

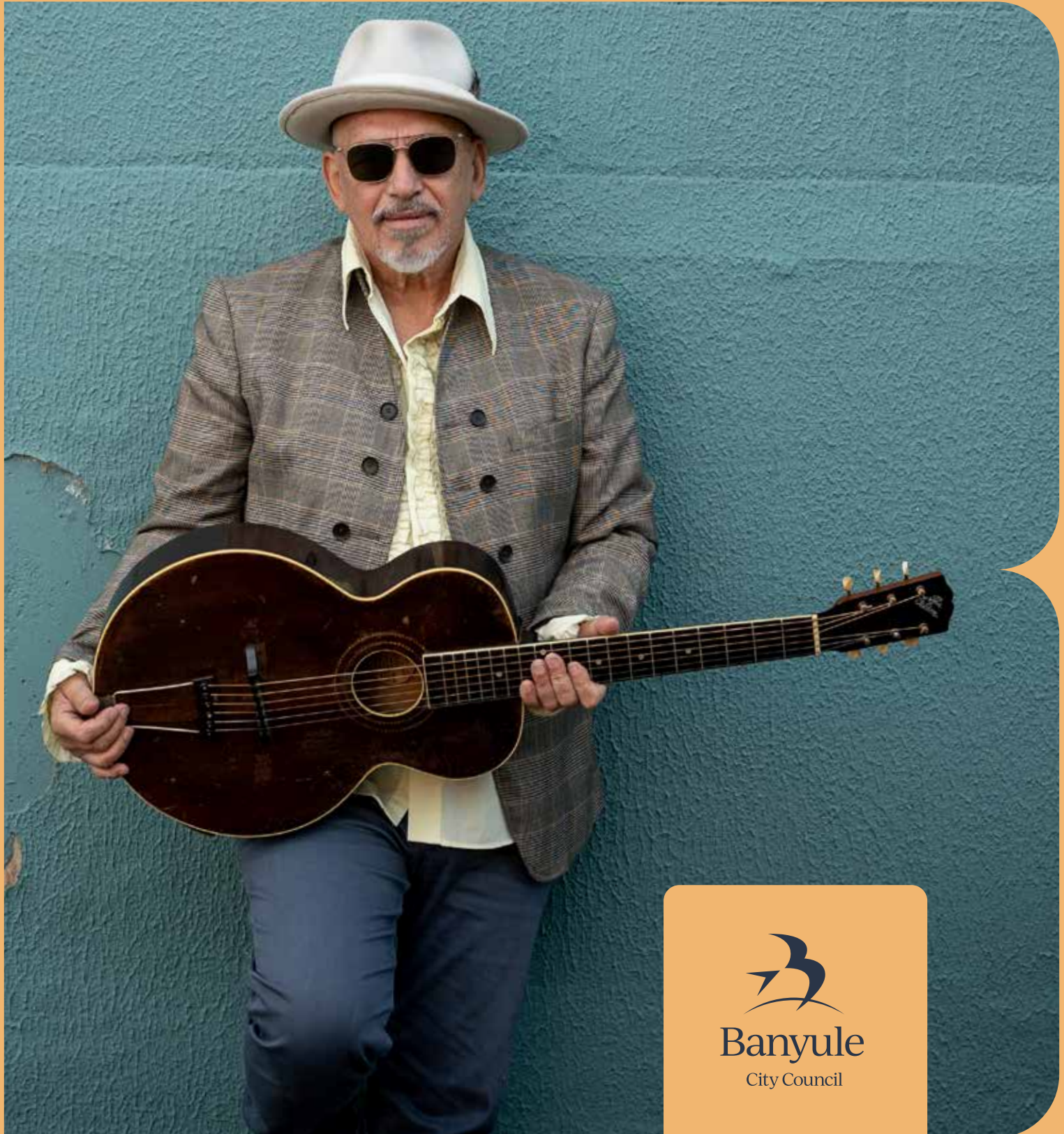
Banyule Banner

January/February 2022

04 Shaping Banyule

06 We're rethinking our
food waste

20 Ward Rounds



Banyule
City Council

Mayor's Message

Mayor
Cr Elizabeth Nealy



Welcome to 2022! I'm sure there has never been a more exciting time to be Mayor of Banyule. While the pandemic continues to challenge us, we are well placed to move forward with a sense of hope and opportunity because of the work we have put in over the past two years.

Council is focused on doing all we can to offer opportunities for people to reconnect and enjoy everything that Banyule has to offer, while delivering our many services and projects.

Celebrating community

The huge and joyous crowd at Carols by Candlelight in December showed us Banyule's community spirit remains strong. As we enter a phase of cautious reopening, Council will host community events as often as we can, in line with the current health advice. Please join in as often as you can and make sure to check our website for the latest information, as things can change.

Helping us meet our targets for a fair, inclusive and well-resourced community will be the focus of Council's new Inclusive Banyule Advisory Committee (see page 8).

Building community

In a very practical sense, we are building your community through major capital works including Bellfield Community Hub, the upgrade of Greensborough Maternal and Child Health Centre and Preschool (see page 3), and other projects such as

reimagining Olympic Leisure Centre, the new Watsonia Town Square and a bigger Rosanna Library, among many others.

Serving community

I'm really excited about a new service that could halve the amount of rubbish going to landfill. After a successful trial, Council is now launching a new waste collection called FOGO - short for Food Organics and Garden Organics.

Knowing that putting my food waste in the correct bin will not only help slash waste going to landfill but will produce organic compost that can be used on council and home gardens will make me feel good every time I peel a potato.

We'll be rolling out new bins and kitchen caddies over coming months. Find out how easy FOGO will be for you in the story on pages 6 and 7.


As you can see, it's going to be a big year for Banyule. I wish you and yours a prosperous and peaceful 2022.

Stay in touch with us digitally


 Email newsletters
banyule.vic.gov.au/subscribe

  
[@BanyuleCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/BanyuleCouncil)


Have your say on important projects and local initiatives

 shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au

Council Meetings

 **Upcoming dates:**
7 February, 28 February,
21 March

 **From 7pm**

 **For location and up-to-date COVID restrictions, please check our website.**

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.

COVER: The Black Sorrows, featuring frontman Joe Camilleri, will be the headline act at Twilight Sounds on 12 February. See page 10 for more.

Building a better Banyule



Bellfield Community Hub site visit

Councillors were impressed with progress on the new Bellfield Community Hub at a site visit during December (pictured above). Internal framing, windows and roofing works were progressing, fitting out the expansive 3,100m² floor space. Meanwhile, the building's brickwork was almost complete using 50,000 recycled bricks (see below).

The new community hub will house a range of community facilities and services and is on track to open in May 2022.



Greensborough Maternal and Child Health



Greensborough Preschool

Refurbishment for Greensborough MCH and Preschool

Nurses and teachers are welcoming new families to their newly refurbished and extended premises at Greensborough Maternal and Child Health and Preschool in Ester Street. The Maternal and Child Health has three consulting rooms and provides 10 key consultations for every child over the all-important early years, from soon after birth to three-and-a-half years of age. There is also a breastfeeding support service.

On the same site, Greensborough Preschool, now with refurbished, larger classrooms and playground, is offering three-year-old and four-year-old programs. If you would like a tour of the new preschool, contact the kindergarten directly on **9434 4645**.

Bellfield and Greensborough projects are supported by Victorian Government funding.

Find out more about our exciting Bellfield project at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/Bellfield

Shaping Banyule

Get involved in local projects



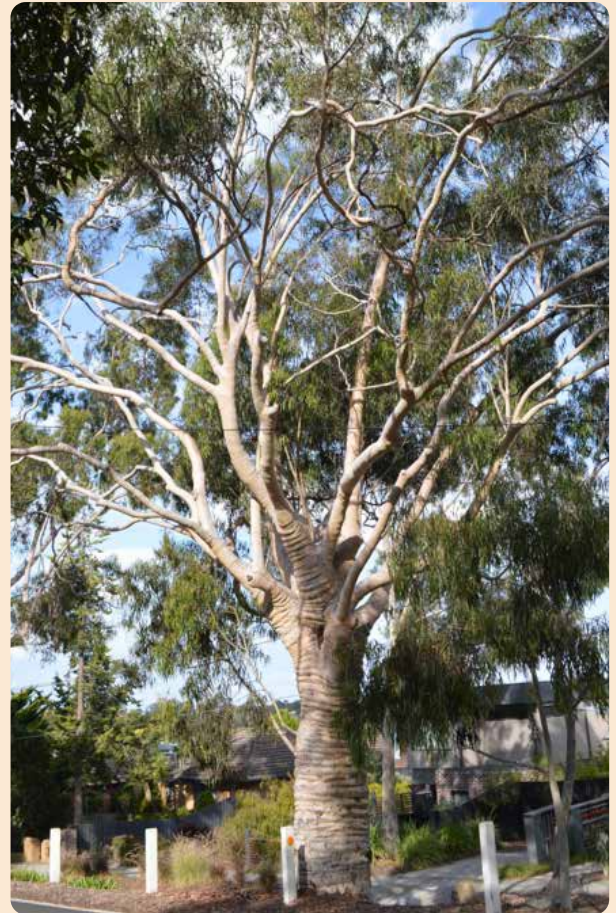
Protecting our Urban Forest

Our urban forest is one of our greatest assets, making Banyule a great place to live, work and visit.

That's why we are developing a plan to protect, enhance and manage our trees and green spaces.

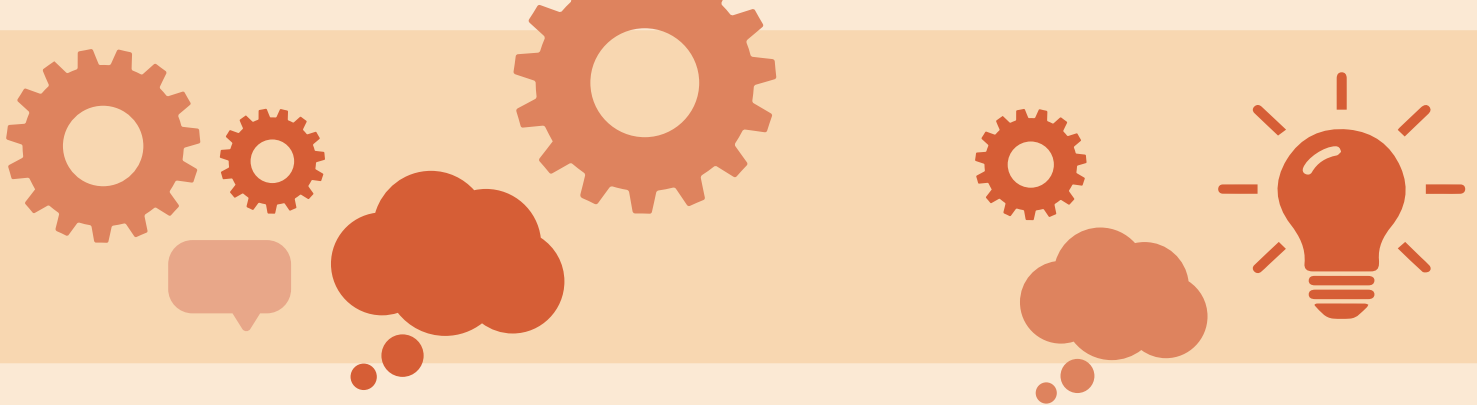
Last year we completed an audit of more than 70,000 street trees. The Urban Forest Strategy is now underway and will be completed by mid-2022. It will guide the management of our trees over the next decade, influencing urban forest in Banyule for the next generation.

Do you have something to say about how trees in Banyule are protected, retained and managed? Follow the project at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/UrbanForest and receive notifications to provide your feedback as the project progresses.



Scan the code to find out more about the Urban Forest Strategy





Our valued community assets and facilities

As custodians of our community facilities and services, we work to ensure they are affordable, sustainable, equitably distributed, safe and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

To achieve this vision, we're creating a Community Service and Infrastructure Framework that will guide future investment in Council services. Do you use Council services and buildings? We'd love to hear from you! Tell us what makes a good Council service and facility – or how they could work better. Face-to-face community discussions begin in early 2022.

Find out more at shaping.banyule.vic.au/CS&IF

Scan the code to find out more about the Framework



Improving East Ivanhoe

Tell us what would make East Ivanhoe Village a better place to work, shop and play.

Community members drawn from residents, traders, the church and a school have joined the East Ivanhoe Village Project Reference Group to work with Council on ideas to improve the village. We'll also be holding pop-up consultation events at the village in March.

We'll be looking at things such as new road crossing points, pedestrian access, footpaths, outdoor dining and trees and greenery. Some of the questions we're asking are: What makes East Ivanhoe Village unique? What improvements would make you stay longer? What do you want your village to look like in 5 or 10 years?

Tune in at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/EastIvanhoe

Scan the code to find out more about the project



We're rethinking our food waste

Did you know that more than half of the waste that goes to landfill in Banyule can be composted?

That's right – thousands of tonnes of food scraps, garden waste and organic matter that could be turned into compost to help sustain gardens and farms is literally going to waste!

So, we're rethinking our food waste. In July 2022, a new food and garden waste service (also known as FOGO) will start and residents will be able to place food waste in the garden waste bin for composting. This is an exciting step as we strive towards zero waste to landfill by 2030.

What's changing?

As part of this exciting new service, your garden waste bin will become your FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE BIN, and will be collected weekly from July.

As the rubbish bin going to landfill will have less waste, it will be collected fortnightly. To assist with this change, households will receive a 140 litre red-lidded rubbish bin to replace the existing 80 litre rubbish bin. Keep an eye on your letterbox for more information regarding when your bin will be changed over.

Households will also receive a kitchen caddy to help collect food scraps in the kitchen, and to transport them to the food and garden waste bin. Kitchen caddies can be lined with 1-2 sheets of newspaper or paper towel.

It is important to note that no plastics or liners of any kind (including those labelled as compostable) should be placed in the kitchen caddy or food and garden waste bin, as they cannot be processed by the composting facility.

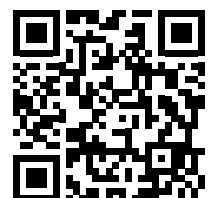


FOGO trial embraced

Late last year, we conducted an 8-week trial of the FOGO service with 500 households across Banyule. Residents who took part gave us positive feedback and were optimistic about the purpose and outcomes of the service.

About 90% of trial participants surveyed found it "easy" or "very easy" to adapt to the change. This was evident by consistently low contamination levels throughout the trial.

Scan the code to watch a short video about the trial and hear from one of the participants.





Timeline for residents

- February – June 2022** New red-lidded rubbish bins delivered to households
Old rubbish bins collected and recycled
- June 2022** Kitchen caddy and information packs delivered
- July 2022** FOGO service begins



Become a FOGO Champion

We're looking for residents who are excited about FOGO to become our Banyule Waste Champions!

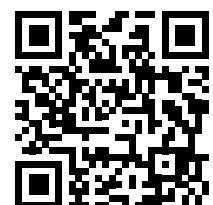
If you're passionate about reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill, and think you can assist in supporting and educating your community on this new and exciting service, we would love to hear from you! Champions will be invited to attend leadership and presentation skills workshops.

Get in touch with us at:

letsrethinkourwaste@banyule.vic.gov.au

To find out more about the FOGO service:

banyule.vic.gov.au/FOGO
enquiries@banyule.vic.gov.au
9490 4222



Expert panel to drive social justice goals

Banyule has a new committee to provide expert advice and drive action on its social justice plan, Inclusive Banyule.

The Inclusive Banyule Advisory Committee provides a community voice, strategic partnerships, advice and advocacy on key issues such as social justice, housing, health and wellbeing, employment and prevention of violence, strengthening Council's position when advocating to funding bodies and state and federal government.

The committee is chaired by Mayor Cr Elizabeth Nealy and has senior representatives from departments including Justice; Families, Fairness and Housing; Education and Training; and Victoria Police; as well as community services in the areas of health, learning, employment, women's health, Aboriginal health, and the Neighbourhood House network. Representatives from five of Council's resident committees - Disability and Inclusion, Reconciliation, Multicultural, LGBTIQ+, Age Friendly – also take part.

“**With this group of experienced, committed and influential people behind us, we are much better placed to make a real difference in areas where it will be most felt – some of Banyule's most vulnerable people.**
— Banyule Mayor Cr Elizabeth Nealy

Guided by Banyule's Council Plan 2021-2025 and the key direction to “Support a connected, inclusive and involved community”, the committee sits quarterly and has met twice since its inception in October. Social recovery after two years of COVID-19 restrictions will also be a priority.

Cr Nealy said the Inclusive Banyule Advisory Committee would give Council more impact in advocacy and funding negotiations on social justice issues.



Annual Community Satisfaction Survey

Each year, councils in Victoria participate in a Victorian Government Community Satisfaction Survey. This is a telephone survey of 400 randomly selected Banyule residents who provide feedback on our services, and areas of importance.

We undertake this annual survey to see how we are going from year to year and we use the feedback to improve service delivery to the community.

The survey will take place from February to March. Participation is optional, anonymous, and appreciated.

For more information, visit banyule.vic.gov.au or call 9490 4222.

Carer Support Program

Do you need a break and want to connect with other carers, have a bit of exercise or try a group activity?

If you're caring for someone who is aged, has a disability or a chronic health condition, you're invited to join our free program of activities. We provide a supportive, nurturing environment where you can retreat from the daily grind, recharge your batteries, find support and get some much-needed 'me time'. We're including more online, outdoor and distanced activities.

Banyule Carer Support Group

📅 **First Thursday of the month, 12pm-1.30pm**

📍 **Watsonia Neighbourhood House**

Share ideas, have a laugh, find out about supports and services in your local area. The group is a safe, welcoming space for carers to enjoy a break and have a chance to chat with other carers. Guest speakers on topics tailored to the group. Wellbeing activities, such as gentle stretches, Tai Chi and meditation. Lunch provided.

Online Yoga for Carers

📅 **Mondays, 10am-10.45am**

Erin's classes will leave you energised yet grounded, calm and peaceful. Gentle asanas (physical yoga postures), pranayama (breath work), meditation and relaxation. Beginners welcome.

Carers Craft Group

📅 **4th Wednesday of the month, 1pm-3pm**

📍 **Watsonia Neighbourhood House**

Meet other carers in a friendly, relaxing environment. Bring along your latest craft project and enjoy a chat with others while you craft. BYO knitting, crochet, hand sewing, drawing, art activity or craft project.

Pathway for Carers walks

📅 **3rd Thursday of the month, 10am**

📍 **Banyule Flats, Viewbank**

A gentle walk at beautiful Banyule Flats, followed by complimentary morning tea. A chance to be active connect with other carers and nature.

Young Carers

Banyule Youth Services (BYS) offers a chance for young carers (ages 12-17) to meet one another in a fun, safe and understanding environment. BYS Young Carers program hosts events such as DIY self-care items, game and movie nights, excursions and various skill development sessions.

📞 Contact BYS on 9457 9855



Other support available

- Exercise and cafe vouchers
- IT tech help for tablets, phone, apps
- Carer excursions and walks
- Support with transport and arranging respite

Registration essential.

Bookings, enquiries or to join our mailing list, email carers@banyule.vic.gov.au or call **9422 8396**

Twilight Sounds 2022

Banyule's premier live music event, Twilight Sounds, is back for summer 2022 with a top line up of Australian musicians, including Banyule locals, Wilbur Wilde's Blow Out.

The free outdoor concert presented by Banyule Council and sponsored by Nelson Alexander Real Estate welcomes all ages for jazz and blues tunes on the big stage, roving performers and games for the kids. Bring a rug, a chair and a picnic, or buy dinner and snacks from one of the food trucks on site.

Held at Heidelberg Park Oval, Banyule's beautiful natural environment is the other drawcard for this unique event.

As always, we make our events as inclusive and accessible as possible. There is a Phonic Ear system for hearing aid users and those with limited hearing, and noise-cancelling headphones are available on loan from the customer service tent at the event. There are accessible toilets on site. Please keep in mind the event is held in parklands with limited sealed pathways and there is no allocated or reserved seating.

📅 Saturday 12 February, 4pm-10pm

**📍 Heidelberg Park Oval,
Beverley Rd, Heidelberg**

📄 banyule.vic.gov.au/TwilightSounds

Visit banyule.vic.gov.au/TwilightSounds or scan this code to book and see conditions of entry



COVID-19

Please check our website and social media channels as events may need to change as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.



The Black Sorrows



Checkerboard Lounge




Wilbur Wilde's Blow Out

Malahang Wellbeing Festival

Malahang Wellbeing Festival, originally planned for October 2021, has been rescheduled for March 2022.

Come and try an amazing array of wellbeing activities to get you healthy and moving.

 **Sunday 6 March, 10am - 4pm**

 **Malahang Reserve, corner Southern and Oriell roads, Heidelberg West**

FREE event. For more information and to book visit banyule.vic.gov.au/MalahangWellbeing

The Black Sorrows

Joe Camilleri and The Black Sorrows are one of Australia's most prolific and enduringly popular bands, renowned for their high-energy live shows, musicianship and infectious, rootsy rhythms.

Checkerboard Lounge

Legends of the Melbourne live music scene, Checkerboard Lounge are Carl Pannuzzo on drums and vocals, guitarist Shannon Bourne, Tim Neal on Hammond organ and groove bassist Zoe Frater. Each one a virtuoso, together they breathe fire into classic soul and blues originals.

Wilbur Wilde's Blow Out

Well known to Australian audiences from his seventeen years in variety television and regular appearances in movies, radio, theatre and rock bands, saxophonist and singer Wilbur Wilde is a Banyule local who loves to play on home turf. Expect a high-energy set of jazz and blues from Wilde and his big band, most of whom live in Banyule too!

Horns of Leroy

Inspired by the sounds of New Orleans and fused with the energy of the Melbourne streets, Horns of Leroy is known for raucous shows of big brass energy.

Molly and the Prohibition

Composer and pianist John McAll was blown away when he first heard Molly Georgia sing during a music workshop at her high school. So began the jazz-inspired creative friendship that is Molly and the Prohibition.

Proudly supported by :

**Nelson
Alexander**

Bushland diaries

Sowing the seeds



Banyule Northland Grassland Reserve in June 2021



Transformed: Banyule Northland Grassland Reserve in November 2021

Our park rangers have had great success direct seeding locally indigenous grasses to restore habitat and boost biodiversity.

In 2021, we used this technique to revegetate over 2000 square metres of the Banyule Northern Grassland Reserve in Heidelberg West. The site had been degraded largely due to livestock grazing over the last century, resulting in a significant loss of locally indigenous plant species.

After eight years of removing weeds and depleting the seed bank, the site was ready to be direct seeded with a mix of eight different locally indigenous grasses in April 2021.

This revegetation project will enhance the reserve by increasing the diversity of locally indigenous grasses, as well as providing improved habitat for a range of invertebrates, reptiles, birds and mammals.

If you'd like to get involved with the conservation of the Banyule Northern Grassland Reserve, we encourage you to join the Friends of Darebin Creek.

Scan this code to find out more



Return yourself to the library and be inspired

Banyule's libraries are open and welcoming the community back for a range of programs and activities.

Return yourself to the library and reconnect with community, learn new skills and hobbies, and return to routine with the wide variety of services and experiences available.

A welcoming place for all, your local library provides programs, events, and resources for the whole family.

Banyule libraries operated by Yarra Plenty Regional Library:

- Rosanna Library, 72 Turnham Ave
- Watsonia Library, 4 Ibbotson Street
- Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub, 275 Upper Heidelberg Rd



Make a change to reusable nappies

Did you know a baby will use more than 3000 disposable nappies and these make up about 15% of Banyule's waste?

There is a better way. Switch to reusable nappies and you can save money and the environment at the same time.

Choosing reusables can save thousands of dollars on your first child alone. What's more, they fit better and have less leakage. They don't contain chemicals, so are better for your baby's skin and the environment.

Over the last few years, we've seen a lot of people come to our workshops and discover the benefits.

Reusable nappy workshops

Discover the benefits of using modern reusable nappies. For \$20 per person, you'll receive two reusable nappies, valued at \$70, including one Banyule-themed nappy (pictured).

Next sessions:

Monday 7 February, 7.30pm-8.30pm

Wednesday 23 February, 7.30 pm-8.30pm

To book, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/Nappy



Clean Up Australia Day

Step up to clean up

Join us on Sunday 6 March to Clean Up Australia!

Australia's waste challenges go far beyond one day. Communities can clean up, fix up and conserve our environment, whenever or wherever you can.

Get your friends, family and local community group together to make an impact that improves your local environment.

For more information, visit cleanupaustaliaday.org.au

Book a hard rubbish or bundled branch collection

Did you know Banyule households get up to two FREE collections per year?

To book, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/HardWaste or call 9490 4222.

Conditions apply.

Music in the Park

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

COVID-19

Please check our website and social media channels as events may need to change as a result of COVID-19 health restrictions.

Siren Trio

Kick back with this sassy eclectic trio, featuring Mary-Lynn Griffith, Sally Koster and Michael Rowe. Gutsy guitaring, smooth harmonies and plenty of instrument swapping keeps this dynamic trio fresh, fun and never boring! Specialising in original and cover songs.

📅 **Saturday 19 February, 5pm-7pm**

📍 **Binnak Park, Anderson St, Watsonia**

📞 **Bookings at trybooking.com/BUTTU**

Book your spot by scanning the code!



The Treblettes

Be entertained as this powerhouse trio performs 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'.

📅 **Saturday 26 February, 5pm-7pm**

📍 **Price Park, Lyon Rd, Viewbank**

📞 **Bookings at trybooking.com/BUTUA**

Book your spot by scanning the code!



Eco Fest a first for Banyule

Banyule has a new community celebration to share all the latest information and activities on sustainability and the environment.

And in recognition of the furry, feathered and scaly friends who helped us get through the long days of lockdowns, pets will also be celebrated at Banyule's first Eco Festival on Sunday 20 March.

Petrie Park in Montmorency will be buzzing with a packed program of free events on the sustainability theme, including workshops, information stalls, entertainment, give aways and family craft sessions where you can make bath bombs or a kokedama to take home.

Green thumbs will be well catered for with stalls and workshops on gardening and home sustainability measures, while children will love the messy play and craft sessions, an animal farm, and Doggy Tales book readings by librarians from Yarra Plenty Regional Library.

A highlight will be a Pet Show featuring finalists in Banyule's Best Pet Competition (entry details below) and there'll be a pet photo booth for free pics of you and your pet.

Food will be available from a selection of food trucks.

📅 Sunday 20 March, 10am-4pm

📍 Petrie Park, Mountain View Rd, Montmorency

📌 Stay tuned for updates and booking information via banyule.vic.gov.au/EcoFest



Seeking Banyule's best buddy

They loved us unconditionally and never once asked for the daily case numbers.

The inaugural Banyule's Best Pet Competition honours the pooches, moggies, birds, stick insects, lizards, guinea pigs, rabbits, snakes and other non-human friends who stood by us and helped us through the darkest days of lockdowns.

Send a photo of your pet and tell us how they supported you through COVID-19 to be in the running for a range of great prizes and a spot among the finalists at Banyule Eco Festival on Sunday 20 March.

Enter online at banyule.vic.gov.au/PetShowComp

Entries close 1 March, 2022.



Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub

Events & activities

📍 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe

Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub is subject to COVID-19 restrictions and proof of vaccination status. If unsure, please call or check our website for details and any updates prior to visiting.

🌐 banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH

✉ arts@banyule.vic.gov.au

☎ 9490 4222



Beyond the Page

by Deborah Bowen, Helen Platania and Julie Walker

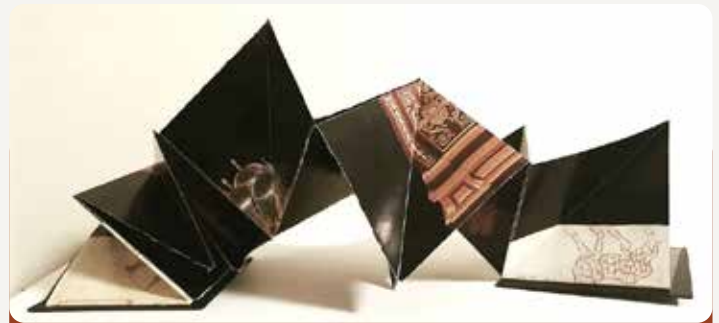
📅 17 February – 13 March

📍 Loft 275

Libraries have always been places of community, signifying more than just a building for the storage of books. They are one of the few places in modern society for the public to go and simply exist, operating purely on a basis of trust.

Told through the perspectives of three local multidisciplinary artists, this exhibition explores the influence of stories, books, and community. In celebration of International Women's Day, there will be talks and workshops by the artists. Check our website for details closer to the date.

Image / Beyond the Page by Julie Walker



Annette Phillips

📅 31 January – 13 February

📍 Mungga Artist Studio 2

Annette Phillips is an Adelaide-born artist who lives and works in Melbourne. Her practice is steeped in the collage canon, combining materials and processes, such as assemblage, painting, video, and sculpture.

She aims to unpack, reconfigure, reauthor and reimagine everything from psychology and politics to pop culture and invites everyone to join her in rocking the boat of all things expected or assumed. She has been reclaiming and reauthoring art history through a feminist lens, folding and collaging old art books and catalogues, and will be using the residency to shift the scale to something bigger and more interactive.

Annette will offer two workshops as part of her residency. Check our website for details.

Image / Folded by Annette Phillips



Kotodama by Avan Anwar and Junko Azukawa

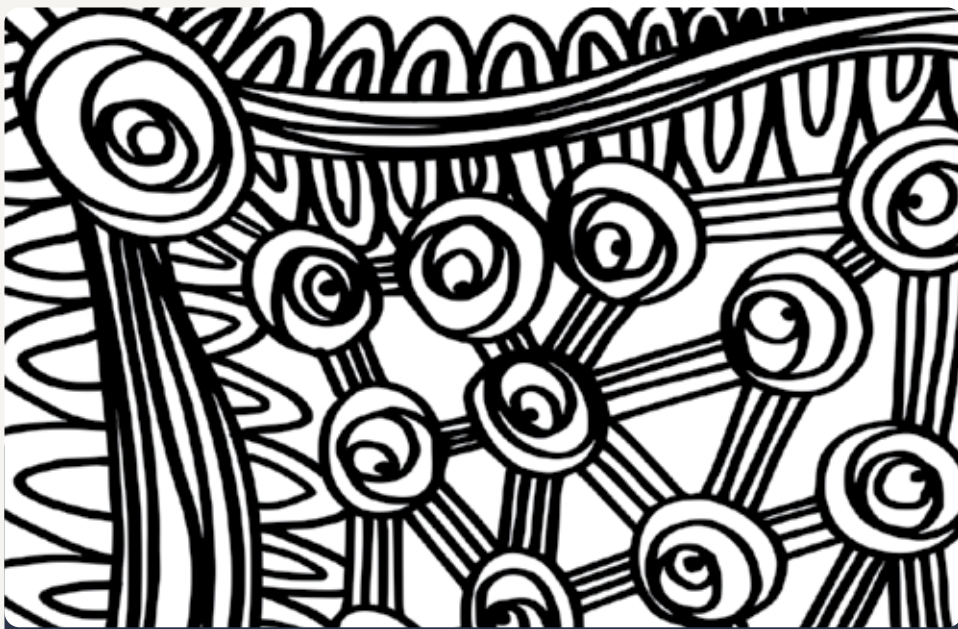
📅 18 March - 8 May | Opening Night: Friday 18 March, 6pm-8pm

📍 Art Gallery 275

Kotodama means "word spirit" in Japanese. It refers to the belief that mystical powers dwell in words and names. This exhibition is a collaboration between a Japanese ink artist and a Kurdish visual artist who have very different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, but have found they have the same value and respect for the spirit and energy held in words. In Kurdish culture, words are mystical tools used in poems to evoke a significant power and impact on people's emotions.

📅 **Special Performance: Harmony Day Celebration**
Sunday 20 March, 12pm-1pm

Image / Kotodama, image by Avan Anwar and Junko Azukawa



The 2021 Banyule Award for Works on Paper – Finalists Exhibition

📅 14 January – 13 March

📍 Art Gallery 275

The Banyule Award for Works on Paper Finalists Exhibition is an important event which has been rescheduled so that our community has an opportunity to see this incredible exhibition.

The theme was “Community”, and in this COVID world, we asked artists to consider what community means to them, and to provide us with inspiration and reflection through their various works on paper.

The Banyule Award for Works on Paper is awarded biennially to an outstanding contemporary work on paper. This is a prestigious national art prize, with the winning artwork entered into the Banyule Art Collection.

Image / (detail of) Banyule (2020) by Wesley Fuller



The Art of Bonsai

by Kevin Ritchie

📅 21 – 26 March

📍 Mungga Artist Studio 2

Inspiration, fascination, and delight are some of the responses people feel to bonsai.

Kevin Ritchie has been growing bonsai for over 50 years, and is always ready to share the passion, knowledge and skills he has developed in that time.

This week-long residency will assist others in exploring this world of bonsai art and enhancing their knowledge, with exhibitions of bonsai, as well as workshops, discussions and presentations throughout the week.



Journey

An exhibition of paintings by Yongqiang Lu

📅 20 January – 13 February

📍 Loft 275

Lu is a Chinese artist who calls Ivanhoe home. He is fascinated and inspired by the Yarra River and the surrounding land. His paintings reveal decades of skill and experience as well as the joy of exploring a new environment. He employs both Western and Chinese artistic languages to define his journey of this landscape.

Image / Pink in Spring (2018) oil on canvas by Yongqiang Lu

Worthy wildlife inspires Banyule naturalist

Briar Hill naturalist and film producer Chris Cook has lived and worked in a string of the world's most exotic and remote natural wonderlands. So it's significant he chose Banyule when it was time to settle down.

"I love it here, being so close to so many great green spots, and I want to do more and more in my local community," he said.

Sharing his love for nature remains a passion, one Chris gets to indulge in his work as a presenter at Melbourne Zoo and which he will share with Banyule residents during his artist residency and a series of wildlife photography workshops at Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub in February. An exhibition of his work will follow in March and April.

“ My greater goal is to connect people with nature, because with knowledge comes respect ”
— Chris Cook

Wildlife photography is one tool in the formidable arsenal of skills Chris uses to learn and teach about the natural world.

"I consider myself a wildlife image maker, nature is the artist. One of my aims is to take the ego out of photography and show that everyone can do it, all you need is the camera on your phone."

The elusive Eltham Copper Butterfly, thought extinct until a sighting in Eltham in 1986, remains the holy



grail for Chris and his camera, but other exciting subjects in Banyule include frogs, kangaroos, birds, rare orchids and other indigenous flora.

"I'm pretty open to what I shoot. The nature of wildlife photography is you never really know what you are going to get when you go out."

Chris Cook's artist residency and workshops are funded by a 2020 Banyule Environment Grant.

'Worthy Natives' by Chris Cook

Artist residency: 1 – 12 February

Plus wildlife photography workshops with Chris
Bookings essential at banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH

Mungga Artist Studio 1

Exhibition: 18 March – 10 April

Loft 275

Nature, Art & Design with Emilia Storm (part of NGV Design Week 2022)

17 - 27 March

Mungga Artist Studio 1

Emilia explores emotions of going inwards and outwards during a pandemic, this era of foreboding climate change and nature unrest. Visualisations of cocooning and transformation form a new nature-inspired series of artworks, wearable art and sculptural lights, investigating contrasts and contradictions of making art and design with dark themes. Fires, floods, disease and social isolation inspire these pieces to voice collective grief; our furling and unfurling.

Emilia is hosting associated workshops during her residency to help you explore nature art and design. Bookings for workshops are essential, check our website closer to the date for more information.

Image / Nature Invasions 2021 by Emilia Storm, photography by Kalimna Mohamed





Reels on Wheels

Banyule Projector Bike Rides

We're bringing you a new outdoor recreation and art experience this summer!

Reels on Wheels is a program of three curated bike rides throughout Banyule, featuring videos created by local artists, projected onto different sites and surfaces along the ride.

25 February – Rosanna / Macleod

25 March – Ivanhoe / Bellfield

Prior to the 25 March bike ride there will be a FREE community event with live music and catering at Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub.

Bookings essential. For more information, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/ReelsOnWheels

Projector Bike Rides are facilitated by Little Projector Company.

CHILL LOCALLY
THIS SUMMER!



ENJOY A JAM-PACKED CALENDAR OF
LIVE MUSIC ACROSS BANYULE

Over 50 performances at local
cafes, restaurants and bars

FIND A GIG AT
BANYULE.VIC.GOV.AU/CHILLIN



Ward Rounds



Cr Peter Castaldo
Griffin Ward

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

Thanks to high rates of immunisation our community is re-opening to many activities. While we continue facing the challenges of this pandemic, it is as important as ever to support our frontline medical staff and protect the most vulnerable in our community. As the COVID-19 virus continues to adapt and mutate, the medical advice

is clear that the best way to keep our community open and to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our health workers is to get a booster shot at the appropriate time. I've had mine and I'd encourage you to talk to your doctor or check the latest advice at coronavirus.vic.gov.au



Cr Alison Champion
Sherbourne Ward

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

We've long known that pets can provide health benefits to people isolated by illness or circumstance, something many of us experienced during successive lockdowns. My feline friends loved having me around for more cuddles and I enjoyed their easy company. Your precious friend might be a bird, reptile or stick insect;

pets of all sorts are welcome in the Banyule's Best Pet Competition, to be awarded at the inaugural Eco Festival on 20 March. Send a photo and tell us how your pet helped you through lockdown to be considered for great pet-friendly prizes. I'll be a judge and I can't wait to see your entry! See story on page 15 for entry details.



Cr Fiona Mitsinikos
Hawdon Ward

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

One of the core values guiding everything we do at Banyule Council is our commitment to an inclusive community. We value the diversity of the people who make up our community and are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone. At Christmas, this means looking after those in our community who may be

alone at a time that is traditionally about gathering with family and loved ones. Council supported a range of community celebrations in December, including a lunch on Christmas Day at Olympic Village Exodus Community in Heidelberg West. Thanks to all the workers and volunteers who opened their doors and hearts.





Cr Elizabeth Nealy
Beale Ward

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

It was my great pleasure to open the 2021 Carols by Candlelight in December. Blessed with clear skies and a mild summer evening, around 6000 people gathered at Greensborough Memorial Park and a further 2000 joined the live stream from home. They were treated to a line-up of Australia's best entertainers giving it their all and

creating a night to remember after such a difficult year. I was reminded of the importance of Council bringing people together, so that we all feel part of our local community. Congratulations to the Banyule events team who pulled it all off without a hitch.



Cr Mark Di Pasquale
Bakewell Ward

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

It's great to see families enjoying new Council facilities in Bakewell Ward. The refurbished and expanded Greensborough Preschool and Maternal and Child Health Centre in Ester St is now open, providing vital support for parents and children through the all-important early years. Families will have the benefit of continuity of care, developing a

relationship with the nurses and teachers from when their child is newborn to the start of school. We're also upgrading the playground at Gabonia Avenue Reserve in Watsonia. In line with community consultation, we are adding play elements for older children, stairs for easier access, a new swing set and a concrete path.



Cr Alida McKern
Chelsworth Ward

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

Happy New Year to our Ivanhoe residents. Despite the pandemic, my hope is for a safe, healthy and prosperous year. A key Council initiative in 2022 is the rollout of the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) service for Banyule residents to recycle food waste in the green waste bin and avoid landfill.

While I have recycled garden and vegetable waste for many years in my home composting bins, I'm rapt that FOGO broadens composting to include dairy, meat and paper towel products. We are looking for volunteers to support the rollout of this program; are you interested in joining me as a FOGO Champion? See our story on page 6.



Ward Rounds



Cr Peter Dimarelos
Olympia Ward

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

We've just completed three weeks of exciting community activities to help explore ideas for the new Olympic Leisure Centre. Residents of all ages took part in a range of activities such as exercise classes, art workshops, craft sessions, martial arts, music jams and hula hoop workshops.

Their feedback will be added to the community consultation being considered by our Co-Design team of local residents. We now have the important job of putting it all together in a plan for Council to consider as we create a new Olympic Leisure Centre for the Heidelberg West community of today and into the future.



Cr Rick Garotti
Grimshaw Ward

rick.garotti@banyule.vic.gov.au
0490 014 965

The huge turnout for Banyule's Carols by Candlelight at Greensborough War Memorial Park in December showed us you are ready for outdoor music events. It's a thrill to be able to get together and enjoy live music again, and it's even better when the show is in a beautiful park on a warm summer evening.

Next on the calendar of free family music events presented by Banyule Council is 'Music in the Park' at Binnak Park in Watsonia, from 5-7pm on Saturday 19 February. Bring a picnic and enjoy original songs and covers by eclectic local trio, Siren. I'll see you there! Tickets at trybooking.com/BUTTU



Cr Tom Melican
Ibbott Ward

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

I'm delighted to see Rosanna Cricket Club enjoying the improvements at De Winton Park, which were funded by Banyule Council and the Victorian Government. Club president Mick Langford said the veterans were given the honour of being first to play on the new surface. "The new facilities and ground are first class and being enjoyed by everyone from

our under-10s to our veterans, some of whom have been involved in the club for more than 50 years. With the new playing surface, sealed car park, new practice nets and the upgrades to the clubrooms this is one of, if not the, best facilities for cricket in the area," Mr Langford said.

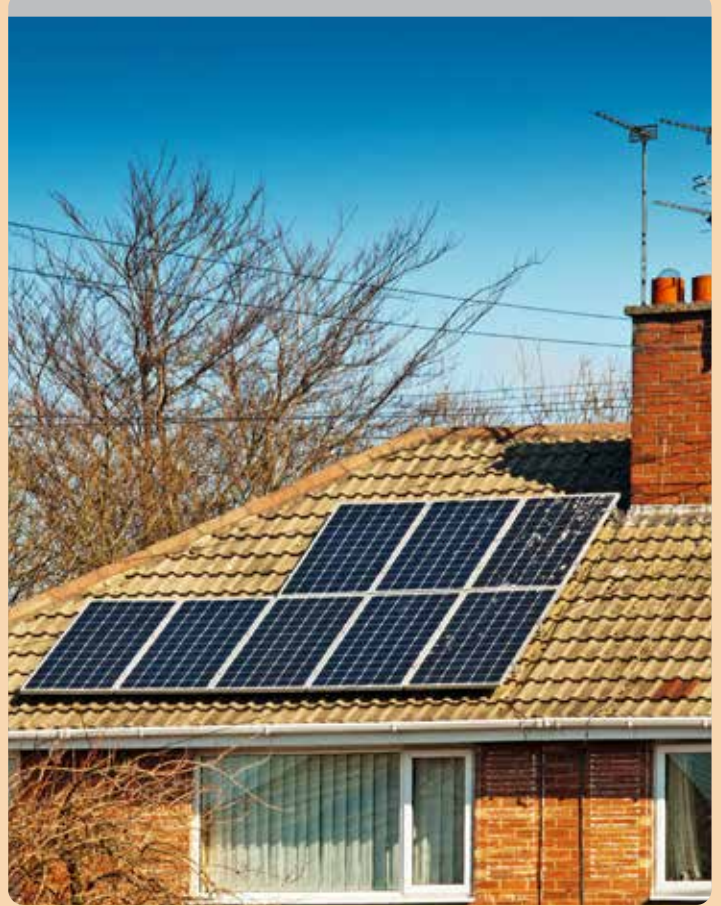


Solar Savers

Even with a La Niña weather pattern giving us a soggy summer there is still no better home energy upgrade than solar energy. In complete cloud cover, a solar energy system can still hit 50% production. That's enough to make a significant impact on your electricity bills.

Did you know? We run a bulk-buy program through Solar Savers, a coalition of 10 Victorian municipalities that makes installing solar power easier and more affordable. The scheme is open to home owners, renters and businesses.

For questions and advice on installing solar at your home or business call Banyule's Community Energy Officer, Ollie Forster, on **9242 3451** or email Energy.Info@banyule.vic.gov.au



Community Energy Service

Here to answer your questions on all things energy

Ollie Forster is Banyule's new Community Energy Officer, here to answer all your questions about saving energy in the home. The Community Energy Service is a new program providing one-on-one advice to residents looking to reduce energy use and costs, install solar or engage energy efficient home upgrades.

Topics Ollie can help with include:

- **Getting a better deal on your energy bills**
- **Concessions and how to access assistance in times of difficulty paying your bills**
- **Advice on home energy efficiency upgrades, bulk buys and grants**
- **Information on solar energy and Council's Solar Savers program.**

Contact Ollie by phone on **9242 3451** or email Energy.Info@banyule.vic.gov.au



Don't bin batteries!

Recycle them for free at our Waste Recovery Centre or various supermarkets.



Keeping mobile after 60

By 2030, it is estimated that thirty percent of Banyule drivers will be aged 60 or older. For many, driving is an important part of maintaining an active, independent life.

If you're an older adult, we invite you to sign-up for our free road safety and transport programs, to ensure driving and getting about remains a confident part of your independent lifestyle.

Wiser Driver

Wiser Driver supports older drivers to build on their driving experience and refresh their knowledge of road rules while in the company of friends and peers.

Each course runs over four weekly two-hour sessions. There are no driving lessons or tests, but lots of delicious afternoon tea. Each participant receives a copy of the latest VicRoads road rules.

Book by phoning 9490 4222.

📅 Ivanhoe - commencing Wednesday 6 April, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

📅 Greensborough - commencing Tuesday 26 April, 10am - 12pm

Wiser Walker, Wiser Traveller

This course provides information and skills to help older people remain mobile, travel confidently and safely, and stay connected in the community.

The course of three weekly two-hour sessions provides information on transport options and support services and includes a practical outing using public transport. Book by phoning 9490 4222.

📅 Ivanhoe - commencing Thursday 3 February, 10am - 12pm

Equipment Grants

Monthly equipment grants now open

Our equipment grants provide funding for not-for-profit groups to purchase minor equipment for use in providing services to the Banyule community.

Grant applications of up to \$1,500 will be considered for portable and free-standing equipment and fixtures that are plumbed or wired-in.

There are five funding rounds in 2022 – one each month from January to May.

Applications close at midnight on the last day of each month, excepting the final round in May, when applications will be accepted until 17 June.

Apply online at banyule.smartygrants.com.au



Environment grants open

A new round of Environment Grants is open for applications until 16 March.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to community groups, individuals and not-for profit organisations for projects that care for our local environment and take a lead on climate action.

The grants support the environmental aims of Banyule's Council Plan 2021-2025. Successful projects will align with Priority Theme 2: Our Sustainable Environment and its strategies to:

- Protect and enhance our natural environment, providing connected habitat for diverse flora and fauna.
- Minimise stormwater pollution and the impacts of flooding and maximise Council's water conservation to transition to a water sensitive City.
- Demonstrate leadership in addressing climate change and take action to become a carbon neutral Council by 2028 and City by 2040.
- Empower and educate the community and businesses to take actions to achieve positive environmental and climate change outcomes.
- Avoid waste generation and encourage and support the community to achieve zero waste to landfill by 2030.
- Engage and work with the community and partners to protect, enhance and experience the environment.
- Protect, increase and maintain Banyule's urban forest population to provide a greener City for enhanced liveability.
- Explore and support opportunities for urban farming and community gardens

More information and how to apply is on our website at banyule.vic.gov.au/About-us/Grants-programs/Environment-grants or phone Banyule's Environment Grant Officer on 9049 3377.

Applications close on 16 March.



Grant fuels climate action at St George's

When Fr John Sanderson and the community at St George's wanted to expand their program of environmental action they looked to the sky, and a Banyule Council Environment Grant.

As part of its Community Climate Action Plan 2019-2023, the Anglican community in East Ivanhoe wanted to reduce its electricity usage while benefitting the broader community.

"We have a long-standing commitment to the environment and the local community. Not everyone has a roof as big as ours, so we wanted to put it to good use for the community," explained Fr John.

Their solution was roof-top solar panels purchased and installed through Montmorency Community Group's award-winning community solar project. A Banyule Environment Grant helped complete the installation at the church in Warncliffe Road, where more than 20 community groups make regular use of meeting rooms and the community hall.

"As a significant net contributor of solar power to the grid we have gained the maximum solar power green energy benefit from the large roof space at St George's."

The church has a grey-water harvesting system and a heat-exchange pump for low-cost, low-emissions heating and cooling. There is also a popular Op Shop which helps the community live its values of "recycle, resell, reuse".

"Applying for an environment grant was a very positive experience; the process was easy and the council officers are very helpful," said Fr John.

Above: Fr John in the heritage-listed church, which has been retrofitted with environmentally-friendly features including a heat exchange pump, water tanks and solar panels.

Kinder registrations

Registration for 2023 kindergarten places (three and four-year-old) open from 8.30am on Tuesday 1 March.

Registrations will be stamped with the date, not the time, so there is no need to get up early to register!

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

Three-year-old kindergarten – timing is important

From this year, the Victorian Government funds every Victorian child to attend five hours per week of three-year-old kindergarten. This will increase to 15 hours per week by 2029.

In addition, each kindergarten also charges a term fee, which varies according to the number of hours offered in their three-year-old program.

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 kindergarten if they will be turning three by 30 April in the year of attendance. 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 kinder.

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.

Your child can attend four-year-old kinder if they are turning four by 30 April in the year of attendance.

For more information visit banyule.vic.gov.au/kindergartens contact Banyule's Kindergarten



Kinder Open Day

Saturday 26 February
9am - 12noon

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 next month.

Drop in at your neighbourhood kinder from 9am to 12 noon on Saturday 26 February to:

- Learn about kinder programs for three 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.

Taking care at school drop-offs and pick-ups

For many of us, it is part of our daily ritual: driving the kids to and from school. And sometimes we might be in a rush, but remember, road safety comes first.

Slow down, take your time!

With young kids everywhere it's vital we drive slowly. They might not be familiar with busy roads and they can be unpredictable.

Know where you can park

Get familiar with parking options around your school. Observe parking signs and road markings. Occasionally restrictions change, so don't rely on your past knowledge.

Parking patrols

Council takes school safety very seriously, with all schools being patrolled on a rotating basis either on foot or in vehicles.

Walk or ride to school

An even better option is walking or riding to school. Why not start the day off on the right foot? It's healthier for you and the environment!



Bus shelters

Living in a city renowned for its four seasons in one day, a bus shelter is an important refuge, whatever the season.

That's why we're installing 10 new shelters at bus stops in Heidelberg West, Heidelberg Heights, Watsonia and Bundoora. There's also a new seat at a stop in Grimshaw Street, Greensborough, where we couldn't safely fit a full shelter.

Part of Council's capital works program, the new shelters were allocated to the 10 most used bus stops where there was no existing shelter. We hope it makes for a more comfortable trip and encourages more people to use the bus.

If you live near one of the new stops, you would have received a letter informing you of works to be carried out in coming weeks.

*Or Rick Garotti at 7 Greenwood Drive, Bundoora
– one of the locations to receive a bus shelter.*

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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 بانويل 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.