

All photos were taken before COVID-19 Social Distancing.

GM Modified Crops

Legislation has passed through parliament, and gives farmers certainty to plan well in advance for the 2021 grain growing season. Under agreed amendments 'Genetically Modified Crops Management (Designated Area) Amendment Bill 2019', local councils will have 6 months to apply to be a non GM crop cultivation free area.

The decision to lift the GM moratorium followed a high-level independent expert review, extensive industry and community consultation and the recommendations of the GM Crop Advisory Committee.

Loss of our Local Newspapers

It is very disappointing that the Northern Argus which has been in the Clare Valley community for 156 years is now sadly no longer available. The Recorder – Port Pirie's local paper and Flinders News were also affected by the recent changes made by Australian Community Media.



Subscribe to Digital Vehicle Registration Renewal Notices

The digital renewal notices will remind subscribers that their registration is due to expire approximately six weeks ahead and include a direct link for them to renew the vehicle registration online. Subscribers will receive a follow-up notice during the week before their expiration, if the renewal has not already been paid.

Motor vehicle owners who opt in to the digital renewal notice service via their mySA GOV account will no longer receive registration renewal application forms in the mail.

Go to: <https://enotice.sa.gov.au/> or phone 13 10 84.



Fishing Licence Voluntary Surrender Program

The Marine Scalefish Fishery (MFS) Voluntary Licence Surrender Program is open for applications until 13th November 2020. Geoff lobbied for the program in the previous Government and is pleased to see this government bring this to fruition.

For more information: www.pir.sa.gov.au/licence-surrender

Blyth Plains Road Upgrade

After many years of lobbying, the upgrade of shoulder sealing for this road is due to be completed by end of June, weather permitting. In all, 12km of road is receiving safety barriers and shoulder widening to make it safer for all road users.



Minister Stephan Knoll visits the Blyth Plains Road site with Geoff.

Grants Success

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Education funding success for our Electorate

John Pirie Secondary School

- \$368 000 for bitumen repairs plus carpark repairs
- \$10million for two buildings for Junior, Secondary; Powerhouse for Performing Arts Centre

Port Pirie West

- \$70 000 for bitumen repairs
- \$80 000 for outdoor painting

Blyth Primary School

- \$100 000 for bitumen repairs



Carolyn Mutton and Wayne Nagle from Balaklava Golf Club with Geoff

\$20k Maintenance Economic Stimulus Package

Funding was provided across Frome to Kindergartens and Pre-schools:

Kindergartens: Crystal Brook, Hamley Bridge, Port Pirie Community, Risdon Park South, Riverton, Solomontown.

Pre Schools: Brinkworth, Napperby, Saddleworth Early Learning Centre and Port Pirie West Children's Centre.

Regional Agricultural Show Development Grants Program

- Balaklava & Dalkey Agricultural Society Inc \$124,999
- Clare Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc \$123,826

Digital Donation Program Success

- Port Pirie Pistol and Shooting Club
- Redhill Development Association
- Clare Rodeo

Active Club Sport Grants

- Port Pirie Basketball Club \$5,000
- Tigers Basketball club \$4,400
- Port Pirie Rifle Club \$5,000
- Balaklava Golf Club \$5,000
- Clare Horse and Pony Club \$5,000
- Brinkworth/Koolunga Cricket Club \$5,000



Port Pirie Basketball Club

We currently have no Listening Posts scheduled due to the COVID-19 situation in the interest of public health, however you are encouraged to contact the office on 8633 1210 or email frome@parliament.sa.gov.au with any State issues.

Frome Electorate Office

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www.geoffbrock.com.au

Authorised by Hon Geoff Brock MP - Printed by Automatic Print

Working Hard for our Region

BROCK'S BULLETIN

Hon Geoff Brock Independent Member of Parliament for FROME ELECTORATE



Frome's Regional News June 2020

COVID-19 Thank You

- Thank you to everyone in our community, you have done a great job adhering to the restrictions including 'Social Distancing' which have helped stop the spread of Coronavirus.
- A Special Thanks also to our frontline workers in our Hospitals,

Education facilities and Emergency Services. Nurses, Teachers and everyone working in these environments deserve recognition.

- Local organisations and volunteers have been working hard to support our communities during this difficult time and to everyone who is looking out for their neighbours.
- Keep up the Good Work and remember you are not alone in the journey.

Please go to my website for the latest updates which affect the people of Frome, or call **SA COVID-19 Hotline: 1800 253 787.**

Geoff

How your Council is assisting those impacted by COVID-19

The Financial Hardship Policy allows for anyone that believes that they are facing financial difficulties, to contact the council for a confidential discussion.

Wakefield Regional Council

For those significantly impacted:

- Rate relief with full remission of fourth quarter 2019/20 rates and service charges.
- Grants for Business of up to \$5,000 for professional support or operational improvements
- Utilities support of up to \$5,000 for sporting clubs and community organisations to pay their water and electricity bills.

Visit: www.wrc.sa.gov.au for eligibility and further information or phone **8862 0800**. Council contributed \$450k in addition to the \$450k Drought Relief Package for the beautification of main streets.

Clare & Gilbert Valley Council

- Rate relief packages are being offered to eligible businesses and individuals for the fourth quarter of general rates and all service charges (if applicable).
- Sporting Clubs can also apply for support grants of up to \$3,000 if their fundraising has been adversely impacted by the pandemic, while \$300,000 will be set aside in the 2020/21 Council budget for post emergency economic stimulus.

Visit: www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au/ or email: admin@cgvc.sa.gov.au or phone **8842 6400**.

Northern Areas Council

- Rate Payment Deferral upon application for ratepayers experiencing hardship due to COVID-19 for the Fourth Quarter 2019/20 and the First Quarter 2020/21.
- Fines and interest for late payment will be waived for approved applicants.
- Leases and Community loans can also apply for

Visit: www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au/ or phone **8664 1139**

Port Pirie Regional Council

- Hardship Policy - Waiving of rates (on application)
- Deferral of community loan repayments for sporting clubs/associations
- Reduction in footpath permit fees, lease and licence fees for community groups.
- No fines or interest on late payments until 30 June 2020.

Visit: www.pir.sa.gov.au or phone **8633 9777** if you have been significantly impacted due to the COVID-19 restrictions or other provisions of the Emergency Act.

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Commission of Inquiry

(Land Access in the Mining & Petroleum Industries) Bill 2020

I introduced this bill into parliament in July 2019 since then it has been scheduled to be debated several times.

Recently I was able to close the debate and put a vote to go into the committee, however the Government voted it down and the vote was lost. I have now asked for a 'Select Committee' to look at this issue.

Vineyard Lutheran School Parliament



Geoff attended the Swearing in Ceremony for the new Student Parliament of 2020. The school continues to promote the student parliament which they believe strongly helps build their students' understanding of their roles in society and better understand how decisions are made locally and globally.

2020 Vineyard School Parliament with Geoff and teacher Lena Harmer

Nursing Simulation Study Hub

Port Pirie TAFE has a nursing simulation hub to assist in the practical nursing skills of its students undertaking Aged Care and Enrolled Nurse studies.



Student Ranni Bren, standing, lecturer Melissa Mathews, sitting and lecturer Sue Ganley, standing next to Geoff.

Signing the Pledge Against Domestic Violence

The Parliamentary Friends United Against Domestic Violence held a special event to allow members to pledge a commitment to addressing domestic and family violence.

Geoff signing the pledge



Jason Murphy being presented his certificate by SAAS CEO David Place.

Congratulations to local Ambulance Officer

Jason Murphy, who was awarded the "Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service" during Volunteer Week. Jason has been volunteering more than 25 years with SA Ambulance Service. He has taken on many roles including being part of the Mid North Regional Response Team and Team leader for the Port Broughton Unit. He also volunteered with St John for 14 years and the SES for 19 years.

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Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery Hosts 'A' Class Art Exhibition

The Manggan Art Exhibition is a travelling exhibit in partnership between Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre, the South Australian Museum, and toured by Museums & Galleries Queensland.



Artist Neil Hann, Graham Chapman and Lorraine Chapman with Geoff.

Balaklava talklife bus – Mental Health Awareness and Wellness

Geoff took time to visit Peter Niejalko and view the talklife bus to learn more about this project which offers valuable support to those in the community. They offer assistance and clarity to those who are not doing so well in their daily lives mentally. Peter and his wife Kathy are the founders and also the major funders of the talklife project. The wellness part of the project is aimed at those who are lonely, sad or just need a chat... they promote talking and love to listen.

They are looking for sponsors and donations to get on board the bus project. They have partnered with a charity in Balaklava called Enthos which is a not-for-profit. Phone: 0459 114 972 (M - F Bus Hours) excl. Public Holidays. Email: talklifebus@gmail.com OR facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/talklyf/>



Border Quarantine for Fruit Fly

Zero tolerance measures are in place at Yamba Quarantine Station and random roadblocks.

- DO NOT Ignore the Signs, use the quarantine bins provided, prior to the Quarantine Station.
- If travellers try to bring fruit or vegetables into South Australia or into a pest free area, they will receive a \$375.00 fine. This also applies if declaring fruit or vegetables at the Quarantine Station.

These laws are in place to protect our state and keep South Australia Fruit Fly Free.

www.pir.sa.au/biosecurity

Clare Regional Hub Respiratory Clinic COVID-19 Testing

Opened in April the Mid North Respiratory Clinic is being funded by the Federal Government. It has a rotation of 8 doctors and 5 nurses running the facility. It operates Monday to Friday and appointments must be pre-booked. Phone 8841 3777.

SA Power Networks

Sign up for Outage Alert Notifications

- We're aware the power is out at your property
- Maintenance which will affect the power to your area
- Cancellation of scheduled maintenance work
- Electricity meter reading in your area (unless retailer owns meter)

Change your notifications preferences

- You can login to change when and how you receive notifications. You can also add extra members of your household or business to get the alerts.

Go to: <https://pamp.apps.sapowernetworks.com.au/>

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Graham Lawrie and Geoff take a look inside at the range of equipment for use and some projects done by the men.

Balaklava Men's Shed

Graham Lawrie gave Geoff a tour of the great facilities and equipment on hand at the Balaklava Men's Shed. It was started 10 years ago as a Neighbourhood Men's Shed. These are a great place to meet other men to work on projects which interest you and also provides a place where men can connect as a way to address health and well being issues.



Auburn Bowling Club - Williams Pavilion

The Pavilion is a tremendous covered outdoor entertainment area. It has been built with the assistance of a State Government grant and has been named the Williams Pavilion in recognition of the long and valuable service of John and Helen Williams and in particular, their outstanding and tireless efforts in driving the construction of the Pavilion.



Geoff with John and Helen Williams.

Saddleworth St Stephens Catholic Church 150th Year



Geoff addressed the attendees with some history of the church and acknowledged this grand Church and the work of those who built it many years ago.

Geoff with John Browne and Mayor Wayne Thomas of Clare and Gilbert Valley Council.

Radio Filipino 25th Anniversary Celebrations

Geoff was pleased to make a donation and pass on his congratulations on this significant achievement.



Marlene Gill, Alice Grieg, Hon. Geoff Brock, Fely Joyce and Teresita Chivell



International Women's Day

Geoff attended the Soroptomist International Port Pirie Women's day luncheon, Monty Smith (author and guest speaker) spoke about women at war, pictured with Geoff and Minister Michelle Lensink.