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Decision made on Hub name

Make sure you enter our **\$300 Shopping Spree** competition ... see page 6

see story pg 3



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The new home of the Sturt Lions soccer club at Karinya Reserve is proving to be a great asset for all the community. See story pg 5.

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Intersection upgrade siteworks commence

by James Swanborough

WHILE driving around Blackwood and Belair in coming weeks, you may be inconvenienced by road works due to site investigations taking place at major intersections, in the hope of improving traffic congestion and road safety.

Site investigations, including geotechnical and service investigations, have commenced on and around the Russell Street, Main Road and Sheoak Road junctions and Shepherds Hill Road, Brighton Parade and Waite Street intersection.

The State Government has committed \$20 million towards upgrading these intersections, and the works will build on investigation activities already undertaken, to help the project team better understand the existing site conditions.

“The Russell Street, Main Road and Sheoak Road Junctions included a roundabout at the James Road and Old Belair Road T-junction,” said Catherine Hutchesson, MP for Waite.

“This was a controversial proposal due to residents’ concerns that it would make the junction more dangerous, have implications further up the corridor, and because of the number of trees removed in the area, which totalled around 150.

“Prior to the election in December 2021 we called for the project to be put on hold. When elected, we delivered on our commitment and referred it to Infrastructure SA for review.

“We expect the results of that review to be available for release in coming weeks,” added Catherine.

Several proposed options for upgrading these intersections are detailed at the DIT website, however final plans have not been disclosed prior to the current investigative work.

Greg O’Grady of ‘Friends of Old Belair Road’ (FOOBR) local community group has maintained scepticism around the lack of detail surrounding the project.

“As a local community group, the FOOBR have found it difficult to get any traction in our engagements with DIT regarding the proposed works around the Belair Triangle,” said Greg.

“The concept design drawing for the Belair Triangle was made public in February 2021 and now two years later and after all of the community feedback, there has been no change to the “Artist’s Impression” drawing.

“We do not know whether that means, that there have been zero changes to the original concept design, or if it will be a case of just having to wait and see what ends up being constructed.

“We have no idea where the design process is at, and most certainly haven’t seen any finalised design documentation. The only recent correspondence has been the February 2023 advice, of yet another round of geotechnical investigations in the area, more buried services location works, and more “initial” service relocation works,” explained Greg.

“Though DIT’s planning documents state “Community feedback is important to the success of this project. The Department recently sought feedback on the proposed upgrade.

After consideration of all feedback, a decision will be made as to which upgrade option is preferred.” However, Greg debates how much of this feedback has been incorporated into the formal planning process.

“In the formal meetings that the FOOBR team has had with both DIT and ISA, we have reinforced our willingness to get further involved and aid the design process,” said Greg.

“The FOOBR would like to sit down with the DIT project team - as has been promised multiple times would happen - and talk through the detail of the project, because we do have what we believe to be legitimate concerns.

“There’s great opportunity here, with the availability of significant State and Federal funding in this area (which doesn’t come around very often) and we want to work proactively to help ensure that we see high quality outcomes and value for money,” added Greg.

“We really don’t want to be left with the same type of “Blackwood Roundabout” problem, where the DIT delivery of an expensive project only provides a changed arrangement rather than a truly better result. We would love to say that we are happy with the proposed treatments, but the reality is that the detail is so scarce (and often non-existent) that it is near impossible to provide well considered feedback.”

These works will build on the investigation activities already undertaken to better understand the existing site conditions, and are expected to continue until mid-March. □

Seen any other AED devices located around Blackwood?



This AED device is located on the outside wall of National Pharmacies Blackwood, near the pedestrian crossing on Main Road. Also AED’s can be found in Blackwood Library and Drake Supermarket. Let us know of any others around.

Upgrade to NBN network coming to your suburb soon



BY LOUISE MILLER-FROST
FEDERAL MP FOR
BOOTHBY

HAVING a reliable, affordable, and high-speed connection to the internet is pretty much essential in this day and age.

While I and many of us in this place grew up in the pre-computer age, nowadays, those without access to the internet, and those with poor access to the internet are significantly disadvantaged. I can’t imagine having to conduct research without the internet these days.

I’m sure that at some stage, you have been in a situation where your internet connection has cut out at just the wrong time.

Five minutes away from finishing the last episode of your TV show or movie. Two minutes away from submitting that crucial report. One click away from sending an email to your boss. Or trying to access government services like MyGov, MyAgedCare, the NDIS or telehealth.

And then the internet connection fails. You frantically click the Wi-Fi button, reload the page, and restart your device, but nothing will work – the internet has dropped out and there’s nothing that you can do about it. And you have to start again.

Situations like these are why I am so thrilled with the announcement that the NBN will be upgraded to fibre to the premises in the Boothby suburbs of Blackwood, Belair, Bellevue Heights, as well as the suburbs of

Coromandel Valley and Hawthorndene in the electorate of Mayo.

They join Hawthorn, Marion, Morphettville, Pasadena, Plympton Park, South Plympton and St Marys which have all been recently upgraded.

In total, 4,336 more properties in this area will be upgraded. We are upgrading the copper broadband network to a full-fibre broadband connection, meaning our internet will be designed for the future. Faster and more reliable.

As other technologies continue to advance, it is vital that our connection to the internet progresses keeps up, and this new broadband network will be able to meet the high levels of demand that are necessary for both individuals and businesses in 2023.

The internet is so vital to our lives – it is how we stay educated and updated about current events, entertain ourselves and for an increasing number of us, it is essential to how we work. That’s why we’re upgrading the NBN to ensure all Australians have access to reliable, high-speed, affordable internet. □

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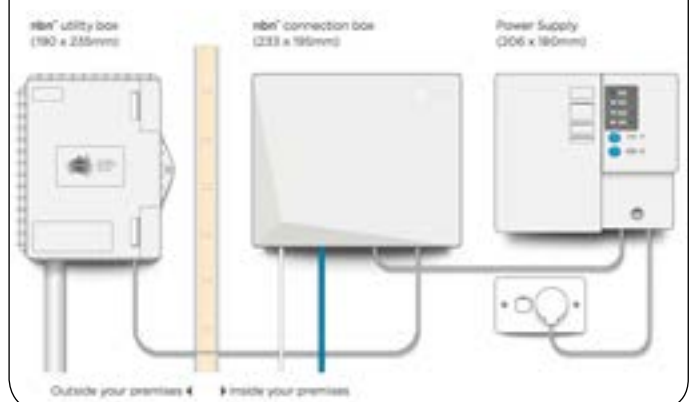


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Federal Member for Boothby

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AUTHORISED BY LOUISE MILLER-FROST, ALP, SHOP 2, 670 ANZAC HIGHWAY, GLENELG 5045

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New facility is 'heart' of Blackwood

by James Swanborough

IT'S official, the Blackwood Community Hub & Library building has been named 'Tiwu Kumangka' ... a Kurna language title which nods to past and future connections at the site in Young Street.

At the Full Mitcham Council Meeting of February 14, it was decided ... *'That Council notes the extensive engagement undertaken with respect to the naming of the Blackwood Community Hub to date, including online community consultation in March and April 2022 and multiple engagements with Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (KYAC). That Council endorses the recommendation of KYAC to name the Blackwood Community Hub 'Tiwu Kumangka'.*

'Tiwu' is the Kurna name for the yellow-tailed black cockatoo, and the notion of them returning to the Blackwood district is represented by the word 'Kumangka' (coming together).

"We are really happy with the name," said Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross. "When we went to consultation, around 70% of people wanted the inclusion of a Kurna name and we are really proud that we have been able to find an appropriate Kurna name for this significant building."

After initial usage of the name 'Kumangka', which was suggested during the consultation process, it was found to be used by other facilities, so Mitcham Council sought advice from the Kurna Yerta Advisory Committee on incorporating an indigenous name.

"The KYAC board noted that the name Kumangka had been used quite a lot, so there was a want from them, as well as from

the community to identify the place; so we met and the name was suggested from yarning with them," explained Heather.

KYAC Board Members invited Council representatives to outline their vision for the development and what it might mean / represent for the community.

Heather explained, "within the building there will be descriptors of what the name means and why it has been chosen. The yellow-tailed black cockatoo was quite prolific in the area, and there has been a resurgence in numbers, so it is indicative of the area, but also the notion of coming together and rebuilding community through this site. There will be discussion of that somewhere around the entrance.

"We also have a motion to include Ivor Symonds somewhere in the library, who was a former Mayor, but instrumental in the development of public libraries in South Australia," said Heather.

KYAC Board members emphasized their profound spiritual connection with Country and that, often, they look to bestow Kurna names that reflect a feature of the local environment.

Whilst 'Kumangka' was previously rejected as a Kurna name for the facility by KYAC, the use in conjunction with Tiwu provides a new dual context. It speaks to both regeneration and rebirth and represents the connection and coming together of a community.

The Blackwood Community Hub aims to provide a community facility that creates a precinct offering recreational, social, educational, and lifelong learning opportunities, as well as the



◆ Photo - The Blackwood Community Hub & Library is starting to take shape as installation of steel framework commenced during January

activation of the economic spirit of Blackwood, with Mitcham Council hoping it acts as a major contribution to which will be further enhanced by the proposed Waite Street Reserve upgrade.

"The build is coming along beautifully and it should be opened towards the end of August. Elected Members and staff are so pleased with the progress and excited to be moving in. It's going to be such a great addition to Blackwood and the hills," added Heather. □

Social justice advocate receives Mitcham Citizen of Year award

BLACKWOOD resident, Peter Cranwell, is a social justice and sustainability advocate who has been recognised as City of Mitcham's Citizen of the Year.

Peter was presented with the award at City of Mitcham's Australia Day awards ceremony at St Marys in January.

Peter and his wife Nancy have made an extraordinary commitment to their local and wider community since returning to Blackwood from Leigh Creek, in South Australia's outback, in the 1990s.

As the Project Manager of the Climate Action Resources Expo held at Blackwood in

November, Peter brought together a host of speakers, along with workshops and displays, to raise awareness and share ideas on sustainable living.

Peter and Nancy have been long-time supporters of migrant families and international students, remote First Nations communities and residents of Minda House supported accommodation in Craighburn Farm.

Meanwhile, as part of the Australia Day celebrations, City of Mitcham welcomed 71 new citizens from 23 countries.

New citizens were presented a range of gifts including a jar of Indigenous jam, a unity pin, representing a bright future for all Australians, a ticket to the Royal Adelaide Show and a native Australian seedling symbolising the planting of roots in Australia.

Council also acknowledged grant recipients and celebrated some of the projects carried out by the community across the city.

In 2022, City of Mitcham's Grants Program provided \$120,000 to members of our community across a range of categories including Community Facilities Grants, the Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant, Public Art Grants, Quick Response Grants, Recurrent Grants, Civic Participation and Leadership Awards and My Mitcham Community Grants. □

◆ Photo - Mitcham Citizen of the Year, Peter Cranwell with Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross



Twice recognised for serving community, country and State

BY ASHLEIGH BUCK, GRAND-DAUGHTER

EDEN HILLS resident, Barry Presgrave, (pictured below) was a recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1988, and more recently awarded the Member of the Order of Australia for his unwavering commitment and contribution to veterans and to emergency service organisations.

Barry served in during the Vietnam War as an instructor of native soldiers. He also served for 32 years as a National Serviceman, CMF and Army Reserve Officer.

Not only was Barry an active member of the Blackwood RSL, but he also showed support for the families of veterans through his business 'Medals, Momentos and More'.

Having created this medalling and framing business from nothing, for over 15 years Barry helped many locals find, restore, replicate and

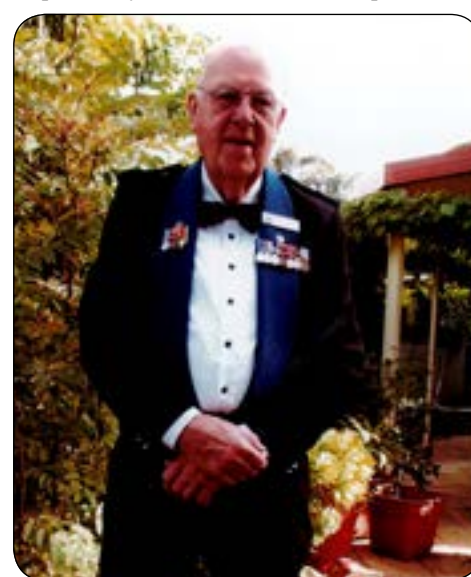
display their medals and their relatives medals. Barry sold his business, however the connections created will last a lifetime.

He was a police officer within the South Australian Police Force from the age of 21, serving for 35 years and gaining the rank of Detective Chief Inspector.

As a life fellow of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services, and 25 years in the role of the President & Board Chairman, Barry showed constant support for the state and local emergency services.

After retiring from the Police force, he served as a Justice of the Peace within Blackwood, assisting locals with witnessing legal documents at the local Blackwood library, as well as his home in Eden Hills.

"Sadly Barry passed away on 26 February after battling with illness for the last few months. A loving father, caring friend, supportive brother, adoring grandfather and great grandfather. He will be missed by many but never forgotten." □



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1950s 'snapshot' of life in the Mitcham Hills



This year, the Blackwood Action Group History team is using the monthly headlines from the 1955 editions of the 'Coromandel Newspaper' to provide readers with a 'snapshot' of life during the 1950s ...



'Fairs, Floods, 5-Ways and Flights' - March 1955

FLORAL Fairs and parades had been regular events in the district since at least the early 1900s.

The 1955 fair (held at the Blackwood Sports Ground - today's Hewett Oval) was eagerly anticipated with advertising and preparations underway in March. The festivities included decorated shops, a procession as well as all manner of stalls.

"... The gaily decorated shops are always a sight worth seeing ... it is anticipated that with so many new shops in the district, Blackwood should be a blaze of colour and beauty ..." (Coromandel Times, Oct. 1955).

The procession from the Post Office to the sports ground featured floats, horse riding clubs, hay carts, clowns, bands and children riding decorated bikes.

The fair stalls included trade exhibits, flowers, toyland, sweets, produce, icecream, afternoon tea and cake stalls. There were sideshows, a Kindergarten Corner, ring events and competitions, poster competitions along with golf, archery and pony rides. "... The Heather Girls Pipe Band gave a demonstration of precision marching to their own piping which created great interest... The Archery Club gave one of their spectacular exhibitions, even in this atomic age archery exerts a powerful fascination on the onlooker". (Coromandel 7 October 1955)

A highly anticipated announcement was that of the Queen of the Floral Fair and Ideal Floral Fair Girl based on the amounts fundraised. "... candidates ... were judged on appearance, per-

sonality, and deportment, Queen ... was Valerie Bean ... She wore a redingote of embossed cotton, in brilliant shaded checks, opening over a yellow underskirt. Her neat little cap of velvet leaves echoed this colour, while necklace and earrings in cream pearls were an effective touch. Her shoes and gloves were black The entrants impressed us all by their charm and poise - each girl made a neat little speech" (Coromandel 14 October 1955).

The fair raised around £2,000 which was donated towards building the Blackwood Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade.

A wonderful achievement by the community.

Other leading topics of March 1955 were

- Fundraising for NSW flood victims lead by the Apex Club of Blackwood.
- Traffic at the 5-Ways Intersection (now Blackwood roundabout). "Standing at the Post Office corner ... it was possible to see 100 cars stationary or moving. It is reliably stated that our car population will double in 20 years, and as Blackwood's population will also double in that period, there should be 400 cars at Blackwood P.O. in 1975—whew! 1955 was prior to any roundabout at the intersection but within 3 years the first 5-ways roundabout was to be installed.
- The British Ministry of Supply envisaging aircraft flying at



◆ Photo - Val Bean crowned Pageant Queen 1955. Image c/o Mitcham Local History Service.

15,000 miles an hour "... it was little more than a century ago that ... the journey (by ship) between Britain and Australia was a matter of five months or more. At 15,000 m.p.h. the journey between Britain and Australia would occupy less than one hour ..."

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

Letters to the Editor

Note: A 'Letter to the Editor' was received through the post last month, but did not contain a name or address so we were unable to publish it.

Bike riders on trains

Those of us who live along the Belair Line regard the train service as an important part of our community life.

Unfortunately, in full view of not only us, but the various state government agencies and the rail operator, it is being destroyed.

The behaviour of some young bike riders (not all) catching the train from Mitcham to Belair has become nasty, offensive, disruptive and unlawful. I am aware that their behaviour on some of the roads down from the Belair station has been reported as abuse and dangerous to motorists.

I have discussed this with our local member, Catherine Hutchesson, and she and her office are aware of this situation.

I urge her to exert her influence to quickly

and immediately cut through all the administrative nonsense and fix the problem.

My suggestion to her was a programmed police presence on the right trains and at the right times. Ensure the riders all have a ticket, if not, eject them. If they play up, eject them. If they use obscene and offensive language, take their details and charge them.

Have it all shipshape before the next school holidays, and restore sanity to our train service.

Paul Mabarrack
Blackwood

Toilets a disgrace

I recently needed to use the public toilets at Hawthorndene Oval (not Apex Park). They are a disgrace! I would not expect to find similar public facilities in some Developing countries.

I am told that these toilets have been like it for many years so the lack of action by the Mitcham Council is just beyond belief.

I am given to understand that a Cricket Club,

which has been playing at the Oval for many years, has applied to build a Club House which would incorporate new Public Toilets but one or two local residents have objected to the development. I guess that they are not even aware of the appalling state of these facilities in their vicinity!

I urge the Council to approve the Cricket Club's application so the public who use the Oval can access toilets which are of appropriate standard and the Club has a facility where they can meet and change clothes, rather than out in the open.

Len Payne
Bellevue Heights

Fossil fuel intervention

The intervention into the fossil fuel industry by the Australian Federal Government has certainly caused a great show of loud dissatisfaction from some leaders within the industry.

It appears to me that the intervention by the Federal Government is both fair and necessary. It provides the Australian public with at least some limited measure of sensible protection against ever increasing energy prices being

charged by some fossil fuel Corporations that surely cannot always expect to have everything going for them for all of the time.

Brian Measday
Myrtle Bank

Oldest tree in Glenalta?

I would like to set a challenge to all the residents in Glenalta to find the largest and oldest single trunk Eucalyptus tree in our district.

I have one 9 feet from my house which is 365 years old. A rough estimate of age is made by making a mark on the tree, 54 inches up from the ground, then measuring round the trunk at that point. The result in centimetres is approximately the age of the tree.

Let me know at 26 Rosella Avenue or phone 8278 2927 if anyone has a larger tree.

Jim Thompson
Glenalta

□ Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers ... submit a Letter to the Editor including name, address and suburb ... only name & suburb published ... email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

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Who is BRG and why is 'Voice to Parliament' important?

BY ANNE BARKAWAY
BLACKWOOD RECONCILIATION GROUP

COLEBROOK Reconciliation Park is on Kurna Land and is cared for by Blackwood Reconciliation Group (BRG) which is the longest running Reconciliation Group in Australia.

BRG members learned a great deal from former Colebrook residents and their descendants, and together they created the Reconciliation Park in the late 1990s that now contains the most significant memorials in Australia to the Stolen Generation.

Mike and Jean (below) are founding members of BRG and Mike recalls playing games and spending time with children from Colebrook as a child, without having any understanding until he was an adult of the deep pain and trauma his friends were experiencing. That new understanding motivated a lifelong commitment to advocating for change.



The current priority for BRG is to support the community to understand the significance of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

This year is a new opportunity to learn, ask questions and prepare for the upcoming Referendum with a heartfelt response as Australians have been invited to do. The speakers at our free Community Forum on Friday March 17, are well qualified to give you that information.

At BRG meetings, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people meet, share, learn and act together on issues impacting Aboriginal people.



◆ Heather, Elijah & Chrissy

Mayor Heather attends as a person, rather than as Mayor, because the cause of Reconciliation is so dear to her heart.

Chrissy is a Stolen Generation survivor who shares her story and helps

non-Aboriginal people learn and feel the truth of the experiences of children who were stolen. Chrissy emphasises that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people need to work together to create the Reconciliation journey that Australia needs.

While Elijah is an Arabana man who lives on Kurna Country. He is a signatory of the Uluru Statement and a proud advocate of the value of his culture and of Voice, Treaty, Truth.

Ata (on right) is a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. He is a proud advocate of their motto "love for all, hatred for none" and is committed to bringing that philosophy to the Reconciliation movement.



There will be lots of opportunity at the Forum to ask questions and make sure you are fully informed when it is time to vote in the referendum. The best advice we can give you comes from Sally Scales, another South Australian signatory to the Uluru Statement who says "Read the Uluru Statement once, read it twice, then read it again". Both Sally and Elijah will be presenting and answering questions at the Forum on March 17. □

HISTORY IS CALLING

*What is the Uluru Statement from the Heart?
What is the 'Voice' and how will it work?
Why do we need a referendum?*

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Hosted by the Uluru Statement from the Heart Support Group and the Blackwood Reconciliation Group.
Supported by The City of Mitcham and Concordia College.

Santa's elves need your help to prepare for this year's Christmas Tree Festival

CHRISTMAS will be here before you know it and The Blackwood Action Group's Christmas Tree Festival team is already creating lovely things for sale at Santa's store. However, they would love your help.

Craft workshops are to be held once a month during the year on Sunday afternoons, but it is not



necessary to attend all sessions. Whilst the workshops are intended for adults, older children are welcome.

The workshops are free! Materials will be provided but if you have ribbon, beads, lace, hessian, tuille, feathers, broken necklaces etc to donate, they would be grateful.

Come along and get to know some locals plus afternoon tea will be provided.

Please contact paulinedodd@bigpond.com to register your interest and find out details of where and when.

This in another Blackwood Action Group initiative and is supported by Westfield's Local Heroes funding. □

New grounds offer healthy options for all kids

by James Swanborough

A NEW home base for the Sturt Lions Football Club is now open at Karinya Reserve, Eden Hills comprising two-storey clubrooms, an artificial soccer pitch and viewing canopy.

The facilities have been a boon for the community, with members of the public, local schools and the Sturt Lions Football Club utilising the new amenities.

"Just about every day I drive past the grounds, there are kids out there kicking the soccer ball around and having shots on goal," said John Vander Veeken, local resident and Sturt Lions President.

"It's great to see them outside in the fresh air and getting exercise, rather than playing games on their computer or phones. The new clubrooms now provide great facilities for generations of football loving kids and adults to come, to call their home base," added John.

The project was managed by Mitcham Council and Sturt Lions, delivered by Fusco Constructions and jointly funded by the Sturt Lions (\$150,000), City of Mitcham (\$700,000) and Federal Government (\$2 million). □

After a Welcome to Country shared by Aunty Elaine Magias; Member for Waite Catherine Hutchesson MP, Club President John Vander Veeken and City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross opened the facility, joined by Elected Members, Council staff, players and supporters.

The upgrades at Karinya Reserve create a home base for the Sturt Lions for the first time in their history. Formed in 2003, the Lions are centered in Blackwood, providing a home to 37 teams of junior and senior (male and female) soccer players between Flagstaff Hill and Unley. Prior to the upgrades to Karinya, however, they have been largely without a fixed home ground.

The ground which was previously not up to grade due to sodden conditions over winter, now provides senior teams with a world class artificial pitch.

The new changerooms are unisex, which providing an inclusive facility for all, with the inclusion of upgraded public toilet facilities for the community to use.

While pre-season training has begun for the upcoming season, information for those interested in getting involved in the Sturt Lions club soccer is available at <https://www.sturtlions.com.au> □

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Fill in your contact details on the coupon.
 2. Cut out completed coupon and drop it into a entry box at one of the 8 participating businesses on this page **before 5pm Saturday, March 18.**
 3. First correct entry drawn is winner and will be notified by phone.

1. Where can you buy ready made meals?
.....
2. Who is offering a Yalumba Pewsey Vale Riesling special of 2 for \$35?
.....
3. Which shop has a 20% discount 'Magic Monday' on selected products?
.....
4. Which shopping centre is Kohl&Soda located in?
.....
5. Who is holding a 'Mad March Markdown'?
.....
6. Which business is clearing out it's summer stock?
.....
7. Where can you order your seafood for Easter?
.....
8. Who sells the highest quality freshest fruit & veg?
.....

NAME:

PH. NO:

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3 x SA Coorong Mullet
OR 3 x SA Tommies
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*On presentation of this voucher.
Offer expires 31 March 2023.

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(next to Bakers Delight)
Phone 8278 5555

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Explore spirituality in broader ways

THE 'Journeying' series returns this year to the Blackwood Uniting Church, and provides an opportunity for people to explore spirituality in much broader ways than typically occurs in church.

"But then, we don't consider we are a typical church!" says Michael Dowling, minister at the church. "We endeavour to offer thought-provoking evenings, where anyone in the community would feel welcome, with no fear of somebody doing a religious number on them."

The overarching theme this year will be "Journeying...Through Life."

The Sunday evening events kick off with nibbles and drinks at 5pm, followed by the event in whatever format has been selected: presentation, panel discussion, interview, etc.

The first event for 2023, being held at 5pm on Sunday March 19, will be "Journeying... through Small Things."

Chelsea Size, a minister in the Uniting Church, has previously worked in the field of narrative practice, and had much to do with first nations people in regional communities, which



helped shape her own narrative and story.

Join her, as she considers how God could be present even in the small, ordinary moments of our lives. How might we become more curious about the neglected stories of our daily lives in ways that are life-shaping and life-enriching.

All are welcome to attend what should be five fascinating Journeying events planned at Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) this year:

- March 19 - "Journeying... Through Small Things"
- May 21 - "Journeying... With Children"
- July 16 - "Journeying... Through Generosity"
- September 17 - "Journeying... Through The Rough"
- November 19 - "Journeying... To The End"

As the sign says "Come on in... we're here to help".

For more information, phone the Blackwood Uniting Church office on 8278 7699, located near the roundabout.

Popular business directory coming to a letterbox near you soon

BUSINESSES in the Blackwood and surrounding suburbs will look to local residents for their support again this year, in what will be another challenging one for them after surviving the impact of Covid.

Now, its essential things like food, electricity, and petrol going up for households; along with the pain for many people, of rising interest rates in an attempt by the Reserve Bank to keep a lid on inflation.

This affects people's disposable income and of course, the negative flow on effect for spending by local residents impacts local businesses.

"Spend local and support local if you enjoy the convenience of shopping locally"

And to help you support local businesses, the 2023 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory is being distributed in mid-March.



COMING OUT MID MARCH

This popular annual publication which has been available for over 20 years now, provides a comprehensive listing and contact details for everything local.

There are 10,000 copies printed and where possible delivered into residents' letterboxes, as well as an on-line version which you can

check out anytime at www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au

However, if you didn't receive a copy through the post, then they can be picked up from one of The Blackwood Times news stands located in the major shopping centres, local supermarkets and Blackwood newsagent or Waite MP office.

So if you want to support locals ... then all the necessary contact information is contained in the one directory ... no need to go sorting through all the sites you find when looking on 'google'.

History of Mitcham & Hills told through heritage tables



WITH funding help from History SA and Mitcham Council, Blackwood Action Group's History Group has installed a heritage table at the Treetops Park in Craighburn Farm (photo above).

The same artists, Jim and Ronda Dunstan from Eudunda, have created all 13 of Mitcham's other heritage tables, as well as numerous other public art forms throughout South Australia.

They kindly agreed to work on this project, loving the idea that residents of Craighburn Farm share the area with lots of kangaroos and a host of birds.

A launch was held on February 17 to acknowledge the many people who helped provide pieces of the puzzle telling Craighburn Farm's rich history since 1847, when the property was established by Peter Cumming, a wealthy draper who sailed with his family from Scotland.

He established vineyards and orchards on the slopes of the farm property.

The property was sold several times, but has been owned by Minda Inc since 1923, until the need for money to provide better living amenities and learning programs and to fund research to support Minda clients, forced them to sell the land in the 1990s.

Pauline Dodd, Co-convenor of BAG's History Group, reflected that the Farm affords us two main valuable heritage aspects.

Through the expansion of the Sturt Gorge Recreation Park and with the retention of many wonderful pockets of natural habitat through the sensitive development of the area by Adelaide Development Company, local residents and visitors are able to enjoy the area's nature heritage.

But more unique and very significant, was the improved life opportunities of Minda clients, the respect earned and their acceptance into the broader community that living on the farm brought, through the many ways the community was encouraged to integrate with Minda clients.

Since the 1970s, a petting zoo, sporting matches, pony clubs, Riding for the Disabled programs, Girl Guide camps and community fairs were some of the ways that the community was encouraged to come to the farm to appreciate the capabilities of the Minda residents and to spend time together.

You are encouraged to visit the Treetops Park in Craighburn Farm, bring a picnic and learn about some of the interesting stories of the farm ... you can even keep the kids busy at the children's playground nearby.

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RLA 229096

UB4T on their way to Blackwood

"AFTER the successful musical performance of 'Abba Gold' back in December, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came along on a very hot evening," said promoter Stephen Lee from All Sorts of Entertainment.

"However, the somewhat crowded, patient audience all enjoyed the wonderful trip down memory lane, of the many hits of ABBA. Once again 'The Flaming Sambucas' did a wonderful presentation of this very popular show. It amazes me that every time I stage this show, it always sells out."

Stephen was also delighted to be able assist Blackwood Players, with all the proceeds from the raffle going to their community theatre group, which will help them greatly in staging some exciting shows this year.

So, for the next show coming to Blackwood on Saturday May 27 ... get your tickets now for the 'UB4T Tribute' to

UB40 same terrific venue at Blackwood Memorial Hall.

UB4T (pictured on right) is a strong 7-piece band made up of members from the popular 'One Planet' band with a collection of other musicians with a wide range of experience. All have been drawn together with the one aim of presenting the music of UB40 for your grooving pleasure.

UB4T repertoire covers the 80's era of UB40 and you can expect to hear such favourite iconic songs as:

'Food For Thought', 'King', 'Red Red Wine', 'Rat In Mi Kitchen', 'One In Ten', 'Kingston Town', 'Cherry Oh Baby', 'Johnny Too Bad', 'Stick By Me', 'Groovin', 'Here I Am', 'Watchdog', 'I'll Be Your Baby Tonight', 'I Got You Babe',



'Can't Help Falling In Love,' 'Present Arms', 'Wedding Day,' and many more.

There will be popular Cabaret seating and tables of 8. A licenced bar, (so no BYO please) and you can bring along a plate of nibbles to enjoy.

☐ Tickets are on sale now - www.allsortsofentertainment.com.au or call the Box Office at 0421 651 451.

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'Hits of Stage and Screen' on this month

IF you enjoy listening to music you know from the Musicals, Movies and TV Shows, then you'll love the 'Hits of Stage and Screen' being presented by Mitcham City Brass together with their Musical Director, Steven Packer.

Join in the fun at the Blackwood Memorial Hall for a relaxing Sunday afternoon of great music.

Seating will be in Cabaret style - so why not get your friends together to book a table to take advantage of our group booking price. BYO drinks/nibbles. Tea/Coffee supplied.

Mitcham City Brass is proudly supported by the City of Mitcham, Presto Music and Goldsbrough Financial Services.

The show is being held on Sunday 12 March at 2.30pm in the Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

Tickets are available for prepurchase at www.trybooking.com/CFQLM or at the door (cash/card payment accepted). Companion card welcome. Adult: \$20; Pensioner/Student Concession: \$15; Child U/13: Free and for a table of 6: \$80.

Make sure you purchase your tickets now as this performance will fill quickly with limited seats.

☐ For more information on this event, you can email: secretary@mitchamcitybrass.org or phone 0419 032 312.

MITCHAM CITY BRASS PRESENTS
HITS OF STAGE & SCREEN
 Music you know from the Musicals, Movies and TV Shows you love
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 BLACKWOOD MEMORIAL HALL
 21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood
 MUSICAL DIRECTOR
 Steven Packer
 Cabaret Seating
 BYO drinks & nibbles. Tea/Coffee supplied.
 Tickets available for prepurchase at www.trybooking.com/CFQLM or at the door (cash/card payment accepted). Companion card welcome.
 Enquiries: secretary@mitchamcitybrass.org or phone 0419 032 312
 Adult: \$20 | Pensi/Student Conc: \$15 | Child U13: Free | Table of 6: \$80
 Mitcham City Brass is proudly supported by the City of Mitcham, Presto Music and Goldsbrough Financial Services

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

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.

◆ 1 March

BLACKWOOD RECONCILIATION GROUP - meet in the 'Coffee Lounge' room in the Blackwood Uniting Church (near Blackwood roundabout) at 7pm. For more information see Facebook or email: blackwoodreconciliationgroup@gmail.com

◆ 1 March

BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS - all past and current members of Blackwood no 93 meet from 7.30pm at Masonic Ctr, 229 Main Rd (opposite Coles and behind The CPAP Room premises). If you want more information on Freemasonry contact Ted on 0407 978 214 or e: blackwood-lodge93@gmail.com

◆ 2 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.

◆ 2 March

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 sup-

porting The Smith Family by sponsoring children. Phone Deborah on 0468 630 020 for details or email: tonsleyviewclub21@gmail.com

◆ 2, 16 & 30 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

◆ 3 March

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE - held at Our Lady of the Way Catholic Church, 2 Laffers Rd, Glenalta at 10am. The service has been prepared by the women of Taiwan. For more info contact barbara on 0417 589 098 or e: bwoodpar@gmail.com

◆ 4 March

NATIONAL TRUST COROMANDEL VALLEY & DISTRICTS - anyone is welcome to join in their morning tea and catch up with friends or meet new locals - held at the Watchman House on Main Road from 9am-12noon. For more details check out Facebook page or phone 0474 066 776.

◆ 5 March

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.

◆ 5 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.

◆ 5 & 19 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.

◆ 5 March

BLACKWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB EXHIBITION - presenting display of photos in Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood (in conjunction with Sunday market). Contact Ian on 0410 634 046 or email: panjarri@gmail.com

◆ 6 & 20 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 on 0428 522 362.

◆ 6 & 20 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.

◆ 8 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

◆ 8 March

ADELAIDE-MITCHAM PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - meet at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, from 7-8.45pm. Guest speakers are arranged for most meetings. All welcome. Enquiries: Ralph 0406 006 654, Roland 0438 604 323 and www.adelaide-mitchamprostate.org

◆ 9 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.

◆ 11 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 8374 3172 or 0413 022 162 for details.

◆ 11 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 050831 for further details.

◆ 12 & 26 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: jkitchen-garden@gmail.com

◆ 19 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.

◆ 21 March

FRIENDS OF STURT GORGE - meet at 7.30pm. Hold regular working bees. Phone Bob Grant on 7329 8296 for meeting location and when working bees held. Visit www.fosg.org.au for more information and email: bobgrant@adam.com.au

◆ 22 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.

◆ 23 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 monthly outings planned. New members most welcome. Contact Bob on 0418 836 414 or Heather 0448 351 880 for more info.

◆ 27 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

◆ 27 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

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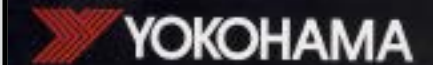
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Growing your own food brings numerous benefits to our lives

BY DIANA BICKFORD, CHERINGTON HOUSE
THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GARDEN

HERE at Cherington, we love growing organic food and creating beautiful healing garden spaces and workshops for the community to enjoy.

Growing your own food is so easy, practical and just so much fun!

Growing food is an activity that creates opportunities for individuals and families to enjoy some outdoor fun. The educational and learning opportunities are endless and if that's not enough, we get to eat healthy nutritional food full of vitality without the addition of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides.

Growing food contributes to a better environment that can improve nature's biodiversity by including herbs, flowers and foliage plants that create habitat for insects' birds and lizards.



◆ Photo - Founding community garden member, Erica Randell is filling one of the wicking beds at Cherington House Community Garden in Belair

Picking a salad for lunch and some herbs for a delicious cup of tea is just so satisfying. Homegrown, delicious, health-giving food on the table is such a worthwhile reward; one of the most worthwhile personal investments that can be made. As a community, we have been recently reminded of the numerous benefits of bringing back gardening to our lives.

Research proves that gardening and the interaction with soil and plants reduces anxiety, stress and depression; improves happiness and life satisfaction; increases creativity and productivity, and improves physical health and well-being.

Join the growing band of home growers and share the trials and tribulations and just plain fun of food and therapeutic gardening.

The Cherington House Therapeutic Community Garden in Belair, is a productive food, herb & flower garden that has been created as a demonstration and educational garden platform.

Each Wednesday between 10am-12 noon, our lovely community of gardeners work to keep plants thriving and producing organic vegies and fruit welcoming anyone with a similar interest.

Throughout the year, Cherington often has amazing guest speakers such as Butterfly Conservation SA and as Autumn approaches we will hold 'Open Garden Conversations and Q&A' events hosted by professional, passionate, experienced gardeners, keen to connect and share their wealth of knowledge to help the community succeed and enjoy their garden ventures.

Our first 'Open Garden Conversation' will be held on Wednesday 15 March from 10am to 12 noon at Cherington House Therapeutic Community Garden, 13 Laffers Road, Belair (adjacent to Integrated Health Solutions and formerly Blackwood Hospital grounds).

This Garden is a community well-being initiative of Cancer Care Centre Inc.

□ Phone Diana on 0407 339 660 for more information on the community garden in Belair.

Aim to work with nature and treat our gardens with respect



BY ANDREW TIDSWELL,
SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES
BLACKWOOD

AUSTRALIA is a world leader in organic agriculture with about one-third of the world's organic acreage. We also have a long history of developing innovative farming techniques that aim to work with nature to produce food in a sustainable way.

These are extensively documented in the book "The Call of the Reed Warbler" by Charles Massey.

He makes the case for a Regenerative Agriculture where farmers build healthy soils naturally.

Soil is a complex thing. It is not just dirt to hold plants upright.

Sadly, our current industrial agriculture, which produces most of our food, involves extensive land clearing (especially native vegetation), intensive use of pesticides and fertilizers.

It plants large swathes of monoculture crops. This destroys soil fertility. It ruins natural ecosystems, relying on the application of vast quantities of expensive chemicals. It results in food that is deficient in nutrients.

Industrial agriculture is not healthy for the soil, the environment nor us; and produces food that is too low in nutrients and too high in chemicals.

Regenerative agriculture introduces more plant matter into the soil,

builds up beneficial bacteria and fungi, maximises water holding capacity, and transforms soil into highly productive ecosystems. Healthy soil is a complex web of living things, a mere handful containing billions of beneficial organisms.

Fortunately, many farmers are now doing this, increasing productivity and reducing costs by not having to add expensive chemicals. The TV program 'Landline' often showcases these.

It also makes the land more able to withstand droughts, manage floods and extreme climate events. Our health relies on a healthy natural world, including eating food that is full of nutrients and vitality.

Regenerative agriculture also helps address climate change. While industrial agriculture reduces soil carbon (replacing it with chemicals), regenerative agriculture adds vegetation to the soil, increases its living ecology and puts more carbon in than gets used up.

It works, because it treats nature with respect and lets it work its own magic. This is not just for farmers. It is critical for all human created landscapes including our own gardens. There are things we can do in our garden to incorporate regenerative practices:

- Make soil healthy by using only natural fertilizers
- Add organic matter
- Limit chemical herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers.

The Call of the Reed Warbler is good news for those of us wanting a more sustainable future. It is available from the Blackwood Library. □

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Asian style dining with international flavour

LOOKING to dine out locally without having to drive down the hill, while enjoying a mouth-watering meal and not having to pay the earth?

Then you need to travel no further than the Belair Vines Shopping Centre, where the 'House of Zen' restaurant which opened 18 years ago is located.

"I would like to thank all our customers who have supported the restaurant, either dining here or buying takeaway over the years," said Hung Lien, owner and head chef (photo on right).

"The hospitality industry is struggling at the moment after the impact of Covid, and then on top of that, we are experiencing increases in the cost of food. However, we are trying to absorb these increases as much as we can and keep our prices down."

The House of Zen is great place to meet and catch up with family and friends over a delicious meal, or enjoy an evening out for two.

The House of Zen offers a mouth-watering Asian style menu with international flavour meals available as well - and if you're coming along with a group, then ask about the various banquets on offer to suit all budgets.

However, it is essential you book the restaurant in advance - otherwise you run the risk of missing out!



And if you can't make it to the restaurant, the House of Zen has an extensive takeaway menu.

The House of Zen restaurant is located in the Belair Vines Shopping Centre at 6 Main Road (opp Belair BP) - to make a booking phone 8370 2333 today.

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Use Feldenkrais to gain greater flexibility and peace of mind

"MY clients speak of discovering greater flexibility, joint mobility, peace of mind, sense of being grounded," said Fiona Battersby, local resident and Feldenkrais practitioner. "And becoming more aware of restrictive habits, as well as finding better coordination and flow in their movement."

At 19, Fiona left Adelaide to study theatre in Paris. During her training, she met movement specialist Monika Pagneux, who introduced her to the Feldenkrais method, saying it was the practise that had given her the deepest under-

standing of human movement.

Monika would use Feldenkrais sequences to "wake up" the body and heighten a quality of attention. Fiona was fascinated with the shifts in sensation she experienced and remembers leaving feeling so much more alive from head to toe.

"So with the desire to share the work, I trained as a Feldenkrais practitioner in Brisbane, graduating in 2000," explained Fiona.

"Through a deep understanding of the human nervous system and our developmental movement patterns, Feldenkrais created thousands of movement sequences to awaken our movement potential.

"The movements are gentle, precise, playful, and call for a curiosity as to how we move; where there is tension, where there is mobility and what other options are available to enhance our movement, making it easier and lighter. Minimum effort, maximum efficiency," added Fiona.

One hour group sessions are taught by Fiona Battersby and the classes are suitable for everyone, no matter your age or physical condition.

The movement sequences are experimented lying on the floor, in sitting and also in standing.

Some of the themes explored are : better balance, freeing the neck and shoulders, dancing the pelvis and hips.

Classes will start throughout the hills area in March and if you are interested in participating and would like more details, please email Fiona at: fionaswing@gmail.com



◆ Photo - Feldenkrais practitioner and local resident, Fiona Battersby starts holding classes in March

Join in 'clean up day' for your area

CLEAN UP Australia Day is Sunday 5 March but you can Clean Up Australia any day of the year!

Can you imagine the good we could do, if all of Australia came together on one day and took practical action to improve the environment? What a difference we could make!

It's hard to believe that what was started over thirty years ago, by Ian Kiernan, AO, an "average Australian" who had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard has now become the nation's largest community-based environmental event, held annually on the first Sunday in March.

Over twenty million Aussies have stepped up

over the years, donating their time to improve the environment.

Over that time Clean Up Australia has evolved to provide practical solutions to help all Australians live more sustainably every day of the year, and emerged as one of the country's most recognised, credible and trusted environmental charities.

Today their focus is as much on preventing rubbish entering the environment as it is removing what has already accumulated.

For more information check out : <https://www.cleanup.org.au/cleanupaustaliaday>

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