 13 January 26

Quorn Play Group
Mondays 10-12 at the Quorn Kindy.
Gold Coin Donation.

Probus
1st Tuesday of the month 10am (except January)

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 (except Jan 26)
New members welcome
Email: aefreebairn@hotmail.com

Local History Group
Quorn Court House
2nd Saturday of the month 11am to 2pm, recommences in March 26

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

All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once they grow up.
Pablo Picasso

Events

Cradock Cricket and Christmas Pageant 20 Dec at the Cradock Hotel, a social cricket match at 11am followed by the pageant at 4pm with social club Christmas show, dinner and live music

Christmas Eve Street Party
In the Art Precinct from 6pm to 9pm
Father Christmas, music, children's entertainment, food and bar facilities
Come join the fun with family and friends

Ticklebelly Hill Christmas Events
Bookings are available online or phone 0498 747 357.
www.ticklebelly.com.au

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 except January

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 (except Dec and Feb)

January 2026

Australia Day Celebrations 2026
Quorn, Hawker and Cradock 26th Jan
For more information check Facebook and notice boards

Pichi Richi Railway
The 2026 season starts in March, and all dates are on the website
www.pichirichirailway.org.au

Check out Facebook and or notice boards for future events



520 0510
Email: vic@frc.sa.gov.au

Regular Events

Quorn

Exercises
Town Hall 10:30am Wednesdays
Step, Squat and Razzle
Low impact – continues through summer

Yin Yoga
Monday nights 6.30pm
Quorn Town Hall
Summer break 22/12/25 – 19/1/26
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
Everyone welcome
Fridays at 7:00pm for 7.30pm start, restarts 2 Jan 26
cost $5 per player Don't have your own bowls you can borrow them from the club

Pilates
Wednesdays at 9am and 6:30 pm at the Quorn Town Hall
Summer break 18 Dec 25 – 14 Jan 26

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

Chair Yoga
Tuesdays 10.00am
St Matthews Hall
Summer break 22/12/25 – 19/1/26

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

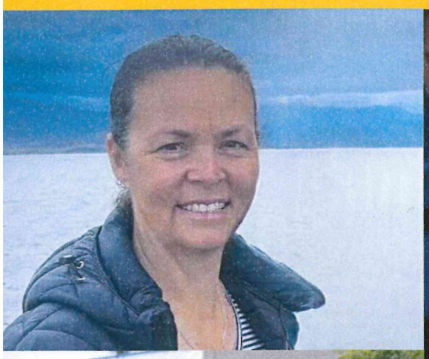
Transcontinental Hotel
Schnitzel, Pasta & Seafood Night
Meal Specials Nightly
Wednesday and Friday nights members draw and beer, meat raffles

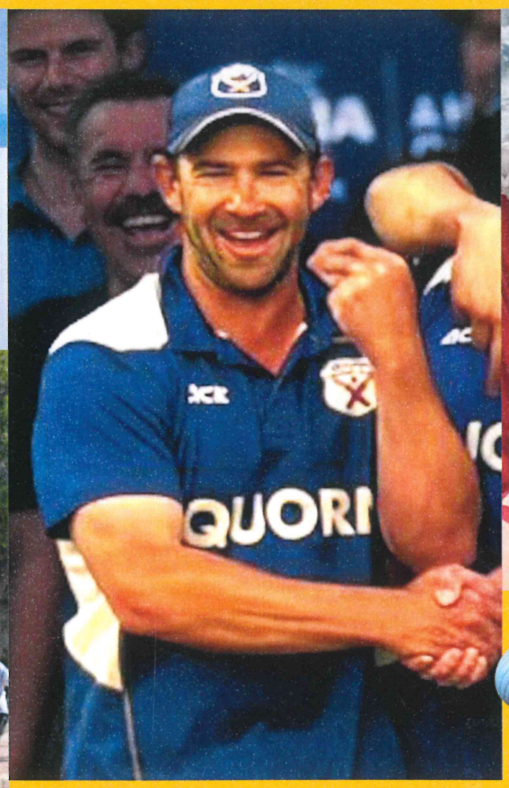
Austral Hotel
Schnitzel nights, meal specials, darts night

Quorn Take-away
For all take-away food Thursday to Sunday with pizza only on a Sunday night

Spirit of the Flinders Makers Centre
Book our Maker's Centre Workshops
https://spirit-of-the-flinders.square.site/
Or for more booking details 08 76590155

‘Tis the season ... for thank you













Quorn is blessed with people who can make you laugh, fill you with joy, see the funny side, enrich our community, do community stuff just because - and we all benefit from it, cheerful, kind and thoughtful people, full of good energy. Thanks to all those good hearted souls that fly under the radar.

Who will you say thank you to this festive season?

