

Connect

YOUR COUNCIL MAGAZINE

Spring 2022



GET A KICK OUTTA THIS

Sports projects coming your way

ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY

Delivering accessible upgrades

CELEBRATING CULTURE

Kids celebrating classmates

SPRING INTO ACTION

Cardinia critter challenge



Cardinia

Have your say

Make sure to have your say on projects happening in our shire.

Check out our online community platform Creating Cardinia to find out

about current consultations and how you can get involved.

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



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

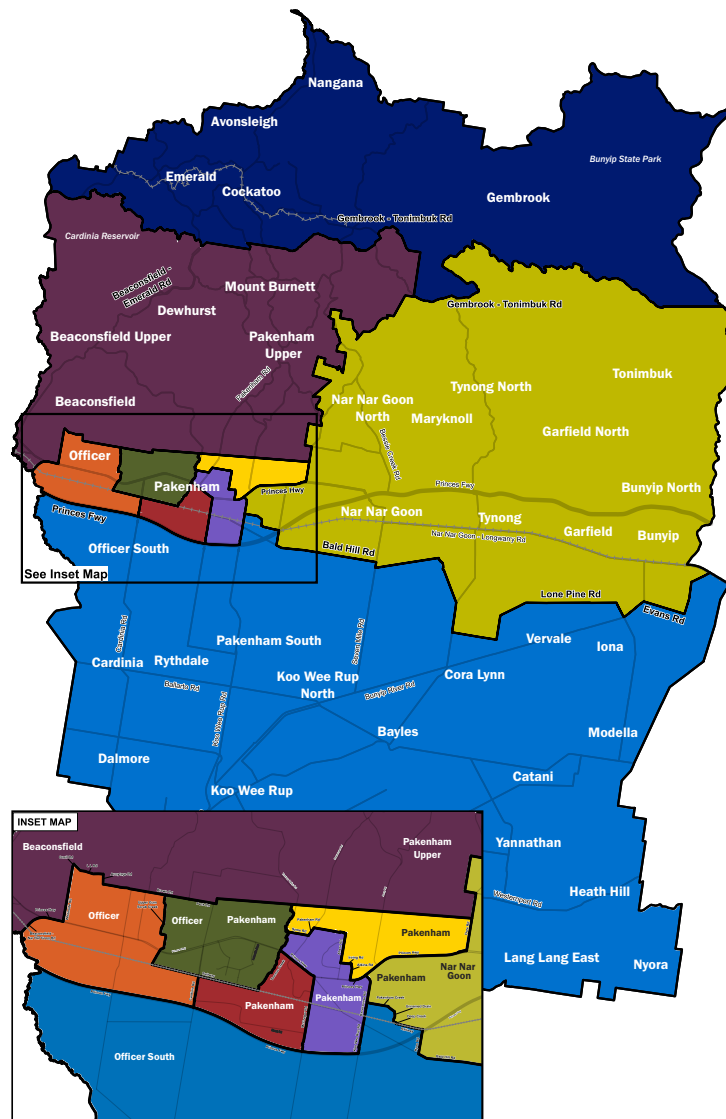
0439 444 810 | s.davies@cardinia.vic.gov.au



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

We're fortunate to have so many passionate volunteers such as the Garfield North gardening group who are always happy to get their hands dirty for their community. Gardeners Barb (left) and Meg (right) are gearing up for a morning of potting. See more of the group on page 7.



Lets get Connected!

We recently launched our Connect e-newsletter, delivering the latest news, events, initiatives and programs straight to your inbox.

Read about your local area, spot a photo sent in by a fellow resident or even try your hand at following along with a craft – the Connect e-newsletter keeps you updated in between editions of Connect magazine. Subscribe now:

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/connectsubscribe



Mayor's message

Mayor Cr Jeff Springfield enjoyed a sausage sizzle with local residents, Victoria Police officers and members of the Emerald Men's Shed at the Hills Hub.

How can you tell the weather is getting warmer? There's a spring in people's step! Now we've been able to shake off the winter chill, allow me to welcome you to our Connect Spring edition, which is full of good-news stories from all around Cardinia Shire.

We've highlighted some great projects in this edition, from the completion of major works to accessible upgrades, and even projects completed with grant funding. With several more exciting projects in the pipeline, we're looking forward to keeping Cardinia Shire growing – read on for more!

These next few months mark exciting times for young people in Cardinia Shire, with Council's Youth Services Team pulling out all the stops to ensure a fun-filled spring. Our young residents can expect skateboarding competitions, the

2022 Pride Formal, and even a school holiday program full of events. You'll find all of our youth news on pages 8, 9, and 10 of this edition.

If you're looking for activities in the great outdoors, why not head out on the Cardinia Shire scavenger hunt? Do you know which critter can be identified with its 'tok' call? Or where to find a Purple Swampheaven? Head to page 14 and start to discover a range of wildlife in your very own neighbourhood.

Enjoy the beautiful Cardinia Shire springtime and take care,

Cr Jeff Springfield
Cardinia Shire Mayor

Council meetings

Council and Town Planning meetings are held monthly. Public attendance at meetings will depend on the latest advice from the Victorian Government.

Check our website for the most up-to-date information:



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



Serving the local community

Central Ward Cr Collin Ross (right) enjoyed a coffee and a catch-up with business owners and trainees at the Limebox Café.

Located inside the Toomah Community Centre, you'll find the social enterprise Limebox Café.

Supported by Council, the café is an initiative of Hopeworks Community Solutions, who have a passion for youth employment and helping the community.

Since opening their doors in 2015, Hopeworks has trained 350 young people (and counting!) in skills for their future careers and personal growth.

Central Ward Councillor Collin Ross was thrilled to be able to chat with some of the current trainees undertaking their certifications in catering.

"The hard work and dedication that Hopeworks has for the community is truly something to be proud of, and these

young trainees have a real talent for the catering industry," he said.

"I'd encourage any young person thinking about a career in hospitality to reach out to Hopeworks to hear more about their programs."

Offering a wide range of gluten free, dairy free and vegan options, Limebox Café is open Monday to Friday, from 7am until 2pm.

Not only does Hopeworks strive to help our young residents with their futures, but Hopeworks also provides food and clothing relief for those in need.

www.hopeworks.org.au



Safer driver program

In partnership with Living & Learning Pakenham and Victoria Police, Council has been delivering the Safer Driver for New Arrivals program which supports newly arrived migrants and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

The program, which aims to increase participants' road safety knowledge, is a first for Cardinia Shire, and was well attended with amazing feedback and outcomes achieved.

This work aligns to Cardinia Shire Council's commitment to improving road safety as part of our Road Safety Strategy, Safety Action Agenda and Better Local Roads Programs.

To register for the next Safer Driver program kicking off in October, call Living & Learning Pakenham on (03) 5941 2389 to secure your place.

<http://livinglearning.org.au>

Together with Toomah

Adjacent to Cardinia Road Railway Station sits the the Toomah Community Centre in Pakenham.

It is home to a range of services including Windermere, the Orange Door and, of course, the Limebox café.

Windermere and the Orange Door offer vital help and support to those in need, and the Limebox social enterprise café offers a delicious array of fresh food and drinks, as well as a boutique store to pick up some local handmade products.

Looking for a space for your next function? The Toomah Community Centre, owned by Council and operated by Windermere, is fully accessible, with state-of-the-art equipment, and even catering services available from the Limebox Café.



<http://toomah.org.au>



Toomuc Creek refreshed

Toomuc Ward Cr Stephanie Davies enjoys a trip to Toomuc Creek with her daughter, Celeste.

Visitors to Toomuc Creek can expect to enjoy new vegetation and enhanced foliage which has given the creek a whole new look.

With support and input from Council, developers of the Mount Pleasant estate in Pakenham have carefully restored Toomuc Creek to a leafy green oasis.

Toomuc Ward Councillor Stephanie Davies and her daughter Celeste enjoyed a nice afternoon in the sunshine at Toomuc Creek this Spring.

“I’m so pleased to see the hard work that has gone into revegetating Toomuc Creek, and the two new bridges will mean that even more residents will get to access this lovely space,” she said.

“The new playground just beside the creek is great for families, this gives us a wonderful place to enjoy spending more time together in nature,” she said.

The community can look forward to enjoying lots of outdoor fun in the area including:

- Accessing the creek using two new pedestrian bridges
- Walking along new pedestrian paths
- Touring the new cycling path networks
- And enjoying the great new playground.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/planning

Calling for better community outcomes

Cardinia Shire Council is calling for better outcomes for our communities.

We’re calling for all levels of government to help Cardinia to thrive.

We’re passionate about projects that are wanted and needed by our community.

We understand how important it is for your priorities to be heard, and for your priorities to shape the future of our great shire.

Throughout 2020 and 2021 we undertook our largest ever community consultation through our ‘Imagine Cardinia’ project. We asked for your feedback and ideas on the issues that mattered to you.

This feedback has helped ensure that our 2022-2023 advocacy priorities reflect your aspirations and focus on raising awareness and generating support for the priorities most important to you.

We look forward to continuing to work with all levels of government to see your priorities delivered.

Cardinia calls for ...

- Better public transport
- Better mental health services
- Better access to jobs
- Better, safer roads
- Better sport and recreation
- Better community places and services
- Better outdoor spaces
- Better protection for our environment



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cardiniacallsfor

White Ribbon 2022



Officer Ward Cr Tammy Radford congratulates award winners Fiona and Alan (on behalf of Wayss) at the White Ribbon event.

Congratulations to this year's White Ribbon Award winners who were announced at the 2022 White Ribbon event.

The theme for this year was 'contribute to change, make a difference', and the event was hosted by Outlook Victoria in partnership with Cardinia Shire Council and Aligned Leisure.

Member of the Together We Can Round Table and Officer Ward Councillor Tammy Radford was pleased to see so many people at the event this July.

"Over 75 community members joined us at the annual White Ribbon event to raise awareness of White Ribbon Australia's family violence prevention programs," she said.

"A huge congratulations is in order for Fiona Cost, Lorna Lablache and Wayss – the 2022 award winners of the Tony Fitzgerald and the Gary McQuillan awards. Your hard work does not go unnoticed!"

The 2022 Tony Fitzgerald Award was awarded to Wayss in recognition of their continued efforts in raising awareness and prevention of men's violence against women.

Each year, the Gary McQuillan Award is given to a Cardinia Shire Council employee, and this year it was jointly awarded to Fiona Cost and Lorna Lablache (pictured right) for their dedication to the prevention of violence against women at Council.



Attendees to the event were encouraged to bring donations for local community organisations.

For residents hoping to make donations, Council has provided donation bins at the Outlook function centre, Cardinia Shire Council Civic Centre and Cardinia Life.

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/familyviolence

Celebrate Victorian Seniors Festival in Cardinia Shire

Old time dance event

The Silhouettes will feature at this fabulous old-time dance event. Includes afternoon tea and door prizes.



Date: Sunday 16 October
Time: 1-5pm
Venue: Pakenham Hall,
cnr John and Henry St
Cost: Free
Includes afternoon tea
(BYO drinks)
Bookings essential: Ian Wake
0417 112 500

Live show and Devonshire tea

A tribute to Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald



Date: Wednesday 19 October
Time: 10am-1pm
Venue: Cardinia Cultural Centre,
40 Lakeside Blvd,
Pakenham
Cost: \$13pp Includes show
and morning tea
Bookings essential:
1300 887 624



Bunyip Ward Cr Graeme Moore hangs out with the Garfield Community Gardeners, one of Cardinia Shire's fantastic volunteer groups.

Volunteering in Cardinia Shire

Looking for a way to give back and connect with the community? One of the many volunteering groups in Cardinia Shire may be for you!

Not only does volunteering help to improve the world around you, but it also helps to combat loneliness, improves confidence and promotes skill sharing.

Bunyip Ward Councillor Graeme Moore said that he would encourage as many residents as possible to look for local volunteering opportunities.

"From getting your hands dirty, to being a committee member or even lending a hand with your local club's sausage sizzle, volunteering is a great way to

meet new people and give back to the community," Cr Moore said.

"So many wonderful volunteer groups call Cardinia Shire home, and the world would truly be a different place without their passion and dedication to the community."

Whether you're interested in gardening and environment, sports and recreation, or just want to give back to the community, there is a volunteering opportunity for everyone.

So if you are looking to connect with new people and give back to the community, check out our volunteering directory:



Volunteer support

Council offers subsidised training for local volunteers. With eight Neighbourhood Houses across the shire that provide the training, you can apply for a 50% subsidised course fee.

How about trying...

- Food handling
- Basic bookkeeping
- First aid and CPR
- Computer courses and digital literacy.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/volunteer

Aus Day nominations

Do you know of a person or group that makes a big contribution to our community? Show your appreciation by nominating them for an Australia Day Award!

You have until Friday 11 November to get those nominations in.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/australiaday

Did you know?

11.8% of the shire's population volunteered between Aug 2020 and Aug 2021.

That's 10,828 people!

Stan Henwood Award 2022

Each year a person who has made a positive, long-term contribution to the Cardinia Shire community is awarded with the prestigious Stan Henwood Award – and this year it was Mr Tim Ahern, who has been volunteering in the community since 1965!

Tim says he loves volunteering because it helps make the community a better place

to live and creates a better lifestyle for the next generation.





Henty Ward Cr Carol Ryan had the opportunity to speak to Pakenham school children about their plans for the culture celebration.

Cardinia students celebrate culture

School children from 25 schools across Cardinia Shire are gearing up to celebrate Koorie culture with their Koorie classmates at a special event.

The cultural celebration is an annual event usually held during NAIDOC week, however a new date on 15 September has been chosen to demonstrate that we can highlight the rich culture of our First Nations People at any time.

Henty Ward Councillor Carol Ryan was invited to chat with Pakenham school children Isabelle (Year 5), Kaelan (Year 3), Harvey (Year 2), Savannah (Year 2)

and Sienna (Year 4), about their plans for the big day.

“The cultural event will be a great opportunity for Koorie children and young people across the district to connect with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture,” she said.

“It was lovely to hear firsthand from the children about what they’re most looking forward to about the event – no prizes for guessing that it was the games!”

Department of Education’s Koorie Engagement Team, in collaboration with Council’s Youth Services and Community

Strengthening teams, will be hosting the shire-wide event.

The term Koorie is used inclusively and refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Victoria.

The kids can expect art activities, guest presenters, dancing and traditional games on the day, and lots of activities to take back to their schools to continue their growth and learning.

For more information about the culture celebration, visit:

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/youthservices

New hub update

Construction has kicked off at the site of Council’s new youth centre on James Street, Pakenham.

Called ‘Cardinia Youth Hub’ the new 3 storey building will have counselling rooms, a hangout space, internet café, recording booth, classrooms and a rooftop recreation space with a basketball hoop.

We are so excited to see activity happening on site and will continue to share updates as works progress.

Cardinia Youth Hub is a project between Council, the Victorian Government and the Australian Government.



Making good choices



Our Youth Services Team are preparing to celebrate Cardinia Shire's young people at an event this month!

Every year our Cardinia Youth Services Team celebrates young people who have demonstrated maturity and made good choices.

The Good Choice Awards recognise resilience, kindness, and strength in decision making throughout 2022.

This might look like:

- Prioritising study
- Applying for a job
- Making informed choices about their health and safety
- Accessing support networks even when it's difficult
- Prioritising themselves, life goals and aspirations
- Choosing to spend time with good people

- Engaging in school/returning to study with confidence.

All young people nominated are invited to a special awards night at Pakenham Hall this September and will receive a certificate to acknowledge their Good Choice Award, with the lucky winners taking home a voucher.

2022 Pride Formal

Get ready to dress up and be your most authentic self at our Pride Formal this December.

Council's Youth Services Team organises the event each year for young people who identify as LGBTIQ+, and their friends and allies.

The Pride Formal is a safe space for young people aged 12 to 21 to enjoy

music, dancing, lip-sync battles and free food.

In it to win it? There will even be some friendly competition with prizes for the best dancer and the snappiest dresser – so make sure to pull out all the stops!

Keep an eye out on our Youth Services social media for more details about the event.

Looking for a creche?

Did you know that Cardinia Life has a creche? The creche provides parents and guardians with the opportunity to enjoy some exercise whilst their child enjoys time with a team of fully qualified childcare experts.

This service is for members, visitors and also available for anyone wanting to head outside of the centre for a while.

To book your child in for a session, give Cardinia Life a call on 5945 2888 or email cardinia@alignedleisure.com.au

Teenage School Holiday Program is back

Hey teenagers! Looking for some fun activities to get stuck into these September school holidays? Our Youth Services Team will be running 8 fun activities over two weeks for young people aged 12 to 17.

From the 19 to 30 September, you could be:

- Designing your own tote bag

- Roller skating, rock climbing and playing laser tag at Kemizo
- Watching a movie at Cameo cinema
- And so much more!

Places are limited so make sure to be quick and get booked in via the Council website!

These activities are either totally free, or will be at a small cost.



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/TSHP

Youth News

Have you checked out our Youth News yet? It's full of great information about programs and services available for Cardinia Shire's young people.

We'd love to see your projects! If you're aged between 12 and 24 years and have artwork, photography or writing to share in an upcoming issue, send us your contributions send us your contributions by emailing myplace@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Skating into Spring

Westernport Ward Cr Kaye Cameron was among the first to try out the new skate park at Koo Wee Rup.

Works on the much-anticipated skate park at Koo Wee Rup are complete, and what better way to celebrate than with a friendly skate competition?

Westernport Ward Councillor Kaye Cameron enjoyed being one of the very first to have a sneak-peek at the new skate park.

“I’m so pleased that construction has been completed, this new skate park is just what the local community’s young people needed,” she said.

“I can’t wait to see everyone having a great time at the skate competition later on in the month.”

Gembrook will also be hosting a skate competition a few weeks later to celebrate their facility upgrades.

At both events you can expect a free yummy BBQ, skate lessons, prize giveaways, and of course, the skate competition.

The Youth Bus and our Youth Services Team will also be making an appearance – so save the dates!

Koo Wee Rup Skate Competition

Cochrane Park, Koo Wee Rup
Friday 16 September, 2.30-5.00pm

Gembrook Skate Competition

Gembrook Leisure Park, Gembrook
Friday 30 September, 2.30-5.00pm



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

Did you know?

15,880 young people made contact with Council in the past year? Almost **3X more** than the year before!

Ready for a dip?

Get ready to make a splash as Cardinia Shire’s outdoor pools will be back for a fun filled Summer from November 2022.

The pools open on any day forecasted at 26 degrees or higher throughout November, December, February and March.

In January, all pools will be open every day regardless of temperature.

Opening Dates:

- Emerald: 24/11/2022
- Garfield: 13/11/2022
- Koo Wee Rup: 05/11/2022
- Pakenham: 13/11/2022



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/pools

Feeling sporty, Cardinia Shire?

Mayor and Ranges Ward Cr Jeff Springfield headed to Cockatoo Tennis Courts to check out the southern court, one of the four projects to be delivered this year.

Get ready, set and go as four new sports projects are heading your way!

Mayor and Ranges Ward Councillor Jeff Springfield was excited for the plans to deliver these projects for the shire.

"It is so important to keep the community healthy and active, and these projects will be an exciting way for residents to enjoy exercising in wonderfully upgraded facilities," he said.

"I'd also like to thank the community for getting involved and having their say on the new Active Cardinia Strategy. This strategy will provide the foundation for supporting a healthier and more active, inclusive, and connected community."

Funded by Council, with support from the Local Sport Infrastructure Fund offered by Sport and Recreation Victoria, the projects are due to commence later this year.

Cockatoo: Alma Treloar Reserve - southern tennis court redevelopment

- Court resurfacing – synthetic grass
- Fencing
- Drainage
- Accessible pathways
- New lighting

Nar Nar Goon: Recreation Reserve oval resurfacing

- Oval Resurfacing
- Improved Drainage
- New Synthetic Cricket Wicket
- New Goal Posts

Garfield: Netball pavilion project

- New pavilion
- Player changerooms
- Umpire changerooms
- Storage
- First Aid

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/majorprojects

Help is at hand

From financial assistance to disability support, tear out this handy little document, fold it, and pop it in a card slot inside your wallet so that help is always at hand.

You can receive this card in 10 different languages, including Spanish, Arabic and Dari.

To request this card in another language, contact us via email at mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Help is at hand

Cardinia Shire Council

Phone: 1300 787 624

Email: mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Web: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

National Relay Service (NRS)

TTY: 133 677 (ask for 1300 787 624)

Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay):

1300 555 727 (ask for 1300 787 624)



Translator Interpretation Service

131 450 (ask for 1300 787 624)



Housing/homelessness



Wayss

1800 512 402

DHHS Crisis Accommodation Statewide

After hours

9536 7777

Toll free

1800 825 955

Alcohol/drug and gambling



Gamblers Help Southern

9575 5353

Windana

9529 7955

SECADA

1800 142 536

Cultural support



Brother to Brother 24-hour Crisis Line for Aboriginal men

1800 435 799

Living & Learning Pakenham

5941 2389

Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre

9767 1900

Yarning SafeNStrong confidential helpline (24/7)

1800 959 563



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/multiculturalcommunity

Mental health/emotional support



Lifeline (24/7)	13 11 14
Kids Helpline (24/7)	1800 551 800
Partners in Wellbeing	1300 003 224
Better Place Australia	1800 639 523
Suicide Line Victoria (24/7)	1300 651 251

Family violence support



1800 RESPECT	1800 737 732
MensLine Australia	1300 789 978
Safe Steps	1800 015 188
In Touch – Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence	1800 755 988
Wayss	1800 512 402
Windermere	1300 946 337

Financial assistance



No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS)	
Pakenham	5941 2268
Cockatoo	0427 795 596
South East Community Links – Financial Counselling Southern	9549 5288
Casey North Information and Support Service	9705 6699

Food and material aid



Salvation Army	1300 371 288
ADRA	1800 242 372
Bless Collective	0407 769 237

Disability



Outlook	5941 1535
Irabina Autism Services	9720 1118
SCOPE	1300 472 673



Beacon Hills Ward Cr Brett Owen visited the Perc Allison Reserve with Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee members Ron Harmer and Michael Wright to take a look at the upgraded project.

Creating greater access

Thanks to support from Council, seven projects totalling almost \$300,000 were delivered as part of the 2021/22 Access Upgrade Program of works.

Some of the projects completed included:

- Carpark sealing at the Lang Lang Men's Shed
- A change table upgrade at Beaconsfield Kinder
- Accessible toilet upgrades at Perc Allison Reserve and Emerald Seniors
- A new accessible toilet at the Lang Lang RSL.

Council's Access Upgrade program aims to provide liveable spaces and reduce barriers to participation within the community.

Councillor Brett Owen, Member of the Cardinia Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and

Beacon Hills Ward Councillor, was delighted that the projects had been delivered.

"These upgrades will help to ensure the accessibility of Cardinia Shire for both residents and visitors," Cr Owen said.

"Participating fully in all aspects of life is the right of all, and these upgrades will be a welcome addition to the community."



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessandinclusion

Check your parking permit

Victoria's accessible (disabled) parking permit scheme is no longer administered by Council, so you will now need to apply directly through your doctor if you need to renew or require a new permit. Changes in the scheme criteria may impact your eligibility.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessibleparkingpermits



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/multiculturalcommunity



Consider it granted!

Pakenham Hills Ward Cr Jack Kowarik checks out the shaded structure at Hollins Children's Centre.

More than 70 grants have been awarded since 2019 to fund much-needed community projects with our Community Capital Works Grant Program.

Pakenham Hills Ward Councillor Jack Kowarik checked out how one of the grants was being enjoyed when he was taken on a tour of the Hollins Children's Centre in Pakenham by some of the kids.

"It is great to see the children enjoying their shaded structure now they have a fun outdoor space to keep playing whilst sheltering from the sun," he said.

"Submitting your project ideas for a Community Capital Works Grant is a great opportunity to give facilities that much-needed upgrade, and to decide how the community facility you use needs to be improved."

The Community Capital Works Grants Program helps community groups upgrade community and recreational facilities to strengthen local community networks and support community wellbeing.

You could receive up to \$35,000 in funding for community and recreational facility upgrade works.

Expressions of interest for the next round of grants are now open, so head to Council's website:

 www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants

Grants program announcement!

We're excited to announce that on behalf of the community we are providing more than \$60,000 in grants to community groups across Cardinia Shire, including:

- \$30,646.91 awarded for 7 seeding grants to support the cost of starting a new organisation, group, club, program, project, or service.
- \$12,413.20 awarded for 6 volunteering grants to help create volunteering programs, train volunteers, or promote volunteering opportunities.
- \$17,582.50 awarded for 21 small change grants to assist with a range

of ad hoc costs that cannot be met through other funding sources, such as buying small items of equipment, website redevelopment, Christmas decorations and more.

The grants are part of Council's 2022-2023 Community Wellbeing Support Grants Program, which aim to support volunteers, and improve health and wellbeing.

Council is also supporting 48 festivals and events in 2022-23 as part of Council's Festivals and Events Grants program.

Beautify our community

Community groups and individuals can apply for dollar-for-dollar grants of up to \$2,000 for landscape enhancement projects that help the community beautify their local public open spaces. Applications open 5 September.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/beautification

We are providing more than \$230,595 in grants to not-for-profit, community-run festival and event organisers and RSL clubs. These grants will help cover the costs of running local events such as community, arts and cultural festivals and events, as well as agricultural shows and major events.

This funding includes grants previously approved in the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Festival and Events Grants Programs for events that had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

Spring into action

with our Cardinia Shire scavenger hunt!

How many things can you spot on your walk?

To help you find some of Cardinia Shire's cool critters and plants, we've included some clues.

☐ **Rainbow lorikeet**

☐ **Tree fern** (CLUE: I like to live in wet forests near the northern parts of the shire)

☐ **Sulphur-crested cockatoo** (CLUE: listen out for my squawk!)

☐ **Superb fairy-wren**

☐ **Prickly Teatree**

☐ **Eastern grey kangaroo**
(CLUE: I might leave behind some clues of my own, look out for my poo!)

☐ **Common Brown Butterfly**

☐ **Purple swamphen**
(CLUE: you might find me near a lake or creek)

Hard to find

☐ **Echidna**

☐ **Southern Brown Bandicoot** (CLUE: I'm most active at dusk)

☐ **Spotted marsh frog** (CLUE: listen carefully near wetlands for my 'tok' call)

☐ **Chocolate lily**

Keen to keep exploring?
Why not visit one of Cardinia Shire's nature reserves and parks?



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/parksandenvironment

Spring workshops: water, waste and weeds

Sign up to our FREE Spring workshops and learn about a range of waste and environment topics.

Our Waste Team has partnered with Casey Cardinia Libraries to host several workshops this November to help you discover more about the environment.

The workshops, held at Pakenham and Emerald libraries, will tackle practical topics and provide skills to take home, including:

- ways to conserve and use water to maintain a healthy and productive home garden
- how to reduce food waste and save on grocery bills
- how to identify and control weeds safely at home.

Water-wise gardening

Pakenham Library
Saturday 5 November, 2.30–3.30pm

Cooking with food scraps

Emerald Library
Saturday 12 November, 11am–12pm

World of weeds

Emerald Library
Saturday 26 November, 10.30–11.30am

Places limited, registration essential.



<http://events.ccl.vic.gov.au>

Critter craft

Did you get a chance to wriggle on down to the worm farm workshop at Pakenham Library? If not, you can create your own mini worm farm at home to learn more about these amazing creatures and how they can help reduce your food waste.

You can create this DIY worm farm using recycled materials to house all of your new soil-mates.

Grab your supplies:

- a small plastic bottle and a large one
- a few handfuls of soil
- a few handfuls of sand
- a few handfuls of leaves
- a scrap of fabric or mesh
- a rubber band
- a dark piece of paper
- and some worms!

Step 1: Prepare your bottles! Rinse them and remove any labels, then you can cut the tops off the bottles ****adults only****

Step 2: Pop the smaller bottle upside down inside the large bottle

Step 3: Now scatter the soil, sand and leaves in alternate layers around the small bottle inside the large bottle

Step 4: Now you can add your new wormy friends to the bottle! Just put them on the top layer and let them dig down into their new home

Step 5: Pop your scrap fabric or mesh over the top to act as a roof, and secure this with the rubber band

Step 6: Your new friends like to hang out in the dark, so wrap your dark piece of paper around the bottle like a jacket! You can remove this at any time to see how your worms are wriggling

Step 7: Now you have your own mini worm farm! Feed your little friends with a few fruit or veggie scraps (no citrus or onion) and a touch of water every so often to keep the soil slightly moist, and make sure they're kept in a cool place. After a few weeks when you're finished observing your worms, add the mixture back to your garden so the worms can help the plants grow.

Keen to get started on a full sized worm farm? Check out our worm farm rebates at:



www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/wasterebates

Future of waste: smart ways for waste

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 other councils in Melbourne's south east to seek proposals from the waste 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

Spring cleaning

We'd like to thank everyone who gave their feedback on ways to improve the bookable hard waste service.

Each household in Cardinia Shire that gets its bins collected by Council, including rental properties, can book 2 free hard waste collections per calendar year, and we're trying to make it easier.

Have any pre-loved clothing and homewares that are too good to throw away? Head to our Red Cross donation drive-thru event on 10 September.

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff

Did you know? You can book 2 FREE hard waste collections per year? Just book online www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

What's on?

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

Cardinia Cultural Centre

Victorian State Ballet

– The Nutcracker

Wednesday 21 September
10am morning tea and
11am performance



Women of Soul

Friday 7 October, 8pm

The Syncopators - 'A Tribute to Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald'

Wednesday 19 October
10am morning tea and
11am performance

Spontaneous Broadway

Friday 4 November, 8pm

Inventi Ensemble - The Enchanted Forest

Wednesday 16 November
10am morning tea and 11am
performance

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/ccc

Casey Cardinia Libraries



Aromatherapy Workshop

Pakenham Library
Friday 16 September, 7-8.30pm

In Conversation With Fi And Mike

Pakenham Library
Friday 7 October, 7-8.30pm

Author Talk With Eliza Henry-Jones

Emerald Library
Saturday 8 October, 11am-12pm

Superfood Smoothies And Seasonal Antioxidant Juices

Pakenham Library
Saturday 15 October, 2-3.30pm

Poet Rob Wallis In Conversation With Maria Millers

Emerald Library
Saturday 22 October, 1-2pm

Meditation For Inner Peace, Balance And Wisdom

Pakenham Library
Saturday 5 November, 1.30-2.15pm

Author Event - Diana Gabaldon

Online Event - Zoom
Thursday 17 November, 7-8pm

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



What's on Cardinia is an easy way to find a full list of events happening in your community, all on the one website.

Visit: www.whatsoncardinia.com.au

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.

Information about current COVID-19 restrictions is available from the Department of Health: www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au

For your nearest vaccination clinic location or where you can get tested for COVID-19 in Cardinia Shire, visit Council's COVID-19 Information Hub: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/COVID19information

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

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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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