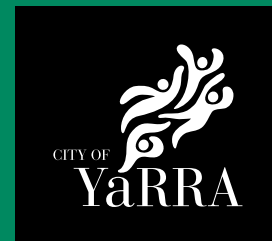


October / November 2023

yarranews



Enrol now at our
award-winning kinders
page 8

Building a better tomorrow
with new infrastructure
page 4

Gleadell Street Market turns 150
page 12



Message from the Mayor



Hi everyone,

As my term as Mayor draws to a close and we prepare for the upcoming mayoral election, I find myself reflecting on the journey we've undertaken together over the past year. It's been a privilege to connect with so many of you, from attending fortnightly Meet the Mayor events across every corner of Yarra to engaging with our passionate Youth Advisory Committee, along with our many other community engagement events. Each interaction has deepened my understanding of our community's aspirations and interests.

One of my proudest moments was in April, when we launched The Learning Bank in Richmond. This initiative, a partnership with the Victorian Government, embodies our commitment to fostering growth and connection in Yarra.

Another highlight was overseeing the return of citizenship ceremonies in Yarra after a five-year hiatus. Welcoming new Australian citizens from diverse backgrounds has been an honour. We've conducted five ceremonies this year for over 700 new citizens.

Having a seat at the table with the Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel (LGMAP) and the Melbourne 9 (M9) Councils has allowed me to represent Yarra's interests. Together, we've made sure our voice resonates on key issues, such as housing and the circular economy.

Your insights have shaped our direction and progress. The ceremonial Council Meeting on Wednesday 15 November will determine the next Mayor. It's been a privilege to serve as your Mayor. Thank you for your collaboration and the strides we've made together.

Cr Claudia Nguyen
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](https://www.facebook.com/cityofyarra)) and Twitter ([@yarracouncil](https://twitter.com/yarracouncil))
- Register for our monthly e-news at yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife

On the cover: A few of the sights and stallholders that make up the Gleadell Street Market in Richmond, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.



Latest News

Yarra wins at Climate Awards

We're honoured to have been recognised at the recent Cities Power Partnership National Climate Awards. Our collaborative Business Renewables Buying Group project, in partnership with Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, Darebin City Council, Melbourne City Council, Merri-bek City Council, and Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, was named winner of the Collaboration category. This initiative powered the equivalent of 5,000 Victorian homes through group buying of renewable energy. We were also named a finalist for our involvement in the Electrify Everything initiative. Both projects underscore our dedication to a sustainable future and proactive response to the Climate Emergency.

Grant boost to support local renters

To make a contribution to improving access to stable housing in Yarra, Unison Housing Ltd has been awarded our \$100,000 Emergency Rent Relief Grant. The grant will empower Unison Housing to provide immediate rent relief and assist residents facing financial difficulties. As well as helping current renters, the initiative supports those experiencing homelessness to transition into long-term social housing within our community.

Unison Housing's successful bid was notable for its strong community partnerships, its potential to make a broad

positive impact, and its proven expertise in leveraging existing support structures to benefit renters in Yarra.

This grant is a testament to our commitment to ensuring everyone in Yarra has a place to call home. To get support or find out more about this initiative, go to unison.org.au

First Nations icons honoured at Atherton Gardens

Statues of Uncle Archie Roach AM AC (Gunditjmara/Bundjalung) and Auntie Ruby Hunter (Ngarrindjeri/Kukatha/Pitjantjatjara) will soon grace Fitzroy's Atherton Gardens Estate, a significant gathering place for First Nations people and once home to the couple. The park also hosts the Stolen Generations Marker "Remember Me." Melbourne architect Jefa Greenaway (Wailwan/Kamilaroi) and artist Darian Pullen, with Kurna/Ngarrindjeri landscape architect Paul Herzich, will create a gathering space around the statues. Yarra City Council, in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, the Archie Roach Foundation, and family members, proudly supports this project. The project is also supported by the Victorian Government. The statues will be unveiled in late 2023.



Jefa Greenaway, left and Darian Pullen.
Photo: Melanie Cobham

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

Working For You: Building a better tomorrow

Our infrastructure team has been hard at work, ensuring Yarra remains a vibrant, accessible, and sustainable community.

Our infrastructure projects not only enhance the physical landscape of Yarra but also ensure safer, more accessible spaces for everyone. Through consistent improvements, we're creating a city that's resilient, functional and beautiful for all residents.

Infrastructure includes everything from resurfacing footpaths and maintaining bluestone lanes, to clearing drainpipes, collecting hard rubbish, removing graffiti and more.

Enhancing Yarra's infrastructure means we can meet the needs of our growing community and aligns with our focus on the sustainable management and enhancement of our city's assets and infrastructure.



Snapshot of achievements over the past year

Drainage pits inspected: 12,500

Maintenance repairs completed: 1,747

Hard waste collection: 550 cubic metres per week

Resheeting: 36,700m², including laneways and pathways

Bluestone laneways reconstructed: 2,805m²



Improving safety with new wombat crossing on Victoria Crescent

Through projects like this raised crossing in Abbotsford, we're enhancing pedestrian safety and fostering a more connected, secure environment for our community.

A wombat crossing is an elevated pedestrian crossing that makes it safer, easier and more accessible for people to cross the road, and according to research can reduce pedestrian accidents by up to 63%.

The new crossing ensures safer passage for pedestrians, reduces vehicle speeds as they slow down on approach, and heightens driver awareness. It also provides a safe connection point for pedestrians and cyclists to access key popular pathways, on the Main Yarra Trail and the Capital City Trail.

Learn more about how we manage local roads at yarracity.vic.gov.au/roads

"It's good to have it, plus the garden beds brighten up the corner," said Mike, who works in the area.

We've also widened traffic lanes by removing existing median islands and made essential lighting and drainage modifications.

We collaborated with the Victorian Government on this project, which totalled nearly \$250,000. With their contribution of \$100,000, we further invested to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

After identifying pedestrian safety concerns in our 2018 Local Area Place Making (LAPM) study, we've been strategically working towards enhancing community spaces to create safer, more accessible streets and pathways for everyone in Yarra.



1,105 tonnes down: Yarra's waste avoidance efforts

In an impressive stride towards sustainability, we, as a community, have reduced our overall rubbish production by a staggering 1,105.78 tonnes in the past year. This achievement came even as our population grew by 4,008 people!

This data includes waste from homes, businesses, schools and all council-owned buildings across Yarra. Per person, this means we went from producing 184.71kg of waste annually in 2021/22 to just 146.61kg in 2022/23.

This isn't just a win on paper – it's a real-life reflection of our community in action and achieving our Council plan goals. Our Circular Economy strategic objective isn't just a fancy phrase – it's a commitment.

Together, we're not just meeting the targets set in our plan – we're exceeding them. It's a testament to the power of

**That's HOW
much weight?!**

1,105 tonnes is equivalent
to around 221 T-Rexes,
273 African elephants,
or 470 hippopotamuses!



community collaboration and the shared vision of a transition to a circular economy and a more sustainable Yarra.

Find tips and tricks on reducing your waste at yarracity.vic.gov.au/reducewaste



Empowering local talent with Yarra City Jobs

We're proud of our vibrant community and the success stories that emerge from it.

Yarra City Jobs is our dedicated platform, bridging local businesses with eager job seekers, ensuring a thriving local employment landscape.

Four years ago, Sudeysi Abdi (pictured) embarked on a transformative journey with Everyday Coffee in Collingwood. Starting as a dishwasher while juggling school and soccer, he quickly became an integral part of the team. "I began working one or two days a week. As the café grew, so did my hours and responsibilities," Sudeysi said.

His commitment and adaptability led to diverse roles within the café, from handling the till to managing the floor. "The job has helped develop my skill set, including communication and leadership skills that I apply to other parts of my life," Sudeysi said. That includes establishing Mogadishu Meals, a catering company specialising in Somali cuisine.

His advice to young job seekers? "Take every opportunity you can get because you don't know where it can lead you. Be confident."

Yarra City Jobs is a localised employment platform, bringing together Yarra businesses with potential stars like Sudeysi. Whether you're a business looking for fresh talent or a young individual seeking work experience, Yarra City Jobs is your gateway.

Providing work experience, a job trial or recruiting a young person is an opportunity to make a difference in that person's life. It could also identify a great long term committed team member with the right fit in a supportive business.

We're committed to fostering local employment, ensuring a vibrant community filled with opportunities and success. Join the nearly 600 users of Yarra City Jobs, where unique jobs from businesses in the Yarra area are posted daily.

Find out more at yarracityjobs.com.au



“Being at Kinder is the best”
– Ezra, 4

Crafting bright futures in Yarra's kindergartens

We're proud to champion early childhood education, offering a range of kindergartens that cater to the diverse needs of our community. From award-winning programs to state-of-the-art facilities, discover why Yarra kinders are the top choice for holistic child development.

Why choose Yarra kinders?

Kindergarten is an important early life experience that nurtures a child's lifelong love of learning, enhances their social skills, health, and overall well-being. At Yarra, our kindergartens offer:

- **Holistic Development:** Yarra's Kindergarten programs, based on the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework, emphasise play-based learning, independence, and a smooth transition to primary school.
- **Inclusive Environments:** Safe spaces that encourage exploration, creativity, and playful learning, with a focus on health, well-being, and resilience.

- **Unique Offerings:** Award-winning initiatives like the Bush Kinder Program and intergenerational activities, setting us apart.

New facilities and upgrades

We're continually enhancing our facilities. The renovated Richmond Kindergarten, with its expanded offerings and focus on sustainability, is a prime example.

We welcome the Victorian Government's decision to open two new kindergartens in 2024.

Discover Yarra's kindergartens firsthand!

Attend our open days throughout the year, explore our facilities, and engage with our dedicated staff. Fun activities await attending children. For more details, visit yarracity.vic.gov.au/kinder

It's never too late to start kinder! Registrations for 2024 are now open. And keep an eye out: registrations for 2025 will open in January.





Award-winning Bush Kinder program

Our Bush Kinder Program at Yarra Bend, Abbotsford, is a testament to innovative early education. Developed in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Land Council, Parks Victoria, and the Merri Creek Management Committee, this program immerses children in nature, teaching them about First Nations history and the cultural significance of the environment. Awarded the Excellence in Educational Leadership Award in 2022, the bush kinder program is now expanding, reflecting its success and impact.

Intergenerational activities

Building bridges between generations, our unique intergenerational programs have been fostering connections since 2018. Gold Street Children's Services and Willowview jointly run monthly activities, blending the energy of youth with the wisdom of age. From Yarra Libraries' Storytime sessions to interactive programs, these activities offer children and older adults precious one-on-one time, creating lasting memories and strengthening community ties.

"We do lots of playing and we learn things"
– Harry, 4

"Kinder is fun and you learn stuff and you play"
– Jakarta, 4



Yarra kindergartens prioritise community well-being, fostering early education that's inclusive, innovative, and impactful. We're shaping confident, resilient learners for a brighter future.

Our commitment to providing high quality kindergartens in Yarra emphasises our dedication to nurturing the next generation and ensuring every child has access to quality early education.

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.

Access and Inclusion Strategy

We play a fundamental role in supporting people with disability to live full and active lives. Our current Access and Inclusion Strategy 2018–24 will be expiring next year and needs to be renewed to assist us in continuing this important work. We want to find out what you think our role is within the accessibility space, to help inform the draft Strategy 2024–2026 and first of three, 2-year Action Plans.

Tell us your ideas to make Yarra a more inclusive and accessible place for all our residents between **Monday 30 October** and **9am on Monday 11 December**.

Climate Emergency Plan

We're developing a new Climate Emergency Plan to replace the current one, which expires in 2024. We want to hear from the Yarra community to understand your ideas and suggestions for climate action in Yarra. We'll use your feedback to inform the development of the Plan. Have your say by **9am on Monday 27 November**.

Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy

We are committed to ensuring Yarra is a place where everyone can live, and age well. Our Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy 2018–24 is expiring next year. Before we update and renew it for another six years, we want to gather community ideas so we can understand your expectation of the council's role within this space.

Tell us your ideas to make Yarra age-friendly before the consultation closes at **9am Monday 4 December 2023**.

For more, visit
yoursayyarra.com.au

Taking action, embracing change: Our climate commitment

As we start developing our new Climate Emergency Plan, it's crucial to understand the challenges we face. The world is dealing with rising temperatures and their effects, and Yarra is no exception. Our summers are becoming longer and hotter, and rainfall is on the decline. The health challenges caused by poor air quality from bushfires and pollution further highlight the significant changes we're experiencing. Unfortunately, our most vulnerable communities are more affected by these impacts.

Local government and the community play a key role in addressing these challenges. We have a strategy in place for reducing emissions, regenerating nature in our neighbourhoods and promoting collective climate action through our current Climate Emergency Plan. A majority of the 119 actions detailed in the plan are progressing as intended. Highlights include:

- Giving \$316,005 to community climate action projects via our grants programs.

- Planting 24,520 native seedlings across 11 Yarra locations.
- More than doubling Yarra's commercial solar capacity from 4,541 kW in 2019 to 10,508 kW in 2023.

Help us shape our new Climate Emergency Plan

While we celebrate our recent achievements, we understand there's more work to be done. We're gearing up for even bolder action and want to hear from our community about your hopes and ideas as we develop our new Climate Emergency Plan.

Whether you live in Yarra, work here or just love to visit, we invite you to share your thoughts and help shape a plan that reflects our community's ambitions. See across the page for details.



Join the conversation with your Councillors

We're creating more opportunities for you to speak with your Councillors and discuss issues that matter to you with a series of in-person events. This is in addition to our Your Say Yarra engagement pop-ups. Keep an eye on our website for more dates in addition to the upcoming events:

Councillor Conversations with Community

Saturday 4 November

10am to 12 midday

Queens Parade Shopping strip, (Corner of Queens Parade and Michael Street)

Meet the Mayor

Friday 10 November

10am to 11am

Princes Park, Carlton North, by the dog off-leash area

Learn more about your Councillors and Yarra's wards at yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors



Gleadell Street Market: Celebrating 150 years of community spirit

As Gleadell Street Market celebrates its 150th anniversary, its vibrant stalls and bustling crowds are a testament to its enduring economic and cultural significance in Richmond and the broader Yarra community.

By overseeing operations for Gleadell Street Market, we're not only preserving a piece of Yarra's heritage but also championing local businesses and fostering economic growth. This initiative aligns with our Economic Development and Employment strategic objectives, underscoring our commitment to boosting local enterprise and ensuring Yarra's economic vitality.

Today, the market is not just a shopping destination but a thriving economic hub. Local farmers, artisans and entrepreneurs converge here, showcasing their products and connecting directly with customers from all walks of life. From fresh produce to handcrafted goods, the market offers a unique shopping experience that modern supermarkets can't replicate.

"You get to establish a rapport with people here," says Ted Furmen aka The Nutritional Alchemist. He's been selling kombucha at the market for two years and says it's more tight-knit than other markets. "There's much more community in this market than others that might take place monthly. There's more cohesiveness."

The market's success lies in its ability to foster community whilst promoting local businesses. It's a place where stories are shared, traditions are celebrated and local businesses flourish.

Bill Duff has been attending the market for more than 60 years. "The people that come here, I know most of them personally," he says. His family have been operating their stall, which sells eggs, plants and honey, for generations. "It's a real community market and I think that people who don't know about it ought to come down."



Rooted in tradition

While the market is a beacon of economic activity, its roots trace back to the mid-19th century. Originally a space for local farmers to sell their produce, it has evolved, reflecting the changing needs and tastes of the community whilst retaining its traditional charm.

A large section of the Yarra River's eastern boundary was leased by Chinese market gardeners from the early 1840s up to the 1940s.

"The Chinese market gardeners provided a vital role in producing fresh seasonal produce from the paddock to the plate," according to the Richmond, Burnley and Cremorne Historical Society. "The early rate records show hundreds of Chinese people listed as occupants of these and other areas around Richmond."

On 11 November 1873 the Richmond vegetable and produce market was opened at Highett Street by Mayor Robert Dickens.



**Come down to the market!
Saturdays, 7am to 1pm**

Gleadell Street Market boosts Yarra's culture and economy. Supporting local businesses, it offers a unique shopping experience.

Follow on Instagram
@gleadellstreetmarketofficial

Head to **page 15** to find out about our 150th anniversary celebration events.



Nurturing neighbourhoods: Supporting local urban agriculture

Collingwood resident Claire's dedication has turned a neglected VicRoads reserve into The Secret Garden, a beacon of community spirit.

"I've enjoyed gardening since the late '80s," Claire shared. "When the Mater Street garden closed, I sought new spaces."

The Secret Garden, now six years old, is a community hub. "Being in the garden with neighbours and visitors is a joy," Claire said. With six permanent plots and communal beds, the garden thrives with activities from mowing to composting.

Claire invites the community to participate. "We have footpath boxes with herbs and veggies. People can grab ingredients for dinner." She also highlights the garden's composting facilities, encouraging everyone to contribute. "There's a compost turner for anyone keen on a workout!"

Yarra Council's support has been pivotal. "They provided our initial community growing spaces and the wicking herb boxes on the footpath," she said. "We also benefit from the recycle depot's mulch and the green waste pick-up service."



Claire, centre, with her neighbours, Adele and Stav, at The Secret Garden.

Supporting spaces like The Secret Garden aligns with our strategic objectives of championing urban agriculture and community unity. Yarra is home to 240 planter boxes, and 25 community and laneway gardens. Together, we're greening Yarra's heart.

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

November is Urban Agriculture Month



Dive into urban agriculture this month with courses and open gardens. Learn more at urbanagriculturemonth.org.au

You can also find free resources and programs at mysmartgarden.org.au

What's on



Remembrance Day 2023

Saturday 11 November,
10.30am to 11.30am

**Barkly Gardens, Corner Coppin Street
and Mary Street, Richmond**

Remembrance Day is a time for us to remember those who fought for our country and pay respect to both fallen and returned soldiers. This year, Remembrance Day marks 105 years since the end of World War I (1914–18). Please join us at this ceremony at Richmond's War Memorial with speeches by Richmond RSL and Mayor Claudia Nguyen, an official wreath-laying and a minute's silence at 11am.

Music from the Wetlands Festival 2023

Sunday 19 November, 11.45am to 5.30pm

**Alphington Wetlands, south of
Alphington Park**

**Access via walking from View Street,
Alphington. Free entry (gold coin
donation appreciated).**

Join to celebrate music, nature and community together! The festival kicks off with a vibrant music parade from Riverview Grove to the Yarra River banks. Dive into live tunes, fun kids' activities, and tasty stalls. There'll also be interactive eco-displays from the Darebin Parklands Association, Waterwatch, and Yarra River Keepers in our stunning wetlands setting. Stroll from Alphington Park or catch our free shuttle.



Celebrate 150 Years of Gleadell Street Market!

5, 11, 18 and 25 November, 7am to 1pm

**Gleadell Street, between Highett Street
and Bridge Road, Richmond**

Join us every Saturday in November for a month-long fiesta honouring our market's rich heritage. There'll be a vibrant blend of live music, enticing cooking demos, and a journey through time with our historical displays, and on Saturday 11 November, the Mayor will officially unveil a commemorative plaque.



Reusable nappies 101 with Yarra Workshops

Monday 23 October,
7.30pm to 8.30pm,
online, free



Wednesday 22 November,
1.30pm to 2.30pm at Jack Dyer
Community Room, Richmond, free

Whether you're an expecting parent or just curious about sustainable alternatives, join our free reusable nappy workshops. Part of The Nappy Project and supported by the Circular Economy Councils Fund, these sessions offer practical advice on both full-time and part-time reusable nappy use, to reduce waste and save money. Register now by scanning the QR code.

Find out details about more events
that are coming up in Yarra at
yarracity.vic.gov.au/events

Your Councillors

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

Below are contact details for your
Ward Councillors.

Langridge Ward

- **Cr Michael Glynatsis**
michael.glynatsis@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Stephen Jolly**
stephen.jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Anab Mohamud**
anab.mohamud@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, Mayor**
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**
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

- Tuesday 31 October (Extraordinary
meeting to present Annual Report)
- Tuesday 14 November
- Wednesday 15 November (Ceremonial
meeting to elect Mayor)
- Tuesday 12 December

Information from this edition in your
language. For more information please
call **9280 1940** and quote REF19,773.

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19,773。

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 19,773.

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 1930** واذكر الرقم المرجعي 19773.

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 19,773.

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 19.773.

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 19.773.

This has been printed on 100% recycled
paper.