

YOUR CITY OF MELBOURNE MAGAZINE

MELBOURNE

WINTER 2024



**OUR DRAFT
BUDGET 2024-25**

FIND OUT WHAT'S
IN IT FOR YOU

**FIRELIGHT FESTIVAL
RETURNS**

WITH A WORLD-FIRST
UNDERGROUND LIGHT SHOW

**HOW TO SHOP
WASTE-FREE**

AT THE ICONIC
QUEEN VIC MARKET

[MELBOURNE.VIC.GOV.AU](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au)



CITY OF MELBOURNE



Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO with volunteers Lynda, Andrew and David at the Town Hall visitor hub

To everyone who lives, works and plays in magnificent Melbourne, it has been an honour and a privilege to represent you over the past six years.

Together we have driven the revitalisation of Melbourne – emerging as Australia’s largest city, the world’s third most liveable, and the fourth best student city globally.

We have seen record-breaking crowds at every major event recently, driving up foot traffic and boosting business across the city.

I know hardship is still a reality for many business owners and residents, but the upward trajectory is undeniable. We are once again the driver of Victoria’s economy and a major contributor on the national stage.

While this will be my last *Melbourne Magazine* message, it won’t be the last time I delve into its pages seeking the best of city news and updates.

In this edition, catch up on the latest news from the Make Room project, which will open its doors soon, providing supported accommodation to people experiencing homelessness, giving them the help they need to transition to long-term housing.

Discover what’s being delivered in your neighbourhood through this year’s draft Budget – which includes a return to surplus – and get an update on our city-shaping capital works program including

the revamped City Library, Ryder Pavilion progress and the latest phase of the Greenline Project, which is now underway.

Make sure you also check out what’s on in the city, including Firelight Festival and NAIDOC Week celebrations. This important week – celebrating First Nations cultures and histories – is a great opportunity to explore our interactive online Mapping Aboriginal Melbourne tool or learn more about our commitments under the new Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan.

There’s never a dull moment in this city, and I encourage you to soak it all in.

Before I sign off, I want to acknowledge the City of Melbourne team and Melbourne’s residents, traders and stakeholders across industries that are so critical to this city’s success.

Your passion has been evident to me every day and has shaped a council program focused on what our city needs and how we can make a positive difference together.

Thank you, Melbourne, for the opportunity and for all your support.

Sally Capp AO
Lord Mayor

Sally Capp AO is the 104th Lord Mayor of Melbourne and the first woman to be directly elected to the position. In March, she announced that she will leave her role at the end of June and not contest the next local government election.

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 Kulin Nation and pays respect to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection they have maintained to this unique place for more than 2000 generations. We accept the invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and are committed to walking together to build a better future.

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An artist's impression of a studio apartment in the Make Room building, which is located on Little Bourke Street

Making room for Melburnians in need

Our landmark supported housing initiative, Make Room, will open its doors in the coming months – providing 50 studio apartments with wraparound support for people experiencing homelessness.

Make Room is a unique partnership between the City of Melbourne, the Victorian Government, Unison Housing and the philanthropic and corporate sectors to address the critical needs of people experiencing rough sleeping and homelessness in the municipality.

The design and service model has been informed by people with lived experience to support the highly diverse needs of residents from different backgrounds – creating a safe, welcoming environment for everyone.

Each studio apartment will include a bedroom, kitchenette and ensuite bathroom. There'll also be a rooftop garden, communal areas that bring residents together, as well as indigenous plants and First Nations artwork.

Cohealth has been confirmed as the on-site provider offering wraparound social and health support services – including mental health, housing and legal supports, as well as dental, women's health and podiatry.

Residents will stay for up to 12 months, or until they can access long-term secure housing.



Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO with Unison Housing CEO James King at Make Room before construction began

“We know we are facing a housing and homelessness crisis in Melbourne and that's why we're doing everything we can to create more affordable housing – housing that meets the diverse needs of our community,” Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

“Research shows that for every \$1 invested in affordable housing, the community benefits by \$3 due to worker retention, educational benefits, enhanced human capital, health cost savings, reduced family violence and reduced crime.

“It is an investment in both essential infrastructure and people that compounds over the long term.”



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

HOMELESSNESS CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

A home is a hard-won and fragile thing, according to former public servant and military veteran Jody Lett. She spent six months living in an old delivery van with her daughter.

After breaking the cycle of homelessness, Jody started working with the Council to Homeless Persons. As a peer support educator, she shares her story with decision-makers to help change the system for the better.

“I'm working to make sure the next generation of people experiencing homelessness don't go through what we went through,” Jody said.

To read more of Jody's story, search for her name at news.melbourne.vic.gov.au



Jody Lett

CITY FLASHBACK

This photograph shows a council worker using a traffic-counting machine in the 1950s. It's one of more than 13,000 eclectic pieces preserved in our City Collection. Browse more images and artefacts at citycollection.melbourne.vic.gov.au or search for 'Art and Heritage Collection' at whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au to book a tour.



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY UPDATE

We're investing in critical safety infrastructure and resources, including more lighting to reduce antisocial behaviour at night.

In partnership with the Victorian Government, we're expanding our CCTV camera network into new neighbourhoods, like Carlton – with eight cameras installed in key locations including Lygon Street and Argyle Square.

We've also upgraded our safe city cameras in the CBD and installed new lighting in key precincts such as Bourke Street.

These initiatives create a safer community and help to reduce and deter crime.



COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Eligible residents, ratepayers and renters must vote for a new Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and councillors by postal vote in October. Your vote matters, because local government has a huge impact on community life. Voting is compulsory, even if you're living away from Melbourne. People who don't vote may be fined.

To learn more about eligibility, enrolment and more, visit elections.melbourne.vic.gov.au, use this QR code or phone our elections support team on 1300 735 427.



CLEAN TEAM

High-pressure hoses, specialist street-sweeping machines and dedicated graffiti teams are on patrol across the city. Visit us online to report dumped waste, grime or graffiti, and our rapid response team will attend to the problem quickly.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/reportanissue



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, please 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

FIRELIGHT FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH WORLD-FIRST UNDERGROUND LIGHT SHOW



An artist's impression of Firelight Labyrinth

A never-before-seen labyrinth of light and sound will dazzle Docklands this winter as an extension of the much-loved Firelight Festival.

Firelight Labyrinth will transform the underground space at Marvel Stadium into a spectacular maze designed by international creative lighting specialists, Mandylights.

"Firelight Labyrinth is the largest 3D video installation ever built in Australia," said Richard Neville, Mandylights CEO. "The maze is essentially a giant three-dimensional video screen that people can walk inside."

"The term 'immersive experience' gets bandied around a lot these days, but by putting people in the middle of this video maze - well, you can't really get any more surrounded and immersed than that!"

The Mandylights portfolio includes major concerts, theatre productions and epic events around the world. But Richard loves coming home to create work in Melbourne, with an entirely local team.

Richard said many of the Mandylights designers began their careers in local high schools and amateur theatres. From these small-scale beginnings to vast global projects, their passion runs deep.

"Even though we're working with more lights and more pressure these days, my team and I feel lucky to be paid to play with lights. It's great fun."

The designers spent two months exploring unused spaces around the City of Melbourne before deciding on Marvel Stadium's underground car park.

"For concerts and theatrical productions, lighting is a supporting element," Richard said. "With Firelight Labyrinth, there is no artist or set to light - the lights are the whole show."

"We've had a blank canvas and an open creative brief. So we can plunge everybody into darkness and present something amazing."

When Firelight Labyrinth guests descend in the lift to Marvel Stadium's basement car park, the Mandylights team hopes to surprise them with the unexpected.

"It's always great to present work in Melbourne because people here don't need to wait until they see photographs on Instagram - they naturally want to go and explore unique experiences," Richard said.

"Come with an open mind and venture into the unknown."

Looking to the future, Mandylights is launching a permanent light show in Devonport, Tasmania, and a permanent sunrise show at Uluru, featuring First Nations artwork.

The team has also already had international interest to tour Firelight Labyrinth overseas.

"I'm a big advocate for Australian design and creatives working on projects here, to see how the public reacts before we take them to the world," Richard said.

Alongside the brand-new Firelight Labyrinth, this year's free Firelight Festival will once again illuminate New Quay Promenade, Victoria Promenade and Harbour Esplanade in Docklands, offering a diverse range of tasty eats and entertainment.

There'll be fire performers, African drumming, live music and storytelling, plus fire pits and drums, flame jets, fire sculptures and arches.



The entrance to last year's Firelight Festival

Warming food and drink will also be on offer, including dumplings, smoked meats, paella, churros and hot chocolate.

A team of fire drummers will be among the performers who'll create a buzzing atmosphere.

"We couldn't be more excited," said Tom Fitzsimons, Director of Junkyard Beats.

"Visitors can expect drumming, dancing, circus, comedy, innovation. And, as a special surprise - expect to become part of the show. We've got the grooves to keep you moving all night long."

The free Firelight Festival will take place on the first weekend of the school holidays, from Friday 28 June to Sunday 30 June. The ticketed Firelight Labyrinth experience will continue until Sunday 14 July.



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

BUILDING BETTER FACILITIES AND MORE OPEN SPACE



Works are underway on the 3500 m² Seafarers Rest Park. This artist's impression is courtesy of Riverlee

Explore dreamy pedestrian spaces, updated libraries, accessible sports facilities and more in your neighbourhood thanks to the City of Melbourne's program of capital works.

Here's a quick snapshot of what's going on across the city:

Greenline Project update

Works have begun on the Greenline Project, which will transform the north bank of the Yarra River – Birrarung, delivering a 4 km riverfront promenade between Birrarung Marr and the Bolte Bridge.

The first section will include 450 m of interconnected boardwalks, viewpoints and thriving green spaces at Birrarung Marr. Work has also begun on 3500 m² of green open space near the Mission to Seafarers building. Delivered by Riverlee, the place will be known as Seafarers Rest Park.

Revamped City Library opening soon

We're updating City Library to meet the changing needs of our diverse community.

The ground floor is being revitalised, making it quick and easy to browse books and other items. The first floor is being fitted out to provide spaces for the community to come together for meetings, study and co-working.

The collection at City Library is also being refreshed and curated with city residents, workers, students and visitors in mind.

Borrowers can still access the City of Melbourne's entire collection by reserving and picking up items from City Library – or by visiting other library branches.

To find out more, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries



narm ngarrgu Library and Family Services

Have you visited our new library in the Queen Victoria Market precinct yet?

Browse 30,000 books, use high-tech creative gadgets or bliss out on the rooftop terrace while your children play at narm ngarrgu, the City of Melbourne's new library and family services centre.

Spanning three levels and 3000 m², narm ngarrgu is an urban oasis for families designed so everyone in our diverse community can explore their interests, learn something new and access integrated family support.



We're revamping City Library to meet the changing needs of the community



An artist's impression of the Trader Shed at Queen Victoria Market

Modern facilities for traders at Queen Victoria Market

Works are continuing on the most complex component of the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal program – the construction of contemporary, purpose-built infrastructure to help the market thrive into the future.

With three storeys above ground and four storeys below, the Trader Shed will replace the 1980s meat and seafood delivery dock, bringing operating infrastructure closer to traders.

The shed will include lockable storage, climate-controlled storerooms, waste management, loading areas and dedicated amenities for traders – including toilets, showers and a lunchroom.

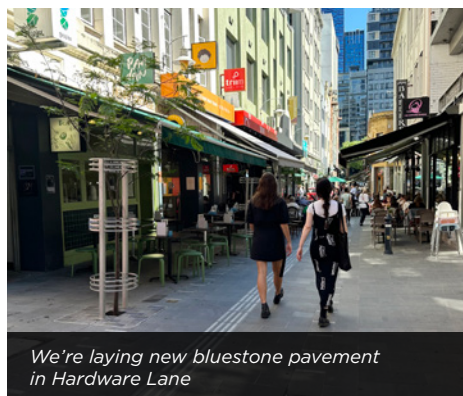


Works on Western and Brens pavilions are complete, with Ryder Pavilion now underway

Hardware Lane streetscape upgrade

Take a stroll down this vibrant laneway, known for its popular restaurants, bars and shops, to see it evolving before your eyes.

To keep Hardware Lane thriving and drawing in even more visitors, we're refreshing the streetscape with stage two of the upgrade, which includes a new bluestone surface, improved accessibility, safety barriers and greening.



We're laying new bluestone pavement in Hardware Lane

Royal Park pavilion upgrades

Get involved in community sport with more accessible change facilities on offer in Royal Park. We've been building three new pavilions to support growing demand for community sport, and particularly the growth in female participation. Works on Ryder Pavilion are now underway, with Western and Brens pavilions already complete. Plans for all three upgrades were based on sustainable design principles.

Exhibition Street theatre precinct

Thousands of theatre-goers will have more room to move in the theatre precinct on Exhibition Street with the installation of wider bluestone footpaths, new plants and trees, a safer riding lane, new street furniture, new drop-off bays and more. Keep an eye out for the new-look space between Little Lonsdale and Bourke streets.

New park for Southbank

Head to Dodds Street to explore a new park that will deliver 1300 m² of native grassland plantings and 34 additional trees. Located between Southbank Boulevard and Grant Street, this landscape has been largely planted from seed so the grasses and wildflowers will emerge slowly, allowing each season to tell its own story.

Grattan Street riding lane

Keep an eye out for new kerbside-protected riding lanes on Grattan Street – delivering a safer, better connected riding network in the heart of Carlton. Running from Rathdowne Street to Bouverie Street, the riding lanes and traffic-management changes will help keep people moving – no matter their mode of transport.



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



Our draft Budget invests in cleaning, making our city greener, and building better community facilities closer to home

OUR DRAFT BUDGET 2024-25

HERE'S WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU

The City of Melbourne's \$781 million draft Budget 2024-25 is about doing what counts and delivering on our promises to the community, while strengthening our financial future.

Our draft Budget, together with our Annual Plan, sets out the priorities and investments we will deliver for Melburnians in the final year of our Council Plan 2021-25.

We are proud to announce a surplus Budget - a year ahead of schedule, with surpluses projected to continue to 2028.

We've made responsible choices so we can deliver what counts for our community now and continue to invest for our growing population in the years ahead.

The cost of living has been front of mind during the development of this Budget. We are continuing to deliver our core frontline services, along with free and affordable services our community relies on.



Lower fees for waste collection

SEVEN HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR DRAFT BUDGET

1. City cleaning

We're supercharging our cleaning efforts with \$41.6 million to ensure our streets are sparkling. Our Clean Team will be on the ground 24/7 - cleaning our streets, prioritising the removal of graffiti and monitoring hotspots and collecting and disposing of public litter.

2. More parks and open space

We're transforming our city from grey to green in neighbourhoods that need it most - with almost \$50 million to deliver more open spaces, and ensure our city is greener and more sustainable. This includes new green open space on Normanby Road in Southbank, expanding the Miles and Dodds Street Reserve, plus opening the Bedford Street Pocket Park, North Melbourne. We'll also plant 3,000 trees and maintain our parks and gardens.

3. Building better community facilities

More Melburnians will be able to play the game they love - close to home. We've earmarked \$224.7 million to build city-shaping projects and upgrade grassroots sporting facilities. We'll open the new Kensington Community Aquatic and

Recreation Centre, complete the first stage of the Greenline Project in Birrarung Marr, build the state-of-the-art Trader Shed at Queen Victoria Market and a new Ryder Pavilion in Royal Park. We'll also invest almost \$13 million to maintain and upgrade our roads and footpaths to make it as easy as possible to get around.

4. More affordable homes and homelessness support

We're doing our part to address the housing crisis - with a proposal to transform two sites on Curzon Street, North Melbourne and Victoria Street, West Melbourne into new affordable housing. We'll also open the doors to Make Room, our landmark social housing initiative, providing accommodation and support for 50 people experiencing homelessness.

5. Australia's biggest events calendar

We're doing everything we can to bring more people into the city - and delivering the best events calendar in the country does exactly that, with an investment of more than \$26 million. All our favourites are back - the Christmas Festival, Moomba, New Year's Eve, Now or Never and Firelight Festival, along with a world-first underground light show. With most of our major events free to attend, everyone can enjoy an affordable day or night out in the city.

Read more about the City of Melbourne's Annual Plan and Draft Budget 2024-25 at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/our-plans-2024-25



Neighbours gather at Cafe Tesorina in Parkville

Doing what counts for your neighbourhood

Every day, we strive to make a difference for the community – providing the services people rely on, while building a strong, inclusive and sustainable future.

Guided by community feedback and outlined in our Council Plan 2021–25, our work includes everything from resurfacing roads and managing libraries to harnessing renewable energy and international investment.

Read on to discover just a few of the things we've delivered in your neighbourhood since 2021. Then visit us online for the full report – there's lots to be celebrated, and plenty to look forward to.

CBD

We opened the new narm ngarrgu Library and Family Services in the Queen Victoria Market Precinct and began works on the Greenline Project to transform the banks of the Yarra River – Birrarung. We launched a 24/7 cleaning and graffiti removal service, and we helped businesses start, grow and go global through our Business Concierge and Invest Melbourne programs.



Library at The Dock

DOCKLANDS

We upgraded Australia Wharf to improve water health and improve conditions for charter vessels to dock. We worked in partnership to deliver a pocket park at Yanonung Quay, and to reduce noise pollution. We also progressed our Power Melbourne project that will supply residents with affordable renewable

energy – one of the first neighbourhood batteries will be installed at Library at The Dock.

INNER CITY: EAST MELBOURNE, CARLTON AND PARKVILLE

We completed the riding lane in Albert Street, East Melbourne, filling a gap in the protected lane route, and we consulted on East Melbourne and Jolimont pedestrian and road safety improvements. We expanded our safe city camera program in Carlton and upgraded lighting at local parks. We constructed two new inclusive pavilions in Royal Park and managed sports fields that cater to 26 community organisations.

NORTHWEST: KENSINGTON, NORTH MELBOURNE AND WEST MELBOURNE

In Kensington, we started redevelopment of the community aquatic and recreation centre, managed sporting facilities including the JJ Holland Park sporting fields, skate park and BMX track, and consulted the community on the Macaulay Road bike lane. We implemented a food-waste service trial in two high-rise buildings in West Melbourne, and we provided local business training and mentoring.

SOUTHBANK AND SOUTH YARRA

We upgraded Southbank Promenade and Southbank Boulevard to create safe, welcoming, accessible spaces, and we helped build community connection by supporting local resident, gardening and cricket groups. In South Yarra, we maintained Fawkner Park, Domain Parklands and the Riverside Skate Park, and we installed new digital clocks on the iconic Tan Track.



Local business owner Hakim Halim

6. Lower waste collection charge

Our hardworking team will continue to empty bins from homes and businesses on time, while reducing the waste charge for residents this year. Owners of properties valued above \$515,000 will receive a \$53 reduction, with owners of properties valued below \$515,000 receiving a \$15 reduction.

7. Making it easier to do business

We're expanding our Business Concierge service with \$1.6 million to provide more support for our small businesses and traders. A new-look, highly visible team will provide tools and advice for more new businesses beyond the CBD to start and succeed.7. Making it easier to do business

We're expanding our Business Concierge service with \$1.6 million to provide more support for our small businesses and traders. A new-look, highly visible team will provide tools and advice for more new businesses beyond the CBD to start and succeed.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
[news.melbourne.vic.gov.au/
doing-what-counts](https://news.melbourne.vic.gov.au/doing-what-counts)

WHAT'S ON IN MAGNETIC MELBOURNE



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

1 TO 16 JUN

RISING

Be part of a festival of new art, music and performance that spills out onto city streets, car parks, churches and iconic venues. It's a chance to connect with each other and ambitious artists with bold ideas.

9 JUNE

TASTE OF PORTUGAL

Savour a freshly baked custard tart, learn how to samba, and buy colourful pottery and homewares at this free event that celebrates Portuguese-speaking communities of Portugal, Brazil, East Timor and beyond. At Queen Victoria Market.

UNTIL 16 JUNE

LEONARDO DA VINCI – 500 YEARS OF GENIUS

Immerse yourself in Da Vinci's world and life story – traversing art and innovation and featuring pages from the Codex Atlanticus, penned by the master himself. At The Lume, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

28 TO 30 JUNE

FIRELIGHT FESTIVAL

Over three fiery nights, Melbourne's epic winter festival takes over Docklands with fire pits, live music, pop-up foodie feasts and more. Entry is free. Full details at firelight.melbourne.vic.gov.au

28 JUNE TO 14 JULY

FIRELIGHT LABYRINTH

This winter, a subterranean space underneath Melbourne's iconic Marvel Stadium will be transformed into a labyrinth of light and sound. Full details and tickets at firelight.melbourne.vic.gov.au



7 JULY

African Festival Melbourne

1 TO 13 JULY

MELBOURNE MAGIC FESTIVAL

Be amazed by more than 130 performances by top magicians at Arrow on Swanston. There are events and workshops suitable for all ages, plus the pop-up Magic Central Bar.

7 JULY

AFRICAN FESTIVAL MELBOURNE

Feel the rhythm pulsing through your veins as you step into a vibrant celebration of Melbourne's diverse African community amid the iconic surrounds of Queen Victoria Market.

7 TO 14 JULY

NAIDOC WEEK

Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture at events across the city that include music, art, conversations and community gatherings. Browse local events at naidoc.org.au

13 TO 14 JULY

BASTILLE DAY FRENCH FESTIVAL

Unleash your joie de vivre to celebrate all things French with a range of cuisine, music, art and activities. Find the fun at Queen Victoria Market and other venues across the city.



Bastille Day French Festival



UNTIL 16 JUNE

Leonardo Da Vinci - 500 Years of Genius



20 TO 21 JULY

Run Melbourne

UNTIL 28 JULY

Wicked

14 JULY TO 6 OCTOBER

PHARAOH

Explore 3000 years of ancient Egyptian art and culture through more than 500 works, including monumental sculpture, exquisite jewellery, papyri and more. At the National Gallery of Victoria.



Pharaoh

20 TO 21 JULY

RUN MELBOURNE

Lace up your shoes and join 25,000 other runners and wheelchair athletes for Run Melbourne, the iconic running event that takes you through the heart of Melbourne's vibrant city streets.

27 TO 28 JULY

OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE

Step behind-the-scenes of buildings, places and spaces to marvel at great design and take part in conversations about the future of our city. This weekend is for the curious, the adventurers and the life-long learners.



Open House Melbourne

UNTIL 28 JULY

WICKED

One of Broadway's biggest blockbusters has flown into Melbourne. This show looks at what happened in the Land of Oz but from a different angle - long before Dorothy arrives.

FROM AUGUST

ARTS HOUSE SEASON TWO

Discover new and bold contemporary art and performance in North Melbourne. The season two program, comprising theatre, dance, installations, sound and more, will be announced in June. Full details and tickets at artshouse.com.au

8 TO 25 AUGUST

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Grab the popcorn for a curated global showcase of exceptional filmmaking at one of the world's oldest film festivals - running continuously since 1952. Various venues.

15 TO 25 AUGUST

INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL OF MELBOURNE

Dive into the largest celebration of Indian cinema outside of India. Spot filmmakers and stars, celebrate Indian Independence Day with a flag-hoisting ceremony, watch a dance competition and catch free screenings at Fed Square.



Indian Film Festival of Melbourne

18 AUGUST

FAB SOUTHBANK

Head to Boyd Community Hub at 207 City Road for a community festival that showcases diversity, pre-loved and handmade treasures, entertainment, music, dance, sustainability, local activities and interest groups.



FAB Southbank at Boyd

22 TO 31 AUGUST

NOW OR NEVER

Experience an expansive program of immersive art experiences, ground-breaking music and audio-visual performance, spectacular technology and much more at the city's newest festival. Full program on sale 20 June.

UNTIL 25 NOVEMBER

LIBRARY CINEMA

Watch contemporary, classic and documentary films on the big screen at Library at The Dock. Then stick around for snacks and a chat. Check dates online.

UNTIL 20 DECEMBER

THE COMMUNITY GROCER

Head to 510 Lygon Street in Carlton on Friday mornings for a weekly pop-up fruit and vegetable market selling up to 140 types of produce at affordable prices.



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

PROMOTING CULTURAL AWARENESS AND TRUTH-TELLING



Sharina Ladharam at Birrarung Marr with carved ancestor stones by Vicki Couzens, Lee Darroch and Treahna Hamm

Pause to reflect on Country this waring (wombat) season, which is known for cool, rainy days with misty mornings. In August, guling (orchid) season will herald the first hints of warmer weather.

The Wurundjeri seasons are among the expansive First Nations wisdom that underpins our work to nurture respect and understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Wiradjuri woman Sharina Ladharam is Aboriginal Community Engagement and Events Officer for the City of Melbourne. Part of her role is to empower others to create culturally safe spaces and increase cultural visibility across the city.

“My primary focus is on fostering relationships with Traditional Owners and working collaboratively on projects aimed at enriching Melbourne’s Aboriginal heritage,” Sharina said.

“In my role, I prioritise stakeholder engagement, facilitate collaboration, and ensure that cultural sensitivity and safety are integral to our initiatives.”

Read on to discover some of the latest work being led by our Aboriginal Melbourne team to advance reconciliation, cultural safety and truth-telling, and ways to deepen your understanding.

MAPPING ABORIGINAL MELBOURNE

Explore places of Aboriginal cultural significance through our interactive map – a powerful truth-telling tool that reveals Aboriginal peoples’ deep connection to Country.

“There are a lot of significant Aboriginal places in our municipality, and it’s important that information and history is never lost,” Sharina said.

Browse the map at aboriginal-map.melbourne.vic.gov.au

NEW FIRST NATIONS COMMITTEE

We’re establishing a First Nations Committee to advise on the City of Melbourne’s work by providing advice on initiatives that impact First Nations communities. Committee members will be announced soon. To learn more, visit participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/first-nations-committee

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Thank you to everyone who shared their ideas for how to strengthen relationships and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community during our recent survey. Your feedback will help shape our sixth Reconciliation Action Plan.

The plan is about deepening our understanding of Aboriginal people, celebrating First Nations heritage and culture, and elevating Indigenous voices.

Reconciliation benefits everyone, ensuring people have the same chances and choices in life, and enriching connections between Aboriginal and non-Indigenous people.

The plan will focus on five themes – relationships, respect, opportunities, governance and truth-telling. It will also outline our next steps on the path to reconciliation – converting good intentions into clear actions.

“Truth-telling is important,” Sharina said. “Without being truthful there cannot be reconciliation.”

STOLEN GENERATIONS MARKER

Peppercorn Lawn in the Alexandra Gardens on Wurundjeri Country has been selected as the location for a Stolen Generations Marker, which will reaffirm our commitment to truth-telling and reconciliation.

The marker is being developed with close guidance from a working group that includes Stolen Generations survivors, their descendants, Wurundjeri Traditional Owners and key organisations.

“The marker will be a place for reflection, healing and education. These are important steps for Melbourne on its journey towards truth-telling, reconciliation and healing,” Sharina said.



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

7 TO 14 JULY

NAIDOC WEEK

Celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at NAIDOC Week events across the City of Melbourne and beyond. Browse music, art, community gatherings and more at naidoc.org.au



Iman Sabbagh (second from right) and her colleagues help keep our waterways safe and clean

Meet the people who make Melbourne tick

Whether it's keeping our waterways safe, helping parents settle their newborn babies, or managing waste and recycling, the City of Melbourne offers career opportunities that span 50 industries.

Read on to meet some of the team members who look after important elements of neighbourhood life.

Iman Sabbagh, Waterways Operations Coordinator

Ensuring our waterways are safe is all in a day's work for Iman. A typical day could see her out talking to boat operators on the harbour, project-managing minor construction works on the marinas and carrying out safety audits.

"Among the challenges we face on a daily basis can be flooding events causing rubbish accumulation within the marina, oil spillage, litter and complaints about loud noise from party boats," Iman said.

"By addressing these challenges in a timely manner, we provide a safe and clean waterway for our customers and a safe environment for our neighbouring community."

Kate Allen, Sleep and Settling Parenting Support

Kate provides invaluable, personalised care and education to some of our city's most sleep-deprived residents – parents and carers with new babies.

"I get to work with an incredible team of maternal and child health nurses, including Angelique Sherwen – we deliver the sleep program together," Kate said.

"They are a dedicated and committed group and I'm learning a lot from them and applying that shared knowledge and experience to my current role.

"I think if a community feels supported by the services provided within its municipality, that has an ongoing benefit on its health going forward."



Kate Allen

Catherine Ng, Commercial Waste and Recycling Manager

With more than 1000 garbage trucks entering the CBD each day, Catherine's team manages a fine balance between

cleanliness and maintaining a peaceful public realm. Lately, the team has been trialing miniature garbage compactors in laneways to reduce the number of bins and bin collections.

"There's always something to do and always something to improve," Catherine said.



Catherine Ng with a garbage compactor

"I love that in my role we can be strategic and innovative about which solutions we introduce because we're dealing with problems that are only applicable to a few places in the world."

To learn more about these inspiring workers – and many more – visit [news.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://www.news.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

HOW TO SHOP WASTE-FREE AT QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

Bring your reusable containers and bags to Queen Victoria Market to check off your whole shopping list, including meat, fish, cheese, antipasti, wine, olive oil, grains, fruit, vegies and even shampoo.

Queen Victoria Market offers waste-free alternatives to almost every packaged grocery item, alongside hearty servings of cost savings and community connection.

Shop waste-free with Bettina

Bettina de Chateaubourg has worked at Queen Victoria Market for 10 years. She started as a tour guide, and she's now the Tours and Visitor Experience Coordinator.

Low-waste living isn't something new for Bettina - the routine of shopping with her powder-blue vintage trolley, old flour sacks and reused containers is innate, and a great source of joy.

"When you shop at the market, you know that what you're buying is super fresh, and you can ask for the exact weight you need, so nothing is wasted," Bettina said.

"The traders are the produce experts. They know what the cucumbers or apples are like on any given day, what cheeses to buy and what to pair them with. We even swap recipes. These are great interactions - you don't get that at the supermarket."

Check off your shopping list

Beyond bananas and broccoli, there are plenty of specialty and gourmet items that can also be purchased waste-free.

Head to Bill's Farm to pick up Meredith Dairy goat's cheese in your own jar, or browse the beloved Dairy Hall for smallgoods, antipasti, pastries or any other treat that takes your fancy.

Bring a cloth bag to purchase grains, pulses, dried fruits at Market Organics. And forget the cleaning aisle at the supermarket - refill your dishwashing liquid at Soapbox.



Bettina picks up fresh groceries on her lunch break

Then head to Rewine where you can refill bottles with premium wine straight from the barrel, olive oil, apple cider vinegar, gin, Bellini bubbles, 'Boofhead' chilli oil (named in honour of a trader's cat) and more.

How to prepare for a waste-free shop

You don't need to use aesthetic bags and containers when you shop waste-free - takeaway containers, recycled tubs and even bags made from old t-shirts work just fine.

"Bring along plastic containers for meat, fish, cheese and butter. Bring jars for dips and antipasti. And bring cloth bags, or reused plastic bags, for your fruit and veg," Bettina said.



Friendly traders offer an enticing array of antipasti, cheese, pasta and more in the beloved Dairy Hall

"All the traders are very comfortable weighing and using your reusable containers. Just make sure the containers are really clean so they're pleasant for the traders to handle."

If you get caught short without a bag, Bettina encourages you to use paper bags at your fruiterer, or just buy produce loose.

"Many fruits and vegetables don't need to be put in a bag because they have their own skin - like bananas and mangoes, to name a few," Bettina said.

"Bring a trolley so you can put items straight in and get around easily. You can also pick up a box from one of our box stations, or ask a trader - they always have spare boxes on hand."



Bettina buying some meat in her own plastic container

Treasured connections

Beyond waste-free shopping, one of the biggest benefits of spending time at Queen Victoria Market is the community forged over the counters and between the pallets.

In times of joy and grief, the market family wraps itself around each other, providing meals, wine, friendship or just a friendly hello. A packed program of festivals also brings diverse people together.



Source the freshest produce with local recommendations

"I don't know what I would do without working here. Everyone looks out for each other, and the vibe of Queen Victoria Market is just so uplifting," Bettina said.

"Beyond being a great place to shop, the market's cultural festivals are so heart-warming. And the Melbourne Book Market is on at the weekend, so you can always go home with a great read."

Queen Victoria Market is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. To browse traders and events, and learn more about the market's sustainability initiatives, visit qvm.org.au

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GUIDE TO WINTER WELLBEING

Take a dip in one of our heated pools

Nurture your mind, body and spirit during the cooler months by making the most of the City of Melbourne’s free and low-cost facilities and activities.

Physical activity is more than just organised exercise. Little changes like riding to work, walking to a meeting or taking the stairs can make a huge difference to your physical and mental health.

National guidelines tell us that adults should ideally be active every day. Every week, we should complete at least 2.5 to 5 hours of moderate-intensity activity, or 1.25 to 2.5 hours of vigorous activity, or a combination of the two.

Here’s how to move it your way in your neighbourhood:

WALKING OR CYCLING

Rug up and explore our parks and gardens on a leisurely walk, jog or fast-paced run. You can find maps of popular tracks, plus 135 km of on- and off-road cycle paths on our website.

POOLS AND GYMS

Our recreation centres in the CBD, Carlton and North Melbourne offer a unique community vibe with friendly staff members to support your fitness journey. Explore them all to discover heated pools and top-notch gyms.

GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

Take your pick from classes for all ages and abilities including reformer pilates, circuit training, spin, dance, boxing, HIIT, BodyPump, yoga, meditation, AquaFit, tai chi and more at your local recreation centre.

ACCESSIBLE EXERCISE

Whether you’re seeking a female-only gym session, accessible change rooms, swimming pool hoists or something completely different, our services and facilities are designed to offer everyone a welcoming workout.

Reach out to explore inclusive programs like adult swimming lessons, all-abilities touch football, tennis and cricket for people with vision impairment, and the FitSkills program for people with Down Syndrome.

TEAM SPORTS, MARTIAL ARTS, SWORDCRAFT AND MORE

Did you know there are regular swordcraft sessions in the city, with live-action battles? It’s all in good fun, of course. Search our Active Melbourne directory to find team sports galore, including basketball and volleyball.

You can even try your hand at martial arts, ultimate frisbee and dragon boating, head to a skate park for free coaching, or have a round of golf in the beautiful surrounds of Royal Park.



Join a group fitness class



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

Gearing up for great rides

Melbourne streets are for everyone – that’s why we’re improving road, footpath and street designs.

Protected riding lanes are one of the ways we are joining the dots, making it easier for bike riders, e-scooter riders and all road users to get around.

We’ve delivered more than 27 km of new riding lanes across our city since 2020, and we’ve seen a 22 per cent increase in users, including a significant increase in female riders.

Ellen loves riding her e-bike to uni, especially with the recent improvements to her route.

“It’s amazing. The protected bike lanes on St Kilda Road and Swanston Street mean that you feel a lot safer when you’re riding – you’re protected from the traffic and the car doors. It also keeps pedestrians protected as well, separating it out like that,” Ellen said.

“It just feels a lot calmer going down the whole way.”



Ellen

Steven and his four-legged friend Loki charm passers-by on their way to doggy day care.

“I’m quite comfortable taking my precious little puppy on segregated bike lanes where I can just relax and take it easy. You don’t have to be on your guard as much,” Steven said.

To get around the city, Steven said: “Williams Street is a good one. Grattan is going to be good soon. Canning Street is my holy grail. It’s just improved with new separations. It pretty much takes me straight into the office – I use that one all the time.”



Steven and Loki

Cas enjoys riding her e-bike to commute to work, and to take her three-year-old daughter Poppy to places like the zoo, museum and swimming lessons.

“Melbourne cycling is super universal, there are lots of different kinds of riders, including little ones,” Cas said.

“There are so many reasons I ride. Firstly, it’s really consistent, I know exactly how long it’s going to take me. It’s also nice, relaxed exercise, it gives me some time to clear my head and get some fresh air.”



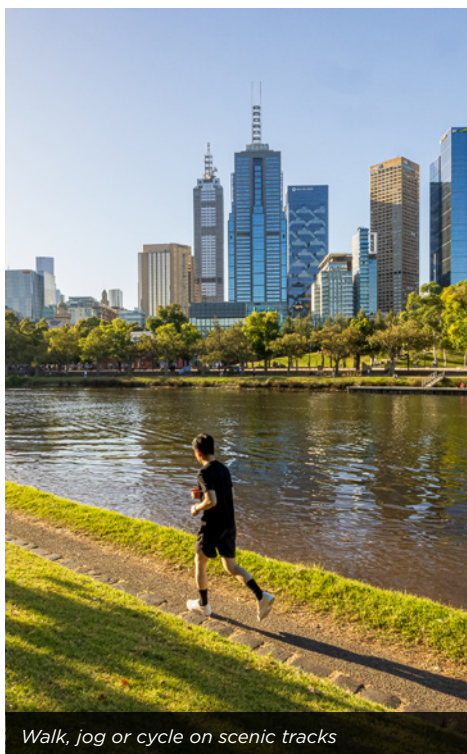
Cas and Poppy

Our vision for local bike networks

We aim to transform Melbourne into the country’s leading bicycle city by creating more than 50 km of protected bike lanes as part of our Transport Strategy 2030. Learn more and plan your route on our website.



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



Walk, jog or cycle on scenic tracks

ACTIVE MELBOURNE MEMBERSHIP

We have affordable options to suit you, whether you want to enjoy casual entry, unlimited swims, personalised gym consultations or reciprocal access to all our recreation centre locations.

Members can also access hundreds of virtual classes, tailored programs, daily workouts, progress-tracking and bookings on the Active Melbourne app.

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 AO, Councillor Rohan Leppert, Councillor Philip Le Liu, Councillor Elizabeth Mary Doidge and Councillor Jason Chang

Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO

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IN BRIEF

VOLUNTEERING

We engage more than 1000 volunteers each year in a wide range of roles and programs. Whether you're interested in helping tourists navigate the city, using your green thumb to plan wildlife-friendly gardens for residents, or helping behind-the-scenes at our premier events, we have a role for you.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/volunteer

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP

We offer a wide range of grants and sponsorships to individuals, community organisations and businesses in the arts, recreation, events and business sectors. Applicants that reflect creativity, inclusion, sustainability, knowledge and economic prosperity are encouraged to apply.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/grants

BOOKABLE SPACES FOR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups can book spaces at our libraries and community hubs for free. From multipurpose rooms to recording studios and performance spaces, we have a wide range of rooms on offer to help your organisation continue the deadly work you do for the community.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/bookablespaces

BINS4BLOKES EXPANSION

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 at nine council locations around our city. Visit our website for more information on this program.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/bins4blokes

REPORT IT ONLINE

Do you need to let us know about a problem like graffiti, a barking dog or an illegally parked vehicle? Follow the link below to report issues to the right team, find out what is required and how different types of issues may be resolved. If there is any danger to the public or public space, please call us on 03 9658 9658.

melbourne.vic.gov.au/reportanissue

COUNCIL MEETINGS

JUNE			
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 4 & 11 June	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
Council	Tuesday 25 June	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
JULY			
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 9 & 23 July	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
Council	Tuesday 30 July	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
AUGUST			
Future Melbourne Committee	Tuesday 6 & 20 August	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall
Council	Tuesday 27 August	5.30pm	Melbourne Town Hall

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

PEOPLE WE MEET IN MELBOURNE



ISABELLA FANTASIA

Disability advocate

“I am proud and confident in my disabilities. I love who I am. My journey has brought me an amazing sense of self-compassion and self-understanding. And it has opened my eyes more widely to how different people experience the world.”

As one of the newest members of our Disability Advisory Committee, Isabella is working to make Melbourne accessible, inclusive and equitable for all.



KATHERINE HORSFALL

Urban wildflower expert

“With each new meadow we learn something new. For Oak Street, we’re really making flowers the showcase and amping up species diversity to supply lots of resources for butterflies, birds and bees.”

Discover native wildflower meadows and exquisite endangered plants in Parkville thanks to Katherine, a PhD candidate from the University of Melbourne, and other experts doing their bit to boost biodiversity.



PAUL WATERSON

Venue and hospitality specialist

“With a diverse hospitality and retail setting alongside unmatched infrastructure and a strong cultural and events-based culture, Melbourne will be unbeatable as the ‘city to be’ in the coming 10 years.”

We need to continue to cement and grow the gains the city has made over the past three years, according to Paul – a member of our City Economy Advisory Committee and CEO of Australian Venue Co.



To learn more about Isabella, Katherine and Paul, search for their names at news.melbourne.vic.gov.au

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
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IN PERSON

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

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FEEDBACK

To provide feedback, contact the
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ONLINE VERSION

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or 02 9334 3524.



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

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03 9280 0726	All other languages



**HAVE YOU
VISITED OUR
NEWEST
LIBRARY
YET?**

**narrm ngarrgu
LIBRARY AND FAMILY SERVICES**



**READ ALL
ABOUT IT**



narrm ngarrgu Library and Family Services
is located in the Queen Victoria Market
precinct at 141 Therry Street, Melbourne

