

Connect



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

News from our 2018–19 budget

WATERWISE WETLANDS

They're a win-win for water

WARD NEWS

Work underway in your area

WHAT'S ON

Events and activities around the shire



On the cover

Angeline, Bev, Les, Irene, Lyn and Kerryn from Lifestyle Communities in Officer enjoy a scenic walk around the wetlands at Eastone Reserve.

Have your say

Council regularly consults with the community to help us make decisions in a range of areas. We want you to be informed of our operations and we encourage you to share your priorities and expectations with us.

Here are just a couple of our consultations you can have your say on now.

Cardinia's first food strategy is on its way!

The strategy aims to preserve and enhance our local food system so that our community has ongoing access to affordable, nutritious food and we support our local farmers. The Cardinia Food Movement led the collective approach to develop our Draft Food Strategy and it's now ready for your feedback. Help us create a healthy, sustainable, delicious and fair local food system for Cardinia Shire.

How can we protect our native plants and animals?

Council is developing a *Biodiversity Conservation Strategy* to provide direction on the conservation of native plants and animals on private and public land. Tell us your ideas for the future concerning biodiversity, which will help guide the development of the strategy. Respondents will go into the draw for one of two \$100 Bunnings vouchers.

Visit the Have your say page on our website to see what consultations are open for feedback.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay



Council contacts

Cardinia Shire Council

Civic Centre

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After-hours emergencies: 1300 787 624

National Relay Service (NRS): Customers who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment can call through the NRS. This is a free service.

TTY users phone 133 677 then ask for 1300 787 624.

Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay) users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 1300 787 624.

Connect is Cardinia Shire Council's community magazine and is distributed to more than 43,000 homes and businesses in the shire. It is also available on Council's website as a digital publication and as downloadable audio files. All images and other personal information collected for *Connect* will be stored securely, and be made available only in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2000* and in accordance with Council's Information Privacy Policy, a copy of which may be obtained from Council's website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/privacy

For enquiries, contact the Connect editor on 1300 787 624 or mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Printing: Print Media Group (PMG) is a Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC), Chain of Custody certified company. All processes are controlled via our Environmental Management System, which is based on ISO 14001. Printed on Sumo FSC® Certified stock. Carbon emissions associated with the production processes are certified by the Carbon Reduction Institute and carbon credits have been purchased to offset any emissions.



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Community Compass online mapping and information tool
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/communitycompass

Mayor's message

Last month marked the 150th anniversary of our shire, dating back to a time when some areas were known as the Shire of Berwick. I've chosen to wear the original Mayoral robes during my time as Mayor to recognise our history and the dedication of past councils and councillors to the people of our shire.



I hope this edition of *Connect* finds you well and warm as we head into the winter months. A lot has been happening at Council, and we've got a lot to share with you in the following pages.

Cardinia Shire Council's CEO Garry McQuillan recently announced his retirement after 11 years leading the organisation. Under Garry's stewardship, our shire has become one of the most innovative and progressive local governments in the state, and Council is keen to ensure we maintain that momentum and progress even further. I'm confident that our exhaustive recruitment process will attract the very best candidate for the role. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Garry for his years of service at Cardinia Shire Council and wish him the very best in his retirement.

Over the page you'll be able to review some highlights from Council's 2018–19 budget. We'll see the biggest investment in capital works in our shire's history, with the majority of this going towards recreation, leisure and community facilities as well as

roads, drains and footpaths. Our annual budget ensures we have sufficient funds to deliver the activities and initiatives set out in the Council plan.

With the state election coming up, Council will also continue to seek the support of our local politicians. We have a great track record of government advocacy and successful grant applications, having secured \$5.8 million in funding in the first three quarters of 2017–18. In the lead up to the state election, we are engaging with our local members, both in government and opposition, to influence government priorities that benefit our community. Elections present opportunities to secure promises for funding and we will be working hard on behalf of the shire during this time.

In my 10 years as a councillor, I've always valued the lifelong connection that Council fosters with its residents. Whether it's building and maintaining local infrastructure, supporting new parents, providing recreation facilities for sports, collecting your rubbish bins, processing your planning

permits, or assisting the elderly stay connected in the community – Council works to benefit every person in our community at all stages of life.

Regards,

Mayor Cr Collin Ross

Council and Town Planning meetings

You are welcome to attend General Council and Town Planning meetings held monthly in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, 20 Siding Ave, Officer.

See our website for meeting dates and times. Meeting agendas are also available on our website prior to the meeting.

More info
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/meetings

Budget 2018–19 highlights

Cardinia Shire is one of the fastest growing local government areas in Australia. Council's 2018–19 budget will provide significant new infrastructure, deliver much-needed community services, and maintain our existing assets while remaining financially responsible.

This year more than \$55.6 million has been allocated for capital works – \$21 million in new projects and \$34

million in upgrade projects, of which \$20 million will be spent on road resealing across the shire. This is the largest budgeted amount for capital works in the shire's history; \$10 million more than last year's capital works program.

In line with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System cap, the average general rate will increase by 2.25 per cent. You'll see a decrease

to the green waste charge, and an increase to the garbage charge due to the changes in the recycling industry as described on the opposite page.

For more information, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

At the time of printing, the budget was in draft form and on exhibition for public feedback. All figures have been rounded to nearest decimal place. Please see our website for information on the adopted budget.

Where does the money go?

Here are some highlights from this year's proposed budget.

Investing in our roads, bridges, drains, and pathways



\$24.9M for our roads (resealing, resurfacing, reconstruction, and unsealed roads)

\$2.8M for new footpaths and cycleways

\$1.8M for maintaining our drainage network

\$1M to maintain footpaths and renew street furniture

\$841K to build new bridges and drainage infrastructure

\$92K for resurfacing off-street carparks

Providing sporting facilities for our growing community



\$4.7M towards Lang Lang Community Recreation Precinct

\$2M towards James Bathe Recreation Reserve

\$1.8M for the new Bunyip soccer facility

\$1.3M for our aquatic and recreation facilities

\$1M for a Gembrook Reserve pavilion

\$950K for a Cora Lynn Reserve pavilion

\$500K for a Worrell Reserve pavilion

\$350K for our reserves (lighting, power and resurfacing)

Providing services and facilities for children and families



\$2.6M towards the Comely Banks Integrated Children's Facility

\$2.6M for Maternal and Child Health services

\$1.7M towards the Timbertop Integrated Children's Facility

\$1.3M for Youth Services

\$1.2M for Child and Family services

\$388K for Family and Community services

Supporting the arts, culture and local business



\$2M in library services

\$1.1M for arts and culture

\$560K towards Cardinia Cultural Centre and exhibition space

\$500K in Community Grants (community infrastructure projects)

\$100K towards tourism promotion

\$80K towards our Public Art Program

Providing parks, open spaces and streetscapes



\$7.8M to maintain our parks and gardens

\$1.9M towards Deep Creek Reserve

\$711K for cleaning our parks, reserves and roads

\$450K for our passive reserves and open spaces

\$275K towards weed management

\$250K for environment infrastructure projects

\$226K towards playgrounds

\$150K for our Open Space Program

\$150K invested in trees and planting



Wetlands are a win-win for water

The wetlands at Eastone Reserve capture stormwater and remove pollutants as well as providing a scenic recreation area for residents.

In urban environments, wetlands can help us manage stormwater and irrigate our sports fields.

As stormwater flows through urban environments, it is unable to soak directly into the soil and instead picks up pollutants as it flows into rivers, creeks and streams. This stormwater enters our drains and waterways as polluted stormwater.

Council has built an extensive network of wetlands in our shire to help remove pollutants from stormwater. This series of shallow, plant-filled ponds filters sediment and dissolves pollutants through physical and biological processes. This is a natural way to treat and remove pollutants, enabling us to then harvest this treated stormwater from the wetlands to water our sports fields.

Some wetlands are designed with the dual purpose of treating stormwater and providing floodwater storage. When we receive high rainfall, these wetlands act as temporary floodwater storage and slow the incoming flow of water. The water level of the wetlands may remain above regular levels for a few days as the water recedes. Whether wetlands include storage or not, they are all designed to convey local runoff in the same way that pipes and channels carry stormwater.

Wetlands form part of the drainage system that Council manages in our shire. If you experience problems with your local drainage system, such as a blockage or local flooding, you can report the issue by calling 1300 787 624 or online when you visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/stormwater

Recycling industry changes

The kerbside recycling industry is facing a number of challenges in its operations locally and internationally, led in part by the changes to recyclables accepted by China. A considerable portion of Victoria's household recycling is on-sold to China in bulk to be processed and turned into new products. China's new policy imposes much tighter criteria on the materials that will be accepted, which impacts the cost of processing our residential recycling.

The Victorian Government recently announced a \$13 million funding package to assist councils and industry adjust to shifts in the global recycling markets; however, from July 2018 onwards, councils will be expected to fund the extra costs via rates or garbage charges.

Even though Cardinia Shire Council has worked hard to find ways to minimise

the cost impact to residents, there will be an unavoidable increase to the garbage charge as a result of these recent changes in the industry. The good news is that this is lower than we initially expected because Council has been successful in negotiating savings in other areas of the collection services.

We ask our residents to continue recycling as normal because collection services will remain unchanged. Council is committed to recycling, and our new *Waste and Resources Recovery Strategy* strongly advocates for reuse and recycling.

While the recycling industry is readjusting, and services are likely to be more expensive in the future, it is more important than ever to reduce contamination in your recycling bins.

For recycling tips visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/recycling

Dealing with dumped rubbish

In the past two years, the illegal dumping of rubbish across Cardinia Shire has increased from an average of 60 cases to more than 100 cases per month. While Council has achieved efficiencies in handling dumped rubbish, it still comes at a cost to our shire, both financially and environmentally.


To help reduce the illegal dumping of rubbish, Council is trialling the use of CCTV cameras at dumping 'hot spots'. The CCTV footage will be used to record site activities and help identify offenders. We recently called on the community to suggest 'hot spots' and we'll be changing the location of the CCTV cameras every four to six weeks. The CCTV trial is jointly funded by Council and Sustainability Victoria.

Keeping Cardinia Shire clean is everyone's responsibility – if you see something, say something!

Help us create a cleaner shire with a no tolerance attitude to the illegal dumping of rubbish. You can report dumped rubbish on our website

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dumpedrubbish





Mayor Cr Collin Ross was pleased to congratulate Eric Bumpstead as the 2018 Stan Henwood Award winner.

A lifelong commitment to community service

Cardinia Shire Council awarded Eric Bumpstead this year's Stan Henwood Award for his lifelong contributions to the local community.

Eric Bumpstead has been a member of the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade since 1957, serving as captain for 24 years. He is an inspiring leader who has spent 61 years of his life protecting the community against the threat of fire, during which time he led the way for women to enter the brigade as active members in the 1980s. Eric has also been a committee member of the Upper Beaconsfield Association since 2007 and president of a local Men's Shed since 2011.

We congratulate Eric Bumpstead as a deserving recipient of the Stan

Henwood award in 2018! The award, now in its 14th year, recognises lifetime achievements in community service and volunteering.

Appreciating our volunteers

Cardinia Shire Council acknowledged and thanked the shire's many volunteers at its annual volunteer reception last month. On the evening, Council recognised hundreds of volunteers from 560 organisations for the generous contributions they make in our shire.

Mayor Cr Collin Ross said it was an honour to be able to thank our shire's volunteers at the reception. "The work of volunteers too often goes unnoticed or unthanked, but the selfless work of our dedicated volunteer force is of immeasurable value to our community."

Supported access program for recreation facilities

Cardinia Shire Council's major recreation and aquatic facilities operator, Aligned Leisure, provides a supported access program for local people experiencing financial stress and hardship.

The Supported Access Program provides local people experiencing disadvantage with the opportunity to participate in Aligned Leisure's fitness, health and wellbeing programs. So far, this has included swimming lessons, aquatic memberships, gym memberships and from this July, will also include tennis and stadium sports.

So far, Aligned Leisure has donated more than \$28,000 worth of fitness, health and wellbeing programs to local residents, and will provide \$60,000 in total over three years.

For more information on the Supported Access Program and how to apply call 5945 2888 or visit www.cardinialeisure.com.au



The indoor pool at Cardinia Life.

Protecting the safety and wellbeing of seniors

June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Elder abuse is any act that causes harm to an older person and is often carried out by someone they know and trust. It may be physical, social, financial, psychological or sexual abuse, and can also include mistreatment and neglect.

The Cardinia Age Friendly Alliance Group has joined with Together We Can to stop elder abuse from happening in our shire. You can help raise awareness about the safety, dignity and wellbeing of seniors by displaying our fridge magnet, available at your local library.

If you or someone you know needs support, Seniors Rights Victoria provides a free confidential helpline. Call **1300 368 821**

TOGETHER we CAN
Act now to end Family Violence in Cardinia Shire

Let's learn more about Aboriginal culture

It's NAIDOC Week from July 8 to 15.

NAIDOC Week is a time to learn about and celebrate the history, cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Cardinia Shire Council provides support to Koori Kids, that runs NAIDOC Week School Initiative competitions. Local schools can get involved through poetry, creative writing, essay or colouring competitions. The aim is to encourage our kids and communities to better understand the importance of friendship and cultural diversity.

Find out more about our Aboriginal community and the NAIDOC Week schools' initiative on our website. Visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/aboriginalcommunity

Ashlyn, Taite,
Abbie and Mia
got a great start
at Koo wee Rup
Preschool last year.



Set your kids up to thrive at kindergarten

Going to kindergarten is an important step in your child's development. Kindergarten programs help children with their language, development and self-confidence. Research shows more time spent at kindergarten prepares children for success at school and has a positive impact later in life.

Cardinia Shire Council works in partnership with early years managers to provide kindergarten places for every child the year before they start primary school. These kindergarten programs are partially funded by the Victorian Government for 15 hours per week for children who are four years old on or before 30 April in the year they attend kindergarten. Other subsidies are available for different criteria.

Pre-kindergarten programs are also available for children as soon as they turn three years of age. These are not

government funded and usually offer sessions of up to six hours a week.

Council processes all enrolments for kindergarten programs at our community kindergartens and the central enrolment system ensures fair allocation to kindergarten places across the shire.

Enrol your little learner now!

2019 kindergarten offers close Friday 29 June.

To enrol your child, you need to use our online kindergarten portal. You'll be able to check key dates, apply for a place or update your information.

We process all applications and offers through this portal. New enrolments or changes to your preferences need to be submitted by 29 June to ensure you are eligible for first round offers.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/kindergarten

Free immunisation service

Immunisations are a simple, safe and effective way of protecting children and adults in our community against many diseases.

Cardinia Shire Council provides a free immunisation program delivered by registered nurses according to the National Immunisation Program and Victorian Immunisation programs.

Our public immunisation sessions are held at a range of venues each month. Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available. Appointments are not required.

For more information and session times, visit **www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/immunisation**

Budgeting for your rates

Rates notices for 2018–19 will be issued from the middle of August. When you choose to pay via direct debit, our Flexipay tool gives you a range of options to suit your budget.

You'll need to register for Flexipay each year you want to use the service, which allows you to update your details and adjust your payment amounts. Flexipay allows you to pay your rates in smaller amounts – either weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly. It's a great budgeting tool and a time-saver!

You can also receive your rates notice electronically via eNotices or BPAY view if you prefer. You can do this at any time and if the print notice has already been generated, we'll change you to electronic for the following one. Set up BPAY view via internet banking and eNotices at <https://cardinia.enotices.com.au>

Your rates notice will clearly breakdown Council, Victorian Government, and waste charges and answer the most common questions about how rates are calculated.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/rates

Teenage School Holiday Program

Council's Youth Services runs a Teenage School Holiday Program for 12 to 17 year olds.

Check our website for available activities and more information.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tshp



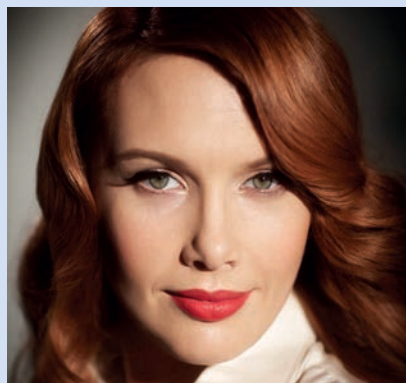
What's on?

Here are just some of the amazing events and activities happening in our shire.

Cardinia Cultural Centre

All performances are held at Cardinia Cultural Centre's Star Theatre. For bookings and event info, visit cardiniaculturalcentre.com.au or call **1300 887 624**

Note: Performances are subject to change without notice. Check the website for up-to-date performance listings.



Clare Bowditch

Friday 15 June, 8pm

ARIA award-winning singer/songwriter Clare Bowditch performs songs from her upcoming sixth solo album.

Madame Butterfly

Wednesday 4 July, 7.30pm

Thursday 5 July, 7.30pm

Melbourne City Ballet is back with two performances of the powerful story of *Madame Butterfly*. The exquisite choreography and evocative music score will impress.



School holiday movies

Wednesday 4 July, 10am

Coco

Wednesday 11 July, 10am

Paddington 2

The perfect way to spend a Wednesday morning in the school holidays!

Morning Melody

– Sing from the Heart

Wednesday 18 July, 10am

The Beggars take us a journey through life with great story songs like Slim Dusty's *Rusty It's Goodbye* and Dolly Parton's *Coat of Many Colours*.



Morning Melody

– The Piano Men

Wednesday 15 August, 10am

Award-winning pianist and vocalist Craig Schneider explores a spectrum of piano music, from Billy Joel and Elton John to George Gershwin, Peter Allen and more.

Morning Melody

– Cilla Black

Wednesday 12 September, 10am

Explore the life and hits of English singer, television presenter, actress and author Cilla Black in *Your My World*, starring Danielle O'Malley.

Local markets

Pick up fresh produce or handicrafts from one of these great local markets.

The Community Grocer

Every Thursday, 9am–12pm

6a Henry Street, Pakenham

Cockatoo Country Market

First Saturday of the month, 8.30am–1.30pm

Community Complex Hall, 77 Pakenham Road, Cockatoo
Alma Treloar Reserve

Emerald Grow It, Bake It, Make It Market

First Sunday of the month, 10am–3pm

Emerald Community House, 356 Belgrave-Gembrook Road, Emerald

Koo wee Community Market

Second Sunday of the month, 9am–2.30pm

Cochrane Park, Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup

Emerald Market

Third Sunday of the month, 9am–3pm

Emerald Community House, 356 Belgrave-Gembrook Road, Emerald

Pakenham Community Market

Third Sunday of the month, 8am–1pm

Pakenham Football Club, Toomuc Reserve, Princes Highway, Pakenham

Gembrook Market

Fourth Sunday of the month, 9am–2pm

Gembrook Community Centre, Pakenham-Gembrook Road, Gembrook

Bunyip Community Market

Last Sunday of the month, 9am–2pm

Corner Bunyip-Longwarry Rd and Arrigo Ave, Bunyip



Community events

For more events or to add a listing to the community calendar go to www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/events

Men's discussion group

Wednesday 13 June, 9.15am–12pm

Outlook Community Centre, 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham
A relaxed and informal gathering for men over 50. Meet new people in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere for a coffee and a chat. To book call 5940 4728. Cost: \$4.

Seniors' morning tea

Tuesday 19 June, 10am–12.30pm

Outlook Community Centre, 24 Toomuc Valley Road, Pakenham
Come along and enjoy a morning filled with guest speakers, information and entertainment. To book call 5940 4728. Cost: \$5

Aged Care information sessions

Emerald Library

Wednesday 20 June, 2–4pm

Pakenham Library

Tuesday 17 July, 1–3pm

A free information session for carers, family members and friends supporting an older person or someone living with dementia. Provided by Alfred Health Carer Services and Cardinia Shire Council.

Pakenham Antique and Collectables Fair

Saturday 28 July, 9am–3.30pm

Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham
Explore a variety of antiques and collectables for sale. This annual Fair supports the 4C's crisis relief centre. Valuation service available from 1pm at \$5 per item. Entry: \$5 (children free).

Pride Formal

Saturday 25 August, 7–10pm

An inclusive event for LGBTIQ+ young people and their friends. Free event for 14 to 21 year olds. More information and bookings via www.eventbrite.com.au

Local libraries – Book it in!

All events are free and bookings are essential unless otherwise stated. Visit www.cclc.vic.gov.au/events or phone the host library.

School holiday events

Check the library website for a packed program of events this July.

Women talk money

Pakenham Library

Thursday 7 June, 6–7.30pm

A guest speaker from WIRE talks about women, money, and shares tips on how to have healthier conversations about money with your partner.

Soup and scone afternoon

Pakenham Library

Saturday 23 June, 11.30am–1.30pm

Join our 'Empty Bowl' fundraiser to enjoy CWA and Cardinia Food Movement cooking demonstrations and tastings, with all proceeds going to a local community kitchen.



Craft and skill swap

Emerald Library

First Saturday of month, 11am–12.30pm

Pakenham Library

First Saturday of month, 10.30am–12.30pm

Come together with like-minded people and work on your creative projects in an inspiring environment. Bring your own materials and ideas.

Scam awareness for seniors

Emerald Library

Wednesday 13 June, 2–3pm

Pakenham Library

Tuesday 3 July, 2–3pm

Learn about some common types of scams and how to avoid them. Presented by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

English conversation group

Pakenham Library

Every Friday, 12.30–2.30pm

Relax with a coffee or tea in a mixed group while you practice speaking English in a welcoming environment. No need to book, all welcome.



Digital literacy and My Aged Care workshop

Emerald Library

Tuesday 26 June, 2–3.45pm
(for iPad)

Wednesday 27 June, 2–3.45pm (for laptop)

Pakenham Library

Thursday 19 July, 2–3.45pm
(for iPad)

Tuesday 24 July, 2–3.45pm
(for laptop)

Learn to navigate the My Aged Care website using iPads and laptops. Discover tips and tricks to help you make the most of this resource. Use the library's device or bring your own.

Science Week – Professor Bunsen

Emerald Library

Saturday 11 August, 12–1pm

Pakenham Library

Saturday 11 August, 2.30–3.30pm

In this family event, Professor Bunsen will make a teaspoon of sugar explode, show a student beating gravity, make a bottle bazooka and a sound carrying light beam.

Science Week – A brief walk through the universe

Pakenham library

Wednesday 15 August, 6–8pm

Discover the magic of the stars, planets and space through the telescopes of the Mt Burnett Observatory. A family event with prizes to be won.

Children's book week

18–24 August

Drop into Emerald or Pakenham libraries during Children's Book Week and collect your passport. Uncover hidden treasures on a scavenger hunt, design your own treasure map, plus more! Check the website for all activities.

Central Ward

Where is the Lakeside dragon?

Lakeside's much-loved dragon is getting a good clean to prepare her for reinstallation at Lakeside Park in Pakenham.

Lakeside Park was upgraded in December last year after the community voted for its favourite design. This included an upgrade of the existing playground for younger children, a new playground for older children, an exercise station and a basketball half court.

As work got started, we heard that the community wanted the Lakeside dragon to remain a feature of the park. We received more than 200 survey responses that overwhelmingly showed you want to see the dragon reinstated as play equipment at Lakeside Park.

The Lakeside dragon is currently having a rest at the Council Depot, where she's having a clean and some foundation work completed. You'll see her back at Lakeside Park a bit later in the year.



Mayor Cr Collin Ross shows Cr Schilling and Cr Ryan the redevelopment plans for Cardinia Cultural Centre.

Exciting upgrade for Cardinia Cultural Centre

Cardinia Cultural Centre is undergoing a major upgrade. Parts of the existing facility will be updated, new sections will be added, and the existing onsite car park will be extended.

The transformation will add a vibrant new art space, new dance and rehearsal studios, new meeting spaces, and more car parking. A convenient second entry will also be added with an expanded foyer and new amenities.

The redevelopment of the Cardinia Cultural Centre will enable a wider range of artistic performances, exhibitions and activities that we can program more frequently. It will also provide artists with a central hub for their creative practices. The new and improved centre will further enliven our local area.

You'll see works starting during June; however, the centre will be open for business throughout the redevelopment. The theatre, cafe,

Lakeview Room, Dance Room and Gallery Room function spaces will all remain operational. We'll be working hard to ensure that any impact on meetings and events will be minimised while works are underway.

Some areas of the centre will be closed off while sections of the existing building are demolished, including existing toilet facilities; however, there'll be high-quality temporary amenities located at the front of the centre. While the current sealed car park will remain operational, the grassed overflow car park will be unavailable. Overflow parking will be available in the surrounding streets and car parks while we build a bigger sealed car park for the centre.

Stage 1 of the project will cost \$8.9 million, with Cardinia Shire Council contributing \$5.9 million and the Victorian Government's Growing Suburbs Fund contributing \$3 million.



Mayor Cr Collin Ross

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Sports ovals take shape at James Bathe Reserve



Cr Schilling, Cr Ross and Cr Ryan were impressed with the progress at James Bathe Reserve.

The recreation spaces at James Bathe Reserve will provide for a wide range of passive and active recreation activities for the growing community.

Stage 1 works are now underway and the two sports ovals have already taken shape. Works are also progressing on: two netball courts; a multi-use ball court for netball and basketball; multi-use nets for cricket, Futsal and baseball; and areas for skateboards and scooters. Work is also progressing on the open space areas, a nature-based playground, barbecues, shelters and car parking. Stage 1 is jointly funded by Cardinia Shire Council and the Victorian

Government's Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

Stage 2 will involve the construction of a combined community and sports building, set to begin later this year. The building will include change rooms, first aid facilities, storage space, social space, and spectator toilets. It will also provide a large community event and meeting space that can be divided into three separate spaces, with access to a community kitchen. Stage 2 is also jointly funded by Cardinia Shire Council and the Victorian Government's Growing Suburbs Fund.

James Bathe Reserve, located off Caversham Drive in Pakenham, will be home to the new football and netball club – the Cardinia Tigers! A new cricket club is currently being established, which will also be located at the site.



An aerial view of the two ovals taking shape at James Bathe Reserve. Image source: Nearmap.

Pakenham Parking Precinct Plan

The *Pakenham Parking Precinct Plan* looks at parking in Pakenham town centre. The plan aims to improve the way parking spaces are provided and used in Pakenham, also ensuring the right amount of additional parking is provided in future as the town grows.

Council has assessed how much parking is available, how much is used, and how people are using the parking with the help of traffic engineers and members of the community. The surveys undertaken as part of the plan showed that although parking spaces are limited on Main Street, plenty of parking exists in the area to meet the needs of the town at present.

The furthest parking spots included in the survey are only a four-minute walk from Main Street, and these are great to use for longer stops and all-day parking. We encourage you to use street parking for short stops and make sure you observe time limits. Also, it is important that accessible parking spots are left free for those who need them.

We've consulted with the public via Have your say and four public sessions, and you've shown your support of the plan. Based on the feedback we received, some minor amendments were made to the plan, including a stronger focus on accessibility.

To achieve the objectives of the plan, Council is now working on an amendment to the Planning Scheme, which will put controls in place for any future developments. We aim to ensure parking in Pakenham continues to meet the needs of the community. Once the draft amendment is ready, it will be on public exhibition and open for comments.

Look out for the public consultation in the coming months for Planning Scheme amendment C244 on Have your say.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay



Lang Lang Community and Recreation Precinct makes speedy progress

The construction work at Lang Lang Community and Recreation Precinct is progressing at a great pace.

The cricket and football ovals are now complete and sprigged, with grass starting to establish. The netball courts and cricket practice nets have also been built, as well as all the access roads and associated car parking. A sports pavilion that will meet the needs of a number of sporting clubs is in the design process.

Council and our partners have committed more than \$10 million to this project. Lang Lang Community Bank purchased the 36-hectare parcel of land for the precinct and has committed \$3.2 million, including the land purchase. The Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund has contributed \$1.5 million to the pavilion project.

The precinct, located at the corner of Soldiers Road and Caldermeade Road in Lang Lang, is set to provide a new level of sporting facility in the region as well as a range of community recreation opportunities.



*Cr Moore was
impressed with the
completed netball courts.*

Deep Creek Reserve update

Much of the shaping and earthworks have been completed at Deep Creek Reserve as well as the foundation work for the equipment in the regional all-abilities playspace. Major services are currently being installed, which will enable construction of the Cardinia Community and Education Centre to begin.

Progress can be also be seen on the golf course; the irrigation system has been installed and construction of the two new greens is underway. A new practice putting green, chipping green and fairway are also under construction. Council has worked closely with the golf club to minimise any impact to golfers during construction.

The upgraded golf course along with the Community and Education Centre, regional all-abilities playspace, kick-about area, demonstration wetlands, and other areas of the reserve will provide a wide variety of recreation opportunities for all members of the community.



Cr Ray Brown

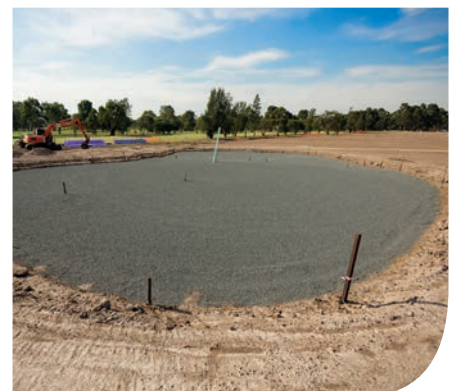
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*The green of the
new 18th hole at
Pakenham Golf
Course is ready for
the turf to be laid.*



Recreation upgrades across Port Ward

Several existing recreation reserves and facilities across Port Ward are set to receive some great upgrades.



Cr Brown (with trusty companion Grace) is happy that tennis facilities are getting an upgrade in Koo Wee Rup.

Bunyip Recreation Reserve

A new community soccer pavilion will be constructed at Bunyip Recreation Reserve. The pavilion will service the Bunyip Soccer Club and will also be available for school and community use.

The pavilion is currently being designed and will include unisex change rooms, shower and toilet amenities, plus an accessible changeroom and bathroom. A multi-purpose room, office, kitchen with servery, and an undercover spectator area will also be provided. Temporary change room facilities have been installed for soccer while the new facilities are constructed.

The new pavilion will support the growth of the Bunyip Soccer Club as one of only three registered soccer clubs in our shire. This will also encourage junior and female participation and better meet community demand for soccer participation.

Koo Wee Rup school ovals

Council has partnered with Koo Wee Rup Primary School and Koo Wee Rup Secondary School to deliver two reconstructed sports ovals.

The partnership will improve facilities at the schools and enable the school sporting infrastructure to be accessed by local sporting clubs.

The oval upgrades will enable the Koo Wee Rup Cricket Club and Koo Wee Rup Football Club to expand participation numbers with additional oval space to service both clubs. Extensive consultation has been undertaken with the cricket and football clubs along with both schools to identify their growth needs.

As well as the reconstructed ovals, this project will deliver flood lighting to the secondary school oval, lighting of the synthetic hockey pitch, cricket practice nets in the primary school, and a shared sports pavilion.

Cochrane Park

Tennis participation will receive a boost in Koo Wee Rup with an upgrade to the Cochrane Park tennis courts. The existing courts will be refurbished and two new courts will be added, improving the facilities for Koo Wee Rup Tennis Club and the local community. Designs for the upgrade are currently under review.

Garfield Reserve

The sports lighting at Garfield Reserve will be upgraded to meet the required standards for netball and football. The upgrade will enable more opportunities for after hours training activities and will better meet the needs of local sporting clubs.



Cr Brown and Cr Moore had a quick kick while visiting Bunyip Recreation Reserve when the temporary change rooms were being installed.

Ranges Ward

Everyone here is pretty happy about the upgrades at Worrell Reserve. Cr Owen, Cr Wilmot and Cr Springfield met with representatives from the reserve's committee of management, the Emerald Junior Football Club, the Emerald Cricket Club and the Emerald Community Gym just before these junior footy players had a training session.



Worrell Reserve redevelopment

Plans to improve Worrell Reserve in the Emerald town centre are now underway; including resurfacing the oval and upgrades to the pavilion.

Council is also drafting the Worrell Reserve Master Plan to provide a future strategic direction for the recreation facilities at the reserve. The master plan helps prioritise improvements in infrastructure and provide better recreation opportunities for residents of all ages. Council has been working closely with the Worrell Reserve committee of management in the planning of all projects. Reserve user groups have also been consulted

to ensure the redevelopments meet the needs of the local sport clubs. When the draft master plan is ready, the wider Emerald community will also have an opportunity to provide feedback through a public consultation process before the plan is finalised.

The oval upgrade will include resurfacing, drainage and irrigation works and the cricket practice nets will also be upgraded. It is anticipated the improvement of the oval and associated works will significantly enhance the performance of the

oval's surface. As work begins on the site, the Emerald Junior Football Club and Emerald Cricket Club will move to neighbouring reserves for one active season each.

Worrell Recreation Reserve is a CFA designated Neighbourhood Safer Place and needs to remain accessible to the community in the event of a bushfire emergency. Therefore, any impact to the site's use as a Neighbourhood Safer Place will be minimised and the community will be kept well informed of any changes.

Lights on for Gembrook Reserve

The sports field lighting at Gembrook Reserve will be upgraded to meet AFL standards for local football grounds. The works will include a power upgrade to the site, a retro-fit of the three

existing light towers and the addition of two new light towers. The upgrade will enable more opportunities for after-hours matches and training activities, and better meet the needs

of local sporting clubs. The works will be funded by Council's annual sports field lighting project and will be undertaken once this year's football season is over.



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Cr Wilmot took the wheel of the flat roller on the almost-complete netball courts at Emerald Netball Facility. Cr Springfield, Cr Wilmot and Cr Owen were happy with the progress on site.

Work progresses at Pepi's Land

Emerald Netball Facility will provide much-needed netball infrastructure for the community. With the existing courts at Worrell Reserve no longer suitable for netball games, the Emerald Netball Club has relocated to Cockatoo until the new facility is built.

Works have charged along at the Pepi's Land site, with earthworks, drainage, service installation, retaining walls, carpark and netball courts completed. Remaining site works are progressing well and the netball club will be able to use the new courts for training as soon as the associated VicRoads works on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road are undertaken. Construction will commence on a new netball pavilion later in the year.

When complete, Emerald Netball Facility will also include a children's playground plus walking and cycling tracks for the community. A new drainage system at the site will help protect trails from washouts caused by heavy rains flowing down the hill. Pits and culverts will capture excess water, slowing the flow, and then redirecting it into the water catchment at the bottom of the hill.

Emerald Netball Facility will provide residents with a great new area for outdoor leisure, as well as a new level of netball facility in the area.



Officer Recreation Reserve upgrade

Upgrades to the western oval at Officer Recreation Reserve will enhance its performance, enabling more football to be played throughout winter while also providing the cricket club with a great surface in summer.

The works will include reorientation, reshaping and resurfacing of the oval as well as the installation of subsurface drainage and irrigation. The existing floodlighting will also be upgraded, including the use of energy-efficient LED globes to help reduce costs for clubs using the reserve.

The project will also provide an irrigation system for the reserve. Water from the drainage system of the oval will be directed into the nearby dam and then recycled for irrigation purposes. This will create an environmentally sustainable source of irrigation for the committee of management to use when maintaining the playing fields.

The Officer Recreation Reserve oval upgrade will provide the community with a better quality playing surface for sport. This project is jointly funded by Council and the Victorian Government's Community Sports Infrastructure Program.



Cr Owen, Cr Wilmot and Cr Springfield met with Rob from the reserve's committee of management and Nick from Officer Senior Football Club to chat about the oval upgrades.

Looking after our growing shire

These are just some of the many facilities and infrastructure that Council manages year in and year out for our community. While continuing to maintain everything we currently manage, our annual budget outlines the existing assets to be upgraded as well as the new assets we will build in the year – in line with the Council Plan and in a sustainable way. It's a challenging balance with our fast-growing population, but we are committed to creating quality of life for our residents and an excellent future for Cardinia shire.

120 playgrounds

6 skate parks

12 BMX tracks

30 exercise stations

19 half courts

50 community service facilities

27 child and youth service facilities

10 seniors housing units

59 toilet blocks

38 public artworks

64 memorial markers

392 parks and gardens

13 wetlands

10 lakes

550 hectares of bushland reserve

3 major sports complexes

24 sportsgrounds

44 sports pavilions

38 sporting clubrooms

159 vehicle and pedestrian bridges

647 km footpaths

684 km sealed roads

861 km unsealed roads

756 km underground drainage pipes