

FESTIVE STONNINGTON

Bringing you a fantastic line-up
of events this summer

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COMMUNITY SAFETY IN ACTION

Working together for a
safer Stonnington

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**PRAHRAN AQUATIC CENTRE
REOPENS**

Our much-loved pool is back with a splash

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Stonnington news



A NEW CHAPTER for sport in Stonnington

Opening the doors on our biggest sporting investment — pages 6 and 7



A word from the Mayor

The opening of the Stonnington Sports Centre ushers in a new era for community sport and recreation in our city.

It’s been an exciting 12 months overseeing the construction of the new sport facilities built at the Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park. The new sports centre can be used for various sporting activities, including competitions, training and community programs.

Council’s \$49.9 million investment (including \$4 million from the Federal Government) into the Stonnington Sports Centre is an absolute game-changer! This isn’t just about involving more people in sports like netball, tennis, lacrosse, cricket and lawn bowls — it’s about nurturing a sense of community. With a special focus on promoting women and girls’ participation in community sport, we’ve opened the doors to more inclusive and diverse sporting opportunities.

Thank you to the many residents who shared their vision for Chapel Street. Transforming this landscape is a vast

undertaking and the feedback is vital to supporting our many vibrant businesses along one of Melbourne’s best-known streets. Your input will help shape the future of this iconic precinct.

I have been looking forward to the opening of the Prahran Aquatic Centre – just in time for summer! The much-needed improvement works included repairing the pools, upgrading the change room fittings and pool surrounds, tiling upgrades, grandstand seating repairs and improvements to the spa and sauna areas. I hope everyone enjoys the \$2 million upgrades for the refreshed aquatic centre over the summer break.

Our Christmas festivities are back, with lots of free family fun for everyone. Our musically directed Christmas Carols will be held at Central Park on Sunday, 10 December, hosted by The Listies. Rhonda Burchmore will host the Carols at Como Park on Sunday, 17 December. Festivities at both events include roving entertainment, local food trucks and a special Santa visit!

Our streets will be filled with festive cheer and decorations, including Christmas trees in Prahran Square, Rocklea Gardens and Hedgley Dene. Prahran Square will also be holding its twilight market and many of our local businesses will be offering great deals on last-minute Christmas shopping.

This is my last column as Mayor and I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the last two years. Leading this community through a busy yet rewarding time has been very special. I remain with Council as a Councillor of East Ward and look forward to continuing to serve Stonnington.

Our new Mayor has yet to be announced at the time of going to print. I look forward to working alongside our new Mayor and fellow Councillors as we continue delivering services, infrastructure upgrades and support across Stonnington.

Cr Jami Klisaris
Mayor
City of Stonnington

Councils best placed to deliver housing targets

Stonnington Council has voted unanimously to advocate to the Victorian Government to work with Councils to achieve its ambitious housing density targets.


As part of its Housing Statement, the State Government has announced a raft of changes to planning processes, including the Planning Minister becoming the decision-maker for significant residential developments that include affordable housing.

Stonnington’s advocacy position will seek to ensure:

- » **Consultation with Council**, as the community’s elected representatives, on proposed reforms prior to their finalisation and gazettal
- » **Preserving third party appeal** rights, ensuring the community’s views and aspirations are taken into consideration
- » **Conducting robust and transparent financial impact analysis** to ensure Council’s ability to provide vital community infrastructure is not undermined, and
- » **Protecting the rights of Stonnington’s vulnerable community members** by minimising disruption and ensuring quality liveability and amenity outcomes in redeveloping Stonnington’s social housing stock.

Council continues to plan for growth, facilitating sufficient capacity across the municipality to enable the delivery of the forecasted 12,950 dwellings needed to accommodate an additional 25,860 residents by 2036.


The unanimous decision was made by Council on 30 October.

 Find out more:
stonnington.vic.gov.au

City of Stonnington wishes everyone a safe and happy festive season

WHAT'S OPEN AND WHEN	Customer Service Centres		Pools		Waste Transfer Station
	311 Glenferrie Rd Malvern	Prahran Square	Harold Holt Swim Centre	Prahran Aquatic Centre	
Friday 22 December	8.30am – 5pm	8.30am – 5pm	5.45am – 8pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 3.30pm
Saturday 23 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	6am – 7pm	6am – 6.15pm	9am – 3pm
Sunday 24 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	6am – 5pm	7am – 5pm	9am – 3pm
Monday 25 December – Christmas Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 26 December – Boxing Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am – 6pm	8am – 6pm	10am – 3.30pm
Wednesday 27 December	8.30am – 5pm	8.30am – 5pm	5.45am – 9pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 3.30pm
Thursday 28 December	8.30am – 5pm	8.30am – 5pm	5.45am – 9pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 3.30pm
Friday 29 December	8.30am – 5pm	8.30am – 5pm	5.45am – 8pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 3.30pm
Saturday 30 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	6am – 7pm	6am – 5pm	9am – 3pm
Sunday 31 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am – 6pm	7am – 5pm	10am – 3.30pm
Monday 1 January – New Year’s Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am – 6pm	8am – 6pm	CLOSED

 If you can’t visit in person, we’re available 24/7 on **8290 1333**

 For online services such as to make a payment or report an issue visit stonnington.vic.gov.au

All libraries and the Stonnington History Centre have altered opening hours over the holidays and are closed on public holidays. For details, visit: stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library.

In-home services will not operate on public holidays.

Engaged programs: email engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au or call 8290 1333 for information about specific Engaged programs.

Maternal and Child Health Centres are closed on public holidays. For after-hours assistance, call 132 229.

There is no change to the **household waste collection** service so please leave your bins out on your usual collection day.

Information correct at the time of printing.

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.

Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur.

Cover image: Kate Campbell, Elizabeth Prendergast, 7, and Annabelle White, 13, celebrate the opening of the Stonnington Sports Centre.

New playground for Armadale Early Learning Centre

There were plenty of smiles on the littlest of faces when Armadale Early Learning Centre opened its new playground in August.

Thanks to a grant of \$135,000 from Council’s capital works budget, the outdoor play space received a full makeover, including the removal of existing playground structures, surfaces and play equipment.

Overlooking Victory Square Reserve, the huge playground and shaded garden is now equipped with brand new play equipment including colourful climbing frames, sturdy wooden structures, a bright blue twin slide, sandpits and interactive play features.

Stonnington’s Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris, had fun testing out the play equipment with the three- and four-year-old kinder groups.

“Improving outdoor education play spaces is important and I am pleased Council could support some of the smallest members of our community, their families and the fantastic team at Armadale Community Kindergarten,” Cr Klisaris said.

Kindergarten Director Jacquie Chilvers said the children had enjoyed watching their new playground being constructed at the sessional community kindergarten.

“The updated space allows our children to also learn in an exciting, outdoor setting, further extending their skills and knowledge,” she said.

“As an established part of the Stonnington community, we thank the Council for its support.”



➤ Armadale’s sessional community kindergarten has refreshed its outdoor space, thanks to a capital works grant from Council.

➤ Armadale Early Learning Centre is now taking enrolments for 2024. Find out more about their programs by visiting: armadaleelc.vic.edu.au



Crossing supervisors play a vital role in our community

Meet Carol Bell (pictured). Her happy and cheerful smile greets students outside Malvern Primary School morning and afternoon.

Carol is one of many Stonnington crossing supervisors helping our school students get to and from school safely.

And it’s a role that fills her with a sense of purpose.

“After retiring from a busy career, I knew I needed to do something meaningful,” she said.

“I love coming to work every day – rain or shine – and brightening up some little faces.”

And after just six months as Malvern Primary’s crossing supervisor, she has become a much-loved member of the school community.

“We love Carol,” one parent said. “She is always so friendly and she cares about her work. It gives us peace of mind knowing she is here.”

City of Stonnington crossing supervisors play a vital role in our community, assisting children, adults (and the odd pet dog or two) to safely cross roads near schools at drop-off and pick-up times.

Looking after kids’ safety on our roads, they come from many walks of life, including retirees, university students, freelance business operators and others seeking meaningful part-time work.

Interested in becoming a City of Stonnington Crossing Supervisor?

Scan the code to find out more:



Connect with Stonnington

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

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

Central Park stage one works complete

The first stage of the two-stage Central Park playground blitz in Malvern East is now complete.

Stage one, completed in late September, upgraded the equipment and surrounds at the existing playground fronting Kingston Street. Upgraded features include a climbing frame, circular swingset, paving and garden works, and easily accessible drinking fountains.

These works will complement stage two – constructing a new all-abilities

playground 100 metres south of the existing play area.

The all-abilities playground is expected to open in late 2023. It will include accessible play features such as swings, a cubby, water misters, a trampoline and accessible toilet facilities.

Scan the QR code for further project updates.



WHAT'S ON

DECEMBER & JANUARY


Live music
Saturdays and Sundays


 **Every Saturday and Sunday**
12pm to 3pm

 **Prahran Market**

Unwind and enjoy live bands in the Market Square.

Kinky Boots

 **1 - 10 December**

 **Chapel off Chapel**

Filled with glitter, glam and a whole lot of 'sole' with music by Cyndi Lauper.

Book at: chapeloffchapel.com.au

Meet U There

 **Every Wednesday**
1pm to 2.30pm

 **8 Reasons Cafe,**
1/8A Evergreen Mews,
Armadale

A new social group lunch for residents aged over 65.

Bookings required: **8290 3337**

Men's Social Group

 **Every Wednesday**
1pm to 2.30pm

 **Prahran Place**
Neighbourhood Centre

Meet for a coffee and chat in an environment that is positive, supportive and inclusive.

BIG Summer Read

 **1 December 2023 to**
31 January 2024

State-wide reading challenge open to all Victorians aged under 18 years.

Sign-up at:
stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library/BIGSummerRead

The Classics: Opera in Victoria Gardens

 **Sunday 10 February 7.30pm**

 **Victoria Gardens, Prahran**

Stonnington's beloved and free classic summer concert featuring acclaimed music and vocal artists.

More information coming to our socials soon.

Christmas cheer returns to Stonnington

The streets of Stonnington are set to sparkle with fabulous holiday festivities, including lots of family fun and entertainment this December.

Keep an eye out for Christmas decorations appearing across our city and visit our sparkling Christmas trees at Prahran Square, Rocklea Gardens and Hedgley Dene.

Stonnington's Business Associations will deliver free activities and activations across shopping precincts and make sure you also check out the Christmas activities at Prahran Market.

TRAVELLING SANTA – Free Santa photos


 **14 to 23 December**

Various locations and times

Santa and his elves will be making some very special appearances across our shopping precincts in a festive Dodge truck! Have your photo taken with Santa for free and post your letter to Santa in our North Pole post box!

Visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/whats-on/festive-stonnington to find out when Santa visits your area.

PRAHRAN SQUARE TWILIGHT MARKET

 **Thursday 7, 14 and**
21 December, 3pm to 8pm

For the first time, Prahran Square is hosting an outdoor week-night market in the lead up to Christmas.

SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS AT PHOENIX PARK

Join us for sustainable Christmas tips and tricks at Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House and Library, Rob Roy Road, Malvern East.

Bookings essential by calling 8290 4000.

Sustainable Christmas decorating with the Urban Nanna

 **9 December, 10am to 12pm**

 **Phoenix Park Library**

Sustainable Christmas gifting and cooking with Open Table

 **9 December, 1pm to 2.30pm**

 **Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House**



Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday period!


2024 MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL

Get ready for a whirlwind of Midsumma Festival entertainment at Chapel Off Chapel, a proud festival hub for Australia's premier LGBTQIA+ cultural festival.

Offering a dazzling array of shows to tickle everyone's fancy!

 For bookings:
chapeloffchapel.com.au

Trevor Ashley: The (first annual) Farewell Show

 **27 and 28 January**


One of the most iconic performers of this generation showcases his illustrious career – from Priscilla through to Queen of the Universe! A musical journey through his most treasured hits and memories.

Lesbian Love Stories

 **27 and 28 January**

Featuring tales of lady love from across the globe, told anonymously through song, speech and prose, Lesbian Love Stories gives the audience an inside glimpse into the lesbian experience.

Torch Song

 **31 January to**
10 February

A powerful exploration of love and acceptance within the LGBTQIA+ community. Follow Arnold Beckoff's journey as a defiant drag performer seeking genuine connection.



Dolly Diamond's Hot Midsumma Roast

 **2 and 3 February**

Dolly Diamond celebrates 20 incredible years being a part of Midsumma Festival. A joyous evening of song, comedy and just a small amount of roasting.



Bombshell

 **9 and 10 February**

Ziegfeld Boy reimagines the Hollywood blonde for a new generation. This glittery boylesque revue proves that blondes really do have more fun.



Tash York: Love that for you

 **9 and 10 February**

In this original comedy cabaret backed by *The Red Red Wines* find out why living life the hard way is almost always the fun way. Live, Laugh, Love that for you!



SUNSET SOUNDS 2024

Grab a picnic rug and meet us in the gardens as Sunset Sounds returns with great headline and support acts, DJs and a range of Melbourne food truck offerings.


JAZZPARTY with support act Squid Nebula and DJ Lyndelle Wilkinson

 **Sunday 14 January**
5pm – 8pm

 **Central Park, Malvern East**

Mama Kin Spender with support act Danika and DJ Elle Young

 **Sunday 21 January**
5pm – 8pm

 **Victoria Gardens, Prahran**

Taking action towards a safer Stonnington

Council’s [Safer Stonnington – Community Safety Plan](#) outlines how we will work with our community and partner agencies to make Stonnington a welcoming and safer city for everybody. With community engagement on the plan now finalised, we talk to Stonnington’s Local Area Command, based at Prahran Police Station. Here, they share their top tips to keep your valuables and homes safe, including how a \$40 Apple Air Tag could save you thousands.

Meet the police officers keeping Stonnington safe.

The Local Area Command officers have seen their fair share of crime. But often, crimes can be prevented before they happen.

“Most crime is opportunistic, so the less opportunity you give an offender, the less likelihood there is of becoming a victim,” Stonnington Local Commander, Inspector Andrew Stamper said.

“Right now, the vast majority of crime we see in Stonnington involves cars, including theft and damage.”

And there are simple steps you can take to protect your car and the valuables inside it.

“Often, people forget to lock their car and take their valuables out,” Andrew said.

“Lock your car, take valuables out, try and park in a well-lit area, or, if at home, park in a secured garage or in your driveway with the gate locked.”

And often, if an offender breaks into your car, they have the means to break into your home.

“People leave electric garage fobs, door keys or other car keys in their cars,” Senior Sergeant James Cole said.

“If your car gets broken into, they have access to your fob, which gives them access to your property.”

But there are simple and effective ways to protect yourself and your property.

“Investing in a \$40 Apple Air Tag to leave in your vehicle gives you the ability to track your car if someone steals it,” Acting Senior Sergeant Josh Nader said.

And it’s a move that paid off for a local tradie with \$15,000 worth of power tools stolen from his vehicle.

“The tradie had an air tag in his tools, so we were able to recover them,” Andrew said.

Adds Senior Sergeant Cole: “The best thing about this theft was, not only did we retrieve the stolen power tools, we located tools that were stolen from other people.”

“So the overall result was fantastic – thanks to an Air Tag.”

Lisa Stafford, Council’s Community Planning Coordinator, said Stonnington’s Community Safety Plan will outline how the Council will work with partners such as Victoria Police.

“By working together, we all play a part in keeping our community safe,” she said.

“The safer people feel, the more likely they are to participate fully in community life.”



➤ Stonnington’s Local Area Command, pictured at Prahran Police Station, can help keep you and your property safe.

“Community safety is about reducing and preventing crime and creating a community where people feel safe and connected.”

The community safety plan will be presented for Council endorsement in the new year.

➤ Find out more: connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/safetyplan

If you see something suspicious, call 000, your local police station or crime stoppers.

- HAVING YOUR SAY:**
- Feedback received as part of Stonnington’s Community Safety Plan consultation.
- » More lighting in parks and on streets is needed
 - » Would like to see more CCTV
 - » Some pedestrian crossings are dangerous
 - » Increase in theft around the municipality

- WHAT IS YOUR TOP PRIORITY WHEN IT COMES TO COMMUNITY SAFETY?**
- I educate my kids on e-bike and scooter safety – **Belinda**
- There are some areas I avoid at certain times due to drunk and disorderly patrons – **Miles**
- I’d like to see better street lighting. I always try to park near a well-lit area – **Francis**
- I make sure I don’t walk around by myself with headphones in – **Shelley**



What I love about Stonnington

We ask local community members what they love about living, working and playing in Stonnington.

Maddie Race, Manager at Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House in Malvern East, tells us what makes Stonnington such a great community.

“Stonnington is a lovely, leafy area. We are so fortunate. The people are friendly and willing to help in any way.”

“I love how progressive Stonnington is. There is a lot of investment in the infrastructure here and the community facilities are maintained, while our nature areas are preserved.”

“Stonnington to me is such a great, liveable community that is accessible and inclusive. And of course, we have Chadstone Shopping Centre.”

“Not only is the shopping here great, but we have amazing nature spots nestled all across the city.”

“At Phoenix House, there is a real sense of comradery and care. There’s a great team of people running affordable community programs and activities for everybody. We pride ourselves on being welcoming and inclusive, and offer everything from art, yoga, music, Zumba, craft and social groups.”

“Phoenix Park has been part of the Malvern East community for more than 20 years, but people may not know that it was originally the old Chadstone High School. It has undergone a few renovations to extend it into a community centre, but things like the old school windows remain.”

- “I love how instead of demolishing the school it was maintained and embedded into the community, with a beautiful playground, park and library right next door.”
- **Maddie’s top three places to visit in Stonnington:**
- 1. Phoenix Park Neighbourhood House:** Check out: phoenixparknh.org.au
 - 2. Central Park:** Find out more at: stonnington.vic.gov.au/community/
 - 3. Malvern Valley Public Golf Course:** Visit: malvernvalleygolf.com.au

Open and ready for play



Hundreds of people turned out to hear the ringing of the bell at the opening of the state-of-the-art Stonnington Sports Centre.

Shouts of joy and laughter were heard throughout the day on Sunday 29 October as kids and adults alike tried their hand at netball, lacrosse, basketball, tennis, lawn bowls and more.

The multi-purpose sports centre, at Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park in East Malvern, represents a \$49.9 million investment into enhancing community, sporting and public park facilities. As part of the total cost, the Australian Government contributed \$4 million toward the stadium.

The centre will also meet a growing demand for enhancing female participation in sport and provides facilities for disability inclusion in sport and recreation.

13-year-old Annabelle White, a Stonnington Storm representative netball player, said the new facilities were incredible. “I really like the new courts because they are so much bigger and the space is great.”

The Mayor, Cr Jami Klisaris, said the opening was a culmination of years of hard work by the community.

“This is a true community facility with something to offer everyone,” she said. “We might enjoy different games, but we’re united by a love of sport,

the friends we make when we play and that special community that grows around a shared passion.”

Stonnington City Netball Association President Kate Campbell described the sports centre as a “lifeline for community sport.”

“This is a new and exciting chapter for sport and recreation in Stonnington, bringing together many different community groups in one place.

“It enables all of us to grow and enhance our programs and expand our inclusivity for all.”

She paid tribute to the late Margaret Connellan, whom the indoor stadium is named after.

“Marg was a lifelong netballer, volunteer and passionate advocate for community sport. In her lifetime, she enabled thousands of players to participate in community-based netball.”

Stuart Amis, President of Chadstone Bowls Club, said the new sports precinct brings the community together.



“Community places make people feel safe, have fun and make friends. It’s not just about sports.”



The Stonnington Sports Centre was constructed by ADCO Constructions and delivered ahead of time and under budget.





THE NEW AND UPGRADED FACILITY INCLUDES:

- Indoor Margaret Connellan stadium with four competition standard indoor courts for netball and basketball and indoor sport
- Undercover synthetic lawn bowling green with eight rinks
- Updated tennis courts with night lighting
- Club lounge
- Sports pavillion
- Space for community events



TWILIGHT PICNICS GROW

with business concierge support

A regular walk around the Botanic Gardens was all the inspiration South Yarra locals and sisters-in-law Stefanie and Gracie Reilly needed to launch one of Stonnington's newest business offerings.

The self-confessed foodies saw a gap in the market for high-end pre-packed picnics with a focus on premium food and decided to elevate the timeworn tradition to encourage locals to connect with loved ones in a relaxed setting.

And with a little help from Stonnington's free Business Concierge service, Twilight Picnics was born.

"We have our own picnics in the local gardens and parks and we see many others doing it too," Gracie said.

"We not only love great produce but we have an appreciation for how things look and we wanted to create that for people wanting a luxury picnic experience, with an aesthetic that's perfect for a romantic date night or small group catch-up."

Twilight Picnics, which offers three curated experiences available for evening pickup or delivery, reached out to Stonnington Business Concierge Officer Gerard Smith as one of their first points of call.

"The business concierge was really helpful and we are glad we got in touch early," Gracie said.

"There was a lot we needed to know, especially around food handling and safety, liquor licencing and permits.

"Stonnington made the process so easy when there was a lot to navigate and learn."

Twilight Picnics has teamed up with other local businesses, offering fine produce from Naheda's Choice (Prahara Market), Lamanna & Sons, Milk the Cow, Ned's Bake and more.



"We know a lot of businesses may be struggling at the moment, so we wanted to use Twilight Picnics to highlight the best producers and hospitality venues in the area – that's why a lot of our picnic offerings come from small businesses," Stefanie said.

"We also love shopping locally and trying all the produce available on our doorstep."

Twilight Picnics has also teamed up with local café Warung Coffee which acts as a pickup point and kitchen prep.

A gap in the market led sisters-in-law Gracie and Stefanie Reilly to set up their new business, Twilight Picnics.

Shop local this Christmas. Scan the code for information about our shopping precincts.

Picnics are available for pre-order online at twilightpicnics.com.au and can be picked up from Warung Coffee at 667 Chapel Street, South Yarra.

Find out more: stonnington.vic.gov.au/business



Lisa's favourite things to do in Stonnington:

1. Visiting Chapel off Chapel for its variety of shows and performances – there is something for everyone
2. Walking through our leafy parks and gardens, especially Central Park, Hedgeley Deane and along the Yarra
3. Exploring our many high streets – there are so many great businesses in our city.

Meet Business Concierge Officer Lisa Beer

Stonnington's Business Concierge service provides dedicated support to businesses across the municipality. Whether you are starting, running or buying a business, our Business Concierge Officers can help.

Here, we chat with Business Concierge Officer Lisa Beer, who commenced with Stonnington in October after five successful years at the City of Melbourne.

Read on for more.

"Stonnington is great. I grew up in the area, so it feels like coming home. Everyone is friendly and I am busy meeting many people across Council so I can connect with everything that businesses may need.

"I want to see a thriving Stonnington and there is a lot of support from Council for businesses. There are many workshops and networking opportunities, as well as the Business Concierge service.

Providing opportunities and support for businesses is very important.

"I come from a travel and tourism background with many customer service touch points. For me, process improvement is key to making things work so that the customer gets the best experience they can.

"I spent five years at the City of Melbourne, starting out in the visitor centres. When Covid happened, it opened up doors of opportunity to move into the business concierge service and more.

"The business concierge is all about helping to connect businesses to get what they need to help them thrive.

"For businesses, we are here to help and support in any way we can."

Get started with our Business Concierge service by visiting stonnington.vic.gov.au/business or via email: businessconcierge@stonnington.vic.gov.au or call 8290 1333.

One step closer to transforming Chapel Street

More than 2000 people shared their vision for Chapel Street as part of the Council's recent community consultation and engagement.

The Chapel Street transformation project will return one of Stonnington's most iconic destinations to a vibrant place to live, work, shop and play.

The feedback received from residents, businesses and visitors will help shape the vision that will inform the masterplan, which is currently being developed.

Feedback was received via survey responses, online written contributions and pop-up engagement sessions.

The top three priorities identified by those surveyed were:

- » more trees, natural shade and garden beds on the street
- » more street activations, including outdoor dining, festivals, and markets
- » less traffic.

More than 81 per cent of community respondents said they wanted to use more sustainable transport methods on Chapel Street, while 52 per cent said that improved pedestrian access would allow them to choose more sustainable transportation modes such as biking, walking or public transport.

About 87 per cent of respondents said their enjoyment of Chapel Street was currently affected by safety concerns, parking issues, traffic, vacant businesses, anti-social behaviour, drug, smoking and vaping use and a decline in appearance.

The masterplan, once developed, will become the blueprint for how we will transform Chapel Street. The masterplan goes on public exhibition next year.



For updates, visit: connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/chapel-st

Shaping the future of our neighbourhoods

Greener streets, improved lighting, public art displays and tree planting are just some of the things our residents want to see across our precincts.

Keen to support businesses and drive economic growth, Council is embarking on place-led economic development across seven of our unique neighbourhoods.

The Place-led Economic Development Strategy was endorsed by Council in September 2023 after extensive consultation with businesses, residents and other levels of government.

The five-year plan is designed to proactively respond to the changing social, environmental and economic conditions facing our businesses.

Works to take place over the next few years will include public art installations, tree-planting and greener streetscapes, lighting installations, cleaner streets and safer community areas.

Stonnington's Director of Planning and Place, Annaliese Battista, said individual plans have been developed for each of the following centres: Hawksburn Village, High St, Prahran, South Yarra, Toorak Village, Windsor and Glenferrie Rd, Malvern.



Empowering businesses to go full circle

More than 30 local businesses have 'gone full circle' thanks to a free Council initiative to help small-to-medium enterprises operate in an environmentally friendly way.

The second round of the free Go Full Circle program has been completed, with 30 businesses across Stonnington, Melbourne and Boroondara municipalities participating.

The capacity-building program gives businesses the skills to make the most of a circular economy – an economic system based on keeping materials in use for as long as possible through sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling.

Local Glen Iris business SportsFit Physio & Health passed the course with flying colours.

Practice Manager Lee Francis and Receptionist Olivia Viti said they were starting to see the results of implementing the changes.

"The program was extremely valuable and we now have so many ideas to make our clinic more environmentally friendly," said Lee.

"We have learned how to put the changes we want to make in place. For example, we have identified that we need a food waste solution, which means changes to our current waste management systems."

Lee said SportsFit would also work with neighbouring businesses to improve sustainability.

"As our waste needs are relatively small, we can engage with other

businesses in the Glen Iris Village shopping precinct to share resources and spread the word," she said.

Olivia, who is also SportsFit's sustainability coordinator, said the program resonated with the business's values.

"We are very community-minded and the program helps us offer value to our business that aligns with who we are," she said.

SportsFit collaborates with other local businesses, offering use of their Alter G – Anti Gravity Treadmill, providing medical cover at sporting matches and sponsoring other sustainable not-for-profit community groups such as the Stonnington Toy Library.

Stonnington's Circular Economy Lead Inger Boerema said businesses undertaking the program range from hospitality, retail and professional services sectors.

"We have seen many businesses upskill their knowledge to implement circular practices that will lead to enhanced financial, environmental and social outcomes," she said.

"Participants were also able to network with like-minded businesses. We wish our graduates all the best as they continue their journey to a more sustainable business."

- Find out more about SportsFit Physio & Health at sportsfitphysioandhealth.com.au
- Want to find out more about our business programs? Go to stonnington.vic.gov.au/business

"We want to see more people enjoying Stonnington's iconic precincts and supporting our many wonderful local businesses," said Annaliese.

"Take for example Toorak Village, where we have just finished streetscape improvements.

"As one of Melbourne's most picturesque village centres, how we enhance its vitality and historic architecture with an emerging mix of commercial, retail and entertainment activities is vital to growing the local and visitor economy."

Read the strategy and place activation plans at: connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/placemaking

Toorak Village is just one of the precincts to benefit from Council's place-led economic development strategy.



Sustainable garden is a pillar of the community

Look closely enough and you'll find pineapple guava, starflower and sweet basil nestled between snap peas and coriander on a deceptively large block in Armadale.

The Armadale Baptist Church community garden on Kooyong Road started with help from a City of Stonnington grant 10 years ago, after Church Pastor Jude Waldron wanted to find another way to give back to the community.

Since then, the community garden has gone from strength to strength, incorporating sustainability practices such as compost, green mulch, a worm farm and a solar power irrigation system supporting the 9000 litre water tanks.

It also gives a sense of purpose to its team of volunteers – now numbering at 14 and growing every month.

The community garden was a featured highlight of the Council's first free Sustainable Garden Tour, held in October.

"This is the only community garden in the City of Stonnington and it has grown into a very special place," Jude said.

"It gives a sense of community and connection to everybody who walks through the gate."

The garden empowers Stonnington residents to come together and participate in sustainable gardening and local food growing. Each month, the harvest is shared among community members, with produce also donated to those in need.

"The garden is managed communally and all members are involved in decision-making, planning what to grow and working together to weed, plant and harvest," said Jude.



And sustainability remains a big focus, along with education.

"None of our members are what you would call gardeners or green thumbs," she said.

"We often find ourselves in an environment of learning to discover sustainable and productive ways to garden and we have had lots of learnings, challenges – but also laughs – along the way.

"We have had hits and misses experimenting with worm farming, but among our successes are food waste drop-off points, where anyone can leave their food waste, which is then turned into compost."

The monthly garden meetings are a hit with members coming together to discuss everything from tree removal, green waste bin collection and general housekeeping.

Each meeting also includes a learning and education segment, such as picking out plant seedlings or the best ways to compost.

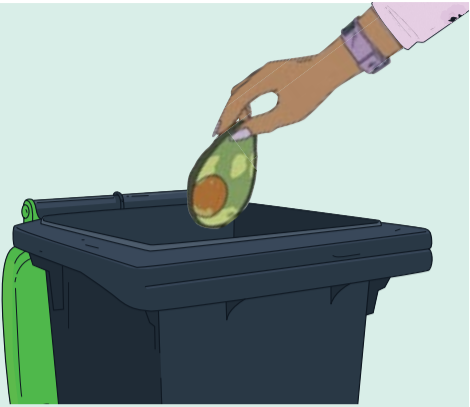
And the hard work is paying off, with the thriving garden going from strength to strength.



New members are welcome by emailing office@armadalebaptist.org or calling 9822 7881.



Armadale Baptist Church is also home to a Community Arts Hub for theatre, dance, tap dancing, singing, musical rehearsals and more. Visit armadalebaptist.org



More food waste drop-off points for residents

Residents in high-density dwellings now have access to four communal food waste drop-off bins.

Locals can find the two new drop-off points on Grattan Street, Prahran (near the Grattan Gardens Community Centre) and Claremont Street, South Yarra.

They join existing bins at South Yarra's Ellis Street car park and Armadale Baptist Church.

Claremont Street resident Elle Young said she would make the most of the bin near her apartment.

"I have driven to the Armadale Baptist Church food waste bin before, so this will be more convenient," she said.

"It can be difficult to be sustainable when living in a high-rise and, with many apartments in South Yarra, I'm pleased to see Council committing to more green practices."

The four drop-off points are part of an eight-month trial to support residents in apartments that don't have access to a food and green waste bin.

With 70 per cent of homes in Stonnington being medium and high density, and most Stonnington residents living in apartment buildings, this trial can support more of our community to divert waste from landfill.

Christmas tree recycling



Wanting to dispose of a natural Christmas tree after this year's festive season?

Residents can recycle their natural Christmas trees by using our free drop-off service at the Waste Transfer Station between 27 December to 15 February.

Alternatively contact Customer Service to book a free collection from their property between 27 December 15 February.

Your discarded tree will be processed into nutrient-rich organic compost and mulch and used in our parks and reserves.

Toorak Village makeover completed

The beautification works to the Toorak Village streetscape are now complete.

The finishing touches, completed in November, included the sealing of pavements and cobblestones, followed by the installation of trees and greenery.

Feature and heritage-inspired lighting and elegant, new street furniture

complement a flawless and refined look and feel to the Village.

We encourage residents to head down and check out the brand-new look and support the many wonderful commercial businesses and eateries.



For more information: stonnington.vic.gov.au/toorakvillage

Swim, float or paddle at the newly reopened Prahran Aquatic Centre

The much-loved Prahran Aquatic Centre reopened to the community on 1 November, following a three-month closure for refurbishment and repairs.

Last updated in the 1990s, the recent works have repaired and retiled the 50-metre lap and toddler pools, while the pool surrounds have been enhanced with a new anti-slip pool deck.

The children’s play area has new equipment and the grandstand where you sit back and enjoy the view has also had a freshen-up.

Remaining a place for our community that is accessible for all, part of the Prahran Aquatic Centre refurbishment included new yellow floor markings. These floor markings guide our vision-impaired community members to assist in moving more



comfortably around the pool and into the change rooms. Inside the Centre, improvements have been made to the spa and sauna areas and the change room fixtures have been replaced. Bather dryers have also been added to the change rooms, meaning no more going home with wet togs.

See you the pool this summer!





For more:
stonnington.vic.gov.au/active/swim/prahran-aquatic-centre





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Sign up to our monthly eNews.



EAST WARD

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



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@ jklisaris@stonnington.vic.gov.au
0427 333 471



Cr Joe Gianfriddo
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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



Cr Melina Sehr Deputy Mayor
@ msehr@stonnington.vic.gov.au
0417 773 644



Cr Nicki Batagol
@ nbatagol@stonnington.vic.gov.au
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
@ mgriffin@stonnington.vic.gov.au
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

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311 Glenferrie Road, Malvern

Stonnington Services and Visitor Hub
Chatham Street
Prahran Square, Prahran

Visit us online

 stonnington.vic.gov.au

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

Report an issue on Snap Send
Solve at snapsendsolve.com

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 StonningtonCity


 StonningtonCityCouncil

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Call 8290 1192 or email 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

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Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt	9280 0748
All other languages		9280 0736

 City of STONNINGTON

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Proudly presented by the
City of Stonnington



CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2023

Family Christmas at Central Park

Hosted by **The Listies**, featuring **Michelle Nicolle**,
Raphael Wong & Rebecca Barnard,
with Musical Director **Casey Bennetto**

Sunday 10 December
Central Park, Malvern East
7.30 – 9.30pm





**FREE
EVENTS**



Carols at Como Park

Hosted by musical theatre icon **Rhonda Burchmore**,
featuring **Thndo**, **Ash Flanders** and **Margot Morales**,
with Musical Director **Casey Bennetto**

Sunday 17 December
Como Park, South Yarra
7.30 – 9.30pm



Festivities include roving entertainment from 6.30pm,
local food trucks and a very special visit from Santa!
Proceeds of the day go to the Mayor's selected charity

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



City of
STONNINGTON