

Sustainability at ReNew Fashion

By Kendrea Rhodes -With a view to slow down the fast fashion movement and reduce the mounds of annual textile and resource wastage, Lobethal local, Kristina Vonow, has opened a business with a subtle difference. ReNew Fashion employs the rent-arack concept that enables local people to become sellers and buyers, while addressing the environmental issue of fashion waste. Its operation model is not that of an op-shop, monthly market, digital platform, or retail brand outlet.

Rent-a-rack is a successful pre-loved clothing sales concept from Finland that started in the 1980s. The concept enables everyday people to manage their own rack of clothes for sale in a retail setting, controlling their own prices and topping up when sales create space.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Kristina and Jasmine Vonow at ReNew Fashion, a rent-a-rack preloved clothing store supporting local empowerment and sustainability.



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Page 2 | November 6th to November 19th, 2021 | Along The Grapevine

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Have you heard the one about the University Professor who asked a student?

"Which is worse, ignorance or apathy?"

The student's reply, "I don't know, and I don't care."

When I first heard that many years ago I think it must have struck a chord because it often comes to mind. It came to mind this week as I thought about a report I read which said that even though church attendance is falling across Australia spirituality is at an alltime high. It seems that in our post-modern era, where there is no such thing as truth, we are all free to make up our own 'truth.' In keeping with this people are also free to make up their own god, a god that suits them.

Of course, this is nothing new, people have been doing this for all of recorded history. The Bible is full of accounts of people and nations who did this, it is called idol worship.

The Jews, God's chosen people fell into the trap of idol worship and were severely punished by God for their error. They lost their land and were scattered throughout the world for thousands of years. We have all heard of the wandering Jew.

The Jews were also promised that even though God would scatter them, He would also bring them back into the land that He had given them and that they would again be blessed by Him. The Old Testament Prophet Hosea who lived approx. 2,800 years ago wrote in Chapter 6:1-2 about this.

Come, and let us return to the Lord; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.

The Jews were scattered for the final time by the Romans in the year 70 following their rejection of Jesus as their promised Messiah. Scripture tells us that "*a day* with the Lord is as a thousand years and a thousand years is as a day." Israel was officially declared a nation in 1948 and the Jews started to return to their land. Despite a number of attempts by the nations around them to wipe them out, notably in 1968 and 1973 God has miraculously protected them.

The made-up idols of the past were just as useless as those made-up idols of today.

Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through Me."

Because we matter to God, He has provided the way for us to relate to Him, Jesus, His Son - the one and only way we can know God!



OPEN GARDENS in LOBETHAI Tweed Cottage Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th November 2021

Tweed Cottage, 54 Woodside Road, Lobethal, opens for the first time with Open Gardens SA! Tweed Cottage is named after the town in which it sits - Lobethal formerly Tweedvale - a nod to days gone by and the town's major industry, the Onkaparinga Woollen Mill.

The garden owner, Brendan is a professional horticulturist. Using his expertise, together with his love of flowers, he has crammed the glade-like slope behind the house with old fashioned favourites: delphiniums. Queen Anne's lace, cornflowers, penstemons, poppies, lupins and iris to name just a few. But it is the foxgloves that steal the show, growing very tall in the ideal microclimate and adding vertical drama to the vibrant mix of flowers.

At the very top of the hill under eucalypts is a dry garden with succulents and hardy species - the rusty bowl of an old cement mixer now planted Casuarina 'Cousin It' makes a unique centre piece and contrasts beautifully with the fleshy silver



leaves of cotyledons and other water efficient plants. Adding a distinctive salvaged 'seat' has made this a favourite spot to enjoy the garden and the surrounding rural landscape.

Chooks, ducks and geese play an important role as the garden's pest patrollers and are provided with attractive accommodation. 'The EggPlant' is the name given to the remarkable navy coloured hen house and the geese have a similar home, theirs painted a pretty shade of primrose. An extensive productive garden planted with vegetables and fruit trees, some espaliered, is protected under a large covered framework.

It has taken just five years to transform what was a patch of woody weeds to this entrancing garden. The 2019 bushfires lapped the property and burnt a shed but spared the house and most of the garden - a setback that was soon overcome with hard work and enthusiasm. Less than two years on from the horrific fire the garden is better than ever!

Brendan, who was included in the May edition of *SA Life* in a feature on up-andc o m i n g y o u n g professional gardeners, will do walks and talks around the garden at 11am and 2pm each day.

Diggers Club will offer a selection of their

extensive range of seeds.

This garden has a beehive, and is not suitable for prams or wheelchairs. Refreshments will not be offered in the garden, so please consider visiting businesses in Lobethal. Also, as the garden is on a main road, please park at the nearby Kleemann Funerals, where toilets will also be available.

The entry fee to the garden is \$8.00 per per-



O P E N G A R D E N S SOUTH AUSTRALIA

son for adults (Open Gardens SA Members \$6.00); children under 18 are admitted free, limited concessions available. The gardens will open under Covid guidelines. Masks are not required outdoors, but visitors may like to bring one. Visitors are encouraged to bring cash as EFTPOS facilities are not always available.

Full details of Open Gardens SA Spring program are available on their website: https:// www.opengardensa.org. au

For next issue, ads & editorial Tuesday, November 16th, 2021

Publication out Saturday, November 20th, 2021

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Dan Cregan MP calls for Support for Growers



Pictured (from left to right): Fruit Producers SA CEO Jose Gil, Lenswood Apples CEO Jake Parkinson, Lenswood Orchardist Michael Stafford and Dan Cregan MP.

A severe hail event in the Adelaide Hills has damaged horticultural and viticultural crops just months out from harvest.

Apples, pears, cherries and grape growers have all been impacted, with some experiencing severe losses on the back of significant earlier losses.

Dan Cregan MP, Member for Kavel, said the event would have a lasting economic and social impact on the district.

"We have had suc-

cessive hail events over the last several years, the worst bushfire since Ash Wednesday and now another hail event. We really need some additional support."

"The price for apples is at a decade low. Many of our growers were already under serious financial pressure."

"The government needs to develop an emergency plan with industry associations to determine the scale of losses and to consider appropriate grant support. A 'hailstorm heroes' advertising program, while appreciated, would not be enough."

"We appreciate the government's netting subsidy program, but growers' must contribute 50 percent. The issue at the moment, understandably for growers, is cashflow."

"It must also be kept in mind that labour costs for picking fruit for juice are very high. For a large number of growers, it is not economically feasible to just send fruit for juicing," Mr Cregan said.

NEW BOOK RELEASE

Along the Grapevine is pleased to have been involved in the publication of Neville Collins' latest book, South Australian Short Stories.

The book is a collection of brief, not often read, historical stories, with a South Australian flavour.

Topics include the tale of the Nullarbor Nymph, an eccentric professor, a little-known explorer, and examines whether an ostrich riding bushranger really terrorised the Coorong region at the turn of the last Century! Numerous contemporary historical a n d photographs complement the text. This is Neville's

South Australian Short Stories

tenth publication, all of which have involved input by Along the Grapevine.

It is available at the Lobethal and Woodside Newsagencies, the Cudlee Creek Café, Mount Barker Central Newsagency, the Hahndorf Academy and Matilda Bookstore -Stirling.

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Sustainability at ReNew Fashion

Continued from page 1

This provides all the benefits of a retail setting with an experienced manager (such as Kristina at ReNew) without the need for the seller to be present.

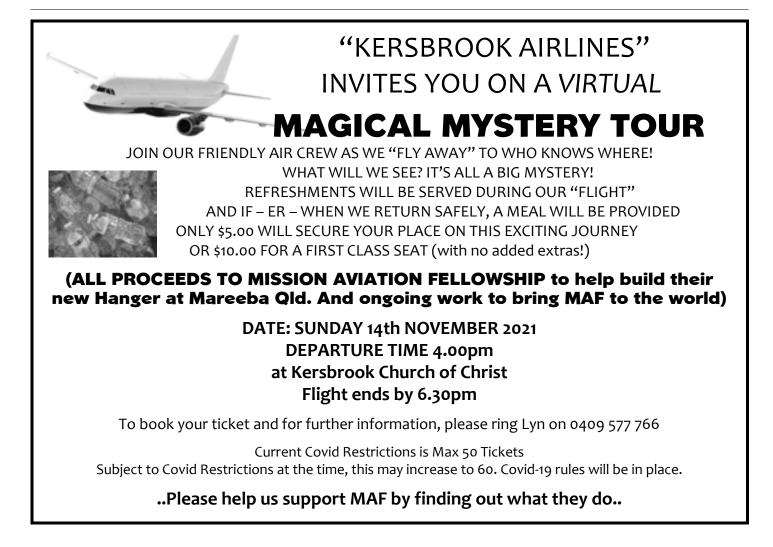
Kristina started ReNew Fashion after a diagnosis of cancer and subsequent chemotherapy made it clear that her first love of teaching was no longer a viable option. So, at the beginning of this year, Kristina and her daughter Jasmine opened ReNew Fashion in Mount Barker. Jasmine studies entrepreneurship and innovation at Adelaide Uni and finds her experience with the business compliments her studies.

At ReNew Fashion, sellers can rent a rack with space for fifty garments for two-weeks at \$149 (less for one week). This includes four items of shoes and/or bags. The seller prices their own garments, keeping 100% of the proceeds, and can top up their rack during the rental period when space permits. It's a great way to move that good quality clothing you no longer wear and get something for it at the same time, rather than giving it away or sending it to landfill.

Rent-a-rack is a new concept for the Adelaide Hills, with three shops now (Mount B a r k e r, Stirling, Littlehampton) and several stores in Adelaide. It's a bit like a personal online store (like Depop, Gumtree, Ebay) but without all the online hassles of postage, waiting time and returns. Customers can try on the garments before they buy, thus removing many of the online barriers for both sellers and buyers. The clothing at ReNew is upmarket, high-end, generally designer label and always in excellent condition. For customers, this is a great way to shop sustainably and find unique fashion items at affordable prices in a professional retail environment.

At ReNew each rack is rented by a different seller, therefore each rack represents one person's style and general size. Kristina labels the racks by size and rack number, making it easier for sellers to track the sales from their racks and for buyers to go directly to their own size. Think of it this way: customers have the privilege (and permission) to look through the best pieces from somebody else's wardrobe. ReNew Fashion promotes the store and the clothing, and they also encourage sellers to promote their own racks too. This provides greater marketing coverage, alerting more customers of current high-quality affordable items.

ReNew Fashion is open five days per week (closed Tuesday and Sunday) from 10am until 4pm, with late shopping on Thursdays to 7pm. They are at Shop 1, 46-48 Victoria Road, Mount Barker. So, on your next trip to Mount Barker, be sure to drop in. You might find that unique item of clothing you've been looking for or you could manage your own enterprise when you rent a rack. For terms and conditions, as well as answers to frequently asked questions, please contact Kristina and Jasmine at ReNew on 0405 907 815 or download the T&Cs from their website: www renewfashion.com.au. ReNew Fashion are also on Facebook and Instagram.



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Along the Grapevine

mob. 0419 034 126 email. editor@alongthegrapevine.com PO Box 47, Lobethal SA 5241

Dear Editor,

As people continue to suffer the mental health effects of the pandemic, Red Cross is reminding readers there are things they can do now to regain a sense of control, and prepare for the inevitable disasters ahead.

New research by Australian Red Cross has found that two in five Australians' mental health has been hit by Covid, and a similar number say they feel less hopeful about the future. Some 37% feel less secure and safe.

There are excellent resources on the Red Cross website www.redcross.org.au/prepare including steps to create your own emergency plan, to download the Red Cross Get Prepared App, a survival kit, emergency contacts list, keepsake list, information to help manage stress and more.

With disaster season almost upon us, we strongly encourage people to start thinking now about how they will manage. Your mental health will be better for it.

Sincerely, Jai O'Toole (Director Australian Red Cross, South Australia)

Community Forum Gumeracha

Community Forums are facilitated by Council and an opportunity to share your point of view and hear what other members of your community have to say about important local topics.

> Gumeracha Town Hall 45 Albert Street Tuesday 30 November 6pm for 6:30pm start

> > Refreshments provided. Forum will conclude at approx. 8:30pm.

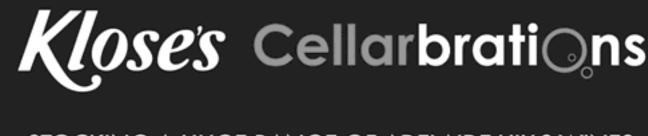
Meet Elected Members, senior Council staff and other locals at this open discussion about topics in the Gumeracha area.

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Lions News



Members of the Torrens Valley Lions Club recently catered for the Trail Running SA event at Mt Crawford, where they were kept busy by the good numbers attending the event. On the same day, 4 members also cooked a BBQ for the Little Athletics registration day at Birdwood and then again the following 2 Friday afternoons - this allowed the committee members to focus on the

training of the children.

Members also cooked a BBQ for the Hills Alive event on Sunday 24th October and the 5th Sunday market on the 31st at Gumeracha.

Tania Milsom, Victim Contact officer, attended our October Dinner meeting and spoke to Club members about scams what to look out for, what to look out for, what to do and what not to do and to always be watchful for possible cyber security breaches. Very informative!

Raffle Tickets are now available, with 1st prize - \$500 Bunnings Gift Card, 2nd prize whole Lamb courtesy Two Bros Lobethal, 3rd prize -\$200 Voucher courtesy Kloses Foodland and 4th prize - \$100 Fruit basket courtesy James Orchards Kersbrook.

The raffle will be drawn on Sunday, December 19th, 2021.

Tickets are \$2 each and are available from club members Bob (Birdwood) - 0427 338 685, Phil (Gumeracha) - 0419 830 754, and Pauline (Kersbrook) - 0411 420 223. Bowen & Massage Integrated Natural Therapies Barb Collins Dip BT Terlinga Road, Tungkillo Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9am-5pm

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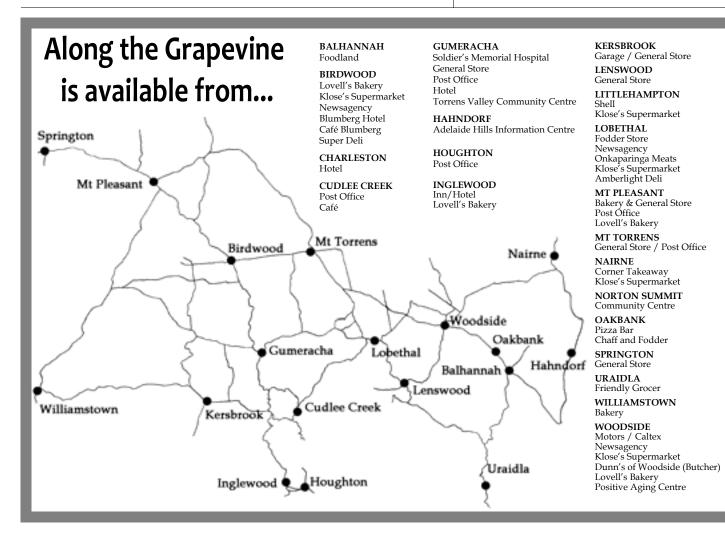
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CROMER Car Boot Sale - November 14th, 9am to 2pm. Sausage sizzle. 0407 863 575

One Tree Hill Country Market - One Tree Hill Institute, Blacktop Road, One Tree Hill. Saturday, November 6th. 8.30am-12.30pm. Craft, Produce, Preserves, Plants. Enquiries 0457 107 817.

printing

business cards * * * fliers & brochures * * * invoice & statement books * * * fridge magnets * * * stickers & labels 0419 034 126 editor@alongthegrapevine.com Annual Lobethal Uniting Church Garage Sale - Main Street, Lobethal. Saturday, November 6th at 9am. Come and browse plants, various household items, brica-brac etc. And why not enjoy the Sausage Sizzle!

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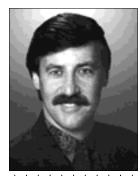
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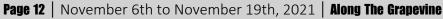
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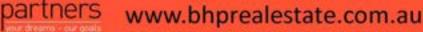
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