

Greater Dandenong Council News



Seen Exhibition Winning Artwork

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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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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 June edition of Greater Dandenong Council News, and welcome to the winter season.

Despite the chill in the air, now is a good time to get outdoors and consider how your garden can help support and attract local wildlife. We recently ran a competition to pick a mascot for our Gardens for Wildlife program, see the winner and find out more about the program on page 3.

This month Council will vote on our Annual Budget. Read about our key priorities on Page 6.

The last week of June is the start of the school holidays, and there are plenty of activities to entertain the family during this period. Visit pages 10–11 for our regular What's On calendar, and then turn to page 12 for holiday specific programs running across our libraries and arts facilities.

While health regulations and COVID safe guidelines have changed in recent months, Council encourages everyone to get their booster shots and consider getting a flu jab to help protect against other viruses this winter.

In the meantime, I encourage you to look out for one another and practice kindness, towards yourself and others.

Mayor
Cr Jim Memeti



My City

Sunday 5 June is World Environment Day, the United Nations day to encourage awareness and action to protect our environment.

Council's vision for Greater Dandenong is to be one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/sustainability for more information.



Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges 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.



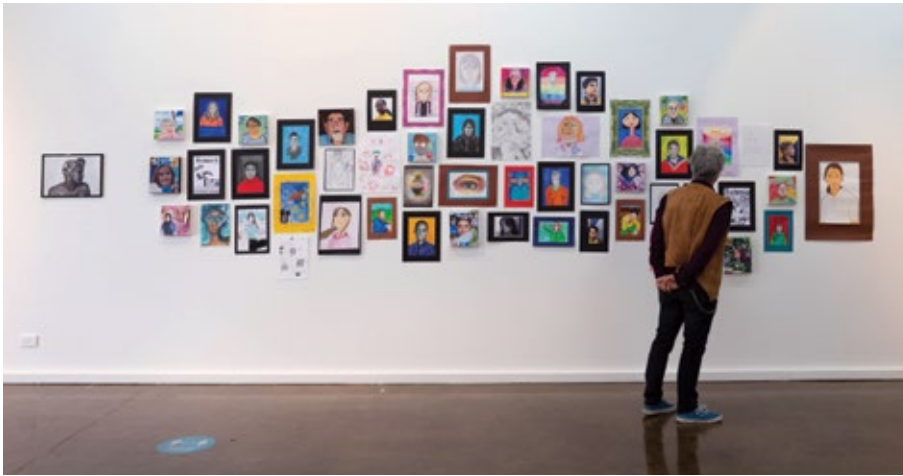
Front cover: Seen exhibition artist Gabriel Hingley with friend Gora Odiel at the Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Dandenong. Behind them is Gabriel's winning exhibit Gora, acrylic on canvas. Photo by Hilton Stone.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

This publication is fully recyclable, please dispose of wisely. It is printed carbon neutral in Victoria on a FSC MIX certified paper using vegetable based inks by an ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certified printer.

FSC
Logo

Faces of Greater Dandenong celebrated at Seen



Visit the Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre and you'll be moved by the faces and stories on display.

The *Seen* exhibition celebrates our local community through portraiture, with entrants capturing the people who live, work and play in Greater Dandenong.

Prizes were offered across four categories, including a People's Choice category which will be decided by exhibition visitors.

Open Category

Winner: Gabriel Hingley, *Gora*, acrylic on canvas

Secondary (School) Category

Winner: Tarika Wimalasuriya, *Personality of Three*

Primary (School) Category

Winner: Fiona Zhou and Areyana Singh, *Fiona*

Open Category Winner and artist Gabriel Hingley said he admires Gora Odriel and his family's resilience. They came to Australia to flee war-torn South Sudan.

"I'm pleased to be a part of the *Seen* portraiture prize and to feature my friend Gora. He and his family have been through a lot of hardship, but they have pulled through.

"Gora is full of joy and positivity, a natural and well-respected leader and elder amongst the Anuak people in his



Van Thanh Dat Dao, *Spring on Mother's Back*, Oil on canvas (highly commended)

community. He smiles whenever I see him, and has a dignified presence, so I wanted to capture that in a portrait," said Gabriel.

Seen was judged by esteemed industry professionals Zia Atahi, Alojz Babic and Esther Gyorki.

Proudly sponsored by The Drum Theatre, the Star News Group and Zart, view the *Seen* exhibition at Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, corner Walker and Robinson streets, Dandenong, until Friday 17 June.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/seen for more information.

Gardens for Wildlife mascot chosen



The votes have been counted and the winner has been crowned in the competition for the Gardens for Wildlife Greater Dandenong mascot.

Five semi-finalists were chosen by local students which included the eastern long-necked turtle, the pobblebonk frog, the short-beaked echidna, the wandering ringtail damselfly and the yellow-tailed black cockatoo.

The handsome yellow-tailed black cockatoo was chosen as the winner. Recognisable for their distinct yellow cheek patch and their loud wailing

calls, these birds can be found in a range of environments and are especially fond of eucalypt woodlands.

Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti thanked the hundreds of people who voted for the mascot.

"The yellow-tailed black cockatoo is a wonderful mascot that will inspire everyone to do what they can to help local wildlife thrive," the Mayor said.

Gardens for Wildlife is a free program providing advice on how to attract and support wildlife with indigenous plants and wildlife gardening practices.

Whether you have a big backyard or a small balcony, there are always opportunities to support local wildlife by providing shelter, nesting habitat, food and water sources.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/gardens-for-wildlife to find out more about the program and how to get involved.



Councillor Contacts



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TUESDAY

14
JUNE

MONDAY

27
JUNE

Council Meetings

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:

- ▶ Tuesday 14 June
- ▶ Monday 27 June

With COVID-19 restrictions easing, the gallery is open again to the public and you can ask questions during Public Question Time.

Alternatively, you can watch our Council meetings live via our webcast service.

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

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

▶ Dandenong Ward



As Mayor of our great city, it is my responsibility to advocate for all members

of our diverse community. In the lead up to the recent federal election, I travelled to Canberra with Keysborough South Ward Councillor Rhonda Garad and a delegation of councillors from other local governments, to highlight the dire situation facing people seeking asylum in Australia.

We represented the Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum and urged our politicians to get behind the Back Your Neighbour Campaign, seeking urgent support for thousands of people living in limbo. We will continue to seek better support for this vulnerable group and will call on all Australians to 'Back Your Neighbour'.

Last month, Council called for community feedback on a number of projects and plans for the future of our city. These key strategic documents included:

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

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to these consultations. Over the past two years Council has been

Cr Jim Memeti Mayor



Mayor Memeti, Cr Garad and community advocate Sajjad Askary.

working to capture our community's vision for Greater Dandenong, and this has helped influence the four-year Council Plan and other strategies and plans to ensure we are working to make our city a home for all.

It is important for Council to empower every member of our community to play more of a role in civic life. At times this includes the opportunity to have a say on our projects and plans. You can visit Council's website at any time and find the 'Have Your Say' section to see what we are consulting on.



If you would like to talk to me about any Council issues, please phone me on 0434 560 239 or email jim.memeti@cgd.vic.gov.au

Cr Loi Truong

► Springvale South Ward



The safety of residents across our city is always a priority for me, and Council has been successful in receiving funding under the Federal Government's Blackspot Program to improve one particularly hazardous intersection in the Springvale South Ward.

Work has begun to install traffic lights at the intersection of Harold and Corrigan roads in Noble Park. Statistics taken from previous years show that there have been a number of crashes involving cars turning out of Harold Road. Traffic lights will help make conditions safer for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

Following a period of consultation last year, Sandra Reserve in Noble Park has now been fitted with new play equipment. The new playground was designed to encourage active, challenging, imaginative social play for younger and older children. The old

equipment was removed and donated to a Rotary Club project supporting overseas communities, read more on page 8.

Upgrade works at the Burden Park Tennis Club are also progressing well with the first stage of the upgrade almost complete. The courts have been resurfaced with synthetic grass and the lights and fencing have been replaced to meet current Tennis Australia standards. Once the first three courts are open for play, the remaining three courts will be closed for upgrading, ensuring that tennis players can continue to use this facility throughout the works.

Sustainability is important in helping to protect our environment and one way to be more sustainable is to take part in the monthly Springvale Community Hub Clothes Swap. You can contribute up to 10 items of clothing to each swap. This month's event will be held on Saturday 18 June. You can find out more information via Council's website.



In the meantime, if you would like to get in touch with me I can be reached via email at loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone on 0466 004 618.

Discover Dandenong Creek Festival



Over 500 people enjoyed the return of the Discover Dandenong Creek Festival to celebrate the wildlife and wonders of the picturesque location.

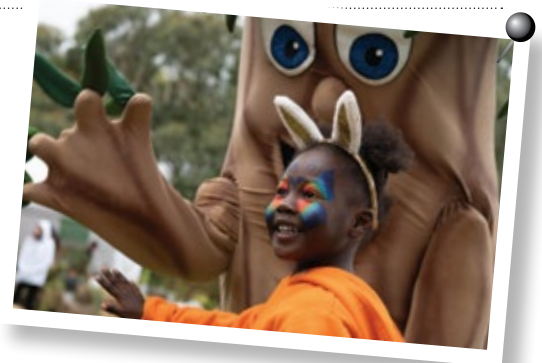
Mayor Cr Jim Memeti said the festival provided visitors with a great opportunity to learn more about our local flora and fauna in this significant corridor.

"The festival provided everyone with a chance to celebrate and recognise the cultural, community and habitat connections that the Dandenong Creek provides," said the Mayor.

The Koori Youth Will Shake Spears Aboriginal Dance Group and Djirri Djirri Wurundjeri women's dance group both performed, with the Lions Club of Dandenong hosting a delicious barbecue.

Visitors enjoyed roving performances from the Connies and local parks and sustainability mascots Harry Habitat and Lily Litterbug.

A range of family-friendly activities were also on offer including the Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Yidaki performance by the Bunorong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Djirri Djirri workshop by Wurrundjeri community, a live animal show by Black Snake Productions, face painting, a Council plant giveaway, activities with Parks Victoria Rangers, water bugs with Greater Dandenong Environment Group and fishing with Native Fish Australia. Stall displays were hosted by OzFish, Living Links, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, Lower Dandenong Creek Peri-Urban Weed Management Partnership, Marine Mammal Foundation and Council's Parks, Sustainability and Waste teams.



The event was delivered in partnership with Melbourne Water's Living Links Committee who are celebrating 15 years of partnership enhancing the Dandenong Creek corridor and other green links across Melbourne's south-east.

Dandenong Creek starts in the Dandenong Ranges and winds its way down through Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs, passing through Dandenong, flowing into the Patterson River and onto Port Phillip Bay. It is an important corridor, providing key habitat for many animals and plants.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/discover-dandenong-creek

Proposed Council Budget 2022–23 highlights

The proposed Budget 2022–23 strikes a balance between ensuring Council continues to provide services and support to the community, while managing a capital spending program to provide much-needed local infrastructure and stimulation for local employment and businesses.

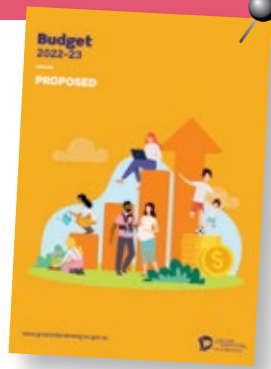
Despite the constraints of rate capping, Council will maintain a significant investment in the infrastructure of our city, implementing an extensive Capital Works Program of \$55.6 million in 2022–23.

Key capital projects in the proposed Budget 2022–23 include:

- ▶ \$12.5 million for roads
- ▶ \$10.7 million for Keysborough South Community Hub (stage 2)
- ▶ \$4.3 million for widening of Perry Road, Keysborough
- ▶ \$4.1 million for drainage renewal and upgrade program
- ▶ \$2.5 million for reconstruction of the athletics track at Ross Reserve
- ▶ \$2.5 million for widening of Abbots Road, Dandenong South (stage 2)
- ▶ \$1.8 million to begin construction towards the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre (formerly Dandenong Oasis pool).

Council's Capital Works Program for 2022–23 of \$55.6 million includes \$38 million from rates revenue; \$26 million of this is being invested to the renewal of infrastructure and community assets across the municipality, identified and prioritised through Council's annual asset management planning.

The challenge to fund the appropriate replacement of existing assets (roads, drains, buildings, etc) is one that the City of Greater Dandenong shares with many other municipalities, as our key infrastructure was built in the 1960's and 1970's. The proposed Budget 2022–23 allocates \$41.81 million towards the renewal and upgrade of our assets.



The most significant amount of funds allocated in the proposed Budget 2022–23 and Long-Term Financial Plan is the \$176.19 million cost to provide ongoing operational services to the community.

In support of climate change and sustainability, the proposed Budget 2022–23 includes an increase in the tree planting program budget from \$492,000 in 2021–22 to \$862,000.

The proposed Budget 2022–23 also allocates funds to the:


- ▶ commencement of detailed design for the Dandenong Community Hub
- ▶ Rosewood Downs Primary School kindergarten room fit out and maternal child health community facilities
- ▶ detailed design of the Barry Powell Reserve and new Tennis Table Centre.

Property rates in 2022–23 will increase by 1.75 per cent, in line with the rate cap set by the Victorian Government. A resident's rate bill may vary by more or less than the rate cap due to the relative property valuation, the type of property classification (residential, commercial, industrial, etc) and other charges not subject to the rate cap (for example, the waste charge). The increase in general rates and waste charges for the median residential valued property is 0.95 per cent on average. The total annual impact is \$14.07 or 27 cents per week.

Council remains in a steady financial position for 2022–23 through sound and prudent leadership by Council and its staff, although this will continue to be tested by the compounding effect of rate capping and COVID-19 impacts that have cost \$24 million in the past two years.

The final version of the proposed Budget for 2022–23 will be adopted by Council on 27 June.

How to pay your rates

 **There are several ways you can pay your rates, including online or via instalments. All residents receive a hard copy of their rates notice by post. However, you can opt to receive your rates notice via email.**


To do so you can simply register with EzyBill or BPay View to have your notice delivered directly to your email inbox.

For 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.

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.

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 mygreaterdandenong.com, PostBillPay or BPay
- ▶ pay over the phone using a credit card or via BPay using telephone banking
- ▶ pay instalments via direct debit
- ▶ pay by cheque which can be mailed to Council.

 **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 further assistance phone 8571 1000.**

A sustainable future

LEAD POSITIVE CHANGE



Students from five Greater Dandenong primary and secondary schools took part in the CERES Student Environment Leadership Summit at the Springvale Town Hall.

Council’s Sustainability team helped CERES facilitate the summit. Clothes and toys swap event coordinator Zoë Mohl also spoke with the students.

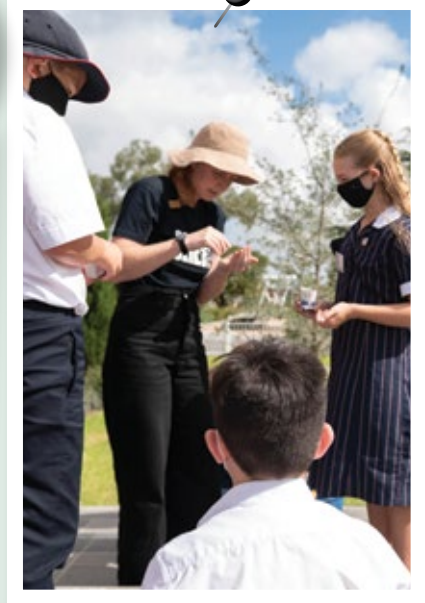
Each school brought a display to present to highlight what sustainability initiatives are occurring at their school.

Kat Young, CERES Student Programs Communications and Operations Coordinator said the CERES School of Nature and Climate Student Programs team were excited to give students the knowledge, skills and confidence to



lead positive change in their personal life and wider community.

“During the summit, we talked about the urban heat island effect, the importance of green space and looked at their school audits to identify sustainability solutions. We equipped students with important climate communication and behaviour change skills to take back to their school and community.



“The summit was a valuable tool to create student and community awareness on the climate and ecological crisis. We value the opportunity to inspire the young leaders of Greater Dandenong,” Ms Young said.



Council’s Sustainability Festival, A Sustainable Tomorrow, Together, was back for its ninth year and was full of inspiring ideas and workshops for all ages at the Springvale Community Hub.

Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said this year’s theme reminded us that looking after the environment is everyone’s responsibility.

“While we may see our own actions towards a sustainable future as small, by working together our actions can make a significant difference,” the Mayor said.

The indoor and outdoor market featured stalls with great innovative products to help protect the environment, and homegrown produce and free environmentally friendly food kept everyone fed throughout the day.



Bike n’ Blend was a huge hit with 390 smoothies made; 90 terrariums, bee hotels or eco bathbombs were made; 100 beeswax wraps were made; 460 free vegetarian/vegan meals and 100 vegan iced-creams were served.

Council’s Parks and Horticulture stall ran pot planting activities, teaching the community how to grow their own food from home and plant habitat gardens for native wildlife, with approximately 300 vegetable seedlings given away.

Transforming Greater Dandenong through art

Have you spotted a splash of colour in Noble Park lately? This new 49-metre-long pavement mural off Douglas Street by artist Happy Decay is hard to miss.


Titled *The Colour Connection*, the mural playfully welcomes pedestrians to enjoy the experience of moving from one place to another.

The new temporary public artwork has been commissioned as part of the Noble Park Revitalisation Initiative with funding from the Victorian Government.



The **Greater Dandenong, My Place. My Community** art mural has been created in collaboration with young people and led by Council, community and artists Mike Makatron, Karena Bravo, Bryan Itch and Sebastian Franz. The art project creates a sense of community pride and connection. The mural is at the rear of 39A Clow Street, Dandenong Market southern car park entrance.

Are your kerbside bins overflowing?


 Learning some sustainable bin skills can help reduce the amount of waste going into your bins and give you some good environmental karma in the long run.

This waste hierarchy is a simple tool used to explain environmental outcomes in order of preference.



From the top (most preferred down) the options are:

- ▶ **Prevent** waste by really thinking about if you need an item before purchasing it.
- ▶ **Reuse** food waste by freezing leftovers or sharing excess meals with friends or colleagues. Give your old games, books or furniture a chance to be reused by donating them to charity or selling them online.
- ▶ **Recycle** everything you can.
- ▶ **Recover** energy from food and organics waste through composting or via your green-lid bin.
- ▶ **Disposal** to landfill is the last resort. Waste sent to landfill is buried underground and can leak toxins into the air and water. What goes in your red-lid bin is landfill, it's not sorted by us or anyone else.

 To find out more information on how to reduce your waste visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/other-waste-and-recycling-options

Playgrounds find a second life

 Council continues to give new life to old playgrounds by partnering with Rotary to send play equipment overseas.

The Rotary Overseas Recycled Playgrounds (RORP) program disassembles playgrounds earmarked for replacement, and flatpacks them for shipping overseas. Rotary members do a thorough inspection of equipment to make sure it is still safe and usable by overseas communities.

In 2020, Rotary took an old playground that was removed to make way for the All Abilities Playground at Ross Reserve, Noble Park and relocated it to Sri Lanka.

More recently the old playground at Sandra Reserve, Noble Park, was removed and will be sent to Fiji along with playgrounds collected from other Victorian suburbs.

Throughout 2022 Council has earmarked four other playgrounds suitable for relocation through this program.

Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said the partnership with Rotary was a win-win situation for all.

“While we work here to replace playgrounds to make them safer and more accessible for local children, we get to see the removed equipment given a second life overseas,” the Mayor said.



Our Citizen of the Year



At Council's 2022 Australia Day Awards, Amanda Meehan was named Greater Dandenong City Council's Citizen of the Year.

Since then, she says the accolade has given her a chance to reflect on how her passion and drive is making a difference for others.

"My kids like to say, 'My mum's the best person in Dandenong', but it's nice to think people are watching and I'm making a difference in this community," Amanda said.

A busy mum of five, the Keysborough woman is heavily involved in community life. She is also studying to become a registered nurse and is embarking on a surrogacy journey for another family.

She is involved with the Silverton Cricket Club, Wallarano Primary School and Darren Reserve Kindergarten, working to make life better for children across our city.

"The nomination was shocking, but very nice. It's nice to hear what other people think about me. It is really humbling."

Amanda became involved in surrogacy in Victoria when she offered to have a



baby for her best friend who is in a same sex relationship. In March 2018 she gave birth to a baby girl, who now knows the role Amanda played in her creation and even facetimes her every day.

Amanda continues to support Victorian families looking to embark on the surrogacy journey and will maintain her work locally to make life better for children and families across Greater Dandenong.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au to read more about Amanda.

Make your move



Local residents made their move and enjoyed the facilities at Noble Park's Ross Reserve recently by taking part in free City in the Park soccer clinics run in conjunction with Melbourne City Football Club.

Sunil Menon, Head of Community, Melbourne City Football Club said: "The club has seen the passion for the game in this region and it's exciting to be out meeting the local community and creating connections through a love of the game".

A Skateboarding Masterclass was run in conjunction with Shredability, at the Noble Park Skate Park.

The free sessions were funded by the Victorian Government through



the Noble Park Revitalisation Board which aims to create a safe, vibrant and accessible community, set up to support future generations.



For more information on how to Make Your Move visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/make-your-move

Upcoming immunisation sessions



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, here are the sessions for June.

Date	Location
Wednesday 1 June	Springvale City Hall, Supper Room, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale
Thursday 2 June	Jan Wilson Community Centre, BJ Powell Reserve, Halton Road, Noble Park North
Thursday 9 June	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)
Tuesday 21 June	Paddy O'Donoghue Centre, 18-34 Buckley Street, Noble Park
Saturday 25 June	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)
Wednesday 29 June	Springvale City Hall, Supper Room, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale



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

What's On June 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
 Please check our website and social media platforms for updates, as event dates may change or be offered virtually.	Friendship Café <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Springvale Neighbourhood House Weekly every Tuesday (during school term only) from 9.30am–12pm Weekly every Wednesday (during school term only) from 10am–12pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reading Circle Dandenong Library 11am ▶ All Abilities Badminton Springers Leisure Centre 6pm ▶ Taking Your Business Online Workshop Springvale Library 6.30pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Carers Walking Group Burden Park 10am ▶ Conversation Circle (low to intermediate English) Dandenong Library 6pm 
<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Peer2Peer Homework Club Dandenong Library 4pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Keep Calm and Yoga On Noble Park Community Centre 6pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Small Business Mentoring Bus 28 Douglas Street, Noble Park 10am ▶ Code Club: Lego Mindstorms Dandenong Library 4pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Conversation Circle (low to intermediate English) Dandenong Library 6pm
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Keep Calm and Yoga On Noble Park Community Centre 6pm ▶ Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am ▶ Code Club – Lego Mindstorms Dandenong Library 4pm ▶ Advanced Strategies To Taking Your Business Online Springvale Library 5.30pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Our Beat Drum Theatre 6.30pm ▶ Emerging Writers' Festival Workshop: An Editor's Perspective with Suzy Garcia Springvale Library 6pm–7.30pm ▶ Emerging Writers' Festival Liminal Spaces Q&A panel Springvale Library 8pm–9pm
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Peer2Peer Homework Club Dandenong Library 4pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Keep Calm and Yoga On Noble Park Community Centre 6pm ▶ Art Series Springvale Library 6.30pm–8pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Code Club – Lego Mindstorms Dandenong Library 4pm ▶ All Abilities Badminton Springers Leisure Centre 6pm ▶ Maximising Your Marketing Springvale Library 6.30pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Wiggles-Super Hero Tour! Drum Theatre 10am and 12.30pm ▶ Online Bookclub: The DandEreaders Microsoft Teams online 2pm ▶ Emerging Writers' Festival In the Suburbs workshop Dandenong Library 7pm–8.30pm
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>WORLD TURTLE DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Keep Calm and Yoga On Noble Park Community Centre 6pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Social Knitwork Dandenong Library 10am ▶ All Abilities Badminton Springers Leisure Centre 6pm 	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The Sapphires Drum Theatre 7.30pm 

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>▶ Strength Training Jan Wilson Community Centre 8.30am</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>27 May–3 June</p> <p>▶ National Reconciliation Week</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>▶ Na Hanyate (It Doesn't Die) – English Musical Drum Theatre 4pm</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Parkrun</p> <p>▶ Saturdays Dandenong Park 7.45am</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY</p> <p>▶ Walk of Unity in Faith Harmony Square, Dandenong 12pm–3pm</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>▶ Strength Training Jan Wilson Community Centre 8.30am</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>▶ Think Tank Mad About Science – Natural Disasters Dandenong Library 3pm–4pm</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>▶ Malhar 2022 Drum Theatre 3pm</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>▶ Strength Training Jan Wilson Community Centre 8.30am</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>27 June–8 July</p> <p>▶ School Holidays</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>▶ Dandenong Market Street Food Tour 10.30am</p> <p>▶ Think Tank Mad About Science – Natural Disasters Springvale Library 3pm–4pm</p> <p>▶ Clothes Swap Springvale Community Hub 1pm–3pm</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Seen exhibition</i></p> <p>Celebrates our local community through portraiture.</p> <p>Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, corner Walker and Robinson streets, Dandenong until Friday 17 June</p> <p>greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/seen</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>▶ Strength Training Jan Wilson Community Centre 8.30am</p> <p>▶ Dandenong Market Street Food Tour 10.30am</p>  <p>Thursday 23 June</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>▶ Food and Cultural Tour Little India Precinct, Dandenong 12pm–3pm</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>19–25 June</p> <p>▶ Refugee Week</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>A Floral Muse exhibition</p> <p>Explores how flowers and plants have been celebrated in many civilisations throughout time, featuring items from private collections and Council's Civic and Cultural Heritage Collection.</p> <p>Benga House, Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens, 66 McCrae Street, Dandenong, until Thursday 28 July</p> <p>greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/events/floral-muse-exhibition</p> </div>	

- 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



What's on at the Drum Theatre

Na Hanyate (It Doesn't Die) – English Musical
Saturday 4 June at 4pm

Malhar 2022
Sunday 12 June at 3pm

Our Beat
Thursday 16 June at 6.30pm

The Wiggles – Super Hero Tour!
Thursday 23 June at 10am and 12.30pm

The Sapphires
Thursday 30 June at 7.30pm
For more information visit drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/drum/events



Arts Online

Art for Kids
Free art resources for children and families to enjoy these holidays: greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/art-kids

QuickArts
Come join our online creative programs and experience a range of workshops that you can participate in at home: greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/workshop-videos

Events in our Libraries



Short Story Workshop: An Editor's Perspective with Suzy Garcia

Thursday 16 June
Springvale Library
6pm–7.30pm

Join us for a workshop at Springvale Library as *Kill Your Darlings'* Deputy Editor Suzy Garcia guides you through a short story workshop. Suzy Garcia will discuss what editors look for, the components of compelling short fiction and how you can make your story stand out from the rest. The workshop will include a look at some amazing previously published short stories and what makes them so good.

The Think Tank Mad About Science – Natural Disasters

Dandenong Library,
Saturday 11 June
3pm–4pm

Springvale Library,
Saturday 18 June 3pm–4pm



Explore the scientific processes behind the explosive energy of nature's fury. Learn about different types of natural disasters and how they affect us in Australia. Create a blizzard and erupt a flurry of snow powder! Learn how to make a hurricane and tornado in a bottle and release a chemical volcanic disturbance underwater to model a tsunami.

LIMINAL Spaces

Thursday 16 June
Springvale Library
8pm–9pm

A panel discussion/author talk and Q&A event featuring the LIMINAL editorial team.

Leah Jing McLontosh (host) in discussion with Cher Tan, Danny Silva Soberano and Adolfo Aranjuez. Topics include: creating spaces for marginalised voices, the importance of working within your community/communities, cross-community/inter-community collaborations and advice for emerging writers.

EXCITING PROGRAM

Emerging Writers' Festival

In its 19th year, the Emerging Writers' Festival (EWF) is one of Australia's most established and well-respected literary festivals bringing writers, editors, publishers and literary performers together for the reading public.

The festival continues in 2022 with a hybrid offering of in-person and online events featuring storytellers of all kinds across a program of performances, professional development and innovative programming.

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

In the Suburbs

Thursday 23 June
Dandenong Library
7pm–8.30pm

A workshop on writing a memoir with local author Christopher Raja, author of *Into The Suburbs – Exploring topical issues of race, class and migration*, an affecting portrait of one family's search for home.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries-whatson



Springvale Boulevard update

Construction is nearing completion on the \$6 million Springvale Boulevard Renewal Project.

Council would like to thank businesses and visitors to central Springvale for their patience with the works which have affected traffic and pedestrian movements and parking in the activity centre.

Improvements to the iconic commercial strip include new paving, street furniture, lighting and wider footpaths for improved trading and dining conditions.

In addition to these features, new garden beds and established trees will be planted to give the Boulevard a more natural feel and improve shade across the precinct. The improvements are supported by the State Government and Greater Dandenong City Council.

The design is a nod to Springvale's status as one of Melbourne's most beloved and leading cultural destinations.

Hooning is dangerous



Hoon driving is illegal behaviour and can endanger our community.

Council is working with Victoria Police, the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and the Victorian Government's Department of Transport to reduce hoon driving in Greater Dandenong.

Hoon driving is:

- driving at dangerous speeds
- illegal drag racing or speed trials

The completed project will improve access to, and within the wider shopping precinct, ensuring it remains an attractive and sustainable destination for retail, cultural and tourism activities into the future.

Council hopes the boulevard will become a social hub that encourages people to connect and relax with friends and family, and where community celebrations can light up the local streets.

Greater Dandenong City Council would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and resilience demonstrated by Springvale businesses during the construction period.

Springvale Boulevard, together with the recently completed Springvale Community Hub, will celebrate Springvale's rich cultural tapestry and create a renewed sense of pride within the community.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/Springvale-boulevard for more information.



If you witness hooning contact CrimeStoppers via their website at crimestoppersvic.com.au and select 'Report a Crime' or phone 1800 333 000.

Planning Scheme amendment

Greater Dandenong City Council is proposing changes to the planning rules that affect land in the Noble Park Major Activity Centre.

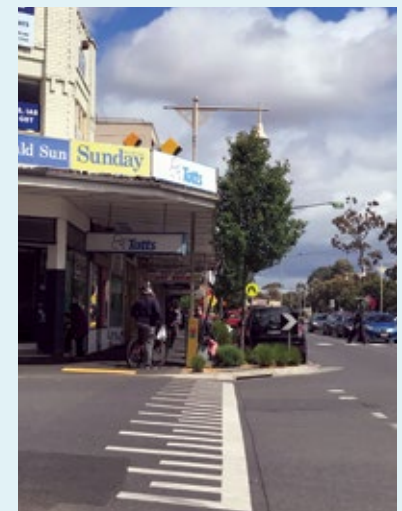
The amendment proposes a new Noble Park Local Planning Policy and a new Design and Development Overlay (DDO). The DDO contains guidelines to ensure all new development is of high quality and is well-designed.

Council has also suggested its preferred building heights for the centre, which ranges from three to six storeys.

The Noble Park Local Planning Policy and DDO can be viewed online or in person at a Council office. The community is invited to have a say on the proposed documents and written submissions can be made to Council before Friday 24 June.



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





Haars Nursery

Employer Insights

The Greater Dandenong region is home to more than 17,500 businesses, employing over 95,000 people.

A series of videos featuring local businesses talks to employers and their staff to explore and highlight employment opportunities in our city. The videos challenge perceptions of what it's like to work in manufacturing, logistics and hospitality and showcase the variety of job opportunities across Greater Dandenong.

The videos feature local businesses, many of whom are industry leaders, and are aimed towards jobseekers and students.

South East Business Networks created the videos through their Community Revitalisation Project, funded by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. Businesses featured in the video series include:

- ▶ Atura Hotel Dandenong
- ▶ Chobani
- ▶ Ego Pharmaceuticals
- ▶ Haars Nursery
- ▶ Hilton Manufacturing
- ▶ Jayco
- ▶ Ronson Gears
- ▶ Spreading Happiness (Pana Organic)
- ▶ Successful Endeavours.

➔ Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/employer-insights to watch the videos and find out more about employment opportunities across Greater Dandenong.

Food and Cultural Tour

**Little India
Saturday 25 June, 12pm–3pm**

Experience the wonderful smells, colourful sights and tantalising flavours of Victoria's first Little India precinct located in Foster Street, Dandenong.

The tour guide will lead you on a journey through this vibrant precinct, awakening your senses and revealing the rich Indian culture.

Learn about Indian history, culture, art and regional differences and see these locally through sari, sweets and grocery shops. The tour includes a delicious meal in one of Little India's local restaurants.



Did you know we also do group food tour bookings? If you have between six and 12 people who are interested in a group tour with an expert, please phone 8571 1550 to discuss a tour date and time that is convenient for you.

➔ For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/food-tours



Collective Impact

Paul D'Arcy has employed about 100 people over the past 25 years, and that's not just a number to a man who loves seeing people grow, learn and achieve.

The Managing Director of Dandenong South's Direct Mail Solutions is hoping to make an impact on many more in the coming years, and recently launched a not-for-profit social enterprise to support at-risk youth.

When Mr D'Arcy moved his business last year, several other businesses joined him at his South Gippsland Highway warehouse. When he expressed his desire to help employ and mentor at risk-youth those other businesses jumped on board, forming Collective Impact.

Working in conjunction with Social Engine and Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia, Collective Impact is making a better future for vulnerable young people.

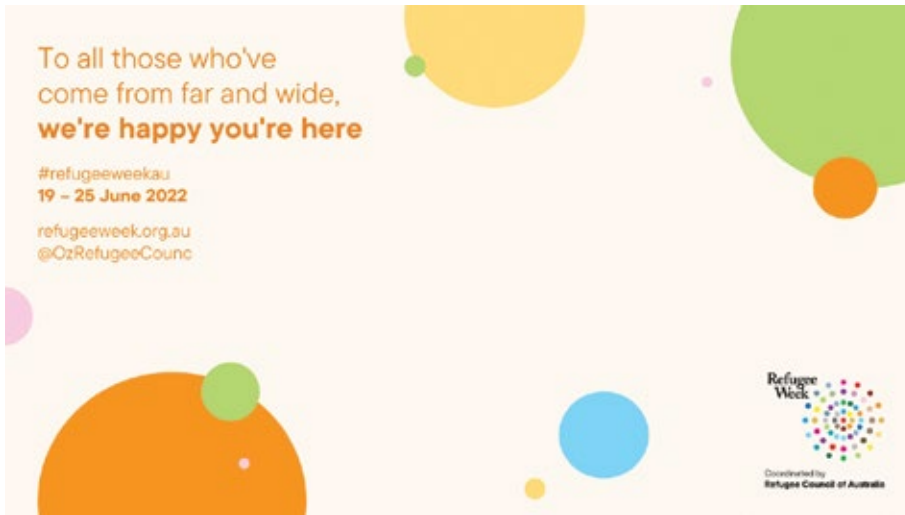
When Mr D'Arcy entered the workforce he said the mentorship he found among older employees set him on the right path and he hopes he can be as inspiring to a new generation.

"Collective Impact is still in its infancy, but we are helping to build awareness around employing kids and giving them a chance. I also personally believe that a workplace should be relaxed and fun – we can get the job done while enjoying ourselves.

"I have a teenage boy and I hope that when he enters the workforce he finds a supportive environment in which he can learn and grow, and also have fun," Mr D'Arcy said.

Collective Impact brings together a range of businesses covering marketing, design, print, production, warehouse distribution and charitable sectors.

➔ Visit collectiveimpact.org.au to find out more.



Wallara CEO Phil Hayes-Brown

Wallara wins two national awards

Wallara's CEO Phil Hayes-Brown has been recognised as the Most Outstanding CEO/Director at the inaugural Australian Disability Services Conference and Awards.

The company was also awarded the Best Remote Service/Program for their platform Wallara Online.

Established in Dandenong in 1959 by Council and parents of children with disabilities, Wallara has evolved over the years to become an innovative, sector-leading support service for adults with different abilities.

➔ **For more information visit wallara.com.au**

Facebook:
@WallaraAust

Instagram:
@WallaraAustralia



Caring for the carers

Are you providing ongoing unpaid care for a family member or a friend who has a disability, mental illness, chronic illness, aged-related condition, or for someone receiving palliative care? If the answer is 'yes' – you may be a carer.

Every caring journey is different and may have its challenges, but you don't need to do this alone.

For carers residing in Greater Dandenong, you can speak with Alfred Health Carer Services about your caring role. They can provide you

with free information and connect you with useful supports and services relevant to your caring situation. You may also be able to access short-term respite, facilitated coaching, peer-to-peer support groups and events that focus on education and social connection.

Carers of all ages are encouraged to access this service. Phone 1800 512 121, Monday to Friday 8.30am–5pm, or visit alfredhealthcarers.org.au for more information.

➔ **For 24/7 emergency respite and after-hours support, call Carer Gateway on 1800 422 737.**

AlfredHealth
Carer Services



Flu Vaccines now available

Monash Health
South East Public Health Unit

sephu.org

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“

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CHRIS KOHLER, FINANCE REPORTER
Channel 9 News Melbourne

”

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