Blackwing Commons Prospective Member Package

For people who may want to live, build, garden, teach, rehearse, make, volunteer, or co-create inside the future commons.

> **This is a fit-check packet, not a membership offer.**

THE HONEST PREMISE

Blackwing Commons is imagined as a South Australian arts commons with Earthship-inspired buildings and a permaculture demonstration mindset. The dream is not only a beautiful property. It is a legible system: shelter, water, food, energy, art, visitors, privacy, money, labour, and care designed together.

It should learn from Aldinga Arts Ecovillage rather than pretending this path begins from zero. The key question is not "how do we make a perfect commune?" It is "which proven local patterns should Blackwing adapt, and which pieces need a different structure because this project is more arts venue, studio, residency, and public programming heavy?"

THE KIND OF PERSON THIS NEEDS

- Someone creative enough to dream, and grounded enough to read policy, clean a kitchen, finish a roster, and answer emails.
- Someone who wants art, land, and hospitality to support each other rather than compete for attention.
- Someone who respects private rest even when public programming is exciting.
- Someone who can hold standards without turning the house into a popularity contest.
- Someone willing to test culture slowly before asking for permanence.

EARLY MEMBER QUESTIONS

- What kind of private space does each person need to stay healthy?
- What shared work is reasonable, and what must be paid labour?

- How do residents, visitors, students, artists, and event audiences move through the same place safely?
- What conflicts are predictable, and what process handles them before they poison the house?
- What commitments are required before someone becomes a resident member?
- What climate, bushfire, water, access, zoning, and neighbour constraints must shape the site before the aesthetics do?
- What is the exit path if a person, couple, family, artist, or role is no longer a good fit?
- How does the project protect people who are quieter, younger, older, less wealthy, or less socially powerful?

DRAFT CULTURE EXPECTATIONS

- Reliability matters as much as imagination.
- The project needs artists, but also people who can cook, clean, garden, budget, repair, document, schedule, mediate, and finish things.
- Public programming should not swallow the private home.
- The food forest, theatre, studio, gallery, and household systems should support each other instead of competing for attention.
- The natural building vision must be tested against council approval, engineering, fire safety, insurance, embodied carbon, maintenance, and actual South Australian climate conditions.
- Clear agreements are a kindness, not a loss of romance.
- The first circle should be small enough to know each other and serious enough to disagree well.

POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION STREAMS

- Arts: performance, rehearsal, production, teaching, exhibitions, documentation, curation, technical support, ticketing, and artist care.
- Land: food forest, propagation, compost, water, tools, animal systems if appropriate, seasonal maintenance, fire readiness, and repair.
- Hospitality: visitor welcome, house meals, workshop care, accessibility, cleaning, room turns, accommodation rules if relevant, and quiet-zone protection.
- Governance: budgets, agreements, meeting rhythm, conflict process, safety, complaints, membership review, and transparent decision records.
- Income: ticketed events, studio hire, lessons, residencies if legal, gallery sales, workshops, grants, donors, produce, and Blackwing Circuit platform bookings.

THE FIRST TESTS

- Small gatherings before shared housing.

- Garden or repair days before land purchase.
- Pop-up salons before venue promises.
- Trial governance meetings before formal membership.
- Written agreements before emotional commitment.
- Paid support where volunteer labour would hide the real cost.

NEXT STEP

Register interest, read the public package, and wait for the first proper documentation pack before making any serious commitment. Useful early involvement looks like questions, skills, introductions, test events, and patient attention.