

MAY 2022

Greater Dandenong Council News



Introducing Our Junior Mayor

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Priorities**

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**Thank You
Volunteers**

▶ PAGE 14

 **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
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www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

[@greaterdandy](https://twitter.com/greaterdandy)

facebook.com/greaterdandenong

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

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

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 May 2022 edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

We are a proud child-friendly city, so it is a pleasure to introduce our new Junior Mayor, Mya Durakovic. Mya was elected by her Children's Advisory Group peers. I look forward to working with Mya and the group throughout the year, so our children's voices are heard, learn more on page 6.



We are advocating for our strategic election priorities to federal and state political candidates in the lead up to this year's elections. Read more about our key priorities on page 3.

The Budget, Council Plan, Community Engagement Framework, and several key strategies are out for public consultation this month – be sure to have your say, learn more on page 8.

From 16 May, National Volunteer Week takes place and we thank our Greater Dandenong volunteers for their tireless and selfless work, our tribute to them is on page 14.

Best wishes to those celebrating Mother's Day on Sunday 8 May and all the best for the month ahead.

**Mayor
Cr Jim Memeti**

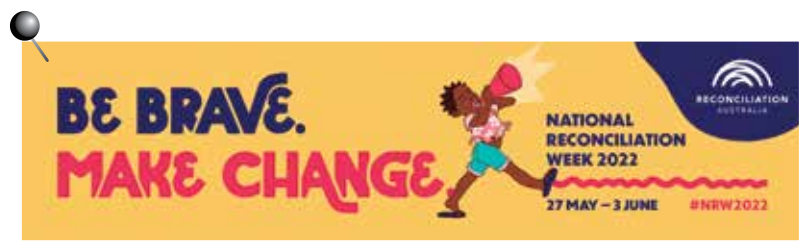
My City

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

National Reconciliation Week is from 27 May to 3 June annually.

The 2022 theme is *Be Brave. Make Change.*

Council recently launched the *Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2021–23* and will hold a reconciliation event on 27 May, visit Council's website for more information.



Acknowledgement

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

Front cover: Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti with Junior Mayor Mya Durakovic.
Photo by Hilton Stone.



This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

Our election advocacy priorities

KEY
STRATEGIC
PROJECTS



An artist's impression of the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre's main pool hall.



Greater Dandenong City Council is advocating to federal and state

government candidates to seek funding support to realise key strategic projects that will make our region an even better place to live, work and visit.

Council has a great record of converting government funds into significant outcomes.

Here is what we are seeking from federal and state governments in 2022:

- ▶ **Dandenong Wellbeing Centre** – \$20 million funding commitment (approximately 24 per cent of the total project cost) to address the health and wellbeing of one of Victoria's most multicultural and disadvantaged communities.
- ▶ **Dandenong Sports and Events Centre** – major funding support to progress the detailed planning, design and development of this centre.
- ▶ **Refugee Status Determination** – replace the existing system with a single Refugee Status Determination process and an independent, timely

and fair merits review. Replace Temporary Protection Visas with a permanent humanitarian visa. Increase funding to urgently clear the backlog of asylum applications and appeals. Provide access to Centrelink, Medicare and other support services for applicants. Provide funding to local services who are supporting individuals and families seeking asylum.

- ▶ **Social and affordable housing** – increase funding of the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement for affordable housing and social housing. Increase Commonwealth Rent Assistance payments to low income renters. Ensure liveable income is made available to people seeking asylum. Fund the construction of a bespoke crisis accommodation facility in Greater Dandenong for women and children experiencing family violence.
- ▶ **Sustainability** – electrification of Council's buildings and assets to phase out natural gas across Council's assets. Set up Council assets for future 'virtual power plant' schemes in which excess renewable electricity generated by on-site solar can be shared throughout the community. Electrification and energy efficiency upgrades across

Greater Dandenong's industrial sector. Purchase electric fleet vehicles. Installation of electric vehicle fast chargers at Council's assets and across the municipality.

- ▶ **Transport infrastructure** – fund the extension of planned shared user paths that have a benefit for commuters and recreational users, i.e. the extension of the Djerring Trail between Yarraman and Dandenong; the planned Cranbourne rail corridor path between the Dandenong South industrial area and the central Dandenong activity centre; and the EastLink trail bridge.

Contact your local candidate to let them know what matters to you and our Greater Dandenong community in this year's federal and state elections.

▶ **For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/advocacy**

Councillor Contacts



Dandenong Ward – Mayor
Cr Jim Memeti
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Yarraman Ward – Deputy Mayor
Cr Eden Foster
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Keysborough South Ward
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Noble Park North Ward
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Springvale Central Ward
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Springvale North Ward
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sean.oreilly@cgd.vic.gov.au



Springvale South Ward
Cr Loi Truong
0466 004 618
loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au

www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



Council Meetings – now open to the public

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

Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- ▶ Monday 9 May 2022
- ▶ Monday 23 May 2022.

With COVID-19 restrictions easing, the gallery is open again to the public.

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.

Access to the public car park below the Civic Centre remains closed until further notice as an ongoing COVID-19 safety precaution. Council apologises for any inconvenience. Accessible parking is available in Lonsdale Street, at the front of the Civic Centre.

➤ **To check the agenda, to view meetings online or to find out more about Public Question Time visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings**

▶ Yarraman Ward



It is great to see our wonderful city flourishing once again after what has been a challenging period for us all.

After bringing it to Council's attention in 2020–21 as part of my Capital Improvement Program bid, I am pleased to see plans are underway to make streetscape improvements along the Railway Parade Shopping Centre. Community consultation has been completed and will be considered when putting plans together.

As part of the Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation project, the Victorian Government will invest \$680,000 in the lan Street streetscape project to deliver new public lighting, street furniture and landscaping, as well as the relocation of powerlines along the retail and dining strip.

Vital drainage works are underway along Callander Road, which will address the overflow of rainwater. These works will be very welcome given the rainfall we have already had this year and will reduce damage caused by any possible flooding in the area.

I encourage everyone to get involved with Council's *Make Your Move* strategy. Parkrun at Dandenong Park is held

Cr Eden Foster Deputy Mayor



every Saturday morning and is a great way to get more active. My personal best so far is 36 minutes for a 5km run/walk, an improvement on 41 minutes and 40 minutes for my first two attempts. It would be great to see more of our city's residents getting involved.



Please feel free to contact me at any time on 0435 202 645 or eden.foster@cgd.vic.gov.au

Cr Sean O'Reilly

► Springvale North Ward



The Nullawil Street Neighbourhood Shopping Centre adjacent to Police Road has undergone streetscape improvements and has been well-received by visitors and traders in the area.

Council has planted street trees along the footpath to increase shade cover and installed a new garden bed with trees and groundcover plantings.

The widening of a section of the footpath has also allowed for new bench seats to be installed, giving visitors the chance to sit down and enjoy the surrounds. I hope to see our local community continuing to support the small businesses in this area.

I thank everyone for their patience during the process and look forward to seeing the trees flourish over time.

Patience has become a common theme among many projects, as we are still feeling the impact of the pandemic, which is continuing to cause delays in deliveries and the supply chain. Supplies



for the new local Turner Reserve playground are on their way, and construction will begin later in the year.

As your local ward Councillor, I will ensure that residents are informed with the most current information as our projects and consultations continue to progress.



You can contact me by phone on 0422 523 258 or sean.oreilly@cgd.vic.gov.au

► Keysborough Ward

Cr Tim Dark



Improvements across Keysborough are continuing and will create more opportunities to enjoy enhanced sports and recreational spaces.

Council has planted many trees and small plants throughout Fredrick Wachter Reserve as part of the masterplan to expand the wetlands and improve the park's water quality and biodiversity. These landscape works will improve the quality of life and natural habitat for our native wildlife.

The first stage of Fredrick Wachter Reserve's new boardwalk has also commenced, with pylons installed in early April. The boardwalk will run around the wetlands and residents and visitors will soon be able to enjoy a safe walking track without disturbing the flora and fauna.

The reserve's new playground, which will include junior and senior play zones as well as water and sand play facilities, is anticipated to begin construction of stage one works in late May. The playground will also be covered by shade, allowing children to play safely no matter the weather.

Rowley Allan Reserve upgrades are also underway, beginning with the refurbishment of the netball courts. New courts, new lighting and player's shelters are to be completed by the end of this month, subject to weather conditions. These works kick off Council's vision to make the reserve a high standard multi-purpose sporting space for cricket, Australian Rules Football, lawn bowls and netball.

I look forward to seeing sports enthusiasts, young and old, coming together to enjoy the first stage of upgrades at the Rowley Allan Reserve and look forward to hearing community feedback.



You can contact me on 0466 403 914 or tim.dark@cgd.vic.gov.au



Children's Advisory Group



Our new Junior Mayor

Keysborough Gardens Primary School Captain and Grade 6 student, Mya Durakovic has been elected Junior Mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong.

Mya is thrilled to receive the recognition and said it is an honour and so important that Council seeks a child's perspective on any issue.

"I am excited to be elected Junior Mayor by my peers in the Children's Advisory Group and feel it is so important to listen to my peers and be a voice of my generation," said Mya.

Fourteen members of Council's Children's Advisory Group applied to be Junior Mayor and gave a speech presenting their ideas for the year ahead and why it is important for Council to have a Junior Mayor. Mya received the most votes for the leadership position from her fellow advisory group members.

Council's Children's Advisory Group for 2022 has 34 students from 17 primary schools, with two students from each school.

City of Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti, congratulated Mya on her election as Junior Mayor.

"Mya is an impressive young person and will make a difference in our community this year. I look forward to working with her and the members of the Children's Advisory Group to achieve our community's vision for Greater Dandenong and the objectives of our Council Plan.

Junior Mayor,
Mya Durakovic

"As a child-friendly city, we are committed to supporting children and their families and providing opportunities for them to engage within the community and to have their voices heard," said the Mayor.

The role of the Junior Mayor aims to provide a local primary school student with the opportunity to learn more about how local government works and the democratic process, to build their leadership skills and to share their voice on Council and community issues.

The Children's Advisory Group meet twice per term and are supported by Council's Children's Services team, participating primary school teachers and staff from Mission Australia Communities for Children. The group will consult with various Council departments throughout the year to discuss issues impacting the community, local facilities, activities in Greater Dandenong, and Council's ongoing commitment as a child-friendly city.

Creating compost in your own backyard



International Composting Awareness Week (1-7 May) is held annually to

celebrate and encourage the use of compost in local communities to improve or maintain high quality soil, grow healthy plants and to protect our natural environment.

Up to half of the average household red lid garbage bin contains food and garden waste. It is important to compost this waste, such as fruit and vegetable scraps, to help decrease household waste, reduce what is sent to landfill and to reduce Australia's carbon footprint.

In January, Council introduced the compost rebate program. In celebration of International Composting Awareness Week, and to support Greater Dandenong residents who want to start composting at home, we have partnered with Compost Community to offer compost bins, worm farms or Bokashi bins at a discounted price.

Get the whole family involved in turning your backyard into a leafy oasis. By using these composting systems, you can turn your old food scraps into rich natural fertiliser and compost that can be used in your garden and pot plants.

This is a new service and Council is pleased to offer this to residents who have a green lid bin. Get in quickly and place your order by visiting greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/other-waste-and-recycling-options/compost-bins-and-worm-farms.

If you need support on how to kick off your composting journey, Council is hosting several free workshops during International Composting Awareness Week.

Online and in-person workshops will teach you all about composting, worm farms and Bokashi, including how you can most effectively compost and start a worm farm at home.



To find out more visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/events



Maternal and child health nurse Sandy with local family.

Maternal and Child Health Outreach Program



Council's maternal and child health service is free to all families living in the City of Greater Dandenong with children under five years.

The service provides valuable health information, parenting support and wellbeing assessments for children during which nurses check their growth, physical health and development.

An enhanced outreach program is also available for families who have additional needs and may be vulnerable in our community.

Maternal and child health nurse Sandy recently joined the outreach enhanced program after spending time working in remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. Sandy has extensive experience and now works four days per week for Council.

She connects with families to provide support in the location that best meets the needs of the child and their family. This can include visits to their home, kindergarten, or childcare centre, as some families are unable to visit their local maternal and child health centre.

Over the last few months, Sandy has been working closely with AMES and Refugee Health at Monash to support newly arrived families from Afghanistan. She supports them with their transition to their new home and helps connect them to other local support services.

We welcome all Greater Dandenong families to reach out and connect with your local maternal and child health nurse. If your child needs an appointment, please phone 8571 1880.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/maternal-and-child-health



CELEBRATE

Go rainbow on 17 May

Tuesday 17 May is International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT), a significant day that celebrates LGBTIQIA+ people globally, and raises awareness for the work still needed to combat discrimination.

On May 17 1990, the World Health Organisation removed homosexuality from the Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems.

Council is working towards improving the inclusion, recognition and community understanding of our LGBTIQIA+ residents and visitors.

For more information visit idahobit.org.au



For local resources and support services visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/LGBTIQIplus

Changes to public open space levy



Council is proposing to increase the public open space contributions levy for developments that subdivide land in Greater Dandenong. The one-off levy applies when two or more additional lots (to an existing lot) are created.

These changes are required to help ensure the quality and amount of open space (parks and reserves) meet the needs of residents, visitors and future generations as identified in the *Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy 2020-30*.

This change is to be introduced through an amendment to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme known as Amendment C228.

Written submissions on these proposed changes can be made to Council by Friday 20 May 2022.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say or phone the Strategic Planning Department on 8571 1000.



Yarraman Station Car Park



The Victorian Government's Car Parks for Commuters Program is building new and upgraded parking at stations across the state. This will free up local streets and make it easier for passengers to catch the train.

Yarraman Station commuters will soon benefit from 55 new and upgraded parking spaces. New lighting, CCTV and bicycle parking will be installed to

make it safer for commuters and more convenient for people to ride to the station and further ease pressure on car parking.

Works at the station have begun and are to be completed by late 2022.



For more information visit carparks.vic.gov.au or phone 1800 105 105.

Have your say this May



Council values the ideas and opinions of our community and wants you to be part of our planning and decision-making processes.

There are several key strategic documents being developed to help shape the future of our city. We want to hear what you think about our direction.

Council has completed extensive consultation in the last two years on many topics. Community feedback has created a new community vision and influenced the four-year Council Plan. This feedback has also helped Council draft other strategies and plans to ensure we are working towards the key goal of making the City of Greater Dandenong a home for all.

Visit the *Have Your Say* page on our website and share your thoughts and ideas on our current consultations:

- ▶ Community Engagement Framework
- ▶ revised Council Plan and Annual Plan
- ▶ Budget, Long-Term Financial Plan and Asset Plan
- ▶ Arts and Cultural Heritage Strategy
- ▶ Libraries Strategy.



For more information and to get involved visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say

Greater Dandenong Community Safety Forum

We want to hear from you about community safety in Greater Dandenong.



Come and meet your local Councillors, Council staff and local Victoria Police members and share your ideas.

When: Thursday 19 May 2022

Time: 6.30pm–8pm

Where: Ian Tatterson Pavilion



For more information please contact Jo Thorn on 8571 5230 or email jo.thorn@cgd.vic.gov.au

Residents with immediate concerns don't have to wait until the Community Safety Forum to raise issues. Contact Council on 8571 1000 or your Ward Councillor at any other time.

Boosting Against COVID-19

Booster vaccinations to help prevent the spread and severity of COVID-19 are readily available at the Dandenong Plaza Walk-In Vaccination Clinic and the Sandown Racecourse Vaccination Centre.

Third dose vaccination rates across Greater Dandenong currently sit at 45 per cent. We thank those who have already had their COVID-19 boosters and we encourage those who are yet to get theirs to visit a vaccination clinic.

Please continue to keep your community safe.



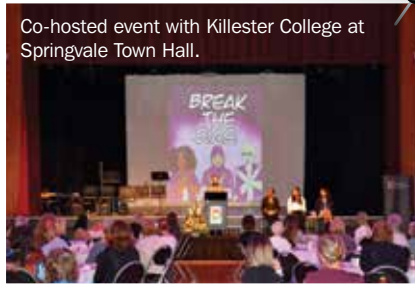
For more information visit sephu.org



Felicity Furey at The Drum Theatre.



Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre event.



Co-hosted event with Killester College at Springvale Town Hall.

Break the bias

Council recently celebrated International Women’s Day and the incredible contributions made by women throughout our municipality by holding several community events.

The campaign theme for this year was #BreakTheBias.

Throughout Greater Dandenong we promoted the importance of a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated.

We can break the bias in our communities. We can break the bias in our workplaces. Together, we can all break the bias. Knowing that bias exists isn’t enough, action is needed to level the playing field.

Council is finalising its Gender Equality Action Plan, currently 63 per cent of staff and 45 per cent of Councillors are female.



For more information visit internationalwomensday.com

Active Families

Council received \$50,000 from the Department of Health to run a physical activity and wellbeing project in local schools for migrant and refugee families.

The aim of the *Active Families* project was to create behavioural change, teach skills and provide opportunities for local families to embed new habits into their daily life at low cost.

Council engaged the Bluearth Foundation to run the six-week physical activity and wellbeing program with between 80-100 participants from Rosewood Downs Primary School, Dandenong North, St Anthony’s Primary School, Noble Park, Dandenong West Primary School, Dandenong, and Woorana Park Primary School, Dandenong North.



Rosewood Downs Primary School

Students and their families were invited to participate in activities they sometimes helped co-design to get active and to have fun. They played touch tag (rated the most fun by all participants), completed movement challenges, played games involving outdoor equipment, and took part in opportunities for reflection to promote mindfulness and connection.

“The Active Families program is really fun. The games are so fun, I now play them with my sisters at home after school and on the weekends,” said Grade 5 student Laura, age 10, from Rosewood Downs Primary School.

Immunisation sessions – May



Immunisation sessions are held every month for residents in a COVID safe environment.

The sessions are free and provide important vaccinations to prevent diseases such as Whooping Cough, Hepatitis, Tetanus, Pneumococcal Pneumonia, Measles and Meningococcal disease. The Influenza vaccination is also recommended and available for all children from six months to five years of age.



Bookings are required for your child’s immunisations.




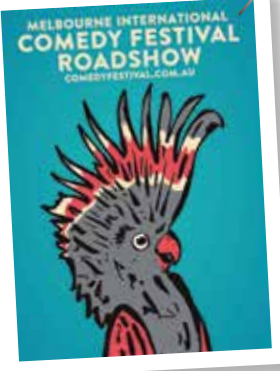
Date	Location
Monday 2 May	Springvale City Hall, Supper Room, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale
Thursday 5 May	Jan Wilson Community Centre, BJ Powell Reserve, Halton Road, Noble Park North
Thursday 12 May	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)
Wednesday 18 May	Springvale City Hall, Supper Room, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale
Tuesday 24 May	Paddy O’Donoghue Centre, 18-34 Buckley Street, Noble Park
Saturday 28 May	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)



To make an appointment visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation. If you need further assistance, please phone Council on 8571 1000.

What's On May 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
30	31	 Please check our website and social media for updates, as event dates may change or be offered virtually.	
 <p><i>Business Workshop</i> <i>Wednesday 18 May</i></p>	<p>Yoga sessions 3 May – 2 June</p> <p>Six-week yoga program delivered on Tuesdays and Thursdays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Noble Park Community Centre 6pm – 6.45pm <p>To register visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/keep-calm-and-yoga</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am – 12.30pm ▶ Code Club – Lego Mindstorms Springvale Library 4pm – 5.30pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Portraiture: Technique and the Secrets of Colour Part 2 Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre 10am – 12pm ▶ Libraries After Dark – Camera-less Image Making Dandenong Library 7.30pm – 9pm
9	10	11	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Your Relationship with Money – Financial Literacy Workshop Dandenong Library 6.30pm – 8pm ▶ Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Introduction to Life Drawing – Part 1 Online via Arts in Greater Dandenong 6.30pm – 8pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am – 12.30pm ▶ Code Club – Lego Mindstorms Springvale Library 4pm – 5.30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ GRID Series – ELAURA Dandenong Library 7.30pm – 9pm ▶ Libraries After Dark – Pop-up Reading Circle Springvale Library 7.30pm – 9pm
16	17	18	19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Superannuation and Tax – Financial Literacy Workshop Dandenong Library 6.30pm – 8pm <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>16–22 May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Volunteer Week </div>	<p>INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, BIPHOBIA, INTERPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA (IDAHOBIT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Introduction to Life Drawing – Part 2 Online via Arts in Greater Dandenong 6.30pm – 8pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am – 12.30pm ▶ Code Club – Lego Mindstorms Springvale Library 4pm – 5.30pm ▶ Starting Your Small Business – Business Workshop Springvale Library 5.30pm – 8.30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Always Love the Music Drum Theatre 10.30am – 11.45am ▶ Greater Dandenong Community Safety Forum Ian Tatterson Pavilion 6.30pm – 8pm ▶ GRID Series – Jacki Tut Dandenong Library 7.30pm – 9pm
23	24	25	26
<p>WORLD TURTLE DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Debt, Scams and Financial Abuse – Financial Literacy Workshop Dandenong Library 6.30pm – 8pm ▶ Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am – 12.30pm ▶ Neighbourhood Watch Greater Dandenong Q&A Information Session with Victoria Police Paddy O'Donoghue Centre 7.30pm 	<p>NATIONAL SORRY DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Online Bookclub The DandEreaders 2pm ▶ Our Beat Drum Theatre 6.30pm – 10pm 

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	<p>Saturdays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Parkrun Dandenong Park 8am 	<p>1-7 May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► International Composting Awareness Week
	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Melbourne 7-Melody Notes presents Mother's Day Drum Theatre 4.30pm-7pm 	<p>8</p> <p>MOTHER'S DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Tamil Puththaandu Vizha 2022 and Kalai Vizha Drum Theatre 5pm
<p>12-14 May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Paradise Lots – performances Car park, 250 Thomas Street, Dandenong 7pm-8pm 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>15-21 May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► National Families Week
<p>20</p> <p>WORLD BEE DAY</p> 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow 2022 Drum Theatre 7.30pm-9.45pm 	<p>22</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► In Situ performances, art installations and events visit: greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/in-situ
<p>27</p> <p>27 May-3 June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► National Reconciliation Week 		<p>Save the date – June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Emerging Writers' Festival Dandenong and Springvale Libraries Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries-whatson

- 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 and Arts Centre**
Ph: 9706 8441
 - Dandenong Market**
Ph: 9701 3850
 - Cultural Tours**
Enquiries: 8571 1550
Bookings: 8571 1666

To submit your event for our website and Council news visit: greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/promote-your-event



Arts in Greater Dandenong

Portraiture: Technique and the Secrets of Colour Part 2

Thursday 5 May
10am–12pm
 Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre

In an age of photography, why paint a portrait? Join award-winning artist Andrew Mezei in this workshop that focuses on painting with colour – controlling colour use, creating depth and exploring the emotional elements of colour.

Please note: part 1 of this workshop is on 28 April.

Introduction to Life Drawing

Part 1–Tuesday 10 May
6.30pm–8pm, online

Part 2–Tuesday 17 May
6.30pm–8pm, online

Anyone can sketch from a picture but it's a whole other experience when you have a professional model posing live on screen. *Introduction to Life Drawing* is an inclusive online life drawing experience from the comfort of your home or studio.

Hosted by Artist Jean-Luc Syndikas who runs Melbourne based collective 'Top Secret Life Drawing'.

Arts Online

Come join our online creative programs and experience a range of workshops that you can participate in at home.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/arts-online/workshop-videos



Image from QuickArts – papier-mâché picture frames tutorial, created by Kitiya Palaskas.



MUSICAL CONCERT

What's on at The Drum Theatre

Melbourne 7-Melody Notes presents Mother's Day

Saturday 7 May
4.30pm–7pm

A musical concert for Mother's Day, featuring 7 Melody String Quartet, Chinese ensemble music, Chinese traditional dance, Cantonese songs and opera, and other guest performances.

Tamil Puththaandu Vizha 2022 and Kalai Vizha

Sunday 8 May
5pm

A celebration for Harvest Festival, also known as Tamil New Year. The event will feature various young talents from all over Victoria, performing traditional bharatanatyam, musical segments, drama, speeches and awards.



Paradise Lots – performances

Thursday 12 May–Saturday 14 May
7pm–8pm

Paradise Lots is a community-driven performance project in which a group of young people transform a multi-storey car park into a large-scale performance space.

Always Love the Music

Thursday 19 May
10.30am–11.45am

The amazing Roy Theaker and his band present a dynamic and energetic show of a range of musical genres that will excite, delight and amuse.

This performance is part of the Drum's Encore Program. All Encore tickets include complimentary morning tea and a parking voucher.

Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow 2022

Saturday 21 May
7.30pm–9.45pm

Buckle up for a night of stand-up, sketch, satire, silliness and song in this rip-roaring road trip designed to satisfy all your comedy cravings.



Our Beat

Thursday 26 May
6.30pm–10pm

Our Beat is a free monthly open stage night that brings together musicians, artists, actors, comedians, dancers and the community.



For more information phone 8571 1666 or email drumtheatre@cgd.vic.gov.au

"What an amazing night we had at The Drum Theatre. We listened to the open mic night for a while, had a couple of drinks then headed into the show. Rebel was amazing, we loved every minute of it. It was our first, but certainly not our last visit to The Drum Theatre. Can you please thank all staff that were there for being so helpful and smiling all night. Thank you." Patricia

Connect with your local library

GRID Series

Join us at Dandenong Library for a special collaboration between Libraries After Dark and GRID Series.

GRID Series builds bridges between early career creatives in outer suburbs around Australia and the industries they wish to innovate. Join us for a special series of workshops where local musicians will give a performance and teach a part of their craft in an interactive and inclusive workshop.

ELAURA

**Thursday 12 May
Dandenong Library
7.30pm – 9pm**

ELAURA's voice – spoken or sung, English or Spanish, is RnB-infused neo-soul. Whether accompanied by her six-piece band or armed with her electric guitar, ELAURA will leave you with your mind full of melodies.



ELAURA

Jacki Tut

**Thursday 19 May
Dandenong Library
7.30pm – 9pm**

Jacki Tut is a 22-year-old South-Sudanese Australian artist from Melbourne's south-east. Not seeing herself as belonging to any single genre, Jacki instead moves through RnB, soul and hip hop to cultivate her sound.



JACKI TUT



Emerging Writer's Festival

In its 19th year, the Emerging Writers' Festival is one of Australia's most established and well-respected literary festivals.

Annually, the Emerging Writers' Festival brings writers, editors, publishers, and literary performers together with the reading public.

The Emerging Writers' Festival is delighted to continue a program partnership with the City of Greater Dandenong.

Seed Saving Workshop

**Thursday 19 May
Springvale Library
7.30pm – 9pm**

Do you want to understand how to harvest and sustain your garden for years to come?

Join us for a free special seed saving workshop delivered by Cultivating Community. Learn different seed saving techniques, how to store your seeds correctly, how to make your own packets and more.



Greater Dandenong Libraries now on Facebook and Instagram

Keep up to date with Greater Dandenong Libraries on Facebook and Instagram and stay informed about what's happening with library collections, programs, events and more.

Get to know library staff with the 'Faces of the Library' series and tag #GreaterDandenongLibraries to share pictures and tell us what you love about the library.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries-whatson or follow us on social media [@greaterdandenonglibraries](https://www.instagram.com/greaterdandenonglibraries)

Thank You Volunteers



National Volunteer Week from 16–22 May this year celebrates the theme *Better Together*.

Council would like to celebrate and thank our wonderful team of volunteers who give so generously of their time across 15 different programs and services.

Our volunteers are an integral part of the Greater Dandenong community and contribute to the culture, vibrancy, health and wellbeing of our city.

Greater Dandenong is the most culturally diverse community in Australia, and this is reflected in the variety of people who volunteer with our programs on a regular basis.

Volunteering with Greater Dandenong City Council provides you with an opportunity to share your time, talents and abilities in a supported and professional environment.

By joining our volunteer team you can learn new skills and expand your circle of friends while making a valuable contribution to the community.

Council has a host of interesting volunteer roles available including Gardens for Wildlife, reading buddies, assisting at festivals and events and much more.

You're sure to find something of interest and you can volunteer a little or a lot.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/volunteering or phone the Greater Dandenong Volunteer Resource Service on 9562 0414.

**NATIONAL 16-22 MAY 2022
VOLUNTEER
Better Together WEEK**



Join a local playgroup

Playgroups are a great way for children aged 0–5 years and their families to meet, play and learn.

There are over 57 community playgroups in the City of Greater Dandenong that cater for a range of activities, languages and abilities.

Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said that local playgroups create special bonds within the community and help families to support each other.

“Playgroups are fantastic, not only for young children, but also for caregivers who can form new support systems locally.

“Spending time with your children and watching them grow and learn is a wonderful experience. Our local playgroups provide valuable opportunities for connection and belonging,” said the Mayor.

Greater Dandenong City Council also has ‘small talk’, supported playgroups for families run by qualified facilitators where parents can develop their skills to enhance their connection with their child.

For more information about local playgroups visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/playgroups or call Council’s Playgroup Development Officer on 8571 1826.

Charity golf day car giveaway

For the first time ever at the City of Greater Dandenong – Industry Take A Swing for Charity Golf Day, a hole in one was miraculously achieved.

Ben Edmonds was the fortunate prize winner and is now the proud owner of a new Nissan X-Trail thanks to Dandenong Nissan.

The charity golf day has raised over \$535,000 for 14 charities over the past 13 years to support those most vulnerable in our community.

Thank you to our gold sponsor KPJ Group, silver sponsors Grenda Group and Macpherson Kelley, and bronze sponsors Telstra Business Technology Centre and Erntec. Dandenong Nissan sponsored both the hole in one and putting competitions.



This year’s beneficiary is Wellsprings for Women, a charity that delivers a wide range of services to women in our community. Over \$35,000 was raised this year to help buy a food truck to build on the charity’s cultural cuisines project. This project involves training and supporting local women in a range of roles and responsibilities in the catering industry.

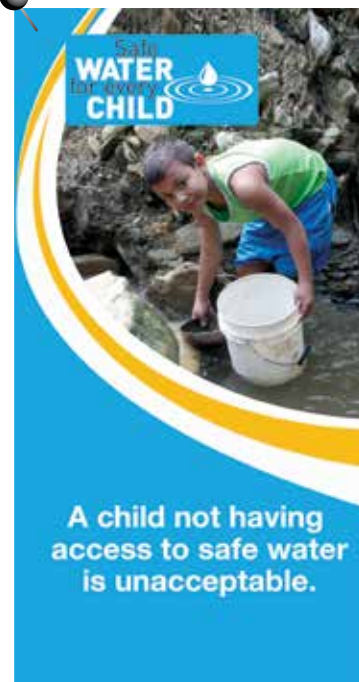
Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said: “it means a lot to Council that we have generous local businesses that are committed to giving back to our community”.

Disaster Aid Australia



Disaster Aid Australia is a project by the Rotary Club of Greater

Dandenong and Endeavour Hills that has delivered \$250,000 of international aid in 2020-21.



Since 2010 this project has provided smart aid assistance to help people rebuild their homes and access clean drinking water following major international disasters, most recently the Ukrainian crisis and Typhoon Odette in the Philippines.

The project has also installed hundreds of water filters in developing countries, protecting thousands of people under its Safe Water for Every Child program.

To find out more visit disasteraidaustralia.org.au



Need help with public speaking? Join Toastmasters.

Are you horrified by the thought of public speaking? Do you lack the confidence to create a strong and convincing argument?

Maybe you need this skill for your career, or you want to give an entertaining speech at a party? Toastmasters can help you improve your public speaking ability in a supportive environment.

At Dandenong-Mulgrave Toastmasters people from all walks of life and backgrounds come together fortnightly to develop public speaking, communication, and leadership skills to enhance their professional and personal life.

Contact Bis on 0449 681 786 to join our next meeting.

To find out more information visit facebook.com/DandenongMulgraveToastmasters or dandenongmulgrave.toastmastersclubs.org

Combined Probus Club of Noble Park

You are welcome to join the Combined Probus Club of Noble Park on the first Monday of every month at 10am.

A social club for people over 55 years who are no longer working full-time, all new members are welcome for a coffee, to enjoy a speaker and take part in social outings throughout the year.

To find out more information contact Secretary Lesley Jarutis via email at LesleyJ941@hotmail.com



Celebrating 60 years

The German Lutheran Church in Springvale recently celebrated their 60th anniversary.

An extension has been completed to the current multi-purpose hall. Construction of a new professional kitchen was made possible by funding from the Victorian Government's Multicultural Infrastructure Grant Program. Combined with a new foyer, this new facility comfortably offers contemporary, communal fellowship for up to 100 patrons. Church facilities will be open for hire soon.

To find out more information visit stjohnsgerman.com



Friends of Refugees

An independent, voluntary, Australian-based, not for profit organisation, Friends of Refugees responds to the world's most humanitarian crisis, helping to create a positive future for people seeking asylum and refugees in Australia.

The organisation relies on donations of goods and funds to provide support to asylum seekers and refugees in our community.

To find out more information visit friendsofrefugees.org.au



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

BE BRAVE! MAKE CHANGE!

**NATIONAL
RECONCILIATION
WEEK 2022**

27 MAY - 3 JUNE

**#NRW2022
NRW.RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU**

