

• Kensington 5068 •

DECEMBER 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

Kensington Carolling

Join us for carol singing on Monday 15th December. Gather in Regent Garden next to McKellar Stewart kindy at 6.45pm for 7pm start.

After a few warm up carols in the Kensi Hotel, we'll walk down Thornton St, pausing to sing at the Lithuanian community units, then turn right into High St. We'll sing some carols with the Sisters of St Joseph at Bethany, 4 High Street, then walk back along High St, along Richmond St and through Borthwick Park to the Thornton St entrance of

the Norwood Aged Cottage Homes complex. We'll make our way through NACH to Bridge Street and walk up to the Rising Sun Inn to finish with a few carols in the front bar at approximately 8.30pm.

We stop frequently to sing carols. Minor route variations are possible. If you would like the Kensington carollers to sing outside your home email contact@kra.org.au and we'll do our best to make it happen!

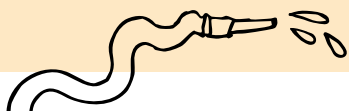
Song sheets are provided. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress with festive flair.



Summer waterers wanted!

Can you spare a few hours to water in Borthwick Park over summer?

Hose watering is a lovely way to slow down and observe native plants and wildlife, humans and hounds, all enjoying the park. At this stage all volunteers will be watering a section of the park once a month over summer. If we get a few more volunteers, everyone waters less often. Only small or stressed plants need a drink, well-established plants don't need attention. Watering for 1-2 hours total at any time during your allocated week is all that's required. Hoses and instruction provided. To add your name to the roster phone or SMS Moira ☎ 0421034740.



Kindy mural in progress

Aboriginal artist David Booth recently visited McKellar Stewart Kindergarten to share his cultural knowledge and start work on the Regent Garden mural collaboration, funded by a City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters Community Grant. Kindergarten children enjoyed listening to David talk about symbols in dancing, stories and art.

David sponged colour to the blank black canvas and the mural started to come to life. Then the children, kindergarten staff and parent helpers added their handprints. David is currently adding more details to the artwork and, once complete, it will be installed in Regent Garden for the whole community to enjoy.

Film FUNdraiser later in 2026

We'll trial April-May timing for KRA's annual Film FUNdraiser in 2026. This will prevent the scramble to secure sponsors and sell tickets immediately post-Christmas, and avoid the impacts of February heat on attendee comfort and food handling. We also need to work around exciting renovations scheduled for the Regal Theatre.

Thinking ahead to 2026

The KRA committee's plans for 2026 include:

- 🏡 Neighbour Day celebrations in March...
 - 📁 Consolidating our Care for Kensington focus & connecting residents...
 - 🏡 Community consultation on our Borthwick Park masterplan... do we need a public toilet in Borthwick Park?
 - ♿ Pioneer Park disability access...
 - 📖 Kensington Book Group - any interest?
 - 📖 Street Library just for kid's books...
 - 🎨 Do It Yourself community art exhibition...
 - 🎤 Quarterly Q&A speaker events...
 - Continuing your favourites - 🍕 Pizza in Park, 🌱 park planting days, 🎬 Film FUNdraiser...
 - Recent resident suggestions - 🧩 jigsaw puzzle swap station, plant swaps, 🐝 add insect hotels and 🌻 flowering natives to Pioneer Park...
- Let us know what YOU are keen for by emailing ✉ contact@kra.org.au.



KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COLOUR

Pizza in the Park

The PGH Bricks & Pavers mobile pizza oven was fired up on Sunday 19th October and at least 150 locals descended on Borthwick Park with chairs, drinks, good spirits, and a hearty appetite. The KRA committee and friends were kept busy rolling, topping, slicing, and baking delicious pizzas. The rain held off and there was no wind to scatter basil leaves, table-tennis balls or the music sheets of the Kensington & Norwood Brass Band. Trays of tiramisu were retrieved from fridges in homes around the park and served out to the sweets fans.

We'd love to get your feedback to help us improve our 2026 event. Please email your constructive suggestions to our Secretary contact@kra.org.au. Special thanks to PGH Bricks & Pavers for lending us the oven, to catering champions Karloskar Hall (pizza) and Jean Macintyre (tiramisu), and to the volunteers of the Kensington & Norwood Brass Band for providing musical entertainment.



Thank you Council Crew

The KRA committee recently hosted a barbeque lunch to thank the Council gardening staff for the great work they do maintaining our suburb's green spaces.

It was a beautiful Spring day in Borthwick Park, with birds frolicking in the eucalypts and T-bone steaks and veggie burgers sizzling on the barbeque, tended by chefs John Legg and Peter Duffy.

The Council crew appreciated the goodwill gesture and, in turn, praised the efforts of the community volunteers who maintain the Borthwick Park Biodiversity Project plantings through monthly working bees.



Q&A with Tim Costello

Fifty people packed into the back room of the Rising Sun Inn on 12th October to enjoy an enlightening discourse from Tim Costello on numerous topics, international and local. Many thanks to Jacqui and Grant at the Rising Sun Inn for kindly providing space and food for the event.



L-R Roger Bryson, Tim Costello, Cr Christel Mex

Borthwick Park blossoms

Borthwick Park is looking blooming marvellous. Lots of plants have flowered as the weather's warmed. The new QR code plant ID signs are in. Volunteers have removed lots of weedy grasses from the beds over the last 3 months. Council's maintenance crew has renovated the weathered benches and picnic tables.

The KRA committee is working with Council to remediate two worn patches of lawn either side of the halo bed around the big central river redgum. The track to the west could be covered with crushed quartzite by Council. Volunteers covered the worn area closer to the shelter with mulch for a softer look, but rest assured this popular travelway will NOT be blocked by plants. If you have an alternate solution to address these muddy/dusty patches, please let us know by emailing contact@kra.org.au.

New volunteers are always welcome to actively care for Borthwick Park. Join us on the 2nd Sunday of every month (except January) to learn more about this 16 year-old biodiversity project, do a couple of hours' gardening and enjoy complimentary morning tea afterwards.



KENSINGTON COMMUNITY COLOUR

Heritage protection needed

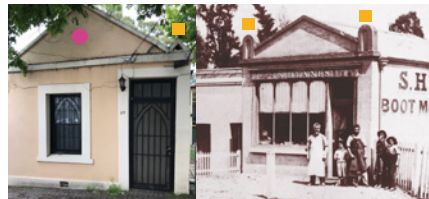


The Council Assessment Panel's refusal to approve demolition of 69 High St is A WIN, but the old Kensington elementary school building is NOT SAFE YET, as owners have the right to appeal to the Environment Resources and Development Court to overturn or alter the CAP's decision.

Why is 69 High Street important?

It is one of the oldest elementary school buildings in South Australia and one of the oldest single-room adaptive colonial buildings in existence. The single-storey building at 69 High Street was constructed from locally produced materials, including

bricks specifically commissioned by the owner, John William Roberts (1794-1875), from Thomas Constable who was one of the few skilled artisans living in Kensington in the 1840s. Some elements of heritage significance include the triangular gable roof, the brick pediment and the acroteria elements at the apex of the pediment. The building at 69 High Street is stylistically similar to State Heritage listed Heanes Bootshop at 53 Bridge Street which was built in 1850.



● pediment

■ acroteria

Kensington Residents' Association representatives Roger Bryson, Andrew Dyson and Jane Godsmark met with Premier Peter Malinauskas, Minister Nick Champion and Member for Dunstan, Cressida O'Hanlon, on

11th November, seeking improved heritage controls to protect the unique buildings of the Kensington Village precinct. The Premier was generous with his time and the KRA delegation was assured that Minister Champion is actively working to improve heritage outcomes. It is extremely important that the March 2023 recommendations of the Expert Panel for the Planning System Implementation Review, largely agreed to by the Malinauskas government in March 2024, are implemented as soon as possible to protect heritage buildings, such as 69 High St, from demolition by neglect.



L-R Jane Godsmark, Andrew Dyson, Cressida O'Hanlon MP, Premier Peter Malinauskas, Roger Bryson and Minister Nick Champion.

Rising Sun Inn celebrates 180 years' history

Owners Grant and Jacqui Goodall threw a wonderful party at the Rising Sun Inn on 26th October to celebrate 180 years of history. Patrons joined in the fun by dressing in 1800's style. Happy birthday to the Rising Sun and a big thankyou to the Goodalls for maintaining this icon of Kensington's streetscape and Adelaide's dining culture.



Trash talk

Did you know? The trash rack in Second Creek, near the Thornton St bridge, is part of a network of some 20 sites across metro Adelaide, all owned and maintained by Green Adelaide. Data from the last 7 years show 5 to 25 tonnes of debris is caught and removed annually at the Thornton St trash rack. During the year ending June 2025, 10.61 tonnes of debris was removed and prevented from entering the sea.

Rainfall triggers a site inspection when 7mm falls in 24 hours or 10mm falls in 7 days. Without a rainfall trigger, sites are checked every 21 days. Depending on the fullness of the nets or messiness of the site, a clean may be scheduled. Green Adelaide's contractor Mechanical Vegetation Solutions needs access to parking spaces right next to the Thornton St bridge to pull the trash nets up for emptying. **Prior to a clean, bollards are placed in this area by Council. Please don't shift the bollards!! If a car is parked there, the trash rack cannot be cleaned.**

What else can we do to help keep our waterways and ocean clean? Search 'waterways' on the Green Adelaide website www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au to find out.



Swim4Life

Our treasured public pool in Phillips Street Kensington is now open til April 2026. Why not join Swim4Life for fitness and fun? Swimming is one of the best forms of exercise, involving all body joints, moving the upper and lower body, and improving core strength. The long-established, friendly Swim4Life squad focusses on both physical and mental fitness for swimmers of all ages and ability levels. Fit Body – Fit Brain is their motto. They don't just swim laps. The renowned Swim4Life coaches, operating under the auspices of the Norwood Swim Club, concentrate on technique and style, running interesting, cognitively challenging sessions. Founding member, Graham Norton, says, "Some of our adult members who came to us in their 70's, and could do freestyle and perhaps breaststroke, were able to do butterfly by the end of a year."

No mean feat, especially as they protested it was totally impossible to consider butterfly when they joined!" In addition to the fitness benefits, the social benefits of the group are also valuable, including post-swim coffee and conversation, regular outings and the occasional international adventure (for SwimTrek 2026 the group is heading to Crete). Swim4Life coaching sessions are held Mon, Wed & Fri from 7.15am. Email info@swim4life.info for more details or turn up at the pool and try out a few sessions. You will be welcomed with open arms and flippers!



What's on in Kensington?

Summer Watering

Borthwick Park, December 2025 - March 2026

December Working Bee

Borthwick Park, 9-11am,
Sunday 14th December

Community Carol Singing

Walk and sing from Regent Garden (opposite The Kensi) to the Rising Sun
7pm start, Monday 15th December

February Working Bee

Borthwick Park, 9-11am, Sunday 8th
February

Clean Up Australia Day

Start and finish in Borthwick Park
Sunday 1st March
Time to be confirmed

Neighbour Day

Celebration of community
Sunday 29th March
Location/time to be confirmed

Welcome new neighbours

Are you new to Kensington? Or has someone new moved into your street? Please let us know via email contact@kra.org.au and we'll deliver a Welcome Pack. The Pack includes information about Kensington, upcoming community events, Council services and much more.



Bikes for Refugees

Adelaide Community Bike Workshop, home to Bikes for Refugees, has relocated to sheds behind St Matthew's Church, 146 Kensington Road, Marryatville. Access the carpark and workshop from The Crescent. To date, the Bikes for Refugees charity has provided more than 17,000 bikes to people in need. Renovated bikes and second-hand parts are also sold to the public to raise funds for running costs and donations to aligned charities. Search 'Mike Brisco' in Facebook marketplace to see available bikes. Bike market most Saturdays 10am-1pm. Please contact the workshop in advance

by phone or email if you wish to donate bikes or bike parts. The team will be able to determine, with just a few questions, if they can use the items you wish to donate. If they can't use your unwanted bikes/parts, they will be able to direct you to alternative options for recycling. If you are skilled in bike repairs and would like to volunteer to assist, contact Mike Brisco at the workshop. Call or SMS before visiting if possible. Opening hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11am – 5pm Most Saturdays 10am – 1pm Email: acbwsa@gmail.com Mobile Ph: 0406 918 787



KRA MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL

Name[s]: _____ **Date** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

2026 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 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