

HOBSONS BAY

NEWS / INFORMATION / EVENTS

EDITION 27
Autumn 2022



GROWING OUR URBAN FOREST
(SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE DETAILS)

4 COUNCIL+
COMING SOON

6 MAKE IT HAPPEN
GRANTS OPEN

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Hobsons Bay Community News. As the weather starts to cool, our tree team will be busy planting advanced trees across the city as part of our Urban Forest Strategy, which you can read about on page 3.

Despite the cooler weather, there is still lots to do in Hobsons Bay. Check out the back page for information on the Heritage Hobsons Bay festival, Laverton's Block Party, free workshops at the Creative Technology Hub and our youth services April holiday program.

We've also highlighted a couple of our favourite local attractions on page 6 which are great to explore with friends and family. Some of the hidden gems might surprise you, such as the Newport Railway Museum, Seaworks Maritime Museum, and the HMAS Castlemaine Museum.

With more than 100 services available to our community each month, we're making it easier for residents to access these services with the introduction of Council+ service centres. Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows are first in line to become Council+ service centres, with more sites added by the end of the year. Read pages 4 and 5 to find out about Council+ and your invitation to the launch.

A big thank you to all of the community groups, residents, organisations and businesses who submitted an idea for Community Pitch 2022-23. Find out how you can vote for your favourite shortlisted idea on page 3 which Council will deliver in 2022-23.

Take care,
Cr Peter Hemphill, Mayor of Hobsons Bay.



POLLUTION AT CHERRY CREEK AND CHERRY LAKE

Following a recent chemical spill in Cherry Creek and subsequent pollution of Cherry Lake, EPA Victoria, Melbourne Water and Council remind the community to keep an eye on signage around the Cherry Lake area with the latest health information, as well as clean-up updates. The severity of the spill is unlike anything Hobsons Bay has experienced in recent times with Council calling for tough penalties for those responsible. At the time of print, the community was advised to avoid contact with the water and not to eat any fish caught within the creek system. For updates, visit www.epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/incidents/cherry-creek-and-lake

Acknowledgement to 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: Jean from Council's tree team waters a fig tree near PA Burns Reserve.
This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled stock using environmentally friendly inks.



HOBSONS BAY BUSINESS HAS HEART GRANTS

Hobsons Bay small businesses who were hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic (such as health and personal services, recreational, tourism and creative industries), can apply for a Quick Response Grant as part of the Hobsons Bay Business has Heart 2.0 grants. Funding of \$1,500 per applicant is available to rebuild and recover post-COVID. Grant funding can be used on a range of services, such as website upgrades, branding, business mentoring or staff upskilling. Hurry, applications close on 30 April 2022 or until the funding pool is exhausted. To apply, visit www.hobsonsbaybusiness.com.au/Grants

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cherry Lake Ward

Altona, Altona North, Altona Meadows, Brooklyn, Seaholme



Cr Tony Briffa JP

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Cr Daria Kellander

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Strand Ward

Altona North, Newport, North Williamstown, Spotswood, South Kingsville, Williamstown



Cr Jonathon Marsden

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Mayor Cr Peter Hemphill

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Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud

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Wetlands Ward

Altona Meadows, Laverton, Seabrook



Deputy Mayor Cr Diana Grima

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Cr Matt Tyler

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HOBSONS BAY LANGUAGE LINE

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES AND RECORDED COUNCIL INFORMATION IN:

English العربية Ελληνικά
Italiano ကဏ္ဍိန် Tiếng Việt
粵語 Македонски 普通话

Your Council in your language

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

115 Civic Parade, Altona
PO Box 21, Altona 3018
Phone 1300 179 944
NRS phone 133 677 and quote 03 9932 1000
customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

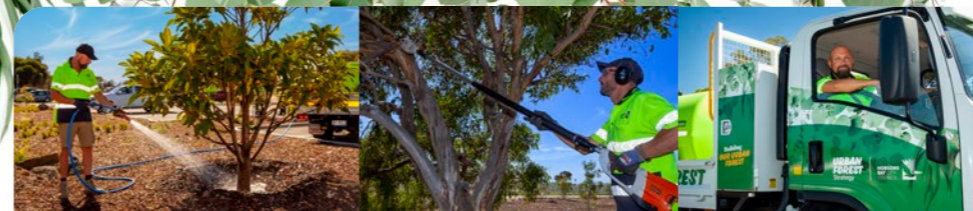
www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

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instagram.com/HobsonsBayCC

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

twitter.com/HobsonsBayCC



CARING FOR OUR TREES

Our 2022 tree planting season has kicked off. You'll see our tree crew planting 8,000 new medium and advanced trees this year.

Trees are planted from April to September when the weather is cooler and there's a higher chance of rain to give our new trees the best chance of adapting to the new conditions.

Council looks after trees from when they are planted until they establish (about two years). While we do our best to care for our beautiful trees, the survival rate of planted trees is 96-98 per cent. Some trees find it hard to establish in new soil, such as the clay near Skeleton Creek, and threats from climate change and increasing temperatures impact the health of our trees.

You can help us care for our trees by using Snap Send Solve (available on the App Store and Google Play) to alert Council of any trees that need extra love, such as pruning or watering. At some reserves and open spaces, we also use underground irrigation.

Read more about our Tree Planting program and the Urban Forest Strategy at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/UrbanForestStrategy

April to September
Tree planting

Council's Urban Forest Strategy aims to increase Hobsons Bay's urban canopy to **30 PER CENT** by 2040

Newly planted trees looked after for **two years**. After two years, trees are inspected every **two years**

Council looks after approximately **76,000** street and park trees, this will increase to **126,000** by 2030

RECYCLING WHILE YOU'RE OUT

It's now easier to recycle some plastics, paper and cardboard, cans and glass while you are out enjoying Hobsons Bay's open spaces with the three-bin system being rolled out across popular parks, reserves and beaches in Hobsons Bay.

A total of 200 bins will be installed across 13 locations with general rubbish, mixed recycling and glass recycling bins at each location.

Locations include:

- 100 steps
- Cherry Lake
- Altona Boat Ramp
- WG Cresser Reserve
- Altona Foreshore
- Logan Reserve
- AB Shaw Reserve
- Fearon Reserve
- Point Gellibrand Reserve
- Newport Lakes
- Greenwich Reserve
- Williamstown Beach
- Williamstown Botanic Gardens

As part of the initial roll out, we are asking for feedback on whether the messaging on the bins is clear and if there were any issues using the bins. To provide feedback, visit www.participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/binourparks

Stage 2 of the bin rollout program will be installing bins in retail centres.

The three-bin system builds on Council's work upgrading bin capacities and increasing bin collection frequency. Do you know Council manages 700 public bins?!

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

And don't forget that you can keep doing your bit at home by signing up for the community trial of free paper bags to help recycle food waste. Sign up at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/paperbagtrial

JUST 30 MINUTES CAN SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY

Hobsons Bay residents can access a free 30-minute phone consultation to discuss a wide range of energy efficiency and renewable energy options including:

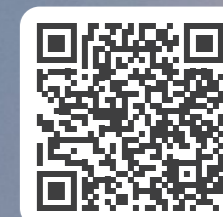
- solar and battery systems
- efficient electric heating and cooling, hot water systems and cooking appliances
- accessing rebates
- insulation and draughtproofing

Council is partnering with the Metro Community Power Hub to provide the Hobsons Bay community with free, simple, and trusted energy advice. Led by Yarra Energy Foundation, the Metro Community Power Hub is funded by Sustainability Victoria on behalf of the Victorian Government. For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/energyefficiency

COMMUNITY PITCH VOTING NOW OPEN

Vote for your favourite community-driven idea.

Simply scan the QR code below or visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/community-pitch-202223



All votes will go into a draw to win great prizes. Ideas were received from community groups, residents, organisations and businesses.

Voting closes 1 May. The successful pitches will be delivered by Council in 2022-23.

If you have questions, please call 1300 179 944 or email communityengagement@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Council+

Easier and more convenient access to Council services

Council+ service centres are coming to Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows libraries.

From paying rates to upsizing bins, planning advice to logging a request, with Council+ your Council enquiries will soon be able to be done in person, closer to home.



From ABCs
to pruning trees
we're on the same page



Centres for Excellence

In the future, it is proposed that each Council+ service centre will boast, its own specialty area with expert staff on hand!

It could be *heritage, writing and publishing, art and music, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), videogames and boardgames or environment and sustainability and, business and innovation* - we want your help to shape the direction of each centre.

Help us decide!

Feedback opens 26 May. Visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au to have your say.

More Council+ service centres will be launched by the end of the year.

Keep an eye on our website for details.

Need financial assistance or have a question about rates?

With Council+ connecting with a rates expert is easier and more convenient. The rates department can help you:

- register for direct debit payments
- register for eNotices
- update residential and postal mailing addresses
- confirm current balances and setting payment arrangements
- assist in providing rebates and discounts where applicable
- assist people with arrears by organising interest free repayment plans

Once Council+ is launched, you can be connected with a rates expert by visiting a Council+ service centre or calling **1300 179 944**



Introducing Council subject experts

Every month, Council delivers more than 100 services to the community. As part of Council+ it's easier and more convenient to connect with an expert from Council.

If our friendly staff at the Council+ service centres are unable to help you with your request – they can connect you with a Council subject expert, including early years, rates, building and planning, sustainability and business support.

Council+ launch

Free event

You're invited to join the community celebrations to launch Council+ with three big events

Williamstown Library
Thursday 26 May,
2.15pm to 5pm

Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre
Friday 27 May,
2.45pm to 4.30pm

Altona North Community Library
Friday 27 May,
10am to 11am

- free coffee
 - delicious food
 - kids activities
 - workshops
 - performances
- and more!*

No registration required for Williamstown and Altona Meadows. Please register for the children's event at Altona North. The first 100 to arrive will receive a free library tote bag. For details, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlus

Following the Council+ launch, you can

Visit a Council+ service centre to:

borrow a book

attend an event

pay your rates

apply for a parking permit and/or accessible parking permit

use video conferencing, a computer or printer

book a meeting space

upsize your bin

check a planning application

ask about Aged and Disability services such as Meals on Wheels and home maintenance

be connected with a Council subject expert or librarian

and more!

More benefits

With Council+ our services are expanding

- + new contact hours
- + more community meeting spaces and bookable rooms
- + more ways to connect with Council
- + easier access to specialised services
- + cross-skilled staff at all Council+ service centres

We're here to help in more ways than one!

Call **1300 179 944**
www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlus



← Scan me for current information

FUN AT SUPPORTED PLAYGROUPS!

Eleven supported playgroups are run across Hobsons Bay and they're always welcoming new families!

Supported playgroups are led by specially trained and qualified playgroup leaders and are safe and friendly spaces for eligible families with children aged up to five to have fun, learn and play while sharing parenting tips and support.

We chat to our Laverton facilitator Kristina Strangis who is also a qualified kindergarten teacher.

Q- What are you looking forward to this year?

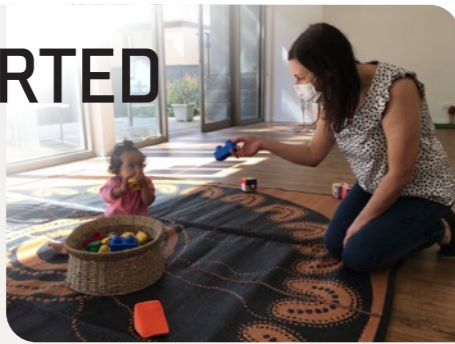
I can't wait to provide creative play experiences for families and activities that families can take with them and continue to play with at home. We're excited to invite guests including the local Maternal and Child Health Nurse, Early Year Librarians and even a dentist!

Q- What do you like about working with families?

I enjoy forming positive relationships with families and creating an environment which is inviting, positive and supportive. It is also wonderful to watch parents make connections with other parents and provide support to each other.

Q- Why is supported playgroup important?

It's an opportunity for children to participate in play-based learning which gets them ready for kindergarten or school. When children engage in play this can motivate a child to learn and provide positive feelings about learning. Playgroups also allow parents to enjoy quality time with their children.



Quotes from parents

"Playgroup is a great opportunity for children to be around their peers. The benefit is also there for parents to see how their child interacts with others in social settings away from home." Franca

"Playgroup is all about fun activities and learning experiences for parents to interact and engage with their child." Rebecca

For more information about supported playgroups and to find out if you are eligible to attend, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/SupportedPlaygroup

Community Playgroups

With 22 community playgroups running across Hobsons Bay, parents and caregivers of young children can find one that suits their family. Community playgroups are led by parents or a community facilitator and have no strict eligibility criteria. They are a great way for parents to have fun with their child/ren while meeting other local families. For more information visit, www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CommunityPlaygroups



SHOWCASING HOBSONSBAY

Do you have friends and family visiting? Show off your home turf and delight them with the wonders of Hobsons Bay. Here are a couple of our favourites, we're sure there's many to add to the list!

Lantern Ghost Tours - 8.30pm every Friday and Saturday in Williamstown and 8.30pm on the first Saturday of the month at Altona Homestead

Grazeland – open Friday to Sunday check website for details

Free guided heritage walking tours at 11.45am Tuesday and Friday during autumn, meet at the Visitor Information Centre

Altona Homestead - open Tuesdays 11am to 2pm, Saturdays 10am to 12pm, and first Sunday of the month 10.30am to 2.30pm

Newport Railway Museum - open Saturdays 10am to 4pm

HMAS Castlemaine Museum - open weekends and public holidays, 11am to 4pm

Altona Miniature Railway - open from 10am third Sunday of the month

Seaworks Maritime Museum - open Wednesday and Sunday 11am to 3pm

St John Museum – open Thursday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

Melbourne Seaplanes – bookings required, details on their website

Scienceworks and Planetarium – open daily, 10am to 4.30pm

Williamstown Botanic Gardens

Jawbone Reserve in Williamstown

Newport Lakes

Truganina Coastal Parklands



Scan for things to do, see, eat and stay

Or visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/visit/Experience

Share your favourite pics of places you love in Hobsons Bay on social media using the hashtag [#experiencehobsonsbay](https://twitter.com/experiencehobsonsbay).

Follow us on Instagram [@hobsonsbaycc](https://www.instagram.com/hobsonsbaycc)

What's happening in your ward?



Cherry Lake Ward

Construction is well under way at **GJ Hosken Reserve** to build a new adventure playground, fitness equipment, footpath networks and park furniture. The upgrade will also include a multi-use court with a basketball hoop, a barbecue and two new shelters near the playground. The western part of the reserve will be fenced to create a dog off-lead precinct. Join the opening community celebration on 19 June. The project is jointly funded by Council and the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund through the Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek. For more information, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/hoskenreserve

The **Altona Tennis Club court refurbishment** is nearing completion! Stage 2 is scheduled to be completed in mid-April and includes new clay court surfaces on courts six to 11, sustainable LED lights, and irrigation. The project is jointly funded by Council and the Victorian Government.

A new **CoastSnap photo post** has been installed at **Altona Beach** near Correa Street. The post will enable visitors to take photos with their phones to help track changes to our coast. The project will help Council monitor changes to the shoreline including the conservation area looking towards the mouth of Laverton Creek. Visit www.coastsnap.com to download the CoastSnap app and participate.

Construction of **Pier Street stage 4** will kick off soon. Pier Street Stage 4 extends from Queen Street down to Altona Beach and includes upgrading **Weaver Reserve**. Works realigning and raising the seawall and widening the shared trail up to **Webb Street** have commenced. Detailed designs are available to view on Participate Hobsons Bay, participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonabeachprecinct-1. Council is also working closely with Parks Victoria on the demolition of the pier and construction of the new pier.

Strand Ward

Following community consultation, work will soon commence on the **Ferguson Street Blackspot project**. The project, between Melbourne Road and The Strand in Williamstown, includes construction of two raised zebra crossings, installation of electronic 40 km/h signage, clearer line marking for drivers turning in and out of Bath Place, and the installation of painted buffer bike lanes. There will be no changes to vehicle access or parking. Construction is expected to be completed before the end of June. For more information, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/fergusonstreet

Construction of the **Blenheim Road Community Park** is progressing well. Once complete, the park will include picnic areas, toilets, a water feature, play equipment, path network, public art and landscaping. The park is located next to the Australian Islamic Centre and Altona Miniature Railway and is scheduled for completion in September 2022.

The road works on **Blenheim Road** are expected to be completed by June 2022. The works include reconstruction of the road pavement including kerb and channel.

The rehabilitation works at **Aloha Street** in **South Kingsville** have commenced which includes reconstruction of the kerb and channel, minor footpath replacement, upgrade of drainage and resurfacing of the roadway. These works are expected to be completed by the end of May.

The **South Kingsville Community Centre** is getting a facelift thanks to a partnership with the state government's West Gate Neighbourhood Fund. Works to the centre are under way and include new painting, flooring, lighting and significant air conditioning works throughout and outdoor upgrades. Works are expected to be completed in April 2022.

Wetlands Ward

Work on developing the **HD Graham Reserve Sports Facility** in Altona Meadows is progressing well. The irrigation and sportsground are complete and the pavilion is starting to take shape with the concrete slab poured and the steel portal frame erected. Soon the external wall cladding, and roof will be installed. Construction of the pavilion is scheduled for completion in September 2022. For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/HDGraham

As part of the **Seabrook Traffic Calming projects**, speed cushions on **Shane Avenue at Mark Court, Loretta Court and Yolanta Court** have been removed and replaced with traffic islands, chicanes (additional curve in the road to slow traffic) and kerb and channel works.

The footpath network has been expanded in Altona Meadows as part of the Missing Links project with new footpaths and pram crossings at **Roff, Plenty, Quinn, and Hammond courts**. The footpath works in **McNeil Drive, Lynch and Quinn courts** are nearing completion.

Works to revamp **Dick Murdoch Reserve** and **Beverly Anton Reserve** will kick off soon. A feature of Dick Murdoch Reserve will be a 40m-long flying fox, new playground and garden beds. Beverly Anton Reserve will be transformed with new garden beds, new seating and more trees throughout the reserve. The memorial will also be restored. Work will soon start on the Henderson Street Reserve and Bladin Street Reserve revamps. Recently completed parks in Laverton include Frank Gibson Reserve and Whittaker Avenue. For more information, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/lovelavertonparks

Keep an eye on Participate in May to have your say on Better Places Altona Meadows + Seabrook and southern open space at Bruce Comben participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

MAKE IT HAPPEN

Do you have ideas and initiatives which can help contribute to recovery or reconnection in our community? Is your group or club looking at innovative ways to recover and reconnect?

Applications are now open for the 2022 Make it Happen Hobsons Bay Recovery and Reconnection grants. Community groups, non-profit organisations, clubs, producers, community centres and neighbourhood houses can apply for grants of up to \$25,000 and equipment grants of up to \$3,000.

Grants can be for activities, projects, programs, events and resources across all sectors including:

- environment and sustainability
- sport and recreation
- arts and culture
- health and wellbeing
- multicultural
- community and neighbourhood development
- technology
- projects by and for young people, children and families and more.

Applications close 18 May. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/grants

or scan



HERITAGE HOBSONS BAY 2022

18 April to 2 May

Uncover the history of Hobsons Bay during the Australian Heritage Festival. Whether it's by exploring iconic heritage sites or taking a step back in time through storytelling and tours, this year's festival invites you to discover Hobsons Bay's historical, Indigenous, cultural and natural heritage while imagining ways we can protect, promote and celebrate 'Our heritage for the future'. For details and to book, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/HeritageHobsonsbay

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

11 April to 22 April

Hobsons Bay Youth Services is hosting a fun filled April School Holiday program for young people aged 12 to 17 years. There's lots on offer including competitive recreation games with prizes, cooking classes, yoga, LBGTIQA+ workshops, arts and craft activities. For more information, and to register, head to www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/aprilschoolholidays



MY SMART GARDEN PERMABLITZ NEWPORT!

Sunday 1 May, 10am to 4pm

Help transform a typical suburban block into a low maintenance productive permaculture garden! This hands-on free event will include mini-workshops, a delicious lunch and plenty of festivities. To take part in the My Smart Garden edible garden working bee, register at mysmartgarden.org.au



CONSERVATION HEROES

Are you interested in making a positive difference in the environment or being part of a local sustainability group? Our Conservation Rangers work with eight community environment groups across Hobsons Bay who take part in a variety of activities including planting, weeding and informational talks.

Check out the upcoming events:

Friends of Skeleton Creek

Sunday 24 April and Sunday 22 May, 1pm to 3pm, Emu Foot Grassland, on Henry Drive, Altona Meadows

Friends of Williamstown Wetlands

Sunday 24 April, 10am to 12pm, meet at the Arboretum, Rifle Range Reserve. Parking in Mullins Court, Williamstown. Sunday 29 May, 10am to 12pm, meet at the Causeway, Rifle Range Reserve. Parking in Crofton Drive, Williamstown

Friends of Greenwich Bay

Sunday 29 May, 9am to 11am, meet at 110 The Strand, Newport

Truganina Explosives Reserve Open Days

First Sunday of the month, 1pm to 4pm, Queen Street, Altona

Friends of Newport Lakes

Second Sunday of the month, 10am to 12pm, meet in the carpark at Newport Lakes, Newport Lakes Drive

For more conservation news, visit hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/conservation

BLOCK PARTY

Saturday 7 May, 11am to 3pm

Join us for our annual Woods Street Art Precinct community street party with exhibitions, workshops, performances and much more, stay tuned for the full program announcement at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/BlockParty22



CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY HUB @ SEAWORKS

Feel like getting creative with technology?

This makerspace located within the Seaworks Maritime Precinct is a partnership project between Seaworks and Council.

Programs and activities are for people 13+ and focus on STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics – essential 21st century skills to provide opportunities to skill up, re-skill and obtain new employment opportunities.

Intro to the wacky world of 3D Pens

First Thursday of each month, 2pm to 4pm

A 3D pen is a pen that extrudes heated or warm plastic from the pen's nozzle. You don't need any software. Whatever you imagine, you can draw.

360 Virtual Tour Creation

Thursday 14 April, 10am to 12pm
Learn how to create a virtual tour

Intro to Laser Cutting

Thursday 28 April, 10am to 12pm
Learn how to use our Emblaser 2 and lightburn software

Taster sessions

Every Friday in April from 2pm to 4pm
Try laser cutting, 3D printing and scanning, electronics, robotics, CNC wood carving and a whole host of software.

For more details and how you can get involved, visit libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/visit-us/creative-technology-hub

WOODCARVING WORKSHOP

Hobsons Bay Men's Shed
280 Queens Street, Altona
Tuesdays 9.30am to 12pm, from 26 April

For more information, contact John on Jah2802rot@gmail.com