

MITCHAM

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

COMMUNITY NEWS



APRIL 2023

Celebrating 140 years of railway heritage

City of Mitcham's railway heritage is under the spotlight with a series of events planned as part of South Australia's History Festival in May.

SEE EVENTS CALENDAR ON
PAGES 4, 5 AND 11

Mitcham Railway Station's last Station Master, Bruce Jaensch, 91, who worked at Mitcham until 1986, will share memories of his working life at the station.

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SUSTAINABLE



Grey Box Day is set to return to Belair National Park.

LEADERSHIP



Hear from your Council Members.

DYNAMIC



Belair home to Australia's best hot cross bun!

CONNECTED



Discover our School Holiday Program.

Mitcham launches new hills bus service, movie morning

City of Mitcham has launched a new hills Community Bus service that coincides with a movie morning at Mitcham Square.

The 'Hills to Mitcham Square' Community Bus run is part of Council's Community Wellbeing program.

The program offers a range of services to support older residents with Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) referrals.

Every third Tuesday of the month, the bus collects Hills residents to do some shopping,

or for morning tea at Dolci Café, followed by a movie at Wallis Cinema.

Movie tickets are \$7 (CHSP), and morning tea at own cost. The bus is \$2 each way.

The Mitcham Community Bus service also offers weekly shopping trips to Blackwood, Mitcham, Pasadena and Castle Plaza as well as monthly trips to Westfield Marion and the SA Aquatic Centre.

To find out more or to book in for the movie or bus, contact (08) 8372 8884, 0413 617 963 or email wellbeing@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Di, Gwen, Marlene, Marion, Betty, Yvonne enjoy a movie at Wallis Cinemas Mitcham.

Scotch College Anzac tribute

Centennial Park is set to welcome students from Scotch College who will conduct a short, reflective Anzac service on Friday 14 April.

The service, including a minute's silence, will be held at the Cross of Remembrance in Derrick Gardens from 10am. The public is welcome to attend.

The students will then place more than 4,500 Australian flags on the memorial headstones of service personnel.

On Anzac Day, Tuesday 25 April, the Centennial Park gates will open at 6.30am for those who would like to visit at dawn and pay their respects.

Wildflowers Café will be open from 6.30am serving hot drinks, Anzac biscuits and sweet treats.

Centennial Park, 760 Goodwood Road, Pasadena, www.centennialpark.org



Mitcham City Brass to perform songs from wartime

Mitcham City Brass is set to present a musical tribute to our service men and women with a 'Wartime Melodies Concert' on Sunday 23 April.

The concert will feature a montage of melodies and songs from the war years. An impressive collection of military memorabilia will be on display at the concert, to be held at Blackwood Memorial Hall.

City of Mitcham is a proud supporter of Mitcham City Brass.

Wartime Melodies Concert

When: Sunday 23 April, 2.30pm

Where: 21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

Cost: \$20 adults, \$80 table of six, \$15 concession, under-13 free, ex Service men and women free.

Bookings are essential via www.trybooking.com/CGUFW or phone 0419 032 312.



Grey Box Day returns

After a three-year hiatus, Grey Box Day is set to return to the State Flora nursery at Belair National Park on Sunday 7 May.

Organised by the Grey Box Community Group, the day aims to encourage City of Mitcham residents to grow plants from the Grey Box Eucalypt (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodland ecological community.

Grey Box Community Group President Greg Johns said Grey Box Grassy Woodland once covered large parts of the Adelaide plains and hills face but was now limited to small pockets. Two South Australian Grey Box communities are listed as endangered.

The Grey Box, and the plants that grow with it, forms an important habitat for fauna including possums, parrots and butterflies.

"We are calling on people to take responsibility for what is grown in their backyard, to help improve biodiversity and preserve the natural habitat," Greg said. "It's about taking custodianship of the land and growing what should be living there."

On the day, 20 native plant species found in the Grey Box Grassy Woodland Community, including sheoak, wattle, saltbush and grasses, will be available for sale at State Flora at a subsidised cost of 6 for \$20 or 20 for \$60.

Since its inception in 2007, over 100,000 plants have been planted as part of Grey Box Day.



Grey Box Day

When: Sunday 7 May
10am to 4pm

Where: State Flora Nursery,
Belair National Park

Cost: No entrance fee
required if only
visiting nursery

State Flora Nursery Retail Coordinator Josh Laynes, Grey Box Community Group Secretary Grant Joseph and Grey Box Community Group President Greg Johns. Keep an eye out for yellow ribbons on Grey Box trees in Mitcham, to raise awareness of the trees and Grey Box Day.

Trial paves way for recycled tyre road uptake

After a successful trial, City of Mitcham has increased the uptake of recycled tyres in its annual road resurfacing program.

Last year 4,085 tonnes of crumb rubber asphalt, made from 6,129 crushed rubber tyres, was used in 19 of the 46 roads resurfaced across the city.

The number is a big jump from the previous year, when 750 tyres and 499 tonnes of crumb rubber were used in 10 roads.

City of Mitcham, with support from Tyre Stewardship Australia, was the first South Australian Council to trial this technology in 2018. As part of the trial, a 335m stretch of road in St Marys was resurfaced using 850 recycled tyres.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the trial showed the surface was stronger, more durable and less prone to rutting and cracking.

"As well as significant environmental benefits, this innovation will lead to cost savings for

Council, as it improves the quality and life of road pavements, particularly in areas of reactive clay soils," she said.

City of Mitcham also increased the amount of recycled asphalt used in roads from 1826 tonnes in 2021 to 2368 tonnes last year.

The roads paved using crumb rubber in 2022 include Bain Street, Marshall Boulevard, Kalka Crescent, Branson Boulevard, Toohey Crescent and Grandview Drive, Pasadena, Finlaysson Street, Netherby, Forest Avenue, Glenalta, Greenwood Grove and Meadowbank Rise, Urrbrae, Hill Avenue, Llanfair Terrace, Jervois Street and Hawthorn Crescent, Hawthorn, Ilford Road, Clarence Gardens, Jane Court, Melton Street and Merton Road, Blackwood, and Mulga Road, Hawthorndene.

The next 'recycled road' is expected to be laid during April/May at Wheaton Road, Melrose Park.

Did you know? City of Mitcham was the first Council to trial the use of plastic bottles in an asphalt mix at Carlisle Street, Westbourne Park, in 2020. A total of 450,000 plastic bottles were used in the road.



BLACKWOOD HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

10am & 7pm

72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood

thevillage.org.au

ph. 8370 0333

Email bhbc@bhbc.org.au



Celebrating Mitcham's history

City of Mitcham's railway history is under the spotlight as part of South Australia's History Festival in May. Join the Mitcham Local History Service on guided tours of our railway station, cemeteries and historic areas and learn to protect and present your own family history. Visit the Blackwood Library to enjoy a display of historical objects, or the Mitcham Library where an exhibition will celebrate our train and rail history through photographs and memorabilia.

For more information about the City of Mitcham South Australian History Festival events call the Customer Communications Team on 1300 133 466 or email sahistoryfestival@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Who Lies There: Mitcham Cemeteries Tour

Take a guided walking tour through the heritage-listed Mitcham Anglican and General Cemeteries, both opened in 1854. Visit the resting places and see historic photos of many of Mitcham's and Adelaide's earliest pioneers and identities and hear many stories for a glimpse into some very interesting lives.

When: Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 May
10.30am to 12pm

Where: Meet at the Rotunda, Mitcham General Cemetery, Old Belair Road, Mitcham

Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential via www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival



A Village Walk: Mitcham Village Historic Walk

In 1840 a new village called Mitcham was born. See and hear how Mitcham Village has evolved over 183 years on a guided walk through the Mitcham Village Historic Conservation Area. Admire the heritage and architecture and learn about the lives of the early and current residents of the Village.

When: Wednesday 3 and 10 May
10am to 12pm

Where: Meet at Mitcham Local History Centre, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential via www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival



Paper Treasures: Important reminders of our past

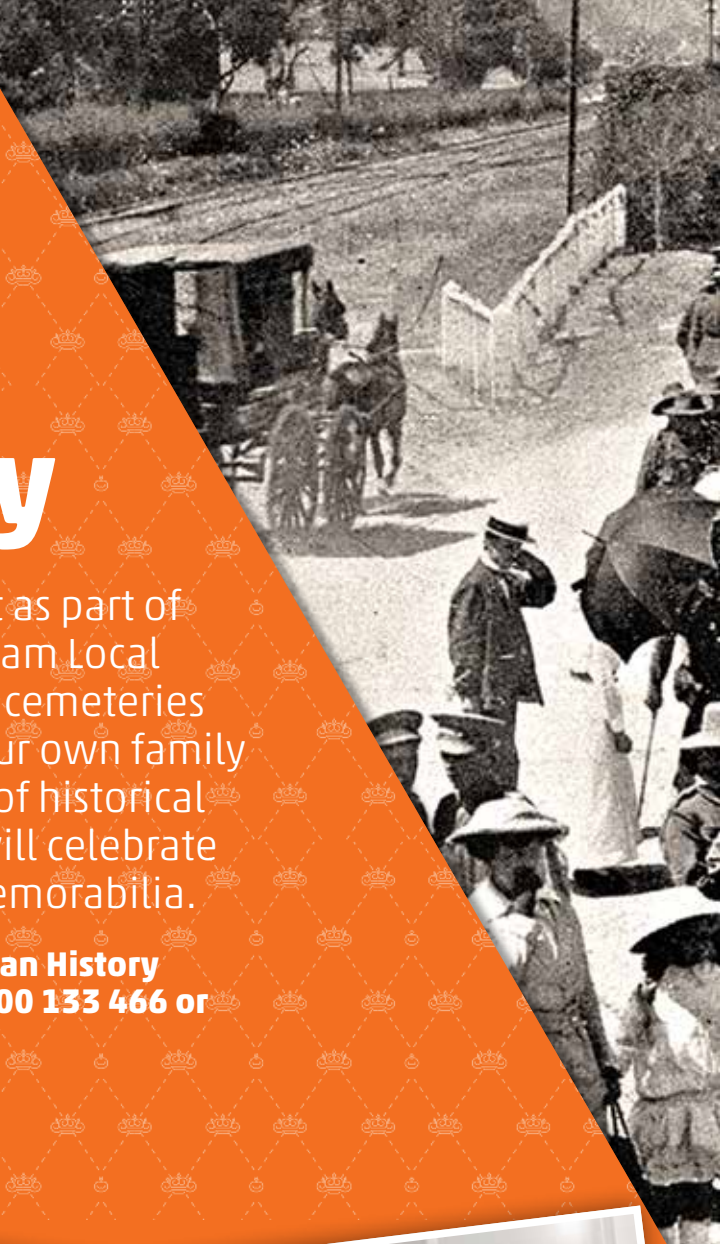
Find out how to care for your precious family photos, letters, cards and books. Visit the Mitcham Local History Service and talk to an experienced bookbinder and paper conservator about how you can preserve your special family photos and documents, repair your books and how to safely keep your family treasures for future generations. Bring in your own book in for discussion.

When: Thursdays throughout May
10am to 12.30pm

Where: Meet at Mitcham Local History Centre, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

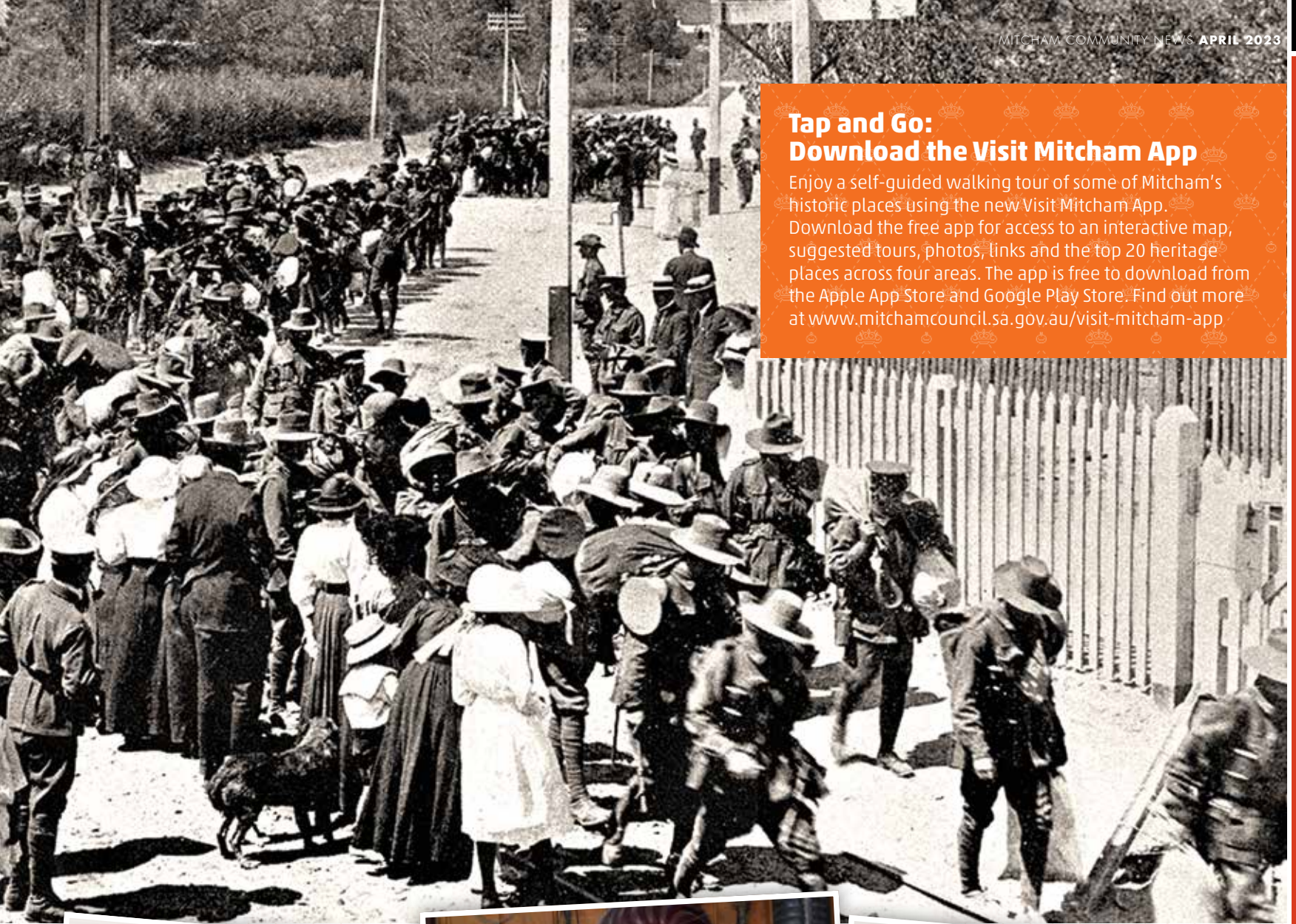
Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential. Phone 8372 8261



Tap and Go: Download the Visit Mitcham App

Enjoy a self-guided walking tour of some of Mitcham's historic places using the new Visit Mitcham App. Download the free app for access to an interactive map, suggested tours, photos, links and the top 20 heritage places across four areas. The app is free to download from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Find out more at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/visit-mitcham-app



Historic Mitcham Railway Station: Celebrating 140 years

Take a fascinating guided tour in and around this historic 140-year-old railway station, including the old station rooms, signal box and surrounding Nellie's Garden. Hear the station's history and stories from experienced and knowledgeable tour guides, including the last Mitcham Station Master Bruce Jaensch, now aged 91. Includes light refreshments.

When: Tuesday 2 and 9 May
10.30am to 12pm

Where: Meet at Mitcham Railway Station entrance

Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential via
www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival
or phone 8372 8888

History Through Objects: Wonder where that came from?

Every object has a story. See the unusual, interesting, or puzzling objects that people have brought along and hear the stories that are attached to them. What were they used for, where did they come from and what do they mean to their owners? What is their history: quirky, practical or poignant? Enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat and perhaps tell a story or two of your own.

When: Monday 22 May
2pm to 3.30pm

Where: Blackwood Library,
215 Main Road, Blackwood

Cost: Free

Bookings: Essential. Phone 8372 8255

Steaming through Time: A Train and Rail Display

Come along and view a display of local historical photos and memorabilia associated with trains and railways throughout Mitcham, commemorating the 140th anniversary of the Mitcham Railway Station.

When: Library opening hours
throughout May

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library,
154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Cost: Free

Bookings: Not essential

Mayor

Dr Heather Holmes-Ross

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One of my first duties as the Mayor in 2018 was to spruik Mitcham's projects to the Boothby candidates ahead of the upcoming (2019) Federal election. On top of the wish list was funding to build a new co-located Blackwood Library and Community Centre. There were high aspirations for the project. It was envisaged that the Blackwood 'Hub' would be much more than a new Community building as the project was also tasked with providing the catalyst for the activation and reinvigoration of the whole Blackwood Precinct.

Fortunately, both political parties saw the enormous importance of the project and we received funding commitments of \$5m from Federal and \$3.5m from State. After 35 years of indecision, the previous Council voted to fund the remaining \$4.1 million. The building is progressing beautifully, on time and within budget, towards a Spring 2023 opening.

Finding the right name for a building of such community significance is hugely important. There's so much in a name! This project represents such hope for the future, and Council Members felt it important that this be embodied by the name. It should be much more than a geographical indicator, and should reflect the bush surrounds, and uniqueness of the area, and its people, and the impending revitalisation that the building will bring.

A prominent Kurna community member suggested 'Kumangka' which means 'coming or meeting together' as suitable. Many Council Members were keen on a Kurna name, to acknowledge the traditional custodianship of the land, and so the community were consulted on this, and other non-Kurna names, including 'The Blackwood Hub'. Overwhelmingly, the community supported the Kurna name, so Council's next step was to check the legitimacy of the name with the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC). The KYAC board ruled that the name wasn't suitable as it has been used in several other contexts and locations, and therefore lacked originality. This was disappointing; however, the board offered their services to work with us to find an appropriate name.

And so it was that the CEO and I, along with a couple of staff members, met with several members of the KYAC board. It was an incredible experience, being part of a group that was so strongly committed to taking the time to build the relationships and trust required to work together. After lengthy discussions, the name that resonated most was 'Tiwu Kumangka'. 'Tiwu' is the Kurna word for the yellow tailed black cockatoo, a species that is currently returning to the area, after a period of decline from its previous significant population. Coupled with the original 'Kumangka' the name encapsulates the sense of rebirth and coming together, for which the group were searching. The name is specific to the Blackwood area and signifies not only the re-activation of the precinct but also the coming together of indigenous and non-indigenous cultures. I am thrilled that we have found such a beautiful, symbolic name to commemorate this monumental place.

Overton Ward

Cr Kamal Bhagat

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kbhagat@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Clarence Gardens, Cumberland Park, Daw Park, Melrose Park and parts of Colonel Light Gardens and St Marys.

I am greatly honoured to have been elected as a Councillor for Overton Ward. This is my first term of being an active Council Member and I would like to thank the community of Overton for supporting me and providing me with insight to current issues that need to be addressed.

Although this is my first time being a Councillor, I am working hard to learn the ropes and am working with my co-Councillor Jane Bange to understand the ins and outs of working as a Councillor.

I feel that I must introduce myself, as this is my first role as a Councillor, I live in Melrose Park with my wife Sangeeta Bhagat and my son Dhruv Bhagat who is a student at Cabra Dominican College. I have been living in Adelaide for the last 13 years and I have taken over two businesses; The Master of Bread Bakery/Café and Crummet Café (The Community Café) in that time, although I spent time talking to my customers, I still wanted to make a bigger difference to the community, that's why I ran for Council.

In my short time of being a Councillor I have understood that there have been ongoing traffic issues in Overton Ward, Cr Jane Bange and I have spoken to many residents about this matter and have held few street corner meetings on Ormond Avenue and Little Street. Recently on the 14 of February I put a notice of motion for funding approval for local area traffic study – which was passed and \$50,000 has been put aside by Council for this study and it will take 6-12 months to be finalised.

My co-Councillor Jane Bange and I have recently began doorknocking local businesses in Overton Ward to find out whether they have any issues or problems. It was a pleasure to meet these different business owners and chat with them.

ShineHub

Mitcham Council has recently announced that it will be once again collaborating with ShineHub in an effort to reduce carbon emissions and lower energy bills for Mitcham residents. From the previous success of the 2022 ShineHub campaign leading to over 500 households signing up for solar panel/batteries, a second round of Council community renewable program has now been opened since the 20 March and I recommend residents visit:

shinehub.com.au/Mitcham, where they can learn more and register for discounts on the solar panel/batteries bulk buy. For more information, please attend the upcoming events for the solar panels at Blackwood Memorial Hall from 6-7pm on the 19 and 20 April 2023.

Citizenship Ceremony

On 24 March Mitcham Council welcomed 40 new citizens from across the world at the Mitcham Memorial Library.

Thank you once again for your support and if you have any questions, queries or issues, please don't hesitate to call or email me I'm more than happy to help or you can come and visit me at 518 Goodwood Road, Daw Park.

Boorman Ward

Cr Joanna Wells

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Facebook: Joanna4Boorman

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

Naa Marni

I was pleased to see the motion that I recently took to the Chamber passed by a significant majority and well received across the community.

This motion follows on from motions passed by previous Chambers to support the Uluru Statement from the Heart and to work on a Reconciliation Action Plan. The current Chamber has chosen to continue this work and the successful motion sees Council supporting the Voice to Parliament and making available community centres and spaces to groups running education sessions on the Voice. If you're involved in this and would like to make use of the spaces we have, please contact Council on 8372 8888 to enquire about how you do this. There is a good level of support across the community for this.

On the financial front, it's been a busy couple of months as we prepare to go out to consultation on this year's budget, with ongoing effort to minimise rate impacts whilst we continue to deliver excellent value for money. We are doing our best to keep rates rises as low as possible. The budget process sees us considering needs and wants. CPI is high and Council's cost are even higher. Whilst the CPI looks at households' everyday expenses such as a typical basket of items at the supermarket, fuel and so on, the costs typically incurred by councils differ significantly. In particular, councils face expenses associated with wages, construction and vehicles.

We have several projects in the pipeline this year with State or Federal Government funding linked to them. These include works to enhance AA Bailey Reserve, Clarence Gardens, upgrading the facilities at Mortlock Park, Colonel Light Gardens, and the Greening St Marys project. If we don't go ahead with those, that money needs to be handed back and the community – you – will miss out on the significant benefits that they will deliver.

Additionally, projects which have been budgeted for in past years have seen significant increases in the costs required to deliver them this year. This will come as no surprise to those of you who are currently building a home. Unfortunately, those additional expenses don't look like disappearing in a hurry. Much time has been spent by Councillors looking at the list of projects that we'd like to deliver and prioritise them. There's nothing on that list that's not worthy of support, so it's a bit like being asked to pick your favourite child.

It was disappointing to see The Advertiser report that talked about leaks from our budgeting process. All meetings have been open to the public, as required by law, so leaks are a literal impossibility. We'll shortly be going out to consultation and I would encourage you to participate in this. Additionally, Council does have options available if meeting rates payments is challenging for you. Don't be shy about using them. We have had to choose to defer many excellent projects this year in order to minimise rate rises.

Babbage Ward**Cr Aidan Greenshields**

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agreenshields@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

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

The Council has been in deliberations about the budget in a particularly inflation heavy year. There have been lots of debates around funding for different items within the Council. Locally I have been advocating strongly for appropriate funding for the Pasadena Community Centre, improved street sweeping (specifically in relation to several areas in which gum trees drop large amounts of organic matter onto the streets), and the required maintenance for the garden beds along South Road which the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) will hand over to Council to maintain later in the year. Several solar and battery programs have met with unanimous approval through the budget process which will be great for mitigating climate and change and are cost neutral. I encourage people to submit feedback on the draft budget which will be ready for consultation later in the financial year.

I have been out in the community with Mayor Dr Holmes-Ross spruiking the Council's Community Renewables Program which I wholeheartedly support. The 2023 bulk buy is open now, so please get involved by searching "community renewables program" on the Council website. It makes financial sense and will help combat climate change, win-win.

Springbank Road traffic is still an issue and the State Government and DIT have been conducting community sessions to get feedback about the traffic report, hopefully we will have an idea about a solution soon.

Parking in Bedford Park by non-residents has been an increasing problem and Council has increased compliance monitoring to combat the issue.

I moved a motion, and it was passed at the March Council meeting to approve funding for the appointment of lead design consultants for the Pasadena Community Centre so we can have greater efficiency in achieving our goals with the centre. The allocated funding from Council and the State Governments will cover three concept designs to be prepared, community engagement, preparation of detailed designs, lodging of plans for approval, specification for tenders, and overseeing construction.

The new CC Hood Reserve Master Plan draft was also released recently, and a motion was moved and passed at the last meeting to approve it to go to consultation which should begin in April. I ask residents to please provide feedback on this report as it is the only way we will get it right! Remember that if your desired item isn't in the report, it doesn't mean that it won't get done, if it is fed back to Council and is popular, it has a great chance of being included. Once the master plan is formalised, we can get down to business of revitalising the reserve with the \$1m of State Government funding! I can't wait.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch about any issues or feedback you might have.

Gault Ward**Cr Pia George**

Telephone:
0488 277 010

pgeorge@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

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

The work of Council in 2023 is well underway and it is pleasing to see local community projects and initiatives progressing through various stages - whether that be planning, community engagement or delivery.

The adequacy of community engagement is frequently a source of frustration for residents, which is why I would encourage you to contribute to this process when the opportunity arises, because your contribution does have an influence on decisions in the Council Chamber and ultimately outcomes, as they are an important reflection on community engagement and sentiment on specific projects or policies. Whether the project is one which you are personally engaged with or relates to a facility that you visit on occasion, I would emphasise the value of contributing.

In late April, the Council will consult in relation to the draft 2023/23 Annual Business Plan, Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan. Council Members have been working to achieve a balance between maintaining existing services and project commitments and reducing the financial impact on ratepayers. I expect that the Council will consult on two separate rate options, giving the community a chance to influence the services and projects which the Council commit to for the year ahead. We are conscious of the cost-of-living pressures which are impacting all members in our community - whether you are a student, a young family, a pensioner or somewhere in between and I hope that you will get in touch with me, or through the consultation process, to provide your feedback on this important process.

The increasing densification of our suburbs will challenge existing infrastructure and communities, whether that be due to increased traffic on our roads, loss of significant trees or loss of character homes. An additional challenge is the tension over use of open space in our community. Residents in the City of Mitcham benefit from more open space than in neighbouring councils, through provision of parks and playgrounds, outdoor sporting facilities (such as tennis courts), along with bushland reserves. The management of these spaces is governed by Community Land Management Plans (CLMPs) and consultation is currently occurring in relation to CLMPs in the City of Mitcham (except for Reade Park and Mortlock Park, in relation to the Gault Ward) and you can find further information on Council's website if this is of interest to you.

The State Government has recently concluded consultation relating to traffic safety and access on Springbank Road, which has been compounded by the completion of the upgrade to the Goodwood/Daws Road Intersection. I look forward to learning what solutions may be proposed and how these may translate into improved traffic management in the community, particularly access and egress in Colonel Light Gardens. I will keep you updated on these solutions when they are available!

Finally and on a more personal note, I am enjoying the chance to meet and engage with residents and community organisations - if I can be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

The Park Ward**Cr Tom Morrison**

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tmorrison@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

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

When was the last time you paid a bill without confirming that what you were paying for had been received or used? If you are like me, the short answer is most likely never.

It was with great bewilderment therefore, that in one of the recent reports presented to Council, it became clear that Mitcham Council has been paying some electricity bills based off estimates rather than accurate readings. It turns out that this is relatively common practice, with only a few councils in SA having embarked on a project to pay what they actually use. The good news is that Mitcham Council will soon be one.

Mitcham Council spends approximately \$1 - \$1.2 million each year on electricity, of which consumption makes up 30-40% of this cost. The rest is made up of network fees and charges. At the end of last year, the electricity contract that Mitcham has been a part of through the Local Government Association (LGA) for the past three years expired. The 're-negotiated' rate by the LGA would see the price of electricity rise up to a whopping 350% at certain times of the day. As a result, other options to reduce the cost to ratepayers are currently being explored in essentially three parts over two years:

1. Community renewables - Continuation of the current program at no cost to Council.
2. Council electricity contract - Reviewing all contracts, reducing costs, installation of solar and battery on Council buildings to improve self-reliance.
3. Utilities cost management review - Reviewing usage, paying for what we actually use, conversation to smart meters where savings are possible.

The intention of all three is to deliver significant ongoing savings for ratepayers, reducing power bills and closely following where the entire electricity market is moving. Councils need to innovate to stay relevant and find efficiency savings. Delivering more for less.

The old Blackwood Library and adjoining nursery will be on the market soon after a decision was made in the March Council meeting. While the site needed to be sold at some point in time, going to market now seemed premature to me and I think many in the community will be surprised. Maximising financial return for the site, while trying to meet community expectations over what will be built there, will be challenging. Construction costs are high, and I do not believe we have a proper understanding of what the site was worth when making the decision. Additional Council and State Government projects in the area could add substantial value to the land, such as a much awaited second pedestrian crossing and my desire to get a public greening strategy done for Main Road.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter and if you don't celebrate it, then you enjoy the extra time off.

Free green bins and kitchen caddies – coming soon!

Every City of Mitcham property is set to receive a free kitchen caddy and roll of compostable bags from the end of this month.

Council is also set to provide a free green bin to those who registered. Check your emails for a confirmation email sent out in March to let you know whether your application was approved.

Didn't receive an email? Contact Council on 1300 133 466 and we can check whether you're on the list. If you missed out, keep an

eye on our website for details of the next registration period.

Deliveries start in late April and will take several weeks. Bins will be delivered first, followed by the kitchen caddies.

This project is supported by a grant from Green Industries SA.



Where will I find my caddy and bin?

We will deliver the green bin to your property. It will be left near your letterbox or on the kerbside nearby. Just check for your address printed on the side of the bin.

We'll leave your kitchen caddy near your letterbox or just within your property boundary (if possible). Your address will be printed on a sticker placed on the side of the caddy.

Why use the green bin?

When you put your food scraps and other compostable items in the green bin, this material is sent to a composting facility to be turned into nutrient-rich compost.

This process is 85% cheaper than sending organic waste to landfill.

Are caddies and green bins recycled?

Our kitchen caddies are made from 100% recycled plastic, using recyclables taken from yellow recycling bins.

Green bins will also include recycled plastic but the amount will depend on how much is available. We have asked our supplier to include as much recycled material as possible.



Join an information session

Celebrate International Compost Awareness Week and learn how materials in your green bin are turned into compost at one of two free information sessions at Mitcham Memorial Library in May.

All attendees will receive a free desktop mini bin to take home.

Date: Wednesday 10 May

Time: Session 1: 2pm to 3pm
Session 2: 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library,
154 Belair Road, Hawthorn

Bookings:

www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bins,-waste-and-recycling

Where can I get more compostable bags?

We're delivering a roll of 75 compostable bags with your kitchen caddy. This should last you about 6 months.

We will provide another free roll of bags in 2023/24. From 1 July 2023, visit us at our Civic Centre or our libraries and we will provide your free roll.

We will also continue selling compostable bags at a discounted price at our Civic Centre and libraries.

You can buy compostable bags at most supermarkets, hardware stores and eco stores. In the City of Mitcham area, Foodland Pasadena and all Woolworths stores now

provide free compostable bags in their fruit and veg sections.

Compostable bags are made of 100% compostable materials that decompose during the composting process, while biodegradable bags break down, but only into smaller pieces of plastic.

You should only use certified compostable bags to recycle your food waste. Look for the seedling logo and AS 4736.



Can't see your question here? Visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/kitchen-caddies-and-green-bins to check our full list of FAQs or give us a call on 1300 133 466.

What can I put in the kitchen caddy and green bin?

All food waste and compostable products can go into the kitchen caddy and green bin, including:

- Food scraps and peels
- Cake and bread crusts
- Fruit and vegetables
- Coffee grounds
- Tea leaves and some tea bags (non-plastic only)
- Meat scraps, bones and seafood (raw and cooked)
- Egg and oyster shells
- Cheese and yoghurt
- Leftover takeaway foods (no plastic containers)
- Hand towel/paper towel
- Toilet paper rolls
- Pizza boxes
- Sticky notes
- Small pieces of paper and cardboard
- Shredded paper
- Paper/cardboard food packaging
- Egg cartons
- Moulded cardboard packaging
- Pencil shavings
- Nail clippings
- Hair



**CATCH 'EM
IN A CADDY...**

**FEED 'EM
TO THE
GREEN BIN**



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



How to use a kitchen caddy

1 Line the caddy with a compostable bag or newspaper



2 Place all your food waste and other compostable items in the caddy



3 Once full, tie the bag and place it into your green bin or home compost bin





Volunteers from the 2nd Adelaide Scout Group hosted working bees in October 2022 to install new irrigation and turf at Maitland Street, Mitcham.

Grass is greener for Mitcham Scouts

The 2nd Adelaide Scout Group has a new space for outdoor activity thanks to a City of Mitcham Community Facilities Grant.

The \$2,500 grant funded the installation of an irrigated lawn in a formerly bare patch behind the Hall.

Group Leader Natalie Steward said the lawn means the back yard is now usable to all

Scout units and enjoyable to all community members who use the space.

"We were able to irrigate an area over 100m² with 15 sprinklers, and install new lawn to over 200m²," she said.

"The group can now undertake more outdoor activities like camp preparations, outdoor games, sleep-outs and bike maintenance nights and spend more time outside without mud, dust or prickles. We also meet and combine activities with other local Scout

groups and this space will be greatly used and appreciated by many."

Established in 1909, the group is one of South Australia's oldest groups. It is housed in the historic Newey's Stables (1872) at Maitland Street, Mitcham.

The club offers scouting for all ages, including Joeys (5 to 8 years), Cubs (8 to 11 years), Scouts (11 to 14 years), and Venturers (14 to 18 years).

To find out more and apply for a City of Mitcham Community Facilities Grant, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants



Belair home to Australia's best hot cross buns

It has been a hectic month for Belair's Banana Boogie Bakery after it won 'Australia's Best Hot Cross Bun' in a national competition.

The bakery took out first and second place in the Baking Association of Australia (BAA) Victorian Baking Show in Bendigo in March.

Owner Jason Spencer said he and his team had been run off their feet since the award attracted wide media attention across print, television, radio and online.

"I've been working 14-hour days and we have sold out on some days due to the demand," he said. "It's been pretty incredible."

The traditional fruit buns were judged best of the bunch from 143 Australian bakeries who entered the competition.

Banana Boogie Bakery was established in 2015.


Banana Boogie Bakery, Shop 4 and 5, 10 Main Road, Belair. Open every day until Easter Saturday.

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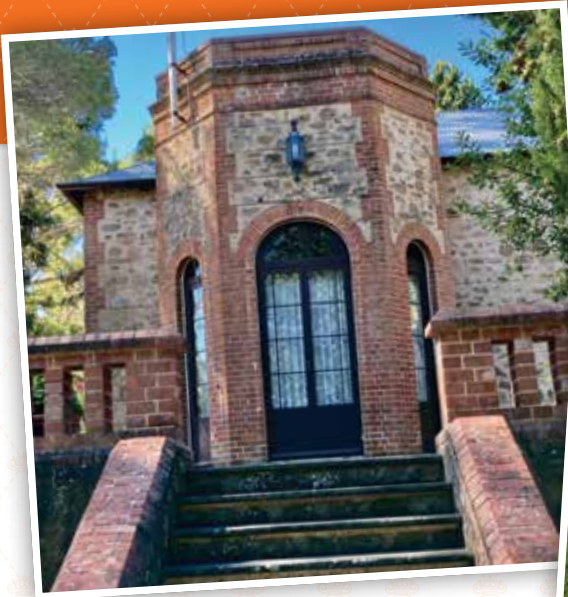


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SA History Festival 2023

Join City of Mitcham's community groups for a range of events during this year's SA History Festival.



Belair National Park: Off the Beaten Track

Tour Australia's second oldest national park in a minibus with a guide to sites of historic significance, some off-road that you may not have seen before. Visit Old Government House and walk in the bush to learn about native flora and Indigenous and colonial history. This activity involves short distance walks on rough tracks.

When: **Saturday 13 May**, 11.50am to 5pm and **Sunday 14 May**, 8.45am to 2pm

Where: Details to be provided on booking

Cost: \$35, includes morning and afternoon tea, park and Old Government House entry. Please bring a cut lunch and drink.

Bookings: Essential. Contact Anne Hazell, Blackwood Action Group, ahazellau@gmail.com



Brownhill Creek Recreation Park Walk

Enjoy a guided walk through Brownhill Creek Recreation Park with Ron Bellchambers, Community Engagement Officer for Brownhill Creek Association and member of Mitcham Historical Society. Gain an insight into the Kurna and European heritage within one of SA's oldest parks and learn about the current community projects being undertaken to protect and promote this history.

When: **Sunday 7 and 21 May**
1.30pm to 3.30pm

Where: Meet at the stone monument at the entrance to Brownhill Creek Recreation Park

Cost: \$5 (children under 16 free)

Bookings: Essential via www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival

Ellison's Gully (Brownhill Creek) Guided Walk

Join Councillor Andrew Tilley, whose family has lived in the area for five generations, on a walk that starts at the old manure pits in Brownhill Creek. Includes the scenic beauty of Ellison's Gully, an historic stone bridge and disused silver mine shafts. See also the 140-year-old Mitcham water works that once supplied Unley and Adelaide.

When: **Sunday 14 and 28 May**
1.30pm to 3.30pm

Where: Meet at the manure pits on Brown Hill Creek Road

Cost: \$5 (under 16 free)

Bookings: Essential via www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/history-festival



Travel back in time... by train

Catch the train at Belair Railway Station to the Eden Hills and Blackwood stations. Learn about the development and challenges faced by the early railway network, first built 140 years ago, and its value to local districts and the state. Includes Devonshire tea at Blackwood station. Limited numbers.

When: **Sunday 7 May**
and Sunday 4 June
8.30am to 12.30pm

Where: Meet at Belair Railway Station

Cost: \$5 plus train tickets if applicable

Bookings: Essential. Contact Anne Hazell, Blackwood Action Group, ahazellau@gmail.com



Belair East: Heritage Along the Ridge

Belair's history and its important links to the development of South Australia will be shared and grand summer residences highlighted as we walk along Sheoak Road. Refreshments served at the heritage listed Belair station. Limited numbers.

When: **Friday 26 May and Saturday 27 May**
1.30pm to 3.30pm

Where: Meet at corner Sheoak Road and Francis Street, Belair

Cost: \$5

Bookings: Essential. Contact Anne Hazell, Blackwood Action Group, ahazellau@gmail.com

Book
Now!CITY OF
MITCHAM

NaturePlay School Holiday Program

Head outside with us this April to enjoy a nature play-themed school holiday program featuring geocaching, clay workshops, a mini festival and more.

Nature Clay Workshop

Make your own unique creations using clay and natural materials in this fun, and relaxed sensory craft session.

Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Ages: 6 to 11 years

Cost: Free

Date: **Wednesday April 19** at Blackwood Library

Date: **Thursday April 20** at Blackwood Library

Bookings essential at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/595419635157

Date: **Wednesday April 26** at Pasadena Community Centre

Bookings essential at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/595417869877

Nature Play Outdoor Storytime

Join us in the Soldier's Memorial Gardens to enjoy stories, songs and a nature craft. Bring a hat, sunscreen, snacks and a picnic rug for a special outdoor Storytime.

Date: **Monday 17, Thursday 20, Monday 24 & Thursday 27 April**

Time: 10.30am

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library – Soldier's Memorial Gardens

Ages: 2 to 5 years

Cost: Free. No Booking required.

This event may be moved to the children's area of Mitcham Memorial Library due to inclement weather.



Mini Nature Festival and Neighbour Day BBQ

An immersive free play experience with Nature Play SA that develops a connection to nature through exploration of local flora and fauna, storytelling and sensory play. Activities include cubby building, potion making, nature crafts, and water play.

Date: **Friday 28 April**

Time: 10.30am to 12pm

Where: Mitcham Library – Soldier's Memorial Gardens

Ages: 3 to 11 years

Cost: Free

Bookings required at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/595420557917

This event may be moved to the children's area of Mitcham Memorial Library due to inclement weather.

Explorer Vest Competition

Borrow one of our Explorer Vests and complete our outdoor scavenger hunt for the chance to win a State Flora voucher.

Date: **Saturday 15 to Sunday 30 April**

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library

Ages: 3 to 11 years

Cost: Free. No Booking required.



Geocaching

Join us along with Nature Play SA for a fun family activity that taps into problem-solving, team-building and creative-thinking skills while promoting physical activity outdoors. Delivered as an active outdoor adventure, this session combines a unique blend of 'screen time' and 'green time' with children exploring their local green spaces on a high-tech treasure hunt. Although our skilled staff will be onsite parent/carers are responsible to supervise their children during the event.

Cost: Free

Date: **Monday 17 April** at CC Hood Reserve, Eliza Place, Panorama

Bookings required at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/geocaching-cc-hood-panorama-tickets-595266848167

Date: **Monday 24 April** at Mitcham Reserve, Old Belair Road, cnr Norman Walk, Mitcham

Time: 10.30am to 12pm

Bookings required at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/geocaching-mitcham-reserve-tickets-595276878167

Library Activities and Nature Craft

Visit our libraries and enjoy our in house activities including a nature craft table, indoor scavenger hunt, and activity booklet.

Date: **Saturday 15 to Sunday 30 April**

Where: Mitcham Memorial Library & Blackwood Library

Ages: All ages

Cost: Free. No Booking required.

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