

YOUR CITY OF MELBOURNE MAGAZINE

MELBOURNE

JULY - AUGUST 2023



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

DELIVERING TODAY,
SHAPING TOMORROW

CARAVAN OF SOUND

MOBILE MUSIC STUDIO
HITS THE ROAD

NOW OR NEVER

EPIC ART TRAIL
IN DOCKLANDS



CITY OF MELBOURNE

MELBOURNE.VIC.GOV.AU



As Australia's fastest-growing capital city, we're ensuring Melbourne is safe, welcoming, and a city that everyone can be proud of.

Our \$851 million Budget 2023-24 delivers the essential services. We want to get the basics right, investing in what matters most to our traders, residents, workers and visitors.

We're fixing and renewing our roads and footpaths, and building and maintaining community facilities, bringing essential services closer to home.

As the nation's events and cultural capital, we're delivering our biggest calendar of events, attracting new visitors to the city and creating business for our traders.

Melbourne is already one of Australia's greenest and most sustainable cities. By maintaining this mantle and protecting our renowned liveability status we'll fortify the city for future generations.

Our landmark Make Room project will support our most vulnerable people, giving more Melburnians a pathway to long-term, secure housing and access to critical services.

As one of the most multicultural cities in the world, Melbourne is for everyone.

In March, Council endorsed a motion in support of the 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart, and the 'yes' campaign for the Constitutional Recognition of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament.

We cannot be a city for all people unless all people have a say in decisions that impact them. The Voice intends to provide a clear avenue for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to have that say. We are dedicated to making Melbourne a welcoming and inclusive city for all.

Learn more about what's happening across the city in this edition of *Melbourne* magazine. Meet community members, support Aboriginal businesses, learn how we're making Melbourne a global investment centre and discover an iconic calendar of events.

Sally Capp
Lord Mayor

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Youth Peer
Leader of
the Caravan
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The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations. We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

TWINS TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE, ONE BUILDING AT A TIME



Identical twins Tim and Iain Stewart are making buildings more energy efficient

Imagine if a piece of software could save enough energy to power more than 160,000 homes for a year and reduce emissions equivalent to removing 195,000 cars from the road.

All this and nearly \$318 million in annual energy savings is possible for Australia's commercial building owners.

Enter twin brothers Tim and Iain Stewart, a passion for environmental engineering and a bright business idea co-founded during the University of Melbourne's Melbourne Accelerator Program: Exergenics.

Exergenics' advanced software optimises commercial cooling systems to reduce costs, energy consumption and emissions. Powered by machine learning and scalable software, the tool is on track to deliver global impact.

"Our passion stems from the urgency to address climate change. Cooling, an industry often overlooked, is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions," Tim said.

"By optimising cooling systems and making them more energy-efficient, we have the power to make a measurable difference in the fight against climate change."

We are supporting Exergenics with industry connections and guidance through our Invest Melbourne team.

We have recently expanded our team with new TradeStart advisers who help small and medium-sized businesses like Exergenics identify and secure opportunities in global markets, in partnership with Austrade.

"Invest Melbourne has been a crucial partner in our journey towards success," Tim said.

"Their support and guidance have opened doors to valuable connections within the industry.

"Through their network, we have been able to collaborate with leading industry bodies, gaining access to invaluable expertise and insights that have helped us grow our business."

Exergenics is working with partners to export their solutions to international markets and plans to establish its first overseas presence in the US market this year.

"Our vision for Exergenics is to become the industry leader in optimisation solutions," Tim said.

"We envision a future where our strategies and technologies are deployed globally, creating a substantial impact on energy consumption and carbon emissions worldwide."

TOP TIPS FOR STARTUPS

Do you have a change-making business idea? We asked the Exergenics team to share their top tips for entrepreneurs. Here's what they said:

1. Start today: Don't wait for the perfect moment or conditions.
2. Seek expertise: Surround yourself with industry experts and mentors who can provide guidance and insights.
3. Embrace feedback: Actively seek constructive criticism and feedback from others. Regularly validate your ideas by engaging in discussions and constantly iterate based on feedback.
4. Persistence is key: Stay focused on your vision and persevere through obstacles.

GET SUPPORT TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Experts from the City of Melbourne can help you unlock your business potential and join the many innovative and successful companies investing locally.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT melbourne.vic.gov.au/invest



People playing bowls at North Melbourne Town Hall in 1959

CITY FLASHBACK

Our programs for older people have spread joy for generations. Gardening, help with technology, line dancing, musical lunches - there's something for everyone.

Browse local activities at melbourne.vic.gov.au/olderpeople or call 9658 9190.

The above snap is one of more than 13,000 eclectic pieces preserved in our City Collection. Browse the treasure trove of images and artefacts at citycollection.melbourne.vic.gov.au

FAQ

HOW IS CBD PARKING CHANGING?

We are making parking in the CBD simpler and fairer by introducing cheaper rates for off-peak times, waiving fees for 15-minute parking sessions, unlocking hundreds more spaces and introducing simpler signs. Our new parking plan is based on feedback from 1000 road users.

Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/parking



A DREAM JOB AMONG THE TREES

Natasha Stoikos has a tree-mendous job. As our Senior Park Operations Officer, she's part of a team that aims to plant 3000 trees per year, working towards our goal of 40 per cent canopy cover by 2040.

"I love walking into our parks and gardens to see our tree experts swinging - safely - around in harnesses and ropes as they carry out their important work. It's a kid's dream career," Natasha said.

Visit news.melbourne.vic.gov.au to learn about Natasha's role and meet more City of Melbourne staff.



MELBOURNE NEWS, YOUR WAY

Read the latest city-shaping news and celebrate community champions online at news.melbourne.vic.gov.au and subscribe to receive updates direct to your inbox. You can also subscribe using this QR code.

This print magazine can be found at local libraries, community hubs and cafes. If you'd like to receive a copy in the post, email melbournemag@melbourne.vic.gov.au

We'd love to hear your feedback about *Melbourne* magazine. To share your thoughts with us, write to melbournemag@melbourne.vic.gov.au



Infinity by Universal Everything

Spectacular art trail set to mesmerise Docklands

Imagine standing at Marvel Stadium at night and seeing astounding illuminations stretching into the distance. An epic Art Trail is coming to Docklands to open our new major festival: Now or Never.

The free Now or Never Art Trail is a 1.2 km journey of technology-based contemporary art installations from local and international creatives. The line-up is curated by Experimenta – an organisation devoted to the future of art.

Kim de Kretser, Managing Director of Experimenta, said the artworks will be captivating to behold, and deeply poignant when people pause to contemplate.

“Docklands is evocative by night and the artworks have been selected and commissioned specifically for the site and the Now or Never theme,” Kim said.

“The installations will be embedded into the landscape, illuminating it in new ways. You’ve never seen Docklands like this before.”

.....

“There’s a common thread running through the works. It’s about how we connect with life beyond the immediate, to the celestial, the biological and the artificial, and what we do now before we step into an unknown future state.”

.....

The Now or Never Art Trail will feature stunning and poetic works designed to spark joy and contemplation. Many of them are interactive. Here are a few program highlights:

- **ECHO/OHCE** by Georgie Pinn invites audiences to interact with a giant projection-mapped sculpture. The artwork’s morphing face uses animated portraits collected from more than 40,000 international participants. This work contemplates empathy for machines and through machines to each other.
- **Holon** by Jon McCormack explores nature-machine symbiosis. Over a hundred solar-powered organisms will create their own habitat on the waterfront, feeding back sounds and voices from their environment.
- **Infinity** by Universal Everything shows a never-ending procession of characters commuting across a massive screen. Children tend to mimic the characters, while adults think they’re being mimicked.
- **Living well** by Jarra Karalinar Steel is a text-based animation that will be projected onto Library at The Dock. The work honours the artist’s Boonwurrung heritage – ancestors who passed down their wisdom and strength so new generations can create, reclaim and rebuild a better future.
- **Of sky and sea** by Michaela Gleave beams endangered and extinct languages skyward in morse code. A linked website stays live for 20 months – the time it takes the light to exit our solar system.
- **Soul Shift** by Paris-based artist Justine Emard is a film enacting the possible meeting of two generations of the same ground-breaking robot called Alter and the intimate interaction between them. The identical figures explore gestures that could be understood as intrigue, recognition and even affection.
- **Theatre of Thunder** is an atmospheric installation offering a galaxy of ideas and joyful engagement. Children can spend hours popping smoke bubbles, wrapped up in a new world.

“It’s amazing to work with such incredible minds, artists and technologists. Their ideas are complex and exciting. We are delighted to present these experiences to the people of Melbourne,” Kim said.

“I encourage people attending the event to use the QR codes to explore the works more deeply. The ideas and creative processes behind them are utterly fascinating.”

The Now or Never Art Trail promises an evening of family-friendly fun and will be complemented by a tasty line-up of food trucks and a pop-up bar by Moon Dog Craft Brewery.

The immersive event will take place along Victoria Harbour Promenade from Thursday 17 to Sunday 20 August, supported by the Victorian Government’s Melbourne City Recovery Fund.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
melbourne.vic.gov.au/nowornever

DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY TODAY, SHAPING OUR CITY FOR TOMORROW

City-shaping infrastructure projects, our biggest events calendar and making the city safer and cleaner are highlights of the City of Melbourne's Budget 2023-24.



We've planned a full calendar of events so everyone can enjoy an affordable visit to the city

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said our \$851 million Budget is delivering for our community today, while shaping our city for tomorrow.

"Our Budget 2023-24 delivers on our commitment to create a bustling, inclusive and clean city today, while investing in a more affordable, liveable and prosperous future for our community," the Lord Mayor said.

"We're getting on with the things that matter most - making our city cleaner and safer, building better facilities and providing vital services, and boosting business with events and support."

We know Melburnians are feeling the pressure of mortgage and rent stress and rising household bills - and this has been front of mind through the development of this Budget.

A CLEANER, SAFER, FAIRER CITY

It's our responsibility to get the basics right, so we're investing \$61 million to scrub the city clean, boost safety on our streets, and work closely with our communities to identify and act on the needs of each neighbourhood.

We're investing \$35.5 million to spruce up our streets, with our expanded Melbourne Clean Team along with more graffiti removal, street sweeping, and high-pressure cleaning of footpaths, roads and street furniture.

More than \$28 million will be invested to collect waste, while an additional \$1.5 million will bolster the removal of rubbish from our streets across the CBD, Docklands and Southbank.

We'll invest \$5.7 million to install CCTV cameras in seven key locations in Carlton, increasing safety and reducing antisocial behaviour, and almost \$6 million on critical safety infrastructure, including lighting upgrades on Bourke Street between Exhibition and Spring streets.



OUR BIGGEST EVENTS CALENDAR YET

We're planning our biggest year of events with \$28.2 million in festivals, activations and cultural celebrations to bring people together in the city.

All the city's favourite events will return bigger and better than ever - our Christmas Festival, New Year's Eve festivities, Melbourne Fashion Week, and a special

anniversary celebration to mark 70 years of our much-loved Moomba Festival.

All the fun begins in August with our new Now or Never festival, featuring immersive experiences of art, ideas, music and technology in a series of free and ticketed events.



INVESTING IN CITY-SHAPING INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2023–24, we will invest \$254.4 million in infrastructure, supporting up to 1000 jobs and creating economic stimulus now, while delivering much-needed community services and facilities for the future.

We'll spend more than \$12 million to upgrade footpaths, fix potholes and improve roads.

The Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal program will ramp up with

\$60 million in works. And we'll break ground on our landmark Greenline Project with \$17 million to create an expanded riverside promenade at Birrarung Marr.

We're investing \$28 million to get on with the new Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and a further \$3 million to complete the city's new Munro library and hub.

Read more about these city-shaping projects on page 8.

A GREENER MORE SUSTAINABLE CITY

Our Budget includes a \$51 million investment to create new open space, protect parks, charge ahead with Power Melbourne and cut emissions.

We love our parks, gardens and open spaces which is why we're investing \$26.5 million to maintain them.

We'll spend \$16.5 million to secure new open space across the municipality, including pocket parks for Chapman

Street, North Melbourne and the Miles and Dodds Street Reserve in Southbank, while construction will start on North Melbourne's Bedford Street pocket park.

We'll continue the rollout of our popular Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) collection services into mixed-used residential and commercial buildings and charge ahead with installing our first Power Melbourne neighbourhood battery at Library at The Dock, providing 100 per cent renewable energy to the community.



BACKING BUSINESS AND ATTRACTING INVESTMENT

We're making it easier and more attractive to do business in Melbourne with \$2.4 million to complete the Digital Permits Project, fast-tracking permit approval timelines and cutting red tape for traders and buskers.

Small business owners are the soul of our city, so we're expanding our Business Concierge Service with a \$500,000

investment to support new and existing businesses.

Since January, the service has provided free advice and mentoring to more than 15,500 city businesses.

We'll also invest \$540,000 to continue efforts to reduce shopfront vacancies.

A \$12 million boost to Invest Melbourne will bring new ventures and create jobs for the city.

RATES KEEP OUR CITY RUNNING

Rates are necessary to deliver essential services to the community.

After two years of rates relief and a modest increase last year, in 2023–24 we will implement the Victorian Government's 3.5 per cent Municipal Rate Cap.

We will help ease the burden on eligible pensioners by providing a rates discount of up to \$253.

Any ratepayer can apply for rate relief through the City of Melbourne Rates Financial Hardship Policy.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/our-plans

MELBOURNE REIMAGINED: KEEPING AN EYE ON CAPITAL WORKS



The Greenline project will revitalise the north bank of the Yarra River – Birrarung



An artist's impression of the rooftop terrace at our new Munro library and community hub

We design and deliver a packed program of capital works to make your neighbourhood a great place to live, work and visit.

Whether we're upgrading roads, lighting and footpaths or transforming the banks of the Birrarung into a lush paradise - it's all about investing in Melbourne's past, present and future.

Recent highlights include modern new facilities at Brens Pavilion in Royal Park

and the upgraded southern sports field at Fawkner Park - a place enjoyed by 9000 locals every day.

Music lovers can also stroll to a concert at Hamer Hall along the refreshed Southbank Promenade.

Later this year, you'll be able to stop for a bite at Queen Victoria Market's new food hall, then cross the road to explore our new Munro library and community hub, with its makerspace, sound studios and rooftop terrace.

UPCOMING CAPITAL WORKS

The Greenline Project

This landmark project will enhance the natural, cultural and community aspects of the north bank of the Yarra River - Birrarung. Ultimately, The Greenline Project will allow you to stroll from the MCG to Docklands through 4 kms of connected parklands and boardwalks.

Hardware Lane

Watch as one of Melbourne's most loved laneway destinations gets a refresh. With drainage works complete, it's now time to swap red brick for bluestone pavers, replace declining trees and install new lighting.

Princes Bridge

Keep up to date with the latest developments as we begin restoration works to this historic landmark. Built in 1888, Princes Bridge remains one of the Yarra River - Birrarung's most iconic crossings. We're restoring the bridge to ensure it can continue to support residents, workers and visitors into the future.



Queen Victoria Market

Have your say on our plans for Market Square, a new open space located on the site of the existing car park. Key market infrastructure like refrigerated storage and delivery zones will be moving underground. This will be safer and more practical for market traders, and it will allow us to create more welcoming community spaces.

Brens Pavilion

Works on Brens Pavilion will wrap up soon, delivering better and more inclusive facilities for women. The new facility will include eight gender-neutral, accessible change rooms, two umpire change rooms, a first aid room and improvements to the existing kitchen and social spaces.

Dodds Street Linear Park

Bliss out among 1300 sqm of grassland and 35 trees when this new urban parkland opens to the public late this year. This welcoming new landscape will be resilient and sustainable, with inbuilt rain gardens.

Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre

Works in this state-of-the-art facility will ramp up this year, with doors set to open in early 2025. It will feature a 25-metre pool, improved gym facilities, a kids' water-play area, three full-sized multipurpose courts, health and wellness areas, flexible spaces for classes and community uses, accessible change rooms and a new cafe.



An artist's impression of the new food hall at Queen Victoria Market



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
melbourne.vic.gov.au/cityprojects

WHAT'S ON IN MAGNETIC MELBOURNE



Event dates and details may change. Check online for updates at whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au



UNTIL

DECEMBER

Connection at The Lume

15 TO 16 JULY

AFRICAN FESTIVAL MELBOURNE

Immerse yourself in African culture with delicious food, lively entertainment and free family activities. Head to Queen Victoria Market to hum, sway and dance to the beat of the drum.

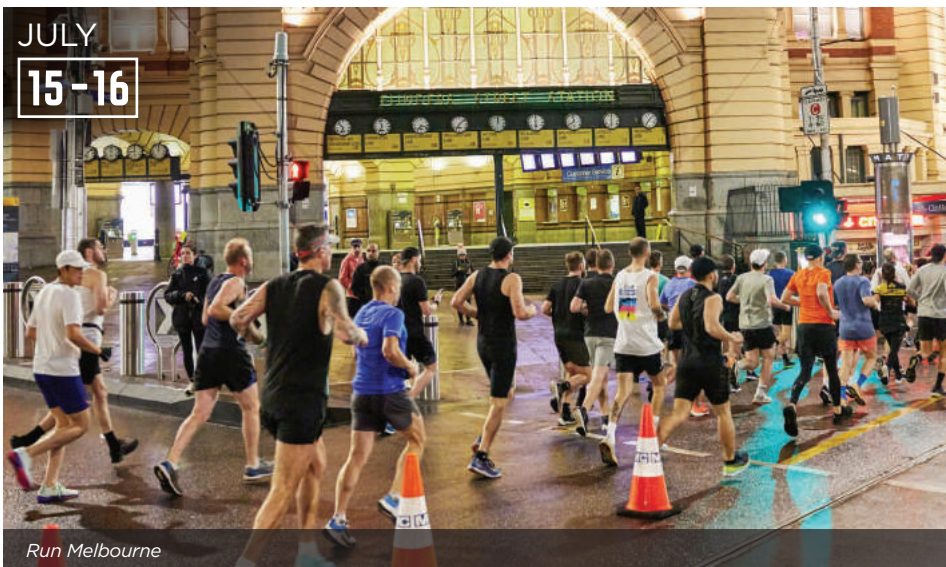


African Festival Melbourne

15 TO 16 JULY

RUN MELBOURNE

Take over the streets of our beautiful city and challenge yourself to a 21.1 km, 10 km or 5 km route on a fast and flat CBD course. Then enjoy post-race festivities on the Grand Slam Oval at Olympic Park.



Run Melbourne



FIFA Women's World Cup

20 JULY TO 20 AUGUST

FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP AND FAN FESTIVAL

Head to Federation Square for a free festival with match screenings, panel discussions, multicultural performances, food trucks and fan zones.

29 JULY TO 30 JULY

OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE

Step behind the doors of 80 extraordinary private homes, civic spaces and commercial buildings. Take your pick from public talks, film screenings, tours and debates at inspiring locations.

29 TO 30 JULY

PING PONG WOW

Bring your kids to experience a creative-play installation with more than 2000 ping pong balls at ArtPlay. Presented by Ball Room Projects as part of Open House Melbourne. Free. No bookings required.

7 AUGUST TO 2 DECEMBER

ARTS HOUSE - SEASON TWO

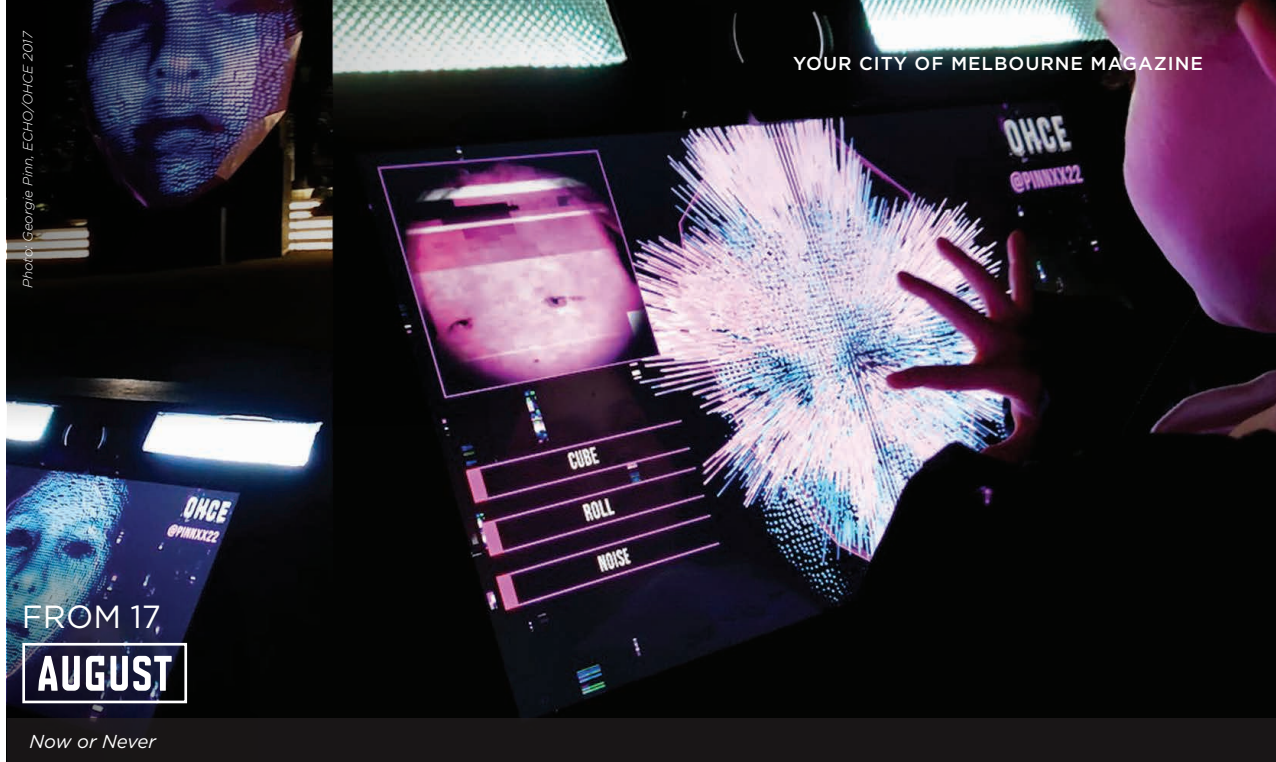
Discover an eclectic and electric program of music, theatre, dance and celebration at Melbourne's home of contemporary performance, located in North Melbourne. Learn more at artshouse.com.au



An Uprising of Dreams by The Nap Ministry - part of Season Two at Arts House



Photo: George Pinn, ECHO/OHCE 2017

FROM 17
AUGUST

Now or Never



Ping Pong Wow at ArtPlay

3 AUGUST TO 20 AUGUST**MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

Browse a packed program of world cinema alongside the best in new Australian filmmaking. Screenings and events will be held at multiple locations.

10 AUGUST TO 19 AUGUST**INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL**

Rub shoulders with Bollywood stars, writers and directors at events that bring people together through the cultural bridge of cinema. At various locations.

17 AUGUST TO 2 SEPTEMBER**NOW OR NEVER**

Explore the intersection of art, ideas, sound and technology at our new major festival. Expect large-scale and immersive experiences in iconic spaces across the city.

2 TO 3 SEPTEMBER**MALAYSIA HAWKER FESTIVAL**

Celebrate Malaysian culture and independence with vibrant entertainment and traditional hawker food at Queen Victoria Market.

UNTIL 31 DECEMBER**CONNECTION AT THE LUME**

Be swept away by First Peoples' art, music and culture in a breathtaking experience that features projects of more than 550 artworks from more than 110 visual and musical artists.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au

SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTHBANK

Did you know Southbank Sustainability Group runs regular events at Boyd Community Hub (207 City Road, Southbank) to help local people do their bit for the planet? Here's what's coming up:

16 JULY**PRACTICAL GUIDE TO ZERO-WASTE LIVING**

Learn the basics of zero-waste living and simple steps for local package-free shopping and how to dispose of personal and household items. From 10.15am to 12pm at Boyd.

12 AUGUST**GARDENING FOR SMALL SPACES**

Find out what grows well in small spaces like balconies. This event covers selecting and caring for plants, pots and planters, and tips for vertical greenery. From 11.30am to 1pm at Boyd.

This is just a small sample of the great events happening in neighbourhoods across the City of Melbourne. For more ways to engage near your place, select your suburb at

participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoods





Fall in love with changemaking Aboriginal art, browse designer fashion that supports children in remote communities and taste the flavours of the Torres Strait.

Whether you're dining out, buying a gift or seeking services for your workplace, we can all play a role in helping First Nations businesses thrive.

At the City of Melbourne, our Aboriginal Procurement Strategy guides us in promoting economic participation and development among First Nations people to close the gap of disadvantage.

Here are five beloved businesses to explore.

1. THE TORCH

146 Elgin Street, Carlton

Browse stunning artwork by First Nations creatives who've taken part in the powerful Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community program run by The Torch.

Each year, this Melbourne Award-winning program supports around 600 First Nations people who have been impacted by incarceration in Victoria. This creates new pathways for participants' lives beyond the prison system.

Find out more at thetorch.org.au



Christopher Austin

"With The Torch program, with the art, it shows us a new pathway.

"A lot of people, when they get out of jail, they go back to where they came from and that's what put them in jail the first time. A lot of them go back in because there's low self-esteem, there's no money, there's homelessness and all that.

"If The Torch program didn't come along, I don't know where I'd be at to this day."

Christopher Austin
Indigenous Program Mentor,
The Torch

2. BIG ESSO BY MABU MABU

Federation Square, Melbourne

Settle in with in pepperberry and saltbush fried crocodile, and damper with golden syrup butter at Big Esso by Mabu Mabu, an all-day bar and kitchen in central Melbourne.

Stay a while to enjoy chargrilled seafood alongside bevies and beats from Indigenous creators, or browse small-batch pantry supplies at mabumabu.com.au

3. NGALI

24 Aurora Lane, Docklands

Shop for silk dresses, scarves, clothes and tops that share the stories of Country through stunning artwork. These street and runway-ready First Nations designs are a sustainable and meaningful alternative to fast fashion.

Proceeds from your purchases will support literacy and IT programs for children in remote communities. Browse the collection at 24 Aurora Lane in Docklands or visit ngali.com.au



Photo: Liene Hardy

A stunning design by Ngali, a clothing label based in Docklands

FIVE DEADLY

FIRST NATIONS BUSINESSES

TO DISCOVER

Photo: Jake Roden

"I believe as an Indigenous person, there is a connection to our ancestors that we feel guided by. It's like an invisible support... that's why we feel like we have freedom to create. As a culture, I think we just see things a little bit differently.

"I measure Ngali's success on what it means for the remote Indigenous artists we work with, what it is we can contribute to educating our kids in remote communities, and the ability for us to share our stories and celebrate who we are as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

Denni Francisco
Founder and Designer, Ngali



Denni Francisco

4. PAWA CAFÉ & BAR

Southbank Promenade, Melbourne

Grab a lilly pilly croissant, kangaroo meat pie or pre-show cheese board at Hamer Hall, overlooking the Birrarung (Yarra River).

Pawa collaborates with a network of Indigenous native food growers, farmers, foragers, artisans and makers.

View the menu and opening hours at pawacatering.com.au/cafe-bar



Deepen your understanding of Aboriginal art and culture at the Koorie Heritage Trust

5. THE KOORIE HERITAGE TRUST

Federation Square, Melbourne

Browse authentic Victorian Aboriginal artwork and artefacts at the Koorie Heritage Trust in central Melbourne. This curated collection includes paintings, carvings, didgeridoos and clapsticks.

By deepening people's understanding of Indigenous arts, the Trust aims to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Learn more at korieheritagetrust.com.au



Niyoka Bundle, one of the founders of the new Pawa Café and Bar at Hamer Hall

BROWSE MORE BRILLIANT BUSINESSES

These are just a few of the more than 100 First Nations owned and operated businesses in the City of Melbourne.

To find more - including removalists, photographers, pool installers, homewares suppliers and more - browse the Kinaway (Victorian) and Supply Nation (national) online directories.

START AND GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Are you an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person looking to start or grow a business in Melbourne? Reach out for support with permits, grants, marketing and more.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboriginal

Caravan of Sound: mobile music studio hits the road

Bop along to sweet beats as a new music recording studio on wheels pops up at public housing estates in North Melbourne, Kensington and beyond.

We supported The Drum to fit-out a caravan with DJ decks and other musical equipment to engage and empower young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Akolda Bil, a seasoned songwriter and former refugee from South Sudan, is the Youth Peer Leader (and head roadie) leading the Caravan of Sound.

“I’m excited to get out into the community and involve more young people in music and songwriting,” Akolda said.

“For people with social anxieties or other issues that prevent them from travelling far from home, we can create a safe environment by bringing the caravan right to their door.

“Working with people one-on-one, pretty much in their own backyard, can be so beneficial. If you can’t come to the music, we’ll bring the music to you.”

The Drum – an initiative of Drummond Street Services – is funded by the City of Melbourne to provide inclusive, personalised support for young people who live, play, study and work in our city.

The non-profit’s packed program includes emotional support groups, study and career guidance, inclusive sport and school holiday activities. Young people also make a podcast about activism and identity called *The Labeller*.

Helen Rimington, General Manager of Families, Youth and Communities at Drummond Street Services, said the Caravan of Sound will help satisfy a common passion among program participants.

“So many of the young people who come along to our programs love music. No matter what age they are, they love playing and exploring music and performance,” Helen said.

“It’s great to see nine-year-olds rocking out – they’re the best dancers you’ve ever seen, with voices like angels. The whole experience is so healing and inclusive. They just love it.

“We’ve had a tiny little recording studio in North Melbourne for some time, but the Caravan of Sound will allow us to take the show on the road and make a deeper impact.”

The Caravan of Sound builds upon one of The Drum’s existing programs, called Real Youth Music Studios. Based in Collingwood,

this program enables young people to write, record and perform their own music.

“We felt we needed something mobile that we could use to visit public housing estates and schools, where we could work in small groups with students who feel disengaged,” Helen said.

“We found a caravan we can crank up with a little wheel – it’s a bit like a food van with no sides. So people can hang around with microphones singing as well as using the mixing desk inside.”

In fine weather, expect to see the Caravan of Sound on the grass in the sunshine. If there’s rain, the team has identified plenty of spots under shelter and in car parks, where they can connect to power.

“To start with, we won’t be focusing on recording – just exploring and enjoying music. There’ll be sessions for primary school students, girls, older young men, people with disabilities and particular families,” Helen said.

“It’s a great opportunity for people to come and have a chat with our youth workers and play with instruments. It’s all about encouraging people to get out of the house, connect in real life and start creating.”

Support for the Caravan of Sound program has come from various sources, including the City of Melbourne, the Victorian Government’s Paving the Way Forward program, the Department of Health and Sony.

The Drum is seeking partnerships with local businesses to support the Caravan of Sound on its onward journey. Please reach out if you’d like to lend your support.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
thedrum.ds.org.au

SIX MORE ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We support children and young people through arts, recreation and community programs year-round, including funding partner organisations to deliver exceptional activities. Here are some more ways to engage:

1. Career and individual support

Get help with job applications, study enrolment, career planning, leadership skills, family challenges, mental health and more. The Drum offers tailored support for your journey.
thedrum.ds.org.au

2. Adventure play

Come and play at The Venny! Located in JJ Holland Park in Kensington, this adventure playground is a supervised ‘backyard’ and safe-haven for at-risk 5 to 15-year-olds.
thevenny.org.au

3. LGBTQIA+ communities

Queerspace Youth and (in)visible are two dedicated programs run by The Drum to connect and inspire queer and trans young people. Search for the groups on social media or visit
thedrum.ds.org.au

4. Skateboarding

Learn to skate with free equipment and coaching at JJ Holland Park in Kensington. The All Aboard program is about community engagement, skills development and spreading joy.
facebook.com/AllAboardSessions

5. Safe, inclusive spaces to grow

Enjoy sport, fun and friendship at the Young Men’s or Underground Women’s programs at Carlton Baths and North Melbourne Community Centre. Find all the group details and social media links at thedrum.ds.org.au

6. Carlton Scouts

Be prepared for adventure! More than one billion young people have been scouts, and memberships are subsidised for young people who couldn’t otherwise afford to take part.
scoutsvictoria.com.au/location/carlton

.....
“Working with people one-on-one, pretty much in their own backyard, can be so beneficial. If you can’t come to the music, we’ll bring the music to you.”
.....



UNDEFEATED: 90 MIGRANT WOMEN SHARE THEIR STORIES

Be moved, uplifted and inspired by stories from migrant women who have – against the odds – overcome the challenges of living in a foreign land to make Melbourne their home.



We supported a changemaking volunteer-run organisation called Professional Migrant Women to create a book of stories from local migrant women called *Undeclared*.

Lina Orozco Múnera contributed two stories to the book and illustrated its cover.

“I arrived in Melbourne from Colombia five years ago. I was by myself and I didn’t know anyone. It was a big shock. One of my stories in *Undeclared* is about my first day in Melbourne,” Lina said.

“Back home I had a degree and an ascending career, but when I came to Melbourne I had to start from scratch. I was in my late 20s, working as a waitress for the first time and pouring all my savings into my masters degree.

“For two years I just studied and worked. I didn’t have a community. I felt very lonely and battled with my mental health. I asked myself: why did I come here and what am I doing with my life?”

After her masters, Lina worked for a social enterprise dedicated to preventing

violence against women. This inspired her to volunteer to help women – especially migrants, because she knew the struggles they face.

Lina was invited to observe Professional Migrant Women’s flagship mentoring program and discovered a kindred community of women.

“We were from all over the world, but our struggles and insecurities were the same: loneliness, missing family, not having a network, feeling like we’re not good enough and fearing that our English wouldn’t be understood,” Lina said.

“It was so nice to be among women who’d been in my shoes. There was real empathy, positivity and understanding – we lifted each other up. I met some of my closest friends in that room.”

Professional Migrant Women is run by a small but mighty group of volunteers. They create a safe space where migrant women can create personal and professional connections to enrich their lives and careers.

At every networking event and workshop, volunteers, guest speakers and participants share remarkable stories. *Undeclared* aims to share these stories more widely to help people understand the migrant experience.

When the team put the call out for stories, diverse migrant women from Melbourne and across Australia responded in droves. The book came together through writing and editing workshops supported by the City of Melbourne.

.....
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.....



Authors and allies celebrate the launch of *Undefeated*



The book of stories, featuring Lina's cover illustration



Lina Orozco Múnera

"We knew that the stories should be told in the women's own voices, and our volunteer editor understood this goal, preserving the essence of the book. You can hear the women's voices as you turn the pages," Lina said.

"You can hear the women's voices as you turn the pages."

Undefeated is a collection of short 500-word stories. The order reflects the migrant's journey – from arrival, through loneliness and hardships, to feeling more settled, with uplifting stories of joy and success.

"The stories are not all sad – they also celebrate the bright side of being a migrant and how we've all somehow found a home here in Australia," Lina said.

"You can hear the women's voices as you turn the pages."

"That journey from struggles to support and blossoming through new adventures is beautiful to me. I tried to convey this in the cover illustration."

The 90 authors have taken ownership of *Undefeated*, creating spaces to share the work at libraries and community spaces across the country. A podcast has also been created to delve deeper into the stories.

"One of the authors, Christine, wanted to share her story so her grandchildren could understand more about her journey from Malaysia 20 years ago, and know where they came from," Lina said.

"Christine was retired from her career, but now everyone is asking her about the book and she's going on book tours. It's become a new profession for her, and she's really seeing the impact of her story."

Looking ahead, Professional Migrant Women will relaunch its flagship mentoring program alongside a job-readiness program and a few surprise projects. Lina is supporting the group as Brand and Communications Lead.

"I went to my first International Women's Day event in 2021 and for the first time saw brilliant migrant women in leadership positions. This year, I was a panelist – I couldn't believe it," Lina said.

"Our motto at Professional Migrant Women is: if she can see it, she can be it – and this is true. If I hadn't seen those brilliant women, I wouldn't be where I am today."



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
professionalmigrantwomen.com.au

YOUR COUNCIL



Councillor Dr Olivia Ball, Councillor Kevin Louey, Councillor Roshena Campbell, Councillor Jamal Hakim, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Councillor Davydd Griffiths, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Councillor Rohan Leppert, Councillor Philip Le Liu, Councillor Elizabeth Mary Doidge and Councillor Jason Chang

IN BRIEF

IMMUNISATION CATCH-UPS

Are your children up-to-date with their immunisations? Our team is on track to provide more than 300 free immunisation catch-ups for immigrants and citizens returning to Australia this year. This service enables children to access day-care and school, and helps them have happier, healthier lives.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/immunisation

SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

It takes courage to move across the world to pursue your dreams. But Melbourne is one of the safest and most welcoming places to study. Browse our website to discover events, friendship, wellbeing support and opportunities for volunteering and career-skills development.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/internationalstudents

KENSINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Pop into Kensington Neighbourhood House on McCracken Street for a warm welcome and take your pick from more than 99 inclusive events every week. There are English classes, art classes, playgroups, a fresh food market and even a choir. This Melbourne Award-winning community hub has been bringing people together since 1975.

kensingtonneighbourhoodhouse.com

BINS4BLOKES

One in 10 men across Australia are living with some form of incontinence. We're helping them to live their lives confidently with a trial of free incontinence product disposal bins in selected toilets at Council facilities around our city. Locations include City Library, Carlton Baths and Library at The Dock.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/bins4blokes

STARTUPS IN SPACE

Sending lettuce into space might sound like a scene from a sci-fi film, but one Docklands startup is planning for interplanetary growth. To read more about GAIA Project Australia and many more incredible Melbourne-grown businesses, head to our Melbourne News site and navigate to the Economy section.

news.melbourne.vic.gov.au

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

We hold meetings at Melbourne Town Hall and community locations across the municipality. This shines a light on the unique needs of each neighbourhood and makes it easier for local people to engage with councillors and staff.

JULY			
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 11 July	6pm	Fishermans Bend
Council	Tuesday 25 July	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
AUGUST			
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 1 August	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 15 August	6pm	East Melbourne
Council	Tuesday 29 August	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall



View all meeting dates and locations at melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil

PEOPLE WE MEET IN MELBOURNE



DEENA

Op-shop explorer

“People in Melbourne are very friendly and interested in you, where you’re from and having a chat.”

Deena travelled from a small town in New South Wales with her best friend Rose for a holiday in Melbourne. The trip gave Deena the opportunity to indulge her passion for the city’s arts scene, museums and op-shopping.



YUKI

Coffee magician

“I love coffee, and Melbourne has so many cafes. That’s why I came here.”

Barista Yuki loves working amid the bustle of the city, with quiet breaks in the serenity of the Royal Botanic Gardens. From his workplace at Federal Coffee in the Bourke Street Mall, he enjoys daily concerts from brilliant buskers.



LISA

Business champion

“I have the chance to make a meaningful impact by supporting fellow migrants as they navigate the hurdles of starting a new life.”

Lisa and her colleagues in our Business Concierge team help local enterprises start and grow. Being fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, with conversational Italian, helps Lisa support business owners from migrant backgrounds.

CONTACT

melbourne.vic.gov.au/contactus
03 9658 9658

NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE

Teletypewriter (TTY) users phone 13 36 77 then ask for 03 9658 9658
Speak & Listen users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 03 9658 9658

IN PERSON

Melbourne Town Hall
Administration Building
120 Swanston Street, Melbourne
Business hours, Monday to Friday

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 instagram.com/cityofmelbourne

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FEEDBACK

To provide feedback, contact the City of Melbourne or email melbournemag@melbourne.vic.gov.au

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AUDIO VERSION

To hear an audio version of *Melbourne* magazine, visit the Melbourne Library Service on SoundCloud or contact Vision Australia on printaccess@visionaustralia.org or 02 9334 3524.



INTERPRETER SERVICES

We cater for people of all backgrounds. Please call 03 9280 0726.

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VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

Australians will soon vote in a referendum about
the Voice to Parliament.

The Voice would be an independent and permanent advisory body.
It would give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
an ongoing say in decisions made about them.

We're helping Melburnians understand what the referendum
is all about, to make it easier for people to get the facts.

Now is the time to look out for each other as we listen and learn.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/voice



CITY OF MELBOURNE