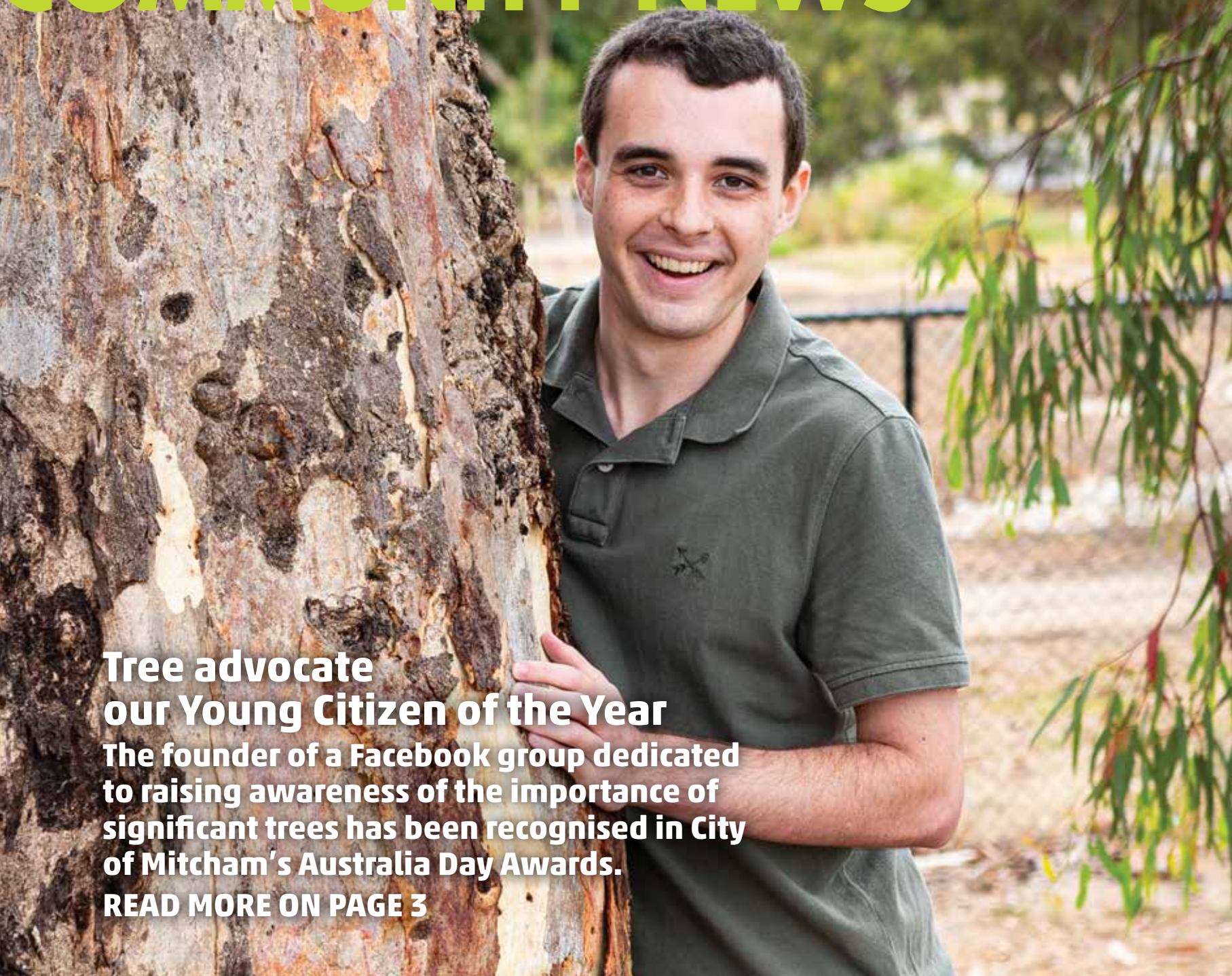


# MITCHAM

## COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2021



### Tree advocate our Young Citizen of the Year

The founder of a Facebook group dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of significant trees has been recognised in City of Mitcham's Australia Day Awards.

**READ MORE ON PAGE 3**

#### MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS FEBRUARY 2021



CITY OF  
MITCHAM



Discover Council's achievements and highlights for 2019/2020.

**Page 4-7**



Grant applications now open!  
To apply visit [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

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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The streets of Mitcham are set to sizzle with community barbecues thanks to a Neighbour Day competition to kick off in February.

**Page 16**

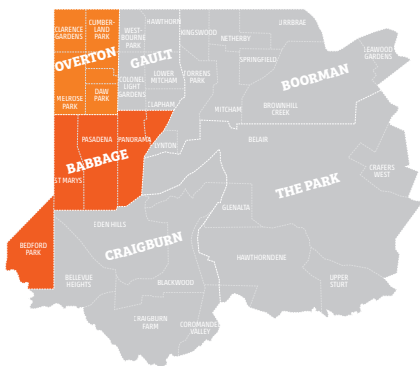
#### Also in this issue

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# Community Ward Forums in March

Do you have an opinion or want to be heard? Residents are invited to attend their local forum to find out about local issues and meet their Elected Members. Community Forums will be held at:

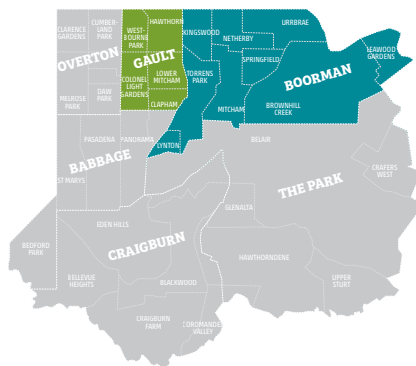


## Community Forum for Babbage and Overton Wards

Clarence Gardens, Melrose Park, Cumberland Park, Daw Park, Colonel Light Gardens Bedford Park, Panorama, Pasadena or St Marys.

**7pm on Monday 1 March 2021**

St Marys Sporting Association, Laura Avenue, St Marys.

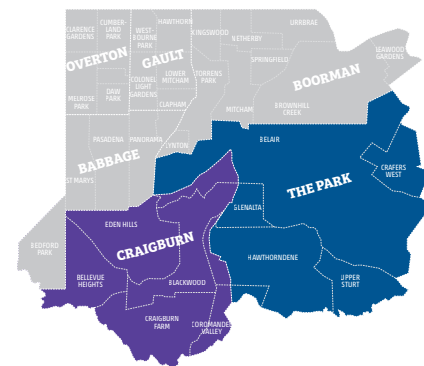


## Community Forum for Boorman and Gault Wards

Kingswood, Torrens Park, Lynton, Mitcham, Netherby, Brown Hill Creek, Springfield, Urrbrae, Leawood Gardens, Clapham, Colonel Light Gardens, Hawthorn, Lower Mitcham and Westbourne Park.

**7pm on Monday 15 March 2021**

City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.



## Community Forum for Craighurn and The Park Wards

Blackwood, Belair, Bellevue Heights, Coromandel Valley, Craighurn Farm, Eden Hills, Glenalta, Hawthorndene and Upper Sturt.

**7pm on Monday 29 March 2021**

Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood.

**Residents are invited to submit questions prior to a forum to ensure that the topic can be addressed on the night.**

**For more information email [communitywardforums@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:communitywardforums@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or visit [www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-ward-forums](http://www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-ward-forums).**



## Have your say!

The City of Mitcham is inviting feedback on a proposed Flinders-City bikeway that aims to provide a safer cycling route between Flinders University's Tonsley campus and the city.

Further information is available at:

- [www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/flinders-city-bikeway](http://www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/flinders-city-bikeway)
- City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park
- Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn
- Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood

**To find out more, please contact James Arnold on 8372 8888.**

**Have your say on the bikeway by completing an online feedback form available at [www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/flinders-city-bikeway](http://www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/flinders-city-bikeway) by 5pm Tuesday 16 February 2021.**

**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**

## New club seeks members

The newly formed Combined Probus Club at Colonel Light Gardens is seeking new members after an interrupted start in 2020.

Club spokesperson Julie Gibbs said meetings were postponed shortly after the formation of the Club in January 2020 due to COVID-19.

In October the Club started meeting again and its members are seeking to grow the membership base.

An initiative of Rotary, Probus Clubs are aimed at retirees and people who want to connect with one another for 'fun, fellowship and friendship'. "Members pay a nominal fee to cover hall hire and we invite guest speakers once a month," Julie said. "We also plan to organise other events such as group visits to the movies or places like the Botanic Gardens."

The club meets at 10am on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens.

To find out more, contact Julie on 0466 105 426 or email [juliegibbs606@gmail.com](mailto:juliegibbs606@gmail.com).

## New Blackwood Hub design endorsed

City of Mitcham is set to progress plans to build a Blackwood Community Hub to include a Community Centre, Library, Gallery, Maker Space and Toy Library.

At a special Council meeting in December, Council endorsed a revised concept design with a maximum budget of \$12 million.

Under the design, the existing Community Centre would be demolished to make way for the construction of a new two-storey building

to house a library on the ground floor and community space on the first floor.

The design also includes an Information Desk, Kitchen Servery and Library Lounge area.

It does not include the upgrade of Waite Street Reserve, part of the original design concept.

Council will continue to investigate external grant funding options to assist in the development of the hub.

The floor plan and 3-dimensional external designs for this design will be presented to Council in early 2021.

**For more information visit [www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/blackwood-community-hub](http://www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/blackwood-community-hub).**



# Australia Day celebrations

On Australia Day Mitcham residents celebrated our Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards and welcomed 50 new citizens in a celebration held at St Marys.



**Above left:** Citizen of the Year, John Arthur, President of the Bedford Park Residents Association and Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross. **Above centre:** Active Citizen Award winner, The Big A Charity Shop volunteers (L-R) Heather Restall, Bev Galliford, Maria Mundi and Gabriele Bennett with Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross. **Above right:** Young Citizen of the Year, 20 Metre Trees founder Tom Morrison and Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross.

City of Mitcham recognised Bedford Park Residents Association President John Arthur as Citizen of the Year and awarded the Active Citizen Award to The Big A Charity Shop at Hawthorn. Tree advocate Tom Morrison was named Young Citizen of the Year.

Mr Morrison, 23, of Glenalta, started '20 Metre Trees', an active Facebook community, in 2017 which aims to educate and promote the importance of tree canopy and large trees in the urban environment.

Through his work, Tom has raised awareness of the current State significant and regulated trees legislation and its impact on the protection of historic trees.

Mr Arthur has been active in the community for 25 years as a member of the Bedford Park Residents Association, including 15 years as president.

He represents the local community on a wide range of projects including the Southern Expressway dual roadway upgrade and Darlington Upgrade Project, Flinders Link Rail, Flinders Medical Centre extensions and car park and proposed Flinders Village. He has also been a coordinator for Clean Up Australia and Neighbourhood Watch.

Big A Charity Shop is operated by the Colonel Light Gardens Church of Christ at Goodwood Road, Colonel Light Gardens.

For 20 years the shop has operated four days a week and is run entirely by a team of up to 30 volunteers.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross paid tribute to this year's award winners. "I'd like to sincerely congratulate and thank you, on behalf of the community, for your contributions to our city. It's the efforts of selfless volunteers like yourselves that make our community well informed, connected and more resilient."

As part of the Australia Day celebrations, City of Mitcham welcomed 50 new citizens from 20 different countries and provided a free 'Aussie barbecue' and morning tea with desserts from around the world. Cultural dance performances and music from a local acoustic guitarist entertained the crowds.

**Do you know someone who has made a contribution to our community that you would like to acknowledge? Nominate them for a Citizen of the Year Award. Contact Nat on 8372 8888 or via email [mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).**

*We're still here  
for you!*

[thevillage.org.au](http://thevillage.org.au)  
Email [bhbc@bhbc.org.au](mailto:bhbc@bhbc.org.au)  
ph. 8370 0333



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BAPTIST CHURCH**

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# CITY OF MITCHAM ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS 2019/2020



## The year 2019/2020 presented many challenges but also highlighted the strength and resilience of our community.

We saw many examples of people caring for one another, checking in on isolated neighbours, and choosing to spend money to support local businesses.

For many of us, the pandemic presented an opportunity to slow down and reflect on the importance of community, the environment and the role of Local Government in our everyday lives.

City of Mitcham was the only metropolitan council to offer a 10 per cent rebate to COVID-19-affected ratepayers, a targeted policy that was widely praised by South Australia's business and political leaders.

The rebate was offset by \$1.4m in savings and efficiencies, ensuring Council's important work could continue, including the fast-tracking of infrastructure projects to kick-start the local economy.

Other measures introduced to support businesses, community groups, tenants and ratepayers financially impacted by the pandemic included rent and fee waivers on Council-owned buildings and an option to defer rates.

The COVID-19 crisis highlighted the growing importance of libraries to our community, who continued accessing services through a 'Click or Call and Collect' service, online children's programs and expanded home deliveries. Our libraries at Mitcham and Blackwood were the first in the state to re-open to the public in June.

Mitcham Memorial Library and its surrounding Brownhill Creek Redevelopment won the Excellence in Infrastructure Delivery Award at the 2020 Local Government Professionals Leadership Excellence Awards. This precinct has been embraced by our community, whether it is kids playing in the creek, students doing homework in

our many study nooks, or groups enjoying a picnic on the lawns.

The past year also shed light on the important work of Council's Environmental Health team who partnered with the Local Government Association and SA Police to keep businesses and residents up to date on food safety and social distancing requirements, financial assistance and mental health support.

Our Community Wellbeing team provided support to our older and isolated residents with phone calls, welfare checks and continued community services. For our outdoor workers, a new operating model ensured the safety of staff and the community.

**Council published its full 2019/20 Annual Report in December 2020.**





## HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

### Community celebrations

During 2019/20 we celebrated with the community at a range of events including Carols at Kingswood Oval, a Neighbour Day competition, youth events and Civic receptions. During ZestFest, more than 400 people enjoyed Council's Active Arts Festival, taking part in a series of events including a gala Festival opening night, film mornings, theatre performances, guided local history walks and virtual reality goggle experiences. The City welcomed 60 new residents in a Citizenship Ceremony and Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award presentation at the newly redeveloped St Marys Park in January.

### 'Their Triumph, Our Motivation' civic reception

In honour of the 100th anniversary of the Suffrage Movement in South Australia, our Mayor hosted a Civic Reception and presented a **Pledge of Gratitude** to State Parliament. South Australia was the first state in Australia to give women the right to vote in general elections and stand for election to Parliament.

### Supporting our community

The shutdown presented an opportunity for Council to refurbish our Community Centres and clubs including Mitcham Community Centre, Gamble Cottage, Hawthorn Community Centre, Hawthorn Bowling Club and Colonel Light Gardens Bowling Club. Works included kitchen and servery upgrades, new toilet facilities, new flooring, painting and removal of non-structural walls to create more open spaces.

Mitcham was successful in securing **Fund My Neighbourhood** grants for a range of projects including playground upgrades at AA Bailey Reserve, Clarence Gardens; Downer Avenue Reserve, Belair; Price Memorial Oval, Hawthorn; and Waite Street Reserve, Blackwood. The junior play space at Kent Street Reserve, Colonel Light Gardens was renewed, along with the Norman Street Reserve Playground at St Marys.

We installed new changerooms at Blackwood Oval, LED oval lighting at St Marys Park and Manson Oval, Bellevue Heights and new changerooms at Hewett Reserve, Blackwood.

As well as upgrading and replacing many footpaths across our City, we opened the new Burnell Trail Link at Randell Park, featuring 375m natural surface trail, new entrance and revegetated areas.





## CITY OF MITCHAM ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS 2019/2020



## HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

**Climate emergency**

Council is leading the way when it comes to action on climate change, reflected in the declaration of a Climate Emergency in October 2019.

In 2019/20 Council's climate change actions included:

- A total of 1,767 lights replaced with LED lights at Council's Civic Centre and Melrose Park Operations Depot, delivering savings of over \$307,000 and elimination of 860 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions over 10 years.
- As part of Council's ongoing commitment to water sensitive urban design, 75 'TreeNet inlets' were installed to harvest stormwater and boost vegetation along our verges.
- 70 per cent of new footpaths laid with permeable paving to reduce stormwater runoff and boost groundwater.
- Carlisle Road, Westbourne Park, made from 450,000 plastic bottles, laid to coincide with 'Earth Day'. The road also features recycled concrete kerbs, TreeNet inlets and stormwater rain gardens.
- Council continued its partnership with its asphalt contractor Tyre Stewardship Australia and other councils to trial 'crumbed rubber roads' made from recycled tyres.
- Our permeable paving trial site at St Marys was awarded Excellence in Sustainable and Environmentally Responsible Infrastructure Management at the Local Government Professionals Leadership Excellence Awards.

Council continued its program of preventative measures taken to reduce the risk of bushfire in the community, highlighted by the devastating bushfires in Adelaide and Kangaroo Island over summer. As well as hosting regular free green waste disposal days at its Lynton Green Organics Drop Off Facility, Council offered grants to residents to help reduce bushfire risk on their properties and reduced fuel loads by removing vegetation, creating fuel breaks, prescribed burning and extensive brush cutting.

**Mitcham 2030**

Council progressed its Strategic Management Plan, hosting staff and Elected Member workshops and seeking community feedback. The plan sets out a vision, goals and themes to help guide Council's direction and identify initiatives for the coming decade. The outcome of this work will inform the preparation of a Four-Year Delivery Plan and budget aligned to priority themes.

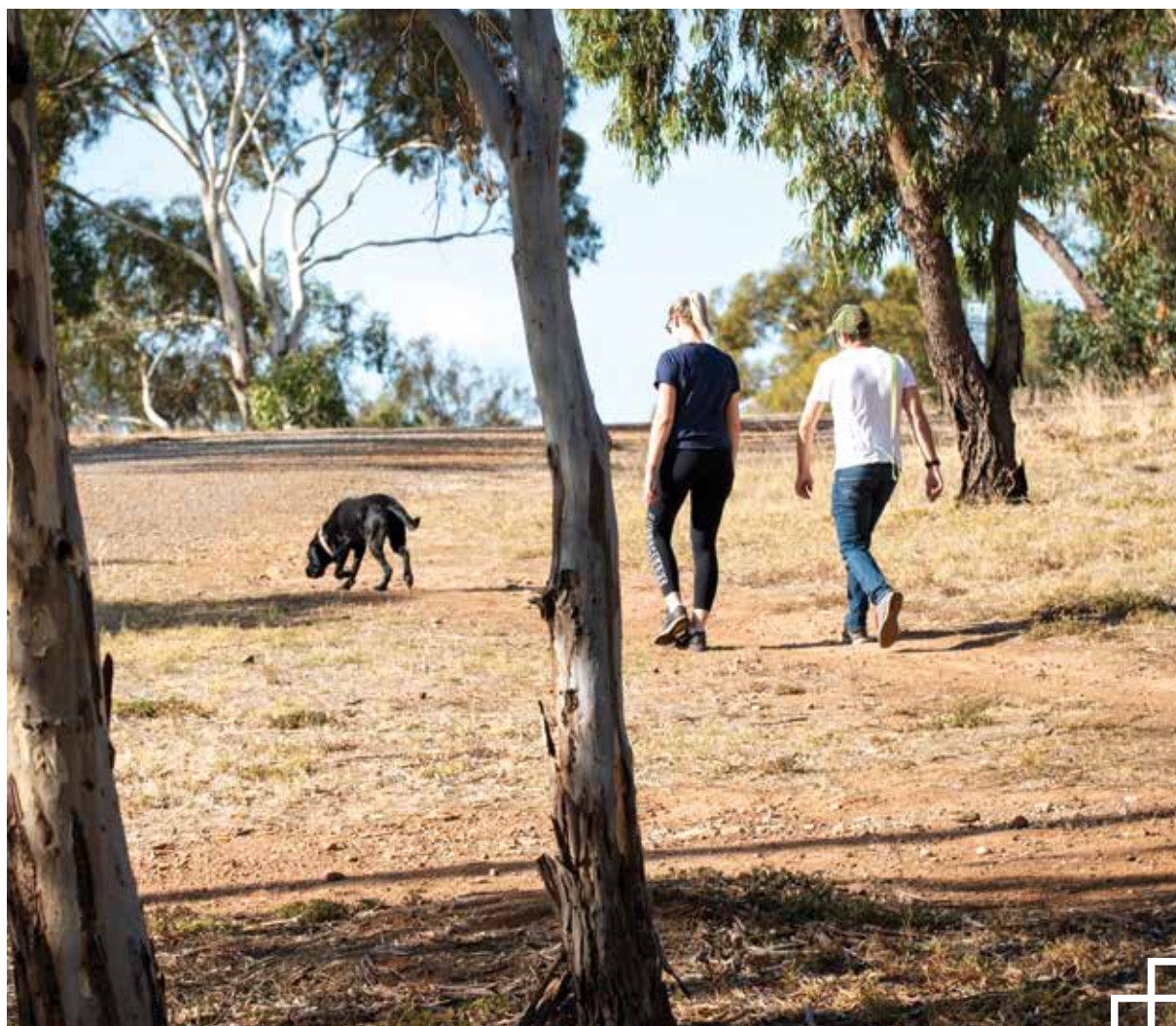
**Growth precincts and character areas**

A major piece of work for Council has been taking steps to shape the future of our City through changes to our Development Plan.

Council has been progressing work across a number of important precincts including Goodwood and Daws Road, Blackwood Centre, Belair Road in Mitcham and Hawthorn, Flinders and St Marys and the Goodwood and Cross Road Precincts. These precincts have been set out to create opportunities for investment, growth and change.

Council also began work on a Special Character Residential Areas Development Plan Amendment in a bid to ensure the character of some of our suburbs is protected under changes to the State's Planning and Design Code and Planning Development and Infrastructure Act.





## Awards and recognition

The City of Mitcham received a number of awards in recognition of organisational success across several areas. The awards included:

### 2020 Local Government Professionals Leadership Excellence Awards

**Excellence in Infrastructure Delivery Award**  
- The Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek Redevelopment

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 \$10.6m redevelopment includes an expanded public library (770m<sup>2</sup> to 1476m<sup>2</sup>) 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.

**Excellence in Sustainable and Environmentally Responsible Infrastructure Management** – St Marys Permeable Asphalt Car Park

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 was used to create a car park 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 car park.

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.

### South Australian Management Challenge 2020

– My Mitcham Rules Team

The City of Mitcham represented South Australia in an Australasian management competition after winning the Local Government Professionals' State Management Challenge.

A team of six emerging leaders drawn from across the Council undertook a series of challenges based on a fictitious council in the online competition. They demonstrated skills in a range of areas, from presenting and report writing to strategy and business case development.

### Other awards

**2019 LGAMLS Risk Management, Incentive Award** – Real-time fire risk assessment processes and procedures

**Urban Development Institute of Australia, Award for Excellence in the Public Realm**  
– Mitcham Memorial Library Brownhill Creek redevelopment

**Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR), Resilient Australia Award** – Climate Ready Communities Program (In partnership with the Cities of Marion, Holdfast Bay and Onkaparinga)

**Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and Arbor Day Foundation, Tree City of the World** – Street tree audits and accelerated tree planting program

**Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) Young Professional of the Year 2019** – Sam Fulton, Engineering Assets Officer

## LOOKING AHEAD

Our commitment to a sustainable future is set to continue in 2021 with plans to strengthen bike and walking links to the city, explore carbon neutral fleet opportunities, establish corporate emission reduction targets and install more renewable energy on buildings.

For the first time, wherever possible, every new kerb will have Treenet inlets and permeable paving installed, ensuring stormwater run-off is diverted from our drains to our street trees.

We are pushing ahead with upgrades to clubrooms at Kingswood Oval and a new soccer pitch and clubrooms at Karinya Reserve, Eden Hills, as well as plans to have drinking fountains and dog water bowls at each of the City's parks.

Under our new Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 we continue to advance the City as a welcoming and inclusive place. During late 2020 we captured our community's ideas, experiences and feedback on ongoing strategies to ensure our community continues to be accessible and inclusive for all.

Finally, we would like to thank our staff for their hard work during 2019/20 and pay tribute to our many volunteers who continue to play a vital role in our community and whose contribution is greatly appreciated.

By continuing to work together and care for one another we will continue to create a vibrant and welcoming city of which we can all be proud.



**Council's Full 2019/20 Annual Report can be found at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or for viewing or purchase at the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.**





Springbank College students Ella Smith, Angus Ng, Jandre Malinga and Jasmine Mounsey with City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Springbank College Art Teachers Anna Maria Zupancic and Leah Markey and St Marys Church Priest William Deng.

## Murals celebrate community at St Marys

Four murals painted by Springbank College students have been unveiled at St Marys Anglican Church.

The colourful works were created by students from Years 8 to 11 in a project supported by City of Mitcham's 2019 grants program.

Springbank College Art Teacher Anna Maria Zupancic said the first mural represented an acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners, the Kurna people. The second focussed on the historic cemetery at St Marys and was painted in the bold style of Australian artist Howard Arkley.

"Another panel represents the Picket Fence Community Garden at St Marys and the other reflects members of the St Marys Church community," Ms Zupancic said.

Parishioner Nereda Ozols said the murals had brightened up what was a bare, grey wall.

"You can see these murals from South Road as you come in and it makes the whole place look more attractive," she said. "We are really happy with the result."

Anglicare Parish Community Engagement Worker Jill Rivers said the installation coincides with the reopening of the community garden, op shop, community centre and project centre after a lengthy shutdown due to COVID-19 last year.

"The timing of these murals is remarkable – we are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back and seeing the garden come back to life."

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the project was a great example of collaboration between the school, Church and Council.

"Congratulations to everyone involved on these beautiful works of art," she said. "It shows what can be achieved when we work together as a community."

## Community groups at our libraries

Join our regular community groups at the Mitcham Memorial and Blackwood Libraries.

### Mitcham Memorial Library

#### Scrabble group

Every fourth Saturday at 1pm. All levels welcome. Free.

#### Knitting and crochet group

Every Saturday at 1.30pm. All levels welcome. Free.

#### Lets Talk About ... conversation group

Every second Tuesday at 10.30am. Free.

#### French classes

Every Wednesday during School Terms. \$50 per term.

Beginners 1	10am to 11am
Beginners 2	11am to 12pm
Intermediate-Advanced	12pm to 1pm

### Blackwood Library

#### Rummy group

Every second Friday at 10.30am. All levels welcome. Free.

#### Chess group

Every second Wednesday at 2pm. All levels welcome. Free.

### Both libraries

#### Book discussion groups

Monthly. Various times. \$33 yearly.

**For more information and dates please contact the Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244 or the Blackwood Library on 8372 8255.**

## City of Mitcham's grants now open!

Are you inspired to introduce a new program or idea to our local community? Are you looking to connect with those around you but don't have the financial support? Would you like to deliver a fresh community initiative?

If you have an idea and need some financial support to make it a reality, apply for a City of Mitcham Grant. There are many Community Development Grants available up to the value of \$2,500 each including Community Physical and/or Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Garden Activities, Environmental Improvement and Community Events. We also have a Special Project/ Special Event Grant that can provide up to \$5,000 to assist in bringing your idea to life.

The City of Mitcham also provides other community grant opportunities including Individual Achievement Grants, Public Art Grants, the Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant to assist in the recording of Council's history, and the Community Facilities Grant to assist our community facilities to be the best they can be.

**For more information visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants) or call Nat on 8372 8129 if you would like to discuss your application.**

**Grant applications close 5pm Wednesday 31 March 2021.**

### September Grant Recipients

In September City of Mitcham awarded \$9,962 in grants to local community groups.

Six groups received grants in the September round including Gallery One for their learn to make soap workshop, Joan's Patch for the installation of a Gazebo and Reade Park Croquet Club and Westbourne Park Uniting Church Netball Club for new equipment.



### Grants working in our community

Kurna Adelaide for Children who received a grant of \$3,959 in March 2020 are hosting 'Walking Together with Kurna at Wirraparinga', A free cultural event for children and families on Sunday 2 May 1pm to 3.30pm at Mitcham Reserve.

Wirraparinga (Brownhill Creek) is steeped in Kurna history, Culture, and language yet this remains unacknowledged by most who visit. 'Walking Together with Kurna at Wirraparinga' will begin with a Welcome to Country by Auntie Elaine Magias followed by four concurrent workshops to be repeated half hourly, for participants to move between. The workshops, led by Kurna educators, will facilitate children's understanding of the Cultural practices, knowledge, language, and seasonal migration through the area. Each workshop will include engaging activities for children.

For more information about 'Walking Together with Kurna – Cultural experiences for children' email [vonderborchliesl@gmail.com](mailto:vonderborchliesl@gmail.com) or to secure your space at this event visit [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/walking-together-with-kurna-at-wirraparinga-tickets-133799232105](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/walking-together-with-kurna-at-wirraparinga-tickets-133799232105).



# It's a New Year, so why waste it? Let's sort it.

Make your New Year's resolution to recycle more and waste less by avoiding, reducing, reusing, recycling and composting!

## Avoid or reduce

Single use disposable containers including takeaway coffee cups and polystyrene containers, straws, plastic bags, pre-packaged fruit and vegetables, coffee machine pods, food waste and junk mail. Come in and pick up a 'No Junk Mail' sticker from us.

## Re-Use

Non-disposable, re-usable and refillable water bottles, coffee cups, shopping bags, lunch boxes and crockery and cutlery. Donate your unwanted clothing, footwear, towels and bedding to charity (perhaps purchase some preloved clothing while you're there) or if these items are too old, use as rags or donate them to animal shelters for bedding. Your old furniture can be refurbished and repurposed into new masterpieces or donated to charity.

## Recycle in your yellow bin

Paper and cardboard such as newspapers, egg cartons and milk and juice cartons, rigid plastic such as drink bottles, takeaway food containers and yoghurt containers, glass, steel and aluminum cans, foil trays and foil wrappers (scrunched into a ball). Please ensure your containers are empty and clean with lids removed. Place items in loose, never in a bag.

## Recycle but not in the yellow bin

Household batteries and mobile phones can be dropped off at ALDI, IKEA or Council's Civic Centre and Libraries, electronic items at Unplug N' Drop at Mitcham Cultural Village or Melrose Park Operations Depot and light globes at any Mitre10 hardware stores or IKEA.

## Compost in your green organics bin

Food scraps, lawn clippings, cut flowers, tissue and paper towel, egg shells, coffee grounds, tea leaves and paper tea bags, hair and fingernails and pet waste. Many of these items can go into your home compost.

For more information visit

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



## Grab a copy of your 2021 Waste Calendar

You can cut it out below and stick on your fridge, download it at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/waste-and-recycling](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/waste-and-recycling) or download the My Local Services App from the iTunes App Store for iPhone users or from the Google Play Store for Android owners to get friendly reminders of your bin days.

### WHICH BIN? THE YELLOW RECYCLING BIN

For information about where, how and what you can recycle head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU)



### WHICH BIN? THE GREEN ORGANICS BIN

For information about where, how and what you can compost head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU)



### WHICH BIN? THE BLUE WASTE TO LANDFILL BIN

For information about how to divert more waste from landfill head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU)



## 2021 KERBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDAR

### RECYCLING OR ORGANICS COLLECTION ENQUIRIES, MISSED BINS, THEFT OR BIN REPAIRS

Contact East Waste 8347 5111 or visit [eastwaste.com.au](http://eastwaste.com.au)

### FOR ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES

Contact Council 8372 8888 or visit [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)



EastWaste

### FOOD SCRAPS GO IN THE GREEN BIN

Please use your green bin for all food scraps including fruit, vegetables, tea bags, coffee grounds, dairy products, egg shells, oyster shells, bones, meat and seafood as well as paper towels and tissues.

Kitchen caddies and compostable bags are available for purchase at Council's Civic Centre and Blackwood Library at a discounted price.

### HARD WASTE COLLECTION

Book one free 'at call' collection per financial year.

Book online [eastwaste.com.au/our-services/hard-rubbish/](http://eastwaste.com.au/our-services/hard-rubbish/)

Call East Waste 8347 5111

Email [east@eastwaste.com](mailto:east@eastwaste.com)

### MY LOCAL SERVICES APP



Get kerbside collection information, waste reduction and recycling tips on the free My Local Services App.

Download from the App Store or Google Play.

### HAZARDOUS AND ELECTRONIC WASTE

Hazardous waste and e-waste must not be placed in any kerbside bin. Your nearest household chemicals and paint drop-off location is:

**Adelaide Waste and Recycling Centre**

181 Morphett Road, North Plympton

Call 8295 5077 or go to [adelaidewasteandrecyclingcentre.com.au](http://adelaidewasteandrecyclingcentre.com.au)

For other e-waste drop off locations visit:

· [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

· [whichbin.sa.gov.au](http://whichbin.sa.gov.au)

### ADDITIONAL BINS

Additional waste, recycling or green organics bins are available subject to approval and an annual service fee.

Call Council 8372 8888

Email [mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

DON'T KNOW WHICH BIN? HEAD TO THE WHICH BIN WEBSITE





# Lions Club of Blackwood

The Club's iconic Bargain Centre at Eden Hills is about to reach a fundraising milestone of \$3 million.

The Club would like to thank the community and acknowledge the amazing assistance from the many members of our community who have donated or purchased goods that has made this amount possible.

The \$3 million has been returned to the international, national and local communities in many varied ways ranging from disaster relief (at all levels) to ongoing local school bursaries, the distribution of Christmas hampers to the less

fortunate and of course the annual Christmas Pageant.

The Bargain Centre continues to be the major fundraising focus of the Club. To ensure the ongoing viability of the Centre and the Club they are always happy to welcome new members who would enjoy being a part of this team.

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at the Blackwood Memorial Hall to discuss business of the Club, funding requests and allocate assistance. On the third Wednesday of each month a dinner and social meeting is held with guest speakers. Members are also allocated to a Bargain Centre Team and rostered to attend the Centre (4 weeks on and 8 weeks off).

**Call Chris Martin 0409 900 499 or email [blackwoodlions@yahoo.com](mailto:blackwoodlions@yahoo.com) for more information.**

## The Rotary Club of Coromandel Valley Inc

Meet on the first and third Monday of the month (public holidays excepted) at 6pm for 6.30pm in the Parish Hall (behind St John's Anglican Church), 337 Main Road, Coromandel Valley. Visitors welcome.

**For further information contact Club Secretary Peter on 0408 841 150.**

## EAT • TALK • BELONG



Care & 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](http://www.careandshare.org.au)

AW3934167

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



## Adelaide-Mitcham Prostate Cancer Support Group

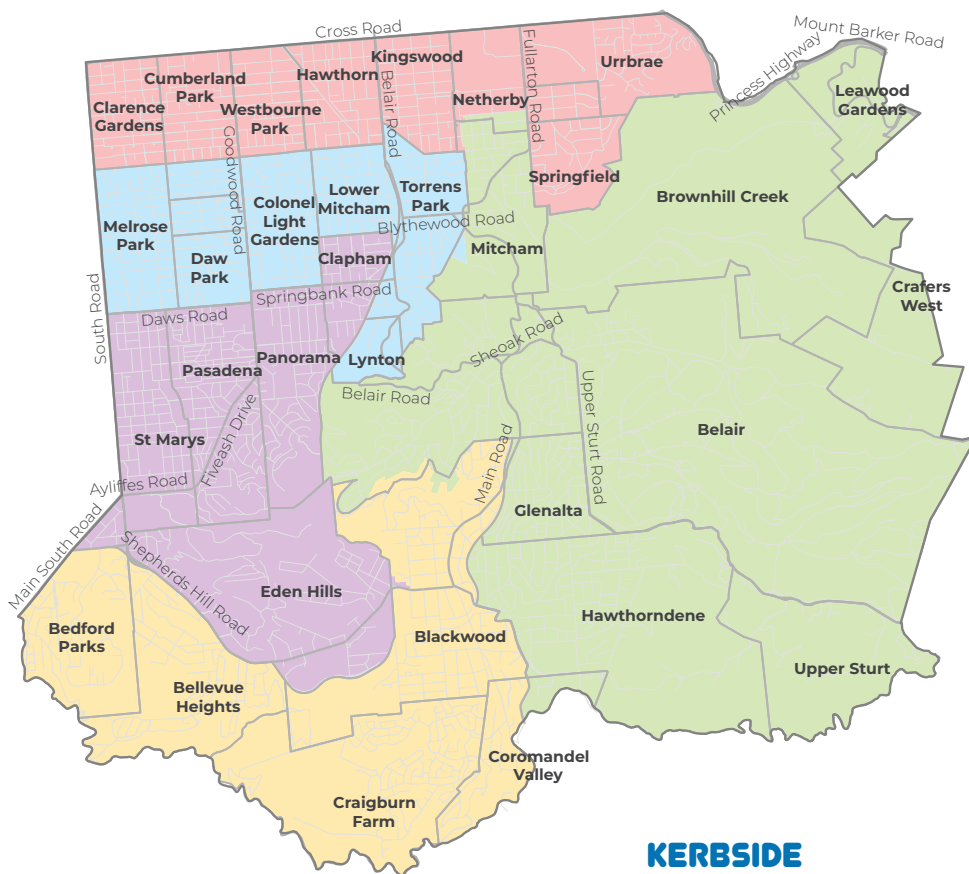
Join us on the second Wednesday of every month from February to October at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens 7pm to 8.45pm.

**Visit [www.adelaide-mitchamprostate.org](http://www.adelaide-mitchamprostate.org) or call 0438 604 323.**

## 2021 KERBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDAR

MARCH 2021	APRIL 2021
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY 2021	JUNE 2021
M T W T F S S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
JULY 2021	AUGUST 2021
M T W T F S S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
SEPTEMBER 2021	OCTOBER 2021
M T W T F S S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
NOVEMBER 2021	DECEMBER 2021
M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F S S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
JANUARY 2022	FEBRUARY 2022
M T W T F S S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

- Green organics bin (fortnightly)
- Yellow recycling bin (fortnightly)
- Blue waste to landfill bin (weekly)
- No collection on the public holiday for Good Friday. Collection will move to the next day (Saturday).
- Public holiday – Collection as usual



## KERBSIDE COLLECTION MAP

Use this map to determine your collection day.

- MONDAY
- TUESDAY
- WEDNESDAY
- THURSDAY
- FRIDAY

## KERBSIDE BIN PLACEMENT

Bins should be placed 1 metre apart at kerbside by 6am on your collection day.

## LYNTON GREEN ORGANICS DROP-OFF FACILITY

Residents can take excess organic material to:

**Lynton Green Organics Drop-off Facility**  
Beagle Terrace, Lynton  
Open 9am-3pm

1st, 3rd and 5th Saturday of each month excluding public holidays.

Fees apply and identification required.

## GREEN ORGANICS DROP-OFF FIRE DANGER SEASON

Council has free green organics drop-off days at the Lynton Facility to assist residents prepare their property for the fire danger season. The free days are determined prior to the Fire Danger Season and are advertised on Council's website and social media pages.

Please note that Council may close the facility in the event of extreme weather. In addition the facility will be closed on extreme and catastrophic fire danger rated days. Please visit [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or check out our facebook page, **City of Mitcham** to confirm the facility is open before you visit.



## Home Library Service in demand

City of Mitcham's Home Library Service expanded during the COVID-19 lockdown last year as more residents took advantage of remote access to the library's catalogue.

Home Library Coordinator Kath Lessue said when the library closed its doors to the public in March, the number of residents using the service more than doubled.

"We took on clients who previously used the Community Bus and many vulnerable people in the community," she said. "We also teamed up with Community and Wellbeing to ensure that our community was supported during some of the most isolating periods that we have seen."

Each week the service delivers over 300 items to residents who find it difficult to visit the library in person.

Volunteer Noel Kelly delivers items to Blackwood and Mitcham areas three Thursdays a month.

He also volunteers for Trees for Life and at the Adelaide Oval and while some of his volunteering duties were suspended last year, he enjoyed his work with Home Library Service.

"It's good for my spirit and soul," he said.

"Sometimes I talk to people and I might be their only contact for the day, and that is quite rewarding, to know I am helping them - it's good for them, and for me."

During COVID-19 last year e-book and e-audiobook loans increased by 58 per cent, and movie streaming services doubled in usage.

Staff assembled and handed out over 4,500 craft kits, produced 16 online Story Time sessions, 10 online craft demonstrations and 15 online Wriggle and Read sessions, viewed over 15,000 times.

From March to May 2020, customers placed an average 12,500 holds per month and borrowed an average of 30,000 items per month.

Approximately 70 volunteers work across the Mitcham Memorial and Blackwood Libraries.



Home Library Service volunteer Noel Kelly delivers items from Mitcham Memorial Library to Blackwood and Bellevue Heights each month.

## Justice of the Peace Service at our libraries

A free Justice of the Peace service is available at the Mitcham Memorial and Blackwood libraries.

### When and Where

#### Blackwood Library

215 Main Road, Blackwood  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am to 12pm

#### Mitcham Memorial Library

154 Belair Road, Hawthorn  
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am to 12pm  
No appointment necessary.



Service includes:

- witness oaths or affidavits
- take statutory declarations and affirmations
- witness signatures
- attest the execution of a document
- certify a true copy of an original document

Council offers a free part time Justice of the Peace service for residents who need documents witnessed for official or legal purposes. In 2021 our Justice of the Peace service previously at the Civic Centre on Mondays and Thursdays has permanently relocated to the Mitcham Memorial Library.

**For more information or if you would like to volunteer call 8372 8888 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/justice-of-the-peace](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/justice-of-the-peace).**



Colonel Light Gardens Senior Citizens Club President Edna Pongrac, Committee Member Betty Doohan and Secretary/Treasurer Heather Sutton at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, where the club meets once a week.

## Decade of service for Club's first centenarian

Betty Doohan has become the Colonel Light Gardens Senior Citizen Club's oldest member after celebrating her 100th birthday in November.

The centenarian is an active member of the Club, serving on the committee and responsible for washing and ironing tea towels each week, as well as contributing cakes, biscuits and her much-loved lemon spread to club fundraisers and events.

Betty, who joined the club at 90, still lives independently at home and says she enjoys keeping active.

"I have a big garden at home and I always keep myself busy - I still do everything myself."

Betty celebrated her birthday with a lunch at the Goodwood Hotel, organised by the Colonel Light Gardens Senior Citizen's Club, attended by friends and family.

Club president Edna Pongrac, who joined 20 years ago when she moved to Adelaide from the Riverland, said the club had 30 active members and would welcome more.

After months apart during COVID-19 shutdown, the Club is set to recommence weekly meetings on 4 February.

"It is a good way to get out and spend time with people," she said. "We have regular guest speakers and entertainment, bingo and afternoon tea together."

The Club meets at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club on Wednesdays from 1pm to 3pm. Membership costs \$10 a year and \$4 per week.



## Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross



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Happy New Year! The beginning of 2021 has brought me a new sense of hope for the future. Of course, front of mind is the COVID-19 pandemic. This time last year we had hardly heard of the novel coronavirus, and just twelve months later, after an unprecedented global effort, we are seeing the roll out of several vaccines across the globe. What a fantastic achievement by governments and medical researchers of the world. It makes me optimistic of what humanity can and will achieve to alleviate other global crises.

The idea of joy and new beginnings continued with my first major mayoral engagement of the year - our Australia Day celebration at St Marys Park, where we welcomed 50 new citizens from 20 countries. City of Mitcham holds four citizenship ceremonies a year and it is an honour to preside over these events. Mayors are authorised to administer the Pledge of Commitment, the final stage in the citizenship journey, where conferees pledge their loyalty to Australia, and our Australian way of life. I always feel humbled that, of all the places in the world, these people have chosen us - Australia, South Australia, and the City of Mitcham, as their new home. These occasions fill me with pride. It is one of my favourite duties, to welcome our newest citizens on behalf of our residents, and all Australians.

Australia Day is our premier citizenship event of the year as we also announce our City of Mitcham Citizens of the Year. This year we received several very worthy nominations. It is staggering that our community includes so many amazing people quietly working behind the scenes to enhance the lives of others. We awarded recipients in three categories to outstanding nominees. I congratulate Mr Tom Morrison, Mr John Arthur and The Big A Charity Shop, on their respective awards of Young Citizen, Citizen and Active Citizen of 2021. Well done!

I wish to thank City of Mitcham staff and Elected Members for their efforts in ensuring that our citizenship ceremonies, throughout the year, are such inclusive and memorable occasions. I also extend my sincere thanks to representatives of the Kurna community and Blackwood Reconciliation Group for their ongoing involvement in our citizenship ceremonies. I am grateful for their participation in the Australia Day ceremony, as I acknowledge that for some Australians the anniversary of the landing of the first fleet is not a cause for celebration.

This year Council hopes to strengthen bonds with our first nations peoples as we embark on our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) journey, a process designed to guide us to embed Aboriginal culture and diversity into the fabric of our organisation. This is just one of many exciting undertakings Council has planned for this year. Others include work on new and ongoing environmental and sustainability projects, extensive capital works and restructuring our community grants program. I am looking forward to a wonderful year and wish you the same!

## The Park Ward Cr Corin McCarthy



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The last 12 months have been very important for Mitcham and the hills residents that I serve.

### Highlights from 2020

These are a few of my highlights that Mitcham Council has helped deliver.

- Mitcham Council setting goals and real actions for addressing climate change.
- Mitcham Council's 10 per cent rebate for those receiving JobKeeper or JobSeeker, as well as waiving rates for Q4 2019-20 for businesses that were closed during COVID.
- New infrastructure creating jobs for the community, including agreeing the scope of the \$12 million Blackwood Hub, and commencing the \$2.8 million upgrade of Karinya Reserve and the Sturt Lions Football facility.
- The community coming together and opposing the State Government bus cuts, particularly the 195, 196 and 197 proposals for discontinuance and for this to pay off.

### Your Fire Plan

I am also heartened that most residents have a fire safety plan. Most residents are planning by:

- Checking regularly on the CFS warnings and incidents webpage, for fires on very high and catastrophic fire risk days.
- Considering moving out on catastrophic fire days, especially for children, the elderly and people with illness or disability.
- Coming up with a plan on when to leave, where they will go and how they will get there.

I was also heartened before summer with the Department for Environment and Water, in their cutting of the grass at the old Belair Golf Course. I have over recent years, received a lot of community representations on this issue.

### Real action on climate change in 2021

However, residents are rightly concerned by the longer, hotter and more deadly fire season.

The challenge for us over the next few years is to forcefully act on climate change with policy changes and new infrastructure.

What I want to see in 2021, is a budget with a major set of climate change initiatives and I believe this can be achieved.

The Mitcham Council can do its part, funding amenities to respond to climate change, such as shade sails for playgrounds, so they can be used on hot days in summer. I want to see continued investment in street trees, LED lighting, solar panels and batteries for Council infrastructure, as well as electric car charging points and electric vehicles.

I believe that new technology makes carbon abatement, energy efficiency and cost savings available, if we are bold.

### James Road, Old Belair Road Solution

Since the election, I have promoted easier vehicle access onto Old Belair Road for residents of Glenalta, Hawthorndene and Belair, especially at peak times. I was very pleased then, with the \$20 million roundabout announcement from the Federal Government for the intersection of James Road and Old Belair Road. I look forward to seeing further detail on the proposal and how it can make the commute easier for busy parents and workers in peak times.

I hope you've had a great summer and I look forward to hearing from you.

## Craigburn Ward Cr Lindy Taeuber



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*'This newspaper has been especially produced by the City of Mitcham for residents, businesses and other community groups who may be interested in proposals to redevelop the Blackwood Centre ...proposals for fresh urban design of the centre began in the late 1980s...Problems identified included: serious lack of parking...highly fragmented ownership of sites...disjointed links for both vehicles and pedestrians...lack of community focus...severance of the Centre by arterial roads which affects pedestrian movement...' Solutions discussed were '...land exchange and redevelopment within Foodland precinct to allow establishment of pedestrian arcade...the possible incorporation of land to the rear of the Telstra and Post Office sites for...parking...possible redevelopment involving the Senior Citizens site...' (Mayor Joy O'Hazy & staff 1997).*

Fast forward to 2021! Despite significant expenditure on studies, consultation and reports, the above remain valid today. To my mind the only way we can progress improvements to Blackwood and not end up with more unactioned reports is via compromise. **The Hub building** on Young Street is a key element (but not the only driver) in Council's decision to work towards improving the layout of Blackwood which is described in professional reports as atrophying and bleeding shoppers to Mitcham, Pasadena and elsewhere putting pressure on parking and traffic in these areas. The Hub and precinct designs aim to improve pedestrian connectivity, create a **Waite Street Reserve** 'village green' that connects with the building, provide parking and very importantly act as a catalyst for private investment in the centre. Planning is a core function of Council with significant work underway as part of the State Government's draft 'Planning and Design Code' around areas to grow, areas not to touch and areas to have modest change all of which include parts of Blackwood.

In November I advocated for **compromise** between the \$18m and a \$10-\$12m building. Some resident feedback said 'good on you' for trying to find a solution via compromise and others said 'you have betrayed Council's consultation outcomes which strongly supported the \$18m project'. I understand these views but I am of the opinion that after some 30 years with minimal action taken that compromise is the way forward. That being said, the building must be fit for purpose.

In December Council voted strongly to seek designs for a \$12m, 2-storey building which provides Community Centre, Library, Gallery, Maker Space, Information Desk, Kitchen, Meeting Room and Toy Library services as well as an externally available toilet and parking. A cost estimate for the inclusion of a second floor, which could be constructed at some time in the future, was also requested. By the time you read this column we will have seen these designs and decided on an approach to the State Government for grant funding with the result of the grant application known in March. I hope that Council and residents can find a compromise that provides the necessary services at a reasonable price that we can all be excited by and proud of.



## Overton Ward Cr Katarina Steele



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When I went to work one Monday at the end of December, I saw with terror that all the trees on the yard of the factory were gone. The owner had cut down 16 nice, 20-year-old trees. This happened in a northern suburb, but in Mitcham too trees "disappear". The realisation that I couldn't prevent that and there is no way to reverse what happened, made me stressed. To quieten myself down I thought of the many actions we took in our city to increase the number of trees, to save for them the runaway rainwater and to prevent unnecessary removals. You can check the achievements and planned actions on [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/climatechange](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/climatechange).

My end of year celebration was pleasant. After months of demanding work, for the first time in years I stayed home with my husband and enjoyed low-key, but pleasant festivities. A heart-warming experience was to join the Hungarian community's Christmas celebration, to sing the carols of my childhood in my mother's tongue and eat the homemade cakes of the many givers.

Givers – they are everywhere. My neighbour, who with his daughter went around on Christmas Eve giving away cherries they had pickled; a lady from the next street giving me a big bunch of curry leaves and cuttings from her succulents (those I potted straight away and will give them to the local group of Amnesty International for their market stall) and the neighbour across the street who brought us her apricots. When I think of all such experiences in just a short time I feel peace, some sort of certainty that we are okay, we can manage life, we are able to create a better world. Good start into a new year!

What am I planning for 2021? For a long time I was thinking how I could be helpful to the homeless. I have visited Fred's Van and learned about the great work this group is doing and I collected some data about homelessness. Together with another Councillor and with the help of our Mayor we reached out to an organisation which is working in this field in Central and Northern Adelaide which shared with us its experiences. Wow! What a big and complex job! And certainly not an easy one. But we are determined to start it. There will be a need for many organisations and volunteers who give their time, energy and hearts to help our fellows most in need.

During the last weeks of 2020 I visited a lot of small businesses in my ward. It was good to hear that most of them were not much impacted by the restrictions related to the pandemic and some even thrived because of it. Being confined to our homes we did more cleaning, more gardening, played more music – and so more music instruments, roller shutters and seedlings were sold.

I hope we will be able to continue avoiding COVID-19 and that we'll have a good 2021.

## Babbage Ward Cr Yvonne Todd



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Happy New Year to you all and best wishes for a positive start to the new year.

I am feeling positive as I reflect on how fantastically prepared Council was, for applying for recently announced government grants. To apply, our projects needed to be ready for delivery within 12 months, and they were. The Federal Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program application will accelerate already planned property, open space and road/footpath projects. I submitted a wish list for Babbage ward and many of the suggestions will possibly be included.

The State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership program is aimed at spending on community infrastructure projects which contribute to local economic growth. In December, the Chamber directed administration to prepare applications, which included fast tracking the Bedford Park section of the Sturt River Linear Trail project with a sealed walking path through Riverside Reserve. The path was originally suggested by a resident under "Fund my neighbourhood" so I am excited to see it will now be included in the application. A small improvement with big outcomes for walkers, pram pushers and bike riders.

This grant application preparation shows that Babbage ward lacks "shovel ready" projects, so my 2021 goal is to work with staff to identify and prepare future local projects, ready for future funding opportunities.

Council received part funding in October for the Biodiversity Corridor at Pasadena which 92% of residents very strongly support. The focus of this exciting project which includes Branson, Sierra Nevada and Grant Jacob Reserves, is to take flows from underground stormwater pipes above ground and improve reserve amenity and water quality. Passive irrigation through soakage trenches will sustain and promote the growth of native vegetation and trees.

Residents face another major road development. South Road, from Tonsley down to Cross Road will be tunnelled, impacting the suburbs of St Marys, Melrose Park and Clarence Gardens. My experience of these projects is that it will be difficult for residents and businesses during the building period. I have asked to be a representative on the Southern Tunnels Community reference group, to give me the opportunity to represent local residents and businesses as I would have up to date information on progress to share.

I was the MC at the Australia Day event at beautiful St Marys Park. It has been very rewarding to see the clubrooms and park developed over the last few years and it is wonderful to have and use this space for events in St Marys.

I recently attended two friendly neighbourhood BBQs in St Marys and Pasadena. Thank you to the hosts. Community BBQs was an idea I flagged with Council several years ago and it is satisfying that Neighbour Day BBQ competitions with \$250 BBQ food vouchers will continue in 2021.

Please call or email me if you have Council issues to discuss.

## Gault Ward Cr Coralie Cheney



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I trust everyone had a very happy Christmas and New Year and a restful and safe holiday break. 2020 was certainly a "different" year for most, yet I believe it brought a togetherness and resilience that has united us with a change of perspective of what is truly important in life. I am particularly excited for those families who have not been able to connect with each other over the last year and trust this year brings many opportunities to do so.

I wish to thank the Mayor and staff for their supportive welcome and time to answer my questions and the residents who encouraged me to run for Council and take on this challenge.

It has been interesting to be part of the discussions around Blackwood Hub moving into the next stage of planning with all the essential spaces and elements required. As an Elected Member we get many emails from residents (amongst all the fan mail!) that may not be fully aware of all the facts relating to such a decision (as there is a lot involved), however, I believe it is a good outcome for Mitcham Council overall and more specifically great for the Blackwood community and hope this project can commence construction after many decades. Apologies if I cannot respond to each email.

Another topic you will hear more about this year is the realignment of the Council Wards. Probably most residents are not concerned with what Ward they live in, but I want to highlight this as it is more involved than just Ward boundary changes. The State Government are considering that all Councils should reduce the number of Councillors to a maximum of 12 (Mitcham currently has 13), and to maximise efficiencies, align topography of the area and reflect the community interests and ease of communication within those areas. Another consideration is, do you think Mitcham Council should consider amalgamation with other Councils (e.g. Unley) in the future in order to further reduce costs and improve efficiencies? When you receive a survey about this please take the time to read the report relating to it and give Council your view. Your feedback is valuable and can help enormously in understanding the direction Mitcham Council takes in the future.

There are also several sporting clubs who are now looking to progress their developments. This is exciting as it is needed to encourage community involvement and activities. To see children and families get outside and be part of a team commitment has so many benefits. I am delighted how clubs have raised funds in support of their projects and have worked hard behind the scenes to get things started.

This year my goal, with your help, is to see progress with several matters and feel a sense of achievement and community benefit. Let's pray for a COVID free year and be thankful for the many blessings we have living in this wonderful state and country.



# Musicians welcome new 'baby' to Cumberland Park

City of Mitcham musicians have welcomed a new 'baby grand' piano to the Cumberland Park Community Centre.

Purchased by City of Mitcham for \$3,500, the instrument replaces an upright piano previously used by the two orchestras that rehearse and perform at the Centre, the Mitcham Orchestra and Cumberland Park ARPA Orchestra.

Mitcham Orchestra President Robert Brown said the instrument would open up many performance opportunities for the orchestras.

"It means we have a really good piano to use in the orchestra and it means we can invite soloists to perform, which really wasn't possible with the old upright," Mr Brown said. "It is a much better instrument and using it means pianists have a line of sight to the conductor, which is important."

The baby grand had been at the Norwood Concert Hall for 18 years but was sold to Daw Park music business Winston Music by City of Norwood St Peters to make way for its purchase of a \$100,000 grand piano.

When he heard about the sale, Mr Brown contacted City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, who invited him to address Council on the merits of purchasing the piano.



Winston Music offered to deliver the piano to Cumberland Park for free if the purchase coincided with the installation of the new piano.

"I explained that this piano would bring many benefits to the community," Mr Brown said.

Cumberland Park ARPA Orchestra President Bill Eime said the purchase of the piano was "absolutely fantastic".

"We're thrilled about it," he said. "Previously we had to pay to hire performance spaces, but this means we can perform here, which is wonderful."

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes Ross said the purchase would help the two orchestras expand their community engagement.

"It will allow more community events, such as Citizenship Ceremonies, to be held in the centre," she said. "Supporting arts and culture helps us build strong, resilient and connected communities - a core business of Council."

Cumberland Park ARPA Orchestra formed in 1983 as a group for retired residents, but today all ages are welcome. Mitcham Orchestra, formerly Metropolitan Adelaide Orchestra, was established 20 years ago. It started rehearsing at Cumberland Park when COVID restrictions meant players were no longer able to use their previous rehearsal space at Richmond Road Hall.

Both orchestras' rehearsals at Cumberland Park are open to the Community.

The Mitcham Orchestra rehearses from 2pm to 4.30pm on Saturday afternoons. The Cumberland Park ARPA Orchestra rehearses from 10am to 12pm on Thursdays.

**To find out more or to join an orchestra, contact Rebecca at the Cumberland Park Community Centre on 8372 8888.**

## Staying safe around school zones

As the school term begins again for 2021 it is important to be vigilant around schools when doing drop off and pick up for the safety of community members.

It is important to take special care to watch out for young children who may be hard to see or not understand road traffic rules.

Ensure you teach any children with you to follow the road rules and lead by example to demonstrate safe practices around busy school roads.

### Helpful tips for school zone safety:

- Allow enough time to get your children to the school gate safely without rushing
- Consider parking a few streets away and walk your children to school to teach them the road safety rules
- Always observe the speed limit signs around the school
- Always observe the parking related signs in the streets surrounding the school. These are designed to keep children safe
- Never double park. Double parking blocks the vision of other drivers, forces children onto the road and obstructs the flow of traffic
- Give cyclists plenty of space

**To read more on road safety visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/parking-safety](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/parking-safety).**



## Council's Immunisation Service Clinics

Immunisation is a simple, safe and effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases before they come into contact with them. The City of Mitcham holds four regular public clinics within the Council area.

### 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**

\* Please note clinics may be subject to cancellation without prior notice.

**For more information on Council's public immunisation clinics contact Council's Immunisation Coordinator on 8372 8816 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation).**





## Christmas Festival spreads festive cheer

City of Mitcham's inaugural Christmas Festival brought the community together to share some much-needed festive fun in December and January.

The festival was organised as an alternative to the annual Carols at Kingswood Oval event that was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three Christmas Celebration Spaces were set up at CC Hood Reserve, Panorama, Waite Street Reserve, Blackwood, and Soldiers Memorial Gardens at Mitcham Memorial Library.

Decked out in lights and decorations created by our local schools, the spaces hosted pop-up performances including brass band, carols, dance and ukulele performances, Australian stories and songs and children's entertainment.

The festival also hosted a Christmas Craft Carnival across Mitcham Cultural Village, Blackwood

Community Centre, Mitcham Memorial Library and Cumberland Park Community Centre, and nature walks and geocaching at CC Hood Reserve.

City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing program's 'Colour Group' and 'Cumbie Crew' worked on a banner and knitted bows and wreaths to decorate our Community Centres.

A Christmas Lights Trail Map was created to showcase the best streets and suburbs to visit.

As well as lighting up our Christmas Celebration Spaces, Council buildings including the Mitcham Community Centre, Mitcham Cultural Village, Blackwood Community Centre and Cumberland Park Community Centre featured light displays,

while a fence art installation was installed at Hawthorndene Oval using recycled materials.

At our libraries, kids were invited to write a letter to Santa and to attend a magical Christmas Night Time Story Time.

Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said after a difficult year, the festival had been welcomed by many in the community.

"It was wonderful to see how people embraced our festival, particularly our local schools and community groups who helped create our displays," she said. "Thank you to everyone who got involved for helping us celebrate the end of the year and welcome 2021."







Unley High School Art Teacher Sophie Aitken, Torrens Arms Hotel Manager Tom Marshall, Unley High School student Lei Li, Unley High School Principal Greg Rolton, Unley High School Art Coordinator Vicki Holland, Artist Mike Sander.

## Lei eyes art scholarship

A bold mural at the Torrens Arms is the work of Year 11 Unley High School Visual Arts student Lei Li.

Lei's design 'Eyes and Leaves' was chosen as winner of the Art and Design Scholarship, a collaboration between the Mitcham hotel and Unley High School.

In its second year, the scholarship is open to the school's Art and Design students.

Lei won \$500 to spend on art supplies and the chance to work alongside local artist Mike Sander to bring her work to life on a feature wall next to the Mitcham Shopping Centre.

Lei, who is set to continue her studies in Visual Arts this year, said working on the mural was a great experience.

"I was amazed at how Mike was able to combine his idea and mine respectively into a singular artwork," she said. "I gained a lot of insight into the steps it took to create a mural and also the life of a professional artist."

Lei also exhibited her work at the annual Unley High School Phoenix Exhibition at Gallery One, Mitcham Cultural Village, in December.

## Neighbour Day BBQ competition set to sizzle again

City of Mitcham is set to host a Neighbour Day BBQ competition to coincide with Neighbour Day on Sunday 28 March.

In its second year, the competition aims to foster connections between neighbours across each City of Mitcham ward.

Two winners from each ward, and three from Craighburn Ward, will win \$250 food vouchers sourced from local suppliers, to be used to host a barbecue on their street.

Elected Members from each ward will be invited to join barbecues, which must be hosted in line with COVID-19 directions in place at the time of the event.

One of last year's winners, De'Anne Smith, hosted a barbecue at Dunn's Reserve, Glenalta, that was attended by 40 adults and 30 kids – and a "gatecrashing koala".

"We had glorious weather and were joined by our oldest neighbour, who is turning 90 (this) year and has lived on the street for 60 years," she said. "We also got to meet our newest neighbour who had only just moved in the Friday before."

This year's barbecues must be held between Sunday 28 March and Sunday 2 May 2021.

To enter, tell us what is great about your street. Email your entry, including your name, address and ward to [mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).

**The competition closes on Friday 26 February 2021, with winners to be drawn at random on Tuesday 2 March.**

The theme for this year's Neighbour Day is: 'Every day is Neighbour Day'.

For more details please visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/neighbour-day](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/neighbour-day).



## New native bee hotel at the Urrbrae Wetland

The Urrbrae Wetland now has a native bee hotel to encourage some of Australia's 1500 native bee species to live and breed at the site.

Volunteers report that bees are already taking up residence in crevices and clay incorporated into the structure.

Native bees play an important role in pollinating our local plants.

The bee hotel was built by Friends of the Urrbrae Wetland members, who meet every Tuesday from 8.30am to 11am.

The Friends are involved in a variety of activities such as growing and planting seedlings, weeding and building structures such as paths or bird boxes.

For those who enjoy less physical activities, there is the opportunity to learn about the plants of the Grey Box Grassy Woodland that existed prior to European settlement.

Keep an eye out for details of Wetland Open Days in autumn and spring each year. If you would like to join a friendly group of workers in a delightful bushland setting in the heart of the suburbs, contact Deirdre Travers on 0408 244 641 or email [dmtravers@gmail.com](mailto:dmtravers@gmail.com).

**Above:** The new native bee hotel. **Below:** Volunteers keeping up the water to recent plantings.

