

# **Lobethal Bushland Park Open**



**KENDREA RHODES -**This heritage-listed nature reserve – beloved by many as a place to escape and enjoy nature – suffered an enormous blow as the Cudlee Creek Bushfire tore through in December last year.

Continued on page 5

Volunteers, Friends of Lobethal Bushland Park, Adelaide Hills Council and Natural Resources Management monitor vegetation in the Park after the Cudlee Creek Bushfire destroyed 95% of the 118-hectare heritage reserve. Photo by Kendrea Rhodes.



### **"YOU MATTER TO GOD"** Kersbrook Church of Christ

Contact Pastor David on 0458 589 996 or someone at your local church to find out more of God's love for you.

One of my favourite sounds is rain falling on my roof. I love the initial ping of the first raindrops. They hold such promise and set my hope going for a big rain - my heart sings.

Then, sometimes the pings stop, and it turns out to be just a passing shower that only dampens the pavers and has no lasting goodness.

Other times, the pings turn into plonks, and the plonks blend in together into a symphony of rain falling on my roof. If possible, I rush to the window to watch the falling rain. I love seeing the surface of the water in the swimming pool jump and frolic with the raindrops hitting it. I love to see the leaves glisten with water and drip off the excess. Most of all I love the smell of rain, the smell of the earth opening its mouth to have a drink and be nourished and replenished.

This morning, when I got up, I heard rain on my roof, and I was glad.

Do you have something that fills your heart with gladness? Do you connect to nature and enjoy its' bountifulness? Do rainforests make your heart sing? Or are mountain ranges, deserts, the wild ocean or the vast plains more your thing? The rain has stopped now. Oh!

Our hearts connect to the earth we were created to live in. Adam and Eve, the first people, lived in a garden initially. We are designed to be in sync with the earth. Beauty speaks to us in our inner core. our spirits. We long for the restoration of our environment where turtles don't mistakenly eat plastic bags and the ozone layer is healed, where forests regrow, and orangutans have a home again.

God made our earth perfectly. It all worked together, and Adam and Eve saw it in all its glory.

Created with free will, Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and it has been downhill from there.

But God's hope is that we will choose Him, choose to be forgiven and restored to Him. We are created to be in sync with the Creator. He knows the secret desires of our hearts and He will restore all things.

Turn your heart toward God today and be restored and renewed. Let His love wash you and soak into your heart. He will make all things new, including you. Have hope, because you matter to Him.

The rain has started again on my roof, a lovely steady rain. God is good.

**DEADLINE** For next issue, ads & editorial Tuesday, March 17th, 2020

Paper out: Saturday, March 21st, 2020

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### THE MAD MARCH BUSHFIRE **RECOVERY DAY** hand from the recovery centre to answer any questions you may have, but

If, like me, you drive daily through the burnt-out country, you will no doubt be heartened by the way nature is bouncing back. True, the houses of our neighbours are still gone, but even there the insurance money is beginning to flow and they can start rebuilding their lives.

The bushfire has also brought the community closer together - there is no shortage of stories about the support that we have given one another. To celebrate our community and above all give our kids the opportunity just to have fun, Woodhouse has made their wonderful facility at 37 Spring Gully Road, Piccadilly, available on the first four Sundays in March. This is **NOT** a fundraiser but a FUNraiser. A free lunch will be provided in the form of a sausage sizzle (many thanks to Foodbank and Slape and Sons for making the food available). There is lots for the kids to do and it will also provide an opportunity for the adults to chat, share experiences and make suggestions about what the next steps should be. There will be some folk on

above all, the purpose of the day is to give our community some much needed R & R.

There is one catch! Spaces are limited to 200 children and adults on each of the four Sundays (3 left!). So get in quick and make a booking online: www.trybooking.com/ BIDHF

No computer? No worries! Our two libraries at Woodside and Gumeracha will be able to help – or you could also ask the school. Just make sure that your family does not miss out. Please note - no unaccompanied children – it is a large space and you need to be there with your kids!

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So select either the 8<sup>th</sup>,  $15^{th}$  or  $22^{nd}$  of March for your very own sanity break!

If you would like to volunteer some of your time to assist with the preparation of the lunches, or with any of the other little jobs that will need doing on the day, then leave your name at the Lenswood Post Office or email: onkavalley. bushfire.relief@gmail.com

For further information please contact Elena on 0400 293 908, Andrew on 0408 681 813, Pam on 0431 934 357 or John on 0419 841 040.

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# **Lobethal Bushland Park Open**

#### Continued from page 1

In what was considered a 'hot' burn, the Park endured a 95% loss of vegetation, with the remaining 5% canopy spared due to a controlled 'cold' burn completed by the Adelaide Hills Council in September 2018.

The Park is now partially open due to the efforts of the Adelaide Hills Council, the Australian Defence Force, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Team Rubicon and other volunteers. The Council have stated that a 'full reopening [of the Park] will take up to three months ... and Council urge visitors to remain vigilant about safety and stay on the trails.'

Bushland Park is owned by the Adelaide Hills Council and its unique biodiversity is protected under Heritage Agreement. It was purchased in the 1980s by the local council at the time, who bought the land on the condition that 'the remnant native bush was preserved'\*. Over the last 184 years the land has been mined and logged for varying uses, and its reservoirs have supplied water to the Onkaparinga Woollen Mill and the township of Lobethal\*.

For the last 30 years, Friends of Lobethal Bushland Park volunteers have assisted nature to grow and recover under its own steam, protecting the Park from invasive weeds (blackberry, gorse, broom and winter heather (Erica)) and observing native flora and fauna\*.

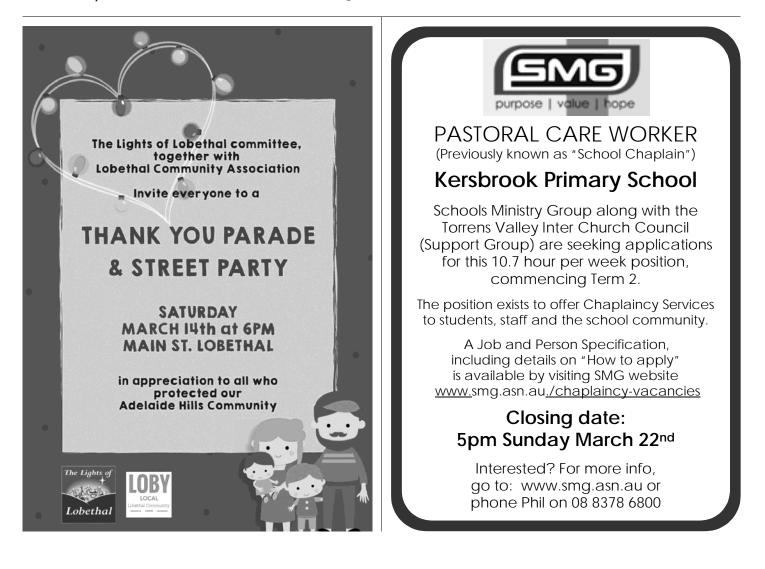
Lew Brickhill, Chair of the Friends group, led a contingent through the Park in February to establish photopoints for continued monitoring of vegetation. Of interest is the regrowth of 194 diverse native flora species previously recorded in the Park, twelve of which have conservation significance, including the Leafy Green-hood and Clover Glycine\*.

Recovery after bushfires usually relies on the dispersal of animals to provide time for native flora to regenerate. Unfortunately, well-wishers have deposited bales of hay and piles of carrots at Bushland Park, encouraging the animals to stay. Seeds within the hay bales often germinate creating a weed problem and the animals may also eat new shoots on native plants. This has the potential to interfere with the unique biodiversity of the Park, where many species depend on the survival of a diverse number of native species.

Tonia Brown, Biodiversity Officer with the Adelaide Hills Council, assists with the management of Bushland Park. Tonia said that Bushland Park is one of her favourite parks and she commends the passionate and dedicated Friends group. She went on to say that prior to the Bushfire, a lot had been achieved at the Park: conservation of nationally threatened flora species, valuable wildlife habitat, extensive weed management, phytophthora hygiene stations, a well-marked trail network, signage, maps, visitor brochures and recreational areas including BBQs and playground.

For more information please visit the Adelaide Hills Council website, and the Friends of Lobethal Bushland Park website www. communitywebs.org/flbp or Facebook @FOLBP.

\*Friends of Lobethal Bushland Park



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# March 21 11am-2pm

**Federation Park** Gumeracha

Hills Harmony

Picnic

A day for all hosted by the Adelaide Hills Council and Community

Live entertainment featuring African Soul, Heart Lands dance and storytelling group, local musicians and more! Free food, henna and face painting. Bring your own chairs or rug. This is a non-alcoholic event. Supported by the Department of Human Services.

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# LIONS UPDATE



BlazeAid volunteers continue to assist those in our community affected by the bushfires. These volunteers come from within SA, interstate and overseas, to help out where they can.

Thank you to the following for their support with catering for these dedicated volunteers - without your generosity and time, these volunteers



would not be able to do their good work -St Johns Lutheran -Unley. Kersbrook Church of Christ, St Michaels - Hahndorf. Lobethal, Woodside Lutheran churches, Springhead Community, Echunga, Woodside, Gumeracha & Houghton Uniting Churches, Salem Baptist Church, Anglican Parish - Mt Barker. Mt Torrens Community. Anglican Parish - Strathalbyn, 3C Church - Adelaide Hills and Birdwood Catholic. Lutheran and United churches, Lions Clubs of Onkaparinga and Angaston, and of course Torrens Valley Lions Club members and Partners.

If your club or community group would like to assist with the catering, 1 dinner and dessert per fortnight or "a once off", please contact Secretary Phil on 0419 830 754. Hours are approx 5/5.30pm to 8pm, sit down and have dinner with the volunteers, and the kitchen is fully equipped. Our Club may be able to assist with costs.

The Australian Lions Foundation and local Clubs continue to do what they do best - Helping the Community, by supporting the Hay Runners Convoy from Mt Gambier to Cape Jervis.

30 semi loads of hay have been donated to help out the farmers burnt out on Kangaroo Island. The trucks have been supplied free of charge, the drivers have volunteered

their time. The truck owners needed their fuel sponsored, the government was approached but turned them down. Lions District C2 on hearing of their problem arranged an ALF grant for \$30,000 to their costs. cover That's just what Lions do in a time of need!

Posters and entry forms are now available for the 2nd Happy Paws Fun Dog Show (or enter on the day), to be held at Gumeracha Federation Park on March 29th. Proudly supported by Bunnings Modbury and Hooves Paws & Claws St Agnes.

What can you buy for 5c or 10c. Not much. So Lions Club of Torrens Valley are collecting them and putting them to good use in YOUR Community! Look for the Donation boxes in businesses in each of the local towns.



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### **Eco Tips For the Home Renovator**

Many of us dream of building or owning a sustainable home, but many of us live in old houses, some built well before sustainability was talked about.

Old architecture in the current techno years usually means high energy wastage. With rising costs, many of us are eager to find ways to reduce bills. People who live in old houses often have to choose between living sustainably or living comfortably – but achieving both can be a challenge.

Andrew Marsh is the author of "Sustainability and the Old Australian House" and he will be talking about Eco Tips for the Home Renovator at the Hills Environment Centre on Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Copies of his book will be available for sale on the night for \$15.

Bookings are essential, so if you would like to attend please email valhunt@ahnrc. org. The talk will be held at the Hills Environment Centre. 4 Crescent Drive, Norton Summit. The cost is \$5(pay on the night) and includes a light supper.

Andrew will be sharing dozens of tips and retrofit techniques ranging from simple habit changes to advice on the energy conservation aspects of a major renovation.

### Local Shoppers Pitch in for BlazeAid

Hills Shoppers have joined forces with Mount Barker Central Shopping Centre to raise up to \$20,000 for BlazeAid.

Each dollar donated through the Mount Barker Central Shopping Centre is being matched by the Shopping Centre's owners and provided to BlazeAid, who have engaged a South Australian trailer manufacturer to produce campaign trailers with the funds.

Dan Cregan MP, Member for Kavel said he had been working with BlazeAid founder Kevin Butler to ensure more campaign trailers could be produced with the donated funds. "Through the incredible generosity of local shoppers, several campaign trailers will be manufactured in SA to help future BlazeAid campaigns," Mr Cregan said.

Sharyn Powell from Mount Barker Central Shopping Centre said the community had got behind the fundraising initiative.

"So far close \$4,000 has been raised and we're expecting more will come in. Families in Mount Barker and surrounding communities have been strongly supporting the relief effort. Community spirit in the Hills is alive and well," Ms Powell said.



LOBETHAL | WOODSIDE

**Closed Christmas Day** 

# **\$5 Classifieds**

#### COMING EVENTS



LYNDOCH COMMUNITY MARKET - 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am-3pm, Lyndoch Institute. Books, olive oil, papercraft supplies, greeting cards, jewellery, candles, wooden boxes, fruit & veg, plants, microwave cosies, home sewn items, artwork, homemade biscuits, honey, Farmhouse Bakery, sausage sizzle and live entertainment from 11am. New stallholders wanted. Public Liability insurance required. Find us on Facebook. Enquiries 0412 219 742

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Indoor/outdoor stallholders wanted (craft, plant, therapeutic, hobby, bric-abrac, home products - sorry, NO food) -Angaston Lions annual Easter Fair, Angaston Town Hall, April 12. Enquired to Kate: 8562 1058.



Dru Yoga with Tuesday Vanessa. evenings at the Birdwood Institute, 6:30-8pm. Find peace and stillness with gentle, flowing movement and deep relaxation. Contact Vanessa on 0402 603 498.

Art Therapy Group, Torrens Valley Community Centre. This is a gentle, deep effective approach to therapy. It is an aide to personal development and is suitable for issues such as stress, anxiety, depression and grief. No artistic stills required! The group will commence Tuesday 7/4/20 at 7pm and run for 10 weeks until 9/6/20. For further information please contact Leola Kean BSW, DIP. ADULT PSYCH. (ANZAP.) MAASW. 0414 774 152.

Partnership to Independence - As John Lennon's song says - Imagine. Imagine how you would love your professional life and don't give up until it's done. Merydith Willoughby - 0435 086 641, can assist you to develop it.

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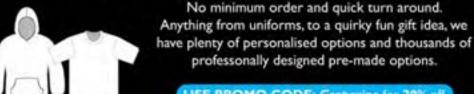
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