



## GUMERACHA, FORRESTON & KENTON VALLEY NEWSLETTER

December 2023

- We have financed the planter barrels in the Main Street that are filled with cheerful geraniums. Our wonderful garden fairies, Libby and Julie do an amazing job of tending the plants.
- We have published a heritage brochure encouraging people to walk around Gumeracha and explore the history.
- We put up Christmas Lights on the Town Hall and Library each year.
- We participate in the annual Clean Up Australia Day each March.

And we are always looking for new ideas of what else we can do to make Gumeracha a welcoming township for all who live here and all who visit.



We were able to purchase this trailer due to a successful application for a Commonwealth grant towards the cost through the Stronger Communities Programme Round 8.

Many thanks to Rebekah Sharkie and her staff for their wonderful support.

***Colour cover printed compliments of the office of Ashton Hurn MP***

**On behalf of the Gumeracha Community Association we would like to wish you all a happy, safe and blessed Christmas and New Year.**



We the GCA are also responsible for lighting up our Town Hall and Library at Christmas time - whatever we can do to show off our lovely town and make Gumeracha a destination deserving of a visit!

## The Santas Wear Orange...

The Santas wear orange In this neighbourhood  
And they give up their Christmas to serve common good  
They ride big white sleighs with sirens and lights  
And they battle the fires through long days and nights  
In the ash and the embers with smoke in their eyes under  
roaring jet planes dropping pink from the skies  
They fight and they battle before giant flames  
There is courage and honour and grit in their names  
Yes the Santas wear orange, we can't thank them enough  
Because giving up Christmas must be really tough  
The community's happy that they are all here  
But they'd be happier still if we had some rain dear!

*Shane Potter  
Gumeracha 25/12/19*



## Gumeracha Community Association

The Gumeracha Community Association is a small but dedicated group of volunteers who want to make a positive contribution to our beautiful town of Gumeracha. Over the years we have initiated many projects, including the Tourist Information Board and having power installed in Federation Park.

Currently our big achievement is the sets of street banners decorating the Main Street of Gumeracha. We have 6 sets of 18 banners that we raise for different events - Lest We Forget, Christmas, Australia Day, Easter, Spring and our beautiful Gumeracha banners depicting the nature of the area. The banners are very simple to install as they are on a flagtrax system. This means we can easily change over the banners with our feet firmly planted on the ground - no need for ladders, cherry pickers or traffic control.

So how do we pay for this? We make fresh apple juice. We purchased a crusher and fruit press which we use to make pure fresh apple juice and pear juice on site at local markets and sell by the cupful. We also make a hot spiced apple juice which is very popular - it tastes like apple pie in a cup! You can find us at Mount Pleasant Farmers Market every Saturday morning. We are also at the Gumeracha 5th Sunday Markets and the Medieval and Rare Trades Festival.

In addition:

- We publish a quarterly newsletter distributed to residents of Gumeracha and surrounding areas.
- The Gumeracha Soldiers Memorial Hospital needs some outdoor seating, so we are funding two sets of tables and chairs so that patients and their visitors can enjoy fresh outdoor air in comfort.



WE WISH YOU A

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

# A HAPPY NEW YEAR

As we wrap up the year, we would like to thank our clients and the community for being part of our business - whether you have used our services, referred us to friends or shared our news. We look forward to working with you in 2024.

### Festive Season Office Hours

Our team will be available throughout the festive season should you wish to enquire about a property for sale or rent, or to book an inspection or property appraisal.

*Our offices will be closed from 12pm, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and reopening at 9am, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.*

Please call or and SMS 0488 972 888 or email [mail@cepg.com.au](mailto:mail@cepg.com.au).



## Coronation Tree

Following the long reign of the former Queen Elizabeth, the accession of Charles III to the throne was formally acknowledged by the planting of a river red gum tree near the carpark entrance to the Gumeracha Federation Park in October, auspiced by the Council and Civic groups of the township.



*L-R: Bob Brooksby, Henry Carter, Greg Georgopoulos, Malcolm Hermann, Ashton Hurn, Paul Hammer, Phil Dennis and Alan Huggins*

### Just a few facts about King Charles III:

He was born in Buckingham Palace on 14 November 1948.

He spent six months studying in Victoria, at Geelong Grammar School.

He is the first monarch to have a University degree.

He is a qualified pilot and diver and a keen watercolour painter.

At 73, Charles became the oldest person to assume the British throne.

**To all of our loyal customers and the greater Gumeracha community.**

On behalf of Albert Street Treasures may we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

We will close on 20 December and re-open on 24 January.



*Best wishes from the team at Albert Street Treasures.*

**Cherry, Date & Walnut Roll**

- |                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1/2 up finely chopped dates | 1/2 tsp bicarb of soda             |
| 2 tblsp currants            | 1/2 cup chopped walnuts            |
| 1/3 cup water               | 1/4 cup chopped glace cherries     |
| 1/3 cup soft brown sugar    | 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg              |
| 40g butter                  | 1 egg, lightly beaten              |
|                             | 3/4 cup self-raising flour, sifted |

Preheat oven to 180°C. Brush a roll tin (4-cup capacity) with melted butter or oil. Line side with greaseproof paper.

Place dates, currants, water, sugar and butter in small pan and stir over a low heat for 5 mins or until butter has melted and mixture boils. Remove pan from heat and let it cool slightly. Add bicard soda to pan; stir.

Place walnuts, cherries, nutmeg, egg, cooling date mixture and flour into a large bowl. Stir until combined.

Spoon mixture into prepared tin; close open end of tin with lid. Lay tin on its side in oven, bake 45 minutes. Leave cake in tin for 15 mins before transferring to wire rack to cool.

*Note: Can most likely cook in a log tin if you don't have a roll tin!*

*Yummy cut into slices and buttered or spread with cream cheese!*

**South Vietnam Service Memorial**

The names of eight young men, listed as born in Gumeracha, along with others from South Australia, are honoured on a new War Memorial Plaque prepared for the feature wall of the Gumeracha Returned Services League room in the Gumeracha Civic Centre.

This follows from the very successful Anzac Dawn Service in April this year and the recent Remembrance Day Dinner in November - events honouring the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commitment.

Research of records available from the National War Memorial Canberra was undertaken by members of the RSL and the Gumeracha History Centre. The Memorial Plaque designed and made by "Sign Craft Co" of Lobethal.

The Plaque and others may be viewed in the RSL room and is nearly always open.

A list of the eight Gumeracha men and also the full list from South Australia will be compiled and made available as a take-away memento.

**Church Christmas Services for 2023**

**Uniting Church**

**Christmas Eve Service at 9.15 am**

**Christmas Day Service at 9.15 am**

**Salem Baptist Church**

**Christmas Eve Service at 7.00 pm**

**Christmas Day Service at 9.00 am**

## Gumeracha Community Association would love your help!



You are invited to become a member of the **Gumeracha Community Association**. We meet at 7pm on the second Wednesday of every month (except January) in the RSL room behind the Gumeracha Library.

Email us at [pcleith84@gmail.com](mailto:pcleith84@gmail.com) or come along to a meeting and see what we are about and we will answer any questions you may have.

*Here we are at the recent Mt Pleasant Christmas Parade with our new juice banners flying!*

## Gumeracha Community Association

The Gumeracha Community Association newsletter is published four times a year. Material for inclusion should have a contact phone number and sent to Caron Leith by email: [pcleith84@gmail.com](mailto:pcleith84@gmail.com)

All articles and advertising are the responsibility of the contributor. The Association takes no responsibility for content and factuality.

Facilitator: Caron Leith 0429 143 944

### ADVERTISING RATES

- ¼ Page = \$12.00
- 1/3 Page = \$15.00
- ½ Page = \$18.00
- ¾ Page = \$25.00
- Full Page = \$33.00

## Celebration in the Park

On Sunday, 28 January we will be celebrating our beautiful country. There will be a cooked breakfast supplied by the Gumeracha Lions Club and awards will be distributed. Look out for times and more details for this event.

## SANTOS Tour Down Under 2023

### Wednesday, 17 January

The Men's Circuit Race 3 will be coming through Gumeracha twice!

At around 12.15 - 12.30pm they will be coming from Kenton Valley Road, Lobethal, down John Fisher Avenue, left up Albert Street, past the Hospital and School and down towards Chain of Ponds. They will turn onto Tippett Road, Gorge Road, Cudlee Creek Road, and Lobethal Rd back to Lobethal.

If you miss them, not to worry, they will repeat that circuit only an hour later, coming back down John Fisher Avenue about 1.15 - 1.30pm, turning left up Albert Street etc.

A big THANK YOU to our garden fairies Libby and Julie for all the work they do to ensure the plants in the barrels and roses at the entrance to town are watered and in good shape. The GCA provide for any costs involved but we couldn't do it without the manpower (or womanpower as in this case!!).

**SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The unveiling of the Coolamon in Federation Park is planned for 11.00am. To be confirmed.**

# Gumeracha Primary School News

Call us biased, but we think Gumeracha kids are the best!!!

We recently took our whole school to camp – that’s right, reception to Year 6!

We went to the Arbury Park Outdoor School at Bridgewater for a 2-night, 3-day camp experience.

The staff at Arbury Park were highly complementary of our students throughout the camp. They displayed the Arbury Park values of care, community and curiosity beautifully and were a credit to our school and their families.

Our students were nurturing and caring of one another and rallied around when homesickness crept in. They took care of one another in the dorms and shared the responsibilities of dining room duties without complaint.

They showed a natural curiosity and were keen to engage in the natural environment. They were conscious of their impact and wanted to know more about conservation and how they could work as a community to combat environmental hazards.


Please enjoy some of the R/1 reflections which they have made into mini books.

Lyndsey Martin  
Principal

On camp I learnt  
not to play in  
computer games  
and lots  
of playing out  
side.  
I am proud  
of catching  
tadpoles.  
by Max

I learned about  
fresh water  
life of fishing  
I am proud  
of myself for  
learning about  
the environment.  
by Kaden


Arbury  
Park Camp  
18-20<sup>th</sup> October




On camp I  
learned  
I learnt a  
new word  
which is  
curiosity. I  
am proud  
that I got  
a medallion.  
by Jon Haden

On camp I  
learnt to look  
after the fish.  
I am proud  
of staying at  
camp for three  
days.  
by Theo

Wednesday  
we went to bridge water hike.  
we got our stuff and went  
in our dorms. We chose  
our bunks and we had fish and chips  
for dinner.



Thursday  
On Thursday I played the  
web of life game. I was a  
predator. I got lots of kangaroos.  
I got face paint which  
lines and dots.  
I am a  
novelist



Friday  
On Friday me and Connor  
built a name. On Friday I  
caught a back swimmer and Archer  
caught a baby yabbie.

