**Around the Bay – 12 February**

**Cherry Lake Ward**

G Den Dulk Reserve community event

Come and celebrate the new and improved G Den Dulk Reserve at our community celebration this Sunday 16 February from 10am to 12pm. There’ll be free coffee, cake, a basketball clinic, face painting and the opportunity to meet members of the Altona Community Garden group. The reserve is in Somers Parade, Altona (opposite the shops) and features a new playground, basketball/netball and activities area and a community garden. See **https://business.facebook.com/events/469431967087586/** for more.

Brooklyn playground upgrade

Brooklyn’s favourite public spaces are set to receive an upgrade with a new public toilet at Brooklyn Reserve and the installation of new play equipment at D N Duane and Rowan Avenue reserves along with additional seating and shade. More open space will be created by demolishing the Frances Sullivan Kindergarten. Solar lighting will also be installed at the links between Cypress Avenue and the Federation Trail. Work has commenced and are expected to be complete by June 2020. This project is a partnership between the Victorian Government and Council as part of the West Gate Tunnel project. Visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklynparkupgrades**

A dog’s life at PA Burns Reserve

Join Council staff for a free morning coffee, dog treats and chat about the recent and upcoming changes at PA Burns Reserve and dog beach from 9am to 11am on Saturday 22 February at the reserve (Altona Dog Beach), Altona Road. For details, contact 9932 1000 or email **ranger@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Dog’s Breakfast at Doug Grant Reserve on 8 February. It was a great opportunity to raise awareness of the Laverton Creek Spit Conservation Area and its unique fauna. Go to **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/habitatconservation**

**Strand Ward**

Festival February

Celebrate Williamstown’s waterfront heritage at the inaugural Williamstown Seaport Festival, starting with the arrival of the barque James Craig on Thursday 27 February. Set sail on a historic tall ship, enjoy fresh seafood, live music and family activities in the Seaworks Festival Zone on Saturday 29 February and Sunday 1 March. Visit **www.williamstownseaportfestival.com.au**

South Kingsville will come alive for the Vernon Street Festival on Sunday 23 February from 11am to 3pm. Bring the whole family and enjoy entertainment, food, drinks, children’s activities and much more!

Beach walking frames now available
For the first time in Victoria, people with reduced mobility will be able to hire beach walking frames to take a stroll along the beach. The walking frames are the newest addition to Council’s Accessible Beaches Program, and have been made possible through a partnership between Council, the Altona Village Traders Association, the Altona Lifesaving Club and the Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club. They are available for hire through Council on Saturdays and Sundays, from 12pm to 5pm throughout summer. The beach walking frames complement Council’s beach wheelchairs available for hire, as well as accessible matting, at both beaches. Go to www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/accessiblebeaches for more.

Donald Mclean Reserve

Council is hosting a drop-in session to discuss the design of open space including pathways, landscaping and park furniture surrounding the Donald McLean Reserve cricket nets. The session is on Wednesday, 19 February from 6pm to 7.30pm at Roy Picone Pavilion, Donald McLean Reserve, The Avenue, Spotswood. Go to participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/don-mclean-reserve-improvement-plan for details and submissions

**Wetlands Ward**

Merton Street works rescheduled

As part of our capital works budget this year, Council is delivering a road rehabilitation project for Merton Street in Altona Meadows, near the Melbourne Ballpark. These works were started before Christmas and the remainder of the works were originally planned for February 2020. In light of traffic disruptions caused by the nearby Queen Street Bridge Rehabilitation project, delivered by the Victorian Government, Council has made the decision to defer all remaining road works in Merton Street to late September 2020. In the meantime, we will conduct regular road inspections and undertake temporary repairs as needed. Visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Mertonstreet**

Events in the Wetlands

The Laverton Festival is heading to the Curlew Community Park in Epsom Street on Sunday 23 February from 11am to 4pm. Enjoy a fun, family day with food, drinks, children’s entertainment, stalls, rides and more!

Speaking of markets, have you visited the Altona Meadows Farmers Market yet? Hosted by the Altona Meadows Community Association and Regional Farmers Markets, it’s at AB Shaw Reserve, 9am-2pm, on the first Sunday of the month. Support our local farmers and grab some great produce.

Seabrook Boulevard and Shane Avenue

Following on from the community drop-in session on Thursday 12 December, and online feedback, Council is reviewing all comments and will publish a report on **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au** by the end of February. The report will identify the key issues and potential solutions that have been put forward by the community. We will then seek community feedback on the proposed solutions. To keep informed, register at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

**General**

We are in full swing with Recycling 2.0 and thank the people of Hobsons Bay for doing their part! Council appreciates the community’s patience whilewe work through some initial challenges with the bin schedules.

We are supporting our community in learning the new system in a practical way. For those households that are getting it right, we are putting a sticker on your food and garden waste bin and your recycling bin that tells you you’ve got it in hand! For households that have items in your bin that aren’t accepted by our recycling contractors, we are putting a sticker on your bin that tells you the items that can’t be accepted. If you get this sticker, don’t worry, change takes time to learn. We will come back and collect your bin within two business days during the month of February. All you need to do is take out the items that are not accepted and place your bin back on the kerbside for collection.

Preventing contamination is important. In the new recycling system we are only accepting items that will definitely be recycled and have clear local end uses. Often the wrong items in bins can contaminate the whole truck, sending the whole load to landfill. This is more environmentally damaging, wastes the recycling efforts of others and costs our ratepayers more money, as landfill is more expensive.

Come chat to the Recycling 2.0 Team at one of our community drop in sessions.

12 February, 5.30-6.15pm, Altona Library

19 February, 5.30-6.30pm, Williamstown Town Hall

26 February, 5.30-6.30pm, Laverton Community Hub

4 March, 5.30-6.30pm, South Kingsville Community Centre

Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/recycling for more.