



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL

MARIBYRNONG

MESSENGER

Summer 2019 | www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

THE MAN
BEHIND THE
HUMANS
OF SKY

TOP PARKS
TO DISCOVER

WHAT'S ON IN
MARIBYRNONG



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is a great honour to be elected to serve the Maribyrnong community as Mayor and I am very much looking forward to getting out and about in the community to engage with, and listen to, residents and traders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for the unanimous vote of support in taking on this role and reaffirm my commitment to them, and the community, that I will do my very best over the coming year to make the City of Maribyrnong an even better place to live, work and play.

We have a lot planned in 2020 as we continue to invest in our vision for a vibrant, diverse and progressive city striving for a sustainable future. We will continue to maximise opportunities for our community to get involved in a variety of Council projects throughout the year. Keep an eye out on our social media and importantly, the Your City, Your Voice portal – where you can have your say on major projects and initiatives.

As summer approaches our festival city calendar is bursting at the seams with family friendly events. There are a range of celebrations and activities being held including our Saltwater Cinema movie screenings at a variety of locations, an evening of carols in Yarraville Gardens and the hugely popular New Year's Eve fireworks in Footscray Park will cap off the year with a bang.

This summer I also encourage you to pack a picnic, gather your family and friends and enjoy the many parks that our city has to offer. See our story on page 6 and 7 for some inspiration about where to explore on those lazy summer days. Don't forget to read through the What's On in Maribyrnong section on page 13 for more of our upcoming events over the festive season.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and I look forward to the next 12 months.

Cr Sarah Carter
Mayor of the City
of Maribyrnong



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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

DECEMBER

Tuesday 3, 4.30pm Enterprise Maribyrnong Special Committee
Tuesday 10, 6.30pm Ordinary Council Meeting

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 18, 6.30pm Ordinary Council Meeting
Tuesday 25, 6.30pm City Development Special Committee

Meetings are held at Maribyrnong Council Offices, corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray.

Visit our website for the schedule of meetings for 2020.

Please visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/meetings or phone 9688 0200 for more information.

FUTURE OF STONY CREEK

Everyone is keen to see Stony Creek, and the continuous corridor of public open space that it runs through, returned to a valued urban waterway where people can engage with the natural and cultural heritage of the site.

We have taken feedback from the Stony Creek Recovery Plan Advisory Group, local community stakeholders and the results of Melbourne Water's consultation to commence development of a Draft Future Directions Plan.

The draft will offer a starting point for wider community consultation and the basis for an action plan.

One of the suggested ways to improve the creek is through the development of raingardens and wetlands, which will be incorporated into the Draft Future Directions Plan.

A feasibility study of the creek was undertaken in May 2019, which looked at ways to improve the quality of the stormwater that ran into the creek and thereby improve the water quality of Stony Creek, this research was supported by a Melbourne Water 'Living Rivers' grant. The study looked at ways to capture, treat and reuse stormwater by developing raingardens and wetlands in open spaces that would remove sediments and stormwater pollutants from Council streets and drains before they discharged into the creek.

Raingardens have the added benefit of providing increased biodiversity and



habitat, provide a cooling effect and improved amenity along the creek.

The draft action plan is expected to be guided by the following principles, which allow the spaces along the creek to support community recreation and enjoyment in a safe, accessible and welcoming setting:

- ✓ create a public open space that is welcoming and safe for all ages and abilities
- ✓ deliver an improved environment for habitat and biodiversity
- ✓ increase tree canopy cover and shading
- ✓ incorporate stormwater management and designs that improve water quality, mitigate

urban heat island effect and create cool green landscapes

- ✓ provide for a wide variety of informal, active, and passive recreation activities in open space
- ✓ encourage active transport modes
- ✓ improve connections and linkages across neighbourhoods, through and along open spaces
- ✓ deliver a continuous linear open space in public ownership and associated trail network

The draft action plan is expected to include a breakdown of improvements for each precinct of the creek corridor. We will seek feedback on these actions and how they should be prioritised for

implementation. This input will help to shape the final Action Plan accompanying the finished Future Directions Plan.

Stony Creek, which runs through an industrial precinct, has been subject to industrial run off over several years. The West Footscray/Tottenham industrial fire in August 2018 washed strong pollutants into the creek which left it severely affected, resulting in a cleanup that still continues. Engagement on the Draft Future Directions Plan and Action Plan is expected to take place this summer. For more information visit yourcityyourvoice.vic.gov.au

THE MAN WHO SAYS “HELLO”



A CHAT WITH **JOHN NG** IN THE STREETS OF YARRAVILLE IS THE KIND THAT STOPS AND STARTS AS PEOPLE SHOUT OUT A **'HELLO!'** TO THE FOUNDER OF **HUMANS OF SKY**, BEFORE THEY DASH INTO A SHOP OR WAIT FOR THEIR BRUNCH.

He sometimes has a banter. He always has a smile and a spirited 'hello!' back.

That's what it's all about for John – knowing his community and sharing their story.

He writes about the everyday people in Seddon, Kingsville and Yarraville (SKY) and publishes their story on his website Humans of SKY.

Over the last three years, John has 122 insightful profiles on the people that have helped shape the inner west – those who make it such a strong and thriving community.

Even after so many stories John remembers the first one that started the project, Jimmy Nguyen. A Vietnamese refugee, who fled to a refugee camp in the Philippines in the 1980s, arrived in Australia and years later set up Essence Dry Cleaning in Yarraville. His tale on SKY ends with how one day an English teacher from the Philippines-based Palawan Refugee camp walked into his store, seeming to bring his life's journey full circle.

The humanity of the SKY stories has given John's website a global readership.

John's own story, which starts in Singapore, is that of the wanderer who found himself a home in the heartlands of the west.

Of Chinese-Singaporean background, John carried the weight of cultural expectations – do good at school, enter mandatory military service, find a good job and give back to the family as a first son should.

School was not John's thing; he didn't like the two years he spent in military service and who can think about a job (even if it was at famed advertising company Saatchi and Saatchi) when his then-girlfriend Michele, had left Singapore to pursue her nursing career in Melbourne?

John packed up and followed Michele to Melbourne on a student visa, pursuing a Bachelor of Communication (Professional Communication) at RMIT aged 25. The sting of abandoning family expectations followed, and the path he was expected to tread clashed with his new life in Melbourne. After he graduated in 2007, John married Michele in 2009. He did odd jobs and felt dissatisfied.

Life took a turn in 2010 when he became a telephone banking debt collector for NAB.

His gift for connecting with people made him one of the more successful debt collectors and two years later he switched to an advisory position, supporting people with their home loan choices and later as a mobile banker.

In 2018, John set up his own finance broking company Money Jar Concept, to help local families and businesses with their finances.

Most importantly, working for himself allowed him to spend more time with his family.

When I was still at NAB, I had been following Humans of New York for a few years, he remembers.

"By 2016, I was working 15-hour days and never saw my kids (I had two then) and one thing I missed was the human element of writing. I wanted to reduce my working hours, and focus on myself for once."

The love for writing was still strong, but money was not his motivation. He wanted to get a sense of what his new home in Yarraville was like.

Unlike Humans of New York, which focuses on photography, John used words to capture peoples' stories on Humans of SKY.

For the first six months in 2017, the project met scepticism, locals would ask why he was doing it.

"This was my opportunity to give back – this is one of Melbourne's oldest neighbourhoods and a lot of people live next to each other but they don't talk to each other as much anymore," John explains.

He said social media has fuelled insecurity and people have become more aware of the dangers of talking to strangers. As a result, people forget about the benefits of reaching out. "Humans of SKY gives me the opportunity to get people to open their doors."

He said Humans of SKY had other unintentional benefits. Foot traffic for small businesses increased, where readers strike up a conversation with business owners about common interests uncovered in the stories.

Families with the same last names have connected via stories, there's been reunions between friends and John recollects how stomach cancer survivors half way around the world took hope from the story of a local Human who had been featured. "This is my calling. I felt at a loss in my 20s and I only really started working in my 30s. This really makes me happy – this is my purpose in life. The legacy I want to leave behind is about giving back."

John now has three children and still travels regularly to Singapore to see his family but knows the west is his true home, the place he can be himself.

Visit humansofsky.com.au to read John's stories, which are also shared to Humans of SKY Facebook and Instagram.

TOP PARKS TO DISCOVER THIS SUMMER



From three metre tall dinosaurs to 22 metre-long steel aeroplanes, Maribyrnong's playgrounds will amaze and delight both young and old.

Here's our guide to some of our City's best, ready and waiting for you to explore this summer...

FOOTSCRAY PARK, BALLARAT ROAD FOOTSCRAY

Splash about at Footscray Park's water play area!

Kids of all abilities can enjoy a range of play options such as sensory play, water play with a creek bed and splash plaza with water sprays, musical instruments, and imaginative play featuring a wading bird sculpture, nest and eggs.

The fun doesn't stop there, there's various physical challenges including a high 'tree house' and climbing equipment, sand pit, clambering rocks, climbing nets, swing with accessible harness, slides, carousel and dual flying fox.

Families will also be able to enjoy picnic and barbeque facilities and the convenience of public toilets on the grounds.

AEROPLANE PARK, CHURCHILL AVENUE BRAYBROOK

Braybrook's much-loved Aeroplane Park is the go-to place for fun in Braybrook!

Fun features include a giant steel and climbing rope aeroplane which has swings underneath the wings; a tall 'traffic control' play structure; terminal with seating, plane rockers and baggage carousel; sea-saws at the tail of the plane; double flying fox; palm island with clambering rocks; spinner; and low bridge feature with tunnel and slide.

In addition to the playground there are several shelters with barbecues, large picnic settings suitable for large family groups, drinking fountain within the shade of the many native trees and toilets close by inside the Braybrook Community Hub.

'DINOSAUR PARK', MCNISH RESERVE, COURT STREET YARRAVILLE

The popular playground features a six metre long, three metre high dinosaur called Mimi – kids can climb inside and slide down her tail! She now has some new lovely shade sails to protect her and her little playmates from the sun! The park also features a walking path, picnic table and some other fun play items such as concrete dinosaur eggs and Raptor rockers!



COULSON GARDENS, CHIFLEY DRIVE MARIBYRNONG

Set amongst established gardens and large shade trees this upgraded play space has something for everyone. For the littlies, there's a sand pit, swings, carousel and imaginative play area and the bigger kids will LOVE the 'Saturn Carousel' spinning swing – the only one of its kind in Victoria!

Sit on the hammock and watch the afternoon slip by or stretch out on the nature play climbing unit. Sit around the imaginative campfire crafted from natural elements. Kick the soccer ball around the informal soccer pitch or head off on a leisurely walk along the river. There are also BBQ and picnic facilities here, making it a great spot to meet up with family and friends.

JOHNSON RESERVE, VIEW STREET WEST FOOTSCRAY

Nestled in the heart of West Footscray, this popular playground includes a flying fox and basket swing, a toddler play area and a beginners skate and scooter track – perfect place for the littlies to learn.

There's also BBQ and picnic facilities that make this park a great spot for the family gathering.

HARRIS RESERVE, GAMON STREET SEDDON

Harris Reserve is a favourite with the locals and has plenty of shade and play equipment for all ages, including climbing structures, a four-person see-saw, play kitchen and double swings. There's also plenty of lawn and seating around making it a great place to while away an afternoon.



HEALTHIER HOMES



Eligible households in the municipality will receive free energy efficient upgrades as part of the Victorian Healthy Homes Program. Partnering with Sustainability Victoria, Maribyrnong City Council will assist in recruiting low income households to help improve indoor winter temperatures and reduce household energy bills.

Selecting households could get a free home energy efficiency and warmth upgrade, worth up to \$3,500 which will be safely installed by licensed tradespeople. The upgrades can include the installation of:

- > draught proofing
- > ceiling or sub-floor insulation
- > high-efficiency heating/cooling appliances, or
- > window coverings.

The Victorian Healthy Homes Program has already successfully rolled the first 236 out of 1000 upgrades in in Melbourne's western suburbs and the Goulburn Valley.

The Program is one of several sustainability initiatives which Council has implemented and further reinforces Maribyrnong's position on climate change. Council acknowledged a state of climate emergency in early 2019 that requires urgent action from all levels of government. Research is another component of the Victorian Government funded program, which aims to find the health and wellbeing impacts of energy efficiency. The information will help the Victorian Government better understand the health benefits of better quality housing.

Eligible households will be contacted by Council. To find out more visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Victorian-Healthy-Homes-Program



LET'S STRAIN THE DRAINS!

To protect our waterways, Maribyrnong City Council along with five other Victorian Councils, will be participating in the 'Let's Strain the Drains' project supported by the Victorian State Government.

The project will see litter traps installed in stormwater drains, including 20 across Maribyrnong, which are monitored every six weeks to collect data on the quantity and types of litter accumulated. This data will then be compared to that of neighbouring Councils involved in the project, enabling the source of the litter to be identified and action taken to prevent these types of litter from entering our waterways. Litter builds up on our streets resulting in blocked gutters and drains, with rubbish often finding its way into Port Phillip Bay. It's well documented that litter and debris pollute the natural environment and cause serious harm to marine creatures and wildlife.



FAST FACTS

- > Some of the most common types of litter which enter our waterways are cigarette butts, plastic items, food packaging, and beverage containers.
- > Up to 40,000 pieces of plastic are estimated to float in every square kilometre of ocean.
- > 800 species worldwide including 77 Australian species are impacted by marine debris.
- > Over 75% of what is removed from our beaches is made of plastic (Source: Tangaroa Blue)

The 'Let's Strain the Drains' project is funded by the Victorian State Government and delivered by Tangaroa Blue Foundation, Cleanwater Group and Sustainability Victoria with support from the Cities of Wyndham, Hobsons Bay, Moreland, Kingston, Maribyrnong and Greater Dandenong.



BUSINESS IN MARIBYRNONG



THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

CREATIVE BUSINESSES ARE ABUZZ IN THE CITY OF MARIBYRNONG

It's no secret that Maribyrnong is a thriving creative hub, with many businesses making their way out west to capitalise on the vibrancy of the area.

Recognised names in the industry include design and fabrication company BiGfiSh, art and creative hub The Art Room, and Kindred Studios, a purpose-built space for creative individuals and organisations, to name a few.

Creative industries are recognised as being an important contributor to improving the wellbeing of our residents and the liveability of a city. There are hotspots throughout the city that creative businesses are calling home. On offer are affordable workspaces, showrooms and offices that cater to the needs of start-ups – these are usually small to medium-sized enterprises.

Docklands Cotton Mills is a notable hub that is home to a range of creative businesses, including FAB9, a makerspace that empowers makers by providing a purpose-built space

so designers and makers of all skill levels can access training, tools and equipment needed to turn ideas into reality.

Also located at the Cotton Mills is INHOUSE CREATE, a sound, music and film studio that is available to creatives looking to record, mix, master and fine tune their content; and Fiction Film Company that produces a range of work both locally and internationally with a focus on television commercial production and creative content.

There's also Footscray Maker Lab which is a shared facility that provides open space and offices for small-scale workshops and projects and projects based in the suburb's light industrial area.

The arts and creative sector is the seventh largest sector in Maribyrnong by gross regional product (GRP), with the largest component of activity in

design, closely followed by fashion, then literature and print media.

Compared with the rest of Australia, Maribyrnong is unique in that broadcasting, digital media and film accounts for approximately 13 per cent of total employment, compared with 8 per cent nationally. On top of this, literature and print media accounts for 15 per cent of total employment, compared with 10 per cent at the national level.

It is expected that as the value of creativity and small business entrepreneurship gains greater recognition the creative industries will begin to play an even greater role in economic, social and cultural development in our City.

(figures taken from the Economic and Social Value of the Arts and Creative Sector in the City of Maribyrnong, April 2017)

PLAY IT SAFE BY THE WATER – YOUR CHILD, YOUR FOCUS

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death in children under five years of age, and almost half of all injuries recorded at public swimming pools involves children.



With this in mind, Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre endorses Life Saving Victoria's Watch Around Water program to assist aquatic staff to promote safe supervision practices and provide a safe venue for the community to participate in sport and recreation.

The Watch Around Water program also encourages parents/guardians to take on the responsibility of actively supervising the children in their care while visiting aquatic facilities.

"Life Saving Victoria's Watch Around Water program, which has been adopted by 193 public pools across the state, works to reduce the number of fatal and non-fatal drownings and injuries in Victoria within the 0 to 14 year age group by outlining policies

and practices which encourage parental and guardian supervision," said RJ Houston, Manager Pool Safety, Life Saving Victoria.

"We want all Victorian families to continue enjoying public pools to learn vital swimming and water safety skills and for parents and guardians to understand the crucial role they play in keeping a watchful eye on children in their care. Everyone should return home safely at the end of every visit to the pool."

Life Saving Victoria's key advice includes:

- > Children under 10 should be actively supervised and children under 5 should remain within arm's reach of an adult.
- > All patron and pool users should follow the pool rules and the lifeguard instructions for their safety and the safety of those around them.
- > Lifeguards are responsible for up to 100 people, parents are responsible for their children. Parents supervise, lifeguards save lives.
- > Adult swimmers with pre-existing medical conditions or those responsible for persons with disabilities that may compromise their ability to swim safely should alert lifeguard staff as to their specific circumstances prior to swimming and ensure the swimmers stay within a safe depth, put their hand up for help and read the safety signs.

For more information about the guidelines visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/mac



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE.

In an effort to reduce the strain on our environment, Braybrook Community Hub is encouraging community members to think about the importance of reducing plastics with the Keep it Bag project.

Reducing the impacts of plastics on the environment has been top of mind for many over the past few years as communities shift towards promoting efforts to create a more sustainable future.

This was further encouraged in November when the State Government introduced a ban on lightweight plastic shopping bags that applies to all retailers, regardless of size and type.

Braybrook Community Hub is helping to educate the community on the importance of reducing plastics by

bringing people together to create recycled shopping bags, produce bags, and cutlery placemats.

The Keep it Bag project is run by volunteers and utilises donated pre-loved clothing and materials to create the recycled goods. Participants help with sorting fabrics, cutting, sewing and screen printing in the workshops that take place on Mondays from 4-8pm and Thursdays from 11am-3pm.

Amber, the lead volunteer of the Keep it Bag project, said it is great to see so many people coming together to make a positive change for the environment.

"We are always looking for more volunteers – no experience is needed. Pop in for a cuppa and chat and we can guide you in all things bag making. We would love to see you!" Amber said.

The bags that are created during the workshops are then donated to those in the community who are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing homelessness, and to the kindergarten and library located within Braybrook Community Hub. Other bags are also sold to cover the cost of purchasing equipment and materials.

To get involved in the Keep it Bag workshops, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call Braybrook Community Hub on 9188 5800.

Maidstone and Maribyrnong Community Centres also offer a range of sustainability themed programs and activities, including Soap and Shampoo Making and Boomerang Bags. Visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/learn for more details.

WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

25 NOVEMBER – 10 DECEMBER

16 Days of Activism is an international campaign dedicated to eliminating gender-based violence. The campaign is used to raise awareness, undertake advocacy and take action to end violence against women. There will be a number of activities taking place throughout Maribyrnong to mark 16 Days of Activism.

Visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au for further details.

FESTIVE SEASON

DECEMBER 2019

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Celebrate the festive season with a jam-packed program of special family friendly events including outdoor cinema, Carols in Yarraville Gardens and West Footscray, markets, colourful projections and more.

TRICK ART IN SEDDON

MID-NOVEMBER TO MID-JANUARY
OFF CHARLES STREET, BETWEEN
EST. 1906 AND LOLA CAFÉ

A little laneway in the heart of Seddon will dazzle with festive fun, featuring 3D gifts to climb over and interact with. Visit local retailers and pick up your Christmas gifts and snap a selfie with the artwork.

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS INSTALLATION

MID-NOVEMBER TO MID-JANUARY
NICHOLSON STREET MALL,
FOOTSCRAY

Fifteen primary schools were invited to help decorate the City by adding their creative flare to a wooden Christmas tree. The decorated trees will be on display in Nicholson Street Mall throughout the Christmas season.

SUMMER LEGENDS LIBRARY COMPETITION

2 DECEMBER – 29 JANUARY

Write a short review of anything you borrow from the library and you'll go into the draw to win some awesome Lego! Not a library member? Membership is free so join today. Open to 5-18 year olds.

Visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library for details, terms and conditions.

DISCO FEVER

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER, 6-8PM
MAIDSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Come on down to funky town and celebrate with at this spectacular family disco with DJ RazzBerry Berry, and her fabulous heart pumping 70s and 80s tunes. There'll be glamorous face painting, hula hooping, roller skating, hot dogs, and our very own fairy floss machine. If you and your kids like to boogie, this free event is for you!

PICNIC IN THE PARK

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER, 6-8pm
AEROPLANE PARK, BRAYBROOK

Come along to Braybrook Community Hub's Picnic in the Park to celebrate the year that was. This family friendly event will include art activities, face painting, animal experiences, interactive children's performances and sausage sizzle. Following the picnic, head down to Skinner Reserve for a special outdoor screening of Elf so make sure you pack a picnic rug!



FOOTSCRAY FINDS MARKET

SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, 9AM-2PM
THE LINE, 2 YEWERS ST, FOOTSCRAY

This bustling market offers a fantastic mix of pre-loved fashion, antiques, plants, bespoke designer wear and handicraft. Find that special Christmas gift at the next market in December.



WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

HYDE STREET YOUTH BAND CONCERT

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER, 5.30pm
BLUESTONE CHURCH ARTS SPACE,
FOOTSCRAY

Gold coin donation

ALBANIAN FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER,
11am-5pm
YARRAVILLE GARDENS

Experience a taste of Albanian culture, food and music as part of the Albanian community festival set in the beautiful Yarraville Gardens.

CHRISTMAS IN YARRAVILLE

SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER,
3.30-5.30pm
YARRAVILLE VILLAGE

Experience Christmas themed activities, window displays and a visit from Santa and his elf, as The Yarraville Traders put on a festive display in the village. Visit the pop-up park to hear the local choir sing their hearts out to your favourite Christmas carols.

A VERY SEDDON CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER,
10am-4pm
CHARLES STREET, SEDDON

Gather your family and friends and celebrate Christmas in Seddon. There will be free children's activities, stalls by local businesses, plenty of gift ideas plus a visit from Santa Claus.

MADE IN BRAYBROOK MONTHLY POP UP MARKET

SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER,
10am-2pm
CENTRAL WEST SHOPPING CENTRE

Head down and support our local artists and craftspeople. You'll find a variety of homemade products including soaps, candles, toys, artworks, jewellery, baby goods and much more. For more information call Braybrook Community Hub on **9188 5800**.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY AT MAC

SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER, 1-4pm
MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC CENTRE

Children can enjoy free pool entry and join in the fun at MAC's Children's Christmas Party, with pool inflatables, a jumping castle, art and craft activities, face painting, dance classes and much more!

CAROLS IN WEST FOOTSCRAY

SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER,
3.30-9.30pm
JOHNSON RESERVE,
WEST FOOTSCRAY

Celebrate Christmas with the local community, there'll be music, carol singing, a barbecue and much more. See page 26-27 for details.

CAROLS IN YARRAVILLE GARDENS

SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER,
7-10.30pm,
YARRAVILLE GARDENS

Bring a picnic, family and friends and your best singing voice and celebrate the annual Yarraville Carols. See page 26-27 for details.

NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS

TUESDAY 31 DECEMBER,
6.30-10.30pm
FOOTSCRAY PARK

Ring in the New Year with a night full of free entertainment, including live stage performances, carnival rides for the kids, food trucks and an exhilarating early fireworks display. See page 26-27 for details.

**EAST MEETS WEST LUNA NEW YEAR FESTIVAL**

SUNDAY 12 JANUARY, 10am-10pm
HOPKINS ST, FOOTSCRAY

Experience the best of Vietnamese culture in the heart of Footscray with the East Meets West Luna New Year Festival.



WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

PLASTER PAINTING WORKSHOP

MONDAY 13 JANUARY, 10am-11am
MARIBYRNONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

At this free workshop children will be given the opportunity to create their very own masterpiece to take home. Suitable for children aged 5-12 years old. Limited places available, for bookings call the Maribyrnong Community Centre on **9032 4305** or email maricomm@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

WIT KIDS DRAMA WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY 16 JANUARY AND
THURSDAY 23 JANUARY
9.30am-10.30am OR
10.45am-11.45am
MARIBYRNONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

Learn improvisation, mime, play drama games and have lots of fun. Perfect for experienced drama children or for anyone who wants to give drama a go. Suitable for children aged 5-12 years old. Bookings: www.witinc.com.au/school-holiday-drama

MIDSUMMA WESTSIDE

SATURDAY 18 JANUARY TO
SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY
VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Celebrate a diverse mix of LGBTQIA+ artists and performers at a range of events taking place during the Midsumma Festival in Melbourne's west.

SLIME MAKING WORKSHOP

MONDAY 20 JANUARY, 10am-11am
(maximum 10 participants)
MARIBYRNONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

Learn everything you need to know about making slime at this free workshop. Suitable for children aged 5-12 years old. Limited places available, for bookings call the Maribyrnong Community Centre on **9032 4305** or email maricomm@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

SILENT DISCO AND GAMES SESSION

MONDAY 20 JANUARY, 1pm-2pm
MARIBYRNONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

Grab a set of headphones, get your dancing shoes on and boogie the afternoon away at this free silent disco. There will also be fun games to play as you dance along to the music. Suitable for children aged 5-12 years old.

Limited places available, for bookings call the Maribyrnong Community Centre on **9032 4305** or email maricomm@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

QUANG MINH TET FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 25 JANUARY,
6pm-1am
QUANG MINH TEMPLE
BRAYBROOK

Celebrate the Luna New Year at one of the largest Buddhist Temples in the Southern Hemisphere, with performances, chants and delicious vegetarian food.

ST JEROME'S LANEWAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY,
11am-10.30pm
FOOTSCRAY PARK

Celebrate one of Australia's premier music festivals, featuring summer's best line-up of international, national and local acts. To book your tickets visit www.lanewayfestival.com

YARRAVILLE FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY,
9am-7pm
YARRAVILLE VILLAGE

An annual event in the heart of Yarraville since 1981 offering food, entertainment and activities for locals and visitors of all ages.

INFLATABLE REGATTA

SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY,
10am-2pm
FOOTSCRAY ROWING CLUB

Start at Footscray Rowing Club and finish at Grimes Reserve. Grab your mates and spend a lazy afternoon floating down the picturesque Maribyrnong River on an inflatable boat. Bookings essential: www.inflatablelregatta.com



ST JEROME'S LANEWAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY, 11am-10.30pm
FOOTSCRAY PARK

Celebrate one of Australia's premier music festivals, featuring summer's best line-up of international, national and local acts. To book your tickets visit www.lanewayfestival.com



WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

SALTWATER CINEMA

Gather your family and friends, relax under the stars and enjoy watching a classic Christmas themed movie. Bean bags are available to hire on the night for \$15 or bring your own picnic rug and cushion. Gold coin donation on the night, with all proceeds going to Screens Without Borders.

Bookings: www.suntheatre.com.au

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER,
7.30pm for an 8pm START
[HARBOUR PARK, EDGEWATER ESTATE](#)

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER,
7.30pm for an 8pm START
[SKINNER RESERVE, BRAYBROOK](#)

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER,
7.30pm for an 8pm START
[MADDERN SQUARE, FOOTSCRAY](#)

SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER, 7.30pm
PIPEMAKERS PARK, MARIBYRNONG

FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER,
7.30pm for an 8pm START
[MADDERN SQUARE, FOOTSCRAY](#)



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM AT OUR LIBRARIES

6 JANUARY – 25 JANUARY

Celebrate myths, folklore, legends and mythical creatures these school holidays. The summer holiday program will feature stories, workshops, crafts and much more.

Visit www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library for times and locations.

Stories of long ago story time sessions
Ages 3+

Myth busters junior science activities
Ages 8+

NGV kids on tour 2020
Ages 5+

Indigenous myths and legends storytelling workshop. All ages

Coding camp
Ages 10+

Mythological creatures drawing workshops. Ages 8+

Myths and legends movies – various titles. All Ages

Library quest role play adventure
Ages 8+

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH APPOINTMENTS

You can track your child's early development with our experienced nurses at Council's Maternal and Child Health Centres across the city. If you would like to make an appointment with one of our highly qualified and experienced Maternal and Child Health Nurses, you can now complete an online request form and we will be in touch with you to confirm an appointment. Visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/mch to complete the online request form.

Alternatively, you can still call our booking service to make an appointment on 9688 0501.

CHURCH STREET CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Three newly commissioned public art works have been installed at the Centre, which is ready to officially open in January.

The integrated and permanent design elements, comprising of a window glazing design, paving and bike racks, were created by Melbourne artist and photographer Carla Gottgens and were inspired by the building's architectural design concept, celebrating the origin of the name Maribyrnong.

The artwork featured on the building's glass panels shows a photographic collage of a ringtail possum hiding behind native eucalyptus leaves and flowers. The set of six bicycle racks feature iconic Australian animals that are native to Maribyrnong. The third work is a sandblasted pavement design leading from the footpath to the front door, featuring a treehouse ladder with footprints of the three native animals along with human footprints.

See the works in person at a Community Open Day, to take place in the New Year. Visit our website for more information.

To register your interest for childcare, 3yo and 4yo kindergarten programs, please call the Maribyrnong Central Registration System on 9688 0116 or visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/crs

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES



MARIBYRNONG YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS RECRUITING

The Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) is a group of young people between the ages of 12-25 years, who are passionate about being young leaders in the Maribyrnong community, acting as a link between Maribyrnong City Council and young people.

MYAC member Terry joined the committee as he thought it would be a great opportunity to get involved in the community and to grow leadership and communication skills.

"We try to tackle local issues with a youth perspective and are often asked to consult on local government projects. It is nice to be able to meet other like-minded people who are also keen to volunteer and show commitment to their community," Terry said.

Members have the opportunity to share their opinions on key issues affecting young people, work on youth led projects, participate in training workshops, and much more!

"If you want to make a difference, there is a lot of options for you out there, more than you can possibly imagine," Terry explained. "All you have to do is get started in one thing and before you know it, you will be building the connections and having people recommending you opportunities."

Applications for the Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee open February 2020. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in being a part of MYAC, visit phoenixyouth.com.au for more information and to apply.



TEN FOR SUMMER

UNWIND THIS SUMMER WITH SOME OF THE BEST NEW BOOKS

Due to popular demand, the Ten for Summer reading program kicks off this December.

With a focus on Australian authors, readers will be able to pick from ten exceptional novels that have been written by some of the best local and national authors – including Bruce Pasco, Jane Harper, and winner of this year's Mile Franklin award, Melissa Lucashenko – to read over the summer months.

With stories ranging from the disappearance of a child during a playgroup session, and a suspenseful outback mystery, to a dark comedy about ordinary people, and a powerful anthology that brings together a range of voices to tell the stories of African-diaspora Australians, there is something for everyone on this year's Ten for Summer list.

Titles include *The Blue Rose* by Kate Forsyth, *Six Minutes* by Petronella McGovern, *The Roadhouse* by Kerry McGinnis, *The Lost Man* by Jane Harper, *Salt: Selected Essays and Stories* by Bruce Pascoe, *Too Much Lip* by Melissa Lucashenko, *The Postmistress* by Alison Stuart, *Back on Track: How one man and his dogs are changing the lives of rural kids* by Bernie Shakeshaft, *Trust Me, I'm Dead* by Sherryl Clark, and *Growing up African in Australia* edited by Maxine Beneba Clarke.

Ten for Summer will be launched at Footscray Library on Tuesday 3 December with Maxine Beneba Clarke in conversation with local literary guru, Bruno Lettieri, discussing her journey as a writer and her latest literature collaboration *Growing up African in Australia*.

To take part in this year's Ten for Summer, just visit your local Library branch and pick up your copy of the selected titles. And make the most of your summer reading by taking your book to your favourite reading spot to unwind!



CONNECT WITH OTHER LIKE-MINDED BOOK LOVERS

Join a book group

Maribyrnong Libraries hosts a number of book groups that meet on a regular basis. We host book groups in community languages including our Chinese Book Group at Footscray Library and the Spanish Literature Group at Maribyrnong Library.

Our book groups are free of charge and our reading list sets are updated regularly with works from established and emerging authors. Visit your local branch to find out more about joining a book group.

Writing more your thing? Join a writing group!

Are you an accomplished or budding author? Are you looking for ideas, information and support? Join one of our Writers' Groups – a support group for local writers. Groups currently meet at our Braybrook and Yarraville libraries. Visit the library website or contact your local branch for more information.

GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

Get a library in the palm of your hands and access the best of eBooks and eAudiobooks with BorrowBox.

The BorrowBox app makes it easy to browse, borrow and listen to your library's eBooks and eAudiobooks anywhere and everywhere.

All you need is an email address, your library barcode and a PIN number.

Download the app from the App Store or Google Play to get started!

E-TREEHOUSE BOOK CLUB

Following the success of the eTreehouse Book Club during Term 4, the club will return in 2020!

Primary school kids can download the eBook and eAudiobook title from the BorrowBox app, and then join us at the wacky book club meetings at Yarraville Library throughout Term 1.

For full details, call Yarraville Library on 9688 0294.

INDIGENOUS COLLECTION

Braybrook Library holds a collection of items relating to Australia's indigenous peoples and culture. The Indigenous Collection includes recently published books as well as historical texts. We have a large collection of children's stories, biographies, art books and DVDs, with all items available for loan.

Head to maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library to browse online or visit Braybrook Library.

THE YEAR OF THE RAT

Celebrate Lunar New Year at your local library

Get the family together to celebrate the Year of the Rat with vibrant lion dancing and bilingual story time sessions at our libraries.

See in the New Year with a festive morning tea and borrow from a selection of new LOTE collection items.

Lunar New Year celebrations kick off on Monday 18 January.

For more information about the events taking place, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library



CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE



PIPEMAKERS PARK IS LOOKING GOOD

Preservation works on the bluestone, heritage-listed building at Pipemakers Park is expected to be complete by the end of the year. Structural repairs were undertaken to underpin and stabilise the building at a cost of about \$900,000, jointly funded with Heritage Victoria.

Other works at the site, funded by a \$1,000,000 Port Phillip Bay Environs Grant from Transport for Victoria, include \$200,000 repairs to the mosaics and interpretive signage in the History of the Land Garden. New furniture has been added along with upgraded paths and resurfacing. Friends of Maribyrnong Valley volunteer group also helped with new planting and landscape improvements. And a new \$800,000 nature play space overlooking the open lawn and Maribyrnong River is expected to be completed in 2020. The design will reference the cultural heritage of the site and traditional owners' relationship to the land and river. These improvements are all in keeping with the masterplan developed by Council in 2015 after taking over site management from Parks Victoria in 2014.



SCOVELL RESERVE PAVILION REVAMP

The local community and sporting clubs are set to benefit from recently completed works at Scovell Reserve, Maidstone.

Footscray United Cricket Club and Maidstone United Soccer Club are both looking forward to new, modern facilities that meet the needs of their growing memberships. The reserve and facilities will also be available for community use.

At a total project cost of \$2.9m, the revamp of the sporting pavilion includes new unisex change rooms and amenities, unisex referee/umpire change rooms and amenities, a commercial kitchen, large social room and increased storage.

Importantly the works are accessible for all abilities, feature environmentally sustainable designs elements such as the inclusion of solar panels and water tanks for recycled water.

The construction of the new sporting pavilion began in March this year at the north end of the reserve. Next steps will include the clearing of three existing pavilions on the site that are no longer serviceable, minor landscaping and pathway works and an upgrade of the grassed playing surface for the local community to enjoy. These additional works are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The Scovell Reserve Pavilion Upgrade project is supported by the Victorian Government with a \$250,000 contribution.





CAPITAL WORKS AROUND TOWN

Council is continually investing in the municipality, improving and repairing assets from roads to the addition of solar lighting at community centres. Recent works include:

- > \$135,000 on improvement works inside Rosamond Road Tennis Pavilion, Maribyrnong
- > \$202,000 to upgrade picnic shelters at Footscray Park
- > \$142,000 on roofing works at Maidstone Community Centre, \$227,000 on roof renewal works at Kindersmith Pavilion, Braybrook and \$152,000 on Yarraville Library roof.
- > \$265,000 in works on Melon Street Easement Drain, Braybrook



AUSTRALIA POST IS TRIALLING A NEW SERVICE WITH THE INNER-WEST COMMUNITY

Neighbourhood Welcome Service is an initiative that has been developed by Australia Post and with Melbourne's inner-west community.

The service is being trialled in the City of Maribyrnong until 30 June 2020 and is designed to help make neighbourhoods more welcoming places. The service is for people who may be new to the area or those that just need a little extra help. By helping people connect with their neighbours, local businesses and essential services, the initiative can help support those who need it most. This initiative reinforces Australia Post's social purpose and empowers people and businesses to be more inclusive and connected via the three foundational components of the service.



WELCOME PACKS

People who would benefit from this service are directed to a participating Post Office in the City of Maribyrnong, where they will receive a Neighbourly Welcome and be gifted a Welcome Pack. The Welcome Pack contains information that helps them learn about the local area and how to get involved in their neighbourhood through activities at Welcome Spaces.

WELCOME SPACES

We've partnered with local businesses and community organisations to create Welcome Spaces. These are places where everyone can go and feel welcome. When people visit a Welcome Space they'll have the chance to talk with a Community Connector; a great opportunity to ask questions about the neighbourhood and how

they can get involved. The Welcome Spaces include Konjo Café, Maidstone Community Centre, Eka Wholefoods, VU at MetroWest, Skills and Jobs Centre, Braybrook Community Hub, Women's Circus, Seddon Deadly Sins Café, MakersWindow, Maribyrnong Community Centre, and Footscray Community Arts Centre. For a complete list of Welcome Spaces and the offers and activities they provide, go to bit.ly/welcomespaces.



COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

Community Connectors are members of the community who want to help. They've made a commitment to their local community and are ready to share a warm smile and some local knowledge. Community Connectors can be found at Welcome Spaces and Post Offices across the inner-west; look out for their Community Connector badges.



GROWING TOGETHER

A local group is enjoying the benefits of growing their own food in a program that has a focus on agriculture.

In an ever-growing environment, community gardens are becoming increasingly popular as they provide a space for people to connect with nature and others within the community.

A local group is enjoying the benefits of these community spaces, allowing them the opportunity to grow their own food. Local community educator Paul Corda was recently asked to create a program that focused on science and agriculture for local community organisation's disability service.

After assessing the skill level of the participants in the program, Paul got chatting with one of the participant's parents.

"Maria suggested that we get a plot at Maribyrnong Edible Gardens and explore the 'garden to plate' science of food," Paul said.

After receiving their plot, the program has been a massive success for the participants, who are thrilled with seeing the progress of their plot as the plants grow.

"It has sparked the participants'

curiosity in how a tiny seed can grow into gorgeous organic fruit, vegetables and herbs, accompanied with a fantastic sensory experience. Their sense of pride and achievement come harvest time has really been a fantastic experience for them," Paul said.

The participants, who come from different cultural backgrounds, have also been able to share and experience different cultural dishes from the edible organic produce that they have grown.

"Aside from harvesting, we have also been comparing progress photographs and keeping a journal – the participants are always amazed at what a tiny seed can turn into," Paul continued.

For more information about the community gardens in Maribyrnong, visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

PUPS READY TO SHINE

Excitement is building as the Western Bulldogs AFLW team prepares for its 2020 campaign

The Bulldogs have welcomed a new coach – former AFL great Nathan Burke – and a host of young recruits at the 2019 NAB AFLW Draft.

Seven talented teenagers made their way onto the list in the draft, as the Bulldogs look to move back up the ladder next year.

That included four of the top ten selections, and the number one pick. Gabby Newton became a Bulldog with the first selection of the draft, and was joined at the Kennel by her Northern Knights teammate Nell Morris-Dalton with pick six.

Midfielder Gemma Lagioia came to the club with pick eight, before the Bulldogs recruited western suburbs local Elisabeth Georgostathis with pick nine – after she starred for the Bulldogs' VFLW side in 2019.

The Bulldogs made history with pick 47, as Spotswood Football Club product Isabella Grant – the daughter of club legend, Chris – became the team's first father-daughter selection.

Britney Gutknecht (pick 48) and Amelia Van Oosterwijck (pick 62) rounded out the Bulldogs' impressive draft haul.



The young guns will complement a host of experienced AFLW stars in red, white and blue this season, including the likes of Ellie Blackburn, Izzy Huntington, Lauren Spark and Brooke Lochland.

After winning two of their seven matches in 2019 and falling narrowly short in a couple of other games, the Bulldogs will be out to improve next season.

Adding to the challenge will be four new teams that have joined the AFLW competition for 2020 – West Coast, Gold Coast, Richmond and St Kilda.

The Bulldogs will again play a number of home games at VU Whitten Oval, with plenty of game-day activities to entertain the whole family.

Head to www.westernbulldogs.com.au to see the fixture!



MIDSUMMA HITS WESTSIDE THIS JANUARY

MELBOURNE'S INNER WEST WILL HOST AN ARRAY OF SPECIAL EVENTS
SHOWCASING THE BEST IN QUEER THEATRE, CONTEMPORARY VISUAL ART,
INSTALLATIONS AND MORE AS PART OF MIDSUMMA WESTSIDE.

Running from 19 January to 9 February 2020, Midsumma is Melbourne's premier annual gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQA) arts and cultural festival with events right across metropolitan Melbourne.

Midsumma Westside draws together a range of Midsumma events that take place in Melbourne's west.

In 2020, Maribyrnong will host four events...

D.R.A.G., which is taking place at Pride of our Footscray bar, explores the art of drag featuring works by Dave Behrens, Jimmy Twin, and Brett Willis (Toonarama). The opening night on Saturday 18 January will blur the lines between drag performance and art exhibition as the drag performers become living art pieces.

Littlefoot Bar will play host to *Westgay*, an epic queer party complete with a pumping dance floor presented by Closet and Fannys for the whole rainbow community and their friends.

Venus of Thorns is a project exploring queer bodies as arcadia, taking place at Trocadero and Bluestone Church Arts Space. While querying binary concepts of heaven and hell, and queering notions of paradise, this project draws upon queer ecologies.

New works by Susan Long and Lex Middleton will be on display at Living Museum of the West in *STATEMENT* and *(an) Archive of Yearning*. Middleton's *STATEMENT* uses the text from a police report documenting a violent homophobic crime, while Long's *(an) Archive of Yearning* reveals how a single snapshot (found object), can become an imagined archive of desire and longing.

So dive right in and take a walk out west with Midsumma Westside for an unforgettable experience!

For more information visit www.festivalcity.com.au or www.midsumma.org.au

IN THE KNOW

Residents and visitors looking for activities and programs running in the City of Maribyrnong or ways to connect with the community can find out information through a number of different channels that are managed by Council.

The most popular way to find out what's happening is via Council's Facebook site. Information about upcoming events, opportunities for community consultations and popular news from the wider community is shared on this platform. Emergency announcements, opportunities to apply for grants, nominations for awards are also shared on our Facebook page. Quick posts to let residents know what's happening in the municipality are also shared to our Twitter account.

We realise that not everyone is able to attend Council meetings so, to keep up to date, meetings of Ordinary Council and City Development Special Committee Meetings are now livestreamed. These can be viewed on our YouTube account and a link will be posted on our social media accounts on the day of the meeting.

To take part in engagement opportunities and provide feedback on the direction Council should take on various projects, visit Council's online engagement platform Your City, Your Voice. Consultations take place throughout the year and everyone is encouraged to participate. You can register to be advised of upcoming opportunities.



To read about the latest work that Council is doing, subscribe to our electronic newsletter with news posted regularly to Council's website **www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au**

To share pictures of the municipality, use **#marimoments** on Instagram and follow our page **@cityofmaribyrnong**



CITY OF MARIBYRNONG FACEBOOK PAGE
facebook.com/Maribyrnong



CITY OF MARIBYRNONG
TWITTER ACCOUNT
twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC

COUNCIL'S LIVE STREAMING OF
COUNCIL MEETINGS
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/livestream



CITY OF MARIBYRNONG
YOUTUBE CHANNEL
youtube.com/user/cityofmaribyrnong

COUNCIL'S ONLINE ENGAGEMENT
PLATFORM YOUR CITY, YOUR VOICE
yourcityyourvoice.com.au

MARIBYRNONG ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/News



CITY OF MARIBYRNONG INSTAGRAM PAGE
@cityofmaribyrnong To share pictures of the
municipality, use **#marimoments**

FESTIVAL CITY

CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH FABULOUS FAMILY EVENTS

Grab your friends and family and get ready to sleigh with Maribyrnong's 2019 Christmas season program! There's something for everyone, whether you're young or young-at-heart with free movies, carols, art installations and local shopping nights.

YARRAVILLE CAROLS IN THE GARDENS

Warm up those vocal chords, gather your nearest and dearest and head to the beautiful Yarraville Gardens for the annual Yarraville Carols. A family favourite on the festival calendar, carollers will be treated to performances from acclaimed musical acts, a visit from Santa plus a spectacular fireworks display to top off the evening.

Yarraville Gardens, Hyde Street, Yarraville
Saturday 21 December, 7-10.30pm



DECORATIONS AROUND THE CITY

Keep an eye out in your local shopping precincts for festive decorations and activities. Head to Yarraville Village for Christmas themed activities, window displays and carol singing, Nicholson Street Mall will come alive with colourful Christmas trees decorated by local primary school students. Look out for a variety of activations in Seddon with a 3D art installation, children's activities, gift ideas and a visit from Santa. Don't forget to support the local traders and shop local this season.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Come along to Braybrook Community Hub's Picnic in the Park for a fun-filled afternoon. This family friendly event will include art activities, face painting, animal experiences, interactive children's performances and sausage sizzle. Following the picnic, head down to Skinner Reserve for a special outdoor screening of Elf so make sure you pack a picnic rug, this is one Christmas event not to be missed!

Friday 6 December, 6-8pm
Aeroplane Park, Braybrook



CAROLS IN WEST FOOTSCRAY

Make like a local and celebrate Christmas with the West Footscray community at a special carol evening at Johnson Reserve. There will be plenty of activities to suit everyone with carnival rides, face painting, a barbecue, live music, carol singing and much more. Keep an eye out for a visit from the man in red himself – Santa Claus and his hardworking elves. The night will finish with a spectacular fireworks display from 9pm.

Johnson Reserve, Essex Street, West Footscray
Saturday 21 December, 3.30-9.30pm



SALTWATER CINEMA

Outdoor cinema season is back! Bring a beanbag, picnic blanket or a deck chair and gather your family and friends for a free family-friendly Christmas themed movie under the stars. All screenings begin at 8pm.

Please note this is an alcohol free event.

Bean bags are available to hire on the night for \$15. Gold coin donation on the night, with all proceeds going to Screens Without Borders. For more details visit www.festivalcity.com.

Friday 6 December – Elf Skinner Reserve, Braybrook

Friday 13 December – The Nightmare Before Christmas
Maddern Square, Footscray

Friday 20 December – Gremlins Maddern Square,
Footscray



*Please note: this is an alcohol free event
and dog owners are advised to leave
their pooch at home.*

Ring in the New Year with City of Maribyrnong's spectacular Fireworks in Footscray Park. This special event draws thousands to the banks of the iconic Maribyrnong River for a night of free live entertainment and an amazing early fireworks display.

This year is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever with an impressive line-up of entertainment for the whole family to enjoy including: ARIA Award nominated musician Olympia – a self-taught guitarist whose music is often referred to as synth-pop and has toured the UK, Europe and throughout Australia; Digital Afrika – a dynamic duo that blends live percussion with tribal rhythms and original music; Jazz Party – an eight-piece powerhouse and former Triple J unearthed group of musos that combine New Orleans style jazz with a punk attitude; one of Australia's most loved children's entertainer Peter Combe will perform all his greatest hits including Toffee Apple, Newspaper Mama and Spaghetti Bolognese.

There will be food trucks offering a variety of cuisines, carnival rides for the kids plus 10 minute dance parties to keep the tweens and teens happy. Bring a picnic rug and settle in for an amazing fireworks display which will illuminate the sky from 9.30pm.

Council is committed to reducing the impact on the environment so there will be no single use plastics at this event. We also encourage you to leave the car at home and catch free public transport.

For event details, directions and transport information, as well as information about our full Festive Season program of events visit www.festivalcity.com.au



MABU MABU

There's a new brunch place in town, but not as you know it!

Situated right in the heart of Yarraville, you might not expect to find wild boar bacon, kangaroo or crocodile on the breakfast to lunch menu. Mabu Mabu, a Torres Strait term for 'Help Yourself' or 'Bon-Appétit', sets out to break the mould by making it easy for everyday people to access and try native ingredients.

The Indigenous owned and lead café is a spin-off of their South Melbourne Market deli which showcased their signature sauces and products including a warrigal greens pesto, saltbush chimichurri and sea parsley romesco – which now star in dishes and



are also available to buy at the café.

Chef Nornie said she wanted to create a place in Melbourne's multicultural food ecosystem for indigenous ingredients.

"We're incorporating some of the flavours from the market stall but this new spot is designed for people to come, sit down and eat," she said.

"We've tried to make native and traditional ingredients the hero of the dish, but presenting it in ways that the average punter can relate with."

This has translated into a unique menu, that plays on a contemporary Melbourne style and features kangaroo tail bourguignon, wild boar with saltbush chimichurri, and bush tacos. The Mabu Waffles with native fruits and home-made cream with strawberry gum and wattleseed is a current favourite amongst diners.

Mabu Mabu
13 Anderson Street, Yarraville
@Mabu_Mabu_Aus

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR



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MAYOR

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CR GINA HUYNH

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Ph: 0429 324 484



STONY CREEK WARD

CR MEGAN BRIDGER-DARLING
DEPUTY MAYOR

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CR CUC LAM

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YARRAVILLE WARD

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CR MIA MCGREGOR

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Ph: 0429 236 044



CR MARTIN ZAKHAROV

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Ph: 0432 139 613

You can also write to your Ward Councillor:
c/- Maribyrnong City Council, PO Box 58, Footscray 3011.
If you don't know who your Ward Councillor is, please contact Customer Service on 9688 0200 or fax 9687 7793.

For requests, comments and questions about Council services and programs, go to www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call Customer Service on 9688 0200.

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<http://twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC> / www.facebook.com/Maribyrnong

MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL

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www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



TIS: 131 450



NRS: 133 677 OR 1300 555 727
www.relayservice.com.au



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL