



**Creating connections,
one stitch at a time.**
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SPRING 2026

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YOUR COUNCILLORS



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CELEBRATE BIODIVERSITY MONTH BY SUPPORTING WILDLIFE IN DAREBIN

Every day, Wildlife Victoria helps sick, injured and orphaned native animals across the state. Their data shows that in Darebin alone, more than 10,000 wildlife rescue cases were reported to Wildlife Victoria between 2021 and 2025, placing our municipality among the top ten local government areas for wildlife rescue reports. Behind every rescue is a network of over

1,700 trained volunteers making a difference for wildlife.

This Biodiversity Month, support their vital work by donating or volunteering to Wildlife Victoria.

If you find an animal in need, call their 24/7 Emergency Response Service on (03) 8400 7300 or submit a report online. Visit wildlifevictoria.org.au to learn more.



For practical actions residents can visit darebin.vic.gov.au/protecting-wildlife

Your
DAREBIN



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

繁體中文

Ελληνικά

हिंदी

Italiano

Македонски

नेपाली

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Soomalii

Español

اردو

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 future leaders.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to September and of course, spring!

As we enjoy the brightness of a new season, I'm excited to share what's happening across our community over the coming months.

Empowering people. Inspiring change. Meet our Community Grant recipients on page 9, and discover how you, or your group can apply for upcoming funding from the City of Darebin.

Renewal is in the air! Back by popular demand are the **Get Active Spring program** (page 10), **School Holidays program** (back page), and the **Community Awards** (page 6). This year we have refreshed our Community Awards with new categories to celebrate our changemakers. Find out how you can nominate a Darebin hero who has made a difference.

Our Capital Works campaign, Building Your Everyday, is humming along with projects like the beloved train at H Swain Reserve completed recently. Head to page 5 to check that out.

Let's Sort It, our year-long waste campaign sustains its momentum, encouraging our community to make a big difference with a bit of know-how and some simple changes with how they manage waste. Discover how it's going on this page.

This issue also features updates on joining our new advisory committees, and Council's key advocacy projects (page 4) and has information on how you can book available spaces at the Intercultural Centre (page 9).

It's a beautiful time of year!

Please enjoy all that Darebin has to offer this spring!

Cr Emily Dimitriadis
Mayor

LET'S SORT IT, DAREBIN!

This year, you helped divert 623 tonnes of hard waste from landfill, including:

- 3,961 mattresses
- 1,741 couches
- 413 fridges, and
- 1,738 tyres.

More than 20,000 hard waste bookings were completed, and 27.4% of all collected material was recycled – a 50% improvement compared with the average recycling rate.

We listened to resident feedback and improved our communication materials throughout the year. Updates included:

- **Collection reminders** to help households prepare
- **Photographing booked items** so we can be sure we are collecting the items you intended to be collected
- **Clearer education** about accepted items

These changes contributed to a steady improvement in the number of successful collections.

Since the booked service started, community has been helping us refine how it works. Residents are sharing a booking to make full use of the 2 cubic metre allowance, reconsidering what needs to be thrown out and choosing reuse and recycling options first.

Together we cut waste by 500 tonnes less to landfill compared with the average tonnage and contributed to Council's progress towards zero emissions under the Climate Emergency Plan.

Green waste in FOGO

As we enter spring and start refreshing our gardens, it's the perfect time to make full use of your FOGO bin and turn garden clippings and food scraps into nutrient rich compost.

Some tips to use your FOGO bin correctly:

- All your food scraps can go in the FOGO bin.
- **Place items loose:** Do not bag lawn clippings or garden waste and food scraps.
- **Only natural wood, no timber:** Timber, sleepers and wood packaging are treated with chemicals like pesticides or painted which contaminates the compost.
- **Small pieces of natural, garden wood in your FOGO bin:** Large logs and branches aren't accepted. Please cut large logs and branches to under 40cm long and 10cm wide.
- **What to leave out:** Pet waste, biodegradable bags, compostable liners.



LET'S SORT IT!



Visit darebin.vic.gov.au/recycle-right to learn more

YOUR VOICE CAN HELP SHAPE DAREBIN

Council has established seven new advisory committees to strengthen the way community voices, knowledge and experience help inform our work.

The committees will bring together people from across Darebin to share advice, ideas and perspectives on issues that matter to our community.

The seven committees are:

- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee
- Climate Leadership and Response Advisory Committee
- Vibrant Places and Economy Advisory Committee
- Interfaith Advisory Committee
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Advisory Committee

We are now looking for community members interested in joining the committees and contributing their perspectives.

You don't need to be an expert. We're looking for people with a connection to the area each committee focuses on. That could come from your own lived experience, your work or volunteering, your community connections, or another relevant perspective.

Former Climate Emergency Darebin Advisory Committee member, Steph Rich said

Community voices are at the heart of effective climate action. Being part of the committee has been a great way to contribute local perspectives and help shape initiatives that make a real difference for our community."

Getting involved is designed to fit around other commitments. The committees will generally

meet four times a year, with meetings usually held in the evening.

Interested in joining?

Expressions of interest will be open during September and October.

An online application form will be available on our website from mid-September, along with information about each committee and its Terms of Reference.

Hard-copy forms will also be available from Darebin Libraries and Customer Service locations.

Assistance will be available for people who need information in another language or support to complete an application.

The advisory committees will be established and ready to begin by the end of 2026, with some holding their first meetings in early 2027.

Find out more at darebin.vic.gov.au/community-advisory-committees

ADVOCATING FOR WHAT MATTERS

Council is advocating for projects and services that matter to our community.

Advocacy is important, as Councils don't have all the funding or powers to make every change we want to see for our community. Advocacy is particularly important in the lead up to a State Election. Ahead of the November 28 election, we wanted to share our advocacy priorities for this year.

A key priority is securing funding to **upgrade the High Street Preston streetscape** between Bell Street and Murray Road. This project will create a safer, greener, more accessible, and vibrant destination for residents, visitors, and local businesses.

Council is also calling for an **increase in three and four-year-old community kindergarten** places, through investment, upgrades, and policy changes. This will help more local families access quality early childhood education close to home as demand continues to grow

Creating greener and more liveable neighbourhoods is another important priority. Council is advocating for measures to **protect and increase tree canopy cover and open space**, particularly in Preston and Reservoir. These improvements will help keep neighbourhoods cooler, support community wellbeing, and provide more places for people to connect and enjoy the outdoors.

Improving access to public transport is also high on the agenda. Council is pleased that the State Government has committed to accessible tram stops on High Street and we're now asking for the plans for these stops to be shared with community.

By championing these priorities, Council is working to ensure our community has the infrastructure, services and green spaces needed to thrive for generations to come.

If these priorities resonate with you, please raise them with your local candidates and visit darebin.vic.gov.au/advocacy for more information.

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

BUILDING YOUR EVERY DAY — INVESTING IN DAREBIN'S FUTURE

From transitioning community buildings off gas to creating more inclusive play spaces and using recycled materials in road renewal projects, Council is investing in practical improvements that make Darebin more sustainable, accessible and prepared for the future.

These projects are part of Council's ongoing commitment to looking after the infrastructure and facilities that support everyday life across Darebin. From roads and community buildings to parks and playgrounds, we're focused on ensuring we have infrastructure that will serve our community for years to come.

As part of Council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions and operating on renewable energy

by 2030, 10 Council facilities were disconnected from the gas network during the past financial year. A further five facilities are planned to transition from gas to electric in 2026-27, helping create more efficient, lower-emission community buildings for the future.

Council is also incorporating recycled materials into road renewal projects, helping reduce waste while maintaining and improving local roads. More than \$2 million has been allocated to this year's road renewal program, supporting safer and more sustainable infrastructure across the municipality.

Accessibility and inclusion are also key considerations in Council's capital works program. A recent example is the new

accessible train at H. Swain Reserve, which replaces the much-loved original train that generations of local families enjoyed. The new model retains the playground's character while providing accessible play opportunities for more children.

"We love the new train!" said Tess, 8.

Arlo, 2, offered a shorter review, stating simply: "Toot-toot!"

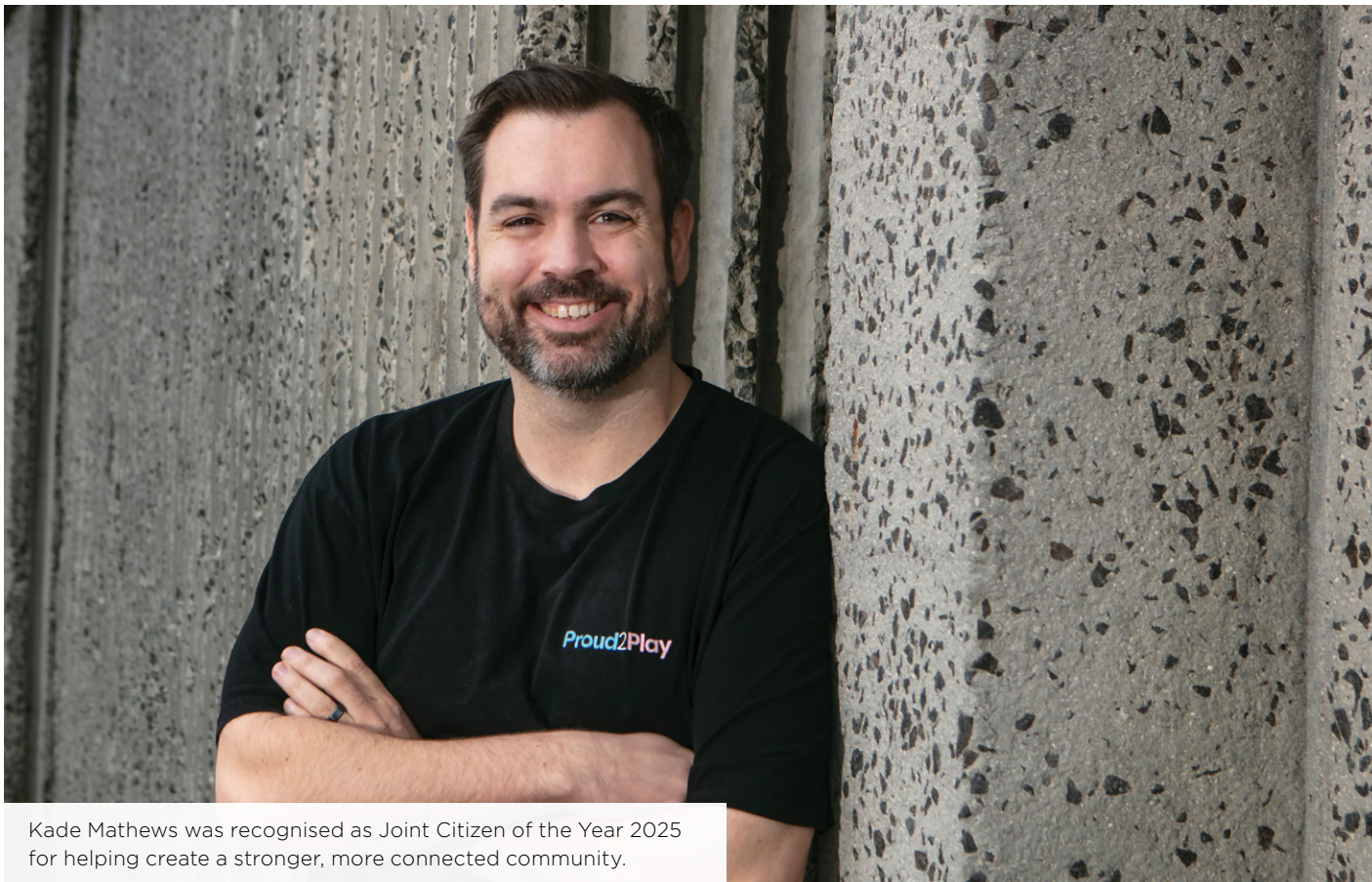
Together, these projects show how Council is investing in infrastructure that supports connection, wellbeing and opportunity for people of all ages and abilities, while helping build a more sustainable and inclusive Darebin for the future.

Visit darebin.vic.gov.au/buildingyoureveryday to learn more about projects happening in your neighbourhood.



Full steam ahead! Tess and Arlo put the new H Swain Reserve train through its paces.

HELP US CELEBRATE DAREBIN'S LOCAL HEROES!



Kade Mathews was recognised as Joint Citizen of the Year 2025 for helping create a stronger, more connected community.

Every day, people across Darebin give their time, energy and passion to support others and strengthen our community. The Darebin Community Awards are an opportunity to recognise these local heroes and celebrate the individuals, groups and organisations making a positive difference.

Joint Citizen of the Year 2025 winner Kade Mathews is committed to creating safe, inclusive and welcoming spaces in sport. As a member of Darebin's LGBTQIA+ Advisory

Committee, he has provided key advocacy around issues that affect the LGBTQIA+ community. In his work with Proud 2 Play, he has been instrumental in supporting Darebin-based organisations to address discrimination in community sport, and build more equitable, values-driven sporting cultures. "The Awards are a chance to recognise the many people who help make Darebin a stronger, more connected community, whether their contributions are big or small, behind the scenes or in the spotlight.

"Our Darebin community is built on a variety of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences that make us so unique and valued. Every day, people give their energy and passion to improve the place we call home.

"The biggest impact can often come from our quietest achievers, so have a look around you and consider who is making an impact in your pocket of the community. Don't hesitate to nominate someone who deserves to be celebrated."

Nominate Now: 2026 Darebin Community Awards

Help us celebrate the people and community groups making a difference across Darebin. From dedicated volunteers to inspiring community leaders and outstanding local groups, nominate someone who goes above and beyond to make our community stronger and more connected. Awards will be presented across seven categories on 12 November.

Nominations close 22 September: darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards

For more information and to submit a nomination, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards

جوائز داربین المجتمعية هي فرصة لتكريم هؤلاء الأبطال المحليين والاحتفاء بالأفراد والجماعات والمنظمات التي تُحدث فرقاً إيجابياً. لا تفوتوا فرصة تسليط الضوء على شخص يُحدث فرقاً في داربين. لمزيد من المعلومات ولتقديم ترشيح، تفضلوا بزيارة **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

戴瑞賓社區獎旨在表揚社區中的優秀人士，並感謝那些為戴瑞賓市作出積極貢獻的个人、團體和機構。不要錯過這個機會，提名一位為戴瑞賓市帶來積極改變的人士，讓他們的付出獲得認可。了解更多信息並提交提名，請訪問：**darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

Τα Βραβεία της Κοινότητας του Darebin αποτελούν μια ευκαιρία να αναγνωρίσουμε αυτούς τους τοπικούς ήρωες και να γιορτάσουμε τα άτομα, τις ομάδες και τους οργανισμούς που κάνουν μια διαφορά προς το καλύτερο. Μη χάσετε την ευκαιρία να αναδείξετε κάποιον που προσφέρει στο Darebin. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες και για να υποβάλετε μια υποψηφιότητα, επισκεφθείτε το **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

I Premi Darebin Community Awards rappresentano un'opportunità per riconoscere questi eroi locali e celebrare le persone, i gruppi e le organizzazioni che fanno la differenza in positivo. Non perdetevi l'occasione di dare visibilità a chi si distingue a Darebin. Per maggiori informazioni e per inviare una candidatura, visitate il sito **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

डारेबिन सामुदायिक पुरस्कार इन स्थानीय नायकों को पहचानने और सकारात्मक बदलाव लाने वाले व्यक्तियों, समूहों और संगठनों का सम्मान करने का एक अवसर है। डारेबिन में बदलाव लाने वाले किसी व्यक्ति को पहचान दिलाने के अवसर को न चूकें। अधिक जानकारी और नामांकन जमा करने के लिए, **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards** पर जाएं।

Наградите на заедницата на Даребин се можност да се оддаде признание на локалните херои и да се прослават поединците, групите и организациите кои направиле позитивна разлика. Не ја пропуштајте приликата да укажете на некој кој прави разлика во Даребин. За повеќе информации и за поднесување номинација, видете на **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

डारेबिन जनसमुदाय पुरस्कार (Darebin Community Awards) उदाहरणीय स्थानीय व्यक्तित्वहरूलाई सम्मान गर्ने तथा समुदायमा सकारात्मक परिवर्तन ल्याइरहेका व्यक्ति, समूह र संस्थाहरूको योगदानको कदर गर्ने अवसर हो। डारेबिनमा अर्थपूर्ण परिवर्तन ल्याइरहेका कसैको योगदानलाई जनसमुदायमा उजागर गर्ने यो अवसर नछुटाउनुहोस्। थप जानकारी प्राप्त गर्न तथा मनोनयन बुझाउन **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards** मा जानुहोस्।

ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਕਮਿਊਨਿਟੀ ਅਵਾਰਡ, ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਸਥਾਨਕ ਨਾਇਕਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਨਮਾਨ ਦੇਣ, ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਜ ਵਿੱਚ ਵਧੀਆ ਫਰਕ ਲਿਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿਅਕਤੀਆਂ, ਸਮੂਹਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੰਸਥਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਜਸ਼ਨ ਮਨਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਇੱਕ ਮੌਕਾ ਹੈ। ਡੈਰਾਬਿਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਫਰਕ ਲਿਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਵਡਿਆਈਆਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸਣ ਦਾ ਮੌਕਾ ਨਾ ਗੁਆਓ। ਵਧੇਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ ਅਤੇ ਨਾਮਜ਼ਦਗੀ ਜਮ੍ਹਾਂ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ, **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards** 'ਤੇ ਜਾਓ।

Los premios Darebin Community Awards son una oportunidad de reconocer a estos héroes locales y celebrar a personas, grupos y organizaciones que marcan una diferencia positiva. No deje pasar la oportunidad de destacar a alguien que marca una diferencia en Darebin. Para obtener más información y presentar una nominación, visite **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

Abaalmarinnada Bulshada ee Darebin waa fursad lagu aqoonsado geesiyaasha deegaanka laguna maamuuso shaqsiyaadka, kooxaha iyo ururrada saamaynta wanaagsan ku leh bulshada. Ha seegin fursadda aad ku muujin karto qof isbeddel wanaagsan ka sameynaya Darebin. Wixii macluumaad dheeraad ah iyo si aad qof u soo magacaabto, booqo **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

ڈیٹرین کمیونٹی ایوارڈز ہمارے علاقے کے ان ہیروز کی قدر افزائی کا طریقہ ہیں اور اس طرح ہم ان افراد، گروہوں اور تنظیموں کو خراج تحسین پیش کرتے ہیں جو اچھے اثرات مرتب کر رہے ہوں۔ ڈیٹرین میں اچھا کام کرنے والے کسی شخص کی قدر افزائی کا موقع ہاتھ سے نہ جانے دیں۔ مزید معلومات اور ایوارڈ کے لیے کسی شخص کو نامزد کرنے کے لیے **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards** دیکھیں۔

Các Giải thưởng Cộng đồng Darebin là cơ hội để vinh danh những người hùng địa phương và tôn vinh các cá nhân, nhóm và tổ chức góp phần tạo ra những thay đổi tích cực. Đừng bỏ lỡ cơ hội tôn vinh những người góp phần tạo nên sự khác biệt ở Darebin. Muốn biết thêm thông tin và gửi đơn đề cử, hãy truy cập **darebin.vic.gov.au/communityawards**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

It's been a busy few months for community engagement in Darebin, with residents helping shape a range of important projects across the municipality.

Right now, we're inviting residents, businesses and visitors to help shape the future of some of Darebin's most-loved shopping strips. If you live, work, own a business or shop in Reservoir Village, Preston Central, Northcote Rise or Fairfield Village, we'd love to hear from you.

Recently, we've asked for community feedback on initiatives including our 2025-26 Budget, the future use of John Cain Memorial Park, the development of our Disability Action Plan 2027-30, Events

Strategy and a half basketball court at Rubie Thomson Reserve.

As always, we have combined online engagement with face-to-face conversations, meeting people where they live, work and gather. Recent engagement activities have included pop-ups in parks, markets and sporting ovals, as well as workshops with members of our diverse community. This has included tailored sessions with Greek, Mandarin and Vietnamese-speaking community members to ensure a broad range of voices are heard.

To stay up to date on these projects visit yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au



Have your say before 14 September at yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/shoppingstrips

UNDERSTANDING YOUR RATES

Darebin 2026-27 Rate and Valuation notices were issued in August, with the first instalment due on 30 September.

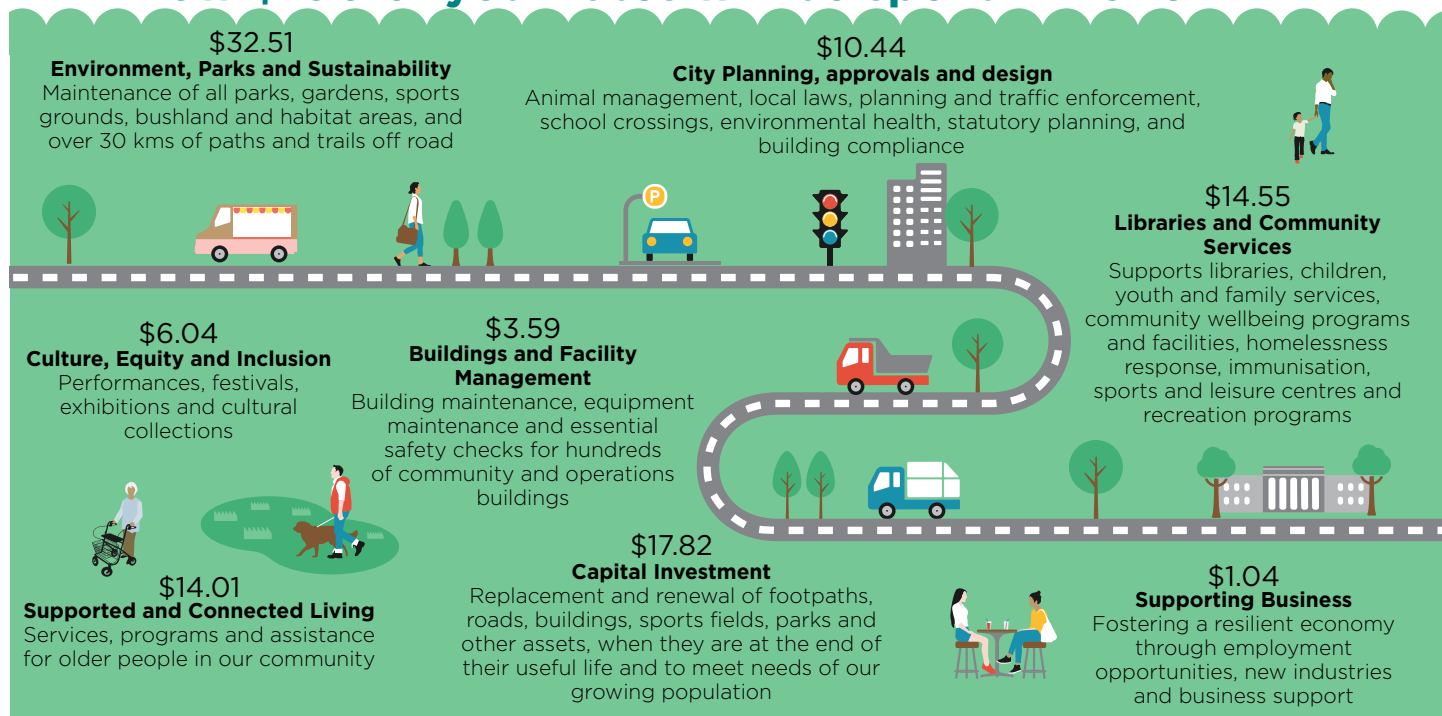
Rates help fund more than 100 essential services across Darebin, from roads, parks and libraries to waste collection, leisure centres and community programs. Your rates notice may also

include charges and levies that Council collects on behalf of the Victorian Government. Council rates revenue is used to directly fund many of the local services, facilities and infrastructure relied on by the Darebin community.

The image below shows how every \$100 collected in rates will be invested across Council services this year.

Your rate notice includes information about your property's valuation and the amount you need to pay. If you'd like to know more about how your rates are calculated, how the rate cap works, or explore payment options and available support, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/rates

How \$100 of your rates will be spent in 2026-27



DAREBIN COMMUNITY GRANTS — BUILDING CONNECTIONS, SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

Darebin is home to many groups and organisations making incredible contributions to our community. And we're proud to support them, and projects that make a real difference, through our Community Grants program.

In the Loop is a local group of knitters who come together fortnightly at Preston Library to knit for others. For In the Loop, the support of an Older and Active Community Grant has enabled the group to source materials and equipment to create knitted treasures for the community.

For Facilitator Angela, the social aspect of the group is important. 'But more important,' says Angela, 'is the work we've been able to gift to the community: comfort dolls for local children; chemo caps (for those undergoing cancer treatment) and blankets

for the Oncology unit at Sunshine Western Health.'

Ed is the Chair of Dadfit, an exercise and wellbeing program that aims to support dads and build their parenting skills and social connectedness.

'We used a Darebin Community Grant to run our first five-year program, and the response was overwhelming,' says Ed. 'It's been terrific connecting with a real diverse group of other dads and helping them to grow their dad skills.'

'I definitely encourage other community groups to apply for a grant. We wouldn't be here without the support of the council, and it's these grants that help new programs get started and build the community that we all want share.'



Apply for a multi-year grant — closing 30 September

Darebin's multi-year grants are open until 30 September, providing three-year funding for organisations with projects supporting the Darebin community.

For more information and to see the current grants open for applications, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-grants

SPACES AT DAREBIN INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

Darebin Intercultural Centre is a welcoming place where people can come together, connect with others, and take part in community activities, programs, events, and conversations.

Use our space!

There are various rooms available at Darebin Intercultural Centre that you can hire for events, workshops or similar.

Inspections can be arranged by appointment between 10am–4pm, Monday to Friday.

Find out about the spaces for hire and submit a booking enquiry form at darebin.vic.gov.au/IC-spaces-for-hire

For more information, email intercultural@darebin.vic.gov.au

Located at 350 High Street, Preston and open for programs on weekdays from 10am–4pm. Please ring the doorbell for access.



Coming up at the IC

Spring School Holiday Programs

- **22 September**
Shēng: Let's Meet Zhulong! (Chinese Mythology)
- **23 September**
Wurundjeri Storytime
- **2 October**
Mooncake (月饼)
Tasting and Bubble Tea Making for Teens

November
Therapeutic Collage Workshop Series

2 December
Weaving Against Violence

Stay up to date with everything happening at the IC! Subscribe to the IC e-newsletter at darebin.vic.gov.au/subscribe-to-IC-eneews

MAKING WAVES TOGETHER



Volunteer Elise helps children build confidence and water safety skills through RLC's Access & Inclusion Preschoolers Swim Program.

At Reservoir Leisure Centre, Darebin's Access & Inclusion Preschoolers Swim Program is helping young children of all abilities build confidence, develop essential water skills, and experience the joy of swimming in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Designed for preschool-aged children and their parent or carer, the play-based program encourages families to learn together. Through games, exploration and gentle guidance, participants build confidence in the water during engaging 45-minute sessions while developing skills they can continue practising beyond the pool.

At the heart of the program is Autism Swim-accredited teacher Tess and passionate volunteer Elise, who make a fantastic team. Together, they create a fun, inclusive and nurturing environment where every child is encouraged to learn at their own pace.

As the program's only volunteer, Elise has earned the trust and appreciation of families

and staff through her warm, patient and caring approach.

"Elise helps children feel safe to explore, play and celebrate every milestone no matter how big or small," says Tess.

For Elise, volunteering is about giving back to a program that has positively impacted her own family.

"I've seen first hand the confidence and joy my own children have gained through swimming lessons at Reservoir Leisure Centre, and it means a lot to be able to give back," she says.

"It's incredibly rewarding to help other families experience that same sense of safety, joy and discovery in the water."

If you or someone you know may be interested in participating, please email swim.school@darebin.vic.gov.au or call (03) 9496 1050 to register your interest and stay informed about future program dates.

To discover more Get Active in Darebin programs and activities, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/get-active

BE PART OF DAREBIN'S ZINE SCENE AT NORTHCOTE LIBRARY

If you love comics, zines, storytelling or drawing, don't miss the Ink Blood Comics workshops for young people at Darebin Libraries.

Ink Blood Comics began three years ago when two Northcote High School students, Harrison and Miles, decided to form a comics club for interested students. What started as a Year 10 passion project has grown into a creative collective of writers, artists and editors who have produced seven volumes of the Ink Blood Comic.

In the words of organiser Ink Blood Boy, 'Ink Blood Comics is a local indie comic magazine made and run by a growing team of young artists. It's our goal to release strange comics that we think you'll enjoy — and to foster a space for young artists and writers from any skill level or background to be part of a community of artists and work on something together.'

The Ink Blood workshops are facilitated by young people for young people. They offer a welcoming space to explore graphic storytelling, zine-making, and both digital and traditional art techniques.

Ink Blood Boy encourages Darebin young people to learn more and get involved. 'If you want to read some of our stuff, all our issues can be accessed at Darebin Libraries branches.'

'And if you're interested in joining our team, we'd love to have you! Our next event is at Northcote Library on 13 of November, so feel free to say hi, and join us to have a cup of tea and do some drawing.'



Ink Blood's workshops at Northcote Library have been very popular.

Find Ink Blood session details and register on the Darebin Libraries events page: libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au

LARA AND LUNA — DAREBIN'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVENTURERS

Introducing a new comic series, created by local artist Candela Alconada, sharing ways you can save energy around your home or business.

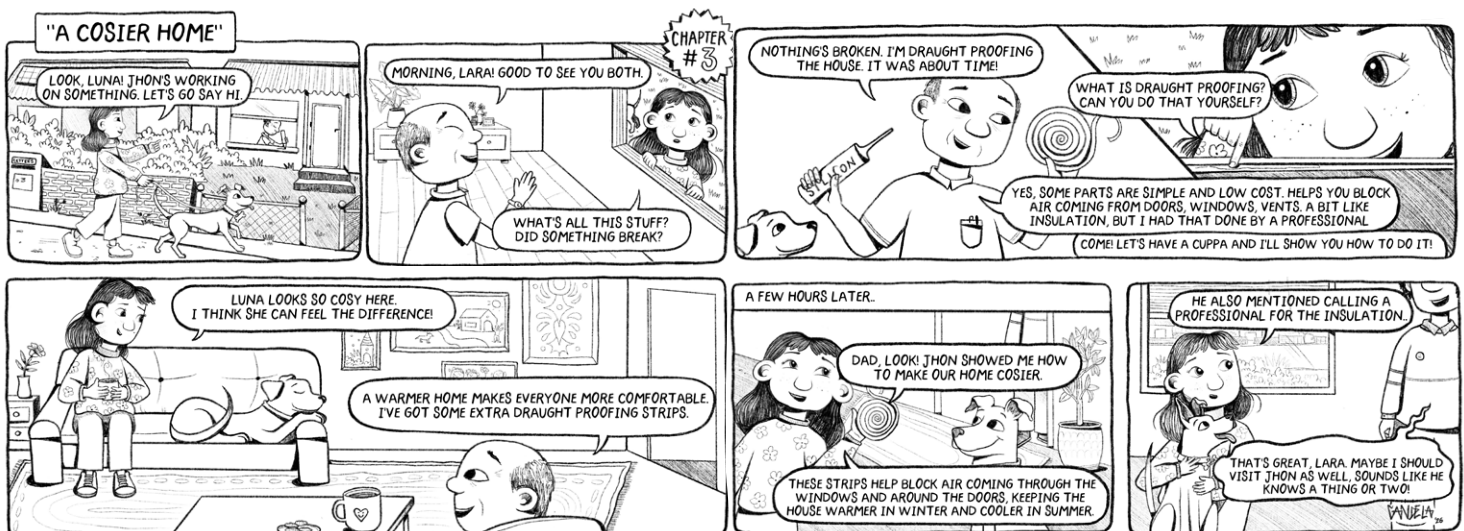
Keep an eye out at your local Darebin library for copies of more adventures of Lara and her dog Luna.

And if you've been thinking of upgrading your home or business to be efficient and electric, the Darebin

Energy Upgrades Program makes it easier to switch.

Register to access expert advice and receive a no-obligation quote. Limited rebates are available for eligible participants.

Register now at darebinenergyupgrades.org.au



ہماری سالانہ اور مستقبل قریب میں آنے والی تقریبات کے لئے darebin.vic.gov.au/events پر جائیں

Hãy xem các sự kiện hàng năm và sắp tới của chúng tôi tại darebin.vic.gov.au/events

WHAT'S ON



Darebin FUSE Festival 5-13 September at venues across Darebin

Darebin FUSE Festival is back this September, set to light up the municipality with ten days of non-stop creative activity! Enjoy live music, cultural experiences, hands-on workshops, family activities, installations, dance and more, across Darebin's iconic arts venues. All activities are either free or low cost.

At the heart of the festival are eight programs curated by Darebin Arts, celebrating a broad range of artforms and designed with every age group in mind. These include the festival opening event, Ganbu Gulin, a celebration of the contemporary artistic practices of First Nations peoples across music and art; THE CUBE, a weekend of interactive creative activities at Preston Market; a curated program of Film Sessions at the Thornbury Picture House; and a special edition of PBS' classic kid-friendly concert Rock-A-Bye Baby.

The festival also features 19 multi-arts events presented by local producers, venues and artists and supported by Darebin's Community Events Grant program, and a selection of Open Access events across the municipality.

View the full program at
arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/fuse



Spring School Holidays in Darebin: Fun for all ages

The spring school holidays are just around the corner (21 September–2 October), 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.

Full program of events:
darebin.vic.gov.au/School-Holidays



NARC is turning 3!

Join us to celebrate 3 years of Northcote Aquatic & Recreation Centre—and 58 years of community connection! Enjoy free entry, fun activities, live music, food, drinks and more.

Sunday 15 November 12–4pm

**Northcote Aquatic & Recreation
Centre, 180 Victoria Rd,
Northcote**

Register to attend at darebin.vic.gov.au/narc-birthday-party



October is Seniors Month

In line with the theme, Connect—Create—Celebrate, Darebin will come alive with events that recognise the valuable contributions of older adults to our community

There will be a wide range of workshops, come-and-try sessions, and opportunities to get active, learn something new, and connect with others.

To find out what's on across Darebin, pick up your free copy of the Springtime Community Events brochure at your local customer service centre or download a digital version at darebin.vic.gov.au/seniors-month

Join us for the Seniors Festival Kick-off Event at Preston Market!

Thursday 1 October 11am–1pm

Preston Market, Centreway

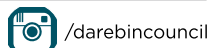
Bring your friends and family to enjoy live entertainment and fun activities at the Preston Market.

Plus — Free Public Transport for Seniors!

Victorian Seniors Card holders can enjoy nine days of free public transport from 3–11 October 2026. This includes all metropolitan services, V/Line trains and coaches, and selected regional buses outside the Myki-enabled area.

For details, visit seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/nine-days-free-public-transport

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



CITY OF DAREBIN

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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

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