

Banyule Banner

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August/September 2024



Mayor's Message

Mayor Cr Tom Melican



Building a better Banyule

Banyule has adopted a responsible budget in challenging times. We are maintaining quality services, paying down debt and delivering capital improvements. Turn to **page 4** for a spread of projects for 2024/25.

Community satisfaction

Thanks to everyone who completed the annual Community Satisfaction Survey, run by the Department of Government Services on behalf of Council. It's a random survey of community views about the places they live, work and play.

Banyule's performance remains consistent and higher than the average for Victorian councils. We performed higher than the average in 18 of 22 service areas.

We'll assess the results to determine areas for improvement. See all the results at **banyule.vic.gov.au/CommunitySatisfaction**

New rules for pets

The last edition of the Banner went to press as Council was adopting new rules for cats and dogs in public places.

There was a huge amount of interest in this and I think we got the balance right for public safety, the welfare of animals and the rights of pet owners. Get the details on **page 3**.

Spring into community

Sometimes it's hard to believe in the depths of a Melbourne winter, but spring really is just around the corner and we've got

some great community events to tempt you out of hibernation.

Spring Outdoors Festival comes to Banyule's parks and wild spaces, YouthFest takes over Macleod Park and the Seniors Festival is on. But you don't need to wait for spring - see **pages 18 & 19** for winter events and workshops celebrating National Poetry Month.

Council elections

Thinking of throwing your hat in the ring for the Council election? I can tell you it's a very rewarding and satisfying way to serve your community. Nominations close on 17 September and then Council goes into caretaker period until the election on October 26. Find general elections information and links on the **back page**.

Stay in touch with us online

 Email newsletters

banyule.vic.gov.au/subscribe



@BanyuleCouncil

Have your say on important projects and local initiatives

 shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au

COVER: *Chocolate Lily - Arthropodium strictum.*
Spring Outdoors Festival, page 16.

Council Meetings

 Upcoming dates:
26 August
16 September

 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.



New rules for Banyule's dogs and cats

If you're a dog or cat owner, new rules apply from 1 February. Thank you to the 3,978 people who provided feedback and helped us review the rules.

Dogs on and off lead

From 1 February, dogs must be on a lead in public places, unless in a reserve or on a sporting ground.

In reserves or on sporting grounds, dogs can be off lead except for during events licensed, permitted or organised by Council. Dogs must also be on lead within five metres of a BBQ or playground and when on a shared footway.

Dogs are prohibited in environmentally sensitive areas.

Cat curfew

Council will trial a two-year cat curfew where cats must be kept inside between 7pm and 7am.

There will be a six-month enforcement amnesty period to help cat owners to transition to the curfew.

For details, scan the code or visit shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/PETS



Council Budget and your rates

Your rates enable Council to provide facilities such as local roads, footpaths, drainage, parks, playgrounds and sports grounds.

They help us deliver hundreds of community services such as waste collection, libraries, kindergartens and maternal and child health services. See over the page for some of the capital works highlights from the 2024/25 Budget.

Over the past four years, Council has significantly reduced debt. Council's 2024/25 Budget focuses on maintaining our services and upgrading facilities, while continuing to reduce debt and maintain our stable financial position.

Rates assistance



Council has responded to the cost of living challenges faced by our community.

At a meeting on 24 June, Council committed to continue to consider cost of living pressures when setting future rates, fees and charges.

To ease the pressures for households and businesses we have increased the amount of financial assistance available to people who have trouble paying their rates. Options include tailored payment arrangements and partial rate waivers of up to \$550 for eligible ratepayers experiencing hardship. Banyule is one of the few councils in Victoria to offer this assistance.

We have set rates within the Victorian Government rate cap, with an increase of 2.75% for 2024/25. We have also set the Public Waste Rate and the Kerbside Waste Rate increase at 2.75%.

On your next rates notice, you'll notice a more significant increase in the Fire Services Property Levy, which is set by the Victorian Government. This levy is collected by Council and passed onto the Victorian Government.

To find out more about financial assistance visit banyule.vic.gov.au/HardshipPolicy or phone Customer Service on 9490 4222.

TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS

\$65.07 million*

*Includes carry forward.

There are hundreds of projects and initiatives in the 2024/25 Budget. Here are some highlights.

To find out more, visit banyule.vic.gov.au/budget or scan the code.



College Views Reserve
Playground design
\$30,000

WATSONIA NORTH

BUNDOORA



Loyola Reserve
drainage
\$532,000



Watsonia Town Square
completion
\$5.96M

WATSONIA

MACLEOD



Macleod Park change rooms
\$2.84M



Olympic Park masterplan
\$3.95M

HEIDELBERG WEST

HEIDELBERG HEIGHTS



Rosanna Library
\$12.19M

ROSANNA



James Reserve playspace
\$460,000

BELLFIELD



Heidelberg Cricket Club
nets renewal
\$28,000

HEIDELBERG



Ivanhoe Aquatic
– School Change Facilities
\$125,000



Eaglemont Tennis Club
Court resurface
\$100,000

EAGLEMONT



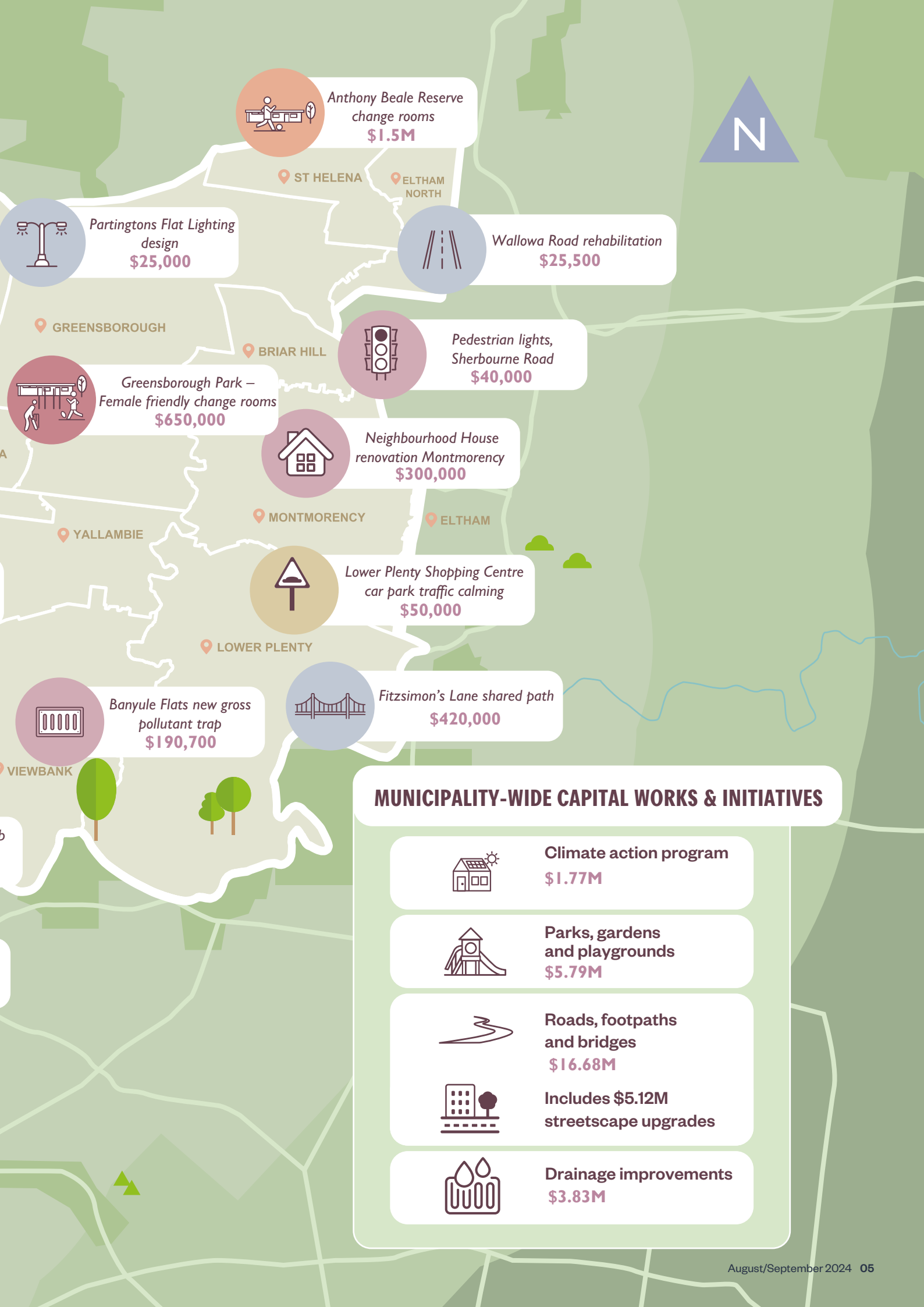
Centre Ivanhoe Refurbishment
\$50,000

IVANHOE

IVANHOE EAST



East Ivanhoe Shopping Village
improvements
\$1.97M



 Anthony Beale Reserve
change rooms
\$1.5M

ST HELENA ELTHAM NORTH

 Partingtons Flat Lighting
design
\$25,000

 Wallowa Road rehabilitation
\$25,500

GREENSBOROUGH

BRIAR HILL

 Greensborough Park –
Female friendly change rooms
\$650,000

 Pedestrian lights,
Sherbourne Road
\$40,000

 Neighbourhood House
renovation Montmorency
\$300,000

MONTMORENCY ELTHAM

YALLAMBIE

 Lower Plenty Shopping Centre
car park traffic calming
\$50,000


LOWER PLENTY

 Banyule Flats new gross
pollutant trap
\$190,700


 Fitzsimon's Lane shared path
\$420,000


VIEWBANK


MUNICIPALITY-WIDE CAPITAL WORKS & INITIATIVES

 Climate action program
\$1.77M

 Parks, gardens
and playgrounds
\$5.79M

 Roads, footpaths
and bridges
\$16.68M

 Includes \$5.12M
streetscape upgrades

 Drainage improvements
\$3.83M

Shaping Banyule

Get involved in local projects



It's time to review our Local Law

Local Laws help protect our community's health, safety and amenity. Each council has its own unique set of Local Laws designed for its community. They outline how to deal with current and emerging issues and needs.

Banyule's General Local Law No. 1 (2015) is being reviewed and renewed. We're keen for your thoughts on the changes being proposed.

What's in the Local Law?

The Local Law outlines how we manage and enforce issues related to your property or business, animals, fire safety, vehicles and roads, nature strips, footpath trading, alcohol, smoking, permits, enforcement and plenty more.

Why is Council reviewing the Local Law?

By reviewing the Local Law, Council can ensure it is meeting current community expectations while also protecting our residents, assets and facilities.

It's also a legislative requirement under the Local Government Act 2020 to have Local Laws reviewed every 10 years.

What's happened so far?

Since our last update in the July Banner, we have held three in-person workshops to explain the proposed changes. We also ran a session online.

What's next?

Have your say by filling in the survey until **31 August** (see below). All feedback will be presented to Council and will shape the final version. The new Local Law will come into effect from April 2025.

What are some of the changes being proposed?

- Smoke-free zones
- Maintenance and planting on nature strips
- Provisions for shopping trolleys
- Recognising corporations
- Enhanced controls around building sites, such as better dust management
- Restrictions on feeding birds

Your Council contact:

Justine Busuttil, Municipal Laws Coordinator
Phone: **9490 4273**
Email: justine.busuttil@banyule.vic.gov.au

Complete the survey at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/Local-law-review or scan the code.



Advocacy in action: Funding for Heidelberg West

New social and affordable housing

Banyule Council welcomed the Victorian Government's announcement of 104 new social and affordable homes as part of the Bell Bardia Project in Heidelberg West.

The site between Bell and Bardia streets (next to Aldi) will have a mix of one, two and three bedroom homes to increase the supply of social and affordable housing.

Council supports the government's commitment to housing provision but believes it is important that families living in the new homes are supported with local community services.

Banyule is advocating for a community services hub close to where families will be living.

There is already significant demand for services such as food relief, material aid and financial counselling. Local agencies are recording the highest number of referrals ever and the number of people requesting food and material relief has increase significantly.

T



In recent years, Heidelberg west has welcomed more than 220 new families at several new social and affordable housing developments. Unfortunately, many new residents have been unable to access vital support services because local services are at capacity and there are long waiting lists.

The hub proposed by Council would bring services together, ensuring they are easily accessible. They would be designed for the needs of the local community and would be delivered in a culturally safe way.



Rethinking the Bell Street Mall

Council's advocacy efforts have helped to secure \$250,000 in federal government funding to create a masterplan and design guide for Bell Street Mall Neighbourhood Activity Centre in Heidelberg West.

Together with the community, we'll explore opportunities to revitalise and improve the area, including how we could provide more housing, improve amenities and increase safety.

Council thanks the Australian Government for its support.

Making hard waste easy

We've made a small but meaningful improvement for booking a hard waste collection.

Every household gets two free hard waste collections each calendar year and you can now pick the collection date when booking online.

We've had a lot of feedback about introducing this feature over the years, so we're happy it's working well for people already. Since launching in July, more than 500 bookings have been made via our website.

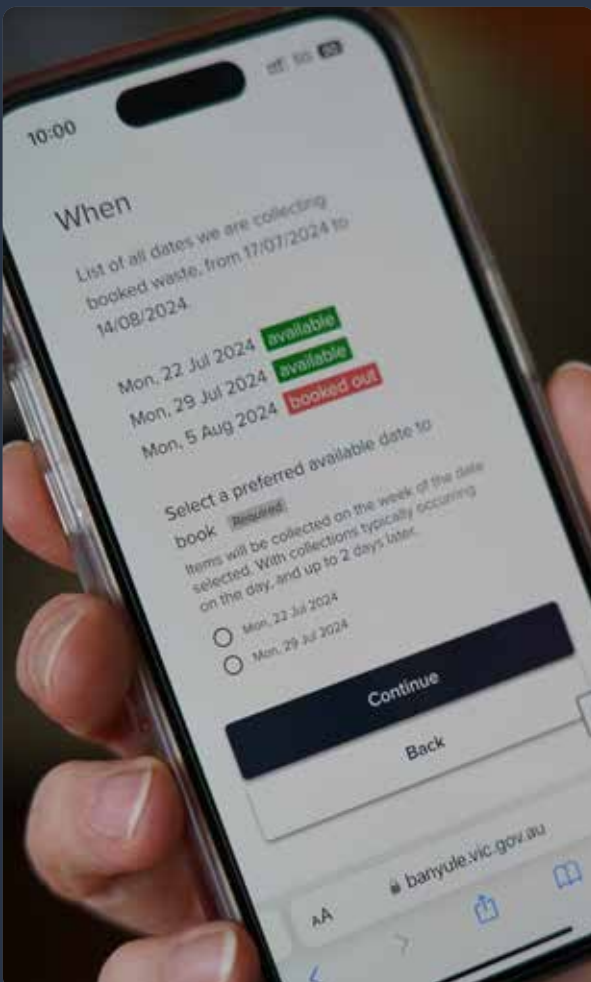
When booking online, you can select how we communicate with you about your booking – by email or SMS – and we'll give you clear directions for when to put out your hard waste.

Book your next hard waste collection online at banyule.vic.gov.au/HardWaste

If you prefer, you can still book by phoning **9490 4222**.

Hard waste tips:

- Check what we will and won't collect before booking (hint: building materials, grass clippings and glasses are a no-no)
- Book a double collection if you have lots to clear (one cubic metre per single collection)
- Make sure your hard waste is out for collection on the day. Waste should not be left on nature strips more than five days before collection day.



Busting recycling myths

Do I need to take lids off plastic bottles?

No! Leave them on, and they will be recycled along with the bottles.

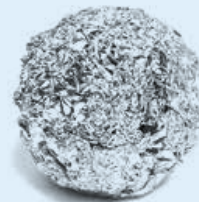
Can I recycle compostable take away coffee cups?

No! These cups aren't made of paper, so they can't go in the recycling bin. Compostable coffee cups belong in your red-lidded rubbish bin unless you have a home compost system. Be prepared for them to take many months to break down.



Can I recycle paper take away coffee cups?

No! These cups have a plastic coating that keeps hot coffee from soaking through. Because of this, they aren't recyclable and should go in the red-lidded rubbish bin.



Can I recycle aluminium foil?

Yes! You can recycle aluminium foil, but there's a trick to ensure it gets recycled. Before tossing it in the bin, scrunch the foil into about the size of a tennis ball. This way, it won't slip through the cracks at the recycling facility and will make it through the sorting process. So go ahead, make a foil ball and do your part for the planet!

Reusable nappy workshop

Date: Wednesday
11 September
Time: 7.30pm
Location: Online
Cost: \$20



How can you make nappy duty both eco-friendly and budget-savvy? Join us for an online workshop that will change the way you think about nappies.

Each attendee receives TWO premium reusable nappies valued at \$70.

Book your spot

Scan the code or head to banyule.vic.gov.au/Nappy



BANYULE COMMUNITY FUND

GIVE LOCAL.



Banyule Community Fund grants application open

Applications for the first round of grants from the Banyule Community Fund are open and charities in Banyule can apply for up to \$4,000 in grants.

Council launched the fund last year in partnership with the Australian Communities Foundation. Residents and businesses can make tax-deductible donations and all funds help local people. The fund has received more than \$25,000 from residents, Council events and community groups such as La Trobe Golf Club and U3A Banyule.

Big impact of small donations

A community fundraising event in June raised \$860 at a fun Music Bingo and Pizza night at Jaga Jaga Bar in Greensborough. This is enough for Heidelberg West food bank, BANSIC, to provide 650 food parcels for vulnerable families.

Never underestimate the big impact of small donations!

Raise money for your local community

Questions? Contact Banyule Community Fund Development Officer Catherine Corbett on **9242 3471** or email banyulecommunityfund@banyule.vic.gov.au

Grant applications open on Monday 12 August and close on Wednesday 11 September.

Apply for a grant or donate by visiting banyule.vic.gov.au/BCF



Mayor Cr Tom Melican with program participants.

Bridging the generation gap

Firm friendships have developed between children from Audrey Brooks Preschool and seniors over a six-week pilot program that has united generations. The intergenerational program at Bellfield Community Hub has been such a hit that it will continue.

Program staff said participants had enjoyed fun and learning between the generations. The children re-introduced the seniors to light-hearted and imaginative play during songs, games and art and craft activities. Meanwhile, the seniors have patiently guided the youngsters through more difficult activities such as puppet-making.



Watsonia Town Square is on the way

In the past year we've built most of the main infrastructure, including:

- Removing the roundabout on Watsonia Road and creating a new intersection with traffic lights (to be operational in the next stage of the project)
- Shared walking/cycling paths (which will connect to the wider path network when the next stage is complete)
- A new car park in Morwell Avenue
- More parking spaces to come along Watsonia Road
- Substantial drainage improvements.

Stage 2 begins later this year. This will include landscaping around the Morwell Avenue side of

Watsonia Road and outside the library, as well as a new playground and accessible toilet block.

The project is on track to be finished around mid-2025.

We know that Watsonia has been significantly impacted by the Town Square build and by North East Link works, but with this significant investment we are excited to be creating a better place for people to shop and enjoy.

We'll keep you informed about upcoming changes to road and pedestrian access.

Find out more and sign up for project updates at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/WatsoniaTownSquare



East Ivanhoe streetscape upgrade continues

We've improved the Burton Crescent carpark and drainage and now Wilfred Road and Burton Crescent are getting a fresh new look.

In Wilfred Road, we're updating the indented parking and laying a new footpath surface.

From August we'll work on the post office side of Burton Crescent, including a new asphalt footpath and bluestone paving in the outdoor dining area.

When the upgrade is complete both sides of the Lower Heidelberg Road shopping village will have new footpath surfaces, safer pedestrian crossings at the side streets and new seating.

Get updates and see the construction stages at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/EastIvanhoe



A coffee with opportunity

Next time you buy a coffee you could also be supporting a local student to learn a new skill.

Since opening in 2022, For Change Café in Bellfield has been serving up opportunities for students of Waratah Special Development School. Senior students are undertaking work experience in the cafe's dedicated training space.

Tenille Gilbert, co-founder and Managing Director of For Change Co, said the café had proudly supported the students, helping them develop skills, build confidence and make connections in their community.

"It's great seeing the students get practical experience. They're working the till, helping make our popular dog biscuits, watering the plants and washing dishes. We also teach them how to make different types of coffee," Tenille said.

While some of the trainees had been nervous, Tenille reports many students now loved jumping on the till and reported a sense of accomplishment when they sell something they've made.

Drop in for a coffee and support positive change in your community.

For Change Café Bellfield
13 Daphne Crescent, Bellfield
Open Tuesday to Saturday from 8am – 3pm

Did you know? Banyule Council was the first council in Victoria to adopt a Social Enterprise Strategy.

Tackling unemployment head on

Twelve people have completed Banyule's 2024 Inclusive Employment Program, leaving them set up for success in finding future employment.

Now in its sixth year, the program has helped 93 people facing barriers to unemployment by giving them six months paid employment at Council.

Mahamed Hassan Awl, a program participant in 2021, now leads the program and he's getting ready for the next intake.

"As one group finishes, I'm busy preparing for the next. I take great pride in making sure everyone employed in the program is well matched to roles in Council so they can leave with a good reference, solid experience on their CV and a professional network to support them beyond Banyule," he said.

Banyule's Inclusive Employment Program was the first of its kind in local government and is seen as a model for other councils seeking a practical way to solve unemployment issues.

Enrolments for the next Inclusive Employment Program open in September 2024. Learn more at banyule.vic.gov.au/InclusiveEmployment



The program has given me invaluable work experience. The team has empowered me to apply my diverse, transferable skills in community health and wellbeing, a field I'm truly passionate about.

- Cho, 2024 participant

Banyule Futures

Your Voice Our Future

Banyule Futures is all about Council working closely with the community to plan for the next four years.

We've been out and about hearing from our diverse community and we've appointed the members of the Banyule Community ThinkTank.

From April to June we ran a survey and a series of community sessions to talk with people across Banyule.

We heard from more than 880 community members to strengthen Banyule's Community Vision and make sure we understand local priorities and concerns.

People of all ages and genders and access and equity attributes took part.

- 90 workshop and focus group participants
- 590 surveys completed
- 200+ participants across 10 Pop-ups

What's next?

We're now busy analysing what we heard to support the Banyule Community ThinkTank with their conversations.

The ThinkTank has the important role of considering what the community said and making recommendations to Council about priorities for the next four years.

You can read more about the project and what you told us on the Banyule Futures Shaping Banyule page.



Find out more about the project by scanning the code or head to shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/BanyuleFutures



Find out more about the Thinktank at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/ThinkTank or scan the code.





Understanding the Powerful Owl and how it uses the Yarra River corridor

It's the largest owl in Australia and it's facing significant threats from habitat loss and disturbance.

One of six key indicator species in Banyule, the Powerful Owl is being monitored as part of Council's 'No Local Extinction' plan.

The monitoring project by Warrigal Conservation Society and funded by a Banyule Environment Grant uses automated call detection technology to gather data on the owl's habitat use along the Yarra River.

The successful project has detected 293 Powerful Owl calls at various local sites. This valuable

information on the Powerful Owl's landscape can be used in making evidence-based decisions for managing and protecting wildlife habitats.

The audio monitoring surveys have also recorded other nocturnal species including Kreff's Gliders, Boobook Owls and Owlet Nightjars.

For more about protecting Banyule's biodiversity, visit www.banyule.vic.gov.au/biodiversity



Eltham Copper Butterfly

The butterfly is a rare and delicate species that is native to Melbourne's north eastern suburbs.

We're working to save it.

In early 2021 a colony of these endangered butterflies was discovered at Mayona Reserve in Montmorency. Our bushland team investigated and found the reserve was home to a viable and healthy population of the butterfly, which had once been thought to be locally extinct.

Banyule Council is committed to conserving the flora and fauna in our parks and reserves. In fact, we're obligated to implement protection measures under federal and state laws.

A permanent fence will soon replace the temporary fence around the reserve.



National Carers Week 13 – 19 October

National Carers Week is a time to recognise and celebrate the important work of carers in our community.

Join Banyule's Carer Support Program, Nillumbik Carers Hub and Merri Health for some nurturing and informative events.

We acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government and Carers Victoria.

All events are free. Registration is required for all events and information sessions.

Pamper day for carers

📅 October - date to be announced soon

📍 Eltham Living and Learning Hub
739 Main Road, Eltham

Step into a world of connection and appreciation for the work you do as a carer.

Whether you're after pampering, good food, information or connection with other carers, join us a day of relaxing activities or simply pop in for a coffee or lunch.

Carer information sessions

📅 Thursday 17 October

📍 Bellfield Community Hub
15 Daphne Crescent, Bellfield

Is your house in order? End-of-life administrative planning

🕒 11am – 12pm

Join Banksia Palliative Care Service for an insightful session on end-of-life administrative tasks. These conversations can be difficult but are a gift to alleviate unnecessary stress.

- End-of-life planning tasks
- Tips for difficult conversations
- Organising important documents
- Prepare for the future with confidence and peace of mind

Diabetes info session: are you at risk?

🕒 12pm – 2pm

Do you have diabetes? Are you at risk of diabetes due to family history, high blood pressure, cholesterol or excess weight?

Talk with a diabetes nurse, a dietitian and an exercise physiologist and learn how you can prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes and heart disease. Includes catered lunch from 12pm to 1pm.

Find out more and register for Carers Week activities

📞 9422 8396 ✉ carers@banyule.vic.gov.au 🌐 banyule.vic.gov.au/CarerSupport



Seniors Festival

We're excited to celebrate Victorian Seniors Festival in October.
Save the date for these great events!



Age of Creativity: older adults art exhibition

1 - 27 October
Opening: Wednesday 2 October

Art Gallery 275
Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub
275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe

Witness the amazing creativity and talent of older artists in Banyule. Bookings are required for the exhibition opening on Wednesday 2 October.

To book all Banyule Seniors Festival events check the next Age in Focus newsletter or visit banyule.vic.gov.au/seniorsfestival



Seniors Festival morning tea

Tuesday 8 October, 10.30am - 1pm

The Centre Ivanhoe
275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe

Celebrate with The Treblettes, a sassy vocal trio performing iconic songs from the 40s, 50s and 60s. There's also a delicious morning tea! Bookings required.

Ageing Well Expo

Friday 25 October, 10am - 3pm

Nets Stadium
2 Somers Ave, Macleod

Hosted by Banyule and Nillumbik councils to showcase information and support for older adults. There'll be stalls, come and try sessions, food trucks and much more. No bookings required.

Age in Focus

June/July 2024

Discover the latest news, events and services in our free quarterly newsletter for older adults. Digital and hard copy versions are available and you can read previous issues online.



Stay up to date with Age in Focus

Find out the latest about these events and more in Age in Focus, Banyule's free quarterly newsletter for older adults. Digital and hard copy versions are available and you can read previous issues online.

Subscribe at banyule.vic.gov.au/AgelInFocus or call 9490 4222.



Order your 2025 Community Calendar

Put a little bit of Banyule on your wall with our 2025 calendar.

To request a calendar, call us on 9490 4222, scan the code or order online at banyule.vic.gov.au/calendar





Spring Outdoors Festival

Spring has sprung (well almost) and it's a great time to get out and enjoy Banyule's amazing natural spaces.

Learn from inspiring environmental specialists, connect with country and interact with our amazing natural spaces.

Each year Banyule teams up with Manningham and Nillumbik councils to celebrate spring with a range of outdoor events.

- Cultural walks in some of Banyule's sites of significance
- Opportunities to interact with our local fauna
- Citizen Science opportunities
- Tours of conservation reserves



Find out what's on at banyule.vic.gov.au/SpringOutdoors or scan the code.

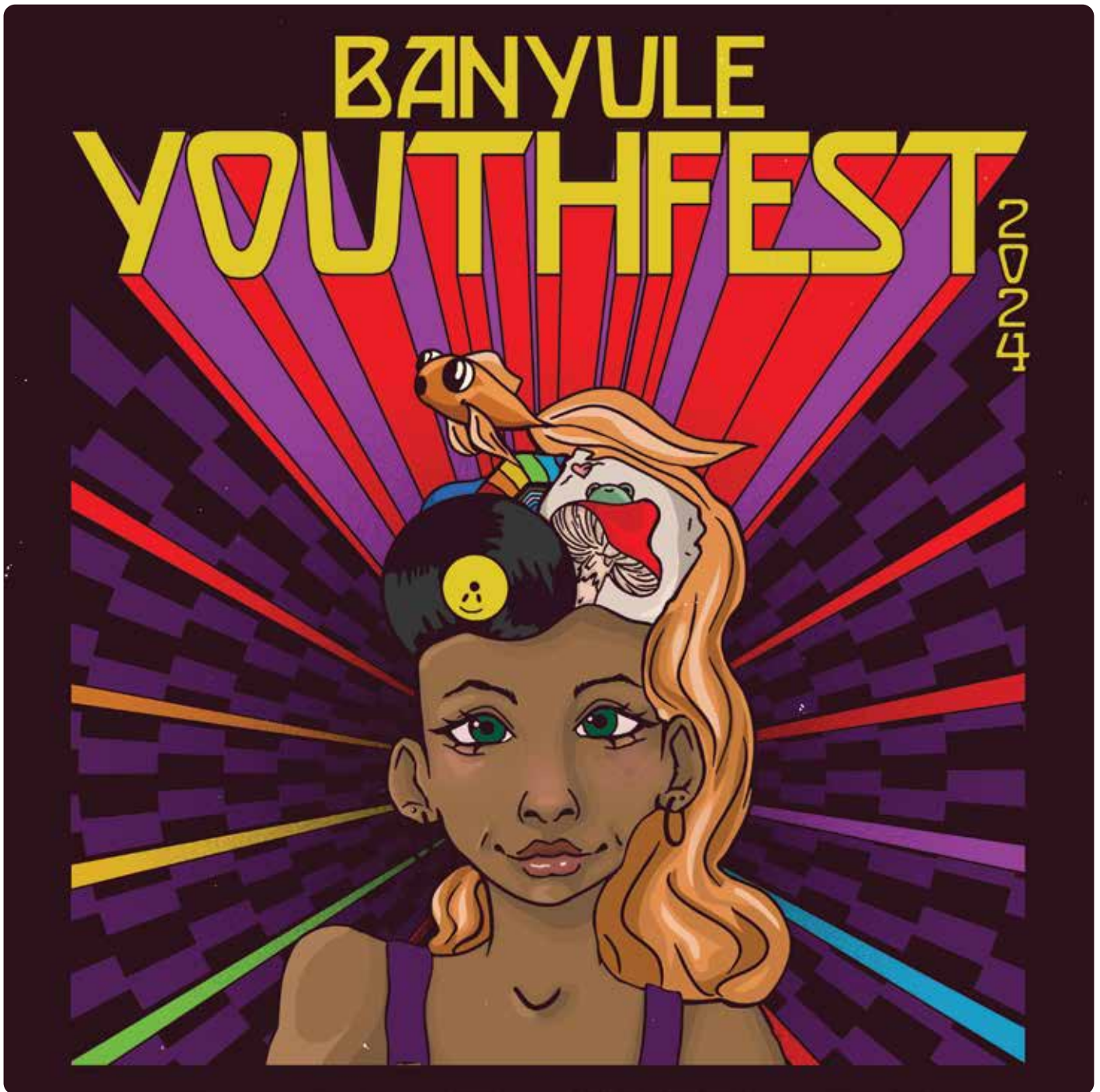


Get on your bike for Biketober!

Get fit, help the environment and be in the draw for some great prizes

Join Biketober, a free bike challenge for everyone. Ride anywhere, anytime in October to participate. Just log your bike trips on Love to Ride or use the app. Prizes include a \$4,000 holiday of your choice and there's even more up for grabs if you encourage other people to get involved. It's free for people and businesses in Banyule.

Register at lovetoride.net/Banyule



The countdown is on to YouthFest 2024

 **Sunday 15 September, 12 – 5pm**

 **Birdwood Avenue, Macleod**

Banyule YouthFest is a popular free festival for young people and by young people.

- Live music and performances
- Food trucks
- Rides
- Market space
- Art and exhibitions
- Free clothes and giveaways.

There's also a low-sensory zone and accessible features for those that need them, along with a wellbeing space.

Hosted by Banyule Youth Services, YouthFest showcases our diverse local communities. It's a public event open to all and is targeted to young people aged 12-25 who are living, working, studying or socialising in the Banyule area.

YouthFest is a child safe, CALD, LGBTIQ+, all abilities friendly and inclusive event.

Scan the code for a video of previous YouthFest highlights.



Find out more at banyuleyouth/youthfest

Ivanhoe Library & Cultural Hub

Events & activities

📍 275 Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe
🌐 banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH
✉ arts@banyule.vic.gov.au
☎ 9490 4222

Art Gallery 275: Wed to Fri 10am – 5pm, Sat 10am – 4pm, Sun 11am – 4pm (Mon & Tue closed)
Loft 275: open during library hours



Outside the Box

Challenging assumptions and celebrating all abilities

📅 On now – 1 September
Opening: Friday 2 August, 6.30pm – 8pm

📍 Loft 275 (exhibition), ILCH (film festival)

An exhibition featuring artworks by artists with disability. Complemented by a mini film festival, curated by Jodie OhmZutt, at ILCH.

Bookings required for film screenings, check the website for details: banyule.vic.gov.au/outsidethebox

Image: Still from film, 'Dance me to my song' by Rolf de Heer, photo by Matt Nettheim



Parallel Practice

📅 Artist in residence: 4 September – 6 October

📍 Mungga Artist Studios

Crowd making in clay: Parallel Clay Practice (Sally Adamson, Frida Birkie and Libby Muller) will be in residence preparing for a future exhibition in Loft 275. They are looking forward to talking with visitors.

Members of the public can join in workshops to make figures for the "crowd", to be part of the exhibition.

Image: ex#80: make a crowd (2024), by Libby Muller



Banyule Open Studios group exhibition

📅 5 – 22 September
Opening: Thursday 5 September, 6pm – 8pm

📍 Loft 275

A rare opportunity to see artworks by a range of local artists in one place. A sample of works by artists in the Banyule Open Studios program to whet your appetite for the Open Studios weekend on 12 – 13 October.

Banyule Open Studios is an association of local artists. They open their private studio spaces to the public annually. See more about Open Studios weekend at banyuleopenstudios.com.au

Image: Banyule Open Studios artist, Tracey Marsten



Kind Society With Heidi Everett

📅 Artist in residence: 8 – 27 October

📍 Mungga Artist Studios

Join local multi-talented artist and mental health advocate, Heidi Everett, in residence for Mental Health Month this October. There will be drawing and memoir writing workshops that will explore lived experience and mental health themes.

Check banyule.vic.gov.au/ILCH for details closer to the date.

Image: Heidi Everett


MOTHER TONGUE

VOICES IN THE STREETS

Workshops | Poetry Hunt | Art Cups








A pop-up of poetry by women

August - September 2024
Banyule, Vic




Find Out More

Supported by:


Seddon Reserve Community Tree Planting Day

 Sunday 25 August, 2pm – 3.30pm

 Seddon Reserve, Ivanhoe (in the north-west corner of the reserve)

Join us with local sporting clubs and families to plant indigenous trees and plants at Seddon Reserve in Ivanhoe.

This planting will build habitat and strengthen biodiversity in the reserve. Parking is available in the car park off Green Street.

Discussing Treaty



For generations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have called for a formal treaty to recognise their sovereignty. Now is your chance to come along to a Q&A and panellist discussion to listen, learn and ask questions on the topic.

Through its adoption of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, Banyule Council is committed to offering educational opportunities for the community to learn about all elements of the Statement - Voice, Treaty and Truth telling.

Treaty Community Forum

 Sunday 8 September, 2pm – 4pm

 Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre
44 Civic Drive, Greensborough

Hosted in partnership with Nillumbik Shire Council and First People's Assembly of Victoria.

Scan the code to book or find more information at banyule.vic.gov.au/treaty



Ward Rounds

Banyule is made up of nine wards. To find out which ward you belong to scan the code



Cr Peter Castaldo
Griffin Ward

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

Banyule is a fabulous place to get out and enjoy our beautiful natural environment, whether you're walking the dog, riding a bike or joining in a weekend fun run.

It's important that Council maintains and enhances our natural and built environment for our enjoyment now and for generations to come.

This means works like the

redevelopment of Warringal Park oval which I was pleased to officially open last month. It included new drainage, irrigation and turf.

Parkrun in Warringal Park (pictured) is a free, fun and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate! Anyone can join in. For details, visit: parkrun.com.au/warringalparklands



Cr Alison Champion
Sherbourne Ward

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

Did you know the level of volunteering in a community is an indicator of the strength and resilience in that community? It means people are willing to help each other and they are forming connections through volunteering. Banyule residents volunteer in numbers above the average for Greater Melbourne. Whether you

are flipping eggs and bacon at junior sport, packing food relief for local families or teaching a learner driver in the L2P program, thank you.

Volunteering can be very rewarding and you might even get to attend Council's annual Volunteer Celebration (pictured)!

Find local volunteering opportunities at banyule.vic.gov.au/Volunteering



Cr Fiona Mitsinikos
Hawdon Ward

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

One of the things I love about Banyule is the willingness of so many in our diverse community to have a say about Council's plans for the future.

We heard from hundreds of community members in recent workshops about our Community Vision, and now it's over to the Banyule ThinkTank. It includes people from all backgrounds and

lived-experiences, making up a 'mini-Banyule'. ThinkTank members met for the first time in July to hear about Council's work and how to strengthen Banyule's Community Vision 2041. Eventually they'll make recommendations for -our next Council Plan, Budget and more. See more about Banyule Futures and the ThinkTank on **page 12**.



Ward Rounds



Cr Elizabeth Nealy
Beale Ward

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

Banyule's 2024/25 Budget includes \$1.5 million for upgrades at Anthony Beale Reserve in St Helena.

Home to Greensborough Junior Football Club, which runs Auskick and competition teams for boys and girls, the reserve is also used by cricket clubs with all-gender teams, as well as Glen Katherine Primary School.

Pavilion improvements include female-friendly change rooms, meeting rooms

and a new kitchen. Female-friendly change rooms are a fundamental requirement to increase participation in community sport. The meeting rooms will be available for hire for community and private events.

The Anthony Beale Reserve upgrades were high on the list of priorities identified by residents who took part in Council's Banyule Futures workshops and pop-up consultation sessions.



Cr Mark Di Pasquale
Bakewell Ward

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

Council is investing in community, sports and recreational facilities across Banyule, like the recently completed baseball batting cage in Elder Street Reserve (pictured). It's great that local teams will now be able to train here year-round.

Another wonderful community asset is Watsonia Neighbourhood House, a welcoming place for everyone, with

programs that bring people together to connect and learn.

I am pleased Council is funding an evening and weekend social connection program at the Neighbourhood House that fosters social inclusion in a supportive environment.

Find out more about Watsonia Neighbourhood House phone **9434 6717** or head to watsonianh.org.au



Cr Alida McKern
Chelsworth Ward

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

It's wonderful to see new shops opening in Ivanhoe shopping strip and established businesses thriving. Congratulations to Miles Real Estate, which is celebrating 100 years serving the Ivanhoe community.

Newcomers include Ladyhawke Bookstore, Remi Coffee and Toasties and Sage Bulk Wholefoods. Ivanhoe Traders Association president Zack

and I called in to welcome Ali at Ladyhawke, pictured. She's got a terrific selection, including books by local authors such as Kylie Ladd, and new stock arriving for Christmas.

Did you know Ivanhoe Reading Circle is Melbourne's longest running book club? It's been meeting since 1920. Check out what they are up to at ivanhoereadingcircle.org



Banyule is made up of nine wards. To find out which ward you belong to scan the code



Cr Peter Dimarelos
Olympia Ward

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

I'm pleased Council has allocated \$2 million in this year's Budget for a new pavilion at Olympic Park.

This completes the transformation of Olympic Park into a first-class regional sporting and recreation precinct.

It's been a long-term project to deliver this infrastructure, with investment from Banyule Council and the Victorian Government.

I'm proud that it's an amazing asset for Banyule and for the wider Melbourne sporting community.

In more good news, check out the stories on **page 7**. We have new funding for a masterplan for Bell Street Mall Neighbourhood Activity Centre and there's the announcement of social and affordable homes for Heidelberg West.



Cr Rick Garotti
Grimshaw Ward

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

Thank you for the privilege to serve on Council and work together to deliver good outcomes for families in Banyule. Through sound financial management we have delivered 11 straight years of debt reduction. This means that more of our rates go into services rather than paying interest.

We've upgraded community assets such as Bundoora Community Hall while building new infrastructure,

including Watsonia Town Square.

In response to cost of living pressures we kept rates within the State Government rate cap of 2.75% and we provide a rates waiver of up to \$550 for those experiencing financial hardship. See **page 3** for details.

We continue to create jobs for people in our community. Our Inclusive Jobs program has delivered more than 150 jobs since its inception in July 2018.



Cr Tom Melican
Ibbott Ward

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

It was a great evening out at the Macleod College 70th Jubilee celebrations.

What a pleasure to see so many people with fond memories of their days at the school and the many strong bonds people developed that have endured to this day.

Current students were surprised to learn that when the school opened in 1954 classes started at 7.45am.

Perhaps the good old days were not all they are sometimes cracked up to be!

Congratulations to principal Mario Panaccio and his team. Mario has worked at the school for more than 30 years and has been an integral part of helping it grow into the wonderful college we know today.

There's also a Jubilee Dinner on 6 September; check the school's website for details.



Bushland diaries



Tiger orchid

Tiny and tall - orchids of Banyule

There are around 400 indigenous orchid species in Victoria and about 70% of them are rare and threatened, including several species in Banyule. They are predominantly found in our bushland refuges.

Most of Banyule's orchid species flower at different times from autumn to spring, while some flower over summer. Pterostylis (commonly known as greenhoods) is a large genus of orchids with more than 100 species. Banyule is home to 11 of them.

Due to the specific relationships many orchid species have with fungus in the soil, they are nearly impossible to replace once they are lost. Managing, protecting, connecting and improving our local bushland areas are ways that we can help conserve these species.

You can observe these fascinating and highly specialised plants when you walk through some of our bushland reserves.

Our Park Rangers work to protect remnant bushland and orchid species by controlling weeds and conducting appropriate burning regimes. They also monitor specific populations of orchid species to detect changes in their health over time.



Slender Sun-orchid



Blunt Greenhood



Rosy Hyacinth-orchid

Get involved and help protect our bushland reserves by joining one of Banyule's many environmental friends groups.

For more information, scan the code or head to banyule.vic.gov.au/FriendsGroup



Email the Bushland Management team at enquiries@banyule.vic.gov.au

Council elections: what you need to know

Council elections are held every four years in Victoria. The next election is in October. Here are five things you need to know.

- 1 Voting is compulsory, don't risk a fine**
In Australia it is compulsory to vote in all federal, state and local government elections. You may be fined if you do not vote.
- 2 Voting is by post**
The Victorian Electoral Commission will mail voting forms (ballots) to enrolled voters from 7 October.
- 3 Voting closes on 25 October**
Return your ballot by post or drop it at the election office at Factory 3, 25-31 Sherbourne Road, Briar Hill. It must be in the post or dropped off by 6pm on Friday 25 October.
- 4 Results will be announced by 15 November**
We may know earlier if the vote count is quick.
- 5 Council will go into 'caretaker'**
During the election period – from 17 September to 26 October – Council will enter a 'caretaker' period.
We'll still be taking care of things and delivering services, but we can't make any big decisions that may affect the election or the independence of the new Council.



Scan the code for all the election news or head to:

banyule.vic.gov.au/elections



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 بانبول 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.