

DECEMBER 2022 / JANUARY 2023

Greater Dandenong Council News

Christmas in Greater Dandenong

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our new Mayor**

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Memorial**

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**Big Summer
Read**

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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](https://twitter.com/greaterdandy)**


 **facebook.com/greaterdandenong**


 **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 December 2022 – January 2023 edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

I am honoured to have been recently elected as your new Mayor for the next 12 months and look forward to representing Council and our community with pride.

The beginning of the new year seems to have come fast, but after three years of ongoing restrictions related to the pandemic, it is wonderful to see festivals and events back on the calendar.

This issue we celebrate the festive season, including Christmas and New Year celebrations and all the joy they bring.

In the year ahead I am committed to working closely with my fellow Councillors and the community to make

Greater Dandenong a better place to live, work and play.

As a Council we are committed to supporting local businesses and will continue to empower our community to be healthy, connect and thrive.

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the best for a prosperous, happy and safe new year.



**Mayor
Cr Eden Foster**



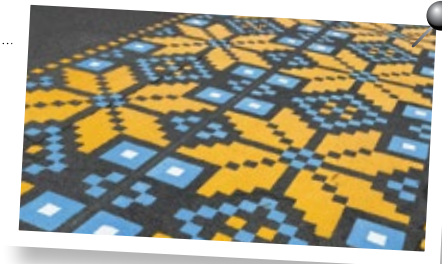
My City

Peace and Harmony for Ukraine

This beautiful new asphalt mural in Noble Park is the result of a wonderful collaboration with the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria Noble Park branch.

Located in the car park behind the Noble Park Public Hall, this immersive blue and yellow artwork is in acknowledgment of the strength and courage of Ukrainians afflicted by war, in particular Ukrainian women.

Titled *Peace and Harmony for Ukraine*, the large-scale pedestrian artwork is inspired by traditional Ukrainian embroidery and street art found in the Ukraine.



The timely mural also draws focus on the 60-year anniversary of the Ukrainian Association in Noble Park and in acknowledgment of its continued connection to the community. Symbolically, part of the mural features at the entrance of the Association of Ukrainians Community Hall located on Chandler Road, Noble Park.

This project has been supported by the Noble Park Revitalisation Board with funding from the Victorian State Government.

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.



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.

Front cover: Previous 'Santa on reindeer' Christmas installation at Harmony Square, Dandenong. Visit this installation at Springvale Community Hub this year.

FSC
Logo

Introducing our new Mayor

Yarraman Ward Councillor Eden Foster has been elected Mayor of Greater Dandenong City Council.

Cr Foster grew up in Springvale and Noble Park and was elected to Council in 2020, serving as Deputy Mayor last year.

“Twelve months ago when I began my term as Deputy Mayor I set out to bring a sense of fairness, equality and compassion to the role. I am determined to continue to display these values in my new role as Mayor in the year ahead.

“We are all part of a city that recognises and supports its most vulnerable residents. I am proud to represent a Council that will continue to work to support the physical and mental health and wellbeing of all our residents.

“I look forward to working with my fellow Councillors, incoming CEO Jacqui Weatherill, Council’s executive management team and staff to achieve our community’s vision of a city that is an inclusive home to all.

“As the most culturally diverse community in Australia, Greater



Mayor, Cr Eden Foster and Deputy Mayor, Cr Lana Formoso.

Dandenong loves to celebrate old and new traditions,” Cr Foster said.

Advancing large projects including the innovative Dandenong Aquatic and Wellbeing Centre (to replace Dandenong Oasis), as well as the Keysborough South and Dandenong Community Hubs will be a priority in Cr Foster’s Mayoral year.

As well as the ongoing streetscape works to enhance the Noble Park activity centre and the continuation of the Safer

Streets project to enhance safety in and around central Dandenong.

“It is such a privilege to be elected as Mayor. I have such a fondness for this community, and I am looking forward to demonstrating my commitment and serving the people of Greater Dandenong,” Cr Foster said.

Mayor Foster will be supported by Cr Lana Formoso who has been elected as Deputy Mayor for the next 12 months.

Introducing our new CEO



The Mayor and Councillors are pleased to welcome Jacqui Weatherill as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Greater Dandenong City Council.

She will begin her role on Monday 19 December.

Jacqui has been a CEO for over 10 years and was previously the CEO at the City of Stonnington and the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust.

Jacqui’s outstanding career to date in local government has also included working in senior roles at both the City of Boroondara and Benalla Rural City Councils.

Jacqui is looking forward to joining Greater Dandenong City Council and making a difference to our wonderfully diverse community.

She has a long background in working at a senior level and especially enjoys the opportunities and challenges of working with a variety of diverse stakeholders, in particular our multicultural groups.

Jacqui said: “I look forward to working on the innovative and strategic plans of this Council, and in a city that is so full of diversity and rich in multicultural history”.



Councillor Contacts



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Springvale South Ward
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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:

- ▶ **Monday 12 December**
- ▶ **Monday 23 January.**

The gallery is open to the public and you can ask questions during Public Question Time, check our website for

any updates. The Dandenong Civic Centre basement car park is also now open again to the public.

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

DECEMBER /
JANUARY

Seasons Greetings from your Councillors



As we say goodbye to 2022 and welcome a new year, we would like to celebrate the passion and resilience of the Greater Dandenong community.

It has been an honour for us to work alongside local residents and organisations who continue to put our community first.

This year has been a busy one and we have much to celebrate.

Here are some highlights of the work we have done over the past 12 months:

- ▶ the adoption of our second *Reconciliation Action Plan*, continuing the work we are doing with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community
- ▶ the completion of stage 1 of the Springvale Boulevard revitalisation project

- ▶ the continuing work of the Noble Park Revitalisation project, which has included more activations, public art and streetscape improvements
- ▶ the launch of the Safer Streets program enhancing community safety in Dandenong
- ▶ the launch of the *Anti-Poverty Strategy*, which aims to address the complex issue of poverty and ensure every resident in Greater Dandenong has the power and resources to share in life's possibilities to realise their potential

- ▶ our ongoing commitment to make Greater Dandenong one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030 through community education and the implementation of sustainable programs and initiatives.

May you and your loved ones have a safe and joyous festive season, and all the very best for the new year.

From your Councillors

Festive spirit in Greater Dandenong

Council is excited to bring the Christmas spirit back to Greater Dandenong with large scale decorations and roving performers throughout our activity centres.

In Dandenong a festive mural will return to the steps leading up to Harmony Square, where a 9-metre tree will delight visitors and a traditional nativity scene will fill the Dandenong Library display windows. Flowering garden beds will be placed in Palm Plaza while a Waterloo Star will also be set up in Langhorne Place.

A 7-metre tall Santa and Reindeer will be on display at the Springvale Community Hub this year, with a 6-metre tree adorning Multicultural Place and an 8-metre tree decorating Civic Space in Douglas Street, Noble Park.

The large decorations complement a range of smaller ones in all activity centres, including Christmas-themed tree and pole surrounds, decorations on public seating, and metal decorations across Springvale and Noble Park.



Roving performers will also interact with visitors to Dandenong, Noble Park and Springvale in the week leading up to Christmas.

We also celebrate the return of Carols in Dandenong Park on Friday 9 December.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/events for more information on our Christmas festivities.

Christmas at Springvale Hub



Festive cheer and community spirit will make a splash at the Springvale Community Hub this Christmas.

Inside decorations, including a large Christmas tree in the library and a Santa chair in the Mitchell Hall, will stay on display until 9 January.

A **Christmas Giving Drive** will collect gifts and material aid for those doing it tough. Donations can be placed

under the Christmas tree inside the library until Wednesday 14 December, and items will be distributed via local aid agencies.

Visit the library to see posters with information about the most needed items, including food, clothing and gift ideas.

A **Christmas Craft Space** will operate every Thursday in December from 10am–2pm in the Mitchell Hall.

A community-run **Clothes/Toys Swap** will be held on Saturday 10 December from 1pm–3pm in the Mitchell Hall.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/springvale-community-hub for more information.

New Year's Eve Celebration

Celebrate New Year's Eve with family, friends and the local community on Saturday 31 December at Dandenong Park from 6pm–9.30pm.

Bring some snacks and your picnic blanket to celebrate in comfort at this family-friendly event.

There will be pre-show entertainment from 6pm–7.30pm followed by a main stage program and an exciting fireworks display at the family friendly time of 9.20pm.

The main stage will feature exciting performers including Asanti Dance Theatre, DJ Alexandre and the fireworks countdown with the Mayor.

This year we have a family area with fun activities for kids, including arts and crafts workshops, face painting and roving performers.

There will also be delicious food to buy and market stalls.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/new-years-eve



Memorial celebration for Merle Mitchell AM

A community memorial celebration was held in tribute to Greater Dandenong Living Treasure Merle Mitchell AM on Sunday 13 November at the Springvale Town Hall.

Merle passed away in September 2021. In recognition of her immense contribution to the community, Council and Merle's family worked in collaboration to publicly honour her legacy.

She was duly recognised for her passionate community activism and her many achievements as a member of the Spirit of Enterprise.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster who was honoured to speak at the memorial said Council supported Merle's family to duly celebrate her life.

"Merle was able to superbly influence the hearts and minds of policy advisors and politicians at local, state and national levels, with the utmost confidence and care.

"Merle was a very good friend to our city and Council was particularly proud to acknowledge her through the Living Treasures program.



"The strength and the quality of Merle's character, reinforced by her wisdom and belief that there was always a better and more inclusive future for Greater Dandenong, promoted diversity, equality, acceptance and opportunity for all residents.

"She has left a legacy that will endure for generations to come. What an honour it was to have known Merle. What a trailblazer she was," said Cr Foster.

The Mayor also officially announced that the Exhibition Hall inside the Springvale Community Hub is now to be known as the Mitchell Hall.

The Mitchell Hall rightfully honours Merle and her husband Eric and their selfless and passionate community activism for social welfare, the rights of older people in aged care, and Merle's work as a member of the Spirit of Enterprise.

Merle was instrumental in the Spirit of Enterprise history project which is internationally acclaimed.

She worked tirelessly with others to ensure the story of the local migrant settlement in Greater Dandenong is known, honoured and continually celebrated.

In addition to the unveiling of the Mitchell Hall at the Springvale Community Hub, Council has also installed an interpretative sign for the Enterprise Trail to recognise Merle's immense community contribution.

Merle was a genuine people's hero, and the community can learn more about her incredible story through these public activations in the heart of Springvale at the Community Hub.

Community members can also contribute to Merle's online memorial board at greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/merle-mitchell-am-memorial-celebration

2023 Community Calendar

Greater Dandenong is a beautiful city and the 2023 Community Calendar features photos taken by members of our community.

More than 340 photos were entered into our photographic competition, with 12 finalists chosen for inclusion in the calendar. The calendar will be delivered free to your letterbox in January and contains the kerbside waste collection schedule and handy waste and recycling tips.



The selected photos are also displayed in an exhibition at the Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre until Friday 27 January.

The 2024 Community Calendar photographic competition is now open. We are inviting residents to capture their favourite parts of our city for a chance to win cash prizes and feature in the 2024 calendar.

If you do not receive a copy of the 2023 calendar by the end of January, or if you would like an extra copy, you can collect one from Council's customer service centres or phone 8571 1000.

Springvale Boulevard revitalised



 **A new highly accessible and functional Springvale Boulevard has been officially opened by Greater Dandenong City Council in collaboration with the Victorian Government and delivery partners MACA and Hassell to attract more visitation to the precinct.**

The Boulevard has been transformed and now includes more space for pedestrians and footpath trading activities.

Wider crossings and a safer road environment with reduced traffic speeds, traffic calming devices and better street lighting, will provide improved access for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

Springvale Boulevard is refreshed and will help attract and retain sustainable retail, cultural and tourism activities.

This new high quality, revitalised public realm provides more seating for people to stop, rest and socialise.

The new walkable and landscaped street will green over time and contribute to the wellbeing and economic health of our community.

Council trusts this project will help foster a renewed sense of community pride in the Springvale activity centre.

Council and the Victorian Government's joint investment will reinforce the status of 'Sensational Springvale' as one of Melbourne's leading cultural destinations.


The enhanced Springvale Boulevard responds to feedback received by Council from extensive community engagement, and now reflects the community's aspirations for the area.

Council has recently engaged Realm Studios to commence the *Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan*. The public realm, investment and activation strategy will support the evolution of the area. The Springvale Community Hub and newly revitalised Springvale Boulevard are projects that celebrate the area's rich cultural tapestry and provide a renewed sense of pride. The *Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan* will build upon this heritage.



Photo: Cr Jim Memeti and St Kilda Football Club Chief Operating Officer Simon Lethlean.

Kicking goals in Greater Dandenong

 **Council and the St Kilda Football Club have established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) based on shared goals to increase the health and wellbeing of our community through participation in Australian Rules Football.**

St Kilda Football Club has been providing programs in Greater Dandenong for a number of years, and this agreement formalises the commitment of the club to the region.

The partnership will deliver school engagement programs, youth football and personal development programs, entry into the club's academy, and AFL and AFLW player appearances.

Our Christmas/ New Year Hours



Customer Service Centres

Friday 23 December – closing at 12pm, call centre closes at 3pm

Monday 26 December – Closed

Tuesday 27 December – Closed

Wednesday 28 December – Normal hours resume at Dandenong and Parkmore

Springvale Customer Service Centre will be closed from Wednesday 28 – Friday 30 December

Monday 2 January – Closed

Tuesday 3 January – Normal hours resume

Libraries and Springvale Community Hub

Friday 23 December – 9am–5pm

Saturday 24–Tuesday 27 December – Closed

Wednesday 28–Friday 30 December – 9am–5pm

Saturday 31 December to

Monday 2 January – Closed

Tuesday 3 January – Normal hours resume

Arts Venues

Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre will be closed from 4pm on Thursday 22 December to 12pm on Tuesday 10 January.

Drum Theatre will be closed from 12pm on 23 December to 10am on Monday 9 January.

South East Leisure Centres

Dandenong Stadium will be closed from Wednesday 21 December to Sunday 8 January.

Springers Leisure Centre will be closed from Monday 19 December to Sunday 8 January.

Dandenong Oasis and Noble Park Aquatic Centre (NPAC) will have the same opening hours.

Saturday 24 December – 8am–5pm

Sunday 25 December – Closed

Monday 26 December – 8am–5pm

Tuesday 27 December – 8am–5pm

Wednesday 28 December – Normal hours resume

Saturday 31 December – 8am–5pm

Sunday 1 January – 8am–5pm

Monday 2 January – 8am–5pm

Tuesday 3 January – Normal hours resume








Waste collection

All rubbish, recycling and green waste bins will be collected as per usual, even on public holidays.



For specific opening hours visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au or phone 8571 1000.

What's On December 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
	 Please check our website and social media platforms for updates, as event dates may change or be offered virtually.		Conversation Circle Every Thursday Practice your English skills in an informal group session. Dandenong Library 6pm–7.30pm
5	Day Trips for Seniors A variety of fun outings are available throughout Victoria. View our website for information and to book a place on the community bus at greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/events or phone the Positive Ageing Team on 8571 5556 .	Inked Exhibition Until Friday 27 January Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre Tuesday–Friday, 12pm–4pm Check Council's website for closure times over the festive season.	8 ▶ Denise Drysdale – Encore Program Drum Theatre 10.30am–11.35am
12 ▶ Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm School Holiday Activities Lots of fun activities are available for children of all ages at Greater Dandenong Libraries and with the Youth Team, visit our website for more information and to book greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/events 			15 ▶ Christmas Movie Night – Santa Clause Springvale Library, 7.30pm ▶ Macrame Christmas Ornament workshop Dandenong Library 7.30pm ▶ Our Beat Makers Market The Drum Theatre 6.30pm–10pm
	20 ▶ Table Top Games Night Drum Theatre 6.30pm	21 ▶ Social Knitwork Every Wednesday Dandenong Library 10am 	22 ▶ Christmas Craft Space Mitchell Hall Springvale Community Hub 10am–2pm
26 BOXING DAY	27 	Take care this summer  Are you prepared for an emergency? Learn about the types of emergency risks that could affect you and how you can better prepare for them. Visit emergencyprepare.com.au for more information on how to look after yourself during floods, storms, fires and potential heatwaves.	



FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>Visit Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve</p> <p>Every Friday, 9am–3pm Every third Sunday of the month, 10am–5pm</p> <p>8 Mackay Street, Springvale South Guided tours available</p>	<p>Saturdays</p> <p>Parkrun Dandenong Park 7.45am</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Australian Nativity Scene Display</p> <p>Until 13 January</p> <p>St Elizabeth's Parish 107 Bakers Road, Dandenong North</p> <p>Phone Wilson Fernandez on 0428 927 110 to book a viewing</p>
<p>9</p> <p>▶ Carols in Dandenong Park Dandenong Park 6pm</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>▶ Clothes and Toys Swap Mitchell Hall Springvale Community Hub 1pm–3pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>▶ Santa arrives by train and free Santa photos Dandenong Plaza 3.30pm</p> 
<p>16</p> <p>▶ Santa arrives by train and free Santa photos Dandenong Plaza 3.30pm</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>▶ The Keysie Market Springers Leisure Centre 10am</p> <p>▶ Free Christmas Water Ski Show National Water Sport Centre Bangholme 3pm–6pm</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>▶ The Keysie Market Springers Leisure Centre 10am</p> <p>▶ Free Christmas Water Ski Show National Water Sport Centre Bangholme 3pm–6pm</p> 
<p>23</p>  <p><i>New Year's Eve Celebration</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>CHRISTMAS EVE</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CHRISTMAS DAY</p> 
	<p>31</p> <p>▶ New Year's Eve Celebration Dandenong Park 6pm–9.30pm</p> 	






- 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
 - South East Leisure**
Ph: 9767 3100
 - Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre**
Ph: 9706 8441
 - Dandenong Market**
Ph: 9701 3850
 - Food and 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

COVID safe guidelines will be met to ensure public safety for all Council events.

What's On January 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
30	31	 Please check our website and social media platforms for updates, as event dates may change or be offered virtually.	Save the date Open Air Movies Friday 3, 10, 17, 24 February @ Springvale Community Hub Friday 3, 10, 17 March @ Harmony Square, Dandenong 7pm
	2 NEW YEAR'S DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	5  Temporary Tattoos for Kids Workshop	5 World Fare @ Night Dandenong Market 5pm–9.30pm
10 Save the date SHE of Mind and Body Exhibition Tuesday 7 February – Friday 31 March Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre 12pm–4pm	10 Skate, Grip Art and Tunes Youth and Family Services Clow Street, Dandenong 12pm–2pm	11 Family Fun – LEGO, games and puzzles Dandenong Library 10.30am–12pm DJ Workshop Dandenong Library 12.30pm–2.30pm	12 World Fare @ Night Dandenong Market 5pm–9.30pm
16 Tricky Nick Gets Booked Magic Show Dandenong Library 2.30pm–3.20pm	17 Liquid Nitrogen Show Springvale Library 2.30pm–3.15pm	18 Resin Art Workshop Youth and Family Services Clow Street, Dandenong 11am–1pm Family Fun – LEGO, games and puzzles Dandenong Library 2.30pm–4pm	19 Tie Die Workshop Springvale Library 2.30pm–3.30pm World Fare @ Night Dandenong Market 5pm–9.30pm
23 Self Defence Workshop Dandenong Library 2.30pm–3.15pm Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	24 Family Fun – LEGO, games and puzzles Springvale Library 10.30am–12pm	25 Family Fun – LEGO, games and puzzles Springvale Library 2.30pm–4pm Chocolate Starfish: Bat Out of Hell Drum Theatre 7.30pm	26 AUSTRALIA DAY Make Your Move Fun Run Dandenong Park 7.45am–9.30am Australia Day Awards Ceremony Dandenong Park 11am

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>Inked Exhibition Until Friday 27 January Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre Tuesday–Friday, 12pm–4pm</p>  <p><i>Wednesday 25 January</i></p>	<p>Saturdays Parkrun Dandenong Park 7.45am</p>	<p>1 NEW YEAR'S DAY</p> 
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Summer Groves Springvale Community Hub 11am–1pm ▶ Temporary Tattoos for Kids Workshop Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre 12pm–2pm ▶ Cartooning with Adam Wallace Springvale Library 2.30pm–3.30pm 	<p>Protect yourself from COVID-19</p> <p>Free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) are available for vulnerable people in our community over 70 years, concession card holders and for people with a disability, immunocompromised or for their carer.</p> <p>RATs can be collected from Council's customer service centres, Dandenong Library, Jan Wilson Centre or Springvale Community Hub. For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/covid-19</p>	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Keysborough Sunday Market Frederick Wachter Reserve 9am–2pm ▶ Lunar New Year Celebration Springvale Library 2pm–4pm 
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ BMX Workshop Noble Park Skate Park 12pm–2pm ▶ Back to School Craft Dandenong Library 2.30pm–3.30pm 	<p>Save the date</p> <p>BIG Summer Read – Finale Party</p> <p>Saturday 4 February Springvale Library 2.30pm–4pm</p>	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Paint Out at Heritage Hill Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens 1pm–5pm
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Street Style Soccer Tournament Soccer 5s, Dandenong South 9am – 5pm 	<p>Save the date</p> <p>Sustainability Festival</p> <p>Sunday 26 February 2023 Dandenong Market 10am – 3pm</p> 	

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COVID safe guidelines will be met to ensure public safety for all Council events.

Students tell us why we should not litter



One of Council's important roles is to educate the community about waste and why it is important not to litter.

Across 11 schools in Greater Dandenong, 438 students recently took part in a drawing competition to create an anti-litter poster to teach adults why we should look after our environment.

The drawings submitted were incredible with 11 students winning prizes, and their schools winning a worm farm or compost bin.

Minaret Primary School's Miss Shamirah and Sister Jancy were instrumental in encouraging competition entries from their students.

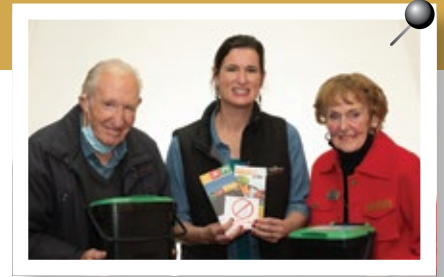
Their school received a complimentary tumbling compost bin so students can practice composting their food scraps



instead of sending them to landfill. Their food scraps and garden waste turn into a natural fertiliser to enrich their school's soil and help feed their worms.

Minaret Primary School's Executive Principal, Mohammed Taksim said: "I'd like to thank Greater Dandenong City Council and their Waste Management Team for this valuable initiative. The competition helped our students understand the importance of protecting our environment and encourages them all to take action. We were honoured to be visited by Cr Jim Memeti and the team, their presence and the presentation of awards inspired our students. We are also grateful for the compost bin as a gift and hope we will be able to share some fresh produce in the future".

The anti-litter poster entries received by Council will be used to teach our community about the importance of looking after our planet.



Residents from Parkglen Retirement Village with Council's Waste Education Officer, Samantha Ondrus (centre).

Leading the way in waste

Parkglen Retirement Village in Keysborough is the first aged care facility in Greater Dandenong to embrace Council's new food and garden waste recycling service.

Council's waste team recently visited Parkglen Retirement Village to take the residents through a waste education session on how best to dispose of their food and garden waste using their kitchen caddies and recycling bins. Parkglen is generating over 1000 litres of food waste per fortnight collected from the village's kitchens and residents' units.

Parkglen's Community Manager, Peter Payne is committed to supporting residents to do all they can to protect our environment, regularly working with Council to responsibly dispose of general waste, food and green waste, e-waste and mattresses.

To book a waste education session for your community group email the waste team at wasteevents@cgd.vic.gov.au

Primary school students create recycled art



Education on reusing and recycling our rubbish can start early in a child's life.

Schools play a vital role in communicating these messages to students, their families, and the wider community.

To help celebrate the importance of reusing and recycling our rubbish, students from Springvale Park Special Development School, Keysborough Gardens Primary School and Mount

Hira College participated in a recycled art project, putting their creativity skills to the test.

The students created artwork masterpieces, using everyday waste and recycled objects sourced from around their household and school.

Their brilliant creations were displayed in the lighting boxes along Garner Lane, Dandenong and at the Springvale Community Hub.



CREATIVITY



Enjoy your local library this summer



BIG Summer Read

Your favourite summer reading program is back.

The BIG Summer Read is our annual reading challenge for primary school aged children presented by Public Libraries Victoria and Greater Dandenong Libraries.

The challenge starts on 1 December and finishes on 31 January 2023.

Register to join in on the Beanstack Tracker app or visit the Beanstack website.

Read books over the summer and log them in the Beanstack Tracker app. You can also collect a paper tracker from the library to record your reading.

For every 10 books read and logged, a milestone reward can be collected from the library for entry into the prize draw.

Prizes will be awarded at a special event on Saturday 4 February 2023 at Springvale Library.



For more information visit libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread



School Holiday Program

An exciting new range of free school holiday workshops and activities are available this summer in our Greater Dandenong Libraries.

For more information visit libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events

Learn at our Libraries

Dandenong and Springvale Libraries host a range of activities, workshops and lifelong learning opportunities weekly.

Greater Dandenong Libraries have a new website, see what's on by visiting libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Stay connected and follow @greaterdandenonglibraries on Facebook and Instagram for great reading recommendations, event updates and lots more.

Read and Relax Blog

Read staff reviews of their favourite books, movies and more, and get some inspiration for your next read.

For more reading suggestions and staff reviews, check out The Open Book Podcast with new episodes monthly at libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/connect/open-book-podcast

The library also now has a podcast in community languages about the library services and collections.

Justices of the Peace

Justices of the Peace (JPs) are available at both the Dandenong Library and Springvale Community Hub.

The service is free and staffed by volunteers. JPs can assist residents with the following:

- ▶ attesting the execution of a document
- ▶ witnessing a statutory declaration
- ▶ witnessing an affidavit for use in court
- ▶ certifying true copies of an original document
- ▶ certifying a person's identity.

No appointments are needed but availability is best confirmed by phoning 1300 630 920 during opening hours.

As JPs are volunteers there may be times when they are not available as scheduled. Current session times are:

Dandenong Library

Monday @ 10am–3pm

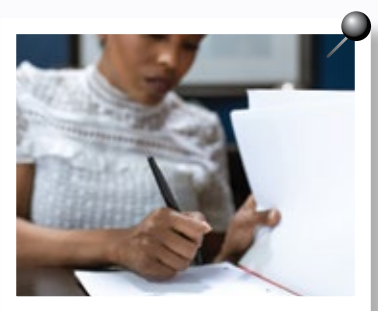
Tuesday @ 10am–3pm and 6.30pm–8pm (on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month 10am–3pm and 4pm–8pm)

Wednesday @ 10am–3pm

Thursday @ 10am–3pm and 6pm–8pm

Springvale Library

Monday to Friday @ 10am–1pm and 4pm–7pm



What's on at the Drum Theatre



Denise Drysdale

Thursday 8 December
10.30am–11.35am

This performance is part of the Drum's Encore Program.

All Encore tickets include complimentary morning tea and a parking voucher.

Morning tea is provided before the show from 9.30am.

Our Beat Makers Market

Thursday 15 December
6.30pm

Enjoy performances from artists across music, dance, film and spoken word as you browse through a range of hand crafted wares from local makers.

Drum Theatre Table Top Games Night

Tuesday 20 December
6.30pm


Give the experience of theatre at the Drum. You can purchase a show ticket or dollar value. Purchase a **Christmas gift voucher** in person or online at drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/tickets-and-gift-vouchers or phone 8571 1666.



Chocolate Starfish: Bat Out of Hell

Wednesday 25 January
7.30pm–9pm

Australia's most entertaining rock band continues to live up to its reputation with this spectacular selection of songs honoured in true Starfish style.

 **Book your tickets today at drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/drum/events**

The Arts

Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre
Tuesday–Friday 12pm to 4pm

Inked Exhibition

Until Friday 27 January 2023

This exhibition showcases the people of our community and their tattoos presented through photography.

Also featured in the Gallery will be community photos chosen for presentation in **Council's 2023 Community Calendar**.

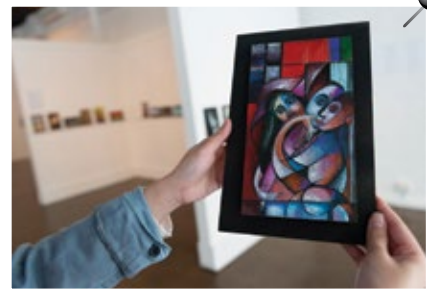


Photo: Artwork by Amir Tehrani

9 by 5 Exhibition

The well-loved 9 by 5 Exhibition is back and celebrating its 16th year in 2023.

Join artists from around Australia as they present their work on nine by five-inch panels.

Register for your art boards from Monday 16 January.

 **For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/9by5**

Henna Me

Thursday 15 December
10am–12noon
Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre

Become a henna artist with local multidisciplinary artist Fathiah Raihan.


Kid's Temporary Tattoos

Friday 13 January
12pm–2pm
Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre

FREE temporary tattoo design workshop, create your own colourful designs.

Paint Out at Heritage Hill

Sunday 22 January
1pm–5pm
Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens, Dandenong

 **For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/greater-dandenong-council/events/paint-out-heritage-hill**

Upcoming immunisation sessions



Immunisation sessions are held every month for residents.

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 January.

Date	Location
Thursday 5 January	Jan Wilson Community Centre, BJ Powell Reserve, Halton Road, Noble Park North
Monday 9 January	Springvale City Hall, Supper Room, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale
Thursday 12 January	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.

Long grass throughout Greater Dandenong



Our parks, reserves and open spaces are very wet given our recent heavy rainfall so the grass in some areas is longer than usual.

Please be assured Council's grass mowing schedule will resume as the weather gets warmer and the water dissipates in our green open spaces.

Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Become a Make Your Move Ambassador



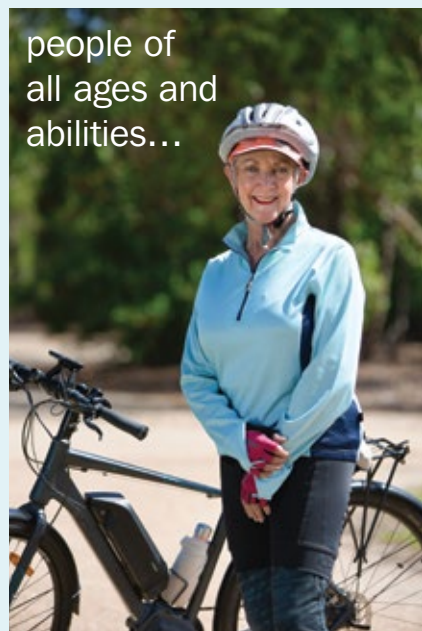
If you have a passion for health and wellbeing and want to help others, then contact Council to apply to be a Make Your Move Ambassador in 2023.

The ambassador role is derived from Council's *Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2030* and involves creating awareness of the strategy and its campaign to 'make your move' throughout our Greater Dandenong community.

Through events, programs and activations, Make Your Move Ambassadors work throughout the community to lead conversations with people of all ages and abilities on how to enhance their health and wellbeing.

Make Your Move Ambassadors also inspire others to get active and demonstrate the numerous social benefits that 'making your move' can have on your daily life.

If you are interested in applying to become a 2023 Make Your Move Ambassador, please contact Candice McCarthy, Sport and Recreation Development Officer, at candice.mccarthy@cgd.vic.gov.au to discuss your interest.

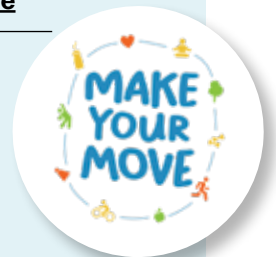


people of all ages and abilities...

Applications close on 27 January 2023.

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

Council sincerely thanks our 2022 Make Your Move Ambassadors Julie Klok (pictured above), Murray Congues and Peter Ogunyemi for being such wonderful role models in our community.



South East Leisure

Enjoy our local pools this summer

Visit Dandenong Oasis and Noble Park Aquatic Centre (NPAC) this summer to cool down in the pool on hot days.

Remember to always remain aware and be safe near water.

For more information and opening hours visit southeastleisure.com.au



Heavy rainfall and our drains



With heavy rain falling consistently across Greater Dandenong and surrounding areas over recent months, Council staff have been busy maintaining Council's extensive drainage network.

During storm events it is common for debris to wash down the drains which may lead to the drainage network getting blocked and unwanted pollutants washing down into our waterways.

You can help prevent this by minimising the amount of debris, leaves and other garden materials on or outside your property.

Council staff regularly inspect, maintain, renew and upgrade Council's drainage network to make sure it is working efficiently.

We also work closely with other water authorities such as Melbourne Water to help us manage the drainage network effectively and to deliver a better service to the community.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/water-and-stormwater



What is biodiversity?



The term biodiversity refers to the variety of life on earth, including microorganisms, animals and plants.

Australia has experienced the largest loss of biodiversity of any continent over the past 200 years. In Greater Dandenong less than five per cent of native vegetation remains and our canopy cover is only nine per cent, with climate change and urbanisation threatening the areas that remain.

Despite this, Greater Dandenong has more than 600 hectares of native vegetation, including significant patches of remnant vegetation providing habitat for a range of fauna species.

Street trees, local parks and even residential backyards have an important

part to play in providing habitat to enhance our city's biodiversity.

Council is working on a *Biodiversity Action Plan* to help guide our management of biodiversity across the municipality.

The plan will map fauna corridors, and include habitat assessments, and has been crafted following input from residents and traditional owner groups. It seeks to achieve a vision of making Greater Dandenong's ecosystems resilient, healthy, connected and contributing to the wellbeing of current and future generations.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/biodiversity



Summer tips in the outdoors

While enjoying the outdoors this summer protect yourself with sunscreen, drink lots of water, wear light fitting clothing and wear a hat and sunglasses.

Don't leave children in the car alone, avoid getting bitten by mosquitoes and watch out for our local snakes who like to come out to enjoy the sunshine on warmer days.



New cricket nets

Parkfield Reserve in Noble Park had new cricket nets installed just in time for the start of Parkfield Cricket Club's 2022-23 cricket season.

The Victorian Government invested \$100,000 from the Community Cricket Program Community Facilities Program to support Council's works at the reserve.

Waste Wise Christmas

Christmas is a time of year when we are guaranteed to create extra waste.

But there are ways to reduce your impact and celebrate sustainably this festive season. Here are a few tips from our friends at Sustainability Victoria.

Use a living Christmas tree. Every plastic tree will eventually end up in landfill, but living trees are 100 per cent biodegradable. While you are at it, reuse materials to make decorations. Classic paper chains replace tinsel, and homemade ornaments reusing materials found around the house can create a unique Christmas tree.

Consider sustainable gifting. When choosing sustainable gifts, consider the health, environmental and social impact of each item.




- ▶ Donate to a worthy cause in someone else's name.
- ▶ Give experiences such as a meal out, an art class or movie tickets.
- ▶ Consider a Kris Kringle or Secret Santa initiative. Rather than buy a gift for everyone, just buy one gift.
- ▶ Buy gifts made or grown locally to reduce emissions.
- ▶ Make your own gifts, including handmade art, home grown plants or home baked goods.

Reduce food waste. The average household throws away more than \$2000 of wasted food each year. Shop local, stick to your list and always send guests home with leftovers (in reusable containers).

When celebrating with family and friends, make recycling easy by setting up separate bins for general rubbish, recyclable material and food waste.

When the time comes to put your kerbside bins out for collection make sure recyclables are loose (not in a plastic bag) when placed in your yellow lid bin, and your food waste is placed in your food and garden waste bin (with the green lid).

 Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/waste](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/waste) for more information.

Supporting our LGBTIQ+ community


Greater Dandenong is a welcoming and inclusive community.



Council is working towards improving the inclusion, recognition and community understanding of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex, queer, asexual and questioning LGBTIQ+ residents and visitors.

In 2022 for the first time, Council staff took part in the St Kilda Pride March to stand in solidarity in celebration of our rainbow community.

In 2023 Council staff will once again march under a Greater Dandenong City Council banner at the iconic St Kilda Pride March.

 Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/LGBTIQaplus](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/LGBTIQaplus) for more information about what Council is doing in this space.

In the meantime, here is a list of further resources to support the LGBTIQ+ community, their families and allies.

Australian LGBTIQ Multicultural Council at agmc.org.au

Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives at alga.org.au

Minus 18 at minus18.org.au

National LGBTI Health Alliance at lgbthealth.org.au

Qlife at qlife.org.au

Rainbow Families Victoria at pridecentre.org.au/resources/rainbow-families-victoria

Rainbow Health Victoria at rainbowhealthvic.org.au

Rainbow Network at rainbownetwork.com.au

Switchboard Victoria at switchboard.org.au

Thorne Harbour Health at thorneharbour.org

Transgender Victoria at transgendervictoria.com

Victoria Police LGBTI Liaison Officers at police.vic.gov.au


Single-use plastic ban

From Wednesday 1 February certain types of single use plastic items will be banned throughout Victoria. This is an important step to protect our health, wildlife and the environment, and to ultimately reduce plastic pollution.

These plastics will no longer be sold or supplied across the state from February 2023:

- ▶ drinking straws
- ▶ cutlery
- ▶ plates
- ▶ drink stirrers
- ▶ cotton bud sticks
- ▶ food and drink containers made from expanded polystyrene.

You can avoid single-use plastic items by choosing reusable alternatives or items made from materials that are responsibly sourced, such as paper, wood or bamboo.

 Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/sustainability](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/sustainability) and click on the sustainability and waste tab for more information.

ARRIVE HUNGRY

Visit Dandenong Market



Shopping for the holiday season is easy with the most delicious food and unique gifts on offer at Dandenong Market.

Visit the Market's Bazaar and browse the expansive range of treasures and trinkets, or find fresh plants and blooms at one of the market's several florists.

If you're shopping for a Christmas feast then look no further than the Meat, Fish and Deli Hall. Pick up fresh seafood and meat, or treat the family to traditional


fruit cakes or other bread products from the on-site bakeries. Don't forget to stop by one of the Market's many fresh fruit and vegetable stalls to stock up on the best tasting seasonal produce to share with loved ones.

Dandenong Market is a one stop shop for all your needs this festive season.

The Market will be open on Friday 23 and Saturday 24 December, and closed for Christmas Day on Sunday 25 December and the Boxing Day Public Holiday on Tuesday 27 December. The Market will trade as usual on all other days.

Enjoy balmy summer evenings with the return of the night market for 2023. World Fare @ Night will feature a wide range of street food trucks as well as regular market street food traders.

Arrive hungry and bring family and friends for an evening of relaxed fun and experience the world on a plate. World Fare @ Night will be held on Thursdays, 5, 12 and 19 January from 5pm-9.30pm.

 Visit dandenongmarket.com.au for more information.



Baladi Products in Brady Road, Dandenong.

Shop local this festive season

Christmas is just around the corner and sourcing the perfect gift can be a challenge.

Start by shopping local, not only will you impress your family and friends with a great gift, but you will also support a small business owner, their employees and suppliers to keep doing what they love.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of our community in Greater Dandenong. They create jobs, bring visitors to our suburbs and provide support to local schools, sporting clubs and charities.


Why not visit one of our cultural precincts? There's Little India in Foster Street, Dandenong, the Afghan Bazaar in Thomas Street, Dandenong, and sensational Springvale. There are also many small strip shops dotted throughout our suburbs.

Every dollar spent locally makes a difference.

And while you're exploring our retail offering, why not grab a meal from a local café, restaurant or food shop.

With the longer days and warmer weather upon us, consider dining outdoors this summer. Council has introduced permanent outdoor furniture for many local food establishments, encouraging more people to dine out.

We look forward to seeing more people out and about enjoying our shopping and dining precincts this summer.

 For a list of great places to eat at locally visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/great-bites-open-for-business

GREATER DANDENONG FOOD AND CULTURAL TOURS



BOOK YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE TODAY



Want a chance to experience delicious food, while learning about the culture behind the food? We offer an authentic food and cultural experience in either Dandenong or Springvale.



TOUR TYPES:

- Afghan bazaar
- Little India
- Springvale Fresh
- Off the Menu



DID YOU KNOW

we can organise group bookings for 8-16 people available upon request.



For more information and bookings visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/tours or phone 8571 1550



Prepare your property for the fire season



The local Country Fire Authority (CFA) is encouraging all residents to prepare your property for fire season.

Start cleaning the debris around your house, clean your gutters, sweep up the leaves, mow the grass and tidy up the garden.



The CFA is always on the look out for new volunteers, for more information visit cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa

Australian nativity scene



For the 19th year, visit St Elizabeth's Parish at 107 Bakers Road, Dandenong North until 13 January to view for free the popular Christmas nativity scene display, designed by Wilson Fernandez.

Phone Wilson on 0428 927 110 or the Parish Office on 9795 6217 to book your viewing time.



For further information visit australiannativityscene.org

Dad's Group



**Wednesday 14 December
10.30am–12pm
Dandenong North**

Neighbourhood House – 41 Menzies Avenue, Dandenong North. Next to Menzies Reserve.

Come with your child to share a meal with other dads in your local area.

Play, interact and meet other dads to exchange ideas and make new friends.

Toys and books will be available for you to take home, a morning tea is supplied and vouchers will be available.



For more information phone Arif Azizi on 0403 073 648.



New Road Bridge for Dandenong South

The Level Crossing Removal Project is removing the level crossing at Progress Street, Dandenong South and building a new road bridge connecting Progress Street and Fowler Road.

The new road bridge will feature a pedestrian path and provide businesses in this busy industrial precinct with safer access to Princes Highway via South Gippsland Highway.



For more information visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/news/level-crossing-removal-project



Keysborough Probus Club



A social club for over 55-year-olds, Keysborough Probus

Club is open to new members who want to join their meetings and outings.

Formed in February 2020, the club is keen to expand its membership. Members are retired, or semi-retired, and meet on the first Thursday of the month at the South Eastern Masonic Centre, 270 Hutton Road, Keysborough, from 10am–12pm.

The group organises morning teas, lunches and activities including a walking group, games group and computer group.



For more information email kbprobus@gmail.com or phone Linda on 0404 066 894.



Contacting Victoria Police



Phone triple zero (000) when an immediate response is required, when a crime is happening or if someone is in immediate danger.

For non-urgent crimes and events, phone 131 444 or submit an online report via Victoria Police's website.

You can also visit your local Victoria Police station to report any incident and to receive further support.



For more information visit police.vic.gov.au/contact

CAROLS

IN DANDENONG PARK

FREE
ENTRY

Friday 9 December
6pm - 9.30pm

174 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Multicultural carols
Food and market stalls
Free kids' activities
Special appearance by Santa

This is a smoke and alcohol free event
greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au
[/carols-in-dandenong-park](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/carols-in-dandenong-park)



New Year's Eve Fireworks

Saturday 31 December
6pm – 9.30pm

Dandenong Park
174 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Food stalls • Roving performances
Fireworks 9.20pm • Bring a picnic
BYO seating

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/new-years-eve

Free
Event