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# More consult needed for new Hub name

see story pg 3

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# New Council by-law passed to keep cats indoors

by James Swanborough

THE decision to introduce a new council by-law to keep cats indoors from January 2024 has been met with general support from the community.

Effective from 1 January 2024, new 24/7 confinement controls will apply for all cats born after 1 January 2024 that are registered with the Council, and any new cats to the area that are registered with the Council on or after 1 January 2024.

Council staff will undertake a high level of education and awareness to maximise voluntary compliance with the adopted by-law, and fines will only be considered for repeat offenders or those that ignore repeated warnings or advice from officers.

Community feedback received was extensive and very detailed in nature.

While 65% of community respondents showed support for cat confinement, the new legislation will only apply to newly purchased and unregistered cats, reflecting a concern that quality of life for those cats already accustomed to roaming, may be diminished.

However, there is a clause in relation to cats creating a nuisance (this is an existing clause on

the current by-law), therefore cat owners must continue to ensure their cats do not create a nuisance to other residents.

The introduction of the new by-law will include a significant education and awareness program in relation to cat confinement.

While some said the new legislation did not go far enough to protect native species, Ms Bev Langley of Cherry Gardens Animal Rescue organisation Minton Farm stated that it was a positive development.

"There was a compromise to delay two years. That was the compromise needed to get the two-thirds majority vote in the chamber, to change a bylaw," said Bev.

"This will get us started rather than having to reconsult on a stronger option and is only fair for cat owners to prepare."

Bev has long been a strong supporter of cat confinement, and sees the outcome of irresponsible pet ownership first hand. "The Adelaide Hills area hosts so many cats, and they do the highest percentage of wildlife damage that we receive," she said.

Residents speaking out on social media also shared their support for the measures.

*An first important step. Hopefully with more*

*education of the impact of unrestrained cats owners will be more willing to voluntarily manage their pets in the nearer future,"* posted one person.

Another posted, *Brilliant outcome and totally unexpected. I have simply come to expect procrastination and fence sitting on decisions that are important, divisive and potential vote losers.*

While another posted, *That's great news. I really hope people getting cats between now and then (1/1/24) - and current owners, see the benefits of confinement. Even though they don't have to.*

Others voiced concern that the regulation could provide loopholes for those who choose to ignore their responsibility as pet owners.

*Sadly, the elephant in the room with this bylaw is the use of the term "registered cats" in this council ... will you see a decline in registration or no registration at all? which means very difficult to "police". A beginning but has big holes in it.*

And another posted, *This may add to the numbers of unsexed cats. If you desex you must microchip. So I fear community members will not desex to avoid this."*

Residents are reminded that the restriction



does not mean that cats must stay indoors, as long as they are confined to the owner's property; and that cat runs and enclosures (see above) are an excellent solution to provide added quality of life for your cat, without worry that they might wander. □

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**Catherine Hutchesson MP**  
 Member for Waite

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 1/7-9 Young Street, Blackwood SA 5051  
 f CatherineHutchessonMP

## Support women to reach potential

DURING August, the Adelaide Hills Zonta Club installed a display of striking fluorescent cut-outs of orange ladies in many different poses in the Mitcham Library foyer.

This display of vibrant and active ladies was interspersed with contrasting black and white information panels that described the aims, goals and work of Zonta.

It also highlighted how passionate volunteers spearhead campaigns that work for changes in law and society. Zonta is an International non-government organization, which has 1,200 clubs across the globe.

As an advocate for change, the Club supports women and girls to reach their full potential. Raising awareness of the importance and benefits of gender equality is a major part of what Zonta does.

So, it is momentous that this year for the first time, there are elected women representatives for all three levels of government in our local area. Three of those elected members met with a few Zontions to view the display.

The Adelaide Hills Club began in 1987, and continues to work for improvements to

the health, safety, welfare and advancement of women both locally and internationally, by contributing financially to United Nations projects designed to empower women.

Locally, they are proud to have pioneered new initiatives such as Birthing Kits, Getting Started Buckets and the Expect Respect Project.

\* Birthing Kits, now a Foundation in its own right, provide a clean birth for Mother and Child and education for Traditional Birthing assistants in third world conditions.

\* Getting Started Buckets help women embark on a new beginning after either having a baby without support and/or fleeing domestic abuse.

\* The Expect Respect Project supports schools and young people in learning about respectful relationships. It combines teachers, experts, and the local community to create an holistic learning experience. Successfully running in Mount Barker schools since 2012, it hopefully will begin in Blackwood soon.

□ If you would like to find out more on the Zonta organisation, phone Bev on 0407 603 117 or email: [zcahills@gmail.com](mailto:zcahills@gmail.com)

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◆ Photo - Zonta members with first-time elected women in government, at their Mitcham Council display (from left): Federal Member for Boothby Louise Miller-Frost MP, Bev Hocking, City of Mitcham Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross, Susie Clarke, Member for Waite Catherine Hutchesson MP and Sue Dobie.

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# Hub name must celebrate coming together

by James Swanborough

THE naming of the new Blackwood Hub & Community Library building will go back to community consultation, after the name "Kumangka" was deemed unsuitable by the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation, due to its usage in other places.

Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, said there was concern that more consultation needed to take place before a decision was made. "At a recent Council meeting, Cr Lindy Taueber had moved that we should go to consultation again, but that part of the motion became void, because we received word prior to the meeting, that we would not receive approval to use the name Kumangka," explained Heather.

"What happened was, some of the Aboriginal people we were working with, suggested that Kumangka was a good name as it means community gathering place, and so we went to consultation not knowing how much community support there would be for a Kurna name.

"The response we received overwhelmingly supported using a Kurna name, so we then went to the Kurna Yerta board, and they said that because that name has been used for several other places that it wasn't appropriate."

Cr Taueber's motion stated that she sought to deliver a response to both the continual flow of emails from residents expressing concern that they were not aware of the consultation around the naming of the Blackwood Community Hub and their wish to participate, and new information around where this consultation was and was not promoted.

"At the time of Council making the naming decision (14 June 2022), it was not considered, that the consultation was not promoted in *The Blackwood Times*, nor in the hard copy of the Mitcham Community News, nor in the Library blurb newsletter or to the regular users of the Blackwood Community Centre," said Cr Taueber.

"Providing an opportunity for all residents to contribute to the consultation is appropriate."

Uncle Tamaru Kartinyeri (Karrl Smith) Kurna Elder, Co-Chair of the Blackwood Reconciliation Group and Native Title Signatory also considered the consultation to be inadequate: "I do think the decision is a bit rushed. There needs to be more consultation on the naming of the space Blackwood Community Hub as to help Council staff and Mitcham residents understand why Kurna lan-

guage is used, and how to pronounce the word correctly. For in the future, this will greatly help Councils RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) journey with transparency.

"You have my support for more public consultation with language workshop or a community round table meeting to openly discuss the topic."

While the decision on naming has been prolonged, Council passed a motion to continue honouring Ivor Symons, whom the current Blackwood Library is named after.

Ivor Symons, a City of Mitcham Alderman and Councillor 1940-1970, was a significant State wide advocate for free libraries. Symons and his colleagues' advocacy was rewarded when the Elizabeth Library opened in 1957. Mitcham Council entered the public library ranks in 1960 with the opening of the Mitcham Memorial Library.

In 1973, the Blackwood Library was opened and named the Ivor Symons Library in recognition of this advocacy.

"Prior to his work, libraries were part of institutions and you had to pay to access their catalogues, and he was instrumental in making that change," Heather said.

"We would like to continue to honour his work, though the building will not be named for him, but it may be that the Library collection within the Community Hub retains his name, or he will be honoured in some way within the building."

The Kurna Yerta board have provided a consultant to come up with some other options for the name. "Our administration have had their first meeting with them, and they will come back to council with a range of suggestions which will then be taken out for community consultation again," said Heather.

"We want the name to celebrate what that building is, and it is a coming together, a community building which builds knowledge and friendship, so we would like to see that reflected in the name. Alternatively, we are unaware if there is a Kurna locality name for the area, so that could be something that is pitched."

The preference of Kurna people is that if there is a dual name, then it means the same in both languages. So it would have been unlikely that 'Blackwood Hub Kumangka' would be the name because they don't mean the same thing.

## Local shoppers keep businesses going

"SUPPORTING our local businesses to do well, is important to me and the Malinauskas State Government," said local MP Catherine Hutchesson.

"Especially as business owners grapple with the after effects of the Covid pandemic and the squeeze it is placing on consumers.

"So last month, with the Minister for Small and Family Business, the Hon. Andrea Michaels MP, I hosted a 'Waite Women in Business Breakfast' in the Co. Gallery at Bellevue Heights.

The breakfast was an opportunity for the Minister to hear firsthand from some of the local business owners about their sentiments, experiences and the support they feel they need going forward.

The Minister gave the group a briefing about the recent launch of the Office for Small and Family Business (OSFB). This specialised unit will coordinate State Government policies and programs to support and strengthen South Australia's \$40b small and family business sector.

One of the first items on the OSFB agenda is the development of a Small Business Strategy for South Australia – the first of its kind in more than a decade.

"A whole-of-state Small Business Survey is now open and I encourage all of our local business owners to take this opportunity to share what is happening in their businesses and where support is required," added Catherine.

Other Government Support was also discussed, including our 'Women in Business Program' which will provide upskilling and support, to build resilience and strengthen innovative female-owned businesses in South Australia.

"Going forward, we are looking to meet again and invite others to join us. These women made it very clear that locals keep their businesses going. Shopping local where you can, not only helps the businesses, but it boosts our local economy. It provides jobs for locals and students," explained Catherine.

"In fact, my first job was at the Blackwood Fitness Centre, closely followed by time as a waitress at the Belair Bhavan Indian Restaurant.

"Being able to work locally as a young person made things easier for my parents, and began my engagement with our local community. I still see people today, that remember me from those roles.

"I will also be supporting our local businesses with a 'Business of the



◆ Photo - Some of the female owners of businesses in Blackwood who attended the inaugural breakfast meeting organised by Waite MP, Catherine Hutchesson

Month' promotion. This includes access to our Waite Electorate Office noticeboard and social media posts, both aimed to raise local awareness about the amazing businesses in our area."

□ If you would like to find out more, and register your interest, get in touch with Catherine on 8278 5844, email: Waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or call into the office at 7 Young Street, Blackwood.

### Meet your Ward Candidates

OUR Local Government Elections will be held in November 2022.

The City of Mitcham will be hosting four 'Meet the Candidate' Sessions at the following locations and times:

\* Craighburn : (Bellevue Heights, Eden Hills, Craighburn Farm, Coromandel Valley & parts of Blackwood) and

\* The Park : (Belair, Glenalta, Hawthorndene, Upper Sturt and parts of Blackwood)

Held in the Karinya Clubrooms, Shepherd Hill Rd, Eden Hills, 7pm to 9pm, Thursday 22 September

City of Mitcham undertook a Representation Review in 2021 which changed internal boundaries of the current wards to better reflect the number of voters per elected member.

The new boundaries will come into effect for the Local Government elections in November.

Whilst there are still six wards, some residents will receive ballots for a different ward than they did at the last election in 2018.

\* Babbage and Overton: Laura Avenue, St Marys, 7- 9pm, 29 September

\* Boorman and Gault: Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Rd, 7-9pm, 6 October

\* Mayoral: Mitcham Cultural Village, 103C Princes Rd, Mitcham, 7-9pm, Thursday 13 October

□ For more information on the Council elections, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

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# Do you know where this is?

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

local historic site. Readers are challenged to find its location, and thereby have a chance to win a prize.

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

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

Last month's image was of the sculpture of the ship *Vyner Brooke* by Iguana Creative, Adelaide and is located at the Women's Memorial Playing Fields (WMPFs). It honours those who perished on and after the sinking of the *SS Vyner Brooke* during World War 2.



On 12 February 1942, *Vyner Brooke* was one of the last ships carrying evacuees, to leave Singapore. She sailed south heading for safety with around 200 passengers, most of them women and children. Among the passengers were the last 65 Australian nurses in Singapore.

On 14 February, the *Vyner Brooke* was attacked by Japanese aircraft and within half an hour rolled over and sank. Approximately 150 survivors eventually made it ashore at Bangka Island, after periods of 8-65 hours in the water.

Bangka Island had already been occupied by the Japanese and most of the survivors were taken captive.

Of the 65 nurses on board, 12 were lost at sea. 22 of the remaining 53 who survived the sinking were washed ashore on Radji Beach, Bangka Island and surrendered to Japanese soldiers.

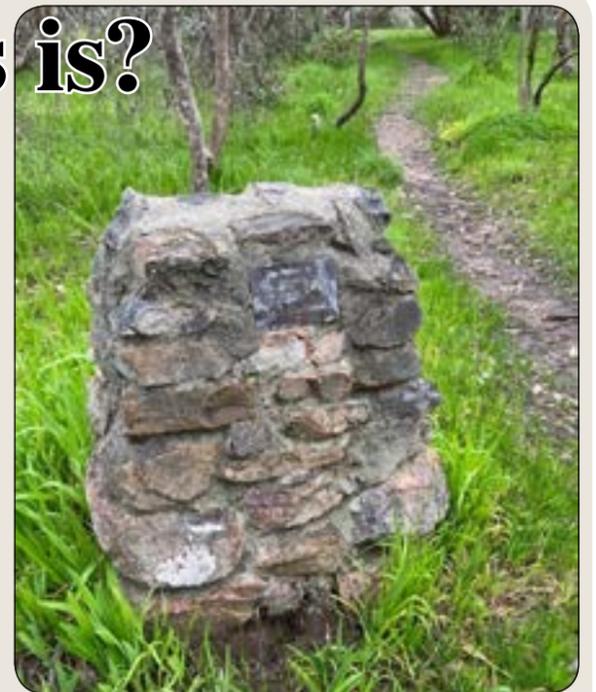
Most of the nurses were wearing the Red Cross sleeve band and all were in uniforms of some sort that made it clear they were nurses. They assumed that they would be treated as prisoners of war in accordance with the Geneva Convention. They were wrong.

The Japanese soldiers told the Australian nurses to walk into the water and stand in a row facing the sea. They were machine gunned from behind. All died except Sister Vivian Bullwinkel who was wounded.

After hiding in the jungle for about 10 days, Sister Bullwinkel gave herself up when villagers became afraid of the Japanese and stopped giving her small amounts of food. She hid the bullet hole in her dress with her cloth bag and managed to survive another three and a half years in various Japanese prison camps.

The 31 other surviving *Vyner Brooke* nurses, who had drifted ashore elsewhere, had been assembled in Muntok as prisoners of war with around 600 other prisoners. There were a number of wounded amongst the prisoners and the Australian nurses cleared a dormitory to use as a hospital and began treating patients. They had no idea what had happened to their comrades and assumed they had drowned.

Then Sister Bullwinkel arrived. She told the Australian nurses what had happened and they were all sworn to secrecy so that



the Japanese would not be aware that there was a witness to the atrocity.

In 2022, along with the upgrades to the WMPFs, the memorial precinct was enhanced by several sculptures to place the nurses' sacrifice and service more prominently at the site. The WMPFs (cnr Shepherds Hill/South/Ayliffes Roads) are open to the public every day with nearby on-street parking.

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

For more information on BAG activities, phone 0408 117 003 or visit their website at : [www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au](http://www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au)

## Businesses working together with Rotary



"LONG in planning (due to Covid-19), the Blackwood Rotary Business Sponsorship Program, finally got off the ground in June this year," said spokesperson Graham Lough.

The program is a collaboration between the Blackwood Rotary Club and local businesses to support local and international community projects.

With four tiers of support (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze), businesses get to join with Rotary in improving life for people both here in Blackwood, and where it is needed overseas. Rotary members who approached businesses in the Blackwood area with the proposal were met with an enthusiastic response, even though we know times are tough.

In exchange for a monetary donation, businesses who join the program get a variety of promotional opportunities through the Rotary

network (both local and nationally) through advertising in Rotary publications and with exposure to social media and local events the main attractions.

"For instance, many businesses took the opportunity to promote their products or services at the recent Rotary Art Show attended by some 2,000 Blackwood residents, which also received some 3,000 visitations on our Facebook page," explained Graham..

"A total of 21 local businesses have so far joined the program with many more indicating they will join soon. Some \$11,000 has been raised so far which is a great start to our community program."

Long time resident, Maria Caddle, who is co-owner of *Edenwood Automotive* in Blackwood, and generous major sponsor of the Blackwood Football Club, said "We have been a supporter

of both the Blackwood Rotary Club and the community for many years.

"When we were approached regarding the Blackwood Sponsorship Programme, *Edenwood Automotive* thought it was a great opportunity to join with Rotary who put so much back into the community. It's great to receive the extra promotion for the business and to be further associated with Blackwood Rotary."

Another business that has joined the programme is *Main & Cherry Wines*, who's owner Michael Sexton said, "We are proud to be a supporter of the Blackwood Rotary Club and as a small, family-owned business we believe that this collaboration is a fantastic way of supporting beneficial change and active growth in our local community.

"We love working together with Rotary to create improvements in the community at a grass-root level, as well as building awareness of our wine brand and cellar door that will be opening in Summer 2022."

Businesses have the chance to join at any time and have a 12-month commitment from Rotary to provide the business with the benefits that accrue.

There will be no requirement for business owners to join Rotary to gain access to this programme, but by joining they will be invited to events held by Blackwood Rotary.

For more information on getting involved and would like more details on the Rotary Business program, please contact Graham Lough on email: [glough@adam.com.au](mailto:glough@adam.com.au)



Photo - Mike Sexton (on left), owner of *Main & Cherry* receiving his Membership Certificate from Rotarian Graham Lough at the *Main & Cherry* vineyard in *Cherry Gardens*.

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**2022 - 2023 VOLUNTEER GRANTS**

On behalf of the Boothby community *Thank You!*

Applications for the 2022-2023 Volunteer grants are now open!

\*Expressions of interest must be submitted by midnight on Sunday, 18 September 2022\*

# Oval facility build hits funding hurdle

by James Swanborough

RISING costs have put the development of a new changeroom and community facility at Hawthorndene Oval in jeopardy.

Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club have been working with Mitcham Council for nine years to construct a new changeroom facility at Hawthorndene Oval.

After years of consultation between Council, the club, and local residents, a decision to build a change room and toilet facility at the site was approved in September, 2021, which would be licensed to

Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club for certain times and hired out to the community for their use outside of these times.

However, with the rising cost of building supplies over the past year, total project costs were in the order of \$400,000 over the available budget of \$897,000.

With no additional funding currently available for the project, Mitcham Council resolved to extend the project deadline, reflecting the wishes of the club.

"We have decided that we will give the club more time, until the end of 2023 to find more funding. We haven't committed to any fur-

ther funding, we have just given more time," said Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross.

Heather noted that the design of the project was unable to be amended to reduce costs. "It is a minimal build anyway; it's only change-rooms and toilets, so there was no way to scale the design back to reduce costs.

"We have already committed money, and that remains a commitment of Council, so the club now have more time to try and pursue other avenues to apply for additional funding grants."

Since being notified of the funding shortfall, the Club have been in

contact with various Members of Parliament seeking their support in funding the shortfall of the project.

While the Club have not received a further funding commitment to date, they have stated that there have been some promising discussions particularly with State Government.

Council administration contacted the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) to discuss the possibility of the Club receiving another grant extension for the \$406,000 State Government funding.

The advice received was that this would be the project's third variation and would require the Minister's approval. When consider-

ing whether to approve they would be taking into consideration whether or not they are confident that this project will be able to commence in the timeframe specified, which is currently uncertain.

If the approval for an extension was not granted and the project did lose the external funding currently secured from the State, this would leave only \$491,000 of Council and Club funding remaining for the project and therefore would not be enough to deliver the project.

The Club are aware of the risks associated with this option and they are optimistic that further funding will be sourced. □

# Bollards installed will help keep pedestrians safe

by James Swanborough

MANY motorists using the Blackwood roundabout may have noticed the recent installation of safety bollards along the north-eastern perimeter of the roundabout.

This project came about after sustained requests over a number of years from local residents who were concerned about safety when using the walkways and public spaces surrounding the roundabout.

Blackwood resident Carolyn Edwards took up the fight when she recognised the danger of using footpaths adjacent to the busy road corridor.

"This all started nearly three years ago when my daughter's mother-in-law (Julie), walked with me along the brand new footpath across the grass verge on the then new Blackwood roundabout," said Carolyn.

"Julie stated she would ... 'rather walk in the mud by the side of the shops, than use the new footpath and risk getting killed by an out of control car speeding around the roundabout'.

"So I started to photograph cars on the roundabout heading straight for me on the footpath! Even a Council workman fixing the water fountain one day, said he just wanted to leave before he got killed!"

Carolyn took Julie's comments on board and the idea was born to campaign for safety bollards on the roundabout.

"In March 2020, I had a letter from our then MP Sam Duluk, saying that the Liberal State Government had agreed safety bollards were an urgent necessity. However, in September 2020,

without notice, the State Government cancelled everything and hand-balled it over to Mitcham Council instead.

"I did not find this out until much later when I decided to take the issue up with the Council, and their works department knew nothing and nothing had been done.

"It was not until one day I saw a grandmother, with a baby in a pusher and their dog sitting in the sun on seats outside the Save the Children Shop, that I realised something urgently needed to be done," explained Carolyn.

"So I approached Mitcham Council Mayor about the issue and Heather very kindly escalated my request. Latterly, I also received help from our new Labor MP for Waite, Catherine Hutchesson who also escalated the issue.

"And earlier this month (August), I could not believe my eyes when I saw the safety bollards being installed. Now we can all safely use the footpath."

Mayor Holmes-Ross said the bollards had received funding in the 2021/22 Budget, but had been delayed due to a backlog of construction projects.

"We have been limited in the speed with which we can roll projects out due to Covid, but the plans were in place," said Heather.

"If people feel safer walking in the community then that's a great service. This was not something that had been on Council's radar previously, so it's great that members of our community can voice their concerns, and have them enacted through local government."

While MP for Waite, Catherine Hutchesson said she had relayed the requests to Mitcham Council to forward the works.

"It is great to see that the bollards are now in place. This will protect pedestrians as well as anyone spending time on that small park, should a vehicle veer off course whilst navigating the roundabout," Catherine said.

"Making Blackwood more pedestrian friendly is important and I am glad to see this improvement.

"I am always happy to listen and discuss concerns residents have about our local area and do what I can to seek improvements.

"Thank you to Mitcham Council for installing the bollards." □



◆ Photo - The recently installed bollards at the Blackwood roundabout by Mitcham Council will help improve safety for pedestrians using the footpath and walkways in front of the Save the Children building



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# Ladies were late starters

WITH its inaugural meeting being held on July 14 1982, the Blackwood Probud Club, which is the oldest Probud club in the district, recently celebrated its 40th birthday.



It was a very popular club in years gone by, having at one stage over 100 members, including many well-known Blackwood names. It provided a social outlet for the retired and semi-retired in the area.

Originally being a men's only club, they discovered after many years, that there was nothing in the Constitution to exclude ladies. So now, ladies are now encouraged to join. It is probably a little daunting for ladies to join a predominantly male organisation, but it is happening.

Over the years, there have been many esteemed presidents but none more so than the late Viv Samuel, who was awarded the Military Medal in WWII. Viv entertained Club members in his last few years with an endless supply of great clean jokes, until he passed away last year at the age of 102.

Apart from creating a good social atmosphere, the role of the club is to entertain its members through good speakers on a variety of topics, and to arrange regular outings as well as other special events such as an annual picnic.

Some of the more memorable speakers have been: Hieu Van Le (at the time deputy governor of SA); John Halbert (Sturt Football Captain and player); John Bannon (SA Premier); and Mal Hyde (Police Commissioner in 2011).

Following the outbreak of the Corona virus in 2020, meetings were deferred for 6 months and in the interim, the club set up social groups to provide an interest for those sitting at home with nothing to do. These are now a walking group, wine appreciation, a garden group, and coffee and lunch groups.

☐ **The Blackwood Probud Club meets on the first Thursday of the month in the hall at the rear of the Freemasons building at 229 Main Rd, Blackwood. For more information, contact Norman on 8178 2653.**



◆ Photo - Some of the Blackwood Probud members at the Club's 40th birthday celebrations. (from left): Julie, Judy, Club President Norm, oldest past president Ron (aged 93), Allen (aged 91), and Harry (aged 93).

**COROMANDEL VALLEY QUILTERS  
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- "Mix It Up" Challenge

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## How to make your home bushfire ready

NO MATTER where you live, everyone can be affected by bushfires, so two local volunteer organisations, the Coromandel Valley & Districts National Trust Branch and CFS, are teaming up to help their community prepare for the coming bushfire season.

A special Open Morning is planned for Saturday 1st October, from 9am till 12noon at the Watchman House, 360 Main Road, Coromandel Valley.

Serious fires are, unfortunately, a common occurrence in summer, and flames don't differentiate between bushland and urban hills settings. Preparing a bushfire plan for your home and family needn't be a major task, and this is an opportunity to arm yourself with the right "how to" information.

The CFS 'Furies' will be in attendance with an appliance, crew, informative display and practical advice on how to make homes and properties bushfire-ready. They can also help you understand appropriate personal actions to keep your family and pets safe during emergency events.

You'll also be welcome to explore the Watchman House, chat with National Trust volunteers about the history of the district and, for \$5pp, enjoy a delicious morning tea. Mind you, if you



have a word with the Furies before you head in, you may receive a voucher for a free morning tea.

You'll also be welcome to call in next door to the Aberfoyle & Districts Lions secondhand book shed, which was the original Coromandel Valley Fire Station.

☐ For more information call either of the Liaison Officers on: 0474 066 776 for the National Trust, and 8370 3600 for the CFS.



## Letters to the Editor

### Dual name for Hub

New Zealand has dual names everywhere, and I mean 'everywhere'!

South Australia used to be known as a progressive state and in keeping with that reputation (somewhat diminishing), I think it would be somewhat adventurous to name the new library and community centre 'Kumangka at Blackwood'.

After all, we hope it will become a place for the residents of Blackwood and its environs to come together for activities and the library. It's also short and easy to say.

Roma Muzzatti, Coromandel East

### Must transition to EVs

The Federal Labor government is about to release its National Electric Vehicle Strategy, with a core focus on the need for a fuel emissions standard.

Apart from Russia, Australia is the only OECD country to not have fuel efficiency standards, resulting in our country becoming a dumping ground for dirty, inefficient and costly cars.

The benefits of transitioning to EVs are immense; from financial savings, to better health outcomes and environmental benefits.

Yet Australia's uptake of EVs stood at only 2% in 2021, when the expected global EV uptake rate in 2022 is 13%. It is long past time that Australia plays catch up with the rest of the world and comes up with strong policies that will give Australians the real choice of good, affordable EVs.

Reference: <https://thedriven.io/2022/08/18/this-is-about-freedom-of-choice-bowen-moves-to-break-down-barriers-to-evs/>

Ching Ang, Magill

### Climate change impacting insects

Before the recent Federal election, Australian's had lived through a decade of time where many, including some of those in the Federal Coalition Government, treated climate change as being an annoying pest, that if ignored for long enough, may simply go away.

Well, rather than going away, human induced climate change has grown considerably in its intensity and range. Years of lack of climate action are now coming home to roost, which for many, may well come as a big surprise.

This is because we have a factor that has been known about for years, that is now receiving considerable additional attention; which is that climate change is a major cause in relation to the dramatic decline in insect numbers across the globe. Most mammals, including humans, are totally reliant on insects to provide, by their actions, sufficient food for mammals to survive.

Our newly elected Federal Government have certainly inherited a very real monster in relation to climate change and its catastrophic by product, the decimation of insects worldwide.

Continued life on Planet Earth will now be in the hands of politicians and scientists across the world to deal with. They have a monumental task ahead of them.

Brian Measday  
Myrtle Bank

☐ **Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers ... submit a Letter to the Editor including name and suburb ... email: [info@blackwoodtimes.com.au](mailto:info@blackwoodtimes.com.au)**

### Looking for a local business or tradesperson?

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Authorised by Kellie Stocker, P.O. Box 168 Blackwood 5051



# Sensitive dental care for young and old

BLACKWOOD Dental has been serving the local community for over 40 years, and due to their continued growth, are thrilled to announce they have expanded their team, and would like to introduce Dr Raj Singh (Dentist) and Lili Brewster (Oral Health Therapist).

Dr Raj Singh, is a well-known Adelaide cosmetic and implant dentist with an extraordinary eye for aesthetic perfection and a devotion to compassionate, gentle dental care.

"I love what I do and you will notice this from your first visit," said Dr Raj.

"I understand visiting the dentist is not everyone's ideal way to spend their time. But I will change your mind about that, and prove that regular oral maintenance is not as tedious as you think."

Dr Raj has a special interest in Implants, Invisalign and smile rejuvenation via veneers, crowns and bridges. Each treatment plan is tailored to every individual patient and they also offer complimentary consultations.

While Lili, their new oral health therapist, is a true local having grown up in Blackwood and attended Blackwood High School, so her community connection is extremely strong!

She has a zest for life and natural ability to connect with children, ensuring even the youngest of patients enjoy their visits.

"I have a true passion for paediatric dentistry, ensuring that children and their families are given the right tools for achieving healthy teeth for life," said Lili.

She loves forming empathetic patient relationships to reduce dental anxiety and increase patient confidence. For Lili, knowing she is having a positive impact on a patient's oral health and life is extremely rewarding.

Blackwood Dental offers everything, from dental implants, dentures, general examinations, Invisalign, root canal and has a very strong focus on oral hygiene.

They are one of the few practices in Adelaide that offer anxiety relief methods in the way of

happy gas or intravenous (IV) sedation – also known as sleep dentistry

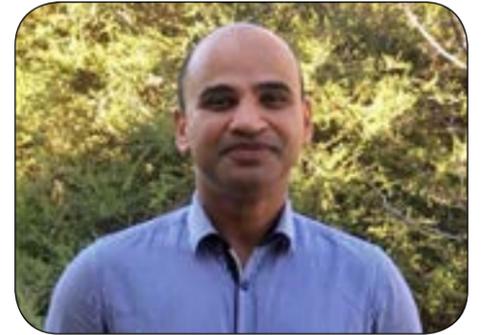
They even offer sleep dentistry with a visiting Anaesthetist, and Nitrous Oxide available, which is great for anxious children, or those needing multiple procedures.

Why not take advantage of their special introductory offer and make an appointment with Dr Raj ... have an examination plus X-rays plus clean for only \$199 .... see their advertisement below on this page.

Blackwood Dental now also offer payment plans through Afterpay, Humm and DentiCare ... all with no interest charged.

To keep up with the latest news and promotions, you can follow Blackwood Dental on their Facebook page and Instagram.

Blackwood Dental is located at 40 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood, and you can make an appointment by phoning 8278 5001 or online through their website at [www.blackwooddental.com.au](http://www.blackwooddental.com.au)



◆ Dr Raj - Dentist at Blackwood Dental



◆ Lili - Oral Health Therapist at Blackwood Dental

## Men not proactive enough with their health

WITH Father's Day celebrated on the first Sunday in September, skin cancer experts are urging Australian males to spend more time checking the health of their skin.

Skin Cancer College Australasia CEO, Lynette Hunt, said that in a country with the highest rates of deadly skin cancers in the world, Father's Day was a timely reminder for all Australians to look after their Dads.

Data from the 2022 Cancer Data Report released by the Australian Institute of Health and Wellbeing (AIHW) in July this year shows that in 2022, Australian men are almost 50 per cent more likely to be diagnosed with extremely dangerous skin cancers compared to women.

"Unfortunately, the harsh reality is that men are just not proactive enough when it comes to prioritising their health," Ms Hunt said.

"Many men only see their doctor about their skin when prompted by a female partner or relative, so we really do need family members to think about Dad and his skin.

"Men of a certain age, often say it's too late for them to start wearing a hat or sunscreen. In fact it's never too late to start wearing a hat, and it's never too late for a skin check.

"We are encouraging all Australians to go to [scanyourskin.org](http://scanyourskin.org) so they can understand the risk they have of developing skin cancer and where to go for help."

Ms Hunt said the AIHW report also shows a clear correlation between early diagnosis and survival beyond five years for those diagnosed with melanoma of the skin.

"The AIHW data shows the two-year survival rate for men with melanoma declines markedly the later the stage of the disease at diagnosis," Ms Hunt said.

"The two-year survival rate for men diagnosed with early or stage 1 melanoma is 99.9 per cent.

"At Stage II, this drops to 84.9 per cent, at Stage III it's 79.9 per cent, but only 35.7 per cent of men survive a Stage IV diagnosis after two years."

Ms Hunt said men aged 60-64 have the poorest survivability of any age group up to age 70. If diagnosed with Stage II melanoma, this group has a 32.9 per cent mortality rate within five years.

"These statistics are startling and really do show the need for prevention in the first place but also for continual vigilance when it comes to conditions of the skin," Ms Hunt said.

S.C.A.N. your skin

Skin Cancer College Australasia recommends that while it's a doctor's job to diagnose skin cancer, consumers themselves are best placed to notice any changes in their skin which warrants investigation.

On the website [www.scanyourskin.org](http://www.scanyourskin.org) the College advises how often to see a doctor for a full-body skin check and how often to run their own personal skin checks based on their personal risk factors as identified by the easy-to-use risk assessment tool on the website.

When conducting your own skin check, skin cancer professionals recommend you SCAN for anything that is:

- Sore,
- Changing,
- Abnormal, or
- New

Sore means a spot which is sore (scaly, itchy, bleeding, tender) and doesn't heal within 6 weeks.

Changing is a spot which is changing in size, shape, colour or texture.

Abnormal looks different, feels different, or

stands out when compared to your other spots and moles.

New has appeared on your skin recently. Any new moles or spots should be checked, especially if you are over 40.

Skin Cancer College Australasia has developed an easy to use tool so all consumers can determine their risk of developing skin cancer for themselves and their loved ones.

The tool, available at [www.scanyourskin.org](http://www.scanyourskin.org) also helps consumers find a doctor trained and qualified to detect potentially serious skin cancers.

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# Put your life story in to words

"MY feeling is that everyone has a story to tell," said 'My Life Story' workshop participant Marilyn Shield. "Everyone's story is unique, and there may be family members who could benefit from that story."

In October, the Blackwood Uniting Church will be re-running a series of 'My Life Story' workshops, previously held successfully in 2020.

The workshops will run over three successive Tuesday mornings from 9.30am to 12.30pm on October 4, 11 and 18; and is professionally facilitated by Rhonda Smedley.

In the workshops, participants will be guided through the reflective process of putting together their life story in words and images.

"There's something really special about producing a book that documents your life. It is a legacy to be passed on to others," explained Marilyn.

"My recommendation for anyone who is deliberating about whether it would be worthwhile to do something like this is, just have a go! It is a lot of fun. It's fun going through your memorabilia, however big or small your box is. It's your story, and it's worth writing down, for yourself and for others."

When asked whether there were any particular highlights in the workshop, Marilyn had this to say.

"There was great pleasure in remembering and reflecting back on my early life. And also, in that reflection, I gained a deeper appreciation and gratitude for



◆ Course participant Marilyn Shield with her printed 'My Life Story' book

those people who were part of that early life. I think my gratitude toward them has increased, and that's a good place to be."

The philosopher Soren Kierkegaard once said: *life must be lived forwards, but can only be understood backwards.*

It can be very helpful to occasionally pause our forward journey, to look back, and try to make sense of the meaning and significance of it all. The 'My Life Story' workshop assists that process.

A video interview with Marilyn can be seen at the YouTube link - 'Brief Excerpts from Interview': <https://youtube/hpnyesEhNRQ>

□ Please call the Blackwood Uniting Church office on 8278 7699 for bookings (\$25 per person) and to obtain the necessary information about requirements for the workshop. Maximum participants is 15, so it's best to get in early! Office email: [blackwoodunitingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:blackwoodunitingchurch@gmail.com)

# Hills choir back with movie themes

"AFTER a stop-start couple of years, the Hills Choral singers are once again, able to bring our local community a concert of outstanding choral music based on some of the great themes written or adapted for movies," said spokesperson Bill Spraggs.

From stirring and grand, through to cheerful and sentimental, the variety of music from such composers as John Williams, Ennio Morricone, Charlie Chaplin and Johnny Mercer provides a wonderful range of well known songs and music.

With a special guest oboe soloist to provide further entertainment, it promises to be a wonderful afternoon.

"Great Movie Themes" will be held at the Blackwood Church of Christ (Cnr of Waite St. and Shepherds Hill Road) on Sunday 9th October at 2.30pm.

As per previous concerts since COVID, there will be no tickets sales at the door!

Don't miss out and put the date in your diary now. For more details see the poster on page 2 of this edition.

□ Bookings can easily be made through Trybooking (<https://www.trybooking.com/CBVIQ>) at the regular prices of \$25 Adult; \$20 Concession; and reduced prices for children.

Assistance with booking or help with any other enquiries can be arranged by contacting any member of the choir, through the website <https://hillschoralsociety.org> or Freecall 1800 717 483.

# Cottage garden opens in time for spring



THE return of warmer weather presents opportunities to get out and about and, on Sunday 18th September, you are invited to explore the historic Gamble Cottage and its picturesque garden.

Volunteers from the Coromandel Valley & Districts National Trust Branch will be on hand from 1pm to 4pm to show you through the cottage and share its history, as well as stories of other local pioneers and places of significance.

Entry to the cottage is free with afternoon tea, served under gazebo cover, available for \$5pp. Families can relax and soak up the character of the place, and the garden is energetic-kid friendly. Jars of the award-winning Coromandel marmalade (\$5 a jar) and local honey (\$8 a jar) will be available for purchase.

Friends of the Gamble Garden will be there to share information about the cottage garden that contains many old plant varieties and which they lovingly maintain. For green-thumbed visitors they'll have a stall with plants ready to enhance home gardens.

Gamble Cottage & Garden, corner of Main and Dorham Roads, Blackwood, will also be open to visitors on the third Sundays of October and November.

□ More information can be found on [CVDNT.org.au](http://CVDNT.org.au) and Facebook.

# WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

Visit [www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au](http://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](mailto:info@blackwoodtimes.com.au)

## ◆ 1 September

**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.

## ◆ 1 September

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

## ◆ 3 September

**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.

## ◆ 4 September

**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.

## ◆ 4 September

**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.

## ◆ 4 & 18 September

**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 & 19 September

**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.

## ◆ 5 & 19 September

**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.

## ◆ 7, 14 & 21 September

**SEEDS FOR HEALTH WORKSHOPS** - held at Cherington Therapeutic Gardens in grounds of former Blackwood Hospital from 10am-12.30pm Bookings on 8272 2411 or more details from Diana on 0407 339 660.

## ◆ 7 September

**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 September

**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](mailto:blackwoodreconciliationgroup@gmail.com)

## ◆ 7 September

**BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS** - all past and current members of Blackwood no 93 meet from 7.30pm at Masonic Ctr, 229 Main Rd (behind My Kitchen and opp. Coles). If you want more information on Freemasonry contact Ted on 0407 978 214 or e: [blackwoodfreemasons@gmail.com](mailto:blackwoodfreemasons@gmail.com)

## ◆ 8 & 22 September

**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](mailto:panjarri@gmail.com)

## ◆ 8 September

**HAWTHORNDENE MENS' PROBUS** - meet

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

## ◆ 10 & 11 September

**COROMANDEL VALLEY QUILTERS EXHIBITION** - held at the Coromandel Community Centre, 442 Main Rd, (next to Weymouth Oval). Raffles, quilt sales, refreshments. Entry \$5pp. Ph Lesley on 0411 031 350 for details.

## ◆ 10 September

**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.

## ◆ 10 September

**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.

## ◆ 11 & 25 September

**JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE COMMUNITY** - meets 1-4pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. New members welcome. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787 or e: [jpkitchengarden@gmail.com](mailto:jpkitchengarden@gmail.com)

## ◆ 14 September

**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](mailto:annabeldayal@gmail.com)

## ◆ 18 September

**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 September

**FRIENDS OF STURT GORGE** - meet at 7.30pm. Hold regular working bees to maintain trails and weeding days. Phone Bob Grant on 7329 8296 for meeting location and working bees. Visit [www.fosg.org.au](http://www.fosg.org.au) and email: [bobgrant@adam.com.au](mailto:bobgrant@adam.com.au)

## ◆ 22 September

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

## ◆ 26 September

**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](http://www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills)

## ◆ 26 September

**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](http://www.blackwoodfloralart.blogspot.com.au)

## ◆ 28 September

**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.

## ◆ 8 October

**ROTARY GIANT BOOK SALE** - held at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde from 9am to 3.30pm. Books from 50 cents.

## ◆ 9 October

**HILLS CHORAL CONCERT** - based on great themes written or adapted for movies. Wonderful range of well

known songs and music. Held at Blackwood Church of Christ, cnr waite St and Shepherds Hill Rd from 2.30pm. Tickets only \$256pp from [www.trybooking.com/CBVIQ](http://www.trybooking.com/CBVIQ)

## ◆ 3 December

**ABBA GOLD CONCERT** - performed by Australia's premier ABBA tribute band - The Flaming Sambucas at the Blackwood Memorial Hall at 8pm. Call 0421 651 451 for tickets or online at [www.allsortsofentertainment.com.au](http://www.allsortsofentertainment.com.au) See poster on page 10.

## ◆ 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

**RETIRE ACTIVE SA (BLACKWOOD)** - 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 on 8327 1247.

## ◆ Every Thursday

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

## ◆ Every Friday

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

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## Many households still getting recycling wrong

FOR many households, confusion and misconceptions about the recycling process can be barriers towards proper recycling practices.

Are you one of the 42% of Aussies who are incorrectly putting polystyrene in the kerbside recycling bin? Or the 18% who are still bagging their recycling?

Cleanaway's 2022 Recycling Behaviours Report found that while a majority of us try to do the right thing, many are still getting recycling wrong, due to confusion over material types and how to dispose of them.

Here's their top tips for how you can make quick changes to your recycling behaviours that will make the most impact on your sustainability efforts.

### 1. Sauce bottles and jars

A quick rinse of your sauce bottles and jars will remove residual food and liquids that will contaminate good recycling if it's left in. It only takes a minute!

### 2. Lids on or lids off?

The question on everyone's minds is whether to remove lids from your beverage bottles. While recycling rules differ across areas depending on access to recycling facilities, it's best to remove the lids and recycle them separately, as they may be made from material different from the bottle body and may be too small to be identified in sorting lines at recycling facilities.

### 3. What to do with chip packets?

Only 29% of Australians use a

specialised soft plastics recycling bin such as those provided in selected supermarkets. This means your chip packets, plastic bags and any other scrunchable plastics do not belong in the kerbside recycling bin. Try RedCycle instead!

### 4. That old phone can be recycled, just not in your kerbside bin

Every year, 44.7 million tonnes of e-waste is generated around the world – containing up to US\$65 billion worth of raw materials like gold, silver and platinum.

The amount of global e-waste is expected to increase by almost 17% to 52.2 million tonnes in 2022, or around 8% every year. In Australia, e-waste is also the fastest-growing component of the municipal solid waste stream.

Cleanaway is committed to helping Australians adopt more sustainable behaviours and recycle efficiently.

Their 2022 Recycling Behaviours Report highlights common misconceptions about recycling, and deep-dives into the recycling behaviours of everyday Aussies, to encourage change and action.

☐ Visit [www.cleanaway.com.au](http://www.cleanaway.com.au) to learn more about how they're making a sustainable future possible together with communities and businesses across Australia.

## Our homes are energy guzzlers

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BLACKWOOD



RESEARCH undertaken by the University of South Australia has indicated that most of Australia's houses are poorly designed with inadequate insulation in their roofs and walls, and windows facing the wrong directions and not shaded from the summer sun.

While new houses are required to meet a 6.0 star energy rating, the university research concluded that most older houses have a rating of between 1.5 and 3.0, requiring up to four times as much energy as necessary to heat or cool them inside.

Our houses have never been designed to cope with extreme hot or cold weather, in fact not even for mildly hot or cold weather. We have become very dependent on air conditioning to make us comfortable, using lots of energy and costing lots of money.

Then there is the silly current trend of dark coloured roofs that add at least 20% to the heat load in summer.



Despite new houses having to meet a 6.0 star energy rating, it is possible to achieve this while still having minimal insulation, windows catching the summer sun and dark roofs.

Project home builders won't change their designs because they are happy with the status quo. Governments are reluctant to change the rules and standards, because they have been cowed by the industry to believe that requiring better environmental performance will cost too much, and that this also restricts freedom of choice.

Most comparable European countries have much higher building standards for environmental performance of housing than we do in Australia.

Australian homes are "energy guzzlers compared to those built to higher standards overseas," according to the Climate Council.

Each year Sustainable House Day showcases homes that have been designed and renovated to be energy efficient. I have been regularly impressed by how comfort conditions can easily be provided.

Sometimes it can be done just using basic passive design principles and sometimes using clever technologies; more often with a mix of both.

Sustainable House Day normally happens in September, but this time it will be next March, with lead-up events over coming months.

To check out the program and explore all the houses showcased last year go to: <https://sustainablehouseday.com>

There are so many good ideas we can take on board to make our homes more comfortable, to save energy and of course money.

Next month I will explore some of the things we can do.

☐ For more information on Sustainable Communities SA, visit their website: [www.sustainablecommunitiessa.org.au](http://www.sustainablecommunitiessa.org.au)



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## Workshops offered for those wanting to grow their own organic vegetables

TODAY'S world is facing many new challenges as the impact of climate change is becoming more evident.

The rich reward of growing your own food has always been important on many levels. Now it is becoming increasingly so. Recent weeks have seen vegetable prices spiralling up, so the investment of growing your own veg has never been so important and meaningful.

Have a go... it's creative and rewarding and contributes toward food security.

A three week 'Seeds for Health' organic food gardening course will be run at Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden, Belair to encourage new gardeners and to inspire experienced gardeners – sharing of knowledge and experience and connecting with community is valuable for all.

The buzz word 'Food Security' is widely heard in these times and a responsible and fun way to improve local food security is for more people to grow their own and in so doing to connect and share with others doing the same.

Action groups and movements have formed to increase public awareness and information about practical actions and positive solutions people can do that will assist improving food security.

## Connect with like minded gardeners

COMMUNITY Gardens are happening more widely as people connect and find passion for sustainably living through growing food.

Locally, *Joan's Patch - A Garden for the Community* offers opportunities for gardeners to connect and share the joy of growing food.

Joan's Patch's vision statement focuses on connecting communities and raising awareness of organic food production.

The garden is situated behind Joan's Pantry café on Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene and has been in operation for almost 8 years.

One such local group is 'Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden' situated in the beautiful garden of the former Blackwood Hospital, and is now a productive food garden, run by the Cancer Care Centre Inc. to offer practical food gardening education through programs and workshops.

The Garden is open every Wednesday morning and welcomes new gardeners and old, to join in and share experiences, as we all work to develop and improve local food security.

If you want to reap the rewards of picking your own lettuce or harvesting fabulous tasting tomatoes, come along to Cherington in September for the 'Seeds for Health' organic food gardening workshops – 3 weeks to immerse in DIY organic food gardening and connect with others doing the same.

❑ 'Seeds for Health' workshops held on Wednesday mornings - 7, 14 & 21st September from 10am-12.30pm in the Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden, 13 Laffers Rd, Belair (adjacent Integrative Health Solutions)

Bookings can be made by phoning 8272 2411 for an investment of \$48 per session, or \$120 for 3 sessions.

For more information, contact Diana Bickford on 0407 339 660.

Joan's Patch has garden gatherings on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 1pm to 4pm and on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning from 10am.

If you are interested in joining, come along to one of the garden gatherings and meet other enthusiastic gardeners. It is a place to share and learn about food gardening and to meet other like-minded people.

❑ New members are very welcome. for more information, contact Deb Bryant on 0419 824 787.

## Fundraising quilt exhibition returns

THE Coromandel Valley Quilters annual exhibition and fundraiser is being held again this month after being cancelled in previous years due to Covid restrictions.

The exhibition called "We are Makers" gives their 43 members, the opportunity to showcase some of their work from the past four years, and raise some funds for local charities - this year proceeds going to Sturt CFS and Backpacks 4 SA Kids.

As well as working on quilts for personal use and enjoyment, the group makes quilts for organisations such as Neonatal and Palliative Care Units, Adelaide Children's Hospital and the many other medical and community groups supported by SA Quilters.

Along with the quilts on display, there will be a handcraft stall of excellent quality goods made by members, all day refreshments (sweet and savoury) will be served on the verandah overlooking Weymouth Oval, the quilt shop "Widebacks" from Seaford will be in attendance, and our community quilt made by 22 members of the CVQ ("Bakers Dozen" pattern designed by Jen Kingwell) will be raffled on Sunday afternoon.

❑ So ... please come and join in their celebration of quilting, both modern and traditional at the Coromandel Community Centre, 442 Main Road, (next to Weymouth Oval in Coromandel Valley).

The exhibition is open to the public on Saturday, 10 September 10am-5pm and Sunday, 11 September 10am -4pm. Entry is \$5pp.

For more details on the exhibition and Coromandel Valley Quilters, phone Lesley on 0411 031 350 or email: coroquilgroup@gmail.com

## ABBA is coming to Blackwood ...

IF YOU enjoy listening to the great ABBA hits ... Waterloo, Ring Ring, Money Money Money, Fernando, SOS, Thank You For The Music, and of course the biggest hit of them all - Dancing Queen ... then get your tickets now for the Blackwood show performed by Australia's Premier ABBA Tribute Band, *The Flaming Sambucas*.

Their nationally acclaimed "ABBA Gold" show is coming to Blackwood Memorial Hall on Saturday December 3 at 8pm.

You can dance, you can jive and will have the time of your life as you celebrate the songs that make everybody sing and smile and relive those great ABBA memories.

With authentic costuming and music, some audience participation and lots of fun, their "Abba Gold" show is presented in an original story telling way, guaranteed to touch your emotions and leave you with your spirits uplifted.

Popular cabaret seating with a licensed bar (No BYO). Prizes for best Abba band member dress up including a raffle on the night, drawn at the end of the interval break.

❑ Tickets / tables of 10 always sell fast. Call the box office on 0421 651 451 or on line at www.allsortsofentertainment.com.au for tickets.

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