

Manningham Matters

April 2025

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الأخبار بلغتك



manningham.vic.gov.au



MANNINGHAM

A Manningham Council publication.

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Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways now known as Manningham.

Council pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and values the ongoing contribution to enrich and appreciate the cultural heritage of Manningham.

Council acknowledges and respects Australia's First Peoples as Traditional Owners of lands and waterways across Country, and encourages reconciliation between all.

Manningham Council also values the contribution made to Manningham over the years by people of diverse backgrounds and cultures.



COVER IMAGE:
Musician Alex Robertson
from Cleo Black.
Photo credit: David Ng.



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Stay in touch with what's happening in Manningham by subscribing to our monthly eNewsletter.

manningham.vic.gov.au/subscribe

Have a great story?

Get in touch to submit a news story to *Manningham Matters* at

manningham.vic.gov.au/submit-a-story

Manningham Matters in your language

以您的语言阅读 *Manningham Matters* 中的故事, 请扫描二维码访问我们的网站。

以您的語言閱讀 *Manningham Matters* 中的故事, 請掃描二維碼訪問我們的網站。

Per leggere alcune storie di questo *Manningham Matters* nella tua lingua, scansiona il codice QR per visitare il nostro sito web.

Για να διαβάσετε μερικές ιστορίες από αυτό το *Manningham Matters* στη γλώσσα σας, σαρώστε τον κωδικό QR για να επισκεφθείτε τον ιστότοπό μας.

برای خواندن داستان‌هایی از *Manningham Matters* به زبان خود، کد QR را اسکن کرده یا از وبسایت ما بازدید کنید.

لقراءة بعض القصص من مجلة *Manningham Matters* بلغتكم، يرجى مسح كود الاستجابة السريعة لزيارة موقعنا الإلكتروني.



[manningham.vic.gov.au/
manningham-matters-your-language](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/manningham-matters-your-language)



Interpreter service **9840 9355**

普通话 廣東話 Ελληνικά Italiano العربية فارسی

Message from our Mayor

As a Council, we're currently planning for our 2025/26 budget and 10-year financial plan and with this comes a significant challenge – the escalating issue of cost shifting and using Council rates notices to collect State levies.

Did you know that through a variety of ways, the State Government is shifting costs onto Councils and then, in turn, onto you?

You will see some examples of these levies on your annual rates notice. These include charges such as the emergency services levy, previously known as the fire services levy, and the waste landfill levy.

As a Council, we don't set these fees or charges, however we're required to pass them directly onto you – essentially acting as a tax collector for the State Government. This year we're changing the layout of our 2025/26 rates notices to show Council charges on one side and State Government levies on the other.

Cost shifting is where the state and other government bodies delegate responsibilities to councils without providing sufficient funding to support their delivery. This can include introducing a new fee, program or regulation, or passing on an asset for Council to manage.

The State is cost shifting by not providing enough funding to councils to deliver important community services on behalf of the State Government. This can add up to millions of dollars of insufficient funding from the State Government each year.

We're seeing this with a lack of funding for our local school crossing supervisors, which support school children to safely cross the road. There's also insufficient funding provided by the State Government to cover Council's costs for grass cutting and roadside maintenance, which we do along Manningham's arterial roads that are owned by VicRoads.

Alleviating the financial pressures and burdens that rate payers face from the State Government's cost shifting is one of our Community Panel's recommendations. This will continue to be a keen focus for our Council moving forward.

As we advocate for increased financial support from the State Government, we're also prioritising long-term financial sustainability to ensure we can continue to provide essential services and infrastructure for generations to come.

We look forward to sharing our 10-year financial plan with you later this year.



Warm regards,

Cr Deirdre Diamante
Mayor



Entires from our 2024 Photo Competition.
Photo credit: Matthew Hayman (left) and Caleb Robins (right).

Submit your photo for a chance to win!

Captured a great shot in Manningham recently? Keen to win a prize or get recognised for your work?

Our 2025 Photo Competition is now open!

Enter your photos for your chance to win a Find Your Local gift card valued at up to \$400. Shortlisted photos will be included in next year's Manningham Community Calendar.

Entries close midnight Sunday 18 May.

Find out more and enter your photo at

manningham.vic.gov.au/photo-competition

Building a safer community together

Local businesses, community members and police members came together at the Manningham Neighbourhood Policing Forum last month, eager to discuss key community issues and priorities.

Hosted by Victoria Police, the forum provided a valuable opportunity for residents to share their concerns and ideas, supporting local police to keep Manningham safe.

Participants explored a range of topics including:

- current crime trends and crime prevention
- family violence
- young people
- drugs and drug related crime
- road policing.

We look forward to continuing to work together to support a safe and inclusive Manningham.

Council meeting roundup

Council meetings are the formal decision making forum for our Council.

Summary of key discussions and decisions

February Council meeting

- Our draft Road Management Plan 2025 was approved for public consultation in accordance with the *Road Management Act 2004*.
- Council endorsed its advocacy priorities in the lead up to the Federal election and showed its support for the advocacy priorities of the Eastern Region Group of Councils.
- Council resolved to award the contract for pruning and electrical line clearance program over the next four years.
- The 2024/25 Capital Works Program status report for quarter two was noted.
- Council endorsed the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council motions and to submit the motions to the MAV ahead of the 16 May 2025 meeting.

March Council meeting

- Council endorsed the Community Vision, as prepared by the Manningham Community Panel, as well as the Council's response to the Panel's 14 recommendations and minority report.
- Council endorsed a motion on soft plastics to be submitted to the Australian Local Government Association ahead of the 24-27 June 2025 National General Assembly.

- Council noted adverse community impacts resulting from the North East Link Project (NELP), and its appointed contractor, Spark, parking their vehicles on local streets within Bulleen.
 - Council authorised for the CEO to write to NELP and Spark to express our dissatisfaction and expectations for worker parking, and to request detailed information on the assessments undertaken for potential satellite parking sites.
 - Council endorsed a recommendation to undertake community consultation on a range of options to address the worker parking in residential streets.
 - Council endorsed a recommendation to immediately begin the process to implement parking restrictions on six local streets identified in the petitions presented to the February and March 2025 Council meetings.

The next Council meetings are scheduled for 29 April and 27 May 2025.

Find out how to get involved and watch past Council meeting livestreams at

manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

Advocating for our community this Federal election

In the lead up to the Federal election, we're calling for Federal Government support for a number of priority projects in Manningham.

We're proud to be advocating for our community and are seeking funding for seven major projects and a series of local sports infrastructure, road and footpath upgrades.

We've set out our advocacy priorities across four key themes: Our Commute, Our Environment, Our Safety and Our Wellbeing.



ABOVE: Artist impression of the Aquarena outdoor redevelopment.

We're advocating for:

- \$15 million for the Aquarena Aquatic and Leisure Centre outdoor precinct redevelopment
- \$7.5 million for open space upgrades, including at Wombat Bend and Finns Reserve, Anderson Park, Warrandyte Skate Park and The Boulevard playspace at Ruffey Lake Park
- \$5 million for safety improvements at the 5-ways intersection in Warrandyte South
- \$3 million for a feasibility study to inform the high frequency busway along Doncaster Road
- \$5 million+ for a new building for the Park Orchards Community House and Learning Centre
- \$350,000 to support community legal services in Manningham
- the Federal Government to encourage the Victorian Government to make commitments around the North East Link Project.

Find out more at

manningham.vic.gov.au/advocacy

ANZAC Day in Manningham

Join an ANZAC Day service at your local Manningham RSL on Friday 25 April.

A day of significance across Australia, ANZAC Day is more than the anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli in 1915.

It is the day we remember all Australians who served and died in war and operational service past and present.

Friday 25 April, 6.00am

Doncaster RSL Dawn Service

The Doncaster RSL will hold a dawn service, led by East Doncaster Secondary College students, with a horse and handmade poppy blanket. There will be an address by decorated veterans and a laying of tributes accompanied by a bagpipe player.

After the service there will be a free breakfast and the opportunity to tour a new memorabilia display at the RSL.

📍 Doncaster RSL, corner of Doncaster Road and Leeds Street, Doncaster East



Friday 25 April, March: 8.15am, Service: 8.30am

Templestowe RSL ANZAC Service

Templestowe RSL will hold an ANZAC service followed by a Gunfire Breakfast. Before the service, there will be a march from the Templestowe Hotel carpark led by a local band. The march will step off at 8.15am, led by a band from Whitefriars College.

📍 Templestowe Memorial Park, corner of Foote and High streets, Templestowe

Friday 25 April, March: 10.30am, Service: 10.45am

Warrandyte RSL ANZAC March and Service

Warrandyte RSL's ANZAC Day commemorations will commence with a march in Yarra Street (opposite Whipstick Gully Road). An ANZAC service will follow at the cenotaph in the RSL Memorial grounds. Refreshments and morning tea will be provided in the club afterwards.

📍 Warrandyte RSL Memorial, 113 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte

A new look for Templestowe Memorial Reserve

Visitors to Templestowe Memorial Reserve will experience a fresh new space to reflect and honour the significant contribution and memory of our service people this ANZAC Day.

The recently upgraded reserve features a new amphitheatre-style standing area, as well as additional seating and landscaping. You'll find plants such as the Gallipoli Centenary Rose, Callistemon 'White ANZAC' bottlebrush and rosemary.

Delivered as part of our Capital Works Program, the upgrade was completed with involvement from the Templestowe RSL and Rotary Manningham City.

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/templestowe-memorial-park

heART of Manningham – have your say on arts, culture and local history

We're developing a new action plan to guide future arts, culture and local history services, programs and activities in Manningham.

Let us know what's important to you by completing our short survey by 5.00pm, Friday 25 April.



📍 yoursaymanningham.vic.gov.au/arts-action-plan



What's on

COMMUNITY

**Saturday 19 April, Saturday 17 May,
10.00am to 2.00pm**

Park Orchards Market

Find fresh produce direct from the Yarra Valley, exquisite crafts and quality urban wares.

🏠 Park Orchards Primary School, corner Bowmore Avenue and Park Road, Park Orchards.

💰 Gold coin to enter

🌐 parkorchardsmarket.com



Friday 25 April ANZAC Day

One of Australia's most important national occasions, ANZAC Day is the day in which we remember Australians who served and died in all war and operational service past and present. See page 5 for a list of RSL services in Manningham.

**Sunday 27 April
Sunday 25 May
8.00am to 1.00pm**

FREE

Tunstall Square Market

With up to 100 stalls, discover an eclectic mix of items from plants to clothing and crafts.

🏠 Tunstall Square Shopping Centre, corner Doncaster and Tunstall roads, Doncaster East

🌐 warrandytedonvalerotary.org.au/tunstall



**Saturday 3 May
8.00am to 1.00pm**

FREE

Warrandyte Riverside Market

With over 180 stallholders, you'll find handcrafted wares and produce, be entertained by local buskers and enjoy a family day out in beautiful surrounds.

🏠 Stiggant Reserve, Yarra Street Warrandyte

🌐 warrandyteriversidemarket.com.au

**Saturday 10 May
10.00am to 3.00pm**

FREE

Heide Makers' Market

Heide Makers' Market showcases the work of up to 120 different makers each month. From artwork to tasty treats, there's plenty of reasons to make a visit to the Heide Market part of your weekend.

🏠 7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen

🌐 heidemarket.com

ENVIRONMENT

**Thursday 1 May
7.00pm to 9.00pm**

FREE

Electrify Your Life: Hear from experts

Curious about going electric? Come along to hear leading voices, Heidi Lee and Tim Forcey, discuss the exciting future of electrification. This free event will highlight the benefits of transitioning to an energy-efficient, electric home. Panelist Heidi Lee is the CEO of Beyond Zero Emissions, an independent think tank that shows how Australia can prosper in a zero emissions economy. Tim Forcey is an expert on home energy efficiency and electrification. Tim is an avid researcher and author of *My Efficient Electric Home Handbook*.

🏠 Manningham Function Centre 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au/inspired-living-series



**Saturday 3 May
12.00pm noon to 2.00pm
(drop off begins at 12.00pm,
clothes swap begins at 1.00pm)
Drop and Swap Clothing
Exchange**

FREE

Refresh your wardrobe in a thrifty way. Drop up to eight clothing items to score up to eight more. Clothes must be clean, in good condition and free of any major faults (a missing button is ok!). Underwear, swimwear and tracksuits are not accepted.

🏠 Ajani Centre, 284 Thompsons Road, Templestowe Lower

🌐 Register at manningham.vic.gov.au/drop-and-swap-clothing-exchange

**Wednesday 7 May
6.30pm to 8.30pm**

FREE

Home Harvest - Edible perennials and maximising your harvests

Hear from Kat Lavers, a renowned permaculturist and owner of iconic garden 'The Plummery' as she explores the world of edible perennials.

🏠 Manningham Function Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au/home-harvest

**Wednesday 7 May
7.00pm to 8.30pm**

FREE

International Compost Awareness Week

Join us for a free workshop by the experts at Compost Community.

🏠 Manningham Function Centre 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au/composting-workshop

WELLBEING



**Mondays, 10.45am to 11.15am,
Wednesdays, 9.45am to 10.15am**

Aquatic Playgroup at Aquarena

Join Aquarena's Aquatic Playgroup if you have a baby under 12 months. Enjoy the water together and connect with other parents and babies.

Guided by a qualified swim teacher, these sessions will help your baby become familiar with the aquatic environment.

Parents will also learn about water safety and how to help your little one feel comfortable in the water. No bookings required.

🏠 Aquarena, 139-153 Williamsons Road, Templestowe Lower

💰 \$10.40 per session

🔗 manningham.vic.gov.au/events/aquatic-playgroup

**Wednesday 30 April,
7, 14 and 21 May
10.30am to 12.00pm**

FREE

Vision Board sessions with Doncare

Do you need motivation and encouragement to move forward in your life? Reconnect with your dreams and desires with Doncare's Vision Board group.

Facilitated by skilled art therapists and counsellors, you will explore the following themes: connecting to others, inspirational goals, personal values and fun and creativity.

All materials will be provided.

🏠 Doncare, Suite 4, Level 1, 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

💰 \$65 for four sessions. Concessions are available

🔗 doncare.org.au/news/vision-board

Healthy Ageing pop up sessions

FREE

Come and chat to our Healthy Ageing team about how to navigate different services, find local clubs and community groups to join, and learn what's happening for older people in Manningham.

**Wednesday 30 April
10.00am to 12.00pm**

🏠 Ajani Neighbourhood House, 2/284 Thompsons Road, Templestowe Lower

**Tuesday 6 May
1.00pm to 3.00pm**

🏠 Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, Level 1/168 Yarra Street Warrandyte

**Thursday 8 May
1.00pm to 3.00pm**

🏠 Warrandyte Library, 168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte



**Sunday 11 May, 7.30am
Dementia Australia
Memory Walk and Jog**

Walk, jog or run? Fancy dress or personal best? Beat dementia your way. Spread the word and bring your friends, family, workmates and even the dog!

Memory Walk and Jog is more than just an event – it's a chance to get active and make a difference.

Sign up today and spread the word for a fantastic day that supports Dementia Australia.

🏠 Westerfolds Park, Templestowe

💰 Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$135, Adults \$45, Senior \$35, Child \$35. No cost for dogs or Juniors (0-5 years).

🔗 memorywalk.com.au/register/templestowe



**Wednesday 21 May
7.00pm to 8.30pm**

FREE

Learn about pet nutrition

Join Friends of Manningham Dogs and Cats for an informative evening presented by Leanne Carney, owner of A Dog's Life – Pet First Aid Care and Nutrition. Learn about the basics of raw feeding, how to read food pet labels and more.

🏠 Friends of Manningham Dogs and Cats, 53-55 Aranga Crescent Donvale

🔗 trybooking.com/events/landing/1350227



**Wednesday 25 May
7.00pm to 8.30pm**

FREE

Grandparenting seminar with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

It takes a village to raise a child, and the role of a grandparent is more important than ever. Join our free seminar on grandparenting with special guest speaker, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg. Dr Carr-Gregg is a parenting expert, psychologist and author of 18 books, including Grandparents and the Grandparenting Code.

This session is suitable for both grandparents and parents. Registrations essential.

🏠 Manningham Function Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

🔗 manningham.vic.gov.au/grandparenting-seminar

Get involved at your local neighbourhood house or library

There's plenty of opportunities to learn and stay connected at our local neighbourhood houses and libraries.

Wednesday 23 April, 2.30pm to 4.00pm

Memoir Writing Workshop

This friendly, informative session with author Sue Gunningham is ideal for anyone wanting to begin writing their life story.

🏠 The Pines Library, corner Reynolds and Blackburn roads

💰 Free

🔗 wml.vic.gov.au/Services/Events-and-Programs/Whats-On-Guide

Thursday 1 May (for 8 weeks), 1.30pm to 3.30pm

All Abilities Towards Independent Living

This course is designed to help you live independently in supported accommodation or within your family home. Learn about what it takes to be a good housemate, including respecting, privacy and relationships.

🏠 Pines Learning, 1/520 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East

💰 Free (this course is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank).

🔗 pineslearning.com.au/employment-pathways

Friday 2 May (for 10 sessions), 12.45pm to 1.30pm

Warrandyte Rhythm Rascals

This class is for children aged three to six years and covers a range of dance styles, including hip hop, jazz, and ballet, all while fostering confidence, coordination and creativity.

🔗 warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au

Thursday 15 May, 4.15pm to 5.15pm

Make Music For Videogames

Learn to create a soundtrack for a video game or animation. Learn how to use a free online tool, Beepbox, to create music. Suitable for children aged eight years and above.

🏠 Doncaster Library, 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

💰 Free

🔗 wml.vic.gov.au/Services/Events-and-Programs/Whats-On-Guide

Friday 16 May (for 8 weeks), 9.30am to 12.00pm noon

Speak, Listen, Cook, Eat – Learn English through Cooking

This is an opportunity to learn and practice your English while having fun in the kitchen.

Many of the delicious dishes reflect participants' cultural backgrounds.

💰 Funded: \$66.00, non funded: \$160.00.
*Concession price apply.

This training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding.

🔗 pineslearning.com.au/2024/english-through-cooking

Saturday 24 May, 10.00am to 11.00am

Mastering No Dig Garden Beds

Find out all about planting and maintaining a no dig garden bed design. You'll learn what materials to use and options like layered beds, raised beds, Hugelkultur and straw bale gardens.

💰 Free

🔗 ajaninh.org.au/coursesandprograms

26 May 2025 to 30 May

Reconciliation Week Special Storytimes

Celebrate Aboriginal culture in a spirit of reconciliation with the first people of Australia. We will enjoy stories, songs and a colourful craft activity. For children aged three to eight years.

🏠 Bulleen, Monday 26 May, 11.00am to 11.45am

Doncaster, Wednesday 28 May, 11.00am to 11.45am

Warrandyte, Wednesday 28 May, 11.00am to 11.45am

The Pines, Thursday 29 May, 11.00am to 11.45am

💰 Free

Join the Pines Learning Talking Cafe

Want to meet new people for a social chat?

Pines Learning invites seniors aged 60 and over to join their Talking Cafe.

Sessions are held from 11.00am to 12.00pm (noon) every Monday at the Moon and Spoon Cafe at The Pines Shopping Centre, Doncaster East.

Drop in if you feel like some friendly conversation or to hear about what's happening in our local community.

Look out for the table with the Talking Cafe sign.

🔗 pineslearning.com.au/2024/talking-cafe



Setting the stage for local live music

Live and Local is designed to showcase, support and celebrate our local musicians, bands and businesses.

It aims to build the capacity of local music communities by providing professional development workshops, local industry forums and paid performance opportunities at micro festival events.

To kick things off, we're seeking expressions of interest from artists, as well as businesses that are interested in hosting small live music events.

Performers

Musicians will have the chance to showcase their talents and get paid, while connecting with other local industry professionals. This opportunity will build their experience and contribute to the growth of the local live music scene.

Businesses and venues

You don't need to be a traditional live music venue to take part in this free program. All you need to do is provide a space within your premises for small-scale performances. Examples of local businesses include retail spaces, cafes and galleries, as well as hotels, restaurants and bars.

Our Venues Liaison Officer can provide guidance and connect you to local musicians, other businesses and industry professionals through the program.

The program is being delivered in partnership with the Live Music Office and APRA AMCOS.

Find out more and register your interest at

manningham.vic.gov.au/live-and-local

Connect through volunteering

Did you know 13 per cent of Manningham residents volunteer in some form? Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community and without them, many local programs, events and activities would not be possible.

This year's National Volunteer Week (19 to 25 May) theme is Connecting Communities. It highlights how volunteering creates lasting relationships that enrich lives and strengthen communities.

Want to give back to your community?

Join our Manningham Volunteer Resource Service – we've partnered with EV Strengthening Communities to help volunteers find local opportunities to lend a hand. You can also volunteer through a range of Council programs.

manningham.vic.gov.au/how-to-volunteer-your-community

Stay informed with your legal rights during Victorian Law Week

Victorian Law Week (19 to 25 May) is coming up and the Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) has a range of activities planned so you can access valuable legal information.

ECLC aims to help Victorians understand their rights, find answers to their questions and find out what help is available.

Legal information stalls

Chat to the ECLC team at one of their upcoming information stalls.

Bulleen Library

Wednesday 21 to Friday 23 May, 10.00am to 6.00pm

📍 Bulleen Plaza, 79/109 Manningham Road, Bulleen

The Pines Library

Wednesday 21 to Thursday 22 May, 10.00am to 8.00pm

Friday 23 May, 10.00am to 6.00pm

📍 The Pines Shopping Centre, Reynolds Road and Blackburn Road East, Doncaster

Wills and powers of attorney session

Wednesday 21 May, 1.30pm to 3.00pm

📍 Doncaster Library, MC Square 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

This free session will focus on planning for your future, including power of attorney and will processes.

Bookings required

<https://tinyurl.com/ye64h3fs>



Protecting your digital identity and staying safe online

HEALTHY AGEING

In today's digital world, online scams are becoming increasingly sophisticated – targeting people of all ages. Protecting your digital identity is crucial.

Here are some helpful tips to help secure your online safety.

Beware of suspicious messages:

Be cautious of emails, texts or calls asking for personal or financial details. Legitimate organisations rarely request sensitive information this way.

Strengthen your passwords:

Use strong, unique passwords for your online accounts and enable two-factor authentication for added security.

Stay informed: Familiarise yourself with common scams, such as phishing emails or fake tech support calls. The Australian Government's Scamwatch website is an excellent resource [scamwatch.gov.au](https://www.scamwatch.gov.au)

Seek help if unsure: If something does not feel right, ask a trusted friend or family member for advice before responding or clicking on any links.

By staying vigilant, you can navigate the online world with confidence and keep your personal information safe.

For more information and resources on groups for older people, contact our Healthy Ageing team on

📞 9840 9230



Stay social and connected by joining a local club

HEALTHY AGEING

If you're an older person in Manningham, there are plenty of ways to stay connected with your local community.

Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club

The Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club is a hub for local seniors offering a range of activities, encouraging social connections and an active lifestyle.

Members meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 12.00pm (noon) to 4.00pm at Warrandyte Community Hall. They enjoy regular outings like friendly bowling sessions, walks and group activities.

A highlight for many members is the monthly group walk, exploring the picturesque natural beauty of Warrandyte.

For more information call our Healthy Ageing Team on 9840 9230.

The Country Women's Association (Donvale Branch)

Celebrating 80 years of community service this year, the Donvale branch of the Country Women's Association brings members together for craft, socialising, and a cuppa.

The group aims to have monthly guest speakers and meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 12.30pm at Domeney Recreation Centre in Park Orchards. There's also a craft session held on the third Tuesday from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

For more information, call

📞 9874 3880

U3A MANNINGHAM

U3A Manningham provides a wide range of courses to support members mentally, physically and socially.

Each year, members showcase their talents at two major events in November. The Artistic Showcase, featuring a display of art and craft, and uniFEST which celebrates music, dance and instrumental performance.

New members are very welcome.

📍 The Pines Learning and Activity Centre, 2/520 Blackburn Road Doncaster East

🌐 u3amanningham.org.au

To find other seniors clubs near you, visit

🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au/find-clubs-older-adults

Contact our Healthy Ageing Team

📞 9840 9230

🌐 healthyageing@manningham.vic.gov.au

Scan the QR code to subscribe to our Healthy Ageing mailing list to stay connected with navigation information, events, activities and more.



🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au/older-adults



New swimming programs make a splash

Manningham's first women's-only swimming sessions have splashed onto the scene at Aquarena Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

Women of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds are welcome to attend these sessions, including women who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Children, including boys aged under six, are also welcome.

These sessions offer a safe, private and welcoming space for women to enjoy the indoor pools and spa.

Community group Serenity for Women was involved in the launch of the project. A group spokesperson said it would provide an opportunity to improve women's health and wellbeing – removing barriers for those who were isolated due to cultural backgrounds or previous trauma, such as family violence.

“It's about having a safe space to go and feel comfortable. A place where they don't have to worry about cultural elements, that is close and not expensive,” they said.

Manningham Leisure Manager, Shannon Mounsey, said there is growing demand for more accessible spaces.

“We're proud to have created a space where women can thrive, build confidence and connect with others,” she said.

Sessions will be held on the last Sunday of every month from 8.15pm to 10.00pm (after the centre's normal closing time).

They will be supervised by female staff. Upcoming dates include Sunday 27 April, 25 May and 29 June. No bookings required.

activemanningham.com.au/womens-only-swimming-evenings

Multicultural learn-to-swim classes

The new Safely Engaging with Water program at Aquarena is helping adults from multicultural communities learn about water safety and develop basic swimming skills.

With multicultural communities having a statistically higher risk of drowning, this program aims to ease entry into swim programs and empower participants to overcome their water-related fears and anxieties.

The 10-week program has gender separate classes at different times, providing a safe and inclusive environment to learn to swim.

activemanningham.com.au/safely-engaging-with-water



Doncaster resident Australia's top junior pickleball player

YOUNG PEOPLE

You may be familiar with racket sports such as tennis, badminton and table tennis, but have you tried pickleball?

A combination of all three sports, pickleball is fast becoming a game changer – and 12-year-old Angelene can attest to that. She's recently been ranked Australia's number one Junior Girls Pickleball player.

After playing high-level junior tennis since she was six years old, the Doncaster resident decided to try her hand at pickleball two years ago and has never looked back.

Rising through the ranks, Angelene is currently the number one Junior in Australia in both Junior Girls Singles and Girls Doubles categories.

“I train daily with my dad and other pickleball coaches and I play socially three to five times a week in our Pickleball FUN Community club. I am committed to working very hard on becoming the best female pickleball player in Australia and then the world,” Angelene said.

“It's my goal to continue to develop my pickleball mechanics, skills, body and importantly my pickleball mindset. I'd love to one day play in the Olympics and represent Australia when the sport will be included!”

Congratulations Angelene!



Stepping forward for National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week (27 May to 3 June) is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation.

This year's theme, Bridging Now to Next, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future, and encourages us to step forward together.

Here in Manningham, we continue to implement the actions of our Reconciliation Action Plan, while progressing to the next stage of our reconciliation journey.

Exploring our heritage

One of the things that makes Manningham so special is our unique environment and beautiful green spaces. For thousands of years the Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, have cared for this Country.

During Reconciliation Week, why not explore the rich cultural heritage of our special places and spaces.

Bolin Bolin Billabong

The billabong in Bulleen is a sacred site where the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people held large ceremonies. Starting in Bulleen Park and following the Birrarung (Yarra River), this trail loops around the billabong through giant river red gums.

📍 Bulleen Park, 175 Bulleen Road, Bulleen

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/bulleen-park

ABOVE: Currawong Bush Park.

BELOW: Walkers at the start of the Mt Lofty trail.

Currawong Bush Park

There are several trails providing opportunities to learn more about the Wurundjeri and the unique local habitat and wildlife.

📍 Reynolds Road, East Doncaster

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/currawong-bush-park-trails

Pound Bend Tunnel Reserve

Wurundjeri Stories is a fascinating interpretive signage trail exploring local Wurundjeri history.

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/our-first-nations-history

📍 Warrandyte State Park, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte

Mount Lofty Walk

This 5km circuit starts at Wittons Reserve near an area considered to be Sacred Women's Country. The walk follows the Birrarung (Yarra River) before climbing the summit of Mt Lofty for spectacular views.

📍 Reserve Road, Wonga Park

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/wittons-reserve

Find out more about First Nations history and our reconciliation journey:

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/our-first-nations-history





Artworks celebrate connection to Country

A new exhibition at the Manningham Art Gallery explores First Nations artists' connection to Country.

The exhibition, Painted Country, presents the works of five First Nations artists: Nellie Ngampa Coulthard, Brenda Napaltjarri, Clara Napurrula, Rene Sundown and Adrian Jurra Tjungurrayi.

Each artist paints unique depictions of Country, capturing the subtle shifts of light, native flora, ancestral stories and culturally significant sites across Australia.

With special thanks to the artists, Iwantja Arts in South Australia, Papunya Tula Artists in the Northern Territory and the Alcaston Gallery, who partnered with us on this exhibition.

Painted Country

📍 Manningham Art Gallery
687 Doncaster Road,
Doncaster

Saturday 3 May to Saturday
12 July

Open Wednesday to Saturday,
11.00am to 4.00pm

Library learning

The Whitehorse Manningham Library will be hosting Wild Blak Cultural Workshops in May with Indigenous artist Cassie.

Tradition and Talk: Indigenous Artifacts and Cultural Insights

Tuesday 6 May, 7.00pm to
8.00pm, Online

Free, but registrations essential

📍 wml.vic.gov.au

ABOVE: Nellie Ngampa Coulthard, *Tjuntala Ngurangka - Country with Wattle (Acacia Murrayana)*, 2023, synthetic polymer paint on linen, 152 x 167 cm (detail). Courtesy of the Artist, Iwantja Arts and Alcaston Gallery.



IDAHOBIT 2025 and beyond: Championing LGBTQIA+ Inclusion

Everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or background, should feel safe, accepted and included.

The International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is coming up on 17 May. IDAHOBIT raises awareness of the violence and discrimination still faced by LGBTQIA+ people across the globe. This year's IDAHOBIT theme is The Power of Communities.

Did you know that two in three LGBTQIA+ young people still experience abuse due to their identity? And, 35 per cent of LGBTQIA+ Australians have experienced verbal abuse in the past 12 months.

In Manningham, we're committed to fostering an inclusive environment for all.

Join us to recognise IDAHOBIT

Join us on Tuesday 13 May to recognise IDAHOBIT. This event is an opportunity to come together to recognise the strengths, contributions and resilience of the LGBTQIA+ community in Manningham.

After raising the rainbow flag, we'll enjoy morning tea and hear from guest speaker Charlie, from LGBTQIA+ youth charity Minus18. Charlie will share some of the barriers and challenges that LGBTQIA+ young people experience, along with practical tips for supporting your LGBTQIA+ friends and colleagues.

Register your spot for this free event, we look forward to seeing you there.

Tuesday 13 May, 10.00am to 11.30am

📍 Manningham Civic Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

📍 manningham.vic.gov.au/IDAHOBIT-2025



Pride at Manningham

Thanks for cheering us on at this year's Midsumma Pride Festival!

Each year, our staff, Councillors and their families are invited to join Melbourne's iconic Pride March and show support for our LGBTQIA+ community. This is just one of the many ways we support gender equality and inclusion in our workplace and in Manningham.



Have you seen these green posts?

While it might look like a regular street post, this is a 'virtual fence', designed to help protect our local wildlife.

Virtual fences are activated by approaching headlights and emit sound and light to deter animals from crossing the road.

Local wildlife rescuer, Katja Gutwein, has seen the benefits of these fences firsthand. "The virtual fence is a low-cost solution that has drastically reduced wildlife fatalities and improved safety for all road users," she explained.

If you see a flashing light along Jumping Creek Road in Wonga Park it's likely a virtual fence. We've installed 20 in the area to help protect both wildlife and road users.

We know the virtual fences can look suspiciously like cameras, but these lights are alerting animals to your car's presence and deterring them from crossing the road.

Please keep our wildlife safe by leaving the fences alone. If you spot any damage to the fences, contact us on **9840 9333** or email **environment@manningham.vic.gov.au**.

These fences were installed as part of the Jumping Creek Road upgrade.

For more information on this project, visit

yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/jumping-creek-road-upgrade

New panel members appointed to help shape our water future

We're pleased to welcome two new panel members to our Flooding and Stormwater Management Community Reference Panel (CRP).

Established in 2022, we're working with the CRP to address how we sustainably manage our water resources, care for our environment and manage flood risk into the future.

Now comprised of 11 community members, the CRP is helping guide the development of the Manningham Flood Mapping Project and Integrated Water Management Strategy.

Stay informed and look out for more opportunities to get involved at

yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/flood-and-water-management



Bio Gro tours

Ever wondered about the journey of your Food Organic Garden Organics (FOGO) after they're collected? Join a free tour of the Bio Gro organics recovery facility to find out!

Tours include return-trip transport from our Civic Centre in Doncaster to the facility in Dandenong South.

Please note, participants must be aged 18 years or older and wear closed-toe shoes on the day. The tour also involves walking and climbing stairs, which may not be suitable for individuals with limited mobility.

Find and book our next tour at

manningham.vic.gov.au/events/bio-gro-tours



ABOVE: Students from Carey Junior School Donvale who will take part in this year's program.

New SEED program for primary schools

Our Sustainability and Environmental Education Day – SEED – will launch in May, empowering students with sustainability knowledge and skills.

The one-day school incursion will cover key topics including biodiversity, composting, waste and Wurundjeri Cultural Awareness education.

Up to 800 students from eight primary schools will learn how to apply sustainability initiatives in their homes and local area.

This initiative aims to provide the next generation with vital skills for living sustainably.

This free school program will be delivered by Manningham Council, in partnership with Chooktopia and the Wurundjeri Corporation Education Unit.

manningham.vic.gov.au/SEED



Vale Helen Rennie

It's with great sadness that we share that Helen Rennie, a much-loved Manningham school crossing supervisor, passed away earlier this year.

Helen was well-known to many families in Doncaster, after dedicating 45 years to keeping local students safe. Her commitment to her community was truly outstanding and she will be greatly missed.

Vale Helen.

Community-led recommendations inform plans for Manningham

In September 2024, we took a crucial step towards building a prosperous future for Manningham, guided by local voices and values.

The Manningham Community Panel was formed and tasked with delving into complex challenges to help determine key priorities for our community.

Following a series of collaborative deliberation sessions, the Panel delivered its recommendations to Council in early February.

The final report included 14 recommendations and one minority report. They span several themes including community safety, transport, open spaces and more.

We've now carefully considered each recommendation and prepared a detailed response – outlining how we plan to approach and implement them. We're committed to implementing the Panel's recommendations to the fullest extent possible.

This process will also play a crucial role in helping guide our strategic planning. This includes our four-year Council Plan and 10-year Asset and Financial Plans.

The Community Vision, as prepared by the Panel, was endorsed by Council at its March Council meeting:

Manningham is a harmonious, inclusive and safe community that is committed to sustainable growth, wellbeing, and innovation. We celebrate our diversity and natural environment whilst fostering a connected community that enriches the lives of all.

Thank you to each of our Panel members for their dedication, time and contributions. We'll consider your insights in all our decision-making as we plan ahead for Manningham.

Learn more and view our responses to the Panel's recommendations at

yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/help-shape-manninghams-future

Look out for your 2025/26 waste calendar in our next issue

We're preparing your 2025/26 waste collection calendar, which will be arriving with the June issue of *Manningham Matters*.

You'll be able to pull it out of the magazine and keep it on your fridge for the year ahead.

As in previous years, the calendar will include your property's bin day, along with tips for what can and can't go in each bin and how to place them out for collection.

This new way of delivering your calendar to you is cost-effective, efficient and will help reduce waste.

Look out for your waste calendar in the middle of the June edition of *Manningham Matters*.

manningham.vic.gov.au/bin-collection



Find support

Find information on wellbeing support services.

manningham.vic.gov.au/find-support



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 29 April, 7.00pm
Tuesday 27 May, 7.00pm

Council Chamber
Manningham Civic Centre

manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

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manningham.vic.gov.au

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