

The Clayton Bay Chronicle

Best Small Town 2016
Clayton Bay



"I'll be there!
If you want me to
give a present to your
child, drop it at 'Sails'
before 4 pm on
Christmas Eve."
(NAMED CLEARLY)

Carols at the Bay



Summer
2016
\$2.50

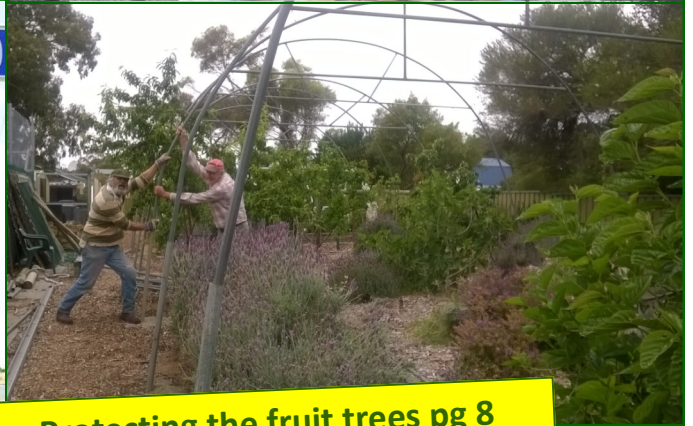
Christmas Eve 7pm - 8:30pm
at the Clayton Bay Boat Club
Optional Picnic Tea for 6pm



Look Out pg 18



Colouring Clayton pg 20



Protecting the fruit trees pg 8



Above-Three corner jack Below-Caltrop pg 12





President's Corner



It has been a successful year for the CBCA with awards and funding coming our way. The new Committee has continued work together raising funds so we can pay the bills, support the CFS and maintain and improve facilities at the hall. Funding usually requires

some funds and/or in-kind contribution by the recipient so I thank our volunteers for offering their time and expertise in particular Alexandrina Plumbing who continue to offer their services for any of our plumbing needs. (Thanks Andrew & Jay. Thanks to our recently retired electrician too). If you have a skill, trade, service or talent and are willing to volunteer to help to community please let me know.

Fundraising events also give the community the opportunity to come together and socialise. Clayton Bay is well know for it's friendliness so if you are attending a function for the first time you will be made to feel welcome.

The traditional Carols at the Bay is on again on Christmas Eve at the boat club. This is a free community event so bring along your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends and join in the Christmas spirit. Santa will also make an appearance. (Leave gifts for children at Sails, clearly named, before 4pm so Santa can collect them before he

arrives at the club). The Christmas raffle will also be drawn.

A BIG thank you to the committee and all volunteers who have contributed in any way during the year. We could not do it with out your help and support.

Leonie Henderson



Diary Dates

Dec 24th: Carols at the CBBC

2017

Jan 26th Australia Day Breakfast

Check your Clayton Bay Calendar, visit Facebook and keep an eye on the notice board at Sails for details of these and other events.



DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE CHRONICLE?

Humorous – Heartwarming – Unbelievable

Does someone or something you know deserve a bouquet or brick bat?

Email your articles to 1000leonie@gmail.com or drop them into Sails at Clayton Bay

All submissions published at the discretion of the Editor

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Matt Patrick

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SAILS AT CLAYTON BAY



Nikki, and the team, invite you to
come and enjoy a range of eat-in
and take-away food including all day
breakfast, daily specials, sweet treats &
wine by the glass

28 ISLAND VIEW DRIVE

PHONE 8537 0177

Email claytonatthelake@yahoo.com.au

Visit Us On Facebook



This bush fire season has now commenced:-

Clayton Bay is in the Murraylands

**Bush Fire District – November 15th
until April 15th**

**Goolwa is in the Mt. Lofty Bush Fire
District – December 1st until April
30th**

Have you prepared your property and developed an action plan in case you are involved in an area that is threatened by a bush fire? The CFS Booklet “Your Guide to Bush Fire Safety” is available at Sails or at the CFS Regional Headquarters in Mt. Barker free of charge.

A well prepared home:-

- ♦ Is more likely to survive, even if you are not there.
- ♦ Can be easier for you or fire fighters to defend.
- ♦ Is less likely to put neighbouring properties at risk.
- ♦ Will give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave and take more shelter.

Daily fire danger ratings:-

Low to Moderate – Be ready to act.

High – Keep informed.

Very High – Review your written Bush Fire Survival Plan.

Severe – You need to be aware.

Extreme - Total Fire Ban – Be ready to act quickly.

Catastrophic – Total Fire Ban – Act now – activate your Bush Fire Action Plan.

In your Bush Fire Action Plan, remember to include a survival kit of items that you will need to take with you. Also plan for any animals in your care.

The Red Cross has plans and ideas that will assist you in planning. One of these concerns your important paper work. Why not scan these documents and store on a USB stick. This stick could

hang on your key ring and a spare could be left with family or friends, say in Adelaide.

Now that we are well prepared we can be alert to our surrounding community and settle in to enjoy the Christmas Season.

Geoff Braddock

Merry Christmas from the Clayton CFS brigade.

We have had a very busy year with fundraising. Starting off the year with the annual Australia Day Brekkie. There was another huge turnout and it is showing to be very popular as we nearly sold out of food this year.

Approximately 10 volunteers got involved in the final tree planting rounds helping our brigade raise its portion of grant monies.

At Sails we had The Melbourne Cup Calcutta lunch. The Auction of Horses proved to be a very exciting and happy day, especially for the winners. Congratulations to Errol, Kevin, Judy and Curt for buying the winning horse and taking home the perpetual trophy again!!!!

Last but not least, our wonderful CFS Christmas Party, held on Tuesday 13th Dec, is put on for the community each year. We do so well with local support which raises much needed funds for our brigade.

We have had an influx of volunteers joining our support team which is fantastic. Their shirts are being printed so please look out for those in the coming months.

Thanks to everyone who volunteers
and to the local businesses
for all their support.

Thanks also to the CBCA for their continuing support. This makes our fundraising efforts so much easier. There is so much organising that goes on behind the scenes but it doesn't go unnoticed.

Thanks again Tracy Falzon
Clayton CFS
Support Team Manager



General earthworks, driveways, site laser leveling, trenching, block slashing, postholes to 600mm diameter, hydraulic rock breaker, tree and stump removal

We have the following equipment in Clayton Bay ready to service your requirements.

3 ton excavator with numerous attachments, bobcat, 35 hp tractor with industrial slasher, 4 ton tip truck, ditchwitch trenching machine.

Bulk soil, road base, gravel, and land fill supplies can be organized at competitive rates

Tim and Linda Roberts

0419 038 499

ABN: 92 577 965 937



CBBC

There is always something happening at the boat club on the first weekend of the month. With the introduction of Saturday morning dingy races and the Red Top long race series Saturday afternoon there are more opportunities for all sailors to compete. This is in addition to the Red Top race on Sunday morning followed by a community lunch means that everyone is catered for.

The last weekend of November saw CBBC take part in a race to Narrung. Congratulations to all the competitors not only for a great race but also for ensuring the CBBC maintained its reputation for partying.

Don't forget to come to the boat club on Christmas Eve for Christmas Carols followed by a visit from the man in red — a long standing Clayton Bay tradition. All welcome! Come early and have a picnic dinner on the lawn.

Remember there are Old Sailors and there Bold Sailors but there NO old, bold sailors.



BBQ MEAT & SALAD LUNCH AT THE BOAT CLUB

All members of the local community are welcome at the Boat Club lunch, held on the **1st Sunday** of every month from **12.30pm.**

Purchase Steak and Sausages



Please bring a family size salad to share.

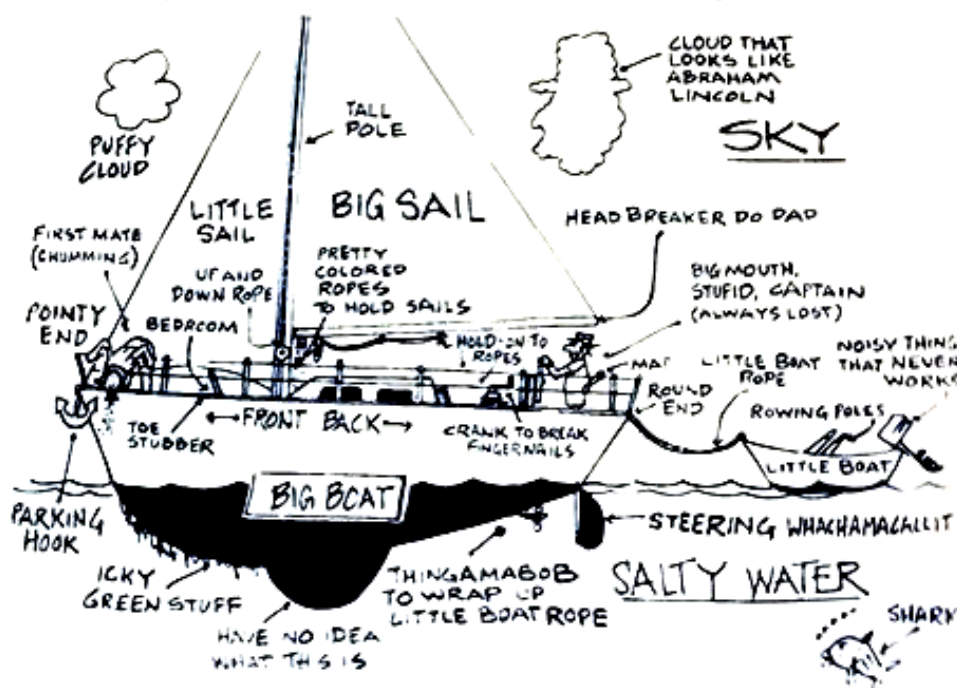
Bar open



CBBC Ph 85370375

BOAT STUFF

(LANDLUBBER'S GLOSSARY OF NAUTICAL TERMS)



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AROUND THE BAY

(Stories and goings on from Clayton Bay)



Thanks to everyone who joined in the fun at this years Melbourne Cup which raised funds for both the CFS and the CBCA through the raffle, Calcutta and Silent Auction. The quiz certainly got people thinking and provided some interesting race facts.

The Clayton Bay Hall is used regularly for meetings, events and regular dance classes. The kitchen has been updated with the recent addition of a commercial dishwasher provided by the Alexandrina Council. **Thanks to Alexandrina Plumbing** and local electrician for donating their services to install it.

Reverse cycle air conditioning will also be installed soon thanks to funding from the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion Grants SA program. The hall is one of the best on the Fleurieu with its superb timber floor, fully equipped kitchen, meeting/supper room, with a covered pergola and grassed area outside. The hall is available for hire and is already booked in 2017 for a wedding reception. For more information about the hall and bookings, phone 0448 453 202 or 0407 394 907.

CFS & Alexandrina Council urge all property owners to assess their fire risk, clean up and maintain their properties throughout the Fire Danger Season. Be sure to remove all dead branches, leaves and undergrowth from around your home and especially under trees.

If you live in a township, or own a block there ensure all vegetation such as long grass is reduced, removed or managed to a height not exceeding 100mm.

Did you know that January 2017 is FREE drop off of E-Waste at the Goolwa Waste and Recycling Depot? Under the National Computer and Television Scheme the following items will be accepted free of charge— all computers, - portable and desktop, all printers, scanners and fax machines and televisions **but a**

disposal fee applies to all damaged items. Visit www.frwa.com.au for more information.

More fruit for us and none for the birds! Laurie, Brian and helpers have been busy erecting a framework over the fruit trees in the orchard area of the community garden, ready for netting. The orchard has a number of fruit trees including mulberry, pear, lemon, apricot which thrive and produce an abundance of fruit but it is a battle to pick them before the birds get to them. It is hoped that the fruit can be distributed to the community. Early pickings from the mulberry tree has already produced some delicious jam.

As you know, Red Cross ran a First Aid Course in the hall in November giving people the chance to learn and /or update skills. The Red Cross shops are well known but did you realize that they also have an on-line store ? There is a wide variety of gifts available in all price ranges. 2 of my favourites are The Blackout Buddy which plugs into a power point ready to go in the event of a power failure (which we seem to be having regularly these days) and the Australian Twelve Days of Christmas t-towel (is actually Australian Made). The gift range includes books and stationary, cards for all occasions , home wares, gourmet and kitchen plus more. Worth a visit to the web site - shop.redcross.org.au for Christmas and all occasions.

FIRE DANGER SEASON

Murraylands (includes Clayton Bay) 15
November 2016 to 15th April 2017
(Subject to Change dependant on
weather conditions)

CFS Bushfire Hotline 1 300 362 361

KESAB Sustainable Communities

Awards 2016.

Volunteers from Clayton Bay attended the KESAB Sustainable Communities awards ceremony at the Entertainment Centre on Tuesday 15th November.

Earlier in the year, Simon Grenfell, General Manager for Engineering and the Environment at Alexandrina Council, prompted Leonie Henderson to enter Clayton Bay into the awards, in recognition of the environmental and community projects of which we are all so proud. He acknowledged that we are a unique community, in the quality and quantity of the projects undertaken which sit beneath this umbrella

'The Sustainable Communities program is all about telling a community's story, getting people together to help their local towns, schools and businesses and to be proud of what they have achieved'. (From the KESAB website)

The morning began with recognition of schools actively involved in WOW, 'Wipe out Waste', projects to eliminate waste and improve the natural environment. Many of the school projects were described and it was inspiring to hear of the innovation and dedication involved. Primary and Secondary schools from across the education sectors won recognition for their efforts.

Following morning tea, the presentations focused on the Sustainable Communities awards. This is where the excitement began for us. Once again we were treated to a range of projects, small to huge, which variously involved small community groups to collaborations between councils and stake holder groups to improve the natural and cultural amenity of towns around the state.

The Clayton Bay Nursery and Environment Group won the 2016 Sustainable Communities Natural Environment Award for its work in propagation, revegetation and maintenance of the natural environment. Naturally the logical person to accept the award was our highly respected Nursery Manager, Carole Richardson.

The Sustainable Communities Community Outstanding Event for 2016 was awarded to the 'Waterways' event, coordinated by Peter Smytherman, who accepted the award. Peter engaged with a very wide selection of people to put together a terrific day of recognition of the importance of the river to our community.

An Expo of individuals, companies and instrumentalities who work in the field of waste reduction and recycling was set up in the adjoining area, which we were able to peruse during the morning tea and lunch breaks.

After lunch the major awards were announced. To our delight, Carole Richardson was presented a Commendation Award for her dedicated and long standing contribution to protection of our local environment. Congratulations on this award, Carole. We are a mighty team of volunteers, but we benefit enormously from your knowledge, skills and management style, and the humour and sensitivity you display with each of us who volunteers.

The pinnacle of the day was winning the 2016 Sustainable Communities Best Small Town Award, this time accepted by CBCA President, Leonie Henderson. Thank you Leonie for the professionalism, dedication, tireless effort and warmth with which you have led our Association team over many years.

By now we were drunk on success! The atmosphere in the room was convivial and congratulatory, because everyone there shared a love of community and environment. Some are past winners and some are would be winners, but all enjoyed sharing in the achievements of the year. RSI of the smile muscles was starting to kick in!!!

Thanks to KESAB for continuing to promote energy and commitment for the future through its revitalising and reimagining of projects to acknowledge the work done to protect and enhance the natural environment.

As a post script, I would encourage you to check out the 'Walk the Yorke' project on the Internet, a massive undertaking and an outstanding example of collaboration between councils and resident groups. The overall winner for 2015 was Mundulla who featured on the ABC 'Backroads' program on November 28th. I urge you to watch it on iview if you missed it.

Finally, the consultations and collaboration we enjoy with Alexandrina Council will further enhance our beautiful town as the Foreshore Management Plan unfolds over the next 10 years. Once again we thank the council and Simon Grenfell for the support we receive to Keep South Australia, (and Clayton Bay), Beautiful.

Marg Mundy

Wild Spring

It was a wet, windy and cool spring for South Australia, particularly through September and October when several vigorous frontal systems brought heavy rain and damaging winds to central and eastern districts. Temperatures were cooler than average for most areas with particularly cold nights in central districts.

Heavy early season rainfall

Rainfall during spring was above average, owing to a particularly wet September.

A vigorous frontal system, in mid-September and an intense low pressure system in late September brought heavy rainfall, resulting in some locations having their wettest spring day on record.

The wet conditions observed through September and October resulted in several locations having their wettest spring on record

Overall, rainfall for spring was above average for South Australia, and the highest since 2011.

Cooler than average, cold nights in central districts

Vigorous frontal systems saw some locations have their coldest spring day (lowest maximum temperature) on record.

Some locations around Adelaide and in the lower southeast reported their coolest spring mean daily maximum temperature for at least 20 years.

Night time temperatures were particularly cool with several locations reporting their coolest spring nights on record and several other locations having their coolest spring nights for at least 20 years.

Flash flooding, severe thunderstorms, damaging winds and tornados

- Strong, gusty and damaging winds occurred several times through the season, particularly during September and October
- In the Adelaide region, flash flooding oc-

curred on 15 September as 101.4 mm fell at Uraidla and 100.2 mm at Ashton, with a number of other sites in the Adelaide Hills exceeding 80 mm

Central and eastern districts were impacted by severe thunderstorms and a tornado outbreak in late September.

Severe thunderstorms developed over northern districts on 10 November that produced a wind gust of 124 km/hr at Moomba Airport.



What does Santa bring
naughty boys and girls on
Christmas Eve?
A pack of batteries with a
note saying "toy not in-
cluded"

Clayton Bay Rainfall



Jan 16	29.8 mm
Feb 16	51.4 mm
Mar 16	19.6 mm
Ap 16	9.2 mm
May 16	30.2 mm
Jun 16	42.8 mm
Jul 16	82.0 mm
Aug 16	22.20 mm
Sept 16	117.8 mm
Oct 16	41.8 mm
Nov 16	19.6 mm

YTD 466.4 mm

<http://www.bom.gov.au>



Adopt a patch – Would you like to look after your own patch of the foreshore? This could be a site in front of your house, a favourite spot of your around the trail, or a patch in need of a friend.

Support, advice, tools and equipment will be provided. **Every little bit helps.**

Adopt a patch – contact Carole
0418838003
claytonbayneg@gmail.com

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CBNEG

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Chairperson	Peter Smytherman
Secretary	Marg Mundy
Treasurer	Con Boerma
Nursery Manager	Carole Richardson

www.communitywebs.org/cbneg

claytonbayneg@gmail.com

Phone: 0418 838 003

SUMMER WEED ID

Caltrop (*Tribulus terrestris*) is a summer-growing weed growing around the foreshore trail (and likely in your backyard or vacant block).

Caltrop has seeds that remain dormant in the soil for up to **four to five years**. They germinate after summer rain and grow rapidly, flowering and forming new burrs **within three to five weeks**.

Three Corner Jack (*Emex australis*) – is also an annual, however can germinate at any time of the year with a flush in autumn and winter. Up to six waves of germination can occur. A deep tap-root is quickly formed giving the plant more drought tolerance than most companion species. Under adverse conditions the leaves may wither and the plant re shoots from the rootstock when conditions improve. A basal rosette of leaves forms and a few seeds develop in the crown. The

time from emergence to first flowering varies from 4-18 weeks with embryo development starting 3 weeks later and **viable seed being produced about 6 weeks** after flowering. Long running stems emerge from the centre of the rosette and grow rapidly in warmer weather progressively producing seeds in the leaf axils.

Both of these weeds are present in Clayton at the moment, and both are easily transferred by footwear, tyres, dogs etc. Pull them out if possible before flowering, and bin the weed especially if it has seeds.

If you have concerns or information of outbreak of these weeds call into the nursery or phone

CBNEG – 0418 838 003 or

email claytonbayneg@gmail.com

Merry Christmas

What do you call an incomplete Christmas sentence?

A santa clause

What do hip hop artists do on Christmas?

Unwrap.

Mrs Clause: "Is it rain or hail?"

Santa: "It's reindeer.

What nationality is Santa Claus?

North Polish

Why did no one bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay?

Because they were two deer!

This could be your ad for \$25.00 per year!

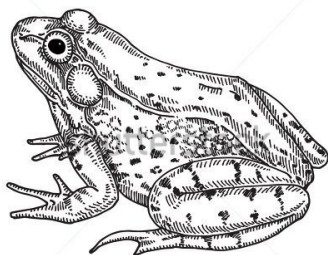
WANTED!

Old coloured or patterned tiles, crockery the more colourful the better.

Contact Leonie 0448 453 202 or 0407 394 907

FrogWatch

The free FrogSpotter mobile apps and the FrogWatch SA website are the powerhouse behind FrogWatch SA. They are designed to make it easy and fun to learn about South Australia's frogs and to collect essential knowledge about them. By taking part in frog surveys, you can help us better understand the condition of the environments frogs are dependent on in South Australia.



You don't have to be an expert to contribute. People of all ages, knowledge and background can take part. There are many ways to participate: as a FrogSpotter, as a group coordinator, or as a frog call identifier. We need information at all times of the year and across all of South Australia.

The best time to count frogs is when they are breeding. Although this is in winter and spring for most types of frogs, some frogs breed in summer and most desert frogs will breed only after a big rain, which can occur at any time of the year. The exact timing that is best for a species to breed can change from year to year and region to region because it is influenced by many environmental conditions such as temperature and rainfall. So we encourage you to get out FrogSpotting as often as possible and to cover as many parts of the state as you can.

If you do not have a GPS enabled smartphone or tablet (for example, wi-fi only iPads are not GPS enabled) you can still submit recordings via this website.

Why monitor frogs?

Frogs are well known for their sensitivity to pollution and habitat degradation. They live on land but usually need water to lay their eggs in and they need a healthy environment in which to complete their life cycle from egg to tadpole to

adult frog. Most frogs are sensitive to polluted water because their eggs can absorb toxic materials that can kill embryos or lead to deformed offspring that don't survive.

Frogs are easy to monitor because each species has its own distinct call. To listen to the calls of South Australian frogs, browse through the species on the website or in your FrogSpotter app and touch their photo to play their call!

The information provided by FrogSpotters lets us know where frogs are present and also where there are no frogs in our waterways. The results let us know which species are common and which are rarely found. We also learn which parts of the State may need further work to improve the water quality or habitat condition.

Join the Fun!

Join others to help build a picture of South Australian frogs—either as an individual, family or group.

You can become a:

- ♦ FrogSpotter
- ♦ Group coordinator
- ♦ Frog call identifier
- ♦ Information is needed at all times of the year

Visit www.frogwatchsa.com.au
for more information

Chronicle Deadline

Why not send your story about living in Clayton Bay, what you like about the place, why you chose to live/visit here,.

Next issue due out in
March 2017

All articles for this edition
need to be in by February

These can be emailed to
1000leonie@gmail.com

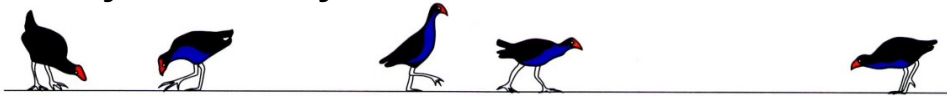
or snail mailed to :

Chronicle Editor

6 Alexandrina Drive Clayton Bay SA 5256.

New Advertisers welcome.

Clayton Bay Community Association at work for our Community



Christmas Raffle

\$2.00 a ticket available at Sails

1st Prize: 1/2 Wine Barrel, Neutrog goods & garden items

2nd Prize: Jiwa Necklace, Earrings & Ring

3rd Prize: 1 Dozen Wine

4th Prize: Hand-made Pinboard & Photo Album

5th Prize: Sails Restaurant voucher & Teapot Set

6th Prize: Pammies Pantry Chutney Basket & Plate

7th Prize: Hand made Glass Bead Necklace by C. Fish

8th Prize: Jigsaw Puzzle & Roll-up mat

9th Prize: 10 Native Clayton Bay Nursery Plants

Drawn 7pm 24/12/2016 at Carols @ the Clayton Bay Boat Club

Thanks to Neutrog, Brittens Landscaping, Project Wines, Mitre 10 Strathalbyn, Julie Jones (Jiwa Designs) Sails, CBNEG, Cathy Fish, Pamela Francis (Pammies Pantry), Laurie Hepworth, Pene Jeffries, Leonie Henderson for donations of prizes. Your support is appreciated.



KESAB AWARDS were received in the following categories:

Best Small Town

Natural Environment

Outstanding Community Event

Commendation for contribution to the community



Membership Lucky Draw

Next draw \$25

At the Australia Day Breakfast 2017

BE THERE TO WIN!

CLAYTON BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Inc.



ABN 72 700 610 232

6 Alexandrina Drive Clayton Bay SA 5256

Mobile: 0448 453 202

www.claytonbay.org.au

Email: info@claytonbay.org.au



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President, Chronicle Editor & Hall Hire	Leonie Henderson
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Treasurer	Grant Maddern
Committee Member	Peter Lomman
Committee Member	Laurie Hepworth
Committee Member	Pene Jeffries
Council Representative	Katherine Stanley—Murray
Milang Association Representative	Pamela Francis

WINE FUNDRAISER

Wine orders can be placed throughout the year.

Example of the wines available are:

Winery Road Brut Cuvee
Winery Road Sauvignon Blanc
Steeple Jack Moscato
Winery Road Shiraz Cabernet

Cost per Dozen is \$96.00—That's \$8.00 per bottle!

Orders can now be 6 bottles of 2 varieties!

Your order will be delivered **FREE** to any Clayton Bay address



This is one way you can support the Clayton raising.

Bay Community Association's fund-

ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

To place your order phone Leonie on 0448 453 202


Or email: info@claytonbay.org.au



Why SANTA doesn't use cats.

No Appointments
necessary

BARBER ON ALBYN



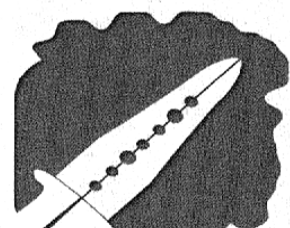
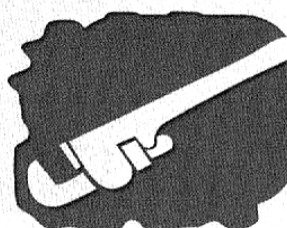
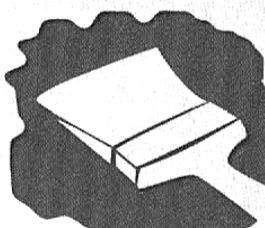
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Kai Howard

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NATIVE GRASSES

Have you ever thought about the value grasses have

for us? Though we have many grasses from overseas and they've continued to cause us problems, our own grasses called C3 – cool season grasses or C4—warm season grasses, (the number being the number of atoms of carbon each type of grass has,) have the ability to help reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere.

These grasses absorb carbon into their root system locking the carbon away. The foliage gets burnt in a bush fire however the roots escape the worst of the fire growing new foliage after the fire to hold more carbon in the foliage and increased size of roots.

The areas where they can be planted include the domestic garden area together with the sides of roads, railways and tramways. This gives the possibility of each plant over the course of a year being able to absorb approximately 500gms of carbon, which if we were to plant 100,000,000 grasses this would give us 50,000 tons of carbon.

The number of plants to the hectare which is 100 metres by 100 metres could be 10,000 which gives us 5,000 kilo's or 5 tonnes of carbon per hectare and 500 tonnes per Sq kilometre a significant amount when you consider the road, railway and tramway's in Australia together with parks reserves National parks and conservation parks.

It all adds up to reduce the excessive amount of carbon we have put in the atmosphere owing to our selfish use of the worlds resources.

Martin Bentley

Native grasses have been the dominant vegetation type for hundreds of thousands of years in Australia. They are gaining a lot of popularity in home gardens as well as on nature strips and in public spaces.

Much of our native grasslands have been lost to

land clearing for agriculture and now only remnants remain. There are many threatened and endangered species of plants and animals whose habitat has been lost. By using native grasses, we are helping to restore habitat and preserve biodiversity.

Native grasses are adapted to drought

Australia regularly suffers from severe droughts and low rainfall. Australian native grasses are well adapted to this and are usually the first grasses to recover after a drought.

They have a variety of mechanisms for drought avoidance, either through entering a prolonged dormancy, or through having a below-ground crown which is capable of surviving drought and grazing. These grasses are usually advantaged by the impact of drought and become more prevalent following the breaking of the drought. Once grasses are established they can survive with minimal watering or irrigation.

When native grasses are used for lawns, landscape and amenity uses, there is a much lower (sometimes nil) watering requirement.

Native grasses can be used for effective and attractive landscaping

There is a considerable aesthetic benefit to be gained from the use of these grasses. There are types of all sizes and shapes. After all there are more than 1000 species of exclusively Australian native species of grass that can be set to match the other plants in the landscape. Tall grasses can waft in the breeze, short types can provide ground cover and colour, and at the same time seedheads varying from white to purple and many shades in between can add colour and texture to gardens and commercial landscapes.

In Australia, the balance of these grasses with the native trees and shrubs is pleasing and natural.

For more information on the many uses for native grasses in the home garden and for landscaping Google Australian Native Grasses or visit www.nativeseeds.com.au/uses/landscaping.

Birds in Our Area

I wonder if anyone participated in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count at the end of October.

I hope you had more success than I had. The three main birds that I recorded over the week were the warring Red Wattlebirds, Little Wattlebirds and New Holland Honeyeaters.



However, a couple of weeks earlier I had a special moment when I spotted a Sacred Kingfisher perched on top of a garden stake. It was a real treat to watch it swoop down to grab something to eat, fly up to perch on a branch and devour it. It's been more than ten years since I last spotted one here.

Birds of prey are always interesting to watch. Swamp Harriers and Whistling Kites are the two larger birds of prey that we frequently see on the wing in this area. Both are similar in size and colouring.

The Swamp Harrier has a distinctive white rump and glides low over the water and reeds with long, broad, upswept wings. Its prey includes any small animals, fish, reptiles and frogs of the wetlands. It often harries smaller waterbirds like ducks and coots until they are too exhausted to escape.

The Whistling Kite soars and glides overhead with arched, slightly drooped wings. It can be identified by the long rounded tail and distinctive pale M-shaped underwing pattern.

The loud whistling calls are often heard before spotting it soaring overhead or perched in a tree on the lookout for prey.

Other birds of prey to look out for in this area are the Black-shouldered Kite, Nankeen Kestrel, Australian Hobby, Collared Sparrowhawk and Brown Falcon.

"Mozzie"

Look out for turtles!

Unfortunately this little lady was hit by a car last week near Milang.

It is currently nesting time for our native turtles and they are often seen crossing roads to lay their eggs on land.

Please be aware when travelling on roads near water ways. If you see a turtle on the road please stop and move the turtle to the other side of the road (in the direction it was travelling).

Also be careful as there are a lot of sleepy lizards on the road as well!



Many snakes have already been seen around the area so while cleaning up around the yard be aware of snakes as they seek shelter in places such as wood heaps,

under corrugated iron and in piles of rubbish. To make it less attractive for snakes Clean up rubbish from around the home, reduce rats and mice (a snakes main diet). Check boots and shoes before putting them on if left outside.

Always disturb the garden and mulch piles with a long stick before putting your hands in. Wear thick leather gloves, long pants like jeans and covered footwear such as leather or rubber boots.

Daniel aged 4, returned from Sunday school with a new perspective on the Christmas story.

He had learned all about the wise men from the east who brought gifts to the baby Jesus. Daniel was so excited he just had to tell his parents, 'I learned in Sunday School today all about the very first Christmas. There wasn't a Santa Claus way back then, so these three blokes on camels had to deliver all the toys. And Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer with his nose so bright wasn't there yet, so they had to have this big light in the sky to find their way around'.

EPSOM SALTS in the GARDEN

Comprised of hydrated magnesium sulphate, a naturally occurring mineral, Epsom salts are good old-fashioned home remedy to give your garden an extra boost. Both cost effective and gentle on your greenery, here are eight uses for Epsom salt in your garden.

(Note: It's always advisable to do a soil test in your garden before apply nutrients to soil.)

1. Improve seed germination

Give your garden a boost right from the start! Magnesium helps seed germination and strengthens cell walls. Incorporate one cup of salt per 100 square feet of soil or mix a tablespoon or two into soil at the bottom of each hole before dropping in seeds.

2. Help nutrient absorption

Commercial fertilisers often add magnesium to help roots absorb nutrients so go straight to the source. Add Epsom salt to soil to improve absorption naturally.

3. Turn yellow foliage green

Yellowing leaves are often caused by a magnesium deficiency, as magnesium is an essential component in the production of chlorophyll. Try sprinkling one-tablespoon of Epsom salt around the soil of your plants once a month. You could also mix one tablespoon of salt into three litres of water and spray directly on leaves.

4. Prevent leaf curling

Leaf curling may also be caused by a lack of magnesium so add Epsom salt to the soil around the base of the plant or spray with the above mix of Epsom salt and water.

5. Weed killer

This natural weed killer works a treat. Mix two cups of Epsom salt with four litres of vinegar. Add four tablespoons of liquid dishwasher and put mixture into spray bottle.

6. Beautiful roses

It seems the secret to beautiful roses might just

be Epsom salts. Not only do they help roses produce larger blossoms in greater numbers, it makes colour richer, foliage darker and stronger plants. When planting, soak roots in half a cup of Epsom salt diluted in three litres of water. Sprinkle Epsom salt in the hole prior to planting. Once per month during growing, sprinkle one tablespoon of Epsom salt per feet of plant height around the base of plant.

7. Tasty tomatoes

Tomatoes are prone to magnesium deficiency later in the growing seasons. Regular applications of Epsom salt will result in more blooms, less blossom rot and sweeter, tastier and more bountiful tomatoes. When planting, add one tablespoon of salt per hole before planting seeds or transplanting. Every two weeks mix one tablespoon in a three litres of water and spray plants with solution.

8. Plentiful peppers and chillies

Like tomatoes, peppers are traditionally magnesium deficient too, so follow the Epsom salt tomato recommendations for greater yields and stronger peppers.



Robert May wrote the lyrics to 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer' in the late 1940s.

His mission was to produce a ditty that would appeal particularly to children. The idea was for Father Christmas to give away a poem as children left the Department Store's Christmas Grotto. 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer' was a great success in 1948, and just about every year since.

In 1949 Gene Autry, the singing cowboy, recorded the first version of the song.

Colouring Clayton

Great news!

The CBCA received a Community Development Grant from the Alexandrina Council, to enable "Colouring Clayton". This project will go ahead!

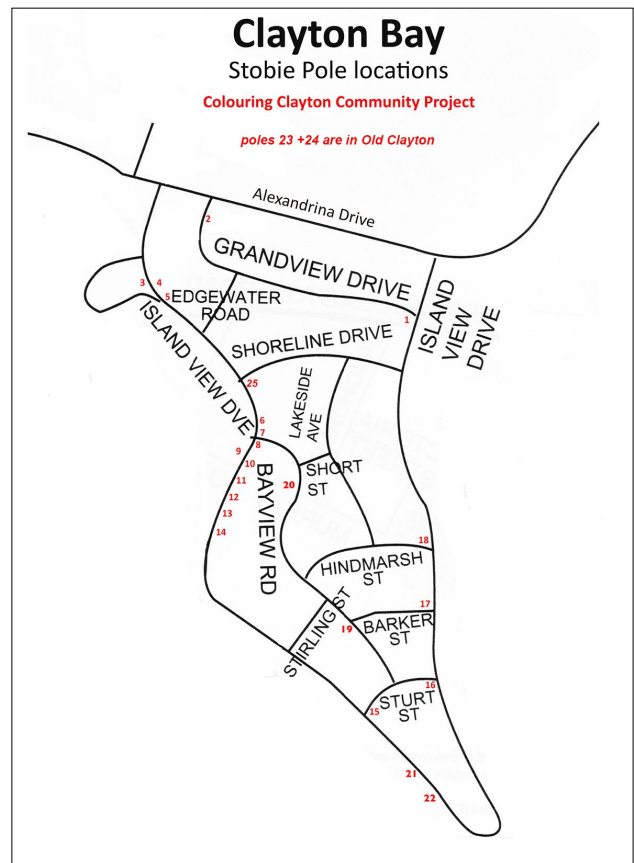
"Colouring Clayton" is a community-based art project aimed to enliven our environment with elements of colour and design through art making.

This project will enable the community to be involved in painting Stobie Poles, creating decorative pavers, painting murals and applying mosaics around Clayton Bay.

"Colouring Clayton" will place an emphasis on our local creative participants' development, the creative processes and the artistic outcomes. It will provide a creative focus within our town, promote community participation and enhance community creativity and wellbeing. The creative process will enable participants to express their ideas, aspirations, inspirations and identity.

Colouring Clayton -co-ordinated by Annabelle

Collett with the Clayton Bay Community Association. Contact Annabelle on 0400 664 379 for more information.



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Pick up a Program Guide in the new year from the Centre or grab one online from moshcc.com.au

Register your interest for 2017:

Introduction to Microsoft Office 2016

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Introduction to Heritage Restoration

Crèche 9 :30—12:30 Mon and Wed, during school term. Come and try something new while childcare is available. With limited places, bookings are essential - Call MOSHCC 08 8537 0687 Donations Gratefully Accepted

GLC Struggle with the cost of living? Life getting too much? Family Issues? Want to connect with others in social activities, or just want a chat? The Growing Life Connections Program provides support to families and individuals who are dealing with issues



Milang & District Community Care

Provides help at home to eligible clients 65+ Services include: Domestic Service, Personal Care, Carer Support, In Home Respite Care, Centre Based Social Activities, Home and Garden Maintenance and Social Support for Individuals or Groups. Call Fiona 08 8537 0687.



MILANG MENINGIE

8537 0808 Ph 0427 751 488

2/10 Daranda Tce, Milang 49 Princes Highway

info@lakeshub.com meningie@lakeshub.com

Lakes Alexandrina, Albert and the Coorong Communities sharing information, knowledge, training and care for the environment.

Are you interested in the Lakes and Coorong ecosystems, the projects and the people involved? Receive our regular bulletin direct to your inbox - free! Register online at

www.lakeshub.com or call or email a lakes hub office.

MILANG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

DISCO

Growing up in the 70s and 80s I will admit to heading into Hindley Street most weekends to hang out at the No. 1 disco at the time 'Jules'. Well, I always thought it to be South Australian's best disco EVER until.....**The Clayton Bay Disco.**

Our group were fortunate enough to attend this gala event on Saturday 3rd December. We came dressed to the nines and were thrilled to see we were not alone. We were greeted by everyone from Funky Disco Queens (yes I am talking about you Leonie!!), Cindy Lauper, Madonna, 70s GoGo girls, Tom Cruise wanna be's, mullets and many many eye catching suits were worn by the men.

The bubbles flowed and the hors d' oeuvre provided by the Committee were straight out of the Womens Weekly cookbook circa 1980s.

Annabelle, Sandy and Sam had done the most fabulous job decorating the hall transforming it into a venue even John Travolta would be eager to attend.

Congratulations to the best dressed disco queen, Jo Holden and best dressed disco king awarded to John Symons. I do, however, think we should applaud each and every one that made the effort to come along, dress up and dance till they dropped.

To say we danced would be an understatement, there were moves pulled out that have not been used for 30 + years. I feel the moves were not the only thing pulled....maybe a few muscles and for me it was my poor feet....6 inch heels are a thing of the past!!!

A huge congrats to Leonie and the gang for their fabulous Disco in Clayton Bay!!! It was a night to remember and here's hoping there may be another one at some stage (once we have all recovered)!!!!

Martha Polomka
Finniss

RIVER SAFETY TIPS

1. Never Swim Alone

It is important to take care when walking on slippery or uneven surfaces around or in water. Conditions should be checked before entering the water slowly, feet first. Avoid submerged obstacles, such as tree branches and rocks.

2. Avoid Alcohol around water

Alcohol often contributes to drownings. It impairs judgement, encourages greater risk taking behavior, reduces coordination, impairs reaction time and reduces the effectiveness of CPR, should someone require it. On average, approximately 25% of adult drowning deaths each year involve alcohol, with 44% of these occurring near rivers, creeks and streams.

3. Wear a lifejacket

Watercraft related drownings can occur if people do not wear lifejackets, consume alcohol and fall overboard, are not prepared for changing weather conditions, collisions occur or their vessels are not seaworthy.

On average, 51 people a year drown while using watercraft. After oceans and harbours, rivers, creeks and streams are the second most common location for watercraft related drownings to occur with an average of 11 drownings per year.

4. Learning lifesaving skills

Gain the knowledge and skills to administer first aid until medical help arrives. Anyone at any time may need to give urgent assistance and a Royal Life Saving First Aid and / or Resuscitation Course will equip you with the necessary skills.

The flat, still surface of an inland waterway can give a false sense of security. Currents, undertows or submerged objects – even in seemingly tranquil waterways – can prove to be very dangerous.

People of all ages and ability drown in inland waterways. In 2011/12 there were 104 drowning deaths in inland waterways. Of these 75 occurred in rivers, creeks and streams and 29 in lakes, dams and lagoons.



2016 Disco Fun





Above: Colouring Clayton Grant Page 20

Below: Best Small Town—KESAB Awards Page 9

