

# UCARE GAWLER Inc – NEWS LETTER

April 2016

An agency of the Gawler Uniting Church  
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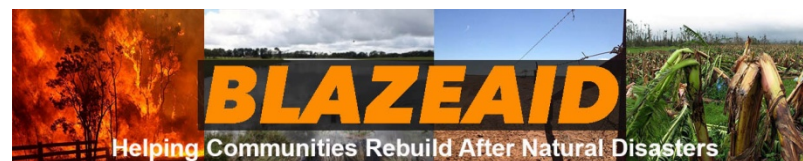
Tod St Gawler  
PO Box 1009, Gawler 5118  
Ph (08) 8522 4522  
Fax (08) 8523 0623  
Email:  
[ucare@internode.on.net](mailto:ucare@internode.on.net)  
ABN 68 876 202 365



**The Board** – We need support from Uniting Church members to join the UCare Board. The board at present are Geoff Benier - Chair person, Richard Carter, Amanda Wilkins, Geraldine Attwood, Rodney McKenzie, Hazel Afford, Marci Steele and Raelene Benier. If you think you would like to help out please contact Rev. Barry Littleford or our office for future information.

**Coffee and Chat** – Is in recess for the next couple of weeks for the school holiday period. Coffee and Chat will start again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. We are looking for helpers during this period to talk to our clients. We like to talk to as many people as we can so we know what is happening in our district. .

**Second Bite** - Coles is very generous in the amount of food that we receive five days a week.



As you will be aware, UCare has supported Roseworthy and Hamley Bridge. We have provided with bulk food such as meat, bread, vegetables and other items when available.

The Roseworthy Group is winding up operations and in appreciation, invited us to attend a meal and a concert on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April. The guest was Macca of the ABC Radio Fame.

Geoff and Raelene attended and report that it was a very successful event.

**Office Renovations.** In January, the corridor and the front office areas suffered substantial water damage. We are pleased to advise that the insurance company authorised all necessary repairs.

As a result, the carpet in the hall, passageway, reception and office has been replaced and the hall ceiling has been repaired and painted.

Thanks to Kelly Littleford and her family the walls in reception and the front office were also painted.

This has given us the opportunity to re-arrange the office. To date it seems to be working well, with a more spacious layout.

### **And now for something different.**

We have a raised garden bed outside the kitchen. One of our kitchen staff has planted a number of herbs, with the hope that we will become self sufficient.

As the saying goes – FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW.

**News Letter contributions.** Should you have an item of interest for the newsletter, please contact Raelene at UCare and we will endeavour to include it in the next addition. Depending of suitability

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**Oz Harvest** - You may remember that this service commenced in December 2012. I cannot believe some of the food items that we receive. You may not be aware of OZ Harvest and what it is. Oz Harvest actually commenced in Adelaide. Restaurants and hotels that have food left over each day and is unsuitable for their purpose but, is still good food pass it on to Oz Harvest. The food van starts at Pooraka and they drive from there to Gawler picking up and delivering to other charities enroute.

Prepared food is packed into containers in our kitchen, only the staff that have food handling certificates are able to do this work.

**Donations** - Thanks to all churches and local people for their food donations, this help is wonderful. We are receiving numerous items (fresh and tinned food) which is helping us deliver of assistance. We are finding that we have still as many families in need of our help.

As you are also aware we have not received the funding for Gawler for 2016 and 2017 so, we use the donated food for our Gawler Residents.



**Cool Room** – We would not be able to handle perishable items such as milk, without the cool room. Sometimes we have a lot of the same item and it always good to distribute the food as needed over the flowing days. It also enables us to provide the food items in a more equitable manner.

**School Breakfast Program** – We are still delivering food to two schools. The Evanston School is having renovations done so we will start delivering



at the start of the new term.

**Work for employment** – we have seven persons on our team. You may notice that we have a few different faces around the place. There is a six month turn over so, that is why you will see a few new faces. Fiona and Ryan work in reception and we have John and Jet in the kitchen.

Unfortunately one the agencies has assigned people to us who live in places such as Modbury and Keswick. Not surprisingly, having to use public transport or their own car, they have found it too difficult to continue. Where is the logic?

