

# MITCHAM

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

## COMMUNITY NEWS



JULY 2022

### Mural celebrates community

Canadian-born artist Cecile Gariepy has created a mural that celebrates Blackwood's close-knit community.

SEE STORY PAGE 3



PLACES



3

Record levels of investment in the City of Mitcham.

COMMUNITY



4

Join our July School Holiday program.

LEADERSHIP



6

Hear from your Elected Members.

SUSTAINABILITY



8

Free kitchen caddies for Mitcham residents.



Mayor

**Dr Heather Holmes-Ross**Telephone:  
0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



As one of the core services of local government, what happens to our waste is important to most councils. At Mitcham it is even more so because our residents are highly engaged and minimising our carbon footprint is important to the vast majority. When I'm out, especially talking to groups, I am often asked questions about waste and waste management, including which products go in which bin, and, in particular, where does our waste end up.

You will know that the City of Mitcham works on a three-bin system which comprises general waste (blue lid), co-mingled recycling (yellow lid) and organic waste (green) streams. Since the introduction of this system council has maintained responsibility for providing each resident and business with a blue and yellow bin, but provision of a green/organic bin has been the responsibility of the landowner. However, this is about to change! Elected members have very recently committed to a staged rollout of FREE green organic bins. Additionally, council will provide all households with FREE kitchen caddies and compostable liners. Since becoming Mayor I have had many residents ask for these services and I am very pleased to announce that they will soon be delivered.

Council's kitchen caddies can be used by households to collect organic kitchen waste such as fruit and vegetable peelings, meat scraps and bones, and other leftovers. Residents can line their caddies with a free compostable bag which, once filled, can be easily disposed of either in your own backyard compost, or in your green/organic bin, along with other green/organic waste, such as garden clippings, used pizza boxes and pet poo.

Waste in our green bins is collected fortnightly by East Waste, which is a waste transport subsidiary owned by Mitcham and six other councils. Because waste is so important to our community, I have served on the board of East Waste over the past four years. I have learnt an incredible amount about the waste industry and have been able to influence better waste outcomes.

The green/organic waste from Mitcham is transported to Jeffries Soil, a family-owned company based at Wingfield, where it is transformed into compost, soil and mulch for farmers, viticulturists, landscapers and home gardeners. We have chosen Jeffries as our green waste partner because of their ongoing commitment to quality products and service. To this end, I was totally chuffed to be invited to provide a local government perspective to the owners, board members and interested parties of Jeffries, as part of their recent strategic planning activities. I am confident that we have chosen wisely, and that Jeffries will continue to provide us with outstanding, sustainable green/organic waste solutions.

Kitchen caddies and compostable bags will be delivered to households on an opt-out basis, allowing residents who do not want these items not to participate. Green bins will be provided on an opt-in basis. I am delighted that our council is willing and able to provide these services. Stay tuned for further opt-in and opt-out information.

## End of era for Blackwood

It's the end of an era for Blackwood with the demolition of the Blackwood Community Centre now complete, making way for construction of the new Blackwood Community Hub.

The Edwards Street carpark works are under way and due to be finished by mid to late August.

A water tank will be installed beneath the Young Street car park mid-July and will capture stormwater from the car park and slow down the flow to the surrounding reserve.

Builder Schiavello Construction has been appointed to build the two-storey Hub, which will offer a public library, toilets, children's areas and toy library on the ground floor, and a community kitchen, outdoor seating, gallery

space, community meeting rooms, make space and digital lounges on the second floor. Onsite fencing is in place ahead of construction. Kurna representatives have been on site to observe excavation as cultural monitors.

Following community consultation, the new Hub is set to be named Kumangka, a Kurna word that means 'to connect'.

Council is seeking approval from the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation before the name is introduced.



## Make a difference - nominate today!

Are you passionate about making a difference in your community? Residents are invited to nominate as a candidate in the upcoming Council elections, to be held in November 2022.

If you would like to find out more about the role of an Elected Member, come along to a two-hour face-to-face or webinar session this month.

The session will cover the role and functions of a council, relationship between councils and other spheres of government, the role of an Elected Member, allowances

and expenses, legal responsibilities, how elections are conducted, eligibility and the process of nomination, and campaigning for election.

The workshop will be held on Saturday 23 July from 10am to 12pm at LG House, 148 Frome Street, Adelaide, also available as a webinar.

**To book, visit [www.ecsa.sa.gov.au/council-elections](http://www.ecsa.sa.gov.au/council-elections)**

### Enrol to vote

Landlords, business lessees or residents who are non-Australian citizens are encouraged to enrol to vote in the 2022 Council elections.

Local Council elections are held every four years and residents not on the electoral roll are required to enrol if they wish to vote.

Under the provisions of the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999, Council's supplementary voters roll expires from 1 January in the year of elections.

The voters' roll for Council elections has two components: the State (House of Assembly) roll and the Council supplementary roll.

If you are on the State roll, a voting pack will be automatically mailed to your registered address.

**For more information and to download an enrolment form, contact Council on 8372 8888 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/council-elections](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/council-elections)**

**An enrolment form must be completed, witnessed and returned by 5pm on Friday 29 July 2022.**





Artist Cecile Gariepy pictured with Blackwood Uniting Church member Peter Cranwell, who helped instigate the project, and Minister Michael Dowling.

## Blackwood mural celebrates community

Canadian-born artist Cecile Gariepy has created a mural that celebrates Blackwood's close-knit community.

Supported by a City of Mitcham Public Art grant, 'The Walk' is a 20-metre mural that stretches along one wall of the Blackwood Uniting Church.

Cecile says she hoped to capture the sense of togetherness that she encountered in Blackwood as well as reflecting the importance of protecting open spaces and biodiversity.

"I wanted to represent something joyful; I hope that people can interact and see a bit of themselves in the mural," she says. "It is such a nice welcoming community here; people kept stopping to chat and to offer me a coffee."

Blackwood Uniting Church Minister Michael Dowling says he's thrilled with the

mural which he says has been embraced by residents.

"Thank you to Cecile, and the City of Mitcham, for this wonderful gift to the Church and wider community."

A published illustrator, Cecile has created murals in several countries, including Canada, Belize, Ireland and France, and recently completed a mural at Brighton Metro Hotel in Adelaide.

She has illustrated several books and held exhibitions of her works in Canada and Switzerland.

Cecile moved to Adelaide 18 months ago with her South Australian-born partner.

**Find out more about City of Mitcham's Public Art grants at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/public-art](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/public-art)**

## Record investment reflects confidence in Mitcham's future

City of Mitcham has experienced record levels of investment and development in the 18 months to June 2022.

Development applications increased year-on-year from 1,456 in 2019 to 1,629 in 2020 and 1,814 in 2021. The value of applications also increased, reflecting unprecedented levels of confidence from schools and universities, new residents, investors and businesses.

Development applications increased from approximately \$240m in 2019 to \$275.4m in 2020, then to a record \$664m in the five months to December 2021, followed by a further \$35m in the six months to June 2022.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said it had been a busy time for Council's planning team who had coped

with an increase in applications as well as the transition to the new State Government PlanSA development platform.

Before a development can go ahead, a development application must be lodged with Council that includes a summary of the proposal, site plan and electricity declaration form and in some cases a floor plan, elevation drawing, schedule of colours and noise report.

"Our team has been working hard to get through an enormous workload due to the record level of investment across City of Mitcham," Mayor Holmes-Ross said. "This investment reflects a confidence in Mitcham

as a dynamic, prosperous place in which to live, work and invest."

Investment includes projects across university, secondary schools, aged and childcare and a mixed-use precinct at the former Panorama TAFE site.

### Major projects include:

- Fast food restaurant and childcare centre at Fiveash Drive, Pasadena, \$8.5m
- Health and Medical Research Building at Flinders University, \$249m
- Resthaven Westbourne Park aged care facility upgrade, \$30m
- Mercedes College sports centre, \$18m
- Former Panorama TAFE site mixed use precinct development, \$10m
- Anglicare Panorama aged care facility upgrade, \$10m
- St John's Grammar School additions and alterations, \$9.68m
- Blackwood Community Hub development, \$9.5m
- Housing development of 11 dwellings at Hawthorndene, \$4.5m
- Cabra Dominican College art, design and technology centre, \$9.36m
- Charles Hawker Building, Adelaide University Waite campus, \$3.4m
- New consulting rooms, Belair Road, Hawthorn, \$2.7m





# July School Holiday Program

Keep warm with us in the school holidays with a range of free or low-cost activities at the Blackwood and Mitcham Memorial Libraries. To book visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays)



## Switch Club

Bring your Switch for some gaming in the Blackwood Library Youth Lounge. Chat to other young people or bring your headphones and play. Play your favourite games or try some new ones from our Switch Club collection. Snacks provided. For ages 13-17 years.

**When:** Sunday 10 July and Sunday 24 July,  
Drop in any time between  
**2.30pm and 4.30pm**

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Cost:** Free

**Bookings:** <https://bit.ly/3y6uUOG>

## Free Library Craft

Library school holiday craft is back! We offer a free craft project, available any time, during opening hours in the July school holidays to make in the libraries. Come and explore the libraries and new in-house activities.

**When:** 9 to 24 July,  
during library opening hours

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library and  
Blackwood Library

**Cost:** Free

No bookings required



## Winter Lantern Workshop

Craft a paper lantern around a natural wooden frame. Add colour or keep your design minimalist and let the soft glow of fairy lights take centre stage. Bring your own small branches or select from ones we have gathered. This is a safe and inclusive event. Free pronoun pins available for those that would like one. Hot glue guns will be used in this session. For ages 11-17 years.

**When:** Thursday 14 July  
**2pm to 3.30pm**

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Cost:** \$5 per person

**Bookings:** <https://bit.ly/3bdeILD>



## Animal Capers

Animal Capers is a totally wild experience. Handle a selection of awesome scaly, furry and feathered animals in a truly unique and intimate experience. Suitable for kids aged 3 years and older.

**When:** Monday 11 July, 2pm

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Cost:** \$5 per child

**Bookings:** <https://bit.ly/3xL168W>

**When:** Tuesday 12 July, 2pm

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Cost:** \$5 per child

**Bookings:** <https://bit.ly/3zLebBC>



## Games2U - Laser Tag and Gaming

Play video games in the Games2U Games Theatre, plus play a game of laser tag in the library. Open to all school age children.

**When:** Wednesday 20 July, 6pm or 7pm

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Cost:** \$5 per child

**Bookings:**

6pm session <https://bit.ly/30qRZAR>

7pm session <https://bit.ly/3QxvLsp>

**When:** Thursday 21 July, 6pm or 7pm


**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Cost:** \$5 per child

**Bookings:**

6pm session <https://bit.ly/3xzmXjo>


7pm session <https://bit.ly/30n3Tvy>

**Adelaide** 

**HEARING**


**MITCHAM SQUARE**

Book your **FREE** Hearing Test Today



Experience **brilliant** sound with a free 30 day trial of the latest hearing technology

- INDEPENDENT Advice from a Local Expert
- FULL RANGE of World's Best Brands
- NEW rechargeable, bluetooth & invisible solutions
- Wax Removal with Gentle Microsuction
- FREE Digital Hearing Aids for Eligible Pensioners & Veterans



**8357 2290**

[adelaidehearing.com.au](http://adelaidehearing.com.au)

## Join our Monday Quiz!

Do you love a quiz? Would you like to meet others and challenge your general knowledge?

Join us at the Mitcham Memorial Library on Mondays at 10.30am for a fun quiz. Work on your own or in a small group or meet some new friends on the day.

Starting 25 July, we'll run quiz mornings for 10 weeks. The quiz is free and open to all ages. No bookings are required. We hope to see you there!



## Plan for a year-round harvest

Join the Patch of Plenty team for the latest in our 'Get Gardening' workshop series.

With the right planning, you can be eating out of your veggie patch all year round. In this workshop we discuss effective crop planning and show you how to implement it at your patch – no matter the size.

**When:** Saturday 23 July, 10am to 12pm

**Where:** Cumberland Park Community Centre

**Cost:** \$5

**Bookings:** <https://bit.ly/3y6jPwI>

You'll hear about succession planting, seasonal eating and choosing the right varieties to have you eating out of the garden 365 days a year. Participants will get straight into planning their upcoming season, with a chance to ask plenty of questions and discuss tips and tricks for success in your patch.

Upcoming workshops include Seed Raising for the Summer Garden, on Saturday 17 September, and Fruit Tree Pruning for Garden Abundance, on Saturday 19 November.

Bring along your questions!

## Mitcham's book lovers back on the bus

City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing library transport service is back on the road, bringing older residents to the Mitcham Memorial Library to enjoy a browse and social outing.

To keep our community safe, the monthly trip was replaced with a home delivery service when COVID-19 restrictions were introduced two years ago.

Volunteers Alan, Betty and Noel are making the monthly morning possible, with a social stop at a local café on the way home.

**To join us, please call 8372 8888 and ask to speak to Deb in Community Wellbeing.**

City of Mitcham plans to introduce a Hills bus service in coming months and a third run later in the year.

The bus service is open to older residents with a Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) social referral.



City of Mitcham's older residents are set to benefit from the return of Community Wellbeing's library transport service.

## Blackwood Rotary Art Show returns

The Rotary Club of Blackwood is set to host its 38th Blackwood Rotary Art Show and Sale at Blackwood High School this month.

Supported by a City of Mitcham grant, the show brings together local artists to display and sell their original art, including painting, photography and sculpture.

Funds raised from the show are donated to many local community organisations and international humanitarian projects.

Open from Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 July, then Thursday 21 to Saturday 23 July, 10am to 4pm, Blackwood High School, off Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills. Admission is \$5.

**To find out more, visit [www.blackwoodrotaryartshow.com.au](http://www.blackwoodrotaryartshow.com.au)**



## Join our catch-up school immunisation clinics

City of Mitcham is set to host two free catch-up immunisation clinics for those who missed their first dose at school.

Vaccines to be available include HPV Gardasil 9 Dose 1 and DTP Boostrix for Year 8 students, and Meningococcal B Bexsero Dose 1 and Meningococcal ACWY Nimenrix for Year 10 students.

Clinics will be held on **Thursday 7 July** and **Thursday 21 July** from 3.30pm to 6pm at Council's Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park. No bookings are required.



## Craigburn Ward

## Cr Lindy Taeuber

Telephone:  
0420 372 566

ltaeuber@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

*Craigburn Farm, Eden Hills, Bellevue Heights, Blackwood (part), Coromandel Valley (part) and Belair (part)*

I hope you are all avoiding the worst of covid and the flu season – it has certainly been part of my extended family in recent times and makes me even more appreciative of having a garden to wander in.

Council's **2022/23 budget** was endorsed just prior to me writing this article. Full details will be published in the next MCN. This has been the most complex budget in my time on Council. I say this because the 'extra' considerations included the capacity of staff and contractors to actually deliver projects due to shortages of staff and materials as a result of covid and supply chains. (An example of this is Council's on-going commitment to extend the footpath network however contractors are less available, and Council has had to reduce new footpaths for 2022/23 with the intention of resuming the full delivery in 2023/24). A further complexity has been how to accommodate the extensive and exciting funding pledges from State and Federal MPs. Many projects require oversight by staff with budgeting for maintenance and depreciation needing to occur. Covid remains problematic with Council staff and contractors continuing to be depleted causing delays.

After many months of briefings and discussion Council unanimously supported the budget with an average rate rise of 4.4% – below the March 2022 CPI of 4.7%. I wish to thank our staff for the efficiencies created to achieve this.

In Craigburn Ward I highlight some projects that have been funded in this budget. \*A new Eden Hills Scout Hall along with alterations to the adjacent Rotary Shed. \*Improvements to drainage at Manson Oval and to parking along Sargent Parade, Bellevue Heights. \*Changes to Young Street, Blackwood to create parking, a pedestrian friendly link and improve safety. \*Upgrades to Waite Street Reserve. Extension to the Lions Bargain Shed. \*Improvements at several sporting facilities.

In other matters:

Senior staff are underway with discussions with the new State Government and Department for Education regarding the **Blackwood Community Recreation Centre**. Council will enter into a Head Lease with DfE followed by an Underlease with the management of the Rec Centre.

There has been very strong interest in the **Community Solar Bulk Buy** with more than 2,000 registering to find out more about this opportunity. The first information sessions have been completely full with more to be scheduled.

Many will have seen that the former Blackwood Community Centre on Young Street has been demolished in preparation for our new Blackwood Community Hub which, following community consultation and Kaurna input, is to be named **'Kumangka' meaning 'Coming Together'**. Council has a dedicated Facebook site to keep the community informed about the Kumangka Project and other changes in the precinct and will be hosting a business breakfast to inform and answer questions from our local businesses about the projects in the precinct. [www.facebook.com/BlackwoodCommunityHub](http://www.facebook.com/BlackwoodCommunityHub)

Lastly, congratulations to all our newly elected State and Federal MPs. I look forward to working with you on behalf of all our residents.

## Gault Ward

## Cr Coralie Cheney

Telephone:  
0408 219 120

ccheney@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

*Hawthorn, Westbourne Park, Lower Mitcham and part of Colonel Light Gardens and Clapham.*

Happy EFY – so let's talk rates!

As you are no doubt aware Mitcham Council has been working on the upcoming yearly budget which has recently gone out to community consultation and those residents who have responded have overall had very positive feedback. Thankyou.

Mitcham Council runs a \$71m business using both your rates plus any State or Federal grants to pay for the many services it provides together with any new projects the Chamber approves and it takes months to work through the options and the various aspects that affect rate increases.

For example, given we have just had both a State and Federal election (which is a rare event in a budget cycle) certain pledges have been made from candidates that Council obviously want to accept which will assist enormously for those projects. In the case of the recent State election, this includes Mortlock Park and the Pasadena Community Centre as two examples. Whilst these grants are most appreciated it does add additional costs to Council to maintain and in fact deliver on these projects or improvements, so it does affect rate increases.

Then there is the Solid Waste Levy which Council pays to dump your rubbish into landfill via the blue bin. Currently we pay \$146 per ton, and this is going up to \$149 per ton so every time you recycle or reduce landfill by using your yellow or green bin, you are saving not only the planet but also rate increases! The cost to Council to collect the blue bin is \$3.2m of which \$1.5m is the SWL so anything we can do to reduce landfill is essential. On that note, I am excited to announce that Council has just approved an initiative to provide green bins to those residents who don't have one (or need a new one) together with kitchen caddies to help recycle organic waste, not only assisting the circular economy, which is so important, but also saving on landfill costs. Mitcham Council was one of four councils who don't provide green bins to residents so this is a great outcome and long overdue.

Initially Council sets the rate increase with the regular expected services to continue and selected additional projects approved throughout the year at around 3.51%. However, this year's increase with the government grants is now set at 4.4% which works out for the average household to be \$82 per annum. Given that Adelaide's CPI is 4.7% this increase seems fair and reasonable.

However, to keep rates as low as possible this leaves us with little or no real underlying surplus (\$78,000) plus there are other costs like the Port Lincoln Boulevard and the total project cost to deliver Brown Hill Creek storm water project that are not in the budget as these figures are yet to be determined. Other projects that Council won't be able to physically achieve this year have been pushed out to the 23/24 FY.

## The Park Ward

## Cr Corin McCarthy

Telephone:  
0410 886 349

csmccarthy@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

*Glenalta, Hawthorndene, Belair (part), Coromandel Valley (part), Upper Sturt (part), Crafrers West (part)*

The last few months have seen some really positive outcomes for Mitcham Council and the residents of The Park Ward that I represent.

### Blackwood Community Hub renamed Kumangka

It is very exciting that the build has commenced just opposite Coles in Main Street, Blackwood. It is also very exciting that I seconded the Mayor's motion to name the building Kumangka, subject to formal approval from Kaurna elders. The name means 'coming together' and 'social inclusion' which reflect the purpose of the library and community centre transformation for Blackwood.

### Budget 2022-23

Mitcham Council has passed the 2022-23 Budget. The rate rise has been elevated at 4.40% but this is below inflation. The Budget will provide for key investments into our local Blackwood area, including:

- Young Street and Pedestrian Connection, Blackwood
- Eden Hills Scout Hall and Blackwood Rotary Redevelopment
- Blackwood Lions' Bargain Centre expansion
- Blackwood Football Club Oval Upgrades

It implements the key promises from the recent elections, state and federal, that have been promised to Mitcham, however this will generate 0.63% of rate impacts in 2022-23.

Because of such high increases in one year from these election promise projects, I argued the costs to ratepayers from them, should be added to rates over the same cycle as the election cycle – three or four years, rather than just one.

Whilst my proposal would have seen rates increase by only 3.89% next year, this approach was only supported by myself and Councillors Christopoulos and Tilley.

However, the budget was passed, unanimously, reflecting the quality of the projects and outcomes for the community.

### Community Solar Bulk Buy – ShineHub Virtual Power Plant

If your family is like mine, you'll have taken a major interest in the potential cost savings from batteries and solar panels from ShineHub. When I did my calculations I would achieve significant cost of living benefits, whilst also paying down the costs of the panels and batteries.

Look out for the pre-order or registration of interest in ShineHub's proposals for Mitcham residents.

### Christine Avenue Reserve, Belair

This week I met with a young mother in Belair about the lack of playgrounds down Gloucester Road, especially beyond St John's Grammar.

I was pleased to visit Christine Avenue Reserve, which looks highly suited to being upgraded into a more useable space. It is a very valuable asset that is currently underused and lacking in purpose.

Over coming weeks, I will be looking to bring a motion to look at how Christine Avenue Reserve can be brought to life to deliver more for the local Belair community.

### Grevillea Way, Belair

The past few weeks I've met with residents near Gloucester Avenue and one of the core issues remains the quality of the dirt road section of Grevillea Way, which operates as a major thoroughfare through to Blackwood.

Over coming weeks and months I want to make this a bigger focus of Council to look at these issues and seek a long-term solution.

**Overton Ward****Cr Katarina Steele**

Telephone:  
0432 010 569

ksteele@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Cumberland Park, Clarence Gardens, Daw Park, Melrose Park, Colonel Light Gardens (part)

AA Bailey Recreation Ground has undergone improvements over the past few years. With a total capital cost of \$600,000 the Council is now planning stormwater and carpark upgrades. Half of the expense is coming from State Government funding commitments. State Government funding is promised also for the upgrade of Rozelle Reserve with equal contributions of \$150,000 from the State and from Council. Both projects will commence in the financial year 2023/24.

It's winter. My husband often says in cold evenings: "I wouldn't like to sleep tonight in a park." Who would? It's wonderful to see organisations helping those in need and to discover that there are many different charitable activities. Until recently I didn't know about Zonta, a community service group which promotes women's rights, advocating for equality, education and an end to child marriage and gender-based violence. Recently I met Amanda, who cares about this initiative in the hills area and who would welcome new members to Zonta.

In the hills there are a lot of migrants. It was news to me when my friends told me that they are going to visit the Afghani family in their care. This sort of support is organised by CRSA (Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia) and my friends play with the kids, helps to find a job for the father of the family and engages with the wife, who needs to learn English.

And we have refugees. The Australian Ukrainians used to have their activities in Cumberland Community Centre, but now meet in Unley. There are now also 12 refugee families, mainly women with children. One lady brought with her from the war-torn homeland not just her own children, but as well those of a lady-doctor who decided to stay and do her job in Ukraine. The little ones were learning dances, some of the adults had an English lesson.

A few days back I've received a nice letter from a resident who has a big scented gum in his backyard. Beautiful, tall tree with over 30 species of birds visiting its limbs. The tree needs pruning from time to time, otherwise it can pose hazards. The question was: can the Council assist with maintaining the tree? As the owner rightly noted, this tree benefits the whole community, so couldn't the same community share the expenses? Normally the Council cares only for trees on public spaces. But the climate change pressures us to do more things outside the square, so the administration is looking at practices of other councils and preparing to bring back a report.

On that note I recommend you explore Mitcham's urban forest at: <https://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees> and to check the 2022 Tree Planting Program Interactive Tree Viewer (ITV), which shows the proposed tree planting locations for the 2022 season and the tree planting locations from 2020 and 2021. Data for this map is constantly being updated. There is also a button whereby you can request a new tree planting.

**Babbage Ward****Cr Yvonne Todd**

Telephone:  
0418 891 097

ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Bedford Park, St Marys, Pasadena, Panorama, Clapham (part)

**Springbank Secondary College (SSC)**

I have happily been Council representative on the Springbank Secondary College Governing Council for seven years. In that time, I've seen the school get a complete makeover without losing its "small school" appeal. SSC now has advanced curriculum, services, and facilities. SSC has a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) focus and student numbers are now over 200 with predictions of over 260 students by 2024. The school community is clear about what they value, and their support is strong. The school's success comes from involved parents, experienced staff, and strong community partnerships, especially with Flinders Uni and the Australian Science and Maths school.

SSC has a three-court basketball stadium and Springbank Basketball Academy on campus. Students can join the Academy, which runs in partnership with Basketball SA and Flinders University to provide coaching and skill development for future pathways as a professional athlete, university entrance in sport nutrition and science or sport industry work pathways.

**Tower Arts Centre Park**

This site is to be developed by DIT as part of the Daws/Goodwood Road upgrade and in November 2021, they provided Council with landscape plans which include seats, a significant Indigenous/Veteran art feature, paths from the school gate to the intersection lights and additional native tree plantings. Community expectations for this prominent park next to SSC and the Tower Arts Centre are high, and I hoped work would progress more quickly. I have asked Council staff and the local Member for Elder, Ms Nadia Clancy to support DIT for the fast completion of the landscaping.

**St Marys and Pasadena action group**

Have you heard about the St Marys and Pasadena action group? This is a small group (find it on Facebook) which has set its mind to greening St Marys and Pasadena. I met with them recently and they shared ideas for greening the St Marys Street Reserve which has trees around the borders but no vegetation in the middle. A meeting with staff has been arranged to understand what residents can do and what Council plans are for the reserve.

**Updates:**

**Pasadena Community Centre:** Council will be briefed on the 400 community consultation submissions in July before considering how the centre will be activated.

**CC Hood Masterplan:** Consultation has completed, and staff are advertising for an external consultant to draft the Masterplan using the feedback. The draft Masterplan will then go to the community for further consultation.

**Denis Street upgrade:** A contract has been awarded and the removal of the street trees has been completed. I am expecting a report to Council in July, about the car park between Denis and Dorene Streets which I requested.

**Pasadena Biodiversity Corridor:** The corridor along Grant Jacob and Sierra Nevada reserves was built to capture rainwater for passive irrigation. Recent heavy rains tested the capacity for water management, and it is highly successful.

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

**Craigburn Ward****Cr Darren Kruse**

Telephone:  
8278 1779

dkruse@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Craigburn Farm, Eden Hills, Bellevue Heights, Blackwood (part), Coromandel Valley (part) and Belair (part)

Hello again for the last time in four years! This is the last time I'll be able to write in MCN before Council goes into caretaker mode in September, ahead of the November elections. Four years have gone so fast, and this has been anything but a "business as usual Council".

I'm pleased to have **voted for and supported** so many positive improvements for our community. Despite COVID forcing major changes upon us, we have **built** the new Hewett Oval changerooms (and drainage), new Blackwood Football Club changerooms and the new Sturt Lions soccer pitch and clubhouse. The new **\$12m Blackwood Hub** is started (it got over the line by **just 1 vote!**) and now named "**Kumangka**" which means "coming together" in Kurna language. Waite Street Reserve will get a \$1.6m upgrade. The **Eden Hills Scouts** upgrade is funded and will become a new community hall.

Financially, we have done all this with **lower rate increases** – both on average and in total than under the previous Mayor, despite facing Adelaide CPI of 4.7% and while also giving COVID rate relief to any impacted household. This has been achieved without dropping any services and by Councillors expecting staff to continue finding efficiencies (this year forecast at \$500,000).

We declared a climate emergency, started a transition to an **all-electric fleet** with free EV chargers, increased our tree plantings and now with the **ShineHub partnership** our residents can get **solar panels/battery at no upfront cost**. 1800+ registrations and 600+ pre-orders from sold-out events should silence the critics. Visit [shinehub.com.au/mitcham](https://shinehub.com.au/mitcham) for more information.

My personal projects have come to fruition. Meetings are now **audio-recorded** and published online for residents. The **Aboriginal Flag** will soon fly on a permanent basis at the roundabout memorial thanks to 2+ years of patient diplomacy with the RSL and a unanimous vote in the Chamber. Truly, we have walked together on this one. With a third of residents not leaving on catastrophic days, Craigburn Farm will now have **two new bushfire safety exits**, at Star Lily and Verdelho streets with a sensible compromise of **unlocked, exit-only** gates to be installed before the 2022 fire season. Finally, we are consulting on proposed changes to the by-laws including a **24/7 cat confinement option**.

**Online**, we have the online "yoursay" platform because I moved a last-minute amendment and now it's used for all our consultations! Also online is "**Click and Connect**" to report all service issues directly to the right team. Residents now get feedback as the job progresses – no more "black holes". Similarly, MCN is now online and every Council tree at <https://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees>

Looking to the future it is important to **vote** in the upcoming Council elections in November because there will be large decisions ahead that will impact our Hills community. Like the Hub, it **can come down to just one vote**. The old library and the Karkoo site will be redeveloped hopefully retaining Karkoo while delivering an outcome our Hills community wants.

So, **thank you** for the opportunity. Darren.



# Free kitchen caddies for Mitcham residents

Free kitchen caddies and compostable bags will be rolled out to all City of Mitcham properties in the 2022/23 financial year.

At the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 14 June, Mitcham councillors endorsed a plan to offer free caddies and compostable bags to all rateable properties.



Lyndal Byford and Katrina Fox, pictured with City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, stopped in at Mitcham's Civic Centre to collect their prize.

## Congratulations to our compost winners!

Congratulations to Lyndal Byford and Katrina Fox, who entered our competition in partnership with East Waste to win Jeffries garden products including organics compost, potting soil and CulChar organic fertiliser.

Lyndal plans to use the products to help in her landscaping project at Mitcham; Katrina has just moved to Eden Hills and is excited about bringing her new garden to life.

Thank you to all our gardeners who are committed to composting, helping to drive a circular economy and create healthier soils.

Jeffries garden products are created from materials from our own kerbside green bins.

Councillors also endorsed a plan for an initial rollout of 10,000 new free green organics bins.

Supported by a \$199,000 grant from Green Industries SA, the aim of the project is to increase the recycling of food and garden waste, creating benefits for the environment and reducing costs to Council.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the project was an important step in Council's push to become a sustainable city.

"This is part of our ongoing commitment to mitigating against and preventing climate change," Mayor Holmes-Ross said. "These bins and caddies are set to reduce landfill waste and increase organics recycling, instead creating a valuable resource and contributing to a circular economy."

**For updates, visit**  
**[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au)**



## Follow our tree trails to win a prize

Launched as part of Adelaide National Park City celebrations last month, City of Mitcham's Tree Trails have been installed at Soldiers Memorial Gardens at Mitcham Memorial Library and Mitcham Reserve.

Trees are marked with bright green tags that include information including species, height, the amount of shade, carbon absorbed and how much pollution is removed by the tree each year.

Collect a brochure from the Mitcham Memorial Library or Civic Centre for a map of both trails and activities that immerse you in nature.

**Find out more and download the brochure at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-park-city](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/national-park-city)**

As you visit each tree learn more about the tree and look for the code letter in the circle at the bottom of each tag.

At the end of the trail, crack the code, fill out your details and drop the brochure in to the Mitcham Memorial Library to go in the draw to win a State Flora nursery voucher. Good luck!



Jessie and Samara follow the trail at Mitcham Reserve.