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see story pg 3



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This month, the Friends of Gamble Cottage are celebrating 35 years since the group formed in 1986. Some of the current members are: (front) founding member Gwen Gardner; (middle l to r): Iris Rowlands, Chris Box; (back l to r): Robyn Cations, Betty Griffiths and President Alison Oldlands. See story on pg 5.

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Recreation Centre lease concern still unresolved

by James Swanborough

MITCHAM Council have stepped back from a lease agreement with Blackwood Community Recreation Centre (BCRC), leaving fears the important piece of local infrastructure may go underfunded.

The previous lease agreement was a complex arrangement, which saw the Department of Education as the lessor of the site, with the City of Mitcham holding the head lease and the Recreation Centre holding a sub-lease. This complexity meant maintenance duties have been shared between the Department and Council, but Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross explained that the particulars of the arrangement have led to confusion, with some on council seeking to clarify their responsibilities.

"There was supposedly a list of maintenance items attached to the original lease which no one seems to be able to find, so we had a definition of who should pay what, but it wasn't clear," said Heather. "What we are setting out to do, is negotiate a new lease and clearly define those terms."

"While council has been footing maintenance bills, some jobs have been slow in getting fixed due to disagreement of who should take on the repairs beyond the scope of Council's responsibilities in the lease agreement."

"It has been difficult for a while now, as the rightful expectations of the Rec Centre are not what is written in the lease. And the reason for that is, council don't own the building. So it's odd that council and not the Education Department are paying for maintenance of the building. That is what we are trying to reconcile through doing all this; why should council pay for maintenance on a building that we don't own."

Mitcham Council in August moved that they continue to provide an annual contribution to maintaining the facilities, while removing themselves from the formal lease arrangement, committing to provide \$24,000 per year plus increases to the consumer price index, based on average contributions made to the centre over the past 5 years.

"Within the chamber there is a majority of councillors keen to see the Rec Centre retained by the current board and leadership, but there are different opinions over whether it would be better to try and clear up this arrangement by having the Rec Centre lease direct from the Department, or to continue to act as a go between," said Heather.

The majority decision was made out of a desire to streamline the process.

"The most efficient thing for Council, is if the BCRC lease directly from the Department because then we wouldn't have to deal with the maintenance negotiations."

"Currently, the Rec Centre also have separate maintenance negotiations with the Department which we are not involved in, so we don't think this is the most efficient way to go forward. We are committed, however to continued funding for the centre."

President of the Recreation Centre Management Committee, Garry Dolman, voiced concern that the facility may no longer be able to fulfil its services to the community if negotiations with the Department stall.

Garry said that he had petitioned various politicians to assist the BCRC with negotiations, and were waiting to see what happens next. "At the end of the day, we just want to be able to continue providing services to the community."

"We are hopeful we can continue a meaningful relationship with the council, providing a service for their residents. We are looking at the best scenario and that's what we are pushing for and what we believe we deserve, given the work that has been put into these facilities and programs."

Following the decision, MP for Waite, Sam Duluk queried Education Minister, John Gardner in Parliament regarding the Department of Education's position.

Gardner acknowledged that Blackwood High School significantly utilise the facility, and that the Department and the Government will give due consideration to the arrangement in the best interest of the taxpayers of SA and the students of Blackwood High School.

"In the interim, the existing lease arrangements will continue and there will be no interruption to the use of the facility by the school or the local community," John stated.

Mayor Holmes-Ross has since written a formal request to Gardner, asking that he agree to support the Blackwood Community Recreation Committee as the operational managers of the facility, and that the State Government directly enter a lease agreement with BCRC.

An Education Department spokesman confirmed they had "received advice from council following the meeting, and are currently considering the matter."

"Currently we don't have a lease," said Garry of BCRC. "We want a lease, but we don't want the responsibility of maintaining the building; we simply don't have the financial capability to do so. If it comes down to a situation of having a lease with the Government and they take on responsibility for the maintenance, then that is our second best option." □

Request for CCTV at roundabout

NOT a week goes by without a post appearing on local social media sites regarding an accident that has occurred at the Blackwood roundabout.

And more times than not, it is usually from a local motorist who has been in a collision while negotiating the roundabout, only to have the other motorist not stopping and just keep on driving.

Not only is this against the law, but it has all sorts of ramifications and inconvenience for the innocent party, when trying to deal with insurance companies.

If no details were able to be recorded, or no dashcam footage of the accident happening is able to be obtained, then your only recourse is to pay the out-of-pocket expenses after dealing with your insurance company.

After receiving numerous requests for help from frustrated roundabout motorists who have encountered such a scenario, local independent MP for Waite, Sam Duluk, has written to both the Hon Vincent Tarzia, the Minister for Police and Hon. Cory Wingard, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport bringing this issue to their attention ...



"There are frequent reports to my office of minor collisions occurring at the Blackwood Roundabout and in some circumstances, one party may drive away without the other party recording their details. In this situation, it makes it difficult for users when they are making their motor vehicle insurance claims."

Can the State Government install Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras around the Blackwood Roundabout to assist SAPOL and insurance companies when dealing with motor vehicle collision disputes?"

Watch this space for more developments on this frustrating issue. □

Xmas pageant postponed again

"OUR committee has met and discussed the upcoming 2021 Christmas Pageant, and our approach was to develop and lodge a COVID Plan with SA Health," said Lew Corso, Blackwood Lions Club Pageant Coordinator.

"This was done, and we have recently received information back from SA Health stipulating the criteria that needs to be met for the Blackwood Pageant to proceed. Whilst we can not argue with any of the requirements placed on the Pageant, our committee believes that we are not in a position to be able to effectively and efficiently meet them all," explained Lew.

Issues such as implementing a QR Code, the installation of gates to control entry and exit points for the crowd, the ramifications of having to close off main roads earlier in the day which is simply not feasible given the amount of vehicles that use Main Road, monitoring social distancing etc were just some of the insurmountable challenges they were faced with.

"So given that the last thing that we would want to do, would be to endanger the public in any way, we have decided that we must again postpone the Pageant, hopefully



to be run next year on the first Friday of December," added Lew.

"We want to reassure the children of the district that as happened last year, Father Christmas will still be able to find his way to Blackwood, just not on his normal sleigh along the Main Road."

"Please be assured that our major concern at all times, has been for the safety of the Community," said Lew.

□ For more details, see '2021 Lions Report to the Community' on page 11.



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New role increases ability to seek results

by James Swanborough

LOCAL MP for Waite, Sam Duluk, has announced his intention to stand as an independent at the next State Election.

"The last 20 months have taken a significant toll on my family, my health and my wellbeing. I want to give the Parliament the dignity that it deserves and more importantly, I want to focus 100% of my energy and commitment to serving the people of Waite. Therefore, I announce that I will be running as an Independent at the next State Election," explained Sam.

"My electors from across the entire community recognise the important role an independent has in holding the Government of the day to account, and that is what I have done and that is what I will continue to do."

Sam noted that he will be running on a platform of Liberal values, appropriate fiscal management, protecting heritage and preserving our environment, and will continue to work on our timetable to fix local infrastructure, invest in sporting clubs, community groups and emergency services.

"I am focused on the real issues for South Australians that need to be addressed, including public schools and hospital funding, ramping, fruit fly outbreak and timber shortages".

Sam noted the ongoing work he has done to engage with the local community, ensuring the community's voice is heard in Parliament.

"I have worked constructively for our community to ensure that we have fantastic community centres, well-funded sports grounds, ensuring that our health precincts remain vitally accessible, such as the Repat, which I have been so keen to see thrive. Of course, it is about listening to what the community needs and wants, and how we can best deliver that and I know that I can do that for my community."

Sam stated that his position has increased his ability to voice community sentiment and seek results.

"We have saved the Mitcham Service SA centre after multiple ambiguous announcements from the State Government which created uncertainty around the future deliver of services at the Mitcham location. The electorate came together, fought, rallied

and the Government announced and backtracked on their decision to close the centre in my community but, of course, also in Prospect and Modbury as well.

"We protected our bus services and local public transport. Back in June 2020, when the State Government foolishly announced that it would remove key Blackwood bus services from the electorate, we as a community mobilised, ran campaigns and got loud, we got heard and defended the right of public bus users in our community. Once again, the Government announced that they would no longer pursue these cut-backs to the bus network.

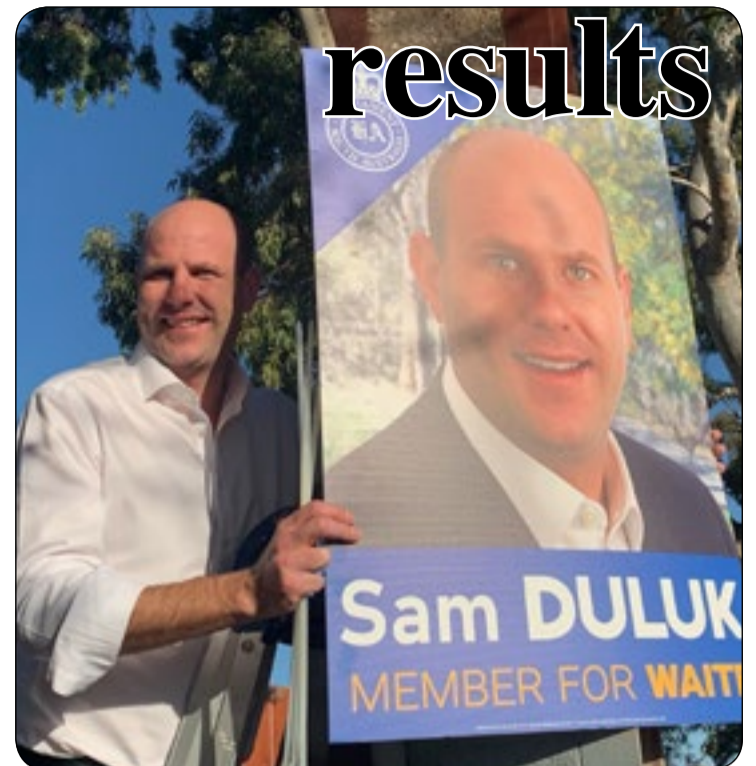
"We have preserved the historic Waite Gatehouse. When the State Government foolishly announced that it would be demolishing the State Heritage listed gatehouse in late 2020, my office mobilised the community which resulted in the Government backflip on the decision of allocating of over \$1 million to move, reconstruct and repurpose the building as a community volunteer centre and a museum within the Urrbrae historic precinct."

In Sam's absence, the State Liberal party are yet to name a candidate, with State Director, Sascha Meldrum confirming that preselection is currently open for the seat of Waite.

"Nominations will close soon and it would be normal practice for a preselection college to be held, so that Liberal party members living in the electorate of Waite can select the preferred Liberal candidate," Sascha said.

The recent opening of a new moderate branch of the Liberal party by potential challenger Cara Miller in Brownhill Creek, may serve to sure up conservative support for Sam.

A meeting of the branch in August was chaired by State Liberal Party president Leigh Davis. However, some within the party's conservative faction are understood to be questioning the legitimacy of the branch, suggesting that their actions contravene party policy.



◆ Photo - Sam recently made the decision to contest the next State election as an Independent, which is scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 19, 2022.

While no official Liberal candidates for preselection have been announced, it is understood Mitcham Councillor Adriana Christopolous is attached to the moderate Brownhill Creek faction, and may move for preselection, while rumoured conservative nominees include Leah Blyth, a previous preselection candidate for Boothby. □

Strategic shopping centre parcel goes up for sale

IN late August, the City of Mitcham Council listed their property at Lot 101 Young Street, Blackwood (behind Drakes Supermarket) for sale and is currently in the hands of an Adelaide commercial real estate agency.

The Council had purchased this property with a view to creating a new pedestrian connection to link up with the future \$12M Blackwood Hub & Library and develop new retail properties between Young Street and the central carpark in Blackwood.

The purchase of this land was to provide improved access through the business centre by creating a new north-south pedestrian link from Waite Street Reserve, through the central car parking areas, to Shepherds Hill Road.

This prime site (see image below) is located

opposite the new \$12 million Blackwood Community Hub that is due for completion in mid-2023. Waite Street Reserve will be enhanced and Young Street itself will also be transformed to complement the development, with improved car parking and streetscaping.

"The scarcity of commercial and retail land supply in the Blackwood area makes this an exciting opportunity in its own right," said Andrew Zammit, partner at Leedwell commercial real estate agents.

"The revitalisation works, as part of the Blackwood Community Hub development, look set to be a catalyst for further investment, and this therefore represents an opportunity to acquire a strategic parcel with existing development plan consent," Andrew said.

The site will enjoy excellent exposure to pedestrian traffic, with a southern frontage within the shopping complex anchored by Drakes Supermarket and a northern frontage opposite the new Blackwood Community Hub, relocated Blackwood Library, and Waite Street Reserve.

"The combination of the site's location in the heart of Blackwood with a strategic investment in revitalising the area, makes this a compelling

opportunity not to be missed," Andrew said.

Leedwell was appointed by the City of Mitcham to offer the site for sale by expressions of interest, which has now closed.

At the time of print, there had been a number of parties to have lodged their interest and Leedwell are working through the process to prepare a short list with a view to making a decision soon. □



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Home support for troops boosted morale



FOLLOWING the turbulent events of 2020, and the tremendous kindness of our community giving to bushfire victims (human, animal and botanical) and supporting those affected by COVID, the Blackwood Action Group History Subcommittee's 2021 history articles celebrate the generosity of past residents and the legacy they have left for us to enjoy.

AT this time of the year, with the forthcoming Remembrance Day and vivid stories of the current upheaval in and refugees from Afghanistan, we are reminded of the heartfelt efforts of generosity during the Great War from our own part of the world.

The Blackwood Magazine, published in 1914 only, reported on the effects of the start of the Great War.

'Christmas approaching warns us that it will soon be time to bid farewell to 1914, the year that has seen so much. Many are the thoughts which will go travelling northwards to those First Australians camped on the Pyramids and awaiting for the call to war.'

'Despite the gravity of affairs and the involuntary tightening of many purse strings, the Christmas spirit is again abroad. Here to there is a difference. In many cases, Christmas trees, school prizes, long-standing treats, have been cheerfully forgone. Who can tell but what these, and many childish pennies, which, deflecting from their natural course to somebody's topshop, have gone into the needy funds of war time.'

The impact of the war led to the closure of the Magazine in December 1914. '...in view of the hard times we must expect, we [the editors] should not feel justified in making an appeal for magazine funds.'

A Blackwood Patriotic Committee was established with profits from events such as a Concert (£16, 11 shillings and 11 pence) and a dramatic performance (£4, 4 shillings and 10 pence) plus individual donations of £16, 5 shillings.

Many people were involved in collecting items and money, ranging from individuals and community groups to state and national organisations. The Trench Comforts Committee of the League of Loyal Women had some 30 branches across the state, which collected material and arranged for packaging and despatch. The Exhibition Sewing Circle of the Returned Soldiers' Association made, collected and distributed practical articles such as vaccination shields (6,853), panikin bags (450), kitbags



◆ Photo - The Blackwood Soldiers War Memorial, located near the roundabout in Blackwood, was constructed in 1921 to honour those who served in the Great War. It received subsequent plaque additions to the base over the years to mark those who fought in later conflicts. In 1922, the Blackwood Uniting Church was built near the monument and the foundation stone for the church was laid the same year as the Memorial in 1921. (Photo courtesy of ArtLab)

(338), khaki shorts (169), dixie holders (365), milk covers (44), dish-cloths (203), eye bandages (180), pairs of socks (55), knee and elbow pads (26).

Many articles were forwarded to hospitals in France, and some to Mitcham Camp.

The War Chest Review in September 1918 reported on the work of the War Chest Fund, *Four Years of Hard Work .. with what result?* 'Well, first the immense satisfaction of knowing that we have done SOMETHING to ameliorate the conditions of our splendid Australian fighting men. We have ministered to their physical needs in some measure: but best of all have told them by means of our gifts that we at home are always thinking of them.'

'Ask any Commanding Officer the value of this, and he'll tell you it cannot be summed up in mere words. Very early in the war, General Birdwood wrote 'The soldiers' realization that these Coffee Stalls, Tommy Cookers, Socks, Shirts and innumerable other free Comforts are gifts from the folk in the Homeland, has proved an incalculable value in heightening their morale. This, too, quite in addition to the intrinsic worth of these Comforts.'

Almost every Australian town has a war memorial and Blackwood is no exception (see photo). Soon after the First World War ended, the community raised funds to erect the life size statue of the soldier which still overlooks the roundabout. Made of Angaston marble, it was unveiled by the Commissioner of Police on 11 June 1921.

Names listed are those from the district who served in the First World War with later additions for the Second World War, as well as for Korea, Malay, Borneo and Vietnam. Just how important the soldier is in the community, was apparent in 2018 when he was absent for five months, while being cleaned and repaired. He was enthusiastically welcomed back on 18 April 2019 in time for Anzac Day.

Community support at the same time as the soldier was originally erected, also saw the building of a bandstand on the land adjacent to the Save the Children Shop. The handsome rotunda was a popular venue for concerts by the Blackwood Brass Band on Sunday afternoons. Unfortunately, following the 1954 earthquake, structural damage was found in the bandstand and it was demolished.

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

Painting exhibition by Tiwi artists

AIARTS Gallery in Belair is a partner with the Art Gallery of South Australia for the 'Tarnanthi Festival' this year.

The AIARTS Exhibition called "Earth Magic" - will show paintings by Tiwi artists from Munupi Arts and Kunwinjku artists of Injalak Arts in the Northern Territory.

The paintings in the exhibition are on paper and canvas using earth pigments which both communities have traditionally used. The Kunwinjku have created rock art throughout the Arnhem Land escarpment and elaborate body and face painting. The paintings from each art centre are different in subject matter.

AIARTS is a partner with Tineriba Art Gallery in Hahndorf - both Galleries are showing paintings from the two communities.

□ Opening on Saturday 19 October at 2pm with two Tiwi artists attending, the

AIARTS exhibition is on till Sunday 21 November with open hours on Saturdays and Sundays 1 to 5pm. Contact Angelika to RSVP 0477 174 040. For more information go to : www.aiarts.com.au/art-exhibitions/



◆ Photo - The Tiwi people traditionally decorate their faces, bodies, sculpture, crafts and art with intricate geometrical markings that are connected to their mythology and dance ceremonies.

Listen to a public forum on the plight of asylum seekers

TOO often, people seeking asylum are denied a life on their own terms - locked out of paid work, income support and the conversation on policies that impact their lives.

People seeking asylum should have their human rights upheld and their voices heard.

Federal Member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie is holding an event to inform the public on the assistance being offered to refugees from Afghanistan, the asylum seekers impacted by Medevac and the work of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC).

Founded in 2001, the ASRC is Australia's largest human rights organisation providing support to people seeking asylum.

They are an independent not-for-profit organisation whose programs support and empower people seeking asylum to maximise their own physical, mental and social wellbeing.

They champion the rights of people seeking asylum and mobilise a community of compassion to create lasting social and policy change.

You are invited to come and hear ASRC Chief Executive Kon Karapanagiotidis and ASRC Director, Advocacy and Campaigns Jana Favero give an online update (via Melbourne)



with speakers from the Welcoming Centre also giving presentations in-person.

The event is being held at the McLaren Vale Institute Supper Room, 155 Main Road, McLaren Vale on Wednesday 13 October. Doors will open at 1.30pm for a 2pm start, concluding at 3.30pm.

However, for those that can't make it to McLaren Vale, the event will also be broadcast online. All people have to do, is register at <https://www.rebekhasharkie.com.au/ASRC>

Registered participants will then be emailed closer to the date with information about how to watch the presentations.

□ For more information, phone Rebekha's office on 8398 5566 or email: rebekha.sharkie.MP@aph.gov.au

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Help 'Friends' to maintain Gamble Cottage Gardens

LATER this month, the Friends of Gamble Cottage are celebrating their 35th birthday of maintaining and developing the gardens at the property, 296 Main Road, Blackwood.

The Gamble Cottage was built by Joseph Gamble, who worked in the nearby Experimental Orchard in Coromandel Valley (Turner's Avenue) which was established in the latter years of the 1800's to trial fruit trees which might be suitable for South Australian conditions.

In 1982, the cottage and surrounding land was donated to the City of Mitcham for use by the local community. By the time the Gamble family left the property, their failing health had reduced their capacity to care for such a large area, resulting in considerable deterioration.

The restoration of the front garden, which was undertaken in 1986 as a SA Jubilee 150 project, corresponds as nearly as possible to the description of the original formal garden layout.

"I joined Friends of Gamble Gardens because I had recently lost my husband and was looking for something to do," said Secretary Mrs Chris Box.

"I was introduced to the gardens in 2010, and since then I have made many friends there, also becoming secretary for the last 4 years. I am also learning about plants and as to where and when to plant.

"Our monthly Open Days are great to see people who are local and come from all over Adelaide," added Chris.



One of the founding members, Gwen Gardner has lived in the district for a long time and raised a family here. She has a love of plants and although she is unable to work in the gardens, still attends and is a fountain of knowledge.

The Cottage, which is maintained by the Coromandel Valley and Districts Branch of the National Trust South Australia, is now partly a museum which expresses the lifestyle of its original owners; it comprises a kitchen, three main rooms, and a hallway. There is also an add-on room, which is now refurbished as a Research Room. This is used to store the branch archives

The Friends of the Gamble Garden hold working bees each Tuesday morning from 9-11am.

New members are always welcome at the working bees or at the meetings. There is an annual membership fee of \$5.

❑ Ladies and men are invited to join the Friends, please contact Lynne at the Mitcham Council on 8372 8888.

Proposed solar program guarantees no upfront cost to Mitcham ratepayers

by James Swanborough

THE City of Mitcham is seeking a strategic partner to design and implement a community solar program that guarantees no upfront costs for City of Mitcham ratepayers, and provides access to cheaper power.

City of Mitcham has declared they are responding to the climate crisis, and are investigating ways to increase the uptake of renewables in our community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to electricity consumption.

"While solar uptake has been quite successful in the City of Mitcham, with close to 40% of properties with solar panels, we want to make solar accessible for all properties including both residential and business landlords as well as tenants," Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross said.

She suggested the requirement of project partners to supply the project at no upfront cost, and with reduced power bills to residents would make solar uptake a desirable prospect for residents.

"Anyone who puts panels on their roof will get an immediate saving," Heather said. "So it opens up for renters and landlords who maybe wouldn't be able to pay the initial costs. Because the renters make an immediate saving, it is a desirable offer, and for the landlord you get a piece of infrastructure to add to the value of your house."

Not all in the community were as positive about the prospects of the plan however, with Ms Ashlea Malcolm, spokesperson for Mitcham Council Watch, calling the project "a disaster and an offensive waste of ratepayer money".

"The Adelaide City Council already piloted this program after picking it up from a Victorian Council several years ago. They scrapped it after putting panels on some 40 buildings," said Ashlea.

"The problem is the administrative costs associated with the program. Councils who use this scheme manage to essentially double the cost of the system, with a \$5,000 system costing the ratepayer \$10,000. This is because the staff time required to manage this program is enormous, and the ratepayers are often funding the cost of all interest on the borrowings as well.

"The administrative costs cannot be passed on to the loan recipients because it immediately puts the loans into the red. The ratepayers carry all of the financial



risk, essentially acting as an unsecured lender," explained Ashlea.

However, Heather called these claims unfounded, and said that their project had nothing to do with previous plans undertaken by other councils. "We are going to tender to ensure that it will cost the consumer less, so that this very thing does not happen - residents will not be out of pocket."

Ashlea also levelled criticism at the potential for the grid reaching capacity. "At the moment many households are not able to export to the grid at all (they are essentially turned off by SAPN) because the local grid is already at capacity with the load that it can sustain from solar. Mitcham is one of these areas. Without the offset of the export tariffs, these loans can become cash flow negative."

The council tender has factored this risk in however, seeking to build a pathway for community energy storage and management by increasing battery storage capacity and reducing reliance on the grid.

Heather stated that the project could also benefit those in the community with existing solar panels. "Many people have existing panels which are getting a big pay in tariff selling to the whole grid, but when the grid reaches capacity, we will have our own capacity in reserve which our residents can sell into."

❑ Interested partners can obtain a copy of the tender by visiting www.tenders.sa.gov.au Tenders close 8 October 2021.

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Community Listening Posts

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Ridgehaven Drive Playground, Bellevue Heights

4.00pm - 4.45pm

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

Join and help your community

WITH the bushfire season already upon us, there is a 'call-to-arms' at the Blackwood Country Fire Service (CFS) group in Hawthorndene.

Even though currently, they have around 30 volunteers at the station, they need more to be able to effectively service

their district of Hawthorndene, Blackwood and Glenalta.

Would you like to give something back to the community in which you live, and are able to spare some time to respond to local emergencies?

Blackwood CFS has a number of vacancies heading into the upcoming fire danger sea-

son - there are many different positions available which you can be trained for - not everyone is needed to go out on the trucks to fight a bushfire.

Take Ashlee Sims for example, who apparently grew up with the CFS in her blood, as earlier generations of the family have been volunteers before her.

"I joined as a cadet at 11 years of age, then progressed to a qualified firefighter at age 16," said Ashlee. "It's a great feeling to know you are helping fellow residents in your local community."

"And I really enjoy belonging to the CFS as it's like being part of one big family; especially when you meet up with volunteers from the other Sturt Group stations."

While Tom Painter joined as a volunteer at Blackwood CFS over 10 years ago. "After watching the 2009 Victorian bushfires on TV and seeing the devastation it caused to local communities, I had to join a group."

"We are just normal every day people and are not required to do anything

on the job that you do not feel comfortable with," explained Tom.

"There is great camaraderie in our group and I have made some life-long friends through the experience of being a CFS volunteer."

Blackwood CFS provides a very inclusive environment for men, women, family and friends. This atmosphere is encouraged through an established social club which holds regular events.

Joining Blackwood CFS is a fantastic way to meet other like-minded individuals and families within your local community and make new friends.

Meanwhile the Radio Communications Support team at Belair CFS are also looking for new members and volunteers.

For further information or to express your interest in joining Blackwood CFS either:

Contact the Brigade Captain, Jamie Emswiler on 0412 352 354; check out their recruitment website at www.blackwoodcfs.com.au/join-us or come along to their fire station on Gorse Avenue, Hawthorndene any Friday night from 7pm.



◆ Photo - Blackwood CFS are looking for new members to help keep you and your family safe in the event of a bushfire. (from left): Ashlee Sims, Tom Painter, Jamie Emswiler and Linton Dabinet.

Red bows on sale soon

YOU know the festive season in Blackwood is on its way when you start seeing the colourful 'red bows' appearing in businesses and out the front of local homes.

Once again, this has been a challenging year for everyone, and with many events being adversely affected, the spectacle of the bows will be a welcome sight.

So make sure you buy some red bows and help brighten up your street and neighbourhood in the lead up to Christmas.

The overall effect of the whole district being adorned with red bows makes an eye catching statement, heralds in the festive season and fosters community spirit and goodwill.

You can purchase your package of red bow material, still only \$5 (cash only please), from the following outlets: Fairleys Shoe store in the Woolworths shopping centre, Habitat in the Drake's shopping centre and local MP Sam Duluk's office in Young St. Available at these locations from Monday 15 November.

The packaging of the material had a new look last year - gone is the plastic bag! The content remains the same as past years - a 3 metre length, which when cut long ways, will give you two big bows.

When Christmas is over keep your bows for next year or recycle responsibly by placing in the REDcycle bins in the supermarkets.

The red bow project is a Blackwood Action Group initiative and all proceeds go towards community projects.

Contact Joan or Adrian Beech on 8278 6796 for further information.



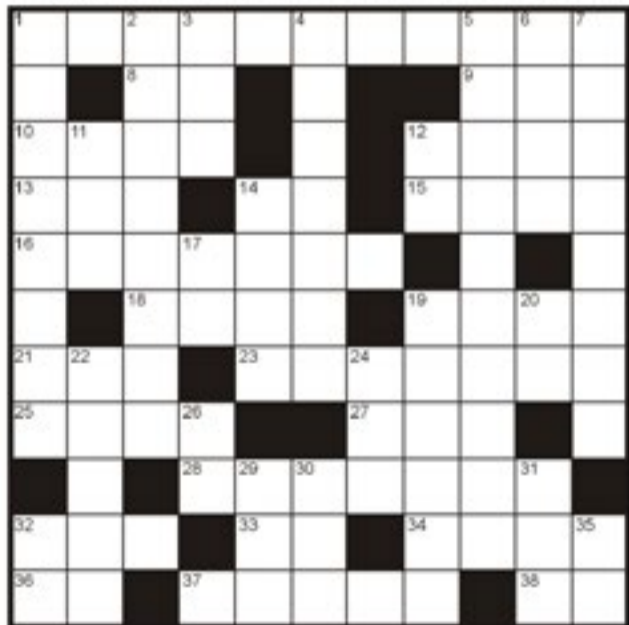
◆ Photo - BAG volunteers hard at work again in the Blackwood Memorial Hall, preparing the red bow packs for sale in November (from left): Adrian, Therese and Jim

LIONS BARGAIN CENTRE



HILLS OZ XWORD NO 62

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



- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Road to golf | 1 Underground water |
| 8 Alcoholics Anonymous | 2 Fast mammal |
| 9 Toilet | 3 PNG town |
| 10 Old-fashioned fork spike | 4 Belair church complex |
| 12 Pig | 5 Wrongdoing |
| 13 Electroencephalogram | 6 Hagar brings it home |
| 14 Noun suffix | 7 Town of Christmas lights |
| 15 Half a private chat | 11 Yes (slang) |
| 16 About space | 12 Road (abb) |
| 18 Yell | 14 Old Thailand |
| 19 Every | 17 Towards |
| 21 National Orchestra (abb) | 19 Four score |
| 23 Swag | 20 Compact disc |
| 25 Light | 22 Leaf |
| 27 A US soldier | 24 Label |
| 28 Loads | 26 North-west |
| 32 Mate | 29 Record company |
| 33 Millilitre (abb) | 30 Unwell |
| 34 Sort | 31 Resort |
| 36 Aluminium (symbol) | 32 Father |
| 37 Flower | 35 Extraterrestrial |
| 38 Expressing position | |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 15

Walk to school in support of climate change

HILLS residents and businesses are invited to take part in an 'Eco Walk to School' in support of more action on climate change.

On Friday, October 15, parents and children are being encouraged to gather their neighbours and friends, to wear something yellow and walk to school.

The Eco Walk to School is an initiative of a local group of parents who want to display to the community their solidarity for the environment.

"We are hosting Eco Walk to School on October 15, the National Day of

Action for climate change," said event organiser and local Belair Primary School mum, Kellie Howe.

"Being a parent is such a busy time, but we are always thinking about our children's future. This walk is one thing we can all, easily do, to show we care.

"We know 74% of voters in Boothby believe the Federal Government needs to be doing more to address climate change. Parents, community members and our children want to be heard.

"We want the Australian Federal Government to embrace a just transi-

tion to a climate-safe future, in line with the science, to protect our children's wellbeing and chances for prosperity," explained Kellie.

Hills community residents and businesses can get behind this event by walking or promoting the event. The Eco Walk to School website offers ideas and information for families, students, schools and businesses to make this walk a success.

Visit www.ecowalktoschool.com.au to register and for more information.



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Blackwood

We need your help!!

Drivers and meal deliverers wanted

Due to unprecedented demand since COVID ... we are in desperate need of more volunteers.



Duties include delivering a three course meal to our clients between 11am - 2pm one day per month - or more if you choose.

Ladies and men are welcome to join our volunteer group but will need a Police Check organised and paid for by Meals on Wheels.

New volunteers always find the experience of helping others in the community very rewarding.

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Anneke at Meals on Wheels Blackwood on 0431 665 214 to arrange an interview.

The sign you want..






Sold

4 2 2 631

5 Offler Avenue, Bellevue Heights
For Sale
Peter Alexandrou FREI 0412 833 501
Matthew Tuck 0402 994 677

HARRIS






Sold

3 2 2 851

11 Gault Road, Belair
For Sale
Kristy Dundon 0422 645 867

HARRIS


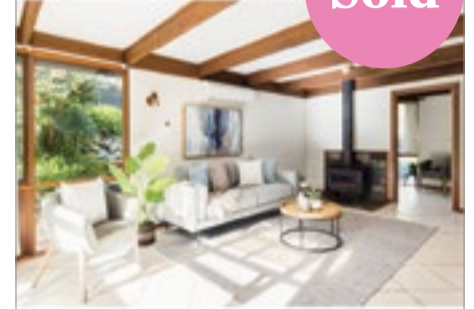



Sold

4 2 2 1035

1 Clarence Street, Blackwood
For Sale
Peter Alexandrou FREI 0412 833 501
Matthew Tuck 0402 994 677

HARRIS

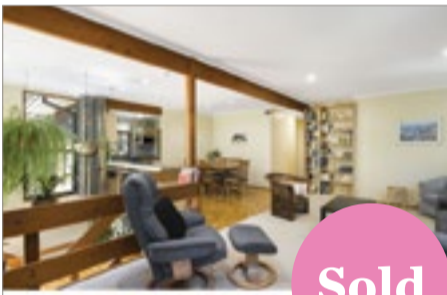




Sold

4 2 2 1127

5 Sherwood Drive, Glenalta
For Sale
Kristy Dundon 0422 645 867

HARRIS

Sold

3 2 2 1134

14 Monash Avenue, Belair
For Sale
Kristy Dundon 0422 645 867

HARRIS


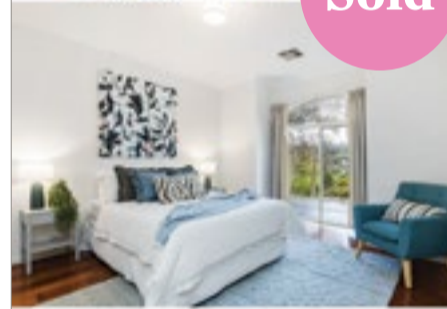


Sold

3 1 3 1378

1 Maple Road, Hawthorndene
For Sale
Kristy Dundon 0422 645 867

HARRIS






Sold

3 2 2 480

449 Main Road, Coromandel Valley
For Sale
Peter Alexandrou FREI 0412 833 501
Matthew Tuck 0402 994 677

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4 3 2 2587 m2

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HARRIS

208 Main Road, Blackwood
harrisre.com.au

An essential part of pet health



BY DR SARAH BROWNRIGG
BLACKWOOD VETS

GROOMING is an important part of healthcare in any pet. Depending on the species and breed of pet, their grooming needs could range from a weekly brush, to regular bathing and coat clipping, and should also involve checking the nails, skin and teeth.

Dog breeds that have continually growing coats such as Poodles, Maltese, Shi Tzu's and their crosses will need regular clipping approximately every 6-12 weeks, depending on how quickly their coat grows.

If not properly maintained, the coats of these dogs can become knotted and matted. Not only does this cause discomfort for the dog, but can lead to numerous health concerns including: heat stress, skin and ear infections, and can make them more prone to picking up grass seeds and burrs.

Other dogs with very thick coats such as the Siberian husky, Alaskan Malamute, Pomeranian and Keeshond require regular brushing to

remove their thick undercoat as it sheds. These dogs can also be clipped for comfort in summer. One common myth is that dogs with thick double coats won't grow their hair back normally after clipping; this is in fact not true.

It is important to get puppies used to being groomed at an early age, and develop positive experiences with being brushed and clipped so they are comfortable with having it done as adults.

Brushing your pet at home can be a great way to bond and get them used to being handled. It's also a good way of picking up any health concerns early, such as lumps and bumps, grass seeds in paws, or sore or infected ears.

Taking your pet to a professional groomer to have all of this done, takes the worry and stress out of this important service. This can be great for owners who do not have time to do this at home, pets who may not like being brushed and washed at home, and other pets who need more intensive management of their coats.

There are many groomers around Blackwood, including Blackwood Vets who are now offering a full hydrobath and grooming service. Maria Ormond is our resident groomer with over 25 years of grooming experience.

See below: 'About Town Dog Studio' which also offers an extensive range of pet grooming services in Blackwood and Glenunga area.

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*Offer ends 31 October

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10 WAITE ST, BLACKWOOD
(opposite Water Tower)
8278 6814

Snakes out looking for a meal and to breed

WARMER spring days sees South Australia's snakes slither out from their winter sleep, signalling the start of snake breeding season.

The Department for Environment and Water is advising everyone to be increasingly aware in both regional and urban areas ... including keeping a look out for their pets.

With increasing sunshine, snakes have already started to come out of hibernation, looking for a meal and to breed.

Department for Environment and Water's Principal Ecologist of Wildlife Management, Dr Karl Hillyard, said there are snakes all over South Australia, including metropolitan Adelaide.

"Eastern brown snakes are found everywhere, but each region has its local specialty," Dr Hillyard said. "Adelaide Hills has the red-bellied black snake, the River Murray and South East has the tiger snake, Eyre and Yorke peninsulas, especially near the coast, are known

places for death adders, with Kangaroo Island having copperheads and mulga snakes up north.

"Just because you've never seen a snake on your property doesn't mean they aren't there. So you should always be careful about putting your hands or feet into spots you can't see, like long grass or that pile of junk behind the shed and remember most of our snakes are venomous to some degree."

You can avoid snakes on your property by keeping your yard clear of long grass and removing rubbish so snakes have nowhere to hide. Dr Hillyard said snakes are generally shy and will not attack unless provoked, so if you spot one it's best to leave them be ... and especially be aware of what your pets are up to.

Snakes are protected native animals, and they have an important part to play in the ecosystem, especially in helping to control rats and mice.

Here's what to do if you see a snake:

- * Keep well away.
- * Don't try to catch or kill it yourself. This is when most bites happen.
- * If you see a snake inside, watch where it goes, keep children and pets away, then call a licensed snake catcher to remove it.
- * If the snake is outside and heading towards bushland or a field, leave it alone. Most snakes are not aggressive and won't chase you.
- * If a person is bitten, call 000. Wrap a pressure bandage tightly over the area of the bite, then use a second bandage and splints to immobilise the limb. Keep the person calm and still until you can get medical help.

For more information on how to maintain your property to reduce the likelihood of snakes, visit <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/plants-and-animals/living-with-wildlife/Snakes>





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vets with heart

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Vets Ali and Mary Ann with 'Roger'

Dr Ali Coleman

Dr Mary Ann Harvey

Dr Erin Taylor

Dr Sarah Brownrigg

Vet Nurses :

Rachel - Sarah

Lucy - Nicky - Emily

Hanna - Lucy

Maria - Grace

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DELIVERING OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN FOR AUSTRALIA

The National Accounts show our economy continued to grow in the June quarter.

Once again Australia's economy under the Morrison Liberal Government has proven its remarkable resilience.

Real GDP grew by 0.7% in the June quarter, to be 9.6% higher through the year – the strongest year of GDP growth on record.

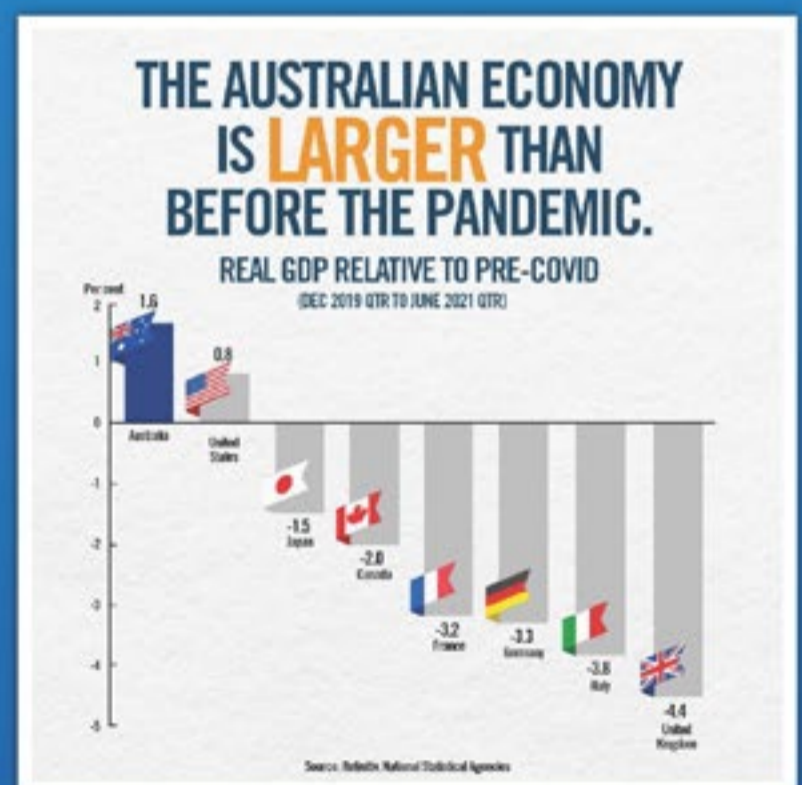
Australia's economy is now 1.6% larger than its pre-pandemic level. Our recovery is continuing to lead the pack ahead of any major advanced economy.

Despite the lockdowns, the Morrison Liberal Government's economic recovery plan is working to strengthen our economy.

We will continue working to a plan which will see Australia come through this crisis.

The result of this economic growth speaks for itself:

- Australia is one of only nine countries to maintain its AAA credit rating from the three leading credit rating agencies.
- Unemployment is at a 12-year low, with almost 115,000 jobs created in the June quarter.
- Household disposable income is 6% higher than pre-COVID levels, and continues to be supported by the Government's tax relief plan.
- Economic support continues to be provided to those in need through our COVID Disaster Payment and our business support packages.



Office of the Federal Member for **Boothby**

Shop 2, 670 Anzac Highway, Glenelg East SA 5045 (08) 8374 0511

Nicolle.Flint.MP@aph.gov.au nicolleflint.com.au NicolleFlintLiberal



Decision made on Oval build

by James Swanborough

UPDATED designs for a proposed changeroom facility at Hawthorndene Oval have been approved, giving local Cricket Club Coromandel Ramblers a home facility in the first time in its century long history.

The Club began meeting with Council staff in 2014/15 to discuss a facility proposal at Hawthorndene Oval. They submitted a grant application to Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, and in June 2020 were notified they were successful in receiving \$326,000.

Since that time, local residents voiced concern about the potential impacts to the oval environs, with specific worries regarding the consumption of alcohol and noise in the evening, utility of cricket nets impacting surrounding properties and the limitation of public use of the oval.

Following an extensive consultation process, which consisted of a survey and community working group, Mitcham Council has approved a new facility design which includes two changerooms separated by an operable wall, umpire changeroom,

a small kitchenette, storage, public toilets, deck and verandah.

The new facility design has been costed by a quantity surveyor at a cost of \$857,000 (including demolition of the existing public toilets). The plans now feature a bespoke design that will have a greater lifespan than the previously conceived modular building, require lower maintenance costs and incorporates environmental initiatives.

The decision to adopt recommendations from the Ramblers to include a retractable wall between the changerooms and a kitchenette will allow many other groups to use the facility when it is not in use for sport.

Mitcham Council have endorsed a 5 year tenancy for the Ramblers to utilise the facilities, which will now progress to development approval stage.

"This will be the third time we have presented plans for development approval," said a representative for the Ramblers; "but with the improvements in designs, from consultation with the community through the CLMP working group, we believe we have the right design to succeed." □

Community craft classes on display at annual exhibition

IT'S that time of the year again! With having to continually adapt to COVID-19, the AFL Grand Final has been played, and Christmas decorations are starting to appear in the shops, which means the annual 'Craft Fair and Exhibition' is not far away.

"As we enter the last months of the year, the Community Classes Program members here at Blackwood Uniting Church are working towards their



◆ Photo - many pop-up stalls are located in the stunning church interior ... worth just coming along to check out the extraordinary architecture

own big event," said Jacqui Harrison, Community Program Coordinator.

"It's a great community event held this year on Saturday, November 6, that attracts hundreds of people from all over Adelaide to view the beautiful artwork and craft pieces our students have created during the year, and also offers the opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping," said Jacqui.

The Community Classes Program currently has close to 200 members attending each week, with much important socialising always happening over a good cup of tea or coffee (Fair Trade of course).

For many, it's not simply learning new craft skills or completing projects for loved ones, but more the feeling of community and strong friendships built over the years. Many members started attending when their children were babies, but now these children are grown adults and the parents have continued with the Community Classes. Talk about dedication!

This year, the Craft Fair & Exhibition will include an extensive display of artwork, "prize-winning" crafts and embroidery, mosaics and quilts galore. There will also be stallholders from the local community selling gifts in time for Christmas as well as jams, cakes, our popular plant stall, and much more!

Come along for an enjoyable time, see what's on offer and taste some delicious food from the café. Feel free to bring kids too, there's something for everyone!

□ For more information about the Craft Fair & Exhibition to be held on Saturday, November 6 or the Community Classes, please contact the Community Program Coordinator, Jacqui Harrison on 8278 7699 or email office@blackwooduc.org.au

Best year on and off the greens for bowling club

BLACKWOOD Bowling Club is not only celebrating one of its most successful years in pennant competition, but the Club has also received a major floodlight upgrade for the greens and built a new outdoor entertainment area.

The Simla Parade club is installing state-of-the-art lights to their third green to meet the increased demand for its popular 'night owls' program.

President Mark Manuel says the upgrade coincides with the opening of a \$50,000 barbecue and entertainment area for members and local community.

"It's certainly been a tough 18 months with COVID, but we've managed to weather this with a great year both on and off the greens," said Mark. "We topped it off by being named a finalist in the Bowls SA Bowling Club of the Year."

The club fields nine teams in Adelaide's metro pennant competition and last season finished top of the ladder in four divisions and second in a fifth.

And in a rare achievement, the top women's team was promoted for the second year in a row, going from division three two years ago to division one for the 2021-22 season.

"That's an outstanding result and capped off the club's most successful season since 1982," said Mark. "Five of our nine teams have been promoted to a higher division for next season which means we'll be taking on more players."

The \$54,000 light-

ing upgrade has been supported by a \$23,100 State Government grant and involves using the latest energy-efficient LED lighting.

Blackwood has three bowling greens with lights on two of them for night bowling. The funding will enable lights on one of these greens to be upgraded while illuminating half of the third green.

"This will allow the club to expand its night owls program on Tuesday and Wednesday nights to help meet demand," says Mark.

"Night owls attracts people of all ages and they don't have to be members of the club to enrol a team. But it's become so popular in recent years that we've been forced to turn people away."

The Club is also very appreciative of the invaluable support Mitcham Council has provided during the recent upgrades.

□ For more information on joining the Blackwood Bowling Club, phone 8278 1937.



◆ Photo - Members enjoying the new outside area recently constructed at the Blackwood Bowling Club

We all have a role to play in tackling climate change

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BLACKWOOD

SOME people are critical of councils for not sticking to 'roads, rates and rubbish'; their so-called core business.

But councils have a mandated responsibility to provide parks, playing fields, libraries, public health services and environmental initiatives as well.

The recent IPCC report has warned that urgent action is needed to deal with climate change. Subsequent community surveys clearly indicate public desire for such urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to transition to renewable energy.

We all have a role to play.

Sadly, the Federal Government refuses to take the serious action needed to address these, or have any plans to adapt to the increasing weather extremes.

The State Government has committed to net zero emissions by 2050, but is sluggish in developing any plans about how to get there.

The impacts of climate change are being felt in more extreme hot days, heat waves, increasing fire danger days, flood risks from storm events and pressure on trees and plants. These all affect our local communities and put pressure on councils to manage them. Fortunately, councils are demonstrating good leadership.

Many councils, including Mitcham have declared a climate emergency providing a framework for programs and projects to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to provide good examples and information for their communities.

Mitcham Council has been changing the street lights to LEDs, installing solar panels on council buildings, replacing

vehicles with EVs and providing information sessions on sustainable living for ratepayers.

Nearby, Unley Council has an environmental strategy for its own operations including a plan to be carbon neutral by 2023, and is engaging with community environmental groups to develop plans for the future.

Similarly, Marion Council has a policy to provide leadership in the risks and opportunities posed by a changing climate leading to a more resilient future for its community. It plans to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Councils continue to build community capacity for climate resilience including educating residents on behaviour change. Check out their websites for more.

They are demonstrating serious leadership in local communities towards mitigating climate change and adapting to the inevitable changes that we are experiencing, and they should be encouraged to do more.

So far from sticking to 'roads, rates and rubbish', councils are demonstrating a commitment to a new R - 'resilience' that will be necessary for us all to have a sustainable future.

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



Blackwood Community Classes presents

CRAFT FAIR & EXHIBITION

Saturday, 6th November - 9am to 3pm

Handmade Crafts for Sale, Art & Craft Exhibitions, Plants for sale, Community Café & much more!

At the Blackwood Uniting Church | (The Church at the Roundabout)
266 Main Road, Blackwood
Ph: 8278 7699
www.blackwooduc.org.au



We Serve

Challenging year dominated by the impact of Covid



Xmas Pageant postponed for another year

"WE are proud that the Blackwood Lions Club is very community minded and nothing illustrates this more than the annual Lions Christmas Pageant," said Blackwood Lions Club Pageant Coordinator, Lew Corso (above).

"However, this year because of the impact of COVID, and the requirements of adhering to the SA Health COVID Plan, the committee has made the difficult decision to postpone the Blackwood Pageant for another year to December 2022," said Lew.

The Christmas Parade, which is normally held through the heart of Blackwood on the first Friday in December each year, involves a lot of organising and help from members of different service clubs and organisations.

"With around 13,000 onlookers turning out each year and some 850 Pageant participants, we could not take the risk of a virus outbreak. As so much time and effort goes into presenting the Pageant, a decision had to be made early based on the current environment."

Blackwood Xmas Pageant postponed to 2022

"Please be assured that our major concern at all times has been for the safety of the community, however, the Blackwood Lions Club are committed to supporting this major community event into the future ... starting again with the 2022 Christmas Pageant," added Lew.

THE Lions Club of Blackwood has a proud record of service to the Community over the past 56 years the report on this page is an indication of the activities that the Club has been able to undertake over the past 12 months.

As with many organisations and groups, the activities of Blackwood Lions Club has been greatly impeded by the COVID pandemic! However, one shining light has been the Club reaching the \$3 million mark in turnover since opening the Bargain Centre.

"We have had to cancel some of our regular meetings, and because of regulations, at times have been forced to close our Bargain Centre on Shepherds Hill Road at Eden Hills, which is the Club's main fundraising project," said Kevin Brook, incoming Blackwood Lions Club President.

"However, we are fortunately up and running again with COVID restrictions in place. We know that masks and QR check-ins are an inconvenience, however, given the response of the public to our Centre being open and the service we are providing to the community ... we need to stay open."

Even with these fundraising constraints, the Club was still able to distribute funds to over 40 recipients during the year ... see below.

"We thank Mitcham Council for their support financially and in kind, and must not lose sight of the ability to achieve much more with any grant money when the labour and skills of club members are made available for these projects," explained Kevin.

"And of course, the success of our activities are as a result of the tremendous support we receive from the Adelaide Hills community - and we thank them for their patience and understanding during these challenging times."

Despite the difficulties experienced by the whole community, the Club still managed to provide some 10,000 hours of service equating to some \$30,000 worth of labour across the year.

Blackwood Lions Club could not survive without its volunteers, so if you have some spare time on your hands and would like to help give back to the community that you live in, new members and enquiries are always welcome.

To find out more, call Kevin Brook on 0407 970 603.



We Serve

Your needs are our concern

THE Blackwood Lions Club continues to seek out the needs within the community and last year was no exception.

Donations went to over 40 organisations and causes, locally, state wide, nationally and internationally.

Major donations were made to:

- * Disaster Relief \$20,000
- * Blackwood High School bursaries \$5,000
- * Scouts Groups \$2,000
- * Primary School Y7s \$500
- * Blackwood Football Club (defibrillator) \$2,000

"We look forward to continued success and building on the cooperation that exists amongst us and the willingness of our Lions and their partners to participate in so many community ventures," said incoming President Kevin Brook (on left).

"These events often involve holding BBQs, the Eve Anzac Day Vigil, and the Blackwood Christmas Pageant to mention a few; with our biggest fundraiser activity still being the Lions Bargain Centre."



Emergency booklet is a life saver

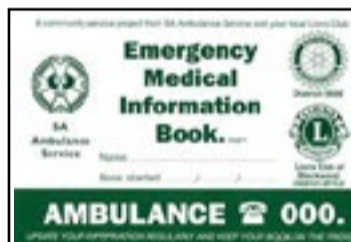
THIS project undertaken by the Blackwood Lions Club is offering the means of saving lives.

The Emergency Medical Information (EMIB) booklet, available from most doctors and chemists in Blackwood, is filled out by you with information about your medical history, the medication your taking, etc. and placed on the front of your refrigerator.

Should an ambulance need to be called, they have immediate access to your medical information and don't have to wait to carry out tests in hospital. The time saved can often be the difference between life and death. We urge you, especially those with known conditions, to pick up and fill out these booklets.

The EMIB Project is now endorsed by the CAA (Council of Ambulance Authorities). We as Lions have distributed just over 300,000 books throughout the whole of Australia since becoming part of the project.

For any information regarding the EMIB project, visit the website www.emib.org.au or contact chairman Chris Martin from Blackwood Lions at e: martin.chris@internode.on.net



What it means to be a Lion ...

A simple question with a simple answer ... the ability to contribute to an organisation that has the demonstrable ability to make a difference not only at an international level, but more importantly, at a local community level.

The bonus is that the fundraising activity is an enjoyable experience by being a part of the team structure at the Lions Bargain Centre along with the social aspect of our business meetings, where we discuss the dispersal of funds as a club enabling input from the whole membership.

The Club is always looking for community minded men and women of all ages to help us by joining the Club - giving back to the community in which we all live and enjoy.

Fellowship, good times, meeting people, building lasting friendships, service to the community, learning skills, leadership and personal development - are just some of the good things and benefits about being a member of Lions.

A meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month, followed by our social meeting held on the third Wednesday.

You become part of the world's largest service and humanitarian organisation.

To find out more information on the Blackwood Lions Club, call Kevin Brook on 0407 970 603.



BLACKWOOD LIONS CLUB ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2021



Thank you Blackwood & districts!

Through your generosity the Lions Club of Blackwood has been able to support the following with Donations in excess of \$70,000 -

- Aberfoyle Park Scouts
- ANZAC Eve Vigil
- Australian-Cambodian Foundation
- Australian Lions Foundation
- Belair Guides
- Belair Scouts
- Bellevue Heights Primary School
- Blackwood Action Group
- Blackwood Calisthenics
- Blackwood Circle of Friends
- Blackwood High School
- Blackwood Kindergarten

- Blackwood Memorial Hall
- Blackwood Primary School
- Blackwood Recreation Centre
- Blackwood Scouts
- Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall
- Christian Blind Mission
- Eden Hills Scouts
- Emergency Medical Booklets (EMIB)
- Haiti Flood Appeal
- Hope International
- Lesotho Book Project

- Lions Alzheimer's Association
- Lions Childhood Cancer Research
- Lions Clubs International Foundation
- Lions Christmas Hampers
- Lions Drug Awareness Foundation
- Lions Eye Banks
- Lions Eye Health Programs
- Lions Hearing Dogs
- Lions Medical Research Foundation
- Lions Save Sight Foundation

- Lions Skin Cancer Screenings
- Lions Spinal Cord Foundation
- Lions World Peace Poster
- Lions Used Specs Collection
- Lions Youth of the Year
- Mary Potter Foundation
- Meals on Wheels
- Mitchell Park Cricket Club
- Mitchell Park Football Club
- Morphett Vale Scouts
- Multiple Sclerosis Society
- Nature Foundation

- OSSAA (Overseas Specialist Surgical Assn of Aust)
- Plan International
- Reynella Scouts
- Royal Flying Doctor Service
- SCOSA
- St Johns Ambulance
- Sturt CFS
- Technical Aid for Disabled

Plus many more local, national & international organizations

Gardening improves health and wellbeing

THROUGH these challenging times, many people are finding much satisfaction and joy from creating and growing a veggie garden. It is well known that there are many health benefits to be gained from your garden.

There is a long history of looking to one's own garden when times are difficult and challenging. Today, there is a strong resurgence in the backyard and small-plot food growing, canning, bottling and preserving.

Growing your own food at home may not solve all of your family's food needs, but the practice of picking, preserving and cooking one's own food brings a sense of control and calm.

The Cherington House Therapeutic Community Garden, run by the Cancer Care Centre Inc., and adjacent to Integrative Health Solutions, Laffers Road Belair, (formerly Blackwood Hospital) was opened by Sophie Thomson last Spring.

The beautiful garden, rich in local history, is holding a series of Spring organic gardening workshops for all gardeners, new and old, wanting to create a more sustainable and healthy lifestyle and discover the rich and joyful benefits that come from food gardening.

Few people would know that the history of the Cherington property was that it was once part of a 100 acre very productive, fruit growing orchard owned and run by the Hannaford family. The Mitcham Council have preserved the original farm fruit packing shed as a museum, down the bottom of Laffers Road.

The focus for these forthcoming gardening workshops is on the health and wellbe-



ing aspect of gardening and the benefits and advantages that abound.

With titles like 'Herbs for Nerves' and 'Gardening for Gut Health' - these workshops offer creative and different perspectives for gardeners interested in improving personal health.

'Herbs for Nerves' with Lily Graham and Sue Lohmeyer will be held on Wednesday 20th October from 10am to 12.30pm.

While 'Gardening for Gut Health' with Remedy Bliss will be held on Wednesday 27th October from 10am to 12.30pm.

For further details ring the Cancer Care Centre on 8272 2411.



Open garden for public view

AFTER complying with COVID regulations for most of this year, many homeowners are now able to open their properties for the public to view under the Open Gardens South Australia scheme.

So at last, hard-working garden owners Rob Andrewartha and Dave Simms of Eden Hills can finally showcase their property later this month.

In 2003, a corner block they had purchased on Wilpena Street in Eden Hills was nothing more than bare earth with a tennis court in disrepair. Now, it's a flower-filled garden that is spectacular enough to be open to the public on October 16 and 17 as part of Open Gardens South Australia.

Their sloping block was tamed by using retaining walls and steps to form distinct garden rooms. They have laid three lawns, hundreds of pavers, built a fishpond, barrowed in 130 tons of topsoil, laid 160 metres of retaining walls and planted 600 hedging plants.

"It's involved some serious excavation work," Rob said. "We will never forget the day the giant earth mover took away all of the topsoil and left the block completely bare. Not a tree or a blade of grass in sight - we really were starting from scratch!"

Nowadays, the garden features roses, herbaceous borders, a veggie patch, beehive, chook

shed plus a lawn walk which is 22 yards long in subtle tribute to the house's cricketing past.

"The house was once owned by Ian and Greg Chappell's great uncle" explains Dave Simms. "Rumour has it that the boys practiced their bowling and batting skills on the tennis court many years ago."

Open Gardens SA is a not-for-profit organisation overseen by a dedicated committee of South Australian garden lovers, including designers, horticulturalists and garden owners.

The South Australian organisation has become an enormous success. In the first 12 months, more than 50 private gardens have opened as part of the new Open Gardens SA program, welcoming more than 20,000 visitors with approximately \$80,000 going back to garden owners and their chosen charities.

Many garden owners choose to use their opens to support their favourite charity. This season, your visits helped the 'open garden' owners to donate more than \$62,000 to about 25 charities - bringing the total raised for charities since Open Gardens SA was established in 2015 to almost \$800,000.

The property located at 41 Wilpena Street, Eden Hills will be open on Saturday October 16 and Sunday October 17 from 10am to 4pm. Adult entry is \$8. High tea on the lawn is \$15 raising extra funds for the Animal Welfare League's foster care program.



WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

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

◆ 3 October

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

◆ 3 October

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

◆ 3 & 17 October

OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE - located in the Belair National Park and is open from 1-4.30pm. Tour with afternoon tea \$10pp and tour only \$5 for adults and children under 12 free. Entry into Belair National Park is free if visiting OGH - tell staff at gate. For more information phone 0417 870 596.

◆ 4 & 18 October

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

◆ 4 & 18 October

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, please contact Peter on 0408 841 150.

◆ 6 October

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

◆ 7 October

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.

◆ 8 October

KIDS HOLIDAY CIRCUS ACTIVITIES - held at Coromandel Community Centre for young children. For details phone the Centre on 8370 6880 or visit www.coromandel.org.au

◆ 9 October

GIANT BOOK SALE - held at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade from 9am-4pm. Books start at 50 cents - organised by Blackwood Rotary.

◆ 9 October

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

◆ 9 October

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

◆ 9 & 10 October

BACKYARD BEEKEEPING - intensive weekend workshop held at Coromandel Community Centre with experienced local apiarist. \$320 per person. Phone 8370 6880 for more.

◆ 10 & 24 October

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

◆ 12 October

COOKING FOR MEN - healthy eating and easy cooking for men held at Coromandel Community Centre. 6 sessions from 10am-12.30pm with bookings essential. Phone 8370 6880.

◆ 12, 19 & 26 October

MY LIFE STORY WORKSHOP - held at Blackwood Uniting Church (near round-

about) from 9.30am-12.30pm. Ever wanted to put together your life story? Produce a professionally bound book with your own photos and celebrate a well lived life. Phone 8278 7699.

◆ 13 October

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

◆ 14 October

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.

◆ 15 October

Eco WALK TO SCHOOL - a local initiative for children, parents and the community to wear something yellow and walk to school in support of more action on climate change. Visit www.ecowalktoschool.com.au for more details.

◆ 16 October - 21 November

TIWARTISTS EXHIBITION - held at AIARTS Gallery, 28 Neate Avenue, Belair from 1-5pm Saturday & Sundays. Opening 2pm Sat 16 Oct. For details, phone Angelika on 0477 174 040 or email: aiarts@adam.com.au

◆ 16 & 17 October

OPEN GARDEN - held at 41 Wilpena Street, Eden Hills and open from 10am-4pm each day. Entry is \$8 and \$15 for high tea. Proceeds to Animal Welfare League.

◆ 17 October

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 October

GARDEN FOR HEALTH - held in

Cherington Gardens (formerly Blackwood Hospital grounds), Laffers Road from 10am -12.30pm. 'Herbs for Nerves' workshop. Phone Cancer Care Centre on 8272 2411 for more.

◆ 25 October

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

◆ 25 October

MITCHAM HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Tonsley Hotel, 1274 South Road from 10.15am. Come and enjoy our happy and friendly retirees for fun, fellowship and friendship. Phone Christine on 8178 2601 or visit www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills

◆ 27 October

GARDEN FOR HEALTH - held in Cherington Gardens (formerly Blackwood Hospital grounds), Laffers Road from 10am -12.30pm. 'Gardening for Gut Health' workshop. Phone Cancer Care Centre on 8272 2411 for more.

◆ 28 October

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF COROMANDEL VALLEY - has relocated to St Johns Anglican Church Hall, 337 Main Road, Coromandel Valley. Meetings are held at 10 am 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 on 0448 351 880 for more info.

◆ Every Saturday

LIONS BARGAIN CENTRE - open from 8.30am to 12.30pm at Colebrook Drive (off Shepherds Hill Road), Eden Hills (next to Karinya Reserve). Good quality secondhand household goods for sale. Two huge sheds hold every

outside and inside item available including the kitchen sink! Great for browsing on a Saturday morning.

◆ Every Monday

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

◆ Every Tuesday

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

◆ Every Wednesday

AUSTRALIAN RETIRED PERSONS ASSN (BLACKWOOD) - Active Over 50's meet at the Blackwood Football Clubrooms on Trevor Tce, Blackwood from 9:30am til 2pm. Do you enjoy Table Tennis, Indoor Bowls, Darts, Pool and Board Games? Tea, Coffee and biscuits supplied BYO Lunch. Enquiries to Brian Andrews on 8327 1247 or Jackie Butler on 8276 3132.

◆ Every Thursday

COROMANDEL BRIDGE CLUB - meet at the Coromandel Community Centre, Weymouth Oval at 12.30pm. New members and visitors welcome. Tuition available to the inexperienced and learners. Phone Roger on 8278 5320 or Chris on 0424 615 290.

◆ Every Friday

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

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Letters to the Editor

☐ Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers. Submit a 'Letter to the Editor' including name and suburb at email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

Child care centre concerns

Why in the world would you build a childcare centre for 108 children with 27 carparks on the corner of a busy, major arterial road and just a few hundred metres from two existing childcare centres in Blackwood? (Mitcham Council Assessment Panel on 2nd September granted approval for the construction of the childcare centre on the corner of Wilpena Street and Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills.)

Part of the answer was given in *The Sunday Mail* (29 August) which revealed that childcare centres are chasing money, not need, and the new State Planning Code effectively locks out community opposition. There is strong opposition to this proposal from residents. This proposal is for a significant commercial entity in an otherwise entirely residential area of Eden Hills and the proposed site is opposite an existing choke point for traffic ie. Blackwood Schools, Wittunga Botanic Gardens, Blackwood Recreation Centre, and it is the main access road for the suburb including to the Eden Hills Railway Station and Eden Hills Primary School.

This is an inappropriate location and doesn't consider the health and safety of those who live or visit the area and the children who will be exposed to constant noise and air pollution.

Caroline Fleming, Eden Hills

The Mitcham Council Assessment Panel (CAP) has approved the building of a child care centre (CCC) on a S-bend, adjacent to a pollution generating and traffic congested corner at Wilpena St and Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills.

Eden Hills is now in a Hills Neighbourhood zone and a facility benefiting the community can be approved.

However, the development is for a commercial enterprise, one of a chain of such centres with corporate badging and specifying construction materials suited to an urban location

rather than customised for the hills environment eg a 2.4m high 'monument' dark grey colorbond acoustic fence.

The developers have indicated a willingness to consult with neighbouring stakeholders on fencing issues. Hopefully this materialises. More detailed landscaping features were submitted and approved, sympathetic to the surroundings and the Wittunga Botanic Gardens opposite.

The community was asked to provide feedback on the proposal and the primary concern for local residents was traffic into and out of Wilpena St as it, and the adjacent Parham Rd, are the only access points from neighbourhood roads for right turns onto Shepherds Hill Rd.

It can be near impossible to turn right at times, and in 2022, an estimated 250 additional year 7 students from various local feeder schools will be attending Blackwood High School. Despite these concerns, traffic issues were not deemed that serious by the council traffic team or an independent report.

Under the 2016 State Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act, and the Planning and Design Code effective from March 2021, councils have less say in a planning proposal.

As long as an application 'ticks' all the relevant boxes, it can go ahead, despite the strength of community feeling. The only councillor member at the Mitcham CAP, representing ratepayers, voted against it; two of the three other members present, including the chair, voted for it though said their 'intuition' told them traffic would be an issue.

Residents of Adelaide and Norwood Payneham and St Peters city councils are currently opposed to development approvals for structures that exceed the council height guidelines that existed prior to March this year. There is now no appeal to a planning decision except by costly legal challenge.

Adelaide in 2021 has been named as the 3rd most liveable city in the world. Eden Hills residences have been described as hiding lots of gems behind the trees. But for how much longer,

if lifestyle is pushed aside in the name of progress and acceding to corporate profit?

Government has given, (knowingly?), a smoother, fast track process for development applications that don't meet the 'pub test' of public opinion. An early review of the Planning and Design Code is suggested to give power back to the community through its councils and representatives elected by the people.

Jane Peace, Eden Hills

Women's Rights must remain a priority

As the world watched the news unfolding from Afghanistan over the last weeks, we at Zonta International were concerned for the rights of the women and girls there now.

Zonta International has fought for gender equality for more than a century, focusing on ensuring women's full and equal participation in society and securing equal opportunities for girls to pursue an education and realize their full potential.

We have been supporting women in Afghanistan via the provision of tetanus immunisation from 2002-2006 and partnering with the Afghan Institute of Learning from 2002 to 2008 to support education for women and girls in their country.

From these partnerships, we understand and value the importance of girls' education in achieving gender equality.

We have concerns that Afghan women will have limitations imposed that will prohibit them from being involved in their own decision-making.

We will work through our General Consultative Status at the United Nations to advocate for women and girls in Afghanistan to be able to participate fully in their society and have access to quality education without fear for their safety or their lives.

For more information, email: zcahills@gmail.com

Joy O'Hazy, Belair

Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills member

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Impact on threatened species following Cherry Gardens bushfire

A NUMBER of South Australia's threatened species will be tracked over the next three years following the January 2021 Cherry Gardens bushfire.

With 60% of the Mt Bold Reservoir-Scott Creek Conservation Complex remnant vegetation burnt during the fire, the new monitoring program will help Department for Environment and Water (DEW) ecologists determine how the landscape is recovering, how threatened fauna species are responding, and inform fire management programs to ensure their future survival.

Department for Environment and Water Senior Ecologist for Nature Conservation, Randall Johnson, said the new monitoring project will provide ecologist with important information about habitat recovery and will help plan future prescribed burns in the area.

"The Mt Bold-Scott Creek remnant vegetation complex is one of the most important areas for the conservation of healthy ecosystems in the Mt Lofty Ranges, home to a range of priority threatened animals including the endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot and the endangered Mt Lofty Ranges subspecies of the Chestnut-rumped Heathwren," he said.

"The monitoring project will use 69 motion detection cameras to monitor threatened Southern Brown Bandicoots, which will help determine how the threatened species is responding to such a significant fire

event as well as increase understanding of how they are using the remaining unburnt areas.

"What we know from previous studies is that Bandicoots have a preference for newly regenerating heathland and that densities are at their highest in habitats five to seven years post-fire.

"Despite the scale of the Cherry Gardens fire event, some heathy habitats in the Mount Bold-Scott Creek complex haven't been burnt for a long time and are getting to the point that they no longer provide suitable habitat for these threatened species.

"Considering the impacts on habitat for these threatened species, and the need to undertake burning within the area to manage fuel loads and regenerate habitat for threatened species, the research will help us understand when key species reoccupy habitats impacted by the Cherry Gardens fire and how DEW can responsibly plan and carry out prescribed burns in future years," explained Randall.

National Threatened Species Day is held annually in September to raise awareness about Australian plants and animals that are at risk of extinction in the wild.

Learn more about some of South Australia's lesser-known threatened species at <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/news-hub/news/articles/2019/09/threatened-species-day-lesser-known>

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Start cleaning up around your home now with free organic drop off days

CLEAN up now for the bushfire season! It's time to prepare for the summer months ahead.

Mitcham Council is offering local residents free open days at the Lynton Green Organics Drop Off Facility at Beagle Terrace, Lynton.

The 'free' drop off days for Council ratepayers are October 11, 16, 25 & 30; November 6, 15, 20 & 29; December 4 & 13, 2021; January 8; and February 5, 2022.

The Lynton Green Organics Drop Off Facility is one of the options available to Mitcham residents for disposal of green organic waste. The facility is open 9am-3pm with fees normally applying for disposal except on the free days indicated above.

This service is only available to Mitcham residents maintaining their own properties and you will need to provide proof of residency within the City of Mitcham.

Acceptable proof could be your drivers license or rates notice. This facility is not open to commercial operators.

If you are visiting on one of the regular non-free days you will also need to pay a disposal fee. They accept EFTPOS/credit cards and cash.

Please be aware that on certain days the facility can be busy. Please consider the weather conditions and prepare appropriately (eg bring water, hat, gloves).

The Lynton facility will accept grass clippings, leaves, plant and tree prunings, and tree branches (no larger than 200mm).

They will not take declared weeds, dirt and soil, treated or painted timber, Medium Density Fibreboard, building materials, food scraps, paper and cardboard, plastic, hard waste items, asbestos, or chemicals

Loads contaminated with these items will be refused.

All green organic material collected is transported to a commercial composting contractor and turned into mulch. On average, the depot receives

over 600 tonnes of green organic material per year which is diverted from landfill through residents and Council using the Green Organics Drop-off Facility.

For more information you can contact Council on 8372 8888 or emailing mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or visiting the website <https://www.mit-chamcouncil.sa.gov.au/services/kerb-side-waste-and-recycling-collection/lynton-green-organics>

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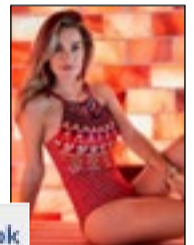
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