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# Stonnington news



## A better plan for Stonnington

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# Activity Centres announcement – Stonnington has a plan

**Melbourne councils were blindsided by the State Government's recent 'train and tram zone' activity centres announcement, with 9 out of the 25 centres placed in the City of Stonnington.**

Stonnington Chief Executive Officer Dale Dickson said the government's unilateral announcement was made with no consultation and during the caretaker period (council elections), when elected Councillors were unable to comment publicly.

"If we'd been asked, we'd have made it clear that Stonnington already has a comprehensive, evidence-based approach in place to deliver our future housing needs," Mr Dickson said.

"Stonnington's housing approach will deliver an extra 14,000 homes than that proposed by the State Government," he said.

"Our focus on low-to-mid rise development located near transit and activity hubs is an informed approach that provides for 65,000 additional homes by 2051."

The Council's plan is well positioned to deliver on the State Government's population and housing growth targets, particularly in transit-orientated locations. It is also based on substantial community engagement, which best ensures the liveability and amenity of local neighbourhoods is not unduly eroded.


The strategy includes a well-thought-out neighbourhood activity centre program, featuring small centres in sensible locations.

"Given the widespread local community interest and lack of detail in the State Government's announcement, Stonnington is working hard to make sense of its implications in the coming weeks," Mr Dickson said.

"Importantly, we'll be highlighting the solutions already outlined in the Council's housing strategy, along with further work in early 2025, on a proposed neighbourhood activity centre program."

Stonnington will continue to work in the community's interests and advocate to the State Government for housing solutions sympathetic to our urban environment. Effective urban planning demands collaborative effort and meaningful engagement with all stakeholders, particularly local councils and their communities.

"We remain committed to advocating for a planning approach that respects local insights and prioritises sustainable, community-focused development," Mr Dickson concluded.

 More information, register for updates from Council or give feedback: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/activity-centres](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/activity-centres)

## Advocating for you

**Ensuring the voices of our community are heard is a high priority for the City of Stonnington.**

When we prepared our recent Council Plan, you told us that we needed to focus on sustainable growth while protecting our unique character, sustainable and enjoyable transport options and the health and wellbeing of our community – and this is where we are focusing our advocacy efforts.


Recent plans regarding the development of the area around Chadstone by the State Government have not provided the level of detail our community needs to make an informed decision about the proposal and how it affects our community infrastructure including schools, open space and transport options.

We will continue to advocate and work closely with residents, businesses and stakeholders to ensure future housing is planned appropriately, is responsive to its context – including neighbourhood character – is diverse, affordable and sustainable, facilitates quality open space and is supported by necessary infrastructure.

We are also working closely with state MPs to challenge the new State Government charges for using the platform that records vaccination histories. The government is shifting the cost to councils and as a result, may jeopardise the free vaccination programs we provide. We provided 8888 vaccinations in 2023–24 and want to keep this vital service free for our community. We have successfully advocated for a delay of at least one year to any costs being charged and will continue the fight from here.

Another significant concern for Council is the rise of vaping among our young people.

We recently won an exciting \$2 million grant, in partnership with neighbouring councils Glen Eira, Port Phillip, Bayside and Kingston, to deliver a youth-focused initiative, which includes a series of forums and the development of engaging, creative content to increase awareness of the harm of vaping and to help youth say no to vaping.

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

## Council election update

Council elections took place on 26 October to elect nine councillors to represent the City of Stonnington across nine new wards.

Councillors will be sworn into Council on 18 November with the Mayor and other key appointments elected 21 November 2024.

 View the results: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/councillors](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/councillors)

## Planning our future together

**Join the Stonnington People's Panel 2025 and help us plan our future together!**


Your voice matters and together we can ensure our community thrives.

Join the next stage of the Council Plan development: the Stonnington People's Panel 2025. This panel will be made up of representatives from our diverse community and we would love for you to be a part of it.

Every four years, with your input, we prepare a Council Plan that sets our direction for the next four years. As we gear up to develop our next Council Plan, we have revisited the Community Vision created in 2021 to ensure it still aligns with our community's aspirations for the future.

Through a series of pop-up sessions and an online survey earlier this year, we have gathered feedback from more than 200 community members. We asked important questions: Is the Vision still relevant? Are the aspirations still relevant? What should we prioritise to achieve the Vision?

The People's Panel will consider the feedback from the Vision consultation and meet for a series of workshops in 2025. As a panel member, you will be compensated for your time and have the unique opportunity to shape the future of our community.

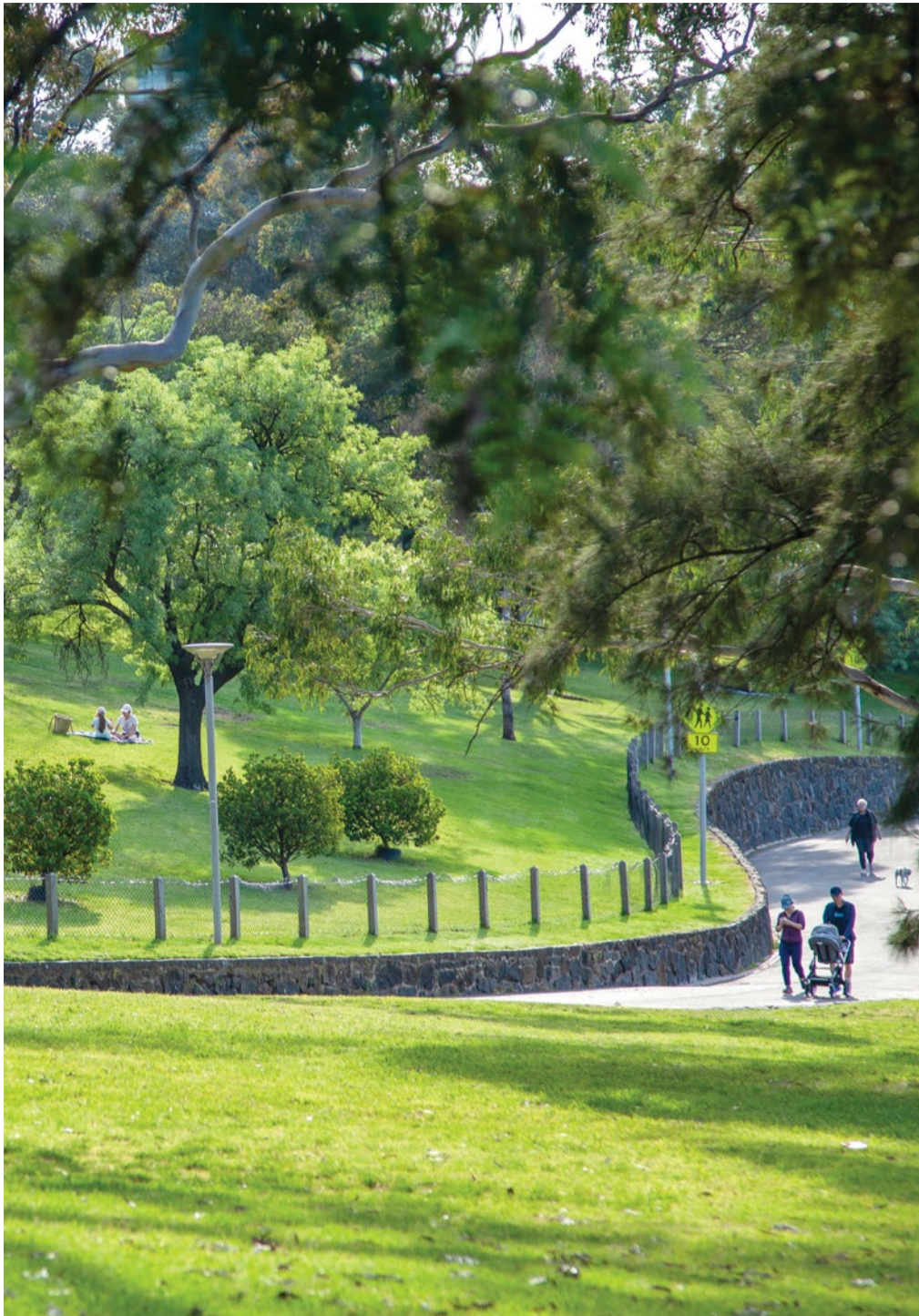
 More information: [connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/vision2040](https://connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/vision2040)

## 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 and present. 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:** Victory Square Reserve, Armadale.  
**Inset image:** Toorak Village streetscape.



# An open space for everyone

**We love our parks in Stonnington and with summer just around the corner, now is the time to get out and enjoy some of the many green spaces we have on offer.**

On any weekend, a visit to a park in Stonnington will find residents and community members enjoying the outdoor life with family and friends – including the four-legged variety. In addition to the many parks and gardens we’re visiting, we are also enjoying sporting facilities, playgrounds and more than 25 off-lead dog spaces.

Parks like Hedgeley Dene Gardens with its inviting lawn area, ornamental lake and proximity to the Gardiners Creek wetlands and Como Park, with its sloping lawns and scenic views have long been favourites of our community.

But there are many other parks to enjoy that are just as inviting and with the variety of parks on offer there is sure to be a space for everyone.

The Basil Street Park with its informal pétanque or boules facilities is fast becoming a favourite of residents who gather there to enjoy each other’s company.

The Hobson Street Park with its raised garden beds and covered seating makes for an informal meeting space and the Mount and Bangs streets parks offer tranquil green spaces set among busy shopping and residential areas, while the newly-opened South Yarra Siding Reserve has brought back a much-loved space for all to enjoy.

Knowing how much our community values open space, we are always on the look out for opportunities to improve and increase what we can offer our community.

We have a 20-year open spaces strategy that helps us identify future potential green spaces as well as opportunities to improve what we currently offer. Our goals are to not only provide additional open space but also improve accessibility and safety.

Visit our website for details on our open spaces, parks and gardens – and we hope to see you out and about over the coming months.

Visit: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/parks](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/parks)

# Breathing new green life into South Yarra

**In August we celebrated the official reopening of South Yarra Siding Reserve.**

The South Yarra Siding Reserve showcases how we can achieve quality outcomes for our community through collaboration and cooperation with different levels of government.

Our advocacy resulted in significant upgrades to the existing parkland with additional investment from the State Government to return to Stonnington a quality park with:

- » high quality, contemporary public open space by moving a substantial substation and other rail infrastructure underground
- » a larger expanse of parkland with extensive new planting of more than 160 local trees
- » improved connections to the surrounding areas with bicycle and pedestrian access, a new pedestrian bridge and improved footpaths

- » safety initiatives such as increased visibility through the precinct, path widening, improved pedestrian lighting and additional CCTV
- » Indigenous and local art to promote the cultural heritage values of the area
- » a new picnic shelter, outdoor furniture and landscaping, designed to respond to the local context and community needs.

The upgraded and extended South Yarra Siding Reserve and surrounding new local parks are a significant boost to existing open spaces within the area.

We look forward to seeing everyone out and about over the summer and beyond, enjoying the new family-friendly park precinct.



Find out more: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/sth-yarra-siding](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/sth-yarra-siding)



# Volunteers awarded

**In September, we celebrated our Stonnington volunteers at our annual awards ceremony.**

The ceremony recognises people and community groups whose commitment to volunteering makes a difference to our community – positively impacting the lives of others and making Stonnington a better place to live.

All winners and nominees were presented with a certificate recognising their valuable contribution to our community.

One such volunteer and award recipient was Trevor Evans, a valued member and co-Vice-President of the Prahran Football Club.

Trevor's Sports Award recognises volunteering in sporting clubs or other not-for-profit groups who contribute to enhancing community health and fitness.

Trevor has volunteered for around 20 years championing local football, and has also been awarded, Best Club Person 2011, Best Club Person 2022 and Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA) Volunteer of the Year 2022.

Nominated by fellow Vice-President Prahran Football Club, Paul Taylor, Trevor was quick to point out that volunteering is just something that runs in his blood.

"Volunteering is something I've done all my life in one form or another, from

running youth groups, working bees or helping out at my kids' primary school or church when they were much younger, to assisting running junior sport and now senior sport. I probably got it from my dad; he was always putting his hand up for something," he said.

Trevor was delighted to be nominated and win the award which he said was a humbling experience.

"I'm very humbled by it. I don't set out to get awards by volunteering. It's a team effort. I'm just doing my bit, and if that gets recognised as being over and above what other volunteers do, whatever that is, then so be it. But I'm not looking for any recognition by being involved in the club. I'm a little embarrassed actually," said Trevor.

Through volunteering, he sees the rich community benefit of helping young kids' health and wellbeing and developing their love of sport within a group dynamic.

"If I can make the world just that little bit better by being involved, then that's good enough for me. If I can help put some structure into the life of someone whose life might be a little chaotic or offer some advice here and there, then I feel I'm doing my bit," said Trevor.



➤ Find out more about the awards and volunteering: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/volunteer](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/volunteer)

✉ If you're interested in volunteering for a community group, email [volunteer@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:volunteer@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

➤ Trevor Evans, Prahran Football Club – Sports Award, behind him Toorak Park pavillion.

## Congratulations to all our 2024 Stonnington Volunteer Awards recipients:

Maree Fenech, Blind Sports and Recreation Victoria – Mayor's Award

Cabrini Patient Services Volunteer Team – Community Group

Paul Lom, Rotary Club of Malvern – Community Service Award

Rewilding Stonnington Inc. Environmental – Sustainability Award

Trevor Evans, Prahran Football Club – Sports Award

Derek Nicholson, Malvern Cricket Club – Sports Award

Prahran High School Cultural Committee – Young Person Award

## Commendations:

Monique Davis, Alexandre Rozin and Tsilia Rozin – Community Service

Hartley's Meals Volunteer Team – Community Group

## Nominees:

Rosita Fernandes, Emma Holder, Geoff Currey, Adam Wade, Dave Butler, PMI Victorian History Library Book Caring Team, Blind Sports and Recreation Victoria (BSRV), Toorak Basketball Club, Stonnington Toy Library, Dads of Stonnington, Share and Swap Shop, Love Our Street 3146, James Garrett, Darian Panter and Jiayuan Charity.



# Who, what, where is The Hub?

**In the heart of Prahran, The Hub, more formally known as The Prahran Child and Youth Community Wellbeing Hub, supports children aged 6 to 12, who live in Stonnington's public housing.**

Its purpose is to empower and increase opportunities for our local children and young people, while creating positive outcomes in a local, family-focused setting.

There are many opportunities for children and young people, affectionately known as 'Hubsters', to play, explore, be creative, build confidence and form positive relationships.

The 157 children currently registered with The Hub get to enjoy a range of structured activities such as an art club, yoga program, theatre program, a leadership connect group, soccer,

drop-in free play and activity-based school holiday programs.

Children and Youth Community Hub Worker, Neish Nottle has been with The Hub since 2022 and she loves it.

"Each day at The Hub is varied and fun! The Hubsters bring so much energy and exploration to the space – it's inspiring. There's always lots of laughter, incredible skills displayed and new ways to try different things and learn along the way," she said.

Celebrating 40 years this year, The Hub was previously the Prahran Adventure Playground and has been providing life-changing programs and services to families and young people at the Horace Petty Estate, Bangs Street and surrounding estates. Spanning generations, children and families have been coming to The Hub identifying it as a safe space in their backyard, and for connection, support, consistency, learning, creativity and play.



☎ Families wanting to learn more or to register, can call **8290 7020** or email [youth@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

Please note: registrations are limited to families with children in Stonnington's public housing and conditions to registering apply.

➤ Neish Nottle, Community Hub Worker onsite at the Hub.

# This Girl Can... and she does!

**Local girls and women from all over Stonnington took part in This Girl Can from 10 to 17 November.**

This Girl Can is all about encouraging and inspiring girls and women to get active wherever and whenever they choose, without judgement.

For many women, finding the time and space to get active can feel hard – particularly when you’re juggling caring for kids or family members, work and concerns. We also know many women don’t feel safe or included in our gyms, sports clubs, parks and fitness classes. That’s why we are supporting the women and girls of Stonnington to get out there and try new ways to get active.

This year’s program offered health and fitness classes and opportunities such as Come & Try cricket, netball, tennis, golf, soccer, run club – plus Zumba, Walk Against Family Violence and many more activities hosted at our sports ovals, clubs and reserves.

Stonnington City Netball Association president Kate Campbell said the

This Girl Can campaign is a great way for girls and women to get connected with sporting and recreational groups.

“Being part of a community recreational group is great for physical and mental wellbeing – it keeps you active, builds friendships and skills and most importantly, connects you with your local community.

“We love being a part of this campaign. Netball is a sport that has historically supported women in sport (and has the highest female participation rate of any team sport nationally). We always love to see more girls and women connecting with each other, learning new skills, improving fitness and enjoying participating in one of the great team sports.” said Kate.

For young women participating in This Girl Can, and in sport in general, there is a great sense of achievement.

“Mastering new skills and improving fitness always makes people feel good and, whatever your skill ability and there is a level suitable for everyone in netball. Building on those base skills so that you can become part of a team and contribute as a player means being able to achieve. And mastering new skills is good for anyone’s confidence.

“Our motto is fun, fitness and friendship and that’s what we want all our members to experience,” said Kate.

Whether it’s organised sport, laps at the pool or a jog around the neighbourhood, girls all over Stonnington are getting involved and getting active – and using the many great facilities within Stonnington to do so.

Well done to all the girls and women participating in this year’s program!

Find out more: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/this-girl-can](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/this-girl-can)



## Pickleball for all

**Come and try your hand at pickleball, one of the world’s fastest-growing sports and the latest way to get active and social.**

Pickleball is a blend of tennis, badminton and table tennis. It’s easy to learn and suitable for all ages and skill level. What you learn in minutes will set you up for a lifetime of pickleball fun.

Come and give it a try at Stonnington Sports Centre in Malvern East.

Places are limited and registration is essential.



Contact us at: [stadiums@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:stadiums@stonnington.vic.gov.au)



## Get active with our sport and recreation options

This summer, whether you’re looking for the closest green patch for a kick, organising a competition or joining a team, we’ve got something for you.

We offer a huge range of sportsgrounds and modern, accessible sporting facilities. Get Active with us and rediscover your passion for competition. Be part of our thriving sports community – browse our directory of more than 50 local sporting clubs.



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

# Merry Christmas

**It's beginning to feel a lot like... Festive Stonnington!**

Christmas is just around the corner and we're getting into the spirit by making it easier than ever to find fabulous, festive fun in our neighbourhoods.

Keep an eye out for our revamped Christmas decorations as they pop up across our city, and visit our sparkling Christmas trees at Prahran Square, Rocklea Gardens and Hedgeley Dene.

Stonnington's business associations are also getting into the spirit and will deliver free events and activities across our many fabulous shopping precincts.

If you live, work or love to visit our vibrant city, make sure you put a visit to Festive Stonnington on your list of things to do.

## Christmas Carols 2024

Join us at one or both of our much-loved carols concerts.

Both will have local food trucks and a very special visit from Santa!

Proceeds from the sale of merchandise go to the Mayor's selected charity.

More at: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals)

## Family Christmas at Central Park

**Sunday 8 December**  
5.30pm - 7.30pm

Central Park, Malvern East

Led by the incomparable Casey Bennetto as Musical Director and featuring Alinta Chidzey, Kiran Rajasingam, Geraldine Quinn and more.

Includes children's activities. Free event.

## Carols at Como Park

**Sunday 15 December**  
7.30pm - 9.30pm

Como Park, South Yarra

Hosted by the delightful Lucy Durack and featuring Gatesy (Steven Gates), Silvie Paladino, South of the River Choir with Musical Director Casey Bennetto, plus more. Free event.

## Get festive with Prahran Square

Celebrate Christmas at Prahran Square with family-friendly activities and entertainment.

Visit the shimmering Christmas tree from Monday 11 November - Sunday 5 January 2025 and check out the other activities on offer.

## Prahran Square Christmas Markets

**Thursday 5 and 12 December**  
5.30pm - 8.30pm

Prahran Square  
Cato Street, Prahran

From handmade treasures to festive finds, you're sure to find something to tick off your Christmas list.

Come for the gifts, stay for the vibes.

Visit [pahransquare.com.au](http://pahransquare.com.au) for more festive offerings.

## Christmas fun at the libraries

**30 November - 13 December**

Stonnington libraries

Join us at the libraries for a holly, jolly good time!

Get into the season with a fun-filled chase through the North Pole to find The Runaway Christmas Tree, make your own festive crafts (without the waste) or find out how to have low-waste celebrations.

During our regularly scheduled Rhymetime, Storytime and Stories and Songs sessions, we'll read aloud some of our favourite Christmas stories for children and sing Christmas songs together. Each session will finish with a simple, craft-making activity.

To view events and for bookings, visit [stonnington.vic.gov.au/library/news/christmas](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/library/news/christmas)





### Oh Christmas tree, oh Christmas tree!

#### Wondering how to sustainably dispose of your live Christmas tree?

Used Christmas trees can be recycled by dropping them at the Waste Transfer Station at 43 Weir Street, Malvern. It's free to drop them off and from there they will be sent to be turned into compost and mulch.

Alternatively, you can contact Customer Service to book a free collection from your property.

The service is available from 27 December 2024 to 15 February 2025.

Bookings are limited to two trees per booking and may take up to 10 working days.

Call our Customer Service team to arrange a collection on 8290 1333 or email [council@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

More information or book online: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/christmas-tree](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/christmas-tree)

### Christmas at Chapel Off Chapel

#### 13th Annual Mama Alto Holiday Special

**Friday 13 December 7.30pm**

Chapel Off Chapel  
12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran

Celebrated jazz singer and cabaret artiste Mama Alto and her special guests are delighted to present the 13th Annual Holiday Special.

A beloved tradition, this Yuletide soiree of vintage holiday songs fosters togetherness at a time when many feel isolated – a silly season balm for the soul.

Look out for special guest announcements closer to the show date. Presented by Mama Alto.

Bookings: [chapeloffchapel.com.au](https://chapeloffchapel.com.au)

#### Chapel Off Chapel gift vouchers

Give the gift of live entertainment, the perfect present for every occasion – and an ideal Christmas gift.

Available in any amount over \$30, vouchers can be used to purchase tickets to performances at Chapel Off Chapel. They can be emailed to you or collected in person from the Box Office during opening hours. Vouchers are valid for three years from the date of purchase. Get one today!

### Darling Village Christmas Festival

**18 November – 24 December**

Darling and Malvern Roads, Malvern East

Enjoy the decorated shops, exercise your vocal chords with the carollers, take advantage of the free activities on offer – maybe even get a photo with Santa!

### Christmas Market at Como House

**Sunday 8 December 10am – 3pm**

Como House and Garden  
Corner Williams Road and Lechlade Avenue, South Yarra

Stroll through a sea of marquees offering artworks, jewellery, lovingly handmade art, tasty treats and much more. A perfect opportunity to get a start on your Christmas shopping.

### Tips to having a sustainable Christmas

Separate your Christmas waste:

- place all paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars and metal cans in the mixed recycling bin (no plastic bags)
- collect drink bottles (plastic or glass) and cans and take them a container deposit to receive a refund
- put food scraps in the kerbside food and green waste bin or take them to a public drop-off point.

More information: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/sustainable-christmas](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/sustainable-christmas)

### Hosting a Christmas event?

If you're a Stonnington business, community group, sports club or school looking to host a festive event this season, let us know and we'll promote it for you for free.

Simply, add your event to the Festive Stonnington calendar and we'll do the rest!

Check out what events are on or add your event to the calendar at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivestonnington](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivestonnington)



Find everything that's happening across Stonnington this festive season in one easy location: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivestonnington](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivestonnington)

Do you have any feedback about our Christmas program? Visit: [connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/christmas24](https://connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/christmas24)

**Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday period!**

# WHAT'S ON

Summer's looking brighter and better than ever with fun events and experiences to enjoy and an exceptional program of events, concerts and festivals.



## SUMMER CONCERTS

### Sunset Sounds

**Sunday 19 January 2025**  
5pm - 8pm

**Malvern Gardens**  
1275 - 1277 High Street  
Malvern

Gather your friends and family and get ready for Sunset Sounds 2025! Unroll your picnic rug in Stonnington's breathtaking gardens and dive into an unforgettable evening of live music. Indulge in a vibrant selection of food trucks, all while soaking up the summer vibes. Don't miss out on this ultimate celebration of the season. Free event.

Find out more:  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals)



### The Classics: Opera - Myth and Magic

**Saturday 8 February 2025**  
7.30pm - 9.30pm

**Malvern Gardens**  
1275 - 1277 High Street  
Malvern

Stonnington's beloved classic summer concert is back once again led by the incredibly talented artistic director Ali McGregor and featuring acclaimed music and vocal artists. Free event. More information coming to socials soon.

Find out more:  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals)



## SUMMER AT THE LIBRARIES

Take your library on holiday with you over summer.

Your library membership unlocks loads of free online content, which you can access on your mobile device anywhere in the world.

Enjoy a great range of digital collections, including eBooks, eAudiobooks, ePress, movies and music.

Not yet a member? Joining the library is easy and free - just visit any of our four

libraries to join or sign up online. You'll need to provide proof of your identity and a current Victorian address.

Visit the library website to discover what's on offer. You can also subscribe to the library's eNewsletter to receive regular updates about programs and events.

See all that's on offer at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/library](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/library)

## BIG Summer Read

**1 December 2024 to 31 January 2025**

This state-wide reading program is suitable for children aged 18 years and under.

It's easy to join. Register at [vic.readbooks.au/bsr](http://vic.readbooks.au/bsr) and record the books you read. Download a reading journal or collect a paper reading journal from any of our libraries. If you read (and write down) 10 books or more, you'll automatically go in the draw to win some great prizes.

## SUMMER AT THE CHAPEL

### Midsumma Festival

**20 January - 8 February 2025**

**Chapel Off Chapel**  
12 Little Chapel Street  
Prahran

Melbourne's biggest celebration of LGBTQIA+ arts and culture is back and Chapel Off Chapel is once again your local festival hub for all the action.

Bookings: [chapeloffchapel.com.au](http://chapeloffchapel.com.au) or 8290 7000

## SUMMER EVENTS ACCESSIBLE FOR SENIORS

Accessible seating areas and our Community Transport Service will be available so everyone can fully enjoy our summer events.

Our Community Transport service is fully accessible - the bus has handrails, a hoist and a friendly team to help you. They'll pick you up from your home and take you to and from the event.

Places are limited, bookings essential. To reserve a seat and request a pick-up, call 8290 1333 or email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

## Seniors Showcase - Information is power

**Thursday 20 February**  
10am - 1pm

**Malvern Town Hall**  
corner Glenferrie Road and High Street  
Malvern

Learn about a range of programs, meet home care support service providers and community groups, and connect with local service support agencies. Explore services, ask questions and join our pop-up information sessions. Community transport from home is available by request. Free event.

Call 8290 1333 or email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au)



Disclaimer: Programs and events are subject to change. For the latest updates, please visit our website [stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/festivals) or contact Customer Service on 8290 1333





# Mr L's lucky shot

**Hot from the kitchen arrives a brand-new and exciting dining entity in Toorak Road, South Yarra – Mr L's.**

Owned and run by chef Lucky Thapliya, Mr L's is sophisticated dining combining classic charm with contemporary flair in a celebration of taste, style and exceptional hospitality.

With more than two decades of experience in hospitality, Lucky has opened bars, cafés and restaurants in other cities, and hopes his blend of delicious Mediterranean tapas and modern European will delight our Stonnington community.

To help set up his restaurant, Lucky reached out to Stonnington's Business Concierge service.

"When I reached out to enquire about food licences and the process of applying for an outdoor footpath trading permit, their communication and support was excellent.

"They helped us in many ways – but initially, it was helping us to navigate

the permit process, making sure we had everything we needed, and on occasion, assisting us with putting together the correct documents for applications, says Lucky.

With the assistance he received from the Business Concierge, Mr L's opened earlier this year.

"I would suggest getting in touch with the Business Concierge if you are aiming to have outdoor dining. They can help you establish the perimeter, and assist in procuring the correct permits, so there are no hassles once you are up and running.

"We are very grateful for the opportunity to bring our spirit of true hospitality to South Yarra and can't wait to meet the locals soon," says Lucky.

Mr L's features a super stylish, welcoming fit-out (designed by Lucky and his wife Sheena), accommodating 190 guests which includes 88 diners inside, 23 patrons in the courtyard, an outdoor dining area for 32 people and a private function room suitable for 49 diners.



➤ Lucky Thapliya out the front at Mr L's.

- 📍 Mr L's  
25 Toorak Road, South Yarra
- 🌐 [mrismelbourne.com.au](http://mrismelbourne.com.au)
- ☎ 0468 555 005
- More information about the Business Concierge:  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/business](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/business)

## Small Business Festival 2024 – a big success

**In October, around 100 local business owners, suppliers, service providers, start-ups and entrepreneurs attended the inaugural Small Business Festival at Malvern Town Hall.**

The free event, presented by the City of Stonnington and Self Employment Assistance delivered by Holmesglen, targeted both people planning to start a business as well as small business owners looking to thrive, increase efficiency or expand.

Featuring more than 25 exhibitors and a range of talks on topics such as Council's support services and permits, tax obligations, self-employment assistance, digital marketing, e-commerce and retail leasing, the festival showcased the best in small business to help attendees thrive and achieve business success.

"Stonnington is home to more than 18,000 businesses so the festival was a fantastic opportunity for small business owners and entrepreneurs to come together in the one place and learn all there is to know about starting, maintaining and strengthening their business," said Georgie Birch, Manager Planning and Place.

Karen Arvidsson Manager, Self Employment Assistance delivered

by Holmesglen, said supporting small business owners to prosper and succeed is core to their operations.

"We were thrilled to collaborate with the City of Stonnington to deliver a wealth of information and a variety of service suppliers to our local, small business community," she said.

The festival was a great success and gave local business owners the chance to access free advice, upskill, build new connections and network with like-minded, home-based or local small business owners.

The event was part of Stonnington's 12-month calendar of business development events and programs for the local business community.

- Find out more about business support programs available from Council:  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/business](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/business)



## Discover the impact of our work: read the 2023-24 Annual Report

Our 2023-24 Annual Report is now available online, offering a comprehensive snapshot of our progress as we continue to deliver on the strategic directions set out in our Council Plan 2021-25.

The report highlights how we are making Stonnington a thriving, unique, inclusive and healthy community.

We are working hard to make Stonnington a better place for everyone as we continue to build a future-ready city.

- Read the report at:  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/annual-report](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/annual-report)

# Stonnington Engaged

## Helping older adults stay active and socially connected.

Engaged offers people aged 55 years or older, people with disabilities and carers, a variety of activities and opportunities to stay active and socially connected in Stonnington.

### Harold Holt Swim Centre

**Fridays 10.45am**

1409-1413 High Street, Glen Iris

The Community Transport Service now offers a service to Harold Holt Swim Centre. The bus will pick you up from home and take you to the centre where you can choose from a relaxing swim, a session in the hydro pool, an active adult fitness class, yoga or even a sauna.

As a special treat on your first visit, you'll receive free entry to Harold Holt. Find out more: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/active](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/active)

To book your pickup, call **8290 3349** or email [communitytransport@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:communitytransport@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

### Planning for your future workshops

Join us for free workshops to help you plan for your future.

Limited seats available on the Community Transport Service (bus).

Bookings essential, call **8290 3337** or email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

» **Advocacy and aged care**

**Wednesday 4 December**  
10am - 12pm

U3A Stonnington  
1-3 Valetta Street, Malvern

» **Getting over a setback and planning for the rest of your life**

**Monday 17 February**  
9am - 11am

Grattan Gardens  
Community Centre  
40 Grattan Street, Prahran

» **Writing your will**

**Monday 17 March**  
10.30am - 12pm

Malvern Library, Glass Room  
1255 Malvern Road, Malvern

### Meet U There

Enjoy social lunches with friends during the week. If you need assistance with transportation, the community transport service can help.

» **Tuesdays 11.30am**  
Malvern Central (Level 4)  
Wattletree Road, Malvern

» **Wednesdays 11.30am**  
Fourth Chapter Café  
385 High Street, Prahran

» **Thursdays 12pm**  
Malvern Central (Level 4)  
Wattletree Road, Malvern

» **Fridays 11.30am**  
Reverie Café  
31 Izett Street, Prahran

For bookings, email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au) or call **8290 3337**

### Prahran Place

📍 40 Grattan Street, Prahran

Bookings essential, call **9510 7052** or visit [prahranplace.org.au](http://prahranplace.org.au)

#### Creatives (art / photography / writing / sewing / crochet)

Whether you're drawn to watercolours, pop art, capturing great photos, textiles or crafting, or writing your first novel or poem, join us to discover and nurture your creative spirit.

#### Inclusive programs

We offer a variety of inclusive learning programs for people of all abilities. Our classes include a cooking program, photography workshop, an art course and digital and computer skills training. Carers are welcome.

#### Looking for a job? (new class)

We'll provide assistance to help you find employment from writing effective cover letters and resumes to building confidence for interviews.

#### Get fit (for our less active groups)

Get fit or stay active with our zumba, yoga and walking groups. Our small, friendly classes are supportive and welcoming.

### Grattan Gardens Community Centre

📍 40 Grattan Street, Prahran

Bookings essential, call **8290 1333** or email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto:engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au)

#### Try a Tune Tuesdays

**Tuesdays**

2pm - 3pm

Go on a guided, musical adventure with our qualified singing teacher. Enjoy singing at your own pitch and use your breath to energise your whole body.

#### Tjanabi

**Thursdays**

1.30pm - 3.30pm

Enjoy a free tea or coffee and a game of mahjong, backgammon, chess, cards or join the sewing table for a chat.

#### Fit Club

**Wednesdays**

9.30am and 10.30am  
and a Zoom live class

An exercise class designed to enhance physical fitness including strength, mobility, balance and cardiovascular fitness - suitable for active people.

#### Move it to music exercise classes

**Mondays and Thursdays**

9.45am

Move it to music is a fitness class aimed at keeping you moving, while enhance your wellbeing and having fun. Use a chair for support and move at your own pace.

### Phoenix Park Community Centre & Neighbourhood House

📍 22 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East

Term 1 commences 28 January 2025. Call **9530 4397** or for bookings, visit [phoenixparknh.org.au](http://phoenixparknh.org.au)

#### All abilities singalong

**Thursdays 1pm - 2pm**

Join us for fun, interactive sessions with a talented musician and qualified music teacher and develop confidence in an inclusive environment. Casual: \$15 per session. Carers attend for free.

#### All abilities art

**Mondays 1pm - 2pm**

Join our all-abilities art group and channel your artistic creativity while producing a range of mixed-media art projects. Term fee: \$190, materials included. Carers attend for free.

#### Mahjong for Beginners (new four-week course)

**Tuesday 11 February 2025**  
1pm - 4pm

This introductory course teaches you the basics before you join the regular players on your day of choice. Classes are exclusively for those wanting to join our regular groups. Bookings essential. Course fee: \$35.

→ Keep up-to-date by subscribing to our digital monthly Stonnington Engaged newsletter. Subscribe online with your email address at [stonnington.vic.gov.au/subscribe](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/subscribe)

For information about programs or to make a booking, call **8290 1333** or visit [stonnington.vic.gov.au/engaged](http://stonnington.vic.gov.au/engaged)

Scan the QR code for more:





# New art for all to enjoy

We invite you to discover the beauty and cultural significance of Council's artworks.

Michael Cook's Fake (Salt Lake).

Did you know that the City of Stonnington maintains a large collection of contemporary artworks for our community to enjoy, with nine stunning new pieces recently acquired?

These new-to-our-collection artworks have been selected based on their cultural value to our community and our commitment to supporting both emerging and established artists.

The collection includes a mix of sculpture, prints and photography by a range of local, international and First Nations artists.

From the new collection, you can view Michael Cook's Fake (Salt Lake) at Malvern Library now. Our libraries are not just places for books but cultural hubs where our community comes together!

Salt Lake is from Michael's iconic Fake series; a series that follows a fictional First Nations family with an adopted non-Indigenous child in remote Australia, where nothing is as it seems. As a child, Cook was adopted by a non-Indigenous family and this series, shot in remote locations across the central Australian desert, can be viewed as a fictionalised version of his childhood.

Enjoy the full collection on display within our civic buildings, Council facilities and libraries, as well as throughout Council offices.

Find out more about our artwork collection: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture)

## Contact us

8290 1333

PO Box 58  
Malvern Victoria 3144

Stonnington City Centre  
311 Glenferrie Road, Malvern

Prahran Square  
Customer Service Hub  
Chatham Street  
Prahran Square, Prahran

## Visit us online

[stonnington.vic.gov.au](https://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 [snapsendsolve.com](https://snapsendsolve.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	普通話	9280 0730
Cantonese	廣東話	9280 0731
Greek	Ελληνικά	9280 0732
Italian	Italiano	9280 0733
Polish	Polski	9280 0734
Russian	Русский	9280 0735
Indonesian	Bahasa Indonesia	9280 0737
Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt	9280 0748
All other languages		9280 0736

## City of Stonnington wishes everyone a safe and happy festive season

What's open & when	CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES		AQUATIC CENTRES		STONNINGTON SPORTS CENTRE	WASTE TRANSFER STATION
	311 Glenferrie Rd Malvern	Prahran Square*	Harold Holt Swim Centre	Prahran Aquatic Centre	Margaret Connellan Stadium	
Monday 23 December	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	5.45am – 5pm	5.45am – 5pm	10am – 7pm	10am – 3.30pm
Tuesday 24 December	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	5.45am – 5pm	5.45am – 5pm	10am – 7pm	10am – 3.30pm
Wednesday 25 December – Christmas Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Thursday 26 December – Boxing Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am – 6pm	8am – 6pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Friday 27 December	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	6am – 7pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 3.30pm
Saturday 28 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	6am – 7pm	6am – 7pm	10am – 6pm	9am – 3pm
Sunday 29 December	CLOSED	CLOSED	7am – 7pm	7am – 7pm	10am – 6pm	9am – 3pm
Monday 30 December	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	5.45am – 9pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 3.30pm
Tuesday 31 December	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	5.45am – 5pm	5.45am – 5pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 3.30pm
Wednesday 1 January – New Year's Day	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am – 6pm	8am – 6pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 2 January	8.30am – 5pm	CLOSED	5.45am – 9pm	5.45am – 7.45pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 3.30pm

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](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au)

All libraries and the Stonnington History Centre have altered opening hours over the holidays and are closed on public holidays. Visit: [stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/Library).

Engaged programs: email [engaged@stonnington.vic.gov.au](mailto: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.

\*Prahran Square Customer Service Hub will close from Monday 23 December 2024 reopening Monday 13 January 2025.

Information correct at the time of printing.



Proudly presented by the  
City of Stonnington

# CHRISTMAS CAROLS 2024



## Family Christmas at Central Park

Led by the incomparable **Casey Bennetto** as Musical Director, hosted by **Sammy J** and featuring **Alinta Chidzey, Kiran Rajasingam, Geraldine Quinn** and more!



Sunday 8 December  
Central Park, Malvern East  
5.30pm – 7.30pm

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FREE  
CONCERTS

## Carols at Como Park



Hosted by the delightful **Lucy Durack** and featuring **Gatesy (Steven Gates), Silvie Paladino, South of the River Choir** with Musical Director **Casey Bennetto**, plus more!

Sunday 15 December  
Como Park, South Yarra  
7.30pm – 9.30pm



Family Christmas at Central Park includes children's activities from 5pm. Both Carols will have local food trucks and a very special visit from Santa! Proceeds for the sale of merchandise, go to the Mayor's selected charity.

For more information, visit  
[stonnington.vic.gov.au/ChristmasConcerts](https://stonnington.vic.gov.au/ChristmasConcerts)



City of  
STONNINGTON