

Winter in Stonnington

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# Stonnington news

## Many *happy* returns

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celebrates 50 golden years – page 3





# A word *from* the Mayor

**Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback for the Council's recent community engagement consultations. Your feedback is important as each comment is worth more than its weight in gold to ensure we continue to enhance our city projects.**

Your feedback helped us finalise the Council budget for 2023–24. It prioritises areas that have been highlighted as important by you. This includes parks and open space, roads and drainage, streetscapes and amenity, community services and facilities, active transport and waste services.

This year's budget is about long-term financial stability while preserving council assets, services and fulfilling your priorities. While we are living in a time of rising inflation, it's important that Council continues to meet your expectations and provides Stonnington residents with A-class service and amenities.

Autumn is the perfect time for tree planting. While we tend to rug up and get cosy in the cooler months, Council has been busy with our annual tree planting program, which aims to plant 2000 trees each year. Summers in Stonnington can be harsh, but each new tree planted is monitored and

maintained for two years to ensure it establishes and flourishes for everyone to enjoy for many years to come. If you see any locations throughout Stonnington that need a tree planted, let us know.

We heard you wanted a new and improved streetscape for Toorak Village and those works have officially started. Thanks to the feedback you provided late last year, Stonnington pedestrians will soon be utilising brass-trimmed concrete with granite feature paving. We're also restoring the heritage light poles. The stunning crepe myrtle trees and upgraded lighting will be the finishing touches this popular precinct deserves. Businesses are open and accessible throughout the works, so don't let the sight of fencing put you off – shop local, support local!

One of the highlights of being a Councillor at Stonnington is the opportunity to meet residents at our well-known free events. Our summer events program was bigger and better than ever this year. It was wonderful to see so many residents and four-legged friends enjoying Pets in the Park or relaxing under the stars at the Candlelight Concerts.

Winter sees two of our most popular events returning for another year. The Glow Winter Arts Festival brings Central Park to life with beautiful, illuminated art installations nightly,



from 15 to 18 June. This is a stunning free event for the whole family. Be sure to bring your camera along as even novice photographers can capture spectacular images.

The Roola Boola Children's Art Festival takes its name from an Irish phrase meaning boisterous fun, and that's exactly what it delivers. With performances and workshops in magic, circus, dance, music, theatre, immersive art and craft, there is a range of free and ticketed events for families from 27 June to 7 July.

You'll find all the event details at [glowfestival.com.au](http://glowfestival.com.au) and [roolaboola.com.au](http://roolaboola.com.au).

I hope to see you there.

**Cr Jami Klisaris**  
Mayor City of Stonnington

### eNews

Want to get your monthly fix of Stonnington News?

Sign up to our monthly eNews.

SCAN ME

## New *urban lounge* in Armadale

*Take time out from shopping to enjoy our newly designed urban lounge.*

**Located at 1131 High Street Armadale, this latest addition to our public places, features luxury seating, flooring and custom lighting.**

Tucked in between cafés, hospitality, fashion, lifestyle and beauty retailers, the urban lounge is a place for local workers, shoppers and visitors to sit, relax and enjoy.

Installed in late April, in response to community feedback that asked for more open spaces where people could meet up and relax, the lounge is already attracting shoppers and visitors to the area.

This lounge will be in place for approximately 12 months and offers somewhere unique to stop, meet a friend or relax on busy days.

Next time you're in the area why not try it out?



### Reconciliation Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge we are on the Traditional Lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin Nations and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We acknowledge their living connection to Country, relationship with the land and all living things extending back tens of thousands of years.

**COVER IMAGE:**  
Library fun time at Toorak/South Yarra Library: Stanley Pamietta and grandson Stanley enjoying the library storytime and looking forward to celebrating.



## A golden *milestone*

**The Toorak/South Yarra Library is celebrating five decades of reading, learning and fun this August, and you're invited to the party.**

Stanley Pamietta watches his grandson's face light up every time they visit the Toorak/South Yarra Library.

Stanley and his four-year-old grandson, also named Stanley, visit the library for children's storytime.

Each week up to 60 people attend the popular sessions and it's become a family tradition for the Pamietas.

"My grandson really enjoys going to the library," Stanley said. "He goes to the kiosk and gets up on a chair to borrow the books and loves the whole process of returning books through the returns slot.

"My wife and I are avid readers. We have been visiting the library for about 19 years and have been doing storytime since 2017. It is such a terrific resource. Our family has grown up with the library."

For five decades, the Toorak/South Yarra Library has been a vital hub for community life and learning in Stonnington.

The Toorak Road library celebrates its 50th anniversary on the weekend of 19 and 20 August, and the community is invited to join the celebrations.

Thousands of people have walked through its welcoming doors since the library opened to the public on 19 August 1973.

Back then, library cards were stamped, books were manually catalogued and students searched microfiche records.

While times have certainly changed, today the library is busier than ever with more than 7000 visitors every month.

While it still features a vast selection of books and resources for learning, study and research, libraries have evolved to meet the changing needs of patrons and visitors today can use free Wi-Fi, access computers and

borrow popular TV series. There's also a vibrant children's area as well as an exciting year-long program of events.

The purpose-built oasis of calm is an outstanding piece of architecture and was a visionary, skilful project for its time. The building is based on the principles of a floating box design to give the feeling of an elevated, sensory experience. Large windows integrate the trees, lawns and greenery with the calm space inside, while sunlight bathes the interior.

Over the years, the building has undergone several major alterations. The exterior was repainted in 1990; shelving and the customer service desk were redesigned in 1996; a lift was installed in 1998; the windows and frames were replaced in 2001; and the bathrooms have undergone a couple of refurbishments. In 2014, radio frequency identification (RFID) was introduced, enabling real-time updates of the catalogue, along with self-loan kiosks to streamline the borrowing process for library patrons.

Toorak/South Yarra librarian Julie Hooper has been working at the library for more than 27 years. As a children's library officer, Julie has met countless families, watched the excited faces of thousands of children listen and learn at storytime, and seen infants develop and grow into adulthood.

"I absolutely love interacting with the families. I meet babies, primary school kids, parents and carers," she said. "You become an important part of their lives. We start at the library, using songs, sounds, music, rhyme and storytelling, and this prepares children for creche, childcare and kinder. It's a full learning experience and a great way for adults to dedicate important time to their children and interact with others," she said. "We sing songs so you won't hear me shooshing as I'm the loudest in the library."



Storytime at Toorak/South Yarra Library with Julie Hooper.



Mum Emily with daughter Willow enjoying storytime.

# Toorak/South Yarra Library snapshot July 2022 to April 2023

	<b>14,527</b> Members			
	<b>124, 586</b> Visitors	<b>41,005</b> Collection size	<b>84,884</b> Books borrowed	<b>65</b> Story and rhyme sessions

### Toorak/South Yarra Library celebrates its 50th this year and you're invited.

Over one big weekend

**10am to 5pm**  
**Saturday 19 August**

**2pm to 5pm**  
**Sunday 20 August**

There will be free activities\* for all ages to enjoy throughout the weekend.

Visit [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Toorak50](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Toorak50)

\*activities subject to capacity limits

To see what's in store for the golden birthday year celebrations, visit [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Toorak50](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Toorak50) or explore our world of libraries at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library)

**Getting there:** take tram route number 78 down Chapel Street or Toorak Road tram route number 58 or take the train to South Yarra Station – then it's a short stroll down Toorak Road.



# Winter community calendar

– so much to do, see and experience in Stonnington

June



**1 June – 30 June**  
Pride Month



**1 June – 31 July**  
**What's Your Story? Writing competition**  
Got a story to tell? Start writing to win. Find out more at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library)

**04**  
**World Environment Day celebrations**  
Family event at Prahran Square.

**05**  
**Council meeting**



**07–11**  
**Death of a Salesman premieres at Chapel Off Chapel**  
Bookings at [chapeloffchapel.com.au](http://chapeloffchapel.com.au)

**12**  
**King's Birthday public holiday**



**13–19**  
**Men's Health Week**



**15–18**  
**Glow Winter Arts Festival**  
Central Park lights up in a free family event.

**22**  
**June winter solstice**

**24**  
**School holidays start**



**26**  
**Council meeting**

**27 June–7 July**  
**Roola Boola Children's Arts Festival**  
Be part of the boisterous fun. Bookings at [roolaboola.com.au](http://roolaboola.com.au)

Keep up to date with all our winter events and activities at [stonnington.vic.gov.au](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au)

[stonnington.vic.gov.au/whats-on](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/whats-on)

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

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

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF STONNINGTON



CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL

INSPIRING CHILDREN AGED 0–12 YRS

WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

27 JUNE – 7 JULY 2023

ON SALE NOW

Scan for tickets or visit [roolaboola.com.au](http://roolaboola.com.au)





# Deaf footy kicking inclusion goals

**Stonnington recently hosted a special deaf Auskick clinic and an AFL 9s carnival for deaf and hard-of-hearing players, as part of a pilot program, run in partnership with Deaf Sports Australia and the AFL.**

As one of the earliest local government councils to partner with Get Skilled Access (developers of the Sport4All program), Stonnington was a natural fit for the program – as it allowed kids to try AFL Auskick in a tailored environment according to their abilities.

The program provides an accessible and safe space for young deaf and hard-of-hearing kids to enjoy Auskick and join locally.

After three weekly sessions, the program concluded with deaf and hard-of-hearing kids playing a round robin carnival of AFL 9s competition, with several teams playing in an open age category.

AFL 9s is a modified version of football with nine players on each team. It is a non-contact sport played on a smaller field.

The AFL offers inclusion programs for people who are blind, use a wheelchair or have an intellectual disability – but not yet for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Deaf Sports Australia and the AFL are keen to work together to bring this program into the fold.

To find out about other inclusive sport initiatives, to get your club or school up to speed on disability inclusion, or to sign up to the program, visit the [Sport4All](http://Sport4All) page on our Active Stonnington website [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Sport4All](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Sport4All)

# Welcome to the conversation

**Meeting people and making friends helps us stay socially connected and makes a positive impact on our wellbeing.**

Meeting new people however can be a challenging experience for those living with disability such as Brendan Wilder and Tim Matthews, both students from Inclusion Melbourne. They were both encouraged to participate in activities offered by Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House and join a Chatty Café.

Chatty Café is a welcoming place for all people to come together over a coffee and chat. Most of these cafés are supported by a volunteer host to help make people feel welcome and get the conversation started.

“I am interested in working in a café and meeting people,” Brendan said.

“Making connections with people is challenging, but I am working on this with support from my carers and by getting involved in community life.”

Tim Matthews, also a student at Inclusion Melbourne, attends Chatty Café and Phoenix Park Community Centre.

“I go to and enjoy a coffee with my volunteer buddy, and just started playing netball recently. I am completing a certificate in Work Education and hope to work in a café,” said Tim.



Brendan and Tim are benefitting from participating in activities that support inclusivity.

“I enjoy going out for a coffee with my volunteer buddy and just started playing netball recently. I am completing a certificate in Work Education and hope to work in a café,” said Tim.

Tim needs support from time to time, especially when doing or trying new things.

“Some people need help and support and that’s OK. I am a bit shy and find it hard to break the ice and start conversations,” he said.

People with a disability want to be included in the community. We need to treat people with respect and find a way to support inclusion for all,” said Brendan.

The City of Stonnington is pleased to be working with The Chatty Cafe Scheme Australia to end loneliness and social isolation in our community.

You’ll find the Chatty Cafe at Malvern Valley Golf Course on Tuesdays, Prahran Community Learning Centre on Wednesdays and Toorak/South Yarra Library on Saturdays, from 10.30am–11.30am. It’s free and bookings aren’t required.


Visit our website to learn more about our accessible and inclusive programs at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Access](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Access) or join one at [chattycafeaustralia.org.au](http://chattycafeaustralia.org.au)

Make

**MyStonnington**

your Stonnington


Put Council services in your pocket with the free MyStonnington app.



MyStonnington features useful information such as bin collection day notifications, helpful tips on what goes in each bin and hard waste dates.

Stay up to date with our latest news and connect with our library services at the touch of a button.

Download the app at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/mystonnington](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/mystonnington)





# 2023 shaping up to be a big year for major works

## Building blitz is here

This year is shaping up as a huge one for community asset build projects, with no less than 10 major works either close to or under construction across the city.

From new parks, playgrounds and sports facilities to streetscape upgrades and building restoration works, our teams are hard at work creating spaces and restoring places.

Many of our current projects are delivered through long-term masterplans and strategies, such as Princes Gardens masterplan

and Toorak Park/Victory Square masterplan. Masterplans are developed from extensive community consultation and delivered over several financial years.

We have more work in the pipeline too, with a number of pocket parks and concept designs for the Kooyongkoot masterplan soon to go out for community consultation.

View our major project updates at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/majorworks](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/majorworks)



### Bangs and Mouclif parks, Prahran

Since April, construction has been underway on two new pocket parks in Prahran's Mount Street precinct.

The parks in Bangs and Mount streets are the first in a series of interconnecting green spaces and people-friendly streets planned for this popular inner-city neighbourhood.

The award-winning park designs are the result of extensive community engagement to develop an overarching masterplan for the

Mount Street precinct that will see previously under-utilised land transformed into lush green spaces with lawn and paved areas, seating, lighting, garden beds and shade trees.

A sod-turn in mid-April celebrated the start of the works which, barring unexpected delays, we expect to see finished by end of year.

EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2023

FUNDING PARTNER  
Victorian Government (\$2.6M)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Mount Street masterplan

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/mountstreet](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/mountstreet)

### Prahran Market restoration

In April this year, we began a program of works to restore the Prahran Market building and its supporting infrastructure.

This stage of the maintenance and renewal program will see improvements to the roof and façade, including replacing the roof slates, strengthening and repairing the roof structure, repairing doors and windows, and upgrading the air conditioning system.

This is the first of a multi-stage program of works that will be delivered over the next few years.



### Central Park all abilities playground

From June, work will begin on a new fully accessible playground at Central Park in Malvern East.

Located on the Kingston Street side of the park, this will be the first fully-accessible playground in Stonnington and comes following extensive community consultation completed in 2021.

The playground will feature accessible play equipment including swings, cubby houses, an accessible trampoline and play tables. The playground is being built about 100 metres south of the existing playground, which is also getting an upgrade.

Accessible toilet facilities are also part of the build, as is custom play and furniture items and more than a thousand new plants.

All going to plan, the playground should be up and running by spring 2023.



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2023

FUNDING PARTNER  
Australian Government (\$296,000)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Playground renewal and upgrade program

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/centralpark](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/centralpark)

### Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park multi-purpose sport facility

We're on the home stretch to seeing Stonnington's biggest and most ambitious community sports project become a reality, with the multi-purpose sports facility for lawn bowls, tennis, lacrosse, cricket and netball at the Malvern East park on track for an early-2024 opening.

Delivered through the Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park masterplan, the facility has been many years in the making and, with the end in sight, we're looking forward to welcoming the lawn bowls, tennis, cricket and lacrosse clubs back – and getting to see netball played here for the first time.



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
early-2024

FUNDING PARTNER  
Australian Government (\$4M)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park masterplan

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/ptmp](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/ptmp)

### Prahran skate park and basketball court

From June, the revamp of one of our most popular sports parks will get underway, starting with demolition works and followed by the full rebuild of the Prahran skate park and basketball court.

Rebuilding the Malvern Road destination is expected to take six months and will deliver a contemporary, challenging and fun skating experience for all users.

Listening to the community during consultation on the project, the much-loved vert ramp will get a makeover and

relocate within the park, and a smaller one added for skaters less inclined to take the big plunge.

All going to plan, the redesigned skate park and basketball court with shelters, lighting, seating, garden beds and lots of trees will open early next year.



### Prahran Aquatic Centre refurbishment

The popular Prahran Aquatic Centre will be closed over winter for an expected three-month refurbishment. Open since 1963 and previously updated in the 90s, the pools and buildings are showing signs of wear and tear and need a refresh. The works will involve emptying and repairing the 50-metre and toddler pools, upgrading the pool surrounds and completing minor repairs to the grandstand seating. We'll also update the tiles and fittings in the change rooms and make improvements to the spa and sauna areas. The refurbishment works will bring the centre up to a

serviceable level for the mid-term, with a full redevelopment planned in the future through the Princes Gardens masterplan implementation.

All going to plan, and the weather being kind, we hope to see pool patrons back swimming laps in spring 2023.

EXPECTED COMPLETION  
September 2023

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/pacrefurb](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/pacrefurb)

### Windsor Siding BMX track

From mid-year, work will begin on a rebuild of a community favourite, the Windsor Siding BMX track.

Originally built back in 2016, the popularity of the track has seen the surface deteriorate to the extent it needed an upgrade – presenting an opportunity to rethink the design and surface to make it more accessible to users of all ages and skill levels.

During 2021, the community told us they wanted the new surface to blend in with the surrounding area. We listened, and the new track will have an earthy tone to match the natural landscape of the park.

We look forward to delivering the revamped BMX track by the end of the year.



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2023

FUNDING PARTNER  
Victorian Government (\$500,000)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Windsor Siding masterplan

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/bmx](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/bmx)

### Toorak Village streetscape

We're nearly two months into the construction of streetscape improvements that will give this iconic shopping strip a much-needed facelift and return it to its best.

Work is progressing to completely rebuild and upgrade the pedestrian spaces on both sides of Toorak Road between Grange Road and Wallace Avenue.

Inspired by the precinct's heritage charm, the pavements will be remade with brass-trimmed concrete with granite feature paving, we're restoring the heritage light poles and upgrading the lighting, and the street front will be beautified with quality street furniture and lots more trees.

Throughout the works, businesses are open and accessible so don't let the sight of site fencing put you off – shop local, support local.



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
early-2024

FUNDING PARTNER  
Victorian Government (share of \$2M\*)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Princes Gardens masterplan

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/skatepark](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/skatepark)

### Sir Zelman Cowan all abilities playground

The new all abilities playground at Sir Zelman Cowan Park in Kooyong will start to take shape from mid-2023 and is expected to open just in time for a summer of fun.

The planned five-month build will see the existing play space close as we create a new fully fenced playground with all new equipment, water play, interactive sculptures and sensory plants.

Complementing the new play equipment will be an all-weather shelter, barbecue, drinking fountain, seating, picnic lawn, accessible toilet facilities – all connected by a network of accessible pathways.



### Toorak Park pavilion, oval and lighting

Construction of the third and final stage of the Toorak Park/Victory Square masterplan began at the beginning of 2023 with the demolition of the old pavilion, redevelopment of the oval and improvements to the sports lighting.

Previous stages were delivered in 2020 (Victory Square playground) and 2021 (Toorak Park cricket practice facilities).

From June, we'll see work begin on a new accessible pavilion with meeting and function rooms, storage facilities, kitchen and kiosk, and amenities such as female change rooms.

Also included in the build is upgrades to the western grandstand, new spectator viewing areas and seating, a pathway running the boundary of the oval and lots of landscaping and trees. It's something to watch out for when it opens towards the end of 2024.



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2023

FUNDING PARTNER  
Victorian Government (\$275,000)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Playground renewal and upgrade program

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/szc](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/szc)



EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2023

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/toorakvillage](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/toorakvillage)

EXPECTED COMPLETION  
late-2024

FUNDING PARTNER  
Victorian Government (\$3M)

BIGGER PICTURE  
Toorak Park/Victory Square masterplan

READ MORE  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/tpp](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/tpp)

\*Awarded for the Princes Gardens multi-sport and recreation precinct redevelopment



# Supporting local business

## Navey – *café by day, bar by night*

**Our Business Concierge Service has helped many local businesses get started and source the right advice, support and information to stay in business.**

Having opened only in February this year on buzzing Chapel Street, and with the support and guidance of our Business Concierge Service, Navey is making a name for itself as the place to meet, eat, and be seen.

Business owner Adrienne Tibballs said that from the moment she enquired with the Business Concierge Service, she felt supported.

“The team at Stonnington helped with all of my planning and business-related enquiries with ease and made the process smooth and stress free,” said Adrienne.

The Business Concierge Service is ready to help all kinds of local businesses starting out and understands the needs of its clients and the challenges presented for business owners and partners starting from scratch, especially in the current environment.

Prior to Navey, Adrienne owned a fitness centre, so starting in hospitality has been a huge challenge but she has loved every step of it.

“When the opportunity to renovate and create the vision from scratch arose, I simply couldn’t let it pass by, and getting expert advice from the concierge service, really helped realise my dreams,” said Adrienne.

“South Yarra has a great feeling and there’s always amazing events bringing people to the area. Nothing screams more Stonnington than blending cultures and people together via sharing plates, a coffee, or a cocktail. Cool disco dining with classic table-side service is exactly what Navey is all about,” she said.

If you’re looking for assistance in starting or building your business, get in touch and find out how the Business Concierge Service can help you:

- navigate the permit process if you’re opening, building, or buying a business
- understand what permits are needed
- understand the order in which to submit applications
- put the right documentation together when applying for permits, and
- get information and advice from across Council.



**“Supporting our local business community is essential for the overall wellbeing of our neighbourhoods. Local businesses create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and contribute to the unique character of our community. By helping businesses to get up and running quickly, we can foster a more resilient and sustainable local economy.”**

— Cr Hely North Ward

To get started, contact us at

**businessconcierge**  
[@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:stonnington.vic.gov.au)

**8290 1333**

You can also check out Navey on

**@NaveySouthYarra**

**naveysouthyarra.com.au**



# FReeZa keeping Stonnington youth cool

**Young people in Stonnington are gaining experience in the music industry and building social connection through an innovative program that allows them to organise and run events.**

The FReeZa committee comprises 10 young people aged 12-25 who volunteer their time each week to produce events that are drug, alcohol and smoke-free, and run in supervised venues.

With the support of Stonnington’s Youth Services team, the committee devises events, books artists and then delivers the program.

Over the past year, more than 1000 people have attended FReeZa events featuring 15 up-and-coming artists.

This included partnering with the Harold Holt Swim Centre during summer to run a DJ party, complete with music and activities for all ages, as well as the acoustic Markside Melodies, which was held at Prahran Market.

The committee also collaborated with other FReeZa committees in the region to run The Push stage at this year’s St Kilda Festival, which was attended by more than 100,000 people.

Forthcoming events include staging the popular Hip Hop night Lyrics with a Stain at Chapel Off Chapel in mid-June and a Battle of the Bands, which is planned for spring.

Committee member Will, 25, said the program offered experience in leadership and event management, while creating a strong sense of community, belonging and wellbeing.

“It’s fun to be part of and, as a committee, we’re organising awesome music events, building rapport with the wider community, and giving up-and-coming creatives a foothold in the industry,” he said.

Committee member Jo, 19, said it was a great opportunity to be creative in a fun team environment.

“It gives me the chance to develop skills and grow my confidence through new experiences.”

The group offers regular training and workshops for young people with topics including how to DJ, how to set up a PA and an introduction to marketing.

There’s also mentoring opportunities for up-and-coming artists with a steady number performing for the first time in public at events held at the youth services premises in Prahran.

If you’d like to join FReeZa as an event organiser or if you are a young performer who would like to be considered for an upcoming event, check out Instagram [@stonningtonyouthservices](#) or email [youth@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@stonnington.vic.gov.au)



# Canvassing our urban spaces with colour

**Some of Stonnington’s most graffiti-prone walls and assets have recently been transformed, reinvigorating our most popular spaces with vibrant art and colourways.**

Urban Canvas, a series of large-scale murals, was developed as part of a 14-day festival (held in April) celebrating creativity and art installation.

Funded by the Victorian Government Graffiti Pilot Program, Urban Canvas aims to use creative ways to deter and decrease illegal graffiti on State Government-owned property through art, while supporting local artists and emerging artists with apprenticeships, youth mentoring programs and art workshops.

The theme of the festival is Belong/Nugal and represents a celebration of art that welcomes everyone into our cities.

30 Melbourne-based artists were commissioned to paint 30 murals across six local councils to act as a graffiti deterrent. The striking murals, (like the ones pictured here above), create a sense of place and reflect the beauty and vibrancy of the area, while helping to make community spaces safer and more connected through a shared appreciation of art.

**“This collaborative program brings together six councils and 30 artists to celebrate art, while at the same time deterring graffiti. Public spaces have been turned into large-scale canvases, and Stonnington now has five new murals for the community to engage with and enjoy.”**

— Cr Batagol South Ward



The artists, especially selected to take part in Urban Canvas, developed murals using a combination of bold colours, patterns, styles and shapes.

Five Stonnington artists produced works at the following locations:

**Adnate** – Telstra Building  
151 Albert Street, Windsor

**Celeste Mountjoy** – underpass near 52 Surrey Road, South Yarra

**Giovanna Da Silva** – Prahran Station  
90 Greville Street, Prahran

**Sahil Roy** – underpass near 52 Surrey Road, South Yarra

**Melanie Caple** – (behind)  
32 Chapel Street, Windsor

**Have you seen the Urban Canvas murals?**  
If you’re interested in checking out some of Stonnington’s most recognisable façades, take the wall crawl at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/wallcrawl](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/wallcrawl)



# UserWay – improving accessibility for all

**It is now easier for people with disability or accessibility needs to engage with our website, programs and services, following the launch of a new accessibility tool on all our websites.**

The UserWay tool allows people to access improved screen reader technology, which converts text to audio, increases text size, changes the contrast on a page or changes formatting to improve readability.

Denise, a Stonnington Disability and Access Committee member, recently tried UserWay.

“I think it is a great enhancement for residents with disabilities or needs that may normally restrict them from accessing the website.

“It’s great to see the City of Stonnington embrace such a supportive tool like this, acknowledging the diverse community that resides within the municipality,” she said

Digital content and communications can be a barrier for many community members to accessing essential information, but the City of Stonnington is committed to supporting all members of our community to engage more fully with our programs, services and feedback activities.

The launch of the UserWay tool is part of our commitment to deliver our Future Stonnington vision, which is an inclusive and healthy community.







# Switch on to our *Towards Zero* Home Energy Kits

We're supporting you to reduce your home energy and water usage, as well as your bills, with our *Towards Zero* Home Energy Kits.

Members of the Stonnington libraries can pop into one of our libraries and borrow a kit to help identify ways to reduce emissions.

Each kit includes a thermal imaging camera, a power meter, a thermometer and a user manual. The manual provides a step-by-step guide to undertake eight home energy and water tests to identify opportunities to improve the overall efficiency of your home.

- 1. Reduce your energy and water usage
- 2. Cut your carbon emissions
- 3. Increase the comfort of your home
- 4. Save money on your utility bills

The kits will help you identify ways to save energy and money and can be used in your home, rental property or business.

Our Climate Emergency Action Plan outlines our commitment to work towards zero net carbon emissions across the entire community by 2030, and you've told us that tackling climate change within Stonnington matters to you. That's why we're supporting you to act and reduce your emissions at home with these kits.

Reserve your *Towards Zero* Home Energy Kit today at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library)

# New bins reducing food *waste*

We're on a mission to cut the amount of food waste sent to landfill.

Residents in high-density dwellings will now have access to a food waste bin under an eight-month trial of three food waste drop-off points.

Community bins will be situated at South Yarra's Ellis Street carpark, Armadale Baptist Church and Grattan Gardens Community Centre in Prahran.

The bins can be used to dispose of a range of food waste including meat, seafood, bones, dairy, vegetables, onions and citrus. They'll be emptied regularly and well-lit to ensure they can be used at any time of day. Each drop-off point will include multiple food waste bins and signage to support their correct use.

The waste collected at the drop-off points will be processed into mulch and compost and used in our parks

and reserves. Residents can also buy the compost from a nursery to use in their garden. It's the circular economy in action.

We also have plans to install a smart, solar-powered compacting bin at Clarendon Street in South Yarra's Forrest Hill precinct subject to support. The smart bins are internet-enabled with in-built compactors and sensors that alert collection staff when they are full.

Food waste collection is a priority for our community and these new bins will ensure all members of our community have the option to recover food waste.

The trial aligns with our *Towards a circular economy*: Our future waste strategy 2022-25 and will contribute towards the action: Increase food and green waste recovery.



Approximately **32 per cent** of waste in Stonnington garbage bins is food waste = **8531 tonnes a year.**



Organic waste produces methane when it decomposes, emitting a greenhouse gas emission **30 times stronger** than carbon dioxide.



Reduce food waste sent to landfill = **zero carbon Stonnington by 2030.**

Find out more about our food and green waste services at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/food-green-waste](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/food-green-waste)

### How to put your food waste to work

- Sign up for a food and green waste bin
- Apply for our fully subsidised Apartment Composting Program
- Purchase a heavily discounted worm farm or compost bin through our partner Compost Revolution
- Make use of our new conveniently located communal drop-off points



# The great bin lid rollout is underway

In May, we started swapping your garbage and recycling bin lids to match the Australian Standard bin lid colours – red for garbage and yellow for recycling.

Having Australian Standard bin colours across Stonnington will help with more and better recycling and less waste to landfill.

If your bin lids haven't been changed yet, we ask that you:

- place both bins out on your usual garbage and recycling collection day, even if they're empty
- leave both bins out until 5pm on your collection day, and
- keep doing this each collection day until the bins have new red and yellow lids.

And don't worry, we're giving your old bin lid a new life by recycling it.

Changing garbage and recycling bin lids across Stonnington is a huge job and will take several months to complete.

We thank you for your patience and cooperation during this time.

Find out more at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/binlidchangeover](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/binlidchangeover)



# Engagement improvements – *have your say on changes*

During the last 12 months we've made many improvements to the way we seek your feedback on key projects, strategies and initiatives within Stonnington.

To enable better and stronger engagement opportunities with all pockets of our community, we implemented a new digital engagement

platform, completed more face-to-face engagement in our libraries, parks and activity centres, and introduced a new accessibility tool on our Connect Stonnington engagement hub.

Now, we'd like to know what improvements you've seen or liked in this space? What do you think we do well and where can we improve our community consultation efforts?



## EAST WARD

East Ward representing the communities of Glen Iris, Malvern and Malvern East

**Cr Jami Klisaris Mayor**  
@ jklisaris@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0427 333 471

**Cr Joe Gianfriddo**  
@ jgianfriddo@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0455 357 355

**Cr Polly Morgan**  
@ pmorgan@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0429 784 025

## SOUTH WARD

South Ward representing the communities of Armadale, Malvern, Prahran and Windsor

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**Cr Nicki Batagol**  
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0437 655 926

**Cr Mike Scott**  
@ mscott@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0428 289 683

## NORTH WARD

North Ward representing the communities of Kooyong, South Yarra and Toorak

**Cr Marcia Griffin**  
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0429 239 413

**Cr Kate Hely**  
@ khely@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0436 460 829

**Cr Matthew Koce**  
@ mkoce@stonnington.vic.gov.au  
0419 147 352

Council meetings are held in Malvern Town Hall and are open to the public. All meetings are livestreamed on our website.

[stonnington.vic.gov.au/watch-council-live](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/watch-council-live)

**About Stonnington News**  
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Prahran Square, Prahran

## Visit us online

- stonnington.vic.gov.au
- Request a service online at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/requestservice](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/requestservice)
- Report an issue on Snap Send Solve at [snapendsolve.com](https://snapendsolve.com)

## Get social with us

- StonningtonCityCouncil
- StonningtonCity
- StonningtonCityCouncil
- company/city-of-stonnington

## Access us

- If you are blind or have low vision, you can receive an audio version of Stonnington News delivered to your home.  
Call 8290 1192 or email [access@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:access@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

- 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

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City of  
STONNINGTON

# GLOW WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL



FREE  
EVENT

Illuminating  
nightly  
from 5pm

Central Park, Malvern East

15—18  
JUNE

[glowfestival.com.au](http://glowfestival.com.au)