

The Village Clarion



LOXTON COMMUNITY HERITAGE GROUP

NEWSLETTER No. 7

March 2025

A special welcome back to Jan Phillips (one of our lovely volunteers) - it is so good to see you again after a long health break.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE

Since the last Newsletter, the Village has been an extremely busy site.



THE LONG AGRICULTURE SHED

At long last the Agriculture Shed drainage and levelling of the floor has been completed thanks to the Loxton

Waikerie Council and Chris Schutz.

There is now a solid flat ground and we are in the process



of returning the farming implements into position after many months out in the elements.



TRACTOR REVIVAL & MAINTENANCE

While there is activity in the Agriculture Shed, there are other volunteers who are enthusiastically checking out all the tractors (both mobile and non-mobile) maintaining the engines and surprisingly starting some on display that have not ticked over for a number of years!

One of our younger volunteers, Steve Kohler, has worked steadfastly to get even the most stubborn machines to work and thoroughly enjoys driving them up and down the main street once he gets them moving.

It is our plan to reposition the tractors and our band of



volunteers have begun by setting up a secure area in the tractor shed to keep tools, parts and other needs to maintain these tractors, all under lock and key. They are hoping to have a good number ready for the Alive Day parade that is being held on Easter Saturday.



THE ORCHARD, FRUIT & PRESERVING

Another activity that has been occurring is a result of the protective netting that was placed over the orchard last year.

The amount of fruit that has been produced this year is exceptional and thanks to Jim West and Rosie Hahn, a number of jars of preserved fruits have been done.

As you will be aware, home preserving of fruit was a popular thing in the past and was always a way to keep fruit for delicious pies and desserts—always welcome after a hard day working on the farm or fruit block.

Rosie is very enthusiastic to continue this activity as we predict that our orchard (now that it is well-protected) will be producing a lot of fruit in the future.

This year's preserves were mainly plums and grapes, but there are also peach and apricot trees too for preserves in the future. Which leads to a request: Rosie is looking for a Fowlers Vacola thermostat sterilizer/preserving outfit and more Fowlers preserving jars and lids for the Village. If you should have such an outfit (or jars) that you no longer need and would like to donate them (or sell) please contact Rosie on: 0429 338 852. She would love to hear from you.



KROEGER'S ELECTRICAL SHOP DISPLAY

Despite the weeks of hot weather we have had this year, another site—F & G Kroeger's Shop—has been upgraded .

A number of interesting items have been discovered and thanks to another group of volunteers, the room has been cleaned, exhibits re-arranged and descriptions to tell of the history and how some of the radios have evolved are now on display to add to the interest for visitors to the Village. If you happen to visit the site, you will notice that the approach to the shop is easier to access —just another change that has been achieved.



HISTORY TOUR

Please note, unfortunately, because of circumstances beyond our control, there will be **no History Bus Tour** this year. Our focus will be supporting 'History Sure Ain't Boring' 2025.

HISTORY SURE AIN'T BORING

This event will be held on Tuesday May 6th at 7.00pm at the Precinct. The Committee is seeking volunteers to assist on the night with greeting at the door or pouring drinks (e.g. tea, coffee, sherry and orange juice). If you are available to assist please contact Vicki Williams on: 0428 538 055 who would love to hear from you.

This promises to be another great night of history and fun tales—tickets will be on sale at the new Loxton Library prior to the event as well as at the door on the night. Looking forward to seeing you there.



COMPOUND CLEANUP

Prior to Alive Day, there are plans for a cleanup of the Village compound near the Transport Shed.

Over the years gone by, many pieces of leftover building materials have been deposited into the compound and it has accumulated to a large pile of equipment both useless and still to be used.

A day has been set aside on Monday, April 7th when volunteers are planning to shift heavy articles, clean up the whole area to store items kept in an orderly manner, and to dispose of all things no longer needed.

If you are interested and available for this particular project, please contact Loryn our Co-Ordinator who will take particulars and give you times and any other information regarding the work involved.

Loryn can be contacted during office hours from Tuesdays to Fridays from 10 am to 4 pm on: 8584 7194 or call in to see her at the Village.



HOT WEATHER POLICY

As mentioned above, it has been a long, hot summer this year and the Village Management Committee has decided to develop a hot weather policy. This will be announced on Facebook and our Website as follows: it has been decided that whenever the temperature for the following day is predicted to reach 38 degrees maximum (or above) on the Bureau of Meteorology website (BOM app-Loxton), then the Village will be closed at 12.30p.m. on that day.

There are several reasons for this—the main one being for the health not only of visitors but also our Volunteers who work so tirelessly to keep the Village clean and inviting. We have discovered in the past on these days most of our visitors come in the mornings to avoid the heat and there is rarely anyone braving the hot afternoons.

NOTIFICATION OF EARLY CLOSURE WILL ALWAYS BE MADE ON FACEBOOK.



ALIVE DAY—EASTER SATURDAY

Save the date—Saturday 19th April.

Yes, we are having an Alive Day at Easter again! There will be all the usual events: including Food, Fun, Demonstrations, Patsy and, of course, a Tractor Parade.

Come along and enjoy the fun. Remember, Members are admitted free of charge—just bring along your membership card to show.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Speaking of members, is your Membership up-to-date? We do try to send reminders each month to those whose membership has expired and an easy check is if you have received a Membership Card last year which has an expiry date written on it.

This card allows 12 months free entry (including 'Alive Days') from the date of renewal and is still only \$15 per member or \$35 per family (usually two adults and children under 18).

PS If you signed up at the last Alive Day and haven't got your card yet—please call in at the Village Office— it is waiting there for you.

☺☺



LAUGH A MINUTE



... Police were called to the daycare centre, where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

... Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

... A bicycle can't stand alone. It is two tired.

...The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully re-covered.

... He had a photographic memory which was never developed.

oOo

Q: What is the best hand to write with?

A: Neither - it's best to write with a pen!

oOo

Mrs. Brown was shopping at a garden market stand in her neighbourhood. She approached the vendor and asked, "how much are these oranges?" "Two for a dollar," answered the vendor. "How much for just one?" she asked. "Sixty cents," answered the vendor. "Then I'll take the other one," said Mrs. Brown.

oOo

You never appreciate what you have till it is gone.
- Toilet paper is a good example.

☺☺

PHOTOS OF INTEREST:

The Riverland Vintage and Classic Car Club enjoys an evening meal under the huge marquee after Alive Day in October last year



"Some tractors have not been started for a very long, long time"



"And others just keep on keeping on" 🖱



Even the Case Buckboard has had an airing (although there is still more work to be done on it before it runs smoothly)



More photos overleaf



Tractors are not the only machines having a run. The quad car has also been given an outing on the new railway line that is now completed.

So much fruit—and so few jars to fill. However, Jim and Rosie did a great job preserving as much as they could!



The Agriculture Shed is a long.....



...very slow process ...

But will be ready by Alive Day ...



... New signs are being added as we go ... telling the story of the farming life in the past and how the machines work.