

# HOBSONS BAY

NEWS / INFORMATION / EVENTS

EDITION 42  
*Feb / Mar 2025*

## CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

HELP CLEAN UP,  
FIX UP AND CONSERVE  
OUR ENVIRONMENT  
(DETAILS ON PAGE 5)

### DRAWING COMPETITION

See page 4 for details

**3** SHAPE WHERE  
YOU LIVE

**6** MEET OUR 2025 CITIZEN  
OF THE YEAR AND YOUNG  
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL





## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the first edition of Hobsons Bay Community News for 2025.

We're gearing up for a big year and have kicked off with community consultation on the Hobsons Bay Strategic Council Plan 2025–2035. This is Council's roadmap to achieving our Community Vision and we want your feedback and input.

You can have your say on our online engagement platform Participate Hobsons Bay and we'll also be hitting the streets and visiting markets. If you're more of the creative type, enter our drawing competition on page 4 and draw what you want to see in Hobsons Bay for the next 10 years. As a Council, we want to collect all types of feedback. For details, read page 3.

In January, I was honoured to announce this year's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day citizenship and awards ceremony. You can read about the winners on page 6.

The Make it Happen grants are open for 2025. Community groups, clubs and organisations can apply for funding for equipment and resources, events and festivals, and community projects. Details on page 7.

We're excited to reopen the Altona North Library, which will soon be home to a new Centre of Excellence, for details see page 10.

Lastly, read about the completed infrastructure projects on page 8 and our community services to assist older residents on page 9.

I'm looking forward to a busy, fresh, fun and exciting 2025.

**Cr Daria Kellander,**  
**Mayor of Hobsons Bay**

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## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council meetings are held at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre and livestreamed starting at 7pm. If you would like to attend in person, please register online as seating is limited.

**Tuesday 25 February**

**Tuesday 25 March**

**Tuesday 29 April (Endorsement of the proposed budget 25–26 for public consultation)**

**Tuesday 27 May 2025, 7pm**

**Tuesday 24 June 2025, 7pm (Adoption of Budget 2025-2026)**

For more information, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings](http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings)

### HOBSONS BAY *Life*

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## CONNECT WITH YOUR COUNCILLORS

### Altona Ward



**Mayor**  
**Cr Daria Kellander**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0499 600 438  
✉ [dkellander@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:dkellander@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Altona North Ward



**Deputy Mayor**  
**Cr Rayane Hawli**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0477 440 281  
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### Altona Meadows Ward



**Cr Diana Grima**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0499 600 476  
✉ [dgrima@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:dgrima@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Laverton Ward



**Cr Paddy Keys-Macpherson**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0456 659 646  
✉ [paddykm@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:paddykm@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Spotswood Ward



**Cr Kristin Bishop**  
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### Williamstown Ward



**Cr Lisa Bentley**  
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### Williamstown North Ward



**Cr Michael Disbury**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0459 818 530  
✉ [mdisbury@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:mdisbury@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Connect with Councillors on social media



**Scan QR code for details**

### HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

115 Civic Parade, Altona / PO Box 21, Altona 3018  
Phone 1300 179 944  
NRS phone 133 677 and quote 1300 179 944  
[customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

[www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

[facebook.com/HobsonsBayCityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/HobsonsBayCityCouncil)

[instagram.com/HobsonsBayCC](https://www.instagram.com/HobsonsBayCC)

[linkedin.com/company/hobsons-bay-city-council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hobsons-bay-city-council)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the lands, rivers and coastal areas in Hobsons Bay. We recognise the First Peoples' relationship to this land and offer our respect to their Elders past and present.

Cover image: Participants pick up rubbish at Williamstown Beach.

This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled stock using environmentally friendly inks.

# HELP SHAPE HOBSONS BAY

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK AND IDEAS TO HELP US IMPROVE  
OUR SERVICES AND GUIDE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## HOBSONS BAY STRATEGIC COUNCIL PLAN 2025–35

What are the key areas Council should focus on in the next 10 years?

What do you think are the important issues and opportunities facing our city?

What are the health and wellbeing priorities for you and your family?

We want your ideas on what we should prioritise and how we can improve Hobsons Bay to be the best possible place to live, work, study and visit.

The Strategic Council Plan guides Council's work and is the roadmap to achieving our Community Vision.

We'll also be hitting the streets of Hobsons Bay to engage in face-to-face conversations to find out what's important to you. You'll find us at local markets, trading precincts and Council+ centres.

### PROVIDE FEEDBACK

Share your ideas and have your say at [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### NEXT STEPS

Once we've heard your ideas and priorities, you'll be able to provide feedback on the draft plan before the final Hobsons Bay Strategic Council Plan 2025–35 is adopted in mid-late 2025.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Which Hobsons Bay suburb is expected to have the highest population growth?

See page 11  
for the answer



Williamstown Town Hall



Altona Theatre

# OUR CREATIVE CITY



Old Laverton School

Hobsons Bay has a number of great cultural venues across the city that community members, organisations and businesses can hire.

### Williamstown Town Hall

Our premier cultural venue in Hobsons Bay is the Williamstown Town Hall, the perfect place to host your next event or performance. This renovated 1920s Greek Revival architecture facility hosts a diverse range of events for up to 1000 people. Enjoy the majestic ballroom, intimate supper room or one of the classic meeting rooms for your next event. Be immersed in theatrical and orchestral performances, cultural events and ceremonies, or hire the space for weddings, fairs, festivals and expos. The venue plays an important role in civic events, hosting citizenship ceremonies, immunisation sessions and blood bank donations.

### Altona Theatre

You can't miss the stunning rainbow in the forecourt of the Altona Theatre as you head in for your event. Altona Theatre has a 244-seat raked auditorium, a large green room, two dressing rooms and ample parking. The theatre opened in 1988. Today it is a popular venue used by our local community theatre companies Altona City Theatre and Williamstown Musical Theatre Company.

### Old Laverton School

Built in 1888, this beautiful single room schoolhouse is the last of its kind in the Melbourne metropolitan area. The facility offers a rare combination of warmth and heritage character, a quiet neighbourhood, huge windows providing natural light and on-site amenities.



Find out more, scan



WIN 1 OF 2 \$50 VOUCHERS

## CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Draw what you want to see in Hobsons Bay in the next 10 years for the chance to win one of two \$50 vouchers for a local business of your choice.

### Two vouchers up for grabs:

- Young person (under 18) prize
- Adult prize

The winners will be published in the next edition of Hobsons Bay Community News. Each entry will also go towards shaping the Hobsons Bay Strategic Council Plan 2025–35.

Upload a photo of your artwork by Sunday 9 March at [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/magazine](http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/magazine)

Scan to enter



DEC/JAN COMPETITION WINNER

### SUNNY SUMMER SNAPS WINNER!

Congratulations to *Ashlyn Burr* who won the photography competition in the last edition of the magazine.

# SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

## *for a better future*



### HAVE YOU CLAIMED YOUR FREE HARD WASTE COLLECTION?

Each financial year (1 July to 30 June) all households get one free hard waste collection. It's a great opportunity to safely offload large, bulky waste including electronics, as well as garden waste that won't fit in your food and garden bin. If we can locally recycle the items, we will, before sending the rest to landfill. If you need a second hard waste collection before the end of the financial year, you can also book an extra paid collection.



**Book now**

### GREEN TO RED – WE'RE SWAPPING OLD BIN LIDS

Throughout February, we've been moving through the municipality to swap any old dark green rubbish bin lids to red.

Why? Bin lids will soon be the same across Victoria. The change is being led by the state government, who has provided Council with funding to make all general rubbish bin lids red. Standardising the bin lid colours will make it easier for people to navigate the four-bin system, no matter where they live in Victoria.

If you still have one of the older green lidded bins, please put it out on your normal collection day and leave it out until 6pm for us to swap your bin lid with a red one.

There will be no service disruption during the bin lid changeover period.



**More information**

### CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Imagine the good we could do if all of Australia came together on one day and took practical action to improve the environment? What a difference we could make!

That's the thinking that started Clean Up Australia Day in 1990, and now over 20 million Aussies have stepped up over the years, donating their time to get together and clean up our local spaces.

Let's see how many people we can bring together this Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday 2 March. You can join a group or organise a group of friends or colleagues to get together and clean up a part of Hobsons Bay. Registration is free for communities and schools (businesses pay a small fee) and ensures that you're covered by public liability insurance and that you'll receive a free Clean Up Australia kit.



**Get involved**

### DID YOU KNOW?

In the last four years in Hobsons Bay, which month and year were the most babies born?

See page 11 for the answer

# Meet our 2025

## CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Two passionate Hobsons Bay residents have been awarded the highest civic honours at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.



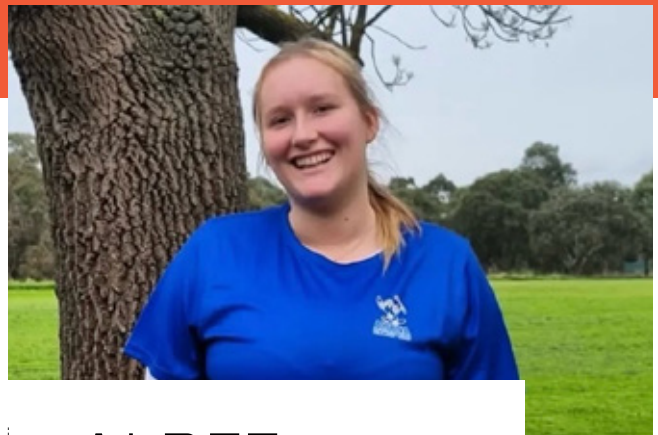
### LARA WEEK

#### CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Lara's nomination for Citizen of the Year has been chosen by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and decision committee because of her commitment to advocacy, collaboration and inclusivity.

Lara is a creative producer and designer. Recently, she has received several awards for her collaborative work on the immersive performance *Zaffé* including the Director's Choice Award at the Melbourne Fringe Festival (2023) and several 2024 Green Room Awards including Best Sound Design and Composition, Best Independent Production and Best Set Design. She is dedicated to creating spaces where people with different skills and perspectives can share ideas and produce work together.

Lara is also a key spokesperson for the rights of her Techno Park Drive neighbourhood in Williamstown. Through organising events including barbecues and movie nights, Lara seeks to bring people together and advocate for the rights of her community.



### ALBEE DAMNICS

#### YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Albee recently graduated from Bayside College in Williamstown. At school, she was recognised as a valuable role model to her peers and a prosocial activist. She was a key member of the school's Social Action Group and received the Student All Rounder award when she was in year 11.

Albee is passionate about gender equity and respect. In particular, Albee has advocated for educators to make positive change to support school-aged boys to have healthy, respectful relationships, and to improve the English curriculum to promote learning and storytelling that features strong female protagonists.

She is also passionate about hockey and proudly represented the western region five times at the Junior State Championships, playing for the Wild Cats and captaining once.

Albee also volunteers at the Altona Hockey Club. She coaches the under 12s, manages the club's Tik Tok page and helps in the canteen.

# JOIN SONS OF THE WEST



For the past 10 years, we've partnered with the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation to run the health and wellbeing program Sons of the West.

Each year in Hobsons Bay, more than 100 people graduate from the 10-week program, with many people returning the following year.

Brandon first joined Sons of the West in 2023 as a way to get active again and connect with his community.

He participated in the program in 2023 at Newport and 2024 at Brooklyn.

"Both Sons of the West seasons I've joined, I've ended the season in a better place physically and mentally compared to the start of the season," said Brandon.

"It has reminded me how important it is to continue to invest in yourself and your community. Also, that there are some amazing people and stories in our backyard!"

Ian and John are also regular participants of the annual program.

Ian first joined in 2019 and John in 2021 as a way to stay active and social.



Brandon speaking at a celebration event at Whitten Oval, Footscray



John and Ian



Years later, it has turned into a passion for both men. Together, Ian and John lead Mighty West Walkers, a walking group which strides out together five days a week. When the Sons of the West program is not on, it's a great way for past participants to regularly catch up and stay active.

Sons of the West will be back in March 2025, at Laverton Community Hub and Brooklyn Community Hall.

To register your interest, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/sotw](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/sotw)

We also run Daughters of the West in partnership with the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, which will begin in July 2025.

Register your interest at [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/dotw](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/dotw)

## Make it Happen GRANTS

Do you have ideas and initiatives which can help support people in our community? Is your group or organisation looking at innovative ways to meet a local need?

The Hobsons Bay Make it Happen grants program provides funding to support our community to 'make things happen'.

This program can help enable activities, projects, programs, events and resources such as last year's Holi Festival by Love Seabrook, the Winter Solstice event at Seaworks and the ParKanDo pilot program - Ready Steady Boxing. It could be to do with the environment, sustainability, sport and recreation, arts and culture, health and wellbeing, multicultural, community

To view eligibility, grant categories and to apply, visit our website [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/grants)

and neighbourhood development, technology, projects by and for young people, children and families, and more.

Last year, more than 75 applications were supported with funding.

Before you apply, register for one of our online information sessions or grant information and writing workshops on 17 February, 25 February, 6 March and 12 March.

Make it Happen grants are open for applications from 5 February 2025 until 1pm on 31 March 2025.

Events and programs can be delivered up until June 2026.

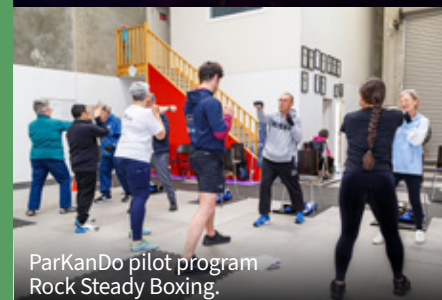
2025



Love Seabrook Holi Festival



Winter Solstice event at Seaworks



ParKanDo pilot program Rock Steady Boxing.



Leo Hoffmann Reserve, Newport



Woods and Lohse Street upgrades, Laverton



Patch in the Park, Brooklyn

# BUILDING A BETTER CITY

## WOODS AND LOHSE STREET UPGRADES

Woods and Lohse Streets in Laverton have been refreshed as part of the first stage of the Better Places Laverton project.

This stage focused on enhancing the area around local shops and the playground, creating a more welcoming and accessible space for the community.

The works included upgraded footpaths, new street furniture, and bike hoops for convenient cycling access.

Fresh landscaping was also introduced, featuring indigenous flowers, shrubs, and grasses in the garden beds, along with new paving around these beds and the sitting areas.

The Telstra phone booth near the Woods Street Arts Space has been removed, and will be installed closer to the train station for greater accessibility.



Scan for more details

## PATCH IN THE PARK

Brooklyn residents can expand their gardening skills and grow their own fresh produce with the launch of Patch in the Park, a new community garden in Brooklyn Reserve.

The new garden features self-watering raised vegetable garden beds, a 'food forest' with herbs, hardy vegetables and fruit trees, a storage shed painted with a mural, a habitat garden with indigenous plants from the local, critically endangered Volcanic Plains Grassland ecosystem, significant rainwater harvesting through downpipe diversion and water tanks, sheltered seating areas and an educational veggie patch and sandpit for the kids.

The project received funding from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, and has been co-designed by Council in collaboration with the Patch in the Park community group.

To learn more about the project and how to become a member, or get involved in the committee, visit [patchinthepark.com.au](http://patchinthepark.com.au).



Scan for more details

## NEWPORT'S NEW OPEN SPACE

Leo Hoffmann Reserve, located on the corner of Newcastle and Oxford Streets, has been revamped and is open to play and catch up with friends and family.

The works included upgrading the oval area, installing a new park shelter, barbecue and picnic area.

We've also extended the existing basketball half-court and tennis rebound wall to create a youth activity zone.

For kids aged 12-plus and young adults, there's a challenging ninja course, thanks to funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

The playground upgrade includes a new multi-activity play structure featuring a variety of climbing activities, tunnel slide, climbing nets and balancing activities. There's also a rotating basket seat swing, accessible carousel, sandpit with shade sail and flying fox.

The rotunda has also been upgraded to improve accessibility thanks to funding from the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund.

Tree planting and additional landscaping will take place in autumn, when the weather is more suitable.



Scan for more details





## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers are the backbone of our community. In this edition, we meet Grant Gray, who volunteers to deliver meals to eligible Hobsons Bay residents.

Grant has volunteered for Meals on Wheels for over 18 months. He is rostered on one morning a week and usually picks up another shift. As a life-long Altona resident, Grant feels a strong connection to Hobsons Bay.

“I’ve always wanted to give back to the community that has looked after me all my life,” said Grant.

The delivered meals service provides nutritious three-course meals to eligible residents. All meals are delivered on weekday mornings by Council volunteers who also conduct a wellbeing check.

“It’s more than delivering meals,” said Grant.

“You meet and get to know the people you are delivering the meals to. I get a lot of satisfaction from helping residents not be so isolated.”

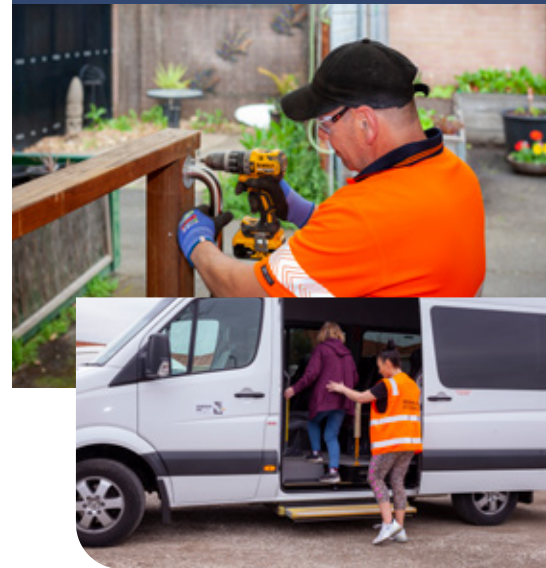
Grant recommends anyone and everyone should volunteer with Meals on Wheels. You need to have a driver’s licence, complete a police check and a willingness to do it.

Last year, Council awarded its Meals on Wheels contract to a new supplier, Ranahans, ensuring our residents will receive the fresh and chilled meals, soups and desserts they told us they wanted.

In 2023–24, Council provided 24,770 meals to about 135 residents, most of whom are 80 years and older.

For more information about volunteering, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering)

## SUPPORT AT HOME



Our community support services assist older residents and those living with a disability to live independently and comfortably in their own homes. Support includes:

- home maintenance and modifications
- delivered meals
- social support groups, and
- mini-bus transport to local places of interest.

To access these government-subsidised aged and/or disability care services contact either:

- **My Aged Care** for people aged over 65 (50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) call **1800 200 422**, or
- **Uniting AgeWell’s Home and Community Care Program for Younger People** (HACC PYP) contact on **1300 783 435**.

For more information on how to access support and apply for an assessment, you can also visit our website [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CommunitySupportServices](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CommunitySupportServices), call **9932 1530** or email [agedservices@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:agedservices@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Every day the historic Timeball in Williamstown drops, what time does it drop?

See page 11 for the answer

# LIBRARIES AND COUNCIL+ NEWS



## ALTONA NORTH LIBRARY REOPENS

A new chapter begins for our popular Altona North Library.

The building, on the corner of Millers Road and McArthurs Road, has been modernised with a new look and feel to create a welcoming space for all ages.

There are study and co-working spaces, a Council+ video conferencing pod, plus a dedicated children's area.

The external courtyard has been refreshed and is the perfect place to enjoy the sunshine and start your next book.

Excitingly, the library will be transformed into a Centre of Excellence for board games and video games at the end of March and will be known as the Games Discovery Centre.

With two local high schools within walking distance of the library it will be the ultimate hub for afterschool games.

The Games Discovery Centre will provide free access to all types of games along with the numerous social, educational, and emotional benefits that playing games offers.

It's an additional wow factor to our current core library services. You will still be able to print, use the computers, borrow books, attend events and study in the library.

It's a space to access technology and come together to share ideas.



For opening hours, please visit



## GAME TIME

Help us celebrate the opening of our second Centre of Excellence with an epic, family-friendly Community Opening Party on Sunday 30 March.

But that's just the beginning — our exciting Festival of Games will take the fun to the next level, showcasing everything the centre has to offer. Stay tuned for more details — this is going to be a game-changer!

## WHAT IS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE?

The Centres of Excellence will be a network of six centres that aim to make services and learning opportunities more accessible to more people.

We've identified each library branch as a location for a Centre of Excellence. Each site will have a unique theme with specially curated programs, activities, specialist equipment and collections.

Find out more about the Centres of Excellence themes and locations, scan below.



Scan here



Youth support team leader - Jade

**What other parents have said:**

“We can all do with extra coaching in empathy. Not everyone is a natural parent and knows exactly how to help our kids most effectively. More effective doing this workshop than reading self-help books.”

“I think every parent should do this course. It really helped me understand how much my reactions affect the reactions of my children and what they need emotionally to become well-rounded adults.”

“In an ever-changing world with varying demands on us all, this course teaches us to look within and how we developed growing up, and how it impacts on how we engage with our teens. A valuable and insightful course, accessible online, engaging and well run.”



# TUNING IN TO TEENS

Every stage of parenting has challenges and when it comes to parenting teenagers, it’s a whole new ball game. We chat to our youth support team leader Jade about strategies and tips to tune in to your teen.

Tuning in to Teens is a group program run each term and is free for Hobsons Bay parents and caregivers.

**Tell us about Tuning in to Teens**

Tuning in to Teens is an evidence-based program to support parents and caregivers to feel confident and connected with their teens.

The program is run during the school term over six weeks with a two-hour session each week, plus home activities.

It’s a group program so you get to know the other participants and form a great support group.

**Who should attend?**

It’s aimed at parents and caregivers with teenagers aged 12 to 18. We have parents who want to upskill and be prepared for what might come up, parents who are starting to see difficulties and challenges, or families who are dealing with complex family dynamics. You can sign up individually or as a couple.

**What do you think is the biggest challenge for parents today?**

A lot of parents are struggling with time pressure, particularly balancing work with family life. Technology and

social media are big players; knowing the right balance of screen time, mental health and how COVID has impacted life milestones and stages.

**How can parents best communicate with their teens?**

By being interested and spending time to connect and get to know your teen.

**When is the best time to have difficult conversations?**

When you’re both calm. It’s also good to have difficult conversations when you don’t have direct eye contact, for example, taking the dog for a walk, driving in the car or doing the dishes side by side.

**How can parents help their teen to deal with conflict effectively?**

Put simply - role modeling, positive behaviours and your own self-care.

**Emotionally intelligent parenting is a core part of the Tuning in to Teens program, what is it and why is it encouraged?**

Essentially, emotional intelligence is being able to understand our own emotions and not have outbursts that make other people feel uncomfortable. We’re better able to help others, including our teens, when we understand our feelings and how those feelings impact others.

**UPCOMING SESSIONS 2025:**

**Term 1**  
**Tuesdays, online**  
**18 February to 1 April**  
**6.30pm to 8.30pm**

**Term 2**  
**Mondays, online**  
**28 April to 2 June**  
**6.30pm to 8.30pm**

Find out about other programs and services for 12- to 25-year-olds run by Hobsons Bay Youth Services at [hbys.com.au](http://hbys.com.au)



**Find out more and register**

**DID YOU KNOW?** Scan to discover the answers 

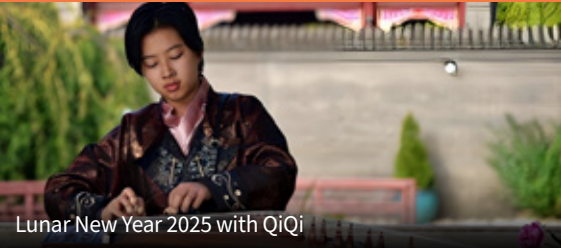
# WHAT'S ON



Lesser long eared bat, photo credit Rob Gratton



Hobsons Bay walking tours



Lunar New Year 2025 with QiQi



Summer Pruning Workshop



Ocean Photographer of the Year Exhibition

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCEAN PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR EXHIBITION

29 January to 13 July  
Seaworks, Williamstown

The Ocean Photographer of the Year exhibition features 118 extraordinary images by world-renowned photographers, and celebrates the wonders of our oceans while highlighting the urgent need for their protection.

For more information and tickets, visit [seaworks.com.au/events/ocean-photographer](http://seaworks.com.au/events/ocean-photographer)

### WESTSIDE STUDIO - OPEN STUDIO SESSIONS

Thursday 6 February, Thursday 6 March and Thursday 3 April  
5pm to 7pm  
Newport Community Hub

Youth Services is opening the doors to the music studio on the ground level of Newport Community Hub for a monthly Youth Music night. If you're 15-24, this is your chance to chill, connect, and create in a fun and supportive space. Find out more, [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Whats-On/Westside-Studio-Open-studio-sessions](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Whats-On/Westside-Studio-Open-studio-sessions)

### TEA, TECH AND TRAINING

14, 21 and 28 February  
10am to 11am  
Altona Library

Enjoy a hot or cold beverage as you explore 'Be Connected' courses at your own pace on provided laptops. To book, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Libraries/Whats-On-News/Tea-Tech-and-Training](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Libraries/Whats-On-News/Tea-Tech-and-Training)

### LUNAR NEW YEAR 2025 WITH QIQI

Saturday 15 February  
11am to 3pm

Commonwealth Reserve, Williamstown

Ring in the Lunar New Year with a day of free music, dance and joy, hosted by local guzheng artist QiQi. For more information, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Whats-On/Lunar-New-Year-2025-with-QiQi](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Whats-On/Lunar-New-Year-2025-with-QiQi)

### SUMMER PRUNING WORKSHOP

Wednesday 26 February,  
7pm to 8.30pm  
Online via Zoom

Join Scott Hitchins to learn how to prune your summer stone fruit (peaches, apricots, plums) as well as apples, pears, quinces, figs and more.



To register,  
please scan

### NOCTURNAL NIGHT

Friday 28 February  
7.30pm to 10pm

Truganina Park, Altona Meadows

Join local zoologist Rob Gratton for a spotlight tour through Truganina Park, you might see owls, possums and microbats! Free event but registrations essential.



Scan to  
book

### HARRINGTON SQUARE CELEBRATION

Saturday 1 March  
10am to 2pm

Harrington Square, Altona

Rediscover Harrington Square's shops, services and eateries while enjoying live music, face painting and roving performers.

### CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Sunday 2 March

Celebrate 35 years of cleaning up and helping to improve and conserve our beloved Australian environment. For details, see page 5.

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

We're celebrating International Women's Day with two events.

Join us at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre on **Wednesday 5 March, 1pm to 2.30pm** to celebrate International Women's Day and recognise those in our local community who are helping to **accelerate action** for gender equality. For more details visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/iwd](http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/iwd)

For our business community, you're invited to an evening event on **Thursday 6 March from 6pm to 9pm** at the Civic Precinct and Community Hub in Footscray. This event is in partnership with Maribyrnong City Council.

### FREE HERITAGE WALKING TOURS

Visitor Information Centre, Williamstown

Step back in time and unlock the secrets of this historic seaport. Explore hidden lanes, an abandoned morgue, historical buildings and monuments on a free, guided walking tour.

Every Tuesday and Friday (excluding Good Friday 18 April) from 4 March to 30 May.

Tours depart from Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre in Commonwealth Reserve, Nelson Place, Williamstown.

To book contact 9932 3016 or visit [www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au](http://www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au)