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THREE WELL KNOWN AUSTRALIANS



This painting by Sydney artist Martin Shaw, has been touring Australia since 1983, appearing at over 250 venues. So who do you think these three well known Australians are? For more on this unique painting and where you can view it ... see story on pg 3.

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395 MAIN ROAD, COROMANDEL VALLEY (Next to 'Duck Inn')

Grants to bring your green vision to life



UP to \$1.2 million is available in Green Adelaide's latest round of Grassroots Grants to fund community-led environmental projects across metropolitan South Australia.

Applications for round 5 of Green Adelaide's yearly Grassroots Grants program are now open to individuals, communities, clubs, religious groups and volunteers across Adelaide's 17 council areas.

Green Adelaide Presiding Member Chris Daniels, encourages members of the community to apply for funding to bring their green vision to life.

"We know that we all have a role to play in making Adelaide cooler, greener and wilder," Professor Daniels said.

"That is why these grants are not just for dedicated environmental groups, but they're also open to local sporting clubs looking to improve biodiversity by planting native species around their areas, businesses who want to build biodiversity in their street verges, community groups and not-for-profits who want

to remove pest plants from their patch, or religious groups who want to bring more nature into their meeting places.

"I am excited to see how our Adelaide community can make the most of this funding and add on to 160 projects already funded through our Grassroots Grants," Professor Daniels said.

Individuals, communities, schools and volunteers can apply for a grant between \$2,000 and \$200,000 to help transform their local environments.

Professor Daniels added that the Grassroots Grants can be used to undertake a range of projects such as planting trees, installing a rain garden, managing weeds, improving habitat for wildlife and more.

"We are proud to provide practical funding for on-ground action for our environment."

Applications close at 5pm on 15 May. To find out more and how to apply, visit: <https://www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au/grants/grassroots-grants>

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Exhibition of artworks born out of Covid

"ART has been in my blood since birth and I have always worked in the art industry," said Bill McSwain, local Blackwood resident of some 40 years, who has set up an exhibition of some of his paintings in the shop next to Drakes Supermarket.

Bill left Australia in 1969 on a ship for London. He was there to study painting at the National Gallery, copying the Old Masters Drawing lessons and learning the finer points of ceramics.

He returned to Adelaide to put it all in to practice and ended up teaching at TAFE with painting, pottery and drawing classes for 30 years; while holding exhibitions in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.

Locally, a number of years ago, Bill was commissioned by the Blackwood RSL to paint the stunning murals on the both the front and back walls of their building.

"Last year during the confines of Covid, I set out to discover the wonders of colour, shape, form, light and reflections. I used my knowledge of the past to guide me on my way and many of the paintings on display were created during my time stuck at home," explained Bill.

"I would describe my work as Modern impressionism, reflecting on the wonder of images seen on my past adventures."

All the paintings in Bill's exhibition are for sale, so if you are looking for something to decorate your walls at home, come along and have a browse through the extensive range of artworks on display.

The exhibition located in the shop next to (behind) Drakes Supermarket is open daily.



Photo - Local artist Bill McSwain hanging one of the many paintings he has on display and for sale in the pop up store next to (behind) Drakes Supermarket

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Looking for the contact details of a local ... tradesperson or business?

You'll find them all in the **Blackwood Business & Trade Directory**

2024 edition out now



delivered into letterboxes or you can pick up a copy when out shopping

Shopping locally will help to keep dollars in our community

by James Swanborough

LOCAL retailers are asking the community to remember the importance of shopping local, as traders across the country call on the Reserve Bank to urgently cut interest rates, with inflation slowing and consumers struggling with the higher cost-of-living.

National Retail Association Director, Rob Godwin noted last month, a weakening in household consumption combined with high labour costs spell uncertainty for retailers who have had to keep up with business expenses by spending out-of-pocket. "If the Reserve Bank leaves cutting interest rates to 2025, we would risk losing current and potential investors into Australia, which means we will see a higher-than-usual number of retail businesses exit the market," he said.

"Retailers are reliant on the Reserve Bank to improve consumer spending and enhance investor sentiment so Australia's retail landscape can continue to grow," he said. "We need more than a hold on current rates, we need the Reserve Bank to consider the high cost-of-trading business owners have to face every day as a consequence of costly policy decisions."

While times are undoubtedly hard, some local retailers are increasing their trade with good old fashioned word of mouth.

Michelle McShane of *Blackwood Lingerie* said, last month on Saturday March 16 brought her highest ever day of trade. "I have been here 23 years and you take the good with the bad, and the main challenge over March is the impact of the Adelaide Fringe. Because the money people spend on shows, impacts on the money they have left to spend on other things," she said.

Her recent business growth is something she puts down to long term personalised service, and local residents sharing positive stories.

"For us, we are getting a lot of referrals from department stores. They don't give the service, so a lot of people are coming up the hill to get what they need and then they look around while here.

"I think this is the way forward. I know John Head in Blackwood Boot & Shoe Repair next door, has been getting a lot of sales from people coming in to get their boots repaired. These are the things people value."

Michelle said that she knows customers sharing stories has an impact. "Regular customers are coming back, and having a coffee or tea with a friend, telling them they've been to our shop and had a great experience; it's that kind of thing that makes a difference for a business like ours."

Michelle practices what she preaches, sharing the love for other local businesses whenever possible. "If I haven't got something someone is looking for, I will always refer them to another local business; be it Salt Culture, Kohl & Soda or Snazzi Boutique. We try to send shoppers on to other local businesses, particularly if they don't even know they are here, or are new to the area."

While Ricky Monserrat at *Blackwood Dynotune* is involved with the 'Blackwood Connections' business group, and said many retailers are seeing things on the slower side. "I try to buy local when I can, because I see how hard it is getting for many of them," he said.

Automotive servicing and repairs however, seems to be continuing a steady trade, in spite of cost of living and mortgage pressures impacting many people to reconsider what once were seen as essential services.



◆ Photo - When you shop and support local small businesses, they are then in a position to support the many local clubs and organisations, that help form the environment and village atmosphere that residents enjoy

"It's one of those things, if people aren't buying new cars they are servicing their old ones," Ricky said. "All the workshops in Blackwood are fairly busy.

"Cars are changing and there are more electric vehicles and hybrids, but we see a lot of people restoring older cars and 4WDs with plans to keep them longer."

When you spend money locally, rather than travelling to a larger complex or shopping online, some of your money ends up back in our community. For many of our sports clubs and groups, they would simply not survive if it were not for the generosity of local small businesses, who make donations of goods and/or vouchers for fundraising events such as a 'quiz night' or 'fashion parade'. And where does this money for their donations come from - your shopping dollars!!

You may have children who are involved with a club or group, that without sponsorship from local businesses simply may not exist. And then, where do your kids go for an outlet away from the dreaded computer and social media!

So next time you are planning to shop outside of the Blackwood district, consider what your dollar can do within the local community. Chat to a local friendly retailer and get to know the people who help make Blackwood what it is.

Who are the 3 Australians in this unique painting?

IN 1983, Sydney artist, Martin Shaw, painted 'Three Well Known Australians' which has been travelling around the country at art galleries ever since ... collecting opinions from visitors as to who they think the three Australians are.

As well as showcasing works by other artists at Gallery One in Mitcham, the public are invited to have a guess as to who the 'Three Australians' are in the painting and record their opinions into yearbooks.

The painting previously toured Adelaide in 1994, 2004, 2014 and 2024. And this year, there are 8 venues across South Australia including Gawler, Mitcham, Mawson Centre and Goolwa.

Included with the touring exhibition are 'Letters' with opinions on the '3 Australians'.

Letters have been received from the Prime Minister, SA Premier and even local member for Waite, Catherine Hutchesson has visited the exhibition and written her opinion as to who the 'Three Australians' are in the yearbook.

"What a fantastic idea, not only a quirky piece of art but it definitely gets you thinking," said Catherine.

"It was great to see all of the different guesses and indeed the names of people who had sent in their thoughts including the Premier, Peter Malinauskas and the Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese. You'll have to go and see it to find out what they thought.

"Congratulations to the Mitcham Village Art and Craft Association (trading as Gallery One)

on an outstanding exhibition and their 50th Anniversary.

"Providing opportunities for community to come together and share ideas, create things and form new friendships, it is a wonderful community asset," added Catherine

However, the artist is in no hurry to reveal the answer. What he does reveal though, is 'Pea', a black and white dog is sitting in the corner. Sadly, Pea died in May 1991.

For more on the 'Three Well Known Australians' journey, go to google/facebook ... three well known australians.

□ The 'Three Well Known Australians' exhibition is being held at Gallery One, 1 Torrens Street, Mitcham up to Friday, April 12.

The Blackwood Times is looking for a new owner



◆ Photo - The front page of the first edition of The Blackwood Times, December 1994

AFTER nearly 30 years of publishing *The Blackwood Times* newspaper, I have decided it is time for me to move on.

It has been a great journey and I have thoroughly enjoyed 'Keeping the Community Informed since 1994' meeting all the wonderful, friendly and generous business people, together with so many local residents who have shared their stories and worked/volunteered tirelessly for the betterment of their community.

A huge thank you to all those businesses that have so generously trusted in me, and supported *The Blackwood Times* through their advertising commitments over the years.

At this stage the business has not been sold, so the JUNE edition will be MY last.

If you are interested, or you know of anyone who may be interested in buying the business, send me an email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

However, I plan to keep publishing the *Blackwood Business & Trade Directory* each year - so I will not have completely lost contact with the Blackwood district.

Miles Badcock
Publisher, Editor, Photographer
Financial Controller, Distributor, Tea Lady ...

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South Australia 2024 HISTORY FESTIVAL

THE theme for the 2024 Festival in May is 'Power'.

Power means a lot of things, in a lot of places and spaces. There is power in science, power in art, power in the food we share and the clothes we wear. Above all there is power in people.

This year the Blackwood Action Group History Subcommittee is offering three exciting events to whet your appetite to learn more about the history of Blackwood and the surrounding area.

* TRAVEL BACK IN TIME BY RAIL (Guided train trip)

Sunday 5 May 8.30am-12.25pm

Saturday 25 8.30am-12.25pm

Catch the train at Belair Railway Station to Eden Hills and Blackwood stations.

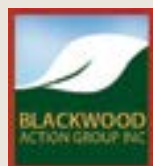
Cost \$5. Bookings required by email - ahazellau@gmail.com

* BELAIR NATIONAL PARK: OFF THE BEATEN TRACK (Guided bus trip and walk)

Saturday 18 May 11.50am-5pm

Sunday 19 May 8.45am-2pm

Tour Australia's second oldest national park in a minibus with a guide to sites of historic interest



and learn about native flora and fauna.

Cost \$35. Bookings required by email - ahazellau@gmail.com

* HERITAGE ALONG THE

RIDGE (Guided walk)

Friday 10 May 1.30pm-3.30pm

Saturday 11 1.30pm-3.30pm

Belair's history and its links to the development of the state will be shared and grand summer residences highlighted.

Cost \$5. Bookings required by email - ahazellau@gmail.com

* You may also be interested in the HISTORIC BUS TOUR through the scenic Mitcham Hills area including Blackwood, Belair, Eden Hills and more.

Thursday 9 May 10am - 12pm

Thursday 16 May 10am - 12pm

Cost \$10. Bookings required - <http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival>

See poster below for more details.

EMPOWER yourself in May 2024 by joining us to explore the history of our beautiful district.

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

Balancing social & environmental needs



BY ANDREW TIDSWELL
SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES
BLACKWOOD

LAST month, I proposed Blackwood becoming a sustainable community, with proposed new environmental initiatives adding to current ones.

This month, I explore sustainability of the Blackwood District Centre.

Sustainability has been defined as "using resources in a way that ecological and human life is enhanced". So it looks after the natural world and human well-beings, balancing economic social and environmental needs well into the future.

Of the many master plans done for the Blackwood District Centre, the most recent 2018 Structure Plan contained many elements of good sustainable city planning, including:

- Housing choices incorporating medium density development.
- Mixed use development.
- Rationalising traffic movement and parking.
- Greening of public spaces.
- Improved pedestrian amenity.
- Better public transport access.

Little has been done to date in realising these outcomes.

State and local governments could improve all of these with good planning and regulations. All new buildings could have high levels of environmental performance.

These would make the Blackwood District Centre a much nicer place to visit, would benefit the traders and make the place more resilient to our warming climate.

The imminent development of the old library and nursery site is a great opportunity to create an outstanding new facility that enhances Blackwood, provides much needed residential choices and adds to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the district centre.

Mitcham Council has said it desires some good outcomes for this site, and we wait with anticipation as to whether they have the courage to insist on these being realised, including "high quality sustainable design" and "recognising the unique attributes of Blackwood".

One of the unique attributes must surely be the abundance of trees and greenery.

Organisations such as the Blackwood Action Group have worked hard over many years to 'green the district'.

Trees will be more important than ever as our climate heats up. We need to plant more trees in public and private spaces and protect the ones that exist, from rampaging chainsaws. Any new development must include enough open space for large trees to grow.

There are two substantial trees in the Drake's supermarket car park which provide great shade for cars, without any loss of parking spaces. This should be normal in all car parks.

There is a growing body of evidence that demonstrates that good planning and quality physical environments also provide improved health, well-being and enjoyment outcomes for residents. □

Blackwood Players are back in full swing

"WE have a number of performances happening this year," said President. Myles Leon; starting with "The Ballad of The Lady Bushranger" in conjunction with Wired Up Theatre on Saturday April 6.



This event is a fundraising event to help keep the company alive, so get a group together and book a table, or find a seat at another table.

Lots of quiz knowledge, raffles. Prize for the best Favorite Screen Mum. Tickets only \$10 per person or a table of 8 for \$60.

Bookings via Try bookings or contact Myles on 0421 002 802.

Due to the cancellation of "Some Mothers Do Ave Em" production last year, they will be staging it for mid June (16th-29th June), directed by Myles Leon.

All events and performances are held at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

□ For further information contact the President on 0421 002 802 or email us blackwood.players@gmail.com or check out their website www.blackwoodplayers.com

BLACKWOOD ACTION GROUP

2024 HISTORY FESTIVAL



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5 May or 25 May

Belair East –
Heritage Along the Ridge
WALKING TOUR

10 May or 11 May



Belair National Park – *Off the Beaten Track!* BUS + WALKING

18 May or 19 May



For more details visit:

blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

Bookings: Contact Anne Hazell: ahazellau@gmail.com

Printed courtesy Catherine Hutchesson MP, Member for Waite 1/7-9 Young St Blackwood SA 5051

Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo

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Learn about memory loss as we age

BY TRACEY YEEND, JOINT CO-ORDINATOR WELLNESS EDUCATION SESSIONS

WE'VE had a flying start to the year, with our second session being booked out with a crowd of around 150 people.

We were privileged to hear from Gail Miller from 'Aged Care Explained' talk about the stress, difficulties and sense of overwhelm that comes with navigating Aged Care and the process, paperwork and directives specific to ageing.

For our third seminar on Tuesday April 9, we see the return of the informative Wendy Hall (pictured below) from Dementia Doulas International, presenting to us ... "Remembering 2 Remember".



Getting older can often lead to forgetting more and this can lead to a fear of these changes being permanent along with other lifestyle implications. If you want to know more about what normal memory changes look like and what you can do to better support your memory, then this presentation is for you.

Learn how simple exercises and reframing your thinking can make a difference to everyday life. You will likely identify with strategies that you may not realise you are already using.

Join Wendy, as she leads this interactive and practical presentation on common memory changes and what can we do to improve our memory.

Ongoing thank you to our amazing sponsors: Peter Alexandrou from Harris Real Estate Blackwood and the Green Dispensary Blackwood. Proudly supported by Catherine Hutchesson MP for Waite and her amazing team.

All sessions are free and held at the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Please arrive around 5pm for a 5.30pm start.

☐ Booking your spot is essential; please contact Catherine Hutchesson's Office on 8278 5844 or email: waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or pop into the office on the corner of Young & Waite Street.

Major makeover for Belair station

BY CATHERINE HUTCHESON, MP FOR WAITE

THE Friends of the Belair Station do an incredible job of maintaining the station and in September last year we recognised their efforts.

As volunteers they are unwavering in their dedication to the station. They are there from the very early hours of the morning on a Friday and work hard with the help of their dog, Digger (maybe he is the reincarnation of 'Patch' the original station dog).

The Belair train station was first opened in 1883 and it differed from the other stations throughout the network due to its use of timber and its location on what was originally Government Farm.

Belair Railway Station is historically significant at a state level in its representation of part of a major development in South Australia's transportation history and a good example of a station built in the late 19th Century.

It is significant because of its association with the construction of the Adelaide – Nairne Railway in 1879-83 as well as the ambitious expansion of the network to build links to NSW and Victoria.

Fast forwarding to 1985, the signal box and station were entered into the register of State Heritage items. Sadly, in May 2003, the signal box was burned to the ground after 6 long years being lovingly restored by the Friends of Belair Station, including well-known local, Neil Stallard.

The signal box was rebuilt though, through the assistance of the then Deputy Prime Minister and Train Enthusiast, Tim Fischer along with former local Federal member at the time, Andrew Southcott.

For those who don't know of 'Patch', he was



◆ Photo - Catherine Hutchesson MP for Waite (centre) with station dog 'Digger', surrounded by some of the members of the Friends of Belair Station

the faithful companion of the Belair Station Master, Mick Harnett in the 60's and 70's and is buried behind the station.

For 16 years, Patch welcomed every train from his position on a stool near the window of the Signal Cabin. He barked as the signal lever at his side was lowered, letting the drivers know they could leave. 'Digger' now barks at every freight train that comes and goes and is always ready for a pat.

The Friends of Belair Station do an incredible job of maintaining and improving the

station and have been advocating for a long time to have the heritage listed railway shelter refurbished. A shelter that had fallen into disrepair.

The group were very pleased to find out that the State Government, in collaboration with Keolis Downer, have committed the necessary funds to restore the shelter. And a few weeks ago, I was able to let the Friends know that the works were finally going to commence. Since then, work has started and will include the following:

- new columns, hardwood plinths and strip footings
- new roof beam
- replacement of life-expired cladding
- new storm water infrastructure
- rebuilding of paving and edging
- rebuilding of bench seats
- resurfacing of life-expired pavement under shelter; and
- repainting.

We are anticipating that the works will be completed pending weather in June.

I cannot thank the volunteers enough for their work and also their ongoing advocacy and I am so glad that we will all be able to enjoy the restored shelter very soon. ☐

Expressions of Interest for a Mitcham & Hills 'Health and Wellness Expo'

OFF the back of the very successful Mitcham & Hills Wellness Education Sessions that were started last year, and to accommodate a broader range of topics and services, the convenors are planning to put together an all day Health and Wellness Expo.

If you are involved in medical, health and any allied services in the area, this expo will provide a unique opportunity for your organisation to discuss and promote your services with local residents.

You will also be able to provide information

about your services and answer questions from local residents.

There will also be an adjunct room, where speakers can present short informative talks about their services, and visitors can choose who they would like to listen to throughout the day.

☐ If you are interested in being a part of this Health & Wellness Expo day, please register your interest with local MP Catherine Hutchesson office, by email: waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or phone 8278 5844.

Harcourts Packham

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Letters to the Editor

Some reader's not happy with the apostrophe!

For all those people who took the time to email me or post on Facebook, complaining about the apostrophe, I apparently incorrectly placed in the heading on the front page of last month's Blackwood Times ...

You won't have to put up with the possibility of such a devastating and catastrophic mistake ever happening again by me, as the JUNE edition will be my last one!!

Miles Badcock, Editor

Clean affordable energy now not nuclear

Politics aside, our need is for secure, affordable and clean energy now and an end to unnecessary roadblocks and delays, not a nuclear crusade that appears incapable of delivering power before 2040.

Jim Allen, Panorama

Urgent need to convert to renewables now

The increase in the population of Humans in the World since the year 1900 has been massive. In 1900, approx. 1.7 billion humans inhabited the World; now the World population of humans has risen to approx. 8.1 billion.

It is little wonder that the enormous increase in Human beings in the World, and their ever growing requirement for energy, has, and is having, a huge impact on Human caused climate change.

The necessity to convert with urgency from using fossil fuels to using renewables, to create energy, has never been so obvious and compelling.

Brian Measday, Kingswood

Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers ... send a 'Letter to the Editor' by email including name, address and suburb to: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

Join in the fun of the fair at Herbstfest

THE annual celebration of German culture, Herbstfest, is set to return to Belair National Park's Karka Pavilion this month.

In its fourth year, this family-friendly event brings together German food, music and crafts in a natural setting. Hosted by dance group Bund der Bayern and supported by a My Mitcham Community Grant, the event aims to celebrate the autumn colours of the Adelaide Hills along with German culture.

Local acts set to perform include traditional Bavarian accordion with Heidi and Herrman, classical harp with Emma Horwood and contemporary music by Corinna of Deviation Acoustic.

There will be outdoor games, face painting and henna art and a craft workshop along with traditional German beer and foods including Flammkuchen (pizza), Bratwurstchen (sausage) and Federweisser (young wine).

For a local afternoon out with a difference, come along and enjoy some fun and frivolity at this year's Herbstfest in the beautiful surrounds of Belair Park.



Herbstfest, Saturday 6 April, 12pm to 5.30pm, \$6.50 to \$12.50, Karka Pavilion (accessed via Melville Gully Road and Cherry Plantation Road), Belair National Park. To book visit www.trybooking.com/CNXHV

2024 Blackwood Directory out now

THE 2024 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory has been distributed into letterboxes for another year.

A popular publication since 2000, it contains the contact details for many local businesses and tradespeople all in the one place.

However, if you didn't receive a copy at home, you can pick one up when out shopping at one of our news stands located in the main shopping precincts, or the supermarkets, Blackwood Newsagent, local MP office in Young Street and various other businesses in the district.

Also available on-line to look up details any time anywhere at: blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au



2 YEARS Thank You

Catherine Hutchesson MP
Member for Waite Building a resilient community

Authorised by C. Hutchesson, 1/7-9 Young St, Blackwood SA 5051

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

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49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56
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12 Label	5 Despot
13 Three	6 Overseas
15 Upon	7 On
16 Name	8 Station
17 United Arab Republic	10 Unit of heat
18 Recent	14 Anger
19 Switchboard	20 Greek letter
21 Catch	22 Digit
23 Wind player	24 Aching
25 Obadiah in brief	26 Station
28 Noise	27 Hang
29 Golf mound	29 Wheel
30 Old	31 Saga
33 Local Area Network	32 Priest
35 Artificial Intelligence	34 Backside
36 Fruit	40 Act
37 Angular	
38 Territory	
39 Middle	
41 Blackboy	
42 Helmet wreath	

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

Lack of integrity wastes taxpayer's money



BY LOUISE MILLER-FROST
FEDERAL MP
FOR BOOTHBY

IT'S not too much to expect integrity from our governments.

As citizens and as taxpayers, we should be able to expect that our governments will act in the interests of the community and use taxpayer funding to get better outcomes for the community.

And yet, we only got a National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) legislated in 2022 after the Albanese Labor Government was elected.

Previously, I heard from so many Boothby residents how upset they were about the scandals and alleged rorts of the previous government: money wasted

on car parks that would never be built, colour-coded spreadsheets used to allocate funding for electoral advantage against the advice of the relevant department, allegations of contracts going to mates of Ministers. Some people could list them off more than 30!

So I was very pleased to see the NACC announcement that it has now referred three matters for prosecution.

As politicians we are servants of the public. You may not like everything we do, but you should be able to trust that it is done without corruption and without self-interest.

But the work on integrity continues. At time of writing, the Parliament is debating a Bill to replace the former Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) with a new body, the Administrative Review Tribunal (ART).

These bodies are where Australians can go to appeal a decision by a government department - Services Australia, NDIA, Veterans Affairs, Immigration.

Under the previous government, many non-merit political appointments had been made, and delays had blown out to the extent that bad migration agents were advising people with no right to claim asylum to come to Australia on student visas and then apply for asylum, knowing it would take ten years for the case to be resolved through the AAT.

Integrity is important. Lack of integrity wastes Australian taxpayer's money, denies Australians the services they deserve and undermines trust in the democratic system.

If you have any queries, please contact my office on 8374 0511 or email: Louise.Miller-Frost.MP@aph.gov.au

Get in touch

My office is open and ready to help!

- 8374 0511
- louisemillerfrost.com.au
- @LouiseMillerFrostBoothby
- Louise.Miller-Frost.MP@aph.gov.au
- Shop 2, 670 ANZAC Hwy Glenelg, SA 5045

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Cats must remain on your property



◆ Photo - Cat enclosures are a great way to keep your cat on your property while giving your pet the freedom to roam outdoors without chasing the wildlife

CATS are wonderful company and are well known for their curiosity and independence, but if they're not looked after properly, they can cause havoc to our native wildlife and a nuisance to other residents.

Mitcham Council have a duty to make sure everyone in our community feels safe, and that animal ownership doesn't create health or safety problems.

So they have introduced cat confinement for all new cats from 1 January 2024, to help Mitcham's cats live longer and healthier lives, while better protecting native wildlife.

All cats born or registered on or after 1 January 2024 will need to be confined to your property at all times. Cats can still go outside, as long as they remain on your property.

Try and encourage your cat to stay indoors, especially at night. Not only does this help protect local wildlife from your cat's claws and teeth, it protects your cat from potential harm, like getting run over or getting lost. Cat fights can lead to pricey vet visits and cats are also more likely to be run over at night.

Keeping your cat confined to your property is the safest place for you cat. They won't be at risk from getting lost, hit by a car or fighting with other cats.

Cats born or registered before 1 January 2024, do not have to be contained. However, it is important that your cat is not causing a nuisance.

Caring for your cat is a full-time commitment and there are loads of things you should think about before you welcome a cat into your home.

Does a cat match your lifestyle? Will it have enough space to run around? Can you devote the necessary time to feeding, training, exercising, socialising and spending time with your cat? Can you keep your cat contained?

Can you afford vet check-ups, vaccinations, and food? Ask your local vet for advice.

Registering and identifying your pets and other animals helps to keep your animals safe, gives you peace of mind, and means that we can plan for future community needs.

If your cat is over three months old and is unregistered, that's an offence, and you will be charged a maximum penalty \$320 plus an expiation fee \$170. You may also be charged a continuing offence penalty of \$170 every 14 days that the offence continues.

To find how to register your cat or dog, visit www.dog-sandcatsonline.com.au

For more information and help, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/our-services/animals/cats-in-the-city

Easter treats can be harmful to your pets

WITH Easter just over, there is bound to be plenty of chocolate and Easter bunnies still in the house, and pet owners should be extra vigilant with what they feed their pets, as veterinary clinics gear up for one of their busiest times of the year.

While many families look forward to chocolate bunnies, Easter egg hunts and a tasty hot cross bun (or two), these treats can actually prove lethal to our furry friends.

"The humble hot cross bun is a favourite in households over Easter, but it's also a dangerous treat to feed your pet," said a 'Compare the Market' general insurance spokesperson. "The traditional versions contain dried grapes, which are extremely toxic to dogs. Even some of the more modern hot cross buns contain ingredients like chocolate, which is also a big no-no for animals.

"People may not realise that dogs can't break down a certain enzyme found in chocolate, which can cause an array of serious health complications like vomiting, a rapid heart rate, breathing difficulty, diarrhoea and more. It could prove life-threatening depending on how much your pet ingests."

Meanwhile, it's also important to be aware of other threats to your pets over the Easter period.

"Similarly, use Easter as a reminder to stay on top of your pet's vaccinations, particularly if you're travelling or if they're staying at a kennel over the holiday period. This can protect them against an array of common diseases,

ranging from kennel cough syndrome and dog parvovirus to hepatitis to cat flu.

Tips for protecting your pet over Easter ...

1. Be aware that your usual vet may not be open. Many vets may not be operating or may have skeleton staff working over the Easter long weekend. Knowing which 24/7 emergency clinics are located nearby, in case the worst happens, is a good idea.
2. Telehealth options may be available. An array of vet initiatives designed to keep their pets healthy and reduce veterinary expenses have been rolled out in recent times, including Dial A Vet, Webvet and more. These services allow you to pay a small fee for a video consultation with a certified vet. Keep in mind that if your pet is in life-threatening danger, you should always visit a vet in person.
3. Understand the limits and excesses that apply on pet insurance. If you need to claim on your pet insurance, do you know how much money will be reimbursed and how much you may need to pay? Be sure to read your PDS carefully, as you could still be left out-of-pocket – even with cover.
4. Ensure your pet's vaccinations are up to date. If you're leaving your pet at a kennel or a day care service, you'll need to ensure all its vaccinations are current. This not only protects your pet, but ensures they're able to stay. Kennels and day care services will usually refuse entry if your pet is behind on its vaccinations.

Information extracted from media release by [comparethemarket](http://comparethemarket.com).



Top Dog Names chosen for 2024

WHEN choosing a name for your dog, it is important to consider their personality and appearance. You should also choose a name that is easy to pronounce and that you will enjoy calling out.

This is a list of the top 10 most popular dog names in Australia in 2024:

- Luna
- Daisy
- Milo
- Bella
- Coco
- Teddy
- Charlie
- Frankie
- Archie
- Ruby

These names are a mix of classic and more modern choices, and they reflect the diversity of dog breeds and owners in Australia.

Luna is a popular name for both male and female dogs, and it has been the top dog name in Australia for the past five years. Daisy and Milo are also popular choices for both genders, while Bella, Coco, Teddy, and Ruby are more popular for female dogs. Charlie, Frankie, and Archie are more popular for male dogs.

Here are some other popular dog names in Australia in 2024:

- Bailey
- Buddy
- Buster
- Cooper
- Diesel
- Jack
- Jasper
- Max
- Molly
- Oscar
- Teddy
- Toby

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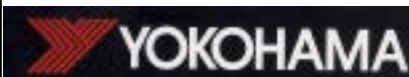
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◆ 1 & 15 April

COROMANDEL VALLEY ROTARY - meet at Parish Hall, 337 Main Rd, 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, contact Peter 0431 012 142.

◆ 2 & 16 April

BLACKWOOD ROTARY - meet at Blackwood RSL Club, Brighton Parade, 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 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.

◆ 3 April

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

◆ 3 April

BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS - all past and current members of Blackwood no 93 meet from 7.30pm at Masonic Ctr, 229 Main Rd (opposite Coles and behind The CPAP Room premises). If you want more information on Freemasonry contact Ted on 0407 978 214 or e: blackwoodlodge93@gmail.com

◆ 3, 10, 17 & 24 April

COME PLAY SCRABBLE

Join in the fun at the Blackwood Scrabble Club meeting in the Blackwood Uniting Church Hall (near the roundabout). Enquiries to Raelene 0416 203 515.

◆ 4 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. Phone Norman on 8178 2653.

◆ 4 April

TONSLEY VIEW CLUB - meet at the Maid of Auckland, South Rd, Edwardstown, 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

◆ 6 April

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

◆ 7 April

MESSY CHURCH - for children of all ages and held in Blackwood Uniting Church (near roundabout) from 4-6pm. Fun activities followed by a story and songs finishing with a yummy tea! Cost is \$10 per family. Phone 0408 657 526 for more.

◆ 7 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.

◆ 7 April

BLACKWOOD SUNSHINE HEART MARKET - from 10am to 3pm at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade. Admission is free. New stall enquiries to Kylie: sunshineheartmkt@gmail.com

◆ 7 & 21 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 0438 687 788.

◆ 8 April

BELAIR LADIES' PROBUS CLUB - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church (near roundabout) at 10am. Enjoy a social time with retired and semi-retired peers. Interesting speakers, outings, and weekly beach walk. Enquiries to Jane on 0419 187 356.

◆ 9 April

WELLNESS EDUCATION SESSIONS - held at Blackwood Uniting Church, near Blackwood roundabout in the Cafe lounge. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information email: circleoffriendsblackwood@gmail.com

◆ 10 April

BLACKWOOD HILLS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FOR REFUGEES - meet at 7.30pm in the Foyer at Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information email: circleoffriendsblackwood@gmail.com

◆ 10 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-mitchamcpcg.org

◆ 11 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

◆ 11 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 - contact Robert on 0488 170 848.

◆ 13 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.

◆ 13 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.

◆ 14 & 28 April

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

◆ 15 April

BLACKWOOD HILLS VIEW CLUB - meet at the Marion Club, Sturt Road at 10.30am for lunch. Ladies fun and friendship supporting The Smith Family. Guest speakers, raffles and trading table. New members welcome. For more details and bookings contact Joan on 0408 823 872.

◆ 16 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: bobgrant@adam.com.au

◆ 17 April

BLACKWOOD WINEMAKERS & BREWERS CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 19 Coromandel Pde, from 7.30pm. Learn about wine-making and brewing, guest speakers with wine and beer tastings. New members welcome. Phone Bernie on 0447 212 278 or email: secretary@bwbc.org.au

◆ 20 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.

◆ 22 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.blackwoodfloralarl.blogspot.com.au

◆ 22 April

MITCHAM HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Club Marion, Sturt Rd, 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

◆ 24 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 more details.

◆ 25 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.

◆ 30 April

JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS SA - meets in the Bellevue Heights Primary School Gym at 7pm. Club is aimed at nature enthusiasts aged 6 to 14, with accompanying parents. Activities include guest speakers at meetings, as well as regular field trips. You are welcome to attend a meeting to "come-and-try" the club before joining. Further information: www.jfnsa.com.au

◆ 18 May

BLACKWOOD HILLS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FOR REFUGEES CELEBRITY QUIZ NIGHT - at 6.30pm in the Blackwood Uniting Church Hall (near the Blackwood roundabout). Tickets cost \$20 and available at <https://www.trybooking.com/CPZPH> For more information contact Jennie on 0418 848 508.

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Posties safety data reveals dogs as number one hazard to deal with

AUSTRALIA Post's latest safety data has revealed over 81,000 hazards were logged by Posties in the past 12 months – a staggering average of more than 200 per day.

The data, tracked and logged by Posties on their handheld devices, shows that dogs remain the number one logged hazard encountered, with low hanging branches and obstructive trees also posing a high safety risk.

Some of the more unusual hazards that Posties have to contend with include magpie and other bird attacks, insect nests in letterboxes and roped off driveways.

Across the country, NSW had the highest number of logged hazards throughout the year at over 20,000, followed by Victoria with nearly 19,000 logged hazards.

In the other states and territories South Australia logged over 13,000 hazards, Western Australia had over 10,000, Tasmania logged 1,300 the ACT logged over 900 and the Northern Territory logged over 500 hazards.

The top five logged hazards encountered by Posties across the country in the last 12 months include:

- * Unrestrained or aggressive dogs
- * Low hanging branches, obstructive trees/shrubs
- * Surface conditions such as cracked footpaths and uneven surfaces
- * Letterbox conditions including sharp, jagged or rusted edges
- * Blind driveways and obstructive cars.

Australia Post rolled out the digital hazard tool 12 months ago in a bid to help reduce incidents

and injury to Posties. Provided to every Postie, the hazard tool enables them to easily, immediately and digitally log a hazard when they come across it.

The next time they, or any other Postie, approach a pre-logged location they will receive a warning notification on their device, allowing them to avoid it or take extra care.

Rod Barnes, Australia Post Executive General Manager Network Operations highlighted that Posties just want to be able to complete their deliveries safely, without hitting their heads on low-hanging branches, navigating badly cracked footpaths or having to avoid aggressive dogs.

"The nature of the job requires our Posties to be out and about every day so anything we can do to help keep our team safe and reduce risk is important. This national hazard database allows us to track hazards consistently and accurately, ultimately reducing the risk for our team members.

"Once a hazard is logged in the system we take the necessary steps to try and resolve it for our team. This might include engaging local council for issues such as badly cracked pavements or writing to the customer to fix the issue in the case of unrestrained dogs. The safety of our team is our number one priority and if they cannot do their job safely then we may be unable to deliver until the hazard is fixed," said Mr Barnes.

In addition to the hazard tool Australia Post also uses telematics, including video footage and sensors, across its delivery fleet to help to reduce serious accidents as its delivery team takes to the streets each day.

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