

# Manningham Matters

October 2025

**Seniors in  
the spotlight  
this October**

**Manningham  
Girls Can**

Page 12

**Our waterways –  
a place for peace  
and balance**

Page 14

中文新闻

中文新聞

Notizie nella vostra lingua

Νέα στη γλώσσα σας

اخبار به زبان شما

الأخبار بلغتك



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



**MANNINGHAM**

A Manningham Council publication.

# IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 **Manningham Matters in your language**
- 3 **Message from our Mayor**
- 4 **Council meeting roundup**
- 5 **West Oval steps up its game**
- 6 **Seniors in the spotlight this October**
- 8 **What's on**
- 10 **Get involved at your local neighbourhood house or library**
- 11 **Celebrating community through our grants**
- 12 **Manningham Girls Can – let's get moving**
- 13 **Young people are back at the table**
- 14 **Our waterways – a place for peace and balance**

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:  
Bulleen Boomers Walking Basketball team.



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

[manningham.vic.gov.au/subscribe](https://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](https://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.

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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

It takes a village to raise a child, and equally it takes a village to lift up and support its residents.

As I reflect on the past year as your Mayor, I'm filled with pride at how seamlessly Manningham Council and our extensive network of local community organisations work together.

Recently, I had the honour of cutting the ribbon at the opening of the new Doncare Op Shop in Macedon Square, Templestowe Lower. What struck me most was how many community groups and commercial organisations came together to make this happen.

As a council, we can often act as the thread that weaves these partnerships together.

Our Council Plan 2025-29 was developed in partnership with the community and recognises that we serve Manningham with integrity and transparency. We are trusted to make evidence-based decisions, while working with more than 25 partner organisations – from Access Health and Victoria Police to Neighbourhood Houses and community transport services.

Our 5 Council Plan themes – Safe and Healthy Community, Liveable Places and Spaces, Resilient Environment, Thriving Economy, and Well Governed and Innovative Council – all depend on this collaborative approach.

A further way to achieve our outcomes is through our grants program.

Our refreshed Community Partnership Grants Category supports longer-term community development initiatives. Eligible not-for-profit or community organisations could receive funding over 4 years across 3 key streams:

- Community Development – development of key services, programs and other initiatives that respond to the needs of our diverse community
- Minor Community Events – events that attract people to Manningham
- Major Community Events – events that engage a minimum of 8,000 attendees.

Our priorities for all streams include mental health and wellbeing, active living, participation and being a welcoming and inclusive community. Find out more at [manningham.vic.gov.au/community-grant-program](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/community-grant-program)

As my mayoral term comes to an end in November, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve in this role for the second time.



I will always be very proud to have held the role of Mayor of Manningham. Thank you for allowing me to be part of this journey.

Warm regards,

Cr Deirdre Diamante  
Mayor



## Save the date – Carols are coming

Mark your calendars! Our much-loved Carols by Candlelight returns on Friday 12 December.

Bringing festive cheer to Ruffey Lake Park, there'll be plenty of fun for the whole family from 6:00pm to 10:00pm.

Older residents can get to and from the event with Manningham Community Transport, provided by EV Strengthening Communities. Transport includes home pick up and drop off and a reserved seat at the event.

The cost for transport is \$5 per person, spaces are limited and bookings close Friday 28 November. To check your eligibility and book your spot, call 9870 7822 or visit [ev.org.au](https://ev.org.au)

To stay in the loop on Carols updates, register at

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/carols](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/carols)

## Your 2026 Community Calendar is almost here!

As the year winds down, it's time to look ahead, and what better way than with our 2026 Community Calendar, available for collection from 1 December.

Each month features one of the stunning winners from this year's photo competition, handpicked by our judging panel to showcase the beauty and spirit of Manningham.

You will be able to collect your calendar from Manningham Civic Centre, Doncaster Library, Bulleen Library, Bulleen Plaza, The Pines Library and Warrandyte Library.

In line with our commitment to sustainability, printed calendars will only be mailed to residents who are unable to visit a collection point.

You can request a copy to be mailed to you at

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/2026-community-calendar](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/2026-community-calendar)

# Council meeting roundup

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

## Summary of key discussions and decisions:

### 22 July Council meeting

- Council endorsed the final design for the Aquarena Outdoor Redevelopment and to proceed to next stage of the procurement process.
- Our draft Community Grants Policy 2025-2029 was endorsed.
- A permit was granted – subject to amended plans – in relation to a Planning Application at 2 Brendan Avenue, Doncaster, for the construction of 4, 3-storey dwellings and a front fence.
- A petition was tabled requesting installation of public toilets at Park Orchards Village.
- The Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Policy was approved, in line with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

### 31 July Council meeting

- Council's submission to the North East Link Project's (NELP) Planning Scheme Amendment C140mann was endorsed, which outlines our concerns about future implications for NELP's proposal to re-zone the offset carpark land to the south of the Veneto Club site in Bulleen. Council supports the future land transfer in principle, but the Amendment was deemed inappropriate to facilitate this.

### 26 August Council meeting

- Council endorsed a motion calling on the Victorian Government to urgently reconsider ending funding for the group-based component of the Maternal Child Health (MCH) Sleep and Settling program. This motion will be submitted to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) in October.
- Council noted the 2024-25 Financial Year Capital Works Status Report and Statutory Planning Application Activities for Quarter 4.
- A petition was tabled requesting various traffic measures to improve pedestrian safety and protect wildlife along Porter Street in Templestowe.
- Council passed a formal motion of condolence acknowledging the passing of the Very Reverend Father Elias Kentrotis of St Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Templestowe.

The next Council meetings are scheduled for 28 October and 25 November 2025.

The Annual Meeting of Council to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be held on 6 November 2025.

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

[manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings)



ABOVE: Residents can help shape Manningham's future.

## Have your say on Manningham's budget priorities

We're developing the 2026-27 Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan, and this is your opportunity to share your ideas and priorities.

We deliver more than 100 services – from waste collection and libraries to community programs and infrastructure. All are important, but we want to know:

**If you had to prioritise spending, where would you like to see more?**

Whether it's the services you rely on or the big ideas you want to see delivered, we want to hear what's important to you.

You can also register your interest to pitch your ideas directly to Councillors at an in-person meeting in early December.

Your feedback and ideas will help shape the draft 2026-27 Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan.

The final 2026-27 Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan will be considered for endorsement at the Council meeting in June 2026.



**Share your feedback by completing our short survey by 9 November 2025.**

[yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/2026-27-budget](https://yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/2026-27-budget)

# Choosing the right tree for your garden

Manningham's leafy streets are a defining feature of our vibrant community. As our neighbourhoods continue to evolve, it's more important than ever to protect and strengthen our tree canopy.

Canopy trees are the large, mature trees that provide shade. They reduce urban heat, support biodiversity, enhance air quality and create healthy environments.

With the largest loss of tree cover in Manningham occurring on private land, every tree matters and your garden is one of the most powerful places to start. By planting and protecting canopy trees at home, you can help rebuild local tree cover and support Manningham's long-term environmental health.

**Wondering which tree suits your garden best?** Explore our *Precinct and Tree Character Mapping Guide* – a helpful tool to match your location with the ideal tree species.

Simply identify your precinct, then browse the recommended tree palette for your area. If you're looking to plant a canopy tree, be sure to check the column marked 'Large' for options that offer generous shade and long-term impact.

Thank you for your efforts in helping us preserve and grow our urban forest.

Learn more at

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/tree-management](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/tree-management)

## Selecting the right canopy tree for your garden

- **Growth and space:** Select a tree that will have the space to reach its natural size. Consider how close the tree is to buildings and other structures. If you're unsure about the underground utility infrastructure in your garden, check out Before You Dig Australia (BYDA).
- **Supporting wildlife:** Native trees provide food and shelter for local wildlife and boost biodiversity. Explore our gardening guide, Native Splendour, to find a list of our indigenous trees and shrubs.
- **Seasonal changes:** Evergreen trees keep their leaves all year long, providing consistent greenery, while deciduous trees drop them seasonally – allowing for more winter sun. With both providing benefits, it's a matter of preference.
- **Soil type:** Different trees grow best in different soils. Consider whether your soil is clay-based, sandy or well-draining and choose a tree that suits.



ABOVE: Planting the right canopy tree at home will offer shade, beauty and vital habitat for wildlife.

## West Oval steps up its game

We're upgrading West Oval at Wonga Park Reserve to make it safer, more playable and accessible – all year round.

This project supports local sport, enhances community spaces and reflects the feedback you've shared.

The reconstruction will improve playing conditions with better drainage, soil and turf, and the oval will cater to both football and cricket.

West Oval will be closed from October 2025 to April 2026 while we complete these improvements. In the meantime, we encourage you to explore and enjoy other parts of Wonga Park Reserve.

This is one of several oval upgrades across Manningham that will enhance sport and recreation in our community.

It's also a key part of the Wonga Park Reserve Masterplan, which guides how the reserve will grow and evolve over the next 15 years.



ABOVE: West Oval upgrade will improve playability and access year-round.

For more information and the latest updates, visit

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/news/upgrades-coming-west-oval](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/news/upgrades-coming-west-oval)



ABOVE: Seniors Month is about enjoying good company, staying active and discovering something new, with over 60 events across Manningham.

## Seniors in the spotlight this October

We're proud to support a vibrant calendar of community events and activities throughout October for Seniors Month – promoting connection, wellbeing and active ageing.

There are more than 60 local events to get involved in, ranging from health and fitness activities, creative workshops, tours and outings, information sessions and talks on a variety of different subjects. Many of these also offer great opportunities to meet, chat and connect.

### Getting there

To get to one of the activities on offer, Manningham residents are encouraged to make use of Manningham Community Transport Service, delivered by EV Strengthening Communities. To learn more or to book transport today, call 9870 7822.

### Victorian Seniors Festival

You can also attend events and activities further across Melbourne and Victoria as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival. The theme for this year's festival is *Connect, Create and Celebrate*.

Victorian Seniors Card and Seniors Business Discount cardholders can enjoy 8 days of free public transport throughout Victoria from 6 October to 13 October 2025. Seniors must hold a valid Seniors Myki Card, and touch on and off – no fare will be deducted.



### Explore our local activity guide

Our guide is designed to help older people, care partners and family members find fun and affordable events and activities in Manningham. You can pick up a print copy from your local library, neighbourhood house, community centre or the Council offices.



Scan the QR code to check out the events online

📍 [manningham.vic.gov.au/news/celebrate-seniors-month-us#seniors-month-events](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/news/celebrate-seniors-month-us#seniors-month-events)

### Contact our Healthy Ageing Team

Whether you're an older person or caring for someone who is, we're here to help you live and age well.

Contact our Healthy Ageing team, 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday by calling 9840 9230 or emailing us at

📧 [healthyageing@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:healthyageing@manningham.vic.gov.au)



**Monday 6 October**  
**1:30pm to 3:30pm**  
**Try lawn bowls**

Lawn bowls is the game for all ages so come along to this friendly and supportive community event. This is an opportunity for you to enjoy a physically gentle outdoor activity in a friendly and welcoming environment. Wear flat-soled shoes. All equipment will be supplied, including a cuppa and a biscuit. No bookings required.

- 🏠 Donvale Bowls Club, Mullum Mullum Reserve, corner Springvale and Reynolds roads, Donvale
- 👤 Donvale Bowls Club
- 💰 Free
- 📞 secretary@donvalebowls.com.au

**Tuesday 7 and 21 October,**  
**Thursday 9 and 23 October**  
**9:00am to 12:00pm**  
**Gym demonstration**  
**at Aquarena**

Visit Aquarena for a friendly and informative morning of gym demonstrations tailored for older adults. Learn how to safely and confidently use a variety of gym equipment under the guidance of qualified staff. No experience needed, just come along and give it a go!

- 🏠 Aquarena Aquatic and Leisure Centre, 139–153 Williamsons Road, Templestowe Lower
- 👤 Active Manningham
- 💰 \$5
- 📞 9848 0000
- 📍 activemanningham.com.au/celebrate-seniors-month-with-active-manningham

**Friday 17 and 31 October**  
**11:00am to 12:00pm**  
**Walk, talk and coffee at**  
**Mullum Mullum Stadium**

Meet at stadium reception for a relaxed social walk along the scenic Mullum Mullum Trail. This 30-minute to one-hour walk is a great way to connect with others and enjoy the outdoors. After the walk, enjoy a free coffee and chat. If the weather isn't suitable, an indoor alternative will be offered.

- 🏠 Mullum Mullum Stadium  
31 Springvale Road, Donvale
- 👤 Active Manningham
- 💰 Free
- 📞 9848 0000
- 📍 activemanningham.com.au/celebrate-seniors-month-with-active-manningham



**Monday 20 October**  
**9:00am to 3:00pm**  
**Manningham Community**  
**Transport seniors outing**

Experience the electrifying sounds of the Air Force Big Band, the Royal Australian Air Force's premier 17-piece swing and jazz ensemble. Cost includes round trip from your doorstep, coffee, entry ticket and lunch.

- 🏠 Arts Centre Melbourne,  
100 St Kilda Road, Southbank
- 👤 Manningham Community Transport
- ✓ Bookings required by 15 October
- 💰 \$60
- 📞 9870 7822 (press 3 for Manningham residents)

**Monday 27 October**  
**6:30pm to 7:30pm**  
**Author talk with**  
**Amanda Hampson**

Join author Amanda Hampson as she introduces *The Deadly Dispute*. Set in 1967 Sydney, this cosy crime novel reunites readers with the intrepid tea ladies – Hazel, Betty, and Irene – as they uncover secrets, scandals and sticky situations.

- 🏠 Doncaster Library, 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster
- 👤 Whitehorse Manningham Libraries
- 💰 Free
- 📍 wml.vic.gov.au/Services/Events-and-Programs/Whats-On-Guide



**Mondays in October**  
**11:00am to 12:00pm**  
**Talking café**

Looking for a friendly way to connect with your community?

Talking cafés are weekly drop-in sessions for conversation, local information and meeting new people.

No bookings needed – just drop in!

- 🏠 Moon and Spoon Café,  
The Pines Shopping Centre,  
181 Reynolds Road, Doncaster East
- 👤 Living Our Best Life Project,  
managed by Community Houses  
Association of the Outer-eastern  
Suburbs
- 💰 Free
- 📞 0457 646 384

# What's on

## COMMUNITY

**Saturday 4 October and  
Saturday 1 November**  
**8:00am to 1:00pm**

**FREE**

### Warrandyte Riverside Market

With 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

\$ Free

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

**Wednesday 8 October and  
Wednesday 12 November**

**FREE**

**10:00am to 12:00pm**

### Templestowe Central Probus Club

Connect with other like-minded retirees. Enjoy fun, friendship and social events when you participate in the many club organised meetings, activities, outings and trips. All visitors welcome.

📍 Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre, corner Foote and Anderson streets, Templestowe

\$ Free

🌐 [templestowecentralprobus.com](http://templestowecentralprobus.com)

**Saturday 11 October and  
Saturday 8 November**

**FREE**

**10:00am to 3:00pm**

### Heide Makers' Market

Heide Makers' Market showcases the work of up to 120 different makers each month, from artwork to tasty treats.

📍 7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen

\$ Free

🌐 [heidemarket.com](http://heidemarket.com)



**Monday 13 October**  
**1:45pm to 2:30pm**

**FREE**

### Hey dee ho intergenerational music session

Families with children of all ages are invited to join a lively session of singing, dancing and musical fun with aged care residents. Percussion instruments will be provided, with songs ranging from The Wiggles to Elvis. Registration essential.

📍 Newman's on the Park Residential Aged Care, 33 Newmans Road, Templestowe

\$ Free

🌐 [trybooking.com/DDPFL](http://trybooking.com/DDPFL)

**Tuesday 14 October and  
Tuesday 11 November**  
**7:15am to 9:00am**

### Manningham Business Network breakfast

Join us for some business-to-business fun networking, as we share, learn and grow together by building greater brand awareness of our companies within the local community.

📍 Manningham Function Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

\$ Members free or \$35 for non-members

🌐 [mbn.asn.au](http://mbn.asn.au)

**Saturday 18 October and  
Saturday 15 November**  
**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](http://parkorchardsmarket.com)

**Saturday 18 October**  
**9:00am to 2:00pm**

**FREE**

### Kevin Heinze GROW Spring Celebration

Enjoy guided tours (bookings required), gardening workshops for all ages, an epic plant sale, delicious food, raffle prizes and learn about Kevin Heinze GROW's important work in the community.

📍 39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster

\$ Free

🌐 [kevinheinzegrow.org.au](http://kevinheinzegrow.org.au)



**Sunday 26 October and  
Sunday 30 November**  
**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

\$ Free

🌐 [warrandytedonvalerotary.org.au/Tunstall](http://warrandytedonvalerotary.org.au/Tunstall)



## ENVIRONMENT

**Saturday 4 October**  
**10:30am to 12:00pm**

**FREE**

### How to start a veggie patch – Mandarin session

Join urban permaculture gardener Connie Cao, author of *Your Asian Veggie Patch*, for a hands-on workshop on starting your own edible garden. Perfect for both backyard and balcony gardeners.

🏠 Doncaster Hill Community Garden, Hummel Way, Doncaster

\$ Free

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/events/how-start-veggie-patch-mandarin-session](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/events/how-start-veggie-patch-mandarin-session)

**Sunday 5 October,**  
**Sunday 9 November**  
**8:00am to 4:00pm**

**FREE**

### Garden Waste Disposal Days

For residents living in a bushfire prone area. Prepare your garden for the upcoming bushfire season and drop off a load of garden waste for free. Limits apply. Registrations essential.

🏠 Mullum Mullum Reserve, corner Springvale and Reynolds roads, Donvale

\$ Free

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/events/garden-waste-disposal-days](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/events/garden-waste-disposal-days)



**Saturday 18 October**  
**12:00pm to 2:00pm**

**FREE**

### Drop and Swap clothing exchange

Update your wardrobe without hitting the shops. Drop off an item of clothing to pick up another – up to 8 items per person. Eligibility criteria apply.

🏠 Ajani Centre, 284 Thompsons Road, Templestowe Lower

\$ Free

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/drop-and-swap-clothing-exchange](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/drop-and-swap-clothing-exchange)

**Saturday 8 November**  
**10:30am to 12:30pm**

**FREE**

### Nanna Anna: Basic mending to reduce clothing waste

Concerned about fast fashion and textile waste? Join sustainability educator Nanna Anna this National Recycling Week at this free workshop to learn simple clothing repair techniques and start your own mending patch to take home. Registrations essential.

🏠 MC Square, 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

\$ Free

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/mending-workshop](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/mending-workshop)



**Thursday 13 November**  
**7:00pm to 9:00pm**

**FREE**

### Inspired Living Series 2025: Live more with less, with Lindsay Miles

Celebrate National Recycling Week with zero waste expert Lindsay Miles, sharing practical tips to help us live with less waste and more purpose. Registrations essential.

🏠 Manningham Function Centre, Room 1, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

\$ Free

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/events/live-more-less-lindsay-miles](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/events/live-more-less-lindsay-miles)

## ARTS AND CULTURE

**Sunday 26 October**  
**2:30pm to 4:30pm**

### Manningham Concert Band presents Spring Favourites

Spring is blooming and the Manningham Concert Band is closing out 2025 with a joyful celebration. Enjoy classics by Holst and Vaughan-Williams, plus '80s hits and Disney favourites, in one unforgettable afternoon.

🏠 Doncaster Secondary College, 123 Church Road, Doncaster

\$ \$15 for adults, children under 13 free

🔗 [trybooking.com/DEMRF](https://trybooking.com/DEMRF)



**Wednesday 6 August to Sunday 9 November 2025**

### Man Ray and Max Dupain exhibition

Bringing together the work of American-born artist Man Ray and eminent Australian photographer Max Dupain for the first time, this exhibition showcases over 200 prints that explore their surrealist imagery and innovative techniques.

🏠 Heide Museum of Modern Art, 7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen

\$ Free for Manningham residents (proof of address required) and children under 16. Adults \$27.

🔗 [heide.com.au/exhibitions/man-ray-max-dupain](https://heide.com.au/exhibitions/man-ray-max-dupain)

# 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.

## First Thursday of every month 6:30pm to 8:30pm Life Drawing

A foundational drawing class including a live model, allowing artists to observe and capture the human form in various poses.

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

\$ \$35 per session or 3 classes for \$100

🔗 [events.humanitix.com/ajanilife-drawing](https://events.humanitix.com/ajanilife-drawing)

## Thursday 23 October 10:30am to 11:30am Mini Gardeners Workshop

Kids can get their hands dirty with a pot decorating and gardening workshop, with a flowerpot and plant to take home.

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

\$ Free

🔗 [events.humanitix.com/mini-gardeners-workshop](https://events.humanitix.com/mini-gardeners-workshop)

## Thursday 16 October 1:00pm to 4:00pm SoulCollage®: Wellbeing for Carers

Join Laura Battley, Registered Clinical Psychotherapist and Arts Therapist, in this restorative session for carers. Participants will create a beautiful and personalised SoulCollage® card to take home. This event is being run with the support of our Community Grants program.

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

\$ Free

📞 9842 6726

## Wednesday 22 October 10:00am to 11:00am Enerjive Dance Class (Children's Week 2025)

Get ready to delight in the wonders of nature in this fun-filled class. Meet Sammy the Scarecrow and cheeky ladybugs as you explore the magical world of gardening through dance and drama.

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

\$ Free

🔗 [events.humanitix.com/energiveatajani](https://events.humanitix.com/energiveatajani)

To find out what's happening at your local library, visit [wml.vic.gov.au](http://wml.vic.gov.au)

## Inspiring locals awarded



Congratulations to the winners of our inaugural Manningham Community Awards.

The ceremony took place on Tuesday 16 September. You can find full details of all the winners, including our Citizen of the Year, on our website.

Our new expanded awards program allows us to recognise even more of the remarkable contributions of individuals and groups in our community.

We received a record 70 nominations across the 8 categories.

**“It was no easy task to narrow down our finalists – our community is filled with so many outstanding groups and individuals,” Manningham Mayor, Cr Diamante said.**

Stay tuned for inspiring profiles of our award winners, which will be featured in upcoming editions of *Manningham Matters*.

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/community-awards](http://manningham.vic.gov.au/community-awards)

## Community Partnership Grants

Applications for our Community Partnership Grants 2026 to 2030 will open on Monday 27 October and close on Wednesday 26 November.

These grants support longer-term community development initiatives. Eligible not-for-profit or community organisations could receive funding over 4 years across 3 key streams:

- **Community Development** – development of key services, programs and other initiatives that respond to the needs of our diverse community
- **Minor Community Events** – events that attract people to Manningham
- **Major Community Events** – events that attract a minimum of 8,000 people to Manningham.

### Upcoming events

#### Grant information session

Tuesday 28 October, 10:00am to 11:00am (in-person)

#### Grant writing workshop

Monday 10 November, 9:00am to 12:00pm (in-person)

#### Frequently asked questions session

Wednesday 12 November, 4:00pm to 5:00pm (online)

For more information and to register, visit

🔗 [manningham.vic.gov.au/community-partnership-grant](http://manningham.vic.gov.au/community-partnership-grant)



ABOVE: Nasrin Rasoulzadeh and Shahin Movassat from the House of Persia Community and Cultural Centre.

## Celebrating community through our grants

In August, we proudly hosted our inaugural Annual Grants Celebration – an evening dedicated to recognising and celebrating the remarkable people behind the 30 organisations supported through our 2025-26 Annual Community Grants Program.

Through our Annual Community Grants Program, we're proud to support and empower local community groups and not-for-profit organisations to deliver projects that enhance wellbeing and support inclusion in our community.

Congratulations to all the inspiring individuals and organisations recognised through this year's program. Your dedication continues to make Manningham a more inclusive, connected and vibrant place for everyone.

View the full list of grant recipients at

[manningham.vic.gov.au/  
community-grants](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/community-grants)



ABOVE: Jian Wang and Hui Miao from the Seniors Happy Life Club.



ABOVE: The happy crew at Doncare Macedon Square op shop: volunteers Subhi, Betty and Maria (front) with manager Sonia (rear).

## Second-hand treasures and first-rate connections

Where can teenagers squeal with delight over vintage finds, young couples furnish their first home, and a 93-year-old share his life story while decluttering and donating – all on the same day? Fresh from its August opening, Doncare's newest op shop at Macedon Square is drawing crowds and creating connections.

"The main thing I notice is that people come in with a smile and they leave with a smile," said Subhi, a dedicated volunteer who works 3 days a week at the shop.

**"We're getting teenagers, young mums, seniors and families. I see couples excitedly buying stuff to start off their home. Teenagers are loving the clothes and mums are buying everything from books to toys to knick-knacks," Subhi said.**

The social aspect has been a delightful surprise. "A lot of the older people come in and say, 'I'm just coming for a little look', but it's also a social visit because they know us now, so they'll have a chat," explains Maria, who recently returned to volunteering when she spotted the Doncare sign at Macedon Square.

For volunteer Betty, the appeal lies in the circular nature of the enterprise. "It's a new life given to items, that's what I like about op shops." She particularly enjoys the creative repurposing. "I like to see someone walk out with something you've donated, but they're going to do something completely different with it," Betty said.

As Doncare's Retail Operations Coordinator Sonia Perugini explains, "There are a lot of donations that come through. Rather than throwing items away, people are sending them off knowing they'll be recycled and we'll get money that will go straight back to the community."

Behind the friendly atmosphere created by the volunteers and staff, there's a serious mission. "Doncare is a not-for-profit organisation that's operated since 1969. We provide multiple services; obviously our op shops, but also food programs, counselling, social support for seniors, family violence recovery services, emergency relief and more," Sonia said.

Pop in and join the ever-growing sustainable shopping movement. You might find the perfect vintage jacket, have a chat with some of the friendliest volunteers in Manningham, or discover that giving back feels pretty good too.

[doncare.org.au/op-shop-locations](https://doncare.org.au/op-shop-locations)



ABOVE: Women of all ages moving and connecting through Manningham Girls Can.

## Manningham Girls Can – let's get moving

Women and girls are encouraged to get active in any way they can this November as part of Manningham Girls Can.

We're supporting a month of free and low-cost events and activities to help women and girls try something new and build confidence. It's all about enjoying the benefits of being active – whether that's walking, dancing, kicking a ball, or simply moving your body in a way that feels good.

The program builds on the previous state-wide This Girl Can program, and is designed to celebrate women and girls getting active, regardless of age, background or fitness level.

The Bulleen Boomers are involved in this year's program. They're offering 2 fantastic events for women and girls of all ages. Registrations essential.

### Walking Basketball

**Thursday 6 November, 10:00am to 11:00am, followed by morning tea.**

Come and try a session with the Walking Basketball Group, which meets every Thursday, during school terms.

Jen Hanrahan, who is the group's coach, as well as the club's Community Basketball and Programs Officer, said the women in the team had been meeting for about 3 years.

**"It's an accessible program for anyone but is perfect for seniors or those returning from illness or injury," Jen said.**

"These ladies are such an amazing group of women from all walks of life. They've formed a tight bond and are very supportive of each other. We're not here to break records – we're here for exercise and to have fun," she said.

The group ranges in age with 3 team members in their 80s. Linda, 89, said: "It's a very happy and judgement-free group. I do it for exercise and to meet friends. Being social is very important as we get older."

### Like Mother Like Daughter

**Sunday 23 November, 3:00pm to 4:30pm. \$10 a person.**

Do you love watching your daughter, granddaughter or female family member play basketball? Don't just cheer from the sidelines, have a go yourself!

Join 300-game Women's National Basketball League star Kate Stacker and Boomers coaches for an all-female fun-filled session of basketball.

Find out more and see the full program of Manningham Girls Can activities at our website

[manningham.vic.gov.au/manningham-girls-can](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/manningham-girls-can)

## Experience art in public places

Our new public art initiative, PUBLIC VIEW, invites you to experience art as part of daily life – transforming familiar urban spaces into outdoor galleries.

The current exhibition, *view of nature in art, selected works by Terry Napier* is on display at Tunstall Square Laneway in Donvale.

A lifelong painter, Terry (pictured below) has lived in Park Orchards for over 57 years and is a celebrated natural history artist whose work features in collections across Victoria.

**"Exhibiting at Tunstall Square is another chance to show people the magic and beauty in nature; to share with them what intrigues me and perhaps remind them of what we are in danger of losing ... Art in public spaces can be that reminder," Terry said.**

"A famous quote from the artist Edgar Degas is worth repeating: 'Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.' The works chosen represent what I love to paint; birds and flowers figure heavily in my daily painting," he said.

For Terry, art is also a lifelong pursuit of understanding.

"What I would like for people to take away from the collection is the urge to visit a park, perhaps take a chair outside and watch and listen. Nature is there," Terry added.

To learn more visit

[manningham.vic.gov.au/view-nature-art](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/view-nature-art)



# Young people are back at the table

A new wave of leadership is making its mark as the 2025 Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) steps forward to amplify young voices in local decision-making.

Together, these members will help shape Council initiatives like our Bike Facilities Plan, Active Transport Strategy refresh and Active Manningham programming.

Sienna Strangis, returning to the committee this year, is looking forward to continuing her involvement and helping drive meaningful outcomes.

**“Young people are just as diverse as the wider community, and it's essential that we're represented in the decision-making process. Being at the table ensures our voices are heard on the issues that matter to us,” Sienna said.**

This year the committee has identified several priorities, guiding which projects are brought forward for their input, including:

- transport and recreation
- youth services and housing
- civic engagement
- local action on global challenges.

Now in its fourth year, MYAC has a renewed structure that reflects the diversity of our community. The 2025 committee is made up of:

- 9 public representatives aged between 15 to 25 who live, work or study in Manningham (including 3 returning members)
- 7 school representatives, each nominated by one of Manningham's secondary schools, collectively representing nearly 9,000 students
- 4 youth service representatives, nominated by Manningham Youth Services (Each).

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/assistance-and-support-services/young-people](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/assistance-and-support-services/young-people)



ABOVE: Manningham's young changemakers are turning ideas into action and shaping a brighter future for our community.

## Exploring careers through Council

In July this year, we welcomed 6 secondary students for week-long work experience placements across various areas of our Council, including local laws, human resources, social planning and community strengthening and communications.

The program for Year 10 students, offers hands-on exposure to local government careers while developing skills useful in the workplace.

Sarah worked in Human Resources and described the environment as very welcoming and inclusive and came away with many new skills.

Jacob got some experience with our Parks team and in our nursery. He valued the hands-on nature of his role, especially getting to remote-control a mower.

With placements growing from 4 in 2024 to 14 in 2025, we're continuing to invest in youth employment and career exploration.



**“In the nursery I was able to accomplish a lot. I really enjoyed seeing the process of how plant propagation works.” – Jacob.**



**“Engage in conversations with people. Ask about career advice. There's lots of knowledge to guide you.” – Sarah.**



## Our waterways – a place for peace and balance

With the warmer months now upon us, it's a great time to get out and about in Manningham and enjoy our unique and vast waterways.

With Melbourne's iconic Yarra River flowing through Warrandyte and Templestowe, and the scenic Ruffey Lake, we're fortunate to have access to many beautiful sites to spend time with family and friends or reset and reflect on our own.

Being by the water is known to provide many physical and mental health benefits and a visit to our waterways is a great way to find peace and calm away from our busy lives.

Manningham resident and mental health expert, Valerie Judge (pictured), knows the importance of water for herself and the broader community.

"For me, being near water has such a restorative effect on my mind and body."

Valerie is an avid runner and regularly runs through Finns Reserve to take in the sights and sounds of the Yarra.

"I love seeing the Yarra River ebb and flow. Trying to spot the platypus near the suspension bridge in Finns Reserve or watching young families trying for a glimpse of the platypus is always a reminder of how lucky we are here in Manningham."

There are many ways you can use your time in nature to recharge. Valerie has provided some techniques to find mindfulness in these moments by the water. You can read more of Valerie's insights on our website.



### Valerie's tips for mindfulness

#### The 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 exercise

What are 5 things you can see?

What are 4 things you can hear?

What are 3 things can you feel?

What are 2 things can you smell?

What is one thing you can taste?

#### Reflection techniques

**Is the water flowing fast?** What's happening in my life that's fast or needs to slow down?

**Is the water flowing slowly?** What's happening in my life that's slow? Do I need to be patient or are there steps I can take to speed it up?

**Is the water stagnant?** What am I working on that isn't moving and what needs to change?

## Manningham Integrated Water Management Strategy

Water plays an important role in community health and wellbeing, contributing to physical and mental health outcomes across the population.

We're developing a draft Manningham Integrated Water Management Strategy and will be seeking your feedback in November this year.

Integrated Water Management is a collaborative approach which places water security, liveability and the health of waterways, landscapes and sports facilities at the heart of how we plan water services.

For more information on integrated water management and to find out how you can get involved and have your say, visit

[yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/flood-and-water-management](https://yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/flood-and-water-management)

## Do you have a water story to share?

Our community water stories celebrate the cultural, historical, and personal significance of Manningham's waterways. We invite you to share your connection - through family, history, culture, recreation, wellbeing, or how you care for water at home or in business.

Submit your story at

[manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au)

# Snap Send Solve: Smarter reporting, faster solutions

Snap Send Solve makes it easy to report local issues – from cracked pavements and dumped rubbish to graffiti and broken streetlights.

With just a few taps, you can capture a photo and send it directly to us. Now we're rolling out improvements to make your experience even smoother and more transparent.

Here's what's new:

- **Reference numbers:** Every report you submit now receives a unique reference number, making it easier to reference and follow up on specific issues.
- **Real-time status updates:** Stay informed as your report progresses, from submission to resolution, with timely in-app notifications.

You'll now have clearer visibility into how your reports are being handled – making it easier for us to act and for you to stay informed.

## Get started today

Download **Snap Send Solve** for free from the App Store, Google Play, or use it online. Help make Manningham a better place, one snap at a time.



## Living cleaner and greener

### Support to go electric

Looking to enhance the comfort and energy efficiency of your home, but not sure where to start?

Solar Savers takes the hassle out of home energy upgrades by vetting quality suppliers and negotiating competitive prices.

The Council-backed program has expanded to include more suppliers and product choices, as well as home energy assessments.

Alongside solar panels, batteries, reverse cycle air conditioners and hot water heat pumps, it also supports upgrades like EV chargers, induction cooktops and insulation.

Solar Savers can show you how much you could save by going electric, and the upgrades that will make the biggest impact.

In-home energy assessments are also available to help you choose the best upgrades for your household.

Electrifying your home helps lower bills while also creating a cleaner, greener Manningham. It's the fastest way to reach our community target of net zero emissions by 2035.

Learn more at

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/electrify-your-life](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/electrify-your-life)

### Waste Drop Off Day

**Saturday 25 October**  
**8:00am to 4:00pm**

Stuck with items that can't be placed in your household bin? We'll recycle them for you!

Drop off any of the following items:

- small e-waste
- IT and TV equipment
- computer accessories
- game consoles and electronic toys
- DVD and CDs (no VHS tapes)
- X-rays
- clean polystyrene – blocks only (no pellets or balls)
- smoke alarms
- fluorescent tubes and CFL globes
- paint tins and spray cans (10 litres maximum)
- gas bottles
- household and car batteries
- flattened cardboard (one car boot load per person).

Limits apply and bookings are essential.

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/waste-drop-off-day](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/waste-drop-off-day)

### Recycling your soft plastics

Thanks to a new trial, you can now drop off household soft plastics at participating Woolworths stores.

Soft plastics are flexible materials that easily scrunch into a ball in your hand, such as plastic bags, zip lock bags, cling wrap, chip packets, and confectionery wrappers.

These materials will be transported to local recycling facilities and processed into products like shopping trolleys, park furniture and road additives.

#### How to return your soft plastics

Find a designated bin at the front of your local participating Woolworths store.

In Manningham, locations include:

- Devon Plaza
- Westfield Doncaster Shopping Centre
- Macedon Square
- The Pines Shopping Centre.

Find out more

 [woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/sustainability/recycling/soft-plastic](https://www.woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/sustainability/recycling/soft-plastic)



# Sort it smarter this National Recycling Week

Did you know that recycling one aluminium can will save enough energy to power a TV for up to 3 hours? What you do at home really makes a difference – but we know recycling can be confusing.

Established by Planet Ark in 1996, National Recycling Week (10 to 16 November) is a chance to celebrate recycling as a powerful way to save resources, cut emissions, and protect our planet.



For a quick and handy guide on how best to recycle different items in your suburb, visit

[recyclingnearyou.com.au/materials](https://recyclingnearyou.com.au/materials)

Want to know more ways to make a difference?

We have plenty of activities across the month to help you reduce, reuse and recycle. See page 9 to explore the sustainability-focused events happening near you.

**Find  
support**

Find information on wellbeing support services.

[manningham.vic.gov.au/find-support](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/find-support)



## COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Tuesday 28 October, 7:00pm**

**Tuesday 25 November, 7:00pm**

**Annual Meeting of Council**

**Thursday 6 November, 7:00pm**

Council Chamber  
Manningham Civic Centre

[manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/council-meetings)

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[manningham.vic.gov.au](https://manningham.vic.gov.au)

## CONTACT US

Manningham Civic Centre  
699 Doncaster Road  
Doncaster, Victoria 3108

Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm. Closed public holidays.

Manningham Council  
PO Box 1, Doncaster, Victoria 3108

9840 9333

9848 3110

[manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au)

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## YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cr Deirdre Diamante  
**TULLAMORE WARD**  
Mayor

[deirdre.diamante@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:deirdre.diamante@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0413 584 047



Cr Andrew Conlon  
**CURRAWONG WARD**  
Deputy Mayor

[andrew.conlon@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:andrew.conlon@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0425 732 238



Cr Geoff Gough  
**BOLIN WARD**

[geoff.gough@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:geoff.gough@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0412 345 081



Cr Peter Bain  
**MANNA WARD**

[peter.bain@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:peter.bain@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0429 841 013



Cr Jim Grivas  
**RUFFEY WARD**

[jim.grivas@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:jim.grivas@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0437 613 076



Cr Laura Mayne  
**SCHRAMM WARD**

[laura.mayne@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:laura.mayne@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0447 981 010



Cr Anna Chen  
**WALDAU WARD**

[anna.chen@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:anna.chen@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0429 470 051



Cr Isabella Eltaha  
**WESTERFOLDS WARD**

[isabella.eltaha@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:isabella.eltaha@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0478 370 939



Cr Carli Lange  
**YARRA WARD**

[carli.lange@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:carli.lange@manningham.vic.gov.au)  
0433 256 840