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ISSUE 261 • AUGUST 2016

Calls to resurrect Xmas tree festival

see story pg 3


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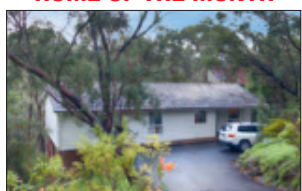
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You don't often witness a storm like the one that arrived in Blackwood on Tuesday July 12. There have been some extreme wet weather conditions so far this winter, but residents were amazed to see Blackwood coated in a white blanket of afternoon hail.

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Historic building being restored at forest

by Annie Waddington-Feather

THANKS to a group of dedicated volunteers, a part of Blackwood's horticultural history is getting a much-needed renovation.

The heritage listed stone building on the Blackwood Forest Reserve Recreation Park (corner Main Road and Turners Avenue, Hawthorndene) has recently had a new roof, and work will be commencing on the interior soon.

Built in 1908 from locally sourced quarried stone, the building was the office for the Blackwood Experimental Orchard; the main experimental and training facility for horticulture central South Australia until the 1960s.

"Around 4000 different fruit trees were planted here to be tested under different techniques for spraying, fertilising etc," explains Debbie Reynolds, a member of *The Friends of Blackwood Forest Recreation Park*, the volunteer group heading up the renovations.

The orchard was eventually closed down in the 1970s and when the land was earmarked for development, the local community fought hard to keep it as 'open space'.

In 2013, the Department of Environment

Water and Natural Resources who owns the land, gave The Friends of Blackwood Forest Recreation Park permission to renovate and use the historic Orchard Manager's Office building.

"Funds have been raised through a crowd funding campaign, other donations and a lot of sausage sizzles," explains Debbie. "The Mitcham City Council also contributed \$1,000 to the reroofing through its Heritage Subsidy Scheme."

Volunteers have worked hard scraping back and painting the old roofing timbers (bargeboards) and with the help of local businesses such as Hilltop Roofing and Blackwood Hire, most of the roof has now been repaired.

The group is now looking to renovate the interior including a new floor, replastering the walls, repairing windows and replacing glass.

"Our many thanks go to the generous donations and the in-kind support from several local businesses who have helped so far," says Debbie.

"However, the next round of renovations are going to require more donations, more grant-application writing and more sausage sizzles, but the results will be worth the wait and this much-loved building will get the makeover it richly deserves."

Many people enjoy walking through the forest, from parents with their children to those walking their dogs.

If you can make a donation to help restore this notable part of our local history, the bank account is: BSB: 805050 A/c No: 2360280.

Once renovations have been completed, the

group hope the building will be able to be used as a meeting or exhibition venue.

❑ If you can help with labour or materials, or would like to join the group, contact Debbie on 8278 2941.

To find out more visit <http://www.community-webs.org/friendsofblackwoodforest/>



♦ Admiring the recently restored roof to the Orchard Managers building are Friends of BFRP members (from left): Glen Phillips and Debbie Reynolds, with Damien Miller from Hilltop Roofing

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Loyal green card customers support CFS

"WE all, as part of our communities, benefit greatly from the sacrifice of the CFS volunteers, so it is nice to be able to give something back to them," said Simon Dawe, spokesperson for the *Green Dispensary Pharmacy* group.

The group rewards their regular customers through a 'Green Card' loyalty program with a \$20 voucher to use in-store at any Green Dispensary (Stirling, Erindale or Blackwood) once they have completed the card.

Half way through the Green Card there is a "Special Offer from The Green Dispensary", which for the majority of the time, is a voucher for \$5 off any vitamin purchase.

"However, whilst this has always been popular with our customers, about 12 months ago we started talking about how we could be more community minded, how could we give something back to our local communities," explained Simon.

"The trick was to find a charity that con-

nected with the communities of the different Green Dispensary pharmacies. As all of the Green Dispensaries are either in the Adelaide Hills or the foothills, the CFS Foundation was a natural choice.

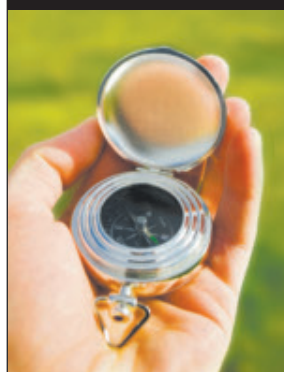
"So during December, January and February of this year, the Green Dispensary decided to donate the \$5 vitamin reward to the CFS Foundation which after three months totalled almost \$5000!" said Simon.

The CFS Foundation's objective is: "to provide financial assistance to CFS volunteer firefighters and their families who have suffered through death, injury, loss or damage of property while in the line of service".

The Green Dispensary group thanks all those generous customers who supported the program in making this donation to the CFS Foundation.

❑ The Green Dispensary in Blackwood is located at 202 Main Road (opp On the Run).

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Join in traditional Blackwood Christmas tree festival

THERE has been a groundswell of support from community groups to revive the 'Christmas Tree Festival' which was enjoyed by Adelaide Hills families from 1960s to 1980s (see separate story on page 9).

This unique spectacle is planned to coincide with the popular Blackwood Christmas Pageant in early December and is being organised by the Blackwood Action Group (BAG) in conjunction with other community groups, local businesses and the Mitcham Council.

Families, schools, groups and individuals are being asked to get involved and register their interest in this exciting new Christmas initiative. It's an opportunity for you to decorate or craft a Christmas tree, table centrepiece or similar items and contribute to a wonderland of gorgeous creations.

It will be an exciting weekend to complement the fun traditions of the Blackwood Pageant, Waite Street Reserve Fair and Christmas craft market held at the Memorial Hall.

Help welcome the Christmas spirit to the Blackwood shopping precincts, supported by *Totally Locally Blackwood* and the *Blackwood Business Network*, with decorated shops,

Christmas music, fairy lights, buskers, carol singers and a giant Christmas tree at the Blackwood roundabout church, are just some of the ideas being discussed.

However, to ensure that the event is a success, we need YOUR involvement to create Christmas trees or table centre pieces.

It could be a family project; a fun thing for a group of friends to make together; a design challenge at school, kindergarten or Scouts; an opportunity for businesses to promote themselves.

To be held in the Blackwood Community Centre in Young Street from Friday, December 2 (pageant night) to Sunday, December 4 - it's also a chance to chat with Santa, get involved in fun Christmas craft and food activities, a gift giving tree and much more.

Visit www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au for more information and the registration form.

To register your interest simply complete a registration form by Sunday 14 August.

Registration forms are also available from *Habitat* in the Foodland Shopping Centre, and *Kohl's Soda* in the Woolworths Shopping Centre.

Photo: Melva (Judy) Roberts preparing for the Blackwood Christmas Tree Festival in the early 1970s which was held at the Blackwood Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade (photo courtesy of Rhys Roberts).



Lowest council rate increase for over a decade

by Annie Waddington-Feather

HERE'S some good news for a change for City of Mitcham ratepayers, with Council deciding to increase rates by just 2.75 per cent, making it one of the lowest rate increases for residents for over a decade.

The average residential rate will increase from \$1,567 to \$1,611 - an increase of just \$44 per annum or 85 cents per week.

Some new and improved services for the Blackwood area include the installation of new footpaths; expansion of the Tree Planting Program to 1,200 trees per annum; a new and upgraded stormwater infrastructure; further development of the Sturt River Linear Trail and partnering with the Federal Government to deliver a much needed replacement of the Hewett Reserve Clubrooms.

Upgrades to some of the playgrounds and other sporting facilities in the area have been included in the budget, together with renovations to buildings such as Blackwood Community Centre in Young Street, and the Belair Scout and Guide halls.

"This budget reflects our commitment to the community, to not only keep rates low but to also maintain and improve services, while strengthening Council's financial position. The rate increase of 2.75% is the lowest for over a decade," says Mayor Glenn Spear.

Glenn also highlights the recently announced increase in the Solid Waste Levy by the State Government, an unexpected increase of 22.6 per cent, was an unbudgeted expense for Council.

"We will need to give careful consideration as to how to manage the impact of this increasing levy on our budgets over the next 12 months," he says.



Every edition now in colour

THIS is the last edition that you will see pages of *The Blackwood Times* newspaper printed in black and white.

From the September 2016 issue onwards, the whole paper will be published in full colour.

Even after 22 years of 'keeping the local community informed' you can never afford to take things for granted, and this improved presentation will give increased

value to businesses advertising in the newspaper, as well as making for a more interesting newspaper for our readers.

I think you will enjoy the new colour format throughout and continue to read the newspaper each month.

Editor

PS The Blackwood Business Directory will also be available on-line soon in an interactive form - watch this space.

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Tragic death of local teens who paid ultimate price

by Geoff Lock, Local Historian

A CENTURY ago, families in the local area were becoming acclimated to the losses of men from the Gallipoli campaign of 1915 when the harsh realities of the Western Front were brought home to them.

The relentless artillery shelling, gas, machine-gun fire and trench warfare conditions were to become new ways of life for the ANZACS who arrived in France in June 1916 to do their bit as part of the AIF's involvement in France and Belgium.

All too soon, many of these men were to become fatalities in horrendous battles that have become part of the folk-lore of many Australian families since then.

Fromelles and Pozieres saw the loss of almost 28,000 Australians in the short space of 6 weeks from July to late August 1916.

Whilst Pozieres has been synonymous with Australians' involvement on the Somme in 1916, Fromelles has

been almost forgotten until quite recently.

Two local teenagers fell in these battles whose stories need to be told, however briefly.

Alfred George Sinigear (May 1897) and John Lanarch Downer (May 1898) were born within a year of each other and followed closely related paths in life.

Each attended the local Coromandel Valley Public School in the early part of the 20th century and later attended Adelaide High School.

After leaving school, each then found employment in the Elders firm in Adelaide as clerks. With the outbreak of WWI in 1914, both boys were still mid-teenagers.

By June 1915, Alf Sinigear had pressured his parents into signing a letter giving permission to enlist in the armed forces as at 18, he was under-age without parental consent. Family lore has it that he had threatened to enlist under a false name should they refuse. He embarked for overseas service as a member of the 32nd Batt in December 1915.

While Jack Downer enlisted for service in the AIF with his brother in January 1916 as a 17 year old, having lied about his age. He was drafted to D Company of the 50th Battalion and left for overseas service in April 1916.

Following their arrival in Egypt, both Alf Sinigear and Jack Downer saw battalion training prior to being sent to France via Marseilles.

With the commencement of the battle of The Somme in July 1916, Australian troops were sent north to re-inforce Allied forces and were soon engaged in horrendous battles.

The 32nd Batt was part of the attack in broad daylight by the 5th Division at Fromelles in July which saw 5,544 casualties within 24 hours, these being the worst endured by the Australian Army in its entire history.

Amongst those casualties was Corporal Alfred Sinigear, aged 19, whose body was never found and whose name is listed on the VC Corner memorial at Fromelles.

Less than a month later, in August, the 50th Batt was engaged at Pozieres in a futile attempt to take Mouquet Farm, a heavily fortified German



THE LATE PTE. JOHN L. DOWNER was born in 1898. He entered the AIF in 1915 and left on the 5th of July. Private Downer was killed in the battle of Fromelles.



PRIVATE A. G. SINIGEAR.

◆ Photos above: Private AG Sinigear (on left) and Private JL Downer (photos extracted from Adelaide High School magazine cc1916)

position. This battle had raged since mid-July and saw Australian Divisions rotated exhausted.

Here, Jack Downer was killed, barely 18 years of age, in his first battle. As with Alf Sinigear, his body was never found.

A fellow Coromandel Valley soldier, Alf Watchman also died here.

In life and in death, Alf Sinigear and Jack Downer followed each other. The tragedy of their deaths is just a

small part of the price paid by countless families during WWI.

They have no known resting places but are re-united amongst their comrades on the Blackwood War Memorial near the Blackwood roundabout.

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◆ (from left): Pat and Mick joined the Blackwood Bowling Club last year and are looking forward to playing pennant bowls again in the upcoming season

If you've been past a bowling club on a Saturday afternoon, you may have noticed that a few changes have taken place over the years.

There are more 'young' people involved in the sport, their attire is a lot more casual and colourful, and even the bowls can be fluorescent pink, green, orange and yellow rather than traditional black!

While at the Blackwood Bowling Club, there have been a number of improvements to the clubrooms as well, including a new bar, carpets, heating and bathroom facilities. These renovations would not have

Embracing club life in evolving sport

been possible if it were not for the great working relationship and support the Club gets from Mitcham Council.

Two residents who took up the sport just last year are Pat Stephanos from Bellevue Heights and Mick Trevaskis of Eden Hills.

"Once my body could no longer take the punishment from playing contact sport, I dedicated much of my time and energy into the children's sporting life," said Mick.

However now retired, Mick has the time and the opportunity to rekindle the 'club life' he has missed over the years.

Mick is about to commence only his second year of pennant bowls and he has happily embraced club life by taking on the responsible positions of Bar Manager and Board Member.

"My only regret is that I waited too long to enjoy the sporting benefits of lawn bowls and club life, by waiting until I had retired!" explained Mick.

Beginners and experienced bowlers are welcome, as if you don't want to play pennant, there are social bowls played throughout the week and in the evenings.

The club has been offering lawn bowls since 1935 and is located on the corner of Simla Parade and Adey Road, Blackwood.

If you are looking for an outside activity that introduces you to like-minded individuals in your local community, why not make contact with the Blackwood Bowling Club. (see their advert on page 9)

☐ Phone 8278 1937 or email: blckwdbc@tpg.com.au if you would like more details - or just drop in.

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'Vicki and Goliath' battle worth the effort



◆ (from left): Dean with Vicki, serving Hawthorndene resident and Adelaide University student, Lili Montesi, who catches the train to the city regularly and uses a metro card.

"NOT long after taking over the newsagency, we could see a need to be able to sell bus and train cards to our customers," said Vicki Staude, proprietor of NewsXpress in the Woolworths Shopping Centre.

"We were in a ridiculous position of being able to recharge cards but not sell

them, so we contacted our local MP, Sam Duluk to see if anything could be done to rectify the situation.

"He sent a letter off to the relevant department on our behalf with no result. This continued for 18 months, with three more letters being sent and still no satisfactory outcome," explained Vicki.

"All this time we were able to recharge the cards, however customers that wanted to buy the metro cards had to go elsewhere - but I wasn't giving up."

Then four weeks ago Vicki heard that the State Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Stephen Mulligan was going to be talking with talkback host Leon Byner on Radio 5AA.

She rang the radio station and confronted the Minister with their position. Following two weeks of negotiations, and with the assistance of Leon who was also in disbelief with the ruling, Vicki received notification that they had finally been given approval to sell the metro cards.

"We were overjoyed at receiving the news and it is a great way to celebrate our 2nd birthday in the newsagency," said Vicki.

"Also a big thank you goes to our local MP Sam Duluk for his help.

"We love living in Blackwood and enjoy chatting with all our wonderful customers who we see regularly."

As a birthday celebration, NewsXpress Blackwood are offering shoppers a 15% discount of all gift lines and 20% discount when spending \$50 or more during August.

NewsXpress Blackwood is open 7 days including Sunday from 10am-3pm and located in the Woolworths Shopping Centre on Coromandel Parade.

Member resigns from Park Ward forcing election

by Annie Waddington-Feather

FOLLOWING the resignation of Cr Mark Ward as an Elected Member of the City of Mitcham in May this year, nominations for candidates for The Park Ward's supplementary election are now open until 11 August.

Residents can expect to receive their ballot material for the election towards the end of the month with close of voting 12noon on Monday 12 September.

Councillor Ward expressed his immense privilege in serving the Mitcham community and congratulated Council on its commitment to placing Mitcham in a strong position for the future.

Mayor Glenn Spear said, "Councillor Ward was held in high regard with Council and within our community, and his valued contribution will be greatly missed.

"I thank Councillor Ward for his positive and enthusi-

astic approach to the role of Councillor for The Park Ward over the past 10 years."

City of Mitcham Council confirmed the cost of the supplementary election will be approximately \$35,000.

"This includes \$25,000 for the services of the Electoral Commission of South Australia in conducting the election and a provision of \$10,000 to cover additional costs associated with the supplementary election incurred by the City of Mitcham," a spokesperson said.

Cr Ward resigned from Council in May to devote his full attention to representing his community at a federal level.

He was first elected to Council in 2006 and had worked on a number of key issues, such as Chairing the Rail Freight Committee as well as being involved with many local sporting clubs and community committees.

First female member to be elected in Boothby seat

by Annie Waddington-Feather

ALTHOUGH not formally announced by the Australian Election Commission at time of print, Boothby is likely to have its first female Federal MP in Liberal candidate Nicole Flint.

She attracted over 40 percent of the vote before preferencing, beating Labor party can-

didate Mark Ward who attracted just under 25 percent, and Xenophon Team candidate Karen Hockley who attracted over 20 percent. Green candidate Jane Bange attracted 8.3 percent while the Independent candidates attracted 5 percent of the vote.

The Liberals have held Boothby since 1949, and retiring MP Andrew Southcott was the Federal member for the past 20 years.

"If elected as the Member for Boothby, I will continue to listen to residents and be a strong voice for the community on the issues that matter locally," Nicole says.

Local Liberal electoral promises included \$43 million to extend the Tonsley rail line to Flinders Medical Centre, and \$400,000 allocated for upgrades to Hewett Oval sports clubrooms on Coromandel Parade.

Nicolle has also promised to lobby for improving local traffic issues such as the Blackwood roundabout, and to lobby for the rail freight line to be re-routed.

In other areas, she has promised to look after our local environment through providing solar panels to community groups, and green army projects, and delivering the NBN rollout.



Meet The Park Ward Candidates
Monday August 22 at 7pm
Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young St
The City of Mitcham invites you to come along and meet, listen and ask questions of The Park Ward candidates.
For more information please call 8372 8888.

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Make the switch before you get cut off

by Annie Waddington-Feather

PROMISING to deliver fast speeds, short download time, quick upload time and a smooth online experience, the National Broadband Network (nbn™) has now been switched on in Blackwood and some of the surrounding suburbs.

So what does it mean for us?

Once the nbn™ has been turned on in an area, whether you're a business or resident, you've got just 18 months to connect to it before Telstra turns off the landline. If you haven't made the switch by this time, you won't be able to access the internet in your property.

In the Blackwood and surrounding areas, nbn™ told *Blackwood Times*, customers who want to connect to the nbn™ are not charged installation fees by the nbn™ but a customer will need to order a plan through one of the 120 retail service providers operating in the area.

nbn™ confirmed once a customer has ordered their monthly plan from a nbn™ retailer, the retailer will contact nbn™ and ask for the customer's nbn™ service to be switched on.

"The cost of switching on is free of charge to the customer," confirmed an nbn™ spokesman. "However, a retailer may charge the customer for a new modem and they may charge to come to your house to install it. While some people get the option of self install and choose to do it themselves."

You can keep your home phone number. However, nbn™ advises to confirm with your provider they will keep your phone number, when you transfer your service to the nbn™ network.

Once connected, customers pay their retailer for the cost of the package they choose.

You can learn more and find providers in your area, register for email updates and reminders about the switch off at your address by visiting www.nbnco.com.au

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Artists join forces to present living exhibition

WHEN passing *Kuoni Creative Gallery* on Main Road (opposite the Blackwood Library) recently, you may have noticed a young artist drawing a black and white outline for a mural on their front window.

This is to celebrate the hosting of the Gallery's first SALA (South Australian Living Artists) Exhibition, sponsored by the award winning, Adelaide Hills Winery 'Nepenthe'.

The young community minded artist creating this piece of interactive artwork is Azzuro - and the public are encouraged to come in and help colour the sketch in.

The Gallery's SALA exhibition, titled 'Chroma' is open to the public throughout August, showcasing the work of eight talented artists; namely Tareena Hutton (pictured), Zoe Warburton, Mark Davis, Lyn Davis, Jacqueline Weber, Julie Frahm, Azzuro and Tamara Whittaker.

These artists are joining forces to create a flow of colours through the spectrum in their own inimitable styles. Their artwork includes jewellery, paintings and sculpture from established through to emerging artists.

Also presenting a workshop on 'Your Creative Brain' - an intriguing mix of transcendental meditation and mixed media art, is Heather Lorenzon, Dip Art Ed. A free information session will be held at the Gallery on August 4 at 7.30pm, so come along and broaden your mind.



The Kuoni Creative Gallery, located at 212 Main Road, Blackwood is not only a place to buy original artwork and beautifully designed gifts, but is also a creative hub, providing inspiring, hands on workshops for the local area.

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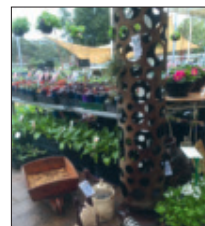
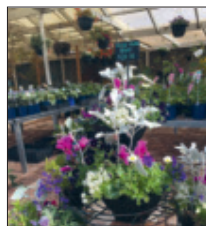
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Unique tree festival launched start of Christmas season



FROM 1960 to 1980 Blackwood held a 'Festival of Christmas Trees' to celebrate the start of the festive season.

Originally, the impetus came from the Blackwood CWA headed by Tina Fairbrother. In its first year, the Festival attracted 135 entries which were displayed in the Blackwood Memorial Hall on Coromandel Parade. Lady Playford opened the Festival while displays appeared on local TV, such as the prestige.

Over £100 was taken at the door roughly representing 1,400 adults and children attending over 3 days. Prize money was made available by local businesses and proceeds were in aid of Father Adelaide Christmas

and the Blackwood Memorial Hall.

A tradition was underway whereby our beloved Blackwood Christmas Pageant ended at the Memorial Hall and Santa would leave his sleigh and take up residence in a 'Magic Cave'.

The community enjoyed a magnificent spectacle of decorated trees with Ainslee Roberts' Nativity scene an annual feature. Not only were Christmas trees on display - you could see decorated bottles (including a 1962 entry by the Blackwood Golf Club featuring nuts, bolts, washers and things all gilded and glued), table centrepieces (1964 saw a white lace stocking with baubles and streamers), hostess aprons, mantle piece decorations, wreaths, floral

arrangements, mobiles, Christmas card designs and more.

But it was the trees that were the feature: "...The individual exhibits were unbelievably beautiful...There were many traditional trees - heavy laden with bright and lovely ornaments and gaily lit..." (21 Dec 1962 The Coromandel), a spectacular tree of a dry wattle hung with dozens of thin gold streamers, a cone covered with rosettes made from tinted tissues called 'Christmas in the bathroom' while a bird cage tree also featured.

Leslyann Fairbrother recalled 'first using Epsom Salts around the trees for snow, then Mum had a contact with Iplex Plastics and we were able to get plastic cut outs'.

'The Hall at the festival is transformed into a Fairyland and the fact that people go year after year is proof that interest can be held' (1967).

Entrants came from schools, Floral Art Clubs, the Labour Council, Wanda Boys Home, Apex and Lions Clubs, Girl Guides, the Good Neighbour Council and many creative individual community members. 'For many... the exhibits represent a whole year's work, the fulfilment of a dream, an idea brought to life...' (Dec 1972)

In 1973 the Blackwood Apex Club took over the management of the festival bringing their own ideas to the event. "...stalls will include cold drinks, ice cream, a barbecue..., fairy

floss and donuts. A merry-go-round will also be available. Christmas carols will be sung by visiting choirs and Christmas music will be played by courtesy of Blackwood Sound Centre... an art and craft fair will feature...' (Hills Gazette 1 Dec 1976)

Now, some 36 years later after the last 'tree festival' was held, a number of community organisations have united and would like to bring back this unique event.

Do you have photos of the former Blackwood Christmas Tree Festivals? We would love to present an historical, pictorial exhibition.

More details on the 2016 Xmas Tree Festival can be read in the article on p3 and by viewing www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

Role reversal opens door to new salon venture

"WHILE one door closes, another one opens," said Alisha Mutton, proprietor of *Eternal Hair & Beauty* which opened last month at Eden Hills.

"My partner's job in the oil industry came to an abrupt end recently, so like many other people who find themselves out of work, we had to find some way to pay the bills.

"After working in the hair and beauty industry for over 10 years, I had always wanted to open my own business," explained Alisha. "We spend quite a bit of time in the Blackwood district visiting friends and family, so when we saw the shop at Eden Hills become vacant, it was now or never.

"It was time for a role reversal and my partner Bruce had no hesitation in supporting my desire to manage a successful salon and be the sole provider."

Alisha and Bruce have a number of connections in the Blackwood area, with Bruce growing up here as a child and his brother Michael is a part owner in the Blackwood Newsagency; while Alisha's brother Gary works at MV Automatics also in Blackwood.

Bruce is now the stay-at-home Dad to their two children, Rubi-Rose (5) and Abel (2) while Alisha pursues her passion in the new salon.

Every Wednesday, beautician Jan Brothers works in the salon. She is a registered nurse with over 30 years experience, and is fully qualified in cosmetic injectable services such as Botox, fillers, PRP (Platelet Rich Plasma injections) and dermal rolling.



◆ Alisha styling Rubi-Rose's hair while Bruce looks after their son Abel

□ To book your next appointment with Alisha, phone 8278 2693. Eternal Hair & Beauty is located at 276 Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills.

Pitching for new members to join family friendly club

"WHAT I enjoy about playing for 'the Tigers' is the environment; everybody is really nice and encouraging," said Jorja Hooper from Aberfoyle Park.

"Another thing I enjoy about playing softball is it is great fun and you get to do two different things - one is fielding the other is batting."

The Seacombe Softball Club (the Tigers) which was formed in 1960 is looking for new players (males and females of all ages) to join the Tiger Army for the upcoming softball season.

"With our allotted catchment areas including Brighton to Bedford Park to Flagstaff Hill, and the clubrooms based at Happy Valley Oval, we are looking for new players from the Blackwood district," said Greg Rusack, Club President. "We form part of the Happy Valley Sports and Social Club on Taylors Road West at Aberfoyle Park.

"The club is committed to developing individual talent as well as a focus on having fun, building team skills and confidence, all in a family friendly environment," explained Greg.

Currently fielding senior teams of A through to D grades and junior teams under 17, U15, U13 and U11, the Club is encouraging those interested in playing, to attend our Come'n'Try day on Sunday August 28.

"I got into softball when I saw a flyer at the local gym for a 'come and try' day and asked my mum if I could give it a go," said Jorja. "The people are really friendly and encouraging, and it is a lot of fun."

While Sophie Kinnear says of the Seacombe Club, "I have made so many life long friendships with all the girls I have played in a team with.

It keeps me fit and I also have the best time when I am at training but even more during games.

"I love how relaxed, enjoyable and fun the environment is. From my first training in U11's I made friends, and easily built a relationship with my coaches. Everyone at the club is so supportive and encourages me to chase my dreams."

And Ocea

Cheek who attends Blackwood High School said, "I love everything about softball - getting out onto the field, hitting the ball, fielding the ball and playing with great girls, is what I love the most."

"I love how relaxed our club is and how the very first year I started, I immediately felt welcome. No matter what skill level you are, everyone is welcome to the club with open arms."

So if you want your kids to be active, playing an outdoor sport in a family friendly environment, why not bring them along to the 'Come'n'Try Day' and registration day on Sunday, August 28 from 10am-12noon at Reynella East College, 63 Malbec Drive, Reynella East.

□ If you would like more information give Greg a call on 0405 147 624 or email: seacombe@softballsa.com.au - always welcoming new players.



◆ Three players from the Seacombe Softball Club - Ocea Cheek, Sophie Kinnear, Jorja Hooper

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WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD

- ◆ **1 August**
BLACKWOOD LADIES PROBUS CLUB - meet at Blackwood Community Ctr, 4 Young St, at 10am. Guest speakers. Visitors & prospective members welcome. Phone Valerie Mills-Stacy on 8370 2674 for details.
- ◆ **3 August**
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 Tricia on triciarushtonconsulting@gmail.com
- ◆ **4 August**
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 August**
BLACKWOOD CRAFT MARKET - from 10am to 4pm at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade. Admission is free. Enquiries to Kerrie on 0427 410 917.
- ◆ **7 & 21 August**
BLACKWOOD YARNHOLICS - a friendly group of knitters and crocheters of all ages who meet at The Artisan Café to share skills and tips to help each other. Everyone welcome, contact Amanda on 0414 764 776 for details.
- ◆ **8 August**
BELAIR LADIES' PROBUS - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church, opp Blackwood roundabout at 10am. Phone Joy on 8270 6162.
- ◆ **8 August**
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.
- ◆ **8 August**
EDEN HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Blackwood Community Ctr at 4 Young St, Blackwood at 9.30am. Phone Secretary on 8270 8371 for details.
- ◆ **9 & 23 August**
ADELAIDE HILLS TOASTMASTERS - Affordable public speaking training & practice in a friendly adult group. Meet from 7.30-9.30pm. Enquiries to Didy Pederick on 0408 100 016 or e: didyina@yahoo.com
- ◆ **11 August**
BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - meet in local coffee lounge. Phone Jackie on 8278 5761 or 0438 419 305.
- ◆ **11 August**
HAWTHORNDENE MEN'S PROBUS CLUB - held at Belair Uniting Church Hall, Sheoak Road, Belair, at 9.30am. Monthly guest speakers. Inquiries: 8278 2025.
- ◆ **13 August**
AUST. SEWING GUILD (MITCHAM HILLS) - any people interested in sewing from beginners to advanced are welcome. Held at the Blackwood Uniting Church (at the roundabout) from 1.30-4pm. Phone Donna on 8374 3172 or 0413 022 162 for details.
- ◆ **13 August**
BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CLUB - meeting at Blackwood Uniting Church Hall from 1.30pm. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian stamps, plus world stamps and phone cards. Phone Jeff on 8278 1609.
- ◆ **14 & 28 August**
JOAN'S PANTRY KITCHEN GARDEN - meets 1-4pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787.
- ◆ **15 August**
BLACKWOOD ACTION GROUP - get involved in your community. Special guest: David Banks, Flinders Unit topic - Tonsley Precinct. Meet at Blackwood Railway Station Ticket Office from 7pm. Phone 0408 117 003 or www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au for more details.
- ◆ **16 August**
FRIENDS OF BLACKWOOD FOREST - Meet in Gamble Cottage, Main Rd, Blackwood at 7.30pm. If you can help maintain this Park, phone Debbie on 8278 2941.
- ◆ **16 August**
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
- ◆ **17 August**
STITCHERS IN THE HILLS - Patchwork and quilting group meet at 7.30pm in Meals On Wheels premises, Coromandel Pde, Blackwood. Enquiries to 8278 3569.
- ◆ **17 August**
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. Phone 8278 6227 for details.
- ◆ **21 August**
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 and care for our bushland. Phone 8370 2091.
- ◆ **21 August**
FRIENDS OF GAMBLE COTTAGE & GARDEN open between 1.30-4pm. Enjoy a stroll through historic gardens and view cottage. Plant nursery open with range of inexpensive plants. Entry is free - 296 Main Rd, Blackwood cnr Dorham Rd. Enquiries to Chris on 0418 827 825.
- ◆ **22 August**
BLACKWOOD FLORAL ART CLUB - held at Blackwood Uniting Church at 7.30-9pm. All welcome - no experience required. View activities of club at: www.blackwoodfloralart.blogspot.com.au
- ◆ **23 August**
FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK - Free guided walks - meet at Information Office car park at 1.45pm for 2pm start. Ask at ticket office for free entry. Phone Tina on 8178 0688 for details.
- ◆ **24 August**
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. Phone Doone on 8278 2676 for details.
- ◆ **24 August**
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In 8 weeks

Magnolia's weight didn't change ...but look below the surface



She lost
2.6 kilograms
of fat

She gained
1.6 kilograms
of muscle

Magnolia was also able to increase her protein and water absorption resulting in no changes of total body mass.

With our InBody 230 Body Composition Scanner
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