

Connect

YOUR COUNCIL MAGAZINE

Summer 2021–22



MAYORAL ELECTION

Introducing our new Mayor and Deputy Mayor

BUY LOCAL

Support our local business community

WASTE AND RECYCLING

Everything you need to know about our services

ROADS AND MAJOR PROJECTS

Where you've seen us working across the shire

Sign up for *Connect* e-news

Our new *Cardinia Connect* e-newsletter is coming soon!

The e-newsletter will deliver the latest Cardinia Shire Council news, events, initiatives and programs straight to your inbox!

Subscribe now:
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/enewsletters



Ranges Ward

Cr Jeff Springfield (Mayor)

0427 383 810 | j.springfield@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Officer Ward

Cr Tammy Radford (Deputy Mayor)

0439 580 797 | t.radford@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Beacon Hills Ward

Cr Brett Owen

0418 993 370 | b.owen@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Bunyip Ward

Cr Graeme Moore

0400 167 844 | g.moore@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Central Ward

Cr Collin Ross

0402 420 398 | c.ross@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Henty Ward

Cr Carol Ryan

0418 130 851 | c.ryan@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Pakenham Hills Ward

Cr Jack Kowarzik

0439 620 809 | j.kowarzik@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Toomuc Ward

Cr Stephanie Davies

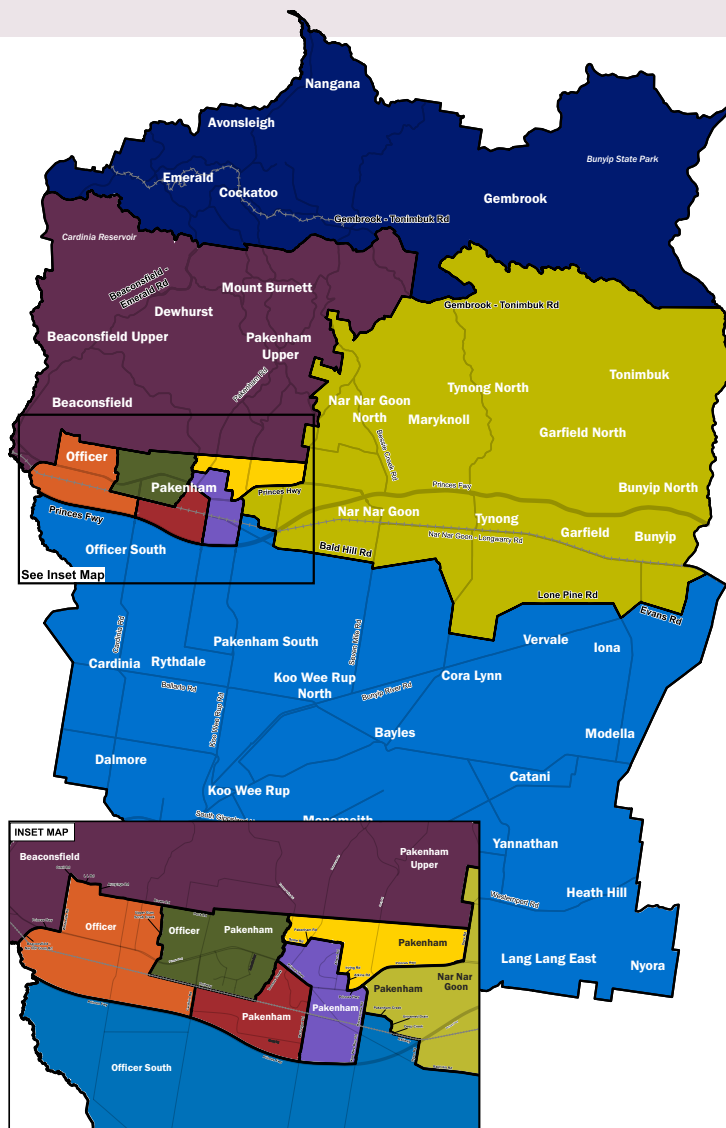
0439 444 810 | s.davies@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Westernport Ward

Cr Kaye Cameron

0457 251 552 | kaye.cameron@cardinia.vic.gov.au



To view a more detailed map, or to look up your ward or councillor online, visit: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/wards

On the cover

Cardinia Shire boasts many beautiful outdoor spaces. Ellis, Amanda and Aver take time out at Lakeside Lake, Pakenham.



Have your say

Head to www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay to provide input and feedback on projects happening in our shire.

You can also stay up-to-date with your favourite consultations by hitting the 'follow' button at the top of the project page.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay



Meet our new Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Mayor Cr Jeff Springfield (right) and Deputy Mayor Cr Tammy Radford.

Congratulations to our newly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2021–22.

Ranges Ward councillor Jeff Springfield has been elected Mayor and Officer Ward councillor Tammy Radford has been elected Deputy Mayor.

Cr Springfield, who is serving his second term as Mayor, said he was looking forward to leading the Council in the year ahead.

“I am thrilled to be leading this Council as Mayor over the next 12 months,” Cr Springfield said.

“The year ahead will be an important year for our residents as we recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We have seen so much social and economic disruptions recently and we must assist our community where we can as their elected community leaders.”

Cr Tammy Radford said she saw the role of Deputy Mayor as being a strong support and sounding board for the Mayor.

“I look forward to taking on this role and have the full support of my family to take on this exciting position,” Cr Radford said.

“As Deputy Mayor I will continue to provide 100% commitment to supporting our community recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Council meetings

Council and Town Planning meetings are held monthly.

Check our website for meeting dates and how to register to attend:

➔ www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

You can watch Council meetings live or catch up on previous meetings at:

➔ www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/webcast

➔ www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/mayorandcouncillors

Support local business



Officer Ward Cr Tammy Radford is encouraging residents to support local businesses just like Soulfoods Cafe @ Officer, where she is served by Kaitlin.

Whether you're after freshly baked goods from the bakery, a unique gift for someone special or a great coffee, you're sure to find what you want locally.

Officer Ward councillor Tammy Radford encourages the Cardinia Shire community to support local businesses.

"It's been another challenging year for local businesses, so it's more important than ever that we support our shire's business community," Cr Radford said.

"Our *Cardinia Business* interactive online portal is helping to connect businesses with customers. Find local businesses on our Buy Local business directory

map and give a shout out to your favourite local businesses by posting a recommendation or photo. It's also easy and free to add your business to the directory."

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/buylocal

What's On Cardinia Festival

Our first What's On Cardinia Festival planned for February will showcase local businesses, art and creatives to the local community and wider region.

With a wide range of venues and creative talents involved in the festival, there is sure to be something for everyone. The festival will highlight a range of creatives including artists, musicians, and photographers who will showcase their talents at local venues such as cafes and restaurants, retail outlets, outdoor venues and tourism attractions.

www.whatsoncardinia.com.au



FEB 2022
or as soon as health restrictions allow

Cardinia
Business

ALIVE WITH
CREATIVITY

Cardinia

What's On Cardinia website

What's on Cardinia is our online events calendar. Find information on markets, music, food, arts and culture, sports and more. It's free and easy to submit unlimited events. Check the website for guidelines and conditions.



Unwrap Cardinia Shire

Explore all that Cardinia Shire has to offer this Christmas with our Advent-ure Calendar!

In the lead up to Christmas, our Cardinia Business Facebook page will be unwrapping parts of our amazing shire for residents and visitors to explore and help support local businesses that have done it tough this year.

Keep an eye out each day and discover somewhere new or visit an old favourite.

www.facebook.com/CardiniaBusiness

Rediscover the great outdoors

With the warmer weather upon us, there's never been a better time to explore all that Cardinia Shire has to offer.

Central Ward councillor Collin Ross said Cardinia Shire was well known for its scenic outdoor spaces and first-class facilities.

"There really is no place like home these summer holidays," Cr Ross said.

"With our recreation reserves, playgrounds, cafes and other attractions, Cardinia Shire offers something for everyone. Explore our meandering trails, visit local wetlands, enjoy a picnic and take in the beautiful surrounds at your neighbourhood park. Summer really is the perfect time to rediscover the shire's hidden gems."

Search our directories for our parks, playgrounds and recreations facilities:



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/parksandreserves



Central Ward Cr Collin Ross takes in the scenery at Toomuc Creek Linear Reserve, Pakenham.

Introducing Cardinia Youth Hub

Pakenham's new youth centre will be named *Cardinia Youth Hub*.

Congratulations to young people Lochie and Hector who both suggested the name as part of the consultation to name the new complex.

Cardinia Youth Hub will offer programs and services for young people aged 12–24, with dedicated training rooms, counselling rooms, a program/group room, a shower and laundry facility, recording booth, computers with internet access and a roof-top recreation space.

The new youth centre will be located in James Street, Pakenham and is expected to be completed by the end of 2022. Cardinia Youth Hub is a joint project between Council and the Victorian and Australian governments.

Boost for kindergarten

Three-year-old children in Cardinia Shire can attend 5 hours of funded 3-year-old kindergarten from 2022 thanks to a new Victorian Government initiative.

This initiative aims to improve outcomes for families by increasing the hours of early education, providing greater access to learning opportunities and strengthening partnerships between kindergarten and home. Funded hours for 3-year-old kindergarten programs will increase to 15 hours by 2029.

Cardinia Shire Council manages registrations for community kindergartens in the shire, including both 3- and 4-year-old kindergarten programs.

To register your child for a place at community kindergarten, phone **1300 787 624** or visit:



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/kindergarten

Fresh from the farm



Westernport Ward Cr Kaye Cameron with Thriving Foods Farm owner Paul.

We're working together to establish a healthy, delicious, sustainable and fair food system for all.

Westernport Ward councillor Kaye Cameron said Council was proud to work with local farms, businesses, organisations, residents and schools as part of the Cardinia Food Circles collective impact project.

"Cardinia Shire is blessed with fertile farmland, innovative farmers and food

businesses and a rich diversity of food cultures, skills and knowledge," Cr Cameron said.

"Cardinia Food Circles is a whole-of-community focus on our food region and involves us all working together towards our shared vision of establishing a fair food system that promotes health, strengthens the economy and enhances the natural environment."

One of the key activities of the Cardinia Food Circles project has been forming the Cardinia Food Movement, a grass roots movement for change driven by people in our community, seeking local solutions to the challenges we face in food, farming and health. Members of the Cardinia Food Movement have developed a directory of Cardinia farms and food businesses: www.cardiniafarmandfood.org.au



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/food

Committed to preventing violence

We're proud to have been reaccredited as a White Ribbon Australia workplace.

The accreditation reaffirms Council's commitment to driving social change and to preventing and responding to gendered violence in the workplace and the community.

Council first became a White Ribbon accredited workplace in 2016 and White Ribbon Australia has recently awarded workplace accreditation for a further 3 years. The workplace

accreditation program involves a whole-of-organisation commitment to address issues of gendered violence and sexual harassment against women.

Family violence support

- In an emergency dial 000.
- If you or anyone you know is experiencing any form of domestic violence contact Safe Steps 24/7 on **1800 015 188** or safesteps@safesteps.org.au

 In support of
White Ribbon
Australia



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/familyviolence

Keep active



Pakenham Hills Ward Cr Jack Kowarzik checks out the outdoor exercise equipment at Eastone Reserve, Pakenham.

Outdoor exercise equipment is located across 12 parks and reserves in the shire.

Pakenham Hills Ward councillor Jack Kowarzik said the equipment was suitable for adults and children aged 12 and over.

“Outdoor exercise stations across the shire are a fun, free and accessible way to stay active,” Cr Kowarzik said.

“There’s a range of different exercise equipment, including everything from aerobic cycles, leg and chest press equipment to cross trainers, steppers and push-up bars.”

Outdoor exercise equipment is located at:

- **Cockatoo:** Alma Treloar Reserve
- **Emerald:** Emerald Lake Park and Pepi’s Land
- **Garfield:** Garfield Recreation Reserve
- **Pakenham:** Don Jackson Reserve, Eastone Reserve, Hawkesbury Street Reserve, Heritage Springs, Lakeside Park, Devonia Park and Toomuc Creek Linear Reserve
- **Koo Wee Rup:** Cochrane Park



[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/
outdoorfitness](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/outdoorfitness)

Putting West Gippsland on the map

We’re supporting the West Gippsland Progress Association (WGPA) to develop a 3-year *Food and Tourism Strategy*.

The strategy aims to invigorate businesses and grow tourism opportunities, creating a clear destination vision for the West Gippsland area. The area will cover railway townships from Nar Nar Goon through to Bunyip encompassing the north and south areas.

The strategy is part of our economic bushfire recovery efforts for the community after the devastating impact on local businesses of the Bunyip Complex Bushfire in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic. The WGPA plans to launch the strategy in early 2022.

For more information about the WGPA:



[www.facebook.com/
WestGippslandProgAssoc](https://www.facebook.com/WestGippslandProgAssoc)

Supporting storm and bushfire recovery

Our community recovery team will continue to support communities affected by the storms and Bunyip Complex bushfires for a further 12 months thanks to a grant from the Victorian Government.

Our team includes our community recovery team leader, economic recovery officer, and 2 recovery officers who will support residents by acting as their first point of contact with Council. The team can connect residents with information and services to support clean up, financial hardship and mental health needs.

Contact the team by email recovery@cardinia.vic.gov.au or call **1300 787 624**.

Residents affected by the storms are encouraged to sign up to the storm recovery newsletter. Printed copies can be requested by emailing mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au or phoning **1300 787 624**.

More info or to register:



[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/
stormrecovery](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/stormrecovery)

Let's go on a scavenger hunt



Toomuc Ward Cr Stephanie Davies and her children Celeste and Rhys with the new scavenger hunt sign at Lakeside Park, known to locals as Dragon Park.

Exploring local parks and reserves is now even more fun thanks to our new scavenger hunt signs.

Toomuc Ward councillor Stephanie Davies said Council had recently installed the signs at 20 parks and reserves across the shire.

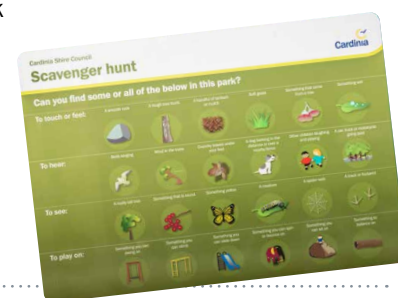
"Families can enjoy hours of fun and exploration as they search for all the things on our scavenger hunt signs," Cr Davies said.

"You can discover a range of things to see, hear, play with and touch. It's so much fun to look for tracks or footprints, to feel the soft grass or to listen for a bird singing."

Signs can be found at:

- **Beaconsfield:** Kath Roberts Reserve, Tantallon Boulevard Detention Basin Reserve, and O'Neil Road Recreation Reserve
- **Bunyip:** Koolangarra Park
- **Cockatoo:** Alma Treloar Reserve
- **Emerald:** Puffing Billy Place Reserve
- **Garfield:** Garfield Recreation Reserve
- **Gembrook:** Gembrook Leisure Park and Redwood Road Reserve
- **Koo Wee Rup:** Cochrane Park
- **Lang Lang:** Dick Jones Park

- **Nar Nar Goon:** Nar Nar Goon Recreation Reserve
- **Officer:** Harmony Place Park and Kaduna Park playground
- **Pakenham:** Ron Andrews Park, Deep Creek Reserve, PB Ronald Reserve, Lakeside Park (known as Dragon Park), and Don Jackson Reserve
- **Upper Beaconsfield:** Keith Ewenson Park



Be prepared for the summer season

Prepare your property:

- Cut grass and remove fallen branches within 30 metres of buildings.
- Remove leaves and twigs from gutters.
- Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings.
- Ensure your home and contents insurance is adequate.

Have a bushfire plan

Having a written bushfire plan will help you know how to respond when threatened by a fire.

Stay informed

Leaving early, well before the fire gets close, is the safest option.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/fireseason

On your bike



Beacon Hills Ward Cr Brett Owen and his children Maggie, Will and Max take in the scenery along the Beaconsfield Flora and Fauna Reserve walking and cycling trail.

Put on your walking shoes or grab your helmet and bike and explore our shire's network of walking and cycling trails.

Beacon Hills Ward councillor Brett Owen said the shire's walking and cycling trails were a great way to explore the local area.

"In Cardinia Shire we are fortunate to have an extensive network of walking

and cycling trails that provide the perfect opportunity to explore our wonderful shire, to take in the beautiful scenery and keep active," Cr Owen said.

"Our website features a list of all walking and cycling trails in the shire, including helpful information such as the distance and grade of the trail, access, facilities and approximate time to complete."

Council is committed to further enhancing and adding to our walking and cycling trail network through our *Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy*.



[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/
walkingcyclingtrails](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/walkingcyclingtrails)

New shared path

Works on the Kenilworth Avenue shared path project between Soldiers Road and Station Street, Beaconsfield, are nearing completion.

The 2.5-metre wide shared path will run along the northern side of Kenilworth Avenue and extend for 400 metres to provide a direct connection to the Beaconsfield train station bus stop.

Works are fully funded through the Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and include drainage pipe and pit construction, fencing, concrete path, and upgrades to the existing bus stop platform.

Play time

A world of adventure is waiting to be explored at Cardinia Shire's playgrounds.

Test your skills on the climbing frame or rope challenge and feel the wind in your hair on the flying fox.

Hold on tight for the super-fast spinner or perhaps the see-saw and swing are more your speed.

Whatever you enjoy, there is something for everyone at our playgrounds.

For a full list of parks, playgrounds and reserves:



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/parksandreserves



Off-leash dog areas

Henty Ward Cr Carol Ryan and her dog Sheba enjoy the off-leash dog area at Don Jackson Reserve.

Cardinia Shire has a number of parks for pet owners to explore with their four-legged friends.

Henty Ward councillor Carol Ryan and her 12-year-old Silky Terrier X Maltese, Sheba, enjoyed visiting the fully fenced off-leash dog area at Don Jackson Reserve, Pakenham.

“Dog off-leash areas offer many benefits for dogs and their owners. They provide the opportunity for dogs to exercise, socialise with other dogs and to practice training techniques,” Cr Ryan said.

“Your dog is allowed to run freely and play without restriction within off-leash areas, but it’s important to remember that your pet must remain under your control at all times.”

Dog off-leash areas include:

- **Regional dog off-leash areas:** Don Jackson Reserve (Pakenham), Toomuc Creek Linear Reserve (Pakenham), Alma Treloar Reserve (Cockatoo), and Cochrane Park (Koo Wee Rup)
- **District off-leash areas:** Garfield Recreation Reserve (Garfield), Tantallon Boulevard Detention Basin Reserve (Beaconsfield), Pepi’s Land (Emerald), and Cockatoo Road Reserve (Pakenham)
- **Neighbourhood dog off-leash areas:** Simon Drive Reserve (Pakenham), Bob Burgess Reserve (Beaconsfield), Vantage Drive Reserve (Pakenham), Ray Canobie Reserve (Pakenham), and Onyx Reserve (Officer)

Please remember to pick up after your pet. Please report any incidents with dogs to Council’s compliance team on **1300 787 624**.

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dogparks



Low-cost cat desexing

Low-cost cat desexing is now available thanks to a Victorian Government Animal Welfare Fund grant.

Cardinia Shire residents on pensions or low incomes will pay just \$50 to desex their cats.

If eligible, the network will issue a desexing voucher for appointments at one of the following participating vet clinics:

- Our Vet, Pakenham
- Gembrook Vet Clinic
- Emerald Vet Clinic

Contact the National Desexing Network on **1300 368 992** to check your eligibility.





Take in the scenery at Mt Cannibal

Bunyip Ward Cr Graeme Moore at Mt Cannibal Flora and Fauna Reserve.

Mt Cannibal Flora and Fauna Reserve in the eastern reaches of Cardinia Shire is well known for its identifiable peak, stunning views and environmental significance.

Bunyip Ward councillor Graeme Moore said the reserve was a popular destination for locals and visitors alike.

“The Mt Cannibal self-guided walk is a 2.3-kilometre loop track that takes about 50 minutes to complete. Along the way, you’ll discover some of the reserve’s native plants and wildlife,” Cr Moore said.

“The reserve’s sloping bush track makes it a popular spot for those wanting to get their heart rate pumping and the

reserve’s lookout certainly rewards you with its stunning views.”

The reserve also features barbecues, a picnic area, seating, swing set and public toilets.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/mtcannibal

Parks and reserves at your fingertips

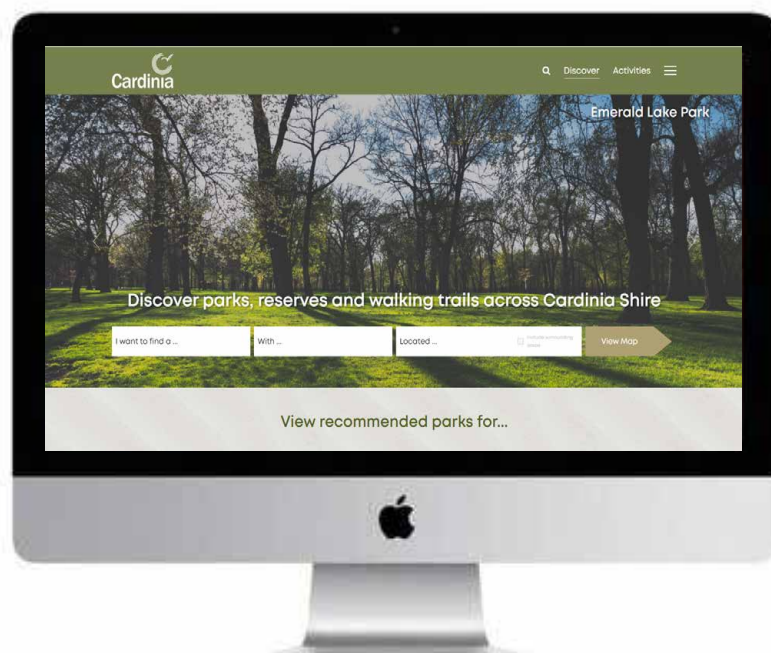
Whether you’re looking for the closest playground, BMX track or a park with a barbecue, our *Cardinia Outdoors* mini-site to be launched this summer will help you find exactly what you’re looking for.

It’s easy to find a park near you with the facilities you want with our user-friendly filters and map. You can search for parks with a particular feature or activity or view a snapshot of all the features at your local park.

Cardinia Outdoors is easy to navigate on your phone or desktop. You can view photos of our outdoor spaces and use the icons to view recommended parks with features such as playgrounds,

sporting grounds, walking and cycling trails, skate facilities and dog off-leash areas.

Keep an eye on our social media channels and website for details.



A hub for everyone



Mayor and Ranges Ward Cr Jeff Springfield (centre) caught up with Tom (left) and Alan from the Emerald Men's Shed at the Hills Hub.

The Hills Hub is bringing together the communities of Cockatoo, Emerald, Gembrook and surrounding townships.

Ranges Ward councillor and Mayor Cr Jeff Springfield said this highly valued community facility was a hub for community, creativity and exploration.

"Hills Hub offers a range of meeting and activity spaces and brings together community groups, programs and services under one roof to improve access to activities and services, increase social participation and

strengthen community connections," Cr Springfield said.

"The facility is home to a number of key community groups, including the Emerald Men's Shed, Hills She Shed, Puffing Billy Toy Library and U3A Emerald. It also features an arts and performance space to support existing and emerging artists."

Hills Hub will host Emerald Secondary College senior students' art exhibition until the end of January.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hillshub



Tam from the Cockatoo Community House.

Connecting the community

There are 8 neighbourhood houses and community centres in Cardinia Shire that provide opportunities to learn and connect with others.

They offer workshops and classes for all ages, provide support and local information, and facility hire.

Find one near you:

- Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre
- Bunyip and District Community House
- Cockatoo Community House
- Emerald Community House
- Lang Lang Community Centre
- Living Learning Pakenham
- Outlook Community Centre
- Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoodhouses

Apply for a grant

Community Wellbeing and Support Grants

This program helps to establish new organisations, projects and services.

Funding categories include:

- small change grants (up to \$1,000)
- volunteering grants (up to \$3,000)
- seeding grants (up to \$5,000).

Applications open **10 January–11 March**.

Community Capital Works Grants and Major Equipment Grants

Community capital work grants can be applied for under 2 categories: grants of up to \$20,000 for community and recreational facility upgrade works managed by Council on behalf of community groups, and matched funding of up to \$35,000 to help community groups that manage community and recreation facilities upgrade these facilities. Major equipment grants of up to \$20,000 are available to help reserve and hall committees purchase equipment to maintain playing surfaces or grounds.

Applications open **10 January–11 March**.

Festivals and Events Grants

Grants valued up to \$10,000 are available to not-for-profit, community-run festival and event organisers to contribute to the cost of running local events. Applications open **10 January**.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants

Make a splash



Our outdoor pools are open for summer.

- **Pakenham outdoor pool** – PB Ronald Reserve, Henry Street, Pakenham
- **Emerald Lake Park wading pool** – Emerald Lake Park, Emerald Lake Road

- **Koo Wee Rup outdoor pool** – Cochrane Park, Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup
- **Garfield outdoor pool** – Garfield Recreation Reserve, Beswick Street, Garfield



www.cardinaleisure.com.au

Access for all

We're making our facilities and infrastructure more accessible for everyone.

A number of key access projects have been completed at:

- **Cardinia Cultural Centre:** accessible path from the new outdoor plaza to the lake path.
- **Cardinia Life:** new universally accessible bathroom, including improvements to help users find their way.
- **Nar Nar Goon:** off-street accessible car parking space in the car park next to the Nar Nar Goon Primary School crossing and Nar Nar Goon Recreation Reserve. A new path connection has also been created from the new car park to the school crossing.

- **Koo Wee Rup Senior Citizens Centre:** new accessible toilet.
- **Lang Lang Men's Shed:** new accessible entrance.

View customised accessibility guides for Cardinia Cultural Centre, Deep Creek Reserve and Pakenham Library:
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accesskeys



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessandinclusion

Community partnership kicking goals

A local footy team is helping to connect and engage people at risk of disadvantage and isolation.

Now in its fifth season, Cardinia Tigers Reclink football team was created to support people in Cardinia Shire experiencing mental health, alcohol and drug challenges by providing an inclusive and supportive team environment that aims to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Driven by Council's Safer Communities Partnership Committee, the initiative is supported by a range of organisations including Windana, Reclink, Victoria Police, Outlook, Alcohol and Drug Foundation, Aligned Leisure, Richmond Football Club, Parks Victoria and Bless Collective. The initiative is funded by Council, the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, VicHealth and Victoria Police.

Community organisations interested in supporting this initiative should contact Council's Safer Communities team on **1300 787 624**.

Supporting our community COVID-19



It's good to see you again!

We're pleased to welcome you back to our Council facilities.

Visit our website for the latest information and operating hours for Council facilities and services, including libraries, pools, maternal and child health centres and leisure facilities.

When visiting venues and facilities, please remember to:

- check in via QR code
- have your COVID-19 vaccination digital or printed certificate with you – the easiest way is to download it using the Service Victoria app
- wear a mask indoors, use hand sanitiser and practice physical distancing
- please be kind, patient and understanding.

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/servicechanges

Community support

COVID-19 update

For the latest Victorian Government COVID-19 information including current restrictions, testing and vaccine sites:

 www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au

COVID-19 online help hub

Find information including local support services for food, mental health, financial counselling and housing:

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Council services

Stay up-to-date with changes to Council services:

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/servicechanges

Family violence support

COVID-19 and changing restrictions may impact you or your family but violence should never be tolerated. When it is safe to do so, contact Safe Steps, Victoria's 24/7 family violence response centre. Call **1800 015 188** or visit:

 www.safesteps.org.au

Business support

Buy Local Map


Our Buy Local Map can help customers find you. Add your business today, it's quick and free:

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/buylocal




Cardinia Business

A one-stop-shop with support and resources to help businesses navigate today's dynamic and challenging business environment:

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cardiniabusiness

Employment and training

Casey Cardinia job portal is a one-stop portal for employment in the Casey Cardinia region:

 www.caseycardiniajobs.com.au



Be waterwise this summer

We use water every day – whether it's for drinking, cooking, cleaning, gardening or protecting our environment. We can all do our bit to save this precious resource (and money) by:

- fixing leaky taps
- installing a water tank and collecting rainwater to use around the home or garden
- installing water-saving shower heads
- reducing shower time
- keeping your outdoor pool or spa covered when not in use
- planting native plants
- adding mulch to the garden.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/watermanagement

Care for wildlife

As the temperatures start to rise, our native wildlife may be at risk of heat stress. You can help by:

- putting water out at ground level in shallow containers. Avoid metal bowls and don't forget to add a rock or piece of wood for tiny critters
- place fresh water in a bird bath or up in a tree
- keep water clean, refilled and in the shade
- provide artificial shade, like an umbrella, in open spaces.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/injuredwildlife

Weed it and reap

Applications are open for our 2021–22 weed control grants.

The grants are available to help landowners and community groups control noxious and environmental weeds on private property and bushland reserves.

Grants of up to \$350 per landholder or \$750 for community groups are available.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weedcontrolgrants



Identify common weeds in Cardinia Shire with our online weed directory: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weedguide

For tips on removing weeds and suggestions for plants to replace them with, visit: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/removingweeds

Helping businesses save energy and money

Sustainability Victoria's Small Business Energy Saver Program is helping small businesses switch to energy-saving equipment to reduce their running costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) has been contracted by Sustainability Victoria to support small businesses in the region with the take-up of the program, which will close in June 2022.



www.seccca.org.au

Recycle right and be rewarded



Sam and Steve are doing the right thing by sorting their waste correctly.

Our bin inspectors are out and about checking bins to help make sure everyone has the right information and is sorting their waste correctly.

Households doing a great job will receive a sticker and go in the draw to win a weekly voucher. Constructive feedback is also given to those who may need a little extra help.



What CAN go in your recycling bin:



Aluminium cans, steel cans and foil



Glass bottles and jars



Paper and cardboard



Hard plastic bottles and containers

Items in your recycling bin should always be clean and loose.

What CAN'T go in your recycling bin:



Plastic bags or soft plastics (wrappers and packaging)



Clothing, textiles or shoes



Nappies



Building and renovation materials



E-waste (electrical items)



Polystyrene and foam



Disposable coffee cups

1,123.5 tonnes

of recycling was collected in Cardinia Shire in the past 12 months, made up of:



27% cardboard



16% paper



14% plastic



9% glass bottles and jars



6% aluminium and steel cans/aerosols/foil



28% contamination, including bagged waste, recycling in bags, food and green bin waste including spoiled cardboard, textiles, soft plastics and electrical items

Did you know?

More than **4.2 million** household bins are collected in Cardinia Shire each year!

Reduce waste to landfill:

- Avoid single-use items and invest in reusable cups, water bottles and containers.
- Reuse or repair items before throwing them away.
- Invest in good quality items that last longer.
- Choose items with less packaging or packaging that can be recycled.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/bins

Food and green waste



Grace, Declan and Sarah put their food waste to good use.

More than **10,000 tonnes** of food and garden waste from Cardinia Shire households was processed into compost in the past year.

- Your food and green bin can be used for garden clippings, weeds, fruit and vegetable scraps including citrus and leftovers including meat.

- You can also put oily pizza box bases, human and animal hair, napkins and tissues, fish and chip paper, avocado and mango pips, lollies, popsicle sticks and bird feathers in your green bin too.

Don't have a green bin? Order one today:

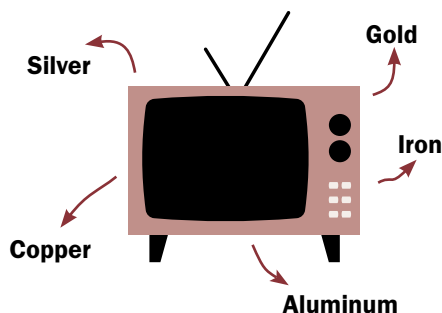
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/orderbins

E-waste

E-waste is anything with a plug, cord or battery. E-waste cannot be placed in any of your household bins as it can pose a risk to workers and the environment.

Did you know ...

- E-waste is growing 3 times faster than any other waste stream.
- More than 95% of the materials and metals in your computer or television can be fully recovered and reused.



- Our local transfer stations accept scrap metal, electrical items and liquid paint for FREE.



To find your nearest free e-waste drop-off location visit:

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/ewaste

Bookable hard waste

More than 3,000 tonnes of hard waste has been collected in Cardinia Shire in the past 12 months, including recycling:

- **58.3 tonnes e-waste**
- **7,971 mattresses**
- **2,192 tyres**

Please consider selling or donating good quality items before booking hard waste.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Bin it!

Cardinia Shire has more than **900** public place bins, so remember to do the right thing and place rubbish in the bin.

Council has collected **190** tonnes of illegally dumped rubbish in the past 12 months.

Report dumped rubbish:

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dumpedrubbish

Plan to put waste to good use

We're always looking at ways to manage waste to ensure our practices reflect industry changes while supporting the environment and our growing community.

We've partnered with 15 other councils in south-east Melbourne to seek proposals from industry for a smarter way to deal with household rubbish using advanced waste processing. These technologies process household waste that is otherwise sent to landfill, recovering valuable materials or transforming waste into energy.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/futurewasteinitiatives

Delivering better infrastructure



Officer Recreation Reserve floodlights

New floodlights have been installed at Officer Recreation Reserve. The new lights complement works undertaken in 2019 to reposition and resurface the oval. Works were funded by Council and the Officer Recreation Reserve Community Asset Committee.



Footpath upgrade – Denhams Road, Koo Wee Rup

A new footpath has been completed in Denhams Road. The new 350 metres of path and drainage means residents can walk uninterrupted to and from the Koo Wee Rup township, as well as to local schools. Council delivered this project which was fully funded by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure stimulus program.

Gembrook Recreation Reserve pavilion

The redevelopment and extension of the existing football/cricket pavilion is nearing completion. The upgraded pavilion will feature unisex and universally accessible change rooms for players and umpires, accessible amenities, a first aid room, gym, storage, upgrade to the spectator viewing lounge and timekeeper's room, and lift access to the first floor. The project is funded by Council and the Australian Government.



Wright's Road bridge

Wright's Road Bridge in Cockatoo has been upgraded. The original bridge, built in 2004, has been a key pedestrian link between the Cockatoo and Emerald townships. Due to the heavy tree cover and high rainfall in the gully, the deck needed replacing. The new bridge features a manufactured resin deck which will act as a shield over the existing structure and protect it from the elements for the coming decades.



Pepi's Land road works

Road improvement works have started at the entrance of the Emerald Netball Club on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road. These works will improve access to the facility and involve widening Beaconsfield-Emerald Road and constructing right and left turn slip lanes into the entrance of the new pavilion.

The roadworks are the third and final stage of the project to provide a new netball facility. The Australian Government has contributed \$200,000 towards this final stage of works. Works are expected to be completed in 2022.

Road maintenance

Our proactive maintenance and upgrade program for the shire's road network continues. More than 40 kilometres of our sealed road network will be resealed in 2021–22. In addition, road rehabilitation works will be undertaken on Hein Road (Pakenham Upper), Lakeside Drive (Emerald), Pitt Road (Iona), McDonalds Track (Lang Lang), Railways Avenue (Tynong) and Soldiers Road (Caldermeade and Lang Lang). Resurfacing and rehabilitation programs are jointly funded by Council and the Australian Government's Roads to Recovery Program. Soldiers Road, Lang Lang upgrade work is funded by Australian Government Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program.





Delivering Better Local Roads

Princess Avenue, Emerald, is among the roads being sealed as part of the Sealing the Hills project.
Inset: experimental bandicoot crossing in Boundary Drain Road, Koo Wee Rup.



Princes Highway intersections project

Work will start in the new year to upgrade 2 more priority intersections along the Princes Highway.

The 2 intersections in Officer are at Tivendale Road and Station Street, and Bayview Road. Work is expected to start in May 2022 and be completed by December 2022.

Works have been completed on the first 2 Princes Highway intersections at Beaconsfield: O'Neil Road intersection and the Glismann Road and Beaconsfield Avenue intersection.

Several priority intersections along the Princes Highway are expected to be upgraded over the next 3 years as part of this project to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion.

The \$36 million project is funded by Council (\$18.3 million) and the Australian Government's Urban Congestion Fund (\$17.8 million).

Strategic sealed roads project

LL Road and Armytage Road (from LL Road to Brown Road), Officer, are the next roads scheduled for sealing as part of the *Strategic sealed roads* project. Work is expected to start by the end of the year.

Reconstruction and sealing of the first 2 roads is complete: Boundary Drain Road (Station Street to Denhams Road) and Main Drain Road (Denhams Road to Ballarto Road), Koo Wee Rup.

The \$25 million *Strategic sealed roads* project is fully funded by Council and involves sealing 40 kms of unsealed roads in 7 locations across the shire to improve safety and provide better connections to the existing road network.

Sealing the Hills project

The *Sealing the Hills* project will involve sealing 109 kms of unsealed roads in the Dandenong Ranges and surrounds over 8 years and is being delivered as a series of individual projects on 164 prioritised roads.

Work has started on the construction of Princess Avenue and Crichton Avenue, Emerald, and is expected to be completed in early 2022. Consultation with landowners in special charge scheme roads has also been completed for roads in Cockatoo, Gembrook, and Upper Beaconsfield and these roads are scheduled for construction from 2022.

Looking after our environment

A number of environmental trials are being incorporated into our Better Local Roads projects to reduce our impact on the environment.

Seven experimental bandicoot crossings were installed along Boundary Drain Road and Main Drain Road, Koo Wee Rup, in partnership with Cranbourne Royal Botanic Gardens as part of the *Strategic sealed roads* project. The Cranbourne Royal Botanic Gardens will conduct follow-up studies to gauge the effectiveness of the crossings. In addition, solar street lighting has been installed at intersections and crossings and solar-operated raised reflective pavement markers have also been installed to improve safety for drivers.

A number of other environmental projects are planned as part of the Better Local Roads program, including the use of recycled rubber and glass materials into the pavement.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/betterlocalroads

What's on?

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

Casey Cardinia Libraries

Candle making workshop

Emerald Library
Saturday 11 December, 11am

Bubble art

Emerald Library
Wednesday 12 January, 4–5pm

Pizza perfection with Jo's Kitchen Capers

Pakenham Library
Thursday 13 January, 2–3pm

Carp Productions Zoom to the Moon show

Emerald Library
Friday 14 January, 10:30–11:15am

Guitar lessons for beginners

Emerald Library
Saturday 15 January, 11am

Babytime Boogie

Emerald Library
Monday 17 January, 11:15–11:45am

Discovery garden boutique bee and bug hotels

Pakenham Library
Monday 17 January, 3–4pm

Rainbow rolls with Helen and Hay Cooking Class

Pakenham Library
Thursday 20 January, 2–3pm

Lego mania

Emerald Library
Thursday 20 January, 4–5pm

Keeping poultry with Warragul Poultry Club

Pakenham Library
Saturday 22 January, 1:30–3pm

Macrame for beginners

Emerald Library
Saturday 12 February, 10am

Girl's night in the kitchen – Italian flavours

Pakenham Library
Friday 18 February, 6–8pm

It's all about the bees

Pakenham Library
Saturday 19 February, 1:30–2pm

All events are free and bookings essential unless otherwise stated.
Visit: www.cclc.vic.gov.au

Cardinia Cultural Centre

Cardinia Cultural Centre is alive with creativity this summer. Immersive animation, gallery exhibitions, live music, kids' workshops, movies, food, events and much, much more. Visit the website for a full program of events: www.cardiniaculturalcentre.com.au
Cardinia Cultural Centre,
40 Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham.
Phone 1300 887 624.

Hills Hub

Emerald Secondary College art exhibition

Monday 6 December – Monday 31 January.

Emerald Photographic Society Exhibition

Monday 21 February – Saturday 9 April
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hillshub

Teenage School Holiday Program

Fun and interactive activities for young people aged 12–17 years will be held as part of our Teenage School Holiday Program. Activities are free or low cost. Bookings for all activities are essential. Find out more: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tshp

For info about Council events: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/events

For info on community and business events in our shire: www.whatsoncardinia.com.au

Events featured in this edition of *Connect* are subject to change depending on COVID-19 restrictions. Council events are run in line with our COVIDSafe Plan and numbers may be limited.

Please follow entry requirements to Council and community facilities and events, including proof of full vaccination status, QR code sign-in and wearing of masks as per Chief Health Officer directions.

Photos in this edition of *Connect* were taken in line with COVID-19 restrictions at the time. The information in this edition of *Connect* was correct at the time of print. For the most up-to-date information about Council services, events and programs, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

Cardinia Shire Council

Customer Service Centre
20 Siding Avenue, Officer

Postal address:

PO Box 7 Pakenham 3810

Phone: 1300 787 624


Email: mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Web: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

TTY users: 1300 677 then ask for 1300 787 624

Speak and Listen users: 1300 555 727 then ask for 1300 787 624

After-hours emergencies: 1300 787 624

 **Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)** 131 450 (ask for 1300 787 624)



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