**Around the Bay - 12 December 2018**

**Cherry Lake Ward**

Summer trial of Esplanade closure

The Altona Beach precinct will be even better connected and safer for pedestrians when Council’s summer trial vehicle closure of the Esplanade, between Bent and Pier Streets, commences 17 December and runs until early March 2019. Council is working closely with the Altona Village Traders Association to support a program of events, market stalls, games, beach pop ups, outdoor dining and temporary ‘beach boxes’, made especially by the Hobsons Bay Men’s Shed Network. There will be some parking and traffic changes in the immediate area to support the temporary closure. For more, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonabeachprecinct](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonabeachprecinct)

Altona Boat Ramp toilet completion

Construction of the new accessible public toilet facility that services users of the Altona Boat Ramp, Cresser Reserve and the Hobsons Bay Trail is complete. There are five new unisex cubicles, four toilets (two with baby change tables) and external hand wash facilities.

Foreshore works

Works to fix our city’s ageing infrastructure and protect our community from storm surges and future sea level rise are continuing along Altona and Seaholme foreshore. Keep up to date at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonaforeshore for project updates and to be kept informed of upcoming information sessions.

Langshaw Reserve Play Space upgrade

Thank you to those who attended the Langshaw Reserve upgrade information session in October. Community feedback has informed the draft concept plan that is now available for comment until 21 January at <http://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/langshawreserve>

**Strand Ward**

Summer sporting events

The biggest and best open water swimming event in Melbourne is in Hobsons Bay on Sunday 16 December with the Williamstown Open Water (WOW) Challenge and the Victorian Open Water Championships. Events range from 750m to 10km and support local lifesavers. For details, visit [www.wowchallenge.com.au](http://www.wowchallenge.com.au)   
The Bay Classic or the ‘Bay Crits’ as it is affectionately known, is back in Williamstown for 2019. Watch the big names in cycling race on Thursday 3 January as they race along Nelson Place. For more information, visit [www.baycyclingclassic.com.au](http://www.baycyclingclassic.com.au)

New Year’s Eve road closures

Changed traffic conditions, including temporary road closures, will be in place along The Strand, Nelson Place and surrounding streets on New Year’s Eve 2018. Road closures will be in place from North Road at Douglas Parade along The Strand to Ferguson Street, and Nelson Place from Ferguson Street to Thompson Street, including Syme Street. Traffic management will be in place from 7pm, with full closure implemented by 8.30pm on New Year’s Eve until 1.30am. Vehicles will be able to exit the closure zone during the evening, but won’t be able to enter once the closure is in effect. For details, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/roadclosures](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/roadclosures)

Sporting facility design work

Design is currently underway for Council’s change room redevelopment at Harsley Pavilion at Fearon Reserve in Williamstown and Paisley Park Soccer Complex in Newport. The redevelopment at both facilities will involve removing existing open shower halls and installing cubicle toilets and showers to make them female friendly. The state government and Council are funding partners for these projects.

**Wetlands Ward**

Skeleton Creek Trail works update

The Skeleton Creek Trail from South Terrace to Ravenswood Court has been completed, including Lambassa Way to Clarendon Court in Seabrook. Shortly, work will begin on Ravenswood Court to Clarendon Court. Works on Clarendon Court to Point Cook Road is scheduled for March 2019, which also involves working closely with Melbourne Water to deliver upgrade works on both sides of the footbridge between Lan Avenue, Altona Meadows and Ravenswood Court, Seabrook to prevent flooding. Council’s upgrade of the entire trail is scheduled for completion in August 2019.

Altona Meadows Community Park

Thank you to those community members who attended the Altona Meadows Community Park drop-in session in November and provided feedback on the location of the proposed new toilet and dog-off leash area. Council is collating the feedback with a plan to release a proposed design early in the New Year.

Truganina Park footbridge

Work will commence on the picturesque Truganina Park footbridge over Laverton Creek between Truganina Park (100 Steps) and the Truganina Explosives Reserve at the end of summer. Detours will be in place to provide alternative access to the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail.   
For details, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/roads

Summer events in Wetlands Ward

Save the date for Movies by the Bay on 1 February at the Laverton Cricket Club, and Summer Sounds on 19 January at McCormack Park Laverton and 16 February at Homestead Run, Seabrook. The Woods Street Arts Space 2019 program will also be released in January. www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

**General**

**Enjoy summer in Hobsons Bay**

Council’s Accessible Beaches Program has again kicked off for summer. Beach matting is available everyday at Williamstown and Altona Beach and free to hire beach wheelchairs are available on Saturdays and Sundays during the life saving club patrol hours. For details,visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/accessiblebeaches Lockers are also available. Beachgoers can also hire a locker while visiting Altona beach. And don’t forget to be sun smart, look after your health in extreme heat and don’t leave children and pets in cars.

**Shops on Show**

Shop local during the holidays and vote for your favourite Christmas shop window to be in the running for some great prizes. Voting for our Shops on Show initiative closes on Monday 17 December. For more information visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/shopsonshow](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/shopsonshow)

**Christmas events in Hobsons Bay**

The Altona Lions Cherry Lake Christmas market is on Sunday 16 December from 8.30am to 1.30pm at Cherry Lake. Carols by Candlelight is on: Saturday 15 December from 7.30pm at Trafalgar Reserve, Altona Meadows; Sunday 16 December from 7.30pm at Commonwealth Reserve, Williamstown; and at Logan Reserve, Altona on the same evening from 7.30pm. Check out the free, family screening of Elf at Logan Reserve on Friday 21 December at 6pm. Follow us on www.facebook.com/creativecityhobsonsbay