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**PO Box 47, Lobethal**

Tel. **0419 034 126**

Email. **editor@alongthegrapevine.com**

# Finch Powerhouse Woodside



**By Kendrea Rhodes -**  
The site of the old electricity power station on Tiers Road in Woodside has always been a talking point in the community. Built in the Art Deco style in 1925, the building commands attention with its era appropriate construction and design

methods producing a geometric appearance—linear columns, castellated roofline, and stucco finish.

Today, the building is home to Finch Powerhouse veteran and classic car specialists. Peter and Harbinda Roberts purchased the power station with the

*Finch Powerhouse, veteran to classic car automotive specialists, at the old electricity power station, 11-13 Tiers Road, Woodside.*

vision to extending their Mount Barker classic car business, Finch Restorations, to include more mechanical services. The interior and exterior of the power station are

currently undergoing sympathetic restoration reflecting the Art Deco style.

**Continued on page 7**



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# “YOU MATTER TO GOD”

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WHY DO I GO TO CHURCH? I believe that each person who attends a church should ask and answer this question truthfully at least once a year. “Why do I go to church?” The question is just as relevant whether you go each week, every fortnight, once a month or just at Christmas and Easter.

Does it matter why you and I go to church or how often we go? There are lots of different reasons that people go to church, some go because they enjoy the opportunity to catch up with friends or they enjoy the singing and the atmosphere. Sadly, some may simply be there out of habit, often critical of everyone and everything.

In places like Russia,

China, and North Korea Christians gather each week with the risk of imprisonment or death an ever-present reality because they love the Lord Jesus and want to worship and honour Him whatever the danger.

Here in Australia the danger we face is complacency, after all, the church will still be there next week or next month, I'll go then. I came across this snippet a while ago, which was a wakeup call for me.

*‘You see, God, it's like this: we could attend church more faithfully if your day came at some other time. You have chosen a day that comes at the end of a hard week, and we're all tired out. Not only that, but it's the day following*

*Saturday night, and Saturday night is one time when we feel that we should go out and enjoy ourselves. Often it is after midnight when we reach home, and it is impossible to get up on Sunday morning. We'd like to go to church and know we should; but you have just chosen the wrong day.’*

Christians have been meeting together weekly from the very beginning of the Church, to break bread and to be reminded of what Jesus has done for them.

Acts 20:7a Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread,

The writer of Hebrews,

directed by the Holy Spirit, instructs us to continue to meet to build one another up and encourage each other, particularly in these last days.

Hebrews 10:24 *And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

God is pleased when His children meet, and as we gather, we are a powerful witness to those around us that our faith is real. Why should we go to church? Because God matters to us.

# Klose's



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CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

# Farmers Market celebrates 10 years at Mt Pleasant

February 5, 2022, marks ten years for the town of Mt Pleasant and their ever-popular farmers market. The market has had much to celebrate in their ten years of trading. It has every week given local and neighbouring communities the opportunity to shop local for their fresh food produce, to support SA growers, and a place to socialise. With the market membership constant at 500 members, the market is still going strong after 10 years.

Retiring Market Co-Manager Genevieve Hebart said, "The gate fundraising initiative proudly sits as one of the massive achievements the market has supported, with almost \$130,000 being collected by local community groups, through gate donations on market days and then fed back into those participating groups."

Co-Manager Terese said "The market has also made an impact at the showgrounds & caravan park with improvements to the show/market hall infrastructure and building of the community's undercover wisteria atrium.



With the help of the People & Places Grant and The Barossa Council, local and market communities have raised the extra funds needed to complete and modernise the kitchen facilities in the catering shed and also to build a new much needed toilet and shower block. The showground has also had a facelift with some murals painted on the existing buildings by local artist Graeme Westwood. Murals depicting the history of the region."

"The market has been supplying the Mt Pleasant community with an ATM every market day since opening and with the closure of the local bank, this too

has been a real benefit to both the local community and to the travellers staying in the caravan park."

"The market introduced a major drawcard event in the SA Spring Garden Festival in 2016, which has brought a different audience to Mt Pleasant. The event is run in conjunction with the Farmers Market, and pre covid drew 3500 people to the Mt Pleasant district for the one-day event. Our other major events on the market calendar are the very successful Twilight Christmas, Easter Farmers Market and Bee Day events which attracts a surge of people to the town."

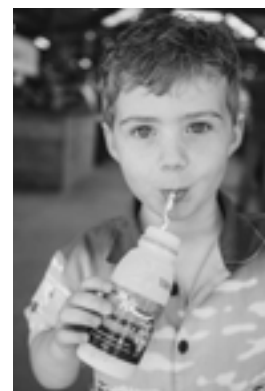
A full calendar of events is planned for the 10th birthday celebrations. Market stalwart, celebrity chef Simon Bryant (pictured left), will be returning to the market to celebrate. Simon with his effervescent personality and quick wit is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Simon attended the opening of the market 10 years ago and has been a staunch supporter since. On the birthday market day, he will be showcasing the diverse products of the market, in an inspired cooking demonstration. Simon will be at market on Saturday 5 February, 2022.

A gala dinner event will also be held in Mt Pleasant, to announce and present market stalwarts and life members with awards. Chelsea Honner, incoming Co-Manager "The event will host and reunite the many stall holders, vol-

unteers, members and staff that have been involved with the community not-for-profit group over the past ten years."

The Mt Pleasant Farmers Market is open every Saturday between 8am and 12 noon at the Mt Pleasant Showgrounds.

For any enquires Terese 0418 301 121 or email info@mtpleasantfarmersmarket.com.au



Sam Anderson, enjoying his morning at the market!

## DEADLINE

For next issue, ads & editorial  
**Tuesday, February 8th, 2022**

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# TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

## Local Theatre club faces closure after 23 years.

Top of the Torrens Theatre Group, based in Mount Pleasant, are facing closure from diminishing membership. At the upcoming AGM, there are likely to be vacancies for all of the office bearing positions as the reduced volunteer base for the club

has been further reduced due to age and ill health of some adult members.

The club has staged popular performances about twice a year, specialising in comedy and musicals, bringing home-spun entertainment that sends people away with a

smile on their face. Previously, shows were held in surrounding nearby towns, but in recent years, the resetting for different venues has been too taxing, so all the shows of each season have been presented in the home town of Mount Pleasant. The last two years have been difficult with COVID restric-



tions, but one well received show 'LOVE! LOVE? LOVE...' was successfully presented in May 2021 and enjoyed by over 300 faithful regulars and new audience alike. The club has seen a recent increase in budding and enthusiastic young members, with some of them participating at committee level, but many more adult volunteers

would be necessary for the continuance of the club.

Two special meetings are scheduled at the Mount Pleasant Soldier's Memorial Hall for **7pm Friday 4th and 11th February**. The first will be open to the public to discuss the future of the club and give an opportunity for persons willing to be involved a chance to register their interest and meet the current members. The second meeting will be for members only to vote for, or against, the proposal to wind up the club. The opportunity to become a member for half price will be available at the first meetings and the start of the second meeting. COVID restrictions will be adhered to at both meetings. If you value this creative outlet for local hills residents, please consider coming along and showing your support.

For any inquiries, please communicate via Facebook page 'Top of the Torrens Theatre Group Inc.' or website [www.tott-tg.com.au](http://www.tott-tg.com.au)

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Facebook: Torrens Valley Soccer Club

Phone Kelly: 0418 800 643

# All Three Levels of Government Call for New Hills Hospital

Local, State and Federal leaders in the Hills are calling for a funding commitment for a new Hills Hospital with the issue set to take centre-stage in an election year.

Mayor of the Mount Barker District Council, Ann Ferguson OAM said the growing population in the Hills justified the investment:

“As a result of State Government planning decisions, our population is booming. We need to plan now for a new multi-storey hospital for the Hills with a surgery ward, a full pathology lab and paediatric wing. We can’t build piecemeal add-ons at the Mount Barker Hospital site

in an attempt to catch-up to current demand,” Mayor Ferguson said.

Federal Member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie MP, said \$11M in Federal funding had been secured for an ED upgrade at the site, including an additional \$3M in December 2021, but that was a stop-gap measure.

“Only by building a new Hospital in the Hills can we adequately address future demand. We need to be planning for the needs of future generations in the Hills and that work must start now,” Ms Sharkie said.

Member for Kavel, Dan Cregan MP, said government decisions meant a new city

was effectively being built at Mount Barker.

“There is huge growth in the Hills from Mt Barker to Lobethal. The Hills are not just another suburb of Adelaide. We are a unique district with acute and growing healthcare needs. Frankly, the government should scrap plans to build a new city stadium and invest in a peri-urban hospital at Mount Barker to take pressure off the whole network, including locally in the Hills,” Mr Cregan added.

Healthcare services are a significant issue in the Adelaide Hills, with more than 3000 people signing a petition for additional ambu-

lance services. A single ambulance has served the growing Mount Barker community since 1992.

As well, Hills locals have been calling for the Gumeracha Hospital Emergency Department to be re-opened after it closed through a combination of funding complexities and COVID safety measures. Over 2,500 people have signed a petition calling on the government to reopen the Gumeracha Hospital ED.

Between 2018 and 2021 presentations to the Mount Barker Hospital ED increased by 21%, with over 12,000 patients presenting in 2018, rising to over 19,000 in 2021.

## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS



***REGARDING POSSIBLE  
WINDING UP OF THE CLUB*** will be held  
at the Mt Pleasant Soldier's Memorial Hall, 61 Melrose St.

**Friday 4th February at 7pm**

For public and members

**Friday 11th February at 7pm**

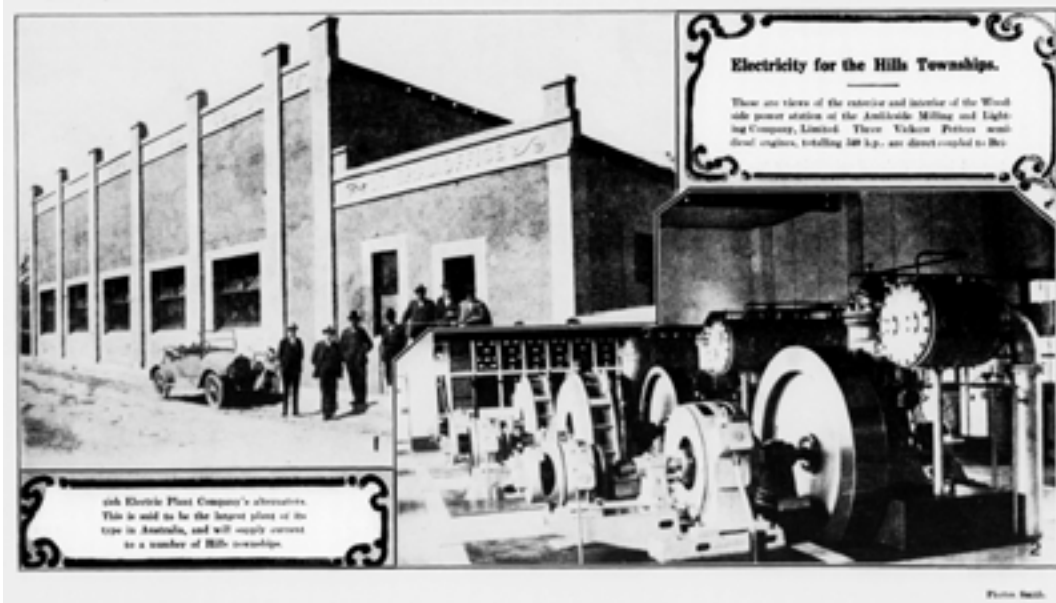
Members only

(OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN AVAILABLE)  
COVID restrictions apply

**Please RSVP to Meg on 0437 647 247**

# FINCH POWERHOUSE WOODSIDE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



This is just what the power station needed—some love and attention to regain the prominence within the community that it once had. The Ambleside Milling and Lighting Company opened the power station in 1925 and provided electricity to the district including Lobethal, Oakbank, Balhannah, Charleston and Mount Torrens, up to 1946. In 1949, the Onkaparinga District Council acquired the site for council chambers and community purposes, that included the Onkaparinga District Fire Unit.

Finch Powerhouse have worked on a wide array of historic, veteran, vintage and classic cars. For example, a 1919 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, 1927 Chevrolet Tourer, 1941 Ford F1 Truck, 1949 Triumph Roadster, 1950s Wolseley, 1951 Jaguar Mark VII, 1960 Bentley S2, 1968 MGB GT, 1973 Alpha Romeo, 1979 Ford Cortina, and a 1981 Mercedes 280.

Finch Powerhouse employ three Adelaide Hills locals: Ashley Egel, workshop supervisor from Bridgewater; Leona Martin, service advisor from Nairne;

and Ian Walker, mechanic from Lobethal. The team not only rebuild and upgrade engines and transmissions, but also undertake small repairs and service to maintain roadworthiness.

As specialists in older cars, Finch Powerhouse understand the various nuances—the many contact points and moving parts that no longer exist in modern cars, such as ignition points that wear out, manual carburettor maintenance, and distributor calibration. Your classic car couldn't be in better hands, as they also

have access to the specialists at Finch Restoration in Mount Barker, creating an expansive network of knowledge sharing and experience in the classic car field.

Ashley Egel said, "At Finch Powerhouse, we want people coming regularly for services and safety checks, to catch those smaller problems before they do damage. Our team are happy to do pre-purchase inspections and roadworthy checks."

Ashely is an auto-electrician and specialist mechanic with 29 years of experience. You may have met him at some stage because he was also an RAA serviceman for 17 years!

If you're interested in classic cars, history of the local area, or just interesting automotive and historical photos, checkout their website ([finchpowerhouse.com.au](http://finchpowerhouse.com.au)) and Facebook page. You can find Finch Powerhouse at 11-13 Tiers Road, Woodside. Or contact them on 8389 9469, Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm, or email [powerhouse@finchmc.com.au](mailto:powerhouse@finchmc.com.au).



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## Along the Grapevine

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# Locals supporting locals receive Australia Day commendations from Council

Over a dozen Adelaide Hills locals have been recognised with awards this Australia Day at a ceremony held in Stirling.

"It is always an honour to celebrate the otherwise unsung contributions of our community members," said Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom.

"Our award winners are always surprised to learn of their nomination, which is testament to their humble efforts, but we are delighted to shine a light on the important impact their support has on their community."

Adelaide Hills Council's Citizen of the Year 2022 has been awarded to a couple; a rare decision for what it typically an individual award.

Graeme and Jess Jones of Bradbury have been quietly supporting their neighbours in their recovery from the 2021 Cherry Gardens Fire.

"In a true team effort, Graeme and Jess have worked in their community to help with property clean up, mental health support, and acting as representa-

tives with support agencies," said Mayor Wisdom.

"It was the inescapable fact that this couple worked in support of each other to make themselves available to the community that led Council to present a rare joint award."

The Young Citizen of the Year Award 2022 was presented to 18 year old Aldgate local, Chantelle Wuttke, whose charitable volunteer work and passionate commitment to the well-being of her school community made her a stand out nominee.

"Chantelle's commitment to fostering a positive school culture across new campuses is a remarkable achievement for any individual, let alone someone so young," said Mayor Wisdom.

"The social awareness and natural empathy that Chantelle has demonstrated will undoubtedly serve her well throughout her life."

Finally, Lobethal's inaugural Gardening Festival has taken out the Community Event of the Year 2022, in recognition of a huge col-

laborative effort of passionate locals wanting to provide a focus for the recovering community.

This brand new event, which brought together multiple environmental agencies and local households, was established to promote well-being through gardening and an appreciation of nature.

"The Lobethal Gardening Festival was a hugely successful event held in times when

community events have become especially difficult to coordinate safely," said Mayor Wisdom.

"The event committee, formed beneath the Lobethal Commerce Association, are incredibly deserving of this accolade and we hope to see their event continue and grow into the future."

An additional 10 Civic Awards were also presented to Adelaide Hills locals who demonstrated excellence in supporting or inspiring their communities through acts of selflessness and generosity.

## THESE AWARD WINNERS WERE:

Bill and Peg Chartres of Lobethal

Chris Badenoch of Uraidla

Elizabeth "Libby" Barber of Gumeracha

Felicity Young of Gumeracha

Michelle Kenley of Cudlee Creek

Mikayla Schwarz of Lobethal

Neil Shillabeer of Woodside

SACWA Woodside Branch

Tania McGregor of Crafers

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# Lions News!

Members of the Lions Club of Torrens Valley would like to wish all a happy and safe New Year.

The winners of our raffle, drawn by Deb of Klosos Birdwood on 19th December 2021, were 1st prize - \$500 Bunnings Gift Card, won by Jasmine Wood of West Beach (Ticket No 752); 2nd prize - whole lamb, donated and dressed by Two Brothers Lobethal, won by Jen Levine, Mt Pleasant (Ticket No 1631); 3rd prize - \$100 Klosos Supermarket voucher, won by Ann Hart, Inglewood (Ticket No 1063); 4th prize - \$100 James Orchards Kersbrook voucher, won by Brad Dennis, Pt Lincoln (Ticket No 94).

A big Thank You to Bunnings Modbury, Two Brothers Lobethal, Klosos Supermarket Birdwood and James Orchards Kersbrook, for their generous donations and to all those who bought tickets!

It was a hard decision to make, but unfortunately Club members decided to cancel the Australia Day Breakfast, which is usually held in Federation Park Gumeracha, due to concerns regarding safe distancing during food preparation and serving. We look forward to seeing you there next year!

Our Coin Drive continues with funds raised helping us help our local communities. The delicious Christ-

mas cakes and puddings were so popular this year we sold out! They will be available again later in the year - get in early so you don't miss out!

The Club is looking to bolster our numbers and are looking for new members. Our Club covers the communities of Kersbrook, Birdwood, Gumeracha, Cudlee Creek, Inglewood and Mt Torrens (we do have members from Williamstown and Woodside).

If you would like more information on what Lions do, where and when we meet etc, please contact one of our members: Bruce (President) on 0400 972 126 or Phil (Secretary) on 0419 830 754.

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The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Mt Pleasant Soldier's Memorial Hall, 61 Melrose St. Saturday 26th Feb at 4pm, followed by BBQ. All members and guests welcome. **RSVP ESSENTIAL** for catering & COVID needs. Meg: 0437 647 247



**Mt Pleasant Farmers Market is turning 10 years old!** Join in the celebrations Saturday February 5th, 8am - 12 noon. Special celebrity guest Simon Bryant. [www.mtpleasantfarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.mtpleasantfarmersmarket.com.au)

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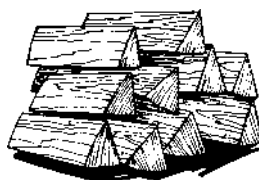
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