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Main Road sites go to market

For all your 'EASTER Shopping' see back page

see story pg 3



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You are invited to attend the Waite Wellness Initiative's first seminar on May 9. (from left): Tracey Yeed (a local integrative health professional), with support from Catherine Hutchesson (Waite MP) has enlisted Wendy Hall (Dementia Doulas International) to present the event on 'Reducing your risk of Dementia'. For more details see story on page 5.

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Unsealed fire track up for review again

by James Swanborough

CONTENTION among Belair residents has arisen over care for a local fire track, with a longstanding debate headed to Mitcham Council for potential reevaluation.

The track at Grevillea Way, which is a partly sealed road leading into an unsealed track, has been the source of significant community frustration over a number of years.

Grevillea Way links between Gloucester Avenue and Gulfview Road, providing an alternate access between Belair and Blackwood. Council considered a report on options for Grevillea Way in 2007, which debated closing the road with the exception of emergency vehicles, or sealing the track as a one or two way road.

"Several proposals have been put forward to the community over the years, and there has been strong local opposition against upgrading the fire track to a fully sealed road," said Mitcham Councillor Tom Morrison.

The public debate concerning the unsealed section of Grevillea Way culminated in Council embarking upon a "road closure" process, which was terminated due to an investigation and assessment by the Ombudsman's Office in 2008.

Following this, a review of the signage, delineation and management regime of the "unsealed section" of Grevillea Way was undertaken, and improvements were implemented to increase road safety for users of this link.

Since that date, arrangements have been made to routinely inspect, and as required, conduct maintenance on the unsealed road surface.

With the costing implications of upgrading the road having last been looked at in 2011, Tom recently queried Council Administration on the history of the track, with Cr Karen Hockley following up by forwarding a motion seeking to reevaluate the usage and costing data of surfacing the track to Australian Standards of a road.

Belair resident Iain Robilliard, who has a background in mechanical engineering, wrote to Mitcham Council with questions regarding the way the statistics were used in the 2008 process, claiming they were not an accurate reflection of community sentiment at the time.

"In the beginning, Grevillea Way was a part sealed road on the northern end, and part sealed road on the southern end. For reasons that are now not general knowledge, the connection was not completed," said Iain.

"I speculate this was due to the creek in the Ashby Reserve requiring significant roadworks to bridge the area and allow the sealing of the roadway. It may be connected to the donation of the lands of Ashby Reserve and Waitaparinga Reserve as part of the whole area development. The simple fact is, the unsealed section remained undeveloped at all: Gazetted, but not defined in any apparent way.

"The reason the attempt at closure by Administration and Council was halted in 2008, was that a local resident's group opposing closure, took the closure and it's process [being two distinctly different things] to the State Ombudsman, who investigated the process used by Council Administration, and found it failed to comply to the required process, and ordered that the projected closure could not proceed," explained Iain.

"Investigation by a road designer who consulted with the group that defeated the attempted closure of this unsealed section in 2008, produced evidence that Grevillea Way was a gazetted public roadway over its entire length, including the unsealed section running through the Ashby Reserve, which Reserve now appears as the eastern part of the Waitaparinga Reserve.

"The dominant reason for households, particularly those of Grevillea Way itself, in calling for closure was undoubtedly the increase in traffic expected as a result of leaving the roadway open.

"My view is that Grevillea Way cannot be closed. It is the only other access road for over 360 households in the event Gloucester Avenue is closed for any reason, such as a bushfire.

"For the safety and health of residents in this area, the unsealed section should be sealed and guttered with proper drainage. Remedial work needs to be considered for the creek in the Ashby Reserve. The deviation onto Ashby Reserve triggered by the Gum Grove intersection creation also needs to be resolved."

Cr Morrison welcomed further insights into the road.

"I think a lot of this frustration is because of a lack of written history / formal knowledge, rather than everyone having a different history, about the road.

"As it gets a substantial amount of use, the re-grading work done on it does not last for very long. Understandably, this results in a lot of local residents questioning why it isn't just sealed. I believe there will be further discussions regarding Grevillea Way over the coming Council term." □

Students work to bring bandicoots back to park



◆ Photo - Ecologist Dr Elisa Sparrow with one of the Bandicoot Buddies placing a camera in an attempt to take photos of shy bandicoots in Frank Smith Park bushland

A GROUP of Year 5 students from Coromandel Valley Primary School, with a passion for the environment, started working together with a desire to bring bandicoots back to Frank Smith Park.

They attended the Southern YELP (Youth Environmental Leadership Program), facilitated by Green Adelaide, City of Marion and City of Onkaparinga.

Through YELP, Green Adelaide Educators support primary schools to plan and implement hands-on environmental projects that improve the sustainability of their campuses and communities. They learn valuable team skills, access resources and are linked to experts.

"The students chose Frank Smith Park as their project location, because it was close by and somewhere they wanted to make a change," explained Sarah Todd, Coromandel Valley Primary School's science teacher.

A Green Adelaide 'Grassroots' grant application was submitted and won by Sarah, with the intention to use the money to purchase motion sensor cameras, provide information brochures to local community centres, construct bandicoot bungalows (artificial homes) and to revegetate.

Green Adelaide ecologist Dr Elisa Sparrow, visited the group several times to speak about how the bandicoot is vital for a healthy ecosystem and to initially set up the cameras.

Currently, the group has cameras out in Frank Smith Park capturing visits from the Southern Brown Bandicoot (critically endangered species) as well as local pest and pet species.

"We had our first sighting, two days after setting up the first camera. There have been several other sightings which have been registered on the Bandicoot Superhighway project webpage,



to map the location of this species.

"For bandicoots to really have a go at making the Frank Smith Park reserve their home, the whole community will need to get behind the project as dogs, feral cats and litter can be a big problem for their safety," added Sarah. □

Rebekha Sharkie MP
Federal Member for Mayo

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

THURSDAY 27 April 2023
at 7pm at the Centre

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To sell or not to sell ... is the timing right?

by James Swanborough

PRIME real estate along Main Road Blackwood will be open to expressions of interest for development proposals, with the Blackwood Library and Karkoo Nursery sites heading to market.

In 2016, Mitcham Council resolved to co-locate a new library and community centre on the existing Blackwood Community Centre site on Young Street/Waite Reserve, with further resolutions supporting the future sale of the land parcel at 207-211 and 213-17 Main Road, Blackwood, subject to the building of the new library and community centre, with the aim of recouping some of the associated building costs.

The land area comprises around 5,000 square metres within a 400 metre walk from the nearby Blackwood railway station, making the site a prime location for urban redevelopment, which Mitcham Council Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross says is key to revitalising the lagging business precinct of Blackwood.

"We know the Blackwood centre has been on a downward spiral," Heather notes. "There have been reports on the atrophy of the area going back 15 years; it is a priority of this council to reverse that atrophy and start building a vibrant precinct."

The first step to revitalisation is the new community centre and library facility, Tiwu Kumangka.

"We know that once Tiwu Kumangka is opened it will attract more visitors, there is data that tells us this will happen," says Heather.

"To stimulate business in the precinct, there needs to be more foot traffic, and we think the best way of doing this is to have people actually living within it."

State government planning reforms for new developments have meant significant changes are beginning to take place in terms of the height and types of buildings being constructed in urban and suburban areas.

"Rezoning allows us to go higher than we could have in the past. From our point of view, we have to increase density, we are required to do that by the State Government. We feel the best place to have that density is around the transport hub and business precinct. By increasing density along the main road, we hope that will slow or halt an increase in density in the surrounding suburban areas," explained Heather.

"We want to provide housing diversity, in particular for older members of our community looking to downsize and live in very close proximity to the Blackwood precinct."

"There are many people in the community who have raised their families here, who are getting to an age where they want a downsize, and don't want to be reliant on driving to get to the shops. So we are trying to provide that for our community."

Within Mitcham Council's callout for expressions of interest, applications will be favoured which deliver a multi-level mixed use development, including an activated main road frontage which comprises multiple commercial tenancies, and featuring a range of apartment sizes and choices including affordable housing, and high quality, sustainable design outcomes. Single use, 'big box' developments are explicitly being discouraged from application.

"We don't want an ugly box development," says Heather, "we want something which is



Karkoo expresses interest in buying their site

KARKOO Nursery, who currently occupy a portion of the Mitcham Council owned land to hit the market, will reach the end of their lease in July, but plan to stay until a decision on the sale is reached.

"We have said we would want to put in an expression of interest, though it's been indicated we likely won't be successful," said Karkoo co-owner Peter Rowat.

"Our lease ends in July and then we are on two months notice, so we will stay until there is a decision made.

"The flipside is that it's forced us to find a new site in Oakbank, which has been a positive and it has been a great opportunity for us.

"Most of our regular customers have made the trip out to the Oakbank site; it's worth the journey as the site is bigger and better. Plus we have just put in a new kitchen which will be up and running for Easter and Mothers Day."

Peter said the business will be keeping an eye out for another suitable site around Blackwood, though the nature of their requirements mean there are few tenancies large enough to accommodate their needs.

"There aren't really many sites in terms of finding the amount of land we need to properly run a nursery, obviously land is at a premium so we've been able to develop the Oakbank site in ways we haven't been able to in Blackwood." □

going to reflect the things that people like about living in the area - open space, trees, green areas.

"We want that to be reflected in the building, so we would expect the type of design would allow for some individual outdoor spaces, and we believe it's really important that it's built sustainably and designed for a changing climate, so our hope is that it will be highly livable and cheap to run."

While there was general support for the project within Council, some questioned the timing of the sale, with local councillors Karen Hockley, Darren Kruse and Tom Morrison voting against the motion.

"While the site needed to be sold at some point in time, going to market now seemed premature to me," said Tom of the decision.

"I think many in the community will be surprised. Maximising financial return for the site, while trying to meet community expectations over what will be built there, will be challenging.

"Construction costs are high, and I do not believe we have a proper understanding of what the site was worth when making the decision. Additional Council and State Government projects in the area could add substantial value to the land, such as a much awaited second pedestrian crossing and my desire to get a public greening strategy done for Main Road."

Heather said the sale was budgeted into the cost of the Tiwu Kumangka building, however, and with the completion fast approaching the time was right to go to market.

"We are expecting the new building to be finished around the end of July to early August, with an opening in early September. At that point the current library site will be empty.

"We would like this development to happen quickly, because it is all about reinvigorating the Blackwood precinct." □

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Chance to travel back in time during History Month

AN exciting program focusing on the wonders of our district has been organised by the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) History Subcommittee for this year's state-wide South Australian History Festival being held in May ... as has occurred for the past ten years.

Six events are on offer and explore our history and environment where they expect the theme 'Wonder' to encourage feelings of amazement, provoked by something beautiful or unfamiliar.

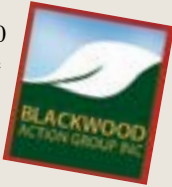
In 2022, there were 512 events across the state during History Festival, attended

by more than 100,000 people. Locally, there were 6 events attended by more than 120 people.

The BAG History group looks forward to seeing you at one of their events listed below and hopes that you enjoy the 2023 History Festival.

Make sure you book early as places are limited.

☐ **Bookings are essential - email Anne Hazel on : ahazellau@gmail.com**



BLACKWOOD ACTION GROUP

2023 HISTORY FESTIVAL



Travel Back in Timeby Train
Catch the train at Belair railway station to Eden Hills and Blackwood stations. Learn about the development and challenges faced by the early railway network, first built 140 years ago, and its value to local districts and the state. Devonshire tea will be served at Blackwood station.
Extra info will be provided on booking.
Bookings by email are essential. Limited numbers.
Cost: \$5 + train tickets if applicable
When: Sun 7 May OR Sun 4 June 8.30am – 12.30pm
Meet: Belair Railway station



Belair National Park – Off the Beaten Track!
Tour Australia's second oldest national park in a minibus with a guide to sites of historic significance, some off-road that you may not have seen before. Learn about native flora, indigenous & colonial history and visit unusual memorials. Visit Old Government House, a former Vice-regal summer residence. NB this activity involves some short distance walks on rough tracks.
Bus Tour Cost: \$35 (includes a.m /p.m. refreshments, free BNP & OGH entry) Participants to bring a cut lunch and drink.
Bookings by email are essential. Extra info will be provided on booking.
When: Sat 13 May 11.50 am - 5.00pm OR Sun 14 May 8.45am – 2.00pm



Belair East - Heritage Along the Ridge
Belair's history and its links to the development of the state will be shared and grand summer residences highlighted as we walk along Sheoak Road. Refreshments will be served at heritage listed Belair Railway Station, opened in 1883, a popular stop for picnickers visiting Belair National Park.
Guided Walking Tour Cost: \$5.00 per person
Date : Fri 26 May OR Sat 27 May **Time:** 1.30-3.30pm
Bookings by email are essential: Limited numbers
Meet: corner of Sheoak Rd and Francis St

Bookings: Contact Anne Hazell ahazellau@gmail.com

✍ Letters to the Editor

Hawthorndene Oval toilets

In response to Mr Payne's 'Toilets a disgrace' Letter to the Editor last month, I thought I would provide some information around the sub-standard toilets at Hawthorndene Oval.

Back in 2021, Council endorsed a facility for the oval which included changerooms, a kitchenette, storage and two public toilets. The project is approximately \$400k over budget, despite \$922k having been funded already - \$466k from Mitcham Council.

The Coromandel Ramblers have until the end of 2023 to receive more funding, or Mitcham Council will be constructing a new toilet at the site without the additional changerooms forming part of the project.

Tom Morrison
Councillor for Park Ward
The City of Mitcham

Craigburn Farm Fence

The developers of the latest build in Craigburn Farm, on Coromandel Parade, have produced one of the ugliest fences in the area. The houses overlook the rest of the suburb instead of facing the Parade; nice perhaps for the owners of the houses, but providing an eyesore for passers-by. There are more than enough of these ugly fences springing up on Shepherds Hill Road.

There is no room for plants to disguise it. I have contacted Councillor Hockley suggesting a mural be commissioned to take away the ugliness of this fence.

Maureen Goldie
Blackwood

Marine Park extension welcome news

It is wonderful news that the Australian Federal Government has recently announced plans to triple the size of the Marine Park around the World Heritage-Listed Macquarie Island that is situated in Australian sub Atlantic waters 1,500kms from Tasmania.

Macquarie Island and the Southern Oceans are a haven for a great array of Atlantic wild life that have had some problems in attempting to deal with the pressures of industrial fishing, pollution and human induced climate change.

The extra protection that is planned will provide extensive and much needed environmental protection for the Macquarie Island region, and assist wild life adapt to the new world of climate change and other human caused pressures.

Many countries around the World are concerned regarding existing environmental protection of the Southern Ocean area and the proactive planning announced by the Australian Federal Government, regarding the Macquarie Island region, will be greatly welcomed.

Brian Measday
Myrtle Bank

Extend platforms for Bikes on Trains

For over a decade, we have needed trains with 3 coaches ... for Anzac Day, Carols by Candlelight, football and cricket matches, but the shortness of Pinera and Glenalta platforms (at the Belair Hotel) only allow for 2 coaches.

We understand Ministers can't use the email / internet for research, but need to travel to Spain etc. to state a train is too capable to do a job.

But we wish the money for the trip, went instead towards extending the Pinera and Glenalta platforms, and perhaps building the Bellevue Heights platform talked about at election time.

Before politicians went on TV advertising 1 or 2 coaches as being modified for bikes, local kids with special mountain bikes were dropped at Mitcham, grabbed a snack at Maccas or HJs, and were polite and respectful to adults.

Since the TV broadcasts, some kids with road bikes get on at various stations and into both Belair coaches beyond the control of rail staff, and some hang in groups at Mitcham harassing Maccas and HJ staff.

Perhaps the Shoppies Union can accelerate the extensions of Pinera and Glenalta platforms so 3 coach trains can be used, to protect fast food service staff from harassment?

James Rossiter, Unley

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

Easter offers us all a chance to put our feet up and enjoy the break

BY LOUISE MILLER-FROST
FEDERAL MP FOR
BOOTHBY



THE upcoming Easter period is a welcome opportunity to put our busy lives on pause and reflect on what matters most to us as a community.

For many, Easter holds significant importance as a time for sharing traditions. Whether it be an annual family gathering, a special church service, or the all-important easter egg hunt, I hope you all get the chance to spend time with loved ones this Easter.

In this same spirit, ANZAC Day represents another crucial opportunity for our community to stop, reflect, and extend gratitude to those who have given the most – sacrificing their time, and too often their lives, to ensure our security and freedom.

In the lead up to ANZAC Day, we are not taking this sacrifice for granted.

While reflecting and paying tribute is necessary to show thanks, this alone it is not enough. Without action, acknowledgement cannot properly honour and support those who served and continue to serve. Right now, our government is conducting an important review of all Veterans' Legislation, engaging with the veterans' community to implement the recommendations of the important 2022 Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide.

It is important that over this period we continue to be advocates for communities – such as the Veteran community – who have given so much. This might look like attending a Dawn Service on ANZAC Day, or volunteering with or donating to one of our local charity groups who work to ensure everyone can have a good Easter.

I will be out and about across Boothby throughout the month and as always, look forward to seeing you around. ☐

VALE EVA FORSTER

Blackwood and Adelaide Hills identity Eva 'Bobbie' Forster died peacefully at her home on Saturday 18 March, 2023 at the age of 101.

A long term resident of both Belair and Blackwood, Bobbie was well known in the district for her volunteer work.

She even featured in *The Blackwood Times* on a number of occasions. The first time being for a tree that had sprung up as a result of an avocado stone thrown into her backyard, producing enormous avocado fruit (see photo). ☐





LOUISE MILLER-FROST MP
Federal Member for Boothby



Happy Easter Boothby!

Wishing everyone a very happy and joyous holiday season!

ANZAC Day Services

Blackwood 6:15am Dawn Service
Soldiers Memorial Garden

Get In Touch

Shop 2, 670 ANZAC Hwy Glenelg, SA 5045
8374 0511 Louise.Miller-Frost.MP@aph.gov.au
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Bike shed answers call for help



◆ Photo - Some of the volunteers at the Blackwood Community Bike Shed with the two tricycles (centre) which were supplied after a request from a Church at Port Adelaide

“EVERY now and then, the Blackwood Community Bike Shed receives a request that’s a little out of the ordinary, as happened a couple of weeks back,” said Michael Dowling, Blackwood Uniting Church Minister.

“Our Community Bike Shed Coordinator, Peter Jones, had received a call for help from Pastor Ben Carbone of the Port Church.”

Ben told Peter about a gentleman, Brenton, and his teenaged son, who both live with a physical disability, and wanted to be able to exercise. Because of their balance issues, they needed two tricycles.

Could the Bike Shed perhaps help out? “Of course, that’s what we’re here for,” replied Peter.

Fast-forward a few days and Brenton was able to collect two nicely kitted-out trikes for him and his son from the Bike Shed.

The Blackwood Uniting Church Bike Shed has been running for over 20 years now, operated by a wonderful group of men and women, who donate their time to repair and refurbish bikes.

Over the years, many hundreds of bicycles have been donated by the Bike Shed to worthy causes, including refugee groups and schoolkids in socioeconomically disadvantaged areas.

If you would like to help out at the Blackwood Community Bike Shed, looking for a good quality, refurbished second hand bike of any size and style, or in fact have an unwanted bike, come along to the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) on Monday morning between 9am - 12noon.

☐ You can also phone the Church office on 8278 7699.

Health sessions launched to help educate public

“THE Waite Wellness Initiative is a new project for our local area, bringing a range of health and wellbeing support services to our community,” said co-ordinator Tracey Yeend, a local integrative health professional working at The Green Dispensary.

“I decided to initiate this concept after watching the reduced education and decreased access to health services for our community during the pandemic, and wanted to take positive action and develop avenues for additional help.”

The first part of this program, is the Waite Wellness Education Series. This will bring a monthly health education session to the public to discuss many common, yet life altering health issues.

“We are so blessed in our community to have a wealth of wonderful health experts, who are willing to go the extra mile to educate the public,” added Tracey.

“A chance brain storming session with local MP Catherine Hutchesson, and Wendy Hall from Dementia Doulas International, and oth-

ers was quickly established to get the ball rolling.”

The seminar series is being proudly sponsored by The Green Dispensary Pharmacy and Harris Real Estate, both leading local businesses. There are currently enough topics and speakers to take the series of seminars through to the end of 2024.

The Waite Seminar Series kicks off on Tuesday May 9 at the Blackwood Uniting Church near the roundabout.

The first topic will be ‘Reducing your Risk of Dementia’ with the State Minister for Health, Chris Picton, there to help launch the event.

Arrive at 5pm for a 5.30pm start. The talk will last an hour with question time to follow. All seminars are free to the public. As spaces are limited with only 100 guests per session, please make sure you are registered early.

☐ Please email the Waite Electoral Office at: waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or call 8278 5844 to register your attendance.

Did you receive your new copy of the 2023 Blackwood Directory?

THE 2023 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory was delivered into the letterboxes of local residents during March.

However, if you didn’t receive your free copy, you can pick one up when out shopping next.

The new edition can be found in news stands located in front of Country Meat in the Drakes Shopping Centre, Blackwood Lingerie in the Credit Union Arcade, Blackwood Butchers in the Woolworths Shopping Centre, and House of Zen restaurant in Belair.

They can also be found in the Blackwood Newsagent, Drake and ALDI supermarkets, as well as the office of local MP Catherine Hutchesson in Young Street.

The Directory is a great source of information for the contact details of most local businesses and tradespeople, making it easier for residents to shop locally and use local tradespeople.

There is also contact listings for many clubs, organisations, groups, churches,



JPs and sporting clubs who are located in the Blackwood district.

And of course, you can also look up the contact details for most local businesses and tradespeople in the on-line version anytime on:

www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au

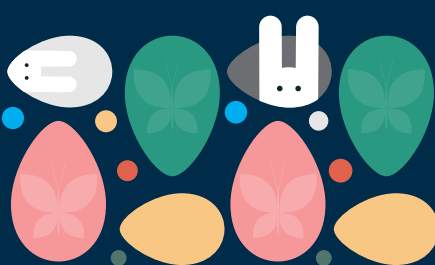
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Harcourts Packham

EASTER CELEBRATION

Free community event! Hot cross buns, chocolate eggs and a visit from the Easter Bunny!!!

**Sunday 9th April,
9:30AM – 10:30AM
Apex Park Playground,
Hawthorndene**



Missed the latest edition of The Blackwood Times?

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EASTER SERVICES

BLACKWOOD UNITING CHURCH
(near the roundabout)

GOOD FRIDAY
7 April : 9am Combined worship

EASTER SUNDAY
9 April : 10am Combined Service

RECONCILIATION SUNDAY
28 May : 10am Combined Service followed by Reconciliation Walk to Colebrook Reserve



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Gain an understanding of what Easter means

“ONE of the iconic songs of Easter across the world is the famous *Via Dolorosa*”, said Brandon Chaplin, Senior Pastor of Blackwood Hills Baptist Church.

“And it will be sung this Easter in over 150 countries and heard by millions.”

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

In 2015, a tradition began in Blackwood with a re-enactment of the “Via Dolorosa”, like on that first Good Friday 2,000 years ago. Each year around 500 people have lined the footpath on Coromandel Parade to witness the event (see photo on right).

“It has certainly gained some momentum since 2015, despite the pandemic years,” reflected Brandon. “You don’t see that kind of thing every day in the streets of Blackwood. It has been both striking and solemn to witness someone dressed as Jesus walking the 400 metres or so from Simla Parade to our church building with hundreds crowded to watch it.”

In some countries around the world, it is a cultural tradition to enact the events of the first

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

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

This tradition will continue in Blackwood on Good Friday from 9.30am on Friday April 7.

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

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

Easter Services at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church are at 10am on Good Friday, and on Easter Sunday at 10am and 7pm.

☐ For more information on Easter services call the Blackwood Hills church on 8370 0333 or visit www.thevillage.org.au



Art exhibition extended into April by popular demand

A SPECIAL art exhibition at the AIARTS Gallery in Belair was opened on Sunday 19 March, by Catherine Hutchesson MP for Waite, featuring paintings by Belair artist Geoff Wilson, plus drawings and paintings by award winning artist, Jason Cordero.

“Geoff Wilson is a well-known master landscape painter, who at 95 years, is creating remarkable paintings,” said Gallery owner Angelika Tyrone.

“To acknowledge his significant contribution to the arts, in 2022, Geoff Wilson received an OAM in the June Queen’s Birthday Honours and in September an honorary doctorate from the University of SA.”

Geoff was a former lecturer at the South Australian School of Art and has had exhibitions at the Art Gallery of SA and Samstag Museum of art.

Jason Cordero is an Adelaide artist, who creates mostly landscapes, also producing still life and flower works which show imagination and high technical prowess.

He has won many awards/prizes including awards in the Heysen Landscape Prize, Fleurier Landscape Prize, Glover and Waterhouse prizes, also winning many People’s Choice awards. Jason’s art has been exhibited across Australia.

This exhibition has been extended by popular demand and will re-open for the April weekend Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 April, from 1 to 4pm each day.

The AIARTS Gallery is located at 28 Neate Avenue, Belair.

☐ If you want to view the exhibition at other times, call Angelika on 0477 174 040 or email: aiarts@inet.net.au

◆ Photo (from left): Gallery owner Angelika Tyrone with artist Geoff Wilson, Catherine Hutchesson MP for Waite, and artist Jason Cordero



Check out FREE Easter Community Event
provided by Harcourts Packham Blackwood
Hot Cross Buns & Easter Eggs from the Easter Bunny
Apex Park Hawthorndene
Sunday 9 April from 9.30-10:30am

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Iconic sounds of UB4T at Memorial Hall in May

‘UB4T’ has been formed as a tribute to the original UB40 group and follows the original UB40 line-up, a strong 7 piece band.

Coming to the Blackwood Memorial Hall on Saturday 27 May, ‘UB4T’ is made up of members from the popular ‘One Planet’ band with a collection of other musicians, boasting a wide range of experience, both nationally and internationally.

UB4T has been endorsed by members of the original UB40 band members, including Robin Campbell and the late Brian Travers. UB4T has a distinctly inter-

national flavour. Band members come from as far away as; Malaysia, Philippines, Australia others have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander/South Sea heritage, all have been drawn together with the one aim of presenting the music of UB40 for your grooving pleasure.

Everyone can be assured that the iconic sounds of UB40 performed by ‘UB4T’ the tribute band will leave lasting and enjoyable memories.

UB4T repertoire covers the 80’s era of UB40 and you can expect to hear such iconic songs as: ‘Food For Thought,’ ‘King,’ ‘My Way Of Thinking,’ ‘Red Red Wine,’

‘Rat In Mi Kitchen’, ‘One In Ten’, ‘Kingston Town’, ‘Cherry Oh Baby’, ‘Johnny Too Bad’, ‘Stick By Me’, ‘Groovin’, ‘Here I Am’, ‘Watchdog’, ‘I’ll Be Your Baby Tonight’, ‘I Got You Babe’, ‘Can’t Help Falling In Love,’ ‘Present Arms’, ‘Wedding Day,’ and many more.

Popular Cabaret seating in tables of 8 selling now. Licensed Bar (No BYO, thanks) however, you can bring your own nibbles.

☐ Book by calling Box Office on 0421 651 451 or visit Allsorts Of Entertainment website - www.allsortsofentertainment.com.au



Good Friday
Friday 7th April 10am
Take the opportunity this Good Friday to reflect on Jesus’ ultimate sacrifice given for the world, as we look toward the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

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Village BHBC
to join with us in worship online



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Easter Sunday
Sunday 9th April 10am & 7pm
Come and celebrate Jesus’ resurrection and story of hope and love for the world!
Join us for a great day of inspired worship

72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood | Services 10am and 7pm every Sunday | Website: thevillage.org.au | Email bhbc@bhbc.org.au

The scourge of endless plastic

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL,
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
BLACKWOOD



WITH the demise of the REDcycle soft plastic recycling scheme, we are once again confronted with what to do with masses of plastic.

The only current solution is to put it in the rubbish bin where it ends up in landfill; not a good outcome.

Coles and Woolworths have advised that they are looking to re-establish the scheme, but it will take some time to roll it out. And, it isn't the real solution to the endless amount of plastic that so many things are packaged in.

Supermarkets are progressively changing over to compostable produce bags which is a useful small step, but they continue to avoid responsibility for creating so much plastic waste in the first place.

Australia produces more single-use plastic per person than any other country and it keeps increasing.

Some traders in Blackwood are supporting customers in reducing the use of plastic packaging.

- Country Meat is encouraging customers to bring their own plastic containers rather than collect more plastic bags.
- Similarly, The Fish Man is happy to put fish in our plastic containers.
- Baker's Delight allows us to bring back our bread bags (and tags) to be refilled, or alternatively they have paper bags available.
- Botanic Chickens use paper and cardboard for their take-away hot food.
- Blackwood Health Foods shop has many items for sale in bulk where we can use our own containers. They also have paper bags available for many items.
- Supermarket staff will wrap deli goods in plain paper instead of the plastic lined paper if we ask them. They are often reluctant because they have been trained to always do it in plastic lined paper, but we are the customers and we can insist.

I am sure there are many more local examples where shops are happy to reduce plastic use. It is always worth asking them about alternatives and congratulating them when they do.

We have only collected a few new plastic bags so far this year. We are always on the lookout for bulk alternatives and things packaged in paper rather than plastic.

And we are constantly re-using the same plastic bags when we go shopping, as well as using the mesh produce bags that are now readily available.

Habits are just that – things we do because we have always done them a particular way. But they can be changed if we are serious about doing things better. □

Vegetarian selects meat from butchers

"I'VE never won anything before," said Ms Lorrae Gnanachandran from Craighburn Farm, the winner of the March \$300 Shopping Spree competition.

"Actually, my Mum Chris put the entry in for me, and I'm over the moon that we have won," with Lorrae choosing to spend her winnings at Blackwood Butchers, Waggon Wheels and Blackwood Health Foods.

"I'm a vegetarian, but my husband is the meat eater in our family, and he does most of the cooking and is looking forward to enjoying a mouth-watering sirloin steak from Blackwood Butchers!"

Lorrae has lived in Blackwood for many years, and her parents Chris and Geoff, owning the coffee shop in the Credit Union Arcade in the Woolworths Shopping Centre for a long time.

Congratulations Lorrae on your win and thank you to all those who entered.

It may be your turn next time, so keep reading The Blackwood Times and watch out for our next \$300 Shopping Spree Competition.

◆ Photo - (from left): Kaitlyn, who is a fully qualified butcher, has been working at Blackwood Butchers for around 12 months, with competition winner Lorrae



Autumn is time for productive garden activity

BY DIANA BICKFORD

Diana Bickford is an organic farmer and founder of the Cherington House Therapeutic Community Garden in Belair.

THE SUMMER heat is past, and if the garden was productive, there will be an abundance of veg to be harvested and used.

Rich reward after all the labour of love in nurturing and tending the veg as they grow. Eager anticipation of the tomatoes ripening red and juicy. The harvest giving immense satisfaction and reward, not to mention the beneficial aspects of food gardening contributing to lower cost of living as well as the therapeutic benefits such as stress relief and physical exercise and a sense of accomplishment in producing healthy, best tasting food for the family.

Its time for thinking about cool season crops in the garden like the brassica family!

Broccoli, cauli, cabbage and kale are the favourites, but home gardeners have options for different vegetables like kohlrabi, an heirloom variety that is gaining popularity for its delicious, nutty, crunchy-textured bulb.



Other lesser-known Italian broccoli varieties like Romanesco or Spigariello are all delicious and fun to grow. Red cabbages, purple or green cauliflowers and purple sprouting broccoli all give gardeners scope for creativity and fun.

Give children a patch of their own and let their delight develop with snow peas or quick-to-grow bok choy. When children have had a hand in the growing and harvesting, they will have an enthusiastic appreciation of the vegetables on their dinner plate.

All of this yield from the garden helps to

reduce the spiralling cost of living as well as enabling good recycling practices such as composting. A few chooks in the backyard make a great recycling loop: feed them the veg scraps and greens and in return you get fabulous eggs for the kitchen and a manure supply for the compost heap, which in turn feeds the garden.

The Cherington House Therapeutic Community Garden in Belair is a demonstration and educational garden highlighting the benefits – and just plain fun – of productive gardening.

We welcome anyone on Wednesday mornings between 10am-12:30pm to learn and to share the joy of producing organic fruit and vegetables.

Once a month Conversations in the Garden and Q&A with experienced gardeners is held. The next Conversation is on Wednesday 19 April, 10am to 12:30pm.

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

□ For more information, phone Diana on 0407 339 660, or come along and join us.

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OFFERS
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"Seller of the house in Hawthorndene - After meeting a few agents and thinking we had met who we wanted, we then met Dave & Sarah and as soon as they left the house my partner and I said they are the ones. from then on they were accommodating and worked with us to get the maximum sale exceeded our expectations and went over and above to get it done. They were genuinely happy for us, just brilliant."



Tanner Hills
Dave & Sarah Smith | 0418 896 392
dave@tannerre.com.au
227B Main Road, Blackwood

RLA 229096



Pets who give you fresh eggs at home

BY DR ASHLEE VANDENBROEK
BLACKWOOD VETS

CHICKENS are sweet, funny, and inquisitive animals which can make wonderful family pets. While all pets are important, chickens are the only common pet which have the added advantage of giving you eggs to eat at home.

So if you're thinking about getting some pet chickens, you'll need to consider a few things:

- **What breed suits your family?**
Isa Brown and Rhode Island Red chickens are two of the most common breeds in Australia. They produce a lot of eggs and are very friendly but are more prone to illness than some of the less common breeds. There are many other breeds with lots of different traits, so there will be a chicken to suit your home.
- **Do you want to raise your own chicks or buy older chickens?**
Young chicks are cute, fun, and will bond very closely with the family but they do take a lot of work. You may also end up with a rooster and need to be prepared for what to do if they start crowing and waking up the neighbours. Older chickens (often sold as "point of lay") may take a little longer to settle in but will bond well with time but you will know if they are female or male and are easier to look after.



- **Do you have a safe place to house them?**
No matter where you live in Adelaide snakes and foxes can access your yard so you will need to have a safe, enclosed nesting box inside a coop to keep your chickens safe, particularly at night. You will also need to have secure fences as some chickens are very good climbers and jumpers. They will also need to be protected from the weather.
- **How many chickens do you want?**
Chickens like to live in small groups and are often unhappy if they are alone. Having too many chickens can lead to diseases. Most backyards will house 2-4 chickens comfortably. It is best to buy chickens which have been

vaccinated. Most chicken vaccines are given in the egg or when they are one day old and protect against diseases which cannot be treated if they do get sick.

It is important to remember that chickens are a long term commitment and not just a cute Easter present. Some breeds can live for 10 years or more.

The team at Blackwood Vets would like to wish everyone and their furry friends a very happy Easter. Stay safe!

Blackwood Vets are located at 178 Main Road, Blackwood (next to Blackwood Hire). For more information, you can phone 8278 4173 to make an appointment or visit www.blackwoodvets.com.au

Koala bellow can be frightening at night

KOALAS may look adorable, but the noises they make can be downright terrifying.

The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources Animal Welfare Manager, Dr Deb Kelly, said many people were surprised the first time they heard a male koala bellow.

"The noise sounds like a cross between a pig and a hippopotamus and it seems too loud to be coming from an animal that size," Dr Kelly said.

"The males bellow to let females know they are around and also to warn off other males, so the noise factor increases during the spring and summer breeding season.

"A territorial fight between two males involves a lot of screaming, scratching and biting, and female koalas can be quite loud as well, as they have a piercing squeal.

"Koalas are at their most mobile in the warmer months, with both sexes looking for mates and the young males trying to claim territory, so unfortunately, this is also when we start to see more koalas getting hit by cars.

"It's also a good idea to keep dogs under control. A dog can do a lot of damage to a koala, but a koala has long, strong claws of its own and it will use them to defend itself.

"As the weather warms up, we'll see koalas sitting in non-native trees as a way of controlling their body temperature, because the European varieties tend to be cooler than eucalypts," Deb said.

"If you see a koala sitting on the ground for an extended period, or it appears to be injured or sick, or it's a young joey without a mother, then it's time to call Fauna Rescue's Koala Hotline on 7226 0017.

Otherwise, just leave them to it." □

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Don't be scammed when you're looking to buy a dog or cat

BEFORE purchasing a family dog or cat, South Australians are urged to first check the seller meets the relevant laws.

In South Australia, anyone who sells a dog or cat they have bred must be registered in Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) ... if they're not, then don't purchase from them!

A Dog and Cat Management Board spokesperson explained dog and cat advertisements must include 'DACO' breeder numbers, names and phone numbers of everyone involved in the breeding or sale of the animal.

"It's easy to search Dogs and Cats Online to make sure the seller is registered by selecting 'breeder search' on the home page.

"Breeders and sellers must also follow the South Australian Standards and Guidelines for Breeding and Training Companion Animals. The guidelines are regulated under the Animal Welfare Act 1985, and Animal Welfare Regulations 2012 to weed out breeders who put profits before animals.

"Sellers must also microchip dogs and cats before sale and explain desexing laws and any known health issues to their purchasers."

All dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by six months of age.

Finally, you must register your dog or cat in Dogs and Cats Online by the microchip number the seller has given you.

These laws apply to anyone who breeds and/or

sells dogs and cats, including owners of 'accidental' litters and rescue groups.

"It's also good practice to visit the facilities to see that you're comfortable with the environment in which the animal was bred, and beware of online scams ... it's unwise to pay for something unseen.

Advertisements without a valid DACO breeder number should be reported to your local council.

While Consumer & Business Services (CBS) has advice if you are buying a puppy:

Be aware that not everyone who claims to have dogs for sale is a legitimate seller.

Some are outright scammers - they take large deposits upfront with no intention of ever supplying a puppy - while some other sellers fall short in meeting all their legal obligations.

When buying a puppy:

- the safest option is to only buy a pet you can meet in person
 - seek advice from a reputable breeders association, vet or local pet shop
 - research the seller
 - do an internet search using the exact wording in the advert and do a reverse image search of the puppy's image.
- If you find matching images or text on multiple websites it could be a scam.

For information on South Australia's dog and cat laws visit www.dogandcatboard.com.au

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WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

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

FREE Listings ... looking for more members ... publish your club's notice and contact details here each month. Send email to info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

◆ **1 April**
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.

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

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

◆ **2 & 16 April**
OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE - located in the Belair National Park and is open from 1-4pm. Tour with afternoon Devonshire tea \$15pp; and tour only \$5 for adults and children under 12 free. Entry into Belair National Park is free if visiting OGH - tell staff at gate. For more information phone 0417 870 596.

◆ **3 & 17 April**
BLACKWOOD ROTARY - meet at Belair Hotel, 141 Main Road at 6pm for 6.30pm start. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in joining the club, please contact Kevin Marsh on 0428 522 362.

◆ **3 & 17 April**
COROMANDEL VALLEY ROTARY - meet at Parish Hall, 337 Main Road,

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

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

◆ **5 April**
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

◆ **5 April**
BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS - all past and current members meet from 7.30pm at Masonic Ctr, 229 Main Rd (opposite Coles and behind The CPAP Room premises). If you want more information on Freemasonry contact Ted on 0407 978 214 or e: blackwood-lodge93@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

◆ **9 & 23 April**
JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE COMMUNITY - meets 1-4pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. New members welcome. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787 or e: jpkitchengarden@gmail.com

◆ **12 April**
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

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

◆ **13 & 27 April**
BLACKWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood at

7.30pm. Visitors and those interested in amateur photography welcome. Contact Ian on 0410 634 046 or email: panjarri@gmail.com

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

◆ **15 & 16 April**
AIARTS GALLERY EXHIBITION - featuring paintings by local artist Geoff Wilson and award winning artist Jason Cordero. Held at 28 Neate Avenue, Belair from 1-4pm. For more information phone Angelika on 0477 174 040.

◆ **16 April**
FRIENDS OF GAMBLE COTTAGE & GARDEN open between 1-4pm. Enjoy a stroll through historic gardens and view cottage. Plant nursery open with range of inexpensive plants. Entry is free - 296 Main Rd, Blackwood cnr Dorham Rd. Enquiries to Chris on 0418 827 825.

◆ **18 April**
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 and email: bob-grant@adam.com.au

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

◆ **24 April**
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

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

◆ **27 April**
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.

◆ **29 April**
GIANT BOOK SALE - held by Blackwood Rotary at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade from 9am to 3pm. Books from 50cents - novels, biographies, children's books, cookery and gardening and many more.

◆ **9 May**
WAITE WELLNESS SEMINAR - held at Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) at 5pm. Topic - Reducing your risk of Dementia'. Register your attendance by email: waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or phone 8278 5844.

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With guests arriving including Betty's mother Mrs Fisher for dinner, crossed wires are all around, priceless misunderstanding, are on the menu. Hilarious mishaps and DIY disasters bring the house down.

Myles Leon, the new President of Blackwood Players is also the director, and has managed to select an experienced cast, who are all new comers to the company.

Bookings are now open. To book, go to www.trybookings.com/CHAUB or ring 0421 002 802.

Tickets are \$28 Adults and \$25 for Concessions and Groups of 10.

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"GRASSROOTS Grants is exactly that; it's a program designed to put much needed funds into the hands of individuals and groups to enable on-ground action for our environment," said Green Adelaide Presiding Member Chris Daniels.

Round 4 of the grants program is now open and will add to the 124 projects already making Adelaide cooler, greener and wilder.

Professor Daniels encouraged members of the community to add to

this ripple of change by applying for funding for their own projects.

"We know that we all have a role to play in order to make meaningful change," said Chris.

"That is why these grants are not just for dedicated environmental groups, but they're also open to local sports club members looking to promote biodiversity by planting native species around their area, or businesses who wants to diversify their street verges, or community groups

who want to remove pest plants from their patch.

Professor Daniels said individuals, communities, schools and volunteers can apply for a grant between \$2,000 and \$150,000 to help transform their local environments.

"You can play a part through a range of activities, like plantings, nature education, citizen science, weed and pest control, erosion management and community engagement," added Chris.

"Grant writing workshops will be held during April to support the development of applications.

"We are proud to facilitate practical, on-ground action for our environment through this program."

Applications for Grassroots Grants round 4 close on 3 May 2023. For more information on how to apply, visit <https://www.green-adelaide.sa.gov.au/grants/grassroots-grants/apply>

The Rotary Club of Blackwood

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