

News from our Neighbourhood

February 2024

- Why we love Banyule's libraries
- New community centre for Monty
- Eco Festival at Petrie Park
- Be part of Banyule's new ThinkTank



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For the love of libraries

A survey by Yarra Plenty Regional Library service has identified the many reasons people value their local libraries.

Banyule residents told us they love libraries for much more than reading and information. They are spaces for relaxation, study and work, places to meet friends and take part in creative and community activities. People like the free Wi-Fi and computers. Importantly, respondents said they felt safe and welcomed in our libraries.

YPRL runs Banyule's libraries in Watsonia and Ivanhoe and the pop-up in Rosanna (while we build the new Rosanna Library).

There are also mobile and online services, a new click-and-collect library at Bellfield Community Hub and outreach services for people in residential care or confined to home.

Our libraries are conveniently placed close to transport and other community facilities. Watsonia Library, where I took on Cr Rick Garotti in a game of chess, will be a vital part of Watsonia Town Square, now being built by Council. It will include a playground right outside the library.

Thank you to our wonderful library staff, who received a huge vote of confidence in the survey too!

Monty community centre news

We're making good progress towards opening Montmorency's new community centre later this year.

Council has appointed Greenhills Neighbourhood House to manage the centre at 7 Wellington Street, in the heart of Monty village. The Greenhills team has





a vision that includes a community garden, workshops, free community events and room hire.

Council will soon appoint an architect to draw up designs to make the house accessible and suitable for a range of community uses.

EJ Andrews upgrades complete

It's great to see people enjoying the new facilities at EJ Andrews Reserve in Briar Hill.

Council installed accessible pathways, swings and carousel, as well as a new picnic table and seats. There's also new nature play areas, gardens and beautiful artworks by Phillip Howe using repurposed timber from trees that have fallen or been removed for infrastructure projects.

The area used for storage of materials for the Victorian Government's Level Crossing Removal Project and rail line duplication works has also been returned and rehabilitated with new landscaping.







Your Voice Our Future

Join our ThinkTanky and help shape Banyule's future

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We're looking for 50 locals to join the Banyule ThinkTank. Share your knowledge, insights and ideas for our community's future. Meet like-minded locals who want to make a difference. Get rewarded for giving your time and wisdom.



Everyone is welcome to apply

Express interest at shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/BFSH

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