

How could it happen

MICAELA STARK
JASON KATSARAS

Tragic end to eight-day search for resident

AN elderly man who was found alive after disappearing from his Eyre Peninsula aged-care facility eight days earlier has died, just hours after arriving at hospital.

SA Health is refusing to explain how Jeffery Beaton, 83, was able to go missing from one of its aged-care homes, in Cleve.

Mr Beaton, pictured, was discovered severely dehydrated at a property several kilometres east of Cleve on Sunday night. He was flown to hospital in Ad-

elaide but his wife, Carol, confirmed he died on Monday morning.

She said her husband had suffered "a lot of injuries" from his eight-day ordeal, which began when he was reported missing from Cleve District Hospital and Aged Care about 9.30pm on October 2.

On Monday, SA Health, which operates Crestview Hostel, the aged-care centre based at Cleve District Hospital,

would not comment on what precautions had been made to ensure patients' safety and security at the facility. It directed inquiries to police.

An SA Police spokesman said there was "no further investigation from the police into the security of the hospital." Mr



Beaton's disappearance shocked the tight-knit community of Cleve and raised concerns surrounding the security of the aged-care facility, which backs on to residential properties and vacant land.

A local man, who declined to be named, said code-operated doors were the only thing stopping the aged-care residents from leaving.

"Residents are free to come and go as they please," he said.

"The facilities are unsecured and not designed to manage dementia patients.

"The next closest facilities are in Elliston, 200km away, which residents - as you can imagine - are upset by."

Neighbours of the Fourth St facility, who did not want to be named, were not home during most of the search but said it was not unusual to find residents on their property.

"We see one guy wandering

around the property regularly, but he's been doing that for years," they said.

"We had people ring us to see if they could check our house and yard because they knew it was vacant."

Flinders Liberal MP Peter Treloar said the hospital was unable to care for some patients.

"I know some of the more severe dementia patients aren't able to be accommodated at Cleve," he said. "They go to Elliston, but that's not a criticism of the hospital; it's just the reality for a lot of these small country hospitals."

FROM \$500 TRAIN WRECK TO DREAM HOLIDAY SLEEPER

MICAELA STARK

FOR Tara and Luke Rowe, a tumbledown train wreck found on a scrap heap was just the ticket they needed to create their dream Airbnb.

The keen environmentalists have transformed the early 1900s train carriage - which they bought for \$500 - into a quirky holiday rental near Port Lincoln.

The couple spent two years refurbishing The Greenly Carriage, which is nestled on their 120ha property in Coultan on the Eyre Peninsula.

"We always wanted to have some sort of Airbnb on our property," said Ms Rowe, a mother of three.

"Luke, in particular, wanted to do something a little bit different.

"He loved the idea of a train carriage or tram conversion."

The couple found the train carriage listed for sale online at a nearby farmer's property.

"He wanted \$500 for it and we just said 'sold'," Ms Rowe said. "We thought we were really lucky but I think lots of people thought we were completely crazy."

From there, they secured a \$30,000 grant from the SA Tourism Commission and



"just went for it and it all fell into place".

Intent on building sustainably, the couple used local timber and sourced vintage, upcycled and second-hand materials, including a French cast-iron laundry basin in the bathroom and an old farm wheel as an outdoor fire pit.

The studio-style holiday home, which opened on September 30, sleeps up to three people and costs about \$280 a night.

"We're receiving a handful of bookings already," Ms Rowe said.

"We've had our first guests stay and check out yesterday and got a five-star review, which we were pumped about."



The Advertiser | Sunday Mail

We're for
Bright
Futures

advertiser.com.au

Tara and Luke Rowe with one-year-old son Alby at their holiday rental, The Greenly Carriage, which they transformed from an old wreck, inset right. Picture: Robert Lang

ADVERTISEMENT

LOCKDOWNS DESTROY LIVES, JOBS & FAMILIES

WE CAN NEVER TRUST THE LIBERAL, LABOR OR GREEN PARTIES AGAIN

JOIN THE UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY - unitedaustraliaparty.org.au



join the party

Authorised by Craig Kelly, United Australia Party, Level 17, 240 Queen Street, Brisbane 4000