Nillumbik News Spring 2017
September to November

#### ****FESTIVALS****

**Diamond Creek Rotary Town Fair
Saturday 9 September
Marngrook Oval and Coventry Oval, Diamond Creek**

The Diamond Creek Rotary Town Fair is one of the largest suburban festivals and all proceeds go back into supporting the local community. This year’s theme celebrates cuisine, craft and community and is sure to be bigger and better than ever.

Bring the family along for a fun-filled day of free entertainment, food, craft stalls, carnival rides and keep an eye out for the CFA volunteers as they battle it out in the popular tug-of-war match.

The grand parade kicks off the festivities at 10am with events running throughout the day finishing with a spectacular fireworks display.

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

 **Eltham Community and Reception Centre
Saturday 7 October
801 Main Road, Eltham**

A vibrant community day is set to take place in October to celebrate the redevelopment of the Eltham Community and Reception Centre. There will be local entertainers, kid’s activities, performances, food and plenty of fun for the whole family. Keep an eye out for more details on our Facebook page.

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

 **Seniors Festival
October**

The 35th Victorian Seniors Festival takes place throughout October. The State Government will provide free public transport for Victorian Seniors Card holders in metropolitan and regional Victoria from Sunday 8 to Sunday 15 October. A range of exciting events and activities will be happening throughout the Shire so keep an eye on Council’s website for details.

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

 **Practically Green Festival
Sunday 15 October
Edendale, Gastons Road, Eltham**

Celebrate sustainable building, living and all things green at the Practically Green Festival.

The festival is a great free family day out where you can:

* Talk to businesses about eco-building, retrofitting and lifestyle in your home
* Get involved in demonstrations and workshops
* Learn about sustainable gardening and land management
* Enjoy live music, local food, market stalls plus a kids space with craft and entertainment.

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

 **Home Harvest FEASTival**

Register as a grower and be part of the Home Harvest FEASTival in 2018.

The Home Harvest FEASTival is an inspiring demonstration of the delicious meals you can cook up using produce from your garden.

Now is the time to register as a grower for 2018 and start planning your summer crop for the feast.

Don’t have a green thumb? There’s plenty of advice and support to help you get growing in your garden and everyone is welcome to take part.

To find out more and register as a grower visit

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/homeharvest or call 9433 3316](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/homeharvest%20or%20call%209433%203316).

 **On the Hill Festival
Sunday 22 October
Firefighters Memorial Park, Main Road, Panton Hill**

On the Hill Festival is a day of free activities, culture, music and fabulous food for the whole family, so be sure to save the date. Craft makers, writers, artists, gardeners and cooks are invited to enter ‘Made on the Hill’ which is an integral part of the Festival.

The 2017 theme for Made on the Hill is ‘things that fly’.

Anyone who has connection with Panton Hill and its surrounds can enter the Made on the Hill competition in one of the many categories.

 **Nillumbik Pet Expo
Sunday 29 October
Marngrook Oval, Diamond Creek**

The Nillumbik Pet Expo is a vibrant local event that celebrates our furry and feathered companions and the healthy lifestyles they help us lead. As one of Council’s largest and longest running events, it attracts more than 5000 people each year. The Pet Expo is a fun-filled event for the whole family, offering displays and demonstrations from a range of exhibitors including food and nutrition, pet grooming, toys, clothing and much more. There is also an opportunity to meet and chat with Council rangers.

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

 **Rotary Eltham Festival
Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November
Alistair Knox Park, 829 Main Rd, Eltham**

Come along to the Rotary Eltham Festival where the township will become a hive of activity. There will be entertainment for the kids, food, market stalls, art and craft, farmyard, activities for the family, a Battle of the Bands plus an exciting fireworks display will light up the sky at dusk. A double-decker bus will provide a shuttle service to festival goers from Eltham to Diamond Valley Railway throughout the afternoon.

Keep an eye out for a new sensory friendly chill out zone between 1pm-3pm on Saturday where you can enjoy some quieter activities.

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

#### From the Mayor

The North East Link project should proceed as quickly as possible as it addresses problems of traffic congestion, poor connectivity and inefficient freight movements across the Shire.

Two of the State Government’s proposed corridors pose unnecessary environmental threats to the Nillumbik Shire. Over the last month we saw four corridor options put forward. Two of these, Options C and D, should be ruled out as they are too expensive and have far reaching environmental impacts on our iconic Green Wedge.

Option A corridor, on the North East Link website, is Council’s preferred route which delivers the most practical, cost effective solution and poses no threat to our Green Wedge.

I have called on the State Government to cease any further feasibility studies and consultation on Options C and D and reallocate $50 million from continuing studies to immediately address short to medium term congestion prior to the completion of the North East Link project.

Aside from what route the North East Link will take, we must address complementary and additional road projects required to deliver the best outcomes. This includes improvements to public transport – rail and bus services with disability compliant new railway stations in our Shire.

Council’s proposals will lead to the best outcome for the Green Wedge Shire and I make no apologies for taking such a strong stance to get the best outcome for our community and the environment.

Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke

#### MAJOR PROJECTS

##### Coming up…

The Growing Suburbs Fund helps interface councils deliver priority community projects such as family and community centres, town centre and civic revitalisation, open space and amenity improvements.

Over the next few months Council will be submitting applications for the following projects:

* Diamond Creek Trail Extension
* Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre redevelopment
* Marngrook Pavilion
* Hurstbridge Stadium expansion and multi-use change rooms
* Eltham Central precinct community/sports hub
* Diamond Creek Netball pavilion
* Regional Playground Diamond Creek
* Hurstbridge Rail Overpass Diamond Creek
* Upgrade to Lower Eltham Park
* Hurstbridge Open Space.

Keep an eye out for updates on these projects.

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

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

##### North East Link

The North East Link will connect the Metropolitan Ring Road (M80) at Greensborough, with either the Eastern Freeway or Eastlink.

North East Link representatives and Council officers held a series of drop in sessions throughout July. Community consultation sessions were held in August to provide residents with the opportunity to help shape this Victorian Government project.

Nillumbik Shire Council is supportive of the North East Link. Mayor Cr Peter Clarke has previously stated Council’s preferred route is along the Greensborough Bypass with tunnels leading to the Eastern Freeway and we look forward to working with the relevant agencies to progress the plan.

The Greensborough Bypass is our preferred route because:

* it has the least impact on the natural environment.
* it’s the shortest distance to join the Eastern Freeway from the M80
* building a road and substantial tunnel is cheaper with little need for additional public acquisition
* the road reserves already exist.

Council will further consider detailed corridors once the Authority releases further information. We will have rigorous community consultation once North East Link has outlined the preferred corridor by the end of the year.

Keep up to date with the North East Link project.

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

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

##### Eltham Activity Centre

Council has endorsed the revised project scope for the Eltham Activity Centre Precincts 3 and 4 Redevelopment Project to align with the priorities of the new Council Plan. Precincts 3 and 4 comprise the portion of the Eltham Town Centre which is located west of Main Road. The area includes the Eltham Library, War Memorial Hall and Cenotaph, Eltham railway station, retail strip and key entrance sites to the town centre. A range of urban design and development issues currently compromise Precincts 3 and 4, including inadequate pedestrian connections, a poorly designed transport hub and under-utilisation of key sites.

The project will significantly improve the structure, appearance and success of Precincts 3 and 4 by:

* utilising key sites in the precincts. For example, the former Eltham Shire Offices on Main Road has remained vacant for over 20 years
* improving design, access and functionality of the Eltham public transport hub and preventing additional stabling, which is proposed by the State Government
* improving accessibility and connectivity to the town centre
* providing use and development which supports Eltham’s character and heritage
* providing more opportunities for business and employment within the town centre.

The scope of the project has been revised and redefined into the following sub-projects:

* medical precinct – including Eltham Railway Station and stabling yards and bus interchange
* recreational precinct – including childcare centre, football/ cricket facilities, scouts, guides, oval parking and associated land.
* former Eltham Shire Offices site, Eltham Senior Citizens Centre, Eltham War Memorial and Hall and CFA site.
* Main Road, Eltham commercial and restaurant hub.
* Masterplan framework, civil works and transport sites.

Work on these sub-projects is already well underway with a feasibility study already completed. This study supports the location for tourism accommodation that showcases Eltham’s heritage, with the potential for an art gallery. Further feasibility investigations, drafting of the proposed plan and public consultation will commence in the next stage of the project.

Register your email with us to receive updates.

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

##### Open Space Precinct Plan – Graysharps Road **(Contact - Nichole Johnson)**

Throughout July, Council called for applications to recruit a Project Reference Group for the Open Space Precinct Plan in Graysharps Road, surrounding areas of open space and community facilities in Hurstbridge. This process generated great interest, resulting in the appointment of an enthusiastic and passionate group of people.

The Group will be Chaired by Cr Karen Egan and will support and advise on the development of this important Plan.

A Discussion Paper was out for consultation during July. The next steps include workshops, drop-in sessions, displays and the opportunity to provide submissions.

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

##### Edendale Infrastructure Enhancement Project

Edendale Community Environment Farm will be abuzz with activity over the next 12 months as plans progress to transform Edendale into an accessible community site that better caters for environmental education, events and informal community use.

This Enhancement Project will be co-funded by Council and State Government and will deliver a range of improvements to the site including:

* construction of a permanent kiosk facility and outdoor seating
* construction of a new multi-purpose space and additional public toilets
* enhancements to the nursery retail and production areas
* creation of a sensory garden and children’s nature play space
* accessibility enhancements to the rear entry to Edendale
* building two new outdoor teaching spaces
* habitat and public access improvements to the southern and northern wetlands.

The anticipated completion date is early 2019.

##### Yarrambat Township Plan

Council is moving ahead to develop a township plan for Yarrambat with an emphasis on creating a small rural township that services the needs of the local community.

Work on the township plan is expected to ramp up later this year and there will be multiple opportunities for you to be involved and have your say.

The agreed vision, guiding principles and ideas generated during the consultation in 2014 will form the basis of this work.

Once the timeline of the Plan is confirmed email bulletins will be sent to those who have registered for the mailing list and information will also be on our website.

Register your email with us to receive bulletins.

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

##### St Andrews Township Plan

The St Andrews Township Plan was produced between June 2011 and August 2013 in consultation with the community. The Plan aims to guide future development of the township to ensure its intrinsic qualities are protected as well as improving physical, economic and social connections.

An Implementation Program was adopted at the Future Nillumbik Committee meeting held on 18 July 2017. Adoption of the Program will now ensure delivery of the actions in the Township Plan, particularly those involving capital works.

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

##### Streetscape works

Streetscape works are planned for Panton Hill and Hurstbridge to help revitalise these townships. Plans for Hurstbridge include a continuation of paving and edging, tree planting, groundcovers and mulch on a number of garden beds.

The proposed works to the Panton Hill township include upgrades to paths and edging, large feature rocks, planting of indigenous shrubs and groundcovers as well as a COR-TEN Steel laser cut panel which will be designed by local primary school students.

##### Sportsground Redevelopments

Council launched sportsground redevelopments at Plenty War Memorial Park and Wattle Glen Memorial Park in July.

These redevelopments were a combined funding effort from Council and the State Government through the Community Sport Infrastructure Fund. The redevelopments include converting the sportsground surface to warm season grass, installation of drainage and irrigation and vermin proof fencing.

Concept plans have been developed for a $2.26M pavilion and community space at Research Park. The tender process for architectural services will begin shortly.

The upgraded sportsground lighting at Susan Street Reserve will ensure the community can enjoy evening training and competition for football and rugby now and well into the future. New lighting at Marngrook Pavilion has also been submitted for funding approval.

Improving the quality of sportsgrounds in the Shire supports Nillumbik’s high participation levels in organised sport, particularly the growth of women’s football and is intended to meet the needs of an ever-growing active community.

##### Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre (DVSFC) Masterplan

DVSFC has been keeping the Nillumbik community fit and active for almost 40 years, making its redevelopment a priority project for Council.

Council has applied for funding through the State Government’s Growing Suburbs Fund 2018-2019 and also Sport and Recreation Victoria’s Better Indoor Stadiums Fund 2018-2019.

Council is committed to delivering the redevelopment of this iconic regional sporting facility in the next four years and has identified $10 million in Council’s four year budget towards the redevelopment. Significant investment from the State and Federal Governments will be required to support delivery of this project.

Planning for the redevelopment is progressing and we are working closely with facility sporting groups as well as developing partnerships with Melbourne Polytechnic, adjacent Greensborough TAFE and the new Tech School to determine how these key regional facilities will work together to contribute to the broader education, health and recreational outcomes for the community.

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

##### Civic Drive Development update

Works on the upper section of the subdivision are complete with kerb and channel, asphalt and the planting of street trees.

Expressions of interest (EOI) for the sale of the lots 1-12 have closed and Council is now working through the EOI process.

The lots could not be individually purchased as they were to be sold as a group of 12. Planning permits for 12 homes have been approved and designed to achieve an eight-star energy rating.

The Masterplan was adopted by Council in May 2016 after community consultation and included barbecues, paths, picnic areas and a playground. State funding was announced for the project, with $950,000 through the Growing Suburbs Fund and $335,000 committed by Council. Construction is expected to start in October 2017.

#### HAVE YOUR SAY

#### Health and Wellbeing Plan

You are invited to ‘have your say’ on our Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021. The priorities of the plan are:

* promote healthy and sustainable food
* encourage active living
* improve mental wellbeing
* promote gender equity and respectful relationships
* prevent harm from alcohol
* promote healthy ageing.

Submissions on the Draft Plan are open until 28 September and can be made at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/healthandwellbeingdraftplan](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/healthandwellbeingdraftplan)

##### Travelling Teapot

Nillumbik residents were recently invited to take part in a series of creative focus groups over a cup of tea.

Participants discussed what they value most in Nillumbik and how these values relate to local culture. These informal consultation sessions were a wonderful success and these ideas will help form the new Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022.

If you’d like to provide your feedback on the Arts and Cultural Plan, complete the short online survey.

[www.surveymonkey.com/DWKG2F8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/DWKG2F8)

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

##### Your Say Your Way

An opportunity for young people in Nillumbik to have their voices heard to inform our planning for 2018.

Get involved, be heard and make a real change in Nillumbik.

[www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au) or contact Sarah.Hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

#### AROUND THE SHIRE

##### Council Plan

Council released the Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 in early May for community consultation.

A comprehensive consultation program over and above legislative requirements included a mail out to all residents and four community information sessions. This consultation process was very successful with over 160 submissions received, more than ever before.

Council’s five goals for Nillumbik are:

* **Engaged, connected communities** – a place where communities and ideas thrive, underpinned by trust, confidence and continuous learning
* **Active and creative people** – active lifestyles and artistic expression are fostered through participation and innovation
* **Safe and healthy communities** – healthy and safe communities enjoy living in our iconic Green Wedge environment
* **A prosperous economy** – a strong local economy that supports business growth, jobs and community wealth
* **Responsible leadership** – collaborative and consultative leadership that builds trust and makes the best use of available resources to the benefit of all in the pursuit of excellence.

The Council Plan 2017-2021 was adopted on 27 June 2017 and is available on our website.

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

##### Yan Yean Road upgrade

The Victorian Government is upgrading Yan Yean Road in Plenty to improve traffic flow and safety for all road users.

Plans to duplicate Yan Yean Road to four lanes, two lanes in each direction between Diamond Creek and Kurrak roads are now being refined and include:

* upgraded intersections along River Avenue, Diamond Creek and Kurrak Roads
* a 2.2 metre median strip along the length of the road
* safety barriers to reduce the risk and impact of run-off-road crashes
* a wider and safer shared user path on the western side of the road
* a dedicated bus lane at the Yan Yean and Diamond Creek Road intersection
* replacing the existing roundabout with new traffic lights at the Yan Yean and Kurrak Road intersection
* new refuge islands to connect pedestrians with bus stops
* straightening the road for better driver visibility.

The process of public acquisition of property has commenced and residents are urged to obtain legal advice, preferably from a firm with experience in a similar process. These costs are recoverable in any property settlement.

Construction is expected to be completed by mid 2019.

Details about the project can be found on the VicRoads website or email yanyean@roads.vic.gov.au

##### New tobacco reforms now in place

Smoking bans commenced in Victoria on 1 August for all outdoor dining areas when food is available.

The bans apply to outdoor dining areas including:

* outdoor areas at hospitality and food venues used for eating food. This includes footpath dining areas, courtyards and beer gardens during times food is being eaten, or is available to be eaten
* all outdoor areas at food fairs. A food fair is an event where the principal activity is the supply of food for consumption at the event
* within 10 metres of a food stall or food vendor at organised outdoor event (other than a food fair).

Snacks such as potato crisps, muesli bars and intact pieces of fruit can be consumed in areas where smoking is permitted.

For further details visit the website [www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms)

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

##### Open Air Burning

Open Air Burning restrictions may vary based on your property.

If your property is less than 0.4 hectares (1 acre) you can apply for a permit to burn off from 1 October to the start of the next Fire Danger Period. Permits can be obtained from our Community Safety Department on 9433 3111.

When burning off make sure it is for fuel reduction purposes, that you have adequate water available and that you have checked weather conditions prior to lighting a fire. Do not leave the fire unattended and take care.

Residents can also put garden clippings, small branches, prunings, leaves, flowers, grass, weeds (including ivy, creepers and vines) into the green bin or use our new green waste vouchers.

The vouchers will give you options to recycle garden materials and vegetation during the year making it more convenient for you.

##### Are you prepared for the summer season?

Nillumbik residents are being urged to start their fire preparation and identify hazards on their properties to minimise fire risk.

Council is preparing for the summer season with fire mitigation plans underway. Work is scheduled for roadside clearing and mowing, tree management and native vegetation clearing.

You can help reduce the impact of fire and storm damage by conducting regular maintenance of your property. This includes clearing long grass, timber and wood stores, gutters and drains.

The CFA website has a range of ideas and information to help prepare and protect yourself and your property.

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

Council recently hosted a forum to assist residents to plan for emergencies like fires, storms, floods and wind damage.

Speakers included Jane Bunn, a Meteorologist and Channel 7 weather presenter, Craig Lapsley, the Emergency Management Commissioner for Victoria.

**Do you have enough insurance?**

The State Government is encouraging home owners and renters to check their level of insurance cover. Visit [www.insureit.vic.gov.au](http://www.insureit.vic.gov.au) for information about the ‘Insure It.It’s worth It’ campaign.

The VicEmergency app and website provides warnings and alerts for incidents such as fire, flood, storms, and other emergency events.

#### ENVIRONMENT PLANNING

##### Green waste vouchers

Council has delivered on its promise to introduce green waste vouchers this year, giving residents the flexibility to recycle garden materials and vegetation at a convenient time throughout the year.

Residents who pay the waste management charge as part of Council rates received the vouchers with their rates notice.

The vouchers have unique barcodes registered against the property address. If you have a gardening contractor, you’re able to provide your voucher/s to the contractor to dispose of green waste on your behalf. For rental properties, property owners may pass the vouchers on to their tenants or use your green bin for green waste, which is picked up weekly.

You can also purchase an additional 120 litre green bin for a one off cost of $80 (max 2 per house) with no added annual charge.

The green waste vouchers replace Council’s free green waste drop off days, so you get to choose a time that is convenient to use your green waste vouchers. They are valid until 31 July 2018, which means plenty of time to pick a day that works best for you.

For more information visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/greenwastevouchers](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/greenwastevouchers)

##### Biodiversity grant awarded

Nillumbik Shire Council’s Conservation Futures project has been awarded a grant of $300,000 to fund biodiversity from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Parks (DELWP).

The Conservation Futures project promotes the preservation of biodiversity and threatened species habitat within the Northern Yarra Ranges region.

The project aims to have a cross-tenure approach by engaging the local community and public land managers through activities that protect biodiversity, foster a sense of connection and an understanding and appreciation for natural areas.

There are many threats driving the loss of species within the project area and this funding will help to help conserve these species for the future. For example weed control, exclusion fencing to reduce grazing pressure, pest animal control, small scale ecological burning to improve habitat and enhancement planting to attract pollinators for threatened flora species.

Project partners are engaged and ready to deliver by extending on previous work undertaken in the region through the Nillumbik’s Conservation Corridors Project (funding concluded) and Peri-urban Weed Management Partnership. These partners include Nillumbik Shire Council, City of Whittlesea, Parks Victoria, Nillumbik Landcare Network and members, Port Phillip and Westernport CMA, Melbourne Water, Trust for Nature, DELWP, Wurundjeri Narrap and local ‘friends of’ groups.

#### FAMILY AND CHILDREN’S SERVICES

##### Maternal and child health

Giving communities the best start in life for 100 years.

This year local government is celebrating 100 years of the Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria.

Nillumbik’s Maternal Child Health Service is staffed by 12 qualified nurses who provide support for families with young children.

We have seven maternal and child health centres across the Shire providing information, advice and referral on issues such as:

* breastfeeding and nutrition
* immunisation
* child health and development
* parenting and relationships

For further information visit our website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or to make an appointment call 9433 3368. For 24 hour assistance call the Maternal and Child Health Line on 13 22 29.

Provided by the Department of Education and Training.

##### Lifetime Play Strategy

Council has identified the need to re-imagine public play spaces across the Shire.

The Lifetime Play Strategy focuses on providing a strategic direction for the provision of a diverse range of accessible, attractive and challenging play spaces for all ages and abilities.

The initial framework was developed after a successful community engagement process undertaken in 2016. Council endorsed the Lifetime Play Strategy and the community was invited to provide feedback on the Strategy earlier this year.

The next stage of implementation includes an assessment of all play spaces and distribution across the Shire and detailed strategic planning.

##### Nillumbik Playhouses

Occasional child care in Nillumbik Nillumbik Playhouses offer:

* flexible child care for children aged newborn to six years
* fun and friendly quality care
* stimulating educational programs for your child
* spaces for children of all ages to play together – indoor and outdoor
* qualified professional educators
* planned, age appropriate activities.

Nillumbik Playhouses adhere to the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework established by the Department of Education and Training.

There are two playhouses:

**ELTHAM PLAYHOUSE**

Pitt Street, Eltham

9433 3755

**PANTON HILL PLAYHOUSE**

Bishops Road, Panton Hill

9433 3795

##### 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.

##### Take the leap, rediscover learning

Adult Learners Week celebrates the personal, social and professional benefits of adult learning.

Learning helps you reach your full potential. It can transform you. It gives you job choices, expands the mind and connects you with community.

As part of Adult Learners Week, Living & Learning Nillumbik is launching Share, Learn, Connect: Reflections 2013-2017; a publication that celebrates the transformative power of learning for the individual and for the community.

Join us for lunch on Thursday 7 September and receive a free copy of Share, Learn, Connect: Reflections 2013-2017

Living & Learning Nillumbik Diamond Creek
119 Cowin Street, Diamond Creek
11.30am-1pm
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

#### ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

##### Congratulations to our Literary Nillumbik Award Winners

Writers, poets, readers, friends and family came together in July to celebrate the launch of the Literary Nillumbik Anthology 2017 and the announcement of the winners of the Alan Marshall Short Story Award and Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award. Congratulations to the winners.

**Alan Marshall Short Story Award**

OPEN PRIZE WINNER: In the Dark by Sarah Day

OPEN HIGHLY COMMENDED: Mallee Dirt Bleeds Red by Chris Scriven

LOCAL PRIZE WINNER: Miriam and Mildred by Karen Andrews

LOCAL HIGHLY COMMENDED: In-between by Anne Connor

The 32nd Alan Marshall Short Story Award is proudly presented in partnership with Yarra Plenty Regional Library and in association with Australian Society of Authors and Writers Victoria.

**Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award**

OPEN PRIZE: Trigger Warning by Rachel Hennessy

OPEN HIGHLY COMMENDED: Carnal Park by Jenny Pollak

LOCAL PRIZE: The Weeping Forest by Michael Olsen

LOCAL HIGHLY COMMENDED: A writer’s strength by Karen Andrews

YOUTH PRIZE: Untitled by Jennifer Nguyen

YOUTH HIGHLY COMMENDED: I am an individual by Sophia Laidlaw

View the winning stories and poems in the Literary Nillumbik Anthology 2017 [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artspublications](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artspublications) or email artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au for a free copy. Thanks to judges Bruce Pascoe, Helen Lucas, Steve Smart and Karen Throssell.

##### Are you a teacher looking to get your students more interested in art?

A VCE Art Resource has been developed for teachers as an introduction to the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection.

The Collection is a public cultural collection of about 500 works managed by Council on behalf of the Shire’s residents.

The VCE resource is designed to be a starting point to generate ideas, discussions and activities based on the requirements of the VCE Art and Studio Art curriculum. Teachers can select relevant sections and compile their own tasks and assessment outcomes for their students.

Tours of the Collection and specific artworks can be arranged through our Arts and Culture Team artinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

##### Living in the Landscape Art Incubator

This pilot program aims to reinforce the Shire’s cultural vitality through temporary public art across three sites; Hurstbridge Community Hub, Wadambuk St Andrews Community Centre and the Nillumbik Community Bus. These four projects will be developed and presented in the next few months:

**GAY CHATFIELD**Willow Pods
Hurstbridge Community Hub

Three woven pods, around two metres tall, will be anchored into the ground. Upon completion, people will be able to go inside the pods and experience the natural environment from within.

**LINDY DE WIJN**The Lace Project
Hurstbridge Community Hub

This project will draw from local flora and fauna to inspire a large scale lace work from reclaimed rope. The Australian Lace Guild will be part of the project and the community can get involved in lace making sessions.

**DAN GORONSZY**Museum of Care
Hurstbridge Community Hub and Nillumbik Community Bus

A two-stage interactive project that will investigate the role of care and intimacy in public space.

**TAMMY HULBERT**Anonymous Sojourners in the Australian Bush
Wadambuk St Andrews Community Centre

Hulbert’s project will focus on the uncommon local history of anonymous Chinese miners who were buried in St Andrews in the 1850s. An installation of white lantern-like boat structures will be displayed as part of a nocturnal public performance.

Keep an eye out for these exciting projects on our website and Facebook pages.

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

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

#### YOUTH SERVICES

##### Celebrating 20 Years Young

For the past 20 years the Banyule Nillumbik Youth Services Network (BNYSN) has brought together partners to advocate, coordinate and improve services for young people across the region.

BNYSN began in 1997 and has been advocating, training, networking and supporting the local youth sector.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Karen Egan, said Council took the lead role in advocating for a local Headspace in Greensborough. Headspace is now established and operating, providing a free and confidential mental health service for people aged 12-25.

We look forward to continuing our work with agencies and organisations in the region to deliver services and programs for young people.

##### Triple Congratulations

Triplets Matthew, James and Nathan are ecstatic that they were able to each get their 120 supervised drive hours and Probationary licence with the help of their volunteer mentor drivers Jonathon, Sergio, Peter, Mary and Geoff.

With three learners of the same age in the house all keen to get their licence, mum Anna said she was “thankful for all the help that L2P provided and the generosity of the wonderful volunteer mentor drivers.”

Matthew, James and Nathan are now able to get around much easier including travelling to sporting and work commitments.

The Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Eltham Community Bendigo Bank branches are proud supporters of the L2P program which is funded by TAC, and managed by VicRoads in conjunction with Council.

L2P@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

9433 3329

##### The junior musical for 2017 is Elf JR!

Rehearsals are already in full swing for performances in December. If you’re 16 or over and would like to join the backstage or front of house crew, email Sarah.Hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Elf JR will perform at Eltham College on 14, 15 and 16 December.

##### RAP with NYT

RAP is a resilience and resourcefulness program designed by the University of Queensland’s Psychology Department ideal for young people in Years 6, 7 and 8.

Nillumbik Youth Theatre will combine this program with exciting and creative arts activities to enable young people to identify their strengths. Places available for Wednesday workshops during term 4.

[www.trybooking.com/RCUK](http://www.trybooking.com/RCUK)

Cath.Rutten@Nillumbik.vic.gov.au

##### FReeZA

Come along to the Eltham Town Square every second Saturday afternoon from September to November for lyric writing and rapping workshops with the group ‘Wasted Potential’ and meet local and well-known performers.

##### UN Youth Rep Consult

Paige Burton, United Nations Youth Representative for Australia, visited Eltham in August and met with young locals to chat about a number of themes facing our young people.

Keep an eye out in September as Paige presents her findings as part of the Australian Delegation to the United Nations.

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

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

#### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Keep an eye out for The Small Business Bus pulling into Commercial Place, Eltham on Thursday 21 September. Operated by Small Business Victoria.

Saturday 2 September
2pm-4.30pm
Soil improvement workshop
Free
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 3 September
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Tuesday 5 September
4pm-5pm
Teddy bear party (ages 3-10)
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 5 September
10am-11.30am
Declutter and make space to grow your dreams
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 6 September
10am-2pm
eBay buying and selling
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 7 September
Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022 online survey closes [www.surveymonkey.com/r/DWKG2F8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DWKG2F8)

Thursday 7 September
7pm-8pm
Amnesty International: 40 years in Eltham (adults)
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 9 September
10am-10pm
Diamond Creek Rotary Town Fair
[www.diamondcreektownfair.org.au](http://www.diamondcreektownfair.org.au)

Saturday 9 September and Sunday 10 September
10am-4pm
Australian plants expo - Presented by Australian Plants Society, Yarra Yarra Group
Adults $5, Concession $4
Eltham Community and Reception Centre
apsyarrayarra@gmail.com

Saturday 9 September
10am-1pm
Watercolour painting workshop
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Monday 11 September
6.30pm-8.30pm
Indian cooking – southern region
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 12 September
7pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 13 September
9.30am-12.30pm
Mailchimp e-newsletters
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 14 September
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Supporting mothers and Why dad’s matter
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Saturday 16 September
10am-1pm
Japanese ink art workshop
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 17 September
10am-4pm
Sustainable house day
Visit local houses that are environmentally progressive
[www.sustainablehouseday.com](http://www.sustainablehouseday.com)

Sunday 17 September
10am-1pm
Women’s Business
Free
Bunjil Reserve
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents)

Wednesday 20 September and Wednesday 18 October
10.30am-11.30am
Philosophy Club
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 21 September
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Understand your baby
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Thursday 21 September
7.30pm
Courthouse Poetry Readings
Eltham Courthouse
0438 339 732

Until Monday 25 September
Eltham Library Community Gallery - Unveiling Union
Eltham High School Teachers and Former Students
Eltham Library
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 26 September
7pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 28 Sept – Monday 23 October
Eltham Library Community Gallery - Country House
Eltham Library
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 30 September
2pm-4pm
Growing vegies from seed
Free
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 30 September
Rates instalment due

School holidays at Edendale
Open 9.30am-4.30pm daily
30 Gastons Road, Eltham
Edendale will be a ‘hive’ of activity during the September school holidays. Learn all about pollination, the importance of bees in the garden and don’t forget to check out the bee display in reception.
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

#### OCTOBER CALENDAR

Pack a picnic blanket and lunch, ride the trains for free at Diamond Valley Railway and play in the playgrounds at Eltham Lower Park to celebrate Children's Week. Come along from 11am-3pm on Wednesday 25 October and enjoy this community celebration.

Sunday 1 October
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Sunday 1 October
1pm-3.30pm
Beekeeping…a taster
$15
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Monday 2 October
12pm-5pm
Sewing and Wool Crafts MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 4 October and Thursday 5 October
10am-4pm
Organic gardening for beginners (2 day workshop)
$120
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 8 October
10am-1pm
Orchid walk
Free
Bunjil Reserve
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents%20)

Monday 9 October
10am-12pm
Beading with OMG Beads
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 10 October
10am-11am
Victorian Seniors Festival - words on wheels interactive storytelling
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 10 October
7pm-8.15pm
Yoga – Gita style
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 12 October
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Expecting your first baby – session 1
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 October
11am- 5pm
Open Cellars of The Artisan Hills
Various wineries in Nillumbik
[www.opencellars.com.au](http://www.opencellars.com.au)

Sunday 15 October
10am-4.30pm
Practically Green Festival
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/PGFestival](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/PGFestival)

Monday 16 October
9.30am-3pm
Introduction to horticulture (9 session course)
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 17 October
7pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 17 October
7pm– 9pm
2018 Vocational Course Information Session
739 Main Rd, Eltham
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 18 October
2pm-3pm
5000 poppies workshop
Hear about the poppy project and learn how to create poppies made from wool.
Diamond Valley Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 18 October
6.30pm–8pm
Create the home of your dreams in the house you have
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 19 October
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Expecting your first baby – session 2
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Thursday 19 October
7.30pm
Courthouse Poetry Readings
Eltham Courthouse
0438 339 732

Thursday 19 October
9.30am–12pm
Computer skills - back to work
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 21 October
2pm-4.30pm
Soil improvement workshop
Free
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 22 October
10am-4pm
Eltham mudbrick tour
[www.eltham.mudbricktour.org](http://www.eltham.mudbricktour.org)

Sunday 22 October
11am-6pm
On the Hill Festival
Firefighters Memorial Park, Panton Hill
[www.facebook.com/OnTheHillFestivalPantonHill](http://www.facebook.com/OnTheHillFestivalPantonHill)

Monday 23 – Tuesday 31 October
Library opening hours
Paranormal Pictures (ages 12+)
Eltham Library
[www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 23 October
Creative writing – Literary Optimists
1pm-3pm
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 25 October
9.30am-3pm
Crafty Cats MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)
Thursday 26 October – Monday 27 November
Nillumbik Artists Open Studios
[www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)

Saturday 28 October
10am-1pm
Sourdough bread making
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Monday 30 October
7pm
Special Meeting to elect the Mayor
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Monday 30 October
1pm-3.30pm
Photobooks and canvases
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 31 October
7pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 31 October
7pm-9pm
Creative MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik
Hurstbridge Hub
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

#### NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Come along to Eltham Library Community Gallery from Thursday 30 November and celebrate an exhibition of works created by Living & Learning Nillumbik participants and tutors.

Thursday 2 November
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Understand your baby
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Sunday 5 November
Hurstbridge Farmers’ Market
Fergusons Paddock
[www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

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

Wednesday 8 November
12pm-5pm
Scrapbooking and Paper Crafts MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 9 November
9.30am-3pm
Just Xmas MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 11 November
10am-1pm
Italian cooking – Christmas feast
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November
Rotary Eltham Festival
[www.elthamfestival.org.au](http://www.elthamfestival.org.au)

Monday 13 November
9.30am-11.30am
Art MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 14 November
7pm
Future Nillumbik Committee
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Wednesday 15 November
6.30pm-8.30pm
Love Food, Hate Waste - cooking demonstration with dinner
Free
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 16 November
7.30pm
Courthouse Poetry Readings
Eltham Courthouse
0438 339 732

Thursday 16 November
12pm-2pm
iPad – intermediate
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 18 November
2pm-3pm
Set up and maintain a worm farm
Free
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 18 November
10am-12pm and 12.30pm-3.30pm
Soy candle making
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 18 and Saturday 25 November
10am-4pm
Introduction to permaculture (2 day workshop)
$120
Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 21 November
9am-4.30pm
Studio Arts MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)
Wednesday 23 November
9am-4.30pm
Clay MakerSpace (for experienced potters)
Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 25 November
5pm–8pm
Edendale twilight picnic
$5 per person, $15 per family (2 adults, 2 children). Children under two are free. Edendale
[www.edendale.vic.gov.au](http://www.edendale.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 28 November
7pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Civic Centre
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 28 November
9.30am-1.30pm
Needle Natter MakerSpace
Living & Learning Nillumbik Panton Hill
[www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 30 November
6.30pm-8.30pm
Parenting in Perspective - Supporting mothers and Why dad’s matter
Edendale
[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/pip)

Thursday 30 November
Rates instalment due

#### YOUR COUNCILLORS

Postal address for Council and all Councillors:
Nillumbik Shire Council
PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088

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

As Mayor, I was honoured to officially reopen the renovated and rejuvenated Eltham Community and Reception Centre after its much-needed $3.43 million facelift. The centre is our premiere local function venue providing a fully-accessible and functional community space, which retains the unique character of the original iconic mudbrick building. The renovations to the Centre mean that it is now fully accessible with improved toilet and kitchen facilities and audio visual equipment for the stage.

I recently attended the National Assembly of Local Government in Canberra to seek agreement to call on the Australian Government to establish a grant fund for regional recreational trail development. We were successful and are preparing our grant application.

I am also pleased to announce that a new home has been agreed for the Eltham Men’s Shed at Wattletree Road in Eltham North. The group has outgrown its current location and has been looking for a new home for some time. Previously operating at a preschool, the location identified as an ideal solution for the Eltham Men’s Shed will reopen as a Men’s Shed in January 2018.

Having now implemented the promise in year one to freeze our rates, we are getting on with improving services such as the free green waste vouchers.

**Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Egan**Bunjil Ward
0408 058 899
Karen.Egan@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

I was delighted to be involved in the 20 year celebration of the Banyule Nillumbik Youth Services Network (BNYSN) which has been advocating, training, networking and supporting the local youth sector. We are very proud of the work the Shire did in advocating for a local Headspace in Greensborough which provides a free and confidential mental health service for people aged 12-25. An awe-inspiring bunch of individuals, who together have made a massive difference to the lives of hundreds of kids over the past 20 years. Congratulations to you all!

In early September Council hosted a forum to assist residents to plan for emergencies. We are committed to building a resilient community and working with agencies like the CFA, VICSES, Emergency Management Victoria and DELWP to ensure our community is prepared for emergencies.

We are proud that Nillumbik has one of the highest volunteer rates of any Council in the state – something we should all be very proud of.

Another highlight has been the launch of the Wattle Glen Memorial Park Sportsground redevelopment which supports the growing need for our soccer and cricket clubs. This project cost $465,000, with $365,000 coming from Council and a $100,000 contribution from the Victorian Government through the Community Sport Infrastructure Fund.

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

A community group formed to provide strategic advice for the redevelopment of the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre has met and conducted site visits for similar facilities looking at management models to assist in the planning stage for this project.

As environment portfolio chair, I am pleased our new green waste voucher system will be in place for 2017-2018. This reform will allow greater flexibility and choice to residents. We will be able to drop off green waste at a convenient time and not be restricted to a designated weekend. It is a tangible measure of how this new Council is approaching old practices with fresh thinking.

Residents were recently able to view designs of the VicRoads works to duplicate Yan Yean Road at Plenty Hall. The design contains a shared bike and pedestrian footpath along the entire western section from Diamond Creek Road to Kurrack Road.

This is a massive upgrade for residents of Plenty, in particular, who have had to endure substandard conditions along this road for decades.

The Susan St Reserve lights were officially opened by the Mayor and local Eltham MP Vicky Ward. This is one of the first football ovals in the country to be powered by LED lights, resulting in reduced operating and maintenance costs as well as lower emissions.

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

The first sod has been turned for the Edendale Community Environment Farm project by Mayor Peter Clarke and MP Vicki Ward. The project has become a reality thanks to $500,000 from the Growing Suburbs Fund and a Council contribution of $398,400.

Improvements to Edendale will include a permanent kiosk facility and outdoor seating, enhancements to the nursery, a new multi-purpose space and extra toilets, a sensory garden and children’s nature play space. A new outdoor teaching space will be constructed and habitat improvements in the southern and northern wetlands areas.

This is an exciting project for the Nillumbik community and the many people who visit Edendale. We look forward to the project coming to fruition. Remember to visit the Edendale website to see some of the fun activities in the September school holidays.

I took part in a visit to VicRoads to meet with regional directors and managers to discuss improved service levels in our Shire.

I also had the pleasure of presenting the Nillumbik Literary Awards to local winners Karen Andrews for her story Miriam and Mildred and Michael Olsen for his poem The Weeping Forest.

Jennifer Nguyen from Frankston was the Youth Prize Winner of the Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award.

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

Many thanks to the Older Men: New Ideas (OM:NI) group for your inspiration to create a hay bale pop-up labyrinth for children near Rotary Park. It was so successful that Council is considering a more permanent labyrinth in the future.

I’m working towards a health and wellbeing loop through the reserve near the dog park which will incorporate outdoor fitness stations and a permanent labyrinth in accordance with the OM:NI proposal. Diamond Creek Rotary and Diamond Valley Lions have already indicated a willingness to provide some financial support.

Council has applied for State Government support for projects including the Diamond Creek Trail Extension, a pavilion at Marngrook Oval, a regional playground and an extension to the netball court pavilion. Please help our State MP Danielle Green lobby the State Government for funding for these and other important developments by emailing your thoughts to danielle.green@parliament.vic.gov.au

Please remember to support local businesses whenever you can. Almost all businesses in Diamond Creek contribute to fund the Traders Association which actively runs promotions, events and initiatives that benefit us all. I’d especially like to thank outgoing Association President Phil Marendaz for the tireless work and leadership over the last five years. Visit [www.diamondcreekshopping.com.au](http://www.diamondcreekshopping.com.au)

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

We were all relieved when a second arborist’s report advised us that the heritage listed sugar gum tree in Kangaroo Ground will be ok for at least a few more years; it will undergo pruning and yearly checks.

The Kangaroo Ground Memorial Tower grounds will undergo a face-lift, with beds being prepared for new planting, a new seat and new bollards. The Friends of Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park should be congratulated for all their hard work, and I encourage new members to join them.

Did you know there are community education and arts courses through Allwood House in Hurstbridge and the Living & Learning Centre at Panton Hill. Sugarloaf also has a wide range of sporting clubs and even a sailing club. Community Hubs in St Andrews and Hurstbridge also offer a wide range of activities. So get out and try something new!

Your fire preparation should be well underway by now, with any piles burnt off materials removed, leaves raked up and long grass near your home cut back. If you are not sure how to prepare, contact your local CFA for more information. Council is preparing for the summer season with fuel reduction, tree management and mowing along roads. You may be able to maintain your own road reserve, just check with Council first.

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

As Chair of Social Infrastructure I was excited to be part of the process for Plenty War Memorial Park redevelopment and upgrades for Wattle Glen Memorial Park. These projects support and encourage further development and higher participation levels in cricket, football and soccer facilities in our communities.

Night time football, rugby and training is now possible at the Susan Street Reserve in Eltham.

Research Park is a $2.26M project to upgrade the pavilion and provide a community space. The concept plans have been developed and will go to tender for architectural services shortly.

New lighting at Marngrook Pavilion has been submitted for funding approval.

Over the last six months I have held three seasonal sports club forums to discuss the sporting needs of the Shire. These forums have provided the sporting community with an opportunity to engage with Council, understand how Council and government prioritise projects, give their feedback and collaborate with each other.

##### Free ‘Detox your Home’ household chemical drop off event

Do you need to dispose of unwanted household chemicals?

When: Saturday 16 September
Time: 10am-2pm
Where: Site address provided upon registration

Register now for the next Detox your Home event where you can drop off unwanted household chemicals (such as acids, brake fluid, coolant, fertiliser, petrol, fire extinguishers, herbicides, pool chemicals and solvents) and reduce the risk of poisoning, environmental pollution and fire hazard, as well as improve recycling rates.

Register now and view a full list of accepted items:

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

##### New solar panel system at the Community Bank Stadium

Council received a grant from the Victorian Government’s New Energy Jobs Fund, for the installation of a 99.96 kilowatt solar photovoltaic system on the roof of the Community Bank Stadium in Diamond Creek.

The system enables Council to deliver on key objectives outlined in our Climate Change Action Plan 2016-2020.

Council aims to produce 30 per cent of energy requirements for our buildings through onsite renewable energy sources.

By 2020 we hope to reduce grid supplied electricity consumption by 20 per cent from the 2013 levels.

The Community Bank Stadium is not only a hub of sporting activity in the Diamond Creek area; it also functions as an Emergency Relief Centre, with the capacity to provide short term relief for more than 1000 people.

In the event of a power outage this new solar photovoltaic system and battery storage will enable the Stadium to function in ‘island mode’ and operate for eight hours.

Work is expected to be complete in August 2018.

##### A–Z recycling and waste guide

Want to know which bin to use?

Visit the new section of our website A-Z recycling guide.

Here are some of the things we most often get asked about:

Empty aerosol cans = YELLOW recycling bin

Foam meat tray = RED landfill bin

Hard plastic meat tray = YELLOW recycling bin

Broken window glass, drinking glasses or picture frame glass (securely wrapped) = RED landfill bin

Computers and other e-waste recycle free-of-charge at our RECYCLING & RECOVERY CENTRE

For more information visit: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/recyclingguide](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/recyclingguide)

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

Nillumbik Shire Council

Civic Drive, Greensborough VIC 3088

Telephone 9433 3111 | Facsimile 9433 3777

Email: nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

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

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

Twitter: @nillumbikshire