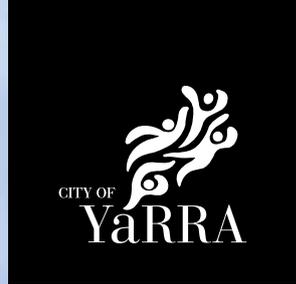


**MAY 2021**

# yarranews



**Take a look at our draft  
Budget for 2021–2022**

page 4–5

**Gym classes for  
people of all abilities**

page 14

**Meet some inspiring  
women of Yarra**

page 6–7



# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Hello everyone

Welcome to the May edition of Yarra News, where I'm very proud to bring you our draft Budget for 2021–2022.

The past year has shown how important our local communities are, and how, throughout the pandemic we've worked together to keep each other safe, supported, and informed.

With rising inequality and the climate emergency continuing to worsen, this draft Budget is our chance to ensure Yarra is a liveable place for everyone.

Yarra is leading the way in meaningful action to tackle the climate emergency, by transitioning our community spaces to renewable energy and

supporting residents to cut back on pollution.

2020 also reminded us just how important it is to have green open space right across our thriving city. Over the next year, we'll create new parks and improve existing open spaces.

As we bounce back from the economic impacts of COVID-19, we'll work hard to help local businesses get back on their feet.

I'm thrilled to share our vision for a cleaner, fairer community.

Speaking of which, take a look at one of our Yarra annual grant recipients: on page 13 a community group helping diverse community members grow and cook food sustainably.

Finally, did you know you could create roads from recycled tyres? Turns out, you can! A street in Yarra is set to be paved with this remarkable technology that reduces pollution and helps water trees! See page 12 for more.

I wish you all the best.

**Cr Gabrielle de Vietri**  
Mayor

# 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), Fitzroy (south of Moor Street), and Richmond (in the area bounded by Lennox, Highett and Hoddle streets).

### Cr Stephen Jolly

0437 856 713

stephen.jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Anab Mohamud

0418 172 938

anab.mohamud@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Gabrielle de Vietri, Mayor

0419 591 023

gabrielle.devietri@yarracity.vic.gov.au

## MELBA WARD

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

### Cr Edward Crossland

0400 326 812

edward.crossland@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Herschel Landes

0427 460 053

herschel.landes@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Claudia Nguyen, Deputy Mayor

0409 779 630

claudia.nguyen@yarracity.vic.gov.au

## NICHOLLS WARD

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

### Cr Bridgid O'Brien

0439 302 590

bridgid.obrien@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Amanda Stone

0429 358 170

amanda.stone@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Cr Sophie Wade

0400 570 763

sophie.wade@yarracity.vic.gov.au

To contact your Councillors, call **9205 5055**, send a letter to **c/o PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121**, or you can reach them via their direct lines as above.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings are all livestreamed at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast). If you would like to attend in person, please make sure you are not displaying any COVID symptoms, and follow all COVID-safe guidelines.

All meetings begin at 7pm at Richmond Town Hall

- Tuesday 4 May 2021
- Tuesday 18 May 2021
- Tuesday 1 June 2021
- Monday 7 June (Special Budget Meeting)

Visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarrameetings](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarrameetings) for agendas, minutes and more information about council meetings.

## WURUNDJERI ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.



## SMART BENCHES TO PROVIDE FREE WIFI, PHONE CHARGING TO COMMUNITY

**People on the go will now be able to charge their device or connect to free Wi-Fi at one of three new smart benches.**

These benches are the first of their kind in inner-city Melbourne, and are powered by 100% renewable solar energy.

Eco Renewable Energy (ERE), our partnering company, is providing and maintaining the benches at no cost to Yarra.

The Smart Benches will further enhance Yarra's public spaces, providing free Wi-Fi and phone charging to anyone who connects.

By providing these benches, we are offering all residents online access to critical information, products and services – particularly those who may not otherwise have access.

Built-in environmental sensors collect and share real-time data about temperature, humidity and air pressure. Users can see this information on a dashboard on ERE's website.

This information may be able to be used to inform important planning decisions, particularly any that relate to action against the climate emergency.

Each of Yarra's three wards will have a smart bench installed. The Smart Bench locations are:

- Nicholls Ward: Atherton Gardens oval, Napier Street, Fitzroy
- Langridge Ward: Curtain Square park, Carlton North
- Melba Ward: Stewart Street, Richmond, opposite Corner Hotel.

The benches will be offered on a pilot basis of around six months. After this, Yarra and ERE will look at usage data and determine the next steps.

Find out more about Yarra's smart benches at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/smartbench](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/smartbench)

## A STEP CLOSER TO OUR COMMUNITY VISION

**A community panel is meeting this May to create our first-ever Community Vision.**

The vision will guide decision making about Yarra's services and projects for the next 15 years.

The panel will be provided with an overview of what we heard from around 1300 participants during our broad consultation between November 2020 and January 2021.

The panel strongly reflects our diverse community, with people from all walks of life who are set to share their life experiences and views with each other. They are meeting four times.

To respect the time and effort of the panel, we have committed to receiving this vision and adopting it as the panel provides it later this year.

Read more about the community vision at [yoursayyarra.com.au/future](http://yoursayyarra.com.au/future)

# A COMMUNITY-FOCUSED, SUSTAINABLE, CLIMATE-SAFE DRAFT BUDGET

## DRAFT BUDGET AT A GLANCE

**\$205.12 million**  
total operating expenditure

**1.5% increase**  
in general rate revenue  
(in line with the Victorian  
Government rate cap)

**\$38.7 million**  
in capital works projects

**1.5% increase**  
in our additional rate rebate  
for pensioners

**Yarra City Council has worked hard to develop a draft Budget that continues to invest in the local community and deliver key essential services, while also responding to the climate emergency.**

Yarra's pools, gyms, and Council facilities will transition away from gas and towards being powered entirely by renewable electricity.

The draft Budget 2021–2022 also provides funding to plant 1300 new trees, install new bike hoops and new bike lanes across Yarra, as well as planning for a food and organic bin collection.

Despite the significant financial impact of the pandemic, Yarra Council has prepared a draft Budget that continues to build a fairer and more equal Yarra, that creates opportunities and tackles the climate emergency.

It remains committed to delivering key essential services to our community, optimising service delivery and customer experience and maximising use of existing assets.

This year's draft Budget was developed following broad community consultation held between November 2020 and January 2021. During this time, we heard from more than 1300 people about their aspirations and priorities for the future. These insights will help inform Yarra's 15-year Community Vision and the draft Budget 2021–22. See an update on our Community Vision on page 3.

The draft Budget has a strong focus on sustainability, both in terms of our fiscal responsibilities and the types of infrastructure we are delivering. It delivers on Yarra's key strategic priorities and ensures that Council has a stable financial position in the years ahead.

Yarra's financial position had been impacted significantly by COVID-19 and that had been an important consideration in the delivery of this year's draft Budget.

Like all councils, and all tiers of Government for that matter, the development of this year's draft Budget has presented many challenges due to the financial losses experienced as a direct result of the pandemic.

We invested heavily in the local community throughout the pandemic by providing a package of community and business support totalling more than \$7.5 million. Despite the deficit this created in 2020–21, we're pleased to be continuing our commitment to the community, through a budget that supports our most vulnerable residents, boosts our local businesses and addresses climate change.

This draft Budget responds to the extraordinary circumstances of last year, highlights the resilience we have all shown and acknowledges and strengthens community aspirations and strategic priorities for Yarra.

The draft Budget includes a rate increase of 1.5%, which is in line with the 2021–22 rate cap outlined under the Fair Go Rating System and will be accompanied by a 1.5% increase in our additional rate rebate for pensioners.

## SEE THE DRAFT BUDGET AND HAVE YOUR SAY

Take a look at the draft Budget, and have your say, at **[yoursay.yarra.com.au/budget2021](https://yoursay.yarra.com.au/budget2021)**

You can come along to one of our draft Budget information sessions:

### **Wednesday 5 May**

Bargoonga Nganjin North Fitzroy Library meeting rooms 1 and 2  
5pm to 6.30pm

### **Thursday 13 May**

Richmond Town Hall meeting rooms 1 and 2  
5pm to 6.30pm

You can also share your feedback directly with councillors at the special Council Meeting on Monday 7 June.

Find out how to register to speak at **[yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings)**

The draft Budget 2021–2022 will be out for community feedback until Friday 21 May.

You can read a hard copy of our draft Budget at one of our customer service centres.

If you need an interpreter service or other support to read the draft Budget, please contact us on 9205 5555.

# DRAFT BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Find out more at  
[yarracity.vic.gov.au/  
budget2021](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget2021)

New bike hoops and bike lanes as part of a new Transport Action Plan

Capacity to continue delivering on important Council actions, such as integrated water management, urban agriculture strategy, nature strategy and our heritage aspects of Yarra, including Indigenous heritage

New toilets at Edinburgh Gardens



New and improved parks including two park extensions in Cremorne

Continuing to support businesses and vulnerable communities in the climate emergency

1300 new trees across the city

Fitness equipment and upgraded outdoor table tennis in Atherton Reserve

The first step towards a new Community Hub at the Collingwood Town Hall Precinct, delivering essential services including a maternal and child health service



Transitioning our swimming pools off gas to 100% renewable electricity and improving the energy efficiency of our leisure centres



New pedestrian infrastructure across Yarra making getting to school safer and more accessible

Planning for a food and organics (FOGO) kerbside collection service

# CELEBRATING THE WOMEN OF YARRA

## EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN FROM THE CITY OF YARRA



### HONOURING CULTURE, AND HELPING COMMUNITIES HEAL: SUE-ANNE HUNTER

"I'm a proud Wurundjeri woman, mum and advocate for the community. I hold a space for people to facilitate their own [cultural] healing.

Originally, during COVID-19, everyone was ok. When lockdown started to get longer, people reached out because they were struggling. My daughter Jedda and I created Connecting to Country meditations to help. We put them online with some strategies around keeping connected to mind, body and spirit.

I sort-of fell into this work and I love what I do. It's about serving the community and making things better for the next generation, honouring culture in every way possible."



### WELCOMING ALL PEOPLE INTO OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES: SUE KENT

"I work alongside, and with, local residents [as manager of the Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House at the North Richmond Housing Estate, and Collingwood Neighbourhood House at the Collingwood Housing Estate]. It's such a diverse, generous community, so creative in its approaches to solving problems.

Over the years, art has really worked for this neighbourhood house and our culturally diverse community. It doesn't rely on language. It has its own language.

COVID-19 was like a roller coaster ... We found a way, through offering food security and food relief, to meet the needs of a very frightened, vulnerable community and keep them socially connected."



### FOOTBALL AT AN ELITE LEVEL: ELLIE MCKENZIE

"I was about five when I started footy. I played with the boys' team when I was about 8 to 13 ... the only girl in the competition. Early on the boys would be a bit hesitant whether to tackle me or not.

When I got drafted [to Richmond FC] my first reaction was relief, just to know that I'd made it, and also excitement and a bit overwhelmed.

Kicking my first goal in AFL was amazing. Something I've been dreaming of. All of my teammates got around me too. It's definitely something I won't forget, ever."



## **SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS, ESSENTIAL WORKERS, AND THEIR PETS: SANDHYA JADU**

Sandhya Jadu is a social worker at Melbourne City Mission, and helps people experiencing homelessness find safe and secure housing. In her spare time, she pet-sits.

“During the stage 4 lockdown, I realised people needed support to exercise their pets while balancing work, home schooling and navigating lockdown.

I started offering help to people in the community, walking their dogs and checking in with them. During [this time] I did this every day.

Freyja (pictured) belongs to an essential worker who works in the disability sector. Looking after Freyja was an opportunity to help her owner.”

## **INSPIRING GIRLS TO GET INTO SPORT: KATE MORTON AND CECELIA WARD**

Kate and Cecelia run the Richmond Skippers netball club, which helps primary school girls in Yarra get involved in netball.

Kate: “It was Cecelia’s idea to start up a club for girls, that gets girls into sport.

Cecelia: We realised that there were heaps of girls in our community who weren’t getting the opportunity to play netball. It’s a bit about fitness but mainly about learning teamwork and making friends.

Kate: They’ve got a very positive attitude, they don’t care whether they win or lose too much.

Cecelia: With our first team, we were just thinking about them playing sport. Then we had an end of year get-together and some of the parents were quite teary. They said to us: ‘you’ve changed our daughter’s life – her schoolwork has improved and she’s connected at school. She’s got so much confidence.’”



## **MAKING SURE NO-ONE FALLS THROUGH THE CRACKS: RACHEL POWNING**

Rachel is General Manager of the Neighbourhood Justice Centre.

“We were really concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on people living in Yarra.

We recognised the Neighbourhood Justice Centre could help to bring the agencies together across Yarra to try to minimise any negative impacts of COVID-19 for [public housing] communities.

It was a lot of logistical, emergency response management. Just making sure everyone knew what others were doing so no one fell through the cracks.

The biggest challenge was making sure our clients were okay, constantly thinking ‘what can we be doing to make this easier for the community?’.

I just want to keep doing work that changes people’s lives for the better. That changes society.”

# WASTE AND RECYCLING IN YARRA: HOW ARE WE TRACKING?

To help improve the way we recycle, we rolled out a new waste and recycling system across Yarra in November 2020.

This included introducing a new purple-lidded glass-only recycling bin, and changing what can go in the yellow-lidded recycling bin.

Your yellow-lidded bin is now being collected fortnightly. This brings Yarra in line with 72 out of the 79 councils in Victoria that also collect recycling fortnightly. Recycling starts at home, and we all have an important role to play in addressing the recycling crisis. Overall our community has been doing a great job.

Take a look at how we're tracking.

## FAST FACTS

Since launching the new glass bin in November 2020:



Almost 923 tonnes of glass collected for recycling (about the same weight as 150 elephants!)



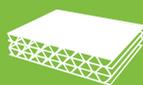
35.48 tonnes less waste from rubbish bins has gone to landfill, compared with this time last year



The average yellow-lidded recycling bin is around  $\frac{3}{4}$  full when it's collected



Only 1 in 50 rubbish bins and 1 in 10 recycle bins are overflowing



Since its launch on 26 February 2021 our cardboard recycling drop off point in Burnley has already collected 150 cubic metres of cardboard to recycle



Most recycle bins that were overflowing were the smaller size (it's free to upgrade to the larger size – see more below)

## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR RECYCLING BIN

- **Flatten all cardboard boxes**  
Unflattened cardboard is the most common cause of overflowing bins in Yarra, so make sure you remove the tape and flatten your boxes before putting them in your recycling bin.
- **Drop off any excess recycling**  
This could include large one-off items such as the cardboard packaging for new home appliances. Find out more about our recycling drop off centres at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/dropoff](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/dropoff)
- **Get a bigger recycling bin**  
If you need more room for your recycling, we can swap it over to a larger bin free of charge. Visit our website to request a bin upgrade: [yarracity.vic.gov.au/binupgrade](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/binupgrade)



Both recycle bins pictured show the same amount of waste including the boxes piled next to the one on the left. Unflattened boxes are the main cause of overflows.

- **Scrunch your aluminium foil into a ball**  
This will also help the people sorting it to separate it from other items.
- **Squash your plastic bottles and aluminium cans**
- **Minimise the packaging that you buy**  
A great way to do this is to switch to reusable, refillable products.

# WHICH BIN DOES THIS GO IN?

Is it your yellow-lidded recycling bin, purple-lidded glass bin or your general rubbish bin? Test your recycling knowledge and see if you know which bin these items go in.



## MILK OR JUICE CARTONS

**Answer: Rubbish bin**

These are not accepted by Yarra's recycling processor because they have a plastic lining to keep the liquid in. This plastic cannot be easily separated from the cardboard, as so cannot be recycled by our processor.

Instead, look for milk or other liquids in plastic or glass bottles which are accepted in Yarra's recycling bins.



## PLASTIC BAG

**Answer: Rubbish bin**

Soft, scrunchable plastics can't be placed in your recycling bin.

If they're clean and dry, you can recycle them by taking them to a REDcycle bin at participating supermarkets. Find out more at [redcycle.net.au](http://redcycle.net.au)

It is also important that you do not wrap your other items in plastic bags when putting them in your recycling bins. Items in plastic bags can't be separated and so your recycling will end up in landfill.



## BATTERIES

**Answer: None of your household bins**



The Victorian Government has banned electronic waste from going into landfill, so batteries cannot be placed in any of your household bins.

You must take electronic waste including batteries to a drop off point, such as at our Customer Service Centres or Clifton Hill Depot. You can find an electronic waste drop off near you on our zero waste map: [yarracity.vic.gov.au/zerowaste](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/zerowaste)



## BROKEN WINE GLASS

**Answer: Rubbish bin**

Only glass jars and bottles go in your purple-lidded glass bin. Other types of glass such as drinking glasses or vases have different melting points, and so cannot be included with your glass recycling.



## METAL JAR LIDS

**Answer: Recycling bin**

While your glass bottles and jars go in your purple-lidded bin, metal lids need to be separated into your yellow-lidded recycling bin.

Plastic lids, however, go in your rubbish bin.



## BERRY PUNNETS

**Answer: Rubbish**

Unfortunately this plastic punnet is not labelled 5. Most punnets are labelled 1, but as it is not a bottle, our recycling processor will not accept it.

Punnets are made from a variety of different plastics, and the processor is not able to tell quickly which type it is. Also this type of "flimsy" plastic does not make for a high quality product.



Find out more about recycling in Yarra at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/recycle](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/recycle)

# SMALL BUSINESS AMBASSADORS WORKING ONE-ON-ONE WITH LOCAL TRADERS

**Five new Small Business Ambassadors are working closely with traders to provide practical, on-the-ground support and help meet the ongoing challenges local business face as a result of COVID-19.**

Yarra's Small Business Ambassadors, funded by the Victorian Government, are working one-on-one with local business to connect them with much-needed peer support, mentoring and training, as well as provide the latest information and advice on COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions, grants and government support.

This builds on the significant support Yarra has provided local businesses over the past 12 months including direct grants, permit fee waivers and refunds.



Yarra Mayor Cr Gabrielle de Vietri visits local businesses with our small business ambassadors

This program is being delivered in partnership with the Victorian Government, under the Working for Victoria initiative. It is also providing important employment opportunities for local people who have lost their jobs, many as a result of COVID-19.

Find out more about how we're supporting businesses at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/business](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/business)

# TAKE PART IN A LATE-NIGHT LIBRARY PILOT



**Library members will soon be able to visit Bargoonga Nganjin North Fitzroy Library and Richmond Library outside of regular opening hours, through our new Open Library pilot program.**

Open Library will entrust community members to access the library earlier in the morning and later at night. We're looking for community members to test it out, so let us know if you're interested!

Register your interest at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/open-library](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/open-library)



Na Nguyen volunteers for Cultivating Community, which received an Investing in Community Grant. She's tended for this magnificent garden for many years.

## GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY: \$1.8 MILLION IN COMMUNITY GRANTS

**Yarra Council has awarded over \$1.8 million in community grants to more than 150 incredible applicants through the latest round of its Annual Grants and Investing in Community Grants 2021–23.**

This funding supports initiatives in the arts, culture, events, community development, climate action, community housing, family support, youth services, sports and recreation.

Yarra's Annual Grants and Investing in Community Grants programs are awarded to not-for-profit organisations and community members throughout the City of Yarra to support innovative ideas and projects.

Under Yarra's Annual Grants 2021, we're providing more than \$900,000 to 143 applicants. A further 11 applicants will share in more than \$900,000 over three years through the Investing in Community Grants.

Successful projects funded through this year's Annual Grants and Investing in Community Grants 2021–23 include:

- Disability Day Radio from the Community Radio Federation: 12 hours of dynamic radio featuring the voices, ideas and creative talents of people with disabilities in Yarra.
- Youth Behind the Wheel from the Young Assets Foundation – driver safety education to culturally and linguistically diverse young people.
- Let's Keep Cooking from Cultivating Community – find out more on page 13.

For more information on Yarra's grants program, including a full list of successful projects visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/grants](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/grants)

### PRECINCT RECOVERY GRANTS SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

To help revitalise Yarra, more than \$160,000 in grant funding has been awarded to support 10 exciting projects, including:

- Victoria Street Online Marketplace
- Smith Street Vintage Trail
- Burnley Street beautification, including plant and art boxes
- "Your Hood with the Goods" North Fitzroy Village campaign

This is the second round of our Precinct Recovery Grants, with a total of 19 projects supported with \$320,000 in Precinct Recovery Grant funding to date.

# MAPPING COMMUNITY SAFETY ACROSS VICTORIA



## **We want to make sure people of all genders feel safe in Yarra.**

To help give us some insight, we're working with Monash University's gender, design and space specialists, XYX Lab, and award-winning digital consultancy, CrowdSpot, to gather perceptions of safety in public space and make real change in our local area.

The project, called **YourGround**, looks at women's and gender diverse people's perceived recreational safety at different locations across Victoria, including Yarra.

For the next few months, YourGround's online interactive map will be open for community submissions.

Everyone is encouraged to contribute. We're interested to know how locations make you feel, and how different factors make you feel more or less safe.

Contribute at [yourground.org](http://yourground.org)



The parking bay in Mcllwraith Street, Princes Hill, will be paved with recycled tyres

## YARRA AWARDED GRANT FOR ROAD MADE FROM RECYCLED TYRES, THAT WATER TREES AND REDUCES POLLUTION

**A street in Yarra is set to be paved with recycled tyres, with a new technology that reduces waste, encourages tree growth, and prevents pollution.**

This high infiltration permeable pavement – which will be used to construct a centre median in Mcllwraith Street, Princes Hill – retains moisture, preventing pollutants from entering our drainage network and reducing stormwater runoff.

The water it retains can then be used by the surrounding trees and plants, encouraging more growth to prevent the heat island effect.

The pavement is made from around 70% recycled tyres, sourced from a Victorian facility – diverting this waste from landfill – as well as recycled glass and rock particles to give it the strength needed to sustain the weight of cars and other vehicles.

Yarra has been awarded a \$90,000 grant from the Victorian Government through Sustainability Victoria's Sustainable Infrastructure Fund to support this project. Yarra Council is contributing an additional \$75,000, and is partnering with the University of Melbourne to deliver this innovative water sensitive urban design project.



Over the next two years, Yarra Council and the University of Melbourne will monitor how the permeable pavers perform mechanically, and how surrounding tree health is affected.

We're one of 18 Victorian councils and alpine resort management boards to be supported to use recycled materials in infrastructure projects, through this Victorian Government initiative.

Collectively, the projects will use approximately 2,000 tonnes of recycled materials including glass, plastic and rubber to create roads, footpaths, outdoor park furniture, drainage and pavements.

The Sustainable Infrastructure Fund is part of the Victorian Government's ground-breaking \$380 million Recycling Victoria: A new economy plan that is transforming Victoria's waste and recycling sector and building its circular economy.



Mary Thomas (left) and Tung Nguyen (right) both volunteer with Cultivating Community

# FROM PLOUGH TO PLATE: CULTIVATING COMMUNITY HELPS PEOPLE GROW, COOK AND EAT SUSTAINABLY

**For more than 20 years, Cultivating Community has been challenging Yarra residents to take a closer look at their food.**

As our population grows, so too will the demand for more food. Cultivating Community works side by side with public housing and diverse communities, and educates people on sustainable and culturally appropriate food practices.

*“We love food and we love people. We use food – the growing, preparation and eating of it – to connect people and bring joy.”*

Through a range of hands-on workshops, participants learn about where our food comes from, how to grow it, and how to make delicious, diverse and sustainable meals at home.

Cultivating Community also focuses on supporting those at risk of food insecurity, offering these people food pantry program and a safe, dignified environment to bond over culturally diverse dishes.

“You may see a session producing a tuna nicoise salad, or perhaps injera or sourdough crumpets, [or] chocolate muffins, romesco, fajitas and coconut macaroons,” said Rob Rees, Cultivating Community CEO.

Cultivating Community plans to bring all its cooking-based programs together, under a new, larger, broader program called Let’s Keep Cooking. Yarra is supporting Let’s Keep Cooking with an Investing in Community Grant.

“If you are part of Let’s Keep Cooking activities you will see our experts encouraging people to get involved with tasting, touching, preparation and of course, the enjoyment of eating together”

“This funding will allow us to think more long-term about how we run more cooking clubs and develop food-based opportunities for all throughout the City of Yarra.”

Cultivating Community has community gardens at each of Yarra’s three public housing high rises, as well as a community baking group in Fitzroy and other healthy food initiatives that support people in and around Yarra who need it.

## HELPING THE COMMUNITY HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Yarra is supporting sustainable community-led programs through our Investing in Community Grants, which prioritise programs that help the community respond to the climate emergency.

This is also the first year we had a Climate Action stream as part of our Annual Grants.

Read more about our grants on page 11.

Find out more about Cultivating Community’s programs, and find out how to get involved:  
[cultivatingcommunity.org.au](https://cultivatingcommunity.org.au)



Dee with one of her Yarra Leisure trainers, Andrew

# EXERCISE FOR ALL ABILITIES

**Dee has been attending the Cerebral Palsy Program at Richmond Recreation Centre for 10 years. Every Wednesday, she makes the journey from her home in Craigieburn to Richmond where she works out with gym instructors Xavier and Andrew.**

When she first started the program, Dee found it a little daunting, but being part of it has empowered her and has encouraged her to prioritise her fitness.

“I do it because it gets me moving, it really helps with my mobility and strength” she says.

Yarra Leisure’s Cerebral Palsy Program is the only one like it in Melbourne. It’s run by passionate and knowledgeable gym instructors who support and guide a small group of participants and their carers through strength building exercises.

The Cerebral Palsy Program isn’t just an opportunity to work out, it’s a place where people can connect and meet others with shared lived experiences.



## FIND YOUR CLASS AT YARRA LEISURE

**Our leisure centres offer a range of programs to support people of all abilities to use our gym, programs and services.**

Find out more about these programs, and other classes, at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/leisure](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/leisure)

### Get Into Group Fitness

Afternoons Monday to Thursday, Collingwood Estate Gym

The Collingwood Estate Gym now offers a timetable of classes with youth and women’s-only programs, HIIT, strength, and open gym sessions. Entry is just \$2, or free for members and anyone aged 14–17 attending a youth class.

### Living Longer Living Stronger

Most weekdays, Collingwood Leisure Centre and Richmond Recreation Centre

This is a group class for people aged 50+. After an initial consultation, a gym instructor will guide you through strength exercises that meet your personal health goals.

### Access All Abilities classes

#### Cerebral Palsy Program

1.15pm weekdays, Richmond Recreation Centre

A strength training session for people with cerebral palsy. This program is suitable for people who can use gym equipment with the support of a carer, including upper and/or lower limbs movement.

#### Striving for Maximum Strength

1.15pm Tuesday and Thursday, Collingwood Leisure Centre

11am weekdays, Richmond Recreation Centre

Small classes with an instructor for people living with chronic health conditions. Using different pieces of gym equipment, you’ll do a variety of exercises that focus on your personal goals.

# WHAT'S ON

## GLEADELL STREET MARKET

**Every Saturday**  
**7am to 1pm**  
**Gleadell Street, Richmond**

Support local at Yarra's bustling fresh food market, overflowing with seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh bread, herbs and other gourmet delights.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/gleadell](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/gleadell)

## ENGLISH CONVERSATIONS

**Monday 3, 17 and 31 May 2021**  
**2pm to 3pm**  
**Online**

Join our library staff for a chat! These sessions give adult non-English speakers a chance to practice their conversation skills in a welcoming and safe environment. A fun opportunity to discuss interesting topics, practice your English or just meet some new people.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/english](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/english)

## VIETNAMESE MUSIC: DISCUSSION AND PERFORMANCE

**Sunday 16 May 2021**  
**2pm to 5pm**  
**Richmond Theatrette**

A musical afternoon with song writers Vien-Trinh, Le-Phu, musician Duc-Dinh and some popular singers in the Vietnamese Community. As part of Vietnamese Reading Month, the forum will discuss what makes a good singer between live singing performances.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/music](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/music)

For more information about local events, visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarraevents](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarraevents)



## RENOVATING SUSTAINABLY

**Wednesday 19 May 2021**  
**7pm to 8.15pm**  
**Online**

Sustainable heritage expert and conservation architect Ruth Redden will show sustainability, solar and heritage can go hand in hand. You'll also hear how we're making it easier to install solar for the two thirds of Yarra residents in heritage overlays, and how you can get solar through the Yarra Solar Program.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/gosolar](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/gosolar)

## WURUNDJERI SEASONS TALK

**Tuesday 1 June 2021**  
**6.30pm to 7.30pm**  
**Fitzroy Library**

Learn about the 13-month lunar cycle that make up the Wurundjeri seasons from Uncle Bill Nicholson. Hear how each season relates to both previous weather patterns and the activities associated with each season.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/seasons](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/seasons)

## WALKING RICHMOND

**Saturday 5 June 2021**  
**10am to 1pm**  
**Richmond Town Hall**

Take a walk through the former "Dockers Hill" and the leafy Vaucluse area and learn how in the 1880s Richmond had terraces and villas, but became working class after the 1890s depression.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/walkaround](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/walkaround)

## JOB INTERVIEW SKILLS

**Tuesday 15 June 2021**  
**2.30pm to 4.30pm**  
**Online**

Learn how you can nail your next interview with this crash course. Learn what to do before, during and after a first-round interview. You'll also have a chance to workshop questions and answers.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/interview](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/interview)

Stay connected with what's happening in your neighbourhood and around Yarra with our fortnightly e-news, Yarra Life.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife)

## VISIT THE NEIGHBOURS

Check out what's happening in your area at one of our Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres. They provide a variety of programs and activities specifically for their local communities. They offer services including children and youth programs, art, music, cooking and computer classes, English and other language lessons and community lunches, all at little or no cost.

[yarracity.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood)

# What you can put in your recycling bins has changed

## Glass

Separate glass jars and bottles from other recycling.

Clean and empty glass jars and bottles without their lids go in your purple-lidded glass bin.



## Plastic

Only plastic bottles labelled 1 and 2 (lids off), and plastic food packaging labelled 5, can go in your yellow-lidded recycling bin.



## Collection

We are still doing weekly recycling collections, alternating between glass and other recyclables.

Check the collection calendar that was sent with your purple glass bin, or sign up for our bin collection SMS reminders.

Visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/recyclerev](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/recyclerev) to find out more.



Not sure where to put something?  
Visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/atozguide](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/atozguide)

Weekly announcements from Yarra News will be broadcast in some 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.

## ARABIC

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

Read stories from this edition in your community language. For more information call 9280 1940 and Quote REF 18916.

我們將2021/2022的預算草案公布在本期的《Yarra News》中，供大家查閱，同時我們還提供了相關渠道，方便大家發表自己的看法。本期的《Yarra News》還為您介紹了充分使用垃圾回收服務的好方法。另外，通過閱讀本期的精彩內容，您將有幸認識一些本地商人并一睹Yarra區一些巾幗人物的勵志風采。您還可以了解到發生在身邊的新鮮事。如欲了解更多信息，請致電9280 1937并報上查詢參考編號18916。

Σ' αυτή την έκδοση των Yarra News, διαβάστε για το προσχέδιο του προϋπολογισμού μας για το 2021/2022 και μάθετε πώς μπορείτε να εκφράσετε τη γνώμη σας. Διαβάστε τις κορυφαίες συμβουλές μας σχετικά με τον τρόπο χρήσης της νέας υπηρεσίας απορριμμάτων και ανακύκλωσης. Γνωρίστε μερικούς από τους τοπικούς εμπόρους μας. Γνωρίστε μερικές συναρπαστικές γυναίκες του Yarra και μάθετε τι συμβαίνει στην περιοχή σας. Αν θέλετε περισσότερες πληροφορίες σχετικά μ' αυτή την έκδοση, τηλεφωνήστε στο 9280 1934 και δώστε τον αριθμό αναφοράς 18916.

In questa edizione del Yarra News, potete leggere del nostro progetto di bilancio 2021/2022, e scoprire come potete dire la vostra. Leggete i nostri consigli su come meglio utilizzare il nostro nuovo servizio di rifiuti e riciclaggio. Incontrate alcuni dei nostri commercianti locali. Fate la conoscenza di alcune donne eccezionali di Yarra e scoprite cosa c'è nella vostra zona. Se volete più informazioni sulla presente edizione, chiamate il 9280 1931 e citate il numero di riferimento 18916.

Trong ấn bản này của Yarra News, hãy đọc về ngân sách dự thảo cho năm 2021/2022 của chúng tôi và tìm hiểu cách quý vị có thể đóng góp ý kiến của mình. Đọc các mẹo hàng đầu về cách sử dụng dịch vụ rác thải và tái chế mới của chúng tôi. Làm quen với một số thương nhân địa phương. Gặp gỡ một số phụ nữ có nhiều ảnh hưởng của Yarra và tìm hiểu những gì đang diễn ra trong khu vực của quý vị. Nếu quý vị muốn biết thêm thông tin về ấn bản này, hãy gọi số 9280 1939 và trích dẫn số tham chiếu 18916.

## YARRA CITY COUNCIL

PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121

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E [info@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

W [yarracity.vic.gov.au](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au)

**ON THE COVER:** Na Nguyen is a volunteer with Cultivating Community and had been tending for this magnificent garden for many years.

If you have any comments or queries about Yarra News, please contact us at [yarranews@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarranews@yarracity.vic.gov.au) or call **9205 5555**. Large print, audio and online versions are also available.