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Reconciliation Week

Every year between May 27 and June 3 we take time to share our histories, cultures, achievements and, of course, contribute to reconciliation in Australia.

Today, marks National Sorry Day – 23 years since the handing down of the Bringing Them Home Report.

National Reconciliation Week itself is bookended by the commemoration of two very significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision.

And this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Walk for Reconciliation across Sydney Harbour Bridge where hundreds of thousands of people joined to walk for reconciliation.

In 2020 the journey continues.

This year's theme for National Reconciliation Week is 'In this together' and while that seems like a popular phrase at the moment, the reconciliation movement relies on individuals, organisations and communities coming together. <https://www.reconciliation.org.au>

When is the News not the news?

Losing rural voices

The news that News Corp was again rationalising and cutting newspaper production and again – jobs – didn't really come as a surprise, but it was disappointing. In rural areas, the local rag was something that people relied upon to remind them when things were coming up, to include pictures of important occasions, and carry the latest sporting club results. In my home town, the Naracoorte Herald was our local paper, and my sister used to save it for us, so that when we visited, we could catch up. On Landline the reporter caught up with Michael Waite, ex-Naracoorte lad who paused during an around the world trip when his mother became seriously ill, and who's decided to start 'The News'. The Herald – now run by ACM (Australian Community Media) – closed its doors due to the pandemic, and there's no indication that it will return. The Courier – another local newspaper refusing to give up, will actually be printing the paper.

Whilst we rely on people reading this little newsletter online (it cuts costs as we have no advertising and no funding), we also recognise that some people either don't have the internet, or if they do, are aren't confident with it, or have trouble reading online, so we do print some copies, but try to keep them to a minimum.

Our news is just local. It's about our district, and there are no national or international issues that we write about – unless it's something that directly affects us, or people in our district. As I have mentioned before, having reliable well-resourced and researched information is vital in a free and democratic society, and the huge reduction in sources is extremely worrying. When people can't access trustworthy information at no cost, it is easy to fall into the trap of not questioning and accepting that which may later prove to be at best untruthful, or at worst, dangerous. I grew up seeing the 'AAP Reuters'* byline on overseas news and 'AAP' on national. Australian Associated Press was an invaluable resource for the whole nation. It meant that anything attached to that byline, was something you could trust, that serious journalists had researched the sources. With major funding withdrawn, it will be closed in June, and we will be the poorer for it.

**AAP was founded by Sir Keith Murdoch (oh, the irony) in 1935, and funded by Channel nine and NewsCorp.*

Reuters- founded in 1851, and based in Canada. Although there have been several incidents where their information was not accurate, it is generally well regarded as a trusted news source. (<https://www.aap.com.au/wire/>)

Sue B

Fact Checks

Last month I talked about the proliferation of conspiracy theories and misinformation. To combat this a group was formed aimed at challenging behemoths like Facebook – often accused of allowing the spread of misleading information of all sorts, contrary to what the management says. According to Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook filters out the ‘fake news’ and information deliberately designed to spread hate speech and cause dissent – rather than critical thinking and polite discourse. The group started a fake Facebook page, filled it with inflammatory posts, and then reported the posts to Facebook – and nothing was done. Before I added this to the newsletter, I did a few fact checks of my own. If you aren’t sure about some of the things appearing on your news feed, go to this site:

<https://misinformationmedic.com.au/health-check/> and check it out.

And while on social media, it will be interesting to see where Trump’s spat with Twitter goes. According to the NY Stock Exchange, Twitter’s share price has already dropped 5%.

Council snippets

Staged Reopening for Council Services



In welcome news for the Barossa community, a state-wide easing of COVID-19 restrictions will pave the way for a staged reopening of selected Barossa Council community services.

Mayor Lange stressed that under the South Australian Roadmap, social distancing and personal hygiene standards remain in place across all Council venues.

“We know people are keen to return to our local facilities but our first priority is ensuring this occurs in a measured, considered and well-managed way,” Mayor Lange said.

In the current environment cashless payments for Council rates and dog registration remain the preferred payment option.

For further information regarding Council services, facilities and measures during COVID-19 go to barossa.sa.gov.au or phone 8563 8444.

Find out more about what’s currently open:

<http://ow.ly/dYaN50zEDvz>



Show wins funding

The Mt Pleasant AH & F Society Inc. has been successful in its application for funding to build a new, accessible administration building with suitable space and access for use by community groups at Talunga Park. This funding is being delivered through the Federal Government’s Regional Agricultural Show Development Grants program. The Barossa Council has provided in-principle support for this project (which is part of The Big Project). The total amount is \$124,000, with up to \$31,000 being provided by The Barossa Council.

This will make a huge difference in the facilities available at Talunga Park for many users, and we congratulate the Show Society on their efforts and hard work.

In the papers:

It was reported in *The Leader* that Council had met and discussed the distribution of the drought funding money. Some interesting things were put forward, including drought and emergency water supplies for Williamstown, Moculta, Angaston, Eden Valley and Mount Pleasant, as well as new tourism signage.

These matters lie on the table, whilst other projects are to be discussed and considered.

The Courier had an article on the RDA’s (Rural Development Australia) Wish List – which included \$9 million for the completion of the Amy Gillett Bikeway – not sure which end they mean, but it’s good to see that another organisation is taking this seriously and keeping it at the forefront.





Dear Australia

Australia Post & COVID-19

Let's mark this moment in history.

We know that the last few months have had an extraordinary impact on families, communities and our way of life. There have been highs and lows, moments of joy and learnings for all of us.

At Australia Post, we think it's important that we mark this moment in our nation's history. So we've created a national letterbox where, from now until 18 August, you can write a letter to share your experience of the COVID-19 pandemic. We're working with the **National Archives of Australia**, where eligible *Dear Australia* letters will be kept for future generations. This will enable all Australians to record their impressions of this remarkable time.

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Your letter could contain a message of hope, a story of community spirit, a description of how this event has changed your life; it could even incorporate a piece of your child's artwork. (Kids, please get your parent or guardian to help!)



1. Write your letter



2. Place it in a stamped envelope

addressed to:

Dear Australia
Locked Bag
Australia 9999



3. Mail your letter

Post it in any red street posting box or your local Post Office.

In case you missed it (and we did!), Volunteers were recognised for their amazing contributions to our communities. Many small communities would not survive without the enthusiasm and kindness of those who are prepared to serve. THANK YOU.



NATIONAL 18-24 MAY 2020
VOLUNTEER
CHANGING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES. **WEEK**



Be Part of a Beautiful New Project:
Postcards from Behind the COVID Curtain

COTA news

Postcards

COTA SA wants to hear all about your COVID-19 experiences from behind the COVID curtain. What are you hating, what are you loving, what are you doing to fill in your days... all those jobs you've been putting off or nothing at all? COTA SA is an older people's movement run by, for and with older people.

The South Australian Government has funded Postcards from behind the COVID curtain (POSTCARDS) as an opportunity for older South Australians to record their experiences during this extraordinary period.

Contact COTA SA to register and you will receive a pack with two Postcards.

Postcard 1 - Is a reply paid postcard [no stamp required] which you simply fill in with your COVID 19 experience; a story, a sketch, a poem, a letter - or anything else you can think of as long as it is in your own handwriting, then pop in the post back to us. At the end of the project, they will collate and share the postcards in an exhibition as part of ZestFest 2021.

Postcard 2 - Can be sent to anyone you choose. You may wish to rekindle contact with someone you have lost touch with, a mate who may need cheering up, a new friend, or pop it in a neighbour's letterbox. You are encouraged to use this small act of kindness to bring a smile to someone during the COVID-19 restrictions.

Free Postcards: To get your pack and be part of this wonderful project please contact COTA SA by:

Phone - 08 8232 0422

Email - postcards@cotasa.org.au

Mail - GPO Box 1583, Adelaide SA 5001

mp beat

Please include your name, phone number, postal address and how many packs you would like sent (if you are ordering for a friend or organisation).

Postcards From Behind the COVID Curtain is a ZestFest project, designed to encourage South Australians aged 50 plus to reflect on the highs and lows of the COVID lockdown measures and to share these with COTA SA so they can form an exhibit and to keep a non-electronic repository of older peoples experience during this unusual time in our lives.

COTA & COVID-19

Which problems are older people encountering with the COVID shutdowns?

What does COTA need to be doing next to tackle these problems?

Are you worried about a friend or family member during this time and want us to reach out to them and make sure they have all the information and support they need?

These are the questions we are working on at COTA Australia. In the last five weeks, Australia has changed a lot for Older Australians. Many new challenges have arisen, and COTA Australia has been working to fix them as fast as possible.

The latest initiative has been the Older Person's COVID-19 Support Line. Working collaboratively with OPAN, National Seniors and Dementia Australia, the Older Person's COVID-19 Support Line is supported by funding from the Australian Government. Older Australians, their friends, relatives and supporters can call 1800 171 866 for any information or services they need.

Senior Australians, their families and carers can FREECALL 1800 171 866 if they:

- would like to talk with someone about what COVID-19 means for them or a loved one
- are feeling lonely or distressed or are worried about a loved one feeling the same?
- are caring for a someone and need some information or a listening ear about what COVID-19 means for your circumstances.
- are worried about COVID-19 means for their usual aged care service
- are worried about a friend or family member living with dementia.

We know coronavirus - or COVID 19 - is causing fear and confusion within the community. COTA Australia is working with the Government, and with the media, to make sure that people receive clear, reliable and consistent information.

For up-to-date and reliable information about COVID -19, read more here: <https://www.cota.org.au/covid19/>
Please let us know of any people or situations you would like us to follow up.

P.S. As part of that initiative, we have also opened up 1300 COTA AU (1300 268 228) if you would like to speak to COTA directly – to answer any questions, arrange ongoing support for you or your loved one or just want a chat.



Speak up and help stop elder abuse

The Office for Ageing Well has launched it's 2020 Stop Elder Abuse campaign.

Now more than ever is the time to be alert for signs of elder abuse – that all may not be well with loved ones, neighbours, and friends.

The flip-side of COVID-19 social distancing is that staying home can potentially intensify elder abuse.

Elder Abuse is an act that causes deliberate or unintended harm to an older person.

It affects one in 20 older Australians.

In South Australia, 50 per cent of cases of elder abuse are financial, often coupled with emotional abuse.

Older women are more likely to be experiencing abuse, commonly from an adult son or daughter.

Signs of elder abuse can be fear, sadness, and neglect.

Abuse can be financial, psychological, physical, social, neglect, sexual and chemical – such as over or under medication.

If you are being abused, or you know someone who is, help is available.

You can seek free confidential advice and support or make a report to South Australia's new Adult Safeguarding Unit.

Call the SA Elder Abuse Prevention Phone Line 1800 372 310 or see www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/stopelderabuse.

Spot the signs. Speak up. And help stop Elder Abuse.

Scam Watch:

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam>

Reports of Scam Emails



There have been reports of increased scam emails being sent to individuals and businesses lately.

If you think a scammer has contacted you:

- You should report them to the ACCC via the [report a scam](#) page.
- For tax related fraud, contact the ATO (13 10 20) or the financial regulator, ASIC (1300 300 630).
- If you think a scammer has your details, update your passwords and PINs for myGov, Superannuation Online and any other services you think may be at risk as soon as possible.

Pleasant History

Mount Pleasant's Melrose Street was a little quieter at the beginning of the COVID-19 lock-down, but gradually people relaxed and my once a week venture to the village saw more people going about their business.

What has the lock-down meant for you? If you have a story or tale to tell I would love to add some of the memories to the collection at the History Room... Mount Pleasant during COVID19...

I must admit I was not too worried about being at home for a lengthy time, when the strategy for dealing with the current virus was announced. I have always dabbled in crafts of varying sorts and my family history, and of course there was always local history to add to the mix. One of my sons-in-law often comments that I am like the character in the film Chicken Run that is knitting all the time, and I do a fair share of that.

This time though it was an interesting adventure into my boxes of material which I had packed up after closing a haberdashery business 16 years ago. Whilst I have ventured into these boxes during that time, there was still plenty to look at. My daughters often drop into the 'craft shop at Mum's' over time, and I have given plenty of things away, but there was still lots and lots... I have now managed to sew up all the bits that had been previously cut-out but



not finished, and even completed a quilt or two, but I still have several of those to complete. I have now cut more things out ready to sew and completed a box or two of bags, pincushions, dresses, jackets, not to count the clothing etc that the family have already grabbed for themselves.

I must admit, I have had a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed being able to concentrate on things without having to drop everything to attend a meeting or two.

I hope I am a little more relaxed these days. I certainly feel as if I am and whilst I miss the camaraderie with my cohorts, and can't wait to enjoy a coffee or tea and cake with them, this down time has made me appreciate the beautiful region we live in and the lovely autumn weather we have been able to enjoy. Most times I am so busy, I rarely get to sit on the verandah with a coffee, and enjoy the birds and wildlife that flit by our home. I have certainly been able to do that lately.

Local history has taken a back seat, but I have still managed to accept an item which was a great find... and thanks to the donor, I can now learn a bit more about Hettie Staples, who was a mid-wife here. While the book is only a short period of time, it enables a bigger history to be added as it lists the births, doctor in attendance if needed and successful births as well as a still-birth occasionally.

I have thought of some changes we may make at the History Room, to enable more of our great collection to be accessible on-line and allow remote researchers to realise just what is on hand in our collection, but those changes have to wait as the Hall remains closed to community groups.

I have also managed to meet up with another Historian who is giving our group advice on just how to manage the collection. Future proofing for us has been difficult, and the lock-down has made me realise I need to put some strategies in place for a time when I am not the one in charge. We would love some more help at the History Room and welcome anyone with an interest. For me, dealing with the development of a Strategy is not my love... I am more a hands-on Curator... but necessity means that I must become more businesslike in my care of our collection. Our interest is the former Mount Pleasant District Council region, so that includes Eden Valley, Springton, Palmer and Tungkillo, as well as our own town, so if you have a photograph, document or memory you would like to share with us, we are more than happy to have a chat about a way to add whatever to the collection.



Paula Bartsch
Historian



Top left Paula's been catching up on her projects – as well as making some more beautiful quilts (above).

The History Room

is closed for the duration.

You can still find us on Facebook or contact us via:

85682126 or

Pleasanthistory@gmail.com



Mount Pleasant District
Historical Research Group

Peter's poem

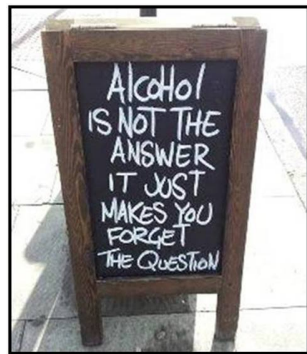
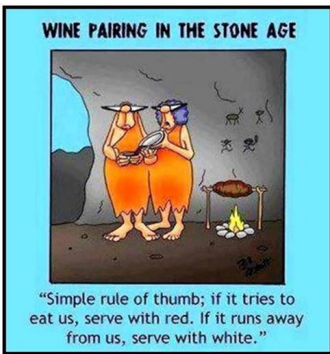
South Australian Wine

I love our wine-drenched Southern state,
 Merlot, Shiraz, Tokay...
 I love McLaren's full, rich reds,
 And Un-wooded Chardonnay.
 Our Sparkling Whites, our gutsy reds,
 So Excellent, SO CHEAP.
 I'd drink lots more than I do now,
 If I didn't need to sleep!
 Barossa Vineyards wide and lush,
 The bounteous Coonawarra,
 I've consumed a fair amount today,
 I'll be back for more tomorra.
 I still have hair upon my head,
 and some upon my chest,
 I attribute my enduring health,
 To the drink I love the best.
 Long may The Vignerons prevail,
 Where the luscious grapes entwine,
 And long, Oh long may I imbibe
 Our great South Aussie wine.

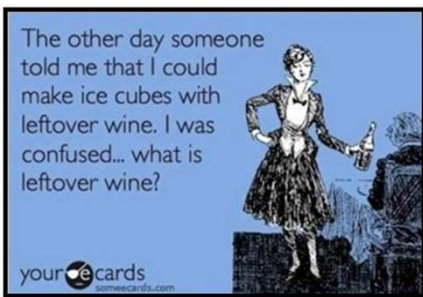
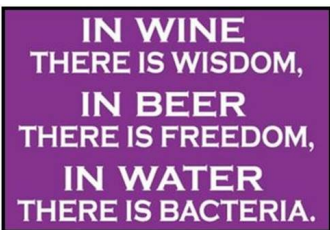


Peter – the peripatetic poet

And no, these funnies are not a reflection on Peter's drinking habits!



People: "stocking up on toilet paper and water"
 Me:



COVID comedy

From Roger and Collette:

Can we uninstall 2020 and reinstall it again?... I think it has a virus ...

2020 is a unique Leap Year. It has 29 days in February, 300 days in March and 5 years in April.

Until further notice the days of the week are now called thisday, thatday, otherday, someday, yesterday, today and nextday!

After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason.

Went to this restaurant called 'The kitchen'. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.

Where is your next travel destination?

Las Kitchenas, Los Lounges, Santa Bedrooms, Porto Gardenas, Los Bed, Costa del Balconia, St Bathroom or La Rotonda de Sofa?

Coronavirus has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We're told "no" if we get too close to strangers and we get really excited about car rides. Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture." Kinda' starting to understand why pets try to run out of the house when the door opens. This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought the cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog and we laughed and laughed.

Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to prevent COVID-19 but to stop eating. I swear my fridge just said: "what do you want now?" If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't accidentally touch your face.

This cleaning with alcohol is total b.s. NOTHING gets done after that first bottle.

Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???

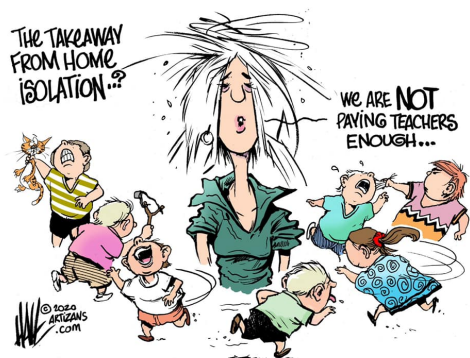
Every few days try on your jeans just to make sure they fit. Pyjamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.

My Mum always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by laying in the bed all day, but look at me now! I'm saving the world!

Whoever owes you money, go to their house now. They should be home.

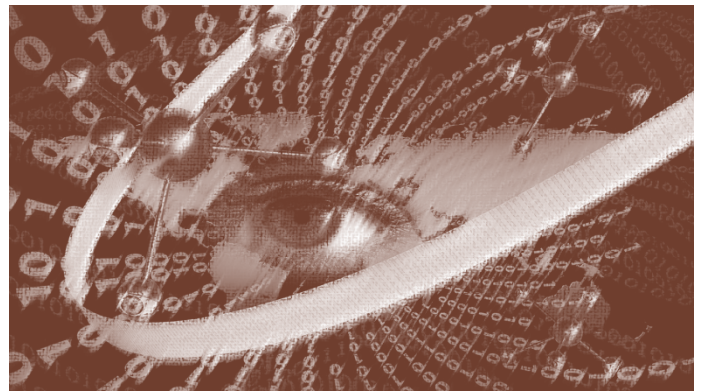
You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers....

Homeschooling Day #3: they all graduated. #Done.





Recreate



From social media... (I channeled HAL 9000 – the computer from Kubrik's '2001: A Space Odyssey' as the voice of google, when I was retyping this...



There are so many fantastic gift ideas at Recreate! What could be more special than a portfolio of hand drawn sketches to colour in? On trend terrariums, mirrors and handmade soap dishes coupled with handmilled soaps.



The Grow Free cart is also bursting at the seams. Recreate is open – you can make an appointment online – just go to the Facebook page.



CALLER: Is this Gordon's Pizza?
 GOOGLE: No sir, it's Google Pizza.
 CALLER: I must have dialled a wrong number. Sorry.
 GOOGLE: No sir, Google bought Gordon's Pizza last month.
 CALLER: OK. I would like to order a pizza.
 GOOGLE: Do you want your usual, sir?
 CALLER: My usual? You know me?
 GOOGLE: According to our caller ID data sheet, the last 12 times you called you ordered an extra-large pizza with three cheeses, sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms and meatballs on a thick crust.
 CALLER: OK! That's what I want ...
 GOOGLE: May I suggest that this time you order a pizza with ricotta, arugula, sun-dried tomatoes and olives on a whole wheat gluten-free thin crust?
 CALLER: What? I detest vegetables!
 GOOGLE: Your cholesterol is not good, sir.
 CALLER: How the hell do you know!
 GOOGLE: Well, we cross-referenced your home phone number with your medical records. We have the result of your blood tests for the last 7 years.
 CALLER: Okay, but I do not want your rotten vegetable pizza! I already take medication for my cholesterol.
 GOOGLE: Excuse me sir, but you have not taken your medication regularly. According to our database, you purchased only a box of 30 cholesterol tablets once, at Drug RX Network, 4 months ago.
 CALLER: I bought more from another drugstore.
 GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your credit card statement.
 CALLER: I paid in cash.
 GOOGLE: But you did not withdraw enough cash according to your bank statement.
 CALLER: I have other sources of cash.
 GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your last tax return unless you bought them using an undeclared income source, which is against the law.
 CALLER: WHAT THE HELL!
 GOOGLE: I'm sorry, sir, we use such information only with the sole intention of helping you.
 CALLER: Enough already! I'm sick to death of Google, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and all the others. I'm going to an island without internet, cable TV, where there is no cell phone service and no one to watch me or spy on me.
 GOOGLE: I understand sir, but you need to renew your passport first. It expired 6 weeks ago...



Marketing!

Vale Gary

It is with great sadness that we would like to inform you that Gary Collins, partner of Sandra from Pebbly Range has passed away after illness. Gary and Sandra have been stallholders at the market almost from inception. Gary was a big part of the market family, always ready to share a joke, or to lend a helping hand, a real character, and a gentleman, he will be greatly missed.



Our Deepest Sympathies to Sandra & Families

I for one will miss Gary's cheeky voice yelling at me to "Hurry up and stop talking!" and constant digs that if I didn't "get there soon, there'd be nothing left"! (He was right!) – Sue B.

Mt Pleasant Farmers Market is still open!

"Yes, the Mt Pleasant Farmers Market is still open albeit a little different than usual" says Marketing Manager Terese Stephens

Now in its ninth year, the Market has faced many challenges over its time, but certainly the covid19 regulations as with many, many businesses have been a very demanding time.

"As the Market is classed as an essential food service, we have been able to continue trading, the Market Management has put into place many policies to comply with covid19 government regulations. Our Market is now spread over three areas, the original market hall, the wisteria atrium and surrounding both, the outside areas. Keeping the Market open and supporting our local producers has been paramount in the change of format for the Market." Terese said.

Market Management has also requested for stallholders to use cashless system where possible; a regularly sanitised ATM is also available if required. The market breakfast bar now is offering a delicious take-away breakfast menu. Individual person shopping is encouraged to control numbers within the market areas.

"With the covid19 challenges driving many changes at the Market, we are very proud to announce that we have launched our online market, drive through and pick up service. Our online Market features many of our stalwart stallholders and a selection of their products. The online Market will allow the community to easily access Market produce in a safe space and provide another avenue for producers to sell their products. In the near future we hope to add a delivery service in local areas." Said Terese

The online platform can be found at <https://mt-pleasant-farmers-market-inc.myshopify.com/>

Orders placed by midnight every Wednesday, will be available from 9.30am Saturdays at the Mt Pleasant Farmers Market. Please note orders placed AFTER midnight on Wednesdays will not be available until the following week. The Mt Pleasant Farmers Market is open every Saturday at the Mt Pleasant Showgrounds, from 8am – 12 noon. For more information please phone Terese Stephens 0418 301 121.

Angela revives an old 'look'



The wonderful Angela Nabb, sporting the world's worst mullet, at the Market. I guess it's warm – and goodness knows, even though her hair has grown a lot, she'll need that extra coverage!





Life returning to the Hills

Shoot for the stars - Seedlings ready for hand over to bushfire affected Land holders

Since March 2020, around 220 individual volunteers have been caring for and growing seedlings in readiness for planting this season on properties affected by the Cudlee Creek December 2019 bushfires.

Habitat Recovery Alliance (HRA) administration have worked tirelessly and methodically through the list of growers to negotiate a suitable day and time slot for each grower to return their seedlings to the one site, in readiness for batching.

With around 16,000 tubestock ready to be returned from Habitat Recovery Alliance volunteer growers, people like Julie Brodie all the way from Naracoorte were not sure how they could return their trays, with the current Covid-19 situation.

Julie Brodie (pictured right) from Naracoorte was able to attend the Nursery workshops held earlier this year, during one of her medical trips to Adelaide, however, the current restrictions have presented a problem for her.

"I really enjoyed growing the seedlings and being able to contribute to such an amazing project has really made me feel valued and as if I have made a difference. To get them back to Mt Pleasant wasn't meant to be this hard. Thank goodness for the goodwill of Naracoorte Freight (a TOLL Company), they have stepped up and will deliver my seedlings free of charge back to the HRA project team to be distributed to those who need them".

Kim Thompson, Secretary of the URTLG said "Our project vision is much different and far more complicated than what we had anticipated for this stage of our bushfire recovery project, however, like all community driven projects there is always a solution to every problem".

Terese Stephens, HRA project admin. officer approached Naracoorte Freight to see if they could help out with getting the seedlings back to the Adelaide Hills. "They couldn't have been more helpful and didn't hesitate to offer to pick up the seedlings from Julie and delivered them back to us."

"This grass roots project has already attracted significant volunteer support, and with the wider community pitching in where they can, provides HRA with a real opportunity to improve wildlife habitat outcomes on the ground. Funds from the Landcare Australia Grant and Lockheed Martin Landcare Grant will enable the Habitat Recovery Alliance to deliver essential habitat restoration across the fire scar. This will include site assessment & preparation, provision of

appropriate plants, guards & stakes, facilitation and coordination of planting, building and installation of appropriate wildlife nest boxes for each site."

Extra challenges due to the recent coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak, and the ongoing daily changes to government requirements in attempts to stop the spread of this pandemic, HRA are now finding ways to coordinate the collection, planting and distribution of volunteer grown seedlings. The Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board (AMLRNRM) have offered assistance to support the HRA, with these many tasks.



Kim said, "This will add to the existing capacity of the Alliance to support our volunteers, communities and environmental restoration in this challenging time."

The Habitat Recovery Alliance anticipates the project will extend into the next three years at least, with the initial grants to be acquitted late 2020. For more information or enquiries about the project, contact Terese Stephens torrenslandcare@gmail.com or phone 0417 330 343.

A project of the Upper River Torrens Landcare Group in partnership with



CFS news



You may have noticed that the CFS have resumed training. The giveaway was probably the siren going off at 7pm on Tuesday nights.

Glynn Jackson
Captain - Mt Pleasant CFS



Fire Danger Season Ended

Thanks to the timing and amount of rain recently, the fire danger season ended on 30 April, rather than needing to be extended like previous years.

So what does this mean?

- There are no longer restrictions (in relation to fire danger) on the use of grinders, welders, slashers, barbecues and pizza ovens.
- Broad acre farmers can burn stubble in their paddocks to prepare for sowing and without permits or restrictions.
- Grape growers can burn clean piles of vine stumps, providing it is outside of township boundaries.
- Whilst people still need to be careful and take precautions. The focus on the use of fire shifts fire danger and prevention to nuisance smoke.

For residents:

- Residents are permitted to burn clean, dried timber, paper or garden prunings on their properties.
- The '10 to 3 – Monday to Saturday rule' still applies to properties within the township to burn accumulated dried vegetation. This has always been most reasonable balance between the need/desire of some to burn, nuisance and air quality and resourcing. Council does have the ability to restrict this further (or ban it altogether and implement a permit system) in townships if desired.
- These times are relaxed for properties outside of a township. But are still encouraged to stick to between 10:00am and 3:00pm, to reduce the chance of causing a local nuisance.
- Importantly only clean, dried timber, paper or garden prunings can be burnt, certainly no foreign materials containing plastics, foam, glues or chemical preservatives.
- Material must not be green or wet from the rain. No lawn clippings, pine needles or partly composted material.
- Comfort or cooking fires are permitted using good quality timber or charcoal.

People are encouraged wherever possible to consider alternatives to burning. Including fortnightly kerbside green waste collection, composting and green waste recycling facilities like Kuchels Landscape Supplies.

Congratulations & Celebrations



Bill and Barb - 60 years!
Congratulations to Barb and Bill Tapscott who recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.



Happy Birthday, Paula!
A very Happy Birthday to Paula! Usually we have fun celebrating her birthday during History Month (so appropriate for an Historian!) in the history Room – it just means we'll have to hold a party later on!

Clubs & Committees

Men's Shedding



The Australian Men's Shed Association has responded to the current situation by producing podcasts, which they are hosting on their website. Go to their website www.mensshed.org and not only will you find the podcasts, but a wealth of other information and resources. Meanwhile in Mt Pleasant the blokes have been busy completing their extension, adding shelving and lining the structure.



MPPS engagement

The lessons with senior students from the Mt Pleasant primary School have recommenced, with the first lesson taking place on Tuesday 19th. Because of current restrictions the numbers have been kept to 10 – instructors and students.



The Men's Shed is closed until further notice.

For information please contact:
Murray – Chairperson –
0439385291

or Gareth – Secretary – 0430026993
or email -
mpmensshed@bigpond.com

mp beat

CWA

The CWA Facebook page is going gangbusters, with lots of new activity these last couple of weeks. Jan and Dor are now in charge of the postings and have wasted no time in passing on information and tips for the current crafts and CWA projects.



The blanket squares are still being collected and sewn into beautiful, warm rugs for distribution to those who need them.

Pictured left is the Rope Basket members are currently working on.



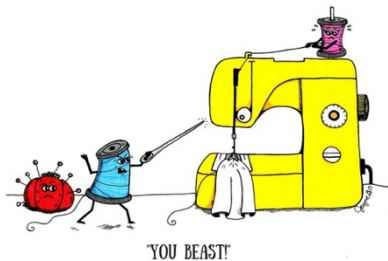
Beginning this project is a bit tricky, but there is a great YouTube video to guide you. You'll find the link on the CWA website:

<https://www.sacwa.org.au/about-sacwa/handicraft-committee/>



The next projects will be Bargello embroidery, followed by the Folded Star.

Kath Fisher
Secretary SACWA
Mt Pleasant Branch



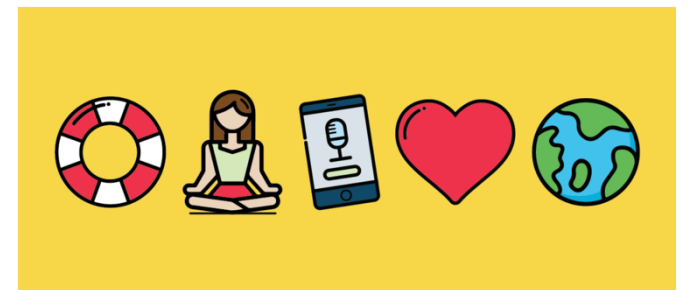
June, 2020

Red Cross



Australian Red Cross
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

As well as lots of other information – including the response to the Bushfire Appeal, etc, Red Cross podcasts are now available on the website: www.redcross.org.au



If there are people in your life deeply disrupted by COVID-19, there are ways you can reduce their initial distress and support them to cope naturally.

\$200m DONATED

Figures current at 15 April 2020

3 months into our grants and recovery program

\$73m



\$5m

enabled us to help **27,500 people** during the bushfires this year



\$57m

distributed in emergency, repair, injury & bereavement grants



\$11m

distributed in rebuild grants so far

At a cost so far of less than 4¢ in the dollar for each dollar donated

How we are using the rest of the funds

\$127m



\$22m

in grants for those who haven't yet applied



\$59m

to rebuild homes



\$18m

to support community recovery over the next three years



\$28m

for further unmet needs in bushfire-affected communities

mp beat

RSL Annual Report

To All Members.

Firstly, I hope this Report finds you all well and coping with the State Health & Isolation guidelines.



These Days we are flooded with Virus News and Opinions on who in the World is doing well in managing this horrible outbreak. As I do not support any Party or Political opinion, I decided to look at the STATs for myself.

Obviously, the World has Recorded 3.45 Million confirmed Cases of the VIRUS with 244 Thousand Deaths.

This number is only the CONFIRMED & TESTED Cases, which means there are large numbers of unrecorded cases around the World and a lot of these unrecorded cases are from Countries that cannot afford the testing program or do not have the infrastructure to support Nationwide testing or who chose to ignore the warnings.

I have been following these percentages for the last 3 weeks and they seem to be consistent at this stage.

At its worst potential the VIRUS kills, so if we look at just the Death Rate percentage per country, we see the worst picture.

World Percentage Death Rate of recorded cases:

FRANCE - 18.89%

UK - 15.45%

ITALY - 13.73%

SWEDEN - 12.08% (SWEDEN did not lock down)

SPAIN - 11.56%

USA - 5.78%

N.Z. - 1.76%

Aust. - 1.37%

So, as you can see, Australia has done very well but we should still keep our Guard up against the threat. We can keep our State clean of the Virus and then keep Aust clean. But what of the rest of the world - with so many unrecorded cases potentially suffering wave after wave of infection? I think it will be a very long time before we see everything " Back to Normal".

Thank you for your personal services at Home on ANZAC Day.

I contacted the police and gained their permission to still hold a very small Ceremony on the Day at the RSL Hall. So, we did manage to REMEMBER them at the RSL Hall on ANZAC Day, raising the FLAG, laying wreaths and having a very simple Service of Remembrance and Respect.

"THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD & AND WE SHALL NOT FORGET"

Kind Regards,

Mike Williams

President Mt Pleasant RSL.



The walkers have resumed! Time to get off the couch and get out and about – while socially distancing. It’s easier than you think! Call Murray and join the mob for exercise and great company.

June, 2020

MPCA Inc



The Community Association has been unable to meet, like all other committees. Hopefully, we will be able to proceed with the Street Party as planned, stay tuned for announcements on meeting dates. Whatever happens, we always welcome new members.



Street Party Group

The Street Party group is cautiously making some plans for this year’s event. Think about helping this year – there are all sorts of jobs – big and small – that you could help with, for this great

community event. We welcome new

members with energy and great ideas. Contact Secretary Sue Barrett on 85682985 to register your interest.



Tungkillo Community Cookbook

PLEASE HELP!

Do you have a recipe that people are always asking for?

A Dish that you love to make and share?

We are creating a cookbook and we would love to include your recipe!

PO Box 141 Tungkillo, 5236 or email: TungkilloGazette@gmail.com

June calendar



All Op Shops closed for a time during the pandemic, but many are opening now. There are several good Op Shops in the district – including Birdwood, Gumeracha & Williamstown. The Friends of the Mt Pleasant Hospital also have an op Shop facility. The Salvation Army now has an online shop: salvosstores.com.au



gatheredsa.com.au

GARDEN OPEN DAY
2019 CUDLEE CREEK FIRES
"Our abundance to revive your garden"

MT TORRENS HOTEL
11-4PM
7TH JUNE 2020.

Open day for those affected to come collect plants and garden goodies.

GARDEN DONATIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY TO YOU
Register now via email or social media
adelaidehillsgardenrevival@gmail.com

REPLANT, REVIVE, RECOVER



Events

Date	Event	Details
6, 13, 20 & 27	MP Farmers' Market – ALSO ONLINE	8-12, Saturday @ Talunga Park

Meetings

Committee / Group / Organisation	Details
CFS Training	Every Tuesday @ 7pm
CWA	1 st Tuesday, 1.30pm @ Soldiers' Memorial Hall
CWA Craft Group	1 st and third Tuesdays, 9.30am to 12.30am @ Soldiers' Memorial Hall
Community Dinner Group	1 st Tuesday, 6.30pm @ Soldiers' Memorial Hall
Friends of the Mount Pleasant Hospital	10am, 2 nd Tuesday in month
Men's' Shed	Open Monday & Wednesday from 9am. Social Night – second Friday in month
MP District History	1-4pm, every Thursday @ History Room, SM Hall
MP Farmers' Market	8-12, every Saturday @ Talunga Park (unless otherwise advertised)
MP Inc	6.30pm, 2 nd Tuesday @ SM Hall
MP Show Society	2 nd Monday @ Talunga Park
MP Spinners & Craft Group	St John's Church Hall, 10-3 on Wednesdays
MP Table Tennis	7.30pm, every Wednesday @ BHS Gym
Playgroup	9.30-11.30am, every Friday @ MP Kindy
Pleasant Painters	2 nd & 4 th Friday from 10am-2pm, @ MP Library
Red Cross	Bi-Monthly, 1.30pm, 4 th Thurs @ SM Hall
RSL Social	1 st Tuesday - Social gathering
RSL Meeting	Alternate month, last Sunday - Bi-Monthly meeting
SM Hall VAC	Bi-monthly 7.30pm, 4 th Monday @ SM Hall (Jan, March, May, July, August, October)
St John's Card Group (500)	1 st Thursday every month. 12 noon start. \$10 for 2 course meal + beverages.
Writers' Group	Please email: mrdonblataceaser@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Newsletters are published at the beginning of every month, and generally available in the Wisteria Atrium at the Market, Star Books & at the Post Office.

If you'd like a hard copy, please ask Anne or Rose @ the PO to reserve one.

Online @ mtpleasantbeat.org

Editors: Sue Barrett & Paula Bartsch



Contact us:

Contributions may be emailed to: s.d.barrett@bigpond.com

If you wish to be notified when the newsletter is available online, please contact us via -

t: 0403012339 or

e: mtpleasantbeat@gmail.com

w: mtpleasantbeat.org or

Facebook: [mpbeat](https://www.facebook.com/mpbeat)