

• Kensington 5068 •

JUNE 2025 | KENSINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is produced on the country of the Kaurna people, the traditional owners of the Adelaide Plains and the original residents of Kensington.

Upcoming events

Borthwick Park Planting Days

All welcome! Kid-friendly events, full training provided, learn more about native plants.

Please wear clothing and footwear suitable for gardening.

Saturday 5th July, 1pm to 4.30pm.

Afternoon tea provided and drinks and nibbles afterwards.

Sunday 27th July, 9am to 12.30pm.

Morning tea provided with lunch afterwards.

Enquiries John ☎ 0422 909 710 or

✉ contact@kra.org.au



McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

If your child was born between 1/5/2021 and 31/10/2021 they are eligible for mid-year Kindergarten. McKellar Stewart Kindy, located on the corner of Thornton and Regent Streets, provides an exciting learning experience for children in the year before school.

Group 1: Mon/Tues (alt. Fri)

8:45am - 3:15pm

Group 2: Wed/Thurs (alt. Fri)

8:45am - 3:15pm

Contact the Kindy by phone ☎ 8431

6565 or email ✉ dl.4632.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au to enrol your child.



The KRA is campaigning to protect Local Heritage at 69 High Street.

This modest building - the original Kensington Village school house - has stood firm for at least 180 years yet now stands cordoned off, under threat of demolition. For more details visit <https://www.kra.org.au/news-and-events/>

The KRA is turning 50 in 2027!

Our amazing KRA Secretary, Andrew Dyson, has held this role since 1979 and has many boxes of Association records dating back to those early years. We are seeking someone interested in local history and archiving who can help us preserve the written history of the Association. This will mean digging deep into our boxes of historical treasures with guidance from Andrew. The State Library of SA is also interested in our records and may be able to provide direction. Please call Andrew on ☎ 8331 9654 or email us at ✉ contact@kra.org.au to express your interest.

WINTER SOLSTICE OPEN MIC

**SATURDAY
21 JUNE
7.00PM**

FREE ENTRY & FREE FINGER FOOD

**ADD YOUR VOICE TO THE KENSI-FRENZY
SINGALONG CHOIR!**

**WHERE:
KENSINGTON HOTEL
REGENT ROOM
23 REGENT STREET
KENSINGTON**

**DISCOUNT DRINKS FOR KRA MEMBERS
(JOIN ON THE NIGHT)**

Register to perform at contact@kra.org,
via our website www.kra.org or text 0401 126 173.
(Acts limited to 10 minutes please)



BROUGHT TO YOU
BY THE KENSINGTON
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
AND THE KENSI HOTEL



THE KENSI

KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COLOUR

Clean Up Australia Day

On Clean Up Australia Day 2nd March 2025 a team of local volunteers collected rubbish from every street and park in Kensington. The amount of litter was quite small, but unfortunately a number of large items needed to be collected from footpaths for correct disposal, including three tyres, barrel hoops, a car seat, a chair and a fan.

A number of Kensington school groups, helped with the Clean Up in the week prior to 2nd March.

Thanks to everyone who helps keep our suburb beautiful, to Clean Up Coordinator Peter Duffy and to the volunteer chefs who cooked the delicious Clean Up Australia Day barbeque brunch.

Remember! Residents are entitled to 2 free hard waste collections every year. Book online <https://www.eastwaste.com.au/hard-rubbish-self-service-nps/>



A win and a big birthday!

The Rising Sun Inn won Best Pub/Bar in the 2025 Eastside Business Awards! Owners Grant and Jacqueline Goodall (pictured) invite you to visit soon for lunch, dinner, High Tea, or just a drink by the fire.

Join the Rising Sun Inn's 180th Birthday Celebration on Sunday, 26th October, 12 noon - 6.30pm. A big birthday for a beautifully maintained State Heritage Listed gem deserves a big celebration!



Welcome to Kensington

In a new initiative, the KRA is preparing a pack to welcome new residents to our community. The welcome pack will include information about Kensington (e.g. the Kensington Walks brochure, a KRA Newsletter...) an invitation to upcoming community events, and hot tips from locals on places to eat, enjoy a drink, music and exercise. We would like to include vouchers from local organisations and businesses. These vouchers would both welcome and introduce new residents to our local watering holes, businesses and community.

If you would like to contribute a voucher to the welcome pack, please email the KRA committee: contact@kra.org.au

Welcome!

Correction & Comparison

We included a picture of the freshly painted Benson Fountain in the KRA's February newsletter (below left) and incorrectly credited the refurbishment to NPSP Council. The Sisters of St Joseph advised that the fountain was actually repainted as a donation from Programmed Maintenance in conjunction with work undertaken at the Convent.

Kensington resident Andrew Pascoe spotted a near-identical fountain in the main street of Hay NSW and snapped the photo below (right). Mayor John Witcombe presented the fountain to the people of Hay in 1883, several years after the Kensington fountain was erected by public subscription in 'affectionate remembrance of the late John Benson, Surgeon'.



On Tour at Parliament House

On 9th April a group of KRA members toured Parliament House with Cressida O'Hanlon MP. The group enjoyed exploring the beautiful building, including both chambers, and hearing about the workings and history of our Parliament from Ms O'Hanlon and chief librarian Dr John Weste.



KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COLOUR

Regent Gardens Upgrade

by Ellie Jones, Director
McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

McKellar Stewart Kindergarten (MSK) is proud to be working in partnership with the KRA and NPSP Council to implement exciting upgrades to Regent Gardens, outside the Kindy grounds.

The enhancements will include colourful line-marked games on the paving, new plantings in the garden beds, and nature play spaces in the corner gardens—creating a more engaging space for kindy children, their families, and the wider community to enjoy.

Involving our young learners in the planning process is a key part of this project. The children took part in group discussions to help select the line-marked games they were most excited to play. Their enthusiasm and ideas have been a driving force in shaping this revitalisation.

A long-term vision of this project has been to celebrate local stories and history through a vibrant mural on the southern fence. We're thrilled to have received a grant from NPSP Council to fund elements of this next stage. Aboriginal artist David Booth will be working with the children on the mural, beginning in August.

Over the coming months, the Kindy community will be working closely with the Council, the KRA, and the broader local community to bring these ideas to life.

The children are already looking forward to using the newly developed area during their Kindy sessions. We are incredibly grateful for the strong relationship we share with the KRA and look forward to continuing our collaboration to create positive change within our community.



Borthwick Park Biodiversity Project

New plant signs funded by a Green Adelaide grant will soon be installed in Borthwick Park. Scan the QR codes to learn more about locally indigenous plants.

Council contractors have replaced the retaining wall on the Park's Thornton St boundary using new planks and posts made of composite recycled plastic. Hooray for a long-lasting wall and for keeping plastic out of landfill! The Parks & Gardens team have also recently repaired the dolomite path leading in from Thornton St, adding a sump to help prevent wash-outs during rain events.

The summer watering volunteers got together in late March to celebrate a job well-done over a very hot dry summer. Thanks to you all and thanks to Mia Caldwell for coordinating the summer watering roster and the wrap event.



Pioneer Park Grassroots Grant Application

Thanks to everyone who provided feedback on the KRA's proposal to re-landscape Pioneer Park in Maesbury St. The number of emails and online survey responses received, and the level of in-person attendance at the community meeting held on 2nd May clearly impressed upon the KRA committee the strength of community feeling for this public park.

The role of our association is to listen and respond to the concerns of residents, and that is what's happening. The lawn area will be retained and the KRA will explore options for installation of additional park benches with Council's Infrastructure and Projects staff.

Our application to Green Adelaide sought funding to:

- install a 1:20 ramp into the Park to allow access for all

- purchase 500 native seedlings to replenish the existing garden beds, along with an irrigation system upgrade to support the plants
- enable consultation with the community and Kaurana representatives regarding future needs for the park.

We expect to hear by September if the grant application is successful.

Neighbourhood History



The Congregational Chapel

This depiction of the 'Congregational Chapel and School, Kensington, near Adelaide, South Australia', drawn by renowned artist S.T. Gill in 1849 and lithographed by Penman and Co., focuses on the intersection of High and Maesbury Streets. St Matthew's Anglican Church, Marryatville, is visible in the background.

The building at far left is the first Congregational Chapel opened in Kensington in December 1844. By 1848 it was insufficient for needs and a new Congregational Chapel was built adjacent. The old building was repurposed as a Sunday School. Copies of this S.T. Gill lithograph were available for purchase at a Spring fete held in 1849 to raise funds for the new chapel.

Pioneer Park in Maesbury Street was originally the Congregational Chapel's graveyard. The first interment was on 28th February 1849. The cemetery was formally closed by government proclamation on 28th October 1964. The creation of the park, in memory of the Kensington and Norwood pioneers, was undertaken by the Norwood APEX Club in 1966.

The Congregational Chapel was one of the earliest churches built in Adelaide. It was non-denominational and served the spiritual needs of the early colonists, playing a significant role in the early social history of this area. Today, the understated beauty of Kensington's Pioneer Park continues to provide a quiet space for locals to meet, rest, reflect and spend time with neighbours. It is treasured.

What's on in Kensington?

Winter Solstice Open Mic & Kensi Frenzy Singalong

Kensington Hotel
Saturday 21st June from 7pm
Free entry, free finger food
Discounted drinks for KRA members

Borthwick Park Planting Days

Saturday 5th July, 1pm-4.30pm
Sunday 27th July, 9am-12.30pm

Borthwick Park Working Bees

Sundays 10th August, 14th September,
9am - 11am

KRA 2025 AGM

7.30pm Wednesday 13th August
Bethany Centre, 4 High St

Pizza in the Park

Borthwick Park
Sunday 19th October
from 4pm onwards
Free wood-oven pizza for KRA members!

Rising Sun Inn 180th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday 26th October, 12noon-6.30pm

Newsletter printed by courtesy of Hon. Reggie Martin MLC on behalf of the Kensington Residents' Association.

KRA MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL

Name[s]: _____ Date _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2025 KRA Membership: ☐ New or ☐ Renewal (please tick). If unsure whether your membership is current contact our Secretary Andrew Dyson ☒ contact@kra.org.au or ☎ 8331 9654

☐ 1 year membership fee (\$ 15) ☐ 2 year membership fee (\$ 30) ☐ 5 year membership fee + bonus bin sticker (\$ 75)

Payment may be made by cash or direct deposit.

Note: If paying by direct deposit you must provide us with full details as above so that we can process your membership.

Bank details: BSB 805 050. Account No: 2350031. Account Name: Kensington Residents

OFFICE USE:

Received: _____ Membership Years: _____

Receipt No: _____ Payment Details: _____

Membership Register updated: _____ Email list updated: _____

Please tear off the completed slip for our secretary: **Andrew Dyson, 42 Regent Street, Kensington SA 5068.**

Slips can also be photographed or scanned and emailed to ☒ contact@kra.org.au