

HOBSONS BAY

NEWS / INFORMATION / EVENTS

EDITION 31
February 2023



SUMMER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION
See page 4 for details



INTRODUCING OUR 2023
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR WINNERS
ON PAGE 6

3 SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

5 FREE KINDERGARTEN

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the first edition of Hobsons Bay Community News for 2023. The magazine brings you Council news, events, and opportunities where you can help shape Council projects, policies and strategies. You can also test how well you know Hobsons Bay with our trivia questions throughout the magazine, and share what summer means to you with our photography competition (see page 4 for details).

In January I was delighted to announce that Naserah 'Nasz' Khan from Seabrook and Mia Boonen from Altona are this year's Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year. These exceptional Hobsons Bay residents are perfect examples of people who selflessly go above and beyond for their communities. You can read about their incredible contributions to Hobsons Bay on page 6.

With the year underway and school back, our regular library programs have commenced. Check out the schedule on page 10. While visiting your local library you can also pay rates, upsize your bin or register for a parking permit in-person at our Council+ centre.

Also, keep an eye out for me on a Saturday morning at your local library, I'll be hosting regular drop-in sessions and I would love for you to come in for a chat. To view the times and locations, please check Council's website.

Cr Antoinette (Tony) Briffa JP
Mayor of Hobsons Bay

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UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council Meetings are held at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre and live streamed starting at 7pm.

Tuesday 14 March

Tuesday 11 April

Tuesday 9 May

Tuesday 20 June

For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings

CONNECT WITH YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cherry Lake Ward



Mayor Cr Antoinette (Tony) Briffa JP

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0418 398 906
✉ tbriffa@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au



Cr Daria Kellander

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0499 600 438
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Strand Ward



Cr Jonathon Marsden

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0419 868 009
✉ jmarsden@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au



Cr Peter Hemphill

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0419 762 266
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Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud

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Wetlands Ward



Deputy Mayor Cr Diana Grima

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0499 600 476
✉ dgrima@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au



Cr Matt Tyler

☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0407 748 235
✉ mtyler@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Connect with Councillors on social media



Scan QR code for details

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

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NRS phone 133 677 and quote 1300 179 944
customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

🌐 www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

📘 facebook.com/HobsonsBayCityCouncil

📷 instagram.com/HobsonsBayCC

🌐 linkedin.com/company/hobsons-bay-city-council



HOBSONS BAY LANGUAGE LINE

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We wish to acknowledge the Bunurong Peoples 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: 2023 Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year winners, next to the Colours of Seabrook mural.

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

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

for a better future



HELP ON ITS WAY TO RECYCLE RIGHT

We've heard from our community that one in four people living in Hobsons Bay believe recycling right is very important to them. But there can be confusion around what goes in which bin – which has a big impact on the people who sort our recycling, and how much we send to landfill.

To help our community learn how to use the four bins properly, we have some exciting new technology in our recycling trucks that will enable our waste truck drivers to help households recycle right.

When our waste truck drivers pick up your wheelie bins, our new truck technology means they can see what tips out into their truck – so they can see which households need recycling guidance.

If our drivers see something in your yellow recycling bin that shouldn't be there, they'll place a sticker on your bin to let you know, and we'll mail you some information to help you learn how to recycle right.



Find out more



LOCAL WOMEN CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Ruchika Rawat, Deborah Frenkel and Alicia King (pictured above) are environmentally conscious Hobsons Bay residents who have championed reusable products for the community.

Last financial year, Council ran a reusable nappies rebate program for new and expectant parents and 151 families took up the offer. Both Ruchika and Deborah played an integral role in developing the rebate program - contributing research, information and ideas to support our community to tackle the environmental cost of disposable nappies.

This financial year, we're thrilled the nappy rebate program is being expanded to include reusable sanitary products – an idea that came through Alicia King's successful Pitch Your Project idea. The rebate will also cover reusable incontinence products.

Reusable nappies, sanitary items and incontinence products save money over time and reduce waste going to landfill. It's a win for the environment and a win for the hip pocket!



Find out more



TRY YOUR FIRST PACK FOR FREE!

PAPER COMPOST BAGS FOR YOUR FOOD BIN

Hobsons Bay residents can recycle food waste and garden waste in their green bin. This is also known as a FOGO bin, which stands for 'Food Organics and Garden Organics'.

Recycling your food and garden scraps in your green bin stops it rotting in landfill, where it produces an extremely potent greenhouse gas that harms our environment.

To make FOGO easier, you can use paper compost bags in your house and then drop them into your green bin.

You can order your bags online and pick them up at any of our libraries and Council+ locations.

Order online and get your first bundle of paper compost bags for free!



Scan to order



OUR CREATIVE CITY

DEAR AGNES,

Friday 10 to Sunday 26 March

'Dear Agnes' is a contemporary public art program that responds and pays homage to local landscape inspired themes and *A Forest for Australia*, which is a local land artwork by one of the world's leading environmental artists, New York-based Agnes Denes.

In 1998, the Australia Council commissioned Denes to create the work, a 'forest' of 6000 endangered tree species planted into five spirals at the Greater Western Water site on Queen Street, Altona Meadows.

To celebrate the artwork's 25th anniversary, the 'Dear Agnes' project will bring to light the work of this prolific artist, as well as provide an ongoing legacy through the generation of new ideas by contemporary public artists in response to Denes' work.

The program will feature works by 12 artists and collectives for nine days between Friday 10 – Sunday 26 March at the Truganina Explosives Reserve, Altona.

Featured artists

Michelle Cox, Chispa Flaskas, David Murphy, Deakin Creative Arts Collective, Amal Laala, Overlapping Collective - Forest Keegel & Annee Miron, James Price, PIPS - Catherine Magill & Vivienne Tate, Ana Sanchez, Autumn Tansey, Victoria Vyvyan.

The project is presented by Hobsons Bay City Council in partnership with Deakin University, RMIT University and Greater Western Water.



BEST SUMMER SHOT PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

What's not to love about summer in Hobsons Bay? The beaches, great parks, amazing food options...

Take a photo of what summer in Hobsons Bay means to you for the chance to win a \$100 voucher for a local business of your choice, and have your photo published in the next edition of Hobsons Bay Community News.

View the terms and conditions and submit your photo by Wednesday 1 March at hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/magazine

Make it Happen GRANTS NOW OPEN

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?

Applications are now open for Council's Make it Happen Grants!

Our grants program can provide support to enable activities, projects, events and resources across all sectors including environment, sustainability, sport and recreation, arts and culture, health and wellbeing, multicultural, community and neighbourhood development, and technology.

Need more information or help writing your grant submission?

Scan to register for our grant info or writing session





FREE KINDERGARTEN

There are still places this year in our three- and four-year-old kindergarten programs.

From 2023, kindergarten is free at participating early childhood services thanks to the Victorian Government's \$9 billion commitment to expand kindergarten programs across the state.

The saving is up to **\$2,500** for families depending on the early childhood service:

- For three-year-olds, this means between five and 15 hours per week
- For four-year-olds, this means 15 hours per week.

For further information on vacancies, timetables and how to register,

contact our central registration team on 9932 1534 or scan for more info



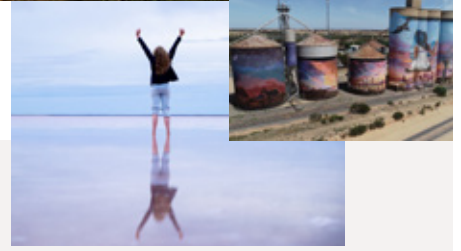
OCCASIONAL CARE

Do you have young children and need a break on Thursday and Friday mornings?



Council runs an occasional care service for children from six months old to school age at the Altona Meadows Community Centre from 8.45am to 12.45pm on Thursday and Friday mornings during school term.

Families can register by emailing occasionalcare@hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au or calling **1300 179 944**.



HOBSONS BAY FRIENDSHIP ALLIANCES

Council and community maintain three formal relationships, Buloke and Yarrabah in Australia and Anjo in Japan.

About Buloke and Hobsons Bay
Representatives from Buloke Shire Council and Hobsons Bay City Council agreed its alliance in May 2006. The aim of it was to break down the urban-rural divide between councils and communities in Victoria. The alliance has seen many visits and exchanges and includes the promotion of joint initiatives involving local service organisations and clubs.

About Buloke Shire
The shire in northwest Victoria includes Sea Lake, Birchip, Charlton, Wycheproof and Donald. It is the perfect spot to start the Wimmera Silo Art Trail, Australia's largest outdoor gallery. If planning a visit be sure to check out Lake Tyrrell, Victoria's largest salt lake, world renowned for its photographic qualities.

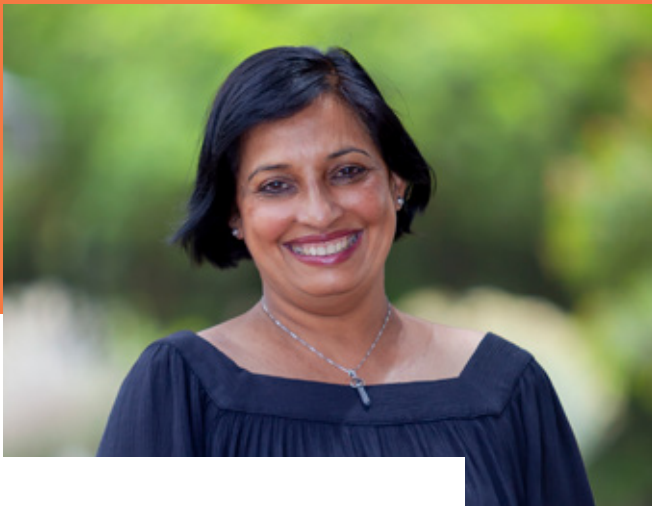
For information about Buloke



For information about Hobsons Bay's sister city and friendship alliances, visit www.hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au

MEET OUR 2023 CITIZEN AND YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR





NASZ KHAN CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Naserah Khan, known as Nasz, was recognised for her years of dedication, passion and commitment working behind the scenes to improve Seabrook.

Nasz first moved to Hobsons Bay in 2005 and is described as the “heart of Seabrook.”

For Nasz, everything is about community.

“I’ve seen Seabrook change tremendously since I first moved here. It is just heart-warming to see how Seabrook is now so connected and how everyone comes together,” Nasz said.

Over the years, Nasz has been involved in nearly every part of the Seabrook community, from establishing the Seabrook Community Gardens to working with Council to develop the Homestead Run park.

The new eye-catching mural at the Seabrook shopping centre on Point Cook Road was also Nasz’s idea and came to life through Council’s Pitch Your Project program.

Working together with Council and members of the community, Nasz also organised the dawn service in Seabrook for the past two years, enabling Seabrook residents to pay respects to veterans locally.

Nasz said it’s an incredible honour to be named Citizen of the Year but noted that the whole community chips in to work together with Council to improve Seabrook.

“Granted I may have been the instigator, but as a community we put in submissions for upgrades, and we are proactive in using Snap Send Solve to rectify a problem so that it is quickly dealt with,” said Nasz.

“It is also just so lovely to see more members of the community coming together and happily volunteering to organise activities and events such as the Tai chi group, Halloween, Holi and Diwali festivals and Christmas celebrations with our very own inflatable Santa of Seabrook, Mrs Claus, Frosty the Snowman and the elves.

“I am truly blessed to live in a community like this.”

During the COVID pandemic, Nasz delivered meals to people in isolation, and lifted spirits through competitions and positive messaging around the park.

Nasz also works locally as an autism teacher at the Western Autistic School in Laverton.

The award recognises Nasz’s individual efforts to improve Seabrook and her ability to bring people together.



MIA BOONEN YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Altona resident Mia Boonen has been awarded the 2023 Young Citizen of the Year.

At 22, Mia is the CEO of theatre group Dramawerkz, an engaging public speaker and published author.

She is passionate about building community with a focus on youth engagement, access, and inclusion.

Mia is a proud disabled woman and activist, co-hosting the YDAS COVID-19 podcast and working in the youth sector across many Melbourne organisations.

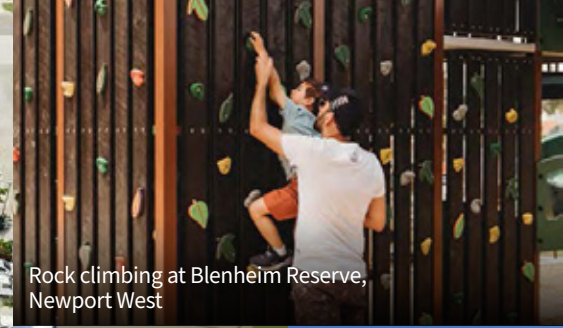
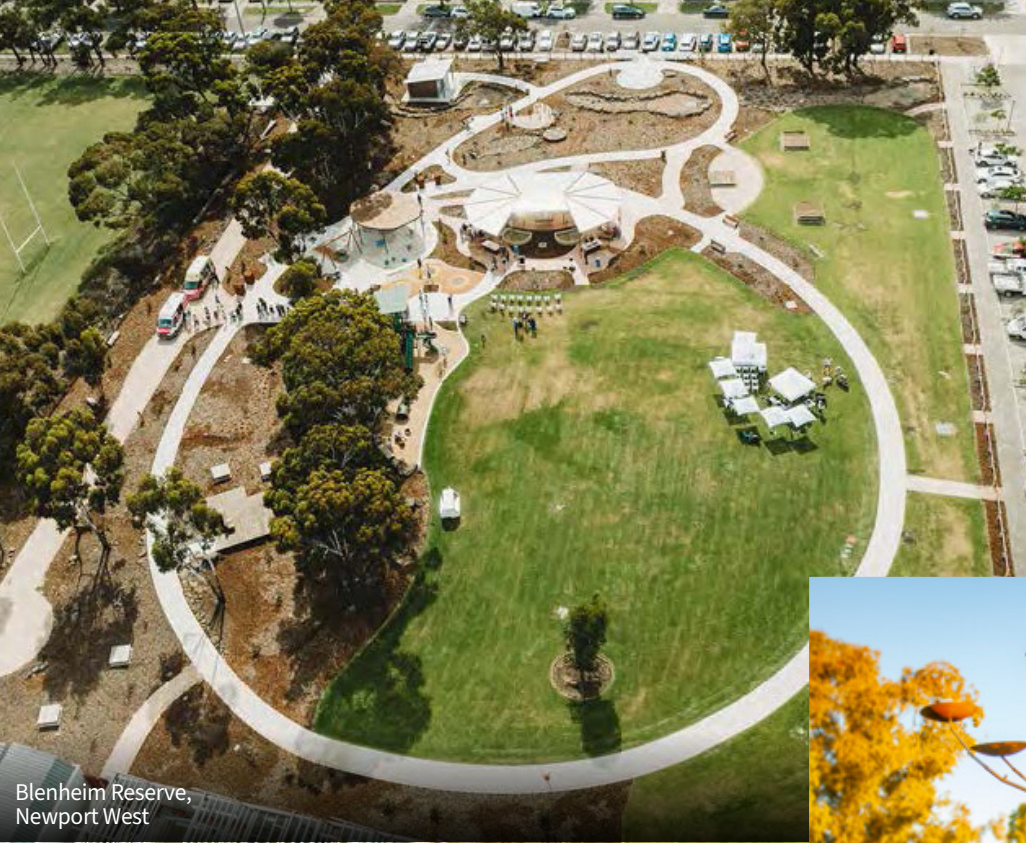
For Mia, the pandemic showed institutions could be flexible, and hopes organisations will hold on to and prioritise access.

“Many disabled young people have found that access to online classes, flexible hours and blended learning models have been incredibly helpful,” Mia said.

“If we ensure considerations and adjustments that were made during the pandemic are continued into recovery and beyond, we can re-emerge from the pandemic a more inclusive society.”

Scan QR code
to find out more





Rock climbing at Blenheim Reserve, Newport West



HD Graham Reserve, Altona Meadows

Blenheim Reserve, Newport West



GJ Hosken Reserve, Altona North

BUILDING A BETTER CITY

NEW PARK OPENS IN NEWPORT WEST

Blenheim Road Reserve community park officially opened last December with a community celebration.

The brand-new park, located next to the Australian Islamic Centre and Altona Miniature Railway, is perfect for get-togethers and catch-ups with two picnic areas, barbecue facilities, a unisex toilet facility, and play equipment. There is also a handy circuit path for kids to learn to ride their bikes or scooters.

It's also a place for quiet reflection with a purpose-built meditation space, water features and forest walk.

The park showcases native trees, shrubs and groundcovers, and celebrates biodiversity with a balance between grass areas and planting.

GJ HOSKEN RESERVE TRANSFORMED

The revamp of the much-loved GJ Hosken Reserve in Altona North is finished with the dog off-leash area opening late last year.

The open space and conservation redevelopment includes a new playground, fitness stations, multi-use court with basketball hoop, barbecue area, shelter, and more seating within the reserve.

Hosken Reserve, located on Blackshaws Road, is the gateway to the Kororoit Creek Trail, which is a treasured slice of nature for our local community.

Through the work of Council and Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek, the area has been transformed into a wonderful attraction connecting nature and art.

The project was jointly funded by Council and the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund through the Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek.

HD GRAHAM RESERVE OPEN FOR ACTION

The HD Graham Reserve sport facility development is complete! The sports pavilion and playing fields with flood lighting are finished and will soon be open for use.

The sports pavilion includes change rooms and umpire rooms, and will be a great asset for local soccer and cricket teams.

HD Graham Reserve is located on 19 hectares in Altona Meadows. The site also includes the Altona Sports Centre, BMX track and skatepark.

HD Graham Reserve is the entrance to Truganina Park, the 100 Steps of Federation and the internationally recognised Cheetham Wetlands.

Check out our capital works program in your area:



Scan the QR code for more info



HELP SHAPE HOBSONS BAY



ALL COMMUNITY
CONSULTATIONS ARE
FEATURED ON OUR
PARTICIPATE HOBSONS
BAY WEBSITE.



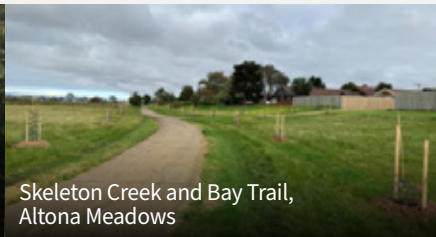
Better Places Seabrook
and Altona Meadows



Woods and Lohse Street,
Laverton



Mary Street Reserve,
Spotswood



Skeleton Creek and Bay Trail,
Altona Meadows

Community feedback is crucial for how Council develops and delivers projects, policies and programs. Feedback from community consultation is used to refine designs, modify services and ensure Council's projects and services align with what the community needs and wants.

CURRENT OPEN CONSULTATIONS

- Better Places Seabrook and Altona Meadows – have your say on the draft projects in March
- Woods and Lohse Street – public realm revitalisation as part of Better Places Laverton
- Amendment C137 Spotswood Heritage Review
- Skeleton Creek and Bay Trail tree planting in Altona Meadows
- Pipeline Reserve in Seabrook, concept design
- Mary Street Reserve in Spotswood, master plan
- Hudson Road retail precinct, street landscape master plan

Scan QR code
to have your say



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Volunteers are the backbone of our community. Each edition, we'll profile one of our fabulous volunteers.

ANGELA, PRESIDENT OF FRIENDS OF SKELETON CREEK

Angela first joined the Friends of Skeleton Creek Group 32 years ago and she has been president for over 10 years. Together with secretary, Denice Perryman, and Council's conservation rangers, Angela organises monthly weeding and planting afternoons on the last Sunday of the month.

Volunteering for Angela is about enjoying the company of others, having fun and seeing the results of all the planting and weeding come to fruition. With more trees planted, she has seen the bird life in Altona Meadows improve immensely, especially around Carinza Avenue.

Her favourite spot along Skeleton Creek is the Emu-foot Grassland, which is accessed at the car park end of Spicer Boulevard and Henry Drive, Altona Meadows.

“When I first moved to Altona Meadows in 1984, I used to walk around the paddocks and admire the wildflowers, and then they all started disappearing under housing developments. The Emu-foot Grasslands features the native wildflowers that I used to see in the area,” Angela said.

The Friends of Skeleton Creek are always looking for new members. If you are interested in learning more about indigenous plants, visit their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/friendsofskeletoncreek

DID YOU KNOW?

What sport facility in Hobsons Bay is the first of its kind in the southern hemisphere?

See page 11
for the answer

LIBRARIES AND COUNCIL+ NEWS



LIBRARY PROGRAMS ARE BACK!

Our libraries offer so much more than books. We're proud to host a diverse range of free programs for all ages!

Following the holiday break, our regular children's, youth and adult programs are back at Council+ service centres and libraries.

For more information, drop into a centre near you or visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Libraries



Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time

Various libraries and community centres

After School Explorers

Altona North Community Library (Monday), Williamstown Library (Tuesday), Laverton Community Hub (Wednesday) and Seabrook Community Centre (Thursday)

Comic Club

Mondays at Newport Community Hub

LEGO Club

Tuesdays at Newport Community Hub

After School Hang Outs at the Library

Williamstown Library (Tuesday) and Altona North Community Library (Friday)

Get Creative

Thursdays at Altona North Library and Creative Technology Hub

Technology Classes: Back to Basics

Fridays at Altona North Community Library and Altona Library

COUNCIL BUSINESS MADE EASY!

Council+ makes connecting with Council easier.

Located in our Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows libraries, and now Seabrook Community Centre, Council+ brings together our library and customer services. When you visit your local library you can now upsize your bin, organise pet registration, pay rates, organise parking permits and much more.

The same services are also provided at the Civic Centre in Altona, and you can now browse a selection of library books there too!

DID YOU KNOW...

You can upsize or downsize your bins at any of our Council+ services centres! Visit us to find out more.



A NEW ALTONA PIER

PARKS VICTORIA'S \$11.9M PIER REDEVELOPMENT

Great news for Altona beachgoers! The redevelopment of Altona Pier is set to get underway in May.

The \$11.9 million pier redevelopment is being managed by Parks Victoria and funded by the Victorian Government.

Public consultation in 2020 helped shape the new pier design, which features timber decking, lighting, seating areas and an angled, branching pier head with vantage

points to enjoy those beautiful sunset views over the bay.

The pier is planned to be a stunning addition to Altona's popular beach and foreshore, with an accessible design to benefit people fishing, boating, swimming and walking.

Following community feedback on the importance of the pier's maritime history; salvageable timber from the old pier will be used in the Altona foreshore redevelopment, which will provide a welcome connection to the past.

Simpson Construction Co, which is building the new St Kilda Pier, has been awarded the contract to build the new Altona Pier.

Throughout the works, Parks Victoria will continue to share project information and disruptions with the community and meet regularly with key stakeholders.

For more info and to join the mailing list



KEEPING AN EYE ON OUR CHANGING CLIMATE

Help scientists understand and forecast how coastlines change by taking a photo using the CoastSnap photo monitoring station at Altona Beach.

The new photo monitoring station, located at the access ramp along The Esplanade near Correa Street, allows you to take photos with your phone from a precise location. CoastSnap then turns community photos into valuable coastal data that scientists use to understand and forecast how coastlines change.

Altona CoastSnap is a combined effort of Council, the Victorian Government's Port Phillip Bay Grant Fund, the Association of Bayside Municipalities and the University of Melbourne.

Find out more



DID YOU KNOW?

Check your local knowledge against the answers, scan the QR code





Festival of Food

Love it? Mend it!
Free sewing repair sessions

Bird and plant walk and talk

Clean Up Australia Day

WHAT'S ON



Truganina Explosives Reserve

SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL

Throughout February, join a series of free events and initiatives that will help you live more sustainably and create stronger connections with your local environment.

Upcycle in Style

Visible mending workshop

Saturday 18 February, 10am to 12pm
Laverton Community Hub

Buying Greenpower

online workshop hosted by Renew

Thursday 23 February, 7pm to 8.30pm

Love it? Mend it!

Free sewing repair sessions

Saturday 25 February, 10am to 1pm
Louis Joel Community Centre, Altona

Weeding and watering at Emu Foot

Grassland with Friends of Skeleton Creek

Sunday 26 February, 1pm to 3pm
Emu Foot Grassland, Henry Drive,
Altona Meadows

For more info



FESTIVAL OF FOOD

Free monthly workshops featuring music, tradition, food and culture

Preserve your produce workshop

Saturday 25 February, 10am to 1pm,
Old Laverton School, Altona Meadows

Tomato festival and passata demonstration

Sunday 26 March, 12pm to 3pm,
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre,
Altona

Free events, bookings required at

www.mysmartgarden.org.au

Festival of Food is proudly presented by Council as part of the Pitch Your Project program.

MARCH CONSERVATION EVENTS

Conservation Bike Ride

Saturday 4 March, 9am to 12pm
Altona

Join a free bike ride and learn about flora and fauna along the foreshore.

This event is thanks to Melbourne Water and the Australian Government through the National Landcare Program.

Bookings essential, to book visit coastalbiketour.eventbrite.com.au

Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday 5 March

Multiple locations across Hobsons Bay
www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au

Truganina Explosives Reserve open day tours

Sunday 5 March, 1pm to 4pm

Truganina Explosives Reserve, Altona

Bird and plant walk and talk

Wednesday 8 March, 9am to 11am,
Truganina Park, meet in car park.

Sunday 26 March, 10am to 12pm,
Rifle Range, meet at Rifle Range Arboretum, parking in Mullins Court, Newport

HOBSONS BAY BUSINESS NETWORKING – INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT

Wednesday 8 March, 5pm to 6.30pm,
Little Ginger, 4/10 Akuna Drive, Williamstown

Hobsons Bay business professionals are invited to come together for a special International Women's Day networking event, featuring a Q&A with a panel of local businesswomen.

For tickets



CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

11 to 21 March 2023

Council is proud of its diverse community and we look forward to celebrating it during Cultural Diversity Week 2023 with a program of engaging and fun activities across the city.

For more info

