

NEW



# Walkerville Voice

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WALKERVILLE'S QUARTERLY

Issue 3 Spring 2010

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## Heritage preservation and progress in Walkerville

Work has begun on rolling out a visionary new Urban Masterplan that has been adopted by the Walkerville Council and which provides a blue print for the future development of Walkerville over the next 30 years.

The first stages of the roll out focus on a new image and brand and include the installation of new signage around all our gateways and replacing existing civic signage.

Outgoing Mayor David Whiting says he's encouraged by the level of community endorsement for the vision outlined in the Masterplan.

"We intend to retain our heritage features and village character but we want to make the township more connected to the Linear Park and more welcoming to visitors from neighbouring areas," said Mayor Whiting.

"The Town of Walkerville may be statistically small, but it is an important inner city

*"The community's history, together with recent developments, continues to make it one of Adelaide's most attractive inner city areas".*

community with outstanding heritage, cultural and environmental features.

"The community's history, together with recent developments, continues to make it one of Adelaide's most attractive inner city areas".

The Mayor is confident that the social, environmental and heritage features of Walkerville that distinguish it from all other inner city councils will be protected. The plan provides for urban development improvements in all of Walkerville's suburbs with an emphasis on outstanding architecture and heritage preservation.

Some of the early priorities of the Masterplan are to introduce new gateways that clearly define the town's boundaries, along with improved streetscape. Cycle and pedestrian pathways will be built that take advantage of Walkerville's boundary with the River Torrens and close proximity to the city.

The plan also provides for improvements to



public spaces for community activity with plans for community art, outdoor theatrical displays and more street cafes and boutique shops.

The Town Hall precinct will be modernised and improved streetscape will result from stormwater collection that will ensure the green leafy character of Walkerville is maintained through summer.

Chief Executive Officer Kiki Magro says she's excited to be leading the transformation as a result of Council's vision and commitment.

"Over a relatively short time you will see that a number of highly visible, positive initiatives are under way in our community, which will be promoted with the introduction of our new branding," Ms Magro said.

"Successful urban development of this kind needs to be lead by Council, supported by our traders, worked on in partnership with all levels of government and embraced by the community. This is happening very effectively now in Walkerville."

## Council approves landmark complex at former DTEI site

Redevelopment of the former Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) building on Walkerville Terrace into a landmark 5 star art hotel, residential and office complex has been approved by Council.

Council granted approval of the application by Asian Pacific Building Corporation at its September 13 meeting.

The redevelopment will see alterations and additions to the existing building to accommodate a mix of hotel and residential accommodation, serviced offices, restaurant and recreation facilities, and construction of a three-level basement car park.

Two additional levels will also be constructed on top of the existing building.

Mayor Whiting said Council was pleased to see that an important Walkerville site was being turned into a quality development with a range of uses.

"The DTEI building has been a Walkerville landmark since its construction in the 1960s and is very much a part of the local fabric," Mayor Whiting said.

"Council is enormously pleased to see that such a significant development will take place at the site and we believe it will enhance the built environment of that area, while providing great facilities for both local residents and visitors."

Work on the project is expected to commence almost immediately and be finished within 12 to 18 months.



## No new library on Mary Harris Reserve

Walkerville Council will not be pursuing a proposed new library development on the Mary Harris Reserve, which was one of three options put forward in 2009.

The site had been considered as part of Council's plans to upgrade the existing Civic Centre, depot and library facilities.

Any construction of a new library was reliant on securing funds from the Federal Government. Council was subsequently advised that its funding application had not been successful and as a result Council resolved to withdraw Mary Harris Reserve from any further consideration.

Chief Executive Officer Kiki Magro said Council had approved, as part of its annual budget process, further assessment into upgrading its existing sites.

"With this decision made, Council's focus is now on undertaking an environmental site assessment at the depot and determining the extent of works required to the other key Council assets," Ms Magro said.

"This will allow us to prioritise essential capital and maintenance works, establish what facilities are needed, determine the full scope of works required and develop a brief for initial design works. This will ensure that Walkerville has facilities that provide a focus for the local community and a modern, safe and appropriate environment for Council."

## New council, new beginnings!



The Local Government Elections will be held in November 2010.

These elections will see Walkerville with a new Mayor, as Mayor David Whiting has decided not to stand again for the role.

Walkerville's longest serving current elected member, Mayor Whiting was elected as Councillor for Vale Park Ward in 1993, before becoming Mayor in 2006.

Mayor Whiting said public service was an important part of his life and he welcomed the opportunity to contribute to building a positive community.

"I have a passion for the environment and a strong belief in building a vibrant and sustainable community for everyone to enjoy," he said.

Mayor Whiting's many achievements during his time as Mayor include:

- Introducing a Council-wide strategic plan following extensive community consultation to determine all strategic elements of Council's operations.
- Developing an Urban Masterplan for Council's entire infrastructure.
- Introducing Heritage Development rules to Council's Development Plan which now protects all heritage properties in the Town for the first time in Walkerville's history.
- Introducing a new residential Development Plan limiting excessive urban infill and setting out character statements for each residential precinct to prevent the building of inappropriate and confrontational developments.
- Introducing Council's first 10-year financial plan to guide Council's financial management and capital works programs.
- Leading a new branding exercise which will see Walkerville have improved facility and street signage, and a new marketing logo for the community.
- Championing the concept of stormwater harvesting and reuse at a regional level.

Chief Executive Officer Kiki Magro said Mayor Whiting had made an enormous contribution to the Town during his time in the role.

"His passion and energy have been integral to Walkerville becoming a vibrant and forward-looking community that also respects and values its heritage and character," Ms Magro said.

# A message from Mayor David Whiting



### A new beginning for Walkerville built on our history

Walkerville's new Urban Masterplan (see main story) has resulted in Council undertaking a review of the Town's branding, logo and signage - with the result being a fresh new look which reflects Walkerville's proud history.

Following extensive community consultation, Council has a new logo

that respects, celebrates and draws on the existing design projecting a more modern feel.

The focus of our new look is on celebrating the defining values of Walkerville - our unique character, strong heritage and proud history, along with the benefits of our close proximity to the CBD, and the recreational and environmental appeal of the River Torrens.

Residents will start to see our new logo appearing on signage throughout the Town in the coming weeks and months, with new gateway statements being erected at Gilberton very soon.

### 10 storey apartments for Gilberton - no thank you!

The Minister for Planning, the Hon. Paul Holloway, recently wrote to Council to advise that he wanted us to amend the Development Plan to allow for 10 storey development to be built on the former Channel 7 site at Gilberton (currently 4 storey) and the adjacent Housing Trust site (currently 3 storey).

He has also requested we amend the plan to allow for 4 storey development in the rest of the zone (which is currently 2 storey).

This is all part of the State Government's 30 year plan which has caused much community debate over increased development at Mount Barker, Buckland Park and Gawler.

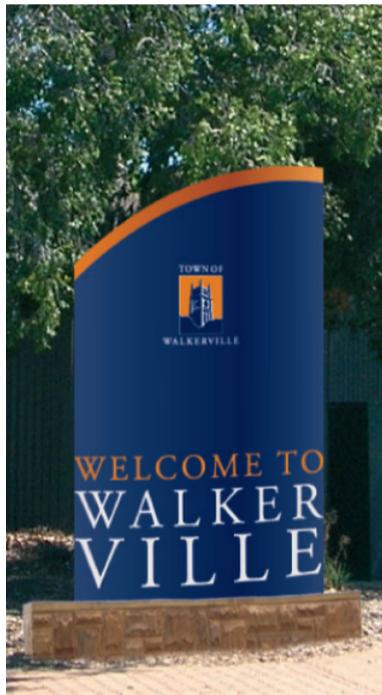
Gilberton is a historic township within our Council area, with residential land first sold in 1839. It is characterised by ornate Victorian houses, workers cottages and row dwellings and is an important part of South Australia's residential history. Essentially it is comprised of mainly single storey housing with some 2 storey buildings and the 3 storey Housing Trust complex.

I am strongly opposed to Gilberton being the standard bearer for the State Government's push to increase urban density, a move I believe will be unacceptable to most residents.

I can understand why it is appealing to governments to increase housing density adjacent to the CBD as it requires no infrastructure outlay or maintenance. I believe, however, we can increase density to accommodate growing population levels through careful planning and well considered complementary design.

In fact, we could double our housing density overnight with very little variation to our current Development Plan. Building 10 storey apartment blocks is confrontational, not complementary, and will irrevocably damage the heritage value of Gilberton.

Council considered the Minister's request at its meeting on September 6 and resolved to reject 10 storey development and to continue to argue the case for Gilberton to remain as a heritage core of our town.



## Additional funds for Walkerville youth initiative

An additional \$2000 has been committed by Council to the recently established Youth Initiative Fund, a joint project between the Town of Walkerville, the City of Prospect and the Office for Youth to "help young people to help themselves".

The Youth Initiative Fund will allocate 12 grants valued at \$500 each year to financially support project initiatives submitted by local youth organisations, church groups, Student Representative Councils and young innovative residents.

Groups and individuals are encouraged to apply for funding for new or existing youth initiatives, programs and events of value to young people aged 12 to 25 years.

Applications can be submitted throughout the year.

The application form can be downloaded directly from Council's website ([www.walkerville.sa.gov.au](http://www.walkerville.sa.gov.au)) or a hard copy version can be obtained by calling Youth Development Officer Mark Crabtree on 8342 8041.

## New look for Australia Day celebrations

Australia Day celebrations will be bigger than ever in 2011, with Council looking to mark the day with an expanded event.

The new look Australia Day celebrations are a result of the decision to cancel this year's Walkerville Village Fair. The plan is to extend the 2011 Australia Day celebrations to include stalls, amusement rides, catering and entertainment to add to the traditional Citizenship Ceremony and Citizen of the Year Awards.

Council is now seeking nominations from the community for the Australia Day Awards. Nominations are being accepted in the following categories:

- Australia Day Citizen of the Year – Awarded to a person or group over 25 years of age who has given outstanding service to the local community
- Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year – Awarded to a person or group under 25 years of age who has given outstanding service to the local community

Deadline for all nominations is 5 pm Friday, October 29, 2010. For further information please contact Deb Bria on 8342 7100 or email [walkervl@walkerville.sa.gov.au](mailto:walkervl@walkerville.sa.gov.au)

## Community Fund under review

The cancellation of the Walkerville Village Fair will see additional money directed to the Council's Community Fund for use by local community groups and individuals.

Council is undertaking a review of the Community Fund, which is expected to be completed by February 2011, which will see funds previously allocated to the Village Fair redirected to a rejuvenated fund.

Community consultation will be undertaken to provide community groups and residents with the opportunity to provide their input into the development of the proposed new Community Fund. Respondents will be invited to complete a written survey and a dedicated "open house" day at the Town Hall will be coordinated where short appointments can be made with the Community Engagement Officer to discuss your thoughts.

If you would like to register your interest in participating or have any enquiries, please contact the Community Engagement Officer Wade Matheson on 8342 7124 or email [wmatheson@walkerville.sa.gov.au](mailto:wmatheson@walkerville.sa.gov.au)

## Packed program for 2010 Carols in the Village

One of Australia's leading brass bands, the K&N Spring Gully Brass, will headline a packed program for the 2010 Carols in the Village Christmas Concert at Walkerville Oval on Wednesday, December 8.

The evening will also include games and activities, and families are invited to bring a picnic, although catering will also be available on the night.

Carols in the Village is a very family-friendly event with a dedicated blanket-only area at the front of the venue and reserved seated and shaded areas.

The event will culminate with a special visit from Santa who will present a small gift to all children under the age of 10.

If you have any enquiries, or are thinking of bringing a large group to the Carols in the Village, please call Community Engagement Officer Wade Matheson on 8342 7124.

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