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Changing of the guard

see story pg 3

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Many local residents were disappointed to see the magnificent Belair Park Country Club building demolished last month.
See story pg 5.

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Council offers solar at no upfront costs

by James Swanborough

THE City of Mitcham and 'ShineHub' will pilot a community renewables energy program commencing in the middle of this year.

Mitcham's Community Renewable Energy Program, managed by solar energy supplier ShineHub, will enable more households to access advancing renewable technology and provide an option to participate in a Virtual Power Plant to encourage energy storage and support the efficient operations of energy systems.

Acting Mayor Lindy Taeuber said "Our Community Renewable Energy Program with ShineHub will help households and businesses across Mitcham to afford and install solar and battery systems for no upfront costs."

Alex Georgiou, ShineHub Co-Founder and Chief Marketing Officer said "ShineHub is excited to partner with the City of Mitcham on this exciting project. City of Mitcham's commitment to promote and accelerate the community renewable transition at scale, will be a first for South Australia and will further cement the state's position as a national leader in renewable energy."



Acting Mayor Lindy Taeuber and her fellow elected members are strong supporters of creating a sustainable future following Council's Climate Emergency Declaration, penned in October last year, as well as its 2020 pledges to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

"This program will help fast-track renewable energy uptake in the community by removing up-front costs making solar panels and batteries more accessible," she said.

"I am excited to be leading the way and helping our community reduce household carbon emissions while also offering an opportunity to reduce their cost of living."

An analysis delivered by the Energy Project stated that council should complete a risk assessment of the proposed scheme, including an assessment on the range of expected financial returns for residents; the quality, longevity and warranty for proposed products; the size of the market of potential user uptake; and modelling for payback should electricity tariffs fall.

The study stated that residents' savings would be dependant on several factors, including the volume of electrical consumption; the timing of their consumption; and the prevailing electrical and feed-in tariff.

Details of a pilot trial of the program are expected to be announced shortly, with expressions of interest to participate opening in April. □

Another container of bikes heading for Africa

If you have donated a bike to the Blackwood Community Bike Shed now located at the Blackwood Uniting Church, you'd be pleased to learn that it may now be used by a disadvantaged child in Africa.

Last month, another 'Container of Hope' was filled with around 100 bikes reconditioned by the hard working volunteers at The Bike Shed, to be shipped off to Africa.

"Our sheds are still full of bikes though ...

from mountain bikes to BMX to road bikes suitable for adults and children; some of which have been repaired and reconditioned to be in a near new condition," said Peter Jones, Community Bike Shed spokesperson.

"The bikes are free, however, if you can make a small donation to the church which in turn goes towards purchasing more spare parts to repair the bikes, it would be appreciated."

So if you are looking for an 'affordable' bike for you or your children, then you need to visit The Bike Shed.

And with the price of petrol still at record prices, more people are turning to other forms of transport like riding a bike.

The Belair Community Bike Shed is located behind the Blackwood Uniting Church near the roundabout, and is open each Monday from 9.30am to 12noon.

So come along any Monday morning if you could use a good quality reconditioned bike; or if you have a bike that you are no longer using that could go to a good home, then bring it along to drop off at the Shed.

It's a great community project that not only reconditions second hand bikes for other people, but provides a venue for social interaction and prevents bikes ending up in landfill.

□ For more information, or if you would like to help out at the Bike Shed, contact Blackwood Uniting Church's Community Program on 8278 7699.



◆ Photo - Another truckload of reconditioned bikes to be loaded into the 'Container of Hope' heading for Africa. Some of the Bike Shed volunteers (from left): Simon, Jim, Dean, with Chris More (CEO Containers of Hope), David and Peter

Have you received your copy of 2022 Blackwood Directory?

MOST residents living in the Blackwood district should have received their copy of the 2022 edition of the Blackwood Business & Trade Directory through their letterbox by now.



However, if you haven't, it may be due to the distribution company's slow delivery which has been impacted by Covid.

The directory is an 80 page book that contains the contact details for most businesses, clubs and organisations ... linking local residents with local businesses.

There are over 10,000 copies printed and distributed in the Blackwood district and if you didn't receive one at home, then there are copies available for pick up from stands (also containing 'The Blackwood Times' newspaper) located in the major shopping centres.

Many local residents looking for a local business find it a lot easier and faster to use the Directory, instead of going online and searching through the myriad of contacts listed in 'google'.

This very popular publication is in its 23rd year in the current 'Yellow Pages' format starting with an 'Accommodation' section through to 'Yoga' is also available online.

And if you haven't received your print copy yet, you can still access the latest up to date information in the online version at www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au ... on your mobile, tablet, laptop or computer - anytime - anywhere.

So if you are looking for a local tradesperson who is keen to attract your business, then check out the 2022 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory for their contact details. □



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The BlackwoodTown Project

Coming in April at the BlackwoodTown Project

- Waife Reserve: upgrades, the sunk cost fallacy, and an alternative proposition.
- Urban Form: Historical Antecedents
- What's in a name: why BlackwoodTown?
- Town Planning is not Urban Design!

Exclusive subscriber content:

- Introducing BERCC: The Blackwood Electric Railcar Company

www.blackwoodtown.com.au

New member keen to deliver for Waite

by James Swanborough

IN a history making turn, Catherine Hutchesson has claimed victory for Labor in the seat of Waite for the first time in the 29 year history of the electorate.

"I'm truly honoured that the community of Waite has placed their trust in me as their local MP," said Catherine.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting members of our community as a candidate, and now look forward to meeting many more as their local representative in State Parliament."

It has been 50 years since the area, previously represented by the seat of Mitcham, was claimed by a party other than the Liberals, who have historically held the seat since 1938.

In 1973, Mitcham representative, Robin Millhouse, QC, left the Liberal and Country Party to form the New LM, later merging with other like minded groups and becoming the first parliamentarian to represent the Democrats.

Millhouse was superseded by fellow Democrat Heather Southcott, AM in a by-election following his resignation in 1982, but was defeated in the State election six months later by Liberal, Stephen Baker.

A succession of Liberal representatives have followed, making Catherine the first Labor politician since Edgar Dawes stood in the electoral division of Sturt in 1933, and second woman ever to represent the area.

Hutchesson thanked her team of volunteers for their committed effort to the campaign, and wanted to ensure members of the community that she is here to listen to their concerns.

"I am thankful to all who have helped



New MP for Waite, Catherine Hutchesson with the State's 47th Premier, Peter Malinauskas

throughout our campaign. Having the dedication of truly local volunteers has continued to inspire me to work hard and I am very excited for them after years of campaigning.

"I would also like to acknowledge Sam Duluk's commitment to our community as the outgoing member, and wish him well. Thank you to all the other candidates and their volunteers who put up their hand to represent this community.

"I am committed to working with all of our wonderful community to address the issues and deliver the best outcomes. Newly sworn in Ministers have already called me, keen to start work on delivering for Waite."

Catherine is very local!!

- ✓ Born at Blackwood Hospital
- ✓ Attended Belair Primary School
- ✓ Member of the Upper Sturt Soldiers Memorial Hall committee for 7 years
- ✓ Member of the Upper Sturt CFS
- ✓ President of the SACWA Upper Sturt branch
- ✓ Worked at various local businesses
- ✓ Studied at Flinders University
- ✓ Qualified chef working in hospitality for over 10 years
- ✓ Worked for BankSA for over 7 years including Blackwood and Stirling

Honour and privilege to serve this community

by James Swanborough

AFTER 7 years serving the community, former MP Sam Duluk has bid farewell to local office, but ensured supporters that he will remain active within the community.

"I would like to give my sincere thanks to everyone who has supported me since I was first elected to Parliament in 2015," said Sam in a statement shared with The Blackwood Times.

"Serving this community as the Member for Davenport and more recently, as the Member for Waite has been both an honour and a privilege.

"By working together and through collaboration at all levels of government, we have achieved so much and our community is truly thriving."

Sam highlighted some of the important initiatives which he has assisted in securing for the community.

"We were able to secure important investments for environmental assets such as Wittunga Botanic Gardens, Brownhill Creek and Belair National Park. We saw significant funds to upgrade both public and private education facilities.

"Notably, we experienced a record amount of grant funding for our local sporting clubs and community groups which is so well utilised and contributes towards the social fabric which ties us together.

"I look forward to seeing the fruits of our labour continue with local roads upgrades for the Mitcham Hills Road Corridor and health services further expanded at the Repat Health Precinct.

"As someone who lives locally, I am sure you will continue to see me at the local shops, sporting matches as well as exercising through our beautiful suburbs and open space.

"I love our community and care deeply about the future direction of our State.

"So don't be a stranger, and feel free to make contact if you would like to discuss local or State issues and the direction of Australia at a Federal level with me."



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Do you know where this is?

IN 2022, the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) is taking a different approach with its monthly article, planning to encourage awareness of our local heritage. Under the title "Do you know where this is?"... each issue of The Blackwood

Times will feature a photograph of a local historic site. Readers are challenged to find its location, and thereby have a chance to win a prize.

The actual location will then be revealed in the following issue, and a brief description of the site and history.

THANKS to the people who entered last month's hidden sites competition ... the winners' names will be posted on the BAG website. Information about the location and history of the site that was published in the March 2022 edition follows ...



THIS magnificent fountain, (photo on right) in slight disrepair, is to be found in the eastern garden at 13 Laffers Road, Belair, formerly the Blackwood Community Hospital.

The site is now owned by Southern Community Health who lease a major portion of the site to Integrative Health Solutions.

The large historic home at the heart of the complex, together with the fountain, was built by the Hon Richard Bullock Andrews in 1863 on the land where he grew grapes.

Ownership then passed to Alexander George Downer in 1877 who planted orchards and pasture

for cattle, naming it Monalta. The Hannaford family who owned it in the 1920s concentrated on dairy farming. When they sold the old homestead it became Wykeham Boys School, while the Hannafords built another house, also called Monalta, on the main road.

In 1939, the property was purchased by Mr Frederick James Blades who named the garden 'Cherington' after his father's prop-

erty in England. His wife Ida May was a keen gardener and responsible for transforming the land into the beautiful garden it became.

Through the vision of Diana Bickford, Ida's granddaughter, support from the Cancer Care Centre, Sophie Thomson (ABC gardening presenter), the Wednesday Friends and with a Special Projects Grant from the City of Mitcham, the garden has become a centre for promoting the therapeutic well-being and health that flows from active food gardening (see separate story on page 11).

It features healing plants, together with bird and bee loving plants. For information on workshops visit the Cancer Care Centre on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CancerCareCentreSA>

The 4.5 metre high pottery fountain was overlooked by the maternity section of the Blackwood Hospital



and it was said that anyone who circled it three times would return within the year to have a baby – clockwise for a son, anti-clockwise for a daughter.

This beautiful heritage-listed fountain remains a treasured centrepiece of the garden.

Please note: People interested in viewing the fountain should be aware that it is located on private

property and not available for public visits without invitation.

Visit blackwoodactiongroup.org.au to submit your answer. All correct entries will be entered into a draw to win one of two \$20 vouchers for a local coffee shop.

For more information on BAG activities, phone 0408 117 003 or visit their website at : www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

Autumn prescribed burns help manage bushfire intensity

WITH favourable mild autumn weather conditions, the National Parks and Wildlife Service's (NPWS) program of prescribed burns has commenced.

A total of 43 burns are planned for this autumn, following a successful spring 2021 program with 47 burns completed.

National Parks and Wildlife Service's

Director of Fire Management, Fiona Gill, said the prescribed burning program will respond to seasonal weather patterns, rather than set dates, and that the fire management team will work with industry groups and stakeholders, such as grape growers and winemakers, to ensure harvests are not impacted by prescribed burns.

"NPWS takes opportunities to burn as soon

as it is safe and practical to do so," Ms Gill said.

"The number of prescribed burns that can be safely and effectively completed in any season is always subject to a window of prescribed weather conditions and we will never burn unless we can achieve a safe outcome.

"The program of burns are part of a rolling three-year program and extra burns are planned which gives us flexibility to move burns to another season or year according to the conditions.

"As with last year, the mild summer has led to an overlap with wine grapes not yet harvested and suitable conditions to conduct prescribed burning. NPWS continues to work with industry groups to address any concerns and plan burns appropriately.

"Autumn is a time when larger, unbound burns in more remote parks will go ahead as the cooler overnight temperatures and increasing relative humidity help suppress the fire.

"It's also a good time to burn for certain plants and animals, such as the Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula which are a Critically Endangered ecological community.

"By creating strategic, low bushfire hazard areas in the landscape, on our reserves and some strategically chosen private land, our autumn program helps manage the intensity and extent of future bushfires, and provides safer access for firefighters.

"They also help manage native vegetation and protect biodiversity."

The first burns typically start in reserves in the north and west of South Australia, as



these areas are drier and warmer.

NPWS prescribed burns have already commenced in some areas, and are carried out by NPWS, in partnership with the Country Fire Service (CFS), ForestrySA, SA Water and Landscape Boards.

Reducing bushfire risk is an ongoing and shared responsibility and everyone has a role. In South Australia, prescribed burning is a shared responsibility between CFS, other government agencies which manage land (e.g. ForestrySA and SA Water), local councils and private landholders.

For up-to-date information on prescribed burns follow @SAENVIRWATER on Twitter. Sign up and stay informed with updates on NPWS prescribed burns straight to your inbox, or explore a map of these planned prescribed burns, at: environment.sa.gov.au/fire-management

SA History Festival 2022: Reimagine

Mitcham Hills activities by Blackwood Action Group

Belair National Park – Off the Beaten Track

Tour Australia's second oldest national park in a minibus with a guide, to sites of historic significance, some off-road that you may not have seen before. Visit Old Government House and walk in the bush to learn about native flora and Indigenous people's use of the land. NB this activity involves short distance walks on rough tracks.

Bus trip Bookings essential by email. Limited numbers.

Cost: \$30 includes morning tea & a light lunch. Park entrance fee waived.

When: Sunday 1 May, 9.30 am - 1.30 pm

Meet at the Volunteers' Centre, Long Gully oval, Belair National Park

From Corner Store to Café

Self-guided tour – no cost

Displays at Bracegirdles, 1923 and Sheoak Café will explore the buildings as they progressed from corner store to café.

Introductory Talk: Corner Store to Cafe Bookings essential by email.

Cost: \$5 Refreshments included.

When: Monday May 2, 10 am - 11.30 am

Meet at Blackwood Railway Station, Station Road, Blackwood.

Belair East - Heritage Along the Ridge

Belair's history and its important links to the development of SA will be shared and grand summer residences highlighted as we walk along Sheoak Road. Refreshments served at heritage listed Belair station.

Guided walk Bookings essential by email. Limited numbers.

Cost: \$5

When: Friday 6 May, 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Meet at corner Sheoak Road and Francis Street, Belair.

Travel back in time.....by train

Catch the train at Blackwood railway station to the Eden and Belair stations. At each stop you will learn about the development and challenges faced by the early railway network and its value to local districts and the state. Tour ends with Devonshire tea.

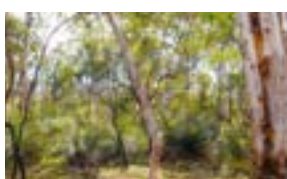
Rail tour Bookings essential by email. Limited numbers.

Cost: \$5 + train tickets if applicable

When: Sunday 15 May, 9.45 am - 12.30 pm

OR Sunday 22 May, 9.45 am - 12.30 pm

Meet at Blackwood Railway Station, Station Road, Blackwood.



Booking contact: Anne Hazell ahazellau@gmail.com

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No viable options led to country club demolished

by James Swanborough

LAST month marked the end of an era, as the former Belair Park Country Club building was demolished, when the former business was placed into voluntary administration in 2018.

The site was initially slated for rejuvenation as part of the proposed "Belair Masterplan" under the stewardship of the Department of Environment and Water (DEW).

When expressions of interest were opened to take on a new venture to utilise the building, no suitable proposals were forthcoming.

Belair Park Country Club was a fixture of the local community for over 40 years, providing a premium venue for weddings and other ceremonies.

When news began circulating on social media that demolition of the facility was underway, residents were understandably shocked by the development, reflecting on their memories of the site, and voicing their disbelief that a better solution could not be reached.

The building has been left to deteriorate since falling into administration, however, with no suitable expressions of interest for taking on the lease, it seems there was few remaining options to continue the use of the facilities.

Tom Morrison, who represented Blackwood Action Group on the Community Reference Group for the Belair Masterplan, said while he was disappointed no one was able to continue leasing the facilities, it was positive that DEW are moving forward with the site, as it was just becoming more dilapidated.

"My understanding was at the time it went bankrupt, they reached out to interested parties, and as a result of the process, no-one came back with a reasonable proposal.

"And as a result of the process, any private business that would have come forward to say they would like to use the facility, would not only have to stump up the costs to get the building up to code, but also would have been leasing it from the State government; so there wouldn't have even been a return for the investment," explained Tom.

Documents released by DEW as part of their consultation process revealed that the previous tenant removed all workable fixtures, and the function centre does not currently meet the required fire safety and building code requirements. General building maintenance was also required before it could be leased, and further approvals may be required depending on the proposed use.

"I think that stopped the whole process; there aren't too many businesses willing to take on those terms," said Tom.

"There were not too many other options, and the longer they left it, the more vandalism was occurring and while there were all sorts of ideas floated around for it, there wasn't the interest from DEW to stump up the funds."

Meanwhile Ian Fehler, local resident and co-owner of *Escapegoat Adventures*, a mountain bike hire and tour business which operates near the former country club site, said he too hopes the loss of the facility can pave the way for something new.

"I'm optimistic that the area of land is going to look a lot better soon. It's a shame that the building had to go though. I can see the potential with the rustic landscape that it could be a really nice communal area that's been opened up."

While Ian said he was unaware of future plans for the site, he would be happy to be able to be a part of the reactivated space.

"We will be talking to the national park about perhaps getting a shipping container on some of the space to expand our bike hire, if the land is available to us to put in trails for kids or be developed in that way we are happy to explore the options."

For the time being, *Escapegoat* has more pressing concerns.

"Now the building is gone, our main focus is to get electricity back as they've managed to cut our power and water during the process," Ian said. "We've been on a generator for a month, so we haven't been able to run fridges and with the current cost of fuel, we will be very happy to be back on power." □



◆ Photo - The Belair Park Country Club was a very popular venue for wedding celebrations, family gatherings, a place to enjoy a delicious meal while viewing the kangaroos drifting down the 18th fairway after the last golfers had finished their round, and then the golfers coming into the downstairs bar for a relaxing refreshment after their game of golf ... now demolished for ever.

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Karinya football pitch nearing completion

"NOT many sleeps now until the pitch and clubrooms will be ready for players and spectators," said Sturt Lions Football Club President, and long time Blackwood resident, John Vander Veecken.

The pitch will be completed and ready for training to commence on April 15. While the clubrooms will be finished by April 29.

And if you want to watch a top class soccer game, come along to their first senior game on Saturday May 28.

For more details, visit www.sturtlions.com.au

Letters to the Editor

Council ignored local protests

The bunting has been erected, and work has started on a Childcare Centre at 317-319 Shepherd's Hill Road, Eden Hills - a development that is dangerous, unnecessary, anti-environmental and unhealthy for children's lungs.

Yet, the Mitcham Council ignored many local protests and approved the recommendation by CAP; its Council Assessment Panel of 3 secret 'experts' and one elected Councillor who had listened to his community's concerns and was the only one on the Panel to vote against the proposal.

Now my neighbour has said, "Oh, we didn't think so many trees would be removed"; another had no idea of the size of the development. Too late.

Any incoming Government needs to correct the mistakes of the past and design a planning system that is not at the expense of the local people.

Julanne Sweeney, Eden Hills

Climate change disasters

The flood disaster in Queensland and NSW is a reminder that the lessons of the Black Summer bushfires still haven't been learnt.

It was entirely predictable that Australia has a high and growing need for civil defence, to protect citizens from such disasters.

All the evidence points to Australia being exposed to more extreme meteorological hazards due to climate change, as well as the short-term climate variability we have experienced before.

With Australian lives and even the survival of whole communities at stake, the over-optimism and lack of preparedness amongst the nation's political leadership is unacceptable.

Jim Allen, Panorama

Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers ... submit a Letter to the Editor including name and suburb ...

email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

Blackwood needs to be a hilltop village not just a through road for cars

by James Swanborough

Part 2 of the proposed 'Blackwood Town' Project article published in the March edition of The Blackwood Times ...

What do we want Blackwood to be like for our grandchildren?

Does your vision of what Blackwood could be, reflect its current state or the direction being paved forward by government planning?

These are questions that a former Adelaide Hills resident, James Maude hopes to address with his *BlackwoodTown* Project.

A concept which asks residents to step away from what they know and embrace the fantastical; and in doing so, reach a pragmatic proposal which reflects the out of the ordinary, unexpected, fabulous, and maybe, just maybe, with your help, we can make it happen ...

"An act of fantasy is a way of letting go of our assumptions and expectations, to imagine the impossible. Without this, it is too easy to be blocked by the perceived limitations of government, finance, infrastructure and town planning, trapped in disagreements about small things, or unable to envision any change," said James.

"Any government led process of consultation and consensus ends up around the lowest common denominator - it's not that anyone likes it, it's that there is no-one left complaining. I'm wildly optimistic and deeply unrealistic. I have a roadmap from fantasy to reality, but it's about breaking down the roadblocks one by one.

"I'm proposing something impossible. Let's think of as many versions of Blackwood as possible, and maybe through this collective imagining, we can create something real."

Through the project website, James proposes to drip feed pieces of his narrative, and potential issues which will need to be addressed along the way, beginning with the idea of Blackwood as a hilltop village.

"The hilltop town is an ancient human settlement pattern, it's often at a crossroad, and easily defensible. It crosses cultures, geographies and times. People recognise that deep down in a way that they don't if you say something like lets build in higher density."

James says that poor planning has left Blackwood not as a village, but as a place beholden to cars, a through road to somewhere

else; critiquing arterial development as something to avoid at all costs.

"There are big chunks of Adelaide stuck with this form of development - Norwood Parade, Unley Road, Goodwood Road, Prospect Road. Blackwood is not stuck with this by any means, it has the ability to shift to a much tighter urban form.

Tighter urban forms have more energy, greater concentration of activities, fewer car movements, and more sustainable outcomes around sharing power water, access and transport. We have a train line, but there is no effort to consolidate activity to the center of town.

"Think of *The Hobbit*, we have visions of little hilltop towns; an archetypal human settlement.

"That didn't happen here, you essentially have a settlement built upon a crossroad, two ridge lines, one to the coast, one to the eastern hills, and because it has been centered as a throughway, and become a suburban smudge that hasn't changed much in the last 50 years. The potential energy of this hilltop is bursting, but it is utterly suppressed," says James.

"If you say a township in Provence or a Greek island town, people think, yes, I could live like that. That's what Blackwood is, and should be."

The focus on infrastructure over human livelihood is something James highlights as an obstacle which needs to be addressed.

"I want to make it a place for human habitation; right now it's not, it's a place for cars to drive through and to maybe grab some groceries.

"One of the impossibilities we face is the infrastructure, and the cars, and no one wants to deal with it because it's expensive, and difficult and it's going to upset people.

"As an independent person, I can do those things, I can afford to upset the status quo so I apologise in advance."

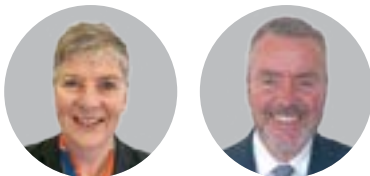
The practical proposal will explore urban development ideas through a regular blog, with guest pieces, or commissioned articles and reports when needed.

As the project matures, this side of it will get increasingly technical, detailed, and difficult.

"These are broad ideas that we want to explore. I want landowners and businesses to get in touch if they are interested in the ideas, because I think there will be financial reward down the line if we are able to dare to dream."

To support the project and keep up to date with the latest content, you can subscribe and view updates at www.blackwoodtown.com.au

Blackwell Funerals



Tracy Rashleigh, a Belair resident for over 25 years, and Terry Pattinson are proud to serve their local Hills community. They will support your family through the difficult time of arranging a respectful and personalised farewell for your loved one.

For information about arranging a funeral or pre-paid funerals, contact Tracy or Terry.

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Nicolle to step down from Boothby at next election



by James Swanborough

"IT HAS been an enormous privilege to serve you and our local community since 2016," said Nicolle Flint, Member for Boothby, (pictured on left) who will make her exit from Federal politics following the forthcoming election, having announced she would not be standing for another term late last year.

"And my work would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of so many in our local community. Boothby is filled with so many wonderful volunteers, community groups, sporting clubs, local businesses and residents.

"It is because of your support that we have been able to achieve so much during my time as your local Member," added Nicolle.

She wanted to thank all the groups she has worked closely with over her time in Boothby ... "local volunteers at the Sturt CFS group; our four surf lifesaving clubs; our local RSLs and veterans groups; Lions and Rotary; environmental groups; our First Nations people, sites and volunteers; sports clubs; community groups; and mayors and councillors and council staff ... and we have delivered so many upgrades for our local community."

Reflecting on the projects which have come to fruition thanks to her lobbying, include a brand new visitors' centre at historic Carrick Hill; the Flinders Link train line extension; the Fullarton and Cross Roads upgrade; the Goodwood, Springbank and Daws Road intersection and the Repat Hospital reactivation, Nicolle said, "I'm starting to realise why I feel a little bit tired."

She used her valedictory speech to highlight her experiences of toxic workplace culture in Parliament, calling on everyone to act on the sexist and misogynistic abuse, many women in politics and public life face in person, in the press and online.

"I have been overwhelmed with the response from my colleagues in parliament, residents in

Boothby and so many people around Australia," Nicolle said.

"Thank you for your kind words and messages of support. And for giving me the privilege of serving you and our community in the Federal Parliament."

Nicolle, a strong supporter of the Sturt football club, said she was looking forward to getting to a lot more games when she is free from parliamentary life. □

Public Event: "Responding to Ukraine"
 Saturday 2nd April 5:00 - 6:30pm
 Followed by 30 minute candlelight vigil
 PEACE Here at Blackwood UC Free tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/BYBZX>

THE Ukraine and the devastation that people living there are experiencing, has been on the hearts and minds of many, both in Australia and around the world.

So on Saturday April 2, at 5pm, the Blackwood Uniting Church (the church near the roundabout) are hosting a community event "Responding to Ukraine."

This event will be an opportunity for the community to come together and express their concerns and desire for peace in the Ukraine.

It will be non-religious in nature, and open to people of all faiths and none.

To check-in, please arrive by 4.30pm for a 5pm start; masks are required and the program

will include:

- Welcome and introduction
- Video excerpt on the Ukraine conflict from the Wilks Oration by Stan Grant
- Brief talk on the plight of refugees
- Open Microphone segment
- Closing words
- Candlelit vigil (30 minutes duration)

The Blackwood Uniting Church is located at 266 Main Road, Blackwood.

□ For more information, phone 8278 7699 or email: minister@blackwooduc.org.au
 Free tickets can be acquired through Trybooking at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BYBZX>

Easter SUNDAY CELEBRATION
 Hot cross buns; chocolate eggs and a visit from the Easter Bunny!!!
 Sun 17th April, 9:30AM - 10:30AM
 Apex Park Playground, Hawthorndene
 Harcourts Packham



Your new home is closer than you think

Barryne Village: 30/25 Sheoak Road, Belair 5052

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Unit 30 has been extensively refurbished and is now available. Featuring:

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- freshly painted roof and facade
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- new flooring throughout
- fully enclosed generous backyard
- attached lock-up garage.

Your monthly management fee includes 24/7 emergency maintenance, common gardens and rates.

Arrange a visit with Christine on 0414 584 082 or visit www.helpinghand.org.au/belair





New clinic means expanded services for clients

“OUR new clinic is bigger and affords us two gym spaces – one for rehabilitation and another for small group, Pilates style, physio-led classes,” said Natalie Bukojemski, Clinic Partner, at *The Physio Clinic*, and Blackwood local.

The Clinic has recently moved to a new larger location on Main Road, Blackwood.

“Many of you will know the building we’ve moved to, as it was previously occupied by the ANZ Bank. We are so excited to breathe some life back into this location that has been vacant for some time,” said Natalie.

“We have also been able to expand our services to include Neurological Physiotherapy and Exercise Physiology.”

Neurological physiotherapy involves the assessment and treatment of conditions that affect the nerves of the brain or the body.

People with neurological conditions such as Parkinson’s Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and those who have suffered from a Stroke can experience difficul-

ties with muscle strength, co-ordination, sensation, balance, and mobility.

“Our experienced team can assist these people who are having difficulties with walking, balance, muscle weakness, impaired co-ordination, fatigue, pain, or dizziness,” said Kate Seeliger, Senior Neurological Physiotherapist.

“We also treat people with a range of vestibular (inner ear) disorders. Treatment often consists of exercise-based programs designed to reduce vertigo and dizziness, improve visual focus, and balance and reduce the risk of falls.”

The bigger premises has also provided room for Accredited Exercise Physiologist (AEP) Jasmine Reynolds. AEP’s are university educated allied health practitioners that use exercise to help treat and manage a wide range of acute and chronic conditions, injuries, and disabilities. AEP’s are passionate about exercise, movement, functionality and body awareness.

Jasmine says, “I really enjoy seeing

my clients have fun in the gym, whilst overcoming barriers, striving towards their goals and improving functional movement.

“I always work with my clients to tailor exercise programs that include the physical component but also educate, support and guide them to create a healthy, active lifestyle that suits them”. Jasmine has particular interests in women’s health, musculoskeletal conditions and cancer rehab.

“Along with new practitioners and services, the new space allows us to launch our series of free educational sessions which will commence from May,” says Natalie.

“We look forward to providing quality physiotherapy services to the Blackwood community in our beautiful new home for years to come”.

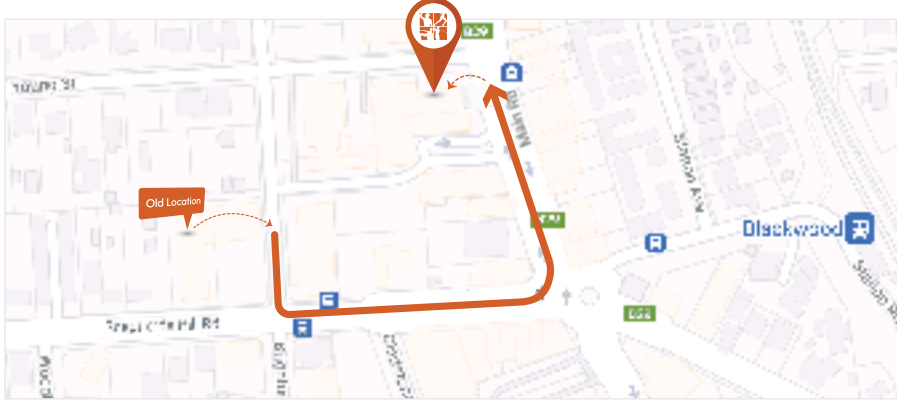
☐ To book an appointment or find out more, visit www.thephysioclinic.com.au or call 8342 1233.



◆ Photo - Some of the team at The Physio Clinic enjoying the spacious, more modern facilities (from left): Natalie Bukojemski (Clinic Partner), Hannah Pridham (Physio), Michelle Tomalin (Admin), Erin Ly (Physio), and Jasmine Reynolds (Exercise Physiologist)

New location. Same great team.

The Physio Clinic has now moved to 236-238 Main Road, Blackwood



New services.

You can now book in for:

- Exercise physiology
- Vestibular physiotherapy
- Paediatric physiotherapy
- Neurological physiotherapy

To book an appointment with one our amazing team or find out more, visit www.thephysioclinic.com.au or call (08) 8342 1233

Looking after your head and heart

“HAVING worked in Blackwood for over 15 years, I feel very much part of the close-knit community and love the people I meet, share conversations with, and help every day,” said Diane Blackley, a face, if not a name, many people will associate with *Blackwood Health Foods*.

However, Diane decided she wanted to expand her opportunities to help people on their journey to becoming their best selves.

‘*Heartsease Wellbeing*’ is a new Integrative Counselling service offered by Diane, who is a qualified counsellor, holistic nutritionist, natural therapist and chef.

She is able to draw on a wide range of experiences and education to underpin her highly personalised services.

Many customers and clients are already familiar with Diane’s quiet listening ear and her ability to gently support people in times of transition, sadness or poor health.

“It is such a privilege to have people share their stories with me. I look forward to having the time and space to give people a chance to explore those stories more fully,” added Diane.

Heartsease Wellbeing offers an integrative approach, where Diane incorporates counselling therapies specific to each individual’s needs alongside nutritional supplementation, herbal remedies, Bach flower essences and dietary and life style support.

It’s no coincidence that her logo is the heartsease pansy, as in the language of flowers it represents peace of mind and calmness of emotion, which is symbolic of what Diane helps people find in themselves.

“My motto is talk, rebalance, grow.” Diane explains, “It’s not quite naturopathy, so much as a holistic approach to counselling. Looking after the head, heart and body to promote all aspects of wellness.”

☐ Heartsease is staying local and will be sharing a space in the CPAP Room Sleep Clinic at 2/229 Main Road, Blackwood (opp. Coles). Bookings can be made via the website at heartsease.net.au or by phone on 0400 198 776.



Australian Guide to Healthy Eating

Enjoy a wide variety of nutritious foods from these five food groups every day. Drink plenty of water.



The Australian Dietary Guidelines provide up-to-date advice about the amount and kinds of food that we need to eat for health and wellbeing.

For more information about healthy eating visit www.eatforhealth.gov.au

HEARTSEASE
talk • rebalance • grow

Diane Blackley

Grad Dip Couns. Dip Nutrition. BBus

M: 0400 198 776

E: heartseasewellbeing@gmail.com





Easter treats can be dangerous for your pet

BY DR ASHLEE VANDENBROEK
BLACKWOOD VETS

EASTER is an 'egg-celent' time to spend with friends and family, enjoying delicious food.

But do you know how dangerous some of these yummy Easter treats can be for your furry, four-legged friends?

Easter treats such as chocolate or hot cross buns which contain sultanas/raisins, can be very harmful to your pet and in some cases, fatal.

Chocolate contains theobromine, a toxic compound that dogs cannot metabolise. The toxicity of chocolate depends on the type of chocolate (white vs milk vs dark) and the size of the dog.

Dark chocolate is the most toxic as it contains the highest level of theobromine. A dog that has ingested chocolate may show a combination of the following clinical signs; lethargy, restlessness, hyper-activity, vomiting, diarrhoea, excessive thirst/urination, tremors and even seizures.

Raisins/sultanas/grapes can also be fatal for your dog. Ingestion of these foods can cause acute kidney failure in dogs.

The reason why, has been a long-standing

mystery in the veterinary world but has recently been discovered! As it turns out, these foods contain high levels of tartaric acid (component of cream of tartar) which dogs are very sensitive to.

If your dog ingests raisins/sultanas/grapes you may notice; lethargy, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, difficulty urinating, tremors, seizures and even coma.

Clinical signs associated with ingestion of toxins in dogs often don't occur straight away. So, if you suspect your dog has ingested something they shouldn't, even if they are showing no signs, it is important to contact your veterinarian immediately.

If your dog has recently ingested chocolate or hot cross buns, a veterinarian can induce vomiting.

This allows the potentially harmful food to be removed from the stomach and prevents the absorption of toxic compounds into the bloodstream. If significant time has passed since ingestion, inducing vomiting may not be sufficient.

In these cases, your dog may need to be admitted into hospital for further care and sup-



port. This often includes intra-venous fluid therapy, medications to absorb the toxins, anti-seizure medications, muscle relaxants and oxygen therapy.

So, to make sure your dog has a pawfect Easter, think twice about sharing your Easter treats with them.

The team at Blackwood Vets would like to wish you a very safe and Hoppy Easter to you and your furry friends – Bone appetite! □

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(Photo for illustration purposes only)

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or **8278 1087**

How to keep your cat safe at home

THE Dog and Cat Management Board, RSPCA South Australia and Animal Welfare League of South Australia Inc (AWL) have joined forces to encourage pet owners to take practical steps to ensure their cats are safe.

A new video has been produced giving owners practical examples of how to keep their pet cats happy and safe at home.

RSPCA SA Chief Executive Officer, Paul Stevenson said that cats that wander are vulnerable and that there are many risks to cats on the street.

"House cats lead longer, healthier lives than cats allowed to roam, which are prone to inju-

ries, illness or early death from fights, disease and road accidents," Mr Stevenson said.

Animal Welfare League CEO, Dr Julie Bellamy, BVMS said keeping a cat within your property reduces the possibility of them being exposed to infectious diseases as well.

"Most cats adjust well to staying home whether that's indoors or within your garden. The key is to make their indoor lives as enriching and intriguing as the outdoors," Dr Bellamy said.

Each year, the RSPCA and Animal Welfare League receives an average combined total of around 9700 cats, the vast majority of them abandoned, stray or lost.

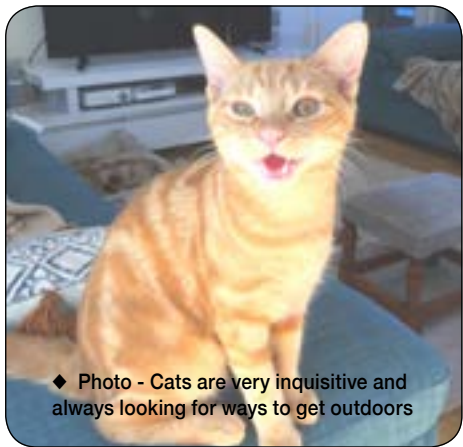
Dog and Cat Management Board Chairperson, David Parkin said that in South Australia, it is mandatory for pet cats to be desexed, microchipped and registered in Dogs and Cats Online.

"Dogs and Cats Online is the state's official dog and cat register, and is the first port of call councils, vets, and shelters use to help reunite lost pets with their families," Mr Parkin said.

"While some council's charge cat registration fees, and most don't; if you own a cat, it is mandatory to register it by its microchip in Dogs and Cats Online and this provides peace of mind that if your cat does become lost, it can be reunited with you."

Registration is quick and easy for owners to do themselves at www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au

To view the new video for tips to keep your cat at home, visit <https://youtu.be/uLtiCz8ufYU>



◆ Photo - Cats are very inquisitive and always looking for ways to get outdoors

blackwood♥ets

vets with heart

At Blackwood Veterinary Surgery we have a fresh approach in a practice that has been serving the Hills Community for over 50 years.

Dr Mary Ann Harvey and Dr Ali Coleman focus on customer service and compassionate high quality care of your family pets. Our special interests include : dermatology, laser therapy, behaviour and acupuncture. We also have a dedicated professional groomer.

Phone 8278 4173

178 Main Road Blackwood (next to Blackwood Hire)



Vets Ali and Mary Ann

Dr Ali Coleman
Dr Mary Ann Harvey
Dr Ashlee Vandenbroek
Dr Tamika McElroy

Vet Nurses :
Sarah - Lucy
Emily - Grace
Courtney
Sam - Dani
Caitlin - Nicole

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Re-open 8.30am Tuesday 19 April

CLOSED Monday 25 April
(public holiday for ANZAC Day)

OPENING HOURS: MON-FRI 8.30-6 SAT 8.30-5 CLOSED PUB HOLS & SUNDAYS

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www.scottieclipzgrooming.com



Worst tree protection in Australia

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BLACKWOOD



WE live in a leafy green part of Adelaide, but we are still impacted by the thousands of trees that are cut down every year for development.

The City of Mitcham has received a 'Tree City of the World' recognition for planting trees. However, we still see wanton destruction of large trees in the district as developers clear blocks for more houses.

The rate of tree removal from private land is much faster than the council can compensate by planting more on public land.

The benefits of large trees include providing shade in our streets and to our homes, cooling and purifying our air, providing habitat for a myriad of creatures, adding oxygen, removing carbon dioxide and improving our health and well-being.

All these benefits are being jeopardised by current



state government laws that encourage the removal of mature trees for wall-to-wall housing, as well as allowing the unnecessary removal of large trees.

Our pathetic legislation provides little protection for most large trees. Developers' profits are valued more highly than trees, many of which were here long before the arrival of Europeans.

How did we get to this situation and why is it allowed to continue when surveys invariably rate big shady trees as what people love about their neighbourhoods?

Mitcham Council's 'Young Australian of the Year', Tom Morrison is a fearless local campaigner for tree protection. His research has found that Adelaide has "the worst tree protection in Australia" and "the current wave of tree loss will only get worse unless our tree law protections match other cities".

We already have some of the lowest levels of tree canopy cover of any Australian city.

Blackwood and Eden Hills have recently been listed in the top 10 suburbs for the highest percentage of tree canopy loss over the past 10 years.

Other capital cities have stronger tree protection laws which don't hamper development, in fact they encourage better and more desirable development.

It is possible to increase urban density with clever development that retains the big trees, providing much more attractive, comfortable and sustainable urban environments; but it requires good planning and giving priority to the natural environment.

Now that we have elected the next state government, will they be prepared to put the health and well-being of the public and the environment above the profit margins of developers?

If you would like to join Sustainable Communities SA or for more information, visit their website: www.sustainablecommunitiessa.org.au



Less rubbish found than in previous years at 'clean up'



◆ Photo - Clean Up Australia volunteer and Blackwood resident of 40 years, Keith Bettany lining up to register for the event held last month to clean up around the streets of Blackwood

THE Blackwood Action Group (BAG) joined with thousands of other Australians on Sunday, March 6 as part of the nationwide Clean Up Australia Day campaign.

"It was a perfect day for the Event - which obviously, would not have been the case in some of the Eastern States cities and country towns!"

It was the 13th year BAG has contributed to this worthwhile environmental initiative - cleaning up Blackwood.

Twenty seven volunteers, including two children, did a sterling job cleaning up the main approach roads to the Blackwood roundabout - Shepherds Hill Road, Coromandel Parade and Main Road plus adjoining car parks and Reserves.

Sixteen large bags of litter (a lot of non-recyclable material) were collected this year; including 72 discarded face masks and 55 drink containers.

Mitcham Council depot arranged to collect all the material the following week.

Whilst a lot of the litter was found amongst bushes on the road verges and car parks, overall our volunteers indicated that they believed the total amount collected was less than in previous years.

A good sign perhaps that people are becoming more community-minded?

When the three groups of happy collectors eventually returned to the Blackwood Station, they were treated to a delicious BBQ brunch and sweets in the former Stationmaster's rear yard - courtesy of BAG.

It was a fitting end to a rewarding morning's work!

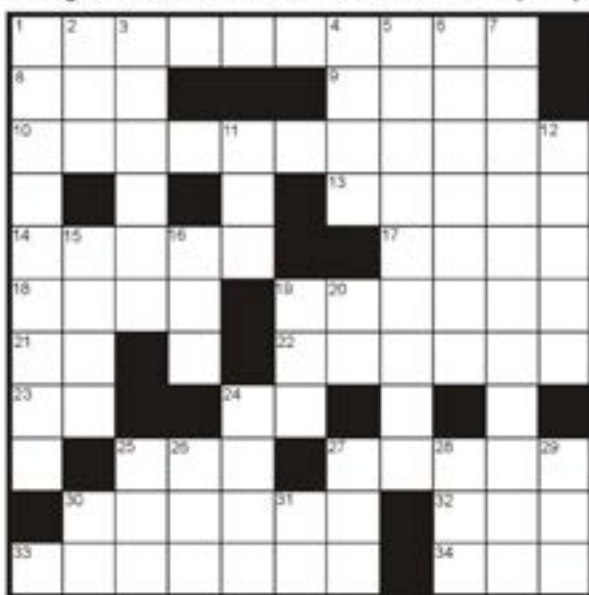
For more information on BAG activities, phone 0408 117 003 or visit their website at : www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

LIONS BARGAIN CENTRE HILLS OZ X WORD No. 63



We Serve

Unwanted saleable goods cluttering your lifestyle? Take them to the Lions Bargain Centre, Colebrook Drive, Eden Hills on Saturday morning (8.30 -12.30) or ring the Blackwood Lions on 8370 2144 for a pickup.



ACROSS

- 1 Started
- 8 New
- 9 Tree trunk
- 10 PABX
- 13 Change
- 14 Full of reeds
- 17 Supermarket
- 18 ME port
- 19 Certainty
- 21 Sodium
- 22 Meeting with dead
- 23 Curium
- 24 Thing
- 25 Trick
- 27 Include
- 30 Jest
- 32 Deer
- 33 Somebody
- 34 Explosive

DOWN

- 1 Just in case
- 2 Fresh
- 3 Party
- 4 Swedish singers
- 5 Place for tools
- 6 Pleasure
- 7 Neglect
- 11 Shy
- 12 Bee
- 15 Cheese
- 16 Biological brick
- 19 Concorde
- 20 Him
- 24 In
- 25 Tooth
- 26 Digit
- 27 Exist
- 28 Poison
- 29 Mesh
- 30 Body odour
- 31 Print measure

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

Shop Local

Support Businesses
& Tradespeople

Support the community

GULF OF SAROS
BLACKWOOD RSL

ANZAC DAY

Monday April 25th 2022

Dawn Service

6.30 am
(Soldiers Memorial Garden Main Road, Blackwood)

GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

EVERYONE WELCOME
At the rsl clubrooms following Dawn Service
1 Brighton Pde, blackwood

Please follow official RSL Marshals instructions.
For more information contact Blackwood RSL
PH: (08) 8278 6253 - Email rslbwood@bigpond.com

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info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

Good Friday tradition continues with street re-enactment

ONE of the iconic songs of Easter across the world is the famous "Via Dolorosa". It will be sung this Easter in over 150 countries and heard by millions.

The background to that song is that "Via Dolorosa" is a street within the Old City of Jerusalem. It is a Latin term, and translated into English means "Way of Grief," "Way of Sorrow," "Way of Suffering" or simply "Painful Way". This was the path Jesus took carrying his cross on his way to Golgotha.

In 2015, a tradition began in Blackwood with a re-enactment of the "Via Dolorosa", like on that first Good Friday 2,000 years ago. Each year, except for the 2020 Covid lock-down, around 400 people have lined the footpath on Coromandel Parade to witness the event.

"It has certainly gained some momentum over the years," reflected Brandon Chaplin, Senior Pastor of Blackwood Hills Baptist Church.

"You don't see that kind of thing every day in the streets of Blackwood. It has been both striking and solemn to witness someone dressed as Jesus walking the 400 metres or so from Simla Parade to the church building with hundreds crowded to watch it."

In some countries around the world, it is a cultural tradition to enact the events of the first Good Friday. From South America to Europe

and back to North America, some towns and villages take the opportunity to remind people about the events of the first Good Friday.

"The feeling among the people was one of serious reflection," added Brandon. "A car or two had to slow down to have a look at what was going on. Many people found it very emotional as they follow the Jesus into the church, at which point our Good Friday service begins."

This tradition will continue in Blackwood on Good Friday from 9.30am on Friday 15th April.

"We plan for 'Jesus' to walk south from Simla Parade toward the church at 72 Coromandel Parade and then enter in. We then hope that the crowd that gather, will follow in and join us in our service of reflection that begins at 10am," said Brandon.

"People want to engage with that first Easter story and seek to get an understanding of what it means. People are very welcome to attend any of the services over the Easter weekend, not just Good Friday."

❑ Easter Services at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, 72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood are at 10am on Good Friday, and on Easter Sunday at 10am and 7pm. You can also watch the Easter Services Online on the YouTube Channel - Village BHBC.

For more info call the church on 8370 0333 or visit www.thevillage.org.au



◆ Photo - every year since 2015 (except 2020 lockdown) hundreds of people have lined Coromandel Parade on Good Friday to witness the re-enactment of Jesus carrying his cross on the way to Golgotha

Home gardens necessary for good nutrition and health

BIODIVERSITY plays a crucial role in human nutrition and health and is another reason home gardens are so important.

Human health and well-being are influenced by the health of local plant and animal communities, and the integrity of the local ecosystems that they form.

If you own a garden, you own one part of the solution to creating a liveable and sustainable urban environment. It's up to you to choose what you do with it.

With more thought to the biodiversity aspect, the flowering and fruiting season provides habitat for pollinating insects, birds and other animals and can match that of natural areas.

April sees the continuing Cancer Care Centre program of 'Seeds for Health' practical, organic food-gardening workshops, held in the Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden, Laffers Road, Belair (located in the eastern grounds of former Blackwood Hospital):

* Wednesday 27th April from 10am-12.30pm with the theme of the Zodiac natural element of 'AIR'.

The focus will be on why and how to create more biodiversity in your garden such as bees, butterflies, birds, beneficial insects and soil life.

As it is school holidays children are most welcome to come along (at no cost).

* Wednesday 4th May from 10am-12.30pm with the theme of the Zodiac natural element of 'FIRE'.

Growing herbs and veggies for winter vitality, along with demonstration of making HOT compost, the key to productive food gardening and booster of garden biodiversity.

Come along to the workshops (choose one or do them both) and check out the biodiversity of Cherington Garden (complete with Fountain mentioned in the BAG History article on page 4 of this issue).

❑ Cost of each workshop is \$45 and bookings can be made by phoning 8272 2411. Any enquiries to Garden Co-ordinator, Diana Bickford on 0407 339 660.



◆ Photo - Some of the members at a working bee in the Cherington Therapeutic Gardens located in the grounds of the former Blackwood Hospital (from left): Sue Lohmeyer, Claire McCann and Erica Randell

Come and try Kindergym for free



HELPING your children/grandchildren learn and advance is such an important process with their development and progress. The Kindergym program at Blackwood Recreation Centre looks to ensure all their participants have a fun, safe and immersive environment.

Kindergym is a multi-movement-based program designed specifically for children 5yrs and under and their caregiver. The program has been running for over 40 years and is a culturally respectful program.

The program promotes the development of the whole child - physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively, in a safe and structured multi-sensory indoor environment.

Learning through play in a stimulating, non-competitive environment assists children to develop to their full potential in readiness for kindergarten, school and sports.

Each session is directed towards empowering your child with the skills and confidence to hang and swing, spin, balance, skip, climb, throw, crawl and jump.

It helps to provide the foundations for a lifetime of positive attitudes towards physical activity. While having fun, children learn to move and move to learn.

The common outline of a session consists of a warm up, group time, free play with guided discoveries and a cool down to finish off the session.

"Our experienced, bubbly and supportive Kindergym leaders plan fun and exciting new themes each term. The current theme this term is the circus which includes lots of fun colours and equipment," said Steve Woods, Rec Centre assistant manager.

If you or a family member are interested to try Kindergym, we are offering free Come and Try's in week 10 (April 4th - 8th) and week 11 (April 11th - 15th) of our term.

Bookings are essential and spots are limited so if you are interested please get in quick!

❑ If you would like to take up this offer, please contact the Rec Centre on 8278 8833.



BLACKWOOD HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH

Good Friday
Friday 15th April 10am

Take the opportunity this Good Friday to reflect on Jesus' ultimate sacrifice given for the world, as we look toward the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood

Subscribe to our

YouTube Channel

Village BHBC

to join with us in worship online

Visit us on

Facebook

Easter Sunday
Sunday 17th April 10am & 7pm

Come and celebrate Jesus' resurrection and story of hope and love for the world!

Join us for a great day of inspired worship

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The Rotary Club of Blackwood



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ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKWOOD WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Morning tea on offer again as Watchman House opens up

VISITORS are being welcomed back to the Watchman House on Main Road which is managed by the Coromandel Valley & Districts branch of the National Trust.

They have been unable to meet due to Covid restrictions but are opening up to the public again on the first Saturday of each month starting from April 2.

From 9am till 12noon, volunteers will be on hand to guide groups through the house and share its stories and those of other local landmarks, like Winns Bakehouse, the Shepley House and Craiglee.

The Watchman House is located adjacent to the Sturt River Linear Park at 360 Main Road, Coromandel Valley.

A delicious, homemade morning tea will be available for \$5pp, to be enjoyed undercover in the

garden (see photo below). Lovers of Coromandel Marmalade will be pleased learn that some new flavours and old favourites will be available, along with locally produced Hills Honey.

Then, as Easter falls on the third weekend of April, our local National Trust team is planning an Easter Egg hunt to entertain younger visitors when it opens Gamble Cottage on the Sunday, April 17.

Tours of the Cottage will be in small groups from 1pm to 4pm, and with afternoon tea and plant sales on offer in the garden there'll be plenty of people of all ages to enjoy.

The Easter Egg hunt will start at 2pm.

To learn more about Coromandel Valley & Districts National Trust branch visit CVDNT.org.au or follow them on Facebook.



BLACKWOOD COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSN INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

THURSDAY 28 April 2022
at 7pm at the Centre

J WRIGHT - HON SEC BCRA INC.

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Visit www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au anytime for an up-to-date listing of local events

FREE Listings ...

looking for more members ... publish your club's notice and contact details here each month.

Send email to info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

◆ 2 April

RESPONDING TO UKRAINE - the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) are hosting this event to come together and express concern and desire for peace in Ukraine. Meet at 4.30 for 5pm start. Contact Church on 8278 7699. Free tickets available through Trybooking.com

◆ 3 April

BOTTLE COLLECTION - from 9am by Belair Scout Group. Collect ALL GLASS bottles and jars, ALL REFUNDABLE cans, bottles and cartons from your driveway. Any queries phone Nicola on 0412 708 940.

◆ 3 April

BLACKWOOD CRAFT MARKET - from 10am to 3pm at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade. Admission is free. New stall enquiries to Kerrie on 0427 410 917.

◆ 3 & 17 April

OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE - located in the Belair National Park and is open from 1-4pm. Tour with afternoon Devonshire tea \$15pp; and tour only \$5 for adults and children under 12 free. Entry into Belair National Park is free if visiting OGH - tell staff at gate. For more information phone 0417 870 596.

◆ 4 & 18 April

BLACKWOOD ROTARY - meet at Belair Hotel, 141 Main Road at 6pm for 6.30pm start. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in joining the club, please contact Kevin Marsh on 0428 522 632.

◆ 4 & 18 April

COROMANDEL VALLEY ROTARY - meet at Parish Hall, 337 Main Road,

Coromandel Valley (behind St John's Church) at 6pm for 6.30pm start. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in joining the club, contact Peter on 0408 841 150.

◆ 6 April

BLACKWOOD LIONS - meet at 6.30pm in Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde. New enquiries welcome. If you want more information or thinking of joining, give Chris Martin a call on 0409 900 499.

◆ 7 April

BLACKWOOD PROBUS CLUB - meet at Masonic Lodge, 229 Main Road (opp. Coles) from 9.30am. An informal and social outlet for retired and semi-retired ladies and gents. Visitors and new members welcome. Enquiries to Norman on 8178 2653.

◆ 7 April

TONSLEY VIEW CLUB - meet at the Tonsley Hotel, South Rd, Tonsley, at 11am for 11.30 start. Cost is \$25 for lunch. Often have guest speaker, raffle and trading table. VIEW is a women's group supporting The Smith Family by sponsoring children. Phone Deborah on 0468 630 020 or email: tonsleyviewclub21@gmail.com

◆ 9 April

AUST SEWING GUILD (MITCHAM) - anyone interested in sewing from beginners to advanced are welcome. Held at Blackwood Uniting Church, (near Blackwood roundabout) from 1-4pm. Phone Donna on 8374 3172 or 0413 022 162 for details.

◆ 9 April

BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CIRCLE - meet at 1.30pm at the Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian and World stamps at most meetings. Everyone welcome to attend. Phone Trevor on 0437 050 831 for further details.

◆ 10 & 24 April

JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE

COMMUNITY - meets 1-4pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. New members welcome. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787 or e: jpkitchengarden@gmail.com

◆ 13 April

BLACKWOOD HILLS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FOR REFUGEES - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout in the Cafe lounge. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information email annabeldayal@gmail.com

◆ 14 April

SPEAKING MADE EASY BLACKWOOD - Women are invited to meet to practise their communication and presentation skills in a supportive, friendly, and fun environment. Held at Watchman House, 360 Main Road, Coromandel Valley at 7.30pm. Phone Margaret on 0438 838 894 for further details.

◆ 14 & 28 April

BLACKWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood at 7.30pm. Visitors and those interested in amateur photography welcome. Contact Ian on 0410 634 046 or email: panjarri@gmail.com

◆ 14 April

HAWTHORNDENE MENS' PROBUS - meet 9.30am at Belair Uniting Church, Sheoak Rd, where retired men find new interests, new friends and stimulating speakers. Also, regular outings, reading and walking groups. New members welcome - contact Robert on 0488 170 848.

◆ 17 April

FRIENDS OF GAMBLE COTTAGE & GARDEN open between 1-4pm. Enjoy a stroll through historic gardens and view cottage. Plant nursery open with range of inexpensive plants. Entry is free - 296 Main Rd, Blackwood cnr Dorham Rd.

Enquiries to Chris on 0418 827 825.

◆ 25 April

BLACKWOOD FLORAL ART CLUB - held at Blackwood Uniting Church at 7.30-9pm. All welcome but must email attendance in advance - no experience required. View activities of club at: www.blackwoodfloralart.blogspot.com.au

◆ 27 April

ZONTA CLUB OF ADELAIDE HILLS - work to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Meet at Belair Hotel at 6.30pm for 7pm start. Visitors welcome. Contact Bev on 0407 603 117 for details.

◆ 27 April

CHERINGTON THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKSHOP - 'Seeds for Health' autumn workshop - why and how to create more biodiversity. Productive urban food gardening with focus on biodiversity in the garden. Held in grounds of former Blackwood Hospital, Laffers Road. Phone Diana for details on 0407 339 660.

◆ 28 April

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF COROMANDEL VALLEY - has relocated to St Johns Anglican Church Hall, 337 Main Road, Coromandel Valley. Meetings are held at 10am We are a medium size Club with maximum membership of 75. Each meeting we have a guest speaker and each month an outing is planned as well as 'gals' and 'guys' coffee mornings. ew members most welcome. Contact Bob on 0418 836 414 or Heather 0448 351 880 for more info.

◆ 4 May

CHERINGTON THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GARDEN WORKSHOP - 'Seeds for Health' autumn workshop - growing herbs and veggies for winter. Productive urban food gardening with focus on biodiversity in the garden.

Held in grounds of former Blackwood Hospital, Laffers Road. Phone Diana for details on 0407 339 660.

◆ Every Monday

KEEP FIT FOR MATURE MEN - held at the Belair Community Ctr, Burnell Drive from 7.30-9pm. Keep active with warm up exercises keep fit exercises and volleyball. Phone Jim Thompson on 8278 2927 for details.

◆ Every Tuesday

GROW MENTAL WELLBEING GROUP - held at Blackwood Uniting Church (near roundabout) from 7-9pm. Are you looking for support - everyone welcome. Phone church on 8278 7699 for details.

◆ Every Wednesday

AUSTRALIAN RETIRED PERSONS ASSN (BLACKWOOD) - Active Over 50's meet at the Blackwood Football Clubrooms on Trevor Tce, Blackwood from 9:30am til 2pm. Do you enjoy Table Tennis, Indoor Bowls, Darts, Pool and Board Games? Tea, Coffee and biscuits supplied BYO Lunch. Enquiries to Brian Andrews on 8327 1247.

◆ Every Thursday

COROMANDEL BRIDGE CLUB - meet at the Coromandel Community Centre, Weymouth Oval at 12.30pm. New members and visitors welcome. Tuition available to the inexperienced and learners. Phone Roger on 8278 5320.

◆ Every Friday

CARING FRIENDS - meet at the Hawthorn Community Centre, 5 Frimley Grove, Hawthorn at 10am. A friendship group supporting adults who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Contact Janita on 0403 858 474 or e: acushla54@gmail.com

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Check it or chuck it

HOME owners in South Australia are being urged to think about their electrical safety as winter approaches, and particularly about the safety of old appliances such as heaters or electric blankets.

Master Electricians Australia CEO, Malcolm Richards said there were a number of simple steps home owners could take to ensure they and their loved ones were safe.

"Our simple message when it comes to older appliances is to check it or chuck it," Mr Richards said.

"That is, if you have any doubts about old appliances such as heaters or electric blankets, and especially if they have damaged or perished cables, please have them checked by a licensed electrician.

"If you don't want to go to the expense, then throw things out. Don't plug in and turn on appliances that might have been damaged from being in storage all summer.

"Electrical safety incidents can often be avoided if people take basic precautions, and I'm urging people to stop and think about their electrical safety."

Simple, practical safety steps for home owners include:

- * Pressing the Test button on your safety switches every three months to ensure they trip off when needed
- * Only using power tools and appliances for their intended purpose, and not using indoor appliances outside in the weather
- * Repairing or discarding any appliances that have visible signs of damage, including water damage or damage to insulation around power leads
- * Avoiding any DIY electrical work
- * Having your solar panels checked every few years to ensure they are working safely

Mr Richards also urged home owners to ensure they had a safety switch installed on every circuit.

"Older homes may only have safety switches on one or two circuits. But they can and will save a life in milliseconds in the case of an electrical accident. It's a low-cost investment in your family's safety," explained Mr Richards.

☐ To contact a local electrician, go to the 'Phone Local' section on pages 14 and 15 of this edition.

Local support kick started 'Sycamore'

by James Swanborough

LOCAL brothers Ryan and Chris Williams (pictured below) are making waves on the music scene with their band *Sycamore* after developing a strong local following, and are heading into 2022 with a slew of shows.

"Both our parents loved music and we went to big gigs with them or to the Wheatsheaf on a Sunday afternoon," said Ryan of the brothers early inspiration.

It was during their time at Blackwood High School that music started to become a more serious occupation.

"Me and Chris, and our drummer Jackson started out playing covers in high school, then in mid 2018, we decided to start writing our own music and that was the beginning of the band *Sycamore*."

The school was very supportive of the band's initiative, providing opportunities to develop their performance skills.

When it came to playing to bigger audiences, *Sycamore* looked to keep things close to home, bringing their first show to the stage of Blackwood RSL, which resulted in a groundswell of support.

"For us, we wanted to find any place we could that had a bar, and we made contact with the RSL; they have bands playing there quite often.

"I think they were hesitant to have such a young band come in initially, but we ended up pulling a huge crowd. I think it was an attendance record for that year for them; all our family and friends and high school mates came and

they brought their mates and it was packed out," explained Ryan.

Following that first show in July 2019, *Sycamore* played a few more gigs that year in town at the Crown and Anchor, with things really starting to take off in early 2020, playing 3 sold out shows followed by an EP release last year, which has garnered 30,000 plays on 'Spotify'.

Like all musicians, the ongoing pandemic has been a difficult time for *Sycamore*, closing venues right around the time they started building a fan base.

"It's been difficult to keep motivation in terms of playing and planning gigs, and writing music, because we couldn't do what we wanted to just get up there and play in

front of people.

So it became more about just getting together and writing songs and preparing for when restrictions are lifted.

"The internet is really your biggest tool at finding your audience and being unearthed now. We did have a lot of support from the school, and they gave us opportunities to play at the Rotary Fair and at school, but we did definitely have to do the work off our own backs," added Ryan.

"Just keep at it, we've had to keep on pushing and stick at it, you have to keep on playing and writing to make those inroads."

☐ To hear *Sycamore's* music, or find out about upcoming performances, head to <https://sycamoreband.com.au>



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How can we take more from our waste?

(Information in this article has been extracted from Cleanaway Australia website)

IT'S estimated that each person in Australia generates around 2.7 tonnes of waste per year. That's 22 million tonnes of waste sent to landfill every year.

Our population is growing on an average of 1.7% each year and more people result in more consumption and waste generated. This is not sustainable.

Land space is finite, and contributes heavily (through production of methane which is approx. 25 times more concentrated than CO₂) to our carbon footprint, so a sustainable waste management strategy would seek to reduce reliance on landfill by diverting materials away from it, wherever possible.

In recent times, COVID-19 has us spending more time at home and producing more waste through takeaway food, packaging from online shopping and essential single-use items such as disposable masks and test kits.

People are also putting the wrong things in the wrong bin, putting even more pressure on landfill as soft plastics, food scraps and clothing contaminates quality recycling and sometimes goes to waste.

In a sustainable waste management system, the preferred strategy is to reduce the amount of rubbish produced in the first place.

For the average Australian householder, this means planning your shop to avoid waste, buying only items that are necessary and avoiding single-use materials.

Making sustainable shopping choices, recycling cardboard packaging, tin cans and hard plastic in your kerbside recycling bin and composting your leftover food and green material, makes a big difference to reducing waste.

At the moment in Australia, we rely on landfill for all our residual waste, but there is technology being used around the world, that allows us to do more with this resource through energy from waste.

Energy from waste creates energy and heat from otherwise wasted resources and can be applied to produce electricity to power homes and businesses.

Compared to traditional fuel sources, an energy-from-waste facility with a capacity of 500,000 tonnes per annum would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 390,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent each year and is a lower cost option for councils and businesses to dispose of their non-recyclable waste.

Reusing the bottom ash in construction materials would allow us to divert over 95% of the residual waste "input" from landfill.

Despite the benefits, there have been understandable concerns from communities around safety and the technology used.

A common misconception is that energy from waste facilities are like incinerators from the past. In reality, energy from waste facilities are highly engineered to minimise air pollution and protect human health with cutting edge technology that has been proven in urban locations overseas for decades.

Modern facilities ensure that waste materials are completely combusted which means less polluting gases and ash remaining at the end of the process.

Just like licensed landfills, energy from waste facilities are operated under strict regulatory guidelines and located at areas specifically designed for the operation.



Europe has facilities that are an important part of their waste management infrastructure where they are located in urban areas. When used to complement recycling, reuse and reduction initiatives, energy-from-waste can be effective for recovering resources from waste that has no other recovery pathway. □



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Family owned and run for 25+ years,
Waggon Wheels has the highest
quality fruits, vegetables and berries;
so for the best customer service in
Blackwood, come see the team at
Waggon Wheels!

Come Get
Fresh with us!



EASTER TRADING

OPEN

Sat 16 April : 8am-5pm

CLOSED

Good Friday &
Easter Sunday - Monday

CLOSED

ANZAC Day
Monday 25 April

Shop 8 / 248 Main Road, Blackwood
Drakes Shopping Centre

Phone 8278 1874

MONTAGNA Cafe

Our **\$16.90 Lunch
Specials** are back!!

from 11.30am - 2pm : choose from ...

- ✓ Fish & Chips ✓ Warm Chicken Salad
- ✓ Beef or Chicken Schnitzel
- ✓ Salt & Pepper Squid Salad
- ✓ Karaage Chicken Salad
- ✓ Greek Lamb Yiros
- ✓ Roasted Vegetable Salad
- ✓ Cheeseburger ✓ Veggie Burger

We will be taking a break at Easter ...
re-opening Tuesday 19 April
Wishing everyone a safe and
happy holiday

DINE IN, TAKE AWAY
& DELIVERY AVAILABLE

8370 0450

10 Coromandel Parade
Woolworths Shopping Centre

www.montagnacafe.com.au