

FEBRUARY 2024

Local SCOOP

Your City of Whittlesea news

**Gathering Place
gets under way**

Page 3

**Join the fun of the
Community Festival**

Page 6

**Support
for local
businesses**

Page 14



Meet your

Youth Council

Page 8

Upcoming Council Meetings

19 March 2024, 6.30pm
Council Chamber, Council Offices,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

16 April 2024, 6.30pm
Council Chamber, Council Offices,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

21 May 2024, 6.30pm
Council Chamber, Council Offices,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

▶ Meetings can be viewed live on the City of Whittlesea YouTube channel.

For the latest information about Council Meetings, including how you can get involved, visit

📍 whittlesea.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings



Connect with us

- 📍 **South Morang**
25 Ferres Boulevard
Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm
- 📍 **Whittlesea**
63 Church Street
Monday to Friday, 9.30am–5pm
- ☎ **9217 2170**
(including after hours emergencies)
National Relay Service
133 677 (ask for 9217 2170)
- 📧 **Locked Bag 1,**
Bundoora MDC VIC 3083
- ✉ **info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au**
- 🌐 **whittlesea.vic.gov.au**



Free telephone interpreter service
131 450

Inside this edition



New 10-year Local law
Page 4



Community Festival 2024
Page 6



Meet your Youth Council
Page 8



Paws-itivity for animals
Page 12

Panel of Administrators



Lydia Wilson
Chair of Administrators



Peita Duncan
Administrator



Christian Zahra AM
Administrator

Contact the City of Whittlesea Administrators via
📧 panel@whittlesea.vic.gov.au
☎ **9217 2170**

Printed on Australian-made PEFC™ certified paper using vegetable inks.

Arabic خدمة الترجمة الشفهية الهاتفية المجانية
Chinese Simplified 免费电话传译服务
Chinese Traditional 免費電話傳譯服務
Greek Δωρεάν τηλεφωνική υπηρεσία διερμηνέων
Italian Servizio di interpretariato telefonico gratuito

Macedonian Бесплатна телефонска услуга за преведување
Persian/Farsi خدمات مترجم شفاهی تلفنی رایگان
Punjabi ਮੁਫਤ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਸੇਵਾ
Turkish Ücretsiz telefonla tercümanlık servisi
Vietnamese Dịch vụ thông dịch qua điện thoại miễn phí

QUARRY HILLS PARKLAND



ABOVE City of Whittlesea Administrator Christian Zahra AM, Whittlesea Aboriginal Gathering Place Advisory Group Co-Chair Karen Bryant, Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson and Administrator Peita Duncan turn the first sod on the Aboriginal Gathering Place.

Breaking ground on future Gathering Place

The City of Whittlesea’s journey towards reconciliation is continuing with a major milestone reached in its plans to establish an Aboriginal Gathering Place at Quarry Hills Parkland.

Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson and Administrators Peita Duncan and Christian Zahra AM were joined by local Aboriginal leaders to turn the first sod on the project in November.

The Aboriginal Gathering Place is an important part of Council’s ongoing commitment to reconciliation and self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

To be built on land that holds great significance to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, it will help strengthen Aboriginal culture by promoting cultural practices, knowledge sharing and storytelling.

The Aboriginal Gathering Place will feature indoor and outdoor multipurpose spaces including a large community events space for up to 100 people, consulting suites, meeting room and quiet room.

Council is working closely with the Whittlesea Aboriginal Gathering Place Advisory Group (WAGPAG) to ensure the

facility is a safe space for the Aboriginal community to connect with Country and carry on traditions and customs.

“We are proud to be progressing such an important project, which we know will empower our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members and provide so many benefits,” said Administrator Peita Duncan.

“By celebrating Aboriginal culture we can increase awareness and understanding in the wider community and we look forward to working with WAGPAG and the Whittlesea Reconciliation Group to activate the AGP with vibrant and impactful programming.”

– Administrator Peita Duncan

Construction on the Aboriginal Gathering Place is anticipated to begin in early to mid-2024, with the centre expected to open in 2025.

Have your say

Quarry Hills Parkland is the largest regional park in the City of Whittlesea.

As a part of the Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan, a Cultural Values Study undertaken through the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation investigated the renaming of Quarry Hills Parkland.

The name *bunjil nganga* (meaning ‘eagle view’), was recommended as the preferred name to acknowledge Woi-wurrung custodianship and strengthen the community’s connection to the history and culture of the parkland.

In accordance with the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria 2022, you are invited to provide feedback on the proposed name ‘*bunjil nganga parkland*’.



To have your say, scan the QR code or visit

📍 engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/qhrpnaming





ABOVE Galada Community Centre, Epping.

New strategies for thriving communities

A new Connected Community Strategy 2023-2033, Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy 2023-2033 and Long-Term Community Infrastructure Plan will help set the blueprint for the future of our City.

The strategies identify priorities for community infrastructure, programs and services as well as the planning and design of great places for people.

Administrator Christian Zahra AM said the plans will guide Council's efforts over the next 10 years.

"These important strategies have been shaped by our community's feedback and reflect what's important to them."

– Administrator Christian Zahra AM

"We know that over the next decade we will experience significant growth, and these strategies, along with our overarching strategies aligned with our Whittlesea 2040 goals, will help us achieve our vision of a place for all."

Some of the key priorities identified in the strategies include improving physical and mental wellbeing of residents, developing town centres and investment in buildings and spaces that promote access to services.

View the documents at [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/plans](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/plans)



New 10-year Community Local Law unveiled

A new Community Local Law will take effect from 1 July 2024.

The updated local law addresses crucial issues like fire safety, animal welfare and public behaviour, and is designed to support people to live harmoniously in their community.

Key changes include:

-  Allowing the responsible use of recreational fire pits
-  Restricting long-term parking of trailers, caravans and boats on nature strips and roads.

Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson said the new Community Local Law was developed following extensive consultation with the local community.

"More than 2,000 residents provided their feedback and helped us shape the new 10-year law. It takes a balanced approach that promotes safety, personal freedom and community responsibility," she said.

It will also empower Council to address concerns about illegal dumping, manage derelict buildings and reinforce dog-attack laws.

The updated Local Law has been produced in a new accessible easy-to-read and easy-to-understand format.

To learn more, visit engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/LocalLawReview

Out and about with our Administrators



ABOVE Clockwise from top left: Administrator Peita Duncan at the Aboriginal Gathering Place sod turn; Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson at the 2023 Carols by Candlelight; Administrator Wilson at Norris Bank Reserve stage 4 opening; Administrator Wilson lays a wreath on Remembrance Day; Administrator Christian Zahra AM speaks with residents at Coffee with Council; Administrator Wilson at the final Northern Council Alliance meeting of 2023.

An ambitious program ahead

As we start the final year of our term, we are looking forward to delivering on the ambitious program we set at the outset of our appointment with the events, programs and infrastructure that will support our community to thrive and ensure we are ready to welcome back local representatives as your new Council following local government elections in October 2024.

We are delighted we were able to turn the sod on one of our priority projects recently as we joined with local Aboriginal leaders to celebrate the start of construction of an Aboriginal Gathering Place (AGP) in the stunning Quarry Hills Parkland – you can read more about it on page 3.

Late last year, we joined with State Member for Bundoora Colin Brooks MP and members of our Youth Advisory

Committee to unveil a jointly funded, exciting new space at Norris Bank Reserve in Bundoora.

With a new basketball court, seating, upgraded paths and gardens and a grassed area for recreation or relaxation it really is a great place for young people to connect and there is

free wi-fi, speakers, lighting and performance area still to come.

And we must also mention the fabulous success that was the 2023 Carols by Candlelight. We were blessed with beautiful weather and it was wonderful to see so many families and groups of friends full of festive cheer and holiday spirit.

If you have any matters you would like to discuss at any time, you can reach the Administrators at @panel@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Community Festival 2024

25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

Join us on Sunday 17 March for a great day out at the City of Whittlesea's biggest celebration.

Set within the Civic Centre's grounds in South Morang, the festival's theme this year is *Connections* and the event promises to connect our community through a day of fun activities for all ages.

This free event offers something for everyone:

- Live music, entertainment and cultural performances
- Cooking workshops with local produce
- A pet expo
- Food trucks
- Market and community stalls
- Family zone with face painting
- Youth zone
- Ageing Well activities



Everyone is invited to join the lively celebration and make memories with our vibrant community.

Scan the QR code for all the details.



17
MAR
2024
11AM
UNTIL
5PM



MEET YOUR

City of Whittlesea Youth Council

Meet the 13 young people who will bring their enthusiasm and perspective to our new Youth Council.

Over a two-year term, our Youth Council will provide valuable advice to Council on matters that affect young people.

"We are very excited to have the Youth Council on board and look forward to continuing to support and empower our young people."

- Lydia Wilson,
City of Whittlesea Chair Administrator



ANGELICA BANQUIL
AGED 14 (she/her)

The Youth Council allows me to involve myself in what I am most passionate about – active community involvement – and I believe it allows me to seamlessly utilise and enhance my leadership skills while engaging in hands-on initiatives to create a positive impact.



ANGELA ROLEVSKA
AGED 18 (she/her)

I am a keen participant in the community, and I have a strong passion for leadership and advocacy for my peers. Over the past two years, I have been lucky enough to be part of the process of developing the foundation of the Whittlesea Youth Council and I believe this advocacy body to be of utmost importance to young people.



BAVLEEN KAUR
AGED 14 (she/her)

I want to give back to the community where I live, study, play, and socialise. I want to do whatever I can for the youth, environment and health of the City of Whittlesea. I want to be a voice for young people in the municipality and raise and advocate for topics I am passionate about.



KAYNAT VIRK
AGED 19 (she/her)

I have joined the Youth Council to ensure the problems facing the youth are brought to the table and are discussed with the intention to encourage effective change. Issues of climate change and youth wellbeing are of high concern to me.



MASINA SALESA
AGED 21 (she/her)

I was born and raised in Samoa. I moved to Australia in 2016. I have decided to join the Youth Council because of my passion to help and support the young generation who are in need of help.



MUSTAFA KHRAIM
AGED 15 (he/him)

I am dedicated to creating a safe space for young people in our community. With a demonstrated passion for youth empowerment in school leadership roles, I aspire to actively contribute to initiatives amplifying young voices and addressing crucial issues.



SANDY TRAN
AGED 21 (she/her)

I believe that every young person deserves a safe space where they can freely express themselves, engage in meaningful discussions and receive guidance as they pursue their passions without fear of judgement or shame.



DEAN CONNELLY-CARPENTER
AGED 15 (he/him)

I am a proud young indigenous Wiradjuri man. I chose to join the Youth Council to attempt to help with issues that arise for youth across multiple communities and hopefully it's not to just help but to solve these problems and help out other young people.



EMILY TRICARICO
AGED 17 (she/her)

My goal is to create a safe and welcome environment wherever I go, using my personal experience of overcoming various challenges to better understand and encourage those in my community who have also experienced feelings of isolation.



ESHA SERAI
AGED 20 (she/her)

I'm honoured to be joining the first cohort of the Youth Council. I have joined as I'm passionate about contributing to the growth, development and success of youth in our municipality. As a young woman of colour, I'm also keen to provide a unique voice on issues that concern our diverse community.



SOPHIE WINTER
AGED 14 (she/her)

I was part of the Youth Advisory Committee for 2022–2023. I am passionate about politics and the environment. I decided to join the Youth Council because it would allow me to develop my leadership skills, meet new people and help other young people have their voices heard.



TANYA SHARMA
AGED 12 (she/her)

I have a commitment to addressing the pressing environmental and sustainability challenges that confront young people today. Recognising the pivotal role that the youth play in shaping the future, I am driven by a passion to contribute to creating a more sustainable and resilient community.



ZACHARY MELVAINE
AGED 16 (he/him)

I am a passionate individual who loves leadership, collaboration, and community service. I find joy in helping others and striving to become the best version of myself. Being a City of Whittlesea Youth Councillor is the chance to continue building upon the foundations I've established during my two-year tenure with the City of Whittlesea Youth Advisory Committee.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR YOUTH COUNCIL.





ABOVE Members of Whittlesea Ranges Football Club.

New soccer pitch scores goals for participation

A new \$2.25 million soccer pitch at the Harvest Home Road Recreation Reserve in Epping is scoring goals both on and off the field.

The FIFA-accredited pitch was officially opened just before Christmas to praise from tenant Whittlesea Ranges Football Club.



The synthetic pitch replaces the original one laid in 2008 that no longer met the needs of either the club or the wider community. The project also featured the installation of improved drainage, fencing and the latest in LED sports lighting technology.

The development also serves as an example of the City of Whittlesea's commitment to sustainability in its infrastructure projects.

"This top-class facility is a substantial investment that will help attract more people to the sport and encourage residents to lead active, healthy lifestyles."

– Administrator Christian Zahra AM

Ninety-five per cent of the old pitch was diverted from landfill and provided to a local builder for use in BMX and equestrian projects.

Furthermore, some 120 tonnes of recycled tyre rubber diverted from landfill was used to create the shock pad layer running under the pitch.

The City of Whittlesea contributed \$1.75 million towards the project, while Sport and Recreation Victoria made \$500,000 available from its World Game Facilities Fund.



ABOVE Donnybrook Dragons Aaliyah, Alyssa and Porscha on the new netball courts.

New space for sport in Donnybrook

A new sporting precinct promises to deliver a growing community much more than just a place to pass a netball or kick a football around.

Stage one of the Olivine Recreation Reserve in Donnybrook, built by property developer Mirvac in collaboration with the City of Whittlesea, is now complete.

Featuring a \$4.5 million pavilion, netball and futsal courts, cricket nets, dog park and playground, the Council-managed facility is sure to be a sporting and social hub for residents.

Donnybrook Dragons Football Netball Club representative Michelle Mitchell, said the precinct will be home to the club as it competes in the Northern Football Netball League.

The pavilion's benefit will extend well beyond sport, with organisations able to hire out a room for community-based activities.

"Sport is a great way to be connected into the community. The Donnybrook Football Netball Club are really looking forward to getting social events together for kids, adults and families," said Michelle.

Construction on the precinct's second stage, which includes two football and cricket ovals started before Christmas and is expected to be completed in the coming months.

Electrifying progress

In a step towards making our City greener and cleaner, the City of Whittlesea has begun transitioning its fleet to electric vehicles with the arrival of two electric sedans and two utes.

The shift to an all-electric fleet will occur over several years. It supports the City of Whittlesea's net-zero goal by reducing carbon emissions and reliance on carbon offsets.

City of Whittlesea Chief Executive Officer Craig Lloyd said by replacing traditional combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles, Council is taking steps toward a greener future.

"Transport is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, so we're excited to make the shift to electric vehicles. Not only is it an important step toward reducing our emissions, but by using electric cars, we will also be saving money in the long run through lower operating costs and less maintenance of the fleet," Craig said.

To find out more about our Climate Change Plan, visit whittlesea.vic.gov.au/plans



ABOVE City of Whittlesea CEO Craig Lloyd with the new electric ute.

A dose of sustainability

The City of Whittlesea is now home to dedicated recycling boxes for medicine blister packs.

The new recycling boxes are located beside our community recycling stations.

Any brand of blister packs will be accepted.

Blister packs must be empty of all medicine and dropped in loose – no plastic bags or cardboard boxes. Blister packs still containing medicine can be returned to your local pharmacy.

Blister packs cannot be recycled through kerbside bins, so this new opportunity is an exciting step toward a greener future.

This new recycling option connects to the City of Whittlesea's 2040 vision, which includes creating a sustainable environment where we are leaders in clean, sustainable living.



Scan the QR code to find your closest recycling station.



Cash in your cans and bottles

As part of Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme, the City of Whittlesea is already home to four new reverse vending machines.

You can deposit your eligible beverage containers into the machines, earning a 10-cent refund with the option to keep or donate the funds.

Reverse vending machines are located at Waterview Recreation Reserve, Mosaic Reserve, Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium and Mill Park Lakes Recreation Reserve.



Scan the QR code for a full list of reverse vending machine locations.





“Rex being here is the best medicine for Fred at the moment.”

– Damian, Northern Health

ABOVE Fred with his furry friend Rex.

Achieving paws-itive outcomes for animals

In the year since the wat djerring Animal Facility came under the caring management of the City of Whittlesea, Merri-bek and Darebin Councils, we’ve been thrilled to witness many heartwarming stories of residents opening their homes to adopt an animal.

The story of 80-year-old Whittlesea resident Fred and his newly-adopted dog, Rex, is definitely something special.

Fred lives on his own. Recently his beloved dog Elsa passed away and at the same time Fred was dealing with some difficult issues. It became a really tough time for him. Without Elsa around, Fred felt like he lost a close mate to lean on.

“It gets lonely here, and especially at night time,” Fred said. “No companion or anything, and that’s why I decided to adopt another dog.”

Initially, Fred thought he was too old to get a dog and wasn’t even sure how to apply. But after getting in touch with staff at the wat djerring Animal Facility, he realised how

easy the process was. The staff stepped him through each stage including testing for compatibility between animals and humans – that way it was sure to be a loving friendship.

“Fred mightn’t be here if he didn’t have a pet. He certainly wouldn’t be as happy,” said Northern Health staff member Damian.

As well as giving Rex a loving home, Fred’s story is a great reminder of the power animals can have on increasing our own well-being.



Scan the QR code for more information on adopting a pet.



wat djerring
ANIMAL FACILITY

Time flies when you’re making a difference!

In the past year, the wat djerring Animal Facility has:

- been a beacon of hope for **4,294 animals** in need
- formed fantastic partnerships with **51 rescue groups.**

Of the animals through our doors:

 **65%** were cats

 **31%** were dogs

 **4%** were pocket pets like rabbits and guinea pigs.

Ensuring your pet is registered, microchipped, and your details are up to date is their best chance to find their way home if lost.

Positive programs for seniors

The Mernda Social Support Centre is a dedicated hub aimed at enhancing the lives of our older residents.

The new facility has partnered with leading organisations to offer a diverse range of programs focused on improving both physical and mental wellbeing.

“The Mernda Social Support Centre is more than just a facility; it’s a community hub fostering health, happiness and connection for our older residents,” said Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson.

“We believe in the importance of providing a range of activities that promote independence and a sense of fulfillment.”

Exciting offerings by the City of Whittlesea include a Dementia Friendly Group on Mondays, Social Connection Art and Craft on Fridays, and the delightful Morning Melodies, a program where you can enjoy music, sing along, dance and catch up with friends and connect with others.

Wollert resident Joan recently attended Morning Melodies at the Mernda Social Support Centre.

“Making new friends has been an added bonus to the Morning Melodies. I look forward with anticipation to each new get together.”

– Joan, Wollert

“The opportunity of meeting new people, enjoying the diverse music and entertainment as well as being provided with morning tea has been a wonderful way of communicating and connecting with so many people in our area,” she said.

Visit whittlesea.vic.gov.au/leap to find a calendar of positive ageing activities.



ABOVE Leonilda, Joan, Lorraine and Robyn had a ball at Mernda Social Support Centre.

Kindergarten is **FREE** for all children



ABOVE Sahibjot at kindergarten in Epping.

Kindergarten applications now open

Enrol your little ones now for three-year-old kindergarten in 2025 and four-year-old kindergarten in 2026 or find out more at one of our open days.

There are 43 kindergartens in the City of Whittlesea including the newly opened Murnong Kindergarten in Donnybrook and families can now apply for free.

Parents, carers and children can meet the teachers and see the learning environment at our special Kindergarten Open Events:

- **Thursday 29 February 5.30pm–7.30pm**
- **Saturday 2 March 9.30am–11.30am**

To find your closest participating kinder or to apply online visit whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder



For information about free kindergarten in your language, scan the QR code.

vic.gov.au/kinder/translations





ABOVE The Mycelium that Weaves us Together by Narada Bartley, 2023.

Local artists weave their magic

The 18th annual City of Whittlesea art exhibition saw 97 local artists showcase an inspiring collection that responded to the theme *The Webs We Weave*.

The exhibition started as a community-driven initiative by local artist Suzi Duncan in 2005. It has since become a much-loved tradition. It offers a platform for artists who live or work in the City of Whittlesea to share their creativity with the community.

A judging panel comprising Suzi Duncan, City of Whittlesea Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson and Director Community Wellbeing at City of Whittlesea Agata

Chmielewski, had the difficult task of selecting nine from all the impressive artworks for recognition.

Lydia said the award recipients stood out for using materials in innovative ways and interpreting the theme in a creative manner.

"The entries into this year's exhibition were outstanding, making judging incredible difficult," she said.

The 2023 Award recipients

City of Whittlesea Annual Art Award
Jacquelyn Haverson

Award of Excellence – Innovative use of materials
Iaki Vallejo

Award of Excellence – Creative expression
Soo Chua

Youth Award
Renita, age 9

Ilma Duncan Award of Excellence
Sulekha Rani

People's choice award
Ron Driscoll

"This exhibition made me feel supported and connected to other local artists whose work and company I found inspiring."

– Jacquelyn Haverson, artist

You can view the artworks online at arts.whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Celebrating women in business

Join local businesswomen and hear from three successful women on how they initiated and navigated their business to their current success.

A special Women in Business event, at the picturesque Five Vineyard in Mernda, will be held on Thursday 7 March, the eve of International Women's Day, to honour the achievements of women who are shaping the business landscape.

Catherine Cervasio of Aromababy, Tafi Seade of Inner Active Pelvic Health and Physiotherapy, and Kimberley Smyth of Hey Sista Plumbing will



ABOVE Tafi Seade, Catherine Cervasio and Kimberley Smyth will share their unique business journey.

share their unique business journey and shed light on their entrepreneurial triumphs and challenges.



To find out more about this event, scan the QR code. For more information on other business support opportunities email [@business@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:business@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



Know a deserving business? Nominate now, entries close on 3 March 2024. Winners will be announced at a ceremony on 23 May 2024.

whittlesea.vic.gov.au/businessawards

What's on February-March

These events may be subject to change – please check whittlesea.vic.gov.au/events for the latest information.



FReeZA music showcase

Friday 1 March
Westfield Plenty Valley Outdoor Dining Precinct

Bring your friends and family to experience this live music event showcasing the talent of City of Whittlesea's emerging young performers and musicians, aged 12 to 25.



Scan the QR code for more details.



Community Youth Services Expo

Tuesday 5 March, 2pm–6pm
EDGE Youth Facility, Westfield Plenty Valley
Parents, children and local youth services operators are invited to come along and learn about how the City of Whittlesea Youth Services support local young people. Meet the Youth Development Team, try out our DJ decks and learn how you can get involved in our FReeZA youth music and creative arts program.



Scan the QR code for more details.

Going all electric

Wednesday 20 March, 6pm–7pm
(online workshop)

Join energy efficiency assessor Lucinda Flynn as she details how and when to transition different appliances to all-electric to save energy costs and increase comfort.

To register visit

whittlesea.vic.gov.au/events



Raising Children and Young People sessions

Various dates and locations

City of Whittlesea run programs for parents and carers of children throughout the year. Sessions in March include Dealing with Preschool Behaviours, Early Literacy, and Social Media and the Online Space.



Scan the QR code for more details.

Let Everyone Participate (LEAP) program

The LEAP program provides enjoyable and affordable events and activities for people aged 50 years and older living in the City of Whittlesea. Membership is free and provides access to a range of benefits and programs.

whittlesea.vic.gov.au/LEAP or call 9217 2170 for details.



ABOVE Helen Franks, Donnybrook Repair Corner Coordinator.

Helping you to repair and save

Donnybrook local Helen Franks has high hopes for the Donnybrook Repair Corner, which launches on 2 March.

The Donnybrook Repair Corner follows on from the success of the Mernda Repair Café. It is supported by Council as part of the City of Whittlesea's Rethinking Waste Plan.

Local volunteers repair items including bikes, small electrical appliances, jewellery, clothing and tools.

"The waste reduction and financial benefits of not having to go out and buy a new toaster or garment will hopefully change the minds of residents to live more purposefully," said Helen, its passionate Coordinator.

"This initiative will benefit the environment, not just through waste reduction in bins, but through the frequency of people booking hard-rubbish collections and also general dumping of rubbish in public places," she said.

"I think there is a huge benefit for the community."

– Helen, Donnybrook

The Donnybrook Repair Corner takes place the first Saturday of every month 10am–2pm at Shared Space, 995 Donnybrook Road, Donnybrook.



Scan the QR code to learn more.

Community Festival

Civic Centre lawns

25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang



**17
MAR
2024**

**11AM
UNTIL
5PM**



Join the fun with an exciting line-up of live music, cultural performances, cooking workshops, a pet expo, food trucks, community stalls, and a range of activities for all ages.