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see story pg 3



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Colebrook elders support need for a Voice

BY ANNE BARKAWAY, BLACKWOOD RECONCILIATION GROUP

WITH the 'Voice' referendum to be held on Saturday, October 14, a number of former residents of Colebrook, asked Blackwood Reconciliation Group (BRG) for an opportunity to do some Truth Telling, and to speak about their history and why they believe a Voice for Aboriginal people is important.

So in early September, a gathering was arranged at Colebrook in Eden Hills, where stories were shared with guests as well as senior students from Emmaus Christian College and St John's Grammar school.

One of the participants, Graham McKenzie, 80 years old, was born in Adelaide to a Western Arrernte mother and almost immediately placed in the original Colebrook Home at Quorn. Subsequently, along with other children, he moved to Eden Hills to grow up in the Blackwood area.

Raymond Finn, a Wangkangurru man, was removed from his large extended family at the age of 7, then brought down from his homelands near Marree in 1968. He was one of the last few children at Colebrook and managed to return to his family by the age of 12 when Colebrook closed.

Kunyi June-Anne McInerney, who was featured in our July article, was born to a Yankunytjara mother and non-Aboriginal father near Oodnadatta, and removed along with her siblings at the age of 4.

Kunyi was placed in a series of foster homes while some sisters grew up at Colebrook, and she spoke of crying every night for her mother and being punished by her carers for doing that. There was further loss when one sister was taken to Papua New Guinea for adoption, and completely severed from her family until they managed to reconnect 5 years ago.

Raymond was already developing a strong sense of his Aboriginal identity when he was removed. He spoke of the shock of being the only 'black kid' in the whole of Blackwood

Primary School, and of how 'a white mentality was flogged into him'.

He spoke of how lost he felt as a child, and of the overwhelming sadness that pervaded his everyday life, with no explanation of why this had happened to him and no opportunity to reconnect with family.

While Graham spoke of never being told why he was there or who his mother was. At Colebrook for 16 years, he experienced the full range of care, from the nurturing of Sisters Rutter and Hyde, to the outright abuse from subsequent superintendents.

He also spoke of the importance of his relationships with the other children in the home, with local Blackwood friends and his participation in Blackwood Football Club and Coromandel Valley Cricket club.

One of his local childhood friends, and later work colleague, Ian, joined us at Colebrook for the conversation. As well as the value of sport and friendship, these clubs were the places that Graham encountered caring adults that gave him hope there were good people in the world.

They all identified how 'voiceless' they and their families were in the past. Their commitment today is to support the enshrinement of a Voice in the Constitution to ensure their children and grandchildren never have to go through anything similar.

They also spoke of the racism they still experience, and their desire to cut through the conflict that is circulating in the



◆ Photo - Some of the guests who shared their journey at the gathering held last month at the Colebrook Reconciliation Park (from left): Kunyi, Graham, Ian and Raymond

community, to take a gentle approach that will enable people to understand the importance of a Voice into the future.

Thanks to the Blackwood Uniting Church, this conversation was recorded on video, and will be available to be viewed on the Church's Youtube channel by early October.

☐ Please email: blackwoodreconciliationgroup@gmail.com with any enquiries.

Note: *The Blackwood Times* is not endorsing the YES or the NO campaign by publication of this article.

Parkrun launch scheduled for November

THE long-awaited 'parkrun' at the Belair National Park is edging closer to being launched.

Parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. parkrun is 5k and takes place every Saturday morning.

Welcoming and inclusive, there is no time limit and no one finishes last.

The trail has been finalised and the National Parks team under the guidance of Ranger Brent Lores are undertaking trail maintenance over the next few months to improve the surface.

To find out more, head to Catherine

Hutchesson MP's Facebook page as the announcement will be made there.

A new parkrun Facebook page will also be launched to keep up with all that is going on.

Remember, you don't have to run in parkrun; there are lots of walkers that also take to the

course and there is coffee waiting at the finish line, thanks to EscapeGoat's 'Goat Shed Café'.

☐ You do need to register to be a parkrunner, so head to www.parkrun.com.au for more information and get ready for the Belair 'parkrun' launch.

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Letters to the Editor

Bring back the floral fair?

Thanks for publishing the article, 1950s "Snapshot" of life in the Mitcham Hills, September 2023, supplied by the Blackwood Action Group History team.

I was drawn to the reference, "highlight of the year ... the Floral Fair held on the long weekend in October." It reminded me of the lovely flower displays along North Terrace each year.

So, I had a Springtime thought; wouldn't it be great to reinvigorate the hills "Floral Fair" initiative. Our lovely Blackwood and district homes have wonderful flowering gardens, perhaps worthy of a "Blackwood Floral and Plant Affair", showcasing flower displays and arrangements, with plant stalls and a small competition. Let the sunshine in.

F. Barrett
Bellevue Heights

Northern hemisphere heat wave warning

As El Nino continues to gather strength in the Pacific, scientists warn that the Southern hemisphere will almost certainly take its turn in the coming summer to also receive shocking record breaking heat as experienced in the North, that has caused so much grief of recent times.

Unless the burning of fossil fuels to create energy is severely reduced with considerable haste, climate related disasters resulting from fast increasing World temperatures, can now be expected in all summers across the World.

Brian Measday
Kingswood

☐ Have something to share with Blackwood Times readers ... submit a Letter to the Editor including name and suburb ... email: info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

BUSHFIRE RESILIENCE FORUM

Sunday 29th October
2:00pm - 4:00pm

Blackwood Memorial Hall
21 Coromandel Parade, Blackwood

The event will include speakers from CFS, National Parks and Wildlife Services, local CFS and the University of Adelaide.

With the changing of the season comes an important conversation about bushfire resilience. Come along and understand the risks and what you can do to be prepared.

RSVP ESSENTIAL

email waite@parliament.sa.gov.au or call 8278 5844

Catherine Hutchesson MP
Member for Waite
Building a resilient community

ADVERTISEMENT

Community hub injects life into precinct

by James Swanborough

THE beginning of a new era has arrived for Blackwood, with the completion of 'Tiwu Kumangka' (Blackwood Community Library & Hub) building set to bring new vitality to the precinct.

The journey to build a new community hub was first touted in 2018, and following a lengthy process of consultation with several hurdles levelled at the project along the way, the newly completed Tiwu Kumangka will now offer the community a range of service provisions.

The 1,900m², two-storey building will host a public library on the ground floor, community facilities on the first floor, and north and south entries that open onto Waite Street Reserve.

Tiwu Kumangka also offers the community exciting new spaces and services including a community kitchen, a 'maker space' - a workshop area for learning; outdoor seating area, gallery space and digital lounge.

Traditional services include a range of flexible community meeting rooms/spaces supported by a kitchen servery, public toilets, lounge areas, dedicated children's and youth areas, an integrated toy library, collection spaces, and information/customer service desk. Administrative, delivery, storage, and processing areas are also included.

Mitcham Mayor, Dr Heather Holmes-Ross was delighted that the project had now reached fruition. "This is the end of a 35 year journey for a new library in Blackwood, when the former site was moved into as a "temporary" measure," she said.

"We are so happy to be able to offer our community the contemporary library and community centre that they have waited so long for. Having a library and community centre co-located is the direction that modern centres are going, and it's a great design because it brings together all these amenities, and it will service the needs of the community so well."

Heather also commented on the beautiful finishing touches of the site. "I have no doubt it will become the centrepiece of Blackwood which it was designed to be," she said.

Tiwu Kumangka is just part of the planned development for the precinct, which next year will see an upgrade to Young Street, and the Waite Street Reserve, along with a pedestrian walkway linking Tiwu Kumangka to the adjacent shopping complex housing Drakes Foodland, Blackwood Health Foods and Shakespeares Books.

"We are very pleased to offer these projects at around the same time," Heather explained, "as we believe it heralds a new era for the tasteful redevelopment of the Blackwood centre."

In response to some confusion regarding the naming of the site, Heather noted that 'Tiwu Kumangka' was the official title of the building, and that the library which is housed within, may receive its own name in course.

"Tiwu Kumangka is the name of the building, and it houses the Blackwood library and community centre," she said. "Buildings do have names, and this is what we have determined this one will be called. There has been a motion which says there will be some kind of memorial or remembrance of Ivor Symonds, but it has not been decided what or where that will be. It may end up as the name of the library, but that is yet to be formally determined."

The former library site is now on the market, and has received several promising tenders, with council staff in the process of assessing their merits. A report on the expressions of interest is set to be brought before council to determine which, if any, will gain approval.

"What we are looking for as a council is something with retail or commercial use at the ground level, and housing above," Heather said. "We would like to see something very tasteful and usable."

It is hoped that the development upon the former library site will further encourage vitality in the centre, and in turn meet the requirements of State Government plans to increase housing density across metropolitan areas.

"We intend that by increasing density in the business centre, we are able to better preserve the feel and size of blocks of the suburban surrounds," Dr Holmes-Ross said. □



◆ Photo - Flashback to December 2021 at the ceremonial 'turning of the sod' for the Blackwood Community Hub & Library on Waite Reserve in Young Street; (from left): Senator Andrew McLachlan, Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross with the former Independent MP for Waite, Sam Duluk.

Concerned groups come together to help struggling families put food on the table

by James Swanborough

A NEW project to assist families struggling with the rising cost of living around the Blackwood area, is set to bring the Beacon emergency relief service back to better meet the needs of the community.

Beacon, an emergency relief service provided through the Mitcham Hills Inter-Church Council, unfortunately has not been running since Covid began to take its toll on the community. However, with cost of living pressures increasing, Tracey Yeend of the Green Dispensary in Blackwood, began noticing the need for a community assistance program.

"It started out of noticing a couple of people coming into the pharmacy not being able to pay for their medication," Tracey said.

"Through chatting with them, I found that they were struggling even purchasing food. From that, I started a conversation with local MP for Waite, Catherine Hutchesson, and we brought together the Blackwood Church of Christ and Blackwood Lions to discuss what could be done to help.

Through this initial meeting, it was discovered that 130 families had asked for food help that week in the Blackwood area.

"I had provided what assistance I could through the pharmacy, but we thought we needed to do something bigger, so we looked into relaunching Beacon, which folded because of lack of demand in 2021.

The Blackwood Lions Club, Blackwood Action Group, Church of Christ, Zonta of Adelaide Hills, Catherine Hutchesson MP and The Green Dispensary have now come together to relaunch Beacon as "Beacon 24".

"We will provide a family food for 24 hours and a pathway to find additional help," explained Tracey.

"We are running the project in a way which is feasible, because if there is a big demand, we can't provide bundles for a week. But we are able to point people in the direction of further help, and be there in moments of crisis as an important assistant.

"We have devised quite a specific list (see on right) so we don't get random stuff donated, and the beauty of this, is it is not going to be just a Church of Christ initiative anymore. We are bringing many community groups in the area to join together to make this successful."

The project will allow residents in need to make their way to various collection points, ensuring the availability of a 24-hour pack at a couple of different locations, but the Church of Christ's foundational service has still provided an invaluable start point to reignite the new initiative.

"We will still be using the Church of Christ as a base where Beacon was before, and fortunately, they haven't done anything to alter the storage room since the former service was closed," Tracey said.

'Beacon 24' needs for your help

... can you donate some of these items listed below for struggling families:

- ✓ Pasta sauces
- ✓ Pasta (including gluten free)
- ✓ Tinned soup
- ✓ Tinned baked beans & spaghetti
- ✓ Long life milk (including non dairy varieties)
- ✓ Breakfast cereal (with long use by dates)
- ✓ Jam (not homemade), Vegemite and/or Peanut butter
- ✓ Muesli bars (long used by dates)
- ✓ Treat foods such as chocolate / biscuits etc (long use by dates)
- ✓ Tea & Coffee
- ✓ Long life juice
- ✓ Toilet paper & Tissues
- ✓ Pet food
- ✓ Sanitary Items

□ Your donations can be dropped into the local MP office at 7 Young Street; Blackwood Church of Christ (cnr Waite Street and Shepherds Hill Road); and the Green Dispensary Blackwood (202 Main Road).

□ If you, your group, or school would like to be a part of this project, or if you are in need of assistance yourself, please contact Catherine Hutchesson's office at 7 Young Street, Blackwood, by phoning 8278 5844 or emailing waite@parliament.sa.gov.au

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1950s 'snapshot' of life in the Mitcham Hills



This year, the Blackwood Action Group History team is using the monthly headlines from the 1955 editions of the 'Coromandel Newspaper' to provide readers with a 'snapshot' of life during the 1950s ...



'Banks expanded to meet demand from growth in district'

THE first bank in Australia started in 1817, with the Savings Bank of South Australia founded some 30 years later, being the first in SA.

In the Blackwood district, the English Scottish & Australian Bank (ES&A) is believed to be the first bank to open on the corner of Main Road and Young Street.

"...Mr. Reg Gribble...opened the Blackwood branch on February 2, 1926, singlehanded, with a table and chair in the front room of the then existing house... he has seen the town and district grow from a mere hamlet to a busy and thriving centre..." (Coromandel newspaper, 26 March 1954).

In 1957 a prominent, architecturally designed new bank building opened on the same site, later becoming the ANZ Bank.

The Bank of Adelaide (later Savings Bank of SA and today Bank SA) originally operated from Edges Electrical Store. "The Bank of Adelaide has moved into handsome new premises... Mr. Perce Moore, the genial manager of the branch since its opening in 1953... said that the customers of the Bank would be able to carry out their business in a spacious and attractive atmosphere. Provision had been made for the increased volume of business which was inevitable with the continued progress of the Blackwood district by installing three tellers' compartments and an enquiry counter, together with offices for the Manager and Accountant..." (Coromandel, 25 July 1958)

The structure of bank employment in the 1950s was rigid.

Geoff B recalls ... "When I started work (1955) all transactions were recorded by male ledger keepers... all entries were hand-written of course ...". While Betty F remembers ... "The girls' jobs were mostly repetitive and definitely not managerial ...when you got married your contract of employment changed to a temporary one ...should you be unlucky enough to have not secured a husband by the age of 35, the bank was reasonably sure you would not get married and they would start to allow you to undertake more 'male' roles..."

The 1950s was also a time of increased mechanisation which in Blackwood "... increased the number of bank positions for girls to operate the machines, offering them congenial employment close to home. For young men, the opportunities today in banking are unlimited," said Mr. Bowden (Manager, ES&A Blackwood). (Coromandel, 3 February 1956).

The installation of the district's first deposit safe also caused much interest. "... people can deposit at any time they wish, they do not have to retain large sums of money overnight and risk the possibility of theft..." (Coromandel, 23 August 1957)

School banking, whereby children had bank books and brought money to deposit on a weekly basis, (usually 6 pence or 1 shilling) was well-established by this time. The money was collected by bank staff and aimed to instil in children good saving habits and likely customer loyalty.

Since the 1950s, Blackwood banks and Building Societies



◆ Photo - EW & S Bank (1926-1957), later became the ANZ Bank, and today occupied by The Physio Clinic; located on the corner Main Road & Young Street, Blackwood. c/o Ruth Sabine Collection

have come and gone. Cheques, credit cards, ATMs, on-line banking and other have revolutionised the industry with the use of A.I. in the sector now underway.

□ For more information on BAG activities, phone 0408 117 003 or visit their website at : www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

Creating a garden brings joy

CONNECTING with nature is a powerful, therapeutic experience and pottering in your garden is a beautiful, inspiring health giving action.

Creating a garden is a joy even on a small scale, if that is all the space available. The food you grow tastes so good, is nutrient dense and so healthful.

When feelings of anxiety or depression prevail, time in a garden connecting with Nature helps re-balance.

Now spring is here, there truly is no better time to get into the garden. The rewards are high and there is now much evidence that gardening improves health and well-being.

Whether caring and maintaining an existing garden, planning and creating a new garden, or if space is limited, just planting some pots of veggies near the house for rewarding harvests, all gardening enhances overall health and zest for life.

In the grounds alongside the Integrated Health Solutions (IHS) practice on Laffers Road Belair is the Cherington Therapeutic Community Garden.

A community garden designed with the assistance of Sophie Thomson (of Sophies Patch), that is a productive food, herb and flower garden created as a demonstration, education and therapeutic garden space, overseen by Diana Bickford, on behalf of the Cancer Care Centre Inc.

The Garden was opened by Sophie 3 years ago and began with the assistance of a Special Grant from the Mitcham Council.

All gardeners, new and experienced are welcome to come along on Wednesday mornings. This garden provides opportunity to learn more about sustainable organic food gardening.

Inspiring monthly sessions of 'Conversations and Q & A' are held on the 3rd Wednesdays and cover a wide range of food gardening topics and provide helpful eco-solutions to gardening problems people may have.

□ Next Open Garden covers 'Spring Joy in Food Gardening' on Wednesday October 18 from 10am-12.30pm at 13 Laffers Rd Belair (formerly Blackwood Hospital). Contact the IHS practice on 7231 1628 for more information or Diana Bickford on 0407 339 660.

Leapt into world of writing with 3 book romantic comedy

GROWING up in a small country town made famous by TV series *McLeod's Daughters*, local hills author Bernadette Eden learnt the art of storytelling by listening to anecdotes and snippets of gossip around the kitchen table.

Now settled in Glenalta nearly twenty years later, Bernadette gets her storytelling fix by writing women's fiction with heart and humour ... and perhaps still indulging in a little bit of gossip.

Bernadette wrote her first book while on maternity leave, assuming she would have lots of time on her hands. She didn't. But she wrote it anyway.

After being longlisted and shortlisted for several Australian awards, and having her short story work selected for spoken-word literary evenings, Bernadette leapt into the world of self-publishing with a three book romantic comedy - 'The Molly Gardner Series'.

With the release of Bernadette's latest book, *Awaiting Annie Jones*, she tells the story of a young woman returning home from London to her small town in rural Cameron Valley.

With her celebrity fiancé's indiscretions splashed across the tabloids once again, Annie has nowhere else to go but home. But Annie will have to face the tragedy that forced her to leave Cameron Valley in the first place, and she worries her tight-knit community would never forgive her, if they knew what really happened the night her boyfriend died.

With an emphasis on community and forgiveness, *Awaiting Annie Jones* is Bernadette's fourth book involving a cast of characters residing in small rural communities.

Bernadette is an active member and volunteer



◆ Photo - Bernadette with her three book romantic comedy series and the latest release 'Awaiting Annie Jones'

for writing organisations, Romance Writers of Australia and Writers SA. When she is not writing, she divides her time between driving children to sport, or feeling guilty about watching *Bold and the Beautiful*!!

□ For more information on where to buy Bernadette's books and to subscribe for updates, head to her website at: www.bernadetteeden.com.au

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Learn how to develop your emotional resilience

BY TRACEY YEEND
WELLNESS FORUM JOINT CO-ORDINATOR

IN September, we again had a great turnout to our Wellness Education Session with Gerontology Physiotherapist Joanna Tan.

She discussed the role of the physiotherapist as we age, experience medical conditions and address the safety issues that may arise.

We are continually thankful to the large number of community members that come to support our Wellness Sessions.

In October, we bring to you session number 6 for 2023. It is an absolute pleasure to bring to the community, Debra Sandford (pictured below), Psychologist (MAPS, FCCP, B Psych (Hons), M Psych (Clinical), PhD Candidate) to look at the emotional



◆ Photo - Debra Sandford, Psychologist is presenting the next Wellness Forum

aspects of ageing.

Debra will discuss 'Emotional Health & Wellbeing' across the lifespan and how to remain resilient in the face of challenges like Covid.

Have you ever wondered why some people seem to sail through life, always sunny and positive? Or do you know people that seem to have the worst luck and yet they get back up, dust themselves off and keep going?

What these people have in common is emotional resilience. Debra's presentation will look at ways of developing emotional resilience, strengthening it and putting it to good use when you need it most.

Challenge yourself to come along and hear how we can go through the worst of times and come out the other end stronger, as well as some tips and tricks for getting the most out of each day. This presentation will also focus on self compassion and turning down the volume on our critical self-talk.

The seminar will be held at the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the Blackwood roundabout) on Tuesday, October 10. Please arrive 5pm ready for a 5.30pm start.

The Wellness Education Sessions are supported by Catherine Hutchesson MP for Waite, and sponsored by Peter Alexandrou Harris Real Estate Blackwood and the Green Dispensary Pharmacy.

☐ Bookings are essential and can be made at the Waite office of Catherine Hutchesson MP in Young Street, by phoning 8278 5844 or emailing waite@parliament.sa.gov.au



◆ Photo - Another great turnout to the Wellness Education forum held in September at the Blackwood Uniting Church with physiotherapist Joanna Tan

Belair National Park needs more Friends



this year, we've been busier than normal."

In early June, on a rainy week, they had 90(!) enthusiastic kids from the Stirling Kindy and Primary helping plant seedlings. Two other sessions were postponed due to inclement weather but are happening very soon.

There are big plans afoot to get 160 plants in the ground as Bandicoot habitat. Some of the kids collected money for buying the plants by doing chores at home ... that's dedication!

In late June, they had over 20 participants at their 2023 Golf Course Revegetation session, helping put some native flora back into the old golf course, thanks to funds raised by the Belair Hotel and the Belair National Park Action Group.

A later than usual planting happened in early August with a group of Certificate 2 students from TAFESA Urrbrae - Conservation and Ecosystem Management. They planted seedlings grown from seeds collected onsite by students in 2022.

All this was made easier thanks to a generous donation from Trail Running SA, which was put to use buying an auger and drill to make digging the holes a breeze!

"The Friends of Belair National Park acknowledge and welcome this support and feel we should publicly thank all those who have donated time or funds," added Pete.

"It's great to see so many community organisations working together, and we can't wait to see the plants flourish."

The Friends of Belair National Park are always looking for more volunteers in an on-ground or behind-the-scenes capacity.

☐ If you are interested in helping, contact the group via social media, email: friendsofnp@outlook.com or call Craig on 0421 910 935.



◆ Photo - Members of the 'Friends of Belair National Park' at a working bee planting seedlings to help rejuvenate the former golf course landscape

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Cats best kept at home for their own safety



◆ Photo - A concerned Blackwood Times reader sent in this photo ... "I found a tiny dead bird in my carport and 2 more in my garden. Then at dusk, a domestic cat appeared in my driveway. Neighbours tell me they have been concerned in the past about this cat. Apparently from next year, cats will have to be kept within your property. That can't come soon enough for me. Too late for these 3 little victims though."

THE Dog and Cat Management Board are encouraging cat owners to keep their pets safe at home.

A spokesperson for the Dog and Cat Management Board said an increasing number of cat owners were keeping their cats indoors or having enclosures built for them.

"Cats are perfectly happy living inside or using outdoor enclosures. There is no need for them to roam and there are many benefits to securing them on your property. They are less likely to get injured in fights with other cats, catch diseases from other cats or get hit by cars.

"From a community point of view, being a responsible cat owner reduces neighbourhood disputes and nuisance cat issue complaints to local councils.

"We would love to see people keeping their cats off the streets and encouraging their friends and families to do the same."

The board is also urging people to desex and microchip their cats. "Owners won't contribute to the problem if they desex their cats. Cats that are allowed outside have even a greater risk of producing unwanted litters.

"Too many kittens are born every year and there are just not enough homes for all of them."

Also keeping a cat within your property reduces the possibility of them being exposed to infectious diseases such as FIV, Feline Panleukopaenia, Feline Calicivirus, Feline Herpesvirus and Ringworm.

"House cats lead longer, healthier lives than cats allowed to roam, which are prone to injuries, illness or early death from fights, disease and road accidents..

"Most cats adjust well to staying home whether that's indoors or within your garden. The key is to make their indoor lives as enriching and intriguing as the outdoors."

Each year, the RSPCA and Animal Welfare League receives an average combined total of around 9700 cats, the vast majority of them abandoned, stray or lost.

Of the 1425 animals brought into RSPCA care via their rescue team last year, more than half were cats and kittens.

Dog and Cat Management Board spokesperson said, "it is mandatory for pet cats to be desexed, microchipped and registered in Dogs and Cats Online.

"Dogs and Cats Online is the state's official dog and cat register, and is the first port of call councils, vets, and shelters use to help reunite lost pets with their families.

"While some council's charge cat registration fees, and most don't; if you own a cat, it is mandatory to register it by its microchip in Dogs and Cats Online and this provides peace of mind that if your cat does become lost, it can be reunited with you."

Registration is quick and easy for owners to do themselves at www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au

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10 Waite St, Blackwood

Ways to keep your cat at home on your property

HOME CATS ARE SAFE FROM OTHER ANIMALS

The most common injuries reported by vets from cat fights are abscesses. These are incredibly painful and often need costly veterinary treatment. Diseases like Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) can also be transmitted through fights.

It will also minimise the risk of your cat contracting diseases, fleas, lice, ticks or worms from other animals.

HOME CATS MAKE BETTER NEIGHBOURS.

Your cat will be less likely to disrupt your neighbours.

Indoor cats preserve wildlife. Keeping your cat indoors prevents your cat from hunting wildlife.

INDOORS

Start by giving your cat a climbing/scratching pole, food, water, a litter tray and toys to keep your cat happy inside. Here's some other tips to make an indoor cat comfortable:

- * Cats like high resting places where cats can survey the surroundings whilst feeling safe.
- * Cats like enclosed spaces where they can retreat and hide from people and other animals.
- * Cats like clean comfortable bedding in quiet areas to allow sleeping and resting.

* Cats enjoy additional sights and sounds, like watching nature footage on television and having access to windows to watch what is happening outside.

OUTDOORS

Give your cat the best of both worlds by giving it access to your home and your yard.

Before you make fence modifications or build an enclosure, check with your local council to find out if you need development approval.

Fencing:

Cat-proofing your fence gives your cat complete access to your whole garden. Ask your local council if they have restrictions on fence extensions or adjustments.

Below are ways you can cat-proofing your existing fence:

- Netting: A fence with inward-facing overhangs (net barrier) can discourage your cat from leaving your property. If you're handy, you can do this yourself or you can hire a contractor.
- Purpose designed addition: There are commercial fencing system products which install 'paddles' along the top of your existing fence. These 'paddles' rotate when your cat touches them which discourages them from jumping on the fence. Remove ledges, platforms and trellis near fencing and block gaps



under and to the side of fencing to reduce the exit routes.

These additions may also keep other cats from entering your garden.

Enclosures:

You can confine your cat in an enclosure attached to an existing structure or have a free-standing enclosure.

In an enclosure, provide your cat a warm dry bed, shelter from wind and rain, and shade from the sun and access to fresh water and a place to toilet (away from where they are fed).

They'll also enjoy having access

to platforms at different heights and climbing structures.

There are commercial free-standing enclosures available, you can design and construct your own or commission a contractor.

The size of your free-standing enclosure will depend on the number of cats you have and how they behave together. They need enough space to be comfortable.

□ If you are looking for more help and advice regarding keeping your cat safe, visit www.dogandcatboard.com.au

Information extracted from the Cat and Management Board website.

THE BLACKWOOD TIMES

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170 MAIN ROAD BLACKWOOD

Kids soccer helps improve physical skills and confidence

ON the back of the incredible achievements of the Matilda's women soccer team at the recent World Cup in Australia, many parents are encouraging their children to give soccer a go.

Starting in term 4 in Blackwood, a non-competitive soccer program, 'Soccajoys' which is aimed at boys and girls of all abilities (3-8 years old) is held on Fridays.

Soccajoys is inclusive, super-fun, and focuses on developing children's physical, social and cognitive skills, building their self-confidence and overall well-being.

The new classes will be held at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade starting in Term 4 on Fridays:

- 9.30-10.30am Preschool Class (3-5 year olds)
- 4.00-5.00pm Preschool Class (3-5 year olds)
- 4.00-5.00pm Junior Class (6-8 year olds)

Come and give us a go - you will be impressed!

And don't just take our word for it - our parents keep bringing their children back to us, term after term, for more fun and learning:

"I was immediately impressed by Coach Dan's enthusiasm and ability to hold the attention of a group of toddlers," said mother of Josie and Eloise.

"This year we returned with my 3 year old and 5 year old girls to help improve their gross motor skills as well as develop their confidence in group game situations.

"Dan is extremely enthusiastic, and driven to ensure all children are involved and participating actively in the activities he organises as part of each session."

☐ You can register now for three free trial classes running on consecutive Fridays (commencing Friday, October 20) by contacting Coach Dan on 0429 408 992 or adelaidesouth@soccajoys.com



◆ Photo - Soccajoys Coach Dan (on left) presenting a participation certificate to Josie

30 years of fitting comfy lingerie for women

"AFTER having worked in hospitality for many years, I was looking for a new venture," said Michelle McShane, current owner of Blackwood Lingerie, who this month is celebrating 30 years since its doors opened back in 1993.

Michelle has lived locally for 23 years and often shopped at Blackwood Lingerie. It was only by chance that in 2002, she became aware that the business was up for sale, and if it could not be sold, would close.

"My husband had ordered a corset for me from Blackwood Lingerie and I dropped into to pick it up. When I was having a chat with Yvonne, the owner at the time, I found out that she wanted to sell the business, and the rest is history," explained Michelle.

"We must be doing something right, as here we are 21 years later with larger premises and a vastly expanded range of products for shoppers to choose from."

As the business grew under Michelle's

direction, the store next to Blackwood Lingerie became vacant and the wall was knocked down creating a much bigger shop.

This allowed Michelle to increase stock levels and size ranges, giving customers a greater selection of products and items to select from and try on. And it's not all about the women, Michelle has also added a range of socks, jocks and sleepwear for men.

Call in and check out the winter sale on, while summer sleepwear is starting to arrive each week. With warmer weather already on its way, Blackwood Lingerie stock a large range of swimwear, sizes from 8-30.

October is 'Breast Cancer Awareness' month and Blackwood Lingerie donates 5% of all bra sales to this worthy research program. The stock mastectomy bras as well as having qualified bra and prosthesis fitters.

And as a special in celebrating 30 years, Blackwood Lingerie is offering

customers 30% off any full priced item in stock when you pay in cash until Saturday October 7 (see advert below).

☐ The shop is located on Shepherds Hill Road, next to Woolworths, and you can enter through the People's Choice Credit Union arcade.

Phone 8278 4509 if you are looking for more information, or check out www.blackwoodlingerie.com.au and their Facebook page.

Blackwood Lingerie

October is ... Breast Cancer Awareness Month

during October we will donate 5% of all Bra Sales to Breast Cancer Research (In the past 3 years ... over \$1,500 has been donated)

In celebrating 30 years, receive 30% off ...



any full priced item in stock when you pay cash until Saturday October 7.

Call in & view our extensive range of bras (sizes 08-30 AA-K)
Mastectomy bras & swimwear available
Qualified bra & prosthesis fitters
Prosthesis fittings by appointment

364 Shepherds Hill Road
Ph 8278 4509 (next to Woolworths in Arcade)
www.blackwoodlingerie.com.au



◆ Photo - Robyne and Michelle (on right) from Blackwood Lingerie helping a customer with the purchase of a new swimsuit for summer

Pickleball comes to the Rec Centre

HAVE you heard about the worldwide game, Pickleball! which is now on offer locally at the Blackwood Recreation Centre.

Pickleball is an exciting new sport that has been in Australia since 2017, and in South Australia since late 2019. About 250 people play pickleball every month in South Australia.

Pickleball is a fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and table-tennis. The game is played on a badminton-sized court and a slightly modified tennis net.

The equipment used are paddles and a plastic

ball with holes. The games can be played as doubles or singles and can be enjoyed by all ages and skill levels.

Play is indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court. Usually played as doubles, but also played as singles. A game takes 10-25 minutes.

Serving is under-arm and rallies involve serving, ground strokes, volleys and dinks.

☐ If you want to come and try a game of 'Pickleball' contact the Blackwood Recreation Centre on 8278 8833 or email: contactus@blackwoodrec.com.au (see free offer in advert below).



◆ Photo - Pickleball can now be played at the Blackwood Recreation Centre

Come and Try
PICKLEBALL
at the Blackwood Recreation Centre

Session times:

Monday: 2:30pm - 4:30pm
Tuesday: 10:15am - 12:15pm
Tuesday: 5:00pm - 7:00pm

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Russell Clinic welcomes new GP's!

Dr. Mandeep Kaur
Gained her medical experience working in primary and tertiary hospitals in Melbourne. Dr. Mandeep finished her fellowship training at a rural practice in Mildura. She enjoys all aspects of general practice and has special interests in women's health including contraception, pregnancy, preventive health and chronic disease management. She also performs minor skin procedures and implanon insertions.

Dr. Neha Prasad Sinha
Following her induction into the Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners in 2021, she continues to diversify her clinical portfolio with the additional qualification as a certified practitioner in Obstetrics Shared Care, Reproductive & Sexual Health and Obesity Management. She is currently developing a specialisation in skin cancer management.

Dr. Georgie Minns
Georgie is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and has recently returned from Alice Springs where she worked in O&G to complete a Certificate in Women's Health. She enjoys managing all areas of General Practice though has a special interest in Women's Health including: IUD insertion & removal, Implanon insertion & removal and Pregnancy and postpartum care

Dr. Fran Adams
Studied Medicine at the University of Leeds (England) and graduated in 2000. Following further training, she worked as a GP in England for 17 years before moving to Adelaide with her family in 2021. She has specialist interests in Women's Health (including pregnancy and menopause), Contraception (including Implanon fittings), Mental Health, Paediatrics, Diabetes and Respiratory

WWW.RUSSELLCLINIC.COM.AU/HOME

Hills Choral to take us back to the 70s

FOR their October concert this year, the Hills Choral Society are taking us back to the 1970s.

The "Back to the Seventies" performance will include many popular songs from this era including hits from ABBA and Queen, to the musicals of Stephen Sondheim.

There will be a great selection of songs and music from around 50 years ago, providing a rich tapestry of music that has lasted the distance and is still popular today.

Together with contributions from guest soloists, and under the guidance of Music Director Ian Boath, this concert promises to be a veritable "pot-pourri" of musical treats.

The concert will be held at the choir's normal performance venue - Blackwood Church of Christ (corner of Waite Street and Shepherds Hill Road) on Sunday 15th October at 2.30pm.

Make sure you book early to ensure your seat, at what will be another great afternoon of musical entertainment, as space is limited and the Hills Choral Society have a substantial following of keen supporters.

☐ Bookings can easily be made through Trybooking (<https://www.trybooking.com/CLDEW>) or there will be limited door sales at the regular prices of \$25 Adult; \$20 Concession; and reduced prices for children.

Assistance with booking or help with any other enquiries can be arranged by contacting any member of the choir, through the website <https://hillschoralsociety.org> or Freecall 1800 717 483.

Belair disc golf course opens

THE Belair Disc Golf Course set in a spectacular national park amongst amazing gum trees is now open for business.

This course boasts 18 concrete tee pads and 27 baskets! It features a "quick 6" community friendly loop, a "quick 9" loop, a beginner and advanced layout, and existing sand traps which play as a hazard.



The course is mapped on uDisc: <https://app.uisdisc.com/applink/course/28375> and is free to play - all you need is a disc.

☐ For people who would like to try, they can hire discs at the Belair Holiday Park office as well as the Escape Goat Café. If you want to buy your own disc, and for more information go to www.sadiscgolf.com

Learn from ancient wisdom on climate



BY ANDREW TIDSWELL
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
BLACKWOOD

ACCORDING to weather forecasters, we are in for a long, hot summer, leading to more heat discomfort. Already more people die from the effects of hot weather than any other natural event.

Recent research in the Northern Territory has concluded that Aboriginal people are less likely to succumb to hot weather stress than non-Indigenous people, despite them having poorer housing conditions and poorer health generally.

It concluded that "Aboriginal culture, and knowledge of the environment has enabled them to have extraordinary resilience to extreme weather".

Dr. Simon Quilty from the Australian National University says that listening to Indigenous people and understanding their cultural resilience to heat, is vital in adapting for the future with hotter weather becoming the norm.

We are locked into higher temperatures due to our past and continuing burning of fossil fuels.

Quilty's research confirms the benefits of Aboriginal, and other old cultures in hot climates, organising their days to work hardest in the mornings and evenings, while resting during

the hottest parts of the day. This is free, has no carbon footprint and benefits our physical and mental health.

It will require some re-thinking of our work culture, but we are up for that.

(Designing our buildings and cities to better cope with a changing climate is still important and will be explored in a future article.)

Spending most of our day in air conditioning reduces our ability to acclimatise, and makes us more vulnerable to heat stress. Taking heed of traditional knowledge can help our bodies adapt to hotter weather.

There is much wisdom we can learn from Aboriginal people who see themselves as integral parts of the whole natural environment, dependent on a thriving nature for humans to also thrive.

This will become increasingly important for our future survival. Aboriginal people are graciously willing to share this knowledge, and we would benefit from listening to their voices.

We can all benefit from a greater appreciation of the natural world as something that we should live in harmony with, rather than being just resources to chop down, dig up and pollute, to satisfy our profligate consumer lifestyle.

To have a sustainable future to leave to our descendants, let alone to live comfortably in a hotter climate; we need to have a more respectful relationship to the natural world, something our First Nations peoples have had for some 65,000 years. ☐



ABBA CHICAGO

BACK TO THE 70'S

BEE-GEES JOHN DENVER QUEEN BEATLES

Sunday 15 Oct 2023 at 2:30pm

**Blackwood Church of Christ
Cnr Shepherds Hill Rd & Waite St, Blackwood**

**Music Director : Ian Boath Guitar & flute soloists
Accompanist : Christopher Matters**

TICKETS
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Adults \$25; Concession \$20;
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or hillschoralsociety.org/



Severe impact of El Nino highlights need for more renewable energy



BY LOUISE MILLER-FROST
FEDERAL MP
FOR BOOTHBY

AT time of writing, the Bureau of Meteorology has just officially declared the El Nino weather event.

We have already had some surprisingly warm spring days - 30 degrees in September! And we can expect more of the same. El Nino is associated with hotter drier conditions, and all the risks that go with those conditions.

Climate change does not simply mean warmer weather, although that is certainly part of it. Climate change also means more energy in weather systems - more powerful and more frequent storms, such as some of the "freak" events we have seen locally and around the world.

This demands responses locally and systemically.

The Federal Government has provided \$825,000 to Mitcham Council for fuel load reduction and community education around bushfires in the Adelaide Hills.

Funding is also being provided to the Sturt Group CFS for two additional Quick Response Vehicles, which I am informed the CFS now has on the heavy vehicle purchase list for the 2023/24 financial year.

We have also established the Federal Disaster Ready Fund, which provides funding to improve resilience and reduce risk to natural disasters. SA received funding in the first round for Keswick Brownhill Creek Stormwater Project - Brownhill Creek is the sixth most likely catchment to flood in Australia. If there is one thing we know in Australia, it's that both flood and drought conditions are inevitable, and we need to be prepared for both.

The El Nino also has implications for the Murray Darling Basin.

SA is at the "bottom" of the Murray-Darling system and hence we get all of the nutrients and salts from the entire catchment.

Unless we have sufficient flows to keep the Murray Mouth open and wash the nutrients out to sea, the water at the bottom of the river system - the Coorong and its RAMSAR listed wetlands, the Lower Lakes, and the lower river system - becomes unusable for stock and for domestic use, and toxic to the environment. Murray water is piped to Adelaide and as far as the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas for domestic use - we need healthy water.

And yet of the 450GL of environmental flows required, only 2GL has been achieved to date.

The Murray Darling Basin Bill introduced to Parliament by Minister Tanya Plibersek in September gives an extension in deadlines, additional funding and additional options for achieving the flows.

Options include infrastructure projects to ensure more efficient use of water, and voluntary buy-backs.

Systemically, we need to transition to net zero as quickly as possible. The Federal Government's 43% emissions reduction target by 2030 has already mobilised international funding to invest in renewable projects in Australia.

When the Albanese Government was elected, renewables sat at 33%. Just over a year later it is at 40%, but we need to get to 82% by 2030.

There are a record 102 renewable projects in the pipeline - and the faster we transition to cheap renewable energy, the faster we can transition away from expensive fossil fuels, which expose us to international energy market prices.

☐ If you have any queries, please contact my office on 8374 0511 or email: Louise.Miller-Frost.MP@aph.gov.au



LOUISE MILLER-FROST MP
Federal Member for Boothby

Saying Yes is about:

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Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our Constitution and paying respect to 65,000 years of culture and tradition.

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Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our Constitution and paying respect to 65,000 years of culture and tradition.

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Get In Touch

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📍 Shop 2, 670 ANZAC Hwy Glenelg, SA 5045

New device can save damage to side mirrors



"I'VE been working in the auto electrical industry for over 50 years now," said Barry Kidd, owner of *Blackwood Auto & Electrical*, "and not a year goes by, without some new device or product being launched that makes life easier for motorists."

"And with most new cars having an onboard computer, many electronic devices can be easily installed to improve the operation of the vehicle."

If you have electronic folding side rearview mirrors on your vehicle, then this new module could be of interest to you.

When you exit your car, with this device fitted, your mirrors will now automatically fold in when your vehicle is locked using the remote key fob.



Then, when you return to your car and unlock the doors using the remote key, both mirrors will fold back out.

Having the ability to fold the vehicle's mirrors in

when locked will greatly reduce the risk of them being damaged by passing cars, cyclists or pedestrians.

(Note: The existing mirror fold button on your door console will still retain full function.)



"I have fitted this module to both my Toyota Hi-Lux and my wife's Toyota RAV4," added Barry. "It certainly makes life a lot easier knowing that the side mirrors can be folded in remotely now."

Blackwood Auto & Electrical is a local 'one stop workshop' for your vehicle, and with 5 mechanics and 2 administrative staff, you can be assured your car will be attended to and returned to you in the shortest possible time.

They work on all makes and models, including 4WDs, SUVs, vans, trailers and caravans for any mechanical or electrical repairs; also log book servicing.

And coming into the warmer weather and a long hot summer



predicted, they are fully licensed to re-gas, repair and service your vehicle's air conditioning system.

Blackwood Auto & Electrical are located at 255 Main Road, Blackwood (next to Bridgestone Tyres). If you catch the train, you can drop your car off, or even walk to shops while it gets serviced.

To book your car in, phone 8370 2244 or visit www.blackwoodauto.com.au for more information.

Seniors forum to stay safe on the road

ARE you up to speed with the current road rules?

In conjunction with the RAA, the Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC is hosting a free community Seniors forum event at the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) in relation to road safety.

Guest speaker, Tony Ey from the RAA, is an expert in helping people stay safe on our roads. So come along, grab a cuppa and learn how to keep yourself and others safe whilst driving!

This forum for Seniors is called 'RAA Road Rules Safety Quiz', an interactive presentation on general road rules and give way rules.

Tony will facilitate the session that will cover:

- Misunderstood road rules
- New road rules



- What to do after a crash.

You will be able to use individual clickers to choose your answers (anonymously) to the quiz and see the group results in real time on the screen.

The forum is part of a series run by the Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC specifically looking to engage with Seniors on topics of contemporary and local importance to them.

Whilst a completely free event, there will be a voluntary opportunity to make a gold-coin donation going to the Blackwood CFS on the day.

This free event is being held in the Blackwood Uniting Church, 266 Main Road, Blackwood on Friday, October 20 from 2-4pm (afternoon tea is provided)

To RSVP, or for any queries, please contact Centofanti. office@parliament.sa.gov.au or phone 8237 9350.

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Workshop on making twig and vine Christmas trees

WITH the 2023 Christmas Tree Festival getting closer, if you are looking for help and inspiration with your creation, a free workshop in November has been organised to learn how to make twig and vine Christmas trees.

The Blackwood Action Group, sponsored by Mitcham Council, will be providing this



hands-on workshop on Sunday afternoon, November 5, at Blackwood railway station.

All the materials will be provided as well as a scrumptious afternoon tea.

A decorating workshop will follow on 18 & 19 November.

Register your attendance, and then join in the fun and enjoy getting to know other locals.

The trees and wreaths will be sold at Blackwood's Christmas Tree Festival on 9-10 December. Money raised will be donated to the local CFS and the Lions Hearing Dogs project.

Please register before October 24 by emailing : paulinedodd@bigpond.com or speak to Di at Habitat in the Drakes Shopping Centre.



Eden Hills garden opens to the public

THE 'Open Gardens' spring program is happening during October and one local 'Garden at Wilpena Street', will fling open its antique French iron gates again, to allow visitors a rare chance to see the romantic English-style garden inside.

The garden is generally hidden from view behind a high brush fence on a corner of Wilpena Street in Eden Hills.



Locals have watched hard-working owners Rob Andrewartha and Dave Simms create the garden over the past twenty years.

Starting as a disused tennis court, Dave and Rob have tamed the sloping block by using retaining walls and steps to form distinct garden rooms.

They have laid three lawns, hundreds of pavers, built a fishpond, barrowed in 130 tons of topsoil, laid 160 metres of retaining walls and planted 64 trees. There are lawns, borders and patios, and the result is stunning.

Keen gardeners can pick up ideas for their own gardens while enjoying the roses, herbaceous borders and veggie patch.

The garden will be open on Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22, from 10am to 4:30pm at 41 Wilpena Street, Eden Hills. Adult entry is \$10. High tea on the lawn is raising extra funds for the Animal Welfare League's foster care program.

Further details can be found on Facebook.com/ GardenAtWilpenaSt

TWIG & VINE CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

Have fun making trees and wreaths to be sold at the Christmas Tree Festival. Enjoy afternoon tea and make new friends.

**Sunday 5 Nov + 18/19 Nov
1.30 pm to 4.30 pm**

Blackwood station
Station Road, Blackwood

It's free!
Offered to you by Blackwood Action Group's : Community Links Group
Sponsored by City of Mitcham

**RSVP by
24 October**
paulinedodd@bigpond.com

Or register at Habitat, near Drakes

For more details about the Christmas Tree Festival visit
www.blackwoodactiongroup.org.au

The Rotary Club of Blackwood

GIANT BOOK SALE

Saturday 14th October 2023
from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

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ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKWOOD WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY

WHAT'S ON IN BLACKWOOD & DISTRICTS

Visit www.blackwoodbusinessdirectory.com.au anytime for an up-to-date listing of local events

FREE Listings ... looking for more members ... publish your club's notice and contact details here each month. Send email to info@blackwoodtimes.com.au

◆ **1 October**
BOTTLE COLLECTION - from 9am by Belair Scout Group. Collect ALL GLASS bottles and jars, ALL REFUNDABLE cans, bottles and cartons from your driveway. Any queries phone Nicola on 0412 708 940.

◆ **1 October**
BLACKWOOD CRAFT MARKET - from 10am to 3pm at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade. Admission is free. New stall enquiries to Kerrie on 0427 410 917.

◆ **1 & 15 October**
OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE - located in the Belair National Park and is open from 1-4pm. Tour with afternoon Devonshire tea \$15pp; and tour only \$5 for adults and children under 12 free. Entry into Belair National Park is free if visiting OGH - tell staff at gate. For more information phone 0417 870 596.

◆ **2 & 16 October**
BLACKWOOD ROTARY - meet at Belair Hotel, 141 Main Road at 6pm for 6.30pm start. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in joining the club, please contact Kevin Marsh on 0428 522 362.

◆ **2 & 16 October**
COROMANDEL VALLEY ROTARY - meet at Parish Hall, 337 Main Road, Coromandel Valley (behind St John's Church) at 6pm for 6.30pm start. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in joining the club, contact Peter on 0408 841 150.

◆ **4 October**
BLACKWOOD LIONS - meet at 6.30pm in Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde. New enquiries welcome. If you want more information or thinking of joining, give Chris Martin a call on 0409 900 499.

◆ **4 October**
BLACKWOOD RECONCILIATION GROUP - meet in the 'Coffee Lounge' room in

the Blackwood Uniting Church (near Blackwood roundabout) at 7pm. For more information see Facebook or email: blackwoodreconciliationgroup@gmail.com

◆ **4 October**
BLACKWOOD FREEMASONS - all past and current members of Blackwood no 93 meet from 7.30pm at Masonic Ctr, 229 Main Rd (opposite Coles and behind The CPAP Room premises). If you want more information contact Ted on 0407 978 214 or e: blackwoodlodge93@gmail.com

◆ **5 October**
BLACKWOOD PROBUS CLUB - meet at Masonic Lodge, 229 Main Road (opp. Coles) from 9.30am. An informal and social outlet for retired and semi-retired ladies and gents. Visitors and new members welcome. Enquiries to Norman on 8178 2653.

◆ **5 October**
TONSLEY VIEW CLUB - meet at the Tonsley Hotel, South Rd, Tonsley, at 11am for 11.30 start. Cost is \$25 for lunch. Often have guest speaker, raffle and trading table. VIEW is a women's group supporting The Smith Family by sponsoring children. Phone Deborah on 0468 630 020 for details or email: tonsleyviewclub21@gmail.com

◆ **7 October**
NATIONAL TRUST COROMANDEL VALLEY & DISTRICTS - anyone is welcome to join in their morning tea and catch up with friends or meet new locals - held at the Watchman House on Main Road from 9am-12noon. For more details check out Facebook page or phone 0474 066 776.

◆ **8 & 22 October**
JOAN'S PATCH : A GARDEN FOR THE COMMUNITY - meets 1-4pm at Joan's Pantry, Watahuna Avenue, Hawthorndene to share ideas, plant seedlings and tend to community garden. New members welcome. Enquiries to Deb on 0419 824 787 or e: jpkitchengarden@gmail.com

◆ **10 October**
WELLNESS EDUCATION SEMINAR - held at the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the

roundabout at 5.30pm. Guest presenter Debra Sandford, psychologist will cover 'Emotional Health & Wellbeing'. See more info on page 5.

◆ **11 October**
BLACKWOOD HILLS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FOR REFUGEES - meet at Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout in the Cafe lounge. Everyone welcome to attend. For more information email annabeldayal@gmail.com

◆ **11 October**
ADELAIDE-MITCHAM PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - meet at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens from 7-8.45pm. Guest speakers are arranged for most meetings. All welcome. Enquiries: Ralph 0406 006 654, Roland 0438 604 323 and www.adelaide-mitchamcpcsg.org

◆ **12 & 26 October**
BLACKWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Pde, Blackwood at 7.30pm. Visitors and those interested in amateur photography welcome. Contact Ian on 0410 634 046 or email: panjarri@gmail.com

◆ **12 October**
HAWTHORNDENE MENS' PROBUS - meet 9.30am at Belair Uniting Church, Sheoak Rd, where retired men find new interests, new friends and stimulating speakers. Also, regular outings, reading and walking groups. New members welcome - contact Robert on 0488 170 848.

◆ **14 October**
GIANT BOOK SALE - held by the Rotary Club of Blackwood at Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade from 9am to 3pm. Huge selection of good quality books from only 50 cents. Get there early for best bargains.

◆ **14 October**
AUST SEWING GUILD (MITCHAM) - anyone interested in sewing from beginners to advanced are welcome. Held at Blackwood Uniting Church, (near Blackwood roundabout) from 1-4pm. Phone Donna on 8374 3172 or 0413 022 162 for details.

◆ **14 October**
BLACKWOOD PHILATELIC CIRCLE - meet at 1.30pm at the Blackwood Uniting Church near the Blackwood roundabout. Displays and sales of a wide range of Australian and World stamps at most meetings. Everyone welcome to attend. Phone Trevor on 0437 050 831 for further details.

◆ **15 October**
HILLS CHORAL - presents 'Back to the 70s' concert at the Blackwood Church of Christ (cnr Waite St & Shepherds Hill Rd) at 2:30pm. Listen to all your favourites from ABBA to the Beatles. For more details see advert on page 8.

◆ **15 October**
FRIENDS OF GAMBLE COTTAGE & GARDEN open between 1-4pm. Enjoy a stroll through historic gardens and view cottage. Plant nursery open with range of inexpensive plants. Entry is free - 296 Main Rd, Blackwood cnr Dorham Rd. Enquiries to Chris on 0418 827 825.

◆ **17 October**
FRIENDS OF STURT GORGE - meet at 7.30pm. Hold regular working bees to maintain trails and weeding days. Phone Bob Grant on 7329 8296 for meeting location and working bees. Visit www.fosg.org.au and email: bobgrant@adam.com.au

◆ **18 October**
BLACKWOOD WINEMAKERS & BREWERS CLUB - meet at Blackwood Memorial Hall, 19 Coromandel Pde, from 7.30pm. Learn about wine-making and brewing, guest speakers with wine and beer tastings. New members welcome. Phone Bernie on 0447 212 278 or email: secretary@bwbc.org.au for details.

◆ **18 October**
CHERINGTON THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GARDEN - Open Garden for Morning of Conversations and Q&A - 'Spring Joy in Food Gardening'. Hosted by professional, passionate, experienced gardeners keen to connect & help community enjoy their garden ventures. All gardeners welcome. Join the conversations & bring

any questions. From 10am-12.30pm at 13 Laffers Rd Belair (formerly Blackwood Hospital). Enquiries Diana Bickford 0407 339 660.

◆ **20 October**
RAA SAFETY QUIZ - in conjunction with Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC a road rules safety forum held at the Blackwood Uniting Church (near the roundabout) at 2pm. Come along with some friends and have some fun answering the quiz questions while getting up to speed on road rules. For more details, phone 8237 9350.

◆ **23 October**
BLACKWOOD FLORAL ART CLUB - held at Blackwood Uniting Church at 7.30-9pm. All welcome but must email attendance in advance - no experience required. View activities of club at: www.blackwoodfloralart.blogspot.com.au

◆ **23 October**
MITCHAM HILLS COMBINED PROBUS - meet at Club Marion, 262 Sturt Road, Marion from 10.30am. Come and enjoy our happy and friendly retirees for fun, fellowship and friendship. Phone Christine on 0400 809 704 or visit www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/mitchamhills

◆ **25 October**
ZONTA CLUB OF ADELAIDE HILLS - work to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Meet at Belair Hotel at 6.30pm for 7pm start. Visitors welcome. Contact Bev on 0407 603 117 for details.

◆ **26 October**
COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF COROMANDEL VALLEY - has relocated to St Johns Anglican Church Hall, 337 Main Road, Coromandel Valley. Meetings are held at 10am We are a medium size Club with maximum membership of 75. Each meeting we have a guest speaker and each month an outing is planned as well as 'gals' and 'guys' coffee mornings. New members most welcome. Contact Bob on 0418 836 414 or Heather 0448 351 880 for more info.

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Many benefits go to community from Bargain Centre project

THE Lions Club of Blackwood, along with the whole community, is happy to report that the impact of the long running Covid pandemic is almost over ... however, it seems that it will continue to impact on our lives in many and varied ways ... whether to wear a mask or not, should you still isolate if you get Covid?

"Meanwhile, the Lions Bargain Centre on Shepherds Hill Road at Eden Hills, which is the mainstay of our Club's fundraising activities, continues to thrive," said Chris Martin, Blackwood Lions Club spokesperson. "Donations of high quality goods from the generous Adelaide Hills community, is one of the main reasons our weekly sales continue to grow, which allows our Club to support many local and national projects."

As well as raising much needed funds that assist with community programs, and help numerous other local clubs and organisations, the Bargain Centre is indirectly helping the environment, by preventing tonnes of goods and items ending up in landfill.

"Due to the increased demand and patronage at the Lions Bargain Centre, there is a plan to expand the undercover storage area, and over the past twelve months we have been working on securing the funding to under take that build," explained Chris.

"Work is due to commence by the end of October and when completed, will increase the storage/display area available by some 30%. This will result in the ability to accept more saleable goods and lead to increased sales, allowing the Club to increase their support for the local community.

"A big thank you goes out to Mitcham Council and the Federal Government for their financial support for this building project," added Chris.

Blackwood Lions Club members have contributed in excess of 10,000 volunteer hours over the past year; and this equates to approximately \$40,000 worth of paid labor.

Should anyone be interested in finding out a bit more about the Blackwood Lions Club and what it may involve to become a member, feel free to drop in to the Bargain Centre on a Saturday morning and have a chat to any one of the Lions members present. Alternatively, come along to one of our meetings. They are held on the first Wednesday of each month in the Studio Room of the Blackwood Memorial Hall, 21 Coromandel Parade, commencing at 7pm.

I am sure that locals will be interested to know that the Lions Christmas Pageant is returning to "normal" this year. The route returns to Main Road/Young Street and finishing in Waite Reserve. Father Christmas will be available for photos and may even have some sweets to distribute. Join in the fun on Friday December 1 from 6.30pm, starting at corner of Gulfview and Main Roads, Blackwood.

☐ The Lions Bargain Centre is located next to Karinya Reserve (soccer grounds) on Shepherds Hill Road, Eden Hills. To find out more, call Chris Martin on 0409 900 499.



Join in Xmas Pageant on Friday December 1

THE Christmas Parade held in the heart of Blackwood is once again planned to go ahead this year on the first Friday in December.

"We are pleased that Father Christmas will be able to arrive in Blackwood, in the style to which he has been accustomed, rather than sneek in via the back door as he has had to, the last couple of years," said Blackwood Lions Club Pageant Coordinator, Lew Corso (above).

Start time will be the same at 6:30pm from the corner of Gulfview Road and Main Road (near Hungry Jacks).

With the construction of the Blackwood

Community Hub & Library (Tiwu Kumangka) completed, the Parade will again finish at Waite Reserve in Young Street, where the Christmas Fair will start up after the Pageant ends.

With around 13,000 onlookers turning out in previous years and 850 Pageant participants, the Christmas Parade & Fair, involves a lot of organising and help from members of different service clubs and organisations.

☐ If you are planning to enter a float in the Pageant, contact the local MP office for registration details on 8278 5844 or email: waite@parliament.sa.gov.au

Your needs are our concern

THE Blackwood Lions Club continues to seek out the needs within the community and last year was no exception.

During 2022-23, Blackwood Lions Club made donations to over 40 organisations, clubs and groups ... locally, statewide, nationally and internationally.

The Primary School assistance packages of \$2,000 were expanded to reach each of the six schools in the area, for a project of their choice, that they wish to implement within their school; along with Bursaries donated to Blackwood High School (totalling \$7,000); as well as assistance to local Scout Groups, means that approximately 20% of the Club's "support" goes towards the young folk in the community ... our future.

"We look forward to continued success and building on the cooperation that exists amongst us and the willingness of our Lions and their partners to participate in so many community ventures," said incoming President Gary Porter.

"These events often involve holding BBQs, the Eve Anzac Day Vigil, and the Blackwood Christmas Pageant to mention a few; with our biggest fundraiser activity still being the Lions Bargain Centre."

If you're looking for good quality second hand goods, check out the Lions Bargain Centre on Saturday mornings from 8:30am-12:30pm ... they have everything from building supplies to household goods to furniture to hardware.

Emergency booklet is a life saver

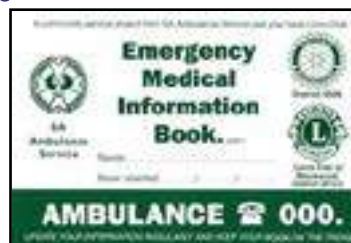
THIS project undertaken by the Blackwood Lions Club is offering the means of saving lives.

The Emergency Medical Information (EMIB) booklet, available from most doctors and chemists in Blackwood, is filled out by you with information about your medical history, the medication your taking, etc. and placed on the front of your refrigerator.

Should an ambulance need to be called, they have immediate access to your medical information and don't have to wait to carry out tests in hospital. The time saved can often be the difference between life and death. We urge you, especially those with known conditions, to pick up and fill out these booklets.

The EMIB Project is now endorsed by the CAA (Council of Ambulance Authorities). We as Lions have distributed just over 300,000 books throughout the whole of Australia since becoming part of the project.

☐ For any information regarding the EMIB project, visit the website www.emib.org.au or contact chairman Chris Martin from Blackwood Lions at e: martin.chris@internode.on.net



What it means to be a Lion ...



A simple question with a simple answer ... the ability to contribute to an organisation that has the demonstrable ability to make a difference not only at an international level, but more importantly, at a local community level.

The bonus is that the fundraising activity is an enjoyable experience by being a part of the team structure at the Lions Bargain Centre, along with the social aspect of our business meetings, where we discuss the dispersal of funds as a club enabling input from the whole membership.

The Club is always looking for community minded men and women of all ages to help us by joining the Club – giving back to the community in which we all live and enjoy.

Fellowship, good times, meeting people, building lasting friendships, service to the community, learning skills, leadership and personal development – are just some of the good things and benefits about being a member of Lions.

A meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month, followed by our social meeting held on the third Wednesday.

You become part of the world's largest service and humanitarian organisation.

☐ To find out more information on the Blackwood Lions Club, call Kevin Brook on 0407 970 603.

BLACKWOOD LIONS CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2023

Thank you Blackwood & districts!

Through your generosity the Lions Club of Blackwood has been able to support the following with Donations in excess of \$100,000 -

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberfoyle Park Scouts ANZAC Eve Vigil Australian-Cambodian Foundation Australian Lions Foundation Belair Guides Belair Scouts Bellevue Heights Primary School Blackwood Action Group Blackwood Calisthenics Blackwood Circle of Friends Blackwood High School Blackwood Kindergarten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blackwood Memorial Hall Blackwood Primary School Blackwood Recreation Centre Blackwood Scouts Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall Christian Blind Mission Eden Hills Scouts Emergency Medical Booklets (EMIB) Haiti Flood Appeal Hope International Lesotho Book Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lions Alzheimer's Association Lions Childhood Cancer Research Lions Clubs International Foundation Lions Christmas Hampers Lions Drug Awareness Foundation Lions Eye Banks Lions Eye Health Programs Lions Hearing Dogs Lions Medical Research Foundation Lions Save Sight Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lions Skin Cancer Screenings Lions Spinal Cord Foundation Lions World Peace Poster Lions Used Specs Collection Lions Youth of the Year Mary Potter Foundation Meals on Wheels Mitchell Park Cricket Club Mitchell Park Football Club Morphett Vale Scouts Multiple Sclerosis Society Nature Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OSSAA (Overseas Specialist Surgical Assn of Aust) Plan International Reynella Scouts Royal Flying Doctor Service SCOSA St Johns Ambulance Sturt CFS Technical Aid for Disabled <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">Plus many more local, national & international organizations</p>
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