



Your suburb, your voice

NORWOOD MATTERS

AUGUST 2026

DID YOU KNOW...



That last month we saw Ward's Shoe Store building at 182-184 The Parade sell for \$7.9 million.

The sale ended a long and remarkable chapter in the intertwined histories of the Ward and Walkley families. The shop was established in 1909 by shoemaker Alfred William Walkley and shoe retailer George Ward and operated as a family-run heritage staple for over a century. In 1922 it officially became Ward's Shoe Store when George Ward took sole ownership. George Ward's son, Clifford, married Alfred Walkley's daughter, Margaret, further uniting two prominent Adelaide footwear families. Clifford Ward managed the store until 1980, when he and Margaret purchased the freehold building.

After Clifford suddenly passed away in 1980, the property was held by his children, with multiple generations working inside the classic shopfront. In 2014 the retail business operations were acquired by South Australian footwear institution Slatters Pty Ltd, though the building remained with the Ward family.

The neighbouring tenancy 182 has long been home to toy retailers including Toyworld and, more recently, Kidstuff. The interior currently retains original timber linings and fitting benches, accompanied by official heritage plaques from the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters. We hope that some of this character will be maintained by the local private investor who secured the historic dual-tenanted property.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Annual General Meeting of the Norwood Residents Association will be held at 7:00pm Wednesday, 19th August at the Don Pyatt Hall in George St. Preceding the AGM will be a panel discussion and Q&A with the topic:

“Why are our rates going up? – A discussion of NP&SP’s financial position”

The panel lineup will be:

Peter Fairlie-Jones - NRA committee member ; City of Prospect ARC (Audit Risk Committee) ; former Director of Finance, City of Salisbury

“How we got here”

Tim O’Loughlin - Presiding Member, City of Onkaparinga ARC ; Adjunct Lecturer, Flinders University

“What others are doing”

Grant Piggott - Current NP&SP Councillor

“Where to from here”

COUNCIL MATTERS

From the recent Council meetings:

JULY MEETING

- Councillor Moorhouse raised the issue of tree canopy. He asked if Council should look at the proposed Unley scheme to charge extra rates on newly built properties that don't have sufficient coverage (usually because of the build footprint). He also asked for an update on the Council's investigation into a 'loss of amenity' fee when street trees are removed. Both issues will be subject to future reports.
- Council now have approval to implement a 40km/h speed limit within Kensington and will implement it 'as soon as practical'.
- The proposal to include a gymnasium and car park in the Payneham Memorial Swimming Centre was voted down (narrowly).
- A motion to 'Establish a Council-wide cumulative Cost Savings Register' was defeated as was a motion to perform a 'Strategic Review of Council-owned assets, facilities and services'.
- Adoption of the Annual Business Plan and Budget and the Declaration of rates for 2026-2027 was approved. The rate revenue increase is 7.9% (after 8.5% in 2025-26). Projections are for future increases of 6.5%, 6% then 4%/year. They project debt levels to decrease from \$85 million to \$12 million over the next ten years.

AUGUST MEETING

- A Community Engagement Policy was approved (as required by the State Government). A public consultation for this policy had been carried out and received eleven submissions. You can view the policy document on the Council's website.
- Various policy reviews were reported on. Of note is the decision to downgrade the 'On Street Parking' policy to a 'guideline'.
- New dates were announced due to the delay in local elections until April 2027. The close of voting will be on 7th April with the count on 10th April.
- The Long Term Financial Plan was approved despite the zero allowance for capital works for the next ten years.

BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS

Of interest within the Norwood suburb:

- 90A George St 2 x Three storey detached dwellings
- 1 Elizabeth St Two storey detached dwelling
- 55 Elizabeth St Two storey detached dwelling

Goodbye trees

The latest applications to remove regulated/significant trees in Norwood:

- 2 Birrell St Removal of four (4) Regulated Trees (1 Ginkgo biloba and 3 Pyrus calleryana)

We see that the wonderfully restored property (originally the Family Hotel) on the corner of George and William has been sold by NRA members Louise & Stephen. We wish them well in their next move.

SAMELA MUSES

from Samela Harris, NRA member

For this issue Samela sent us a long lost copy of a newspaper article written by her father, the legendary Max Harris. Although written in the early 80's it reads very topically today – especially with the 'monoculture/multiculturalism' debate recently conducted. And it makes numerous mentions of his beloved Norwood. It's too long for our newsletter so we have included the opening paragraphs here with the full article available to read on our website [here](#).

Norwood Parade, Adelaide, The World, The Universe by MAX HARRIS

It worries me that the term "multiculturalism" still confuses people with its vagueness and portentousness. In any case, it's a horrendous word that should have faded into disuse.

My definition of multiculturalism is as follows. It is an amity, civilized interaction between people of different backgrounds, languages and cultures that owes nothing to the common factor of the nation-State in which they find themselves, but to the common quality of their humanity.

It is this idea of the nation-State that is the sticking point for the brainwashed, the bigoted and the politically manipulated, not only in Australia, but everywhere. The pathology of tunnel vision can be inherent, genetic or spread as a socio-political virus.

There still seem to be too many people unaware that their village is global, and that if it isn't 'the sooner' it becomes so the better. The nation-State obsession has had it.

Let me define multiculturalism another way, as the Norwood Parade.

The Norwood Parade is a long expanse of small and thoroughly chaotic shopping enterprises, servicing a suburban area of Adelaide that has a mixed population of middle and working-class peoples, from a complete mish-mash of backgrounds. This mish-mash has long since been taken for granted. It doesn't even evoke much curiosity.

The Parade is just that: the broad footpaths are parading areas, used for strolling. Local citizens, young and old, take their constitutionals in large numbers almost exactly after the famous "strada" fashion of Valletta or Athens. There are no inhibitions about striking up conversations with strangers. That's largely the point of it.

The greengroceries are Greek or Italian-owned. The staffs are usually cheerful middle-aged Oz ladies. The customers are swarthy, blonde, accented, toffy, tatty, elegant. They push their vegetable trolleys around with a hubble-bubble of exchanged comments on the products, the price, and the weather. Buying the week's supplies has been a rewarding and well-spent social half-hour of simple interactions.

A few shops down the Parade is Laidlaw the Butcher, an establishment that couldn't be more Anglo-Australian. It's all good cheer, a flurry of chat and chummery. "How's your son, Mrs Ludowici?" "He's gone off to Lwow for a month to see his grandparents." "Nice town, Lwow?" "No, ghastly." "How's the legal game today, Mr Singh?" "Ah, lawyers are two a rupee in this district, Mr Laidlaw. My daughter earns more than I do working for the Electricity Trust."

In short, there are no "ethnics" in the butcher's shop. There are no "Australians". Only people.

So what's better about what is, against what used to be, before multiculturalism? It's been the broadening of the narrow.

....

SOAPBOX

by Antonia Cardone, NRA committee member

SHOPPING TROLLEYS

Abandoned shopping trolleys are a scourge in our neighbourhood. A small, seemingly innocent act of convenience—pushing groceries home and leaving the trolley in the street—has become an unsightly public nuisance. Trolleys block the way of pedestrians, parents with children, wheelchair users, older residents, and driveway-users. I've seen them roll into roads, scratch parked cars, and create hazards for cyclists and drivers. They're dumped in parks, and in recent heavy rains end-up washed into drains and waterways, where the impact is two-fold, contributing both litter and environmental damage.

We all pay for the bad habits of a few: the cost of replacing these trolleys is significant and the cost of staff and vehicles roaming the streets to collect them adds-up quickly, so, of course, the store will pass on those costs to us via higher priced goods. Council workers who are dispatched to collect and dispose of trolleys in hard-to-get places are wasting their valuable skills and our rate-payer resources on picking up after shoppers who must feel it is their right to pinch trolleys for their own convenience.

The issue is frustrating because responsibility is shared. Shoppers should not steal the trolleys and if they do, should return them expediently, and, supermarkets also need reliable systems to stop trolleys leaving the shopping area or to collect them quickly when reported. Signage is not enough, as it's clearly ignored.

It's time to implement real solutions such as Aldi's coin-lock system, or wheel-lock technology (when they malfunction they create more frustration!). The aim should not be to punish shoppers unnecessarily, but to remind everyone that a trolley is store property provided for our shared use while on the store premises and carpark. The sale of personal shopping carts could be encouraged! How about Coles add them to their range; Waites stock them out front, and Bunnings promote them front and centre? Let's normalize people having their own cart to get groceries home.

Our council can help by encouraging reporting and enforcing penalties when retailers ignore repeated problems. The great app 'Snap Send Solve' is a community reporting app that brings the location of these trolleys to the regular collection patrols of local stores. I used it five times on a local walk last week! But, bottom-line, keeping trolleys where they belong is better for everyone.

WHAT'S NEW IN NORWOOD

Not much to report other than to note how many empty shops there currently are on The Parade. These things tend to run in cycles, so we hope we will welcome many new businesses there in the near future.

By Liz McLeay, NRA Committee member:

I was sorry to see yet another speciality shop move from Norwood given rising rent.

Jádore, having weathered the dust and disruption of the Coles redevelopment, has moved to Shop 21 Welland Plaza 514 - 522 Port Road. Gay, the owner known to many Norwood residents, is happy in her new location. She has welcomed "old customers" and had new ones find her shop.

UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming entertainment events in and around Norwood.

NORWOOD CONCERT HALL:

27/9 Fire & Fiesta (Music)

2/10 Jiaoying Summers: The Lucky Pony Tour

...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.

Copyright © 2026 Norwood Residents Association. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is: Norwood Residents Association
56 Appelbee Cres, Norwood, South Australia, 5067

Printed by Cressida O'Hanlon MP, Member for Dunstan's office.