

# MITCHAM

## COMMUNITY NEWS

APRIL 2021



### Colonel Light Gardens celebrates 100 years

A photographic exhibition marking Colonel Light Gardens' centenary is among the many community events planned for South Australia's History Festival in May. SEE EVENTS CALENDAR ON PAGES 8, 9 & 10.

#### MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS APRIL 2021



Visitors to Mitcham Memorial Library can enjoy a free Wi-Fi boost.

**Page 3**



Friends of Old Government House are seeking volunteers to help restore a historic garden.

**Page 6**



A new installation at the Belair Water Tower celebrates water in all its forms.

**Page 7**

#### Also in this issue

- 2** Sign up for Mitcham Community News
- 4** Mitcham retains 'Tree City' title
- 6** New café for Centennial Park
- 7** Smart water project under way
- 12** Councillor columns
- 14** Steam Spectacular School Holiday Program
- 16** Single-use plastic ban update
- 16** Bin tagging project to educate on waste

**Cover image:** Children gather outside The Gardens Picture Theatre, Goodwood Road, Colonel Light Gardens, in 1935 for a Saturday matinee with Shirley Temple in 'Curley Top'. In that year, 'Talkies' movies took over from silent films. The theatre opened in 1927 and continued until 1962. Today it houses a large chemist.



# Message from the Mayor

**Mayor**  
**Dr Heather Holmes-Ross**



Telephone: 0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Recently, I had the honour of hosting the Governor, His Excellency the Honourable Mr Hieu Van Le, and Mrs Lan Le, for the day. I would like to share this wonderful experience with residents.

The day started with a tour of our beautifully renovated and rejuvenated Mitcham Memorial Library. The connectivity between the creek, reserve and library, through the extensive use of windows, continues to be impressive, as does the high level of patronage. Whilst at the Soldier's Memorial Gardens we met with representatives of the Mitcham RSL. The Governor and I each laid a tribute at the memorial. Our guests were impressed with our choice of a plastic free sheath of fresh white flowers. Next we visited volunteers in the Sensory Garden which is built with wide pathways and raised beds in order to be accessible to all. The garden was in tip-top shape and the volunteers were creating bunches of herbs to be distributed to the community from the library.

The Mitcham Cultural Village was a hive of activity involving staff, volunteers and residents. There were pancakes on the plaza, the Heritage Centre and Community Shed were open and humming, a knitting group clicking and chatting away at Gallery One and a Tai Chi class in action at the Institute.

At Blackwood we met with members of the Blackwood Action Group, including our 2021 Young Australian of the Year. This group works hard to beautify the precinct, maintaining extensive plantings throughout the area. We shared our excitement and vision for the new Blackwood Community Hub, the importance of its connection to Waite Street Reserve and the expectation that this co-located community centre, library and toy library building will be the catalyst to reinvigorate the Blackwood precinct.

After a Covid-safe picnic lunch, staff, Elected Members, representatives from Blackwood Reconciliation Group and Aboriginal Lands Trust and our guests toured the Colebrook Reconciliation Park. Our guides were relatives of Aboriginal children who were previously housed at Colebrook House. The Governor and Mrs Le found the artworks a poignant reminder of the sorrow endured by grieving families.

At St Marys Park a group of our outdoor staff were ready to show off some of our many water sensitive urban design initiatives. The carpark is an ongoing experiment run in conjunction with Melbourne Uni and Tyre Stewardship Australia, to test the performance of various crumbed rubber permeable surfaces. We're also testing the geothermal heating capacity of pipes laid under the carpark surface which provide hot water to the clubrooms.

Our final stop was the Cumberland Park Community Centre where we were served tea and scones and chatted with members from Blackwood and Cumberland knitting groups, to a background accompaniment of tunes from our new baby grand piano. The centre's commitment to self-reliance: growing vegetables, cooking food, composting and growing produce is impressive.

Thanks to the Governor and Mrs Le for affording us this wonderful opportunity, and to staff and volunteers for helping me showcase our amazing city.



Blackwood Reconciliation Group members Dianne Grigg and Marie Gould, City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Councillor Jane Bange, Tjitji Tjuta Previous Chair Mandy Brown, Aboriginal Lands Trust Chief Executive Officer John Chester, Councillor Katarina Steele, mosaic artist Kunyi June-Anne McInerney, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le, Mrs Lan Le, Councillor Yvonne Todd, General Manager Engineering and Horticulture Dan Baker, Councillor Rod Moss, Councillor Lindy Taeuber, General Manager Organisational and Community Development Kate O'Neill.

## Mitcham Community News is changing!

Beginning in September 2021, the delivery options and frequency of the Mitcham Community News are changing based on feedback received from our latest community consultation.

### Subscribe today

**Online:** [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news)

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**Complete the form** below and return it to us at City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, or post to City of Mitcham, PO Box 21, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park SA 5062.

### I would like to receive the Mitcham Community News

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For many years, the Mitcham Community News has kept readers up to date with what is happening across our City, featuring local stories and information about news, services and events. The great news is that you will get to hear more regularly from us with a new edition available each month. What is changing is the way you'll receive the Mitcham Community News – beginning in September we're inviting you to choose how you would like to have the Mitcham Community News delivered.

You can now opt in and have the Mitcham Community News delivered directly to your email for easy access or receive a printed copy in the mail. We will still provide copies of the Mitcham Community News in our Civic Centre, Libraries and Community Centres.

Online readers will benefit from having instant access to the Mitcham Community News, either by opting to have it delivered to their email address, or by going online, where you will always be able to find the latest edition of the Mitcham Community News along with past issues.

To see the current and past editions of the Mitcham Community News visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/mitcham-community-news).



## Free Wi-Fi boost at Mitcham Memorial Library

Visitors to Mitcham Memorial Library will be able to send emails or browse the web from the library's lawns or gardens thanks to a Wi-Fi boost.

Two new external antennas installed on either side of the library have extended Wi-Fi coverage for up to 50 metres into the Soldiers Memorial Gardens, steps and landscaped gardens that surround the library.

Mitcham Memorial Library Learning and Information Service Coordinator Brendan Murphy said Wi-Fi had been available in the immediate vicinity of the redeveloped library since its re-opening in 2019 and had been embraced by the community.

"The Wi-Fi coverage has always been popular, especially with students after school, who come and sit on the deck and spend time doing their homework or catching up with friends," he said.

"We're lucky enough to connect to a world class fibre only telecommunications network constructed to link South Australia's major education, research and innovation sites."

Mr Murphy said since the redevelopment, people changed the way they used the library, with Wi-Fi use up by 600 per cent.

"People come and spend all day here, they might be studying or working, catching up with people on Zoom."

The new all-weather antennas would boost the reach of Wi-Fi well into the garden and lawn areas surrounding Brownhill Creek.

University student Maria Pallis said she was looking forward to the extended coverage.

"I think it's a great resource, especially when the library is closed," she said. "It's nice to sit outside and get some fresh air and enjoy the environment here."

The library has won a series of awards including Excellence in Infrastructure Delivery in the Local Government Professionals Australia 2020 Excellence Awards, Excellence in Design in the Institute Public Works Engineering Australasia 2019 and Excellence in Public Realm in the Urban Development Institute of Australia Awards 2019.

**To view the library opening hours visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/libraries](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/libraries).**



University students Catriona Walsh, Caitlyn Yeo and Maria Pallis enjoy free Wi-Fi outside the library at Mitcham Memorial Library.

## New Planning and Design Code in place

A new Planning and Design Code (the Code) has been introduced across metropolitan areas of South Australia.

The new planning system is now the single reference point for the state's planning and development industry.

The Code consolidates SA's 72 Development Plans into one clear planning rulebook.

Any development applications submitted prior to 19 March will continue to be assessed and approved under the current planning system.

The launch of the new planning system will not affect any development application already in progress.

**To find out more, visit the PlanSA portal at [plan.sa.gov.au](http://plan.sa.gov.au).**



## Recycled plastic bottles used in Pasadena road trial

City of Mitcham has partnered with Topcoat Asphalt and Huesker Australia to resurface a road using asphalt reinforced with a geogrid made from 100 per cent recycled plastic water bottles.

Forbes Street, Pasadena, was resurfaced in February (2021) in a trial that, if successful, will be rolled out to other parts of the City. The street was chosen as the location for the trial because of its extensive cracking.

Approximately 60,000 recycled PET bottles were used in the 240m two-lane road sealed with the 'HaTelit C Eco' pavement reinforcement grid.

The plastic mesh does not lose tensile strength when wet and is set to mitigate cracking caused by reactive soils, extending the life of the pavement.

"The Forbes street resurfacing is another great example of the innovative approach our Council is taking in utilising recycled content," City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said. "I am proud that Mitcham is leading local government in this type of measure which is not only sustainable but also brings cost savings."

To celebrate Earth Day in April 2020, City of Mitcham laid a road made from more than 450,000 plastic bottles at Carlisle Road, Westbourne Park.

**For more information, visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/innovation-in-mitcham](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/innovation-in-mitcham)**



*We're still here for you!*

[thevillage.org.au](http://thevillage.org.au)  
Email [bhbce@bhbc.org.au](mailto:bhbce@bhbc.org.au)  
ph. 8370 0333



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## Mitcham retains 'Tree City' title

City of Mitcham has joined five cities across Australia and 120 worldwide as a 'Tree City of the World' for its commitment to urban forestry.

In its second year, the Tree Cities of the World program was established by the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the Arbor Day Foundation to recognise cities that have committed to growing and maintaining trees.

Mitcham has retained its title by meeting five core standards that show its dedication and determination towards planting and conserving trees for a greener future.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross welcomed the recognition and highlighted Council's push to protect trees on private and public land.

"It is becoming increasingly difficult for Council to combat the loss of canopy through clearing for urban infill and government infrastructure," she said. "To this end, our elected member body continues to lobby the State Government to strengthen legislation around the removal of

significant and regulated trees on both private and public land, and the retention of open space."

As part of its annual tree planting program, City of Mitcham aims to plant 1,800 trees across its streets and reserves, helping provide shade and cool the city, as well as improving amenity and providing habitat for native species.

"We applaud all of the cities that have earned Tree Cities of the World designation," Arbor Day Foundation President Dan Lambe said. "They are leaders when it comes to planning and managing their urban forests. Many of the cities being recognised have gone above and beyond to use trees as part of their green infrastructure. This distinction is a celebration of their creativity and sustainability in creating healthier urban spaces."

Mr Lambe said increasing the number of trees in a community could help reduce costs for energy, stormwater management, and erosion control.

**Find out more about our tree planting program at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trees).**

## Spatial innovation recognised

City of Mitcham's interactive asset management plans (AMPs) project has been recognised in the Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards.

As part of the project, Council's AMPs were redesigned to present data in an interactive format to help the community understand complex concepts.

The project won the Award for Spatial Enablement as "Australia's first AMP to completely embrace the spatial and digital format".

"This AMP utilises interactive maps which allow the public to explore the data that drives organisation decision-making. It includes a level of spatial information that pushes the boundaries of innovation for local government."

Examples included the interactive time slider to observe forecast climate change impacts and the interactive capital works map sourced directly from Council's internal project management system.

**Visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/digital-asset-management-plans](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/digital-asset-management-plans) to view the interactive plans.**

## Tree research for a cool, green future

City of Mitcham is set to continue its collaborative 'green engineering' research thanks to support from Green Adelaide.

A \$105,000 Water Sustainability Grant awarded by Green Adelaide will enable Council to extend research with partners the University of South Australia STEM, Flinders University, University of Adelaide, University of Melbourne and industry partners Tyre Stewardship Australia, Pacific Urethanes and Merlin Site Services.

With our partners we are developing and testing environmentally friendly ways to keep our City cooler, greener and more liveable.

Research will investigate:

- How much 'first flush' stormwater from roads and gutters is harvested by Council's Treenet Inlets (installed in verges across the City) and whether this improves the quality of run-off and reduces the risk of downstream flooding;
- Whether soaking stormwater into reactive clay soil affects ground movement;
- How much extra water street trees use when stormwater is soaked into their root zones, and
- Whether soaking stormwater into the soil near street trees increases their cooling effect.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said research had already demonstrated the benefits of green infrastructure.

"Permeable paving installed across the City of Mitcham has reduced footpath damage and tree root injuries and the need to upgrade stormwater pipes," she said. "Using stormwater to nurture urban trees is one step toward restoring the natural water cycle across our City to help to combat the effects of climate change and to keep Mitcham a great place to live and work."

*Flinders University PhD candidates Xanthia Gleeson and Yifei Zhou install a sap flow meter at Jeffrey Street, Hawthorn to measure water use.*





## Work begins on Karinya Reserve upgrade

Construction of a new two-storey clubhouse and changeroom facility, artificial soccer pitch and viewing canopy at Karinya Reserve, Eden Hills, is under way.

The project is welcome news for the Sturt Lions Football Club, which has been using alternative playing locations due to a lack of facilities and growing numbers of players.

The facility will also include a function area including kitchen and bar, Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant lift and toilet, three unisex changerooms, storage, a gym, canteen, referee changeroom and trainer's room. Sturt Lions Football Club Committee Member Melanie Russell said it was an exciting time for the Club. "At the moment our players travel as

far away as West Beach, and we are growing – we now have 600 members and in two years we've grown from one to five girls' teams," she said. "This will mean we will all be able to play together and the younger kids will be able to watch the senior teams."

Funded by the Federal Government (\$2 million), City of Mitcham (\$700,000) and the Sturt Lions Football Club (\$150,380), the project is being managed by the Club, Council and Fusco Constructions.

It is expected to be completed by November 2021.



Fusco Constructions Construction Manager John Fusco, City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Sturt Lions Football Club Committee Member Melanie Russell, Member for Boothby Nicolle Flint MP and Member for Waite Sam Dulluck MP 'turn the sod' at Karinya Reserve.



The Corner Toastmasters Club President Michael Fildes' speech was translated into Auslan by David Willanski.

## 'Toastmaster' begins Auslan career

Mitcham disability worker David Willanski is embarking on a new career as an Auslan interpreter with support from his local Toastmasters club.

Mr Willanski is set to provide Auslan services at news conferences in Adelaide after completing a Diploma of Interpreting (Auslan-English) course and is working towards NAATI Accreditation (National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters).

Along with his studies, he practiced signing at fortnightly meetings of the Speakers' Corner Toastmasters Club at Hawthorn.

Memberships organiser Peter Turner said the club was happy to support David as he continued to refine his skills.

"This has been an opportunity for the club to learn about Auslan and support greater accessibility for those who have hearing challenges."

The club provides members with personal development tools and education in public speaking, personal growth, confidence and leadership skills.

The group meets at the Hawthorn Community Centre, 5 Frimley Grove, Hawthorn, on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm.

To join, contact Peter on 0448 889 274 or email [speakerscorner.toastmastersclubs.org](mailto:speakerscorner.toastmastersclubs.org).

## 'Roos' raise funds for bushfire appeal

The St John's Grammar School community has raised \$23,540 to support the Kangaroo Island community as it recovers from the 2019/20 bushfires.

The Belair school auctioned eight colourful life-sized kangaroos, and 10 miniature sculptures, painted and sculpted by renowned South Australian artists.

The money raised will support the Glossy Black Cockatoo Project and Kangala Wildlife Rescue.

The roos were originally slated for a sculpture park at the school, but the school's Art Department opted to raise funds instead in the wake of the devastating KI bushfires.

"When the bushfires happened, the planned sculpture park took a different direction," said Mrs Dawn Clarke, Head of Art at St John's Grammar School.

"We were looking at the news and were overwhelmed by what was going on and we felt we just had to do something," she said. "So, we came up with the idea of auctioning off the kangaroos we had, as well as trying to get more artists on board."

The Art Department reached out to a number of leading SA artists, including Tiff Manuell, Ty Manning, Dana Kinter, Thomas Readett, Dan Withey and Uncle Tamaru, to ask them to donate their time and expertise to this one-of-a-kind initiative.

All sculptures sold at auction, including a small roo sold to City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross which she says now "looks fabulous in my garden".

St John's Grammar Year 7 student Eddie Moodie with two of the kangaroos auctioned for the bushfire appeal.



## Have your say on Elector Representation Review

City of Mitcham residents are invited to have their say on a review that aims to determine whether a change of arrangements is required to ensure that electors are adequately and fairly represented.

Council has prepared a Representation Options Paper which examines the advantages and disadvantages of various options that relate to the composition and structure of Council, and the division of the council area into wards.

A copy of the Representation Options Paper and online feedback form is available at [yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/representation-review](https://yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/representation-review); and for inspection and/or purchase at the Council offices at 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park. Written submissions should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 21, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park 5062, or emailed to [mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) by 5pm Friday 7 May 2021.





## Friends seek volunteers for historic garden

Friends of Old Government House are looking for more volunteers to help restore the historic home's early 20th century garden.

The Friends established a gardening group in 2017 with the aim of recreating the English cottage garden that once existed at the site in the heart of Belair National Park.

Publicity officer Noeline DuBois said the one-acre (0.4ha) garden had been neglected for many years.

"It has been an enormous task to take on – for the first six months we filled a truck with weeds each week," she said. "It's slowly taking shape but we know what needs to be done, and it is a lot of work. Even if people could spare an hour or two to do some weeding, that would be wonderful. All that's needed is an interest in gardening and a pair of gloves."

**To join the Friends, please contact Noeline (garden) on 0438 687 788 or Tina (tours, weddings) on 0417 870 596.**

The COVID-19 pandemic delayed work by a few months last year but the group is pushing ahead with plans for a new azalea and rhododendron bed.

Volunteer Mary Cole, 85, said she often visited mid-week to stay on top of watering.

"It's a lovely place to work because it's so peaceful and tranquil," she said. "I really enjoy being out here."

The Friends are also seeking volunteers to help run tours and host afternoon teas and open the garden for wedding ceremonies.

The garden group meets on Saturdays and Mondays from 8.30am to 11.30am.



### About the House

Old Government House was built in 1860 and served as the summer residence of some of the early Governors of South Australia.

It was superseded by a larger summer residence at Marble Hill, built in 1878. The Government Farm and Victorian era cottage was then used as residence for the Woods and Forests Nursery (State Flora Nursery) and opened to the public in 1961.

Today the House is open on the first and third Sundays and public holidays from 1pm to 4pm and is available for hire as a wedding ceremony venue and for group bookings during the week.

**For more information visit [oldgovernmenthouse.org.au](http://oldgovernmenthouse.org.au).**

**NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021  
VOLUNTEER  
WEEK**  
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.  
REIMAGINE.

## Thank you to our volunteers!

City of Mitcham is set to recognise its volunteers with a morning tea as part of National Volunteer Week (Monday 17 to Sunday 23 May).

Volunteers make an enormous contribution to our community and contribute to Council in a wide variety of ways.

In the wake of COVID-19, many of our programs have been reimaged and we will have more exciting roles coming soon.

**If you are interested in joining our Volunteer Team, please call Lynne on 8372 8888, email [lnorton@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:lnorton@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/volunteering).**

## New café and function centre for Centennial Park

A new café, retail and function space at Centennial Park is set to open its doors this month.

The first of its kind in South Australia, the development will create ongoing jobs and a new experience for the cemetery's 500,000 annual visitors.

Designed by Studio S2 Architects and built by Chappell Builders, the café will be operated by Blanco Horner Hospitality Management and will be open for coffee, snacks or lunch to people who come to visit a memorial, attend an event or who visit the gardens, sculptures and surrounds at the 40ha park.

The function facility will provide new spaces for families and friends to gather to share stories and remember loved ones after funeral or memorial services in the Jubilee Complex.



**Left:** Centennial Park CEO Janet Miller, Blanco Horner Hospitality Management Director Christopher Horner, Studio S2 Architects Director Amy Smedley and Blanco Horner Hospitality Management Director Steven Blanco at the site of the new café. **Right:** A drone image of the new café and function space.





City of Mitcham Open Space Manager Mason Willis, City of Mitcham Parks and Sports Ground Maintenance Team Leader Simon Ruminski and SA Water Liveability and Environment Innovation Specialist Alex Czura at Mitcham Memorial Library, one of 15 sites where smart water technology is helping to drive water and cost savings.

# Smart water project under way at Mitcham

City of Mitcham, in collaboration with SA Water, has embarked on a project to save water and reduce costs using smart technology.

The project has been rolled out to 15 sites across our council area, including high water usage ovals at Kingswood, Hawthorndene, St Marys and Bellevue Heights.

At each site, soil moisture probes, smart water meters and air temperature sensors are used to monitor water use.

As well as helping calculate when and how much irrigation is required, the software can help pinpoint potential water leaks.

After a significant rainfall event, such as a storm, watering can be adjusted to ensure a more efficient irrigation schedule.

The system can also identify when more moisture is required, helping to ensure the Council's open spaces remain cool and green for the community to enjoy, even in dry years.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the technology is in keeping with the Council's strategic vision of creating a Sustainable City.

"With climate change affecting almost every part of our lives, being effective and efficient with water is becoming an essential part of business and life," Dr Holmes-Ross said.

"In addition to saving money, effective watering of open spaces will reduce heat stress for our residents and prolong and enhance the life of our natural asset investments such as trees and understorey vegetation."

To find your nearest cool park or playground and see live air temperature readings taken from the sensors at each site, visit sawater.com.au.



# Council's Immunisation Service Clinics

Immunisation is a simple, safe and effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases before they come into contact with them. The City of Mitcham holds four regular public clinics within the Council area.

**Mitcham Council – Civic Centre**  
131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

**First Wednesday of every month\***  
**11.30am to 1pm**

**Third Wednesday of every month\***  
**5.30pm to 7pm**

\* Please note clinics may be subject to cancellation without prior notice.

**For more information on Council's public immunisation clinics contact Council's Immunisation Coordinator on 8372 8816 or visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/immunisation).**

**Blackwood Community Centre**  
4 Young Street, Blackwood

**First Wednesday of every month\***  
**5.30pm to 6.30pm**

**Third Wednesday of every month\***  
**11.30am to 12.30pm**



Artist Seb Humphreys makes a start on a new mural at the Belair Water Tower on Sheoak Road.

# Belair Water Tower mural takes shape

A large-scale mural depicting water in all its forms has been installed at the Belair Water Tower.

Supported by a \$25,000 City of Mitcham Public Art Grant, the mural is the work of Adelaide artist Seb Humphreys.

Seb works under the name 'Order 55' and is recognised around the world for his distinctive style of transparently layered abstract paintings.

He said his work represented the movement and translucent nature of water and explored our experience and connection with this essential element.

"The simple relief and energy of being re-hydrated by a glass of water, diving into a waterhole, seeing the garden bloom after a downpour - that is what I want to paint, and what I want people to connect with, the feeling of it."

Delayed due to COVID-19 last year, the work was installed across three weeks in March.

Seb said after working on a project at Bowden, he enjoyed the natural setting at Belair. "It's a beautiful spot," he said. "When you're up high you can look into the national park and across to the ocean."

**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).**



# South Australia's History Festival – join us!

A Colonel Light Gardens photographic exhibition is one of many events planned as part of South Australia's History Festival in the City of Mitcham in May. Join us to tour historic cemeteries and churches, hear about Blackwood's early days and learn to protect and present your own family history.

For more information about the City of Mitcham South Australian History Festival events email [sahistoryfestival@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:sahistoryfestival@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au) or call the Customer Communications Team on 8372 8888 during business hours.



## Who Lies There: Mitcham Cemeteries Tour

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

**When:** Thursday 13 and 20 May, 10am to 11.30am

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

**Bookings:** Essential. Phone 8372 8888

**Cost:** Free



## A Village Walk: Mitcham Village Historic Walk

In 1840 a new village called Mitcham was born. See and hear how Mitcham Village has evolved over 179 years on a fascinating and informative guided walk through the Mitcham Village Historic Conservation Area. Admire the heritage and architecture and learn about the lives of the early and current residents of the Village.

**When:** Tuesday 4 and 18 May, 10am to 12pm

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

**Bookings:** Essential. Phone 8372 8888

**Cost:** Free



## Abbotshall Precinct Walk: The old and the new

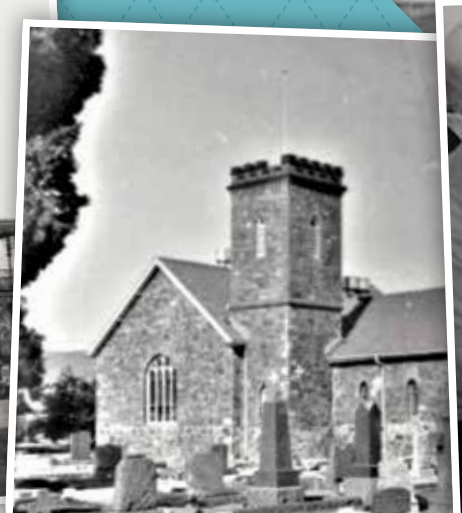
The Lower Mitcham and Hawthorn Abbotshall precinct is named after the first house built in Hawthorn in 1852. Take a guided walk around this peaceful area of Mitcham and discover some of the heritage features linked by the railway line and Brownhill Creek.

**When:** Tuesday 11 and 25 May, 10am to 12pm

**Where:** Meet at Mitcham Railway Station main entrance

**Bookings:** Essential. Phone 8372 8888

**Cost:** Free



## History of St Mary's Church and Cemetery Tour

Take a look inside and learn about the historic St Mary's Anglican Church built in 1847, along with a fascinating tour of St Mary's Cemetery on the church grounds. Hear about St Marys' earliest pioneers and identities for a glimpse into some very interesting lives that helped shape St Marys.

**When:** Wednesday 5, 12 and 19 May, 10.30am to 12pm

**Where:** Meet at St Mary's Church, 1167 South Road, St Marys

**Bookings:** Essential. Phone 8372 8888

**Cost:** Free



## Colonel Light Gardens: 100 years of history

Celebrate Colonel Light Gardens' 100-year anniversary by visiting the Mitcham Local History Service and learn more about the history of this uniquely designed State Heritage listed model garden suburb. View a historical photographic exhibition and paraphernalia. You can also research and talk to the centre's knowledgeable volunteers about all things Colonel Light Gardens.

**When:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout May, 9.30am to 12.30pm

**Where:** Mitcham Local History Service, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

**Bookings:** Not required

**Cost:** Free

## Walking Together with Kurna at Wirraparinga: Cultural practices and links to Country across time

Wirraparinga (Brownhill Creek) is steeped in Kurna history, culture, and language yet this remains unacknowledged by most who visit. Walking Together with Kurna at Wirraparinga will facilitate a deeper understanding of the cultural practices, knowledge, language, and seasonal migration through the area through three short presentations by emerging Kurna educators, as well as artefacts and images to study and hands-on learning experiences for children. Presented by Walking Together with Kurna - Cultural Events for Children.

**When:** Sunday 16 May, 10am to 11.30am

**Where:** Mitcham Reserve, Old Belair Road, corner of Norman Walk, Mitcham

**Bookings:** Essential.

Visit [www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wirraparinga-cultural-practices-and-links-to-country-across-time-tickets-144591443901](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wirraparinga-cultural-practices-and-links-to-country-across-time-tickets-144591443901).



## Paper Treasures: Important reminders of our past

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

**When:** Thursdays throughout May, 10am to 12.30pm

**Where:** Mitcham Local History Service, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

**Bookings:** Essential. Phone 8372 8261

**Cost:** Free

## Ferry Sound Industries: Clapham 1950s

Ferry Sound Industries was a garage manufacturer of valve radios, wire and tape recorders in the 1950s founded by Jack Ferry, son of Adelaide racing identity Syd Ferry. This talk, with audio visual presentation, covers the full history, as published in Adelaide's Early Radios and Recorders by Neville Ellison.

**When:** Wednesday 19 May, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

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

**Bookings:** Essential. Visit the Library or phone 8372 8255

**Cost:** Free

## Pop-Up Exhibition: Ferry Audio Recorders & Radios

Visit the Mitcham Memorial Library gallery space to see a pop-up exhibition of Ferry Reel to Reel recorders (some with in-built radios) designed and manufactured by hand in a garage factory in Clapham during the 1950s and a collection of vintage radios from the 1930s to 1960s, many of which were manufactured in Adelaide.

**When:** Throughout May, during library opening hours

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

**Bookings:** Not required

**Cost:** Free

## Blackwood Stories: Things about the Blackwood area you weren't taught in school

Hear stories about the history of the Blackwood area that you may never have learned in school with speakers from the Speaking Made Easy Blackwood Group. Several different speakers from the group will present short talks about various aspects of the history of the local area. Discussion is welcome. Perhaps you have your own stories to add?

**When:** Thursday 13 May, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

**Where:** Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood

**Bookings:** Essential. Visit the Library or phone 8372 8255.

**Cost:** Free





# History Festival Community Groups

## Blackwood Church Crawl

The Church played an important role in the lives of the settlers in 19th century Blackwood. While the original church buildings have gone, the early 20th century replacements remain. The tour includes visits to four churches and ends with Devonshire Tea at the Church of Christ. Walking tour.

**When:** Thursday 6 May, 1.30pm to 3.30pm

**Where:** Meet at Catholic Church, corner Coromandel and Simla Parade, Blackwood

**Cost:** \$5

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

## Brownhill Creek Recreation Park Walk

Guide: Ron Bellchambers, Community Liaison Officer, Brownhill Creek Association

Enjoy a walk in one of South Australia's oldest parks to gain a fascinating insight into the heritage of this historic site. Brownhill Creek Valley played a pivotal role in the lives of the Kurna people for countless generations and also in South Australia's European settlement. Hear about contemporary plans to conserve and enhance the environment and heritage of this community asset. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

**When:** Sunday 2 and 16 May, 1.30pm to 3pm

**Where:** Meet at the stone monument at the entrance to the park.

**Cost:** Gold coin donation.

**Bookings:** Essential.  
Contact Ian Strout, Mitcham Historical Society on 0400 027 117.

## Reconciliation Walk

There will be a Reconciliation Walk on the morning of Sunday May 30 commencing at the Blackwood roundabout and finishing at the Colebrook Reconciliation Park on Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills. The Colebrook Reconciliation Park is a place of learning from our shared history and reflecting and healing. We encourage self-guided visits throughout history month.

**When:** Sunday 30 May

**Where:** Blackwood roundabout

**Cost:** \$5

**Bookings:** Visit the Blackwood Reconciliation Group Facebook page for bookings and more information.

## Travel back in time... by train

Catch the train at Blackwood Railway Station to the Eden and Belair stations. At each stop you will learn about the development and challenges faced by the early railway network and its value to local districts and the state. Tour ends with Devonshire tea. Limited numbers.

**When:** Sunday 2 and 16 May, 9.45am to 12.30pm

**Where:** Meet at Blackwood Railway Station, Station Road Blackwood

**Cost:** \$5 plus train tickets if applicable

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

## A Life in Planning: Charles Reade (1880-1933): Colonel Light Gardens Centenary

Speaker: Dr Christine Garnaut

This presentation provides an overview of Reade's early life and of his career and contributions as a town planner - in South Australia, the Federated Malay States, Northern Rhodesia and South Africa - before focussing on his contributions in metropolitan Adelaide and country South Australia. Particular emphasis is given to Reade's application of the Garden City approach, and its outcome, in the planning and design of Colonel Light Gardens.

**When:** Tuesday 4 May, 6pm for 6.30pm Start

**Where:** Fisher Chapel, Scotch College, Torrens Park

**Cost:** \$5

**Bookings:** Essential.  
Limited tickets available only from Eventbrite.

## Indigenous Exhibition at Gallery One

Gallery One, in collaboration with Glenelg Art Gallery and City of Mitcham, present an Indigenous art exhibition. The opening night will include a smoking ceremony performed by Kurna elder Uncle Tamaru. In June Indigenous artists will tutor art and craft workshops. For more details, visit [www.galleryone.org.au](http://www.galleryone.org.au).

**When:** Opening night: Friday 28 May, 6pm. Exhibition: Open from 1 June, Tuesday to Friday 10am to 4pm and first Saturday of each month 1pm to 5pm.

**Where:** Gallery One, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

**Bookings:** Essential.  
Contact Gallery One on 8272 4504.

**Cost:** Free

## Belair – gateway to the Adelaide Hills in early times

Belair's history and its important links to the development of South Australia will be shared and grand summer residences highlighted as we walk along Sheoak Road. Refreshments will be served at the Heritage Listed Belair station, opened in 1883, a popular train stop for picnickers visiting National Park. Guided walk.

**When:** Tuesday 25 May, 1.30pm to 3.30pm

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

**Cost:** \$5

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

## Brownhill Creek and Ellison's Gully Walk

Guide: Councillor Andrew Tilley

Andrew's family has lived in the area for five generations, and his knowledge of the history of the area is unsurpassed. Starting at the old manure pits in Brownhill Creek, this walk includes the scenic beauty of Ellison's Gully, an historic stone bridge and disused silver mine shafts. See also the 140-year old Mitcham water works that once also supplied Unley and Adelaide. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

**When:** Sunday 9 and 23 May, 1.30pm to 3pm

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

**Cost:** Gold coin donation

**Bookings:** Essential.  
Contact Ian Strout, Mitcham Historical Society on 0400 027 117.

## Sock Making Workshops

Join us for three workshops to learn how to knit a pair of socks using patterns created during the Second World War. These patterns have been adapted from the Schools Patriotic Fund (SPF) Service knitting booklet, for beginners and contemporary knitters by workshop tutor and master knitter Lianne Gould. All materials (yarn, needles and pattern) are provided.

**When:** Saturday 8, 15 and 29 May, 1.30pm to 3pm

**Where:** Gallery One, Mitcham Cultural Village, 103 Princes Road, Mitcham

**Bookings:** Essential.  
Contact Gallery One on 8272 4504.

**Cost:** \$65 for 3 workshops



## Kingswood Oval project under way

Work has begun on a major project to upgrade the clubrooms at Kingswood Oval.

Sporting groups have welcomed the upgrade, which will include the installation of two unisex changerooms, a multipurpose community space, a Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant lift and toilet.

The upgrade also includes enhanced community facilities, including a barbecue area and upgraded canteen, an improved unisex umpire change room, a match day office and medical room.

There will be increased storage and an extension of the balcony viewing area, and a range of improvements including new carpet, cool room, fresh paint and café doors and blinds.

Sturt Cricket Club Volunteer David May, who has scored for the club for 25 years, says the new lift will pave the way for better access and inclusivity at the clubrooms.

"This is something we have been working towards for many years," he said. "It means after the game or training I can go upstairs and have a drink with the team."

South Australian Cricket Association (SACA) Facilities and Infrastructure Manager Alicia Clutterham said the upgrade was welcomed by the many clubs who use the oval.

"It's really important to have high quality facilities including unisex changerooms; it's so important for the juniors coming through to provide for their futures as well."

The project has been funded by the Federal Government (\$500,000), Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing's Round 3 Grassroots Football, Cricket, Netball Program (\$700,000), State Government (\$100,000) and City of Mitcham (\$791,000), Unley Football Club (\$88,000) and Unley Cricket Club (\$5,000) and is set to be completed by August 2021.

The project will be managed by the City of Mitcham in partnership with builder Mykra and DASH Architects.



Unley Cricket Club President Oliver Smith, club volunteer David May and players Nate, Will, Sam and Josh.



Australia Day Citizen of the Year John Arthur and City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross at Meat Your Needs Butcher, Clapham.

## Neighbour Day coming to a street near you!

The streets of Mitcham are set to sizzle with community barbecues as part of City of Mitcham's annual Neighbour Day competition.

Two streets in each ward, and three in Craigburn, will host street parties to get to know their neighbours.

Held on the last Sunday in March, Neighbour Day is an annual celebration of community that aims to foster connections that last year-round.

Winners will also have the opportunity to connect with their local Elected Member who'll be invited to come along on the day.

Barbecues will be hosted before 2 May 2021.

Australia Day Citizen of the Year John Arthur knows how important it is to have close connections with neighbours.

A member of Bedford Park Residents Association for 30 years, including 15 years as President,

he has worked with his community to improve the amenity of his area, helping look after and advocate for better parks, footpaths, street trees and reserves.

"Getting together for a barbecue is something we don't do often enough these days," he said.

## Mitcham Community Groups

### Blackwood Probus Club

Offers an opportunity for both men and women to enjoy a monthly stimulating meeting with speakers and social interaction over coffee. Meet at the Freemasons Hall, 229 Main Road, Blackwood, **9.30am to 11.30am** on the **first Thursday of every month**. Parking available. Call Norman on 8178 2653.

### Colonel Light Gardens Ladies Probus Club

Share a morning of fun and friendship on the **first Friday of each month at 10am**. We enjoy guest speakers, coffee and chat groups, lunches, movie mornings and other outings throughout the year. Meet at the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church, 560 Goodwood Road, Daw Park. Call Judy on 0419 006 895.

### Hills Choral Society

Hills Choral expects to bring 'Something Good' to the Mitcham Hills community with a concert planned for **Sunday 23 May at 2.30pm** at Blackwood Church of Christ, Corner Waite Street and Shepherds Hill Road. Bookings essential at [www.trybooking.com/BPKWK](http://www.trybooking.com/BPKWK).

**If you would like to submit an event for our community calendar please email [customercommunications@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:customercommunications@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).**



## Social activities for seniors.

Care & Share at Trinity is a social activity program which enables people (65 years plus) from all backgrounds to participate in community life and feel socially included through structured and informal group based activities

Please visit, join in the activities, have lunch with us and see for yourself how enjoyable a day at Care & Share can be. Bring a friend along too!

Book your **FREE** trial now (08) 8276 1144

[www.careandshare.org.au](http://www.careandshare.org.au)





## Community partner opportunity

City of Mitcham is seeking major and supporting community partners for the 2021 Carols at Kingswood Oval event.

In its 24th year, the carols event presents an opportunity for partners to contribute either in kind or financial support.

**To find out more, please contact Nat Franklin on 8372 8129 or email [nfranklin@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:nfranklin@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).**



### Gault Ward Cr Rod Moss



Telephone: 0413 099 304

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

As we drift back to post COVID normal, whatever that may be, I reflect on my first six months on Council with a small smile at what has been achieved and a determination to continue to contribute positively to the challenges that lie ahead.

It is fair to say that Mitcham Council's profile in the media has taken a few knocks in recent times and there have been expressions of concern from some residents as a consequence. That said, there have been a number of major issues addressed with positive outcomes for the betterment of the City of Mitcham overall during this time.

The resolution to cap the Blackwood Hub Project at \$12m and the resultant lesser impact on ongoing costs and future debt is now well recognised as a responsible common-sense outcome. The continued focus on addressing the backlog of asset renewal and maintenance works remains a high priority together with supporting those in the community with special needs.

In terms of Gault Ward in particular, the upgrading of facilities at Price Memorial Oval has been an excellent outcome through cooperation between government and council resources, and similar shared funding arrangements are being pursued for major redevelopment options at Mortlock Park to cater for the growing and female participation needs of both football and baseball clubs who share the facilities. Clubhouse improvements at Kingswood Tennis Club (Batchelor Reserve) are on the way, a Master Plan for Reade Park Tennis Club is also being pursued and Hawthorn Bowling Club is working up concept plans for clubhouse improvements.

Across Belair Road in adjacent Boorman Ward, work is also underway to upgrade the facilities at Kingswood Oval with a target finish date of late July. The upgrading of the Mitcham RAAF site is also identified as an important upcoming local project.

In consultation with Elder MP Carolyn Power, plans for the 100 Year Celebration of the establishment of Colonel Light Gardens are under way with a series of events scheduled over several months in the latter part of the year. Community involvement including schools, clubs, societies and especially residents is strongly encouraged and a schedule of activities will follow in the near future.

The major issue of concern for local residents in Gault remains increased traffic flow and the number of heavy vehicles using the main through roads especially East Parkway, Grange Road and Price Avenue. Traffic diverting through side streets including Salisbury Crescent, Wattlebury Road and Tidworth Crescent is also a concern and Council continues to work with authorities to ensure road safety rules are adhered to. Given the major projects being undertaken along Goodwood, Daws, Springbank, South and Unley Roads, additional traffic is an unfortunate but unavoidable consequence. As would have been observed, counting devices are regularly being used to measure traffic volumes but peak time congestion is likely to be with us for a while longer until the major road projects are completed.

Wishing everyone a more normal and happy 2021.

### Craigburn Ward Cr Karen Hockley



Telephone: 0423 919 080

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

Local Government is said to be the arm of government that is closest to the community. Certainly, it is the level of government that most impacts our immediate surrounds, pretty much everything you see when you leave your driveway is in some way impacted by the activities of your council.

Council is also the most accessible. Most Councillors are contactable directly by phone, they are walking around the local shops and they attend many community events. When you receive an email from me and when you read something that's published in my name, you know that I have personally written those words. I don't have staff, I do everything.

Part of my work involves reading and understanding the results of any community consultation processes carried out by Council. Council consults on the annual budget, changes to the road network, on land management plans, and changes to our sports grounds and open spaces, just to name a few.

One of the difficulties I encounter is when consultation responses are evenly split on an issue. An example is when we consulted on the preferred location of the memorial soldier in Blackwood. Three locations were suggested, and each option was evenly supported by a third of the respondents.

We also have times when a very active group or individual promotes the consultation. This group will often have an existing network of like-minded residents or they may encourage only those who agree with their point of view to engage with the process. People with dissimilar perspectives may not become aware of the consultation and the results may not be reflective of community sentiment.

It also seems that those who are passionate about an issue will participate in a consultation process while those who are less passionately in favour of or against an issue often do not take active steps to make their voice heard. Often those who are passionately against are more likely to participate, while those who like an idea will stay silent.

Being aware of the problems inherent in our consultation process means that I often have to rely on my direct contact with the community to have an understanding of how people are likely to feel about any particular issue. I try to use an ethical stakeholder driven decision model to view a question from the perspective of all impacted residents and I also give considerable weight to the practical implications.

However flawed Council's consultation processes may be, unlike other levels of government, we are legislatively obliged to consult and I encourage you to participate.

Even if you're not passionate about an issue, please if you have a view, let us know. I try to promote Council consultations on my Facebook page and I invite you to keep an eye there as well.

As always, I'm keen to hear from you about all things local and I welcome you to give me a call on 0423 919 080 or email me at [KHockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:KHockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).

### Boorman Ward Cr Adriana Christopoulos



Telephone: 8372 888

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

We should stick to our knitting!

Local councils are known for roads, rates, and rubbish. We have no charter for climate change, Indigenous affairs, nuclear power, or any other global cause.

I believe that Council has for too long focused on condemning or approving matters that are out of our jurisdiction. We have no power, our influence is minuscule and our strategy is flawed.

Rightfully, we all grieve about the many social injustices that are happening, but Local Government is not the forum for these debates because it cannot deliver the necessary change. Yet we find ourselves wanting to lead these debates at the expense of sticking to our core business.

This was no more evident than when my recent motion to write to neighbouring councils to seek support to undertake a joint feasibility study into the possible amalgamations and/or boundary adjustments with the City of Mitcham was defeated.

Sadly, Mitcham Councillors who voted against this felt that this was not a study worthy of having. Despite the fact that boundary reform is solely about our own backyard. The issue of boundary reform is a local matter, it actually doesn't get any more local. I believe that exploring with neighbouring councils the possibility of how a change in boundaries may deliver improvements for communities is a conversation worth having!

Our neighbouring council, Adelaide Hills, is currently looking at parts of Brown Hill Creek and Belair to align with their boundaries. They recognise the similarities in topography and infrastructure of both these communities and I strongly urge the Adelaide Hills Council to survey these communities with the intent of bringing them across. I will be urging Unley Council to do the same with Urrbrae, Netherby, Kingswood and other neighbouring suburbs.

Given that this is a conversation Mitcham Council voted not worthy of having, and then topped it off by passing a motion that Council will not seek a merger or major boundary reform with any of its neighbouring councils during this term. It's clear that any progress on boundary reform within Mitcham must occur within the community and I encourage all readers to contact me with your views on this matter.

However, we did debate a motion that Council writes to the Federal Government to change the date to recognise and celebrate Australia as a nation. This was despite receiving many comments on Council's Facebook site asking Council to stick to its knitting. This is a debate that must happen without doubt, but let it be in a chamber that can actually make that change. It can no longer be about councillors voting superfluously on contentious state and federal issues and pretending to have the gravitas of a higher level of government.

I also believe that this motion puts Mitcham Council in an embarrassing position with the community on Australia Day next year, when we are hosting citizenship ceremonies knowing full well that Council has written to Federal Members to change the date of Australia Day.



## The Park Ward Cr Jane Bange



Telephone: 0478 076 400

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

I would like to use my piece to address a criticism being directed to councils, of late, that we are overstepping our role and should stick to managing the traditional essentials of Local Government, such as roads, footpaths and rubbish. Following the recent, somewhat controversial, motion adopted by Mitcham Council, to advocate to our Federal Government for a change of date for Australia Day, Councillors received feedback from several residents. One, from 'E', really affected me because she presented such a considered, thoughtful and well-mannered response about this issue, expressing a differing viewpoint. Emails flowed between us and E really gave me food for thought. All the while we were polite and respectful of each other.

I believe most of us share many values and I wish people could focus more on these and then, with civility, talk over our points of difference. Maybe it is the speed of modern life that pushes many of us to fire short, critical and emotive volleys? Certainly, the way our media and many politicians act often reinforces this combative manner of public discourse, based often around hearsay, rather than established facts.

There are big moral issues that modern councils increasingly consider, which are complex and emotionally charged, and I well understand, and sympathize with, the view that councils should steer well clear of these. I take a different stand because, Local Government is the level of politics closest to the people, so we often get to hear residents' views about issues that lie well outside conventional council matters.

One such issue is climate change and the dialogue I've had with residents about it inspired me to bring a motion to the Chamber, in October 2019, declaring a climate emergency. This was adopted, 9:2, and many residents were appreciative, grateful and proud their Council seriously acknowledged a crucial issue - some would say THE most crucial issue humans face - and one these residents felt was largely ignored by other levels of government, particularly our Federal Government. This declaration was certainly not tokenism. Since we passed it, our staff have a clear mandate to bring practical initiatives for Councillors to consider and endorse, and these actions will significantly diminish Council's carbon footprint, reduce landfill and accelerate sustainable procurement.

Recently, another Councillor successfully brought a motion to hold a workshop with key groups to investigate the extent of homelessness in our Council area, explore ways to address it, and lobby other levels of government. This action targets those members of our community sleeping rough, who we rarely hear from, and who often have no voice politically.

Certainly, councils need to deliver well on their established roles. No argument there. But I find the changing nature of modern councils, beyond their traditional remit, to be stimulating and needed, and one of the reasons I love my work so much.

Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss this further.

## Overton Ward Cr John Sanderson



Telephone: 0402 517 945

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

### State Development Plan

As of 19 March, the State Government has taken over all development in South Australia.

The City of Mitcham now has limited work now the new Plan is implemented. Council's Planning team will still be required to process difficult approval applications.

I guess there will be some teething problems! It will be interesting to see how the new system works.

### Budget

Presently Council staff and Elected Members are discussing the 2021/2022 Budget. What funds are needed now or can be deferred until a future to a later date. A consultation on the draft Annual Business Plan will begin in April to allow ratepayers to have their say and contribute toward a final product, which will be finalised in June 2021.

### Street trees

I trust you are still looking after your new trees, which were planted this year. If you have one, the last month has been very dry, and this will continue for a while. Please continue to give these trees a bucket of water, as this will help the tree establish as early as possible in their life. Keep up the good work - you will be pleased with the result.

### Goodwood Road/Daws Road intersection

Work has commenced on the intersection, as you would have seen. All services (electricity, water, telecommunication) have now moved to allow the roadworks and ancillary services to commence. This work will take some time, but you will see a big difference when it starts.

### North-South Corridor - Torrens to Darlington

As you are all aware, the South Road Darlington roadworks are all but completed. The next step is the Torrens to Darlington development, Phase 1, starting from Darlington to the Anzac Highway. I have been fortunate to be nominated to the Community Committee Reference Group. The group comprising approximately 15 people had its first meeting recently. There is a concept plan but nothing specific such as where the tunnel will start and pop up, where individual streets will cross or where the lowered motorway will start.

All services under South Road will need to be moved (to where?). So, many questions, no answers as yet. Future meetings will have some professional staff from the department such as design engineers and the like. The Committee will meet monthly until December, when we hope there will be a realistic plan that we can discuss.

If you would like to learn more about the TtoD Project, you can sign up to receive electronic updates or download their sheets at [dit.sa.gov.au/torrenstodarlington](http://dit.sa.gov.au/torrenstodarlington).

As always, if you have a Council issue, please call me on 0402 517 945 or 8277 1884 or email me at [jsanderson@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:jsanderson@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).

## Babbage Ward Cr David Munro



Telephone: 0403 161 462

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

Since my last article I have reached the milestone of being an Elected Member for 10 years, something I never thought I would be in a position to celebrate.

So what is it like to be a Councillor for a decade? It is a mixture of emotions where you experience moments of extreme pride to of course some frustration.

When I first ran to be Councillor in 2010 it was around financial reporting and operational needs that I thought needed to be looked into.

The City of Mitcham's financial reporting is now in a much better state where we can track our finances. I am also very proud of the Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) work that has been done in our area. In particular:

- CC Hood has had berms added to slow the water run-off at the northern end of the reserve.
- Norman Reserve has had significant works done to retain stormwater that would have been diverted through drains.
- Treenets (catchments in the kerbs that hold some water for the trees) that are now at the forefront of all kerbside replacement.
- The permeable carpark at St Marys.

The frustrations I still experience are around the fact that we almost always do not get through our agenda, even though we meet fortnightly.

Back in 2010 we met on the second Tuesday for a full Council meeting and on the fourth Tuesday we met as a committee. Back then we didn't get through the full Council meeting, so we moved to replace the committee meeting with an additional full Council meeting.

It seems that the more things change the more they stay the same and I now think that the more time you give the more time that will be consumed. I just feel that if we are not getting through our agenda, why are we allowing agenda items to take up Chamber time that are not part of our core business?

Motions to increase Newstart Allowance, declare a climate emergency or move Australia Day are being debated. Perhaps we need to be more disciplined with the agenda and break it down to core business and non-core business or no longer see the Chamber as a platform for speaking for the sake of speaking.

The workload of a Councillor today compared to 10 years ago is significantly higher and if this workload continues to grow, I believe that the Elected Member group will be made up of retired people as they will be only ones that have sufficient time to dedicate to the role. This will be a shame as we need a mixture of all backgrounds.

So in summary, 10 years' worth of Tuesday evenings, reading countless agendas and emails has been a huge investment of time, but when you see the small things and bigger things take place within Babbage Ward and the whole of Mitcham you do become very proud.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the last 10 years.



# City of Mitcham's Steam Spectacular April School Holiday Program

For full details, dates and times visit: [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/school-holidays) or collect a program at Blackwood or Mitcham Memorial Library.

## Steam Storytime

Join us for themed stories, songs and a craft activity. Week 1 theme: Body. Week 2 theme: Music.

**When:** Monday 12 and 19 April, Thursday 15 and 22 April

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**When:** Tuesday 13 and 20 April

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**When:** Wednesday 14 and 21 April

**Where:** St Marys Park

**Time:** 10.30am

**Age:** 3+ years

**Cost:** Free

**Bookings:** Not required



## Dungeons and Dragons

Try Dungeons and Dragons in a safe and welcoming environment. D&D is a true STEAM game - creative and calculating, combining strategy with role play. Dungeon Masters Alby and Lucy will take you through the basics. Maximum 10 per game.

**When:** Monday 12 and 19 April

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Time:** 1pm to 4pm

**Cost:** Free

**Age:** 8 to 15 years

**Bookings:** Essential, [www.trybooking.com/BPFBR](http://www.trybooking.com/BPFBR)



## Nitro Nat Chemistry

Exciting, amazing science for kids with Nitro Nat.

**When:** Monday 12 April, 2pm

**Where:** Blackwood Community Centre

**When:** Wednesday 14 April, 2pm

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**When:** Wednesday 21 April, 12pm

**Where:** St Marys Park

**Age:** School age

**Cost:** \$5 (No refunds)

**Bookings:** Essential, with payment. Phone 8372 8244



## Animal Capers

Get in touch with your wild side and meet some friendly wildlife.

**When:** Wednesday 14 April, 12pm

**Where:** St Marys Park

**When:** Thursday 15 April, 2pm

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**When:** Tuesday 20 April, 2pm

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Age:** 3+ years

**Cost:** \$5 (No refunds)

**Bookings:** Essential, with payment. Phone 8372 8244



## Spectacular Science Show

The one stop show which celebrates everything science! You'll see explosions, rockets and amazing experiments you can try at home, with Sciworld.

**When:** Wednesday 14 and 21 April, 2pm to 3pm

**Where:** St Marys Park

**When:** Thursday 22 April, 2pm to 3pm

**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library

**Age:** School Age

**Cost:** \$5 (No refunds)

**Bookings:** Essential, with payment. Phone 8372 8244



## Beaded Windchime

Make a beaded windchime hanging using new and repurposed beads and decorative wire.

Learn simple beading techniques.

**When:** Friday 16 April, 11am to 1pm

**Where:** Blackwood Library

**Age:** 12 to 17 years

**Cost:** \$5 (No refunds)

**Bookings:** Essential, with payment. Phone 8372 8255

## Get Stoked BMX Ride Day

New and experienced riders welcome. BYO wheels and helmet or limited number of demo bikes and helmets available. Hosted by Lighthouse Youth Projects crew.

**When:** Thursday 22 April, 10am to 2pm

**Where:** Suffolk Road Reserve BMX Track, Hawthorndene

**Cost:** Free

**Bookings:** Essential, [www.lighthouseyp.org/event/get-stoked-hawthorndene/](http://www.lighthouseyp.org/event/get-stoked-hawthorndene/)



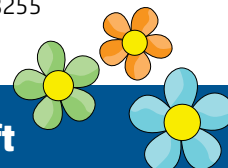
## Collect a Craft

Collect a lucky dip craft to take home.

**When:** Monday 12 April to Sunday 25 April, during opening hours

**Where:** Blackwood Library  
Mitcham Memorial Library

**Cost:** Free



Craft

Venues include Blackwood Library, Mitcham Memorial Library, Blackwood Community Centre, St Marys Park Sporting Facility and Suffolk Road Reserve, Hawthorndene.

COVID restrictions on numbers may apply to all events.



# Community Wellbeing Activities

The City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing team offers a range of services to facilitate the ongoing wellbeing and independence of older and vulnerable people so that they can continue to live in their homes and participate actively in the community for as long as possible.

Join us, have some fun and meet new friends along the way! Call our Community Wellbeing team on 8372 8884 to find out more about the social activities available in your area. We hope to see you soon.



## Let's Get Together!

Join local knitters, colouring enthusiasts, table tennis fans or games groups. Feel the community vibe and create some goodies to take home. Reconnect with a favourite pastime or simply enjoy the company of other locals! Light refreshments provided.

**When:** Every Tuesday, 1.30pm to 3.30pm  
**Where:** Cumberland Park Community Centre, 390 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park  
**Cost:** Gold coin donation



## Wellbeing Walks

Walk yourself healthy by taking part in one of our Heart Foundation walking groups. Boost your wellbeing and take a step to a healthy heart. Have a cuppa afterwards if you have time. Refreshments at own cost.

**When:** First Tuesday of the month, 10am to 11.30am  
**Where:** Cumberland Park Community Centre, 390 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park  
**When:** Third Friday of the month, 10am to 11.30am  
**Where:** Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood  
**Cost:** Free

## Let's Get Fit!

A new collection of fitness sessions for our over 65s is coming! Register your interest and get your body moving. Engage mind, body and soul through music and movement. All fitness levels are welcome.

**When:** Every Tuesday, 10am to 11.30am  
**Where:** Cumberland Park Community Centre, 390 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park  
**When:** Every Friday, 10am to 11.30am  
**Where:** Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood  
**Cost:** \$5 per person  
**Bookings:** Register your interest by phoning 8372 8884

## Carers Connect

Meet other local carers and enjoy a light lunch, relaxing massage, and time out from your caring role. Recharge your mind and body. Includes a goodie bag and two meals to take home.

**When:** Thursday 21 May, 10.30am to 2pm  
**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn  
**Cost:** \$10 per person

## Me'N'Me Mates

Join Me'N'Me Mates for Australian songs and stories. This acoustic folk/country band showcases unique songs, languages and stories. Audiences of all ages appreciate the group's energetic, down to earth and good-natured shows. Light refreshments provided.

**When:** Friday 23 April, 11am to 12pm  
**Where:** Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood  
**Cost:** Gold coin contribution per person



## Men's Lunch Group

Make your own way there or hop on the bus. Take a bus ride to various locations and have a yarn over lunch with other blokes!

**When:** Third Tuesday and fourth Wednesday the month, 11.15am to 2pm (lunch at 12noon)  
**Where:** Mitcham Community Centre  
**Cost:** \$15 person (transport), lunch at own cost

## Let's Get Healthy! Plant Based Diet

What are the benefits of a plant based diet? Come along and find out more from our nutritionist Rebecca. Giveaways and prizes are up for grabs.

**When:** Tuesday 6 April  
**Where:** Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood  
**Cost:** \$5 per person  
**Bookings:** Contact the Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244 to book and pay for your seat.



## Let's Get Healthy! Nutrition for Positive Ageing

Learn how to compare food products and interpret nutrition labels. Reap the benefits of nutritious food as we age content and happy.

**When:** Tuesday 6 April, 2pm to 3pm  
**Where:** Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn  
**Cost:** \$5 per person  
**Bookings:** Contact the Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244 to book and pay for your seat.



## Wellbeing and Resilience

Take part in a free six-week workshop, held throughout the year offering an opportunity to find out the secret to feeling good. A range of topics focusing on positive wellbeing and living life well.

**Time:** 10am to 12.30pm  
**Bookings:** Call 8372 8884 to register your interest for the next program.  
**Cost:** Free

## Carers Catch Up

Take time out from your caring role and enjoy a cuppa with others. Spare a moment, refresh, and have a break.

**Bookings:** Call 8372 8884 to register your interest and meet at a local café near you.  
**Cost:** Free

For more information email [wellbeing@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:wellbeing@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au), visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-wellbeing](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/community-wellbeing) or call the Community Wellbeing Team on 8372 8884.



## Mitcham businesses ready to 'Replace the Waste'

Colonel Light Gardens café Bond & Lane Canteen was one of many Mitcham businesses to welcome South Australia's single-use plastic ban introduced on 1 March.

Owner Lou Rodwell said the café had been working towards a 'zero waste' future since it opened in 2013.

"All our takeaway items are made from recycled or fully compostable material," she said. "That includes takeaway coffee cups and lids, timber cutlery and compostable takeaway cups. We use produce from our garden where we can, recycle all soft plastics and donate our milk lids to Lids for Kids."

Bond & Lane was the first café to work with 'Worm Boy' founder Joshua Salisnew to divert all their organic waste from landfill by creating compost from coffee grounds and food scraps to be redistributed to community gardens across Adelaide.

South Australia became the first state in the nation to pass legislation to ban the sale, supply and distribution of single-use plastic products such as straws, cutlery and beverage stirrers in September 2020.

The legislation first bans single-use plastic items like straws, cutlery and beverage stirrers and will

expand to include other items such as polystyrene cups, bowls and plates in early 2022.

Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs said single-use plastic products are designed to be thrown away and result in litter, waste and harm to wildlife, including marine life.

Visit [replacethewaste.sa.gov.au](http://replacethewaste.sa.gov.au) website to find information, tips, tools, Point of Sale materials or other assistance.

Note: Exemptions in the legislation will allow for people with a disability or health needs to continue to use plastic straws.

### From March 1, 2021

Plastic straws, cutlery and stirrers will be prohibited from sale, supply or distribution.

### From March 2, 2022

Polystyrene cups, bowls and plates and clamshell containers to be prohibited from sale, supply or distribution. Oxo-degradable plastic products will be prohibited from manufacture or production.

Photo: 'Worm Boy' founder Joshua Salisnew and Bond & Lane Canteen owner Lou Rodwell.



## Bin tags aim to educate on waste

A new project that kicked off in March aims to educate residents and reduce contamination in kerbside bins.

City of Mitcham has engaged KESAB to launch a bin tagging project which will involve visual kerbside bin inspections of selected households.

The project involves 200 randomly chosen houses from the existing kitchen caddy trial area as this area has been identified with the highest contamination and will help to gather additional data for the food scrap program.

Based on the contamination of the bin a 'Thank you!' or 'Oops!' tag will be placed on the bin. The 'Oops!' tag will explain what the contamination is and aims to educate the residents for next collection.

**For more information visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bin-tagging](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/bin-tagging).**

The project, which aims to reduce our current 15.9% of kerbside contamination will include four weeks of visual audit and bin tags followed by a one to two-month break then another visual audit to observe if households have changed their behaviour over time.

Bin tagging continues to be undertaken by several councils within SA with great results. In 2011, one South Australian council had a reduction of 66% in contamination and 43% increase in content in the recycling bins.

Each week a resident who receives two 'Thank you!' tags will be randomly chosen to receive a \$50 Visa gift card.

## Community gets behind Clean Up Australia Day

The Blackwood Action Group (BAG) was one of 16 City of Mitcham groups and thousands of other Australians to participate in Clean Up Australia Day last month.

A group of 27 volunteers, including four children, cleaned up the main approaches to the Blackwood Roundabout including Shepherds Hill Road, Coromandel Parade and Main Road, plus adjoining car parks and reserves.



In its 12th Clean Up year, the group gathered 12 large bags of litter and were treated to brunch in the Blackwood Station courtesy of BAG.

The City of Mitcham would like to thank all residents, community groups, environmental groups, Scouts, Church groups and schools who participated in the day, contributing to a clean and safe Mitcham we can all enjoy.



The Blackwood Action Group cleaned up the approaches to the Blackwood Roundabout as part of Clean Up Australia Day last month.