



Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

January/February 2025

MTDCA

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025!

There really has been a flurry of activity over the past two months!

Xmas Market

Our Xmas Market on December 1st (held in conjunction with Mt Torrens Centenary Park) was probably our most successful ever in numbers of stalls and patrons as well as very encouraging feedback. Lunchtime music and choir as well as the decorated pallet Christmas trees added to the festive experience.

A huge thank you to all volunteers including Chris Barry, Dave York, Paul Headland, Adam Krahnert and Adam Trowbridge as well as the Mt Torrens Centenary Park members who helped out on the day - it can't happen without the work of many.

MTDCA relies on the markets for substantial fundraising to support our activities, and volunteers will be needed to continue this tradition.



Carols at the Mount

On Sunday December 15, the Mt Torrens Carols at the Heritage Reserve was an entertaining place to be. In conjunction with Springhead Lutheran Church and the Mt Torrens Christian School, the sounds of Christmas filled the town for around 150 attendees.

Paul Sinkinson's amazing Christmas Display (including Santa Claus) provided a place to go after the carols.

Congratulations to Paul for his Australia Day award for Active Citizenship. Thank you again to all the volunteers who helped that night.

Raffle

Seven lucky raffle winners were announced. We thank the donors for the events as well as raffle prizes, including Ashton Hurn, Klose's Foodland Woodside, Cooper's Hardware Mount Torrens, Onkaparinga Meats, Ampol Woodside, Lobethal Newsagent, Lobethal Community Pharmacy, Chooks Custom Graphix and Adelaide Hills Vegie Gardens.

Coach House

There have been works in progress at the Coach House as we prepare for this year's History Festival and we thank the hard workers on the Committee- you know who you are!

Market

Our next market will be held jointly with Mount Torrens Centenary Park on Sunday March 2. In conjunction with Adelaide Hill's Council and the Adelaide Fringe "Discover, Play, Pathway", a highlight will be the "Touch a Truck" experience which has thrilled young audiences around the state. We hope to see you all there.

Family Dinner at the Park

Finally, don't forget the Friday night dinners at the Park. It's a great chance to spend time in the community (and get a good cheap meal!) It's on the first Friday of the month, from 5.30 pm.

All the best for 2025!

Sheree Hunt (Secretary) on behalf of the MTDCA Committee



Mount Torrens Community Garden

Tomato Taste test!!!!

Which of the 5 varieties of tomatoes do you like best????

I have been a long-term fan of the Tommy Toe (Small to medium round red one), but I must admit my new favourite is the Pink Bumble Bee (the small stripy red one). Even the name sounds great!!! It is packed full of flavour and I can't wait to taste it with basil (The garden has new plantings of both Sweet or Thai Basil).

Other members of the garden group think that the Green Grape is the best, but given they are wrong they will remain nameless. Hint!!! Wait for the green grape tomatoes to turn slightly yellow before eating.

Jaune Flamme is the medium size orange tomato that is the earliest ripening, so you will need to get in quick to taste this one. They are also a good size to slice.

We are waiting to see what the Wapsipinicon Peach Tomato looks and tastes like; it is meant to be a creamy yellow – but so far none have ripened. Gee I hope it doesn't become my favourite because I can't pronounce it.

Some hints about picking tomatoes. They will ripen after picking, so you can pick them a bit early (when they are almost ripe) – this is a good way to make sure you have plenty sitting on your kitchen bench when you need them. Never put real tomatoes in the fridge!!!



Handpicked tomatoes last longer if they have a small stem attached. If you look carefully at the tomatoes on the bush, they all have a small bend in the stem about 3mm above the tomato. If you bend this backwards it breaks off cleanly leaving you with a nice little stem.

And if this is not enough – check out our competition Mark Smith of the Tuck Street (Mount Torrens) Community Garden; he has at least three other varieties which will remain nameless by me. But they are black and yellow and stripy – so you can really have a wonderful medley of tomatoes at your next BBQ.

Please enjoy!!!!

Remember the Community Garden is open 24/7 for you to pick from. The garden group meets every first and third Saturday of the month 9am to 11am. Please join us. Sue

Discover Mount Torrens

As we step into the new year, we're thrilled to share some exciting achievements and updates that highlight our town's progress and recognition.

Recognition and Awards

Discover Mount Torrens was thrilled to be honoured with an Adelaide Hills Council Australia Day Community Event Commendation Award for our 2024 History Festival event, "Light Up and Grow", held last May. This award recognises the collective effort of Discover Mount Torrens and the MTDCA in celebrating and preserving our heritage.

Brown Tourist Signs Approved

After significant advocacy, brown tourist signs for Mount Torrens have been approved! These signs will soon appear, enhancing visibility and encouraging visitors to explore the rich history and charm of our town.

State Heritage Area Recognition

We are also proud to share that the Adelaide Hills Council is now formally recognising Mount Torrens as a State Heritage Area. This acknowledgment celebrates our town's unique historical significance and supports ongoing preservation efforts.

Heritage Trail Walking App Progress

Exciting news: the Mount Torrens Heritage Trail Walking App is now in its testing phase! Scheduled to launch during this year's History Festival in May, the free app will be available in the App Store, the Google Play Store and on the web.

This digital walking trail will offer a unique way to explore our town's rich history. There is even a kid's version with a quiz!

Upcoming Event: May History Festival

Mark your calendars for this year's History Festival in May! The theme, "Tracks of Change: From Trains to Treadlies," will explore the captivating journey from the establishment of the railway to the creation of the Amy Gillett Bikeway, connecting Mount Torrens to Birdwood. Stay tuned for event updates and opportunities to get involved!

For any questions or to get involved, contact Sarah Pollard at 0407 838 968.



MTDCA Archiving Group

We are ready to start work again in 2025, filing and storing the accumulated photos and records of Mt Torrens. Most of the group will be starting on Monday February 3rd but Kerry and I will be in the Coach House on January 27th.

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.

We are meeting every Monday from 9 am to 1 pm at the Coach House. This is a good time to drop in with questions you might have about your family ancestors, local buildings or to donate/loan records you would like to have stored in the Mt Torrens Archive.

You can also contact us via:
mt.historycentre@gmail.com

Or phone Rose: 0432 477 616

PS. You may have noticed these ruins from the Bikeway. If you would like to know more, why not drop into the Coach House one Monday and learn their history.

