NORWOOD MATTERS

Your suburb, your voice

JUNE 2026

DID YOU KNOW...

The Antonio Giannoni sculpture on Osmond Terrace, Norwood, commemorates Antonio Giannoni (1814–1883), recognised as the first Italian to settle in South Australia. Born in Rimini, Italy, Giannoni arrived in Adelaide in 1839 as a crew member on the ship the Recovery. By 1864 he had purchased a property in High Street, Kensington and operated a horse-drawn cab on the route between Adelaide and the village. He soon became a well-known local identity. His son Peter went on to serve as Mayor of Kensington and Norwood from 1920-1922.

The bronze bust, located near the centre of Osmond Terrace, was erected to honour his contribution to the state's early multicultural history and the significant role Italian migrants have played in shaping the local community. It was donated by the Italian Historical Society and Comune di Rimini. The sculpture was officially unveiled on 4 November 1993 as a joint initiative involving the City of Kensington and Norwood and Italian community organisations and remains an important symbol of Norwood's cultural heritage and long-standing Italian connections. You can find out more on Antonio Giannoni and other early Italian immigrants here: https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/italians-in-south-australia/

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

- Most of the committee attended the recent consultation session for the Council's budget and long term financial plan with several giving commentary on various aspects of the budget and plan. The official NRA submission was presented at this consultation. You can read it in full on our website: https://norwoodresidentsassociation.com/latest-posts/

- **We are currently conducting a survey** to find out what Norwood residents know about us, what they require from a residents group and what they consider the most pressing issues here and in the whole Council area. If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to fill this out. You can find it online here or scan this QR code to take you there.

- Do we have someone out there with social media/promotion skills? The Norwood Residents Association is looking for help with managing our online presence. We currently have a website plus a Facebook page with some 600 followers but are open to expanding this to other outlets. One of our main roles is to disseminate information to our residents on matters relating to our suburb and wider Council area. Contact us via our email at the bottom of this newsletter if you are interested.

- The NRA will be holding its **Annual General Meeting** in July on a yet to be determined date. Keep an eye out for emails/Facebook postings with all the details.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the NRA committee has taken on the task of writing position statements on the major issues in our suburb/council area. For this edition we are presenting a statement on traffic and parking.

Norwood Residents Association Position Statement on Traffic & Parking

Traffic and parking in Norwood have reached a critical point. Traffic volumes are ever increasing, vehicle speeds on local streets go unchecked, and parking habits of visitors and employees in Norwood threaten residents' amenity. The amount of traffic here now reflects an increase in dwellings and residents. The number of homes in Norwood is increasing due to infill development and higher-density housing. In the 2016 census, Norwood had some 3300 private dwellings. 2026 census data predictions suggest a count of over 6,000 dwellings. Consider the increase of vehicles to the neighbourhood associated with those nearly 3000 additional homes! Then add the shoppers and employees who drive to and park in our streets attracted by the vibrant businesses along The Parade. While we must not discourage those visitors, we must maintain access to parking for residents too. It is easy to park in Norwood, but when combined, parking and traffic can be a circular problem: the more parking provided, the more traffic results. With available parking comes people in vehicles looking to use it. When all day parking is replaced with restricted parking areas to encourage more parking turnover, more traffic flows. Now add those who use Norwood's long straight, wide streets as thoroughfares and speedy shortcuts to the busy, congested arterial roads surrounding our neighbourhood and we have an unlimited problem. It's time to act to reduce passing traffic, to slow speeds and to manage parking more effectively.We need a willingness to:

- Require on-site parking for every housing development, large or small, to reduce demand for on street parking from new residents.
- Encourage residents to garage their vehicles rather than use garages as overflow storage for personal possessions. This may mean a program of resident permits assigned based on a ratio of available on-site parking.
- Police speed limits. Often and randomly.
- Quieten our streets with some road closures and barriers to through-traffic, recognizing that local residents will be e inconvenienced by elongated routes.
- Discourage CBD workers from using Norwood as their 'park and ride' location by implementing restricted parking areas near arterial roads with public transit routes.
- Institute City-wide policies on businesses (residents and non-residents) that are tough on long term street parking where cars are parked in the same location for weeks and months.

COUNCIL MATTERS

From the recent Council meetings:

- Several residents addressed the Council on the issue of the Norwood Swimming Pool.
- Mayor Bria put forward a motion to provide all school children in the Council area with a voucher to use at the Payneham Memorial Swimming Centre next summer. However, the motion was defeated.
- The Council put forward four options for the opening dates/times for the Norwood Swimming Pool for next summer. Their recommended option was for a shorter season and shortened opening times in order to save money, but the Councillors voted to maintain the existing 26-week season and the same hours. They also moved that "*That the Council reaffirms its commitment to keeping and operating the Norwood Swimming Centre for the benefit of the community, in line with the adopted Swimming Centres Long Term Strategy*".
- A supplementary (and short!) meeting was held on 9th June to present the 2026/27 budget consultation responses. The only motion passed was basically to' take these into consideration'. One interesting piece of data is that 65% of respondents to the online feedback form were **against** the idea of including a gym at the Payneham Memorial Swimming Centre.

ENROL TO VOTE! If you are not already on the Electoral Roll then make sure you register before the cutoff date of July 31st so that you can vote in the November Council elections.
Other relevant dates are:

- Nominations open — Tuesday 25 August 2026
- Nominations close — 12 noon, Tuesday 8 September 2026
- Ballot pack mail-out — Thursday 15 October – Wednesday 21 October 2026
- Close of voting (polling day) — 5:00pm, Wednesday 11 November 2026
- Scrutiny and count — Saturday 14 November 2026

More information on the elections can be found on the Council's website:
https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/about_council/council-elections

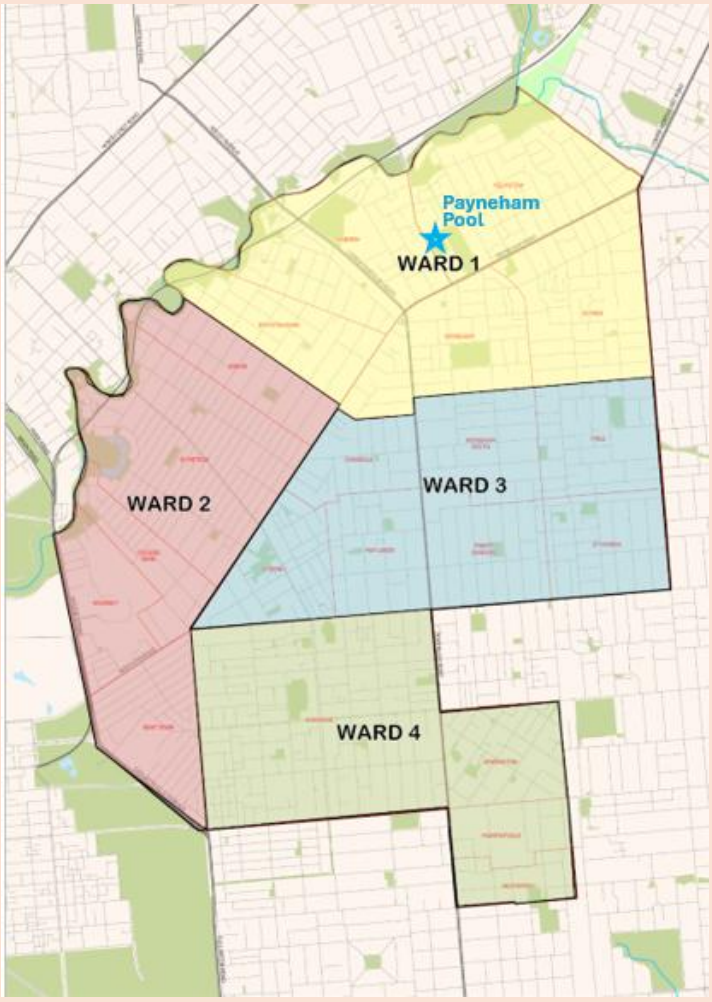
STOP PRESS! "The beleaguered Electoral Commission of South Australia wants to push out local council elections by half a year, fearing a repeat of the problem-plagued 2026 State Election" – InDaily.

COUNCIL WARD CHANGES

Re-districting NPSP: Note the changes to Norwood, Kensington and Kent Town!

As we march quickly towards the Council elections in November this year, it's timely to note that our wards have been re-boundaried. This is especially relevant for us here in Norwood, Kensington and Kent Town. The image below shows the current six ward boundaries and councillors, as shown on the City of NPSP website:

Going forward, the map below shows the wards applicable in the 2026 election. Note the elimination of the West Norwood/Kent Town Ward as it is subsumed into the new Ward 2, and the redefined Norwood/Kensington Ward (Ward 4).



Every eight years, local councils are required to review the number of elected members in each ward and make adjustments where relevant. Following a review, in 2024 the NPSP Council decided to **reduce the number of councillors from thirteen to eleven and reduce the number of wards from six to four**. These new ward boundaries will apply for the coming election of Councillors and Mayor.

The table below shows the impact of this change.

Current Ward	Current Councillors (13 people)	Suburbs	Future ie Nov 2026	# of Reps (11 people)
Kensington/ East Norwood	2 Councillors: Cristel Mex & John Callisto	Kensington, Marryatville, Heathpool	Ward 4	3 Councillors
		East Norwood		
West Norwood/ Kent Town	2 Councillors: Grant Piggott & Sandy Wilkinson	West Norwood		
		Kent Town, Hackney	Ward 2	2 Councillors
St Peters	2 Councillors: Rita Excell & Kester Moorhouse	St Peters, Joslin		
Maylands/ Trinity	3 Councillors: Connie Granozio, Scott Sims & Victoria McFarlane	Stepney, Maylands, Evandale	Ward 3	3 Councillors
		Trinity Gardens, St Morris, Firle		
Payneham	2 Councillors: Josh Robinson & Kevin Duke	Payneham South		
		Payneham, Glynde	Ward 1	3 Councillors
Torrens	2 Councillors: Garry Knoblauch & Hugh Holfield	Royston Park, Marden, Felixstow		

BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS

Of interest within the Norwood suburb:

- 137-139 Kensington Rd – "Construction of a two-storey building containing consulting rooms, with an undercroft car park, associated signage, amendments to existing car parking and access, partial demolition to the rear of a Local Heritage Place, and **removal of nine regulated and three significant trees**". This is the large medical centre to be built on the corner of Portrush and Kensington Roads.
- 1 Fisher St – "Partial demolition and restoration of a Local Heritage Place, three-storey alterations and additions to building (for two office tenancies) and partial change in use of land to car park in association with offices with associated demolition of outbuildings and boundary fencing construction"
- 55 Elizabeth St – "Two storey detached dwelling with associated swimming pool and masonry fencing"

Goodbye trees

The latest applications to remove regulated/significant trees in Norwood

- 137-139 Kensington Rd as above
- 18/20 William St - Removal of the regulated Queensland Box tree that sits on the property at 18 William Street
- 95 Beulah Rd - Removal of a significant tree - Eucalyptus Viminalis
- 81 Osmond Terrace - Removal of a Regulated SA Blue Gum in front yard

SAMELA MUSES

by Samela Harris, NRA member

Freedom of the City!

When did we last hear of such a thing? It is a medieval honour bestowed upon someone for their good citizenry.
Who knew that our own City Council could accord it? Well, well, well, dear fellow residents — suddenly, I have it.
I am only the fourth member of our community to receive it through the years.
Speechless? Yes.
Mayor Robert Bria presented this honour to me at my 80th birthday party — "the party of the decades" — mounted jointly with Peter Goers for his 70th, at our beautiful Concert Hall on Friday, May 29.
With a wonderful speech describing my roots in this fair 'burb, Mayor Bria proffered a framed certificate. It is equivalent to the Keys of the City. He said it was delivered with the unanimous agreement of the assembled NPSP City Council, and counter-signed by CEO Mario Barone. I have breezed along these many years taking my Norwood identity as a given. But the Mayor's speech made me stop and think. Actually, we Harrises do go back. Not just to ancestral arrivals in the state, but to being Norwood dwellers. It was in the 1800s that Emanuel Mendel Harris, a tailor, and his wife, Elizabeth Morgan, lived in Vernon Street, where they had seven children — the baby of whom was my grandfather, Victor, born in 1899. Vic grew up in Norwood and met Claris Moyse, a smart secretary, also in Norwood. They ended up in the South East, where my father, Max Harris, grew up very much aware of the work of Mary MacKillop. This inspired him later to become the country's leading lay advocate for her sainthood and, consequently, to have his ashes interred in MacKillop Park, between the Josephite convent and Mary MacKillop College in Kensington. Pop over and pat his rock if you're up having a coffee at the High Street Café. Meanwhile, with my parents, Max and Von, I moved to 27 Park Road, Kensington Park, at the age of 12. A beautiful bluestone with huge jacaranda trees, beneath which many a Sunday brunch was held with writers and artists. My father and I were great walkers, either with our four black miniature poodles or, for a while, with my sheep, Himmelfarb. We watched as the area changed through the years and always had a warm relationship with the Italian "New Australians". Max loved them. Aged 17, I left home. But not Norwood. I went all the way down to number 11 The Parade, a two-storey bluestone I shared with fellow university students, one of them Anne Summers. I became editor of the uni newspaper, On Dit, in that phase, and jumped into the Murdoch Scholarship and a journalistic career via The News. Next, it was off to Fleet Street and 11 years living, working and having sons in the UK.
But wait.
There, I ended up living in lovely, lush Surrey in none other than Norwood Farm. From Norwood to Norwood. The original Norwood. The Norwood Farm farmhouse was built in 1320, and its owner, William de Northwode, is recorded in the Domesday Book. William of the North Wood, in today's lingo. Later, Norwood.
My son, Sam, was born there and proudly bears de Northwode as his middle and often performance name.
Back in Adelaide as a supporting mum, we moved into 112 Edward Street. It was soon to become known as The House of the Raising Sons — subtitle of my recipe book On a Shoestring, the result of the Advertiser column in which I wrote about life in that dear old house. The house already had Norwood pedigree. Gretel Dunstan, Don's first wife and my friend, had grown up in that house. Don said he proposed to her in the back garden. For the next three decades or so, 'twas a colourful life there with chooks, fruit trees, big dogs and hearty meals, with Peter Goers buying a terrace house across the road because he was part of our family clan. A lot of cookery and theatre and wonderful people.
Meanwhile ... I am not finished.
My maternal grandfather, William Hutton, dentist of North Terrace, was a state cricketer and footballer. He was captain of Torrens and then coach of — wait for it — Norwood Football Club. These days, as the legitimate elder of the Harris clan, I live in the back-street granny house we built for my mother, designed by none other than former Norwood Mayor Brian Polomka. I have known some great Norwood mayors in my time. Before Brian, there was that old legend Jack Richards, and then there was the unforgettable bike-riding Vini Ciccarello. Great culinary odours drifted from that wee kitchen off the Mayor's Parlour in those days.
Ah, memories.
It was Robert Bria, our modest, quietly capable and now long-enduring civic leader, who bestowed upon me this extraordinary status of eminence. Freedom of the City? Keys to the City? There are no actual keys. It is an arcane and ephemeral gift. It gives me no power. It just makes little me stand tall in this terrific corner of the world — and love it even more.

WHAT'S NEW IN NORWOOD

- Clinpath Pathology (coming) - 223 The Parade (the old Pinot & Picasso)
- Sandwich Hut - Norwood mall (waiting to open)
- The Memo baby store is now open in the old Wheel & Barrow shop at 144 The Parada
- YOTS Hairdressers are relocating from The Parade to larger premises at Norwood Green (100 Magill Rd).

If you're wondering what's happening in the Coles car park at the southern end of the mall – it's going to be a dog wash!

Left/leaving us

- Let Them Eat – favourite vegan/vegetarian eatery has closed along with its siblings due to the company liquidation. The wholesale business is continuing though so you can still buy some of their yummy products from Foodland.
- Outdoors on Parade – after 42 years, Annie Lovejoy is closing this Norwood institution and retiring. Read the Indaily article about this.

We've also noticed that the Bos Taurus Butcher is up for sale...

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming entertainment events in and around Norwood.

NORWOOD CONCERT HALL:

20/6	Gary Owen "No Hard Feelings Tour" (Comedy)
27/6	Simon Brodkin Unleashed (Comedy)
3-4/7	Nazeem Hussain "I'd like to Tell You About Some Jokes" (Comedy)
10-11/7	Ray O'Leary "I Can See Cleary Now the Ray Has Gone" (Comedy)
8/8	Bron Lewis "Chaos" (Comedy)
9/8	Isaac Butterfield "Armageddon" (Comedy)

...and the usual array of musical acts at the Norwood Hotel, Cue Bar, Robin Hood Hotel etc

Check out the Council's website events section for all events at libraries and other venues.

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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