

Refugee Week Citizenship Ceremony

Presented by Mayor Melissa Jones
22 June 2023



Welcoming our
newest Australian
citizens!

Weekly Round Up

23 June 2023

TOWN OF



WALKERVILLE

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New citizens celebrated at Citizenship Ceremony

Town of Walkerville has welcomed and sworn in 16 new Australian citizens as part of Refugee Week.

The newest citizens were surrounded by friends and loved ones as they pledged their commitment to Australia – hailing from many different countries across the world, including Canada, China, Egypt, France, India, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

During the Citizenship Ceremony, Mayor Melissa Jones said that the Town of Walkerville was a thriving multicultural Township and she was pleased to have the new citizens officially join our close-knit community.



Town of Walkerville's newest citizens: Amr Mohamed Mohamed Fahmy, Akira Amafuji, Khushaliben Suhantkumar Raval, Colette Nicole Merkel, Walimuni Methmini Mendis Abeysekera, Mayor Melissa Jones, Duy Thanh Lam, Pratheepan Shanmugalingam, Hetakshi Suhant Raval, Tharaniga Jeyakodi, Elia Kerbage, Ziad Kerbage, George Kerbage, Rola Abla, Elaheh Rohani Rad, and Kelly Alexandra Price.

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“As we contemplate Refugee Week, as we contemplate a world in which there are many people forcibly displaced from their home countries, it is our duty to reflect and appreciate the importance of not only finding our own freedom, but helping others find theirs,” Mayor Jones said.

Following the Pledge of Commitment from each new Australian at the ceremony, opera singer Jeremy Tatchell performed the Australian National Anthem.

All new citizens received a special gift bag welcoming them as new citizens to the community. This gift bag included a plant from the Rotary Club of Walkerville, as well as a special handwritten letter from Vale Park Primary School Year two and three students, which welcomed the conferees as Australian citizens to the community.

Mayor Jones said to the new citizens, “As Mayor, there is no greater privilege than to attend a Citizenship Ceremony to see what it means for people whose journey to citizenship does not begin with being born in this country and particularly those whose journey here begins in difficult circumstances.

“Walkerville is like a Village. Walkervillians embrace and thrive on our community. I encourage you to get involved in everything on offer in Walkerville.”



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Results of the Township-wide Community Survey

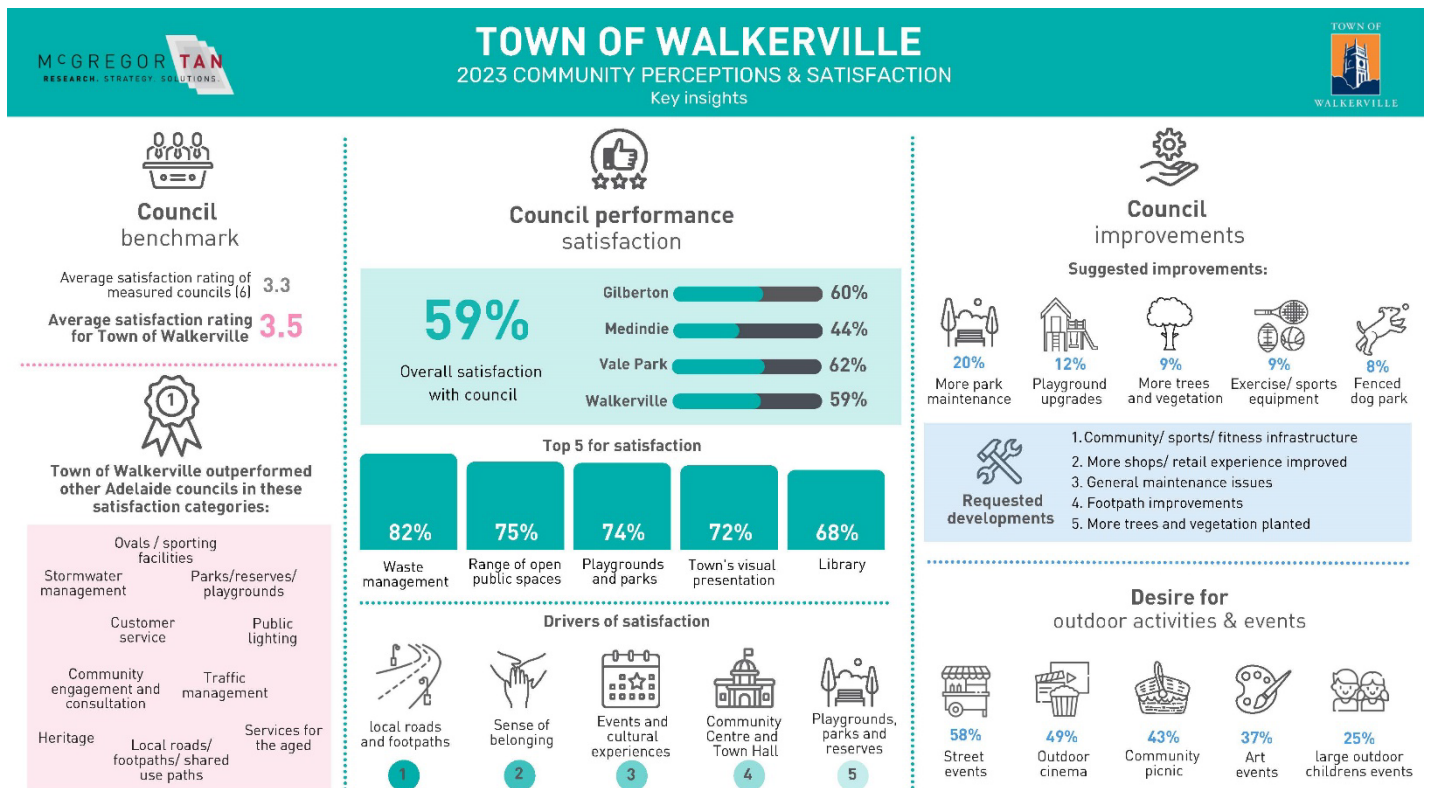
The Town of Walkerville is outperforming other councils in overall community satisfaction, along with a range of other areas such as customer service, parks and consultation.

The positive results follow a six-week engagement process earlier this year as part of Council's 2023 Community Survey.

The aim of the survey is to gauge the community's perspectives on various significant areas within Council – such as health and wellness, parks and reserves, roads and infrastructure, and communication and engagement.

The survey measures how the community currently feels about Council's delivery of services and their satisfaction with those services, along with an evaluation of performance and operations.

The results of the survey were largely positive, with 382 residents participating in the consultation. The outcome of the survey showcases the strengths of the Council and highlights some areas of improvement.



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Key points from the 2023 Community Survey results include:

- 59% overall satisfaction rating for Council.
- Higher satisfaction rating at 3.5 (out of 5), compared to benchmarked surrounding councils (average satisfaction rating of 3.3 out of 5).
- Between 65-69% of people who contacted Council's customer service team were satisfied with their experience.
- 77% of the community perceive the Town of Walkerville as a safe and secure place
- Council outperformed other Adelaide councils in multiple satisfaction categories, including:
 - Stormwater management
 - Ovals and sporting facilities
 - Parks, reserves and playgrounds
 - Customer service
 - Community engagement and consultation
 - Heritage management.
- The top five services for community satisfaction are waste management, the Town's visual presentation, Walkerville library and the range of open public spaces, playgrounds and parks.
- The most observed communication received by residents, About Town at 94%, had the highest satisfaction rating out of any other Council communication option, sitting at 74%.



Also highlighted in the survey was the community's feedback around the future of Town of Walkerville, including traffic and parking. These concerns have been captured within Council's recent Transport Strategy engagement process, which will be addressed in 2023/24 as part of a local transport action plan.

In addition, the community revealed a desire for more outdoor events, including street events (58%), outdoor cinema sessions (49%), community picnics (43%), art events (37%) and large outdoor children's events (25%). Council has taken this feedback on board and allocated \$50,000 in the [Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan](#) for local community events. In addition, the new Walkerville Community Committee also plans to assist in this space by creating low-cost events that foster a sense of inclusion amongst all residents.

To view the Community Survey infographic, [click here](#). For more in-depth information from the survey, [click here](#).

Market research company McGregor Tan undertook the Community Survey engagement process, which was open from 9am on Tuesday 14 March 2023 until 5pm on Friday 21 April 2023.

The 2023 Community Survey report was noted and accepted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 19 June 2023.



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Results of the Transport Strategy Survey

The Town of Walkerville has received the results of its 2023 Transport Strategy Survey, following an extensive engagement process with the community.



There were 668 community members – including residents, commuters and visitors – who provided their feedback on concerns, issues and improvements needed for traffic and transport within the Council area.

Highlights from the Transport Strategy Survey include:

- 68% of respondents use a private car to get to work or school in the Township.
- The most important issues for the community are pedestrian safety, footpaths, traffic volumes and speeding in local residential streets.
- Participants are supportive of Council investigating 40km/h roads in eligible precincts within the Township.

Respondents identified a number of key items for action within the future, including:

- Slower speeds through residential streets.
- Pedestrian safety initiatives along Walkerville Terrace.
- Better management of traffic around schools.
- Improvements to safer walking, cycling and public transport access along Council boundaries.

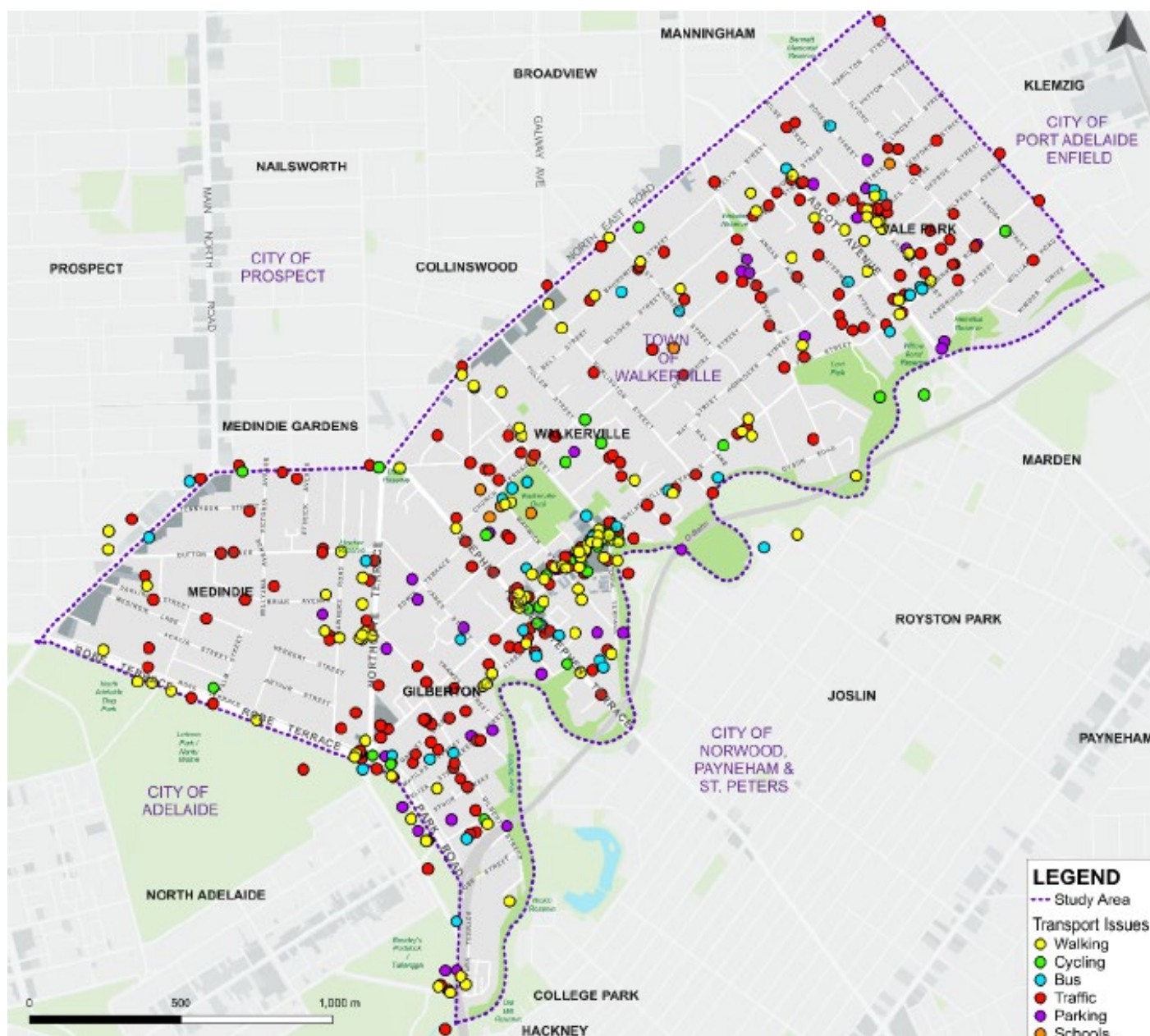
The survey results will be used to form a local action plan, which is earmarked for the 2023/24 financial year as part of the [Draft Annual Business Plan](#).

The action plan aims for an integrated transport system that best services the residents, visitors, pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and public transport users, who use and move through the Town of Walkerville.

For more in-depth information from the 2023 Transport Strategy Survey, [click here](#).

The 2023 Transport Strategy Survey report was noted and accepted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 19 June 2023.

Council engaged traffic consultant company Stantec to undertake the Transport Strategy Survey. Consultation was open from 9am on Monday 27 February 2023 until 5pm on Friday 31 March 2023..



Location of all transport issues by theme in the Town of Walkerville. [Sourced from the Walkerville Transport Strategy Survey.]

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Winter hall walking

The latest session of the winter hall walk included light entertainment from members of the U Can Uke ukelele group.



Our winter hall walk is part of a funding program from Wellbeing SA, activated by Libraries SA, to encourage health and wellbeing through activities like walking.

The next two winter hall walks will have a comedian onsite to provide entertainment to participants who do the walk, as well as demonstrate a number of fun exercises.

There are only a couple more sessions of the winter hall walk left! On Friday, 23 & 30 June 2023, from 10am-11am.

Men aged 55+ are highly encouraged to attend this event. The winter hall walk is free, but bookings are recommended, [click here](#) to lock in a space.



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A whole lotta dough!

Some lucky locals participated in our recent sourdough workshop, which smelled great and provided information on how to get the best rise on sourdough!

Participants learnt how to make sourdough from scratch, including mixing, fermenting and baking dough.

Additionally, attendees were able to leave the workshop with one fully baked loaf and two doughs – that they made – that they can bake at home.

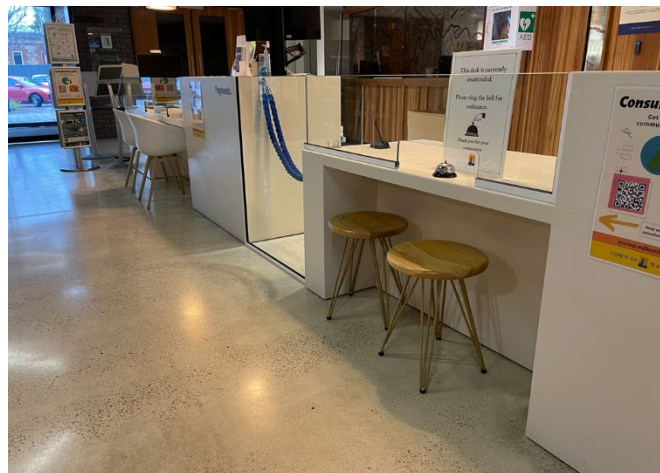
With the popularity of the event, it is likely that another workshop will be run later in the year!



The Civic & Community Centre has a new look

Town of Walkerville has recently been undertaking works at the Walkerville Civic & Community Centre in the concierge area to improve safety and security.

The first stage of the project has now been completed and includes the installation of glass screening and a lockable gate, all of which has been fitted to the existing concierge structure as part of a retrofit to enhance security and safety.



The following stage of the project will involve the installation of a new suspended linear light. The project has been undertaken to improve the lighting in the concierge area, as well as safety for customer service staff. Thank you for your patience while trades have been accessing the public areas to undertake this work.



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New Chief Executive Officer announced for Town of Walkerville

The Town of Walkerville is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Andrew MacDonald.

Andrew brings a wealth of knowledge to the Town of Walkerville and more than 15 years of Local Government experience – including as Wakefield Regional Council CEO, Kingston District Council CEO and Management roles at Adelaide City Council.

Andrew is expected to take the reins in September 2023.

Prior to his time in both Local Government positions and the private sector, Andrew spent 20 years in the Navy.

He is renowned for his strong focus on the importance of small community, as well as positive culture and inclusiveness – with a proven track record of achieving great outcomes.



Andrew MacDonald with his wife, Katrina.

Andrew successfully led Wakefield Regional Council through the COVID-19 emergency, resulting in recognition by the Local Government Professionals SA Association with a 2021 Excellence in Local Economic Development Award.

Under his leadership, Wakefield Regional Council also recently took out the Excellence in People and Culture Award at the Local Government Professionals SA 2023 Annual Leadership Excellence Awards for their 'One Team Culture Program'.

Town of Walkerville Mayor Melissa Jones said she was thrilled to have Andrew step into the shoes of CEO.

"I'm delighted that Andrew has accepted the position of CEO for the Town of Walkerville," Mayor Jones said.

"We were really impressed with his 'One Team' approach, along with his demonstrated knowledge and passion towards sporting and recreation, and his care and commitment to community.

"I am excited about what we can deliver in collaboration with Andrew, the Administration team and our Elected Members, to deliver for our community."

Andrew said he was excited about the opportunity to join the Town of Walkerville team.

"I look forward to working closely with Councillors, staff and the Walkerville community," he said.

The Town of Walkerville thanks Acting Chief Executive Officer Scott Reardon for his leadership over the past 18 months.



Scott Reardon, Acting CEO of Town of Walkerville for the past 18 months.

Have your say on the Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan

Council's Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan has been developed to deliver services, facilities and programs that support our community and businesses over the next financial year.

As part of the planning process, the Town of Walkerville community is invited to provide feedback on the draft plan for 2023/24.

The Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan will be funded by a proposed average residential rate increase of 6.9% (excluding growth), which is below the rate of inflation over the past 12 months and at the lower end of the projected rate rises in Councils across South Australia.



**DRAFT 2023/24
ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN**

Now open for public
consultation

Consultation closes
5pm on Friday, 7 July 2023

TOWN OF  WALKERVILLE

This Annual Business Plan will continue Council's excellent maintenance of parks and gardens, progress our road and footpath renewal program, create new event and activity opportunities with the Township, and continue public consultation on important projects, policies, and initiatives.

At a Special Council Meeting on Monday, 5 June 2023, Elected Members endorsed the Draft Annual Business Plan for consultation. The full Council report can be viewed on the [Council website](#).

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The consultation for the Annual Business Plan opened at 9am on Thursday, 8 June 2023, and closes at 5pm on Friday, 7 July 2023.

There are a number of ways you can be involved in the Annual Business Plan consultation process:

- Review the Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan, which is available on the [Your Say Walkerville website](#)
- Provide Town of Walkerville with feedback by using the feedback survey on the [Your Say Walkerville website](#)
- Email your written submission to walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au with the subject line "Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan"
- Post your written submission to:
The Chief Executive Officer
Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan
66 Walkerville Terrace
GILBERTON SA 5081
- Attend a Special Council Meeting on the draft budget at 6pm on Thursday, 29 June 2023, at the Council Chambers, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton.

This will be an opportunity for community members to present a deputation with feedback to Elected Members. If you wish to make a deputation, please register your attendance with your submission in writing by 12pm on Thursday, 29 June 2023, by emailing office@walkerville.sa.gov.au

- Undertake a hard copy survey, which is available from the foyer of the Civic and Community Centre, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton

Feedback on the Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan must be received by no later than 5pm on Friday, 7 July 2023.

If you choose to post your submission to Council, we ask that you allow sufficient time for the postal delivery service so that your submission arrives at our offices by 5pm on Friday, 7 July 2023.

All submissions will be considered by Council at the Ordinary Meeting of Monday, 17 July 2023, in accordance with Council's Public Consultation Policy.

Asset Management Plan

(Page 28 and 29 of the Draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan)

The majority of funding across each asset class for Council-owned infrastructure remains steady across the 10-year funding program to maintain current service levels, with the following exceptions:

- Roads 2025-2028 – Roads renewal funding slightly increases over these years to compensate for a reduction in the roads program in 2022-2024 to assist with funding of major strategic projects. This funding increase will help get Council road renewal back to the current service standard provided to the Township and allow the program to return to a more consistent funding model from 2028-2029.
- Plant and Equipment 2023-2025 – There is an increase in funding over two financial years as two major pieces of plant have reached their end of useful life in those years.
- Buildings 2024-2026 – There is a significant increase in funding over these two financial years due to anticipated additional work required in relation to the Walkerville Oval redevelopment and 39 Smith Street refurbishment, which is not covered by the relevant grant funding.



Winter hall walking

Step into the Town Hall and boost your health at our indoor walking event! Walk at your own pace, enjoy the entertainment, and make new friends along the way. Not only will you improve your fitness, but also boost your mood and mental wellbeing. Stay for as long as you like, rest whenever you need and enjoy a hot beverage after walking before you brave the winter weather to head home. Anyone is welcome to join.

10am-11am, Friday, 30 June 2023.
Walkerville Town Hall, free to attend and bookings encouraged at events.humanitix.com/hall-walking.

Event funded by Wellbeing SA campaign activated by Libraries SA.



Native bees in your backyard

Learn about the many varieties of native bees and how to attract them to your garden. Explore the special role of these fascinating creatures in our environment and make a “bee hotel”. Event suitable for adults and families.

10am-12pm, Saturday 24 June 2023,
Walkerville Town Hall. \$5 per person suitable for adults and children aged 5+ with accompanied adult. Booking essential by calling 8342 7100 or at events.humanitix.com/june-native-bees-workshop

[workshop](https://events.humanitix.com/june-native-bees-workshop)

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Learn



Laugh



Inspire

'Beyond the kerb' tour

Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of resource recovery! On this tour, you will have the opportunity to visit a range of sites and discover what happens to your stuff once you are finished with it. Participants will be accompanied by environmental organisation KESAB and enjoy a morning tea and lunch at Ikigai Cafe on the day. The tour includes a range of interesting sites, such as the Integrated Waste Services Transfer Station, YCA Recycling and Habitat for Humanity shop ReStore.



8.45am–3pm, Tuesday 27 June 2023, \$10 per person. Bookings essential as seats are limited! Contact KESAB on 8234 7255 or email eloise@kesab.asn.au

Ochre play session for NAIDOC week

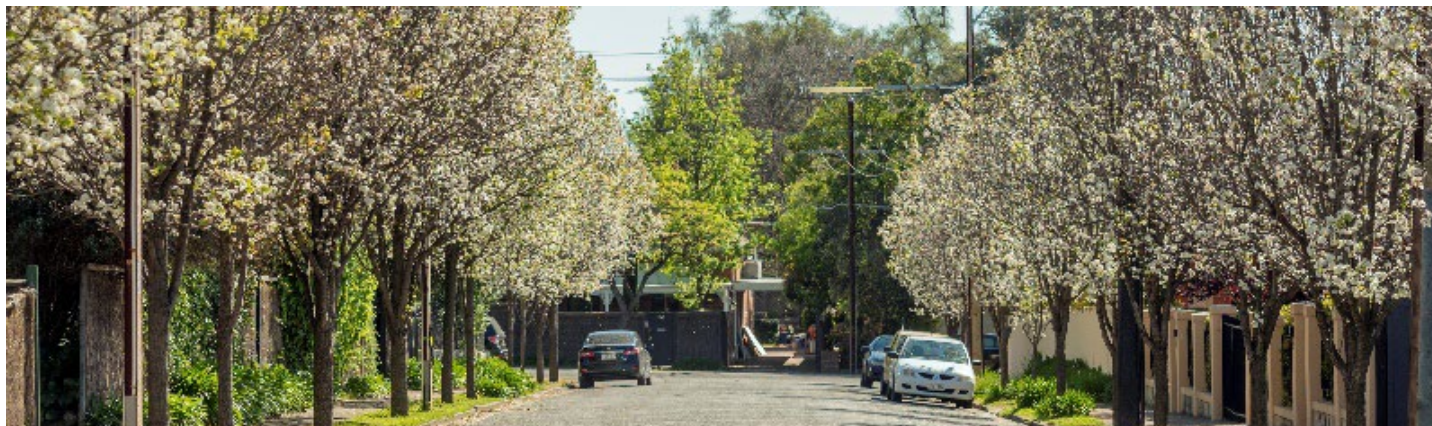
Learn about the customary uses of ochre in Aboriginal culture in this school holiday event. This session is a unique insight into traditional Aboriginal art and the use of traditional paints. Participants are encouraged to develop their own story using these symbols, painting a picture based on their personal experiences.

10am-10.45am, Monday 10 July 2023, Walkerville Town Hall. \$5 per person suitable for adults and children aged 3-8 with accompanied adult. Book by calling 8342 7100 or by events.humanitix.com/ochre-play-23



Street sweeping helps keep the Township clean

Our street sweeping programs are seasonally adjusted to effectively manage the level of risk in streets where issues are present generally relating to street tree litter.



While we make every effort to keep our streets clean year-round, you can help out by doing the following:

- Avoid sweeping leaves or clippings onto the road;
- Do not park caravans, trailers or boats on the road for extended periods.

Main Roads	Gilberton/Medindie	Walkerville	Vale Park
	28/06/2023	6/07/2023	12/07/2023
19/07/2023	26/07/2023	3/08/2023	9/08/2023
16/08/2023	23/08/2023	31/08/2023	6/09/2023
13/09/2023	20/09/2023	28/09/2023	4/10/2023
11/10/2023	18/10/2023	26/10/2023	1/11/2023
8/11/2023	15/11/2023	23/11/2023	29/11/2023
6/12/2023	13/12/2023	21/12/2023	27/12/2023

Council meetings

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Monday, 17 July 2023.



The public gallery has now reopened during Council Meetings, however, ordinary meetings will continue to be [live streamed via YouTube](#) allowing residents to view meetings from the comfort of their own home.

Questions for public question time may be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer by **12pm on Monday 17 July 2023** via email (office@walkerville.sa.gov.au), post (Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 55 Walkerville SA 5081) or hand delivery (Community and Civic Centre, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton).



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