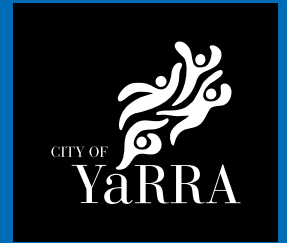


November / December 2022

yarranews



Dive in to swim school at any age
page 5

Celebrate Christmas in Yarra
page 10

Free Kinder program expands
page 8



Message from the Mayor



It's been great to get out and meet with the community this spring, particularly during the recent 'Cuppa with the Mayor' sessions at our libraries. Thank you to everyone who took the time to come and speak to me about what matters to you, and please keep an eye out for more sessions coming up.

As we head into summer our pools are ready to welcome people of all ages for swim lessons and fun. Water safety is so important, and our leisure centres have classes that cover all levels of ability (page 5).

Did you know that Free Kinder is expanding next year? The Victorian Government's subsidy program will cover programs offered at both Council-managed and private kindergarten and childcare centres across the municipality (page 8).

The Victorian Government-appointed municipal monitor finished his appointment at Yarra on 30 September.

If you're looking for ways to lower your home's energy usage, check out one of the fantastic new energy efficiency toolkits available for loan at our libraries (page 4).

On Monday 28 November we will hold a ceremonial Council Meeting for the election of the coming year's Mayor. It's been an honour to serve as your Mayor this past year and I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished, especially in challenging financial times. From the launch of the community battery in Fitzroy North, to the many upgraded facilities around Yarra, including the Ryan's Reserve Netball Courts and the Fitzy Bowl in Edinburgh Gardens, we've had plenty to celebrate this year.

Be sure to take a look at page 6 to find out how you can have your say on upcoming projects and early input on next year's Budget.

I hope you all enjoy the warmer weather – we've got all sorts of festivities taking place around Yarra over the summer (page 10-11) and I look forward to seeing you there.

All the best

Cr Sophie Wade
Mayor City of Yarra

Wurundjeri Acknowledgement

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

Stay connected with Yarra

- Online at yarracity.vic.gov.au
- Sign up for our community engagement e-news and have your say on projects at yoursayyarra.com.au
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram (@cityofyarra) and Twitter (@yarracouncil)
- Register for our fortnightly e-news at yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife

On the cover: Swimmers at the iconic 50-metre, outdoor heated pool at Yarra's Fitzroy Swimming Pool.



Latest news

Works commence on new Fitzroy Sports Centre

We are working with the Victorian Government to deliver a new multi-purpose centre in Fitzroy. Forming part of the Fitzroy Gasworks Precinct, the centre will provide much-needed new sport and community facilities in the inner-city. It will feature four multi-purpose courts, a 1,000-plus square metre gymnasium, café, community facilities and more. Following many years of advocacy for the new facility, Yarra has provided \$5 million towards the project, with the remaining \$49.5 million committed by the Victorian Government.

Fairlea Netball Precinct upgrade complete

The new Fairlea Netball Precinct in Yarra Bend Park is now open.

The precinct features eight netball courts with supporting facilities including lighting, seating, shelters and upgrades to local road access, as well as a new modular sporting pavilion which has been named the Fiona Richardson Pavilion.

The Fairlea Netball Precinct redevelopment was funded by \$8 million from the Victorian Government as part of the Inner-City Netball Program.

Yarra's Annual Report 2021/22

We recently published our Annual Report for 2021/22. This report is the first to record our progress against the goals and priorities outlined in our Council Plan 2021–25. The Council Plan was informed by the Yarra 2036 Community Vision, which was developed with our community in 2021.

Our Annual Report provides information on our achievements during 2021/22, the services and projects we delivered as well as our finances, performance and governance.

You can access the Annual Report on our website, and copies will be made available at our customer service centres and libraries.

Find out more at yarracity.vic.gov.au/news



Check out our energy efficiency toolkits

Making our homes more energy efficient is a great first step to help our environment – and our wallets!

We now have two Energy Efficiency Toolkits available for loan from Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library and Richmond Library. These toolkits show how you could be using energy more efficiently in your home.

What you'll find in the kit:

- **energy meter** to compare how much electrical power is being used by different appliances.

- **non-contact thermometer** to help identify any draughts.
- **energy-saving thermometer** to check whether the temperature of your rooms, fridge and freezer are set to the most energy efficient ranges.
- **water flow measuring cup** to check how much water you are using when your tap is on.

You can also borrow a Thermal Imaging Camera to see exactly where heat is escaping from your house.

The toolkits come complete with step-by-step instructions and a handy guide to help you solve any problems you may discover.

Place a hold on a toolkit online via the Yarra Libraries catalogue at yarracity.vic.gov.au/toolkit

Find more energy saving tips at yarracity.vic.gov.au/takeclimateaction

Local jobs for local people

Whether you've been out of the workforce for a while, are looking for your first job, or contemplating a career change Yarra City Jobs has any number of opportunities for you.

The online portal is a one-stop shop that offers a variety of paid employment opportunities, as well as the chance to give back to the community, try something new or refresh your skills via volunteering – all right here in Yarra.

Economic development is a primary focus at Yarra. We foster economic vitality and support our local businesses, who form an integral part of our community. Our Yarra City Jobs portal is one way we promote a range of employment and other pathway



opportunities for businesses, workers, and residents.

To list a job, or to see the latest listings visit yarracityjobs.com.au



Make a splash!

Our Swim School offers everyone in our community the opportunity to learn to swim, whether you're a baby or 95 years young!

Yarra Swim School's mission is to empower people to be safe and confident in the water. Lessons are offered at Richmond and Collingwood's heated indoor pools year-round and at Fitzroy's outdoor pool in the summer months.

Lessons for all ages:

Babies: 6 months to 1.5 years (with parents in the water)

Toddler: 1.5 to 2.5 years (with parents in the water)

Preschooler: 2.5 to 3.5 years (with parents in the water)

Level 1A: 3.5 years plus (no swimming experience)

Level 1B: 5 years (some experience)

Level 2 to 6: Assessment required

Mini Squads: Assessment required

Adult lessons: 16+

Adult lessons

It's never too late to learn to swim!

Recent research from Royal Life Saving Australia found one in four adults are either weak swimmers or can't swim at all.



If you're an adult that needs to start at the very beginning with a gentle introduction to the water, our adult beginner lessons are an ideal introduction to swimming.

We also have intermediate lessons if you want to brush up on established skills, and stroke improvement courses for confident swimmers who want to smash fitness goals.

For all the information about our swimming lessons, head online to leisure.yarracity.vic.gov.au/swim

Swim safely this summer

- swim in a supervised area, whether at a local pool or at a beach
- never swim alone
- read safety signs before entering the water
- speak to a lifeguard if you are a weak swimmer or have a medical condition so that they can look out for you
- avoid drinking alcohol when swimming
- make sure children under 5 are always within arm's reach
- children under 10 should always be actively supervised by a responsible adult (person over 16)

YOUR SAY YARRA

Get involved in Yarra's projects

Share your feedback about upcoming Council projects and share your thoughts and ideas for Yarra. Your input will help us make decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of our community.



Sign up to our community engagement e-news to stay informed and have your say on decisions that impact you.

Proposed park for Charlotte Street

We're proposing to create a new park in the heart of Richmond. To give our community more access to nearby open space, we're proposing to close part of Charlotte Street (outside Richmond Library), to turn it into a pocket park. Help us design this space by sharing your feedback.

**Have your say by 9am on Monday
28 November**

Make your voice heard by visiting yoursayyarra.com.au to see our latest projects and find out how you can get involved.

Help design the future of Cremorne

We've created a draft Urban Design Framework to guide the growth, development, and character of Cremorne. This will help us ensure that the area meets the need of Cremorne's growing population while remaining an attractive and vibrant area to work and live in. Share your feedback before we finalise our vision.

**Have your say by 9am on Monday
12 December**

Our 2023/24 annual Budget

Every year we develop an annual Budget. Now's the chance to share your priorities for the next financial year to help inform the drafting of next year's Budget. Have your say at one of our in-person pop-up sessions:

- Victoria Park, Abbotsford: Thursday 17 November, 5pm to 7pm
- Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library: Monday 21 November, 10am to 12 midday
- Gleadell Street Market, Richmond: Saturday 3 December, 9am to 11am

Translators will be available at the market pop-session



Ryan's Reserve scoring goals

New netball courts and Mary Rogers Pavilion are now open in Richmond following a \$3 million redevelopment in partnership with the Victorian Government.

Participation in netball is growing across Yarra and these new spaces are designed to meet our community's needs.

The redevelopment at Ryan's Reserve includes four new netball-compliant courts and a new, modern sports pavilion named after the first female councillor in Victoria, Mary Rogers. The pavilion features inclusive change spaces and facilities.

Participation in netball is expected to grow by over 15% by 2026 with 1,500 additional players expected to take-up the sport in Yarra over that period.

We're committed to working and advocating for greater investment in community sport across Yarra and ensuring that local residents and clubs have the facilities to meet current and future needs.

Yarra Council contributed an additional \$50,000 to enhance the project with new community sports infrastructure like basketball rings and tennis equipment.



Want to book a court? Find our online bookings service at yarracity.vic.gov.au/facilities



Free Kinder is growing

Families with young children, rejoice! Funded kindergarten is increasing in 2023.

Free kindergarten is expanding next year to include up to 15 free hours a week for three-year-olds. Part of the Victorian Government's Free Kinder program, the funding builds on the existing initiative, which offers 15 free hours a week for four-year-olds. We're excited to be part of this change to make early childhood education more accessible for families across Yarra.

Yarra manages seven centres that offer sessional and/or integrated kindergarten, as well as casual, occasional, and long day care. Over 30 additional Early Childhood Education and care services and kindergartens operate across the municipality.

Kindergarten gives children the opportunity to have fun and use their imagination while developing important social and emotional skills, literacy and numeracy. It offers a safe place for kids to build these skills as well as their independence and concentration, while forming positive relationships, making friends and easing the transition to primary school.

The expansion of Free Kinder allows us to deliver quality early childhood education services that are inclusive and accessible to all families regardless of income. As part of our Council Plan, we're working to make sure our community – including the littlest members – have equitable access and opportunities to participate in community life.

More details about the Free Kinder program at vic.gov.au/kinder

Find out if you're eligible and how to register at yarracity.vic.gov.au/family-and-children

Food for thought from our Carlton gardener

Busy gardener Michelle tells us about working at Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre and how people can get involved with the centre's garden.

What does your job entail?

My main job is running the garden, compost hub, chickens and looking after volunteers. I also talk with residents and students that attend the centre to learn English.

What's the most enjoyable part of your job?

The centre is a welcoming environment, which allows people from all walks of life to feel safe and able to be themselves. It's a great privilege to be able to turn food waste into a thriving and productive garden in the middle of the city.



How can people get involved?

Volunteering in the garden is available on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, but numbers are limited. Chicken volunteer positions often come up for anyone who wants to feed our chickens. Residents wanting to start a worm farm can also come by for free worms.

Any tips for gardening beginners?

Start off small with easy crops like lettuce, radish and herbs. If you get the gardening bug, you can then think about your soil health. Don't take it personally if you have a few failures – focus on your successes.

Find out more about the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre at cnlc.org.au

November is Urban Agriculture Month

From a sustainable gardening course in Princes Hill to open gardens across Melbourne, there are plenty of ways to participate in urban agriculture this month. Learn more at urbanagriculturemonth.org.au

Protecting nature, reducing waste, and increasing sustainable practices are just some of Yarra's strategic objectives covered in our Urban Agriculture Strategy, which can be viewed at yarracity.vic.gov.au/urbanagriculture



Find the festive spirit in Yarra

We are celebrating the Festive Season with some traditional Christmas events across Yarra. Artists from the Centre for Projection Art and Art and Design students from LCI Melbourne Institute will be creating unique decorations and art installations for iconic and unusual locations across the city.

Sensitive Santa

**Saturday and Sunday:
10 and 11 December
9am to 5pm
Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library**

Children with developmental disabilities or who are neurodiverse are invited to have their photo taken with a Santa in a calm, sensory-friendly environment. Santa and his helpers are all professionally trained to provide the best support, and each sitting is carefully tailored to your family's needs. Take home a USB full of pictures of the session that your family can treasure forever. Bookings required.

Carols in the Park

**Thursday 8 December
6pm to 9pm
Darling Gardens, Clifton Hill**

Bring your family and friends to our free outdoor Christmas concert and sing-along to celebrate the wonder and magic of the festive season. Featuring Casey Bennetto as MC and performances from local schools, choirs and artists, plus food from local vendors and of course, a special visit from Santa.

Christmas Projections

**Richmond Town Hall,
333 Bridge Road, Richmond
15 December 2022 to 3 January 2023,
Dusk onwards**

Curated by the Centre for Projection Art, the classical façade of the town hall will be transformed into a dynamic digital artwork for the festive season.

More information about these events and more Christmas festivities at yarracity.vic.gov.au/events

What's on

'Bourne Local Market

21-53 Hoddle Street, Collingwood
Sunday 11 December, 3pm to 9pm

More than 100 stalls showcase the best of Victorian-made crafts, fashion and produce. There'll also be local music acts, gourmet food trucks and a disco roller-skating rink. This is one market not to be missed!

New Year's Eve

Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy North
Saturday 31 December,
2pm to 12 midnight

Join us in the heart of Fitzroy North and bid farewell – or good riddance! – to 2022 at Edinburgh Gardens, where there'll be food stalls, music, an open-air cinema and creative installations.

Victoria Street Lunar Festival

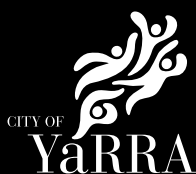
Victoria Street, Richmond
Sunday 5 February 2023,
12 midday to 10pm

Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit and the return of the Victoria Street Lunar Festival when the Vietnamese heart of Richmond comes to life with the famous lion dance, dragon dancers, food stalls and plenty of entertainment for families. We invite people of all cultural backgrounds to commemorate the start of the Chinese New Year with hawker style food and firecrackers.

Details about these and more events around Yarra are available at yarracity.vic.gov.au/events



Victoria Street Lunar Festival



WORKING
FOR YOU

Nourishing a sense of community through our delivered meal service

Yarra's delivered meals service supports the health and wellbeing of more than 190 older residents every year. The service ensures our older residents have access to nutritious meals, as well as providing a social connection and wellbeing check by our dedicated team.

"I'm loving the meals, particularly the roasts. I'm someone who doesn't like to cook, and I now have even less capacity to do so," says Yarra resident Bill. "Receiving the service also helps us manage our numerous health appointments by freeing up valuable time in shopping, preparation and cooking."

The service is one small way for older people – some who live alone and may experience isolation – to receive a warm greeting, see a friendly face and have a chat. It's also an opportunity to raise any concerns they may have or needs for other assistance.

"It's also nice for me and my family to know that there are staff who come each week to make sure I'm OK," Bill added.

This essential service plays an important role in allowing people to live in their homes for longer. Living in your own home – or "ageing in place" – enables people to feel safe, maintain independence, autonomy, and connection.

Interested in our delivered meals service? Please contact My Aged Care on **1800 200 422** to find out if you are eligible. Or get in touch with our Aged and Disability Services team on **9205 5555** or **info@yarracity.vic.gov.au** if you would like further information.

Facelifts for façades

Do you own a heritage property along one of Yarra's iconic shopping strips? You may be eligible to apply for an Activity Centre Heritage Façade Conservation Grant.

We're proud of Yarra's heritage and want to preserve the glorious architecture that makes our city so special.

Yarra City Council is contributing to the Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund (YHRF), to provide grants of up to \$25,000 to owners or occupiers of heritage buildings in activity centres for conservation and restoration of heritage façades.

The grant program will offer a limited number of grants over a two-year trial period.



Find more information on what works are eligible for a grant and how to apply by visiting yarracity.vic.gov.au/heritagegrants

Respect our parks

Please do your bit by being respectful of our outdoor spaces, nearby residents and other park visitors:

- Don't litter, avoid glass and pick up after your pets. Keep our parks clean for everyone to enjoy.
- No amplified music unless you have a permit.
- Check whether you are visiting a dog-off-leash area. If not, please keep your furry friend on a lead!
- Use the toilets provided.
- Don't peg down marquees, use weights instead.



Service changes over the holidays

We will be operating some of our services on adjusted timetables during the holiday period.

- For changes at customer service centres keep an eye on yarracity.vic.gov.au
- For changes to library opening hours visit library.yarracity.vic.gov.au
- Find changes to our Fitzroy, Collingwood and Richmond Leisure Centre opening hours at leisure.yarracity.vic.gov.au

Bin collections over the holidays

This year, Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. This means there will be no changes to your waste and recycling collections during Christmas week.

For updates on service changes during the holidays, subscribe to our fortnightly e-newsletter at yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife



Putting plastic in its place

It can be hard knowing which plastics can be recycled in Yarra's yellow-lid recycling bin. Some products have a recycling label even though they can't be recycled!

We only accept plastics that can be recycled in Australia. These include:

- plastic bottles labelled 1 or 2
- plastic food packaging labelled 5

These can be transformed into something new and keeps them out of landfill.

For more information check out our A to Z recycling guide at yarracity.vic.gov.au/atoz



In 2021, the Victorian Government legislated to introduce a four-stream waste, recycling and resource recovery system.



As part of these changes all councils, including Yarra, are required to introduce new waste services by 2030. This includes a separate glass recovery service, which Yarra introduced in 2020 and Food and Garden Organics (FOGO).

While these changes will make Victoria's waste and recycling sector more sustainable and foster a circular economy, the cost of implementing these changes is continuing to put significant financial pressure on councils, particularly in an environment where waste costs continue to increase over and above the Victorian Government's rate cap of 1.75%.

Yarra City Council currently spends more than \$18 million a year on waste services.

Your Councillors

To find your Ward visit
yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors

Langridge Ward

- **Cr Stephen Jolly**
stephen.jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Anab Mohamud**
anab.mohamud@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Gabrielle de Vietri**
gabrielle.devietri@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Melba Ward

- **Cr Edward Crossland, Deputy Mayor**
edward.crossland@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Herschel Landes**
herschel.landes@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Claudia Nguyen**
claudia.nguyen@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Nicholls Ward

- **Cr Bridgid O'Brien**
bridgid.obrien@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Amanda Stone**
amanda.stone@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Sophie Wade, Mayor**
sophie.wade@yarracity.vic.gov.au

To contact your councillors, call **9205 5055**, send a letter to **c/o PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121**, or email their address above.

Council Meetings

Meetings take place at Richmond Town Hall. If you would like to attend, please visit yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings for details.

All meetings are live streamed at yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast

All meetings begin at 7pm:

- Tuesday 15 November
- Monday 28 November
(Ceremonial Council Meeting to elect Yarra's next Mayor)
- Tuesday 6 December

Information from this edition in your language. For more information please call **9280 1940** and quote REF **19,358**.

本期的《Yarra News》介绍了我们社区的最新动态以及当地即将举行的活动和市议会最新的重要消息。欲了解有关《Yarra News》的更多信息, 请致电**9280 1937**并报上查询参考编号19,358。

Σε αυτήν την έκδοση του δελτίου Yarra News, μάθετε τι συμβαίνει στην κοινότητά μας. Διαβάστε για τις επερχόμενες τοπικές εκδηλώσεις και τις σημαντικότερες ενημερώσεις του Δήμου. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες σχετικά με το Yarra News καλέστε στο **9280 1934** και δώστε τον αριθμό αναφοράς 19,358.

في هذا العدد من Yarra News (أخبار يارا) تعرّفوا على ما يحدث في مجتمعنا وعلى الأحداث المحلية القادمة وأهم وآخر مستجدات المجلس. لمزيد من المعلومات حول Yarra News (أخبار يارا)، اتصل على **9280 1935** واذكر الرقم المرجعي 19358.

Trong ấn bản này của Yarra News, hãy tìm hiểu xem điều gì đang xảy ra trong cộng đồng của chúng ta. Đọc về các sự kiện sắp tới được tổ chức tại địa phương và các thông tin cập nhật quan trọng của hội đồng. Để biết thêm thông tin về Yarra News, hãy gọi số **9280 1939** và trích dẫn số tham chiếu 19,358.

Nella presente edizione di Yarra News, scoprite cosa sta succedendo nella nostra comunità. Leggete delle novità dei prossimi eventi locali e degli aggiornamenti importanti del comune. Per ulteriori informazioni su Yarra News telefonate al numero **9280 1931** e citate il numero di riferimento 19.358.

En esta edición de Yarra News, descubra lo que sucede en nuestra comunidad. Lea sobre los próximos eventos locales y las importantes actualizaciones del municipio. Para más información sobre Yarra News, comuníquese al **9280 1935** e indique el número de referencia 19.358.



Fresh food market

Every Saturday
7am to 1pm

Next to Citizens Park
on Gleadell Street,
opposite the Richmond
Recreation Centre.



Supported by



DO YOU KNOW THE 5 TIPS TO #SURVIVETHEHEAT?

For more tips visit betterhealth.vic.gov.au/heat. In an emergency call 000.



DRINK WATER



PLAN AHEAD



KEEP COOL



HOT CARS KILL



HELP OTHERS