



Welcome to the Birdwood Community Forum

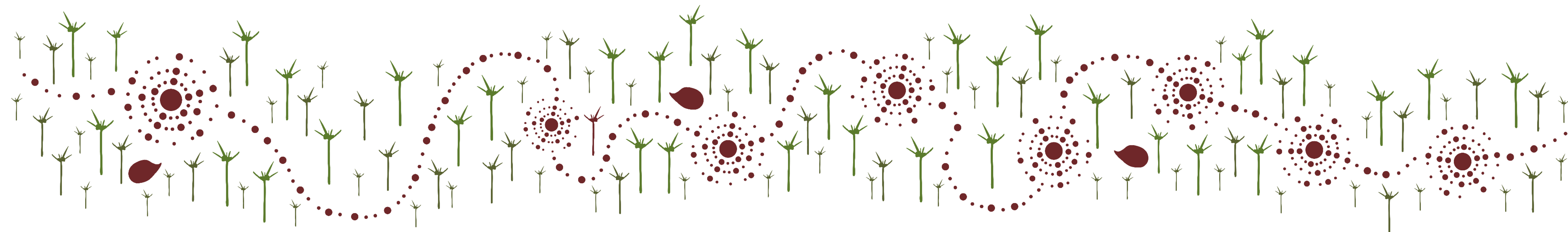
Connecting council with community



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges that we meet on the traditional Country of the Peramangk and Kurna people. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders past and present as the Custodians of this ancient and beautiful land.



Forum Agenda – Jade Ballantine, Acting CEO

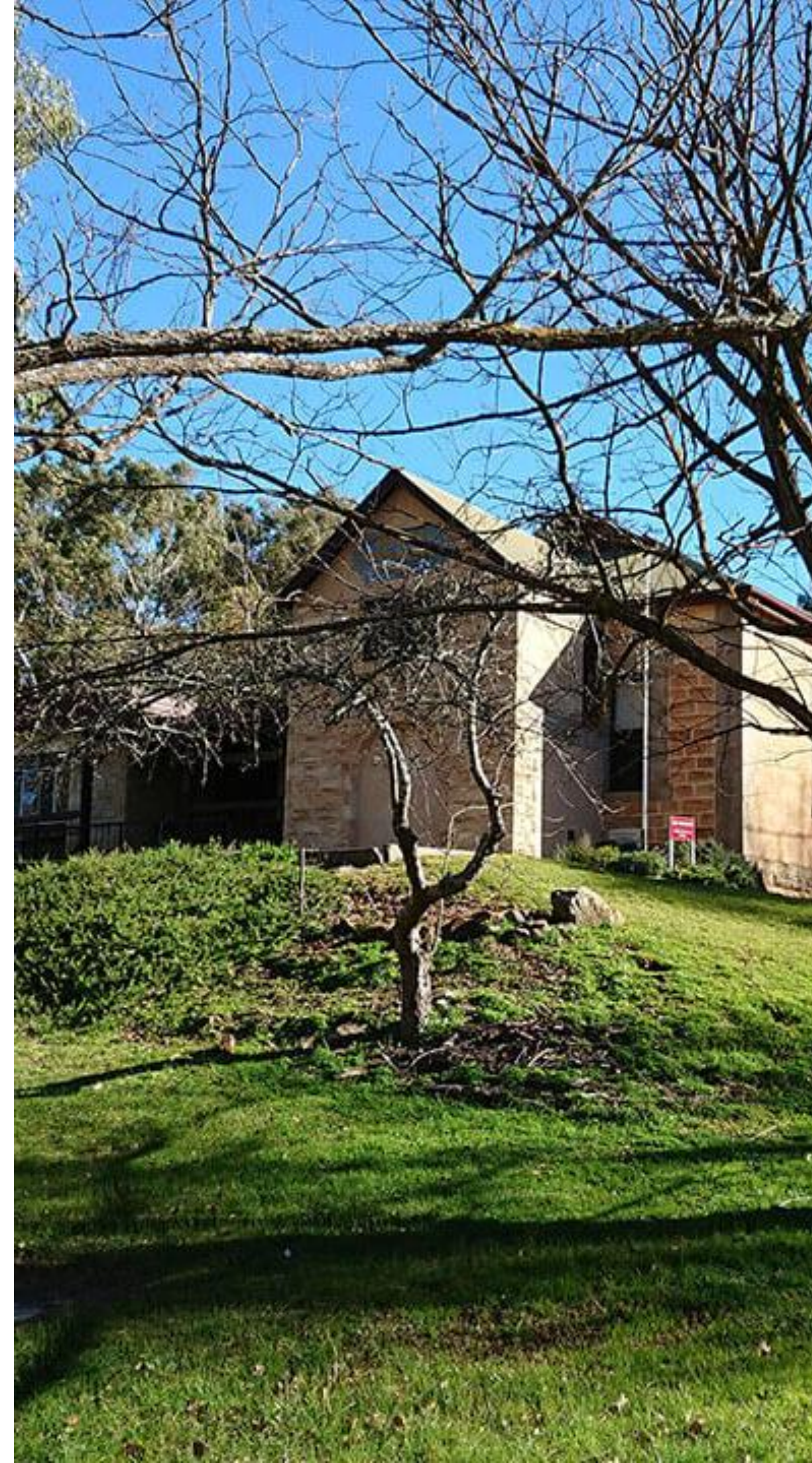
6.30pm – 7.15pm - Council and community presentations

- Council update
- Birdwood Park & Sporting Clubs Assoc
- Birdwood Cycling Group
- Friends of Birdwood Institute
- AHC community centres
- United Church Food Pantry

7.15pm – 7.55pm - Break out session

- Community networking and discussion time
- Engagement activities

7.55pm – 8.00pm - Discussion close out



Nathan Daniell

Mayor
Adelaide Hills Council





Setting the scene

- Community Forums are held throughout the year in community facilities around the Hills and are an opportunity for:
 - Council and local residents to communicate with each other.
 - Hearing about activities being undertaken by local community groups and organisations.
 - Finding out about our latest council projects and updates.
- Remaining forums for 2026
 - Paracombe Community Forum – Planning for the Future of the Hills
6pm to 8pm, Monday 26 October
Highercombe Golf and Country Club

Annual Business Plan 2026-27

We genuinely appreciate the time residents took to engage in the consultation process.

- We listened to concerns regarding the proposed rate rise of 7.6% and reduced this to 6.8%.
- We've tried to strike a balanced and achievable position, one that begins addressing Council's financial position while remaining practical for the year ahead.
- We are working on updating our Long-Term Financial Plan with plans to undertake community engagement during October and November 2026.



Council acknowledges that we undertake our business on the traditional lands and waters of the Peramangk and Kaurna people. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging as the Custodians of this ancient and beautiful land.

Coventry Library
Customer Service



Northern Townships Renewal Works

We are prioritising the renewal of existing infrastructure, with significant funding dedicated to maintaining and improving council owned infrastructure across the district.

Planned renewal works around your area include:

- Community Wastewater Management System dual pipe renewal at Kersbrook Oval, tank upgrades, and generator renewal in Birdwood.
- Road resealing - Forreston Rd, Forreston and Gumeracha.
- Surface renewal of unsealed roads - Bonython Rd, Deloraine Rd and Kersbrook Forrest Rd in Kersbrook.
- Surface renewal of unsealed road - Mellers Rd, Birdwood.
- Surface renewal of unsealed road - Pitman Rd in Inglewood and Paracombe.



Strategic asset planning and land management project

- Council manages a large and ageing network of community assets, and this is one of our largest ongoing costs.
- We are exploring strategic and sustainable approaches to asset management to help reduce pressure on rates.
- We need your input on future options including:
 - Shared use partnerships
 - Commercial activation opportunities
 - Grant and external funding
 - Rationalisation or disposal, where appropriate.
- We look forward to working with our clubs and community members to meet local needs into the future.

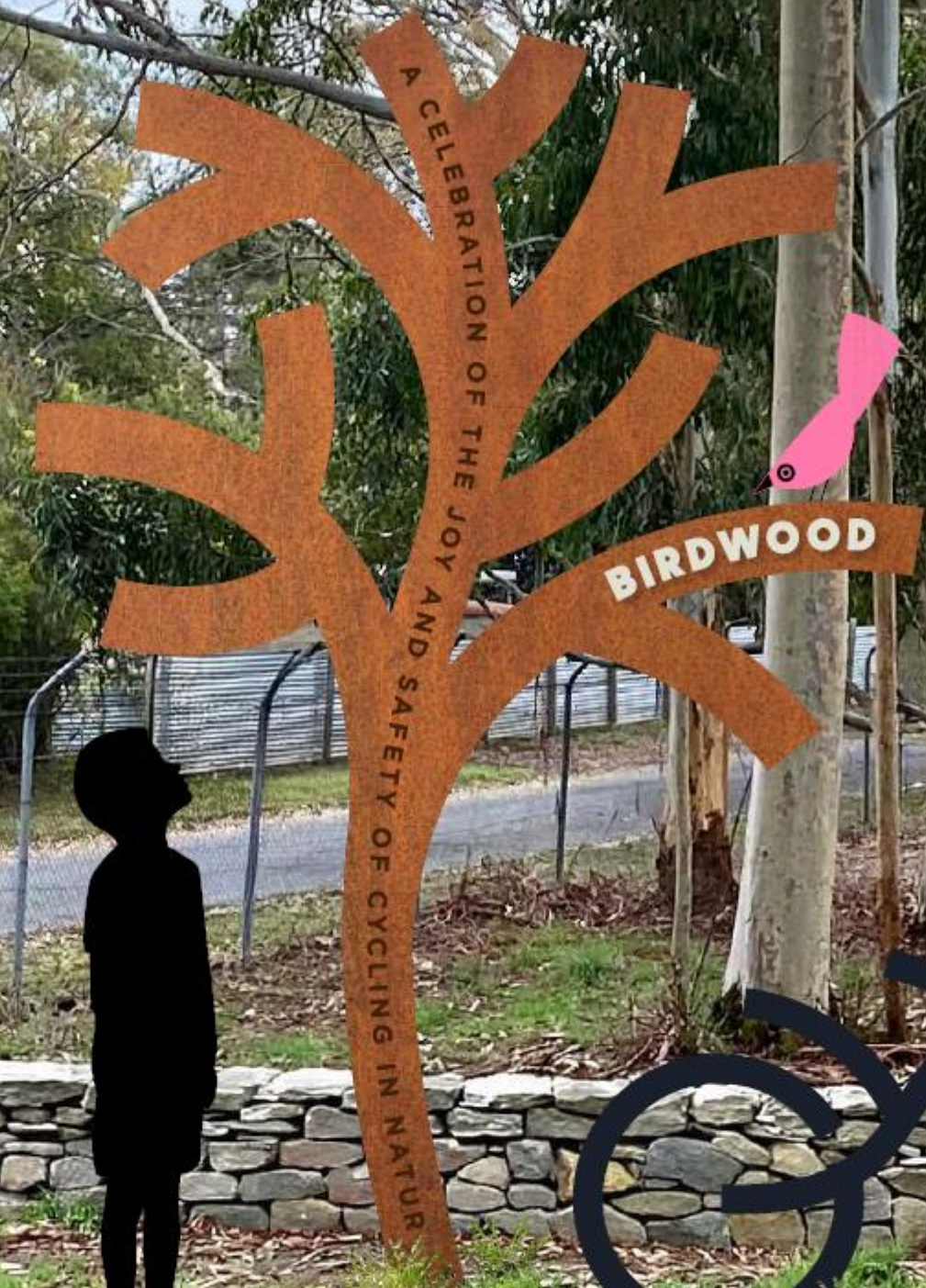
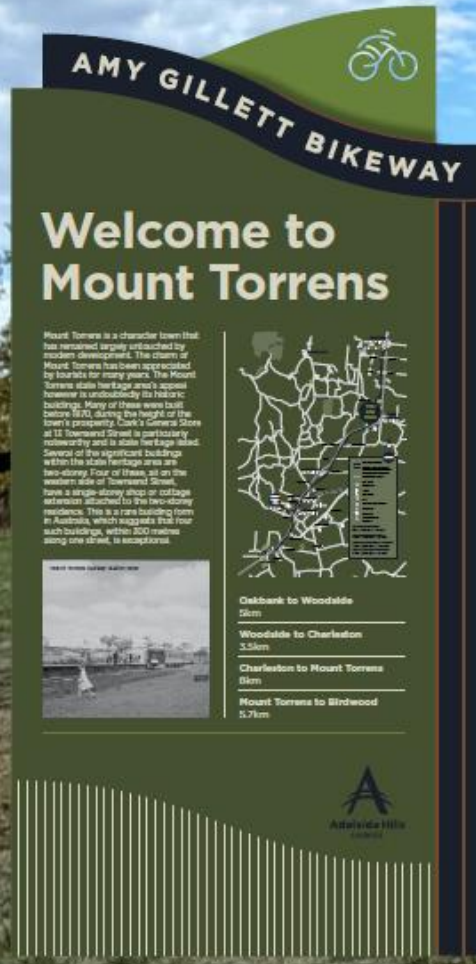
Council	Total population	Play spaces	Courts	Ovals/Pitch	Council operation income
Adelaide Hills Council	40,031	35 (1:216)	128 (1:313)	27 (1:1,483)	\$64.5
City of Burnside	44,500	38 (1:176)	59 (1:754)	11 (1:4,045)	\$66.8
Mount Barker District Council	31,325	33 (1:197)	49 (1:639)	16 (1:1,958)	\$75.1
City of Onkaparinga	166,435	235 (1:132)	163 (1:1,021)	37 (1:4,498)	\$242.6
Barossa Council	21,806	23 (1:192)	48 (1:454)	12 (1:1,817)	\$52.7
Mitcham Council	65,692	62 (1:183)	90 (1:730)	16 (1:4,106)	\$86.4
Industry benchmark	-	1:300-500 children	1:1,875 tennis 1:3,000-4,000 netball	1:4,000	-

Amy Gillett Bikeway Signage

Project highlights:

- Stage four, from Mount Torrens to Birdwood will receive new directional and interpretive signage in the coming months.
- They will elevate the experience for all users, while promoting the history and beauty along the bikeway, and the neighboring towns.
- It will encourage people to stop, learn and share, in turn, attracting more visitors to the Adelaide Hills.
- The designs take inspiration from the characteristics of the surrounding landscape, the history, the function of the bikeway and Amy Gillett herself.





2027 Council Elections

- The November 2026 Council Elections have been delayed with voting now closing on 7 April 2027.
- This change was made following a request from the SA Electoral Commission.
- We are currently working through the adjusted timeline for elections and expect to enter caretaker in February 2027.

Key dates include:

- Roll close: Monday 4 January 2027
- Nominations open: Tuesday 26 January 2027
- Nominations close: Tuesday 9 February 2027
- Close of voting (Polling Day): 5pm, Wednesday 7 April 2027
- Scrutiny and count: 9am, Saturday 10 April 2027



About

Local government and councils are an integral part to creating liveable places and spaces with you, and its wider communities.



Enrol

Check to make sure you're enrolled to vote in the 2027 Council Elections.



Nominate

Interested in running for council? Find out how to nominate and what it takes to run and win a campaign.



Matt Parkin

President

**Birdwood Park and Sporting Clubs
Associations Inc.**



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL



Birdwood Park & Sporting Clubs Association Inc.

EST. 1921



Birdwood Park & Sporting Clubs Assn Inc

EMAIL: birdwoodpark@outlook.com

Owned & managed by the people of Birdwood, for our local community & those visiting.



Represented by Matt Parkin – BP&SC Chairperson



Birdwood Park
& Sporting Clubs
Association Inc.
EST. 1921

Who are we?



BIRDWOOD
TENNIS CLUB



- The Birdwood Park site and its associated facilities play an important role in providing opportunities for our community to be active and engaged both physically and socially.
- The Birdwood Park is a significant recreation asset in our region that is owned and managed by the Community and its vigilant volunteers.
- This site not a Council owned facility.
- The Park covers approximately 28 acres of land adjacent to the township of Birdwood.
- This land was purchased in 1921, by the community for the community following a series of donations and fundraising events.
- An initial appointment of five trustees came together to oversee the administration of the land holding which 105 years later has become the Birdwood Park and Sporting Clubs Association Inc.
- This is a committee of volunteers that assist with the development, management and maintenance of the Birdwood Recreation Park thereby providing an attractive, safe, and secure recreational area for visitors and the local community.



BIRDWOOD
CRICKET CLUB





Birdwood Park
& Sporting Clubs
Association Inc.
EST. 1921

Where are we?



BIRDWOOD
CRICKET CLUB



BIRDWOOD
TENNIS CLUB





Birdwood Park
& Sporting Clubs
Association Inc.
EST. 1921

Valued volunteers that make our community tick



Trev
54 years

Bazz
6 years

Sean
12 years
(hiding by the fryer!)



Mike
6 years



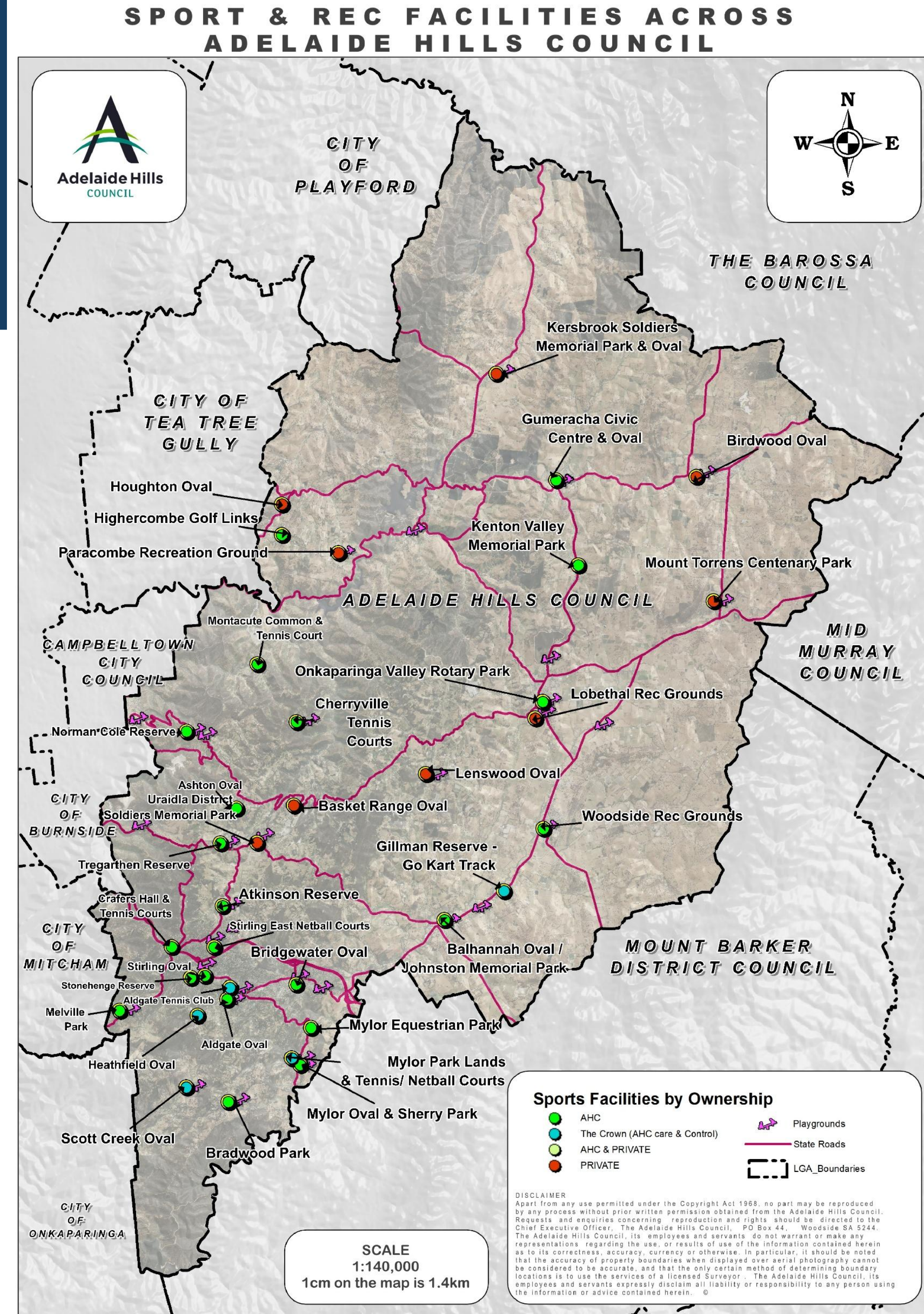
Birdwood Park
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Sport & Rec Facilities

- Adelaide Hills Council Community Recreation Facilities Policy addresses the management and support of sport and recreation sites throughout Council's region, despite ownership Adelaide Hills Council need to facilitate equitable support for all facilities.
- 36 Total (excluding playgrounds)
 - x25 - AHC – (inc Crown land in care and control – x4)
 - x9 - Private

Recent AHC Grants

- Community & Recreation Facility Grants 2026-27
\$198,421 – 18 Recipients
- Community Development Grants 2026-27
\$60,347 – 23 Recipients





Birdwood Park
& Sporting Clubs
Association Inc.
EST. 1921

Facility & Infrastructure Masterplan

- The Birdwood Park and Sporting Clubs Association is striving to develop a masterplan that will provide a clear, long-term vision for our community-owned facility that is sustainable, inclusive and backed by strong community support.
- It will ensure resources are invested wisely, upgrades are prioritised and the facility can grow with community needs ensuring we can attract investment, build partnerships and create a recreation hub that benefits the whole community for generations to come.



Date –
22 May 2026



Birdwood Park
& Sporting Clubs
Association Inc.
EST. 1921

Important news

- Competitors from six states and a team from New Zealand
- Approximately 250 dogs compete for Supreme Champion
- Alongside this 150 entries in the national novice competition
- Ted Gaby Cup – Working dogs State of origin (best x3 from each State)
- Wayleggo Cup – Highest scoring x4 dogs from the TG Cup vs New Zealand
- SA only hosts NZ every 12 years



2028 Australian Supreme Championships



Birdwood Park & Sporting Clubs Association Inc.

EST. 1921



Birdwood Park & Sporting Clubs Assn Inc

EMAIL: birdwoodpark@outlook.com

Owned & managed by the people of Birdwood, for our local community & those visiting.



Thank you!

Carol Moore

Birdwood Cycling Group



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

A COMMUNITY PATHWAY

The Amy Gillett Bikeway

A shared path for walkers, runners, riders and families — connecting the Adelaide Hills



Presented to Council, Stakeholders & Community

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Adelaide Hills Council acknowledges the Peramangk and Kaurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Amy Gillett Bikeway is located and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

IN MEMORY

Amy Gillett

The Bikeway is named in honour of Amy Gillett OAM, an Australian track cyclist and Olympic rower whose life was cut short in 2005 while training with the national team.

Her parents, Mary and Denis Gillett, remain proud ambassadors of the Bikeway — a living legacy of Amy's spirit of purpose, hard work and community.



WELCOME

One Path, Many Journeys



Walkers & Runners

Everyday exercise, away from traffic



Horse Riders

Safe, dedicated space to enjoy the Hills



Bike Riders

Commuters, families and weekend cyclists



Families & Friends

A shared place to spend time together

This evening: how the bikeway began, why it matters — and a few reasons it's become part of my own life too.

From Idea to Everyday Life

1

The Idea

A feasibility study, and Council, state government and community partners, shaped the vision for a safe shared path.

2

The Build

Staged construction delivered the path, bridges, crossings and signage — designed for every kind of user.

3

Today

In daily use, year-round, by locals and visitors of every age — a well-loved part of Hills life.



Building the path



In daily use today

THE JOURNEY

The Full Route

● Oakbank – Woodside

5 km | 17 min ride | 1 hr walk

● Woodside – Charleston

4.8 km | 14 min ride | 1 hr walk

● Charleston – Mount Torrens

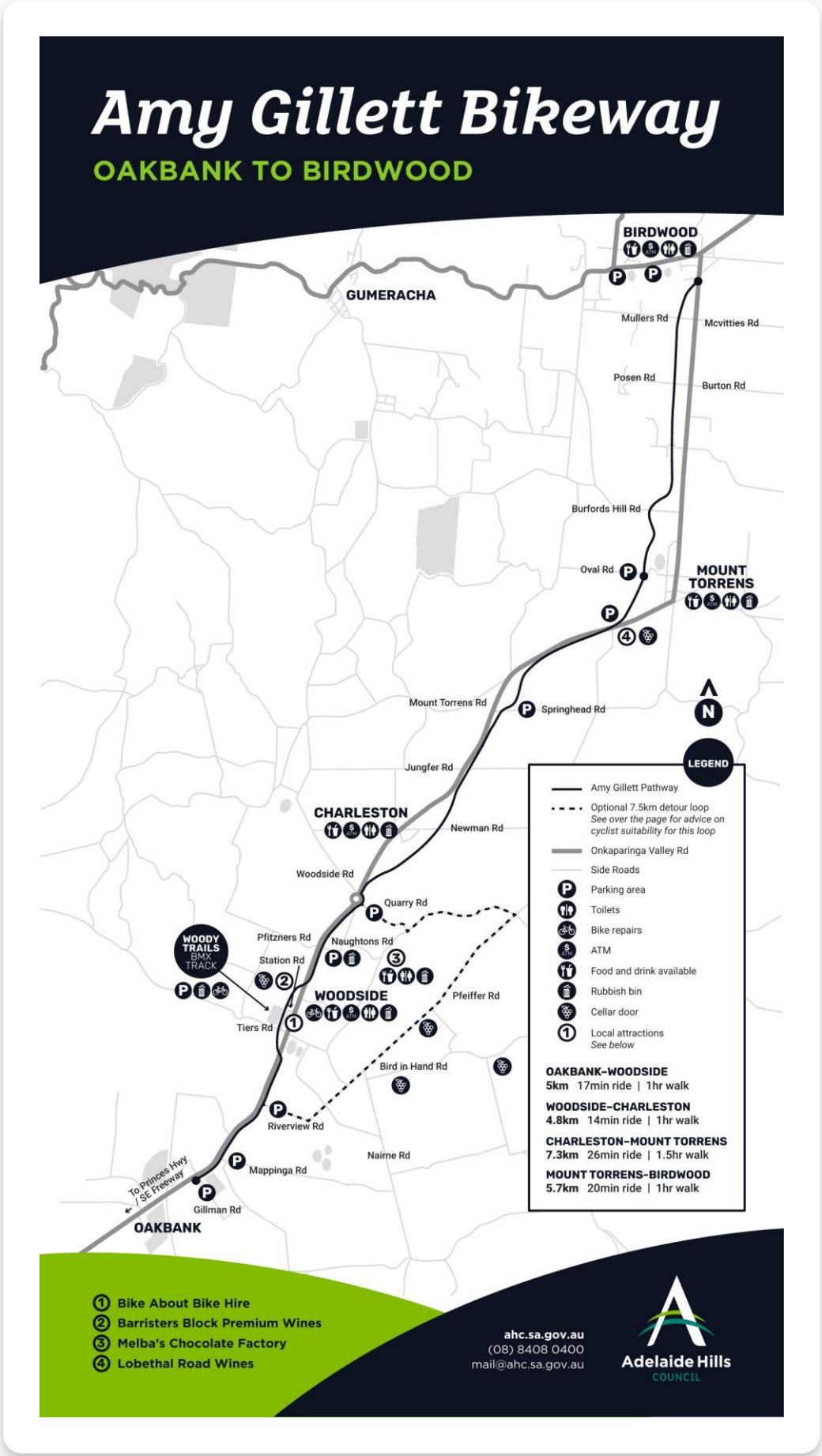
7.3 km | 26 min ride | 1.5 hr walk

● Mount Torrens – Birdwood

5.7 km | 20 min ride | 1 hr walk

Local attractions along the way:

- Birdwood Museum • Wineries • Melba's Chocolate Factory • Cafés
- Parks & Ovals



Source: Adelaide Hills Council —
ahc.sa.gov.au

A Place Like No Other



Scenery

Rolling Adelaide Hills views along a corridor rich with nature.



Tranquility

A calm escape from traffic and daily noise, close to home.



Safety

Off the main road — a protected space shared by all users.

The Crew I Ride With



Mishmash

A social bunch who tackle the Bikeway together, rain, hail or shine — equal parts fitness, friendship and a good coffee stop.



GetOnYaBike

Local riders who've made the path part of their weekly rhythm — proof this trail isn't just infrastructure, it's routine.



Mountain Biking at Mt Torrens

My own property backs straight onto the Bikeway at Mt Torrens — singletrack trails connect onto the path, so mountain bikes and road bikes share the same starting line.

More Than a Path Between Towns

Oakbank, Woodside, Charleston, Mt Torrens and Birdwood — stitched together by one path, for everyone who calls the Hills home.

Neighbours become friends

A shared rhythm of Hills life

Supporting local shops & cafes

A reason to stop, shop & explore

Chance meetings, standing catch-ups

Foot, bike & horse traffic all along the route

A Place for Everyone



A Day Out

A destination to visit and enjoy, for locals and visitors alike.

Fitness & Fresh Air

A dependable place for regular exercise, in any season.

Family & Friend Time

Shared moments outdoors, away from screens and schedules.

Space for Solitude

A quiet corridor for those who simply prefer their own time.

Where To From Here



Extend to Mt Pleasant

Grow the network further into the Hills, linking even more towns onto one continuous, safe path.



More seating along the way

Simple rest stops for a breather, lunch on the go, or somewhere to wait for the rest of the group.



Places to gather

Small nodes along the path where riders and walkers can meet, catch up and refuel together.

A few small additions could make an already well-loved path even easier to enjoy — for a quick stop or a long catch-up.

Community in Action



Parkrun



Family Fun Days



Support and education



Multi use trail



Discover the Bikeway



Everyday Riders

A Shared Path Forward

The Amy Gillett Bikeway continues to grow as a well-loved asset for the Adelaide Hills — supporting health, connection and local business, today and into the future.



Thank you — Questions & Discussion Welcome

Jean Colquhoun
Secretary
Friends of Birdwood Institute



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

Karli Hull

Team Leader Community Centres

Adelaide Hills Council



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL



Torrens Valley Community Centre



**Community
Centres**

Karli Hull - Team Leader Community Centres

Past year

11,850

People have attended our Community Centres

260 people have completed survey feedback, which consistently highlights community connection, welcoming environments, creativity and affordable lifelong learning opportunities as the defining strengths of Adelaide Hills Community Centres.



Torrens Valley Community Centre Regular Programs

Situated amongst the busy and friendly Gumeracha Community Hub, come enjoy our programs or socialise over a tea or coffee. Bookings not required unless specified

Monday

Tai Chi

Great activity to improve balance and muscular strength.

Who: Intermediate/advanced

Time: 9:15am - 10:15am

Cost: FULL No Bookings

Who: Beginners

Time: 10:30am - 11:30am

Cost: FULL No Bookings

Who: Intermediate/advanced

Time: 11:45am - 12:45pm

Cost: FULL No Bookings

Justice of the Peace

Drop in JP service for certifying and witnessing documents.

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Gumeracha Library Foyer

Cost: FREE

Fortnight Community Outreach services

Cuppa & chat with Local Community Services. Come along for friendly information, with a variety of services each session * Delivered in collaboration with multiple services.

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Gumeracha Library Foyer

Cost: FREE

Social Singing

Kick the week off with great vibes and some fun with music. All welcome.

Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Cost: \$3

Tuesday

Community Shed

Currently seeking more volunteers and members for Tuesdays. Speak with staff to register your interest.

Happy Dance with Ness

Perfect for beginners, a great mid intensity exercise class. Come ready to sweat and prepare to leave empowered and feeling strong!

Time: 9:15am - 10:15am

Cost: \$5

Easy Movez

Moderately paced exercise class incorporates a variety of techniques including resistance bands and light weights.

Time: 10:30am - 11:30am

Cost: \$3

Yoga with Ness

Kickstart your week strong. Yoga is a great way to improve strength, flexibility and balance. A fantastic wellness activity for the mind and soul. Class of 2026, Year 12s, you've worked hard to get to this point, and the final months will be demanding. As a small gesture of support, book via Humanitix to receive 50% off and take some time for yourself.

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Cost: \$10

Torrens Valley Community Centre Regular Programs

Wednesday

Art Group

Bring your latest project and gain inspiration from fellow artists. Beginners welcome. Bring your own materials.

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: \$3

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Clap, bounce and sing along to new and favourite action songs, finger plays and nursery rhymes. For babies up to 18 months old.

Time: 10:00am - 10:30am

Where: Children's area in the Library

Cost: Free libraries funded program

Action Rhymes

With scarves that swish and swirl, puppets, songs, movement and storytelling. For toddlers from 18 months up to 3 years old.

Time: 11:00am - 11:30am

Where: Children's area in the Library

Cost: Free libraries funded program

Monthly Meals

Enjoy a tasty lunch in great company. (If you have any dietary requirements, please let us know a week in advance, for catering purposes.)

When: 1st Wed of the month (Mar - Nov)

Time: 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Cost: \$5

Bookings: Essential, call 8389 1711

Monthly Movie Club

Enjoy the movies? Join us for a good laugh and great company as we turn the community centre into a pop-up movie theatre.

When: 2nd Wed of the month (Feb - Nov)

Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (approx)

Cost: \$3

Thursday

Community Shed

Come and work on projects or just sit and have a chat. All levels of skills are encouraged to attend.

Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: Gold coin donation

Chair Strength & Mobility

A chair-based class focused on fall prevention, strength training education, and mobility. Delivered in an empowering group environment to support confidence and safe movement.

Time: 10:30am - 11:15am

Cost: \$3

Frogs Garden Group

Do you have a green thumb or looking to learn more about gardening? Come along to the garden group to swap produce, share garden stories & exchange seeds, bulbs, and cuttings.

When: 3rd Thurs of the month

Time: 11:30am - 12:30pm

Cost: \$3



Thursday Craft'ernoon

Share quilting ideas or be working on your own creative project. All welcome. BYO materials.

Time: 12:30pm - 5:00pm

Cost: \$5



BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING:

- FREE Volunteer movie, lunches and passes.
- Attend and support at a workshop - participate for FREE
- Join our community sheds, learn new skills and be involved in community projects.
- Quality training and staff support.
- Volunteers live longer
- Experience better mental health and overall wellbeing.
- Opportunity to meet new people
- Learn new skills to build confidence and update your resume.

Partnering with Spark for Connection

Our new partnership with Spark focuses on **addressing social isolation** & the loneliness epidemic through engaging activities for all ages, including walking groups and café chats that foster community connection outside of a Community Centre setting.

**Expressions
of interest
for volunteers**



Adelaide Hills Council and Spark are teaming up to create new solutions to loneliness.

We're seeking volunteers in Birdwood, Gumeracha, Lobethal, Woodside, Ashton, Uraidla and Norton Summit to host welcoming, community-led initiatives - café conversations, walking groups and more.



**Tues 3rd Nov
11.30am-12.15pm**
The Summit
Community Centre,
Norton Summit
Booking essential here



**Thurs 12th Nov
11.30am-12.15pm**
Torrens Valley
Community Centre,
Gumeracha
Booking essential here



Spark ✨

Come along to an information session to find out more about creating belonging in our community!



YOUNG DRIVERS AWARENESS COURSE

30TH SEPTEMBER 2026

8.30am - 4.30pm



Aimed at L's & P plate drivers 16 - 24 years.
Living in the Adelaide Hills Council

Defensive driving course: Theory and Practical
Contact Karli for more details. 0456 803 533

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Adelaide Hills Council Community Centres

Torrens Valley Community Centre

45 Albert Street, Gumeracha

8389 1711

tvcc@ahc.sa.gov.au

The Summit Community Centre

4 Crescent Drive, Norton Summit

8390 0457

thesummit@ahc.sa.gov.au

SUBSCRIBE NOW



Community
Centres

Eliza Loechel

United Church Food Pantry



Adelaide Hills
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Bruno Davids

Manager, National Motor Museum



Adelaide Hills
COUNCIL

Breakout session

Talk to staff, elected members and each other:

- **Optimising our Community Land and Amy Gillett Bikeway Signage** - Share your ideas and feedback about the upcoming works around the management of community and assets, and the future of the Amy Gillett Bikeway, including the signage.
- **Chat about Birdwood:** Talk about your ideas and initiatives you are working on in Birdwood and surrounding suburbs.
- **Community centres and SPARK project:** Chat about the SPARK program, community wellbeing, and volunteering opportunities.
- **Start your own conversation:** Start a conversation with presenters, staff or elected members about a topic that matters to you.



Discussion close out

- What we heard
- What happens next
- We'd appreciate your feedback and ideas for future forums

www.engage.ahc.sa.gov.au



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