



Hard waste, easy booking it's almost here! Pages 4-5

What NAIDOC means to me
Page 9

Celebrating Darebin's Local Heroes Page 10

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 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



Councillor Gaetano Greco.

REMEMBERING COUNCILLOR GAETANO GRECO

Darebin City Council pays tribute to Cr Gaetano Greco, whose long-standing service helped shape the Darebin we know today.

Over nearly two decades, Cr Greco was a passionate advocate for creating a more equitable and inclusive community. He worked tirelessly to promote active dialogue across cultures, support local businesses, and stand up for what mattered most to the people of Darebin.

His leadership was instrumental in efforts to protect Preston Market, ensuring its future remained connected to the voices and needs of the community.

Cr Greco believed deeply in the importance of listening, and he brought care, persistence and compassion to his work with residents, community groups and businesses across Darebin.

We are deeply grateful for his extraordinary contribution and extend our sincere sympathies to his loved ones.



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 اردو Soomalii

繁體中文莀右Македонскиਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Español Tiếng Việt

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Darebin stands. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As we head into the cooler months of the year, I'm pleased to present the winter edition of Darebin Community News.

Before we share our latest updates, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of Cr Gaetano Greco. Cr Greco served Darebin from 2008 to 2025, including as Mayor in 2013–14. He was a tireless advocate for social justice, community wellbeing and inclusive governance.

His leadership and commitment to community voices have left a remarkable legacy in Darebin. He will be deeply missed, and our thoughts are with his partner Susana, family and friends at this sad time. Take a look at our article on Cr Greco on the page opposite.

Also in this edition, our cover story features exciting news from Bundoora Park Farm, including playground updates and the arrival of a gorgeous new horse, Maverick. You can also read a beautiful piece from Darebin staff member Evander Mitchell on "What NAIDOC means to me," celebrating 50 years of NAIDOC Week.

Reservoir Leisure Centre has published the results of its scoping study and continues to make key updates – take a look on page 8. Our hard waste collection is also moving to trial a booked service this June – find out what that means for you on page 4.

I encourage you to get out and about in Darebin this winter. There's lots happening - enjoy the community connection wherever you go.

Cr Kristine Olaris OAM Mayor



Reservoir local Noah recycling batteries.

SAFELY RECYCLING BATTERIES

Did you know batteries can cause fires in your bins?

Batteries from toys, phones and other electronics can catch fire if they're not disposed of properly. Fires caused by batteries in household bins can damage waste trucks, block roads, delay collections and cost thousands in repairs—all from just one incorrectly binned item.

Reservoir local Noah stores his batteries safely and recycles them regularly. "There are heaps of local places where you can drop off your batteries for free. I ride my bike to Darebin's Customer Service Centre in Preston—it's really convenient," says Noah.

To safely store batteries before recycling:

 Cover the ends with duct or sticky tape to prevent sparking

- Store in a glass container that isn't airtight
- Avoid metal containers or contact with metal objects
- Keep in a cool, dry place away from heat
- Keep out of reach of children and pets

You can recycle batteries at Darebin Customer Service Centres, local supermarkets, or the Darebin Resource Recovery Centre.

It's not just safer—it's smarter. Recycling batteries means the valuable materials inside can be reused to make new batteries and electronics. A small act can have a big impact.

Find your nearest drop-off point at darebin.vic.gov.au/e-waste



HARD WASTE, EASY BOOKING - IT'S ALMOST HERE!

Bookings for the trial of our new booked hard waste collection service open this month, with pick-ups starting in July.

From 16 June you can book a free hard waste collection for when it suits you, at any time during the year.

Residents receive one free collection a year of up to two cubic metres of hard waste. Extra collections are available for a fee.

Previously, Darebin's hard waste collection was area-based, and all residents in a designated area placed their hard waste out at the same time.

This new system provides:

- Immediate disposal options, helping reduce illegal dumping.
- Higher levels of landfill diversion to help reduce our waste.
- Fewer obstacles on footpaths compared to area-based collections, making it easier for wheelchair or pram users to pass safely.

During the trial we'll be keeping track of how the new system is working, to make sure it's the best service for Darebin residents.

We're excited to trial this new approach and look forward to seeing the benefits it brings to our community.

Mark your calendar - bookings open Monday 16 June! From that date, you'll be able to book online, by phone or in person at one of our customer service desks. Please hold off getting in touch until then, as the new system won't be available before that date.

And, while you wait, you'll also find alternative ways to reduce waste on our website too, so you can do your bit to minimise items going into landfill.

For more information visit darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Hard waste, easy booking – new for Darebin!

From 16 June, you can book your free hard waste collection. Pickups start in July. We are trying a new system so there will be no more area-wide collections. One free collection per year. Extra collections available for a fee. Find out more:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

النفايات الصلبة، حجز سهل - جديد في داربين! ابتداءً من 16 يونيو/حزيران، يمكنك حجز خدمة جمع النفايات الصلبة مجانًا. تبدأ عمليات الجمع في يوليو/تموز. نحن بصدد تجربة نظام جديد، لذا لن يكون هناك جمع على مستوى المنطقة. تتوفر عملية جمع مجانية واحدة في السنة، ويمكن طلب عمليات إضافية مقابل رسوم. للمعلومات، يرجى زيارة:

预约硬质废物收集 – 戴瑞宾市推出

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

新服务! 自6月16日起,您可以预约免费的硬质废物收集服务。收集服务将于7月份开始。我们正在试行一项新制度,因此将不再提供全区范围的定期收集服务。每年可使用一次免费收集服务。如需额外收集,需支付费用。详情请浏览:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Σκληρά απορρίμματα, εύκολη κράτηση – νέο για το Darebin!

Από τις 16 Ιουνίου, μπορείτε να κάνετε κράτηση για τη δωρεάν συλλογή σκληρών απορριμμάτων. Οι παραλαβές ξεκινούν τον Ιούλιο. Δοκιμάζουμε ένα νέο σύστημα, επομένως δεν θα υπάρχουν πλέον συλλογές σε ολόκληρη την περιοχή. Μία δωρεάν συλλογή ανά έτος. Διατίθενται επιπλέον συλλογές με χρέωση. Μάθετε περισσότερα:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

हार्ड वेस्ट, आसान बुकिंग - डारेबिन के लिए नया!

16 जून से, आप अपना फ्री हार्ड वेस्ट कलेक्शन बुक कर सकते हैं। पिक-अप जुलाई में शुरू होंगे। हम एक नए सिस्टम को लागू करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, और इसलिए अब पूरे क्षेत्र में एक साथ संग्रह नहीं होगा। प्रति वर्ष एक मुफ्त संग्रह। शुल्क के साथ अतिरिक्त संग्रहण उपलब्ध होंगे। अधिक जानकारी प्राप्त करें:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Rifiuti ingombranti, prenotazione facile: novità per Darebin!

Dal 16 giugno, potete prenotare il ritiro gratuito dei rifiuti ingombranti. I ritiri inizieranno a luglio. Stiamo testando un nuovo sistema, quindi non ci saranno più ritiri collettivi in tutta la zona (areawide collections). Un ritiro gratuito all'anno. Ritiri extra sono disponibili a pagamento. Per maggiori informazioni:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Тврд отпад, лесно резервирање – ново за Даребин!

Од 16 јуни, можете да резервирате бесплатно собирање на тврд отпад. Подигањето започнува во јули. Испробуваме нов систем, така што повеќе нема да има собирање отпад низ целата област. Има едно бесплатно собирање на тврд отпад годишно. Можете да побарате дополнителни собирања со плаќање одреден надомест. Дознајте повеќе на местото на интернет на:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

हार्ड-वेस्ट, सजिलो बुकिङ -डारेबिनको लागि नौलो!

१६ जुनदेखि, तपाईंले निःशुल्क हार्ड-वेस्ट सङ्कलन बुक गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ। सङ्कलन जुलाईबाट सुरु हुनेछ। हामी यो नयाँ प्रणाली परिक्षण गर्दैछौं। त्यसैले अब पहिले जस्तै सबै ठाउँमा एकै पटक सङ्कलन गरिने "क्षेत्र-व्यापी सङ्कलन" गरिने छैन। तपाईंले प्रति वर्ष एक निःशुल्क सङ्कलन पाउनु हुनेछ। अतिरिक्त सङ्कलन स-शुल्क उपलब्ध छ। थप जान्न darebin.vic.gov.au/ hardwaste हेर्नुहोस।

ਨਾ ਵਰਤੋਂ-ਯੋਗ ਸਮਾਨ (ਹਾਰਡ ਵੇਸਟ), ਸੌਖੀ ਬੁਕਿੰਗ - ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਲਈ ਨਵੀਂ ਚੀਜ਼! 16 ਜੂਨ ਤੋਂ, ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾ ਵਰਤੋਂ-ਯੋਗ ਸਮਾਨ (ਹਾਰਡ ਵੇਸਟ) ਨੂੰ ਮੁਫ਼ਤ ਚੁੱਕਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਬੁਕਿੰਗ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੈ। ਸਮਾਨ ਚੁੱਕਿਆ ਜਾਣਾ ਜੁਲਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਅਸੀਂ ਨਵੀਂ ਪ੍ਰਣਾਲੀ ਲਾਗੂ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਕੋਸ਼ਿਸ਼ ਕਰ ਰਹੇ ਹਾਂ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਇਲਾਕੇ ਦਾ ਸਾਰਾ ਸਮਾਨ ਇਕੱਠਾ ਨਾ ਚੁੱਕਣਾ ਪਵੇ। ਹਰੇਕ ਸਾਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਕ ਵਾਰੀ ਸਮਾਨ ਮੁਫ਼ਤ ਚੁੱਕਿਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ। ਵੱਧ ਵਾਰੀ ਸਮਾਨ ਚੁੱਕਵਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਸਹੂਲਤ ਫ਼ੀਸ ਦੇਣ ਨਾਲ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਇੱਥੇ ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣੋ: darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Reserva fácil para hard waste (residuos voluminosos), ¡llega a Darebin!

A partir del 16 de junio, podrá reservar su recolección gratuita de hard waste (residuos voluminosos). Las recolecciones comenzarán en julio. Debido a que estamos probando un nuevo sistema, no habrá más recolecciones generales por barrios. Una recolección gratuita por año. Se pueden solicitar recolecciones adicionales pagando una tarifa. Encuentre más información en: darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Qashin adag, ballansi sahlan –

oo ku cusub Darebin!

Laga bilaabo 16ka Juun, waxaad ballansan kartaa qaadista qashinka adag oo lacag la'aana. Qaadistu waxay bilaabanaysaa Juulay. Waxaanu isku deyeynaa nidaam cusub, sidaas darteed ma jiri doonto qaadis guud oo loo sameeyo dhammaan xaafadaha. Hal qaadis oo lacag la'aana sanadkii. Qaadis siyaada ah sanadkiiba ayaa laga heli karaa lacag lagu bixiyo. Wax badan ka ogow:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

ہارڈ ویسٹ، آسان بکنگ – ڈیئربن کے لیے نئی سہولت!

16 جون سے آپ اپنے لیے ہارڈ ویسٹ (زیادہ وزن اور پھیلاؤ رکھنے والی فالتو چیزیں) مفت اٹھوانے کی بکنگ کر سکتے ہیں۔ ہارڈ ویسٹ لے جانے کی یہ سروس جولائی میں شروع ہو رہی ہے۔ ہم ایک نیا نظام آزما رہے ہیں لہذا اب پورے ایریا کی اکٹھی کلیکشن نہیں ہوا کر ے گی۔ آپ کو سال میں ایک بار مفت کلیکشن مل سکتی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ مزید کلیکشنز کے لیے فیس ادا کرنی پڑتی ہے۔ مزید معلومات کے لیے دیکھیں: کرنی پڑتی ہے۔ مزید معلومات کے لیے دیکھیں:

Rác thải cồng kềnh, đặt hẹn dễ dàng – dịch vụ mới tại Darebin! Kể từ ngày 16 tháng 6, quý vị có thể đặt hẹn thu gom rác thải cồng kềnh miễn phí. Dịch vụ thu gom này bắt đầu vào tháng 7. Chúng tôi đang thử nghiệm hệ thống mới, do đó, sẽ không còn thu gom trên toàn khu vực nữa. Một lần thu gom miễn phí mỗi năm. Có thể thu gom thêm nhưng sẽ tính lệ phí. Tìm hiểu thêm:

darebin.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

BUNDOORA PARK FARM: FARM LIFE IN THE HEART OF DAREBIN

Is there a child who doesn't love a farm? The animals, the mud, the noises and the smells - it's kid heaven! At Bundoora Park Farm, families can enjoy the complete farm experience- right in the heart of Darebin.

For animal lovers, Bundoora Park Farm is the perfect place to make some new furry and feathered friends. You can take a wildlife ride to meet the farm's resident emus and kangaroos, then join in feeding sessions with some of the farm animals - including sheep, goats, chickens and alpacas. You can even feed the guinea pigs, during morning and afternoon sessions.

Local parent Isabelle says, 'We've been coming here for years. My kids adore feeding the animals, and the alpacas are always a highlight!'

For her preschooler Ben, the guinea pigs are the clear winners: 'I love them, especially the hairy ones,' he says.

The farm recently welcomed a new resident - Maverick, an Australian Working Horse from Katoomba in NSW. Staff have been helping him adjust to his new home, and volunteer trainer Graeme has been working closely with Maverick, the two developing a special relationship: 'He's a lovely horse,' says Graeme, 'and a real asset to the farm.'

Farm Coordinator Helen loves seeing the impact the farm has on visitors. 'The kids love the animals!

But when they visit, they're also learning about the natural world, and how to live more sustainably. The community garden, seed library - sustainability is at the heart of what we do.'

Beyond animals, the farm boasts some of the best play spaces and picnic spots in Darebin. Adults can relax, or cook up some treats on the free barbecues, while the kids enjoy running safely in the open spaces.

The massive wooden playground at the heart of the farm, complete with cubby houses and a giant slide, has recently been refurbished. Local architect Paul Gardiner designed the playground in the late 1990s, and he's thrilled: 'It's wonderful to see the slide providing fun for another generation,' he says.

The farm's Party Barn is also open for bookings, accommodating up to 60 guests for birthdays, anniversaries, or private celebrations. Helen is excited to have the barn open again after a break: 'Farm entry is included in the barn hire,' she explains, 'and party guests can explore the farm at their leisure.'





Bundoora Park Farm also offers a range of educational programs and school holiday events for kids, teaching them about farm life, animals, and sustainability through hands-on activities at the farm and the Historical Village.

Bundoora Park Farm is the perfect destination for families seeking a little taste of farm life.

It offers something for everyone – seven days a week!

1069 Plenty Road, Bundoora 03 8470 8170 darebin.vic.gov.au/bundooraparkfarm

BY-ELECTION FOR NORTH WEST WARD



Following the passing of long serving Councillor Gaetano Greco, a by-election must now be held for Darebin's North West Ward. A by-election will be held in August via postal vote.

Ballot papers will be sent out from Monday 14 July. Nominations for candidates will open on Monday 16 June and close at 12 noon on Tuesday 24 June.

For more information, visit Council elections City of Darebin or for questions about the election process, please contact the VEC at vec.vic.gov.au/contact-us

The by-election will be undertaken by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

For more information or for questions about the election process, please contact the VEC at vec.vic.gov.au/contact-us

ON SHOW AND ON STAGE IN DAREBIN

Darebin Arts presents a vibrant mix of exhibitions, performances and events all year round. From live music and contemporary dance to bold theatre and diverse visual art, there's something for everyone – and always something new to discover. Keep an eye out for what's coming up this winter!

BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD ARTS CENTRE

HOOTAN HEYDARI: REMEMBERING TO FORGET

The progressive deterioration of personal photographs rendered in plaster explores place, history, and the inevitable erosion of memory.

SAMMANEH POURSHAFIGHI: YOU, ME AND EVERYTHING AROUND US

An intimate look at family, memory, and identity through shifting personal boundaries.



TAKING BACK LANGUAGE

Artists reclaim language using text across various media to challenge and subvert power structures.

Until 4 October 2025, Free entry



DAREBIN ARTS SPEAKEASY

AUNTY by BEAT ENTERTAINMENT

A bold, joyous celebration of blak excellence, featuring cabaret, DJs, vogueing and more.

Sat 28 June 2025, 7.30pm Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre

GARÇON BY WANI TOAISHARA

A spoken-word journey through boyhood, identity and community.

16 to 20 July, Wed to Sat, 7.30pm, Sun 5pm Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre

Bloomshed's Pride & Prejudice

A wild reimagining of the Bennetts' story set in a housing crisis.

30 July to 10 August 2025 Wed to Sat 7.30pm, Sun 5pm Darebin Arts Centre

For more information visit arts.darebin.vic.gov.au



Darebin Mayor Cr Kristine Olaris, player and coach Tilly Reid and Club President Phil Nguyen at the KP Hardiman Pavilion building site.

A GAMECHANGER FOR KINGSBURY: KP HARDIMAN PAVILION UPDATE

We're making progress on one of Darebin's newest sporting facilities, KP Hardiman Pavilion in Kingsbury.

This exciting project will deliver improved, more gender-inclusive facilities, a publicly accessible toilet and social rooms to complement the recent installation of the new hockey pitch.

We're on track to open this beautiful new building to the community in mid-2026.

La Trobe University Hockey Club player and coach, 14-year-old Tilly Reid, said the redevelopment would offer more opportunities for girls like her to get involved in sport.

"I'm really excited because the clubrooms will be closer to the pitch and they'll be bigger so it will be a lot easier to hold events," Tilly said. La Trobe University Hockey Club President, Phil Nguyen said the new facilities will be a "gamechanger" for the club.

"The new gender-inclusive changerooms will encourage new members to join, particularly juniors, women and girls. We look forward to growing this area of the club and giving all of our members facilities where we can thrive on and off the field," Phil said.

The sustainable design also features reticulation of catchment water, solar power, all electric and high efficiency appliances and great passive design principles.

The redeveloped KP Hardiman Pavilion will help meet the needs of our growing community and encourage more community members of all ages, genders and backgrounds to get involved in sport.

Find out more at darebin.vic.gov.au/kphardiman

RESERVOIR LEISURE CENTRE: COMMUNITY, CONNECTION AND WHAT'S COMING

Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) holds a special place in the heart of the community.

For decades, it's been more than just a place to swim or work out; it's a valued local asset where connections are made, friendships flourish, and wellbeing is nurtured.

Scoping study results

The recently completed RLC scoping study highlighted what many already knew: RLC is a vital space bringing together our diverse community.

Update round up

We have been working to make some updates now, while also seeing what improvements can be made in the not-too-distant future.

Recently completed

- The revitalisation of the Group Fitness Timetable provides a more balanced offering, which has seen the centre increase its average number of participants from 12 to 14 people per class.
- The gymnasium revamp provides a more functional layout and accommodates new equipment.
- The introduction of the outdoor kiosk is a place for outdoor pool users to purchase drinks, ice-cream and snacks come summer.

Confirmed and launching in 2025

- Reformer Pilates.
- New point-of-sale system improving the customer experience and management of membership.

Stay updated and read the scoping study report at darebin. vic.gov.au/rlc-redevelopment



CARING FOR COUNTRY -THE NARRAP RANGERS COLLABORATION

Darebin Council made history as the first government in the world to declare a climate emergency, and our leadership continues with our *Climate Emergency Plan 2024–2030*. Adopted in July 2024, the plan outlines bold actions to mitigate the risks of climate change and support our community.

More than 1500 community members, along with climate experts, Traditional Owners, and Council advisory groups, helped shape the plan based on a shared vision for a climate-safe Darebin.

One key pillar of the plan is 'Caring for Country,' which aims to integrate Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung cultural knowledge into our conservation and biodiversity work. Caring for Country also emphasises partnerships and collaboration – like our recent work with the award-winning Narrap (Country) Team, part of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

Since 2021, our Natural Resource Management team has collaborated with the Narrap Rangers on vital projects in Darebin's grasslands, including revegetation, weed control, and fire-break maintenance. A standout initiative is ecological thinning at Cherry Street Grassland Reserve, which improves native plant growth by creating space and light. Thanks to the Narrap Rangers' expertise, the project has boosted ground cover, increased flowering plants, and improved biodiversity. The partnership shows how Caring for Country can foster environmental restoration, as well as cultural and knowledge exchange and social connections.

Our Climate Emergency Plan is ambitious, but as the Narrap collaboration illustrates, it creates opportunities for innovation and leadership and a thriving future for Darebin.

Read the full plan at darebin.vic.gov.au/CEDP



WHAT NAIDOC MEANS TO ME

Written by Evander Mitchell

Proud
Gunditjmara and
Wemba Wemba
man, and Darebin
Aboriginal
Employment
Programs Officer

Recognition, connection, and culture are some of the words that come to mind when I think about NAIDOC Week. It is the time of the year where the community comes together to celebrate our achievements, our resilience as people, and a time to honour the generations before us.

"NAIDOC is a part of who I am.
I remember attending the events with
my family as a child and hold proud
memories of marching through the city
and chanting alongside my community.
This is something I share with my son now,
and I bring him along to experience culture
the same way I did with my parents"

The theme this year is *The Next Generation:* Strength, Vision & Legacy. As a parent, a special theme like this resonates with me. It's always been a goal to ensure that my culture and connection to country is passed on through my children, and to have that embedded through NAIDOC's themes and events only strengthens our families.

Given the theme, I asked my son what he thinks of NAIDOC, and he said it's about 'Getting to spend time with my cousins and family, and to go to the events together'.

His thoughts are exactly how I felt when I was a child attending the same events, as it's truly special how this week brings us all together.

NAIDOC Week shows how far we have come as a community in the face of adversity, and to hold our connection to country strong. I encourage everyone to listen, learn and celebrate with us.

NAIDOC Week celebrations will be held from 6 - 13 July 2025. Find out more at darebin.vic.gov.au/NAIDOC-week

CELEBRATING DAREBIN'S LOCAL HEROES

Every year the Darebin Community Awards celebrate individuals and groups that have made an outstanding contribution to our community throughout the year.



This year's Darebin Community Awards Presentation will be held on Sunday 9 November at Narrandjeri Stadium, Thornbury.

An activist for the interests of young people, Thomas Taylor received a Youth of the Year Special Commendation last year.

He is a member of Darebin Young Citizens Jury and in 2024 was a school sports champion, year level captain, mentor, leader and School Council student member.

Thomas said it was an honour to be recognised at the Awards and encouraged other young people to get involved. "Don't be afraid to put yourself out there, to push boundaries and to fight for what you believe in, your voice matters so put it to use," Thomas said.

"If you look for them, there will always be opportunities to play a role in community leadership and activism....and if you feel like you could play a role, go for it, you never know where it could take you and the community."

With nominations for the 2025 awards opening next month, Thomas said the Darebin Community Awards were an opportunity to shine a light on the important work that happens across Darebin in areas such as the protection of nature, support for migrant communities, and local sports clubs.

"The receipt of a community award, in my experience, serves as a great motivation to keep pushing for change in your community. If you feel someone, or a group deserve an award, nominate them, and hopefully this drives them to continue their positive impact upon the community."

Get ready to nominate your local hero - nominations open in July!

Find out more at darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards

HAVE YOU SEEN US POP-UP AROUND TOWN?

Did you know Darebin Council runs over 20 engagement activities with the community each year? That's right and one of the best ways we connect with people is through pop-ups around Darebin.

Pop-ups are informal interactive sessions between Council staff and the community. They are held in local spaces where you can share your opinions, ask questions and connect with us on projects and issues that matter to you.

As a wonderfully diverse and welcoming city, we value the sharing of different views and voices when we engage with the Darebin community.

Last year when we asked you how we could engage better, you told us we needed to do it in different ways, as not everyone has the time to attend meetings or fill out surveys. That's why we're bringing the conversation to you through our pop-ups!

Whether it's at a local market, park, or shopping centre, pop-ups help us build relationships with the community, hear directly from you and help us better understand your needs and priorities.

Over the coming months, we'll be asking for your opinions on lots of different issues important to the community. So, if you have any suggestions – come talk to us at our pop-ups!

If chatting's not your style, you can always tell us what you think by signing up to Your Say Darebin at yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au



HAVE YOUR SAY - DAREBIN COMMUNITY NEWS

Darebin Community News is delivered to over 62,000 letterboxes each season.

It's a newsletter for the community, about the community, sharing local stories, events, services and updates, and we want to know what you think about it.



What do you love? What could be better? Who or what would you like to read about?



Share your feedback at https://yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn by 30 June and you'll go in the draw to win a \$50 gift card to spend locally!

VHAT'S ON



DAREBIN LIBRARIES

Library Nights

Don't miss Library Nights, where vou can connect and discover something new at a library event: three nights a week, every week!

Tuesday nights: Reservoir Library Wednesday nights: Northcote Library **Thursday nights: Preston Library**

Come for the warm welcome, meet people, relax and get social. Look out for author talks, workshops, movies, game nights, celebrations and more.

> See what's on at libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au

DAREBIN COMMUNITY SPORTS STADIUM

Golden Oldies Badminton

Join us every Wednesday from 10am - 12pm for casual badminton. Perfect for older adults and seniors who enjoy a social game.

These classes are \$5.20, to register visit darebinstadiums. com.au/social-badminton/

Happy Group

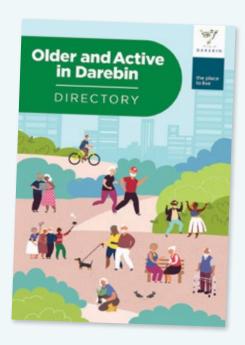
Being active is something all ages can enjoy! Join the happy group every Friday 9:30am - 10:30am for gentle exercise classes perfect for older adults and seniors.

These classes are \$6.20 each, for more information visit darebinstadiums.com.au/happygroup-golden-oldies/

FAMILY FUN AND LEARNING

Sign up for the What's on for Families eNewsletter to find out about the latest events and activities for Darebin families with young children. From educational parenting sessions to fun kids' activity sessions, there's something for every Darebin family.

> Subscribe at darebin.vic.gov.au/subscribe



OLDER AND ACTIVE IN DAREBIN DIRECTORY

The Older and Active in Darebin Directory is now available! It's a handy guide to help older adults connect with numerous community services, resources, and activities. Pick up your copy at your local customer service centre, or access it on the Darebin website. It's packed with valuable information to support well-being and engagement. Stay connected, live well, and access everything you need today!

> darebin.vic.gov.au/ older-adult-activities



WINTER SCHOOL **HOLIDAYS IN DAREBIN: FUN FOR ALL AGES!**

The winter school holidays are just around the corner (7-18 July), and Darebin has you covered with a huge range of fun, affordable activities to keep the kids busy and entertained.

From action-packed programs at our sports stadiums and golf courses to creative workshops at the library, farm visits, and swim sessions at our pools - there's something for everyone.

Our community hubs will also be buzzing with events designed to spark curiosity, build skills and help kids make the most of their school break.

The full program of events will be available from 23 June at darebin. vic.gov.au/School-Holidays, so mark your calendars and get ready for some school holiday fun in Darebin!

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



/cityofdarebin



/darebincitycouncil



/darebincouncil

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 繁體中文 Македонски Español

Ελληνικά नेपाली हिंदी ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

اردو Tiếng Việt

Soomalii



