



Folk group Sicilia Bella's community grant will help with their concert. Find out more about community grants on page 3.

AUTUMN 2025

# DCN

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# DAREBIN: YOUR PLACE, OUR PURPOSE

Every day, Darebin's maintenance crews are out making sure our streets, signs, and footpaths are in good shape. Their work helps keep our community moving safely and smoothly.

Infrastructure Maintenance Officer Matt is one of the people making sure our footpaths and roads stay safe.

"When we fix a footpath, we're not just filling a hole—we're helping to keep everyone safe and making sure trip hazards are eliminated," Matt explains.

From potholes to cracks, the team works hard to keep footpaths and roads smooth and accessible.

Sign Writer Julie, who helps create, fix, and replace street

signs, says, "Clear signs help everyone—whether you're driving, walking, or riding your bike. It makes getting around safer and less stressful."

If a sign is damaged or needs replacing, the team is on it as quickly as possible to fix the problem.

Together, these crews maintain 530km of roads and 1045km of sealed footpaths across Darebin—work that helps make it a great place to live, work and explore.

If you spot a damaged sign, pothole or other road issue, let us know by calling **8470 8888** or visiting **darebin.vic.gov.au/parking-roads-and-transport**



Find out more about what you get for your rates and check out some great videos of Darebin staff at work at [darebin.vic.gov.au/your-rates-at-work](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/your-rates-at-work)



### Stay up-to-date with *Your Darebin*

For the latest local news, subscribe to our monthly online newsletter *Your Darebin*.

Visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/council-newsletters](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/council-newsletters) and follow the links to have our online news delivered to your inbox each month.



### SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

T 8470 8470

العربية	Ελληνικά
Italiano	नेपाली
Soomalii	اردو
繁體中文	हिंदी
Македонски	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
Español	Tiếng Việt

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung people who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Darebin stands. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the autumn edition of Darebin Community News.

I am constantly impressed by the amazing community here in Darebin. I come from a Macedonian migrant background, and I've lived in Darebin for nearly 35 years. Seeing how much people care about each other and the sense of social justice and community is so inspiring.

In these pages you can read about what a special community we have here in Darebin and what we do at Council to foster this passion and support everyone to be the best they can be.

You can also read about the Our Darebin project, including our new community vision that you helped to shape during community engagement. Read about why we love hearing from you and what community engagement means to you and find out more about the incredible part our community grant recipients play in building connection and community. There's also information about volunteering opportunities and what's on at the Intercultural Centre and around Darebin this season.

I am thrilled that we have achieved some important milestones recently and we're working with businesses, industry and partners to build a cohesive and clear economic direction for Darebin in the development of an Economic Framework.

As always, we are committed to the transition to renewable energy and are supporting businesses to join the EnergySmart program.

Darebin is a really special place. Whether you've already been living here or have newly arrived, I encourage you to explore it, embrace it, and connect with the people and opportunities around you.

**Cr Kristine Olaris OAM**  
**Mayor**



## COMMUNITY GRANTS

Maria from folk group Sicilia Bella was delighted to hear her community grant application was successful and will contribute to their concert at the end of March.

Founded in 1984, Sicilia Bella has delivered around one thousand performances at Italian and Australian social clubs, nursing homes, schools and local councils.

"Our group was formed with the aim of maintaining and promoting Sicilian and Italian culture in Australia," says Maria. "Our repertoire consists of Sicilian and Italian folk music, songs and tarantella dances. Our colourful costumes are from all parts of Sicily and our instruments include the Sicilian tambourine, cane flute, mandolin and quartara."

Are you a community group with big ideas, but need some funding to make your vision a reality? Our extensive grants program includes community grants, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander grants, Youth project grants and our new Older and Active Grant, to name a few.

Darebin Partnerships and Grants Officer Jen encourages all community groups to apply for a grant. "We strive to support as many community activities and projects as possible. Whether it be to increase social connection, promote healthy active lifestyles and wellbeing or to enhance inter-generational collaborations, our grants can help bring your idea to life," Jen said.

Find out more at [darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-grants](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-grants)

**Our Older and Active Community Grants close on 24 March - Apply today!**

## WHAT'S ON AT THE INTERCULTURAL CENTRE

The 2025 summer/autumn program at the Intercultural Centre (IC) is in full swing!

This season will run through to June with a diverse array of events, including:

- Regular programs with drop in services, English pronunciation tutorials, weaving classes as well as craft and health workshops
- Nights - a monthly social evening featuring a different cultural focus from February to June
- Open Access - four distinct programs including a Thaal feast, classical Arabic music, art and storytelling workshops, and trauma-informed dance workshops
- Volunteer Expo 2025
- April school holiday program
- Cultural Diversity Oration on World Day for Cultural Diversity

### IC Regular Programs

**Weaving Classes** open to people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, Mondays 10am-1pm

**Drop in Services** DIVRS Community support 11am-3pm

Services Australia 1-3pm  
Wednesdays

**DIVRS StARTalking** health checks & social craft workshops 27 March to 10 July, Thursdays 2pm - 4pm

**English Pronunciation** Fridays 11am- 12:30pm

### IC Nights

Join us 6-8pm on the third **Wednesday** of the month to celebrate some of Darebin's diverse cultures.

**First Peoples**, 19 March

**Jollof Journeys**, 16 April

**IC Cultural Diversity Oration**, 21 May

**Rhythms and Rice**, 18 June

**Volunteer Expo 2025** 29 March 10am -1pm

**IC School Holiday Program: Fan-tastic Moves! With RhythmBloom (English/Mandarin)**

9 April 10:15 & 11:15am

### IC Open Access

**Art as Medicine with Farhad Bandesh**

Wednesdays 26 Feb, 5 March, 12 March, 6-8pm

**Breaking Boundaries with Bharatanatyam: A Trauma-Informed, Queer Affirming Journey**

Tuesdays 27 May, 3 June & 10 June, 7-9pm

## VOLUNTEER EXPO 2025



A long-term local to the Bundoora Park Farm, volunteer Rosie helps to look after the seed library and provides support to the Education Team.

Rosie loves to volunteer and has a lot to contribute.

"I worked in school settings for over 35 years and in primary for the last 15. I feel my skills and knowledge are being put to a good use. It is so satisfying to feel useful again!" Rosie said.

"I love that Darebin supports and encourages volunteers from diverse backgrounds. The staff are great and are really friendly, knowledgeable and professional."

Here at Darebin, we celebrate our volunteers and recognise the vital support and efforts they make to our community. Each year we host the Darebin Volunteer Expo. **Join us at the Darebin Intercultural Centre on Saturday 29 March from 10am-1pm** and find a volunteer opportunity in Darebin that's just right for you!

So, whether you're looking to find your passion, give back to your community or to boost your resume, come along and learn about how you can make this possible.

FREE entry.

Check out the full program at  
[darebin.vic.gov.au/DarebinInterculturalCentre](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/DarebinInterculturalCentre)

Register online  
[darebin.vic.gov.au/volunteer-expo-2025](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/volunteer-expo-2025)

## ENGAGEMENT TO ME IS...



As a wonderfully diverse and welcoming city, we encourage the sharing of different views and voices when we carry out community engagements in Darebin. This is because your participation means better outcomes for you and a stronger Darebin for everyone.

You might be surprised to know we carry out more than 20 engagements a year with the Darebin community. So, we were curious to know what participation in engagements mean to you – and here's what you said!

Harriet, whose mother Monica participated in the Revitalising Northcote's Parade Playground engagement, enjoys playing on the new double slides. She says, "Mum asked me which play equipment I'd like to see at the

park, and I said a slide! And now I play on it whenever I can!"

Conor was a panel member in the Darebin 2041 Community Vision and Council Plan consultation. He says engagement to him is "A group of regular people speaking about what matters to them – issues, ideas, values – and coming together to agree on what their Council should be focusing on..."

Max is an autistic non-binary young person who has advised on cultural safety for Disability, LGBTIQA+ and gender-diverse community members in Darebin. To them, engagement is "A place to feel that my voice is being heard on issues that matter to me, and that my unique perspective is valued. When it's done well, engagement gives me a strong sense of self-worth and

a feeling that I am giving back to my community."

We couldn't have said it better! Having your say in community engagements lets you influence Council policies, strategies and activities. You can participate on the YourSay Darebin website, but that's not the only way you can talk to us! You can also call us at 8470 8888 and ask for the Community Engagement team or speak to us in your language by calling the Darebin Multicultural Telephone Line at 8470 8470.

Over the coming months, we'll be asking for your ideas and opinions on topics including the 2025-26 Budget, streetscape improvements, new playgrounds, and lots more! So, if you have suggestions or ideas – what are you waiting for?

Sign up to receive updates about topics that are important to you at [yousay.darebin.vic.gov.au](https://yousay.darebin.vic.gov.au)

## UPDATE ON Our Darebin.



Last year we launched Our Darebin, an important project which saw Council working closely with community through two stages of consultation — broad and deliberative — to review our 20-year Community Vision and help shape our Council Plan 2025-29 and other strategic documents.

We're thrilled to announce that our new Community Vision has been adopted!

This Vision was influenced by feedback from over 3,500 residents and crafted by the Our Darebin Community Panel—a group of everyday residents representing Darebin's diverse community.

Their hard work culminated in a proposed Vision that was unanimously endorsed by Councillors in February.

The Community Vision serves as a high-level roadmap for Darebin's future, outlining where we aim to be over the next two decades. It provides direction across all aspects of our community, environment, and economy, ensuring that every step we take is toward a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable Darebin.

The Panel also played a vital role in helping navigate tough decisions amidst financial challenges such as rate capping and rising costs. They identified community priorities for the next

four years using community feedback, insights from guest speakers and their lived experiences. They recommended key focus areas where Council can have the greatest impact on community wellbeing, along with guiding principles to support fair and equitable decisions on services, assets, and financial planning.

This invaluable input will help our draft Council Plan 2025-2, 10-year Asset Plan, 10-year Financial Plan, and Annual Budget 2025-26 (Four-Year Financial Outlook).

In the coming months we will be asking you to review these documents and tell us what you think, before they are presented to Council for endorsement.

## Darebin 2041 Community Vision

Darebin is an equitable, vibrant, healthy and connected community where all residents and businesses experience safety, fulfillment and prosperity.

Darebin respects and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and our diverse communities.

Darebin has responded effectively to the climate emergency by implementing a circular economy and creating a sustainable, green and liveable environment.

Darebin is renowned for its collaborative engagement, integrity, transparency and commitment to financial sustainability.

Find out more and have your say in your language at [yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/ourdarebin](https://yoursay.darebin.vic.gov.au/ourdarebin)

Last year we launched Our Darebin. Council and the community worked closely through broad community consultation and a community panel. The project reviewed our 20-year Community Vision and helped shape our 2025-29 Council Plan (incorporating our Health and Wellbeing Plan). To read the full article in your language visit [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

في العام الماضي أطلقنا داربين. خاصتنا (Our Darebin) عمل المجلس والمجتمع عن كثب من خلال مشاورات مجتمعية واسعة ولجنة مجتمعية. واستعرض المشروع رؤيتنا المجتمعية لمدة 20 عاما وساعد في تشكيل خطة المجلس 2025-29 (التي تتضمن خطة الصحة والرفاهية الخاصة بنا). لقراءة المقال كاملا بلغتك، قم بزيارة [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

去年，我们推出了我们的戴瑞宾 (Our Darebin) 项目。市议会通过广泛征求社区意见以及社区小组就该项目与社区进行了紧密合作。该项目复审了我们为期20年的《社区愿景》，并帮助我们制定了《2025-29年市议会计划》(其中纳入了我们的《身心健康计划》)。以您的母语阅读全文，请登录 [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

Πέρυσι παρουσιάσαμε το Our Darebin (Δικό μας Darebin). Ο Δήμος και η κοινότητα συνεργάστηκαν στενά μέσω ευρείας κοινοτικής διαβούλευσης και μιας κοινοτικής επιτροπής. Το έργο επανεξέτασε το 20ετές Κοινοτικό μας Όραμα και βοήθησε στη διαμόρφωση του Σχεδίου του Δήμου 2025-29 (ενσωματώνοντας το Σχέδιο Υγείας και Ευεξίας). Για να διαβάσετε το πλήρες άρθρο στη γλώσσα σας, επισκεφτείτε το [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

पिछले साल हमने अपना डारेबिन (Our Darebin) लॉन्च किया था। काउंसिल और समुदाय ने व्यापक सामुदायिक परामर्श और एक सामुदायिक पैनल के साथ मिलकर काम किया। परियोजना ने हमारे 20-वर्षीय सामुदायिक विज़न की समीक्षा की और हमारी 2025-29 काउंसिल योजना (स्वास्थ्य और कल्याण योजना को शामिल करते हुए) को आकार देने में मदद की। अपनी भाषा में पूरा लेख पढ़ने के लिए यहाँ जाएँ: [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

L'anno scorso abbiamo inaugurato Our Darebin. Il Comune e la comunità hanno lavorato a stretto contatto grazie a un'ampia consultazione della comunità e un comitato comunitario. Il progetto ha esaminato la nostra Visione Comunitaria ventennale e ha contribuito a dare forma al nostro Piano del Comune 2025-29 (che include il nostro Piano per la salute e il benessere). Per leggere l'articolo completo nella vostra lingua visitate il sito [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

Минатата година го лансиравме проектот наречен Нашиот Даребин. Советот на општината и заедницата тесно соработуваа преку опсежни консултации со заедницата и преку Панел на заедницата. Со проектот се направи преглед на нашата 20-годишна визија за заедницата и помогна да се осмисли нашиот План на Советот за периодот 2025-29 година (којшто го опфаќа и нашиот план за здравје и благосостојба). За да ја прочитате целата статија на вашиот јазик, посетете го местото на интернет [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

गत वर्ष हामीले Our Darebin (हाम्रो डारेबिन) सुरु गर्यौ। काउन्सिल र समुदायले व्यापक सामुदायिक परामर्श र सामुदायिक प्यानल (community panel) मार्फत सहकार्य गर्यौ। यो परियोजनाले हाम्रो २० वर्षे सामुदायिक दृष्टिकोणको समीक्षा गर्यो र हाम्रो २०२५-२९ काउन्सिल योजना (हाम्रो स्वास्थ्य र कल्याण योजना सहित) लाई आकार दिन मद्दत गर्यो। यस लेखलाई आफ्नो भाषामा पूरा पढ्न [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn) मा जानुहोस्।

पिछले साल अमीं 'आपटा डैरेबिन' (Our Darebin) लेंच कीटा सी। केंसिल अडे समुदर डायीचारे ने विआपक डायीचारक सलाह-मसदरिआं अडे डायीचारक पैनल दे नाल रल-मिल वे कंम कीटा। प्युनैक्ट ने साडी 20 साला डायीचारक दिसुटी दी समीधिआ कीटी अडे साडी 2025-29 केंसिल जेनना (साडी सिचड अडे डलायी जेनना नुं सामल करना) नुं आकार देह विंच मदेद कीटी है। आपटी डामा विंच पुटे लेख नुं पडून लयी ईंवे नाई [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

El año pasado lanzamos Our Darebin (Nuestro Darebin). El Concejo Municipal y la comunidad trabajaron en estrecha colaboración por medio de una amplia consulta comunitaria y un panel comunitario. El proyecto revisó nuestra Visión Comunitaria a 20 años y contribuyó a definir nuestro Plan del Concejo 2025-29 (que incluye nuestro Plan de Salud y Bienestar). Para leer el artículo completo en su idioma, visite [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

Sanadii la soo dhaafay waxaanu ku dhawaaqay Our Darebin (Darebin Tayada). Golaha Degmada iyo bulshadu waxay nala yeesheen wadatashi bulsho si dhow ayayna ula shaqeyeen wada tashiga bulshada. Mashruucu wuxuu dib u eegay himiladeena bulshada ee 20ka-sano wuxuuna ka caawiyay qaabeynta Qorshahayaga 2025-29 (oo xoojinaysa qorshahayaga Caafimaad iyo Qorshaha samaqabka). Si aad ugu akhrido maqaalka oo dhan luqadaada booqo: [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

پچھلے سال ہم نے Our Darebin پراجیکٹ شروع کیا۔ کاؤنسل اور مقامی لوگوں نے وسیع پیمانے پر کمیونٹی مشاورت اور ایک کمیونٹی پینل کے ذریعے مل کر بھرپور کام کیا۔ اس پراجیکٹ میں ہمارے 20 سالہ کمیونٹی وژن پر نظر ثانی کی گئی اور اس سے ہمارے 2025-29 کاؤنسل پلان کی تشکیل میں مدد ملی (جس میں ہمارا صحت اور فلاح کا پلان شامل رکھا گیا ہے)۔ اپنی زبان میں مکمل مضمون پڑھنے کے لیے [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn) دیکھیں۔

Năm ngoái, chúng tôi đã ra mắt Our Darebin. Hội đồng thành phố và cộng đồng đã hợp tác chặt chẽ thông qua đợt tham vấn cộng đồng rộng rãi và ban cộng đồng. Dự án này đã tái duyệt Tầm nhìn Cộng đồng 20 năm của chúng tôi và giúp định hình Kế hoạch Hội đồng Thành phố 2025-29 của chúng tôi (kết hợp Kế hoạch Sức khỏe và An sinh của chúng tôi). Muốn đọc trọn bài viết bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị, hãy truy cập [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/dcn)

## DAREBIN CELEBRATES



Our “Darebin Celebrates” campaign ignited the 2024 festive season! We embraced our vibrant community with diverse decorations and events. The classic Christmas tree in Preston and reindeer in Northcote twinkled alongside unique touches.

Upcycling workshops at libraries, nine live performances, and “Our Songs” showcased 180 local artists bringing joy to over 1800 attendees.

Twelve interactive artworks and festive shop windows brightened our shopping strips, and we supported traders associations in Reservoir, Preston, Northcote, and Fairfield to add sparkle and festive cheer to their areas, making the season truly unforgettable.

## ENERGY\$MART



Tarleton Dewe from Rat the Café in Thornbury values their heat pump hot water system, installed with assistance from the Darebin Energy\$mart program. Replacing their last gas appliance marked the transition to a fully electric business.

“The Energy\$mart program really helps us get that initial return on investment working for us as a small business,” Tarleton said.

The Darebin Energy\$mart program can help local businesses to Go Electric, with links to reputable installers, assistance with state and federal rebates and up to \$1,000 in additional subsidies.

Visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/Go-electric-for-business](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/Go-electric-for-business) to find out more and register.

## BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

For the past 18 months, we have been engaging with businesses through face-to-face workshops and events as well as online engagements to better understand what the priorities and challenges are for businesses in Darebin.

So far we have heard from 327 businesses and stakeholders and have had nearly 1000 individual comments. We are now finalising our Economic Framework and some of the projects we will deliver in the future and we want to hear from business owners again. Complete the survey by Sunday 16 March 2025 and you will be in the running to win a double pass to Palace Cinema in Westgarth.



If you're a business owner, visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-business-survey](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/darebin-business-survey) before Sunday 16 March to take part in the survey and win.



## REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN IN 2026



Bonnie, 3, is attending a Darebin kindergarten for the first time this year, and she's two days in.

"My favourite thing is the magnetic tiles!" she says.

Registrations for 3 and 4-year-old kindergarten for 2026 opened on 1 March. Registrations are accepted all year round but to be considered for round one offers in 2026, you must register before 30 June 2025.

We've made several improvements to our local kindergartens this year, including:

- Merri Community Childcare & Kindergarten expansion was completed to increase the number of 3-year-old kindergarten spaces
- Improvements to our 2A Raleigh Street building create a new licensed kindergarten for 22 children
- Completion of documentation and tender for Maryborough Avenue Kindergarten Redevelopment, which is on track to commence construction in April 2025.

In Victoria, it is free for all children to attend a sessional kindergarten during the two years before they start school. Long day care services also offer funded kinder programs and will apply reduced childcare fees for eligible children.

Visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/kindergarten](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/kindergarten) for more information

## WURUNDJERI WOI-WURRUNG TRUTH-TELLING DISPLAY AT BUNDOORA PARK

Darebin City Council in collaboration with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders have been progressing a Truth-Telling Display on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country at Bundoora Farm Park. This Truth-Telling Display aims to put the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung story back on Bundoora Park and tell visitors about the long-standing history of the area and deep significance of living Aboriginal culture. The display will be a permanent, interactive, educational display in an important location to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, past and present. Learning the history on site will likely be uncomfortable as Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people were forcibly dispossessed from their land. Confronting uncomfortable history is a key part of Truth-Telling and is the foundation for better lives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and all Australians.

Progressing this project is a direct action under the 2021-25 Council Plan. This project is also supported by Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029, Towards Equality and Council's Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. **Find out more at [darebin.vic.gov.au/our-commitment](https://darebin.vic.gov.au/our-commitment)**

Darebin Council officers have been meeting with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders and staff regularly for Cultural Workshops where stories are shared and key choices made to shape the display, learning material and physical display design. Council is working with a Melbourne based artist to bring this vision to life. The next workshop is scheduled for April and we look forward to opening the Display to the public in late 2025-early 2026.



The new permanent history and cultural display at the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre

# DCN

Darebin Children's News

All the latest news for Darebin's young people

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS IN DAREBIN

### HOLIDAY FUN ACROSS DAREBIN

There's always so much on offer across Darebin for the school holidays, from circus to golf, swimming to visiting the farm.

Check out our website to find out what's on offer for kids in their holidays this autumn.

[darebin.vic.gov.au/School-Holidays](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/School-Holidays)

### DAREBIN LIBRARIES' HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Head to your local library for brilliant kids' holiday activities! Our autumn program includes Lego clubs, Easter craft afternoons, science activities, an African drumming workshop and more! And for youth, a linocut printing workshop and craft cinema (watch a movie; BYO craft!). Bookings open on 24 March, but be quick - sessions fill fast!

Find event and booking info at [libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au](http://libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au)



This beautiful artwork was created especially for you to colour in by Uncle Ray Thomas. Uncle Ray is a proud Ginnai man of East Gippsland, who lives in Darebin. He has been painting and creating since the 1980s and Darebin is honoured to be home to several public artworks by Uncle Ray. **You are encouraged to colour this page in.**



### ENJOY THE OUTDOORS ON RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Riding to school is a fun family activity for Maggie and Oscar, and their parents Michael and Zoe.

"The kids really enjoy it," says Michael. "They're the ones who instigate it!"

A few times a week the family walk, bike, scooter and even rollerblade to William Ruthven Primary. Fridays are the active travel day at the school and Michael says, "they really don't want to miss out on it!"

Travelling along quiet streets, the kids look at the different trees, leaves and flowers along the way. Michael says, "It definitely feels nicer than driving, and it keeps me on my bike too."

They take part in the annual Ride2School Day and are looking forward to participating again this year on Friday 21 March.

To find out more about active travel to school, visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/TravellingToSchool](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/TravellingToSchool)

## WHAT'S ON



### BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD ART CENTRE A1 DAREBIN ARTS SALON 2025

The A1 Darebin Art Salon is back for another year, celebrating art, creativity and expression in the Darebin community. This biennial exhibition features more than 150 artists who live, work, study or base their creative practice in the City of Darebin.

Saturday 1 March - Saturday 24 May 2025. Free entry.

**Opening event and prize announcement:  
Saturday 15 March, 4-6pm Find out more and plan your  
visit at [arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/BHAC-exhibitions](https://arts.darebin.vic.gov.au/BHAC-exhibitions)**



### DAREBIN LIBRARIES HARMONY DAY CELEBRATION

Dance, clap and feel the joy on Harmony Day as Sicilia Bella Folkoristico Group perform traditional Sicilian and Italian dance in costume.

Friday 21 March, 2-3pm, Preston Library.

#### NEW PROGRAMS FOR KIDS!

We've launched an amazing range of new regular programs for kids and youth. There's something for everyone, including monthly art clubs, book clubs, study-skills sessions, card games...and more.

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN!

Our autumn School Holiday program launches on Monday 24 March. See page 10 for more info.

**Find library event and booking info on our events  
calendar at [libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au](https://libraries.darebin.vic.gov.au)**



### SPORTING FUN IN DAREBIN

Darebin's golf courses, sports stadiums and aquatic centres offer a range of programs for the Darebin community to enjoy. Keep an eye on our websites and social media channels for a host of fun and engaging sporting, community and family-friendly fun for all ages!

[bundooraparkpublicgolfcourse.com.au](https://bundooraparkpublicgolfcourse.com.au)  
[northcotepublicgolfcourse.com.au](https://northcotepublicgolfcourse.com.au)  
[darebinstadiums.com.au](https://darebinstadiums.com.au)  
[northcoteaquaticreccentre.com.au](https://northcoteaquaticreccentre.com.au)

### DECIBELS YOUTH MUSIC AND ARTS

Decibels Youth Music and Arts (part of Darebin Youth services) is a free space for young people with a connection to Darebin and between 12 and 25. We offer a host of programs including all-ages gigs, school holiday programs, free recording and rehearsal time, equipment loans and mentoring.

**To find out more, call 0419 750 106, email  
[decibelyouthmusic@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:decibelyouthmusic@darebin.vic.gov.au) or  
check @darebinyouthservices**

# WHAT'S ON CONTINUED



## AUTUMN AT THE IC

The 2025 autumn events program at the Intercultural Centre (IC) is on full swing! See page 4 for event info.



## BUNDOORA PARK PUBLIC GOLF COURSE BRIDGE DAREBIN CHARITY DAY

Take a swing for a good cause! Enjoy a great day out on the course - and raise funds for local community organisation Bridge Darebin. Friday 7 March. Registration at 7am; play starts 8am.

[bundooraparkpublicgolfcourse.com.au/whats-on/](http://bundooraparkpublicgolfcourse.com.au/whats-on/)

## BIKE SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Autumn is the perfect time to skill-up and start riding to uni or work. Join one of Darebin's bike maintenance and cycling skills workshops and make it happen this year!

### URBAN CYCLING CONFIDENCE

Meet other local bike riders, build your confidence, and learn skills to keep you safe on the road.

Sunday 16 March or Sunday 27 April.

### BASIC BIKE MAINTENANCE

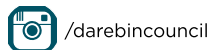
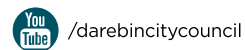
Our basic bike maintenance sessions will help you learn how to keep your bike in tip-top shape.

Sunday 2 March or Sunday 30 March.

Find out more or make bookings at [darebin.vic.gov.au/bikeskills](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/bikeskills)



Please note, information published in DCN is correct at time of printing.



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**NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE**  
[relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)  
If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.

**SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE**  
T 8470 8470  
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繁體中文 Македонски Español  
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