

# Frankston City News

November-December 2023

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## Our festival lights up Christmas joy

### 25 years of celebrations

**A bumper crowd is expected to flock to Frankston for the 25th anniversary of Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights.**

Full of tradition and community pride, Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights is back for its 25th year. Dating back to 1998, the festival has grown beyond imagination, but remains focused around the lighting of the 130 year old, 28m iconic Norfolk Pine Christmas Tree on Davey Street.

Locals and visitors are gearing up for yet another heart-warming celebration, with many attending for their second or more year.

Local mum Melissa said her daughters loved the annual Christmas celebration, adding: "We enjoy coming along every time."

Noted for its popularity, festival-goers often attend in festive dress, purchase a charity candle to support the Frankston SES, enjoy perusing over 65+ stalls at the Christmas market, and take in the live performances.

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## Contact us

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**Interpreter:** 131 450

### Customer Service Centres Civic Centre

30 Davey Street, Frankston  
Monday to Friday,  
8.30am–5pm

### Seaford Customer Service Centre

Seaford Community Centre,  
corner of Station Street and  
Broughton Street, Seaford  
Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm  
Saturday 9am–12pm

### Langwarrin Customer Service Centre

Shop 6, The Gateway,  
Cranbourne-Frankston Road,  
Langwarrin  
Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm

### Carrum Downs Library and Customer Service Centre

203 Lyrebird Drive, Carrum  
Downs, times vary

### Visitor Information Centre

7N Pier Promenade,  
Frankston Waterfront  
Open 7 days, 10am–4pm  
Phone: 1300 322 842

### Hoon driving

1800 333 000  
(Crime Stoppers)

### Graffiti removal

1800 66 8247 (1800 NO TAGS)

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## Mayor's message

### City centre plan receives government authorisation

In a landmark moment for our city's transformation, the State Planning Minister has authorised Council's city-shaping structure plan.

This is a huge step forward in the statutory process to bring the Structure Plan into the Frankston Planning Scheme, and continues to provide certainty to developers, investors, businesses, the community and the future of Frankston City Centre.

We have only been able to achieve this through engagement with our passionate community. Thanks to you, Frankston city centre is another step closer to fulfilling its true potential, by enabling more people to visit, work and most importantly live in our CBD. More housing, more employment, more choice, more opportunity.

The next step in the process after Authorisation is Exhibition, which will give the community even further opportunity to provide feedback. Let's build on the moment and make it happen.

### A year of listening

My second year of Mayor has been a huge privilege. I've been able to celebrate the completion of a number of landmark projects like the Jubilee

Park Stadium and Healthy Futures Hub, and helped kick others off, including the Kananook Creek Commuter Car Park, and the Eric Bell Reserve.

My family and I have enjoyed the many events that Frankston City has put on over the last 12 months, which have helped to attract the 800,000 visitors that now come to our City each year.

I was also happy to see us deliver another year of high community satisfaction, with Frankston City Council sitting above the average for other municipalities in Melbourne's south east in terms of overall performance, with the community scoring us 30 per cent higher than back in 2018. Customer service, planning and development, governance and leadership, and services and facilities were especially strong areas for Frankston City in 2023.

It's also been a year of listening. Over the last 12 months, we've held almost 80 pop-ups, had 135,000 visits to our Engage Frankston website, and consulted with the community on approximately 50 projects and initiatives.

Some of those engagements have been central to the future of our city, such as the revitalisation of the Nepean Highway and our Housing, Integrated Transport and Kindergarten strategies.



Other engagements have focused on strengthening our community, with the public providing input on our community centres, our Social Inclusion Access Group and Fair Access to Sport in our municipality.

I'd like to thank the entire community for your passion and energy in helping Frankston City Council make better decisions, and for making our municipality an even better place to live.

**Nathan Conroy**  
Mayor

## Message from the CEO

### Let's celebrate Frankston's finest

The 2024 Frankston City Citizen of the Year Awards are a wonderful opportunity to recognise the selfless and humble heroes who do us proud.

Over the years we've celebrated residents who've made remarkable contributions to make our municipality the wonderful place it is to live, work, visit and socialise.

We've had truly worthy nominations over the years – none more so than last year's Citizen of the Year, the much respected, late Warwick Exton, who was honoured for his stellar contribution to the community, particularly through his work protecting our precious environment.

The 2024 Frankston City Council Citizen of the Year Awards Ceremony will be held next January, presided over by the Mayor of Frankston City Council. Categories include Citizen of the Year (26 years and over); Young Citizen of the Year (under 26 years); and Community Group of the Year. Nominations are open until 26 November – so be sure to check out the selection criteria on our website and nominate a humble resident or community group that deserves appreciation and acknowledgment.

### Committed to our community

I'm incredibly proud to be reappointed Frankston City Council's CEO and to lead a team that is so committed to our community and its success.

Our priority over the next three years will be to continue to operate as a well-managed, financially responsible organisation, while supporting the ongoing revitalisation of our city through our FMAC Structure Plan and Nepean Highway transformation.

Community engagement will continue to drive our decision-making, supported by the principles of strong governance, and transparency in the way we operate.

We'll continue to work alongside the community in making Frankston a better place to live. We saw during the pandemic that the people of Frankston, in particular our volunteers, play a critical role in maintaining healthy and connected communities. I want us to build on that unique legacy, and build even more supportive, thriving and inclusive Frankston City.

### Improving our customer experience

I'm pleased to report that we are continuing to streamline some of our planning processes to make Council easier to do business with.



Enhancements in recent years include a redesign of our planning notices to include QR codes that enable customers to view planning applications quicker and more easily, and online lodgement of new planning applications, related requests and objections. Customers will also be able to follow the progress of their planning applications online in the near future.

We know there's more we can do, so we'll continue to go 'above and beyond' to deliver a better experience for all in 2024.

**Phil Cantillon**  
Chief Executive Officer



#FrankstonCity



## Green light for basketball and gymnastics stadium redevelopment

**Council has endorsed plans to construct a new stadium at the existing Bardia Avenue site that will house 10 basketball courts and the first dedicated community gymnastics space in Frankston City.**

The decision means the project, which will provide state-of-the-art facilities for two of Frankston City’s fastest growing sports, can now move to the detailed design and construction phase.

Mayor Nathan Conroy said the decision to invest in the new Frankston Basketball and Gymnastics Stadium would futureproof the two sports while delivering a number of social and economic benefits for the community.

“Frankston has some of the highest participation rates in basketball and gymnastics in the state. Building this stadium will enable more people to get involved in sport, deliver healthier outcomes for the community, and make our city an even better place to live work and play,” he said.

Federal Member for Dunkley Peta Murphy MP said she was proud to deliver the state-of-the-art basketball facilities to an association that embodies inclusion and community.

“The Federal Government is delivering on its commitment to making sure Frankston City has enough basketball courts for everyone to play, including space for gymnastics to grow as a community sport,” she said.

State Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke MP said that with the best basketball association in Victoria at the moment, basketball in Frankston City will benefit from this major investment for generations to come.

“I’m incredibly proud to be part of a Victorian Government that is committed to funding the delivery of facilities for one of the most popular recreation sports spanning all ages and abilities within Frankston City.”

The new-look Frankston Basketball and Gymnastics Stadium will feature:

- A ten (10) court basketball stadium, with four courts upgraded, two courts demolished and rebuilt and four new courts.
- A dedicated 1000sqm gymnastics hall featuring a loose foam pit.
- Upgraded change rooms.
- A function room and spectator viewing area over the gymnastics hall.
- Improved entrances and foyer area.

Council’s decision follows the start of construction mid this year of the Kananook Commuter Car Park, also located within the Kananook Station and Recreation Precinct.

The 300-plus space car park, which was fully funded by the Australian government, will be available for recreation users during off-peak periods. Construction of car park works will finish in the middle of next year, with the construction of basketball and gymnastics stadium redevelopment expected to commence in 2025.

### Kicking goals in Langwarrin!

**Several Langwarrin sports clubs will have an impressive new pavilion to call home in March next year.**

The \$6.5million pavilion at Lloyd Park will have sweeping views across three ovals and will include four change rooms for men and women, two umpires’ rooms, public toilets, canteen, kitchen, storage, meetings rooms and an accessible lift.

It replaces the previous 50-year-old pavilion used by the Langwarrin Football and Netball Club, Langwarrin Junior Football Club and Langwarrin Cricket Club.

Work restarted on the project recently following the appointment of a new building company after the collapse of the previous builder earlier this year.

The upgrade is jointly funded by Council and the Australian Government.

More information, scan the QR code.



### The BIG Summer Read is back!

**The BIG Summer Read is a state wide Library summer reading campaign for children and young people.**

Frankston City Libraries is excited to be collaborating with Public Libraries Victoria for this initiative, developed to raise awareness and ensure all Victorian children have access to the resources they need to maintain literacy skills over the summer school holidays.

The BIG Summer Read is open to anyone aged up to 18 years old.

It aims to encourage children to read for pleasure and addresses the issue of the 'summer slide'. This refers to the loss of literacy experienced over the long summer break if children are not exposed to books or reading.

To encourage children to continue reading over the holidays the BIG Summer Read challenges kids to read at least 10 books and take part in an array of



Flynn (left) and Vinnie are looking forward to the BIG Summer Read.

book-based challenges. By doing so, they will be in the running for some fantastic prizes!

There will be prize winners drawn from across the state as well as a special Frankston City Libraries-only prize pool, with many local-based experiences up for grabs.

Registrations open in late November, with the challenge running from 1 December to 31 January. Visit Frankston City Libraries website for more details and to register.



### Fantastic festival offers loads of fun, entertainment for all

**Veteran Frankston SES member Brian McMannis said he loves attending Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights and sharing the Christmas spirit with locals.**

He added that the SES will run a stall as part of the festival and urged people to drop by and support the organisation.

Attendees will be treated to a night of Christmas music, a range of free activities for the kids, a colourful Christmas parade and opportunities to meet and see Santa. Families also have the chance to head to "PAW Patrol, Ready for Action!" at the Frankston Arts Centre; tickets to the show free for all to enjoy (subject to availability).

Powered by the Council's renewable energy solar power system, the highlight of the night is always the community countdown for the tree lighting ceremony, followed by the fireworks display at 9.15pm.

This year's event will be sure to uplift the spirit of the community supporting 14 local businesses and multiple performers.

Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights is proudly produced by Frankston City Council.

Don't miss the fun and excitement when Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights kicks off at 5pm on Saturday 25 November, at Davey Street Frankston.

*See the full program, pages 10-11.*

### Our star set to shine

Frankston's much loved 130-year-old Norfolk Pine is bursting with yuletide joy!

Preparations are well underway with the star, which includes 64 lights, to be placed on the top of the tree.

All happening around Frankston's arts precinct on Davey Street, see you there.



## Staying safe in Frankston City this summer

### Bushfire preparedness

Get ready for bushfire season! With an El-Nino weather event bringing hotter and drier conditions, it's crucial to review your Bushfire Survival Plan and prepare your property. Start your plan at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare) or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 for guidance. The CFA is also installing free smoke alarms with 10-year lithium batteries for those who cannot purchase, install or maintain one themselves; call (03) 9262 8444 to book. Frankston City residents needing everyday support at home can also use the free Emergency Planning Advice Service (EPAS) to create a tailored emergency plan—contact Frankston City Council at 1300 322 322 or email [mrm@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrm@frankston.vic.gov.au) Stay safe this fire season!

### Heat waves

During times of extreme heat, it's important that we look after ourselves and one another. Before and during extreme heat, it's crucial to stay hydrated by drinking water and monitoring urine colour. Ensure at least two litres of drinking water per person per day, with electrolyte drinks included. Avoid sugary, caffeinated, and alcoholic drinks, especially if you're sweating a lot. Identify members of your community who may need extra assistance during heat waves, like elderly neighbours or people with additional needs, and remember to check in on them. Learn how to

recognise heat-related illnesses, like cramping, excessive sweating, rapid heart rate, high body temperature and dizziness. Plan to stay cool in air-conditioned spaces during high temperatures, such as libraries and shopping centres. Sign up for emergency alerts via the Vic Emergencies app, monitor local weather and news, and have backup power sources. Prepare for power, gas, and water outages and have plans in place to keep cool in high heat events.

### Animal safety: Keeping your dog on a leash and pet registrations



Warmer weather is upon us, inviting young native animals to our reserves. To protect these newcomers, ensure your dog is leashed within Frankston City. Off-leash activities are permitted only in designated areas; remember to supervise and be in control of your dog. For free roam area information, visit Council's website at [www.frankston.vic.gov.au](http://www.frankston.vic.gov.au)

Pet registration is also a must. It swiftly reunites lost

pets with owners, offering peace of mind. All dogs and cats over 3 months must be registered, with an annual renewal due every year on April 10. Non-compliance may result in fines. Registration fees support state government responsible pet ownership programs, Council's animal management services, providing free roam areas and litter bins. See Council's website for details.

### Safety patrols: Protecting you this summer

This summer, you may notice our Rapid Response Team out and about, patrolling across the municipality, including our City centre and foreshore. The Rapid Response Team aims to prevent anti-social, harmful, destructive and illegal behaviour by being present in public spaces and proactively addressing issues. During our busiest time of year, where people flock to our beautiful shoreline, we're putting on more patrols to ensure your safety.







## Ailsa sheds tears of joy

*Frankston and District Netball Association (FDNA) Life Member and former Board of Management President Ailsa Kenney (pictured with Frankston RSL President Kevin Hillier) cried tears of joy while listening to the speakers share their experiences of the journey from a two-court pavilion to the new \$36 million, 6-court facility supporting netball, cricket, basketball, and volleyball. The stadium was officially opened on 14 October by Mayor Nathan Conroy, Federal Member for Dunkley Peta Murphy MP, State Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke MP, FDNA Board of Management President Corinna Harvey and Cricket Victoria CEO Nick Cummins.*

## What's on the outside counts, too

### We're keeping it green around Jubilee Park Stadium!

In fact, the new car park was redesigned to reduce the impacts on the environment as much as possible — including minimising vegetation removal.

What that means is a very non-traditional car park, but one scattered with garden beds and planter boxes. In fact, two large clusters of about 100 mature trees were retained in the car park to provide greater ecological benefits to flora and fauna. As a bonus, they provide a visual canopy and screen for nearby residents.

We're also:

- Introducing habitat structures with nesting boxes and logs made from some of the trees that needed to be removed, to encourage native animals to stay on site.
- Rehabilitating the existing areas of remnant native vegetation within Jubilee Park by planting 47,000 trees, shrubs, ground covers and grasses.

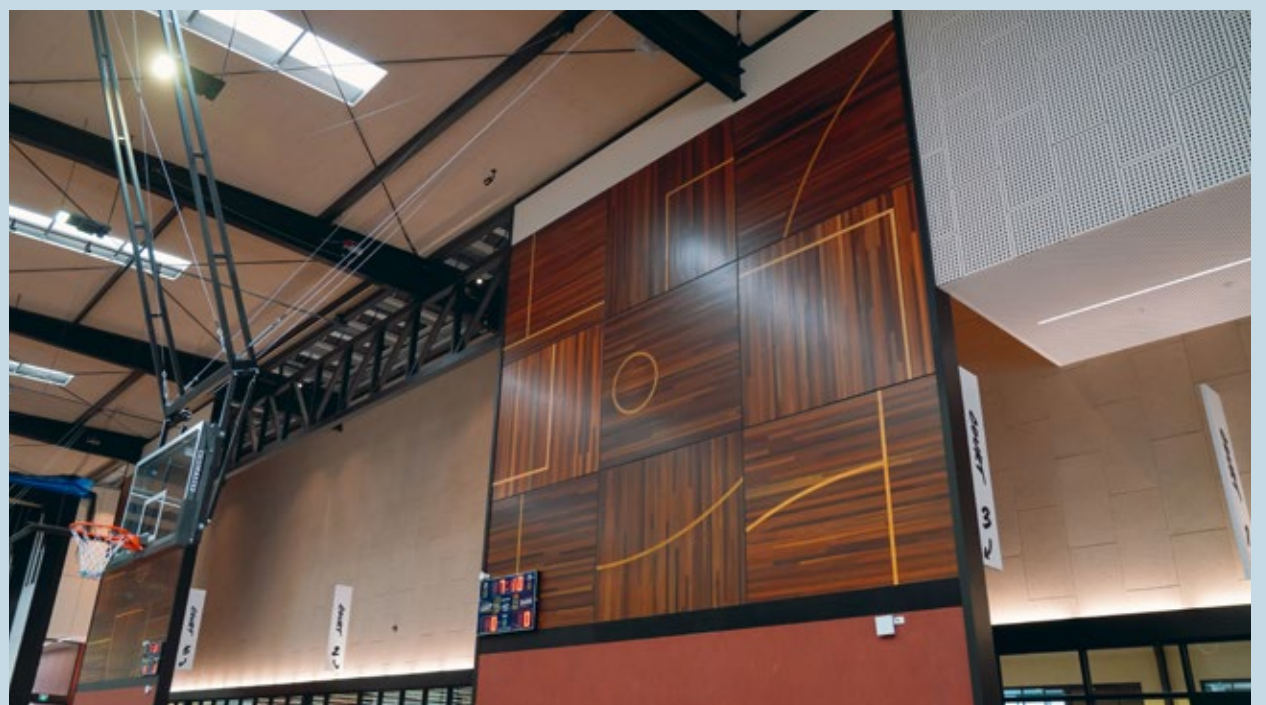
## If these walls could talk...

### We love a good art installation in Frankston City – but one that's sustainable and full of memories really takes the cake!

And that's exactly what architects of the new Jubilee Park Stadium have done by repurposing parts of the old stadium floorboards to create a beautiful feature wall in the new main court area.

While the floorboards weren't suitable to be used on the new building floor, they were so well maintained by the Frankston and District Netball Association (FDNA) that architects were able to find another more creative way to repurpose them.

This eye-catching feature wall provides a beautiful connection to the history of the association and players, as well as the evolution of Jubilee Park Stadium from a two-court facility to the six-court premier sport facility.





## Kananook Commuter Car Park construction in full-swing



Three-year old local Ben checks out the piling rig at the Kananook Commuter Car Park site.

**You may have recently noticed the arrival of a 100 tonne piling rig at the Kananook Commuter Car Park site located on Wells Road Seaford opposite the Kananook Railway Station.**

The arrival of the rig signals a major milestone in the project — the start of work on the foundations for the 300 plus space multi-storey car park that will service commuters in peak times as well as nearby recreation users in off-peak times. The continuous flight auger (CFA) rig will drill down about 15 metres at multiple

points across the site, allowing each hole to be filled with a steel cage and concrete to ensure the building foundations are stable. To prepare for the rig's arrival, a special platform was also constructed to stabilise the ground conditions.

The commuter car park, which is funded by the Australian Government and built on Council-owned land, is on track for completion by about mid-2024.

For more information, scan the QR code.



## Delegation's trip to Susono

**Frankston's 41 year sister city relationship with Susono in Japan has been further strengthened after a very successful delegation visit in early October.**

The 36 delegates representing Frankston included 16 students and four teachers from Derinya Primary School, members of the Frankston Susono Friendship Association (FSFA) and community representatives. The delegates spent four days in Susono, where they enjoyed a 'home-stay' with a Japanese family and experienced Japanese culture and their way of life.

Members of the delegation were taken sight-seeing around Susono, which included visiting the Yamanashi Prefectural Mount Fuji World Heritage Centre and Arakura Fuji Sengen Shrine. The Derinya students were able to experience Japanese school-life when they attended Susono South Elementary School.

Feedback from the delegates regarding their time in Susono was very positive. The Derinya students stated they enjoyed their home-stays, Japanese food, visiting the school and found sleeping on the floor on tatami mats very interesting! Many of the students stayed with the families of friends they had hosted in Frankston during the Susono Schools visit held in August this year.

All delegates participated in helping at the Australian Fair which the Susono Overseas Friendship Association (SOFA) organised. Citizens of Susono were able to learn about Australia and Frankston by participating in and watching activities such as singing, dancing, tasting Australian food (pavlova, vegemite and

"Frankston cookies") and using virtual reality goggles which showcased the City of Frankston.

Formal speeches given by representatives from both cities acknowledged the history of the sister-city relationship with the emphasis being on the importance of maintaining strong bonds between the two cities into the future. As our sister city relationship continues to grow and evolve with Susono, we look forward to welcoming a delegation from Susono in 2024.



Frankston delegation members and friends with Susono's city mascot, Susonon.



## #FrankstonCity

### Dandenong Road Precinct improvements

Over the past few years, I have been committed to supporting improvements to the value of approximately \$1.5 million around Dandenong Road in response to community requests, and to ensure we provide a welcoming entrance to the Frankston Town Centre.

**Open space and paths:** Greening on both sides of the Fletcher Road overpass; as part of the Evelyn Park project, additional indigenous planting and new footpath connection at the intersection of Evelyn Street and O'Grady Avenue; Evelyn Street and O'Grady Avenue improvements, including play space upgrades and new footpaths; and work on a shared user path on Dandenong Road East (connecting Cricklewood Avenue to Nepean Highway) is underway, providing an important link along the rail corridor.

**Roundabouts and roads:** The Fletcher Road/Dandenong Road West roundabout has also been transformed with extensive new planting; and Dandenong Rd East was re-paved following the Overton Road level crossing removal project.

**Public art:** *Scale*, an integrated public art and lighting installation on the Fletcher Road underpass; *Emergence* on Dandenong Road West by the Fletcher Road underpass; and *Flooded Weir* is near the corner of Fletcher Road and Dandenong Road. Thank you to everyone involved in these improvements!

### Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation Project

Council was successful in receiving almost \$5 million from the Victorian Government to protect and enhance these precious wetlands. The project, which recently started with the bridge construction, includes a new shared-use path and pedestrian bridge (with lights) across Kananook Creek near the Melbourne Water pumping station at Palm Beach Drive to 'close the loop', by creating a full pedestrian circuit around the Seaford Wetlands; habitat and ecological improvements; biocultural interpretative trail; and upgraded signage and facilities, including a new viewing platform.

This is a significant project for Council, and we are pleased to have received support through the government's Suburban Parks Program. For more information, see the article on Page 19.

### Shopping strip upgrades

Local shopping strips are the heart of our diverse communities across Frankston City.

While we do have some great local shopping strips throughout the municipality, we also acknowledge that some of them look tired and are in need of some rejuvenation. And this is why Council adopted the Local Shopping Strip Action Plan in 2021.

The plan, which was informed by feedback from the community, has a strong focus on getting people outdoors, attracting visitors and fostering a strong economy, alongside sustainability and social inclusion principles.

As part of the plan, we have so far completed some great improvements at Beach Street and Excelsior Drive shopping strips. The works included new paving, car parking upgrades, streetscape furniture (seats, bins, bike racks) and landscaping. If you haven't been out there to take a look, I encourage you to do so and see what a difference this has made.

Next up is Fairway Street, Frankston which we are hoping to start in April next year; followed by Kareela Road, Frankston; Mahogany Avenue, Frankston North; and Railway Parade, Seaford.



**Cr Kris Bolam JP**

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### Celebrating Frankston City's amazing volunteers

Have you ever been a volunteer and given your time willingly for common good and without financial gain?

Perhaps you have volunteered formally doing unpaid work through an organisation or informally by providing unpaid work or support to someone outside your family and home? However you have volunteered to support others, it is well known that this type of work is the lifeblood of communities bringing joy, relief and comfort.

It enables the sharing of lived experiences, provides companionship, and delivers a range of services which would otherwise be unavailable. Volunteering has also a two-way benefit. By spending time in service to others, volunteers report feeling a sense of meaning and appreciation, which can have a stress-reducing and positive effect on mental health.

We are lucky to have about 16,800 volunteers in Frankston City, who contribute more than 46,000 hours, equalling approximately an impressive \$1.3 million worth of donated time annually. My column celebrates and honours some of these inspirational volunteers.

I was rapt to catch up with Justices of the Peace, Eric Sangwell and Peter Fulton, who donated bags to Frankston Winter Shelter committee member Lara Waldron. The Winter Shelter provides vital assistance for homeless people and is supported by 140 volunteers from churches across Frankston.



Our Disability Access and Inclusion Committee is made up volunteers with lived experiences coming together to provide vital advice and feedback. I applaud the committee members – including our community representatives Alexandra, Brad, Denton, Kayden, Mac and Mithrani, along with our casual community representatives Henryk, Hellen, Jordan, Mary and Wal - and thank them for their contribution and commitment.

Frankston's Youth Advisory Group, NexGen, is a volunteer group of young people assisting us to develop programs for our service. NexGen gives young people a platform to share their views, experiences and to co-design solutions to programs and events for young people in the City of Frankston. NexGen 2023 is made up of 12 young people aged 12-24 years.

It was also heartening to see the many volunteers — from the Defence Force, Legacy, local businesses, the RSL and community members — who came together to support the Legacy Torch Relay through Frankston in September. For more details, see the article on Page 13.



If you are inspired to find out more about volunteering, even a few hours every so often, head to our Impact Volunteering page on Frankston City Council's. Perhaps you'll become one of many volunteers who'll be recognised at the annual Impact Volunteering Awards.



For more information about the wonderful volunteering opportunities in Frankston City, scan on the QR code.



**Cr Sue Baker JP**

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## Sandfield Youth Space upgrade coming soon

Council will begin construction on an exciting upgrade to the youth space located at Sandfield Reserve in Carrum Downs early next year.

The works are part of the Sandfield Reserve Master Plan which was endorsed in 2021 and follow Council's successful 2022 election advocacy campaign seeking equal State and Federal Government contributions alongside Council.

The upgraded youth space was co-design with local youth and will feature:

- New skate opportunities
- Parkour equipment including vault bars
- Upgraded and expanded multi-use court for ball sports including netball
- New sheltered seating areas
- New rebound wall with climbing to improve visibility and safety
- Integrated public art

Further park revitalisation works including an upgraded play space, community picnic space, kick-about space, complete circuit path, path lighting, tree-lined boulevards and a public toilet are still to come. Stand by for more updates.

## Carrum Downs Reserve gets new car park

I'm pleased to report that following the recently completed multi-purpose courts and play space upgrade, Carrum Downs Reserve will soon benefit from 149 new car parking spaces, thanks to a partnership between Frankston City and the Federal Government. These works will provide improved access to the new playground on the western side of the reserve, and provide a continuous internal road between all new and existing parking areas for improved traffic flow and access. New public toilets funded by Council will also be constructed near the redeveloped playground.

## Road renewals underway

In this year's community satisfaction survey, you told us we could do more to maintain the condition of our roads. Preventative maintenance plays a key role by extending the lifespan of our city roads, either through resheeting over the top of the road surface, replacing the surface layer, or the full reinstatement of the entire road pavement. Our 2023-2024 road renewal program includes 12 key road repair and resheeting projects, including Balmain Drive in Carrum Downs. For more information, scan the QR code.



**Cr Nathan Conroy,**  
Mayor

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## Meals on Wheels delivers great food and smiles



Did you know in the 2022/23 financial year the Frankston Meals on Wheels volunteers invested a remarkable 8,456 hours in the kitchen and 6,352 hours delivering meals?

Thanks to their unwavering commitment, they were able to provide 47,016 wholesome meals to Frankston clients! The Frankston Meals on Wheels is a hard-working team of staff and almost 100 valued volunteers, who don't just prepare and deliver nutritious meals — they also deliver precious moments of important social connection to members of our community.

Frankston's Meals on Wheels Service prides itself on offering high quality, fresh and nutritional food to local residents. This food is all prepared in a purpose-fit commercial kitchen locally.

Meals on Wheels is more than just a service. It's an essential lifeline for our local residents. They are currently seeking kitchen volunteers to help with meal preparation, packing and clean up. Additionally, they are in need of volunteer drivers who can personally deliver meals to the homes of community members. Volunteering as a delivery driver and jockey team is a wonderful opportunity to give back alongside a friend, family member or partner.

Volunteers not only make a significant impact on the lives of our neighbours, but also find immense fulfilment and meaning in their contributions, enriching their own lives in the process. Join us in making a positive impact and becoming a vital part of our compassionate community at Frankston Meals on Wheels.

If you can spare a few hours each week and are eager to brighten someone's day with a meal and a smile, please reach out to Volunteer Officer Amber Davis via email at [fhssvolunteering@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:fhssvolunteering@frankston.vic.gov.au) or phone **9768 1624**.

For more information about the Meals on Wheels service, scan the QR code.



**Cr David Asker**

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## Council dedicated to supporting business, local economy

Frankston Business Collective is going from strength to strength.

With the motto 'With Business, For Business' the Collective now has 200 members. Council strongly supported the formation of the Collective to support a thriving local economy and to elevate Frankston City's identity as an innovation hub and business friendly municipality.

When it officially launched in July 2022, after being established by Council following extensive research and planning, it set out to be an independent voice of and for the businesses community focusing on advocacy, connection and education. Thanks to events like the recent Awards Conference Expo, including the inaugural Business Excellence Awards — it's doing just that.

The Collective also aims to drive a new era of innovation, development, growth, productivity, employment and profitability. It is doing great things for the business community and providing business owners with a space to network, learn and grow. The Business Excellence Awards provided well deserved acknowledgement of our hard working business owners, who are helping to keep our economy strong. Congratulations to everyone who received an award and to the finalists who were recognised, too. For more information, scan the QR code.



## Absolutely ACE event

Council's Economy, Investment and Activation (EIA) team were thrilled to exhibit at Frankston Business Collective's Awards Conference Expo.

Council joined 33 other exhibitors at event which also involved a conference, key speakers, networking and finished with the Business Excellence Awards. More than 150 businesses attended the event and the EIA team enjoyed highlighting what services, programs and opportunities are on offer for local businesses.

Attendees were keen to hear about the team's Business Mentor Program, Business Concierge Service, grant programs, Business eNewsletter and extensive resources knowledge. Congratulations to everyone involved in hosting and running such a fantastic event.



**Cr Suzette Tayler**

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## #FrankstonCity

### Our community gardens a growing concern

Did you know that Frankston City is home to nine Community gardens? Community gardens are a community space where people get together to grow fruit and vegetables



and learn about gardening. Some people have their own plot and others share a garden bed.

No two gardens are the same and because they are run by the community, they reflect the interests and passions of the members and they change with time.

There are many benefits to growing food in a community garden, which empower connections and educate community members in many ways. As the cost of living is continuously rising and the climate emergency becomes front of mind, it's a good time to consider the many benefits:

- **Improve food systems** — access to affordable and fresh produce which improves household consumption and nutritional status;
- **Positive environmental impacts** — conserve natural resources, promote biodiversity, shorten food supply chains, food miles and Co2 emissions;
- **Better physical health** — improving strength, dexterity and fitness while gardening;
- **Enhance mental health and wellbeing** — exposure to nature can improve mood and reduce stress, while creating community cohesion with likeminded people;
- **Promote social health** — sharing produce with others and strengthening community networks; and
- **Learn new skills** — knowledge of nature, self-development, food literacy, cooperation, creativity and understanding.

Sue, who has been a member of one of our larger community gardens for 11 years, said that although she no longer has a garden plot, she still visits the garden once a week. The biggest benefit for Sue: "Always learning new gardening tips, enjoying seeing the healthy produce being grown with love and being part of a gardening community." She added: "I enjoy the social and fundraising activities and am in awe of the hard work volunteers put into working bees and other activities."



So, what are you waiting for?

For more details about Frankston City's community gardens, scan the QR code.

#### Cr Liam Hughes, Deputy Mayor

Mobile: 0413 175 911  
Email: [crlhughes@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:crlhughes@frankston.vic.gov.au)



### We love our tidy town!

Council's ambitious initiative to plant 80,000 trees has reached the halfway mark!

This bold plan has been recognised as a finalist in the Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria's Tidy Towns and Cities Awards. These award shine a spotlight on the exceptional sustainability initiatives undertaken by community groups, councils, educational institutions and businesses across Victoria.

We are committed to this vital initiative, which is part of our Urban Forest Policy and Action Plan to transform the City's urban forest into a highly-valued, well-resourced and thriving asset.

### Sustainability Event for Local Businesses

A number of environmentally interested Frankston City businesses attended a get together at Biersal Brewery in Seaford recently to learn about smart business solutions, sustainability and savings.

Attendees discovered how looking towards sustainability initiatives not only to appeal to a market that increasingly demands better environmental performance, but also can save a business thousands (sometimes even millions) of dollars in operational costs.

The free event helped businesses learn how they could improve the profitability and sustainability of business, and explore the support available to them.



Speakers included Frankston City Council, Sustainable Australia Fund and a panel of environmental experts. Attendees also had the opportunity to network and share knowledge with other local businesses and service providers. The event was facilitated by Better Building Finance.

### Don't miss our business eNews

If you have a business in Frankston City or you are looking to invest here, then sign up for the Invest Frankston business eNewsletter.

This monthly eNewsletter will help you stay up to date with everything business related in Frankston City such as grants, new openings, tender options, local workshops and training, mentoring, Council, government and private resources and opportunities, plus workforce information.

Sign up to the Invest Frankston Business eNewsletter today by emailing the Economy, Investment and Activation team at [business@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:business@frankston.vic.gov.au)

#### Cr Brad Hill JP

Mobile: 0438 212 426  
Email: [crhill@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:crhill@frankston.vic.gov.au)



### The UNESCO Biosphere that's right on our doorstep

It was only recently that I learned that Australia now has only FIVE internationally recognised UNESCO Biosphere Reserves. One is in Western Australia, three are in Queensland, and the only one in all of south eastern Australia is right here on our doorstep!

Encapsulating parts of Frankston, Frankston South, Langwarrin and Langwarrin South, the Western Port Biosphere spans 2,142 sq km across the Morning Peninsula Shire, as well as taking in parts of the City of Casey and the Shires of Cardinia and Bass Coast. French Island and Phillip Island are included, too!

As the Western Port Biosphere website states, Biosphere Reserves are "areas of terrestrial (land-based), marine and coastal ecosystems that are managed with the aim of balancing biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources." They are not just places reserved for their conservation value and sense of 'wilderness'. What makes them so special is the place of people and communities that live within and around their



boundary. The global Biosphere network includes 748 Reserves in 129 countries, which by my calculations means we're pretty fortunate to have access to one within our own municipality!

The Biosphere website also states: "Western Port Biosphere hosts many significant indigenous plant species and communities, including rare, threatened and vulnerable species such as the endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot. Western Port is listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as habitat for migratory species under the Ramsar Convention."

Why not take time to engage with the Western Port Biosphere's website to learn more about the treasure that's right on our own doorstep? I'm thinking I'll offer to take some out-of-town friends on my own Biosphere tour this summer!

For more information, scan the QR Code.



#### Cr Claire Harvey JP

Phone: 0438 267 778  
Email: [crharvey@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:crharvey@frankston.vic.gov.au)





**SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 5-10PM** Davey Street, Frankston  
frankstonchristmasfestival.com.au

# FRANKSTON'S Christmas FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

*Celebrating 25 years*

**Bringing the magic of Christmas to life.**

Frankston's Christmas Festival of Lights is back, celebrating 25 years!  
Bring the family along for a night to remember, here's what's on!



### **Santa's Arrival Parade** 5pm, Young Street

Everyone loves a Christmas parade, especially one with Santa! There will be Christmas performers, dancers and very special members of our community. The parade starts at the corner of High and Young Street at 5pm and travels towards Davey Street to deliver Santa to the event.



### **Christmas Entertainment** 5-9.15pm, Various locations

This year you will find the festive tunes and sparkly performers across many different areas of the event. Whether you're in Beauty Park, Davey Street or Young Street, you will be able to sing and dance until the stars begin to twinkle. Your favourite Christmas entertainers will be performing all your most loved carols for everyone to enjoy!



### **Little Beauty Christmas Market** 5-10pm, Beauty Park, High Street

Beauty Park will be transformed into the ultimate Christmas market. It's the perfect place to find all your Christmas gifts under the glow of the fairy lights. Take advantage of the space to spread out a rug and your picnic. It's a great spot to see the fireworks too.





### Games, Rides and Thrills!

5-10pm, Baxter Street

It's not just the little elves who get all the fun, big elves do to!

Spin and turn, giggle and scream on the rides for the thrill seekers! You can even try your hand at the carnival games- you never know what you might win!

### Santa's House

5.30-9pm, Cube 37, Davey Street

Here's your chance to tell Santa all your Christmas wishes and snap your own pic with the jolly man himself. Don't forget to bring your camera and your Christmas list! This is a free experience and one that's always worth the wait.



### Rudolph's Family Zone

5-10pm, Corner Young Street and Davey Street

Rock the rollercoaster or get merry on the merry-go-round.

This much loved zone is dedicated to the little thrill seekers and the rides here are perfect for the smaller elves at the festival.



### Festival Dining

5-10pm, Various Locations

All this fun can make you hungry, so we'll have many different dining options across the event to fill those hungry tummies.

Enjoy a range of delicious delights from across the globe as well as some local favourites.

### Christmas Craft and Face Painting

4.30-8.30pm, Frankston Library, Playne Street

There will be FREE face painting and Christmas arts and crafts throughout the evening. Imagine Christmas stars, Christmas chains, Christmas shapes, all here for the little ones to create their own Christmas masterpiece.

Our quiet space will also be located in the library — for those who may need a little time away from all the hustle and bustle of the Christmas festivities. Stay for as little or as long as you need.



### Tree Lighting and Fireworks

9.15pm, Norfolk Pine Tree, Davey Street

You feel the collective Christmas joy, in the moments just before, where everyone excitedly waits for the spectacle of the tree lighting and fireworks! Gather your loved ones and look up! Watching the Frankston sky light up with bursts of colour is a favourite for everyone at the festival.

The best place to see the fireworks is from the Davey and Young Streets intersection, but if you head to Beauty Park you can enjoy the view of the fireworks too.



### PAW Patrol! Ready for action!

Frankston Arts Centre Theatre, Davey Street

Do you have what it takes to be a PAW Patrol Trainee? Join Ryder, Chase and Marshall as they answer Mayor Goodway's call for help to save the "Adventure Bay Talent Show". Get Ready for Action and warm up as Ryder and the Pups take you through all the moves for the Pup, Pup Boogie and make this the best rescue mission ever!

Show times 5, 6, 7 and 8pm

Shows run for 20 mins and are free. All shows are free and can't be booked in advance. Admission will be on a first come first served basis (capacity is limited).



# Invest Frankston

## Annual Business Survey Complete

Council's annual business survey was open from 4-29 September and invited all Frankston City business owners and operators, whether home-based, industrial, retail or hospitality to have their say.

Thank you to the 147 business owners who completed the survey which will help Council to understand the key development opportunities facing Frankston City businesses. It will also assist Council to ensure the

programs, services and supports it provides are relevant and reflect the needs of the local business community.

Council is committed to supporting a thriving economy by encouraging and fostering innovation, creation, growth and opportunity. If you missed out on completing the survey but would still like to provide your feedback, email [business@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:business@frankston.vic.gov.au). Stay tuned for more information on the feedback received in the next Invest Frankston eNewsletter.



## Two Successful Business Grant Programs!

October was a big month of grants! Our Invest Frankston Business Grant and Façade Improvement Grant programs both opened on 2 October and closed on 9 November.

Council was thrilled to receive 24 eligible applications for its 12th Invest Frankston Business Grant program, which this year had \$180k available with grants between \$5,000–\$20,000 on offer to help business; expand to a larger space, invest in capital, relocate or expand business to Frankston City or move an existing home based or mobile business to a vacant commercial, industrial or retail space in Frankston City. Grants were open to businesses in the manufacturing, retail, health, professional services and hospitality sectors. The Invest Frankston Façade Improvement Grants were open to all businesses with a shopfront in the Frankston City municipality, including those outside the city centre in



shopping strips or industrial estates. With a funding pool of \$150,000 and between \$5,000 and \$20,000 per application available, these grants are designed to help attract customers and improve the amenity and attractiveness of our Frankston City streets. There were 33 eligible businesses which applied for the façade grants.

Grant applications will be assessed on a number of criteria by an independent assessment panel. Successful applicants will be notified in December.

## Mobile Food Van Expressions of Interest

Expressions of interest for mobile food van operators who wished to activate designated public open space in 2024 opened on 2 October and closed 2 November, 2023.

Frankston City previously hosted three locations (five sites) around the municipality and based on extensive community consultation recently increased this to eight locations (10 sites) to provide more variety for the community and help grow our

economy further. The sites opened up for expression of interest were; one site at Overport Park, Frankston, two sites at Ballam Park, Frankston, one site at Riviera Carpark, Seaford, two sites at Oliver's Hill, Frankston, one site at Lloyd Park, Langwarrin, one site at Seaford North Reserve Playground, Seaford, one site at Robinsons Park, Frankston and one site at Sandfield Reserve, Carrum Downs. By providing a diverse range of sites and locations; a streamlined

application process; clear and transparent assessment criteria; and set licence fees, the new guidelines aim to attract and support high quality commercial operators to deliver regular, licenced mobile food van experiences in public open spaces across the municipality. The assessment period will take place throughout November/December and successful applicants will be notified in January.



## Business Concierge

Council's Business Concierge is a free service to help guide you as you start or grow your business.

We know that navigating through Council can be difficult and businesses may need one or more permits to start operating or to expand.

The Business Concierge can help with providing information to help open or expand your business; understanding which permits you will need; completing and submitting these applications; offering advice on other aspects of running your business; and connecting you with our FREE business mentor program. Get in touch with our experienced concierge via email at [businessconcierge@frankston.vic.gov.au](mailto:businessconcierge@frankston.vic.gov.au)



#FrankstonCity

# Legacy honoured for 100 years of service



**Mayor Nathan Conroy has joined with Legacy, Defence Force personnel, RSL members and the community to celebrate and honour Legacy's century of service.**

To commemorate and celebrate the amazing history and service of Legacy in Australia over the past 100 years, Legacy Australia and 'presenting partner' Defence Health teamed-up with Perfect Events to conduct the Legacy Centenary Torch Relay.

Beginning in Pozieres (France) in the lead up to ANZAC Day last April, the Centenary Torch has since been travelling around the world and Australia.

Speaking at an event at Frankston's Beauty Park, Mayor Conroy said: "We are all thrilled that it is now the Mornington Peninsula Legacy Club's turn to host the Legacy Centenary Torch Relay.

"We sincerely thank the Club for providing an extremely valuable support service over the past 69 years to many the thousands of widows and dependents of Australian Defence Force personnel who have lived in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula areas.

"As there simply isn't sufficient time for the Torch Relay to pass through all the towns and villages on the Mornington Peninsula and South-Eastern Suburbs that are supported by this Club, the Relay route took the Centenary Torch through the picturesque streets of Mornington, Mount Eliza and Frankston.

"And to mark this important event in the history of Legacy in Australia and the Mornington Peninsula Legacy Club, a commemorative Legacy Centenary Plaque is being unveiled here in Frankston," the Mayor said.

The Plaque has been installed on a beautiful granite Plinth organised by Kevin Hillier OAM and donated by Frankston RSL. Legatee Jim Dickson (pictured above) carried the torch and lit the cauldron during the event at Frankston, which was also attended by Councillors Claire Harvey, Sue Baker and David Asker.

Mornington Peninsula Legacy Club President Ron Chidgey said: "Since 1923 Legacy has been caring for the Families of Service Personnel who have given their health while serving our country, including thousands of residents of the City of Frankston.

"It was a great honour to have the Mayor and Councillors attend the unveiling of the Legacy Plaque in Beauty Park and talk in such glowing terms of Legacy's contribution to our community.

"We also appreciate very much, the support given by the Frankston RSL, in providing and installing the plinth upon which the plaque now stands," Mr Chidgey said.

For information about Mornington Peninsula Legacy, please scan the QR code.



## FRIDAY NIGHTS AT THE WATERFRONT

MARKET STALLS STREET FOOD LIVE MUSIC POPUP BAR

### 5 - 9PM

NOV	DEC	JAN
17	15	19

Facebook Instagram @sunsettwilightmarket

**PIER PROMENADE, FRANKSTON**

## SATURDAY 10 - SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY

# THE WATERFRONT FESTIVAL 2024

FREE ENTRY

### FRANKSTON WATERFRONT

GARDEN BAR ♦ LIVE MUSIC ♦ ENTERTAINMENT

[WATERFRONTFESTIVAL.COM.AU](http://WATERFRONTFESTIVAL.COM.AU)

Facebook Instagram WATERFRONTFEST #WATERFRONTFEST



## Kerrie rises above adversity to share powerful story

**When Kerrie Sculac shared her story about Multiple Sclerosis, she was in no doubt about the title: *Rise Above Adversity*.**

For the Frankston City local, Rise Above Adversity sums up her attitude towards the chronic illness that affects the central nervous system: “You just have to soar above it. It was a common theme that kept coming up throughout my life — no matter what, you have to rise above,” she said.

Kerrie’s story is one of 26 featured in the new book *Whispers of Resilience: Our Stories of Multiple Sclerosis* — which is the brainchild of publisher, Justine Martin.

“On World MS Day this year I watched a webinar hosted by Justine. Afterwards I met Justine online to talk about resilient strategies. Not long after, Justine asked me if I would like to contribute a chapter for the book she was compiling.

“I didn’t hesitate in wanting to contribute, as when I was diagnosed in 1997, it would have been a “go to” book as it has a range of 26 people with MS who have all had different journeys. I hope *Whispers of Resilience* can help anyone with an interest in MS.”

Ms Martin said *Whispers of Resilience* unravels the intricate realities of MS and gives a human touch to the condition, adding: “Each story becomes a beacon of resilience, contributing to an inspiring collective portrait of hope and fortitude. The authors hail from diverse backgrounds, transforming their shared condition



Kerrie Sculac with publisher Justine Martin with at the launch of Whispers of Resilience.

into a wellspring of courage.”

Kerrie described writing her story as cathartic, adding: “Many parts I have already spoken about before to family, friends and in different submissions.

“Now the book has been published and available on all major platforms, I will continue to pursue my creative writing in short poems and publish my own book next year. Making connections in the community and contributing in meaningful ways has truly benefitted my wellbeing.”

Kerrie is an active member of Frankston’s Disability Access and Inclusion Committee (DAIC). “My personal experience of living with a disability has opened my eyes to

many factors such as how our built environment does not fully accommodate everyone’s abilities,” Kerrie said.

“This is why the DAIC is so important to help with these type of issues on a local level. It was not until my involvement with the Frankston DAIC that I realised that Council officers are more than willing to help and support their residents.”

*Whispers of Resilience: Our Stories of Multiple Sclerosis* is available for \$32.99 plus postage. For information, visit [resiliencemindset.com.au](http://resiliencemindset.com.au)

For information about the DAIC, please scan the QR code.



## Lachlan set to bowl them over in South Africa



**Lachlan Mitchell lives and breathes cricket.**

The 20-year-old all-rounder from Frankston will take his game to another level when he heads to Pretoria, South Africa as a member of the Australian Cricket Team (ID squad).

The Aussies will compete in a tri series including six T20 matches against England and South Africa from 8 - 21 November.

A top order batsman and medium pace bowler, Lachlan is excitedly looking forward to the competition. “When I got the news that I was in the Australian team and going to South Africa, I was like ‘wow, is this really happening?’

“Mum was happy, my sister was really excited but we had to keep it quiet until the actual announcement. What I love about being part of this team is you get the opportunity to travel overseas and represent Australia and it’s fully funded by Cricket Australia and the Commonwealth Bank.”

He has also received support thanks to a scholarship from Physi-Pro Athletic – a high-performance health, fitness and recovery provider at the Healthy Futures Hub, Seaford.

Lachlan represents Seaford Tigers in the Melbourne All Abilities Cricket Association competition and also plays for Kingston Heath Cricket Club.

Australian Cricket Team head coach John Lonergan praised Lachlan’s passion and talent, adding: “He performed really well for Victoria at the National Cricket Inclusion Championships with both bat and ball and impressed the coaching and support staff at our recent training camp in Adelaide with his attitude and professionalism.

“We see him playing a key role for us in South Africa and hopefully for many years to come during future international tours.”

## Community bus provides wheely good transport

**Proud Frankston local Stephanie Banks can’t keep the smile off her face when travelling on Council’s Community Bus.**

“The community bus has been a godsend for me. We have the most wonderful outings. We visit places we can’t get to otherwise,” she said.

Stephanie takes the bus for both outings and regular shopping trips, enjoying the camaraderie with fellow passengers, kind volunteers and the friendly drivers.

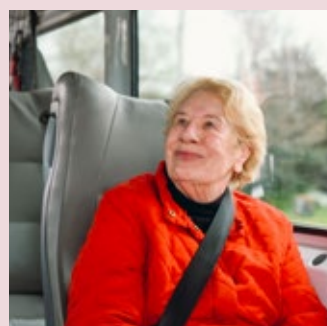
The 82-year-old was thrilled when Frankston Mayor Nathan Conroy dropped by for a ride on the bus – chatting about landmarks and local development during their trip together.

She shared with Mayor Conroy that she loves her food and gastronomic experiences, particularly dining out with family and friends. Stephanie also stressed to the Mayor that Council services such as the Community

Bus help her remain independent and she had enjoyed regularly using the Community Bus since 2015.

She also loves trips on the bus to a range of locations, including Phillip Island and the Yarra Valley, as part of Council’s Outings Program. Both the Community Bus service and Outings Program use the same buses and drivers so they become familiar, friendly faces to passengers like Stephanie. Bus fares start from as little as \$2 per trip.

For more information about the Community Bus or Outings Program, please call Council’s Family Health Support Services Team on **9784 1933**.





#FrankstonCity

## Showing appreciation to those who do us proud

**Frankston City Councillors have issued heartfelt gratitude and thanks to community groups and individuals who enrich the lives of so many.**

Councillors have honoured the Rotary Club of Frankston, BAM Arts Inc, the Frankston Winter Shelter and Emma Jennings, from the Peninsula Autism Friendship Group, with Community Appreciation Awards for their stellar community work.

Cr Kris Bolam presented the award to the Rotary Club of Frankston — represented by Rotarians David Cross and Bill Redfern — for running the successful and much loved Seaford Farmers Market, which served the community for over 15 years.

Founded in August 2007, the market provided an important community-strengthening event in the local calendar while also raising funds for many charitable causes in Frankston and beyond.

Cr Bolam said: “Each market required a rotating team of 20 plus dedicated volunteers from the Frankston Rotary, who consistently worked to deliver an awesome market experience for stallholders and visitors. During its long tenure, the Seaford Farmers Market has raised over \$500,000 — ultimately benefiting local, national, and international causes.”

Cr Sue Baker presented an award to BAM Arts Inc — represented by BAM Arts Inc CEO and founder Lisa Murphy and her son, Buster.

She noted Ms Murphy and the amazing BAM team had drawn on their remarkable passion to transform the lives of so many — bringing joy, community and pride – not to mention enhancing talent, thanks to a diverse and highly engaging range of programs and events.

“This stems from a heartfelt mission to create a community for children and adults with a disability who are passionate about creative and performing arts.”

BAM Arts offers a huge range of activities including choir, musical theatre, dance, drama, music, film making, studio visual arts and photography, to name a few.

Cr Baker also presented an award to the Frankston Winter Shelter, which was represented by Committee members Deb Eastman, Sam Waldron, David Maloney and Lara Waldon.

She said this fantastic initiative is a collective project of the Frankston churches joining together in unity to support the vulnerable and needy in our local community, adding: “It offers a bed, a warm meal and safe place for the night across Monday through to Friday each week through the winter months.

“Importantly, those receiving support are provided more than a place to stay in a safe, caring, non-judgemental community environment to receive refreshment, hope and rest. It runs for 13 weeks providing crisis accommodation for up to 10 people experiencing homelessness in our municipality.”

Cr Suzette Tayler presented an individual award to Emma Jennings, from the Peninsula Autism Friendship Group.

She said: “Emma started a friendship group for autistic children back in 2015, which has since then has gone from strength to strength offering a range of social groups for kids, teens and young adults, as well as carers groups.”

Cr Tayler added: “Emma has done fantastic work building such a welcoming and accepting community that has expanded to so many new venues and activities to cater to an even bigger population. Emma has built Peninsula Autism Friendship Group from the ground up to such a wonderful and warmly embracing place for the local community.”



Cr Sue Baker with Lisa Murphy and her son, Buster.



Cr Kris Bolam with (centre) Bill Redfern and David Cross.



Cr Sue Baker (right) with Frankston Winter Shelter Committee members (from left) David Moloney, Deborah Eastman, and Lara and Sam Waldron.



Peninsula Autism Friendship Group founder Emma Jennings (centre) celebrates her award with (from left) Alysha, Julie Peck, Sam, Cr Suzette Tayler, Gabriel and Isabella.

## Men as Role Models program ends with success

**Luke Gerard signed up as a mentor for the Men as Role Models (MARM) program, seeking an opportunity to refine his own fatherhood skills.**

Little did he know that his experience would surpass his expectations after meeting his mentee, 15-year-old Lucas.

Launched by the Frankston City Council, the pilot program aimed to support and develop boys and men aged 15 to 24. Offering numerous benefits, the program involved eight mentees and eight mentors from the community.

Luke (pictured) expressed how the experience inspired him to apply his newfound knowledge at home. “With four sons aged 7, 10, 14, and 16, my hands are always full,” he shared. “I wanted to learn more about understanding boys. The Manbox training provided deep insights into the behaviour of kids these days, especially in fight or flight situations.”

Together, Luke and Lucas established a strong connection, bonding over their shared interest in AFL, despite supporting rival teams. Meeting fortnightly, they participated in activities such as go-karting, mini golf, and bushwalks.

Initially, Luke admitted feeling a bit anxious, however, as time passed, both mentor and mentee gradually opened up to each other.

“We had moments where Lucas would open up about his aspirations,” Luke revealed. “There were also times where we simply enjoyed the comforting silence without feeling the need to speak.”

Lucas commended the program for its positive impact on his life. “My mother found the program flyer and encouraged me to join. I'm grateful I did because it taught me to believe in myself.”

Luke emphasized that the mentorship experience taught him the importance of being present. “Participating in extraordinary activities with Lucas made me reflect on my own teens,” he confessed.

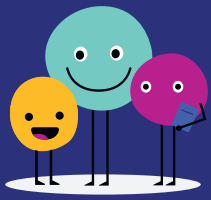
“It made me realize the immense pressures teenagers face, underscoring the necessity of having a male role model in their lives.”

The MARM program was a collaborative effort involving the Frankston City Council, Whitelion Youth, and Jesuit Social Services. The program has equipped young men with the necessary tools and resources for success while promoting healthy masculinities and gender equity.



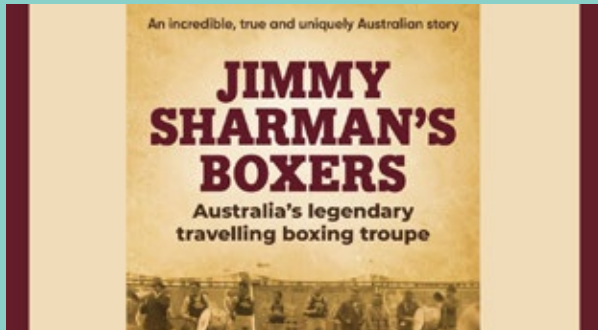


# What's On



## Frankston City Libraries What's on

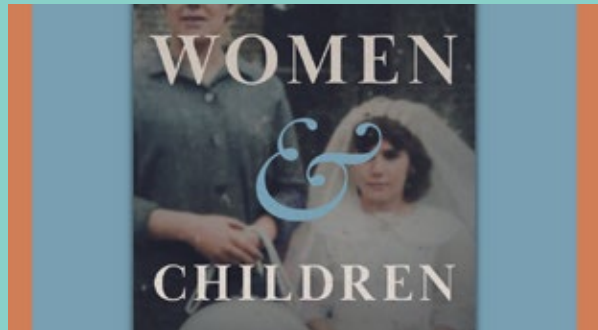
Scan the QR code to check the full list of upcoming events.



FrankTALK  
**Stephen McGrath**

Wednesday 15 November, 6pm  
Frankston Library — FREE

*Jimmy Sharman's Boxing Troupe* was the most famous tent boxing troupe across Australia's south for many years, throughout the early to mid 1900's. Stephen has brought together over 15 years of research into this novel, telling the story of how Jimmy managed to continue to tour throughout World War One and create an unbeatable troupe of white, Chinese and indigenous boxers.



FrankTALK  
**Tony Birch**

Monday 20 November, 6.30pm  
Frankston Library — FREE

Acclaimed First Nations author, activist, and historian Tony Birch will join us at Frankston Library for a FrankTALK, coinciding with the release of his latest novel, *Women & Children*. *Women & Children* is a novel about the love and courage between two sisters, and a sudden loss of childhood innocence.



Book Release  
**Immerse - Fiona Basile**

Monday 27 November, 2pm  
Seaford Library — FREE

Fiona Basile is an acclaimed local photographer, writer and avid open-water swimmer. She will be joining us to chat about her newest book, *Immerse* which showcases the stories of Seaford's open-water swimming community, through word and stunning photography.

To book: [library.frankston.vic.gov.au/whats\\_on](http://library.frankston.vic.gov.au/whats_on) or phone: 9784 1020

# FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE

## A CELTIC CHRISTMAS BY A TASTE OF IRELAND

Friday 24 November 7.30pm

Tickets: \$64.90-\$94.90,  
VIP \$109.90

After captivating audiences in Australia, New Zealand & the United Kingdom last year, the all-singing, all-dancing, family-friendly treat, 'A Celtic Christmas' returns!



## NAVY BLUE HARMONY CONCERT

Sunday 26 November 1pm

Tickets: \$25



DAYTIME MUSIC + THEATRE

## CHRISTMAS WITH LUCY DURACK

Friday 8 December

10.30am and 1.30pm

Tickets: \$20-\$22

## TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT: HITS OF ROD STEWART & OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN

Friday 15 December 8pm

Tickets: \$54-\$83,  
Family (2Ad & 2Ch) \$274

This musical match made in Heaven features all their greatest hits. Starring acclaimed performers, Michael Zammit and Jenn Allas.



## PLOS: CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Sunday 31 December-Sunday

7 January 2024 Various times

Tickets: \$44-\$60,  
Family (2 full + 2 Ch) \$184



Give  
the gift of a  
theatre experience  
this Christmas!

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Book at [thefac.com.au](http://thefac.com.au) or 9784 1060



#FrankstonCity

# Frankston Business Collective ACE (Awards Conference Expo) event

## Business was booming at the inaugural Frankston Business Collective's ACE (Awards Conference Expo) event.

More than 150 businesses from a range of industries attended the day at Functions By the Bay to check out the 35 exhibitors and hear from the inspiring and insightful speakers during the conference.

Frankston City Council's Economy, Investment and Activation team also exhibited along with officers from Frankston Arts Centre to showcase business services and opportunities available to businesses. Presenters included mountain climber with multiple sclerosis Bobby Bajram, leading futurist and strategist Simon Waller and former Ray White CEO John Shore OAM.

A panel discussion with a number of finance experts discussing Victoria's economy was also held.

The Business Excellence Awards followed the conference with 12 outstanding Frankston City business owners taking home an accolade.

Frankston Business Collective (FBC) CEO Jeff Rogut said he was very happy with the outcome of the first event.

"What a terrific event our first ACE event was," Mr Rogut said.

"We are absolutely thrilled and express our

heartfelt gratitude to all sponsors, attendees, exhibitors and speakers for their contribution to the tremendous success of the event. What an incredible day it was, filled with inspiration, knowledge sharing, and vibrant connections.

"Feedback from attendees was very positive and this has encouraged us to look forward to the 2024 event."

Mayor Nathan Conroy gave a stirring speech before presenting the award to the finalists and winners.

"We are a city of imagination. A creative, ambitious, imaginative community, where everyone's welcome and anything's possible," Cr Conroy said.

"You, our local businesses, are not only a part of this fantastic resurgence, but the backbone and driver of change and Frankston City's long term prosperity."

Winner of the Manufacturing Award, Wagalot, owner Alice Needham said: "It was nice to be recognised for an award in this category."

"We have been in Frankston City since 2015 and this is our third premises because we keep expanding," Ms Needham said.

"It's such a great place to have a business; it's accessible, there's a big network of businesses here and we can source supplies and services locally.

"The Business Collective are doing a really great job and it's terrific to be a part of it all."

Congratulations to the award winners.



Mayor Nathan Conroy with Wagalot owner Alice Needham.

### Award Winners

#### HEALTH & CARE

Winner: The Sports Injury Clinic  
Finalist: Grace Professional Services

#### SMALL & SUCCEEDING

Winner: Natures Blend  
Finalist: Steppin' Out Events

#### EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Winner: Showbiz Dance  
Finalist: You Group

#### SOCIAL CHANGE MAKER

Winner: Frankston Brekky Club  
Finalist: The Business of Smiles

#### HOSPITALITY EXCELLENCE

Winner: Geonbae Korean BBQ  
Finalist: Cafe 18-EightyEight

#### MANUFACTURING

Winner: Wagalot  
Finalist: Brumby Machines

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Winner: Peninsula Speech Plus  
Finalist: Clover Lane Consulting

#### SUSTAINABLE & ENVIRONMENTAL

Winner: That Spirited Lot  
Finalist: Container Save

#### EMERGING INDUSTRY

Winner: WorkLife  
Finalist: Titel

#### RETAIL

Winner: Shoes&Sox  
Finalist: Ritesafe Safety

#### TRAVEL TOURISM, EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Winner: Stellar Short Film Festival  
Finalist: Funtopia

#### TRADE & CONSTRUCTION

Winner: On A Mission Services  
Finalist: Ritesafe Safety

**Reminisce**  
*Decade of House*

**BACK ON THE PENINSULA**

COUNTING DOWN THE TOP 50 HOUSE TRACKS OF THE PAST 10 YEARS

**LOVEBIRDS** (GER)  
**MARKET MEMORIES**  
**BOOGS**  
**SECRET GUEST TBA**  
**CHARDY \* MINX \* ORKESTRATED**  
BEAMA \* BENNY WATT \* CHANS \* HANDY  
MADELEINE \* MARKY MARK \* MATTY MAYNE  
SHAWRY \* TOM GRANT \* ZAC MASTERS

KINETIC STADIUM FRANKSTON \* PUBLIC HOLIDAY 26 JANUARY

Reminisce \* HARDWARE

TICKETS & VOTING: REMINISCE.DJ

Lucky Ent. Presents

**LUCKY DAY OUT**

**NYE**

**WILL SPARKS RESTRICTED**

ROCKAFELLAS - ORKESTRATED  
BRYNNY - SARAH THOMSON  
MADELEINE - ERICA DAL - INGA

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER  
ATHAN TZIKAS - CODY THORNE - DAZZLE - DJ OZ - GNOKKI  
JAKE BROOME - JAY KNIGHT - JESS TYNDALL - JXEL - LEROY - MATTY MAYNE  
RORY EVANS - SHANLEY THOMSON - ZIGGY DURLING

**SUN 31ST DECEMBER**  
KINETIC STADIUM - FRANKSTON  
6PM - 1AM  
LUCKYENTPRESENTS.COM

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL \* FRANKSTON \* GPO \* lucky agency



# Calling all bike riders and non-riders!

**A lot has changed around Frankston City in the last decade, including how people like to travel around their local areas.**

And this is one of reasons why Council is developing a new Bike Riding Strategy and talking to both bike riders and non-riders — particularly young people and their families - and asking: what do you love about riding here and what stops you from riding in your local area?

We already know from developing our other related strategies - like the new Integrated Transport Strategy 2022-2042 (ITS) — that many of our residents want to ride a bike to get around the local area, but don't always find it easy for many reasons, including safety and connectivity.

The new Bike Riding Strategy will draw on this vital feedback from the community, as well as information about assets and other data, and will complement existing strategies and plans such as the Open Space Strategy, ITS, Lighting Frankston Plan, Local Park Action Plan and Local Shopping Strip Action Plan.

It will be a plan that supports active and healthy lifestyles and community connectivity, and helps to reduce traffic and congestion, making Frankston City an even greater place to live, work and play.

Find out more and show us where you want to ride using our online mapping activity by 5pm, Wednesday 22 November. Scan the QR code for more information.



## Have your say on preventing family violence in Frankston

**Frankston City Council is developing a plan to continue the work to prevent family violence particularly against women and children.**

Council is currently embarking on this process with the support of Professor Helen Keleher, an expert in the field with experience working in the prevention of family violence area including creating action plans for many Local Government Areas in Victoria.

We are currently seeking feedback from members of the community, which will support the creation of the Family Violence Prevention Action Plan.

A steering committee of leading organisations committed to gender equality and stopping violence before it starts has been formed and will be meeting frequently. The Family Violence Action plan is to be approved before June, 2024.

Scan the QR code below to answer a few short questions.

Please submit your responses by 24 November 2023. For further enquiries, please contact Council on **1300 322 322**.



## News Briefs

### Temporary library closure

Frankston's library is set to undergo an exciting transformation, temporarily closing from December 4, 2023, and reopening in early February 2024. The upgrades include a revamped Writers Bloc café, a new service desk, and the addition of a glass enclosure for an innovative book sorter. This second phase builds upon the successful improvements last year, which brought new carpeting, enhanced shelving for the cherished library collection, and a refreshed layout. During the closure, library services will be available at the Carrum Downs and Seaford branches. For information on returning books and other services during the closure, scan the QR code below.



### E-scooter trial extension

Council is continuing the e-scooter trial in Frankston City through the summer period. Frankston City residents have already completed over 6,000 trips, covering 10,000 kilometers within the CBD during the trial.

The extension will provide an even more comprehensive dataset to shape the future of this innovative program. The extended trial is set to shine during the extended holiday period and warmer weather.

With no significant safety incidents reported, riders are reminded to follow guidelines, wear helmets and respect local rules.

For more information, scan the QR code.





#FrankstonCity

## New pedestrian and cycling bridge for wetlands



**We're enhancing Seaford Wetlands by preserving and protecting this precious asset, while sensitively upgrading community facilities.**

One of the ways we're doing this is by building a new pedestrian and cycling bridge across Kananook Creek (near the Melbourne Water pumping station at Palm Beach Drive). This will link to a shared use path (SUP) to be built by City of Kingston on the northern embankment of Kananook Creek. Together they will provide a continuous pedestrian and cycling loop around the wetlands and reduce access to protected areas.

To ensure community safety, a section of the existing shared user path around the wetlands will be closed for the duration of the bridge works. Please follow detours and signage on site.

The \$5 million Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation Project is funded by the Victorian Government's Suburban Parks Program and along with the bridge and SUP, will deliver:

- Habitat and ecological improvements
- Cultural Values Study and self-guided biocultural interpretative trail
- Upgraded signage and facilities, including a new viewing platform

The project was informed by community and stakeholder engagement (including engagement with environmental groups and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation).

For more information, scan the QR code.



## New path connection to Frankston Station

**A new shared user path along Dandenong Road East at Frankston will improve pedestrian and bike rider safety and enhancing access to Frankston Railway Station.**

Currently under construction, the concrete path will connect to existing paths at Cricklewood Avenue and Fletcher Road, providing a safe, continuous link to Frankston Station.

This section of shared user path is also an important link in a much longer cycling network connecting Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula via Frankston.

The path alignment was informed by community consultation. The majority of impacted community members who participated, including nearby residents, bike riders and pedestrians who use the existing paths, and people who park along the road expressed their preference for the alignment option which minimises impact on native and indigenous vegetation along the length of the path.

This alignment will require widening the nature strip and removing approximately 30 defined car spaces and 46 unmarked car spaces from the west side of Dandenong Road East.

Some additional tree pruning will also be required, ensuring the new path is safe for users.

As well as the path, the project will include landscaping, new stormwater drainage and kerb and channel works.

Works are being staged to minimise impacts as much as possible. Street parking close to the works on both sides of Dandenong Road East is restricted for the duration of works and traffic management is in place.

For more information, please scan the QR code.



## Container Deposit Scheme

The Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) has arrived at Frankston City. The CDS is a new Victorian Government initiative that will provide a 10-cent refund for every eligible drink container returned at over 600 refund points across the state.

### How does it work?

A 10-cent refund is given for every eligible drink container – cans, cartons, and bottles – returned to a refund collection point. The returned containers will be recycled into new products.

### Why do we need a CDS?

CDS is a win for Victoria's community, environment and economy. The scheme will increase the recycling of drink cans, bottles and cartons and reduce Victoria's litter by up to half. A financial reward for returning drink containers for recycling will help reduce litter and its impact on our local wildlife.

### Where can I find my local drop-off point?

There are a variety of ways to return your drink containers, including reverse vending machines, depots, over-the-counter collection points and mobile or 'pop-up' refund collection points. Sites are currently being established and expanded.

For up to date locations and more information, scan the QR code.

If you're a business, you can also register your interest in hosting a collection point via email [vic@returnit.com.au](mailto:vic@returnit.com.au)



## Are you recycling your glass right?



**As part of the Victorian Government's new four-bin recycling system, eligible residents across Frankston City have received a separate purple glass recycling bin.**

Glass bottles and jars that were purchased containing food or drink now go into your new purple bin, lightly rinsed with lids off. Empty glass bottles and jars go in your purple bin loose, not in plastic bags. All other household glass goes into your general rubbish bin, including broken drinking glasses, windows, mirrors, vases, cooking dishes, and perfume bottles.

Remember, glass items go in your bin loose – not in plastic bags or cardboard boxes. Items that are not loose will be directed to landfill. Glass contamination increases the cost of recycling for everyone, so it's important to do the right thing.

Correctly using your glass recycling bin makes a big impact on Victoria's sustainable future. To learn more and view a collections calendar, scan the QR code.





# Collection Calendar 2024

Your recycling bin and your food and garden waste bin will be collected fortnightly on alternate weeks on the same day as your general waste bin. Your Glass Recycling Bin will be collected every 4 weeks on the same day as your general waste bin.

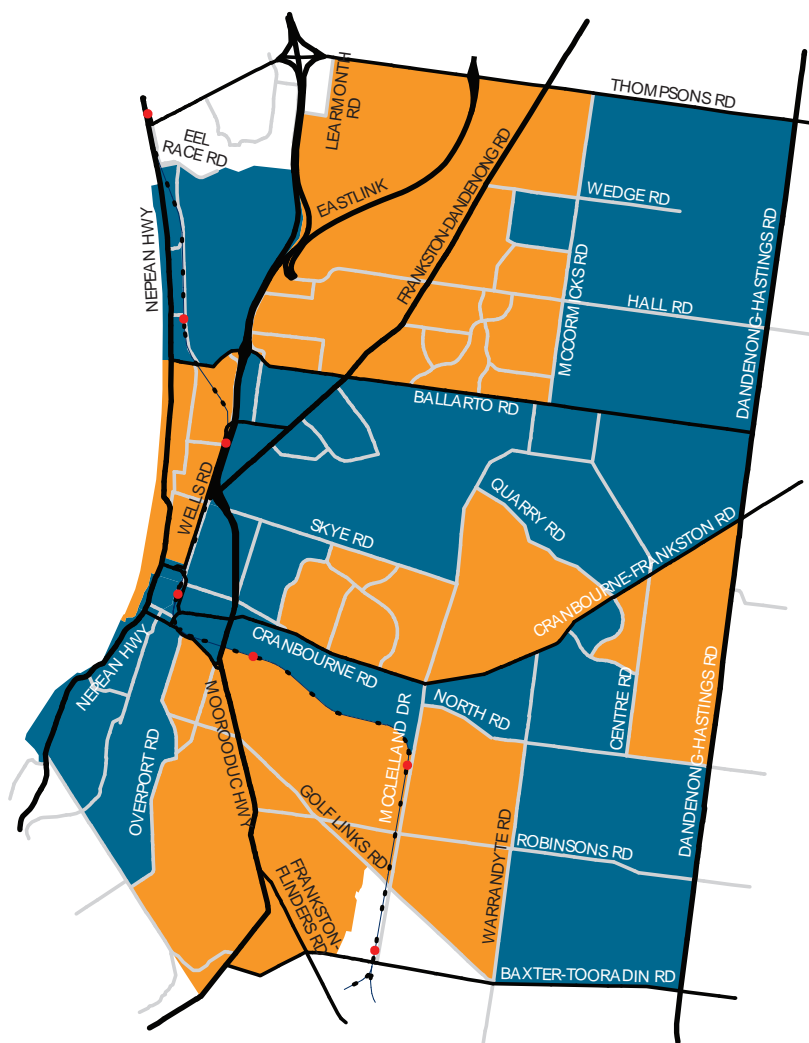


**BLUE AREA**

Recycling Bin	Food and Garden Waste Bin	Glass Bin
<b>JANUARY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>MARCH 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
<b>MAY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>JUNE 2024</b> S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>JULY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
<b>SEPTEMBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>OCTOBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>NOVEMBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

**Blue area**  
If you live in a blue area use the blue calendar.

**Orange area**  
If you live in an orange area use the orange calendar.



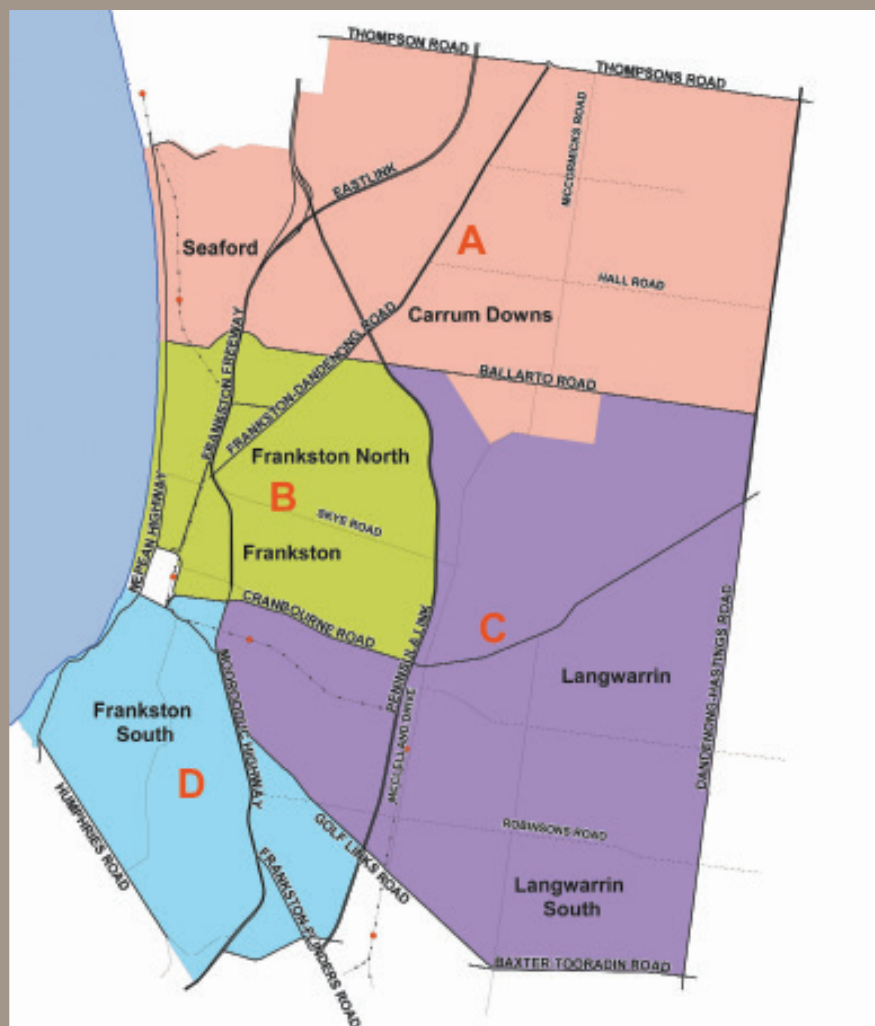
**ORANGE AREA**

<b>JANUARY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>MARCH 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>APRIL 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
<b>MAY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>JUNE 2024</b> S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>JULY 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>AUGUST 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
<b>SEPTEMBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>OCTOBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>NOVEMBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>DECEMBER 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**NOTE:** Blue area recycling collection dates also apply to Frankston's city centre. Collections will take place on public holidays. Enquiries: 9775 1909

## Street Sweeping Calendar 2024

Weekly commencement dates



Month 2022	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D
January	8	15	22	1 and 29
February	5	12	19	26
March	4	11	18	25
April	1 and 29	8	15	22
May	27	6	13	20
June	24	3	10	17
July	22	1 and 29	8	15
August	19	26	5	12
September	16	23	2 and 30	9
October	14	21	28	7
November	11	18	25	4
December	9	16	23	2