

# Greater Dandenong Council News



## Empowering Young People

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**GREATER  
DANDENONG**  
*City of Opportunity*

## Customer Service Centres

### Dandenong Civic Centre

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

### Springvale Community Hub

5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale

### Keysborough Customer Service

Shop A7 Parkmore Shopping Centre,  
Keysborough

### All correspondence to:

Greater Dandenong Council News

PO Box 200

Dandenong VIC 3175

Email: [news@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:news@cgd.vic.gov.au)



Phone: 8571 1000



[www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)



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[facebook.com/greaterdandenong](https://facebook.com/greaterdandenong)



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[youtube.com/citygreaterdandenong](https://youtube.com/citygreaterdandenong)



TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

[relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)



TIS: 131 450



[council@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@cgd.vic.gov.au)

## Important Numbers

Emergency calls

Police / Fire / Ambulance.....000

Street lighting faults /

non-operational

United Energy..... 13 20 99

Traffic signal faults /

non-operational..... 8571 1000

Hoon Hotline..... 1800 333 000

Hard Waste Collection

WM Waste Management

Services..... 9721 1915

Australian Animal

Protection Society..... 9798 8415

RSPCA..... 9224 2222

Nurse on Call..... 1300 606 024

Non Urgent Police Response

(no sirens)..... 131 444

Dandenong Police..... 9767 7444

Springvale Police..... 8558 8600

Information in this publication is correct at the time of printing and is subject to change. For updates please visit our website and social media platforms.

# Mayor's message

## Welcome to the October edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

October is Mental Health Month. One in five Australians experience a mental illness each year.

Council's Youth and Family Services Team supports our local young people to protect their mental health, read more about their important work on the next page.

Council has recently upgraded many parks across the city and will soon be consulting the community about further improvements. Turn to page 7 to find out more and have your say.

Council works tirelessly to support community members doing it tough. Read on page 9 about an upcoming event to help reduce your costs at home.

This month we also proudly celebrate our youngest and our oldest residents.

Children's Week is celebrated from 21–29 October. Our Junior Mayor Tasneem shares why this year's theme is so important to her, read more on page 5.

The Victorian Seniors Festival is now in its 41st year and encourages seniors to get active and connect. There are so many fun activities to look forward to throughout Greater Dandenong, view page 8 and visit our website to find out more.

Enjoy the warmer weather this month.

Mayor  
Cr Eden Foster

## My City

Madhu Bala (featured) was the winner of the *Are You Prepared for an Emergency?* quiz competition recently held at the Springvale Snow Fest event.

Seventy-five competition entries were received with Xue Hong receiving second prize and Naomi Morris receiving third prize.

Be sure to stay informed so you are prepared for any emergency, for more visit [emergencyprepare.com.au](http://emergencyprepare.com.au)

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.



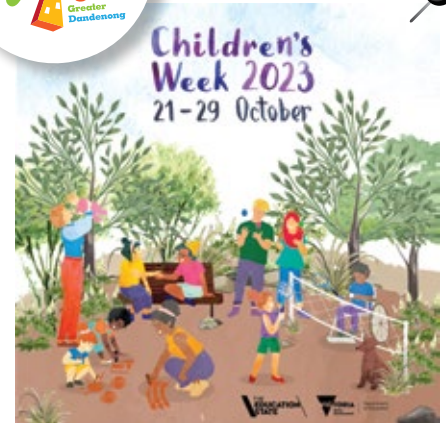
Front cover: Young Leader Thuy and Mayor Cr Eden Foster (back row), Young Leaders Elena, Joey and Angeline (front row).  
Photographer: Hilton Stone

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FSC  
Logo





## Children's voices matter


As a proud, child-friendly city, Council celebrates national Children's Week from 21–29 October. This year's theme is 'Children have the right to relax, play and take part in activities they enjoy' based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Council's Children's Advisory Group members were asked what this year's Children's Week theme means to them, they said: "it means being social, to be free, to be healthy, it gives you energy, it is good for your mental health, to learn, the right to have fun, not being miserable and depressed, and the right to sleep".

Our annual Children's Forum will be held in Dandenong on 25 October. Grade 5-6 students have been invited to attend from primary schools across Greater Dandenong to share their voices on Council's strategies, plans, designs and projects.

Children's voices are valued. Council is committed to supporting children and their families and providing opportunities for them to engage and have their voices heard.

Council visits primary schools regularly to share what Council does, establish rapport with students, help develop team-building skills and encourage students to have their say in their community.

 For more information visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/child-friendly-cities](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/child-friendly-cities)

For more information on Children's Week visit [childrens-week.org.au](https://childrens-week.org.au)



Mayor, Cr Eden Foster with Young Leaders Elena, Joey, Thuy and Angeline

## Mental health awareness



**October is Mental Health Month, a time to further reflect on the importance of looking after our mental health.**

Council's Youth and Family Services host initiatives annually to shine a spotlight on this issue for young people aged 12–25 years.

This year local secondary schools have been invited to take part in two programs, a live production about cyber bullying and a body image project in conjunction with the Butterfly Foundation.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster recently met with some Young Leaders to talk about the importance of Council programs to support better mental health for our young residents.

Joey, Thuy, Angeline and Elena agreed the number of programs and support services offered through Council's Youth and Family Services were positive and made a difference.

"Joining Council programs like FReeZA, Proud to Be and Young Leaders has helped me find a support network.

"Just having something to do with your time is a good way to prevent (poor mental health)," said Joey.

Thuy said joining the Young Leaders had presented her with opportunities she may never have had.

"It's pushing me out of my comfort zone, but it's not scary," she said.

Thuy said society in general was better at acknowledging and understanding the importance of good mental health.

"Especially after the pandemic, people started to realise isolation and being alone and secluded has really affected everyone, especially young people," Thuy said.

The Mayor said recent research showed 60 per cent of young people across Australia suffered anxiety about climate change and the environment. She told the Young Leaders their work in this space is helping empower people to make changes.

"Empowering young people helps them to feel they have hope and some level of control.

"I am passionate about good mental health and wellbeing, and I am so proud of the work Council is doing to help our young people improve their mental health," said the Mayor.

Visit [youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) to find out more about the work of Council's Youth and Family Services.

 For further resources visit [lookafteryourmentalhealthaustralia.org.au](https://lookafteryourmentalhealthaustralia.org.au)

## Councillor Contacts



### Yarraman Ward Mayor

Cr Eden Foster  
0435 202 645  
[eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Noble Park North Ward Deputy Mayor

Cr Lana Formoso  
0435 530 536  
[lane.formoso@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:lane.formoso@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Dandenong Ward

Cr Jim Memeti  
0434 560 239  
[jim.memeti@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:jim.memeti@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Cleeland Ward

Cr Angela Long  
Ph/Fax: 9795 6574  
0466 004 616  
[angela.long@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:angela.long@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Dandenong North Ward

Cr Bob Milkovic  
0435 237 051  
[bob.milkovic@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:bob.milkovic@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Keysborough Ward

Cr Tim Dark  
0466 403 914  
[tim.dark@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:tim.dark@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Keysborough South Ward

Cr Rhonda Garad  
0435 107 584  
[rhonda.garad@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:rhonda.garad@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Noble Park Ward

Cr Sophie Tan  
0466 793 727  
[sophie.tan@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:sophie.tan@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Springvale Central Ward

Cr Richard Lim OAM  
0435 627 164  
[richard.lim@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:richard.lim@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Springvale North Ward

Cr Sean O'Reilly  
0422 523 258  
[sean.oreilly@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:sean.oreilly@cgd.vic.gov.au)



### Springvale South Ward

Cr Loi Truong  
0466 004 618  
[loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au)

MONDAY

9

OCTOBER

MONDAY

23


OCTOBER

OCTOBER

You can ask questions during Public Question Time and watch our Council meetings live via our webcast service.

Connect with us to learn about community consultation opportunities and the latest decisions made.

Hear questions from our residents and find out the many ways your Councillors are serving the community.

 **To view meetings online or to find out more about Public Question Time visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings)**

## Council Meetings

**Council meetings are held in the chambers of the Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong, commencing at 7pm.**

Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- ▶ Monday 9 October
- ▶ Monday 23 October.

## ▶ Yarraman Ward



**Noble Park is undergoing a transformation with many projects taking shape in collaboration with Council and the Noble Park Revitalisation Board, with funding support from the Victorian Government's Suburban Revitalisation Program.**

The village feel of Noble Park's activity centre is being enhanced. We have already seen the completion of more than a dozen projects, including streetscape upgrades, large scale artworks and open space improvements.

I recently attended the launch of the newly-named Muderra Way, a road linking Leonard Avenue and Ian Street under the train line. The road name is a Bunurong word for torrential rain, and three Aboriginal artists will create a traffic calming asphalt artwork that will extend across the roadway. You can read more on page 6.

The Our Street series will also activate public spaces in Noble Park with art installations, street performances and village celebrations.

One of the biggest annual celebrations on our city's events calendar is the Children's Festival and its headline event the Little Day Out. This year Council kicked off the September school holidays with the Little Day Out at Ross Reserve and it was wonderful to see so many families celebrating spring.

## Cr Eden Foster Mayor



An important role for Council is to create a safe and thriving community and we are always advocating to improve safety for our residents. Over recent months we held two community safety forums in Noble Park (July) and Dandenong (August). Dozens of residents attended these forums along with other stakeholders and Victoria Police. We discussed a range of issues and Victoria Police shared their efforts to tackle crime and local safety concerns.

Council is always encouraging residents to get more active, and as Mayor I have opened many new top class sporting facilities over the past year, including Ross Reserve Pavilion (as pictured). As the weather is warmer now, I encourage you all to *Make Your Move* and keep active.



**If you would like to connect you can contact me on 0435 202 645 or email me at [eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au)**

# Cr Richard Lim OAM

► Springvale Central Ward



**I am a very proud advocate for Springvale, but I have good reason. This suburb has so much to offer, and my vision is to make it a world class tourist attraction.**

Earlier this year Council ran the first stage of the Shape Springvale consultation, giving residents, visitors and business owners a chance to talk about the future of Springvale and how we can capture the essence of our suburb.

Following conversations with the community, online engagement and research, Council has created the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan. The long-term plan is intended to guide the revitalisation of Springvale’s civic heart and includes a broad range of initiatives that range from greening and traffic enhancements to public art and vibrant street festivals.

We are now taking this plan out to the community in the second stage of the Shape Springvale consultation to make sure we have captured your shared vision for our suburb.

Your feedback is valuable and will help us prioritise what projects to deliver. You can have your say from 25 October to 21 November. Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) or phone 8571 1000 to find out how to have your say.

More than 33,000 people attended the Springvale Snow Fest in July, and it was such an amazing community celebration. I want to see more community celebrations on the streets of Springvale, and I look forward to finalising the Action Plan and getting to work on sharing our wonderful businesses and attractions with the world.

I want to remind residents that the Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards are now open for nominations. If you know of any local residents or community groups that deserve to be recognised for their work please consider nominating them. I won an award in 2019 before joining Council and it was a special honour.



**In the meantime, if you want to contact me you can email me at [richard.lim@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:richard.lim@cgd.vic.gov.au) or phone me on 0435 627 164.**

## Message from the Junior Mayor

**October 21–29 is Children’s Week, a time to recognise the rights, resilience and spirit of the world’s children.**

This year, in recognition of the need for young people to have time for rest, play and relaxation, we celebrate the rights of children and young people to have the time and support they need to do these things.

It is all too easy for the rights of our world’s children to be drowned out by responsibility and work, both in and out of school.

For their physical, social and mental wellbeing, it is essential that children and young people have access to adequate levels of play, rest and relaxation. We must guard their right to choose how to spend their time and nurture their sense of freedom.



Playing and spending time outdoors offers a healthy energetic outlet where young people can learn, explore and test their boundaries in a safe environment. For those who don’t have access to an outdoor space, the right to play and relax can become heavily restricted, something that must change if our young people are to remain healthy, both physically and mentally.

The importance of rest and relaxation for our young people should also not be underestimated. Restful activities such as yoga, meditation and mindfulness, offer a healthy form of relaxation.

*Tasneem*  
**Junior Mayor**



## Breaking down barriers



Peter (keyboard and vocals), Michelle (keyboard), Garry (guitar, vocals, percussion, songwriting), Kobe (bass guitar and vocals), and Max (drums).



**Springvale Community Hub has partnered with registered disability service Burke and Beyond to support the Beyond Rhythm band.**

Once a month the band will use a space inside Springvale Community Hub for rehearsals and in exchange will perform at various events held at the Hub.

*Beyond Rhythm* is a remarkable community where individuals with various disabilities come together with a common passion for music. In this uplifting space they break down barriers and stereotypes.

Springvale Community Hub proudly supports the nurturing of local talent whilst breaking down barriers, shattering preconceived notions about disabilities and the performing arts.

### What do you love most about playing music?

**Michelle:**

“It brings me energy and lifts me up when I am feeling down”.

**Kobe:**

“It puts me in a good mood”.

**Max:**

“The sound and the vibe”.

### What are you enjoying about being at Springvale Community Hub?

**Michelle:**

“It’s so close to home”.

**Garry:**

“The food. Springvale is my home and I feel like I’m home here and it has the best bubble tea”.

**Peter:**

“I enjoy band practice here”.

## Muderra Way mural celebrates Bunurong roots

CELEBRATE

**As Traditional Custodians of the land on which Greater Dandenong is located, Bunurong artists will celebrate their culture in a Noble Park street art project.**

In a first for Greater Dandenong a newly built road has been given an Indigenous name – Muderra Way. Muderra (pronounced Moo-Dah-Ra) means torrential rain in the Boonwurrung language of the Bunurong people and was chosen in consultation with the Bunurong Land Council and the community. Its naming honours the Traditional Custodians of the land on which Greater Dandenong now stands.

The road was created during removal of the level crossing in Noble Park and links Leonard Avenue and Ian Street under the raised train line.

Artists Kobi Sainty (Bunurong and Palawa) and Koorrin Edwards (Bunurong, Gunnai, Gunditjmarra, Mutti and Yorta Yorta) are working with Robert Michael Young (Gunnai, Wiradjuri, Yorta and Gunditjmarra), an experienced mural and sculpture artist, to honour the connection Bunurong people have to our city.

The trio are co-creating a traffic calming asphalt artwork which will extend across part of the roadway, using the industrial canvas to tell their own story.

The project is being delivered in collaboration with Council, the Bunurong Land Council and the Noble Park Revitalisation Board, and funded by the Victorian Government’s Suburban Revitalisation Program.



Artists Robert Michael Young and Kobi Sainty

# Visit your local parks and reserves

DISCOVER



**Families across Greater Dandenong are discovering new ways to play and get active following a series of playground and reserve upgrades.**

Across 2023 Council has prioritised updating local playgrounds from tired and underutilised spaces to places the community love to visit.

We have provided more spaces for informal recreation, including sports courts, walking tracks and exercise equipment. We have also planted more trees to increase the tree canopy as a response to climate change and the need to cool our suburbs.

Highlights include:

- ▶ Frederick Wachter Reserve, Keysborough – playground with a combined market garden and wetland theme
- ▶ Glendale Reserve, Springvale – new playground, half basketball court and a fitness pod
- ▶ Tirhatuan Park, Dandenong North – full-sized multi-purpose court and separate court space with netball goal circle
- ▶ Tatterson Park, Keysborough – upgrade to insect theme park including a spider sculpture and climbing web

- ▶ Tyers Lane Reserve, Keysborough – a total of 59 new trees will be planted
- ▶ Coolavin Reserve, Noble Park North – new fitness pod
- ▶ Kenneth Street Reserve, Noble Park – new trees, garden beds, picnic table and seating, path and fencing.

Council is planning to upgrade more parks and playgrounds across our city in 2024 and will be asking residents for their ideas during October and November this year.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say) to share your feedback.



# Friendly updates



## Seniors Festival

Learn, Love, Live your best life and join the fun locally and across the state during the 2023 Victorian Seniors Festival this October.

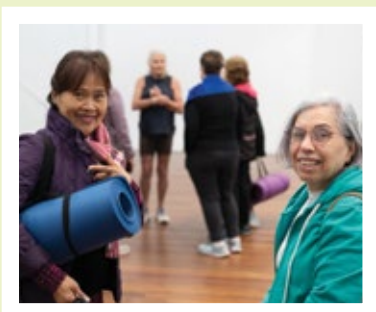
The festival is now in its 41st year and is designed to help seniors enjoy themselves, learn new skills and make new friends.

While events are happening across Victoria, there are many great activities and events happening here in Greater Dandenong.

We will be celebrating our Centenarians at a morning tea with the Mayor on Friday 27 October.

Greater Dandenong Libraries will also host a range of activities, including a singing masterclass, grandparents story time and a safety at home session with an ex-detective.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/seniors-festival](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/seniors-festival) to see all the activities on offer locally and visit [seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/victorian-seniors-festival](http://seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/victorian-seniors-festival) to see what events are being held across Victoria.



## Seniors Day Trips

Council's Positive Ageing Team run regular day trips for seniors to interesting locations across Victoria.

Participants must be residents of Greater Dandenong and be registered users of the Community Transport Service.

This month excursions include Gulf Station Yarra Glen, a Caldermeade Farm lunch, the Royal Exhibition Building Dome Promenade, Rippon Lea Estate, Coal Creek Korumburra and Warran Glen in Warrandyte.

Future excursions include Werribee Zoo, Fairfield Park Boathouse and Walhalla Goldfields Railway.

**For more information or to make a booking phone 8571 5556.**



We value the ideas and opinions of our community so 'have your say' on our current consultations by visiting our website at [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say)

## Halloween in the Park



**Tuesday 31 October  
5pm-7.30pm**

**Pirate Park, Somerfield Reserve,  
39 Somerfield Drive North,  
Keysborough**

This Halloween, bring the family along to Pirate Park in Keysborough for a spooky night out. Dress up as your favourite creepy critter and participate in some exciting activities.

Participants will meet some creepy crawlies in a wildlife presentation by Blacksnake Productions.

There will be free face painting, a free barbecue, roving performers *The Connies* and nature craft activities.

**For more information visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/halloween-pirate-park](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/halloween-pirate-park)**

## Immunisation appointments

Council's Immunisation Team has introduced a new, online portal to book appointments for public immunisation sessions.

The platform, Central Immunisation Records Victoria, is managed by the Department of Health.

To make a booking you must first create an account, then select Greater Dandenong City Council as your immunisation provider. Follow the prompts to complete your booking.

**Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation) for more information or phone 8571 1000 for support.**





## Tackling poverty in the community



**Council continues to support those in our community who are severely impacted by the rising cost of living.**

This month marks the first anniversary of Council's *Anti-Poverty Strategy*. The strategy acknowledges that poverty is an issue for many residents in our city, and highlights how we can work together to address the causes of poverty and implement practical solutions.

Over the past year many not-for-profit organisations, community groups, church groups and an army of volunteers have been working to address poverty. Council would like to thank those who have shown great compassion to our community through the delivery of emergency relief, material aid, homelessness services, case management support, education and offered a warm place for those most vulnerable to take shelter.



Council will host an event to highlight practical things to do to reduce costs in your home. The event will be held at the Springvale Community Hub on Friday 27 October, from 3pm–6pm.

➔ Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/material-aid](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/material-aid) to find out more about the *Anti-Poverty Strategy* and where to get further support.



## Unity in Diversity Festival



**The Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre (SMRC) will celebrate its 30th anniversary with the return of the family-friendly Unity in Diversity Festival on Sunday 22 October from 10am–3pm at 39 Clow Street, Dandenong.**

A day of activities celebrating the diversity of Greater Dandenong will be held with access to information and services from more than 30 stallholders.

Highlights will include cultural music and performances, food and cooking demonstrations, sports clinics with the AFL and Cricket Australia, art and craft activities, cultural tents, face painting, henna, farmyard animals, and children's games and activities.

SMRC Chairperson Dr Ponniah Anandajayasekaram said the Unity in Diversity Festival is a chance for SMRC to showcase and celebrate the



successes and strengths of our vibrant, multicultural communities here in Melbourne's southeast.

"We are looking forward to bringing back a pivotal community event as part of our 30th year celebrations to commemorate the successful service delivery to migrant and refugee communities," Dr Anandajayasekaram said.

SMRC CEO Rakesh Sharma said over the last three decades SMRC has had the privilege of sharing the journeys of thousands of migrants and refugees, and their stories have shaped who we are.

➔ Follow SMRC on Facebook to find out more.



## Food waste helping our city flourish

### Have you seen the beautiful parks and gardens across Greater Dandenong?

Spring is in full flight, our grass is green and flower beds are colourful and it's all thanks to the food and garden waste residents put in their green lid bins.

Council is closing the loop on food and garden waste collected from your kerbside bins, with the waste processed into high quality compost used to improve the soil quality in parks and gardens across our city.

Food and garden waste is collected from your kerbside bins and taken to the local composting facility Veolia in Dandenong South.

Using the compost locally has another benefit for the environment, with

shorter transport distances reducing travel emissions.

Adding food waste to your green lid bin also helps reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/food-waste](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/food-waste) for more information.



Dumping rubbish is illegal.  
Getting your hard rubbish collected is free and easy.  
Phone 8571 1000 or scan the QR code for collection.



# Gambling

**\$** Recent figures show gaming machines in Greater Dandenong took an average of \$376,000 per day, with losses topping \$137 million in the 12 months to July 2023.

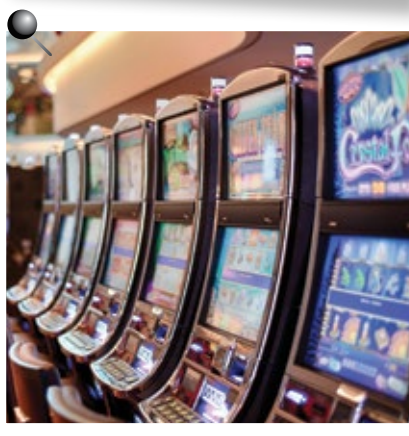
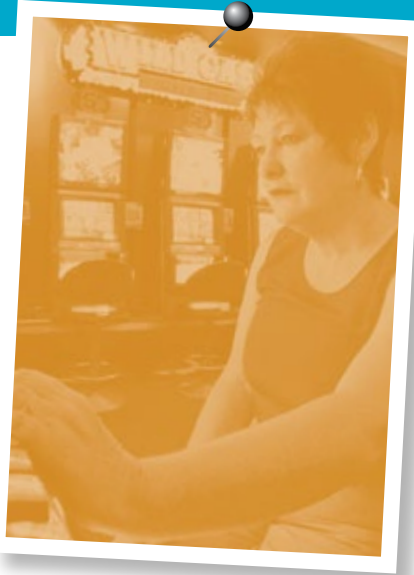
The figure equates to a loss of \$1089 per adult, the second highest for a local government area in Victoria. Only residents in Brimbank suffered greater losses.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster said since electronic gaming machines were introduced in Victoria in 1992, our community has lost more than \$4 billion.

“The figures show that the highest gambling losses are often experienced by the least affluent communities, putting further strain on families already doing it tough.

“With the escalating cost of food, utilities and rent, the ongoing impact of gambling is a burden on our community,” the Mayor said.

Council has hosted a Gambling Forum Roundtable with key local stakeholders including advocacy groups, people with lived experience, support agencies and the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission representatives.



The event explored current efforts to reduce gambling harm and considered ways to further address the issue.

**📍 If gambling is affecting you or a loved one you can get free confidential advice and support from Gamblers Helpline on 1800 858 858.**

## Cash for containers

**From 1 November, Greater Dandenong residents will be able to earn money while recycling right.**

The state-wide Container Deposit Scheme will reward recyclers with a 10-cent refund for every eligible can, bottle and carton recycled at a collection point.

You can choose to keep the refund or donate it to a charity, community group, environmental not-for-profit, educational organisation or sports group.

**📍 For more information visit [vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme](https://vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme)**



## Beware of snakes

**Snakes play an important role in maintaining a healthy and balanced ecosystem. As the weather becomes warmer, snakes can be found basking in sunny places and near waterways.**

The species you are most likely to encounter in Greater Dandenong is the lowlands copperhead. These species are venomous but not generally aggressive, so if you see one while out and about, keep your distance, calmly back away and allow the snake to go on its way.

**📍 Find out more snake safety tips at [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/pets-and-animals/other-animals](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/pets-and-animals/other-animals)**



## Community safety

### Prevent number plate theft

Victoria Police warns that motorists can be unwittingly caught up in criminal activity when vehicle number plates are stolen.

To protect your plates secure them with anti-theft screws and consider where you park your car. A locked garage is the safest place to park, but if you park in a driveway or on the street make sure the area is well-lit.

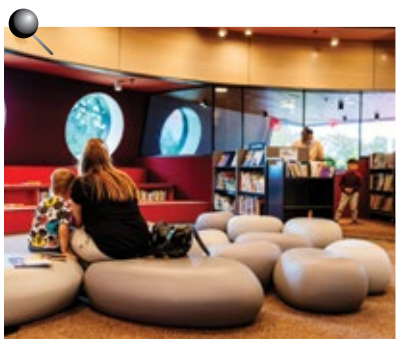
If your number plates have been stolen report the theft to the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.

To obtain a new set of plates from Vic Roads phone 131 171 for information. Don't forget to update your registration details with your insurance company, roadside assistance provider and toll road account.

**📍 Visit [police.vic.gov.au/safepl8](https://police.vic.gov.au/safepl8) for more information.**

# love your libraries

Libraries  
Change Lives



## Hands on with the Past



**Thursday 19 October**  
**3.30pm–4.30pm**  
**Dandenong Library**

See Greater Dandenong's rich history firsthand by viewing and handling special objects from the city's Civic and Cultural Heritage Collection.



Greater Dandenong Libraries offer a fantastic variety of free programs and activities across our Dandenong and Springvale branches for early years, youth and adults.

## Learn about your family history



**Tuesday 31 October**  
**1.30pm–2.30pm**  
**Springvale Library**

Uncover your unique past with Lauren, our Family History Librarian. Learn how to build your family tree with library databases Ancestry and Findmypast and discover the stories DNA can tell.

This session will be followed by a light afternoon tea.



## Seniors Festival

**There are lots of exciting activities on offer this October in celebration of the 2023 Victorian Seniors Festival.**

Come and learn some basic line dancing steps with the guidance of experienced line dancing instructor, Carmel Fox and volunteers.



**Coffee and line dancing**  
**Wednesday 18 October**  
**1.30pm–3.30pm**

**Springvale Library**

## Coffee and tech



**Wednesday 25 October,**  
**22 November and 13 December**  
**11.30am–12.30pm**

**Springvale Library**

Join us once a month at the Springvale Library and learn how to use tech devices from our friendly library staff.

Come along for a cuppa and meet new people to:

- ▶ learn more about how to use your mobile devices
- ▶ learn how to make video calls with your family
- ▶ learn how to connect with your friends from around the world through social media.

Once a month, our friendly community bus will pick you up from your home, take you to the library and home again. To book the free community bus please phone 1300 630 920.

## Art, Craft and Conversation

**Every fortnight on Wednesdays –**  
**25 October, 8 November, 22 November,**  
**6 December, 20 December**  
**6.30pm–8pm**  
**Springvale Library**

Everyone is welcome, simply bring along your own art and craft project and connect in conversation with other like-minded people.

Victorian public libraries change lives by offering communities a place to learn, create and belong.

Visit [libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events](https://libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events) or phone **1300 630 920** to find out more about library programs and activities.

## Stay safe with Narelle Fraser



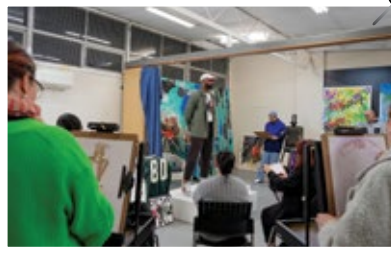
**Wednesday 25 October**  
**6.30pm–8pm**  
**Springvale Library**

Learn from an ex-detective about the best way to stay safe in your home as she shares stories from her professional experience.

## The Arts

### Garnar Lane Light Boxes

See work by local artist and illustrator Janine 'Neeni' Durston who is inspired by found objects, details found in nature and what nature discards. *Beachcombing* is a mixed media, illustrative collection on display in the Garnar Lane Light Boxes until Wednesday 8 November.



### Arts Opportunities Register

Council recognises the vital role arts play in our community and invites artists and creatives to register their details and express interest in potential projects in 2023-24.

Projects include:

- ▶ artists in residency
- ▶ art program facilitators (in person and online)
- ▶ public art
- ▶ exhibition opportunities (including Harmony Square Exhibition Windows and Garnar Lane Light Boxes).

➔ Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/arts-opportunities](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/arts-opportunities) to learn more.

## Great theatre, just down the road

Hosting more than 170 performances in front of over 60,000 people each year, there's bound to be a show for you at your local Drum Theatre.

### Sweet Mama

**Saturday 21 October**  
**1.30pm and Q&A post show**

Candy Bowers plays Sweet Mama, a superhero predestined to fight for her future and future generations. Bowers delves into the medical and socio-political nature of the greatest disease disproportionately affecting black and brown people globally, in Australia, and in her own family: Type 2 Diabetes.

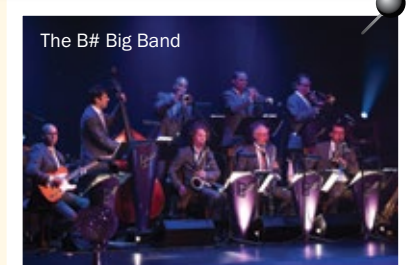
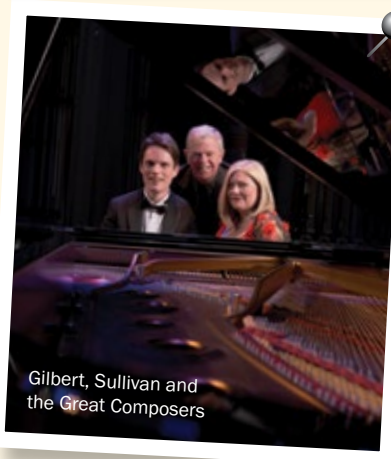
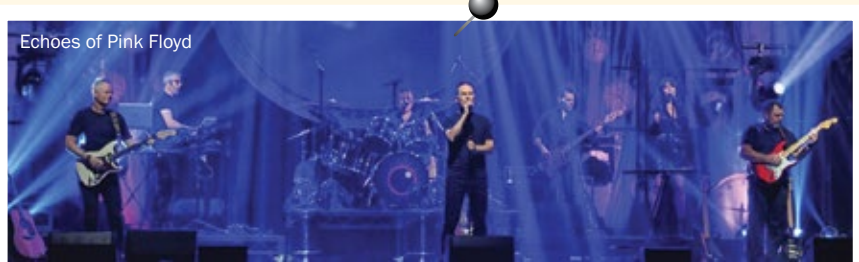


## Music That Moves You

Remember the most popular Gilbert and Sullivan musicals when ***Gilbert, Sullivan and the Great Composers*** hit the stage on Thursday 16 November at 10.30am.

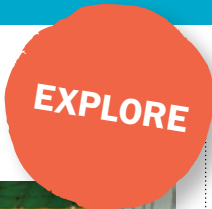
Relive a classic rock moment and join ***Echoes of Pink Floyd*** as they recreate Pink Floyd's Delicate Sounds of Thunder Tour on Friday 17 November at 8pm.

Australia's renowned B# Big Band will bring a swingin' taste of the 30s, 40s, 50s swing era, mingled with some Christmas cheer when the ***The B# Big Band - Christmas Cheer and Swingin' Classics*** performs on Thursday 7 December at 10.30am.



➔ Book your tickets now at [drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) or phone the Box Office on 8571 1666.

# Food and cultural tours



## Explore the diversity of Greater Dandenong on a food or cultural tour in the company of an expert.

Experience the Afghan Bazaar precinct in Dandenong through the gracious hospitality of a wide variety of traders. Visit specialty shops and gain an understanding of Afghanistan's long history with Australia, before enjoying a delicious meal in a local restaurant.

The next tour will be held on Thursday 26 October from 6–8pm at a cost of \$50.

Experience the wonderful smells, colourful sights and tantalising flavours of Victoria's first Little India Precinct in Dandenong. Learn about Indian history, culture, art and regional differences through sari, sweets and grocery shops. The tour concludes with a delicious meal at a local restaurant.

The next tour will be held on Saturday 25 November from 11am–1pm at a cost of \$50.



Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/food-tours](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/food-tours) for more information or phone 8571 1550 to make a booking.

## Parkmore Shopping Centre celebrates 50 years

The centre at 317 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough will mark 50 years of serving the Greater Dandenong community with a series of celebrations and special events throughout October.

Visit [parkmoreshopping.com.au](http://parkmoreshopping.com.au) for more information.



## Starting your small business workshop

**Tuesday 24 October, 5.30pm–8.30pm**  
**Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong**

Free event, bookings are essential.

Learn the essentials of establishing a small business and planning for success, including:

- ▶ identifying the structure to best suit your business
- ▶ choosing your business or company name and learning how to register it
- ▶ insuring your business and choosing the right premises or online platform
- ▶ creating a business overview to describe your business
- ▶ learning about products or services and what makes them unique
- ▶ creating an Action Plan to guide you in starting your business
- ▶ discovering additional resources.

If you require additional assistance to participate, please get in contact with Council's business team.

## Business Support

The Business Support Team offers a variety of services to support our local business community.

- Business communication, support, education, events, workshops
- Employment assistance
- Economic research and analysis
- Business permit support
  - a service to help navigate the permit process

✉ [Business@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:Business@cgd.vic.gov.au)

☎ 8571 1550

Scan the QR code to go to website



## From Dandenong to the Oscars

An award-winning drama that was partially filmed in Dandenong could feature at next year's Academy Awards.



*Shayda*, from Iranian-Australian debut writer-director Noora Niasari, has been announced as Australia's official submission for Best International Feature Film.

The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in January, where it won the World Cinema Audience Award. It also opened the 2023 Melbourne International Film Festival and closed the Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland.

The film tells the story of a young Iranian mother and her six-year-old daughter, who find refuge in an Australian women's shelter during the two weeks of Iranian New Year (Nowruz). Aided by the strong community of women at the shelter they seek their freedom in this new world of possibilities, only to find themselves facing the violence they tried so hard to escape.

The film is now showing in select cinemas.

## Community Art Show

The annual Noble Park Community Centre Art Show returns this month with something for everyone.

The grassroots art show is by the community for the community and celebrates all artists from those with years of experience to first timers.

Now in its 18th year the exhibition will have more than 500 artworks on display, with every piece available to purchase.

The free exhibition will be on display at the Noble Park Community Centre, Memorial Drive, Noble Park, from Friday 13 October to Saturday 15 October.

Visit [npccartshow.org](http://npccartshow.org) for more information.



## Financial counselling for those in need

**Financial counselling is a free, confidential and judgement-free service for people experiencing or at risk of financial hardship.**

Financial counsellors provide information, advice and advocacy to empower people to make informed choices. They work closely with clients to explore all their options.

If you or someone you know has a debt or bill that they are worried about, you could benefit from a confidential appointment with a financial counsellor.

For more information contact **Financial Counselling Victoria on 9663 2000** or visit [fcvic.org.au](http://fcvic.org.au) for more information.

## Health and wellbeing corner



**Being more active doesn't have to be hard or expensive. Here are some easy and fun ways to *Make Your Move*:**

- ▶ book exercise into your calendar
- ▶ take small movement breaks throughout the day
- ▶ walking is an easy way to increase your step count
- ▶ enjoy the great outdoors
- ▶ get active with technology – try a free online fitness video
- ▶ if you are having a phone catch up with friends or family walk around the house



- ▶ take your runners to work so you can walk in your breaks
- ▶ change to walking meetings instead of sitting in the boardroom
- ▶ make small changes to your everyday life to increase your physical activity
- ▶ being active together is a great way for families to bond.



For more information on how to improve your health and wellbeing through physical activity visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/make-your-move/how-make-your-move](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/make-your-move/how-make-your-move)

# AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

## Nominations now open

The Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards recognise individuals or groups whose outstanding work has made a positive contribution to the Greater Dandenong community.

**Do you know someone who is making a difference and deserves to be celebrated?**

### **Nominate now:**

[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/australia-day-awards](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/australia-day-awards)

Email [austday@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:austday@cgd.vic.gov.au)  
or phone 8571 1000 to find out more.

Nominations close on Friday 27 October at 12 midnight