

# MITCHAM

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## COMMUNITY NEWS



MAY 2023



Mick Kiley has volunteered at Nellie's Garden behind the Mitcham Railway Station for eight years.

### Celebrating our volunteers

From our parks and gardens to libraries and community centres, City of Mitcham's volunteers make an invaluable contribution to the community.

SEE PAGES 4-5

CONNECTED



Celebrate National Reconciliation Week.

DYNAMIC



ANZAC mural unveiled.

LEADERSHIP



Hear from your Council Members.

SUSTAINABLE



Tree planting program under way.



# Celebrating National Reconciliation Week

City of Mitcham is set to celebrate National Reconciliation Week with a series of events and workshops.

## Blackwood Reconciliation Walk

City of Mitcham residents are encouraged to join Blackwood Reconciliation Group on the annual Blackwood Reconciliation Walk.

The Walk begins at the Blackwood Roundabout at 11.30am on Sunday 28 May and continues to the Colebrook Reconciliation Park at Eden Hills.

Bring a picnic lunch, join the walk and experience Colebrook, a place of national significance.



## Learn about life along the river

City of Mitcham residents are invited to Wirraparinga (Brownhill Creek) to learn about Kurna connection to the area as part of National Reconciliation Week.

Supported by City of Mitcham, 'Wirraparinga – Understanding the Past to Build a Voice for the Future' will be held on Saturday 27 May from 2pm to 4pm at Mitcham Reserve.

The afternoon will include a cultural artefacts talk, Kurna language games, weaving, a look at Aboriginal symbols and more.

### To book, visit

[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-reconciliation-week](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-reconciliation-week)

## Sea of Hands

A 'Sea of Hands' painted in red, black, yellow, green and blue will be on display across our Civic Centre, libraries and community centres.



## Let's Talk Kurna

Hosted by Jack Buckskin, 'Let's Talk Kurna' workshops will be held on Monday 29 May, Wednesday 31 May and Friday 2 June at Mitcham Memorial Library.

Mr Buckskin said language education could help close the gap between non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal Australians.

"We want people to embrace our culture, our lore, our language, all those kinds of things as theirs as well," he said. "My main work that I do is around educating the community."

Topics include Introduction to Kurna Language, Kurna History and Language, and Kurna Greetings.

Workshops will be held in the Library's Lenzerheide Room from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and cost \$20 per session, or \$45 for all three sessions.

### To book, visit

[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-reconciliation-week](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-reconciliation-week)

## Story Board Walk

From 16 May until 16 June, visit the Mitcham Memorial Library Story Board Walk to read 'Come Together: Things Every Aussie Kid Should Know About the First Peoples' by Isaiah Firebrace. This heart-warming book of First Nations knowledge includes connection with personal stories, culture and the importance of Elders to the Dreaming.



## Mitcham portrait prize now open

Gallery One at Mitcham is encouraging local artists to enter this year's Gallery One Smallacombe Portrait Prize.

In its second year, the prize is open to any artist and offers a combined \$11,500 in prizes across three categories.

Gallery One Coordinator Sanya Zunic said last year's prize attracted a high calibre of entries from across Australia.

"This year the major prize has doubled from \$5,000 to \$10,000, so we expect plenty of interest," she said. "We are hoping that we will see more local artists entering this year."

Prizes include the Gallery One Smallacombe Portrait Prize, \$10,000; the Malcolm and Margaret Carbins Youth Prize for Youth (15 to under 25 years) \$1000; and Gallery One Pamela Oborn Hanger's Choice Prize, \$500.

Pasadena artist Diana Bradshaw is preparing to enter the prize for the second time with a self portrait created using pastels and watercolours.

"I enjoy portraiture – to me it is just like painting a landscape or seascape; there are valleys and dips, you simply apply the same rules."

Diana says she has 'painted all (her) life' but had expanded her skills and knowledge through classes at Gallery One, where she is now a tutor.

An accomplished commercial artist, Diana teaches watercolour techniques every second Thursday from 10am to 12.30pm at the Gallery.

**Entries close 4pm 30 June 2023. To find out more visit [www.galleryone.org.au/portrait-prize](http://www.galleryone.org.au/portrait-prize)**







## ANZAC mural launched at Glenalta

A mural that commemorates Mitcham's ANZAC history has been installed along the railway line at Penno Parade, Glenalta.

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) Rail Care team commissioned former Blackwood resident and street artist Adam Poole-Mottishaw to design and paint the 200m mural.

The design was developed by the artist following consultation with the Blackwood RSL, residents, the Blackwood Action Group, youth mentor provider Lighthouse Youth Projects, DIT Senior Aboriginal Leadership Group, South Australian Public Transport Authority and Member for Waite Catherine Hutchesson MP.

It includes all flags associated with the ANZAC partnership including the Aboriginal,

Australian, Torres Strait Islander, New Zealand and Maori flags.

City of Mitcham has supported the project and continues its ongoing commitment to work in partnership with our community and other agencies to identify opportunities where art can help lift community spaces.

The mural was launched at a community day on Saturday 22 April, just in time for ANZAC Day.

## Hawthorn Bowling Club welcomes LED upgrade

An LED lighting upgrade is set to deliver cost savings and reduce emissions at Hawthorn Bowling Club.

Halogen floodlights at eight towers have been replaced with energy efficient LED lights in a project supported by \$41,000 from City of Mitcham, matched by the club.

Club President Graham Dodd said the lights had improved the quality of the lighting and had been welcomed by neighbouring residents.

"We no longer have light spilling into the neighbouring houses or street, which is great," Mr Dodd said. "Players can now bowl north-south as well as east-west at night, reducing wear and tear on the greens."

Along with Men's and Women's Premier League mid-week teams, Saturday Pennant bowls and social bowls, the Club hosts a popular Night Hawks social bowls competition that has grown to 250 players across Tuesday and Wednesday nights.



One of few clubs that boasts four greens, Hawthorn hosted four grand finals in April, attended by up to 800 people.

"We have an army of about 90 volunteers who help make it all happen," Mr Dodd said.



The Hawthorn Bowling Club is available for hire for events or workshops.

**To find out more visit**  
**[www.hawthornbowlingclub.com.au](http://www.hawthornbowlingclub.com.au)**  
**or call 8357 8250.**



### SUNDAY SERVICES

10am & 7pm

72 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood

[thevillage.org.au](http://thevillage.org.au)

ph. 8370 0333

Email [bhbc@bhbc.org.au](mailto:bhbc@bhbc.org.au)

PEOPLE  
EXCITED  
ABOUT  
GOD



Join with us on







# Thank you to our volunteers!

City of Mitcham is set to recognise and celebrate its volunteers this month as part of National Volunteer Week (15 to 21 May).

During the week, City of Mitcham volunteers have been invited to enjoy a movie and morning tea at Wallis Cinemas Mitcham.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the theme of the week, 'The Change Makers', was reflected in the work of volunteers.

"Every volunteer enhances our community in so many ways, whether it's in our parks and reserves, helping at our community centres or in our libraries," she said.

"There are thousands of volunteers across our city who contribute not only to the Council, but the community. Volunteers provide a social connection, which is so important to many of our residents."

"To each and every one of our volunteers, we say thank you!"

**To find out more about volunteering at City of Mitcham, call Lynne on 8682 8888 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering)**



Volunteers Maree Creevy and Kathy Williams with Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross at the Hawthorn Sensory Garden.

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## Join our trails volunteers!

Are you passionate about the environment? Would you like to get out of the house and get moving? City of Mitcham is seeking volunteers to join its Trails Volunteer Program.

Trails volunteers are a dedicated group who help with the maintenance of City of Mitcham's extensive trails network on one Saturday per month. In addition to helping, volunteers have the opportunity to explore the City's trail network and find some hidden gems.

The group carries out a number of tasks including pruning corridor

vegetation, clearing trail drainage and revegetation works.

The number of visitors using City of Mitcham's trail network, including bushwalkers and cyclists, has been growing consistently in recent years, adding to the need for volunteers to support these recreation activities.

**To find out more about our trails network and volunteering opportunities, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/walks-tours-and-trails](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/walks-tours-and-trails)**





## Jim lends a hand at Mitcham Community Shed

After a lengthy career in education, Mitcham resident Jim Goodall is continuing to mentor and support others as a volunteer at the Mitcham Community Shed.

Jim is a regular at the shed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, helping supervise and teach those who visit the shed to work on individual or community projects.

A highlight is his work with a group of City of Mitcham residents who are living with brain injury, acquired through accident, stroke or the onset of dementia.

Formerly a mathematics and science teacher at Mercedes College and a principal in Victoria and regional South Australia, Jim says he finds volunteering a rewarding and fulfilling activity.

"When I retired I was starting to feel a bit bored, so I came up to the Shed and did an induction, and started making a few bits and pieces for home," he said. "I was asked if I

would be happy to take on the responsibility of helping other people with their projects.

"I enjoy coming down to help out and working with the guys who are struggling after a stroke or an accident; I get a great sense of satisfaction from helping them, especially if they make something that they can give to their families to take home."

*Volunteer Jim Goodall works with Leith McDonald on a project at the Shed.*

The Mitcham Community Shed is open Mondays 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Wednesdays 9am to 12pm and Thursdays 12.30pm to 3.30pm.



## Native fish bounces back at Urrbrae

A critically endangered native fish is making a comeback at Urrbrae Wetland thanks to a captive breeding program.

Once believed extinct in South Australia, the Southern purple-spotted gudgeon was first released into the wetland two years ago as part of a state-wide program in collaboration with Urrbrae Agricultural High School.

Wetland Manager Vanessa Greenslade said at the end of last year, students used nets to measure the population.

"The good news is that the program has been successful," she said. "We found juveniles, which means the fish are breeding."

The wetland has also reintroduced the Murray River rainbow fish, another endangered native species.

The Urrbrae Wetland is hosting an Open Day on Sunday 21 May from 1.30pm to 4pm, including a presentation at 2pm and 3pm, giving an overview of the history and ecology of the Wetland, spanning its 26 years.

Students from Urrbrae High School will run drop-in workshops about the wetland environment and the Nature Education Centre will offer a display of small native animals.

Friends of the Urrbrae Wetland, volunteers who work each Tuesday morning at the wetland, will be on hand to answer questions or give guided tours.

**If you would like to join the volunteers, talk to one of the Friends on the day, or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering)**



*Wetland Manager Vanessa Greenslade and students from Urrbrae Agricultural High School's Environment Club assess fish at the wetland.*

## Community focus at Nellie's Garden

When he was forced to retire due to health problems eight years ago, Mick Kiley wanted to keep himself busy.

He signed up to volunteer for City of Mitcham and now helps out three mornings a week at Nellie's Garden behind the Mitcham Railway Station and the Sensory Garden at Mitcham Memorial Library, Hawthorn.

Mick says over the years he's learnt a lot about gardening from others and enjoys a variety of tasks, including transplanting, raking, weeding and pruning, along with a few special projects.

"The nice thing about these gardens is that there is a lot of community movement

through here, people stop and say hello and tell us how much they appreciate the work we do.

"Volunteering is very rewarding; there are physical and mental benefits from being here."

**Read more about City of Mitcham's community gardens at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/gardens](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/gardens)**

*Mick Kiley enjoys meeting the community at Nellie's Garden and the Sensory Garden.*



## Mayor

**Dr Heather Holmes-Ross**

Telephone:  
0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



There is certainly a lot happening in Mitcham in May! Firstly, the South Australia History Festival runs for the entire month so there are plenty of events to attend both in Mitcham and across the state. In Mitcham, you can join the Local History Service on guided tours of Mitcham's historic buildings, cemeteries, churches and other places of interest, visit an exhibition of photographs from Carrick Hill at Mitcham Memorial Library, learn how to protect and present your own family history, and much more!

Many of the History Festival events are the work of volunteers so it seems fitting that National Volunteer Week is also celebrated this month, from 15 to 21 May. There are over 300 people who volunteer with Council undertaking a variety of duties including gardening, library and community centre roles, JP service, community shed, community bus and personal transport. If you are interested in volunteering in these roles, in particular with the gardening group that maintains the luscious Nellie's Garden on the eastern side of the Mitcham train station, please contact Council. If you are a new group or have a novel volunteering idea, Council may be able to help you in the near future. Our current volunteer supervisors have virtually no capacity to take on new volunteers, however, one of the services that Council Members are considering in their rates deliberations is additional funding for open-space volunteer supervision, to allow Council to take on more volunteers. Unfortunately, it is a difficult decision. The dilemma is whether to spend additional ratepayer money at a time when CPI is high, even though enabling more people to volunteer seems like a worthy and cost-effective cause. If you would like to comment on our draft 2023/24 budget, Council will be consulting for four weeks from early May.

I would like to sincerely thank, not only our City of Mitcham volunteers, but all of you in the community who give your time any energy to make our City a better place. There are so many volunteers living and working in our community. You're everywhere! From groups such as community service, sports clubs and churches, special interest, emergency services, and charities, to individuals who mow the neighbour's verge or bring their bins in, your efforts are appreciated and our community is stronger and more resilient because of your generosity.

A group of volunteers which I am proud to be associated with is the Blackwood Reconciliation Group, whose annual Reconciliation Walk will take place on Sunday 28 May, during National Reconciliation Week. The dates for Reconciliation Week are the same each year, 27 May to 3 June, and commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey - the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision, respectively. The walk will start at the Blackwood Roundabout at 11.30am, making its way along Shepherds Hill Road to the Colebrook Reconciliation Park. I invite you all to join the walk in support of reconciliation with our First Nations Peoples. Happy May!

## Babbage Ward

**Cr Yvonne Todd**

Telephone:  
0418 891 097

ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



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

As winter arrives, heating your home can add to your winter energy bills, but by making a few simple changes you can minimise your energy costs and have a cosy home. State government EPA allows the **use of wood heaters** and wood is an effective, renewable fuel when burnt efficiently. However, wood heaters that are not managed properly not only waste hundreds of dollars a year, but also damage the environment and cause respiratory problems for people. In South Australia it is estimated that approximately 14% of households use wood as their main source of energy for heating. Council's website has more information about using wood heaters.

In February DIT provided the community with a report on current traffic and pedestrian movement along **Springbank Road** and Council's traffic staff provided a written response to DIT. I have asked traffic staff for traffic counts to be done in the roads in the local areas nearby, as the problems with Springbank Road cause problems with local roads. Concerns of residents include:

- The increase of traffic volumes from 21,000 to 27,000.
- Drivers turning right out of Eliza Place, Kent Road and Strathcona Avenue are experiencing delays, longer than two minutes particularly during peak periods.
- There are very few gaps in traffic that allow pedestrian or cars to cross the road and there is a high demand for safe crossings especially near the local school catchment areas.
- There is a relatively high number of cyclists crossing Springbank Road near Price Avenue which coincides with a local bicycle route.
- Buses would not need to travel through local side streets if they could turn into Springbank Road.

Consultation on a draft **CC Hood Reserve Masterplan and Community Land Management Plan** opened via the YourSay platform on 24 April and will close on 24 May.

There are a range of opportunities to engage with the consultation including an information session at CC Hood on Saturday 6 May at 11am to 1pm and a meeting with Panorama Clapham Community Group on 3 May at 7pm at the Pasadena Community Centre. Also workshops will be held with students from Springbank Secondary College and Clapham Primary School, St Marys and Pasadena Action Group, Friends of Springbank Secondary College and Colonel Light Gardens Residents Association.

The **2023/2024 Budget** is the hot topic right now, with the consultation delayed until May, due to waiting to hear about the changes to CPI. During consultation, please give your feedback about what to keep and what to remove from the budget. I have submitted and argued for many Babbage budget bids this year. My proposals include greening reserves in St Marys; an upgrade to make the Flinders Drive pedestrian crossing meet regulations; CC Hood Reserve Christmas activities; maintenance of South Road garden beds in Bedford Park; and increase and extend the street sweeping program in Babbage. Your support and feedback on the budget is critical to get budget bids over the line.

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

## The Park Ward

**Cr Corin McCarthy**

Telephone:  
0410 886 349

csmccarthy@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.*

My recent article on Mitcham Growth Precincts and also covering the inability of Council to effectively stop compliant developments, even when these are opposed by the community generated quite a bit of correspondence to my inbox, most of which has been fascinating. To provide a sense of the debate, I copy below one of best exchanges with names and locations deliberately changed, but otherwise the full correspondence.

*Hi Corin, your piece in the latest Mitcham Community News has me thinking .... You have an idea that "Mitcham Council can't stop these forces ... such as land clearances and subdivisions" and you are referring to the forces of evil from the dark side.*

*If Mitcham Council, our elected Councillors and we ratepayers cannot stop the wholesale destruction of our trees then really there is no point in having a wonderful 'Growth Precinct' along Main Road. Our Council professes to care about Climate Change. What is being done to keep our trees?*

*You somehow think that most of the remainder of our City is going to "continue with larger block sizes and characteristics that reflect current demographics". Nothing could be further from the truth. I live in Fictional Street and everywhere I walk, possibly a radius of five kilometres, I only see blocks being cleared and no tree replenishment. I would much prefer that you focus on the trees, as I'm very confident that the business sector will manage their affairs without much help from us. In fact, from my perspective, the business sector in Blackwood needs firm control. Cheers, John A Resident.*

**My Reply**

Thank you, Mr Resident. Given current state government laws, these are issues we can't control anymore and those telling otherwise that Council can stop these outcomes are not being fulsome.

**Mr Resident's response**

*Hi Corin, I, perhaps naively, imagined that Council could be opposing all destructive building applications (even if overruled) as well as making constant and strong representation to change the relevant laws. It seems that doing nothing is a kind of tacit support for the problems. Cheers, John A Resident.*

**My Reply**

Thank you, Mr Resident, I have sympathy, but it isn't the actual position. Council has only one representative out of five on Mitcham development approvals, the other four are independent. We can't stop developments that comply. I agree that advocacy is important, but I can't see wholesale changes to development laws and decision-making processes coming from state government, but we'll see in the review. Cheers, Corin.

**My comment**

The state government has a review of planning codes and laws, and Mitcham will be making strong representations to reform tree laws, however a new approach to development laws would appear unlikely based on historic Labor and Liberal support to remove council controls.

**Mr Resident's response**

*Thank you, Corin. I'll start knocking on my State MP's door. Cheers, John A Resident.*

**My comment**

What an excellent decision Mr Resident, that's your best fight and the advocacy needed, which I support.



**Overton Ward****Cr Jane Bange**

Telephone:  
0478 076 400

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

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

Autumn is such a lovely season, with splashes of colour across our city. Recently, Councillors received an update about our new draft Tree Plan which will be out for consultation soon, and staff have done a great job in reducing a couple of hundred pages down to twenty-four. The focus is on 'What, Where, Why' – the right tree in the right place for the right reason.

Council is custodian of 75,000 trees. Of these, 55,000 line our streets and the other 20,000 are growing in public reserves. They are an integral part of our area's identity, and we need to act to ensure their long-term viability, given the climate is changing, plus the added pressure from in-fill development – more driveways mean less space for street trees.

Underpinned by Mitcham's Tree Strategy, the new Tree Plan is designed to be a valuable tool in tree selection and positioning, both for staff and residents. It has been divided into six precincts, with Colonel Light Gardens being separately managed because of its different heritage planning and development controls. The plan actually names species considered as being the most suitable for each precinct area.

Recently, the Mayor and I attended a forum on homelessness, organised by Women for Progress, and which featured a panel including the Hon. Nat Cook, State Minister for Human Services; Maria Palumbo, CEO Junction Housing; Dr. Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA, and Louise Miller-Frost, Member for Boothby. I learnt that women make up almost two-thirds of the homeless in SA, with the fastest growing group being women 60+ years, and the major cause of this is domestic violence. These statistics are scary, and all levels of government need to pull together to turn this around.

Apparently, there are around 80,000 dwellings vacant in the greater Adelaide metro area and I asked Minister Cook if the Government is considering financial incentives to encourage owners to have their empty house occupied, and whether any regulation of the short-term rental sector (e.g. 'Air BnB') is being considered. It seems, at this stage, NO to both. I was pleased to see former Prospect Mayor, David O'Loughlin, in attendance as he now sits on the new National Housing Supply and Affordability Council, advising our Federal Government.

Our draft budget consultation has been delayed this year while we await the March CPI figures. Usually, we go out with our draft budget in April, before the latest CPI is released. But, with inflation being so high, and CPI quite volatile, we made the decision to delay the draft budget till early May when there will be a Special Council Meeting to select an option, or options, for consultation and these will more accurately reflect the current situation.

In regards Overton Ward, concern over traffic – speed and volume – remains the top issue and I look forward to seeing the results of the traffic study which is expected to commence soon.

**Gault Ward****Cr Rod Moss**

Telephone:  
0413 099 304

[rmoss@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:rmoss@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 recent major focus of Council has been on budget planning for the coming 2023/24 financial year and given the complexities in the economy at this time, this has been a significant challenge. As I write this article, we await the release of the March quarter CPI figures amid various predictions ranging from remaining at 8.2% to a fall of anything between 0.5% - 1.5%. Council has decided to defer its determinations until the actual CPI level is released to fully consider what effect it may have on rates and planned programmes of work. This is particularly relevant to new capital projects which are considerable given the high level of State and Federal funding provided for projects across the City through the most recent election cycles.

On the local front, the installation of new LED lighting at Kingswood Oval and Hawthorn Bowling Club has been a resounding success with positive feedback from users about the improved lighting on the playing areas and importantly, equally positive feedback from local residents about far less light spillage into their properties. There is no doubt that LED lighting is the way to go, and users of Mortlock Park will no doubt look forward to their lighting being upgraded to energy efficient LEDs down the track as part of the proposed facilities upgrade under consideration.

A round of City of Mitcham Community Grants was recently completed with a variety of worthwhile community initiatives being supported including installation of defibrillators in community buildings, several arts, City of Mitcham Band and local club events. A number of community consultations are also underway, and it is important that we hear the community points of view about proposals under consideration including:

- The replacement of the George Street Hawthorn bridge as is or conversion to foot traffic only.
- The Mortlock Park Safety Audit regarding the eastern playing field used by the Goodwood Baseball Club.
- Various parking controls in Hawthorn and Westbourne Park.

The City of Mitcham Tree Plan will also soon be available for public comment to complement the Tree Strategy currently in place. Mitcham proudly manages some 55,000 street trees, 20,000 trees in reserves and open spaces over 76 square kilometres to serve a population of 67,400 in 32 suburbs. In addition, Mitcham is the only metropolitan Council to have an annual tree planting target of 1,800 new trees and pleasingly, that target has been exceeded in recent years. The collection and collation of data on trees is an ongoing exercise and community input is welcomed as a part of that process.

Several local traffic audits continue to be conducted by State Government DIT with focus on the Springbank Road precinct which remains a problem for locals to both access by vehicle and safely cross as pedestrians for much of the day. The increase in traffic flow along Springbank Road is extraordinary and is compounded by the limiting turn left/ turn right traffic controls currently in place.



## Caring Friends welcomes new members

A support group is reaching out to City of Mitcham residents who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

Caring Friends meets at Hawthorn Community Centre every Friday morning and provides a friendly environment, offering morning tea, activities and entertainment, along with twice yearly bus trips.

"The main purpose of the group is to simply connect, enjoy fellowship and talk with people who share similar experiences of loss and grief," President Peter Radcliffe said. "We are a welcoming group and we feel can really help people who are experiencing loneliness due to bereavement, divorce or separation."

Terri Malone travels from Reynella to be part of the group. "I've been coming for just over 10 years now," she said. "There is no judgement here, and when you have a bad day there is someone there to give you a hug, or just give you a look."

Pat Adams, 92, joined in 1997 when her husband passed away. "I enjoy the company and the guest speakers," she said.

**Caring Friends meets on Fridays at 10am to 12pm, Hawthorn Community Centre, 5 Frimley Grove, Hawthorn. To join, please contact Lyn on 8179 5697 or Janita on 0403 858 474.**



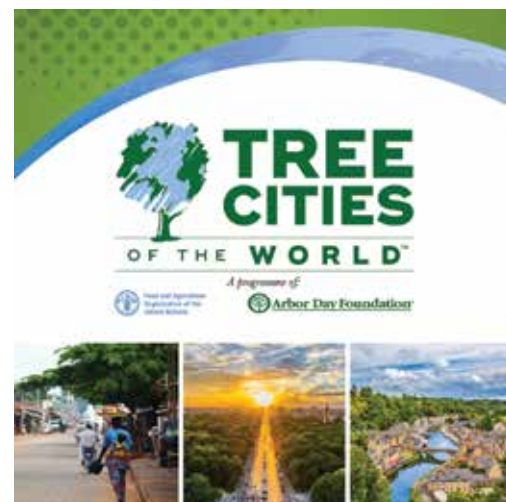
## Tree Planting Program under way

City of Mitcham's Tree Planting Program is under way this month and will continue until October, with a target of 1,800 trees to be planted across our streets and reserves.

Keep an eye out for a flyer in your post box notifying you of tree planting in your street. We've selected species best suited to local conditions and the streetscape.

Each tree is watered regularly for the first two summers after planting. You can help support new trees by watering once a week during hot weather.

For updates on our Tree Planting Program, which species will be planted where, proposed tree planting locations, the top 10 species planted in City of Mitcham, a 3D view of the City's urban forest and a link to allow residents to request a new street tree, visit the City of Mitcham's online Tree Viewer map at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees)



**Did you know?** City of Mitcham is one of 168 cities from 21 countries named a 'Tree City of the World' for its commitment to urban forestry. In its fourth year, the Tree Cities of the World Program was established by the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations.

**Did you know?** Significant and regulated trees in City of Mitcham are protected. To find out more about managing trees on private property, please visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees-on-private-property](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees-on-private-property)

*Sam, from City of Mitcham's Open Space Team, and St Bernadette's Primary School student Yugraj at City of Mitcham's Arbor Day 2022.*

## Join a KESAB tour

City of Mitcham residents are invited to join a free tour of composting facilities thanks to KESAB and East Waste on Tuesday 30 May.

The bus tour will investigate where our green organic bin materials go and includes a practical composting overview by a local compost guru.

Starting at the Mitcham Community Centre, the tour includes a visit to Jeffries' Wingfield transfer station, KESAB education centre and Jeffries' Buckland Park processing facility.

**Seats are limited and bookings are essential. The tour runs from 9.45am to 2pm. To book contact 8234 7255 or email [sarah@kesab.asn.au](mailto:sarah@kesab.asn.au)**



## Stay warm and save money this winter

Are you looking for practical steps to cut energy bills and make your home more comfortable in winter?

Two free webinars will be presented by Renew sustainable home and energy experts this month, featuring an hour of advice followed by question time.

**Winter Comfort for Renters** will look at energy saving measures, tips on reading your bills and understanding usage, and strategies for approaching your landlord for appliance upgrades. This session is relevant for both renters and landlords.

**Tuesday 16 May, 6.30pm to 8pm**

**To book, visit [www.resilientsouth.com/sustainable-homes](http://www.resilientsouth.com/sustainable-homes)**

**Winter Comfort at Home** will explore ways to improve the comfort and efficiency of your home, including energy saving measures, tips on reading your bill and understanding your usage. This session is relevant if you own your own home.

**Tuesday, 23 May, 6.30pm to 8pm**

*These webinars are brought to you by Resilient South, a partnership between the Cities of Mitcham, Marion, Onkaparinga, Holdfast Bay and State Government.*