**Around the Bay – June**

**Cherry Lake Ward**

**Cherry Lake Planting**

Come along to a community planting morning at Cherry Lake on Saturday 11 June, 9.30am to 11.30am. Tools and plants will be supplied and there will be a free BBQ and hot drinks at the end of the event. Council’s Conservation Rangers and Melbourne Water will be on hand to answer questions about the recent pollution incident and the rehabilitation efforts. For details, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CherryLakePlantingEvent](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CherryLakePlantingEvent)

**Parking meters** **along Altona Beach**

Visitors to Hobsons Bay may soon be required to pay for parking along the Esplanade as part of a proposal to introduce parking meters to Altona Beach which, is currently out for public feedback. Similar to the paid parking at Williamstown Beach and Nelson Place, Hobsons Bay residents would be able to use their ticket machine parking permits along Altona Beach and will not need to pay for parking. The parking meters are proposed to be installed in Altona on the Esplanade between Sarros (Romawi) Street and Millers Road. To manage the impact of paid parking, a Parking Management Strategy has been developed. To have your say, visit [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/parking-management-strategy](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/parking-management-strategy)

**GJ Hosken Reserve opening**

GJ Hosken Reserve redevelopment is nearly complete! Celebrate the official opening and plant a tree on Sunday 19 June at 483 Blackshaws Reserve, Altona North. Planting begins at 10am, opening festivities commence at 12pm. The revamp included a new adventure playground, fitness equipment, multiuse court with a basketball hoop, BBQ area, shelter, footpath networks and fenced dog off-lead precinct. The project was jointly funded by Council and the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund through the Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek. For more information, visit [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/hoskenreserve](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/hoskenreserve)

**Strand Ward**

**Rising Festival comes to Williamstown Botanic Gardens**

A new art installation, titled *Piano Drowning*, will be exhibited at Williamstown Botanic Gardens until Monday 13 June. Presented by the Rising Festival and The Substation, Piano Drowning is part of a series which also includes *Piano Burning* and *Piano Garden* byNew Zealand composer Annea Lockwood. As part of the exhibition, the piano will be played on Saturday 11 June from 1pm to 4pm on the hour. For more information, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/PianoDrowning](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/PianoDrowning)

**Caring for Williamstown’s Elm trees**

There are over 900 Elm trees in Hobsons Bay that Council manages. As part of the ongoing Elm Renewal Program, all Elm trees were assessed in 2019 and again reassessed in 2021 by an independent arboricutural consultant. Three Elm trees in Williamstown were identified as being unsafe and are scheduled for removal in mid-June. Where possible trees will be replaced with the same species as part of the tree planting program for 2022. The Elm Trees are located at 75 Pasco St Williamstown, 169 Osborne St Williamstown and 111-119 Cecil St Williamstown. For more information about Council’s Elm Tree program, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ElmTrees](https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ElmTrees)

**Ferguson Street traffic improvements**

Works on Ferguson Street in Williamstown are well under way with the beginnings of new line marking installed. The project includes clearer line marking to improve safety for bicycle use and vehicles turning. Two raised pedestrian crossings will be installed that will allow safer walking access to local shops and services. Works should be completed in the next couple of months. For details, visit [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/fergusonstreet](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/fergusonstreet)

**Wetlands Ward**

**Better Places Seabrook and Altona Meadows**

Hobsons Bay City Council’s Better Places initiative has commenced in Seabrook and Altona Meadows. Residents, businesses, and visitors are invited to share what they love, what they would change, and what ideas they have for the future of the two suburbs. Feedback, ideas and aspirations will lead to practical on the ground projects and initiatives. To provide feedback and help shape Seabrook and Altona Meadows, visit [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam)

**Bruce Comben Reserve Southern Open Space consultation**

Draft concept plans for Bruce Comben Reserve Southern Open Space are on public exhibition for feedback until Sunday 19 June. The redevelopment includes a new playground, natural woodland trail, open grassed area, more shade and vegetation, upgraded car park off Henry Drive, a multiuse activity court including Takraw courts, half-court basketball and half-court netball and a future junior sports field and dog off-leash area. We want your input on the draft concept plan, have your say at [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brucecomben/BCRSouthern](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brucecomben/BCRSouthern)

**Connecting Laverton**

Following community feedback, the Railway Avenue concept plan has been revised and is available for comment. The project proposes changes to revitalise the open space area within Railway Avenue, improve road safety especially for pedestrian access, and create a shared user path running along the corridor. The path would provide a safe connection for pedestrians and bike riders, complimented by the road safety, open space and street scape improvements. To provide feedback by Monday 13 June visit, [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/railway](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/railway)

**General**

**Council+ launch a success**

Council+ is now live at Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows! Over 2,000 people attended the launches at the three sites. When you next visit the library, you will be able to ask staff questions not only about our library services, but also organise anything from upsizing bins to paying rates. By the end of the year, eight sites across Hobsons Bay will be Council+ sites, it’s all about making it easier and more convenient to access Council services. For more information about Council+ visit, [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlus](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlus)

**Centres of Excellence – feedback wanted**

Council’s draft Centres of Excellence strategy proposes each Council+ service centre becomes a hub of specialist knowledge. It could be heritage, writing and publishing, art and music, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), videogames and boardgames, environment and sustainability or business and innovation. Each centre will feature programs, activities, specialist equipment and collections around the theme. Find out more and help shape the direction of each centre at [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/excellence](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/excellence)

**Fine free no limit libraries**

Hobsons Bay Libraries are welcoming visitors back to the libraries with new programming, exciting events and removing library fines for overdue items and loan limits. If you haven’t visited your local library for a while, you don’t need to worry about overdue items or loan limits. You can borrow as many items as you want, stay longer and get reacquainted with these wonderful spaces. Check the Hobsons Bay Libraries website for opening times, including extended hours during weekdays and weekends: [libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](https://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/)

**Big June weekends**

There will be something to do each weekend throughout June in the warmth of your library. Come along to Twisted Science on Sunday 12 June at Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre for 60 minutes of fun, laughter, a little bit of learning and plenty of science! Join marine biologist and co-author, Dr Prue Francis, reading The Great Southern Reef at Altona Library on Saturday 18 June, 10am to 11am. For the littlies, Baby Sensory is happening on Saturday 18 June at 2pm and 3pm at Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre. In the last weekend of June, enjoy the Winters Makers Weekend. For more information, visit [libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/library-events/1386-big-june-weekends](https://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/library-events/1386-big-june-weekends)

**Arts at your doorstep**

Tickets are on sale for renowned Aboriginal singer/songwriter Kutcha Edwards’ performance *Circling Time – Songs and Stories* at the Williamstown Town Hall on Wednesday 6 July, 7.30pm. The performance is a celebration of the deeply thoughtful music channelled from the resilience of this big-hearted Mutti Mutti man as well as a sombre reminder of damage done that has not dissipated and still resonates in the lives of Aboriginal people today. To book, visit [www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au](http://www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au/)

**Willy Lit Fest**

The Williamstown Literary Festival has grown into one of Australia’s most respected wordfests, attracting some of the country’s best loved authors. This year, the festival will be held on Friday 17, Saturday 18, Sunday 19 June at the Williamstown Town Hall. Council is a proud supporter of the Williamstown Literary Festival through the Make it Happens Grants program. To view the program and book tickets, visit [www.willylitfest.org.au](http://www.willylitfest.org.au)