

MITCHAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2018



Australia Day at Carrick Hill

Mitcham residents enjoyed Australia Day with a Pancake Breakfast and Bush Tucker, citizenship and awards presentation at the beautiful grounds of Carrick Hill. **FULL STORY ON PAGE 5**

MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS FEBRUARY 2018



CITY OF
MITCHAM



The City of Mitcham is celebrating its cultural diversity on Wednesday 21 March at 4.30pm at St Marys Park.
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The City of Mitcham has matched its activities against the key result areas of our Strategic Management Plan.
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The City of Mitcham is collecting stormwater in rain gardens, reserve soakage trenches and permeable paving to help green our local streets and reserves.
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WASP**BEE**

Are you having problems with European Wasps?

This is the time of the year when European wasps are becoming active. Council will destroy European wasp nests at no charge to residents. However we need you to locate the nest.

Help keep the numbers down by:

1. Correctly Identifying Wasps

European wasps are often mistaken for bees or native wasps, but there are some distinctive differences. European wasps have bright yellow legs and bodies, and black triangular markings on the body. Unlike bees, European wasps are attracted to protein foods such as meat.

2. Minimising Food and Water Sources

This will encourage wasps to go elsewhere. Clear away fallen fruit and food scraps, feed pets inside, cover compost and rubbish bins, fix leaking taps and water the garden at night.

3. Finding and Reporting European Wasp Nests

Nests are usually located in sheltered spots often found in retaining walls, hollows of trees, wall cavities or underground. The nest is made of a light grey paper mache type material. Nests constructed of mud are not European wasp nests. To locate a nest, carefully watch the flight path of the returning wasps. European wasps have a very direct flight patterns between their nest and food sources. When looking for the nest you will only

see an entrance hole with wasps entering and leaving.

If you do not find a nest on your property contact your neighbours and ask them to check their properties.

If you do find a European wasp nest call us on 8372 8888 immediately, do not attempt to destroy the nest by using insect spray or any other methods.

When calling to report a nest you will need to answer the following questions:

1. Have you identified the wasps as being European wasps?
2. Can you give specific details of the location of the nest and is it on your property?
3. Is the nest located on private, commercial or Council property?
4. Is there easy access to the property and the nest?
5. Is access available if no one is home?
6. Are there any dogs on the property?
7. Is a ladder required to gain access to the nest?

This information will assist in providing a speedy response from Council's contractor.

For more information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/pest or call 8372 8888.

Council is Building Wellbeing

The City of Mitcham in collaboration with the Cities of Marion, Holdfast Bay and Onkaparinga is delivering "Building Wellbeing across the Southern Region" workshops in 2018.

The workshops aim to empower people 65 years and over and living independently to build wellbeing.

The workshops held over eight weeks will build wellbeing and resilience, you will:

- Learn to capitalise on your strengths
- Build resilience in your life
- Learn to build positive relationships
- Improve your confidence and optimism
- Learn problem solving skills and strategies to cope with adversity

If you are over 65, and living independently, and want to be your best and live life to the fullest, then register now call Cathy at Marion Council on 8375 6703.

Additional workshops will be held in April, July and October.



FIND OUT WITH OUR FREE EIGHT WEEK WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE PROGRAM:

- Learn to capitalise on your strengths
- Build resilience in your life
- Learn to build positive relationships
- Improve your confidence and optimism
- Learn problem solving skills and strategies to cope with adversity

If you are over 65, and living independently, and want to be your best and live life to the fullest, then sign up now.

ABOUT THE SESSION

- 8 x 2 1/2 hour sessions held weekly.
- Morning/afternoon tea provided.
- Spaces are limited.
- Transport available on request.

REGISTER NOW

Please phone Cathy at Marion Council on 8375 6703

Date: Tuesday 20 February – 10 April
Time: 10am to 12.30pm
Location: Cove Civic Centre,
 1 Ragamuffin Drive,
 Hallett Cove
Cost: Free

Meningococcal B Herd Immunity Study

Are you a 2017 Year 12 School Leaver and part of the Meningococcal B Herd Immunity Study?

If you have received a letter from the University of Adelaide to advise that you may receive a swab and/or 2 doses of vaccine in 2018, the City of Mitcham is providing clinics.

The clinics will be held from 3.30pm to 7.30pm at the Mitcham Community Centre (Rooms 2 and 3) on:

Meningococcal B Vaccine Dose One and/or Swab

Wednesday 14 February

Monday 26 February

Meningococcal B Vaccine Dose Two and/or Swab

Thursday 8 March

Monday 19 March

Monday 9 April

For further information please call 8372 8816.



Healthy Swimmers = Healthy Pool

This summer help keep our public pools clean. If you have diarrhoea don't swim and stay out of the pool for another two weeks.

Gastroenteritis is caused by the germ Cryptosporidium (Crypto) a parasite that can spread when someone swallows water that has been contaminated by an infected swimmer. Normal chlorine disinfection of swimming pool water does a great job in destroying most germs however Crypto is not easily killed by chlorine and can live up to 10 days in well-treated pools.

A healthy pool depends on swimmers being considerate. If you have diarrhoea avoid swimming for two weeks after the symptoms have stopped. Parasites can remain in the small intestine for several weeks and infect other people.

For more information about Crypto and swimming pool disinfection, contact the Environmental Health Unit on 8372 8816.

New LED Street Lights to Improve our Streets

We are upgrading street lights with LEDs to reduce energy consumption, maintenance costs and help reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Street lighting is the single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions by Local Government in Australia. To reduce Mitcham's carbon footprint we are upgrading over 5,000 street lights to energy efficient LED lights in 2018.

LED lights not only provide a better light they also use less energy. By introducing LED lighting we will lower greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 605 tonnes a year and save \$300,000 annually through reduced energy usage and lower maintenance costs.

How much will it cost?

The project which will initially cost approximately \$2.2 million will be offset by savings in electricity charges, lower maintenance costs and reduced lighting tariffs.

How much money will it save?

Each year Council will save approximately \$300,000 through reduced energy usage and lower maintenance costs.

When will the lights be upgraded?

We will begin upgrading street lights in February and complete the project by mid 2018.

Who is upgrading the street lights?

The City of Mitcham is funding the project and has engaged Enerven, a subsidiary business owned by SA Power Networks to upgrade the street lights with LEDs and recycle old street lights.



What Happens to the old street lights?

Old street lights will be recycled by Enerven to prevent heavy metals and other hazardous substances entering landfill.

Council as part of this project will also receive carbon credit payments of approximately \$28,000 over seven years through the Federal Government's Emission Reduction Funding scheme.



More Information on the LED street lighting

If you would like to find out more information on the LED Street Lighting Replacement program please visit www.enerven.com.au/projects/city-of-mitcham-led-upgrade

When will my street be upgraded?

To find out when street lighting on your street will be upgraded please visit www.enerven.com.au/projects/city-of-mitcham-led-upgrade

Who do I contact if I am worried about my street lighting?

All the information about the LED Street Lighting Upgrade Program is available online at www.enerven.com.au/projects/city-of-mitcham-led-upgrade or call SA Power Networks on 13 12 61 or the City of Mitcham on 8372 8888.



One Mitcham Many Cultures Harmony Day Fair

The City of Mitcham is celebrating its cultural diversity and welcomes you to join us at our award winning Multicultural Fair on Wednesday 21 March at St Marys Park.

Did you know that the City of Mitcham has over 46,000 residents and over half our resident's parents were born overseas?

This event has been created to celebrate diversity and inclusiveness in the City of Mitcham and create connectedness between new residents to the area with community groups and community members.

There will be a range of international food, music performances, kid's activities and large screen

video console gaming comps. In addition we will be holding sports clinics and conducting a citizenship ceremony - come watch and welcome our new citizens to Mitcham.

One Mitcham Many Cultures Multicultural Fair

Date: Wednesday 21 March (Harmony Day)

Time: 4.30pm to 7.30pm

Venue: St Marys Park, Laura Avenue, St Marys

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=silXeym1zsw> and discover One Mitcham Many Cultures.

If you are a school or local community group and would like to get involved with our multicultural fair, please email us at mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or phone us on 8372 8888.

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

Real PEOPLE. real FAITH. Real LIFE.

Three locations: Blackwood Hills Baptist - Melrose Park - Norwood

Find out more at thevillage.org.au

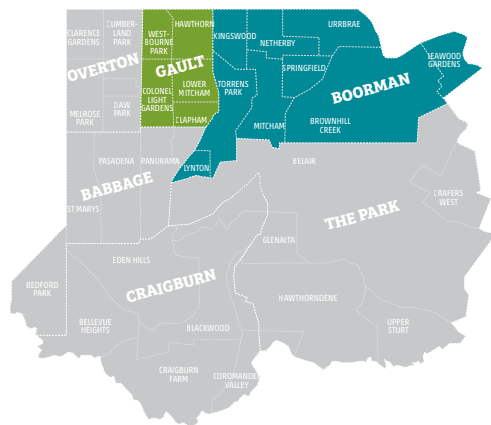


VILLAGE CHURCH
MEMBER OF BAPTIST CHURCHES SA

Community Ward Forums

Do you have an opinion or want to be heard? Our Community Forums are an excellent way of sharing your views, as well as hearing what other residents in your area have to say on issues which are important to you.

It is a great opportunity to meet your local Elected Members. These public meetings also enable the Council, community and other organisations to work collaboratively. Residents are invited to attend their local forum:

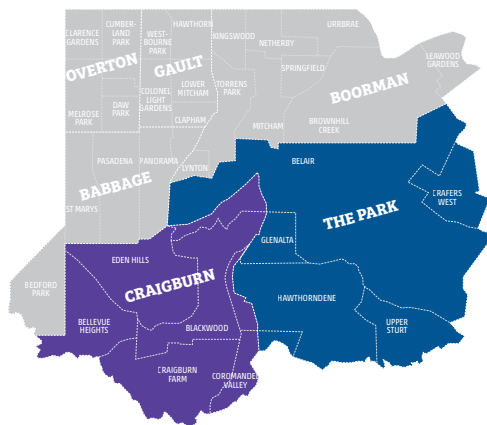


Community Forum for Boorman and Gault Wards

(Brown Hill Creek, Clapham [part], Colonel Light Gardens [part], Hawthorn, Kingswood, Leawood Gardens, Lower Mitcham, Lynton, Mitcham, Netherby, Springfield, Torrens Park, Urrbrae and Westbourne Park)

7pm Monday 12 February 2018

City of Mitcham, Mayor's Parlour, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.

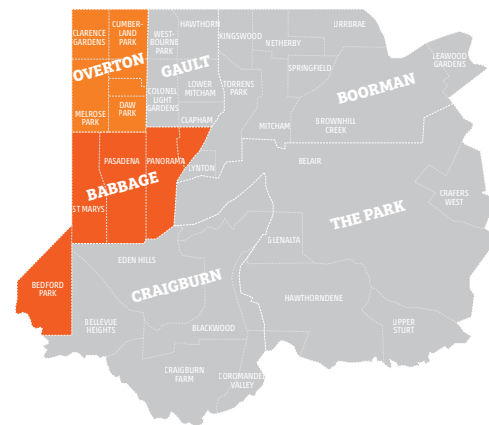


Community Forum for Craiburn and The Park Wards

(Blackwood, Belair, Bellevue Heights, Coromandel Valley, Crafers West [part], Craiburn Farm, Eden Hills, Glenalta, Hawthorndene and Upper Sturt)

7pm Monday 19 February 2018

Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood.



Community Forum for Babbage and Overton Wards

(Bedford Park, Clapham [part], Clarence Gardens, Cumberland Park, Colonel Light Gardens [part], Cumberland Park, Daw Park, Melrose Park, Panorama, Pasadena and St Marys)

7pm Wednesday 28 February 2018

Cumberland Park Community Centre, 388-390 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park.

Aspiring Local Historians Can Now Apply for a Grant

Applications for the City of Mitcham Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant close Monday 16 April.

Are you an enthusiastic historian or someone who loves to delve into our past? Perhaps you are a student undertaking historical research at school or university, someone who is retired and has a little bit of time to explore the past history of our neighbourhood, or an artist or playwright telling the story about someone that was influential in our past.

The City of Mitcham Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant provides up to \$2,000 each year to support an original piece of research or project about our local history and heritage.

We encourage creative, engaging ideas that celebrate local history and its diversity and achievements. The project could result in a traditional form of historical documentation such as a report or publication, or it could be a more contemporary approach such as using social media, multi media displays, smart phone app, performance or art or a web page.

For more information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants or call 8372 8173.

Applications close Monday 16 April.

Residents are invited to submit questions prior to a forum to ensure that the topic can be addressed on the night. Questions should be made in writing and:

- State the ward forum at which the matter will be raised.
- Be sent to Council at least two weeks prior to the relevant forum.
- Include the resident's contact details should any clarification of the question need to be sought.
- Be addressed to:
City of Mitcham
PO Box 21
Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park SA 5062
or by email: mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au
or complete an online feedback form on www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/communitywardforums

For more information call 8372 8899.

Apply now for a Community Development Grant!

Are you a local community group or resident interested in supporting our community? Would you benefit from some financial support to help you achieve this?

If your project aims to achieve: community connections, improved physical or emotional health and wellbeing, community gardening activities, community art, environmental improvement or community events you could receive a grant of up to \$2,500.

We have supported hundreds of community groups through our grant program – grants have been used to: build bikes for refugees; buy sea kayaks for scouts; purchase new sporting equipment; run awareness about mindfulness; run school holiday programmes; mentor young people in public speaking; purchase new bowls mats; develop nature play gardens; support local art exhibitions; and run local community Christmas events. All these examples are very diverse and often small, run by just a few volunteers to help improve our local community.

Applications close 5pm Friday 30 March 2018.

For further information visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants or call 8372 8805.

There are also other grant opportunities relating to individual achievements, history, community facilities, refugees and university study support. We would be happy to talk through your ideas, and help you to fill in the application form.

Australia Day at Carrick Hill

Mitcham residents joined together for Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony complete with a pancake breakfast and Bush Tucker at the beautiful grounds of Carrick Hill.

Guests enjoyed live music from the soulful voice of Katie Miller, Mitcham City Brass Band, a welcome to country by Allen Edwards and pancake breakfast cooked by the Rotary Clubs of Mitcham and Brownhill Creek.

This year 42 people become Australian citizens from 14 different countries during a citizenship ceremony officiated by Mayor Glenn Spear. Australia Day Awards were also presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to our local area.



Above: Helen Scarborough and Mayor Glenn Spear.

Senior Citizen of the Year - Helen Scarborough

Helen Scarborough has a passion for Australia's history and heritage, and dedicates her time to bringing history alive for children, for people suffering dementia, and the community.

Helen generously shares her historical collection with school children and groups and recently participated in our Mitcham Remembers event. Older visitors have delighted in reminiscing about the 'good old days' while children have experienced the work and play of earlier generations and learnt how everyday life has changed. From experiencing an old fashioned phone that requires dialing, to turning the hand washing wheel, to heating up an iron to remove creases from sheets – she tells the story of our past with enthusiasm and flair.

Helen is currently working with Flinders Medical Research to explore the opportunity of having people with dementia visit and use her old equipment to assist in memory recall and bring momentary enjoyment.



Above: Brian Ferris, President of the Blackwood Action Group and Kay Maughton (on behalf of Pauline Dodd, Event Manager) with Mayor Glenn Spear.

Community Event of the Year Award - Blackwood Action Group for the Blackwood Christmas Tree Festival

The Blackwood Action Group, with the support of many volunteers, re-introduced the much loved Blackwood Christmas Tree Festival to share the Christmas spirit with the local community.

Families bring their children to meet Santa, enjoy Christmas craft and food activities, be entertained by the buskers and carol singers, participate in a silent auction of hand decorated Christmas trees, and experience the magic and talents of the Blackwood community.

The Blackwood Christmas Tree Festival, held in conjunction with the Blackwood Lions Pageant and the Blackwood Rotary Fair and Christmas Market on the first weekend in December, links thousands of people together through tree decorating and raises funds for charity. The event also provides an opportunity for businesses to get involved with their local community through the donation of a beautifully decorated Christmas tree.



Above: The Citizen of the Year Award was collected by Professor Jegan Krishnan's nephew, Ganesch Krishnan, pictured above with Mayor Glenn Spear.

Citizen of the Year Award - Professor Jegan Krishnan MBBS, FRACS (Orth), Ph.D

Professor Jegan Krishnan is an orthopaedic surgeon who is devoted to his patients and has dedicated his entire life in the pursuit of teaching and nurturing other surgeons and supporting patients around the world.

Jegan has spent time in Zimbabwe, Fiji, Rwanda, India and China teaching local practitioners shoulder and hand surgery techniques. He also has a keen interest in the design of a prototype metacarpophalangeal finger joint for the rheumatoid hand.

He is the Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery at Flinders University, a member of the Australian Shoulder and Elbow Society, the Australian Hip Society and the Australian Hand Surgery Society and sits on the Heads of Departments of Orthopaedic Surgery South Australia.



ANNUAL REPORT

SUMMARY

2016/17



Approval and funding of Brownhill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) was finalised in March. The Stormwater Management Authority approved the SMP and the State Government announced its commitment to fund 50% of the cost of the project in partnership with the five catchment councils.

Council obtained a State Government contribution of \$1.09 million for the redevelopment of the Mitcham Memorial Library and Brown Hill Creek and associated car parking and landscaping improvements. The community provided invaluable feedback to help shape the function and design of the library redevelopment scheduled to commence in December 2017.

Our capital works budget was \$26.3 million and focussed on renewing and replacing roads, footpaths, stormwater infrastructure, public buildings and reserves in accord with the community's priorities including, installation of 1,425m of new footpaths, the Frank Smith Dam reconstruction and stabilisation, further development of the Sturt River Trail and partnering with school communities on the Way2Go Program to support people focused, safe and innovative improvements in local streets near schools and the Springbank Road upgrade.

Following extensive community consultation the Sports Facilities Strategy was endorsed by Council. This strategy provides direction for Council's 26 outdoor sporting facilities and will assist Council to adopt a coordinated approach to developing and managing sports complexes and sporting facilities for both formal and informal recreation.

Council made progress against its environmental objectives including biodiversity, clean energy, water smart and responsible consumption and minimisation of waste through many projects including; weed control along Upper Sturt Road, Olave Hill Road, Charlick Road and Sheoak Road, approving grants for an estimated 37 hectares of weed control by landlords and our Green Army team working with volunteers groups, not for profit organisations on sites within Flinders University and Belair National Park and boosted Mitcham's Grey Box Woodlands, increases in recycling and diversion of waste away from landfill, reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, and investigating stormwater harvesting, treatment and storage underground in an aquifer, with a prospective aquifer at AA Bailey Reserve being tested and providing future opportunities to make better use of stormwater.

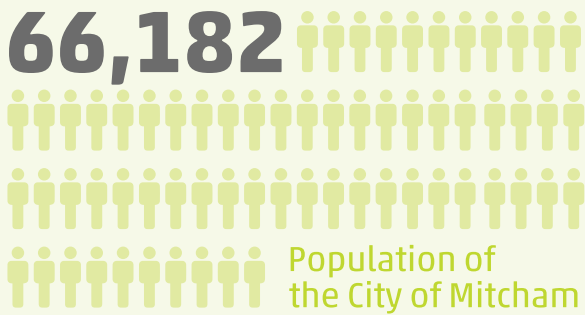
Staff continued their focus on providing great customer service and undertook 12 separate customer surveys to assist in the ongoing improvement of our customer service standards.

Many of the highlights for the year were around the commitment and funding to improve community buildings. Council has provided

funding for the redevelopment of the St Marys Sporting Association Complex in St Marys and the Hewett Sports Ground Shared Use Building, Blackwood. These facility upgrades are happening in partnership with the community, sporting clubs, the Federal Government (St Marys and Hewett) and State Government (St Marys).

The revitalisation of our community centres continued to see big increases in visitors, hirers and programmes including our inaugural school holiday program and our Libraries continued to draw high numbers of visitors with over 341,000 visitors attending programs, events, and borrowing resources and 205,000 people accessing online library resources.

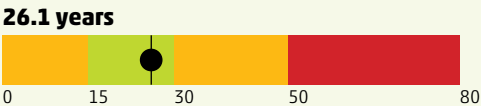
In 2016/17 Council completed an exciting Strategic Management Plan which will guide the future development of our City for many years to come. Council has a clear vision, is financially stable (another year of underlying operating surplus) and is well placed to take advantage of the significant investment in our City through projects such as the South Road Darlington upgrade and development of the Flinders/Tonsley area.



Financial indicators

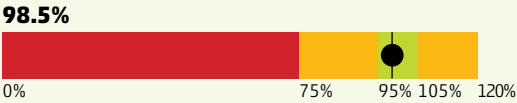
These financial indicators are based on a 10 year average.

Debt Repayment Term



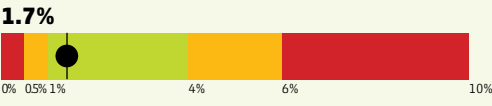
(10 year average)
This ratio measures how much cash is available from operations and therefore the timeframe over which the debt principal will be repaid. As new debt is taken out, additional cash from operations is needed to ensure that the new debt is paid off over a defined timeframe.

Asset Renewal Funding Ratio



(10 year average)
This indicator measures whether Council is generating enough cash from its operations to cover the replacement of assets over time. This ensures that Council is delivering intergenerational equity across the lifecycle of asset replacement.

Operating Result Ratio



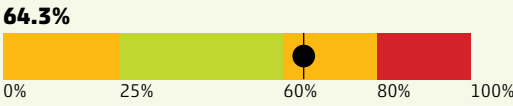
(10 year average)
This ratio is designed to identify the portion of Council's rates (the main source of Council controlled income) that is contributing to a surplus result, or alternatively the additional portion of Council's rates needed to address a deficit result. The ratio expresses the amount as a percentage of Council's rates.

Asset Sustainability Ratio



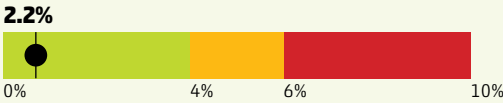
(10 year average)
This indicator measures the extent to which Council is replacing assets compared to the rate at which it needs to be replacing assets to ensure consistent service delivery. In effect it measures whether Council is spending the amount required annually to deliver the Asset Management Plans and Schedules.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio



(10 year average)
This ratio measures Council's net financial liabilities as a percentage of its rates income. It measures the absolute level of Council debt (including potential debt in the form of undrawn reserves) and articulates how much of Council's annual rates income would be required to repay that debt if Council were to wind up.

Interest Coverage Ratio



(10 year average)
This indicator measures the affordability of Council's debt and articulates the portion of Council's rates income that is being used to pay interest. When considered in conjunction with Net Financial Liabilities Ratio and Debt Repayment Term, this ratio forms part of a picture in terms of the level and affordability of Council's debt and the timeframe over which it is repaid.

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY 2016/17

Accessible City

STREETS, OPEN SPACES, COMMUNITY BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES WILL BE ACCESSIBLE, CONNECTED AND PEOPLE FRIENDLY.

63 of the scheduled 67 footpaths for replacement were completed.

All new footpath and kerb and watertable works scheduled for construction were completed.

All five roads scheduled for replacement under the Road 2 Recovery Program and one additional road were completed.

68 of the scheduled 75 road seal and pavement replacements and road seal preservations were completed.

All 45 sporting and recreational building replacement/renewal projects were completed and 31 of the scheduled 32 community building improvements were undertaken.

All parks, gardens, open space, playground, sports oval and tennis court works were completed.

Council provided landlord approval and partial funding towards the redevelopment of the St Marys Sporting Association Complex, St Marys.

Liveable City

A WELL-DESIGNED AND SAFE CITY RESPONSIVE TO LIFESTYLE, HERITAGE, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE.

Our Library Services received E-Smart accreditation.

The three Heritage Plans for Heritage Listed Council buildings scheduled for development were completed.

The restoration and maintenance of two heritage stone archways at Soldiers Memorial Gardens and Sutton Gardens was 85% completed.

The restoration and maintenance of two heritage stone bridges at Mitcham Reserve and Horners Bridge was 80% completed.

92.2% of wandering dogs were returned to their owners with no dog control prosecutions during the year.



Inclusive and Capable Community

A COMMUNITY THAT WELCOMES AND RESPECTS ALL PEOPLE AND BRINGS THEM TOGETHER IN FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY LEAD ACTION.

372 volunteers contributed 30,503 volunteer hours to the community.

Domestic assistance was provided to 1,336 individual residents.

There were 31 youth events and activities undertaken during the year attracting over 3,000 participants.

All nine secondary schools in the Mitcham area were approached to engage in youth discussions with meetings being held at seven schools.

200 Year 9, 10 and 11 students from Blackwood, Pasadena, Unley and Urrbrae High School attended the Embrace Movie Screening and question and answer session with film producer, actress and founder of the Body Image Movement Taryn Brumfitt.

Council held events to celebrate the Every Generation Festival.

The Multicultural Food and Music community event together with a citizenship ceremony was held in St Marys.

A Civic Reception was held for 35 Australia Day and Queens Birthday Honours Recipients.

Council celebrated Reconciliation Week with the Indigenous Art exhibition, Flag Raising Ceremony and Welcome to Country at the Council meeting.

The Mitcham Heritage Research Centre held events to celebrate History Month in May, assisted residents to research the history of spaces, buildings and people and added many more archived old historical print artefacts to the history collection.

Three Community Forums were held during the year providing an opportunity for the community to meet and engage with the Mayor and Elected Members from each Ward.

The Library held sell out author events with Hannah Kent, Rilka Warbanoff and Adam Liaw.

Pass the Book was held as part of Book Week, involving 3,921 participants from nine local schools and 55 classes across the City, resulting in five published story books.

Cumby Crew commenced at the Cumberland Community Centre providing for social interaction and support for people aged under 65 with a disability.

33 sporting lease and license holders were engaged through meetings, workshops or training.

A new grant category was included in the Community Development Grants Program and \$30,000 in Community Development Grants was distributed to 32 organisations.

There were 19 formal community consultations undertaken during the year.

The Suicide Prevention Network was launched with 30 attending the first meeting and a group of 25 continuing to meet.

100% compliance with bushfire prevention legislation was achieved from all of the high risk bushfire properties audited and all Fire Breaks on Council reserves were brush cut or slashed before the fire danger season.

The Building Fire Safety Committee inspected 74 high risk, publicly accessible buildings.

The Partnering to Build an Aged Friendly Environment & Community Plan – Regional Strategy and Actions Plans for the Cities of Holdfast, Marion and Mitcham were endorsed by Council with the plans providing a consistent direction in planning for older people across the region.

The Community Gardens and Public Art policies were endorsed by Council.



29,657

Participants in Library activities





Council's Annual Report 2016/17 can be found at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or the Civic Centre

Healthy Environment

A GREEN AND BIODIVERSE CITY CHARACTERISED BY CLEAN AIR, LAND, WATER AND RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION.

There was a total of 1,065 of trees planted during the year and approximately 3,600 native shrubs and ground covers planted in reserves throughout Craigburn Farm, Blackwood central business district and garden beds throughout Mitcham.

Norman Street Reserve in St Marys was redeveloped to improve its environmental performance including biodiversity conservation. The design of the Reserve's rain gardens won the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia's Excellence in Design and/or Construction of a Public Works Project for a water project costing under \$1 million.

Fire breaks were formed in Ellis Reserve, Belair Road (near retirement village), Glenwood Reserve, James Road verge and Ash Avenue, Belair.

A grant from the A&MLR NRM Board of \$50,000 enabled 2.58 hectares of difficult weed control in Randell Park's main gully.

1.78 hectares of steep, Grey Box Woodland was prepared for a native vegetation off-set site in Sleeps Hill Quarry Reserve. Follow-up maintenance was undertaken in another off-set site at Randell Park.

Council approved grants to eight landholders, totalling \$14,466 for an estimated 37 hectares of

weed control. Council received external funding support, of \$4,466 from the A&MLR NRM Board.

Council achieve an 8% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the previous year with total energy consumed being 26,212GJ.

A business case that examined cost and benefits to change street lights owned and managed by City of Mitcham to LED, which are 82% more energy efficient was finalised and street lights at Birksgate Drive and Flinders Drive were replaced with LED lights.

A grant application lodged by the Resilient South Councils to the South Australian Fire and Emergency Service Commission Natural Disaster Resilience Program for Red Cross to implement the "Resilient South Aware and Adapt Project" within Mitcham and Southern Region Councils was successful.

All 18 scheduled new stormwater drainage works were completed during the year including additional Water Sensitive Urban Design initiatives and the Frank Smith Dam reconstruction and stabilisation projects.

Council increased the diversion of material away from landfill by 1.11% with a total of 55.05% of material now being diverted.

Enterprising City

A STRONG AND RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMY THAT SUPPORTS BUSINESS AND ATTRACTS INVESTMENT.

Council provided in principle direction for the development of a new Blackwood Activity Hub (Library and Community Centre) on the current Community Centre site.

Work commenced on the development of a City of Mitcham Economic Development Strategy following the endorsement of the Strategic Management Plan.

ATO Tax Essential and Bookkeeping workshops for small businesses were held at the Blackwood Community Centre and Mitcham Cultural Village.

Council engaged with the community and the State Government Darlington Interchange Project Team to ensure the community's feedback and expectations were appropriately represented to the Project Team.

Excellence in Government

A COUNCIL WITH STRONG LEADERSHIP THAT VALUES ITS PEOPLE, CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS.

85% of City Works and Services programmed and agreed capital works projects completed on schedule and to budget.

90% completion of Property Capital Works Program.

Completed the 20 Civic building replacement/renewal projects as scheduled and 97.5% of property maintenance program was completed as scheduled.

498
KILOMETRES
OF FOOTPATHS

255



Parks, gardens and recreational areas

6,233
VACCINES
ADMINISTERED



community groups



social activities/easter



community events

Mitcham Community Calendar

Probus Men's Club of Blackwood

Join this friendly club on the **first Thursday of every month at 9.30am** at the rear hall of the Masonic Lodge, Main Road, Blackwood. Meet new people while enjoying guest speakers and lunches. Call 8178 1142. ■

Community Junction

A welcoming intergenerational social group enjoying a variety of activities from beach walks to board games nights. The group meets **once a month**. Call 0431 937 563. ■

Colonel Light Gardens Ladies Probus Club

Enjoy fellowship, guest speakers, outings and morning tea on the **first Friday of the month at 10am** at the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church, 560 Goodwood Road, Daw Park. Call 8177 0999. ■

Rotary Club of Mitcham

The Rotary Club of Mitcham meets **Wednesdays** at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street **6.30pm to 8pm** for a meal, fellowship and guest speaker. Become involved in local and international projects and fundraising including our Bookshop at Shop 2, 448 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park. Visitors welcome, email Mitcham.rotary@gmail.com or call 0418 788 401. ■

Mitcham Kiwanis

Needs new members! Mitcham Kiwanis Club is involved with the Terrific Kids Program at a local primary school in Mitcham and is seeking to become involved with more schools in the area. Help improve the community we live in by joining the Mitcham Kiwanis who meet **twice a month** at the Marion Sports Centre, Sturt Road, Marion. Call 8374 3694. ■

Blackwood Lions Bargain Centre

The Lions Bargain Centre is open every **Saturday morning from 8.30am to 12.30pm** at Colebrook Drive off Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills – look for the big yellow sign. A treasure trove of things for sale. If you have any unwanted saleable goods call 8370 2144 to arrange pick-up free of charge. ■

Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church

Bring your kids along to the playgroup to enjoy singing, dancing, games and activities every **Tuesday at 10.30am**. Bring a piece of fruit, cost \$4. Kindy and primary school children can join the Kids Club **every second Friday at 6pm** for games, stories and crafts. Cost \$4. Call 8276 7416. ■

Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek

Meet on the **first and third Tuesday** of the month at the Edinburgh Hotel at **6.30pm**. Enjoy a meal, listen to guest speakers and assist in fundraising. Call 0432 107 772 or find us on Facebook. ■

Care and Share at Trinity

If you are 65 years and over join Care and Share for friendship, companionship and social outings on **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm**. \$18 includes morning tea, lunch and transport if required. Call 8276 1144 or visit www.trinityclg.org.au/care-and-share ■

Friday Craft at St Michael's Church

Classes are held during school terms each week from **10am to 11.30am** in the hall at St Michael's Church. \$5 per person, includes morning tea. ■

Thursday Craft at Westbourne Park Uniting Church

Classes held during school terms at 27 Sussex Terrace, Hawthorn from **9.30am to 12noon** each week. \$5 per class, includes morning tea. Crèche available. Email crafter@wpuc.org.au or call 8271 7066 or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/thursdaycraft ■

Blackwood Hills Baptist Church

Come along each **Sunday at 10am or 7pm** at 72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood to enjoy the relaxed and friendly atmosphere at Blackwood Hills Baptist Church. There are people of all ages, great music and fun activities for the kids. Visit bhbc.org.au or call 8370 0333. ■

Village Church at Melrose Park

Every **Sunday at 10.30am** at the Edwardstown Primary School. Join a new and growing family-friendly church. Visit thevillage.org.au or call 8370 3256. ■

Seniors in Harmony

Enjoy music at **1.30pm Tuesday 6 March** followed by afternoon tea at the Mitcham Cultural Village, Princes Road, Mitcham. For group bookings email seniorsharmony@gmail.com ■

Easter Services

Westbourne Park Uniting Church

Saturday 10 March 5pm to 7.30pm. \$7 per family. Visit www.wpuc.org.au or call 8271 7066. ■

St Michael's Church

25 March Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday: 10am Procession of the Palms, **5pm** Reading of the Passion and Prayers. **29 March Maundy Thursday: 7.30pm** Holy Eucharist and vigil. **30 March Good Friday: 10am** Mass of the pre-sanctified. **31 March Easter Eve: 7.30pm** Easter Vigil. **1 April Easter Day: 8am** Easter Mass, **10am** Easter Mass ■

Mitcham Village Uniting Church

Maundy Thursday 29 March: 7.30pm Service. **Good Friday 30 March: 9am** Reflective Service. **Easter Sunday 1 April: 9am** Family Service. Call 0426 813 538 ■

Adelaide Spectacular Ballroom Dance Championship

Come and see some spectacular Ballroom and Latin dancing on **Sunday 18 March** at the Wonderland Ballroom, 126 Belair Road, Hawthorn. Enjoy guest artists Sergiu and Dorota Rusu from Poland. Sergiu and Dorota are World, British, International, United Kingdom and European Amateur Ballroom Champions. Two sessions **9.30am and 7pm**. Ticket prices from \$55 (\$45 concession), which includes entry for both the day and evening sessions, or \$35 (\$30 concession) for the evening session only, with family and group discounts also available. There will also be opportunities throughout both sessions for some general, public dancing. Call 0413 596 644. ■

Australian Scroll Saw Exhibition

South Oz Scrollers invite you to enjoy an exhibition of over 100 beautiful wood pieces. Don't miss this amazing display of beautiful woodwork at the Mitcham Cultural Village on **Saturday 21 April from 9am to 5pm** and **Sunday 22 April from 9am to 5pm**. Entry is free. Visit www.scrollsawaustralia.com or call 8370 0108. ■

Showcasing Rotary Club of Mitcham

Come along on **Wednesday 11 April from 7.30pm** at the Mitcham Institute, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham and meet members of the Rotary Club of Mitcham, learn how you can make a difference to our local and international communities through involvement in the worldwide organisation of Rotary. Experience a free wine tasting seminar led by an experienced wine research authority. Free. Call 0418 788 401 to register. ■

Mitcham Historical Society

Enjoy a twilight walk through Colonel Light Gardens on **Monday 19 March**. There will be more walks, bus tours and speaker presentations throughout the year. For membership enquiries and to receive a 2018 event program, please email smhydepark@gmail.com or write to PO Box 903, Mitcham Shopping Centre SA 5062. ■

Adelaide-Mitcham Prostate Cancer Support Group

Join us to hear from a guest speaker from Adelaide University talk about an on-line exercise program for men with metastatic prostate cancer on **Thursday 22 February** at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens at **7pm**. Call 8277 3424 or visit www.adelaide-mitchampcsg.org ■

Volunteer and Help Change your Community

Share your skills and interests to give a little and change a lot! We are seeking volunteers for Personal Transport, Community Bus Drivers and Helpers and our Out and About program.



The City of Mitcham has a number of programs supported by volunteers who share their own time, enthusiasm and skills in interesting and enjoyable activities. Our community benefits through volunteer participation. Every single volunteer makes an important contribution to our community.

There are many volunteering programs that currently have vacancies and if you are interested in volunteering then now is a great time to take the first step.

Volunteering positions are currently available in:

Personal Transport

Volunteer drivers transport (and in some circumstances accompany) residents to local shopping precincts, social activities, personal interest activities, medical, therapy and wellbeing appointments.

Community Bus Drivers and Helpers

Help provide bus transport for older people, younger people with a disability and their carers, offering regular trips to Shopping Centres, the Central Market, Day Trips and a Library Service.

Out and About

Drivers and helpers provide transport in our 'people mover' to take residents on outings to place of interest.

If you are interested in enriching the lives of people in our community, please visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteeringopportunities or contact Lynne, Coordinator Volunteer Services on 8372 8860.

Family Friendly Day at the Urrbrae Wetland

Enjoy a family friendly day at the Urrbrae Wetland on Sunday 8 April from 1.30pm to 4pm.

The Friends of the Urrbrae Wetland and Urrbrae Agricultural High School invite you to enjoy the naturally beautiful wetlands.

Help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Friends by enjoying illustrated talks, guided walks, self-guided visits and children's activities with Urrbrae Agricultural High School Students.

Families can enjoy guided walks through the wetland and participate in activities that will allow them to discover the thriving ecosystem, education centre, plants and animals.

For more information about the Wetland visit https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urrbrae_Wetland at the Learning Centre's website under 'News': <http://www.urrbraewetlandlc.org/news.html>



The Project Centre in St Marys Needs Volunteers

The St Marys Project Centre, located at the St Marys Anglican Parish at 1167 South Road, St Marys, is seeking volunteers.

The Project Centre is a community shed for both men and women to learn or share skills, tips, ideas and techniques using the woodwork facilities while also making friends and being part of the local community.

Volunteers with woodworking skills to supervise the workshop, office staff experienced in computer, finance and marketing and individuals interested in making woodwork items for sale are invited to join.

The Centre is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 3pm.

For more information call 8276 5793 on Monday, Thursday or Friday between 9am and 3pm.



Council Wins Award for Work Health and Safety

Recently the City of Mitcham received the 2017 Work Health and Safety Best Practice Major Award by the Local Government Association.

Council was recognised for its safety procedure for Community Wellbeing programs that includes a '50 point' safety check of all volunteer driver's vehicles used to transport residents.

Our procedure highlights Mitcham's commitment to ensuring the safety of residents and volunteer drivers through Community Wellbeing programs.

The award recognises the initiative as innovative and 'above and beyond' standard practice and has been embraced by our volunteers.

If you are interested in enriching the lives of people in our community, please visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteeringopportunities or contact Lynne, Coordinator Volunteer Services on 8372 8860.

CARE & SHARE
AT TRINITY

Social group for men & women aged 65 or over, who live in the south/east metropolitan area of Adelaide.

Activities and 2 course hot lunch \$18. Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fridays. Come along, meet new friends and join in the fun.

We are located at Colonel Light Gardens. Call Janine today for further information and book a FREE guest trial day

8276 1144

www.trinityclg.org.au/care-and-share

Basketry Exhibition @Nature's Pace at Urrbrae House

Enjoy a stunning display of contemporary basketry and fibre art @Nature's Pace during the 2018 Adelaide Fringe Festival at Urrbrae House from February 17 to March 1.

The Friends of the Waite Arboretum and Basketry South Australia will host a Basketry exhibition in Urrbrae House @Nature's Pace. The works explore natural and man-made materials slowly and systematically woven into functional containers, sculptural pieces and small wearable jewelry. This ancient craft is experiencing resurgence because of its low environmental impact.

The exhibition will be officially opened on Saturday 17 February at 2pm by Dr Lucy Sutherland, Director Botanical Gardens and State Herbarium and be on display between 11am and 4pm Monday to Friday and 1pm to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays, from February 17 to March 1. Urrbrae House is located off Fullarton Road in Urrbrae.

Mayor Glenn Spear



Telephone: 0438 221 762

gspear@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Recently there has been considerable media attention directed at Elected Members, particularly Mayors, making unnecessary overseas travel at the expense of the community. Front page news has revealed the high level of Code of Conduct claims in Local Government, with some Councils facing up to as many as seventeen current investigations at a significant cost to ratepayers. It is difficult to align cases of such unnecessary spending with the LGA's position against rate capping.

It is impossible for me to defend the decision of some in Local Government to travel overseas at ratepayers' expense. I have been a strong critic of such practice, and have called for detailed examination of the outcomes delivered at such "trade missions".

I am pleased to say that during my term as Mayor, there has been no overseas travel by any Elected Member at ratepayers expense. We have no Code of Conduct cases that have required legal cost, or other outside investigative cost. We certainly have no executives with golf club memberships!

We find ourselves in the midst of a State Government election. I have no political association or membership and my sense of ethics would not allow me to pursue political office whilst serving as Mayor, I believe this puts me in a strong position to work with the Government of the day (whoever that may be) for the benefit of Mitcham. I look forward to working with the various State candidates to secure funding for local projects, and I will welcome the announcement of any such funding from all candidates.

We have formulated a "wish list" of projects that require significant capital investment and are distributing that to all candidates that fall within the various seats in our City. In Mitcham we have five State seats that will be contested. On this note I am pleased to report that we are doing very well with securing Government funding already and have announced several major projects including: Springbank Road upgrade, Blackwood Roundabout, Mitcham Memorial Library and Brown Hill Creek redevelopment, Daws Road/Goodwood Road/Springbank Road intersection upgrade and numerous sporting club improvements. I have already been contacted by several State candidates with announcements of further funding to come. This is a fabulous outcome for City of Mitcham residents.

I called a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 16 January to seek Council support to keep the Soldiers Memorial in Blackwood at its current location. In very late December I received a letter from Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) stating that the memorial will be moved. I hope that we can act decisively to change that decision.

We now commence a new year and have budgets to set as well as many late nights and vibrant discussion as to how and where ratepayers money is spent and I look forward to continuing to serve the community in this way.

Tracey and I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a safe and healthy new year.

I invite you to follow me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GlennWSpear/

Overton Ward Cr Nicholas Economos



Telephone: 0411 659 669

neconomos@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

I hope you enjoyed the Christmas and New Year's festivities. I trust you were able to spend quality time with family and friends.

2017 was a productive year. I heard local residents' views on various topics ranging from traffic concerns to development issues. Whilst some of these issues have been resolved there is still further work to be undertaken collaboratively with residents and the Council, moving into 2018.

I would like to thank my wife Christine for her ongoing support over the last three years. Furthermore, I congratulate the hardworking and dedicated Council administration for delivering a budget surplus in 2015, 2016 and 2017. I will continue to promote low Council rates for the next budget.

New Housing Development

Renewal SA together with Junction Australia is developing a large block of land which extends from Kegworth Road to Regent Street, Melrose Park. This involves building a number of houses and apartments. I have visited the site with a concerned resident. In the October 2017 Full Council Meeting the reserve and roadway were vested in Council. Unfortunately, I was away overseas at the time of the meeting. The roadway connects Kegworth Road to Regent Street and traffic could use this as a shortcut to South Road.

On the 4 December 2017 I attended a public meeting at the office of Annabel Dignance. Many residents expressed the view that the community near the site was given insufficient time to provide feedback about the development. Other concerns include the possibility of extra traffic along Kegworth Road. A meeting was held on the 5 December 2017 between Junction Australia, the Mayor, Councillor John Sanderson and me. A successful outcome of the meeting was that Renewal SA would give the community further time to provide feedback.

Rate Capping

A rate capping policy means that local councils are not able to set their council rates at budget time. Consequently, councils are unable to raise sufficient rates to provide community services such as libraries, parks and infrastructure. There is evidence interstate where rate capping exists that councils are hesitant to request their State Government's consent to raise council rates to provide these community services. If there was a rate capping policy in South Australia then it is possible that Mitcham Council may have not been able to proceed with the re-development of Mitcham Library. At a Full Council Meeting the majority of Councillors voted against a rate capping policy. I will continue to oppose a rate capping policy.

Community Events

On the 11 November 2017 I had the privilege of attending the Mitcham Remembers event at Mortlock Park Oval in Colonel Light Gardens. This was an important event recognising people who have served for this country.

Further, I attended a Friday night playing session of the Goodwood Baseball Club at Mortlock Park Oval. It was wonderful to see so many keen young children having fun playing baseball.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues or concerns.

The Park Ward Cr Tim Hein



Telephone: 0403 080 080

thein@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

The responsibility of serving in a governance role such as a Council invites the use of different perspectives. Certainly there is a need to be across the detail of matters, even amongst the myriad of smaller and larger issues. Often I've admired the diligent manner in which fellow Councillors and Administration staff passionately work on these matters, carefully listening, speaking, and then debating the facets of the issue in service to residents or groups in our City.

But there is also the crucial need for us to reflect regularly on the big-picture. The City of Mitcham comprises thirty suburbs, spread across both hills and plains, with approximately 65,000 residents. We have some treasures heritage buildings and areas – and new areas. But I wonder about the future. What can we cultivate and shape that will shape the future of our City that will be treasured in the future?

Soon Council will be consulting the community on its Spatial Vision for the next 10 years. This draft vision, arising from the Strategic Management Plan, in light of the State Government's implementation of the new Planning and Design Code, can be viewed on the Council website already. I encourage you to engage with the consultation, and allow it to ignite your thinking around the future of the key areas of our City.

The beginning of the year (although I'm writing this in the last week of December!) is also a brilliant time to reflect on the big-picture of a range of areas of our lives. To sit back and consider the sweep of our lives, the use of our time, and our priorities. Annie Dillard once famously said "How we spend our days is of course how we spend our lives". The 'how' could also be swapped for a "with whom". Our co-workers, our families, our friends – and of course, our neighbours. I was mightily blessed to be invited for Christmas drinks with others in our street recently, and fascinated to hear the things we have in common and difference. One comment that came up was "This is brilliant - why do we wait for Christmas to do this??" I hope you have a meaningful 2018.

Find us on



Facebook
cityofmitcham



Twitter
@cityofmitcham



Instagram
cityofmitcham

Boorman Ward Cr Andrew Tilley



Telephone: 0411 158 882

atilley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

The State election is looming. Mitcham is in the middle of five electorates with many in hot contention. The presence of candidates from the Xenophon team and the resignation of a long standing local representative of a previously safe Liberal seat makes a heady mix.

The result is each party is suddenly pressing funds in our direction. As a result we as a Council have had to get projects ready so that funds from the State that were being offered had a place to land in Mitcham. In 2016 there was a Federal election which also saw the major political parties read to fund projects that may have otherwise been neglected.

The Mitcham Library upgrade was an early beneficiary. We received a substantial amount of money on the proviso that it would be allocated before the end of 2017. The Mayor was pleased to get his shovel out and turn the first sod on the 7 December thereby beating the dead line by moments. However this timing proviso has put pressure on the planning processes.

It's a very important building to get right as the Library sits at the gateway into Mitcham overlooking the very lovely Soldiers Memorial Gardens. The creek, the massive River Red Gums, the leafiness and the cool green grass all highlight the natural beauty of the area. The park was well used during the recent Carols by the Creek as it is for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day celebrations.

The new additional car parking area at the Mitcham Shopping Centre is a very welcome improvement. However parking in residential areas around the shopping centre still remains tight as the introduction of timed parking has forced many shopping centre and Council staff to park in local streets. This is part of our love hate relationship with cars. Bike riding is being further encouraged by a dedicated bike lane down Rugby Street to join with the same efforts all the way to the City through Unley. The pedestrian/ bike crossing on Cross Roads is a part of a city wide effort to encourage healthy economic environmentally sound options. We still have a long way to go to achieve a two way connect with the hills and Flinders areas.

Changes to planning have been introduced as a result of a change in State legislation. This has meant that the Development Assessment Panel that used to have three Councillors and four independents now has one Councillor and four newly chosen independents and is now called the Council Development Assessment Panel. Some would argue that less Councillors in a very professional field is an improvement. The counter argument is that the independent members aren't elected by the community they make decisions on behalf of and in most cases live outside the district. This raises the question of how community sentiment is reflected in the important decisions they make?

Later this year is an election year for local Council as well as the State... it's your chance to make a difference.

Craigburn Ward Cr Lindy Taeuber



Telephone: 0420 372 566

ltaeuber@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Happy New Year to you all. 2018 should be exciting with projects we have been working on for a very long time making strong progress. Despite a constant trickle of negative publicity about behaviours at other councils we at Mitcham are getting on with the job and I have tried hard to remain focussed on the big picture, making information based decisions and seeking input from and providing information to residents.

Planning is a key role of Council and must occur collaboratively with other tiers of government and residents. Council is preparing a Spatial Vision for the City of Mitcham whilst remaining mindful of the State Government's move to simplify zoning. (Currently nearly 2,000 zones exist across the State and 37 in the City of Mitcham). Very soon Council will be seeking your feedback as to our draft plan and how you want Mitcham to grow and develop - areas where significant change should be investigated, areas where incremental change is anticipated and areas where no change is anticipated.

Waite Street Reserve Master Planning has commenced with the community consultation likely midyear. Linking the reserve, the new library/community centre in Young Street to the Foodland Shopping Centre via a landscaped walkway to provide improved pedestrian connectivity, traffic flow and parking is a project I am determined to progress this year.

There has been a great deal of community discussion about the proposed Blackwood Aldi store. Concerns include the loss of the small businesses on the site (Can Do Hearing and Browse In & Save to remain), traffic congestion and parking (the 72 parks are increasing to 89) and an oversupply of supermarkets (Aldi would bring Blackwood supermarket space to 0.30m²/ person while for Adelaide as a whole the average is 0.40m²/person). Council provided feedback to the State body that oversees such applications with a focus on the interface with the residences to the west of the development. We are now awaiting further decisions.

Following community consultation about the Blackwood Roundabout DPTI presented updated plans to Council and community members in December. Changes include a R turn from Coromandel Parade into the Magnet Shopping Centre which will require removal of trees, buses travelling from Main Road south to Coromandel Parade having to loop the entire roundabout (as currently occurs) with the trade off being the retention of more garden space outside the church and the preferred site of the soldier being outside Save The Children in a landscaped pocket park. I am of the opinion that the Soldier should stay near the church until full community consultation about its long term location has occurred.

It's exciting times with these projects shaping our community for many years to come. I advertise Council happenings on my Facebook site (exclusively Council matters - not what I've eaten for dinner!) and encourage those averse to Facebook to use this free and easy service. We are planning for our district's future so have your say via the formal consultation processes.

www.facebook.com/LindyTaeuberCouncillor

Babbage Ward Cr Yvonne Todd



Telephone: 0418 891 097

ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Welcome to another exciting year. For 2018, Mitcham Council has several major projects planned to keep everyone busy, such as the upgrade to the Mitcham Library, and "fund my neighborhood" projects. The many ongoing non-council projects underway in the area such as changes to the Repatriation Hospital site, changes to the intersection of Springbank, Goodwood and Daws Roads, effect of South Road upgrade on egress into St Marys will also all impact on staff time and resident's amenity this year, but should provide positive long-term improvements.

I am a Council representative on the Darlington South Road Upgrade Community Liaison Group which provides the opportunity for you as residents to tell me concerns and ideas about the project so I can discuss them with DPTI, Gateway South and other residents.

In conversations with residents, I continuously hear that Babbage Ward needs park improvements such as walkways, playgrounds, seats, toilets, watering, bike paths and increased tree planting. It is useful for me to know what residents want so I can work with staff to try to find solutions.

As Council representative on the Pasadena High School Governing Council I am looking forward to the facilities upgrade in 2018 with \$10 million funding. This is welcome as enrolments have increased in 2018 and with this major investment into infrastructure, Pasadena High School will be a state-of-the-art secondary college for many years.

Babbage Ward residents submitted eight "Fund my neighbourhood" projects in 2017 but only one was funded by the government. The successful project in Babbage Ward is the St Marys Foodbank, which received 200 votes and \$60,000. Congratulations.

I am heartened that residents voiced what they consider are important local improvements. Each project was suggested and supported by residents, and has been endorsed by Elected Members. I can use these projects for future funding requests and as potential projects in the 2018-19 annual budget. The effort by residents in suggesting projects will not be wasted. The seven unfunded projects are Clapham Community Circuit (123 votes), Toilets CC Hood Reserve (115 votes), Nature trail Pasadena Reserve (82 votes), Dog Park St Mary Reserve (76 votes), Riverside Reserve (Bedford Park) shared path and seating along Sturt River (52 votes), Playground Grant Jacob Reserve Pasadena (46 votes), St Marys sport score board (30 votes).

Recently comments have been made that Elected Members waste time debating and not making decisions. Decisions are made through good debate and debate occurs because deciding an outcome before a meeting or trying to stop the debate on the floor is not allowed in the Legislation that governs Elected Member behavior. Following the status quo without debate would be an easy thing to do but is not what I consider appropriate for Elected Members. The community can be proud that Elected Members are skilled enough to comprehend their obligations under the Legislation, and debate motions to reach a decision without simply accepting every proposal put to them.

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

Storytime for Preschoolers

Storytime and craft sessions for preschoolers are held weekly at the Mitcham and Blackwood Libraries.

Sessions, which are sometimes noisy, sometimes crazy, but they are always fun, are held at the Blackwood Library on Tuesday and Wednesday at 10.30am, at the Mitcham Library on Monday and Thursday at 10.30am during school terms.

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

For details about session times and locations please contact Blackwood Library on 8372 8255 or Mitcham Library on 8372 8244.



Join our 'Time Out' Together Discussion Group

The Mitcham Library Service is hosting a monthly informal discussion group 'Time Out' Together at the Hawthorn Community Centre.

Join us for a lively discussion where you can meet new friends, talk about interesting topics and enjoy a cuppa. It is a great way to keep mentally active and involved in your community.

Our first meeting will be hosted by Lyn on 'Getting to know you!' We encourage you to suggest topics for future discussions.

Time: 10.30am

Date: Tuesday 27 March

Location: Hawthorn Community Centre,
5 Frimley Grove, Hawthorn

For more information contact Mitcham Library on 8372 8244.



Chess Group at the Blackwood Library

Visit the Blackwood Library and play a game of chess.

Each fortnight on a Wednesday the Blackwood Library hosts Chess Group from 2pm. The next Chess Group will meet on 21 February.

Come along and play Chess, share your strategy or learn some new ones.

For more information call 8372 8255 or visit us at 215 Main Road, Blackwood.

Is English your second language?

Come along to the Mitcham Library's free English as a Second Language Course.

The course is held during term times at the Mitcham Library each Saturday from 10.30am to 11.30am.

For more information call 8372 8244.



Join Your Local Toy Library

Our Toy Library can help improve your child's learning!

We have a range of educational games and equipment to support primary school children's learning in Literacy, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Our friendly staff are happy to discuss your child's learning needs and assist you to find resources to use with them at home.

Blackwood Toy Library

Blackwood Community Centre,
4 Young Street, Blackwood

Telephone 8278 6779

Opening hours

Tuesday 9.30am – 11.45am

Wednesday 9.30am – 11.45am

Thursday 4pm – 6.30pm

Mitcham Toy Library

Mitcham Community Centre,
242 Belair Road, Lower Mitcham

Telephone 8274 1351

Opening hours

Wednesday 2.30pm – 5pm

Thursday 10am – 12.30pm

Saturday 10am – 12pm

For further information visit

www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Baby Time

Babytime, for children up to two years, is held on alternate weeks at the Mitcham Library on Wednesday and the Blackwood Library on Thursday at 10.30am during school terms.

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

Mitcham Library

7 and 21 February

Blackwood Library

8 and 22 February

8 and 22 March

5 April

**MITCHAM
LIBRARY
SERVICE**

Mitcham Library

154 Belair Road, Hawthorn SA 5062
Phone: 8372 8244

Mitcham Toy Library

Room 2, Mitcham Community Centre
242 Belair Road, Hawthorn SA 5062
Phone: 8274 1351

Blackwood Library

215 Main Road, Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 8372 8255

Blackwood Toy Library

Blackwood Community Centre
4 Young Street, Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 8278 6997



Card Mornings at the Blackwood Library

Visit the Blackwood Library and play a quick card game and meet new friends.

Each month on a Friday the Blackwood Library hosts a card morning from 10.30am to 11.30am. The next card morning will be held on 9 March.

Come along and play different card games, share your tricks and learn some new ones.

For more information call 8372 8255 or visit us at 215 Main Road, Blackwood.

Do you love to Knit?

Would you like the opportunity to improve your knitting while enjoying a chat and a cuppa with a group of fellow knitters?

Join the Mitcham Library Service Knitters Group on a Saturday afternoon each month at 1.30pm at the Mitcham Library.

The next meeting will be on 24 February. All levels welcome.

For more information call 8372 8244 or visit us at 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn.

Are you Interested in Learning French?

Come and join our French class each Wednesday in school terms at the Mitcham Library.

12pm to 1pm Beginners
1pm to 2pm Intermediate
2pm to 3pm Conversation

\$5 per class. For more information call 8372 8244.

Scrabble at the Mitcham Library

Do you enjoy Scrabble?

Why not join in the next Scrabble game at the Mitcham Library on Saturday 24 February at 1pm. No need to know how to play. All ages welcome and games supplied. The group meets each month.

For more information call the Mitcham Library on 8372 8244.

Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek Redevelopment to Begin

Redevelopment of the Mitcham Memorial Library and Brownhill Creek redevelopment will begin in March.

Once completed in December the Mitcham Library will offer a wider range of services and spaces alongside enhancements to Brownhill Creek aimed at ensuring the capacity to respond to flooding and environmental extremes.

As part of the redevelopment the Library will be closed from Monday 26 February and reopen on Tuesday 13 March to allow the relocation of some of our services. Our e-resources will be available from the website and returns can be made to

Mitcham via the external returns chute. No items will be due during the closure.

From Tuesday 13 March the Mitcham Library will offer limited services including public computer access; copying; printing; a reduced adult collection; and pickup of reserved items.

We are also introducing a new location at our nearby Hawthorn Community Centre in Frimley Grove, Hawthorn from Tuesday 13 March. Here you will find children's services and relaxed reading, including newspapers. The Hawthorn

Community Centre will be open the same hours as the Mitcham Library.

The Blackwood Library will continue to operate as usual, along with both the Mitcham and Blackwood Toy Libraries.

Work will also begin on the car park and Brownhill Creek.

For more information about Mitcham Library's services please call us on 8372 8244.



It's a New Year – so why waste it?

Have you set a New Year's resolution for 2018? Why not make a resolution to reduce waste at home and recycle more.

Help us reach our goal to divert 70% of waste to landfill by 2020.

How can you Reduce Waste? It's easy, just five simple steps:

1. Avoid waste in the first place

- Plan meals to avoid food wastage.
- Know the difference between 'use-by date' and 'best before date'. The 'use-by date' indicates the date by which food should be safely used or consumed. The 'best before date' however is about quality and not safety.
- Place a 'No junk mail' sticker on your post-box, available from the Civic Centre.
- Avoid using single-use, disposable containers and packaging i.e. polystyrene and plastic bags.
- Avoid individually packaged food items eg Buy fresh fruit and vegetables loose and not packaged.

2. Reduce waste to landfill

- Visit whichbin.com.au to learn more about which bin items go into, as well as alternative recycling options and helpful tips.
- Place food scraps and green organics in compostable bags (not biodegradable bags) available for purchase from Council.
- Reduce contamination by emptying your containers before placing them in your recycling bin.

3. Choose to Re-use

- Use non-disposable water bottles available in stainless steel and plastic.
- Have a non-disposable coffee cup. Some cafes offer discounts for using a re-usable takeaway cup! Visit www.responsiblecafes.org for details.
- Choose reusable shopping bags instead of disposable plastic such as ones made from recycled PET or organic cotton.
- Donate your unwanted clothing and footwear to charity.
- Refurbish and repurpose old furniture into new masterpieces or donate to charity.

4. Recycle

- Paper and cardboard, rigid plastics, glass and metals can be recycled. Check the Which Bin website for a full list of items that can be recycled.
- Household batteries and mobile phones by dropping them off at the Civic Centre and Libraries.

5. Compost

- Lawn clippings, small cuttings, prunings and branches, weeds and flowers.
- Sawdust.
- Food scraps (including citrus, onion, dairy, meat, bones, fish, fruit and vegetable scraps).

Just place these items in your green bin or introduce a compost bin or worm farm at home.



For more information visit whichbin.com.au



BEFORE



AFTER

Managing Stormwater to Improve our Environment

The City of Mitcham is collecting stormwater in rain gardens, reserve soakage trenches and permeable paving to help green our local streets and reserves.

With the changing climate and increasing urban development we are rethinking how we manage our stormwater for the benefit of our community. Rain gardens, reserve soakage trenches and permeable paving allow us to manage stormwater to improve our environment while still allowing everyday use of our roads, footpaths and our parks.

The new rain garden constructed last year in Harvey Hayes Reserve, between Wilmott and Day Avenues in Daw Park receives stormwater from as far as Goodwood Road, soaking it into the reserve's soil to reduce the potential for flooding downstream, while any overflow is filtered through the pond's sedges and rushes. Indigenous plants surrounding the pond will continue to grow over the next year or two and more species will be added in the future

to increase biodiversity, add colour, attract butterflies and provide improved cover for birds.

The City of Mitcham acknowledges the ongoing support for sustainable urban water management from Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board, Environment Protection Authority of South Australia, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, UniSA, Goyder Institute for Water Research, Water Sensitive SA.