

Greater Dandenong Council News

Join our Walk Against Family Violence

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Concrete poured for new pool

▶ PAGE 6

A new Little Library appears in Noble Park

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Christmas carols return to Harmony Square

▶ PAGE 9

Customer Service Centres

Dandenong Civic Centre

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Springvale Community Hub

5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale

Keysborough Customer Service

Shop A7 Parkmore Shopping Centre,
Keysborough

All correspondence to:

Greater Dandenong Council News

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Dandenong VIC 3175

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Phone: 8571 1000



www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



@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

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 November edition of Council News.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to thank you for the honour of serving as your mayor over the past 12 months.

It has been a privilege to represent the City of Greater Dandenong and to work alongside so many passionate residents, community groups and staff who make our city a vibrant and inclusive place to live.



The highlights for me have been many. We opened the Keysborough Community Hub, signed the contract and launched work on our new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre and endorsed the new Council Plan. We also inducted and trained the new and re-elected councillors under local government reform, stepped up our advocacy for the Greater South East Melbourne and South East manufacturing sector, and increased the reach and influence of the Back Your Neighbour campaign. Lord Mayors and dozens of other cities also joined the call for fairer treatment of people seeking asylum.

November is a time when we come together to reflect, take action and celebrate. Events like the annual **Walk Against Family Violence** (Tuesday, 25 November, p.7) and the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence** (25 November–10 December) remind us of the importance of standing united against injustice and supporting those affected by violence. These initiatives reflect the values we hold dear—respect, safety and equality for all.

We also look forward to the festive spirit of **Christmas Carols in Harmony Square** (Friday 5 December), a cherished tradition that brings families and neighbours together in celebration. It's a joyful way to close the year and embrace the diversity and warmth that define our community.

Thank you once again for your support. I'm proud of what we've achieved together, and I look forward to continuing our work to help Greater Dandenong thrive.

Mayor
Cr Jim Memeti

Join us for the Mayoral Election

Your next Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected by their councillor peers at the Annual Meeting of Council on Thursday 13 November 2025.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the public meeting at 6pm. If we run out of seats in the Council Chamber at Dandenong Civic Centre, there will be room in adjoining Harmony Square where the meeting will be live-streamed to the urban screen.

All Council meetings are also live-streamed via greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

Possible delivery delay Due to holiday postal pressures, you may receive the summer (December/January) edition of *Council News* a bit later than usual, but we expect final editions to hit mailboxes by mid-December.

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.

FSC
Logo

Front cover: Participants in the 2024 Walk Against Family Violence



Council Budget 2026–27

At Greater Dandenong City Council we're about to start our budget process for 2026–27 and we want to hear from you.

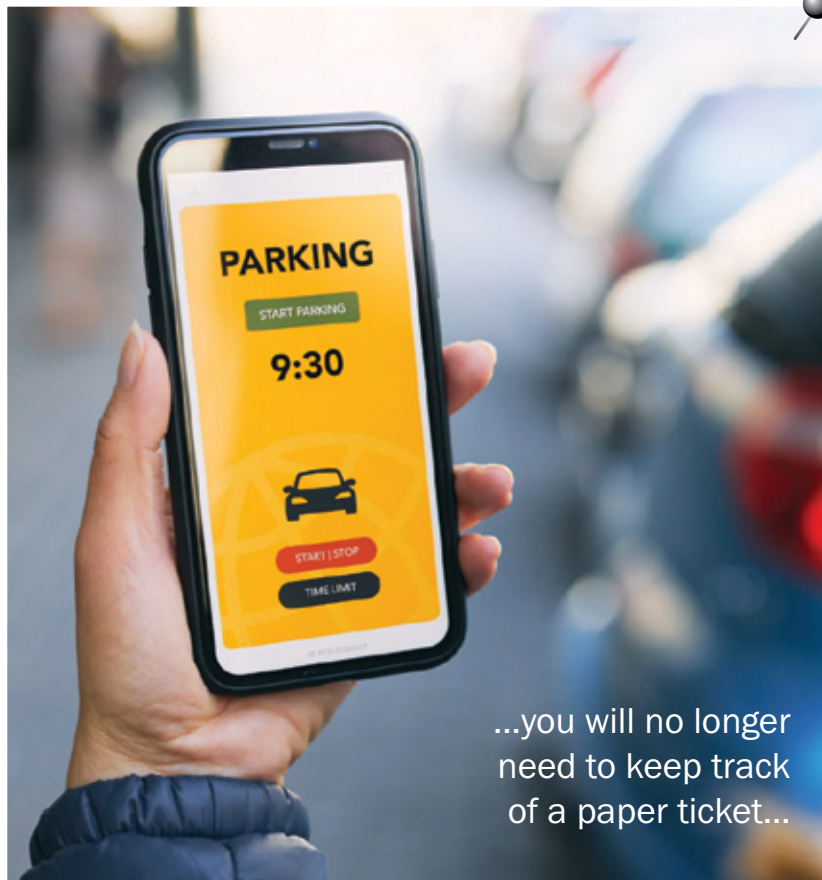
In 2024, we undertook many consultation activities with our community to better understand your priorities and where we should focus our service delivery and spending for the next four years.

With these priorities in mind, we have started the annual budget process and want to hear more about what's important to you. This includes which services and facilities you want us to support in 2026 and beyond, and how much you'd like us to spend on them.

There are several ways to get involved including online budgeting activities, surveys and hard copy forms.

For many years we have conducted community feedback sessions which give community members, organisations, interest groups and sporting clubs the opportunity to present their ideas to us for funding in the annual budget. This is usually run in April/May, but for 2026–27 this session will be held from November to December to identify initiatives that can be considered for inclusion in the budget before it is drafted.

➤ To learn more about the consultation, feedback session, and to submit your ideas go to yoursay.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/budget-2026-27. The consultation will run from Wednesday 22 October until Wednesday 19 November.



...you will no longer need to keep track of a paper ticket...

Parking made easier



By the end of 2025, residents and visitors will have even more ways to pay for parking in Greater Dandenong.

We're providing new parking meters at Central Dandenong, Dandenong Market and 'Number 8' Balmoral Car Park in Springvale, to ensure that card payments continue to be reliable and secure.

You will be able to pay in new ways — by app and online. We're also upgrading some existing meters so you can still pay with cash if you prefer and will provide clear signage to these meters.

No matter how you pay, you will no longer need to keep track of a paper ticket — just type in your registration number and away you go.

Save money and time paying by app or online

- ▶ Only pay for what you need — if you head back to your car early, you can cancel the remainder of your parking session and save money.
- ▶ Top up your parking without returning to your car (within signed time limits). This is great if you are stuck in a meeting or need a few extra minutes shopping or running errands.
- ▶ You can choose which app you use. Our technology will support a range of options including apps already commonly used across Melbourne.

➤ We're not making any changes to parking fees. The fees will be reviewed as usual as part of the 2026/27 Budget process.

Councillor Contacts



Dandenong Ward Mayor

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Jim.Memeti@cgd.vic.gov.au



Noble Park Ward Deputy Mayor

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Noble Park North Ward

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Springvale Central Ward

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AlicePhuong.Le@cgd.vic.gov.au



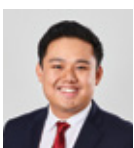
Springvale North Ward

Cr Sean O'Reilly
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Sean.OReilly@cgd.vic.gov.au



Springvale South Ward

Cr Loi Truong
0466 004 618
Loi.Truong@cgd.vic.gov.au



Yarraman Ward

Cr Phillip Danh
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Phillip.Danh@cgd.vic.gov.au

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 10 November
- ▶ Monday 24 November



To view meetings or to find out more about Public Question Time visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

NOVEMBER

MONDAY

10

NOVEMBER

MONDAY

24

NOVEMBER

Mayoral Election



Your next Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected by their councillor peers at the Annual Meeting of Council on Thursday 13 November 2025. Everyone is welcome to join us for the public meeting at 6pm.

If we run out of seats in the Council Chamber at Dandenong Civic Centre, there will be room in adjoining Harmony Square where the meeting will be live-streamed to the urban screen. All Council meetings are also live-streamed via greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings



My City

Abhijit Pal captured the short-lived moments as the sun sets beyond 21 George Street in Dandenong. It lingers these days and can make for some outstanding sunsets. This picture appears in the 2025 Community Calendar in the month of November.

The 2026 Community Calendar is being finalised now and a celebration of winners of our photography competition will be held at the Drum Theatre later this month. The winning images will go on display for the whole community to see. Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au for more information.

► Springvale South Ward

Cr Loi Truong



As we welcome the warmer weather, it's a lovely time to enjoy the outdoors – especially before the heat of summer truly sets in. November offers some of the most pleasant days of the year, and there are some wonderful ways to make the most of them right here in our own neighbourhood.

One such place is Alex Wilkie Reserve, a peaceful and well-cared-for natural space in Springvale South. On its regular open days, the reserve is free to visit and offers a chance to explore the local environment at your own pace or with the guidance of a knowledgeable ranger.

Whether you prefer a quiet walk among native plants or would like to learn more about the area's unique ecology, the reserve provides a welcoming and informative experience for all ages. It's a great way to spend time with family, meet other community members, or simply enjoy a moment of calm in nature.



And remember the fun to be had – at low cost – at the Springvale Live Steamers Railway at Alex Nelson Reserve. You can take the kids, or just yourself, for a spin on the rideable locomotives.

We encourage you to take advantage of these local treasures and enjoy the simple pleasure of being outdoors during this beautiful time of year.



Feel free to contact me any time with questions or ideas about the things that matter to you. Reach me via email at Loi.Truong@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone me at 0466 004 618

Cr Rhonda Garad

► Cleeland Ward



It is a very exciting time for Dandenong, with a number of major projects now moving into their delivery phase.

Revitalisation of the Dandenong Market Bazaar Area

Dandenong Market Management is planning to commence the revitalisation early next year with the aim to complete the project by mid next year. This upgrade will transform the space into more welcoming, accessible and vibrant destination for market shoppers.

Dandenong Community Hub

Council has been consulting with the community for some time and is now working toward finalising the concept design of the new Dandenong Community Hub. Community members have provided thoughtful and creative input over a series of workshops, helping to shape what will be a vital facility for our city. We have seen good progress, and we'll see more as we reach milestones on other important projects including the Dandenong Market Master Plan and the Dandenong Market Precinct Plan.



Dandenong Aquatic and Wellbeing Centre and Hockey Centre

Construction has commenced on the new Dandenong Aquatic and Wellbeing Centre – a state-of-the-art facility set to open in 2027. The existing pool will remain open until the new centre is ready, ensuring the community continues to have access to aquatic facilities throughout the transition. The final name of the facility is yet to be confirmed, and we will keep you updated on the process.

Keeping our streets clean

Rubbish remains a strong focus of mine. We are targeting hotspots around the market, as well as Stud Road and Cleeland Street. Council officers continue to educate the community, monitor recurring dumping sites and issue warnings to repeat offenders.



For any concerns or issues, please don't hesitate to contact me at 0435 107 584, message me on Facebook, or via email Rhonda.Garad@cgd.vic.gov.au

OPENING
2027

Pool dug, concrete flows at Dandenong Wellbeing Centre



Image above: Concrete ridges indicate where heated coils will be located. Images left and below: Excavators prepare the hole for the 50-metre pool.



The new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre continues to take shape, with excavation for the 50-metre pool now complete and concreting underway. The pool footprint is now visible, giving the community a sense of the scale and progress of the new centre.

If you're curious, take a look through the mesh fencing on Cleeland Street to see the work in progress. From this viewpoint, it's easy to see the careful planning and effort that has gone into preparing the site.

Council's construction partner, ADCO Constructions, continues to focus on recycling and reusing materials wherever possible, keeping environmental impact front of mind while delivering the new centre.

With concreting of the pool underway, the project is moving steadily toward its 2027 opening.

In the coming weeks, visitors will notice more milestones taking shape:

- ▶ Finalising the concrete pour of the 50-metre pool and the two warm water pools
- ▶ Commencing construction on the main building structure



To stay informed about construction progress and key milestones, register for updates at greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/DWC.



Greater Dandenong Walk Against Family Violence

A Legacy of Courage and Community



Since 2013, the Greater Dandenong community has united annually to reject family violence. Each year, community members have marched in solidarity, joined by powerful voices – survivors, advocates and performers – who share their stories to inspire change and promote a world free of violence.

At the inaugural event, anti-violence campaigner Phil Cleary spoke about his fight for justice following the death of his sister. In 2016, entertainer and survivor Colleen Hewitt moved hundreds with her story and song. The following year, football legend Kevin Sheedy stood alongside survivor 'Rebecca' to raise awareness.

Though the pandemic halted public gatherings in 2020 and 2021, the community maintained the momentum with virtual walks to keep the conversation alive. In 2022, advocate Tarang Chawla shared the heartbreaking story of losing his sister Niki to domestic violence. In 2023, survivors Liana Papoutsis, a human rights lawyer, and Melanie Rowe, a former police officer, shared their experiences.

In 2024, keynote speaker Simone O'Brien shared her harrowing experience of surviving a brutal attack by her ex-partner. After ending the relationship,

Simone was assaulted in her home in front of her children and left with life-altering injuries. Her story is one of extraordinary resilience – having undergone more than 50 surgeries, she now travels the country raising awareness about the red flags of abuse and the importance of reporting violence. *"We need to protect everyone from these perpetrators,"* she urged.

Join us for the 2025 Walk against Family Violence

This year's Walk Against Family Violence will be held on Tuesday, 25 November.

Meet at the Dandenong Market at 11am and walk to Harmony Square to hear from guest speakers.

Join the walk and help us send the message that Greater Dandenong says 'no to family violence'.

This event is delivered in collaboration with Dandenong Market, Interfaith Network, Orange Door, Wellsprings for Women, Safe + Equals, WAYSS, WHISE (Women's Health in South East) and supported by Victoria Police.



Stories That Shape Us: Reframing Masculinity Today


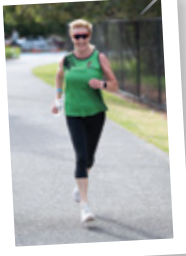










Author Francesca Cavallo discusses her book *Stellar Stories for Boys of the Future* and the topic of reframing masculinity.

She will be joined by two community leaders and together they explore how stories, men's circles and youth workshops can inspire healthier, more inclusive understandings of masculinity.

Saturday 29 November, 4pm
Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre

If you're concerned about a friend or family member, or you're experiencing gendered violence, call '1800 Respect' on 1800 737 732.

What's On November 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1 Dandenong Parkrun 8am 	2
3 Simply Fitness at Jan Wilson Centre 8.30am-9.30am	4 Adult Exercise at Jan Wilson Centre 9.30am	5 Navigating Grief Bunarong Memorial Park 10.30am 	6	7 Strength Training at Jan Wilson Centre 8.30am 	8 Springvale Urban Harvest and Clothes Swap Springvale Hub 1pm 	9
10 Toddler Time Dandenong Library 10.30am Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	11 Nature Play at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve 10am	12 	13 Annual Meeting of Council (Mayoral Election) Dandenong Civic Centre 6pm Playgroups Jan Wilson Centre 10am	14 Yoga and Meditation Jan Wilson Centre 11.15am	15 Reduce and Recycle Greaves Reserve 8am-1pm 	16 Nature Reserve Open Day Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve 10am 
17 Mental Wellbeing Dandenong Living/Learning Centre 10am	18 Adult Exercise at Jan Wilson Centre 9.30am	19 	20 Digital Skills for Mandarin speakers Springvale Hub 1pm	21 Zumba Gold at Jan Wilson Centre 10am	22 Dandenong Parkrun 8am	23
24 Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm 	25 Walk Against Family Violence Dandenong Market 11am	26 Zumba at Jan Wilson Centre 5.30pm	27 Mindfulness Meditation Dandenong Hospital 2.30pm	28 Yoga and Meditation Jan Wilson Centre 11.15am 	29 	30

Carols in Harmony Square



Jingle all the way to Harmony Square!

Get ready to sing the night away at Carols in Harmony Square, returning (with bells on) on Friday 5 December 2025, from 6pm to 9pm.

Gather your elves – family, friends and neighbours – for an evening of festive fun at this beloved, free community event. What's in Santa's bag this year?

- ▶ Dress in your most tree-mendously cheerful Christmas outfit
- ▶ Pack your picnic mats, chairs and water bottles
- ▶ Sing your heart out to classic carols under the twinkling stars

- ▶ Enjoy performances from local performers lighting up the Harmony Square stage
- ▶ Explore a sleighfull of activities for all ages

Don't miss this yuletide delight – it's going to be so much fun!

▶ **For more info, visit**
[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/
 carols-in-harmony-square](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/carols-in-harmony-square)



Hidden Gem Festival & Market

 **Hidden Gem Festival & Market is a new community-driven event set to transform Hemmings Street into a lively cultural hub. It was made possible by the Empowering Communities Grant, a partnership among Greater Dandenong Council, the Dandenong West Community Action Group and the Victorian Government Department of Justice and Community Safety, and delivered by the West Alchemy Collective.**

The festival will feature an eclectic mix of live music performances, a handpicked record fair, a locally curated beer garden and a diverse crafts market. With the energy of a block party and the heart of a community celebration, Hidden Gem is designed to honour and showcase the rich tapestry of cultures that make up the neighbourhood.

When: November 22 and 23, 10am–7pm

Where: Car park, 71 Hemmings St, Dandenong West

The event is free and family friendly.

▶ **For information:**
Instagram
[@hiddengemfestival25](https://www.instagram.com/hiddengemfestival25)
Facebook
[@hiddengemfestival25](https://www.facebook.com/hiddengemfestival25)

Trees on Farms Program



In the April edition of *Council News*, (p 14) we told you about the Green Wedge

Management Plan turning 10 years old – and how we celebrated with a hugely successful plant giveaway. Green wedge landowners collected 3,600 free indigenous plants at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve, helping boost biodiversity and canopy cover across Greater Dandenong. The response was overwhelming, with residents asking when the next giveaway would be.

We are happy to report another exciting opportunity.

The Victorian Government has launched the **Trees on Farms Program**, offering grants of up to \$80,000 to help farmers and rural landholders plant trees that deliver long-term



environmental and economic benefits. It's a fantastic opportunity for eligible Green Wedge lot owners to enhance their properties both economically and environmentally.

Planting trees on farms offers a range of benefits:

- ▶ Boosts native habitat and supports local wildlife
- ▶ Prevents soil erosion and improves land health
- ▶ Provides shade and shelter for livestock
- ▶ Enhances crop and grazing productivity

- ▶ Offsets carbon emissions and earns carbon credits
- ▶ Generates income through timber or on-farm uses like firewood and fencing

Whether you're looking to improve your land's productivity, contribute to climate action or simply add to the natural beauty of your property, this program offers the tools and funding to make it happen.

Visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/trees-on-farms to learn more and apply.

Council crowned top prize in Australia for Noble Park activation



Noble Park is officially home to the best main street activation by a council in Australia and has the silverware to prove it.

Greater Dandenong City Council's Our Street NPK (Noble Park) activation was recognised on a national scale at this week's Main Street Australia Awards.

We took out top prize in the 'Best Main Street Activation – Council Led (over \$100,000) category which recognises large-scale, initiatives that deliver transformative placemaking, multi-day events and high-impact activations that bring our streets to life.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Councillor Jim Memeti said Our Street NPK was created to deliver colour, light, play and discovery to Noble Park.

"The campaign's vibrant public art, shopfront and lighting improvements, family-friendly activations and digital storytelling created an exciting environment for community, visitors, businesses and shoppers," Cr Memeti said.

Highlights included community designed murals, public art installations, the naming of Muderra Way and a digital map showcasing local stories.

"Now we've shown the whole country that this is the best main street activation in Australia," the Mayor beamed.

"We were proud to stand out for our bold vision, inclusive programming, and deep collaboration across sectors against fierce competition including five big Australian councils.

"This award reflects our commitment to progressive placemaking and revitalising activity centres and precincts to help foster a strong sense of place and community while benefiting the economy."



For more information about Our Street Noble Park visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/our-street

This project was a place-based revitalisation initiative led by Greater Dandenong City Council, supported by the Noble Park Revitalisation Board and partially funded by the Victorian Government.

Behind the Scenes: Amarjeet Singh, Community Safety Officer



Regular visitors to Greater Dandenong's customer service centres will recognise Amarjeet Singh's friendly face and reassuring demeanour.

Amarjeet is four years into his role at Council as a Community Safety Officer, a job that truly places him squarely in the centre of civic activity.

Well-loved by his colleagues, Amarjeet is known around Council for his ability to set people at ease and relate to locals from every walk of life.

His dark blue uniform and utility vest may look serious, but his manner is gentle. He smiles often and visibly enjoys his role keeping people safe and informed when they visit one of our facilities.

What is a typical day like for a community safety officer? Is there a lot of structure to it?

My day starts at noon and usually goes until 8.30pm unless I need to be on duty later for a specific event, such as a Council meeting.

My three colleagues and I rotate among three Council buildings according to a schedule. We patrol regularly to keep watch on things over the course of the day and also monitor CCTV.

It's my job to keep an eye on safety hazards and behaviour and address them as required; that could be damage to the building, suspicious

or disruptive behaviour, fighting and so on. We also clean up broken glass and collect abandoned blankets for cleaning and redistribution to those who need them.

What do you enjoy most about what you do?

I like that we have a role to play in helping community members have a pleasant experience when they are here. People have come up to me and share that they feel safe when they're here to do business, and that makes me feel good. We have a lot of older people come here for customer service and I enjoy helping them get where they need to go. I like that we have a calming influence by being visible and available for assistance if needed.

On a really hot day last summer, a fellow was clearly suffering the effects of the heat, so I offered him a bottle of water and we sat down in the shade for a chat. A drink of water solves a lot of problems, actually.

We keep bottles on hand because they help people feel calm and relaxed.

Sometimes people do odd things or try to start an argument, but usually it's about wanting to be listened to. So, we listen, engage them in conversation. Most of the time it works very well to de-escalate the situation. It's like verbal judo, balancing negative energy.

Little Library in Noble Park



Borrowing items from the library is about to get easier for Noble Park residents.

The introduction of a Little Library outside Noble Park Station will allow library members to pick up reservations and return items at their convenience, giving them around the clock access to our libraries.

Our first Little Library has been operating with great success at Menzies Avenue, Dandenong North, since late 2023.

Noble Park Ward Councillor and Deputy Mayor, Cr Sophie Tan welcomed the new addition to Noble Park.

"All you need is a library card and access to the library website to put items on hold," Cr Tan said.

"The Little Library Lockers will be available 24/7. This is a new level of convenience for Noble Park locals, and with 40,000 pedestrians passing through the train station precinct every day, more people than ever can borrow items from our libraries."



Visit libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/about/little-libraries for more information.



love your libraries

Libraries
Change Lives

Adult programs

Libraries at Dusk

Chana Chaat Workshop

Thursday 6 November, 6:30pm–8pm,
Keysborough Community Hub
(10 Villiers Road, Keysborough)

Experience the bold flavours of Pakistan's street food scene by making a delicious chickpea dish with Kanwal Lashari from Free to Feed.



Design Your Wildlife Garden

Thursday 13 November, 6:30pm–8pm,
Dandenong Library (corner Lonsdale
and Walker Streets, Dandenong)

Learn the basics of wildlife-friendly gardening and sketch your own garden plan in this hands-on workshop.



Colombian Dessert Workshop

27 November, 6:30pm–8pm
Springvale Library (5 Hillcrest Grove,
Springvale)

Join Verena from Donde Mama for a delicious dive into Colombian cuisine as we learn to make a traditional Colombian dessert.

www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Clay Work Art Series

Tuesday 11 November,
6.30pm–8.30pm at Dandenong Library
(corner Lonsdale and Walker Streets,
Dandenong)

Tuesday 18 November,
6.30pm–8.30pm at Springvale Library
(5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale)

Create your own natural ceramic diffuser for essential oils in this relaxing workshop with Michelle Mayumi Chinen.

Children's programs



Our Digestive System – The Think Tank

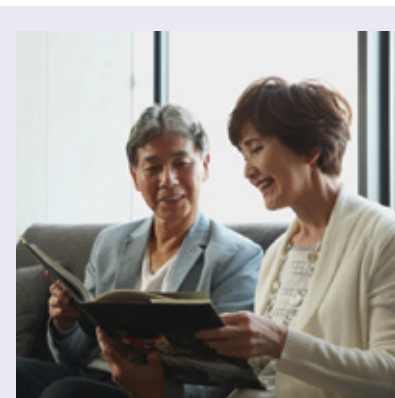
Saturday 15 November, 3pm–4pm
at Dandenong Library (corner Lonsdale
and Walker Streets, Dandenong)

Saturday 22 November, 3pm–4pm
at Springvale Library (5 Hillcrest Grove,
Springvale)

Follow food along the digestive tract and learn about how we taste, digest, and move food along our gut. Make poo to understand why it is important to eat enough vegetables.



For more information about things to do at your local library visit libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



Home Library Service

Can't come to the library? Have the books come to you!

Greater Dandenong City Council provides a free home library service to residents who have difficulty visiting our libraries in person due to illness, frailty or disability (temporary or permanent) or their permanent careers.

Volunteers or staff will visit regularly with a selection of library materials chosen to suit the individual's interests and requirements.

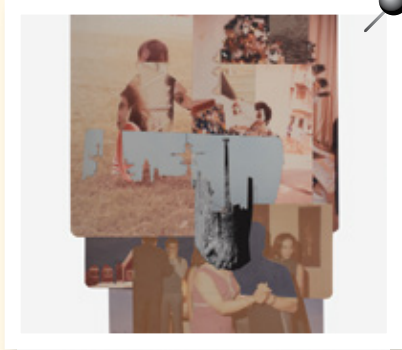
What can Home Library Service patrons borrow?

- ▶ Fiction/nonfiction books
- ▶ Books in large or standard print
- ▶ Talking books
- ▶ Music CDs
- ▶ Magazines
- ▶ DVDs and Blu-rays
- ▶ Material in a range of languages



For more information call
1300 630 920.

ARTS

Arts
in Greater
Dandenong**Walker Street Gallery
and Arts Centre****Ibrahim Ahmed****Until 17 of January 2026**

Amidst the Absence, A Present is Felt explores absence not as emptiness, but as presence – felt, remembered and embodied. It invites viewers into a conversation about identity, erasure and resilience.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/ibrahim-ahmed-exhibition to register for events and to read more about this exhibition.

Cultural Sketch**Thursday 13 November, 6pm–8pm
The Castle**

Sketch, connect, create — all in one night!

Cultural Sketch at The Castle is your chance to hang out with local creatives, get inspired and have fun with your art.

**Stories that Shape Us:
Reframing Masculinity Today****Saturday 29 November, 4pm**

Author Francesca Cavallo discusses her book *Stellar Stories for Boys of the Future* and the need for reframing masculinity. She will be joined by two community leaders to explore how stories, men's circles and youth workshops can inspire healthier, more inclusive understandings of masculinity.

**The Place to Be –
Dandenong Town Hall****Until 20 February 2026
Benga House (Heritage Hill Museum
and Historic Garden) and
Drum Theatre**

Journey through the rich history of the Dandenong Town Hall, exploring photographs, stories, fashion and memories and celebrate how this building continues to evolve as Dandenong's home for culture and connection.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/exhibitions/place-be-dandenong-town-hall to read more about this beautiful exhibition.

Connect with us

Follow us:

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The Great Gershwins****Thursday 20 November, 10.30am**

I Got Rhythm – The Great Gershwins is a tribute to many of the great hits and stories behind legendary composers George and Ira Gershwin. Featuring concert pianist virtuoso William Schmidt, international soprano Alison Jones and compere Chris McKenna.

Coming in December**Encore: 'Tis the Season****Thursday 11 December, 10.30am**

Enjoy classic carols and swinging Christmas hits by popular artists from Bing Crosby to Michael Bublé, brought to life with dazzling harmonies, cheeky banter, costume magic and sensational dancing. A sparkling Christmas wonderland awaits – sure to be the most wonderful time of the year.

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Sign up for e-newsletter at

drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Shaping our Economy and Place Strategy



Over the past few months, we have been working with residents and businesses in our local community to develop our Economy and Place Strategy, which will guide our work on driving investment, boosting jobs and creating meaningful public places over the next five to 10 years.

The process is rigorous. In August and September, we consulted with businesses, residents and community partners for their feedback on fostering sustainable economic growth and enhancing wellbeing and connection with community to strengthen the vibrancy of Greater Dandenong.

In September we conducted eight external consultation sessions, two internal workshops and received over 80 responses to our survey.

We conducted the survey in different ways to help ensure broad participation including face-to-face exchanges and online facilitated workshops, focus groups, interviews, submissions and a survey.

We are looking forward to exploring this feedback and using this information to construct and draft our Economy and Place Strategy.

We will make further consultations in early 2026.



Contact us via business@cgd.vic.gov.au or 8571 1550 if you have any questions about the stages of this process or visit yoursay.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/economy-and-place-strategy.



Safety gap: an idea that transformed warehouse safety



Product damage in warehouses is a costly issue affecting profits, customer satisfaction and worker safety. In 2012, at a trade show for CRP Industries, which produces Australian-made, industrial rubber products a client asked for a product that would protect against forklift-related damage. Although CRP didn't offer a solution at the time, Sales Manager Louise Inglese and her husband Michael, Managing Director, saw an opportunity.

Together with Michael's father, Fernando Inglese, they developed a collection of rubber sleeves and grips to prevent forklift abrasion damage. After a successful trial, they founded GenieGrips®, a company dedicated to forklift attachments and warehouse safety.

While developing their product, Louise met Amy Frey, President and Founder of ATC International LLC and an export advisor for the Victorian Government's International Trade Division.

Amy had established a logistics service and provides US market-entry consulting for small and medium sized Australian businesses. "Amy helped us navigate the complexities of global exporting," Louise said.

Based in Dandenong South, GenieGrips® now exports to the US, UK and the Netherlands, with 90 per cent of its business coming from international markets.

GenieGrips® is a small team of three, eager to grow their presence in the European market. The parent company, CRP Industries, currently employs 22 people and aims to bring rubber manufacturing in house. The family is proud the business has entered its third generation.



Learn more by visiting geniegrips.com and crpindustries.com.au

Prepare for the return of hot weather



Australia's heatwaves are getting hotter and longer — here's how to stay cool and safe.

Thanks to climate change (mostly caused by burning coal, oil and gas), Australia is seeing more extreme heatwaves. When the temperature climbs, it's not just uncomfortable — it can be dangerous. So here are some easy ways to look after yourself, your loved ones and your pets:

Find cool spots to hang out. If you've got air conditioning or fans at home, great! If not, head to places like shopping centres, libraries or community centres — anywhere with good airflow and cool air.

Get things done early. Try to do outdoor chores or exercise in the morning before the heat kicks in. Avoid being outside during the hottest part of the day.

Check in on vulnerable people. Older folks, young kids and anyone who's unwell are at greater risk during heatwaves. Make sure they're in a cool space, wearing light clothes and staying hydrated.

Ensure your pets have plenty of water and shade for the day.

Drink water — lots of it. Even if you don't feel thirsty, keep sipping water throughout the day. It's one of the best ways to avoid heat-related illness.



Visit climatecouncil.org.au for more information and practical tips for staying safe in hot weather.

Waste and Recycling



Recycling beyond the bin: from waste to resource

Recycling hard-to-recycle items like textile shoes, blister packs and electronic waste is important for protecting our environment and conserving valuable resources. These items often contain materials that can be recovered and reused—such as metals, plastics, and textiles—reducing the need to harvest new raw materials and helping preserve natural ecosystems.

Electronic waste, for example, contains rare-earth metals and toxic substances. If not properly recycled, these can leach into soil and waterways, causing long-term pollution and harm to wildlife and human health. Similarly, textiles and shoes can take decades to break down in landfill, contributing to the growing waste crisis.

By recycling even the tricky stuff, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and support the development of innovative recycling technologies. It also helps build a circular economy, where materials are kept in use for as long as possible, reducing waste and promoting sustainability.

Every item diverted from landfill is a step toward a cleaner, healthier planet. Recycling is more than just a bin—it's a commitment to resource recovery, pollution prevention and a future where waste is seen as a valuable resource, not a problem.



For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/recycle-day

National Recycling Week 10–16 November

The next Reuse and Recycle Drop Off Day on Saturday 15 November at Greaves Reserve (Bennet Street, Dandenong).

You can use Recycle Mate to find a drop off location for over 7,000 items. Download the app or use the search function on our website

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/which-bin

recyclemate.com.au



Dandy Show

Don't forget, the much-loved Dandy Show's back in town on 8 and 9 November. It's where the city meets the country with lots on offer including entertainment, arts and crafts, amusement rides, show bags, live entertainment, food and fireworks. Come on down for some family-friendly fun!

Highlights include:

- ▶ Highland dancers
- ▶ Dog high jump
- ▶ JJS waste Dustbin Derby
- ▶ Gumboot throw
- ▶ Show jumping
- ▶ Fireworks and more

Entry fees: Adults \$15, children 10 years and under are free.



For more information visit dandyshow.com.au





GAROLS

IN HARMONY SQUARE

**Friday 5 December
6pm - 9pm**

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

**Free face painting • Carols sing along
• Family activities**



This is a no smoking, no alcohol and no drugs event.

[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/
carols-in-harmony-square](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/carols-in-harmony-square)

