

MITCHAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

JUNE 2021

New chapter for 'Cumby'

An organic gardening workshop is the latest in a series of new programs at Cumberland Park Community Centre. Full story pages 8 & 9.

Mitcham Community News is changing!

Register today to keep receiving your copy.

For more information see page 2.

MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS JUNE 2021



CITY OF
MITCHAM



Riders from across Australia and New Zealand are set to compete at Eagle Mountain Bike Park this month.

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Rug up and tune in to City of Mitcham's live streamed Winter Sessions.

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City of Mitcham celebrates its volunteers.

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Cover image: Indi and Phoebe are hosting an organic gardening workshop at the Cumberland Park Community Centre community garden this month.

Message from the Mayor

Mayor
Dr Heather Holmes-Ross



Telephone: 0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Recently I was driving along Shepherds Hill Road, past Wittunga Botanic Gardens when I was stopped by traffic lights at the pedestrian crossing. Crossing the road were a huge cutout mother duck and duckling. I laughed to myself at the thought of Wittunga being duck bombed. I thought it was a wonderful show of public art.

A few days later I learned that the ducks are one of the latest Mitcham public art and activation projects. Artist Monica Prichard has created a family of giant ducks which are positioned along the fence line so that it looks like the ducklings are following their mother across the road and into the entrance to Wittunga, at the site of the new playground. The aim of the installation is that it not only highlights the way to Wittunga in a quirky and fun way but to also acts as a traffic calming insertion to make commuters more aware of children crossing the road.

This temporary duck family installation is one of six projects funded by Mitcham Council in the 2020/21 financial year. Among the other projects is the sensational transformation of SA Water's 30-metre high drinking water tower on

Sheoak Road at Belair. This stunning mural, which covers the public facing facade of the tower, was created by artist Seb Humphries earlier in the year. And artist Kristy O'Neil delivered a project in Hawthorndene where Stobie poles on Surrey Street and Turners Avenue are brought to life with beautiful paintings of local flora and fauna.

Our public art projects are chosen by the Mitcham Art Advisory Group (MAAG) which is a group of local experts who volunteer their time to review and provide recommendations to Council on significant or contentious public or community art proposals. As the composition of the group has recently changed, I take this opportunity to welcome new members and thank all members for their time and energy in providing this service to Council.

Funding public art is a relatively new direction of Council, with the first public art grants awarded in 2018 from a budget of \$25,000. This year Council increased our public art budget by \$10,000 to \$38,000, which represents an average contribution of just over one dollar per household per year. I am really proud that we are able to help recognise some of the many established and emerging artists that live in the City of Mitcham through our grants program as I believe that public art is a vital part of creating vibrancy and generating pride in our community.

There are three art activation projects still to be delivered this year. These will be in Blackwood and Mitcham West, Brown Hill and Pasadena. I'm not going to spoil the surprise by telling you what they are, but keep an eye for them as they'll be happening soon!

Please visit our website for more information about our public art policies, projects and grants at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community/grants/public-art.



City of Mitcham supports National Reconciliation Week

City of Mitcham school students helped create a 'Sea of Hands' to mark National Reconciliation Week 2021.

Students from schools and kindergartens were invited to create hands and display them at their schools, front yards at home, and at the Colebrook Home Memorial Park in Eden Hills, to help them understand more about Aboriginal history in our community.

As part of the week (27 May to 2 June), Kurna Elder Aunty Elaine joined Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross in a flag raising ceremony at Council's Civic Centre.

An exhibition by Aboriginal artist Melissa Summer will be on display at the Mitcham Memorial Library from 2 June to 14 July.

The theme for this year was: 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.'

Find out more at
www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/reconciliation-week



Mitcham Community News is changing beginning in September 2021!

For many years, the Mitcham Community News has kept readers up to date with what is happening across our City, featuring local stories and information about news, services and events.

Register to receive the Mitcham Community News

If you would like to continue to receive future editions of the Mitcham Community News just fill in the subscription form telling us where you would like us to send it to - your email or home address.

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copy

The great news is that you will get to hear more regularly from us with a new edition available each month. What is changing is the way you'll receive the Mitcham Community News - beginning in September we're inviting you to choose how you would like to have the Mitcham Community News delivered.

You can now opt in and have the Mitcham Community News delivered directly to your email for easy access or receive a printed copy in the mail. We will still provide copies of the Mitcham Community News in our Civic Centre, Libraries and Community Centres.

Online readers will benefit from having instant access to the Mitcham Community News, either by opting to have it delivered to their email address, or by going online, where you will always be able to find the latest edition of the Mitcham Community News along with past issues.

Subscribe today

Online: www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news

Call us: 8372 8888

Email: mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Complete this form and return it to us at City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, or post to City of Mitcham, PO Box 21, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park SA 5062.

To see the current and past editions of the Mitcham Community News visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news.

Mitcham to host UCI mountain bike event

City of Mitcham's world class mountain bike trails will be under the spotlight next month when the City hosts the Tier 1 Gold Cross Country Olympic Race at Leawood Gardens.

Last month Council pledged the final \$5,000 required for the race to be listed by the UCI, the global cycling governing body.

Adelaide Mountain Biking Club approached the Council to help it secure UCI listing, providing an opportunity for elite and aspiring junior riders to race together to gain vital UCI ranking points.

In the lead-up to the event, athletes from across Australia and New Zealand, along with their families and coaches, will stay and spend locally in the City of Mitcham.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said having the event sanctioned as a world class UCI race would put Eagle Mountain Bike Park, and Mitcham's trail networks, on the domestic and international stage as a sport and tourist destination.

"I'm looking forward to seeing this national event become a regular fixture for our local mountain biking enthusiasts, as well as those from further afield."

City of Mitcham is home to over 40km of walking and mountain bike trails.

Visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trails.



City of Mitcham Operations Support Officer Tony Borg, Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Natural Environments Project Officer Ben Leonello and Team Leader City Services Richard Clifford.

City of Mitcham's EVs – coming to a street near you!

City of Mitcham has taken the first step in its pledge to transition away from petrol-powered vehicles with the purchase of two 100 per cent electric cars.

The two Hyundai Ioniq EVs will save Council around \$2,500 in petrol and maintenance each year and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to four tonnes of CO₂e/ year – equivalent to the carbon captured by 66 trees.

The EVs are part of an emerging plan to replace Council's fleet with electric vehicles, or other renewable fuel alternatives, by 2030.

The purchase reflects Council's commitment to responding to the global climate crisis and helps to reach Council's corporate goals set out under the City Power Partnership pledges.

Council has committed to installing four charging stations across the city, including two at the Civic Centre public car park, one at Blackwood's Gladstone Street car park and one at a site in the St Marys/Flinders precinct.

These 7kW AC fast charging stations with dual ports will be Open Charge Point Protocol

compliant and will be free for public use, with the model to be reviewed after six months.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said it was hoped the purchase of the vehicles and charging stations would encourage staff and community to consider EVs when they purchase their next vehicle.

"We hope that by taking this step, we will send a clear message of support for electric vehicles in South Australia," she said. "I'm proud to be part of a council that is actively working towards saving money and the planet and leading the way when it comes to creating a sustainable future for its residents."

Benefits would include quieter streets, more liveable suburbs and less pollution, leading to better health outcomes.

The greenhouse gases saved by EVs are set to increase as more electricity in the state is provided by renewable sources.



We're still here for you!

thevillage.org.au
Email bhbcebhbc.org.au
ph. 8370 0333



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South Australia's new planning system is live!

The new Planning and Design Code forms part of the new planning system and replaces Council's Development Plan.

On 19 March 2021, the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (PDI Act) replaced the Development Act 1993, bringing into effect a single source of state-wide planning rules. The State Government is confident this will lead to simpler, clearer and more consistent zoning policy across the state.

The PlanSA website - plan.sa.gov.au - provides a one-stop-shop for all things planning and development. The website allows you to lodge and track your development application online, search property zoning, find an accredited professional, review development rules, make

payments, submit information and track major projects and development activity across the state.

A Guide to the Code together with a series of fact sheets and FAQs have been prepared by PlanSA to help the community understand the new planning system, including the Planning and Design Code. These are available on PlanSA's website www.plan.sa.gov.au and in paper form at Council's planning information counter.

The launch of the new system won't affect any development applications already under way - those development applications lodged before 19 March will continue to be assessed and processed under the previous system.

If you would like more information on the new Planning System, or any other planning matter, please call Council's Planning Team on 8372 8888.



New Heritage Standards for Colonel Light Gardens

New Heritage Standards for Colonel Light Gardens have been published by HeritageSA as part of the new planning system for South Australia.

Colonel Light Gardens is one of Australia's most complete examples of an early 1920s garden suburb and became a State Heritage Area in 2000. The suburb represents the best work of Charles Reade, Australia's first appointed Town Planner and a leading advocate of garden city design, and is home to the majority of houses built under the 1920s mass-housing project known as the Thousand Homes Scheme.

Colonel Light Gardens was largely built within 10 years of its design, meaning almost all buildings are of the same period and style.

The new Heritage Standards are in response to the introduction of the new planning system for South Australia and seek to ensure that the heritage value of Colonel Light Gardens continues to be conserved and enhanced into the future.

The new Heritage Standards will be used by Heritage SA and Council planning staff in assessing proposed developments in Colonel Light Gardens. They set out principles and acceptable standards to guide development on private and public land.

If you would like more information on the Heritage Standards (Colonel Light Gardens State Heritage Area), or any other planning matters, please contact our Planning Team on 8372 8888.

Community partner opportunity

City of Mitcham is seeking community partners for the 2021 Carols at Kingswood Oval event.

In its 24th year, the carols event presents an opportunity for partners to contribute either in kind or financial support.

Carols at Kingswood Oval will be held on Saturday 27 November 2021 from 6pm to 9pm at Kingswood Oval, Belair Road, Kingswood.

To find out more, please contact Nat Franklin on 8372 8129 or email nfranklin@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

City of Mitcham welcomes new citizens

City of Mitcham welcomed 50 new citizens at two Citizenship Ceremonies at the Blackwood Community Centre last month.

Blackwood High School students helped during the event, serving coffee, tea and cakes; two students sang the national anthem at each ceremony.

The next Citizenship Ceremony will be held on Friday 25 June at Colonel Light Gardens RSL as part of Colonel Lights Gardens' centenary celebrations. At that ceremony, City of Mitcham will also acknowledge AM and OAM recipients.

Find out more at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/citizenship-ceremonies.



Play your part to stay COVID-safe

We can all play our part to reduce the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak in our community.

Scanning QR codes at venues helps SA Health's outbreak tracing team to quickly respond if a case occurs.

Roll up to protect yourself and the ones you love and get vaccinated when it's your turn.

To check your eligibility for a vaccine and book in for a vaccination with SA Health or participating GPs, visit www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/vaccination.



For more information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/winter-sessions.

Local indie band SODA in action at The Ghost Light Bunker last year.

Winter Sessions returns!

Rug up, grab a drink and join us from the comfort of your lounge room on Friday nights in June to support local musicians streamed live from The Ghost Light Bunker studio in St Marys.

Last year City of Mitcham launched Winter Sessions At Home to give emerging and established artists the opportunity to continue to perform during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Local acts took to the stage to have their music professionally filmed and streamed live on City of Mitcham's Facebook page.

Following the success of last year's event, we're excited to be hosting another round of sessions, continuing our commitment in support of the local live music scene.

Tune in to our Facebook page (@cityofmitcham) every Friday at 8pm and keep an eye on the website for details on each week's line-up.

New online catalogue - coming soon!

The Mitcham Library Service is set to launch a new online library catalogue website to provide a better experience for the community.

Key features include a simplified design with familiar and powerful search functions, a mobile interface just for smartphones and tablets, quick-access menus to find all events and services, a dedicated library catalogue just for kids, new digital resources, 'one click' access to material in languages other than English, current news and events, social media and much more.

For updates, visit our Facebook page @MitchamLibrary or the website www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/libraries.

MITCHAM
LIBRARY
SERVICE

Surfwear outlet rides wave of success

A mural featuring a giant squid and Kanagawa-inspired wave is the latest addition to Clarence Gardens surf shop Andorwith.

The Winston Avenue business is experiencing demand across Australia and overseas for its locally designed and manufactured surf wear and accessories.

The business was founded by brothers Dominic and Daniel Smith, both teachers, 11 years ago.

An avid surfer, Daniel wanted to explore his creative side and combined his passion for surfing, sustainability and fashion in the venture.

He uses recycled and organic material across the range including bathers and board shorts made from 100 per cent recycled plastic bottles.

With a growing social media following, the brand was picked up by surf wear outlets and is available online. Three years ago, Daniel set up a pop-up stall in front of his garage.

"We thought we'd just see what happened, and it ended up being really popular, so it snowballed from there," he said. "Over a couple of weeks in the summer holidays we converted the garage to our concept store, to open on a Saturday and Sunday - now we are open every day!"



Daniel commissioned in-house artist Dane Louis to create a mural to help customers find the shop and to give something back to the community.

"The locals have been really supporting us and we thought this would be a good way to pay it forward and add to the streetscape."

Feedback on the mural from the community has been positive.

"Since we finished we've had many new and existing customers tell us how great it looks," Daniel says. "And it's much easier to find us now - we tell people to look for the giant squid and the wave."

Andorwith, 38 Winston Avenue, Clarence Gardens, www.andorwith.com.

klemich
simply, real



Adam Timms

*empathy & experience
in real estate*

0412 217 479



City of Mitcham Horticulture Officer David Sheldrick.

Tree Planting Program under way

City of Mitcham's annual Tree Planting Program is under way with a target of 1,800 trees to be planted city-wide from April to September. This target is the final stage of our accelerated tree program which has seen planting increased over the last four years from 1,100 per year in 2017 to 1800 in the 2020/21 planting season.

Keep an eye out for new trees in your street and reserves. Council periodically waters new trees, however, we invite you to help us get them off to a great start. During the warmer months of the year, filling the well surrounding the tree with water once a week can really help. Please help us keep our city green.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said expanding the city's tree canopy would deliver long-term benefits to the environment, streetscape and wellbeing of residents, keeping our city cool and green.

"Trees provide shade that helps cool our city," she said. "They not only improve the amenity of our living spaces but provide an important habitat for our wildlife."

For the last two years City of Mitcham has been named a Tree City of the World by the Arbor Day Foundation, reflecting our commitment to protecting and enhancing our tree canopy. We want to maintain and build on this international acknowledgement of our greening priority which will become increasingly important as our climate warms.

Find out more about our Tree Planting Program at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees.



Blackwood Rotary Club President Robyn Venus and City of Mitcham Councillor Corin McCarthy at the launch of the Hannaford Park shelter.



New shelter for Hannaford Reserve

Blackwood Rotary Club's 50 years of service to the community was recognised along with the unveiling of a new shelter and improvements at Hannaford Reserve.

A popular open space with the local community as well as dog owners, the Reserve was upgraded following consultation with the community in 2019.

Other enhancements include a new pathway, paving under the shelter, new entrance signage, fencing, the relocation of a water fountain and replacement of bench seating, damaged signs and bins.

Blackwood Rotary Club contributed half the funds required to build the new shelter and worked closely with the City of Mitcham on the project, which came about through the actions contained

in Council's Dog and Cat Management Plan 2018–23.

Approximately 50 residents attended the launch in April where a plaque was unveiled to celebrate the collaboration between Council and Blackwood Rotary and in recognition of the club's 50 years of service to the community.

Residents welcomed the changes to the park, reporting the enhancements reflected the rustic look and feel of the reserve.

Hannaford Reserve is located at Laffers Road, Belair.



Ducklings crossing at Wittunga

A family of 'ducklings' has taken up residence outside the Wittunga Botanic Garden at Eden Hills.

Supported by a City of Mitcham Public Art Activation Grant, 'Ducklings Crossing' is a fence installation created by artist Monica Prichard.

Installed last month, the ducklings first appeared along the fence line at Shepherds Hill Road at the pedestrian crossing opposite Blackwood Primary School, walking towards the new nature playground at Wittunga.

The installation coincided with children returning to school after the holidays as a

quirky and colourful way to raise awareness of the pedestrian crossing.

Monica says the project is "close to her heart".

"Growing up behind Blackwood Primary School, the infamous Wittunga ducks claimed the school ovals as their own and were frequent visitors to our backyard to try and steal fish from our pond," she says.

For more information on City of Mitcham Public Art Grants visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/public-art.

Dog and cat registrations

Dog and cat registration renewal notices for the 2020/21 year will be issued in early July.

Each pet owner will be issued a notice that contains a renewal code for your pet/s' registration. Renewal notices will be issued as per your chosen method of contact in Dogs and Cats Online (DACO): either by post, email or text. Please look out for these notices as you will need the renewal code to register online.

Pet owners simply register or renew their dog or cat's registration on the DACO website at www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au. Registrations must be renewed by 31 August each year.

DACO is a centralised database which combines South Australia's 68 council animal databases into one catalogue to manage pet registration, microchip details and breeder and seller information.

While renewing registration, it's a good time to check that details such as your address and contact information are up to date in the DACO system.

Up-to-date information ensures you can be contacted, and your pet can be returned to your property if they go missing.

Legally, every dog and cat over the age of three months must be registered. Those who do not register or renew their animal's registration not only compromise the safety of their pet but also risk receiving a fine.

6 simple steps

to register as a new owner on Dogs and Cats Online

Go to dogsandcatsonline.com.au

1. Select 'Register' if you don't have any registered dogs or cats or a login to Dogs and Cats Online

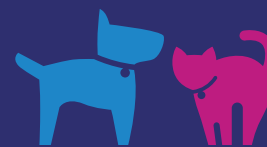
2. Enter your personal details

3. Breeder registration, if applicable for breeders of dogs and cats for sale

4. Enter the dog and/or cat details and upload certificates of desexing and microchipping

5. Enter your payment details if registration fees are payable

6. Create a password within 24 hours following the link sent to your email



Have you registered your cat?

REGISTER NOW
WIN
One of 140 cat pamper packs

Register your cat to win!

Dogs and Cats Online is running a competition to encourage more cat owners to register their cats online.

All councils, the RSPCA, Animal Welfare League and most vets use Dogs and Cats Online, the state dog and cat register, as the number one tool to identify lost pets to find their owners.

If your registered cat wanders, is found and scanned it can be returned to you sooner.

Register your cat today to go into a draw to win one of 20 prizes drawn each month.

Read more:

www.dogsandcatboard.com.au/catprize.

Keep your cat safe at home

Each year Council receives many reports from residents who have lost their cats, as well as complaints about cats roaming the neighbourhood, disturbing residents and harming native wildlife.

The best way to keep your loved pet safe and to prevent disturbance to others is to contain your cat to your property.

It also means you will comply with Council's By-Law 6 and the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act (2016).

Containing your cat means completely preventing it from roaming from your property at any time, day or night.

This can be achieved by keeping your cat indoors, or by a combination of indoors and having a secure outdoor enclosure, or by cat proof fencing around an outdoor area. In other words, keeping your cat safe at home and not letting it roam the neighbourhood.

To find out more about looking after your cat, please visit www.dogandcatboard.com.au or www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/cats.

What are the benefits?

- Reduces the risk of cats getting sick, hurt or killed in an accident
- Avoids interaction with undesexed and diseased cats
- Reduces the risk of wandering, becoming lost or impounded by Council
- Minimises the risk they will harm or kill native wildlife
- Avoids problems with your neighbours
- Helps you gain more quality time together
- Gives them a better chance to enjoy a long and healthy life



Cumberland Park Community Centre

From cooking and crochet to music and more, find out what's happening at one of our much-loved Community Centres.



Community Days at Cumby

A new focus on community-led activities is transforming programs at the Cumberland Park Community Centre.

On Wednesdays, a series of activities including art and craft, knitting, crochet and macrame, cooking, sewing and quilting, writing club, music, gardening and IT drop in sessions are held concurrently in open spaces at the Centre, creating a buzzing atmosphere for participants and visitors of all ages.

Vaie Aldridge, 81, a City of Mitcham volunteer and member of the Cumberland Park ARPA Orchestra, said Community Days were a highlight of her week.

"It feels a bit like a family, all having a role to play to contribute and muddling in to help one another," she said. "There's a good chatter and it's a great place to make friends."

Community Days at Cumby, Wednesday 9am to 1pm. All ages welcome. Contact Rebecca on 8372 8128.

Doors open on arts project

Three brightly painted doors have been unveiled at Cumberland Park Community Centre as part of a project undertaken in partnership with the Community Centre and the Tuesday Colouring Group.

Painted over a series of weeks, each door helps brighten up the space and allows us to showcase our resident artists.

Tuesday Colouring Group member Carmel said she enjoyed working on the project.

"We spent a long time on these; we're very happy with the way they turned out," she said.



Cooking at Cumby

Every Wednesday morning the kitchen at the Cumberland Park Community Centre is a hive of activity as a group of cooks gets together to create simple meals.

Run by the City of Mitcham in partnership with ECH, the group uses food donated by Woolworths Cumberland Park as part of its commitment to reducing food waste.

From sausage rolls and pulled pork rolls to soups, cheese toasties and strudels, these amateur cooks create delicious dishes from the donated ingredients supplied. Once cooked, they share the meal together and with other visitors to the Centre.

To find out more, please drop in on a Wednesday morning to chat with Rebecca or call 8372 8128.

Changes at Cumby

Cumberland Park Community Centre has benefited from a series of renovations in the past 18 months, including the installation of an all access barbecue and landscaping at the front of the centre.

In June 2020, a 19.8kw solar PV system was installed. This month a 6.6kw system is being installed at Westbourne Park Memorial Hall, adjacent the Centre. By 2022, Cumberland Park's lights will be upgraded to LED lighting.

In November last year, City of Mitcham purchased a second-hand baby grand piano to be used by the Cumberland ARPA Orchestra, Mitcham Orchestra, visiting performers and at regular piano recitals.

Spaces for hire

There are three spaces for hire at Cumberland Park Community Centre (capacity up to 150).

Andy Todd Hall (capacity 100) is available for a minimum one hour at \$15 to \$25.90 per hour.

The Mary Moore workshop room seats 30 people and the Rose Nibble Supper room seats 15. Both are available for \$10 to \$15 per hour.

Hirers will be required to apply for a COVID Safe Plan.

To book call 8372 8178, visit www.spacetoco.com/host/cityofmitcham or email communitycentres@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.



Get growing with organic gardening workshop

Food growers and gardeners Indi and Phoebe are set to host an organic gardening workshop at Cumberland Park Community Centre this month.

Through their business Patch of Plenty, Indi and Phoebe design and create permaculture gardens across the southern suburbs and Fleurieu Peninsula.

In their free workshop, they will discuss crop planning, seasonal eating and choosing the right varieties for your garden.

Organic Gardening Workshop: Planning for a year-round harvest, Saturday 19 June, 11am to 1pm. Contact Rebecca on 8372 8128 or email communitycentres@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Join us to listen to the orchestra!

Each Thursday morning the Cumberland ARPA Orchestra rehearses at the Cumberland Park Community Centre while our bakers in residence, Lee and Louise, cook and serve morning tea. Groups and individuals are welcome to come along and listen to the orchestras to enjoy the benefits of sharing music and company.

Listen to the Orchestra, every Thursday (except during January) 10am to 12pm. Free, all welcome.

Stitching up a new service

Cumberland Park Community Centre, in partnership with aged care provider ECH, has launched a new sewing service.

Every Wednesday between 10am to 12pm, the service will offer simple sewing tasks such as hemming or replacing zips and buttons. All you need to do is drop off your items at the centre for repair. A small donation of up to \$5 per item is encouraged and will be used to resource the Centre's new sewing equipment.

Special thanks to Cyndy for offering her time and service.

To find out more please contact Sharon Beech, ECH, on 0429 968 028.



Check out our timetable for what's on at all our community centres across the City of Mitcham at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-centres.

What's On at Cumby

MONDAY

Strength for Life Fitness Classes

Time: 9am to 11.30am
Phone: 0424 724 914

Colonel Light Gardens Kindergym

Time: 9.30am to 1pm
Phone: 0435 735 395

First Wave Fitness Zumba

Time: 6.30pm to 7.30pm
Phone: 0412 853 395

Lancashire Witches Morris Dancing

Time: 7.45pm to 10.15pm
Phone: 0411 757 439

TUESDAY

Knit and Knatter

Time: 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Phone: 8372 8884

Colouring, Games and Mahjong

Time: 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Phone: 8372 8884

Table Tennis

Time: 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Phone: 8372 8884

Strength for Life Fitness Classes

Time: 9am to 11.30am
Phone: 0424 724 914

Colonel Light Gardens Kindergym

Time: 9.30am to 1pm
Phone: 0435 735 395

Kids Art Classes with the Cucumber Project

Time: 3pm to 6pm
Phone: 0408 020 134

World Taekwondo

Time: 6pm to 7.30pm
Phone: 0412 909 500

Just Dance Fitness Classes with Martha

Time: 7pm to 8pm
Phone: 0412 231 756

WEDNESDAY

Community Day at Cumby

Time: 9am to 1pm
Phone: Rebecca 8372 8128

Art Classes with Koruna

Time: 10am to 12pm

Morning Tea

Time: 10am to 12pm

Writing Club

Time: 10am to 12pm

Cooking

Time: 10am to 12pm

Macrame, Knitting, Crochet and Craft

Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Sewing and Quilting

Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Gardening

Time: 10am to 12pm
(2nd and 4th Wednesdays)

IT sessions

Time: 1pm to 1.30pm

Colonel Light Gardens Kindergym

Time: 9.30am to 1pm
Phone: 0435 735 395

Kundalini Yoga

Time: 6pm to 7pm
Phone: 0439 509 355

The Compassionate Friends of SA

Time: 7pm to 10pm (1st Wednesday of month)
Phone: 0414 706 512

Metropolitan Male Choir Rehearsals

Time: 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Phone: 0400 029 660

THURSDAY

Cumberland ARPA Orchestra

Rehearsals (join or listen – groups welcome)

Time: 9.30am to 12pm
Phone: 0407 710 957

FREE Morning Tea

Time: 10am to 11am

Colonel Light Gardens Kindergym

Time: 9.30am to 1pm
Phone: 0435 735 395

South Australian Youth Arts

(SAYarts Theatre)
Time: 4.30pm to 6.45pm
Phone: 0400 202 399

World Taekwondo

Time: 6pm to 7.30pm
Phone: 0412 909 500

Turning Point Yoga

Time: 7pm to 8pm
Phone: 0408 952 603

Just Dance with Martha

Time: 8pm to 9pm
Phone: 0412 231 756

FRIDAY

Strength for Life Fitness Classes

Time: 9am to 11.30am
Phone: 0424 724 914

Carers SA Support Group

Time: 10am to 11.30am
(2nd Friday of month)
Phone: 0455 442 237

Blooming Buds Kids Yoga

Time: 3pm to 5pm
Phone: 0415 243 768

SLAVA Ukrainian Cultural Centre

(Dance, Language, Music)
Time: 5.30pm to 9.30pm
Phone: 0401 689 645

Alternative Science and Technology Research

Organisation of SA (ASTRO)
Time: 7pm to 10.30pm (2nd Friday of month)
Phone: 0403 326 412

SATURDAY

Ultrafit Boxing Fitness

Time: 7.30am to 8.30am
Phone: 0412 655 699

Kneebone Pilates

Time: 8.30am to 9.30am
Phone: 0422 415 399

Turning Point Yoga

Time: 9.30am to 10.30am
Phone: 0408 952 603

World Taekwondo

Time: 12pm to 2pm
Phone: 0412 909 500

Mitcham Orchestra Rehearsals

(join or listen)
Time: 1pm to 5pm
Phone: 0410 354 844

SUNDAY

Adelaide Scottish Fiddle Club

Time: 1.45pm to 5.15pm
(3rd Sunday of month)
Phone: 7226 2349



Flu vaccines still available

City of Mitcham is continuing to offer influenza vaccines as part of Council's Immunisation Service.

The flu vaccine is free if you are classified 'high risk', are over 65 or considered vulnerable.

SA Health recommends a minimum interval of 14 days between a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and a flu vaccine.

The City of Mitcham holds four regular public clinics within the Council area.

Mitcham Council – Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

First Wednesday of every month*

11.30am to 1pm

Third Wednesday of every month*

5.30pm to 7pm

Blackwood Community Centre

4 Young Street, Blackwood

First Wednesday of every month*

5.30pm to 6.30pm

Third Wednesday of every month*

11.30am to 12.30pm

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

For more information on Council's public immunisation clinics visit

www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation or contact Council's Immunisation Coordinator on 8372 8816.

For information and advice on COVID-19 visit the SA Health website

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covid-19.



Mitcham Community Calendar

Adelaide-Mitcham

Prostate Cancer Support Group

The next meeting of the Adelaide-Mitcham Prostate Cancer Support Group will be held on **Wednesday 9 June**. The group continues to meet on the second Wednesday of each month (February to October) at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens **7pm to 8.45pm**. The June meeting will be a general discussion evening among members and visitors. All are welcome to attend. For more details phone Ralph 0406 006 654 or visit www.adelaide-mitchampcsg.org.

Australian Traditional and Bush Dance Society

Enjoy the Australian Traditional and Bush Dance Society's Saturday dance on **Saturday 3 July from 7pm to 9.30pm** at the Mitcham Village Institute, corner Princes Road and Torrens Street. Music by the Adelaide Empire Band. Tickets \$15. Doors open 6.30pm.

All dances are called, flat shoes recommended. No previous experience is needed and you don't need to bring a partner. Tea and coffee available but please bring your own mug and tea break snack for yourself if desired. Due to COVID-19 attendance is capped and you must register in advance. Phone Tricia on 8296 6020. Check www.atbdsdancesa.com.au closer to the time for any updates.

Colonel Light Gardens Ladies Probus Club

Share a morning of fun and friendship on the **first Friday of each month at 10am**. We enjoy guest speakers, coffee and chat groups, lunches, movie mornings and other outings throughout the year. Meet at the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church, 560 Goodwood Road, Daw Park. Call Judy on 0419 006 895.

Seniors Social Tennis

Sign up for some social tennis all year round at Hereford Place, Colonel Light Gardens (adjacent the Reade Park Tennis Courts). Come along and try, the first two sessions are free. Join in on **Thursdays 9am to 12pm, Saturdays 1pm to 3pm** and **occasionally on Mondays 6pm**. Call Jim on 0490 855 909, Kay on 0421 997 912 or Dianne on 0427 863 429.

Westbourne Park Ladies Probus Club

We would love to welcome you to share in a wide range of interesting excursions, coffee mornings, dinners, walks, art appreciation and a host of other activities. Meetings feature guest speakers and the opportunity to enjoy morning tea, fun and friendship and are held on the **fourth Monday of each month at 10am** at the Westbourne Park Uniting Church, 27 Sussex Terrace, Hawthorn. Call Sue on 0450159641.

Join a food safety training session

City of Mitcham provides free food safety training sessions for food handlers employed by food businesses operating within the Council area.

These sessions assist in the development of local food businesses by providing the opportunity to increase food safety skills and knowledge that is essential for operating a compliant and safe food and hospitality business.

Food handlers receive a certificate of attendance that can be displayed at the business.

Sessions will be held on Tuesday 29 June, 9.30am to 11.45am, and Tuesday 7 September, 2pm to 4.15pm, at the Mayor's Parlour, City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park. Bookings are essential.

To book, phone 8372 8816. Find out more at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/food-safety.



Beeswax wrap-making session

Plastic Free July is fast approaching, so come along to Mitcham Memorial Library and join our information session and beeswax wrap making demonstration on 1 July at 10am.

Following the demonstration, you'll have the opportunity take home your very own beeswax wrap kit.

The session will cover:

- What is Plastic Free July?
- Ways to avoid and reduce plastic
- Items we can reuse

- Where you can BYO reusable coffee cup
- Where you can BYO container for bulk food and cleaning products
- What plastics can and cannot be recycled
- Alternative options for recycling plastic items
- Compostable versus biodegradable plastic
- Local Plastic Free Champions

To register for this event, please contact Megan from East Waste (Megan@eastwaste.com) or register online via the City of Mitcham Facebook page or at www.plasticfreejulymitcham.eventbrite.com.au.

Muneera gives back to community

City of Mitcham volunteer Muneera Alizadeh enjoys giving back to the community.

Muneera volunteers at the Cumberland Park Community Centre each Wednesday, helping share her cooking skills, and at the Mitcham Cultural Village on Tuesdays, helping show visitors around and working in general administration.

"The most important thing for me is the coffee breaks, when we all get together and have a chat," she says. "I really enjoy being at both places; being a volunteer makes you feel good and helps you meet friends."

Muneera was born in Iran and migrated to Australia from a refugee camp in Pakistan with her husband, also an Iranian refugee, at the age of 19.

They worked to establish a small upholstery business and raised two daughters together.

Would you like to volunteer for the City of Mitcham? Please contact Lynne on 8372 8860 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering.



Muneera volunteers at the Cumberland Park Community Centre every Wednesday.



Thank you to our volunteers!

City of Mitcham recognised its volunteers with a morning tea as part of National Volunteer Week last month.

The City has over 370 registered volunteers who contribute over 30,000 hours each year.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said without volunteers, Council would not be able to provide many of its valuable services and programs.

"Last year was a tough one but our volunteers showed resilience in adapting to changes as they happened, then stepping in again when it was time to get programs up and running again," she said. "Each contribution enhances our community in so many ways."

During the last year, many changes were made to our Volunteer programs so that they could comply with COVID-19 restrictions.

Volunteers continued to provide incredible support to Council by working with us to continue to deliver assistance where it was needed.

They help residents stay independent and connected by providing assisted transport and social support. They tend gardens and wetlands, lead fitness groups, document local history, help at our Libraries, provide Justice of the Peace services and more.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering, please contact Lynne, Coordinator Volunteer Services, on 8372 8860 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering.



Zonta Club president Amanda Waldock with Club members Sharon Geue and Julie Monis-Ivett.

Zonta seeks new members

A women's advocacy group is calling for women of all ages to join its ranks to help bring about gender equality and change.

Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills has established a range of successful projects that support girls and women locally and around the world.

In 1999 the club founded the Birthing Kit Project to supply clean birth kits to help reduce maternal and child deaths in remote regions. That project has since grown into a Birthing Kit Foundation and supplied over two million kits worldwide, made by volunteers in Australia.

It went on to win the Zonta International Prize for Best District Service project. Club member Dr Joy O'Hazy was named runner-up South Australian of the Year 2021 for her work on the project.

Club president Amanda Waldock said it was more important than ever for women to work together on women's issues.

"As a mother of two young boys it's especially important to me to make the world a better

place, not just for them, but for their wives and daughters, and for future generations," she said.

Other projects include the Expect Respect program that teaches primary students the importance of healthy relationships, Days for Girls, giving girls in developing countries access to sustainable feminine hygiene kits, the Breast Care Cushion project that supports men and women in their recovery from breast cancer surgery and many projects assisting local women and children at domestic violence refuges.

The group meets at the Belair Hotel once a month to share a meal and hear from guest speakers.

A Birthing Kit Assembly Day will be held on Saturday 19 June at St Peters Lutheran Church, Blackwood, from 2pm.

For details, contact Doone on 0422 024 240 or visit www.zontaadelaidehills.org.au.



Social activities for seniors.

Care & Share at Trinity is a social activity program located in Colonel Light Gardens. We enable people 65 years and older from all backgrounds to participate in community life and feel socially included through structured and informal group based activities.

Please visit, join in the activities, have lunch with us and see for yourself how enjoyable a day at Care & Share can be. Bring a friend along too!

Book your FREE trial now (08) 8276 1144

www.careandshare.org.au



The Park Ward Cr Corin McCarthy



Telephone: 0410 886 349

csmccarthy@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Mitcham Council has had a period of significant success for Hills residents in Park Ward.

Council has now fully funded the Blackwood Community Hub, which includes a \$3.5 million grant from the State Government and a \$5 million grant from the Federal Government.

We have placed new traffic safety measures for Belair Primary School in the draft Budget, as well upgrading the Eden Hills Scout Hall.

Council expressed concern with Belair National Park Soccer proposal

We also listened to resident concerns regarding the Belair National Park soccer fields proposal and Council has written to the Minister for Environment and Water to express concern. I was pleased to move that motion.

Council expressed concern with the Sturt Lions Soccer Club proposal for developing up to 10 hectares of the Old Golf Course into seven soccer fields, given the project details are limited.

Council sought greater detail on a range of potentially high impact activities on both residents and habitat, such as tree clearance, light towers, large scale car parking, as well as hours of operation.

Council expressed concern that these issues should not become issues for planning approvals without a detailed consultation first on the detail.

It is my view that the Sturt Lions proposal does not sufficiently balance the principles set out in the Draft Belair National Park Master Plan, especially the protection and restoration of the natural environment and heritage.

Draft Budget

The draft Budget is built on investment in communities, with the Hub already funded, and school traffic safety upgrades, and a new Scout hall proposed for funding.

It delivers large efficiencies, going to \$800,000 this coming year. This makes the task of keeping rates lower easier, whilst delivering better services, and investing in infrastructure.

Council is investing in further climate change mitigation with new electric vehicles for the fleet and EV chargers for the public.

The draft Budget will also keep Council's debt within the policies of prudent management.

It is a budget that delivers for the great majority of Mitcham residents, by investing in what is required, whilst keeping the costs and debt down.

Community safety at Belair Primary School

In November last year Anna Della-Coombs on behalf of the Belair Primary School Governing Council gave an excellent deputation. She expressed concern with safety on the Laffers Road drop off car park.

Council staff worked with the school to address many of the traffic safety concerns at the site. I'm very pleased that in the draft Budget, Council has listened and acted on these concerns with a package of safety changes on the southern carpark.

We also know now, from further community feedback, that there are concerns with traffic on the Monalta Drive side and I've asked Council staff to engage with the school over this further and I do hope we can deliver improvements there as well.

Lastly ...

Staff at Mitcham Council deserve great credit for winning the \$3.5 million grant from State Government for the Blackwood Community Hub.

Craigburn Ward Cr Lindy Taeuber



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ltaeuber@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

It's been a busy time in Craigburn Ward since I last wrote in January with Council, the community and the Federal and State Governments working to enhance our assets and services.

In **Bellevue Heights** the new tennis club courts, lighting and landscaping is complete while the Blackwood Lions have kindly donated a shelter for Manson Oval. Council's draft Budget includes improvements to traffic safety for Vaucluse Crescent and designs to improve parking along Sargent Parade.

At Karinya Reserve, **Eden Hills**, the new soccer clubhouse and pitch is progressing while a new Eden Hills Scout Hall is included in the draft Budget. Nearby the Stobie pole art facilitated by the Blackwood Action Group and funded by Council is putting a smile on many faces along with the ducks on the Wittunga fence. The new State Government Wittunga nature playground has seen throngs of enthusiastic children and parents in the gardens.

In **Blackwood** the Hub is progressing with the Prudential Review completed and a 'sod turning' possibly in December. Meanwhile Council has progressed the walkway south from Young Street and is working with Drakes Supermarkets on a safe, efficient and attractive Young Street loading area. Blackwood also sees cycle improvements on Coromandel Parade and traffic calming treatments at Waite/Melton as part of the draft Budget while an electric car charger is planned for the Gladstone Road carpark.

The results of the consultation for the **Craigburn Farm** Tree Top Playground and a possible exit during the bushfire season are yet to be decided. Around 1,000 responses to the 'exit consultation' were received which I look forward to seeing along with the information supplied by residents about their Bushfire Plans.

At **Coromandel Valley** the next section of the Sturt River Linear Trail (jointly funded by Mitcham and Onkaparinga councils and the State Government) has opened and is being enthusiastically enjoyed by joggers, parents with pushers, people in wheelchairs, walkers, children on scooters – truly usable for all in our community.

I encourage residents to visit the new State Government portal - **PlanSA** – developed as part of the Planning and Design Code. The South Australian Property and Planning Atlas (SAPPA) is a free, online mapping tool that shows current zoning across SA, what approvals are needed for development and more.

Community consultation around the **draft Budget** is currently under way and I encourage you to 'Have Your Say'. I am especially pleased that efficiencies have resulted in our existing services being provided for reduced costs. The new services proposed (along with an asset backlog, COVID related costs and other) are what results in the proposed rate increase. I do believe Council must gradually build new footpaths, extend the stormwater network, continue further tree plantings and switch all lights to LEDs, all of which come at a cost.

Please feel free to contact me to chat about Council matters and share ideas.

Overton Ward Cr Katarina Steele



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ksteele@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

May – that's History Festival! I am sure many of you profited from some of the tours through historical places of Mitcham, saw a photographic exhibition, learned about old industries, heard old stories or even knitted a pair of socks using patterns created during the Second World War. My choice from the array of programs was a walk through one of South Australia's oldest parks – the Brownhill Creek Recreation Park, and the Abbotshall Precinct. The Brownhill Creek Association and the Mitcham Historical Society (mitchamhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, phone 0412 125 010) deserve a big thanks and congratulations for their work. If you wish to join them, you'll be welcomed.

A very special event was a commemorative lecture delivered by Professor Christine Garnaut entitled: A Life in Planning; Charles Reade; Garden City Campaigner and Global Planner. It was held on 4th May as this is the date of Charles Reade's birth and also the date on which Colonel Light Gardens was made a State Heritage Area.

The lecture was recorded (funded through the City of Mitcham Local History Service) and will be available for anyone to view.

The State Government's SA HACC (Home and Community Care) block funded service for people with a disability who live in the community (under 65, ineligible for NDIS) ceases at the end of this financial year. Our Community Wellbeing team did a great job in supporting Mitcham clients through the times of pandemic and are working with all disability clients to transition them to other means of ongoing support.

Community Wellbeing aged services will continue with no change to service level or grant funding in the 2021-22 financial year. In the Community Wellbeing program there are generally 350 to 400 active clients aged 65+ in social, community transport, and information or advocacy support programs and almost 900 residents who access subsidised home support. Home support services include domestic assistance, home maintenance, and minor home modifications and are provided by Southern Cross Care.

If you are a resident more than 65 years old and in need of a little help, like a one-off gutter clean to stay independent at home, or perhaps you cannot drive and want to join the community bus to do your weekly shopping, you could be eligible for My Aged Care's Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) services. They are not home care packages, but individual referrals to receive services from Community Wellbeing at Council, or you can choose which other local provider you would like to receive subsidised services from, and which has funding capacity available. Call the Council (8372 8888) for more information.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Mitcham's Community Development team. During the April school holiday it hosted a big array of programs like BMX Ride Day (50 participants), Animal Capers (194 participants), STEAM Storytime (390 children and adults), Spectacular Science Show (210 participants), Collect a Craft – 627 packs collected from our libraries, Nitro Nat Chemistry (165 children and adults in three sessions). Well done!

Gault Ward

Cr Coralie Cheney



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I love musicals. One of my favourites is the classic 'Hello Dolly' with Barbara Streisand. Of her many insightful lines, this is the best, where she explains to the stingy store owner Horace, that **"Money is like manure, it should be spread around to help things grow!"** What a great analogy for Council.

As you are possibly aware due to the community consultation recently, Council has been setting the budget for the coming financial year to help things 'grow' in our community.

This is a complicated process with a lot to consider, but put simply, there is a certain amount of money set aside from rates to maintain existing services (of which there are many) and due to efficiency savings a small decrease of 0.21% in costs is projected next year.

Then there are the new projects that Council has approved to be added to the list of outstanding projects that have already been budgeted for but not completed yet. The amount and type of different projects added will equate to the amount our household's rates increase each year. I have advocated for as low as possible rate rise, but it will probably be around 2.3% which represents continuing services and the new selected projects chosen to action, but this of course means that other projects will be pushed back to the following year. However, personally I would rather see the current backlog of projects get completed plus achieve the tasks set before us, than charge ratepayers for things we cannot get to complete in this budget's year timeframe. To read more on the Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan go to the website.

This is how your money is spread around to help things grow and how you can now track that growth.

Council is revising many Community Land Management Plans so that further projects can get under way in the coming year. Staff are also finalising a new Asset Management Plan system that is an excellent reference and available for residents to view, that outlines all the buildings, parks, roads, trees, stormwater etc. that Council manages and where they are at with their renewals of these assets over the next 10 years. If you are interested in work being progressed in your area, go to our website and search Asset Management Plans.

Talking of projects, I want to commend the Mitcham Hawks and Sturt District Cricket Club for the exceptional job they did on their recent club upgrade at Price Memorial Oval, largely due to club members working on the project and managing the project. It is a credit to all and now that the artificial lawn area is completed near the playground, it is a perfect spot for littlies to run around safely. This really was the epitome of teamwork and hands on action, showing the reward of a huge saving to the club and the overall cost of the project.

Babbage Ward

Cr Yvonne Todd



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ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

City of Mitcham has many new major projects under way, for which it has won funding grants. This is because of innovative staff and leadership and I am proud to contribute and be part of Council.

In my last article I commented on the need to get 'shovel ready' projects identified in Babbage ward. To achieve this, I have started discussion with staff about the possibility of a survey of community needs in the south west suburbs. There is no community centre or library in the south western suburbs and one might be valued by the local community, especially by the many families in the area. However, Council needs strong evidence about what residents want and needs to hear from residents.

I also have asked for a formal Master Plan for CC Hood Reserve. Local residents often ask for improvements such as upgrades to the dog park, improved and new playgrounds, clearing of the riverbed, more watering, etc., and they have been asking for a formal Master Plan since I first started on Council. With a recent offer of \$1m for improving the Reserve from a potential candidate for Elder, it is very important and timely for Council to start formalising the CC Hood Master Plan – to be 'shovel ready' for funding opportunities.

Mitcham led the way by consulting on the use of land created by the Daws Road intersection, next to the Tower Arts Centre. Council received 28 responses with a common theme of art, seats, multiple plantings and pathways. This is an example of Council finding out what residents want and being 'shovel ready' for funding opportunities. The State Government is also very interested in improving this land and hopefully they will work with Council on an installation that reflects the community's wishes.

A recent conversation about the Sturt River Linear Trail shared-use (walkers and bikes) path in Riverside Reserve showed opposition by many Bedford residents. Personally, I believe a narrow, sealed walking path would be very useful, but not shared-use. During a walk on the Lynton trails I was frightened by riders who completely ignored the rules of a shared-use path and threatened my safety. Shared-use does not work.

Many residents contact Councillors to voice concern about suggestions that Council should only think about rates, rubbish and roads. They disagree with that out-of-touch mantra. Things that I hear regularly from residents is they want improved sport, library, and community facilities. They want Councillors to comment on State and Federal policies and take leadership where appropriate. They love our trees, bike paths and school holiday activities. They want to be safe and know that Council is doing all it can to reduce waste and emissions, improve open spaces, and improve services and assets.

Council is complex but we must always strive to build a community to be the best it can be for people who live, study, work and visit our community.

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

Boorman Ward

Cr Andrew Tilley



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One of the roles of Mitcham Council and some of its Councillors is to be involved with the Murray Darling Association.

At first glance it seems that we are a long way from the Murray and the Darling is even more remote.

The truth is that whenever we turn on the tap, have a shower or water the lawn, the Murray Darling is at our fingertips, and without it Adelaide and towns all the way from the South East to Ceduna would not be as they are.

The Murray Darling Association is a combination of councils and individuals who are committed to engage with other authorities and water users across the Basin to make sure our interests are protected. The Basin Authority has 12 regions and Adelaide and surrounds comprise Region 7. Mitcham has chaired the region since 2019.

An overbearing issue is that SA contributes no water to the Murray River. All the water that flows over the border into SA rises from the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range and south western Queensland. In times of short supply when towns along the Darling and its northern Basin rivers are running out of water as in 2019/20, tensions run hot. Up until March 2020 the Darling was dry for 450 days. The fish deaths highlighted that catastrophe.

NSW farmers watching a full river running past their front gate who had no water allocation despaired to know that SA irrigators enjoyed healthy allocations.

("Bloody SA sending water over the SA border is a waste...they just let it run out to sea...")

Historic agreements between the states ensures that South Australia has a reliable and legally enshrined water supply. 1850 gigalitres flows into SA over the border each year. 160 gigalitres on average is Adelaide's usage; the rest is used for irrigation of our valuable food and fibre crops, rural communities, the environment and keeping the Coorong lakes and river mouth in sustainable condition.

To the credit of SA, we have no open channels and no flood irrigation. On top of that, it was recognised in the 1990s that the river was over-allocated and no new licenses were issued. All new systems had to compete within that fixed allocation.

This is the area where it becomes highly politicised. The Constitution of 1901 ensures the independent right of the individual states to manage water allocations. Federal bodies have been set up to help but the sovereignty of the states is fixed.

The Murray Darling Basin Authority is a federally funded body that implements water saving technologies where farmers are encouraged by financial assistance to improve water efficiencies and others are invited to give up their water allocations. Any water recovered from either of these processes becomes the property of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and contributes to the water returned to the environment to keep the river healthy.



Soil study under way at St Marys Reserve

Researchers from The University of South Australia-STEM and from Flinders University are working with City of Mitcham to find out how stormwater harvesting affects ground movement and tree water use.

The aim of the research, funded as part of a \$105,000 Water Sustainability Grant from Green Adelaide, is to investigate ways to restore natural water cycles in urban areas. Clay shrinking and swelling can damage Council's roads, drains and other assets, and trees can increase movement by taking water from the soil.

Research has shown that rain soaking through permeable paving can reduce ground movement near trees, so Council now uses permeable paving in most of its new footpaths. This research is now being applied at St Marys Reserve, where scientists are measuring how quickly water soaks into the extremely reactive soil at the site, and how far the ground moves. Soakage trenches will be built at the site in the future to test how effective they are in reducing soil movement.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the long-term goal of this sustainable approach was to reduce asset maintenance costs, reduce tree root damage and injury, avoid stormwater pipe upgrades and increase passive irrigation of street trees.

"All these benefits will help to keep Mitcham greener and cooler and save money for our ratepayers."

Above: Highly reactive clay soil at St Marys Reserve makes it the ideal site to research benefits of stormwater infiltration. **Below:** UniSA researcher Rajibul Karim, City of Mitcham Open Space Manager Mason Willis, UniSA researcher Don Cameron and Flinders University researcher Lawrence Burke test soil at St Marys Reserve.



Unley High to expand global focus

Unley High School is set to offer students the opportunity to complete an International Baccalaureate (IB) from 2022.

It comes as the school prepares for its first cohort of Year 7 French Bilingual Binational Program primary students to transition from Highgate School in 2023.

The Netherby high school has delivered South Australia's first French Bilingual Binational Program, bringing together the Australian and French curriculum, since 2018.

For more information, visit www.uhs.sa.edu.au for years 7-10 and www.highgates.sa.edu.au for primary.

Unley High School Principal Greg Rolton said students had the opportunity to engage in cultural events and experiences including a recent meeting with the French Ambassador to Australia, Christophe Penot.

"Bilingual education develops essential skills for living and creates a broad range of career pathways in a global society," he said.



Unley High School student Pranidhi with Highgate School students Otto and Georgia. The school is preparing for its first cohort of Year 7 French Bilingual Binational Program primary students to transition to the school in 2023.

Kit Trial targets graffiti

Do you have graffiti at your place? Council recognises that graffiti is a crime that impacts negatively on community pride and the visual amenity of our area.

City of Mitcham is offering a Graffiti Removal Kit to help residents or business owners remove graffiti from their property free of charge.

The kit, which is recommended for small, easy to access spots, has options for sensitive surfaces and for brick, stone and masonry surfaces.

The trial has limited stock and will run until all stock is exhausted or until the end of the financial year. If you are a City of Mitcham resident or ratepayer and would like to apply for a kit, download an application form on our Graffiti Kit page.

Council has a dedicated staff member who actively manages and removes graffiti from Council-owned property.

For more information and to download an application form, visit our Graffiti Kit page www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/graffiti-kit.



Ash and charcoal reminder

A warm fire can be one of the joys of winter but it's important to take steps to safely dispose of ash and charcoal.

Make sure wood, coal and ash are completely extinguished and cold before they are placed in the green organics bin.

Remember, if material is still hot, it can not only burn your bin, but it can start a fire within waste trucks.

This can be potentially very damaging to equipment Council relies on to keep our waste system up and running.

Got an item but not sure which bin it goes in? Visit www.whichbin.sa.gov.au to find out, or call the Which Bin hotline on 1300 137 118.



School leaders recognised

City of Mitcham awarded 10 Mayoral Grants to recognise the efforts of school students last year.

The \$100 grants were awarded to students who demonstrated a willingness to strive for excellence as well as qualities of civic and community leadership in their school environment.

Former Edwardstown Primary School student Adam Belcher (pictured) was awarded the grant as part of his Year 7 graduation last year for academic ability, strong work ethic, efforts in student leadership and role modelling to other students, as well as his overall commitment to the school's values and expectations.

"Congratulations to all the award winners for showing resilience in what was a difficult year for many of our school students and communities," City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said.

All schools within the City of Mitcham were invited to apply for the grants.

Art project adds colour to Blackwood streets

Blackwood's Stobie poles have undergone a colourful transformation thanks to a Blackwood Action Group community art project.

More than 50 artists have worked to design and paint murals that have been installed on approximately 80 Stobie poles along Shepherds Hill Road.

Supported by Coromandel Rotary and a City of Mitcham Community Grant, the project brought together a range of community art groups including the Coromandel Community Centre, St Johns Anglican Church, the Blackwood Uniting Church, B.P.S. Out of Hours School Care and local artists.

Blackwood Action Group's Geoff Bartlett said the response from the community had been overwhelmingly positive.

"We have had so many people telling us how much they enjoy the artwork," he said. "Each one is unique, and they really brighten up the area."

The Group sought guidance from West Croydon residents who had undertaken a similar project along Rosetta Street.

Poles were measured and painted with an anti-rust paint and given a burgundy top coat. The

Group then cut and prepared cement boards which they supplied with a variety of chosen paint colours to artists. The finished artwork was topped with three coats of an anti-graffiti material before being attached to the poles with Liquid Nails.

Poles painted outside the Wittunga Botanic Garden have a flora and fauna theme, and the Blackwood Reconciliation Group plans to paint poles outside the Colebrook Reconciliation Park that celebrate Kurna culture.

Local artist Carolyn Harrington, from Ruth Flaherty's Art School, chose to paint a gecko - a species endemic to the Mitcham Hills.

"I wanted to paint a lesser-known species, and geckos are such delightful little creatures," Carolyn said.

Established 11 years ago, the Blackwood Action Group is an active community group that is responsible for many local projects and events including the Blackwood Christmas Tree Festival.

Find out more at
www.blackwoodactiongroup.com.au



Artist Carolyn Harrington with her 'gecko' Stobie art on Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills.

City of Mitcham's grants are changing!

Community is at the heart of City of Mitcham's new-look grants program to be launched in July.

Under the new framework, grants will support projects that align to the four key goals of the Mitcham 2030 strategy: Accessible, Healthy and Connected Community, Sustainable City, Dynamic and Prosperous Places and Excellence in Leadership.

A total of \$233,000 is available across a range of grants that are designed to be 'By Community, For Community'. Grants include:

My Mitcham Community Grant

- A total of \$100,000 available as matched funding, with no set limit per grant
- Grant rounds will be offered August and February. Next grant round closes on Tuesday 31 August.

Quick Response Grant

- Grants of up to \$500 from a total pool of \$20,000 available
- Community projects or events such as community barbecues or gardening workshops

Civic Participation and Leadership Award

- Each school (primary and secondary) within the City of Mitcham can apply for \$100 to award students as they see fit. Details will be sent to each school at the start of July.

Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant

- A total of \$5,000 available; includes up to \$2,000 for history research projects and \$3,000 for local history groups

Community Facilities Grant

- Grants of up to \$5,000 (matched funding) available from a total pool of \$43,000
- To assist community groups and sporting clubs with their facilities

Public Art Grants and Arts Activation Grants

- \$38,000 total pool of funds

Recurrent Grants

- \$25,000 total pool of funds
- Assigned to community groups to support the work they do within our community

Workshops will be offered in the lead-up to the August Grants Round. To register your interest, please email mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au. For details visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants.

Green Living Workshops

Water Sensitive Design in Your Home and Backyard

Learn how to maximise rainwater harvesting and reuse at home and integrate stormwater and greywater into your garden. Learn how to apply Water Smart Urban Design (WSUD) principles in your home and backyard including rainwater harvesting, greywater reuse and water conservation, with Water Sensitive SA.

This talk is hosted by City of Mitcham Library Service and Green Adelaide and is open to residents of the Cities of Onkaparinga, Marion and Holdfast Bay as part of our Resilient South partnership.

When: Thursday 17 June, 2pm to 4pm,
and Thursday 1 July, 7pm to 8pm (online)

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Bookings: Essential.

Visit www.mitchamsustainability.eventbrite.com (online) and www.mitchamlibraryservice.eventbrite.com (library). Contact Environment and Sustainability Team, 8372 8853.

Cost: Free

Trees are Cool: Tree Planting Workshop

Looking at planting trees in your garden and not sure what ones to choose and how to care for them? Learn about selecting trees and plants that are suitable for the hills and plains, including soils and aspect, with a focus on species endemic to the region. Presented by horticulturist Peter Wilson.

Includes information on:

- Planting (preparation, planting, aftercare)
- Maintenance (watering, fertilising, pruning)
- Propagation (seed collection, storage, sowing, preparing, planting cuttings).

When: Thursday 24 June, 2pm to 4pm

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Bookings: Essential. Visit www.mitchamlibraryservice.eventbrite.com. Contact Mitcham Memorial Library, 8372 8244

Cost: \$5



Native Bees in Your Backyard

Make a Native Bee Hotel and explore the special role of these fascinating creatures in our environment. Take home three native bee 'restaurant' plants to feed native bees in your garden.

When: Thursday 8 July 2pm to 4pm

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Bookings: Essential. Visit www.mitchamlibraryservice.eventbrite.com. Contact Mitcham Memorial Library, 8372 8244

Cost: \$10 per person or per family sharing one bee hotel (up to four people)

Climate Ready Training

Join us for this free two-part online training and learn about local climate impacts, ways to avoid the worst of them and how to get your community ready.

Topics include:

- Community climate adaptation 101
- Action planning and next steps
- Climate conversations guide
- Champions' action toolkit
- Champions' online network
- Online champions development opportunities
- Plus more ideas, resources, networking and events.

This training is a partnership between Australian Red Cross and the Resilient South partner councils of Cities of Holdfast, Marion, Mitcham and Onkaparinga.

When: Part One Session: Saturday 5 June 12.30pm to 4pm.
Part Two Session: Saturday 12 June 12.30pm to 4pm.

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Bookings: Essential. Visit mitchamsustainability.eventbrite.com. Contact Environment and Sustainability Team, 8372 8853.

Cost: Free

City of Mitcham July School Holiday Program

Special Events | Craft | Theatre | Themed Fun | Activities | Stories

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

For more information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays.

