

# Hut happenings

# Newsletter Blast February 2025

We recognise the Kaurna and Peramangk Peoples as the traditional owners of the Adelaide Hills and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

# **Festive Food Drive**

What a wonderful Christmas it was at the Hut Pantry in 2024. We had 50 households come through the week before Christmas to attend our special Christmas pantry. This included the usual weekly available food with the addition of extra Christmas goods, such as mince pies and puddings, Christmas decorations and gifts, extra summer fruit and a gift bag for both the men and women.

This wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of our local hill's community. We had over 20 locations across the Hills, from Norton Summit right through to Lobethal and Crafers operating as collection points. Together we received a total of over 700 items, which included canned goods, pasta, toiletries, and Christmas treats. Along with the following organisations, Shoe Boxes of Love, Share The Dignity and GIVIT, we were also able to give every member a gift bag to take home with them for Christmas.

The Hut Community Centre sends out a massive thank you to our local community and all those who contributed, every bit of generosity is appreciated and welcomed.

From the Hut Pantry team, we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for a brilliant 2025.





# Food Pantry Hits a Milestone!

The Hut Community Centre Food Pantry commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020 as an additional support for those who had reduced or lost employment due to covid. After several months of operation, it was deemed to be a highly valued support service to those in need in the community.

Hut staff made changes to the operations and location of the pantry to ensure it was able to continue on an ongoing basis. The pantry was moved from the community room to the kitchen that is located alongside the back garden. This enabled us to enhance the pantry with the setup of tables and chairs, coffee, music and a great atmosphere for enhancing social connection.

The 18<sup>th</sup> February marks a significant milestone of 250 weeks of service! On week one of the pantry, there were just 8 registered pantry members. Over the past 5 years, 268 people in the community have registered as members to access the Food Pantry service. These registrations consist of individuals, couples and families, totaling 617 individuals who have received support.

There are a significant number of tasks that are achieved each week to ensure each pantry session runs smoothly. These tasks would not be possible without the commitment of the extraordinary pantry volunteer team. Thank you to all of the volunteers who help us to provide this valuable service to the community! Sunset Sessions at the Station: Burger Night

On Friday the 31st of January we had another sellout successful evening with over one hundred people in the community coming to enjoy live music and delicious meals on the platform.

Gen 'n Tonix entertained the crowd and enticed people on to the dance floor while delicious homestyle burgers were served up by Hut Staff and volunteers.

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped set up, prepare and serve food and to all the helpers who stayed and helped pack up.









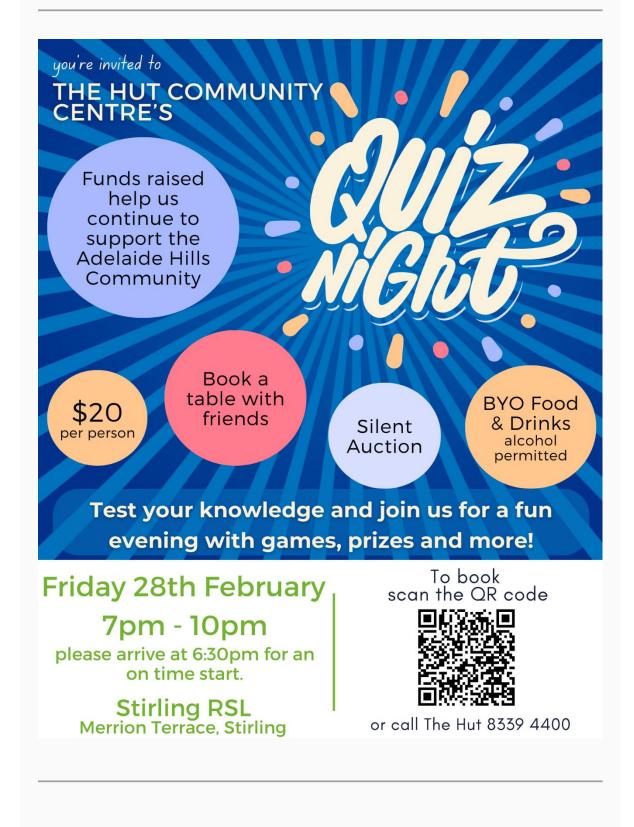


# Spark: Igniting Human Connection Update

Spark Self Connection ignites meaningful conversations, expressive art techniques and self-reflection to explore the benefits of positive connections for your physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. Join experienced practitioners, mother-daughter duo Lia Parsons and Elja Parsons who will empower you to spark connection throughout this 8 week series and beyond! Saturday 15th Feb – 5<sup>th</sup> April weekly from 2.00pm-4.30pm.

Book here and for more information www.tinyurl.com/SparkSelfConnection







# **Community Connections Update: Discover Your Community Connections**

Hello Adelaide Hills!

Are you looking to meet new people, get involved in your community, or just make some connections in a way that feels right for you?

The Community Connections Program here at The Hut is here to help you do just that - on your terms and at your own pace.

Community Connections is all about creating personal connections that matter. We work with each person to tailor the program to suit your unique needs, interests, and lifestyle.

If you're looking for activities, or just want to meet new people that are also looking to be more connected or grow their community, we'll help you make it happen in a way that works for you.

How It Works:

- You tell us what you're interested in, we listen.

- We work with you to discover connection opportunities that you'd like to explore.

- We support you to meet people, try new things, and feel connected to your local community.

Whether you're keen to explore local events, discover new hobbies, or just meet a few friendly faces, we're here to help.

Who Can Join?

- Community Connections is a program that offers short-term person centered support to connect with local services and support networks, community or social groups.

- We welcome people aged between 18 - 64 who want to make connections, learn something new, or just feel more involved in their community.

People not already receiving support from NDIS or My Aged Care
If you are interested Or know someone who might be - Families, individuals,
and groups who are looking for a welcoming space to be a part of.

**Call us here at The Hut : 08 8339 4400** 

or e-mail <u>communityconnections@thehut.org.au</u>

Let's connect and make the Adelaide Hills even more welcoming for everyone!



A new program is commencing through The Hut for all art lovers! Under the coordination of Carol, the Art Hub is a space for people to come together to work on their own art, share and learn new ideas, and meet people with similar interests. All welcome including beginners. Please note, this is an informal space which does not include structured tuition. If interested phone The Hut for more information or you can book in <u>here</u>



Volunteers urgently needed at the Woodside Book Shed. Please get in touch with Bernadette at The Hut if you have time to spare each week, shifts are 3 hours with the priority need for volunteers on Fridays.

# The Repair Cafe is growing!

The fabulous Repair cafe team are now offering new repair options. Along with the repair of electrical items, woodwork, pushbikes, sewing & darning, and tool sharpening, Volunteers can now also help with:

- Expert sewing 'help' and advice, we have a spare sewing machine or bring your own. Bring along your sewing project for some extra advice.
- Software repairs and troubleshooting
- Jewellery repairs

Come along to the Repair Cafe, located in The Hut Community Shed, 1 Euston Road Aldgate. Held on the 2nd Sunday of each month 10am - 1pm.



Painting Mixed/Media Classes Thursday's 12.30 - 3.00 pm (8 weeks) The Aldgate Oval Hall, Churinga Rd, Aldgate SA Term 1 (8 weeks) 6 February - 27 March 2025 Term 2 (8 weeks) 8 May - 26 June 2025 Cost: \$250

Whether you are a beginner or not, this is your opportunity to be inspired and get creative. The classes are usually run as a combination of structured lessons and 'self directed classes." Self-directed means you choose whatever project you'd like to work on. Whether it's abstract, realism, landscapes or portraits; it's up to you. I will provide a variety of materials for you to use and provide tuition, help you develop or improve your skills.

If you have any questions or prefer to pay a deposit of \$70 first, please contact Debbie inhauss.art.studio@gmail.com

#### **Upcoming Activities**

For all programs below use the booking link for each program or call The Hut on 83394400



#### **Dungeons & Dragons Campaign**

When: Wednesdays weekly Time: 4:00pm – 5:30pm Where: The Hut Community Centre Cost: \$5 per person per session.

Bookings essential here.

Calling back all our previous D&D players, new players are also welcome, to engage in a compelling long term campaign over 2 - 3 months. Dungeon Master Victoria will be your guide on this collaborative story telling adventure. Suitable for ages 12+.



Social Cuppa - Men's Morning

When: 2nd Friday of each month Next date: Friday February 7 Time: 10.30am Where: Lovells Bakery, Woodside Cost: Buy your own coffee, we supply the cake

Book <u>here</u> or just show up! Enjoy a chance to meet new people in a relaxed, informal setting.



#### **Repair Cafe**

When: Sunday February 9 Session Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm Where: The Hut Community Centre **Cost: FREE donations appreciated** No Bookings required. Don't throw it out, get it fixed and by our volunteer expert repairers! Services that may be available at our monthly Repair Café include fixing pushbikes, small electrical, wooden Items as well as tool sharpening, jewellery repairs, software issues and sewing & darning. Hot drinks from Coffee Please coffee van will be available for purchase. Follow the Repair Cafe on Facebook for updates here.



Surviving a Summer Garden: Short Course

Start Date: Thursday February 13 Session Time: Thursdays weekly 10:00am – 2:00pm (a field trip is held on Tuesday March 4) Where: The Hut Community Centre Cost: \$80 per person for 4 week course (5 sessions). Bookings essential here The focus for this course is Surviving a Summer Garden. Topics covered in this course will include climate factors affecting your garden, soil and how to improve it, irrigation options, making your own mulch, pros and cons of organic versus inorganic,

plant selection and choosing a location, and much more!



The Hut Community Centre's Quiz Night

When: Friday February 28 Where: Stirling RSL, Stirling Session Time: 7:00pm - 10:00pm Cost: \$20 per person Bookings essential <u>here</u> Test your knowledge and join us for a fun evening with games, prizes and more! Funds raised from this event will support our low income support programs including our food pantry and emergency financial assistance relief program. This event is BYO food and drink (alcohol permitted).



Lunch At The Hut When: 1st Wednesday of each month

Next Date: Wednesday March 5 Session Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm Where: The Hut Community Centre Cost: \$5.00 for two course meal Bookings essential: 8339 4400.

An opportunity to connect with people in your local Hills community over a delicious, nutritious two course home-cooked meal! Join us at The Hut for lunch made with love by our volunteers,

served with a welcoming smile, good company and fun! On the first Wednesday of each month.



Sunprints & Sips: Create & Sip Workshop When: Friday March 7 Next Date: Wednesday March 5 Session Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm Where: The Hut Community Centre Cost: \$40.00 includes all materials, nibbles and wine Bookings essential <u>here</u>

A paint and sip with a difference! Make your own beautiful and unique print using nature and the sun while sipping on a red or white. Artist Jorji Gardener will support you to get creative with a range of nature materials to create stunning prints you can put on display or give as gifts!

# **Ongoing Activities**





# For more information and to register for the below programs, please visit thehut.org.au

E: reception@thehut.org.au

P: 8339 4400

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The Book Shed Stirling	Good quality secondhand books at great prices	Merrion Tce Stirling Mon- Sat 10am-4pm 4th Sunday of month
The Book Shed Woodside	Good quality secondhand books at great prices	68 Onkaparinga Valley Rd Woodside Mon, Wed-Sat 10am-4pm 3rd Sunday of month 11am-3
Program/Event	Details	Date/Time
The Art Hub	Work on your own artwork, share and learn new ideas, and meet people with similar interests.	Mondays Weekly 9:30am - 12:30pm at The Hut
Sensory Friendly Outdoor Playgroup	This playgroup has a wide range of sensory friendly activities set in our nature play space at The Hut.	Wednesdays during term 9:30am - 11:30am at The Hut
Out and About Group	A social lunch group which meets in various venues in the Hills	Second Tuesday of the month.
Community Shed	Woodwork, social connection and tinkering	Tuesdays 9am-12 & 1-4pm & Thursdays 9am - 12pm at The Hut
Music Makers	Learn, practice and enjoy a range of musical instruments	Tues weekly 9.30-12 Grace Lutheran Church Bridgewater
Mosaics Group	All you need to create mosaics of your choice	Fridays 9:30am - 12:30pm The Hut Community Shed
Aldgate Valley Food Co-op	For purchasing organic foods and social contact.	Fridays 10.30am to 11.30 Call The Hut for location

Support and Assistance				
Community Lunch	Delicious two-course meal featuring fresh seasonal produce.	1st Wednesday of month 12.00—2.00pm, The Hut		
Repair Cafe	Repairs of small items to help reduce waste going to landfill,.	2nd Sunday of each month 10am-1 in The Hut Community Shed		
Homework Club	Support with school work with volunteer tutors	Mondays, Tuesdays during term 3pm - 5pm at The Hu		
Grandcarers SA	Supporting grandparents raising their grandchildren	2nd Wed of each month, 10.30am- 12 at The Hut		
Food Pantry	Access to free fresh food & pantry items	Tuesdays 12pm - 2pm Thursdays 10am - 12pm at The Hut		
No Interest Loans	No Interest, No fee loans up to \$2,000	Tuesdays 9am - 3pm		
1:1 Computer Training	Learn to use your computer, tablet or smart phone	Monday - Friday By Appointment Only at Th Hut		
Community Transport	Community Bus for shopping and social outings for over 65's	Call to discuss eligbility		

Fitness Programs			
Men's Moves	Healthy lifestyle program for men	Thursdays 10am—12.00noon at Woorabinda Education Centre	
Strength and Balance	Gentle exercises to encourage balance and prevent falls	9.30 to 10.30 Tuesday and Thursday each week at Stirling RSL	
Stretch & Breathe with Chi Kung	A gentle and restorative session for all ages and abilities	Wednesdays 10am - 11am Aldgate Oval Hall	
Walking Groups	Various locations and times	Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri various times	
Community Fun and Fitness	Aerobics, small weights, fun exercises	Tuesdays 9am—10 at the Bridgewater Hall.	

Hut Volunteer Vacancies

Please email volunteering@thehut.org.au if interested in any of these roles

These are the only roles we are recruiting for at present;

#### **Book Shed Volunteers**

Calling all book lovers! Join a fantastic team of volunteers who are passionate about books. Volunteers needed at Woodside and Stirling for shifts of 3 hours. Key tasks of this role is customer service and the processing of donations, it is essential for volunteers to have a knowledge of books and the varying genres.

#### Receptionist

Opportunity exists to be part of the reception team and be one of the welcoming faces at The Hut. Good communication skills, basic computer skills, and ability to adapt to different situation and tasks are required. Weekly timeslots available.

The Hut can provide voluntary work opportunities for eligible job seekers.

#### **Repair Cafe Repairers**

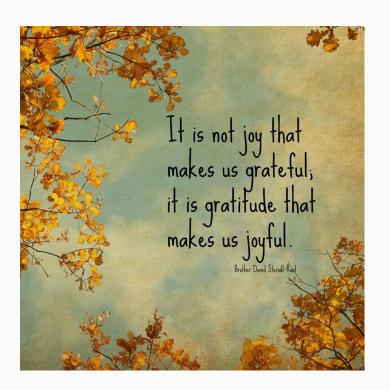
Join a vibrant group of 'Repairers' who help repair varied and interesting items that the community bring to the Repair Café – it is a highly rewarding activity which contributes and connects you to the community and to a great group of skilled people. The repair cafe is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month, 10am-1pm. We are in need of additional volunteer repairers, with an urgent need for an electrician and small engine repairs (mowers etc), so if you have a skill that you would love to use to help others, please let us know.



#### **Recipe of the Month**

Raw Chocolate Brownies 1 Cup Almond Meal Half Cup Cocoa powder 2 Tablespoons Brown Sugar/Maple Syrup 2 Cups of Dates 2.5 tablespoons Coconut Oil – Melted 1/3 Cup of Walnuts ¼ Cup of Coconut Flakes

Blend all together in a blender or food processor. Press into an 18cm cake tin lined with baking paper Sprinkle additional coconut on top and press in to the brownie. Chill for 2 hours in the fridge. Lift out of the tin using the baking paper. Slice into squares and serve.



Until Next Time, Stay Safe, Stay Well From The Hut Team