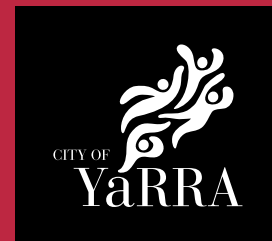


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yarranews



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Message from the Mayor



Hi everyone,

Despite the chill in the air, the vibrant spirit of Yarra remains, with a host of fantastic events and programs bringing people together. A standout is the Leaps and Bounds Festival, which just celebrated its 10th year, and highlights the resilience and creativity of our local artists.

There are plenty more events coming up soon – check out **page 15** for what's on. We're also thrilled to announce that, thanks to persistent advocacy from the Council, Victoria's Pride Street Party will return to Yarra in 2024. Turn to **page 4** for more.

In other exciting news, our collaboration with the AFL is fostering partnerships that are boosting Yarra businesses. Learn more about our exciting initiatives with Richmond and Brisbane Lions Football Clubs on **page 6**.

Turn to **page 12** to read about the renaming of the Djerring Centre, a significant milestone in our collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

You can read more about the expansion of Richmond Repair Corner on **page 13**, a testament to our commitment to action on climate change and waste reduction.

Get inspired by nature and biodiversity and learn about our efforts to protect the local platypus population on **page 11**.

Our cover story shines a spotlight on our Companion Dog Walking Program that connects volunteers with residents who need assistance exercising their pets. Meet some participants on **page 5**.

My fellow Councillors and I have enjoyed the opportunity to engage with many of you during Councillor Conversations with Community. We're looking forward to continuing these enriching discussions at upcoming events. Check out **page 7** for the schedule.

Stay warm, stay connected, and we'll see you around Yarra!

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: Volunteer Susan and kelpie x beagle, Jacko, take a walk in the park.



Latest News

Yarra City Council bans fossil fuel ads to address Climate Emergency

Yarra City Council will implement a ban on new fossil fuel advertising across all Council property in support of action on climate change, following a Council resolution on 18 July.

Closure to sections of the Yarra Trail

Parts of the Yarra Trail are currently disrupted by two major infrastructure projects. Parks Victoria is constructing an elevated pathway between Gipps Street and Clarke Street in Abbotsford to improve accessibility. This is estimated to be finished in mid-2024.

Detours are in place for both projects and neither affects access to the Collingwood Children's Farm. If you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact Parks Victoria or Salta Properties.

Yarra Community Awards 2023

Nominations are now open for Yarra City Council's annual Community Awards – recognising those who make a difference in their community.

The awards are an opportunity to honour the everyday heroes who make Yarra such a wonderful place to live, work and visit.

They could be an inspiring sports coach, a local leader in sustainability, a champion for arts and culture, an advocate for inclusivity or someone who volunteers their time and efforts in other ways to benefit our Yarra community.

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

Victoria's Pride Street Party back in 2024

Yarra City Council has successfully advocated for Victoria's Pride Street Party to return to the Smith and Gertrude Street Precinct for another year.

Minister for Equality, the Hon. Harriet Shing MP, has announced the street party will return again to the Smith and Gertrude Street precinct in February 2024.

Approaching its third year, the one-day street party features live performances from artists and a celebration of LGBTIQ+ arts and culture.

The event is delivered by Midsumma in partnership with the Victorian government and gives all Victorians the chance to learn about and demonstrate their support for LGBTIQ+ communities.

The event also provides an opportunity for LGBTIQ+ people to connect and express pride in who they are.

Mayor, Cr Claudia Nguyen said the return of Victoria's Pride Street Party to the Smith and Gertrude Street precinct is a win for the Yarra community.

"We are overjoyed that Victoria's Pride Street Party will be held in the City of Yarra for another year," she said.

"Yarra is rightfully renowned as one of Victoria's pre-eminent rainbow community hubs."

"Our LGBTIQ+ Strategy (2021–2024) affirms the importance of LGBTIQ+ visibility and celebration, and in fact, the first key priority area of the strategy is 'Welcoming and Celebrating Diversity'."



Council wrote to the Minister earlier in 2023, following the rousing success of the 2023 festival, advocating for City of Yarra to continue hosting Victoria's Pride Street Party.

The inaugural street party was held in Collingwood and Fitzroy in February 2022 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in Victoria. The event attracted more than 30,000 people and was a huge success for local businesses.

Learn more at yarracity.vic.gov.au/news

Paws for a cause: Yarra's Companion Dog Walking Program

Are you a dog lover in Yarra? Or perhaps you're a pet owner who could use a little help with your furry friend? We've launched an exciting initiative that might just be the answer.

The Companion Animal Support Program is a community-driven initiative that connects volunteer dog walkers with older residents and people with a disability who may need assistance in caring for their pets.

The program is more than just a dog walking service. It's about reducing social isolation and fostering connections within our community. Volunteers not only provide much-needed exercise for the dogs, but also offer companionship and a friendly face to pet owners.

The program is already making a positive impact on the lives of many Yarra residents, with volunteers dedicating 1 hour each week to help out. The benefits are mutual, with volunteers enjoying the company of a dog and the satisfaction of making a real difference in someone's life.



For the past few months, Richmond resident Susan has been walking Jacko, a kelpie x beagle. "For the first 10 minutes of our walk, he walks me," said Susan. "Jacko is 10 years old, going on three months."

"He's like a jack-in-the-box," according to owner Maurice, who lives in Fitzroy North. Recent health challenges led Maurice to discover the dog walking program. The trio have fast become friends.



The Companion Animal Support Program is part of our ongoing commitment to creating a vibrant, inclusive, and connected community. If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, we encourage you to get in touch. Let's walk together towards a more connected Yarra! Call **9205 5555** or email info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

On the ball: AFL clubs champion local economy

We're kicking goals with the AFL, fostering partnerships that are boosting Yarra businesses.

We've teamed up with Richmond Football Club to launch the 3121 Richmond FC Business Program. The program, which already boasts 55 local businesses, offers marketing and promotional opportunities, exclusive event invitations, and potential procurement partnerships with the club.

At the June "Retro Round" match between the Tigers and the Saints, Richmond businesses were given a bay at the MCG, offering networking opportunities and photo ops with club representatives. The club is also providing billboards to some Richmond businesses for free promotion, and Tigers players will be visiting some businesses for photo opportunities.

"It's been fantastic," said Lina Haider, who runs The Little Bridge Café on Bridge Road. "I have a lot to do with the club myself – I do the coaches brekkies every week – but it's been great to have that extra support."

Partnerships with both the Collingwood and Brisbane (formerly Fitzroy) clubs are also being developed ahead of the finals in September.

These programs aim to leverage the advantages of our AFL/AFLW teams being part of our community to promote local business, foster economic growth, and create networking opportunities.

Regardless of your footy team affiliations, it's a win for everyone in Yarra!

Find out more about how we're helping businesses in Yarra at yarracity.vic.gov.au/business





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.

Community Tuesdays – Ward Listening Posts

Tuesday 5 September
5.30pm to 7pm

Melba Ward: Richmond Traders, corner Bridge Road and Church Street, Richmond

Langridge Ward: Victoria Gardens, outside Coles, corner Victoria and Burnley Streets, Richmond

Nicholls Ward: Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library, outside, 182 – 186 St Georges Road, Fitzroy North

Meet the Mayor

Friday 25 August, 12 midday to 1pm
Richmond Neighbourhood Market

Friday 1 September
3.30pm to 4.30pm
Atherton Gardens Community Market

Wednesday 20 September
2.30pm to 3.30pm
Alphington Park playground

Monday 2 October
10.30am to 11.30am
The Learning Bank

Wednesday 4 October
8.15am to 9.15am
Stephenson Street Reserve

Learn more about how you can speak to our Councillors about the issues that matter to you:
yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillor-engagement

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.

Charles Evans Reserve upgrade

We're developing a draft concept design to upgrade Charles Evans Reserve in Cremorne.

To help us understand what the community priorities are, tell us how you like to use the park and what changes you want to see happen in the space.

Your feedback gives us valuable insights into what we should prioritise as we make improvements.

Share your thoughts before the consultation closes at 9am on Monday 11 September 2023.

Rethink, reduce, reuse, recycle

Traditionally, waste minimisation has been focused on what we throw away and recovering resources only once they are discarded. Our Circular Economy Strategy 2023–30 seeks to instead reduce waste at all stages including design, sale, use and disposal.

Supporting a multicultural Yarra

We're lucky to have such a diverse and vibrant multicultural community here in Yarra where nearly 1 in 5 of us speak a language other than English at home. We're looking to replace the four-year Multicultural Partnerships Plan with a long-term guiding framework defining Council's role in how we support our diverse community. Now is your chance to tell us how you would like us to support our multicultural community moving forward. Have your say before this consultation closes on **Monday 30 October**.

For more, visit
yoursayyarra.com.au



The new and improved Richmond kinder is open

Are you looking for a local kinder for your little one? We are excited to announce that the new and improved Richmond Kindergarten is open!

Located in the heart of Richmond, the newly renovated centre now offers 3 and 4-year-old sessional kinder programs of 15 hours per week for local families. There is also a new community space and play area.

Our programs are run by bachelor qualified Early Childhood Teachers who focus on children's holistic development, including motor, sensory, social, emotional, language and communication skills.

With a \$2.5 million contribution from Yarra City Council and a \$500,000 grant from the Victorian Government's Children's Facilities Capital Program, the upgraded centre is looking fantastic.

In addition to a better fit-for-purpose facility, the new space is environmentally sustainable, incorporating features like water harvesting, solar panels and recycled materials.

3 and 4-year-old kinder is free for children who choose a Yarra service as their primary kindergarten program provider.

Play Day at Richmond Kindergarten



**Tuesday 12 September,
10.30am to 12 midday
Richmond Kindergarten
92–104 Lord Street,
Richmond**

Fun activities and snacks provided.

Children of all ages welcome (especially children ready to start kinder!)

Find out more or book a tour:
yarracity.vic.gov.au/richmondkinder

Preschool to Prep transition

Need some help deciding if your child is ready for prep in 2024? Join us for a free online discussion with a panel of professionals who will share their thoughts on what school readiness looks like.



Preschool to Prep transition information night

**Tuesday 29 August,
6.30pm to 8.30pm
Online session**



Heritage award for Fitzroy Town Hall's restored ceiling

Our heritage conservation efforts have been recognised at this year's Victorian Architecture Awards.

Yarra's appointed project architects, Conservation Studio Australia, were awarded the 'Heritage Architecture Award – Conservation' for their ceiling conservation works at Fitzroy Town Hall.

The project focused on restoring 24 ceilings of varying scale and complexity at the heritage-listed landmark building. Meticulous attention was given to employing three specialised methods to stabilise and conserve these ceilings, ensuring the preservation of their original materials and construction techniques. Detailed paint sample analysis guided the restoration of the appropriate paint schemes, reviving their former splendour.

"Projects like the Fitzroy Town Hall ceiling stabilisation works are a rare opportunity to really use all of our skillsets as conservation architects – its complexity and intricacy really throw up challenges

that makes you really think about all the conservation issues that are before you on a project of this scale," said Conservation Studio heritage architect Dan Blake. "You have to challenge conventional techniques to get the outcome that the building needs. It's projects like this that remind you why it's important to save and conserve our heritage fabric."

Structural remediation was also carried out on the main hall trusses, skilfully planned to prevent further roof and ceiling movement while allowing for future installation of upgraded heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

Preserving and enhancing Yarra's heritage is an integral part of our commitment to the community. The rich architectural tapestry of Yarra tells the stories of our people and places.

We take immense pride in safeguarding our heritage, ensuring that the glorious architecture that defines our municipality remains cherished for generations to come.

Learn more about how we're preserving heritage in Yarra at yarracity.vic.gov.au/heritage



A lifeline for local platypus population

Did you know that the platypus, one of Australia's most unique and elusive creatures, was recently listed as vulnerable in Victoria?

As part of a dedicated working group with Boroondara, Banyule and Whittlesea Councils, and Melbourne Water, we're taking steps to help our resident platypus population bounce back in Melbourne's rivers and waterways.

We're developing guidelines to protect and conserve platypus habitats, contributing to the Healthy Waterway Strategy. This research will shed light on how different habitat variables impact platypus populations.

Studying these shy creatures is no easy task, but Melbourne Water has developed an innovative system called Environmental DNA (eDNA). This method involves collecting water samples and filtering them to find traces of platypus DNA, giving us an indication if they're living in a particular section of waterway.

A report with guidelines and action plans will soon be produced with the information from the project, which commenced late last year.

So, keep an eye out for more updates on our efforts to support the platypus population in the lower Birrarung – aka Yarra River and the Merri Creek – and beyond.

Together, we can make a difference for these fascinating creatures and their habitats.

The City of Yarra is home to a diverse range of plants and animals, large areas of valuable bushland and a number of important wetland habitats.

Learn more about biodiversity and wildlife in Yarra at yarracity.vic.gov.au/biodiversity



The Djerring Centre honours First Nations community

We're celebrating the renaming of the Djerring Centre, in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. The centre in Abbotsford was previously known as the Collingwood Seniors Centre.

Djerring (pronounced "jerr-ing"), means "joining and uniting together." This concept aligns with our commitment to emphasise the visibility and recognition of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people's culture, issues and achievements in Yarra.

The renaming was commemorated with a special event on 22 June, featuring a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony led by Wurundjeri Elder Perry Wandin.

The Djerring Centre has recently undergone upgrades to enhance accessibility and cater to future needs. Thanks to a \$92,000 grant from the Victorian Government, the centre now features an accessible pathway, upgraded entry ramp, and doorway improvements. Additionally, the interior has been updated with modern audio-visual equipment, and the exterior boasts a captivating artwork by local artist Sam Yung.

We extend our gratitude to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for their collaboration in achieving this milestone, and are excited to see the Djerring Centre flourish as a hub that supports inclusive social connections and community wellbeing.

Find out more about the Djerring Centre and how you can book the venue at yarracity.vic.gov.au/djerringcentre

Repair Corner spreads its threads

As part of our commitment to climate change mitigation and a circular economy, we're fighting hard against throwaway culture.

Since 2017 the Richmond Repair Corner has been leading the charge, and this year the initiative has expanded.

Over the past 6 years, our Community Hub at the Richmond Community Learning Centre has repaired 430 items, saving 912kg from landfill. It's a place where residents of all ages learn practical skills, from maintaining appliances to sewing buttons, and it's a hub for volunteers, fostering community spirit and inclusivity.

"It's so much more than just a repair workshop," said Simone, who's been based at the hub for several years. "It's a great opportunity to meet people from different walks of life – it's a rewarding experience in multiple ways."

Thanks to a partnership and funding from Sustainability Victoria, we've expanded the program's reach, with new Repair Popsups at Alphington Community Centre and North Carlton Railway House.

If you're passionate about reducing waste and have fixing skills or can help with registration, join us in making Yarra a more sustainable, vibrant community.

There's more to waste than what you throw away. We are looking to create a strategy that changes the way we look at waste and create a more sustainable Yarra.

For more on our learning centres, visit: yarracity.vic.gov.au/learningcentres



Your Councillors

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

Below are contact details for your Ward Councillors. These are listed in alphabetical order.

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 15 August
- Tuesday 12 September
- Tuesday 10 October

Information from this edition in your language. For more information please call **9280 1940** and quote REF19,719.

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19,719。

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 19,719.

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 19719.

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 19,719.

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 19.719.

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 19.719.

What's on



Nature drawing workshops

**Saturday 2 September to
Saturday 23 September**

Join illustrator Angharad Neal-Williams for a series of free, community-based workshops in the gardens at Carlton Neighbourhood Learning centre.

These workshops will foster a supportive environment where everyone is encouraged to draw and create with confidence.

All abilities are welcome and no previous experience is required. Come along to create with other members of the community and gather inspiration from the gardens.

Bookings essential.

Regional Farmers Market at Abbotsford Convent

**Abbotsford Convent precinct
Saturday 9 September, 8am to 2pm**

With over 45 stallholders, find a wide range of seasonal fresh produce, delicious foods and condiments from Victorian farmers. You can now look forward to filling your basket with the best of Victoria, on the second Saturday of each month!

Jacinta Parsons: A Question of Age: Women, ageing and the forever self

**Wednesday 20 September,
6.30pm to 7.30pm**

Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library

What do we do when our outside self doesn't match our inside self? How do we adjust our perceptions of getting older? What does it mean to age as a woman? These are just some of the questions that ABC presenter and writer Jacinta Parsons grapples with in her book 'A Question of Age.' Join Jacinta as she delves into these questions and more.

Victorian Seniors Festival returns in October!

Celebrate this month-long festival with a host of activities across Yarra.

Join us for the 'Ageing Well in a Changing World' forum with Gerard Mansour, or if you're over 60 and considering work, the 'Silver Startups' forum is for you.

Enjoy a day of intergenerational activities at the Collingwood Children's Farm, try your hand at lawn bowls in North Fitzroy, or join a cycling tour of Yarra – there are so many things to choose from! Visit our website for updates closer to the time.

For more on how Yarra supports Active and Healthy Ageing, visit: yarracity.vic.gov.au/services/over-50s

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



YARRA COMMUNITY AWARDS 2023

NOMINATIONS NOW
OPEN



Nominate by Sunday 3 September at
yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards

