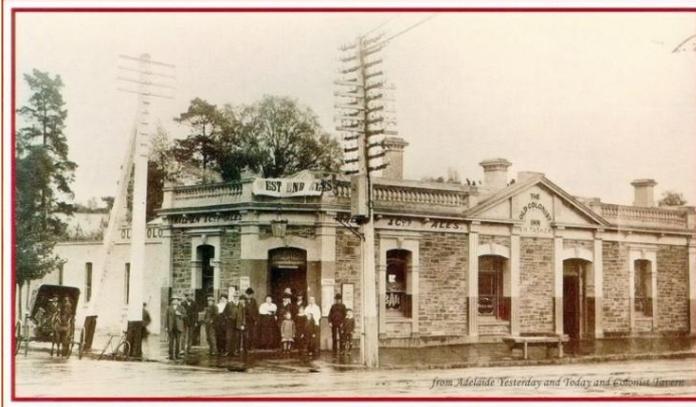




Your suburb, your voice

NORWOOD MATTERS

FEBRUARY 2026



DID YOU KNOW...

The Colonist Hotel on The Parade was originally opened in 1851 as the Old Colonist Inn — a single-storey hotel built by Frederick Hobbs, a bricklayer who, along with his wife Elizabeth, arrived on the first immigrant ship from London in early 1837. Their first daughter is recorded as the first Caucasian child born in the colony. Frederick, however, did not enjoy a good reputation. He was reportedly a “dishevelled

drunk”, an adulterer, and a convicted perpetrator of domestic violence. Even after local brewers supported Elizabeth in taking over management of the hotel, Frederick was charged with several breaches of the Publicans Act. The property was forced to be sold, leaving Elizabeth and her children to take refuge in the Destitute Asylum.

The hotel underwent major renovations in the 1870s, and a second storey was added in 1911. Over the years, The Colonist has passed through many hands. The Saturno Group (Booze Brothers) managed it for most of the early 21st century, before selling to the current owners, Australian Venue Co., in 2021. The Colonist was added to the local heritage register in 2000.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Committee took a break over Christmas and has only just resumed meeting. Our President, Mackie Eaton, has decided to step down so we are on the lookout for someone willing to lead us forward.

STATE ELECTION – DUNSTAN ELECTORATE ‘MEET THE CANDIDATES’ FORUM

The NRA will assist with the upcoming “Meet the Candidates” forum for the upcoming State election – with all the candidates for the Dunstan Electorate invited. This will be held at the **St Peters Banquet Hall** (behind the St Peters Library) on **Wednesday, 4th March at 7pm**. All are welcome.

COUNCIL MATTERS

From the recent Council meetings:

FEBRUARY

- A parking report looked at issues regarding parking near Mary Mackillop College and the OTR headquarters. Council is proposing changing car parking limits in the area to 3 hours in order to push OTR employees to park further away.

- The Council is exploring ways to increase transparency by investigating options for recording and live-streaming meetings. The goal is to make these sessions available for residents to view directly on the Council's website.
- Fee and charges increases – of note are parking permits up 10-50%, hall hire fees up significantly (e.g. St Peters Banquet Hall up 44-55%) and home maintenance and modification fees up 11-42%.
- Following the traffic report carried out for Kensington, Norwood will be the next to be undertaken.

Note that Council meetings are now being held on the first TUESDAY of the month rather than Monday.

All the Council agendas and minutes can be found on their website at:

https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/about_council/council_and_committees/council_agenda_and_minutes

BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS

Of interest within the Norwood suburb:

- 81 Osmond Terrace – *“Construction of a two-storey dwelling addition to a Local Heritage Place including partial demolition and restoration work, together with demolition of ancillary structures, and fencing”*
- 123 Beulah Rd – *“Torrens Title Land Division (1-into-2)”*
- 19 Moulden St – *“Additions and alterations to a dwelling, including a rear verandah, and the removal of a significant tree”*
- 119 Beulah Rd – *“Two-storey detached dwelling and associated earthworks and retaining walls, masonry front fence, outbuilding, swimming pool (and associated safety features) and the removal of two (2) regulated trees”*
- 54-60 Sydenham Rd – *“Construction of a two-storey office building, and seven (7) three-storey detached dwellings in a terrace arrangement, with removal of one (1) regulated street tree, and damage (constituting root disturbance and pruning) to another regulated street tree”*
- Unit 33-36 Brown St – *“Removal of one (1) regulated tree and one (1) significant tree”*

Sad to see the number of listed trees we continue to lose...

Also of note is the commencement of construction of the addition to the historic, listed cottage at 34 Elizabeth St.

SAMELA MUSES

by Samela Harris, NRA member

Everyone loves Norwood, now including bats.

I have always loved watching them stream across the sunset sky as they head for the hills from their Botanic Park roosts where they dangle by the decorative thousands.

That huge wingspan. That graceful passage in the soft twilight skies.

Off they go to faraway orchards and fruit crops.

Lately, however, they've been taking tree-breaks in Norwood. More and more.

Since the city hosts about 35,000 of those darling native grey-headed fruit bats, AKA flying foxes, AKA Pteropus poliocephalus, the Norwood stop-over can be quite a tree-ful.

And you have to know they're there. Boy! Can that chatter!

I start to worry about their potential to displace our resident birds in some of the trees. The bats have sweet teeth. They are fruitarians with a taste for nectar. So when they come in to our eucalypts, it is for blossoms. Poor old lorikeets and wattle birds have to move over. Then again, these batty darlings are famously good at pollination, so there's some pay-back. They are like giant bees.

I do fear for our maggies since our population has declined so dramatically. It was tough for them before and now come these rowdy treevaders. I can't see how they can defend nesting territory. There's not much we can do. The fruit bats are refugees already and they have poor heat tolerance, albeit they are known to fan themselves when they are hot. They also are an endangered species nationally and are protected wildlife.

They are noisy and sound quarrelsome up there but in fact they are non-aggressive and sweet. Except for their ability to carry nasty lyssavirus, luckily rare in humans unless scratched or bitten. So, don't picnic under trees with bat gatherings aloft and I'm sure everyone knows we're not to touch them if they come to grief in our territory.

Their stopovers will lessen when the flowering lessens. Let's love them while we can.

Here's a bat-rescue phone number just in case: 0475 132 093

WHAT'S NEW IN NORWOOD

- One of the restored/extended shops below the Orta development (No 122) will become another medical facility: "Next Practice" – the first in SA from this national chain.

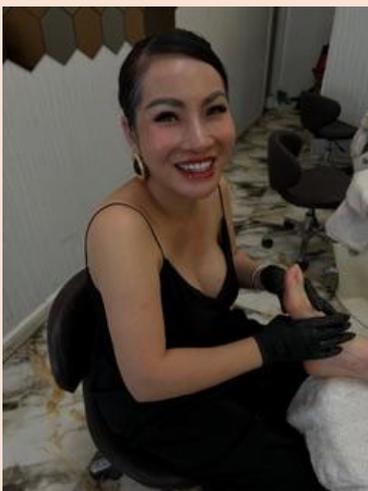
MEET THE LOCALS

Where we learn about our local businesses

Norwood Nails Design & Eyelashes

154 The Parade

by Samela Harris



Introducing Sophia.

She is the ever-smiling nail technician who runs Norwood's Nail Designs and Eyelashes, a busy little nail spa on the perimeter of Coles shopping centre carpark. She is the talent who helps to elevate basic beauty maintenance into an elite art form. Yes, beyond colour there is design art and sparkles.

The whole genre has changed.

Sophia has a willing and able staff who also make magic with eyelashes and brows. Of course, they are all Vietnamese and part of the huge legacy with which Alfred Hitchcock's favourite actress Tippi Hedren graced this world.

Tippi was well known as an influential animal rights advocate but less renown for her work as a relief co-ordinator for Food for The Hungry,

under which cause she visited refugee villages in the US.

When Vietnamese girls were fascinated by her glamorous nails, she brought in her manicurist and set her up to teach the girls the skills how to do it. Then, working with a beauty school, she helped them to find jobs and, hey presto, the emergence of this massive career movement. Tippi, who is still alive at 96, set up a scholarship foundation to advance girls as nail technicians. Documentaries have been made about it but, funnily enough, the Vietnamese girls working expertly in this tradition in Adelaide have never heard of it. They have, however, heard of all the latest tools and treatments and their nail

colour palettes are now so huge that picking a shades and designs is an adventure in itself. Me? I go green with added bling designs, and my toenails are works of art.

SOAPBOX

By NRA member Fay Patterson

Remembering Agnes Goode



For most Norwood residents, if the name “Agnes Goode” sounds familiar, it’s thanks to the Agnes Goode Kindergarten in Stepney. But Mrs Goode has another claim to fame in regard to St Peters Council.

Born Agnes Knight in Strathalbyn in 1872, Mrs Goode was a prominent social reformer and a political activist at a time when women’s political representation was still in its infancy. In 1894, South Australia became the first place in Australia to grant women both the right to vote and the right to stand for parliament. This made it the first electorate in the world to give equal political rights to both men and women. However, women wouldn’t be elected to Parliament until a generation later, in 1959.

In the meantime, local government led the way. Female property owner-ratepayers had had the right to vote in local council elections from 1861. Then, in 1920, Susan Benny became the first female councillor in Australia, when the ratepayers of Brighton petitioned the state government to appoint her to a new council ward. And in December 1925, Agnes Goode became the first woman to successfully contest a council election in South Australia when she unseated the incumbent to represent Hackney ward in St Peter’s Council. (While Susan Benny had been re-elected by then, this was uncontested.) She was re-elected unopposed and held her seat until she relinquished it to stand (unsuccessfully) for mayor in 1935.

Mrs Goode’s success was built on an established reputation. In 1911, women were first allowed to practise Law in our state. In 1916 – the year the first woman graduated in Law – Mrs Goode became one of the first South Australian female Justices of the Peace, the first to take her seat on the bench with the Stipendiary Magistrate, and a member of the State Children’s Council. From 1919, she presided over the State Children’s Court, in which role she became known for her lack of leniency.

In 1923, Mrs Goode was the first woman preselected as a candidate by a South Australian political party. While unsuccessful in winning a seat, the party support helped her council contest. In fact, Mrs Goode contested the Grey ward for the Adelaide City Council in 1924 and while this was won by long-time rival A.A. Edwards, he had contravened the Electoral Act by driving voters to the polling place. Mrs Goode chose not to press the issue, which could have given her the seat by default, but without having won a fair majority of votes.

A “... vigorous speaker, with a keen, logical mind and experience backed with sound commonsense...,” Mrs Goode contributed to societies for poetry, theatre, Aborigines, housewives, unemployed women, travellers, local industries and kindergartens.

As the editor of the women's page of the Liberal Leader from 1918-24, Mrs Goode headed this with a Shakespearian couplet:

Do you know I am a woman?
When I think I must speak.

Associated with the Kindergarten Union for 25 years, she was made a life vice president for her service. Following her death in Toorak Gardens in 1947, St Peters Council renamed the Stepney Free Kindergarten in her honour.

SNIPPETS

Stobie Pole Art

The Council has finally approved guidelines for Stobie pole art where both painted and mosaic forms are permitted. These guidelines are in addition to the SA Power Networks approvals process. Full information on the Council requirements can be found at:

https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/culture_and_lifestyle/the_arts/artist-opportunities.

Hard Rubbish

The ABC is looking at reporting on Council hard rubbish collections in Adelaide and our President, Mackie Eaton, was contacted for input about Norwood. Just to remind residents, you are entitled to two free hard waste collections and two free mattress collections per financial year. These must be booked in advance through East Waste (online or by phone). There are restrictions on what can be put out and sizes etc. All the information can be found on the Council's website at:

https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/our_services/waste_and_recycling/hard_waste

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming entertainment events in and around Norwood.

NORWOOD CONCERT HALL:

- 23/2 Nurse Blake - But did you die? (Comedy)
- 27/2 Peter Pan (Theatre/Children) FRINGE SHOW
- 4/3 Hot & Healed - Jonathan Van Ness (Comedy)
- 7/3 American Roadtrip presented by Fusion Pops Orchestra (Music) FRINGE SHOW
- 8/3 Laura Ramoso - The Calm Down Tou (Comedy)
- 15/3 The Beatles Anthology (Music)
- 21/3 Hits of the '60s and '70s by The 60 Four (Music) FRINGE SHOW
- 21/3 Songs from ESTHER (Music) FRINGE SHOW – Don Pyatt Hall
- 4/4 Jason Leong: In Laughing Memory (Comedy)
- 8/4 The Italian Tenors (Opera)

REGAL THEATRE: (All are FRINGE SHOWS)

- 20/2 Feelin' Groovy Goes to Graceland (Music)
- 21/2 California Dreams (Music)
- 21/2 Ziggy Stardust and Beyond (Music)
- 22/2 The Carole King and James Taylor Story (Music)
- 25/2 The Wilbury Twist (Music)

27/2 DIAMOND: A Musical Tribute to Neil Diamond (Music)
28/2 Simon and Garfunkel ... and Beyond (Music)
28/2 Legends of Country (Music)
8/3 The Billy Joel Story (Music)
8/3 True Crime – The Ultimate Betrayal (Theatre)
13/3 Elton John: Your Song (Music)
14/3 ABBA Gold: 50th Anniversary of Arrival (Music)

ERN MALLEY:

19/2 ABBA Gold: 50th Anniversary of Arrival (Music)
20/2 Combo da Jazz LIVE (Music)
25/2-4/3 Topic Thunder (Comedy) FRINGE SHOW
27/2 The Squalor LIVE (Music)
28/2-21/3 Where is My Mind (Talk) FRINGE SHOW
5-14/3 DE PAR EN PAR (Theatre) FRINGE SHOW
18-19/3 Offbeat: The Molly Silvy Quintet (Music) FRINGE SHOW

It's Festival/Fringe time of course so a multitude of events coming up on top of the ones above in our area. Numerous music acts and comedy at the Norwood Hotel / Osmond Function Centre e.g. "From Split Enz to Crowded House" and "Birdland". Other Fringe venues are The Alley on Magill Rd and Little Bang Brewing Company. And then there's the zillion shows on at The Garden of Unearthly Delights and Gluttony, both easily accessible from our doorsteps. Best to consult the Fringe website at: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/>

For the Festival you can catch the Australian Dance Theatre performing "Faraway" at the Odeon Theatre.

Want to have your say about something relating to Norwood? You can do this via our 'SOAPBOX' on this newsletter. Or tell us about a local business that you think is worthy of publicity in 'MEET THE LOCALS'. Simply post your contribution to our email address listed below...

If you would like to get the newsletters by email, go to:

<https://norwoodresidentsassociation.com/newsletter-norwood-matters/> and follow the link to subscribe.

Thinking of joining the Norwood Residents Association? Click [here](#) to find out how. You can sign up there or email us at norwoodresassoc@gmail.com. Annual membership is only \$10 single/\$20 family.

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