

Local Scoop

Your City of Whittlesea newsletter – June 2023

There's no
place like
home
for
cats



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Upcoming Council Meetings

- **27 June 2023**, 6.30pm
Council Chamber, Council Offices, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang
- **18 July 2023**, 6.30pm
Council Chamber, Council Offices, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang
- **15 August 2023**, 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 dates and how you can get involved, visit www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

Contact us

- 📍 Customer Service
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang
- 🕒 Monday to Friday
8.30am – 5pm
- ✉ Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC
VIC 3083
- 📞 9217 2170
(including after hours emergencies)
- 📞 National Relay Service: 133 677
(ask for 9217 2170)
- @ info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au
- 🌐 www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au



Panel of Administrators



Lydia Wilson
Chair of Administrators



Peita Duncan
Administrator



Christian Zahra AM
Administrator

Contact the City of Whittlesea Administrators via email panel@whittlesea.vic.gov.au or phone 9217 2170.

We recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.



**Free telephone
interpreter service**
131 450

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

City of Whittlesea's community heroes



Meet the 2022 Community Award recipients, who have all been recognised for helping to make the City of Whittlesea a better place for everyone.

The 2022 City of Whittlesea Community Awards recipients were announced at the Community Festival on Sunday 19 March, 2023.

"We were so impressed by the calibre of the nominations, which highlights the strong community spirit here in the City of Whittlesea," said Administrator Peita Duncan.



Citizen of the Year
Deborah Azzopardi

Deborah has been an Epping Country Fire Authority (CFA) member for over 20 years and has received medals for her contribution to the 2009 bushfires, a National Service Award and been named fire fighter of the year. She supports and trains other CFA members and is a peer support officer. She is also a first aid trainer, an L2P volunteer supervising learner drivers, and has been a netball umpire for more than 20 years.



Senior Citizen of the Year
Mark Beeby

Mark worked as a general practitioner (GP) in the City of Whittlesea for 41 years before his retirement in November 2022. His commitment to community care was paramount during his career. Mark's work spanned in-home palliative care for patients, caring for multiple generations of the same family, continued care for patients once they moved into aged care and training the next generation of doctors.



Young Citizen of the Year
Hansikaa Sharma

Fourteen-year-old Hansikaa is the young ambassador of a Sanskriti community group. She worked with classmates to make Christmas cards for residents at the Meadowglen Care Community and more than 100 dental care packs that were donated to Big Group Hug. She also volunteers as a literacy and numeracy tutor, volunteered during Homelessness Week, is on the Whittlesea Youth Advisory Committee, Whittlesea Youth Environment Action Group and Australian Youth Climate Coalition.



**Access and Inclusion
Citizen of the Year**
Steven Kim Huat Lim

Steven is a volunteer bus driver with Whittlesea Community Connections. His service enables vulnerable community members to attend medical appointments, go shopping and remain socially connected. During the pandemic lockdowns, he also volunteered in the Whittlesea Community Connections Emergency Relief response. He is a member of the Whittlesea Neighbourhood Watch, a foster carer and volunteer with the Second Chance Animal Rescue and Hospital.



Sustainable Citizen of the Year
Tanya Sharma

Tanya is 11 years old and initiated an education campaign and successful petition on the dangers of cigarette butt litter.

Tanya is also a member of the Youth Environment Action Group and has been involved in World Environment Day, tree planting and the 'Balloons No More' campaign. Read more about Tanya's efforts to tackle cigarette butt litter on page 7.

"My congratulations to our award recipients and to all those nominated. On behalf of the community, thank you for helping to make the City of Whittlesea a better place for everyone."

– Administrator Peita Duncan



Estelle and Emilia find plenty to enjoy at the upgraded Kelynack Reserve playground in Mill Park.

Kids race to Kelynack Reserve

Families have been flocking to Kelynack Recreation Reserve in Mill Park since it reopened in April following a \$1 million playground redevelopment.

The new playground, which opened just in time for the term one school holidays, features swings, slides, rope climbs, flying fox and a focus on nature play.

The existing outdoor fitness equipment has also been relocated to the new playground so that it is still accessible to parents and carers.

New park furniture, two shelters with barbecue facilities and a basketball court with table tennis table round out the additions to the 5.7-hectare reserve under the first stage of the redevelopment.

Mill Park resident Daniela Pizzo said the new playground had proved a hit with her daughters Estelle, 5 and Emilia, 2.

She said her family would be regular visitors and looked forward to having many barbecue lunches on Sunday afternoons.

The upgrade was undertaken after a master plan process provided community members with a chance to have their say on what they would like to see at the reserve.

City of Whittlesea Administrator Christian Zahra AM said providing quality parks for residents to visit was a key part of Council's long-term vision *Whittlesea 2040: A Place for All*.

"The improvements made during this project mean that people of all ages can come to the reserve and enjoy the outdoors for years to come," he said.

The redevelopment was made possible through a 50-50 funding arrangement between Council and the State Government via its Growing Suburbs Fund.

"It's a beautiful place now ... we love it. Emilia loves the slides and Estelle loves the flying fox."

– Daniela, Mill Park



Clockwise from top left: Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson at the Hope Street Youth and Family Services announcement; IDAHOBIT event at Civic Centre; Conservation reserve visit; Northern Business Achievement Awards; Administrators Lydia Wilson, Peita Duncan and Christian Zahra AM joined CEO Craig Lloyd and Council staff to tour the new Mernda Social Support Facility.

Out and about with our Administrators

It's been a busy few months with many exciting announcements and awards. What a wonderful celebration our inaugural City of Whittlesea Business Awards were in May. The Awards showcased the achievements of leading City of Whittlesea businesses across a range of industries and celebrated our innovators, entrepreneurs and hardworking operators. Congratulations to all our nominees and our very worthy award recipients – you can read all the details on page 14.

Our citizenship ceremonies continue to warm our hearts. There is nothing quite like seeing the joy on the faces of our newest citizens and we welcomed 700 new citizens during April and May.

We know some of our most vulnerable residents are young people facing difficult and challenging circumstances in their home life. The rate of youth homelessness is growing, including in the City of Whittlesea.

Council has been advocating for support for an accommodation facility and we welcomed the recent announcement of funding for a state-of-the-art purpose-built facility to support our young people aged between 16 and 25 who are without a home or at risk of being homeless. Hope Street Youth and Family Services will build and operate the youth homeless refuge, which will be the area's first youth-centred emergency accommodation.

We have continued to visit important local sites over the past few months, including our conservation reserves, strategic projects and local businesses. We love to meet and hear from people who live, work and play in the City of Whittlesea. We have regular Coffee with Council sessions at local cafes, so please feel free to come along to a session to chat about matters that are important to you. The details of upcoming sessions are on our website.

Finally, it was wonderful to celebrate International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex discrimination and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) on 17 May with our community. Council proudly raised the rainbow flag as a public display of our support for our LGBTQIA+ community.

IDAHOBIT is an opportunity for us to publicly demonstrate our support for our rainbow community and to raise awareness about the ongoing work required to combat discrimination. The City of Whittlesea stands firmly against all forms of discrimination and is dedicated to creating an inclusive community that embraces individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

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



Young families on moderate incomes are expected to benefit from affordable housing.

Local housing for local people

A plan to build affordable housing on vacant land in Wollert will provide hope to people locked out of the local property market.

Council resolved in April to lease land at 1F Ashline Street to a community housing organisation to build a variety of affordable housing on the site.

Modelling based on 2021 census data shows more than 3600 new homes catering to residents on very low to moderate incomes are required to keep pace with demand in the City of Whittlesea.

Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson said rising interest rates, inflation and cost-of-living pressures meant many residents were struggling to afford safe and secure housing.

Ms Wilson said between 2016 and 2021 the number of homeless people in the City of Whittlesea had risen from 630 to 854 – an increase of 35 per cent.

“This project will provide homes for specific cohorts of local people,

including young families, older people, women, key workers and people with disabilities,” she said.

The site to be developed is a 5000 square metre vacant block of general residential-zoned land located at the intersection of De Rossi Boulevard and Highpark Drive.

The successful tenderer will build a variety of single detached, duplex and townhouse-style homes designed to complement the amenity of the area.

Ms Wilson said concerns about safety and impact on property values raised during the community consultation period had been taken into consideration.

“We’ve considered the feedback from the local community carefully and reviewed our approach to ensure we are addressing these concerns,” she said.

“We know there is a critical shortage of local homes that are affordable to those on low incomes and the shortfall is having devastating socio-economic impacts on families and households.”

– Chair Administrator
Lydia Wilson

“Council has a commitment and obligation to encourage and support the supply of social and affordable housing in the City of Whittlesea.”

Further community consultation on the development’s design will be conducted once a registered housing organisation is appointed.

Renewal of small parks makes a big difference

Warren Davison and Maria Alderuccio could not be happier with the transformation of Tasman Park into a safe, accessible and welcoming playground.

The long-term neighbours worked together to advocate to Council on behalf of residents for improved paths and equipment at the park in Tasman Drive, Bundoora.

Unsealed paths, muddy grassed areas and dated play equipment were a deterrent to families visiting, and the site was vulnerable to illegal dumping.

Council embarked on a \$200,000 project to install a new combination



Maria Alderuccio and Warren Davison test out the improved seating at Tasman Park, Bundoora.

play unit, swing set, rocker, timber seating, concrete path, garden beds and 17 trees.

"I reckon Whittlesea Council has done a great job," Warren said. "They listened to the public and acted. I live so close that you can hear the kids playing from my backyard and it's lovely."

Maria said the residents surrounding the park were thrilled with the outcome

and felt a real sense of ownership over the upgraded park.

"We didn't expect all of this, we're very grateful," she said.

Other sites to be upgraded in the coming months under Council's park and playground renewal program include Holroyd Drive Park in Epping, Hurlstone Crescent Park in Mill Park, Healey Park in Epping and Laurimar Drainage Reserve in Doreen.

New bins to help you butt out

When 11-year-old Tanya from Doreen read about the harm that cigarette-butt litter caused to the environment, she decided she needed to do something about it.

The Year 6 student took it upon herself to create a petition, collecting 237 signatures from local residents to request Council to install more cigarette butt bins across the municipality and help raise awareness of the dangers posed by cigarette butt litter.

"Cigarette butts are the most littered items on the planet, with up to 8.9 billion butts littered in Australia each year," said Tanya.

"I found out that the cigarette butts are not biodegradable and when tossed on the ground the chemicals from them leak into our waterways and cause waterway pollution."

Tanya's petition was tabled at the Council Meeting in September 2022, and Council are in the process of installing new bins at a range of key locations across the municipality, including Mernda Junction Shopping Centre, Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre and Galada and Barry Road Community Centres.



Tanya with one of the cigarette bins.

"It's important for people to dispose of their cigarette butts properly. As residents on this earth, it is our duty to take care and nurture our surrounding environment as there is only one."

– Tanya, Doreen



Deanne Gerada with Milo, who is staying safe at home after his injury.

Changes coming for cats

From 1 August 2023, cats in the City of Whittlesea will be required to be confined to their owners' properties and all cats being registered for the first time must be desexed.

This change means that the requirements for dog and cat owners are consistent, requiring pets to be securely confined to their owner's property or under effective control when outside the owner's property.

One of Deanne Gerada's cats was injured while roaming outside her South Morang home. The family always kept their cats in at night, however they were concerned when Milo didn't return home at the usual time one day. When at last he did arrive, one of his legs was so badly broken that the vet had no choice but to amputate.

While Milo is now recovering well, Deanne is making some changes to their property.

"Because of what has happened to Milo, losing his leg and to protect him, we are looking at ways we can confine our cats to our backyard," she said.

"We are looking at putting rollers along the fences to stop them from jumping over the fences and to stop other cats from coming into our yard. Also, changing one side of the fencing from the timber to the metal as they can't seem to get grip and jump over. We are going to put in some extra plants and sleeping areas to keep them happy."

While some cat owners may feel that keeping their cats confined restricts their freedom and ability to explore, there are several important benefits.

Keeping cats confined helps to keep them safe and reduces the risks of them being hit by cars, attacked by dogs or other animals, or getting lost.

Cats that are allowed to roam freely outdoors can cause harm to local wildlife, including birds and small mammals. By keeping cats confined to their owner's property, cat owners can help reduce their impact on local wildlife populations.

In addition, confinement can also help prevent nuisance behaviour, such as digging in gardens, spraying, or fighting with other cats. It can also reduce the risk of cats contracting diseases from other animals they encounter outdoors.

Support for you and your cat

There are many ways to keep your cat secure and safe on your property. We have a range of videos to give you ideas on how to start cat-proofing your backyard today.

Removable cat enclosure for renters



Find out how to build your own outdoor cat enclosure that can be taken with you if you move.

Spinning pipe cat enclosure



Find out how to install spinning piping that will stop your cat from jumping the fence and prevent other cats from coming into your backyard. Download the easy-to-follow instructions from our website.

Rolling fence paddle



See professional cat-proof fencing solutions built by a handyman in a small courtyard, using purpose-made cat spinning paddles.

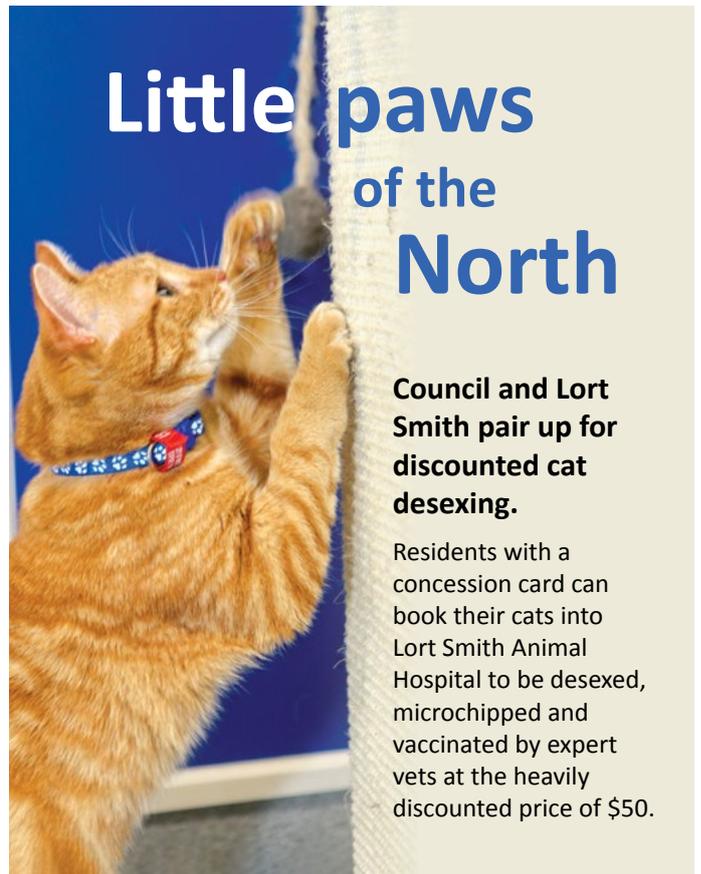
Free DIY workshops

Our free Cat Enclosure Building Workshops will be getting underway soon, so keep an eye on our website for upcoming dates and booking information.

Scan the QR code or visit

www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/cats

to watch the videos and get tips and information to support you ahead of the changes coming on 1 August, 2023.



Little paws of the North

Council and Lort Smith pair up for discounted cat desexing.

Residents with a concession card can book their cats into Lort Smith Animal Hospital to be desexed, microchipped and vaccinated by expert vets at the heavily discounted price of \$50.

Learn more at www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/cats

Making more from your glass.

Your glass is being turned into new products. The City of Whittlesea's new glass recycling services means more can be recycled than ever before.

A small act makes a big impact.

Find out how at www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/glassrecycling



Freight terminal announced for Beveridge

The Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal (BIFT) is a step closer following a recent announcement by National Intermodal of the acquisition of 1100 hectares of land.

Chair Administrator Lydia Wilson said Council welcomed the announcement which provides certainty on this much-anticipated project.

“The BIFT is expected to deliver an enormous boost to local employment with some 20,000 jobs required for both construction and ongoing operations and it will contribute \$3.5 billion to the economy each year,” she said.

“Council has been strongly advocating to both Federal and State governments to invest in this development which will be transformational for the region.”

National Intermodal have indicated that early planning is underway to support potential interstate rail services at Beveridge as soon as possible, with full terminal and precinct warehouse operations by 2028/29.

The precinct would also see upgrades to key road corridors, including the Camerons Lane/Hume Highway intersection.

“We look forward to working with National Intermodal and our neighbouring Councils to progress with this project so we can see the benefits to local communities and beyond as soon as possible,” said Ms Wilson.

Investing in the City of Whittlesea



Do you know a business that is looking to relocate? The City of Whittlesea is a great place to do business.

As one of the fastest growing municipalities in Melbourne, close to the city, the airport, national trade routes and infrastructure, the City of Whittlesea is an ideal location for business.

Council offers local businesses a range of services to activate and facilitate economic growth, and to increase local employment opportunities for residents.

If you are considering your business location, email invest@whittlesea.vic.gov.au today to arrange a confidential discussion with Council.

Scan the QR code to watch our *Whittlesea Business 2023* video and download the Investment Prospectus.



Explore our newest vineyard... in Mernda

The City of Whittlesea is already home to fine dining and amazing experiences, and the area’s latest attraction is giving locals even more reason to explore Whittlesea.

The new Five Vineyard in Mernda is the work of long-term locals, the Vella family.

The Vellas moved to their Bridge Inn Road farm in 1997 and, with their children now adults, the five family members (hence the name Five Vineyard) have gone into business together. They hope that it will become a place for people to discover the beauty of Mernda beyond the residential zone.



“We want to create a new destination – a new way to see Melbourne. We’re hoping that more restaurants will pop up around us. There’s so much room for people to grow into things out here,” said Olivia Vella.

“We want people to come and discover our sensational views. We can see Melbourne City from our hill; if you turn the other way you can see mountain ranges.”



With private dining space, function room, a large deck and sweeping views, the vineyard will be a fabulous addition to our suite of local attractions and will assist in making the City of Whittlesea a destination of choice for locals and tourists alike.

For more places to discover in the City of Whittlesea, visit www.explorewhittlesea.com.au



The Wollert Methodist Church has been a big part of David Freeman's life.

Wollert church restored to former glory

The former Wollert Methodist Church's rebirth as a community asset of special significance was celebrated in April with an official unveiling to the public.

The Carpenter Gothic-style church was built in 1878 and stood for more than 140 years on the corner of Lehmanns and Epping Roads in Wollert.

Serving as a church until its decommissioning in 2006, the heritage-listed building was sold to a private owner and gradually fell into disrepair.

In 2018, when the Epping Road upgrade clouded the former church's future, the City of Whittlesea and Major Road Projects Victoria worked together to preserve the piece of local history.

Over several months in 2022, the church was painstakingly disassembled and transported by truck to its new home at Carome Homestead in Mernda.

Once on site it was meticulously rebuilt and restored to its former glory using

traditional materials and finishes, with Working Heritage Inc entrusted with managing the building.

Member for Thomastown Bronwyn Halfpenny, Member for Yan Yean Lauren Kathage, City of Whittlesea and Major Road Projects Victoria representatives and descendants of the church's founding members attended the official opening.

Also in attendance was David Freeman, whose parents were local preachers. His earliest memories of the church date back to the 1930s when it was the centre of life in the tight-knit community.

He vividly remembers as a child watching the district's dairy farmers, having milked their cows, make their way by lantern light to the church for a service.

"Growing up I felt comfortable in [the church] and it did my heart great sorrow to see it being vandalised," he said.

"When I heard it was being restored that gave me great comfort."

Working Heritage Committee of Management Chair Kerry Anderson said in its new life the former church would be a place for people to gather for community meetings or private events.

"It's just beautifully done the way that you've done it here."

– David Freeman



Do you know what to do in an emergency?

It is important that we understand what types of emergencies we may face and how to prepare for them.

Emergencies can happen anywhere and impact all of us. They can be large or small and, depending on where you live, you may have a higher risk for certain types of emergencies, such as grassfires or bushfires, floods or storms.

Council has created four short animated videos that will help you prepare for common types of emergencies and to know what to do if an emergency occurs.

Scan the QR codes to view the videos.



Emergency preparedness

Emergencies put us, our loved ones and our communities at risk. This video will help you to understand those risks and how to prepare for and know what to do in an emergency.



Technology

This video will show you how technology can help you to prepare for and stay safe and informed before, during and after an emergency.



Fire

Fires can happen inside and outside the home. This video will help you understand how to prepare for grassfires, bushfires and housefires and what to do during a fire.



Storm and flood

This video will help you understand how to prepare for storms and floods and what to do during these emergencies.



If you would like to know more about preparing for emergencies and find resources in your language, visit www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/emergency

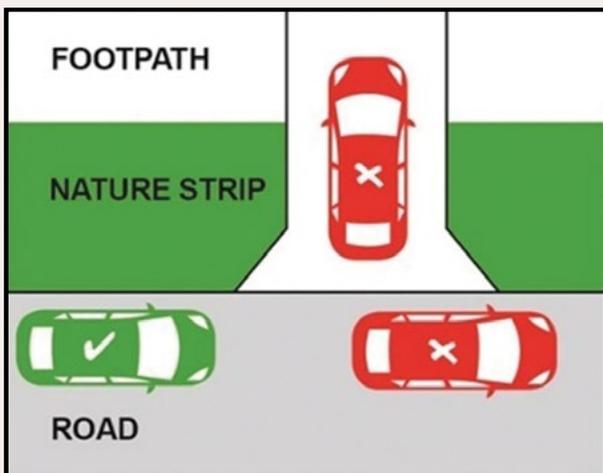


Perfect parking

There are a few common parking pitfalls that we see across the City of Whittlesea that impact safety and can also result in a fine. Here is a quick guide to parking perfectly every time.

Avoid parking across driveways or blocking footpaths

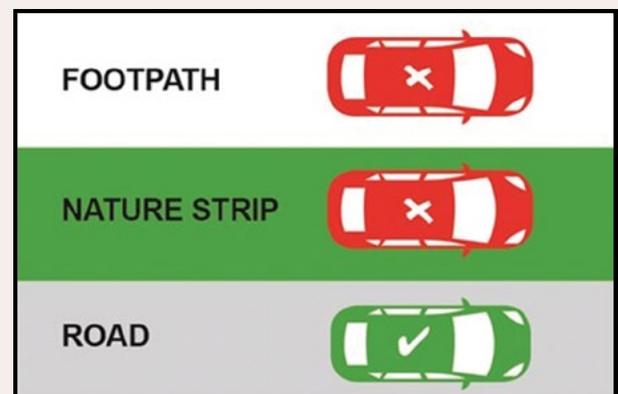
You are not allowed to park, stop or leave your vehicle across a footpath. You are not allowed to stop/park on or across a driveway unless you stay in the car and are there for no more than two minutes. You must move immediately if required to do so to allow entry or exit by the owner/occupier.



Road Safety Road Rules 2017 Reg 198

Avoid parking on nature strips or footpaths

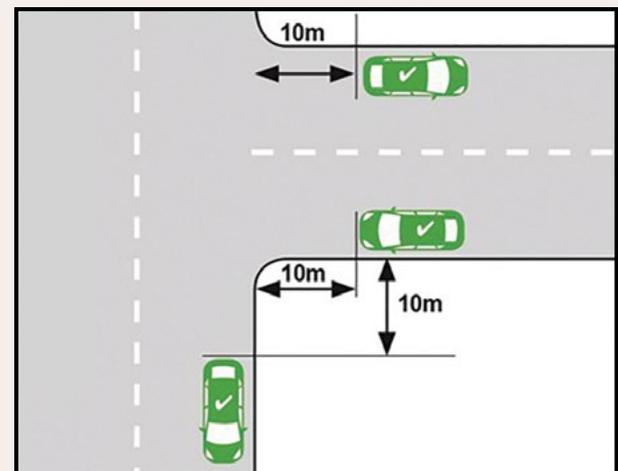
You are not allowed to park on the nature strip/footpath.



Road Safety Road Rules 2017 Reg 197(1)

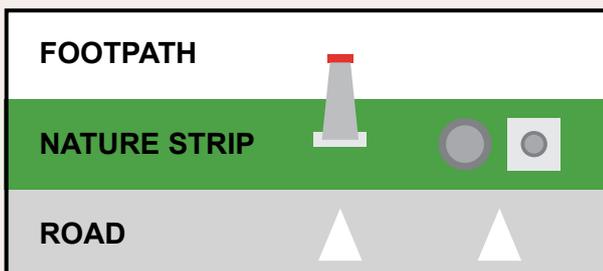
Avoid parking within 10 metres of an intersection

A driver must not stop with any part of their vehicle within 10 metres of an intersection unless signed otherwise.



Avoid stopping within 1 metre of a fire hydrant or hydrant indicator

The white triangles on the roads often point to a fire hydrant or a metal circle in the grass which are called fire hydrant indicators and plugs. You are not allowed to stop or park less than 1 metre from a fire hydrant, fire hydrant indicator, or fire plug indicator.



Road Safety Road Rules 2017 Reg 194(1)



Scan the QR code for more information on how you can park safely.



From left to right: Redleap Reserve Playground; Mill Park resident Susan Hawalla with her glass recycling bin; Whittlesea Public Gardens.

Delivering local projects

Improvements to Whittlesea Public Gardens in Lalor, a new playground at Redleap Reserve in Mill Park, Mernda Social Support Centre and the roll out of a new glass bin recycling service across the municipality are just some of the highlights Council has delivered this financial year.

As the financial year comes to a close, Council is now turning our attention to developing the 2023-24 Budget, which is expected to be endorsed by Council this month.

Over this past year, we have supported our growing community with key services, including parks and playgrounds, services for families, young people and seniors, libraries, animal management and support for local business.

We have continued our successful advocacy program, securing next steps

for the Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal and funding commitments towards the first stages of the Regional Aquatic and Sports Centre in Mernda.

Other highlights of the 2022-23 Budget:

- Delivering local roads restoration and resurfacing works
- Delivering actions from the Investment Attraction Plan and Strong Local Economy Strategy Action
- Increasing kindergarten spaces to meet the needs of our growing population

- Beginning design of Aboriginal Gathering Place
- Continuing to make it easier for residents to interact with Council through the delivery of our Customer First project
- Finalising a new Green Wedge Management Plan.

The 2023-2024 City of Whittlesea Budget will be available for viewing on Council's website once it is adopted by Council in late June.

And the winners are...



The inaugural Business Network Awards were presented in May at a gala event hosted at Mantra Hotel in Epping.

The awards recognised local businesses who demonstrated core values of excellence, sustainability and responsibility. Congratulations to the award recipients and all the nominees.

Start Up of the Year Award

Brewer Sisters, Epping North

Customer Service Award

Ristic Real Estate, Epping

Innovation and Enterprise Award

Whittlesea Community Connections

Sustainability and Environment Award

Repurpose It, Epping

Community Contribution Award

LINK Community and Transport, Thomastown

Workplace Diversity Award

Costa Mushroom Exchange, Mernda

Business of the Year Award

Repurpose It, Epping



All finalists and winners, as well as photos from the event can be found at www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/BusinessAwards

What's on

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

Youth



School holiday activities

Council has an exciting array of fun and low-cost or no-cost activities for young people aged 10 to 17 years across the municipality throughout the winter school holidays.

Scan the QR code to find out more about our Baseline School Holiday program.



Youth Takeover Night

Second Friday of each month, 6pm–9pm
Mill Park Library, 394 Plenty Rd, Mill Park

Young people aged 15 to 25 years are invited to hang out and connect with other young people in the City of Whittlesea for an after-hours event at Mill Park Library. Bring your crew or meet new friends as we play board games, virtual reality, watch a movie and more! Snacks will also be provided.

Sign up to join us via the QR code.



Families



Read, Play and Connect

Tuesday, 25 July 2023, 10.30am–12pm
Lalor Library, 2A May Road, Lalor

Read, Play and Connect brings together our community at the local library for story time, games and activities with your children. Families can connect and also stay informed on services, programs and events happening in their neighbourhood.

This session is recommended for parents and carers of children.

Scan the QR code to register.



Business

Small Business Mentoring Sessions

Monday 17 July, 4pm–8pm
Online

If you're planning, starting or wanting to grow your business in the City of Whittlesea, Small Business Mentoring Sessions can provide general business information and guide you in the steps you need to take to overcome an issue or information gap.

These sessions are brought to you by the City of Whittlesea and the Small Business Mentoring Service.

Scan the QR code to book online.



Seniors



Ageing Well Expo

Wednesday 21 June 2023, 10am–3pm
Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre, 25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

Residents aged over 50 are invited to the Ageing Well Expo to discover services available to them and hear presentations from experts across a range of topics, such as ageing well and home care planning.

Book online at www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/ageingwellexpo

LEAP social connection and positive ageing activities

LEAP stands for Let Everyone Actively Participate. It's a program that provides enjoyable and affordable events, outings and programs, including golf and walking football, for people aged 50 years and over living in the City of Whittlesea. LEAP helps people stay physically active and is a great way to meet new people, build new friendships and learn new skills.

Participation in all LEAP programs and activities requires enrolment as a LEAP Member. Membership is free, however there is a cost to participate and attend some of the programs. Learn more at www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/seniors





**Apply
now**

Have you applied for Kindergarten in 2024?

Kindergarten is **FREE** for all children

Apply by 30 June to be considered in the first round of offers.

3 & 4 year old kindergarten placement offers are going out to families during July/August.

If you have already applied for kindergarten in 2024, you can view and amend your preferences via the parent web portal.

For further information or to apply visit [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder) or email keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au



**City of
Whittlesea**