

Frankston City News

November–December 2020

frankston.vic.gov.au



Frankston City welcomes new Council

Frankston City's new Council is hitting its stride, after being sworn in at a special meeting on Monday 16 November.

Sole incumbent Councillor, Kris Bolam (JP), was elected to the position of Frankston City Mayor at the meeting, and first-time Councillor, Nathan Conroy, was elected Deputy Mayor. Both Cr Conroy and Cr Bolam will serve in these positions for the next 12 months.

Cr Conroy was one of five first-time Councillors elected, including the City's youngest Councillor in history, 18-year-old, Cr Liam Hughes. They are joined on Council by three experienced Councillors who have served prior terms.

Frankston City Council CEO, Phil Cantillon said the newly elected Council would offer a positive mix of experience and fresh perspectives.

"This is an exciting time for the City - our Councillors have such a diverse

array of experience to draw on, to get the best outcomes for the community. "Congratulations to our new Councillors, thank you to all 35 nominees for their dedication to the campaign and to the community, which turned out in force to vote at the election," Mr Cantillon said.

About 80 per cent of residents took part in the postal vote, with the result declared by the Victorian Electoral Commission on Wednesday 4 November.

Frankston City Councillors 2020-2024

North-West Ward

Mayor Cr Kris Bolam
Cr Stephen Hughes
Cr Sue Baker

North-East Ward

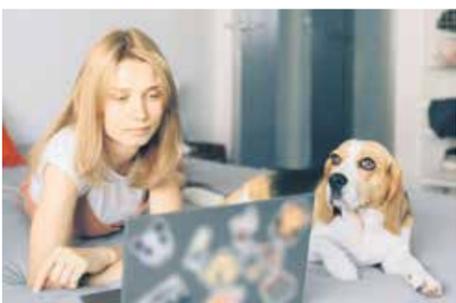
Deputy Mayor Cr Nathan Conroy
Cr David Asker
Cr Suzette Tayler

South Ward

Cr Brad Hill
Cr Claire Harvey
Cr Liam Hughes

To learn more about your new Council, see page 6.

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Contact us

Phone: 1300 322 322
Email: info@frankston.vic.gov.au
Live Chat: [frankston.vic.gov.au](https://www.frankston.vic.gov.au)
Interpreter: 131 450

Council's customer service centres have reopened to the public. COVID-safe measures are in place to protect staff and the community.

For up-to-date information on Council services visit: [frankston.vic.gov.au/Coronavirus](https://www.frankston.vic.gov.au/Coronavirus)

Please note, any images displayed in this edition that do not include a face mask pre-date the Victorian Government mandate effective Thursday 23 July 2020. Certain images were also taken prior to social distancing protocol. Council urges all residents to stay 1.5 metres apart and wear a face mask when not at home.

Hoon driving
1800 333 000 (Crime Stoppers)

Graffiti removal
1800 66 8247 (1800 NO TAGS)

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From cover 'Community rallies during a tough year': Community Support Frankston (CSF) volunteer home delivery driver, Raelene, and CSF operations team member, Julian, load a vehicle to deliver food.

Mayor's message

What an honour it is to again be entrusted to lead Frankston City Council for the next 12 months, and I would like to start by thanking my fellow Councillors for their support. I'd also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to you, our community, for without whom I would not be here.

Throughout my campaign I spoke to many residents, and time after time I heard their desire for a Council that demonstrated unity and worked collaboratively as one team. I want every resident reading this to know that I heard you, I will continue to hear you, and I will not let you down.

As a Council we are committed to putting our residents and their needs first, and while we may at times engage in healthy debate, we are dedicated to maintaining and growing a respectful and positive culture – which we all agree our residents deserve.

This will be my third term on Council and second time as Mayor having served in the role at the age of just 24. At that time I was one of the youngest Councillors ever to have been appointed to the position of Mayor in Victoria, which is something he is extremely proud of.

While much has changed over the years, including our community's needs and expectations, I still believe that accessibility and transparency underpin good governance, and that both play a major role in shaping the community's confidence and involvement in Local Government.

We are currently finalising preparation to relaunch the popular 'Meet the Mayor' sessions and we will continue to expand our community engagement and consultation initiatives to ensure that residents and our many stakeholders have the chance to provide input into our decision making and future priorities.

As your Council, we are blindly aware of the significant challenges our community has faced throughout COVID-19, and we also know that there will be many more challenges to come as we adjust to COVID-normal.

Council's multi-million dollar Relief and Recovery Package had gone a long way to assisting individuals, businesses, groups and organisations during the difficult period, and we will continue to work with our community to identify further tangible ways to provide support. There's a lot of work to do, and there will be many tough decisions, but by working together with our community we will face challenges head on and arise strong and more resilient than before.



Lastly, I want to briefly touch on the recent reports of anti-social behaviour at Seaford foreshore and make it very clear that anti-social behaviour, or any kind, will not be tolerated.

Our officers are working in collaboration with Victoria Police to ensure that our beaches remain safe and enjoyable places for all this summer, and residents will notice increased patrols and a stronger enforcement presence aimed at providing a quick response if needed.

Anti-social behaviour is not only bad for our residents, it's bad for our reputation. If you witness such behaviour phone 000. The more reports that are received the more resources are allocated to tackle to problem.

Cr Kris Bolam
Frankston City Mayor

Message from the CEO

It's a pleasure to present the November-December edition of Frankston City News alongside our new Council and Mayor, Councillor Kris Bolam.

Since their swearing in on 16 November, Councillors have been busy undertaking a comprehensive induction program to ensure they have all the information and resources required to effectively serve their community.

It's been a difficult and at times tumultuous year for all Victorians, with extended lockdowns and the forced closure of many businesses. While restrictions continue to ease and we adjust to COVID-normal, Council realises we still have a long road to recovery ahead of us.

To date, Council has invested close to \$7 million supporting our community through COVID-19, with many residents

and businesses having taken advantage of the financial assistance and grant funding available to them. As you read this edition you will learn more about how Council support has made a positive impact, and we will continue to keep our community informed on new supports and initiatives as they arise.

A major element in our local recovery process has of course been the revitalisation of retail and hospitality across the City. To once again see traders be able to welcome back customers and generate income has been heartening to see.

Council has and will continue to support initiatives which bring economic and social benefit to our city, including through the expansion of outdoor dining and place activations across the city and its suburbs.



I'd like to finish by applauding the Frankston City community for your resilience, strong spirit and dedication to supporting each other. This summer, get outside, reclaim your city, and let's work together to ensure a better, brighter and stronger Frankston City.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and a reminder to please stay COVID-safe during your celebrations.

Phil Cantillon
Chief Executive Officer

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Online exercise classes for seniors

There's no excuse for avoiding exercise thanks to FREE online sessions hosted by Frankston South Recreation Centre. Program Supervisor, Jenny Bosse, runs fun and stimulating classes for seniors and the young at heart.

"They get the blood pumping and provide important connection, particularly as people are missing each other," she said.

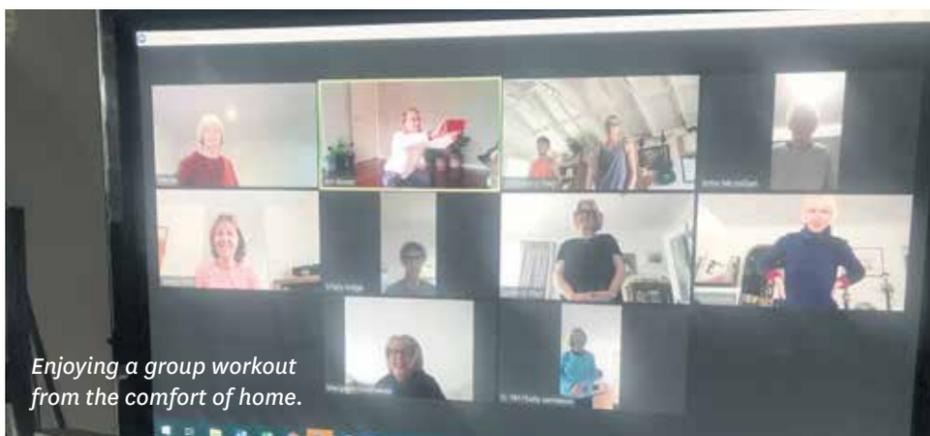
A regular participant, Thelma, said she loved the sessions, which are held via Zoom. "It keeps me fit and healthy. They're absolutely wonderful," the 93-year-old said.

Jenny runs a 'Zumba Gold' dance-style class on Wednesdays and a cardio weights and stretches class on Thursdays.

"Zumba is a dance class which includes Latin and other styles such as disco. The other class involves working on strength with weights," she said.

"It's a great opportunity for people to catch up online and get moving. Each session is about 30 minutes and they're ideally suited for mature, fit people aged 60 years plus."

Email: frankstonsouthreccentre@frankston.vic.gov.au to register.



Keeping youth engaged and connected

Local students will have the tools they need to forge ahead with their studies thanks to 2020 Online Learning Technology Youth Grants. The grants support young people to purchase the technology they need to study from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Frankston Youth Council Committee assessed and recommended funding 22 applications for a total of \$10,485.

This means 15 young people will receive laptops for secondary and TAFE studies, five will receive iPads and two will receive internet modems.

Tay, who is studying for her Diploma of Mental Health through Chisholm TAFE, said she was looking forward to receiving a new laptop to replace her old 'dinosaur'.

"My laptop is more than 10 years old. During restrictions, we're doing a lot of Zoom meetings and the laptop is regularly crashing," the 24 year old said.

Tay works part-time as a Mental Health Support Worker and is keen, through her studies, to learn how those experiencing mental illness think and process information.

The Online Learning Technology Youth Grants are funded via the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Engage! program.



Tay is looking forward to replacing her laptop thanks to the 2020 Online Learning Technology Youth Grants.



A family give the thumbs up after receiving a delivery of food and other items from Community Support Frankston.

Community Support Frankston extends a helping hand

The friendly team at Community Support Frankston is going all out to assist residents in need. Manager, Steve Phillips, said financial aid provided to the organisation from Council had been vital as more residents reached out for help during the pandemic.

Council funds three senior roles at Community Support Frankston and also provided an additional \$300,000 as part of its \$6.434 million Relief and Recovery Package.

Steve said the additional funding had been critical as requests for material aid, including food parcels, clothing and toiletries, had risen almost 200 per cent compared to the period before the first lockdown in March.

Many were seeking help for the first time due to their employment being impacted by COVID-19, Steve

added. "While the majority of our clients are still those struggling to maintain a private rental, from July to August we had double the amount of requests from home owners."

Steve said requests for financial support to help pay utility bills and replace essential whitegoods had also risen since the onset of the pandemic.

"We've also had significant increases in support to those receiving both 'no income' and to those on an aged pension since COVID-19."

Community Support Frankston is a not-for-profit support agency, which provides services including emergency food, grocery vouchers, help with utility bills and referrals for vulnerable and disadvantaged residents. For information, visit: frankston.net or phone: 9783 7284

NAIDOC Week 2020 8-15 November

NAIDOC WEEK celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The week is usually held each year in July however was postponed in 2020 due to COVID-19.

This year's NAIDOC Week theme, Always Was, Always Will Be, recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years.

Frankston City Libraries hosted the Indigenous Infusion program on 11 November, featuring Noonuccal

man, Elder and culture worker, Gene Blow. Gene played the didgeridoo and spoke about its traditional name and history, he also introduced the audience to Indigenous storytelling through movement, art and song.

Council's Youth Services team and Youth Council also hosted an online art workshop facilitated by Aboriginal artist Nina Turner.

For more information about NAIDOC Week, visit: naidoc.org.au

Meet the team at the new Aldercourt Kindergarten

A flock of lucky Frankston North children will kick off their education in style next year, when Aldercourt Kindergarten opens on Silver Avenue. The Kindergarten will provide pre-schoolers with a high quality program to build their confidence and self-awareness as they prepare for the transition to school. The kindergarten will be located in the new Aldercourt Child and Family Centre, which forms part of the \$26.2 million Victorian Government Frankston North Education Plan.

The three early childhood educators welcoming the first group of learners bring decades of experience to their roles.



Meet Nicole

Nicole Bechaz has worked as an Early Childhood teacher for 20 years. Nicole was part of the initial team which

opened Banyan Fields Kindergarten and has been teaching there for the past six years. Nicole has been recognised for her leadership and teaching skills, winning the 2018 Victorian Early Childhood Teacher of the Year award. Her work was integral to building strong relationships with Banyan Fields Primary School and ensuring a smooth transition to school.



Meet Dawn

Dawn Brooker-Maguire has been a kindergarten educator in Frankston City for over 20 years.

Dawn is dedicated and passionate about Early Childhood Education, her wealth of knowledge, gentle nature and commitment to the education will ensure the children attending Aldercourt Child and Family Centre have a wonderful kindergarten year.



Meet Lisa

For 25 years, Lisa Demeziers has worked with young children in a variety of settings. Initially, Lisa was a private

nanny before taking a role as an assistant in a three-year-old kinder room, 10 years ago.

In 2012, she began a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) and has been teaching since 2015. Lisa loves to watch the children grow and develop throughout the year and to see them learn new skills and discover the world they live in.

Aldercourt Kindergarten is now accepting registrations for 2021, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/kindergartenregistration



Feeling safe in Frankston City

Frankston City is that little bit safer thanks to 31 CCTV cameras installed across six locations. In the past 12 months, CCTV has been installed at the following locations, at a total investment of \$365,000.

- Nat's Track, Skye Road Frankston (two cameras)
- Excelsior Drive, Frankston North (two cameras)
- Thompson Street, Frankston (two cameras streaming to Frankston Police station)

- Playne Street, Frankston (three cameras)
- Nepean Highway, Frankston (16 cameras)
- Frankston North Community Centre (six internal cameras)

A further nine locations are under review, at a proposed investment of more than \$313,000. For more information on community safety in Frankston City, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/CommunitySafety

Snakes deserve our respect this summer

Snakes are often more active in summer, following their hibernation. Although they evoke fear in many, snakes usually only become defensive when they feel threatened. Council does not have the authority to assist with snakes on private land. If you encounter a snake on your property:

- Never try to remove it yourself
- Stay still and wait for the snake to move on, or contact a licenced snake handler who will come and move it to a safer place (fees may apply) Ensure you, as well as your children and pets, stay a safe distance from the snake and if possible keep an eye on it so you know where it is when the handler arrives
- In the unlikely event of a snake bite, apply pressure to the bite site and phone 000

Residents and visitors are reminded that all native animals, including snakes, are protected under the

Wildlife Act 1975. Harming snakes is illegal and can be devastating to local eco-systems.

For more information on treating a snake bite, visit: betersafecare.vic.gov.au For information on protecting your pets from snakes, visit: rspcavic.org

There are a number of things you can do to make your property less appealing to snakes:

- Install fine mesh around the perimeter of your property, by digging it slightly into the ground
- Keep your garden maintained (this will also help you see if a snake is present)
- Clear your property of building rubble, tiles, old tin and anything else that may attract a snake in search of a home

16 Days of Activism to end gender-based violence

25 November–10 December

Council has partnered with Frankston Mornington Peninsula Primary Care Partnership: Respecting Seniors Network, South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault, (SECASA), Zonta Club of Melbourne's South East and Chisholm Institute Frankston

Frankston City Libraries Author Talk: Ruth Clare

Available to view via the library website, visit: library.frankston.vic.gov.au

Ruth Clare is the award-winning author of the acclaimed memoir,

Enemy and a renowned speaker on domestic violence.

Frankston Arts Centre Free your voice:

Online vocal workshop Thursday 10 December, 6pm–7.15pm suitable for ages 16+, via ZOOM

Art Therapist, Laura Trenerry will help you discover practical tools and exercises to free your voice and speak with confidence in any situation. To book, email: artsaccess@frankston.vic.gov.au

For more information on 16DoA, visit: respectvictoria.vic.gov.au

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Prepare now for bushfire season

Council is preparing for bushfire season and urging the community to do the same.

As well as reducing potential fuel on your property, by cleaning up, clearing and burning off, preparing for fire season includes making and sharing plans for hot, dry, windy days and fire events.

Council prepares by inspecting properties and conducting fuel reduction works in Council reserves. Remember, fires can occur where suburbs meet the bush and in urban areas where houses are surrounded by grass, bushland or parkland – including near coastal scrub.

Download the VicEmergency app to receive alerts about emergencies in your area.



To prepare your house and garden for bushfire season:

- Ensure grass is less than 10cm long
- Remove flammable items like barbecues and furniture from decked areas
- Clear gutters
- Store flammable liquids away from the house
- Remove loose green waste such as leaves and dry grass
- When gardening, use plants with low flammability and ensure trees are planted well away from the house

For more information on fire preparedness, visit: cfa.vic.gov.au or frankston.vic.gov.au/BushfirePrevention

Check the rules before clearing trees for bushfire protection

Changes were made in August 2020 to the bushfire exemptions that allowed residents to remove trees within 10m of a dwelling and clear vegetation along fence lines for bushfire protection.

The exemptions now only apply within areas recognised as a bushfire risk (mapped as BPA Bushfire Prone Area). If your residence is not located within the

BPA mapped area you may need to apply to remove trees using a Planning or Local Law permit, as they are no longer exempt from requiring a permit.

You can determine if your property is in a BPA mapped area by viewing the bushfire layers map on the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website.

Visit: delwp.vic.gov.au For more information, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/LocalLawsforTrees

A \$1000 gift put to good use

When Gina Poulos and her team of volunteers deliver food parcels to the needy, they bring both nourishment and love.

“In everything you do, if you’ve got your heart in it, you will be blessed. When we go out to give the food, the love goes with us,” she said.

Gina is the driving force behind local charity Theodora’s Cheerful Givers which provides food parcels to the disadvantaged. The group is based in Frankston City and delivers food to the greater Frankston area and suburbs in surrounding municipalities.

Theodora’s Cheerful Givers was the winning organisation at this year’s Impact Volunteer of the Year Awards and received a \$1000 prize.

“Children are at home and they eat more because they’re indoors. Families are using more electricity and they don’t have the money for food,” she said during lockdown.

“It was wonderful to be recognised. It’s great for morale. Our volunteers are very special.”

For more information and to donate, visit: theodorahouse.com

We have missed you! Come and rediscover Frankston

Restrictions have eased and residents and visitors are flocking back to Frankston City. The Frankston Visitor Information Centre will once again welcome visitors through its doors from 18 December.

Opening hours: **Friday–Sunday from 10am–4pm.** Pop in and see our friendly staff who will help you rediscover all the incredible things to see and do in Frankston City, or pick up your copy of the City Guide and plan your next Frankston adventure with your visiting friends and family.

You can also visit: discoverfrankston.com or follow @DiscoverFrankston on Facebook and Instagram to find the city’s best experiences, dining, outdoor spaces and places for fun with your family during the festive season.



Meet your new Council 2020–2024

Cr Kris Bolam

What inspired you to run for Council?

Firstly, to 'tie up loose ends' insofar as projects and initiatives I got started last term that are still in the throes of completion. Secondly, I felt obliged to nominate for Council again as I want to play a part in getting our community through the social and economic ramifications that have accompanied the COVID crisis.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

- Continued infrastructure improvements.
- Protecting and enhancing core Council services.
- Providing meaningful support to our community during COVID and post-COVID.
- Continuing good governance, accountability, and community engagement and transparency reforms.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities and how will they assist you in your role as Councillor?

I have boundless energy and passion. I also have ferocious determination, which can also be a fault. I think my greatest quality for this term of Council will be my desire to always find middle-ground. I don't believe in absolutes and will always try to work with councillors, staff and community to find that 'happy medium', the grey area we can all agree on. Politics doesn't have to be unnecessarily divisive.

What do you love most about your local area?

I like the juxtaposition – you have the sea on the Seaford foreshore and bushland in Frankston North. Frankston at large is generally a place of contrasts. I think this nicely sums up why our suburb is regarded as a microcosm of greater Australia.



Cr Kris Bolam, Mayor

Mobile: 0417 921 644
Email: crbolam@frankston.vic.gov.au



Cr Steven Hughes

What inspired you to run for Council?

Initially it was the Frankston Freeway overpass on Beach St. After decades of driving under the bridge and seeing how degraded it had become I said to myself, "I have to do something."

Although it may seem insignificant, it's symptomatic of how Frankston overlooks the important details that impact residents' daily lives.

As a city we have so much potential, with our award-winning beaches, growing arts and culture scene, and our incredible community events.

As a Frankston City Councillor, I'll dedicate my term to helping Frankston reach its potential, addressing the important details, and providing exceptional service to our residents.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

These are uncertain and challenging times for our residents and businesses. I'll explore all options to reduce rates by ensuring that we are operating within our means. I will do all that I can to help ease the burden on our ratepayers.

Local businesses were already struggling prior to COVID-19 and now many are facing decimation. We need to be bold, creative and work collaboratively with businesses if we are to bring business life back to our great city.

In my view, Council's core function is to provide exceptional service, which includes creating enjoyable recreation activities for residents and visitors all year round. Now more than ever we need to be bringing our community together, while this needs to be done in a COVID-safe way, there's plenty we could be doing to enhance community celebrations and connections.

Our community is full of local heroes who work tirelessly to make life better for those in need. While we do some great work in this area, I believe there's more we can do to both support and acknowledge these individuals and groups.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities?

As a practicing accountant I understand the balance between providing great service and being financially responsible. Also, as a father I understand what families need to flourish within their community.

What do you love most about the local area?

Frankston is its own little biosphere, with everything you need including shops, beaches, pools, walking trails, and public transport. Frankston is a great place, full of great people who are there to support each other and always up for a chat.

Cr Steven Hughes

Mobile: 0413 175 911
Email: crshughes@frankston.vic.gov.au



Cr Sue Baker

What inspired you to run for Council?

I want to support my community and make a difference locally. As an organisation development and training professional, I have experience in strategic planning and governance, business development and implementing 'greenfield' projects.

My experience spans corporate and not-for-profit organisations managing people and resources. With this background and a passionate focus on customer service, I saw the opportunity to run for Council as the perfect role to bring my skills, experience and passion for people together in the place I now call home.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

I'm keen to work with the whole of Council to build a high-performance organisation culture that has its focus on a 2040 vision and the interim steps to get there, to serve the entire Frankston community.

I will support inclusive, ethical and purposeful community consultation and ensure communications about decisions are transparent and understood by all.

Thirdly, I will continue conversations on the climate emergency and importance of protecting our environment while developing health and education facilities, new and existing business opportunities, revitalising the CBD, Nepean Highway and extending public transport networks.

Finally, I will work to address issues of homelessness, affordable housing and the mental health and wellbeing of all.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities and how will they assist you in your role as Councillor?

The experience I bring includes planning capabilities, practical knowledge of various industry and community sectors, facilitation of stakeholders to work together on agreed goals, leadership of diverse groups and management of financial and material resources. I am also passionate about putting customers first and enthusiastic about bringing heart and soul to build relationships and listen to all viewpoints.

As a cyclist I love to take the cycle paths from Kananook Station up around the Seaford Wetlands and zig-zag through various parks to the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, to cycle off road. As a walker I have a circuit taking in Kananook Creek to Seaford, where I'll get a coffee, sit on the pier and walk back to Frankston on the beach. I also love the fact I can get almost anything and everything I need from one of the local businesses.

Cr Sue Baker

Mobile: 0438 145 842
Email: crbaker@frankston.vic.gov.au



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Cr Nathan Conroy

What inspired you to run for Council?

I just love Frankston and all it has to offer, and I want to be part of a team that can work together to create better outcomes for our many diverse communities. In my opinion, collaboration and teamwork will be the key ingredients to success.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

I want to help create and implement a strategic plan that will guide us to ensure a prosperous future for all residents.

I'd like to see a greater focus on key infrastructure projects throughout Carrum Downs, Langwarrin, Sandhurst and Skye. These projects will not only benefit families and sporting organisations but every resident throughout Frankston City.

We have the foundations to claim our rightful place as the start-up capital of Victoria. I plan to work with local entrepreneurs to build on these foundations to ensure we create the variety that is desperately needed in Carrum Downs, Langwarrin and Frankston's city centre.

We need to continue to identify new and innovative ways to assist local businesses if they are to reach their full potential. It's imperative that we support them to adapt to the ever-changing business environment.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities and how will they assist you in your role as Councillor?

I believe the way I communicate with people is my strongest quality as it allows me to develop respectful and collaborative working relationships. I'm a great listener, which is important when working as part of a team, and when undertaking engagement and consultation with the community and local businesses.

What do you love most about your local area?

The people. The community spirit over the past six months has been amazing to watch, especially given the difficulties that 2020 has brought.



Cr Nathan Conroy,
Deputy Mayor

Mobile: 0438 182 702

Email: crconroy@frankston.vic.gov.au

Cr David Asker

What inspired you to run for Council?

Having grown up in Frankston, I am driven by a passion for our community to become a better and safer place.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

My priorities include law and order, campaigning for more police, cracking down on anti-social behaviour and lobbying for a new police station in Langwarrin. I'm also passionate about addressing public safety, infrastructure and the delivery of necessary services.

I will also promote an environment that attracts and retains businesses, such as extending free parking time in the Frankston CBD.

Families in our community are doing it tough, so I will strongly oppose any cutbacks to essential services, particularly in these uncertain times.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities?

As an independent councillor not beholden to any political party, I will always encourage an open, direct dialogue with my constituents and warmly welcome views on the important issues that affect us all.

What do you love most about the local area?

Frankston City has everything – stunning beaches, tranquil bushland, great walks, a state of the art aquatic centre, great sporting facilities and increasing job opportunities. It's wonderful that locals can live and work in such a vibrant municipality.



Cr David Asker

Mobile: 0438 175 560

Email: crasker@frankston.vic.gov.au

Cr Suzette Tayler

What inspired you to run for Council?

I have lived in Frankston City all my life and I am passionate about our municipality. It is not just about rates, roads and rubbish. It is about families, and providing good programs for our youth and our elderly.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

We need to maintain and upgrade sporting facilities for our children while delivering better planning frameworks that protect, enhance our heritage, our neighbourhood character and updating community safety.

It's critical that Council assets are managed to ensure the organisation is financially viable while keeping our rates down. I will also lobby the Federal and State Governments for funding where needed.

I want to be able to help small businesses get back on their feet through Council community support programs.

We live in such a different world today and I will endeavour to do all I can to assist those that are vulnerable in our current environment.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities and how will they assist you in your role as Councillor?

I have worked throughout Frankston City as a Senior Property Manager and in Business Development for more than 20 years, which has given me tremendous insight into our city and the challenges we face on an everyday basis. I have also owned two businesses in the past so I understand what it is going to take to get small business back on their feet. This is also my fourth term on council – in five months I will have achieved 10 years of service as a Councillor.

What do you love most about your local area?

My favourite part of Frankston is our award winning foreshore and the stunning view from Oliver's Hill over the bay.



Cr Suzette Tayler

Mobile: 0438 179 515

Email: crtayler@frankston.vic.gov.au



Meet your new Council 2020–2024

Cr Brad Hill

What inspired you to run for Council?

I'm a father of five kids and have been a proud Frankston resident all my life. I have raised my family in Frankston. I do care what happens in the City of Frankston and I care a lot. I live here – my kids live here.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

- Ensuring that our annual kerbside hard rubbish collection is retained and tip vouchers are introduced with our rates notices
- A focus on delivery of basic Council services and strategies, evidence based decision making and value for our rates
- Provide free self-defence classes for women at my own expense
- Develop a Frankston town centre that we can be proud of

What do you believe are your strongest qualities?

A willingness to work with my fellow councillors no matter who they are.

A passion for good governance, integrity and evidence-based decision making.

What do you love most about the local area?

We have so much here - bush, beach, restaurants, sporting fields, but most of all community. Some incredible people are living right here in Frankston doing great work such as volunteering, and coaching kids for footy and cricket, unpaid. Hats off to them all.



Cr Brad Hill

Mobile: 0438 212 426
Email: crhill@frankston.vic.gov.au



Cr Claire Harvey

What inspired you to run for Council?

I've always had an interest in my local area and in the role of Local Government. In fact, I recalled just recently that I interviewed my local Mayor for a school project when I was in Grade 6 - despite being an incredibly shy young girl. In the end it was the rather persistent encouragement of some wonderful friends that helped me find the courage to put my hand up, despite COVID restrictions making it a particularly challenging season to campaign as a new candidate. I'm so glad that I did!

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

Initially, our most important task will be to form a strong, effective and united Council that is able to execute its various responsibilities to an exemplary standard.

I am also keen to see Frankston Council move forward in areas of environmental protection and climate change action and revitalisation of the local economy - including establishing effective, long-term solutions to ongoing challenges around transport (such as traffic congestion and parking).

I will also prioritise finding creative ways to support and strengthen households and communities as we emerge out of a really difficult year, to enable us to face an uncertain future with confidence and hope.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities and how will they assist you in your role as Councillor?

I believe that my integrity, curiosity, strong work ethic, open-mindedness and heart for both people and planet will enable me to serve the Frankston community well. My training as an accountant means that I'm incredibly comfortable with numbers and I also really love reading and learning. As a new councillor, I'm aware there will be a steep learning curve, but it is a challenge I feel ready to embrace.

What do you love most about your local area?

As a parent of two primary aged children I treasure the wonderful open spaces in my local area. This has been particularly important during the second lockdown, where we were limited to a 5km radius for daily exercise: access to parks, playgrounds and beaches helped us get through each long week.

Cr Claire Harvey

Phone: 0438 267 778
Email: crharvey@frankston.vic.gov.au



Cr Liam Hughes

What inspired you to run for Council?

Frankston is my home. I grew up here, go to school here and have been a volunteer at the yacht club for over five years. Giving back to the community has always been a priority for me.

I can bring a change to Frankston by highlighting the needs of all who live here from the youth to the elderly.

What are your top areas of focus for the next four years?

Increasing the communication between Frankston Council and the community. For too long, ratepayers have been left in the dark on where their rates are going.

Decreasing or stopping the growth of rates. Now more than ever ratepayers need a break from this ever-increasing cost of living.

More places for the youth and the community to go to when they are out of the house. For example, all-weather skate park, music and arts festivals and community programs.

Cleaner streets and parks with more proactive responses to issues such as overhanging branches on pathways, broken streetlights and blocked drains.

What do you believe are your strongest qualities?

I am open to change. I am not coming into Council with the mentality that I have all the solutions. I am coming into council to listen to the people who live and work here and to be responsive to their issues. For example, if there is a problem with business in Frankston, I'll go and talk to different business owners. They know what is best and I am ready to give them more of a voice and listen to the ideas that they have for our great home.

Persistence. I will run with a project till the end rather than dropping and changing when a new one comes along.

Hard working. I am not afraid to roll my sleeves up and do the tough stuff.

What do you love most about the local area?

Frankston has got it all, whether it be a swimming pool or the beach, great local shops or entertainment complexes, parks or reserves. Frankston is home to everything that makes a community great.

The down to earth nature of our locals only adds to the ripper atmosphere that we have all come to know and love. Couple this with a thriving community spirit and Frankston isn't the gateway to the Mornington Peninsula, it's the destination.

Cr Liam Hughes

Mobile: 0413 175 911
Email: crlhughes@frankston.vic.gov.au



#FrankstonCity

Road and pedestrian safety improvements on the way

Vital intersection upgrades and pedestrian operated signals will be installed to improve road and pedestrian safety at three locations across Frankston City thanks to almost \$2 million in Federal Government funding.

Works will include safety improvements to the McCormicks Road intersection in Carrum Downs where local resident, Phyllis Miles tragically lost her life in July last year.

Council has worked with local residents and the Department of Transport to install pedestrian operated signals while and replace refuge island, which will immediately improve safety while lowering vehicle speeds.

Local residents Amanda Cox and Michael Miles headed a petition to Council and local Members of Parliament for pedestrian safety improvements following the tragic accident in a bid to honour their loved and deeply missed Aunt and God Mother (to Amanda) and Grandmother (to Michael).

"Losing such an important person in our lives really made us feel compelled to do something that would protect other families from ever having to experience what our family has experienced," said Amanda.

"Being able to honour the memory of my loving and caring God Mother who leaves such a big hole in our hearts is something I know she would support and be proud we've been able to achieve after a little over a year of fierce lobbying."

O'Gradys Road and Frankston-Dandenong Road, Carrum Downs (\$788,000)

- Approximately 18,000 vehicles daily
- Works include extension to the right turning lane into O'Gradys Road, lane configuration and signal operations, as well as installation of, give way to pedestrian signage and bus priority signs
- Expected completion: 2021
- Delivered by the Department of Transport and funded through the Black Spot program

McCormicks Road, Carrum Downs (\$743,911)

- Approximately 12,000 vehicles daily
- Works include installation of new pedestrian operated signals with raised safety platform near the Skye Oak Tree Retirement Village
- Expected completion: mid 2021
- Delivered by Council



McClelland Road and Skye Road, Langwarrin (\$198,000)

- Approximately 10,000 vehicles daily
- Works include: roundabout modification, kerb, traffic island and footpath construction, as well as other works to reduce vehicle speed.
- Expected completion: 2022
- Delivered by Council and funded through the Black Spot program

Federal Budget

Council is delighted to welcome the almost \$2 million in funding for Frankston City projects, announced in the 2020-2021 Federal Budget.

Highlights include:

- \$84.5 million to duplicate Hall Road and improve intersections at McCormicks Road and Taylors Road in Carrum Downs.
- \$27.15 million to upgrade the Ballarto Road and Frankston-Cranbourne Road intersections along Westernport Highway.
- An additional \$4,245,574 through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program (projects to be determined)
- An additional \$743,911 provided through the Roads to Recovery program
- \$8,535,928 allocated to Frankston City through the Financial

Assistance Grants (FAG) program (projects to be determined)

These projects will create jobs vital to the recovering economy, while providing safer journey's to and through our community. Council is working to determine which projects will be quickly delivered through the LRCI and FAG programs.

Victorian Budget

The 2020-2021 Victorian Budget was announced on Tuesday 24 November 2020.

We will include a more detailed breakdown of how this may impact Frankston City residents in our January-February edition.

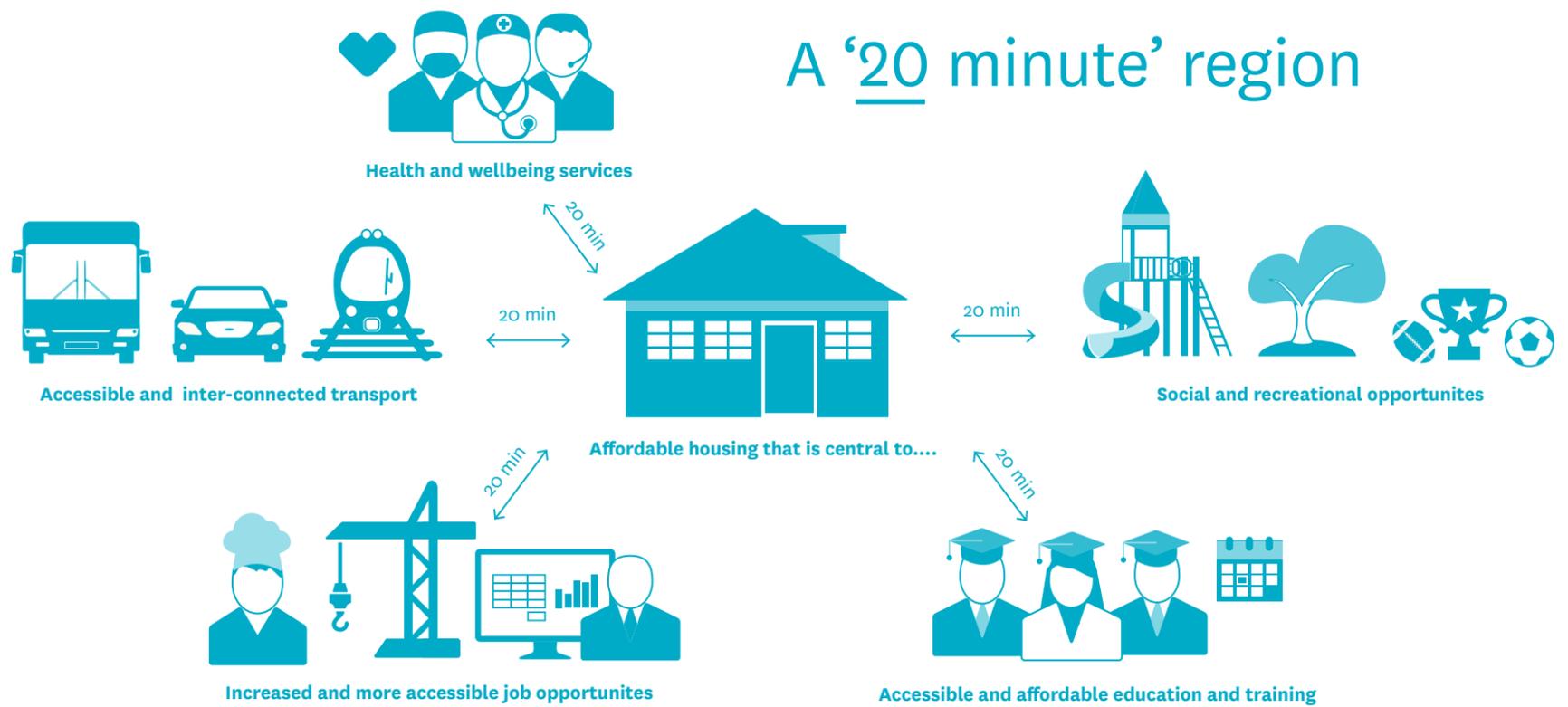
To view the complete breakdown of the Victorian Budget documents, visit: budget.vic.gov.au

The \$9.147 million RF Miles Recreation Reserve redevelopment is progressing well, with an expected completion date of mid-2021.

For more information and project updates, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/RFMilesRedevelopment



Advocating for Frankston's Future



Developing a Greater South East Melbourne Region

Frankston City Council is a member of the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) group of Councils, encompassing the eight municipalities in the southern metropolitan region: Frankston, Monash, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Cardinia, Mornington Peninsula and Knox municipalities.

Prior to the 2019 Federal election, GSEM secured a commitment from the Federal Government to deliver a GSEM City Deal.

The City Deal concept works to align the planning, investment and governance required to deliver transformational projects which will accelerate jobs and business growth, cater to population growth and

enhance lifestyle advantages.

A key aim of the GSEM City Deal is to undertake a regional and collaborative approach, with all levels of government, to create an ideal social landscape through a range of service, policy and infrastructure investments delivered by local, state and federal governments, will drive prosperity, liveability and economic development.

Numerous meetings have been held with Federal and Victorian Government ministers and department representatives to progress plans for a GSEM City Deal.

Frankston City's GSEM City Deal priorities

A key opportunity for Frankston is the significant health and education assets, which are expanding to meet demand and growing in reputation as leading institutions in their fields. In particular, research and the collaborative practice between the Monash University, Frankston Hospital and Chisholm has been recognised.

GSEM and revitalisation stakeholders recognise Frankston's City opportunity to optimise investments in health and education to become a driver of job growth and regional significance. The City's significant health and education assets are expanding to meet demand and growing in reputation as leading institutions in their fields.

In particular, research and the collaborative practice between Monash University, Frankston Hospital and Chisholm TAFE has been recognised. This environment in particular is also an opportunity to foster entrepreneurship and new ideas to reignite the local economy. Frankston City Council has also led the development of the stronger families and communities pillar identified within the GSEM. This included identifying a suite of policy and regulatory reforms that would enable GSEM to lead the way in engage in lifelong education, deliver improved health outcomes and foster a strong sense of community. updates, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/

Moving closer to a vision for Frankston's future

Council is working with residents to capture their priorities and aspirations for the City, in order to develop the Community Vision 2040.

Despite the challenges COVID-19 has presented to this process, Council was able to carry out extensive consultation during September, highlighting what the community values today and hopes for tomorrow.

Residents told us they value the natural beauty of our area, including the coastline and open green spaces, the vibrancy of our lifestyle with close proximity to shopping and other services, access to sports and

recreation facilities, as well as the sense of community, social connection and safety.

Residents' wish for 2040 is a socially and physically connected municipality, a diverse community that is welcoming and inclusive, continued enjoyment of natural assets with protected biodiversity, climate change action, and vibrant public spaces across the municipality, alongside a signature City Centre.

A community panel was established in November to help with the next stage of consultation.



The diverse panel was selected by an independent consultant. It will now review findings from the first stage of engagement and develop the new vision over the coming months.

A Draft Community Vision, as well as

the Council Plan 2021-2025, is expected to be ready for public review and feedback in April 2021. For more information on the Community Vision 2040, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/CommunityVision2040

#FrankstonCity



Talented youngsters have the 'write' stuff

The results are in for the Frankston City Libraries' writing competition for children.

Writers aged 4-18 years were invited to submit short stories, poetry, essays, haikus and letters reflecting on their experience of the COVID-19 restrictions, using the theme 'The time we stayed home'.

Congratulations to the following winners:

- 4-7 years: William Clutton
- 8-11 years: Lia Dixon
- 12-14 years: Nina Cummins
- 15-18 years: Esther Keath

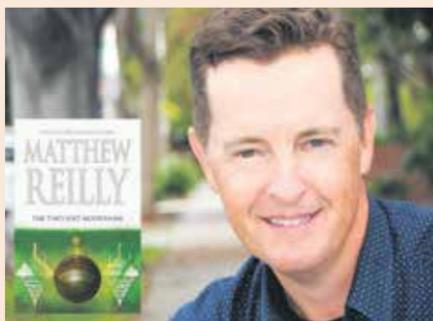
Each winner received a \$100 Robinsons Bookstore voucher and will have a chance to see their work published as an e-book on the Frankston City Libraries BorrowBox app.

What's on at Frankston City Libraries?

Ethically declutter for a sustainable Christmas

Wednesday 2 December, 11.30am via Zoom, FREE, bookings essential

Join Australia's leading professional eco organiser, author, motivational speaker and Planet Ark Ambassador, Tanya Lewis, and to learn the true cost of clutter. Tanya will help you identify clutter, ethically declutter, and how to dispose of clutter responsibly through the art of mindful consumption.



Online FrankTALK with Matthew Reilly

Wednesday 2 December at 6pm via Zoom. Free, bookings essential.

Internationally best-selling author, Matthew Reilly, joins us live from Los Angeles for this epic online FrankTALK to discuss his latest release, the two lost mountains, online via Zoom.



Choosing the right device

Thursday 3 December, 10.30am via Zoom, FREE, bookings essential

This Stay In Touch session will provide you with an introduction to the different devices, what they do, and how to determine which is the right one for you. The host will outline what to look for when purchasing technology to suit your budget and needs.

Online FrankTALK with Laura Greaves

Thursday 3 December, 12.30pm via Zoom, FREE, bookings essential

A long life is considered a life well-lived, and the same goes for our four-legged friends. In this heartfelt new collection from award-winning author, Laura Greaves, we meet 15 elderly dogs who, despite their age, are doing extraordinary things all around the world.

Online FrankTALK with Darry Fraser

Friday 4 December, 11am, online, FREE, bookings essential

A woman alone and a charismatic private detective are caught up in a dangerous quest to discover her true identity in the thrilling historical adventure romance set in 19th century Victoria, from bestselling Australian author, Darry Fraser. Please join us for this FrankTALK with Darry Fraser as she chats with us about all things writing, reading and the wonderful Australian settings she chooses for her novels.



Strengthening my community workshop

Monday 7 December, 12pm via Zoom, FREE, bookings essential

This workshop explores how social cohesion can impact our health by nurturing and building communities. It will assist participants to leave with tangible ideas to support their own wellbeing and those in their neighbourhood over the coming months.



Online FrankTALK with Sam Hawke

Friday 11 December, 12.30pm via Zoom, FREE, bookings essential

Sam Hawke will discuss her eagerly awaited sequel to *City of Lies, Hollow Empire*. The deadly siege of Silasta woke the ancient spirits, and the city-state must find its place in this new world of magic.



Summer Reading Challenge

The challenge is on to read for your child to read for 20 hours this summer for a chance to win great prizes. Open to 0-18 year olds, visit the library website for more information and to register.

To book: library.frankston.vic.gov.au/whats_on or phone: 9784 1020

FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE

2020 program

Bookings: 9784 1060 or thefac.com.au



ARTIST GRANTS KEEPING CREATIVITY ALIVE DURING COVID-19

Council's significantly expanded Community and Business Grants Program is supporting up to 16 artists and creatives to pursue their passion, while delivering culturally important work to the community. This includes Artist Project Grants each up to \$4000 and Creative Industries Professional Development Grants of up to \$2,500. The 2020–2021 recipients include:



Actor, theatre-maker and director, Carole Patullo will use her Artist Project Grant to create a solo theatre performance capturing and celebrating some of Frankston's 'ordinary champions'.



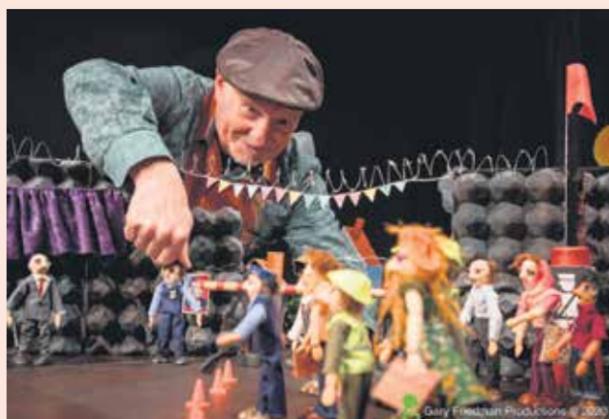
An Artist Project Grant will help Alison Tedesco create a series of paintings depicting local laneways, the Frankston Mechanics Institute, the Grand Hotel, street scenes and more.



Local writing group, The Writers Block. The works of this group will feature in an anthology thanks to a Professional Development Grant.



Kylie Stillman will draw on inspiration from the iconic Coastal Manna Gum, to create a new sculpture which will be exhibited locally, thanks to her Artist Project Grant.



Animator and filmmaker Gary Friedman will use his Artist Project Grant to share his stop-motion film work and puppetry with a broader audience, including through online workshops.



Comic book artist Dean Rankine will use his Professional Development Grant to enhance his skills and make connections with other creators.



Art

Gift an experience they will never forget

Looking for an unforgettable gift for your loved ones this Christmas?

Give the gift of intriguing tales, uplifting music and classic stage shows with a Frankston Arts Centre gift card. Open the door to experiences. Gift cards are valid for three years and can be used for performances and workshops. Purchase online at thefac.com.au or call the Box Office on 03 9784 1060.



Art

FAC Memberships

As a Frankston Arts Centre Member, you become a part of a special community of arts lovers who support everything we strive to do.

Enjoy exclusive benefits, connect with like-minded people and be at the heart of the local arts community. Celebrate your love for the arts by becoming an FAC Member for 2021! To find out more, visit thefac.com.au or call our Box Office on 03 9784 1060.



Theatre

Season 2021

Although our venues are temporarily closed, our teams are planning for the 2021 theatre season. We look forward to bringing you the best of the arts, and embracing creative new delivery models. Stay connected with us via our website, emails and socials – we can't wait to tell you more over the coming months! Subscribe to our e-news at thefac.com.au or call our Box Office on 03 9784 1060.

#FrankstonCity



Climate change: A hot topic for our community

Thank you to everyone who completed Council's Climate Change Community Survey recently. We had an astounding 762 responses, showing a high level of community engagement in this important issue.

The independent consultant who ran the survey has provided Council with a report of key findings which will be presented to the community and our newly elected Councillors at the Ordinary Council Meeting on Monday 14 December. The survey results will inform Council's climate emergency response,

including the review and update of the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Plan and actions to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions, which are a key contributor to climate change. Your ideas and input will help guide actions that Council and the community can work on together, to urgently address the challenges of climate change.

To receive the latest updates on Council's climate emergency response sign up to EnviroNews, Council's environment e-newsletter. Visit: frankston.vic.gov.au or email: info@frankston.vic.gov.au

Greening Our Future FREE webinar series

These days online sessions are a great way to learn, while we look forward to 'in person' events returning soon. Connect with others through these enjoyable webinars and learn interesting, practical tips for sustainable living.

To book your place visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents



Wildlife gardens of Frankston City

Saturday 5 December, 10–11.30am

In this webinar we will take a virtual look at some local wildlife gardens. You will be invited to send in photos or a short video of your wildlife garden and we will spend time sharing and discussing how they have become habitats for local wildlife.



Preserving Basics

Wednesday 9 December, 7–9pm

Learn how to create delicious preserves by making the most of seasonal produce. This free session will give you the know-how and confidence to use age old techniques to transform fruits and vegetables into pickles, jams, sauces and chutneys. Use these skills to make delicious gifts in time for Christmas and the holiday season. These simple methods for preserving foods can also help you reduce food waste.

Watch out for more Greening Our Future events in early 2021. Sign up to our EnviroNews e-newsletter: frankston.vic.gov.au/CouncilSubscribe or visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/EnviroEvents

Recycling tips

A recent bin audit revealed 16 percent of items in household recycling bins are contaminants — items that aren't recyclable through the kerbside collection system.

Contamination makes recycling more expensive, compromises the sorting of materials, poses a risk to the workers involved in the sorting and can result in recycling being sent to landfill.

For an item to be recycled, there must be the technical means to recycle it and the market to buy it back in the form of a new product. As the market fluctuates, the items accepted in household recycling bins also changes. If you don't know whether an item belongs in your recycling bin please check, don't guess.



Place these items in your yellow-lidded recycling bin:

- Plastic bottles, containers and trays
- Steel and aluminium cans, foil and trays
- Glass bottles and jars
- Paper and cardboard

Items that can't go in your yellow-lidded recycling bin:

- Anything in a plastic bag (including recyclables)
- Clothing
- Polystyrene
- Food waste
- Soft scrunchable plastics like plastic bags, bread and pasta bags

Food waste can go in your lime green-lidded garden waste bin. If you don't have a food and garden waste bin, you can order one by calling Council on 1300 322 322. Alternatively, food waste can be composted at home.

For clothing, soft scrunchable plastics and some types of polystyrene, visit our A – Z Waste and Recycling Directory.

For more information on recycling visit: frankston.vic.gov.au

Top tips for reducing waste during the festive season

- Use reusable plates, cups and cutlery
- Provide washable napkins (instead of paper ones)
- Avoid straws and balloons
- Gift an experience or donate to a cause on behalf of a loved one
- Give quality second hand gifts or those with less (or no) packaging
- Wrap gifts with your children's drawings or wrapping paper kept from last year
- Make gift tags from toilet rolls and Christmas cards from old cards, calendars and wrapping paper
- Avoid over-catering by planning meals and shopping with a list (and sticking to it)
- Ensure leftovers from festive season celebrations are stored correctly so that they can be made into new meals the following day
- Compost your food scraps or put them in your food and garden waste bin (the one with the lime green lid) for collection

For more tips and inspiration, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/reducewaste

FREE 20-minute energy advice consultations

Council has partnered with the Australian Energy Foundation (AEF) to offer free 20-minute energy consultations to Frankston City residents, over the phone. A short consultation could help you with:

- tips on shopping around for the best energy tariff
- heating and cooling your home more cost-effectively, without sacrificing comfort
- easy ways to use less energy when working, studying and cooking
- considering powering your home with solar and information on the steps and investment required

The AEF is an independent, not-for-profit organisation which can help you work out what you need to do to make your home more energy efficient.

From solar to insulation, the AEF can provide advice on all areas of your home, helping you make an informed decision. They can also connect you with reliable suppliers who will provide a quote to undertake the works. Suppliers are selected based on a rigorous procurement process so that you can buy with ease and confidence. For more information visit: aef.com.au or phone: 1300 236 855



Lighting the way forward

Council will begin upgrading 7000 fluorescent street lights with energy efficient LEDs before the end of the year.

The project is a key action to reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Towards Zero Emissions Plan (2019-2023) and supports Council's climate emergency response. The project will reduce emissions equivalent to taking an estimated 110 cars off the road each year.

The new LEDs are up to 53 per cent more energy efficient than the old lights and are expected save over \$2.6 million over the life of the light fittings. The project savings will provide Council with more resources to be put into other important community services.

The new lights will be better overall with:

- greater uniformity of light across and along the street

- better colour and visibility
- less loss of brightness over time
- less glare and light spill
- greater reliability
- lower maintenance costs
- longer life (lasting up to 20 years)

The old lights will be deconstructed and recycled. The changeover may be impacted by weather and other factors but at this stage the project is expected to be completed in June 2021.

During the rollout, residents will be able to visit Council's website and see when the installation is expected in their suburbs. It takes less than five minutes to replace a street light so any disruptions, including to traffic flow, should not last long and residents' and visitors' cars can remain parked on the streets. For more information visit: frankston.vic.gov.au

Council commits to Cities Power Partnership

At its Ordinary Meeting on 31 August, Council pledged its support and commitment to the Cities Power Partnership (CCP), joining 125 other local government areas across Australia taking meaningful action on climate change.

The CCP is a national program led by the Climate Council to accelerate and celebrate local government successes in achieving emission reductions and transitioning towards clean energy.

Council has committed to five pledges as part of the program and will report

on its progress to the Climate Council every 12 months. These pledges are:

- Use Council resources to support the uptake of renewable energy
- Provide incentives and/or remove barriers to encourage local businesses to take up solar power and battery storage
- Roll out energy efficient lighting across the municipality
- Ensure Council fleet purchases meet strict greenhouse gas emissions requirements and support the uptake of electric vehicles

- Lobby state and federal governments to increase sustainable transport options

Council looks forward to connecting and collaborating with other councils across Australia on climate solutions. The knowledge and resources shared will inform Council's climate emergency response and initiatives for achieving the organisation's zero net emissions (carbon neutral) target by 2025. For more information visit: citiespowerpartnership.org.au





Diners enjoy a meal outdoors at Spanish Bar, Seaford, before COVID-19 restrictions came into effect.

Enhanced outdoor dining on the menu in Frankston City

Council is working with businesses across Frankston City to boost safe outdoor dining options, in line with easing COVID-19 restrictions.

Council received \$500,000, as part of the Victorian Government's \$87.5 million Outdoor Eating and Entertainment Package, to facilitate innovative ways to eat outdoors safely. Work underway includes turning streets, car parks and footpaths into vibrant entertainment areas.

Council has also streamlined its outdoor dining permit processes, with more than 20 permits approved for businesses across Frankston City at the time of publication.

Local hospitality businesses are also eligible for additional \$5000 grants from the Victorian Government, to assist with the purchase of outdoor furniture, screens, umbrellas and other equipment needed to move their business outdoors. The Victorian Government Outdoor Eating and

Entertainment Package Business Grants are available to licensed and unlicensed hospitality businesses. Applications will remain open until funds are exhausted or until 11.59pm Friday 11 December, whichever is earlier.

Owner of 38 South in Seaford, Jim Derzekos, said Council's support had been invaluable. "This assistance is very welcome. I've worked in hospitality for 30 years and business support like this wasn't available in other areas where I've had restaurants," Mr Derzekos said.

"I've been in touch with the Business Concierge to talk about marketing ideas and they offered me their mentoring program. I also put in an application for COVID relief."

For more information, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/OutdoorDining or subscribe to Council's fortnightly business newsletter: frankston.vic.gov.au/BusinessSubscribe

Council dishes out rent relief

Council is dishing out rent relief to its commercial hospitality tenants. Crackerjack, Beach Café and Waves Restaurant, have received 100 per cent rent relief for nine months from April to December 31, 2020.

Sofia's Restaurant, which has a sub-tenant, has been granted 50 per cent rent relief for the same period. By the end of 2020, the waivers will save the four businesses \$163,000.

Councillors voted unanimously to support the rent waiver at Council's Ordinary Meeting on 21 September. "We realised the forced, prolonged closures reduced patron numbers and takeaway services don't generate the same level of income for businesses.

That's why the Council is standing side by side with our commercial hospitality tenants and extending a helping hand," Council CEO, Phil Cantillon said.

Waves Restaurant proprietor, Nathan said the rent waiver had provided a massive boost.

"It's an absolute lifesaver. This means everything to us," he said.

Nathan, who has run Waves for eight years, said messages of support and emails from customers had also been heartening.

"It's brought so many smiles to our faces. It's been wonderful and now we've begun welcoming them back, it's great to see them face-face." For more information on Council's Relief and Recovery Package, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/RRP



Fast grants a 'shining light' for business

Frankston fitness centre Curves is pumped after scoring one of Council's Fast Business Grants. Owner Sharyn Cassano said the \$1500 grant had provided a huge boost during a difficult period. Sharyn has used the grant to pay bills to keep her business ticking over.

"This has been a tumultuous year for small business and to have that council support has been wonderful. It put a bit of light into what has been a glum year. It was nice to get a helping hand through this hard time," she said.

The Fast Business Grants, part of the Community and Business Grant Program, supports the ongoing operations of small businesses highly

impacted by COVID-19. Funding can be allocated for utilities, Council rates, telecommunication charges, insurance payments, professional advice or for other reasons assessed.

There is a \$270,000 pool of funding available with each business able to apply for a grant up to \$1500. At least 42 grants, are still available.

Businesses that have received Fast Grants include cafes and restaurants, beauty services, gyms, food service suppliers, and event and party services.

Applications close on 30 June 2021 or when funds are exhausted. For more information and to view the grant guidelines, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/BusinessGrants

Discover Frankston Participation Program:

Sign up to receive FREE marketing opportunities to grow your business.

Businesses based within Frankston City are eligible to receive exclusive benefits and development opportunities through the **Discover Frankston Participation Program** (previously known as Visit Frankston Tourism Partnership).

Until 30 June 2021, it is free to get involved and as a participant, businesses receive brand profiling through multiple digital and print platforms, brochure display space at the Frankston Visitor Information Centre and other campaign opportunities. To subscribe visit: discoverfrankston.com/fcparticipation

For more information visit: investfrankston.com



Wahgunyah Cres, Langwarrin



Witternberg Drive, Frankston



Bayview Kindergarten, Frankston



Delcombe Park Kindergarten

Spoonvilles: springing up and spreading cheer

Langwarrin kids have constructed quirky creations for the rapidly growing Spoonville at Wahgunyah Crescent. Local mum, Felicity Harborne, said there were more than 1600 'spoonies' on display.

Felicity and fellow mums Sarah Smith, Sarah White and Michelle Cochrane worked together to create the Spoonville.

"We created the Wahgunyah Crescent Spoonville to give our children and

neighbours something to participate in and enjoy during isolation. It quickly grew and now we have a huge following in the Local Langwarrin community," Felicity said.

Spoonville started in the English village of Winnersh before spreading across Britain and then catching the imagination of children and parents in Victoria as the state tightened COVID-19 restrictions in July.

Spoonvilles have since sprung up across the city, helping keep kids entertained and providing residents with a reason to smile.

Felicity said the community had also to placed messages of support for frontline and essential workers at the Spoonville "We love listening to the kids excitedly yell when they find 'spoonies' they love or recognise, or the spoonie they have added," she

said. "Parents have been enjoying it as much as the kids"

Lilly, 8, said, "I love how people are so creative and it brings so much joy to our spoon village."

Dexter, 7, added, "It's fun to be able to make our own spoon characters and add them to the Spoonville. I love going to see all the new 'spoonies' and look for the 'Where's Wally'."

Knit happens — residents embrace 'yarn bomb' project

Residents at Skye's Oak Tree Retirement Village weren't sheepish when it came to getting out their knitting needles for a 'yarn bomb' project. Village manager, Joseph Bailouni, said it was a case of 'ewe beauty' as residents individually knitted colourful squares.

"Engagement is vital for wellbeing. Yarn bombing is a collective task that can be completed safely and individually. I suggested the idea to all the residents and the uptake was amazing," Mr Bailouni said.

"It's been a wonderful project to keep residents engaged and take their minds off the COVID pandemic."

Mr Bailouni said residents were excited to see their yarn bomb creations

adorning shade sails facing the front of the village. He added that the project had brightened up the days of those involved and caught the eyes of passers-by.

Oak Tree resident, Anne Bamforth, said COVID-19 meant some organised activities had been put on hold, but friendships and companionship hadn't. Anne added that residents had pulled together during the pandemic by offering to help each other out with errands.

"If one of us is going to the shops, we'll offer to pick up shopping for the others. We've really pulled together. At times like these and always, I wouldn't want to be anywhere else. I'm so happy and feel so safe and secure. I'm living a beautiful life here."



Letters bringing joy to those stuck at home

Elderly residents of Frankston City were touched to receive letters from local students during the pandemic. Council's Positive Ageing and Youth Services staff collaborated with students from several local schools and the Frankston Youth Council as part of the 'Letters of Joy' project.

The heartfelt letters, many which were accompanied by colourful illustrations, brought cheer to their recipients, especially those who remained at home while restrictions were in place.

Tyson said he participated in the Letters of Joy project to make a difference.

"I didn't know who was receiving it or how they would react, but all I wanted to do was make them and everyone else feel more safe knowing people are still caring about you."

Olivia added: "I wanted to get involved in Letters of Joy because I wanted to make sure the older people are doing well through this tough time and I just wanted to check on them."

Liv shared the sentiment of her fellow letter writers. said: "I wanted to make people in the community smile during these tough times." she said.

Carrum Downs resident, Ann, said receiving a letter had lifted her spirits. "I was quite surprised. It was like receiving a letter from a pen pal."

Frankston Youth Council members and students from David Scott School, Langwarrin Primary School, Skye Primary School, Woodlands Primary School, St Augustine's Primary School, St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, Elisabeth Murdoch College and Ballam Park Primary School.



A \$1500 PAYMENT TO HELP YOU STAY HOME IF YOU TEST POSITIVE OR ARE A CLOSE CONTACT OF SOMEONE WHO DOES



Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne

Plant sharing grows community spirit

A fun activity to entertain the kids during lockdown quickly turned into a community bonding experience for Langwarrin locals this spring.

“It wasn’t meant to be a big thing. We were out the back gardening and our succulents were getting a bit out of control so we thought we would put some cuttings out the front for people to take,” Megan Burke said.

Before long, Megan and her family had given away 273 potted plants to local residents, who responded in kind.

“The community loved it. They left letters in our mailbox and lollies and chocolates on our doorstep, which was so nice,”

Megan said. “After the first few days, when we had run out of cuttings, I put a post on the Langwarrin Locals Facebook page saying if anyone had cuttings to give away to put them out the front.

“We had a huge amount of people drop bags of cuttings and plants to give away; people got really into it.”

Meanwhile in Frankston, Willum Warrain Elder, Aunty Jennine ‘Jen’ Armistead was also inspired to give away plants from her garden in a bid to spread some cheer during lockdown. “While I was out in the yard, I noticed people looked fed up with the world and they tended to look into gardens as they walked by. I thought, what can I do?”

A friend donated a bookcase, which Aunty Jen painted pink and stacked with Aloe Vera, Spider plants, Irises and

succulents.

“I put up little signs which I changed every few days, telling people ‘take as many as you need, if it makes you happy’. One lady dropped off a box of plants and another a bag of Geranium cuttings to share.”

With lockdown coming to an end, Aunty Jen is continuing to refill her bookcase with plants and Frankston locals have been loving it.

“It is all about bringing a smile to their faces,” she said.

“Some people were hesitant but I told them to take as many as they like. I told one elderly lady, ‘it is okay, take one every time you go past if you want to’. She said how lovely it was. Everyone has been quite receptive.”



Front (l-r): Eddie (10) and Alice (12)
Middle (l-r): Megan and Eden (3)
Back (l-r): Isla (9) and Bailey (13)



Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association Elder, Aunty Jennine ‘Jen’ Armistead

Youth connections vital during lockdown

Council’s Youth Service has had to find new and creative ways to engage and support young people during lockdown. Team Leader Youth Programs, Ilya Grin, said the team had worked hard to maintain important connections with our younger residents.

“We’re continuing to support and deliver programs to our young people – one of the hardest hit groups in our community,” he said.

Online activities have included ‘Monday Madness’ (games), study support, ‘Wellness Wednesdays’ (relaxing, hands on activities) and relaxing cooking activities during ‘Feel Good Fridays’.

“I liked being able to make new friends and having something fun to do every day.”

Yas added, “I really appreciated the Frankston Youth Service team for putting so much effort into the

program. Joining the Zoom calls has given me a reason to get up, to hang out with friends and have a great time.”

Ilya said the online study support program was developed in response to feedback from young people, who had found online study.

“Online programs allowed our young people to form new connections and friendships, while helping them gain confidence in social settings. This has been a valuable learning curve for us, and something we will incorporate into our regular programming beyond COVID-19.”

The Youth Services Team also hosted a fresh batch of online activities during National Youth Week 15–21 November. For more information about services and activities, follow @frankstonyouthservice on Facebook, email: youthcentral@frankston.vic.gov.au or phone: 9768 1366

FOR THE LOVE OF
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Supporting our community through and beyond COVID-19

Council is providing a range of supports, including funding, advice, resources and more to help local businesses and the community to survive and thrive during this difficult time.

We have pooled all available Council and external supports into one easy to understand guide. To see what help is available to you, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/FTLOF



Put on your walking shoes - Frankston's street art tours are making a comeback

Discover the stories behind the creators of Frankston's street art

Have you ever admired the amazing murals and paintings dotted around Frankston City's Centre and wondered who created them?

Well here's your chance find out because Frankston City's Street Art Walking Tours are back. Join our knowledgeable guides on a walk through the city's laneways and streets to discover iconic images of Frankston's past, relive childhood

imagery and celebrate the city's urban culture and artists. Bookings are now open for daytime and twilight tours commencing in December.

Spaces are limited due to capacity restrictions so get in quickly. If you prefer a self-guided tour, maps of Frankston City's masterpieces and a Street Art Explorer program for kids are available online. To download these resources or book a tour, visit: discoverfrankston.com

Welcome back to McClelland Sculpture Park+Gallery

From Wednesday 2 December 2020*



Inside Out

Space and Process presents sculptures by Melbourne artists, Erwin Fabian and Anne-Marie May, who although born 50 years apart, both explore abstraction using found and fabricated materials poetic correlations between surface, substance and space. On show inside the Gallery during December.

SITE & SOUND: This 'sound art' invites audiences to tune into the environment and connect with deep listening to better understand urgent environmental issues.

McClelland Sculpture Park+Gallery,

390 McClelland Drive, Langwarrin

New opening hours: Wednesday – Sunday, 10am–5pm.

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Christmas Day & Good Friday.

Booking is essential, visit: Pmcclellandgallery.com/ for the latest information



Frankston City Council would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and provide that acknowledgement to the first peoples of this nation.

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f i #frankstonevents

FRANKSTON CITY NEWS



is on Facebook!

Got a story, community event or photo to share? send it to communications@frankston.vic.gov.au

Want to stay up-to-date with all the latest community news, events, projects, services and more?

You can now get all the latest updates every day on our new Frankston City News Facebook page, in addition to our regular bi-monthly newsletter delivered to your door.

Follow @FrankstonCityNews on Facebook

#FrankstonCity



Let the children play

Frankston City is home to a vast array of regional and community playgrounds, each offering a unique play experiences that will excite children of all ages.

Family favourites include: **Ballam Park Regional Playground, Beauty Park, Frankston Regional Park, Keast Park, Sandfield Reserve, George Pentland Botanic Gardens** and the new **RF Miles Playground** in Seaford. There are many more parks to discover, often just around the corner, so pack a picnic or stop in at a local cafe on the way to your play escape.

Why not make it a family challenge to explore a new park every week? There's nearly 100 in Frankston City after all.

To find out more about playgrounds and nearby take-away and dining tips visit discoverfrankston.com

Handy hints for playing it safe

- Keep 1.5 metres away from those outside your group
- If it's too busy, come back another time or try another park
- Pack some hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes (and dispose of rubbish thoughtfully)
- Consider going in non-peak times, like early morning or late afternoon
- Check if dogs are welcome before leaving home with your four-legged friend



The existing sports pavilion at Monterey Reserve, Frankston North



The current pavilion at Eric Bell Reserve, Frankston North

Building a better Frankston City

Exciting major works and critical infrastructure upgrades and renewals are planned and progressing across the municipality. This work will greatly assist in improving the health, wellbeing and social connections of our community to meet growing demand.

Over the next four years Council's pavilion improvement plan aims to upgrade pavilions across Frankston City.

Concept designs are underway for the proposed upgrade of a new two storey pavilion at Eric Bell Reserve,

Frankston North.

Council is proposing refurbishment works to Kevin Collopy Pavilion at Jubilee Park, Frankston, including female friendly change rooms. A redevelopment of the Pat Rollo Reserve Pavilion will include two female change rooms, separate social rooms and more. Construction is planned to commence in early 2021.

Council, in conjunction with Frankston Pines Soccer Club, is finalising the design for a new sporting pavilion at Monterey Reserve, Frankston North. Works are proposed to commence on the new pavilion in early 2021.

The proposed Bruce Park Sports Pavilion will combine the existing tennis clubhouse and cricket and football pavilion to provide a multipurpose, female-friendly and all accessible pavilion. The pavilion is currently at concept design stage.

Council and the Victorian Government are also working on plans for a much-needed toilet outside Frankston Station on Young Street. The project is scheduled to be tendered towards the end of this year and expected to be completed by the middle of 2021.

This comes as Council and the Federal Government commit a total of \$6.488 million to the upgrade of the Lloyd Park Recreation Reserve sports pavilion in Langwarrin, expected to be delivered by mid-2023.

Likewise, Belvedere Bowls Club in Seaford is set to receive a significant makeover. See page 20 for details. For more upcoming projects, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/MajorProjects



Ensuring the survival of local sport

More than 50 sporting clubs and organisations have received a helping hand from Council during COVID-19.

Council has waived tenancy and ground allocation fees as part of the \$6.434 million Relief and Recovery Package. Council also provided \$130,000 in rent relief to businesses operating within Council-owned buildings, including some sporting clubs with leases.

Pines Football Netball Club President, Jeff Svigos, said, the rent waiver provided a critical lifeline when the club needed it the most. Mr Svigos added that the club's 250 members

are now focusing on a big 2021 and fielding the first senior women's football team.

"It was the difference between surviving and not surviving. It was gratefully received," he said.

Frankston Yacht Club Treasurer, Richard Burdack was a welcome relief. said receiving a licence fee waiver was a welcome relief. "For us it was a game changer in terms of a positive outcome. It was unexpected and well received," he said.

For more information on Council's Relief and Recovery Package, visit: frankston.vic.gov.au/RRP

Belvedere bowled away by \$1.2m refurb

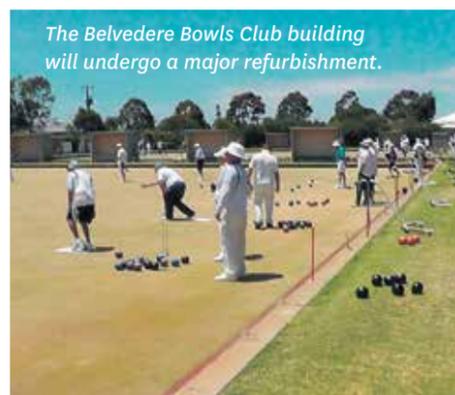
Belvedere Bowls Club members are all smiles after Council backed a \$1.2m refurbishment and extension. Council CEO Phil Cantillon, said the contract for the works had been awarded to Bowden Corporation Pty Ltd and included:

- Demolition of an existing single storey office building on the site,
- Extension of the existing, single storey clubroom building to include new amenities such as a storeroom, cleaner's room, match committee room, entry foyer and office,
- Refurbishment of the existing social room, kitchen and pantry,
- Alterations to the existing car park

"Sport is the glue that holds society together and this much needed upgrade will provide modern facilities that are accessible, inclusive and fit for purpose," Mr Cantillon said.

Club board member and groundskeeper Rod Atherton said the refurbishment would give the club a huge boost and demonstrated the Council's commitment to bowls. "Bowling is popular and this will provide room for future growth," he said.

The Belvedere Bowls Club is based at East Rd, Seaford, and caters for about 190 members. The works are underway and expected to be completed by mid-2021.



Finished reading? I can be recycled!

It's time to get active!

Celebrating the return of sport and recreation in Frankston City



PARC is offering outdoor personal training and outdoor group exercise classes alongside its popular online exercise platform, PARC Your Way.

The Pines Forest lap swimming program has seen an average of 180 swimmers a day since opening on 28th September, which is an increase on previous seasons.

For more information visit: frankston.vic.gov.au and search aquatic centres

Centenary Park swings into action

Now that golfers can again enjoy a round on the beautiful Centenary Park Golf Course, there are some exciting new activities planned. These include 'Premium Golfing Experiences' with PGA Professionals, as well as outdoor yoga, pilates and stretching classes to complement your golf game. The park is also offering family-friendly activities for the summer school holidays and is exploring possible Laser Tag or Family Days on the green in coming months.

Ongoing works and upgrades to the course have continued despite restrictions, including completion of an irrigation upgrade project. Alongside these works, the greens, fairways and bunkers have been kept in tip top condition. Please remember that group bookings must be kept to two players to allow play to continue safely. Visit: centenarypark.com.au

Residents keen to make a splash as pools reopen

The appetite for health and fitness services is strong with both Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre and Pines Forest Aquatic Centre experiencing a surge in engagement now restrictions are easing and some programming has commenced.



Back to the skate park!

Local skaters were excited to finally get back to Frankston Skate Park in October. YMCA staff also returned to site, with their focus on providing a COVID-safe environment for visitors. Safety measures include increased cleaning and positive engagement with young people around key social distancing and safety messages. Learn to Skate programs will be returning in the near future as restrictions are further eased. Competitions and events are expected to re launch in early 2021.

Follow [@FrankstonSkatePark](https://www.facebook.com/FrankstonSkatePark) on Facebook to find out more, or pop down and speak to one of the friendly skate park staff.