

JULY 2021

Greater Dandenong Council News



Make Your Move outside this winter

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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

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www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



@greaterdandy



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



[cityofgreaterdandenong](https://www.instagram.com/cityofgreaterdandenong)



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



TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727
relayservice.gov.au



TIS: 131 450



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

Mayor's message

Welcome to the July edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

While our community still deals with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Council continues to support our community's most vulnerable and works to protect the health and safety of all our residents. Recently, we had a number of events, shows and activities cancelled or postponed due to changing restrictions.



It's important to note that the dates for events listed in this edition of Council News are correct at the time of publishing. As COVID-19 restrictions can change at any time, we ask that you please visit our website for the most up to date information. Phone numbers are also provided if you have any further questions. You can find out more about our COVID Safe measures on page 11.

Moving your body is the fastest way to warm up and boost your mood on a cold winter's day. If it's too cold and dark to walk before or after work, head out at lunchtime instead. Our city has beautiful outdoor spaces and tracks. Don't let the wet weather be an excuse not to move.

Climate change is here, and its impacts are already affecting our environment. Head to page 3 to see how Council is doing its part to reduce the impacts of global warming. Go to page 9 if you want to know more about recycling and how to reduce waste with simple, everyday lifestyle choices.

With the recent lockdown restrictions, I want to remind Greater Dandenong residents to be vigilant and maintain the social distancing practices and good hygiene that have helped protect so many in our community. You are doing a fantastic job, keep it up and stay safe.

Mayor
Cr Angela Long

My City



Deputy Mayor Cr Sophie Tan

Make Your Move by walking. Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sophie Tan, is pledging to walk as much as possible, utilising the many parks, reserves, and walking tracks within Greater Dandenong.

Walking for 30 minutes a day or more is a great way to improve and maintain your overall health.

Take advantage of the cooler days and make the most of your weekends by heading out for a long bushwalk, hike, or bike ride. One of the many benefits of regular exercise is boosting your immune system.

Front Cover: Tirhatuan Park in Dandenong North.
Picture: Thomas Barnes.



This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

Renewable energy future



Climate change is here, and its impacts are already affecting our environment, society and economy.

We all need to do much more to reduce the impacts of global warming. This means we need to focus on achieving zero net carbon emissions as well as preparing for the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

Recognising this, in January 2020 Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a 'Climate and Ecological Emergency' committing us to emergency action on climate change. By addressing climate change and taking advantage of the opportunities associated with becoming a zero-carbon city, the City of Greater Dandenong will benefit economically, socially and environmentally.

Council's 2020-30 Climate Emergency Strategy sought to demonstrate leadership through the establishment of key targets that included becoming a net zero carbon emission Council by 2025, using 100% renewable energy. In recent months, Council has taken significant steps towards achieving these targets by entering into two Renewable Power Purchase Agreements in collaboration with other Victorian Local Governments.

Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) are an increasingly popular and effective alternative to short term standard electricity retail contracts. When constructed correctly, they provide long-term energy price certainty, transparency, and reduced energy price volatility risk.

Greater Dandenong City Council is delighted to take these initiatives to secure a better future for both our current and future community.

Council Signs on to VECO

Greater Dandenong City Council is one of forty-six Victorian Councils to sign on to VECO, the Victorian Energy Collaboration, the largest ever carbon emission reduction project by local government in Australia.



Council's electricity to come from renewable sources

VECO, led by Darebin City Council in Melbourne's north, will provide 45 per cent of all Victorian Councils' electricity requirements with 100 per cent renewables, reducing greenhouse emissions by 260,000 tonnes of CO₂ every year. Provided by Red Energy, the 240GWh of clean power is equivalent to powering 48,000 homes with renewable energy or removing the emissions from 90,000 cars every year.

Mayor and staff blown away by the power of a renewable future

Council is another step closer to achieving our net-zero emissions targets after securing a long-term agreement to supply wind-powered electricity to our public lighting assets.

Council has entered into this PPA to supply the majority of its owned and operated public lighting assets with 100 per cent renewable energy. This PPA will provide renewable electricity for Council's buildings, including libraries and Town Hall. This PPA runs for 10 years and was a collaboration with over 10 other Victorian Councils.

In April, Mayor Angela Long, attended the Bald Hills Wind Farm with staff from Council in South Gippsland to see Council's electricity supply in full swing.

The Bald Hills Wind Farm has 52 wind turbines that are 80m tall with an energy generation capacity of 2 megawatts. The electricity provided is equivalent to removing 77,000 cars from our roads each year.

Glossary

Zero net carbon emissions: Causing no net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Zero-carbon city: Runs entirely on renewable energy so that it produces no greenhouse gas emissions from its use of energy.

Carbon Emissions: Man-made and are a result of the burning of fossil fuels and the manufacture of cement.

Clean power: Another term for renewable energy, is used to describe energy that comes from clean renewable sources rather than 'dirty' fossil fuels such as coal.

CO₂: Carbon dioxide – is an odourless and colourless gas naturally present in the earth's atmosphere at low concentrations (about 0.03 per cent). There are multiple sources for the carbon in the atmosphere, including the respiration processes of living organisms and the burning of organic matter containing carbon. Man-made sources of carbon dioxide come mainly from the burning of various fossil fuels for power generation and transport use.

Renewable energy: Energy from sources that can be naturally replenished, such as sunlight, wind, rain, waves, and geothermal heat.

Wind turbines: Wind turbines use wind to turn their propeller like blades to generate electricity.

Councillor Contacts



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Springvale North Ward
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Springvale South Ward
Cr Loi Truong
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Yarraman Ward
Cr Eden Foster
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eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au



Council Meetings

Council meetings are usually held on the second and the fourth Monday of the month at 7pm.

All Council meetings are held at the city chambers at the Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong.

The July meetings will be held:

Monday 12 July

Monday 26 July

Subject to COVID-19 restrictions the general public is welcome to attend meetings and can now ask their questions in person during Public

Question Time, but did you know you can watch Council meetings live via our webcast service?

You can keep up with all the latest decisions, hear questions from residents and find out the many ways your local councillors are serving the community.

To view meetings online or to find out more about Public Question Time simply go to greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

Safely sharing the road with cyclists

The Victorian Government recently made it mandatory for motorists to provide a minimum safe distance when passing cyclists on all Victorian roads.

Greater Dandenong City Council supports these changes and advises motorists to keep in mind the following distances when passing cyclists on the road:

- ▶ At least 1 metre on roads with speed limits of 60km/h and under
- ▶ At least 1.5 metres on roads with speed limits over 60km/h

Being courteous to our fellow road users, whether they be in a motor vehicle, on a bike or walking across the road results in a safer outcome for everyone.



Image above from Bicycle NSW



For more information, visit tac.vic.gov.au/road-safety

Cr Eden Foster

► Yarraman Ward



Hemmings Street car park improvements are coming along nicely. Works include new tree planting to provide more shade and new garden bed areas with low shrubs and ground covers to improve the visual amenity. This project is the next stage of the streetscape improvement works to the Hemmings Street Shopping Centre.

During Refugee Week last month, thousands of individuals, families, and organisations united to show their support and solidarity for refugees and people seeking asylum who have and continue to be mistreated by our nation's immigration policies. Amongst the many passionate participants involved was Greater Dandenong City Council, proudly representing the Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum.

Council's Youth Services COVID-19 research project showed that recovery will be a complex and long-term proposition. Through hearing from young people and parents or carers, it is evident that community issues within Greater Dandenong prior to COVID-19

have been further compounded by the pandemic. These include education and employment, mental health, social isolation and the settlement experiences of newly arrived migrants. We know that some cohorts of young people were more adversely impacted, including students transitioning from grade 6 to year 7, international students and newly arrived young people.

Council is already responding to these concerns. Later this year, we'll be hosting an employment 'boot camp' – a special one day event to help build youth job seeking skills. Youth and Family Services are working with a diverse and creative group of young people to create a youth-led awareness campaign. The group will be promoting tips for staying social and celebrating special events in a COVID safe way.

We also want to recognise and celebrate how resilient young people were in 2020. Council received 60 nominations for this year's Youth Showcase and we look forward to celebrating with these young people later in the year.

In May, Council celebrated National Volunteer Week to honour the amazing and selfless efforts of the wonderful



volunteers who make such a positive difference in Greater Dandenong. Though 2020 saw most of our volunteering activities suspended due to COVID-19, it is commendable how our volunteers were ready and willing to resume roles. If you aren't already involved in a voluntary organisation maybe now is the time to consider it, because when you give a little you gain a lot.



If you wish to discuss any Council matter, you can contact me on 0435 202 645 or email eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au

► Cleeland Ward



Earlier this year I had the great honour of witnessing the carving of the message tree in Dandenong Park.

The welcome to land was performed by Bunurong Elder Mik Edwards. The tree is a 100-year-old River Red Gum and the message was carved by the CEO of the Bunurong Land Council, Dan Turnbull.

To begin the process, a section of bark was removed from the tree which allowed the wood to be carved. The bark removed was used to make a shield in the traditional ways passed down through the generations of the Bunurong Elders.

The carving took quite a few hours and the result is magnificent. I encourage everyone to have a look at this Aboriginal artwork on the tree which is on the Lonsdale Street side of Dandenong Creek near the walking path that leads to the bridge.

I am excited about the building of the new Dandenong Wellness Centre, (new Oasis) that will be constructed in Mills Reserve, Dandenong, with completion expected in 2023–24. The Oasis will still operate until the new centre is opened so residents of Greater Dandenong will not be without the facilities that the Oasis brings to our community.

Cr Angela Long

Dandenong Hub is another project that is close to my heart, residents have been very patiently awaiting this project to begin for a long time. This is also expected to be completed by 2023–24.

I would encourage everyone that is eligible to have a COVID-19 vaccination to get it as soon as possible. I have had my first vaccination and I will have the second one later this month. I recently visited the new mass vaccination centre at Sandown Racecourse, it's pleasing to see such a great facility available locally.



If you need to contact me on any council related issues please do so on 0466 004 616.

2021–22 Budget

Greater Dandenong City Council's 2021–22 Budget has been developed during a time of anticipated recovery from the effects of COVID-19 across our community. There is still some uncertainty about the extent of COVID-19 after-effects and the pace at which activity levels will return to a new normal, particularly as a COVID-19 vaccine is rolled out in Australia. This Budget is well positioned for recovery.

COVID-19 has presented a fast-evolving, significant challenge to businesses, households, and the economy worldwide. Council has acted in the interest of keeping our community, residents and workforce safe. Council will continue to be responsive to the city's changing needs with guidance from State and Federal Governments in relation to the management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Across the 2019–20 and 2020–21 financial years, the forecast estimate for the impact of the pandemic is now north of \$17 million. Greater Dandenong Mayor Cr Angela Long said "the impacts are a mix of decisions made by Council to provide community relief and outcomes that are not under Council's control."

Despite the challenges of COVID-19 and rate capping, the 2021–22 Budget will deliver a capital works program of more than \$63 million. This includes more than \$20 million on asset renewal in the city. This builds on the strong investment over the past several years including the Springvale Community Hub, Dandenong Civic Centre and Library, redevelopment of the Dandenong Market, construction of the Noble Park Aquatic Centre and construction of Tatterson Park Community Sports Complex.

The challenge to fund the appropriate replacement of existing assets, such as roads, drains and buildings, is one that the City of Greater Dandenong shares with many other municipalities. "In our case, the challenge is beginning to become urgent as much of our key infrastructure was built in the 1960s and 1970s and will soon reach the end of their useful lives," Cr Long said.

This budget is well positioned for recovery, knowing there will continue to be challenges for the 2021–22 financial year. The budget strikes a good balance between ensuring Council continues to provide services and support to the community, and a capital spending program to provide much needed local infrastructure and stimulate local employment, businesses, and suppliers.

Key features of the 2021–22 budget:

- ▶ \$10.23 million: Keysborough South Community Hub development
- ▶ \$7.90 million: Ross Reserve, construction of new football pavilion
- ▶ \$4.20 million: Noble Park Aquatic Centre – Health and Wellbeing Gymnasium redevelopment
- ▶ \$3.67 million: Road Resurfacing Program
- ▶ \$3.30 million: Detailed design of the Dandenong Oasis Replacement
- ▶ \$3.00 million: Refurbishment of the Thomas P Carroll Reserve Crowe Pavilion
- ▶ \$1.39 million: Springvale Boulevard project construction
- ▶ \$1.18 million: Douglas Street streetscape upgrade



Different ways to pay your rates

Greater Dandenong City Council offers a number of options to pay your rates, including online or via instalments. You can even opt to receive your rates notice via email.

Simply register with BPay View or EzyBill to have your notice delivered directly to your inbox.

BPay View

Register with BPay View via your bank or financial institution to have a copy sent to your internet banking account. This method offers convenient email, SMS or bank message reminders and secure online or mobile access.



EzyBill

Visit greaterdandenong.ezybill.com.au to register your details. Once you have activated your account you can register your properties to receive any future rate notices via email.

If you register to receive your rates via one of these two options you will no longer receive a paper notice in the mail. However, if you want to continue to receive your rates notice via post you do not need to do anything, your rates notice will continue to be mailed to you.

Other ways to pay your rates include:

- ▶ Pay in person at any of Council's customer service centres or any Australia Post outlet
- ▶ Pay online via PostBillPay or BPay
- ▶ Pay by cheque which can be mailed to Council
- ▶ Pay over the phone using a credit card or via BPay using telephone banking
- ▶ Pay instalments via direct debit.

Visit mygreaterdandenong.com and use the online payment method to pay your rates or any other Council bills, such as animal registrations, infringement notices or permits.



**For assistance phone
8571 1000.**



A safe, inclusive space for the community

 **Springvale Community Hub is living up to its promise of becoming the new community heart of Springvale, providing the community with a safe and inclusive space for a range of activities.**

Since opening to the public gradually once restrictions eased in 2020, the hub has had 120,000 visitors through

its doors. Council has welcomed the positive feedback from members of the public and is proud the site is attracting the attention of industry leaders in design.

As the popularity of the hub continues to grow, patrons have reflected on the benefits of having such an accessible space that is truly welcoming and safe for all.

During consultation for the hub, the community told Council they wanted an area that was safe for them to enjoy. It's pleasing to see the initiatives put in place are achieving this goal. The precinct was designed with lots of exit

points, CCTV, and an emphasis on good lighting. Council also minimised places where people can hide, including ensuring plants won't impede views of patrons by selecting trees with high trunk lines.

The hub is accessible for all members of the community and offers programs during the day, night and weekends, making the safety features even more important.

July school holiday program bookings

Title: Chocolate Making
Branch: Dandenong Library
Date and time: Thursday 1 July 2.30–4pm

Make some delicious chocolates you can take home in a fun-filled and informative session with professional chocolatier, Sylvia from Sissy's Bix. Suitable for ages 12 to 25 years and bookings are essential.

Title: Smartphone Photography
Branch: Springvale Library
Date and time: Monday 5 July 2.30–4pm

Learn how to take shots on your smartphone or device with professional photographer, Don. Suitable for ages 12 to 25 years and bookings are essential.

Title: Zumba
Branch: Dandenong Library
Date and time: Tuesday 6 July 2.30–4pm


Feeling cooped-up and need to burn off some energy? Come along to Zumba and shake those sillies out with this fun fusion of exercise and dance. Suitable for ages 5 to 12 years and bookings are essential.


Title: Holly's Backyard Bees
Branch: Springvale Library
Date and time: Wednesday 7 July 2.30–3.30pm

Observe a real beehive in action with a unique opportunity for children to experience bees in a safe environment and foster a new sense of appreciation and awe for bees. Suitable for ages 5 to 12 years and bookings are essential.

Title: The Absolute Super Silly Magic Show
Branch: Dandenong Library
Date and time: Thursday 8 July 2.30–3.15pm

Join Steve the Magician when he opens his box of magic in the Super Silly Magic Show. This engaging 45-minute show involves the kids from the start to the very end. Suitable for ages 5 to 12 years and bookings are essential.

 **Phone 1300 630 920 during opening hours or register online via Council website.**

 Events are subject to COVID-19 restrictions. Visit our website for updates.

Youth Services

events & activities



Above and right: Volunteers from the FReeZA crew at the recent YouthFest event

Holiday Activities Committee – Term 3

Holiday Activities Committee (HAC) is an introductory leadership program for young people aged 12–16 years to help plan and deliver school holiday activities and participate as peer leaders. Young people will learn leadership, communication, teamwork skills and have the opportunity to build friendships.

Youth and Family Services will deliver the HAC program in Term 3.

HAC will be delivered every Monday, starting on 26 July from 4.30pm–6.30pm at Springvale Library.

FReeZA Committee – Term 3

Join our FReeZA Committee to help plan and deliver local youth community events and festivals. The committee is open for young people aged 12–25 years and meets during school terms. FReeZA will start every Thursday on 22 July from 4.30pm to 6.30pm at 39 Clow Street, Dandenong.



Performers call out

Are you aged 12–25? Do you have talents that you would like to showcase in the community?

Whether you're performing individually or in a group, we are always on the lookout for dancers, singers and DJs to showcase at our youth events.

➔ **Contact 9793 2155 or check our website at youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au for further information or to register for any of these opportunities.**

Pop. Lock. Stop sneak theft



Did you know that 7 in 10 cars are stolen with their own keys?

Greater Dandenong City Council has joined forces with the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council to raise community awareness on car theft prevention in the Stop Sneak Theft initiative.

In most car theft incidents, offenders sneak into homes through unlocked doors and windows and access keys without the owner knowing. This is called sneak theft. In 95% of incidents, there is no confrontation with the homeowner.

Council is working with Victoria Police and Neighbourhood Watch to promote the importance of car security and reduce sneak theft in Greater Dandenong.


Simple steps you can take to reduce your risk and stop vehicle theft include:

- ▶ POP keys out of sight
- ▶ LOCK all doors and windows and make sure everyone at home is doing the same
- ▶ STOP sneak theft
- ▶ Report any suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000) or your local police station.

➔ **For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/community-safety-and-wellbeing/preventing-car-theft or carsafe.com.au**

**POP.
LOCK.
STOP.**

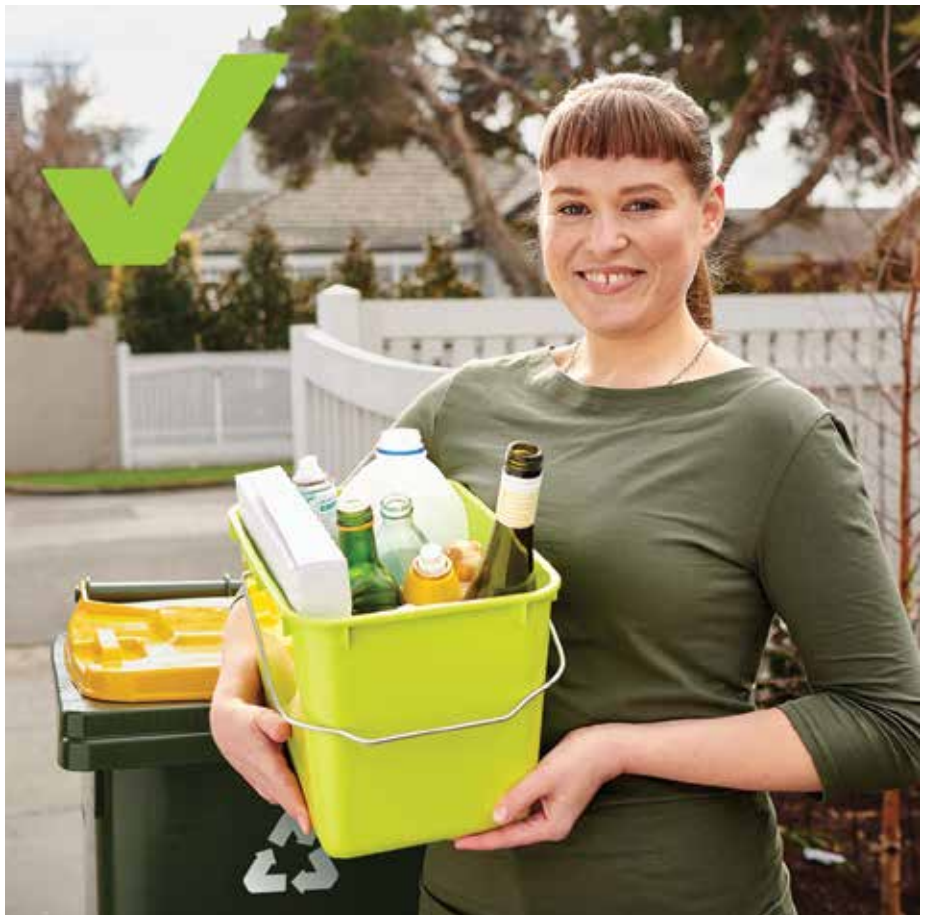
Know your recycling

 Our everyday lifestyle choices and habits such as online shopping, ordering take away food and grocery shopping create a lot of waste that we need to sort out at home. Habitually, people throw waste items away in the garbage bin when it can be recovered for recycling. Recycling at home is a great way to reduce your environmental footprint, and no matter how much space you have, there is an option for every household.

You might find yourself and members of your household wondering which is the right bin to put your waste in.

Here are some simple tips to help you save time and sort the most common items many people often get confused about.

1. Always remember to keep your recycling out of plastic bags and place your recyclables in your yellow lid bin loose
2. Only hard, rigid plastic containers and bottles are allowed in the yellow lid recycling bin
3. Soft plastics such as bread and pasta bags, frozen vegetable bags, chip packets and snap lock bags go into your red lid garbage bin. Alternatively, you can collect all of your soft plastics and take them to your local supermarket into the 'soft plastics' recycling bin on your next shopping trip.
4. Do the scrunch test – if you can scrunch the plastics in your hand, they don't go in the yellow lid recycling bin
5. Polystyrene packaging goes into the red lid garbage bin
6. Clothing and shoes don't go in the yellow lid recycling bin. Clothing in good condition can be donated at a local charity store or accepted as part of Council's annual Homecycle collection.



7. Food waste can go in your green lid food and garden waste bin. Make sure you have a good mix of garden waste with your food waste.

As well as following these simple rules, you can also search for specific items to find out which bin they belong in by visiting recycling.vic.gov.au.

We encourage you to get to know your recycling because what you do makes a huge difference.



To find out more about your recycling visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/waste

What's On July 2021

Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, the following events and opportunities are scheduled for July. Please check our website and social media for updates, as event dates may change or be offered virtually.



Thursday 1 July

- ▶ **Chocolate Making**
Dandenong Library
2.30pm

Friday 2 July

- ▶ **Love in the Time of Corona**
Drum Theatre
7pm

Saturday 3 July

- ▶ **Smartphones Stories Workshop**
Drum Theatre
9am–5pm
- ▶ **Love in the Time of Corona**
Drum Theatre
7pm

Monday 5 July

- ▶ **Smartphone Photography**
Springvale Library
2.30pm

Tuesday 6 July

- ▶ **Zumba**
Dandenong Library
2.30pm
- ▶ **Isaiah – Spirit and Beyond Tour**
Drum Theatre
8pm

Wednesday 7 July

- ▶ **Baby Bounce**
Dandenong Library
10.30am
- ▶ **Holly's Backyard Bees**
Springvale Library
2.30pm

Thursday 8 July

- ▶ **The Absolute Super Silly Magic Show**
Dandenong Library
2.30pm

Saturday 10 July

- ▶ **Smartphones Stories Workshop**
Drum Theatre
9am–5pm
- ▶ **Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella**
Drum Theatre
11am and 6pm

Sunday 11 July

- ▶ **Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella**
Drum Theatre
2pm

Monday 12 July

- ▶ **Council Meeting**
Dandenong Civic Centre,
225 Lonsdale Street
7pm

Tuesday 13 July

- ▶ **Possum Family Fun Playgroup**
Dandenong Library
1–2pm (every Tuesday)

Wednesday 14 July

- ▶ **Baby Bounce**
Dandenong Library
10.30am
- ▶ **Understanding the Australian Tax System**
Dandenong Library
6.30–8pm

Thursday 15 July

- ▶ **Encore: The Nutcracker (Medley)**
Drum Theatre
10.30am
- ▶ **Our Beat**
Drum Theatre
6.30pm
- ▶ **Paper Jewellery Workshop**
Dandenong Library
7.30pm



Saturday 17 July

- ▶ **Think Tank Session – WildlifeXposure – Native Animals**
Dandenong Library
3–4pm
- ▶ **Victorian State Ballet's, The Nutcracker**
Drum Theatre
7.30pm

Sunday 18 July

- ▶ **Victorian State Ballet's, The Nutcracker**
Drum Theatre
2.30pm

Tuesday 20 July

- ▶ **Possum Family Fun Playgroup**
Dandenong Library
1–2pm (every Tuesday)

Wednesday 21 July

- ▶ **FReeZA Committee**
39 Clow Street,
Dandenong
4.30–6.30pm

Thursday 22 July

- ▶ **unHOWsed**
Drum Theatre
7.30pm

Saturday 24 July

- ▶ **Think Tank Session – WildlifeXposure – Native Animals**
Springvale Library
3–4pm

Monday 26 July

- ▶ **Holiday Activities Committee**
Springvale Library
4.30–6.30pm
- ▶ **Council Meeting**
Dandenong Civic Centre,
225 Lonsdale Street
7pm

Tuesday 27 July

- ▶ **Possum Family Fun Playgroup**
Dandenong Library
1–2pm (every Tuesday)

Wednesday 28 July

- ▶ **Baby Bounce**
Dandenong Library
10.30am
- ▶ **Preparing for Tax Time 2021**
Dandenong Library
6.30–8pm

Thursday 29 July

- ▶ **Paper Flowers Workshop**
Dandenong Library
7.30pm



July

Friday 30 July

► **Our Story**
Drum Theatre
7pm

Saturday 31 July

► **The Australian Bee Gees Show – A Tribute to the Bee Gees**
Drum Theatre
8pm

Contact:

City of Greater Dandenong
Ph: 8571 1000

Drum Theatre
Ph: 8571 1666

Dandenong Library
Ph: 1300 630 920

Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens
Ph: 9793 4511

Jan Wilson Community Centre
Ph: 8571 1436

Springvale Library
Ph: 1300 630 920

Springers Leisure Centre
Ph: 9701 5900

Walker Street Gallery
Ph: 9706 8441

Dandenong Market
Ph: 9701 3850

Cultural Tours
Ph: 8571 1666



Following the easing of restrictions earlier this year, Council has taken a gradual approach to introducing in person services and events.

Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, Council offers a range of events and opportunities in person and online, following all COVID Safe practices and guidelines.

COVID-19 restrictions can change at any time, so we encourage all patrons to keep informed via our website and social media.

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



Keeping our community safe

To ensure we all stay safe while using Council facilities, events and programs, please continue to follow these COVID-19 directions:

- Follow check in procedures at venues
- Maintain social distancing
- Wash your hands

Please stay home if you are unwell and get tested if you have any symptoms as soon as possible.

Support services available

Council has a range of support services available to assist the community with COVID related requirements.

COVID Safety Officers have been employed at Council to support businesses and community groups with a range of requirements, including:

- COVID Safe Plans
- COVID requirements such as QR codes
- Community engagement
- Information about testing and vaccination
- Translated resources.

➔ **If you need support please email COVID19@cgd.vic.gov.au or call our customer service centre and a member of our team will assist you.**

What's on at Drum Theatre



We welcome you back to the beautiful Drum Theatre for part two of Season 2021.

Live performance is back, and it brings people together. The July to December season brings more professional live performances with a local flavour, a couple of national tours and some old fashioned-theatre magic.

We hope that you will be uplifted, inspired and moved. Please visit drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au for updates and current COVID-19 restrictions.

Love in the Time of Corona

Friday 2 July and Saturday 3 July, 7pm

Love in the Time of Corona is an innovative, exciting youth performance about the world of young people during the pandemic. It highlights the clash of cultures and identities while reflecting on the fragility of human emotion and our inter-connectedness, through social media and technology. Love in the Time of Corona has been locally written, and the cast are all from the local area. Produced in partnership with Drum Theatre, Love in the Time of Corona is heart-warming, satirical and hilarious – not to be missed by anyone who lived through 2020.



Love in the Time of Corona
Photo by Dandenong Star Journal

Workshop: Smartphone Stories

Saturday 3 July and 10 July, 9am–5pm

A two-day practical workshop in digital storytelling. Smartphone Stories is a fun, interactive project led by expert facilitators that teaches participants how to make films using a smartphone. During the introductory workshop you'll learn the skills to produce, write, direct and edit a film made entirely on a mobile phone.



Workshop: Smartphone Stories

Isaiah Spirit and Beyond

Tuesday 6 July, 8pm

Celebrate NAIDOC Week with the incredible voice, songs, story and spirit of Isaiah Firebrace and his band. Share in the wonder of Isaiah's dream-fulfilling journey from rural small town to X-Factor winner and representing Australia at Eurovision 2017. Isaiah's live show includes his original material and some of his favourite chart-topping songs.

The Nutcracker by Victorian State Ballet

Saturday 17 July, 7.30pm and Sunday 18 July, 2.30pm

Join Clara at her Christmas party, as she ventures into her Nutcracker prince's magical land. Delight at the famous sugar plum fairy pas de deux, breathtaking snow scenes, a beautiful Christmas tree and party surprises. With music by Tchaikovsky and glorious choreography, this delightful and powerful ballet will enchant children and grown-ups alike. It's a rich display of mesmerising classical ballet performed by stars of the Victorian State Ballet.



The Nutcracker by Victorian State Ballet

unHOWsed

Thursday 22 July, 7.30pm

More older women are experiencing homelessness than ever before. In *unHOWsed* these women take centre stage and shine a light on the unexplored territory of lives lived on the edge. Their real voices are strong and significant. In a series of poetic, non-linear and true narratives, they bare the emotional baggage that comes with homelessness.

unHOWsed is a multidisciplinary performance work about older women's homelessness drawn from their real experience, with pathos and humour. It is a very relevant and timely topic affecting increasing numbers of women. It is currently one of the fastest growing types of homelessness.



unHOWsed

Our Story

**Friday 30 July 7pm,
Sunday 1 August, 2pm and 6pm**

It's a story of young and old, the collision of cultures and peoples. It's the story of you and me; told through intercultural storytelling styles, dance, song, rap and most importantly, food. Our Story explores the things that bind us together as a community, the parts of our collective identity that transcend culture and language.

It is the first piece of independent theatre to be made in and presented by the Drum and will be the first of many local stories told in the theatre.

The Australian Bee Gees Show

Saturday 31 July, 8pm

After 25 years on the world stage and over 8000 performances in more than 60 countries, The Australian Bee Gees Show has evolved to become the definitive live celebration of the wonderful music written by the Brothers Gibb. The group was recently voted Best Tribute Show in Las Vegas by the prestigious Las Vegas Review Journal and has made the top 10 in the 'Overall Best Show' category, an amazing achievement in Las Vegas.

For one night you can be part of the magic.



The Australian Bee Gees Show

Shows are subject to COVID-19 restrictions. Visit our website for updates greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/arts-opportunities

Book Encore morning shows for the rest of the year

The Drum Theatre's Encore program is a series of matinee performances with complementary morning tea. A perfect catch-up for friends. The Drum Theatre has recently launched the July to December Encore shows. Book now and treat yourself with a special morning on the third Thursday each month. Find out more from the website or join our eNewsletter to be the first one to know.

- ▶ **The Nutcracker** by Victorian State Ballet, Thursday 15 July, 10.30am
- ▶ **Gone With the Wind** by Lux Radio Theatre, Thursday 19 August, 10.30am
- ▶ **Always Love The Music** by Roy Theaker, Thursday 16 September, 10.30am
- ▶ **Denise Drysdale**, Thursday 21 October, 10.30am
- ▶ **Piaf And Aznavour Back in Time**, Thursday 18 November, 10.30am
- ▶ **I'll Be Home for Christmas with Rhonda Burchmore**, Thursday 9 December, 10.30am

Arts and Culture Education Program

Arts in Greater Dandenong is launching a new Arts and Culture Education Program this month aimed at fostering a love of creativity and arts in schools. As well as offering excursions and tours to various cultural venues including Walker Street Gallery and the Drum Theatre, this program will look to support teachers by offering opportunities to further engage with the arts through workshops, professional development opportunities and resources.

Upcoming workshops include professional development for teachers with Polyglot Theatre, painting and sculpture workshops. To find out more, sign up to our quarterly education newsletter online.



Winning pitch for Greater Dandenong

Council welcomed recent announcements of significant investment for the local area.

As part of the Victorian Government's Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program, a synthetic soccer pitch will be developed in Ross Reserve, Noble Park and funding for the redevelopment of Burden Park Tennis Club has been granted.

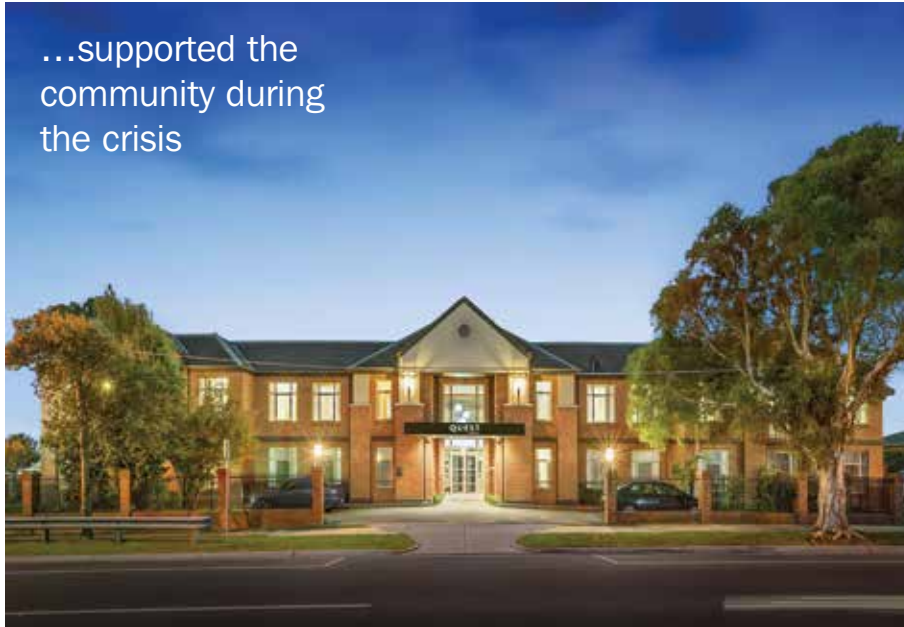
Mayor Angela Long said "We are thrilled to receive this funding which will have lasting benefits for the health of our community through new and improved sports facilities. There is significant work underway throughout our city, and in particular through the work of our Noble Park Revitalisation Board."

Council has received \$500,000 via the Victorian Government's Suburban Revitalisation Program which has contributed to the delivery of the All Abilities Playground and the Douglas Street streetscape upgrade.

The State Government has funded \$1.75 million for the soccer pitch, and \$1 million for the tennis club, which will be boosted by contributions from Council and the Burden Park Tennis Club.

Pictured above at Ross Reserve L-R: Springvale City Soccer Club President, Michael Omerovic; Mayor Angela Long; State Member for South Eastern Metro, Lee Tarlamis OAM MP; Sandown Lions Football Club Secretary Monica Nyanaath Tuagch and President Dieng Diu.

Entrepreneurial Quest for connection



...supported the community during the crisis

Like many accommodation providers, Quest Dandenong's traditional clientele is the corporate traveller which was scarce during 2020. So, like many businesses they investigated alternative markets to help fill their rooms.

Quest Dandenong found many of these new guest experiences to be mutually fulfilling. They brought some lovely people into the hotel who helped keep spirits up and provided some additional revenue for the business.

Here are a few examples of how the business connected with the community:

- ▶ Through their Local Heroes program, Quest Dandenong accommodated a volunteer worker and her dog from the Australian Animal Protection Society in Dandenong, who otherwise needed to commute for two hours daily to perform their important animal care work

- ▶ They took a number of stranded interstate workers under their wing and provided them with a home away from home while separated from loved ones
- ▶ In partnership with Dandenong Hospital, the hotel accommodated medical staff for extended periods
- ▶ The hotel hosted a large group of aged care nurses, who selflessly came down from Queensland at the peak of the virus to work at a local aged care facility
- ▶ They strengthened their relationships with several community welfare and care groups by providing crisis accommodation to a wide range of clients
- ▶ They also hosted a student from Victoria University completing a midwifery and nursing placement at Monash Health.

Given the circumstances of many of these bookings, they were provided at reduced rates.

This provided some utilisation of rooms, but more importantly created employment opportunities, lifted staff morale and supported the community during the crisis.



Good deed for Good Friday appeal

Greater Dandenong's very own local celebrity, Robert Boyle of Rob's British Butcher went to great heights to take part in the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal earlier this year.

Neil Mitchell from 3AW ran a special fundraising event on the Melbourne Observation Wheel. The concept was to raise \$5000 for the Royal Children's Hospital where participants don't get off the wheel until the dollars were raised.

Rob had only 24 hours to prepare for the challenge. The team from Rob's British Butcher engaged supporters through social media and made many calls to their suppliers, their customer base and all their networks from across Melbourne to donate.

With a mix of large and small donations received, Rob's fundraising efforts quickly amounted to \$7000 shortly after stepping onto the wheel. By the end of the day Rob raised over \$18,000 with a mulching business from Pakenham donating a generous \$10,000.

Congratulations to Rob and his team for taking part and the many supporters contributing to the appeal. This is another demonstration of the generosity and spirit of our local business community who think of others even when they themselves may be going through troubling times.

The Open Door

**Time for something new?
Do you enjoy writing?
There's a small creative
writing group meeting
once a month at The
Open Door, a centre
for creative spirituality
in Dandenong.**



The Open Door is a ministry of the Sisters of St John of God. Operating from 110 Ann Street, Dandenong from a little house, the Open Door offers a creative writing group for interested community members.

Everyone is welcome and no previous writing experience is necessary. All you need is a pen, paper, a gold coin donation and the desire to write and make new friends. The group meets every second Thursday of the month between 10am–12pm.

➔ Please call 9791 8664
to book in or email
theopendoor@ssjg.org.au

Community News



RSL South East

RSL South East is looking for interested residents in Greater Dandenong to be involved in a new community support group 'Friends of RSL South East'. Like many people, Local RSL branches have suffered through the pandemic which is the reason for starting this new support group to assist where required.

➔ If you would like to join
or find out more, please
contact [gordonalan194@
gmail.com](mailto:gordonalan194@gmail.com)



Get your COVID-19 vaccination at Sandown Racecourse

The second of the Monash Health high-volume vaccination centres is now open at Sandown Racecourse. Following the successful opening of Cranbourne Turf Club, the South East Public Health Unit is expanding its reach for members of the public to have their COVID-19 vaccination.

Mayor Angela Long attended the clinic on opening day with Cr Sean O'Reilly and said it is an exciting development for Greater Dandenong residents who can now access the free vaccination program locally.

"It was great to visit this facility and hear about the great work Monash Health are doing, with the aim to vaccinate as many of our eligible community as safely and quickly as possible. Vaccination is an important step for us to get back to the way of life we love and protect vulnerable members of our community from the serious health consequences of COVID-19."



Cr Sean O'Reilly receiving COVID-19 vaccine

The centre at Sandown Racecourse will be open from 9am to 5pm every day, including weekends. To avoid delays or disappointment, booking an appointment before attending the centre is highly recommended. Walk-ins are accepted between 9am and 3pm daily, but you may have to wait for an immuniser to become available. To book, please call 1800 675 398.

There is free parking on site, which is accessed via the Princes Highway, and the nearest train station is Sandown Park. Accessible parking is also available for permit holders.

➔ For more about the
vaccination process, making
a booking and how to get to
the centre, please visit
sephu.org/covid-vaccination/



HEAL COUNTRY!

4-11 JULY 2021



Greater Dandenong has a proud connection with its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Council will hold community celebrations during NAIDOC Week (4–11 July) to help honour this relationship.

The theme for this year's NAIDOC Week celebrations is Heal Country! This calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

To find out what is happening in Greater Dandenong visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/naidoc-week

