

Summer 2011-2012

December – February



Nillumbik

NEWS

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Picture Nillumbik

People, Passions, Possibilities
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A *year* in Nillumbik

Panton Hill Bushland Reserves System

A year in Nillumbik

As 2011 comes to an end, what better time to look back and remember what has happened in Nillumbik this year!



Recreation upgrades

The year began with a \$156,000 funding announcement from Sport and Recreation Victoria for work to take place on the Shire's recreation trails and facilities.

This included \$36,000 for the Maroondah Pipeline Trail, \$60,000 for the Wattle Glen to Kinglake Regional Trail and \$60,000 for the Eltham North Reserve Adventure Playground oval redevelopment.



Continuing recovery

Following the devastating bushfires of 7 February 2009, Nillumbik communities continue to recover.

Council is involved in a number of projects including proposed memorials, the sports pavilion, primary school and community hall at Strathewen and the St Andrews community centre.

Council also conducted erosion and pest control works, pasture renovation, flora monitoring and a number of community information sessions throughout the year.



New Integrated Learning Hub

We celebrated the opening of the new \$1,178,764 Vocational Education and Training (VET) facilities at Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham and Edendale in March.

The facilities, funded by the Australian Government and Council, give adults studying anything from children's services, computers and horticulture to permaculture, food safety and arts, a fantastic new space in which to learn.

See the Living & Learning Nillumbik courses in the **2012 Program Preview**.



APRIL

A helping hand for families

Nillumbik families who have experienced multiple births; isolation; postnatal depression; illness or disability, were offered a helping hand in April. Through the Nillumbik Best Start Program, Council provided training to 11 in-home family mentor volunteers enabling them to provide practical and emotional support to Nillumbik families over a three to 12 month period.



MAY

The key for L2P drivers

The keys were handed to Nillumbik's first group of learner drivers participating in Council's L2P learner driver-mentor program in May. Thanks to VicRoads funding, Council was able to pair 12 young adults with qualified volunteer mentor driving instructors to gain the 120 hours of driving practice required before sitting their drivers licence test.



JUNE

Plan for Panton Hill Reserves

Council adopted the *Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System Management Plan* following six years of community consultation and draft plans that attracted 130 submissions and 40 presentations to Council. Collaboration from all users will be key to the future management of the Reserves. An advisory group will work with Council to ensure everyone can enjoy the Reserves in the future.



JULY

Fire Prevention and Emergency Management

Council has focused heavily on fire prevention and emergency management activities. Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan was audited by the State Emergency Services (SES) in July and classed as best practice within the sector, receiving one of the highest ratings in the State leaving Council sitting in the top 10 per cent across Victoria of councils audited in the last 12 months.



AUGUST

New Land Management Incentives

Council introduced a new and improved incentive program for land owners in rural parts of the Shire for activities that provide ecological and environmental benefits on private land. Residents and community groups can apply for grants to undertake weed and pest control works, vegetation enhancement works, property and farm management courses and undertake agricultural enterprises on their land.



SEPTEMBER

Community Fund recipients announced

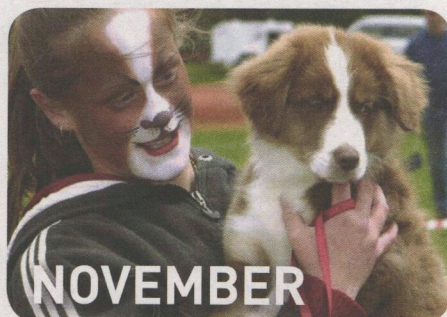
Eight local community groups received a total of \$20,410 from Council's 2011-2012 Community Fund program. The community run projects included a Diamond Creek community garden, a mobile broadcast studio for Plenty Valley FM and audio visual equipment for the St Andrews Community Film Society.



OCTOBER

Maintaining our artistic heritage

Council reinforced its commitment to Nillumbik's rich artistic heritage with the adoption of its Cultural Plan – *Growing our Arts and Culture 2011-2017*. The Plan highlights a different aspect of arts and culture in each year of the six-year plan and will guide Council's future planning and decision-making regarding arts and culture services, projects and programs.



NOVEMBER

Responsible pet ownership

5,000 people and their pets celebrated at Council's largest and longest running event, the Nillumbik Pet Expo in Diamond Creek. The family event featured displays, competitions and demonstrations. Council introduced the Pet Expo as part of its Responsible Pet Ownership Program in 1995. It has remained one of the most popular events since.



DECEMBER

Twilight Hurstbridge Farmers' Market

Celebrate the end of the year and the fantastic local produce at the special Twilight Market on Tuesday 20 December from 4pm to 8pm at Fergusons Paddock, Hurstbridge. Stock up on all your Christmas goods – local fruit and vegies, meat, baked goods, sweets and more!

PREPAREDNESS

Getting Ready

Enclosed with this edition of *Nillumbik News*, is Council's *Getting ready* publication.

Getting ready includes what Council is doing to prepare the Shire for summer and provides information to help prepare your family and your property to prevent the threat of fire.

Council is currently implementing a \$650,000 fire prevention program, which was developed with the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee and local CFA brigades, for Council-owned roadsides and reserves.

This work involves removal of vegetation, weed slashing and box clearance at strategic locations throughout the Shire.

The roadsides and reserves fire prevention program is in addition to the ongoing maintenance schedule that Council undertakes each year.

As fire preparation is a community responsibility, everyone needs to play their part and prepare their property.

It is important to manage shrubs, plants and trees and to clean up twigs, leaves and other fine fuels in your garden.

Council is offering a number of free garden green waste drop offs to residents between now and March 2012.

Managing vegetation is one important element in fire risk management; being prepared and having a plan is also paramount.

The CFA has a lot of information on its website to help you plan and reduce your fire risk; visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au.



from the mayor, 2011

As 2011 draws to a close and we welcome 2012, I would like to share my year as Mayor with you and some significant milestones Council has achieved.

Community events

We held many fantastic events during 2011. We held a number of successful volunteer events, including the Volunteer Expo in May where hundreds of local volunteers gathered; we had the wonderful volunteer-run community festivals during spring; we celebrated Senior's Week and Children's Week in October; and there were hundreds of fabulous arts events and exhibitions too.

Major projects

We made great progress on some of the major projects during the year in particular the \$10.5 million multipurpose Community Bank Stadium in Diamond Creek which is due for completion in autumn 2012. See the Community Bank Stadium feature on page 8 for more details.

The final stages of the Civic Centre redevelopment, which includes the refurbishment of the Council Chamber and civic space, is expected to be completed by mid December. We look forward to welcoming residents to future Council meetings in the renovated civic space in the new year.

As well as delivering on major projects, Council continues to plan for the future to ensure that Nillumbik is a great place to live, work and visit for generations to come.

Planning for the future

We adopted a number of key plans and strategies in 2011 including the *Recreation Strategy*, *Heritage Strategy*, *Carbon Management Strategy* and the *Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System Management Plan*.

We also had an opportunity to host and present to the State Parliamentary Inquiry into Liveability in Outer Suburban Melbourne in June. On behalf of our residents, we presented to the Victorian Government on matters concerning planning policies relating to private housing, population growth trends and its impact, public transport needs, public safety issues, ongoing bushfire recovery requirements and community infrastructure needs.

As the year comes to an end, I would like the Nillumbik community to know that it has been an honour and privilege in my role as Mayor to proudly represent the Nillumbik Shire as I went out and about working with the local community and at a wider State and National level for 2011.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Councillor colleagues who have supported me throughout the year.

As you know, Council delivers a wide range and diversity of services and projects and to the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff, I am very proud of the progress we have made and what we have achieved.

I wish you all, your family and friends a happy and safe festive season in Nillumbik.

Mayor, Councillor Helen Coleman

December calendar

Celebrate the festive season this December! Get your Christmas supplies from the wonderful local traders throughout Nillumbik, visit the twilight Hurstbridge Farmers' Market for the freshest produce and get in the spirit with an event at your local library!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>11am-2pm Monday to Friday during December Diamond Creek Traders Santa visit! Santa visits Diamond Creek with small gifts for children. www.diamondcreekshopping.com.au</p> 	<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>1 All day Summer Reading Club Launch Collect a goody bag and get reading. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>2 3.30pm-5pm Summer Reading Club Launch Collect a goody bag and get reading. Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>3 International Day of People with a Disability  International Day of People with Disability</p>	<p>4  HURSTBRIDGE FARMERS MARKET 8.30am-1pm Hurstbridge Farmers' Market www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au</p>
<p>5  living & learning nillumbik Living & Learning Nillumbik course enrolments open</p>	<p>6 </p>	<p>7 2pm-3pm Italian Discussion Group Enjoy end-of-year festivities with great food, wine and people. Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>8 </p>	<p>9 10am-10.30am Santa Storytime for toddlers Santa is coming to read a story and listen to us sing his favourite Christmas carols. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>10 9am-1pm Hurstbridge Christmas Fair Visit Hurstbridge Village for gourmet food, special offers from local retailers, entertainment and face painting plus great giveaways!</p>	<p>11 8am-4pm Free garden green waste drop off day Recycling & Recovery Centre, 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty 9433 3111</p>
<p>12 2012 Nillumbik Australia Day Award nominations close at 5pm www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>13 7pm Special Meeting of Council Mayor election www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>14 7pm-8pm Christmas Cooking With Agata from Amore Cucina. Bookings required: 9434 3809 Diamond Valley Library www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>15 11am-12noon A Visit from Santa The man in the red suit will read his favourite story. Diamond Valley Library www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>16 11am-11.45am Santa Storytime for preschoolers Santa is coming to read a story! Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>17 10am-1pm Diamond Creek Traders Santa visit! Santa visits Diamond Creek with small gifts for children. www.diamondcreekshopping.com.au</p>	<p></p>
<p></p>	<p>20 7pm Ordinary Council Meeting For more Council meeting dates and details, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>21 </p>	<p>22 School Term 4 ends</p>	<p></p>	<p>24 11am-3pm Eltham Traders Christmas Celebrations Free children's entertainment. Eltham Town Square www.elthamtown.com.au</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day Free community lunch Don't spend Christmas alone – make new friends instead! Transport available. Contact: Diane on 9718 2035</p>
<p>26 Boxing Day </p>	<p>27 Public holiday (Christmas Day)</p>	<p>29 </p>	<p>30 8.30am-5pm Civic Centre opening hours Civic Drive, Greensborough</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve </p>	<p>www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au 5</p>	

Summer in Nillumbik

Staying cool and safe this summer is important for all Nillumbik residents but particularly for those who are most vulnerable.

Summer is the time when Nillumbik is more likely to be affected by an emergency such as heatwave, fire, storms and flooding. It is not always the most obvious emergency that poses a threat; children are often tempted to play in flood water. This can be extremely dangerous.

Planning

It is important to plan. Emergencies can lead to electricity loss and that of other services so take a moment to think and plan how you would deal with this.

If you have already prepared yourself and your home for summer, look to those in your neighbourhood who might need a hand. The elderly and those living alone can use the help that you can offer.

Heatwave

Heatwaves can have a huge impact, especially on the elderly. Heat-related illness can affect anybody and must be taken seriously.

People most at risk during a heatwave are:

- over 65 years old
- overweight or obese
- pregnant and nursing mothers
- chronically ill
- have health conditions that impair sweating
- have limited or poor mobility
- taking medication that may interfere with the body's ability to regulate temperature.

A visit to an elderly neighbour to check that they have changed their reverse cycle from heating to cooling could be enough to save their life.

Vulnerable residents

Council has an Emergency Risk Register of vulnerable residents and Home and Community Care clients who may require support leading up to an event such as a bushfire or other emergency.

It is important to plan what you will do if a fire threatens your home. It is also



important to prepare yourself, your pets and your home.

To help you decide what you will do, Council has developed a Fire Plan Pack which explains what you need to do to develop your Fire Plan and how to be listed on the Emergency Risk Register.

Like to know more?

For your Fire Plan Pack, contact Council: 9433 3138.

Think about what you would do

- What if you were isolated for a number of days?
- What would your neighbour do?
- Should you plan for these situations with neighbours?
- What if you could not get home; do you have somewhere to stay?
- Could you access copies of important documents such as insurance and details of medication you are on?

To help you plan, refer to these useful resources:

- Bushfire preparedness: www.cfa.vic.gov.au
- Storm and flood safe: www.ses.vic.gov.au
- Preparing for all emergencies, Red Cross Rediplan, www.redcross.org.au

Top tips on keeping cool

- 1 Stay hydrated:** drink water continually even if you're not thirsty.
- 2 Look after yourself and others:** check on older, sick or frail friends, neighbours and relatives.
- 3 Stay indoors:** spend time in air-conditioned buildings such as shopping centres, libraries, cinemas or community centres.
- 4 Keep cool:** take cool showers in the day and night and use damp towels to stay cool.
- 5 Be prepared:** if you must go out, stay in the shade, take plenty of water and wear a hat and light coloured loose fitting clothes.
- 6 Block out the sun:** draw curtains and blinds during the day and open windows and doors when there is a cool breeze.
- 7 Stay informed:** listen to news for information during a heatwave.
- 8 Relax:** avoid strenuous activity such as sport, home improvements and gardening.
- 9 Do not leave children or animals in parked vehicles.**

Like to know more?

Visit www.health.vic.gov.au > environment > heatwave

COMMUNITY VISION



Picture Nillumbik

People, Passions, Possibilities...

Council is embarking on a conversation with the community to develop a community vision.

This vision will identify community priorities, values and ambitions that will be able to direct Council's overall planning and operations.

The vision is more than a document; it's the start of a conversation that determines how we work with the community, inspire local action and streamline future consultation by providing a base understanding of community values and aspirations.

Share your images, stories and dreams about the place you live.

What is unique about your town? What are you proud of? What brings you happiness? What are you working on? What are the connections, characters and experiences that give your place life? Where are the possibilities and untapped potential that can create a better place for all? How can your community be better prepared for tomorrow?

To get involved, complete your **Picture Nillumbik** on the insert included with this edition of *Nillumbik News* and return it to us.

You can answer in any way you like – take a photo that shows how you feel, draw a picture, write a poem or story

or create a piece of art that will move people – you might even direct your own video to tell your story.

Complete your **Picture Nillumbik** as a family, on your own or as a community group or business. All thoughts for the future are welcome.

If your response doesn't fit on the insert or is in a digital format, email it to community@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or submit it in person to the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough.

Your submission will form part of the **Picture Nillumbik** exhibit from mid December 2011.

Like to know more?
Visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Your contribution puts you in the draw to win \$250 in vouchers to spend in your local area!

TRANSPORT

Handy transport guide

Council has produced a new resource for Nillumbik residents – a *Handy transport guide for older people and people with a disability*.

The booklet outlines a range of transport services available in Nillumbik including door-to-door services, accessible public transport, medical transport and taxi services that operate in the area.

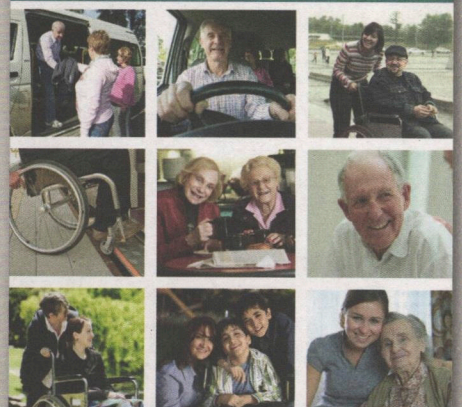
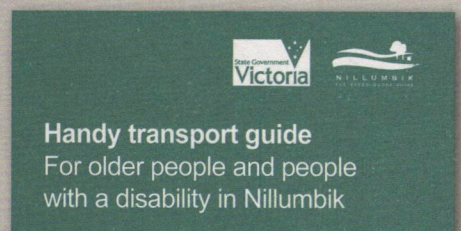
It also includes information on Council's Community Bus Hire, which is available to non-profit organisations requiring access to group transport.

The 12 seater (including the driver) Community Bus is garaged at the Araluen Centre in Hurstbridge and can be booked up to three months in advance.

The Handy transport guide for older people and people with a disability booklet was produced by the Nillumbik Transport Connections Project.

Like to know more?

Contact: Carol Peterson on 9433 3156 or Carol.Peterson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



NILLUMBIK COMMUNITY FUND

Diamond Creek Community Garden

Help others 'grow' their skills

The Diamond Creek Community Garden is a small community fruit, herb and vegetable garden located beside the Senior Citizens building in Diamond Creek.

The group will soon be creating a new barbecue area thanks to a \$1,310 grant they received through Council's Nillumbik Community Fund.

A joint venture between Living & Learning Nillumbik – Community Connections Program, Diamond Creek Senior Citizens and Local Food Connect Inc., the garden is also supported by businesses, community groups and individuals.

Local Food Connect is a not-for-profit incorporated community group that links local farmers and producers with the general public and encourages sustainable gardening practices and awareness of locally available fresh produce. They also started weekly food swaps around Nillumbik, where residents can exchange their garden excess for whatever is available, at no cost.

Community Connections is a program of activities for adults with an intellectual disability. The Community Garden teaches participants about horticulture and fresh produce, gets participants out in the fresh air, encourages social interaction and builds work skills.

The Community Connections Program needs volunteers to work in the Garden. If you are interested in sharing your passion for gardening, growing fresh organic produce and sharing skills with other willing and eager participants then this is for you!

Like to know more?

Contact: Jenny Millar
on 0413 436 159



LEISURE



Did you know?

Each year, over 90,000 people visit the Park to take advantage of the many recreational activities, the Diamond Valley Miniature Railway, sporting clubs and ovals, trails, family playground and picnic facilities! After this redevelopment, we can expect the Park to become even more popular!

Eltham Lower Park revitalised!

If you live in Eltham, you may have noticed the construction taking place at Eltham Lower Park.

That's because we've started implementing the Eltham Lower Park Masterplan, a \$1.75 million redevelopment project.

Council has worked in partnership with the many community organisations that use the Park including the Friends of Diamond Creek – Eltham Lower Park to minimise the impact on vegetation and identify suitable offset planting sites within Eltham Lower Park and Hohnes Hill Environmental Reserve.

Over the next nine months, four major pieces of work will take place.

New paths and boardwalk

The existing 725 metre section of trail, which forms part of the Diamond Creek Trail, will be widened and realigned to make it an accessible trail. An elevated 100 metre boardwalk section, winding between mature native trees has been included to minimise tree removal. The location and design of the trail will enable all members of the community to use the trail including those in wheelchairs, those with a walking frame or pushing a pram.

New play space and family area

A new accessible play space and family area will be built near the Diamond

Valley Miniature Railway. It includes new barbecue and picnic areas, spinners, climbers, slides, swings, a flying fox, mazes and sculptures. The play space will become Council's largest playground, providing a fully fenced space for all ages and abilities with accessible roundabout, flying fox and swing harnesses all with Auslan signage.

New amenities

A new amenities block featuring six accessible/family change cubicles will be built near the new accessible play space to cater for visitors to the Diamond Valley Miniature Railway as well as play space users.

Upgraded car park

The car park entrance will be upgraded and have an extension to the northern car park. The car park works will include paths to the Diamond Valley Miniature Railway as well as the accessible play space and amenities block. A number of accessible parking bays will be provided as well as bus drop off and turn around points.

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Suzanne Rouvray on 9433 3183 or Suzanne.Rouvray@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Picture

Nillumbik

People, Passions, Possibilities...

Picture Nillumbik is a celebration of all that is strong in our community, an opportunity to discuss all we are passionate about and lets us prepare for the future together.

The community tells us that Nillumbik is a great place to live but we want to know more.

What are the people, passions and possibilities that make your local township unique? How do you want your town to be for the next generation? What will they value when they are looking after your home, town, community and environment?

This is an opportunity to shape the future, to talk as a community, embrace the possibilities of our towns and imagine a strong future surrounded by what you are passionate about.

Join in the conversation with your community and Council!

**Who is here? What do you love?
What are we going to do about it!
Now is the time to get in the picture...**

Share your stories, photos, poems, ideas and drawings and be part of the picture.

Council will use your contribution to develop a community vision for the Shire. It will be a chance to inform Council business, work together as a community, inspire local action and focus on the future.

To get involved, complete your **Picture Nillumbik** on this insert and fold, seal and return post.

Like to know more?

Visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Go into the draw
to win \$250 in
vouchers to spend
in your local area!

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Your submission will form part of the **Picture Nillumbik** exhibit from mid December 2011.

Go into the draw
to win **\$250** in vouchers
to spend in your
local area!

Terms and conditions apply, see
www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Share your image of the place where you live. What is important? Where is the beauty? What gives energy and life to your town? What are the possibilities? What would you like it to look like...?

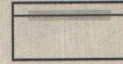
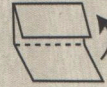
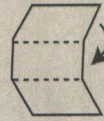


Picture Nillumbik
Nillumbik
People, Passions, Possibilities...

Complete the picture

Visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for other ways you can get involved!

Picture Nillumbik



← sticky tape down

1. Your details (For Picture Nillumbik competition and exhibition purposes only)

First name	Surname	Age (if under 18)
Address		
Postal address (If different)		
Email	Phone	

I would like to receive updates on **Picture Nillumbik**

I am interested in joining the **Picture Nillumbik** Advisory Group

2. As an alternative or in addition to the Picture Nillumbik response on the reverse side, you can contribute by answering the following questions.

PEOPLE Tell us about the people that make up your community – who brings people together?
Are there inspirational leaders? Who gives the town life? Who are the people that care about everyone else?

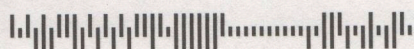
PASSIONS What is unique about your town? What are you proud of? What do you love about where you live?
What brought you here? What keeps you here? What are you working on?

POSSIBILITIES Where are the possibilities and untapped potential that can create a better place for all?
How can your community be better prepared for tomorrow?

Fold on the dotted lines

Delivery Address:
PO Box 476
GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

No stamp required
if posted in Australia



Nillumbik Shire Council
Reply Paid 476
GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

january calendar

See what's on around the Shire this January. Celebrate Australia Day, drop off some free green garden waste or visit Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>2 New Year's Day Public Holiday</p>  		<p>4</p> <p>Save energy – save money Feeling the heat in your home this summer? Pick up a copy of Council's <i>Practically Green Sustainable Homes Guide</i> – available from Council information stands and online – for great tips on cooling your house, insulation, double glazing, lighting, household appliances and renewable energy.</p> 	<p>5</p>		<p>8</p> <p>8am-4pm Sunday 8 January Free garden green waste drop off day Recycling & Recovery Centre, 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty 9433 3111</p> 	
		<p>11</p> <p>Visit Diamond Creek Outdoor Pool! Cool down this summer at the pool! Make the most of the shaded 25 metre heated pool, the shaded toddlers play pool and the barbeque and picnic area. Elizabeth Street, Diamond Creek, 9438 1883 Open 6am-6pm: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 9am-6pm: Tues, Thurs</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Harvest your food from home Make 2012 the year that you learn to grow your own delicious fresh food with the <i>Home Harvest</i> publication. Collect a copy from a Council information stand or from www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.</p> 		
<p>16</p> <p>16-27 January School holiday fun at Edendale Help build a sustainable town! See page 12 for details.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11am-12noon, Tuesday 17 January Creepy crawly fun Join us for creepy crawly crafts and try to catch the reading bug this summer! Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p> 				<p>21</p> <p>Enrol in a Living & Learning Nillumbik course for 2012! See the latest courses on offer at www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, craft, pottery and textiles • Computers, digital imagery and design • Health, fitness and wellbeing • House, kitchen and garden • Languages plus much, much more! 	<p>22</p>
			<p>26</p> <p>Interested in joining a Book Group? Meet with others to discuss your latest read over refreshments. Contact: Diamond Valley Library on 9434 3809 www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Tuesday 31 January, 7pm Ordinary Council Meeting For more meeting dates and details, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9.30am-11.30am, Thursday 26 January Nillumbik 2012 Australia Day Awards Join us on Australia Day as we welcome our newest Australian citizens to Nillumbik and celebrate the winners of the 2012 Nillumbik Australia Day Awards. We will be announcing the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nillumbik Young Citizen of the Year • Nillumbik Citizen of the Year • Nillumbik Senior Citizen of the Year • Nillumbik Community Group of the Year • Nillumbik Volunteer of the Year. <p>Eltham Community and Reception Centre, Main Road, Eltham www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> 
<p>23</p> <p>Tuesday 24 January 12noon-1pm Insects and spiders See creepy crawly insects and spiders thanks to Wildlife Xposure. Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough</p> <p>2pm-4pm Insects and spiders See creepy crawly insects and spiders thanks to Wildlife Xposure. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au</p> 						

Urban Growth Boundary Review

Council was invited to review anomalies in the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) by the Minister for Planning recently.

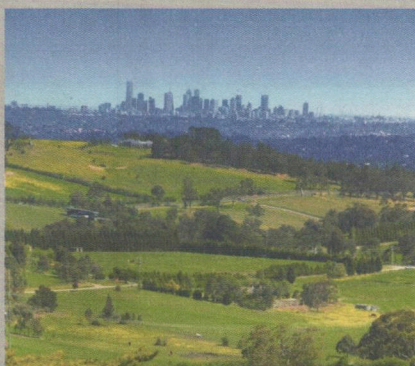
Following an assessment against criteria set by the Minister for Planning, Council advised the Minister that there are no UGB anomalies in Nillumbik.

Council has a clear policy position about urban growth and the decision is consistent with the state and local Council planning policies including the *Nillumbik Green Wedge Management Plan 2010-2025*.

The decision is also supported by a recent study which showed that there is the potential for 4,000 more properties to be built within our existing urban areas.

The Green Wedge Management Plan was adopted in November 2010 following a lengthy period of consultation with the communities of Nillumbik. The stated aim and intent of the Green Wedge Management Plan is to "conserve and enhance the natural values, landscapes and cultural heritage of the Green Wedge".

We are all very fortunate to live in this beautiful Shire and Council continues to recognise its responsibility in managing and protecting the Nillumbik Green Wedge now and into the future.



Community Bank Stadium Diamond Creek

Community Bank Stadium's main structure is now complete and as the year draws to a close the builder is now focused on the installation of the sports floors, amenities block and service fit-out.

While the construction was delayed due to weather, the Stadium will be ready for use in autumn 2012, a few months later than initially anticipated.

While construction has been underway, Council has been busy coordinating other aspects of the Stadium's operations.

The YMCA has been appointed by Council to manage the Stadium and is considering a variety of programs such as daytime netball, holiday programs and yoga.

Jets Gymnastics will provide specialised programs to the local community from the state-of-the-art gymnastics centre which is also expected to host national level events in the future.

The Diamond Valley Basketball Association, Diamond Creek Netball Association and the Diamond Creek Basketball Club will run their expanded competition and training programs from the new venue. Diamond Valley College and Diamond Creek East Primary School will also use the Stadium.



But it's not just a sporting venue; a significant part of the project budget has been allocated to enable the Stadium to convert into a performing arts space.

A number of soundproofing elements, acoustics and black-out capabilities have been included to provide the Stadium with the capacity to host community concerts, plays and other performances.

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Gavin Jordan, Coordinator Leisure Facilities on 9433 3152 or Gavin.Jordan@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Practically Green Sustainability Awards

Celebrating local people

Council was thrilled to announce the winners of the inaugural Practically Green Sustainability Awards as part of the annual Practically Green Festival in October. The Awards were introduced to promote excellence in sustainability within the Nillumbik community and celebrate local people for their efforts.

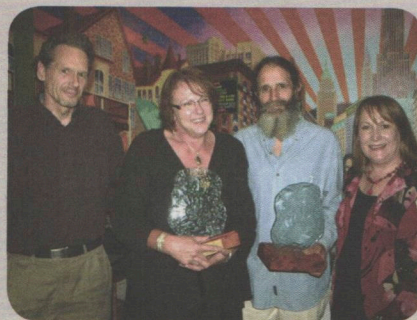
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011 PRACTICALLY GREEN AWARD WINNERS!



Historic Building Award

Alistair Knox, the *Knox House*

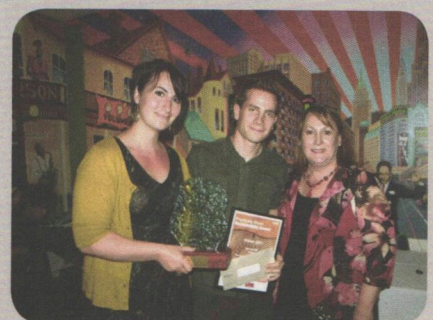
Left, Mayor, Cr Helen Coleman with Hamish Knox



New Building Award

Leigh Wykes, building designer

Sue and Michael Aldred, building owners



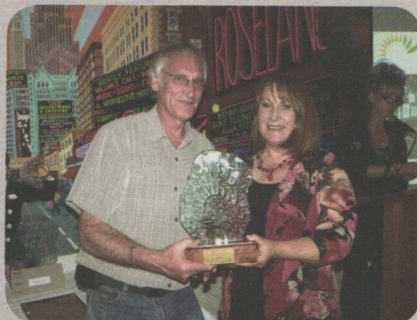
Sustainable Home Award

Phoebe Couyant and Joel Drew,
home owners



Environmental Business Award

Going Green Solutions



Small to Medium Business Award

Diamond Creek Traders Association



Community Organisation Award

Dunmoochin Landcare Group



School or Children's Centre Award

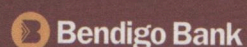
Eltham East Primary School

Congratulations to the Award winners and thank you to those who nominated!

Thanks to Volumes Cafe Eltham for hosting the Awards Ceremony and to the Award sponsors:



Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek,
Eltham and Doreen & Mernda
Community Bank® branches



And Eltham Home
Timber and Hardware
who sponsored the
New Building Award.

WARRANTYTE TO KINGLAKE HABITAT CORRIDOR

Urban Fringe Weed Management Initiative Update

More than 18 months into the project, the Urban Fringe Weed Management Initiative is showing great results.

Under the initiative, the Victorian Government has contributed \$500,000 over four years into weed control for the system of Parks Victoria and Nillumbik Shire Council reserves between Warrandyte and Kinglake. Council is complementing this funding by matching dollar for dollar works in the Council-owned Pantom Hill Bushland Reserve System.

So far the project has treated over 30 varieties of weeds in over 15 different reserves. Because the project encompasses a large area and a broad range of weeds, it is able to focus on works that result in the greatest improvements to the quality of our reserves, while reducing the spread of environmental weeds through our native bushland.

After a year and half of works, the project has made significant headway into treating some of the most significant weeds threatening the natural values of the reserves.

As well as weed control the project has developed a system for mapping and monitoring weeds. This is allowing us to fully understand the weed problem and develop a strategic response.

Residents can complement this work by managing weeds on their own properties. Consider weeds like sweet pittosporum, broom, boneseed and Spanish heath that have a devastating effect on our bushland and have been the prime target for works.

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Stacey Warmuth, Environmental Works Officer on 9433 3184 or Stacey.Warmuth@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Our Edendale – community environment farm

Edendale is changing. Our vision is to provide an interactive community and education centre to support sustainable living practices. Be a part of Edendale by getting involved and come to visit us.

Here's a snapshot of what's happening:



**10am-12noon
Saturday 28 January
Local food swap**
Swap delicious, fresh food from your garden.



See farm animals in their farm environment
Feed the chooks and guinea pigs.



Indigenous plant nursery
Sales continue throughout the year from 9.30am to 4.30pm everyday.



**From 10am, 16-27 January
Summer school holiday fun!**
Take part in this exciting activity for children ages three to 15 in creating a 'sustainable' town from cardboard and other reuse items. Can you build an electric car, a rain water tank or a solar plant? Come and join others to build this fun town!



Keep connected

Join our email list
edendale@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or call us on 9433 3711!



Children of the St Andrews Bushfire Supported playgroup enjoyed a music session, singing a Hello song with Mr Bee, banging on drums and dancing to lively tunes with Learning Tree Outreach worker, Jennifer Shannon.

Bushfire Supported Playgroups

Council supports two Bushfire Supported Playgroups at St Andrews and Strathewen.

St Andrews

The St Andrews bushfire playgroup runs on Friday mornings from 9.30am to 12noon during school terms and is open to families with young children who live in St Andrews and other bushfire affected areas.

Strathewen

The Strathewen bushfire playgroup, which commenced during Term 3 this year, runs on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am to 12noon during school terms at the Strathewen Primary School.

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Narelle Hart on 9433 3135 or Narelle.Hart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

New Playgroup

For parents and families of Asian cultural background

A new free facilitated playgroup has started for families with common interests and who have a cultural background from Asian countries such as China, Korea, Japan, Phillipines, Malaysia, Mongolia, Taiwan, Vietnam and Laos.

The Playgroup is held on Monday mornings at Coniston Street Family Centre in Diamond Creek.

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Narelle Hart on 9433 3135 or Narelle.Hart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Four-year-old preschool enrolment has changed

Registrations now open on the first business day in March each year, two years before your child is eligible to attend four-year-old preschool.

To maximise your chance of getting a place at your preferred preschool, register within the first week of March or as soon as possible thereafter.

Registration forms are available from preschools, maternal and child health centres and the Civic Centre or visit www.nillumbikfamilies.com

Like to know more?

Contact Council: 9433 3161 or preschool@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Nillumbik Learning Tree Connecting children, families and community

Are you a parent or carer of children from birth to five years of age?

Come along to Nillumbik Learning Tree – a free activity program funded through Nillumbik Best Start that provides learning experiences through storytelling, music, art and movement.

A range of specialist services attend and provide information and activities related to children's literature, education, childhood health and development, parenting, music and general programs and services available within Nillumbik.

- **Arthurs Creek**
Thursdays from 10am to 11am
- **North Warrandyte**
Wednesdays from 10.30am to 12noon
- **Panton Hill**
Tuesdays from 10.30am to 12noon
- **St Andrews**
Tuesdays from 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Like to know more?

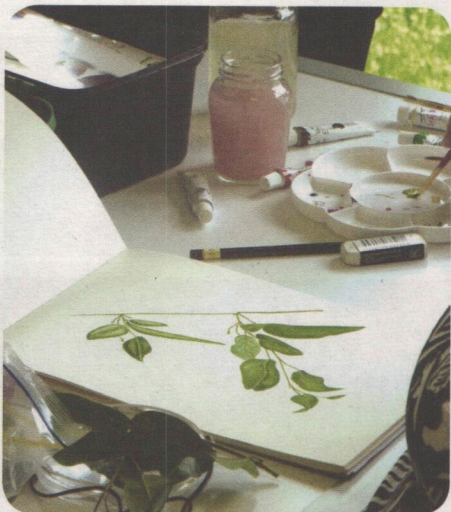
Contact Council: Narelle Hart on 9433 3135

February calendar

Swing on down to Eltham Town for the Jazz, Food & Wine Festival, take advantage of the free garden green waste drop off or book into the Introduction to Permaculture course at Edendale!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
	Term 1 begins in February Check the commencement date with your school	1 7pm Red Chair Artist Talk A free artist talk with wine and cheese provided. Montsalvat, 7 Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham. Bookings: 9439 7712	2 	3 10.30am-11.30am Holiday Reading Share over morning tea at this friendly chat group for older adults. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au	4 What's on at your local library? Your local library has lots to offer! Visit www.yprl.vic.gov.au for details on the latest books and the exciting free activities for people of all ages!	5  8.30am-1pm Hurstbridge Farmers' Market www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au	
6.30pm 6 Bedtime Storytime Join us for stories and songs. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au	 7 3 rd anniversary of Black Saturday	8 Entries close for the Love of Poetry... Try writing a sonnet, poem or haiku on love or romance to win great prizes. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au		10 Looking for something to do? Check out Council's website for young people www.nyp.com.au . Find lots of things to do, programs to take part in and services available to young people in Nillumbik.	11	12 8am-4pm Free garden green waste drop off day Recycling & Recovery Centre 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty 9433 3111	
13 7pm-8.30pm, Tuesday 14 February Book Discussion: Kinglake – 350 Author, Adrian Hyland, discusses his book, <i>Kinglake – 350</i> ; a compelling account of events on Black Saturday. Wine and cheese supper provided. Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham www.yprl.vic.gov.au	14	15 Everything Nillumbik families in 2012 For the latest events, programs and services for Nillumbik families, visit www.nillumbikfamilies.com	16 7.30pm Courthouse Readings Readings from a guest poet. \$5 includes drinks and door prize. Contact: 0438 339 732 Eltham Courthouse, 728 Main Road, Eltham		18 1pm-4pm Introduction to Permaculture Cost: \$10, includes afternoon tea Edendale, Gastons Road, Eltham Bookings: 9433 3744	19 10am-12noon Eltham Copper Butterfly Walk and Talk Pauline Toner Reserve, Eltham Contact: 9433 3202	
20 Tuesday 21 February, 11am-12noon Garden Club See the new 'no dig garden' and make new friends. Borrow new items from our House & Garden collection, including books on composting, organic gardening and vertical gardening. Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive, Greensborough www.yprl.vic.gov.au	21	22 Local arts: Eltham Library Community Gallery Each month, Council features regular exhibitions by local Nillumbik artists at the Community Gallery, located at the Eltham Library, Panther Place in Eltham. Visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for details on the latest exhibition.	23	24	25		
 27 7pm Ordinary Council Meeting For more meeting dates and details, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au	28	 <p>Profile your arts event Are you holding an arts event in the Nillumbik or wider region? Email your event details to artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au for listing in the monthly Nillumbik Arts and Culture eBulletin.</p>		<p>25-26 February Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival</p> <p>One of Melbourne's premier annual jazz and blues events, with acts performing at three stages across the town centre, the Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival promises a degustation of jazz and roots music for the connoisseur and novice alike. A free event featuring an art exhibition, activities for children and a display by the Victorian Jazz Archives. www.elthamtown.com.au</p>			

EXHIBITIONS | Eltham Library Community Gallery



1-19 December A Year in the Studio

Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham tutors and participants celebrate the end of the year with a major showcase of works created throughout 2011.

This exhibition reveals the journey taken from an absolute beginner to an accomplished artist. Viewers will be inspired to see how much can be achieved by anyone who is willing to learn!



10-29 January Diamond Valley Arts Society

An exhibition of artworks from the members of the Diamond Valley Arts Society.

Eltham Library Community Gallery

Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham

Gallery hours

Monday-Thursday	10am-8.30pm
Friday-Saturday	10am-5pm
Sunday	1pm-5pm
Public holidays	Closed

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Arts and Culture on 9433 3359 or artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Senior's festival Active ageing a success

Our first annual month-long senior's festival – Living well and ageing even better – was a great success!

During October, hundreds of Nillumbik residents took part in more than 50 arts, health, education, food, gardening and crafts events.

The headline event, presented in partnership with the Nillumbik Women's Network, was a forum with aged care expert Roland Naufal; other highlights included an indigenous garden tour at Edendale, arts for health events at Living & Learning Nillumbik, the Seventh

Annual World Matters Festival 2011 – Missing Peace at Montsalvat, a strong people stay young fitness group with Nillumbik Community Health Service and a family history introduction at Diamond Creek Senior Citizen Centre.

Thanks to all those who made our first month-long senior's festival a success – to the wonderful groups who organised activities and to the people who participated in them – thank you!

Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2012

Entries open

Nillumbik Shire Council, in partnership with the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service, invites writers from across Australia to enter the annual Alan Marshall Short Story competition.

The competition is held in memory of the great story teller and former Eltham resident, Alan Marshall 1902-1984. Marshall wrote several short stories, set largely in the bush and has also collected and published Indigenous Australian stories.

His best-known work, *I Can Jump Puddles* (1955) is the first of a three-part autobiography, where he recalls much of his childhood in Noorat, a small town in south-western country Victoria.

The Award is offered in the following categories:

- **Open Section**, with a \$2,000 first prize and a \$1,000 second prize for stories up to 2,500 words, open to writers residing anywhere in Australia.
- **Local Writers' Section**, with a \$1,000 prize for a story up to 2,500 words, open to writers who live, work or study in the Shire of Nillumbik.
- **Young Writers' Section**, with a \$400 prize for a story up to 1,000 words, open to all young people aged between 15 and 19 years, residing anywhere in Australia.

Entries close 4pm, Monday 7 May 2012.

For competition details and entry forms, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Like to know more?

Contact Council: Arts and Culture on 9433 3359 or artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Civic Centre

Civic Drive, Greensborough

Friday 23 December	8.30am-1pm
Monday 26 December	Closed*
Tuesday 27 December	Closed*
Wednesday 28 December	8.30am-5pm
Thursday 29 December	8.30am-5pm
Friday 30 December	8.30am-5pm
Monday 2 January	Closed*
Tuesday 3 January	8.30am-5pm

Operations Centre Office

290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

Friday 23 December	8am-1pm
Monday 26 December	Closed*
Tuesday 27 December	Closed*
Wednesday 28 December	8am-4.30pm
Thursday 29 December	8am-4.30pm
Friday 30 December	8am-4.30pm
Monday 2 January	Closed*
Tuesday 3 January	8am-4.30pm
Wednesday 4 January	8am-4.30pm
Thursday 5 January	8am-4.30pm
Friday 6 January	8am-4.30pm

Reuse Shop

290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

Closed from Tuesday 20 December and reopening Friday 13 January 2012.

Recycling & Recovery Centre

290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty

Friday 23 December	8am-1pm
Saturday 24 December	8am-4pm
Sunday 25 December	Closed*
Monday 26 December	Closed*
Friday 30 December	8am-4pm
Saturday 31 December	8am-4pm
Sunday 1 January	Closed*
Monday 2 January	Closed*

* Public Holidays

Please Note: kerbside waste bins will be collected on their normal days over Christmas and New Year 2011-2012.



NILLUMBIK
THE GREEN WEDGE SHIRE

Civic Drive, Greensborough
PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088
Telephone 9433 3111 Facsimile 9433 3777
Website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
Email nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Do you know who your Councillor is?

Contact Customer Service

☎ 9433 3111

🌐 www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Postal address for all Councillors

✉ Nillumbik Shire Council
PO Box 476
Greensborough VIC 3088



Mayor, Councillor Helen Coleman
Wingrove Ward

Mobile: 0437 940 930 Phone/fax: 9439 0063
Email: Helen.Coleman@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ken King
Sugarloaf Ward

Mobile: 0427 549 759 Fax: 9433 3777
Email: Ken.King@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Councillor Belinda Clarkson
Blue Lake Ward

Mobile: 0429 430 977 Phone/fax: 9438 5645
Email: Belinda.Clarkson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Councillor Lewis Brock
Bunjil Ward

Mobile: 0428 561 753 Phone/fax: 9718 0325
Email: Lewis.Brock@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Councillor Michael Young
Edendale Ward

Mobile: 0437 840 866 Phone/fax: 9431 1972
Email: Michael.Young@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Councillor Peter Perkins
Ellis Ward

Mobile: 0437 455 064 Phone: 9433 3781
Email: Peter.Perkins@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Councillor Chris Chapple
Swipers Gully Ward

Mobile: 0428 376 942
Email: Chris.Chapple@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Cover image: Waratahs and proteas for sale by **Noggerath and Faralla Proteas**, Pheasant Creek, (03) 57 86 1610, at **Hurstbridge Farmers' Market** www.hurstbridgefarmersmarket.com.au.

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