

Greater Dandenong Council News

A Great Future for Greater Dandenong

PAGE 10



**Award Winning
Crossing Supervisor**

► PAGE 3

**Celebrating
Community Satisfaction**

► PAGES 6-7

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



facebook.com/greaterdandenong



cityofgreaterdandenong



youtube.com/citygreaterdandenong



TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

relayservice.gov.au



TIS: 131 450



council@cgd.vic.gov.au

Important Numbers

Emergency calls

Police / Fire / Ambulance.....000

Street lighting faults /

non-operational

United Energy.....13 20 99

Traffic signal faults /

non-operational.....8571 1000

Hoon Hotline.....1800 333 000

Hard Waste Collection

WM Waste Management

Services.....9721 1915

Australian Animal

Protection Society.....9798 8415

RSPCA.....9224 2222

Nurse on Call.....1300 606 024

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 arrived, bringing new energy to Greater Dandenong. Join us for the Spring Thing at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve and take part in the Biodiversity Blitz, helping record and protect the plants and wildlife that make our city unique. Read more on page 11.

I recently had the pleasure of launching our A Great Future for Greater Dandenong advocacy campaign on behalf of our community. We are seeking bold investments in infrastructure, transport connections, community services and public spaces. Read more about this and our advocacy for permanent protection for refugees on page 10.

See our record Community Satisfaction Survey results on pages six and seven. From 19 council areas surveyed, our residents were the most satisfied with council's overall performance.

Speaking of satisfaction, our very own crossing supervisor, Everard, has taken out a prestigious regional award for keeping Chandler Park students safe for 22 years. Congratulations Everard! Read more on page 3.

On the safety front, I recently attended a Local Crime Listening Forum with local traders, Victoria Police and State Government representatives. We heard from businesses about community safety concerns and will continue our important work in this space.

**Mayor
Councillor Sophie Tan**



My City

This image was taken at Springvale Community Hub during a Deckchair Movies event last year.

Deckchair Movies is returning to Springvale and Dandenong as part of the Children's Festival. Gather your family and friends for a free movie under the stars. Bring a picnic, blanket and chair. Movies start at 6pm.

Dandenong Harmony Square

- Shaun the Sheep Movie – Saturday 19 September



- Spies in Disguise – Wednesday 23 September
- The Croods: A New Age – Friday 25 September
- Pinocchio: A True Story – Wednesday 30 September

Deckchair Movies is coming to Springvale Community Hub in October. For more information, visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/childrens-festival.

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: Greater Dandenong Mayor Sophie Tan visited Dandenong Station as part of the A Great Future for Greater Dandenong campaign.

Behind the Scenes with an award-winning crossing supervisor

**REGIONAL
AWARD
WINNER**



For 22 Years, Everard has kept generations of Chandler Park students safe. He recently received a prestigious regional award for his service.

School Crossing Supervisors are a valuable part of the community, helping children arrive safely at school each day.

This year, Keysborough School Crossing Supervisor, Everard, was crowned the winner of the School Crossing Supervisor of the Year Award for our region. This award from School Crossings Victoria recognised Everard's dedication, professionalism and commitment to keeping local children safe.

Children and parents who cross Kingsclere Avenue in Keysborough, know to expect a friendly and reassuring face on their walk in to school each morning. At 81, Everard has helped generations of local families cross safely, building strong connections within the community.

"Over my 22 years as a School Crossing Supervisor in Keysborough, I have had the privilege of watching generations of children grow up," Everard said.

Having lived in Keysborough since the late 1980s, Everard sees the role as a way to give back to the community he calls home.

"I greet many families by name each day and enjoy having a quick chat as they pass by. Over the years, I have become a familiar face to local drivers, many of whom wave, smile, or give a friendly toot of the horn as they drive past," he added.

Everard's journey into the role began during a challenging time in his life.

"I was forced into early retirement when my wife suffered a stroke and I became her primary carer," he explained.

"Being a School Crossing Supervisor provided the perfect balance. It allowed

me the flexibility to care for my wife while still maintaining a sense of purpose, independence and connection to the community through meaningful work,"

The job comes with its challenges, from unpredictable weather to the need for constant vigilance but the rewards are lasting.

For Everard, it is not just about helping children cross the road. It is about showing up each day for a community that has come to rely on him.



For more information on School Crossing Supervisor positions, visit jobs.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/jobs or call 8571 1000.

Councillor Contacts



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Sean.OReilly@cgd.vic.gov.au



Springvale South Ward

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Loi.Truong@cgd.vic.gov.au

September Council Meetings

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

The next meeting will be held on:

► **Monday 21 September**

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

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY

21

SEPTEMBER

Keysborough Community Hub turns one



Performers entertained crowds at the opening of Keysborough Community Hub one year ago.

Join us as we celebrate the first birthday of the Keysborough Community Hub on Monday 21 September, from 11am to 2pm.

Bring your favourite teddy and enjoy a day of family fun, including a Teddy Bear Hospital, where children can take their toy through a series of fun health check stations. We'll also have Library Storytime, children's craft activities and tours of the Early Learning Service.

A toy swap will also be available, giving children the chance to exchange a pre-loved toy in good condition for one that is new to them.

Since opening in August 2025, the Hub has become a thriving community destination, welcoming more than

47,000 visitors. The library has recorded over 36,000 loans, delivered 1,262 public computer sessions, and attracted 905 new members, highlighting its important role in connecting people with services, learning and each other.

Pack a picnic, meet your neighbours and help us celebrate one year of connection, learning and belonging.

➔ **For more information and bookings visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/keysborough-community-hub**

► Springvale North Ward



There are exciting changes taking shape across Springvale, with recent projects enhancing public spaces, upgrading community facilities and strengthening the area's appeal for residents and visitors.

A major recent milestone is an improvement of the Number 8 Balmoral Avenue Multi-deck Car Park precinct. A vibrant new mural on the side of the multi-deck car park is visible from Springvale Road. It helps draw

people through to Buckingham Avenue. The creative streetscape design is supported by patterns on key light poles and bins, along with neons that bring colour and character to the area, particularly at night.

The project also includes laneway pavement artwork to help slow traffic and create a safer, more pedestrian-friendly environment.

These improvements form part of the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan,

Cr Sean O'Reilly

which aims to enhance the town centre experience, support local businesses and encourage more people to visit and spend time in the area.

At Greater Dandenong City Council, we are investing in local sporting infrastructure. Springvale Reserve pavilion has been upgraded, including improvements to the shared social room, new male and female toilets and a fully accessible toilet. These works have created more welcoming and accessible facilities for players, volunteers and visitors and will support the growing participation of women and girls in local sport.

These projects demonstrate Council's commitment to creating vibrant public spaces and quality community facilities that can be enjoyed by residents for years to come.

If you would like to discuss local issues, please email Sean.OReilly@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone 0422 523 258.

Cr Sophie Tan

We've been busy in Noble Park with several important infrastructure and community facility projects now completed.

You may have noticed the Noble Park Reserve car park upgrade has been finished, delivering safer access, improved traffic flow and a better experience for the many people who visit the reserve each week.

At the Noble Park Community Centre, work is underway on a bathroom upgrade to improve access for people with mobility and accessibility needs. A new inclusive kitchenette is also being delivered, featuring adjustable benchtops and improved amenities designed to support people of all abilities.

Looking ahead to the 2026-27 works program, we're planning to upgrade the heating, ventilation and air conditioning at Paddy O'Donoghue maternal and child health centre.

We'll also be constructing a dog off leash area in Goodman Reserve.

These projects reflect our ongoing commitment to maintaining infrastructure, improving accessibility and ensuring our community facilities and open spaces remain welcoming and inclusive.

We are also advocating for support to deliver the proposed Noble Park Library Lounge at the Paddy O'Donoghue Centre and funding for traffic lights at the Heatherton Road and Douglas Street roundabout. This would improve safety and traffic flow for local commuters.

To learn more about Council's 2026-27 Advocacy Priorities, turn to page 10.

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

► Noble Park Ward



Community Satisfaction Survey

During April and May, 400 residents from across the municipality provided feedback on Council's services and facilities via a door-to-door survey.

Greater Dandenong continued to perform well across all categories and once again received the highest overall satisfaction score of all councils surveyed by Metropolis.

These results reflect the average satisfaction levels out of 10.



7.4

(Metro average 7.2)

Overall satisfaction with Council services



9.0

(Metro average 8.6)

Regular garbage collection



8.7

(Metro average n/a)

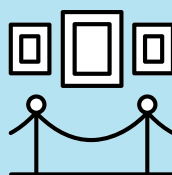
Family support services



8.6

(Metro average 8.4)

Services for children from birth to 5 years of age



8.5

(Metro average n/a)

Provision of arts and cultural venues, spaces, and facilities



8.5

(Metro average 8.0)

Council's website



9.0

(Metro average 8.7)

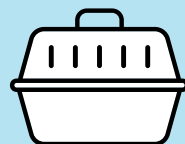
Local library services



8.3

(Metro average 8.2)

Community centres and halls



8.3

(Metro average 8.0)

Animal management



8.1

(Metro average 7.6)

Activities promoting local economic development



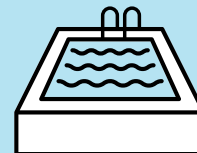
8.5

*(Metro average 7.6)***Customer service
experience**

8.4

*(Metro average 8.1)***Provision and
maintenance of
parks and gardens**

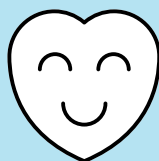
8.6

*(Metro average 8.0)***Council's festivals
and events**

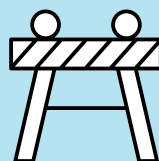
8.3

*(Metro average 8.3)***Recreation
centres and / or
aquatic centres**

8.2

*(Metro average 8.1)***Services for
older people**

8.2

*(Metro average n/a)***Support services for
people experiencing
disadvantage**

8.0

*(Metro average 7.6)***Local traffic
management**

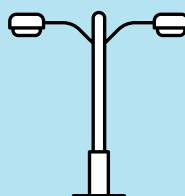
8.0

*(Metro average 7.5)***Town planning
policies**

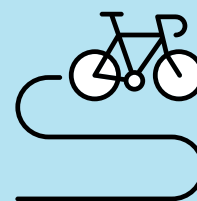
8.1

*(Metro average 7.9)***Council's emergency
management
and response**

8.0

*(Metro average 7.6)***Parking
enforcement**

7.9

*(Metro average 7.7)***Street lighting**

8.0

*(Metro average 7.9)***Bike and
shared paths**

What's On September 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September is National Biodiversity month 	1 Free Digital Skills and English Support for Mandarin Speakers Springvale Community Hub 10am	2 Alberto Burgos: Quiet Proof Drum Theatre 10am	3 Carers Walking Group Noble Park Community Centre 9.45am	4 Lexington Gardens Retirement Village Market Day 114 Westall Road, Springvale 10am	5 Dandenong Parkrun Dandenong Park 8am 	6 Spring Thing Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve 11am
7 Playgroups at Jan Wilson Community Centre Jan Wilson Community Centre 10am 	8 Adult Exercise Jan Wilson Community Centre 9.30am	9 Zumba at Jan Wilson Community Centre Jan Wilson Community Centre 5.30pm	10 Citizenship English Language Classes Springvale Community Hub 10am	11 Strength Training Jan Wilson Community Centre 8.30am 	12 Springvale Urban Harvest Springvale Community Hub 1pm	13
14	15 Nature Play Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve 10am	16 The Secret Life of Gardens Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens 10am	17 2026 AFL Grand Final Charity Luncheon Southern Golf Club 12pm	18 Yoga and Meditation Jan Wilson Community Centre 11.15am	19 Shaun the Sheep Movie Harmony Square 6pm 	20
21 Council Meeting Dandenong Civic Centre 7pm Keysborough Community Hub 1st Birthday Keysborough Community Hub 11 am	22 School Holiday Mystery Party Workshop Springvale Library 2.30pm 	23 Mixed Community Street Soccer Program Gloria Pyke Netball Complex 4pm Spies in Disguise Harmony Square 6pm	24 School Holiday Kids Sing Along Workshop Keysborough Community Hub 2.30pm	25 PUBLIC HOLIDAY The Croods: A New Age Harmony Square 6pm 	26 Dandenong Parkrun Dandenong Park 8.00am	27
28 Drawing Manga Characters – Youth Program (12-25 years) Springvale Library 2.30pm 	29 Women's Community Street Soccer Program Endeavour Hills Leisure Centre 4.00pm	30 RSPCA Rabbits and Guinea-pigs Workshop Keysborough Community Hub 2.30pm Pinocchio: A True Story Harmony Square 6pm 	1	2	3	4

Services we delivered in 2025–2026

Engaged community members

- ✓ **21 candidates** and **30 children** participated in the Junior Mayor election through the Children's Advisory Group.
- ✓ **43 community engagement projects** delivered across Greater Dandenong.
- ✓ **3,800+ people** participated in community engagement activities and consultations.
- ✓ **16,264 visits** to Council's Have Your Say website.

Healthier environment

- ✓ Our Bright Green Future Strategy adopted
- ✓ **30,800+ indigenous seedlings** and **1,861 street trees** planted across Greater Dandenong, helping expand the urban canopy and biodiversity.
- ✓ **7,358 seedlings and trees** distributed through community planting and giveaway programs.
- ✓ **3,000+ people** participated in environmental programs including Nature Play, One Tree Per Child, National Tree Day and the Discover Dandenong Creek Festival.



Nurturing business opportunities

- ✓ **620+ attendees** and **170+ job opportunities** connected through Greater Dandenong's largest-ever Careers Expo.
- ✓ **90% of surveyed attendees** found the Careers Expo useful.
- ✓ **50 business events and networking sessions** delivered to support local businesses.



Creative enrichment

- ✓ **95,000+ people** engaged in creative programs at the cultural precinct, while **520,000+ people** connected through community hubs and events.
- ✓ **10,000+ people** visited the award-winning *HOME 25: Invisible Cities* across central Dandenong.
- ✓ **3,000+ people** attended the opening of the new Keysborough Community Hub

Library visits and programs

- ✓ **867,883 library visits** recorded across all library locations.
- ✓ **45,632 people** participated in **2,609 library programs** and outreach activities.
- ✓ **725,547 items** loaned through Council libraries.

Happy, active lifestyles

- ✓ **13 free sport and recreation programs and events** delivered to encourage community participation in physical activity.
- ✓ **1,500+ people** participated in physical activity programs and events across the municipality.
- ✓ **834,908 visits** recorded at Noble Park Aquatic Centre and Dandenong Oasis.

Supported seniors

- ✓ **3,800+ community bus trips** provided for appointments, shopping and social participation.
- ✓ **26,000+ meals** delivered to support health, wellbeing and independence.
- ✓ **122,000+ hours** of Community Care services delivered.

Healthy, active children

- ✓ **3,357 children** attended a Greater Dandenong City Council kindergarten program.
- ✓ **826 families** participated in Supported Playgroups across 27 weekly sessions.
- ✓ **15,000+ Maternal and Child Health consultations** delivered to families with children aged 0–3½ years.

A Great Future for Greater Dandenong Transport

Our 2026–27 Advocacy campaign, A Great Future for Greater Dandenong, calls for bold investment in transport to support our diverse community.

We are advocating for funding to upgrade Dandenong Station with improved accessibility, increased capacity and better integrated rail and bus services.

Major transport projects such as the Metro Tunnel and Suburban Rail Loop are transforming Victoria's transport network and it's critical that Dandenong Station, as one of Melbourne's busiest transport hubs, is well positioned to meet growing demand.

"More than two million people pass through Dandenong Station every year, making it a vital gateway for residents, workers, students and visitors across Melbourne's south-east," Mayor Sophie Tan said.

We are calling for more accessible walking and cycling connections between Greater Dandenong activity centres. This includes extending the Djerring trail to the Dandenong CBD.

Our residents need improved public transport to access jobs, education and services more easily. That's why we're calling on the State Government to increase the frequency of the Route 828 bus service and to upgrade the Route 800 bus to SmartBus standard.

"As our city continues to grow, we need infrastructure and services that keep pace with community needs," Mayor Tan said.

By working collaboratively with State and Federal Governments, we're committed to delivering the major projects and transport infrastructure our community needs to prosper into the future.



Advocating for asylum seeker rights in Canberra



We joined local government leaders from across Australia in Canberra to advocate for permanent protection for refugees who have spent more than a decade living in Australia on temporary visas.

As Chair of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum, Mayor Cr Sophie Tan led a Back Your Neighbour morning tea at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly, bringing together councils, the Refugee Council of Australia and people with lived experience.

A delegation, including Greater Dandenong Council representatives, also met with Federal Ministers and Members of Parliament to advocate for a pathway to permanent residency for around 700 refugees who remain in visa limbo and better access to healthcare and support services.

Mayor Sophie Tan said:

"For more than a decade, this small group of refugees has lived, worked and contributed alongside us. They are our neighbours, friends and community members, yet many remain in limbo without the

stability and security that permanent protection provides."



Visit backyourneighbour.com.au to support the campaign.

Better transport solutions and asylum seeker rights are priorities from our Great Future for Greater Dandenong advocacy campaign which the Mayor launched in July.

We are also campaigning for support in the following areas:

- ▶ Major projects
- ▶ Business Development and Economic Growth
- ▶ Arts and Cultural Spaces
- ▶ Poverty is Everyone's Business
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Community Safety
- ▶ Community Public Health
- ▶ Sports and Recreation
- ▶ Sustainability



To learn more about our 2026–27 Advocacy Priorities visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/advocacy

Spring in Greater Dandenong



Biodiversity Blitz



September is National Biodiversity Month and the perfect time to explore the great outdoors in Greater Dandenong. Biodiversity is the variety of all life forms on earth and the ecosystems that are their homes.

Our city is home to a huge variety of plants, animals, micro-organisms and ecosystems and we are encouraging community members to spend time in nature and celebrate the biodiversity within our city.

Help us celebrate and record this variety by signing up to the annual Biodiversity Blitz. Take photographs of native flora and fauna and upload to the iNaturalist app or website during the month of September.

The Blitz contributes to important citizen science research that helps us plan for a future that better protects our environment. We also compete against neighbouring Councils to see who can record the most entries across the month.

How to get involved:

- 1 Step 1** – Download the iNaturalist app from your favourite app store
- 2 Step 2** – Register online to participate
- 3 Step 3** – Start recording your observations.

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



Spring thing

Celebrate the reopening of Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve and spring into a new season at Spring Thing on Sunday 6 September.

Bring along the family and celebrate Father's Day at this annual day of fun.

Explore nature play activities on the Sense Trail, take a guided tour of the reserve and hear from Traditional Custodians about the importance of respecting and protecting our land during a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony.

Join our bushland crew to plant some seedlings, find out how to create your own Garden for Wildlife at home, and enjoy live music, wildlife presentations and a free barbecue.



Spring Thing

**Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve,
Mackay Street, Springvale South**

**Sunday 6 September
11am–3pm**

 Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/spring-thing for more information.

love your libraries

Libraries
Change Lives

Libraries After Dark

Father's Day Pendants

Springvale Library,
Thursday 3 September, 6.30pm–8pm

Make a personalised pendant or keyring using metal stamping. No experience needed. Bookings required.



African Drumming

Keysborough Community Hub,
Thursday 10 September, 6pm–7.30pm

Feel the rhythm and connect through the powerful beats of the African djembe in this energetic and welcoming session designed for beginners. Bookings required.

Airborne Plants Workshop 1

Dandenong Library,
Thursday 17 September, 6.30pm–8pm

Join Airborne curator Nicole Bowler for a hands-on workshop inspired by the late Lloyd Godman's living sculptures. Learn about resilient air plants and create your own nature-inspired artwork. Bookings required.

Airborne Plants Workshop 2

Springvale Library,
Thursday 24 September, 6.30pm–8pm

Join Airborne curator Nicole Bowler for a hands-on workshop inspired by the late Lloyd Godman's living sculptures. Learn about resilient air plants and create your own nature-inspired artwork. Bookings required.

Libraries after Dark: libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/lad

Art Series: libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/whats/art-series

Special Promotions – Seniors Festival

The Seniors Festival is coming in October! Get ready for some amazing library events. From movement, to scam awareness, to gardening, there's so much to explore. The full program will be out soon, so stay tuned.

Gouache Painting – Art Series

Dandenong Library,
Tuesday 8 September, 6.30pm–8.00pm

Springvale Library, Tuesday 15 September, 6.30pm–8.00pm

Join artist Irina Moskvitina (Dunch Hour) to learn gouache painting techniques and create beautiful artworks inspired by your memories. Bring a photo or object to paint from, or use those provided. Bookings required.



Spring Themed Paper Collage – Art, Craft and Conversation

Springvale Library, Wednesday 30 September, 6.30pm–8.00pm

Join us for a relaxed, social drop-in session where creativity meets conversation.

Perc.U.lations – Poetry Open Mic + Featuring Poet

Dandenong Library, Saturday 12 September, 2.30pm–4.30pm

Perc.U.lations is a welcoming, community-led poetry space that celebrates the voices of local writers and spoken word performers. Through monthly open mic sessions and workshops, participate in an intimate setting where you can share your work, develop your craft and connect with others.



Children & Youth Programs

Write It Out: Creative Writing Workshops and Networking Event

Springvale Library, Wednesday 2 September, 4.30pm–7.00pm

Calling all young writers aged 12–25. Develop your creative writing skills, learn about the publishing process from professional authors, and connect with other young writers in the community. Bookings required.

Stars and Planets – The Think Tank

Springvale Library, Saturday 5 September, 2.30pm–3.30pm

Dandenong Library, Saturday 12 September, 2.30pm–3.30pm

Explore the wonders of space through hands-on activities and learn the difference between stars, planets and moons. Suitable for ages 7+. Presented by Fizzics Education. Bookings required.



Velveteen Rabbit Storytime

Dandenong Library and Springvale Library, Thursday 3 September, 10.30am–11.00am

Bring your favourite cuddly toy and enjoy a special storytime celebrating The Velveteen Rabbit, a timeless tale that has touched hearts for generations. Bookings required.

ARTS IN GREATER DANDENONG

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



WALKER STREET GALLERY AND ARTS CENTRE

Corner Walker and Robinson Streets, Dandenong

Open Wednesday to Saturday, 11am–3pm

Free entry



UNCHARTED WATERS: THE JOURNEY OF MOTHER TONGUE

Opening Event:
Saturday 5 September, 6pm

Exhibition: 9 September–14 November 2026, 11am–3pm

Uncharted Waters invites audiences into a captivating short dance film by Annalouise Paul, exploring movement, culture and connection through a blend of traditional practices and emerging technologies.

Join us for the opening event and enjoy an evening of dance, storytelling and light refreshments.



HERITAGE HILL MUSEUM AND HISTORIC GARDENS

66 McCrae Street, Dandenong

Open Wednesday and Thursday, 10am–2pm

Free entry



THE SECRET LIFE OF GARDENS

Opening Event:
Saturday 19 September, 10am–2pm

Exhibition:
16 September–4 February 2027

Discover the hidden stories of Heritage Hill's gardens, from early home landscapes to the influence of renowned designer Edna Walling and explore how gardens have shaped Australian life and our connection to nature.

Join us for the open day to connect with the people, places and stories that have shaped us.



DRUM THEATRE

226 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Box office open Monday to Friday, 10am–4pm



OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNIN' – ENCORE

Thursday 17 September, 10.30am

Enjoy a morning of classic musical theatre favourites with Ian Stenlake, Michelle Fitzmaurice and pianist Kym Dillon, celebrating songs by Rodgers, Hammerstein and Hart.

VELVETEEN RABBIT

Tuesday 22 September, 11am

The Velveteen Rabbit is a magical story about love, imagination and a toy rabbit who becomes real. Perfect for families.



VELVETEEN RABBIT'S TOY BOX BY MOON GIRL

Tuesday 22 September, 10am–1pm

Explore the Velveteen Rabbit's Toy Box in the Drum Foyer. Create, play and take home a special keepsake. Free drop-in activity, no registration required.

DRUM
EVENT
SPOTLIGHT

CONNECT WITH US

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

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

WORKING
TOGETHER

Transforming powder coating waste into any shape

When businesses work together as part of a circular economy, they can achieve great things.

Instead of the traditional “take, make, dispose” model, a circular economy is a closed-loop system where materials are reused, repurposed, recycled and remanufactured.

A collaboration between Dandenong South business, Dulux Powder Coatings and South Australian business, Transmutation has shown how effective the circular economy model can be.

In 2022, then Dulux Operations Manager, Graham Rowe was on holidays in Robe, South Australia, when someone in his camping group suggested he check out Transmutation.

Transmutation is an award-winning circular economy manufacturing and recycling business known for transforming hard-to-recycle industrial, agricultural and consumer plastic waste into building products and artisan homewares.

Over the years, they’ve collaborated with and supplied to big brands such as Country Road and John Holland, and Graham instantly thought Transmutation could help solve the riddle of what to do with Dulux’s powder coating waste.

“He basically sent me a challenge to say, ‘I’ve got powder coating waste at my factory in Dandenong South. Are you able to come up with some way to recycle it?’,” recalls Transmutation owner Brad Scott.

Through trial and error, Brad invented a way to recycle a combination of powder coating fines, agricultural waste and medical waste into PostPrime Plastic, a raw material that can be injection-moulded into any shape.

Dulux, Transmutation and plastics recycler Sustainable Plastic Solutions (SPS) partnered, and now Brad’s PostPrime Plastic is being used to make wheel stops and bar chairs, which are specialty spacers used in the underpinning of concrete construction.



Graham says sometimes it takes a community to solve a problem, but by working together towards the same goal, great things could be achieved.

“Reducing plastic is a really big challenge, and in this example we were able to find a solution,” he says.

“It was a problem we’d tried many different ways to solve in the past. Dulux alone couldn’t have solved that problem – it was the collaboration.”

Current Dandenong South Dulux Operations Manager ANZ for Powders and Industrial Anna Mulligan says it’s a work in progress, and together with Transmutation, they were exploring other new products to manufacture.

“We’re excited about where it will go in the future,” she says.



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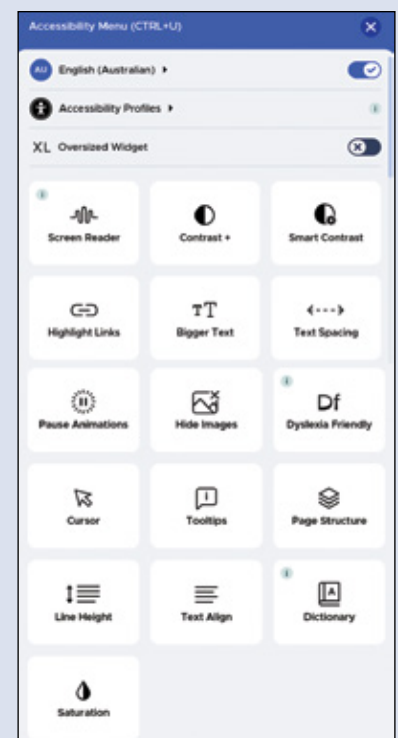
We love hearing from our community about the topics that matter most to you. That’s why we’ve updated our Have Your Say website to make it easier to use, more accessible and better aligned with Council’s new website experience.

The updated platform makes it simpler to find open consultations to share your feedback and stay informed about decisions that shape our city.

We’ve also enhanced accessibility features so more people can participate in a way that suits their needs.

- ▶ Visit yoursay.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au
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Your feedback helps shape the future of Greater Dandenong.





Nominate a Local Champion

Do you know someone making a real difference in Greater Dandenong?

Every year, the Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards celebrate the individuals and groups whose dedication, passion and commitment help build a stronger, more connected and vibrant community. These are the volunteers, leaders, neighbours and community

groups who go above and beyond to create positive change and inspire others through their actions.

Nominations close Monday 5 October at 11.59pm.

For help with your nomination, please contact our Festivals and Events team on 8571 5090 or email to events@cgd.vic.gov.au



Learn more and submit a nomination on our website, greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/australia-day-awards

Local young people lead the way



Young people across Greater Dandenong have played a key role in shaping new opportunities for their peers through the Youth Leadership Collective.

This project came about following feedback from young people that they wanted Council to invest more in leadership pathways, particularly for those from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Greater Dandenong Youth Services worked closely with young people and local youth agencies to develop an action plan focused on building stronger opportunities. The plan prioritised creating accessible leadership pathways, amplifying the voices of young people and increasing the visibility and representation of youth leaders across the city.

A central part of this work was The Collective – a dedicated group of young people committed to strengthening leadership and representation in the community.

Over the past 12 months, The Collective has delivered a range of initiatives, including three interactive micro-learning sessions designed to build leadership skills. A term-based calendar and community noticeboard were also introduced, making it easier for young people to find and access leadership opportunities. In addition, The Collective co-designed and hosted a successful networking event



connecting young people with peers, services and opportunities.

A member of The Collective reflected that they “thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with like-minded individuals and seeing the work we do in sessions culminate into workshops and events”.

This collaborative effort reflects the strong commitment within the community to empowering young people and ensuring their voices are heard, valued and represented.

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A new way to get your 2027 Community Calendar



To support Council's sustainability efforts, we are making community calendars available from key locations from December 2026.

To be more sustainable, we're not putting calendars in every letterbox any more. Please collect your free community calendar from the following locations:



Dandenong Civic Centre and Library



Springvale Community Hub and Library



Parkmore Customer Service Centre



Jan Wilson Community Centre



Paddy O'Donoghue Centre

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au to find more collection points or download a copy.