

MITCHAM

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

COMMUNITY NEWS



DECEMBER 2023

Birthday visit a hit with Levi

Junior 'garbologist' Levi got his birthday wish – a visit to City of Mitcham's waste trucks at Melrose Park.

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City of Mitcham RACV Operator
Stephen Bowes and Levi White at
the Operations Depot.

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Kaurna Shelter
Tree celebrated

CC Hood Christmas Celebration

City of Mitcham residents and their furry friends are invited to a Christmas Celebration at CC Hood Reserve, Panorama, on Saturday 16 December.

Join us from 5.30pm for Christmas Storytime with the Libraries team, get active with a Nature Play geocaching session or make your own Christmas decoration using natural materials.

For the younger kids, there will be a face painter and bubble blower. A coffee cart will be on site selling hot drinks and icecream.

A choir will sing a capella carols from 6.30pm to 8pm and the park's Christmas lights will be switched on early.

The CC Hood Reserve Celebration Space will be decked out in lights and decorations created by local groups and is open until Monday 15 January.

Bring a rug and pack a picnic to enjoy the festive atmosphere.

Find out more and book in to Nature Play sessions at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/christmas



Rainbow Girls Kaylee, Alicia, Indianna, Angelina and Leila at the Hawthorn Masonic Centre.

Rainbow Girls celebrate 50 years

The International Rainbow Girls of South Australia is set to celebrate its 50-year anniversary in 2024.

Group leader Lorraine Rayner said the group had offered the opportunity for friendship to girls aged 7 to 20 years since its establishment in Mitcham in May 1974.

"Rainbow teaches girls to be part of a team, to successfully communicate with others and work towards supporting the community

through charity and service," she said. "It helps them develop confidence and leadership skills in a fun and safe environment."

Nine-year-old Kaylee enjoys doing art and craft activities at the centre.

"We get to do lots of things, and hang out with some of our friends," she said.

The group meets at Hawthorn Masonic Centre, 6 Wattle Avenue, Lower Mitcham. To join, visit www.iorg-nsw-sa-org, email rainbowgirls74@gmail.com or call 0417 082 631.

Choir warms up for Christmas concerts

The Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia is set to perform its two Christmas concerts at Balaklava on Saturday 2 December and Elder Hall on Saturday 9 December.

Established in 1927, the 50-strong choir has been rehearsing from its new home at Cumberland Park Community Centre since March 2022.

As well as travelling to perform interstate, in recent decades the Choir has toured to the UK, Canada and the US, Austria, Germany and the Netherlands.

Each year the choir supports gifted young musicians through a scholarship program and raises funds for the Guide Dogs of SA/NT and The Smith Family.

Publicity officer Graham Staniforth said the choir welcomed new members and offered many benefits to its members.

"Singing is good for you, it releases endorphins and is good exercise for the brain, which keeps us young," Mr Staniforth said. "It's also a good source of companionship. There's a real camaraderie between us, and there is the thrill of performing and of giving to the community."

The choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm and will host a come and try open rehearsal on Wednesday 24 January at 7pm.

To join or find out more, visit <https://mmcsa.org/> or call Graham on 0401 204 634.




Management Committee members Matt Wills, Graham Staniforth, Clive Waters, Stephen Coombe, Peter Bourne, Evan Patton and Lynton Nicholas at Cumberland Park Community Centre.

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Birthday visit a hit with Levi

Junior 'garbologist' Levi White couldn't ask for a better 11th birthday present than the chance to get up close to one of City of Mitcham's waste trucks.

Levi has been a fan of the trucks from the age of two when he first spotted bins being collected on his street and has been a dedicated fan ever since.

He has even created his own Youtube channel to share videos of waste collection in the cities of Mitcham, Marion, Onkaparinga, Holdfast Bay, Unley, Adelaide and West Torrens.

Levi was invited to spend some time with Mitcham's waste team and tour the trucks' home base at the Melrose Park depot last month.

After meeting the team, who answered his questions about their work, Levi was interested to see the online maps that chart daily routes. He was happy to take home some print-outs of upcoming routes to help him plan his next video.

He was then offered the opportunity to sit in a waste truck and operate the mechanical arm to pick up a bin, followed by a ride in a street sweeper.



"That was awesome," Levi said of the day. "I love the Mitcham trucks, the way they look. The drivers work really hard and they do an important job. If they didn't collect your rubbish, there would be rubbish everywhere." To create weekly videos for his Youtube channel, Levi films trucks doing their rounds

To see Levi's videos, visit <https://www.youtube.com/@levisaussiegabrage7345>



for green, yellow, red or blue bins. He films from the street and the car, with help from mum Jess.

As part of his birthday present, he asked for T-shirts to be created, one in each bin lid colour, featuring the logos of all the councils whose trucks he has filmed.



Mitcham Community Shed expands

A new storage shed has created more space and a safer working environment at the Mitcham Community Shed.

The upgrade includes increased safe access around machinery, a new office area, an external store for wood and repurposes a formerly open mezzanine area into a seminar and teaching space. Shed Facilitator Norman George said the changes had been welcomed by members of the Shed who meet regularly to work on projects.

"The new storage area has allowed us to move all the timber from inside the shed and upstairs so that it is all in one place and this has opened up our working area," he said. "That has enabled us to re-orient

the fixed power machines into different positions so that we have a more open, free flowing space."

He hoped the teaching space would be used in future to teach older residents how to use computer aided programs to operate a CNC router, a laser cutter and 3D printer.

The Shed is located at the Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham, and is open on Mondays 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Wednesdays 9am to 12pm and Thursdays 9am to 3.30pm.

Please contact Norman on 8372 8265 or email ngeorge@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au to register your interest in becoming a Community Shed member.

- Carols Christmas Eve
6.00 - 9.30pm @ Hewett Sports Grd, Blackwood
6.00pm Bouncy Castle, Camel rides, food stalls etc
8.00pm Christmas Carols presented by local people for local people.
Commercial FREE / Celebrity FREE

- Christmas Day Service 9.30am
@ 72 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood



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

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 YouTube
at Village BHBC

CHRISTMAS HOURS

for Mitcham Council services

Council will provide essential services and respond to emergencies throughout the Christmas and New Year period. Please call 1300 133 466.

On behalf of the Mayor, Council Members and staff of the City of Mitcham, we wish you all the joys of the Festive Season and our very best wishes for a Happy New Year. We look forward to being of continued service to our local residents, businesses and community groups in 2024.

★ MERRY ★
Christmas
 &
HAPPY NEW YEAR
 ★★ ★

Council Civic Centre

Normal opening hours 9am to 5pm weekdays

Friday 22 December	9am to 2pm
Saturday 23 December	Closed
Sunday 24 December	Closed
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	Closed
Tuesday 26 December Boxing Day	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	Closed
Thursday 28 December	Closed
Friday 29 December	Closed
Saturday 30 December	Closed
Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve	Closed
Monday 1 January New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours resume on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Council Depot

Normal opening hours 8am to 4pm weekdays.

Friday 22 December	8am to 2pm
Saturday 23 December	Closed
Sunday 24 December	Closed
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	Closed
Tuesday 26 December Boxing Day	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	Closed
Thursday 28 December	Closed
Friday 29 December	Closed
Saturday 30 December	Closed
Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve	Closed
Monday 1 January New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours resume on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Immunisation clinics move to Tiwu Kumangka

City of Mitcham's Blackwood Immunisation Service Clinics will move to Tiwu Kumangka in the new year.

The last immunisation clinic before the venue change will be held at Blackwood Church of Christ on Wednesday 6 December 2023 from 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

Clinics will also be held at City of Mitcham Civic Centre on Wednesday 6 December from 11.30am to 1pm.

On Wednesday 17 January 2024 clinics will be held at the Mitcham Civic Centre (5.30pm to 7pm) and Tiwu Kumangka, 2 Young Street, Blackwood (12.30pm to 1.30pm).

Note: There will be no clinics at Mitcham or Blackwood on Wednesday 20 December or Wednesday 3 January.

For more information on Council's immunisation clinics at Mitcham and Blackwood, contact Council's Immunisation Coordinator on 1300 133 466 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation

LIBRARIES

Mitcham Memorial Library and Toy Library

Friday 22 December	10am to 2pm
Saturday 23 December	Closed
Sunday 24 December	Closed
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	Closed
Tuesday 26 December Boxing Day	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	Closed
Thursday 28 December	Closed
Friday 29 December	Closed
Saturday 30 December	Closed
Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve	Closed
Monday 1 January New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours resume on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Library items can be returned via the after-hours chutes. Overdue fees on Library items will not be applied during this time. Please do not leave items if the chutes are closed.

Story Time will take a longer break from 14 December 2023 to 29 January 2024.

No toys will be due for return during the closure period.

Blackwood Library and Toy Library at Tiwu Kumangka

Friday 22 December	10am to 2pm
Saturday 23 December	Closed
Sunday 24 December	Closed
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	Closed
Tuesday 26 December Boxing Day	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	10am to 5.30pm
Thursday 28 December	10am to 8pm
Friday 29 December	10am to 2pm
Saturday 30 December	10am to 4pm
Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve	Closed
Monday 1 January New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours resume on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Domestic Waste Collections Christmas/New Year

Kerbside waste and recycling collections will not be collected on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. All collections will be delayed by one day over the Christmas and New Year period.

Lynton Green Organics Drop-off Facility

The Lynton Green Organics Drop-off Facility will be closed from Tuesday 12 December 2023 and will reopen Saturday 6 January 2024.

More Information

Council waste collection, Lynton Green Organics Drop-off Facility and Blackwood Library may be impacted on days of high heat and Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Risk Days and residents are encouraged to monitor social media on these days for any potential changes to normal services.

Council will provide essential services and respond to emergencies throughout the Christmas and New Year period, please call 1300 133 466.

Community Services

The **Community Shed** closes from 3.30pm Thursday 14 December 2023 and reopens on Monday 15 January 2024.

The **Local History Service** closes at 1pm Thursday 14 December 2023 and reopens on Tuesday 9 January 2024.

The **Mitcham Community Centre, Cumberland Park Community Centre, Hawthorn Community Centre, Pasadena Community Centre, Mitcham Cultural Village Institute, Tiwu Kumangka Community Centre** and all other halls for hire, close at 10pm Thursday 21 December 2023 and reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

The **Community Bus Service** finishes at 4pm Friday 22 December 2023 and recommences on Monday 9 January 2024.

Become a JP volunteer

Are you a qualified Justice of the Peace? Join us as a volunteer!

City of Mitcham is seeking JPs for its free drop-in service at Mitcham Memorial Library and Tiwu Kumangka, Blackwood.

JPs sign and notate documents, including Wills and Advance Care Directives, and can help residents understand the nature of documents before they are signed.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to our volunteers!

The Mayor, Elected Members and staff would like to thank our dedicated volunteers for their work on Council programs and across our community through the year.

Volunteers work in our libraries, community centres, the Community Bus, social programs, open spaces and trails.

If you would like to become a Council volunteer and join us in 2024, phone Lynne on 8372 8860.

Mayor

Dr Heather Holmes-Ross

Telephone:
0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



As the year draws to a close I am thrilled to announce that the almost 800 City of Mitcham households who participated in our Community Renewables Program and joined the ShineHub Virtual Power Plant (VPP) are able to claim a cash rebate. ShineHub is part of a small and exclusive group of VPP providers that are able to offer the SA Government's Retailer Energy Productivity scheme VPP cash rebate of up to \$1,000. Most Mitcham ShineHub VPP participants with a 10.1 KW battery are eligible to receive \$560. How great is that? A ~\$500 cash bonus. However, you need to act quickly as applications must be submitted by 15 December 2023.

Members of the VPP have recently been sent an email from ShineHub and City of Mitcham which details the application process. If you are part of the ShineHub VPP and have not received an email you can contact ShineHub at customers@shinehub.com.au. Please act now and tell all your friends who are part of the VPP to apply. I would hate any of our residents to miss out.

Looking ahead, for those residents who are interested in accessing solar PVs and/or batteries, joining our VPP or just finding out more, I have great news! Mitcham and ShineHub will be running a third residential bulk buy in February 2024. You can register your interest at: <https://shinehub.com.au/mitcham/>. I look forward to seeing you at a community information session early next year where we will explain how you can save money on power bills, reduce emissions and help build a sustainable future for our community.

I am extremely happy to report that other councils are now following our lead. Currently, over 60 councils want to hear from us about how they can create Community Renewables Programs for their communities. We are helping out by answering questions, giving presentations, and providing all of our reports and documents to interested councils, and very recently the first of these have decided to go ahead. Woohoo!

I hope to bring more great news about our Renewables Program in the very near future. We are working on solutions for businesses, renters, people who live in multi-unit dwellings and those whose homes are shaded. And much much more...

But for now I wish to take the opportunity to thank Council staff and Council Members for their support and dedication throughout the year. I particularly thank our hard-working volunteers, not only those working with or alongside Council, but also the hundreds of you who support our community through your efforts, in service and sporting clubs and other community organisations. I would like to especially acknowledge our older volunteers, many of whom dedicate countless hours to helping others while coping with the increasing limitations of an aging body. You rock!

I wish the City of Mitcham community a happy, safe and peaceful festive season and look forward to another year of service, friendship and innovation in 2024.

Craigburn Ward

Cr Karen Hockley

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

As I write, we've just experienced our first 40-degree day for the summer; according to local media, it was our hottest ever November day. The past 12 months were the hottest on record and the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service says that, from January to October, the year 2023 was 1.43 degrees above the pre-industrial reference period. They report that we're likely to reach 1.5 degrees increase in average global temperatures somewhere between 2030 and the early 2050s.

I worry that my generation will be the last to really enjoy having a habitable planet to live on.

I know that climate change is something that many people in the community worry about. I'm delighted that Mitcham Council has invested in projects that reduce our emissions. These include a transition away from fossil fuel in our fleet, moving over to LED street lighting, investing in solar systems on Council buildings and, of course, our community solar scheme.

Council is also keeping an eye on other environmental issues. We're very keen on water sensitive urban design and use rain gardens, tree inlets and permeable paving across our network to keep as much of the rainwater out of the storm water system as possible. I am delighted that we've reached our target of planting 1,800 new trees each year to safeguard our urban forest. Having more trees means that we're soaking up more carbon from the atmosphere, providing more habitat and helping to keep our streets and open spaces cooler.

While this is going on we still need to deliver quality services into the community and ensure that Mitcham remains a vibrant, safe and connected place to live, work and relax. I was delighted that our new library in Blackwood was finally delivered. My interest in the project goes way back. In fact, a motion to get the project moving was one of the very first I put forward when I was first elected in 2014.

I am also delighted that the redevelopment of the Eden Hills Scout Hall and Rotary storage facility on Karinya Reserve is now fully funded and ready to go ahead. A new scout hall will mean an end to marking the floor with crosses on the spots that are likely to cave in if you jump on them, the ability to store all the camping and other equipment without farming it out to be stored by scouting families, freedom from mouldy ceilings and safe and functional kitchen and bathroom facilities.

I would like to thank my Craigburn Ward colleague of 8 years, Lindy Taeuber. Lindy and I first visited the Eden Hills Scouts before we were elected, and I have been grateful for her work as we've sought to progress Council approval and funding for the redevelopment to proceed.

Christmas is already just around the corner and I'd like to wish you a safe and happy festive season. Please give me a call if there is anything you'd like to discuss, I'd love to hear from you!

Boorman Ward

Cr Joanna Wells

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Facebook: Joanna4Boorman

Boorman Ward encompasses the suburbs of Brown Hill Creek, Mitcham, Netherby, Springfield, Torrens Park, Urrbrae and parts of Leawood Gardens, Belair, Crafrers West and Kingswood.

The last few months have been politically challenging times for many locals, as the campaign on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament heated up on a national level. My personal view of the referendum on the Voice to Parliament is that what was a generous and simple question was very quickly made toxic and divisive by characters in both the political and media landscapes who chose to play politics with it. It was therefore heartening to see that in 20 of the 23 booths across Mitcham, the vote was in favour of the Voice. As a result of the referendum, Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross and I worked on a motion to take to the Chamber in which we outlined the intention for Mitcham to actively work to Close the Gap. This can be done through procurement, HR policies and training and employment opportunities. I'm pleased that it was passed unanimously and that, as a Council, we will be contributing towards Closing the Gap.

Domestic and family violence sees an average of 15 women per day hospitalised in Australia, where 27% of women have experienced domestic or family violence. This can necessitate a hasty departure with little or nothing being able to be taken. The simple lack of a mobile phone can be debilitating in terms of accessing information and basic services. Council is working with Phone Cycle to collect mobile phones to help these mostly women and children. If you would like to see your old mobile phone go to a good cause, please make use of this service. Not only does it keep mobiles out of landfill but it helps a sector of our community that is often overlooked and under-supported.

Last week it was a privilege to attend a ceremony organised by the Brownhill Creek Association and funded through a Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant at the Shelter Tree in the Brownhill Creek Recreation Park. The site is beautiful, with the stone walling completed, and a simple, low-profile footbridge installed. The tree is in such good health, thanks to the underplantings that have been made by students from local schools. Brownhill Creek is one of my favourite spots and whilst I often cross the creek near this point, I have never actually taken the time to sit for an hour or so. I've always appreciated the value of trees and like many in the community, I know the facts and figures about just how good this is for us, but on a Monday morning, when I would ordinarily be working, to be sitting under the canopy, completely surrounded by nature was the most luxurious treat for the soul. As we head into the silly season I encourage you to take every opportunity you can to do this and appreciate the things that really do matter - good health if you're fortunate enough to enjoy it, family and friends and the beauty of the natural world that surrounds us. The moments of stillness in a hectic world, are food for the soul.

The Park Ward**Cr Tom Morrison**

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The Park Ward encompasses the suburbs of Glenalta, Hawthorndene and parts of Blackwood, Belair and Upper Sturt.

Remarkably, it is just over one year since the residents of The Park Ward elected me to this position. Starting off with one of the most devastating storms to hit Mitcham in living memory, it has been an interesting and busy first year. As much as the Councillor position isn't a full-time job, it very nearly could be. Either way, I like to think that I have been able to make a difference so far. Here are some reflections on the first year.

What have been the positives?

- The Chamber is genuinely interested in delivering projects.
- There is very little politics played between Councillors that is of a petty or personal nature.
- The elected Chamber has a good diversity of age, experience and backgrounds.
- Mitcham residents are very engaged with their local area.

What has surprised me so far?

- The length of time it takes for projects to happen and the lack of additional capacity to take on new ideas – there is a significant backlog of work to get through from past Councils.
- How many projects / ideas should have been funded years ago but weren't (even if they save Council money in the long run).
- How much State Government red tape adds to your Council rates with little value provided.
- The Chamber debate has a surprisingly large impact on how you vote.
- For many staff, their role is much more than a job for them, they have a genuine passion for it.

What has frustrated me so far?

- The rules of the Chamber (set in the Local Government Act) are designed to create a more combative atmosphere and do not facilitate getting 'good outcomes' easily.
- Responding to resident requests or enquiries often involves bothering someone doing more important things – it would be good for a lot more information to be publicly available, so that residents and Councillors can be more self-sufficient!
- Lack of responses to Council consultations.
- An assumption from residents that new services / facilities will not increase your Council rates.

Highlights of the past year:

- Getting funding for a Bike Strategy and Trial Tree Assistance Fund in the budget.
- The opening of Tiwu Kumangka and extremely positive reaction from the community.
- Working with Council staff to deliver projects / answer enquiries.
- Being Council's representative on the Development Assessment Panel.
- Continuing to meet / talk with residents and being able to provide them with much greater knowledge on topics that they raise.
- Saved some trees!

Few Councils are as lucky as Mitcham when it comes to just how engaged our residents are. This engagement does make a genuine difference so don't hesitate to reach out.

If you haven't already, make sure you get a chance to visit Tiwu Kumangka – the new Blackwood Library and Community Centre. The use of this facility has surpassed expectations already.

Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday period.

Gault Ward**Cr Pia George**

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Gault Ward encompasses the suburbs of Hawthorn, Westbourne Park, Lower Mitcham and parts of Colonel Light Gardens, Clapham and Kingswood.

Christmas is nearly upon us and 2023 will soon draw to a close. It has been a busy year and I am looking forward to the various celebrations in the community over the coming months, including the much-loved and reinvigorated Carols at Kingswood Oval.

I was pleased to attend the Remembrance Day service at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL on behalf of the Council along with Councillor Andrew Tilley. We reflected on the enormous sacrifice of Australian Service personnel who have died in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations since 1919 – which seemed especially relevant this year. The service reminded me of the immense privilege that we have to live in Australia, but also the personal privilege that I have to represent my community as a local Councillor.

As a candidate during the 2022 election I committed to engaging with communities on local projects and this remains a priority of mine. During November, the Council consulted with the community on a significant project at Mortlock Park in Colonel Light Gardens. The project includes proposed upgrades to the Gil Langley Building, associated leases and licences on the oval and the future of the Guides Hall and former Scouts Hall. During the consultation period, the Council hosted three in-person engagement sessions in the suburb – which provided a valuable opportunity for residents to meet with Councillors and staff, to learn more about the various elements of the consultation and to ask questions. I want to acknowledge the concerns that have been raised with me by residents about reduced access to Mortlock Park as a result of proposed leases and licences by sports clubs. I am committed to working through the feedback and trying to find a solution which responds to these concerns – please get in touch with me if you'd like to discuss this further.

Separate from the subject of the consultation, I was pleased to see the Council offering genuine and accessible community engagement – recognising the complexity of the proposal and ultimately leading to a bespoke engagement process. Thank you to the staff who have been involved in this process, for the benefit of our community.

Concurrent with the end of the year celebrations is the start of the Council's preparation for the 2024/25 budget process. This is an important chance for the Council to identify and debate the merits of new initiatives and projects, as well as maintain our existing commitments. If you have a local project that you have yet to raise with your Council Members, I encourage you to do this as soon as possible, to ensure that it is considered as part of this process.

On a final note for 2023, I hope that you all have a happy and restorative break over the Christmas and New Year period. Please don't hesitate to contact me during this 'quiet period' and I hope to see many of you at the Carols at Kingswood Oval on 9 December at 5pm!

Babbage Ward**Cr Aidan Greenshields**

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

It has been 12 months since this term of Council began and many projects progressed. To name a few:

- The CC Hood Reserve master plan consultation was completed and is soon to be progressed to the works stage.
- Tiwu Kumangka opened with high use and an overwhelmingly positive response.
- Plans progressed for a well-staffed and renovated Pasadena Community Centre.
- Continued action on climate change via solar and batteries for Mitcham Council buildings as well as residents' houses, and businesses via the award-winning Community Renewables Program.
- A significant investment in Council's electricity infrastructure that is producing amazing efficiency boosts.
- The first stage of the Dorene Street upgrade complete.

Do you know where a new tree could be planted? Every year Mitcham Council endeavours to plant 1,800 trees. Council has met and exceeded that quota for this planting season and 700 sites have been identified for next year, but more sites are needed. Requests for trees to be planted (on council land) can be made via the website

(www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/requests) under Trees or by phone on 1300 133 466.

In late October, alongside the Mayor, two other Councillors and City of Mitcham staff, I attended an event hosted by the peak professional body for traffic management in Australia (AITPM) entitled 'Speed Limits and Our Community'. We heard from state Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) staff and from Bernie Auricht, from the City of Burnside who oversees the community consultation relating to Burnside's new 40kph zones who had fantastic insight into what it takes to show our community that safer streets really do benefit all. The safety of our streets is a discussion worth having and I intend to continue raising this issue.

There are \$400m worth of upgrades from the State and Federal Governments coming to Flinders Medical Centre (FMC), and whilst this is an exciting development for the area, there may be issues that need to be dealt with for local residents. Council staff have met with DIT and their planning and engineering consultants to better understand what effects this will have and how they can best be mitigated for residents. The redevelopment will be located at the current main entrance and so the upgrade of the crossing out the front of FMC by Council in the 22/23 budget will not be progressing as planned. Staff are hoping to organise a briefing to Council by the Local Health Network and DIT about the upgrades.

Have a great Christmas and New Year and don't forget the Blackwood Pageant on 1 December and Carols at Kingswood Oval on 9 December.



Kaurna Shelter Tree Project celebrated

A river red gum believed to be more than 450 years old was celebrated at the Willa Willa Karra Kuu – Kaurna Shelter Tree Celebration at Brownhill Creek Recreation Park on Monday 6 November.

Hosted by the Brownhill Creek Association and supported by a City of Mitcham Maggy Ragless Grant, the day was held to mark the success of the Kaurna Shelter Tree Project.

The day brought together Kaurna Elders, City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross and Councillors, Green Adelaide Landscape Board Chair Professor Chris Daniels, school students, community groups and volunteers.

As part of the project, woody weeds have been cleared and thousands of native species planted to protect the root zone and improve native biodiversity and habitat.

Two carved red gum log seats created by Kaurna artist Allan Sumner and interpretive

signage that tells the Kaurna story by Auntie Lynette Crocker have been installed at the site.

Other works include the restoration of the creek bed, the installation of a dry stone wall to create a viewing area, bollards and a pedestrian bridge, planting of 1,000 native species and bush tucker including 200 yam daisies or ngampa.

The tree has been integrated into the Wirraparinga Loop Trail.

Project partners include Kaurna Nation; Kaurna Elders Auntie Lynette Crocker, Uncle Jeffrey Newchurch, Uncle Mickey O'Brien, Uncle Lewis O'Brien along with First Nations artists Allan Sumner and Brad Darkson; Scotch

College Adelaide; Mitcham Historical Society; Suzanne Elliott Charitable Trust (SECT); Friends of Brownhill Creek Recreation Park; Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek; Mitcham Rotary Club; National Parks & Wildlife Service SA; Green Adelaide, Green Adelaide Education and Green Adelaide Grassroots Grant; Federal Government CEP and SCP7 Grants; support from BCA's Education & Revegetation Committee, including Scotch College, Mercedes College, Urrbrae Agricultural High School, Mitcham Primary School and Mitcham Girls High School and local volunteers.

Read more about the project at www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au



Avoid food waste this Christmas

Christmas is a time when we prepare and eat lots of delicious food – let's not waste it!

Avoid wasting food by planning ahead and serving smaller portions. Leftovers can be eaten cold or are easy to re-heat on Boxing Day (National Leftovers Day).

Four easy steps to reducing food waste include:

- Look at what's in your fridge and pantry before going shopping for more and plan your meals.
- Buy only what you need. Make a shopping list and avoid the deals.
- Store food in airtight containers, keep fruit and veg in the fridge and freeze food near its use-by date.
- Cook with what you have, use ingredients up and love your leftovers.

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Bin collection reminder

There are no bin collections on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All collections move to the day after their normal collection day, for the remaining week. To find out more about public holiday collections, visit www.eastwaste.com.au/our-services/public-holiday-collections