

MITCHAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

AUGUST 2020



Businesses praised for COVID-19 response
South Australia's Chief Public Health Officer Associate Professor Nicola Spurrier has praised the work of local businesses and Council in responding to the COVID-19 crisis.
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MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS AUGUST 2020



If you have an idea and need some financial support to make it a reality, apply for a City of Mitcham Grant.
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A local audio visual company hosted City of Mitcham's online 'Winter Sessions' from a custom built studio at St Marys.
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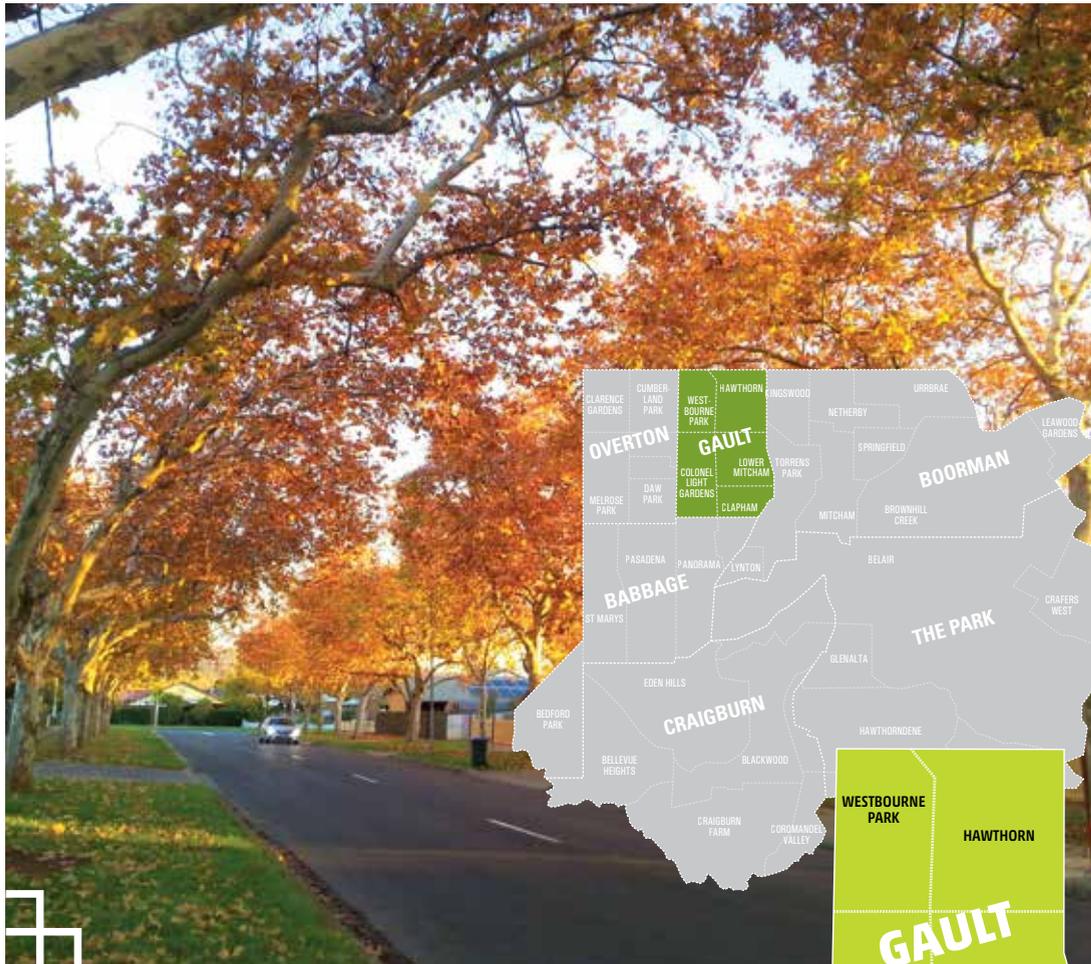


A series of totem poles are set to be installed at Waite Street Reserve at Blackwood.
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Cover image: Prof Nicola Spurrier at The Middle Store on Winston Avenue with café owners Haefa and Rose Adam and City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross.



Second supplementary election for Gault Ward

A second supplementary election will be held to fill a vacancy for Gault Ward following the resignation of Councillor Jasmine Berry.

Councillor Berry's resignation in June follows the resignation of Councillor Stephen Fisher in April. This means there are now two vacancies for the Gault ward which covers the suburbs of Clapham, Lower Mitcham, Westbourne Park, Hawthorn and Colonel Light Gardens.

The first supplementary election commenced in July and a second supplementary election will now commence in August.

Due to legislative provisions the first election could not be stopped to hold one election for the two positions.

Potential candidate nominations for the upcoming election will open on 27 August 2020 and close on 10 September 2020.

A Candidate Information Session will be hosted by the Electoral Commission of South Australia on a date yet to be confirmed.

A 'Meet the Candidates' session will be hosted by the City of Mitcham on Monday 21 September.

The successful candidate's term is expected to commence on 27 October 2020 and expire at the next periodic election in November 2022.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said becoming an Elected Member was an opportunity make a difference in your local area.

"If you are passionate about your community, why not consider running for Council?" Dr Holmes-Ross said. "It's an excellent way to contribute to public life and help shape the future of the City of Mitcham."

For all updates and more information, visit www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/councilelections.

Residents' contributions acknowledged

City of Mitcham's Australia Day and Queen's Birthday Honours recipients have had their names added to the Honour Board in the Mayor's Parlour at the Council's Civic Centre.

Six City of Mitcham residents have been acknowledged on the Australia Day Honours List and three residents recognised on the Queen's Birthday Honours List for 2020.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions a Civic Reception was not held this year, but recipients have been sent a congratulatory pack that includes a photograph of the Honours Board, a City of Mitcham coin, a letter from the Mayor and Certificate.

"We congratulate all of this year's recipients and thank them for their service and contribution to our community," Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said.

Queen's Birthday 2020 Honours List:

Robert Arnold, of Eden Hills, for service to the community

Dr Joseph Montarello, of Netherby, for service to medicine, particularly cardiology

John Mudge, of Eden Hills, for services to the South Australian Country Fire Service

Australia Day 2020 Honours List:

Judy Burke, of Daw Park, for service to community health

Anne McEwen, of Eden Hills, for service to the Parliament of Australia and community of South Australia

Dr Helen McLean, of Kingswood, for service to dentistry and professional associations

Helen Oxenham, of Cumberland Park, for service to the community through welfare social initiatives and advocacy

Brenda Rayner, of Kingswood, for services to music

Dr Robin Uppill, of Hawthorndene, for service to orienteering

For a full list of Honours Recipients, visit www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/honours.

A warm welcome for new citizens

New Australian Citizens were welcomed to the City of Mitcham in a different way in July after the cancellation of our traditional Citizenship Ceremonies and morning tea due to COVID-19 regulations.

Welcome packs that included a letter from Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Australian lilly pilli representing Australia's Traditional Owners, native plant seeds symbolising hope that our new citizens will settle here and grow their roots to be an integral part of the community and a 2020 commemorative coin were delivered to 115 new citizens.

The packs were put together by a group of volunteers and staff at City of Mitcham's Civic Centre.

We hope to recommence our Citizenship Ceremonies later in the year.

Volunteers Cheryl and Nadia helped put together welcome packs last month.



Businesses, Council praised for COVID-19 response

South Australia's Chief Public Health Officer Associate Professor Nicola Spurrier has praised the work of local businesses and City of Mitcham's Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in responding to COVID-19 requirements.

Prof Spurrier stopped in at The Middle Store café on Winston Avenue to see first-hand some of the measures introduced to keep the community safe. The Middle Store closed its seating area and offered takeaway only at the height of COVID-19 restrictions and has since re-opened with screens at the counters, hygiene measures, limited

seating and social distancing requirements in place. They also installed a communications board outside the café and kept in touch with regulars via social media.

Rose Adam, who runs the business with her siblings Haefa and George, said it had been a difficult few months but clear direction from the

State Government and on-ground support from Council had been welcome.

"We've had Council officers coming out every week and checking on us, letting us know what is happening and answering our questions," she said. "To have someone just come and talk to us to find out how we are going has been reassuring and we've really appreciated that."

Prof Spurrier, who is a City of Mitcham resident, said she appreciated the work of local businesses who had been flexible in adapting their business practices.

She encouraged all business owners to ensure they had an up to date COVID Safe Plan.

"It's the responsibility of government, but it's also up to businesses and individuals," she said. "If you don't know what a COVID Safe Plan is, or how to complete one, contact the Mitcham Council and their Environmental Health Officers can help you."



City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, City of Mitcham Environmental Health Officers Cathy Isbester and Lianne Hawke, City of Mitcham Chief Executive Officer Matthew Pears and Associate Professor Nicola Spurrier at The Middle Store, Melrose Park.

Working to protect the community

Council's Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) and Community Safety Officers have been the first face of government speaking to the community during the COVID-19 crisis.

Partnerships with our local businesses and community have helped to protect the community from the spread of the Coronavirus and the unintended consequences of the restrictions that were necessary to stop the spread. While visiting hundreds of businesses, we listened and responded with advice and guidance to their many questions.

Here are some of the different ways Council's Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) and Community Safety Officers have responded to the emergency to help flatten the curve and promote a safer community:

- Community Safety Officers monitored parks and reserves to inform people how to maintain physical distancing as they looked for new ways to stay social and active.
- Precautions such as physical distancing, infection control and environmental cleaning evaluated and advice provided to businesses.
- As food businesses adapted to offer takeaway, EHOs helped food handlers understand different processing methods that keep food safe. EHOs also kept in contact with businesses who closed to ensure good quality food was sold when they reopened.
- Safe water quality through maintenance programs of cooling towers and public facilities such as pools and spas.
- As restrictions eased, EHOs monitored restaurants and cafes so we could maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres. Businesses were guided to help understand how many people they could accommodate and how to safely set up their dining areas.
- Online resources promoted to encourage businesses to create COVID-Safe Plans and have visited businesses to provide advice and guidance to them on the many questions they had about the plans.
- Mental health and financial support including information kits detailing advice on mental health and financial support available from government, including financial stimulus



packages from government and access to rate relief from Council.

- Council's school and community immunisation service continued during the crisis with physical distancing and hygiene measures in place. This season over 700 people were immunised against influenza, which is a highly recommended aspect of the Australian Government's COVID-19 response.

*We're still here
for you!*

thevillage.org.au
Email bhbc@bhbc.org.au
ph. 8370 0333



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Mitcham's Grants September round is open now!

Are you a local community group or resident interested in supporting our community and looking for some financial support to help you achieve this? Our Grants Program has a variety of grant categories. They are easy to apply for and can lead to positive outcomes for the community.

Under City of Mitcham's Grants Program March round, \$42,753 was awarded to 17 recipients including individuals, community groups and organisations. The grant money was used for art projects, camps, fairs, workshops and more.

Our grants support not-for-profit community groups, organisations and individuals who contribute to the Mitcham community through

a wide range of local cultural, social and recreational initiatives. The City of Mitcham Grants Program supports the delivery of initiatives for enhancing physical and mental wellbeing, building local networks and enhancing cultural understanding.

To see a full list of March grant recipients, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grantsrecipients.

Our next round of grants is now open and closes on 30 September, 2020. To find out more and fill out an application, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants.

We encourage you to contact us with any questions or ideas you have for our Grants Program September round on 8372 8129 or email grants@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Grants working in our community



Monastery Community Garden

A new Community Garden at The Monastery, Urrbrae, is set to welcome gardeners of all ages who share a love of gardening.

The project aims to promote healthy lifestyles and the positive benefits of gardening as well as providing an outlet for social connection for older people in the community.

With support from a \$2,500 City of Mitcham grant, the garden is tended by members of the Monastery's Youth Group and Men's Shed, horticulture students from the Waite campus as well as residents of nearby residential care and supported living homes.

Grounds and Maintenance Manager Donna Cooper said as part of the project, 10 raised beds had been built, an irrigation system installed, and a range of vegetables and herbs established, along with an orchard of fruit trees and passionfruit vine.

Three sponsored bee hives from The Urban Bee help pollenate the garden.

Due to COVID-19, many of the volunteers helping to establish the garden had been absent in recent months.

"But we're looking forward to welcoming everyone back as they are able to return," she said. "People are welcome to come and sit and have a cup of tea and enjoy the sunshine and our gardens."

Produce from the garden is used in the commercial kitchen on site and shared among volunteers.

For more information or to get involved contact Donna Cooper on 8338 8700 or email donna@themonastery.net.au.

Above: Gardener John Allen tends beans in the Community Garden at The Monastery, Urrbrae.



Urrbrae Interschool Gymkhana

The City of Mitcham awarded a \$500 event grant to Urrbrae Agricultural High School for its Interschool Gymkhana.

Urrbrae Agricultural High School hosted 90 competitors along with many of the wider Urrbrae community at its second Interschool Gymkhana.

The Gymkhana provides a connection to the horses which aims to improve physical and mental wellbeing, resilience and organisation, especially in young people.

To show their gratitude for our support, the City of Mitcham logo was put on the front of all 10 of the winning horse's rugs.

The grant assisted with the costs of the event which allowed many students to compete.



Dog and cat registrations now due

Animal registrations are managed by Dogs and Cats Online, and renewal notices were sent out in July with payment due by 31 August. Fines and fees may apply for animals that are unregistered or registered late.

Your renewal code will have been sent to you in July by whatever you've indicated as your preferred contact method. If you haven't received your renewal notice, please update your details in your DACO account to ensure that you receive your renewal code.

Registration fees are charged with discounts available for desexed and microchipped dogs and concession holders. It is compulsory to register your dog and failure to comply can incur a \$170 fine for every 14 days that your dog remains unregistered.

Registration fees enable Council to:

- Provide an identification process for all dogs which allows lost or injured dogs to be reunited with their owners
- Provide funding in support of pounds and shelters
- Effectively enforce dog control legislation, control and reduce dog problems for the community by investigating barking dog complaints and dog attack complaints
- Provide resources to develop dog management programs and to support legislation
- Provide dog parks such as the CC Hood Dedicated Dog Park at Eliza Place, Panorama, which is a purpose-built park enclosed by a 1.5 metre fence to allow dogs to be exercised freely off the leash in a safe environment under effective control. The park includes shelters, bench seating, water dispensers, rubbish bins, poo bag dispensers and play equipment for dogs including rails, posts and pipes.

Dogs and Cats Online is a one-stop online service for all annual registration payments as well as dog and cat microchipping, desexing and breeder details. You can even upload a picture of your dog or cat, which will be helpful if your pet becomes lost.

To register your dog and cat visit www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au.





Green light for Kingswood, Hawthorndene oval upgrades

Two City of Mitcham projects will be fast-tracked after receiving funds under the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing's Round 3 Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program.

The State Government will contribute \$700,000 towards a clubroom upgrade at Kingswood Oval, to include a match day office, unisex changerooms, umpire and medical rooms, increased storage, spectator viewing area and inclusive access lift.

The Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club has been awarded \$326,000 to build a new modular multi-purpose sport complex with two unisex changerooms, umpire's room, equipment storeroom and all-access toilet facilities at Hawthorndene Oval.

The Council has set aside funds for each project including \$790,000 for Kingswood Oval and \$212,000 for the Hawthorndene Oval redevelopment as part of its 2020-21 Budget.

Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said it was great news for the City of Mitcham community.

"These upgrades will provide a much-needed boost to our sporting clubs as well as generating employment and stimulating our economy."

Coromandel Valley Ramblers Club life member Michael Jenner said the funds were welcome and would mean the Club would finally have its own space after 94 years.

"It's absolutely brilliant, somewhere to hang up all the Premiership banners and pictures and just call home."

Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing Corey Wingard said: "We know it's been an extremely tough few months for sporting organisations right across South Australia. To help clubs bounce back from the financial impacts of COVID-19, we brought forward Round 3 of the Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program."



Plant a tree on Arbour Day

To mark Arbour Day 2020 and to commemorate City of Mitcham's Tree City of the World status, City of Mitcham will host a 'virtual tree planting' on the first day of spring.

We invite residents to tune in to our Facebook page at 11am on Tuesday 1 September to learn tips on how to prepare, plant and care for a new tree.

We'll plant a Blackwood wattle (*Acacia melanoxylon*) at Mitcham Reserve to commemorate the day, which coincides with national Wattle Day.

As part of the day, Council will give away 500 trees across the City including to local schools to encourage the community to expand Mitcham's tree canopy and raise awareness of the importance of planting native trees.

To register your interest, please email arboursday@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au by Monday 17 August with your name, phone number and address. We will draw winners at random and notify them by return email by Friday 21 August.

For updates, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/arboursday.

Species include Bottlebrush hakea, Gungurru, Red flowered mallee, Book-leaf mallee, Golden stalk banksia and Weeping pittosporum.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said by planting trees, residents were helping to provide food, shelter and protection for native wildlife.

"The species have been selected as being hardy and attractive," she said. "This is a fantastic initiative by Council. I encourage everyone in our area to plant a tree and celebrate spring with us."

We need old friends to help us grow old and new friends to help us stay young!

Care and Share at Trinity is a Social Activity Group for people who are over 65 years and live in the South/East metropolitan area.

Why not come along, join in the fun activities and meet new friends?

Enjoy conversation over a lovely hot meal for lunch. Activities and a 2 course lunch is \$15 (not inc. transport) Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am - 2.30pm

www.careandshare.org.au

Call Janine for your **FREE** trial day 8276 1144



community groups



social activities



community events

Mitcham Community Calendar

Mitcham Kiwanis

Mitcham Kiwanis has been in virtual limbo for the last few months due to lockdowns and social distancing required because of COVID-19. The club has started meeting again and beginning to look at what we can be involved in and what we can do in the future. For information regarding upcoming meetings, activities and membership call 0418 168 884. ■

Mitcham Rotary Club

Mitcham Rotary Club meet every **Wednesday night from 6.30pm to 8pm** at the Edinburgh Hotel, 7 High Street, Mitcham. Become involved in local in international projects. Join us to make a difference. Email Mitcham.rotary@gmail.com. ■

Blackwood Uniting Church Services

Services are back from **Sunday 12 July 2020 at 9.15am and 11am** and we continue to live stream on our website at www.blackwooduc.org.au. ■

Care and Share at Home

Care and Share has kept in touch with regular calls, welfare checks and weekly packs including newsletters, activities, puzzles and quizzes, as well as biscuits and muffins each fortnight. Care and Share **reopened on 8 July 2020**. For more information visit www.careandshare.org.au. ■

Art, Craft, Yoga and Fitness Classes

Classes are back for Term 3 starting **Monday 20 July 2020** at the Blackwood Uniting Church, 266 Main Road, Blackwood, on **Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays**. Free creche all day Wednesday. For more details visit www.blackwooduc.org.au or call 8278 7699. ■

Mainly Music at Blackwood Uniting Church

Returning **Friday 14 August from 10am to 11.30am**. Cost is \$5 per family and includes morning tea. For details phone 8278 7699 or visit www.blackwooduc.org.au. ■

Blackwood Uniting Church seeks your input

The Blackwood Uniting Church currently supports many community activities and is looking at how it can do even more. We want to see our facility, right in the centre of Blackwood, through your eyes. How could this be? What might we offer that might be helpful to you? What is it you are looking for? Could we engage with you to add something positive together? Please phone 8278 7699, email office@blackwooduc.org.au or visit www.blackwooduc.org.au. ■

Seniors in Harmony

Join the SA Police Band as they headline the Seniors in Harmony concert series on **Tuesday 6 October at 1.30pm** at the Institute Hall, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103c Princes Road, Mitcham. Gold coin donation for entry. The performance will be followed by an afternoon tea. For group bookings email seniorsharmony@gmail.com. ■

Mosaic AV 'bunker' hosts Winter Sessions

Mitcham audio visual company Mosaic AV created a temporary studio to live stream performances to provide employment for its staff and local artists impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

The 'Ghost Light Bunker' at St Marys hosted City of Mitcham's Winter Sessions at Home program in June, a weekly showcase of livestreamed music performed by local musicians.

Production Manager Cameron DuRieu said Mosaic AV set up the studio in March when it became clear the company was set to face a major downturn in business.

Established in 2008, Mosaic AV specialises in arts and theatre production work including the Adelaide Festival Theatre, Art Gallery of South Australia, Illusionists international touring show and Adelaide Festival of Arts. It employs three full time and up to 25 casual staff.

"When COVID happened, our phones didn't stop with people calling to cancel events from March to September," Mr DuRieu said. "We had no way to keep staff engaged, maintain their skills and keep them in work."

The team set out to tap into its network of artists and performers by offering the studio for online performances.

Mr DuRieu said City of Mitcham's support for his company and for local artists was welcome.

"I think it's great to see Council support and promote our struggling artists and to give them a platform to do what they do best," he said. "These sessions have been really positive in so many ways for the community."



Craigburn Farm singer-songwriter Kat Caton said being part of Winter Sessions was an "amazing opportunity".

"The quality of the audio and video was excellent - world class," she said. "I had family and friends from interstate tune in, and I've been able to

use my recording as a promotional tool, so it has been great."

Bands showcased included the Smarty Boys, the Shambolics, Choosing Sides, Harry Baulderstone, SODA, Acoustic Blonde, Kylie Kain Trio, The Poorleans, Dave Freeman, Angels and Oils and The Birds are Spies.

Did you enjoy our Winter Sessions and would you like to see them happen again?

Please email mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or call 8372 8129 with your feedback.



Story Time for preschoolers

Story Time for preschoolers is held weekly at the Mitcham Memorial and Blackwood Libraries.

Sessions, which are sometimes noisy, sometimes crazy, but always fun, are held at the Mitcham Memorial Library every Monday and Thursday and at the Blackwood Library every Tuesday at 10.30am.

Preschoolers, with their parents, grandparents or caregivers, are entertained with stories and songs. It is a great opportunity to meet other local families and enjoy quality time with your child.

Fun craft activities will be available to take home and make after each story time session. Crafts will be available for collection on mornings of full sessions.

To keep you safe we are following social distancing guidelines and a station will be set up for hand sanitation with wipes and tissues.

For details please contact Blackwood Library on 8372 8255 or Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244.

Wriggle and Read

Wriggle and Read, for children up to two years, is held fortnightly at the Mitcham Memorial Library on Wednesday and the Blackwood Library on Thursday at 10.30am during school terms.

Join us for songs and rhymes aimed at 0-2 year olds, their parents, grandparents and caregivers. Come along and meet other new parents and gain confidence in singing and communicating with your child.

Sessions will follow social distancing guidelines and a station will be set up for hand sanitation, wipes and tissues.

For details please contact Blackwood Library on 8372 8255 or Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244.

Join your local Toy Library

Our Toy Libraries at Mitcham Memorial Library and Blackwood Community Centre have reopened!

We have a range of educational games and equipment to support primary school children's learning in literacy, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Extra care is being taken to keep you safe. We are continue to carefully check our toys and social distancing rules will apply when visiting our Toy Libraries. Please ensure that all toys are cleaned thoroughly before they are returned.

Our friendly staff are happy to discuss your child's learning needs and assist you to find resources to use with them at home. Thanks to our community for continued support and patience and we look forward to seeing you soon!

For further information visit www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Blackwood Toy Library

Blackwood Community Centre,
4 Young Street, Blackwood
Phone 8278 6779

Opening hours

Tuesday	9.30am to 11.45am
Wednesday	9.30am to 11.45am
Thursday	4pm to 6.30pm

Mitcham Toy Library

Mitcham Memorial Library,
154 Belair Road, Hawthorn
Phone 8372 8244

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	10am to 5.30pm
Wednesday	10am to 8pm
Friday	10am to 2pm
Saturday	10am to 4pm
Sunday	2pm to 5pm

Community workshops on again

Join Mitcham Memorial Library as they reopen workshops to the community.



Home Fire Safety workshop

Learn how to reduce the risk of home fires and protect your family and property with the SA Metropolitan Fire Service.

Topics covered include smoke alarms, fire blankets, fire extinguishers, common ways house fires start, creating your home fire escape plan and what happens when you ring 000?

When: Monday 31 August

Time: 2pm

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library

Cost: Free

Phone: 8372 8244

Bookings essential.

Pack Your Parachute - Art Therapy Series of workshops

'Pack your parachute' is a series of five adult art therapy workshops exploring 'Who are you?' and 'What does it mean to be who you are?'

This might be a big leap for you? The best way to do this is with the safety of a parachute! Learn how to identify your basic values, develop your potential and find your purpose in life. This workshop is for adults.

When: Sunday 23 August to 20 September (five sessions)

Time: 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library

Cost: \$20 per person (includes art materials for all five sessions)

Phone: 8372 8244 or book at the library

Bookings essential.

Presented by Artfusion Counselling, www.artfusion.net.au.



Mitcham Memorial Library and Mitcham Toy Library
154 Belair Road, Hawthorn SA 5062
Phone: 8372 8244

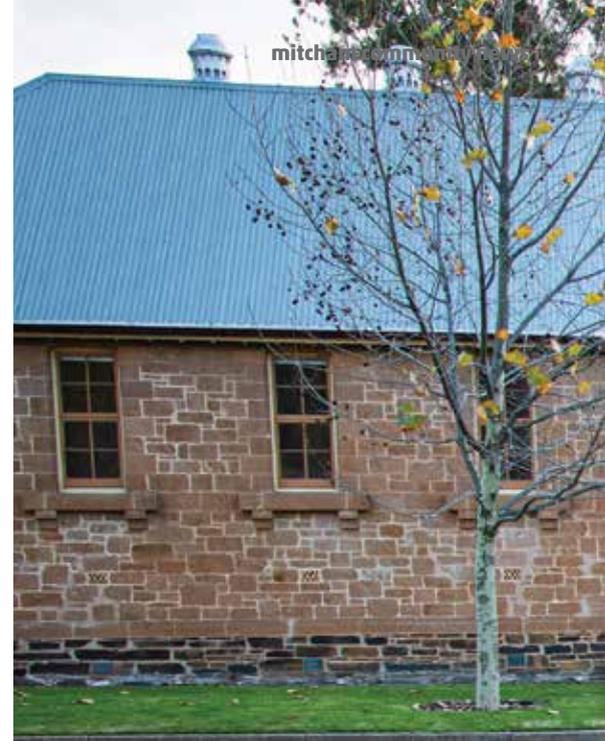
Blackwood Library
215 Main Road, Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 8372 8255





Mitcham Community Centre

The Mitcham Community Centre is located directly opposite the Civic Centre at 242 Belair Road, Lower Mitcham, next to the Mitcham train station. The Centre has a range of rooms for hire, a kitchen and approximately 50 on site car parks. To find out more visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-centres or call 8372 8888.



From school to community centre

The Mitcham Community Centre was established in 1879 to house Mitcham Public School.

Built from local sandstone and bluestone, its architecture is typical of public schools of the era.

The 'long room' on the northern side was added in 1901 and the red brick classrooms at the rear in 1932.

Some of the large gum and pepper trees still standing in the grounds were planted by the students on Arbour Days.

The 1880s cottage at the southern side of the main building was the Headmaster's House and later became junior classrooms.

The primary section of the school relocated to a new site at Kingswood in 1953, followed by remaining classes in 1981 when the school closed.

Mitcham Community Centre now houses a wide range of community activities including art classes and social programs.



Revamp for Mitcham Community Centre

City of Mitcham used the COVID-19 closure as an opportunity to upgrade many of its community centres, including Mitcham.

Work has included the installation of solar panels, floor refurbishment and repainting of the entire interior and flooring replacement in meeting room 6.

New toilets have been installed including three male and three female cubicles with ambulant facilities as well as a unisex accessible facility.

Meeting rooms 4 and 5 have been converted to a new hall and the main kitchen and two kitchenettes have been refurbished.

A swipe card security access system has been installed to provide increased safety for community and staff.



A Long History for St John's Volunteers

St John Ambulance SA volunteers meet at the Mitcham Community Centre every Monday night to train, increase their skills and prepare for community events.

Two groups use the centre: cadets, aged 18 years and under, who meet from 6.30pm to 8pm, and an adult division who meet from 8pm to 10pm.

Superintendent Simon Walter said the Mitcham group had a history stretching 65 years and provided an important service to the community.

"We go out as a division and provide first aid services at public events across the area, from the Adelaide Farmers Market at Wayville to school fetes, corporate events at the Adelaide Oval, the Adelaide 500, New Year's Eve celebrations and the national mountain bike events at Anstey Hill," Mr Walter said. "We carry out advanced first aid training and accreditation and youth development through our cadet program."

"We're also involved in emergency response and our members have been called upon to assist with bushfire response, flooding events and medical health monitoring during the COVID-19 pandemic."

Groups continued to meet and train online during COVID-19 closures.

To find out how you can get involved, contact 1300 78 5646.



Beat goes on for Mitcham Dance

One of South Australia's largest dance studios has been a fixture of the Mitcham Community Centre for 28 years.

Mitcham Dance has a second studio at South Road and hosts classes across a range of dance genres, from ballet and jazz to tap and contemporary, musical theatre and more.

Studio owner Gabrielle Robinson employs up to 14 teachers that teach classes across six days a week, including a room and hall at Mitcham on Saturday.

When the Mitcham Centre closed due to COVID-19 the studio relocated its classes to South Road, then moved classes online via Zoom.

"The Council waived Centre fees which was a blessing and the Federal Government's JobKeeper scheme also helped us," Gabrielle said. "We're grateful that we've been able to continue on for the sake of all our students and teachers."

To find out more contact Gabrielle on 8351 9006.

Contemporary and jazz teacher Anna Tsigiotis with her Mitcham Dance class.



Mitcham City Brass together again

In an ordinary year Mitcham City Brass is one of the busiest bands in Adelaide, staging many concerts and performing at community events.

This year rehearsals on Mondays and Thursdays at the Mitcham Community Centre's 'Headmaster's Cottage' were suspended from March, then re-instated first in two groups of 20, then as a full band in July.

Band Secretary Tamina Judd said while performances were on hold, it was good to continue playing together.

See the band in action and find out more at www.mitchamcitybrass.org.

"Sharing music and being social is really important, especially to those of us who are socially isolated," she said.

New members are always welcome and lessons are available for those wishing to brush up their skills or learn a brass instrument from scratch.



Local businesses embrace Plastic Free July

City of Mitcham businesses embraced this year's Plastic Free July campaign which aims to encourage the community to reduce their intake of single use plastics.

The Source Bulk Foods owner Marie Razum said her business took part in the campaign each year because it was a good opportunity to promote the many ways people can embrace plastic-free shopping and living.

"It's a good way to encourage people to try to start out small and go from there, or to energise those already working to reduce their plastic use in everyday life," she said.

Ms Razum said like many, she was disappointed by the increase in disposable coffee cup and sanitary mask waste due to COVID-19 this year but was heartened to see more people reflecting on and making changes to their shopping habits.

The Source at Mitcham stocks a range of food as well as shampoo and conditioner and cleaning

products in bulk and encourages people to bring in their own containers or use paper bags to reduce plastic intake.

Ecolateral at Blackwood is another bulk goods store that also stocks a range of products made from recycled, sustainable and compostable materials.

"We try to encourage people with ideas on how they can swap plastic for natural alternatives," owner Jamie Stott said. "It can be overwhelming for some people but once you get started it's amazing how easy it is to make some changes."

City of Mitcham participated in the initiative as a Plastic Free July Council Challenge member and hosted a virtual screening and panel discussion in partnership with the City of Marion.

For more information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/plasticfreejuly.

Why waste it? Thank you for composting it!

As a thank you for placing food scraps, compostable and garden materials in the green bin, Jeffries are providing a 'Buy one, get one FREE' offer for Jeffries compost, soil and mulch supplies, just in time for spring.

Get your free bag and get gardening today! Cut out the voucher below to redeem at your local stockist.

Did you know that you can easily reduce your waste by 38% by using a kitchen caddy system to collect food scraps and other compostable material?

Collect all your food scraps, uneaten food and other compostable items such as coffee grounds, tea bags, tissues, paper towel, and even hair in the kitchen caddy. Materials should then be placed into your green 'food and garden organics bin' for composting.

COMPOST

buy one, get one FREE

Redeemable on 30L & 50L bags of Jeffries compost, soil and mulch on presentation of this voucher at:

Hawthorn Sand & Metal
90 Belair Rd, Hawthorn
or
Hollards
20 Grange Rd, Hawthorn

*Subject to availability. Maximum one voucher per customer. Second bag must be of equal or lesser value. Offer valid until 30 September 2020.

FROM \$10.30 PER BAG

for product details visit jeffries.com.au
join us @JeffriesGroup follow us!JeffriesGroup

Free Bag



Why is it important to place food and other compostable materials in the green bin?

- Landfill costs 85% more than composting food through the green bin.
- Council could save \$650,000 per year in Solid Waste Levy fees if all food and compostable materials were placed in the green bin rather than the landfill bin.
- When food waste is sent to landfill it rots and releases methane, a harmful greenhouse gas with 21 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide.

How do I use a kitchen caddy?

- Line the basket with one of the Council provided compostable corn-starch bags or newspaper.
- Place all your food scraps and other compostable items in.
- After 2-3 days, or once full, tie the bag and place it into your green lidded food and garden organics bin.

Tips for using your kitchen caddy and green bin:

- Keep your kitchen caddy in a handy spot such as on the bench top or under the kitchen sink.
- Store seafood, meat scraps and dairy in the freezer until the night before your collection to avoid unpleasant smells.
- All food scraps can be placed loose, directly into your green lidded food and garden organics bin.
- Layer food scraps with dry leaves or shredded newspaper to absorb moisture and smells.

Where can I get a kitchen caddy system?

Kitchen caddies and compostable bags are available from the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, and Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood, at a discounted price.

What if I have my own compost bin or worm farm?

Alternatively, you can compost fruit and vegetable scraps, paper towel, tissues, shredded paper as well as garden materials through your own home composting system.

Why waste it? Compost your food scraps and other organic materials, whichever way you choose! Keeping food and compostable items out of landfill bins is the single easiest and most effective way we can reduce our waste significantly.

For more tips on composting visit mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/composting.

Delivering better education opportunities

Parents and students of Springbank Secondary College have welcomed news their school will remain open and receive a \$10m upgrade.

The College, formerly Pasadena High School, will now be unzoned to provide an option for students who benefit from a more specialised, smaller school environment.

The Unley High School zone has been expanded to include the Springbank zone, providing certainty for parents previously zoned to Springbank who opt for a larger school with broader choices.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the Council wrote to the State Government in support of keeping the school open.

"We're really pleased with the outcome and see this a win-win for the community, for school families and families who were seeking zone changes," she said.

Parent Dominic Mittiga, whose son is on the autism spectrum, said many parents and students had worked hard to keep the school open.

"It's a great outcome especially for the kids," he said. "We've tried a lot of schools for our son and he just loves it here."



Toilet upgrade for Hillview Reserve

The public toilet at Hillview Reserve at Colonel Light Gardens has had a facelift, making the facilities safer and more accessible for our community.

The new toilet block, installed in June and July, will be a welcome addition to the Reserve, which has eight tennis courts, a gazebo, seating and playground.

The block includes a unisex ambulant and a unisex accessible cubicle including a baby change table, handwashing facilities and hand dryers in both cubicles. Upgrades also include an accessible footpath to the toilets.

The project is expected to be completed by mid-August.

For more information on the reserve visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/hillviewreserve.

Back-to-back wins for Council projects

Two major City of Mitcham projects have taken out awards at the 2020 Local Government Professionals Leadership Excellence Awards.

The Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek redevelopment was named winner in the Excellence in Infrastructure Delivery Award.

And Mitcham's innovative permeable paving project at St Marys earned the Engineering and Natural Environments Team the award for Excellence in Sustainable and Environmentally Responsible Infrastructure Management.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said since its completion in May 2019, the Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek redevelopment had created a vibrant precinct that had been welcomed by residents.

"The City of Mitcham community now has access to an attractive, accessible precinct which demonstrates respect to the heritage of the site," she said. "This is a project that was delivered with minimal impact on the ratepayers but has had a positive impact on the community and we are thrilled to be recognised in this award."

The \$10.6m redevelopment includes an expanded public library (770m² to 1476m²) that includes additional services including bookable

meeting rooms, a public gallery, parents' room, external deck and an integrated Toy Library, along with a redeveloped creek, car park, landscaping, pedestrian paths and a section of City to Hills bikeway.

As part of the St Marys project, City of Mitcham created a car park using a permeable asphalt surface made of 50 per cent waste tyres to harvest rainwater for irrigation and prevent pollutants discharging into the stormwater system.

Over four tonnes of waste rubber were used to create a carpark surface that allows water to percolate down to tree roots where pollutants are taken up by the trees as fertiliser, creating bigger trees with healthier canopies that provide year-round shade to the carpark.

During construction of the carpark a geothermal pipe was installed under the carpark base, and if successful, could provide up to 5kW of power to adjacent sports clubrooms.

Completed in August 2019, the site has been part of a major field trial investigating sustainable urban drainage design.



City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross and City of Mitcham Strategic Projects Engineer Rick Henning at the award-winning Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek redevelopment.



Mayor
Dr Heather
Holmes-Ross

Telephone: 0401 841 000

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This month I'd like to pay tribute to a team at Council whose efforts are often overlooked. As a community we are, very rightly, thankful to our public health workers - like doctors, nurses, paramedics and hospital staff. However, there is another group of workers who prevent the community from needing our public health services in the first place, who are equally deserving of our thanks and praise.

Environmental Health refers to the health of our surroundings - the conditions of our natural, built and social environment that affect human health. Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) are professionals who assess, research and regulate the health and safety of these environments.

Many councils, including Mitcham, employ EHOs. Their everyday work and research ensures that the risk to health from a person's environment is minimised. They work to make sure that people can get a tattoo without getting hepatitis, a haircut without getting nits, go swimming without getting crypto, and eat out without getting salmonella and listeria. They ensure safe drinking and recreational water, that sewage is treated safely, respond to emergencies and disasters, and much more. It is likely that their efforts have stopped you getting sick many times and probably saved your life at least once.

In dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic our EHOs have been unsung heroes. They have faced an enormous task. It has been their role to implement the vast majority of Federal and State Government mandated measures, to not only keep the disease from spreading, but also to address concerns arising from the implementation of these measures.

For example, Mitcham's EHOs visited every food businesses and many other businesses and community groups to ensure the restrictions were understood, and have continued to liaise with businesses, keeping them informed of the changing restrictions.

Additionally, they have ensured that playgrounds and drink fountains are sanitised, and when necessary, closed, and then reopened. They have educated the community around density requirements, especially with regard to outdoor exercise and boot camps, but also within Council, our community centres, and other community facilities. They have ensured that our libraries could safely deliver our click (or phone) and collect services, during the COVID shut down. They continue to work incredibly hard, and on behalf of the community, I thank them for their efforts.

On a different note, it is with sadness that I relay the news that Councillor Jasmine Berry has resigned from Council. Jasmine, who represented Gault Ward, which includes the suburbs of Clapham, Lower Mitcham, Westbourne Park, Hawthorn and Colonel Light Gardens, was elected to Council in November 2018. I found her to be intelligent, kind, good humoured, and considered in her comments and deliberations, with a strong sense of equity and justice. She brought sincerity and balance to the Chamber, taking her role as Elected Member very seriously.

On behalf of Elected Members and staff I would like to sincerely thank Cr Berry for her time spent as Councillor and wish her and her family all the very best for the future.



Craigburn Ward
Cr Karen Hockley

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Our community has been challenged recently. We've been challenged in ways that we've been challenged before, by drought and by bushfires. We've also been challenged in new and unexpected ways.

We've been challenged by the need to be less physically connected to each other, by the prospect of ourselves and those we care about becoming unwell, potentially seriously unwell. Many of us have been challenged by reduced incomes and an inability to buy things that we need. We've been challenged by an uncertain future.

Learning to do new things and responding to these unexpected challenges has tested our resilience, both individually and as community.

We've had plenty of advice, in the form of TV ads and the like, about how to protect our physical and mental wellbeing but fostering capacity and resilience within the community is important too.

For the first time in several months many churches have opened their doors and had 'in person' services. I've seen junior soccer on Hewett Oval, football at the Blackwood Footy Club and other sports and community groups are again welcoming members. There seems to be a sense of relief in the community now that people can be together again.

It feels like the right time to pause now and re-prioritise. What do we need from Local Government now and into the future to facilitate and support a healthy, capable and resilient community? Is it roads, rates and rubbish or is there something more?

The Local Government Act provides guidance as it specifies the principal roles and functions of a council. It says that a council has a key role in the community, not only to provide facilities but to do it in a socially just and ecologically sustainable way. Also, to encourage and develop initiatives to improve the quality of life for the community and to represent community interests to the wider community.

The Act also specifies some functions of councils, including providing facilities and services that benefit the area, its residents and visitors to the area, providing for the welfare and wellbeing of individuals and groups in the community and to promote the area and provide attractive locations for the development of business, commerce, industry and tourism.

It looks to me like the Act envisages something more than roads, rates and rubbish, although doing the basics well is clearly important.

We live a wonderful area and have a community that is well connected through all sorts of activities and volunteering. Our volunteer groups, social and sporting groups, churches and others provide a significant service in promoting a healthy, capable and resilient community and I hope that we have a reserve of community capacity that is sufficient to see us through any further challenges that we face.

I'd love to hear from you about your expectations of Council, particularly now and into the future. Please call me on 0423 919 808 or send me an email at khockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.



Babbage Ward
Cr David Munro

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The PUB test

Right, straight up, probably one of the toughest six months at Council.

Whilst the bushfire and COVID-19 are at the forefront of causing a tough time, there are other parts of the role that are made tougher than it really needs to be.

I don't think I have seen City of Mitcham in the media as much as it has been in the past six months and let's be honest, it is not really for the reasons we want Council in the media.

With the resignation of Cr Fisher coming through it did leave a huge gap in the Chamber, but to have a second resignation does change the dynamic of the Chamber.

It is very unfortunate that Cr Berry did resign because I will miss her, I enjoyed working with her, and I am sure she made the right decision for her. The first couple of years are tough at Council and it is a time you should be supported by your colleagues.

Let's be honest, we are Councillors doing a voluntary role that will hopefully help out the community, it's not a career move, and it's certainly not there to launch a career into politics, so perhaps if we all played nice we could actually get through the core business that we are meant to be getting through.

The Proposed Unfunded Blackwood Hub (PUB) has suddenly gone on a juggernaut of a timetable in order to meet some imaginary deadline.

The consultation is a one-sided question of 'do you want a \$20mil library' or a '\$22mil library' - what about a choice of no library? Or, what about a choice of a \$10mil library? And then we are surprised at the results that everyone in the consultation wanted a library. Well, there wasn't much of an alternative now, was there? Oh, and let's not mention the PUB ongoing costs.

We would all like to drive a fancy car, but sometimes the actual costs of maintenance and insurance steer us away from such extravagance and back to being practical and we go the sensible option that serves the same purpose of getting us from A to B or to simply borrow a book from the PUB.

The PUB is certainly at the top end of the range and the ongoing costs to maintain it is going to be a cost that we will all have to pay for throughout its life. Currently we are being told that if the State doesn't provide a \$5 million grant towards the PUB then it is a show-stopper and the PUB falls over. Call me sceptical, but I am not so convinced and am prepared to hear that we already have \$5 million from the Feds and that if we don't go ahead we will lose the \$5 million. That crazy logic is bound to resonate in the Chamber, just like we are due to hear how many more cups of coffee we are all to miss out on with the next rate rise.



Boorman Ward
Cr Adriana Christopoulos

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The things that keep me up at night!

Firstly, I want to thank Cr Jasmine Berry for representing the Gault Ward and the City of Mitcham for the past two years. She has represented her ward with the utmost fairness, integrity and respect. It was such a shame that she was not treated in the same manner after a recent social media post unravelling and one could only assume this was part of her decision to exit Local Government. Jasmine, thank you for your contribution, you will be missed!

Cr Berry's exit has led to a second by-election in the ward, and with the first by-election already underway, it is so important that the culture and needs of the local community are represented on the Council.

COVID-19 has certainly taken its toll on our community and I am really pleased that Mitcham Council's decision to support the community with targeted rate relief has been taken up by residents who need this assistance.

Currently, the Council is deliberating its rates for 2020/2021, with a 1.9% increase in rates having been presented to the community during consultation. This figure is also tied to the development of the Blackwood Library/Community Hub. For your information, feedback from the community has been minimal, certainly less than other years, with some of the commentaries received reflecting varying sentiments on the design and the cost.

The debate in the Chamber has been robust, with some councillors desperately wanting to progress this project, seeing it as an opportunity for targeted local growth in Blackwood and an increase in jobs through infrastructure spending. Whilst this is very noble, I can't get past the fact that our current debt is already at \$22.2 million and that the economic consequences of COVID-19 are about to sting with the Federal Government's probable removal of Jobkeeper and Jobseeker payments.

The economic landscape is forever changing and unpredictable and, with rate capping back on the State Government's agenda, this is not the time for large infrastructure spends.

Personally, I cannot accept that the costs attached to this project, which are around \$20 to \$22 million, are the best use of ratepayers' money. Further, I do not agree with some Elected Members who would like to borrow against our net liability ratio to levels that would leave us exposed, should we require borrowing for an emergency.

I would prefer to see a much lower scale project presented. There are just so many other options that we haven't investigated, such as redeveloping the existing site or separating the library development from the Waite Street Reserve.

This build is also dependent on many things such as State Government funding of up to \$5 million which has not been secured, delaying the upkeep of other assets such as footpaths and possibly the sale of other Council-owned assets.

My promise to the community when I was elected, was to always keep our rates as low as possible, and for me, that has not changed.



The Park Ward
Cr Jane Bange

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I was very saddened to learn of the recent resignation of Cr Jasmine Berry and would like to include part of the tribute to her, written by our Mayor, and endorsed by Council.

"Cr Berry has been an exemplary Councillor who took her position very seriously and worked hard for her community. Jasmine is intelligent, kind, good humoured, and considered in her comments and deliberations, with a strong sense of equity and justice. She brought sincerity and balance to the Chamber and will be greatly missed".

I was also saddened by a particularly unpleasant stoush on Facebook recently when some Elected Members were pilloried, without any ability to defend themselves (having been blocked from the site). I am thankful I made the decision, some while back, to refrain from visiting such sites and reading the posts contained within, but rather to get on my work in the best way I can.

The saying 'sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me' comes to mind. But in reality, words have an incredible power to wound and result in considerable mental stress and anguish for those on the receiving end. These days, through social media platforms, people are talking AT each other, rather than WITH each other, and the impersonal nature of these forums often results in some nasty, ignorant and ill-informed comments which can take a considerable toll at times.

On to a more positive topic, and the community survey about the proposed designs for the new Blackwood Library / Community Centre 'Hub' has received a high level of community engagement and participation.

This project is steadily gaining momentum and I feel confident Council will sign off on this crucial project within this term.

It hasn't been easy getting this far, and the departure of Cr Berry is certainly a blow, but I still believe we will achieve majority Chamber support to sign off on this.

Much rides on creating a superlative community facility to help create 'the heart of Blackwood' and ensure the long-term viability of the Blackwood Town Centre.

The upgrade of the Mitcham Memorial Library has shown that building a quality public facility attracts significantly more patronage and the new Hub will certainly draw more people into Blackwood.

Another major infrastructure project within our Council - the Darlington Upgrade - is finally nearing completion, along with the new train link to Flinders University and Medical Centre.

These combined projects will have huge impacts upon the adjacent suburbs of Bedford Park and St Marys, especially in terms of higher density development, and it will be interesting to see how effectively the new Planning and Design Code (introduced by the State Government and coming into action before the end of this year) will oversee and handle this type of development pressure.

It's definitely uncharted territory, and I am relieved that Council staff have been working closely and collaboratively with the State Government to ensure our input into the new Code.



Overton Ward
Cr John Sanderson

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I trust you are all well in this very difficult time. Mitcham Council is keeping up with all the COVID-19 regulations in respect to meeting procedures, seating arrangements and more. Checking with all the relevant businesses under the COVID-19 requirements. A number of staff are working from home which enables relief of space requirements and Council continues as usual.

Budget

Council staff and Elected Members have spent many hours preparing the 2020/2021 Long Term Financial Plan and Budget for the next 12 months. A preliminary draft budget has been completed and residents have had the opportunity to have their say. There are some minor alterations due to the submissions from residents, which have been vetted by staff and Elected Members to enable the completion of the Budget.

Development

The residential development on the large landholding between Regent Street and Kegworth Road has been progressing very well, constructing residential houses, townhouses and a three-storey residential unit block. There are many houses and townhouses completed and occupied on Kegworth Road frontage, many are moving toward completion now. This development should be completed within the next few months.

New Footpaths, Kerbing and Road Resurfacing

Council is continuing to replace ageing footpaths as this area has had bitumen footpaths failing for some time. These have been replaced with pavers and there are many more footpaths that need attention when funding is available. Gladys Street has had all of these constructed, new kerbing, a new road surface and the southern side footpath replaced. Richmond Avenue, northern side, Rowell Road southern side footpaths have been replaced with pavers.

New Goodwood Road/ Daws Road intersection

The construction of the new intersection is taking place. You may have seen that the Peter Van business has been demolished for some time. Four residential properties on Daws Road and the service station on the corner are still being demolished. Many services have and are being diverted, reinstalled for the future roadway. Further advice will be given when the roadway work has commenced.

Springbank Secondary College

Thanks to the organising committee at Springbank Secondary School together with many helpers who wrote to the State Government putting forward their case to save the school. Advice received from the Education Department recently is that the school has been saved and will have a \$10 million upgrade to the infrastructure. The school has become unzoned and those who live within the Springbank zone will be zoned to the Unley High School zone. Congratulations to all that made a contribution to saving Springbank Secondary College. Great result!

As always if you have a question on Overton Ward issues please contact me on my mobile on 0402 517 945 so I may be of assistance.

Do you like to 'Knit and Natter'?

City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing 'Knit and Natter' social groups met for the first time in July and are opening the doors to other locals who love to crochet or knit.

The social knitting and crochet groups meet at:

- Blackwood Community Centre on Mondays 1.30pm – 3.30pm
- Cumberland Park Community Centre on Tuesdays 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Members can engage in personal knitting or crochet projects, or they can work on knitting projects provided at the group which will be donated to those in the community who are experiencing disadvantage. Current items include

knitting kits to make bibs, toys, beanies, scarves and blankets.

Sessions follow safe distancing guidelines, materials are not shared and a station is set up for hand sanitisation on entry and during the group. Members contribute \$2 per week. Registration as a group member is essential as numbers are limited.

For details or to join a group please contact Deb in Community Wellbeing on 8372 8803.



Goodwood Baseball Club seeks Grounds Person

Do you love baseball and want to give back to your community? Goodwood Baseball Club is seeking an energetic volunteer Grounds Person for the upcoming summer months (September to March).

The Goodwood Indians Baseball Club is the oldest baseball club in existence in South Australia and for almost 50 years has called Mortlock Park, Colonel Light Gardens, home. Known as the 'Family Ball Club', Goodwood has a strong and very active junior development program and successful senior teams.

To assist in preparing the diamonds for training and games, the Club is seeking an energetic volunteer Grounds Person over the summer months (September to March). The role takes around five hours per week: two hours on Tuesday and three hours on Friday (which needs to be completed prior to 4pm). Ride on lawn mower, petrol and all training is provided by the club.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved with a great local sporting club. For more information please contact Scott Pratt on 0402 024 704 or email scott@espsm.com.au.



Community support continues

Many of City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing programs and activities for residents who are older or living with a disability have been placed on hold since March due to COVID-19 restrictions.

During the past six months the team has adapted and modified services to keep vulnerable clients connected, safe, and supported through a challenging time.

The 80-strong volunteer workforce that is the backbone of Community Wellbeing's service was placed temporarily on hold when the Community Bus and Social Group Activities were suspended.

Instead the team implemented increased hygiene, distancing, and safety practices.

What did we do?

 More than 2,000 hours of contact, from weekly friendly phone calls to people living alone, to individual welfare checks, information, referrals and advocacy; connecting residents to organisations and services that could meet their needs.

 Approximately 600 to 800 hours of service continued each month for 870 residents accessing subsidised domestic assistance or home maintenance from home support partner Southern Cross Care.



 More than 300 personal transport trips delivered by staff in the small bus, taking clients to medical appointments or urgent shopping.

 A range of jigsaw puzzles, knitting kits, puzzles, quizzes and/or info packed newsletters delivered to 380 residents registered for Community Wellbeing services.

 Library books and resources delivered to the homes of Community Bus Library Run members thanks to the Library Home Delivery Service.

 Step-by-step support to register for shopping online, or temporary support from Southern Cross Care who provided care workers to shop by list on behalf of the resident.

 More than 500 meals prepared by local caterer Stacks of Snacks and delivered by staff and four volunteers to the homes of residents who previously shared a weekly meal at Community Centres.



Justice of the Peace service is back!

From July 13, JP services recommenced at the Civic Centre and the libraries.

Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

Mondays and Thursdays, 10am to 12pm

Mitcham Memorial Library

154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am to 12pm

Blackwood Library

215 Main Road, Blackwood

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am to 12pm

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines the following amendments have been made to the service:

- Visitors are asked to keep physical distancing while visiting the JP and while waiting
- Visitors are asked to bring their own pens
- Visits will be limited to 15 minutes maximum
- Visitors are asked to clean down the surface before and after their visit and to use the hand sanitizer provided.
- The JP service will be two hours maximum at both the Civic Centre and the libraries (10am to 12pm)
- JPs will request names and contact numbers of patrons using the service

Thank you for your patience as we re-introduce the service under new guidelines.

For more details on

the Justice of the Peace program visit

mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/justiceofthepeace.



City of Mitcham's Immunisation Service

The City of Mitcham provides a community immunisation service and a school immunisation service.

The clinics are held:

First Wednesday of every month

Mitcham Council – Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

11.30am to 1pm

Blackwood Community Centre

4 Young Street, Blackwood

5.30pm to 6.30pm

Third Wednesday of every month

Blackwood Community Centre

4 Young Street, Blackwood

11.30am to 12.30pm

Mitcham Council – Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

5.30pm to 7pm

For further information please do not hesitate to contact the immunisation team on 8372 8816.

The influenza vaccine is available at these clinics.

A 'pop' of colour for Princes Road

City of Mitcham's Horticulture and Maintenance team has planted 140 'Drift' groundcover roses in 'popcorn' and 'coral' in two locations on Princes Road in Mitcham's historic precinct.

Field Coordinator Horticultural Maintenance Austin Coen says the roses require less water than traditional varieties and only light pruning every few years.

The new generation roses are hardy, compact, low-growing and disease resistant.

"They flower for up to 10 months of the year, from mid-spring to late autumn, and they will bring some colour to the historic area near Mitcham Institute."

Roses have been planted at the upgraded roundabout at Princes Road along with a range of winter annuals.

"We had some really positive feedback from residents while we were doing the planting," he said. "People told us they were happy to see the roses going in and they're in keeping with the area."

City of Mitcham's Patrick McConville at the new plantings.





Totem poles set for installation

Five totem poles that represent a different theme important to everyday life for Aboriginal people are set to be installed at Blackwood.

'Cultural Spaces' is a work by Marra Dreaming, a group of South Australian Aboriginal artists based at Salisbury who have created works for schools and public spaces for the past decade.

Find out more about City of Mitcham grants at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants.

Lead artist Raylene Snow said the poles represent trees for making tools and shelter, animals for hunting and totems and symbols to convey stories and messages for the next generations.

"Another pole represents water, the lifeblood of our land, and Rainbow Serpent, a powerful symbol in Aboriginal culture; the creator god whose story has been passed down from generation to generation."

The poles are inspired by River Red Gums within local reserves to reflect Indigenous culture.

The trio of Marra Dreaming artists who worked on the project, Samantha Egan, Thomas and Raylene Snow, are descendants of the Stolen Generation and are originally from the Northern Territory.

The poles were funded as part of City of Mitcham's Public Arts Grants and will be installed at Waite Street Reserve, Blackwood.



Solar to cut emissions and costs

City of Mitcham has installed 82.5 kilowatts of solar photovoltaics at its Mitcham Memorial Library, Melrose Park Depot, Mitcham Community Centre and Cumberland Park Community Centre at a cost of \$73,000.

The project is set to save Council \$372,000 and reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions by 560 tonnes over 10 years.

Another outcome is that both new and older solar photovoltaic systems will link to 'solar analytics', allowing Council to better monitor and maintain the assets into the future.

Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said she strongly endorsed the upgrades that were completed in July.

Find out more about City of Mitcham's climate change initiatives at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/climatechange.

"I am excited to see these projects come to fruition. I believe we have saved money and shown strong leadership on tackling climate change. The installations demonstrate how Council has responded quickly and positively to the recent climate change emergency declaration as well as our commitment to the Cities Power Partnership."

Keep in touch with City of Mitcham!

As a Council we communicate with our community in a variety of ways to ensure you have access to relevant information about living in the City of Mitcham.

Communication between Council and the community is important as it helps us let you know what is happening where you live, from roadworks to bin collection and reserve renewal to special events. As a Council we are keen to listen to our community so that we can ensure we are doing our job correctly. This helps us to understand if our services are working.

How you can communicate with the City of Mitcham:

 **Letters** - You can write to the City of Mitcham, PO Box 21, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park SA 5062.

 **Email** - We have a central email which is checked daily at mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

 **Phone** - Our Customer Communications Team can assist you between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday on 8372 8888.

 **Visit us** - Come to the Council Civic Centre at 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.

To keep up to date with the latest Council news

 **Facebook** - Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofmitcham where we share, news, events and opportunities to engage with us.

 **Twitter** - You can follow us at @cityofmitcham where we post Council news and important updates.

 **Instagram** - Follow us at www.instagram.com/cityofmitcham.

 **My Local Services App** - for reminders about bin collections and Council news, download the My Local Services App at www.lga.sa.gov.au/mylocal.

 **eNews** - Allows you to receive the latest Council information including services and programs, events, public meetings and community consultations.

 **Join us online** today just visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Community engagement - Get involved

Talk to your Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, or local Elected Member - contact details can be found at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au and complete a 'Have Your Say' or 'Request for Services' as well as find out other important information and contact details about the City of Mitcham.

