**Around the Bay - September**

Published 14 September

**Strand Ward**

**Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club redevelopment**

The Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club (SLSC) redevelopment is a step closer with the appointment of Canvas Projects as the principal design consultant. The state government, Williamstown SLSC, Life Saving Victoria, and Council are working together to redevelop the club house and surrounding open space areas. The current tower and hall of the clubhouse, which opened in 1935, will be retained and upgraded, ensuring the character of the building is maintained. The concept designs will be available for community feedback over the upcoming summer on Council’s engagement platform Participate Hobsons Bay **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

**WJ Irwin upgrade**

The rare Altona Skipper butterfly and the Golden Sun Moth will feature in Altona North’s WJ Irwin Reserve upgrade with carved timber sculptures, interpretive signage, themed play equipment and indigenous habitat plants. The upgrade also includes a picnic shelter and tables, accessible carousel, swings, flying fox, nature play, new tree planting and new paths. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on the draft concept plan. To view the final concept plan, visit **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/wj-irwin-reserve**

**Williamstown Library turns 10!**

Pop into the Williamstown Library on Tuesday 20 September to celebrate the building’s 10th birthday. You may be lucky to score a sweet surprise. Although the overall library service has been operating for over 50 years, the building in its current state has only been open since 2012. 

**Cherry Lake**

**Weaver Reserve and Pier Street streetscape upgrades**

Construction is in full swing at the beach end of Pier Street and Powercor has started underground cabling works. During these works from early to late September, there will be restricted vehicle access along Pier Street from the Esplanade to Queen Street. Traffic management will be in place at all times and Queen Street will remain open. Once Powercor works are complete in late September, Council will finish the remaining upgrade works in Pier Street and close Queen Street. Traffic will be diverted to the Esplanade at Sargood and Bent Streets. Pier Street will reopen once stage 4 is completed which is scheduled for mid-November 2022. During the works, the footpath and access to the shops will remain open. The Weaver Reserve car park has been completed and will open to the public in mid-September.

**JK Grant upgrades**

The cricket nets and high jump facilities within the JK Grant Reserve precinct near Cherry Lake in Altona have been upgraded! The original cricket practice nets have been demolished and six synthetic practice nets have been constructed as well as refurbishing the existing turf practice nets. The high jump area at the Altona Little Athletics Centre has also been upgraded to provide a dedicated athletics area. Works have been completed in time for athletics season next month.

**Brooklyn Community Hall redevelopment**

Construction works on the Brooklyn Community Hall kicked off in August. Key features of the redevelopment include a new commercial kitchen, additional meeting rooms spaces, toilet facilities, and a new accessible outdoor area with outdoor decking and pathways that will connect to the Brooklyn Reserve. Construction is scheduled for completion in April 2023. For more information, visit [**participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklyn-community-hall-redevelopment**](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklyn-community-hall-redevelopment)

**Wetlands**

**Western Aquatic and Early Years Centre – have your say**

Consultation is now open for the preliminary concept plan for the Western Aquatic and Early Years Centre at Bruce Comben Reserve in Altona Meadows. The proposed state-of-the-art facility will provide a much-needed recreation space for the Hobsons Bay community and surrounding suburbs. Provide your feedback by 23 September at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/waeyc** The construction of the Western Aquatic and Early Years Centre is dependent on a three-way funding agreement between Council, state and federal governments. Show your support and help float the pool at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brucecomben/waeyc-advocacy**

**McCormack Park draft master plan**

Following two stages of community consultation, Council has created a draft master plan incorporating residents' feedback. The draft master plan includes a story telling river, water-play workshop, viewing and climbing tower, bush trail, bridge improvements, socialising hubs, picnic facility expansion, multi-sport court, exercise hub, amphitheatre, redesigned carpark, and pathway improvements. Have your say by 23 September at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/mccormack**

**Better Places Out and About – this weekend!**

Come on down to Bruce Comben Reserve this Saturday 17 September, 2pm to 7pm, for the FREE Out and About all ages festival. Featuring live music, kids’ entertainment from The Mik Maks, food trucks, activities and giveaways. The festival will showcase Council’s Better Places program and provide the opportunity for residents to have their say on the Better Places Seabrook and Altona Meadows draft vision and themes. For details, visit [**participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam**](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam)

**General**

**What Youth Want**

All young people aged 10-25, who live, work, study or spend time in Hobsons Bay have the chance to shape the opportunities available to them in the future as part of the What **You**th Want campaign.  Complete an anonymous short online survey by 30 September and enter the competition to win one of the major prizes at [**www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/whatyouthwant**](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/whatyouthwant)

**The Civic Spaces Showcase – all welcome!**

The redeveloped Hobsons Bay Civic Centre in Altona was officially opened on 1 September. To celebrate, Council is opening the doors for two big weeks from Monday 3 October to Saturday 15 October to showcase the renovated Civic Centre and new community spaces. Come along for a tour of the new building, attend an event, or use the new co-lab space or hybrid meeting rooms. The co-lab space is equipped with docking stations, monitors and sit-stand desks and is available for community groups and residents to use Monday to Friday between 8.30am to 5pm. Check the website for details and to book, visit [**www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CivicCentreOpening**](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community-Hubs-Centres)

**Capture Hobsons Bay Photography Tour**

We’ve teamed up with Mandy and Sammi from Mamma Knows West to create a photography tour for locals and visitors to uncover and discover what’s so great about Hobsons Bay – be it our historical buildings, native flora and fauna, beaches, street art or city views.  View the full map and photography tips at: [**www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/phototour**](https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/phototour)

**Spring School Holiday Program**

Monday 19 September to Friday 30 September

Hobsons Bay Libraries invites you to explore the universe these school holidays! Blast off in the libraries and discover new and exciting worlds. View the Hobsons Bay Library website for the full program for children aged five to 12 and young people aged 13 to 17 - **libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

**Hobsons Bay Business Breakfast**

The Hobsons Bay Business Breakfast on Friday 9 September was a huge success with a sold-out audience. More than 170 members of the business community came together to connect and hear guest speaker Matt Jones, the co-founder of Four Pillars Gin. Sign up for the Business e-Works newsletter for upcoming events, workshops and Council tender opportunities: [**www.hobsonsbaybusiness.com.au/Do-Business/Business-e-Works-newsletter**](http://www.hobsonsbaybusiness.com.au/Do-Business/Business-e-Works-newsletter)