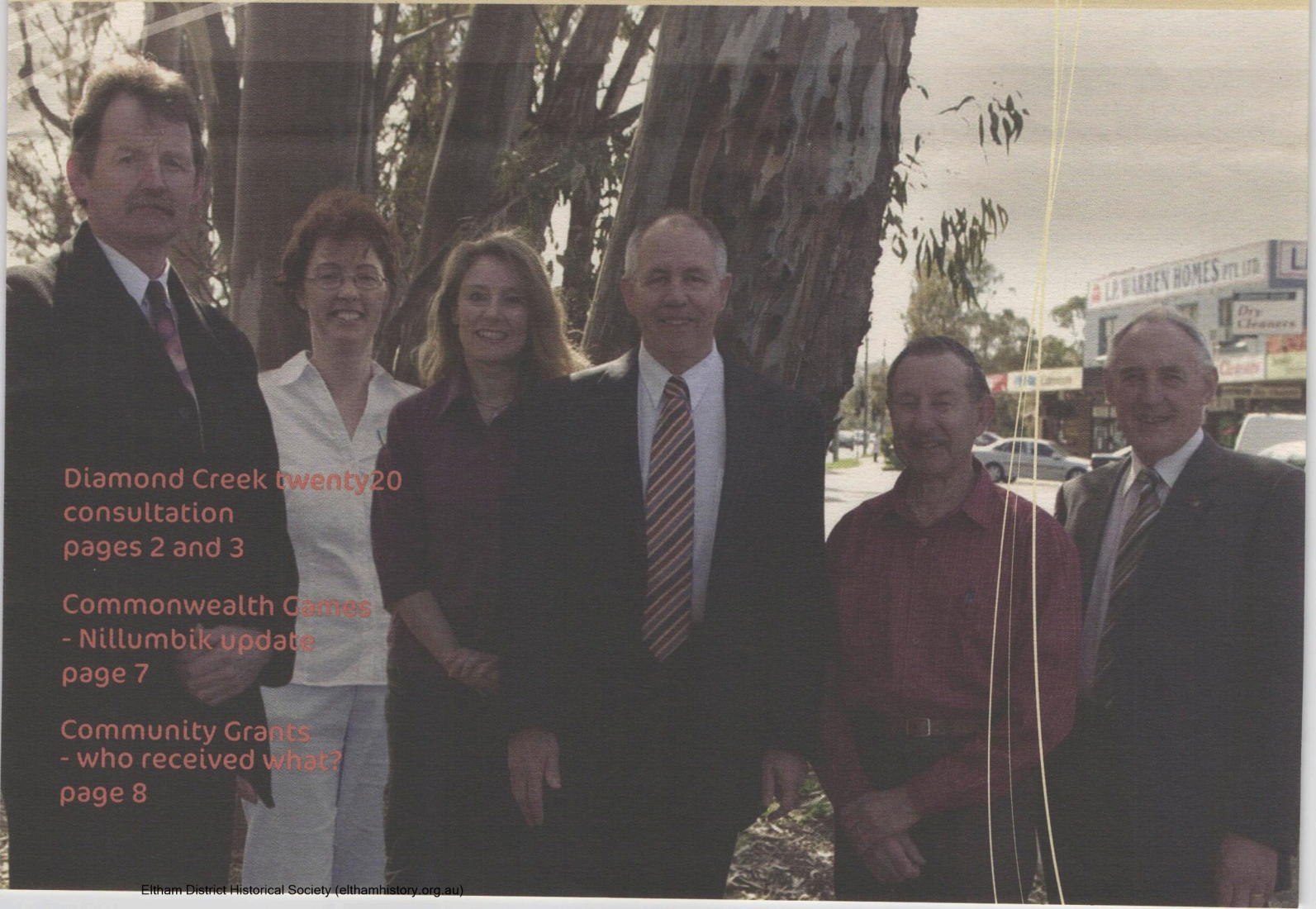


# Nillumbik

November 2005

## news



Diamond Creek **twenty20**  
consultation  
pages 2 and 3

Commonwealth Games  
- Nillumbik update  
page 7

Community Grants  
- who received what?  
page 8

## Council contacts:

Nillumbik Shire Council  
Civic Drive (PO Box 476)  
Greensborough Vic 3088

Telephone: 9433 3111  
Facsimile: 9432 9559  
Depot: 9436 3555  
Email: [nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
Website: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

The emergency number remains unchanged  
as 9483 8895.

## Council opening hours:

23 December 2005	8.30am-1pm
26 December 2005	Closed
27 December 2005	Closed
28 December 2005 to 30 December 2005	8.30am-5pm
2 January 2006	Closed
3 January 2006	8.30am-5pm

Please note: Normal hours resumed Tuesday  
to Friday, but Council offices will close on  
Mondays at 5pm until Monday 6 February  
2006 when Monday hours will resume from  
8.30am-6.30pm.

Recycling & Recovery Centre:  
290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty  
Friday-Monday 8am to 4pm – closed all  
public holidays and note Christmas Eve  
hours are 8am-12noon.  
Telephone: 9436 3555

Nillumbik News is available in  
alternative formats upon request. Contact  
Communications on 9433 3105 or email  
[Barb.Whiter@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Barb.Whiter@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

This publication is printed in Nillumbik with  
vegetable inks on 100% recycled paper.



## Contents

Diamond Creek twenty20 consultation	2, 3
Environment (natural, built and cultural) stories	4
Community assets stories	5
Health and wellbeing stories	6, 7
Governance and community engagement stories	8, 9
Calendar of events	10
In brief...	11, 12
Councillor contacts	12
From the Mayor...	12

# Diamond C



**A new plan to guide the  
future development of shops,  
industry, services, community  
and recreation facilities and  
the character of the town  
centre of Diamond Creek will  
be prepared over the next year.**

We refer to it as the twenty20 project  
because it's a 10 to 15 year plan which  
is not only about the transport, growth  
and housing facilities of the area but  
also the feel or character of Diamond  
Creek. Twenty20 is about making the  
shopping centre a more appealing  
place to shop and meet, as well as  
improving the leisure and community  
facilities of the area.

The plan will also consider how to  
plan for and manage higher density  
housing development in and around  
the Diamond Creek town centre.

The plan has two main components  
– a structure plan and a leisure  
facilities plan. The structure plan,  
when complete, will be linked to the  
planning scheme and help guide  
decisions about future development  
and land use mix. The leisure facilities  
plan will focus on public recreation  
and leisure facilities management,  
planning and priorities for future  
development.

We need your comments on the  
Issues and Options Report which is  
now available.

It is supported by a number of  
background reports dealing with urban  
economics, urban design, transport and  
leisure facilities.

Copies of the Issues and Options Report  
are available either by visiting our  
website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or by  
contacting Megan Andrews on  
9433 3210.

## How to comment

You can comment in a range of ways:

- via a submission form
- via a summary response form  
(from which you can indicate  
priorities from a checklist)
- by making your own written  
submission.

Contact 9433 3210 for copies of the  
forms.

## Submissions must be sent to:

Margaret Abbey  
Group Manager Environment  
and Planning Services  
Nillumbik Shire Council  
PO Box 476  
Greensborough Vic 3088

**The closing date for submissions  
is Monday 19 December 2005.**

If you want to know more about  
Diamond Creek twenty20, please  
contact Peter Mollison, Senior  
Strategic Planner, 9433 3209  
(Monday, Tuesday and Friday).

Front cover (l to r): Michael Hill, Sherrilyn Ballard, Lee O'Mahoney,  
Digby Reid, Norm Wearne and Tom Crothers (absent, Linda Freake) - all  
members of the Diamond Creek twenty20 Reference Group.



# reek twenty20

We asked seven members of the reference group the following two questions:

1. What sort of Diamond Creek do you want to see in 2020?
2. Why are you involved in the project?

Photographs above, left to right, correspond with the responses below:

**Digby Reid** – local resident and representative of the Diamond Creek RSL:

1. I would like to see Diamond Creek move forward to 2020 without losing its semi-rural character, but with appropriate, planned facilities relevant to the projected demographic of the area.
2. I became part of the reference group as a general member of the community because I saw an opportunity to contribute to the future of Diamond Creek.

**Lee O'Mahoney** – local resident:

1. I would like to see Diamond Creek as an area characterised by a strong sense of community and lovely natural environment that all residents are proud of.
2. I wish to give a voice to residents who are concerned about the area losing its identity, its character and the features that attract people to the area in the first place. I'm interested in helping restore character and pride to the area and developing solutions to road congestion.

**Norm Wearne** – local resident and community volunteer:

1. I would like to see a Diamond Creek that is as liveable as ever for young and old, that retains its suburban and semi-rural character, and has a balanced development of residential, commercial, industrial, educational, community and leisure facilities.

2. I enjoy having been involved in the Diamond Creek community for the past 45 years, and I think I owe it to the future to give back something of what Diamond Creek continues to give to my wife and me, our children and our grandchildren.

**Tom Crothers** – local resident and representative of the Diamond Creek Traders Association:

1. I would like to see Diamond Creek of 2020 to be a small town that has:
  - retained the major features of its natural environment and unique setting
  - resurrected and featured its valuable heritage as part of its facelift and maximised its tourism opportunities
  - been provided with the opportunity and support to fulfil the objectives of Melbourne 2030 within its zoning and catchment limits as an important economic and employment precinct for the Nillumbik community
  - developed a mix of retail and service businesses that attracts locals to shop local thereby enhancing the local economy and employment opportunity.
2. I am President of the Diamond Creek Traders Association and have lived in Diamond Creek for over 20 years and also worked most of that time locally.

**Sherrilyn Ballard** – local resident and representative of Living & Learning Nillumbik's Diamond Creek centre:

1. I would like to see a vibrant township that represents the values and needs of our community and which provides the necessary resources enabling people to participate in a wide range of activities. In particular – I would like to see a centralized, shared community facility encompassing a library, living and learning centre, cultural/arts space and a tourist information centre.

2. To represent the Diamond Creek Centre of Living & Learning Nillumbik and the community in general.

**Michael Hill** – Assistant Principal, Diamond Valley College:

1. Diamond Creek should clearly reflect its community values celebrating its heritage and envisaging its future. It will engage all aspect of its community but with no one aspect dominating. Diamond Creek will, through its public, retail, recreational, educational and community service environments, entice people to come together to solve problems, share experiences and resources. It will be a place to enjoy each other and be more than a thoroughfare to other locations.
2. With a 30-year career dedicated to setting young people up for success, I am involved to see young people's interests are not lost in a political system that could be easily dominated by other sections of the community.

**Linda Freake** – Group Manager, YMCA Victoria

1. We see Diamond Creek as being an active and engaged community with a modern, attractive town centre in tune with its environment. Quality leisure and recreation facilities encouraging community participation and wellness are essential.
2. Since 1996, the YMCA has had a partnership with Council in managing four main recreational facilities. During this time, the YMCA has developed a clear understanding of the health and recreational needs of the people of Diamond Creek, and welcomes the opportunity to be part of this project in providing resources and advice for future recreational and leisure planning.

# Environment (natural, built and cultural)

## Inaugural Business to Business Expo rates '10 out of 10'

Over 200 people walked through the doors of Ashton Manor in Diamond Creek on Wednesday 19 October to see Nillumbik local home-based businesses on display.

And what a buzz was in the air. Thirty-eight members of the Nillumbik HomeBiz Network were on display plus the Victorian Business Centre, Small Business Counselling Service, Fort Knox Self Storage and Bendigo Bank.

The day began with breakfast with Robyn Henderson to which 65 people attended and continued with a range of seminars on various business topics

to complement the Expo. Exhibitors and visitors alike have raved about the day, with comments like '10 out of 10' and 'better than expected'. What visitors seemed to like most about the Expo was the friendliness of exhibitors and the variety and professionalism of the businesses on show – 'so many local businesses on my doorstep which I didn't even know about'.

All in all, a great success – so much so planning has begun for the 2006 event. For more information on the Nillumbik HomeBiz Network contact 9433 3332.



Councillor Bill Penrose was delighted to meet many of the home-based business stall holders at the Business to Business Expo.

## Hurstbridge goes plastic bag free

Hurstbridge is the first township in Nillumbik to take on the challenge of becoming a plastic bag free town. The Hurstbridge Traders Association, with Hurstbridge & Districts Community Bendigo Bank Branch and Nillumbik Shire Council are all working together to achieve this goal.

In Nillumbik, as elsewhere, plastic bag litter creates many problems. Bags get caught in fences and trees; they end up blocking drains and trapping birds; and when eaten, they kill livestock. If the growing number of plastic bags used each year is combined with the time it takes for them to break down (hundreds of years) the result is a major environmental problem.

That's why Hurstbridge decided to act!

The campaign began with a bag design and campaign message competition for primary schools located within the 3099 postcode area.

The winning campaign message – Help us make our town plastic bag free – was submitted by Hurstbridge Primary School grade three student, Georgia Ord. The design for the reusable bag came from Arthurs Creek Primary School grade one student, Lauren Tims, while students from Strathewen Primary School submitted the design for the posters which are featured around the township encouraging the community to help make Hurstbridge a plastic bag free town.

For more information contact Tamara Johnson, Waste Education and Projects Officer, on 9436 3518.

### An invitation

Come along and celebrate the launch of the plastic bag free town project, on Saturday 3 December in Main Road Hurstbridge near the Bendigo Bank from 10am.

## Free Green Waste drop off weekend

Nillumbik residents only - this is a great opportunity to clean up before the fire season.

Friday 2, Saturday 3, Sunday 4,  
Monday 5 December 2005  
8am - 4pm

Recycle and Recovery Centre  
290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty  
Material accepted free are:  
tree prunings, garden clippings,  
leaf litter

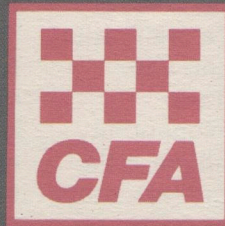
Charges apply for all other material including mixed loads.

Note: Either a rates notice or drivers license will be required as proof of residency.



# Community assets

Community safety is a key issue for all municipalities and ours is no different. This column is written by Helen Wozitzky, Community Fireguard Coordinator, Country Fire Authority, Yarra Area.



## Community fireguard reduces loss of lives and homes

More than one thousand Nillumbik residents already participate in Country Fire Authority's (CFA) Community Fireguard program. However, with the early November onset of high temperatures, stormy, warm nights and hot northerly winds, residents who are not already involved in the program and who live in high risk areas in the Shire, have the opportunity to set up their own community fireguard group with their neighbours to improve their overall bushfire safety.

Ideally community fireguard groups are small, made up of neighbours or residents living in a shared bushfire risk environment. Remember, you can be in a risk environment in an urban fringe or semi-rural environment.

Trained CFA facilitators come out and meet with groups to help them gather the knowledge to develop their own bushfire safety plans. Everyone's plan will be different to suit their individual situations and lifestyles.

Understanding the risk in a particular location and what a fire might be like in that location is an important starting point. Learning about the many things you can do to prepare your home, and, most importantly, how you and your family can be safe during a bushfire are all covered during community fireguard meetings.

Typical activities could include:

- having a street walk with a facilitator and local fire brigade member
- establishing a phone tree to communicate with each other
- bulk buying of equipment and protective clothing.

CFA cannot provide every person and home with individual protection during major bushfires – which is why it is so important for people to share responsibility for their own safety. A great way to start is by participating in a community fireguard group. It's also a great way to get to know your neighbours!

To find out more about the program contact Helen Wositzky on 9735 0511 or email [h.wositzky@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:h.wositzky@cfa.vic.gov.au). There is also information found at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au).



To ensure safety while protecting your home, community fireguard group members discuss appropriate clothing such as natural fibre long pants and close weave cotton shirts or overalls, with good solid footwear and a sturdy hat.

## Kangaroo Ground Family Centre

Council is pleased to announce that the development of the proposed Family Centre at the Kangaroo Ground Primary School in Graham Road is well underway.

Council has been working for quite some time in collaboration with the Kangaroo Ground Preschool and Primary School to develop a building to accommodate the preschool, primary school activities such as Before and After School Care Programs, school holiday sessions, activities of the adjacent Andrew Ross Museum, Maternal and Child Health and allied health activities and community use.

A joint submission to the Community Facilities Fund was successful and a grant of \$189,000 has been allocated towards the project. Council has matched this grant with an additional \$189,000.

An application for a further \$35,000 to the Community Water Grants has also been submitted.

The design of the building is progressing well and it is anticipated that the new centre will be operational by Term 2, 2006.

## Did you know? >>

The Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) has a new telephone number for members of the public to call if they require emergency flood and storm assistance.

Call 13 25 00 from anywhere in Victoria, 24 hours a day.

# Health and wellbeing

## International Day of People with DisAbility (IDPD)

International Day of People with DisAbility (IDPD) is celebrated on 3 December every year. It is a celebration of diversity and, above all, the ability of people with a disability all over the world. It is a day to raise awareness and think about what we, as a community can do to be more inclusive. The real testament is the way we work together every day to support each other and foster a greater sense of local connectedness.

Nillumbik Shire Council recognises that even though residents may require a range of different supports to obtain a healthy life, we all strive to achieve the same health outcomes. Council officers aim to meet the diverse needs of the community by providing equitable facilities, services and learning opportunities for all to enjoy.

**Please find below a list of further opportunities, as well as other information you may find useful:**

### Social Connections Program

This is a recreational/social group for young adults with a disability. A range of different activities are offered each term which are decided by the group. Dates and times vary. Contact Dawn McDonnell on 9438 5411 for more information.

### Recharge Program

A state-funded Recharge program is being developed to make travel easier for electronic scooter users who do not feel confident accessing our shopping precincts for fear their scooter battery will go flat. This program is about to get underway and Council would love to hear from traders who are willing to provide accessible power points for the Recharge scheme. Please call Angela Lampard, MetroAccess Officer, on 0438 009 672 to get involved or find out more.

### Transport opportunities

LINK Community Transport offers a specialised, volunteer assisted community transport service for Home and Community Care (HACC) eligible residents. This service provides an invaluable opportunity for residents to attend social, recreational and leisure activities, while still maintaining their independence living at home.

They provide door-to-door transport for the frail aged, people of any age with a disability and their parents or carers, for a very small fee. For more information, please call 9355 8484. Nillumbik Shire Council also has a wheelchair-accessible mini-bus for hire to non-profit organisations. For more information, please call 9433 3127.

### Information fact sheets

Because the needs of people living with a disability are diverse, it can be difficult for people to know who to speak to, what supports are available and most importantly, how to use this information to further participate in community life.

There are a number of Information fact sheets available for people with disability, their carers and older residents. Please contact Angela Lampard, MetroAccess Officer, on 0438 009 672 to obtain a fact sheet relating to one of the topics listed below:

- Specialised aids and equipment
- Navigating the education system for your young child
- In-home support
- Recreation and respite options
- Accessing funding
- Options available for school leavers
- Young person wanting accommodation options
- Older adult looking for longer term accommodation
- Older adult planning for the future
- Peer support for carers and/or siblings
- Guide for those trying to access services for the first time.

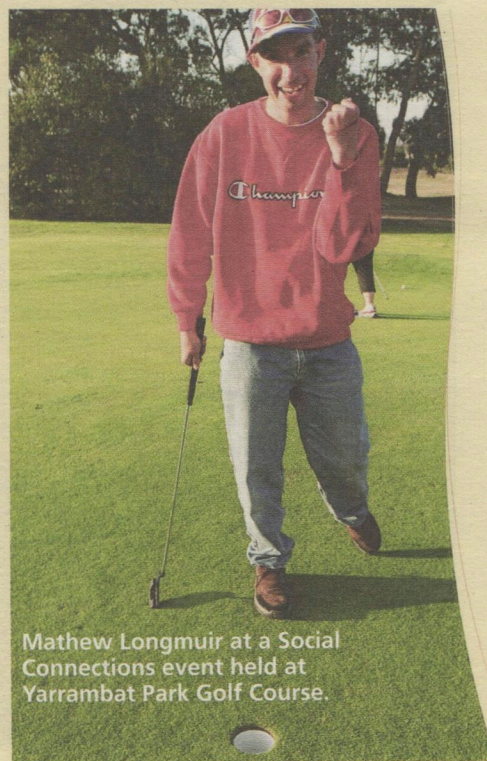
### Access for All Abilities Program

The Access for All Abilities Program (AAA) supports local clubs or service organisations to plan and implement strategies which ensure their activities are inclusive of everyone. If you think your local sporting club may benefit from free training, please contact Jenny Gregory, Community Development Officer, on 9433 3136.

In addition, if you have a disability and are looking for something to do in the local community, please call Jenny to obtain a copy of the 2006 AAA Recreation Directory.

### Living & Learning Nillumbik

Please look out for the Living & Learning Nillumbik's program in your letterbox in January. We are committed to providing quality accessible training so please let us know about your training needs by calling 9430 1313.



Mathew Longmuir at a Social Connections event held at Yarrambat Park Golf Course.

# Commonwealth Games update



Nillumbik Shire Council has adopted Canada as our second team for the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.



So, now's the time to test your knowledge about Canada –

maybe you didn't know there are 101 Canadians living in the Shire? Is one living next door to you? Give them a big Nillumbik hello!

## Here are some facts you may not know about Canada:

- The national emblem is the maple leaf.
- The symbol of sovereignty is the beaver – did you know a beaver's front teeth never stop growing?



- There are dogs named after three states – Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Labrador.
- The Yukon Territory's bird symbol is the Common Raven (they're everywhere!).
- Canada has the same problem with bushfires in their summer months as we do.
- Canada has two national languages – English and French.

## Put these dates in your diary!

### Saturday and Sunday 28 and 29 January Eltham Town Jazz & Blues Heritage Festival

We are hoping to have a Canadian entertainer perform at the festival – keep your eyes peeled for more info!

### Sunday 19 February Nillumbik Getting Involved Festival

Ferguson's Paddock, Hurstbridge  
This one-off festival will be great fun! Everyone's invited to get involved.

### Monday 20 February Queen's Baton Relay

What a great day this will be in Nillumbik – the Queen's Baton Relay comes to Hurstbridge! We want to see heaps of people lining the streets and cheering the community runners carrying the baton through the Shire. Join in the fun and festive atmosphere of the day. Ask your school how they are celebrating.

Council's Commonwealth Games project team are keen to hear from you, including those of you who may want to become volunteers. Please phone Alexius Pepper on 9433 3356 or email [Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or Sally Hansen on 9433 3263 or email [Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

## 2000th Nillumbik Young People's Discount Card holder

Claire Munro is the 2000th member of the Nillumbik Young People's Discount (NYPD) Card program. The program is open to all young people between the age of 12 and 25.

The NYPD card encourages young people to shop locally. The NYPD Card is run in partnership with the Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Eltham Traders Associations, where the majority of businesses involved in the program are located. The card entitles the holder to discounts at local stores and links young people to a network providing them with regular information, events and support.

The NYPD card is run in conjunction with the Nillumbik Youth Services Information Outreach program, where a Youth Project Worker and volunteers venture out into the community about once a week to talk to young people about their experiences living in and around Nillumbik. Young people are asked questions about their pastimes and interests as well as being told about forthcoming events and other information that may be of interest to them.

Now's a good time to get your hands on an NYPD card as Nillumbik Youth Services are offering movie passes to the first 10 people to mention this *Nillumbik News* article and sign up through the website. For further information on all aspects of the NYPD card, contact Youth Services on 9433 3349 or visit [www.nypd.com.au](http://www.nypd.com.au).



Claire Munro, 2000th NYPD card holder, is congratulated by Nillumbik Mayor, Councillor Greg Johnson, when he presented her with her card recently.

## Red Cross is calling in 2006

Australian Red Cross Victoria is looking for volunteers in the Nillumbik area to lend a helping hand in the 2006 Red Cross Calling appeal. Red Cross Calling will be taking place between 13 February and 13 March and it is their largest fundraising event of the year. The Australian Red Cross is renowned for its diverse community services and is dependant on the generous donations of the public to provide these services.

Becoming a voluntary collector during Red Cross Calling is a great way to meet people in your community and feel the reward of helping other Victorians in need. If you are interested in spending one day as a volunteer collector to raise funds for our community services in Victoria, please contact Nikk Hunter on 8327 7841 or email him at [nhunter@redcross.org.au](mailto:nhunter@redcross.org.au).

If you would like more information on the free community services of the Australian Red Cross, you can visit the website at [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au).

## Communities advising Council

Nillumbik Shire Council is lucky to have many Advisory Committees, external bodies and membership of other agencies, which advise Council on matters including environment, sports and recreation, public health and culture and arts. Let's look at the Culture & Arts Advisory Committee:

The Nillumbik Culture & Arts Advisory Committee is a group of 11 people with expertise in heritage, professional arts and community arts practice.

The Committee is comprised of musicians, theatre practitioners, visual artists, writers and representatives of local cultural, heritage and tourism groups. This mix ensures that a broad range of views and interests are covered.

The role of the Committee is to inform Council of the artistic and cultural needs of the community, to comment on priorities for arts and cultural development within Nillumbik, to contribute to the ongoing review of cultural programs and advise on policy.

The Culture & Arts Advisory Committee has recently been involved in the review of the Cultural Plan 2000–2005 which will direct Council's cultural program for the next five years.

It has also contributed to the development of the Cultural Achievement Grants Policy to highlight significant artistic achievements by local residents. The group continues to identify new opportunities for cultural development and speak for others who have an interest in the arts and heritage.

For further information about this advisory committee go to [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or contact Katrina Rank, Team Leader Cultural Services, 9433 3126 or [Katrina.Rank@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Katrina.Rank@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

## Community Grants - who got what?

Council is pleased to announce the recipients of its annual Community Grants Program:

### Community Development grants:

Eltham Preschool (\$2000)  
Nillumbik Dog Obedience Club Inc. (\$762)

### Community Group Support grants:

Plenty Historical Society (\$300)  
Eltham Toy Library (\$300)  
Panton Hill Community Child Care Association (\$250)  
Queenstown Cemetery Trust (\$500)  
St Andrews/Queenstown Historical Society (\$500)  
Diamond Creek Safety House (\$180)  
1st Eltham North Rovers (\$500)  
Elizabeth Hoffman House (\$500)  
Allwood Neighbourhood House (\$45)

### AAA Adapted Equipment grant

Eltham Recreation Bowling Club (\$883)

### Cultural Development grants

were most popular with applications totalling \$17,940 – all vying for a total grant pool of \$5500:  
North of the Yarra Quilters – two separate grants of \$1500 each  
Queenstown Cemetery Trust (\$540)  
The Eltham Innovations and Excellence Cluster (\$510)  
Jeanette Dyke (\$1500)

In addition, the Eltham Little Theatre and Eltham Primary School will each receive \$1500 from the Youth Arts Program budget; while the Advanced Writers and the Andrew Ross Museum will receive \$2500 (for two different projects) and \$1500 respectively from the Literary Program budget.

### Youth Support Grants:

Eltham District Guides (\$2000)  
Nillumbik Regional Vineyard Church (\$1050)  
Northern Children's Resource Program (\$1920)  
Eltham High School Advanced Working Communities Group (\$1500)  
Eltham Baptist Church (\$1500)  
Eltham Little Theatre (\$1000) to train young people in the tech side of theatre.

### Special Events grants:

Arthurs Creek Mechanics Institute (\$1000)  
Queenstown Cemetery Trust (\$883)  
Musicians Associated (\$800)  
Hurstbridge Preschool (\$1500)

Full details of these grants can be found at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) by accessing [Media Centre > Media releases > October 2005 > Community Grants . . . who got what?](#)  
Got an idea? Contact Jenny Gregory, Community Development Officer, on 9433 3136 to discuss it.

# Governance and community engagement

## Community workshops

What are the priorities for Nillumbik over the next three to four years? Council is keen to hear your views.

Since being elected in December 2004, Council has developed a new Council Plan. This plan will guide the work of Council over the next three to four years and we would like to involve the broader community in discussions about its goals and objectives.

The key questions we will be asking you are:

1. What do you think are the key issues for Nillumbik over the next three to four years?
2. What should Council be focussing on and how should resources be allocated to achieve our goals?
3. How can Council and the community improve the way we work together?

During the first week in December, the first three of ten community workshops will be held in Kangaroo Ground, Hurstbridge and Eltham. A further seven meetings are planned for February 2006 and these will be held in a range of different areas across the Shire.

It is anticipated each workshop will last between two to three hours. Each workshop will:

- be a focussed conversation about priorities, not just a brainstorming session

- involve informed discussion – prior information will be available on challenges, priorities and issues within the Shire
- focus on real time decisions – not those for a 20-year grand vision
- come up with three to four clear messages to Council
- inform the Council Plan and Budget documents for 2006-2007 financial year.

### The first workshops will be:

#### Monday 5 December

from 12noon-2.30pm  
Hurstbridge Community Hall,  
Heidelberg-Kinglake Road (Main  
Road), Hurstbridge (Melway 263 A8)

#### Wednesday 7 December

from 7.30pm to 10pm  
Kangaroo Ground Emergency  
Operations Centre/Kangaroo  
Ground Hall, corner Kangaroo  
Ground-St Andrews Road and Ness  
Lane, Kangaroo Ground  
(Melway 271 E9)

#### Thursday 8 December

from 12noon-2.30pm  
Eltham Community Reception Centre,  
801 Main Road, Eltham  
(Melway 21 J6)

For registration at the above workshops, please contact Megan Andrews by email at [Megan.Andrews@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Megan.Andrews@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or by phone on 9433 3210.

## Australia Day Awards

Every year, to celebrate how wonderful our community is, we present the Nillumbik Australia Day Awards. We would like to invite all members of our community to nominate people who make a fantastic contribution to the community. There are four categories:

- Nillumbik Citizen of the Year
- Nillumbik Young Citizen of the Year
- Nillumbik Community Group/ Business of the Year
- Nillumbik Volunteer of the Year

Each nominee must meet specific selection and eligibility criteria. This information is available on the nomination forms, which are available to download at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au); pick one up from customer service at Council's Civic Drive, Greensborough offices or from the community information stands around the Shire; or contact Sally Hansen on 9433 3263 (Mon and Wed only) or email [Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) to have one posted to you.

Closing date is Friday 2 December.



2005 Nillumbik Australia Day Award winners – will you be in this photo next year?

# Calendar of events

The following is just a small sample of what's happening in the Shire of Nillumbik over the next couple of months. For detailed information, pick up a free copy of the new Calendar of events brochure from your local community information stand or visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) > What's on.

Thursday 3 November to Saturday 3 December  
**Eltham Little Theatre presents ...**

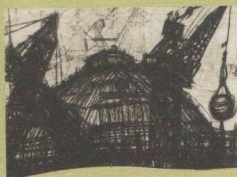
**Music Hall Melodramas - The Gypsy's Revenge**  
Bring your own supper and drinks along to this wonderful piece of theatre.

With performances on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, make sure you book early, as seats are strictly limited.  
Eltham Performing Arts Centre, 1602 Main Road, Research  
Contact: The Box Office 9437 1574  
Cost: Tickets are just \$16 per adult and \$14 for concession.  
Email: [webmistress@elthamlittletheatre.org.au](mailto:webmistress@elthamlittletheatre.org.au)  
Web: [www.elthamlittletheatre.org.au](http://www.elthamlittletheatre.org.au)



until Friday 9 December  
**Marco Luccio Exhibition**

Marco Luccio, a Kinglake artist, interestingly, bases his work on the city although he lives in a rural environment. His drawings and prints depict the changing skyline of a developing city, the activity of cranes and the monumental aspect of railway stations, buildings and bridges.



Marco's strongly drawn images reflect the energy of change and movement in the cityscape. He introduces us to a different view by drawing his subject from the rooftop, where the outlook is expansive and imposing.

The exhibition includes two major works recently acquired for the Nillumbik Art Collection.

Most of Marco's work is produced in his home studio in Kinglake, however, for larger prints he uses the facilities at Baldessin Press in St Andrews. Marco, along with his partner Debra, teach art from the Alan Martin Studio in Eltham.

Side foyer of Nillumbik Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough  
Contact: Chris Marks, Arts Collection Curator, 9433 3132  
Cost: free  
Email: [Chris.Marks@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Chris.Marks@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
Web: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Sunday 4 December  
**36th Annual Eltham Amateur Wine Show**

The Eltham & District Winemakers Guild presents Australia's largest amateur wine show, with over 600 entries of grape and country wines. The Show is open to the general public from 11am-3pm for tastings and awards presentations. Souvenir wine glasses and catalogues may be purchased at the door.

Eltham Community & Reception Centre, Main Road, Eltham  
Contact: Liz Pryor 9439 4933  
Cost: \$12  
Email: [pryor@gotalk.net.au](mailto:pryor@gotalk.net.au)  
Web: [www.amateurwine.org](http://www.amateurwine.org)



Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 January 2006  
**Eltham Town Jazz & Blues Heritage Festival**

There are jazz bands performing in various locations around the town, including the Town Square and Eltham Terrace. Check out our local talent in the Wild Dog Hill Original Composition/Performance Awards.  
Eltham Town Square and various Eltham locations  
Contact: Lucy Anderson 9431 4498  
Cost: Free  
Email: [lucia2345@hotmail.com](mailto:lucia2345@hotmail.com)



Sunday 19 February 2006  
**Nillumbik Getting Involved Festival**

To celebrate the Commonwealth Games Melbourne 2006, the Shire of Nillumbik is having a one-off festival, to celebrate with food, wine, local produce, entertainment, family and kids activities, and lots of fun!  
Fergusons Paddock, Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge  
Contact: Sally Hansen or Alexius Pepper 9433 3111  
Cost: Free  
Email: [Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or [Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
Web: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



Monday 20 February 2006  
**Queen's Baton Relay visit**

Come along and join in the local celebrations to welcome the Queen's Baton to the Shire of Nillumbik.  
Hurstbridge Township, Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge  
Contact: Sally Hansen or Alexius Pepper 9433 3111  
Cost: Free  
Email: [Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sally.Hansen@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or [Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Alexius.Pepper@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
Web: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



Saturday 4 March 2006  
**Welcome Platypus Festival**

The Welcome Platypus event features many creative make-and-do areas for adults and children, in a variety of mediums. In 2006 the Festival will feature The Wisdom of Murrin-Mooroo (the Platypus), an evening puppet show and performance by local artists and children, Murrin-Mooroo, is an aboriginal dreamtime story that carries a message that is relevant to our times.  
Allwood Neighbourhood House and Fergusons Paddock, Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge  
Contact: Vicki Kaye 9718 2717 / 0438 596 344  
Cost: free - gold coin donation for the puppet show  
Email: [allwood@hurstbridge.org.au](mailto:allwood@hurstbridge.org.au)  
Web: <http://www.hurstbridge.org.au/groups/allwood/>



## In brief...

### Follow the footprints

Young children can participate in an exciting new activity at Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre. Starting at the office and armed with a clipboard, pencil and a picture sheet the children explore Edendale to find the footprint information points.

At each point there is a picture of the animal, a concrete foot print and some information about each animal's impact on the environment. This activity is available every day from 9.30am to 4.30pm at Edendale, Gastons Road, Eltham. Entry to Edendale is \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for children. Children under three are free. Enquiries: 9439 8113.



Dylan and Hannah Gandy enjoy visiting Edendale and now know lots more about each animal's footprints and impact on the environment.

### Library opening hours

Eltham and Diamond Valley libraries will close at 1pm on Saturday 24 December.

All libraries are closed until Wednesday 28 December when the opening hours are 10am to 5pm until Friday 30 December.

Normal Saturday hours will apply on Saturday 31 December.

All libraries are closed on Sunday 1 January and Monday 2 January 2006, and normal library hours resume on Tuesday 3 January.

Find out more at [www.yprls.com.au](http://www.yprls.com.au).

## The Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2006 is now open!

This 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), whose most well known books are the autobiographical, *I Can Jump Puddles*, *This is the Grass* and *Pioneers and Painters*.

The 2006 judge for the Alan Marshall Short Story Awards is Eva Sallis. Eva won *The Australian/Vogel Literary Award* in 1997 for her first novel, *Hiam*. In 2002 *The City of Sealions* was published followed by the winner of the Steele Rudd Award, *Mahjar* in 2003 and *Fire Fire* in 2004.

**Entries close at 4pm on Friday 24 February 2006.**

There are three categories for a short story of fiction up to 2500 words written in any style:

- Open Section Award of \$2000
- Local Writers Award of \$1000
- Young Writers Award (15-19years) of \$400

Entry forms and guidelines are available from the Eltham and Diamond Valley branches of the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service or by contacting Sharon Frosi, Administration Support Officer, on 9433 3161 or download via Council's website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au).



The Eltham East Primary School Choir entertained at the launch of the Alan Marshall Short Story Award held at a Garden Party at the Eltham Library.

## Air conditioning noise

With summer approaching you may be considering purchasing an air conditioner or evaporative cooler. It is important to realise there are laws to stop running air conditioners when the noise affects your neighbours.

Please consider the following before going to the expense of purchasing and installing an air conditioner:

- Choose the quietest air conditioner suited to your needs (the lower the number dB, the quieter the unit is).
- Install it as far away from your neighbours as possible, or, choose a well-shielded area.

Remember that just because you buy the quietest air conditioner in the shop, when it is installed in close proximity to your neighbours its noise level can still be a problem.

Environment Protection Authority (Residential Noise) Regulations prohibit the use of air conditioners between prescribed hours when it can be heard inside a habitable room, such as a bedroom, in a neighbouring house. These prohibited times are: Monday to Friday between 10pm and 7am; and weekends and public holidays between 10 pm and 9am.

Please contact Council's Public Health Services on 9433 3340 if you have any questions.

## Community Weed Control Program

Registrations are currently being invited for participation in Nillumbik Shire Council's Community Weed Control Program for the control of:

- Blackberry

Under Council's Community Weed Control program, the cost of using an approved licensed contractor to control this noxious weed is subsidised.

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

**Registrations close Friday 6 January 2006.**

## From the Mayor...

Nillumbik Shire Mayor, Councillor Greg Johnson, reflects on Council's first 12 months and talks about the challenges for 2006 as he sees them:

I believe transport, planning and coming to terms with what we must do to protect the Green Wedge are the challenges to be met for Nillumbik. I am also keenly aware we must not respond to decibel democracy. We must always seek out community opinion from the widest cross-section of our community to ensure we are making informed decisions and Council's work reflects community expectations.

The Diamond Creek twenty20 project, which will give us a 10-15 year structure and facilities plan for Diamond Creek, is a great example of Council meeting these challenges. The process and project is testament to our commitment to real consultation and sensible planning for the future. I encourage you all to read the article on pages 2 and 3 and have your say.

I was invited to address the Metropolitan Transport Forum earlier this month where I had an opportunity to put Nillumbik's case for improved public transport. I focussed especially on capacity of the Hurstbridge line, the urgent need to extend the Epping line, public transport car parking availability and bus/rail connections. The pressure on our road network was also discussed. The statewide media coverage of the Forum has

clearly placed transport on the government agenda and we will continue to ensure Nillumbik's needs are presented.

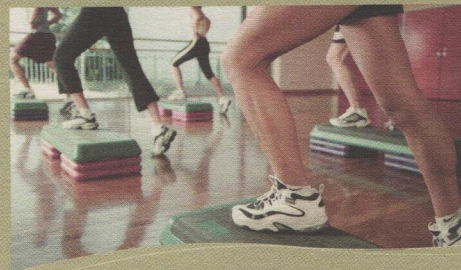
The governance and community engagement article on page 9 is well worth a look. This gives you the opportunity to participate in community workshops to assist Council determine what the priorities for Nillumbik over the next three to four years should be. Why not come along and have a say – all contributions most welcome.

Council's role is a little like an umpire in many cases. We cannot guarantee everyone will be happy with the outcome, but we can guarantee the process will be fair and everyone will have a chance to have their say.

I must say how very proud I am of the way the elected Council is working together and the level of respect and debate we are having. It is clear to any member of the community who has had dealings with a Councillor, we are listening, raising the questions they have raised with us and making decisions in a proper and democratic way.

So, may I finish off with Councillor and staff wishes for a safe festive season and new year. Make sure your family has a bushfire plan and you are careful out on the roads and walkways. Council's seasonal operating hours are on the inside front cover and we have an emergency call-out service available to you at all times.

## Eltham Leisure Centre wins again!



Try a step class at Eltham Leisure Centre – or find something else to enjoy!

Nillumbik Shire Council congratulates the Eltham Leisure Centre's management team for its recent win in the Local Leader Business Awards – this is the seventh time in the past eight years the Centre has won the Small Business Award (health and fitness/sports club).

The Centre is managed by the YMCA in partnership with Council. The YMCA ethos is to build strong people, strong families and strong communities.

Within the next 18 months the facility will undergo a major renovation, with over \$1 million from Council and \$500,000 from the state government, allowing even more expansion and improved services.

The YMCA is also committed to benevolent and charitable work. Through fundraising and government grants the YMCA provides the under-privileged access to programs and services they otherwise could not afford.

Find out just how good this Centre is by contacting 9439 2266 or by visiting [www.eltham.ymca.org.au](http://www.eltham.ymca.org.au).



**Councillor Greg Johnson**  
(Mayor)

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Mobile: 0438 277 425  
Email: [Greg.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Greg.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
Phone/fax: 9439 4236

Postal address for all Councillors:  
Nillumbik Shire Council,  
PO Box 476,  
Greensborough Vic 3088



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

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Fax: 9438 4835