

Banyule Banner

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February 2023



Mayor's Message

Mayor
Cr Peter Castaldo



Welcome to 2023! I'm looking forward to the year ahead and the great opportunities it holds for the Banyule community.

Explore your Banyule

Longer days and warmer weather make it the perfect time to get together with family and friends and there's so much to do here in Banyule. With more than 120 parks, reserves and beautiful walking circuits, there's plenty to do outdoors. I encourage you to get active, enjoy nature and visit somewhere new. Plan your outdoor adventure at banyule.vic.gov.au/Events-activities/Parks-and-reserves

Uluru Statement from the Heart

I am extremely proud to share that Banyule was the third council in Victoria to adopt the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

It's a call by First Nations people for real and practical change through the establishment of a constitutionally-enshrined Voice to Parliament and the establishment of a Makarrata Commission to undertake processes of treaty-making and truth-telling. Through our Reconciliation Action Plan we seek to promote reconciliation, respect and trust and I'm looking forward to working with the community to promote First Nations culture and the significance of the Voice.

Help shape the 2023-2027 Budget

I invite you to help us develop our next Budget. We're asking for feedback on the financial principles as well as the draft capital works and initiatives program for 2023/24. The past few years have had a big impact on our community and on future planning. Global events have also led to financial challenges. However, we're adapting to the changing economic and environmental conditions. We are keeping our core business running well, maintaining quality services and delivering the priorities in our Council Plan. For information see page 5 and to provide feedback visit shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/budget-CP

Keeping our community connected

With so much planned for 2023, I encourage you to stay connected. You can find out what's going on by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @BanyuleCouncil and subscribe to our email newsletter at banyule.vic.gov.au/subscribe or visit our website. To have your say on local projects, sign up to Shaping Banyule at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au


Together with my fellow councillors, I'm looking forward to achieving great things this year.

Stay in touch with us digitally

 Email newsletters
banyule.vic.gov.au/subscribe

  
@BanyuleCouncil

Have your say on important projects and local initiatives

 shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au

Council Meetings

 **Upcoming dates:**
27 February
20 March

 **From 7pm**

 **Council Chambers @ Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe**

For agendas, minutes, public question time and request to speak forms, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings

Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region's history.

Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. Council is committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone; principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.

Prevention, removal and murals: the fine art of graffiti management

Graffiti is a persistent issue across Australia and in many parts of the world. While on the surface it may seem like an easy problem to solve, graffiti is a complex issue that requires a coordinated response across the community.

To help address graffiti in Banyule, Council developed the Graffiti Strategy 2020–2024, which includes actions for graffiti removal and prevention.

Removing graffiti is an important step in deterring graffiti and is a responsibility shared by everyone in our community, including residents, businesses, property owners, public utilities and government.

Council removes graffiti on Council property through regular monitoring of graffiti 'hot spots' and in response to reports made by the community.

Everyone plays a part

We all share the responsibility to remove graffiti from our properties. Free graffiti-removal kits are available to residents, community groups and businesses. Visit our website to book your kit and collect from Council's Customer Service Centres at Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub or 1 Flintoff St, Greensborough, above WaterMarc on Level 3.



Prevention is also an important part of Council's Graffiti Strategy. It can take different forms and requires a considered site-specific approach. These include:

- Reducing access to graffiti-prone walls with trees and plantings
- Considering crime prevention through environmental design principles when planning new buildings and public spaces
- Education and diversionary programs to help raise awareness of the impacts of graffiti, including how it makes people feel and the potential legal consequences of being involved in graffiti
- Installing public art murals for beautification of an area and to increase the sense of pride and ownership people feel for public spaces. Murals are installed through a range of different programs operating in Council, including our Arts and Culture unit, Economic Development and Youth Services.

For more information about graffiti scan the code or visit banyule.vic.gov.au/graffiti



Make art, not graffiti

Murals such as the one in Greensborough being painted by Hayden (pictured above) employ local artists and deter graffiti while beautifying public areas with vibrant artworks. Murals adorn Council buildings such as Macleod Scout Hall (pictured left), amenity blocks, Jets studio and Malahang bike hut.

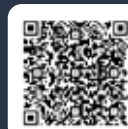
Annual Community Satisfaction Survey

Each year, all Victorian Councils participate in the Community Satisfaction Survey. Now in its 24th year, this telephone survey invites 400 randomly selected Banyule residents to provide feedback. The results allow us to track how we are going from year to year, see what is important to residents and improve the way in which we deliver services to our diverse communities.

The survey is conducted by National Field Services and calls usually come from a landline number with the prefix (03) 9977, never from a mobile. The 2023 survey will take place from February to March and participation is optional, anonymous, and appreciated.

To view Banyule's 2022 Community Satisfaction Survey results, visit knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au

Find out more: Scan the QR code, call **9490 4222**, or visit banyule.vic.gov.au/CommunitySatisfaction



Shaping Banyule

Get involved in local projects



Creative Banyule: Arts and Culture Strategy



We know that arts and culture are important to you - not only when attending festivals, or activities at the Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub, but to connect with each other and to help improve our wellbeing. We want our new Arts and Culture Strategy to be something we can all be proud of; a plan that ensures Banyule is a creative place for artists, community members and visitors.

In February and March, we are asking you to help set a vision for arts and culture that will guide Council's planning for the next decade.

Your Council contact:

Hannes Berger, Arts & Culture Coordinator

Phone: **9457 9913**

Email: hannes.berger@banyule.vic.gov.au

Share your thoughts at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/CreativeBanyule or scan the code.



Urban Forest Strategy draft out now!

The Urban Forest Strategy will allow us to plan, manage and maintain Banyule's highest valued assets - our urban forest - for the next 10 years. The strategy will guide us in expanding our urban forest and strengthening the benefits that our trees and plants provide. Our actions today will influence the urban forest of the future.

Key targets of the draft Strategy are:

- Minimum forest cover of 27%
- Minimum 45% canopy cover on footpaths
- Plant 10,000 new street trees
- Develop a tree management framework
- Tree giveaways for residents who request them

Your Council contact:

Ben de Klepper, Urban Forestry Coordinator

Phone: **9490 4435**

Email: ben.deklepper@banyule.vic.gov.au

Have your say until 23 March at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/UrbanForest or scan the code.



Have your say and shape your community

We're committed to working with our community to build and strengthen relationships that inform and help make decisions.

To have your say on local projects and activities, sign up to Shaping Banyule at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au or scan the code.





Have your say: Budget 2023-27

As Council prepares its Budget 2023–27, we are inviting your feedback on our financial principles and draft Capital Works and Initiatives Program 2023/24.

Like all organisations, the last few years have had a significant impact on our community, services, and future planning. Global events have presented practical and financial challenges, particularly when it comes to construction, with high inflation, labour shortages and supply chain issues leading to considerable cost increases.

While we continue in a post-Covid19 recovery period, we are focused on getting back to normal operations, keeping our core business running well, investing in digital transformation, maintaining quality services and delivering the priorities in our Council Plan 2021-2025.

Our goal to be a zero-carbon organisation by 2028 and a zero-carbon community by 2040 requires significant investment and we remain committed to acting on the climate emergency.

Large projects like the North-East Link are also causing significant local disruption that need to be carefully managed while we continue to advocate for the best local outcomes.

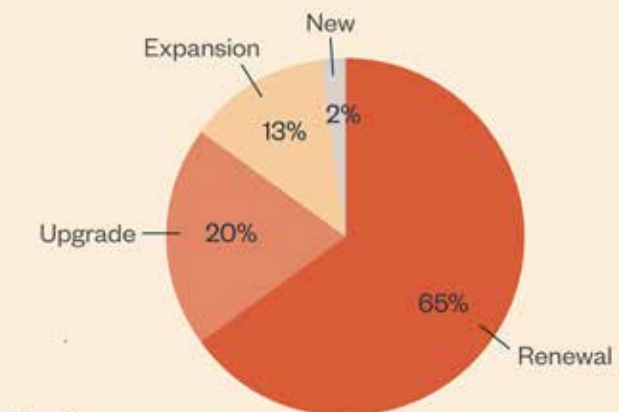
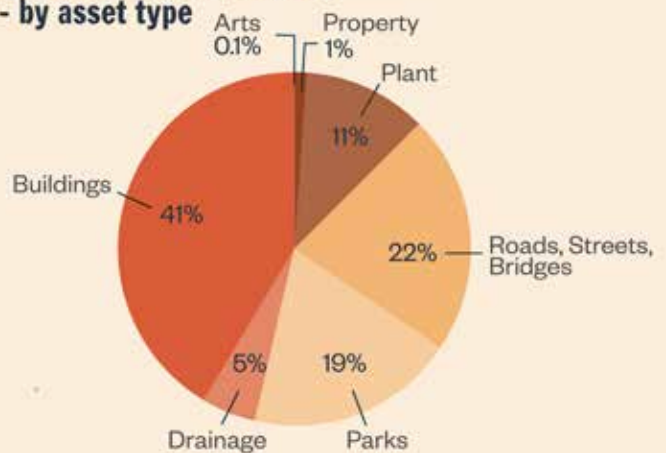
The draft 2023/24 Capital Works and Initiatives Program has been developed considering the current economic climate and community priorities to focus on renewing and maintaining the assets we have and delivering the most essential projects. The rate cap announced by the Minister for Local Government will also impact the funding available to deliver the program. These factors mean that some projects and programs will need to be deferred, or re-scoped to ensure they are delivering the best value and quality outcomes for the community.

Your Council contacts:

Tania O'Reilly, Manager Finance and Procurement
Phone: **9490 4267**
Email: tania.oreilly@banyule.vic.gov.au

Greg Gale, Manager Delivery and Assets
Phone: **9049 3398**
Email: greg.gale@banyule.vic.gov.au

Draft Capital Works Program - by asset type



Draft Capital Works Program - by work type

Have your say on our approach at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/budgetCP or scan the code



2024 kinder registrations opening soon

Registration for 2024 kindergarten places (three and four-year-old) open at 8.30am on Wednesday 1 March. Registrations will be stamped with the DATE of booking, not the time, so there is no need to get up early to register!

Register online at banyule.vic.gov.au/kindergartens

Free kinder for all children

Free kinder is now available for three-year-old and four-year-old programs.

A critical part of the Victorian Government's Best Start, Best Life reforms, all children now have access to two years of high-quality kindergarten programs, including:

- 15 hours per week for four-year-old children enrolled at a sessional kinder
- 5 to 15 hours per week for three-year-old children enrolled at a sessional kinder (subject to the length of the program offered)
- Funding offset for the kindergarten component of the program for three-year-old and four-year-old children enrolled at a long day care service.

When should my child start kinder?

Deciding when your child starts kinder is important and can affect the age at which they start school. Some families prefer to wait until their child is a bit older to send them to kindergarten, but the decision is an individual one.

Your child is eligible to attend three-year-old kinder if they will be turning three by 30 April in the year of attending kinder. However, if your child's birthday is in the early months of the year, they will not be able to start kindergarten until after they turn three, even if the term has begun.

Once your child starts three-year-old kinder, they are expected to attend four-year-old kinder the following year, then prep the year after. There is no repeating of three-year-old kindergarten.

A child who starts three-year-old kindergarten when they are young may not be able to repeat four-year-old kindergarten. A second year of funded four-year-old kindergarten must be approved by the teacher and is only recommended for children who exhibit developmental delay in at least two areas. Therefore, choosing the best year to commence three-year-old kindergarten is important. Your child can attend four-year-old kinder if they are turning four by 30 April in the year of attendance.



Kindergarten Open Day

**Saturday 25 February,
9am - 12pm**

Banyule's community kindergartens will open their doors for a morning of exploration and fun activities for children and families at the annual Kindergarten Open Day in February.

Drop in at your neighbourhood kinder from 9am to 12pm on Saturday 25 February to:

- **Learn about kinder programs for three-year-olds and four-year-olds**
- **Tour your local kindergarten**
- **Meet your caring teachers and educators**
- **Connect with other families in your area**
- **Learn how to register your child for kindergarten**

Each of Banyule's 27 kindergartens offer different programs and hours according to community need and demand.

To find your local kindergarten, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/kindergartens, or contact our Kindergarten Support Officer, phone **9490 4222**.

For more information visit banyule.vic.gov.au/kindergartens or contact Banyule's Kindergarten Support Officer, phone **9490 4222**.

Reporting broken street lights

There are many different types of streetlights in Banyule and the lights are owned by different organisations.

Nature strip lights

Lights on the nature strip in front of residential properties and on main roads are owned by the relevant electricity provider, which is responsible for maintaining them. Streetlights owned by an electricity provider usually have a yellow tag on the pole, with the asset number in black numbers.

If you notice an issue with one of these lights, take note of the asset number and contact Ausnet or Jemena, the two electricity providers in Banyule.

Ausnet manages streetlights in:

- Briar Hill
- Bundoora
- Eltham
- Eltham North
- Greensborough
- Lower Plenty
- Montmorency
- St Helena
- Watsonia
- Watsonia North

To report broken lights in these areas, contact Ausnet:
Website: ausnetservices.com.au/outages/report-a-fault
Phone: **1300 360 795**
Email: customersupport@ausnetservices.com.au



Jemena manages streetlights in:

- Bellfield
- Eaglemont
- Heidelberg
- Heidelberg Heights
- Heidelberg West
- Ivanhoe
- Ivanhoe East
- Macleod
- Rosanna
- Viewbank
- Yallambie

To report broken lights in these areas, contact Jemena:
Website: jemena.com.au/outages-and-faults/electricity/street-lighting
Phone: **131 626**
Email: customerrelations@jemena.com.au

Lights in Council carparks, parks and reserves

Banyule maintains streetlights in Council-owned car parks, walking tracks, parks and reserves. Lights owned by Banyule usually have a silver tag on the light pole, with the asset number and the Banyule logo.

If you notice an issue with a streetlight in one of these locations, note the location of the light and the asset number and contact Council:

Phone: **9490 4222**
Email: enquiries@banyule.vic.gov.au

Get help and grants for home energy improvements

Go electric in your home and receive up to \$1000 to install a hot water heat pump, split system air conditioner or induction cooktop. Not only will you improve energy efficiency and lower greenhouse gas emissions, you'll reduce your energy bills.

Council's Community Energy Officer will help you apply for the Better Energy program and ensure you get a high quality, energy efficient appliance at a reasonable price. There are 60 grants available.

For more information and to apply, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/BetterEnergy or contact Bradley White, Community Energy Officer
Phone: **9242 3451**
Email: energy.info@banyule.vic.gov.au



Environment Grants

Applications now open

Are you passionate about climate action, sustainability and the environment?

Do you have a great idea for an environmental project but need help getting it off the ground?

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for individuals and groups to deliver projects that benefit the environment and community in Banyule.

Council's Environment Grants encourage the community to care for our local environment and to lead on climate action.

Applications close 19 March.

For more information, phone Council's Sustainability Officer on **9457 9831** or apply online at banyule.vic.gov.au/envirogrants



Welcome to our new Inclusive Employment group



Banyule has welcomed 15 new participants in the 2022/23 Inclusive Employment Program.

Working in different areas of Council, they will undertake a six-month placement of work experience, career coaching and personal development, including identifying goals and strengths.

Since its inception in 2018, 52 people have completed the program which offers skills and experience to Banyule residents who face barriers to employment.

Most alumni have gained ongoing employment with Council or other employers, while others have gone on to study.

Image: Inclusive Employment Program participants with Council officers and Banyule Citizen of the Year Uncle Charles Pakana, second from right in the first row.

Pursue your passion

Did you know, Banyule has seven neighbourhood houses and learning centres providing people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds with places to meet, exchange information and learn together?

For more information go to banyule.vic.gov.au/Neighbourhood or scan the QR code.



Join an online workshop and help our environment

Reusable nappy workshop

📅 Wednesday 15 February

🕒 7:30pm to 8:30pm



Register at banyule.vic.gov.au/Nappy or scan the code. \$20 per person, payment by credit card only.

Composting workshop

📅 Tuesday 21 March

🕒 7.30pm to 8.30pm



Free workshop. Register at banyule.vic.gov.au/composting or scan the code

Advocating for our community

Powering Ivanhoe Aquatic Centre with 100% renewable energy

Thousands of people are expected to flock to our swim centres to cool off this summer.

Despite the sunny days, the pool at Ivanhoe Aquatic Centre still needs to be heated by large gas boilers, which creates greenhouse gas emissions.

Council is seeking \$2 million from the State or Federal Government to help convert the pool equipment to efficient electric heaters.

Once converted, Ivanhoe will be one of the first aquatic facilities in Melbourne to be retrofitted to achieve net zero emissions and run on 100% renewable energy through an all-electric, 5 Star Green Star accredited system.

Currently, the centre relies on two gas boilers that consume about 8,000,000 MJ per year and cost more than \$100,000 to operate. The yearly CO2 emissions are the same as 195 semi-trailers making round trips from Melbourne to Sydney.

Electric heat pumps will be three to five times more energy efficient.



Investigating the use of solar panels at Heidelberg West Business Park

Heidelberg West Business Park is Banyule's largest industrial and commercial hub, with 600 businesses that provide around 10% of all jobs in the municipality.

Council wants to partner with the Victorian Government to explore how solar panels on the roof of each factory could enable the park to operate on 100% renewable energy.

This would provide a significantly greener option, with industrial and commercial businesses currently accounting for almost 50% of the municipality's carbon emissions.

We are asking the Victorian Government to invest \$150,000 over two years to explore how the vast expanse of roof tops could power the business park and other adjoining developments.



Seven-star success for advocacy

Council's advocacy for seven-star energy efficiency for all new homes has achieved success, with planning ministers throughout Australia agreeing to better sustainability requirements in the National Construction Code.

From this year, new residential dwellings will need to achieve the equivalent of seven stars.

Banyule joined 23 other Victorian councils to lodge a planning scheme amendment with the Victorian Government, seeking to elevate sustainability requirements for new buildings and encouraging a move towards net zero carbon emissions for new developments.

The changes will better protect the natural environment and improve the health and wellbeing of residents by requiring new developments to reduce resource and energy consumption.

For more information on these and other advocacy priorities, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/Advocacy or scan the code.



Twilight Sounds 2023

Twilight Sounds is Banyule's premier free music event, showcasing live music by popular Australian artists and bands playing jazz, soul, funk, roots and blues-themed tunes

This year's outdoor summer event will feature DJ MzRizk spinning tracks between performances by:

- Mayfield
- The Meltdown
- Benny Walker
- Mahalia Barnes

A night of rhythm, groovin' and shakin', this huge gig also has a variety of delicious food on offer from our onsite food trucks, or you can BYO picnic. Alcohol is permitted at this event (no glass please). This is NOT a pet-friendly event.

Twilight Sounds 2023

 **Saturday 11 February from 5pm**

 **Heidelberg Park Oval,
Beverley Road, Heidelberg**

Access and inclusion

We make our events as inclusive and accessible as possible, for all people.

Phonic Ear system and hearing protection

This service is available for hearing aid users and people with limited hearing. Noise cancelling headphones are available for loan from our customer service tent at the event.

Accessibility

There are accessible toilets on site. Please keep in mind the event is set within parklands with limited sealed pathways. There is no allocated or reserved seating, people are encouraged to arrive early to secure an ideal spot.



DJ MzRizk

Pioneering Lebanese Australian DJ and radio presenter, MzRizk has garnered widespread acclaim as one of Melbourne's most respected house, jazz, soul, disco and hip-hop artists. MzRizk has over 2 decades of worldwide DJ-ing under her belt, including multiple sets at Glastonbury in the UK.



Mahalia Barnes

Mahalia Barnes has been around music her entire life, exposed to everything from Ray Charles to Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin to Donny Hathaway and Stevie Wonder, all of whom helped shape her into the powerhouse soul and blues vocalist. Barnes and her band, The Soul Mates, have released 3 albums and play to capacity crowds around the country.



Benny Walker

Yorta Yorta singer/songwriter Benny Walker is the real deal. He's got the voice, the songs and showmanship. His love songs and epic tales are mixed with passion for people, the land, vibes and deep grooves. Said to possess one of the best voices in Australia, Walker never fails to take you on an emotionally driven sonic journey.



Mayfield

Soul and funk band Mayfield, fronted by vocal powerhouse Carla Troiano, have a strong live reputation in the thriving Melbourne live music scene. With a high level of musicianship and an ability to get people on the dance floor they're looking forward to being a part of Twilight Sounds and celebrating live music and community.



The Meltdown

Making the song the focus, The Meltdown stay true to the story and keep your attention on the soaring voice of Simon Burke. This stellar band bring a blend of Stax and Motown with a healthy dose of the Nashville songwriting tradition. They're a band with a great vibe and sound with songs that move your heart and your feet as echoes of Memphis soul resonate.



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KIDS FIRST

State of the environment

2021/22

Banyule 2041 Community
Priority Theme:



Each year we report on how we are keeping our natural environment healthy and green. Caring for the environment is front and centre of the Banyule Community Vision 2041:

'We in Banyule are a thriving, sustainable, inclusive, and connected community. We are engaged, we belong, and we value and protect our environment'

You can see the full report at banyule.vic.gov.au/SOE

More efficient buildings

We continued to help residents introduce solar and make the move to more energy efficient homes through our Solar Savers and Better Score programs.

Sidath, a Bellfield resident, has always been interested in ways to improve his older style home to uses less energy and run more sustainably.

Sidath had great feedback after going through the Better Score program to replace an old air conditioner with a more efficient split system.

"I'm able to keep the entire house cool during very hot days without seeing any peak in the electricity use during that period, because the system is so efficient."
- Sidath, Bellfield resident



Another Banyule resident, Tom, installed solar panels and a battery through the Solar Savers program. For Tom, the solar system was an important investment that helps his family transition to renewable energy and increases the value of their home, but is also vital to help ensure a healthy future for the environment and for his family. He is also planning to buy an electric vehicle.

The Solar Savers program made the process easy for Tom.

"Going through the Solar Savers program gave me peace of mind to know that the installation would be done safely and without damage"

- Tom, Banyule resident

Council's Community Energy Service helped more than 500 households to make energy efficiency upgrades, install solar or access discounts on their energy bills.

Council is also leading the way in improving new buildings. Environmental scorecards were completed for all applicable multi-dwelling and commercial developments, to demonstrate that best practice sustainability initiatives were incorporated into permit applications. The top three initiatives developers committed to in Banyule were bicycle parking, reduction in potable water use and thermal performance modeling.

Learn more at banyule.vic.gov.au/ESD

For free assistance and advice, contact Banyule's Community Energy Service on **9242 3451**.

60% emissions reduction

Banyule has joined 46 other councils to sign up to the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO), the largest ever emissions reduction project led by local governments in Australia.

VECO provides participating councils with 100% renewable electricity, reducing greenhouse emissions across the state by 260,000 tonnes of CO2e every year. The ground-breaking project has reduced Council's electricity bills by using clean renewable energy generated right here in Victoria.

Banyule is now using 100% renewable energy for its operations, meaning Council doesn't produce emissions from electricity use. This has led to a 60% drop in Council emissions in 2021/22.

We are now focused on reducing remaining emissions coming from gas and fueled vehicles.

Some challenges include the limited options for zero-emissions heavy vehicles, the high costs of transitioning existing swimming pools to fully electric heating and the secondary emissions associated with day-to-day heating and cooling of Council buildings.

While there are challenges ahead, we are well on our way to being carbon neutral without the purchase of offsets by 2028.

Learn more about Council's plan to reach zero emissions at banyule.vic.gov.au/ClimateAction



Improving waterways

Council aims to remove 180 tonnes of silt per year in our smaller wetlands to prevent rivers and creeks becoming too muddy for wildlife like fish and platypus.

In 2021/22 we went well above that target and removed 1,100 tonnes of silt from Streeton Views pond in Yallambie. This produced an immediate improvement in water quality in the wetland. Continued monitoring will help determine improvements in aquatic animal diversity.



Bird count success

Each year, Council and local residents take part in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count to capture bird observations in backyards, parks, and local wildlife areas. Bird populations are an important indicator of an area's overall biodiversity health.

This year, small bird numbers have increased, indicating that the work by conservation teams and volunteers is having a positive impact on more sensitive populations.

Learn more at aussiebirdcount.org.au



Ant army defends burgeoning butterflies

For the first time since the pandemic began, volunteers joined Banyule Park Rangers to survey the population of the endangered Eltham Copper Butterfly in Andrew Yandell Habitat Reserve in Greensborough.

Surveys are conducted in October at night, when the caterpillars emerge from underground *Notoncus* ant nests to feed on the stems and leaves of the Sweet Bursaria shrub (pictured, right).

The *Notoncus* ants usher the caterpillars to and from the ant nest to protect the larvae from predators such as spiders. In return, the *Notoncus* ants feed on a sugary liquid secreted by the caterpillars. This year's survey showed an increase in the number of larvae compared to last year.

The adult butterflies emerge from their chrysalis over summer and will feed on the nectar of the sweet bursaria and other flowers. They can be seen flitting around Andrew Yandell Habitat Reserve until March.

You can help to protect the habitat of the Eltham Copper Butterfly and get involved with surveying caterpillars by joining the Friends of Andrew Yandell Habitat Reserve.



Upcoming event

Woody weed removal

📅 Sunday 19 March, 10am-12pm

📍 Andrew Yandell Habitat Reserve.

Meet at the bottom of the stairs on St Helena Rd.

Join the Friends of Andrew Yandell Habitat Reserve and our Park Rangers to help remove woody weeds and improve habitat structure for the endangered Eltham Copper Butterfly.

For further information, contact Park Ranger Tom Crawshaw: tom.crawshaw@banyule.vic.gov.au

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Eltham Copper Butterfly with Ranger Tom



Fun fact: The male Eltham Copper Butterfly's antennae have orange tips.



Coffee, cakes and social change at Bellfield cafe

A new café at Bellfield Community Hub is offering a warm and inviting meeting place for the community while also providing training and employment opportunities for local young people who are at risk of homelessness.

The social enterprise café is a collaboration of Banyule City Council and For Change Co., a social enterprise with the vision of an Australia free from youth homelessness. For Change Café, Bellfield will host trainees who are paid for their work and complete a training program to develop skills that can be used in hospitality and other industries.

“For Change Café, Bellfield is a social enterprise café with delicious food and coffee with a side serving of social change,” said venue manager Phoebe Smith.

“100% of our profits fund our employment and training programs, which provide a supported pathway to independent housing, education and employment for young people aged 16-24. We help them create a path to their chosen future.”

“Make your everyday coffee, treat or brunch have an impact. Let's tackle youth homelessness together!”

For Change Café, Bellfield serves Five Senses coffee and is open for breakfast, lunch and snacks from Monday to Saturday. Find them at the entrance to Bellfield Community Hub, Daphne Cres, Bellfield.



For Change Café, Bellfield operations manager Fi Walker, left, and venue manager Phoebe Smith in the café at Bellfield Community Hub.

Social Support at Bellfield Hub

Banyule's Social Support group has moved into the new Bellfield Community Hub and is enjoying the large activity spaces, dining room, art room and a beautifully landscaped garden.

Some of the group's recent activities include gentle exercise, armchair travel, Christmas crafts, horticultural therapy, a ceramics workshop, bus trips, BBQs, picnics and concerts. We are looking forward to hosting a range of new activities at the Bellfield Hub in 2023.

The Social Support Program is open to Banyule residents who are interested in a social day out once a week and who are eligible for the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP).

If you would like more information about the program, call Council's Social Support team on **9499 4795**.



Macleod residents Pat, left, and Lorraine at the Social Services Christmas lunch at Bellfield Community Hub.

Congratulations to the 2022 Northern Business Achievement Awards winners!

We're so proud of local businesses Upzeez and The Greenery Garden and Home, who took out major awards at the 2022 Northern Business Achievement Awards (NBAA).

Congratulations also to Alex from Dulce Gelateria, who received the 2022 Banyule Young Achiever award.

The Greenery Garden and Home, which won the NBAA Customer Service Award, is nestled on the banks of the Yarra in Heidelberg and is a family-run business with a 44-year history. Congratulations to the entire team on this amazing achievement!

Chris Olufeso won the Best Start Up Business Award for his nursery furniture start up, Upzeez. Chris's sheer determination and passion for bringing his product to market are second to none.

Once again, congratulations to all the winners!



L to R: Cr Fiona Mitsinikos, Cr Alida McKern, Karen Conrad from the Greenery, Chris Olufeso and Cr Tom Melican.

Thinking of starting or expanding your business in 2023? We're here to help

Through Banyule's new Small Business Permit Assist service, Business Concierge Officer Kiku Allen can guide you through permits and registration applications, business planning and support services.

Contact Kiku on **9457 9827** or email kiku.allen@banyule.vic.gov.au

Upcoming business events

Starting your small business workshop

📅 Tuesday 28 February
🕒 10am – 1pm
📍 Banyule City Council
1 Flintoff St, Greensborough

Northern Business Achievement Awards (NBAA) Breakfast

📅 Thursday 2 March
🕒 7am – 9am
📍 Venue to be confirmed

Social media and content marketing workshop

📅 Tuesday 14 March
🕒 10am – 1pm
📍 Banyule City Council
1 Flintoff St, Greensborough

To register visit banyulebusiness.com.au/workshops-and-events or scan the QR code



Out and proud at Melbourne Midsumma Festival

Banyule City Council proudly marched with Banyule Community Health and Banyule's Rainbow Space group in the 2023 Midsumma Pride March on Sunday 5th February. The march through St Kilda is part of the Midsumma Festival, a celebration of LGBTIQ+ culture which runs from 21 January – 12 February 2023.

Starting in Fitzroy St and concluding at Catani Gardens, the march was a fantastic opportunity for Banyule to join

LGBTIQ+ communities and their allies to celebrate gender and sexual diversity.



Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub

Events & activities

📍 275 Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe

All events at Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub are free, but please check the website for updates prior to visiting or contact us if you have any questions.

🌐 banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH

✉️ arts@banyule.vic.gov.au

☎️ 9490 4222



Naked Force - the art of Edward Heffernan

1 February - 26 March 2023

📅 Special Performance Event,
Saturday 4 March, 3pm-4.30pm

📍 Art Gallery 275

Edward Heffernan (OAM,1912-92) was a noted Heidelberg artist who won the City of Heidelberg Art Prize at the opening of the Heidelberg Town Hall in 1937. This selective exhibition of Heffernan's artworks is curated from the perspective of Heffernan's nephew, Michael Currie, a musician and composer.

The exhibition features key artworks by Edward Heffernan, together with video projections by Jutta Pryor and a contemporary response in the form of original music by Michael Currie.

banyule.vic.gov.au/NakedForce

Image Credit: Naked Force, photo and projection by Jutta Pryor, featuring artwork by Edward Heffernan, and Michael Currie with double bass.



Artist in Residence - Lakshmi Ganapathy, Fergus Black and Jeremy Dimla

📅 23 January - 19 February 2023

📍 Mungga Artist Studio, Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub

Join three theatre makers to discover how the experiences of local residents can inform a theatrical piece.

They will interact directly with residents to collect and explore their stories, with the aim of developing a new theatre work.

banyule.vic.gov.au/MunggaArtistStudios

Image Credit: Photo taken by Lakshmi Ganapathy



The Gender Garden

📅 20 January – 12 February 2023

🕒 Opening night: 3 February, 6 - 8pm

📍 Loft 275

Part of the official program for Midsumma Festival, this exhibition of earthly delights by transgender and gender diverse artists is curated by Emerson Zandegu.

Step into the Garden; lush, beautiful, dark and deep. Here, flowers bloom in colours you've never seen before. Strange creatures take respite in the shade of ancient trees. You feel the earth's heartbeat under your feet, beneath the rich soil.

What wonders await you?

Image credit: Image by Niamh Noble and Emerson Zandegu



Our Nature in Focus exhibition

📅 Showing until May

📍 Urban Lightbox Gallery
Midway Lane and Cambridge Arcade
Heidelberg West

Banyule's Urban Lightbox Gallery program is a series of rotating art exhibitions in laneways in Heidelberg West.

Our Nature in Focus is an exhibition of nature photography by local residents and artists Sandy Dunne, Vladimir Esipov, Glenn Hilling and Mahmoud Mortazav.

The works were created from two days of workshops with naturalist and photographer Chris Cook and feature images taken at local parks, including Rosanna Parklands and Banyule Flats.

More info at banyule.vic.gov.au/arts

International Woman's Day: Women of Banyule and Beyond

Save the date - 8 March!

Mother Tongue Poetry, supported by a Banyule Arts and Culture Project Grant, will celebrate the diverse voices and

experiences of women in an evening gala performance and celebration not to be missed.

All genders are welcome. Women and gender-diverse people who identify as women are encouraged to attend.

For information and to book tickets visit mothertonguepoetry.com/iwd2023/

Are you caring for someone?

Be part of the Banyule Carer Support Program. Connect with others, have a break and get support and information.

Carer wellbeing passes: Free passes to fitness classes or aquatic facilities at WaterMarc or Ivanhoe Aquatic Centre.

Rosanna Parklands Carer Walking Group: Friday mornings. Come solo or with the person you support.

Coffee catchup for carers of people with dementia: Wednesday mornings, Greensborough. Come solo or with the person you support.

To register for your free carer wellbeing pass or to attend an activity email us at carers@banyule.vic.gov.au or call us on **9422 8396**. To join our mailing list, email us at carers@banyule.vic.gov.au



Music in the Park

Join us for some musical entertainment taking centre stage in Banyule's beautiful parks. Sing along, get up and boogie, or just listen and chill to some great music vibes. There'll also be a sausage sizzle and children's activities for the young ones to enjoy.

📅 Saturday 18 February

📍 Ford Park, Oriel Rd, Bellfield

4.30pm-6.30pm
The Treblettes

5pm-6.30pm
Children's activities

Be entertained by this powerhouse trio as they perform iconic songs from the 40s, 50s and 60s. Sing and Dance along to classic hits, such as 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy', 'Stop! In the name of Love', 'Jailhouse Rock' and 'Johnny B. Goode'. No bookings required.



📅 Saturday 25 February

📍 Price Park, Lyon Rd, Viewbank

4.30pm-7.30pm
Sirens

5pm-6.30pm
Children's activities

Kick back with this sassy eclectic band. Gutsy guitaring, smooth harmonies and plenty of instrument swapping keep this dynamic band fun, fresh and never boring. Specialising in originals and cover songs. No bookings required.



Reels on Wheels

Returning in 2023, Reels on Wheels – Projector Bike Rides is an outdoor recreation and art experience for our community.

The program of curated bike rides around Banyule takes in video artworks created by local artists and projected onto sites and surfaces along the route.

Running for four consecutive Fridays starting 24 February, there are two routes to choose from, starting from Watsonia Library or Malahang Reserve.

These are FREE events, but bookings are essential as there are limited tickets.

Please note:

- Route 1 will be repeated three times – please only book for one of these rides.
- Route 2 will coincide with Council's Lantern Festival at Malahang Reserve.
- The video artworks are the same for both routes.

For more info on the routes or to book your spot, go to:

banyule.vic.gov.au/ReelsOnWheels

Friday 24 February - Route 1:
Starting at Watsonia Library

Friday 03 March - Route 1:
Starting at Watsonia Library

Friday 10 March - Route 1:
Starting at Watsonia Library

Friday 17 March - Route 2:
Starting at Malahang Reserve



Ward Rounds



Cr Peter Castaldo
Griffin Ward

peter.castaldo@banyule.vic.gov.au
0466 502 698

In December, we made a significant commitment that will resonate for generations. Councillors voted unanimously to adopt the Uluru Statement from the Heart and to take practical action to advance its core components: Voice, Treaty, Truth Telling. This shifts the relationship between Council and our First Nations people, taking us further in our journey

to fully recognise the long history of our country. It has never been more important to learn from First Nations people such as Uncle Charles Pakana, pictured right, about connecting with land and incorporating sustainable practices and culture in our lives. There is much work to do and many conversations to be had. I look forward to walking that road with you.



Cr Alison Champion
Sherbourne Ward

alison.champion@banyule.vic.gov.au
0466 486 593

There's been great progress on the upgrade works at Were Street. The much-loved street will be safer, greener and more accessible for all to enjoy. In January, we started work on resealing the road, installing new raised crossings and a pedestrian refuge. Resurfacing of footpaths is expected to be completed in February.

A section of the pocket park is now open and it's the perfect place to catch up with friends over a takeaway coffee from one of the many great cafes. New toilet facilities are due to open in February. The total project is expected to be finished in March. I would like to extend a big thanks to all residents and businesses for their patience.



Cr Fiona Mitsinikos
Hawdon Ward

fiona.mitsinikos@banyule.vic.gov.au
0434 891 077

The holiday season was a time to come together and celebrate with family and friends. However, there are many in our community who experience loneliness during the festive period. On Christmas Day, the Exodus Community held a special lunch for those who found themselves alone, providing a free, hearty lunch and cheerful company.

Have you heard about period poverty? It's a global issue affecting girls and women who don't have access to menstrual products. Thanks to generous donations from the Banyule community, Share the Dignity donated 90 personal hygiene care packages to women experiencing homelessness and domestic violence.





**Cr Elizabeth Nealy
Beale Ward**

**elizabeth.nealy@banyule.vic.gov.au
0435 243 598**

Welcome to 2023. I hope you all enjoyed a safe and happy holiday season.

It's about this time of year that students and parents are preparing for the school year ahead. Towards the end of last year, I had the pleasure to welcome students from St Helena Secondary College to Council offices. It was wonderful to listen to the students

as they presented to Councillors and senior management on topics ranging from the cost of living, urban development, small business, sexism and electric vehicles. Young people have so much to offer our community and it was lovely to hear students speak from the heart on issues affecting everyday Australians. I wish all our local school students the best for 2023.

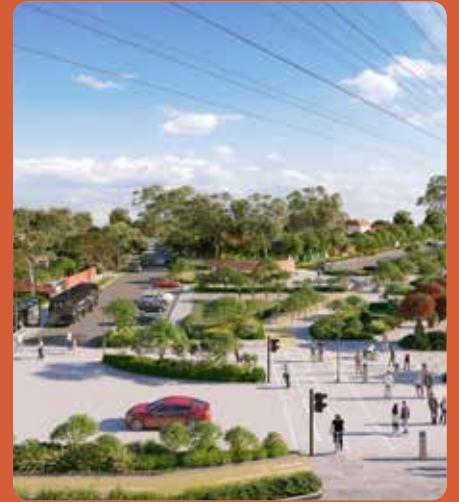


**Cr Mark Di Pasquale
Bakewell Ward**

**mark.dipasquale@banyule.vic.gov.au
0481 002 299**

I'm excited to share that we're on track to begin building the new Watsonia Town Square this year. The town square will provide a new focus for commerce and community life in Watsonia. With facilities appealing to all ages and abilities, the town square is designed to attract and cater for everyone in our community. It will include gardens and lawns, walking/cycling shared

paths, seating and lighting, parking and accessible amenities. Council will soon be shortlisting suitable builders and contractors and inviting them to tender for the job. Construction is planned to commence in June 2023 and we estimate it will be completed by the end of 2024. More info at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/WatsoniaTownSquare



**Cr Alida McKern
Chelsworth Ward**

**alida.mckern@banyule.vic.gov.au
0435 316 318**

Exciting news—we're about to start construction on a new pocket park in the heart of Ivanhoe! It will provide an open space for all to socialise and relax and will feature an elevated paved area with canopy trees providing summer shade, as well as much needed bike parking hoops. The park is expected to be ready to enjoy by June. More info at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/WaterdaleRdPark

Now is a fine time to visit the Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub for its comfortable setting and outstanding collection of summer reading. I'm looking forward to the events and exhibitions. With so much on offer, there's something to suit everyone. For what's on see page 17 -18 or visit banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH.



Ward Rounds



Cr Peter Dimarelos
Olympia Ward

peter.dimarelos@banyule.vic.gov.au
0434 891 065

It's exciting to see the Bellfield Community Hub enjoying full occupancy since December. Council services including Maternal and Child Health, kinder and social support programs are running smoothly. The garden run by the Community Gardens Group, and the café operated by For Change Co., are great spaces for locals to come together, socialise and meet new people.

The Community Gardens Group has welcomed members into the new space and begun planting for the summer season. It has been wonderful to see the outdoor pizza oven firing up and the garden plots being tended under the care and guidance of the committee. There are still plots available, register your interest at bellfieldcommunitygarden.com.au



Cr Rick Garotti
Grimshaw Ward

rick.garotti@banyule.vic.gov.au
0402 846 845

Congratulations to Watsonia RSL on its 70-year anniversary. During its long history the RSL has supported veterans and their families and has been a place for members and the community to meet. I was honoured to be a part of the celebrations with Watsonia RSL president Bill Wyndham, pictured cutting the cake. Summer is the perfect time to enjoy the outdoors in our ward. We've recently

made improvements to the path at Loyola Reserve. Previously a dirt track, it is now sealed, making it accessible to everyone in our community. At Gresswell forest, we're working to redirect the runoff from nearby houses and businesses to wetlands to improve habitat and wildlife. On your next visit, take a look at smart, sustainable design in action, and see if you can spot some of the new resident ducks.



Cr Tom Melican
Ibbott Ward

tom.melican@banyule.vic.gov.au
0413 043 015

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year. We are getting closer to a new library and community facility that will cater to the growing needs of the Rosanna community. Last year, Council approved the planning permit for the redevelopment of the Rosanna Library. It will include a much larger library space, a Maternal and Child Health centre and a toy library.

To proceed with the improvement works, the Rosanna library is expected to close early March. From mid April, a temporary library will operate from 56 Beetham Pde, Rosanna. We will keep you updated on the progress of the new library. You can stay up to date and find out more at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/rosannalibrary





Bushland diaries

Make a difference in 2023

Would you like to make a positive impact on the environment this year?

Join one of the many environmental friends groups which operate throughout Banyule’s bushland reserves alongside our experienced and knowledgeable Park Rangers.

You can help protect and enhance the incredible biodiversity in Banyule through events such as planting indigenous vegetation, building nesting boxes, hand-weeding, and woody weed removal.

There are also nature walks, wildflower walks and spotlight --night walks where you can learn more about your local reserves and wildlife.

Most events are family-friendly and are a great way to get involved with protecting your local environment and improving habitat for wildlife, such as the short-beaked echidna (pictured).

Joining a local friends group is also a great way to gain field experience and improve your plant identification skills if you’re studying Conservation and Land Management or Environmental Science.



Did you know echidnas can still be found in Greensborough?

Interested in volunteering?

Help us conserve bushland reserves by joining a friends of group. Find your nearest one at banyule.vic.gov.au/friendsofgroup



Join us for Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday 5 March 2023

🕒 10am-12pm

📍 Rosanna Parklands

Join the Friends of Salt Creek and Banyule park rangers to remove litter from Rosanna Parklands. Meet at the playground near the corner of Thomson Dve and Stanton Cres.

Sunday 5 March 2023

🕒 10am-12pm

📍 Banyule Flats

Join the Warringal Conservation Society and our Park Rangers to remove litter from Banyule Flats Reserve.

For more information, contact Park Ranger Tom Crawshaw at tom.crawshaw@banyule.vic.gov.au

Learn something new, at a house near you

Banyule's Neighbourhood Houses



For more information go to banyule.vic.gov.au/Neighbourhood or scan the QR code.

Contact Us

All enquiries

PO Box 94, Greensborough, VIC 3088
Phone 9490 4222
enquiries@banyule.vic.gov.au
banyule.vic.gov.au

Council Service Centres

Greensborough 1 Flintoff St
Ivanhoe 275 Upper Heidelberg Rd
Rosanna 72 Turnham Ave (currently closed)
COVID-19 restrictions may impact operations so please check our website for up-to-date information.
Our customer service staff can also assist you over the phone.

Hearing or speech impaired

Call us through the National Relay Service on 133 677 (TTY) or 1300 555 727 (ordinary handset) and contact 9490 4222.

Interpreter service

إذا كنتم بحاجة إلى مترجم يرجى الاتصال بالخط القومي للترجمة الهاتفية على الرقم 131 450 وطلب إيصالكم ببلدية بانيلول على الرقم 9490 4222.

如果你需要一名翻译, 请打电话到国家电话翻译服务处 (TIS National) 131 450, 再转接到 Banyule 市政府 9490 4222

若你需要口譯員, 請致電 131 450 聯絡 TIS National, 要求他們為你致電 9490 4222 接通 Banyule 市政廳。

Ako vam je potreban tumač, molimo vas, nazovite TIS National na broj 131 450 i zatražite da vas se spoji sa Vijećim općine Banyule na broj 9490 4222.

Se hai bisogno di un interprete chiama TIS National al numero 131 450 e chiedi di essere messo in comunicazione con il Comune di Bayule al numero 9490 4222.

Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα τηλεφωνήστε στην Εθνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων Μεταφραστών στον αριθμό 131 450 και ζητήστε να σας συνδέσουν με τη Δημαρχία Banyule στο 9490 4222.

Ако ви треба преведувач ве молиме јавете се на TIS NATIONAL на 131 450 и замовете да ве поврзат со Banyule Council на 9490 4222.

Haddii aad u baahan tahay mutarjum wac khadka qaranka oo ah TIS 131 450 weydiina in lagugu xiro Degmada Banyule tel: 9490 4222.

Nếu cần thông dịch, xin gọi cho TIS Toàn Quốc qua số 131 450 rồi nhờ họ gọi cho Hội Đồng Thành Phố Banyule theo số 9490 4222 giúp quý vị.