

ANNUAL SNAPSHOT



Port Phillip

The City of Port Phillip is home to over 70,000 residents living in Port Melbourne, South Melbourne, Albert Park, Middle Park, St Kilda, St Kilda Road, East St Kilda, Elwood and Ripponlea.

Home is where the start is

That was the theme of the Council's sustainable living education for residents. In 2004 over 50 households discovered new ways to save water; cut power bills and reduce waste at home. The Council also helped local businesses to be more energy efficient and sustainable. Many such businesses were included in an online Green Pages directory.



Alma Road Neighbourhood House helps locals cultivate more than friendship.

New lease of life for grand old dame

The Council teamed up with the State Government to reinvigorate the 'triangle site' including the grand old Palais Theatre. Three short listed groups have been invited to create a vibrant entertainment precinct on the site while retaining the heritage listed Palais.

Roads, Rates & Rubbish Fact:

Services are provided at all stages of life. The Council's home care workers committed 60,000 hours to elderly and disabled people. Maternal health centres greeted 1,509 babies in their first years, while 17,000 people visited community centres annually.



Roads, Rates & Rubbish Fact: In 2004/2005 the City of Port Phillip spent over \$17.6 million on roads, footpaths, drains, parks and open spaces as well as street furniture.

Port Melbourne Light Rail Reserve project included; planting, playground upgrade, heritage wall restoration, new water feature/dog drinking areas and park furniture.

Fresh face for our market

With over 35,000 shoppers every week, the South Melbourne Market continues to be our most popular shopping destination. January 2005 saw the start of a \$5 million upgrade to ensure the market complies with safety and food standards. The progressive work will retain the market's unique raffish character - in other words it was market-as-usual for our many satisfied shoppers!



More trees please

Residents flocked to collect 7,000 tiny trees in tubes as part of the Council's Green Giveaway in April. The streets of Port Phillip also became home to more than a 1,000 new street trees.

Port Phillip faced a massive clean-up after ferocious storms in February. Some of the fallen timber was recycled into street furniture and playground equipment.



Beach vanishes in stormy weather

Middle Park Beach needed replenishing after it vanished during torrential downpours and storms in February. Kerford Road Pier also took a beating and tonnes of extra litter (including thousands of syringes) were collected in daily sweeps of all our beaches. Council and residents were overjoyed when the State Government announced that Middle Park would benefit from a multi-million dollar beach restoration fund.



More books, more DVDs, more hours

Over 52,000 people used their Port Phillip library membership during over 570,000 library visits. It's a remarkable success story with more than a million items borrowed! Council increased spending on library books and other items by 20%. Opening hours also increased, with Albert Park branch opening on Sunday afternoons (from July 2005), lifting the total weekly opening hours to 218.

National wide statistics show that more people visit libraries than the cinema.



Sandridge with the lot

Council commenced works to calm traffic on The Boulevard and improve pedestrian access from Garden City to the beach. Soon a new bicycle path will link Webb Dock and Beacon Cove. When completed it will be a joy to walk, ride or roll from Webb Dock through Beacon Cove along Beaconsfield Parade to St Kilda – now that's a good thing for sure!

Also in Port Melbourne, community meetings and a resident survey contributed to plans for the future of Prince's Pier and the waterfront.

Walk, ride or roll from Port Melbourne to St Kilda.



One sweet promenade

Landscape architects commenced planning the long overdue upgrade of St Kilda Beach Promenade between the Marina and Beaconsfield Parade. The plans, which will go on display later in 2005, envisage a longer, wider and safer promenade with all ability beach access.

The rebirth of the now derelict West Beach Pavilion also moved a step closer to reality. Contracts have been signed for a vibrant, affordable new café and public space for community events, to be opened in 2006.



Calling or visiting ASSIST is a great way to get local information or to let the council know about a problem.

ASSIST at your call

The ASSIST service responded to over 200,000 enquiries in 2004/2005. Independent research commissioned by the Council found that most people were happy with the response to their first call or visit. Port Phillip's website also received nearly 300,000 visitors in the 12 months to June 2005.

Women in majority

Four new women councillors were elected to the Council in the November poll. Janet Cribbes, Janet Bolitho, Karen Sait and Judith Klepner joined re-elected councillors Darren Ray, Peter Logan and Dick Gross as Port Phillip's Council until 2008.

Council farewelled four councillors who did not stand for re-election David Brand, Carolyn Hutchens, Julian Hill and Liz Johnstone.



Making the most of our town halls

Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda Town Halls are grand community landmarks and the Council plans to make the most of these irreplaceable community assets.

A building permit has been granted for extensions to the St Kilda Town Hall to accommodate most of the Port Phillip staff. ASSIST service counters will remain at all town halls. The consolidation of staff at St Kilda will make more space available for community activities at South Melbourne.

Construction will start late in 2005.



Roads, Rates & Rubbish Fact:

The Council answered 170,000 queries on planning and managed 1,600 planning applications.

Mayor Darren Ray welcomed Sir John Dawanincura, Secretary General of the PNG Commonwealth Games Association to Port Phillip



PNG become our games partner

Council adopted Papua New Guinea as our Commonwealth Games partner nation in the lead up to M2006. It's all part of a Getting Involved strategy aimed at boosting local participation.

It was announced that the men and women's triathlon will be held in St Kilda, while the marathon and road cycle races will pass through Port Phillip.



ONE CITY, MANY NEIGHBOURHOODS



Childcare waiting list tops 1600

Spiralling childcare waiting lists prompted a rally of parents and children at the St Kilda Town Hall. Mayor Darren Ray told the rally that solving the childcare crisis was a top priority. Council is working with parent groups and state and federal governments to help create more childcare and to inspire new centres to open. Already over 400 new places are in the planning pipeline.

The City of Port Phillip employs residents to provide home based child care. Working on a full or part time basis, home care workers get paid annual leave and sick leave, maternity leave and have coverage through the council's Public Liability Insurance.



Council funded a new tram stop in Danks Street, Middle Park. The raised platform makes getting on and off the tram easier and safer.



Roads, Rates & Rubbish Fact:

Port Phillip keeps 11 kilometres of beach clean and maintains 222 kilometres of roads. Each year the Council empties 18,939 tonnes of garbage from 32,000 bins, and collects 10,972 tonnes of recyclables.



Red Army Veterans paid tribute to Raoul Wallenberg (Swedish Diplomat credited with saving 400,000 Jews in WWII) at the St Kilda Town Hall on the 60th anniversary of his disappearance,

Need a pick-me up?

Council adopted a new system of collecting hard and green waste from households. Each property can now 'call up' for four free collections every year. Call 9209 6533 in business hours to arrange a hard or green waste collection from your home.

Pick up the full Port Phillip Annual Report from any council office, ASSIST 9209 6777 or at www.portphillip.vic.gov.au