

Editorial

REPORTS 20 children in the past two months have fled their homes because of domestic violence is a matter of deep concern.

Also alarming is that Anglican Community Care is forced to turn away these children due to a lack of Federal Government funding.

This is an unacceptable situation that requires immediate intervention.

The Easter period is traditionally a time of reflection and celebration, but for some the religious holiday is marred by alcohol abuse and violent homes.

It is disturbing such an important day on the Christian calendar leads to violent episodes and forces the most vulnerable in our society to flee to friends' houses or seek sanctuary at inappropriate places.

This community should never be in a situation where children are unable to access crisis accommodation because of a lack of funds.

With only \$500,000 required annually to run a fully staffed safe house 24 hours a day in Mount Gambier, there is really no excuse.

The financial cost is negligible, when compared with the benefit the money would bring to the community.

Another sad reality is children in crisis have a negative perception of police and are afraid to seek their help.

Mount Gambier is an affluent place, with prosperous industries and wonderful features.

If this crisis is allowed to continue, the blemish will cast a long shadow over the city until it is remedied.



Letters to the Editor

Television disappointment

SIR, I am writing to you in response to Daryl Naismith's letter in *The Border Watch*, March 19.

I don't think that WIN SA is prepared to acknowledge how many people are actually not happy with this change to our programming.

For example, my grandparents who are virtually housebound and rely on television for their entertainment have resorted to hiring DVDs.

They, like lots of people I know, used to watch *The Footy Show* religiously.

To not be able to watch award winning shows like *60 Minutes* is very frustrating. Sunrise?

How that show is even still on the air defies logic.

At least *The Today Show* has a decent news bulletin and Karl Stefanovic!

While I realise that you are not going to please everyone all of the time, I, like Daryl and a large percentage of viewers, am not happy.

-Leonie Feast, Port MacDonnell.

Golf tournament 're-invention' praised

SIR Congratulations to the Blue Lake Golf Club for re-inventing a multi-sponsored golf tournament for professionals.

The first in Australia was the Mount Gambier Golf Club's event, named the Blue Lake Classic, around 40 years ago, which replaced the solo sponsored pro golfers' events until then.

It was such a success that it was used as the model for today's events all around the country.

Bob Tuohy, who has run many of them nationally for some decades now, was quick to study the method and format of the initial Blue Lake Classic, and

apply it throughout Australia.

In came the golfing program of pro-ams followed by the pro tournaments, which golfers know today and which the Blue Lake Classic pioneered.

Mount Gambier Golf Club lif member and former president and captain Barry Whennan, who was chairman of the organising committee, might still have all the records which make a good story of its own.

How do I know? I was on the committee of both the club and the classic at that time.

-Stewart Kieselba, Dover Garden

The Border Watch

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Have your say.

The Border Watch values your opinion.

If you have a view or wish to comment on any community issue we would like to hear from you.

Please write to: The Editor
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Preference will be given to letters less than 200 words. Longer letters will be subject to editor's discretion. All letters must carry author's full name and address. Include a daytime telephone number for verification. The Border Watch reserves the right to edit letters for legal purposes and space restrictions.

Street Sweeper

Question: What does Easter mean to you?



Easter is a sad time because Jesus died for us and also a happy time because Jesus rose again.

Mark Tiller, Mount Gambier.



Easter is a time to be with my family and friends and to remember that Jesus died on the cross.

Jessica Snell, Mount Gambier.



Easter is a time to remind us of the unconditional love that we have for our families and friends just as Jesus had for us. It's a time for new beginnings.

Amanda Parslow, Mount Gambier.