

Greater Dandenong Council News

Celebrate
winter in
Springvale

PAGE 7



**Refugee
Week**

▶ PAGE 3

**New arts
season**

▶ PAGES 8-9

**Meet the
Junior Mayor**

▶ PAGE 4

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

PO Box 200

Dandenong VIC 3175

Email: news@cgd.vic.gov.au



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 June edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

As we move into winter, June offers opportunities for our community to come together to learn, celebrate and take action on issues that matter. From caring for our environment to supporting newcomers and enjoying family-friendly events across our city – June is a time for connection in Greater Dandenong.



Friday 5 June marks World Environment Day, an important reminder of the role we all play in protecting our local environment. We're proud to support practical actions that help households reduce costs while cutting emissions. A highlight this month is the Smart Energy Council's Lower Power Bills Expo, being held at Springvale Town Hall on Thursday 4 June. The free event will provide expert advice and energy-saving solutions to help residents manage rising power bills. Turn to page 6 to find out more.

June also marks Refugee Week, from Sunday 14 June to Saturday 20 June 2026. It is a time to recognise and celebrate the contributions of people from refugee backgrounds who enrich our community culturally, socially and economically. Greater Dandenong is one of Australia's most welcoming and diverse cities, and our Refugee Week celebrations reflect this proud tradition. We're hosting a Refugee Week celebration in partnership with SisterWorks. Read all about it on page three.

As part of the Back Your Neighbour campaign, local people with lived experience of seeking asylum will travel to Canberra this month. They will join Mayors and councillors from around the country to advocate for certainty and support for people seeking asylum. Learn more on page three.

I can't wait to see you in Springvale on Sunday 21 June to celebrate all things winter. Join us for fun, food trucks and live entertainment, there will something for the whole family.

Mayor Councillor Sophie Tan

My City

Congratulations to Daniel Green who won this year's Community Calendar photo competition with his impressive image *Sandown Racecourse, Springvale*.



Sandown Racecourse has been a familiar landmark in Greater Dandenong for over six decades. Captured in the early morning mist, the winning photograph highlights the scale, calm and natural beauty of the site, offering a different perspective on a well known place. It is the feature image for June in our 2026 Community Calendar.

Thank you to everyone who entered the photo competition and helped bring our city to life through their lens.

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: Street performers entertain crowds at Snow Fest.

BACK YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce
Supporting People Seeking Asylum



Geetha – a childcare educator and community advocate for the Back Your Neighbour campaign in 2025.



Kye – a local advisory committee member and community advocate for the Back Your Neighbour campaign in 2024.



In 2018, Greater Dandenong City Council started the Back Your Neighbour campaign to advocate for people seeking asylum locally. We are proud that today, the campaign includes 48 local governments and more than 90 community organisations across the nation standing together for fairness and compassion for families seeking asylum.

Each year, Back Your Neighbour delegates travel to Canberra to share lived experience and community voices directly with Members of Parliament. Geetha and Kye (pictured above) visited Canberra as advocates for fair and compassionate policies in 2024 (Kye) and 2025 (Geetha).

On June 23-25, Greater Dandenong Mayor, Councillor Sophie Tan, will join delegates and her mayoral colleagues from around the country to raise awareness about the challenges facing people seeking asylum, at the National General Assembly and Parliament House in Canberra.

The campaign calls on the Federal Government to:

1. Provide a timely pathway to permanency for people with a long-term unresolved immigration status.
2. Provide people with a valid visa and the opportunity to work.
3. Expand access to health care, income support and essential services to people in need.

You're invited to support the campaign by:

- ▶ Following the campaign on social media [@backyourneighbour](https://www.facebook.com/backyourneighbour)
- ▶ Sending a message of support to your local MP
- ▶ If you run a community service, become a campaign partner for free.



Visit [backyourneighbour.com.au](https://www.backyourneighbour.com.au) to take part in the campaign's important work.

A Million Stories for Refugee Week 2026

BEGINS
14 JUNE

This year, the theme of Refugee Week is 'A Million Stories'. The theme marks the milestone of one million humanitarian visas granted by Australia since 1947 and highlights the individual journeys, resilience and contributions of refugees.

Refugee Week begins on Monday 14 June and at Greater Dandenong City Council, we're proudly partnering with SisterWorks to host a Refugee Week gathering. The private event will take place on Tuesday 16 June at the Greater Dandenong Civic Centre. It will bring together the Mayor, Councillors, members of the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee, SisterWorks, and other community partners to connect, share food prepared by SisterWorks, and celebrate the strength, resilience and contributions of people from refugee and asylum seeking backgrounds in our community.

Councillor Contacts



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Springvale North Ward

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Springvale South Ward

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Loi.Truong@cgd.vic.gov.au

MONDAY

15

JUNE

MONDAY

29

JUNE

JUNE

The next meetings with be held on:

- ▶ **Monday 15 June**
- ▶ **Monday 29 June**
(special meeting to adopt the Council Budget – meeting will only be held if required)

➤ **To view meetings or to find out more about public question time visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings**

June Council Meetings

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



New Junior Mayor and Deputy elected



Greater Dandenong's new Junior Mayor and Junior Deputy Mayor were sworn in following an exciting Children's Advisory Group election in April.

Junior Mayor, Fariha Rezaei and Deputy Junior Mayor Omar Abulughod were elected by their enthusiastic peers, 30 children from nine primary schools across Greater Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Councillor Sophie Tan thanked the Children's Advisory Group for their important role informing Council's work with children and young people.

"Your confidence, your ideas and your willingness to participate in local leadership are something you should be very proud of," the Mayor said.

In her speech, Fariha said, "Coming from an Afghan background, I know how important it is to have the freedom to speak up and be listened to. Not every child in the world gets that chance but we do!"

➤ **To hear more from Fariha visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/news**

▶ Keysborough South Ward

Cr Isabella Do



It's an exciting time for Keysborough South, with several important projects progressing that will improve safety, accessibility and local amenity for our community.

I'm pleased to share an update on the Pillars Road Reconstruction Project, a significant \$3 million investment in our local road network. These works will deliver a full road reconstruction, improving road conditions, drainage and safety for all users.

Construction is ready to recommence once essential third-party water works are completed, and I look forward to seeing this important project move ahead and provide long term benefits for residents and commuters who rely on Pillars Road every day.

Advocating for safer roads and well-maintained public spaces continues to be a priority for me. I regularly work with Council officers and fellow Councillors to



progress local infrastructure upgrades that support families, pedestrians, cyclists and motorists across Keysborough South.

Since its completion, the outdoor lighting at Frederick Wachter Reserve has improved visibility and safety around the tennis walkway during the evenings. This upgrade has promoted a sense of safety for those attending sporting activities and events.

Thank you to everyone who continues to share feedback and raise local issues with me. Your input helps shape better outcomes for our neighbourhoods.



If you would like to discuss any local matters, please contact me via email at Isabella.Do@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone 0427 161 104.

Cr Loi Truong

▶ Springvale South Ward



It continues to be a privilege to serve the Springvale South community and to see the many projects and celebrations that reflect the diversity, resilience and care that define our city.

One project I'm especially pleased to share an update on is the Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve. This project focuses on improving accessibility, landscape enhancements, wayfinding and sensory elements, while protecting and enhancing the reserve's natural environment. Construction is progressing well, with landscaping close to completion and final works scheduled over the coming months. Once complete, the reserve will continue to support environmental education, biodiversity and inclusive recreation for the community. The project is proudly supported by Victorian Government funding.

June is also a significant time for reflection and celebration, with World Refugee Day on 20 June. Greater Dandenong has long been a Refugee Welcome Zone, and this commitment is deeply meaningful to me personally.

My own experience arriving in Australia as a refugee has shaped my life and my commitment to public service. This year also marks 50 years since the beginning of Vietnamese refugee settlement in Australia (1975–2025/26) an important milestone that honours the strength, contribution and cultural richness of our Vietnamese community in Greater Dandenong.

I also look forward to our winter themed carnival and multicultural food festival featuring live entertainment, rides, market and community stalls, and family friendly activities. The event will be held on Sunday 21 June 2026, from 11am–6pm, along Buckingham Avenue, Springvale, with more details to be shared closer to the date.

Thank you for your ongoing engagement and support. I look forward to continuing our work together to keep Springvale South inclusive, vibrant and welcoming for all.



If you would like to contact me, you can reach at Loi.Truong@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone 0466 004 618.

Lower Power Bills Expo helping residents cut energy costs



Are you looking for practical and affordable ways to reduce your energy bills? Come down to Springvale Town Hall for the Lower Power Bills Expo on Thursday 4 June.

Delivered by the Smart Energy Council and supported by Greater Dandenong City Council, the Lower Power Bills Expo is designed to assist households experiencing energy hardship or high living costs. By connecting residents directly with installers, community advocates and government representatives, the expo helps people better understand their options and take action with confidence.

You will receive easy to understand advice on switching from gas to electric appliances, energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions like installing solar or battery systems to improve comfort and reduce emissions. The expo will provide clarity on eligibility, application processes and potential savings for Victorian Government rebates and programs.

The Lower Power Bills Expo supports the Greater Dandenong City Council *Our Bright Green Future Strategy*, which prioritises low carbon and renewable energy solutions to help the city transition to zero emissions and prepare for a changing future.

Event details

Lower Power Bills Expo

Date: Thursday

4 June 2026

Time: 4.30pm–7.00pm

Location: Springvale City Hall

Registration



Behind the Scenes – Meet Shayne

Shayne works as a Conservation Projects Officer in our Parks and Open Space team, helping to protect and enhance biodiversity across Greater Dandenong's parks, reserves and waterways.

Shayne plans and delivers conservation projects that improve the health of local ecosystems. This includes restoring habitat, managing weeds and supporting biodiversity across Council managed land. He works closely with contractors, community groups and other Council teams to ensure projects are delivered effectively.

Shayne said seeing long-term environmental improvements is one of the most rewarding aspects of his job. Returning to sites or reviewing before-and-after photos of revegetation work provides a clear sense of progress.

“Environmental improvements can take time, but watching a site recover makes it really worthwhile,” Shayne said.

He added that seeing wildlife such as kangaroos and sugar gliders returning to local reserves is especially rewarding, knowing the work is creating habitat that native species can use.

“A big part of my role is finding the right balance between environmental outcomes, community expectations and Council priorities,” Shayne said. “It’s about making sure our natural spaces are healthy and resilient into the future.”

Shayne’s week is usually a mix of office work and time spent in the field, balancing project planning and reporting with site inspections and monitoring works.

“That mix keeps the role interesting,” he said.

Shayne began working in conservation after joining the Parks team at Greater Dandenong City Council where an interest in bushland and environmental work quickly grew. He later studied Conservation and Ecosystem Management. Living in Greater Dandenong, he enjoys contributing to the community he calls home.

Outside of work, Shayne enjoys staying active, playing guitar, gaming, attending live music and volunteering.



Celebrate winter in Springvale

A FULL DAY OF DELIGHTS



Winter celebrations return to Buckingham Avenue this June, bringing a full day of delights and activities to the heart of Springvale.

Celebrating its 14th year in 2026, the much-anticipated annual carnival and multicultural food festival promises excitement for all ages. Visitors can enjoy thrilling amusement rides, live entertainment from dynamic roving

performers and the popular Amplify Youth Stage, as well as a dedicated youth zone and plenty of children's activities. Buckingham Avenue will come alive with a vibrant mix of market and community stalls, alongside food vendors and local businesses serving up delicious flavours from around the world.

This event is always a well-attended community celebration, so we encourage visitors to consider travelling by public

transport. Springvale Railway Station is just a short walk from the event site.

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

Come on down
Buckingham Avenue, Springvale
Sunday 21 June 2026
11am-6pm

Street Feast – Sweet Edition returns to Dandenong Market this June

Dandenong Market is inviting the community to indulge their sweet tooth this winter when Street Feast – Sweet Edition returns for one delicious day on Saturday 6 June, from 10am to 3pm.

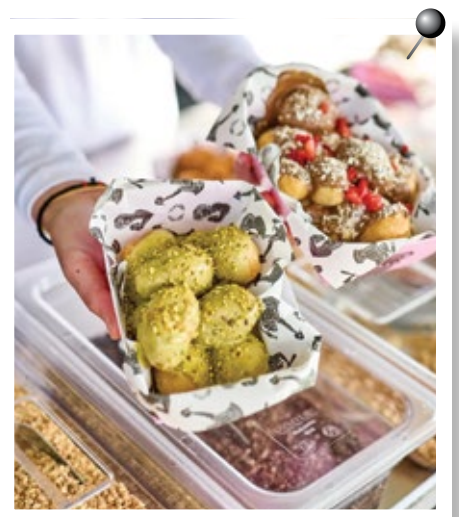
Taking over the Southern Carpark at Dandenong Market, this free, family friendly event will transform Melbourne's iconic multicultural market into a dessert lover's paradise, showcasing sweet treats and flavours from around the world.

Visitors can expect an irresistible line up of desserts, including warm crepes, golden waffles, indulgent filled donuts, fluffy loukoumades and Indian inspired sweets. Inside the market, a range of much loved traders will be serving up their signature creations, from pistachio packed baklava at Why Not? Wooden Bakery to rich dulce de leche treats at Café Valentina. Nostalgic pastries,

gluten free desserts, fairy floss, popcorn and snow cones will also be on offer, ensuring there's something for everyone.

Designed as a fun and relaxed day out, Street Feast – Sweet Edition is perfect for families, friends and food lovers looking to enjoy a vibrant winter atmosphere. Alongside the mouth watering food, visitors can soak up the lively energy that makes Dandenong Market one of Melbourne's most popular destinations.

With free entry and endless sweet options to explore, Street Feast – Sweet Edition promises a joyful celebration of food, culture and community.



Where: Southern Carpark, Dandenong Market, Corner Clow and Cleeland Streets, Dandenong
When: Saturday 6 June
Time: 10am-3pm

For more information, visit dandenongmarket.com.au.

ARTS IN GREATER DANDENONG

WHERE CULTURE COMES ALIVE

EXHIBITIONS



EXTRAORDINARY STORIES: COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

3 JUNE – 27 AUGUST

Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens

Discover extraordinary stories of community, culture and place from Greater Dandenong's collection.



WONA BAE AND CHARLIE LAWLER: PRIMARY SUCCESSION

6 JUNE – 15 AUGUST

Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre and surrounding sites

Acclaimed artistic duo Wona Bae and Charlie Lawler present a bold, site specific installation, exploring an alternate world without human intervention. Where nature takes hold, adapts and transforms.

Airborne: The Work of Avant Gardener Lloyd Godman

*Harmony Square and
Garnar Lane Light Boxes*

OPENING JULY

Public Art Exhibition



CULTURAL SKETCH



DRAW, LISTEN, CONNECT. AN ARTIST-LED EVENING OF STORIES, SKETCHING AND SHARED CREATIVE ENERGY.

2 JULY AND 6 AUGUST

Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Thursdays 6pm–8pm

Materials provided.

ARTS OPPORTUNITIES

Exhibitions. Grants. Growth. Your next arts opportunity starts here—sign up to our newsletter and join the conversation.

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/arts-opportunities

WHAT'S ON AT THE DRUM

SHOWS THAT LEAP OFF THE STAGE.

FAMILY FUN

Bluey's Big Play The Stage Show

Saturday 1 August, 9.30am and 12.30pm

Aladdin - Victorian State Ballet

Saturday 8 August, 7.30pm and Sunday 9 August, 2pm

Born in a Taxi's Velveteen Rabbit

Tuesday 22 September, 11am

Emma Memma - Jungle Picnic Tour

Monday 28 September, 10am and 12.30pm



VELVETEEN RABBIT



\$25 TICKETS

ENCORE - INSPIRING THEATRE, LASTING MEMORIES

EVERY SHOW STARTS AT 10.30AM WITH COMPLIMENTARY MORNING TEA FROM 9.30AM.

Seventh Wonder performs Fleetwood Mac (Encore edition)

Thursday 11 June

Victorian State Ballet present Aladdin

Thursday 6 August

Oh What a Beautiful Mornin'

Thursday 17 September

Oh Carole, The Songs of Carole King and Neil Sedaka

Thursday 15 October

Motown Legacy

Thursday 12 November

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Thursday 10 December



Full list of Drum Theatre shows and performances at drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

SAVE THE DATE



Heritage Hill Community Open Day

SATURDAY 11 JULY

STEAM Festival

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF AUGUST




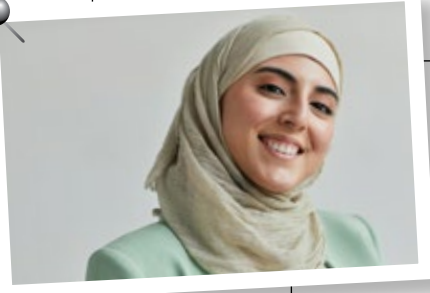
Keysborough Community Hub First Birthday

20 AND 21 SEPTEMBER



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

What's On June 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June.	2	3 Zumba at Jan Wilson Community Centre 5:30pm	4 Smart Energy Council's Lower Power Bills Expo Springvale Town Hall 4.30pm	5 World Environment Day 5 June	6 Street Feast – Sweet Edition Dandenong Market 10–3pm	7 
8 Free Mental Health and Wellbeing Support Springvale Community Hub (Meeting Room 2) 10am	9 Free Digital Skills and English Support for Mandarin Speakers Springvale Community Hub 11am	10 	11 Multifaith Mindfulness Meditation Dandenong Hospital (Sacred Space) 135 David Street, Dandenong 2:30pm	12 Dandenong and District Orchid Club Inc Monthly Meeting Committee Rooms Dandenong Showgrounds, Greaves Reserve 7pm–9.30pm	13	14 Refugee week 14 – 20 June
15 Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	16	17 Zumba at Jan Wilson Community Centre 5:30pm	18 Community Aerobics Class (Vietnamese and English) Keysborough Community Hub 5.30pm	19 Community Yoga and Meditation Jan Wilson Community Centre 11:15am	20	21 Celebrate winter in Springvale Buckingham Avenue, Springvale. 11am–6pm
22	23 Free Digital Skills and English Support for Mandarin Speakers Springvale Community Hub 11am–1pm	24	25 Citizenship English Language Classes Springvale Community Hub (Community Rooms 2 and 3) 10am–12pm	26 Advanced English Language Classes Springvale Community Hub (Community Rooms 2 and 3) 10am–12pm	27 The Think Tank – Forces, Friction and Movement Springvale Library 2.30pm	28 
29 Council Meeting (Only if required) Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm	30					

Keep swimming this winter



As colder weather arrives, many families consider taking a break from

swimming lessons. Shorter days, chilly mornings and busy schedules can make it tempting to pause but continuing through winter helps children maintain and build essential water safety skills.

When lessons stop, skills can fade without regular practise, particularly for children in the early stages of learning. Swimming year round supports confidence, water awareness and steady progress, helping children stay connected to the water.

Winter swimming also prepares children for the summer months, when time spent at pools, beaches and waterways increases. Ongoing lessons help ensure children are ready to participate safely and confidently when aquatic activity peaks.

Beyond safety, swimming offers important wellbeing benefits. It keeps children active during winter, supports physical health, concentration and resilience, and provides a fun weekly routine regardless of the weather.



Dandenong Oasis and Noble Park Aquatic Centre offer heated indoor pools and experienced instructors to ensure lessons remain comfortable and enjoyable throughout winter.

To find out more about swimming lessons, email info@southeastleisure.com.au

Myth vs fact: Swimming in winter

Myth: Swimming in winter causes colds.

Fact: Regular physical activity supports overall health. Dressing warmly before and after lessons helps keep children comfortable.

Myth: A winter break won't affect my child's skills.

Fact: Many children lose confidence and skills without practise, especially in early learning stages. Year round lessons support steady progress and stronger water safety awareness.

Did you know free pads and tampons are available



The Victorian Government provides free pads and tampons through vending machines in safe, public locations across Victoria, including libraries, health centres and other community facilities. Period products are essential for health and wellbeing, and are available to anyone who needs them, free of charge.

Free pads and tampons are available at several locations across Greater Dandenong, including:

- ▶ Dandenong Library
- ▶ Springvale Library
- ▶ Dandenong Oasis
- ▶ Noble Park Aquatic Centre
- ▶ Jan Wilson Community Centre (Noble Park)

Additional locations are also available within Greater Dandenong and across Victoria. To find a vending machine near you, visit the [Better Health Channel website](#)



Dandy's Got Talent – Final Showcase Event

Dandy's Got Talent returns in July, where people aged 12–25 years will take to the stage for a high energy night of performances and entertainment.

Date: Thursday 9 July 2026

Time: 2.30pm–7pm

Location: The Castle, 61 Princes Highway, Dandenong

youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/youth/events/dandys-got-talent-final-showcase-event

Write It Out: Short Story Competition



Young people aged 12–25 are invited to share their creativity through *Write It Out: Greater Dandenong Short Story Competition*. Open to those who live, work, study or have a connection to Greater Dandenong, the competition encourages original short stories inspired by one of four prompts:

- ▶ Home away from home
- ▶ A city of many colours
- ▶ A whole new world
- ▶ Looking forward to the future

You can also submit an illustration for consideration for the cover of the compilation. Entries close 17 July 2026 with prizes up for grabs. Learn more youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/programs/write-it-out-greater-dandenong-short-story-competition

Youth Crime Forum



Almost 100 people came together for the recent Youth Crime Forum in Dandenong.

The purpose of the event was to provide a clear, locally focused understanding of youth crime in Greater Dandenong by presenting reliable data, expert insights and evidence-based models.

Attendees representing the Council, State Government, Victoria Police, community services and transport sectors identified the following three priorities for collaboration:

- ▶ Addressing community perceptions of youth crime
- ▶ Partnerships within the youth sector to trial new approaches
- ▶ Improving information and data sharing

love your libraries

Libraries
Change Lives

Libraries After Dark

Pride-theme cake painting

Dandenong Library, Thursday 4 June, 6.30pm–8pm

Celebrate Pride Month by decorating your own rainbow themed cake. Start with a pre frosted base and use colourful icing, sprinkles and simple tools, with guidance from our facilitator. No experience needed—all materials provided.



Batik workshop

Springvale Library, Thursday 11 June, 6.30pm–8.00pm

Learn batik with multidisciplinary artist Fathiah Raihan in this hands on workshop using traditional wax resist dyeing techniques. All materials provided.



Glass art

Dandenong Library, Thursday 18 June, 6.30pm–8pm

A gentle, beginner-friendly glass painting workshop using transparent colours that glow with light and emotion.



Dried flower resin art

Keysborough Library, Thursday 25 June, 6pm–7.30 pm

Create our own eco-friendly resin case with dried flowers—no experience needed, all materials included.



Photography workshop

Dandenong Library, Tuesday 9 June, 6:30pm–8pm

Springvale Library, Tuesday 16 June, 6:30pm–8pm

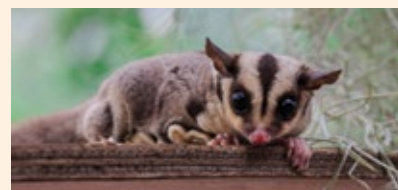
Discover photography in a fun, welcoming workshop for beginners with Renan Melo. Learn to see light, shape, stories, explore creative perspectives and connect through hands-on shooting, group discussion and live photo editing.

Children's Programs

Biodiversity and Sustainability – The Think Tank

Springvale Library, Saturday 13 June, 2.30pm–3.30pm (registration required)

Springvale Library, Saturday 20 June, 2.30pm–3.30pm (registration required)



Young learners are introduced to Australia's native creatures in a safe, engaging and interactive session. Children will have the chance to touch and observe animals while exploring how biodiversity works through interlinked and interdependent relationships between animals and plants.

Visit greaterdandenong-events.bookable.net.au to register.

First Nations Weaving Workshop

Keysborough Community Hub, Tuesday 2 June 6pm–7.30pm

Join Cassie from Wild Blak Arts for a hands-on First Nations weaving workshop. Learn traditional techniques, hear cultural stories, and create your own woven piece during this inspiring Reconciliation Week session.

Major milestone in central Dandenong revitalisation



This is an artist's impression of the development.

An approved development at 139–157 Thomas Street will deliver new homes, services and employment opportunities to central Dandenong.

Stage one of the Capital Alliance precinct development has received planning approval, marking an important milestone in the Victorian Government's Revitalising Central Dandenong initiative.

Greater Dandenong Mayor, Councillor Sophie Tan said Council welcomed the exciting development, which would include:

- ▶ New apartments, providing much needed housing close to public transport and key services
- ▶ Shops, cafés and food venues, including spaces that support and complement the Little India precinct
- ▶ A new childcare centre to support local families and workers

“Central Dandenong is on the move and this milestone will have far reaching positive impacts on our community, economy, housing, businesses and job seekers,” the Mayor said.

The project is part of Capital Alliance's \$600 million long term investment to renew Central Dandenong and strengthen its role as the capital of Melbourne's south east.

Once complete, the precinct is expected to:

- ▶ Create around 2,600 jobs during construction
- ▶ Support up to 5,000 ongoing jobs

- ▶ Deliver hundreds of new homes alongside community and commercial spaces
- ▶ Generate significant economic activity for Dandenong and the broader region

This development builds on more than \$700 million already invested in Central Dandenong through the Victorian Government's Revitalising Central Dandenong program.

With the planning permit now approved, demolition works will soon commence. Nearby businesses and residents will be notified about upcoming works, including the planned closure of the Mason Street car park.

For updates on this project, visit centraldandenong.com or development.vic.gov.au/projects/revitalising-central-dandenong.

Torrential rain clears for Muderra Way launch

**OFFICIAL
OPENING**



Artists Kobi Sainty (Bunurong and Tralwoolway) and Robert Michael Young (Gunnai, Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta and Gunditjmarra).



Elder Uncle Mark Brown from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.

Below: Artist Kobi Sainty (Bunurong and Tralwoolway), Lee Tarlamis State Member for the South-Eastern Metropolitan Region, Mayor Sophie Tan and artist Robert Michael Young (Gunnai, Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta and Gunditjmarra).



Muderra is a Bunurong word that means torrential rain. Fittingly, the weather cleared in just in time for the community to come out for the official opening of Muderra Way in Noble Park.

We hosted the launch with our project partners, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, to celebrate Greater Dandenong's first Bunurong place name and large-scale Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders' peoples public art gateway.

Watch a documentary series on the project by visiting greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/works-and-projects/muderra-way-project

This project was made possible with support from the Victorian Government.



Elise Petersen from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.

Dandenong Evening VIEW Club celebrates 40 years

The Dandenong Evening VIEW Club celebrated its 40th anniversary on Tuesday 3 March 2026, marking four decades of friendship, service and community support.

The event brought together long-standing members, supporters and guests, including Greater Dandenong Cleeland Ward Councillor Rhonda Garad. Newly-appointed VIEW Club Zone Councillors and members from Berwick Springs, Mornington and Wantirna also joined in the celebration, highlighting the strong connections between VIEW Clubs across the region.

The Club was established in February 1986, with its first dinner held at St Mary's Church Community Centre. Today, the Club continues to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at the Dandenong RSL.

Founded by local women looking for friendship, support and a way to give back, the Club has stayed true to these



values. Over the years, members have raised funds for The Smith Family, supporting Learning for Life students and other education and wellbeing programs.

As part of the anniversary, members with more than 30 years of service were recognised and presented with a red rose in appreciation.

Long serving members honoured included:



- ▶ **Bea Jarvis – 31 years**
- ▶ **Marlene Murphy – 32 years**
- ▶ **Nancy Imbrogno – 32 years**
- ▶ **Dorothy Parisse – 33 years**
- ▶ **Dianne Black – 34 years**
- ▶ **Helen Joynes – 34 years**
- ▶ **Edith Birkett – 39 years**

Greater Dandenong City Council congratulates the Dandenong Evening VIEW Club on 40 years of commitment to community, friendship and support for local children and families.

Le Makete night market celebrates Pasifika culture in Dandenong



In autumn, Dandenong locals turned out for Le Makete to experience Pacific Island food, browse handmade goods and support local Pasifika owned businesses.

Visitors enjoyed soaking up the lively atmosphere that reflects the warmth and values of the Pacific. Le Makete – meaning “the market – is a Pasifika night market that pops up around Melbourne, including in Dandenong.

Inspired by traditional island markets, Le Makete is centred on community connection and cultural pride. Organisers place a strong emphasis on collaboration over competition, creating opportunities for emerging and grassroots Pasifika entrepreneurs to showcase their talents, grow their businesses and build meaningful networks.



Le Makete was held at the Gloria Pyke Netball Complex on Bennett Street.

For many Māori and Pasifika community members, Le Makete is also a space of belonging, one that reflects shared traditions while embracing a contemporary, urban setting. Through food, creativity and storytelling, the market helps keep cultural connections strong for younger generations while inviting the broader public to experience

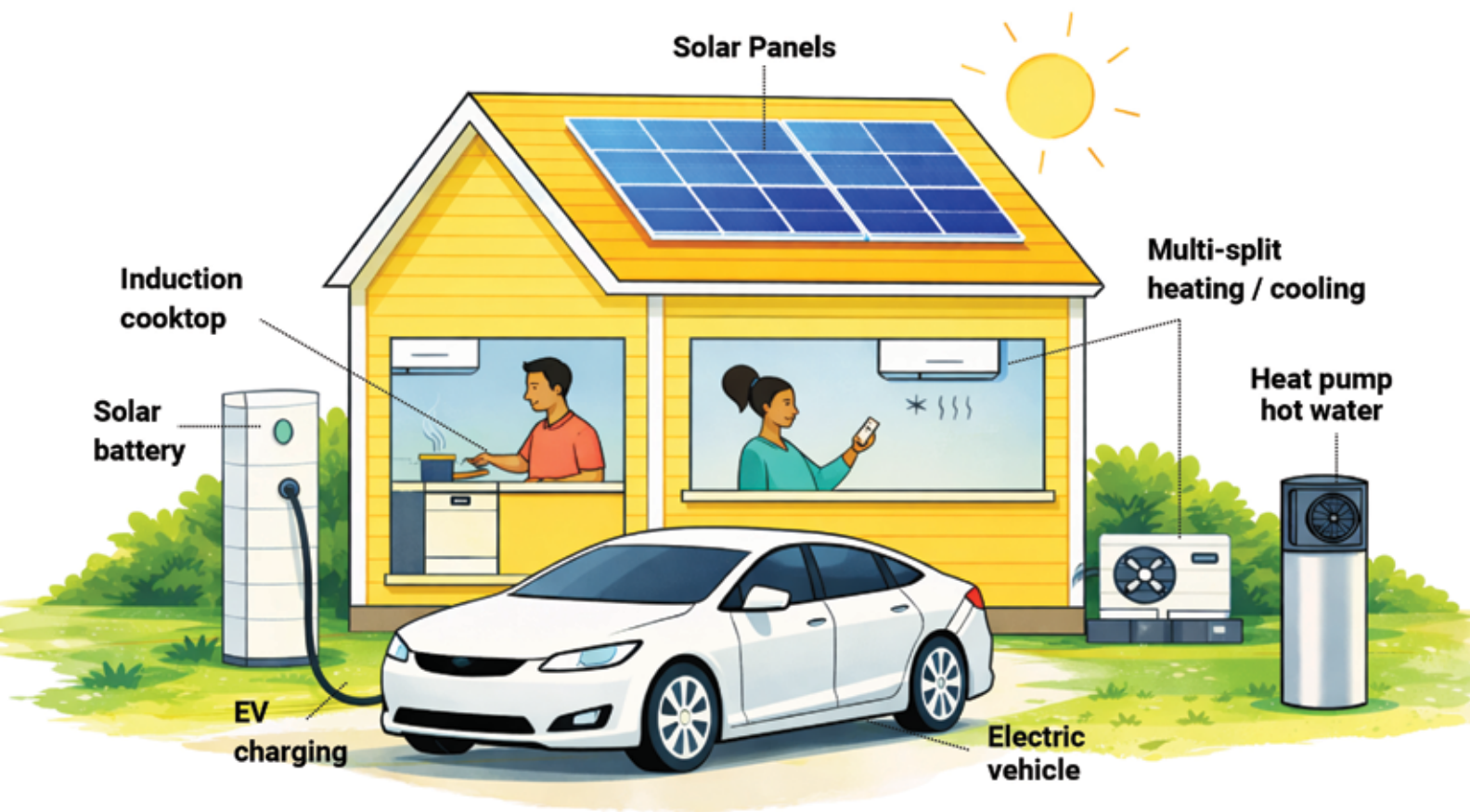
Pacific cultures in an inclusive and accessible way.

As Le Makete continues to grow, it stands as a powerful example of how community led initiatives can strengthen local economies, celebrate diversity and bring people together-one market at a time.

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