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ISSUE 323 • FEBRUARY 2022

# Open up exit to south an option?

Check out the 'Bushfire Feature' see page 8

see story pg 3



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Belair residents Sally Miller (above) and Jesse Hamilton created a unique puppet show for young audiences in 2016, performing nationally and overseas. You can catch one of their local shows in this year's Adelaide Fringe Festival. For more details and dates ... see story on page 6.

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# Roundabout to go ahead despite minimal support

by James Swanborough

COMMUNITY concern continues for upgrades to the Mitcham Hills Road Network (MHRN), as works to develop a roundabout at the intersection of Old Belair and James Road in Belair, looks set to commence in coming months.

The roundabout is slated as part of an overhaul of the road network, which will also see an upgrade of the Russell Street / Main Road / Sheoak Road "Belair Triangle" junction, along with the intersection of Shepherds Hill Road, Brighton Parade and Waite Street.

In response to community concern, Mitcham Council have formally requested works on the James Road roundabout be stalled until after the Belair Triangle works have been completed, so that subsequent impact of traffic flow onto Old Belair Road may be assessed.

Member for Boothby, Ms Nicolle Flint, who initially secured funding for the project, has

also written to the State Government to request a delay to the roundabout work.

"It is imperative that, as elected representatives of our local communities, we undertake the necessary actions to address the concerns of residents," Flint wrote in correspondence to Mr Corey Wingard, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.

A response from Mr Wingard suggested that the Department of Infrastructure & Transport (DIT) were satisfied with the current modelling, and would be continuing on schedule, with the roundabout to commence as the first part of the upgrade process.

Local resident and spokesperson for the Friends of Old Belair Road group, Greg O'Grady, said he was disappointed by the response, and ongoing lack of transparency from the DIT.

"We find it really disappointing that DIT seems hell bent on commencing construction works prior to the upcoming State Election, where we may well find that the Liberal

Government fails to hold on to power.

"In the event that Labor forms Government, there has been a very clear commitment made to put this project on hold and conduct detailed analysis on the project validity... a position applauded by the Friends of Old Belair Rd and also supported by Sam Duluk MP, Mayor Heather Holmes Ross and the entire Mitcham Council Chamber, and even Nicolle Flint herself as the person that made the original \$20M election promise," explained Greg.

The designs are still in the process of gaining environmental approval, due to their encroachment into Randell Reserve and surrounding protected Grey Box woodland.

"These plans still involve substantial clearance of high value native vegetation within nationally threatened grey box grassy woodland. This is not clearance by chainsaw. It is clearance by massive earthmoving machinery and bulldozers. And once this landscape is cleared, it can never be returned," said Greg.

However, the works will also remove a sec-

tion of the Mitcham Hills trail network.

As a result of the trail connectivity being impacted by DIT's project, DIT have agreed to fund a new permanent trail section on Council land. A new trail link is feasible through the Green Ridge Track to Sugar Loaf Blue for walkers, runners and cyclists.

Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said Council would wait until all legislative approvals were passed, before reviewing whether to grant approval to undertake the replacement trail works to maintain trail connectivity in this area, both during and after the project construction.

"We don't support the decision, and have reaffirmed that we want a suspension of these works, but we also don't wish our community to be left without cycle paths," said Heather.

"So, we are allowing planning to go forward, however, when their applications are passed they will come back to council for a final decision. We can only advocate as it's a State Government decision." □

# Coro 185th birthday celebrations toned down thanks to Covid

ON 17th January 1837, the ship 'Coromandel' arrived at Glenelg, whereupon a number of sailors absconded and hid in the hills above the area now known as Coromandel Valley.

They stayed there until the ship sailed without them in March, then returned to Adelaide to face the music. The sailors were in luck, however, as the lack of an official to preside over their prosecution, meant they were not punished.

Roll the calendar forward to 1987; the Coromandel Valley community with the support of the SA Sesquicentenary (Jubilee 150) Committee and, the then City of Happy Valley, celebrated that act of desertion and discovery with a reenactment of the sailors fleeing to the hills.

The 33.4m ketch, *Falio*, took on the role of *HMS Coromandel* and it hove to in Holdfast Bay, with a motley group of "sailors" that were enlisted from local service clubs,

Council and the Coromandel Community Association members then took to the long boats, headed for shore and took off for the hills to endeavour to recreate the historical event.

The actual route the original absconders followed into the hills remains a topic of conjecture, but their destination up a prominent hill in Coromandel Valley is well documented. A commemorative plaque was installed there in 1987.



◆ Photo - At the CoroAlive! 175 launch day back in 2012, local members from the Coro SES led walkers out of Frank Smith Park for the "Sailors Walk", co-ordinated by Aberfoyle & Districts Lions club

Roll the calendar on a further 25 years to 2012, and the Coromandel Valley community was celebrating once again.

*CoroAlive! 175* was a year-long program of over 70 celebratory events ranging from a Lions Sailor's Walk (the opening event on 15th January), to a Discovery Weekend, several "Spotlight on ..." sessions, concerts, a Ye Olde Picnic, exhibitions and displays.

The organising committee was established under the auspices of the Coromandel Community Centre and included representatives of the Coromandel Valley Branch of the National Trust (CVDNT), local service clubs, churches, sports clubs, special interest groups, Onkaparinga & Mitcham Councils and interested residents (past and present).

You can find a few photo albums from those

2012 events on the CVDNT website: [www.cvdnt.org.au/photo-gallery](http://www.cvdnt.org.au/photo-gallery)

Last month (17th January 2022) it was the 185th Birthday for Coromandel Valley.

However, thanks to the pandemic, celebrations were far more sedate and restricted than those of 2012.

Meanwhile, the CVDNT Branch is still actively recording and, when possible, sharing local history.

Visitors can come to the Watchman House on Main Road, Coromandel Valley and Winns Bakehouse on Winns Road in smaller, pre-booked groups and there is a greater focus on having activities outdoors.

Gamble Cottage will open for the first time this year on Sunday 20th February, 1-4pm, with COVID safe arrangements. Afternoon tea will be served in the garden with marmalade and honey on sale. Visits at other times can be organised.

While something that never stops is the processing of the myriad of items and documents in the Branch's extensive collection. Enquiries from anyone with an interest in helping with tasks such as transcribing oral histories and cataloguing images are very welcome.

□ You can contact Coromandel Valley & Districts National Trust Branch via email to [nationaltrust-coro@bigpond.com](mailto:nationaltrust-coro@bigpond.com) or by phoning 0474 066 776.



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# Best bushfire plan - leave the area early

by James Swanborough

FOLLOWING community consultation, a permanent bushfire egress gate will be installed in Star Lily Street, Craighburn Farm, adding an exit point to Cumming Street, without opening the access as a public road.

The new gate, along with an existing gate at Verdelho Street, will remain closed but unlocked for residents to utilise, with road resurfacing of existing verges to be undertaken to allow better access for emergency vehicles.

The decision comes after a lengthy period of consultation, which saw the community express concern for both the potential risk to the community, and the impact opening the roads to traffic would have on the residents of the quiet cul-de-sacs.

Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross hoped the outcome acknowledged both points of concern.

"The solution came from the community as a compromise position which allowed egress, but maintained the amenity of those streets which are 'no through' roads. I think it's a really sensible, well thought out solution, because everyone's concerns have been considered.

"The gates will be unlocked, but able to be opened by anyone, and the hope is the residents will be vigilant in times of emergency," explained Heather.

However, she regrets that the process to reach a decision had taken so long. "It has been a source of anxiety for residents," she said, "and I wish a solution could have arrived more quickly."

Joel Taggart, Manager of Development Assessment Service at CFS South Australia noted that the CFS supports any additional egress.

"Best practice land division design from a bushfire hazard planning perspective is to avoid the use of long no-through streets, such as Verdelho Street," said Taggart.

"The SA CFS supports the connection of both Verdelho and Star Lily Streets to the wider Blackwood road network. The proposed design appears suitable for firefighting appliance access, provided relevant car parking restrictions are enforced."

However, though supportive of the added egress, Sturt CFS Group Officer Dale Thompson (see photo on right) and long time

Blackwood resident, warns that the development should not mean residents can become complacent about the risks of staying on fire danger days.

"We, as an organisation with the goal of fire suppression, really advise people not to be here at all. We would like to see people put their plans in place, and part of a bushfire plan, needs to be, to leave early on those bad days so that if a bushfire does occur, they are not in the area," said Dale.

"People tend to react late, when they see smoke and that is just too late. It's not when you want to be making decisions, you want to be gone.

"Anything about 'Severe' is a bad day, because that means that the fire will be weather controlled, not fire service controlled. So have your plan in place, and if you are going to stay, be prepared; if you're not going to stay, go early."

Dale acknowledged however, that not all residents would react with foresight, and said any additional egress is welcome, adding that an exit to the south of Craighburn Farm would assist in clearing traffic greatly.

"This option is looking at what is currently in place; but the issue is, that we know what Shepherds Hill Road is like on a bad day.

"If something goes wrong on that road, then people aren't going to get out, which is why we prefer to see people leave early. But unfortunately, not everyone will react with that foresight, so we need to look at what other options are available.

"Going south is another option, but there is currently no exit from the Craighburn estate, so if people are pushing and trying to get out of the area, they are all heading towards Shepherds Hill Road through the main part of Blackwood.

"Whereas if there were an exit south, it could redirect some of the traffic through to Blacks Road and relieve some pressure that way," explained Dale.

Mayor Holmes-Ross said she would welcome a feasibility study into alternate exits. "I would be interested to look into a southern bypass. If you can prove that it would be useful, I think all options should be considered."

See page 8 this edition for a bushfire feature.



◆ Photo - Dale Thompson, Sturt CFS Group Officer and proprietor of local business Fire & Rescue Australia



◆ Photo - There is already an emergency gate installed at the end of Verdelho Street which currently exists as a no through road cul-de-sac.

## Popular business directory to hit the streets next month

WHEN you're looking for a local business or tradesperson, don't forget to check out the Blackwood Business & Trade Directory - in a 80 page print version and also available to be read on-line.

The directory, now in its 22nd year, contains contact details and information on most businesses, tradespeople and organisations in the Blackwood district.

Published annually to encourage people to use local businesses and provide easy access to their contact details and services.

The great benefit about checking out the Directory in the print or on-line version, is that all the information and contact details you are looking for is contained in the one location - 7 days a week 365 days a year.

And over the past couple of years, with



small businesses being challenged by never experienced before trading conditions due to Covid, your support by shopping locally and using local tradespeople, will help retain the great community environment we all choose to live in.

Plus, some of the money you spend with local businesses flows through to numerous local clubs, groups and organisations that rely upon sponsorship and donations from these businesses to survive.

Look out for the 2022 print edition of the Blackwood Directory delivered into your letterbox early March. But if you don't have a copy of the 2021 version and you need details now, then you can always look up the online version at [www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au](http://www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au)

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# Do you know where this object is?

IN 2022, the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) is taking a different approach with its monthly article, planning to encourage awareness of our local heritage. Under the title "Do you know where this is?", each issue of The Blackwood Times will feature a photograph of a local historic site. Readers are challenged to find its location, and thereby have a chance to win a prize.

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

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

The memorial plaque for Gustav Ludewigs is situated in the Belair Triangle, opposite the Belair Community Centre.

The first sale of land in Belair to European settlers took place in 1849 and a significant early landholder was a retired Prussian army officer, Gustav Adolphe Ludewigs.

Between 1855-1858, with his wife, Maria

Helena, he leased, bought and sold various land parcels and became the owner of 140 acres.

He then drew up, but never registered, a Future Township of 35 allotments in the wedge of his land from the top of Old Belair Road and named it Belair.

It is thought this was likely to have been named after the scenic lookout called Bel Air on the Caribbean island of Martinique, where Maria Ludewigs was born.

Another theory, is that it was named in 1849 after Eugene Bellairs, a Government surveyor who lived in the area.

By 1860, Gustav had established a house, store and post office in an area on Main Road, then known as the Clarendon Road, near today's micro-wave tower. The store and post office were the first in the district.

Mrs Ludewigs taught 16 pupils in a building erected by public subscription for use as a chapel and schoolroom.

Maria Ludewigs died in 1861 and is buried in a shady spot, a short distance from the house in the grounds of the present St John's Secondary School.

Adolph re-married, but his second wife died after childbirth in 1863 and is buried



Last month's plaque was located in the Belair Community Centre grounds

alongside his first wife.

In 1864, Gustav Ludewigs moved to Wallaroo where he married again. He died there in 1869 at the age of 51.

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

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



## Letters to the Editor

### Carbon emissions way too high

The large Morrison Government ad (back page, December 2021) neglects to explain that Australia's carbon emissions are lower than they are in 2005, primarily because of two things - firstly, the way this is counted is favourable to Australia in terms of what it includes and doesn't, and secondly, heavy lifting by other governments, State and (until 2013) Federal ALP.

The Morrison Government policies, at best, will keep emissions roughly where they are at - way too high. There is too much tax spent on subsidies for fossil fuels, and too little real support for a decarbonised economy which is essential for a liveable planet.

Jim Allen, Panorama

### Climate change activists

To all the climate change activists out there who are demanding ACTION NOW, I hope they have cleaned the gutters and drains in front of their own homes from the leaves, bark and debris that

accumulates in the streets this time every year.

Or, they could ring the Mitcham Council and request that the streets are cleaned more frequently, to prevent these leaves and bark from blocking up the drains and causing minor flooding when it does rain.

As the Mitcham Council is so proud to keep telling us about their environmental activities, then perhaps they already know how bad it is for all this debris to pollute our waterways. Or, do our current representatives on Council drive around the hills with their eyes closed.

Jenny Hembrow, Belair

### Recipe for cheer

What can be more uplifting in these times of trouble than a walk around my own neighbourhood of Eden Hills to enjoy the combination of artists, the environment, and generous citizens?

I'm just home from a walk in the cool air, starting with decorated colourful stobie poles on Shepherd's Hill Road.

Instead of complaining about trees to be cut when a certain development begins, I focus on yet another artwork of delight; a pole bursting with butterflies, birds and flowers.

Then walking down leafy Wilpena Street to Pekina Pocket; privately owned land open to neighbours to enjoy the 2 lookouts, with landscaping carefully using Eden Hills plant species. Locals are encouraged to help with maintenance of the enormous new plantings. Is there a smell of goodness in the air? Or lemon eucalyptus?

It's this combination of natural beauty, art and good natured humanity that prompts me to share this moment with your readers.

Such a welcome relief after dark colorbond fences, which seem to block out views of gardens, trees and sculptures (excepting the free gallery experience in the garden of internationally acclaimed sculptor Greg Johns in another Eden Hills street.

Julanne Sweeney, Eden Hills

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# Improving safety on our risky roads

by James Swanborough

ALONG with the works commencing around Old Belair Road, the Department of Infrastructure & Transport (DIT) are looking at ways to improve the intersection of Shepherds Hill Road, Brighton Parade and Waite Street as part of their commitment to improve the Mitcham Hills Road Network.

A community survey undertaken in 2020 as part of a planning study identified safety as a key concern at this intersection, with a many residents also reporting 'near-misses'.

Other issues raised by the community included: the need for safe crossings and access for people walking and cycling; concern about traffic delays and travel times at the intersection; and the importance of access to local streets and businesses.

Initial community suggestions about how to improve this intersection included banning right turns, adding traffic signals or adding a roundabout. These options are now being considered, with DIT stating that installing a roundabout is the less preferred option, as while it would address some safety concerns, it would impact on private land, utility services, access and safety for people walking and cycling, and property and business access.

Local MP for Waite, Sam Duluk was grateful that the community's concerns were being addressed. "After many years of advocacy, I welcome the attention from both Federal and State Governments in our local road network," said Sam.

"There is so much happening, from the completion of the Shepherds Hill Road resurfacing, consultation being analysed for the Brighton Parade and Waite Street intersection upgrade as well as the start of community feedback for the Young Street and Waite Street intersection upgrade." □

# Former dump may be answer to parking issues

by Eleanor Lewis

FACED with the choice between a 90-minute bus ride, a stressful drive down Old Belair Road to expensive parking, or a peaceful train ride; most local residents would choose the train as their commute to Adelaide's Central Business District (CBD).

However, as a student at the University of Adelaide and a Coromandel Valley local, I find that catching the train is my only viable and affordable means of transport to the city.

In fact, it appears that the state of public transport in the foothills is so dire that commuters from as far away as Upper Sturt, Flagstaff Hill and Aberfoyle Park find it easier to drive and park at Coromandel Station, rather than catching the bus into the CBD.

Due to limited options, there are regular shortages of carparks at both Blackwood and Coromandel Railway stations.

Train commuters driving to the Coromandel Station have had to resort to lining the surrounding streets with their parked cars, particularly on Brigalow Avenue and Johnson Parade, which often results in 'one-way' traffic in these streets during peak commute hours.

One long-term resident of Brigalow Avenue, described how her husband (a tradie) cannot fit his trailer into their driveway on busy week days. "Cars are parked into every space they can find, often cutting off access to the local resident's property," said Karen.

"A potential solution to the congestion of our residential streets could be 'permit-only' parking. This would help to clear the streets, but then where would these commuters leave their cars?" added Karen.

Before resorting to creative (and costly) car-park expansions, we must look to Mt Barker for inspiration which is significantly further away from Adelaide CBD than Coromandel Valley, yet many of its residents work in the city.



◆ Photo - The location of the former Eden Hills dump behind the Lions Bargain Centre on Shepherds Hill Road could make an ideal Park'n'Ride site for train commuters

Mount Barker utilises "Park 'n' Ride" stations, introduced by Adelaide Metro for commuters to conveniently park their car before completing the rest of their journey on public transport, in an effort to save time, money and carbon emissions.

Locally, one option that is gaining momentum is a large parcel of vacant land near the train line at Eden Hills that could be transformed into a Park'n'Ride station.

This site, which is the former Eden Hills dump covers a substantial area of flat land and is located behind the Blackwood Lions Bargain Centre on Shepherds Hill Road.

Sam Duluk, State Member for Waite, has recognised that the parking congestion at Coromandel Station causes "road congestion" and "safety issues for pedestrians". □

The State government have designated \$99 million to restore and upgrade South Australian stations, and according to Duluk, the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport has confirmed that Mitcham and Belair are set to be included in this funding.

Duluk is supportive of a Park 'n' Ride station at the Eden Hills site to ease congestion, adding that the station could also attract walkers from the plains wanting to access the Mountbatten Reserve, and mountain bikers for the Craighburn Farm Trailhead.

A Park 'n' Ride station at Eden Hills could be a great solution to the lack of parking around Coromandel Station, giving local residents a more peaceful environment, but more importantly, potentially attract more locals to use the Belair train line. □

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# Full field entered for State election

by James Swanborough

WITH our State Elections fast approaching, voters in the seat of Waite will have an unprecedented amount of choice, with two independents standing alongside representatives for the Liberal, Labor and Greens parties.

Alongside newly independent MP for Waite Sam Duluk; Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross has announced she will also be contesting the electorate as an independent, with the field being rounded out by Adelaide City councillor Alex Hyde taking Duluk's former position as Liberal candidate, Catherine Hutchesson representing Labor, and Brendan White standing for the Greens.

One local community group 'Voices for Boothby' have thrown their support behind independent candidates in both the upcoming State and Federal contests.

Spokesman John Denlay, said it was fantastic to have candidates speaking up for issues that matter to the community.

"During 2020 and 2021, Voices of Boothby has listened to the people of our electorate, through our 'kitchen table conversations' project, reaching out to a diverse range of voices in the community.

"We are excited that the community has a choice. Both at a state and federal level; we think it is fantastic that the community will have independents running who can use their position to represent them and not a party, which brings the conversation back to what people want rather than the negative politics which annoy people so much," said John.

Denlay said that while party politicians had pull to get projects for the community when they want to secure votes, they ultimately serve the party, not the community.

"Things happen locally but it's often pork-barrelling, so is it what the community actually want? Is it where the real needs are? Is it consistent representation? Or is it centred on where they can buy votes?

"We heard loud and clear that the people of Waite/Boothby want greater action on climate change, a more gender and socially equitable society and greater transparency and integrity in our political representatives."

"It's great seeing independent women's voices in Parliament. There are women from a range of experiences standing up and saying they want to present a new form of politics, they want to do it differently," said John.

Meanwhile local independent MP Sam Duluk has released "Sam's Plan"; his platform for the upcoming term, foregrounding issues including the protection of natural and heritage space; bushfire mitigation and provision of equipment for emergency services; continuing the campaign to divert freight out of the foothills, improving the road and public transport network; and addressing general concerns such as cost of living, health and education.

"Our community needs a representative who understands the needs of our community and has a plan to make this area an even better place to live," said Sam.

"I have received a very positive response from the launch of 'Sam's Plan'. There is a lot of support for reactivating the

Blackwood Hospital site as a Health Precinct, changing the model for lowering petrol prices and my concept to plant one million trees with a 'Great State Tree Voucher'.

"I welcome you to visit my office or website to find my vision for Waite from 2022 and beyond."

To check out all the details and vision for the future of Waite, check out Sam's Plan at: [www.samduluk.com.au/sams\\_plan\\_2022](http://www.samduluk.com.au/sams_plan_2022)

Added independent candidates are not the only unique factor of the upcoming contest, with Covid restrictions having an impact on the rollout processes.

Jane Bange, Campaign Manager for the Greens in Waite said they had been following SA Health protocol.

"The Greens have stopped all door knocking as we feel it's more responsible. Until we get more information from SA Health we won't be door-knocking anywhere in the state. We are instead looking at any opportunity to speak in forums and we will be leafleting," said Jane.

"The Electoral commission will decide if how-to-vote cards will be allowed to be handed out. We will continue to be guided by SA Health and the Electoral Commission.

"We will be putting up corflutes, but I want to stress that ours are fully recyclable."

Also Jane believes the added competition will lead to a close result. "It'll be a tight contest, there are some strong candidates running, and I think preferences will be crucial to determine the outcome." □

## Check out world class puppet shows

LONGTIME residents of Belair, Sally Miller and Jesse Hamilton established *Pico's Puppet Palace* back in 2016.

They have been performing together since 2002 in various musical and theatrical collaborations, however, with *Pico's Puppet Palace* they have created puppet shows from re-purposed and recycled materials, for contemporary young audiences and have toured nationally and internationally.

*Pico's Puppet Palace* aims to have their shows presented to diverse audiences, and through puppetry, live music and story telling connect audiences across generations. Each show is an episode of *Pico's* adventures and introduces ecological and environmental issues, innovations and ideas.



They have performed with *Pico's Puppet Place* at local libraries for numerous school holiday sessions, including the opening of the new children's area at the Mitcham Library; having also been involved within the local community and council district with the performing arts over the years.

The company has toured their work both in Australia and Canada to schools, libraries, children's festivals and theatres.

You now have a chance to see their two outstanding shows over five performances locally, as part of this year's Adelaide Fringe Festival.

### *Pico and the Golden Lagoon*

• Saturday February 26th @ 2pm at Red Poles Gallery, McMurtrie Rd, McLaren Vale. Tickets \$15

• Friday and Saturday March 4th & 5th @ 11am at Domain Theatre, Marion Cultural Centre, 287 Diagonal Rd, Oaklands Park. Adults \$22, Conc. \$17, Child \$15, Family \$55

### *Pico under the Coral Sea*

• Friday March 18th @ 11am & Saturday March 19th @ 2pm at Domain Theatre Marion Cultural Centre, 287 Diagonal Rd, Oaklands Park. Adults \$22, Conc. \$17, Child \$15 and Family \$55.

□ To book tickets please visit the Adelaide Fringe Festival website - Fringe Tix - <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix> For more information, contact Sally on email: [picospuppetpalace@gmail.com](mailto:picospuppetpalace@gmail.com) or visit [www.picospuppetpalace.com](http://www.picospuppetpalace.com)

## Top class pet groomer honed his skills as a sheep shearer



◆ Photo - Scottie treats all his 'clients' with lots of love and affection when attending to their grooming needs

the salon, and he does the grooming; Bronwen handles every other aspect of their business and has extensive experience in breeding and showing dogs - they make a great team.

They have lived in Blackwood for many years and were drawn to the area for the community friendly environment they both experienced when living in the country.

Their kids attended Coromandel Primary and Blackwood High and Scottie

has been involved with the Blackwood Football Club for over 7 years now.

When not at work, Scottie enjoys gardening, spending time with their horses and gets in touch with his creative side through artwork.

Scottie Clipz is located at 170 Main Road, Blackwood and are open 5 days a week from 8am to 3.30pm.

They offer wash & trim, grooming & clipping, along with pedicure services for your pet; also specialising in working with difficult and nervous dogs.

With all the hot weather we are experiencing, it's time to treat your dog to a wash and trim to keep their hair shorter to avoid the dreaded 'grass seed'.

□ To make a booking phone 0450 678 036 and for more information, you can visit [www.scottieclipzgrooming.com](http://www.scottieclipzgrooming.com) See their advert on page 3.

IF YOU have your pet groomed at the 'About Town Dog Studio' in Blackwood, then chances are, you will know the new owner of the business.

After working there for over 9 years, Scott 'Scottie' Boylan, with his partner Bronwen, took over the business in November last year.

"I love my job working with people's pets and when the opportunity arose to purchase About Town, we jumped at it with great excitement," said Scott.

"It's business as usual; however, we wanted to put our own stamp on the salon so have changed the name to *Scottie Clipz*."

"I grew up in Clare as well as on the West Coast in South Australia, which is where I developed my love for animals. I am a 5th generation sheep shearer and this is where I honed my skills for grooming animals ... just working with smaller ones now and a lot easier to handle and control!" explained Scottie.

While you will meet Scottie when you enter

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### Sam DULUK MP

Independent Member for Waite

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☎ (08) 8278 5844

📱📺 Sam Duluk

Authorised by Sam Duluk MP, 1 / 7-9 Young Street, BLACKWOOD SA 5051



# New candidates put their hand up for your vote

THE candidates published on this page want to let you know more about themselves and their aspirations to become the next Member for Waite.

Then in the lead up to the State election, which is planned to be held on Saturday March 19, 2022; in the March edition of *The Blackwood Times*, there will be an opportunity for every candidate in the Waite electorate to outline why you should vote for them.

In alphabetical order:

## CATHERINE HUTCHESON - LABOUR CANDIDATE



I'm proud to be standing as your local Labor candidate for the next State Election.

I was born at Blackwood Hospital, and raised in the house my father built in Glenalta. My closest family still live in Waite; we all know it's a great place to live, but I think we can do more to help others.

I want to use this opportunity to talk about those doing it tough right now, and how we, as a community, can help.

My principal concern is the health of our citizens during this pandemic, and keeping our community safe. It is increasingly evident that getting our booster shot is our best form of defence against Covid-19.

Workers engaged with our most vulnerable, or family wishing to visit loved ones, should know if they are infected or not, before placing them at risk. Labor has been calling for Rapid Antigen Tests to be freely available. We don't want our community exposed unnecessarily.

Many of our local businesses are doing it tough. Having worked in hospitality as a Chef, I understand how hard it is for restaurants to break even at the best of times.

Right now they need your support. If you are keeping safe at home, please think about calling in home delivery or takeaway. We have fabulous restaurants to choose from and you may just be helping them across the line.

## ALEXANDER HYDE - LIBERAL CANDIDATE



I grew up in a small family business during the years of the State Bank collapse and then Keating's recession. The devastating impact it

had on small businesses and families like mine is what sparked my interest in policy, problem solving and public service.

This ultimately led me to work in Federal Parliament as the Chief of Staff for the Member for Boothby.

I've enjoyed working on many local projects, especially things like the Wittunga Botanic Gardens Nature Play, improvements to Belair National Park and Old Government House, securing funding for the Blackwood Community Hub, Blackwood Footy's changerooms, Sturt Lions' facility at Karinya and many other things.

By far though, working with so many of our community groups and delivering for them has been the highlight.

I also got involved in local government, becoming the Deputy Lord Mayor at the City of Adelaide. Councils can be inefficient, ineffective and a generally grating experience, but I'm so pleased to have delivered some desperately needed reforms while turning around the council's finances to a surplus and eliminating over \$200 million in projected debt.

It's that problem-solving mindset and a strong local voice I'd like to bring to Parliament.

When I'm not working, I read most days with my morning coffee and I'll read anything.

I used to run a lot, but I walk more now after suffering a knee injury when hiking.

Slowing down has been great to take in more of the world around me, and we have so much natural beauty locally, so I'm never left wanting. I am also a regular blood donor and have volunteered with Red Cross in bushfire response. I've never had a more gut-wrenching experience than being the first point-of-contact in a bushfire evacuation centre, hearing stories of people just escaping with their lives.

(For more about Alex, check out his advertisement on back page).

## BRENDAN WHITE - GREENS CANDIDATE



This place is my home. My family and I have been living in Belair for 20 years and we love waking up to the sounds of rosellas and the occasional koala in the beautiful gum trees in and around our house. Let's keep it like that.

I've spent most of my adult life making businesses run smoother, particularly with Information Technology in the Education sector. I want to use those skills to keep Australia both prosperous and green.

Australian politics needs a shakeup. Both major parties are putting the interests of their big corporate donors ahead of our community and our planet. It doesn't have to be this way.

Together, we can:

1. Close offshore detention and bring refugees to Australia
2. Build world class free education from early childhood to uni and TAFE
3. Protect Belair National Park for our children

I'll represent our community in parliament and hold the major parties to account.

When you vote Greens in both the Upper and Lower House you are voting for a better future for our kids and grandkids. □

Vote

1

Dr Heather  
Holmes-Ross

Independent  
for Waite

As proud owner of Blackwood's much loved Artisan Cafe, former research scientist at Flinders Uni, and most recently, Mayor of Mitcham, I have lived and worked in this community for most of my life.

I love where we live, but we must safeguard the future. As your local MP I will work to fix our health care system, act on climate change, and cool and green our suburbs. We need to plan for our future with Covid-19 and give our local, independent businesses the chance to flourish by removing the unfair influence of corporations on governments.

As your Independent member of State Parliament I will work to safeguard the future for your family, your children and grandchildren.

email: [heather@holmesross.net](mailto:heather@holmesross.net)

online: [heatherholmesross.net](http://heatherholmesross.net)

visit: 2/237 Main Rd, Blackwood

socials: [@HeatherForWaite](https://www.instagram.com/HeatherForWaite)

call: 0404 189 280



DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Authorised by H Holmes-Ross 2/237 Main Rd, Blackwood 5051

# Prepare . Act . Survive

## Are you bushfire ready?



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 Want to put together an 'Emergency Kit' -  
 visit Fire & Rescue Australia in Blackwood for all the gear

## Be prepared, make a plan and stay informed

FIRE, fire, go away, come again no other day... Does this sound familiar? This bushfire season, remember to be prepared, make a plan and stay informed.

Here's what you can do to keep safe:

\* **Prepare now:** clear around your property, pack an emergency kit and know your closest Bushfire Safer Place.

\* **Plan ahead:** do your 5-minute bushfire plan and share it with loved ones today, and plan for all your pets and livestock.

\* **Stay informed:** check the fire danger rating each day and stay informed using more than one source of information in case a fire starts near you.

### ✓ PREPARE NOW

Did you know that nearly half of South Australians living in bushfire prone areas don't know the meaning of their local Bushfire Safer Place or where to find it?

This bushfire season, make sure you know the difference between your Bushfire Last Resort Refuge and Bushfire Safer Place. If you live in or near one, make sure you include this in your bushfire plan and know how to use it.

Emergencies do happen, anytime, anywhere. Make sure you pack an emergency kit with essential items and keep it in a handy place.

You also need to think about the physical and emotional effects a bushfire will have on you and your family. Preparing yourself to cope with a bushfire is as important as preparing your home and surroundings.

### ✓ MAKE A PLAN

Would you remember a plan that's just in your head if you're surrounded by smoke, heat and flames?

Making a choice when a bushfire threatens is too late. Your safety and survival during a bushfire will depend on how prepared you are and the decisions you make, and a written bushfire plan will take the pressure off you and avoid arguments and delays.

The care and transport of pets and livestock before, during and after a fire is something that should be considered with bushfire safety. You can avoid heartache if you include pets and livestock when you develop your bushfire survival plan.

### ✓ EMERGENCY KIT

Emergency kits should contain what you need to help survive a bushfire, what to take with you to safety, and what you may need for up to four days following a fire.

Pack your emergency kit before the fire season, so it's ready when you need it. Every household will require different items in their emergency kit and you won't know exactly what should be in yours, until you've written your Bushfire Survival Plan.

The best emergency kit is one that can be used for all hazards - not just bushfires.

For example:

- Scan important documents and photos onto a USB stick/external drive.
- Buy a battery-operated radio, powerful torch and extra batteries.

- Save important contact numbers in your phone. Include family, friends and the Information Hotline 1800 362 361. Have a spare mobile phone that you keep fully charged for emergencies.
- Set aside protective clothing (long sleeved, made from natural material such as cotton, sturdy footwear/leather boots and a P2 mask) for each member of the family.
- Put woollen blankets in your car in case you get caught on the road.
- Mark your main routes, including backup routes and petrol stations, on hard copy maps.
- Don't forget pets. Make sure your pet containers are with your emergency kit or packed in the car.

### ✓ PREPARE YOUR HOME

Keeping your home and property well prepared throughout the year is essential to ensure you survive a bushfire.

A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bushfire than one that hasn't been prepared.

A well prepared home:

- Can be easier for you or firefighters to defend
- Is more likely to survive, even if you're not there
- Is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk
- Will give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave and have to take shelter

Ways to protect your home:

- Starve the fire by clearing vegetation and rubbish away from your home
  - Create a defensible space by carefully managing trees close to your home and reducing vegetation for 20 metres
  - Fill the gaps where embers might enter or catch
  - Protect your assets with adequate home and contents insurance
- Even if you plan to leave early, there is a greater chance that your home will survive if you have undertaken preparations.

To protect your house, it is vital that you prevent sparks and burning material from entering through windows, under doors and/or under floor boards.

You can do this by fitting metal fly wire mesh or solid screens to spark proof the windows, doors, ventilators and skylights.

### Stay informed using multiple sources

- \* Subscribe to bushfire warnings
- \* Check Facebook @CountryFireService and Twitter @CFSAlerts
- \* Listen for emergency warnings and have a battery powered radio in case power or your mobile service goes out
- \* Call the Information Hotline 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677)
- \* Talk to friends, family and neighbours
- \* Download the AlertSA app

☐ For more information and advice go to the CFS website: [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)

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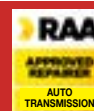
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## WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

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**FREE Listings** ... looking for more members ... publish your club's notice and contact details here each month.

Send email to [info@blackwoodtimes.com.au](mailto:info@blackwoodtimes.com.au)

◆ **2 February**

**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 February**

**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 February**

**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.

◆ **6 February**

**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.

◆ **6 & 20 February**

**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.

◆ **7 & 21 February**

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

◆ **7 & 21 February**

**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.

◆ **9 February**

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

◆ **10 February**

**SPEAKING MADE EASY BLACKWOOD** - Women are invited to meet to practise their communication and presentation skills in a supportive, friendly, and fun environment. Held at Watchman House, 360 Main Road, Coromandel Valley at 7.30pm. Phone Margaret on 0438 838 894 for further details.

◆ **10 & 24 February**

**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

◆ **12 February**

**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.

◆ **12 February**

**BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CIRCLE** - meet at 1.30pm at the Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian and World stamps at most meetings. Everyone welcome to attend. Phone Trevor on 0437 050831 for further details.

◆ **13 & 27 February**

**JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE COMMUNITY** - meets 2-5pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. New members welcome. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787 or e: jpkitchengarden@gmail.com

◆ **20 February**

**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.

◆ **23 February**

**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.

◆ **24 February**

**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. ew members most welcome. Contact Bob on 0418 836 414 or Heather 0448 351 880 for more info.

◆ **28 February**

**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.blackwood-floralart.blogspot.com.au](http://www.blackwood-floralart.blogspot.com.au)

◆ **28 February**

**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.probus-southpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills](http://www.probus-southpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills)

◆ **4 March**

**WORLD OF PRAYER DAY** - this year at 10am, Friday 4th March at St Peters Lutheran Church, corner of Cumming Street and Trevor Terrace Blackwood. The theme is "I know the plans I have for you" following the service developed by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Proceeds will support asylum seekers and refugees, school chaplaincy and Bibles for children. All welcome to the service. Covid restrictions will apply. Enquiries to Chris on 0459 560 805.

◆ **Every Monday**

**KEEP FIT FOR MATURE MEN** - held at

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

◆ **Every Tuesday**

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

◆ **Every Wednesday**

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

◆ **Every Thursday**

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

◆ **Every Friday**

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



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## Balance lives with positive thoughts

BY ANDREW TIDSWELL  
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES  
BLACKWOOD



I AM not someone who normally makes New Year Resolutions, but this year, I decided to focus on thinking more positively.

I may have set myself a difficult task, given the impact Covid is having on our lives and the challenges of a changing climate, but I am always up for a challenge.

Lately, I have been listening to Louise Hay and Wayne Dyer, long-standing advocates of balancing our lives with positive thoughts and actions.

### GRATITUDE

There is so much we can be grateful for even now, in this beautiful part of the world.

We have local shops that provide most of our needs, and even if supermarket shelves are partly bare, there is no shortage of food or goods, as

long as we are not too fussy. We must support these businesses.

We have lots of trees and green landscapes that cool and purify the air, provide oxygen and a habitat for all manner of creatures. We must protect this environment.

### THE WEATHER

The current forecast is for a very dry next few months with heat spikes. While our climate is getting hotter and drier, there are things we can do to look after ourselves and our gardens.

Good design with shade and insulation, and careful management can keep us comfortable in our homes. I have only put the air conditioner on once this summer so far.

Being careful with watering has minimised our water bills, but we still have a flourishing garden full of native plants and flowers, and a productive vegetable patch. Not having a lawn saves lots of water and maintenance.

### THE MEDIA

I rarely watch or listen to commercial TV and radio, reducing my exposure to incessant advertising to buy

more stuff that I don't really need.

I am limiting my exposure to the news and the endless stream of negative stories. I am seeking out positive stories and finding plenty.

### INFORMATION

There are books and magazines that provide good advice about living more mindfully, consuming less (buying only what is necessary), saving energy, recycling, re-using and re-purposing, living minimally, developing good environmental practices and saving money in the process.

Inspirational stories of people re-thinking life in positive, creative ways; allowing us and our planet to be sustainable into the future.

We can be the positive change, we want to see in the world.

☐ If you would like to join Sustainable Communities SA or for more information, visit their website: www.sustainablecommunities.org.au



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## Register early for Clean Up Australia Day

AUSTRALIANS are urged to get in early and sign up for the country's largest community-based environmental event, Clean Up Australia Day (Sunday 6th March 2022), as the environment feels the effects of a post COVID-19 hangover.

The opening of volunteer registrations comes after lockdowns and changed habits fuelled a significant increase in household waste.

While Australians are returning to lifestyles of pre-pandemic normalcy, the last two years have seen significant increases in single-use plastics, alongside unprecedented numbers of face masks, takeaway coffee cups and food packaging littering our footpaths, parks and beaches.

Clean Up Australia Chairman, Pip Kiernan, says it's more important than ever to protect Australia's unique environment by stepping up on Clean Up Australia Day.

"While most of us are returning to living more normally, the environment is still experiencing the impact of the pandemic," said Ms Kiernan.

"Our habits changed during COVID and most of these haven't been kind on the environment. Surges in online shop-

ping, meal delivery services and the use of disposable face masks and coffee cups, mean the environment is feeling the after-effects of the pandemic in ways not seen before," added Ms Kiernan.

Four in five Australian households made an online purchase in 2020 alone. Over 5.5 million Australians aged 14+ (26.5%) used meal delivery services last year and less than 4% of soft plastics are recycled in Australia, despite it being the most lethal consumer plastic for ocean wildlife.

The environmental organisation is encouraging volunteers to sign up early to show their commitment to improving the environment.

Registration is easy, and all community-based participants receive a free Clean Up kit containing gloves and bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families or groups available.

"Clean Up Australia Day is the opportunity to do some good - to roll up our sleeves, get out there and take action." Ms Kiernan said.

"Signing up now means you're making a pledge to protect Australia's environment. Together, we can make a meaning-

ful, long-lasting difference to the parks, beaches, rivers and pathways near us."

If you can't join a Clean Up, Ms Kiernan urges Aussies to make a donation to Clean Up Australia.

100% of funds raised through donations are allocated to the provision of educational resources and clean up materials provided free of charge to community, school and youth groups across the nation, all year round.

To register or donate, please visit [cleanup.org.au](http://cleanup.org.au)

Dates to remember:

- Clean Up Australia Day - Sunday 6 March 2022
- Schools Clean Up Day - Friday 4 March 2022
- Business Clean Up Day - Tuesday 1 March 2022

The Blackwood Action Group have an organised 'clean up' each year. If you are interested in joining this group for the Clean Up, phone 0408 117 003 or visit their website at : [www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au](http://www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au) to find out how you can become involved. There will also be more details in the March edition of The Blackwood Times.





# Meet Alex Your Local Liberal in Waite



Alex is passionate about our community and delivering solutions to the problems we face. Having worked on local issues for our community for many years, and on many local projects, he wants to use his skills to be a strong voice for our area in State Parliament.

He has experience working on projects and policies that improve communities and our quality of life, particularly through federal and local government.

Locally, Alex has worked to see more investment in road and rail infrastructure as well as preserving our environment and improving open spaces.

He has advised the State Government on policy through senior board roles, particularly on the Park Lands and international education, an important export market for South Australia.

Alex has a strong track record in financial management and reducing debt and deficit in government, and he has worked with businesses as a Board Director of our iconic Adelaide Central Market.

He was integral in the establishment of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency, which focuses on supporting and growing small businesses.

Born and raised in the Adelaide Hills, Alex grew up working in small family businesses and lives locally in Waite.

He is eager to deliver for our community, while ensuring all South Australians have more job opportunities, a lower cost of living and access to world class health services close to home.

## Alexander Hyde

LIBERAL FOR WAITE

📧 PO Box 305, Blackwood SA 5051 ☎️ 0480 080 329

✉️ alexander.hyde@sa.liberal.org.au 📘 AlexanderHydeWaite

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