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Contest to win Waitite heats up

see story pg 3



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Last month Eva 'Bobbie' Forster celebrated her 100th birthday with her four children (from left): Meredith, Susan, Murray and John at Wittunga Botanic Garden ... with her letter from the Queen. See story pg 5.

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Funding needed to upgrade Waite Reserve

by James Swanborough

THE City of Mitcham are seeking more funding to continue rejuvenation projects in the heart of Blackwood.

Plans to redevelop Waite Street Reserve were first presented to the community for consultation in 2020 as part of the Blackwood Community Hub & Library project.

However, a reduction in funding approval meant the works to upgrade the reserve were removed from the scope of the plan.

Since this time, the project has been made a priority for election funding, and has been discussed with both the Boothby and Waite electoral candidates, however no commitments have been made to date.

Mitcham Council are now formally seeking financial commitment to the Waite Street Reserve Redevelopment Project and the Young Street Redevelopment, noting the significant contribution this will make to the re-invigoration of the precinct.

The Blackwood Community Hub Project aims to provide a community facility that cre-

ates a precinct offering recreational, social, educational, and lifelong learning opportunities, as well as the activation of the economic spirit of Blackwood.

The Project aims to make a major contribution to the amenity of the local area in terms of supporting the hills community through improving the aesthetics of the site and environs, which will be further enhanced by the proposed Waite Street Reserve upgrade.

The proposed upgrades include 2 new sheltered picnic and BBQ facilities, a basketball half court and youth area with rock climbing structures, a new car park, new play spaces, kitchen garden, and a powered site for staged events.

Several projects are taking shape over the coming year, including the construction of the Blackwood Community Hub; redevelopment plans for Young Street; the creation of a walkway from Waite Street Reserve to the central carpark in Blackwood with the sale of land in Young Street on the western side of



◆ Image - The landscape concept plan for Waite Reserve and the Blackwood Community Hub & Library development set to get underway this year.

the Drakes Supermarket; improvements to the intersections of Waite Street and Shepherds Hill Road as well as construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Waite and Young Streets.

Mitcham Council hopes that funding bodies will see the benefit of contributing to the renewal project so that works can be carried out concurrently with these planned developments. □

Road network upgrade projects to be reviewed

by James Swanborough

FEEDBACK from the community has led to a reconsideration of major infrastructure works to take place on the Mitcham Hills Road Network, with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) announcing it is reviewing how the projects might be delivered taking into consideration approvals, their timing and subsequent staging of works.

The Australian and South Australian Governments jointly committed \$40 million to undertake a number of improvements along the Mitcham Hills road corridor to improve safety and traffic flow along Old Belair Road.

As part of this commitment, a planning study was undertaken in 2020. The study area included Old Belair Road through to the Main Road and Russell Street junction; and the Shepherds Hill Road, Brighton Parade and Waite Street intersection.

After it was revealed the first works to be undertaken would be a roundabout at the intersection of Old Belair and James Road, there was significant outpouring of criticism regarding the prospective traffic flow issues and impact on native vegetation.

Critique was also levelled at DIT for delaying the release of the community consultation results, and not listening to residents' concerns.

Formal requests were made from both Mitcham Council and Federal Member for Boothby, Nicolle Flint (who initially secured funding for the project), to delay the works until construction of the upper Belair Triangle intersection of Old Belair, Sheoak and Russell Street corner were completed, and traffic modelling could be carried out.

Meanwhile, the Liberal candidate for Waite, Alex Hyde, has been working hard behind the scenes, and thrilled to announce that a review of the project has been secured.

"Since becoming the local Liberal candidate, I have been listening to our community and making firm representations to the Transport Minister on this project," said Alex.

"I am pleased to have secured a review of the projects being delivered throughout the Mitcham Hills Road Corridor that will focus on which works should occur first."

The Department also announced that the works would be held back until after the bushfire season concludes.

"Although this work can be safely delivered during bushfire season, we understand it is the community's preference to avoid this time. This is another factor being taken into consideration," the Department noted in an update.

During this delay, planning work will be

commenced on potential upgrades to Laffers Road, for which there had previously been no funding allocated.

"Thank you to those community members who provided feedback about Laffers Road at the November 2021, community information sessions," said a spokesperson for DIT. "Planning work has commenced to identify opportunities to upgrade this location."

Alex was extremely pleased with the outcome. "I know that changes to one part of our network can have a flow on effect for others, and crucially we are now also starting planning work for the Main Road and Laffers Road intersection."

"This is a big win for our community. Main Road and Laffers Road is a serious pinch point for our road network, and I am thrilled to have achieved this renewed focus after only a couple of months as the local Liberal candidate."

The Department is continuing to invite the community to provide feedback until 25 March, 2022 by visiting the project website.

All feedback received will be reviewed by the project team and used to help inform the development of a draft concept plan for Laffers Road.

This draft concept plan will be made available for community feedback in mid-2022. □





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Your vote could shape election outcome

by James Swanborough

THE upcoming State electoral contest for Waite is shaping up to be the most hardy fought in recent memory, with incumbent MP Sam Duluk standing as an independent, and facing 4 unique challengers.

With a wide field of views to choose from, voters in Waite should consider their vote carefully, as the decision may play a key part in the makeup of the next South Australian Parliament.

Here's what the 5 candidates have to say as to why you should vote for them and their party (in alphabetical order) ...

SAM DULUK - INDEPENDENT

"You trusted me with your vote in 2015 and 2018, based on my values and our shared community vision. Since then, I have worked tirelessly to deliver real outcomes for our community.

Working with you and for you, I have been proud to help Reactivate the Repat, Save the Waite Gatehouse and keep the Mitcham Service SA Centre in our area.

We are experiencing major investments in our local road network. Roads are being resurfaced and troublesome intersections will be upgraded.

Living in our community for many years now, has given me a strong understanding of what matters to you.

Recently, I released my vision for 2022 and beyond in Sam's Plan, which outlines my key policies for Waite and broader South Australia.

At a State-wide level, I will continue to focus on supporting our business community, sensible economic management of debt levels as well as reducing costs of living pressures for small business and families.

Locally, I am advocating for a feasibility study into revitalising the Blackwood Hospital Health Precinct, diverting heavy road freight and rail freight out of the Adelaide Hills and Mitcham Plains, as well as stronger legislation to protect our urban tree canopy, open space and built heritage.

We need to be a bushfire vigilant community that invests in our infrastructure, health, schools, sporting clubs and our recreational places. I want to make this area even more beautiful and community orientated. Your vote can help me continue as our local MP and strong voice in Parliament."

HEATHER HOLMES-ROSS - INDEPENDENT

From the leafy green streets of the Mitcham plains and foothills, to the bushland setting of the Mitcham Hills, we are very lucky to live in Waite. It is essential that we preserve the natural beauty and heritage of our area, and ensure a safe and happy future for our community.

We must protect the block next door from being completely cleared, and replaced with badly designed units and no open space or vegetation.

We must protect our children going to school, by creating safer crossings, kiss and drop zones, and car parking areas.

We must protect our children's future by taking action on climate change, such as installing solar and batteries on our homes and schools, cooling our suburbs by planting trees and increasing open space, and transitioning to electric public transport and private vehicles.

We must keep ourselves healthy by investing in our sporting clubs and community groups, and increasing the use and accessibility of public transport, footpaths and bike paths.

We must fix our broken health care system and make sure we learn from the mistakes of the past two years to prepare for the next wave of Covid-19.

We must create vibrant precincts, which are attractive and accessible, and drastically reduce red-tape to help our local businesses and community thrive.

As your local MP, I will work with the community, councils, members of state parliament, and the federal government, on these issues and more, to safeguard the future of Waite and our great State.

CATHERINE HUTCHESON - LABOR

"Why should I vote for you?" This is the most important question I'm asked. After all, I want to represent you in State Parliament. I have a genuine desire to give our area better representation.

On a local level, I will commit to performing the duties of a local MP - helping you connect to services and advocating for community needs.

Recently, I had the pleasure of announcing that a Labor Government will contribute \$40K towards a master plan for Blackwood Community Recreation Centre. The facility is one of the most well patronized leisure facilities in the State. 'Blackwood Rec' deserves a considered approach to how it may improve and expand.

Steven Marshall is short on ideas. In opposition, Labor has worked on a suite of policies designed to make life easier, not just over the next four years but for the future. I firmly believe a Peter Malinauskas Government will make South Australia a better place to live.

Here are just some of our positive policies:

- Returning our train and tram services into public hands.
- Banning any further privatization of SA Public services.
- Investing in our Health system (not a basketball stadium in our prized parklands)

- Extending preschool learning for three year olds from 2026, and allowing mid year intake for students starting reception.

These are a few, but important reasons why I am so pleased to be fighting alongside the Labor team. I hope the people of Waite can entrust me with the honour of being their MP. I ask that you use your vote to ensure the future of our State is in the best hands, that is a Peter Malinauskas Labor Government.

For more details on our plan, please visit our website www.petermalinauskas.com.au and hit the 'policies' link.

ALEX HYDE - LIBERAL

Where else in the world would you rather be than South Australia? With Adelaide as our nation's most liveable city, Australia's fastest growing economy and historically low unemployment, our state has a bright future that is being secured by the Marshall Liberal Government.

Our government is undoing the damage of Labor's devastating transforming health policy. Locally, we have reopened the Repat that was cruelly closed and doubled the emergency department size at Flinders Medical Centre.

Our \$1.3 billion school construction program is giving our kids the best possible start in life, with new facilities at Blackwood High, Unley High, Mitcham Girls, Urrbrae Agricultural High, Unley High, Mitcham Primary and Belair Primary.

Our recently awarded international status as a National Park City, shows that the Marshall Liberal Government's investment in green open and recreational spaces is yielding results for our community, and locally we've invested in Belair National Park, Wittunga Botanic Garden, Sturt Gorge Recreation Park and Brownhill Creek Recreation Park.

Our overall emissions reduction policies are nation leading, with a minimum 50% reduction by 2030 and Net Zero by 2050. We are tipped to hit an average 85% renewable energy generation by 2025.

A vote for Labor or an independent places this strong, stable and effective government at risk.

With a long track record of working with our community, supporting small businesses, managing finances and developing good policy, I will work collaboratively and listen to our community before fighting for you, your family and our area in the state parliament. I humbly seek your support to put me to work for our community and all South Australians.

BRENDAN WHITE - GREENS

I am a long-term Hills' resident and, like you, am currently witnessing massive changes to our precious leafy suburbs. Blocks are being clearfelled and properties demolished to make way for higher density housing. This threatens the beauty and amenity of our suburbs and results in more traffic on roads ill-equipped to handle it.

The Greens want our community to have more say over the type of developments allowed, instead of being sidelined. There also needs to be much stronger protection for trees, especially on private property. The Hills still has good canopy cover but for how long? This is a real worry, not just for us humans - with summers becoming longer and hotter - but for our wildlife. No tree often means no home.

My party supports better public transport such as express trains from the Hills to the CBD, more frequent services and investigation of park'n'ride options. Spending exorbitant sums to straighten and widen our roads is not the solution and often pushes choke points just a little further down the Hill, at the expense of our natural beauty.

I think it's clear to many of us, that politics needs to be done differently and that's why I'm standing for The Greens. We don't take donations from developers and corporations so we can be your independent voice. We believe in public services remaining in public hands and have always spoken out for quality public education, health and housing.

Clean air, clean water, clean politics. Vote Green.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA ELECTION
VOTING DAY
SATURDAY 19 MARCH 2022**



◆ Sam Duluk Independent



◆ Heather Holmes-Ross Independent



◆ Catherine Hutchesson Labour



◆ Alex Hyde Liberal



◆ Brendan White Greens

"Meet the Waite Candidates"
Free Public Forum

All Waite candidates have been invited to attend, speak and answer questions from the floor.

Moderator: Associate Professor Benito Cao, University of Adelaide

Tuesday 1st March 2022
Registration: 6.30pm
Start: 7.00pm

Venue: Blackwood Uniting Church
("the church on the roundabout")
266 Main Road, Blackwood

Organised by Blackwood Business Network (BBN) and Blackwood Uniting Church

For further information: phone 8278 7699; email minister@blackwooduc.org.au

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Meet Alex Your Local Liberal in Waite



Alex is passionate about our community and delivering solutions to the problems we face. Having worked on local issues for our community for many years, and on many local projects, he wants to use his skills to be a strong voice for our area in State Parliament.

He has experience working on projects and policies that improve communities and our quality of life, particularly through federal and local government.

Locally, Alex has worked to see more investment in road and rail infrastructure as well as preserving our environment and improving open spaces.

He has advised the State Government on policy through senior board roles, particularly on the Park Lands and international education, an important export market for South Australia.

Alex has a strong track record in financial management and reducing debt and deficit in government, and he has worked with businesses as a Board Director of our iconic Adelaide Central Market.

He was integral in the establishment of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency, which focuses on supporting and growing small businesses.

Born and raised in the Adelaide Hills, Alex grew up working in small family businesses and lives locally in Waite.

He is eager to deliver for our community, while ensuring all South Australians have more job opportunities, a lower cost of living and access to world class health services close to home.

Alexander Hyde

LIBERAL FOR **WAITE**

📮 PO Box 305, Blackwood SA 5051 📞 0480 080 329

✉ alexander.hyde@sa.liberal.org.au 📘 AlexanderHydeWaite

Authorised by S Meldrum, Liberal Party of Australia (SA Division), 104 Greenhill Road, Unley SA 5062.

Future vision for Blackwood

by James Swanborough

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 the community's help, we can make it happen.

"Over the course of human history, the impossible becomes the possible through human ingenuity and perseverance," says James.

"People spend money and time investing in fantasy worlds all the time, consuming media through subscription streaming services, why not consider the same investment in our real lives?"

In 2015, a damning review presented to City of Mitcham Strategic Planning and Development Policy Committee noted there has been little to no change in the Blackwood business district for over 35 years.

It also stated, there needs to be a long term plan for the rejuvenation of Blackwood which requires vision, the commitment and leadership of at least four future Mitcham Councils and the active support of local residents and traders; warning that the Blackwood Centre will atrophy (waste away) without it.

James believes he has that vision.

After growing up in Coromandel Valley, he left for Cairns in 1996 to broaden his horizons and develop a successful architecture firm. When he finally returned and visited Blackwood 3 years ago, he was shocked to see how little had changed.



"I got back and thought wow, it's still here, nothing has changed in all these years. I think there's been a change in funding technology with the web, with people using crowd funding.

"Blackwood is still sitting here and I know there has been a bit of movement in recent years, but I want to do something very different," said James.

He wants residents and business owners to drop their assumptions of what is possible, and consider a narrative of what has happened to make Blackwood what it is, in order to envision change.

"I want to tell a story about what Blackwood could be, and maybe what it is or has been in an alternate universe. I think it's important if we want to make this a livable place for future generations, to throw out our notions of what it is right now, and focus on the fundamental archetypal vision that lies under the surface of the everyday," explains James.

With an understanding that there are many pragmatic roadblocks to enacting such a vision, James insists that collective imagination is the start point for anything great to take place.

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

☐ This is Part 1 of the vision James has for Blackwood ... read Part 2 in next month's (April) edition of *The Blackwood Times*.

Healthy life is recipe to reach 100

LONG time Blackwood resident of 72 years, 'Bobbie' Forster celebrated her 100th birthday last month at a gathering of family and friends in the Wittunga Botanic Garden.

"I put my longevity down to luck and a healthy life style - having never smoked, always eaten healthy food, and kept active through playing sport, and working in my beautiful garden," said Bobbie.

Eva 'Bobbie' Forster (Lowe) was born in Mannum on February 15, 1922.

She joined the WAAAF (Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force) in 1942, and rose to the rank of Sergeant while marrying a dashing flying officer called Paul.

Bobbie and Paul settled in Belair in 1950 with their two young sons, and then two daughters soon followed. Their property was a favourite with the local children who came to visit the many animals they kept, especially the pet donkey.

Both Bobbie and Paul were very active in the local community.

In 2011, Bobbie received a Rotary Club of Blackwood Community Service Award in recognition of her extraordinary contributions to the community.

Over the years, she helped fundraise for the

Belair Community Hall, Blackwood Hospital, Junior Red Cross, and Belair Primary School for the swimming pool and pedestrian crossing on Main Road.

Her car was the first to drive up to the Hills from the Mitcham depot of Meals on Wheels and she continued delivering meals to the local community for 8 years. Bobbie also worked as a volunteer at Kalyra Coffee Shop for 38 years, retiring at the age of 98!

When not volunteering, she was a sales assistant at Fairley's Shoe Shop in the 1970s and worked for 10 years as a medical courier.

Bobbie loved travelling overseas, however, in later years, enjoyed simply spending time with her friends at the Blackwood RSL, Probud and the Ladies Legacy Group.

Bobbie has also appeared in *The Blackwood Times* on previous occasions including the story about the huge avocado tree she has in her backyard that grew from an avocado stone (seed) she had thrown out into the garden many years ago; and some interesting stories she provided on her experience during the war.

Congratulations Bobbie on your extraordinary life, and may you continue to enjoy good health and time with family and friends for many more years to come. ☐



Sam DULUK MP
Independent
Member for Waite

Your local community voice

SCAN ME 

✉ waite@parliament.sa.gov.au ☎ (08) 8278 5844 📱 Sam Duluk

Authorised by Sam Duluk MP, 1 / 7-9 Young Street, BLACKWOOD SA 5051

Vote
1

Dr Heather Holmes-Ross

Independent for Waite

As the proud owner of Blackwood's much loved, award winning Artisan Cafe, you put your trust in me to deliver delicious, fresh, high quality, sustainable and ethical food and beverages, for over ten years.

As a scientist at Flinders Uni I was respected by my colleagues for my love of teaching and for publishing all of the results of my research in highly regarded, peer reviewed journals.

As the Mayor of Mitcham, I have strived to act with integrity, uniting a previously divided chamber, modelling evidence based decision making and delivering equitable solutions across our community.

A vote for me is a vote for trust, respect and integrity in state parliament.

email: heather@holmesross.net
online: heatherholmesross.net
visit: 2/237 Main Rd, Blackwood
socials: @HeatherForWaite
call: 0404 189 280



DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Authorised by H Holmes-Ross 2/237 Main Rd, Blackwood 5051



Catherine Hutchesson is a true local fighting for the right priorities in Waite.

A Malinauskas Labor Government will invest in Health not a \$662 million city basketball stadium.



We will commit \$40,000 towards a masterplan for the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre.

Labor's plan for the future of South Australia addresses health, jobs, education and environment, and isn't just focused on the next four years, but the next generation.

You can find out more about SA Labor's policies — on health, jobs, education and the environment — at forthefuture.com.au.



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John Spick, (above) with his business partner Des Coles, first opened their pharmacy in 1972, in premises located next to the Blackwood Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade.

Their pharmacy business forged ahead and in the early 1980's the opportunity to purchase a pharmacy in the Woolworths Shopping Centre came up - where the current business now operates from.

The business is still very much involved in the Blackwood community supporting local sports clubs, schools and community organisations.

So pop in on Wednesday, March 23 and congratulate John and his staff on reaching 50 years of serving the residents of Blackwood and the surrounding districts.

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& his staff**

on achieving
50 years of service
to the
Blackwood community

**Congratulations to
John Spick Pharmacy
on reaching 50 years
in business**

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congratulates

John Spick
&
his pharmacy team
on

50 years service
to the community

A big thank you ... but more help needed

"THANK you once again to the outstanding generosity of the Mitcham Hills community, which allowed many disadvantaged women, children and men to experience the joy and blessing of Christmas," said Jenny Horne, (retiring) co-ordinator at the Beacon Emergency Relief program.

"In addition, wonderful support was received through the enchanting Christmas Tree Festival staged by the Blackwood Action Group.

"As a result of being selected as a beneficiary of the Festival along with 'Treasure Boxes', Beacon received hundreds of gifts kindly placed under the Christmas Tree, which meant that dozens of children woke up to a lovely surprise on Christmas morning.

"The enormous amount of donations, consisting of food, gifts and toys received by Beacon made it possible for 40 Christmas Hampers to be packed and distributed by Beacon volunteers and others who came to assist us," explained Jenny.

A very special "Thank you" goes to the wonderful Beacon volunteers and others who were recruited to assist us for all their hard work, sorting and packing, wrapping gifts at the Christmas Tree

Festival and providing transport for clients to take the very heavy Christmas Hampers home.

And Beacon currently needs more volunteers and a new co-ordinator!!

Jenny was Coordinator for 5 years and then retired ... only to return temporarily when her successor had to withdraw for health reasons.

However, Jenny needs to resign again saying: "I really appreciate the dedication and hard work of my fellow volunteers. It makes coming into Beacon on Wednesday morning a pleasure."

The coordinator's job is to make sure the service runs smoothly; clients receive the services they need either from Beacon or another agency. The coordinator is there to support the volunteers and to provide guidance when required. Also responsible for liaising with other agencies and arranging publicity.

"Volunteering is about being there for others, helping to find a way out of a crisis, or just offering a place where people can talk," said Jenny.

Training is offered to cover the wide range of client social issues Beacon gets presented with.

Eden Hills resident, Gloria McArthur is one of Beacon's "founder volunteers" starting there in 2009.

She was aware of the need in Mitcham Hills for a place where people could go for help when in need.

"I enjoy meeting and talking with clients as well as working with a friendly and dedicated group of volunteers."

Planning underway for 2023 Christmas Tree Festival

Blackwood Action Group thanks the community for supporting the Christmas Tree Festival.

Organisers are thrilled to announce that over 1,400 people attended the event, with over 1,300 involved in helping in some way; and through the generous support of the community, were able to donate \$5,000 to Beacon and \$3,000 to Treasure Boxes.

Planning is already underway for the 2023 Festival.

If you are interested in being involved in Saturday afternoon craft sessions occasionally, to create things for sale on Santa's store, please send a message to Pauline at: paulinedodd@bigpond.com



◆ Beacon volunteers were busy making up Christmas hampers for some of their disadvantaged clients last December.

☐ If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering, phone Jenny on 0410 002 909 or e: beaconmhicc@gmail.com

Food garden workshops can improve your health

THE importance of food gardening has become more vital and recognised in today's confronting world of change and challenge to our health and well-being.

Many more people have discovered for themselves the wonderful benefits and joy of growing a garden at home or have experienced the enrichment and fun of community connectedness that a community garden offers.

The Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden, located in the grounds of former Blackwood Hospital on Laffers Road Belair, offers a programme of practical, informative food garden workshops that are planned for the Autumn and Winter months ahead.

The Autumn 'Seeds for Health' series of four practical organic gardening workshops will be held in March to May 2022

Each of these workshops offer practical DIY organic food gardening information and will have focus on one of Elements of Nature.



On Wednesday March 9, the theme will be Earth (soils, compost, seeds to sow, organic food gardening).

On Wednesday March 16, the theme will be Water (water systems, wicking beds, water gardens & water plants & how to create exciting water features in your garden).

The workshops start at 10am and finish around 12.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend, not only learning more about food gardening but enjoying the beautiful surroundings in the former hospital grounds.

☐ For more details and bookings, contact the Cancer Care Centre on 8272 2411 or Diana Bickford, on 0407 339 660.

Blackwood Directory delivered to your home

LATER this month you will be receiving your copy of the 2022 edition of the Blackwood Business & Trade Directory.

This 80 page book will be delivered into your letterbox and contains the contact details for most local businesses, clubs and organisations.

There are over 10,000 copies printed and distributed in the Blackwood district and if you don't receive one at home, then there will be copies available for pick up from stands located in the shopping centres.

Many local residents find it a lot easier and faster to simply look in the printed Directory instead of going online.

There is also an online version at www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au where you can also quickly find the contact details for local businesses and tradespeople on your mobile, tablet, laptop or computer - anytime - anywhere.

So if you are looking for a local business or tradesperson who is keen to attract your business, then check out the printed or online versions of the 2022 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory. ☐



Explore spirituality in broader ways with 'Journeying' series

The "Journeying ..." series returns this year at Blackwood Uniting Church ... the church on the roundabout.

"This series has been happening for many years now," says Michael Dowling, minister at the church, "and has been very well received."

The events provide an opportunity for people to explore spirituality in much broader ways than typically occurs in church.

"Over the years, we've had events focussed on the spirituality of environmental sustainability, indigenous culture, art, music, science and wonder; the list goes on and on!"

This very broad exploration of spirituality will continue this year, with a wide range of diverse themes being selected for "Journeying... 2022".

"We hold the events on a Sunday night, with the evening kicking off with wine and cheese at 5pm (COVID permitting), followed by the event in whatever format has been selected: presentation, panel discussion, interview, etc." added Michael.

The first event for 2022, being held at 5pm on Sunday March 20, will be Cancer Oncologist Professor Ian Oliver speaking on the theme "Undying Hope."

Some questions that Ian will be exploring include: What do we mean by hope? What are sources of hope for people? What role does hope play during health and illness? How do we maintain hope when life gets tough? People talk about false hope, but what does that mean? Why did people who are dying talk so much about hope?

"If you've never been along to one, I would encourage you to attend any of the 5 fascinating Journeying events planned at Blackwood Uniting Church this year."

March 20 - "Undying Hope"

May 15 - "Simplify your Life"

July 17 - "Noticing the small things"

September 18 - "The Contemplative Path"

November 20 - "Abrahamic Faiths: Judaism, Christianity, Islam"

☐ For more information, phone the Blackwood Uniting Church on 8278 7699 or email: minister@blackwooduc.org.au



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WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

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

◆ **1 March**
MEET THE WAITE CANDIDATES - public forum held at Blackwood Uniting Church, near the roundabout from 6.30pm. For details phone 8278 7699. Tickets from www.eventbrite.com.au

◆ **1 March**
BLACKWOOD MEMORIAL HALL AGM 2022 - held at 7.30pm in the Studio Room at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde. All welcome. Enquiries to Janita on 8278 4898.

◆ **2 March**
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.

◆ **3 March**
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.

◆ **4 March**
WORLD OF PRAYER DAY - this year at 10am, St Peters Lutheran Church, corner of Cumming Street and Trevor Terrace Blackwood. All welcome to the service. Covid restrictions will apply. Enquiries to Chris on 0459 560 805.

◆ **6 March**
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY - help tackle the country's waste problems. Want to join a group for the clean up, contact the Blackwood Action Group by phoning 0408 117 003 or visit www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

◆ **6 March**
BOTTLE COLLECTION - from 9am by Belair Scout Group. Collect ALL GLASS bottles and jars, ALL REFUNDABLE cans, bottles and cartons from your driveway. Phone Nicola on 0412 708 940.

◆ **6 March**
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.

◆ **6 & 20 March**
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.

◆ **7 & 21 March**
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.

◆ **7 & 21 March**
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.

◆ **9 March**
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

◆ **9 March**
CHERINGTON THERAPEUTIC GARDEN WORKSHOP - theme is 'Earth' - soils, seeds to sow, growing organic food.

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

◆ **10 March**
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.

◆ **10 & 24 March**
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

◆ **10 March**
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.

◆ **12 March**
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 0413 022 162.

◆ **12 March**
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.

◆ **13 & 27 March**
JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE COMMUNITY - meets 2-5pm 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

◆ **19 March**
COROMANDEL ROTARY GIANT PLANT SALE - note change of venue - now held at Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) from 8:30am. Huge range of plants at bargain price on sale in the car park. Contact Rob on 0437 871 147 for details.

◆ **20 March**
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.

◆ **20 March**
BLACKWOOD UNITING CHURCH 'JOURNEYING' EVENT - held at 5pm with theme being 'Undying Hope'. All welcome with wine & cheese served to start the evening. Speaker is Prof Ian Olver, cancer oncologist. Phone Church on 8278 7699 for details.

◆ **23 March**
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.

◆ **24 March**
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.

◆ **28 March**
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

◆ **28 March**
MITCHAM HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Club Marion, 262 Sturt Road, Marion from 10.30am. Come and enjoy our happy and friendly retirees for fun, fellowship and friendship. Phone Christine on 0400 809 704 or visit www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills

Coromandel Rotary Giant Plant Sale Relocated

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March 19**

Due to the Waite Reserve redevelopment, the plant sale will be held in the car park at the Blackwood Uniting Church, near the roundabout from 8.30am

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Answer is to reduce waste in first place

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL
 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BLACKWOOD



CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY is coming again on Sunday March 6.

I have participated in this over the years, helping clean up litter in the Blackwood district along with a band of dedicated volunteers.

Clean-up Australia started in 1990 after Ian Kiernan was shocked by the amount of rubbish he saw in the ocean. Similarly KESAB started with a mission to reduce the litter in our cities and countryside.

We shouldn't be surprised that these initiatives were strongly supported by the packaging industry. They successfully shifted the responsibility away from themselves for producing so much waste, and onto us the consumers to clean up the mess.

In fact, the term 'litter' was coined in the USA as a marketing ploy by big businesses to put the blame onto the public.

This culture of shifting the blame has generally been supported by governments who have been reluctant to require producers to take responsibility for the rubbish they create.

And as good community-minded citizens we have diligently spent our time volunteering to clean up their rubbish for free.

Clean-up Australia and KESAB have fortunately widened their focus, running programs in schools and with local government to improve recycling; and with industry to

reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging in the first place.

There are now many businesses that recycle waste materials into new products, reducing the demand for raw materials and reducing the amount that goes to landfill.

Better recycling however is not the answer. The real issue is to reduce the amount of stuff created in the first place that then has to be disposed of.

Rather than the annual 'Clean-up Australia Day' - perhaps we can all develop a 'cleaner living' lifestyle, being more selective in what we purchase to reduce the amount of stuff in the first place.

Governments are starting to put some more responsibility on manufacturers to change their wasteful habits including the banning of some single use plastics. Much more needs to be done, especially to require manufacturers to take responsibility for what they produce, including the disposal of packaging.

In the meantime some of the things I try to do include:

- Choosing items with the least packaging
- Selecting things that will last
- Buying less plastic, and looking for alternatives

Or we could follow the lead of some people who unwrap products in the store and leave the packaging!

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



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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 have a chance to win a prize.

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 February 2022 edition follows ...

The Belair Train Line opened in 1883, at which time the trains were steam powered and needed to be topped up with water at designated stations such as at Blackwood.

Water was piped from the Railway Dam in Belair National Park (located about half way along The Valley Road within the park) to a cast iron overhead tank at Blackwood. (The tank can still be seen alongside two Red Hen railcars located on private property adjacent to the Blackwood Station). This tank then supplied water to the water column beside the track.

The fireman would climb up onto the tender behind the locomotive, which carried the water and coal, open the water hatch, pull the water column around to put the hose into the hatch, then open a valve to release the water.



A coal-fired firebox then heated the water in the boiler to produce steam to power the engine.

Originally Blackwood had a small-

er, English design water column. When the South Australian Railways was upgraded in the 1920s, a fleet of 'big power' American style engines were introduced and a larger, 8" automatic water column replaced the English style one.

The water column design is closely based on the standard water column used in the United States during the steam era. The tenders of these big American designed engines held about 7000 gallons (30,000 litres) of water.

The Blackwood column was only used for 'topping up' so refilling the tender would have only taken about ten minutes.

The Blackwood Station water column was phased out by the mid 1960s with the development of diesel-powered trains. We are fortunate that this historic water column both survives at Blackwood and was restored by Railcare in 2021.

Enjoy a walk around the Heritage Listed Blackwood Station which includes a large storyboard telling the story of the railway.



Do you know what this is and where it is located?

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



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Authorised by S.Meldrum, Liberal Party of Australia (SA Division), 104 Greenhill Rd, Unley SA 5061

THE MORRISON GOVERNMENT

DELIVERING LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS IN BOOTHBY

Many wonderful groups and volunteers work hard to preserve, protect and enhance our natural environment in Boothby.

These are just some of our local community projects in the Blackwood area made possible with the support of the Morrison Liberal Government:

- \$750,000 to upgrade the lake trail, remove weeds & construct a nature playground at the Wittunga Botanic Garden.
- \$200,000 for the Brownhill Creek Green Army Project which upgraded the Wirraparinga Trail Loop, removed 7ha of woody weeds, & assisted in the rehabilitation of the Grey Box Grassy Woodland.
- \$20,000 for the Friends of Belair National Park for the removal of non-native trees & restoration of natural bushland.
- \$5,591 to Trees for Life for regenerating & conserving the threatened Grey Box.
- \$3,100 for the Friends of Waite Conservation Reserve to support restoration works.



Office of the Federal Member for Boothby

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✉ Nicolle.Flinton@aph.gov.au 🌐 nicolleflint.com.au 📘 [NicolleFlintLiberal](https://www.facebook.com/NicolleFlintLiberal)

