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Stonnington news



Our drive to survive in lockdown

Stonnington is doubling down to meet the challenge of operating during uncertain times. Learn more about our recovery and support packages available – INSIDE.





Message from the CEO

Council released the draft 2020–2021 City of Stonnington Budget for consideration by our community in June.

Like previous years, the Budget has followed a rigorous and extensive consultation process, reflecting the priorities, needs and collective vision of our diverse community.

However, unlike previous budgets, this year we face a radically different set of factors that were simply unimaginable less than six months ago.

While it outlines the many important services provided by Council, and details the funding required to deliver these, the draft Budget does so amidst a significant decline in Council revenue and a deeply-impacted economic environment.

It is very much a Budget for the times, fundamentally shaped by the impacts and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It reflects the key decisions considered for the most effective use of our resources, our role in economic recovery and growth, and our responsibility to deliver on social policies to meet our community's needs.

We've deliberately focused on improvements and investments to strengthen local services, facilities and programs.

The Budget also demonstrates Council's responsibility and strong commitment to the City's fiscal sustainability and preserving its financial health for the benefit of future generations.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are significant and will be felt well into the coming financial years with our recovery programs.

This year's Budget balances the significant reduction in revenue with the delivery of critical Council services, facilities and improvements for our community.

The draft Budget will be formally adopted at a special Council meeting on 31 August.

Jacqui Weatherill
Chief Executive Officer
City of Stonnington

A word from the Mayor



Welcome to this special edition of Stonnington News.

It comes at a critical time in the history of the City of Stonnington as we once again must come together to face down a significant health economic challenge.

The need for this latest lockdown shows just how dangerous COVID-19 is, and how we must stay vigilant until it is beaten.

As we have seen in the past few months, the pandemic and its economic and social impacts have fundamentally changed the immediate and long-term outlook.

As you will read in this edition, Council is facing a significant shortfall in revenue.

We have responded with a draft Budget very much designed for the times.

You will also read about the many ways we are supporting Stonnington's economy and community through this crisis, especially supporting businesses doing it tough.

When we are through this lockdown, the key to recovery will be the generation of economic activity.

Council is committed to stimulate this through infrastructure and investment in our open spaces, precincts, sports and community facilities.

We have responded once to this crisis and I am confident this community spirit will again help us get through, recover and prosper.

Cr Steve Stefanopoulos
Mayor, City of Stonnington

Welcome to your free community news publication

We value your readership and support; stay informed via socials and stay connected on our new-look website stonnington.vic.gov.au/stonningtonnews

If you no longer wish to receive your print copy in the mail, email communications@stonnington.vic.gov.au with your name and address and we'll update our records.



OR GO DIGITAL
by subscribing at
stonnington.vic.gov.au/stonningtonnews

Extended pool registrations

The State Government has extended the deadline for swimming pool and spa registrations.

You now have until **1 November 2020** to register.



stonnington.vic.gov.au/pools



Chance to appeal your parking fine

We're reviewing parking infringement appeals that were lodged in Stonnington between 1 July 2006 and 9 February 2017.

This applies only to individuals who appealed a parking infringement unsuccessfully during this period, and subsequently made payment to the City of Stonnington – not everyone who received and paid a parking infringement.

This is a reminder based on the Victorian Ombudsman report, to make your application for a parking infringement appeal review.



For more information, go to stonnington.vic.gov.au/ombudsman

Rates hardship support

If you're experiencing hardship, we can help.

Our Rates Financial Hardship Policy helps people unable to pay their rates levies or charges, through deferral of rates, interest waiving or payment arrangement options.

Rates update


Due to a significant fall in revenue and a severely impacted economy as a result of the pandemic, the Draft Budget for 2020–2021 proposes a rate increase of 2 per cent, with a one-off 2 per cent discount for rates paid up-front and in full.

This proposed increase is in line with those planned by other similar councils and within the State Government's cap on rate rises. This proposed rise also helps meet Council's obligations to the community recovery effort and helps secure long-term financial sustainability.

The proposed Budget is subject to community feedback, including expenditure, revenue, key projects and initiatives.



For more information, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/rates or email us at rates@stonnington.vic.gov.au



Stay connected on Council's new website

We've just launched a much easier to use, customer-focused website.

Check out stonnington.vic.gov.au for news, updates and new features to make your Council experience even better.

In our **Reducing waste at home** story in the May 2020 edition, we got it slightly wrong.

Dot point number two should have read: recycling bin (blue lid): **rigid plastic bottles and containers**, paper, cardboard, glass, aluminium foil and cans, steel cans and aerosols.

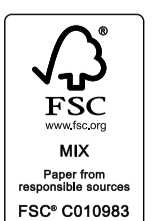
Cover image: Coffee's up: Claudio, of Officine Zero, makes a big difference and keeps business real.

About Stonnington News

Stonnington News is published by the City of Stonnington. While every effort is made to ensure the information contained in this edition of Stonnington News is correct at the time of printing, details are subject to change.

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ESSENTIAL SERVICES CONTINUE

Essential services in the City of Stonnington – such as waste and recycling collection, maternal and child health and immunisation programs – will continue despite metropolitan Melbourne being plunged into a second COVID-19 lockdown.

Mayor Cr Steve Stefanopoulos said he was confident of the community's resilience and ability to adapt, after overcoming the last lockdown phase.

"Nobody wanted to re-enter COVID-19 restrictions and our challenge now is to make sure these six weeks are the last we experience," he said.

"By now, we all know the rules – here are the only four reasons to leave home:

- » to shop for food or other essential items
- » to provide caregiving
- » for outdoor exercise
- » to work or study, if you cannot do this from home.

"Our essential services like waste and recycling, maternal and child health and immunisation programs, continue with strict health and safety protocols in place.

"Our community services teams will continue to check in with our most vulnerable residents.

"If you have older neighbours, reach out to them to let them know you can help with shopping using our Stay Connected Stonnington flyer available at stonnington.vic.gov.au/stayconnected."

Cr Stefanopoulos said all Stonnington residents should stay safe, check in with loved ones, remain at home and get tested if they experienced any COVID-19 symptoms.

"We have testing facilities at Prahran Town Hall and Chadstone Golfers Drive," he said.

Cr Stefanopoulos encouraged the community to continue its support of Stonnington businesses.

"I call on everyone to help our businesses by observing social distancing if you are shopping and check in with your favourite café or restaurant to see if they're doing takeaway or delivery."

Help for those doing it tough

COVID-19 has impacted all Victorians and significantly changed everyday life.

It is normal to feel unsettled, anxious or lonely in this challenging time. It's also important to do what we can to look after our safety wellbeing.

Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 and Lifeline 131 114 have support services and information to help you and your family.

If you or someone you know is at risk of domestic or family violence, being at home may not be the safest place.

A range of specialist family violence services are available to help, including 1800RESPECT and Kids Helpline 1800 551 800 and the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria at dvrcv.org.au

For an emergency, call 000 (triple zero).

If you need some help with free or low-cost food, personal items, transport, pharmacy items, accommodation or legal support, there's a list of support services on our website along with our hardship policy that outlines financial assistance and relief available to people, businesses and organisations in Stonnington.

We're in this together; let's help one another.

Find out more at stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid19



Stay
CONNECTED
STONNINGTON

*Stop the spread.
Stay safe,
stay at home
and stay connected.*

General COVID-19 information

Our Stonnington website has a dedicated COVID-19 community information page.



You can find updated information about the impacts on events, facilities, programs and services at stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid19

See p 12 for changes to services information.

How to contact us

Public-facing customer service centres are closed. Our team is receiving and responding to requests and questions via phone, email and social media.

Other ways to contact us:

stonnington.vic.gov.au

council@stonnington.vic.gov.au

facebook.com/stonningtoncouncil

8290 1333 (general enquiries) or 8290 3329 (planning specific enquiries)

Request a service online at stonnington.vic.gov.au/requestservice

Report an issue on Snap Send Solve snapsendsolve.com

Ways to connect, general assistance and helplines

Department of Health and Human Services

dhhs.vic.gov.au

1800 675 398

Australian Government Department of Health

health.gov.au

Centrelink, pension and health related services

servicesaustralia.gov.au/my.gov.au

Beyond Blue

1300 224 636

In an emergency

Triple zero (000)

Important information is regularly updated on our COVID-19 hub. Visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid19 or call us on 8290 1333
See p 12 for changes to our services.

Q. What do you get when you put great coffee, Italian style, passion and charm, loads of experience, initiative and location together?

A. Officine Zero.

More than just coffee

Officine Zero is an Italian espresso bar that offers great coffee, wine and food, alongside authentic Italian banter.

Business owner Claudio Casoni has been operating in Stonnington since June 2014. He and his team have had to adapt the business model to ensure the continued success and security of the Hawksburn café in challenging times.

When restrictions started, the main purpose was to protect its most vulnerable employees who

couldn't access JobSeeker or JobKeeper programs.

By changing up the business offering – introducing an e-delivery platform, with free pick-up and coffee delivery, artisan pasta meals, desserts, wine and groceries and extending operating hours, it was able to continue trading through a new initiative – Officine Zero at home.

Claudio and the team are still working creatively to weather this period of business uncertainty. Drop in, buy a coffee or a meal, and support a great local business.

Officine Zero
534 Malvern Road, Hawksburn
Open daily, 7.15am–3.45pm
and 5.30pm–8pm

officinezero.com.au

Budget designed for local support, recovery

A special rates discount and a commitment to shovel-ready projects to revitalise the economy are among the features of the City of Stonnington's 2020-2021 draft Budget.

Mayor Cr Steve Stefanopoulos said the Budget was designed to support local business, rebuild community confidence and strengthen the City's long-term financial resilience.

"This draft Budget reflects a radically different set of factors that were simply unimaginable in March," he said.

"While it outlines the many important services provided by Council, and details the funding required to deliver these, it does so amidst a significant decline in revenue of \$9.6 million from the 2019-2020 forecast and a deeply impacted economic environment."

"Thanks to many years of prudent financial management, Council is able to offer relief for residents and businesses, while remaining committed to critical long-term capital projects that create jobs and economic opportunity.

"It provides economic stimulus through shovel-ready capital works, such as the restoration of Prahran Town Hall, but equally many smaller projects across our neighbourhoods.

"It puts the local into local government by bringing forward investments in open space, facilities and infrastructure, while reflecting the significant revenue shortfall expected to result from the extremely challenging economic conditions faced by businesses."

"It is a responsible draft Budget, balancing prudential financial management with the need to help kick-start the Stonnington economy."

The draft Budget delivers on the strategies outlined in the Council Plan 2017-2021 and lays the foundations for the next four-year blueprint.

Have your say

Residents are invited to view the budget online and will have an opportunity to put their views direct to Council at a special session in August.

Following final consultation, the draft Budget will be considered for formal adoption on 31 August.



Keep a look out on our website for budget information updates.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DRAFT BUDGET

Rate relief	no parking fees at selected carparks	innovative Active Stonnington program for sport and recreation
early payment discount	major boost to precinct marketing	intensive cleaning and security for open spaces and facilities
no interest on late rates	reduced parking enforcement through State of Emergency	Community Recovery Grant Program
Focus on local projects	\$14.5m parks, urban forest strategy, open space, cycling, playground and recreation works	\$1.2m Princes Gardens masterplan implementation
\$14.7m local roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage works	\$10m strategic property to increase open space	\$1.8m Chapel Street improvements
\$20.9m community building renewal and improvement works	\$600k further reduce greenhouse gas emissions	\$5.7m major customer service improvements



"Exercising the body and mind is one of the best things we can do to cope during times of difficulty."

— Cr Glen Atwell, East Ward



Commitment to accessibility brings benefits to all

An important focus for the City of Stonnington draft Budget for 2020-2021 is to build on Council's achievements in making open spaces and playgrounds as modern and accessible as possible.

These investments ensure families of all ages and abilities have equal access to the benefits of exercise and a sense of community.

East Ward Councillor Glen Atwell said he was delighted Council's commitment to equitable access to leisure and recreation continued in the Budget.

"During this unprecedented period of lockdown and travel restrictions, our local playgrounds and parks have never been more important – for kids, families and carers," he said.

"Exercising the body and mind is one of the best things we can do to cope during times of difficulty.

"I am proud to be part of a Council committed to investing in our playgrounds, and we are seeing a new and modern mix of equipment being installed that is both delighting and challenging our young ones.

"This ensures the simple delights of playtime are afforded to kids, but just as importantly to parents and carers.

"A standalone, accessible playground for Central Park in Malvern East, which is funded in this year's proposed Budget, is a sign of that commitment.

"We have limited open space in Stonnington, so it is important we make every square metre of it count for the benefit of the entire community."



Rebuilding economy and community

A wide-ranging COVID-19 recovery support package was unanimously endorsed by Councillors at the 15 June Council meeting.

The program will be supported by two advisory groups comprising experienced community and business leaders who will lend local expertise to the recovery of their community.

Mayor Steve Stefanopoulos said the package would be guided by best advice and support the community on multiple fronts.

“COVID-19 has caused major disruptions to people’s lives and businesses in our community,” he said.

“Council has been working urgently to address both community and business impacts.

“Stonnington’s businesses and residents have shown incredible resilience and adaptability in how they responded.

“We are blessed to have a diverse range of business and community leaders and we plan to harness their considerable knowledge, skills, passion and experience to shape our recovery.

“Our role is to facilitate a community-led recovery that asks people for their

ideas, connects local agency networks, builds local capacity, supports our existing businesses and attracts new investment.

“We’ve formed two key committees to tap into community leaders, advocates and stakeholders to do this – a Community Recovery Committee and an Economic Recovery Committee.

“As we move out of the response period and into recovery, these two groups will work with Councillors and our Executive Team to make smart decisions with long term benefits for people who live and work in Stonnington.”

Chief Executive Officer Jacqui Weatherill said work to form these committees began some time ago.

“Before the Victorian Government began easing restrictions we had been thinking about how we best support our community to recover from COVID-19,” she said.

“These two groups will provide oversight and direction for how we do this, offering input and guidance on new or reviewed programs, investment, grant streams, campaigns, partnerships and advocacy.”

To find out more about our support packages available, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid-19recovery



Seizing our opportunities to grow business together

“Business – especially small business – is the lifeblood of any community and needs to feel welcome, understood and supported by its Council.”

— Cr Marcia Griffin, North Ward

Stonnington is well-known for being a desirable place to live, work and visit.

Famous suburbs such as Armadale, Glen Iris, Kooyong, Malvern, Prahran, South Yarra, Toorak and Windsor, are serviced by many retail precincts – from active high streets and smaller villages to medium and large-scale shopping centres.

North Ward Councillor Marcia Griffin said Stonnington’s precincts have evolved and reinvented themselves over time.

Cr Griffin said she believed reinvention would continue due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We recently launched See Opportunity, a partnership with precinct associations and local businesses, using case studies, stakeholder engagement, interviews, webcasts and workshops,” she said.

“I am proud to say Council is united in our commitment to our local economy and to making local businesses prosper during the changes and upheaval in the retail environment.

“We must attract, retain and activate businesses so that they can be successful and resilient,” she said.

Cr Griffin said Council encouraged innovation and entrepreneurship.

“The pandemic has hit business hard and we need to nurture the next generation and help build resilience.”



Find out more at stonnington.vic.gov.au/seeopportunity

LEARN FROM OUR CITY'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST

Our See Opportunity – Growing Business Together video series is all about turning business dreams into a reality.

Hosted by Emma Vosti from Channel 7, the series offers you the opportunity to hear from some of Australia’s brightest business minds with a presence in Stonnington about getting to and staying at the top of their market, as well as how they’ve survived and thrived during COVID-19 restrictions.



Visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/seeopportunity to hear from the people behind these amazing Stonnington businesses: Bodyfit Prahran and South Yarra, BODA Hair Boutique, House of Lulu White, JAGGAD, Mr. Miyagi and WHITEFOX Real Estate.



It’s time to support local business

Even as we endure a second lockdown, it is more important than ever that the community continues to support local businesses, according to East Ward Councillor Jami Klisaris.

Cr Klisaris said it had been heartening to see familiar restaurants, cafés, bars and retailers back in business insert recently, but the second lockdown period would be tough for business owners and staff.

“We have come together once as a community to overcome the health challenge. Now is the time to support local business, which is the lifeblood of any community,” Cr Klisaris said.

“When we can once again shop freely, it important that we think local in everything we do – whether eating out, buying clothes, having a haircut, hiring a tradie or doing your tax.

“These past few months have made me even more conscious of the diversity of our business community – we literally have it all in Stonnington, so why go elsewhere?”

“Supporting local business creates jobs, keeps our precincts vibrant and attractive and makes Stonnington a great place to live in and visit.”

— Cr Jami Klisaris, East Ward







“The beautiful winter afternoons have offered an additional benefit to the space, providing a perfect relaxed option for social catch ups.”

— Cr Melina Sehr, South Ward



 @prahransquare

 @prahran_square

Follow us for more information about what's next.

Community makes the most of Prahran Square

Stonnington's Prahran Square has become a haven for residents and workers looking for a break, some exercise or a quick bite to eat.

South Ward Councillor Melina Sehr said she had noticed an increase in people exercising in the open space.

“It's fascinating seeing how people respond to Prahran Square in their own ways, which was an important part of our thinking when Council committed to transforming a run down open air car park into a flexible open air space,” she said.

“It's great seeing people using the terraced steps for cardio and the lawn area for yoga, but it's just as heartening to see residents and workers using the different areas to enjoy their lunch break or meet friends.”

Cr Sehr said the Square was also a firm favourite for dog owners.

“Local pet parents are making a swing through Prahran Square part of their daily walking round,” she said.

“The beautiful winter afternoons have offered an additional benefit to the space, providing a perfect relaxed option.”

There is plenty in store for Prahran Square when restrictions ease. In the meantime, why not add it to your workout route and see for yourself?

Connecting seniors with Alfresco

Alfresco – touching base, is our program tailored for people aged 55 years or older or for people with a disability, and their carers.


The program aims to help maintain community connections and raise spirits while staying at home during this challenging time.

A land line phone or mobile phone is all that's needed to stimulate your mind with brain teasers – join in the fun with a small group chat with fellow trivia enthusiasts in our Armchair Quiz Game, or jump

onto a Zoom trip in our Armchair Day Trips Around the World.

Take the opportunity to meet new friends virtually, maintain fitness and wellbeing or join in for a regular phone chat.

We also encourage you to reach out to your neighbours, friends and family to stay connected and for support.


 See what activities are planned at stonnington.vic.gov.au/alfresco



Call out for volunteers

Prahran Citizens Advice Bureau, a not-for-profit organisation, has been supporting Stonnington residents in need for 50 years.

Even in COVID-19 times, it is providing emergency support and referrals remotely. The Bureau is on the lookout for new volunteers. Full training is provided.

 Call 9804 7220

Congratulations from Council

We congratulate East Malvern community bank branch – Bendigo Bank, which recently celebrated 20 years of service and support for the Stonnington community.


Busy, bright, young things


Our Youth Services team has been busy creating and delivering new online engagement opportunities for young people in our community in recent months.


Alongside hosting dance and movement workshops, online art clubs and hip hop, our Expressions and FreeZa committees have been busy organising online music events and virtual film screenings.

They are also hosting lockdown online sessions with youth workers if young people just want to chat or need support.

*Stay connected.
Stay safe.*

 Check out the Youth Services Facebook page for more details.

 Online activities are also being run at the Prahran Child and Youth Community Wellbeing Hub (The Hub) located on the Horace Petty Housing Estate, South Yarra.

 There's lots happening in this space – learn more at Council's website.



what's on at
**STONNINGTON
MIDDLE YEARS AND
YOUTH SERVICES**



Read all about our libraries

Stonnington Libraries are continuing to respond to State Government restrictions, so our services may look a little different.

We will reopen when it is safe to do so, with social distancing, health and cleaning measures in place to ensure the safety of our staff and community.

We've been busy adding to our collections and have tonnes of new items available for you to reserve and enjoy, including our popular Read Now collection. With more copies and less time to wait, featuring old favourites, debut authors, fact and fiction, this collection is now available to reserve and borrow.

Keep up-to-date with changes to our services by subscribing to our newsletter, following us on social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) and visiting the News page on our revamped website.

We have loads of online content to share, including expanding digital collections and a fantastic range of online programs and events, including Storytime and Rhyme Time with your little ones, technology webinars, wellbeing conversation circles, author talks and book chats.

Stay connected

We can assist you with accessing our eLibrary, basic tech help, research and reading enquiries.

Become a library member to access the library in person, and from home, or download the app for easy access.

-  Call us between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday
Malvern Library: 8290 1366
Phoenix Park Library: 8290 4000
Toorak/South Yarra Library: 8290 8000
-  library@stonnington.vic.gov.au
-  Direct message on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter
-  Find out more at stonnington.vic.gov.au/library



“Research reveals the sound of waterfalls helps people relax during times of stress.”

— Cr Sally Davis, East Ward



Discover and explore our ‘hidden garden’

During the COVID-19 lockdown, many Stonnington residents have been rediscovering their local parks, while others have been experiencing them for the first time.

One example is the historic Hedgeley Dene Gardens in Malvern East, which East Ward Councillor Sally Davis has always dubbed ‘the hidden garden’.

“These magnificent gardens consist of 8.5 acres amidst a heritage protected, residential area,” Cr Davis said.

“It was wonderful foresight that Malvern Council bought the land in 1911 – but it was used as a quarry, then it became a rubbish tip!”

Fortunately, in 1924, the Hedgeley Dene Gardens were designed and developed – trees were planted, lawn was sewn and an ornamental pond was created.

“My favourite spot has always been the waterfall,” Cr Davis said.

“Unfortunately, during the drought of 2002, it was turned off permanently because it used potable tap water.”

In 2016, several residents lamented to Cr Davis the waterfall remained silent.

The following year, Council officers reinstated it through a reticulation system, using the onsite water bore.

“Research reveals the sound of waterfalls helps people relax during times of stress,” Cr Davis said.

“This waterfall is such a soothing sound in a truly beautiful setting.”

Coming up at the libraries



WHAT'S YOUR STORY? WRITING COMPETITION 1 August – 30 September

Budding and experienced writers of all ages are invited to submit their short stories, poems and creative writing to What's Your Story?

Prizes are awarded in adult and youth categories and will be presented as part of our upcoming literary festival, [untitled]: our writers, readers and stories, 13 – 15 November.



THE ART OF MENDING

Erin Lewis-Fitzgerald, professional mender and author of Modern Mending, shares simple techniques to give new life to worn out clothes.

13 August, 6.30pm
online – Zoom, bookings required.



LIFE AS A ROMANCE WRITER

Bestselling authors Victoria Purman and Nicole Hurley-Moore talk about their lives as romance authors.

17 September, 6.30pm
online – Zoom, bookings required.



For further information and bookings, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/library

1, 2, 3 FORE!

A favourite Stonnington sporting institution, Malvern Valley Golf Club (MVG), is back for golf.

MVG was guided by Golf Victoria and Golf Australia and closed its course as mandated, reopening under the prescribed conditions.

Like many organisations, it was an abrupt way to go – open one day and then quickly closed the next.

The closure was extremely tough for most of their staff who suddenly had no work and had to wait it out until an unknown time.

Reopening has taken a bit of adjustment. Many golfers are classified as vulnerable members of the community during the COVID-19 lockdown.

The club has been quite strict in terms of maintaining the social distancing rule.

MVG looks forward to seeing all the golfers back on the green.

“It is not a nice feeling telling senior citizens how to behave after a lengthy lockdown period, but people are happy to be back and have their weekly round of golf.”

— **Sean Gammon, Manager Malvern Valley Golf Club**



Did you know?

Built in 1934, the Malvern Valley Golf Course and Hub is located off the Monash Freeway, next to Gardiners Creek.

Set in tranquil surroundings, it is a haven from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

In recent years, Council spent more than \$3 million in renovations including significant building upgrades to improve facilities

that included a pro-shop, café, bar and function centre, No.1, that overlooks the gardens and grounds.

The 18-hole public golf course offers games and lessons for all levels.

It is an important green corridor in an increasingly urbanised area, perched on one of Stonnington’s key biodiversity sites. It provides a habitat and food for wildlife.

➔ Stay active, stay safe and get back on the green at malvernvalleygolf.com.au

📍 1 Golfers Drive, Malvern



Ride like the wind

Get out and be counted by our recently installed cycle totem – beside the Main Yarra Trail on Alexandra Avenue, South Yarra.

Since being installed in late April, an impressive 54,000 cyclists have whizzed past – an average of 1286 a day.

For those who took a leisurely ride on Easter Sunday, you were one of 2500 counted on that day. Why not get on your bike and ride like the wind?

➔ View the full Stonnington cycling map at youareheremaps.com.au/stonnington/cycling/map.html



“It has been gratifying to see the increased use of our parks and gardens and our walking and cycling paths, because exercise is an essential part of building community resilience.”

— **Cr Matthew Koce, North Ward**

Our great outdoors and pocket parks help to build resilience

Stonnington’s open spaces, pedestrian and cycle paths have experienced record use this year, underlining the importance of recreation to physical and mental wellbeing.

North Ward Councillor and keen sportsman Matthew Koce said he was delighted to see so many people using open spaces to maintain fitness and a sense of community connection.

“It has been gratifying to see the increased use of our parks and gardens, and our walking and cycling paths, because exercise is an essential part of building community resilience,” he said.

“Even our small pocket parks have come into their own.

Thanks to Council’s Open Space Strategy – adopted in 2013 when I was Mayor – we have been able to transform dilapidated old sites into wonderful parks for people to enjoy, such as the corner of Balmoral and Perry Street Prahran – a wonderful new gateway site to the iconic Prahran Market.

“I am also thrilled to see community sports on the way back.

“I hope this ‘rediscovery’ of the benefits of exercise continues well into the future.

“It’s really disappointing we have had to once again close our pools, but I look forward to the pools reopening. I also look forward to reconnecting with my fellow swimmers when we have overcome this major challenge.”





“Chapel Off Chapel is a vital part of Stonnington’s cultural fabric and will have a big role to play as the community returns from this second period of isolation.”

— **Cr John Chandler**
Deputy Mayor, North Ward



Fabled venue to play big part in recovery

Over 25 magnificent years, Chapel Off Chapel has become one of Melbourne’s premier live performance venues, with big plans being finalised for its triumphant return.

North Ward Councillor and Deputy Mayor John Chandler is one patron who can’t wait to return to the fabled venue, which has hosted everything from live performances to art exhibitions, festivals, podcasts and corporate events.

Cr Chandler said Chapel Off Chapel was a vital part of Stonnington’s cultural fabric and would have a big role to play as the community returns from isolation.

“The performing arts community has been hit hard,” he said.

“It is vital we do all we can to bring back confidence and patronage to the arts, not just for the livelihoods of the artists themselves, but for the role the arts play in the vibrancy of a community.”

With enchanting heritage-stained glass windows, the bluestone chapel, built in 1858, plays host to an array of music, theatre, art, cabaret, dance, and comedy.

Its two dynamic theatre spaces have seen the likes of Foo Fighters and Coldplay plus smash hit productions of RENT, The Colour Purple, Looking Through A Glass Onion, and One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest.

In the meantime, the regular *Check In with Chapel* series offers patrons an up close and personal experience with many guests livestreamed.

As for producers looking for a venue, Chapel Off Chapel has three flexible performance spaces. It’s the perfect place to host your next show or exhibition.



Congratulations to Chapel Off Chapel on their illustrious and magnificent 25 years in the business of entertainment.

Stonnington celebrates one of Melbourne’s leading and most-loved live entertainment venues, bringing the best in music, cabaret, comedy and theatre, and more recently, the popular Check in with Chapel series to audiences.

City of Stonnington proudly supports Chapel Off Chapel’s 25 years. Here’s to the next 25 years and beyond.

Check in with Chapel at chapeloffchapel.com.au

Prime time for award nomination

If you haven’t yet heard, Stonnington’s very own Chapel Off Chapel was recently nominated as part of the Time In Awards, a reader-voted celebration of the best responses to the COVID-19 lockdown.

Up against some tough competition, Arts Centre Melbourne, NGV,

Australian Ballet and ACMI, we congratulate Chapel on its achievement.

See entertaining interviews with past performers directly in your living room through Instagram, as the Chapel Off Chapel team continues the magic with its Check in with Chapel series.

Head to chapeloffchapel.com.au to find out who will be featured next and to watch artist interviews.

Keep informed and subscribe to our newsletter to receive updates or go to chapeloffchapel.com.au

@chapeloffchapel



Join the choir and sing your hearts out

In a time of lockdown, loneliness and isolation, the People’s Choir has reached out to the community to connect, lift spirits and bring joy through music and song.

The People’s Choir is usually based in a Malvern East hall but, due to COVID restrictions, now meets weekly on Zoom.

After some initial technical lessons required for some of the 50 plus chorus, each session became amazingly successful.

Members fully embrace the chance to sing like no one is listening.

Sessions are pre-planned, ordered and tightly managed by choir director Bettina Spivakovsky, who briefs members in advance by email.

The choir has an illustrious history and an exciting new website is underway.

There are no auditions, no subscriptions, casual membership and no classics.

The choir – for all ages and all abilities – sings rock, pop and musicals together.

It’s loads of fun and laughs and supper is included.

New members are always welcome. The choir meets at **7pm on Tuesdays** via Zoom.

Sound like you?



Call John **0419 521 468** or David **0407 198 196**



Visit mycommunitylife.com.au/community/people39s-choir



“I am proud of the emphasis we have placed on preserving what we have, as well as continuing to add to our natural environment, even in our most built-up urban areas.”

— Cr Judy Hindle, South Ward



Plant a tree or three this winter

Stonnington's trees are one of our most significant community assets, providing environmental, social and economic benefits.

South Ward Councillor and keen gardener Councillor Judy Hindle said the City of Stonnington's year-round planting program provides a long-term legacy, including cooling and shade, habitation for native species and a level of urban amenity for which Stonnington was famed.

“I am proud of the emphasis we have placed on preserving what we have, as well as continuing to add to our natural environment, even in our most built-up urban areas,” Cr Hindle said.

“In the past year alone, the City of Stonnington has planted approximately 2200 trees in our streets, parks and reserves, 11,000 plants in our streetscape projects, 10,000 Indigenous plants in our parks and reserves, and 44,000 native plants and trees along the Yarra River, Scotchmans Creek and Gardiners Creek.

“As a Council, we are responsible for ensuring we continue to protect these valuable assets for generations to come. I am proud of the strong, united and practical way we have approached sustainable development in Stonnington.”

Our annual tree planting program is being rolled out now to take advantage of the cooler months. We will notify residents if a new tree is planted near them.

For more information, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/trees

Shaping the future of Gardiners Creek

Running over 8km from Toorak to Malvern East, Gardiners Creek is one of Stonnington's most important locations for recreation, relaxation and our natural environment.

Following community consultation last year, we've developed a draft masterplan to regenerate Gardiners Creek and the surrounding area through extensive revegetation and biodiversity works, water sensitive urban design, shared path upgrades and, improvements to enhance passive and active recreation.



Check out the draft masterplan at connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/gardinerscreek

Composting for apartments

Do you live in an apartment and are looking to reduce the waste you send to landfill?

Our program supports owners' corporations to set up communal worm farms or compost bins.

We provide discounted worm farms and solar composters, as well as training, kitchen caddies and signage, making it easy to get involved and successfully compost your food waste.

Go to stonnington.vic.gov.au/apartmentcomposting

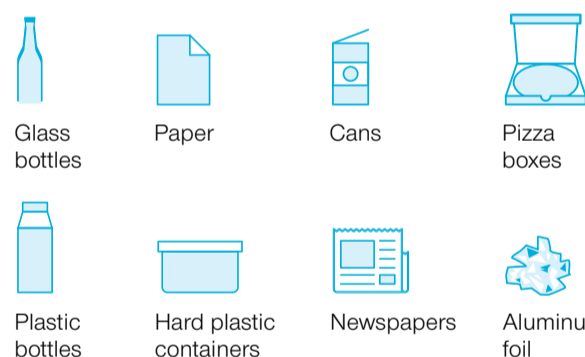
Fortnightly recycling collection calendar

JULY TO DECEMBER 2020

Don't know what to recycle or when? Check out our handy fortnightly recycling collection calendar.

- » Garbage (green lid) is collected weekly
 - » Recycling (blue lid) is collected fortnightly on the same day as garbage
 - » Work out whether your property falls within a blue or green area on this map and check the calendar
- to see when your recycling will be collected
- » Still not sure? Check stonnington.vic.gov.au/inmyarea for more information or call 8290 1333.

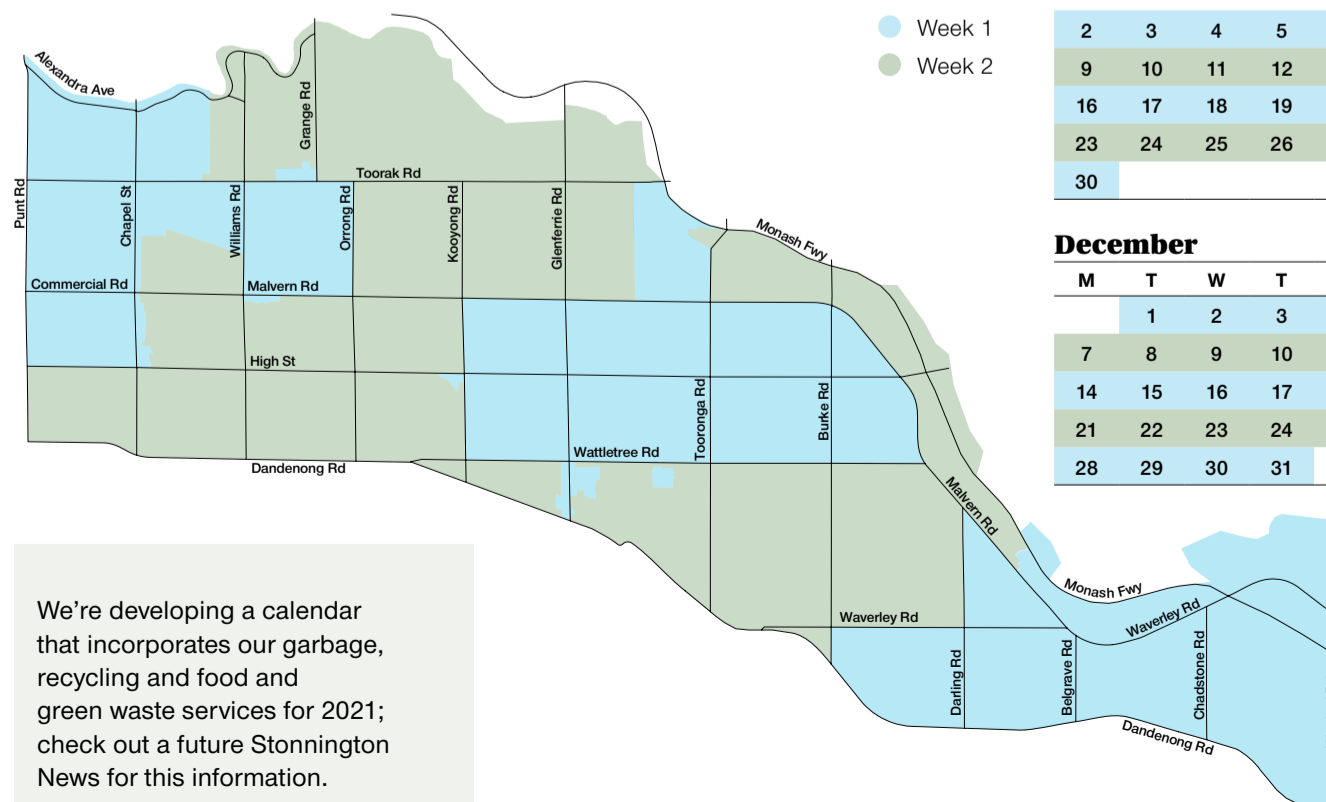
PUT THESE IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN



REMEMBER

- Empty food and liquid before recycling
- Always place recyclables loosely in the bin

To download this calendar, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/waste or to find out more about what goes into each bin, call us on 8290 1333



We're developing a calendar that incorporates our garbage, recycling and food and green waste services for 2021; check out a future Stonnington News for this information.

July

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

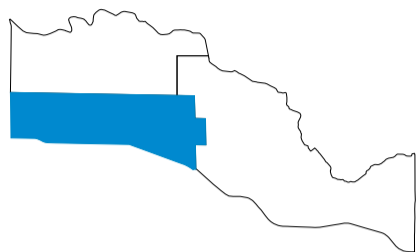
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Our Councillors, *your* representatives

SOUTH WARD



South Ward includes the suburbs of Armadale, Malvern, Prahran and Windsor



Cr Steve Stefanopoulos
Mayor

@ sstefanopoulos@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0437 118 718



Cr Judy Hindle

@ jhindle@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0437 118 718

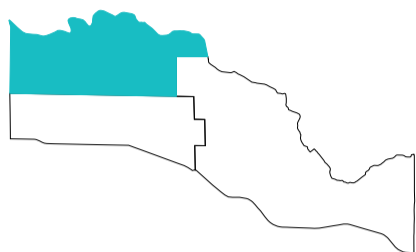


Cr Melina Sehr

@ msehr@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0417 773 644

NORTH WARD



North Ward includes the suburbs of Kooyong, South Yarra and Toorak



Cr John Chandler
Deputy Mayor

@ jchandler@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0417 771 288



Cr Marcia Griffin

@ mgriffin@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0429 239 413

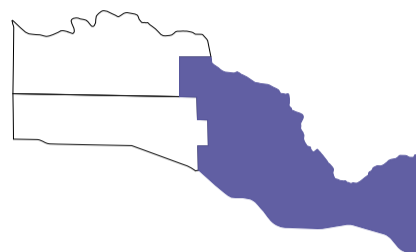


Cr Matthew Koce

@ mkoce@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0419 147 352

EAST WARD



East Ward includes the suburbs of Glen Iris, Malvern and Malvern East



Cr Glen Atwell

@ gatwell@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0429 106 772



Cr Sally Davis

@ sdavis@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0429 343 561



Cr Jami Klisaris

@ jklisaris@stonnington.vic.gov.au

0427 333 471

Contact us

8290 1333

PO Box 58
Malvern Victoria 3144

council@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Visit us online

stonnington.vic.gov.au

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StonningtonNews

instagram.com/
whats_on_stonnington

linkedin.com/
company/city-of-stonnington



If you are blind or have low vision, you can receive an audio version of Stonnington News delivered to your home.

For more information, email access@stonnington.vic.gov.au or call **8290 1192**



If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service: TTY users call **133 677**, then ask for **8290 1333**.

Speak and listen users, call **1300 555 727**, then ask for **8290 1333**

We speak your language

Mandarin	普通话	9280 0730
Cantonese	廣東話	9280 0731
Greek	Ελληνικά	9280 0732
Italian	Italiano	9280 0733
Polish	Polski	9280 0734
Russia	Русский	9280 0735
Indonesian	Bahasa Indonesia	9280 0737
Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt	9280 0748
All other languages		9280 0736

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge that Stonnington is on the traditional land of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people. We recognise and respect the cultural heritage of this land, offering our respects to elders past and present.

Council meetings livestreamed

Under current restrictions, all Council meetings are conducted remotely via Zoom and can be watched live via our livestreaming service. Meetings and agendas are published the week before.



Find our more at stonnington.vic.gov.au/council



What are YOU doing to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

City of Stonnington urges our community to be vigilant and follow this important advice during lockdown:

- » Stay safe
- » Stay home
- » Wash your hands
- » Wear a mask or face covering
- » Check in with loved ones
- » Get tested if you have symptoms
- » Stay 1.5m apart
- » Stay kind

Together, we can all get through this.



Stay connected at stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid19



Council service changes during restrictions



Aged services

Our home care, personal care, meals on wheels and home maintenance programs are still operating.

This includes support with shopping. In-person assessment services are being replaced with phone appraisals. Some of our programs, including community transport, community lunches and social programs and events, are not running. Bookings for external groups in City of Stonnington facilities, such as community groups or U3A Stonnington, will not go ahead while restrictions are in place.

An online version of our Alfresco social support program outlines activities and experiences to keep you connected and safe at home.

Subscribe to the Alfresco newsletter at stonnington.vic.gov.au/alfresco to stay up to date.

Community centres and RSLs

City of Stonnington community centres and Prahran RSL are closed, including:

- » Orrong Remains Recreation Centre (ORRC)
- » Phoenix Park Community Centre (PPCC)
- » Malvern Community Arts Centre (MCAC)
- » Prahran RSL

Functions and venue hire facilities

Our events and function spaces are closed, however we are happy to respond to your queries regarding future availability. Email our venues team on venues_booking@stonnington.vic.gov.au

Early years services (child care)

At this stage, all our early years services are operating as usual.

Please be mindful to not bring your child to a service if they are sick. Cleaning measures are in place in accordance with Department of Health and Human Services guidelines.

Immunisations

Our immunisation program is being delivered from Malvern Town Hall.

Strict health and safety measures are in place, all services must be pre-booked. Book online or call **8290 1333**.

Maternal and child health

Development assessments, consultations and parent support groups all continue via phone or online.

Face-to-face appointments (15 minutes) are available for families with babies aged up to four months or with high needs.

Cleaning and social distancing measures are in place in accordance with Department of Health and Human Services guidelines. More information for families is available on our website.

Middle years and youth services

Our Middle Years and Youth Service office is closed for drop-ins.

Young people can access youth worker support via phone, video-chat or email. Call **8290 7020** during business hours to make an appointment.

All other programs are being delivered online. Check out Stonnington Youth Services on Facebook for information or contact us.

Open space, parks and reserves

Our open spaces, parks, gardens and reserves are open and being used more than ever as people stay closer to home.

If you are exercising, please observe social distancing and keep 1.5m between yourself and others.

Stonnington has close to 30 parks and gardens and more than 20 reserves and ovals.

If the open space closest to you is crowded, consider an alternative. We also have 27 parks and reserves where you can walk your off-lead.

All playgrounds, public fitness equipment, skate parks and BBQs are closed. Public toilets within parks and activity precincts will remain accessible.

Gym and pools

Both the Harold Holt Swim Centre in Glen Iris and Prahran Aquatic Centre are closed.

Basketball courts, outdoor fitness equipment, playgrounds, skate parks

Our outdoor basketball courts, fitness equipment, playgrounds and skate parks are closed – **please do not use these.**

Prahran Square

Prahran Square is open.

Please enjoy the space, continue to support nearby businesses and keep 1.5m from other people. Organised events and activities are on hold.

Sporting club facilities, pavilions and Malvern Valley Golf Course

All community sport facilities are closed for organised club use – except for tennis courts and Malvern Valley Golf Course.

Both sports must be conducted within strict health and social distancing protocols. Sports grounds and ovals remain open for exercise. Ensure you are using these while adhering to social distancing restrictions.

Libraries

Our libraries and return chutes are closed.

Items on loan have been renewed automatically and overdue charges will not apply. Our click and collect service for reservations have been suspended. If you're not already, become a library member to access our extensive digital library.

Our team is providing a number of services online. Like our Stonnington Libraries page on Facebook or visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/library to find out more.

Stonnington History Centre

The Stonnington History Centre is closed but staff are available to answer your email, phone and online research inquiries.

Chapel Off Chapel

Chapel Off Chapel is closed.

Subscribe to the Chapel Off Chapel newsletter at chapeloffchapel.com.au and follow the team on Facebook and Instagram to learn about reopening.

Waste, recycling and street cleaning

Waste and recycling collection and street sweeping continues.

Place your bins out on your usual bin day. Collections may take place at a different time of day. Don't be concerned if your bins are not collected as early as usual.

Waste disposal

The Stonnington Waste Transfer Station is open but payment is only accepted by EFTPOS.

Visits may take longer than usual due to social distancing measures.



For updates on changes to our services during lockdown, go to stonnington.vic.gov.au/covid19