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DIVERSITY

April 2021



FROM THE
CHAMBER



CITY NEWS



ARTS IN
FOCUS



SHAPE
OUR CITY



COMMUNITY
SPIRIT



WHAT'S ON



**Find something new
to love in our City**

Over the next few months, we'll be exploring our City's hidden gems, sharing stories with you, featuring some of your favourite local shops, traders and businesses, as well as some that are just waiting for you to discover.

[Find out more](#)

A summer like no other

Summer is a great time in our City, and always a busy season for us, making sure everyone is enjoying themselves safely. This year was no exception, with our foreshore and parks some of the most popular destinations in Victoria.

Unlike other summers, however, we were all adjusting to a summer on the other side of Stage 4 restrictions in the middle of a global pandemic. Here are some of the ways we faced the unique challenges of Summer 2020-21.

[Find out more](#)

From the Chamber

As restrictions ease and venues reopen, our City has rediscovered its social life as people gather and enjoy all that is on offer.

Over the past few weeks, we've played host to some incredible events showcasing the best of our City. [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee](#) was a wonderful experience, [Albert Park Art Walk](#) surprised and delighted, the [Comedy Festival](#) brought some much-needed laughter and we held our first major music event in over 12 months. Nearly 7,000 people enjoyed Icehouse at Catani Gardens.



And there are more amazing events to come. The program for the [St Kilda Film Festival](#) has just been announced, so get your popcorn ready. You can read more in the article below. As for live music – we're spoiled for choice. There's the [Blues Festival](#) this weekend, and [April Sun](#), too.

It has been especially life-affirming to listen to live music again – it's so vital to our City. That's why our Live Music Action Plan is so important. Thanks to everyone who provided feedback on the draft plan in February. The revised plan will be presented to Council on 21 April.

Cultural Diversity Week was held over the last week of March. Our City is home to people from more than 163 countries, and we are [proud to announce](#) that the City of Port Phillip is now an ambassador for the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria's All One Together campaign.

The campaign focuses on creating a collaborative platform for business, local governments, not-for-profit organisations and community groups to innovate and take positive actions to tackle racism, while acknowledging the strengths of our rich cultural diversity.

Regards,

Cr Louise Crawford
Mayor, City of Port Phillip

City news

St Kilda Film Festival program highlights

The 2021 St Kilda Film Festival offers a fusion of online content and live screenings and events from 20 May to 29 May. A fixture of the local cultural calendar, Opening Night will be presented at St Kilda's much-loved local cinema, The Astor on 20 May. Screenings will take place at the Astor, the Alex Theatre and at other venues across our City as well as online.



[Find out more](#)

Time to register your pet

Pet registrations are now open for renewal. And don't forget to register any new or unregistered Port Phillip pets. Your pet's registration tag means that our Animal Management team has a far better chance of identifying and returning your Very Important Pet (VIP) to you as quickly as possible. It's easy to register your pet online.

[Find out more](#)

Changes to accessible parking

City of Port Phillip has moved to the Accessible Parking Permit (APP) Scheme following a Victorian Government review of the current disability parking permit scheme. If you're a permit holder, find out what this change means for you.

[Find out more](#)

Leaf season has fallen

Autumn leaves might look pretty, but when they fall they create a high-maintenance issue. 'Leaf Season' is a very busy time of year, with our street cleaning team working to clear leaf fall from roughly 32,500 trees along 530 streets in our City.

[Find out more](#)

Food recycling trial for apartment buildings

When it goes to landfill, food waste produces harmful greenhouse gases, but, food waste can also be a resource converted into compost to be used on land throughout Victoria. We have partnered with Reground to introduce a food organics (FO) collection trial and are inviting



communities living in apartment buildings to apply. If you think your building would benefit from this, read on.

[Find out more](#)

Communal glass trial extended

Last year we launched a communal glass recycling trial in South Melbourne and Albert Park. Residents were invited to dispose of empty glass bottles and jars at communal glass bins. It has been a great success with an additional 223,000 litres of glass sent for recycling. Because of the great response, we are extending the trial and have added two new locations.

[Find out more](#)



Midsumma Festival

Australia's premier queer arts and cultural festival will return this month for the special one-time dates running between 19 April and 5 May. There are plenty of events happening in our City, too, including Midsumma Pride March on Sunday 23 May.

[Find out more](#)



Arts in focus



FOJAM: Festival of Jewish Art and Music

FOJAM showcases the diversity and vitality of Jewish identity, culture and life. It is proudly part of a wider arts community that seeks to celebrate diversity of all cultures and identities. FOJAM launched last night with Uprising, but there are still events happening over the coming weekend. FOJAM is a recipient of our Local Festival's Fund Recovery Grants 2020/21.

[Read more](#)

St Kilda Blues Festival 2021

Live music has returned to Port Phillip with a jam-packed calendar of events at our iconic music venues, as well as pop-up performances dotted around the City.

This weekend, St Kilda Blues Festival comes to town and brings music performances from 40 acts at 20 local venues. We're proud to support St Kilda Blues Festival and look forward to seeing you there.

[Read more](#)

Help shape our City



Council Plan 2021-31

Council is moving into next gear in developing the Council Plan 2021-31. Community members came together in February to help shape a vision and plan for the future of our City. Visit [Have Your Say](#) to see how you can provide feedback on the draft Plan.



Neighbourhood conversations back in May

We'll be popping up in your neighbourhood again in May to have a chat about what matters and hear your feedback on a number of topics. Sign up for updates on [Have Your Say](#) to find out when we'll be in your neighbourhood next.

Future South Melbourne: reminder to share feedback



We are planning for the future of South Melbourne to manage change and guide how the area looks, feels and functions. Tell us what you think about South Melbourne and what you want it to be like in the future.

[Have your say](#)

Community spirit

Inclusive Port Phillip South Pacific Health Club

We are showcasing local businesses that offer their services in inclusive ways. This month we spoke again to Ray from Middle Park, who wanted to talk about the community at South Pacific Health Club in St Kilda.



[Read more](#)

We want your stories

We want Diversity to reflect our community and feature the stories and voices of Port Phillip. If you or somebody you know has unique stories from our City, or maybe you know of some unsung heroes, please email us at divercity@portphillip.vic.gov.au using subject line 'Community spirit'.

Image: Brigitte Dawson, *Mural on Wynyard*, 2020.



What's On



Now on at Linden New Art

This month, you are invited to Linden New Art, in person or online, to view the exciting new work of three leading Australian artists.

Troy Emery's *Sonder* explores the way that representations of animals are used. **Nicholas Folland's *Burn Down the House*** looks at the relationship between domestic objects and materials, forces and history. In *Duality > Aerial*, **Ash Keating's** new works have been built with many layers of colour and textural materials following a year of creative experimentation.

Image: Ash Keating, Fall # 1-#4, 2020. Photo: Matthew Stanton

[Read more](#)



Displays of Affection

Kink meets couture, a hybrid exhibition of photography and installation presented by Luke George and Temperance Hall for Midsumma Festival 2021.

Obsessed with rope as a medium to explore tensions and connectivity, artist Luke George has designed and handcrafted a stunning garment that binds itself to a person, and people to each other.

Displays of Affection is a recipient of our Local Festival's Fund Recovery Grants 2020/21.

[Read more](#)



Sport in our City

We have some fun and free Sport Phillip activities coming up in April:

Walking football

Walking football is a low impact, modified version of the game, suitable for all ability and fitness.

When: 10.30 am
Tuesdays

Where: JL Murphy Reserve, Port Melbourne
[Register here](#)

3-on-3 basketball

3-on-3 basketball returns to St Kilda with a special pop-up event hosted by St Kilda PCYC.

When: 11 am to 2 pm
Monday 12 April

Where: St Kilda beach
Register: Walk- up, no registrations needed!

[Read more](#)

Explore our City

Your Councillors

Gateway Ward



Cr Heather Cunsolo
0466 227 014



Cr Peter Martin
0435 390 821



Cr Marcus Pearl
0466 448 272

Lake Ward



Cr Andrew Bond
0481 034 028



Cr Katherine Copsey
0466 478 949



Cr Christina Sirakoff
0435 419 930

Canal Ward



Cr Tim Baxter
0466 495 250



Cr Rhonda Clark
0435 098 738



Cr Louise Crawford
0466 514 643

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Find something new to love about our City

Published 1 April 2021

Feedback



Mayor Cr Louise Crawford speaks to Jasmine from Hello Willow in Elwood

Over the next few months, we'll be exploring our City's hidden gems. We're sharing stories with you, featuring some of your favourite local shops, traders and businesses, as well as some that are just waiting for you to discover.

We've started our little adventure in Elwood and met [Jasmine from Hello Willow](#), [Ludo from Combi](#), and [John from Cellarbrations](#).

As you'll see, there's so much to discover in Elwood. You can explore the local shopping village, embrace the community spirit and wander the parks and trails on your way to the beach.

"The village here in Elwood is particularly awesome. And the great shops that are here, the diversity of the shops. Then you've got parks, you've got beaches all around us ... and the community spirit, it's pretty enormous." John, Cellarbrations Elwood.

These tours are part of our [Live Love Local](#) campaign, supporting local businesses and working closely with traders to reinvigorate the City.

Follow our adventure on [Facebook](#) – you never know what you'll find.

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A summer like no other

Published 1 April 2021



Summer is a great time in our City, and always a busy season for us, making sure everyone is enjoying themselves safely. This year was no exception, with our foreshore and parks some of the most popular destinations in Victoria.

Unlike other summers, however, we were all adjusting to a summer on the other side of Stage 4 restrictions in the middle of a global pandemic. Here are some of the ways we faced the unique challenges of Summer 2020-21.

This season, we had to be agile as COVID-19 restrictions changed many times, including limits on outdoor gatherings and face-covering requirements.

There was also an increased demand for our public spaces this summer with more people wanting to exercise outdoors after picking up the habit in 2020, increased holidaying at home and people wanting to get out and have fun as venue restrictions were still in place.

Another challenge was keeping our community up to date as restrictions changed. Outdoor gathering limits and mask wearing rules changed a few times over the summer months, and we shared regular updates on signs, social media and our website for visitors and community alike.

As part of our Live Love Local campaign, we urged everyone to Play It Safe. To help with physical distancing and overcrowding, we encouraged people to explore new beaches and parks to spread out across our 11 km of foreshore. We also provided physical-distancing circles at some of our more popular foreshore reserves and parks.

Our Summer Rangers provided a welcome and supporting presence as restrictions lifted. This year, we had more rangers out and about, talking to visitors and auditing waste bins, including 10 staff employed through Working For Victoria, a Victorian Government initiative to help Victorians find work who had lost their jobs due to the impacts of COVID-19. There were more rubbish bins at our beaches, and they were emptied more often. We collected an additional 20,000 litres of waste from public space across the municipality.

It was a summer like no other and we'd like to thank you, our Port Phillip community, for helping us keep our City safe, clean and fun during this time.

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Council respectfully acknowledges the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung. We pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.



St Kilda Film Festival program highlights

Published 1 April 2021

Feedback



The 2021 St Kilda Film Festival offers a fusion of online content and live screenings and events from 20 May to 29 May. .

A fixture of the local cultural calendar, Opening Night will be presented at St Kilda's much-loved local cinema, The Astor Theatre on Thursday 20 May. Screenings will take place at the Astor, the Alex Theatre and at other venues across our City as well as online.

Program highlights include:

- **Australia's Top 100 Short Film Competition** with 100 of the best new Australian short films screening in cinema and online
- **Under the Radar**, the annual youth short film competition plus the VCE student film showcase
- **International Family Animation Explosion**, a program of new animated shorts from around the world made for children will be presented in cinema and online
- **A Tribute to Bob Maza** retrospective featuring a special "in conversation" with Rachael and Lisa Maza charting the life and work of this extraordinary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performer and activist.

In addition to the above curated programs, there will be a number of free moving image installations around the St Kilda area, including new original public moving image artworks from Melbourne artists which have been commissioned by and created for the Festival.

For the first time, **The Big Picture**, the Festival's annual filmmaker development program will give aspiring and emerging filmmakers and film students the chance to meet leading screen practitioners and go behind-the-scenes at screen industry-related businesses across South Melbourne. The program will include talks, workshops, immersive experiences, masterclasses, panels and screenings.

For more information, visit [the website](#).

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Changes to accessible parking permits

Published 1 April 2021



City of Port Phillip has moved to the Accessible Parking Permit (APP) Scheme following a Victorian Government review of the current disability parking permit scheme. If you're a permit holder, find out what this change means for you.

We have moved to the APP Scheme following the state government review, and will now issue the following parking permits:

Australian Disability Parking (ADP) Permit – formerly the Category 1 Blue Disabled Permit

Double Time (DT) Permit – formerly the Category 2 Green Permit

ADP Organisation Permit – formerly the Blue Organisation Permit.

The new scheme streamlines the application process, making it easier, simpler and consistent across the state. Other improvements include:

- the introduction of temporary permits for six, 12 or 24 months
- increased permit length for individuals, from three years to five years
- the introduction of a permanent disability classification, so reassessments are not required for some renewals
- a new single and secure state-wide permit design to reduce the misuse of permits
- the inclusion of occupational therapists as assessors, in addition to GPs.

What do I need to do?

If your permit is expiring soon, or you need to apply for a permit for the first time, log on to accessibleparking.vic.gov.au to start the application process. You can also visit us in person at our ASSIST customer service centres (see portphillip.vic.gov.au/contact-us for opening hours).

Where can I find more information?

Visit our website to find out more: portphillip.vic.gov.au/council-services/parking-in-port-phillip/parking-permits/disabled-persons-parking-permit

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I want to find...

Communal glass recycling trial extended

Published 6 April 2021

Feedback



Last year we launched a communal glass recycling trial. South Melbourne and Albert Park residents were invited to participate, encouraging them to dispose of empty glass bottles and jars at communal glass recycling bins.

The trial helped us develop new approaches to reduce recycling contamination and improve how we're managing waste in our City. It has been a great success with an additional 223,000 litres of glass sent for recycling. Because of the great response, we are extending the trial and have added two new locations.

The bins are available for the whole community, so if you live nearby, your glass is welcome at the following locations:

- [HR Johnson Reserve](#), St Kilda West
- [Alma Park West](#), St Kilda East
- [Little Finlay Reserve](#), Albert Park
- [Lyell Iffla Reserve](#), South Melbourne
- [Corner of Park and Nelson Roads](#), South Melbourne
- [Sol Green Reserve](#), South Melbourne
- [Buckingham Reserve](#), Port Melbourne

All glass collected through this trial is recycled locally in Victoria as a construction material and to make glass containers.

For more information, visit [waste_recycling_and_cleaning](#).

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Leaf season

Published 1 April 2021



Autumn leaves might look pretty, but when the fall they create a high-maintenance issue.

'Leaf Season' is a busy time of year: our street cleaning team clears fallen leaves from roughly 32,500 trees along 530 streets in our City.

Leaf season typically occurs within a seven to nine-week window from late April to mid-July, although weather conditions can cause leaf fall as early as February.

During leaf season, the team receives 10 times the usual volume of customer requests, mostly around leaf cleaning in Elwood, St Kilda, Middle Park, Albert Park, Port Melbourne and Ripponlea where 95 streets are classified as 'high impact zones' for leaf fall.

During last year's leaf season, six sweeper trucks averaged 20 truckloads of material collected per day. In total we collected more than 1,530 truckloads over the season.

That's 9,180 cubic metres of leaves - or enough to fill three and a half Olympic sized swimming pools. Last year's collection data also revealed a 21 per cent increase on the previous year.

The good news is that heavy leaf fall is seasonal and temporary. Throughout the season we'll be working to remove leaf debris across all neighbourhoods as quickly as possible.

For details of seasonal scheduled cleaning in your area, download the [Street Sweeping Leaf Season Program \(PDF 2.3 MB\)](#).

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I want to find...

Inclusive Port Phillip South Pacific Health Club

Published 1 April 2021

Feedback



Ray with his trainer, Pete.

We are showcasing local businesses that offer their services in inclusive ways. This month we spoke again to Ray from Middle Park, who wanted to talk about the community at South Pacific Health Club in St Kilda.

We spoke with you recently about your experience as a customer at the Middle Park Post Office. Do you have another story to share with us?

Yes, I do! I am a member at South Pacific Health Club, which is right on the St Kilda promenade. I have been going to use the gym there for some years now. I used to attend a gym that was specifically designed for people with disability. Then I discovered that I could do my weight training and other exercise at South Pacific, where I can be in contact with my community. There is an accessible parking space for my car out on Jacka Boulevard and I can unpack my scooter there and travel into the Club.

What is it that happens at the gym that you feel is inclusive?

Paul, the manager, has arranged for some of the Pilates equipment to be located on the first level for me to access – it was not a problem – the Pilates program usually happens on another upstairs level. When I move around the gym, the trainers are aware of me and ask if I need access to things – it makes it very easy for me and I feel part of the community. My trainer, Pete, knows that I am tired at the end of my session and helps me to book in my future session times. He will even come with me to my car and help to put my scooter in. I feel that South Pacific wants to 'support this guy to keep exercising as long as he can'. It makes me look forward to going rather than there being a barrier to overcome or being a grouch.

Thanks again Ray for sharing your experiences with our community.

If you have a story to share about an experience with a local inclusive business, please contact Kelly Armstrong, Access and Engagement Officer via ASSIST on 9209 6777 or email: access@portphillip.vic.gov.au

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