



State Heritage Area

# Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2    December 2024/January 2025

## MOUNT TORRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY & CAROLS IN THE RESERVE Sunday December 15th, 2024

At the reserve next to the Coach House and  
Sculpture

**6.00pm** Sausage sizzle, cool drinks, coffee,  
available for sale

**7.00pm** - Carols by the Mount with guest artists

**8.15pm** - Raffle draw (before the last bracket of  
Carols)

**8.30pm** - Father Christmas and the Christmas light  
show at the Sinkinson's home across the road from  
the reserve

BYO rug or chair

Come along and meet your neighbours and enjoy  
some great Christmas Music

Presented by the Mt Torrens & Districts Community  
Association and Spring Head Lutheran Church.

Enquiries to Kerry 0467 276 421



## Discover Mount Torrens

It's been a busy couple of months!

### May History Festival Preparations

We recently visited the National Railway Museum in Port Adelaide gathering inspiration for the May History Festival. The impressive steam trains, carriages, and craftsmanship were a wonderful reminder of days gone by. If you haven't been, it's well worth a visit.

### Heritage Walking App Progress

Our heritage area walking app is nearly ready for testing with volunteers. This is an exciting step in bringing Mount Torrens' history to life in an interactive way.

### Amy Gillett Bikeway Extension

Last week, some of us attended the Adelaide Hills Council's

"Turning of the Sod" ceremony for the long-awaited extension of the Amy Gillett Bikeway, connecting Mount Torrens to Birdwood.

The new section will be fantastic in boosting tourism in the region.

Stay tuned for more updates!

Sarah Pollard 0407 838



## MTDCA Archiving Group

Our history has been recorded since the late 1800's! And the purpose of the MTDCA Archiving group is to ensure these records are safely stored and available to be seen by you.

Our small group of volunteers has been steadily working on filing the accumulated photos and information stored. This concept began many years ago with the late Kym Clark (brother of Kerry Clark, Chair of the MTDCA). However, the Archive has only been operating since 2019 and we have a long way to go before it operates as efficiently as we would like. As a comparison, the Gumeracha History Centre is in its 42nd year!

Nevertheless, the Archive is accessible to the visiting public and many local and interstate visitors have been helped in their search for information about the town and their ancestors. We recently had a descendant of George Dunn from WA who spent an enjoyable 2 hours visiting the Coach House, looking at photos and browsing relevant books on Mt Torrens and family history.

As the year winds down I congratulate the group, Chris Barry, Leonie Feutrill, and Kerry Clark, on their commitment to our goals, and thank them for their hard work, enthusiasm and sense of fun (and great morning teas!)

I want to thank Gail Underwood too for her help when requested. After Kim came Gail who was fundamental in shaping the Archive and establishing an excellent Archiving Policy and Procedures Manual. Thank you. We miss you.

And further thanks to Sheree Hunt for her welcome guidance this year.

Come and visit us on Mondays, 10-1, at the Coach House, over the next 3 weeks. (We will be closed from December 9 to January 20, 2025).

For information, contact Kerry Clark, 0467 276 421 or  
[mt.historycentre@gmail.com](mailto:mt.historycentre@gmail.com)

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

Rose Ralph, Acting Manager, MTDCA Archiving Group.

## Mount Torrens Community Garden

Wow, we have had such varied weather since we planted our summer crops. Heat, rain, wind – but thanks to the diligent work of the garden group all our plants have survived.

You will have noticed (at least I hope you have noticed) that the garden has grown substantially over the past two months. We now have extra veggie beds and a large fruit tree and sensory garden area under irrigation.

There are, or will be when they ripen; five varieties of tomatoes, four varieties of chillies and a whole swag of other veggies for our community to enjoy. Oh, and let's not forget the strawberries that we have moved into lower pots to make it easier for the little kids to pick their own.

Our next big project will be a garden shed. We were donated a shed by Irene and Chris Barry and have verbal (awaiting written) approval from the Adelaide Hills Council to erect it on site. This will be a wonderful addition allowing us to store equipment at the garden.

Unfortunately, we have lost some members, and are soon to lose another (all having relocated to other parts of Aus) we really need some new volunteers. We will also need help erecting the shed when the time comes, so if you have skills in this area and are willing to assist, we would love to hear from you, so we know who to call when we have a date.



As you know the Community Garden is off Dunfield Rd. Mount Torrens and open 24/7 for people to harvest their own fruit, vegetables and herbs, which they do regularly.

Membership of the garden group is free and anyone can join any of our regular working bees held on the 1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday of the month 9 to 11am (weather permitting). You can come along to help or ask advice for your own patch.

