HARD WASTE COLLECTION

FIND OUT WHEN YOUR HARD WASTE COLLECTION IS
The fifth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence was held on Friday, 20 March. This year many Moonee Valley schools, involving over 20,000 students, participated by holding events and promoting the day. Congratulations to our schools for a fantastic response! This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say ‘no to bullying’ and to strengthen the message that bullying and violence at school is not okay. We are lucky to have the head office of the Bully Zero Australia Foundation located in Essendon Fields. This not-for-profit organisation tackles the issue of bullying in all its forms and I was honoured to open their event and welcome people to Moonee Valley on the National Day of Action. Bully Zero also recently launched a 24-hour bullying hotline 1800 028 559 (1800 OBULLY) and is holding a charity dinner in September. As a local organisation tackling the issues that affect us all, I urge you to support the Bully Zero Australia Foundation.

I had the honour of attending many events in the lead up to Anzac Day and the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. It has been wonderful to see people of all ages honouring those who served and are currently serving to protect this country. The Dawn Service at the Keilor East RSL was a solemn and very moving experience. The large crowd in attendance was overwhelming and the respectful silence in honour of the fallen was quite emotional. Check Council’s website for further events to acknowledge the centenary, including the Battle of Lone Pine.

Located alongside the iconic Maribyrnong River, Riverside Park is one of our most visited parks. The pirate ship playground is a huge attraction and has become a popular place for children’s birthday parties. The previous Riverside Park upgrade was stopped last year, following community concerns. We’re now starting afresh with community consultation. We want to hear your ideas on how we can improve this park to make it more enjoyable for all. We recently held some community information sessions and conducted a survey. If you weren’t able to participate in these sessions don’t despair, you can still submit your ideas to Council and there will be further opportunities for residents to have an input into the plan.

We understand our leisure centres play an important role in our community’s health and wellbeing. Council officers are reviewing the feedback we received during consultation on the East Keilor Leisure Centre draft concept plan and will revise the plan based on the feedback received. There will be important maintenance works at Ascot Vale Leisure Centre later this year. This includes replacing the 25 metre pool deck, adding two extra lap lanes, accessible ramp entry and water play features to the 25 metre pool, as well as a new accessible change room and an improved air conditioning system. These works come at a significant cost, however we believe they are necessary to ensure that these well-used centres cater for the needs of current and future residents.

NAIDOC Week has a long history. Originally a day of protest against the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians, it has grown to become a week where we can celebrate and recognise the rich cultural history that makes Australia unique. I’m proud that as a nation we have become a more inclusive society and I encourage you to take part in NAIDOC Week celebrations held across the city.

Each year we take the time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of local people in our community through our Spirit of Moonee Valley Awards. These awards are our opportunity to formally recognise their generosity and community spirit. Nominations open on 15 June, and I encourage you to nominate a member of the community who goes out of their way to make Moonee Valley a better place for others.

And don’t forget my next Conversation with the Mayor session is on Thursday, 18 June at the Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre. I hope to see you there!

Cr Narelle Sharpe
Moonee Valley Mayor
Lifting advocacy to the next level

An important role of Local Government is to advocate for and on behalf of the community.

While many people think of advocacy as something that is played out in the media and involves a lot of chest-thumping, often the most effective form of advocacy comes from establishing constructive working relationships.

On any given day it’s common to find Councillors and Council officers engaging with members of Parliament, government officials and key decision-makers as we work to secure the best possible outcomes for our community.

Council has a well-established Advocacy Agenda that reflects the priorities of our community as told to us during the development of the Moonee Valley Next Generation 2035 Community Vision.

Moonee Valley Next Generation 2035 was developed just over two years ago following extensive consultation. At that time the Moonee Valley community told us it wanted a municipality that was friendly and safe; green, clean and beautiful; supported sustainable living and was vibrant and diverse. It’s for these reasons that Council’s major advocacy priorities are focused on turning this vision into a reality.

Among these priorities are the need to tackle traffic congestion by working with State Government to improve public transport and the way our road network operates. Other priorities include effectively managing the growth that we are experiencing to ensure our suburbs and neighbourhoods remain liveable and environmentally friendly.

As part of our advocacy activities, Council officers recently joined forces with local parliamentarians and representatives from VicRoads for a first-hand look at some of the issues affecting the community.

The Council-organised bus tour - involving state members of Parliament, Ben Carroll and Danny Pearson, federal member Kelvin Thomson and representatives from federal opposition leader Bill Shorten’s office, along with VicRoads and Essendon Airport representatives - visited a number of sites earmarked for future major development.

The tour also looked at possible solutions to traffic congestion at locations including the English Street and Matthews Avenue interchange in Airport West, Keilor Road, Grange Road and Newman Street in Niddrie and the possible impacts of the CityLink Tulla Widening project on local streets.

Other issues discussed included the need for a rail under road grade separation at the Buckley Street rail crossing in Essendon, pedestrian operated traffic signals on Milleara Road in Avondale Heights and the potential impacts of major developments at Moonee Valley Racecourse and Flemington Racecourse.

The bus tour is just one example of Council and stakeholders from various levels of government working together to tackle some of the larger issues facing our community.

Council also advocates on issues such as:

- business investment and increased employment opportunities
- attracting funding for arts and cultural activities as well as leisure facilities
- improved health, wellbeing and learning outcomes for our community
- challenges for Moonee Valley due to population growth and development pressures

To find out more about Council’s Advocacy Agenda visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/advocacy
Spirit award nominations open

You have the chance to shine the light on someone doing outstanding things for our community. Nominations for Council’s 16th annual Spirit of Moonee Valley Community Awards open on Monday, 15 June.

Nominate someone who you believe deserves formal recognition for their contribution towards making Moonee Valley a better place.

Our 2014 Citizen of the Year, Jane Canaway, was recognised for her major contribution to the environment in Moonee Valley. She is a committed member of the Australian Plants Society – Keilor Plains Group; made major contributions as an author and editor of *Plants of Melbourne’s Western Plains: A gardener’s guide to the local flora* published in 2012, which is a valuable resource for both Council and home gardeners; and has demonstrated her commitment to sustainable food production, co-founding the Avondale Heights Community Garden.

Nominations close on Friday, 24 July with awards in the categories of: Contribution to Arts and Culture, Contribution to Environment, Contribution to Family, Contribution to Neighbourhood, Contribution to Older Persons, Contribution to Sport, Contribution by Business to the Community, and Contribution by Youth to the Community.

Nomination forms will be available from Moonee Valley libraries, the Civic Centre and online at mvcc.vic.gov.au/spirit

For more information contact our Arts and Culture unit on 9243 8888.

Free classical music this June

Don’t let the chilly weather get you down! Venture out into the warmth of one of our city’s wonderful churches for a free classical music concert. We promise you won’t be disappointed!

**Radiant**
Sunday, 14 June at 3pm
St George’s Anglican Church, 55 Lucknow Street, Travancore

Chamber group the Chrysalis Trio perform some of the very best chamber repertoire including the Debussy Sonata for Flute, Viola and Harp.

**Songs of Sunset**
Sunday, 21 June at 3pm
St John’s Uniting Church, Corner Mt Alexander Road and Buckley Street, Essendon

Opera Australia mezzo Caroline Vercoe and a string quartet showcase Respighi’s *The Sunset*, plus works from Strauss and Wagner.

**Songs of Earth and Sky**
Sunday, 28 June at 3pm
St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 158 Military Road, Avondale Heights

The Consort of Melbourne explores the Italian *a capella* tradition through a program of works spanning almost 1,000 years.

Classic movie screenings

In partnership with Vic’s Flicks, Council runs free monthly classic movie screenings for residents who are aged and/or have a disability, as well as their carers.

Movies from a range of genres are screened each month, including musicals, westerns, dramas, comedies and action adventure films.

- **South Pacific** – Thursday, 18 June, 1.30pm
- **Without Love** – Thursday, 16 July, 1.30pm
- **Casablanca** – Thursday, 20 August, 1.30pm
- **Meet me in St Louis** – Thursday, 17 September, 1.30pm
- **The Quiet Man** – Thursday, 15 October, 1.30pm
- **Show Boat** – Thursday, 19 November, 1.30pm
- **White Christmas** – Thursday, 17 December, 1.30pm

Due to improvement works at our usual venue, screenings from June until September will be held at Nancye Kirchner Neighbourhood Centre, Doyle Street, Avondale Heights. Screenings from October onwards will return to Burley Griffin Neighbourhood Centre, Park Drive (off The Crossway), East Keilor.

Bookings are encouraged at least one week prior to screenings, as places are limited. To book, please contact Council’s Healthy Ageing Officer on 9243 8712 or connected@mvcc.vic.gov.au

Transport services, carer support and community meals are also available upon request for a fee.

For more information visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/connected
Get rid of your waste

Hard waste collection

Annual hard waste collections are coming up. This summary aims to help you understand when your collection will occur and what you need to do.

This collection is for hard waste only

Items that will be collected:

- All metal (including car parts, tin, iron, lawnmowers and bicycles)
- Dismantled wardrobes and furniture
- General unwanted household items (in boxes only)
- Household appliances
- Mattresses (maximum two per property)
- Timber
- Whitegoods (fridges must have door removed for safety)
- Window glass (wrapped in cardboard and clearly marked ‘glass’)

Items that will not be collected:

- Asbestos
- Branches and prunings
- Building material (including material from renovations, building sites and/or fencing) or trade waste
- Hazardous or liquid waste (e.g. paints and chemicals)
- Rubble or soil
- Televisions and computers
- Tyres

Neat and tidy

Please place hard waste neatly on your nature strip, all furniture must be dismantled and all material stacked and accessible to our collection team.

Right size

Maximum length is 1.5 metres.

Maximum weight of an item is 15 kilograms.

Items must be able to be lifted to shoulder height by one person.

No more than 2 cubic metres in volume (about two level trailer loads).

On time

Please place your items on the nature strip on the Sunday night before your collection week. We will collect your hard waste between Monday and Friday.

Do not place items out before the Sunday of your collection week.

Collection dates

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<tr>
<th>Usual waste collection day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Area 1</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>22 June</td>
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Note: Any items placed out late will not be collected.

Any unacceptable items will not be collected and may incur an infringement and fines.

Please do not obstruct the footpath and ensure the collection area is free of vehicles.

For more information visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/waste or call 9243 8888.

Forgot to put your bin out?

Council understands how frustrating it can be to come home and realise that you forgot to put your bin out for collection.

When you realise, you can call Council on 9243 8888 to let us know you forgot and we will arrange for someone to come and collect it.

If you’re unsure when your collection day is, or what should go in which bin, check your Community Waste and Recycling Calendar, visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/waste or call 9243 8888 to find out.
News in brief

Conversations with the Mayor
Do you have a question, idea or issue that you would like to discuss with Mayor Cr Narelle Sharpe? Do you have feedback on Council’s services, programs and strategies?

Until October, Cr Sharpe is holding a community conversation session every two months. The next Conversation with the Mayor session is:

When: Thursday, 18 June, 10am-11.30am
Where: Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre, 69–79 Military Road, Avondale Heights

Cr Sharpe is looking forward to meeting residents and listening to what they have to say.

Crown Street Stables Café open all week!
The recently-opened community café at Crown Street Stables is now open seven days a week! Opening hours are 10am to 4pm (closed public holidays).

Holding an event and need a space? The upstairs room is available for community or private hire with a capacity of up to 60 people. Catering is available through the café by arrangement.

Crown Street Stables is located at 40 Crown Street, Flemington within the beautiful surroundings of Coronet Park. To find out more visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/crownstreet or call our Aged and Disability Services team on 9243 8888.

Leaders in Business Breakfast
Save the date – Friday, 28 August – for our Leaders in Business Breakfast.

This will be a key event for Moonee Valley, forming part of the Victorian Small Business Festival. It will be a great opportunity to connect with others in the business community, promote your business and hear from engaging and informative speakers on future trends in our local economy.

Union Road Streetscape Plan
Over the last month Council has sought feedback on a draft streetscape plan for Union Road.

Feedback has now closed and Council is currently working through the comments and suggestions from local residents, traders and other visitors.

With this streetscape plan Council is seeking to encourage and create opportunities for traders and the community to connect with their local shopping strip. Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/unionroad to keep updated on this project.

Moonee Valley Men’s Sheds
Men’s Sheds are workshops where residents, both men and women, come together and enjoy learning new skills, sharing ideas and supporting each other to produce quality products from a variety of materials.

Council currently operates two Men’s Sheds in Moonee Valley:

Aberfeldie Men’s Shed
Located at 5 Rutherford Street, Aberfeldie (behind the Moonee Valley Transfer Station). Open Monday (open to both men and women), Tuesday and Thursday, 9am to 1pm.

Flemington Men’s Shed
Located at 126 Racecourse Road, Flemington (adjacent to the community garden). Open Wednesday, 10am to 4pm.

This facility recently reopened after renovations which were jointly funded between the Victorian Department of Human Services and Council.

We are also currently working with Essendon, North Essendon and Strathmore Rotary Clubs to develop a new Men’s Shed in Mascoma Street, Strathmore. The new facility will provide an additional venue for residents to engage in activities that positively contribute to the Moonee Valley community while enhancing their own health and wellbeing.

Find out more about our Men’s Sheds and stay up to date on the development of this exciting community project at mvcc.vic.gov.au/mensshed, or contact our Men’s Shed Facilitator on 9243 1769 or mensshed@mvcc.vic.gov.au

Men’s Shed Up-Cycling Shop
Aberfeldie Men’s Shed has an Up-Cycling Shop where you can purchase items that have been lovingly built by Men’s Shed participants, including children’s toys, furniture, bowls, planter boxes and our popular wood turned pens.

Open from 9am to 1pm on Thursdays and Saturdays.
Racecourse Road and Pin Oak Crescent

Council is creating a draft streetscape plan for the Racecourse Road and Pin Oak Crescent Shopping Precinct.

The draft plan will be released for community feedback over the next few months, and we’re keen to ensure you have your say on the design concept.

The draft plan seeks to create a shared vision for this vibrant shopping precinct for the local community, traders and other visitors. The streetscape plan will be used to guide future projects and initiatives designed to ensure its ongoing success.

In addition to providing feedback on the draft version of the streetscape plan, you’ll also have the opportunity to provide feedback on a draft landscape design concept for the upgrade of Pridham Plaza.

To keep updated on this project and the draft plans visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/racecourseroad

Riverside Park upgrade

Located on the iconic Maribyrnong River, Riverside Park is one of Moonee Valley’s most popular parks. Council has been working with the community to develop plans to refresh this special park and make it more enjoyable for all.

Some of the improvements we’ve identified so far include:

- adding more play options
- upgrading the picnic facilities
- upgrading paths and planting more trees
- improving drainage
- making the car parking safer, with better access and circulation for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists

Following on from the ideas the community gave us during the recent consultation, a draft design concept is now being prepared. This draft design will be brought back to the community in the coming months for comment before a final concept is adopted by Council.

Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/riversidepark to keep updated on this project.

Ascot Vale Leisure Centre

Important maintenance works will be carried out at Ascot Vale Leisure Centre later this year, with the 25 metre pool deck to be replaced.

Council will also take this opportunity to make some other improvements, based on feedback received during the Aquatic Leisure Centre Plan consultation. This includes adding two extra lap lanes, accessible ramp entry and water play features to the 25 metre pool, as well as a new accessible change room and an improved air conditioning system.

The works are expected to take place between September 2015 and June 2016. During this time the 25 metre pool and family/accessible change rooms will be closed. All dry areas will remain open for the duration of the works. The spa, sauna, steam room, learn to swim pool and warm water pool will also remain open for the majority of the works.

We will do our utmost to minimise the impacts these works will have on our users, with nearby alternative swimming options being made available for members.

For further details and to keep up to date with these works visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/avlc or call 9243 8888.
Celebrating our refugees' courage

Council respects, recognises and supports the many residents of Moonee Valley who have come to Australia as refugees or asylum seekers, and we’re pleased to strengthen these messages during Refugee Week, 14 to 20 June. The theme for Refugee Week from 2015 to 2017 is ‘with courage let us all combine’. Find out more about this national celebration at refugeeweek.org.au

Council will proudly fly banners across the city proclaiming Moonee Valley as a ‘Refugee Welcome Zone’.

We declared Moonee Valley as a Refugee Welcome Zone in 2002 by making a commitment in spirit to welcome refugees into our community, uphold their human rights, demonstrate compassion and enhance cultural and religious diversity in the community.

Moonee Valley libraries will also host events to celebrate Refugee Week:

Building a future and offering hope
Join Berhan Jaber, a prominent Flemington community worker and Ajak Kwai, a south Sudanese born singer, songwriter and storyteller. Ajak uses music as the vehicle for stories of her extraordinary life experiences as a refugee.

Tuesday, 16 June, 6.30pm-7.45pm
Flemington Library, 313 Racecourse Road, Flemington

Film: Mary Meets Mohammad
Tasmania’s first detention centre opens and local knitting club member Mary is not welcoming of the 400 male asylum seekers. Mohammad is a 26 year-old Muslim asylum seeker detained inside the centre. An unlikely friendship develops. 80 mins, PG.

Thursday, 18 June, 6pm
Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre, 69-79 Military Road, Avondale Heights

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week takes place from 5 to 12 July. The theme for 2015 is ‘We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate’. The theme highlights the strong spiritual and cultural connection to the land and sea by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. To acknowledge and celebrate NAIDOC Week, Council is holding a number of events and activities including:

Impart
Friday, 5 June to Sunday, 26 July
Incinerator Gallery, 180 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds

This exhibition brings together four artists who collectively have over 200 years of learning and wisdom to impart. The artists are Lorraine Connelly-Northey, a Waradgerie woman, Vicki Couzens, a Gunditjmara and Keerray Woorroong woman, Vicki West, a Trawlwoolway woman and Maree Clarke, a Mutti Mutti, Boonerwrung woman. This exhibition is informed by Country and the knowledge passed on by their Elders. It reclaims, interprets and revitalises cultural knowledge and ritual practices, post ‘the invasion’ of 1770.

Opening night: Friday, 5 June from 6pm to 8pm. All welcome, with light refreshments served.
Curator talk: Saturday, 4 July at 1pm. Free. Bookings essential.


To book or find out more about these events visit incineratorgallery.com.au or call 8325 1750.

Flag-raising ceremony
Wednesday, 8 July, 10am-11am
Clocktower Centre, 750 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds

Join us for our annual flag-raising ceremony. The event will feature children’s and cultural activities in a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. To RSVP visit mvcc.eventbrite.com.au or call 9243 8888.
Junior Rangers

Become a junior ranger for a day!

We are looking for kids with a keen eye to help find all the animals and plants in parks around Moonee Valley.

The Junior Rangers program is a fun way for kids to interact with local flora and fauna including ducks, water hens, cockatoos and rainbow lorikeets, along with native plants.

It’s easy, free to do, a great way to entertain the kids and provides an opportunity to get familiar with their natural environment right on their doorstep. Schools and other large groups are also encouraged to get involved.

Guides are available for Queens Park in Moonee Ponds, Centreway in East Keilor and Napier Park in Strathmore.

Print your guide at home before embarking on your outdoor adventure by visiting mvcc.vic.gov.au/juniourrangers, or borrow a Junior Ranger kit which includes a guide, map, checklist, binoculars and magnifying glass. The kids can receive a sticker for all their hard work.

Kits for use at Queens Park are available from Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds or check the website for other kit locations. To borrow a kit just drop in on the day. School classes and large groups should call 8325 1950 to book in advance.

Lost pets Facebook page

Council has launched a Moonee Valley Lost Pets Facebook page to help increase the number of reclaimed animals in Moonee Valley.

We will use this page to post photos of lost, unidentifiable pets that have been found by Council officers and housed at the Lost Dogs Home. Residents are encouraged to post photos of their missing pets to the page.

The Moonee Valley Lost Pets Facebook page can be found at fb.com/mvlostpets and will be reviewed at the end of 2015 to assess whether it has been embraced by the community.
Planning for Essendon Junction

From Thursday, 4 June Council will be calling for community feedback on the draft Essendon Junction Structure Plan.

Essendon Junction is a neighbourhood activity centre which has also been designated by the State Government as an urban renewal area. Activity centres are vibrant hubs which include a mix of residential homes, shops, services and public transport. They also play an important role in housing Melbourne’s growing population.

Structure plans provide a long-term strategic vision for an activity centre, as well as a comprehensive action plan to achieve that vision. They guide any changes to future land use, how people access and move around the area, the design of buildings and open spaces and improvements to infrastructure while protecting heritage and preserving valued characteristics.

The draft Essendon Junction Structure Plan provides the opportunity to revitalise the centre, create local employment and integrate a mix of new developments. This includes new community facilities, transport improvements, commercial development and medium density residential housing, all of which will cater for a growing and diverse population.

Through the process to develop the draft structure plan, the key issues identified include:

- Buckley Street, Mt Alexander Road and the Craigieburn Railway Line all divide the centre making it difficult to navigate, especially for pedestrians.
- The centre lacks a retail ‘anchor’ tenant, such as a supermarket.
- There is a shortage of public open space within the centre for residents, workers and visitors to enjoy.
- The centre currently lacks community facilities and services.
- There is a lack of policy to guide where new development should be located and what form it should take.

The draft structure plan suggests initiatives to address these issues:

- Advocate for the rail-under-road grade separation of Buckley Street and Mt Alexander Road with the Craigieburn railway line.
- Apply planning scheme controls to land within the centre to guide future building design.
- Encourage investment in the centre and support local businesses.
- Provide more public open space within the centre and improve the public realm.
- Establish a development contributions scheme for the centre to fund and deliver new community infrastructure.

The process to develop the plan started in 2012 with consultation on a background paper. This was followed by a feasibility study, adopted in May 2014, which investigated the best way to separate Buckley Street and the Craigieburn railway line where they cross each other at Essendon Junction, also known as grade separation. Council’s preferred option is to move the railway line under the road, and the draft structure plan aligns with this option. See more about grade separation below.

The consultation period for the draft structure plan runs until Friday, 17 July. Council will be holding a community information session and an open day in June – keep an eye out for details. Find out more at mvcc.vic.gov.au/essendonjunction

More about grade separation

At the moment Essendon is divided by the Craigieburn Railway Line which causes considerable traffic congestion and delays. In recognition of this, the Buckley Street level crossing has recently been included in the State Government’s list of 50 level crossing removal projects to be undertaken in the next eight years.

The feasibility study endorsed by Council in 2014 shows that putting the rail line under the road at both Buckley Street and Mt Alexander Road would provide better planning outcomes in the long term. Council believes the alternative option of taking the road under the rail line will negatively impact neighbouring streets, commercial areas and pedestrians by reducing access to Buckley Street.

Removing the barrier of the rail line by taking it underground will better integrate the centre, retain side street access to Buckley Street, improve pedestrian access and safety, streamline traffic conditions, improve bus operations, provide valuable street frontage, and allow Council to take a more consolidated approach in planning and developing the Essendon Junction precinct.

Council will continue to work closely with VicTrack and the State Government to advocate for our preferred rail-under-road option.
The end of East West Link

At the time of printing, the State Government had signed an agreement with the East West Link consortium to formally confirm that the East West Link project will not proceed.

Council, with the help of many passionate locals, has campaigned for almost two years to have this project canned. Our main opposition to this project was the unacceptable impact it would have on our community, and that the approvals and decision-making process for this project were grossly flawed.

Our community, Councillors and Council officers can all share a collective sigh of relief, with this project no longer looming. While the project is wrapping up, Council needs to continue our discussions with the State Government to progress several outstanding issues for Moonee Valley brought about by this project.

During the East West Link assessment process, Council identified that residents in Flemington currently endure noise levels well in excess of the legal limit. Council will be seeking to work with the State Government to ensure this matter is rectified.

Also of great importance are the parcels of land in Moonee Valley that were compulsorily acquired by the project that are yet to be returned to our ownership.

Throughout these discussions we will continue to keep the community updated. Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/eastwestlink for more information on this. For more details on our efforts to tackle traffic congestion and improve public transport outcomes for Moonee Valley see our advocacy article on page 3.

Moonee Valley Racecourse update

The Victorian Government recently approved Planning Scheme Amendment C155, which introduces revised planning controls for the proposed redevelopment of Moonee Valley Racecourse.

Despite not reflecting Council's formal position for a limit of 1,000 dwellings and a cap across the site on maximum building heights, the government's changes are an improvement on the previous State Government's controls and are more consistent with the independent advisory committee's recommendations from December 2013.

Budget update

Thank you to those who provided feedback on our proposed 2015/16 Budget.

Councillors are working with Council officers to review this feedback and finalise our budget. Once completed, the budget will be presented to Council for formal adoption at its Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 23 June.

The 2015/16 budget is expected to direct around $31 million into building and improving community facilities and infrastructure, including upgrades to aquatic and sporting facilities, playgrounds, parks, local roads and streetscapes.

Council's budget isn't just about bricks and mortar. We are investing significant funding into services that put people first. We deliver around 200 programs and services to support the needs and aspirations of our diverse community. These include services for families and young children through our maternal and child health programs, immunisation, childcare and a host of programs to assist parents and carers. We are also providing extensive support for our frail-aged residents to help them remain safely in their homes and connected to their local communities.


While there is still uncertainty about the total number of dwellings that can be built on the site, it is expected these details will be determined subject to the outcomes of an integrated transport plan for the site.

The government’s gazetted amendments generally provide for lower preferred building heights, including mandatory heights abutting the residential areas along McPherson, Thomas and Dean Streets.

Council is pleased that the Heritage Overlay, which identifies a number of buildings across the site as being of primary significance, such as the main tote building, will remain in place. Council is also pleased that the government heeded our call for the provision of affordable housing as part of the development, by introducing an objective that five per cent of the development incorporate affordable housing.
Connecting with nature as a way of life

Sadly children around the world are at greater risk and more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change through heat related events, disease, air pollution, food insecurity and extreme weather. However, as parents and carers there is something we can do to help protect our children from the threat of climate change by raising active, informed and involved children.

Earlier this year, many Moonee Valley residents attended a community environment forum to learn about ways to talk to our children about the environment and reconnect them with nature. Dr Susie Burke from the Australian Psychological Society provided some useful tips on techniques for engaging children about the environment at different ages and stages. Some of these are:

- provide your children with time to spend in nature
- help your children find something positive to do for the environment
- listen to your children's concerns about the environment
- allow children to tell you how they feel and think
- find out what your children already know
- be aware of how you talk
- monitor how much your children are being exposed to media stories of environmental problems
- reassure your children and give them hope

One recurring theme was the importance of getting children out and about in nature. It is proven that time spent outdoors improves children's physical health, self-confidence, creativity and understanding of the natural world around them. There's rarely a reason not to take children outside so why not visit one of Moonee Valley's 95 play spaces today!

Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/parks for more information about local play spaces.

Visit psychology.org.au for more information about talking with children about the environment.

Students driving the change they want to see

Congratulations to more than 100 secondary students who gathered at the Clocktower Centre to take part in a two-day school sustainability summit.

Hosted by the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and Council, the summit used a unique model of peer-to-peer education to ignite students' interest in climate change and sustainability, connect them with a network of like-minded individuals and develop their leadership skills.

Moonee Valley was represented by dedicated students from Strathmore Secondary College, Ave Maria College, St Bernard's College and Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School. Project ideas generated at the summit included waste management and recycling systems, plastic-free policies, clean-up days, green weeks and promotion of environmental issues within school communities.

If your school would like to learn more about embedding sustainability into school curriculum and operations, email environment@mvcc.vic.gov.au to be added to Council's School Environment Network.

National Tree Day

National Tree Day provides all Australians with an opportunity to do something positive for the environment and reconnect with nature. Hundreds of thousands of Australians planted over one million native trees, shrubs and grasses at more than 5,000 National Tree Day events in 2014. We encourage you to attend our 2015 event:

When: Sunday, 26 July, 10am-12 noon
Where: Boeing Reserve, Strathmore Heights (Mel Ref: 16D5)


A barbecue will be provided. Please bring gloves and wear appropriate clothing and footwear.
“Going solar saves me money and makes me happy!”

We asked local people why go solar? Here is what Claudine and Tyson from Aberfeldie told us:

“Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share with Moonee Valley all the savings landing into my pocket since I decided enough is enough as I was not prepared to enrich the electricity companies when I can do something useful about it all.

“For many years I have been very careful around the house as I am a pensioner and bills these days are overboard in every way.

“I bought myself some torches that I use to walk around the house at night and it has saved me few pennies, but the batteries were not cheap so I decided to go solar. I purchased two solar lamps for only $17.50 and they light up the kitchen, the laundry and the path to the toilet.

“September last year, I decided to go solar wiser, I invested in solar panels that soak up the sun and I reap the benefits. This morning I received my three monthly electricity bill for $56.45. My bills used to be $300 plus before going GREEN, wow. I am so happy.”

If you have a similar home sustainability story you’d like to share, email us at environment@mvcc.vic.gov.au

To learn more about saving energy in your own home visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/myhome

Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/newsletters to join our environment mailing list.
Clocktower Centre
Alive with theatre, functions & events
750 Mt Alexander Road (Corner Pascoe Vale Road), Moonee Ponds

Visit clocktowercentre.com.au or call 9243 9191 to book your tickets.

Noni Hazlehurst in Mother
Friday, 12 June at 8pm
A one-woman play written for acclaimed, award-winning actor Noni Hazlehurst that explores the concept of homelessness as a metaphor for disconnection. Not recommended for children under 15 years.

Morning Music: Back to Broadway
Tuesday, 16 June at 11am
An exciting young cast of five recall the great era of romantic music, with hits from Irving Berlin and Cole Porter including Annie Get Your Gun, Top Hat, Easter Parade and more.

Cranky Bear
Saturday, 27 June at 11am
Flamboyant friends Zebra, Lion and Moose each think they know how to solve Bear’s crankiness but their shenanigans just make him even crankier! Suitable for children aged 4 to 8 years.

Movies on stage: The NeverEnding Story
Wednesday, 1 July at 11am
An epic fantasy that tells a story of a young warrior and his task to stop a dark storm, called the Nothing, from engulfing a fantasy world.

Opera Australia: The Magic Flute
Saturday, 11 July at 7.30pm
Prepare to be enchanted with this fully-staged production of The Magic Flute featuring fabulous 1930s costumes, a chamber orchestra and a vibrant cast of singers. Perfect for the whole family.

Incinerator Gallery
Visual arts with Burley Griffin heritage
180 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds
Find out more about these events or book your place at incineraotorgallery.com or call 8325 1750.

Impart
5 June to 26 July
Opening 5 June, 6pm–8pm, all welcome
This exhibition brings together four Indigenous artists with over 200 years of learning and wisdom to impart. It reclaims, interprets and revitalises cultural knowledge and ritual practices, post ‘the invasion’ of 1770. Curator talk on Saturday, 4 July at 1pm.

Other exhibitions
A number of other great exhibitions are opening at the gallery at the same time as Impart. Visit our website to find out what else is on.

Special event: Craft and cultural learning workshop for adults
Saturday, 20 and Sunday, 21 June, 10am–4pm
Artists from the Impart exhibition will share Indigenous culture through the teaching of traditional craft techniques. They share stories and cultural knowledge through conversation as they work.

Bush dreaming and artefact making
Friday, 3 and Saturday, 4 July, 10am–12 noon and 1pm–3pm
Children will learn how to make bush toys and sculptures from traditional bush materials. They will also gain an understanding of Indigenous culture, rituals and stories. Workshops are $12.50 per child and include all materials.

Art Deco: A Global Perspective
Monday, 20 July, 1pm–2.30pm and 1.30pm–4pm
Art historian Judith Stevenson places twentieth-century Australian art into a global context in this informative talk. Tea and coffee provided.

Enrolments open: term three art courses
Courses commence Monday, 20 July
Courses offered include drawing, DSLR photography, life drawing, glass, watercolours and sculpting. They run for six weeks, include all materials and cost $150.
Library news

These events are free; however, bookings are required. Visit mooneevalleylibraries.eventbrite.com.au or call the library directly to reserve your space.

Cybersafety: eSmart Campaign Survey

Moonee Valley Libraries are participating in the eSmart Libraries Program, developed in partnership by the Telstra Foundation and The Alannah and Madeline Foundation.

eSmart Libraries is a program which informs and educates library users of all ages about cybersafety.

To find out how the library can best meet the community’s needs about online safety, we will be conducting a digital literacy survey from Monday, 1 June to Tuesday, 30 June.

The survey will be accessible at catalogue.mvcc.vic.gov.au. Hard copies of the survey will also be located at our libraries. Complete the survey by Tuesday, 30 June and go in the draw to win an iPad mini.

Workshop: Cyberbullying @ kids / teens

As part of the eSmart Libraries Program and Stay Smart Online Week we are hosting two cyberbullying sessions. These sessions will teach parents how to use technology and be safe online. Older children and teenagers welcome. Presented by Moonee Valley Legal Service.

Monday, 1 June, 6pm-7pm
Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds

Thursday, 25 June, 6pm-7pm
Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre, 69-79 Military Road, Avondale Heights

NAIDOC Week

Celebrate NAIDOC Week with a performance for the entire family. Traditional dancer and didgeridoo player Dave Edwards from the Nari Nari Yiphia Tribe from the Balranald area of New South Wales will tell his story and teach you about his rich culture.

Tuesday, 7 July, 10.30am
Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre

Film: Charlie’s Country

Charlie’s Country stars David Gulpilil as Charlie, who is getting older and is out of sorts. The government’s intervention is making life more difficult in his remote community. So Charlie takes off to live the old way, but in doing so sets off a chain of events. Drama, 108mins, M.

Thursday, 9 July, 6pm
Avondale Heights Library and Learning Centre

Coleman: the Untold Story of an AFL Legend

Doug Ackerly talks about his new biography of Essendon’s John Coleman. Coleman, named full-forward in the AFL Team of the Century is regarded as one of the greatest players of all time.

Tuesday, 16 June, 7pm
Sam Merrifield Library

Celebrate Eid

Many neighbours in the Flemington community observe the month of Ramadan, culminating in the holiday Eid Al-Fitr. This program is a cultural celebration and is open to families with primary school aged children who want to learn about or celebrate this holiday with our local community. The celebration will include henna hand painting and a craft activity. Dates will be served as refreshments.

Monday, 20 July, 4pm-5.30pm
Flemington Library, 313 Racecourse Road, Flemington

Self-publish your book

Adrian Briones talks about the booming industry of self-publishing. Adrian is author of the bestselling book What the heck is Filipino food which won the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards for Best Asian Cuisine (Australia). He is the publisher of popular food blog, Food Rehab, has written for Broadsheet and SBS Food and works in digital advertising.

Monday, 27 July, 7pm
Sam Merrifield Library
Capital works

Some of the capital works recently completed or underway in Moonee Valley.

In focus

Hopetoun Children’s Centre redevelopment

Council has recently completed the first stage of the redevelopment project at Hopetoun Children’s Centre in Flemington.

Two new Maternal and Child Health consulting rooms opened in April. These beautifully spacious rooms, situated within close proximity to the new kindergarten room, support best practice; where multiple early years services work together in one well-designed space to optimally support families raising happy, healthy children.

Once completed, the redeveloped centre will also include a new kindergarten, increased capacity for child care and some new flexible spaces, which will allow community programs like playgroups and family support services to operate out of the centre.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

The expansion of this much-loved centre will allow us to meet the increasing demand for early years services in the Flemington area, with population forecasts suggesting this will continue to rise in coming years.

Council has funded the $3 million project with a $900,000 contribution from the Victorian Government.

Facilities

East Keilor
Improvements to Burley Griffin Neighbourhood Centre
$340,000

Streetscapes

Across Moonee Valley
Retrofitting of public street lighting
$800,000

Road upgrades

Ascot Vale
Woods Street
$100,000

Strathmore
Term Street
$142,000

Drainage upgrades

Strathmore
Glenbervie Road
$300,000

For further information on any of these capital works, please contact Council on 9243 8888.
I’ve advocated for the establishment of a ‘Moonee Valley Lost Pets’ Facebook page for a while and am very pleased to let you know that it has recently been established. I’ve found many a lost animal in my time, and in most cases have been able to find the owners, but I believe this new Facebook page will make it that much easier to reunite lost pets with their owners. The Moonee Valley Lost Pets Facebook page is available at fb.com/mvlostpets. Please support this initiative as it’s on trial until the end of the year. Consultation on a fenced dog off-leash park has recently concluded. The results of the survey will be known soon.

I was a very proud Mayor when I attended Step Off last month and witnessed our local talent on display! Step Off is a Victoria-wide dance competition run by Council and City of Melbourne and it has certainly grown from its humble beginnings 11 years ago. Many Moonee Valley dance companies were represented and it was fantastic to see them on stage. Well done!

The proposed location for the new hangars at Essendon Airport is in accordance with the federally approved Essendon Airport Master Plan 2013, which went through a formal community consultation process in 2013, so Council has no objections to the development. The airport invited submissions during a consultation period regarding the hangar proposal in December 2014, including a community information session which I attended. Council consequently put forward further suggestions to reduce the potential impact of the hangars on nearby residents. For more details on the master plan visit essendonairport.com.au

The Victorian Electoral Commission recently conducted a boundary review of Moonee Valley in an aim to ensure fair and equitable representation for voters. We are waiting for the release of the final report on Wednesday, 3 June to review their recommendations on any changes to our boundaries.

Work is progressing with our Housing Strategy. You can provide feedback on the Draft Housing Issues and Opportunities Paper until Friday, 5 June. Your comments will help us to prepare a Housing Strategy that best reflects where residents want growth directed.

Thank you to everyone who gave us feedback on the draft plans for Union Road Shopping Precinct, Racecourse Road and Pin Oak Crescent, and Boeing Reserve youth space. Council officers are working to update the plans based on the feedback received.

Council has been working with the community to develop plans to upgrade Riverside Park to make it safer, more sustainable and engaging for children. Thank you to those who provided feedback. A draft design will be brought back to the community in the coming months for comment before a final concept is adopted by Council.

Over the past few months we’ve been working to identify possible redevelopment plans for East Keilor Leisure Centre and maintenance works for Ascot Vale Leisure Centre, particularly in relation to the 25 metre pool. It is important we invest now to make sure these popular centres continue to deliver much-needed services to the Moonee Valley community into the future. We will keep you updated on all of these projects in the coming months.
Myrnong Ward | Ward Duty

Deputy Mayor, Cr Cam Nation | cnation@mvcc.vic.gov.au
Portfolio: Economic Development  Phone: 0409 247 410

Protecting our quiet residential streets continues to be at the forefront of my role as Deputy Mayor, and for the second time in six months I’ve raised a Notice of Motion for Council to once again write to the Minister for Planning and have the State Government honour their election pledge to apply our recommended Residential Zones.

The application of these zones is vital to ensure the protection of areas with predominantly single dwelling lots, and to limit overdevelopment throughout Moonee Valley. The application of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone in certain areas will restrict development by not allowing more than two dwellings on one lot, while also enforcing height restrictions. I’m hopeful that by again raising this issue with the government, they may finally act.

In other news there are some exciting projects happening in the Myrnong Ward that will help activate some of our commercial areas in the coming years, including a streetscape plan for the Union Road Shopping Precinct and the Racecourse Road and Pin Oak Crescent area. More information can be found on Council’s website.

Cr Jim Cusack | jcusack@mvcc.vic.gov.au
Portfolio: Community Engagement and Learning  Phone: 0407 521 432

Ascot Vale, Flemington and Moonee Ponds retail strips and corner shops are unique, enriching our community, making them vibrant and safe. One way to guarantee their continuity and enjoy their amenity is to buy locally when we can. As part of Council’s commitment to local businesses, streetscape upgrades are being planned in Union and Racecourse Roads as well as the next stage of work in Hall Street, Moonee Ponds. Following the State Government’s decision on the Moonee Valley Racecourse, Council remains the responsible authority. We will be working hard to get decent outcomes on the three big issues of building size, transport and traffic that respect residents and the needs of the racecourse.

Our Housing Strategy is being prepared to assist in resolving numerous long standing planning issues. It aims to strike a balance between preserving our suburbs, accommodating denser housing and addressing affordability. Contact Council for more information. For your diary: participate in Reconciliation Week events with the Koori community, have a coffee at Crown Street Stables, go to local footy, enjoy the Winter Music in the Valley series.

Cr Nicole Marshall | nmarshall@mvcc.vic.gov.au
Portfolio: Land Use Planning  Phone: 0408 141 471
facebook.com/MarshallforMooneeValley  twitter.com/marshall4moonee

It is extremely pleasing to see the East West Link project abandoned. The destruction it would have caused in our municipality is well documented, with a loss of open space, increased congestion and noise, air and light pollution among other things. I thank everyone who campaigned against this issue.

We’re developing a new Housing Strategy that will look at a range of housing issues, including where housing change and growth could be accommodated. This strategy will be used to inform our new residential zones application. Keep an eye on mvcc.vic.gov.au/housingstrategy to find out when we are consulting, and have your say on where development in Moonee Valley will occur.

As part of Council’s work to activate the Racecourse Road and Pin Oak Crescent Shopping Precinct, we’re establishing a group to provide advice on community events and activities in the area. I’m looking forward to seeing the group’s ideas come to life over the next few years. Let me know if you would like further details on this or any other matter.
For people with disability, finding paid work in the community can be very challenging. Crown Street Stables Community Café will provide another avenue for our residents to access employment. From July, the café will provide training, work experience and support employment pathways for people with disability. Visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/crownstreet for more information.

Thank you to everyone who gave feedback on our draft master plan for Five Mile Creek Reserve. The draft plan proposed a range of improvements including better access to the reserve, improved safety and signage, a cleaner and more attractive waterway, and upgraded playground and picnic areas. Council officers are working to produce the final plan based on the feedback received.

Melbourne Water has commenced a project to upgrade their M102 water main. These works will help secure drinking water straight to our taps for the long-term. There will also be another Melbourne Water project in Aberfeldie to improve stormwater drainage later this year. Residents may be impacted in terms of traffic, parking and access to driveways. Visit melbournewater.com.au/m102 for more information.

Melbourne Water has started work on their project, the M102 water main upgrade. These works are vital to securing long-term drinking water for Melbourne. At times, these works will impact traffic, parking and driveway and pathway access in Rose Hill Ward. Council is working with Melbourne Water to minimise the impacts on residents and businesses during the works. Find out more at melbournewater.com.au/m102.

Avondale Heights Football Club, Maribyrnong Park Football Club and Strathmore Split Soccer Club can now train at night with new light towers installed at some Council reserves. Additionally Council is very pleased to have local club, Avondale Heights Soccer Club, in the National Premier League. Congratulations to all of the players and support staff on this great achievement.

Council officers are reviewing the feedback from the consultation on the East Keilor Leisure Centre draft concept design. Thank you to everyone who made a submission. Council will be using this feedback to start the design process and assess the financial implications of the project.

In February I attended the information session regarding the proposed Australand development in Avondale Heights. At the time of going to print, Council was still assessing the application and addressing residents’ concerns, particularly traffic issues. The application will come to a future Council meeting for consideration.

At my request, Council has written to the State Government advocating that any future Melbourne Airport rail link should be along the Flemington Link Corridor and include new train stations at Airport West and East Keilor. Currently under serviced by public transport, this would be a huge win for these suburbs.

The Buckley Street railway level crossing continues to be a nightmare for drivers, with boom gates lowered for more than 50 per cent of the peak period. We remain committed to advocating that the State Government both prioritises the removal of the crossing, and pursues a rail under road solution, which Council considers to be the most appropriate option for the local area. This is reflected in our draft Essendon Junction Structure Plan, out soon for community feedback.
Premiazioni Spirit of Moonee Valley
Candidate qualcuno che pensasse meritare un riconoscimento formale per il contributo dato alla comunità nell’ambito delle nostre premiazioni Spirit of Moonee Valley. Se volette proporre il nome di qualcuno visitate il sito mvcv2018.gründe/spirit entro venerdì 24 luglio.

Avevate dimezzato di mettere fuori i cassonetti dell’apertura della spazzatura?
Può essere frustrante dimenticarsi di mettere i cassonetti della spazzatura fuori per essere svuotati. Se doveste accadere, potete chiamare il Comune al numero 9243 8888 per farci sapere che vi siete scordati di mettere i cassonetti fuori e faremo in modo che qualcuno venga a svuotarli.

Men’s Sheds
Il Comune gescisse due Men’s Sheds (laboratori) dove sia donne che uomini possono acquisire nuove competenze, condividere idee e realizzare prodotti. Per ulteriori informazioni visitate il sito mvcv2018.com/mensshed, oppure chiamate al 9243 1769 o inviate un email a mensshed@mvcv2018.com.

Ascot Vale Leisure Centre
Da settembre 2015 fino a giugno 2016 sono previsti una serie di importanti lavori di manutenzione presso Ascot Vale Leisure Centre che richiederanno la chiusura della piscina da 25 metri e dello spogliatoio per le famiglie e i diversamente abili. Per ulteriori informazioni visitate il sito mvcv2018.com/avc.