

# Greater Dandenong Council News

A photograph of three people standing in profile, looking towards the right. They are positioned in front of a large tree trunk that features a prominent, intricate carving of a traditional Indigenous Australian design. The scene is set outdoors with soft lighting.

## Celebrating our Traditional Custodians

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**Keysborough South  
Community Hub**

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**National  
Tree Day**

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**Springvale  
Snow Fest**

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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

### All correspondence to:

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**Phone: 8571 1000**



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**Speak and listen: 1300 555 727**

**[relayservice.gov.au](https://relayservice.gov.au)**



**TIS: 131 450**



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

## Important Numbers

Emergency calls

Police / Fire / Ambulance.....000

Street lighting faults /

non-operational

United Energy..... 13 20 99

Traffic signal faults /

non-operational..... 8571 1000

Hoon Hotline..... 1800 333 000

Hard Waste Collection

WM Waste Management

Services..... 9721 1915

Australian Animal

Protection Society..... 9798 8415

RSPCA..... 9224 2222

Nurse on Call..... 1300 606 024

Non Urgent Police Response

(no sirens)..... 131 444

Dandenong Police..... 9767 7444

Springvale Police..... 8558 8600

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

# Mayor's message

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

My fellow Councillors and I adopted the Council Plan 2021–25 (Revised 2023), Annual Plan 2023–24, Budget 2023–24 and Long-Term Financial Plan 2024–33 at the 26 June Council meeting.

Council is committed to improving the services and facilities we offer to our community and these documents outline Council's long-term focus and key strategic activities for the next 12 months.

We are committed to making things better for our residents and enhancing vital services in the City of Greater Dandenong. You can read more on the following page.

Construction has also begun on the new \$22 million Keysborough South Community Hub. This exciting community project has been developed in response to extensive community consultation. The following page details the design features of this new facility.

Another Reuse and Recycle Drop Off is scheduled for 29 July at Greaves Reserve in Dandenong, read more about how you can declutter your home on page 6.

## My City

### The old playground from Ross Reserve in Noble Park is now being put to great use by children in Sri Lanka.

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

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



There is plenty to do in Greater Dandenong this winter. Make sure you visit Springvale Snow Fest on Sunday 30 July as real snow from Mt Buller will be on site as well as an artificial ice-skating rink. Spectacular fireworks will also light up the night sky, read more on page 11.



We are enhancing our tree cover throughout the municipality, find out why trees matter so much to us on pages 8 and 10.

Stay warm and keep well this winter and all the very best until next month.

**Mayor  
Cr Eden Foster**



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.

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 using vegetable based inks by an ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certified printer.

FSC  
Logo

Front cover: Jillian West, Alexandra Prouse and Uncle Shane Clarke from the Bunurong Land Council in front of the significant scar tree in Dandenong Park.



# Keysborough South Community Hub

**Construction of the new \$22 million Keysborough South Community Hub has now begun.**

Situated at the corner of Chapel and Villiers Roads, the Hub will include a range of services, programs and flexible meeting spaces.

The Hub will have an innovative and environmentally sustainable design and is aiming for a 5 Green Star Certified rating.

The facility will be home to a kindergarten and long day care service, Maternal and Child Health Service, a library lounge and public study spaces, as well as multipurpose community spaces including a commercial kitchen. Flexible outdoor spaces will include a basketball ring, amphitheatre and a playground.

While construction will start immediately, in the coming months a draft strategic plan will also be available for public

**NOW  
BEGUN**



Council CEO Jacqui Weatherill, Cr Rhonda Garad, Mayor Cr Eden Foster, Member for Mordialloc Tim Richardson MP and Minister Ingrid Stitt MP

consultation. This plan will identify the vision and objectives for the Hub's future.

The Victorian Government has contributed \$4 million from the Building Blocks Grants and Living Libraries Infrastructure Program funding.

The project is due to be completed by December 2024.

**For more information visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/keysborough-south-community-hub](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/keysborough-south-community-hub)**

## Council's focus for the year ahead



**At the 26 June Council meeting, Council adopted its 2023–24 Budget, Council Plan 2021–25 (revised), Annual Plan 2023–24 and Long-Term Financial Plan (2024–33) providing strategic direction for the next 12 months.**

Council is committed to improving local services and facilities for our community.

Council's strategic priorities for the year ahead ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Council.

Like many households and businesses, Council faces increased costs.

In 2023–24, Council has committed to invest more than \$58 million dollars to:

- ▶ design the Dandenong Community Hub
- ▶ construct the Keysborough South Community Hub
- ▶ construct the Dandenong New Art gallery
- ▶ construct the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre
- ▶ upgrade the Lyndale Secondary College Sports Pavilion canteen.

Council will also spend over \$9 million on our reserves, open spaces and lighting to improve the safety and quality of our city's natural environment.

We will also spend \$268,000 to green our city and increase the tree planting program throughout our municipality.

Council will also invest nearly \$8 million to improve our local roads.

Our community's vision continues to guide Council's priorities now and into the future.

Council will:

- ▶ improve the health and wellbeing of our residents
- ▶ support the most vulnerable in our community and ensure local support networks are inclusive
- ▶ educate our community about climate change and the importance of protecting our biodiversity
- ▶ support our local businesses and enhance skill development to improve local employment and learning opportunities.



**To read more about these documents and see what Council has planned for 2023–24 visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)**

## Councillor Contacts



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

MONDAY

10  
JULY

MONDAY

24  
JULY

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

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

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

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

JULY

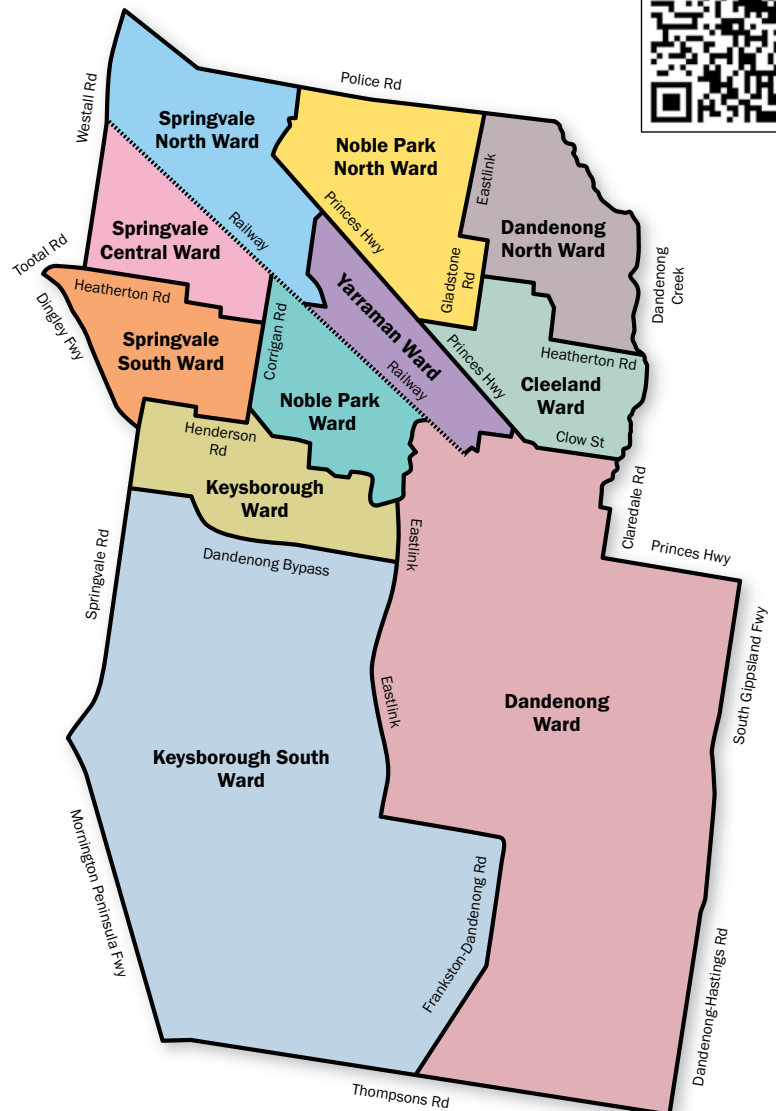
## Council Meetings

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

Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- ▶ Monday 10 July
- ▶ Monday 24 July.

## Greater Dandenong Ward Map



## Cr Angela Long

► Cleeland Ward



**Greater Dandenong is very fortunate to have its own market in the heart of Dandenong.**

The Dandenong Market is open four days a week – Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. You can buy fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, fish, eggs and flowers, as well as a wide range of general merchandise.

The Market also has a food court where you can enjoy food from all over the world and it's also a great place to meet up with family and friends for lunch.

The Market holds several special events and festivals each year. The Market hosted NAIDOC Week celebrations on Sunday 2 July. Featuring a traditional Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, the event included Indigenous dance, music and art performances and family-friendly workshops. It was a free and inclusive celebration of Indigenous community life, language and culture. Dandenong Market's vision for

reconciliation is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage to be protected, celebrated and shared.

A new event on the Market calendar is Euro Feast, scheduled for Sunday 13 August. Designed to showcase the specialty continental delicatessens and bakeries, and to bring new tastes of Europe to the Market. Enjoy cured meats, artisan cheeses, freshly baked bread and a wide range of indulgent sweet treats. Live music and dance performances, as well as family-friendly activities will help everyone celebrate the cultures of Europe.

A major project set for Cleeland Ward is the Dandenong Wellness Centre that will replace the Oasis swimming pool. Council recently voted to support this project which will take several years to complete. Part of the project will be a new home for the Dandenong Hockey Club, which will replace their existing club rooms in the Maurie Jarvis building. This will be a great facility for the whole community.



► **If you need to contact me on any Council matter, please phone 0466 004 616 or email [angela.long@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:angela.long@cgd.vic.gov.au)**

## ► Springvale South Ward

## Cr Loi Truong



**One of our biggest community events is happening in Springvale this month. Springvale Snow Fest is a great opportunity to celebrate winter and what makes our community special.**

This year's Snow Fest will feature two snow play areas, an artificial ice rink, live performances, family rides and food and market stalls.

Come along to Springvale Snow Fest on Sunday 30 July, from 12pm – 7pm. Visit [snowfest.com.au](http://snowfest.com.au) for more information.

Improvement works at Burden Park continue, with new tree plantings and seats installed recently. I hope we can install a shade sail over the play equipment in the next 12 months.

In 2019, Council adopted a master plan to help ensure the park continues to meet the needs of our community and I continue to advocate for funding to carry out these upgrades.

I want to provide an update on the project to install traffic lights at the intersection of Harold and Corrigan Roads in Noble Park. At the time of writing this column the project was being completed. Statistics from recent years show the intersection is dangerous, but traffic lights will help make this a safer place for all road users and pedestrians.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic I have distributed over 36,000 free cloth face masks to the community. Since the start of this year, I have been working with Council to help distribute RAT kits and face masks as part of the Council RAT Program. Contact Council via email at [COVID19@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVID19@cgd.vic.gov.au) to find out more.

► **If you would like to get in touch with me I can be reached via email at [loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:loi.truong@cgd.vic.gov.au) or phone on 0466 004 618.**





## Make Your Move this Winter



Enjoy the many wonderful outdoor spaces, parks, reserves and playgrounds throughout Greater Dandenong this Winter.

There is so much to explore in your own backyard.



Visit Council's website for a list of outdoor spaces near you at [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)

## Book an immunisation appointment



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.



Please visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation) to make a booking or phone 8571 1000.

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

## Reduce your waste on 29 July



The Reuse and Recycle Drop Off Day returns to Dandenong this month to help households declutter.

Reduce your waste to landfill by donating reusable items or provide a second life for recyclable material and help create a sustainable future.

Drop off larger unwanted electronic and household goods, including televisions, computers, whitegoods, furniture, mattresses and bicycles for free. Good quality items will be donated to charity while other items will be recycled.

Residents attending the Drop Off event may bring up to 15 items by car or small trailer. No trucks will be given access.



The Reuse and Recycle Drop Off Day will be held at Greaves Reserve, 2-20 Bennet Street, Dandenong on Saturday 29 July, from 8am - 1pm.



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



## Immunisation team receives national award



Council's immunisation team has been nationally recognised for their innovative approach to improving access and coverage for priority populations receiving the Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) Immunisation Award at the National Communicable Diseases and Immunisation Conference.

The award was presented by the CEO of the Public Health Association of Australia and CEO of GSK Australia and is accompanied by a \$20,000 grant. Council will use these funds to purchase non-government funded vaccines for priority groups in Greater Dandenong.

Lisa Beck, Council's Immunisation Coordinator, presented at the national



conference sharing the team's success in being able to provide uninterrupted service to our culturally diverse community during challenging COVID-19 lockdowns.

Kate Russo, Team Leader Program for Refugee Immunisation Monitoring and Education (PRIME), also presented at the conference on the evolution of Council's work that has supported refugee and asylum seekers to access immunisation over the past 30 years.



Waa and Bulln Bulln Corroboree (Springvale Ceremonial Fire Pit)

## Referendum for a Voice to Parliament



**Greater Dandenong City Council recently announced support for the 'yes' vote for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament.**

Six years ago the Uluru Statement from the Heart proposed three points to support a better Australia for all.

They included:

- ▶ a constitutionally enshrined 'Voice'; and a Makarrata Commission to supervise
- ▶ a process of agreement-making between governments (aka a treaty or treaties)
- ▶ truth-telling about our history.

The Federal Government is calling on the Australian public to vote in a Referendum to decide on a Voice to Parliament. The Referendum will pose a question about changing the Constitution to establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

As an organisation Greater Dandenong City Council will support a yes vote, however **Council believes the public has the right to choose which way they want to vote.**



Scar tree in Dandenong

Council's role is to provide information to allow our residents to make their own informed choices.

➔ Visit [voice.gov.au](https://www.voice.gov.au) for more information about the Voice to Parliament.

## Aboriginal Community Forum

**Local Aboriginal community members have come together to address the issue of the high number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children being removed from family and placed into care.**

'Eyes on Boorais' (children) has come up with a series of recommendations to challenge the system which sees Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children 17 times more likely to be taken into care.

The group held a forum in November last year and followed up with a second forum in May. Supported by Greater Dandenong City Council the forums heard from community members with lived experience.

Aunty Elaine Taylor, Kylie Bell and Sharon Blow are members of the group that want to see major change happen. Statistics from September 2022 showed around 750 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were in out of home care in the southern region.

"We've got more tools and resources at our disposal now than we ever had, so what's going on? Why are our families being torn apart?" Ms Bell said.

Ms Blow said a national plan aims to reduce the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children in care by 45 per cent by the year 2031.

"Why wait 10 years, let's do it today."



**The Aboriginal Community Forum will continue to work with community and the authorities to address systemic issues in the out of home care system. For more information email [eyesonboorais@gmail.com](mailto:eyesonboorais@gmail.com)**



## OUR BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE

TAKE PART



...our city can be healthy, green and resilient



### One tree per child



**School children across Greater Dandenong are encouraged to plant trees as part of a new program run by Council.**

Council has signed up to the One Tree Per Child program, an international initiative established by the co-founders of National Tree Day (John Dee and the late Olivia Newton-John). The program aims to get every child to plant at least one tree before they leave school.

Grade three students in Greater Dandenong will have the opportunity to plant a tree with support from Council, with a goal to plant 1000 trees before the end of the year.

Students from Keysborough Gardens Primary School recently took part in the program's first tree planting event.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster said Council has recognised that across Greater Dandenong there are not enough trees.

"Trees help keep us cool by providing shade. They also provide a habitat for native wildlife.

"Council has a vision that our city can be healthy, green and resilient, and we can achieve this by planting more trees.

"Getting out in nature and getting our hands dirty has a proven benefit to our mental health.

"If you feel inspired to plant more trees around our city you can get involved in the community planting days we run throughout the year," said the Mayor.



### The climate is changing – so should we.

Council wants to hear about ways we can support the community to respond to climate change. Tell us what changes you have already made and how Council action can support you to make more changes.

Take part in the survey for your chance to win one of five \$100 Dandenong Market vouchers.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say) for more information.



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





# Something for everyone in Greater Dandenong

## Reminders

- ▶ **Plastic Free July**
- ▶ **Monday 24 July**  
Council meeting
- ▶ **Saturday 29 July**  
Wilam Biik Exhibition Opening  
National Tree Day – Community Planting, Tirhatuan Park  
Reuse and Recycle Drop Off Day
- ▶ **Sunday 30 July**  
Springvale Snow Fest  
National Tree Day – Community Planting, Springvalley Reserve
- ▶ **FIFA Women's World Cup**

Please visit our website and social media platforms for updates, as event details may change.



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

**Parkrun** @ Dandenong Park,  
Every Saturday, 7.45am

**Carers Walking Group** @ Burden Park,  
first Thursday of the month, 10am

**All Abilities Badminton** @ Springers  
Leisure Centre, every Wednesday, 6pm

**Multifaith Mindfulness Meditation**  
@ Dandenong Hospital, every Thursday,  
2.30pm

**Libraries at Dusk** – Thursday evenings  
@ Springvale and Dandenong Libraries,  
6.30pm

**Springvale Urban Harvest** @ Springvale  
Community Hub, second Saturday of the  
month, 1pm

**Dad's Group** @ Dandenong Library,  
every second Friday and @ Springvale  
Library every second Tuesday,  
various times

**Jan Wilson Community Centre** hosts a range of fun activities for all ages and abilities, including playgroup, zumba, adult fitness classes, strength training, yoga and meditation. Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-venues/jan-wilson-community-centre](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-venues/jan-wilson-community-centre)

**Day trips throughout Victoria for local seniors** on our community bus, to book your place on the community bus visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) or phone 8571 5556



**Afghan Bazaar Cultural Tour**  
Thursday 20 July, 6pm and Springvale  
Fresh Tour, Monday 14 August,  
11am, to book visit [drumticketing.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://drumticketing.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)

## The Keysie Market – indoor winter edition

**Springers Leisure Centre**  
**Sunday 30 July**  
**10am – 2pm**



After losing a loved one to suicide in 2016, founder Shirlene Allison works with a passionate group of volunteers to run The Keysie Market to help improve the mental health of our community and to support small businesses.

For more information visit [keysiemarket.com.au](https://keysiemarket.com.au)



Last chance to enter Council's **2024 Community Calendar photography competition**, visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/photography-competition](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/photography-competition)



## FIFA Women's World Cup

Watch all free-to-air football games live at Dandenong's Harmony Square and at the Springvale Community Hub.

Reminders of key games:

- ▶ Thursday 20 July – Australia v Ireland, 8pm
- ▶ Thursday 27 July – Australia v Nigeria, 8pm
- ▶ Monday 31 July – Australia v Canada, 8pm
- ▶ Sunday 20 August – World Cup Final match, 8pm

For more information visit [7news.com.au/sport/fifa-womens-world-cup/schedule](https://7news.com.au/sport/fifa-womens-world-cup/schedule)

## Our Green Wedge



**Council is committed to a greener city that values its natural assets and protects biodiversity.**

We continue to work to enhance our green wedge and recently adopted the Biodiversity Action Plan *Growing Nature Together*.

The Action Plan seeks to achieve the vision of making our city's ecosystems "resilient, healthy, connected and contributing to the wellbeing of current and future generations".

One community program the Action Plan supports is Gardens for Wildlife, which encourages landowners to protect and enhance biodiversity by increasing indigenous planting on their land.

Gardens for Wildlife is a free program open to all residents, schools, community groups and businesses of Greater Dandenong.

The program offers residents a garden visit from trained volunteer garden guides and a voucher for indigenous plants.



You too can help attract local species to the Green Wedge by joining Gardens for Wildlife, visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/gardens-for-wildlife](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/gardens-for-wildlife) for more information.

Council will conduct a 5-year review of the *Green Wedge Management Plan* in 2024.

To continue Council's commitment to the environment and reduce the consumption of paper, the Green Wedge Annual Progress Update will no longer be mailed out. Instead, annual updates will be posted on Council's website and included in this magazine.



**If you would like to receive the annual update via email, please scan the QR code to register your details.**

*Scan the QR code*

## Trees in Greater Dandenong



**Greater Dandenong City Council is working to increase the tree canopy across our city.**

Trees provide important benefits to us all, including shade from the sun, habitat for wildlife and they help reduce air pollution.

Often Council workers can be seen in our streets and our parks maintaining the environment and protecting our tree canopy by pruning, watering and planting trees. Sometimes, when a tree poses a risk to our community it must be removed.

There are two ways Council manages tree inspections. The first is in reaction to a request or complaint from a community member. In this instance a qualified arborist is sent to check the health of the tree and a decision is made based on their assessment.

The second way is via Council's Proactive Tree Inspection Program. Under this program Greater Dandenong is divided into 14 zones and over a two-year period each street in the city is inspected at least once.

Following an inspection, routine maintenance is scheduled on identified trees and in some instances the tree is identified for removal.

Council is working hard to increase the tree canopy across the city, and it is only in extreme circumstances that trees are removed. When a tree is removed Council endeavours to replace it with an appropriate species.

Council manages more than 55,000 street trees and a significant number of park trees. Every year more than 1700 street trees are planted across Greater Dandenong, and many more are planted in local parks and reserves through community planting days.



**Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/greening-our-city-urban-tree-strategy](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/greening-our-city-urban-tree-strategy) to read more about our Urban Tree Strategy.**

## National Tree Day



**Since 1996 more than 26 million trees have been planted on Planet Ark's National Tree Day across Australia.**

Council is committed to planting more trees and plants to increase our tree canopy and enhance biodiversity.

This year Council will celebrate National Tree Day with two community planting events that you can participate in at Tirhatuan Park on Saturday 29 July and Springvalley Reserve on Sunday 30 July.

Council invited schools to sign up to the One Tree Per Child program, which encourages Grade three students within Greater Dandenong to plant at least one tree before they leave school.

Conservation Volunteers Australia, supported by Chevron Australia, is partnering with Council to deliver this program in 2023 with an event being held on National Tree Day for Schools.

Grade three students from 15 schools from across the municipality will be attending the event, resulting in 1000 trees being planted on the day.



**Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/environmental-events](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/environmental-events) to find out more about National Tree Day and other planting opportunities.**





## Plastic Free July

**✘ Single-use plastics are a huge problem for our environment, our wildlife and our health.**

From 1 February this year the State Government banned the sale and supply of single-use plastics including, drinking straws, plates, cutlery and cotton buds.

The Plastic Free July challenge is a world-wide initiative to inspire a world free of plastic waste.

A few simple swaps can make a big difference for a more sustainable world.

Here are some helpful tips:

- ▶ bring your own reusable coffee cup or dine-in at your local café
- ▶ swap plastic straws for paper, silicone or metal reusable alternatives
- ▶ when buying fruit and vegetables bring your own bag or leave your produce loose
- ▶ BYO a reusable water bottle and refill from public taps.

Council has a Plastic Use Policy to eliminate single use plastics and plastic pollution across Greater Dandenong. The policy can support event organisers, sports clubs and community groups to reduce their own reliance on plastics and sets clear guidelines for events organised on Council land.

Share with us the steps you take this July to reduce plastic waste by sending a photo, your name and suburb to [sustainability@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@cgd.vic.gov.au). We will share some of your tips and tricks with the community to inspire more people to take action.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/plastics-policy](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/plastics-policy) for more information on the Plastic Use Policy.

**▶ Visit [plasticfreejuly.org](http://plasticfreejuly.org) to join the challenge.**



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

## Springvale Snow Fest

**Celebrate this chilly season as Springvale turns into a winter wonderland for the annual Springvale Snow Fest on Sunday 30 July.**

The award-winning event is back in 2023, bigger and better than ever.

Enjoy the two snow play areas filled with real snow delivered straight from the slopes of Mt Buller, or strap on ice skates and glide around the artificial ice-skating rink.

Enjoy family rides, food trucks, market stalls and live entertainment, as well as free arts and crafts activities for the whole family. The evening will end with a bang as a spectacular fireworks display lights up the night sky.

Springvale Snow Fest will be held in Buckingham Avenue, Springvale from 12pm–7pm. Fireworks display will start at 6.50pm.

**▶ Visit [snowfest.com.au](http://snowfest.com.au) for more information.**

## Community safety

**Be careful when withdrawing from an ATM**

Victoria Police offers tips to ensure you are safe when withdrawing money from an ATM.

- ▶ Use ATMs located inside buildings, supermarkets or other well-lit, busy locations.
- ▶ Be aware of any suspicious people and do not use the ATM if you feel unsafe.
- ▶ Cover the keypad to protect your PIN and never write your PIN down.
- ▶ If your card is not returned by the machine alert your bank immediately.

**▶ Visit [police.vic.gov.au/personal-safety](http://police.vic.gov.au/personal-safety) for more tips on personal safety.**

## Save these dates

**Noble Park Community Safety Forum  
Tuesday 25 July  
6.30pm–8.30pm**

Paddy O'Donoghue Centre –  
Function Rooms 3 and 4

**Dandenong Community Safety Forum  
Tuesday 22 August  
6.30pm–8.30pm**

Dandenong Council Chambers

**▶ For more information phone Jenny Kurjan on 8571 5230**

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

# Love your libraries



## Dress up story time

**Thursday 10 August  
10.30am**

Story time is a lot of fun for children and carers alike. Listening to stories helps children develop their imagination and vocabulary. Story time encourages a love of books and reading that is important for children's literacy and their comprehension of the world around them. This event is suitable for ages 3 years and older.

## Discover more libraries services



### Recording booth

Dandenong Library has a state-of-the-art recording booth available to record music, podcasts or create voice overs. This private space is free to use however conditions apply.

### Meeting rooms

Springvale Library has meeting rooms with the latest technology. A private and quiet space for study, interviews, meetings or connecting online. Rooms are free to use however conditions apply.

### Local and family history

The library offers resources, programs and staff to support local and family history research.

## Libraries Change Lives

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



Visit [libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events](http://libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events) to find out more about library programs and activities.

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



## STEAM Festival

### Throughout August

Discover all things STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) next month.

Bridging the digital divide, Greater Dandenong Libraries support this year's theme *Innovation: Powering future industries* for Science Week.

All the local libraries' festivities will highlight how STEAM can innovate creative solutions to real-life problems.

For more information visit [libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/steam-fest](http://libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/steam-fest)

## Techxpo

**Tuesday 1 August  
2-5pm**

Check out Monash University's robotics team at Springvale Community Hub and Library who will inspire the next generation of STEAM innovators.

You will be able to see Pepper – a human look-alike service robot – as he dances and does almost anything to help humans.

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



## Tech for adults – fun with gadgets

**Friday 4 August  
2.30pm**

Interested in robotics or computers? Come and play with the new technology.

## Tech for kids – fun with maths

**Wednesday 9 August  
4.30pm**

A fun after school maths adventure that will entertain and engage participants whilst increasing their interest in mathematics.



## Tech for adults – coding

**Friday 11 August  
2.30pm**

Curious about coding? This secret language is easy to learn with Scratch, an online coding platform. Using problem solving skills and creativity you can create games, stories and animations.



## Encore program offers more



**Drum Theatre's popular Encore program continues to entertain audiences with exciting new shows in the second half of 2023.**

Join acclaimed guitarists the Grigoryan Brothers as they present music inspired by objects from the Australian Museum. *This is Us - A Musical Reflection of Australia* will see Slava and Leonard deliver 90 minutes of original music on Thursday 17 August.

Unleash your inner child with *Bon Appetit* by Petit Circus. It's intergenerational circus fun with free tickets for children in the September school holidays.

Explore a toe-tapping history of Boogie Woogie and Rock 'n Roll piano songs with *Crazy Arms* in October or remember the most popular Gilbert and Sullivan musicals when *Gilbert, Sullivan and the Great Composers* hit the stage in November.

The B Sharp Big Band will help you celebrate Christmas as they belt out the hits of the swinging 30s, 40s and 50s, mixed with festive cheer.

This mix of performances will have you calling 'Encore' at the iconic Drum Theatre.



*This is Us - A Musical Reflection of Australia*

Visit [drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) for more details or phone the Box Office on 8571 1666.

## Delight in Greater Dandenong's arts and culture



**Warm your creative soul this winter**

Explore the Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre and their online program to find your perfect winter activity.

### WILAM BIIK

**Tuesday 25 July – Friday 8 September  
Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre  
Tuesdays – Fridays, 12pm – 4pm**

In the Woiwurrung language of the Wurundjeri people, Wilam Biik means Home Country.

How do we see Country? How do we listen to Country? How do we connect to Country?

You are called to listen deeply with your ears, eyes and hearts – to understand how First People connect with Wilam Biik.

Wilam Biik is the soil, the land, the water, the air, the sky and the animals that reside within. It is the only home we know, and we honour it for its sacred exchange. A home where Custodial rights and responsibilities never left.

*WILAM BIIK* is a TarraWarra Museum of Art exhibition touring with NETS Victoria, curated by Stacie Piper. This project has been assisted by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.



Register for the **WILAM BIIK Opening Celebration Event**

**Saturday 29 July, 2pm–4pm**

**Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre**

To register visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/wilambiik](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/wilambiik)

## Cultural experiences at The Drum

EXCITING  
NEW SHOWS

### Self Talk

**Saturday 29 July, 7pm**

*Self Talk* (2023) is a dance experience created by David Trí Nguyen that explores the internal dialogue that goes on within one's mind. Whether positive, negative or biased, *Self Talk* is an open and honest conversation about how we speak to ourselves on a daily basis.

### RECKÖNING –

### Te Waiata Paihere Wairua

**Thursday 3 August, 7.30pm**

RECKÖNING is a cross-cultural, multi art-form performance work which fuses Indigenous cultures from Aotearoa, New Zealand and Te Whēnua Moemoeā (Land of the Dreamtime) Australia.



### Narsaiyo – Hindi Musical

**Saturday 5 August, 4.30pm**

Khelaiya Productions continues their pursuit to promote Indian regional folk and semi-classical music with an engaging narrative. The company will be taking their beloved audience on a journey of Garvi Gujarat with this Narsaiyo musical.

### PaaNi: Where the Rivers Meet

**Sunday 6 August, 5pm**

Come and enjoy a two-hour musical collaboration between some of the finest musicians of Melbourne, uniting with the amazing sitar-exponent Pandit Purbayan Chatterjee from India.



To book your tickets visit [drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)



## Parkmore Shopping Centre to celebrate 50 years

It was 27 November 1973 and the community were excited about the opening of their new local shopping centre. All 1,200 car park spaces were already full before the doors opened. John Farnham performed at the opening as Santa arrived at the centre in the world's largest hot-air balloon (at the time).

The centre has gone through further renovations over the years with culturally diverse shops now reflecting our Greater Dandenong community.

The popular Red Balloon Café is still operating at the centre 50 years on.

**📍 Birthday celebrations will take place in October as the centre approaches this remarkable milestone, visit [parkmoreshopping.com.au](http://parkmoreshopping.com.au) for more information.**



## New Holiday Inn hotel opens



IHG Hotels and Resorts unveiled its 124-room Holiday Inn Dandenong at 50-52 McCrae Street.

Perfect for local business owners and visiting friends and relatives, the Pelligra Group invested \$12 million to create the hotel with an open lobby concept, conference and meeting rooms, Dandelion Lounge + Eatery, free Wi-Fi, a 24-hour fitness centre, secure underground parking, 24/7 in-room dining, and same-day laundry services.

**📍 For bookings and further information visit [holidayinn.com/dandenong](http://holidayinn.com/dandenong)**

SCAN THE QR CODE

Looking to develop, relocate, invest or start a business in Greater Dandenong?

Contact Council's business team to learn how they can support you and your business.

**For more information:**

- ✉ [business@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:business@cgd.vic.gov.au)
- ☎ 8571 1550
- 🌐 [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/business](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/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](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/tours) or phone 8571 1550



## Country Cob Bakery Springvale wins Australia's best pie

Winning the title for the fourth time, Country Cob Bakery took out the top spot at the Baking Association of Australia's (BAA) Best Pie and Pastie competition.

Their fish amok (fish curry) pie cooked with fresh Australian barramundi took out the first place in the seafood pie category.

**📍 For more information visit [countrycobbakery.com.au](http://countrycobbakery.com.au) or 890-892 Princes Highway, Springvale.**





## COVID-19 protection for you

Since November 2022, Council's Emergency Management team has been engaging with community groups, sporting clubs, senior groups, religious organisations, caravan parks, volunteer services, cultural groups, relief and not-for-profit organisations to distribute 139,286 RATs, 93,180 N95 face masks and over 10,000 hand sanitisers.

You can also collect free RATs and N95 face masks at any of the following Council locations:

- ▶ Dandenong Customer Service Centre
- ▶ Dandenong Library
- ▶ Drum Theatre
- ▶ Jan Wilson Centre
- ▶ Springvale Community Hub
- ▶ Parkmore Customer Service Centre
- ▶ Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre.

If you are interested in ordering free RATs and N95 face masks for your community group, and if you are interested in having Council's Emergency Management team speak to your group, email [COVID19@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVID19@cgd.vic.gov.au) or phone 8571 1000.

▶ **For more information visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/covid-19](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/covid-19)**

## Recharge mobility aids



**Council facilities across Greater Dandenong offer free charging points for electric mobility scooters and wheelchairs.**

Supported by Recharge Scheme Australia the program aims to create an inclusive and welcoming community by ensuring battery powered devices can stay charged and people can feel safe while out and about.

Stickers are displayed in the windows of participating businesses, and the following Council buildings have charge points:

- ▶ Dandenong and Springvale Libraries
- ▶ Springvale City Hall
- ▶ Springers Leisure Centre
- ▶ Dandenong Oasis
- ▶ Drum Theatre
- ▶ Noble Park Aquatic Centre
- ▶ Parkmore Shopping Centre Customer Service.

## Free smoke alarms



**Noble Park CFA is offering free smoke alarms, including installation, to all households in Greater Dandenong.**

Captain Matthew Pond said the program was a chance to make sure all households in the city were protected from fires.

“With this program we are offering to come out and inspect properties to see what they need to be safe,” Captain Pond said.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Noble Park CFA and make a time for a qualified member to inspect their home.



**Email [noblepark.bmt@members.cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:noblepark.bmt@members.cfa.vic.gov.au) or phone 0429 487 448 to book an inspection.**

## Health and wellbeing corner



### Mental Health support for all

A door knock project is helping to spread the message about support for mental health and wellbeing issues across Australia.

The project, run by Assisting Communities through Direct Connection (ACDC), will door knock households in Dandenong from now until October.

Friendly ‘people connectors’ are going door to door in Dandenong to talk about mental health and wellbeing and to share information about services and supports that are available locally.

The project has already door knocked more than 37,000 households across Australia and has found that almost 50 per cent of residents report being in distress.



Almost one third expressed a need for further support, thankfully many people were put in touch with local services for help.

The project aims to encourage people to seek help earlier, before their health or the health of their family and friends is in crisis.



**Visit [acdc.org.au](http://acdc.org.au) to find out more about the project.**

Free Event

SPRINGVALE

# SNOW FEST

Come along to win a trip to Mt Buller

SUNDAY 30 JULY 12PM - 7PM

Buckingham Avenue, Springvale

Free snow play area with real snow from Mt Buller

Food stalls | Live music | Artificial Ice Skating rink  
Snow Princesses | Lion dancers | Rides  
Free kids activities | Fireworks 6.50pm



MAJOR SPONSOR:



EVENT SPONSORS:



To book for ice skating and to be in the chance to win free tickets scan the QR Code

