



DIVERCITY

September 2021



FROM THE
CHAMBER



CITY NEWS



ARTS IN
FOCUS



SHAPE
OUR CITY



COMMUNITY
SPIRIT



WHAT'S ON

From the Chamber

Although I'm writing this update during lockdown again, I'm very pleased to be able to share some good news as we hope and plan for a 'COVID normal' summer.

One of the big decisions made in our Council Chamber this month was to forge ahead with the 2022 St Kilda Festival in February, subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

We were incredibly disappointed when the pandemic caused us to cancel the 2021 event. After considering the vaccination rollout and huge economic benefits to our traders, performers and local economy, we are proceeding with a 2022 CovidSafe St Kilda Festival. To achieve this, the Festival will run longer and across three iconic sites. While it will look a little different, I can assure you the spirit and exciting program our Festival is known and loved for are all part of the 2022 summer return.

In further support for our City's struggling live music industry, we have launched two initiatives under our Live Music Action Plan to keep live music alive after lockdowns. The Please Don't Stop the Music assistance scheme is offering up to \$5000 a week until the end of 2021 to local live music venues and promoters who must cancel gigs due to lockdowns. And local musicians can register now to be on the Locals Playing Locals database. When there is clarity about when live music restrictions will end, applications will open for our Council to pay \$250 per artist for eligible venues engaging musicians from the database until 31 December.

Promoting sustainability and active transport choices have long been priorities for us. At the same September Meeting, we voted to apply to the Victorian Government's Pop-Up Bike Lane Program for funding to deliver three proposed pop-up bike lanes - Park Street (West), Moray Street to St Kilda Road connector and the Bay Trail to Moray Street link, which aligns to the Victorian Government's Shrine to Sea project.

Soon after, the Victorian Government announced Port Phillip was among four Cities chosen to host a trial of shared electric scooters. Our next step is to be part of a joint public expression of interest to select the best operators.



We also approved our own trial for an Australian first – kerb charging permits for residents and businesses with no off-street parking. Up to 10 participants will be able to install electric vehicle chargers on nearby Council land such as a nature strip or footpath. We're excited about this trial as it helps reduce vehicle greenhouse gas emissions from privately-owned vehicles.

It's wonderful to conclude by mentioning the reopening of our playgrounds. We worked quickly to make this happen after the Victorian Government's restriction was lifted, putting up individual QR Codes at 51 locations across our City. As with all our beautiful outdoor spaces, we ask everyone to follow the rules to keep themselves and others safe.

It's been a big start to September – I hope to have more good news to share as we continue to navigate our way through the pandemic and towards recovery.

Regards,

Cr Louise Crawford
Mayor, City of Port Phillip



Keeping live music alive after lockdown

Local live music is getting a new lease of life with our Council announcing key support, both now and into 2022.

Live music fans can look forward to a summer celebration with the return of the St Kilda Festival (SKF) in February next year.

The pandemic caused the 2021 SKF to be cancelled for only the second time since it began in 1980.

After considering the vaccination rollout and the huge economic benefits to the City, the show will go on with our Council green-lighting a modified COVIDSafe Festival for 2022.

Instead of a one-day event, the Festival will be held from 5-13 February, subject to Victorian Government COVID-19 restrictions. The fun will be shared across three iconic sites - Acland Street, Fitzroy Street and South Beach Reserve by the foreshore.

Adding to the excitement, SKF will incorporate Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee, the annual First Peoples arts and cultural festival.

While planning a major event at this time is challenging, the SKF offers undeniable economic benefits. In the decade leading up to the 2020 event, the Festival brought an average of \$22 million to St Kilda each year. This means money in the pockets of many members of the music, events and hospitality industries who have struggled to stay afloat over the past 18 months.

It's also an important opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate our City while supporting top Australian live music talent.

Details are being finalised so keep an eye on the [St Kilda Festival](#) website for updates about our flagship event.

With the return of the SKF still on the horizon, our Council is also doing what it can to help keep live music alive during 2021.

Last month we unveiled two initiatives under our Live Music Action Plan which are all about the "now".

In what is believed to be an Australian first for a council, the Please Don't Stop the Music lockdown assistance scheme is offering up to \$5000 a week from 23 August to 31 December 2021 to local live music venues and promoters who must cancel gigs due to lockdowns. The support can be used to pay artists and crew who had been booked or for rescheduling costs.

Local musicians are encouraged to register now for the Locals Playing Locals database. Council will pay the artist fees for eligible venues engaging musicians from the database until 31 December. Applications will open when there is clarity on when live music restrictions will lift. A standard rate of \$250 per musician will be available for each performance.

Great feedback has already been received from performers and venues.

Pat Pierce, half of the indie-folk Pierce Brothers band and a Port Phillip resident, said: "The lockdowns are absolutely necessary, but this time around it's really starting to sting now for us and other musos I talk with. Live music is the voice of this town and it's important for people to be able to start seeing the live talent when they can. The Council's LMAP will help venues and musos by providing some certainty and support."

Co-owner of St Kilda's MEMO Music Hall, Simon Myers, has been in the music industry for more than 30 years, including as a musician. "Council's financial support sends a clear message to artists that they are valued and will definitely assist in maintaining confidence in booking music in venues. Consistently rescheduling shows, without knowing whether they will actually go ahead, has a financial cost – and also can cost the audience's confidence," Mr Myers said. If live performances are cancelled, a contribution to the artists, crew and venue would also alleviate some financial hardship.

For more information, including T&Cs, and to register for the database go to the [Live N Local](#) website at <https://www.livenlocal.com.au/>.

City News

Port Phillip projects boosted by Australian Government funding

Our community will have safer and improved places to meet, walk and play under an Australian Government program responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.



More than \$3.4 million has been awarded across seven projects under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program to help us deliver improved community infrastructure and to support local jobs.

These include undercover courtyard seating at South Melbourne Market, improved play space and pedestrian connectivity at the Point Ormond Regional Playspace and Precinct, and the Garden City Bike Path upgrade (partly funded using \$443,000 from the LRCI Program) to connect the Garden City Bike Path to the Sandridge Bike Path.

You'll be able to look forward to the following projects, with some beginning construction later this month:

- A [Garden City Bike Corridor upgrade](#) (partially funded from the LRCI Program) which will connect the Garden City Bike Path to the Sandridge and Bay Trail shared path networks.
- A new [outdoor seating area at South Melbourne Market](#) to accommodate increased capacity. This includes an undercover structure so more customers can sit and enjoy the Market offerings in all weather conditions.
- Road safety and Water Sensitive Urban Design projects at the intersection of [Cecil Street and Napier Street](#), South Melbourne, [Nimmo Street and Beaconsfield Parade](#), Middle Park, and [McGregor and Patterson Streets](#), Middle Park. These projects will increase safety for more vulnerable users by reducing vehicle speeds and creating safer crossing locations, contribute towards achieving Council's pollutant reduction targets and deliver greening and urban heat island reduction benefits by de-paving unnecessary asphalt surfaces.
- The [upgrade of Wattie Watson Oval](#) (partially funded from the LRCI Program in conjunction with Sports and Recreation Victoria) in Elwood to ensure the playing surface meets relevant standards and reduces the risk of injury as well as facilitating greater community participation in sport, particularly for female athletes.
- A [new playground at Point Ormond Reserve](#) in Elwood to cater to all ages and abilities. There will also be improved pedestrian connectivity between the new playground and the Beacon Hill lookout and new barbecue facilities, creating a vibrant and accessible public space.
- A [new playground at Rotary Park](#) on the St Kilda foreshore between the Stokehouse Restaurant and Jacka Boulevard and added features to provide safer access for the community.

For more information and timelines for all eight projects, visit the project pages on our website.

Blooming wonderful biodiversity project

We're working with University of Melbourne researchers to create a Woody Meadow at the corner of Chapel and Nightingale streets in Balaclava.

Woody Meadows are diverse plantings of woody shrubs and small trees maintained by coppicing (hard pruning to 10-20 cm) to promote flowering and dense canopies to exclude weeds.

Coppicing every two to three years replicates the natural plant response to fire so that plants re-sprout and reseed to create more density and flowering.

Planted at this Balaclava corner in July, the plants will showcase a new and cost effective way of managing complex open space plantings as they grow, with little maintenance requirements or need for watering.

All plants have been selected specifically for Port Phillip conditions, building on previously completed Woody Meadows at Birrarung Marr and Royal Park in Parkville. We are looking forward to seeing the flowers and foliage blossom over time.



Some of the plant species you'll see growing here include:

- Lilac Hibiscus, *Alyogyne huegii*, a fast-growing, dry tolerant shrub with spectacular displays of purple flowers. Individual flowers are short-blooming, only lasting one to two days, but new flowers continue to open over a long flowering period from June to January.
- Native sarsaparilla, *Hardenbergia violacea*, a hardy climbing plant with clusters of purple pea flower. It has different forms ranging from a vigorous twining vine to a shrubby ground cover.
- One-sided Bottlebrush, *Calothamnus quadrifidus*, naturally occurring in Western Australia, has beautiful red bird-attracting flowers and is adaptable to a wide range of growing conditions.

Lead researcher Dr Claire Farrell says working with partner organisations, such as the City of Port Phillip, is a vital part of the project which focuses on gathering and sharing information on how Woody Meadows function under a range of different site conditions.

Dr Farrell says: "We're excited to see how Woody Meadows in the City of Port Phillip perform and sites like this one will make an important contribution to improving the quality of green spaces in our cities."

The Nightingale Woody Meadow is part of a wider Woody Meadow network being established across Metropolitan Melbourne. Read more about the University of Melbourne's [Woody Meadow project](https://woodymeadow.unimelb.edu.au/) online at <https://woodymeadow.unimelb.edu.au/>.

Image credit: J. Rayner, University of Melbourne

Spark new recycling habits this spring

Feeling like springing into a Spring Clean? We have plenty of tips to help you safely recycle electronic waste, which cannot be placed in household rubbish or yellow recycling bins.



Charge ahead with these electronic waste (e-waste) recycling tips:

E-waste is any item with a plug, battery or power cord that is no longer wanted. Common examples include laptops, mobile phones, light bulbs, smoke detectors, microwaves, kettles, toasters, TVs and printers.

These items don't go in either your household rubbish or your yellow recycling bin. The valuable materials in e-waste can be recovered and re-used through special dedicated recycling services.

Where to take your e-waste

Library e-waste drop-off points are no longer operating but there is an increasing number of ways to safely dispose of old and no longer working e-waste products:

- [Book a free hard waste collection](#) with Council and we'll collect them from you. This is handy for larger items like microwaves and TVs.
- Hold onto them and [bring them to Council's Resource Recovery Centre](#) in South Melbourne after lockdown restrictions lift.
- A growing list of retailers accept and recycle electronics, printer cartridges, old mobile phones and batteries for free. Officeworks is one of many participating stores. Find more advice on [Sustainability Victoria's e-waste webpage](#).
- For smaller gadgets, consider bringing them to [St Kilda Repair Café](#) or other repair services. If your electronic item is broken and it's a quick fix rather than irreparable, you can try repair services to give them a second lease of life

Security tip

Don't forget to clear all personal data from devices like mobile phones, tablets and computers

before disposal.

For information on removing data from your device, visit [Sustainability Victoria's e-waste security tips](https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Campaigns/eWaste/Remove-data-from-your-old-phone-or-computer) at <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Campaigns/eWaste/Remove-data-from-your-old-phone-or-computer>

For more recycling tips, visit our [handy guide to waste and recycling](https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/council-services/waste-recycling-and-cleaning/a-handly-guide-to-waste-and-recycling) on our website at <https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/council-services/waste-recycling-and-cleaning/a-handly-guide-to-waste-and-recycling>

Rates on their way

Rates notices will be appearing in letterboxes and inboxes from late September.

We know the past year has been a difficult one for many people. Rates relief such as payment plans and rates deferment and other resources are available to anyone who is experiencing financial hardship and eligible to receive assistance from Council.



We are also one of the few Victorian councils offering a rebate for pensioners. For more information please contact our ASSIST customer service team on (03) 9209 6777 or visit our website for full details on how to apply for financial hardship and other assistance <https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/council-services/rates-and-valuations/rates-concessions-and-hardship-relief>

Buy local to celebrate special occasions during lockdown

With many of our loved ones celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and special milestones during current restrictions, find inspiration to recognise these special events by shopping local.



There's a long list of local businesses offering gift ideas and unique menus to brighten up special occasions while observing public health restrictions.

Ordering a gift or memorable meal are wonderful ways of celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and special milestones while supporting our traders.

Restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs are offering ready to bake menus, pre-order dinner feasts and barbecue packs. Plus, use click and collect or delivery services to purchase the ultimate gift for your family and friends.

With the spring season of celebrations beginning, we've put together a list of gift ideas, experiences and special menu options to help you get started. Please visit our website for details: <https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/about-the-council/news-and-media/celebrating-special-occasions-during-restrictions>

Climate change call

Did you know Port Phillip is one of nine members of the Southeast Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA)?



Below is SECCCA's recent statement about the need for urgent action to protect communities from the impact of climate change:

South East Melbourne Local Government Councillors Call for Urgent Action On

Climate Change to Protect Communities

The Councillor Advisory Group (CAG) of the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance discussed the extremely serious and devastating climate events occurring in the Northern Hemisphere and noted that communities in the south east region are also experiencing both acute and chronic climate change impacts.

Cr Michael Whelan, Chair of the CAG and Deputy Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council said that governments and communities must acknowledge that the threat of climate change is right here and right now.

“The IPCC's recent Sixth Assessment report presents an absolutely frightening picture of what the future holds for us, for our children and grandchildren and generations to come. The impacts and costs are only going to worsen.”

“With Australia's land areas having increased in temperatures by 1.40C, communities are already experiencing devastating impacts resulting from these temperature increases. Every municipality in the south east of Melbourne has a story to tell about how increasingly intense heat, bushfire, rainfall, storm surge and drought hurt their communities, particularly the vulnerable.”

“Local government and the communities they represent are at the frontline of dealing with climate change impacts, but they are the least resourced to address the problems.”

“It is past time to get serious on this issue, our beaches are disappearing, the Brighton bathing boxes are being shored up with sandbags, beaches are being replaced by rock walls, valuable buildings are being damaged by storm surge events and bayside drainage is no longer coping with rainfall events.”

“Science says that to have any hope of keeping global temperatures to 1.50C above preindustrial temperatures, we must stop using fossil fuels and rapidly deploy renewable energy and energy efficiency. We need to invest in technologies that remove carbon from the atmosphere. We wait at our peril.”

“Local government needs urgent financial assistance to enable them to invest in infrastructure that will protect communities from climate impacts.”

“All levels of government must work together to accelerate this transition ensuring our economic well-being and making sure vulnerable members of our community are protected.”

The CAG also lamented the distraction from urgent and effective climate response that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused.

“The devastating bushfires of 2019/2020 should have been met with shock and awe however have been overshadowed by the more evident, acute threat of COVID-19. We must not lose focus on climate change, a chronic threat, even as we finally forge our way forward into a COVID-normal world.”

“When it comes to human health and well-being, and good governance, our current response to this climate emergency falls woefully short.”

Background information

The following incidents are firsthand examples of how climate change is impacting councils and communities in the SECCCA region. For further information on these examples, please contact that council's media team.

Cr Michael Whelan is available to provide further comment in his role as Chair of the SECCCA Councillor Advisory Group.

For more information, please contact Cr Michael Whelan via communications@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Bass Coast Shire Council

Erosion is a significant issue across Bass Coast, that has increased significantly over the past 10 years, with community assets such as the Inverloch surf beach experiencing further

significant erosion with impacts on built public assets including the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club building and the Bunurong Road.

The recent storms, which hit eastern Victoria resulted in significant power outages in the Bass Coast region.

Bayside City Council

Foreshore infrastructure along the 17 kilometres of beautiful coastline in Bayside is subject to the impacts of climate change. Storm surges and rising sea levels will cause greater coastal erosion and threaten highly valued community assets such as piers, jetties, beaches, bicycle and walking trails, and the iconic Bathing Boxes. More frequent extreme heat and weather will impact our trees and green spaces. Most importantly, the ageing population in Bayside will be more vulnerable to the health impacts of heat waves.

City of Casey

The City of Casey's coastal environment extends from Warneet, Cannons Creek and Blind Bight through to Tooradin and is vulnerable to climate change as sea levels rise with king tides reaching coastal assets such as public benches and paths.

Additionally, due to low tree canopy cover in the municipality, Casey is exposed to the urban heat island effect, which is experienced during the summer months and can affect vulnerable or elderly residents.

Greater Dandenong City Council

The unique context of Greater Dandenong as Victoria's manufacturing hub and most culturally diverse municipality combine to make the City particularly vulnerable to the impacts of extreme heat and heat waves. The extensive built environment and low tree canopy cover, combined with higher levels of social disadvantage, mean the community's ability to adapt to the impacts of a rapidly warming world and remain resilient to the climate change is severely compromised.

Frankston City Council

Recent storms have resulted in the beach eroding between Olivers Hill and Frankston Pier to the point where dune protection fencing is at risk of collapse. This beach underwent a full renourishment at great cost by the Victorian Government only 10 years ago. While it is influenced by many factors, coastal erosion is being impacted by climate change.

City of Kingston

Increasing severity of storm surges are eroding dunes, undermining the foundations of Council buildings. Council recently permanently relocated Patterson River Motorboat Club.

Increasingly severe storms have swamped the iconic Mordialloc Pier and raised water levels at the mouth of Mordialloc Creek to dangerously high levels. The adjoining parkland, roads and nearby shopping precinct is low lying and would be at risk should extreme storm events result in even a moderate increase in water levels.

Cardinia Shire Council

Thousands of residents, businesses and stakeholders in Emerald, Cockatoo and Gembrook localities were impacted by recent storms. The storms brought down trees and disrupted the supply of electricity to many households. Residents affected by this disruption had to find alternative means to heat their homes during the coldest time of the year. The Puffing Billy Railway between Belgrave and Emerald was severely affected by the storm. More than 70 trees fell across the line and needed to be cleared before the heritage attraction could be reopened.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

Much of the coastline, including Mount Martha North and Rosebud / Capel Sound is subject to coastal erosion or inundation. This erosion impacts on cultural sites, access paths, natural environment and private assets. Inundation of Tootgarook Wetland/Swamp is predicted to impact nearby private and public properties and the unique riparian ecosystem.

Mount Martha North Beach and Cliff - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)

The health and wellbeing of the community, especially elderly and residents with disabilities are impacted by the increased intensity and frequency of heatwaves. On the Peninsula, 24.6% of the population is over 65 y.o and 27.1% of the population over 65 y.o live alone. A

number of factors increase the risk of older people to climate change events including pre-existing health conditions that limit the ability to respond to stressors. In addition, 1 in 5 residents of the peninsula live with a disability and 5.8% need help with daily activities. People living with a disability typically have worse health status than the general population, placing them at greater risk during extreme weather events.
<https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/resources/silentkillerreport/>

City of Port Phillip

The City of Port Phillip is already experiencing the negative impacts of climate change on public and private infrastructure as well as on health and wellbeing. Port Phillip is located at the bottom of the Elster Creek and Yarra River catchments. Much of the City is less than three metres above sea level and is experiencing weather induced flash flooding which causes damage to public and private property, as well as costly clean up bills and disruption to transport. Heat stress is having a greater impact on Port Phillip's vulnerable community, which includes residents on fixed incomes, residents in insecure housing and older residents who can't always access cool spaces. Increased heat and less consistent rainfall make it challenging and costly to maintain healthy trees, parks and gardens in order to provide shade and cool temperatures for the community.

Information on Southeast Councils Climate Change Alliance

The South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) is made up of nine local governments in the south east of Melbourne. SECCCA Councils span the metropolitan, peri urban and rural divide and have some of the fastest growing residential developments on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne. Together, SECCCA Councils serve over one million residents. Through SECCCA, these Councils collaborate to act on climate change. This action includes mitigation and adaptation projects and advocacy for the community.

SECCCA's vision is for a thriving and productive southeast Melbourne region that has a safe and sustainable climate. Together with a majority of member councils, SECCCA has declared a Climate Emergency recognising the existential threat climate change poses to our communities and our environment, and calls for urgent action to address the risks.

Postcard perfect

Downloading a vintage postcard for an online meeting background, hunting for ghost signs or creating your own heritage tour are just a few of our suggestions to liven up lockdown.

If you've exhausted your Netflix options and the novelty of sourdough starter has worn off, we've got a few fresh ideas to explore in lockdown.



Tip 1: Uncover significant historic sites in your 'hood

Have you seen our blue heritage plaques around the City?

These plaques identify historically and culturally significant places that would otherwise not be easily recognised as sites of significance.

For example, a plaque outside 63 Pakington Street in St Kilda identifies artist Sidney Nolan's childhood home in the 1920s. Nolan attended St Kilda Primary School in Brighton Road and later studied design and crafts at Prahran Technical School. In the 1940s Nolan painted a notable series of works from memories of his St Kilda childhood.

Visit our [heritage recognition map](#) online to see what sites are located close to you and create your own heritage tour around sites in your five kilometre radius during your daily exercise.

Tip 2: Sick of your blurred background in virtual meetings? Use one of ours!

Fancy meeting in different times and places? Have a look at our [vintage postcards](#) (available on our website at <https://artheritagecollection.portphillip.vic.gov.au/Presto/home/home.aspx>) and download an image to use as a background for your next online meeting.

Here are a few of our favourites:

- [Background 1 - St Kilda Pier \(JPG 820 KB\)](#) circa 1910
- [Background 2 - Liners at Port Melbourne Pier \(JPG 631 KB\)](#) circa 1906
- [Background 3 - Kerferd Road Pier, Albert Park \(JPG 521 KB\)](#) circa 1909
- [Background 4 - Graham Street, Port Melbourne \(JPG 308 KB\)](#) circa 1910
- [Background 5 - Main Street, Balaclava \(JPG 730 KB\)](#) circa 1890s
- [Background 6 - Beaconsfield Parade, South Melbourne \(JPG 642 KB\)](#) circa 1900s

Tip 3: Keep a look out for painted ghost signs

Have you heard of ghost signs before? They're not as scary as they might sound.

They're signs which have been painted onto buildings dating back as far as the late 19th century. They can be found hiding on the sides of shops, businesses and other buildings throughout Port Phillip. Perhaps you walk past one every day.

We're recording the locations of these signs so if you find one in your five kilometres during your daily exercise or a trip to the shops, please share it with us by emailing a high resolution photo and location to artheritage@portphillip.vic.gov.au and we'll add it to our map.

The locations of 32 previously identified signs are recorded on the [Heritage Centre's Historypin page](#).

Tip 4: Discover heritage horse troughs, anchors and more

Did you know that we have over 10,000 heritage objects and artworks in the [Port Phillip City Collection](#)?

There are over 5,000 letters, cards and documents, 600 maps and plans, more than 300 historic postcards and over 100 items of furniture to name but a few of the objects you might stumble upon.

And did we mention three horse troughs? These horse troughs, made by Fred Cook, City Engineer in the 1940s, are still around in the streets of Port Melbourne. Find them at Raglan Street (between Bay and Crockford), Ingles Street (near Williamstown Road) and Bridge Street (near Evans Street). This part of Port Melbourne was home to a number of industries who relied on horse drawn carts to move their goods, such as timber and coal, around the suburb and further afield. These troughs are included as structures of local significance in the City of Port Phillip Heritage Review.

With artworks, historic plaques and even an anchor, the items in the Port Phillip City Collection are bound to give you insight into the history of your City. These objects weave together the history of the former Cities of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda, now the City of Port Phillip.

Tip 5: Take yourself on a virtual heritage walk

Visit the [Port Phillip heritage playlist on YouTube](#) and enjoy one of our recent online guided tours. Take a virtual stroll around Port Melbourne, Montague, St Kilda, South Melbourne and Albert Park and discover some of the history, architecture and people in our neighbourhoods.

There are also two upcoming October events to sign up for:

- [Mirka Mora's St Kilda 1951 to 2018](#)
Thursday 7 October at 8pm
- [Walking on Water – St Kilda](#)
Sunday 24 October at 2 pm

Bonus tip

Visit our website for more creative ideas and fun [at-home activities](https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/people-and-community/coronavirus-covid-19/at-home-activities) to fill your free time in lockdown: <https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/people-and-community/coronavirus-covid-19/at-home-activities>

Arts in Focus



Art meets architecture in award winning tapestry design

A talented South Melbourne architect has won the \$10,000 international Tapestry Design Prize for Architects 2021 – a bi-annual event encouraging innovation and visionary thinking by challenging architects to design contemporary tapestries.

Dr Emma Jackson's winning entry, Time Shouts, is two-part floor and wall digital tapestry design where thoughtful research and mapping reveals "the story of the period of time between present day to the breakup of the ancient Gondwanan continent".

Presented by the [Australian Tapestry Workshop](#), the Prize is supported by Metal Manufactures Limited, Architecture Media, Creative Victoria and the City of Port Phillip.

The Australian Tapestry Workshop hopes



Mini-masterpieces

Entries are open until 13 October for the 31st annual Linden Postcard Show, to run from Saturday 4 December until Sunday 27 February 2022.

Since 1990, this small artwork prize has been providing artists from all career stages all across Australia the opportunity to present their artwork inside Linden New Art's beautiful Victorian-era building and receive recognition and cash prizes.

All exhibited artworks are for sale, so visitors can buy their own mini-masterpieces.

Want to enter your artworks in the show?

The Linden Postcard Show is open to all artists. As an open-entry art prize, the Linden Postcard Show continues to support living artists by presenting and selling their work, as well as acknowledging their wonderfully diverse and inspiring practices.

Things to know:

- This year you can enter up to 3 artworks
- Each artwork must measure 8 x 10 inches (20.32 x 25.4cm) exactly including framing
- Artworks must have a secure hanging device

the exciting winning design can be realised in tapestry form by its highly skilled weavers.

Emma created the work at home under the auspices of her multi-disciplinary design practice, Ground Under Repair, which specialises in large-scale public art. RMIT Masters students Abigail Li Shin Liew and Riley Pelham-Thorman and RMIT graduate Eilidh Ross helped draw her work up.

While having worked extensively as an architect, she feels her designs now fall within the wider concept of a geo-cultural architect.

“The mapping which brought Time Shouts to life is about being more mindful of the ground we are planning to build on – the stories and Indigenous languages that were present there in the past,” she said.

About 140 designs from 23 countries were received for the 2021 Award, with an expert judging panel selecting 15 finalists, including the winner.

Emma believes an architect’s ability to focus on details is a valuable tool in the creative process. “This specificity can help you see things which others might miss and bring an extra mindfulness to art.”

While COVID-19 restrictions prevent visitors from seeing the finalists’ digital designs at the Australian Tapestry Workshop in South Melbourne, they can be admired online at [Tapestry Design Prize](#)

Voting is open online until 12 November for the \$1,000 People’s Choice Award.

Meaning behind the winning design
Dr Emma Jackson shares the many meanings woven into her winning digital design:

‘Time Shouts tells the story of the period of time between present day to the break-up of the ancient Gondwanan continent. This part of Australia is often referred to by Geologists as the Tasmanides, but its exact location and even its existence is contested. It could be said that the eastern boundary of this tapestry is the mythical coastline of Gondwana.

This is the youngest part of Australia and came into existence in the last million or so years. Another perspective is that it arrived 4 billion years late. It takes its current shape after the collision of several microcontinents. These Jurassic travellers (shown in the brighter flourishes along the

- All artworks must be posted to the gallery

Visit the Linden New Art website for more information:

<https://www.lindenarts.org/>

present-day coastline) bumped into the old coastline of Gondwana, and with great song and dance disrupted the ocean floor, forming faults, folds, and volcanic eruptions. This is a young, volatile and still active part of our continent.

Aboriginal dialects were overlaid onto this unsettled juvenile landscape to examine their relationship. The results evidence a culture that fundamentally understands the ground and its behaviour over time. Time Shouts presents over 60,000 years of respectful custodianship in a clear unarguable form. At a time when the natural ecosystems of our continent are disappearing due to collective ignorance, we could question what and how we build. 'Time Shouts' calls time out; the answers hide in plain sight.

Colour plays a decisive role in the development of the tapestry design. A provocative shift to change the way we think about ground and water. The oceans and rivers are pink. Blue, the colour usually attributed to water, is the colour of the youngest sedimentary ground. The younger the ground, the darker the blue. This flies in the face of geological convention, but these maps convey cultural, not economic value. This inversion was a deliberate attempt to key into, and challenge traditional mapping representations; blue representing more fluid behaviour and pink being more mystical.

Like the geological maps, there are inconsistencies between maps of Indigenous Australian groups and languages. This mapping doesn't claim to depict the exact location of either geology or culture, its intent is to reveal the relationship between the two. Boundaries between different Indigenous cultures and languages are not depicted by lines, but by a loose spray and woven in a metallic thread. The HI-VIZ yellow lines highlight faults and illustrate the structural behaviour of the ground over time. In the tapestry, they may continue beyond the edge, as if this part of Australia has been ripped away, not come away cleanly. It was also an attempt to give a perceptual tactile hierarchy to the different elements regardless of all being made from the same thread.

Time Shouts is a banner of hope that could foreground some important conversations about the way we occupy ground through time. As architects we should take the time to understand the story of the continent we are pouring footings into'.

Help Shape our City

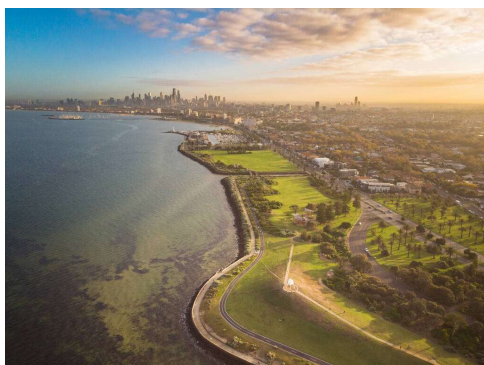


Have Your Say

In August we asked for feedback on businesses parklets, domestic animal management and improving accessibility in our City. Due to the current lockdown we had to have these conversations online, which made it challenging for some people to participate.

We want to thank everyone who joined our online conversations and we look forward to reintroducing face-to-face opportunities to listen to your feedback when we can.

In the meantime, make sure you don't miss out on future opportunities to have your say and help shape the future of the City of Port Phillip by signing up to Have Your Say at <https://haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/register>



Procurement policy

We're reviewing our Procurement Policy, which outlines the principles, objectives and requirements we need to meet when purchasing goods or services on behalf of Council.

Your feedback on our current policy will help us develop a new policy to support our Council's procurement practices. Have your say by 19 September 2021 at

<https://haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/procurement-policy-review>

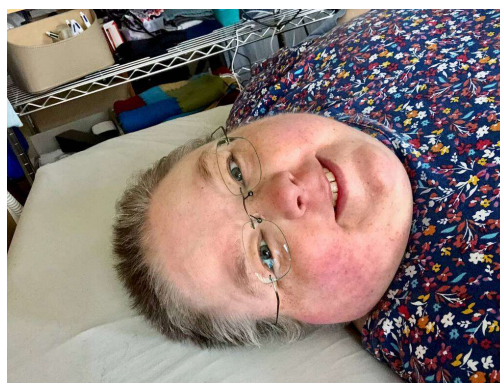
[Have your say](#)

Community Spirit

Balaclava business has a focus on inclusion

We're showcasing local businesses that offer their services in inclusive ways. Before lockdown, we spoke to Ricky from St Kilda East, who wanted to talk about the service she receives from Balaclava business Vainer Optical.

Hello Ricky, thank you for taking the time to share your experience of accessing a local inclusive business in Balaclava. Can you tell us about Vainer Optical?



I have been going to Vainer Optical for over a decade now. When I was able to get out to the shops, I would travel down there with my wheelchair and I would drop in to get my eyes tested, get my glasses fixed, or get new glasses. My power wheelchair is quite large, but

because they have everything set up with so much space, I have always been able to get through the door and move around the display to view glasses options super easily because they have everything set up with lots of space. The area where they do eye tests doesn't have so much space, but it would work for someone in a manual wheelchair I think. I'm able to take some steps, so I left my wheelchair in the corridor for that and it worked great.

My mobility has changed a lot since then though, and I am homebound now. When I explained to Igor that I couldn't come down anymore they have still been super helpful! They now talk through what I need with me on the phone and usually I get a disability support worker to take my glasses up to them if they are broken and they fix them up as quickly as possible. Occasionally when I have needed something they've even come down to my house to sort something out, they really go above and beyond for people who are loyal customers!

Ricky, these are some really great examples of how to provide a service to people who are unable to get into a shop front. Have you anything else to share?

Yes, the team at Vainer have shown how knowledgeable they are about their products and how they can best suit my needs. I spend much of my day lying down, so I look through the very bottom part of the lens of my glasses. Most people frequently use the middle part of their glasses and so products are generally designed to make use of that part of the lens. Vainer were easily able to identify the glasses with a wide based lens, and that maximised the view I can have through my new glasses. Obviously that means I can see more of the world around me in focus - it really helps a lot.

Share your stories with us

If you have a story about an experience with a local inclusive business you wish us to consider, please contact the Divercity Editor via ASSIST (03) 9209 6777 or email divercity@portphillip.vic.gov.au

What's On

In view of lockdown restrictions, we are showcasing fun online events for this issue



University of the Third Age Port Phillip Webinar

Saturday 18 September, 2.30 - 3.30 pm via Zoom

U3APP holds free webinars on the third Saturday of every month on a range of fascinating topics. This



Port Phillip Seniors Festival

Now online only
1 - 17 October 2021

Due to the current uncertainty about holding events during the pandemic, the Port Phillip Seniors Festival program is moving online in 2021.



Deaf Children Australia's art competition

There are two \$1000 prizes on offer in an inaugural art competition launched by Deaf Children Australia for young deaf and hard of hearing artists.

The theme is "This is Me" and all sorts of submissions can be submitted until 18 October, from paintings and pottery to video art and animation.

month's webinar is about internationally acclaimed Australian actor, Zoe Caldwell. Sherryn Danaher, U3APP member and niece of Zoe Caldwell, and Zoe's son, Charlie Whitehead, a theatre producer who lives in New York, will explore the essence of who Zoe was as an actor and a person, and her unique approach to preparing her characters for performance.

The webinar is free to non-U3APP members. Just register at www.u3app.org.au (scroll down and click on "public events").

Events include a singing/walking trail around Elwood, documentaries, webinars, virtual tours, art exhibitions and concerts with an amazing array of culture and talent.

Put on your dancing shoes and Join DK, Soul DJ (David Sharples) for a fun evening of dance, music requests, karaoke and games from 6.30 pm to 9 pm on 1 October. A mixture of dance music, including Disco, Motown and Soul and Pop from the 60s, 70s, and 80s will get the party well and truly started. The Virtual Disco also includes karaoke-style singalong sessions with "lockdown" themed songs from the same genres and eras. On-screen lyrics will help you sing along to your favourite songs.

The Port Phillip Writes Writing Awards Ceremony will be held online from 2 to 3 pm on 17 October. Now in its 17th year, this enjoyable session of literature includes the announcement of the Judges Awards. Festival highlights also include a U3A Port Phillip seminar and online art and photography exhibition.

The full Festival program will be unveiled soon. Check Council's [website](#) for program information and booking details.

Refer to their [website](#) for more information.

Your Councillors

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Cr Peter Martin
0435 390 821

Cr Marcus Pearl
0466 448 272

Lake Ward



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Cr Katherine Copsey
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Cr Christina Sirakoff
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Canal Ward



Cr Tim Baxter
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