

# Nillumvik

December 2004

news



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**Council opening hours:**

Friday  
24 December 2004 8.30am-1pm

Monday and Tuesday  
27-28 December 2004 Closed

Wednesday to Friday  
29-31 December 2004 8.30am-5pm

Monday  
3 January 2005 Closed

Tuesday  
4 January 2005 8.30am-5pm

Please note: Normal hours resumed Tuesday to Friday, but Council offices will close on Mondays at 5pm until Monday 7 February 2005 when Monday hours will resume from 8.30am-6.30pm.

The Recycling & Recovery Centre, 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty will be open daily from 8am to 4pm excluding Christmas Day and New Year's Day – contact 9436 3555.

The emergency number throughout this period remains unchanged as 9483 8895.

*Nillumbik News is published as part of Council's commitment to improving communication and consultation with residents. This publication is published five times per year and is delivered to all ratepayers (and other residents by request). It is also available at libraries and community information stands throughout the Shire.*

This publication is printed on 100% recycled paper.

**Council contacts:**

Nillumbik Shire Council  
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Greensborough Vic 3088

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email: [nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
website: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



At this time of every year, students have already had to make life-changing decisions about their study preferences if they are moving on to tertiary education, while graduates are entering the workforce, applying for positions in their local area, with some even looking around Australia and overseas.

We would like to pose the question: Have you considered working in local government?

It makes so much sense! There are many career areas available within local government and there is every size of council organisation out there, so you

can advance your career by undertaking personal development at the same council, or move on to different work within the same area at a completely different council in a different part of Victoria, or Australia.

And, if you decide to stay local and work local, working within and for your local community is a real buzz – you can make a real difference!

**Working at Nillumbik**

Nillumbik Shire Council is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to the provision of quality services. We not only employ school leavers and graduates, we have a range of positions for all ages. Nillumbik strives to:

**'Continue to develop an innovative and responsive workforce where learning and innovation are encouraged, and staff are trained, motivated and rewarded for excellence.'**



# live local, work local

**'Knowing I am helping people in our community when I provide advice about recruitment, careers in local government and work experience is really rewarding.'**

Council is a major employer in the Shire with 366 staff in total, based at seven locations throughout the municipality:

- 47% of staff live and work in the Shire of Nillumbik
- 54% of staff are women
- 21% of staff are part-time.

Council is a family-friendly organisation focused on delivering services to the community and retaining staff who deliver these quality services.

**'I took paid parental leave when both my children were born and it has now been arranged so that I can leave early on Mondays to collect my children from childcare.'** (Coordinator)

Some of the career areas available at Nillumbik Shire Council include:

**Municipal Laws  
Environmental Planning  
Environmental Works  
Economic Development  
Infrastructure Development  
Planning and Building  
Strategic Planning  
Finance  
Waste Collection  
Parks and Gardens  
Roads and Drainage  
Children, Youth and Aged Services  
Administration/Governance  
Tourism  
Records Management  
Communications  
Information Technology  
Community Health and Education  
Arts, Sports and Leisure  
Payroll**

*Where to look?*

Vacancies at Nillumbik are advertised:

- in *The Age* newspaper on Saturday – usually Local Government section
- in the *Diamond Valley Leader* newspaper
- on Nillumbik Shire Council's website at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) under Employment.

Closing date and time for applications will be stated in the advertisement and on the website, which also provides:

- position descriptions for all vacancies
- information on how to apply
- tips on what should be included in your application
- employment details and conditions at Nillumbik Shire Council.

*Additional opportunities available ...*

- work experience for secondary students
- student placements
- apprenticeships
- traineeships.

**Need more information? ...**

Please contact Team Development and Support Section on 9433 3106.

# Council listens

## Council continues to seek community opinions/ views through a wide range of methods.

Three of the more innovative methods used recently were the establishment of a Community Think Tank to develop our award-winning Municipal Health Plan; Zing Technology Township Focus Groups being established to determine what participants believe their local community values and wants (this has helped Council plan some fantastic community development activities); and, finally, a Community Pulse Survey conducted in September by local volunteers.

The process for conducting the September community survey was quite different to previous survey methods which involved random telephone calls made to local residents by specialist consultants. Instead, Council enlisted the support of local residents who provided input into the development of what is now known as the Community Pulse Survey and who all completed a training session with a professional researcher.

These people then acted as action researchers and went out into the Nillumbik community and surveyed people within their local networks – all in face-to-face meetings. Following is a snapshot of the initial findings.

The 156 participants came from across the Shire including Eltham, Panton Hill, Yarrambat, Christmas Hills, Diamond Creek, Kangaroo Ground, St Andrews, Greensborough, Hurstbridge, Smiths Gully and Doreen.

## What they said

58.3% of participants said they had contacted Council either over the phone or face-to-face in the last year. The reasons people had contacted Council were diverse, with the top five issues being:

- general enquiries
- payment of accounts
- planning/building permits
- waste management
- infrastructure and maintenance.

Of the 156 participants 68% said they had been happy or very happy with their interaction; 16% said they felt the service they received was adequate; and 7% indicated they were not happy and they felt there was room for improvement. The remaining 9% reported a varied experience or provided no response to this question.

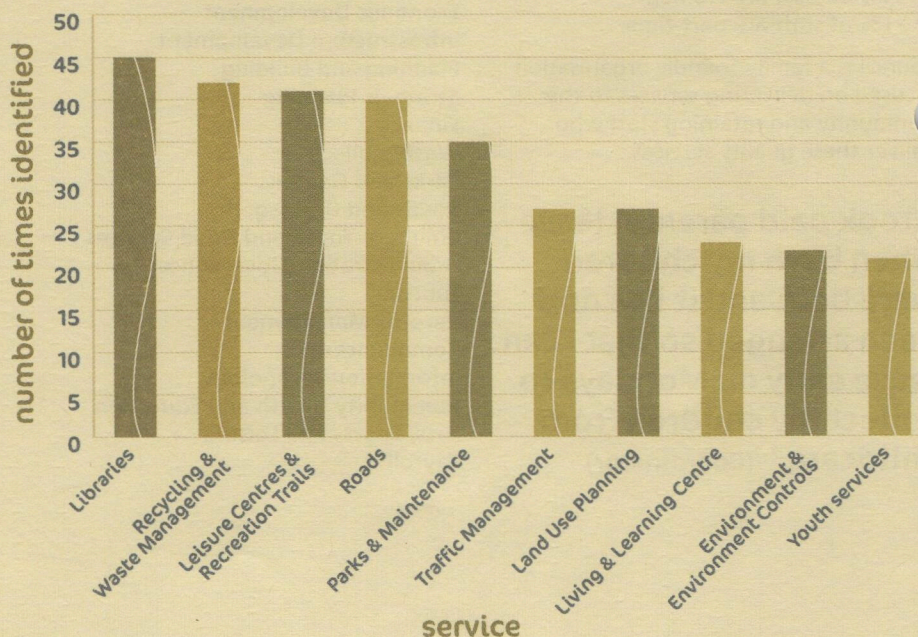
Council provides a range of services within the local community and survey participants were asked to list what they considered to be the most important services Council provides.

Respondents took the opportunity to identify a number of services they considered to be important. The following table details the range of services identified and the number of times they were mentioned.

Survey participants were also asked to identify in which services they believed Council was achieving the best results. The following services were listed most frequently in response to this question:

- parks
- recycling and waste management\*
- libraries
- delivery of arts programs
- recreation/leisure centres
- Living & Learning Centres.

## Ten services most commonly mentioned



When asked to indicate in which service areas Council was performing least well, the following services were listed as the top five:

- town planning – too many developments
- waste management\*
- roads
- rubbish/maintaining cleanliness
- consulting with community.

*These results are correct. They highlight the divergent community expectations of our waste service.*

Participants were also asked to list other local issues they would like to raise with Council. A wide variety of responses were provided with the most common relating to:

- local planning issues
- the provision of community services
- maintenance of the natural environment.

### Where to from here?

Over the coming months Council will be further analysing the surveys and providing additional information to the community. This information will provide Council with valuable data to consider in the development of the Nillumbik Council Plan 2005-2009 and the Council Budget 2005-2006.

We thank the volunteer action researchers and participants for their time and hard work.

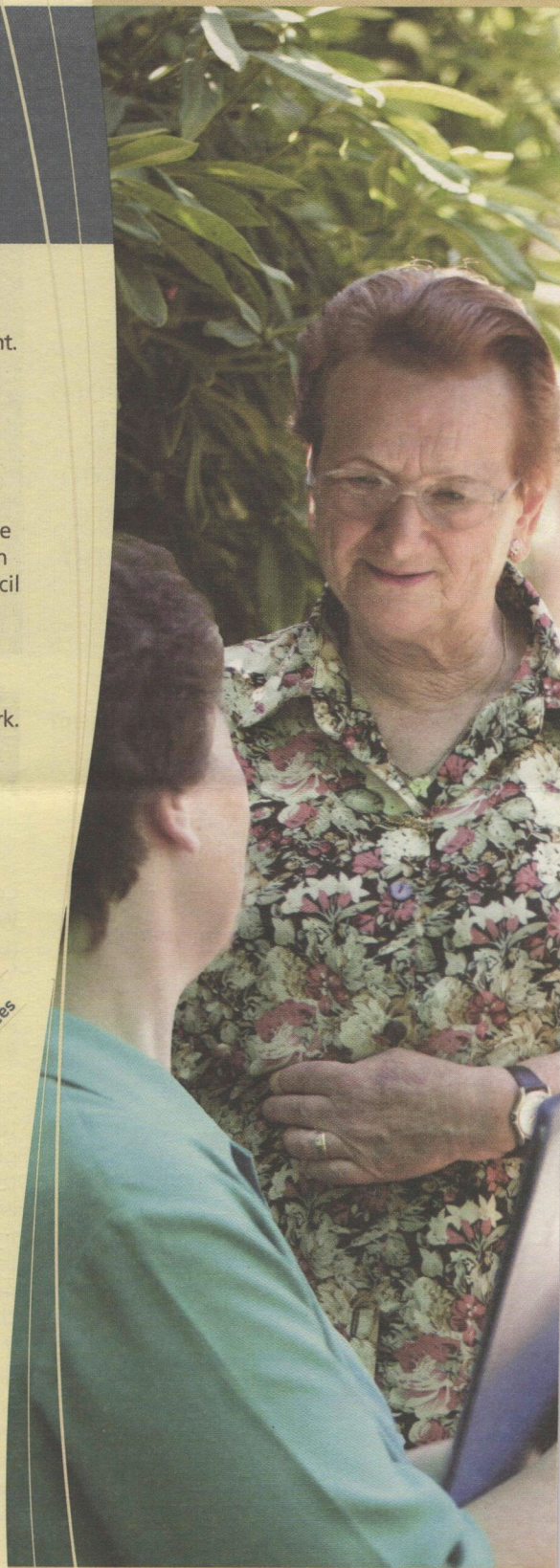
## How Council consults with you

We are committed to achieving high levels of community input and involvement in policy development and implementation, decision making, service planning and delivery to ensure outcomes benefit the community as a whole.

### Consultation Checklist Matrix

activity	Write to every person affected	Community Newsletter	Sample Surveys	Focus Groups	Community Workshops	Project Steering Committee	Charette	Advisory Committees	Ward Meeting	Public Meeting	Council/ Consultation Meeting	Statutory Process Meetings	Council Committees
Policy/ Strategic Plan	X	✓	📄	✓	✓	✓	📄	📄	📄	📄	X	📄	✓
Key Issues	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	📄	📄	📄	📄	X	X	✓
Service Planning	✓	✓	📄	📄	✓	X	X	📄	📄	📄	X	X	✓
Major Projects (Council)	📄	✓	📄	✓	✓	X	✓	X	📄	📄	X	X	✓
Area Improvements	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	📄	X	📄	X	X	X	✓
Site Specific proposal (private owned)	✓	X	X	X	📄	X	X	X	X	X	✓	📄	✓
Community Pulse Survey	📄	✓	📄	📄	📄	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

- ✓ method considered appropriate
- 📄 will be used when appropriate
- X method generally not appropriate



# welcome to the

We asked our new Councillors some questions based on their interests and concerns, so you can get to know them. Here are all the questions and a selection of answers.



1. It's Sunday and family and friends drop over – where would you take them?
2. Why did you choose to nominate for Council?
3. What are your community interests/ involvements?
4. Name three priorities for your term as Councillor?
5. What is your working/life background?
6. What are your main interests outside Council?
7. What's the best time, day or method for residents and community groups to contact you?



**Councillor Warwick Leeson (Deputy Mayor) Yanakie Ward**

mobile: 0439 347 797  
email: [Warwick.Leeson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Warwick.Leeson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. I'm motivated to ensure the protection of this unique environment, and the wonderful township neighbourhood character.

7. Email and mobile are best – please leave voicemail message and I'll return your call as soon as possible.



**Councillor Peter Yates Cottle Ward**

mobile: 0437 581 360  
email: [Peter.Yates@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Yates@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. I have concerns about development along Nillumbik's boundary with Whittlesea which is causing traffic problems in Nillumbik. Also, have disappointment with the previous focus on planning and subdivision issues to the detriment of other concerns in the Shire.

7. My first preference is email. Phone calls are fine – best from 9am to 12noon.



**Councillor Bo Bendtsen Ellis Ward**

mobile: 0437 455 064  
email: [Bo.Bendtsen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bo.Bendtsen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. I'm concerned about a few things, especially rates, rubbish collection and the quality of Nillumbik's sporting facilities.

7. Email and mobile are both good to contact me.



**Councillor Helen Coleman Lenister Ward**

mobile: 0437 940 930  
email: [Helen.Coleman@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Coleman@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. Because of the activities I've already done in the community – I'm on several committees including being School Council President at Eltham Primary School. Mature age study led to a passion for local government – I believe it's the closest to the people.

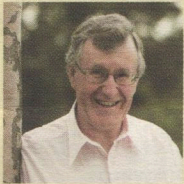
7. Email and mobile are best.

We have only selected two answers from our Councillors. Please refer to the website address below for the full list of answers.

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
About Council > Your Councillors

9714 8698  
(office)

# new Councillors

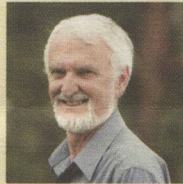


**Councillor  
Bill Penrose**  
**Allwood Ward**

mobile: 0438 277 427  
email: [Bill.Penrose@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bill.Penrose@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

1. To protect the area in which I live and to make it available to future generations.

7. Email is great as it can be sent and actioned at any time during the day or night. If residents prefer the phone, I am happy receiving calls on any weekday during office hours.



**Councillor Greg Johnson (Mayor)**  
**Wingrove Ward**

mobile: 0438 277 425  
email: [Greg.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Greg.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. Because of the opportunities for helping the community to realise its potential. I'm keen to see as much community engagement as possible with Council and with one another. Council has a role to facilitate projects. Eltham faces big challenges to do with growth and we don't want to lose Eltham's character in the process.

7. Phone or email anytime.



**Councillor  
Howard Bulmer**  
**Sutherland Ward**

mobile: 0439 347 351  
email: [Howard.Bulmer@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Howard.Bulmer@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. I have four children and there are many processes Council is involved with which affect families. I wanted to provide a perspective on Council from the needs and desires of a young Nillumbik family.

7. Email or mobile phone are the best ways to contact me.



**Councillor  
Bronnie Hattam**  
**Coleman Ward**

mobile: 0437 460 363  
email: [Bronnie.Hattam@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bronnie.Hattam@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

2. I'm a third generation Eltham/ Research person, raising the fourth generation. I have marvellous childhood memories of the village atmosphere of Eltham and Research, and I want to preserve their heritage and amenity. There is a risk this sense of beauty and history will be lost through inappropriate development.

7. Email is the best way to contact me.



**Councillor  
Michael Young**  
**Edendale Ward**

mobile: 0437 840 866  
email: [Michael.Young@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Michael.Young@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

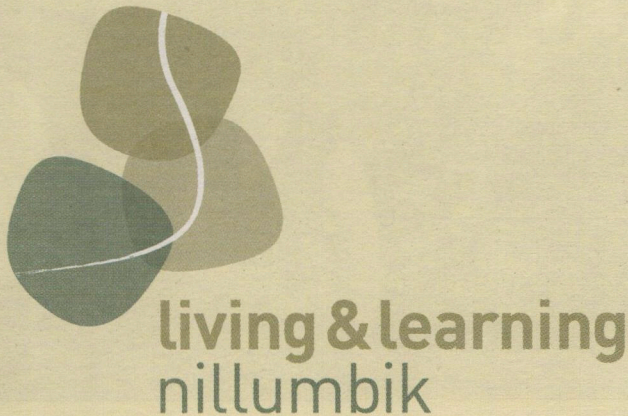
2. To retain the character of Eltham and protect Nillumbik. To preserve the Green Wedge. To provide good services and representation to Edendale.

7. By phone during the day is best for me.

**Editor's note:** Councillor phone/ fax numbers and email addresses were not available at time of printing – they will be published on the Council website as soon as they are available. Until this time Councillors can be contacted via Councils Executive Services on 9433 3104 or [nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

# Council partnerships

We can't do it all on our own, so we form partnerships – some long-standing and others on a project-by-project basis. Some of our partners include:



## New name, great courses

A new name – Living & Learning Nillumbik – and a brand new logo is a big step for 2005 to lift the image and awareness of the three centres – Eltham, Pantan Hill and Diamond Creek to help create the one identity. Together with the release of a fresh new program full of courses and activities which will be available in mid-January, there won't be anyone in Nillumbik not aware of the new look!

The name and the new logo have been decided upon after much discussion by the Living & Learning Centres' Committee and staff. The logo depicts the shape and colours of the juvenile leaves of the local Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemus*); the grouping of three indicates the number of centres and the positive interaction of students and tutors; while the irregular line confirms that link and also represents the close proximity of the Yarra River.

The program will be delivered to residents in mid-January 2005 and it will also be available on the Council's website at this time. For more information contact Living & Learning Nillumbik – Eltham 9430 1313, Diamond Creek 9438 5350 or Pantan Hill 9719 7506.

## Carer's support and education group

If you are a support person for someone with special needs then this six-week program may be for you. It will be held at the Nillumbik Community Health Service, 917 Main Road, Eltham, beginning Thursday 24 February (last meeting 31 March) from 10am to 12noon, and will be followed by an optional lunch. Respite care is available.

Topics include: Navigating the service system; Centrelink/legal issues; self care and management; dealing with strong emotions; dealing with challenges / behavioural issues; and respite / future planning. Contact 9431 1333 for information and bookings.

## 2004 Nillumbik Sports Awards

At the 2004 Sports Forum, where around 130 people were entertained by the talents of Greg Champion, Nillumbik Shire Council recognised the outstanding sporting achievements and contributions of our sporting community.

Four sporting clubs – Diamond Valley Archers, Eltham Recreation Bowling Club, Hurstbridge Bowling and Recreation Club and North Eltham Wanderers Cricket Club – were awarded Sports Club Management Awards.

In addition, four teams – Eltham Bowling Club Ladies Team, Eltham Bowling Club Pairs Team, Yarrambat Horse and Pony Club Team and the Eltham Wildcats Basketball Club (Under 18 Girls, Under 18 Boys, Under 14 Girls and Under 20 Men) received Team Awards.

Also, sixteen Individual Awards were received by Elizabeth Gardner, Matthew Dean, Madison Caulfield, Nicole Pless, Mathew Munro, Sten Nigol, Christopher Armet, Rachel Khaw, Melinda Bauer, David Parsons, Anton Woods, Erin Lorenzini, Zoe Carr, Troy Sandley, Marissa Fillipou and Ben Cukier.

The complete list of recipients and their outstanding achievements, together with photos of the night, is available on Council's website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)>Arts, Culture & Leisure>Sports and Recreation>Sports and Recreation News>2004 Nillumbik Sports Awards



Open for business at the North Warrandyte Family Centre.

## Family services

### North Warrandyte Family Centre open

Nillumbik Shire Council joined with the community of North Warrandyte and celebrated the recent opening of the new North Warrandyte Family Centre.

The Family Centre is a first-class, fully-integrated building housing the Yarra Warra Preschool, children's playgroups, a toy library, maternal and child care services and other allied health services offered by Nillumbik Community Health Service. Other community uses include yoga, an angling club and a community hall for all to use. The mobile library will continue to locate outside the facility on Wednesdays between 10am and 12noon.

Environmental Expressions built the \$900,000 project. Insurance monies have paid \$800,000 with Nillumbik Shire Council contributing the additional \$100,000. This money allowed an extra kitchen for the preschool, to minimise cross-contamination risks with the community kitchen; incorporated energy-efficiency measures such as double glazing on the panoramic windows, a hybrid rainwater tank system which enables rainwater collected in a storage tank to be used to flush the toilets, but the system is also connected to mains water so if levels in the tank drop or empty, the toilets will then be flushed by mains water until the tanks are filled by rain again; and landscaping works into the design, all of which were considered a high priority by the Community Reference Group.

### Yarrambat Family Centre

The newly-erected Yarrambat Family Centre is reaching the final stages of completion. It is anticipated the new Family Centre, which will include the Yarrambat Preschool and a Maternal and Child Health Clinic, be completed in January 2005.

### Last 'pack up' for Kangaroo Ground Preschool

Nillumbik Shire Council have finalised arrangements with the State Government's Department of Education & Training to allow for a permanent location for the Kangaroo Ground Preschool. This is the first step in the relocation of the preschool which has spent 14 years packing away every day while being located at the Kangaroo Ground Emergency Operations Centre building.

The agreement is that the Education Department will provide the land and Council will fund the construction cost of \$150,000. The site is ideally situated next to the Kangaroo Ground Primary School and the Andrew Ross Museum, which housed the original Kangaroo Ground Primary School.

'With Yarrambat Preschool being completed in January and now the progress with Kangaroo Ground – this means the end of packaway preschools for Nillumbik. This is long overdue,' said Nillumbik Shire Mayor, Councillor Greg Johnson.

## Hurstbridge High School site purchased

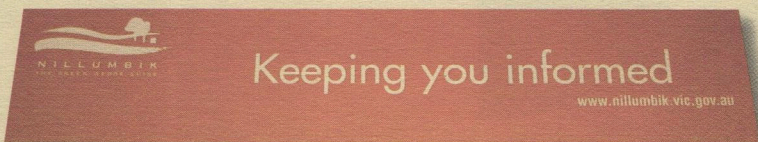
Nillumbik Shire Council has secured an agreement with the State Government's Department of Education & Training to purchase the former Diamond Valley Secondary College (Hurstbridge Campus) site in Greys Harps Road, Hurstbridge consistent with resolutions of Council.

The details of the final offer are yet to be finalised but the purchase price is likely to be in the order of two million dollars.

Council strongly supports the community having the use of the sports ovals, gym, the former library building and the great creek environs, and will now commence planning for an integrated aged care facility for the remainder of the site.

The timing of the purchase will see the Hurstbridge Primary School, which is temporarily located at the site, back in their rebuilt premises in Main Road Hurstbridge, which are due for completion mid-2005.

# Council partnerships



Marcus Skipper  
Alan Marshall  
Bronze  
Jointly funded  
in 1994 by the  
Shire of Eltham  
and the Eltham  
Arts Council Inc.  
NILLUMBIK ART  
COLLECTION

## Community information

Council has a strong commitment to keeping you informed about the business of the Shire. The past two years has seen the introduction and installation of information stands and information noticeboards in many areas of the Shire. They are often installed with the valued and appreciated cooperation of small businesses whose owners see the benefits to the community in getting Council information to you at the places you frequent. We thank them.

Council information stands are located at: the Shire offices, Eltham Library, Diamond Valley Library, Community Information Diamond Valley (Greensborough Plaza), Kangaroo Ground Post Office, North Warrandyte Family Centre, Eltham Community and Reception Centre, Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre, Eltham Leisure Centre, Diamond Creek Community Centre, Yarrambat General Store, Pantom Hill General Store, Peppers Paddock General Store (Wattle Glen) and the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre.

There are also noticeboards at Yarrambat General Store and Hurstbridge Post Office. A location in St Andrews is under discussion.

## Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2005

Summer is an ideal time to knuckle down and write those short stories you've always wanted to write and enter into the 2005 Alan Marshall Short Story Award. This national, annual contemporary Australian short story competition is held in memory of the great Australian writer, and former resident of Eltham, Alan Marshall AM. OBE. HON LL.D (1902 - 1984).

Many local writers and readers show their interest and support in this program by submitting stories or working with Council on its Literature Reference Group to select high calibre judges and make other recommendations.

Thanks to the work of this group, Council has supported two additional categories over recent years: the Local Writers Award of \$1,000 and the Youth Art Award of \$400.

Entries to the Award close on Friday 25 February 2005. Entry forms and guidelines are available now by contacting Katrina Rank, Arts Officer, on 9433 3126 or email [Katrina.Rank@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Katrina.Rank@nillumbik.vic.gov.au), or from Nillumbik Shire Council, PO Box 476, Greensborough 3088, or download from the website: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) .



# calendar of events

This calendar lists some activities run by or supported by Council, including those provided from members of Nillumbik traders' groups and the Nillumbik Tourism Association. Join in – it's a great way to connect with your community. To list an event contact Sally Hansen, Community Events Officer, 9433 3263 or via email [Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au). For further information, please visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) >What's On.

All information is given in good faith as received from the organisers of events – we suggest you check before attending.

When?	What?	Where?	Cost?	Contact?
Every Saturday 8am until 1pm-ish	St Andrews Market – a unique alternative market in a bush setting featuring homemade and home-grown goods.	Proctor Street, St Andrews (Melway 250 E11)	Free	9438 3371
1st Monday every month 4pm	7 Up Club – for those aged 7 years and over – craft, games and borrow new books.	Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough	Free	9434 3809
Every Tuesday and Wednesday 10.30am	Pre-school story time – for those aged 3-5 years – stories, songs, rhymes and simple craft activity (not school holidays).	Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough	Free	9434 3809
Every Thursday and Friday 11am	Pre-school story time – for those aged 3-5 years – stories, songs, rhymes and simple craft activity (not school holidays).	Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham	Free	9439 9266
1st Friday every month 10am (not school holidays)	Babies and books – for those aged 0-12 months – rhymes, songs and activities, including great books for babies.	Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham	Free	9439 9266
1st Friday every month 8pm	Songlines – enjoy Eltham's semi-acoustic world music venue. Delicious food and drinks available.	St Margaret's Church, Pitt Street, Eltham	family \$25; adult \$12; conc. \$9 child \$3	9439 4816
1st Friday every month 10am	Tiny Tots – for those aged 0-3 years – songs, rhymes and short stories.	Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough	Free	9434 3809
2nd and 3rd Friday every month 10am	Tiny Tots – for those aged 0-3 years – stories, rhymes and songs.	Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham	Free	9439 9266
1st Saturday every month 8.30am-1pm	Warrandyte Community Craft Market – arts, crafts, fruit and vegetables are available.	Stiggants Reserve, Warrandyte (Melway 23 D12)	Free	Marjorie Lapworth 9844 4495
3rd Sunday every month (no January market) 8.30am-1pm	Eltham Community Art and Craft Market – a great setting to display artistic and creative products. All goods must be handmade, hand-crafted or home-grown by the stallholder.	Alistair Knox Park, Panther Place, Eltham	Free	9444 7833
1-31 December 10am-5pm	An exhibition of watercolour and oil landscapes produced by Edward Car, and <i>Under every leaf</i> by Susan Wyllie.	Bridges at Hurstbridge, 1075 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge	Free	Jan or Kate 9718 0099
1-31 December 10am-5pm	An exhibition of drawings, paintings and naturally crafted sculpture and images produced by Willow Harkinson and Michelle Clark.	Hurstbridge Nursery, 1075 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge	Free	Jan Kelly 9718 2938
1-31 December 10am-5pm	<i>Sheer Bliss</i> by Robina Summers: a light-hearted art exhibition of consisting of silk quilts, scarves, kimono jackets, pictures and more.	Samson Hill Estate Winery, 360 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground	Free	Robina Summers 9712 0734
23 December 3pm-9pm	St Andrews Twilight Market – the regular Saturday morning market opens late – still featuring a unique mix of homemade and home-grown goods, arts and crafts and bric-a-brac.	Proctor Street, St Andrews (Melway 250 E11)	Free	John 9714 8589
24 December 8.30pm-9.45pm	Community Christmas Carols celebrating Christmas.	RA Wadeson Reserve, Grassy Flat Road, Diamond Creek	Free	Janet Mason 9438 2018
From 2 January 2005, every Sun and Weds in Jan and Feb 11am-5pm	Diamond Valley Railway – family fun – bring a barbeque or picnic lunch and enjoy train rides.	Eltham Lower Park, Main Road, Eltham	Free entry, cost for train rides	9439 1828
5 and 6 January 2005 Dinner from 6.30pm; show around 8.30pm	Vika and Linda Bull – an evening of food and entertainment, featuring the fabulous Bull sisters.	Wellers Restaurant, Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground	Dinner and show \$75, show only \$32 (incl. finger food)	9712 0266
Australia Day 26 January 2005 10am-4pm	All Victorians have been invited to attend an Open Day at Government House. There will be tours, children's entertainment, musical performances and sporting demonstration matches.	Government House, Government House Drive, Melbourne (Melway 2G A11)	Free	Michelle 9655 4211
29 and 30 January 2005	Eltham Jazz Festival – fill your senses in Eltham's weekend of fun and jazz. There are jazz bands performing in various locations around the town, including the Town Square and Eltham Terrace.	Eltham township, various restaurants and open spaces	Various	Lucy 9431 4498
30 January 2005 11am-6pm	Wine tasting and sales at the cellar door.	Hills of Plenty, 370 Yan Yean Road, Yarrambat	Free	Karen Coulston 9436 2264
February 2005	Art classes – watercolour art. Ev Hales will be running full day painting classes on one Friday and Saturday each month. The locations vary and students are exposed to a variety of subjects.		Discuss fee with tutor.	9718 2876 or email <a href="mailto:evhales@bigpond.com">evhales@bigpond.com</a>
24 February 2005 7pm-8pm	The business of rental income – a free seminar presented by the Australian Taxation Office for investment property owners.	Nillumbik Shire Council offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough	Free	Julie French 9433 3315

## STOP PRESS: Commonwealth Games, 15-26 March 2006

Nillumbik Shire Council, in conjunction with various community groups, is in the process of planning a calendar of events to coincide with and celebrate the Commonwealth Games. We were successful in adopting a second team for the Games, which is Canada, and we are

planning to welcome them with typical Aussie warmth. Please watch this space for continuing updates on the progress of our planning for the Games. Queries? Contact Sally Hansen, Community Events Officer, 9433 3263.

# In brief...

## Community awareness

Council has recently adopted a Community Inclusion Policy. The success of this Policy lies in the commitment by all areas of Council and the community to work together to build a more inclusive community for everyone. Please consider the following:

**Parking bays for people with a disability:** We all know how difficult it can be looking for a car park and some people who don't have a disability parking permit may decide to park in a disability parking bay for just a minute. For many people, however, looking for a car park further away is not an option as they are physically unable to get from their car to their destination.

**Overhanging vegetation:** Ensure vegetation in your property doesn't hang out over the footpath creating a potential hazard for people walking past.

**Parking across footpaths:** Parking on or across a footpath may mean that people passing by have to go out onto the road – this can be a dangerous option.



## Summer at the Eltham Library Community Gallery

From 5-25 January, two artists share the space. Photographer Steven Wells will present *A Photographic Perspective* highlighting nature through the macro lens while Robert Hayley will display glass

objects using the techniques of fusing (the heat bonding of glass) and slumping (the procedure in which glass heated in a kiln conforms to the shape of a mold) in his exhibition *Slumped and Fused Glass*.

Between 27 January and 15 February explore Eltham from an artists' perspective in Tom Dell'Anno's *Eltham Inside Out*. This is a series of abstract works encountering the every day and extraordinary features of Eltham and its surrounds.

From 16 February until 8 March, photographer Gayle Knight will present her new photographic series, *Evocations*. Here, fifty photographs will examine the evocation of meditative states through the visual image.

For further information contact Katrina Rank, Arts Officer, on 9433 3126.

## Register pets at three months

The minimum pet registration age has changed! All dogs and cats over the age of three months must now be registered with your local Council – this is effective immediately.

Most puppies and kittens are purchased or obtained between the ages of eight to twelve weeks, so registering pets at this younger age makes good sense. Owners receive discount registration fees if their pets are desexed. Contact the Municipal Laws Unit with any queries on 9433 3231.

## Be vigilant for wasps

European wasps look similar to a bee, only slightly larger. They have bright yellow bodies with triangle-shaped markings. Unlike a bee that can only sting once, the European wasp can sting repeatedly and they can sting in groups.

The symptoms of a wasp sting are burning pain, raised lump and redness.

*How to locate the nest:*

- nests are usually built in sheltered locations
- typical nest locations can include underground and within retaining walls, tree hollows and holes in walls
- European wasps may forage for food up to half a kilometre away from its nest.

*You can reduce the population of European wasps around your home in a number of ways including:*

- not leaving food, drink or pet food outside
- ensuring your outdoor rubbish bins have tight fitting lids
- covering compost bins
- covering food during a barbecue/picnic.

It is recommended you hire a pest controller to destroy any wasps' nests on your property. If you find a wasp nest on Council land then Council will arrange for the treatment of the nest – contact Council's Environmental Health Unit's information line 9433 3340.

## Give blackberries the boot!

Registration for participation in Nillumbik Shire Council's Community Weed Control Program for the control of Blackberry is available until Friday 7 January 2005.

This program can help provides a cost-effective means for landowners to use a professional contractor to undertake weed control work, as Council subsidises the cost of using an approved licensed contractor to control this noxious weed.

To obtain further details, including a list of other weeds on the program, contact Council's Land Management Officer, Julie Graham on 9433 3211 or send an email to [Julie.Graham@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Julie.Graham@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

**Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service**  
Christmas and New Year library opening hours 2004-2005:

	Friday 24 Dec	Sat 25 Dec to Tues 28 Dec	Weds 29 Dec	Thursday 30 Dec	Friday 31 Dec	Sat 1 Jan to Mon 3 Jan 2005	Tuesday 4 Jan
Diamond Valley	10am-12noon	Closed	10am-5pm	Closed	10am-5pm	Closed	10am-8.30pm
Eltham	10am-12noon	Closed	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	Closed	10am-8.30pm

For more detailed information go to [www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au).

The mobile library service will cease operation with the last stop on Friday 17 December 2004 and return on Monday 24 January 2005.