Nillumbik News Autumn 2017 March to May

#### From the Mayor

It is my pleasure to serve as your Mayor this year.

We are now a few months into our term as your new Council and we are working well together as a cohesive team with a common aim to deliver Council services, events and activities in an efficient and cost-effective way.

We are in the process of developing our Council Plan for 2017-2021. It will set our vision, objectives and priorities over the next four years and will be instrumental in guiding the organisation’s work to manage and deliver services and facilities for Nillumbik residents. It will be the culmination of the commitments all Councillors made to you during the election.

While the details are being finalised our Shire-wide plan will target:

• Community infrastructure

• Bushfire mitigation

• Debt reduction and reducing the rates burden

• Employment generating policies

• Planning improvements

• Road planning, targeting reducing conjestion

When completed, it will be available on our website, in local libraries and various Council buildings.

In December we farewelled CEO Stuart Burdack, who served our Shire for six years. I would like to thank him for his significant contribution to the Nillumbik community including among many things, the completion of the Hurstbridge Community Hub, Community Bank Stadium in Diamond Creek and the redevelopment of the Eltham Leisure Centre.

The process to appoint a new CEO has begun. Mr Mark Stoermer has been appointed to lead the administration until the appointment of a permanent CEO which will be completed by mid-year.

Mr Stoermer has been the CEO of private sector companies and most recently was the

Executive Director Corporate Services at Box Hill Institute and the Director of Corporate Business at the City of Melbourne.

Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke

#### Nillumbik Australia Day Awards

Nikki Waterfall, the driving force behind Diamond Creek Parkrun, has been named as Nillumbik’s Citizen of Year 2017.

The announcement was made at Council’s Australia Day celebration at the Community Bank Stadium in Diamond Creek where 46 local residents also became Australian citizens.

Paul Di Benedetto of Hurstbridge was named Volunteer of the Year for 30 years dedication to the Diamond Creek Football Club and his ability to educate young people about life with a disability.

Peta Heywood, of Kangaroo Ground was awarded Senior Citizen of the Year for her voluntary work with the Kangaroo Ground Adult Riding Club since 1984. Peta is one of the club’s longest serving members.

Andrew Barras of Eltham received the Young Citizen of the Year Award for helping youth and young adults through community engagement and philanthropy.

Nillumbik’s Community Group of the Year is the Diamond Valley Miniature Railway, which has provided entertainment and fun for thousands of families from its location at Eltham Lower Park for 55 years.

Citizen of the Year - Nikki Waterfall

Nikki began the Diamond Creek Parkrun in November 2013, after identifying an interest in the local community and the potential to bring people together in a healthy, active way. Her tireless work has resulted in this group being considered as one of the most successful parkruns in Australia.

Hundreds of people have become more active as a result of Nikki’s passion and are now living a healthier lifestyle. The popularity of the group has grown from an initial 47 runners and six volunteers to 316 runners and 13 volunteers at the 2016 Christmas Eve event.

Nikki also started the Diamond Creek Runners recreational running club which meets three times a week, and has more than 200 members.

The Club is recognised by Athletics Victoria as one of the state’s biggest and most successful running clubs.

Senior Citizen of the Year Award - Peta Heywood

Peta Heywood was awarded Senior Citizen of the Year for her voluntary work with the Kangaroo Ground Adult Riding Club, having been a member since 1984. Peta is one of the club’s longest serving members. She is currently the president and has been a committee member for many years, and editor of the Club’s newsletter.

Peta is a wonderful role model and mentor to others. She has inspired and encouraged others with her energy and enthusiasm.

Peta has also made a valuable contribution to the Welcome to Eltham Group which was established in the wake of some community controversy over plans to resettle Syrian refugees at the St Vincent’s Care aged facility in Eltham.

Peta attended rallies and hand-made butterflies that have become the group’s welcome symbol.

Young Citizen of the Year - Andrew Barras

Andrew Barras, Council’s Young Citizen of the Year, was the founder of Relief LANS (Local Area Networks) a not-for-profit group that runs multiplayer video gaming events.

Andrew has helped raise more than $16,000 for organisations such as CanTeen, the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, The Smith Family, Save the Children, Kids Under Cover and Red Cross.

He does so by tapping into a passion that he has and many others his age have too – organising gaming events in a safe environment which attract hundreds of players.

With the support of St John’s Parish in Diamond Creek, Andrew uses the church hall for his events which began with the very first Relief LAN to raise money for the Black Saturday Relief Fund in the wake of the 2009 bushfires.

Community Group of the Year - Diamond Valley Miniature Railway

Diamond Valley Miniature Railway is run entirely by volunteers who give up their Sunday afternoons to entertain families from Nillumbik and beyond.

The Railway is very busy with 150 trains running each Sunday carrying 150,000 passengers each year along the 2km of track which goes around the park.

There are 160 volunteers who sacrifice a great deal of time to ensure that this attraction keeps going.

From those driving the trains, to the people in the back room who keep the engines working; they all have an important role to play.

Volunteer of the Year - Paul Di Benedetto

Paul Di Benedetto of Hurstbridge has been a volunteer at the Diamond Creek Football Club for 30 years.

While Paul has a disability which has impacted his ability to play a sport, this has not impacted his enthusiasm to be part of his local club.

Timekeeping, updating the scoreboard, goal umpire, boundary umpire and umpire escort are some of the roles that Paul undertakes for the Club. He is there every Saturday for the Seniors and most Sundays helping out at the junior level as well.

Not only has Paul given his time to the club, he has also been able to educate young people about what it’s like living with a disability.

#### Eltham Leisure Centre

The vision is becoming reality as construction of the pools begin.

Construction of the swimming pool shells has commenced, along with repairing termite damage to the existing facility.

The redevelopment will feature a 25 metre pool with eight lanes, a pool for aquatic education, children’s aquatic play equipment and a warm water pool for rehabilitation and therapy programs. Accessible facilities will also be included.

During construction the ‘dry’ area of the Centre will be open, including the gym, group fitness areas, café, consulting suites, stadium and crèche.

There are plenty of fun activities planned at the Centre this year including cardio tennis (low-impact group exercise using a tennis racquet and balls, not tennis as you know it), the Eltham Fun Run Walk and group fitness classes.

Eltham Leisure Centre members also have free access to the Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool and Aquarena (Doncaster) while works are being carried out.

The redevelopment is funded by Nillumbik Shire Council ($12.55 million), the Victorian Government’s Growing Suburbs Fund ($3.8 million) and Community Facilities Funding Program ($3 million).

The project is due to be completed at the end of the year.

#### Eltham Community and Reception Centre

Works at the Eltham Community and Reception Centre are progressing well.

The new office area, kitchenette and servery at the front of the building is beginning to take shape and the upgraded theatre equipment in the main hall is almost complete. The new toilet area, including accessible toilets, has also been installed and landscaping will start in the coming weeks.

The Centre attracts more than 35,000 visitors per year. When completed, the redeveloped Centre will better meet the needs of the community and provide a fully-accessible and more functional venue.

Keep an eye on Council’s Facebook page for more updates.

#### Facility boost

Funding sees projects become a reality.

Thanks to $2.3 million in grants from the State Government’s Growing Suburbs and Community Sporting Infrastructure funds, along with contributions from our community and ratepayers, Nillumbik residents will soon see improved recreation and community facilities across the Shire.

Four projects are earmarked to receive the funds. Civic Drive parkland in Greensborough will be developed with new paths, fitness stations, playground equipment and barbeques being built.

As well as the State Government and Council contributing towards improved facilities, the Research Junior Football Club and Research-Eltham Collegians Cricket Club are also contributing $145,000 each towards the redevelopment of Research Park Pavilion.

The redevelopment will include additional female-friendly change rooms as well as expanded social rooms.

Edendale Community Environment Farm is also set for an upgrade with a new permanent kiosk, nursery retail area, a children’s sensory garden, improved access, upgraded teaching facilities, nursery infrastructure and additional public toilets.

Soccer is one of Nillumbik’s fastest growing sports. The recent sportsground redevelopment at the Wattle Glen War Memorial Reserve has meant that the venue is now the Shire’s second soccer facility.

The ground will be home to Nillumbik Junior Soccer Club and Eltham Eagles Soccer Club from the start of the 2017 winter soccer season. These further funds will now provide new change rooms supporting the new tenants.

#### Women in sport

Women and girls’ participation in traditionally male-dominated sports such as girls’ soccer, cricket and football is rapidly growing.

Between 2014 and 2016, female participation in these sports increased by 111 per cent, creating a demand for upgraded facilities.

Support from both the Growing Suburbs and Community Sporting Infrastructure funds means Council can now provide female-friendly change facilities at Research Park and Wattle Glen Memorial Drive Reserve.

New girls and women’s teams and competitions in Nillumbik for 2017-2018 include:

• An Under 10 girl’s competition in the Northern Football League

• A senior women’s Northern Football league will be launched

• A senior women’s league will start up in the Diamond Valley Cricket Association.

#### Planning to redevelop sports centre has started

We are planning to improve our 40-year-old Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre in

Greensborough which is in need of a substantial redevelopment.

The Centre is one of our busiest venues with nearly 500,000 visits per year accessing a range of sports, fitness, health and wellbeing programs.

The Centre is home to many local sports clubs and associations including netball, table tennis, squash, badminton and the 5,500 member Diamond Valley Basketball Association.

An upgrade was recommended in the Recreation Strategy 2011-2019 and identified the need for additional indoor sports courts, improved change facilities, court upgrades and compliance with accessible building standards.

Any redevelopment may also identify opportunities to improve meeting and social spaces for wider community use.

Council and the State Government are funding the creation of this Masterplan however any redevelopment will need significant external funding to develop a facility that meets the needs of Nillumbik residents into the future.

For information on the Masterplan visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or 9433 3111.

For details on activities at the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre visit [www.diamondvalleysfc.com.au](http://www.diamondvalleysfc.com.au)

#### Volunteering in Nillumbik

Did you know that volunteering is good for you? It’s good for the mind and body and helps develop new skills.

Volunteering can be a stepping stone into a new career and some studies suggest it helps you live longer. But most of all, volunteering is very rewarding and a great way to meet people and have fun.

Council offers a range of volunteer roles. If you are interested visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or contact Jane Lawson, Volunteer Development Officer on 9433 3147.

#### Hurstbridge Hub

The Hurstbridge Community Hub is a multifaceted facility able to take your booking now.

The Hub provides a focal point for integrated services and community activities including; early years (long day care, preschool and occasional childcare), maternal and child health, allied health, parent support groups, community choir, disability support, U3A classes, group fitness, outreach and youth support services.

The Hub also offers the community a space for meetings, training sessions, seminars, events, exhibitions and activity spaces with a number of rooms available to hire.

There’s always a lot happening at the Hub but there’s room for more, so if you would like a tour, have suggestions or ideas let us know.

Contact Melanie.Holt@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or 9719 8400.

[www.facebook.com/hurstbridgecommunityhub](http://www.facebook.com/hurstbridgecommunityhub)

#### Disability and Inclusion Network

Whether you’re a person with a disability, a carer or an advocate for people with a disability, or a local disability service provider, we’d like to hear from you about becoming part of Nillumbik’s informal Inclusion Network.

Contact inclusion@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or 9433 3361 to find out more.

#### Solar panels to power the Civic Centre

Early in 2017 a solar electricity system was installed at the Civic Centre in Greensborough. The 124 kilowatt system includes 478 solar panels that will generate 26 per cent of the electricity needs of the Centre.

As well as saving around $20,000 in electricity each year, the system will create large scale generation certificates that will give Council an annual income of over $8,000. The large system will also reduce demand on the electricity network during the summer months, contributing to a more stable electricity supply in the area.

#### Four-year-old preschool 2019

Registrations will be accepted from Wednesday 1 March, for families planning to send their child to four-year-old preschool in 2019. Children who turn four by 30 April 2019, are eligible to apply.

**How to apply**

For information about the registration process, form and supporting documents, visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools)

**Deciding which preschool to attend**

For a list of preschools in Nillumbik: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools)

**Like to know more?**

Contact Family and Children’s Services on 9433 3161 or preschool@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

#### Parenting in Perspective

Council’s Parenting in Perspective program provides practical and useful information for parents of newborns, pre-schoolers and those expecting. A number of free sessions will be held throughout the year on Thursday evenings between 6.30pm-8.30pm at Edendale.

* Expecting your baby
* Understand your baby
* Baby to toddler
* Toddler to preschool
* Why dads matter
* Supporting mothers
* Happy parent, happy partner, happy children
* Responsive parenting

**Bookings**

All sessions are free but bookings are essential

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

#### Pram walking group

* Feel energised
* Chat with other parents
* Improve your health and fitness

Join these relaxed walks for parents with young children. The walking group leaves at 9.15am for one hour at Diamond Creek every Thursday during school terms.

Location provided upon registration.

To find out more contact Jodie Leahy from Family and Children’s Services on 9433 3165.

#### Would you like to have your say on Council’s Health and Wellbeing Plan?

This year, as part of Council’s Annual Community Survey, we asked a number of questions about health and wellbeing. That, along with input from Council’s new Health and Wellbeing Reference Group, will help shape our plan for the next four years.

Once the plan is drafted it will be published on Council’s website and social media inviting you to let us know if we have identified the right issues for our Shire.

Visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/healthandwellbeing](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/healthandwellbeing) for your chance to get involved to shape Nillumbik’s Health and Wellbeing Plan.

##### 2017 Eltham Fun Run Walk

Find your happy pace on Sunday 26 March at Eltham Leisure Centre’s Annual 5-10 km Fun Run/Walk to assist people with disabilities.

Bring your friends and family to run or walk along Nillumbik’s picturesque recreational trails with this year’s Race Ambassador, Ironman triathlete, Tracy Morrison.

The fun run supports YMCA’s Open Doors Program, which helps people with disabilities access vital programs and services to improve their health and wellness.

Register now and help to build a stronger, healthier and more connected community.

Like to know more?

For registrations and information visit [www.eltham.ymca.org.au/funrun](http://www.eltham.ymca.org.au/funrun)

To volunteer or make a donation contact Amanda Uniacke amanda.uniacke@ymca.org.au or 9439 2266.

##### Open Farm Day

Sunday 2 April, 10am – 4pm

Open Farm Day is bigger than ever this year with farms in Nillumbik, Whittlesea and the Kinglake Ranges opening their gates to showcase farming on Melbourne’s fringe.

Bring the family and meet farmers and growers from a diverse range of working farms. Experience farm tours, demonstrations, animals, product tastings, and find out more about the region’s wonderful produce.

Pick up a trail map and start planning your Open Farm Day adventure.

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/openfarmday](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/openfarmday)

##### Anzac Day services

Anzac Day is a time for reflection and remembrance. There are a number of services being held across the Shire so why not come along to show your respect.

Eltham

Tuesday 25 April
6am sharp (gather before 5.45am)
War Memorial, Main Road, Eltham

Diamond Creek

Tuesday 25 April
March at 10am from Commonwealth Bank, Chute Street, Diamond Creek
Service at 10.30am at Diamond Creek War Memorial, Main Street, Diamond Creek

Hurstbridge

Saturday 22 April
9am service
Corner of Anzac Avenue and Heidelberg-Kinglake Road

Montmorency

Tuesday 25 April
March at 9.30am from Were Street
10am Service
Cenotaph, Petrie Park Hall, Montmorency

##### Mission Songs Project

Friday 24 March, 7pm, St Margaret’s Church, 79-81 Pitt Street, Eltham.

Nillumbik Reconciliation Group is hosting The Mission Songs Project, a special musical event of early indigenous contemporary songs which highlight communities, stories and resilience in a changing world.

Jessie Lloyd, an Aboriginal singer/songwriter, and her band offers a unique window of life on the Christian missions, native settlements and the fringes of townships where Aboriginal and islander people were displaced.

Booking: [www.trybooking.com/250002](http://www.trybooking.com/250002)

Contact Vera Herman 0409 435 245 for more information

##### Youth Services

[www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au)

[www.facebook.com/nypyouth](http://www.facebook.com/nypyouth)

**Nillumbik Youth Theatre**

Join 100+ other young people and get involved in NYT in 2017. NYT members take part in all aspects of theatre production including planning, promotion, backstage activities, acting, singing and dancing.

We’re gearing up for another year of creative magic in 2017. The seniors have started casting workshops for Grease and are preparing for the singing auditions. We have lots of fun workshops coming up, too.

[www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au/nyt](http://www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au/nyt)
9433 3168
Holly.Teagle@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**Game of Skate**

Free skate and BMX events for 10–18 year olds.

Friday afternoons 3.30pm-5pm March to April, Hurstbridge, Eltham and Diamond Creek skate parks.

9433 3327

Denzil.Bentley@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**Run away with the circus**

Learn balancing, juggling, plate-spinning and more with RUCCIS circus school.

Wednesdays 3, 7, 10, 17 and 24 May and 7 June
4pm-5.30pm
Hurstbridge Hall
[www.trybooking.com/OFUA](http://www.trybooking.com/OFUA)
9433 3345
Cath.Rutten@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**World Music workshop**

Learn world music songs accompanied by percussion instruments with Kurt Shean from One World Song.

Wednesdays 1, 8, 15 and 22 March
4pm-5pm
Hurstbridge Hall

Free to NYT members or $20 for non-members

[www.trybooking.com/NJPU](http://www.trybooking.com/NJPU)
9433 3168
Holly.Teagle@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**Get smart on street art**

Spend a day exploring Melbourne with a street art tour of the city. Bring your Myki and lunch. Places limited; bookings essential.

Thursday 6 April
10am-4.30pm
Free to NYT members, $10 non-members
[www.trybooking.com/OFSX](http://www.trybooking.com/OFSX)
9433 3345
Cath.Rutten@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**BMX only comp**

Saturday 18 March
11am-4pm
Diamond Creek Skate Park
9433 3327
Denzil.Bentley@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**Are you a party planner?**

We are looking for event planning superstars aged 12–25 to become members of a new FReeZA Committee.

You’ll have the chance to help organise music gigs, dance parties and other fun events for young people. All events are drug, alcohol and smoke free in supervised and safe venues.

9433 3327

Denzil.Bentley@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Watch out for pop-up Freeza gigs around Nillumbik in 2017

**Entrepreneurs: look here**

Do you have a great idea for a project or program that involves young people aged 10–25 years? Need some dollars to get it up and running?

We would like to hear from you – even if you are still forming your idea. Funding and support are available.

9433 3158
sarah.hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au
[www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au/home](http://www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au/home) (search for ‘youth development grants’)

L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program

In 2016

* 2 cars
* 42 mentors
* 86 learners
* 3000 hours of supervised driving
* 28 congratulations to young people who got their licence
* 3000 thank yous to our wonderful L2P mentor drivers

We look forward to continuing these successes with the support of Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Eltham Community Bendigo Bank.

Learner driver Jake was so happy when he got his licence recently with the help of his mentor, Joy, “I’ve learned how to drive and I’ve gained a great friend and mentor,” Jake said. Now that he has his P-Plates Jake is working part-time in hospitality and starting an apprenticeship.

Mentor Joy, from Eltham, said she “absolutely recommends this program” to anyone looking to volunteer. “I particularly enjoyed the personal rewards in seeing young drivers improve and become responsible drivers with consideration for other road users.”

The L2P Program is funded by the Bendigo Bank, TAC and managed by VicRoads.
L2P@nillumbik.vic.gov.au
9433 3329

##### What’s next for Arts and Culture?

Keep an eye on our website, subscribe to our e-bulletin and like us on Facebook to have your say in our arts and culture plan for Nillumbik. We will be consulting with the community over the coming months.

##### Closing soon!

The Nillumbik Prize 2017

Entries close Friday 10 March

Submit entries online [www.montsalvat.com.au](http://www.montsalvat.com.au)

##### Literary Nillumbik

Subscribe to the arts e-bulletin for information about all things arts and culture at Nillumbik artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Entries are now open for the Literary Nillumbik Awards 2017, and close Friday 31 March. Entry free for Nillumbik writers and youth poets. Winning entries will be included in an anthology of Nillumbik writing.

9433 3126
artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

**Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2017**

Celebrating the art of writing and honouring the life and work of Australian literary icon, Alan Marshall. Prize pool includes mentoring and membership with the Australian Society of Authors and Writers Victoria.

Entries can be up to 2,500 words and will be judged by award winning writer Bruce Pascoe.

Open: $2,000 plus mentoring and membership with Australian Society of Authors

Local: $700 plus mentoring and Writers Victoria membership

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AMSSA2017](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AMSSA2017)

**The Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award 2017**

Australian poets are invited to respond to one or more of selected Nillumbik public artworks in poems up to 12 lines long.

Poets can find a map of artwork locations on our website – we encourage you to get out in the Shire and get inspired!

The award will be judged by Helen Lucas, Karen Throssell and Steve Smart.

Open: $550

Local: $350

Youth: $200

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ekphrasis2017](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ekphrasis2017)

##### March calendar

Bring a picnic rug or bean bag and spread out on the lawns at the Twilight Outdoor Cinema on Saturday 4 March. Come along from 6.30pm and enjoy the family friendly screening of FernGully: The Last Rainforest under the stars at Edendale.
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Until Monday 13 March

Symphony of Colours – Azure

Eltham Library Community Gallery

Panther Place, Eltham

1 March

Green Wedge Public Art Incubator – Grow your creative ideas in Nillumbik

Expressions of interest now open

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator)

2 March

7pm-8pm

Helping children through emotional intelligence

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

2 March – 20 April

6.30pm-8pm

Writing group

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

4 March

2pm-4.30pm

Soil improvement workshop

Free.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

4 March

From 6.30pm

Edendale Twilight Outdoor Cinema

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

4 March – 18 March

12.30pm-4pm

Local women writers of history

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

5 March

8.30am-1pm

Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market

[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

5 March

Clean Up Australia Day

[www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)

5 March

10am-12pm

Platypus Creek Clean Up

Diamond Creek and Hurstbridge

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/enviroevents](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/enviroevents)

6 March

Every Monday and Wednesday

3.30pm-5.30pm

Homework help – (age 5-18)

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

7 March

7pm-8pm

French café monthly meeting

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

9 March

6.30pm-9.30pm

Nillumbik International Women’s Day event

Swipers Gully Vineyard and Restaurant

25 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground

Tickets: $30

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

10 March

The Nillumbik Prize 2017

Closing date for entries

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

13 March

Labour Day Public Holiday

14 March

7pm

Future Nillumbik Committee

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

16 March

6.30pm-8.30pm

Parenting in Perspective - Supporting mothers and Why dads matter

Edendale

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

16 March

7.30pm Courthouse Poetry Readings

Main Rd, Eltham

0438 339 732

Thursday 16 March – Monday 17 April

Creative Minds – Nillumbik VCE Art and Studio Art Students of 2016

Eltham Library Community Gallery

Panther Place, Eltham

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Friday 17 March and 24 March

10am-4pm

Introduction to permaculture (two day workshop)

$115

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

18 March

11am-4pm

BMX only comp

Diamond Creek Skate Park

Denzil.Bentley@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

18 March

7pm-10pm

Picnic in the dark and spotlight walk

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

20 March

2pm-3pm

Author talk – Sabi Buehler, author of A Life in Two Suitcases

Diamond Valley

Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 20 March

1.30pm-2.30pm

Italian pasta demonstration

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

23 March

6.30pm

Just Eat It (film screening)

Documentary film that will encourage thinking and action around food waste.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

24 March

7pm

Nillumbik Reconciliation Group – The Mission Songs Project

St Margaret’s Church, 79-81 Pitt St, Eltham

[www.nrg.org.au](http://www.nrg.org.au)

24 – 26 March

Warrandyte Festival

[www.warrandytefestival.org](http://www.warrandytefestival.org)

26 March

Eltham Fun Run

40 Brougham St, Eltham

[www.eltham.ymca.org.au/funrun](http://www.eltham.ymca.org.au/funrun)

28 March

7pm

Ordinary Council Meeting

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

28 March

7pm-9pm

Creative MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Hurstbridge

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

29 March

6.30pm

Love food hate waste workshop

Free

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

30 March

Pram walking group

Thursdays during school terms at 9.15am in Diamond Creek.

Contact Jodie Leahy from Family and Children’s Services on 9433 3165

31 March

2017 Literary Nillumbik Awards closing date for entries

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

#### April Calendar

Open Farm Day is bigger than ever with farms in Nillumbik, Whittlesea and the Kinglake Ranges opening their gates to showcase farming on the fringe. Meet the farmers and experience farm tours, demonstrations, animals, product tastings and much more.

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/openfarmday](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/openfarmday)

School holidays @ Edendale

Sign up to our enewsletter to receive early notifications of the program and booking availability.

Visit Edendale during the school holidays as we celebrate the Autumn Harvest. Kids will be inspired to get involved in a great range of activities including vegetable growing, worm farming, vegetable seed identification, daily farm tours, poetry writing, sand box design and making insect hotels for their home vegie patch.

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

2 April

10am-4pm

Open Farm Day

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2 April

8.30am-1pm

Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market

[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

4 April

4.30pm-5pm

National Youth Week event – fashion illustration (ages 12-20)

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

8 April

10am-11am

Food swap

Bring your excess garden produce along and swap for other wonderful produce.

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

10 April

Renew your pet registration

If your dog or cat is over the age of three months, it must be registered with Council. If your pet goes missing, registration gives you a better chance of your pet being found. Registration renewal forms will be sent to pet owners in early March.

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

12 April

10.30am-11.45am

Retirement reality

Eltham Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

13 April

2pm-4pm

Graffiti the library – ages 12-18

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

14 April

Good Friday Public Holiday

Easter Activities
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

* Diamond Valley Library
11 April
10.30am-11.30am
Storytime with the Easter bunny

Wednesday 12 April
10.30am-11.30am
Easter craft
* Eltham Library
13 April
10.30am-11.30am
Easter bunny storytime (age 3-5)

15 April
2pm-4pm
Easter craft (age 5-12)

17 April

Easter Monday Public Holiday

18 April

7pm Future Nillumbik Committee

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

18 April

7pm-8pm Years ahead – road safety for seniors

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

20 April

7.30pm

Courthouse Poetry Readings

Eltham Courthouse, Main Rd, Eltham

0438 339 732

20 April – Monday 15 May

CIVITAS II – Louise Jade

Eltham Library Community Gallery

Panther Place, Eltham

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

22 April

2pm-4.30pm

Raingarden building blitz

Location provided upon registration

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

9433 3316

25 April

Anzac Day Public Holiday

22 April

2pm-4.30pm

26 April

2pm-3pm

Greensborough boys at Gallipoli

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

27 April

6.30pm-8.30pm

Parenting in Perspective - Expecting your first baby

Edendale

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

29 April

2pm-4.30pm

Soil improvement workshop

Free

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 29 April – Saturday 3 June

10am-11.30am

Edendale EcoArt (6 week course)

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

30 April

Green Wedge Public Art Incubator – Grow your creative ideas in Nillumbik

Expressions of interest close

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator)

#### May Calendar

Nillumbik Artists Open Studios provides visitors with a rare glimpse inside work spaces of over 30 artists across the Shire. Ceramics, painting, illustration, glassblowing and metalwork are just some of the mediums you will come across.

[www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)

1 May

9.30am-3pm

Introduction to horticulture (9 week course)

Edendale

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2 May

7pm

Ordinary Council Meeting

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

3 May

9.30am-3pm

Crafty Cats MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

4 May

6.30pm-8.30pm

Parenting in Perspective - Understand your baby

Edendale

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

6 May and 7 May

11am-5pm

Nillumbik Artists Open Studios

[www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)

7 May

1pm-3.30pm

Beekeeping…a taster

$15.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

7 May

Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market

8.30am-1pm

[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

9 May

9am-4.30pm

Studio Arts MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

10 May

10am-11.30am

eCards for Mother’s Day

Diamond Valley Library

[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

11 May

6.30pm-8.30pm

Parenting in Perspective - Baby to toddler

Edendale

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

12 May

9.30am-11.30am

Hobby Hub MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Diamond Creek

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

13 May

10am-12pm

Backyard chooks for beginners

$35.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

13 May

1pm-2pm

Set up and maintain a worm farm

Free.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

15 May

9.30am-11.30am

Art MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

16 May

7pm

Future Nillumbik Committee

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

18 May

6.30pm-8.30pm

Parenting in Perspective - Toddler to pre-schooler

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

18 May

7.30pm

Courthouse Poetry Readings

Eltham Courthouse, Main Rd, Eltham

0438 339 732

18 May –19 June

Pictures of Home – Lisa May

Eltham Library Community Gallery

Panther Place, Eltham

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

19 May

9.30am-2pm

Mosaics MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

20 May

10am-4pm

Town and Country Connect

Hurstbridge Community Hub

20 May and 27 May

10am-4pm

Organic gardening for beginners (two day workshop)

$115.

Edendale

[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

25 May

9.30am-4.30pm

Clay MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

26 May

Leadlighting and Glass Arts MakerSpace (for experienced leadlighters)

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

12pm-5pm

Sewing and Wool Crafts MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

30 May

7pm

Ordinary Council Meeting

Civic Centre

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

31 May

12pm-5pm

Scrapbooking and Paper Crafts MakerSpace

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham

[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

What’s on?

Have you checked out Council’s new events group?

What’s On in Nillumbik is a place for community members to advertise all events happening in the Shire.

Search ‘What’s on in Nillumbik’ via Facebook to join the group and find out what’s happening in your local area.

#### Your Councillors

Mayor Councillor Peter Clarke

0401 100 141

Peter.Clarke@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Wingrove Ward

The first four months have seen action on a number of issues residents raised during the election campaign.

I advocated for the North-East Link and a roads strategy to deal with traffic congestion. We have now seen $15 million Federal grants and $30 million in State grants to commence the development and feasibility work for this project.

The design outcome is being completed for Bolton Street with further consultation and construction to start later this year. We have also met with VicRoads to discuss additional measures to deal with traffic congestion from Fitzsimons Lane to Main Road.

Bushfire mitigation strategies have been a focus together with a targeted removal of tagging and graffiti, improved planning outcomes and the abandonment of Amendment C101.

As well as being your local Councillor I was pleased to be appointed as Mayor for this first year.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Egan

0408 058 899

Karen.Egan@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Bunjil Ward

Council has been extremely busy – meeting staff, local residents and community groups. One of our first acts was to abolish C101 and we also requested the Minister for Planning abolish C81.

Planning will continue to be on the agenda for Bunjil as the State Government looks to implement Bushfire Management Overlays. I am currently reviewing the precinct planning that has already taken place for Graysharps Road and further consultation will be undertaken shortly on its future.

As well as being Bunjil’s Ward Councillor, I am Chair of the Economic Development and Marketing Committee. Part of this work includes a Town and Country Connect Expo on 20 May at the Hurstbridge Community Hub. This will showcase and increase awareness of community groups to the town and rural residents.

The new cycle lanes between Wattle Glen and Hurstbridge will make the route safer for cyclists and planning for streetscape works for Hurstbridge starts soon.

Councillor Grant Brooker

0427 207 819

Grant.Brooker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Blue Lake Ward

It has been an exciting start to this Council’s term for all Blue Lake residents. A $950,000 grant to assist in the redevelopment of the Civic Drive Precinct was announced.

This Growing Suburbs Grant, along with a Council contribution of $335,000, is the culmination of years of consultation with local residents and advocacy from Friends of Apollo Parkways. It demonstrates that perseverance pays. This piece of work is a first step to finally improve the loss of public open space at Civic Drive. The Concept Plan can be viewed on Council’s website – suffice to say it includes play spaces, fitness stations, connected footpaths, upgraded landscaping and more.

The major project momentum continues with the start of the Masterplan for the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre. A new direction and expansion of this now iconic 40-year-old stadium is finally on the agenda.

Councillor John Dumaresq

0439 556 733

John.Dumaresq@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Edendale Ward

It’s been a busy start to the Council year. In Edendale Ward works will soon take place to improve the bridge in Diamond Street and plans are continuing to be developed for the Eltham North Pavilion and the Eltham Central Pavilion.

It was great to see Edendale Farm receive $500,000 from the Growing Suburbs Fund. Along with $300,000 commitment from Council this means there will be a children’s sensory garden, upgraded teaching facilities and nursery infrastructure, permanent kiosk, nursery point of sale and retail area, additional public toilets, and further improved access to the site.

Keeping Nillumbik active is an aim of Council and we continue work on upgrades to the Diamond Creek Trail and the Eltham Leisure Centre Aquatic facilities.

I look forward to 2017 and I trust Nillumbik will have a great year and will be an active, engaged and inclusive community.

Councillor Peter Perkins

0437 455 064

Peter.Perkins@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Ellis Ward

As the only Councillor to return to elected office, I will continue to advocate for Diamond Creek residents to improve our township, services and facilities.

You may have seen some beautification works taking place in Chute Street outside the Degani Café. This includes new paving and landscaping, while the playground at Rotary Park has been completed and the construction of a new toilet block is about to start (accurate at time of print). We are also now the proud owners of a brand new all-weather table tennis table which was designed by Kylie Gentle from Araluen.

My election commitment was to deliver more services at Diamond Creek and I will continue to work with the community in developing much-needed social infrastructure including a proposed library, ageing in place, creative arts and youth opportunities.

I have been appointed Chair of Council’s Planning Committee which is a central issue for all Nillumbik residents whether they live in the urban or rural areas.

Councillor Jane Ashton

0409 177 500

Jane.Ashton@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Sugarloaf Ward

I had a great summer in The Artisan Hills, meeting many residents and community groups, learning about their plans and visions: for their families, their sporting clubs and their communities. We truly have some creative and dynamic people in this area.

Many Sugarloaf residents were concerned about Amendment C101 and Amendment C81 and I’m pleased to report that they were dealt with immediately, C101 has been abandoned and we are calling for C81 to also be abandoned.

Being bushfire season, we have worked closely with CFA Captains to discuss fire mitigation, roadside reserves and the development of clear bushfire information for residents. This is an ongoing task.

My portfolio area of community services is exciting, and covers everything from sports and leisure, preschools, aged and disability support to recreation trails, indigenous reconciliation and exhibitions. So much more than roads, rates and rubbish – 2017 will be a busy year.

Councillor Bruce Ranken

0402 384 006

Bruce.Ranken@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Swipers Gully Ward

Over the past three months a number of Swipers Gully Ward residents have been talking to me about their concerns with local roads and drains, particularly after heavy rains in December.

As well as being Swipers Gully Ward Councillor, I’m pleased to be the Chair of the new Social Infrastructure Committee, an area that I’m truly passionate about.

Over the next four years, efforts will be put into developing our community and sporting facilities to allow our next generation to develop and expand their minds. These facilities are not only used by sporting clubs, but other community groups with many residents using these facilities on a weekly basis.

We’re progressing our Council Plan and my commitment to you was to examine the high rates that we encounter here in Nillumbik. My aim continues to be to reduce costs, and manage the budget responsibly to either reduce rates or at the very least keep them stable.

Postal address for Council and all Councillors:

Nillumbik Shire Council

PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088

#### Waste and Recycling

Recycle right

In Nillumbik, we are great recyclers and now, with plastic bag and flexible/soft plastics recycling, we can be even better. There’s also a few other improvements we can make.

Along with our ongoing green waste education, Council has started a recycling education program to help clear up some of the confusion around recycling. As well as a communication campaign, this program includes inspections of recycling bins. The program aims to help residents identify incorrect items and learn what bin items belong in or, if an item can’t go in any bin, how to responsibly dispose of it.

Tips to get it right

1. Inside the house, have one bin for collecting most of your recycling. Items don’t need to be sparkling or washed clean, but empty as best you can and remove food scraps like pizza and leftovers. Keep this recycling loose; do not put it in plastic bags.

2. Have a separate bin or plastic supermarket shopping bag hanging on a hook (or similar) to bundle all plastic bags and other flexible/soft plastic packaging. Shake out any food or other residue from each item. Tie the bag when full, ready for the outside recycling bin (yellow lid).

3. Take care to separate recycling from items you place in the landfill bin (red lid) or green waste bin (green lid).

4. Try placing recycling bins throughout your home to collect recycling from areas such as the bathroom, laundry and garage, as well as the kitchen.

Our last audit shows that:

23% of what is in recycling bins (yellow lid) shouldn’t be in there

11% of what is in landfill bins (red lid) can go in the recycling bin

30% of what is in landfill bins can go in the green waste bin (green lid)

RECYCLE BIN DOS AND DON’TS (YELLOW LID)

Collected fortnightly and recycled

**Do's**

* Paper, newspaper and magazines Bundled plastic bags and flexible/soft plastics
* Cardboard and cartons
* Hard plastics, plastic toys and plant pots
* Aluminium/steel cans, trays
* Glass bottles and jars foil, cooking pots and pans

**Don'ts**

* Bagged recycling (other than soft plastics)
* Food and garden materials Silver/foil-lined soft plastics
* Nappies, household rubbish, polystyrene and foam
* Broken crockery, ceramics, pyrex, window glass, drinking glasses, mirror and metal cutlery
* Mobile phones, e-waste, batteries, electrical items and light globes

**More information**

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/waste](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/waste)

9433 3111

[www.getitrightbinnight.vic.gov.au](http://www.getitrightbinnight.vic.gov.au)

#### Holiday hours

KERBSIDE BIN COLLECTION

Bins will not be collected on Friday 14 April (Good Friday); they will be collected the following day (Saturday 15 April).

Bins will not be collected on Tuesday 25 April (Anzac Day), they will be collected the following day (Wednesday 26 April).

Bins for the remainder of that week will be collected one day later than normal:

• Wednesday bins will be collected Thursday

• Thursday bins will be collected Friday

• Friday bins will be collected Saturday

CIVIC CENTRE

Civic Drive, Greensborough

Monday 13 March closed

Friday 14 April closed

Monday 17 April closed

Tuesday 25 April closed

RECYCLING & RECOVERY CENTRE

REUSE SHOP

290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

Monday 13 March closed

Friday 14 April closed

Saturday 15 April closed

Sunday 16 April closed

Monday 17 April closed

Civic Drive, Greensborough VIC 3088

Telephone 9433 3111 | Facsimile 9433 3777

Email: nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Web: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Cover: Nillumbik honours outstanding citizens at annual Australia Day Awards Ceremony.

Nillumbik News is available in alternative formats on request. Contact 9433 3188. Printed in Nillumbik, using vegetable inks on Australian-made recycled paper.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nillumbikcouncil](http://www.facebook.com/nillumbikcouncil)

Twitter: @nillumbikshire