

# MITCHAM

ACCESSIBLE, HEALTHY & CONNECTED COMMUNITY ■ SUSTAINABLE CITY ■ DYNAMIC & PROSPEROUS PLACES ■ EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

## COMMUNITY NEWS



JULY 2023

### Ditters now open at Melrose Park

A much-loved South Australian company is now based at Melrose Park, rekindling memories for many City of Mitcham residents.

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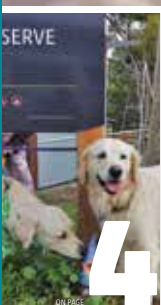
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Darcie, 10 months, pictured with her mum Josie, and nurse Kathryn, chooses a companion teddy at City of Mitcham's immunisation clinic.

## Winter teddies warm hearts at immunisation clinics

Council's immunisation team continues to welcome our youngest visitors to clinics at Mitcham and Blackwood with hand knitted teddies thanks to the work of Community Wellbeing knitting groups.

The teddies are offered to ease fears or make children feel better after their vaccinations and include Crows or Port Power-themed 'babies' with knitted beanies and scarves.

This winter our knitting groups have been busy creating companion teddies, along with squares for winter blankets, scarves and premature babies' caps bound for Treasure Boxes, an Adelaide charity providing families in crisis with the essentials they need for their children.

City of Mitcham hosts free immunisation clinics on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, and Blackwood

Church of Christ, 367 Shepherds Hill Road, Blackwood.

The clinic also conducts public influenza and school immunisation catch-up clinics.

Bookings are not required. Please bring your Medicare card. If you are bringing a child (under five years of age), please remember your child's immunisation record.

For updates on clinic dates and times, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation)

Knitting groups meet at Hewett Sports Hub, Blackwood, from 1pm to 3pm Mondays and Cumberland Park Community Centre from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on Tuesdays.

**To join a group, contact Council on 8372 8888.**

## Rotary Art Show returns to Blackwood

The Rotary Club of Blackwood is set to host its 39th Art Show at Blackwood High School across two weekends this month.

A range of paintings, along with photography and sculpture will be on display and available for sale. A Youth Prize will be awarded and there will be opportunity to vote in the People's Choice Prize.

The Show is open from 10am to 4pm, Thursday 13 to Sunday 16 July and Thursday 20 to Saturday 22 July. Admission costs \$5.

**To find out more visit**  
**[www.blackwoodrotaryartshow.com.au](http://www.blackwoodrotaryartshow.com.au)**

## Join our Job Ready Program

City of Mitcham is set to host a Job Ready Program in partnership with Interact Australia at Pasadena Community Centre in August.

The program is open to people aged 14 to 65 years who face barriers and need additional support in securing employment.

Izzy, one of Interact Australia's Recruitment Partners, will facilitate the five-week program, which will cover a range of topics including an introduction to resumes and cover letters, job applications, presentation, mock interviews and tips on how to adjust to the workplace.

The program will be held on Wednesday 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 August at 2pm at Pasadena Community Centre, 47 Adelaide Terrace, Pasadena, and is free for five weeks.

**To register your interest, please contact Izzy Gregory from Interact Australia on 0418 100 978, or by email at [izzy.gregory@interactaustralia.com.au](mailto:izzy.gregory@interactaustralia.com.au)**

## Railway tour rekindles memories

Blackwood resident Margaret Calcraft enjoyed hearing about the history of the Mitcham Railway Station during the SA History Festival in May.

Margaret's grandfather William Glenn was Mitcham's first Station Master from 1883 to 1896.

Her mother was born at the Station Master's Cottage just behind the railway platform, one of five children.

"I had four uncles – three of them were engine drivers, and one was Stationmaster," Margaret said.

Margaret was one of many residents who came along to weekly tours of the 140-year-old station.

**To discover walks and more information about City of Mitcham's historic areas, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/walks](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/walks) or download the Visit Mitcham App via [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/visit-mitcham-app](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/visit-mitcham-app) to discover walks on your smartphone.**





# Ditters Fruit and Nuts now open at Melrose Park

A much-loved South Australian company is now based at Melrose Park, rekindling memories for many City of Mitcham residents.

Colonel Light Gardens residents Esther and Matt Johnson became the new owners of Ditters Fruit and Nuts in 2018 and opened the production facility and shopfront at Kegworth Road in May last year.

They are passionate about building on the legacy that began in 1918 when Otto Ditter began selling freshly roasted nuts at the Adelaide Central Market.

Otto went on to establish a factory at Edwardstown, not far from the new site, creating what is believed to be Australia’s first commercial nut roasting operation.

“A lot of our customers either worked for Ditters in the past or have strong memories or family ties to the brand,” Esther says. “Many residents remember shelling almonds from their own gardens to sell to the factory. People tell us they always shared gift packs with family at Christmas time.”

Esther and Matt use original recipes for many products including their Gourmet Cakes, which have been in continuous production for over 50 years.

“We’re also introducing new products including dark chocolate goji berries, which are gluten and dairy free, which appeal to younger customers,” Esther says.

Dried fruit is sourced from the Riverland and a range of nuts, including pecans, macadamias, walnuts, pistachios, peanuts and almonds are Australian sourced.

Products are roasted and packed in small batches on site to ensure premium quality and presented in gift packs featuring the original logo.

Historic photos and information about the history of Ditters is on display at the shopfront.

In a new partnership, Ditters has joined forces with Wallis Cinemas Mitcham to offer snack bags at the Candy Bar.

**Ditters Fruit and Nuts, 11 Kegworth Road, Melrose Park,  
open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 3pm, Saturday 1pm to 4pm. Visit [www.ditters.com.au](http://www.ditters.com.au)**



## 1910

Horticulturist Otto Kurt Ditter arrives at Port Adelaide as a 21-year-old German immigrant.

## 1918

Otto builds a nut roasting and shelling machine. Within nine months, he is selling over 100lbs of roasted peanuts on weekends at the Adelaide Central Market.

## 1922

A processing and storage facility opens at South Road, Edwardstown, believed to be the first commercial nut roasting operation in Australia.

## 1956

Otto opens a shopfront at 52 Gawler Place, Adelaide which later moved to 26 Gawler Place.

## 1961

A third shopfront opens at 45 King William Street in Adelaide.

## 1965

On a visit to the factory, the Duchess of Gloucester orders three parcels of glace fruit to be sent to HRH Princess Margaret, C/O Buckingham Palace.

## 1967

Dawn Ditter introduces Ditters Gourmet Cake, also known as ‘stained glass window cake’ because of generous amount of glace fruit in each cake.

## 2018

Ditters celebrates 100 years of operation.

In the early days, local residents would bring walnuts and almonds, grown in their own gardens, to sell to Ditters. These were complemented by Riverland dried fruits, with other produce imported from around the world.



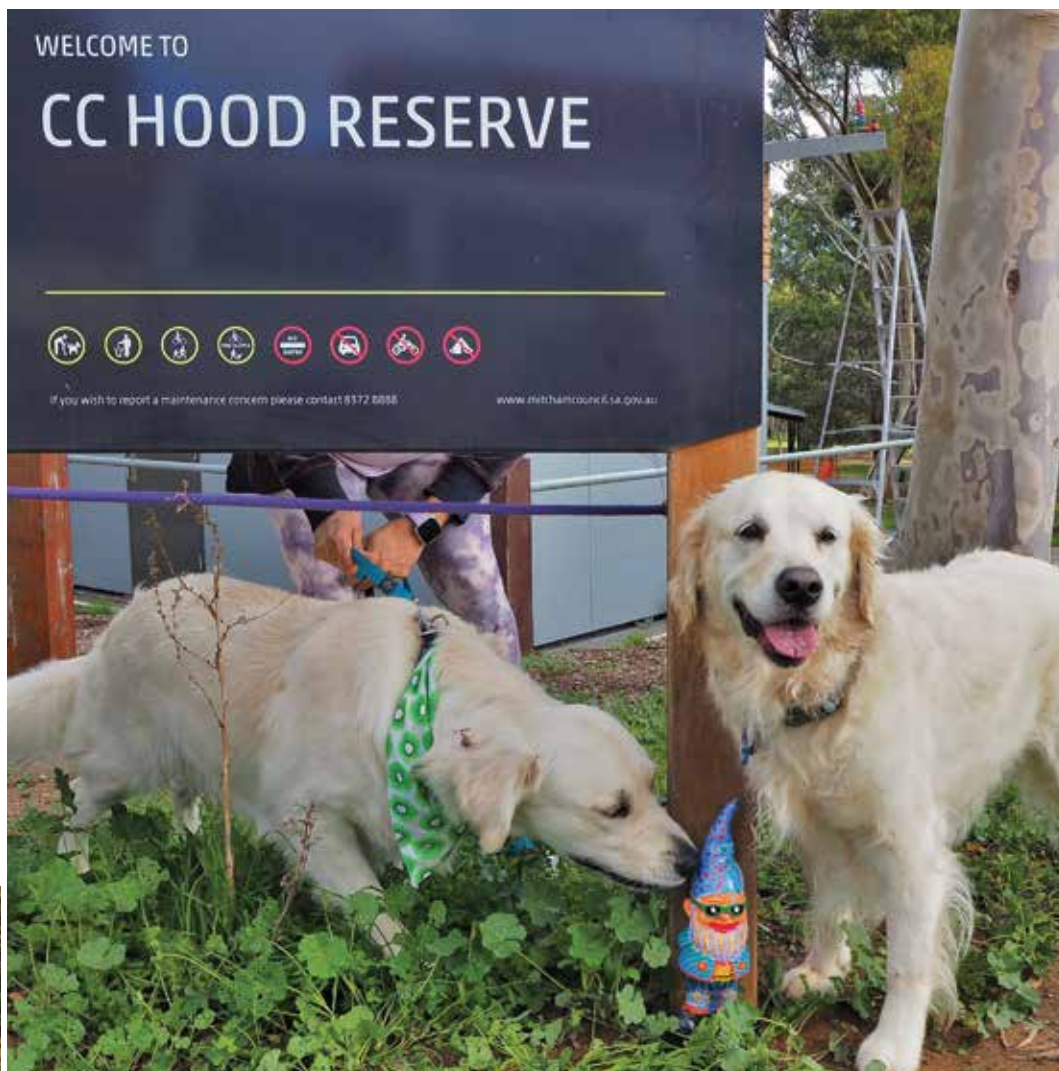
# Dog-friendly walks in Mitcham

Are you looking for a new area to explore with your dog? City of Mitcham is home to more than 230 parks and reserves and a range of walking trails in natural bushland areas.

Remember, these spaces are shared with other walkers and cyclists. To ensure your safety and the safety of others, please observe on-leash and bike trail only signage.

When dogs are in off-leash areas, they must still be under effective control at all times, within eyesight and prevented from harming people, flora or fauna.

**For more information on off-leash areas and dog ownership in the City of Mitcham, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/dogs](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/dogs)**



**For more about Mitcham Council reserves, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bushland-reserves](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bushland-reserves)**

## Compostable dog poo bags

As a dog owner, it is your responsibility to pick up after your dog. Take advantage of our dog poo bag dispensers located across the City.

Our dog poo bags are fully compostable and can be disposed of in the green bin.

If you come across an empty dispenser, please let us know via phone 8372 8888 or our website at

**[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/requests](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/requests)**

## Centennial Park

**Goodwood Road, Pasadena**

Wander through the 40ha Centennial Park to explore the cemetery, unique gardens and sculptures. Dogs on a leash are welcome, and dog poo bags are located around the park. Dog owners and their four-legged friends are welcome at Wildflowers, Centennial Park's on-site café and gift shop, in the outdoor seating area.

## Shepherds Hill Recreation Park

**Ayliffes Road, St Marys**

Follow the 2.2km Seaview Loop for views of the sea and bushland. Dogs are welcome on a lead at this park, which is popular with mountain bike riders and home to a horse-riding club. Other walks include the 2.3km River Red Gum Loop and 2.9km Grey Box Loop that takes in grassy Grey Box woodlands. You'll need to bring your own dog poo bags with you and be aware that there are no bins. Managed by National Parks and Wildlife Service.

## Blackwood Hill Reserve

**Trevor Terrace and Craighburn Road, Blackwood**

This 61.9ha reserve is located south of the railway line and borders Craighburn Farm. A number of trails are available including the Magpie Creek Walk, which guides you through the best parts of the reserve. Once a working farm, this reserve is home to indigenous vegetation and hosts volunteer weed management and revegetation groups. You can walk your dog under effective control in this park but keep an eye out for mountain bikes. The reserve also features an oval, playground and toilets. Includes off-leash and on-leash areas.

## CC Hood Reserve Dog Park

**Corner Fiveash Drive and Grandview Drive, Panorama**

You'll find a dedicated dog park in the northern section of CC Hood Reserve at Panorama. Fully enclosed by a 1.5 metre fence, the park has play equipment for dogs including rails, posts and pipes, water dispensers and poo bag dispensers.

## Brownhill Creek Conservation Park

**Brownhill Creek Road, Brownhill Creek**

Follow Brownhill Creek through a steep sided valley and enjoy majestic river red gums, some more than 300 years old. This 52ha park is home to more than 40 species of birds and mammals. A number of walks are available. Enjoy a picnic lunch at the Mitcham Lions Club picnic area, which has shady picnic tables and water available. Dogs must be on a lead. You'll need to bring your own dog poo bags with you and be aware that there are no bins. Managed by National Parks and Wildlife Service.

## Belair National Park

**Upper Sturt Road, Belair**

Much loved for its natural beauty and historic significance, Belair National Park has woodlands and lakes, walking and mountain bike trails to suit all levels of fitness. Dogs must be on a lead. You'll need to bring your own dog poo bags with you and be aware that there are no bins. Managed by National Parks and Wildlife Service.



## Pasadena welcomes new pianist

Panorama resident Ruth Klose is sharing her musical skills with the Community Choir at Pasadena Community Centre.

Ruth was pipe organist for the Christian Science Church at Adelaide's North Terrace for 30 years but had not played since the Church was sold and demolished to make way for a student accommodation tower in 2019.

She heard about the Pasadena Community Centre Community Choir through a friend and offered her services to accompany the group on Tuesday mornings.

"I used to play in a group with my husband Rollo, who was a saxophonist and leader of the Wonderland Band for 25 years," she said. "My daughter is a bass player and son is a music teacher. Music has been a love of ours."

Ruth enjoys playing along with the choir, which meets on Tuesdays from 10am to 11.30am. At the end of the session, the choir sings nursery rhymes with children from the Outdoor Children's Play Group.

**Pasadena Community Centre is at 47 Adelaide Terrace, Pasadena. To join in or find out more, call 8372 8128 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/pasadena-community-centre](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/pasadena-community-centre)**

*Pasadena Community Centre Choir leader Barbara Dalton with Ruth Klose at Pasadena Community Centre.*



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\*Online Bookings Available Via Website



## Join a community art workshop

Anangu artist Bianca Levai is inviting the community to join a free community workshop at Mitcham Memorial Library this month.

A multidisciplinary Yankunytjatjara artist, Bianca aims to inspire community collaboration with her workshop 'The Collective Canvas: A Collaborative Art Journey'.

The free sessions will be held at the Library on Thursday 20 July from 10am to 1pm and Wednesday 26 July from 2pm to 5pm.

Sessions are open to all ages. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Bianca's work includes painting, ceramics, weaving and wearable art forms, and will be on display at the Library in July.

**To book in to a workshop, visit [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-collective-canvas-a-collaborative-art-journey-workshop-tickets-663351410927](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-collective-canvas-a-collaborative-art-journey-workshop-tickets-663351410927)**

**CITY OF MITCHAM**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY 9 DEC 2023**

**KINGSWOOD OVAL, BELAIR ROAD, KINGSWOOD**

**#MITCHAMCAROLS**



## Mayor

**Dr Heather Holmes-Ross**

Telephone:  
0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Last week at the Australia Local Government Association National General Assembly in Canberra I was invited to present as part of a panel discussion about the national skills shortage. It was a terrific opportunity to share what our Council is doing to invest in, and build, a more productive workforce. I was proud to receive positive feedback, including several invitations to present directly to other councils. Here is a summary of my message.

Our goal at Mitcham is to be an employer of choice, to attract people who are bright, passionate and committed, provide them with opportunities, and retain them, not necessarily within our council, but certainly within the sector.

Starting at the top, for the last 5 years our CEO's top KPI has been "innovation". It's not prescriptive - just report back once a quarter on what you've done to make the business more innovative. This idea has permeated throughout the organisation as a culture of innovation. All staff are encouraged to think outside the square about how they can improve the way they work. A couple of innovation examples are:

- Interactive representation of Council works across the City via a map available on the Council website.
- Creation of a biodiversity corridor in Pasadena by literally cutting the storm water drain beneath a series of reserves and running the water over the soil rather than under it.
- Implementation of a community solar and battery scheme which is saving residents money and reducing emissions. Through our virtual power plant we are looking at selling rather than buying power in the very near future.

We're not precious about who comes up with an innovative idea. We're happy to talk to other LGAs about what we're doing and also to copy anything cool that other councils come up with, such as Holdfast Bay's weekly green organics trial.

Another strategy we've initiated is our graduate program, in conjunction with Flinders University. Rather than filling short term vacancies within the organisation with temps, we employ university graduates. The graduates spend three months working in the customer communications team on the front desk, learning about the business. At the end of their time they are eligible to apply for positions and are competitive. In the past 45 days, three positions have been won by graduates. We are attracting bright young people who wouldn't have contemplated local government as a career path had they not been involved in the program.

A third important initiative is actively supporting women. Our CEO has directed that equal numbers of men and women should be interviewed for leadership positions. If there aren't enough applicants, we tap people on the shoulder. It is well documented that, in general, men will apply for jobs for which they have about half the criteria, whereas women won't apply until they satisfy them all. Positions are awarded on merit, but it pans out that if you interview equal numbers of men and women, the most suitable candidates will be roughly equal too.

## Overton Ward

**Cr Jane Bange**

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0478 076 400

jbange@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



*Overton Ward encompasses the suburbs of Clarence Gardens, Cumberland Park, Daw Park, Melrose Park and parts of Colonel Light Gardens and St Marys.*

Recently, I along with two other Councillors called a Special Council Meeting in response to concerns raised by residents about significant legislative changes proposed by the SA Government. At first glance, it could be easy to say this is not a Council matter - go lobby your State Member - but closer examination revealed, what I believe to be, a serious failure of accepted democratic process.

The facts are:

1. these amendments were significant changes which increased fines from \$750 to \$50,000 and introduced a possible three-month jail sentence.
2. no formal opportunity was provided for legal and broader community comment.
3. the amendments passed the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) in just 22 minutes.
4. the changes were formulated in response to a lone protestor suspending themselves from the Morphett Street overpass the day before.

Like the residents that contacted me, I was shocked by the speed at which this significant legislation was being pushed through our Parliament, when no imminent threat to civil order necessitated such haste.

This is in stark contrast to the lack of action in regards strengthening tree protection laws in the 14 months since the State Election. South Australia has some of the weakest legislation in the nation when it comes to safeguarding trees and the current Government, when in Opposition, promised to rectify this. One protestor disrupts traffic for a few hours and the Government passes legislation the next day. Not so when significant trees are being cleared and lost forever.

The Special Council Meeting of May 29 debated the following motion:

*That Council write to both Houses of the South Australian Parliament to inform the Members that Council has heard from residents concerned by:*

1. *the speed at which the proposed amendments to the Summary Offences Act (1953) have passed through the Lower House, and*
2. *the possible unintended consequences of these amendments, which may limit people's inclination to attend peaceful protest rallies on issues of importance to their community,*

*and respectfully request Parliament to delay the passage of these amendments to fully debate refinements to this legislation, and to allow input from interested stakeholder groups and the wider public to be considered.*

This motion, which was successful, was not making a judgment on the appropriateness of the amendments but, rather, highlighting the need for due process. As the Law Society of SA stated in their press release:

*"Good laws undergo a process of consultation, scrutiny and debate before being put to the vote. The Law Society has serious concerns with the manner in which the Summary Offences (Obstruction of Public Places) Amendment Bill 2023 was rushed through the House of Assembly. **This is not how good laws are made.**"*

By calling a Special Meeting and passing this motion, Council was able to amplify the voices of concerned residents and I consider this an important aspect of my role.

## The Park Ward

**Cr Corin McCarthy**

Telephone:  
0410 886 349

csmccarthy@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



*The Park Ward encompasses the suburbs of Glenalta, Hawthorndene and parts of Blackwood, Belair, Coromandel Valley, Upper Sturt and Crafrers West.*

I have been a vocal advocate for investment by both public and private sectors in the heart of Blackwood and it is wonderful to see this coming to fruition.

### **Tiwu Kumangka - our new library and community centre**

Our new library and community centre is almost complete and expected to commence servicing the great Mitcham hills community in September.

I had a recent 'sneak peek' of the facility. The ground floor library will be excellent and the upstairs community centre has views over Waite Street Reserve. I was also elated to see those parts I fought hard for, including the toy library and maker space, second lift for disability access and community kitchen, in place to provide our community with new service levels.

### **A vibrant Blackwood Centre**

The emergent new and vibrant Blackwood is also seeing an upgraded Waite Street Reserve precinct around Tiwu Kumangka. The Waite Street Reserve precinct has \$3.2 million allocated to enhancing the beauty and use of the precinct.

The proposals for making Young Street more pedestrian friendly and to better link Coles and Drakes shopping precincts will make the area more user friendly on foot as well as car. The new shopping precinct next to Drakes, due to complete by Christmas, is also welcome. These outcomes will drive a new kind of experience for Blackwood over coming years.

Waite Street Reserve precinct works are programmed to commence toward the end of 2024. But both Cr Morrison and I are continuing to advocate for this to commence earlier.

### **The old library and nursery site**

Some have asked me why I moved to commence the sale process for the old library and nursery, and for me, this is part of a broader change I see required to continue to invigorate the heart of Blackwood and is part of why I support the Growth Precinct concept around Main Road.

I support private sector led development for Blackwood, which I'm happy to champion. I also think that to leave the old library site dormant - potentially for years ahead - will gravely diminish Blackwood, especially now that it's ready to flourish.

### **Households under cost of living pressures**

Unfortunately, Council is set to impose the highest rate rise in living memory and I was disappointed on two occasions that my motion to see a \$100 rate rebate for concession holders defeated, with only Councillors Todd and Tilley also supporting.

Over the last term I actively supported reform which delivered over \$2 million in savings that have kept rates lower than they would be otherwise. These savings are now being used to better support our community through new programs and investment. I have also continued this advocacy by placing greater pressure to deliver further savings this year, with over \$850,000 of savings for the budget, again reducing the extent of the rate rise, even though it is still frustratingly high.

I have also supported funding for Lions Bargain Centre which supports households and more re-use of household goods rather than landfill.

**Babbage Ward****Cr Yvonne Todd**

Telephone:  
0418 891 097

ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

*Babbage Ward encompasses the suburbs of Bedford Park, Pasadena, Panorama, Lynton and parts of Clapham, Eden Hills and St Marys.*

To reduce carbon emissions, Council endorsed \$400,000 for the installation of a battery at Council's Civic Centre and additional photovoltaic panels and a battery at the Melrose Park Operations Depot. These are calculated to be **self-funding projects** and have the potential to facilitate future savings.

Council recently rescinded a 2005 decision naming the **Eden Hills Landfill** "Kurna Views" and will meet with Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) to seek advice on a Kurna name for the site. Advice from KYAC will be used for an extensive community consultation exercise seeking community feedback on proposed Kurna name(s) for the site.

The **Pasadena Community Centre** has been in constant use providing a space for Council information sessions and community events. A surprisingly high number of people come along to listen, when they can walk or when the venue is close to home. In June a Council briefing was held at the centre and there were over 50 people, who came along on a cold wet night to meet Councillors and hear about the plans for the Centre.

Some of the other great sessions held there included the CC Hood Reserve consultation, budget chat with the Mayor, and consultation to Revitalise Reserves in St Marys, which is open online now. There is an upcoming session on a new ambulance station at the intersection of Daws Road and Francis Street, Daw Park, adjacent to the Repat Health precinct. It is relevant because the service area includes Pasadena, Panorama, Colonel Light Gardens and Daw Park.

Residents in Panorama will see **new footpath construction** in Alpha and Beta Crescent, Bligh Avenue, Vancouver Avenue, Dobson Avenue, Panorama Drive and Warren Crescent. It is hard to get funding in the budget for new footpaths, but the majority of the funding for these was given by MP Ms Nadia Clancy.

Work has started on building the **kerb, road, footpath, and driveway link in Murtoa Road**, Eden Hills. This desperately needed project has been in planning for at least five years, so residents are keen to see it finished. There is no current footpath, but the road is a well-used path leading to the train station. The engineering allows for a safe sealed footpath and to reduce the removal of trees. A driveway link makes cars give way to oncoming cars, allowing only one car able to move through at a time.

**Pasadena Tennis Club** has had significant membership growth over the last few years and members raised concerns about the poor standard of the courts. They are due for renewal this year. The solution needed for the clay soil is complex and it will be a challenge, but one that I am sure club members and staff will work together to find a solution to. It is wonderful that local sporting clubs are growing membership and this needs to be encouraged with quality facilities.

If I know what is bothering residents, I can follow up with staff so please call or email me if you have issues to discuss.

**Craigburn Ward****Cr Darren Kruse**

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dkruse@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

*Craigburn Ward encompasses the suburbs of Craigburn Farm, Bellevue Heights and parts of Blackwood, Coromandel Valley and Eden Hills.*

Hello again. Here in the hills it's the cold, wintry time of year when we all start looking forward to the warmth and relief of spring. Similarly, at Council the last few months we have been working and consulting on our proposed 2023-24 budget that for some in our community will bite. The Consumer Price Index is measured by CPI (broccoli and bananas), which this March quarter was 7.9%. Council's expenses are different (bitumen and bricks); the LGPI basket of goods is up over 12%. Hence, to achieve delivery of existing services at no more than CPI, we had to find this year **further** efficiency and service trims of almost \$900,000.

By the time you read this, Council will likely have voted, using your budget consultation feedback to decide upon an option with existing services only, **or** to also deliver further key services and projects in partnership with State and Federal Government grants. I particularly hope we can support an **additional community volunteer coordinator** to unlock the energy of hundreds more community volunteers all across our city. See <https://yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draft-annual-business-plan-2023>

Being acutely aware of these cost-of-living pressures, to assist residents we are powering ahead with our Community Renewables Program. Over 760 resident households have now signed up with our collaboration partner ShineHub to reduce or in many cases entirely **remove their power bills**. Council's next steps will be even more exciting with a Mitcham-exclusive Virtual Power Plant and solar solutions for business to transform our city into a self-sustaining power hub, while reducing costs for all of us as part of our **solar city vision**. See more at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/Community-Renewables-Program](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/Community-Renewables-Program)

The transformation at the heart of Blackwood is well underway. The brand-new **\$12.6m Tiwu Kumangka** is almost complete, is on-budget, on-time and will be opening in September. The adjacent Waite Street Reserve will also be getting a \$3.2m facelift, concept plans are being refreshed for a late 2024 start. Finally, a spacious wide boulevard facing new specialty shops will be built to replace the narrow walkway/drain to the Foodland carpark, creating a north-south flow to the public precinct and reserve.

To drive the next 5 years of cost saving efficiencies, my motion to run a public **Generative AI workshop**, led by an external expert in the field was unanimously supported during the meeting on 20 June. This startlingly powerful AI technology will go far beyond ChatGPT, likely transforming our lives just like the Internet and mobile phones have done over the last 20 years.

I want to ensure that our Council, our residents and our businesses can all take full advantage of this AI technology while also measuring our community's expectations for privacy, transparency and reliability so that we can place policy guidelines around the use of this technology. This AI workshop will be **open to all residents**, so I hope to see many of you there to learn about AI and watch us brainstorm.

Till next time, please feel free to call or drop in to talk all things Council.

**Kingswood Oval Playground under way**

A new playground at Kingswood Oval is set to be an inclusive space that caters for all ages and abilities that incorporates nature play and sensory elements.

The playground was developed with input from local primary school students and features a wheelchair accessible trampoline, inclusive roundabout, basket swing and two-person 'friendship swing' that allows siblings, parents and grandparents to swing together. Landscaping includes a path crossing the playground to allow wheelchair access and an entry that minimises the distance from the accessible ramp on the footpath to the playground area.


A 'cubby house' encourages creativity and imaginative play, problem-solving skills and is a place where children can play together.

The playground has monkey bars and adventure play elements along with natural features such as logs and stones.

Plants and trees in garden beds introduce sensory elements and six trees planted around the playground are set to increase biodiversity and shade in the area.

The playground includes a new shade sail, water fountain and a picnic table.


**Read more at**  
**[yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/kingswood-oval-playground](https://yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/kingswood-oval-playground)**

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**[adelaidehearing.com.au](http://adelaidehearing.com.au)**



# July School Holiday Program

Unleash your creativity with our fun-filled school holiday program, featuring puppet making, a Lego challenge, dress-ups and more.



## Walking Together with Kaurna

Join Drew and Liesl to learn about Kaurna Culture and Country through yarning, stories, games and activities.

**Date:** Wednesday 19 July

**Time:** 12.30pm – 1.30pm

**Ages:** 2 – 12 years

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Cost:** Free

## Scavenger Hunt

Embark on a thrilling literary adventure in our libraries with our scavenger hunt! Use your detective skills and imagination to discover hidden treasure among the bookshelves. Get ready to ignite your love of literature in a fun and engaging way, and don't forget to put your name in the draw to win a book voucher!

**Date:** Saturday 8 July to Sunday 23 July

**Ages:** All ages

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library and Blackwood Library

**Cost:** Free. No bookings required.

## Story Walk

Take a walk through the Soldiers Memorial Gardens and enjoy Warna-Manda Baby Earth Walk by Susan Betts and Mandy Foot. Follow Allurru as she is guided across the land on a journey to discover her connection to Mother Earth and find her way home.

**Date:** Saturday 17 June to Monday 31 July

**Ages:** All ages

**Cost:** Free. No bookings required.



## Pure Play

Drama games and dress ups for 5 to 8 year olds. Spend time acting out fairy tales and making up scenes. Wear your favourite costume and we can add it to the play!

**Date:** Monday 17 July

**Time:** 10am – 11.30am

**Ages:** 5 – 8 years

**Where:** Pasadena Community Centre

**Cost:** Free

## Once Upon a Jar

Choose your own adventure in the whimsical storytelling experience "Once Upon a Jar" with the Patch Theatre Company.

**Date:** Tuesday 18 July

**Time:** 10.30am and 12pm

**Ages:** 5 – 9 years

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Cost:** Free



## Dungeons and Dragons

Join our experienced Dungeon Master from South Australian Youth Arts (SAYarts) and explore the exciting world of Dungeons and Dragons! Bring your dice or use ours, no experience necessary.

**Cost:** Free. Bookings essential.

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Date:** Thursday 13 July

**Time:** 12pm – 3pm (8 – 12 years)

**Date:** Thursday 13 July

**Time:** 4pm – 7pm (12 – 18 years)

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Date:** Wednesday 19 July

**Time:** 10.30am – 1.30pm (8 – 12 years)

**Date:** Wednesday 19 July

**Time:** 2.30pm – 5.30pm (12 – 18 years)

**Where:** Pasadena Community Centre

**Date:** Thursday 20 July

**Time:** 9am – 12pm (8 – 12 years)

**Date:** Thursday 20 July

**Time:** 1pm – 4pm (12 – 18 years)

## Brick Builders: Epic Lego Challenge

Take our Epic Lego Challenge designed to test your critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, and get ready to showcase your building skills and let your imagination soar as you challenge yourself to construct large scale structures.

This challenge is open to all with a passion for building and a love of Lego, so gather your friends and join us for an epic time at the library.

**Cost:** Free

**Blackwood Library**

**Date:** Monday 10 July

**Session:** 10.30am | 8 – 12 years

**Session:** 3.30pm | 12 – 15 years

**Date:** Wednesday 19 July

**Session:** 10.30am | 8 – 12 years

**Session:** 3.30pm | 12 – 15 years

**Mitcham Memorial Library**

**Date:** Wednesday 12 July

**Session:** 10.30am | 8 – 12 years

**Session:** 3.30pm | 12 – 15 years

**Date:** Monday 17 July

**Session:** 10.30am | 8 – 12 years

**Session:** 3.30pm | 12 – 15 years



## Puppet Crafting and Storytelling

Unleash your creativity and imagination in our puppet making and storytelling session.

**Date:** Tuesday 11 July

**Thursday 20 July**

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Time:** 1.30pm – 3pm

**Ages:** 5 – 8 years

**Cost:** Free



For more information and bookings visit  
[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays)