

Nearly 2000 back child killer petition

A PETITION with almost 2000 signatures calling for child killer Mervyn Hull to stay in prison will be forwarded to premier Mike Rann and the South Australian Parole Board.

Valerie Staunton began the petition last year when her former husband Mervyn Hull applied for parole after spending 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to the 1995 murder of their 9-month-old son Cameron.

The parole board decided to recommend his parole to the

Executive Council, but the campaign has so far stopped the submission being sent to the council, delaying Mr Hull's release.

"This I am happy about, but I want it to be delayed permanently and I won't be satisfied until he dies in prison," Ms Staunton said. She believes Mr Hull should not be released as well as herself and her family.

Mr Hull had shown no real signs of remorse she said and stated he had found God while in prison to

boost his chances of parole.

Mr Hull had threatened to kill Cameron during the marriage and after Ms Staunton left, telling friends and family members of his plans before the murder, and while in prison made threats in writing to Ms Staunton and her family.

During his trial it was stated Mr Hull was in the lowest 10 per cent of the population in intelligence, making it unlikely he would have overcome his violent urges. She started a Facebook cause

and petition after an unsatisfactory meeting with members of the parole board including chairwoman Frances Nelson last year, who admitted they could not guarantee the safety of Ms Staunton or her children if Mr Hull was released.

The petition was circulated in Adelaide, Port Lincoln and Whyalla, where signatures from people from all across Australia were collected.

The petition asking the premier to override the parole board's deci-

sion will be sent off in the next month.

The Facebook cause page has 16,879 members, including members of Mr Hull's family, which Ms Staunton hopes to bring up to 20,000 before the 12-month anniversary of the cause in May.

She urged people to join the site and write letters opposing Mr Hull's release to Mr Rann, Correctional Services Minister Tom Koutsantonis, the parole board and SA Legislative Council members.

Bail for bomb charge

A PORT LINCOLN man charged after police allegedly found a bomb in his car last month has been released on bail.

Luke James Trenowden, 28, was released on bail after he appeared in the Port Lincoln Magistrates Court last week.

He is charged with possessing explosives and having a Taser and 13 glass pipes, which are used to take the street drug ice.

Police allege the pipes were intended to be sold rather than for personal use.

Police did not oppose the bail application.

Mr Trenowden is due to appear in court again on May 31.

Bail changed

THE Port Lincoln man charged over the New Year's Eve death of Port Augusta man Dean Johnson at Streaky Bay has had his home detention bail conditions lifted.

The 20-year-old man will be able to return home to Port Lincoln after a magistrate in the Elizabeth Magistrates Court last week revoked the bail condition to remain at his mother's house in Murray Bridge.

He was charged with manslaughter after allegedly hitting Mr Johnson in the head at Live on the Lawn New Year's Eve celebrations at the Streaky Bay foreshore, just after midnight on New Year's Day.

More commercial fishers needed

RECREATIONAL fishers were the main sector to attend a public information session on Friday hosted by the Department for Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Marine Parks project coordinator Jon Emmett said the people who attended were mainly recreational fishers with a couple of local business people and people from the council but he encouraged more commercial fishers to get involved.

"It would be great to see more commercial fishermen getting involved in this sort of thing," Mr Emmett said.

"We need more commercial input to help the process because they have such great local knowledge."

Mr Emmett said there had been a lot of positive discussion with people drawing on maps to provide feedback that would be passed on to the relevant Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG).

He said the advisory group process was a great way to bring people together to talk about the issues but not everyone knew a group member they could talk to to find out information and pass on their views, and public sessions like the one on Friday was an opportunity for these people to access information and provide feedback.

DENR staff gave out scientific information, fact sheets, reports and information about marine parks elsewhere in the world.

"There's a lot of information going around at the moment and a lot of misinformation as well," Mr Emmett said.

"People are realising they have to find out (the information) for themselves."



INFORMATION SESSION: Recreational fisher and tackle shop owner Damien Smart discusses marine park sanctuary zones with acting marine park project coordinator Dirk Holman from the Department for Environment and Natural Resources.

Each way on marine parks for tourism

MARINE Parks have positive and negative potential for tourism. The South Australian Tourism Industry Council chief executive Ward Tilbrook said marine parks could promote a strong ecotourism marketing message.

Continued consultation and communication is the key to ensure tourism is fully considered within the issue of marine parks, as their impact on South Australian tourism is two-fold.

Mr Tilbrook said coastal and marine tourism is a significant part of South Australia's nature-based tourism identity. "Marine parks can portray a strong ecotourism marketing message: some of the world's most outstanding and highly demanded tourism experiences are associated with marine parks.

"South Australia boasts many world-class marine tourism experiences.

"Swimming and diving with or viewing dolphins, seals, whales, sharks, cuttlefish and tuna are all magnificent South Australian experiences, which take place in quite defined locations.

"However, fishing for pleasure is also vitally important to South Australian tourism, with many regions attributing over 20 per cent of their tourism to fishing." "Recreational fishing is already acknowledged by government to be well managed through strict boat and bag limits. Scientific evidence should have to demonstrate why additional restrictions and prohibitions need to be introduced on these activities as part of marine parks.

Councils won't tour fire danger

LOWER Eyre Peninsula District Council councillor Leon Murray is still pushing for councils to tour the Boston, Tiatukia and Happy Valley area to discuss commuter roads.

Mr Murray wants the Lower Eyre council and the Port Lincoln City Council to go on a bus tour, but instead the councils will meet to talk about the road network.

He said he wanted to show the councils some of the affects of the December 23, 2009 fire and how road networks were important in the event of a fire.

The number of "killer" cul-de-sacs, new and old, was a concern and commuter roads needed to be provided in a grid design.

"A fire will whip up through there and people will get caught," he

said. Mr Murray said land should not be rezoned as rural living but instead it should be rural residential. "Less than one in 15 to 20 are operating as a hobby farm."

Mr Murray was concerned the lack of roads would make it difficult for people to evacuate before a fire reached them.

"Happy Valley, Winter Hill, Boston, Tiatukia, there are no proper roads to get out." "There's no use making fire trails, make roads that can be used as fire trails," Mr Murray said.

"I am not going to give up until they listen properly."

"I am not the be all and end all of it all, but I have been in the CFS for 60 years on December 14 this year," he said.

Shark diving, sardine adventure for Out of the Blue

OUT of the Blue is on its sixth visit to Lower Eyre Peninsula.

Michael Keelak and Michael Keelan from the popular TV show are in town until Wednesday, with plans to jump in the pontoon at Swim with the Tuna, shark cage dive with Calypso Star Charter, spend a night on a plichard boat and stay at Coffin Bay. Producer/director Amanda

Duggan said the crew was looking forward to the new adventures, although one had his reservations.

"Michael Keelan is petrified of getting in the water with the tuna, then we've got to get him in a shark cage, so that's going to be interesting," she said.

"We're excited about Swim with the Tuna. "It's great to have some-

thing so world-standard in South Australia.

"It makes us feel very proud for Emma (Forster) and for tourism in general."

On their plichard trip they will cook up an unusual sardine mousakka.

"Sardines have become very popular worldwide, so it will be exciting going out on the boat and having that unique experience.

"We always like to do something new and different."

"The West Coast has a great deal to offer."

Swim with the Tuna proprietor and former Out of the Blue presenter Emma Forster said for the crew to return to a destination was rare, so it was exciting to see them back.

"There's just so much here for them to do, so they just keep coming back," she said.