**Around the Bay - February**

**Cherry Lake**

***Creating spaces for all – PA Burns Reserve***

The Altona dog beach and the off-leash area at PA Burns Reserve are popular places for dog walkers. In 2019, Council separated part of the shared trail and created three pedestrian access points to the dog beach, a dog wash down area, two lookouts, fencing and landscaping. The next stage of the project is about to begin with a fenced and gated dog off-leash area, more pathways, seats, bike rails, bins, tree and shrub planting and a designated car parking area for dog beach users and horse floats. Works are expected to be complete by August 2021. A friendly reminder when visiting the dog beach, please don’t forget to pick up after your pooch. *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/paburnsreserve*

***Kororoit Creek Shared Trail section 4 and 5***

Design work is progressing well for section 4 and 5 of the Kororoit Creek Shared Trail. Recently Council completed a Cultural Heritage Management Plan in collaboration with the Traditional Owners of the land. The final design will incorporate the structural elements under the railway bridge and the boardwalk south bound to Cherry Lake. Pending statutory approvals, the design phase is scheduled to be

completed by June 2021. *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Parks-Playgrounds/Kororoit-Creek-Reserve*

***Altona Tennis Club***

To improve training facilities at the Altona Tennis Club in Fresno Street, Council will resurface the courts and install new nets, fencing and light poles with sustainable LED light fittings. The project is jointly funded by Council and the Victorian Government.

**Strand**

***Newport Lakes Park***

Stay tuned for upcoming community consultation on Council’s Newport Lakes Park, open space development and conservation plan. The Newport Lakes parkland is a 32-hectare park that is of regional significance and popular with people from Hobsons Bay and afar. Although considerable work has been undertaken in the conservation and lakes zone over many years, Council is planning to renew and upgrade some of the park’s features, including: infrastructure around the lake and conservation area; new playground facilities at the Lakes Park and Pavey Park; the dog off-lead area; the arboretum; footpath and pedestrian connectivity; way finding signage; and interpretive signage to ensure the space can continue to cater for future communities. Details

will be released soon at *participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au*

***Newport Athletics Track***

Works are due to start later next March on eight pole-mounted, solar-powered LED lights at the popular Newport Athletics Track. The installation will improve safety around the car park. A disabled car space will also be marked closest to the entry.

***Williamstown Maritime Precinct***

The Victorian Government’s Department of Transport is planning for the future of Williamstown’s historic Maritime Precinct area. A draft framework has been developed to incorporate the insights and values of the local community, businesses, industry, government and visitors to the foreshore. The draft framework is now available for feedback until 5 March at *getinvolved.transport.vic.gov.au/williamstown-maritime-precinct*

**Wetlands**

***Habitat Gardens Laverton***

Council is offering 30 Laverton families the chance to transform their front or back gardens for free as part the Habitat Gardens program and Better Places Laverton. Participants will learn about local flora and fauna and how their garden can become a steppingstone for native wildlife through online workshops, guidance from a landscape designer and up to 30 free plants to start their habitat garden. The Habitat Gardens program stems from a Pitch your Idea community submission. To register, visit *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/habitatgardens*

***Aviation Road mural by Ness Flett***

The Aviation Road Shopping Precinct murals by illustrative artist Ness Flett have been completed and look amazing! A series of six colourful geometric patterned murals have activated sites across the Aviation Road shopping precinct. The vibrant artworks energise the precinct creating a visually exciting experience for businesses and the community. Find out more about Creative City Hobsons Bay at *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Street-Art*

***20 years for Seabrook Community Centre***

It’s been 20 years of serving the community and providing a space to learn, connect and grow for the Seabrook Community Centre. Subject to any further COVID restrictions, the centre will reopen on Monday 15 February to coincide with the birthday celebrations. Visitors may notice a few new features, including a large wooden pelican and celebratory signage out front. There will be manuka seed stick packs for visitors, as well as an event in March that will commemorate cultural diversity and the anniversary. The centre is at 15 Truganina Avenue.

**General**

***Council Plan consultation***

What do you think are the important opportunities and issues for our city? Do you have ideas? Is our community-led vision, developed in 2017, still relevant today? Help us refresh the 2030 Community Vision and be part of the Council Plan 2021-25 development. You can get involved by completing a quick survey on Participate

Hobsons Bay, attending a community workshop in your ward or on a particular topic of interest or chatting to Council staff at one of the many events planned across the coming weeks. For details, visit *participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/refreshing-communityvision-hobsons-bay*

***Kinder central enrolments***

Did you know the state government will fund three-year-old kindergarten programs from 2022? To help families access kindergarten for their little ones, Council has added three-year-old kindergarten registrations to its central registration portal. Now families can use the portal to register for three and four-year-old kindergarten with a few simple clicks. Register today! To find out more, visit *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/kindergartens* or call *1300 179*

*944* to talk to a Council officer about eligibility.

***Recycling 2.0***

Look out for feedback opportunities in the coming weeks on Council’s waste and recycling system via a community survey. Watch this space for more information. hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/recycling

***Sustainable Living Festival 2021***

Hobsons Bay is again participating in the Sustainable Living Festival with a range of workshops and events throughout February, including a local nature strip tour, nature strip gardening information session and exploring Australian Indigenous flavours session. For details, and to book, visit *hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/sustainabilityevents*

***Coffee Connect returns***

The Coffee Connect business networking series is back for 2021 with monthly informal catchups for business owners to enjoy a coffee, promote their business, share ideas and network. The next event is on Wednesday 3 March. Attendance is free, but places are limited. Visit *hobsonsbaybusiness.com.au/coffeeconnect*

***Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre***

Following another successful World Wetlands Day at the weekend, the volunteer-run Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre Inc. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Council, Deakin University, Ecolinc, Melbourne Water, City West Water, Cirqit Health and Birdlife Australia. The agreement aims to establish a new facility that provides opportunities for the community to engage in nature-based activities, where people of all ages can learn about the natural values of the area and ways to care for it. For details, visit *hobsonsbaywetlandscentre.org.au*