

September 2020 eNews

Bekkers to resurrect the famous Clarendon Vineyard Estate

"As a monument to pioneering enterprise and early viticulture there is nothing more interesting in this State than the Clarendon Vineyard." The Adelaide Advertiser, 1907.



B 7352

The Clarendon Vineyard Estate (1873)

By purchasing the 50-acre property, Emmanuelle and Toby Bekkers accept custodianship of the once famous Peake/Gillard Clarendon Vineyard Estate site.

The Clarendon Vineyard Estate was first planted between 1842 and 1848. The extremely steep hillside dominates the township of Clarendon, situated in the coolest, elevated, north-east corner of the McLaren Vale wine region.

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Clarendon rainfall summary



August 2020	81.8mm
Days of rain	13 days
August 2019	80.4mm
Days of rain	12 days

Year to date:

Annual rainfall 2020	596.6mm
Annual rainfall 2019	472.4mm

Thank you to our very own rain-man Bill Jared



Community Calendar

Historic Hall & Museum Annual General

Meeting 9th September 2020

10am in Historic Hall

All encouraged to attend

Clarendon Community Association Annual General Meeting.

Wednesday 30 September 2020

7.30pm in Community Hall

All encouraged to attend

Save the date:

Sunday 25th October 2020

The Clarendon Kindy & Community Association will once again be holding their Spring Fair. Details to follow



CLARENDON
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

2020 AGM

30 SEPT
7:30PM

CLARENDON COMMUNITY HALL

FOR DETAILS
cca.clarendon.org.au



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY



 **JOSH TEAGUE MP**
MEMBER FOR HEYSEN

Proudly supporting and working for the
Clarendon Community

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Clarendon Community Association News

The CCA committee have been meeting regularly via Zoom for most of 2020. As we are all aware it has been difficult to organise community gatherings however the committee has continued working on projects throughout this time. We are looking forward to sharing them with you at the Annual General Meeting however here is a brief summary of the current projects in progress.

Replanting along the 'forest' border at the recreation park – we continue to work with Andy Smith from Onkaparinga Council to replant this verge with appropriate trees

Pavilion landscaping – a much needed upgrade is in progress and we are discussing how this area can be better utilised to showcase our gorgeous old pavilion

Playground upgrade – Andy Smith has attracted funding to upgrade the playground next to the upper courts at the recreation ground.

Community hall landscaping – the CCA would like to landscape the entrance to the hall, incorporating more formal parking and large lawned areas for community events.

Cultural awareness workshop – would you like to learn more about our local Aboriginal Heritage? The CCA is organising a workshop and all the community will be invited to attend – although places will be capped in line with COVID restrictions. The CCA was successful in a grant application from the Onkaparinga Council to subsidise this workshop.

Constitution tweaks – time to update our old (20 years old!) constitution – including membership, objectives and minor housekeeping matters.

.....story continued from front page

Bekkers to resurrect the famous Clarendon Vineyard Estate

The estate was first selected for William Leigh whose instructions (1839) to his agent John Morphett were explicit- *"As the culture of the vine might be profitable to my South Australian tenantry... it will be desirable that there should be some hill of a suitable soil for its profitable growth on the estate."*

In Toby's opinion Morphett chose well- "I've not seen clay loam soils of this type elsewhere in McLaren Vale, particularly overlying ancient siltstone and lime. It's quite unique and we believe it will produce the particularly high-toned, aromatic, spice-driven red wines we've come to love from Clarendon. These lofty cooler slopes, 720mm rainfall and a healthy water resource offer an opportunity for us to counter future climate challenges."

The estate grew to over 60 acres under the stewardship of Edward John Peake between 1853 and 1882. His efforts in transforming the incredibly steep hillside were widely acclaimed throughout the young colony of South Australia-

"(Mr. Peake's vineyard) towers high above the surrounding objects, and appears, as it truly is, a gigantic pyramid of verdure. Its slopes and summits are clothed with luxuriant vines, and their dense and verdant foliage is unbroken by one barren spot, and unvaried by one foreign plant." Ebenezer Ward, 1862.

Following Peake's death in 1876 and after a period of mismanagement, Joseph Gillard Snr. purchased the estate (1882) and set about restoring the neglected vineyard. The property remained in the Gillard family until the 1930's when much of the vineyard was removed and replaced with orchards.

The hillside was again replanted with vines in the 1990s and although they have been abandoned and unpruned for the last seven years these vines are still in existence on the property. Toby explains the extent of the challenge ahead- "The property is a sleeping beauty.... but it's testing to see beyond 25 acres planted on the steepest of slopes, 7 years unpruned, terraced, infested with blackberries and inaccessible to normal machinery (as a result of high-density planting). It takes an experienced eye and a healthy dose of tenacity. I anticipate some sleepless nights!"

After retraining, grafting and some new plantings, the property will be bearing fruit for the 2022 vintage. Grenache, Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc will be grown.

Emmanuelle plans to proceed cautiously and ferment small parcels of each variety before a decision is made with respect to which wines will be bottled under the Bekkers label. "Although not widely planted, Clarendon is emerging as the standout *terroir* for McLaren Vale fine wine. We've long worked with Clarendon fruit and it fits our polished style of wine so well. I'm eager to see what this celebrated old hill can provide, given some love and attention", Emmanuelle explained.

Toby will also offer small parcels of fruit for sale to like-minded winemakers. "I'm confident that in able hands the resulting wines will further strengthen Clarendon's reputation", Toby said.



Clarendon Tennis Club News



Clarendon Tennis Club's Registration & Open Day!

Saturday 19th September 2020

Juniors Free Coaching Session 10am-12pm

Seniors hitting out from 12pm onwards

- Rackets available.
- Free Games and Activities.
- Free Sausage sizzle from midday.
- Senior players join in for lunch and stay for a hit

Phone Karen Hillier on 0431 834 126 to register or for any enquiries

We are a family friendly community club and are always looking to welcome new members, of all ages and abilities. We compete in the OTA Saturday competition, juniors competing on Saturday mornings and seniors competing on Saturday afternoons. We also run a doubles social competition, under lights, each Wednesday evening, for both men and women, which is always a lot of fun.



TUCKERBOX STOCK FEEDS

145 Glory Road, Kangarilla SA 5157

Phone: 8383 7008 - Mobile: 0418 854 486

OPEN: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 9am - 2.00pm

CLOSED: Sunday, Monday & Public Holidays

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Clarendon Branch of the Agricultural Bureau

The Clarendon Branch the Agricultural Bureau August 2020 meeting was a video based on a series of promotional type videos of European wine regions.



This video shown at our recent meeting was "A Year in Port" where the twelve months was focused on Portugal's production of port and took us through a tour of the Port Label owners, their family history and interaction with other producers.

At the end of the twelve months the video focused on private vineyards and their owners who relied on the sale of their grapes for their annual income.



The September meeting will be a guest speaker. We hope to organise tours of local businesses for the October and November meetings.

Tony Fagg
President



The netball season for Winter 2020 is coming to a close, after 10 exciting minor rounds. Out of the 15 teams eligible, 13 teams have made it to the first round of knockout finals! This is a great result for Clarendon, especially considering the tumultuous season we've had. Finals are held on the first two weekends of September, both the Semi and Grand Final hosted by Southern Hills Netball Association.

During one of the last minor home rounds, we hosted the annual Barney Derby – a battle between our two Inters 1 teams. In this round, one player will receive the Barney Trophy, in honor of Darren (Barney) Bidmade. This goes to the player who encapsulates the characteristics Barney lived by - play hard, play fair and never give up. This year, the selectors awarded this honor to Charlotte Creaser! Well done to Charlotte, we are all very proud of her!

In other good news, one of our umpires, Alex Marshall, recently tested for and was awarded her National C Badge. We couldn't be prouder of all the hard work she's put in during this season to gain this accreditation!

In the month of September, we have secured a jar at Grill'd Marion to raise money for our Netball Club. If you make a booking through the manager and mention 'Clarendon Netball Club', they'll throw in a free chips share plate for bookings of less than 6, and a free drink or snack-sized chips per person for bookings of more than 6. Remember, if you purchase a drink, put your token in our jar as the jar with the most tokens at the end of September receives \$300! This is a great way to dine out and support your local netball club.

With the farewell of Winter, we do say a big 'hello!' to Summer 2020/21. The competition is held at SUNA in Morphett Vale, with U13s & Inters on Tuesday nights, Seniors on Wednesday nights and U9s & U11s on Friday nights. Competition begins on the 6th of October, so it is steadily approaching! Already registrations for players are out – if you, or someone you know might be interested in joining Clarendon Netball Club for a fun-filled, social Summer season, then follow the registration link below: <https://tinyurl.com/y3peroyz>



Rebekha Sharkie, Federal Member for Mayo, went to the Clarendon Netball Club on Saturday August 15 to present the Barney's Trophy Award. The award is dedicated to a Clarendon Netball Club Committee member, Darren (Barney) Bidmade, who lost his life to pancreatic cancer a few years ago.

He was an amazing man who did so much for the club. The award is given to a junior player who shows the characteristics that Barney lived by - play hard, play fair and never give up.

Rebekha helped select the winner of the trophy – Charlotte Creaser.



Carol Brock (Life member), Karen Bidmade, Charlotte Creaser & Rebekha Sharkie

Rebekha also took the opportunity to check on the progress of the storage shed & change room she secured funding for.



Chris Rose & Rebekha Sharkie



HAVE FUN WITH YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS OR COLLEAGUES

YOUR LOCAL BOWLING CLUB: CLARENDON BOWLING CLUB

NIGHT OWLS IS ON: FRIDAY NIGHT/S

STARTS: 6th November - 6pm **FINISHES:** 11th December

COST: \$32-00 PER TEAM **TEAMS OF:** FOUR

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER A TEAM

CONTACT: STEVE DAWES

PHONE: 0402 336 581

EMAIL: steve.contractair@gmail.com



 **Rebekha Sharkie MP**
Federal Member for Mayo

Proudly supporting the Cherry Gardens community

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Rebekha.Sharkie.MP@aph.gov.au

Authorised by R. Sharkie, 1/72 Gawler Street, Mount Barker SA 5251



Grow Free Cart



Local residents Elisa and Paul Ridings have built a grow free cart and it is now set up at the Clarendon Community Hall.

The Grow Free concept originated in Strathalbyn and now has hundreds of carts world-wide.

The motto is "Give what you can, take what you need". This is a way to make homegrown excess food, seedlings, plants and related items free and available to whomever needs them. It is a communal place that people can place their excess knowing it will be appreciated by others.

For more information visit
<http://www.growfree.org.au/>



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Book Week at Clarendon Primary School

On Thursday August 27th we celebrated Book Week with a dress up day in the theme of "**curious creatures.**"

There were bright and colourful costumes around the yard, including from the staff!



All our classes had a session with Animals Anonymous who brought along different native animals to show the kids and to learn about.

We also invited our Clarendon Kindy friends to enjoy the show. Book Week has long been an exciting week in schools where we celebrate books and reading!

Our classes will also enjoy buddy class activities and opportunities to read the books short-listed for the 2020 Children's Book Council of Australia Awards.



Trading hours ...



The **Clarendon General Store** spring trading hours are:

Monday – Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 9am-12pm

The **Clarendon Hotel** is open again. We welcome back Hayley and her team and the community is enjoying regular Clarry meals again.

The **Clarendon Bakery** is operating as normal with the only change being the number of people allowed in the shop at any time due to COVID-Safe restrictions.

Opening hours are:

Tuesday to Friday 7am – 5pm
Saturday to Sunday 8am – 4pm

Emprades is open and you can visit the shop but there is a notice on the door asking that you knock or ring before entry. Emily and Pru are on site during normal opening hours so are happy to let you in. They can also arrange free delivery for local purchases.

