

SEPTEMBER 2025

# Greater Dandenong Council News



ROADWORK

## Projects we delivered

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**Children's Festival**

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**Dandenong Wellbeing Centre**

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**Biodiversity Blitz**

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 **Greater Dandenong**



## 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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Dandenong VIC 3175

Email: [news@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:news@cgd.vic.gov.au)



**Phone: 8571 1000**



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



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**[cityofgreaterdandenong](https://cityofgreaterdandenong)**



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



**TTY: 133 677**

**Speak and listen: 1300 555 727**  
**[relayservice.gov.au](http://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 September edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

Spring has sprung and we have much to celebrate here in Greater Dandenong.

This month marks the official opening of the highly anticipated Keysborough Community Hub. Designed with and for the community, this five-star sustainable facility includes maternal and child health support, a community lounge and library, multipurpose community spaces and flexible outdoor areas. From 2026 it will also include a kindergarten and long day care service. Read more on page three.

Speaking of delivering projects, Council's 2024-25 Budget featured a capital works program valued at \$93.47 million. We delivered \$17 million in road upgrades and \$1.03 million to upgrade playgrounds across our city. Read about more projects we delivered on pages six and seven.

Every September we celebrate the start of the new season with our Spring Thing at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve. We also invite everyone to join the Biodiversity Blitz and help record the variety of flora and fauna living in our city. Turn to page 10 to find out more.

School holidays also start later this month and we will celebrate our youngest community members with our annual Children's Festival, which kicks off with the Noble Park Family Fun Day. Read more on page three.

I hope you all enjoy this month and find time to celebrate in our city.

**Mayor**  
**Cr Jim Memeti**



## My City

This cute little Grey Fantail was captured in a quiet moment at the Dandenong Wetlands by Greater Dandenong resident Murray Fletcher. This image appears in September in the 2025 Community Calendar.

The Dandenong Wetland makes up part of the Dandenong Creek habitat corridor and provides a home to native wildlife, including abundant birdlife.



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.



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.

Front cover: Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti with Council officers Dias Samarasinghe, Irina Tourovsky and Janak Bharati on a new section of Perry Road, Keysborough.

FSC  
Logo

# Children's Festival



**The Greater Dandenong Children's Festival returns these school holidays with a worldly calendar of events to entertain the whole family.**

The annual festival celebrates children aged up to 12 and runs from Saturday 20 September to Friday 10 October.

This year's theme is *Around the World*, and was chosen by the Greater Dandenong Children's Advisory Group. It promises to take young adventurers on a global journey, no passport or plane tickets required.



Through music, dance, food, games and hands-on activities, this year's festival will celebrate the rich diversity of cultures that make up the Greater Dandenong community.

Noble Park Family Fun Day (formerly known as Little Day Out) will be the main event on our Children's Festival calendar.

Join us on Sunday 21 September at Ross Reserve, Memorial Drive, Noble Park from 11am-4pm for the most spectacular day of entertainment.

Bring the whole family and enjoy a day filled with live performers, exciting stage shows, outdoor games, amusement rides and fun activities for kids and teens. Explore different cultures through interactive workshops, tasty international food and colourful market stalls.

Entry is free and the event is suitable for the whole family.



Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival) for a full calendar of events.

## Keysborough's new community hub



**It's official – the name of Keysborough's new community hub has been decided. The centre will be formally known as the Keysborough Community Hub.**

Council endorsed the name at the Monday 23 June Council Meeting following community consultation.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said the confirmation of the name was an important milestone.

"The project has been informally known as the Keysborough South Community Hub and as the project nears completion, I am pleased to have a formal name confirmed for this new community facility," Cr Memeti said.

"I thank everyone who took the time to provide their feedback. Your input helped ensure the name of our new community hub reflects and serves the people of Keysborough."



**OPENING  
THIS  
MONTH**

Keysborough South Ward Councillor Isabella Do, welcomed the naming of the new community hub.

"It was wonderful to see so many residents actively participating in the naming process and sharing their opinions," Cr Do said.

"This is a significant milestone in our decade-long journey. We are incredibly excited to soon open our doors. The Hub is a testament to our community's hard-earned advocacy and will be an inclusive and welcoming place for us to connect, learn and grow together."

The Keysborough Community Hub is set to open this month.



## Councillor Contacts



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### Noble Park Ward Deputy Mayor

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MONDAY

8

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY

22

SEPTEMBER

## Council Meetings

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

Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- Monday 8 September
- Monday 22 September

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



Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti and Deputy Mayor, Cr Sophie Tan at Oasis Dandenong.

## Works officially start on Dandenong Wellbeing Centre



**Construction has started on the new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre at Mills Reserve, Dandenong.**

The centre will replace the ageing Dandenong Oasis and provide a place for community connection, health, water safety and fitness.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti recently joined with Cleeland Ward Councillor Rhonda Garad and Federal Member for Bruce, Julian Hill, to turn the first sod at the site.

Cr Memeti said the project was not just about concrete and construction, but about people.

"This is the single largest investment Council has ever made in our city and I'm incredibly proud it's an investment in health, wellbeing, inclusion and water safety," Cr Memeti said.

"This centre will provide a place where everyone – no matter their age, culture or ability – can connect, move and thrive."

The creation of a time capsule to install at the new centre will preserve the history of the nearly 50-year-old aquatic centre and how much it has meant to the people.

"So many members of our community have incredible memories of Dandenong Oasis and we will continue to collect these to reflect on the past and celebrate visions for the future," Cr Memeti said.

The Federal Government has contributed \$20 million to the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre. Federal Bruce MP Julian Hill said the project "is all about bringing world-class infrastructure into the heart of Melbourne's southeast for generations to come, helping families keep active without having to leave their neighbourhood".



**The new centre will open in 2027. Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/DWC](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/DWC) to keep up to date on the project.**

## ► Keysborough Ward



**Weekend sport is popular in Greater Dandenong, and Keysborough's own Rowley**

**Allan Reserve has seen many improvements to the facilities over recent years.**

The reserve accommodates netball, Australian Rules Football, cricket and lawn bowls, and recent upgrades have ensured the grounds meet the community's needs now and into the future. The Rowley Allan Reserve Concept Plan was adopted by Council in 2021, after extensive consultation with users and the wider community.

Recent upgrades have included lighting for both the main oval and netball courts, coaches boxes and fencing. Picnic seating and shelters have also been added to the reserve, making the space more inviting. The 2025-26 Budget outlines further funding to support drainage upgrades to the exterior of the pavilion and a new coaches box on the main oval.



Council is committed to supporting all people within our community, but we understand that some are doing it tough. This winter many of our residents will have to make the difficult decision between putting the heater on or putting food on the table, and I ask that all residents think about how they might support those who are more vulnerable.

## Cr Melinda Yim

There are many agencies in our community that offer support in a crisis, including for those with housing issues, food insecurity or mental health needs. I have been volunteering with the Kindness Community, which offers weekly meals, connection and support to homeless and disadvantaged people in Greater Dandenong.

The service offers a free meal every Tuesday at Hemmings Park, 61A Princes Highway, Dandenong (next to the skate park). The beautiful volunteers also provide a friendly, safe space and referrals to support services for those who need it. Visit [kindnesscommunity.org.au](http://kindnesscommunity.org.au) for more information or drop by a Tuesday meal service.



**If you would like to talk to me about local issues please email me at [Melinda.Yim@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:Melinda.Yim@cgd.vic.gov.au) or phone 0428 331 557.**

## Cr Sophie Tan



**As the Noble Park Ward Councillor and Deputy Mayor, I am always proud to share the wonderful work happening across Greater Dandenong.**

Recently in Noble Park we celebrated the completion of an upgrade to Greenglade Reserve. Visitors to the park will have seen the new play equipment, furniture and landscaping, making it a more inviting space for all.

Upgrades to the kindergarten and childcare space at the Paddy O' Donoghue Centre have also been completed. This centre, which has been a part of the community for 100 years, will continue to support local families.

Recently the Malaysian community hosted a winter night market at the Frank Street Open Space, which was completed last year. The event was very successful and is exactly what this space was designed for.

The Noble Park Little Library Lockers project is close to completion. The lockers will be installed at the Noble Park

Train Station in the coming months and will be available for use before the end of the year.

In 2025-26 Council has committed funding to complete stage 1 of an offsite car park at Noble Park Reserve.

The biggest project happening in Noble Park at the moment is the construction of 97 social housing apartments at 51A Douglas Street. This project will help boost affordable housing and will assist vulnerable people including those escaping family violence. These homes are expected to welcome new residents next year.

Following the removal of two River Red Gum trees from the site the developer has contributed \$155,000 to support planting efforts across the suburb. This month 180 new street trees will be planted across Noble Park.

Finally, I am looking forward to the opening of the highly anticipated Keysborough Community Hub. It will be a great resource for the community and I can't wait to see it open.

## ► Noble Park Ward



**If you have any local issues you would like to discuss, please contact me via email at [Sophie.Tan@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sophie.Tan@cgd.vic.gov.au) or phone me on 0466 793 727.**

## We delivered: Capital Works projects 2024-25

Greater Dandenong City Council's 2024-25 Budget featured a capital works program valued at \$93.47 million.

With a focus on service sustainability and the need to maintain ageing infrastructure, we also invested in new community facilities.

**Here are some highlights of the capital works projects we delivered over the past 12 months.**

We strive to achieve the vision of our community:

**"A city which is home to all, where everyone can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity".**

### Major Projects



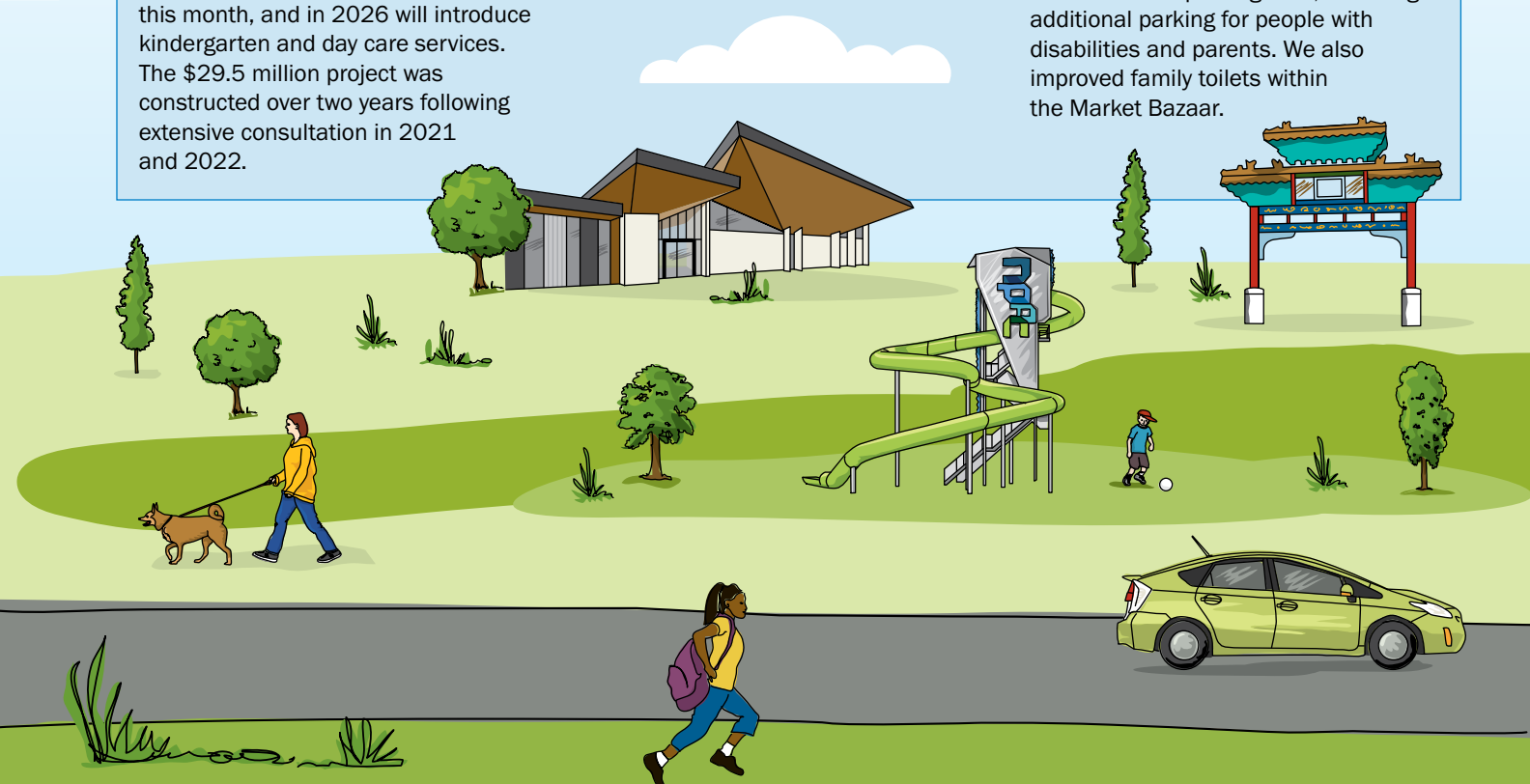
✓ Designed with and for the community, **Keysborough Community Hub** is home to maternal and child health support, a community lounge with a library and multipurpose community spaces inside and out. The hub will open to the community this month, and in 2026 will introduce kindergarten and day care services. The \$29.5 million project was constructed over two years following extensive consultation in 2021 and 2022.

✓ Plans for the **Dandenong Wellbeing Centre**, a once-in-a-generation investment, progressed in 2024-25 with the construction contract awarded. Works recently began to deliver the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre, a space for people to connect, socialise and take care of their health year-round. The centre is due to be completed in 2027.

✓ The \$500,000 **Lyndale Secondary College Pavilion** project included refurbishment of the canteen servery and surrounds with new commercial kitchen appliances, extra storage, seating and improved drainage.



✓ **Dandenong Market** is one of Melbourne's oldest markets and has been operating since 1866. It is at the heart of community life in Greater Dandenong and we are committed to preserving it for the future. Over the past year we made changes to the Clow Street carparking area, including additional parking for people with disabilities and parents. We also improved family toilets within the Market Bazaar.





## Parks and Reserves



The City of Greater Dandenong is home to more than 100 parks, sports reserves and playgrounds. Each year we maintain more than 600 hectares of open space.

Improvements over the past year include:

- ✓ We invested \$1.2 million to help **light up local sporting grounds**, ensuring more people have access to sport. This included Greaves Reserve, Dandenong, Lois Twohig Reserve, Dandenong North, Thomas Carroll Reserve, Dandenong and Rosswood Tennis Club, Dandenong.
- ✓ The **Parkfield Reserve Tennis Courts** were reconstructed at a cost of \$900,000, giving the community better playing facilities.
- ✓ A total of **2389 trees** were planted as part of our Urban Tree Strategy in a bid to increase our total canopy cover.



- ✓ We spent \$1.03 million to complete upgrades to five **local playgrounds**, including at Barry Powell Reserve, Noble Park North, Greenglade Pocket Park, Noble Park, Greaves Reserve, Dandenong, Linden Drive Pocket Park, Keysborough and Railway Parade Pocket Park, Noble Park. We also installed 400sq meters of new shade sail at Keysborough's Pencil Park.

## Roads

We are committed to improving safety on our roads and each year we invest in road upgrades and maintenance.

- ✓ Over the past year we completed stage 2 of the **Perry Road Upgrade**. Drivers have benefited from the completed roadworks, which have helped reduce congestion, improve road safety and strengthened the road to cope with commercial vehicle traffic. Footpath and landscaping upgrades have also improved access for pedestrians and cyclists. The third and final stage of the project will be completed in the coming year.

- ✓ A **pollutant trap installed at Olinda Reserve** is helping to stop litter and debris from the Springvale CBD from entering the stormwater. The \$430,000 project will help protect our precious waterways and creeks.
- ✓ A \$17 million investment in **road upgrades** resulted in the renewal and improvement of around 80 road sections, covering about 20km of road across Greater Dandenong. Key industrial roads included in these projects included Ordish Road, Produce Drive, Swift Way, Elliott Road and Hammond Road.

- ✓ Federal **Blackspot Funding** worth \$2 million helped us deliver critical road safety improvements at locations with a history of crashes. Projects delivered over the last year included Railway Parade, Noble Park, View Road, Springvale, Brady Road, Dandenong North, Athol Road, Springvale and Woodlee Street, Dandenong.



# What's On September 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 <b>Zumba at</b> Jan Wilson Centre 6pm	2 <b>Anh Do – The Happiest Refugee Live</b> Drum Theatre 7pm	3 <b>Reading Circle</b> Dandenong Library 11am	4 <b>Carers Walking Group</b> Noble Park Community Centre 9.45am	5 	6 <b>HOME 25 Market Memoirs</b> Dandenong Market 10am–2pm	7 <b>Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve Spring Thing</b> 11am
8 <b>Council Meeting</b> Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	9 <b>Nature Play at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve</b> 10am	10 <b>Art, Craft and Conversation</b> Springvale Library 6.30pm	11 <b>Libraries at Dusk: Polymer Clay Workshop</b> Springvale Library 6.30pm	12 <b>Strength Training at Jan Wilson Centre</b> 8.30am	13 <b>Springvale Urban Harvest and Clothes Swap</b> Springvale Hub 1pm	14 <b>Toddler Time</b> Dandenong and Springvale Libraries 10.30am
15 <b>Toddler Time</b> Dandenong and Springvale Libraries 10.30am	16	17 <b>Social Knitwork</b> Dandenong Library 10am	18 <b>Magic of Paris – Encore Show</b> Drum Theatre 10.30am	19	20 <b>Art, Memory and Desire HOME 25 Forum</b> Walker Street Gallery 2pm–5pm	21 <b>Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve Open Day</b> 10am
22 <b>Council Meeting</b> Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	23 <b>Emma Memma – Dance Island party</b> Drum Theatre 10am	24 <b>School Holiday Kitchen Takeover: Pancake Edition</b> Noble Park Community Centre 11am	25 <b>Our Beat:</b> Walker Street Gallery 6pm–9pm  <b>School Holiday Soccer Clinic</b> Ross Reserve, Noble Park 12pm	26 <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	27 <b>Dandenong Park Run</b> Dandenong Park 8am	28 
29 <b>School Holiday Creative Writing Workshop for ages 12-25</b> Springvale Library 2.30pm	30 <b>School Holidays Toys for Pets</b> Dandenong Library 2.30pm					



# Deckchair Movies

**FREE  
MOVIES**



Enjoy free movies in the great outdoors as Deckchair Movies returns to Springvale and Dandenong this month.

Join with family and friends for a relaxing evening under the stars and watch some classic family films. Bring your own picnics, movie snacks, blankets and chairs. All movies start at 6pm.

**Harmony Square,  
225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong**

- **Monday 22 September** – Paddington in Peru (PG)
- **Wednesday 24 September** – The Lego Movie (PG)
- **Thursday 25 September** – Kung Fu Panda 4 (PG)

**Springvale Community Hub,  
5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale**

- **Monday 29 September** – IF (PG)
- **Wednesday 1 October** – Tom & Jerry (G)
- **Friday 3 October** – Wonka (PG)
- **Wednesday 8 October** – Scooby-Doo (G)
- **Friday 10 October** – The Wild Robot (PG)
- **Saturday 11 October** – Despicable Me 4 (PG)



Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival) for more information.

## School Holidays



**Council's Youth and Family Services team will run a fun Spring School Holiday program featuring free and low-cost activities for young people ages 12-25.**

The program kicks off with the Noble Park Family Fun day on Sunday 21 September, featuring live performances on the Amplify stage. The event includes free activities, entertainment and market stalls for the whole family.

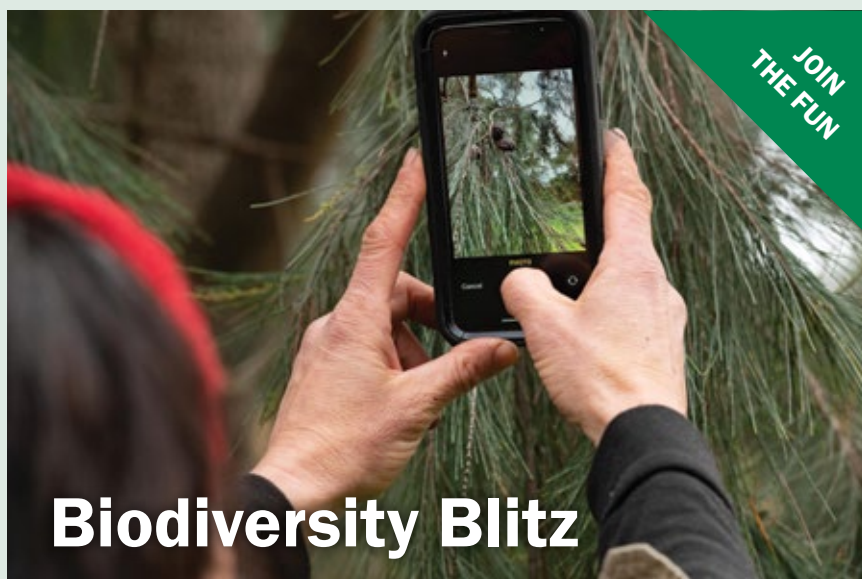
Join us for a creative writing workshop, inflatable world adventure or a holiday skate workshop. Get creative and learn how to make bath bombs and bracelets, or get active in nature and learn new skills at Lysterfield Lake.

A special Foodie Futures program will also offer an insight into food-based careers through a two-day food handling course for 16-25-year-olds.



**Bookings are essential and are now open. Visit [youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) for more information.**





## Biodiversity Blitz



**September is National Biodiversity Month – the perfect time to celebrate the diversity of living things found in Greater Dandenong.**

Biodiversity is the variety of all life forms on earth, including plants, animals and micro-organisms, and the ecosystems that are their homes.

Throughout National Biodiversity Month we encourage you to spend time in nature and consider becoming a citizen scientist through our annual Biodiversity Blitz.

By joining the Blitz you can help us learn more about our biodiverse environment, and contribute to a greater understanding of our natural world.

### How to join:

- ▶ Download the iNaturalist app from your favourite app store
- ▶ Register in the app for the “Biodiversity Blitz 2025 – Greater Dandenong” project
- ▶ Upload photos of your observations.

Throughout the month we will be in competition with neighbouring Council's to record the most sightings, so join the fun and help us 'blitz' the competition.



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

## Community Calendar Photography Competition



**Each year Council produces a community calendar for residents which features images of our municipality.**

We love seeing our city through your eyes and in 2022 launched a photography competition for a chance to appear in the calendar. Over the past four years we have received hundreds of entries capturing your favourite parts of Greater Dandenong.

Entries are now open for the 2026 Community Calendar Photography Competition. Entries close on Monday 15 September.

The 12 finalists will be celebrated in a public exhibition where the community will be invited to vote for their favourite image. A People's Choice Award winner will be announced in 2026.



**Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/community-calendar-photography-competition](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/community-calendar-photography-competition) to read the full terms and conditions and to enter your photographs.**

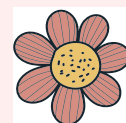


## Spring Thing

**Join us on Sunday 7 September as we welcome spring and celebrate Father's Day at the reopening of Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve.**

There will be plenty of fun for the whole family, including:

- ▶ Enjoy nature play activities along the Sense Trail
- ▶ Team up with your family and join the Alex Wilkie Nature Quest
- ▶ Take a guided tour of the reserve
- ▶ Take part in a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony led by Traditional Custodians
- ▶ Join Council's Bushland Crew to plant seedlings
- ▶ Learn how to create a Garden for Wildlife at home
- ▶ Experience live music and face painting
- ▶ Watch wildlife presentations by Black Snake Productions
- ▶ Enjoy a free barbecue thanks to the Lions Club of Dandenong.



**Spring Thing  
Sunday 7 September  
11am–3pm**



**Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/spring-thing](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/spring-thing) for more information.**



## Behind the Scenes at Council

**Meet Irina Tourovsky, a Senior Project Manager**

### **Tell us about what you do at Council?**

I manage complex civil construction projects which includes road rehabilitation and reconstruction, drainage installation/upgrade/maintenance, bridge construction/maintenance, overhead and underground services alteration, lighting upgrades, landscaping and other civil works. One of my current major projects is the upgrade to Perry Road, Keysborough, which is entering its third and final stage this year.

### **What is the most rewarding thing about your job?**

The most rewarding thing is to be able to employ my knowledge and experience to provide service to our multicultural Greater Dandenong community. I like that I am helping to deliver new infrastructure and upgrade aged infrastructure, as well as overseeing projects from initiation stage through to development and



delivery stages. I like combining established and innovative building practices and materials to achieve better outcomes and prolong the life of infrastructure that our community use every day.

### **What does a typical week look like?**

My work is varied but a typical week could include consulting with the community, inspecting existing infrastructure and exchanging ideas with colleagues to seek the best solutions. I can also be found preparing briefs, and managing projects including

through the design, development and implementation stages. I also help to manage tenders and assess their outcomes, including the awarding and managing of contracts.

### **Why did you pursue a career in this field?**

I grew up in a small city (Mozyr in Belarus) which was under rapid development, and I could see how engineers made positive changes to infrastructure, including the construction of new roads, bridges, buildings and expansion of the city. I have always been surrounded by engineers, and I was fascinated hearing their discussions about engineering solutions. I went to university in Moscow to study engineering and have continued to study to improve my knowledge throughout my career.

### **What do you like to do in your free time?**

I like spending time with my family and friends – walking/hiking and going to the beach. I also love to organise interesting trips and travel to experience different cultures, learn other countries' histories, admire nature and architecture.

## Leisure facilities win awards



**South East Leisure, who operate Council's leisure facilities, recently took home three major honours at the 2025 Aquatic and Recreation Victoria Awards.**

Noble Park Aquatic Centre (NPAC) won two awards – the Health Club of the Year and Facility of the Year – Medium.

The awards are a testament to the centre's ongoing membership growth, exceptional service standards and strong community focus. NPAC underwent a major refurbishment in 2022 including the introduction of a 24 hour gym.

In another exciting win Springers Leisure Centre's Inflatable World won the Innovation Award.



Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti congratulated South East Leisure on their awards.

"These awards are a testament to the hard work and dedication of South East Leisure staff in promoting active and connected communities across our city," Cr Memeti said.



**Visit [southeastleisure.com.au](https://southeastleisure.com.au) to discover the range of leisure facilities available across Greater Dandenong.**

# love your libraries

Libraries  
Change Lives

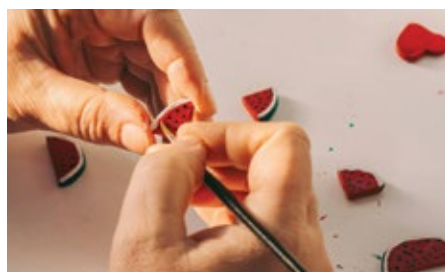
## Libraries at Dusk



### Kintsugi Workshop

**Thursday 4 September**  
**6.30pm at Dandenong Library**

Learn the elegant art of Kintsugi – where you repair broken pottery with gold and embrace the beauty of imperfections – materials provided.



### Polymer Clay Workshop

**Thursday 11 September**  
**6.30pm at Springvale Library**

Design and shape your own unique jewellery in this beginner friendly workshop.

### Bollywood Dance Workshop

**Thursday 18 September**  
**6.30pm at Dandenong Library**

Learn expressive moves and rhythms – no experience needed just bring your enthusiasm.

### K-Pop Dance Workshop

**Thursday 25 September**  
**6.30pm at Springvale Library**

Join this beginner friendly workshop to learn iconic choreography, feel the beat and express your love for K-Pop.



### Think Tank – Bee Wonder Wax

**Saturday 13 September**  
**3pm–4pm at Dandenong Library**

**Saturday 20 September**  
**3pm–4pm at Springvale Library**

Explore the lifecycle and environment of honey bees and learn about the importance of biodiversity while creating beautiful beeswax candles. For children aged 7-11.

### Studiosity

This program provides on demand study help for primary and secondary students and adult learners. Connect in real time with live experts for a wide range of subjects including maths, chemistry, physics and business studies. Receive written feedback in less than 24 hours. Tutors are available 24/7 during school terms. Visit [libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) for more information.



### Safe Online Surfing

**Thursday 11 September**  
**10.30am at Dandenong Library**

Not all websites are created equal. Learn from our eSafety librarian how to identify trustworthy sites, avoid malicious links and understand website security indicators. A must-attend for anyone who shops, browses or learns online.

## School Holiday Activities

School holidays start on Friday 20 September and run until Sunday 5 October. Both Springvale and Dandenong Libraries will run activities throughout. Visit [libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au) for more information.

Here are some highlights:



### Textile Footballs Drop In

**Tuesday 23 September**  
**2.30pm–4.30pm at Springvale Library**

Get ready for the AFL Grand Final and create upcycled custom footballs using pre-loved sports tops. Suitable for children aged 8+, but the activity includes needle threading and sewing so children under 10 will need adult assistance.



### Toys for Pets Drop In

**Tuesday 30 September**  
**2.30pm–4.30pm at Dandenong Library**

Join this fun, hands-on workshop and discover how to give old clothing and sheets a new purpose – in this instance create a unique pet toy for your furry best friend.



# ARTS | Arts in Greater Dandenong

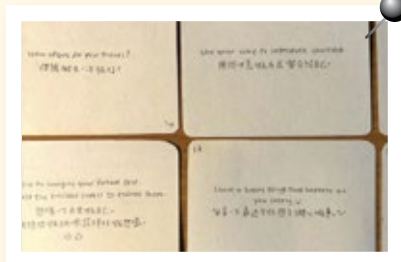
## Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre

### HOME 25 – Invisible Cities

**Closes 27 September**

Visit this unique exhibition presented across multiple venues throughout central Dandenong, including the Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Drum Theatre, Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens, Dandenong Market and public spaces.

Visit HOME 25 at [greaterdandenong.com.au/HOME](http://greaterdandenong.com.au/HOME) for more information.



### Question Card Workshop with Ka Yan So

**Saturday 6 September, 2pm–4pm  
Drum Theatre Foyer**

In this participatory workshop, HOME 25 artist Ka Yan So shares how she created her reflective 'question cards', designed to support wellbeing and self-inquiry. You'll then make your own cards using provided materials, which you can take home as gentle prompts for reflection or conversation with loved ones. Together, we'll explore what home means, how we care for ourselves and each other, and how art can spark connection.

#### Connect with us

Follow us:

Instagram [@artsgreaterdandy](https://www.instagram.com/artsgreaterdandy)

Facebook / [artsgreaterdandenong](https://www.facebook.com/artsgreaterdandenong)



### Art, Memory and Desire: HOME 25 Forum

**Saturday 20 September, 2pm–5pm  
Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre**

Explore the personal, political, and poetic dimensions of 'home' at this dynamic public forum featuring artists from HOME 25: Invisible Cities, alongside local leaders, activists and thinkers.

Through three interconnected parts—Art, Memory and Desire—the forum offers space for critical reflection and imaginative possibility.

#### Extended Weekend Opening Hours continue throughout September

##### Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre –

Wednesday to Saturday, 11am to 3pm.

##### Drum Theatre –

Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm, Saturdays, 11am to 3pm

##### Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Garden –

Wednesday to Thursday, 10am to 2pm, Saturdays, 11am to 3pm

Please note that at the end of September, Drum Theatre and Heritage Hill Museum will resume regular trading hours.

#### Connect with us

Facebook

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

Sign up for enewsletter at

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



## Drum Theatre

### Shake Rattle 'N' Roll

**Friday 12 September, 7.30pm–10pm**

Showcasing 12 electric singers and sizzling champion Latin Ballroom dancers, this performance will feature hit songs that rocked a generation and are forever loved by rock 'n' roll devotees Australia wide in this all-singing, all-dancing, two-hour party show extravaganza.

### Encore – Magic of Paris

**Thursday 18 September, 10.30am**

We're on the SS Grand Times and our heroes are all grandparents, "not old, just old-er" and ready to cut loose.

## Save the date...



### Hits from Elton John and the Divas

**Saturday 8 November, 7pm–9.30pm**

This is an electrifying two-act show featuring the critically acclaimed Matthew Hadgraft performing Elton John's greatest hits and X Factor sensation Mary Ann Van Der Horst delivering powerhouse performances of songs by the world's favourite Divas.

Their electrifying performances will have you singing and dancing to all the well-known tunes.

## Have your say



**Have your say and help us shape Greater Dandenong City Council's Draft Economy and Place Strategy.**

This strategy will serve as a framework for the next 5-10 years to help us drive growth and investment, as well as create jobs and meaningful places for people.

We want to hear from you – businesses, residents, industry and community groups/associations – to shape the draft strategy, which will include a vision for our city's economy.

A range of options are available to have your say including face to face sessions in Dandenong, Springvale and Noble Park, an online business workshop and an online survey, we want to hear from as many people as possible.



**To register for a workshop, complete the survey or lodge a submission, visit [yoursay.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/economy-and-place-strategy](https://yoursay.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/economy-and-place-strategy)**

Engagement will close on Sunday 14 September.

## Local opportunities

**More than 100 local suppliers and tradespeople attended a Meet the Builder event for the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre project in July.**

The event was hosted by Council in partnership with main contractor ADCO and gave local businesses a chance to learn more about the transformational project and how to register their interest in contributing to it.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Cr Jim Memeti said the initiative was another step in ensuring local industry plays a key role in the delivery of the once-in-a-generation project.

"We will continue working closely with ADCO to ensure our local economy benefits from this historic investment," Cr Memeti said.



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

## Pioneering the way for women in the steel industry



**Maria Mavrikos has worked in the steel fabrication industry for more than 30 years and is passionate about helping other women thrive in the industry, just as she did.**

In 2000, Maria established Structural Challenge, a steel fabrication company specialising in commercial and infrastructure projects. The Dandenong South business employs 80 staff.

Last year, Maria launched Steel Chicks, a social enterprise working to increase women's participation in the steel industry.

"Steel Chicks is a passion project for me," said Maria. "The steel fabrication industry is very much a boys' club, so I didn't really have much support when I started. I wanted to do something where women can come together and network and have training and support within the industry."

From humble beginnings in Melbourne, Steel Chicks now has members all over Australia, as well as strong industry partnerships.

Membership is open to anyone who shares the goal of supporting women in the industry. Members gain access to Steel Chicks events, training and a free mentoring program. Steel Chicks also facilitates work experience opportunities for school students and is very active in the apprenticeship space.

Maria says there's a lot of work being done to change the perception of the industry among females and the message is slowly gaining traction.

"There are a lot of different career paths within the industry," she said.

"You can start at entry level and move up into a technical or managerial role reasonably quickly if you have the right attitude. The career pathways include trade-based and technical roles such as engineering, to administration roles such as contract and project management. The steel industry offers ample opportunity, and it's a great industry to work in."



**Visit [steelchicks.com](https://steelchicks.com) for more information.**





## Social Knitwork



**Every Wednesday the Social Knitwork gathers to share social times while creating handmade items for charity.**

The group recently donated their colourful creations to WAYSS, an organisation providing support for people at risk or experiencing family violence, housing insecurity or homelessness across the south east.

The toys, blankets, beanies, infant clothes and blankets were given to families in need across winter.

The Social Knitwork welcomes new members of all abilities who would like to help create knitted items for worthy causes. The group meets every Wednesday from 10am–12pm at the Dandenong Library.



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

## 20 years of celebrating community art

**The Noble Park Community Centre is celebrating 20 years of the Noble Park Community Centre Art Show – an iconic cultural celebration of local artists.**

This year's show will be held from 17-19 October, and entries are now open.

Founded in 2004 by Hugh Kilgower and local business owner Inara Taylor, the art show moved to the Noble Park Community Centre in 2006 and has grown from strength to strength since.

A defining feature of the show has always been its inclusivity, welcoming entries from school students, aged care residents and all-abilities artists.

In 2024 the show drew a record-breaking crowd and was honoured with the inaugural Outstanding Contribution to the Arts Award at the Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards. The award recognised the lasting impact of the show and the team of volunteers working behind the scenes.

The 2025 exhibition will continue its proud tradition of showcasing 2D works, including painting, photography and mixed media by both emerging and established artists.

Major prizes are on offer for entries, and all art work is available for sale, with all proceeds going to the artist.

Entries are open until Monday 6 October. Noble Park Community Centre is also seeking sponsors to help make the 20th anniversary show one to remember. For more information email [events@nobleparkcc.org.au](mailto:events@nobleparkcc.org.au) or phone **9547 5801**.



Visit [nobleparkcc.org.au](https://nobleparkcc.org.au) to find out more.

## Nature on the verge



**The Greater Dandenong Environment Group recently received a grant from Council to help tackle climate change.**

They will use the funds to transform five nature strips by replacing grass with low-growing native and indigenous plants.

The new plants will support local insects, lizards and birds, and will improve soil health and biodiversity. All species will be selected from Council's own nature strip guidelines.

The group is taking a leadership role in our community and proving their dedication to creating a greener, more vibrant city.



**Their work shows how simple changes can have a big impact.**

To find out how you can make an impact and create a cleaner, greener Greater Dandenong subscribe to the monthly Our Bright Green Future News.



Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/our-bright-green-future-news](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/our-bright-green-future-news) to find out more.

# Children's Festival

Around the World



20 September – 12 October 2025



For the calendar of events please visit:  
[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival)