

CITY GRAPEVINE

Adelaide. Bold. Aspirational. Innovative.

WINTER 2026

New Podcast is Live!

**Adelaide Central
Market Bus Expands
to North Adelaide**

Caring for Possums

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Adelaide acknowledges the Kurna People of the Adelaide Plains as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and gather. We acknowledge and honour their spiritual and cultural stewardship of this country and recognise their deep and enduring relationship with its lands, waters, the sky, and all living things. We pay our respects to Kurna Elders past and present and recognise the important role of emerging leaders in sustaining and strengthening culture.

City of Adelaide tampinhi, ngadlu Kurna yartangka panpapanpalyarrinhi (inparrinhi). Kurna Miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku. Parnaku yailtya, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku yarta, ngadlu tampinhi.

Yalaka Kurna miyurna ithu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta, kawi, ngayirda kuma puru martinhi, puru warri-apinhi, puru tangka martulayinhi. Kumartarna yaitya miyurna iyangka yalaka ngadlu tampinhi.



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 cityofadelaide.com.au/resident/healthy-living-and-wellbeing/ageing-well

Have feedback?

ageingwell@cityofadelaide.com.au

(08) 8203 7203

Welcome

WINTER IN ADELAIDE HAS A SPECIAL CHARM OF ITS OWN.

As the colder weather settles in and the city slows its pace a little, there is still plenty happening to keep us curious and social across the season.

One of the great joys of city life is the opportunity to share stories and experiences with one another, and I'm delighted that our Ageing Well program has launched a brand-new podcast, **Life in the City**.

Produced by older residents for older residents, the podcast celebrates conversations about community and making the most of life in Adelaide. It has been wonderful to see residents step forward to be part of the podcast crew and bring their voices and ideas to life.

Staying connected to the things we love is especially important during winter, which is why I'm also pleased to see the expansion of the Adelaide Central Market Bus service to North Adelaide.

From June, more residents aged over 50 will be able to travel safely and comfortably to enjoy one of Adelaide's most treasured destinations, whether for fresh produce or a coffee with friends.

Even in the cooler months, our beautiful Adelaide Park Lands continue to bring people together. Recently, through our Community Grants program, Trees For Life hosted a special intergenerational planting event in Tuthangga (Park 17), celebrating the connections that grow when people of different generations come together to learn from one another and care for our environment.

While winter encourages us to rug up indoors from time to time, I hope this edition of City Grapevine inspires you to stay engaged, connected and involved in all our city has to offer this season.

Dr Jane Lomax-Smith,
Lord Mayor



Ageing Well's New Podcast is Live!

Image: Podcast Launch



'Life in the City' is a brand-new podcast celebrating stories, ideas and conversations about ageing well in Adelaide. Featuring local residents, community leaders and experts, the series explores what it means to stay active, connected and engaged in city life.

The podcast was officially launched on 17 March 2026 at Minor Works Building Community Centre, along with our podcast producer Annie Hastwell and family and friends of the podcast crew.

The podcast marks a significant milestone in the development of the Ageing Well program, which launched in July 2025 following the end of City of Adelaide's involvement with the Commonwealth Home Support Program. Residents responded to an Expression of Interest process to join the podcast crew, and what followed was a truly rewarding experience.

Participants built confidence using new technology, developed interviewing skills, and formed meaningful connections along the way.

Due to its success, the group has now evolved into a new Content and Storytelling Volunteer Program, researching, interviewing and writing content for this newsletter including articles for Living Story and Life in the City.

Turn the page to A Piece of History and be inspired by the history of one of the city's oldest hotels which now offers a perfect spot for brunch or lunch near Light Square/Wauwi.

Tune in to the latest episodes of Life in the City and discover fresh perspectives on life in the city.

cityofadelaide.com.au/resident/healthy-living-and-wellbeing/ageing-well/

Adelaide Central Market Bus Expands to North Adelaide

The City of Adelaide is expanding its Ageing Well Central Market Bus service, making it even easier for older residents and people with mobility needs to access the Adelaide Central Market.

From Thursday 11 June, residents aged 50+ can now catch the bus from a new pick-up location at the North Adelaide Community Centre and Library, helping more people travel safely and comfortably to the market.

The service offers accessible, kerb-to-kerb transport, including a wheelchair lifter at the rear of the bus for residents who may find steps difficult. Many residents say this feature makes all the difference, ensuring mobility challenges are not a barrier to getting out, shopping independently, and connecting with others in the community.

For just \$4 return, passengers can enjoy a relaxed trip to the market, catch up with friends, and spend time exploring one of Adelaide's most loved destinations.

Places are limited and bookings are essential.

If you are interested or know someone who is, phone the Ageing Well team on (08) 8203 7203 or visit

Experience Adelaide | Central Market Shopping Bus



Caring for Possums

Possums are a familiar part of our local environment and are most often seen living in trees and bushland areas, as well as parks and leafy suburbs where there is plenty of shelter and food. They are nocturnal animals, meaning they are active at night, and they rely on tree hollows, dense foliage, and quiet green spaces to rest safely during the day. Typically, possums only travel two to three hundred meters from their home tree.

City of Adelaide Volunteers Debbie and Kathleen, from the new Content and Storytelling Volunteer Program, have captured their passion for possums in this edition of the Grapevine's new nature section.

Debbie shares, "One night in January, I stepped outside to hang my washing. I spotted a possum on my back fence. It froze when it saw me, but I watched it for several minutes. Eventually, it crawled across the fence, moving slower than the rat that often visits. A few nights later, I saw two possums on the fence. However, in April, I haven't seen my possum visitors. Some evenings, I wait outside, hoping they'll return.

What I didn't mention is that in December 2025, I found two skeletal remains. One was stuck in a twisted vine near where I later saw the possums. The other lay on my courtyard paving, likely fallen from a tree.

Concerned for their safety, I contacted the City of Adelaide, who referred me to the South Australian Department for Environment and Water. They advised me to leave the possums alone, as trapping them is illegal. However, if they become a nuisance, you can engage a licensed pest controller who holds the appropriate permits or apply for a permit yourself."

Image: Possum painting by Kathleen

Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, any trapped possum must be released within 50 metres of where it was captured, as they are highly territorial. Relocating possums is both illegal and considered inhumane, and rangers do not assist with trapping them.

Debbie loves possums and says, "I would love to see the possums on my back fence again, but I lack the skill to build a suitable possum box in the trees on my rented property".

As a community, we share a responsibility to care for and protect them, for example, by preserving the trees in the Park Lands and Possum Park, a space long known as a natural home for possums.



Image: Brushtail Possum



A PIECE OF HISTORY

About one of the city's oldest hotels

Now known as Reserve Social, the hotel sits proudly on the corner of Currie Street and Light Square/Wauwi and has been part of Adelaide's history for more than 175 years. First licensed in 1849 by George Telford, the building has seen generations of patrons pass through its doors and has undergone many transformations over the years.

The hotel has been known by several names throughout its colourful history:

- Sir Robert Peel (1849–50)
- Billy Barlow (1850–52)
- George and Dragon Inn (1852–54) Shamrock Hotel (1854–88)
- Colonial Light Hotel (1888–1923) Hotel George (1923–36)
- Hotel Gambier (1936–70)
- Colonial Light Hotel (1970–2022)



Joyleen, a local resident from Light Square/Wauwi (pictured with Pritama and Rahul), researched the long-standing history of the property and discovered that Thomas Croft renamed it the Colonial Light Hotel in honour of Colonel William Light, Adelaide's first Surveyor-General, during the 1860s. The Colonial Light Hotel retained its name from 1888 to 1923 before changing again over the decades that followed.

Joyleen said, "From 2010–2022 the hotel experienced difficulties. It was renovated in 2020 and closed in 2022 before reopening in March 2026 under the current proprietors, Pratima and Rahul, who renamed it Reserve Social".

Today, the venue features a café, dining area and bar on the ground floor, along with a large upstairs function room that can seat between 100 and 150 people. A wraparound balcony offers impressive views overlooking Light Square/Wauwi and beyond. The ground level is also wheelchair friendly. "The new owners hope to continue developing the business into a welcoming local destination for the community," says Joyleen.

The Ageing Well team are pleased to invite residents to an informal gathering in July. Escape the winter weather and join us for light refreshments, or sample something from the venue's extensive menu of hot and cold drinks, brunch options and, as Joyleen says, "a delicious array of fancy cakes to choose from too!"

Thank you to Joyleen for researching and interviewing one of the many venue operators across the city. There are many wonderful local places to discover, and we hope to bring you more social events and stories from around Adelaide in the months to come.

Join us at Reserve Social and soak up the atmosphere of a hotel with a rich and colourful history of name changes – if only the walls could talk!

Host: Ageing Well
When: Wednesday 1 July 2026
Time: 10:30am to 12 noon
Where: The Reserve Social, Light Square, Adelaide
Cost: At your own cost
Bookings: To reserve your seat email ageingwell@cityofadelaide.com.au or phone (08) 8203 7203

You may also like to see a Facebook post from November 2025, which was written for the Flashback Friday post: [Flashback Friday: Former Colonel Light. City of Adelaide | Facebook](#)

More information can also be sourced at the State Library at [Colonel Light Hotel \(sometime Heritage Hotel\) – 41 Light Square ADELAIDE | Heritage Places](#)

Local Activities

Regenerate in the Adelaide Park Lands



Image: Trees For Life participants

Through our City of Adelaide Community Grants, we're proud to support organisations like Trees For Life, which hosted a special event in Tuthangga (Park 17) recently to mark Global Intergenerational Week, a worldwide celebration of connection, learning, and shared experiences across generations.

As part of their Regenerate Adelaide program, Trees For Life continues to create meaningful opportunities for people of all ages to connect with nature and each other. From guided bushcare to nature walks and habitat restoration, the program has been improving wellbeing and enhancing biodiversity in our Park Lands for over six years. Being outside in nature is great for your mental health and wellbeing.

Join the upcoming Regenerate session and connect with likeminded people in our Adelaide Park Lands.

Host: Trees for Life
When: Friday 26 June 2026
Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm
Where: Bushcare and Nature Walk,
Adelaide Park Lands Tuthangga Park 17
(Eastern end of South Terrace)

For more information and to register please contact Trees for Life: (08) 8406 0500
info@treesforlife.org.au

The program will continue in 2026/27 with the support of the City of Adelaide.

Cuppa and Connect



Image: Coffee and conversation

You are invited to our free monthly event of coffee, conversation, and community. Join us for a free cuppa and chat with our Library Connections Team.

Host: Hutt Street Library
When: Fourth Monday
Time: 1:30pm to 2:30pm
Where: Hutt Street Library
Cost: FREE
No bookings are required.

Local Activities

Crochet Club



Image: Crochet materials

Whether you're a seasoned crocheter or curious to learn, join us for connection, creativity, and community at the Hutt Street Library. Some sessions will run with a facilitator available for questions, while others will be self guided: perfect for sharing skills and ideas together.

Host: Hutt Street Library
When: First Wednesday of each month
Time: 11:00am to 1:00pm
Where: Hutt Street Library
Cost: FREE

All sessions are free, bring your yarn, friends, hooks, and ideas and let's keep stitching this vibrant community together!

No bookings are required.

Firstival – Try something new in July!

When was the last time that you did something for the first time?



Image: Firstival logo

Every July, hundreds of events for all ages take place in libraries across South Australia that explore trying something for the first time. Sign up for the Adelaide City Libraries newsletter to be the first to hear about our exciting upcoming events as part of the Firstival program.

[Subscribe to City of Adelaide e-newsletters | City of Adelaide](#)

Safeguard Your Snaps



Image: Family photos

Learn how to digitise your precious photos and important documents with the help of our tech-savvy History Hub Team. We can teach you how to scan your photos, slides or negatives with our top of the range Epson scanner.

Host: North Adelaide Library
When: First Wednesday of each month
Time: 11:00am to 1:00pm
Where: North Adelaide Library, Tynte Street, North Adelaide
Cost: FREE
Bookings essential

Please bring photos, slides or negatives that you would like to scan. Remember to bring a USB storage device to store the images.

Hutt St Centre

LOCAL RESIDENTS, RENATE AND ANNE, RESEARCHED THE SUPPORT SERVICES THAT HUTT ST CENTRE OFFER THE COMMUNITY AND THIS IS WHAT THEY FOUND.

If you visit the southern end of Hutt Street between Gilles Street and South Terrace, you will find the Hutt St Centre on the eastern side. It has been there for over 70 years, since its founding in 1954 by the Catholic order, the Daughters of Charity, when it was set up to “support individuals experiencing homelessness”.

Today Hutt St Centre has more than 80 staff and 250 volunteers working to support around 2,500 people every year who are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness.

The Centre offers specialist help for older people with two programs that specifically target older people in need, Aged City Living and Care Finder. In this article, we will focus on these two programs with further articles on the services offered by the Hutt St Centre to come in the next edition of the Grapevine.

Aged City Living

Hutt St Centre’s Aged City Living (ACL) program assists My Aged Care eligible older people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness to achieve independence and to live safely in the community.

Older people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness face unique challenges, including increased risk of health problems, social isolation, and a loss of independence.

ACL case managers have supported older people in finding stable housing, maintaining their tenancies, and improving their health and wellbeing, while also working towards reintegration into the community. Many clients have enrolled in educational and skills courses, addressed health concerns, received technical

support and reconnected with estranged family members. ACL has also hosted activities for older clients, such as expos and excursions.

Care Finder

As a Care Finder organisation, Hutt St Centre links people to practical assistance for vulnerable older individuals who are unable to independently arrange the services they need and lack support from family or friends.

Services offered through Care Finder include:

- Personalised assistance: One-on-one meetings to understand individual situations and develop tailored support plans.
- Aged care navigation: Guidance through the process of accessing aged care services, including communication with My Aged Care, arranging assessments, and selecting providers.
- Form completion: Assistance with paperwork and understanding service agreements.
- Ongoing support: Regular check-ins to ensure services are meeting needs and to address any challenges.
- Community connections: Linking individuals to additional supports such as health services, housing assistance, and community groups.

Reference: Hutt St Centre at huttstcentre.org.au

To learn more about these programs or if you are at risk of, or are currently experiencing homelessness, you should contact the Hutt St Centre on (08) 8418 2500 or email help@huttstcentre.org.au

For emergency assistance, call Homeless Connect SA on 1800 003 308 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Recycling and Rubbish and overflowing bins!



Image: Supplied by Renate

Rubbish accumulating on our streets is becoming an increasingly visible issue across the City of Adelaide and many other cities. From everyday litter to larger dumped items, the impact on our public spaces is difficult to ignore. Beyond appearance, it raises concerns about environmental health, safety, and the shared responsibility we all have in caring for the city we live in.

We invited one of our residents to write about how she feels about the rubbish and Renate shares her living story, her passion for raising awareness about recycling and the impacts it has on our environment.

"As a resident of the City of Adelaide, I am concerned at the rising amount of rubbish accumulating on our local streets. This has become a persistent problem, with litter ranging from food packaging and plastic bottles to larger discarded items.

The issue is not only unsightly but also poses environmental and health risks. Overflowing bins and illegally dumped waste can attract pests, create unpleasant odours and clog stormwater drains. One only has to look at the Victoria Park Wetlands following the recent rains with an unprecedented amount of rubbish ending up on the Wetlands without any attempt being made to clean this up.

I don't believe insufficient bins, irregular waste collection, or a lack of awareness about proper disposal is the problem, I consider it is a

complete lack of pride in our city and carelessness on individual's behalf which is the main problem.

I recently returned from a three week visit to Japan and asked the tour guide "why weren't there any bins anywhere for rubbish disposal and yet not a scrap of rubbish to be seen anywhere". Japan had a similar problem with overflowing bins etc. Their answer was simple. The Government removed all bins, put in place laws to make each person responsible for their own waste. Everyone takes their waste home and disposes of it appropriately. Our group learnt to do the same with very little impost.

I ask myself, "would something similar be effective in Adelaide", an education program and a 'Clean up Adelaide Streets' program, one day a month for 12 months, where we are not required to make radical changes, but each person is asked to carry rubber gloves and a plastic bag and pick up all rubbish that you find along the way.

With cooperation between Council and the community, our streets and public spaces could be restored and maintained in a cleaner, safer condition for everyone.

Would this not also help reshape how we view our city and strengthen a shared sense of pride in the place we call home?"

The City of Adelaide offers a range of services to residents to help keep the city clean and safe for all.

For more information visit [cityofadelaide.com.au/resident/recycling-waste](https://www.cityofadelaide.com.au/resident/recycling-waste)

Image: Supplied by Renate



Finding connection through caring

Local resident Gail cares for her husband, Peter, who lives with dementia and lives at home. Alongside their beloved dog, Dixie. They continue to enjoy the comfort of familiar routines, the companionship of friends and neighbours, and the support of their local community.

After a career in the army, Peter met Gail in 1969, and they later relocated to Australia in 1971.

A teacher for more than 54 years, Gail has a lifelong love of learning and still works part time at a local school, supporting children from many different nationalities and cultures.

Peter spends his days reading, listening to music and enjoying time with Dixie. Through City of Adelaide's Pooch Pals program, a volunteer supports Gail and Peter by walking their little dog, Dixie around the neighbourhood. This brings them both a sense of joy and connection.

Gail is a passionate advocate for carer respite and the importance of creating welcoming community spaces where carers can come together socially, share experiences and support one another.

Gail is keen to start an informal carers group in her local area and warmly welcomes other carers to get involved. The idea grew from a recent visit to a local respite cottage where Peter attends a day respite program, and from a conversation Gail shared with another carer.

"Just having someone to sit with and talk about daily lives, how we adjust to the changes in our husbands, is comforting to know", shares Gail.

You're invited to join us to chat about creating a new carers catch-up group. Join us at an inaugural morning tea for anyone interested in connecting, sharing ideas and helping shape the group together.



Image: Gail and Peter

When: Tuesday 21 July 2026
Time: 10:30am to 12 noon
Where: Minor Works Building Community Centre, 22 Stamford Court, Adelaide
Cost: Small donation to morning tea refreshments
Bookings: ageingwell@cityofadelaide.com.au or phone (08) 8203 7203

Dementia Australia reports around 446,500 Australians are currently living with dementia. Dementia Australia provides a range of helpful online resources and support services for people living with dementia, their carers and families.

More information can be found online at **Dementia Australia**.

You may also be interested in reading the National Dementia Action Plan 2024–2034, which outlines the national policy framework for improving the lives of people living with dementia, their carers and loved ones. More information is available through the **Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing**.

Pulteney Grammar Community Visit

In April this year, students and teachers from Pulteney Grammar School once again joined community members at the Minor Works Building Community Centre for a day of shared activities and companionship. The group enjoyed a gentle Tai Chi session led by Luke, followed by a leisurely walk to the Himeji Japanese Gardens with James and members of the Good Better Best Men walking group.

Participants also visited the Veale Gardens community garden with Ageing Well Coordinator, Sadie, and a local volunteer who shared her passion for growing fruit and vegetables. The gardens provide many peaceful places to sit, rest, and listen to the sounds of nature, with each pathway offering a new view of the beautiful Adelaide Park Lands.

These gatherings are part of the Ageing Well program, which focuses on local collaboration and creating opportunities for intergenerational connection. The program will continue to collaborate with local schools in activities that bring together students, community groups, and older residents in meaningful and enjoyable ways.

If you are connected with a local school or know of one that may be interested in becoming involved with the Ageing Well program, please contact the team at ageingwell@cityofadelaide.com.au



Images: Pulteney Grammar School visit



Bombing Day

BOX FACTORY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Wrap yourself in colour, creativity, and community at Yarn Bombing Day at Box Factory Community Centre.

A free, drop in day of yarn art, crochet, and community connection – with acoustic music and hands on activities as we bring the Box Factory Community Centre to life in colour.

Settle into the cosy community knit, learn new skills from friendly facilitators, or add your touch to the vibrant yarn installation taking shape in the centre. Enjoy acoustic music, warm up by the flame heaters, and grab a BBQ lunch or warm drink while you stitch, chat, and create.

Everyone's welcome – beginners, makers, families, and curious passers by alike.

With crochet circles and hands on activities, this activation brings people together in a uniquely colourful way, celebrating the heart and spirit of the neighbourhood.

Host: Yarn Bombing Day

When: Saturday 13 June 2026

Time: from 10:00am to 3:00pm

Where: Box Factory Community Centre

Registrations required by clicking the link below:



Mandarin Chinese for Beginners

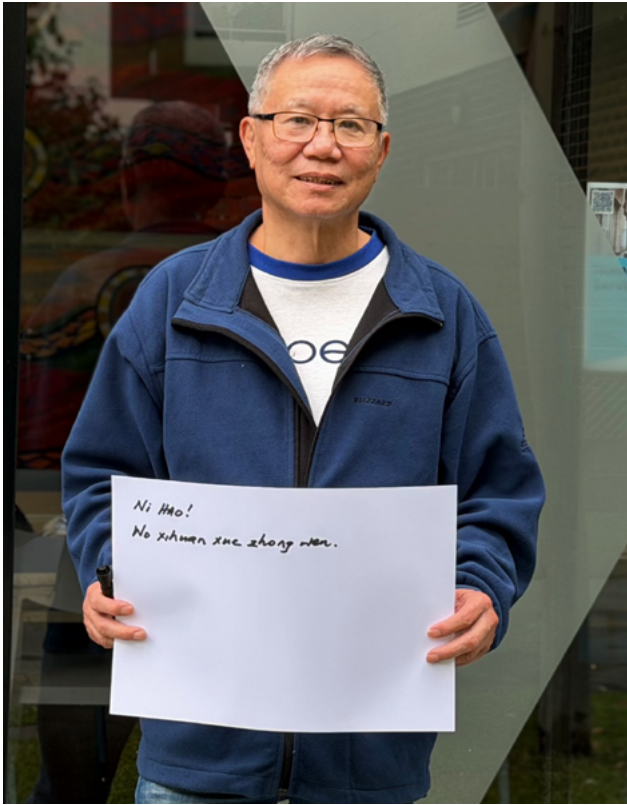


Image: Peter at the Minor Works Building

During social work student, Yifan's placement with the Minor Works Building Community Centre, he had the opportunity to speak with Peter, a participant in the Beginners Mandarin.

Peter is originally from Malaysia and moved to Australia when he was 14 years old. When he first arrived, he lived in Wagga Wagga in New South Wales. After about seven years, he moved to Adelaide. Peter shared that he is ethnically Chinese Malaysian. When he was younger, he spoke Cantonese and Hokkien.

However, after moving to Australia, particularly to Adelaide at a time when there were fewer Asian communities, he gradually lost the ability to speak these languages due to lack of use. While searching online for Mandarin classes, he came across the program offered by the City of Adelaide community centre at Minor Works Building Community Centre.

Peter shared that he felt very fortunate to discover the centre, saying, "This community centre allows me to discover my lifelong wish, which is to learn the Chinese language." Peter has now been attending the Mandarin class for around two years. Through the program, he has not only been learning Mandarin but has also built positive relationships with other participants who share the same interest in learning the language. Although Peter mentioned that he has visited other places, he said he still chooses to return to this community centre.

For Peter, the welcoming atmosphere and the connections he has developed here make the centre a meaningful place for learning and social interaction.

Peter's experience highlights how community learning programs can support connection, cultural exchange, and a sense of belonging within the community.

- Host:** Minor Works Building
Community Centre
- When:** Every Thursday
- Time:** 1:30pm to 2:30pm
- Where:** Minor Works Building Community
Centre, 22 Stamford Court, Adelaide
- Booking:** [Mandarin Chinese for Beginners](#)

Cottage Pie

A hearty recipe where left-overs can be portioned and frozen for another day.



Ingredients

3 large potatoes, peeled
1 tbsp olive oil
1 medium onion, diced
2 medium carrots, diced
1 medium zucchini, diced
400g lean beef mince
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp reduced-salt soy sauce
2 tsp no-added-salt tomato paste
Fresh thyme to taste
Ground pepper
½ cup peas, frozen or canned
½ cup corn kernels, frozen or canned
1 reduced-salt beef stock cube
2 – 2 ½ cups water
¼ cup red lentils
1 tsp plain flour with 2 tbsp
Water
2 tsp margarine
2 – 4 tbsp reduced fat milk

Method

Preheat oven to 180oC (160oC fan-forced).

Boil the potatoes for about 15 minutes or until cooked through. Drain.

Meanwhile heat oil in a large frypan and cook onion, carrot and zucchini until the onion is soft.

Add the meat and stir, breaking up the lumps of meat.

Add sauce, tomato paste, thyme, pepper, and corn.

Dissolve the beef stock cube in the water and add to the pan along with the lentils.

Stir, reducing the heat and cook covered for 30 mins.

Mix flour and water to form a paste.

Remove frypan from heat, stir flour paste into the meat mixture then return to stove to cook for one minute.

Mash the potatoes with the reduced-fat milk and margarine.

Spoon mince into shallow dish and top with the mashed potato.

Bake for 30 minutes.

Serving suggestions:

Add 1 can of crushed tomatoes at the same time as the stock to turn into a Bolognese sauce

Top the mashed potato with 50g of reduced-fat cheese before baking in the oven.

Ref: [Cottage Pie Recipe | Healthy Made Tasty](#)

CITY GRAPEVINE



Discover the stories that shape our city