Nillumbik News
Autumn 2018 March to May

COVER STORY

##### Nillumbik volunteers get the recognition they deserve

A volunteer from Doreen, who has helped thousands of junior netballers achieve their goals over the last 30 years, is Nillumbik Shire Council’s Citizen of the Year. The awards celebrate ordinary people doing extraordinary things that make the Shire a better place to live.

Susan Taylor (front cover) received the top gong at a ceremony at the Eltham Community and Reception Centre on Australia Day.

Susan was nominated by a number of netball groups for her unwavering support of junior players since the mid-1980’s, almost single-handedly coordinating up to 90 teams from timetables right up to competitions. Not only does she go through hoops for her young players, but she’s a force off-court as well, lobbying, petitioning, fundraising and working with Council to secure better facilities. As a result, Council built an eight club outdoor netball facility as well as an indoor facility at two different locations in Diamond Creek.

Young Citizen of the Year is Emily Jetten of Doreen, who founded the Feel Good Ethical Market in Diamond Creek, which is held every six months.

This remarkable 22-year-old graduated from Deakin University with an education and arts double degree. While looking for a job, Emily started up the market which draws in local businesses and encourages sustainable and ethical thinking. All proceeds from the gold coin donation market go to local charities.

John Chenhall, an 81 year-old digger who served in the armed forces in Darwin, is the Senior Citizen of the Year.

The Diamond Creek retired engineer has rattled tins and distributed poppies and Anzac badges for the Diamond Creek RSL since 2004. He was also President of the Diamond Creek Bowls Club.

He regularly speaks at schools about the meaning of Anzac Day. John also works with former service personnel suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The Eltham District Historical Society is the Shire’s Community Group of the Year. The group is now making history by being rewarded for celebrating and preserving history for the last 50 years. The society, established in 1967, is under the leadership of President Jim Connor.

Two men, both involved with Men’s Sheds, are Volunteers of the Year – Leigh Marshall and James Gundrum.

Leigh is the current and founding president of the Diamond Creek Men’s Shed. He has overcome so many health hurdles, he could easily become a poster boy for his ‘never say die’ attitude – yet he always has time to help others. The Diamond Creek resident has suffered from rheumatoid arthritis for 33 years and was told in his late fifties he would end up in a wheelchair. He took up bike riding instead. Now, 15 years later at the age of 75, he clocks up to 150klms each week. He suffered a heart attack while out riding three years ago, went to hospital and was back in the saddle a month later. He is battling cancer, which he plans on overcoming.

Leigh has extended his ‘on yer bike’ philosophy and formed the Man Friday Bikers (MFB) group, which sees 37 members of the Men’s Shed regularly riding along the Diamond Creek trail.

He also founded the Diamond Creek Men’s Shed graffiti cleaning squad. This tireless volunteer promotes men’s health by arranging the Spanner in the Works free health checks, as well as forming the Keeping Men Grounded ladder safety campaign by successfully obtaining a $20,000 grant from the State Government.

James is the power-force behind the creation of the Eltham Men’s Shed in 2014. In addition he has also helped out with the Lone Pine Protection Project at Eltham High School, Eltham Rotary and has also provided support for the elderly and disabled at the Judge Book Village and St Vincent’s Aged Care in Eltham. The 70-year-old has led his team at the Men’s Shed to support Remembrance Day Services at the Eltham War Memorial.

Mayor Peter Clarke described the worthy winners as ‘the unsung pillars of the community.’

‘Day in and day out these special people and groups unstintingly give of their all to others in the Shire,’ Cr Clarke said.

‘It is a great privilege for us to be able to honour them for all they do.’

##### Nillumbik welcomes new Australian citizens

This year’s Nillumbik Australia Day event also saw 59 people from all walks of life choosing to become Australian Citizens. During the formal proceedings participants and award winners heard from local resident, former Army rifleman and Afghanistan veteran Joel Sardi.

Joel, who became a quadriplegic following an accident when he returned to Australia, continues to support ex-service personnel in his role at Ironside Recruitment in Eltham. The business specialises in helping get ex-servicemen and women jobs.

Joel is also involved in coaching, playing and supporting the Eltham Basketball Club and Research Junior Football Club.

##### From the Mayor

Congratulations to our Australia Day Award recipients – ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Thank you to the many worthy nominees, all your efforts make Nillumbik the wonderful Shire it is.

Council successfully lobbied the State Government to secure Option A as the preferred North East Link Route. We are now setting our sights on encouraging the North East Link Authority to set up its headquarters in Nillumbik, which would create local jobs and boost our retailers.

We believe we have the infrastructure to support hosting the Authority and would welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with them.

For 25 years the former Eltham Shire office site in Main Road has sat empty, limiting opportunities to make this key location a real focal point for Eltham.

We have a vision to create a welcoming and vibrant civic precinct at the site, along with an adjacent parcel of land at 903 – 907 Main Road. This could include a range of exciting options, such as:

* art gallery space to house the Nillumbik Public Art Collection
* community hub with council support services
* landscaped civic promenade and retention of the Cenotaph as a focal point to hold Anzac Day, various ceremonies and a space for community markets
* Art Series style accommodation

With close proximity to public transport the site is ideal for people of all ages and abilities to access it. It will create jobs, increase tourism and have a positive economic spin-off for Eltham businesses.

Stringent planning controls ensure any future development on the site reflects Eltham’s character. Architecture and materials will reflect our much-loved library building.

We will consult with the community to ensure your vision is realised.

**Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke**

MAJOR PROJECTS

##### Civic Drive Precinct

Works to the Civic Drive Precinct are progressing well. In December 2017 the first sod was turned on what will become an attractive community recreation space.

The Civic Drive precinct consists of 6.5 hectares of Council land located at Civic Drive, Greensborough. With the help of a $950,000 Victorian Government Growing Suburbs Fund Grant and Council’s contribution of $335,000 this underutilised space will transform into a wonderful asset for the community to enjoy.

Works commenced on the southern community space in October 2017 and will feature flat open lawn areas defined by a perimeter and integrated path network featuring seating beneath trees.

This intergenerational space will be complemented by planting, seating and shared bicycle and walking paths.

The northern community space will be characterised by an open informal woodland, defining an open sloping lawn area suitable for large gatherings as well as informal recreation and play and outdoor performances.

Barbecue and seating areas, exercise stations and play spaces will also be included as well as a range of nature based play opportunities. The northern community space will be connected by an integrated network of paths for walking and jogging.

Visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/civicdrive](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/civicdrive) for details.

##### Eltham Leisure Centre

Construction of the Eltham Leisure Centre’s new aquatic facilities continues with the tiling of pools nearing completion and walls and windows being installed.

Meanwhile gym members are enjoying the benefits of a major upgrade that has seen the installation of the very latest in exercise equipment, internal refurbishment and 24/7 access.

The $1.1 million upgrade was completed prior to Christmas and has been popular ever since with members getting into shape or simply staying fit and mobile. An influx of new members are making the most of the new state-of-the-art equipment.

The gym now includes the latest Technogym cardio and fitness equipment. Using cloud-based technology users are able to access their own personalised training programs and tools to monitor and track their progress.

##### North East Link project update

Corridor A has been chosen as the proposed route for North East Link to connect the M80 Ring Road to the Eastern Freeway.

Council was pleased that Corridor A was chosen as traffic modelling for this route showed the greatest benefit for congestion on Nillumbik roads. Further good news is that the Green Wedge and its significant environment will not be impacted upon.

Although the majority of Corridor A is outside of Nillumbik, Council will still play a role in working to ensure that roads connecting to the Link are upgraded to cope with predicted traffic volumes and that key cycling and pedestrian links are built.

With the opening of North East Link expected in approximately eight years, advocacy work will continue across a number of projects, including upgrading the Main Road – Fitzsimons Lane Corridor.

##### Open Space Precinct Plan

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Open Space Precinct Plan community workshops.

The interactive workshops facilitated some great designs and discussions about the Graysharps Road site and will help us map out what the precinct might look like.

The community workshops were a result of the ideas that were submitted via the ‘Ideas Tree’ throughout Hurstbridge in August, September and October last year.

The next step will be to collate the designs and ideas and draft the Precinct Plan.

There will be further opportunities for your feedback in the coming months.

For information about the project, visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/OpenSpacePrecinctHurstbridge](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/OpenSpacePrecinctHurstbridge)

##### Help us make the Diamond Creek Trail a reality

Extending the popular Diamond Creek Trail to Hurstbridge remains one of Council’s top priorities – but due to a funding setback, we need your help to make it happen sooner rather than later.

The project will create one of Victoria’s best shared-use trails for walking, running, cycling and horse riding and will not only be enjoyed by the community, but will attract people from across Melbourne.

It will also result in an increase in tourism, more jobs and a positive economic spin-off for local retailers.

Much has already been achieved. The Victorian Planning Minister has amended the Shire’s planning scheme to pave the way for Council to secure additional land to extend the trail.

Community feedback is overwhelmingly positive in wanting to assist Council in establishing the trail. Trailblazers Inc., recreational cyclists, horse riders and many local businesses are also firmly behind the project.

Here’s the problem.

The project, which involves land acquisition to widen the trail, is estimated to cost around $12 million. Council applied to the State Government for funding of $2.5 million through the Growing Suburbs Fund, however was unsuccessful.

Council has put aside $2.5 million in its 2017-18 budget to deliver stage one of the project, leaving a shortfall of around $10 million. We can’t proceed without funding in place.

Bearing in mind Council’s pledge to keep rates low, we will need to look to outside sources for financial backing, along with the possibility of selling surplus, underutilised blocks of land. We’re committed to delivering much needed projects for the benefit of the wider community. But how? Here’s where you come in.

It would be helpful if we could get funding from either, or both, the State and Federal governments. Residents who are passionate about the project may want to phone their local MP or any candidates standing for the state election in November, to lobby to get them on-board. It would be a great show of people power at work.

The timeline Council will need to go down to see this jewel in the crown become a reality is much like walking down a trail.

There’s an order. There’s consultation, buying up land to widen the trail, ecological and heritage checks and a raft of other steps before construction can start. But we can’t progress a single step further until we have secured funding.

Our funding rejection is a set-back. We’re not giving up. Help us make it happen.

##### Building our future

Extensive discussions have taken place to identify ways of generating funds to meet the growing needs for sport, leisure and recreation in our community.

We know we need to upgrade many of our ageing sports facilities, especially if we are to better support female participation. We also need to build the missing link in the Diamond Creek Trail.

To do all of this and reduce inherited debt Council is considering selling 17 vacant parcels of underutilised land (4ha) in a number of locations.

Much of this land has been accrued over many years from remnant subdivisions, road reserves or when cheap land became available.

In turn we will buy 19.5ha to extend the Diamond Creek Trail to Hurstbridge. So, in fact these land sales will result in us actually gaining just over 15ha of high-value land.

This Council has been active in increasing public open space. We have saved the former Hurstbridge High School site (1.8ha) from being sold for housing and through the proposed land sale process we will turn this into a much larger recreational and public use space.

To find out more or to have your say visit <http://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/building-nillumbik>

Submissions close 12 March at 5pm.

##### Did you know…

The Eltham North Reserve synthetic pitch can be booked all year round on a casual or regular basis?

This is a great alternative training area for all types of sport and recreation.

Visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/sportsgroundhire](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/sportsgroundhire) for hire details.

COMMUNITY

##### Eltham North Adventure Playground

In the early hours of Saturday 16 December 2017, the Eltham North Reserve Adventure Playground was destroyed by fire. The loss of the Adventure Playground has been felt by the entire community as it was an important resource for families and the wider community who enjoy our outdoor spaces.

The cornerstone of what made this playground so special was the community involvement in building the playground which was done through working bees and fundraising both publicly and by Council.

We received generous offers of financial and in-kind assistance from residents and others throughout the state and we have been both humbled and overwhelmed by the level of support and determination to rebuild this iconic playground.

As a result, an appeal fund was established by the Eltham & District Community Bank® Branch and you are welcome to show your support by donating to the appeal.

Council is committed to bringing the Eltham North Reserve Adventure Playground back to life again and we are keen for you to share stories, photos and ideas via our online engagement portal.

Visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/elthamnorth](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/elthamnorth) playground to stay up to date.

##### 2020 four-year-old preschool applications open

Applications will be accepted from 1 March 2018 for families planning to send their child to four-year-old preschool in 2020.

Offers for 2019 preschool enrolment, will commence in July 2018.

For more information visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools) or contact us on 9433 3161 or at preschool@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

##### Renew your pet registration

Pet registration renewals are due by Tuesday 10 April 2018. All cats and dogs over the age of three months must be microchipped and registered with Council.

Registration renewal forms will be sent to pet owners in March. Registration fees can be paid

* + Online:

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

* + In person:

Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough

* + By mail:

Nillumbik Shire Council

PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088

##### International Women's Day

Thursday 8 March 6pm – 9.30pm

Eltham Community and Reception Centre

#PressForProgress

Join us for an insightful and motivating dinner as Nillumbik celebrates International Women’s Day, an annual event celebrating women and driving gender equality.

Our guest speakers include Janice Crosswhite OAM, founding president of Australian Womensport, Rhiannon Tracey, motivational speaker and former Young Australian of the Year recipient and more.

To book, visit <http://nsciwd.eventbrite.com.au>

BUSINESS

##### Enabling Business Energy Efficiency

We are excited to be partnering with Sustainability Victoria to assist hospitality businesses in the Shire to better understand the many benefits associated with implementing energy efficient practices.

A training package will be developed by energy experts to support a number of local businesses to save money by increasing energy efficiency.

This will include conducting on-site energy audits, providing ways to reduce energy consumption, setting energy-related goals as well as face-to-face meetings to work through barriers to implementation.

To find out how your business can be involved in this project visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessworkshops](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessworkshops) or contact Seamus.Balkin@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

##### Business in Nillumbik

Council is offering ongoing support for local small businesses and new start-ups providing a one-stop-shop for business information and assistance to facilitate business growth and increase local job opportunities.

A comprehensive range of workshops, seminars, networking and mentoring events are available to you to help you grow and develop your business.

MENTORING

Council is working with the Small Business Mentoring Service to offer FREE business mentoring for Nillumbik businesses.

* Small Business Mentoring Clinics

Wednesday 14 March

Wednesday 9 May

For information and bookings: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessmentoring](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessmentoring)

Outreach mentoring for remote homebased businesses and advanced mentoring for established business owners can be arranged. Contact us to discuss on 9433 3141.

SMALL BUSINESS BUS

FREE mentoring and face-to-face assistance to help you take your small business to the next level.

* Hurstbridge Station Car Park

Thursday 1 March

* Eltham – Commercial Place Car Park

Thursday 17 May

For information and bookings: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessbus](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessbus)

Stay up to date with business development programs, events, grants and other information to support your business. Register here: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessnews](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessnews)

NETWORKING

Join this diverse group of community members, business owners and artists at these sessions.

See the Nillumbik Tourism and Business website for individual event listings, costs and venue details (free to members).

* Thursday 19 April

Website options and how to use live video (to great effect)

* Thursday 17 May

Newsworthy moments in business and what they never told you about being a salesperson for your business

* Thursday 21 June

Cyber security and performance development, management and positive speaking

For information and bookings: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessnetworking](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessnetworking)

WORKSHOPS

Our small business workshops are designed to empower small business owners and those contemplating small business ownership to make informed decisions.

* Wednesday 28 March

Commercialising Your New Idea One

(3.5 hours $75 for two sessions)

* Wednesday 18 April

Commercialising Your New Idea Two

(2 hours)

* Wednesday 30 May

Business Planning Essentials

(2 hours $20)

* Wednesday 27 June

Marketing Your Business

(2 hours $20)

For information and bookings: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessworkshops](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/businessworkshops)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Kate Shannon

Business Development and Tourism Officer

9433 3141

Kate.Shannon@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

##### Nillumbik L2P celebrates seven year milestone

The Nillumbik L2P Program celebrated its seven year anniversary in December 2017. Over the past seven years, more than 14,000 supervised drive hours have helped 148 young people obtain their driver’s license.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers who dedicate their time and demonstrate an unwavering commitment to the program.

The seven year milestone also saw 10 L2P volunteers reach five and six years of continuous service. This wonderful achievement was commemorated with a ceremony at the Civic Centre.

More than 500 volunteers currently underpin a variety of programs at Council, ranging from in-home parental support services to community transport.

Volunteers provide a social connection for members of our community, including seniors and people living with a disability, assist families with non-judgemental support and prevent isolation for those most at risk.

If you are interested in volunteering with Council, visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Volunteering](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Volunteering)

##### A change to Australia’s aged care system

My Aged Care is the main entry point to the aged care system in Australia. My Aged Care enables people to have their needs assessed and supports them to find and access services. Families and carers will have easier to access to information on ageing and aged care.

My Aged Care staff are trained to guide people through the system and identify the type and level of care needed.

Council provides services to people over the age of 65 years (55 years for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people) under the Commonwealth Home Support Program (previously known as Home and Community Care Services or HACC).

These services include domestic assistance, personal care, flexible respite, delivered meals and home maintenance and modifications.

Access to these services will be by referral from My Aged Care. Contact My Aged Care at [www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au) or 1800 200 422.

##### What do you need to live and age well in Nillumbik?

Help Nillumbik to become more age-friendly by contributing to our future planning by helping us identify the opportunities and challenges by completing a survey.

Visit <http://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au> to have your say.

ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

##### Nillumbik Artists Open Studios - Celebrating 30 years

The Nillumbik Artists Open Studios Program has grown into a significant arts and cultural event across the Shire. Now in its 30th year, the program offers a rare glimpse into the life of an artist at work in their own studio.

To celebrate this special milestone the exhibition Celebrating 30 Years: Nillumbik Artists Open Studios will open at Montsalvat’s Barn Gallery on Thursday 8 March from 6.30pm-8.30pm.

The exhibition features works from 35 artists from the current Artists Open Studio program, including Pittards Studio, Creek House Studios, Dunmoochin and the Baldessin Press & Studio.

The exhibition runs until Monday 2 April. The Open Studio Weekend runs on May 5 and 6.

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

##### Literary Nillumbik 2018 is bigger and better than ever

The judge for the 2018 Alan Marshall Short Story Award is award winning author Maxine Beneba Clarke. To help entrants prepare their 2,500 word stories we are delighted to partner with Writers Victoria for two special events.

Author, Sofie Laguna, will discuss creating characters on Thursday 15 March from 7pm at Eltham Library. She will also run an all-day character development workshop at Eltham Living & Learning on Saturday 17 March.

The 2018 Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award judges are Helen Lucas, Steve Smart and Izzy Roberts-Orr. This year’s Award is inspired by newly acquired Baldessin & Friends commemorative folio that features works by eight celebrated Australian artists.

The artworks will be exhibited at the Diamond Valley Library and online. Poets can gain further insight for their 12-line poems at a panel discussion that explores the artworks, poetry and creative process on Saturday 3 March from 2pm at the Diamond Valley Library.

Entries to both awards are now open and close Monday 30 April. For information and to enter:

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

artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

9433 3126

##### Nillumbik Youth Theatre

**Save the date**

Rock of Ages

Nillumbik Youth Theatre Senior Show

Thursday 20 Friday 21 and Saturday 22 September

##### Term 2 workshops

Magical mystery movie making

Wednesday 2 May to 13 June

4.15pm-5.30pm

$35 for the term

Work with professional film makers to create something unique and be involved in the writing, filming and editing of your own short film.

Hurstbridge Hall

974 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge

For more information Cath.Rutten@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

9433 3345

##### Entrepreneurs: look here

Do you have a great idea for a project or program that involves young people aged 10-25 years?

Need some help to get it up and running?

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

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

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

LIVING & LEARNING NILLUMBIK

##### Makers Market

Saturday 12 May
11am-3pm
Living & Learning Nillumbik
739 Main Road, Eltham

Our Makers Markets are for lovers of all things handmade, local and unique. You’ll find something for your home, your friends and family and maybe something for yourself. There will also be free activities for the kids.

If you are a Nillumbik maker who wants to sell your unique handmade items at our small, curated Makers Markets, let us know. Register your expression of interest at [www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

##### Discover your potential...

Book your interview for the mid-year intake of our vocational courses. We offer nationally recognised qualifications in these study areas:

* Children’s Services / Early Childhood Education
* Aged Care / Home and Community Care
* Training and Assessment

##### Celebrating Belonging

7 – 13 May Neighbourhood House Week

Neighbourhood Centres belong to the community, and in turn they offer the community a welcoming space where they can feel a part of something; a place to belong.

##### Proud to be providing quality carers

Living & Learning Nillumbik support the health and wellbeing of Nillumbik residents by providing quality carers for our local aged care services.

According to the Nillumbik Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021, the number of people aged 65 and above will more than double by 2026 and there is a growing demand for quality, local aged care.

Living & Learning Nillumbik can support Council reach the goals of this recently adopted Plan by providing quality carers to our ageing community.

Living & Learning Nillumbik has established excellent relationships with local services who rate our graduates highly and are keen to employ them. Each of our 2017 Semester 1 graduates in Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing, Home and Community) were offered employment.

"Taking on this course has been the best decision I have ever made – it has changed my life in a big way.

I was told that aged care is a growing industry and that is certainly true – I am now working in a permanent part time capacity and considering going on to further study later this year.

It can be daunting taking on a new career but having a qualification opens doors and you never know where it’s going to take you. So step outside your comfort zone and make a difference."

Alexia Risby 2017 Graduate, Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing, Home and Community)

##### MakerSpaces

Diamond Creek – 119 Cowin Street

Eltham – 739 Main Road

Panton Hill – 18 Bishops Road

**ANY MONDAY**

9.30am-11.30am
Art MakerSpace
Panton Hill

10am-12pm
UFO MakerSpace
Diamond Creek

12pm-5pm
Sewing and wool crafts MakerSpace
Eltham

**ANY TUESDAY**

9.30am-1.30pm
Needle natter MakerSpace
Panton Hill

9am-4.30pm
Studio arts MakerSpace
Eltham

9.30am-4.30pm
Clay MakerSpace
Eltham

**ANY WEDNESDAY**

9.30am-3pm
Crafty cats MakerSpace
Panton Hill

12pm-5pm
Scrapbooking and paper crafts
Eltham

1pm-6pm
Leadlight and glass arts MakerSpace
Eltham

**ANY THURSDAY**

9am-4.30pm
Clay MakerSpace (experienced)
Eltham

9.30am-3pm (third Thursday only)
Just Xmas MakerSpace
Panton Hill

7pm-9pm (first Thursday only)
Sew social MakerSpace
Diamond Creek

**ANY FRIDAY**

9.30am-2pm
Mosaics MakerSpace
Panton Hill

10am-5pm
Leadlighting and glass arts (experienced)
Eltham

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

##### March

Due to the Good Friday and Anzac Day public holidays, bins will be collected one day later for that day and the remainder of the week

**COMMUNITY**

Easter School Holidays at Edendale

Visit Edendale during the school holidays and learn all about re-purposing and recycling. There will be a range of fun activities for the kids, farm tours and much more. Sign up to our enewsletter to receive early notifications of the program.

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

Sunday 4 March
Clean Up Australia Day

Thursday 8 March 6pm-9.30pm
International Women’s Day
Eltham Community and Reception Centre
[www.nsciwd.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.nsciwd.eventbrite.com.au)

Friday 16 March to Sunday 18 March
Warrandyte Festival
Enjoy food, wine, live music, art and craft exhibitions, dance classes, street parade and the 2018 Warrandyte Film Feast.
[www.warrandytefestival.org](http://www.warrandytefestival.org)

**COUNCIL**

Thursday 1 March
Four-year-old preschool applications for 2020 open
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschools)

Tuesday 13 March 7.30pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 27 March 7.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

**MARKETS AND FOOD**

Every Saturday 8am-2pm
St Andrews Community Market
[www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket](http://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket)

Every Sunday 9am-1pm
Eltham Farmers’ Market
Eltham Town Mall
[www.localfoodconnect.org.au](http://www.localfoodconnect.org.au)

Sunday 4 March 8.30am-1pm
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
Fergusons Paddock
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Sunday 4 March 4.30pm-8pm
Home Harvest FEASTival
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Friday 16 March 12pm-4pm
Regional World’s Longest Lunch – The Artisan Hills
[www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au](http://www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au)

Saturday 17 March 10.30am-11.30am
Food forest gardening
Learn how to grow your own food in a low maintenance food forest garden.
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment)

Sunday 18 March 8.30am-1.30pm
Eltham Craft and Produce Market
Alistair Knox Park
[www.elthammarket.com.au](http://www.elthammarket.com.au)

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

Thursday 1 March
Entries open
2018 Literary Nillumbik Awards
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts)

Thursday 1 March
Exhibition opens – Baldessin & Friends Folio
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 3 March 2pm
Literary Nillumbik public program event – Passion for Print. Poetry, printmaking and creative process
Diamond Valley Library
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 8 March 6.30pm-8.30pm
Celebrating 30 years Nillumbik Artists Open Studios
Barn Gallery, Montsalvat
[www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)
Exhibition runs until Monday 2 April

Thursday 15 March 7.30pm
Courthouse Poetry Readings
Eltham Courthouse
0438 339 732

Thursday 15 March
Entries close Nillumbik Prize 2018
[www.montsalvat.com.au](http://www.montsalvat.com.au)

Thursday 15 March 7pm
Literary Nillumbik event with Sofie Laguna in conversation with Lisa Dempster
Presented in Assoc. with Writers Vic and Yarra Plenty Regional Library
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts)

Saturday 17 March 10am-4pm
Literary Nillumbik writing workshop – character development with author Sofie Laguna
Presented in Assoc. with Writers Vic and Yarra Plenty Regional Library
Eltham Library
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts)

##### April

**COMMUNITY**

Wednesday 25 April
Anzac Day
A number of services will be held across the Shire, check your local RSL for details.

**MARKETS AND FOOD**

Every Saturday 8am-2pm
St Andrews Community Market
[www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket](http://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket)

Every Sunday 9am-1pm
Eltham Farmers’ Market
Eltham Town Mall
[www.localfoodconnect.org.au](http://www.localfoodconnect.org.au)

Sunday 1 April 8.30am-1pm
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
Fergusons Paddock
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Sunday 15 April 8.30am-1.30pm
Eltham Craft and Produce Market
Alistair Knox Park
[www.elthammarket.com.au](http://www.elthammarket.com.au)

Saturday 14 April 10am-11am
Food swap
Swap your excess garden produce
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

**ENVIRONMENT**

Sunday 15 April 10am-1pm
Making Dunnart homes and trail repairs
Yanggai Reserve, Panton Hill
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment)

**COUNCIL**

Tuesday 10 April
Pet registration renewal

Tuesday 17 April 7.30pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

**WHAT’S ON AT THE LIBRARY?**

Monday 2 April 10am-12pm
Yack and yarn
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 2 April 4pm–5pm
Lego club (ages 5+)
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 4 April 2pm-3.30pm
Italian discussion group
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 7 April 2pm-4pm
Saturday kids craft
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 16 April 3.45pm-4.45pm
Science club
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Friday 27 April 10am-11am
Tech help
Diamond Valley Library
Bookings required
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

Thursday 22 March to Monday 23 April
Exhibition – Creative Minds – Nillumbik VCE Art and Studio Arts Students of 2017
Eltham Library Community Gallery
Panther Place, Eltham

Monday – Thursday 10am-8.30pm
Friday – Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm
Closed public holidays
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG)

Thursday 26 April – Monday 28 May
Exhibition – The Bin Men
Arts Connect-Araluen presents Shane Coutts, Josh Wood, Trevor Oxley and David Waterhouse.
Eltham Library Community Gallery
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG)

Monday 30 April
Entries close 2018 Literary Nillumbik Awards
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts)

##### May

**MARKETS AND FOOD**

Every Saturday 8am-2pm
St Andrews Community Market
[www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket](http://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsMarket)

Every Sunday 9am-1pm
Eltham Farmers’ Market
Eltham Town Mall
[www.localfoodconnect.org.au](http://www.localfoodconnect.org.au)

Sunday 6 May 8.30am-1pm
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
Fergusons Paddock
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Sunday 20 May 8.30am-1.30pm
Eltham Craft and Produce Market
Alistair Knox Park
[www.elthammarket.com.au](http://www.elthammarket.com.au)

Saturday 12 May 10am-11am
Food swap
Bring your excess garden produce and swap for other wonderful produce
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

**ENVIRONMENT**

Tuesday 8 May 7.30pm-9pm
Save energy, save money
Learn how to gain control over your energy bills.
Hurstbridge Hub
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment)

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

5 and 6 May 11am-5pm
Artists Open Studios
[www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)

Thursday 31 May 6.30pm-8.30pm
Exhibition opening – Nillumbik Prize 2018
Barn Gallery, Montsalvat
[www.montsalvat.com.au](http://www.montsalvat.com.au)

31 May – 2 July
Legacy – Dunmoochin Artist Collective
Eltham Library Community Gallery
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/ELCG)

**COUNCIL**

Tuesday 1 May 7.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 15 May 7.30pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 29 May 7.30pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre

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

**COMMUNITY**

Monday 21 – Sunday 27 May
National Volunteer Week
[www.volunteeringaustralia.org](http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org)

**WHAT’S ON AT THE LIBRARY?**

Tuesday 1 May 11am-11.30am
French storytime
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 2 May 4pm-5pm
Doggy tales
Encourage your reluctant reader to come and read to our reading dog, Lola
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 7 May 10am-12pm
Spinners group
Spinning, felting, weaving and knitting
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 9 May 11.30am-12pm
Toddler time (aged 1-3 years)
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 15 May 4pm-5pm
Just4Kids: craft activities, puzzles, technology and games
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 21 May 1pm-3.30pm
Telltales creative writing
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 26 May 2pm-4pm
Diamond Valley Genealogy Group
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

YOUR COUNCILLORS

##### ****Mayor Councillor Peter Clarke****

Wingrove Ward
0401 100 141
Peter.Clarke@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Council will continue to champion for sewerage infrastructure for all Eltham South residents who still have septic tanks and don’t want them. Yarra Valley Water has launched a $400 million sewerage program to address this, and we want to ensure our residents benefit. We will continue to lobby the water authority.

Council is contributing $2.4 million to the Eltham Central Precinct Community Sports Hub (Panther Place). We have received $800,000 from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2017- 2019 for it, with a further $65,000 coming from the Eltham Panthers and University of the Third Age.

This important sports hub will see the pavilion redeveloped, including the extension to the existing social club rooms to create a multi-use hub, which can be used by community groups. Improved accessibility and upgrading existing amenities will also be carried out.

##### ****Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Egan****

Bunjil Ward
0408 058 899
Karen.Egan@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Council is considering selling off parcels of vacant land to fund much needed community upgrades and developments, like the Diamond Creek Trail and Lot 1 Graysharps Road Hurstbridge Open Space Precinct Plan. These unused parcels of land are vacant, covered with weeds and cost ratepayers thousands of dollars a year to maintain.

The Cherry Tree Road Trail is 80 per cent finished, and I look forward to the completion of the whole project, some of which is asphalt some gravel.

I am delighted that arts in the Shire will be getting a boost. The Arts and Cultural Plan was launched at the Travelling Teapot exhibition, which outlines the blueprint to further arts in Nillumbik.

The proposed push to revitalise the heart of Eltham includes establishing a one-stop community precinct. A new civic headquarters, which will have a regional art gallery will mean Council’s extensive art collection (much of which has stood in storage over the years) will be on display for the community to enjoy. The planned art series style tourist accommodation at the precinct will also boost tourism and create local jobs.**Councillor**

##### ****Grant Brooker****

Blue Lake Ward
0427 207 819
Grant.Brooker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The highlight for the quarter was the Growing Suburbs Fund announcement that $2.5 million had been allocated to the Diamond Valley Sport and Fitness Centre.

Council has contributed $10 million and the Masterplan process has been rapidly advanced. Stakeholders are contributing their requirements prior to the draft being released. This is the second largest investment in the history of the Shire. An expanded and upgraded facility is decades overdue and this Council could no longer look away and evade our responsibilities for disability access, female friendly facilities amongst many others.

Yarrambat residents have a new footpath to the bus stop on Yan Yean Road. The township planning process will recommence and community infrastructure will be part of that conversation.

Construction of a turf wicket training facility at Yarrambat for the ‘Bats’ has started and another tenant, Eltham Woodworkers, will begin their extension.

A new Masterplan for Plenty Park will set in motion many upgrades for the future in the second half of the year.

##### ****Councillor John Dumaresq****

Edendale Ward
0439 556 733
John.Dumaresq@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

It is sad that the iconic Eltham North Reserve playground was destroyed by fire shortly before Christmas. But what is heart-warming is how resilient the community has been in rallying around and offering support to rebuild it.

I am keen to get the ball rolling and establish an off-lead dog park. Rangers are enforcing the ban on dogs at the Eltham North Oval, so we need an area that can be a pups’ play paradise. An area behind the oval has been earmarked and $50,000 put aside to achieve this.

I would like to pay tribute to the Eltham Men’s Shed, which outgrew its home at St Vincent’s Care Facility in Eltham and moved into its current premises in Wattletree Road.

I would also like to congratulate James Gundrum, the co-winner of Nillumbik’s Australia Day Award Volunteer of the Year. James was the force behind the creation of the Eltham Men’s Shed in 2014.

##### ****Councillor Peter Perkins****

Ellis Ward
0437 455 064
Peter.Perkins@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

I’d like to update everyone on the progress of the successful Diamond Creek Growing Suburbs Fund Grants.

Funding from the State Government has gone towards the Diamond Creek Netball Pavilion, Marngrook Oval Pavilion development and lighting upgrade, and the Hurstbridge rail pedestrian crossing behind Community Bank Stadium in between Diamond Creek East Primary School and Diamond Valley College.

I would like to thank the local CFA crews for their help keeping us safe over summer – great job.

Council is continuing to quickly remove illegal graffiti once it has been reported, but the location needs to be reported to Council as well as the police. I’m disappointed by the amount of tagging of public property in Diamond Creek that is not getting reported to Council. I’m trying to make Diamond Creek more presentable, but I need your help.

Congratulations to our Australia Day Award recipients who have supported the Diamond Creek community over many years. Check out the feature on page 2-3 to learn about their wonderful achievements.

##### ****Councillor Jane Ashton****

Sugarloaf Ward
0409 177 500
Jane.Ashton@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The International Women’s Day celebration in March will see the launch of a CD recorded at Phoenix Recording Studio in Hurstbridge by six young local women. It is brilliant.

Work on the new environmentally sensitive septic system for St Andrews Market should now be underway. The works to create a rural-style path in St Andrews linking Wadambuk to the market should already be underway.

We are working with Nillumbik Land Care groups on a whole range of issues so contact your local group and find out what’s happening. There’s also been an increase in St John’s

Wort and Chilean needle grass. Contact Council if you think you see any.

Panton Hill Bushland Reserve is hosting a range of events featuring our local fauna, so subscribe to Fringe Focus at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/environment) for details.

We are working on a new Disability Action Plan, Climate Change Plan and Positive Ageing Strategy, so busy times ahead.

##### ****Councillor Bruce Ranken****

Swipers Gully Ward
0402 384 006
Bruce.Ranken@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

It has been wonderful how the community has thrown its support behind trying to rebuild the Eltham North Reserve Playground. Council is exploring new ways to deliver projects involving volunteers and groups to aid in construction to get the playground up and running. Thanks to all those who came forward with offers to help. A disaster like this brings out the best in the community.

Congratulations to the Eltham Wildcats for running another successful basketball tournament over the Australia Day weekend. The tournament is the biggest of its kind in the world and over 13,000 junior players took part. We need to support this basketball group and try and find them a bigger home.

Congratulations to Australia Day Award winner James Gundrum. I would like to encourage men to join the Eltham Men’s Shed which is now in its new premises in Wattletree Road. It is a worthy group.

OTHER RECYCLING OPTIONS

##### Other recycling options

**Nillumbik Recycling & Recovery Centre**290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty
Open 8am-4pm
Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
Closed Public holidays

Recycle free of charge:

* Batteries – household, car and mobile phones
* Cardboard (excluding waxed cardboard)
* Clothing in good condition
* E-waste e.g. computers, printers, keyboards, screens hard drives, mouses
* Household recycling
* Light globes/bulbs and fluoro tubes
* Motor oil and containers
* Scrap metal e.g. bikes, stoves, washing machines, dryers, metal poles and roofing
* Televisions, mobile phones and X-rays

Charges apply for:

* Air conditioners, fridges and freezers
* Garden materials, hard waste and mattresses
* Wood – processed e.g. treated pine, fence, paling, untreated timber – and plaster
* Polystyrene, foam and bean bag beans
* Tyres and rims
* Other non-recyclable items

Green waste vouchers can be used here.

Pre-sort free of charge items and different types of waste in your load for a quick drop off. It may even save you money.

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

**Reuse Shop**

290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty
Open 9am-3.30pm
Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
Closed Public holidays

For purchasing reused items.

**Edendale Community Environment Farm – Recycling Station**30 Gastons Road, Eltham
Open 9.30am-4.30pm daily
Closed Christmas Day

Drop off your household items that cannot be recycled in your yellow bin:

* Batteries and mobile phones
* Light globes and florescent tubes
* CDs, DVDs and X-rays
* Corks, toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes

**Hard Waste bookings**

Make use of your hard waste collection (two cubic metres) each financial year.

9433 3512
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/hardwaste](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/hardwaste)

##### ****Yellow bin recycling maze****

You can recycle plastic bags and other soft plastics in your recycling bin.

Soft plastics get bundled into plastic bags but silver lined packaging such as some chocolate wrappers and chip packets cannot be recycled.

Image - children's maze activity.

Cover: Australia Day Awards Citizen of the Year Susan Taylor and Mayor Cr Peter Clarke

Nillumbik News is available in alternative formats on request. Contact 9433 3111. Printed in Nillumbik, using vegetable inks on Australian-made recycled paper.

**Visit** Civic Drive, Greensborough VIC 3088

**Phone** 9433 3111

**Fax** 9433 3777

**Email** nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

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

**Like** us at [www.facebook.com/nillumbikcouncil](http://www.facebook.com/nillumbikcouncil)

**Tweet** us at @nillumbikshire

**Follow** us on Instagram @Nillumbikcouncilvic