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Surf Coast Times

(<https://timesnewsgroup.com.au/surfcoasttimes/>)

Locals reduce energy use through Surf Coast Shire's new program

April 11, 2019 BY James Taylor (<https://timesnewsgroup.com.au/surfcoasttimes/author/jamestaylor/>)



Anglesea resident Lynne (pictured) is among an increasing number of Shire locals making small changes to lessen their carbon footprint.

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Anglesea locals Lynne and Trevor are among the increasing number of Surf Coast locals who are making positive changes to reduce their overall energy use and save money on power bills.

After Lynne attended a Surf Coast Shire presentation in 2017, she realised installing a solar power system wouldn't be as difficult as she initially thought.

She described the presentation as the "lightbulb moment" that inspired the couple to install a rooftop solar system.

"The installer guided us through the process, explaining the pros and cons of each decision. In the end, it was super easy and went smoothly," Lynne said.

The Anglesea resident said she was pleasantly surprised when she saw the significant reduction in their power bill.

"Despite a tariff increase, it was 30 per cent lower than the same billing period the previous year."

Over the moon with the benefits of going solar, Lynne and Trevor feature as part of Surf Coast Shire's new "Powered by Positive" program.

The program – which launched earlier this year – focuses on making it simple for local residents and businesses to use less energy, from making small changes such as turning off lights and blocking draughts, to switching to renewable energy.

The Powered by Positive website features information on energy reduction ideas, including practical ways to save energy around the home, links to local suppliers and information about available



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celebrating seniors

+ retirement living



PHOTO: Lifestyle
St Leonards

Retirement to suit you



INSET: Ingenia
Gardens Geelong

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our new
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OFFICE





Choice Fresh Meals caters to a range of dietary requirements, offering generous serving sizes and a changing seasonal menu.

Flavoursome favourites made for you

Leg of lamb, check. Silverside and mustard sauce, check. Creamy prawn spaghetti, check.

These are just a few of around 80 meal options that Choice Fresh Meals offers through its healthy meal delivery service.

A range of mains, desserts, sandwiches, snacks, soups – even your milk and bread – can be purchased from this regular service operating across Geelong.

Whether you are a senior, or someone who is unable to cook due to illness, or a busy professional, or a large family on the go with kids sports and weeknight commitments – Choice Fresh Meals caters to a range of dietary requirements, offering generous serving sizes and a changing seasonal menu.

Five-star chefs create a vast array of options with most main meals accompanied with seasonal vegetables.

In Canstar Blue's recent March 2021 Healthy Meal Delivery review, Choice Fresh Meals led the way earning a five-star review for value for money – in comparison to Lite n' Easy, Choice Fresh Meals, Dinnerly,

HelloFresh, Marley Spoon and Youfoodz.

Sandwiches are \$6.70 and paninis are \$8.70 – then main meals available in two size options, regular and large – range around \$11 and \$13 respectively.

There are also premium menu options such as porterhouse steak and confit duck for a few dollars more.

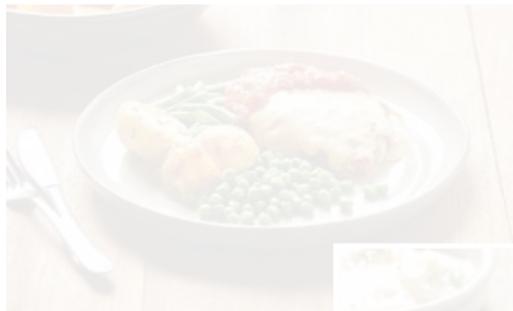
Choice Fresh Meals doesn't require you to enter a contract, however there may be a minimum spend of \$50 for each order.

Choice Fresh Meals is so sure you will love its service and their meals – they are currently offering a free dessert with each main meal purchased (offer is limited to 10 free desserts per new customer).

Avoid the supermarket, the preparation, the clean up and the decision about what to eat each day or night.

Choice Fresh Meals' current autumn menu, further information and how to order can be found at choicefreshmeals.com.au.

Or you can call 1300 430 488 or email info@choicefreshmeals.com.au.



Five-star chefs create a vast array of options with most main meals accompanied with seasonal vegetables.



Fresh garlic prawns is just one example of the delicious meals you can choose from.

Helping locals stay at home comfortably

Surf Coast resident and aged care specialist Lucy Lincoln saw a need for locals to have access to a high-quality home care package service provider, so she created a care model and launched a business that the local community is responding well to.

"By employing people who care about the safety and health of our older generation, we can work in a way that reduces the effects of a fragmented aged care system which can make a difference," Lucy says.

"Our clients get to continue being a part of their community in which they have been in for a long time,

"Our clients often feel they are doing – and getting – something of value by using a local business who is also an employer.

"Having good working conditions for staff creates that flow-on effect and is reflected in the quality of care we provide."

Country to Coast Home Care Services client Bernard Bodington says Lucy and

her team have helped him and his wife Joan make informed decisions about staying at home.

"They offer a particularly high standard of service, keep in regular contact to reassess our needs as they arise or change," he said.

"The care has enabled us to keep my wife at home and it is like welcoming our own family when I greet them at our front door."

Country to Coast Home Care Services has been appointed by the Department of Health as an approved provider of home care packages in our local area and has a fully qualified, cohesive, and experienced team of specialists who deliver support seven days a week.

Services include nursing, allied health services, cleaning, home maintenance and gardening, spending time with you, shopping, transport, community events and activities, exercise, dementia specific nursing, diabetes education, and more.

For more information, please visit ctchomecare.com.au or call 5263 1567.



Country to Coast Home Care Services has been appointed by the Department of Health as an approved provider of home care packages in the local area and has a fully qualified, cohesive, and experienced team of specialists who deliver support seven days a week.

celebrating seniors

+ retirement living

Parks, gardens and waterways

Luxurious living at Kithbrooke

Kithbrooke Park Country Club is not just about its prime location and beautiful villas set amongst 12 acres of parks, gardens and waterways – its luxury clubhouse and facilities, pool pavilion, sports lounge, gymnasium, championship bowling green and library provide the ideal lifestyle.

The pool pavilion with four heated aqua therapy pools, including underwater treadmills, is always popular with swimmers or those who just wish to relax.

Each pool has a different heat setting making the pool pavilion

a popular venue all year round.

Adjacent to the pool pavilion is the well-equipped gymnasium featuring the latest in exercise equipment including a rowing machine, exercise bikes, cross trainer, treadmills, weights and array of exercise classes.

All this overlooks the rolling open spaces and waterways of the Country Club.

Social and competition events are also available throughout the week on the all-weather eight rink championship bowling green catering for beginners through to the more advanced.

The Clubhouse provides an abundance of choice, with homeowners and their guests

choosing from an array of facilities and social events every week.

From regular dinner events, entertainment, a coffee in the cafe, a book or DVD from the library, or just catching up with friends for a drink in the lounge or sports bar, there is always something on.

Enjoy exclusive facilities year-round, right on the doorstep of your own two or three-bedroom home.

Kithbrooke Park Country Club is true resort style living in a secure gated community.

Contact Kithbrooke Park Country Club on 0418 182 883 or visit kithbrookepark.com.au.



Inside this issue

- Ethical investing with Muirfield
- Take respite with gen U
- Luxury living at Bellarine Lakes

More inside!

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Surf Coast care model suits local seniors

Country to Coast Home Care Services is a small business started by Anglesea resident Lucy Lincoln.

The Department of Health has appointed Country to Coast Home Care Services as an approved provider of home care packages in our local area.

Ms Lincoln has a fully qualified, cohesive, and experienced team of local specialists who deliver support seven days a week.

Ms Lincoln saw a need for locals to have access to high-quality home care, so she launched her small business in a way that also creates local jobs.

"By employing local people who care about the safety and health of our older generation, we can work in a way that reduces the effects of a fragmented aged care system and can make a difference," she said.

"Our clients get to continue being part of the community in which they have been in for a long time.

"Our clients often feel they are doing – and getting – something of value by using a local business who is also an employer.

"Having good working conditions for staff creates that flow-on effect and is reflected in the quality of care we provide."

Country to Coast Home Care Services staff member and carer Sue Robertson says the work is much more than just completing tasks and duties.

"This way of working empowers and



Country to Coast Home Care Services is an approved provider of home care packages.

allows people to stay in their own home comfortably," Sue said.

"We form a relationship built on trust, which becomes a friendly connection. It encourages our vulnerable clients to feel comfortable in our presence.

"Country to Coast Home Care Services has enabled this to flourish given our rosters, shifts, weekly phone calls from Hannah to clients and the communication within the team."

Country to Coast Home Care Services is always looking for more qualified staff to add to their team.

For more information, please visit cthomecare.com.au or call 5263 1567.

The happiness formula: why community living is key to avoiding loneliness in later life

With the pandemic, the past 12 months have reinforced just how important feeling connected to others is for our health and wellbeing and it is now more important than ever to take steps to avoid social isolation.

It goes without saying that feeling lonely and isolated doesn't feel great, but what you might not know is just how much of a health risk it can be.

Research has linked experiencing loneliness to an increased risk of different health problems such as heart disease and depression.

On the other hand, research also confirms that people with strong social relationships are more likely to be healthier and live longer.

According to the Australian Loneliness Report, the coronavirus has left a lot of older Australians feeling that loneliness, with a survey showing that almost one in three people aged between 60 and 85 felt isolated during lockdown.

It was, however, quite a different story for residents of Ingenia Gardens communities. A separate survey conducted around the same time, not only found that 82 per cent of Ingenia Gardens residents

had a positive outlook on life, 90 per cent were moderately to extremely satisfied with the sense of community they felt.

It takes a village

Nicole Jentz, portfolio manager residential communities at Ingenia Communities puts such positive survey results down to several things.

"Our residents are able to draw on the strong sense of community and belonging that has helped them navigate the past 12 months of ups and downs," she explains.

"Simply knowing that they were surrounded by like-minded people, in a community where they'd already established relationships, has made a big difference."

Coping with life's transitions

It's not just during these challenging times where community living protects against social isolation.

"Our residents are from all walks and different stages of life and our weekly program of social events really reflects that," Jentz said.

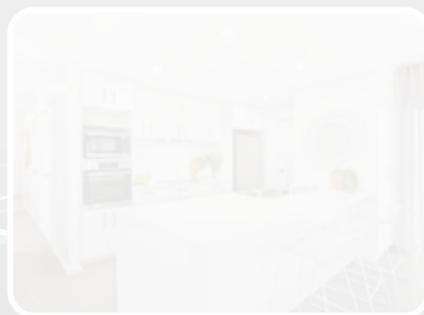
"Residents tell us that being able to access these clubs and activities at their fingertips makes life easy.

Find out more by contacting Ann, community manager, on 5248 5011 or go to ingeniagardens.com.au.

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Mayor's column

An eventful time

My diary is jam-packed with so many meaningful upcoming community events. Attending these events is an opportunity to support community groups and organisations, and thank them for the wonderful work they do.

A beautiful bunch

Torquay Community House will welcome Wadawurrung traditional owner Corrina Eccles on 5 September for a special event. The Bush Bouquet Session will see Corrina share her knowledge on various local native plants and the stories behind them. Attendees will then create a beautiful bouquet with them.

The free event, from 7pm, is part of Adult Learners Week. People can register via Eventbrite.

R U OK?

Torquay Community House is helping people to ask the question R U OK?

Mental health educator Jules Haddock will lead people through the steps on how to hold a mental health conversation. It's designed to take the stress out of a sensitive situation, providing people with basic mental health first aid techniques to help someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis.

The free community supper is at the community house on 12 September from 7pm. Numbers are limited, so people are encouraged to book via Eventbrite or by calling 5261 2583.

This year marks 10 years of the R U OK? campaign, which is as important as ever.

Looking ahead to Legacy Week

Geelong Legacy Club will be hosting its Annual Opening of Legacy Week on Monday. I'm delighted to attend the event and support the brilliant work that the club does for families of deceased veterans.

The volunteer-run legacy club is a valuable organisation, helping families to thrive despite the adversity they have faced.

Torquay Bowls Club season opening

It will be an honour to officially open the 2019-20 Torquay Bowls Club season on Friday night. The club continues to shine both on and off the greens, and has grown to be one of the country's top bowls clubs.

It's exciting to see Torquay step up to the Premier League, where it will be able to test itself against the region's best. I wish all grades all the best for 2019-20, and would like to say good luck to other local bowling clubs preparing for the upcoming season.

As part of my duties on Friday night, I'll be rolling the first bowl of the season. Pressure's on! Let's hope my aim is spot on.

Victorian Seniors Festival

We know that there will be a variety of events held across the Surf Coast Shire to celebrate Victorian Seniors Festival – and we want to hear about them.

Council will be creating a calendar that lists all of the local events held as part of the festival. It's a great way to promote your event, and attract a larger

crowd. To include your event in the calendar, please email info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au with the detail. You can also phone 5261 0600 and ask to speak with the Community Health and Development Coordinator.

Victorian Seniors Week is from 6 to 13 October. It sees communities across the state come together to celebrate older residents.

Kinship Carers Week

Kinship Carers Week is another week that is fast approaching. Held from 8 September to 14 September, the inaugural week recognises the work of kinship carers who raise children in out-of-home care. Their love ensures vulnerable children are taken care of.

It's great to see a morning tea for local kinship carers being hosted in Geelong on 11 September.

Finals fever

As we move closer to the start of spring, we're reminded that finals are in the air. All the best to the Surf Coast teams still in the race for premiership glory. Also, a special shoutout to all of the volunteers that are the heart of these clubs.

On another sporting note, it's great to see the launch of a local women's cricket competition. I'm looking forward to catching some matches over summer to watch our local female talent.

Happy Father's Day

Wishing all the Dads out there a very happy Father's Day for this weekend. I hope you enjoy spending Sunday with your families.



Mayor's column

A superb Surf Coast Arts Trail

There was rain, hail and shining talent at the Surf Coast Arts Trail last weekend. Thank you to artists who opened their studios and galleries and offered a warm welcome. Thank you also to trailgoers who dodged rain and hail so they could support our local artists. Each year I'm amazed at the creative talent in the Surf Coast Shire. Well done to all involved!

Have your say: Creative Places

Speaking of creative talent, we're working on a new Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy and we would love your input. The strategy, titled Creative Places, will help guide our efforts in arts and culture in the coming years.

According to the National Arts Participation Survey results released in 2017, a staggering 98 per cent of Australians engage with the arts. The survey also found the arts have "an increasingly powerful role to play in promoting social cohesion". We saw this over the weekend, when the Surf Coast Arts Trail brought people together from across the shire.

You can help shape the new strategy by contributing ideas via a survey on our website. It will close Monday 26 August.

Anglesea One-Act Play Festival

The curtains will open on the Anglesea One-Act Play Festival at Anglesea Memorial Hall this weekend. With 17 short plays on offer, there is something to suit everyone.

Anglesea Performing Arts will take to the stage for two plays – *Slipped Through The Cracks* and *Blood Cries Out of the Soil*. The pair – linked by themes of trauma and the impact it can have on children – will also be performed on the following two weekends.

The Anglesea One-Act Play Festival is a wonderful event that attracts people to the Surf Coast in a traditionally quieter period.

To book tickets: www.trybooking.com/BEABV.

Positive Ageing grants

Got a fabulous idea for a Seniors Festival event? Perhaps you would like to put on a high tea, or a gardening workshop? Council invites not-for-profit community groups, clubs and organisations to apply for Positive Ageing grants of up to \$200. The grants are for local events and activities to be held as part of the 2019 Victorian Seniors Festival, from 6 to 13 October.

To view the Positive Ageing grant guidelines and to apply, visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PAgrants.

People can also call **5261 0600** for more information. Applications close Monday 19 August.

Friendly faces at Anglesea Resale Shed

It's great to see Leisure Networks participants gaining valuable work experience at the Anglesea Resale Shed. Located at Anglesea Transfer Station, the shed has second-hand furniture and other items available for purchase.

I encourage people to visit the resale shed on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 10am and 2pm, to see if they can find some treasure. All proceeds go back to community groups.

The resale shed is a brilliant display of community spirit – something I've seen in spades recently while visiting various community houses and men's sheds.

Dignity in a Teacup

I'm looking forward to hearing from refugee advocate and *Dignity in a Teacup* author Christine

Cummins, who will talk about her time as a torture and trauma counsellor with asylum seekers detained on Christmas Island. You can hear from Christine at St Therese Catholic Church in Torquay on Sunday 25 August at 2.30pm.

Kicking comedy goals

If you're looking for a laugh this weekend, Surf Coast Football Club is the place to be. A reminder that the club is hosting a comedy night on Saturday, headlined by comedian Evan Hocking. Check out the Coasters' Facebook page [@surfcoastfc](https://www.facebook.com/surfcoastfc) for details.

South Beach Road works

Works will be carried out to improve South Beach Road, Torquay. It will include a shared footpath on the south side of the road, a complete rebuild of the existing road pavement, underground drainage and construction of sealed shoulders.

Council has chosen to undertake the works at the same time Regional Roads Victoria constructs the South Beach Road-Surf Coast Highway roundabout, to try and minimise disruption to the community. South Beach Road is currently closed to through traffic due to the Regional Roads Victoria works.

Our contractor will ensure that local traffic movements are maintained, and any disruption to local access is minimal.

Works are planned to start Monday 19 August and hoped to be completed by mid-December.

Cr Rose Hodge
Mayor, Surf Coast Shire



Mayor's column

Anglesea By-Election

It's by-election time in Anglesea Ward and I urge all enrolled voters to complete and lodge their ballot papers.

The Victorian Electoral Commission is overseeing the by-election, which follows the resignation of councillor Libby Coker.

If you are enrolled to vote hopefully you will have received your ballot packs by now, and if not you should call the VEC on **1300 010 148**.

All votes must be in the mail before 6pm on Friday 30 August.

The VEC has also opened an election office at shop 4, 103 Great Ocean Road, Anglesea.

I look forward to welcoming our new Anglesea Ward councillor and again having a full complement at the Council table.

Premier talks

I am looking forward to meeting Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews on 30 August for important talks focusing on the Eden Project vision for Anglesea's former Alcoa site.

Eden Project International Chief Executive David Harland will provide latest updates on the exciting eco-tourism proposal.

G21 Forum

Mr Andrews and Mr Harland will be in Torquay to speak at G21-Geelong Region Alliance's Annual Stakeholder Forum.

Congratulations to G21 Chief Executive Officer Elaine Carbines and her hard-working team for yet again attracting a very impressive line-up of speakers for the forum.

Journalist Patricia Karvelas, Deakin University's new Vice-Chancellor Professor Iain Martin and Victorian Treaty Advancement Commissioner Jill Gallagher

will also be among presenters. For further information visit www.eventbrite.com.au

Party time

A different Dan will be the star attraction at Torquay Toy Library 24th birthday party on 31 August.

Dazzling Dan the Magic Man will be providing his great entertainment for all and I'm sure there will be some birthday cake to enjoy.

The party will be from 9.30am to 11.30am at Torquay Children's Services Hub, 27 Grossmans Road.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who have contributed at the toy library across the years helping provide fun and stimulation for so many little ones!

Victory star speaking

I am looking forward to hearing Melbourne Victory player Alex Gummer speak at Surf Coast Football Club's Ladies Day on 31 August.

These events are always great fun, with guest speakers, raffles, music and goodie bags and it is always good to catch up on the latest news from the club.

The Ladies Day will be at Grant Pavilion at 3pm. Call Paula on **0407 351 622** for tickets and wear your club yellow or blue.

As finals approach in many of our winter sporting competitions, best of luck to all competitors and particular thanks to those who give up so much time ensuring thousands of kids are able to participate.

Vietnam commemoration

It was great to see about 50 people attend Torquay RSL's Vietnam Veterans' commemoration outside Council's office last week, preceding Long Tan Day.

On 2 September I will be attending the launch of

Legacy Week at Legacy House in Geelong. My father Don was a Legatee for many years so the organisation and the week mean a lot.

Pool regulations

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, DELWP, is seeking input on new draft regulations aiming to improve safety around domestic pools and spas.

The regulations set mandatory requirements including for owners to register their pool or spa with local councils, and undergo safety compliance inspections every three years.

Please be sure to have your say before 6 September via <https://engage.vic.gov.au/new-safety-standards-private-swimming-pools-and-spas>.

Thinking about solar?

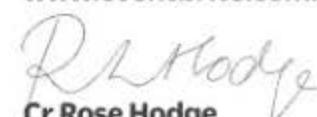
As a home solar panel owner, I can attest that they make wonderful savings for your budget and our environment.

If you are considering going down the solar path but finding the process a bit daunting or confusing you might benefit from attending Council's special free information evening titled Thinking About Solar?

Independent solar and community energy professional Dan Cowdell will be on hand to help determine if solar is right for you and offer advice in areas including eligibility for State Government rebates.

Thinking About Solar will be from 6.30pm to 7.30pm on 29 August at Torquay Community House. Bring your questions!

The event is free but please register via www.eventbrite.com.au.


Cr Rose Hodge
Mayor, Surf Coast Shire



Media Release

Weed Management Planning

As we come out of a temperamental summer, with late December rainfall and variable January conditions, a lot of areas are carrying large populations of opportunistic weeds.

No matter what the farming system, these weeds have the potential to impact on production and performance of pasture and crop as a green bridge host for pests and diseases, as well as competing with desirable plants for nutrients, water, and light.

Throughout the year, the Surf Coast Agribusiness Digest includes articles to help identify and manage weeds of particular concern in the Surf Coast Shire. It's important to go into the season with a weed management plan as a part of your whole farm plan.

Having a well-designed weed management plan, and keeping accurate records is critical to managing herbicide resistance. Planning for key weed emergence and control times, keeping track of application rates and herbicide types, and tracking knockdown rates after application all help to identify resistant plants and prevent seed set before emerging resistant populations can develop.

Key features of a good weed management plan include identified weed species list – knowing what weeds you've got on the farm allows you to plan your management options and control timing. It can also help to spot new weed species incursion a lot sooner, giving you the chance to eradicate before they become a major infestation.

Keeping track of what's been applied to manage weeds in previous years, as well as observed levels of control can help to avoid selecting for herbicide resistant populations, as well as avoiding costly mistakes of having to re-treat paddocks.

It should be noted that while keeping accurate records of non-chemical weed management practices such as stubble burning, slashing, solarisation or manual removal are not necessarily required under chemical use legislation, these records can help to track responses to all control techniques and relative effectiveness of all control options.

ENDS

For media enquiries and photo opportunities, please contact media@surfcoast.vic.gov.au, or (03) 5261 0600.



Media Release

Surf Coast shows off our hinterland at the Powercor Country Festival

Sunday 5 May saw Surf Coast Shire officers getting into the thick of it at the MCG for the Powercor Country Festival Farmers' Market, hosting a stall themed "Forage and Fossick in the Surf Coast Hinterland".

The stall promoted the range and quality of agri/food producers and attractions in the Surf Coast hinterland, a key action from the Sustainable Agribusiness Strategy for the G21 Region. Attractions of the stall included the premiere screening of the Explore Winchelsea promotional clip, as well as the Discover Deans Marsh clip, which was launched at Deans Marsh festival on the 24th March.

These short film clips were produced for Council by local chef and film producer Stevie Mack and will be used throughout the year at our Visitor Information Centres and during key events to promote the fantastic local producers of the hinterland to visitors and locals alike.

The stall drew in the crowds with curated samples of some of the fine produce available from Surf Coast hinterland producers, including pickled walnuts, ostrich meat blinis and mixed berry and walnut friand slice.

The Powercor Country Festival is an annual celebration of the powerful and positive impacts afforded by football in regional and rural communities.

The Farmers Market at the Country Festival proved to be the biggest drawcard of the day. According to vendors who took part, their attendance at the market far exceeded expectations and provided a unique opportunity to reach a new and diverse customer base.

The Forage and Fossick in the Hinterland stall was an active collaboration with the Otway Harvest Trail, recognising the shared role Council and the Otway Harvest Trail play in supporting and promoting our hinterland food and wine producers.

The Farmers' Market was attended by over 22,000 visitors, with over 1,000 of them lucky enough to sample a taste of the Surf Coast hinterland. The Agri Collective and 50 regional Victorian based businesses supported the event, where the Geelong and Essendon Football Clubs provided fans from both teams the opportunity to visit the Yarra Park precinct.

ENDS

For media enquiries and photo opportunities, please contact media@surfcoast.vic.gov.au, or (03) 5261 0600.

Friday February 19, 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

Finding Hope Along the Way: designer observes nature for new Melbourne-made fashion collection.

Melbourne artist and designer Tarmi Clarke has recently launched a new clothing collection inspired by the natural environment.

The new collection sees continuation of the patterns, tones and textures in original art pieces made by Ms Clarke which have a core focus on nature's ability to coexist, form relationships in the immediate environment, and find hope along the way.

Stylist and Creative Director, Ty Henschke says that “as we come to terms with the biggest upheaval of our lives there is innate sense of wanting to connect to the environment, nature, our surroundings and a real urgency to transition into the new world in an ethical and eco-minded manner, right down to the clothes we wear.

“The *Mycelium Collection* captures this mood in timeless pieces handcrafted with ethically sourced materials that capture art, craft, nature and style all perfectly.” Mr Henschke said.

Ms Clarke’s work took on a new meaning after months of lockdown and showed how important nature is in understanding new ways of coexisting, finding true connection and solace in a time of extreme uncertainty and social isolation.

By hand-making the pieces to order it shows that fashion can be sustainable and local - both in theme and in production. “Nature's ability to reclaim the man-made and create bonds to live in a symbiotic relationship has made me want to bring that into the way I design, live and interact.

“I am mimicking this in my collection by using reclaimed and sustainable materials, gentler artisan manufacturing techniques like dyeing and embroidery and working with other local businesses along the way.” says Ms Clarke.

The *Mycelium Collection* of styled artful classics is available to view at tarmi.com.au.

-ENDS-

High resolution [images for download](#)

Photo opportunity: artist with original sculptures and hand-making clothing pieces, by request.

Media release

\$1.3 million soccer pavilion for Ardeer

Ardeer Reserve will soon be the home of a brand new \$1.3 million soccer pavilion, which is being built to benefit the many people in Ardeer involved in soccer activities now and into the future.

Brimbank Mayor Cr John Hedditch said Council has awarded a contract to demolish the old pavilion and change room block that was in a poor condition, and to replace it with a new sports pavilion that meets community needs.

“The new pavilion is a win for residents of Ardeer and its surrounds.

“Sport and recreation is important to our community, and this project will deliver the kind of soccer facility Ardeer needs.

“The need for this facility upgrade was identified in the Sports Facility Development Plan, which contains a comprehensive strategy for the management and development of sport and recreation facilities in Brimbank. The plan identifies Brimbank’s sports facility development needs till 2021, and provides direction on how best to manage the identified provision gaps.

“The brand-new soccer pavilion at Ardeer Reserve is being built to Council standards to meet the needs of the community. It will also have two change rooms, a social room, associated amenities, umpires room, a first aid room, storage rooms and public amenities.

“The new pavilion is important because it provides the Westgate Soccer Club with a modern home that meets their needs as well as those of the wider community.

“Council had consulted key stakeholders about user requirements of the new sports pavilion, and the feedback received is reflected in the design for the new pavilion.

“Construction work is expected to commence in February 2017, and be completed by September/October 2017,” Cr Hedditch said.

The project is being funded by Council through its Capital Works Program and a contribution of \$150,000 from Westgate Soccer Club.

The contract decision for the development of the new pavilion was approved by Council at a Council Meeting held on 13 December 2016. The decision was taken following a tender process in which Melbcon Pty Ltd was evaluated as the preferred tenderer for the tendered amount of \$1,397,419.91 (excluding GST).

Through the Sports Facility Development Plan, since 2012 Council has strategically invested in more than \$23million of sports-related projects and maintenance.

**Media inquiries: Marian Ali - Media and Communications, Brimbank City Council,
Ph: 9249 4565 or email media@brimbank.vic.gov.au**

Media release

Business as usual as works commence in Keilor Village

Businesses at Keilor Village Shopping Centre will be trading “business as usual” when more than \$980,000 of upgrade works start this month to bring the Keilor Village Vision and Concept Plan to life.

Mayor of Brimbank, Cr John Hedditch said works have started on the implementation of the Keilor Village Vision and Concept Plan this week.

“The works being undertaken will greatly improve functionality in the Keilor Village area while maintaining and enhancing the history and character of the village.

“The development of the Keilor Village Vision Document and Concept Plan was a real community effort. These works will see the vision and plans crafted by the community in partnership with Council transform into reality.

“In the coming months, residents, traders and motorists can look forward to new raised pedestrian pavement and crossings, a resurfaced carpark, feature seating areas, street furniture, and new bus stops and shelters.

“Council will also complete an extension of the cycle trail along the length of Keilor Village, as well as tree planting and landscaping.

“The cost of the works also includes \$100,000 from Melbourne Water to construct a raingarden with viewing deck at the corner of Old Calder Highway and Kennedy Street,” Cr Hedditch said.

In line with the Keilor Village Concept Plan adopted in April 2016, local village materials have been used in the design – including blue stone and timber.

To minimise disruptions works will initially focus on the shopping strip area and carpark as a priority. Businesses will remain open for business during the works.

Construction of the Keilor Village upgrade works is expected to be completed by the end of April 2017.

The completion of these works will be further complemented by the development of the Keilor Community Hub, which will include a relocated Keilor Library, Council customer service centre and neighbourhood house component, at the old Council office building on Old Calder Highway.

The Keilor Village Concept Plan was adopted by Council in April 2016 and was guided by the Keilor Village Vision Document which was adopted in 2012.

Both documents can be viewed at www.brimbank.vic.gov.au

ENDS

**Media inquiries: Simone Kemp - Media and Communications, Brimbank City Council,
Ph: 9249 4509 or email media@brimbank.vic.gov.au**



Media alert

Challenge your assumptions and celebrate diversity

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Who and What | <p>Brimbank City Council is proud to present <i>Outing Disability</i> – a photographic exhibition.</p> <p>The exhibition is part of the Midsumma Festival and presented in collaboration with Family Planning NSW, GoWest and internationally acclaimed photographer Belinda Mason.</p> <p>This captivating series of portraits provides a rare insight into the hopes and dreams of 23 unique people as they share their struggles and triumphs of coming out, exploring identity, discovering love and finding pride.</p> <p>The exhibition challenges assumptions and invites viewers to enter a world of strength and a celebration of diversity.</p> <p>The exhibition will be opened on Monday 16 January and includes a panel discussion, featuring Sally Goldner from Transgender Victoria, Mellem Rose from Bisexual Alliance Victoria, Jax Jacki Brown (freelance writer) and one of the exhibiting artists Steve K, who is travelling from Sydney to take part in the discussion.</p> <p>Bookings are required to attend the opening and to view the exhibition.</p> |
| Where and When | <p>The exhibition runs from Monday 16 January to Friday 3 February, from 8.45am-5pm, at the Brimbank Community and Civic Centre, 301 Hampshire Road, Sunshine.</p> <p>Viewings of the exhibition will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 10–11am and 1pm–2pm, until Friday 3 February. To book a viewing, please email cpevents@brimbank.vic.gov.au or phone 9249 4000.</p> <p>The exhibition opening and panel discussion will take place on Monday 16 January, from 10-11.30am. To book a place at the exhibition opening please visit www.midsumma.org.au</p> |

Media enquiries: Media and Communications, Brimbank City Council, Ph: 9249 4092 or email media@brimbank.vic.gov.au



A Tulla bridge too far

REBEKAH CAVANAGH

JETSETTERS have been warned to allow extra time for travel as the main arterial road to Melbourne's airport is shut down for 60 hours.

Traffic chaos is expected today and tomorrow after a 10km stretch of the Tullamarine Freeway was closed in both directions between the M80 Ring Rd and the Calder Freeway at 10pm yesterday. It will reopen at 10am on Sunday.

Drivers travelling to and from the airport should expect delays of up to 40 minutes.

Airport-bound holiday-makers are asked to take the Pascoe Vale Rd exit before the freeway closure. But trucks are advised to continue on to the Calder Freeway and take the Keilor Park Drive exit.

Two detour options (above)

are available for motorists leaving the airport, or heading to the city from the northern suburbs.

The closure, part of the \$1.3 billion CityLink Tulla Widening Project, will allow crews to take down and reconstruct English St bridge over the Tullamarine Freeway at Airport West.

VicRoads journey services director Sameem Moslih said

there would be delays but signage would advise drivers of the quickest detour route.

"There's never a good time for road works, but we're taking advantage of the lower traffic volumes and warmer weather to replace the English St bridge," Mr Moslih said.

"We'll be monitoring these detour routes around the clock, using CCTV to identify when we need to adjust and

prioritise traffic signals to improve the flow of traffic and minimise congestion."

Mr Moslih urged motorists to check the live updates on vicroads.vic.gov.au before travelling.

"We don't want anyone to miss their flight, so please plan ahead and allow 40 minutes extra time," he said.

VicRoads predicts traffic volumes are 20 per cent lower

than usual at this time of year. This is expected to increase to up to 90 per cent from Australia Day, before returning to normal from early February.

Demolition enthusiasts or parents looking to entertain the kids can watch the English St bridge being demolished and rebuilt from a public viewing platform at the end of Bristol St, Essendon Fields.

rebekah.cavanagh@news.com.au



CC NEWS

FROM THE AIRPORT TO CITY

OPTION 1

- Take Centre Rd toward long-term parking
- Turn left on to Airport Drive
- Turn right on to Sharps Rd
- Turn left on to Keilor Park Drive
- Take the inbound ramp toward the city on to the Calder Freeway

OPTION 2

- Follow the Tullamarine Freeway inbound, taking the M80 westbound exit toward Geelong
- Continue on the M80 to the Keilor Park Drive exit
- Exit at Keilor Park Drive, cross back over the M80 and immediately take the M80 eastbound entry ramp toward Greensborough
- Take the inbound ramp toward the city on to the Calder Freeway

FROM THE CITY TO AIRPORT

OPTION 1 (CARS ONLY)

- Take Pascoe Vale Rd exit ramp
- Turn right on to Pascoe Vale Rd
- Continue on Pascoe Vale Rd to the M80 Ring Rd
- Take the westbound entry ramp toward the airport on to the M80 Ring Rd
- Take the northbound exit ramp toward the airport off the M80 Ring Rd and on to the Tullamarine Freeway

OPTION 2 (ALL TRAFFIC, INCLUDING TRUCKS)

- At the Calder-Tulla interchange, take the Calder Freeway
- Take the Keilor Park Drive exit
- Stay right. Turn right on to Keilor Park Drive
- Turn right on to Sharps Rd
- Turn left on to Airport Drive

Big delays expected as freeway set to close for 60 hours



Pokies stifle playground bid

By Ewen McRae

St Albans Sports Club's application to build an indoor children's playground has been rejected by Brimbank council because of its proximity to the club's gambling venue.

The club's proposal to extend its function room and build a 33 square metre playground was the result of concerns that the existing outdoor playground was too close to a car park and busy roads.

In its submission, the club stated the existing outdoor playground, which cannot be seen from the neighbouring oval or from inside the sports club, was not ideally placed for families involved in sporting activities or those attending functions.

At its last meeting of 2016, Brimbank council determined that the internal playground would contravene its electronic gambling policy (EGP), as the sports club operates on land leased from the council.

In a report to councillors, officers cited concerns about increasing exposure to gambling for families using the playground, normalising gambling among children,

increasing the length of time parents spend gambling, and creating perceptions that council supports exposing children and young people to gambling.

The report stated that Brimbank has the highest level of losses on electronic gaming machines of any municipality in Victoria, with more than \$143 million poured into pokies in 2015-16.

The council's EGP commits it to an objective of "harm minimisation", under which "prevention and early intervention strategies are the most effective approach to reducing the harmful impacts of electronic gambling".

The report, backed by councillors, also overruled safety concerns about the existing outdoor playground, which was upgraded in 2008-09.

According to the officers' report, the current playground complies with all safety standards and no public complaints had been received by the council in relation to it.



Sports revamp kicks off

By Ewen McRae

Ardeer Reserve will get a new \$1.3 million soccer pavilion, keeping up with demand for better local sporting facilities.

Brimbank council has contracted Melbcon Pty Ltd to demolish the dilapidated old pavilion and build the new one at the home ground of Westgate Football Club.

Westgate FC has contributed \$150,000 towards the project, with Brimbank council making up the rest of the \$1,397,419.91 tender price. Brimbank mayor John Hedditch said the project is part of a concerted push by the council to boost sporting opportunities.

“Sport and recreation are important to our community, and this project will deliver the kind of soccer facility Ardeer needs,” Cr Hedditch said.

He said the upgrade had been identified as a priority project in the council’s sports facility development strategy plan for managing and developing Brimbank’s sport and recreation spaces.

The new pavilion will include two change rooms, a social room and associated amenities, an umpires’ room and first aid room, storage and public amenities.

Westgate FC president Steve Kunesevic said it had been a long process to get the project up and running, but news of its go-ahead was hugely exciting.

“It’s a very important announcement, especially for the division we are in, and the way we want to improve as a club and attract players,” Mr Kunesevic said.

“The old rooms were pretty run down, lots of portables, showers didn’t work etc, so creating a more family friendly environment and a more welcoming place for ladies is what we want to do.

“It’s massive for the club, but also the whole community because we want to open the rooms up ... so the benefits are endless.”

Westgate will play its 2017 season elsewhere as construction takes place, but will still train at Ardeer Reserve. Construction is due to start in February, and end by September/October.

Brimbank Buzz

News from the heart of Melbourne's West



In2Tennis – give it a go!



Brimbank City Council is teaming up with Tennis Victoria and ANZ to offer 10 days of no-charge activities at all Brimbank tennis clubs during the Australian Open, from January 20 to January 29.

In2Tennis offers fun tennis activities for all ages, including introductory tennis, open days and community court use. No tennis experience is needed to take part.

In2Tennis kicks off on Friday 20 January with an opening event at Hampshire Square Pop-Up Park in Hampshire Road, Sunshine at 2pm. The opening will include a range of activities, mini games, giveaways, food and other tennis entertainment including a big screen showing the Australian Open.

In2Tennis activities:

- Club Open Days – Tennis clubs will open their doors to all. Lots of tennis programs organised throughout the session.
- Hot Shots Tennis – An introduction program into tennis suitable for five to 12 year olds. Uses smaller racquets, nets, courts and softer balls to make it enjoyable for all.
- Cardio Tennis – Bringing together a variety of cardio workouts and a range of fun tennis drills, Cardio Tennis is all about quick fitness and great tunes. No tennis skills necessary. Suitable for anyone over the age of 12.

- Fast4 Tennis – A fun and fast way to have a hit with friends. It's tennis with a twist! A modified version of the game to speed things up – great for those who have played the game before. Suitable for anyone over the age of 12.
- Community Court use – book a court to play with friends (BYO racquets and balls).

Spaces are limited, so book early. If you register by January 14, you will go in to the draw to win tickets to the Australian Open!

For more information and to register, please visit www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/In2Tennis or contact Brimbank City Council on **9249 4000** or sport@brimbank.vic.gov.au

What's on in Brimbank

Business as usual at Keilor Village Shopping Centre

In the coming months, residents, traders and motorists of Keilor Village Shopping Centre can look forward to new raised pedestrian pavement and crossings, a resurfaced car park, feature seating areas, street furniture, and new bus stops and shelters.

The centre will be trading 'business as usual' while more than \$980,000 of upgrade works are completed.

In line with the Keilor Village Concept Plan adopted in April last year, local village materials have been used in the design – including blue stone and timber.

To minimise disruptions works will initially focus on the shopping strip area and car park as a priority and works are scheduled to be completed by April, 2017.

For more information, please see www.brimbank.vic.gov.au

Outing Disability exhibition and panel discussion

Brimbank City Council is proud to present Outing Disability, a photographic exhibition and panel discussion, in collaboration with Family Planning NSW, GoWest, Midsumma Festival and internationally acclaimed photographer Belinda Mason.

This captivating series of portraits provides a rare insight into the hopes and dreams of 23 unique people as they share their struggles and triumphs of coming out, exploring identity, discovering love and finding pride.

Challenge your own assumptions and enter a world of strength and celebration of diversity. Bookings are required.

**Monday 16 January - Friday 3 February
Brimbank Community and Civic Centre
301 Hampshire Road, Sunshine.**

For more information, please see midsumma.org.au

Brimbank Cinespace

The Brimbank Cinespace project is now open to people from Brimbank's culturally and linguistically diverse communities, to apply for participation in a six-month film and theatre project.

The part-time program is an exciting opportunity and requires a basic commitment to attend workshops one night a week from February onwards to produce films and stories, and there is no charge to participate.

The stories will launch at a community event in August.

**Wednesday February 1
6:00 pm onwards
Duke Street Community House
27 Duke Street, Sunshine.**

For more information, please see brimbankcinespace.wixsite.com/cinespace/apply or on **0430 026 575**.

New soccer pavilion

\$1.3 million soccer pavilion for Ardeer

Ardeer Reserve will soon be the home of a brand new \$1.3 million soccer pavilion, which is being built to benefit the many people in Ardeer involved in soccer activities.

Brimbank Mayor Cr John Hedditch said Council has awarded a contract to demolish the old pavilion and change room block that was in a poor condition, and to replace it with a new sports pavilion that meets community needs.

"The new pavilion is a win for residents of Ardeer and its surrounds.

"Sport and recreation is important to our community, and this project will deliver the kind of soccer facility Ardeer needs.

"The brand-new soccer pavilion at Ardeer Reserve is being built to Council standards to meet the needs of the community.

It will also have two change rooms, a social room, associated amenities, umpires room, a first aid room, storage rooms and public amenities.

"The new pavilion is important because it provides the Westgate Soccer Club with a modern home that meets their needs as well as those of the wider community.

"Construction work is expected to commence in February 2017, and be completed by September/October 2017," Cr Hedditch said.

The project is being funded by Council through its Capital Works Program and a contribution of \$150,000 from Westgate Soccer Club.

Important notices

Permits required for lunar New Year firecrackers

Every Lunar New Year, local Vietnamese and Chinese businesses commission lion dancing associations with firecrackers at their premises to promote good Chi and prosperity for the coming year. It's important not to commission lion dancers who have not already obtained a permit.

This year's Lunar New Year celebrations commence early, on 29 January.

It's an exciting and festive tradition, however if not done carefully, it can pose a hazard to people, animals and the environment without adequate risk management in place.

Lion Dance associations need to apply for a permit because the events will be monitored and those without a Brimbank City Council event permit will not be permitted to perform and could incur a heavy fine.

Council work with lion dance associations to ensure public safety is maintained at all times and lion dance associations who meet Council's requirements will be issued an event permit.

You can apply for a permit in advance via the instructions on page five of the Event Handbook which can be found online at www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/council/events-and-filming

Sunshine parking

Sunshine Marketplace Shopping Centre has introduced timed parking in order to provide better access to the shopping centre for shoppers, visitors and workers.

After an initial period of familiarisation, Council authorised officers will patrol the car park and issue infringements for non-compliance.

Sunshine Town Centre has a range of all day, timed, and paid parking options, to view the map, please see www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/sunshineparking

Any enquiries about the Sunshine Marketplace Shopping Centre car park can be made directly to centre management on **9312 3555**.

Contact Brimbank

Phone: **9249 4000**

TTY: phone NRS on **133 677**
then ask for **03 9249 4000**

Web: www.brimbank.vic.gov.au

Email: info@brimbank.vic.gov.au

[facebook.com/BrimbankCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/BrimbankCouncil)

[@BrimbankCouncil](https://twitter.com/BrimbankCouncil)

Ordinary Council Meeting

21 February 2017, 7pm
Brimbank Community and Civic Centre (Level 1),
301 Hampshire Road, Sunshine.

[youtube.com/brimbankcitycouncil](https://www.youtube.com/brimbankcitycouncil)

[linkedin.com/company/city-of-brimbank](https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-brimbank)

Customer Service Centres:

- 301 Hampshire Road, Sunshine
- Customer services (limited) available within Keilor Library, Kennedy Street, Keilor
- Sydenham Community Hub*, 1 Station Street, Taylors Lakes

*This centre is open after hours until 7pm on Monday to Thursday and is also open on Saturday from 10am to 12.30pm.

**Brimbank
Language link**



9209 0140

Local call costs apply

Disclaimer: All details included were correct at time of print. Brimbank City Council does not accept liability for any statement, opinions, errors, or omissions contained here in. All information has been collected according to privacy information guidelines.

For more Brimbank community news visit www.buzz.brimbank.vic.gov.au



Booze ban cuts crime

By Alexandra Laskie

Crime has plummeted at major shopping centres in Sunshine since a booze ban was brought in to the central business district.

New figures obtained by *Star Weekly* from the Crime Statistics Agency (CSA) reveal the number of criminal offences committed at Sunshine Marketplace and Sunshine Plaza dropped dramatically, by about 21 per cent, in the year to September 30, 2016, compared to the previous year.

The crime slump directly correlates with the introduction of a ban on drinking alcohol in Sunshine's CBD, which was ratified by the Brimbank District Liquor Accord, a document signed by police, Brimbank council and the municipality's 10 major licensed venues, on September 15, 2015.

Acting Brimbank Inspector Cameron Reinke said alcohol is a major contributing factor in unruly behaviour. He said the CSA's data is evidence of the effectiveness of reducing crime by outlawing liquor consumption and preventing people from carrying open containers of alcohol.

"I would say the ban has been a success, as the number of incidents that police have been called to has declined, and behaviour generally in the CBD has improved," he said.

"Limiting the amount of alcohol consumed in the CBD can only be a

positive, in my view, and would likely be a reason why the number of offences in the CBD continues to decline."

In the year to September 30 last year, 366 offences were recorded across Sunshine's two biggest shopping centres, down from 466 in the previous 12-month period.

In the four years prior to the alcohol ban being introduced, the average number of offences committed in a year was 448.

“ Limiting the amount of alcohol ... can only be a positive, in my view ” - Cameron Reinke

A spokeswoman from Vicinity Centres, which operates Sunshine Marketplace, said the shopping centre has 30 closed circuit cameras, as well as security guards who conduct regular patrols inside the centre and its car park.

"And we continue to work in conjunction with local police, who regularly visit and patrol the centre," she said.

The Brimbank District Liquor Accord gives police the power to ban drunk, disorderly and violent people in Sunshine's CBD for up to 72 hours.

It was extended for another 12 months in December last year.



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Moiz Siddiqui, Miriam Bilander and Chrietos Cypreou enjoy Brimbank Park. (Dennis Manktelow)

A path to contentment

More than two dozen blind or vision impaired people from across Melbourne descended on Brimbank Park recently for the first in a series of walks across Melbourne's west.

Organised by Blind Sports and Recreation Victoria, the walks are designed to bring together members of the vision impaired community to explore nature, learn about local history, and connect socially.

The walks were made possible through a grant from Brimbank council. Program co-ordinator Miriam Bilander said such a simple concept could make a big difference.

"The aim of these walks is to promote physical fitness, get out of the house and get active, reduce isolation and also learn about some of the local history," Ms Bilander said.

"I don't want to paint the picture that all blind or vision impaired people are socially

isolated, but certainly it is hard for some people to get out and experience new things like this.

"We meet at Flinders Street Station to travel by public transport, with a lot of vision impaired people lacking confidence on that, and we always finish with coffee and lunch somewhere so it is a really social outing."

Ms Bilander said 25 people attended the first walk in Brimbank Park, with similar numbers hoped for the next walk at Overnewton Castle (April 28).

"We've got volunteers who help guide people, and often they become friends and catch up regularly," Ms Bilander said.

"We make sure our walks are very tactile, lots of touching trees, bush treasures and smelling flowers. The feedback is always very positive."

Ewen McRae



West's moment in the Sunshine

By Alexandra Laskie

Two internationally-acclaimed actors will star in a new SBS Australian drama being filmed in the streets of Sunshine.

Anthony LaPaglia, (*Without a Trace*, *Balibo* and *Lantana*), and Melanie Lynskey, known for her roles in *The Intervention* and *Heavenly Creatures*, will star in the four-part crime thriller called, simply, *Sunshine*.

SBS announced on Monday the multi-award winning actors would be joined by a South Sudanese Australian cast, as well as other well known homegrown actors Kim Gyngell (*Rake*, *Jack Irish*), Tiarnie Coupland (*Love Child*), Vince Colosimo (*Jack Irish*, *Underbelly*), Leah Vandenberg (*The Wrong Girl*), Paul Ireland (*Never Tear Us Apart: The INXS Story*, *Underbelly*) and Trudy Hellier (*Winners and Losers*, *The Doctor Blake Mysteries*).

The network's television and online content director Marshall Heald said *Sunshine* would headline as a bold and "uniquely SBS drama" centred around a crime mystery.

"I'm thrilled the show has attracted internationally-acclaimed talent like Anthony LaPaglia and Melanie Lynskey, and I'm especially proud that the drama will showcase young, fresh and diverse local talent, something SBS is incredibly passionate about."

Star Weekly revealed earlier this month that filming of the joint SBS and Carver Films' series would begin this month. Proposed locations include Sun Crescent, City Place, Hampshire Road and the Keilor Basketball and Netball Stadium.

Film crews started production last Monday and will continue until mid-May.

A number of *Sunshine* and Albion residents have been asked by the series' location manager if their houses can be used for the production.

Naomi Harper received a letter asking whether she would consider opening up her Norwood Street home at Albion for one day's filming next month.

She said she was told the producers wanted

a renovated, weatherboard house with a picket fence, as well as a brick veneer "family home".

The series is directed by Daina Reid who has TV hits *Offspring*, *Paper Giants*, *Howzat!* and INXS biopic *Never Tear Us Apart* to her name. It was written by playwright Matt Cameron and actor, screenwriter and director Elise McCredie.

The story follows Jacob, a young, talented South Sudanese-Australian basketball player hoping to be drafted to the US College league. Jacob wants *Sunshine* sports shop owner and former US basketballer Eddie (LaPaglia) to coach his team, The *Sunshine Kings*.

But Jacob finds himself caught up in a police investigation about a missing eastern suburbs' girl.

The drama will air on SBS later this year.

“ ... the drama will showcase young, fresh and diverse local talent ”

- Marshall Heald



Brimbank Weekly, Melbourne

Author: Alexandra Laskie • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Classification : Suburban • Audience : 60,655 • Page: 5 • Printed Size: 222.00cm²
Market: VIC • Country: Australia • ASR: AUD 654 • Words: 171 • Item ID: 751928570



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Dog day reminder

Pet owners have until April 10 to register their cats and dogs with Brimbank council.

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 requires all dogs and cats aged three months and more to be microchipped, desexed unless exempt, then registered with their local council. Failing to register a dog or cat attracts a \$311 fine.

Joseph Savona's one-year-old bulldog, Pepper, is registered with Brimbank council. The Kings Park resident says it's given him peace of mind that Pepper will be returned home in case she manages to escape the backyard.

In 2015-16, Brimbank council collected 912

dogs and 1654 cats found wandering the streets. In total, there are about 12,320 dogs and 3220 cats registered with the council.

It costs \$22.90 to register a desexed cat and \$34.30 to register a desexed dog. Brimbank mayor John Hedditch says the costs go towards animal shelters and responsible pet ownership programs.

Pet registration forms may be downloaded from Brimbank council's website brimbank.vic.gov.au or from council service centres.

Alexandra Laskie



Brimbank Weekly, Melbourne

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JOSEPH SAVONA AND PEPPER

(Shawn Smits)



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No inroads for age-old dispute

By Alexandra Laskie

A dispute over ownership of nine “private roads” in a Sunshine North subdivision that has lain fallow for more than 90 years threatens to further delay the land’s development.

Glen Ora Estate has filed a writ in the Supreme Court seeking a declaration of ownership of the roads within the Solomon Heights development – just east of the Melbourne-to-Sydney freight line – which Brimbank council claims it owns.

The Supreme Court writ says, in July last year, Brimbank council forwarded a letter to Glen Ora Estate’s solicitor, Ron Silverstein, asserting it owned the roads “by operation of the law”, as they were public thoroughfares, as defined under various acts, including the Local Government Act 1989 and the Road Management Act 2004.

The Local Government Act says a council may, by notice in the Victorian Government Gazette, declare a road in its municipal district to be a public highway or, by a resolution, declare a road that is “reasonably required for public use” to be open to traffic.

Brimbank’s city development director Stuart Menzies declined to comment on the matter as it is before the courts.

The roads are within a 32.8 hectare subdivision, which was carved up in the 1920s

and sold to owners without roads and services.

Today, there are 120 owners of its 465 lots, all of which remain undeveloped.

Glen Ora Estate, the company that subdivided the land in 1926, was deregistered in the 1930s.

The estate was bought three years ago by several shareholders and rebirthed, with the aim of completing the subdivision by building roads, drainage, installing electricity, water sewage, telecommunications and fencing.

Landowners would be given the option to buy into Glen Ora Estate’s infrastructure once this was been installed.

Engineering plans for the works were submitted to Brimbank council in April last year.

However, a letter from Glen Ora’s solicitor to landowners says the council has refused to evaluate its road and drainage drawings.

Last month, the state government gave the council \$75,000 to employ a consultant to create a master plan for the subdivision, in the area known as Solomon Heights, in an attempt to overcome almost a century of inaction that has halted development of the prime land.



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Brimbank councillors Margaret Giudice, Georgina Papafotiou and Virginia Tachos. (Kristian Scott)

A woman's way

Brimbank council has more women on it than any other local government in the state ... and that puts a spotlight on what's meant by women's business.

Women's Health West and Brimbank council have joined forces to break down the barriers preventing more women participating in local sports.

WHW chief executive Dr Robyn Gregory said there are important flow-on effects from women's participation.

"We know that participation in sports allows women and girls to build a healthy sense of belonging," Dr Gregory said.

"This project should see some really positive outcomes for women and girls in the west, outlining some practical commitments to get

more women and girls involved in sport across Melbourne's west."

The project will identify key ways agencies and government can respond to the diverse needs of women and girls in the western region.

Brimbank mayor John Hedditch said gender equality was a key plank of council.

"Brimbank council ... [is] advocating keenly for greater participation of women in sport," Cr Hedditch said. "The council will work with the project partners to develop a region-specific action plan focused on how we can reduce barriers and increase participation," he said, adding that talks are under way with Football Federation Victoria and AFL Victoria.

Ewen McRae



Green scheme is good business

By Ewen McRae

Brimbank businesses with an environmental conscience will soon be able to help to combat climate change, thanks to a new council program.

The Environmental Upgrade Agreements program, which has been approved for the next two years, will allow businesses to access loans for environmental upgrades for non-residential buildings, allowing them to improve energy, water and waste efficiency or increase renewable energy use.

The loans will operate in a similar way to normal loans, but the council will collect repayments from businesses through rates and terms are expected to be favourable.

Brimbank is the 10th Victorian council to endorse support for EUAs, with more than 5700 Brimbank buildings identified as suitable for upgrades.

Brimbank mayor John Hedditch said a grass-roots approach to the problem of climate change was important.

“Local communities and local businesses are at the forefront of action to address

climate change around Australia,” he said. “Brimbank City Council is really pleased that local businesses are already showing interest in Environmental Upgrade Agreements.

“It’s a great start for this new initiative and we look forward to having discussions with other local businesses about this exciting opportunity.”

Five businesses a year will take part in the scheme in the first two years, consistent with a similar uptake in other municipalities.

“We are fortunate to learn from the experiences of the other nine participating councils, which indicates that in the initial stages, the Environmental Upgrade Agreement program will likely attract no more than five businesses,” Mr Hedditch said.

“Business interest will be closely gauged during the initial trial period and if interest is higher than this, the number of businesses involved can be reviewed.”

Mr Hedditch said recent community consultation had indicated a demand for environmental schemes to be available for residential buildings and the council will look at opportunities in the future.



Council calls for tighter pokies regulation

Brimbank City Council in Victoria is calling on the State government to do more to stop problem gambling, which is a widespread public health concern in the municipality.

Brimbank has the highest electronic gaming machines losses of any Local Government Area in Victoria, which is deeply concerning, said Brimbank Mayor John Hedditch.

“In 2015-2016, \$143,045,743 was lost on electronic gaming machines in Brimbank – that’s \$905 for every adult in Brimbank,” Mayor Hedditch said.

“This community simply can’t tolerate the devastating financial and social impacts of these huge losses.

“In 2015-2016 around 44 per cent or more than \$63 million of these huge losses went straight to the Victorian Government Treasury. Year after year Council, police and other local social support services are left to mop up the mess.”

The Council is calling on the State Government to impose stronger regulation.

In a submission to the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing’s (OLGR) Gaming Machine Harm Minimisation Measures Consultation, Council says current cash withdrawal limits of \$200 per transaction should be tightened.

Currently, gaming venue patrons can go back multiple times during the day and keep withdrawing an additional \$200.

Council recommended introducing a daily transaction limit on EFTPOS withdrawals at gaming venues.

“Evidence shows that problem gamblers are more likely to have multiple EFTPOS

withdrawals per gambling session, so a daily withdrawal limit would support vulnerable people to better limit the amount of money they spend,” Cr Hedditch said.

Council’s submission also called for Responsible Gambling Codes of Conduct to be enforceable by law – with regulation similar to the model covering venues with liquor licenses under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998.

Under this model, venues that breached the code could face fines and/or license cancellation or suspensions.

“Based on the Victorian Auditor General’s recent report on pokies, Council wants to see a much stronger regime of inspection and auditing of pokies venues by the relevant Victorian government agency to ensure pokies venue operators fully comply with the regulations – now and into the future,” Mayor Hedditch said.

“While Council reluctantly acknowledges that Electronic Gaming Machines are a legal form of entertainment in Victoria, Council is very concerned about the devastating harm problem gambling continues to cause to our community.

“These huge losses must be turned around and turned around quickly as the devastating impacts on families, children and individuals have been allowed to go on far too long while the Victorian Treasury fattens its purse off the back of some of the most vulnerable

in our community.”



Brimbank Mayor John Hedditch.



Media release

Brimbank acquires land to enhance St Albans Town Centre

Brimbank Council has acquired land at 21 McIvor Road, St Albans, in the heart of the St Albans Town Centre, to provide additional parking in the bustling shopping destination.

Council placed a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) on the land in 1989 recognising it was of strategic importance to the town centre.

The public acquisition overlay is part of the Brimbank Planning Scheme and gives Council legal authority to secure properties for a public purpose.

The owners of the land will be paid compensation as a result of Council's acquisition of land in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Brimbank Mayor Cr John Hedditch said the time was right to purchase the land and help provide additional car parking in the bustling town centre.

"21 McIvor Road is on the corner of Collins Street and behind the popular Alfrieda Street shopping strip making it an ideal location to provide additional car parking. The site is also located next door to an existing Council car park.

"Council seized on the opportunity to exercise the public acquisition of the property when the land was advertised for sale.

"This is a great outcome for Council; it is always preferable to acquire property when it is not tenanted.

"This is also a positive outcome for traders and the surrounding residents of the St Albans Town Centre, it shows Council is taking action to help improve parking issues.

"We know St Albans Town Centre is a popular shopping destination for locals and for visitors and being able to work towards additional parking will make it even more attractive.

"Council will now work with the landowners to agree on a purchase price and finalise the settlement.

"Council is currently preparing the budget for next financial year and long term financial plan and will consider the funding requirements and timeline for the planning, design and construction of an at-grade car park at this site.

"This is another positive step in the ongoing revitalisation of St Albans.

"Other projects include the state funded level crossing removals at Furlong and Main Roads, the nearby construction of the Joan Kirner Women's and Children's Hospital as well as the Council funded and soon to be opened St Albans Community Centre and Bowery Theatre.

"Council looks forward to working with the local community of St Albans to help promote the fantastic shopping, recreation and cultural opportunities on offer." Cr Hedditch said.

Media inquiries: Rebecca Solomon, Media and Communications, Brimbank City Council, Ph: 9249 4347 or email media@brimbank.vic.gov.au

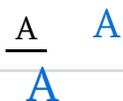
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BUSINESS SMALL BUSINESS MANAGING

How we saved \$50,000 paying no rent for a year

By Caroline James
14 February 2017 – 11:54am

One of the killer costs in the first year of business is your digs. Hefty lease fees and lightweight cash-flow can quickly put promising start-ups under. How do you save big bucks by cutting or avoiding paying for premises?



Rent-free lease

Paul and Kay Crozier will save about \$50,000 this year because they negotiated a rent-free lease for their underground bar business.



Ronan Bray and Daniel Rainone, founders of Popupshopup, have built a business taking advantage of unused space.

Photo: Supplied

As part of the 12-month rent-free deal they had to give the formerly derelict premises a commercial fit-out. The works cost less than \$50,000.

Their Adelaide CBD bar, Biggies at Bertram, is one of 130 start-ups to get a lease-free leg-up via not-for-profit Renew Adelaide, a tenancy model offered by the South Australian Government and Adelaide City Council to help entrepreneurs "test business ideas without the risks of taking long leases", says its chief executive Tim Boundy.

Advertisement

Last winter, the Croziers learnt their application to occupy the "decrepit" basement of the 150-year-old British and Foreign Bible Society building had been approved.

On August 14, after renovations including asbestos removal, their subterranean bar's doors swung open for business.

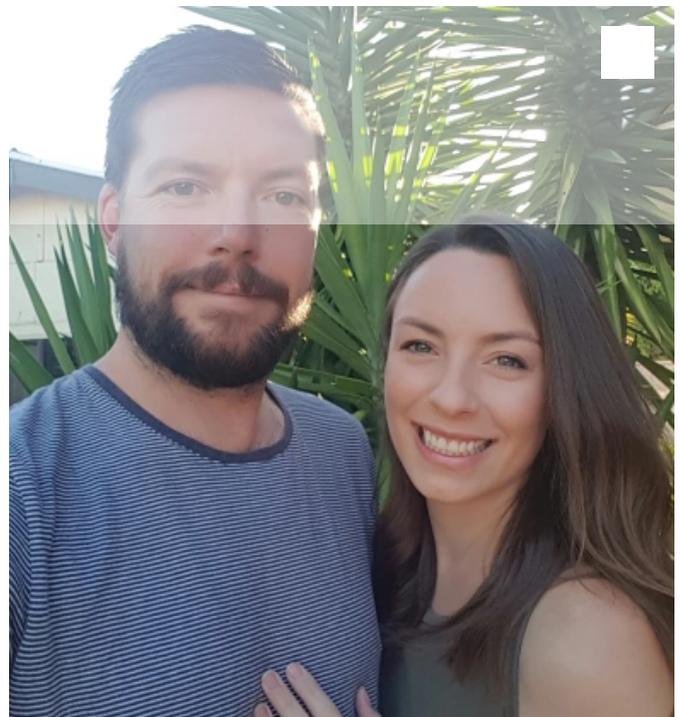
"It all started off a thing on Facebook," Paul Crozier says. "We put an application together and basically had to give them [Renew Adelaide] confidence that whoever they gave it to could have a good go at it.

"We had a big list of things we had to do to get that 12-month (rent-free) lease but it did mean we didn't have to be doing all that renovation work with the constant pressure of a conventional lease and its costs over our heads.

"I always had this figure of [us needing] \$250,000 capital to get this off the ground so, I mean, this is just amazing as it eliminates all the stress of having to cash-flow that first year's lease cost."

Paul Crozier says the basement's landlord had previously been asking \$20,000 plus outgoings for a conventional lease.

"It has probably saved us about \$25,000-plus, to seal the deal, we needed more toilets under regulations, a cost of \$10,000 to \$15,000, but Renew Adelaide came to our



Paul and Kay Crozier, owners of Biggies at Bertram, have saved \$50,000 on lease costs.

assistance to cover that cost.

"Also, we have run it so lean these past few months, as I was there a lot on my own, so we've operated without heavy wage costs and that has allowed us to keep prices down too, which has helped us build our clientele.

"This is just amazing as it eliminates all the stress of having to cash-flow that first year's lease cost."

Paul Crozier

"I'd say we have saved about \$50,000. We are already looking for our second business."

Boundy says Renew Adelaide "works to leverage start-up businesses through short-term, rent-free leases".

"This approach ... frees them up to focus on learning their customers, products, services and systems," Boundy says.

Working from the 'Coffice'

Ryan Ebert, and business partner David Hall, estimates the physiotherapists and directors of PHW Group saved more than \$20,000 in office lease costs last year because of "innovative thinking".

The national company offers occupational physiotherapy, workplace training and ergonomic office design. It launched in August 2014.

Last financial year it turned over between \$250,000 and \$500,000, Ebert reports.

"The business has grown from a working-from-home and local cafes' [operation] using software such as Trello, Dropbox, Skype and other cloud-based resources to service workplaces across Australia then, as we grew, we started using The Yarraville Club [in Melbourne] to run training events, strategic planning meeting days and saved costs there," Ebert says.

As the business grew, however, by 2016 permanent, albeit frugal, commercial bricks and mortar was needed.

Ebert says "thinking out of the square" resulted in a mutually beneficial inner city co-working space that "trims" lease costs while giving the SME a suite.

"We thought we could combine marketing costs and save on leasing costs by partnering with [co-working space] Inspire9 and committed to build a section of their workplace as a showcase of our health-focused office design service," Ebert explains.

"While there has been a bit of upfront cost, we were able to relocate our management team to the office premises and this out of the box thinking meant we combined marketing costs and leasing into one, essentially halving both of them."

There's a start-up for that

It's hardly surprising a bunch of start-ups are emerging, all busting to help other start-ups save money on their digs.

Ronan Bray, director of Popupshopup, says his business links start-ups with short-term premises via a portal "simple as booking a hotel room".

He founded it with Daniel Rainone last year. He says it gives businesses access to space from \$1 a day including legal and insurance costs.

In less than a full year its turnover is "close to \$100,000".

"A retail space in West Perth, not in the CBD, is currently available for \$59,850 per annum, which does not include GST or outgoings," Bray says, to illustrate potential savings.

"[In comparison] a space on Popupshopup in the heart of Perth CBD, can be leased for one day to six months for \$90 per day, which includes GST and outgoings."

Mike Rosenbaum, formerly with Deals Direct, spun off to start Spacer in 2015.

The chief executive says the share platform "connects people who have space with people who need space" and can save small businesses "up to 50 per cent" on storage space.

"For example a typical garage, which is 15 metres by 16 metres is going to be around \$350 around the CBD in Sydney [via Spacer]; to get a commercial self-storage near CBD areas will be double that, so around \$700," Rosenbaum says.

"Business owners, particularly in CBD locations like Melbourne and Sydney, are paying a premium for rental space ... [and] typically have to streamline their offices.

"They don't want to spend \$1000 a square metre filing things they don't need all the time in a premium A-grade office."

Daniel Battaglia, founder and chief executive of e-market Parking Made Easy, has never had a fixed business premises.

The decision to snub formal offices was made before he hung his shingle in 2011.

"Yes, that decision was made pre-launch," says the Sydney business owner.

"I have been working from co-working spaces, cafes, libraries, other entrepreneur/business offices who I collaborate with, all of my team including developers, marketers, accountants and lawyers are all working virtually and the same for them; co-working spaces, home, cafes etc. Some I haven't even met in person. It wasn't a big leap for me to make."

Battaglia tallies savings of "at least" \$50,000 each year because he uses virtual offices.

"So, all up since launching, \$250,000 based on rental premises for a team of five over five years.

"It [trading without a lease] can be for everyone.

"We live in a hyper-connected world and the tools and infrastructure are readily available.

"Obviously, if they need to have physical presence such as a chiropractor or tradesperson that part of the job can only be done in person, but definitely all the office function can be done virtually."

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The original community-led coworking space for Melbourne's startups, freelancers and creative entrepreneurs.

3 min read

Designing Productive, Healthy Workplaces at Inspire9 with PHW Group



PHW Group's new home at Inspire9

We're super excited to announce a new partnership between Inspire9 and Productive Healthy Workplace (PHW Group), designed to showcase best-practice ways of working with a new installation, based at Inspire9 Richmond.

According to Ryan Ebert, co-founder of PHW Group, the "wellness" or health of the workforce is set to become a major focus of management in the coming year.

Ryan Ebert, PHW Director & Co-Founder, has a firm understanding of the intersection between business and health. It's about proactively achieving realistic change. Coworking is still a relatively young concept so we are excited to be pioneering this research and developing the coworking community.

"The nature of work in Australia and across the world is changing at a rapid pace, but we want to make sure the human element of coworking is

*as healthy and productive as possible”—Emily Alexandra, Inspire9
Operations Manager*

The showcase fit-out is available for all residents and visitors to Inspire9 to use, and includes ergonomic seating options, electronic sit/stand desks, standing meeting/workstation areas and meeting-area couches.

To celebrate this partnership as the first of its kind in Australia, we're inviting everyone to come experience the difference of well-designed, purposeful furniture at the launch event, officially welcoming PHW into the Inspire9 community. We believe PHW Group's shared passion for productive, healthy and new ways of working aligns well with what's happening in the startup community, and we're super excited to be partnering with such an exciting new company.

"It's about proactively achieving realistic change. Coworking is still a relatively young concept so we are excited to be pioneering this research and developing the coworking community."—Ryan Ebert

Book your tickets to the PHW launch event on Wednesday 3 August.

About PHW Group

Both Physiotherapist's, Ryan and Dave realised the injuries they were treating are preventable and that a healthy workplace makes all the difference to not only health but also the way people do business. Which sparked the idea of forming PHW Group. PHW specialise in promoting productive, healthy workplaces and helping organisations to transform the way they do business.

PHW Group differs from many health companies in that it blends health and business to achieve increased productivity with workers. This is done by improving the physical, organisational and environmental aspects of workplace health and improving workplace culture. This process begins with Occupational Physiotherapy, workplace training and office design.

If you'd like an assessment and for more information, visit them [online](#) or visit the Inspire9 events board for regular sessions conducted in the space by Dave kicking off on July 14.

Ryan Ebert, CEO & Co-Founder was also featured in Smart Company's [2016 Hot 30 under 30](#)

About Inspire9

Inspire9 is the original community-led coworking space for Melbourne's startups, freelancers and creative entrepreneurs.

Inspire9 empowers individuals and small teams to achieve big things by generating connections between members of our entrepreneurial and creative community; locally, nationally and globally. The Inspire9 coworking community is a compelling mix of people and teams: from individual creative entrepreneurs to established and well funded high-growth startups to the early-stage teams emerging out of the accelerator programs based at Inspire9.

We are located in the thriving inner city suburb of Richmond, and are soon launching a new space at the [Dream Factory](#), located in Footscray.

GROWTH

Melbourne startup hub announces “massive expansion” and new CEO

DENHAM SADLER



Melbourne co-working space [Inspire9](#) has appointed a new CEO as it plans a “massive expansion” into the city’s west.

Serial entrepreneur and two-time BRW Fast 100 entrant Mark Balla will be taking on the head role at the startup hub, which will soon be taking on a 2300m² space at the newly announced Dream Factory in Footscray.

Announced on Tuesday, the Dream Factory will be run by the Impact Investment Group and will span across four levels and 7000m².

It’s a big move for the now seven year old organisation, and Balla says it’s an exciting time to be taking over the reigns.

“I couldn’t ask for a better introduction to the business,” Balla tells *StartupSmart*.

“It’s a massive expansion.”

Inspire9 is now on the hunt for startups and entrepreneurs to fill the space, and Balla says they are especially interested in companies from around the city’s west.

“We want to focus on startups that come from that side of town, but we’ll look at anyone,” he says.

“It’s another version of what we’re doing in Richmond. We have a direct impact on the local economy here so it’d be great to increase that and bring in more people.”

balla

A serial entrepreneur

Balla is a long-time entrepreneur that has founded several companies including most recently a not-for-profit building toilets for schools in India.

“Founding businesses runs in my blood,” he says.

“I have a deep interest in continuing to develop Inspire9’s footprint to ensure that the business founders of Australia continue to have a strong and supportive community to join and contribute to.

“I can’t wait to get stuck in.”

He says he wants to bring this focus on the social good to the co-working space and its inhabitants.

“I’m bringing that way of thinking into Inspire9,” Balla says.

“We can be more than just Richmond or Footscray.”

Expanding its offering

Inspire9 will also be playing host to the [Simplot Ignite food-tech accelerator](#) in a few weeks, housing a number of startups going through the program.

“It’s a slightly new direction for us and it highlights for current and future residents that if they’ve got something new, exciting and innovative that needs space, they can talk to us,” Balla says.

“If someone comes in with another type of accelerator outside of our previous experience then we’d love to see them.

“We’re open to anyone that’s hoping to build something and help people.”

In another new partnership, Inspire9 will also be working with health consultancy PHW

to “reimagine” its communal work areas in order to make the experience better for its inhabitants.

“Right now we’re very full so being able to fit more people that are looking for space is really exciting,” Balla says.

Balla has the backing of Victorian minister for small business, innovation and trade Philip Dalidakis.

“It’s great that Inspire9 have found Mark, who I’m sure will do great things for the company,” Dalidakis says.

“We want Victoria to be the location of choice for startups worldwide and as a homegrown success story Inspire9 is a great example of how bright ideas can grow and expand into globally competitive businesses.”

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