

# the yarra news

VOLUME 10 | NO 4 | MAY 2015



## Thanks a million!

We're celebrating our community's unsung heroes during National Volunteer Week (11-17 May). See page 6 for more.

*Volunteers from Holden Street Neighbourhood House in North Fitzroy.*

**Have your say:  
Proposed Budget 2015/16**

Page 5

**Koorie Stories  
and Songs**

Page 6

**Vietnamese  
Reading Month**

Page 7

Weekly announcements from Yarra News will be broadcast in several languages on local radio 3CR 855AM and 3ZZZ 92.3FM



## GREEK

Ανακοινώσεις από αυτή την έκδοση του Yarra News θα μεταδοθούν στο Ελληνικό ραδιοφωνικό πρόγραμμα της Δευτέρας από τις 8μμ, στο 3CR 855 AM.

## TURKISH

Yarra News'un bu baskısında yer alan duyurular, 92.3 FM bandından yayın yapan 3ZZZ Türkçe radyo programında, Pazar günleri saat 10.00'dan itibaren yayınlanacaktır.

## VIETNAMESE

Các thông báo từ số phát hành này của Yarra News sẽ được phát thanh trên chương trình phát thanh Việt Ngữ vào các ngày thứ Ba từ 10 giờ sáng, trên đài 3ZZZ 92.3 FM.

## ARABIC

Yarra News سيتم بث اعلانات من اصدار هذه عبر برنامج صوت إرثيريا الإذاعي في أيام الاثنين من الساعة 7 صباحاً، على التردد .3CR 855 AM

## CONNECT WITH COUNCIL

General enquiries: **9205 5555**  
 After Hours Emergency: **9205 5555**  
 TTY: **phone 133 677 then ask for 03 9205 5555**  
 Interpreter Services: **9280 1940**  
 Facsimile: **8417 6666**  
 Email: **info@yarracity.vic.gov.au**  
 Website: **www.yarracity.vic.gov.au**  
 Twitter: **@yarracouncil**



To improve communications with Yarra's non-English speaking community, a selected article from this edition of Yarra News has been translated into Yarra's four main community languages.

Other articles from Yarra News can be read in any language on Council's website. Visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarra-news](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarra-news) and select a language from the drop down Google Translate menu at the bottom of the screen.

For more information in your language, please call 9280 1940 and quote the ref number below.

### 2015-2016年雅拉 (Yarra) 市政的预算草案

2015-2016年市政预算草案的重心是对社区基础建设的投资。大笔资金分配给North Fitzroy社区中心的建设，以及yarra社区青年中心的翻新。由于拨款额度的大幅增加，才使得yarra的公园网络以及开放空间能够得到扩大和改善。若想获得更多信息，请登陆网站[www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget) 若想获得更多关于预算的中文信息，或者其他Yarra News的文章，请拨打电话9280 1937，并报出参考号码15099。

### Προτεινόμενος Προϋπολογισμός 2015/16 του Yarra

Οι επενδύσεις σε κοινοτικές υποδομές αποτελούν το επίκεντρο του προτεινόμενου προϋπολογισμού 2015/16 του Δήμου. Διατίθενται σημαντικά κονδύλια για να ξεκινήσει η κατασκευή του Κοινοτικού Κέντρου του North Fitzroy (North Fitzroy Community Hub) και η ανακίνηση του Κοινοτικού Κέντρου Νεολαίας του Yarra (Yarra Community Youth Centre). Το δίκτυο των πάρκων και των υπαίθριων χώρων του Yarra θα επεκταθεί και θα βελτιωθεί περαιτέρω χάρη σε μια ουσιαστική ώθηση χρηματοδότησης. Για να μάθετε περισσότερα, επισκεφθείτε την ιστοσελίδα: [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget) Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες στη γλώσσα σας σχετικά με τον προϋπολογισμό ή με οποιαδήποτε άλλα άρθρα του Yarra News, τηλεφωνήστε στον αριθμό: 9280 1934 και αναφέρετε τον αριθμό Αναφοράς 15099.

### Bilancio di previsione del Comune di Yarra per il 2015/2016

Gli investimenti in infrastrutture per la comunità costituiscono la parte principale del bilancio di previsione del Comune di Yarra per il 2015/2016. È previsto lo stanziamento di ingenti finanziamenti per avviare la costruzione del North Fitzroy Community Hub (Centro comunitario di North Fitzroy) e ristrutturare lo Yarra Community Youth Centre (Centro comunitario per i giovani di Yarra). Il sistema di parchi e spazi all'aperto di Yarra verrà ulteriormente ampliato e rifinito grazie ad un significativo incremento di fondi. Per ulteriori informazioni, visitate il sito [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget). Per maggiori informazioni nella vostra lingua a proposito del bilancio comunale o di qualsiasi altro articolo contenuto in Yarra News, chiamate il 9280 1931 e citate il numero di riferimento 15099.

### Ngân sách được Đề xuất cho Năm 2015/16 của Yarra

Các khoản đầu tư vào cơ sở hạ tầng của cộng đồng làm nên tâm điểm của bản Ngân sách được Đề xuất cho Năm 2015/16 của Hội đồng. Các khoản quỹ đáng kể được phân bổ để khởi sự việc xây dựng Trung tâm Cộng đồng North Fitzroy và tu tạo Trung tâm Thanh Thiếu niên của Cộng đồng. Nhờ các khoản gia tăng tài trợ lớn lao mà các công viên và không gian mở của Yarra sẽ được mở rộng và chỉnh trang thêm. Để tìm hiểu thêm, xin truy cập trang mạng [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget) Để biết thêm thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị về bản ngân sách này hay bất kỳ bài đăng nào khác trong Yarra News, xin hãy liên lạc số 9280 1939 và nêu số THAM CHIẾU 15099.

## REF 15099

## Wurundjeri Acknowledgement

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri as the Traditional Owners of this country, pays tribute to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Yarra and gives respect to the Elders past and present.

## Feedback

If you have any comments or queries about Yarra News, please contact Jessica Matrakis, Communications Officer, on 9205 5144 or at [Jessica.Matrakis@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:Jessica.Matrakis@yarracity.vic.gov.au) Large print, audio and online versions of Yarra News are also available by contacting Jessica.



# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

## Proposed Budget 2015/16

The proposed 2015/16 budget was endorsed at Council's meeting in mid-April to be released for community feedback. Written feedback will be received until 13 May. A special meeting of Council will be held on 20 May to hear verbal submissions.

The proposed budget has a strong focus on community infrastructure, including \$8.3 million to commence construction of the much anticipated North Fitzroy Community Hub. There are also significant funds for community programs, parks and open space, improving roads and footpaths, waste management, arts and culture and community engagement.

The proposed budget aims to meet the needs of Yarra's growing population and to support our community's aspirations for the City of Yarra as a unique place to live, work and create.

Over the past few months, councillors have worked with council officers to produce a sound and responsible

proposed budget. Please take the opportunity to find out more, and have your say. See page 5 for more details.

## Volunteer Week

This month we're celebrating Volunteer Week, officially recognising the hundreds of Yarra residents who generously give their time to support our community. Volunteers perform a variety of roles in our community – they provide transport assistance, teach English to people from different cultural backgrounds, cook meals, coach sporting clubs, provide administrative and governance support to keep grass roots organisations running and much, much more. They do what they do with enormous dedication and passion and without fuss.

The level of volunteer activity is a measure of a caring and engaged community. In Yarra, we are blessed on this front. Volunteers play a vital role in sustaining the diversity of our

community, particularly in helping those in need to address the challenges they face.

As you will read in our story on page 6, many volunteers find their experience rewarding and inspiring. Having undertaken volunteer work myself, working with disadvantaged young people, I too can attest to how personally rewarding it can be.

For those who have some time to give, I encourage you to seek out volunteer opportunities within our community. And to those who are already volunteers, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your contribution. You are our local champions and I look forward to meeting those of you who will be attending our annual Volunteer Week event on 11 May at Richmond Town Hall.

**Cr Phillip Vlahogiannis**  
Mayor

## Cardboard waste gets the chop

**A state-of-the-art compactor is making recycling cardboard easier and more efficient for Council and the community.**

The purpose-built compactor, which is located at Clifton Hill Depot, will crush cardboard that has been deposited at collection trailers and bins around the municipality, ready for recycling.

The large capacity of the compactor makes preparing cardboard for recycling faster and will cut the number of cardboard collection trucks on our roads.

Residents can take cardboard, as well as many other unwanted household items, to Yarra's all-day Recycling Drop-off Point, located at the Clifton Hill Depot (168 Roseneath Street, Clifton Hill).

Cardboard collection bins are also available at Gleadell Street, Richmond; Queens Parade, Fitzroy; and the Council's depot at 440 Burnley Street, Burnley. There are six mobile cardboard recycling trailers stationed across Yarra's shopping strips.



For more information, visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/recycling-drop-off-point](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/recycling-drop-off-point) or contact Council on 9205 5555 or [info@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

# YOUR COUNCILLORS

## Langridge Ward

Abbotsford, Alphington (south of Heidelberg Road), Clifton Hill (east of Wellington Street), Collingwood (except for the area bounded by Johnston, Wellington and Smith streets and Alexandra Parade), Fairfield (south of Heidelberg Road) and Fitzroy (south of Moor Street), and Richmond (in the area bounded by Lennox, Highett and Hoddle streets).



**Cr Geoff Barbour**

T | 0438 034 241

E | Geoff.Barbour@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Stephen Jolly**

T | 0437 856 713

E | Stephen.Jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Amanda Stone**

T | 0429 358 170

E | Amanda.Stone@yarracity.vic.gov.au

## Melba Ward

Burnley, Cremorne and Richmond (except the area bounded by Lennox, Highett and Hoddle streets)



**Cr Misha Coleman**

T | 0428 509 943

E | Misha.Coleman@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Simon Huggins**

T | 0419 581 469

E | Simon.Huggins@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Phillip Vlahogiannis (Mayor)**

T | 9205 5055

E | Mayor@yarracity.vic.gov.au

## Nicholls Ward

North Carlton, Princes Hill, part of Clifton Hill (west of Wellington Street), North Fitzroy, Fitzroy (north of Moor Street) and part of Collingwood (the area bounded by Johnston, Wellington and Smith streets and Alexandra Parade).



**Cr Roberto Colanzi**

T | 0428 328 904

E | Roberto.Colanzi@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Jackie Fristacky**

T | 0412 597 794

E | Jackie.Fristacky@yarracity.vic.gov.au



**Cr Sam Gaylard**

T | 0448 586 884 / 9489 5429 (after hours)

E | Sam.Gaylard@yarracity.vic.gov.au

To view a map of your ward, visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/ward-map](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/ward-map)

To contact your Councillors, ring **9205 5055**, send a letter c/o **PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121**, or contact them as above.



## Connect with Yarra

**Want to ask a question, request a Council service, pay a bill or report an issue?**

You can download Yarra's new mobile App to contact Council quickly and easily from your phone or tablet while you're on the go.

Use the Y-App to request a service, including:

- Street cleaning
- Graffiti removal
- New bins
- Road or footpath repairs

Y-App also allows you to send us general feedback and provides updates on the latest Council news, consultations and events.

Download the Y-App from the Apple App store today – just search for 'Yarra Council'. The Y-App will be available for Android soon.

If you have any Council-related queries, requests or feedback and prefer to speak to a Council Officer, call us on 9205 5555 or visit one of our Customer Service Centres at Richmond Town Hall (333 Bridge Road), Collingwood Town Hall (140 Hoddle Street) or Connie Benn Centre (160 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy).

## Council Meetings Timetable

Council Meetings begin at 7pm. Here is a schedule of meetings for the first part of 2015:

Tuesday 19 May	Fitzroy Town Hall
Wednesday 20 May	Fitzroy Town Hall
At this Special Council Meeting, Council will consider submissions on Yarra's Proposed Budget and the proposed redevelopment of the former Amcor site in Alphington. Please note, this meeting will begin at 6.30pm.	
Tuesday 2 June	Richmond Town Hall
Tuesday 23 June	Richmond Town Hall
Tuesday 7 July	Fitzroy Town Hall
Tuesday 29 July	Fitzroy Town Hall

# Investing in our community – Yarra’s Proposed Budget 2015/16



Investment in community infrastructure forms the centrepiece of Council's Proposed Budget, with significant funds allocated to begin construction of the North Fitzroy Community Hub. Substantial amounts are also provided for community programs, parks and open space, improving roads and footpaths, waste management, arts and culture and community engagement.

## Council's Proposed Budget at a glance:

- \$158.7 million total operating expenditure budget.
- \$40.5 million capital works program (including \$6.4 million in carried forward projects).
- \$900,000 in new initiatives.
- \$1.9 million for community grants.
- 4.5% increase in general rates (down from 5.4% in last year's budget).
- 6.25% increase in the rate rebate for pensioners (from \$160 to \$170 per annum).

## Highlights of the \$40.5 million capital works program include:

- \$8.3 million to commence construction of the new North Fitzroy Community Hub.
- \$7.3 million for roads, footpaths, drains, tree root management and retail shopping strips, including \$600,000 for local area traffic management.
- \$2.9 million for parks and open space (more than 30 projects across Yarra), including \$485,000 for a ramp and shared pathway linking Coulson Reserve to Merri Creek path.
- \$642,000 to redevelop the Yarra Community Youth Centre in Fitzroy.
- \$350,000 to improve customer service and management of Yarra Libraries through Remote Frequency Identification Data and self-checking technology.

## \$900,000 in new initiatives include:

- \$200,000 to manage special occasions (including New Year's Eve and Australia Day) in public parks and reserves.
- \$170,000 for a revision of the Yarra Planning Scheme, including an extensive community consultation.
- \$80,000 funding contribution to Yarra Energy Foundation's program to provide LED retrofits and energy efficiency information to households.
- \$50,000 for the Room to Create arts program, which supports local artists and arts initiatives.



The Proposed Budget is available to view at [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/Budget](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/Budget)

Hard copies are available at Richmond Town Hall, Collingwood Town Hall, and all Yarra Libraries branches.

Council is seeking community feedback on the Proposed Budget from 15 April until Wednesday 13 May. Written submissions can be sent to Grace Wong, Corporate and Financial Services, PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121 or [Grace.Wong@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:Grace.Wong@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

Council will hear submissions at a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 20 May, ahead of considering the adoption of the Proposed Budget at a Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 23 June.

For more information, contact Philip Mason, Chief Financial Officer, on 9205 5449 or [Philip.Mason@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:Philip.Mason@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

## Thanking our true community heroes

**Volunteers really make a difference at the Holden Street Neighbourhood House, according to the Manager, Jacinta McManamon.**

Volunteers aged between 20 and 70 add value every day, performing a variety of roles. "Volunteers work one on one and in groups to help people improve their English, teach knitting, assist people to use computers and the internet, help out in child care, drive our bus on social outings and collect leftover food for our community lunches," Jacinta said.

"Younger people often volunteer to gain work experience. Those wanting to get back into the workforce do it to build up their skills and confidence and retired people want to give back to their local community," she said.

Sally Todaro volunteers because "helping others in the community improves my



Jacinta McManamon (far right), Manager of Holden Street Neighbourhood House, with the craft group.

sense of wellbeing and makes me feel part of the community. I can see the results of my volunteer work making a difference in the lives of others."

Chris Opie volunteers because: "I thought it would be worthwhile to impart some of my skills and knowledge to others."

Each year, Council celebrates the efforts local volunteers during National Volunteer Week (11-17 May). Council will present recognition certificates to individuals

and organisations at special event at Richmond Town Hall on Monday 11 May.

More than 11,000 volunteers in Yarra offer their skills, experience and time giving back to the community in the fields of aged care, the arts, the environment, emergency services, animal welfare, education, sport and more.

For more information on volunteering in Yarra visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/volunteering)

## Songs of Reconciliation

**Yarra will celebrate Reconciliation Week with a special event showcasing songs and stories performed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander musicians.**

The free Koorie Stories and Songs concert will use music and discussion to promote understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people about the meaning and spirit of reconciliation.

National Reconciliation Week is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June.

The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision in 1992. In the 1967 referendum, Australians voted overwhelmingly in favour of including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the national census. The 1992 Mabo decision recognised that Aboriginal and



Torres Strait Islander peoples have rights to the land – rights that existed before the British arrived and that can still exist today.

Koorie Stories and Songs will be held at Fitzroy Library on Wednesday 3 June from 6.30pm to 8pm and is sponsored by the Thomas, Samuel

and George Ewing Trust. Bookings are essential – you can book online at [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/libraries](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/libraries) or by phoning 1300 695 427.

For more information about National Reconciliation Week, visit [www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw](http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw)

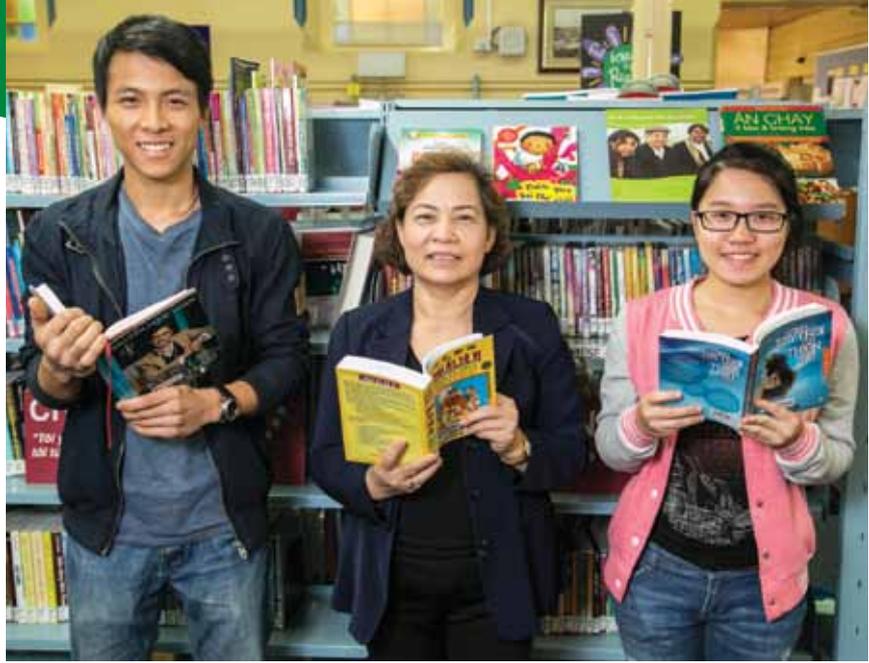


# THÁNG ĐỌC SÁCH VIỆT NGỮ

## VIETNAMESE READING MONTH

**During May, Yarra Libraries is celebrating Vietnamese Reading Month, a series of events promoting Vietnamese language, reading and culture.**

Vietnamese-speaking community members are encouraged to take part in the free activities on offer at each local library branch. This year's events include a talk on 'Love in Vietnamese Poetry' by Victoria University Senior Lecturer, Dr Nguyen Hung Quoc, a Vietnamese book, DVD and CD selection day and a finale event with Vietnamese music and food.



Vietnamese Reading Month is unique to Yarra. It started in 2007 in a bid to reconnect our large Vietnamese community with the love of reading and has grown in popularity with some sessions attracting up to 70 people.

Yarra Libraries boasts an impressive collection of fiction, non-fiction, DVDs, CDs, talking books and magazines in Vietnamese and during May new materials will be available to borrow. Last year there were almost 26,500 loans of Vietnamese material from our libraries.

Vietnamese Reading Month also provides an opportunity to discover other useful material at the libraries including kits and online material for those wishing to improve their English and online databases which give access to newspapers from all over the world.

For further information on Vietnamese Reading Month visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/libraries](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/libraries)

## Underneath the Purple Rain

**If you see purple dots on footpaths or walls around parts of Fitzroy this month, look a little closer.**

Each dot will have a QR code in the centre which links to a website that shares a person's life story and aspirations.

The person you will read about will be homeless or in need of support.

Twenty people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless have shared their stories for The Purple Rain art installation.

Artist Konstantin Dimopoulos said his project aimed to change the nature of the public conversation about homelessness from the statistical to the personal.

"These people have got dreams and aspirations and want the same things as the rest of us," he said.

"There's this image of the homeless as hopeless people on the streets with empty wine bottles but the reality is these are



*Sitting: Yarra Mayor, Cr Phillip Vlahogiannis with Lee-Anne Boyle from St Mary's House of Welcome, Mary Campbell from ACU and artist Konstantin Dimopoulos.  
Standing: St. Mary's service users, Tuan, Jong, Nancy, Trish, Maria, Pat and Kenny.*

people like you and me, living in your community that need your help."

Volunteers will help Konstantin decorate footpaths, ceilings and walls with the purple dots at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) and St Mary's House of Welcome, both on Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

The project will run from mid-May to early July and is supported by Council, ACU and STREAT, a training and support organisation for disadvantaged youth.

To find out more about the project, visit [www.thepurplerain.net](http://www.thepurplerain.net)



# WHAT'S ON IN YARRA!

## Yarra Sustainability Awards

**Thursday 4 June, 6pm–7.30pm**

Come along to the sixth annual Yarra Sustainability Awards and celebrate innovative community efforts towards environmental sustainability. Hosted by local comedy legend Dave O'Neil, the awards ceremony will highlight the work of individuals and organisations sharing Council's vision for a sustainable city.

The awards ceremony will take place at Richmond Town Hall. To register your attendance, contact Courtney Deans, Sustainability Officer, on 9205 5783 or [Courtney.Deans@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:Courtney.Deans@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

## Business Women's Networking Luncheon

**Thursday 18 June, 11.30am–2pm**

Hear from Carolyn Creswell, one of Australia's most successful business women and founder of *Carman's*; and host Giaan Rooney, Olympic swimming gold medalist and TV presenter at this special lunch at Amora Hotel Riverwalk. Proudly presented by Yarra Council and Leaders & Lattes. Cost: \$55. To book, visit [www.yarrabusiness.com](http://www.yarrabusiness.com) or call 9205 5049.

Council regularly seeks feedback on projects and proposals that affect Yarra residents, business operators and the wider community. Council encourages everyone to have their say on matters that are important to them and participate in Council's decision making process.

To find out about community consultations that Council is currently seeking feedback on, visit [www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/Consultation](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/Consultation)



## National Simultaneous Storytime

**Wednesday 27 May, 10.30am–11.30am**

National Simultaneous Storytime aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. All over the country at exactly 11am, children will be enjoying *The Brothers Quibble* by Aaron Blabey. Join us for these special storytimes at Curtain Square, Carlton; Darling Gardens, Clifton Hill; or Whitlam Place, Fitzroy.

Bookings are not required for these free family events. For more information, contact Yarra Libraries, on 1300 695 427 or [yarralibraries@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarralibraries@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

## Melbourne International Design Week

Melbourne International Design Week (11-17 May) is a celebration of design excellence, showcasing the best of local and international design. Yarra Council is proud to be supporting the following events:

### The Business of Design for Not-for-Profits

**Wednesday 13 May, 6.30pm–7.30pm**

Join a panel of innovative experts at Abbotsford Convent (St Heliers Street, Abbotsford) as they discuss how design can enhance the work of not-for-profit organisations. This is a free event.

### Designing the 'Local': Cafés as the Modern Living Room

**Friday 15 May, 6.30pm–9.30pm**

Enjoy an evening of locally sourced food at South of Johnston (46 Oxford Street, Collingwood) hear ideas about design in the contemporary community living room – the café. Cost: \$50 plus booking fee – visit [www.designmattersvictoria.com](http://www.designmattersvictoria.com)

### Brunch at the Bakehouse

**Saturday 16 May, 10am–12pm**

This is a rare opportunity for the general public to get behind the grungy exterior of Bakehouse Studios, one of Melbourne's iconic cultural venues.

Cost: \$40 plus booking fee – visit [www.designmattersvictoria.com](http://www.designmattersvictoria.com)

### Bridge Road Film Festival

**Selected Saturdays, films begin at 5.45pm**

Richmond's Bridge Road Film Festival is back for another year, showing big screen classics at Richmond Town Hall (333 Bridge Road). Enjoy a pre-film drink or stay on for dinner at one of Bridge Road's many dining spots.

**16 May – Jaws**  
**23 May – Life of Brian**  
**6 June – Singing in the Rain**  
**20 June – Blues Brothers**

Tickets are free but bookings are essential – visit [www.bridgerd.com.au](http://www.bridgerd.com.au)