

Summer 2017-2018  
December – February



# Nillumbik

## NEWS



*Merry Christmas* from Nillumbik

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from the Mayor

Welcome to the summer edition of *Nillumbik News*

Council has maintained a stable leadership team and I am honoured to continue in the role of Mayor for the next 12 months. Cr Karen Egan will remain as Deputy Mayor and all Councillors will continue to serve as chairs of their respective committees.

In this issue of *Nillumbik News* we look at preparations for the forthcoming bushfire season. As you will see, Council is playing its part in helping make our community fire safe. However, it is important that property owners, residents and businesses also play their part. Our bushfire preparation feature will give you some handy tips on being even better prepared.

We will continue to build on the achievements of the past 12 months, which saw us freeze Council rates this year. We are focused on delivering value for money services that matter to our community. We have also tackled issues that impact on our sense of community pride like graffiti, littering and improving the look of our public places.

We are continuing to push the state government to adopt Option A as the preferred route for the North East Link and at the time of writing this article we are waiting on an official announcement.

Option A represents the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly outcome and will go a long way to helping reduce congestion on our local roads.

Finally with Christmas just a matter of weeks away I wish you, your family and friends a happy, safe and prosperous Christmas and New Year.

*P. Clarke*

Mayor, Cr Peter Clarke

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



# Bushfire safety

**Council is doing its part to ensure our community is even better protected from the threat of bushfires this summer with a raft of measures designed to reduce bushfire risk**

More than \$1.2 million will be spent on an expanded program of bushfire prevention works, including additional roadside and reserve slashing, controlled burn offs, enforced property clean ups and a ramped up community education program.

Council recently launched its bushfire safety campaign 'Fire Safe Nillumbik' as a means of raising the community's awareness of the need to prepare for what is forecast to be a dry, hot summer.

Early indications from essential services agencies also highlight the risk of power outages which can contribute to heat stress conditions.

On hot, dry, windy days, if fires start they will spread quickly.

If the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe you're risking your life if you don't take action. The best way to protect you and your family is to leave, and leave early.

It is important to plan what you will do in an emergency and prepare your family, pets and home. It is also essential that you consider things such as power outages or supply issues. Make sure your family knows and understands the plan.

Know where you are going and plan your journey, allowing plenty of time for any traffic issues. Leave early. There should be no expectation that road travel will be safe immediately before, during or immediately after a fire.

If you are already prepared, be a good neighbour and check with people around you who may need help.

### Council works

Council has been preparing for the summer season with bushfire reduction plans well underway.

This has included roadside clearing, slashing and mowing, tree management and native vegetation clearing. It is important to understand that when conditions are Severe, Extreme and Code Red, vegetation management will do very little to stop the spread of a fire.

Council's fire prevention program has also included ensuring the maintenance of fire tracks, power line clearance, removing hazardous trees, clearing road sides, water tank maintenance and environmental works in our 32 reserves. This work is vital for Council to undertake but it will not entirely eliminate our bushfire risk.

It is important for residents to think about their own properties and start to get them ready for summer by clearing long grass, timber and wood stores along with gutters and drains.

Burning off without a permit during the Fire Danger Period is an offence under the CFA Act so make sure you check the Fire Danger Period by visiting [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)

To make it easier for you to reduce your fuel load, Council has introduced free green waste vouchers, giving you the flexibility to recycle garden materials and vegetation at the Recycling and Recovery Centre in Plenty.

The vouchers can be used for one cubic metre of domestic green waste such as prunings, garden clippings, leaves or grass or one level 6 x 4 trailer load or less. Loads larger than this will require two vouchers.

Remember that ember attack causes many houses to burn down. Your house could be subject to ember attack from fires burning many kilometres away.

If you are thinking of staying and defending, remember that experiencing a bushfire can be very traumatic. Exposing your children to this experience can lead to serious psychological harm.

Visit the CFA website for more ideas and information to help prepare and protect you and your property this bushfire season [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)

### VicEmergency app

The VicEmergency app provides warnings and information for incidents such as fires, floods, storms and other events.

The VicEmergency website [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) has also been upgraded and a new hotline 1800 226 226 to ensure Victorians continue to receive the most up-to-date emergency information this summer through a range of sources.

The app, hotline and website will provide the community with the best information so you can make the critical decisions about your safety.

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

Download the VicEmergency app from the App store or Google Play.



## Who are you and what do you do?

**Norm Golgerth (main picture, second from right) has been a constant at Nillumbik Shire Council for 35 years, with 25 of these working in emergency management. With the title of Emergency Management Coordinator, Norm's role also doubles as Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. Sounds important and it is, as Norm monitors all things related to emergencies across the Nillumbik region, especially fires.**

### What does your role entail?

It's very broad, I do a range of things from inspecting potential fire hazards on properties, issuing fire prevention notices, providing fire safety advice and making sure Council meets all emergency management requirements on its projects.

There are two primary focuses in my role, one is the planning side of things where I work with government and emergency service agencies on activities such as prescribed burns, coordinating clearance work with the CFA on fire access tracks and maintaining water tanks. The other side of my job involves community education and raising awareness of the need to plan, and prepare for emergencies of any nature.

### When you say prepare, do you mean cleaning up your property?

That's an important factor, but it's much more than just that. It's about having a survival plan, which is flexible in the event of things not going as you expected. You have to plan for the worst possible scenario and know what your options are.

### What advice do you have on preparing for emergencies?

I liken it to the preparation an athlete does. They plan, practise and practise, until what they're doing becomes second nature. Athletes also use the right equipment to succeed. For them it might be shoes, a bike or racquet. They get it sorted early. Preparing for an emergency is the same.

You need to get the right equipment together, go over and over your plan and consider all possible scenarios. Don't just rely on emergency services.

Black Saturday brought it all home to us. And while our plans and procedures have greatly improved, you never actually know what you'll be confronted with so plan, prepare and practise.



## Looking after pets



As the weather warms up in the coming months it's important to not only look after yourself, you should also take care of your pet's needs.

Here are a few things to keep in mind to ensure your pet stays safe over summer:

- ensure your pet has access to cool, shady areas in the house or yard and always make sure your pet has access to plenty of cool drinking water.
- don't forget to slip, slop, slap. Fair-skinned pets can easily sunburn so use special animal sunscreen
- ensure your pet is kept up to date with flea and tick treatments. The warmer months are a prime time for these pests
- loud noises such as fireworks and thunderstorms can frighten pets so make sure your yard is safe and secure. It's also important to make sure your pet has identification and is microchipped
- never leave your pet in a car. It can take just six minutes for a dog to die in a hot car.

Visit [rspca.org](http://rspca.org) for more information.

## Snake advice

Snakes become much more active during the summer months, so it's important to safeguard your family and pets as much as possible.

- make your yard unappealing to snakes by keeping the grass cut, clear piles of rubbish and other objects such as piles of wood, rocks, sheets of metal or building materials where snakes may hide
- if you see a snake, keep calm and try to move yourself, anyone with you or your pets away from it
- never touch or attempt to catch or hurt snakes, contact the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on 136 186. They can provide you with a list of licensed snake handlers in the Shire
- undertake first aid and ensure your first aid kit contains several compression bandages
- if someone is bitten, call triple zero (000) immediately.



## Extreme heat and heatwaves

A heatwave is a period of unusual and uncomfortable hot weather. Conditions that cause heatwaves can also cause power and transport outages, traffic congestion and an increased risk of bushfires

Extreme heat and heatwaves can affect anyone, however some people, such as the elderly and very young children are more vulnerable. Heatwaves can cause illnesses such as cramps, exhaustion and heat stroke, which can be fatal. If you suspect someone is suffering a heat-related illness, call triple zero (000).

Survive the heat during summer with these tips:



### Drink more water

- even if you don't feel thirsty, drink water
- make sure you keep a full drink bottle with you.



### Help others

- look after those most at risk in the heat – your neighbour living alone, the elderly, the young, people with a medical condition and don't forget your pets.



### Hot cars kill

- never leave children, adults or pets in hot cars
- the temperature inside a parked car can double within minutes.



### Plan ahead

- schedule activities for the coolest part of the day and avoid exercising in the heat. If you must go out, wear a hat and sunscreen and take a full bottle of water with you
- stock up on food, water and medicines so you don't have to go out, and remember to store medicines safely at the recommended temperature
- check that fans or air-conditioning are working well and have your air-conditioner serviced if necessary
- prepare for power failures by ensuring you have a torch, battery-operated radio, fully charged mobile phone, food items that don't require refrigeration, medications, plenty of drinking water and other essential items at hand.



### Stay cool

- seek out air-conditioned buildings such as shopping centres, supermarkets, libraries, cinemas or community centres
- draw your blinds, use a fan and dress in light and loose clothing
- keep yourself cool by using wet towels, putting your feet in cool water and taking cool showers.

Visit [betterhealth.vic.gov.au/heat](http://betterhealth.vic.gov.au/heat) for more information.



## The Travelling Teapot Council's new Arts and Cultural Plan unveiled

The Travelling Teapot was a unique series of roving creative focus groups, facilitated by creative consultants, Evi Van der Niet and David Adams that was used to develop the 2018-2022 Arts and Cultural Plan

You may have participated in one of the focus groups, come across a roving consultation or perhaps you contributed via the online survey.

We've been hard at work gathering everything you told us and on Saturday 3 February, the new Arts and Cultural Plan will be launched at the Eltham Library Community Gallery (ELCG).

The launch will coincide with the Travelling Teapot exhibition at the ELCG from Friday

19 January – Monday 12 February 2018. This carnivale event celebrates the values and visions of Nillumbik's arts and culture.

The Travelling Teapot sets will be on display along with tablecloths, stories, photos and videos collected during the Travelling Teapot season. There will also be music and roving performances by local artists.

Visit [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/travellingteapot](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/travellingteapot) to find out more.

## 2018 Australia Day Awards – nominate now

Council is seeking nominations for the 2018 Australia Day Awards. It's time to recognise those exceptional people and groups in our community who make Nillumbik a better place.

Nominate now for:

- Nillumbik Citizen of the Year
- Nillumbik Young Citizen of the Year
- Nillumbik Senior Citizen of the Year
- Nillumbik Community Group of the Year
- Nillumbik Volunteer of the Year

Nomination forms are available at [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay) or from the Civic Centre.

Prevention of violence

## 16 Days of Activism

Council strongly believes all violence is wrong, regardless of the gender of the victim or perpetrator. That's why we're supporting Victoria Against Violence – 16 Days of Activism.

The campaign started on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women 25 November and runs until 10 December.

The sad reality is:

- on average at least one woman a week is killed in Australia by a current or former partner
- police are called-out on average once every two minutes to attend to women in family violence situations
- across the country one in three women has experienced physical violence since the age of 15
- family violence against women is the single largest driver of homelessness for women and a common factor in child protection notifications.

This year we offered small grants to community groups and organisations to help raise awareness of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign.

We hope that by joining the Victorian Government and other local councils, we can help make a difference.







Make the most of the warmer months at one of our many festivals, markets, family activities and more. From live music at the Eltham Jazz Festival to bike riding along one of our many trails, there's plenty to explore in Nillumbik

#### On ya bike

Nillumbik is home to more than 40 kilometres of urban and rural trails.

Meander through tranquil bushland by bike, foot or hooves and reconnect with nature. It's the perfect way to enjoy a sunny afternoon.

While you're out and about make sure you check out the variety of attractions along the way. From historical sites to wineries, pubs, galleries, playgrounds and cafés, there's something for the whole family to enjoy. So saddle up and discover the beautiful landscapes of The Artisan Hills.

[theartisanhills.vic.gov.au](http://theartisanhills.vic.gov.au)

#### Make a splash!

Looking for somewhere to cool off this summer? Pack your togs and lunch and head to the Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool for some family fun in the sun.

The complex boasts a heated 25 metre pool, shaded toddler pool, barbecues, and a kiosk. The centre also offers swimming and water survival lessons.

[aquatics.dcop@ymca.org.au](mailto:aquatics.dcop@ymca.org.au)

#### Stock the pantry

Not only is the Hurstbridge Farmers' Market a food lover's paradise, it's also the perfect place to stock up on locally made, one of a kind gifts.

Pick up everything you need for your Christmas feast including free-range meats, seasonal fruit and veggies, gourmet pâtés, olives, cheese, craft beer and wine, gluten-free products and other specialty products.

Purchase some of the delicious goodies and enjoy a family picnic on the lawn at the twilight market from 4pm-8pm on Sunday 17 December.

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

#### Put your green thumb to the test

The annual Home Harvest FEASTival is a celebration of home grown produce and local food.

All growers are invited to celebrate in the harvest and the joys of local food by sharing a delicious community meal.

There's plenty of advice and support to help you get growing in your garden so register now.

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

#### Grab your dancing shoes

Head to the Eltham Jazz, Food and Wine Festival on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 February and dance the summer days away. Enjoy fabulous music, local food and wine in a laid back atmosphere.

The festival has been running for more than 20 years and in 2017 was voted best jazz festival in Australia and ranked in the top 20 jazz festivals in the world by American Express Essentials.

See exciting jazz, blues, soul and rock 'n' roll line-up's with artists playing on multiple stages across Eltham.

[elthamjazz.com.au](http://elthamjazz.com.au)



## Eltham Leisure Centre update

Progress is continuing on Council's largest-ever capital works project, with the \$20.2 million development of Eltham Leisure Centre's new aquatic facilities

When completed in autumn 2018 the centre will boast some of the region's best water-based and dry facilities, including new pools, accessible change rooms, an outdoor water splash area and a hi-tech gym and fitness area.

Despite a relatively dry winter, a number of wet days at critical stages in the project have led to delays. However, with the forecast of a dry summer work is expected to pick up pace.

Council understands that the project delays are frustrating for members and centre users and has put in place arrangements to reduce any possible impacts.

These include the early opening of the Diamond Creek heated outdoor pool. The pool is catering for learn to swim classes, fun days, school holiday programs and for recreational and lap swimmers.

While work is continuing on the aquatic centre, members of the gym will reap the benefits of a major upgrade that will see it fully revamped and new-state-of-the-art exercise equipment installed.

Our partnership with our centre operators, Aligned Leisure, will see an expanded range of programs and major investment in new equipment, including Technogym cardio and fitness equipment.

Using cloud-based technology users will be able to access a variety of training programs and tools to monitor and track their progress.

They will also have instant access to their own personal content and favourite apps.

In addition to the new equipment and other major improvements, members will also benefit from 24/7 gym access, allowing them to work-out at a time that suits them.

Once the aquatic redevelopment is complete it will offer:

- 25m, eight lane indoor heated pool with ramp access
- warm water program pool with ramp access
- program/leisure pool with toddler zone
- outdoor water splash park
- multi-purpose program room
- accessible change rooms
- school change rooms and separate school access
- spa with ramp access, sauna and steam room
- poolside seating
- new equipment, and
- improved car parking.

Nillumbik Shire Council would like to thank our state government funding partners:

- State Government Community Facilities Funding Program – Better Pools \$3M
- State Government – Growing Suburbs Fund \$3.8M
- Nillumbik Shire Council \$13.4M



## Open Space Precinct Plan

As part of Council's Open Space Precinct Plan for Graysharps Road in Hurstbridge, residents were invited to write their idea or vision for the plan on a printed leaf.

The leaves were then tied to a tree, known as the 'Idea Tree', and placed in various locations in Hurstbridge for six weeks.

The ideas and visions for the space have been collated and were presented at a community workshop held in November.

Outcomes from the workshop are now being considered and there will be further opportunities for your feedback in early 2018.

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





## Victorian Residential Efficiency Scorecard comes to Nillumbik

The Victorian Residential Efficiency Scorecard has been developed to help households better understand the energy performance of their homes and identify ways to reduce emissions and lower energy costs

A scorecard assessment of your home provides you with a star rating out of 10 that represents the average cost of energy for your home.

The assessment identifies where the most energy is used in your home and assesses heating, cooling and hot water appliances, along with the construction and design of your home. The assessment also provides

practical options to improve your home's energy efficiency.

The cost of an assessment is \$175 for most households. For residents holding any type of pension card or health care card the fee is \$25.

To book an assessment go to [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/PracticallyGreenLiving](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/PracticallyGreenLiving) or call 9433 3316.

## Clean Energy Nillumbik

Clean Energy Nillumbik is a community group working to achieve 100 per cent clean energy in Nillumbik within the next ten years.

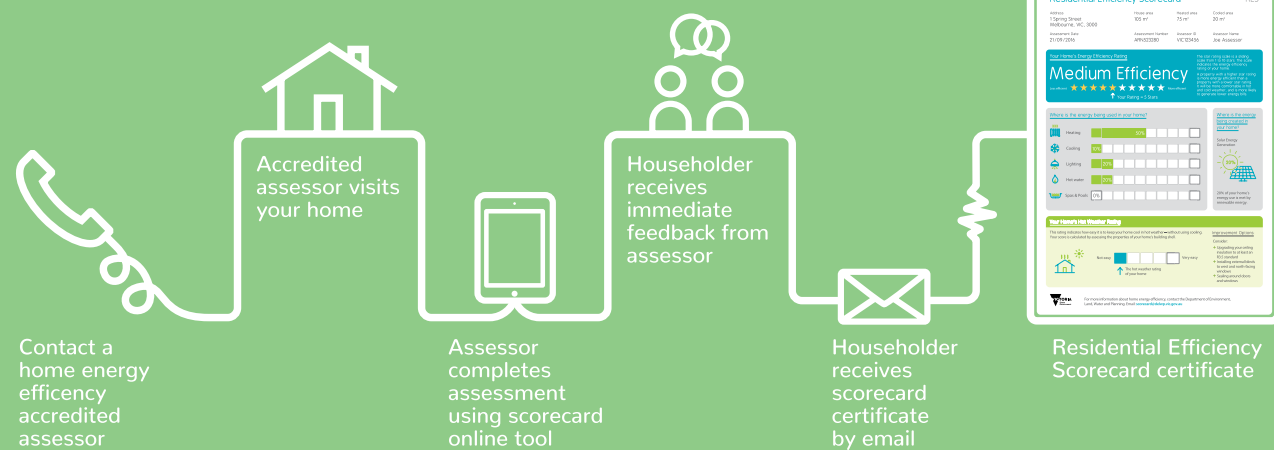
The group was launched at the Practically Green Festival in October and is being assisted by award winning think tank Beyond Zero Emissions.

Clean Energy Nillumbik can help you find the best solutions to incorporate renewable energy and efficiency measures in your home or business.

### For more information

📧 [info@cleanenergynillumbik.com.au](mailto:info@cleanenergynillumbik.com.au)  
 🌐 [cleanenergynillumbik.org.au](http://cleanenergynillumbik.org.au)

### How does the Residential Efficiency Scorecard work?



## 120 licenses for 120 hours

Thank you to our L2P Program Mentors for collectively achieving the amazing milestone of helping 120 young people get their license



The Nillumbik Learner Driver Mentor Program, L2P, supports people under 21 years of age who don't have access to a suitable vehicle or supervising driver to gain 120 supervised learner driver hours to get their license.

The L2P Program has enjoyed great success with more than 83 dedicated volunteers sharing 13,000 drive hours of their time.

Ten of our longest serving mentor volunteers; Bob Mietus, Jamie Kelly, Joy Ferguson, Robyn Purchase, Jack Zagorski, David Bradley, Rob Batten, Helen Smith, John Zito and Phil Toy have

completed five years or more of service and collectively, they have clocked up a whopping 6,000 volunteer hours.

If you would like to make a difference to a young person's life and have some time to spare we would like to hear from you. Contact [L2P@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:L2P@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or 9433 3329.

The Nillumbik L2P program is funded by the TAC and managed by VicRoads in conjunction with Council. Thanks to the Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Eltham Community Bank Branches for their continued support.

## Youth Development Grants

If you are involved in a local group running a project that engages young people in the community or you are developing a new youth-focused program or event that involves young people aged 10-25 years, then you might be eligible for a Youth Development Quick Response Grant

Each financial year from 1 July, eligible organisations can apply to Council for up to \$2,000 out of a pool of \$10,000. Grants are available until the funds are expended.

The Youth Development Quick Response Grants support local groups to run projects that:

- develop new youth-focussed programs and events

- increase participation for people aged 10 to 25
- empower young people to be involved in local activities through participation, leadership or project design.

Guidelines and application forms can be found at [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/grants](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/grants) or contact [Sarah.Hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sarah.Hammond@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) for more information.

## THE NILLUMBIK PRIZE 2018

2018 entries open  
 Thursday 18 January

🌐 [montsalvat.com.au](http://montsalvat.com.au)

Subscribe to the arts e-bulletin for all things arts and culture  
[artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



## Living in the Landscape

### Public Art Incubator

The Living in the Landscape Public Art Incubator program supports temporary public art installations that respond to Nillumbik's unique natural environment and creates connections between artists and the community.

*Woven Pods* is the first of four projects from the program.



Artist, Gay Chatfield, spent a month at the Hurstbridge Community Hub weaving three sculptural pods made from locally sourced materials.

Children from the Hurstbridge Children's Hub and passers-by were invited to assist Gay to weave willow, wattle and other plants to make the tepee-like sculptural forms.

The one-metre high pods invite visitors to the Hub to experience nature from both inside the pods and looking out onto the surrounding landscape. Children attending the Hub are especially enjoying seeing and hiding in the pods that they helped make every day on their way into and out of the kindergarten.

The pods will stand outside the Hub for the community to enjoy over the coming months.

Visit [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/artincubator) to find out more.



# Community CALENDAR



## December

### CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Saturday 2, 9, 16 and 23 December  
10am-2pm

Visit from Santa  
and free kids activities

📍 Eltham Town Square

Sunday 3 December  
9am-1pm

Christmas tree  
Visit the yarn bombed Christmas tree at the Hurstbridge Makers Market.

📍 Wattle Place,  
Main Hurstbridge Road, Hurstbridge

Sunday 3 – 23 December  
Christmas treasure hunt

Keep an eye out for a Christmas treasure hunt by the Hurstbridge traders.

Friday 8 December  
10.30am-11.30am

Christmas cake decorating

📍 Eltham Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 14 December  
2pm-3pm

Christmas gingerbread wreath  
Bookings essential

📍 Diamond Valley Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Thursday 14 December  
7pm-8pm

Christmas Carols

📍 Eltham Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)



Thursday 14 Friday 15  
and Saturday 16 December

Nillumbik Youth Theatre:  
*Elf Jr The Musical*

📍 The Clarke Auditorium, Eltham  
College Performance Centre  
🔗 [trybooking.com/SCEP](http://trybooking.com/SCEP)

Friday 15 December  
10.30am-11.30am

Party with Mrs Clause

📍 Diamond Valley Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 17 December  
6pm-9.30pm

Diamond Creek  
Community Carols

📍 Coventry Oval, Diamond Creek

Wednesday 20 –  
Saturday 23 December

Santa visits Diamond Creek  
shopping precinct

### COMMUNITY

Sunday 3 December  
International Day of People  
with Disability

🔗 [idpwd.com.au](http://idpwd.com.au)

Tuesday 5 December  
International Volunteer Day

Saturday 16 December  
Last run of the Saturday Bus for 2017

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



LEFT: Celebrate the festive season with activities for the kids around the Shire

ABOVE: Pick up a unique gift at the Eltham Twilight Christmas Market on 14 December from 4pm

### MARKETS AND FOOD

Sunday 3 December  
8.30am-1pm

Hurstbridge Farmers' Market

📍 Fergusons Paddock  
🔗 [hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

Sunday 3 December  
8.30am-1.30pm

Eltham Craft and Produce Market

📍 Alistair Knox Park  
🔗 [elthammarket.com.au](http://elthammarket.com.au)

Saturday 9 December  
10am-11am

Food Swap

Bring along your excess produce and swap with others.

📍 Diamond Valley Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 10 December  
9am-1pm

Eltham Farmers' Market

📍 Eltham Town Mall  
🔗 [localfoodconnect.org.au](http://localfoodconnect.org.au)

Thursday 14 December  
4pm-9pm

Eltham Twilight Christmas Market

Celebrate the festive season with live music, activities for the kids, plenty of food, a visit from Santa and pick up some last minute gifts.

📍 Eltham Town Square and  
Commercial Place

Sunday 17 December  
8.30am-1.30pm

Eltham Craft and Produce Market

📍 Alistair Knox Park  
🔗 [elthammarket.com.au](http://elthammarket.com.au)



Sunday 17 December  
9am-1pm

Eltham Farmers' Market

📍 Eltham Town Mall  
🔗 [localfoodconnect.org.au](http://localfoodconnect.org.au)

Sunday 17 December  
4pm-8pm

Hurstbridge Farmers' Market  
Christmas Twilight Market

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

Tuesday 19 December  
4pm-9pm (TBC)

St Andrews Twilight  
and Makers' Market

🔗 [standrewsmarket.com.au](http://standrewsmarket.com.au)

### WHAT'S ON AT THE LIBRARY?

Friday 1 December – 31 January  
Summer Reading Club: age 3-18

📍 All Yarra Plenty Regional Library  
branches  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Monday 11 December  
10am-12pm

Beading with OMG Beads  
Basic beading skills required

📍 Diamond Valley Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

Saturday 2 December  
2pm-3pm

Book launch –  
Snakes and Ladders

📍 Eltham Library  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)



LEFT: Hurstbridge Farmers' Market Christmas Twilight Market is on 17 December from 4pm

ABOVE: Exhibition – *The Boy Who Drew Dragons*  
Marc McBRIDE, *Olga Reading Boo!* (detail), 2016,  
Digital airbrush and pencil © Marc McBride

### ARTS AND CULTURE

Exhibition opening  
Saturday 2 December 2pm-4pm

Runs until 15 December

Exhibition – *diversARTy*  
Living & Learning Nillumbik

A showcase of visual arts, ceramics, textiles, glass, crafts and more. Vote for the People's Choice Award.

📍 Eltham Library Community Gallery  
Panther Place, Eltham  
Gallery hours: Mon-Thur 10am-8.30pm  
Fri-Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday 1pm-5pm  
Closed public holidays

Wednesday 13 December  
6.30pm-8pm

*diversARTy* People's Choice  
Awards presentation

📍 Eltham Library Community Gallery  
Panther Place, Eltham

Exhibition opening  
Saturday 16 December  
2pm-4pm

Runs until 15 January

Exhibition – *The Boy  
Who Drew Dragons*  
Marc McBride

📍 Eltham Library Community Gallery  
Panther Place, Eltham  
🔗 [yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)



### COUNCIL

Tuesday 12 December 7pm  
Future Nillumbik Committee

📍 Civic Centre  
🔗 [nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Tuesday 19 December 7pm  
Ordinary Council Meeting

📍 Civic Centre  
🔗 [nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

## HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

CIVIC CENTRE  
Civic Drive, Greensborough

Closed public holidays,  
open 8.30am-5pm all other times

Monday 25 December CLOSED

Tuesday 26 December CLOSED

Monday 1 January CLOSED

## KERBSIDE BIN COLLECTION

There will be no kerbside collections on Christmas Day and New Years Day. Bins will be collected one day later for that day and the remainder of that week.

If your normal collection is Friday, your bin will be collected on the Saturday of that week.

## RECYCLING AND RECOVERY CENTRE 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

Sunday 24 December 8am-4pm

Monday 25 December CLOSED

Tuesday 26 December CLOSED

Sunday 31 December 8am-4pm

Monday 1 January CLOSED

## REUSE SHOP 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

18 December – 12 January CLOSED

Saturday 13 January 9am-3.30pm

## LIVING & LEARNING CENTRES

ELTHAM  
739 Main Road, Eltham  
Closes 11am Tuesday 19 December 2017  
Reopens 9am Monday 8 January 2018

DIAMOND CREEK  
119 Cowin Street, Diamond Creek  
Closes 11am Tuesday 19 December 2017  
Reopens 9am Monday 29 January 2018

PANTON HILL  
18 Bishops Road, Pantan Hill  
Closes 3pm Friday 15 December 2017  
Reopens 9am Monday 29 January 2018





# Community CALENDAR

**Friday 26 January**  
**Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony**  
 Welcome our newest Australian Citizens and celebrate the winners of the 2018 Nillumbik Australia Day Awards.  
[nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay)



ABOVE: See the quality preschool programs available in Nillumbik at the **Combined Preschool Open Day** on Saturday 24 February, 11am-3pm. Check the website for a list of participating preschools.

## February

### COMMUNITY

**Saturday 3 February**  
**Saturday Bus** resumes for 2018. Bus will not run on days of Total Fire Ban.  
[nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Saturday bus](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Saturdaybus)

**Saturday 24 February 11am-3pm**  
**Combined Preschool Open Day**  
 See the quality preschool programs available in Nillumbik while your children take part in a range of fun activities. Check out the website for a list of participating preschools.  
[nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschool](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/preschool)

**Monday 26 February 9.30am-3pm**  
**Introduction to horticulture**  
 9 session course  
 Edendale  
[livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au)

### MARKETS AND FOOD

**Sunday 4 February 8.30am-1pm**  
**Hurstbridge Farmers' Market**  
 Fergusons Paddock  
[hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au](http://hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au)

**Tuesday 13 February 7pm-8pm**  
**World of Chocolate**  
 Presented by Chocolatier  
 Diamond Valley Library  
[yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

**Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 February**  
**Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival**  
 Enjoy fabulous music, delicious food and award-winning local wines in a relaxed atmosphere at this family friendly event.  
[elthamjazz.com.au](http://elthamjazz.com.au)

### WHAT'S ON AT THE LIBRARY?

**Saturday 10 February 11am-2pm**  
**Chinese New Year celebrations**  
 Diamond Valley Library  
[yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

**Monday 12 February 1.30pm-2.30pm**  
**Feng Shui for Love**  
 Diamond Valley Library  
[yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

**Wednesday 21 February 3.45pm-4.45pm**  
**Code Club: ages 8-13**  
 Bookings essential  
 Diamond Valley Library  
[yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

**Wednesday 28 February 2pm-3pm**  
**Start your family history**  
 Diamond Valley Library  
[yprl.vic.gov.au](http://yprl.vic.gov.au)

### COUNCIL

**Saturday 3 February 3pm**  
**Celebrate the launch of Council's Arts and Cultural Plan with music and entertainment**  
 Eltham Library Community Gallery

**Wednesday 28 February**  
**Rates instalment due**

### ARTS AND CULTURE

**Thursday 18 January – Monday 12 February**  
**Exhibition – The Travelling Teapot**  
 Eltham Library Community Gallery Panther Place, Eltham  
 Gallery hours: Mon-Thur 10am-8.30pm  
 Fri-Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday 1pm-5pm  
 Closed public holidays  
[nillumbik.vic.gov.au/travellingteapot](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/travellingteapot)

**Shakespeare in the Park**  
 An open-air, family-friendly twilight performance proudly supported by Nillumbik Shire Council and the Rotary Club of Diamond Creek.

**Friday 2 – Sunday 4 February**  
 Alistair Knox Park, Eltham

**Friday 9 – Sunday 11 February**  
 Watkins Street Reserve  
 Diamond Creek  
 gates open at 7pm  
[nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

**Nillumbik Youth Theatre senior production castings**  
 Workshops 4.30pm-5.30pm  
 Monday 12 and 19 February  
[trybooking.com/SCFN](http://trybooking.com/SCFN)

**Audition 4.30pm-5.30pm**  
**Monday 26 February**  
 Hurstbridge Hall  
[trybooking.com/SDTE](http://trybooking.com/SDTE)

**Thursday 15 February 7.30pm**  
**Courthouse Poetry Readings**  
 Eltham Courthouse  
 0438 339 732



## LIVING & LEARNING NILLUMBIK

# Discover your local centre

## living & learning nillumbik

Living & Learning Nillumbik is more than just courses... it's where people share, learn and connect.

### Did you know?

**602,796** hours of learning were undertaken in 2013-2017

**7,873** hours of volunteering contributed by **88** individuals



Find out more about Living & Learning Nillumbik in 'Share, Learn, Connect: Reflections 2013-2017'. Get your copy at [livingandlearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://livingandlearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au) or one of our centres.

**DIAMOND CREEK**  
 119 Cowin Street

**ELTHAM**  
 739 Main Road

**PANTON HILL**  
 18 Bishops Road

**95.8%** of our vocational education students would recommend Living & Learning Nillumbik to others

### QUALIFICATION COURSES

**Tuesday 30 January 9.15am-3.15pm**  
 Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care CHC50113 course commences

**Wednesday 31 January 9.15am-3.15pm**  
 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care CHC30113 course commences

**Tuesday 6 February 9am-3pm**  
 Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing, Home & Community) CHC33015 course commences

**Wednesday 28 February 9am-3pm**  
 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment TAE40116 course commences

Visit [livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au) for more information about these qualification courses.

## MakerSpaces

living & learning nillumbik  
 Diamond Creek – 119 Cowin Street  
 Eltham – 739 Main Road  
 Panton Hill – 18 Bishops Road

### ANY MONDAY

**9.30am-11.30am**  
**Art MakerSpace**  
 Panton Hill

**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

### ANY WEDNESDAY

**9.30am-3pm**  
**Crafty Cats MakerSpace**  
 Panton Hill

**12pm-5pm**  
**Scrapbooking and Paper Crafts MakerSpace**  
 Eltham

### ANY THURSDAY

**9am-4.30pm**  
**Clay MakerSpace**  
 For experienced potters  
 Eltham

**9.30am-3pm**  
**Just Xmas MakerSpace**  
 Panton Hill

**7pm-9pm (monthly)**  
**Sew Social MakerSpace**  
 Diamond Creek

**9.30am-2pm**  
**Mosaics MakerSpace**  
 Panton Hill

**10am-5pm**  
**Leadlighting and Glass Arts MakerSpace**  
 For experienced leadlighters  
 Eltham

[nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au) 13



## YOUR COUNCILLORS



Mayor Councillor Peter Clarke  
Wingrove Ward

☎ 0401 100 141

@ Peter.Clarke@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Residents are starting to see improvements to a number of footpaths. Council is focusing on better connecting suburbs and townships and increasing pedestrian safety. We have listened to the community and more money in our budget will be directed to construct new footpaths and better maintain existing ones.

In Wingrove Ward, residents of Grey Street, Eltham will benefit from a new concrete footpath and the narrow footpath in Mulberry Court will be replaced.

Other similar projects will include upgrading the Diamond Creek bike trail near Alistair Knox Park and at Dalton Street and Main Road.

Council is also undertaking significant work to reduce graffiti through a range of targeted activities. These include the rapid removal of tags and other illegal graffiti. The use of surveillance cameras in hard hit areas and a close working relationship with our local police has led to successful prosecutions and a decrease in the rate of graffiti vandalism.

I hope you enjoy the festive season and that you have a happy and healthy 2018.



Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Egan  
Bunjil Ward

☎ 0408 058 899

@ Karen.Egan@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The new Panton Hill streetscape is looking fabulous with many positive comments from residents, traders and visitors. The newly constructed Cherrytree Shared Trail between Coolaroo Avenue in Hurstbridge and Kangaroo Ground-St Andrews Road in Panton Hill is also proving popular.

Hurstbridge residents know just how poor parking is at the railway station carpark. I recently wrote to the Minister for Transport calling for additional, or at the least, improved parking by formalising the unsealed area adjacent to Graysharps Road.

I also requested that as part of planning for the duplication of the Eltham to Greensborough section of rail line, the government consider upgrades to Eltham Station, a new station at Eltham North and the removal of the Diamond Street level crossing.

These changes would make a significant difference to commuters using the train to get to and from work, school and social activities.

Finally, I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2018.



Councillor Grant Brooker  
Blue Lake Ward

☎ 0427 207 819

@ Grant.Brooker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The transition from winter to summer sport saw a wonderful example of Council working closely with members of the Plenty Valley Cricket Club to replace a synthetic cricket pitch with three new turf wickets for the 2017-2018 season. Council assisted with the project and the club provided both funding and volunteers to 'pitch in' and complete it.

Speaking of sport and active participation, the Diamond Valley Basketball Association will join the South East Australia Basketball League in 2018. The league is just one step below the NBL and is a wonderful achievement for our local association. It will bring some of the highest quality basketball to our region.

I was pleased to be able to support the funding of Christmas lighting and decorations, which I am hopeful, will mean a little bit of magic can be experienced by all our residents when visiting our principal townships.

Best wishes to our residents, I trust the time spent with family, friends and loved ones will be truly special as we reflect on those relationships that are most enduring and meaningful to us all.



Councillor John Dumaresq  
Edendale Ward

☎ 0439 556 733

@ John.Dumaresq@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Congratulations to Eltham High School on receiving a \$3.3 million Victorian Government grant to develop new sports facilities for both school and wider community use. Oval upgrades, new multi-sports courts and unisex change rooms will mean local sporting clubs will be able to train and use the facilities out of school hours. Council will contribute to the ongoing maintenance and asset renewal of the school's sportsground, pavilion and multi-use courts.

The Practically Green Festival at Edendale was once again an enormous success. A crowd of more than 3000 people enjoyed 40 different stalls, exhibitions, talks, workshops and music. Exhibitors including not for profit groups, with experts on hand to answer questions and demonstrate a range of sustainable practices.

The Diamond Street Bridge project has been completed. This is a great achievement as we have been able to preserve the heritage character and integrity of the timber bridge, while at the same time ensuring it will meet the challenges of at least the next 40 years.

Lastly, I would like to wish all Nillumbik residents and traders a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2018.



Councillor Peter Perkins  
Ellis Ward

☎ 0437 455 064

@ Peter.Perkins@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

As chair of our Emergency Management Committee I want to remind everyone of the importance of cleaning up around your property. Reducing leaf litter and debris, cleaning gutters, moving wood piles away from your house and making sure you have a well-rehearsed bushfire survival plan are some of the most practical things you can do to make a difference.

Council and the Diamond Creek Netball Association have been working in partnership with Netball Victoria and the State Government to plan the development of a major \$3.1 million regional netball facility and sporting pavilion with a shared community meeting space at Rotary Park. We have also lodged an application to the Growing Suburbs Fund to develop a pavilion and upgrade sportsground lighting at Marngrook Oval to support a range of local sporting clubs.

Other local projects we are seeking State Government support on are Diamond Creek Trail Extension from Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek Regional Playground and a rail pedestrian crossing behind the Community Bank Stadium.

I wish you the very best for Christmas. I hope Council's partnership with Diamond Creek Traders to install new decorations bring a little bit of Christmas magic your way.



Councillor Jane Ashton  
Sugarloaf Ward

☎ 0409 177 500

@ Jane.Ashton@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The last 12 months have flown by and I hope that Sugarloaf residents are happy with the work I am doing as their councillor. Rural townships are definitely a priority for the new Council, with St Andrews and Panton Hill receiving some TLC over the last couple of months.

Welcome to our new Inclusivity and Disability Advisory Committees, thank you to all for volunteering your time.

The Panton Hill festival committee again did an amazing job with a fun-filled program and a chance to show off their re-vamped main street and much safer school crossing.

Congratulations to the Panton Hill Bushland Reserves group for obtaining a Bio-Diversity on Ground; Action Grant, and for all the great work they continue to do in the reserves, with walks, talks and the recent Murnong harvest.

Meetings with Landcare and another visit to the Bend of Islands have given me greater insight into our wonderful local environment. We can all play a part, particularly with regard to managing weeds like capeweed and Paterson's curse, as well as eradicating rabbits.

I hope you enjoy time with family and friends over the Christmas holidays and that you stay safe.



Councillor Bruce Ranken  
Swipers Gully Ward

☎ 0402 384 006

@ Bruce.Ranken@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Two issues kept coming up during last year's election campaign as I met with residents. They were the maintenance and upkeep of our parks and reserves and the need for traffic lights at either Leanne Drive or Beard Street and Main Road. Since being elected I have been advocating to ensure the state government supports the installation of lights at this dangerous location. I will continue to work on ensuring we get this project funded and delivered during this term of Council.

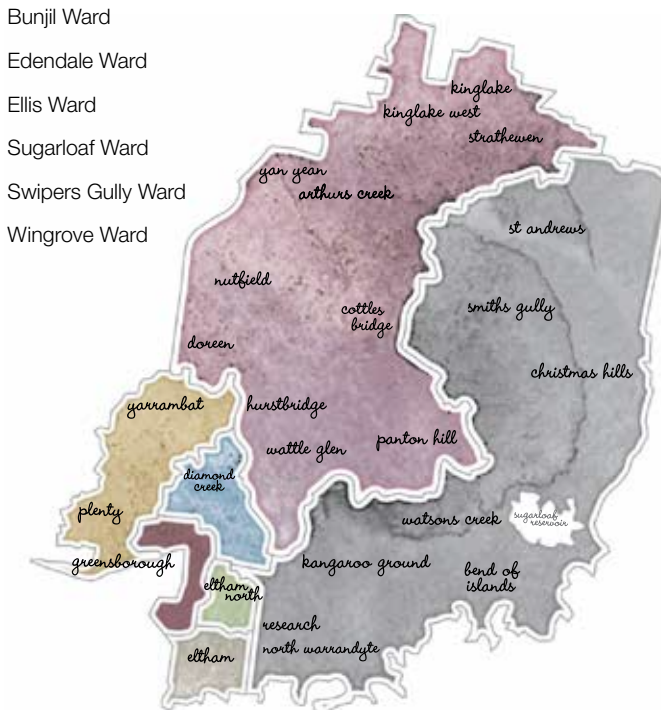
We have also been working hard to ensure our parks and reserves are better maintained and residents should see more frequent mowing in the lead up to summer. The Eltham North Pavilion will be commencing shortly, followed by the Research Pavilion and we are putting a lot of time and money back into previously neglected community infrastructure. Other upcoming projects include the Wattle Glen Pavilion and the Plenty War Memorial Park.

To make sure we can provide the best possible facilities to our community we have been busy applying for state government sporting grants. We look forward to more successful outcomes.

Finally I wish you and your family a happy Christmas and a healthy new year.

### KEY

- Blue Lake Ward
- Bunjil Ward
- Edendale Ward
- Ellis Ward
- Sugarloaf Ward
- Swipers Gully Ward
- Wingrove Ward



### Postal address for Council and all Councillors:

✉ Nillumbik Shire Council  
PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088





# Green Waste Vouchers

Council has delivered on its promise to introduce green waste vouchers to residents. The vouchers provide flexibility to recycle garden materials and vegetation at any time of the year at the Recycling and Recovery Centre in Plenty.

Operating times are Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday 8am-4pm.

## Size chart for loads

ONE VOUCHER	TWO VOUCHERS
Car boot	Medium van or ute
Station wagon	Large ute
Small van or ute	6 x 4 trailer high sided / heaped
6 x 4 trailer	8 x 6 tandem trailer
7 x 5 trailer	8 x 6 tandem trailer high sided / heaped

You can use two vouchers to drop off loads larger than this. All load sizes will be assessed by an attendant.

## Stay on Santa's nice list and dispose of your Christmas tree the right way this holiday season

Natural Christmas trees can be disposed of in the following ways:



1 Green waste bin – cut the tree into small pieces and make sure your green bin lid can be fully closed.



2 Drop off at the Recycling and Recovery Centre – use a green waste voucher to dispose of your tree free of charge.



3 Alternatively, bring your tree in with a load of green waste. Load prices start from \$35.

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

Cover: Your Councillors enjoying the festive season

Nillumbik News is available in alternative formats on request. Contact 9433 3111.

Printed in Nillumbik, using vegetable inks on Australian-made recycled paper.



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