



State Heritage Area

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MTDCA

Secretary's Update

Dear Member,

Please enjoy reading this summary of our activities over the past two months.

We have enjoyed seeing you at our committee meeting in April when we were joined by the Adelaide Hills Council Mayor Nathan Daniell and our local Councillor Rick Gladigau. Their presentations were enlightening and the opportunity to ask questions very satisfying. They both have indicated their willingness to join us again.

It has been heartening to see that two of our Community Association initiatives presented to council (the naming of "Andy Bennett Bridge") and the tourist brown signs are close to completion.

Our annual exhibition for History Month, this year with the theme of "Connections", has received much positive feedback and good attendances. It's not too late, opening every Sunday in May 11am - 3pm.

Constitutions are a necessary part of Incorporated Associations. Ours has not been updated since the MTDCA inception in 2004. As well as reflecting changing times, there have been some changes to the recommended model constitution for community associations to ensure full compliance with current Associations Incorporation Act and its regulations and the (now) required annual Tax Office reporting. All members should have a copy of our current constitution. Please read the request below.

Sheree Hunt
Secretary

CONSTITUTION

Seeking your views

The MTDCA committee has begun to review our constitution. The current constitution was written in 2004 and needs updating to bring it into step with the recommendation of the Consumer and Business Services model and fully compliant with the Associations Incorporation Act and its regulations.

We are also looking to gather the views of members on some key issues.

The first example of a key issue - Who can be a member?

Our current rule reads:

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons who are residents in or own property within the district area or near environs and to persons who represent a relevant body or Association within the district area or near environs.

The discussion

From time-to-time people who are keenly interested in Mount Torrens and its history have wanted to become or continue their membership. Some people have relocated yet their interest and desire to assist have remained the same. Some have strong family ties to Mount Torrens but live elsewhere.

Should these people be allowed to be members? Should anyone who wants to be a member be allowed?

Should membership still be vetted by the committee?

An example of change might be:

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons who are residents in or own property within the district area or near environs or who retain an historical interest in the town and to persons who represent a relevant body or Association within the district area or near environs.

Please think about the positives and risks of broadening our membership and send us your thoughts. We are looking at getting a group together to look at this and if you would like to be part of that group contact Sheree (Secretary) mttorrensdca@gmail.com

Archive Collection Group

It has been a busy period for us as we continue to scan photos and information and enter them into eHive, our data management program. Have you had a search online yet to see what you can find about your ancestors or the town's history? Google "eHive mount torrens" for Mount Torrens Archive Centre.

We also receive regular requests from current and past residents to visit and hopefully find and donate family photos and records. The personal visits add a lot of rich information.

Our most recent visit was from Gary Wood, a former resident, now in his 80's. Gary lives in the retirement home in Lobethal and gave us a fascinating picture of school and work life in Mt Torrens and Lobethal from the 50's onwards. We were able to show Gary this early photo of his father and building workmates.

VISIT US AT THE COACH HOUSE IN THE MAIN STREET (17 TOWNSEND ST).

WE ARE OPEN MONDAYS, 10AM - 1 PM.
OR other days by appointment.

Contact: Rose 0432 477 616 Email: mt.historycentre@gmail
Rose Ralph, Acting Manager. Kerry Clark, Chris Barry, Leonie Feutrill, Sheree Hunt.



The local builders, c. 1930. From left, Ally Robinson, Tom Wood and Fred Scadden.

Mount Torrens Community Garden

Our Community Garden Has a New Fence!

It's there to keep the rabbits out — not the humans.

We've added a gate so you can still come in and pick your silverbeet, and soon the cauliflowers and broccoli. To make things easier, we'll put a "Ready to Harvest" sign next to anything that's good to pick. Some produce may still be under netting or behind the fence — just lift it gently, harvest what you need, and pop it back in place.

From time to time, we'll also harvest some produce for you and leave it at the produce stand under the shelter shed. But mostly, we'll leave things for you to pick yourself so you can enjoy everything at its freshest.

We're still looking for more volunteers. There's mulch to spread, winter veg to plant, and a shed waiting to be built. If you'd like to lend a hand, join us in the Dunfield Estate on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month between 9am and 11am.

Thanks for being part of our garden community.

Sue 0458484758



Discover Mount Torrens

Our Daily Bread Exhibition Opens

Our South Australian History Festival exhibition, Our Daily Bread, officially opened at the Coach House on Sunday 4 May.

With more than 60 people attending, it was a wonderful afternoon filled with conversation, memories, and a shared appreciation of Mount Torrens' rich baking history.

A sincere thank you to the Mount Torrens and Districts Community Association members for preparing the delicious food enjoyed throughout the afternoon. We also thank the Lions Club of Onkaparinga for their generous support of the exhibition, and Lobethal Bakery for kindly donating the apple strudel enjoyed by guests.

We were honoured to welcome special guests Drew and Daphne Sumner, with Drew officially opening the exhibition, alongside Ashton Hurn MP, Mayor Nathan Daniell, and Councillors Malcolm Herrmann and Rick Gladigau. A real highlight was seeing former bakery staff reconnect with Drew, and with each other, bringing this year's festival theme of Connections to life in a genuine and personal way.

In his address, Drew reflected on the story of Sumner's Bakery, from its beginnings by his grandfather W.W. Sumner in 1903 through to its sale in 1993. He shared memories of working in the family business, the changes in baking over the decades, and the strong sense of community connection that surrounded the bakery. He also spoke warmly about the many staff, customers, suppliers, and family members who contributed to the bakery's success over generations before officially declaring the exhibition open.



Previous Sumners Bakery employees with Drew Sumner

Left to right: Ann Jarman, Veronica Nourse, Joylene Burton, Ian Kucina, Drew Sumner, Dave Geary

The exhibition features a large collection of photographs, baking ephemera, and nostalgic objects, including the original cast iron baker's oven kindly loaned by Rose and Dave, along with kitchenalia and baking collections on display from Leonie.

Our Daily Bread explores not only the story of the flour mill and bakery, but also the people, places, and industries that shaped Mount Torrens and the sense of connection that has always been part of community life here.

The exhibition has continued to attract interest, with a further 88 visitors attending at the time of writing. Many of our visitors have been previous employees who have enjoyed the exhibition whilst taking a trip down memory lane.

The exhibition is open every Sunday in May, 11am - 3pm, at the Coach House, 17 Townsend Street. Following the History Festival, the exhibition will continue to be open on the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome.

Sarah Pollard 0407 838 968



Previous Sumners Bakery employees with Drew Sumner

Left to right: Marianne Grigg, Yvonne Barrett, Drew Sumner, Joyleen Burt

