**Around the Bay 17 January**

**Cherry Lake Ward**

Altona • Altona North • Brooklyn • Seaholme

**Altona/Seaholme Foreshore**

Council’s work on the Altona/Seaholme Foreshore is continuing with two drop-in sessions announced for the community to come along and see what is planned. Council is investing $2.3 million into the project this financial year to upgrade beach access points and protect our foreshore from the expected effects of climate change. The beach access points will offer new recreational features, such as viewing platforms and picnic areas. Some aspects of the design will be open for community feedback – so tell us what you think by 5pm on 31 January! Visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au for more information and to lodge your feedback. Council’s two drop-in information sessions for the community to learn more about the project are on Saturday 10 and 24 February from 9.30am to 12.30pm at a venue to be confirmed. Updates will be posted on the Participate website.

**Flemings Pool**

On Thursday 11 January 2018, Council’s contractor was onsite to undertake sand renourishment works at Flemings Pool. Approximately 100m3 of quarried sand was spread over an area of about 1,600m2. The sand replacement will help protect the access ramp from ongoing damage and collapse, reduce wave impacts during high tides and storm events, reduce erosion, provide greater access and usable foreshore space and improve safety. Council will continue to monitor the sand and assess the coastal impacts on Flemings Pool.

**PA Burns Reserve**

Last summer, Council conducted a survey to determine how our community uses PA Burns Reserve and the Altona Dog Beach. The survey generated more than 400 responses with feedback informing a proposed plan for the reserve. Our community can now have its say on the proposed plan, which includes:

* separation of the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail and dogs accessing the beach
* a new carpark with dog washing facilities and green lawn space just for dogs and their families
* separate sport field designed to remove the conflict of cricket players and dogs
* dedicated path for vehicles and horses

For details of the plan, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/pa-burns-reserve The feedback period will close at 5pm on 31 January.

**Events in Altona**

Don’t forget, all going well with the weather, the Movies by the Bay screening of Despicable Me 3, originally planned for 12 January, is now at Logan Reserve Altona on Saturday 20 January.

The Altona Traders’ Association’s annual Australia Day in Altona celebration is on Friday 26 January from 11am with free family fun, including music, stalls and kids activities in the Logan Reserve/Pier Street precinct. There will be fireworks on Altona Beach at 9.30pm. For details, visit www.facebook.com/altonavillagetradersassociation

**Strand Ward**

Newport • Spotswood • South Kingsville • Williamstown

**Sports Facility Needs Analysis and Tennis Needs Assessment**

More than 10,000 local Hobsons Bay residents of all ages participate in a diverse range of sporting activities on a weekly basis at local sporting clubs and venues. In addition, more than 10,000 residents from neighbouring municipalities also visit Hobsons Bay facilities to participate in regular sporting activities. To respond to such a high level of demand, Council has developed a Draft Sports Facility Needs Analysis to determine the future planning and development of Council’s sporting infrastructure and identify priorities for sport facilities within the city. Council has also prepared a Draft Tennis Needs Assessment separately to best address our city’s facilities, participation trends, supply and demand and future requirements. There will be several drop in sessions in early February to discuss parks, sport and play in Hobsons Bay. For details, go to participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au before Friday 23 February.

**Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay**

Hobsons Bay will host the Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay on Saturday 10 February with celebrations in Williamstown and Altona. The baton’s journey will begin at Gem Pier with its arrival on board the tall ship Enterprize. Commonwealth Reserve will come alive from 12pm with family friendly music and peformances. From Commonwealth Reserve, the baton will follow the coast, along Point Gellibrand to end the first stage of its route at Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club. In Altona, the baton bearers depart from Kim Reserve Millers Road, to The Esplanade to Logan Reserve, before continuing to Maidstone Street. From 1.30pm Altona’s Logan Reserve and surrounds will be filled with beach sport, art and cultural performances. Temporary road closures will be in place. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/queensbatonrelay

**So much to see and do**

Hobsons Bay is the home of summer events and there is still plenty of fun to be had while enjoying our wonderful outdoor spaces. There are two screenings of outdoor movies in Williamstown with Ali’s Wedding airing on Saturday 27 January at Commonwealth Reserve and Wonder Woman showing on Saturday 24 February at Commonwealth Reserve. Summer Sounds, featuring The Audreys, Benny Walker and Teeny Tine Stevies, is on Saturday 20 January from 4pm. GOWEST, as part of the 2018 Midsumma Festival, will celebrate queer culture in the west with a Twilight Celebration on Friday 19 January. For all the details, see the events calendar at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

**Wetlands Ward**

Altona Meadows • Laverton • Seabrook

Reserve upgrades are coming

There is still time to comment on the proposed park upgrade designs for Tatman Reserve, Altona Meadows, Woods Street Reserve, Laverton, RK Richards Reserve, Altona Meadows. Feedback closes at 5pm on Wednesday 31 January. To view each of the concept designs, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altona-meadows-and-laverton-reserve-upgrades

Summer Sounds

A dose of unexpected winter weather resulted in Council cancelling last weekend’s Summer Sounds event in McCormack Park. However, every rain cloud has a silver lining and there is one more Summer Sounds event in the Wetlands Ward still to come. Head down to the Altona Meadows Skate Park on Saturday 17 February from 11.30am to enjoy music from the Jungle Cuffs, Hollow December and Plaza-trg. Summer Sounds is an annual favourite on the Hobsons Bay calendar, providing an afternoon of free music and entertainment in our parks and reserves.

Open Space Strategy

Council has developed a Draft Open Space Strategy to guide the provision, protection, planning, design and management of open space in Hobsons Bay over the next 10 years. This strategy will help Council set priorities and make decisions on the maintenance, upgrade and development of both existing open space and new spaces or facilities, which cater for the current and future needs of the Hobsons Bay community. It incorporates an assessment of sport fields, pitches, courts, sport pavilions, indoor stadiums, parks and social recreation spaces, playgrounds, shared trails, foreshore spaces, conservation and heritage parks. Have your say until Friday 23 February. Drop-in info sessions are scheduled for early February. For details, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/open-space-strategy-hobsons-bay

Summer by the Sea

There’s still time to get involved in the annual Summer by the Sea program. The last event of the program is Geocaching, a modern treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices, at Truganina Park, Altona Meadows on Tuesday 23 January from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location. Suitable for the whole family. To register, visit summerbythesea.vic.gov.au