



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL

MARIBYRNONG

MESSENGER

Winter 2017

www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



MEET AWSE
ABDULHUSSEIN

**THE CHANGING
FACE OF FOOTSCRAY**

**WELCOME
BAD LOVE CLUB**

**WHAT'S ON
IN MARIBYRNONG**

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

In our cover story we are introduced to Awse Abdullhusein, a 22-year-old who inspires us to step outside our comfort zone and connect with our wider community.

She's a strong character who's journeyed from Iraq to live in our eclectic municipality and is continually looking for ways to volunteer and contribute to our community.

The push to see women placed in significant theatre roles is the focus of our feature story on wit incorporated.

This winter they will be performing *A Hero's Guide to Saving the Planet* at Footscray's Bluestone Church Art Space that can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

We've also got an update on the changing face of Footscray in our feature business story.

This edition gives an update on our public plaza in Footscray which is well underway. The completed building will include five-levels and nine new shops on the ground with four levels of parking which will no doubt add to the vibrant shopping offered in the CBD.

Find out more about our Small Business Festival, a highlight of the annual program is the Women in Business Networking Breakfast. It's a great opportunity for skills development and to network.

We also turn the spotlight on what's being offered at some of our facilities such as Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre, libraries and community centres in this edition.

This includes an update on the \$1.2 million health club extension at Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre, we're also delivering a reading program that is aimed at bringing children and older people together at Maribyrnong Community Centre.

We're also delivering a fantastic new initiative for our municipality, Bandmates, which matches young people with disability or mental health issues with a volunteer to see live music.

There's always something to do in our City so check out our What's On section!

Cr Catherine Cumming - Mayor



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COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

JUNE: Tuesday 20, 6.30pm - Ordinary Council

JULY: Tuesday 25, 6.30pm - Ordinary Council

AUGUST: Tuesday 22, 6.30pm - Ordinary Council

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

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

wit incorporated - putting women at the heart of the story

This winter, **wit incorporated** will present two seasons of theatre — written, directed and performed by women — in the Bluestone Church Arts Space.

Based in Footscray, **wit incorporated** is an independent theatre company that brings professional theatre to the City of Maribyrnong with a focus on stories that reflect the narrative of our community and that are relevant to audiences.

For their 2017 Season, **wit incorporated** puts women in the spotlight to highlight the gender disparity that is often seen in theatre, an industry in which women often only feature in supporting roles, and stories written and directed by women are hard to come by.

Artistic Director of **wit incorporated**, Belinda Campbell, said that placing women in significant theatre roles is an important statement.

"Too often, we see women only in supporting roles and it can be difficult to find stories written or directed by women. So this season, we're presenting works by women. That means every actor, director and writer involved is a woman," Belinda said.

But Belinda acknowledges that gender is only one part

of the equation when it comes to reaching equality in the theatre industry. "Gender isn't the only great divider in our society. So you'll also see casts as diverse as the community in which they are performing. That means our shows will be performed with actors from diverse cultural backgrounds, of differing sexuality, some with disability, some without," Belinda continued. Kicking off **wit incorporated's** season at Bluestone Church Arts Space is the world premiere of *A Hero's Guide to Saving the Planet*, a comedy for anyone who loves a superhero that is bound to delight audiences of all ages from 1-15 July.

An environmental superheroes adventure, this funny, silly play reminds us of the important ways we can save the planet, by reducing what we use and recycling everything we can. Written by Belinda Campbell, the production is complete with shiny capes, cheesy catchphrases and groan worthy jokes.

A Scandal in the Weimar,

another world premiere, follows. Taking place from 25 August to 9 September, the production is a new Sherlock Holmes adventure by Claire Bowen and Jennifer Piper.

The classic buddy story sees Lady Sherlock Holmes and Dr Jean Watson travel to Berlin in 1939 to face off against the Nazis, track down Irene Adler and retrieve sensitive information. Coming to see the show will be like walking into an underground bar in 1930s Berlin.

Preparation for the play took place earlier this year when **wit incorporated** was the artist in residence in Artsbox, a vibrant and creative space located outside Footscray Library that provides short term residencies to artists who engage with the local community.

wit incorporated transformed the shipping container into the backstage area of a 1930s German cabaret, and during the residency, created an all-new song that forms the centrepiece of *A Scandal in the Weimar*, finalised the script, created the visuals, and planned the costumes and set.

With two exciting, action packed adventures that reflect our community, you're guaranteed a great night out.

Belinda encourages everyone to come and enjoy the stage productions, even those who are new to the theatre experience.

"Theatre isn't a philosophy lecture. It's fun. It's accessible. It's for everyone," Belinda said.



A HERO'S GUIDE TO SAVING THE PLANET

1 - 15 July
Wednesday to Sunday
10am and 1pm
Bluestone Church
Arts Space
8A Hyde Street, Footscray
Recommended for people
aged 3 - 103 years
Children up to 2 years
admitted free with a paying
adult. Tickets: \$25

A SCANDAL IN THE WEIMAR

25 August - 9 September
Thursday to Saturday, 7.30pm
Sunday, 1pm
Bluestone Church
Arts Space
8A Hyde Street, Footscray
Recommended for people
aged 13+. Tickets: \$25

For further information,
visit witinc.com.au

FEARLESS - NO LIMITATIONS

IRAQI-BORN, AWSE ABDULHUSSEIN, DOESN'T BELIEVE IN LIMITATIONS
AND JUST TO PROVE THAT TO HERSELF SHE JUMPED OUT OF A PLANE IN 2015.



She took on skydiving, then aged 20 years old, to face her fear of heights.

"We have to face our fears, we shouldn't let something hold us back from being successful, simply because winners don't make excuses".

Awse, who recently joined the Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee, arrived in Australia aged 14 as a refugee.

She travelled with her father and two siblings and knew only one word of English, 'Hello'. She spent seven months at the Western English Language School to increase her understanding of English and then entered mainstream high school in Footscray.

But she was unable to make friends as she struggled to adapt from living in an isolated Iraqi city Al-Rumaitha to the multi-cultural and faster pace of Australian society, where English wasn't her first language.

It took her three years before she gained the confidence to overcome the challenges of living in her new home.

"My dad worked as an interpreter with the American and Australian soldiers back in Iraq and that became a threat for him," she said, explaining her move to Footscray.

"When I first arrived I didn't have any motivation to study, I didn't have any goals or future plans, I spent all my time at home and was thinking to go back to Iraq.

"My dad said something that motivated me: 'I see you haven't got any future plans and your directions are not clear, however this is your life do whatever you like whatever interests you... I am here to support you, and accept all your decisions you make'.

"In that moment I couldn't hold my tears and promised myself 'the impossible is possible, no limitations'.

When Awse decided to make a go of it in Australia she found the courage to make friends. Since then she's worked part-time while studying a Bachelor of Business, majoring in International Trade at RMIT.

As part of her final year at RMIT she's undertaking an internship at the Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry and volunteers regularly.

Her volunteer work over the past few years includes writing for the African Migrant Newspaper, cooking for Lentil As Anything, assisting in administration at the City2Sea Health & Fitness Expo and planning the 2016 Maribyrnong International Women's Day.

Awse donates blood every three months as well. "I find something incredibly satisfying about donating blood, it makes me feel like I've saved someone's life in Australia. It gives meaning to my being here beyond simply looking after myself."

Footscray is now her home. "Everyday I walk along the street and say 'Hi' to almost everyone with a big smile on

my face. The people in Footscray are my new family, they are very incredible people."

Awse has her sights set on becoming a businesswoman involved in International Trade.

"I am aiming to be a successful women, because I love the taste of winning," she said. Awse intends to work until she can afford to set up her own restaurant.

Her love of food was inspired by her grandmother who raised her in Iraq from the age of ten after her mother passed away. She remembers the crunchy Iraqi bread, Samoon, her grandmother made over a charcoal fire every morning for breakfast which was dipped into a creamy mixture called Gaimar.

She misses her grandmother who remains in Iraq and who now raises her youngest sister, aged thirteen.

"I would like to open a restaurant where all the food and baked goods are made over a charcoal fire," she explained. It's a dream that Awse is working toward by developing her cooking skills.

It's this kind of vision and determination that Awse plans on sharing with young people as part of the Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee.

"We will provide events for young people where they can have fun and get to know the right people, so they can stay away from the bad ones," she smiles.

"They can meet and talk to people who have achieved much in life and if they are in a dark area they can work towards their future."

She said everyone needed a role model. "My inspiration is my dad, he is the reason that I am who I am, the reason I am loud and not afraid to mess about every now and again. He has taught me so much, things that I would definitely never have learnt in school. I would be lost without him. He supports me through everything that I do and I would not be who I am today without him."



THE CHANGING FACE OF FOOTSCRAY

Footscray is truly a suburb on the move, with changes around every corner. Everywhere you look there seems to be something going on, from exciting new retail spaces to quirky new bars and cafes, to bustling open-air markets and family-friendly events.



Recent developments in the heart of town have added to Footscray's growing appeal, making it an even more attractive place to live, work, study and play. Here is a snap-shot of some of the improvements currently taking place:

CAR PARK, SHOP FRONTS AND PUBLIC PLAZA

Gracing the corner of Leeds and Byron Streets, a new plaza will bring even more vibrancy to central Footscray when it opens later this year.

The five-level development with nine new shops on the ground floor and four levels of parking above, includes an open-air plaza giving visitors and shoppers even more opportunity to enjoy Footscray's offerings.

The plaza embraces the area's local Vietnamese culture, with artwork by local Vietnamese artist Khue Nguyen throughout the building and a brightly coloured 'Hoa Mai flower clock' on the outside, fabricated by BIGfish Workshop. The Hoa Mai flower is a symbol of Têt (New Year) in Southern Vietnam and can often be seen decorating homes and businesses to celebrate the New Year.

The works have also included new street trees and significant upgrades to the surrounding streetscape.

NICHOLSON STREET MALL

Nicholson Street Mall has had a dramatic face-lift over the past months, with its old concrete pavers replaced by new granite pavers. The refurbishment has revitalised this important community space, as well as provided the best long-term outcome for traders and the community.

The project also included substantial seating refurbishment, tree planting, new small planters with colourful plants, and the removal of a large planter enabling more space for outdoor trading and events.

FOOTSCRAY FINDS

Starting on Sunday 18 June and running monthly from 8am - 1pm, Paisley Street carpark in Footscray (next to the Footscray Library) will be transformed into a 'Trash & Treasure' marketplace.

There will be many nic-nac stalls on site, selling second-hand goods, gorgeous handcraft jewellery and unique homewares. There will also be a number of stalls selling fresh produce, entertainment and music.

For further information visit: www.footscrayfinds.com.au

FREE RICKSHAW RIDES AROUND FOOTSCRAY

Take in the sights and smells of Footscray in the comfort of a traditional rickshaw, human powered by Victoria University students. These free traditional rickshaw rides depart from Footscray Station and will weave their way in and around Footscray, taking in some of the best sights along the way.

The tours will run on Saturday 17 June and Saturday 22 July from 9am - 1pm (last ride 12.40pm). No bookings required - just turn up at the departure point.





FROM THE CUP TO THE PLATE

Growing mushrooms from coffee waste

Local café Fig & Walnut are teaming up with product innovators Mushi Mushi to teach people how they can use spent coffee grounds to grow mushrooms in their own backyard.

Based in Seddon, Fig and Walnut is a café committed to sustainable restaurant practices and waste minimisation. They have worm farms to break down excess food scraps, creating fertiliser to grow vegetables in their outdoor garden beds. Together with Mushi Mushi they want to change the way people think about organic waste and show that it is a valuable resource that can be used to grow food.

Eddie Tsyrlin, the founder of Mushi Mushi, has developed a kit to make growing mushrooms at home as easy as possible. The design of which awarded him a place as a finalist in the Victorian Premiers Design Awards.

In June they will host an event at Fig & Walnut, which will include a demonstration of how to grow mushrooms using the zero-waste kit and will feature an optional supper that is sure to be delicious.

Eddie's interest in growing mushrooms from used coffee grounds started when he heard about an American group that were doing something similar but they were still using plastic bags in the process.



Goran Boskovski from Fig & Walnut with Eddie Tsyrlin

Eddie said, "I wanted to take things a step further by avoiding waste altogether and so we designed a bag that could also be composted. Being selected as a finalist for the Victorian Premier Design Award in the Product Design Category was encouraging and convinced me I was on the right track."

The Mushi Bag kits include used coffee grounds from cafes across Melbourne that would otherwise go to waste, mixed with a portion of recycled paper or straw. Every bag recycles 35 shots of coffee grounds and yields between 300 - 500 grams of mushrooms. These materials are then colonised by oyster mushroom mycelium.

The kit is environmentally friendly in several ways, not only because it doesn't involve plastic. Compared with larger scale growing methods that typically use straw,

which needs to be pasteurised, the Mushi Bag kits are made up mainly of coffee grounds that have already been pasteurised through their exposure to steam by a barista - meaning one less energy intensive step.

"The leftover contents can then be used as a soil conditioner for a garden or potted plants. With the Mushi Bag, we can demonstrate to people that it is possible to stop valuable resources like coffee grounds and paper going into landfill," said Eddie.

This community event is part of our environmental education program and part of The My Smart Garden program, in which we are a partner. The My Smart Garden program is a free education program that covers how to grow food effectively, use water wisely and recycle wastes. This event is open to the whole community and mushroom kits will be available to purchase. However bookings are essential.

To book please visit [eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au) and search for 'Growing Mushrooms'

Thursday 22 June

Fig & Walnut, 11 Bellairs Avenue Seddon

6:15pm - 8:30pm.

For further information on Mushi Mushi visit [mushimushi.com.au](https://www.mushimushi.com.au)

KEEPING MARIBYRNONG CLEAN

We're working hard to improve waste management to create the cleanest and safest environment possible for our community. Our ultimate aim is to keep waste out of landfill wherever possible including hard waste and green waste.

Every household is entitled to one free booked hard and green waste collection each year.

Apartment buildings with 12 or more units can also arrange for a monthly collection service.

Households can arrange for a green waste bin and collection service.

When we collect hard waste in an organised fashion more waste can enter recycling streams and we can

reduce the amount that ends up in landfill.

Illegally dumped waste in the municipality is a problem that impacts on the community financially as well as environmentally. Last financial year, collecting illegally dumped waste and disposing of it cost rate payers over \$250,000. We take illegally dumped waste seriously and we will continue to prosecute offenders.

Together, we can work as a community to do the right thing and ensure that we keep as much waste as possible from entering landfill and instead entering recycling streams wherever possible.

If you wish to report illegally

dumped waste please contact our Customer Service team on 9688 0200.

To find out more on how to book a collection and for information on our waste collection services please visit: [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/waste](https://www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/waste)



The TIC Group, using state of the art technology to deconstruct mattresses for recycling and resource recovery.

BUSINESS IN MARIBYRNONG

Business in Maribyrnong has seen a significant growth in the last year and as we welcome new businesses we continue to work with our business community to offer business development training workshops, business grants and networking opportunities.

Here's some of the work we've been doing recently to support our local business community.

Small Business Festival in Maribyrnong: August & September 2017

The August Small Business Festival is just around the corner and Council is running a number of workshops and events for business savvy people including: Instagram for small business; cost effective accounting strategies; surviving and thriving 'mumpreneurs'; and 'office hour' at the Dream Factory, where you can workshop your business ideas or problems with those in the know.

A highlight of the annual program is the Women in Business Networking Breakfast on Thursday 15 August. This key event acknowledges and celebrates our women in business diversity and celebrates the role that they have played in the region. Guests can learn how they can turn their small business dream into a reality whilst making valuable connections within the business community.

Events are being offered at a variety of locations in Maribyrnong including; the Dream Factory, VU at Metro West, Yarraville Community Centre and the Council offices. All of the events are free of charge.

To search for events hosted by Council visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Events

Doing Business in Maribyrnong

Maribyrnong City Council assists our business community in establishing and growing their businesses with a *Doing Business in Maribyrnong* kit available. The kit, a starting point for businesses, provides checklists and details of key council areas based on business needs and requirements. For more information and to request a copy of our *Doing Business in Maribyrnong* kit please contact the City Business Unit on 9688 0200 or via email business@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Business training and seminars

Council hosts a number of business training sessions every month. Upcoming seminars include Build Your Business Resilience workshop on 7 June; Tax Essentials for Small Business on Tuesday 18 July 2017 and Marketing for Business on Tuesday 18 July.

Business Improvement District Grants

Through the Business Improvement District Grant Funding Program, two grant recipients have delivered their new branding and webpages which will promote destination marketing and opportunities to increase trade and business opportunities.

Footscray Traders Association (FTA): Shop Footscray Project

FTA have delivered their new logo and launched their newly revamped website which marks the start of their web and social media and marketing campaign which will promote Footscray as a great place to trade, shop and live.

For more information visit footscraytraders.com.au



Yarraville Traders Association (YTA): Welcome to Yarraville

YTA have launched their new website with new branding which highlights the Welcome to Yarraville campaign. YTA proactively promotes Yarraville Village as a destination and will continue to promote the Village through events and celebrations.

For more information visit yarraville.org



A NEW HEALTH HUB FOR MARIBYRNONG

Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre's \$1.2 million health club extension is a fitness hub for local residents

Following a significant extension, Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre's health club now boasts a wide variety of facilities, ranging from an Olympic weights training platform and functional and electronic training zones, with plenty of space and equipment to get active.

Designed for a range of uses and accessible to all levels of knowledge and fitness ability, it is easier to achieve your fitness goals in the updated space.

The extension adds to MAC's existing services that include a 50 metre indoor pool, spa, sauna, group exercise sessions, personal training, swim school program and an active adults program.

For parents who want to improve their fitness, MAC offers a childcare service that caters for children up to six. MAC's childcare service is affordable and can be used by members and casual participants.

Council's ongoing commitment to health and fitness will see more upgrades, with MAC's cardio equipment replaced by the end of winter. The updated equipment will have state of the art electronics and improved social media interfaces to enhance training experiences and further assist with health and wellbeing.



So what are you waiting for? With MAC's experienced and qualified staff and a number of different memberships options that suit everyone, now is the perfect opportunity to improve your health and increase your fitness levels at MAC!

For more information about MAC's health club, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/mac, email mac@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call 9032 4100.

WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

WINTER WARMER MOVIES

June - August
BRAYBROOK,
FOOTSCRAY AND WEST
FOOTSCRAY LIBRARIES

Come along to a movie screening and enjoy some hot soup in your local library this Winter.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL - JAZZ OUT WEST

2 - 11 June,
VARIOUS LOCATIONS

The City's music venues will sway to the soulful sounds of Jazz for 10 days in June with Jazz Out West, running as part of the Melbourne International Jazz Festival. There are plenty of shows, featuring everything from Afro-jazz to traditional Malian music, ideal for fans and jazz newbies alike.

GAME CHANGERS - LOST IN TRANSLATION

8 June
KINDRED STUDIOS

With the proliferation of the English language throughout the world, are the meanings of songs in danger of being lost in translation? Join the exciting discussion at Kindred Studios in Footscray.

More information:
festivalcity.com.au



FOOTSCRAY SAIGON NIGHT MARKET

9 June and 14 July

Leeds St Footscray will be transformed into a bustling night market with hawker-style food, entertainment and music, celebrating the rich and diverse contribution the Vietnamese community has made in Footscray. Organised by the Footscray Asia Business Association with support from Maribyrnong City Council.

More information: faba.org.au

TRASH GOES DOWN THE RIVER

13 - 24 June
Tuesday - Saturday, 7:30pm
Sunday, 5pm

BLUESTONE CHURCH
ARTS SPACE

Drawing on the 2017 clashes between Melbourne's homeless population, protesters, police and policy makers, this disquieting new stage play follows the journey of 'Trash', a homeless woman who exchanges her CBD doorway for a citizens' Utopia. Written by Clare Mendes.

(22 June performance will raise money for the Winter Sleepout fundraiser)

More information:
melbournewriterstheatre.org.au



RICKSHAW RIDES

17 June and 22 July

Take in the sights and smells of Footscray in the comfort of a traditional rickshaw. Weaving their way in and around Footscray, departing from Footscray Train Station.

More information:
festivalcity.com.au

THE OTHER TALK

19 June, 5:30 - 7:45pm
FOOTSCRAY LIBRARY

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation is holding a free workshop to help parents have 'the other talk'.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

ART THERAPY

24 June, 10:30am - 12:30pm
BRAYBROOK LIBRARY

This workshop supports safe self development experiences through mindfulness and art.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

GET JOB READY: RESUME WRITING AND INTERVIEW SKILLS

28 June, 26 July, 30 August,
20 September and 25
October, 2:30pm - 4pm

BRAYBROOK LIBRARY

Come along to free information session and learn how to create a resume and cover letter that stands out from the rest. Discover essential interview, key selection criteria and LinkedIn tips.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

A HERO'S GUIDE TO SAVING THE PLANET

1-15 July
BLUESTONE CHURCH
ARTS SPACE

Produced by wit incorporated, this performance is an environmental superheroes adventure for anyone who loves a good superhero story. This funny, silly play reminds us of the important ways we can save the planet, by reducing, reusing and recycling. Be ready for shiny capes, cheesy catchphrases and groan worthy jokes.

More information or to buy tickets visit: witinc.com.au

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

3 July - 14 July
MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC
CENTRE (MAC)

Great fun activities for children aged 5-14 running over the school holidays. Activities include yoga, ball games and fitness activities. Sessions normally run for 60-90 mins with a minimum of six sessions over the school holidays.

For more information or to register your child for the program email mac@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

POOL INFLATABLE FUN

3, 5, 7, 10, 12 and 14 July,
11am - 3pm

MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC
CENTRE (MAC)

Inflatable fun on the pools during the school holidays. Just pay your normal entry fees to access the fun.

More information:
mac@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE

29 and 30 July, VARIOUS VENUES

For the second time, Council is partnering with Open House Melbourne to conduct free guided tours of a number of fascinating local architectural gems that are not usually open to the public. Sites include Jacks Magazine in Maribyrnong; West Footscray's Drill Hall; The Bluestone Church Arts Space and Yarraville's iconic Art Deco Sun Theatre.

More information: festivalcity.com.au

NAIDOC WEEK FLAG RAISING

3 July, 2 - 3pm
FOOTSCRAY
TOWN HALL

Council will raise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags to acknowledge NAIDOC Week 2017.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

SMALL BUSINESS FESTIVAL IN MARIBYRNONG

August 2017

Council is running a number of workshops and events for business savvy people including: Instagram for small business; cost effecting accounting strategies; small business recruitment; surviving and thriving mumpreneurs; and 'office hour' at the Dream Factory, where you can workshop your business ideas or problems with those in the know.

To search for events Council is hosting, visit eventbrite.com.au and search 'Maribyrnong City Council' or search by event name.



WOMEN IN BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

15 August, 7 - 9am
FOOTSCRAY
TOWN HALL

Network your way through a delicious hot breakfast and gain valuable insights on how you too can have the perfect work/life balance whilst growing your business to a roaring success! Draw inspiration from our leading business women as they share their drive, knowledge, skills and passion for all things business.

More information:
festivalcity.com.au

SCANDAL IN THE WEIMAR

25 August - 9 September
BLUESTONE CHURCH
ARTS SPACE

Lady Sherlock Holmes, Nazis and cabaret. It's London, 1939. Tensions are building as war seems imminent. Lady Sherlock Holmes and her companion Dr Jean Watson are engaged by Lady Diana Mosley to track down Irene Adler in Berlin and retrieve sensitive information. But all is not as it seems.

Includes adult themes and staged violence.

More information:
witinc.com.au

MARIBYRNONG'S NEW ARTS FESTIVAL

10 - 27 August

Our City will host a new multi-arts festival this August featuring a jam-packed program of arts events. The festival will be held in various venues and locations showcasing the diversity of 'place' that Maribyrnong has to offer. The full festival program will be announced in July.

More information:
festivalcity.com.au

THE READING HOUR

15 August, 6 - 7pm
FOOTSCRAY LIBRARY

Join us at Footscray Library to celebrate The Reading Hour in 2017. Bring your own book or borrow one of our new titles on display and participate in our Silent Reading Party. Snacks and light refreshments provided.

More information:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Keeping our oldest and youngest generations connected

READING TOGETHER IS FUN WILL BRING CHILDREN AND OLDER PEOPLE TOGETHER TO CREATE FUN AND MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS.



To make learning even more purposeful, Maribyrnong Community Centre and Church Street Children's Service are joining forces to offer a new reading program where older people in the community will be invited to read with youngsters at the Centre.

The program, *Reading Together is Fun*, aims to provide older people who may have limited or no involvement with children with the opportunity to engage with younger members of our community. It also provides a friendly environment for children who may not have senior family members to develop relationships with older members of the community.

As the world evolves and family structures change, so does the connection between generations. By bringing some of the youngest and oldest members of our community together, both generations have the chance to stay connected.

Interacting with older adults enables young children to further develop their social and communication skills. Not only will the children be able to learn about difference

and ageing, they will also feel a sense of purpose within their community.

There are a number of benefits for the older community as well, with research showing that older people who enjoy time with young children are less likely to be depressed or have health problems. Engaging with younger children also gives older residents a sense of purpose, fulfilment and belonging.

Through the simple act of reading and sharing stories, intergenerational relationships between the children at Church Street Children's Service and the older adults within our community will prosper.

Reading Together is Fun will kick off during Children's Book Week in August. The volunteer based reading program will take place on Thursday afternoons at Maribyrnong Community Centre.

If you are interested in joining the *Reading Together is Fun* program, contact Maribyrnong Community Centre on 9032 4305.

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 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.



A creative platform for young artists

Phoenix Art Gallery is providing a creative space for young artists to showcase their work.

We are assisting young artists and not for profit organisations who may not have the financial means or curatorial skills to run an exhibition with the planning, promotion and delivery of visual art exhibitions at the Phoenix Art Gallery.

Celebrated for its vibrancy, the Inner West has a growing reputation as an arts and cultural hub, and is home to a wide variety of creative industries. With this growth in mind, the Phoenix Art Gallery program provides young artists with the opportunity to develop their skills and showcase and sell their work.

The Phoenix Art Gallery has been in high demand, last year exhibiting young artist Patrick Francis' artwork in an exhibition called *Achieving 17 Goals for the Future We Want*, his interpretation of the United Nations'

International Day of People with Disability for 2016.

The Phoenix Art Gallery space is available for young people aged 12-25 years and not for profit organisations with a youth focus, all in the City of Maribyrnong, to use for free. There are also Artist in Residency Scholarships available for young artists. Phoenix Art Gallery is located at Phoenix Youth Hub, 72 Buckley Street, Footscray.

If you are a young, local artist or not for profit organisation interested in exhibiting work at the Phoenix Art Gallery, visit phoenixyouth.com.au and submit an expression of interest.

For more information, contact the Youth Development Officer on 9091 4700 or visit phoenixyouth.com.au



GRANT TO BOOST FINANCIAL LITERACY



We recognise the importance of being able to understand and read bills as part of a new financial literacy program to be rolled out later this year.

The program centres around financial literacy workshops, aimed at people of all backgrounds who have low literacy levels.

Participants will learn about a range of financial literacy subjects during the six week program, including options such as payment plans and their right to challenge incorrect bills.

Financial Literacy Australia considers knowing how to manage money as an essential everyday life skill. "It means being able to understand and negotiate the financial landscape, manage money and financial risks effectively and avoid financial pitfalls.

"Improving financial literacy can benefit anyone, regardless of age, income or background. It helps people make informed choices, day-to-day and throughout their lives."

We are able to deliver the workshops thanks to an Adult Literacy Innovation Program grant of \$28,200, provided by the State Library Victoria and the Public Libraries Victoria Network.

The project will include the development of an animated clip and other visual tools to deliver the workshops and overcome participants' low English literacy. These tools will form part of an education package that will be offered across the country via Adult Learning Australia.

Free legal advice provider, WestJustice, a team of Victoria University law students, and settlement support program provider, AMES Australia, will help roll out the program which is expected to run later this year.

For more information, contact Maribyrnong Library Service on 9688 0290.

MARIBYRNONG LIBRARIES

SO MUCH MORE THAN BOOKS!

KEEP CALM AND KNIT THIS WINTER

Winter is officially here. Keep warm by joining one of our knitting groups, the perfect opportunity to practice knitting and meet new people. Every week, knitters of all abilities are visiting Footscray and Yarraville Libraries to knit, chat and share a cuppa.

Members are welcome to bring along their own knitting, with many knitting for charity. At Yarraville Library, the group is knitting squares for Knit One, Give One (KOGO), a not for profit organisation that donates hand-knitted winter woollies to the most vulnerable in our community. At the Footscray Library, the group has created woollen toys to be sold, with the profits donated to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

Footscray Library, 2pm every Wednesday

Yarraville Library, 1.30pm every Tuesday

If you're interested in joining a knitting group or want more information, call Maribyrnong Library Service on 9688 0290 or visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

FEATURED AUTHOR - LIANE MORIARTY

Australian author Liane Moriarty has written seven novels for adults. Her fifth novel, *The Husband's Secret*, became a #1 New York Times Bestseller just two weeks after being released in the US and has sold over 3 million copies. Liane's next novel, *Big Little Lies*, then debuted at number one the New York Times bestseller list, making her the first Australian author to have a novel debut in the top spot in the US. Following the success of *Big Little Lies*, a television series based on the bestselling novel premiered on HBO. Liane's most recent and much anticipated novel, *Truly Madly Guilty*, was released last year and is yet another suspenseful page turner.

Drop past your local branch to borrow or reserve your copy of Liane Moriarty's immensely popular books. Available in standard print, large print and audio book.



WINTER MOVIE WARMERS

While away some of the winter gloom at your local library. Sip on a hot soup, dunk your bread roll and feel warm and comfy while enjoying a great movie.

Footscray, West Footscray and Braybrook Libraries June - August.

For more information, call Maribyrnong Library Service on 9688 0290 or visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



SUNDAYS AT BRAYBROOK LIBRARY

Opening hours at Braybrook Library have been extended to allow increased access to library resources for everyone. The library is now open on Sundays from 2pm to 5pm, in addition to the current opening hours from Monday to Saturday.

For further information, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call 9188 5850

BRING ON BANDMATES VICTORIA

Seeing live music is a rite of passage for all young people and Bandmates Victoria will make this a reality for young people with disability or mental health issues. Bandmates Victoria is a program that matches young people over 18 with disability or mental issues with a volunteer to see live music of their choice in local venues. The program, which launched in May, has already attracted keen interest across Melbourne and further afield.

Volunteers will receive information and training to support their involvement in Bandmates Victoria. Specialist industry development training for venue management, staff and security will also be provided to ensure that everyone's experience out and about is inclusive and enjoyable.

The Bandmates Victoria program partners include Arts Access Victoria, Music Victoria and the Cities of Darebin, Melbourne, Moreland, Port Phillip and Yarra and has received a VicHealth Bright Futures Challenge grant.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or if you are over 18 with disability or mental health issue apply online at maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/bandmatesvic

For further enquires phone 9688 0313 or email bandmatesvic@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



SHARING IS CARING AT THE CASSEROLE CLUB

Casserole Club brings neighbours together with a free, food-sharing program in the local community.

Members share home-cooked meals with older residents in the community who may not be able to cook for themselves. Through the simple act of sharing food, Casserole Club brings people together and strengthens relationships with older community members who appreciate having tasty, home-cooked meals delivered to their door.

Bill from Footscray is glad to be a part of the program.

"I recently had a lovely beef stew and homemade muffins delivered to me. I would highly recommend the program to others within the community," Bill said.

Perfect for community members who love cooking and want to be actively involved in their community and residents who may need a helping hand when it comes to meal time, Casserole Club is flexible and convenient.

Connecting older residents with their neighbours, the program builds strong relationships, while providing fresh, home-cooked meals for those who need them most.

If you would like to share a meal or you know someone who would benefit from an extra meal, please visit casseroleclub.com.au. For more information you can email casseroleclub@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call 9688 0342.

COMMUNITY PARKS AND GARDENS UPDATE

Parks and gardens are a key part of our City and Council is committed to maintaining and improving these areas as well as providing new open spaces for the community to enjoy.

Here are some of the highlights of the work we are currently undertaking:



SCOVELL RESERVE, MAIDSTONE

The popular park has recently been made-over with an expanded playground, large basket swing, new nature-play elements, scooter/trike track, new picnic shelter with BBQ facilities, new drinking fountain and new garden beds. Later in the year, the gravel pathway will also be updated to a concrete surface and further trees will be planted.

MACDONALD A RESERVE, WEST FOOTSCRAY

This small park in Lae St is undergoing a major makeover over with the site extended to Waratah Rd to connect it with the Stony Creek trail. Opening this month, an expanded playground area will



provide a greater range of play equipment, a drinking fountain, extra seating and picnic facilities, and new garden beds and trees.



COSTELLO RESERVE, MAIDSTONE

Our upgrade of Costello Reserve in Maidstone has been recently completed and now features a new playground with scooter circuit path, additional seating, a picnic area with games table, and new connecting paths.



CRANWELL PARK, BRAYBROOK - LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements are in progress at the beautiful Cranwell Park along the Maribyrnong River, focusing on the south-western section of the park. Works include a new fitness station (recently completed), a new drinking fountain, new fencing, turf works, irrigation and tree planting.

BEEVERS RESERVE, KINGSVILLE

Improvements to the landscape at Beevers Reserve are underway, including lawn renewal, garden bed planting and path reconstruction. Works are due for completion later this month.

SKINNER RESERVE, BRAYBROOK

Construction of the new playground at Braybrook Park is about to take flight. Due to open mid-spring, the park will retain the aeroplane and travel theme that was so popular from the old playground with a whole lot of exciting new elements including large gathering and BBQ spaces, drinking fountains and bike racks.

YARRAVILLE GARDENS

Yarraville Gardens has recently undergone a refurbishment including improving the walkways and BBQ area.

MCNISH RESERVE, CRUIKSHANK PARK, YARRAVILLE

Mimi the Dinosaur now has some lovely shade sales to protect her and her little playmates from the sun!

RIVER TRAIL IN BRAYBROOK

Construction has commenced on the next section of river trail in Braybrook. The new path will run north from Cranwell Reserve to the Brimbank border.

\$1.1 million invested in Footscray Park

Playtime is going to get a lot more fun at Footscray Park with an allocation of \$1.1 million in the proposed 2017/18 Council Annual Budget to build a regional playground as part of implementing the Footscray Park Masterplan.

This follows extensive community consultation on the Footscray Park Playspace in early 2016 with the final concept plan endorsed mid-last year by Council.

The final concept for the play space includes an active play area with a sandpit, clambering rocks, climbing nets, a tree house, a swing with accessibility harness, slides, a carousel, a dual flying fox, slide, accessible musical instruments, a discovery and sensory play area and picnic shelters and lawn.

There is also a water play area that will be treated to ensure it is hygienic and safe.

Residents, schools, community and stakeholder groups such as Melbourne Water took part in the consultations and were supportive of the early draft concept plans.

The Maribyrnong Disability Advisory Committee also took part in consultations along with Rosamond Special School and the Heritage Advisory committee also provided feedback. Over 1,500 properties in the area near the park were letter dropped and online consultation took place on Your City, Your Voice.

As a result of feedback, some amendments were made to the final concept plan for the playspace.

This included increasing the distance of the play space from the river, relocation of the toilets closer to the play space and an increased variety of play elements such as a larger water play area and improved connection with the heritage gardens.

One consultation participant welcomed the upgrade, writing: "Design looks exciting and promotes adventure, nature based play and opportunities to play with water.

"Strongly support and encourage the focus on all abilities play which has a positive impact on kids learning acceptance and understanding."

To keep up to date on consultations that are taking place in the City of Maribyrnong visit yourcityyourvoice.com.au

Information about consultations are also promoted on Council's Facebook page @Maribyrnong and via Twitter @MaribyrnongCC



PHOTO COMPETITION

Snap your favourite place in our City!

Budding photographers take out your cameras and get snapping to be part of our Places of Maribyrnong 2017 photo competition.

Our vibrant City is rich in natural beauty, show us your landscape favourites that might feature our iconic river, parks and gardens and views of our City. Or snap our urban streetscapes that show the edgy, reality of the West and vibrant arts scene.

There are three award categories - 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize, totaling a pool of \$6000 worth of prizes.

The competition ends 31 July, terms and conditions apply with competition entries being credited when used in council communications.

For more information visit our website on www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/photocomp



SONS OF THE WEST

The Western Bulldogs Sons of the West men's health program has returned with the Premiership program now in full swing.

Sons of the West began in 2014 in response to the health statistics of men living and working across Melbourne's west, with a specific focus on the municipalities of Maribyrnong, Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Wyndham and Melton.

Through education and leadership, the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation's Sons of the West men's health program aims to boost the overall level of health in adult males across the west.

This year's Premiership program will involve sessions that cover the importance of maintaining mental and physical health, as well as aiming to educate participants on the effects of violence against women.

Hearing from guest speakers each week, Sons of the West participants will be exposed to a vast range of topics that widely affect the overall health of men.

To be part of Australia's biggest men's health program, all you need to do is to turn up to any one of the venues and you're on your way to a happier and healthier lifestyle.

Visit sonsofthewest.org.au for more information.



MAINTAINING COMMUNITY SAFETY AND FITNESS, STEP-BY-STEP

Let's Walk Braybrook helps local residents feel safer walking around the community

Walking is a great way to improve health and fitness over these colder months. It can improve your physical health and mental wellbeing while reducing environmental pollution, traffic congestion and developing community social connections.

But it is important to know how to maintain your own safety while walking in the community. Here are some simple tips to keep in mind:

- Always obey traffic rules - use pedestrian crossings, footpaths, traffic lights, give way to cars at roundabouts and avoid bicycle lanes.

- Be alert and are aware of your surroundings. Make sure that you are vigilant and try not to be distracted by your phone or music devices.
- Increase your visibility by wearing bright colours especially towards the evening.
- You can also walk with family, friends or community walking groups to feel safer.

Council continues to invest in infrastructure and resources that increase walkability and safety.

Part of this has been Let's Walk Braybrook, a joint venture with Victoria Walks that provides community members with four walking trails to discover the sights of Braybrook, a suburb rich in culture and community pride.

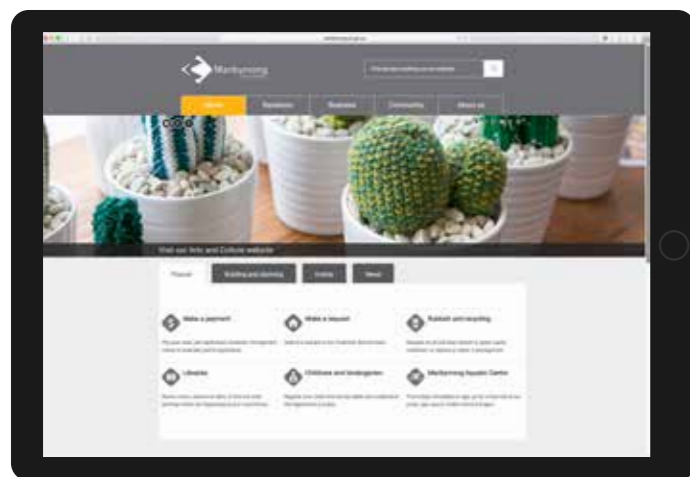
Dr Ben Rossiter, Executive Officer of Victoria Walks, encourages community members to try out the walking routes in Braybrook.

"Over the last nine months, Victoria Walks has been working with the City of Maribyrnong and the Braybrook community to map good quality, interesting neighbourhood walking routes to provide opportunities for women, in particular, to be active and connect with their community," said Dr Rossiter.

The Braybrook walking maps are available at Footscray Town Hall, Braybrook Community Hub and Braybrook Maidstone Neighbourhood House, or can be viewed online at walkingmaps.com.au.

For more information about Let's Walk Braybrook, visit victoriawalks.org.au/Lets-Walk.

COUNCIL'S WEBSITE GETS A SLEEK NEW LOOK



Residents can now enjoy visiting a sleek, new Maribyrnong City Council website to find out about Council services, events and news.

The modern site delivers a streamlined online experience to our community, allowing them to quickly access services and find the information they need from their computer, tablet or phone.

The new system provides a platform for Council to manage and grow its online presence and services, and adapt to the changing needs of our community as they interact with us online.

The site has been organised to deliver what our residents most want to know so our home page references the most sought after information.

Information has also been broken down under top tier searches with tabs referencing 'residents', 'business', 'community' and 'about us' on our homepage.

For instance the tab 'residents' holds information about support offered in our community, such as community care, disability access and Senior Citizen Centres along with much more information.

Or scroll down to view our quick search tabs.

These include options to make payments, visit the Library's subsite or find out information about our Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre to name a few popular searches.

There's also a demand to search quickly for building and planning information, along with searches for events and news that's taking place in our City. After all we are the

Festival City and there's always something to do in our vibrant community from workshops, to foodie fun and cultural celebrations.

Website users will be pleased to know that favourites like our consultation platform 'Your City, Your Voice' can also be reached from the homepage. This year we've had more than 21,000 site visits and welcome more interaction and feedback from our community.

The 'My Neighbourhood' function on the homepage lets you find your nearest dog park, community centre, arts venue, sportsground, hire a venue and much more!

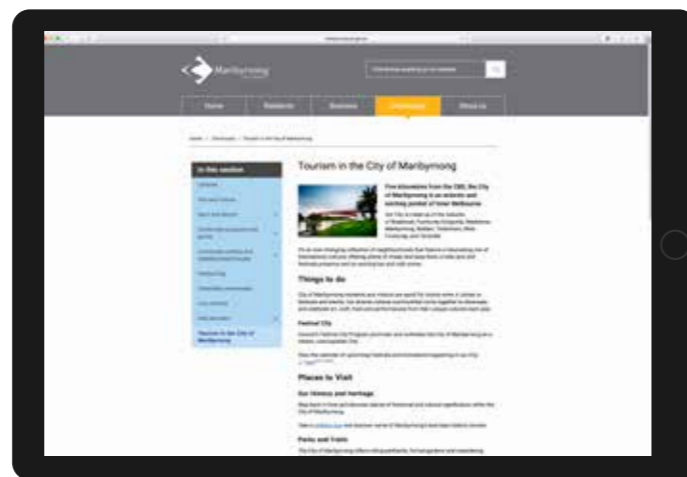
Residents can learn more about their representative Councillor via the tab 'Your Council', access meeting agendas and find out how to participate in local matters.

With a bit of scrolling, residents will hit a link for a newly created page for our new website called 'Tourism in the City of Maribyrnong'.

This page holds links to all the pages within the website that offer information about what visitors can do or see in our eclectic City.

This includes Places to Visit such as walking tours, parks and gardens, iconic sporting sites, arts and culture initiatives, programs and projects to name a few options. Our local shopping precincts and centres are also listed on this site.

Our website is all about improving the user experience and making it easier to share and connect, our 'search' function should list any page of significance. To check it out visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



FESTIVAL CITY EVENTS



JAZZ OUT WEST, 2 - 11 JUNE

The Melbourne International Jazz Festival (MIJF) has a big audience in the west, and this year MIJF, Maribyrnong City Council and the Moonee Valley Council have partnered to bring the biggest line up of jazz to the West yet.

There are plenty of shows on offer, featuring everything from Afro-jazz to traditional Malian music, ideal for fans and jazz newbies alike.

Kick back to the funky sounds of the 6-piece Senegambian Jazz Band, performing at The Reverence Hotel on Saturday 3 June. Or head to Bluestone Church Arts Space on Sunday 4 June to hear electroacoustic duo Maria Moles and Adam Halliwell's unique blend of 70's free jazz.

To see what else is on offer, visit: festivalcity.com.au

COMEDY WESTSIDE WRAPS UP

Council's new partnership with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival in 2017 saw audiences treated to a selection of the best of



the fest in the West. The program included a RAW Comedy Heat, The Very Big Laugh Out West, the ever-popular Comedy Out West (C.O.W) Open Mic Night, and Comedy Zone Asia Westside, with all events drawing large crowds and much laughter.

Young comedian Sam Gebreselassie beat 13 hopefuls to take out the audience vote to win the C.O.W. Bell Award for 2017. Born in Sudan to Ethiopian parents and having grown up predominantly in New Zealand, Sam said his unique background influences his comedic style.

"I got to experience the world differently and this therefore shaped my unique perspective on everyday life," said Sam.

Sam is a big fan of local, grass-roots comedy events as they give comedians a chance to practise their material in front of a live audience.

"It is very beneficial to have these events because usually comedians are practicing their material in small rooms around Melbourne to other comedians. To have a live audience from the community listen to the material you've been working so hard to perfect is amazing, and their response is what drives us to write more and become better."

NEW ARTS FESTIVAL FOR THE WEST

From 10 - 27 August, our City will host a new multi-arts festival featuring a jam-packed program of arts events.

The festival will be held in various venues and locations showcasing the diversity of 'place' that Maribyrnong has to offer. The full festival program will be announced in July. For more information visit festivalcity.com.au

FESTIVAL CITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Council's Festival City Program brings together and celebrates local cultures that enhance our reputation as a vibrant and creative city.

Council runs an annual Festival City Grants Program which provides financial and in-kind support for festivals via a competitive grant round.

Applications have recently closed for the 2017/2018 Grants Program, and Council's Festival Advisory Panel is currently reviewing submissions. The successful recipients will be announced on Council's Festival City website in July.

BAD LOVE CLUB

Shop 5, 68-82 Hopkins Street, Footscray

A unique mix of baking, coffee and cocktails, brings an original flavour to the Footscray food scene.

Bad Love Club is a new venue that combines specialty coffee and a jaffle bar in the mornings with a late night boozy bakery.

This unique business venture is the brainchild of owners Sarah and Damien, both local residents who have experience in hospitality and service industries, and a passion for good food.

After a medical diagnosis which limited her diet, Sarah took up baking as a hobby using traditional family recipes and original creations to make food suitable for those with similar limitations and allergies. Prior to opening Bad Love Club, the duo ran a popular baking business, Lady Flamingo at local markets.

"When it came to deciding where to set up our first cafe together, Footscray was our number one



choice. It is always changing and evolving and is different today than what it was five years ago. We decided it was time to add something different and fun to the area," said Sarah.

"Bad Love Club is very casual, very fun, and very welcoming. We think it will slot in nicely with the area's creative and vibrant energy. You can grab a coffee and do a little work here during the day, and then grab a quiet drink or a delicious baked treat with friends in the evening."

Bad Love Club caters for all dietary requirements with their delicious refined sugar free, gluten friendly and vegan options, and is committed to using fresh, organic ingredients from local suppliers where possible.

Their most mouth-watering treat on the winter menu? "The toasted marshmallow and pecan pie, served with hot buttered rum," said Sarah. Need we say more?

For more information, visit badloveclub.com.au

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR



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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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