

# HOBSONS BAY

NEWS / INFORMATION / EVENTS

EDITION 49

*Apr / May 2026*



## GROWING CONNECTION THROUGH GARDENING

SEABROOK RESIDENT ALEXIS SHARES HOW MY SMART GARDEN HELPED HER SETTLE IN AND CONTINUE HER COOKING TRADITIONS, DETAILS ON PAGE 8.

**WRITING  
COMPETITION**

See page 11 for details



**6** SUPPORT FOR SENIORS

**12** UPCOMING EVENTS

**HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL**





## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As the weather cools, there's still lots to do in Hobsons Bay for all ages. From baby time at our libraries, activities for young people, gardening events and social outings for seniors, there's always an opportunity to meet new people and connect with your community.

This edition of the magazine highlights some of those opportunities and profiles residents that have embraced programs that help them connect with their neighbours and like-minded people.

Our cover features Seabrook resident Alexis who joined the My Smart Garden program when she first moved to Hobsons Bay. Alexis shares how the program has helped her feel part of the community and has allowed her to save money and continue her cultural cooking traditions, read more on page 8.

Some of our older residents share how our aged services give them a spring in their step and help them stay social, active and independent, view page 7 for details.

If you're looking for opportunities to showcase your artistic talents, view our upcoming creative opportunities on page 9. From our local exhibition spaces to creative projects and auditions, we want to give local artists and creatives the opportunity to showcase their work.

If writing is more your style, you're invited to take part in our writing competition. Tell us in 100 words or less about your favourite local business for your chance to win a \$100 voucher, details on page 11.

**Cr Diana Grima,  
Mayor of Hobsons Bay**

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## 2026 COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council meetings are held at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre and livestreamed. If you would like to attend in person, please register online or at the door.

- Tuesday 28 April | 7pm
  - Tuesday 26 May | 7pm
  - Tuesday 23 June | 7pm
  - Tuesday 28 July | 7pm
  - Tuesday 25 August | 7pm
  - Tuesday 22 September | 7pm
  - Tuesday 27 October | 7pm
  - Friday 13 November | 7pm  
(Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor)
  - Tuesday 24 November | 7pm
  - Tuesday 15 December | 7pm
- For more information, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings](http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings)

## CONNECT WITH YOUR COUNCILLORS

### Altona Meadows Ward



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

### Williamstown Ward



**Deputy Mayor - Cr Lisa Bentley**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0418 796 486  
✉ [lbentley@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:lbentley@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Altona Ward



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

### Altona North Ward



**Cr Rayane Hawli**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0477 440 281  
✉ [rhawli@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:rhawli@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**  
☎ 9932 1044 (bh) 0438 325 671  
✉ [kbishop@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:kbishop@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### 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: My Smart Garden participant Alexis in her home garden in Seabrook.

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

# CREATING A HAVEN FOR LOCAL WILDLIFE

For nature lovers, it's easy to welcome native wildlife into your front and back garden with indigenous plants, a reliable water source and shade.

Transforming your private garden into a habitat garden provides stepping stones for wildlife to travel safely between our beautiful conservation reserves and parks.

The more habitat gardens in Hobsons Bay, the safer it is for wildlife to visit such as native birds, blue-tongue lizards, frogs and, if you're very lucky, an echidna.

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned gardener, our Habitat Gardens program provides free fact sheets and videos to guide you through every step of the process.

Use our *Habitat Gardens in Hobsons Bay* booklet to learn about frog-friendly plants, find out how to create a lizard habitat, how to attract butterflies and native birds, and design your own habitat garden.

For experienced green thumbs, use our native plant propagation resources to learn how to collect, clean, and store seeds properly, while mastering various propagation techniques.

Growing local indigenous plants in your habitat garden is a small gesture that will make a big difference to native wildlife and Hobsons Bay's broader ecosystem.

To view our Habitat Gardens resources and sign up to our mailing list to find out about upcoming events and native plant giveaways, scan the QR code.



←  
**Sign up  
here**

## LOOKING AFTER OUR FURRY FRIENDS

We have 3,364 cats and 8,503 dogs in Hobsons Bay! Our furry friends provide companionship, health benefits, comfort, and occasionally comic relief when interrupting online meetings.

All cats and dogs over the age of three months must be registered with Council.

Pet registration allows us to contact you if your pet wanders off, so you can be reunited with them quickly.

Once registered, your pet will be issued with a registration tag to wear. All animals must be microchipped prior to being registered for the first time.



It's cheaper to register a cat or dog that has been desexed and microchipped.

Dogs who have completed obedience training with an approved organisation are also eligible for a reduced registration fee.

If you haven't received your pet registration renewal form or have a new pet, please email [animalmanagement@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:animalmanagement@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au) or call customer service on **1300 179 944**.

# BEAT THE FLU AND SAFEGUARD AGAINST MEASLES

Flu vaccines will be available at community immunisation sessions from mid-April. Our team of immunisation nurses make every effort to create a welcoming, calm environment and reduce anxiety for all ages.

The vaccine is free for children aged six months to five years, if you are over 65 years of age, at medical risk, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait heritage, or are pregnant.

For healthy adults and children over five years, the vaccine can be purchased for \$23, payable by EFTPOS on the day.

The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is also available at community immunisation sessions.

If you were born in Australia between 1966 and 1992 and haven't had two doses of the measles vaccine during childhood, or were born overseas, it's a good idea to get the MMR vaccine.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can cause serious illness, especially in adults.

Recently, there has been an increase in measles cases in Melbourne.

The best way to protect yourself, friends and community is to receive a free catch-up vaccine if you don't have record of two MMR vaccines or you don't know.



Scan to book an immunisation appointment



## HELP WHEN YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, NEEDS IT

Free escape bags filled with necessities a person and their children may need when escaping an abusive or dangerous situation are available to Hobsons Bay residents, no questions asked.

Each escape bag, provided by the registered charity Escabags, is thoughtfully packed with high-quality essentials, recognising the importance of feeling comforted, supported and valued during times of crisis.

Since launching in February 2020, Escabags has proudly distributed free escape bags to over 2,000 stockists across Australia.

The bags are non-gendered and available in two variations: 'Parent and Child' and 'Single Adult'.

Each bag has a non-traceable sim card, toiletries, and a brochure of local community groups and organisations.

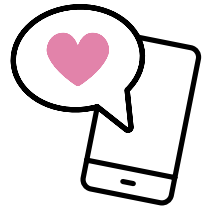
Hobsons Bay libraries and MCH centres are proud to be official stockists for Escabags.

Bags can be asked for at any of our libraries, maternal and child health centres, and community centres.

For a list of all stockists, please view the Escabags website [escabags.org/escabags-stockists](https://www.escabags.org/escabags-stockists)



## YOUR OLD PHONE COULD SAVE A LIFE



You can support people escaping domestic and family violence by donating your old phone in our Recycling Made Easy stations at your local library.

It's a second life for your phone and a safer life for someone in danger.

All phones will be given to the registered charity DV Safe Phone, which ensures the phones are safe to use and distributes them to people escaping domestic and family violence.

By repurposing donated phones into secure, untraceable lifelines, DV Safe Phone helps victims stay connected to loved ones, reach support, and rebuild their lives.

All you need to do is factory reset your phone and drop it at any of the Recycling Made Easy stations at one of our Hobsons Bay libraries.

# SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

## for a better future



### TRY REUSABLE SWIM NAPPIES AND GET \$65 BACK!

Do you have a little one in nappies? Reusable swim nappies are an easy way to save money and cut down on your nappy waste. They're simple to use, designed to last, and even eligible for a \$65 rebate.

Through our Reusables Rebate, you can claim \$65 back when you purchase:

- reusable nappies
- reusable menstrual products
- reusable incontinence products



←  
Learn more



### E-WASTE AND SOFT PLASTICS DROP-OFF DAY

Do you have old electronics piling up? Soft plastics you wish you could recycle? Bring these tricky items to our next drop-off day for safe disposal and recycling. We'll also accept household batteries and vapes/e-cigarettes.

Date: Saturday 16 May, 9am to 2pm

Location: Hobsons Bay Operations Centre, Sugar Gum Drive, Altona (enter via Bluegum Drive off Fresno Street)

Cost: Free



←  
Learn more



### KITS TO SAVE ENERGY AND WATER

Our brand-new energy and water saving kits have arrived at Hobsons Bay libraries! These kits include simple tools to help you spot where your home is losing heat, wasting electricity, or using more water than necessary.

Each kit includes:

- Thermal imaging camera
- Thermometer
- Stopwatch
- Power-Mate energy meter
- Beginner-friendly instructions



←  
Scan to borrow a kit for free

## HELP SHAPE OUR LIBRARIES, COMMUNITY HUBS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

Tell us what you think and go in the draw for one of three \$50 gift vouchers\*

Have you visited a library or community centre recently? Borrowed a book, attended a program, or asked for help with a Council service? We want to hear about your experience.

We're reviewing our community hubs, customer and library services to make sure we're providing the best experience possible. We want to hear from you about what's working well and what could be improved — from how easy it is to get help, to how consistent services feel across different locations.

We also want to hear from residents who don't visit our libraries and community centres.

Your feedback will help shape the future of Council services in our libraries and community centres.

*\*Terms and conditions apply*

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Which services do you value most? What works well? What could be better?

Scan the QR code or visit **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au** to learn more and get involved. Each entry will go in the draw for one of three \$50 gift vouchers\*



←  
Tell us what you think

# HELPING TO KEEP YOU YOUNG AT HEART

Stay active, independent and social with our community support services for residents aged 65 years old and older.

Apply via My Aged Care and find out what funded services you are eligible to receive.



## COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Stay connected with the community and catch our door-to-door transport service.

We organise monthly group outings to shopping centres, zoos, exhibitions, cinemas and concerts.

To take part, you'll need a My Aged Care referral.



## SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP

Our social support group runs Monday to Friday at Walker Close in Altona North. Built especially for community groups, it's the perfect location for a wide range of recreational and social activities.

Depending on your interests, you might want to try gentle exercises for your body and mind, arts and crafts, singing and dancing, games, or gentle sports.

The social support group also regularly goes on outings for lunch, shopping and historical tours.

Attendees Carmella and Dorothy love the outings which make them feel "young again" and "capable of doing anything."

The programs and outings are shaped by suggestions from the group.

Recently, benchtop gardening was introduced after it was suggested by attendees that they would love to grow certain herbs but struggle to kneel while gardening.

Social support group members went on the minibus to Bunnings and selected herbs for their own benchtop garden that they could take home.

Similarly, a swimming fitness program was introduced at Bayfit after it was suggested by a participant.

Blanche, 89 years old, attends every Friday. After just three weeks, her doctor saw her fitness level improve.

## DELIVERED MEALS

Nutritious meals delivered to your door from one of our friendly volunteers.

Not only do our volunteers deliver you a delicious meal, they're also free to chat and get to know you.

For many seniors, it's the welfare check that is more valuable than the meals.



## HOME MAINTENANCE AND HOME ADJUSTMENTS

We're here to help eligible seniors with minor maintenance and repairs to keep their home safe and secure.

This could include installing smoke detectors and checking batteries, changing light bulbs, fixing fall hazards, relighting gas or water heaters, and home safety adjustments (such as installing rails and ramps) as prescribed by an occupational therapist.

Home maintenance and home adjustments helps older people stay in their own home independently for longer. Each job needs to be requested and assessed by My Aged Care.



## TO ACCESS SUPPORT

### AGED SERVICES

If you are aged 65 or older (or 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) and want to receive support for aged services, you need to apply for an assessment (or review) with My Aged Care, call **1800 200 422** or **scan the QR code**



### DISABILITY SUPPORT

If you are under the age of 65 years (or under 50 years of age for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) and experience difficulty carrying out daily living tasks, you need to apply for Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC PYP) by contacting Mecwacare on **1800 163 292** or **scan the QR code**



### CONTACT US

If you currently use our services and need to get in touch, please call **9932 1530** or email **agedservices@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

If you have been assessed and are not eligible, Council also supports senior citizen centres and senior groups within Hobsons Bay.

For more information, **scan the QR code**





# FOOD, NATURE AND CULTURE



When Seabrook resident Alexis first moved to Australia, she was looking for like-minded people and a local gardening community.

She found both in the award-winning My Smart Garden program.

Alexis is no stranger to gardening, having grown up with large gardens in North Carolina. She had plenty of interest and some knowledge but didn't have skills until she joined the program.

"My Smart Garden is helping me adapt what I know to my new home in Seabrook, which has different plants, weather patterns and sun movements. It's connected me to my new council and neighbours as well," said Alexis.

"Cost can be a barrier to gardening but the program is already saving me money by offering free classes and helping me learn how to garden without having to buy so many materials."

For Alexis, her backyard garden also gives her the chance to continue her North American traditions in Australia.

"For a lot of Black Americans it's tradition to eat a nice big plate of okra, black eyed peas and collard greens on New Year's Eve, but I haven't been able to find black eyed peas or okra in local shops, and I cannot find collard greens anywhere.

"Growing these foods at home is much more convenient, and I feel so much appreciation and pride in knowing where my food comes from and carrying on gardening and cooking traditions as well."

Alexis is working towards one of her biggest dreams to be more self-sufficient and grow enough fresh produce so she rarely has to visit a grocery store.

"My Smart Garden is helping me and my community become more resilient and I would definitely recommend everyone look into the program," said Alexis.

My Smart Garden is a free program that will help you grow food, shelter your home from the sun and wind, create homes for native plants and animals, and reduce waste.

Join today and find out more at [mysmartgarden.org.au](https://mysmartgarden.org.au)



## CITY NATURE CHALLENGE

Take part in one of the largest citizen science projects in the world while contributing valuable information about Hobsons Bay's biodiversity.

Between 24 and 27 April, take photos of plants or animals and upload them to iNaturalist [www.inaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org)

Find out more at [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CitizenScience](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CitizenScience)

# CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES



Are you a local artist wanting to exhibit, perform or deliver creative projects in Hobsons Bay? Expressions of interest for various opportunities open on 4 May.

Artists and collectives from Melbourne's west can **apply to deliver a community arts project at Woods Street Arts Space** in Laverton. Projects can be creative workshops, artist professional development, networking programs, or creative projects that benefit the community.

Artists can also apply to **exhibit their work at Laneway Gallery**, a billboard exhibition space on the exterior walls of Woods Street Arts Space.

For young creatives, there are four great opportunities on offer.

Enter the biennial **Woods Street Youth Art Prize**, which showcases the creative talents of young artists (ages 14 to 25) from Melbourne's west.

Apply to see your work featured on the **Airtime flags** at Altona Meadows skate park (ages 12 to 25).

Emerging musicians, producers and audio engineers (ages 18 to 30) are invited to apply for the **Soundstep Studios Artist in Residence program**. Successful applicants receive free access to the recording studio at Woods Street Arts Space.

Young singers, acoustic duos, DJs and dance groups (ages 15 to 25) are invited to audition for this year's **Youth Con event**.

The Youth Con auditions will be held on Thursday 7 May, 5pm to 7pm, at Newport Community Hub. If you're interested, please scan the QR code to register. The Youth Festival is on 10 July at Williamstown Town Hall.



←  
**Register your interest to audition for Youth Con**



←  
**For all other creative opportunities scan**



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Veronica Treloar, from Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club, who was awarded the prestigious 2025 ASC Sport Volunteer of the Year Award.

The award, presented in December by Australian Sports Commission (ASC) CEO Kieren Perkins, recognised Veronica's decade-long commitment to inclusion and her transformative work with the Starfish Nippers program.

Starfish Nippers is a modified program for people of all abilities. Activities are designed to suit the ability of each participant, who have a dedicated volunteer to support them in each session.

Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club is one of 10 lifesaving clubs in Victoria who run the Starfish Nippers program.

Having been employed in the community sector for 40-plus years, predominately in the disabilities sector, it was a natural step for Veronica to coordinate the Starfish Nippers program.

*"I love being able to provide opportunity for some of our most vulnerable members of our community to connect with the lifesaving community and learn vital lifesaving skills so they can be safe at the beach," said Veronica.*

"The Starfish Nippers program is a safe, inclusive environment which provides new experiences, not just for the participants but also for their siblings and families."

Under Veronica's leadership, over the past 10 years the program has grown from five participants to more than 20.

Veronica has also worked in collaboration with Life Saving Victoria to develop the Adaptive Inclusion Carnival, allowing young people with disabilities to be competitors at junior and senior life saving carnivals across the state.

In addition to the ASC Sport Volunteer of the Year Award, Veronica was also awarded the 2025 Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Awards Volunteer of the Year Award.

To learn more about the Starfish Nippers program visit, [williamstownslsc.org.au/starfish-nippers](http://williamstownslsc.org.au/starfish-nippers)

To find a volunteering opportunity, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering](http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering)



## DELVE INTO LOCAL HISTORY

Hobsons Bay libraries are a gateway to discovering information in more ways than just borrowing books. Our dedicated local history librarian, Madeleine Midgley, can help you explore the story behind heritage homes and buildings and learn about the traditions and history that have created Hobsons Bay's unique identity.

"Hobsons Bay has wonderfully varied heritage, reflecting a wonderfully diverse community," said Madeleine (pictured above).

"From traditional ownership, to migration, to industry and housing, we can see how our community is shaped by Hobsons Bay's heritage in the stories our neighbours tell, the buildings we pass each day, and the way we see ourselves in relation to Melbourne, to Victoria, and to Australia."

Madeleine is based out of Williamstown Library and runs our popular fortnightly Heritage Help sessions.

You can book a 30-minute appointment with Madeleine in the Williamstown Library Heritage Room either in-person or via teleconferencing.

"Most attendees are researching their family tree or their historic home, but don't let that limit your imagination," said Madeleine.

"I can recommend items from our heritage library collection, demonstrate search strategies, or interpret historic records for useful information and next steps."

As a heritage librarian, Madeleine's priority is providing lifelong learning opportunities for the community about local and family history through author talks and special events.

Her favourite recent event was *From Page to Song: Stories of Newport Lakes* last December.

Held nearly 30 years from the official opening of Newport Lakes as a reserve, the event featured a talk by local author Dr Dominique Hes on her wonderful 2024 book, *Stories of Newport Lakes: Creating Regeneration Capacity*, and a live performance by Michael Stewart of his original song *Koort Boork Boork*.

**"It was amazing to see all the community members who hold this local site close to their heart, and to learn about some Ukrainian migrant community history we didn't have on record," said Madeleine.**

The next event, on Thursday 23 April, is called *Home Collections Care*. You can learn how to convert your cassette collection to MP3s, or scan photos, slides and negatives at home, even without a PC.

Madeleine also conducts research, responds to enquiries and curates the library's heritage collection based at Williamstown Library.

"I get to talk to such passionate and knowledgeable people, especially when they have collected material they would like to donate to the library's heritage collection," said Madeleine.

"I love helping people find the answers they were looking for when they submit a local history enquiry to **heritage@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**, and preserving beautiful stories about our community so future generations can tell them too."

To find out more about heritage and research assistance, scan the QR code



## HAVE YOUR SAY

Our very first Hobsons Bay Heritage Strategy has been developed following community consultation and engagement with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, First Nations knowledge holders, museum/tourist attraction operators, heritage preservation groups, and government stakeholders.

The draft will be available in June/July for community feedback and includes a strategic action plan which outlines short- to long-term and ongoing actions for the next 10 years.

The strategy will help Council improve how we identify, protect, support, promote and celebrate our heritage.

Have your say on Council's engagement platform **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**



Scan here

# Love : Local



## MORE LOCAL JOBS, GREATER GROWTH

Altona and Altona North industrial areas are transitioning away from petrochemical industries to more modern industrial activities.

Recent zoning updates by the Department of Transport and Planning unlock land previously tied to the petrochemical industry and modernises outdated planning controls to better support a changing industrial landscape.

Updating the zoning will enable a broader range of businesses to establish and grow.

These zoning updates support a key objective of Hobsons Bay's Draft Industrial Land Management Strategy and the Reimagining our Industrial Areas Strategy to attract new and emerging industries to the area.

While there is more work to do in improving industrial design standards and protecting environmentally significant areas, the zoning update will create more job opportunities in Hobsons Bay.

Local businesses are the heart of our community. They shape our streetscapes, provide local jobs and give back to the community.

When you shop local, it goes further than the register. It means fuelling our local economy, strengthening neighbourhood connections and celebrating our identity.

It's easy to support local businesses:

- Discover your own backyard - visit a local attraction or try a new cafe.

- Shop and dine locally – discover new boutiques or a new cuisine.
- Spread the word - share your favourite local spots with friends and on social media.
- Look online - many Hobsons Bay businesses have websites and offer local delivery.

To meet the faces behind some of our local businesses, scan



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ART COMPETITION WINNERS!



*Melissa Baldrey Brown*  
Open category



*Isabella*  
Under 18 category



*Cooper*  
Under 18 category

FEB/MARCH  
COMPETITION  
WINNERS



## CALLING ALL WRITERS

Write 100 words about your favourite local business for your chance to win a \$100 voucher and have your work published in the next edition of Hobsons Bay News. It could be a poem, short story or even a haiku.

There will be two categories:

- Under 18
- Open

View the terms and conditions and enter the competition by Sunday 10 May.



Scan here

# WHAT'S ON

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ESSENTIALS FOR ROOKIE GARDENING

**Wednesday 15 April**  
**6.30pm to 7.30pm**

*Altona Library*

Passionate horticulturist and author Chloe Foster shares her tips to nail the absolute basics of gardening. Free, but bookings required at [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events)

### RUN YOUR EVENT WORKSHOPS

**Wednesday 15 April and Wednesday 29 April, 6pm to 8.30pm**

*Hobsons Bay Civic Centre, Altona*

Learn how to run your own event during this series of free workshops designed to provide practical skills in event planning, risk assessment, and emergency management. To register, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events)

### MIGRANT MELBOURNE: CELEBRATION OF VIETNAMESE CULTURE

**Saturday 2 May, 11am to 2pm**

*Laverton Community Hub*

In conversation with André Dao, author of *Anam* (2023) and winner of the 2024 Prime Minister's Literary Award. Enjoy a free Vietnamese lunch and learn how to record language, migration, or family oral histories. Free, but bookings required at [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events)

### NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL

**2 to 3 May**

*Newport Bowls Club,  
4 Market Street, Newport*

Over 40 bands playing across four venues. Tickets available at [melbournejazzjammers.com.au](https://melbournejazzjammers.com.au) or on the door.

Supported by Council's Make it Happen grants program.

### TOGETHER IN NATURE OPEN DAY

**Saturday 9 May, 10am to 2pm**

*Truganina Explosives Reserve, Altona*

Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day and explore our very own wetlands. The free family-friendly event is presented by Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre with support from Council's Make it Happen grants program.

### OLIVES TO OIL

**Sunday 24 May, 11am to 3pm**

*Newport Community Hub,  
13/15 Mason St, Newport*

Thanks to My Smart Garden, CERES and neighbouring councils, Olives to Oil is back for another year. Bring your olives to the Hobsons Bay drop-off event, then enjoy the festivities when you collect your share of the oil in July. Bookings are essential.

For other drop-off locations, the olive oil pick-up date and to book your place, visit [mysmartgarden.org.au](https://mysmartgarden.org.au)

### NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

**27 May to 3 June**

This year's theme is All In, a call for all Australians to commit wholeheartedly to reconciliation every single day. Join in activities throughout Hobsons Bay.

### IDAHOBIT FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

**Friday 15 May, 10.45am**

*Civic Centre, Altona*

Join us for the official flag raising to celebrate International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism, and Transphobia.

### NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

**18 to 24 May**

Discover volunteering with various fun activities around Hobsons Bay. For more information, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/volunteering)

### HOBSONS BAY COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

**Saturday 30 May**

*Williamstown Town Hall*

The inaugural Hobsons Bay Community Recognition Awards celebrate both individuals and groups who drive positive change, strengthen the community and go above and beyond to help others. For more information, visit [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CRA](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CRA)

### GAMES AND CONNECTION AT ALTONA NORTH LIBRARY

**Cards and conversation,  
Tuesdays, 10am to 12pm**

**Craft and laugh,  
Tuesdays 1pm to 3pm**

Bookings not required, beginners welcome.

## AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

### HERITAGE WALKING TOURS

**Tuesday and Fridays until 29 May,  
meet at 11.45am**

*Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre,  
Commonwealth Reserve, Williamstown*

### THE BACK STREETS OF WILLIAMSTOWN

**Sunday 19 April, 10am to 11.30am**

*Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre,  
Commonwealth Reserve, Williamstown*

### WILLIAMSTOWN CEMETERY

**Thursday 30 April, 11.45am to 1.15pm**

*Champion Road, North Williamstown*

### THE PUBS OF WILLIAMSTOWN

**Thursday 7 May, 11.45am to 1.15pm**

*Hobsons Bay Visitor Information Centre,  
Commonwealth Reserve, Williamstown*

Bookings essential for all tours, visit

[hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events)

## ANZAC EVENTS

### AUTHOR TALK: TWO GOOD SOLDIERS, ONE GREAT WAR BY HUGH JONES

**Friday 24 April, 6pm to 7pm**

*Williamstown Town Hall*

A must-attend event for lovers of military history, family historians, and anyone interested in the personal stories that shaped Australia's past. Free, but bookings required at [hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events](https://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/events)

### ALTONA RSL MARCH AND COMMEMORATION SERVICE

**Saturday 18 April, 2.30pm to 4pm**

*March starts from Altona RSL  
in Sargood Street, Altona*

Service at Altona Cenotaph

### ALTONA ANZAC DAY MARCH AND DAWN SERVICE

**Saturday 25 April, 5.30am to 7am**

*March starts from Altona RSL  
in Sargood Street, Altona*

Service at Altona Cenotaph

### SPOTSWOOD KINGSVILLE ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

**Saturday 25 April, 6.30am to 7.30am**

*Spotswood Kingsville RSL,  
59 The Avenue, Spotswood*

### SEABROOK ANZAC DAY COMMUNITY COMMEMORATION

**Saturday 25 April, 6am to 7.30am**

*Homestead Run Reserve, Seabrook*

Check our website for details and other events.