

# MITCHAM

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

## COMMUNITY NEWS



FEBRUARY 2024



### First Nations advocate our Citizen of the Year

A First Nations advocate with a lifelong connection to Colebrook Reconciliation Park is City of Mitcham's Citizen of the Year.

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Award winners Sudhashree Somers, Dianne Grigg and Jody Moate with Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, at City of Mitcham's Australia Day Celebration.



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CC Hood Reserve upgrade set to begin



# Australia Day Celebration

On the eve of Australia Day City of Mitcham presented its Citizen of the Year Awards and welcomed 70 new citizens in a ceremony at the Mitcham Memorial Library in Hawthorn.

City of Mitcham residents enjoyed a twilight celebration including a Welcome to Country, children's activities including Story Time and face painting, a performance by Mitcham City Brass, a free Aussie barbecue and desserts from around the world.

As well as presenting the Citizen of the Year, Active Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards and welcoming new citizens, the City of Mitcham presented certificates to grant recipients.



## New citizens welcomed

As part of the Australia Day celebrations, City of Mitcham welcomed 70 new citizens from 24 countries.

New citizens were presented a range of gifts including a jar of Indigenous jam, a unity pin, representing a bright future for all Australians, a ticket to the Royal Adelaide Show and a native Australian seedling symbolising the planting of roots in Australia.



## City of Mitcham grant recipients recognised

City of Mitcham acknowledged grant recipients and celebrated some of the projects carried out by the community across the City.

In 2023, City of Mitcham's Grants Program provided \$273,554 to members of our community across a range of categories including Community Facilities Grants, the Maggy Ragless Memorial Grant, Public Art Grants, Quick Response Grants, Recurrent Grants, Civic Participation and Leadership Awards and My Mitcham Community Grants.



City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Citizen of the Year Dianne Grigg and last year's Citizen of the Year Peter Cranwell.

## First Nations advocate our Citizen of the Year

A First Nations advocate with a lifelong connection to Colebrook Reconciliation Park has been recognised as City of Mitcham's Citizen of the Year.

Eden Hills resident Dianne Grigg has volunteered in the City of Mitcham for many decades with a particular focus on volunteering at Colebrook Reconciliation Park and as part of the Blackwood Reconciliation Group.

As a child Di played with Aboriginal children who had been removed from their homes at the former Colebrook Home at Eden Hills, beginning a lifelong connection to the site.

Di returned to Eden Hills in the 1990s where she reconnected with Colebrook as a volunteer, coordinating visits from schools, businesses and community groups and teaching them about Aboriginal history, contributing to a stronger understanding of First Nations people, truth telling and culture.

She helped develop education programs to ensure the story of Colebrook was readily accessible to schools and the community. Di also contributed to a project researching endemic species from the Adelaide Plains and

hills so that many of the thousands of native plants planted at Colebrook since 2018 are identified by their common name, Kurna name and traditional use.

She supported a project to share recordings of Colebrook voices and stories on 'Listening Posts' and brought together Aboriginal artists and local school children to work together on art projects at the site.

Di began her teaching career in the state's mid-north where she worked with Aboriginal people to develop curriculum units that were later shared state-wide, and organised camps, excursions and events that were led by Aboriginal people.

Over the years Di has forged relationships with First Nations people including former Colebrook residents and their descendants whose voices she has been able to share in her professional role as a teacher, facilitator and volunteer.



## Active Citizen of the Year

The founder of Little Library on Lloyd Street, St Marys resident Jody Moate, is City of Mitcham's Active Citizen of the Year.

Jody, who also received a Commendation Award for South Australia's Award for Active Citizenship 2024, is a tireless volunteer for her community.

She was instrumental in the push to develop the Pasadena Community Centre and continues to shape its future as the Pasadena Community Centre Advisory Group community representative.

Jody established the Pasadena and St Marys Action Group, helping bring people together to connect and learn at workshops, seminars and community events. Through her work in applying for grants, Jody has driven a range of community projects including verge revegetation workshops, welcome cards for new residents, access to second-hand laptops and creating pollinator-friendly gardens.

Through her Little Library on Lloyd Street and grow-free cart, Jody supports local authors,



provides an outlet for residents to share fresh fruit and vegetables and fosters community connections through community events including Neighbour Day, National Shared Reading Day, Halloween and the Lloyd Street Sunflower Challenge.

Jody co-facilitates the Little Library on Lloyd Street Book Club at Pasadena Community Centre and is a Street Champion, a project run by the Port Environment Centre.

Last year she organised a fundraiser selling second-hand books for The Indigenous Literary Foundation and served on the Governing Council at Springbank Secondary College.

As well as helping run a number of social media pages including the Buy Nothing and Mitcham Girls High Old Scholars Facebook Groups, Jody is a volunteer with Butterfly Conservation SA, Fairy Bricks at Brixpo, the City of Mitcham and Trees for Life.

## Young Citizen of the Year

Pasadena university student, volunteer, disability advocate and small business owner Sudhashree Somers is City of Mitcham's Young Citizen of the Year.

Sudhashree runs a sewing group at Pasadena Community Centre, sharing her skills with the community, and is a member of the Pasadena Community Centre Advisory Group and Pasadena and St Marys Action Group.

She is also a co-facilitator of The Little Library on Lloyd Street Book Club and volunteers on weeding and planting days with Friends of Shepherd's Hill Recreation Park. As well as studying at university, Sudhashree sells hand

made art through her online business and is a member of the National Autism Strategy Economic Inclusion Working Group.

Last year Sudhashree taught art classes at Cumberland Park Community Centre and created a community artwork at the Pasadena Community Centre during the Nature Festival.

Beyond the City of Mitcham, she has been involved in the Inclusive Neighbourhood Circles Project and has completed the Vaulting Ambitions arts mentoring program with the City of Adelaide and Expressions Media.

Sudhashree continues to seek opportunities to expand her business, exhibit her art and contribute to her community.

A strong advocate for inclusion, she has generously shared her own personal experiences to educate our community about the importance of acceptance in particular for people with disabilities or mental health challenges.



### 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





# Fringe events return to Mitcham

City of Mitcham is set to host a series of Adelaide Fringe acts in some unusual and inspiring places. To book, visit [www.adelaidefringe.com.au/fringe-lists/city-of-mitcham](http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au/fringe-lists/city-of-mitcham)

Interactive | Installation | 60 mins



Former City of Mitcham Councillor Dave Munro at Sleeps Hill Tunnel, Panorama.

## Discover Panorama's hidden history

At Panorama, Sleeps Hill Tunnel will captivate audiences by bringing to life a forgotten piece of Adelaide's history in an abandoned tunnel.

The one-of-a-kind experience offers the opportunity to explore Sleeps Hill Tunnel, a hidden gem that is now a heritage site.

Visitors will be guided through the former Adelaide to Melbourne rail line on a 350-metre-long journey of light projections that chronicle the tunnel's transformation from steam train passageway to mushroom farm.

Videographer and photographer Stephen Axford from Planet Fungi will showcase imagery including time lapse video of forest fungi.

Also featured in the tunnel is the installation The World Beneath Our Feet, which transports audiences into the world of life in the soil underground, and time lapse photography from UK photographer Neil Bromhall.

Fringe Director Heather Croall said the experience was shaping up to be one of the most unique and must-see events of the Adelaide Fringe in 2024.

"We love seeing so many hidden unique stories in our local neighbourhoods come to life across the whole state for Fringe, and Sleeps Hill Tunnel is going to be one that people will not want to miss."

Owner and custodian of the Sleeps Hill Tunnel, former City of Mitcham Councillor Dave Munro, said he was looking forward to the Fringe bringing a new chapter to the second tunnel.

"It's a remarkable state heritage asset and I can't wait for people to experience this rare opportunity to embrace this very special place."

The Sleeps Hill tunnels at Eden Hills and Panorama were constructed in 1879 and used

by steam trains until 1914 before heavier trains were introduced, forcing the tunnels to be decommissioned. They went on to have many uses including storing of state records and valuables during World War II, as a mushroom farm and wine storage business.

**When:** Friday 16 February to Sunday 17 March, various times

**Where:** The Tunnels, 4 Railway Terrace, Panorama

**Cost:** \$18 to \$25

**Ages:** All ages (G)



Music | Cabaret | 60 mins

### A Piano & Me

Talented pianist and musical storyteller Emma Knights is set to showcase her repertoire, playing classics as well as solo compositions.

**When:** Thursday 22 February, 1pm

**Where:** Urrbrae House

**Cost:** \$15 to \$28

**Ages:** All ages (G)

**\* ADELAIDE \*  
\* FRINGE \***

Music | 120 mins

### Celestial Sounds: Evening Sound Bath at Belair National Park

Enjoy a night under the stars at Belair National Park. Bring rugs, cushions and blankets or chair and relax to the music of crystal bowls, synthesisers and more along with the sounds of nature.

**When:** Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 March, 7.15pm

**Where:** Westside Belair National Park Main Pavilion

**Cost:** \$45 to \$54

**Ages:** 12+ years (PG)



Kids & Family | Storytelling | 40 mins

### Mr Badger tells the story of Wind in the Willows

Bring a picnic and enjoy a delightful storytelling performance of this classic tale celebrating the joys of nature and friendship.

**When:** Saturday 24 February, 11am, Saturday 2 March, 10.30am or 11.45am, Sunday 3 March, 11am, Saturday 9 March, 10.30am or 11.45am

**Where:** Stable Lawns (meet near front of Main House), Carrick Hill

**Cost:** \$15

**Ages:** 5 to 95 years (G)

Kids & Family | Science | 60 mins

### Phantastic Physics Show

At Blackwood Memorial Hall, kids will love this science inspired show featuring lasers and cannons that finishes with a bang!

**When:** Saturday 9 March, 2pm

**Where:** Blackwood Memorial Hall Performance Space

**Cost:** \$12 to \$18

**Ages:** School aged kids (G)





Music | A cappella | 105 minutes

Thursday's Child: Live a cappella

Enjoy the South Australian debut of Melbourne vocal group Thursday's Child performing new renditions of well-loved folk numbers through to fresh arrangements of iconic jazz favourites.

**When:** Saturday 17 February, 7.30pm  
**Where:** Urrbrae House Ballroom  
**Cost:** \$30 to \$40  
**Ages:** All ages (G)



Music | 60 mins

A Centennial Story of the Chinese Fiddle

Urrbrae House will host an exploration of the Erhu (Chinese Fiddle) in this South Australian premiere that traces its evolution from the instrument's origins to the present day.

**When:** Saturday 9 March, 6pm to 7pm  
**Where:** Urrbrae House Ballroom  
**Cost:** \$30  
**Ages:** All ages (G)



Music | Folk | 90 mins

Garden Melodies

Wittunga Botanic Garden is the idyllic setting for a collaboration between local musicians and the sounds of the garden. Please bring a chair or picnic rug.

**When:** Monday 11 March at 1pm  
**Where:** Wittunga Botanic Garden  
**Cost:** \$15 (children under 16 free)  
**Ages:** All ages



Music | Cover/tribute band | 120 mins

Two Brothers Do Finn Brothers

Fans of Crowded House and Split Enz will enjoy this performance from local brothers Harry and Ned Boulderstone. Timeless classics backed by a five-piece band.

**When:** Saturday 9 March, 8pm  
**Where:** Blackwood Memorial Hall  
**Cost:** \$36 to \$39  
**Ages:** All ages (G)

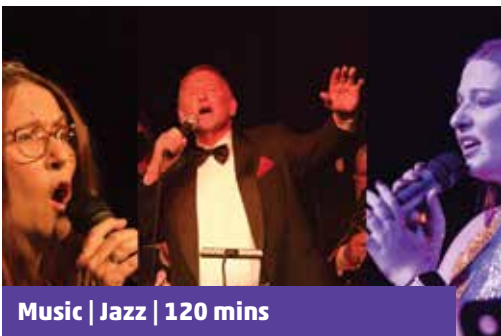


Music | Multimedia | 4 hours

Hyperaurea: Equinox

Chart a course through Antarctica, the last frontier on Earth, as experienced by Arts Fellowship expeditioner Sean Williams and paleontologist Professor John Long. Ambient music and visuals combine in two unique presentations in the natural ampitheatre of Flinders University's Bedford Park campus.

**When:** Wednesday 13 March, 4pm  
**Where:** The Plaza, Flinders University Bedford Park Campus  
**Cost:** Free (no ticket needed)  
**Ages:** All ages (G)



Music | Jazz | 120 mins

Big Band Through The Ages

Lindy Hip Big Band and singers return with their show featuring a 30-piece ensemble, embarking on a journey through the history of Big Bands, from the birth of jazz in New Orleans to present day Adelaide.

**When:** Friday 23 and Saturday 24 February, 7.30pm  
**Where:** The Tower Arts Centre, Goodwood Road  
**Cost:** \$14 to \$33  
**Ages:** All ages (G)



Beyond the Trees: Reconcile and Nurture returns to Belair National Park.

Beyond the Trees: Reconcile and Nurture

After a successful Fringe debut last year, Beyond the Trees: Reconcile and Nurture returns to Belair National Park on Saturday 2 March.

Supported by the City of Mitcham, the event brings together Hawthorndene alternative folk duo Magic Tortoise, Kurna Elder Uncle Tamaru, visual artist Theresa Bassett and poet Jason Tyndall for a night of music, art and celebration of Country.

The show will feature projected visual art, lighting of gum trees, guest speakers, storytelling, poetry, music, a food truck, a Kurna Welcome to Country by Kurna and Yidaki playing, a food truck and a First Nations artists marketplace.

"It's a sacred place here; we want people to immerse themselves in our culture, both nature and spirit," Uncle Tamaru said. "The outdoors becomes part of the show, another element of the experience. It's about locals getting together to have some fun in a very special place."

Guests are invited to bring a chair or rug, dress warmly and arrive at 5.30pm for a 6pm start. Profits from the show will be donated to Friends of Belair National Park and Minton Farm Native Animal Rescue Centre.

**When:** Saturday 2 March, 6pm  
**Where:** Westside at Belair National Park - Main Pavilion  
**Cost:** \$20 - \$25  
**Ages:** All ages (G)





**Above left:** RASA Blackwood members Jackie Brinkman, Moira Newman, Hazel Marshall, Peter Wilksch, Joe Muller and Don Matthews. **Above right:** Pauline Brinkworth and Jackie Butler enjoy a game of carpet bowls.

## Retirees welcome at weekly Blackwood social group

Are you a retiree looking to meet others in your community?

Blackwood Retire Active SA (RASA) is seeking new members to join a range of social activities including carpet bowls, pool, table tennis and board games.

Convenor Peter Wilksch said the group offered a great opportunity to spend time with others in a relaxed environment.

"It's a healthy way to spend your time, playing some sport and catching up with friends," he said.

As well as meeting each Wednesday from 9.30am to 1.30pm at the Blackwood Football Clubrooms, the group enjoys occasional outings to the cinema or local attractions such as Carrick Hill.

Members pay an annual membership fee followed by \$5 per week to cover the cost of hall hire, tea and coffee.

**To join or find out more, contact Peter on 0403 649 578 or visit <https://www.retireactivesa.com.au>**



## Local artist celebrated at Gallery One

Hawthorndene artist Sophie Hann was among artists recognised in a national portrait competition hosted by Gallery One in the Mitcham Cultural Village.

Sophie's work 'In the Studio', Oil on Canvas, was recognised with a Highly Commended and Gallery One Committee Commendation award in the Gallery One Smallacombe Portrait Prize 2023.

In its second year, the competition attracted entries from across Australia with a prize pool of \$11,750.

Sophie has a long association with the Gallery, having worked as a tutor, and remembers childhood visits with her grandmother who was also an artist and tutor.

As an artist who specialises in portraits, she enjoyed having the opportunity to create a self-portrait for the Prize.

"I don't look very happy in this portrait, and that is because at the time I was experiencing loss and grief," she says. "Those emotions are reflected in the work."

Sophie is currently working on two portrait commissions including a portrait of Adelaide Fringe Director Heather Croall and her partner Nick.

**The Gallery One Smallacombe Portrait Prize is set to return this year. To find out more visit [www.galleryone.org.au](http://www.galleryone.org.au)**



Life Drawing participants Harvey and Ruth at Gallery One, Mitcham.

## Artists draw from real life

Every Monday and Friday a group of artists try their hand at life drawing at Gallery One in the Mitcham Cultural Village.

The classes began 25 years ago, offering artists the opportunity to sketch portraits of models who sit for the class.

New class member Sue has enjoyed being part of the class, which is untutored.

"I wanted to practise sketching and I didn't need a tutor, so it suits me," she said. "There are different models every week and you work in two-minute, five-minute or 10-minute sketches, it's about doing things quickly and not being too particular."

Gallery One Chair David Milne said life drawing presented unique and interesting challenges for artists.

"You can pick up shadows and muscle movements, you might just draw a face, a foot or a hand, depending on where you want to improve your skills," he said.

**Life Drawing, Mondays 10am to 12pm, Fridays 2pm to 4pm, \$15/\$13 members, Gallery One, 1 Torrens Street, Mitcham, [www.galleryone.org.au](http://www.galleryone.org.au)**



## Apply now for a My Mitcham Community Grant!

The My Mitcham Community Grant February round is now open.

These grants are available to help City of Mitcham residents bring their ideas to life and make a difference in the community. Applications close 5pm Thursday 29 February.

To find out more, drop in to an information session listed below.

**Tiwu Kumangka,**  
**2/4 Young Street, Blackwood**

**Date: Tuesday 6 February**

**Time: 1pm to 5pm**

**Date: Thursday 22 February**

**Time: 2pm to 6pm**

**Mitcham Memorial Library,**  
**154 Belair Road, Hawthorn**

**Date: Wednesday 14 February**

**Time: 1pm to 6pm**

**Date: Tuesday 20 February**

**Time: 1pm to 5pm**

**To apply, visit**  
**[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants)**



## Nappy subsidy now available

Rebates to subsidise the cost of cloth nappies, menstrual and incontinence products are now available for City of Mitcham residents.

The Sustainable Living Subsidy Program aims to encourage the community to live more sustainably and reduce waste by subsidising the upfront costs of reusable sanitary products.

Residents can apply for a rebate of 50 per cent of the purchase price up to the value of \$50 (including GST) on a variety of reusable products.

The program will remain open until Sunday 30 June or while funds are available.

**For an application form, product listing and terms and conditions visit**  
**[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/sustainable-living-subsidy-program](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/sustainable-living-subsidy-program)**

## Solar bulk buy registrations now open

Registrations are now open for the next instalment of the Mitcham Community Renewables Program.

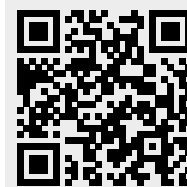
Run in collaboration with ShineHub, the 2024 solar bulk buy offers City of Mitcham residents the opportunity to access discounts on solar panel, battery and virtual power plant solutions.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said over 760 residents had switched to solar through the program.

"The more residents who participate, the greater the benefits for everyone," she said. "Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to reduce your power bills and take action on climate change."

To find out more about the program, join a community information session at Tiwu Kumangka, 2/4 Young Street, Blackwood, Monday 26 February or Wednesday 28 February, 6pm to 9pm.

**Scan the QR code or visit**  
**<https://shinehub.com.au/mitcham>**  
**to register.**



**CITY OF MITCHAM**

**ShineHub**

### WHICH BIN? THE GREEN ORGANICS BIN

Don't know which bin? Head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU) or scan the QR code



Fruit and vegetables



Bread, pasta and rice



Meat, bones and seafood



Paper towel and tissues



Compostable takeaway packaging



Lawn clippings and weeds



Prunings, twigs and leaves



NO plastic packaged food



NO clothing, footwear or textiles



NO building materials, dirt or rocks



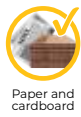
NO general waste



NO plastic pots, containers or bottles

### WHICH BIN? THE YELLOW RECYCLING BIN

Don't know which bin? Head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU) or scan the QR code



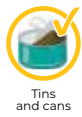
Paper and cardboard



Rigid plastic containers



Juice and milk cartons



Tins and cans



Glass bottles and jars



Aluminium foil and trays



Aerosols (empty)



NO polystyrene foam



NO clothing, footwear or textiles



NO building materials, dirt or rocks



NO plastic bags or wrapping



NO broken crockery or glassware

Ensure items are empty, rinsed, dry and left loose - not in a bag!

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

Don't know which bin? Head to [WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU](http://WHICHBIN.SA.GOV.AU) or scan the QR code



Soft plastics



Polystyrene foam



Clothing, footwear or textiles



Single use nappies



Broken crockery and glassware



Ropes and hoses



NO cooking or motor oil



NO liquid paint



NO tyres



NO e-waste or batteries



NO building materials, dirt or rocks



NO chemicals or poisons

## EastWaste



## 2024 KERBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDAR

### FOOD SCRAPS GO IN THE GREEN BIN

You can pick up one free roll of 75 compostable bags until 30th June 2024. We also sell compostable bags and kitchen caddies available at Council's Civic Centre, Mitcham Memorial Library and Blackwood Library at a discounted price.

Food scraps placed in your green bin takes the pressure off rates and gets turned into valuable compost. **Great for local farmers and our gardens!**



### MISSED BINS, REPAIRS & BIN ENQUIRIES

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

### HARD WASTE COLLECTION

Book one free 'at call' collection per financial year at [eastwaste.com.au](http://eastwaste.com.au)

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



### HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste must not be placed in any household bin. For further info search 'hazardous waste' at [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

### E-WASTE & BATTERIES

E-waste and batteries must not be placed in any household bin. For further info, search 'e-waste or 'batteries' at [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)

### ADDITIONAL BINS

Additional waste, recycling or green organics bins are available subject to approval and an annual service fee. Call Council 1300 133 466 or go to [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)





Above left: Max and Glenn Lambert. Above centre and right: Piazza Reserve pictured before and after the restoration project.

## Volunteers transform Pasadena reserve

Pasadena father and son Glenn and Max Lambert have transformed a strip of Piazza Reserve, Pasadena, in a revegetation project spanning nine years.

The duo has worked to remove weeds, including an olive tree, and have planted a range of native trees and shrubs that are now becoming established.

Glenn said when he first moved to the area, the Reserve was covered in weeds and long grass.

"There was nothing here, it was just a jungle of weeds," he said. "I thought I'd try to do something about it."

Glenn approached City of Mitcham and signed on as a volunteer. Over the years he has planted native seedlings supplied by Council and helped with brush cutting, removing rubbish and watering at the Reserve.

Max, a Colonel Light Gardens Primary School student, became involved from an early age, helping his dad cart water and plant a range of species, from acacias and eucalypts to grevilleas, hibiscus and native cypress.

"It's fun – I like to plant trees and see how things grow from nothing," Max said.

As well as greening the space, Glenn says he has witnessed an increase in biodiversity including butterflies, lizards and birds.

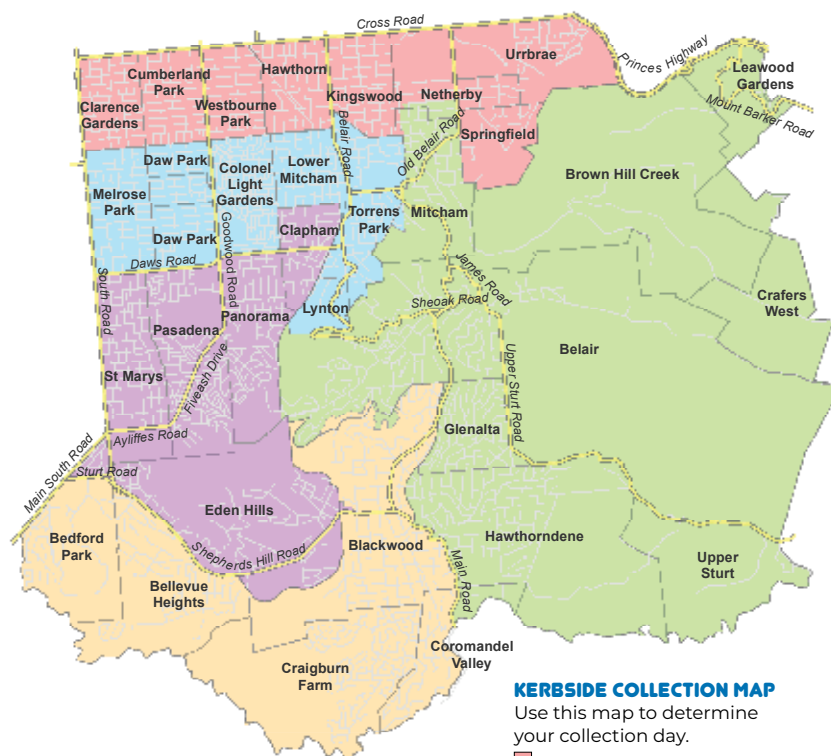
"The kookaburras have come back; we hear them all the time, which is great," he said. "It was a fair bit of work to get this started in the beginning – we've had setbacks – but now I look back and I think it's one of the best things I've done."

To find out more about volunteering at City of Mitcham, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering)

### 2024 KERBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDAR

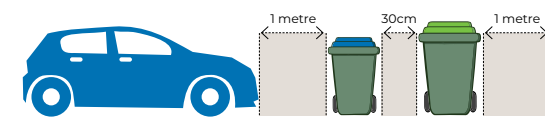
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	30 31

Green organics bin (fortnightly)  
Yellow recycling bin (fortnightly)  
Blue waste to landfill bin (weekly)  
Public holiday collection as usual  
No collections on New Year's Day, Good Friday or Christmas Day. All collections will move to the next day for the remaining week.



### KERBSIDE BIN PLACEMENT

Where practical, keep a minimum distance of 30cm between bins, and 1 metre between bins and parked cars, street trees, stobie poles and letterboxes. Please remove bins after they have been emptied on the day of collection.



### LYNTON GREEN ORGANICS DROP-OFF FACILITY

Residents can take excess organic material to:

#### Lynton Green Organics Drop-off Facility

Beagle Terrace, Lynton  
Open 9am – 3pm

\*open times may vary due to seasonal changes.

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

Fees apply and identification required.

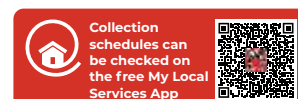
### GREEN ORGANICS DROP-OFF FIRE DANGER SEASON

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

Please note the opening hours of the Lynton Facility may be affected by extreme fire danger rated days and extreme weather events.

The Lynton Facility will be closed on catastrophic fire danger rated days.

Please visit [mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or check out our Facebook and Twitter pages @CityofMitcham to confirm if the facility is open before you visit.







Mitcham rose expert Kim Syrus at Batchelor Reserve, Mitcham.

## Rose expert wins Churchill Fellowship

Mitcham rose specialist Kim Syrus has secured a Churchill Fellowship that will allow him to research rose growing techniques overseas.

As part of the Fellowship, Kim will spend six weeks visiting growers in Spain, France, Germany and the Netherlands, along with Pennsylvania, California and Oregon in the United States.

A long-term Mitcham resident, Kim is looking forward to investigating how commercial rose industries have transitioned from budded to cutting-grown rose production.

"It's getting harder and harder to find rose budders here in Australia and in some instances we are losing growers," he said. "We really are at a crossroads and we need to look at more efficient and sustainable ways to grow roses for the longer term."

Kim says roses grown from cuttings have many potential benefits including requiring less water and fertiliser, being less likely

to throw up suckers, are more compact and produce more flowers.

A commercial rose grower for 30 years, Kim is Chair of Rose Introducers of Australia and the Australian Master Agent for France-based rose breeder Meilland International.

Kim promotes his love of gardening as a columnist for SALIFE and SALIFE Gardens & Outdoor living and executive producer and host of the Outdoors Indoors television program.

He is looking forward to sharing his knowledge and encourages other City of Mitcham residents to apply for a Fellowship.

"There are plenty of opportunities for those who feel passionate about a project that they know will make a difference to their community."



## 'Smart' manikins boost skills at Blackwood

St John Ambulance Blackwood Youth Team is using 'smart' manikins to teach lifesaving skills thanks to a City of Mitcham grant.

The My Mitcham Community grant was used to replace out of date and broken manikins with new versions that connect to smart devices.

Team Leader Karen Wilson said the manikins recorded speed and depth of compressions, allowing members to refine their CPR techniques.

"Our members enjoy using them and sharing their skills with new members and other local community groups," she said. "We've taught members of local Scouts, CFS and Girl Guide divisions how to provide good quality CPR, so that even if they are not strong enough to resuscitate an adult, they will be able to tell an adult what to do in an emergency."

She said in December, youth members taught close to 100 Air Force cadets and members of their families how to do CPR at an event in Adelaide.

"It was an amazing experience for them to share their skills and know that they are helping to save lives and increase knowledge in the community."

The Blackwood Youth Team welcomes youth aged 11 to 17 years to join them on Monday nights from 7pm to 9pm.

**To join, visit [www.stjohnsa.com.au/join-us](http://www.stjohnsa.com.au/join-us)**

**To find out more about City of Mitcham's grants program, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/grants)**



## Join a Centennial Park tour

Curious about the inner workings of Centennial Park at Pasadena? Join a Behind the Scenes tour to discover more about the cemetery and its 40 hectares of landscaped grounds.

Jump aboard a buggy for a drive through the gardens and visit areas normally not open to the public including the Jubilee Complex receiving area and crematorium (optional).

The tour ends at Wildflowers Café where you can enjoy coffee, cake or lunch.

Public tours are held on the last Saturday of the month, February to November. Options for group tours are also available.

**For more information and to register for a free tour, scan the QR code, call 8276 6011 or visit [www.centennialpark.org](http://www.centennialpark.org)**



Mayor

**Dr Heather Holmes-Ross**

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I didn't know his name but I certainly knew the "War on Waste" guy. His award-winning TV documentary series on material waste in Australia have been credited with lifting public awareness at a national scale and prompting legislative change. You can understand that I was pretty excited when I heard that Craig Reucassel was interested in talking to the City of Mitcham.

Craig became aware of our Community Renewables Program when he attended the 2023 City Power Partnerships (CPP) Summit in Melbourne where Council received two national awards for our collaboration with ShineHub in delivering the Mitcham solar PV and battery bulk buy and virtual power plant (VPP) program. This is the first step of our three-stage plan to provide savings to all residents and businesses, including renters and multi-unit dwellers, through access to clean energy.

Since receiving the CPP awards, Council has been inundated with requests for information and presentations by other councils and regional groups across Australia. We asked Craig if he'd be willing to help us refine our story so that we can best inform others of how their residents can benefit from a community renewables program.

He arrived looking exactly as he does on TV, with a cheeky grin, a checked shirt and ripped jeans. We had two days to explain our renewables journey. We started by visiting several residents who had purchased panels and/or batteries through our program; Jeremy and Andrea who run a therapeutic massage business from their home, Ali and her beautiful family who power their home and pool, and Phil the dog walker who has modified his system to allow him to trade on the energy market.

All the households told a similar story. They were interested in solar so when Council advertised information sessions they signed up. They arrived feeling dubious but when they heard the work Council had done in selecting a collaboration partner they felt they could trust the process. And once they understood that they could not only save money, but also earn additional cash and help the community by joining the VPP, they all signed up.

The genius that Craig brought to our combined thinking was his ability to pick up on the specific ideas that are crucially important to different audiences. He pointed out that through the Mitcham program, residents become owners of individual mini-power plants. When aggregated, these can (and do) act together to reduce the need for gas fired peaking power plants. As a member of the ShineHub VPP I am super excited to be a power plant owner!

Since his visit, Craig has helped develop several scripts which we will use over the coming months to help share our story. Several councils in metropolitan Adelaide and Sydney have voted to replicate the Mitcham program, and many more are keen to investigate. We are proud of the national leadership role that Mitcham is playing and hope to help many more councils access the sun's free energy for their communities.

Craigburn Ward

**Cr Karen Hockley**

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*Craigburn Ward encompasses the suburbs of Craigburn Farm, Bellevue Heights and parts of Blackwood, Coromandel Valley and Eden Hills.*

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you've had a relaxing and safe festive season. By the time you read this, children will be back at school and Council will have already had its first meeting for the year.

I was delighted that, over the break, the Eden Hills Scout Hall was demolished to make way for a new Scouts and Rotary facility. This new building is going to be even more important to the delivery of youth programs as Scouts look to rationalise its own investments, potentially including the sale of the Blackwood Scout Hall site. Eden Hills Scouts are still operating and can be contacted via their socials. Fingers crossed for a smooth building process with on time and on budget delivery!

Even though it feels as though the 2024 budget has only just been finalised, Council has already commenced the budget and rate setting process for the 2024/25 financial year. I've identified a number of services that need to be considered for additional funding:

Reserve maintenance – Council reserves are maintained according to a schedule. This system provides for each piece of open space to be maintained a specified number of times each year according to its usage, location, and type. While this may have worked well in the past, there is now a high degree of community dissatisfaction regarding the condition of many of our reserves. This could be due to changing expectations or because our changing weather patterns have increased the need for maintenance.

Library/Community Centre hours – we have approved and funded our first staffed community centre at Pasadena. This facility will be open for the community to attend programs or to just drop in during weekdays, evenings and on weekends – a first for Mitcham! I've requested that Council undertake a process to determine the need for community centre staffing and additional library hours at Tiwu Kumangka/Blackwood Library and at Mitcham Community Centre. Should this proposal be successful, it will be important to have your involvement so that we can fund and deliver the services you need from these sites.

Dedicated dog park – the community has been asking for a dedicated dog park in the hills to complement the only other dog park in Mitcham, which is in Panorama. We got close at the last review of our dog and cat management plan; however the idea was thwarted at the 11th hour. Since that time, a motion has been passed asking Council to investigate options for another dedicated dog park in Mitcham, including in the hills. This motion is yet to be actioned and I'm advised that it will be actioned in conjunction with our next review of the dog and cat management plan.

There are many other projects that could be considered as part of the budget process, and I'd love to hear from you about your priorities for enhanced Council services or indeed any services you think may no longer be required. Please call or email me on 0423 919 080 or khockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Boorman Ward

**Cr Joanna Wells**

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

Naa Marni, everyone. Welcome to 2024.

Whether or not they are things that you celebrate, I hope the Christmas and New Year break afforded you an opportunity to rest and recharge your batteries, spend some time with family and friends and do more of the things you love. For some Christmas is a challenging time of year and, if this is the case for you, I hope you were able to put measures in place to make it as gentle a time as possible.

As I write this, staff are finalising preparations for the citizenship ceremony and Citizen of the Year awards that will have been held, by the time you read this on the evening of Thursday 25th January.

This was a decision made by the Chamber last year which enables us to do things differently, save on the costs of the event as we don't have to pay people to work on public holidays, and to enjoy a long weekend before school returns. For parents who have been juggling annual leave days with their partner so one or the other – but never both! – is home with the children during the holidays, a long weekend can provide downtime that can be shared. If you're a single parent fortunate enough to not have to work on a public holiday, a long weekend can be a welcome bonus.

Council hasn't changed the date of Australia Day; only the Federal Government has the power to set or change a national public holiday. What we have chosen to do is to hold our citizenship ceremony and recognise our Citizens of the Year the evening before the public holiday.

It's only since 1935 all states have recognised Australia Day. Until Federation occurred in 1901, the Australian nation didn't exist. It was a collection of British colonies on the one continent. It was only in 1935 all states recognised Australia Day and it's only since 1994 we actually commemorate this on the 26th.

There are people across the community who don't celebrate Australia Day on the 26th, as they know this is not a happy day for Indigenous Australians. Others think it should be shifted away from the fire danger season so we can enjoy a barbecue. Others would like to be able to enjoy it when the weather is almost guaranteed to be milder.

For those upset by the change made to Council's celebrations this year, I would like to assure you this was never the intent. It has been interesting to see the decision kick-start this conversation across the community. It is one I encourage everyone to give thought to and to enter into any ensuing debate on the issue willing to listen to others, to empathise and to properly consider the extent of what might at first be perceived as losses. As the Belgians say: Light comes from the clash of ideas. Let's all do our bit to ensure that the clash of our ideas is considered and respectful.

Ngaitalya



**The Park Ward****Cr Tom Morrison**

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*The Park Ward encompasses the suburbs of Glenalta, Hawthorndene and parts of Blackwood, Belair and Upper Sturt.*

CHSP, DoHAC, MAC, HCP, SA HACC. Do these acronyms mean anything to you?

Chances are they don't, but they are all related to the incredibly complicated world of aged, disability and services for vulnerable community members.

Council has played an important role in this space for decades, helping facilitate services such as community, transport, social programs, home and garden maintenance and domestic assistance. This was done as part of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). This is an area of public policy that is constantly evolving, due to changes at other tiers of government. A brief history in this space:

In 2018, after a comprehensive internal review CHSP domestic assistance, home and garden maintenance and home modifications were subcontracted to Southern Cross Care after a tender process to achieve efficiencies and maximise funding potential for these services.

One downside to this change was that many residents placed significant value on having the same person turn up on a regular basis to do the work. This personal / social connection was a key part of the service. With sub-contracted workers used for home and garden maintenance, residents tended to see different people turn up each week. Additionally demand for home and garden maintenance from existing clients escalated rapidly as clients' ability to maintain areas of the garden for safety themselves decreased. As with many other aged care service providers, waiting times grew longer and CHSP funded hours were quickly expended each year.

With an increasing administrative and compliance burden associated with the funding, and Southern Cross Care not wanting to extend their contract, a Council decision was made in June of last year to change Council's role in relation to provision of in-home services for the best outcome for current clients.

Council consulted with clients and worked with the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC) to transfer both CHSP funding and clients to a provider that would better meet their needs and have the scale to offer even more hours of service to Mitcham clients. DoHAC chose Alwyndor Aged Care as the new provider. The good news is that this new provider has employed new in-house workers specifically for Mitcham to join their team, meaning residents are more likely to get the same person turn up.

Domestic assistance continues to be provided directly by Southern Cross Care, with all clients choosing to do this and happy with their workers and service.

Going forward, Mitcham residents can contact Alwyndor directly to receive home and garden maintenance. Council, with the support of its amazing volunteers, will continue to provide services which nobody else does, such as the Community Bus, wellbeing and active ageing activities. Council will also remain an independent, community information and referral service, providing impartial and informed advice to vulnerable residents regarding accessing aged care, disability, health, local service providers, activities and programs or relevant social services. Essentially, someone who can help you through the red tape, jargon and reduce confusion.

**Gault Ward****Cr Pia George**

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

Happy new year for 2024! I trust that the Christmas season provided a much-needed break; a chance to catch up with family and friends and to recharge for the year ahead.

During the break it was lovely to take my family to enjoy some of our parks and facilities, including the libraries in Mitcham and Blackwood. It was heartening to see many families using these facilities, which provided an air-conditioned retreat from the (few days of) summer heat and encourages a love of literacy. Libraries provide our residents with access to resources (digital and print) and infrastructure at no cost, with equitable access for everyone. They are special places and if you've not visited them recently, I encourage you to see firsthand the transformation of our libraries, including the brand-new library and community centre at Tiwu Kumangka in Blackwood.

On 25 January we celebrated Australia Day and welcomed the City of Mitcham's newest citizens at Soldiers Memorial Gardens using Mitcham Memorial Library. It was lovely for the community to come together in the Gault Ward which didn't eventuate over Christmas due to the unfortunate cancellation of the Christmas Carols at Kingswood Oval. A special thanks to those of you who came and supported this event!

I have reflected recently on the importance of community consultation and why I value it as one of your elected representatives. In October 2023, a decision was made by the Council relating to the reinstatement of the George Street bridge in Hawthorn. Following the community consultation process, 66% of responses indicated a preference to retain vehicle access along George Street, which would require the bridge to be reinstated. The Council's decision in October was consistent with this feedback.

During December, a petition was raised by residents requesting the Council rescind the previous decision and not reinstate the bridge. The petition requested a solution which would enhance the environmental amenity of the area and prioritise active transport options in the vicinity. Although this option had merit, I could not support it when the majority of the feedback to the formal consultation indicated a preference to retain vehicle access and reinstate the bridge. While this may be disappointing for some, it highlights the importance of participating in formal consultations and the opportunity which residents have to influence decision making in our community.

I am pleased with the outcome that was ultimately reached – it will see vehicle access retained over the bridge, with work underway to improve the design of the works to prioritise access for pedestrians and cyclists, while also enhancing the environmental amenity of the area. This outcome respects the feedback that was received, while also improving the outcome for the community. If you are interested to discuss this further, please get in touch.

On another note, if you have an interest in local government you might be interested to provide feedback on the review of local government participation and elections, which is occurring now until 1 March and can be accessed here: <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/council-participation-elections> Happy participating!

**Babbage Ward****Cr Aidan Greenshields**

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

The safety of residents on our roads continues to be front of mind. I recently attended the 'Safe Cycling Workshop' held by the Amy Gillet Foundation (AGF). At this interactive workshop, the AGF explored the national safe cycling program that aims to ensure local decision makers and transport professionals are best informed when making decisions at a local government level. I was provided with resources to support my work and the work of council officers to deliver the best infrastructure possible to keep riders safe. This ties in perfectly with making our streets safer for all users, and Council's climate aims.

I recently received a petition about traffic safety in Merriton Avenue St Marys where multiple collisions have occurred in recent history. I am in discussions with staff about what can be done to make the area safer. Petitions are a great way to raise awareness and show the community's wants and needs. You can find a petition format by googling "Mitcham Council petition" and following the link to the Mitcham website.

A potential new caravan site up the hill in Pasadena is currently with the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP). Many residents have made contact to register their opinions on the issue. Council's ability to allow or restrict this development is zero given the State Government assessed nature of the development. Council has put forward a submission to the SCAP with our concerns as have I.

A little experiment: the next paragraph is written by AI using my own inputs.

*"The recent workshop on AI impacts on local councils has heightened awareness of the transformative potential AI holds for our municipality. The integration of AI technologies could enhance service delivery, streamline administrative processes, and foster greater community engagement. However, it also raises concerns about workforce implications, data privacy and ethical considerations. As we navigate this paradigm shift, it becomes imperative for local councils, including ours, to proactively address these challenges, ensuring AI is leveraged responsibly to benefit both residents and council operations in a manner aligned with community values and needs."*

Not the words I might use, but a reasonable summary of the workshop Councillors recently attended. I will add that it was emphasised that the quality of the data or information given to any AI will determine how good the output of the AI is; "junk in = junk out".

Please have your say on the proposal to relocate the basketball court at Pasadena Reserve to the Piazza Reserve in Pasadena. Google "Pasadena basketball court" and follow the link to the 'your-say' website.

The next solar and battery bulk buy is about to begin so if you want to save money on your energy bills, getting involved is a no brainer. Log your interest at <https://shinehub.com.au/mitcham/> and wait for one of the information sessions. More than 760 households have taken up the program! Great for your hip pocket and the environment!



# CC Hood Reserve upgrade set to begin

A project to upgrade CC Hood Reserve in Panorama is set to commence following the endorsement of a Masterplan and Community Land Management Plan for the site.

At its Full Council meeting in November Council reviewed the community consultation and endorsed an updated Masterplan.

The project includes construction of a playground, small dog park, basketball court, junior pump track, BBQ, small soccer goals on

the Oval, a central tree-lined pathway with lighting and if funding permits, additional tree-lined pathways.

These works will be delivered as part of a 2022 State Government election commitment by the Member for Elder, Nadia Clancy MP who

pledged \$1 million on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport towards the revitalisation of CC Hood Reserve.

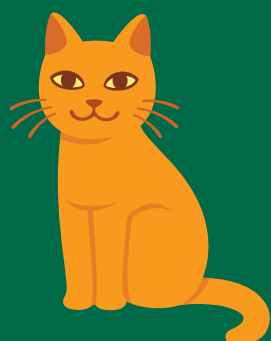
Work is expected to begin this month along with further consultation with the community on the playground.

For updates and to have your say, visit <https://yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/cc-hood-reserve-2023>



## CC Hood Reserve Masterplan

1. Improved and widened main entry.
2. New entry planting.
3. Existing bitumen loop path retained with new linemarking / distance markers.
4. New central tree avenues (deciduous shade trees) with permeable paving and lighting. Opportunity to explore locating path between existing trees, subject to further design investigations.
5. Central pavilion with picnic tables, BBQ's and garden beds.
6. New nature playground (Stage 1).
7. Potential future playground expansion.
8. Junior pump track / small wheel bike loop.
9. New small dog park
10. Existing big dog park resurfaced with mulch / sand / small synthetic turf mounds / agility equipment / permeable loop path.
11. Open lawn / kick about area with small scale soccer and football goals, new terrace seating (potential for 'pop up' movie screen for community events).
12. Family picnic area and new shade trees.
13. New native understorey planting (possible future volunteering site).
14. Existing raingarden revegetated (possible future volunteering site).
15. Native biodiversity bush garden with informal paths (possible future volunteering site).
16. Creek remediation - weeds removed and revegetated.
17. Informal path.
18. Viewing deck and terraced gabion walls.
19. Stepping stone crossings and natureplay nodes.
20. Upgraded boardwalk crossing.
21. Dry creek to connect creek, northern portion of reserve, dog park and playspace (possible future volunteering site).
22. New picnic tables.
23. New bench seating.
24. Primary vehicle / service access path.
25. Secondary vehicle / service access path.
26. Half court basketball and bouldering blocks integrated into existing fitness area.
27. New raingarden to improve stormwater management (possible future volunteering site).
28. Potential future opportunity: terraced steps to provide link to new bridge and park.
29. Potential future opportunity: new bridge to cross over the creek.
30. Potential future opportunity: fitness equipment relocated next to existing playground with new shade trees.



## Keep your cats safe at home!

### New rules for cats from 1 January 2024.

Cats born or registered from 1 January 2024 will need to be kept on your property at all times. Cats can still go outside, as long as they remain on your property.

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

