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ISSUE 219 • FEBRUARY 2013

Empty seats tell train swap story

Commuters dreading 'back-to-school' traffic increase - see P3

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Flamenco heat in the Willunga night

THE word is out - Blackwood's best kept secret is on again in the stunning natural amphitheatre found at the Wittunga Botanic Gardens in Eden Hills.

If you enjoy relaxing in the outdoors being entertained by a top quality range of performers while having a picnic twilight meal with drinks, then purchase your tickets for the popular "Wittunga Under the Stars" now.

This community event held annually since 2003, is organized by the Lions Club of Blackwood and a spectacular program with professional performances from the following artists guaranteed again:

* **BEC JM with Shoo Shoo Mamma's and Ellington's Heirs** - Bec JM is a local talent with a beautiful voice supported by a band of great musicians. Back at Wittunga by popular demand, Bec is also to be joined by the Shoo Shoo Mummas to perform 'Andrews Sisters' songs with tight harmonies and snappy choreography.

* **Studio Flamenco Dancers** - a dynamic company of flamenco dancers and musicians present a dazzling celebration of the passion, excitement and virtuosity of cutting edge flamenco.

* **St Johns Grammar School Band** - together with a saxophone ensemble (run by Beth Lyon

of 'E-Type Jazz'). A requested reappearance after excellent reviews from previous years.

* **The Bearded Gypsy Band** - frenetic band of gypsy-inspired music having performed at WOMADelaide, Melbourne's Harvest Festival, Illawarra Folk Festival and many more.

* **Zen Knights** - renowned Adelaide Muso's put together especially for this event playing their own brand of roaring 1920's jazz.

Bring a rug or cushion to sit on and your own picnic basket of food and nibbles. A limited BYO liquor license has been obtained for the evening so you can also bring your own refreshments.

Food will be available from the Lions BBQ (with salad), drinks, ice cream, coffee from the Coffee King, french style pancakes by Xavier, and scrumptious deserts from the St Johns Grammar stall.

**FRIDAY
1
MAR**



Free face painting is on offer as well to keep the kids amused for a while.

Ample car parking is available in the adjacent Blackwood Primary School.

Last year over 1000 people attended which is almost the maximum allowed, so it would pay to pre-purchase your tickets to ensure a good viewing space. This also gives you the advantage of not having to queue to buy your tickets at the gate.

This year, Wittunga Under the Stars is being

held on Friday, March 1 from 6-10pm in the Wittunga Botanic Gardens on Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills.

Tickets are \$18 per adult, pensioners \$15, child \$5 or \$40 for a family (2 adults + 2 children) and will be available from Iain Evans MP office at 7 Young St, Blackwood, and Blackwood Pharmacy at 248 Main Road in the Foodland Shopping Centre, or can be purchased on the night at the gate, or by phoning 8278 2655 or 8278 7322.

Proceeds from the evening go to the Lions Hearing Dogs for the Deaf & Hearing Impaired.

Lion dance sees in Chinese New Year

LOOKING for a night out with a difference - why not join in the Chinese New Year celebrations at the House of Zen restaurant in Belair on Saturday 9 February; or treat your loved one to a Valentine's Day meal on Thursday February 14.

For Chinese New Year, be entertained by a vibrant and energetic display of lion dancing while enjoying a delicious meal prepared by well known and experienced Adelaide chef Hung Lien.

You can dine a la carte or sit back and taste their banquet from \$34.80 per head. Bookings for a table of 4

or more will also receive a complimentary bottle of red or white wine with their meal.

However you need to book quickly as tables are already filling up fast for this popular evening of entertainment.

And don't forget Valentine's Day tables are also filling quickly for these celebrations, so book your table now by phoning Hung on 8370 2333.

□ The House of Zen restaurant is located at 6 Main Road, Belair opposite the BP service station.



◆ Experience the excitement of Chinese Lion Dancing at the House of Zen Restaurant in Belair on Chinese New Year.

New anti-diabetes push begins



have fun and get active while learning practical things that will help them stay healthy.

"Our first program proved to be very successful," said Ian, "with most participants achieving great results, particularly in relation to controlling blood glucose levels.

"Sometimes when you're struggling with your weight, or have health complications like diabetes, heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, arthritis or osteoporosis, it can feel difficult to

know where to start and how to get active," explained Ian.

Starting with individual assessments to tailor the program for each person's individual needs, 'Beat It' includes two weekly physical activity sessions and fortnightly education sessions to help participants learn how to make healthy lifestyle changes in a supportive environment.

For people who have diabetes or other health complications, an Information Evening on the 'Beat It' activity program is being held in the Blackwood Recreation Centre at 1 Northcote Street, Eden Hills (in the grounds of the Blackwood High School) on Thursday February 21 at 7pm.

□ To reserve your place at the Diabetes Information Evening, call 8278 8833 or email: margaret@blackwoodrec.com.au

Are you at risk of diabetes or other chronic diseases?

To help Hills residents manage their health issues, the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre in conjunction with the Green Dispensary Blackwood and Blackwood Podiatry are holding another Australian Diabetes Council accredited program

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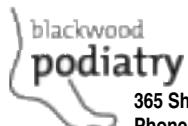
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the green dispensary
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PHONE 8278 2388

Train riders switch off

Patronage down on substitute bus routes - fears of back-to-school traffic increase

By Annie Waddington-Feather

THERE are a handful of cars in the Blackwood train station car park and two people waiting at the bus stop. At Coromandel station, one car park is nearly full and the other empty. Just four people are at the bus stop.

You'd be forgiven for thinking it was a Sunday morning, but it's not. It's 7.45 am on Monday and Tuesday – prime commuter time.

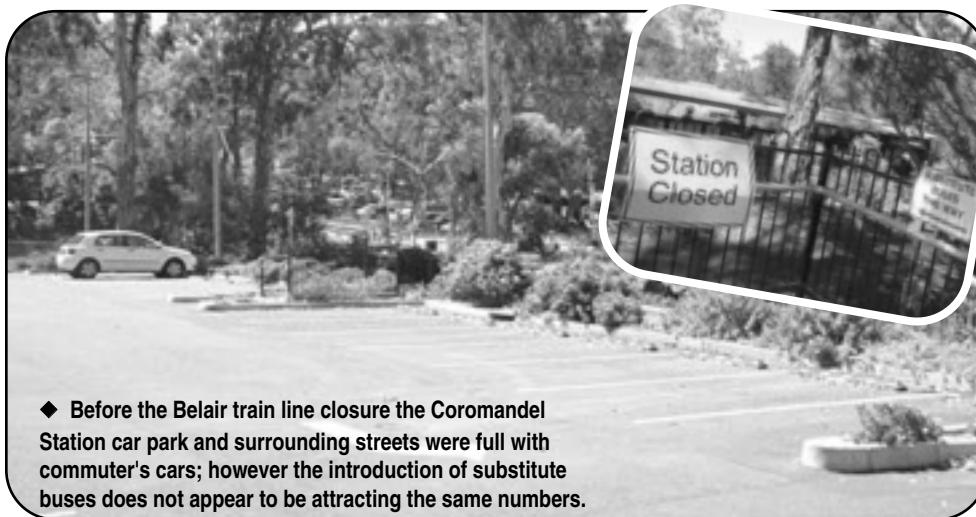
The Belair train line closed on 2 January for much needed upgrades and a substitute bus service is now operating.

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) confirmed approximately 900 passengers used the substitute buses per day in the morning and afternoon peak for the first two weeks in January. (Note: Figures were based on a manual count as buses were free in this period and there was no ticket validation.)

"This is lower than the average peak patronage for the same period in January 2012," said a DPTI spokesman, but added that patronage was increasing weekly as more customers return to work and regular commuting.

The DPTI also confirmed there had been no significant change to patronage on regular Adelaide Metro services such as the 195/196 and the G30.

The commuters this paper spoke to generally



◆ Before the Belair train line closure the Coromandel Station car park and surrounding streets were full with commuter's cars; however the introduction of substitute buses does not appear to be attracting the same numbers.

thought the express buses were running OK. One commuter noted they took between 20 – 30 minutes longer than the train and they agreed the afternoon buses seemed a bit haphazard.

"The main problem is getting out of the city and then it's OK," said one. "There is already more traffic on the road and I'm not sure what will happen when the schools go back," said another.

Greens Parliamentary Leader Mark Parnell, who was a regular on the Belair train, caught the

"express" bus from the city during the afternoon peak in the second week of January and it took 67 minutes to reach Eden Hills, 11 minutes late.

He noted there were only two passengers by the end of the trip from the City with 11 starting the journey; and the following bus had only one passenger.

Mark said the reaction to the closure of the Belair line has been pretty much as expected. "Most commuters have abandoned the service and the replacement buses are running late and

close to empty. Most of the feedback I've received has confirmed the late running of substitute buses and that most passengers are dreading the end of January when school goes back and traffic increases," he said

"On the positive side, the Adelaide Metro staff have been excellent. There are plenty of people on hand to direct passengers to the appropriate bus and provide information. Drivers too are doing their best in difficult circumstances, although many admit they are struggling with the timetables."

"A small number of passengers have also reported that they are actually better off under the new regime. These are mainly Belair people who work in the South or West of the City, who now have a more direct bus service and a shorter walk at the end," Mark added.

As the traffic increases with more people returning to work, the DPTI confirmed it was monitoring traffic conditions on a daily basis, and it was working closely with the Adelaide City Council to minimise delays and implement strategies to improve traffic flow into and out of the city.

It also confirmed that on days forecast to be 35 degrees or over, free chilled bottled water is being issued to passengers on rail substitute services at specific stops. □

World first 'Peace Globe' for War Memorial Hall

A PROPOSAL to erect a unique world first 'Peace Globe' in the forecourt of the Blackwood 21 War Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade has received support from Mitcham Council at a pre-Christmas meeting.

"The Globe will honour the memory of the young Australian men and women who have fought or given their lives so that future generations can live in peace," said Chairman of the Memorial Hall, Rhys Roberts.

"The steel Peace Globe, 8 feet in diameter will be officially opened in October this year by the International President of Lions Barry Palmer AM, the first Australian to hold this position.

"Designed to show latitude and longitude, together with the world continents, it will be supported by three rifles at reversed arms morphing into hands at the upper butt ends holding the Globe," explained Rhys.

President of the Blackwood Lions Club, Graham Smithers, said that the unique feature of the Globe will be the set of 16 world winning poster designs from the annual International Lion's Peace Poster Competition displayed each year around the circumference of the Peace Globe.

"This competition draws 400,000 entries from over 100 countries around the world each year with the winners being dis-

played at the United Nations. We are looking forward to showing these posters, together with those of local winners, on the War Memorial Hall's Peace Globe.

"It will be a significant and outstanding monument to stimulate young people and people of all ages to focus their energy as individuals to seek a world community devoted to peace", said Graham.

Local State and Federal MPs Iain Evans and Andrew Southcott have put their weight behind the Globe, saying that "it will promote the concept of peace and harmony" and that it will "not only serve as a Memorial to raise public awareness, but be an ongoing community education activity".

Graham added that Blackwood Lions have 'adopted' the War Memorial Hall as one of its major projects.

"With over 200 community groups in Blackwood, the Hall is used for everything from yoga for the elderly, ballet and dance classes; to taekwondo, thai kickboxing, amateur theatrical groups and concerts; to photographic and wine-bottling clubs; to 3 year olds learning to catch and kick a football.

"We want to ensure that the Hall, which is Blackwood's largest non-profit community facility serving over 500 people a week, is refurbished and expanded," said Graham. □



◆ An artist's impression of the Peace Globe in the forecourt at Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ...

◆ Sacrilege

The proposal pedalled by the Blackwood Action Group and the RSL to relocate the War Memorial from the Five-Ways Roundabout to Waite Street Reserve by 2015 can only be described as sacrilege.

The memorial is a stand-out feature which defines the very character of Blackwood. It is testament to the community spirit of our past citizens and ex-servicemen and women, standing in its commanding position in front of the Blackwood Uniting Church.

For me personally, as I drive around the roundabout, it provides a constant reminder of my grandfather who lost his life at Poziers, France, in the Great War. No way should the monu-

ment be shifted to a less prominent position in a side street of Blackwood.

The argument that the present location creates safety issues when catering for RSL ceremonies is nonsense. The monument was once enclosed by a cyclone and hedge fence for many, many years and attendees of the dawn service have stood on the road for as long as I can remember. In fact I am very proud to be a member of our community and see Blackwood come to a standstill in remembrance at the dawn service on ANZAC Day. The removal of the fence, for the benefit of motorists, has also enhanced the memorial site enormously.

For far too long we have lost our heritage and the uniqueness that once represented the "heart" of Blackwood. The Bandstand behind the Frank Collins drinking fountain was demolished by

the local Apex Club in the 1960s as the structure was deemed to be unsafe (good to see a replica is proposed for the unattractive Waite Street Reserve!). The "Blackwood Tree" planted by Mr Sydler in October 1970 on the old Bandstand site has long, long ago been "uprooted". Now our most treasured icon at the roundabout is also about to undergo the same fate.

To think that these groups, with the support of Mitcham Council, believe they can side step the "Local Heritage Listing" of our unique War Memorial is absolutely astounding.

Hands off – the Blackwood War Memorial at Five-Ways Roundabout is sacrosanct.

Tony Mudge
Hawthorndene

Blackwood calendar is back in full swing

AFTER taking a bit of a 'breather' in January from work and school, things tend to get back to normal at the beginning of February.

School is back in full swing, along with sports and other commitments; and the same is true for many local community groups including the Blackwood Hills Baptist Church.

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◆ Uno uses his own 'secret recipe of herbs and spices' developed over a number of years to create his delicious crispy and crunchy chicken.



◆ Blackwood Hills Baptist Church members helping out at the donut stand at Carols! Christmas Eve last year (from left): Ziye Liu, David Bird, Joanne Pearce and Jenni Newton.

□ For more information about any of the activities or programs listed above, call the church office on 8370 0333 or go to www.bhbc.org.au

Everyone is more than welcome to visit or get involved at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, 72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

Tempura to be reckoned with

"WE left Korea 6 years ago to come to Adelaide to find a better life for our family," said Uno, proprietor of The Fighting Tempura Chicken and Seafood shop (opp Hungry Jacks) on Main Road, Blackwood (formerly Blackwood Gaslight Chicken and Seafood).

Since arriving with his wife Ha Young in 2007, Uno has worked as a qualified chef in a number of Adelaide restaurants and function centres.

With experience in preparing mainly seafood and chicken dishes, Uno decided it was time to open his own business and an opportunity came up in Blackwood. They love the district and have recently moved into a house in Blackwood with their young child.

"For the past 4 years I have been experimenting different recipes for the chicken and trying various combinations of herbs and spices," explained Uno.

"The crispy, crunchy chicken must be good as many customers have told

me ... it's the best chicken they have tasted!"

As well as the plain or spicy chicken (can add garlic soy or chilli sauce), the Fighting Tempura menu includes fish and chips, calamari and prawns (fresh - not frozen); and 'Kara Age' bite size chicken pieces (marinated in ginger, garlic, soy sauce - good for children).

And if you don't feel like a hot meal, they also sell delicious sushi (seaweed roll with rice and various fillings), and cold rolls (rice paper with various vegetables, seafood or chicken) - made fresh on the premises daily.

Next time you're having take-aways, come and try their unique style of food. They use low cholesterol oil which is refreshed everyday. Phone orders are welcome on 8278 4285.

□ The Fighting Tempura is located at 183 Main Road, Blackwood (opposite Hungry Jacks).

Fun for every age

Blackwood Hills Baptist Church
10am/7pm Sundays @ 72 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood

You'll find a relaxed and friendly atmosphere at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church. There are people of all ages, relevant messages, great music and fun activities for the kids. Come visit us!

For more information, call 8370 0333 or visit the website bhbc.org.au.

A family-friendly church!

Village Church - Melrose Park
10:30am Sundays @ Edwardstown Primary School

Village Church has been meeting at Edwardstown Primary School since February 2011. We're a new and growing family-friendly church. We would love to have you join us!

For more information, call 8370 3256 or visit the website thevillage.org.au.

what's on this summer

at a church near you?

'Gradual upswing' predicted for Blackwood and district real estate market

No real interest in cuts

By Annie Waddington-Feather

CAUTIOUSLY optimistic is perhaps the best phrase to describe the outlook for Blackwood's real estate market according to some of the local real estate agents.

According to Mark Burns, director at LJ Hooker, median house prices in Blackwood saw a slight decrease by 1.2% after a slight increase the year before. While unit prices saw an increase of 7.9% in 2012 after a decrease of 5.3% the preceding year.

"Put simply median prices in Blackwood are basically the same as they were in 2010," said Mark.

Stephen Ring, principal partner at Ring Partners points out the Blackwood district is a desirable place to live. "It's safe and rich for schools. It's only 10km from the city and 15 minutes from the beach," he said. "We have a lot of interest from people living in the southern suburbs and on the plains."

However while prices have increased over the

past five years, he said turnover had dropped. Stephen pointed out there are many factors which drive the market. "Although there have been rate drops and consumer confidence is on the rise, there has also been an increase in unemployment figures," he said.

Raine & Horne Blackwood principal, Andrew Day thought 2012 was a challenging year for the property market. "However we believe that the New Year will continue to offer new opportunities and challenges," he said predicting an improvement in the new housing market, suggesting that a housing recovery is on the cards.

"My guess is that the upswing in activity may be a very gradual process; the evidence of a recovery is a little less certain for established housing as the confidence of Australian consumers is still not strong, something a rate cut won't fix," explained Andrew.

Mark pointed out properties continue to sell well in Blackwood as long as they are priced at a point the market is willing to make an offer. "If you are looking for bargains, there continues to

SUBURB	MEDIAN HOUSE SALE PRICE		
	OCT-DEC 2011 MEDIAN SALE PRICE	OCT-DEC 2012 MEDIAN SALE PRICE	MEDIAN CHANGE
Belair	520000	497500	-4.33%
Bellevue Heights	502500	550000	9.45%
Blackwood	456250	435000	-4.66%
Coromandel Valley	473500	410995	-13.20%
Craigburn Farm	583750	605000	3.64%
Eden Hills	432500	460000	6.36%
Glenalta	412500	440000	6.67%
Hawthorndene	420000	460000	9.52%

◆ Comparison of median house sale price for last quarter (Oct-Dec) for last two years in City of Mitcham 'hills' areas (information extracted from www.sa.gov.au)

be some good finds, but properties that are priced well are selling quickly and often with multiple offers," he said.

"If I had a crystal ball, I would argue that this status quo will continue for the next 6 months with the chance of small increases in the second half of the year," Mark predicted.

Stephen thought the area was heading towards a normal market place and stressed every property fits differently into the market.

He advises vendors to take their emotions out of the property, ask hard questions and do their homework when choosing an agent to sell their house. □

Changed life with a mission

"BEFORE doing a discipleship training school (DTS) my life was very messy," said 24 year old Coromandel Valley resident, Courtenay Pillar.

"I was struggling with depression and was incredibly unmotivated for life. I was still dealing with the pain from a broken engagement and had a lot of issues socially that influenced my study and work," explained Courtenay.

She went to visit a friend in Perth who had joined a group called "Youth With a Mission" (YWAM) a couple of years ago and he knew that Courtenay was in a bad place.

"He'd been on my back about doing a DTS for ages but I didn't want to have anything to do with 'churchy' things," explained Courtenay.

"I'm not even sure how it happened but within a week my life had been flipped upside down. I was enrolled in a DTS!"

DTS is a 6 month course that has 12 weeks of lecture phase and 12 weeks of outreach phase incorporating character building, learning about Christianity, and learning how to spread the word.

During the outreach phase Courtenay spent time in outback Western Australia where they connected with the local church and community, made positive relationships with the youth and aimed to be a general positive presence there.

The second location she was sent to was the Philippines where she stayed in a ghetto in Manila for the first couple of weeks, then headed to an orphanage up in the mountains.

"This was the most heart breaking experience for me. The orphanage had 26 kids aged between



◆ Courtenay and Desley outside Collections Homeware setting up the 'fundraising' table full of good quality saleable donations.

1 and 13 years. We just hung out with them all day. One of the workers there was telling us the background story of a few of the kids and some of his experiences dealing with their pasts.

"One child there showed us his scars. I will never forget it. He had over a hundred little round scars on his belly, and more on his back - his parents had used him as an ash tray.

"Another story; a girl, younger than 5, had come to the orphanage and was crying during the night. The male worker went up to comfort her and she continued to cry but spread her legs and waited. She hadn't known any different. Rape was normal to her. The worker didn't know what to do, except to tell her that she never had to do that again.

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Nicole graduated from Adelaide University. She joins us part time and is great with children and has advanced training for our whitening procedures. ZOOM is our most popular whitening system as the demand for brilliant white teeth is high.

She brings a positive vibe to the dental clinic providing a safe and caring environment for all but especially for children attending their first dental visit.

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Wine lovers drawn to Hills

THROUGHOUT the local wine industry, people living in the Blackwood district are respected as educated and informed consumers of wine.

Eden Hills resident of 20 years, Peter Simic can vouch for that as the founder and CEO of Winestate, Australia's most respected and oldest wine magazine.

"My wife Sharon and I, moved to Eden Hills after looking all over Adelaide for a property," said Peter, "but fell in love with the Hills - where I feel city meets country."

Peter has published and co-authored a number of wine books over the years and his contributions to the modern wine industry from its early days have been well recognised at the highest levels.

As well he also participates in tastings across Australia and New Zealand and has led a large

number of highly successful wine tours to places such as France, Italy, New Zealand, Spain & Portugal over the years.

Peter also is the convener of The Annual Winestate Wine of the Year Awards which are the Academy Awards of wine, which Advertiser journalist Nigel Austin described as the wine industry's biggest awards night of the year.

If you would like to know more about wine and receive advice on what wine to buy, then a subscription to the Winestate magazine would be a great place to start.

Each year over 10,000 wines are tasted and judged, then rated and an indication given of what you should pay - Winestate does all the hard work for you!

Check out www.winestate.com.au today for more details.

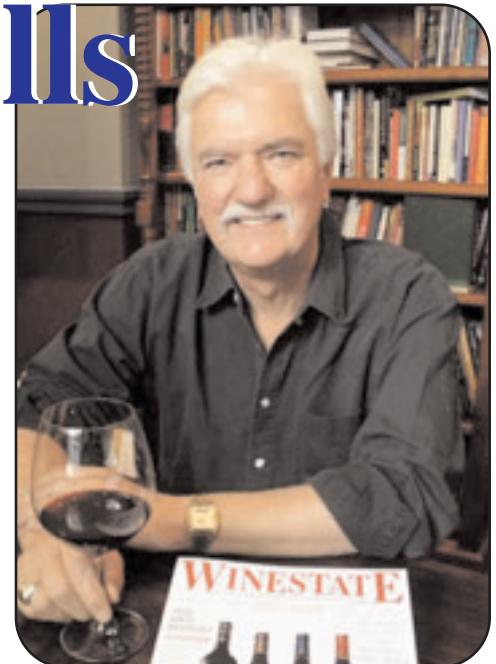
HOW TO JOIN WINESTATE

SUBSCRIPTION to the Winestate magazine is great value at only \$60 a year. As well as receiving 7 issues each year, subscribers will also receive a free ticket to 2 major Winestate events held at the National Wine Centre (valued at \$100) - you've already saved \$40!!

The two Winestate events are: World Cabernet Challenge III on Friday April 12 (see details in advert below); and the World's Greatest Shiraz Challenge VIII on Friday May 31 (see details in future editions of The Blackwood Times).

And later in the year, you will receive a free invitation to the 2013 Winestate 'Wine of the Year' private tasting held in Adelaide on September 11.

To subscribe or find out more information on the Winestate magazine, phone 8357 9277 or visit www.winestate.com.au



◆ Peter Simic, publisher of Winestate magazine for over 30 years

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School reunion search

CAN you help track down some of the students who started their school life 50 years ago at Blackwood High School.

A reunion for students and staff who were part of the 1962 to 1966 group or the 1963 to 1967 group has been organised for Saturday March 23 at the Blackwood Community RSL.

Here are some of the 1962-63 students they have been unable to track down - can you help: Alison Gunn, Andrew Ratcliff, Valentine Samsonenko, Heather Jenkin, Dianne Stodart, Pamela Munroe, Robert Hicks, Richard Graham and of course Mr Griffin the teacher.

Also do you know any of the prefects from 1966: Anne or Robert Potts, Bernard Stafford, Pam Greaves, Christine Paizeys or Paul Sayers.

Would you like to reminisce with the stalwart

teachers of that era? Dave Purser, Jo and Lindsay Francis, Warren Hodge, Graeme Gamble, Alan Light and others who will be at our Blackwood High School Reunion.

We are looking for a number of these people including Elizabeth Foot (Miss May) John Endersby (maths and science) Barbara Scroop, Kym Eve, Keith Tew, Paul Coleman, Philip Chapman or Karen Coster.

If you can help contact Kathy Summerton (nee Bottroff) on 8344 1970 or 0415 548 423 or email kathysummerton@gmail.com or Kaye Lee (nee Holmes) on 8338 1713 or 0419 856 859 or email kayelee@adams.com.au. They would love to hear from you and catch up at the reunion on Saturday March 23 at the Blackwood RSL Club, 1 Brighton Pde, Blackwood.

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HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Bushfire 'real' risk as part of Hills living

By Annie Waddington-Feather

THE devastating bushfires sweeping across parts of Australia this year serve as a timely reminder to us all: it's never too late in the summer to take the appropriate steps to protect your family, your loved ones and yourself from the threat of bushfire.

With our lovely Adelaide Hills 'treescapes' and close proximity to reserves and national parks we do live in a high risk bushfire area.

The CFS point out a bushfire may start in many ways on any day and you must not rely on only a "Catastrophic" day to be prepared.

Incidents such as a car being set alight and rolling down Tilley's Hill Road in Brown Hill Creek last year, and arson attacks on Belair National Park in February 2009 could have been

much worse had crews not responded quickly, and they demonstrate the fire risks of this area.

"Choosing to live in the Adelaide Hills region has many lifestyle advantages however it also carries with it a responsibility to be bushfire aware and ready," said Neil Charter, CFS Communications Officer. "It is a very real risk and residents of the area need to understand how they can minimise that risk."

The key to being prepared for a bushfire is planning; practising that plan with your household and being ready to action it if you have to. (See adjacent panel with tips from the CFS to help you prepare your bushfire plan).

According to a Blackwood/Belair District Community Association (BBDCA) survey held last year, Mitcham Hills residents' are more likely to leave their property, rather than stay and



◆ This simple grassfire could have had devastating consequences for nearby homes if it were not for the quick response from local CFS crews.

defend, when threatened with a bushfire.

Over 60 per cent of residents would leave compared to just over 20 per cent who would stay and defend their homes in a big fire. (11.3 per cent of respondents were unsure or did not respond.) The BBDCA won an 'Award for Excellence in Community Service' for its work in bushfire awareness last year.

BBDCA president Karen Hockley highlighted that some immigrants living in Blackwood, or people who have only lived in metropolitan areas, may not be aware of the very real risk of bush fire in this area. She hoped the hot weather seen in January would provide the impetus for people to prepare a plan.

"After our community program for bushfire awareness, we also agreed with the CFS to high-

light that going to a CFS designated safer area is better than staying in a poorly defended home, but people are still at risk in these areas," she said and added that the BBDCA was always looking for ways to increase bushfire awareness.

Staying safe from bushfires is a shared responsibility between the South Australian Country Fire Service and the community. "Only you can ensure your safety. This summer know your risk, know what you will do and understand your options," concluded Neil.

For further information visit: www.cfs.sa.gov.au and www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bushfireprevention

□ And for all your bushfire home protection equipment, call into Fire & Rescue Australia at 190 Main Road, Blackwood (opp. Banner Hardware).

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DO you experience difficulty in keeping the water in your pool or spa healthy? Chemical imbalance in the water can damage and shorten the lifespan of your pool and the equipment.

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Improve watering efficiency

THE hot summer days we are experiencing places stress on the plants and shrubs in our gardens and they need constant watering to survive the extreme conditions.

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For example, both Wetta soil hose-on and Saturaid hose-on increase water penetration to the plants root zone, and remains active in the soil for up to 12 months.

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One of the most effective ways of reducing the amount of water you use is the application of mulch - Blackwood Landscape and Firewood Supplies (see advert on front page) stock a wide selection of mulches and deliver 7 days a week.

□ Selecting the correct type of plant is also very important and the Belair Nursery in the Belair National Park stock the largest range of drought tolerant native plants in Adelaide - phone 8278 7777 for further details.

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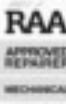
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WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

◆ 3 February

BLACKWOOD CRAFT MARKET - from 10am to 4pm at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade. Admission is free. New stall enquiries to Kerrie on 0427 410 917.

◆ 3 February

BOTTLE COLLECTION - from 10am by Belair Scout Group. Collect all glass, soft drink cans & soft drink plastic bottles - from your driveway. Any queries phone Clare on 8370 3972.

◆ 3 February

MASTERS FOOTY - training starts at Blackwood Oval from 9.30am. Retired but still enjoy a kick of the footy. Ph Peter on 0423 778 628 for more information.

◆ 4 February

DIVORCECARE COURSE - for people who are experiencing or have experienced the pain and stress of separation and/or divorce. Course runs for 11 weeks at Coromandel Valley Uniting Church, 415 Main Rd, starting February 4. Cost is \$40 to cover materials. Visit corouniting.org or call Val on 0439 800 729.

◆ 4 February

BLACKWOOD LADIES PROBUS CLUB - meet at 4 Young St, Blackwood (Over 50s Clubrooms) at 10am. Guest speakers. Visitors & prospective members welcome. Phone Valerie Mills-Stacy on 8370 2674 for details.

◆ 6 February

BLACKWOOD CIRCLE OF FRIENDS - help refugees settle in our community. Meet at Blackwood Uniting Church near Blackwood roundabout from 7.30pm. New members welcome. Contact Penny on pharper@senet.com.au

◆ 6 & 20 February

LIONS CLUB OF BLACKWOOD - meet on 1st Wednesday at Blackwood Memorial Hall,

19 Coromandel Pde & on 3rd Wednesday at Belair Park Country Club, from 6.30pm for 7pm start. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Phone John Alexandrou on 8278 1230 for details.

◆ 7 February

BLACKWOOD MENS PROBUS CLUB - meet at Masonic Lodge, Main Road from 9.30-11.30am. Visitors and new members welcome. Enquiries to Allen on 8278 2096.

◆ 7 & 21 February

BLACKWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB - meet in "The Studio", Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde at 7.30pm. Come out from behind your lenses and meet like minded friends and join in fun of competitions, field trips and workshops. Visit www.blackwoodphotographic.org for details.

◆ 9 February

"A DAY TOGETHER" - Whether your marriage is faltering or fantastic this conference is what you need for renewed sense of hope and purpose.

No group work. Held at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, 72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood from 9am-4.30pm. Phone Rob or Deb on 0466 988 453 for details.

◆ 10 February

BUSHCARE WORKING BEE - 'Red Gum Gully Our Patch' group meet at Cedar Ave reserve, junction of Miller Tce and Southern Ave from 9.30-11.30am. Day to learn from each other and care for our bushland. Wear sturdy shoes and hat, tools provided. New members always welcome. Phone 8370 2091 for details.

◆ 11 February

EDEN HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Blackwood Over 50s at 4 Young St, Blackwood at 9.30am. Enjoy socialising with other retirees, listening to guest speakers, plus monthly out-

ings. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Phone Secretary on 8278 6967 for details.

◆ 11 February

BELAIR LADIES' PROBUS - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church, opp Blackwood roundabout at 10am. We welcome prospective members and visitors. Phone Dianne on 8278 4294.

◆ 11 February

CHERRY GARDENS GARDEN CLUB - meets at 7.30pm in Cherry Gardens Uniting Church, Hicks Hill Rd. Each month a guest speaker and trading table. Enquiries to Lyn on 0400 290 521. Volcanoes'.

◆ 12 & 26 February

ADELAIDE HILLS TOASTMASTERS - Affordable public speaking training & practice in a friendly adult group. Meet from 7.30-9.30pm. Enquiries to Annabel Price on 0402 767 535.

◆ 13 February

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - meet in coffee lounge at Blackwood Uniting Church (on roundabout) at 7pm. For more details phone Helene on 8278 5223 or Jackie on 8278 5761.

◆ 14 February

HAWTHORNDENE MEN'S PROBUS CLUB - held at Belair Uniting Church Hall, Sheoak Road, Belair at 9.30am. Monthly guest speakers. Visitors welcome. Inquiries: 8278 1964.

◆ 16 February

"SWINGIN SIXTIES" - exciting Fringe Festival show by 'The Bluescasters' held at the Blackwood RSL. Celebration of 60's rock-blues and soul music with high energy dancers. Book for dinner and show starts at 8.30pm.

◆ 18 February

BLACKWOOD COMBINED PROBUS CLUB - meets at

10am in Over 50's Clubrooms, 4 Young St, Blackwood. Enjoy friendship of other retirees, guest speakers and outings. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Enquiries to Margaret on 8278 5250.

◆ 19 February

FRIENDS OF BLACKWOOD FOREST - Meet in Gamble Cottage, Main Rd, Blackwood at 7.30pm. If you want to help maintain this Recreation Park, phone Jenny on 8278 8898 for details.

◆ 21 February

BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CLUB - meeting at Blackwood Uniting Church Hall from 7.15pm. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian stamps, plus world stamps and phone cards. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Ph Paul on 8370 2680.

◆ 21 February

FRIENDS OF STURT GORGE - meet at Bellevue Heights Primary School. Phone Bob Grant on 7329 8296 for meetings and working bees. Visit www.fosg.org.au

◆ 22 February

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF COROMANDEL VALLEY - meet at Belair Park Country Club at 10am. We welcome prospective members and visitors. Phone Denis on 8270 1548 or Ian on 8278 4325.

◆ 23 February

MEN'S BREAKFAST - enjoy a continental breakfast followed by guest speaker, the inspirational Senator Nick Xenophon at the Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, Coromandel Parade. Cost only \$8 or \$5 conc. RSVP to Michael on 0403 656 537 or jodiemick@adam.com.au before 20 February.

◆ 25 February

BLACKWOOD FLORAL ART CLUB - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church hall at 7.30pm. Demonstrations, workshops and information. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Inquiries: Judy on 8270 2491.

◆ 27 February

STITCHERS IN THE HILLS - Patchwork and quilting group meet at 7.30pm in Church of Christ, cnr Shepherds Hill Rd & Waite St, Blackwood. Enquiries to 8278 3569.

◆ 27 February

BLACKWOOD WINEMAKERS & BREWERS CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 19 Coromandel Pde, from 7.30pm. Learn about wine-making and brewing, do an annual bottling and enjoy social activities. New members welcome. Ph 8278 5916 for details.

◆ 27 February

ADELAIDE HILLS ZONTA CLUB - meet at Belair Park Country Club for dinner at 7pm. An international women's service club advancing the status of women worldwide. New members and visitors welcome. Phone Doone on 8278 2676 for details.

◆ 1 March

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the green dispensary PHARMACY

Do you have a **fat gut** building up? Are you **feeling tired** nowadays? Do you eat **junk food** too often?

Ask our specially qualified Green Dispensary pharmacists how they can help - with their *whole health™* approach to weight management.



The Green Dispensary is different to other pharmacies.

Unlike other pharmacies, The Green Dispensary employs pharmacists who are also qualified at the Australian College of Nutritional and Environmental Medicine.

Adopting a more holistic view for health and happiness, we encourage a healthy lifestyle for our customers, our team members and ourselves – healthy eating, regular exercise and striking a balance between work and play.

At the Green Dispensary you have access to our *whole health™* approach for your body and its function. This approach can help you with your weight loss and weight management.

So if you want to lose weight and keep it off, talk *whole health™* at the Green Dispensary pharmacy soon.

Glyn Cogdell
B.Pharm. ACNEM
PHARMACIST / PARTNER



BLACKWOOD	202 Main Road, Blackwood 5051	t. 08 8278 2388	Glyn Cogdell
ERINDALE	361A Kensington Road, Kensington Gardens 5068	t. 08 8431 6727	Nick Evans & Partners
LOBETHAL	55 Main Road, Lobethal 5241	t. 08 8389 6070	Simon Dawe & Partner
STIRLING	28 Mt Barker Road, Stirling 5152	t. 08 8339 1347	Mitchell, Broomhead & Evans
NORWOOD	Compounding Pharmacy 46 Beulah Road, Norwood 5067	t. 08 8363 7322	A.Condina

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