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ISSUE 223 • JUNE 2013

'Big brother' is watching you

*But who is going to pay for the upkeep?
 - see P3*

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EVERYONE'S A WINNER (from left): Geoff Bartlett of the Blackwood Action Group and Graeme Oats from Blackwood Lions appear to be wrestling over a watering hose ... in fact their respective community clubs have joined forces to help beautify Blackwood. See full story page 4.

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Mural a reminder of ANZAC legend



◆ At the Blackwood RSL mural launch are (from left): Frank Blamey (Blackwood Community RSL President), Bill McSwain (mural artist); with Bill Denny AM

by Annie Waddington-Feather

"A COMMUNITY benefits from murals because they generally exist where people work and live," said Bill Denny AM, Chair of the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council. "Thus they can add to our daily lives."

Mr Denny was addressing a gathering of invited guests, RSL members, families and friends at the opening of a new mural on the Blackwood Community RSL front wall facing Brighton Parade, Blackwood.

The ANZAC Day Commemoration Act amongst other things, ensures that the contribution of all men and women who have served Australia in time of peace and war is recognised and commemorated.

"This wonderful mural, by Blackwood artist, Bill McSwain does exactly that," explained Mr Denny, "and the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council was pleased to be able to support it."

Unlike many 'remembrance' murals, this one is contemporary and will help to educate those

who stop and peruse the various images.

It depicts a huge array of duties and responsibilities of the currently serving members of the Defence Force and some of those who have served in the past.

It also reinforces the relevance of the RSL as guardians and educators in the community about the sacrifices of those who are currently serving Australia and those who have served in the past.

Check out the impressive new mural at the Blackwood Community RSL on Brighton Parade.

Keep entries rolling in



FOR 30 years, the Rotary Club of Blackwood have provided a platform for artists and photographers on all levels to exhibit their work in the annual Art & Photography Show.

"We are going all out to make it an especially great event, celebrating 30 years of art shows, and we would like the public to be a big part of it," said Barbara Chappell, Art Show spokesperson.

"This is a great community event with many local businesses and Rotary Club members working tirelessly to help bring this popular exhibition to art lovers and the general public," added Barbara.

There is usually well over 500 paintings and photographs on display, and is an amazing sight that you should not miss.

The 30th Blackwood Rotary Art & Photographic Show is being held again at Blackwood High School, Seymour Street (off Shepherd's Hill Road), Eden Hills with open sessions between 11-21 July.

Fundraising activities like the art show have helped the Blackwood Rotary club to raise, in excess of \$200,000 to put back into local community and international projects.

If you paint or take photographs then consider putting an entry in - you could win one of the prestigious prizes on offer.

Entries close on Friday June 21 so there is still time to enter.

Visit www.rotarynews.info/club3788 or the Club's FaceBook page at: www.facebook.com/RotaryClubBlackwood or phone 0417 312 853 for more information.

New toilet block open for business

THE scaffolding and fencing has been cleared to reveal Blackwood's upgraded toilets on Shepherds Hill Road.

As well as new tiles on the floors and walls, new partitions and doors, new toilet pans, hand basins, skylights and upgraded security lighting there is also a unisex accessible toilet facility for people with disabilities and baby change facilities.

Mitcham Council would like to thank the community of Blackwood for their patience during the renovations.

Need more copies of the 2013 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory phone 8278 2468 or e:info@blackwoodtimes with your postal details

Memorial move cut from Waite plan

by Annie Waddington-Feather

ACKNOWLEDGING community division over proposed plans to relocate the Blackwood Soldiers War Memorial from its current position at the Blackwood five-ways roundabout, the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) has withdrawn this item from its current project proposal for the upgrade of the Waite Street Reserve.

Commenting on its decision, the BAG executive said: "The Blackwood Action Group is keen to continue consultation with the local community and the Mitcham Council for the upgrading of the Waite Street Reserve, following on from our successful 'Greening of

Blackwood' program that has seen a dramatic improvement in the appearance of the district centre with new landscaping and colourful plantings."

Blackwood resident, Pat Wilson, who together with Tony Mudge had gathered over 2300 signatures petitioning against the memorial relocation, said he was glad BAG had withdrawn the War Memorial relocation aspect of the Waite Street upgrade but didn't consider the matter closed.

The Blackwood Soldiers War Memorial is currently listed under Development Category 2 which means Council could relocate or even demolish the monument after just advising the adjoining landowner of their proposed plan.

Pat and his supporters would like to see the Memorial listed under Development Category 3 which would ensure any future plans to relocate it would require public consultation as per Section 38 (5) of the Development Act 1993.

Pat recently met with Mitcham Council representatives and was shocked by their attitude. "If it was their grandmother's headstone being moved, it would be a different story," he said. "The memorial is a tribute to the ANZAC spirit and the spirit of Australia and it should stay where it is."

"Tony and I would like to thank all those who supported the petition, but the soldier is far from safe and we may call on the community again for its support," concluded Pat.

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'PRETTY LUCKY'

The winner of our recent 'Professional Hair Pack' Competition has been drawn. Pictured are Ange, Karen and Jo with the lucky winner, Paula White (2nd from right) of Bellevue Heights. Paula received a professional quality hair dryer plus assorted professional hair care products to the value of \$300.

Jo, Ange and Karen are delighted with the response since opening their business in February this year. "We would like to thank all our customers from the Blackwood and surrounding communities for their continued support."

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◆ Most motorists driving through the Blackwood roundabout would not be aware they are being watched. John Messer, owner of Blackwood Sound points out the security camera located on the roof of his premises that overlooks Blackwood's busiest roundabout.

Traders eye CCTV levy

by Annie Waddington-Feather

BUSINESSES in the Blackwood shopping precinct may be hit by a levy to fund the ongoing costs for a CCTV safety and security program.

Managed by the Blackwood Business Network (BBN), the security program consists of combined CCTV and guard monitoring and set up costs were funded by a \$100,000 Federal grant under the 'Crime Prevention, Safer Suburbs' program.

The Program now needs \$80,000 per annum to cover ongoing costs such as the Patrol Guard, CCTV equipment and networking maintenance, Internet broadband services, and Property and Public Liability Insurance.

At the April meeting of Full Council, Mitcham Council agreed to consult the Blackwood business community and the results of this consultation will be considered as a part of the adoption of the 2013/14 Budget and declaration of the 2013/14 rates.

The security program covers the main shopping precinct in Blackwood centred around Main Road, Shepherds Hill Road and Coromandel Parade, shopping centre car parks and public spaces.

"Patrols will monitor areas from the Belair Triangle; to Raine & Horne Real Estate on Shepherds Hill Road; to the Blackwood Clinic on Coromandel Parade; and Ray White Real Estate on Main Road," confirmed BBN President Jane Silbereisen who is also a Mitcham councillor.

Jane claims the presence of guards and CCTV equipment has had a deterrent effect on incidents of vandalism and said Sturt police had requested footage on a number of incidents over the past few months including a recent hold-up at BP On the Run.

As well as having a safer precinct to walk in,

the public are benefitting from the Program in other ways. John Messer, proprietor of Blackwood Sound said the moving camera on his building also covered the Blackwood roundabout. "Footage could be used as evidence if there was a traffic accident there."

However, not all businesses support the additional levy; as many have their own security system and they aren't convinced the cameras are of any benefit for their business.

Luke Sincock, Blackwood Butchers proprietor in the Woolworths Shopping Centre, said he didn't understand why it (the Program) was done. "I'm not a member of the network (BBN), I pay insurance and I have my own security," he said. He also highlighted business rates were far more than household rates. "I pay rates on rubbish bin removal and I don't even have a rubbish bin!" he said.

Mitcham Councillor Elaine Grimm was against the motion for the consultation and a separate business rate. She wasn't against the Program itself and commended the BBN for the work it was doing, but Elaine didn't see why Council should be involved.

"Council has said 'no' to giving money for the program, 'no' to a camera on its building, so why is it considering this?" she queried. Elaine also highlighted she still hadn't seen a business case outlining the costings for the Program, as requested by Council last year.

"If this levy gets through, there will be a cost to council to implement it, and this will be a cost to the ratepayer," she added.

Jane said if the levy, expected to range from \$2.80 to \$6.80 per week per business wasn't applied, the BBN would look at other funding options. "The strategy of an additional rate for businesses is by far the cheapest and most equitable structure to ensure ongoing security and safety to our precinct," she said. □

'At call' waste service continues unchanged

IT APPEARS that the 'At Call' hard waste collection service is popular with both Mitcham Council and ratepayers.

The move from a city-wide collection to the current 'At Call' service was a result of increasing costs for the annual Council wide kerbside collection.

Based on results to date, the 'At Call' hard waste collection service is saving Council an estimated \$85,000 per year when compared to the previously operated city-wide collection.

There is also less waste being sent to landfill and community acceptance of the 'At Call' service is increasing with the participation rate up from 14% in 2011 to 23% according to the 2012 Council Annual Resident Survey.

One concern with the 'At Call' service has been the possibility that it might generate more illegal dumping.

However, information sought from other Councils indicates that the prevalence of illegal dumping has been increasing, irrespective of whether the council operates an 'At Call' or a city-wide hard waste service.

At a recent Council meeting, it was resolved to continue to offer the 'At Call' domestic hard waste collection service, and enter into an arrangement with a contractor for another seven years.

So like it or not, and it appears ratepayers do like it, the 'At Call' service is here to stay for the near future. □

Find local traders in 2013 directory

YOU should have received your copy of the 2013 Blackwood Business & Trade Directory in the letterbox by now. This very popular and useful publication helps connect Blackwood homeowners with Blackwood businesses by providing a comprehensive listing of local retail outlets, tradespeople and professional services in the district.

Many residents also prefer to use local businesses where possible and this directory covers everything from Accountants to Vets - all in the one publication. There are also contact details for many clubs and groups in the district as well as takeaway menus in the centre pages for easy reference.

□ If you haven't received your copy, they can be picked up from NewsXpress in the Woolworths Shopping Centre, Iain Evans MP office in Young Street; or you can provide postal details by email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au or phoning 0428 246 824.



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Clubs unite to help 'greening' burden

YOU may have noticed while walking around Blackwood that there have been a number of garden beds installed to help beautify our shopping precincts.

This is the work of the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) who first started their 'Greening Blackwood' project in early 2012.

However, the plants in these garden beds do not survive without water, especially when it doesn't rain for months. So BAG members have been using 10 litre containers to keep the plants watered during summer.

In December 2012, along comes Blackwood Lions club member, Graeme Oats who sees Geoff Bartlett (BAG member) struggling with

these heavy watering buckets and puts forward the idea of building a purpose-built watering trailer.

The Lions Club of Blackwood agreed to help fund the project, and together with the assistance of Dale Thompson from Blackwood business Fire & Rescue Australia, a modified trailer is designed and built.

This is yet another example of the community supporting local service clubs; and the service clubs in turn giving back to the community.

Blackwood Lions Club, for example, run the popular Lions Bargain Centre on Shepherds Hill Road and some of the proceeds from this project end up back in the local community.

Without the generous support of the Hills community, the Bargain Centre would not operate. It's a fantastic centre where residents donate quality second hand goods they no longer want and in turn these goods get sold back to needy customers.

If you have any unwanted good quality saleable goods, bring them to the Centre Saturday morning or phone 8370 2144 for details.

And if you enjoy browsing for bargains, check out the Lions Bargain Centre (near Karinya Reserve) on Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills any Saturday morning from 8.30am to 12.30pm. □



◆ Blackwood Lions Club members Graeme Oats and Kevin Brooks often help out at the Lions Bargain Centre on Saturday mornings.

St Johns scholar takes place in global science forum

A THIRST for knowledge and a passion for science has enabled Year 12 Belair student James Biddle to be selected to attend the London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) held at Imperial College, London in July.

James was an active and effective participant in the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF): a 12 day residential program run in both Canberra and Perth, in January earlier this year.

To be selected for the NYSF, James, a St

Johns Grammar student competed for selection for one of 432 places with some 2,000 other applicants from all parts of the country, each identified as a top science student at their school.

"A chance to attend the LIYSF is incredible!" an excited James said. "Before I attended the NYSF, which opened so many new perspectives and options for me, I could not have dreamed of being a part of this amazing opportunity."

At the January forum James demonstrated exceptional levels of interest, capacity and potential in fields of science, and also strong interpersonal, teamwork, inquiry, communication and potential leadership skills.

"In the next couple of years I will be making some career-shaping decisions, so to have the chance to experience cutting edge science at an international level is a fantastic springboard into the future," added James.

The time in London will provide a real understanding of science in action on a global scale. Participants also have a unique opportunity not only to network with peers and leading scientists from all over the world, but also to travel and build inter-cultural awareness, on their own initiative.

Before jetting off, James must take on the dif-



◆ James enjoying the youth science forum he attended in Perth earlier this year

icult task of fundraising \$10,000 to cover costs. So any sponsorship or donations from local businesses and Rotary Clubs would be deeply appreciated by James and his family.

□ For more information, and possible fundraising assistance, please contact James Biddle on 0422 038 108 or his mentor David Agostinotto, senior science teacher at St Johns Grammar on e: dagostinotto@stjohns.sa.edu.au

Permits for 'green waste'

WITH the fire danger season finished, residents who live in high fire risk areas can apply to Council to obtain a permit, subject to seasonal conditions, to burn green waste material to reduce fuel and hazard reduction in preparation for the next fire season.

Backyard burning is banned throughout the Mitcham Council area.

To obtain a permit:

1. You must live in Council's high fire risk area.
2. You must be conducting fuel and hazard reduction work.
3. Material to be burnt must only be green waste - no rubbish.
4. Material must be dry and ready to burn.
5. Have your property inspected by Council's Fire Prevention Officer.
6. You must adhere to all of the conditions on the permit.
7. Permits will only be issued after the Fire Danger Season until it becomes too dangerous to burn (November).

□ If you are considering burning in the open please contact the Bushfire Prevention Officer on 8372 8894 for information to assist you in making the decision on whether you are able to undertake burning in the open.

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WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

◆ 2 June

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.

◆ 2 June

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 June

BLACKWOOD HILLS VIEW - women meet for coffee at Cafe Primo at 10.30am. Just come along. Phone Annalies on 8370 2528 for details.

◆ 3 June

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.

◆ 5 June

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 Carey on carey_jo71@hotmail.com

◆ 5 & 19 June

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.

◆ 6 June

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.

◆ 9 June

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.

◆ 10 June

EDEN HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Blackwood Community Ctr at 4 Young St, Blackwood at 9.30am. Enjoy socialising with other retirees, listening to guest speakers, plus monthly outings. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Phone Secretary on 8379 2457 for details.

◆ 10 June

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.

◆ 11 & 25 June

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 June

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - meet in

Artisans coffee lounge (behind Bendigo Bank) at 2pm. For more details phone Jackie on 8278 5761 or 0431 967 153.

◆ 13 June

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

◆ 16 June

BOYS, BLOKES & BROS - bring your son, grandpa, uncle or mate to enjoy time with experienced male chef preparing, cooking and eating. Held at Coromandel Community Ctr, 442 Main Rd, Weymouth Oval from 11am-2pm. Cost is \$25 for two. Bookings and pre-payment on 8370 6880.

◆ 17 June

BLACKWOOD HILLS VIEW - women meet for lunch at Belair Park Country Club at 10am. Voices Interests & Education of Women. Celebrating 6th birthday. Bookings for lunch essential. Phone Annalies on 8370 2528 for details.

◆ 17 June

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

◆ 17 June

BLACKWOOD COMBINED PROBUS CLUB - meets at 10am in Blackwood Community Ctr, 4 Young St, Blackwood. Enjoy friendship of other retirees, guest speakers and outings. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Enquiries to Margaret on 8278 5250.

◆ 18 June

FRIENDS OF BLACKWOOD FOREST - Meet in Gamble Cottage, Main Rd, Blackwood at 7.30pm. If you want to help maintain this Recreation Park, phone Debbie on 8278 2941 for details.

◆ 19 June

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

◆ 20 June

BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CLUB - meeting at Blackwood Uniting Church Hall from 7pm. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian stamps, plus world stamps and phone cards. Prospective members and visitors welcome. Ph Jeff on 8278 1609.

◆ 20 June

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

◆ 24 June

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

◆ 25 June

FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK - FREE guided walk - ask at ticket office for free entry with 2pm start. Spend 2hrs learning about different

plants. Enquiries to 8278 6736.

◆ 26 June

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.

◆ 26 June

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.

◆ 28 June

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.

◆ 20 July

MEN'S BREAKFAST - held at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church, 7.30-9.30am, 72 Coromandel Pde. Enjoy a continental breakfast followed by inspirational speaker, Garry Parker (chaplain and youth adult facilitator) who has passion for fostering and journeying with young people, as well as author of "Man Up!". Cost only \$8 or \$5 conc. RSVP to michael on 0403 656 537 or e: jodiemick@adam.com.au before 17 July.

New review due as Mitcham Council backflips, maintains electoral status quo

Six ward system to stay

by Annie Waddington-Feather

DO we have too many Council Wards and too many councillors?

In March, Mitcham Council did an about turn and rescinded a motion which could've seen a change to the number of councillors and wards in this district.

Following recent community consultation based on Council's preferred option of Council's structure and composition, a report of the outcome is to be presented in June.

A local government is required to make a review every eight years, and The City of Mitcham last completed an 'elector representation review' in November 2005.

It is now required to undertake and complete another review by October 2013, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulations 1999, so as to ensure fair and equitable representation of all electors prior to the 2014 Local Government elections.

Consultants C L Rowe & Associates were asked to carry out the review at a cost of \$18,000, and it made a number of recommendations.

In January Council voted in favour of the recommendation to reduce the number of ward councillors from 13 to 11, (plus the mayor) and for the preferred future ward structure to com-

prise of three wards (there are currently six). It also moved to have a workshop to discuss the implications of the restructure.

However, at the March meeting of Full Council, Council effectively voted against the recommendations by rescinding its decision made in January.

Heather Beckmann, who had made a deputation to council on behalf of Blackwood/Belair and District Community Association (BBDCA), said the BBDCA had seriously looked at the proposal and believed the council should stand as is. She thought the outcome was a wise decision.

meanwhile, a deputation made by Blackwood Action Group (BAG) was in support of the recommended changes. The group had consulted with a council expert and believed the reduction in the number of councillors and consolidation of wards was the better option.

Andrew Tidswell, spokesman for BAG said this option complied with the Act requirements, had councillor to elector ratios similar to other councils of a similar size and took into account 'community interest' around the centre.

"Our Blackwood district centre is currently split into two wards," he highlighted. "The smaller number of wards, with three or four councillors in them would give scope for other councillors to be contacted should one be unavailable."

He believed Council was remiss not to take on board the recommendations. □

New councillor pushes for 'Master Plan'

TIM Hein is the new elected member for the Park Ward (covering Belair, Glenalta, Hawthorndene, Upper Sturt and Crafrers West) and voted to keep the status quo for a Mitcham Council ward restructure.

He thought an amalgamation of areas into a bigger ward will make it difficult for councillors to have any contact with the people in their ward.

Plus, having just gone through the election process, he believes that having a bigger ward to canvas would make it more expensive for people wanting to stand for council.

Since being elected, Tim has started pushing hard for a 'Master Plan for Blackwood' and he put a bid in for a Blackwood Master Plan in the current budget. This was voted down by one vote.

He strongly encourages people living in the Hills areas to contact their councillor if they would like to see Council budget for a Blackwood Master Plan in the future.

Tim would also like to see a community garden in the Hills area; he sees a community garden as the potential for a real community centre without the cost of walls.

Although his bid for one to be included in this year's budget was lost by one vote, he would still like to see one on council land in the hills.

Bushfire safety features strongly on Tim's agenda and although Council spend \$1 million/annum on bushfire awareness and education, he would like to see more work done in this area. "People don't realise how quickly a fire can move," he added. □



Tales of 'valley' to roll on

"WE knew that this would be good but the day has exceeded our greatest expectations," said Norma Scibirras from Fullarton, visiting Coromandel Valley with her friend, Darla Hufford who is from California.

They were taking part in one of the bus tours offered by the Coromandel Valley and Districts National Trust as part of 'History Month' during May.

A special experience also came for those who went on 'Guided Walks and Tours' travelling through places and hearing the stories that made the 'Valley' what it is today.

On the walks, local people found lovely spots that they did not know existed and were fascinated by stories of the people who lived here.

Although History Month is now ended the telling of stories continues and the walks and tours will be on offer again throughout the year.

To promote understanding of the value of the local heritage, group visits can be arranged during the year as needed by organisers.

The popular 'Spotlight' sessions continue throughout the year with events happening on 26 July: "The Developing Chronology of

Coromandel Valley"; 27 September: "Life in the Home and Getting By"; 29 November: "Celebrating the Stories".

□ Enquiries about the activities provided by the Coromandel Valley and Districts National Trust are welcome. Contact David Wyatt on 8270 4400 or Trevor Conlon on 8270 5686; or email to ntcoro2@bigpond.com



◆ Picnic lunch being enjoyed in the grounds of Winns Bakehouse by the fjord in Coromandel Valley during 'History Month'.

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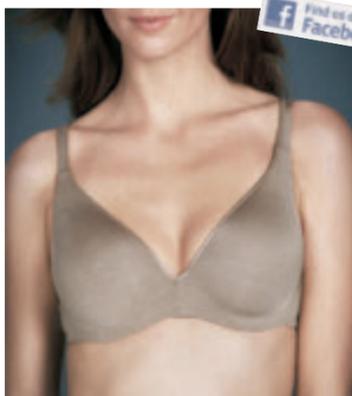
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More money needed for the poor

By Brandon Chaplin, Senior Pastor
Blackwood Hills Baptist Church

Each year in the Federal budget the media highlights the “winners and losers”. These are usually related to how this affects our “own hip pocket”.

One of the issues that often receives limited attention is the matter of foreign aid. Slowly but surely, however, this is changing.

This is an issue that is of concern to many in Blackwood, which has a track record of advocacy and raising money for the poor and marginalised through organisations like World Vision and campaigns like the 40 Hour Famine.

The churches, schools and businesses of the

Blackwood area only as recently as 2010 raised more than \$73,000 over a weekend with the 40 Hour Famine.

That’s a wonderful tribute to the people of the Mitcham Hills, but we know that is only a drop in the bucket of what governments can do if they have the will.

In the discussion over the May budget, Foreign Minister Bob Carr conceded that the aid community’s voice is strong, and is having an influence on our leaders in parliament.

We think the issues of social justice near and abroad are important and we are pleased that one of the significant voices on this matter who is associated with World Vision will be in

Blackwood in June.

Tony Campolo is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University, a former faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, and the founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education.

He is one of the founders of the Red Letter Christian movement and blogs regularly at its website: redletterchristians.org and can also be found on both Facebook and Twitter.

Dr Campolo will be speaking at the Blackwood Hills Baptist Church on Monday 3 June at 7.30pm. All are welcome and please call the church office on 8370 0333 for more information.

Time to review your single largest expense

“THIS latest Federal budget didn’t throw any lifelines to the average Australian so this is the ideal time for families to review their household budget,” said Louise Stanton, a local Mortgage Choice franchise owner.

With the Government revealing little in the

way of reforms to give the average Australian a financial boost, the onus is on the individual to help themselves claw back any holes left by changes made in the Federal Budget.

“It is important to review the fees, rates and charges being paid for the financial products we hold, specifically home loans as this is the single biggest outgoing for most families,” explained Louise.

Here are some savings tips for home loan holders that could help save thousands of dollars off your mortgage :

- * Check your home loan rate following last month’s cash rate cut by the Reserve Bank.
- * When rates fall, consider keeping repayments at the higher level.
- * Making the move from monthly to fortnightly repayments can make a significant difference to your loan term.
- * Avoid added stresses like the need for a new car or house renovations.
- * Book an annual home loan health check. Regularly review your home loan fees plus your repayment strategy.

“More often than not, it costs nothing and takes only a small amount of time to review your home loan. Given the potential savings that could be made, there is nothing to be lost by shopping around with the expert help of a mortgage broker, like myself,” Louise concluded.

If you want to learn more about your home loan options, call Louise today on 0407 189 021 or log onto www.mortgagechoice.com.au/louise.stanton

Important information: This article is for general information purposes only. It has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs. You should, before acting on the advice, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances.

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Some of the Coromandel Bridge Club members enjoying their Thursday afternoon gathering (from left): Darrell Mitton (Club president), Rob Molliere (Club director) with Ingrid Goetz

Let the bridge bunch challenge your brain

EVERY Thursday afternoon a group of about 30 men and women gather at the Coromandel Community Centre to battle each other in the card game of Bridge.

“It’s a mentally stimulating and challenging game,” said Darrell Mitton, Coromandel Bridge Club President. “However beginners or experienced players are always welcome and at the end of the day we have loads of fun and laughter.”

Most of the members enjoy the afternoon as much for the friendship as the game of

bridge. The Club is about 20 years old with male and female members of all ages.

They meet every Thursday afternoon between 1-4pm at the Coromandel Community Centre on Main Road near the Weymouth Oval.

So if you want to keep your brain active combined with a social activity in a friendly environment why not give Bridge a try.

For more details on the Coromandel Bridge Club, phone Roger on 8278 5320 or Rob on 8278 5982.

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



HEALTHY LIVING

Overseas trip adds to local service



◆ Alan and Sue working together again in their practice at Flagstaff Hill.

"IT WAS a great experience meeting other podiatrists from the UK and in particular working in a different environment," said podiatrist Alan Ottaway, who with his wife Sue, headed overseas three years ago for a long overdue break.

"We have always operated our own practice and this meant the opportunity to get away for an extended break was not always possible," said Alan.

"So in 2010 we decided to take 'long service leave' and travelled to England. I gained some valuable experience working for the Mid Essex National Health Service as a podiatrist.

"Many of my clients were high risk diabetic patients in outreach hospitals surrounding Essex, east of London. However, unlike Adelaide, very few patients seen were in private health but rather seen through their National Health Service (NHS) - which is similar to our Medicare system," explained Alan.

Patients had varying medical ailments from chronic diabetic ulcers to biomechanical concerns, such as flat feet, knee pain and lower leg problems.

Doctors would refer any lower limb issues directly to a podiatrist, which meant the system in place became more efficient.

When not working, Alan and Sue travelled extensively through the United Kingdom, Europe and Greek Islands.

"Distances in Europe are not such a big issue for Australians," said Sue, "and locals were amazed that we were comfortable travelling 800km in one day!"

□ Their Flagstaff Hill practice is located at 6 Ridgway Drive and open Tuesdays and Thursdays - appointments can be made by phoning 8270 2254.

Prevent Heel Pain

HEEL pain is one of the most common conditions treated by podiatrists.

While heel pain has many causes, it is usually the result of faulty biomechanics - abnormalities in the way we walk - placing too much stress on the heel bone and the soft tissues attached to it. The stress may also result from injury, or a bruise incurred while walking, running or jumping on hard surfaces, or wearing poorly constructed footwear.

Regular visits to your podiatrist can help prevent recurrences of heel pain and other associated foot problems. □

New technique exploits nervous system

A NEW and exciting technique direct from the United States which can be used on any injury, illness or condition, is being applied by chiropractors at the Blackwood Chiropractic Centre with incredible results.

"Quantum Neurology® is a unique method that focusses on strengthening the nervous system," said Dr Nick Holdback of Blackwood Chiropractic. "The techniques are used to improve a patient's neurological function.

"It is concerned with the rehabilitation of your nervous system, as opposed to trying to treat pain and conditions of the body."

The nervous system runs and coordinates the whole body with its billions of cells, it's organs and tissues, together with the body's inbuilt ability to heal itself.

Quantum Neurology® seeks to exploit the potential the nervous system has to change and rehabilitate.

This new technique can easily and quickly check all the major nerves of the body. Should any of these nerves be under-functioning, the consequences for muscle strength and joint function can be far reaching. Malfunctioning nerves can be addressed almost as quickly as they can be assessed.

"Quantum Neurology® has hundreds of case studies reporting quite incredible results in a wide variety of neurological problems," explained Nick, "from migraines to someone walking after years in a wheelchair - to enhanced performance of top line athletes.

"We look forward to seeing these outcomes in Australia now."

□ For an appointment or more information, phone the Blackwood Chiropractic Centre on 8370 2755. Located at 170 Main Road, Blackwood (next to Strike-A-Light).

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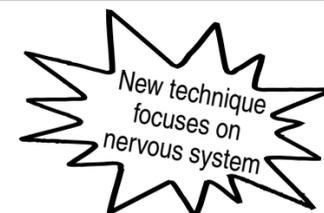
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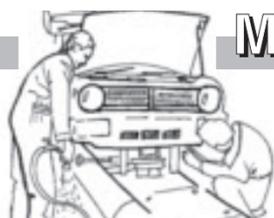
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