

## Screws to help avoid plate theft

ABOUT 3000 number plates are stolen from vehicles in South Australia each year.

The SA Vehicle Theft Reduction Committee has now teamed up with the RAA, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, SA Police, the Attorney General's Department and the Motor Trade Association to provide free tamper-resistant screws to motorists in a bid to reduce the figure.

The tamper-resistant screws can be installed on any vehicle and will lock a number plate in place to prevent it from being easily removed.

RAA Mobility and Automotive Policy senior manager Mark Borlace said thieves often steal other vehicles to avoid detection when committing other, more serious crimes.

"They often go on to steal petrol, avoid speeding fines and conduct robberies and house break-ins," he said.

"When the thieves use stolen number plates it's also harder for police to investigate the crimes.

"Of course it's inconvenient for motorists to replace their number plates after they're stolen, but the theft obviously creates other more significant issues too."

RAA have 3000 sets of tamper-resistant screws available free of charge, which motorists can quickly and easily install.

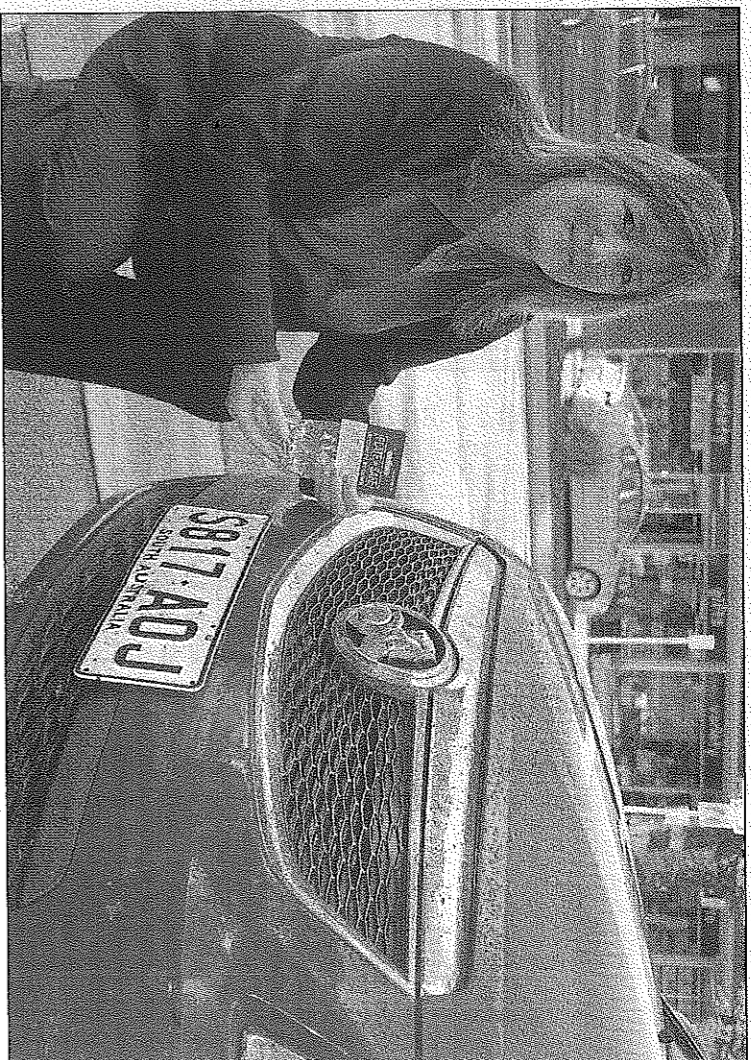
"Motorists can either install them themselves or ask their local mechanic to install them when they next get their car serviced," Mr Borlace said.

"It's relatively easy and should only take a few minutes."

Authorities suggested to secure your number plates with tamper-resistant screws, check your vehicle regularly to ensure the number plates are secure and to park your vehicle in a locked garage or in well-lit areas when possible to reduce your chances of becoming a victim.

If your number plate is stolen, report it to SA Police immediately by calling 131 444.

Details: Murraylands residents can call 8202 4689 to organise for the tamper-resistant screws to be posted out.



**Resistance:** Murray Bridge RAA store manager Kyn Goonan recommends fitting tamper-resistant screws to your vehicle's number plates to make them a harder target for thieves.

## Foster parents denied

**By Claire Campbell**

ALMOST 12 months have passed since the campaign to introduce Finn's Law began, yet nothing has changed.

Three-month-old Finn passed away in the care of his Murray Bridge kinship foster parents Monica and Nathan Perrett on May 7, 2014.

Earlier this year Mrs Perrett said she was hopeful Finn's Law - a Bill which gives foster parents the option to be

recognised on a death certificate if a child dies in their care and also give them the chance to be involved in funeral arrangements - would be passed in 2015.

But the months have dragged on with no apparent action.

She said a call from the coroner recently was another kick in the guts and reinforced the reason she wanted the law changed.

Mrs Perrett went to collect Finn's belongings, that were taken

the day he died, from the Murray Bridge police station recently, but the coroner forbid the release of the items to his kinship parents.

"Nathan and I bought everything that Finn had, including the teddy bear blanket they took that we gave to Finn the day we bought him home from the hospital," she said.

"Nathan and I can't be the first foster parents that this has happened to and surely we're not going to be the last; kinship carers and foster carers should have equal rights.

"We will never, ever be the same again."

Mrs Perrett has again written to Member for Hammond Adrian Pederrick and the Minister for Education and Child Development Susan Close this week pleading for foster parents to be consulted, support-

ed, acknowledged and given more rights.

Mr Pederrick first introduced the Finn's Law Bill in State Parliament in August last year, but after acting on the Minister's requests, has made three amendments to the Bill.

"I'm certainly keen to progress this as soon as possible; I've done all I can to amend it and they've just been waiting on that coronial advice," he said.

"I would like to hope that the coroner and the coroner's department has had a chance to have a look at Finn's Law and to give some sort of recommendation."

Mr Pederrick said he was expecting a response from Minister Close next week when parliament sits and would like to see the legislation pass on the 12-month anniversary of Finn's death.

**MURRAY BRIDGE PIZZA HOUSE**  
 ENTER POSTCODE 5253 OR CALL 8532 1782

**2 Iced coffees** For just **\$5**

Open from 10am Tuesday to Sunday  
 57 Bridge St, Murray Bridge

## AJ'S HOMESTORE

• Right next to the train crossing  
 • Cypress Tce Phone 8532 2377  
 • Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm, Sat 9am - 12pm

<p><b>QUEENSIZE MINK BLANKET</b>                  \$39.95                  Tiger, Flower &amp; Multi coloured</p>	<p><b>SINGLE MINK BLANKET</b>                  \$33.95                  Wolf, Eagle, Tiger &amp; Multi coloured</p>	<p><b>COSY THROW RUGS</b>                  FROM \$19.95                  125 x 150cm                  Dark Grey, Cream, Olive</p>	<p><b>QS SHEET SETS</b>                  \$35.00                  Poly/Cotton, Many designs</p>
<p><b>HAND CRAFTED CHOPPING BOARDS</b>                  \$19.95                  3 styles</p>	<p><b>HANGING DECORATIONS</b>                  FROM \$4.95</p>	<p><b>CUSHIONS</b>                  FROM \$12.95</p>	<p><b>GIFT BASKETS</b>                  FROM \$12.50                  Mothers Day                  May 10th                  Be Early</p>
<p><b>3 PACK TEA TOWELS</b>                  \$8.50                  50 x 70cm                  Cotton                  white with black, red, navy, tan</p>	<p><b>HOME OR FAMILY FRAMES</b>                  \$5.95                  \$6.95</p>	<p><b>3 PCE PATIO SETTING</b>                  \$220.00                  Feature - Tiling                  RTA</p>	<p><b>3 PCE STIRLING SETTING</b>                  \$127.00                  Accessories not included                  RTA</p>

## WATER TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS MANNUM

**SATURDAY 2 MAY AND SUNDAY 3 MAY 2015**

Notice is given that pursuant to Section 26 of the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993, the Department of Planning, Transport, and Infrastructure (DPTI) has granted an Aquatic Activity Licence to the Murraylands Regional Tourist Association Inc. to conduct Float Fest 2015 on an area of the River Murray at Mannum as follows:

- On Saturday from the Mannum Bowling Club downstream to Bessely Reserve one half of the river being the western side.
- On Sunday from the Mannum Bowling Club downstream to and including the Mannum Waters Marina entrance and basin, one half of the river being the western side.

For safety reasons, vessels and persons other than those participating in the events are prohibited from entering the above area of water between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm on Saturday 2 May and Sunday 3 May 2015.

Murraylands Regional Tourist Association Inc.  
 J.K. Whitehorn  
 Chairperson  
 Murraylands Regional Tourist Association Inc.  
 0448 533 147