

LENNOX WARD UPDATE

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Charles Evans Reserve upgrade

Celebrating
Yarra's heritage

More open space
for Richmond

LENNOX WARD UPDATE | Cremorne and parts of Richmond

It's great to see a few positive steps here in Lennox Ward — firstly, Council's purchase of land to expand the Stewart Street Reserve, delivering more much needed open space to our area. Secondly, works are really ramping up the long overdue Charles Evans Reserve transformation to this existing park with a new playground, mural works and other amenities.

While these are positive steps, Cremorne contributes approximately \$4b into the state's economy each year and is a significant contributor to the Council's Open Spaces fund through developer contributions, which fund new green spaces. Both Stewart Street Reserve and Charles Evans Reserve are both extensions to existing green space. As the local Councillor, I will continue to work on new green space opportunities in Cremorne.

I'm pleased to see the minor upgrades taking place at Richmond Library, and the progression of the business case for its major renovation and redevelopment. This is a major project I'm passionate about to ensure we have accessible and modern facilities for the community to enjoy, and I can't wait to see what the designs look like. I'd love to see a rooftop garden, dedicated children's spaces and meeting areas.

A reminder that Council's one-hour free parking trial is still operating. This has been really beneficial for traders across Richmond, and particularly the ones in our Ward on Swan Street and Bridge Road. Be sure to support them and enjoy the benefits of not paying for your first hour — just remember to start the meter as soon as you park or activate it on the PayStay app.

Finally, there are improvements on our streets in Cremorne and Richmond, particularly drainage and kerb upgrades. Please get in touch with me if you think your footpath or street needs a bit of attention.

Cr Andrew Davies | Lennox Ward

Australian Heritage Festival 2026

This year's Australian Heritage Festival, presented by the National Trust, is on from 18 April to 18 May. It invites us to explore how architectural history shapes us and how we are shaping history through the 2026 theme 'Change'.

There are plenty of landmarks in **Lennox Ward** which have local significance, such as the St Stephen's Anglican Church, St Ignatius' Roman

Catholic Church, Lalor House and the Vine Hotel.

For full festival details, visit nationaltrust.org.au/ahf

You can also discover Yarra's heritage precincts with one of our self-guided walks, available to **download at yarracity.vic.gov.au/heritage-walks**

Charles Evans Reserve upgrade works continue

Construction of the new-look Charles Evans Reserve in Cremorne is continuing — and we hope to have the upgrades completed by the end of May.

The centrepiece of the project is our new playground, and after completing site levelling and layout works, play equipment began being delivered in February. This includes a basket swing, slides, climbing equipment, activity panels, a tunnel and nature play elements.

A variety of seating and lawn areas for visitors are also being built on site. We expect to have all the equipment, pavements, walls and furniture installed by the end of April, with planting and irrigation works to finish off the project heading into May.

Please be wary of traffic conditions around the



construction site, as a handful of parking spaces beside the park in Cubitt Street remain unavailable. Council thanks nearby residents and drivers for their patience while we complete this exciting project.

2026 Yarra Community Grants recipients

We're delighted to have awarded more than \$1.06m to 70 local projects and initiatives as part of our Community Grants funding round for 2026.

The Yarra Grants Program funds community-driven projects that improve access to, and the quality of, social, economic and cultural life across the neighbourhoods, shared spaces and communities of the City of Yarra.

Among the successful applicants was **Lennox Ward's** very own Richmond Primary School, who received a grant to revitalise their community garden.



Scan the QR code for the full list of recipients and to find out more about the program, or go to yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarra-grants

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Open space extension coming to Richmond

Council is investing in a parcel of land to add more open space for residents and visitors to enjoy in a bustling part of Richmond.

We will be spending \$3.4m to acquire a 1,524m² parcel of land from VicTrack on the corner of Wangaratta Street and Stewart Street in Richmond. The land is located close to Richmond Station and the Corner Hotel.

The acquisition is part of plans to expand the Stewart Street Reserve, which is home to the Ian 'Molly' Meldrum statue. The sale will be finalised once VicTrack completes its subdivision of the land.



Upgrades to Cremorne intersection

Works have been completed to upgrade the intersection of Cubitt Street and Bent Street in Cremorne. The project cost \$36,000 and included improved pram crossings, reconstructing footpaths and the road surface, and drainage upgrades at the site. The project has enhanced pedestrian accessibility in this part of Cremorne by providing smoother, safer, and more inclusive crossing points for all pedestrians.



Improvements to Richmond Library and redevelopment update

Renewal works at Richmond Library continue, with \$100,000 funding from our 2025/26 Budget. These works are focused on modernising facilities to enhance staff and community use. So far, we've completed lighting and furniture upgrades, added a new wall to support working arrangements and enhanced security measures. We'll be continuing the lighting upgrades in the coming months and delivering new reception and kitchen facilities and signage.

Council is also progressing the business case for a major redevelopment of the library by conducting preliminary investigations and feasibility studies. Concept designs are in progress, due for public review around mid-year.



CitiPower upgrades across Cremorne

Power supplier Citipower completed a series of electrical upgrades in Cremorne during February and March. The works were conducted in parts of Cremorne Street, Dover Street, Cubitt Street, Munro Street and Bent Street, with workers undertaking trenching in these areas before installing new underground power cables. Council thanks residents and motorists for their patience and complying with road closures during the works.



Scan the QR code to find out what's happening across Yarra with our online Capital Works Map at yarracity.vic.gov.au/capitalworks