



DAREBIN CELEBRATES



DCN
DAREBIN COMMUNITY NEWS

SUMMER 2024/25

Meet Your
New
Councillors
Page 4

2024 Darebin
Community
Awards Winners
Pages 8-9

Connect and
Celebrate in Darebin
this Summer
Pages 11-12

YOUR COUNCILLORS



MAYOR
CR KRISTINE OLARIS OAM
Central Ward

M: 0427 450 751

E: Kristine.Olaris

@darebin.vic.gov.au



DEPUTY MAYOR
CR EMILY DIMITRIADIS
South East Ward

M: 0437 918 708

E: Emily.Dimitriadis

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR MATT ARTURI
North East Ward

M: 0417 294 158

E: Matt.Arturi

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR CONNIE BOGLIS OAM
West Ward

M: 0427 938 376

E: Connie.Boglis

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR GAETANO GRECO
North West Ward

M: 0419 750 214

E: Gaetano.Greco

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR RUTH JELLEY
South Central Ward

M: 0459 949 340

E: Ruth.Jelley

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR JULIE O'BRIEN
South Ward

M: 0459 406 253

E: Julie.O'Brien

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR ALEXANDRA SANGSTER
South West Ward

M: 0467 838 844

E: Alexandra.Sangster

@darebin.vic.gov.au



CR VASILIOS TSALKOS
North Central Ward

M: 0461 389 079

E: Vasilios.Tsalkos

@darebin.vic.gov.au

2025 COUNCIL MEETINGS

In line with our Public Transparency Policy and relevant legislation, we're pleased to share our Council and Planning Committee meeting dates for January-June 2025 below. The meeting dates for July - December will be published in the Autumn 2025 edition of Darebin Community News and are also available on our website. We encourage community members to come along. If you'd like to observe a meeting in person, submit a public question, or make a submission to an agenda item, just remember to register by 12pm on the day of the meeting.

Meeting	Date	Time	Location Council Chamber, 350 High St, Preston (unless stated otherwise below)
Ordinary Council	Tuesday 28 January	6pm	Wholly in person
Planning Committee	Monday 10 February	6pm	Virtual attendance available
Ordinary Council	Monday 24 February	6pm	Wholly in person
Planning Committee	Tuesday 11 March	6pm	Virtual attendance available
Ordinary Council	Monday 24 March	6pm	Wholly in person
Planning Committee	Monday 14 April	6pm	Virtual attendance available
Ordinary Council	Monday 28 April	6pm	Wholly in person
Planning Committee	Monday 12 May	6pm	Virtual attendance available
Ordinary Council	Monday 26 May	6pm	Wholly in person
Planning Committee	Monday 16 June	6pm	Virtual attendance available
Ordinary Council	Monday 23 June	6pm	Wholly in person

For more information, please visit
darebin.vic.gov.au/council-committee-meetings



Stay up-to-date with Your Darebin
For the latest local news, subscribe to our monthly online newsletter *Your Darebin*.

Visit darebin.vic.gov.au/council-newsletters and follow the links to have our online news delivered to your inbox each month.



SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

T 8470 8470

العربية

Ελληνικά

Italiano

नेपाली

Soomalii

اردو

繁體中文

हिंदी

Македонски

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Español

Tiếng Việt



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is with great pride that I step into the role of Mayor of our wonderful community. As I begin this journey, I am deeply committed to serving you. The Darebin community is rich in diversity - it's what makes us a strong, united community.

Thank you to the people of Darebin for electing this Council. I am committed to being community focussed and will always have your best interests at heart.

This Council will listen to, and work for the people of Darebin to achieve positive outcomes. There's lots of work to do and I'm excited get started, working with Councillors to ensure Darebin is thriving, fair, inclusive, connected, and sustainable.

My focus during my time as Mayor, together with the support of my fellow Darebin Councillors, Interim CEO Michael Tudball and staff, will be to deliver great services and infrastructure across the whole municipality, support local businesses, and foster a strong sense of community. Together, we will continue to build a vibrant, welcoming, and sustainable future for Darebin.

I encourage you all to share your ideas and be active participants in shaping our future. My door is always open, and I'm eager to listen, learn, and work alongside you to make our community even better.

This edition of DCN holds many great stories, including coverage of the 2024 Darebin Community Award winners, an update on Our Darebin - our community vision consultation, and Darebin's recognition as the first Council to be awarded Excelling Welcoming Cities status.

There is much to celebrate in Darebin at this time of year, have fun reading all about it!

Cr Kristine Olaris OAM
Mayor



NAIDOC AWARDS 2024

By Uncle Charles Pakana
(Victorian Aboriginal News)

On 6 July this year, Aunty Muriel Bamblett, a Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Boon Wurrung Elder, was announced as recipient of the 2024 National NAIDOC Person of the Year award.

In receiving the award, Aunty Muriel joins the ranks of other greats who have been recognised as National NAIDOC Person of Year, including Ernie Dingo (1994), Pat and Mick Dodson (1998), Kutcha Edwards (2001) and Ash Barty (2022).

Since 1999, Aunty Muriel has been Chief Executive Officer of the Preston-based Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA). In that role she has steered the organisation from one that had 22 staff members and was under the threat of closure to one that now delivers 80 programs and services, cares for over 800 children and has a staff of around 1200 people.

In speaking to Darebin Community News, Aunty Muriel said: "Yes, I'm incredibly honoured to receive the award, but it even further reminds me

of the enormous contributions that others have played in supporting my work and making me the person I am today."

"Without them, without their constant encouragement, support and care, I would not have been able to achieve anywhere near what I have over the years."

Those achievements are many.

In 2019 Aunty Muriel received the Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to the Indigenous community in Victoria. She has been inducted into the Victorian Indigenous Honour Roll and the Victorian Honour Roll of Women, and received the Women's Electoral Lobby Inaugural Vida Goldstein Award.

Darebin City Council pays its respect and recognition to Aunty Muriel Bamblett as recipient of this year's award, and extends its respect to all in the Darebin community who work towards a stronger and more just society.

- *Uncle Charles Pakana is a proud Aboriginal journalist working with Darebin Council to tell First Nations stories*

MEET YOUR NEW COUNCILLORS

Darebin – meet your new Council team!

We are delighted to introduce and welcome our new City of Darebin Council team for 2024-28. Councillors were declared and sworn in by the Victorian Electoral Commission at Preston Municipal Offices. Councillors paid their respects to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of Darebin lands and emphasised the importance of working together to serve in the best interests of our diverse community.

Only two Councillors from the previous term who chose to run again were returned by

voters – Gaetano Greco and Emily Dimitriadis – bringing their experience back to the Council for another term. With seven new Councillors – Kristine Olaris OAM, Julie O'Brien, Matt Arturi, Alexandra Sangster, Connie Boglis OAM, Ruth Jelley and Vasilios Tsalkos – bringing a mix of new faces and skillsets to the team.

At the Council Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on 25 November, Cr. Olaris was elected Mayor of the City of Darebin by her fellow councillors. Cr. Dimitriadis was elected as Deputy Mayor.

It's an exciting period as the Councillors join together for the first time, and in coming weeks

and months work together to determine their shared vision for our community over the next four years. Each Councillor is passionate about serving the needs of our residents and undertook an oath or affirmation to uphold the Councillor Code of Conduct, and faithfully and impartially carry out their roles as elected representatives. Coming from diverse backgrounds, they bring a wealth of experience that will certainly help guide Council decisions on important local issues.

Congratulations to each and every Councillor on being elected to represent the people of Darebin. We look forward to the next four years!

The elected Councillors for 2024-28 are:

North East Ward

Matt Arturi

West Ward

Connie Boglis OAM

South East Ward

Emily Dimitriadis

North West Ward

Gaetano Greco

South Central Ward

Ruth Jelley

South Ward

Julie O'Brien

Central Ward

Kristine Olaris OAM

South West Ward

Alexandra Sangster

North Central Ward

Vasilios Tsalkos



How to connect with your Councillors

Our Councillors are eager to hear from you! You can reach out to them at darebin.vic.gov.au/mayor-and-councillors to share ideas and feedback.

UPDATE ON Our Darebin.

Earlier this year, Darebin Council launched 'Our Darebin', a project to review our Community Vision, and develop our Council Plan (including our Health and Wellbeing Plan), and other important forward-looking documents.

Like many in the community, Council is facing financial challenges. We need to focus our efforts on what matters most to Darebin residents.

For seven weeks, starting in July we engaged with the Darebin community through nine face-to-face pop-ups, an online survey, and 80 targeted engagement activities. In total, we engaged with almost 3500 people about what was most important to them. Thank you to everyone who took part.

A cornerstone of *Our Darebin* was the deliberative engagement

which took place from 13 November to 7 December. The *Our Darebin* panel, a group of around 40 residents randomly selected to reflect the diversity of the Darebin community, came together over four days to deliberate and provide input on key strategic plans.

The panel's recommendations will be central to shaping Darebin's future direction, helping steer our city towards a financially sustainable future.

We have also been working collaboratively with Darebin's diverse communities to ensure all voices are heard and respected, embedding perspectives and priorities into the Community Vision and Council Plan to help build a more inclusive and meaningful future.

Zeo, a panel member from Reservoir, described his

deliberative engagement experience as rewarding, saying, "Participating in the *Our Darebin* panel was a great experience. I've been a resident of Reservoir for more than 10 years, and the panel was a great way to give back to the community and contribute to conversations that will shape Darebin's future". He added, "Safety is a key priority, and being able to live and work safely in our city is important to me".

In 2025, the community will have an opportunity to review the draft Council Plan (including our Health and Wellbeing Plan), Financial Plan and Asset Plan and provide feedback before they are adopted by Council.

Our Darebin is Council's commitment to inclusive decision-making and community collaboration. Together, let's ensure our Vision and Plan represent *Our Darebin*.

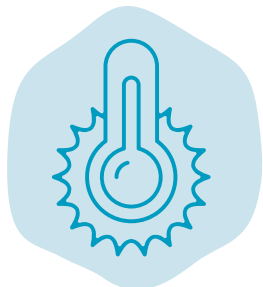
For the latest information, visit yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/ourdarebin

KEEP COOL IN SUMMER

As the weather warms up, it's important to prepare for heatwaves and keep cool and stay safe.

Heatwaves can be dangerous, especially for those aged over 65, young children and people with medical conditions.

Here are some handy tips to help you keep cool:



Check the weather forecast so you know when a heatwave is coming and reschedule outings to the cooler parts of the day.



If you're on medication, consult your doctor before heading out in the heat.



Prepare your home by creating a cool room, shading west-facing windows and cleaning air conditioner filters.



Freeze ice or place wet towels in the fridge.



If you feel unwell call Nurse on Call on 1300 606 024 or 000.

For more detailed info and tips in your language visit darebin.vic.gov.au/heatwaves

WELCOMING CITIES



Shabaz, Darebin's Multicultural and Diversity Officer with the award

Darebin Council is honoured to be the first council in Australia to be awarded Excelling Level accreditation by the Welcoming Cities network.

The Welcoming Cities network supports councils and their communities to work towards greater social, cultural, civic and economic success.

We are fortunate in Darebin to be home to people from over 153 countries who speak 148 different languages, and we are always striving to be a city where everyone feels welcome, respected and empowered to contribute to our wonderful community.

The Excelling status recognises Council's reputation as a sector leader in welcoming and inclusion practices, programs and initiatives.

This accreditation acknowledges the significant work done by Council and the Darebin community to make our city more welcoming and inclusive and provides an opportunity to plan for further improvement and change.

It also allows for building on our commitments to being a welcoming city to all by offering equitable access to our services and facilities, safe and inclusive neighbourhoods, economic development opportunities, and respect for human rights for all who live in and visit the city.

Delegates from Welcoming Cities attended Council Briefing on 5

August to present former Mayor Susanne Newton with the award.

Welcoming Australia's CEO, Aleem Ali, congratulated Darebin City Council, the first to be awarded accreditation at the Excelling level saying, "Darebin has a long-term approach to this work. They understand that welcoming and inclusion are about continuous engagement and learning, and we congratulate them on their success. Becoming the first council in Australia to be accredited at the Excelling level underlines their role as a leader in welcoming work in Australia."

English

Darebin Council is the first council in Australia to be awarded Excelling Welcoming City status by the Welcoming Cities network. This award recognises the work done by Council and the Darebin community to make our city more welcoming and inclusive. Read more about it at darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Arabic

مجلس داربين هو أول مجلس بلدي في أستراليا يحصل على جائزة "المدينة المتميزة في الترحيب" من شبكة المدن المتميزة (Welcoming Cities network). تعترف هذه الجائزة بالعمل الذي قام به المجلس ومجتمع داربين لجعل مدينتنا أكثر ترحيباً وشمولاً. اقرأ المزيد عنها على darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Chinese

戴瑞宾市是澳大利亚首个荣获友善城市 (Welcoming Cities) 网络授予的“优秀友善城市”称号的城市。该荣誉肯定和表彰了市议会和戴瑞宾社区为将我们的城市建设得更友善、更包容而做出的不懈努力。详情请浏览 darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Greek

Ο Δήμος του Darebin είναι ο πρώτος δήμος στην Αυστραλία στον οποίο απονεμήθηκε το καθεστώς Εξαιρετικά Φιλόξενη Πόλη (Excelling Welcoming City) από το δίκτυο Φιλόξενες Πόλεις. Αυτό το βραβείο αναγνωρίζει το έργο του Δήμου και της κοινότητας του Darebin για να γίνει η πόλη μας πιο φιλόξενη και χωρίς αποκλεισμούς. Διαβάστε περισσότερα για αυτό στο darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Hindi

डारेबिन काउंसिल ऑस्ट्रेलिया में पहली परिषद है जिसे वेलकम सिटीज नेटवर्क द्वारा एक्सेलिंग वेलकम सिटी का पुरस्कार दिया गया है। यह पुरस्कार हमारे शहर को अधिक स्वागत योग्य और समावेशी बनाने के लिए परिषद और डारेबिन समुदाय द्वारा किए गए कार्यों को मान्यता देता है। इसके बारे में darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming पर और जानें

Italian

Il Comune di Darebin è il primo Comune in Australia a ricevere lo status di City ospitale per eccellenza (Excelling Welcoming City) dalla rete Welcoming Cities. Questo premio riconosce il lavoro svolto dal Comune e dalla comunità di Darebin per rendere la nostra città più accogliente e inclusiva. Per maggiori informazioni, visitate il sito darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Macedonian

Општина Даребин е првата општина во Австралија на која и беше доделен статус на Excelling Welcoming City (Извонреден град за добредојде) од мрежата на градовите добредојдени. Оваа награда ја признава работата направена од страна на Општината и заедницата Даребин за да ја направат нашата општина попријатна и инклузивна. Прочитајте повеќе за тоа на darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Nepali

डारेबिन काउन्सिल अष्ट्रेलियाको पहिलो परिषद हो जसलाई वेलकमिड सिटी नेटवर्क (Welcoming Cities network) द्वारा उत्कृष्ट स्वागतमय शहर (Excelling Welcoming City) को दर्जा दिइएको छ। यो उपाधिले हाम्रो शहरलाई थप स्वागतमय र समावेशी बनाउन काउन्सिल र डारेबिन समुदायले गरेको कामलाई मान्यता दिन्छ। यसबारे darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming मा गएर थप पढ्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਕੌਂਸਿਲ ਆਸਟ੍ਰੇਲੀਆ ਦੀ ਪਹਿਲੀ ਕੌਂਸਿਲ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਨੂੰ ਵੈਲਕਮਿੰਗ ਸਿਟੀਜ਼ (ਸਵਾਗਤੀ ਸ਼ਹਿਰਾਂ ਦੇ) ਨੈੱਟਵਰਕ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਐਕਸਲਿੰਗ ਵੈਲਕਮਿੰਗ ਸਿਟੀ (ਉੱਤਮ ਸਵਾਗਤੀ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ) ਦਾ ਦਰਜਾ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਇਨਾਮ ਸਾਡੇ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ ਨੂੰ ਵਧੇਰੇ ਸਵਾਗਤਯੋਗ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਵੇਸ਼ੀ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਕੌਂਸਿਲ ਅਤੇ ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਦੇ ਭਾਈਚਾਰੇ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਕੰਮ ਨੂੰ ਮਾਨਤਾ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਹੋਰ ਈਥੇ ਪੜ੍ਹੋ darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Somali

Golaha Darebin waa Golihii ugu horeeyey Australia oo la siiyey Soo-dhowaynta ugu fiicnayd ee Golaha Degmada oo ay samaysay xiriirka Degmada ee Soo-dhowaynta. Abaalmarintaan waxay aqoonsatay shaqada ay qabatay Golaha Degmada Darebin si looga dhigo degmadeena mid soo-dhowayn leh oo loo dhan yahay. Akhri wixii ku saabsan iyada darebin.vic.gov.au/Darebin-excelling-welcoming.

Spanish

El Concejo de Darebin es el primer concejo municipal de Australia en recibir el estatus de Ciudad de Bienvenida Distinguida otorgado por la red de Ciudades de Bienvenida (Welcoming Cities). Este premio reconoce el trabajo realizado por el Concejo y la comunidad de Darebin para hacer de nuestra ciudad un lugar más acogedor e inclusivo. Obtenga más información al respecto en darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

Urdu

ڈیئرین کاؤنسل آسٹریلیا میں وہ پہلی کاؤنسل ہے جسے Welcoming Cities نے Excelling Welcoming City (شاندار خیر مقدم کرنے والا شہر) ہونے کا ایوارڈ دیا ہے۔ یہ ایوارڈ کاؤنسل اور ڈیئرین کے لوگوں کی ان کوششوں کا اعتراف ہے جو انہوں نے ہمارے شہر کو سب کا خیر مقدم کرنے والا اور سب کو شامل رکھنے والا شہر بنانے کے لیے کیا۔ darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming پر مزید تفصیل پڑھیں۔

Vietnamese

Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin là hội đồng thành phố đầu tiên tại Úc đã được mạng lưới Các Thành phố Chào đón trao tặng danh hiệu Thành phố Chào đón Vượt trội. Giải thưởng này ghi nhận công sức Hội đồng Thành phố và cộng đồng Darebin đã bỏ ra để biến thành phố chúng ta trở nên chào đón và hòa nhập hơn. Hãy đọc thêm về giải thưởng này tại darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-excelling-welcoming

2024 DAREBIN COMMUNITY AWARDS WINNERS

Every year the Darebin Community Awards highlight the wonderful and impactful contributions our community members make to the City of Darebin. The annual Darebin Community Awards Presentation Night was held on 15 September at Narrandjeri Stadium, and it was a truly memorable evening for the Darebin community. Here are your local heroes!

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - KATE JOST



President of Friends of Edwardes Lake, a local environmental group that preserves, restores and cares for the ecosystems of Edwardes Lake, Edgars Creek wetlands and part of Edgars creek.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY JOINT LEADERS OF THE YEAR - COMMISSIONER TRAVIS LOVETT AND AUNTY RIEO ELLIS

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - ISABELLA PINGITORE



Involved in community programs and volunteers with Fairshare to produce food for people in need. She is also involved in events that counter racism and build community cohesion.



A proud Kerrupmara Gunditjmara man, Travis has worked to improve the rights and lives of Aboriginal people in youth services, justice and the not-for-profit sector. He is currently the Commissioner of Victoria's truth-telling process in the Yoorrook Justice Commission.



A proud Waka Waka Bundjalung woman, Aunty Rieo is co-founder of Grandmothers Against Removals - Victoria. Her grassroots activism and ability to navigate bureaucratic systems make her a lifeline for countless families in crisis.

COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR - VOLUNTEERS AT DAREBIN INFORMATION VOLUNTEERS RESOURCE SERVICE (DIVRS)



Community volunteers who deliver a range of services through the power of volunteerism to build community capacity through connection, relationships and shared resources.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - LISA CAPPOLA



Worked with thousands of children over the last 25 years and focuses on young people and reuniting families. Honoured with the CREATE Award at the 2017 Protecting Vulnerable Children Awards.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD - RYAN ROBERTSON (AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY)



Played a lead role in the development and delivery of the Friends of Darebin Creek Reach 4 Restoration project. Sadly, he unexpectedly lost his life to an aggressive form of lung cancer in 2020.

CALD ELDER COMMUNITY LEADER OF THE YEAR - NGOC HANH LE

President of IERA (Indochinese Elderly Refugees Association). Her group helps older people with technology and English classes to keep them up to date in a rapidly changing information age.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (SPECIAL COMMENDATION) - DAVID MALONE

Volunteer tutor with the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) in the Young Adult Migrant Education Course and works with youths from refugee backgrounds and neurodiverse learners.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR (SPECIAL COMMENDATION) - THOMAS TAYLOR

An activist for the interests of young people, and member of Darebin Young Citizens Jury, a school sports champion, year level captain, mentor leader and School Council student member.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR (SPECIAL COMMENDATION) - MINNIE O'SULLIVAN

A strong voice for female participation in sport. Her work led to the development of several junior girls' cricket teams and the first ever Holy Trinity Girls Cricket team premiership in 2019.

GROUP OF THE YEAR (SPECIAL COMMENDATION) - GURWIDJ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WOMEN'S GROUP

Awarded special commendation for creating an inclusive space for First Nations community members to feel culturally safe and yarn, be creative, and share stories and lived experiences.

Nominations for the 2025 Darebin Community Awards will open in May 2025.

DCN

Darebin Children's News

All the latest news for Darebin's young people

BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD ART CENTRE

Do you love being creative? Join us this summer at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Darebin's home for the visual arts.

The Gallery always welcomes families, offering a drawing nook, kids art classes, family bookshelf and colouring sheets upon request at the cafe, which has a kid-friendly menu.



Explore the stunning heritage listed, family friendly galleries or enjoy a picnic in the lush Homestead gardens. Plan your visit at arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/bundoorahomestead



A proud Gunnai man from East Gippsland who now lives in Darebin, Ray Thomas created this beautiful artwork especially for you to colour in. Ray has been painting and creating art since the 1980s and Darebin is honoured to be home to several public artworks by this impressive artist.

DAREBIN FACT
Did you know that Darebin Libraries have over 5,000 Chinese titles on their shelves? You can learn about Darebin's thriving Chinese community from a huge range of fiction, non-fiction, picture books, magazines and newspapers.

WHAT'S ON

DECIBELS YOUTH MUSIC AND ARTS

Decibels Youth Music and Arts (part of Darebin Youth Services) is a free space for young people between 12 and 25 who are connected to Darebin. Located above Reservoir Library and open for access 1.30pm-5.30pm from Tuesday to Friday, we have a host of programs including all-ages gigs, school holiday programs, free recording and rehearsals time, equipment loans and mentoring.

To find out more call 0419 750 106, email decibelsyouthmusic@darebin.vic.gov.au or check our *Instagram page @darebinyouthservices*

GET SPORTY IN DAREBIN

Bundoora Park and Northcote Golf Courses, Narrandjeri and Darebin Community Sports Stadiums and Northcote Aquatic Recreation Centre provide a variety of programs and events for the Darebin community to enjoy. Keep an eye on our websites and social media channels for a variety of fun and engaging sporting, community and family-friendly programs, events and activations over the summer period! For more info visit the 'What's On' pages on the following sites:

bundooraparkpublicgolfcourse.com.au
darebinstadiums.com.au
northcoteaquaticreccentre.com.au
northcotepublicgolfcourse.com.au

BIG SUMMER READ

Are you ready for a BIG summer of reading?

The Big Summer Read is open to children and young people aged 0-17. If you love reading, this summer reading program is for you!

Join. Borrow. Read. Win!
 More information at libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au

FREE BIKE CHECKS

Wheel up for a free 20-minute bike check in Northcote or Reservoir this summer! Meet the friendly mechanics from WeCycle and Dr Cranky's and get your bike into top shape. It's the perfect opportunity to learn more about caring for your bike. And don't forget to grab a free bike map from us while you're there! We're keen to help with journey planning, bike skills courses and local riding tips.

Find out more or book your next bike check at darebin.vic.gov.au/bikechecks

Our free bike check program is supported by the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning.

BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD ART CENTRE

Summer Exhibition Season
 Showing until Saturday
 22 February - Free entry

ARA DOLATIAN: AT THE FIRST FLOOD OF DAYLIGHT

A new ceramics exhibition by Ara Dolatian that examines the ancient Epic of Gilgamesh. Reflecting on mythology and identity, Ara's work is deeply influenced by his upbringing in Baghdad.

CYRUS TANG: ECLIPSED PRESENCE

Traditional crafts are vanishing in today's industrialised world. Acclaimed artist, Cyrus Tang recently spent time on residency in Morocco, learning from local Indigenous makers. This new installation explores how their crafts are being kept alive.

Find out more and plan your visit at arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/BHAC-exhibitions

MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL

Midsumma, Victoria's LGBTIQA+ arts and cultural festival is just around the corner!

The Swift Dark Tide Join us for an "in conversation" author talk with Katia Ariel about her 2024 Stella shortlisted memoir *The Swift Dark Tide* with RRR 'Backstory' host Melissa Cranenburgh, where they'll talk about the writing and story of *The Swift Dark Tide*, Katia's choice of memoir and her queer becoming in relation to her life writing. Thursday February 6, 2025, 7-8pm at Preston Library.

MIDSUMMA CARNIVAL & VICTORIA'S PRIDE STREET PARTY

Drop by our stall at Midsumma Carnival in Alexandra Gardens on Sunday 19 January and chat with us on what Council is doing to make Darebin a safe, accessible and inclusive city to work, study, play and live for LGBTIQA+ community members, especially for trans and gender diverse, First Nations and culturally and linguistically diverse peoples.

Join our Pride March contingent and march with us along Fitzroy Street in St Kilda on Sunday 2 February. For details, contact us at diversity@darebin.vic.gov.au or 8470 8888.

We also plan to be at Victoria's Pride Street Party on Sunday 9 February in Fitzroy. Look out for our fabulous Darebin Proud logo!

KIDS OF DAREBIN

If you're looking for Council services for kids in Darebin, including activities to do during the school holidays, head over to darebin.vic.gov.au/KidsOfDarebin

You'll find information on child care, playgroups, the Toy Library, our leisure centres, maternal child health, immunisations, the libraries and lots more!

To receive information on events and programs, subscribe to our monthly Whats on for Families eNewsletter at darebin.vic.gov.au/Council-newsletters

DAREBIN CELEBRATES



Darebin's vibrant diversity shines through our festive celebrations. It's a season made brighter by the joy and connection we share as a community.

This year, Darebin residents are celebrating with purpose by supporting local. Whether it's gifts, food, or festive experiences, every choice you make helps our community thrive.

"I'm doing all my Christmas shopping locally." Northcote local Mette says.

"We're lucky to have so many amazing shops nearby. I love finding unique gifts, and there are lots of great places to stop for a coffee along the way."

Local residents Amelia and Rachel are volunteers at Village Greening in Fairfield.

"Last year, our community embraced the spirit of sustainability with some great initiatives. Village Greening hosted an event where we crafted gift bags from reused supermarket bags. It was a real hit and helped reduce waste." Amelia shares.

"We'll be doing the same this year and we'll also have a stand set up at the Fairfield Library full of free, gently used gift bags and ribbons." Rachel adds.

At this time of year there are so many ways to celebrate and connect in Darebin. From creative community activations to festive artwork in shopfronts, dazzling reindeers, to joyous performances – there's something for everyone to enjoy.

For the full program and to find out more about celebrating locally and sustainably in Darebin visit darebin.vic.gov.au/darebincelebrates

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR RECYCLING



Did you know that when you do the right thing with your waste, it can be recycled and turned into new things like park benches and tables? Reservoir local Asela says, "I'm a proud recycler. It's heartening to know that when I keep my recycling loose and put the right thing in my bin, it doesn't go to landfill and I'm doing my part for the environment."

You too can be a recycling champion like Asela by keeping these top 3 contaminants out of your recycling bin:

1. BATTERIES AND ELECTRONICS

Vapes, toys, phones or laptops with batteries can cause fires when you put them in your household bins. Find out where to recycle batteries and broken electronic items safely at darebin.vic.gov.au/e-waste.

2. PLASTIC BAGS

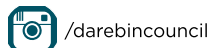
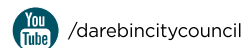
Keep your recycling loose and leave out soft plastics like chip packets or produce bags. You can recycle soft plastics at some participating supermarkets or toss them in your general rubbish bin.

3. CLOTHES AND FABRICS

Clothes, shoes, sheets and towels do not belong in your recycling bin. Instead, you can sell, donate or upcycle good quality items and give them a new life. Clothes that have reached their end of life can be composted in your home compost if they are natural fibers. Otherwise, they should be placed in the general rubbish bin.

A small act makes a big impact! For a full list of what can and cannot go into your recycling bin, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/recycling

Please note, information published in DCN is correct at time of printing.



CITY OF DAREBIN

274 Gower Street, Preston
PO Box 91, Preston, Vic 3072
T 8470 8888 F 8470 8877
E mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au
darebin.vic.gov.au

NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE

relayservice.gov.au
If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.

SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

T 8470 8470
العربية Italiano Somali
繁體中文 Македонски Español
Ελληνικά नेपाली اردو
हिंदी ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Tiếng Việt

