

MARIBYRNONG

MESSENGER



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL

Summer 2016 | www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



**ADRIAN
HEALY**
MORE THAN
MEETS THE EYE

BUMPER FESTIVE
SEASON LINE-UP

MEET YOUR
COUNCILLORS

WHAT'S ON IN
MARIBYRNONG

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is a great honour to have been elected as Mayor, in this first term of office for our new Council, and I look forward to working with our new Councillors.

We are a Council of five women and two men. That's already a progressive step, to have increased the number of women elected.

The diversity of our Council is a reflection of the diversity within Maribyrnong. We've got a great representation when it comes to gender, age, nationalities, life experiences, single parents, couples and singles.

We're here to look after every member of our community and many of us have identified similar needs that we'd like to address on behalf of the community.

We're here to build trust and to make decisions with you, to listen, and to collaborate. It's so important that we all work together to maintain a high level of service delivery as well as calling for improvements at State and Federal level.

We're not here to just make statements. We know that actions speak louder than words and we will deliver results.

Let's listen to each other, to the experts and talk to State and Federal governments to create real change.

This is our last edition of Maribyrnong Messenger for the year so I'd like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very happy and safe holiday season.

It's a wonderful time of year to spend with family and friends and there is plenty going on in our City to keep you entertained. Whether it's Carols in the Gardens, Fireworks in Footscray Park, attending one of our many festivals or simply sitting by the riverside – there's always lots to do.

Merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Cr Catherine Cumming
– Mayor



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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

December: Tuesday 13, 6.30pm Ordinary Council
February: Tuesday 21, 6.30pm Ordinary Council

Meetings are held at Maribyrnong Council Offices, cnr Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray.

Please visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/meetings or phone **9688 0200** for more information.

NYE FIREWORKS & STAGE SENSATIONS LIGHT-UP FOOTSCRAY PARK

Festival City's New Year's Eve spectacular fireworks event returns to Footscray Park for a fourth year.

Kicking off at 6.30pm, this special event is the second largest New Year's Eve event in Victoria (second only to the City of Melbourne), drawing thousands to the banks of the iconic Maribyrnong River.

An on-stage line up will feature everything from children's music to contemporary acts which will get the whole crowd up and dancing. Bring a picnic rug and enjoy the fun. There will be food trucks on hand offering a variety of different cuisines. Settle in for an amazing fireworks display which will illuminate the sky from 9.30pm.

For event details, directions and transport information, visit festivalcity.com.au

Saturday 31 December, 6.30 – 10.30pm,
Footscray Park, Ballarat Road, Footscray

THE LINE UP

EMCEE TEGAN HIGGINBOTHAM

Tegan Higginbotham is a multi-talented comedian, actor and writer. She has a regular presence on television and is a veteran performer at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.



HORNS OF LEROY

Inspired by the flavours of New Orleans to Fitzroy, this punked-out seven piece street band take brass band music to a whole new level. From humble beginnings, the band has evolved from playing the streets of Melbourne to some of the biggest festivals and stages across the country.



THE MUDCAKES

The Mudcakes perform original songs that celebrate the delicious ups and downs of family life. Their quirky, funny and interactive stage show will have everyone up and dancing.



MENTAL AS ANYTHING

Mental As Anything's music is characterised by poppy, accessible and well-crafted melodies and lyrics. They are a typically "Australian" rock group, with their music and their satirical, good-time image deeply rooted in the milieu of Australian suburbia. Their classic pop meets new wave music is typically delivered with a quirky, ironic sense of humour and a decidedly local flavour.

KING BELL AND SOUKOUS BA CONGO

Drawing on the passion of Congolese dance music and irresistible Cuban rhythms, King Bell and Soukous Ba Congo deliver a powerful, upbeat and energetic performance that is guaranteed to lift the spirits of the audience.

A MAN OF A

He's protected the Queen, took former US President Bill Clinton golfing and climbed Mount Everest – introducing Inspector Adrian Healy, whose latest adventure is discovering the diversity of the City of Maribyrnong while keeping the peace.

Insp Healy has long been a huge fan of the restaurant and café scene in the City of Maribyrnong – even before he joined Footscray Police in June 2015.

"I loved visiting Footscray to dine," Insp Healy said. "I enjoy Indian and Vietnamese food and have been getting to know some of the great African eateries in Nicholson Street, Footscray."

He's also keen to get to know and to understand the various cultural groups that give the municipality its eclectic vibe.

He's been working with African communities, organising forums attended by African leaders from across the west.

"The forums were initiated by both Police and the African communities," he said. "African leaders have been justifiably concerned about negative portrayal of their communities by the media. The leaders feel that their communities' achievements and contributions are overshadowed when the media focuses solely upon the actions of an unrepresentative few."

"We were keen to spread accurate messages whilst also helping new and emerging communities to integrate into the wider community."

It's the diversity of roles offered within the organisation and the opportunity to work with the community that encouraged Insp Healy to enrol with Victoria Police.

After initially performing general duties, he was a detective for seven years investigating serious crime. He then moved to the Critical Incident Response Team as a supervising Sergeant. The position was varied and included dignitary protection.

“Dignitary protection was very interesting. I met the Queen and organised security for Bill Clinton’s visit, he’s pretty amazing – he has an aura as a leader that I’ve never seen before.”

Insp Healy laughs describing Clinton's last day in Melbourne, when the former President asked to play a game of golf before his flight out of Australia.

Rather than play at one of Melbourne's premier courses, the party preferred a quick round of golf on a course close to the airport. "My team contacted golf courses in the west but we couldn't be accommodated (we couldn't divulge the booking was for the ex-President). Thankfully, we were able to secure a course in Point Cook where the staff and management were elated to receive extraordinary exposure to the former US President."

The US Secret Service appreciated the effort and sent Victoria Police an open letter thanking Insp Healy and the team for their support on the Clinton visit.

Some of his experiences are more haunting. Insp Healy ran the command post in Strathewen in the aftermath of the Black Saturday fires.

"We had to locate the remains and trace DNA records of those caught in the Strathewen fires," he said. "It was quite difficult for the search crews."

He has worked as the Risk Manager for Victoria Police as well as managing sectors of the recruit training at the Police Academy. "Developing and shaping the staff of the future is one of my most rewarding experiences."

The change in the diversity of the organisation is also a highlight for him. "I recall Christine Nixon was not too long ago much maligned for supporting Police to march in the Pride March on duty. Fast forward to today and we have Police executives tripping over themselves to participate."

Inspector Healy was thrilled to be amongst Victoria Police's representatives at the inaugural international conference for LGBTQ criminal justice professionals in Amsterdam in 2016.

"It was a fantastic opportunity to observe the changing face of criminal justice and law enforcement professionals throughout the world," he said. "The conference was a celebration of how far many countries have come, but a sober reminder that discrimination and violence remain serious obstacles to diversity throughout the world."

To take his mind off the job Insp Healy enjoys volunteering, sports and travelling.

He volunteers on a regular basis at Fairshare, preparing meals that are provided to Food Bank in Yarraville and then distributed to needy Victorians.

"It's about contributing to a good cause," Insp Healy said. "That might sound corny, but it's true."

He is a long serving committee person for an Alpine Club in the Mount Buller region. He also likes a variety of sports including skiing, hiking and has trekked to base camp on Mount Everest.

“It was exhilarating, I would do it again,” he says of the experience. “I love adventure holidays and road trips.”

His road trips include travelling Eastern Europe and the US west coast and central US.

Insp Healy's choices have taken him far away from the farm he grew up on in Ouyen (near Mildura) and his initial career in horticulture.

It is his love of diversity that brought him to the City of Maribyrnong – he's here to work with residents and organisations to increase their sense of safety and provide proactive policing, so that everyone enjoys the Festival City just as much as he does.

MEET YOUR Councillors



MAYOR COUNCILLOR CATHERINE CUMMING Stony Creek Ward

Cr Cumming is returning as a Councillor, she commenced her first term at the City of Maribyrnong in 1997. She's been a Deputy Mayor and was Mayor in 2012-13. A mother to five children, she is a doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine and also has a Diploma of Business Management.

Cr Cumming will work towards removing graffiti and dumped rubbish, greening and improving

parks, increasing safety by working with local police, increasing the number of childcare and kindergarten places and redeveloping sports pavilions and facilities. She also has a keen interest in affordable sustainable housing and in growing local festivals to increase opportunities for the community to engage.



DEPUTY MAYOR COUNCILLOR SARAH CARTER River Ward

Cr Carter is a returning Councillor to the City of Maribyrnong, first elected in 2008 and Mayor in 2011. She was one of LeadWest's Council Members between January 2011 and 2015 and is presently Manager for the Australian Aid and Parliament Project at Save the Children Australia. Cr Carter had previously worked as Public Relations Coordinator for Westgate Community Initiatives Group Inc, Open Family Australia and Whitelion as their Manager of Government Relations and Communications.

She has also been a member of LeadWest's Finance Committee, a committee member of the Victorian Local Governance Association, the Youth Leadership and Advisory Committee, the Board of Western Melbourne Tourism and the Highpoint Structure Plan Project Advisory Committee and the Roadsafes Westgate Community Road Safety Committee. Cr Carter has been Council's Gender Equity Ambassador since 2011 and she is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

COUNCILLOR SIMON CRAWFORD Yarraville Ward

Cr Crawford is undertaking his first term as a Councillor. He works in the City of Wyndham in recreation and is also completing his Master of Business Administration (MBA). He has two young children and encourages residents to be more active, in addition to working towards increasing initiatives that protect the environment.

Cr Crawford aims to work towards increasing cycling infrastructure, reducing trucks on local streets, introducing more effective and efficient waste management initiatives, boosting green initiatives such as providing more open space and ensuring Council governance is transparent and accountable.

COUNCILLOR GINA HUYNH River Ward

Cr Huynh is undertaking her first term as a Councillor. She was born and raised in the City of Maribyrnong with two sisters by a single mother who owns a small business in Footscray and was also a Vietnamese refugee. Cr Huynh is a student at Deakin University studying a Bachelor of Laws, in addition to working part-time as a Pharmacy Assistant.

Cr Huynh recognises that the City of Maribyrnong is progressively growing and aims to work towards increasing the number of bicycle lanes, recycling bins and public restrooms in the municipality. She also would like to see increased sports facilities (indoors and outdoors), more open spaces, updated playgrounds and childcare centres.

COUNCILLOR CUC LAM Stony Creek

Cr Lam is returning as a Councillor to the City of Maribyrnong, she served from 2000-2003. She has worked with the Department of Human Services and other government departments for over 26 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts, Diploma of Ethnic Studies and a number of other qualifications. She is presently the School Council President of the Western English Language School and an advisor for health organisations such as Western Health. She moved to Melbourne in 1978 after escaping Vietnam as a refugee with her husband.

Cr Lam will work towards creating safer and cleaner neighbourhoods; supporting sporting, community groups and local businesses; providing improved street lighting and a balanced budget.

COUNCILLOR MIA MCGREGOR Yarraville Ward

Cr McGregor is undertaking her first term as a Councillor. She studied law and has a post graduate degree in Psychology. Her background includes working in mental health, law, human resources and volunteer management and training. Cr McGregor also founded the West Welcome Wagon, a volunteer-run registered charity, working to support thousands of asylum seekers in Melbourne's West.

Cr McGregor aims to improve neighbourhoods with increased investment in graffiti removal, rubbish collection, increased parking and would like to see truck-free local

streets. She also will work towards promoting residents views, increasing community solidarity by reducing disadvantage and supporting the growth of businesses and diversity.

COUNCILLOR MARTIN ZAKHAROV Yarraville Ward

Cr Zakharov is a returning Councillor to the City of Maribyrnong. He's been a Councillor for eight years and is also a professional musician (saxophone and woodwinds) and a secondary school instrumental music teacher.

He's been involved in several community groups and activities over the years including the Yarraville Festival, Seddon Festival, Skyhigh, MTAG, Friends of Stony Creek, Kingsville Carols and Yarraville Carols among others. He is also on the executive of the Melbourne branch of the Musicians Union of Australia.

Cr Zakharov will work towards improving parks while on Council. This includes the installation of new 'pop up' parks and better bicycle infrastructure and is passionate about improving public transport infrastructure, providing more youth and aged services and more support and infrastructure to support arts and culture.

From left to right:
Cr. Simon Crawford
Cr. Gina Huynh
Cr. Cuc Lam
Cr. Mia McGregor
Cr. Martin Zakharov





A CELEBRATION 62 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Melbourne's west became a sea of red, white and blue when our beloved Western Bulldogs ended a 62-year Premiership drought to claim victory over the Sydney Swans in the AFL Grand Final.

Homes, businesses and public property were adorned with the Club's colours to show their support. Columns at Footscray Town Hall were transformed into 6 metre pillars of red, white and blue and libraries across the City were also draped in the Club's colours.

The day after the historic win, more than 20,000 fans descended on Whitten Oval to celebrate what has been an incredible season for the club.

"Maribyrnong City Council and our entire community is incredibly proud and delighted to welcome the Premiership Cup back home to the West after sixty-two years!" said Mayor Catherine Cumming.

"The Premiership Cup is back where it belongs! We will continue to celebrate what a truly historic year it has been for the Western Bulldogs – with Premiership wins in the men's and women's AFL and the VFL.

"It's fantastic to see the amount of red, white and blue in the West and we look forward to another record-breaking season in 2017!"





SAIGON WELCOME ARCH OPENS IN FOOTSCRAY

The magnificent Saigon Welcome Arch has opened in the heart of Footscray, becoming an iconic landmark that will welcome everyone to the City of Maribyrnong.

A collaboration between Council, State Government and the community, the arch celebrates the rich and diverse contribution that the Vietnamese community has had in Victoria, particularly in Footscray where traditional and contemporary Vietnamese culture thrive.

Council worked closely with the community and the design team which included architects McBride Charles Ryan and artist Khue Nguyen. The arch features a pair of Vietnamese lac birds alongside other motifs that resonate with Vietnamese culture such as the shell of the turtle, bronze drum, the boat and the egg.

"The combination of two birds coming together signifies that wherever Vietnamese people are in the world, we unite to protect and promote our culture," said Ms Vivian Nguyen, President of the Vietnamese Community in Australia (VCA) Victorian Chapter.

The Saigon Welcome Arch has been over 20 years in the making, inspired by the first generation of Vietnamese Australians who were determined and committed to expressing their gratitude for their new home in Footscray.

"There is much to be proud of in this Arch. Inspired by the first generation, collaborated by the second generation and the entire community for the benefit of all, the Arch incorporates all the key elements of the Vietnamese culture, history and our sense of pride.

“ We are very happy with the final result – a symbol of enduring power, harmony and friendship which can now be enjoyed by all members of Maribyrnong’s diverse community. ”
said Ms Nguyen.

The Little Saigon precinct itself is an important cultural icon in the City of Maribyrnong and reflects the City's vibrant multicultural history. Other projects in the substantial redevelopment of the precinct include a ground-floor retail and multi-level car park development, a public plaza, more street trees and streetscape improvements.



MELBOURNE RENEGADES RETURN TO MARIBYRNONG THIS SUMMER!

Calling all cricket fans – see your favourite cricket players first hand when the Melbourne Renegades step up to the crease this summer at our third annual Family Day and Practice Match.

The Melbourne Renegades boast a line-up of renowned players, including Captain Aaron Finch, who currently holds the T20 world record for most runs made in a single innings.

The club will play their final practice match before the commencement of the 2016/2017 KFC T20 Big Bash League at Merv Hughes Oval this December.

Bring the family down to watch these Aussie heroes in action, and keep the children entertained with plenty of family fun around the pitch. The 'Active Area' will feature a Nickleodean course, face painting, music, an interactive cricket skills zone for kids, player signing opportunities and plenty of giveaways. There will be plenty of delicious food options available, so make sure you bring your appetite too.

This is the third year that the T20 practice match has been played in the City of Maribyrnong and the Melbourne Renegades can't wait for the family day.

"We're looking forward to getting back to Maribyrnong again in December for the club's family day. It has really built up some momentum over the last couple of years and it's great to have so much local support as we prepare for the Big Bash League season ahead," Aaron Finch said.

"It's a great family atmosphere and we look forward to seeing as many locals as possible at Merv Hughes Oval," he continued.

The free event, being held on Sunday 18 December from 11am – 4pm at Merv Hughes Oval is open to the entire Maribyrnong community and beyond.

Melbourne Renegades Family Day and Practice Match

Sunday 18 December, 11am – 4pm

Merv Hughes Oval, Farnsworth Ave, Footscray

No entry charge, free on site parking

Family day activities: 11am – 4pm

Melbourne Renegades Practice Match

Main Event: 12:30pm

For more information about the Melbourne Renegades Family Day and Practice Match, visit melbournerenegades.com.au/familyday



WESTERN BULLDOGS

The Western Bulldogs will play host to a youth leadership camp at the end of January, aimed at inspiring, educating and mentoring young people to become social leaders in their community.

Camp Bulldog is open to all children across Melbourne aged 10 – 14, who are interested in developing their leadership skills in an encouraging, rewarding and fun environment.

The Camp will run from Monday 23 January to Wednesday 25 January during school holidays and will feature three days of activities, meals, support from inspiring camp leaders and sessions with both the Western Bulldogs men's and women's players.

Activities include team building, games, workshops and a visit to the home of the Western Bulldogs at Victoria University Whitten Oval.

The program aims to provide an inclusive and supportive environment for young people to develop life skills that will assist them in their journey to becoming community leaders. It will promote respect, diversity, teamwork and encouragement. Camp Bulldog will provide a pathway to the Western Bulldogs youth leadership program The Whitten Project, a six-month program for 15 and 16-year-olds in Melbourne's west.

For more information on Camp Bulldog or to book a place for your child contact adam.moedt@westernbulldogs.com.au



WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

FESTIVAL CITY

Albanian Festival

11 December 2016
Yarrville Gardens

Experience a taste of Albanian culture, food and music as part of the Albanian Community Festival – moving to Yarrville Gardens for the first time in its 25 year history bringing with it all the colour, culture and excitement of the day.

Festive Season

Dec 2016 – Jan 2017
Various locations

Celebrate the festive season with a jam-packed program of special family-friendly events including outdoor Twilight Movies Under the Stars, Carols in Yarrville Gardens, colourful projections and more.



Carols in Yarrville Gardens



17 December 2016
Yarrville Gardens

Bring a picnic, family and friends to help celebrate the 23rd Yarrville Carols in the beautiful Yarrville Gardens. Showcasing performances by the Footscray-Yarrville City Band, a mass choir and local community performers. The special night will include popular MC Kevin Harrington, a guest appearance by Santa and a show-stopping fireworks display.

NYE Fireworks in Footscray Park

31 December 2016

Ring in the New Year with a night full of free entertainment, including live stage performances, carnival rides for the kids, food trucks and an exhilarating early fireworks display. The 2016 line-up includes Rock icon 'Mental As Anything'; family-favourite 'The Mudcakes'; 'Horns of Leroy' – a seven-piece brass funk band; and 'King Bell and the Soukous Ba Congo' – a spectacular African dance act. And emcee, comedian Tegan Higginbotham, is sure to put smiles on faces.

Wominjeka

14 – 22 January 2017
Footscray Community Arts Centre

Celebrate Indigenous arts and culture with iconic performances, music, theatre, visual arts and workshops.

Stony Creek Music Festival on Australia Day



26 January 2017
McNish Reserve, Yarrville

Celebrate Australia Day with this jam-packed free music festival which features talented local acts and children's entertainment, a Welcome to Country and indigenous performances.

Quang Minh Tet Festival

28 January 2017
Quang Minh Temple, Braybrook

Celebrate the Lunar New Year at one of the largest Buddhist Temples in the Southern Hemisphere, with performances, chants and delicious vegetarian food.

St Jerome's Laneway Festival



28 Jan 2017
Footscray Community Arts Centre

Head to the banks of the Maribyrnong to enjoy one of Australia's premier music festivals, featuring international artists and bands.

Team Melbourne Sports Festival – Midsumma

4 February 2017
Various locations

Team Melbourne brings together the GLBTIQ sporting community for the ultimate "come and try" day.

Yarraville Festival

12 February 2017

An annual event in the heart of Yarraville since 1981 providing entertainment and activities for locals and visitors of all ages.

MARIBYRNONG LIBRARIES

Author Event – Maria Katsonis

Wednesday
1st February at 6pm
Footscray Library

Maria Katsonis, author of *The Good Greek Girl*, will visit Footscray Library to speak about her newly published book *Rebellious Daughters*, a collection of true stories by some of Australia's most talented female writers. Maria will also officially launch the Maribyrnong Library Service Proud As Book Group.

Conversation Café

1st and 3rd Thursday of each month during school terms at 2pm
Footscray Library

Come along to Footscray Library to meet new friends, practice your English conversation skills and participate in intercultural

conversations. If you are new to Australia, learning English, enjoy good conversation or would like to help others learn, then the Conversation Café is for you.

Story Island

10 February – 25 March 2017
Braybrook Library

Enjoy the magical world of children's book illustrations in Story Island! This travelling exhibition features some of Australia's favourite children's book illustrators and authors. Foster a lifelong love of books and reading by spending some time looking at and talking about the pictures and stories. Be inspired to find other wonderful children's books while this exhibition is visiting the Braybrook library.

This free exhibition is a joint initiative of State Library Victoria and Public Libraries Network.

YOUTH EVENTS

Girl Power Party

Friday 16 December at 5-8.30pm
Phoenix Youth Hub

Get your KAPOW! on and dress up as your favourite female artist and party with female DJ's, karaoke, circus arts, singers and dancers, photo booths, table tennis games and tasty Mexican food!

Prizes for the best costumes. Free. For all young women 12-25 years of age.

For more information, visit www.phoenixyouth.com.au

Movie Night at the Braybrook Hub

Friday 16 December, 5pm

Enjoy a free screening of *He Named Me Malala*, a documentary film about young Pakistani female activist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, who has spoken out for the rights of girls, especially the right to education.

FITNESS AND LEISURE EVENTS

Melbourne Renegades Family Day and Practice Match

Sunday 18 December at 11am-4pm

Merv Hughes Oval,
Farnsworth Avenue
Footscray

See your favourite cricket players first hand when the Melbourne Renegades step up to the crease this summer at our third annual Family Day and Practice Match. Bring the family down to watch these Aussie heroes in action, and keep the children entertained with plenty of family fun around the pitch.

No entry charge, free parking on site.

For more information, visit melbournerenegades.com.au/familyday

Kids Holiday Program at MAC

Get your kids involved in sport, fun and fitness at MAC during the school holidays. Our instructors will take your kids for a fun and active experience in our sport and fitness program. Sessions include kid's gym, ball games, football clinics and more.

For more information, call Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre on **9032 4100**

MAC Boot Camp

Starts 16 January 2017

Experience a 45-minute boot camp session guaranteed to make you sweat, build strength and challenge you physically and mentally. Sessions include circuit training, boxing, kettlebell, battle rope, tyre training and more!

For more information, call Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre on **9032 4100**

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday 18 December
Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre

Celebrate Christmas with a splash at MAC with a visit from Santa, fun children's activities, pool inflatables and giveaways.

For more information, call Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre on **9032 4100**

FUN FOR YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Smiles and songs are enjoyed by the young and young at heart at the playgroup run from Baptcare Westhaven Community Aged Centre in Footscray, which is one of five supported playgroups run in the City of Maribyrnong.



Parents are delighted to give their children the opportunity to socialise, a particular treat for children who have grandparents living interstate or overseas, while youngsters respond affectionately towards their older friends.

The playgroup also gives residents at the centre a chance to interact with the youngsters and talk to parents, building a stronger sense of community for everyone involved in the program.

Centre resident Beth Murray said she loved to see the children running around and seeing the toys they play with.

“One of the little boys can’t decide if he wants to crawl or run! He does both well,” she laughed.

Resident Esther Kurne agreed, “I love to see the children playing with the toys, and talking to family that speaks Hindi.”

The playgroup based at Baptcare Westhaven Community Aged Centre is one of five new supported playgroups available to families in the City of Maribyrnong for children aged 0 – 4 years.

About supported playgroups

The five playgroups are run over the school term and are supported by a trained facilitator. They are funded by the Department of Education and Training in conjunction with the City of Maribyrnong, aiming to help families with young children who are also facing disadvantage. Given this focus, referral to a supported playgroup can be discussed with the Early Years team.

The facilitator of the playgroups use a range of simple, positive parenting strategies called Smalltalk. The Parenting Research Centre trialed these strategies with success and provide ongoing training and coaching to playgroup facilitators. Part of the facilitation encourages discussion where parents can learn to celebrate their parenting successes and develop their own parenting strategies to practice at home. Interpreters can also be used as required, without cost to the family.

The Supported Playgroups offer opportunities for participants to play, socialise and connect with their community. The program supports parents in their role and understanding of their child’s development and also offers them the opportunity to connect to others in the community. Parents who participate in the program also access other Early Years Services that may be required.

The Maribyrnong Supported Playgroups are held at the following times and locations:

TUESDAY 10AM – 12PM

Braybrook Community Hub
107-139 Churchill Avenue, Braybrook

WEDNESDAY 10AM – 12PM

West Footscray Neighbourhood House
539 Barkly Street, West Footscray

WEDNESDAY 1PM – 3PM

Maidstone Child and Family Centre
Corner Burns Street and Sonley Street,
Maidstone

THURSDAY 1PM – 3PM

Westhaven Community Aged Care
50 Pickett Street, Footscray

FRIDAY 10AM – 12PM

Braybrook Community Hub
107-139 Churchill Avenue Braybrook

For more information about supported playgroups, contact the Early Years Team on 03 9688 0200 or infoearlyyears@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC CENTRE

Make a splash these school holidays at MAC. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9-27 January, the pool inflatable will be available with every pool entry.

For more information and bookings with MAC programs, visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/mac

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisation is a simple way to protect children against certain diseases. Council provides families with an immunisation drop in service and an appointment service for babies and young children.

DEVELOPMENTAL CHECKS

You can track your child's early development with our experienced nurses at Council's Maternal and Child Health Centres across the city. Three and four year old developmental checks are important for accessing extra support services that can help your child.

NEW PARENTING GROUPS

Are you a new parent looking for information? Do you want to meet other new parents in your neighbourhood? There are many types of families in the City of Maribyrnong and all new parents are welcome to attend our sessions located at Council's Maternal and Child Health Centres across the city. For more information on MCH services, visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or ring **9688 0200**.

CENTRAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM (CRS) DROP IN SESSIONS

Council provides a Central Registration System (CRS) to register children in long day care, 3 and 4 year old Kindergarten. Council offers a "Drop In" service for families to meet with the CRS team and ask any questions you may have. No appointment required. Various times and location. For more information, email earlyyearscentralregister@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or ring **9688 0116**.

PHOENIX YOUTH HUB

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Phoenix Youth Hub is open from Monday to Friday throughout the Summer school holiday period for young people aged 12-25. The Hub is a fully supervised safe space for young people to come and hang out, get involved in some fun activities and meet some new people. With both indoor and outdoor spaces, young people can escape the heat and access our free computers, TV, Nintendo Wii and Xbox, Table Tennis, Art Studio, and cook in the fully equipped kitchen. Youth Workers are also around at all times for young people who need some extra support or someone to talk to. Tours of the Hub and the programs available are welcome at any time.

For more information, visit www.phoenixyouth.com.au, call **9091 4700** or search for 'Phoenix Youth' on Facebook.

YOUTH INTERNSHIPS INITIATIVE

Dedicated to creating and providing opportunities for young members of the local community, the Youth Internships Initiative (YII), allows young people to gain real, on the job experience and transferrable skills that are required for the workforce. The YII, run by Maribyrnong and Moonee Valley Local Learning and Employment Network (MMVLEN) is in its third year and has seen many successes in 2016.

Partnering with Maribyrnong City Council, two young people were able to complete their internships at Footscray Library and Parks and Open Spaces this year. On completion of the ten week internship, one intern stated "I have learnt more than I expected... I suggest this opportunity for young people because they are going to learn a lot."

MMVLEN, along with Maribyrnong City Council Youth Services, look forward to continuing to work together to provide more opportunities for young people to get experience in the workforce and receive support to gain employment.

If you are a young person or an employer interested in participating in YII, please contact the YII Project

Coordinator on **03 9376 7251** for more information.



WEST FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRE CELEBRATES ITS 10TH BIRTHDAY

In 2006, The West Footscray Community Learning Centre was built and open to the public. But the history of the community hub goes back much further than ten years.

Comprising of the West Footscray Library and the West Footscray Neighbourhood House, the innovative Community Learning Centre has been an integral resource for the community over the past ten years. The state of the art centre provides community members with access to a range of services in one central and convenient location.

But the original West Footscray Library was established in 1974, in a building that was donated to Maribyrnong City Council by the West Footscray Progress Association. The West Footscray Neighbourhood House was later established in 1989, and was previously found at 648 Barkly Street, West Footscray in a Council owned building.

After experiencing an exponential growth in usage over a number of years, it became obvious the West Footscray Library needed to grow to accommodate the growing number of visitors, and in 2002, it was decided that a new facility would be built on the Barkly Street site, incorporating the library and the neighbourhood house under the one roof. In late 2004, Whitefield McQueen Architects were appointed, and with the assistance of the Community Working Group (made up of local community members and Council representatives), construction of the new combined Community Learning Centre commenced in late 2005. The design, which reflects the physical characteristics, heritage and identity of West Footscray as a transport and industry hub, was created to be environmentally responsible.

Now, the West Footscray Community Learning Centre is home to an extensive library collection, a dedicated children's area, multicultural collections, community meeting and teaching spaces, a toy library, occasional care and comprehensive information technology equipment. Happy tenth birthday West Footscray Community Learning Centre!

MARIBYRNONG LIBRARIES

SO MUCH MORE THAN BOOKS!

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE SIGNING STATION

Need a document certified? Come along to the Document Signing Station at Footscray Library, to see a Justice of the Peace who is able to witness and certify documents.

**Second and fourth Friday of each month,
12pm – 2pm, Footscray Library.**

FUN-FILLED ONLINE LEARNING FOR KIDS

**busythings, Literacy Planet and Tumblebooks –
online learning resources for kids**

An award winning educational resource, busythings is a wonderfully quirky online learning centre for children of all ages. Filled with fun, humourous characters and lively colourful settings, children love to play the fun educational games and activities.

Encouraging the learning of essential English literacy skills through a motivational learning platform that is fun, compelling and addictive for students of all ages and ability, Literacy Planet puts the learning needs of every child firmly in the hands of those entrusted with their education.

Providing quality e-books for children that encourage and engage tech-savvy young readers, Tumblebook Library is an online collection of read-along books, with music and animation that your child can read along with.

All three online educational resources can now be accessed from home, using your library card.

For more information, visit

www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH AT BRAYBROOK LIBRARY

Come along to Braybrook Library and join our AMES English Conversation sessions for adult beginners. Practice your pronunciation, improve your conversation skills, expand your vocabulary and improve your listening skills in a friendly and social environment.

Groups are led by volunteer tutors. Register your interest by adding your name and contact details to the list at the Braybrook Library front desk.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fun, educational and free, Preschool Storytime can be a special moment to share with your child. All two to five year olds and their carers are welcome to join us each week for 45 minutes of stories, songs, rhymes, and a simple craft activity. Storytime provides your child with an introduction to a wide range of children's stories and books; the experience of meeting, socialising and sharing with other children; an opportunity to develop language and motor skills and a love and appreciation of books and libraries.

Storytime is held throughout the week at all Maribyrnong library branches during school terms:

Monday 11am Yarraville Library

Tuesday 11am West Footscray Library

Tuesday 2pm Braybrook Library,

Wednesday 11am Footscray Library

Thursday 11am Maribyrnong Library

Friday 11am West Footscray Library

CHRISTMAS CRAFT CLUB

Kids aged five to twelve years old are invited to come along to a fun after-school craft session for Christmas themed craft activities.

Wednesday 7 December,

4 – 5pm Braybrook Library

Wednesday 14 December,

4 – 5pm Footscray Library

Thursday 15 December,

4 – 5pm Maribyrnong Library

SUMMER READING CLUB

Get ready to unleash your imagination during the Heroes and Villains Reading Club. These summer school holidays, primary and secondary school students are encouraged to discover to heroes, villains, sidekicks and more. Register and collect an activity pack at any of the Maribyrnong Libraries to start reading, with great prizes to be won!

For more information, visit

www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library

ART PRIZE BRINGING THE WORK OF TALENTED ARTISTS TO THE WEST

Footscray is a thriving and innovative creative hub, and the inaugural Footscray Art Prize is set to enhance the west's enviable reputation as a centre of arts and culture.

Influenced by a rich industrial heritage and diverse multicultural community, Footscray is celebrated for its vibrancy, and has a growing reputation for being a hub for the arts, with a street culture like no other in Melbourne. Home to a wide variety of arts spaces, creative industries, festivals, and an eclectic mix of eateries, Melbourne's west is dynamic and progressive, with an arts scene that strives to reflect the narrative of our time.

Mary Long, owner of Post Industrial Design, a West Footscray store that showcases the work of local artists and designers, said that the inner west holds a strong appeal for artists.

'This area is eclectic, colourful and real – a kaleidoscope of cultures and a melting pot of opinions,' Mary said.

'There is a unity and sense of community unlike anything I have experienced in other inner city neighbourhoods. Artists are primarily observers and documenters of how they interpret the world around them, and the inner west offers a huge diversity to draw from. This is what draws artists to the

area – a consortium of colours, culture and difference that feeds into their creative process,' Mary continued.

To further support and foster the arts and creative industries in the area, Maribyrnong City Council, Victoria University, Footscray Community Arts Centre and the Rotary Club of Footscray have joined forces to promote creativity and celebrate contemporary art making with the inaugural Footscray Art Prize.

The Footscray Art Prize is a new visual art exhibition and competition that will showcase the talent and creativity of local and national artists. The prize consists of a \$10,000 main prize, along with special categories for street art, tertiary students and young artists.

Mary believes this prize is not only an amazing opportunity for local and national artists, but for the community as well.

“The Footscray Art Prize offers artists an opportunity to showcase their work and can play an important role in the trajectory of an artist's career, it helps to raise the profile of artists,” Mary said.

'As a national prize, it will attract artists and patrons from all over Australia. Hopefully, many will stay and sample our amazing array of food and experience our hospitality. It is exciting to have such an opportunity here in the West!' Mary continued

Entries for the Footscray Art Prize are now open and winning artists will be announced on 25 May, 2017. The exhibition for the Footscray Art Prize Main Prize, with selected pieces from the Tertiary and Young Artists Prizes will be open from 26 May to 24 June 2017 at Footscray Community Arts Centre. The Tertiary Prize will be exhibited at VU at Metro West from 26 May to 17 June 2017. The Young Artists Prize will be exhibited at the Bluestone Church Art Space on 20 – 21 May 2017. Various sites throughout Footscray will be used to showcase the Street Art category.

For more information, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/artsandculture



INFRASTRUCTURE

If you thought your neighbourhood was looking a little greener you would be right, this season more than 1,600 trees have been planted in streets throughout our City.

Our parks and open spaces have also experienced a green boost with 550 trees planted in our much loved public spaces.

We've also been turning soil on some refurbishment and redevelopment projects that will improve and update essential local infrastructure.

HANMER RESERVE PAVILION

The 2017 footy season is looking bright for the Western Regional Football Umpires Association who will benefit from current works at Hanmer Pavilion in Yarraville. The works include an extension to the rear of the pavilion and will provide new change rooms, amenities and storage facilities for the association. Works began on this project in October and are due for completion in May.

Budget: \$880k



ANGLISS RESERVE PAVILION

The Footscray Lacrosse Club and the Footscray ANA Cricket Club now have a new look home thanks to the recently completed Angliss Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment works. The two local clubs and their supporters will now enjoy new change rooms, DDA accessible toilets, a commercial kitchen and canteen and a lounge.

The works required the demolition of all internal walls and roof to make way for the new facilities. An access ramp has also been installed and a veranda now runs the full length of the building, making it the perfect spot to take in a game.

Budget: \$1.3m

NICHOLSON STREET MALL REFURBISHMENT

Footscray business owners and shoppers have been eagerly awaiting the reveal of ongoing upgrades to the heart of Footscray. New granite pavers are currently being added to the pedestrian area and the road surface between Barkly and Byron Streets will be asphalted.

This iconic Footscray landmark will be opened up with the removal of the raised central planter to make way for more events. Various new and renewed street furniture, lighting and trees will be incorporated into the project which is due for completion in May.

Budget: \$2m

RENEWING OUR ROADS

With kilometres of roads to take care of across the City two important areas have recently been given a much needed facelift.

Parts of Norfolk Street in Maidstone have been reconstructed and Pilgrim Street, from John to Windsor Streets, in Seddon is currently being rehabilitated to help improve access and update aging infrastructure.

Budget: \$1m





CREATING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Have you ever thought how much waste you create every day?
How about how much waste you have sent to landfill over the past year?
The answer might surprise you.



Australians are one of the highest waste producers in the world, each year we send millions of tons of waste into landfill, but it doesn't have to be this way.

We spoke to The Rogue Ginger, Erin Rhoads, about the Zero Waste movement and her commitment to helping others reduce their waste.

Erin was part of the impressive line up of passionate experts on hand at our recent Sustainability Expo to inspire and encourage participants to take action and help make a difference to our local environment.

After one year of living plastic free Erin decided to take it a step further, and go zero waste.

By striving to not send personal waste to landfill, reducing, reusing and choosing items she can compost, Erin can now hold the waste she has created since beginning this journey in one hand.

"I try to send no rubbish to landfill. Yep, nothing goes into a bin. I keep all my trash for two years in a jar," said Erin.

Through her pursuit to live a plastic free and zero waste life, Erin has learnt to eat real food, discovered new skills, cut down her exposure to harmful chemicals and found joy in moments over things.

"I gave up plastic and

reduced my rubbish, leading to a happier and healthier life," she said.

Erin said becoming a voice of the Zero Waste message happened by accident.

"The more people I have spoken to, the more I have come to realise that people are generally interested in reducing their rubbish," she said.

Making changes to your lifestyle can be tricky, but you don't have to do it all at once, don't underestimate the effect small changes can make.

"The smallest action can have a huge positive knock on effect. Any change you make has the ability to influence another, and another and another. A small stone can create a mighty ripple!"

When she is not sharing her message and helping others with strategies to reduce their waste, Erin enjoys getting back to nature and taking walks along the Maribyrnong River.

"In Canning Reserve I feel like I'm miles away from the city!" said Erin.

For more information on Zero Waste visit

therogueginger.com and to find out about upcoming sustainable events visit our website www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/enviro and subscribe to the [Sustainable Living Maribyrnong newsletter](#).



ERIN'S 10 EASY STEPS TO CREATING LESS TRASH:

- > Reduce, reuse and recycle
- > Don't drink or buy bottled water
- > Invest in reusable items rather single use items
- > Say NO to disposable items and products
- > Compost food waste
- > If you see rubbish, pick it up
- > Support local farmers and eat in season
- > Vote with your wallet
- > Educate your friends and community
- > Recycle and dispose of your electronics properly



CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH FABULOUS FAMILY EVENTS

'Tis is the season to be jolly, so grab your friends and family and get into the festive spirit with Maribyrnong City Council's free program of events.

Twilight Movies under the Stars

Pack a picnic and head to your local park to enjoy a free family-friendly movie:

HOME ALONE

Friday 16 December, Skinner Reserve, Braybrook

INSIDE OUT

Friday 13 January, Hansen Reserve, West Footscray

KUNG FU PANDA 3

Friday 20 January, Yarraville Gardens, Yarraville

Movies commence after dark at approximately 8.30pm.

Make your way to the park early to see a range of short films produced by local film makers in the West.

Supported by the Setting Sun Short Film Festival.



FESTIVAL CITY YARRAVILLE CAROLS IN THE GARDEN

Gather your family and friends and head to the beautiful Yarraville Gardens the 23rd Anniversary of the Yarraville Carols. Showcasing performances by internationally-acclaimed opera singers, the Footscray-Yarraville City Band, a mass choir and local community performers. The special night will include popular MC Kevin Harrington, a guest appearance by Santa and a show-stopping fireworks display.

Saturday 17 December, 7.00-10.15pm
Yarraville Gardens, Hyde Street, Yarraville

Christmas Morning Tea

Welcome in the festive season at Maribyrnong Community Centre's Annual Christmas Morning Tea. Enjoy wonderful Christmas Treats and great company.

Thursday 8 December, 10.30-11.30am

Maribyrnong Community Centre, 9 Randall Street, Maribyrnong

Twilight Maribyrnong Makers Market

Both Harris Reserve and the Seddon Uniting Church will play host to over 80 stall holders ranging from fabulous homewares and prints, delicious foods, on-trend jewels, cool kids wear and fashion accessories for women and men. It's a party atmosphere for everyone.

Thursday 15 December, 4.30-8.30pm

Seddon Uniting Church, Corner Gamon and Mackay Streets, Seddon

FESTIVE SEASON COMMUNITY LUNCH

Head to Braybrook Community Hub for a tasty festive lunch with your local community. Spaces are limited and registration is required for each week. For further information, please contact Braybrook Community Hub on 9188 5800

Wednesday 7, 14 and 21 December, 12.30-1.30pm

Braybrook Community Hub, Churchill Avenue, Braybrook.

Children's Christmas Party at MAC

Santa will also be paying a visit to the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre with free activities in the pool and giveaways.

**Sunday 18 December 2-4pm
Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre, Aquatic Drive**



PICNIC IN THE PARK

Celebrate the year's end with Maidstone's annual Picnic in the Park with a BBQ, children's entertainment and activities.

Friday 16 December, 6.00 – 8.00pm

Maidstone Community Centre – 21 Yardley Street, Maidstone.

DECORATIONS AND ROVING PERFORMERS

Keep an eye out from late November for Council's festive decorations around the City. Join in and decorate your own homes or businesses with lights or decorations and don't forget to shop locally and support your local retailers.

Look out for quirky festive Roving performers who are set to pop up around our City.

For all event details visit: www.festivalcity.com.au
#MyFestivalCity



DAS T-SHIRT AUTOMAT

281 BARKLY STREET FOOTSCRAY

Looking for something really different? Well maybe local business Das T-Shirt Automat might be able to help you out.

"We decided to do something fun for the Hispanic festival," said Ed Redman, co-owner of the business with John Mullany. "It was such a success, we just kept going."

Four years later, they have a thriving business with their latest shop in Footscray.

"We love Footscray, we think it's a great suburb," said Ed. "We wanted to open another shop. So, we went on Facebook and asked everyone to tell us where and nearly every answer was Footscray!"

Specialising in one off or short run T-shirts, they can turn one around in less than ten minutes.

They have a range of other things to have your design printed on, including hoodies, totes, tea towels and cushion covers. They even have onesies for the littlest member of the family. While they say they print on "baseball tees, singlets and kitchen sinks" we really do wonder about that kitchen sink.

"We'll print on almost anything. If we can fit it in the printer, we'll give it a go!" said Ed.

"So far we've printed on pillow cases, silk, tea towels and even a muumuu. We always like to check the materials first to be sure. We're T-shirt gurus first and foremost but we're happy to experiment to help you out."

"We also want to make it an experience – to make it fun while you're there."

If you don't want your own design, they have a wide range available and an online shop with gift cards and the unique Dascription. So check it out at dastshirtautomat.com

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR



STONY CREEK WARD
CR CATHERINE CUMMING
MAYOR

Email: cr.cumming@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0417 390 658



CR CUC LAM

Email: cr.lam@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0429 383 099



RIVER WARD
CR SARAH CARTER
DEPUTY MAYOR

Email: cr.carter@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0432 139 612



CR GINA HUYNH

Email: cr.huynh@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0429 324 484



YARRAVILLE WARD
CR SIMON CRAWFORD

Email: cr.crawford@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0429 388 196



CR MIA MCGREGOR

Email: cr.mcgregor@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0429 236 044



CR MARTIN ZAKHAROV

Email: cr.zakharov@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0432 139 613

You can also write to your Ward Councillor:

c/- Maribyrnong City Council, PO Box 58, Footscray 3011.

If you don't know who your Ward Councillor is, please contact **Customer Service on 9688 0200 or fax 9687 7793.**

For requests, comments and questions about Council services and programs, go to www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call Customer Service on **9688 0200**.

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TIS: 131 450



NRS: 133 677 OR 1300 555 727
www.relayservice.com.au



Alcohol free
family friendly event

NYE 2017 FIREWORKS IN FOOTSCRAY PARK

6.30pm to 10.30pm
Sat 31 Dec 2016

Fireworks start at 9.30pm. All the excitement without the late night! Live entertainment, carnival games and rides, food truck court and more.

- MC Tegan Higginbotham
- The Mudcakes
- Horns of Leroy
- King Bell & Soukous Ba Congo
- Mental as Anything

The event is for the whole family but for their own safety, please leave your dog at home.

No parking on site. All public transport FREE from 6pm. Plan your journey with the PTV Journey Planner.

festivalcity.com.au

#myfestivalcity.com.au



City West
Water™



CELEBRATING
A CENTENARY OF
OPPORTUNITY 2016

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL



TWILIGHT MOVIES

Under the Stars

FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER

THE GRINCH

Johnson Reserve, Maidstone

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER

HOME ALONE

Skinner Reserve, Braybrook

FRIDAY 13 JANUARY

INSIDE OUT

Hansen Reserve, West Footscray

FRIDAY 20 JANUARY

KUNG FU PANDA 3

Yarraville Gardens, Yarraville

**FREE
EVENT**

Movies begin at 8:30pm.

For more information, head to:

www.festivalcity.com.au



Maribyrnong

CITY COUNCIL