

gb

Bonjour Bendigo

Now boarding from Bendigo
Airport's new terminal

Harnessing a passion

AUTUMN | 2024



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO



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A huge thanks to local businesses for their help with items for the cover photo:

- Ashley Morales Makeup Artist
- Blumetown
- Borchelli Ristorante
- Harvest Bendigo
- Robe Bendigo
- Treacy Patisserie



ON THE COVER: Kavana enjoys the French atmosphere in View Street.





Paris shines bright at the Bendigo Art Gallery on pages 6-7.

WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to another edition of *GB Magazine*.

Council is about to consider its final Budget for this Council term and I thank everyone who contributed via our Let's Talk Greater Bendigo platform and registered their top priority areas for investment. Based on your feedback, these were – Roads, bridges and drainage; Waste, recycling and resource recovery; Parks, gardens and open space; and Footpaths, tracks and trails.

Although Council spends heavily across these areas each year, your feedback has been a helpful guide to prioritise spending public money, particularly as we continue to operate in a financially constrained environment.

The Budget is based on a 2.75 per cent rate cap, as set by the Victorian Government. About 60 per cent of Budget revenue comes from rates, which helps to fund the delivery of 68 valued services.

A key challenge for Council is the gap between revenue raised and the cost of delivering services and funding new projects. The rate cap has not kept up with inflation, which means Council must carefully prioritise how it spends public money.

As a result of receiving early

community engagement and presentations to Council on projects individuals and community groups would like to see funded, Council will not release a draft Budget.

I look forward to seeing a continued investment in the priority areas, together with all other services and projects that benefit our community.

Sometimes unexpected events can change our Budget priorities, such as the flooding and storm events experienced at the start of the year. I want to acknowledge that recovery from such events is long and our forward planning to lessen the impact of similar events in the future is underway.

There has been opportunities to apply for government funding to deliver infrastructure and undertake planning. I encourage you to read CEO Andrew Cooney's column on page 11 to find out more about our long-term planning.

From time to time, there are certainly challenges and hard decisions that have to be made by Council, but I do believe that with careful planning, we are in a good place to manage anything unexpected.

Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf



CONTACT THE CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO

Main office

189-229 Lyttleton Terrace,
Bendigo

Postal

PO Box 733, Bendigo 3552

Telephone

1300 002 642

Hearing or speech impaired?

Call via National Relay Service
on 133 677

Email

requests@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Website

www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

After hours/emergency number

1300 002 642

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8.30am - 4.30pm,
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NOW BOARDING

FROM BENDIGO AIRPORT'S NEW TERMINAL

It's just a hop, skip and a jump for anyone wanting to take flight from Bendigo Airport.

It couldn't be easier now the new terminal is complete, which features an expanded departure lounge, a new café and space for a future security screening area.

There's also a new entry foyer, baggage check-in, indoor baggage claim area and new restroom facilities. Landscaping has been delivered by Djandak, a Dja Dja Wurrung Traditional Owner business.

If you're wanting to park and fly, there's 183 parking spaces across a new asphalted car park.

Cr Vaughan Williams said Bendigo was only one stop from the rest of the world thanks to the Bendigo to Sydney Qantas service.

"The convenience of travelling from Bendigo Airport is second-to-none. You can check-in online, park right at the terminal, grab a coffee or toastie before you fly, and land safely in Sydney without the stress of flying out of Melbourne," Cr Williams said.

"This project has also delivered an expanded apron, which can fit two 70-seat aircraft and puts us in a great position to attract other airlines and future flights to other destinations. Nine business park lots have also been delivered and are ready to be developed by local industry.

"You could also say it's 'Bendigo to the rescue', now the airport's emergency services facilities have been bolstered and include a new helipad that can accommodate a wide array of emergency service helicopters, such as flood and fire response, as well as military and police activity.

"Thanks to the expanded apron, the airport is also a refilling site for large air tankers, one of a handful of sites in the state, and means Bendigo is a standby location during

extreme fire days. This adds to the airport's other emergency services uses, including the Air Ambulance and as a State Government fire base."

The airport redevelopment is valued at \$11.995M and has been supported by an investment of \$4.5M from the Victorian Government, \$4.5M from the Australian Government and \$2.995M from the City of Greater Bendigo. Additionally, a separate grant of \$300,000 from the Australian Government's Regional Airports Program facilitated the delivery of a new helipad and fuel truck parking bay. **gb**



Cr Vaughan Williams ready for boarding.





"The convenience of travelling from Bendigo Airport is second-to-none."

Flying from Bendigo on Qantas allows you to connect to over 95 destinations across Australia and the world.

Let's get you checked in

The friendly ground crew and cabin crew are ready to help you get checked in, or you can check in online via the Qantas App or website. Check in closes 30 minutes before the flight.

Got baggage? Qantas has you covered

When you fly with Qantas, your baggage is included in the price of your ticket and the plane has room for both carry-on baggage and standard luggage.

Dine and fly

Fox and Giraffe is the Bendigo Airport's onsite café, which serves up fantastic coffee, beautiful slices and light meals, so when you arrive at the airport with time to spare there is a great offering waiting for you! The café is open 90 minutes before any departing flight.

On Qantas flights, baggage, seat selection and dining are all included within your fare.



The plane's bigger than you think

Qantas operates a Q200, 36-seat and a Q300, 50-seat turbo prop between Bendigo and Sydney*. The flight is comfortable, and the seating arrangement is two and two, so two seats, an aisle down the middle, then two more seats. The flight time is just over 2 hours. If you're off to sight-see in Sydney, then you can hop on the train at Sydney Airport and be in the city centre or by the harbour in no time.

Where to next?

The City has recently undertaken some market research to find out where people want to fly to. Top destinations included the Gold Coast, Adelaide, Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. Discussions are ongoing with airlines to identify opportunities to establish new flights out of Bendigo.

To book, visit qantas.com or chat to a local travel agent.



**Schedule subject to change. All flights are subject to last-minute aircraft changes.*

Paris, the city of love and light, shines bright at Bendigo Art Gallery

"Paris is without doubt one of the world's most picturesque and captivating cities."



The streets of historic Paris are brought to life in an exclusive exhibition at Bendigo Art Gallery featuring more than 170 works of art and artisanal objects from a renowned European collection at the Musée Carnavalet – History of Paris.

This extraordinary exhibition, *Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 – 1925*, reflects on a period of great social change, urban development and artistic innovation that shaped modern Paris and continues to capture the global imagination.

The oldest municipal museum in Paris, the Musée Carnavalet – History of Paris was founded in 1866 to document the history,

built environments and unique character of Paris during a period of rapid modernisation. Located in the protected heritage district of the Marais, the museum is home to over 620,000 works of art and artefacts from the Mesolithic period to the present day.

This ambitious exhibition is the first to be developed by the Musée Carnavalet for an international venue that is drawn entirely

from its own collection; providing an unprecedented opportunity for Australian audiences to gain unique insights into the breadth of the museum's representative collections.

Across seven themed pathways, visitors will explore the city of light and romance at the height of the mythic Belle Époque period – as seen through the eyes of Parisians. Visitors are transported through the bustling open-air markets, specialty shops and luxury department stores, idyllic gardens and busy industrial banks of the Seine by day, to glamorous theatres, restaurants and thrilling cabarets of Montmartre by night.

The late 19th century saw a force of radical breakthroughs in art. Artists started to experiment with more gestural and expressive painting techniques, a striking palette of high key colour, and saw a politically-charged embrace of everyday people and working life as worthy subjects for paintings.

Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 – 1925 offers a vibrant snapshot of these pivotal years in western art, showing the daring experimentation with light and colour in the wake of the Impressionist revolution. At the forefront of this change were artists such as Ludovic Vallée, Albert Marquet, Louis Abel-Truchet, Maurice Utrillo and Paul Signac, the master of pointillism (a technique of painting in which small, distinct dots of colour are applied in patterns to form an image).



Director Bendigo Art Gallery Jessica Bridgfoot said it was an honour to work with the iconic Musée Carnavalet to create an exhibition that captured the spirit and confidence of Paris as it flourished during this prosperous period.

"Paris is without doubt one of the world's most picturesque and captivating cities, and the exhibition distils its beauty and energy, including the busy banks of the Seine, bustling marketplaces, grand boulevards, idyllic public gardens and the bohemian Montmartre area as they were portrayed by some of the most influential artists and artisans of the period. This is a rare opportunity for audiences to promenade through turn-of-the-century Paris, a dynamic time when the city courted the attention of the world," Ms Bridgfoot said.

Valérie Guillaume, Director of the Musée Carnavalet, said the exhibition was an invitation for visitors to explore the role this leading tourist destination has played in influencing global design and architecture.

"The Musée Carnavalet tells the story of Paris and the Parisian," Ms Guillaume said.

"The Eiffel Tower is the city's symbol. Since 1991, the banks of its river, the Seine, have been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Unfolding across the banks is a succession of architectural masterpieces from the Middle Ages to the present day. Some buildings, such as the Notre-Dame Cathedral, became a reference for the spread of Gothic architecture, while the Place de la Concorde or the perspective of the Invalides have influenced the town planning of many European capitals."



Fascinating everyday items from the streets of historic Paris include:

- Artistic shop signs from merchants, cafés and hairdressers, including a pair of sculptural gold snails that were installed outside the snail merchant Lazare Successeurs at the corner of Rue Pierre Lescot and Rue Cossonnerie
- A selection of fine dining menus, each one elegantly illustrated and prepared for a single day of service
- Souvenirs, including fans, a jewellery box and silk scarves from the 1889 and 1900 Universal Exhibitions, where thousands of visitors explored pavilions of foreign nations and elaborate displays of the most modern inventions. A feat of engineering, the Eiffel Tower was constructed for the 1889 Universal Exhibition, which was so vast that a railroad was installed to transport the public between displays

Historic moving image from the archives of Gaumont Pathé and an evocative soundscape, including street sounds and original recordings by celebrated stars of the stage Yvette Guilbert and Mistinguett further enhance the immersive experience of Paris by day and night.

Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 – 1925 is the latest instalment of the Bendigo International Collections exhibitions delivered with support from the Victorian Government.

The exhibition is open until end of day on Sunday July 14, 2024.

www.bendigoartgallery.com.au



French fashion leaders

Complementing art and artisan objects in this latest Gallery exhibition is an exquisite selection of haute couture from leading French fashion houses of the era including the famed House of Worth, Jacques Doucet, Madeleine Vionnet and the Callot Souers. On loan from the National Gallery of Victoria and the National Gallery of Australia, the collection illuminates the rapid change in fashion from the strict etiquette and body-distorting corsetry for women of the late 19th century to the sensuous androgyny of the 1920s 'la garçonne' look.

Exhibition partner Blue Illusion has created a stunning capsule collection featuring artworks from the exhibition available in store or the Gallery gift shop. **gb**



Turn to page 32 for an exciting line-up of Paris-themed experiences happening around Greater Bendigo!

New landscaping coming to Hargreaves Mall

The centre of Hargreaves Mall will soon be refreshed with new landscaping that will bring instant greenery, shade, plants and seating to the heart of the city centre.

The new, bigger open area of greenery will replace the current pop-up park and will feature a large synthetic grassed area and three unique shade canopy structures that also light up at night, helping to soften and cool the area.

Playful pops of colour in the form of new tables, seating and umbrellas will brighten up the Mall, together with beautiful new garden beds framed in a sustainable wood-blend product that also acts as further seating.


A stage, including disability access and umbrellas, will be incorporated into the landscaping and can host entertainers and support events in the Mall.

Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf said she was excited by the plans to introduce permanent landscaping to the Mall.

"This is an action within the City of Greater Bendigo's Hargreaves Mall Action Plan and responds to feedback from the community and traders wanting more colour, shade and softness in the area," Cr Metcalf said.

"All components of the landscaping will be built offsite and installation is expected to take about a week and be delivered in August 2024."

The landscaping has been designed by Plantabox following a public tender process. The project will cost approximately \$500,000, which is accommodated within an existing budget that was previously allocated to construct a shade pavilion. In September 2023, Council agreed for these and other funds to be redirected towards landscaping and other initiatives to implement the Hargreaves Mall Action Plan.

Hargreaves Mall is a hive of activity. Check out what's on at www.bendigoregion.com.au/explore-bendigo/whatson/hive-of-activity-in-hargreaves-mall 



City seeks government support for flood resilience

The combined impact of the flood and storm events Greater Bendigo experienced at the start of the year have caused significant and widespread damage.

The repair bill to fix public infrastructure is estimated at \$15M and the recovery process will be long.

To help increase our flood resilience for the future, the City of Greater Bendigo has applied to the Federal Government's Disaster Ready Fund to support four key projects - Huntly drainage analysis and flood mitigation action plan; Minor drainage and culvert improvement program across the municipality, including debris removal in waterways; Waterway Flood Mitigation Management Plans for waterways in Epsom, Huntly, Junortoun and Heathcote; and a Goornong Flood Study.

The outcome of our applications will likely not be known until later this year but work on some of these projects may progress in some form, such as removing debris in waterways around culverts and bridges, minor culvert improvements and table drain clearing along roadsides.

We would be targeting Mclvor Creek in Heathcote, Back Creek in the Epsom/Ascot/

Huntly areas, Splitters Creek in Junortoun, Bendigo Creek north of Howard Street, Epsom, and Racecourse Creek, Epsom.

While the City is only responsible and able to conduct maintenance works within 10m either side of infrastructure like bridges and culverts, we will have discussions with relevant waterway and land managers about clearing debris outside of these areas where this will make a difference to mitigating future flood risk.

The City has also engaged a contractor to undertake a comprehensive audit of the road and drainage network to identify damage that is claimable through the State and Federal governments' co-funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) program.

This assessment is now complete and has identified more than 5,700 defects, ranging from small-scale culvert clearing through to full reconstruction of sections of sealed and unsealed roads in various pockets.

Under the DRFA program, the City has two years to deliver this work and have the costs covered. We are currently prioritising and programming these works.

Approximately 80 per cent of the rural road network has some form of damage to it. In some areas, residents may see works have been undertaken but sites are not fully fixed yet. We will be returning to these areas in time to fix them properly.

Thank you for your patience as this work gets underway.

Andrew Cooney,
Chief Executive
Officer



Flood recovery across Greater Bendigo

It has been a challenging start to 2024 for residents across Greater Bendigo.

From late December 2023 through to February 2024, the region experienced torrential rain three times in two weeks, as well as hail, resulting in flooding across many suburbs and small towns. There were also severe storms that wreaked havoc and caused widespread power outages.

When we take in the October 2022 floods as well, there have been a number of people affected by flooding several times in 15 months.

City of Greater Bendigo staff are now working with flood-affected communities to help them get access to services and support where needed, such as legal and insurance assistance, and working with the City's Engineering unit to find ways to reduce flood risk where possible.

The effects of climate change make it even more important that community

members know the risks, are connected with each other, have a plan and can take practical steps that will make a difference, whether it be dealing with extreme heat, risk of fires or floods, extended power outages or other hazards.

There are some resources available on the City's website, including the *In an emergency, what's your plan?* booklet, and the City is working with many other agencies and organisations to support climate resilience across preparedness, response and recovery.

If you would like to be involved in supporting your local community to be more prepared for these challenges, contact emergencymanagement@bendigo.vic.gov.au

For more information visit
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/gb





How we're making it easier to get around Greater Bendigo

by bike or on foot



For many years now, the City of Greater Bendigo has been strategically working to plan, develop and deliver a network of interconnected, shared walking and cycling pathways to help people move around safely.

The City already has approximately 118.5 kilometres of pathways in its protected walking and cycling network, with more to come in the future to create a fully connected and accessible network located within 500 metres of 90 per cent of houses in urban Bendigo.

A fully connected network will assist people to safely get where they need to go in their

everyday lives by bike or on foot to places like school, work, shopping, community facilities, to visit friends and family, or simply for some exercise.

In 2019, Council adopted a Walk, Cycle Greater Bendigo Strategy. As part of the development of the strategy, the City undertook extensive consultation with the community.

Through this consultation we heard from hundreds of residents and community organisations who said they wanted an interconnected network of footpaths, shared paths, off-road trails and paths, quiet neighbourhood streets and protected cycleways across the city. Ultimately, they told us they wanted to feel safe while walking and riding a bike for travel and recreation.

Taking this feedback into account, the strategy details a number of priority future projects to grow the network and fill in the parts that are currently missing by building new sections of paths to provide for users, especially at road crossings that are often difficult to cross, while at the same time continuing to improve the existing network.



Did you know?

The City has placed counters at several key locations along the main urban trails, with more than 156,000 people recorded using the Bendigo Creek and Back Creek trails and the urban part of the O'Keefe Rail Trail in 2023!

Future priority projects were selected because they will provide great connections to schools, places of employment and community facilities. They will also serve and benefit a large portion of the population and provide improved health benefits for many people.

However, all of the priority projects will require a significant investment from the City and other funding partners, including the Victorian and Australian governments, to deliver.

For more information visit
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

The high priority future projects include:

- 1 Bendigo Low Line**
Installation of a path along a 4.4km section of the built channel of the Bendigo Creek between Maple Street, Golden Square and Weeroona Avenue, White Hills, with seven entry/exit points to fill a key missing section of the Bendigo Creek Trail.
- 2 Mundy Street Protected Path**
From Back Creek to Rosalind Park, with pedestrian lights to cross at Myers and McCrae streets.
- 3 Ironbark Gully Trail**
Installation of a 3km shared path trail link between the existing Long Gully Trail and the Bendigo Creek Trail from Nolan Street, North Bendigo to Eaglehawk Road, Ironbark.
- 4 Eaglehawk to Long Gully Link**
Designed to go from Long Gully Trail (near Bendigo Showgrounds) to Canterbury Park, Eaglehawk.
- 5 Edwards Road Shared Path Link**
A 1.4km shared path along Edwards Road from Calder Highway, Maiden Gully.

NEW REST STOP FOR O'KEEFE RAIL TRAIL

A new rest stop along the O'Keefe Rail Trail near the entrance to Peppercorn Park Reserve, off Longlea Lane, should prove popular for trail users when it is completed in mid-June.

Deputy Mayor Cr Matthew Evans on the O'Keefe Rail Trail.

Eppalock Ward Councillor Matthew Evans said construction of the \$285,000 project is underway to provide new rest stop facilities and improve safety and accessibility for users of the O'Keefe Rail Trail.

"The project will include construction of two unisex toilet facilities, a new car parking area for up to 16 vehicles, installation of a shelter with picnic tables, five new bike hoops and improvements to the entrance of Peppercorn Park," Cr Evans said.

"The new rest stop will also provide more opportunities to start and finish at different points of the trail for new experiences and distances."

"The creation of a new car park off the road will mean that users will no longer have to park along the narrow shoulder of Longlea Lane to unload their bikes.

"This is something that created a potential conflict with road users as the road has a 100km speed limit, so it will be safer for trail users.

"The O'Keefe Rail Trail is used for horse-riding, cycling and walking, and the project is being undertaken to improve the experience for all users of the trail.

"Cycling and walking numbers have grown rapidly over the last two years and the new toilets and shelter will provide essential facilities for all trail users.

"The new rest stop will also provide more opportunities to start and finish at different points of the trail for new experiences and distances."

The project is funded by the City of Greater Bendigo and is expected to be completed in mid-June. **gb**



Lar Birpa - a new name for athletics complex

The former La Trobe University Bendigo Athletics Complex has been renamed Lar Birpa Athletics Complex.

Lar Birpa means *a place to run* in the language of the Dja Dja Wurrung.

The naming of existing and new City-owned facilities in Traditional Owner language is in line with the City's Reconciliation Plan *Barpangu* 2021-2025 and its strong commitment to support Aboriginal place naming and the use of Traditional Owner language in public spaces across the municipality.

The name change was needed following the City's 2020 acquisition of the athletics complex on Retreat Road, Flora Hill from La Trobe University.

In 2022, the City consulted with the community about the new name as part of the process to rename the site.

Undertaking the place naming process is important, as all public places must be registered with Geographic Names Victoria.

Registering place names not only protects our community by assisting emergency services, it also reduces confusion for transport and mail services.

Late last year Geographic Names Victoria confirmed that the proposed name met the statutory requirements for Naming Rules for Places in Victoria, and the name Lar Birpa Athletics Complex was gazetted in the Victorian Government Gazette on January 11, 2024.

For further information on the registration of City place names, visit the Let's Talk website at www.letstalkgreaterbendigo.com.au gb



FOUR FUN FACTS FROM THE PAST!

1 Sandhurst was proclaimed a town in 1861, a city in 1871 and in 1891 its name was changed to Bendigo.

2 The first saleyards opened in Charleston Road, Bendigo in 1861. The saleyards remained in operation until the City of Greater Bendigo constructed and opened the Bendigo Livestock Exchange in Wallenjoe Road, Huntly in 1997.



3 In 1881 the Alexandra Fountain, named after the then Princess of Wales (whose husband became King Edward VII), was officially opened by her two eldest sons Princes Albert and George (later to become King George V).

4 Lake Weeroona is a man-made water body that was officially opened on October 22, 1879.

Above top: A birds' eye view of the Bendigo Livestock Exchange and Alexandra Fountain, the centerpiece of Bendigo since 1881.

Everything in this ute is free to dispose of!

Many people may not realise that a lot of things can be disposed of for free at a local transfer station.

Sadly, rather than taking unwanted items to the transfer station, some people are doing the wrong thing and choosing to dump their unwanted goods in bushland areas.

Not only is dumped rubbish illegal, it is unacceptable, and we all need to reinforce this as a community.

If someone has the means to deliberately drive somewhere to dump rubbish, then they have the ability to go to a local transfer station.

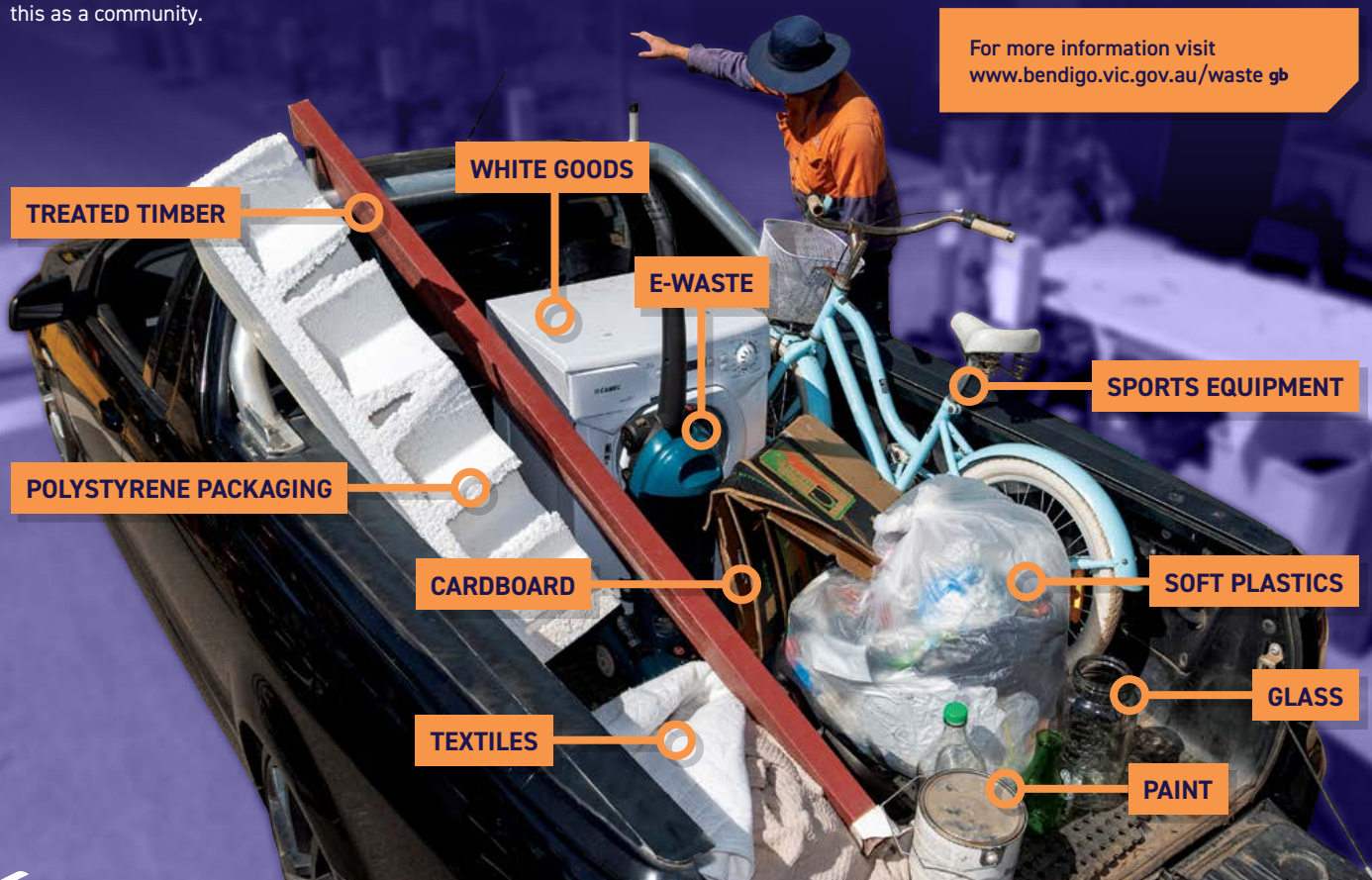
E-waste, soft plastics, textiles, polystyrene packaging, fridges, freezers, air conditioners and much more can be taken for free to one of the City's transfer stations located in Strathfieldsaye, Heathcote, Goornong or the Bendigo Recycle Shop located at the entrance to the Eaglehawk Landfill (please note that whitegoods are not accepted at the Goornong Transfer Station).

All items are sorted at the transfer stations. Some items are sold at the resale shop, while others are sent off for reuse or to be recycled and made into new products.

We are all responsible for the waste we produce and there are ways to dispose of most items responsibly and repurpose unwanted materials.

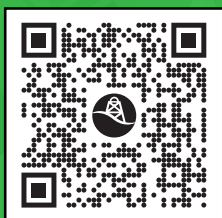
It's very important to not only consider this generation but future generations too, and we thank everyone for doing the right thing with their waste in the future.

For more information visit
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/waste_gb



How to check which of your bins are due for collection

It's easy to get confused about what bins you need to put out on bin night.



So, if you can't remember what bin is due for collection, it's easy to find out by checking your address on the City's website at go.bendigo.vic.gov.au/binnight or by scanning the QR code.

And when you visit our website, you can also download and print a Collection Calendar.

Keep this information in a handy spot like the fridge, and you'll always be able to quickly find out what bin to put out on bin night in the future. gb

2024 COLLECTION CALENDAR

Put the right thing in the right bin!

Be sure to get it right on bin night and have your bins kerbside the night prior to your collection day.



From February 5, 2024, your Organics collection is even!

This colour indicates your General Waste collection

This colour indicates your Recycling collection

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3					31	4	5				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	11	12				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	18	19				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	20	21				
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26				

A slate of roof upgrades for The Capital

Work is nearing completion on a staged renewal of The Capital's historic slate roof.

The Capital is one of the City's iconic and much-loved heritage buildings and the roof renewal will help to preserve it into the future.

Part of the City's heritage renewal program, the project has involved the removal and replacement of damaged slate with new Welsh slate to match the original, and the replacement of all associated ridge capping, box gutters, eaves gutters, valleys and flashings.

The first stage of the project, undertaken in 2018, was the replacement of damaged slate on the entrance portico in View Street.

The second stage was undertaken in 2020 over the theatre's stage area and the third and final stage is the remainder of the roof, which is expected to be complete by late June.

The Capital (formerly the Masonic Hall) was designed by noted local architects William Vahland and Robert Getzschmann in a Renaissance Revival style and constructed in 1873/1874.

The building originally contained lodge rooms, a public tavern and a concert hall. In 1889/1890, Vahland and Getzschmann designed additions to the building that included converting the concert hall into a theatre.

The building, with its imposing front façade, is unsurpassed in a building of this type in Victoria. It is of both architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria and is listed on both the Victorian and National Heritage Registers.

The Capital is a key feature of the View Street precinct – one of the finest precincts of nineteenth century buildings in Victoria. **gb**

The building, with its imposing front façade, is unsurpassed in a building of this type in Victoria.

WHAT'S IN THE WORKS?

As part of Council's commitment to deliver improved infrastructure, a range of works are currently underway or have recently been completed.

BENDIGO

Lighting the Regions – street light LED replacement program
Barnard Street Municipal Baths
The Capital – roof renewal

Edward Street multi-storey car park – telco tower installation
Hargreaves Street – footpath
Forest Street/High Street – raised crossing

EAGLEHAWK

Peter Krenz Centre – storm damage restoration
Sailors Gully Road – footpath

EAST BENDIGO

Bendigo Airport – civil works
Bendigo Airport – terminal and administration building

EPSOM

Howard Street – road reconstruction

KENNINGTON

Kennington Reservoir upgrade

MANDURANG

Mandurang Cricket Club nets

STRATHDALE

Harcourt Park – drainage

STRATHFIELDSAYE

Emu Creek underpass
Sunset Drive – drainage





BARC – we're here to help

As the Bendigo Animal Relief Centre (BARC) approaches its fifth birthday, we want to remind the community of our purpose and how BARC can assist you with your pet.



BARC offers a free microchipping service for cats and dogs who live in Bendigo. Microchipping provides your pet with the best chance of coming home if they are lost, and we want to see as many pets as possible reunited with their owners.

We also offer free registration for all pets under 12 months of age and all pets adopted from BARC. If your pet is over 12 months we can still assist with registration, from scanning your pet for microchip information, checking its desexing status or by helping to fill out the paperwork.

BARC also offers discount cat desexing opportunities, with two schemes available to residents. Owners with a concession card can get their cat desexed for a reduced fee by applying through the National Desexing Network, and owners who are taking care of a community cat can apply for a place in the BARC Bendigo Community Cat Program, which

offers desexing, vaccination, microchipping and registration from as little as \$20.

BARC can also provide you with assistance if your pet requires behaviour and training help, or you are considering the need to rehome your pet. There may be options to explore before you surrender your pet to a shelter, and we can help you navigate these options to provide you and your pet with the best possible outcome.

BARC operates as the City's pound service, caring for lost dogs and cats until they are reunited with their owners or assessed for adoption.

Occasionally, BARC has other animals available for adoption including rabbits, guinea pigs, pet birds or chickens. The best way to see what's available for adoption and to obtain more information on services, is by visiting www.bendigoanimalreliefcentre.com.au **gb**

All dogs and cats made available for adoption are vet checked, desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and treated for parasites. Each pet comes with a seven-day health guarantee, as well as 30 days post-adoption behaviour and training support from Petcademy.



Bendigo Animal Relief Centre



Are you prepared for 24-hour cat containment coming this July?

With the new 24-hour cat containment rules set to commence in Greater Bendigo on July 1, it's time to start thinking about ways your cats can still enjoy the great outdoors but from the comfort of your own property.

For many years now there has been an order in place in Greater Bendigo that requires cats to be securely confined to their owner's property from sunset to sunrise. However, this is set to change to 24 hours per day confinement to property from July 2024 following the adoption of the City's Domestic Animals Act S25 and S26 Orders.

The City understands this is a significant change for cats and their owners, but there are also many benefits. Containing your cat to your property reduces the risk of cats suffering traumatic injuries from cars and other animals, contracting common cat diseases such as cat flu, ringworm and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, being accidentally poisoned by toxic plants and pesticides, being bitten by snakes or spiders, getting lost or being exposed to extreme weather.

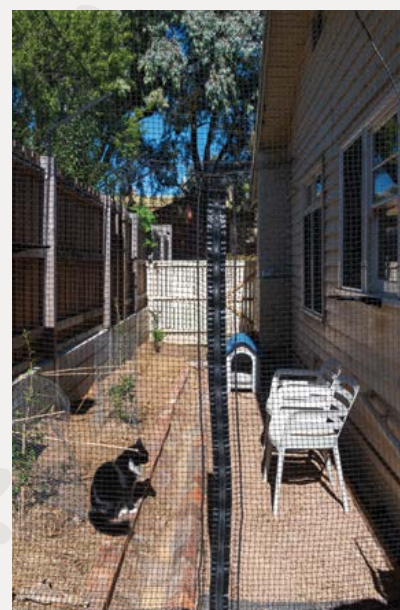
Cats love to move around and keep watch over their territory. They need a warm, dry bed and somewhere to laze in the sun. By building your own cat enclosure you can tailor it exactly to the needs of your cat. Cats love the variety that this system of enclosure provides, especially if it is linked to the family home through a cat door.


There is some great information available about cat-proof fencing, cat enclosures that are attached to an existing structure, the house, veranda or a shed, or free-standing cat enclosures available from the Animal Welfare Victoria website at www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/cats/enclosures-and-fencing

There is also a range of both budget and higher-end enclosure products available from local pet stores and hardware shops.

Cat enclosures, netting and cat-proof fencing are some ways to stop a cat from wandering outside your property. But remember, your cats can still go outside, as long as they remain on your property, just like dogs. Cats can leave your property in a cat carrier on a leash or in a cat pram - as long as you have effective control of them in a securely fitted harness.

For more information on the City's new cat containment rules visit www.bendigo.vic.gov.au **gb**





"It's great for the team to have someone on placement who can contribute to our strong push for continuous improvement."

Learnings from a student placement

From Mozambique to Bendigo, resident Karson Opincal relished the opportunity to complete a university student placement with the City of Greater Bendigo's Environmental Health unit.

Karson and his family settled in Bendigo in June 2015, when his wife began a Masters Degree at La Trobe University.

Karson had already established himself as an Agriculture Manager with an

Agricultural Engineering degree under his belt from Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique, but he was keen to pursue further qualifications in Australia.

He began a Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Health in Practice online at Flinders University and was seeking a practical student work placement as part of a requirement of his postgraduate qualification.

"With my family settled in Bendigo, I was delighted to see the opportunity for a university student placement was offered with the City's Environmental Health unit," Mr Opincal said.

"I was lucky to get the three-month placement. I have gained knowledge and experience, and it has been fantastic to

accompany senior staff out in the field, visiting businesses for food inspections and going on site for septic tank permits and noise complaints.

"The work placement was very fulfilling as I was also given a special project. It was good to gain a better understanding of working with environmental health policies in the real world, which complemented my postgraduate studies.

"It also confirmed that I had transferable skills from my working life in Mozambique. The experience at the City has turned out to be much more than I expected. The team in Environmental Health has been very welcoming and even though I was on a student placement, I was treated as an equal in the team which demonstrated the great working culture for staff at the City."

City Coordinator Environmental Health Varinder Sapehiya said the university work placement was a perfect opportunity to support new talent coming through tertiary education.

"The City's Environmental Health unit is keen to support university student placements and work closely with universities to build rapport in the environmental health network. I really like mentoring and recognise its importance in nurturing new talent to be the best they can be. We have a significant skills shortage in environmental health across Australia and this is a positive step for the industry as it faces these ongoing challenges," Mr Sapehiya said.

"It is a win-win to give students exposure to environmental health in the real world and to complete their studies with comprehensive learnings from an established student placement. We ensured Karson was given support and guidance during his placement with us. He was also given the opportunity to pursue and complete an important project that benefited his postgraduate studies but was also integral to the team's activities.

"During his time, Karson was able to experience theory in practice. This was an invaluable experience, as Environmental Health Officers develop, regulate, educate, enforce, and monitor laws and regulations governing public health to promote good health, hygiene and environmental practices to keep the community safe.



"Karson was able to bring a new perspective and fresh ideas, experience, up-to-the-minute training and provide new insights on contemporary techniques being taught in university. It is great for the team to have someone on placement who can

contribute to our commitment to continuous improvement."

Karson received a distinction in his postgraduate studies and is excited to pursue a career in environmental health in the future. [gb](#)

What do Environmental Officers and Technicians do at the City?

The City's Environmental Health Officers are involved in a wide range of roles to ensure high standards in public health for the community.

The roles are diverse, from inspecting food premises and waste water systems to environmental issues such as pest control, unreasonable noise, mosquitoes and air quality monitoring.

They also deal with local accommodation businesses and beauty, hair and skin penetration businesses (such as tattoo outlets), which are inspected and registered to ensure public health and safety. It's a multi-skilled job with a focus on customer service and community education. Officers work closely with businesses to help them comply with permit and environmental regulations, enforce the law and assist operators, and protect, promote and improve public health.

Karson working with Sim'R Café.



Supporting our LGBTIQA+ community

Approximately 5,700* people or 5.8 per cent of the adult population identify as LGBTIQA+ in Greater Bendigo.

In late 2023, the City of Greater Bendigo adopted its first LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Action Plan to provide a clear and achievable plan to guide its commitment to lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer/questioning and asexual people in our community.

Lockwood Ward Councillor Jennifer Alden said the aim of the action plan was to strengthen existing partnerships, support local LGBTIQA+ events, and for the City to provide an inclusive workplace for LGBTIQA+ employees and volunteers.

"The plan sets out 46 actions the City will undertake over the next two years to support safe

and welcoming events and activities that increase inclusion to help our LGBTIQA+ communities to be supported, connected and have a sense of belonging in Greater Bendigo," Cr Alden said.

"It also supports the City to provide an inclusive workplace for LGBTIQA+ employees and volunteers.

"The plan and its actions will help address the different needs of younger and older LGBTIQA+ people, rainbow families, trans and gender diverse people, and LGBTIQA+ people from multicultural backgrounds to create a safe, welcoming and fair community for our LGBTIQA+ residents and their families."



The plan is available to view on the City's website at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/gb



Left: Cr Jennifer Alden talks with Budi Sudarto from Ananda Training & Consultancy at the LGBTIQA+ training event.

*Source: Victorian Agency for health Information, 2020



"All of Greater Bendigo's Houses are welcoming and inclusive spaces."

Cr Julie Sloan at Eaglehawk Community House with representatives Rochelle Boston and Mel Baker.

Discover a local Neighbourhood or Community House today!

Did you know there is a Neighbourhood or Community House near you offering free and low-cost activities and support?

At your local Neighbourhood or Community House there are many different things you can get involved in, and each House is different, as each community is different!

There might be community gardening, physical activities like yoga and walking groups, art and craft, bike repair workshops, learning activities with computers and smart phones, education courses, beginner cooking sessions and developing English skills. You will also find services like digital support and help to fill out forms.

Whipstick Ward Councillor Julie Sloan said there were seven Neighbourhood and Community Houses in Greater Bendigo.

"All of Greater Bendigo's Houses are welcoming and inclusive spaces, where you'll find a friendly face, meet new people, and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee," Cr Sloan said.

"The City of Greater Bendigo proudly supports Houses in a number of ways, including allocating funding through the Community Grants Program.

"We do this because we greatly value the important role that Houses play in our community.

"So why not check out what's happening at a House near you and visit soon." **gb**

You can discover your local Neighbourhood and Community Houses at:

- **Bendigo Neighbourhood Hub**
155 Crook Street, Bendigo
Ph: 5441 2515
- **Eaglehawk Community House**
19 Bright Street, Eaglehawk
Ph: 5446 8322
- **Heathcote Community House**
55 Hospital Street, Heathcote
Ph: 5447 9687
- **Huntly Community Hub**
608 Midland Highway, Huntly
www.huntlycommunityhub.com.au
- **Kangaroo Flat Community House**
21 Woolcock Avenue, Kangaroo Flat
Ph: 5447 9687
- **Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre**
52-54 Derwent Drive, Long Gully
Ph: 5442 1165 or 5443 0998
- **Marong Neighbourhood House**
39 High Street, Marong
Ph: 5435 2486

CONNECT
Greater Bendigo

Are you looking to join a local club or to find and attend local events?

FIND JOIN CONNECT

Visit the CONNECT Greater Bendigo website www.connectgreaterbendigo.com.au to find-join-connect with a comprehensive range of local community clubs, groups, organisations and events.

Connect with your community – join a club or group, attend a local event and live your best life!



Be Well Be Connected

Positive ageing and disability expo

2024

Wednesday
May 15, 10am-2pm

Bendigo
Exhibition Centre

The City of Greater Bendigo is proud to host the 2024 Be Well Be Connected Expo for older adults and people with disabilities.

This free expo will feature exhibits showcasing aged care, community and disability products and services, and allows visitors to meet face-to-face with service providers, advisors and community groups.

For more information, scan the QR code, phone 1300 002 642 or visit go.bendigo.vic.gov.au/bewellbeconnected



Is your property causing a hazard for others?

Branches and bushes that hang over front fences and cars parked across footpaths can prove a dangerous obstacle for people walking along the streets of Greater Bendigo.

Going for a walk is important for many people, so it's important that they are able to do so without having to contend with any obstacles blocking local footpaths.

Making Greater Bendigo safer is everybody's responsibility as injuries caused by overhanging branches and plants can carry a high financial and personal cost for people in our community, especially older people and those using mobility scooters, wheelchairs and walking aids.

Residents who own or occupy properties within the municipality are responsible for ensuring that they keep the growth of trees and plants contained within their property, so they do not become an obstacle on the footpath.

The City of Greater Bendigo advises residents to check their property boundaries to ensure their trees and plants are not causing a hazard, and to cut them back if they are.

Residents with concerns about obstructions on footpaths or roadways should report it to the City by phoning 1300 002 642. **gb**



Free accessible parking available for permit holders

Holders of an Accessible Parking Permit (formerly Disabled Parking Permit) can now park for free in any of the City's signed, on-street accessible parking bays.

Manager Safe Environments Jock Schofield said this meant permit holders would no longer be required to pay a parking fee when parking in a signed accessible parking bay but time limits would still apply.

"In addition, Accessible Parking Permit holders can park for double the time limit in the City's regular metered, on-street parking bays but will still need to pay for their stay up to the maximum fee," Mr Schofield said.

"For example, if a person with a current Accessible Parking Permit parks in a regular bay in a 30 minute zone, they can park for 60 minutes for the cost of parking for 30 minutes.

"The City is committed to making life easier for residents who often find it difficult getting around Greater Bendigo. This is just one simple way we can do this."

Victoria has now transitioned to the new Accessible Parking Permit (APP) Scheme and online administration system. An Accessible Parking Permit gives parking concession to people who have been assessed by a medical practitioner or occupational therapist as having significant physical, cognitive, behavioural or neurological impairment that impacts on their mobility.

Anyone wishing to renew or apply for a permit should visit www.accessibleparking.vic.gov.au for more information. gb



Easy parking for Michael Taylor and sidekick Spike.

Have you discovered the PayStay app?

PayStay allows users to pay for their parking online or via a smartphone app, and is available throughout the city centre (excluding Edward Street and Hargreaves Street multi-storey car parks).

The City of Greater Bendigo is keen to continue to provide the community with a more flexible and convenient parking payment system and PayStay allows motorists to park without having to pay at a meter.

People don't carry or use cash as much as they did in the past, and many prefer the convenience of paying by card.

Users of the PayStay system can register multiple vehicles to one account and for a small reminder service fee, people can opt to have SMS reminders sent to remind them when their parking session is due to expire.

PayStay also has SMS and phone payment options and accepts Mastercard and Visa. However, people can still pay at the meters using cash or their credit or debit cards.

The PayStay app is available to download from the App Store or Google Play.

For more information go to www.paystay.com.au or contact the City on 1300 002 642. gb



Put your hand up

2024 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This year in October, most Victorians will vote in Local Government elections to elect a new Council to serve for the next four years.

A council's role is to lead, govern and make decisions for the benefit of all residents and ratepayers.

Following a review of electoral boundaries by the Victorian Government, the City of Greater Bendigo ward structure will change for the 2024 elections. Instead of there being three wards and three councillors in each ward, Greater Bendigo will be divided into nine wards and there will be one councillor in each ward.

It is really important a Council is representative of the community it serves, so the City is encouraging people from a variety of backgrounds to put up their hand and help make a difference.

There is a range of support available to help make serving as a Councillor easier, including reimbursement for childcare, vehicle access to attend community events, financial support

for training, reimbursement for travel expenses, laptops and mobile phones are provided, and there is support for people with a disability.

Director Corporate Performance Jessica Howard said it was important potential candidates consider the bigger picture when standing for Council.

"The role of a Councillor is greater than just one issue or wanting to represent the interests of only one community. An effective Councillor needs to have broad interests and consider a range of information when making decisions," Ms Howard said.

"Being a Councillor can be likened to having a part time job and can be balanced with other responsibilities like family, community work or paid work, while the role of the Mayor is a greater time commitment, more like a full-time job.

Candidate training

All candidates nominating for election must complete Local Government Candidate Training before they are able to nominate.

Candidate information sessions

2024 Council elections and Local Government in Greater Bendigo

- Tuesday May 28, 6pm
- Galkangu, Lyttleton Terrace, Bendigo

The Councillor Experience

- Thursday June 20, 6pm
- Galkangu, Lyttleton Terrace, Bendigo

MAV Stand for Council

- Wednesday July 17, 6pm
- The Capital, View Street, Bendigo

Future direction of City of Greater Bendigo

- Wednesday August 14, 6pm
- Galkangu, Lyttleton Terrace, Bendigo

"It is a hugely rewarding role and one that decides on key outcomes that can benefit and shape communities for many years to come."

"Aside from meeting with the community, which can sometimes occur at night, a main part of the role is reading reports and attending briefings so as to be fully informed to make decisions at Council meetings.

"Importantly, it is a hugely rewarding role and one that decides on key outcomes that can benefit and shape communities for many years to come."

When is the election date?

Saturday October 26. Voting will be by postal vote and the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) needs all votes received no later than 12pm, Friday November 1. Failure to vote may result in a fine.

What does Local Government do?

The City of Greater Bendigo delivers 68 services to the community, such as rubbish collection, sports facilities, childcare, immunisation, maternal and child health, major events, town planning, theatres, Bendigo Art Gallery, visitor services, parks and gardens, animal pound services, road, drainage and footpath construction, and much more.

Local Government is not responsible for matters such as hospitals, public transport, public housing, education, major road/highway upgrades, mental health

services, state and national parks, wildlife management and police.

Who has to vote?

Anyone over the age of 18 and registered on the state electoral roll and council-enrolled voters such as ratepayers.

Who can be a candidate?

To be a candidate you must be an Australian citizen, aged 18 years or over, be on the voters' roll for the council you want to stand for, complete mandatory candidate training and not be previously disqualified from being a councillor. You can be a candidate for any ward.

For more information go to www.vec.vic.gov.au gb



2024 Youth Council *up and running!*

The City of Greater Bendigo has welcomed ten new and seven returning Youth Councillors to the Greater Bendigo Youth Council for 2024.

The new Youth Councillors - Aidan Sanders, Alyssa Beaton, Amelia Westbrook, Bailey Dolan, Ella Lindrea, Hamish Knight, Levy Camilleri, Luke Troy, Moon Vincent and Rohan Tyler have joined returning Youth Councillors Abby Patten, Augustine Leung, Jemima Kreutzer, Lilly Correll, Remus Brasier, Sean Cox and Sharlee Dunolly-Lee.

Lilly Correll is the 2024 Youth Mayor and Abby Patten and Sean Cox are joint Deputy Youth Mayors.

The Youth Council is an initiative to engage local young people in the City's decision-making process for the future. It represents the views of young people when developing City plans and programs that impact them, and represents young people at civic events and activities. It also fulfils a key goal of the City's Council Plan 2021-2025 to ensure young people are supported to explore, engage and be empowered to shape the world they live in.

Youth Mayor Lilly Correll said she was proud to be the Youth Mayor for 2024.

"As the youngest Youth Mayor in our City's history, it fills me with pride to be given the trust and honour of leading the Youth Council and representing the voice of young people in Greater Bendigo," Lilly said.

"The Youth Council provides an avenue for young people to be inspired, heard and valued, and it fosters inclusion and equity in our community."

Over the past five years the Youth Council has provided input into approximately 50 City plans, strategies, policies and projects. **gb**

History bowled over

thanks to a momentous
women's cricket
match in Bendigo
150 years ago



Did you know the first recorded women's cricket match in Australia was held in Bendigo in 1874?

This special milestone in Bendigo's history has been celebrated in the inaugural exhibition *Frisky Matrons & Forward Spinsters* at the Bendigo Historical Society's History House Museum, with assistance from the City of Greater Bendigo, Cricket Victoria and the Bendigo Easter Fair Society.

In 1874, cricket and social change collided in Bendigo when a group of women challenged the values underpinning colonial society by playing a charity cricket match as part of the Bendigo Easter Fair.

Symbolising much more than just a spirited charitable act, these women players were trailblazers and faced many challenges and barriers to appear publicly playing sport.

This exhibition also launched the Bendigo Historical Society's new community museum and tells the story of 22 courageous local women, and the men who supported them in cricket-mad gold rush Bendigo.

Beautiful objects such as Easter Fair pins, cricket belt buckets and other cricket paraphernalia loaned especially for this exhibition from private collectors are on display, many for the first time. Objects from the collection of the Bendigo United

Cricket Club and the Bendigo Historical Society are also part of this unique display.

City Heritage Collections Officer Simone Ewenson worked in partnership with enthusiastic volunteers and the committee from the Bendigo Historical Society, particularly Kay MacGregor and Dennis Johanson who were heavily involved in the development and research of the exhibition.

Local families with links to the 1874 match also contributed, including the Rae and Cordner families who had four family members involved in the historic match.

Ms Ewenson said the research captured a significant moment, not only in women's history but sporting history nationally.

"Women were confronted by social norms that did not allow them to undertake physical activity. Not only did their clothing impose huge restrictions on movement, they were scorned for showing their ankles and legs and branded unfeminine if they did so," she said.

"Women in central Victoria, like women everywhere, wanted to contribute in meaningful ways to society and playing a charity cricket match was a logical way to do so."



Frisky Matrons & Forward Spinsters - where did the exhibition name come from?

The *Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser* reported on April 13, 1874 a negative story about the first Ladies Cricket Match at the Bendigo Easter Fair:

"This unfeminine trail of masculine skill at Sandhurst, in which frisky matrons took part with forward spinsters, was engaged as - we are told in the cause of 'heaven born charity.' Nothing else could extort money from the pockets of the male public but this unwomanly exhibition on a public holiday."

On the other hand, the *Bendigo Advertiser* coverage was positive and celebrated the milestone match, but Melbourne newspapers were also scathing about the women's pursuit to play cricket and the underlying push for social change.

Frisky Matrons & Forward Spinsters is at History House Museum, Bendigo Historical Society, 11 MacKenzie Street, Bendigo until Saturday June 15. It is open 10am to 3pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Pictured (L-R): City Heritage Collections Officer Simone Ewenson with Bendigo Historical Society volunteers Dennis Johanson and President Euan McGillivray.



Bendigo – birthplace of women's cricket

Bendigo celebrated the 150th anniversary of the first women's cricket match in Australia, which took place at the Bendigo Easter Fair in 1874.

To mark the milestone, the QEO provided the perfect backdrop for a representative T20 match Bendigo V Ballarat with a victory for Bendigo. It was watched by many families with close connections to the 1874 match. Diane Robertson is the great granddaughter of Barbara Rae, who was the top scorer in the original game. Ms Robertson received a special bat from Cricket Australia in recognition of her great grandmother's sporting achievements. The first female cricketers were trailblazers as they faced many barriers and discrimination for wanting to play a male-only sport publicly.

Pictured: Ben DeAraugo from Cricket Australia presented Diane Robertson with a commemorative bat to honour her great grandmother's achievements. **gb**

Young mob stories through actions



First Nations art gallery Djaa Djuwima's latest exhibition *Young Mob Excelling* tells the stories of young First Nations people who are making their mark across a range of activities.

This is an opportunity to share, celebrate and gain insights from a young generation of First Nations people who live in or are connected to Greater Bendigo.

The exhibition brief asked people under 25 to capture a photo or an image of them doing a favourite hobby or activity, being part of a community.

The contributions are inspiring and wide-ranging from a passion, a hobby or something that is important in a young person's daily life, such as playing a favourite sport, going to school, or enjoying activities or interests.

Contributors have also provided memorabilia and a brief profile. Some have contributed an original piece of artwork for the free exhibition.

Children under eight have also contributed artwork, which is displayed in a dedicated area.

Gallery curator and Arts Officer, First Nations Janet Bromley said it was a wonderful exhibition

celebrating young mob and what matters to them.

"It's not often that an exhibition is dedicated solely to young people who bring an exciting and new energy from a young perspective, not seen before in Djaa Djuwima," Ms Bromley said.

"Djaa Djuwima means 'to show, share Country' in Dja Dja Wurrung language and the gallery is a safe place for young First Nations people to explore cultural expression, identity, heritage and connection.

"It is so important for young mob in the community to see themselves represented through their peers.

"*Young Mob Excelling* is a great way to inspire other young First Nations people and show them that everything is possible. This is where dreams, hopes and optimism are out there for everyone to see. I hope that exhibitors will feel a sense of self-confidence and pride showing their contribution to their mob, friends and the wider community." **gb**

Inner Growth

Among the contributions is this beautiful piece, *Inner Growth*, from a young Yorta Yorta woman Rose Briggs.

Ms Briggs said *Inner Growth* highlighted the reciprocal relationship between First Nations people, wellbeing and the wellbeing of Country.

"We heal and grow Country, and it heals for and supports our growth, and ultimately, our survival in return. I get a lot of my inspiration from native plants, experiences and emotions," Ms Briggs said.

Young Mob Excelling is open to the public from 9am to 5pm, May 10 to August 30, at Djaa Djuwima, located at the Bendigo Visitor Centre, 51-67 Pall Mall.



**DJAA
DJUWIMA**
TO SHOW AND SHARE COUNTRY

Happy birthday Cushion Concerts!



Bendigo Venues & Events Cushion Concert program is celebrating its 10th year entertaining pre-schoolers with the joy of live music and performances in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

The successful monthly program features a live performance specially curated for children from local, national as well internationally recognised musicians and performers.

As the program name suggests, cushions are laid out on the floor and performances are no more than 40 minutes in duration. The sessions are designed to stimulate young listeners and each concert is different from the last.

It's a unique experience for children, from babies to pre-schoolers, to interact and be immersed in live performances featuring music, singing and dancing from different genres and styles.

The idea from the start has been to provide a first live music experience for a very young audience in a relaxed, friendly and accessible environment that is informal, fun and low cost.

Manager Bendigo Venues & Events Julie Amos said she was delighted the Cushion Concert program had gone from strength to strength.

"It is fantastic that we are celebrating the program's 10th year," Ms Amos said.

"One of the key elements of the program has been encouraging children to experience and explore a wide range of musical styles and

not limit the performances to what might be deemed 'children's music and performances'.

"We know that children learn through play, and our music and movement experiences tap into this 'play state' and encourage children to respond, experiment and imagine.

"Our Cushion Concert performances have been truly embraced by young families and we've been lucky to have a loyal following, who flock to our events at our iconic venue, The Capital, each month.

"In the 10 years since it began, it has been wonderful to welcome new families and to see their children grow and enjoy the performances at all ages."

The Cushion Concert program at The Capital began with a piano performance by Millie Heinrich for 50 children and their carers.

The program has since presented more than 100 concerts, featured 700 performers and attracted more than 6,000 audience members.

Children bring a cushion (or borrow one), as well as a teddy and a snack. If they need to move around to get a better view, want to dance or stretch out on the floor, that's fine. If a child has a question or wants to talk about the performance – that's great!

For information about performances and to book a ticket, visit www.gotix.com.au gb

Highlights over the years include:

- Launching the tent and *Coming to a Cushion Concert* book in 2018 (thanks to funding from Creative Victoria). The book can be purchased for \$5 at The Capital box office
- Zubin Kanga, performing as part of the Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music, climbing all over a piano in a program of contemporary piano music
- Regular visits from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria
- Andy Rigby singing songs he made up on the way to the program (and then showing the children how he makes most of his instruments himself)
- Simon Tedeschi starting his recital with a Wiggles tribute then ending with an extended Bach partita



Mother of three Corinne Cinatl has home-schooled all three of her children and she found the Cushions Concerts to be a great way to introduce them to musical education.

"I've always been keen for my children to have a musical culture, but I knew they wouldn't be able to sit through a three-hour concert at their young age," Corinne said.

"The Cushion Concert program is just beautiful, and the children and babies are exposed to different types of music and the power of live performances in a short burst. I like the fact that they tailor it for pre-schoolers, but the integrity of the music is not compromised or simplified to be too 'childish'.

"All three children have enjoyed Cushion Concerts in different ways. My eldest son, who is now at high school, and my youngest daughter who is three, have outgoing personalities so their natural reaction has been to jump up, dance and sing. My middle child, Matilda, is nine, and has been playing the violin for four years. She loves how musical instruments sound live compared to hearing them on TV, and seeing how the musicians 'feel' the music.

"Cushion Concerts have become a ritual for the family and we all look forward to it. My daughters love to dress up for the occasion, packing a cushion and a teddy so they are ready for 40 mins of magic at a Cushion Concert."

Experience the joy of live music with your pre-schooler at a monthly Cushion Concerts

- Friday May 17, 2024
- Saturday June 22, 2024
- Tuesday July 6, 2024
- Friday August 9, 2024
- Thursday September 12, 2024
- Wednesday October 9, 2024
- Saturday November 9, 2024
- Wednesday December 4, 2024

Please note that all concerts listed above will go on sale a month prior to the performance.

Get in touch...

EPPALOCK WARD



Deputy Mayor Cr Matthew Evans

T 4408 6694 M 0437 867 028

E m.evans@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Margaret O'Rourke

T 4408 6692 M 0429 061 096

E m.orourke@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Greg Penna

T 4408 6690 M 0429 721 958

E g.penna@bendigo.vic.gov.au

LOCKWOOD WARD



Cr Dr Jennifer Alden

T 4408 6695 M 0499 005 735

E j.alden@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Rod Fyffe OAM

T 4408 6688 M 0419 874 015

E r.fyffe@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Vaughan Williams

T 4408 6696 M 0437 858 776

E v.williams@bendigo.vic.gov.au

WHIPSTICK WARD



Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf

T 4408 6697 M 0499 009 096

E a.metcalf@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Dave Fagg

T 4408 6698 M 0437 892 918

E d.fagg@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Cr Julie Sloan

T 4408 6689 M 0437 862 975

E j.sloan@bendigo.vic.gov.au

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Unsure what ward you live in?

Visit www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

Harnessing a passion

Victorian Harness Racing heritage
collection unveiled at Lord's Raceway



As part of her role as the City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Collections Officer, Simone Ewenson is often called upon to assist community groups that have fascinating heritage collections. Many of these collections are not often seen by the public and need preserving. Ms Ewenson recently had the privilege of meeting and assisting a small group of dedicated volunteers with a passion for harness racing at Lord's Raceway in Junortoun.

Over the past five years, volunteers Noel Ridge, Norm West and Steve Sparks have worked hard to develop the skills and knowledge required to manage and care for a collection worthy of national attention. Their dream was to create an exhibition space at Lord's Raceway for the public to enjoy.

They recognised early on in the collection's creation that digitising was an important first step in managing the collection. The volunteers were fortunate to have received a grant and hands-on

assistance from the team at Victorian Collections to begin the slow but vital task of cataloguing and photographing every item. To date around 550 items have been digitised, with more still to come:

www.victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/bendigo-harness-racing-club

**"The culmination of this work
has resulted in the creation
of a highly professional
exhibition space."**

As the City's Heritage Collections Officer, Ms Ewenson was able to assist Noel, Norm and Steve with practical advice and encouragement to ensure the complex needs of their significant collection were met.

"There have also been challenges around how to appropriately store and present a collection that includes a diverse range of materials and size types,



Lord's Raceway Heritage Collection volunteer Norm West and City Heritage Collections Officer Simone Ewenson.

including colourful but fragile racing silks and caps, rare and original photographs, a stunning trophy collection and a variety of large racing sulkies," Ms Ewenson said.

"Many of these challenges have been overcome by making the most of the professional support available to them through my role as Heritage Collections Officer and the sector more broadly."

Ms Ewenson said the project's ambitions became more pronounced with the sad passing of Noel Ridge last year.

"Noel was one of the collection's stalwarts, so it was a challenging time for the volunteers. Norm and Steve continued to work tirelessly to ensure their original vision of presenting this stunning collection to the public was fulfilled," Ms Ewenson said.

The group's passion and commitment paid dividends with a fantastic outcome for the community. The culmination of this work has resulted in the creation of a highly professional exhibition space open to the public on race days and for special events at Lord's Raceway.

"While this work is ongoing, I have been hugely impressed with their passion and dedication, and the results are a testimony to what can be achieved with a lot of arduous work and a willingness to seek assistance when needed," Ms Ewenson said.

"I look forward to working further with Norm and Steve in the coming years as they honour the memory of Noel and bring to life more of harness racing's hidden stories." **gb**



Join the City and local partners in celebrating upcoming First Nations events

Residents and visitors are invited to join in the following events:

National Reconciliation Week from May 27 to June 3

Highlights include the Central Victorian Indigenous Film Festival, Koorie Youth Flick Fest and more! Further information on all local events taking place throughout the week will be available closer to the date on the City of Greater Bendigo's website, www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

NOW MORE THAN EVER

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024
27 MAY - 3 JUNE #NRW2024 RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

NAIDOC Week celebrations across Bendigo from July 7 to 14

Celebrating the theme 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud', highlights include the City's flag raising ceremony in the Library Gardens, art exhibitions, BDAC Family Day and much more. Look out for the full program of events that will be available at various locations throughout Greater Bendigo and on the City's website prior to the week. **gb**





Bonjour Bendigo

"With so much in common, Bonjour Bendigo is a wonderful way to capture the 'joie de vivre' of Paris this autumn and winter right here in Bendigo"

Bendigo has transformed into the city of love and light for its Bonjour Bendigo activation campaign, in celebration of the exclusive Bendigo Art Gallery exhibition *Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 - 1925*.

More than 40 Paris-themed experiences and events around the Bendigo region are included in the program to complement the exhibition, which runs until Sunday July 14.

Visitors and residents can revel in French food, art, culture and unique experiences.

Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf said Bendigo was the perfect place to host French-themed experiences and events because of the many similarities between the two cities.

"Even though Paris is on a much bigger scale, Bendigo and Paris both share a rich love of culture and heritage, elegant buildings and iconic landmarks, culinary and gastronomic delights, charming streets and a café culture," Cr Metcalf said.

"With so much in common, Bonjour Bendigo is a wonderful way to capture the 'joie de vivre' of Paris this autumn and winter right here in Bendigo.

"Residents and visitors can make the most of a fantastic range of French-inspired events and experiences, together with themed food and drink menus celebrating the city of love and light."

"It is a red, white and blue celebration with the tricolours of the French flag adding vibrancy in the region. I want to thank Bendigo Tourism members who have jumped on board to be part of this exciting campaign, embracing the theme in many innovative ways."

The BENDIGO letters at the Rosalind Park piazza have been transformed with the Bonjour Bendigo branding. Bendigo Heritage Attractions' iconic trams features the Bonjour Bendigo themes. Bunting and flower boxes in French colours also add to the streetscape vibrancy.

Hargreaves Mall is offering a range of French-themed, free activations to entertain families including acrobats, jugglers, music, painting activities and much more during the exhibition period.

Bonjour Bendigo is a terrific way to encourage visitors to stay longer in our region, marketing Bendigo as a must-see destination, particularly to visitors from Melbourne, regional Victoria and Sydney.

The City's award-winning public activations, themed to celebrate blockbuster exhibitions at Bendigo Art Gallery, have become hugely popular over the years with residents and visitors.

Ms Batterhams



The Dispensary

BON APPÉTIT

- **Treacy Patisserie** pays homage to classic French patisseries and is hosting macaron-making classes
- **Ms Batterhams** has a Bonjour Lunch with three dishes including snails, paired with a glass of French wine available Thursday to Sunday. A Bastille Day five-course dinner on July 13 will be matched with French wines
- **The Dispensary** has Impressions of Paris: Cocktail Edition and Impressions of Wine: French Wine Edition. On June 1, it will host a Sommelier's Selection with eight special French wines.
- **Shiraz Republic's** in-house brewery, Cornella Brewery, has created a limited edition Biere de Garden, a French-style sparkling ale matured in oak
- Ooh La La Impressions of Paris lunch menu at **The Woodhouse** has two or three course menus, paired with a glass of wine or beer
- **Black Swan** is serving Champagne and French-style pizza
- **Alium Dining** has a French-inspired lunch menu including chateaubriand and crème brûlée
- **Indulge Fine Belgian Chocolates** has sweet tasting plates or goodies to take away
- **Long Paddock Cheese** shares its knowledge about French-style, locally made cheese. It also offers one-day Cheese School Beyond Home cheesemaking courses
- **Balgownie** has developed a limited-edition Cabernet Franc in partnership with Bendigo Art Gallery to celebrate the exhibition. Enjoy a cheese platter with the wine in beautiful surrounds
- **GPO's** French A La Carte offering includes French-inspired cocktails in collaboration with Bacardi, and a one or two course lunch that includes a glass of Champagne
- **PepperGreen Farm** is hosting a lunch farm tour every Tuesday
- **Red Energy Arena's** new outdoor bar and dining space has music and French martinis every Sunday from 1pm to 4pm
- **Hoo-gah** has a French breakfast platter, Le Petit Dejeuner
- **Nimbus Rooftop** is serving a specially created French cocktail Thursday to Sunday
- Bon Appétit at **Beechworth Bakery** features a perfect picnic pack that includes a croissant, jam and cream, fresh strawberries, an Eiffel Tower cookie and coffee. The bakery has also created special edition cruffins (muffin/croissant) filled with Nutella, custard or jam



Alium Dining



Bendigo Hat Shop

LA BOUTIQUE

- **Bendigo Hat Shop** encourages you to take a selfie in front of its Parisian shop front. You will be tempted by central Victoria's largest range of hats. They even have berets in stock from France!
- **Bob Boutique** encourages you to shop and catch a selfie with an Eiffel Tower scene whilst browsing
- **Pink Honey** fashion boutique has a French display to celebrate the exhibition and is located across the road from Bendigo Art Gallery
- **Charlotte O'Hara Vintage** has a wide range of French clothing and one-of-a-kind Moulin Rouge-inspired costumes
- **J'Adore Col Iron** has unique iron art with French-themed items
- **Mr Good Times** has a great range of toys and a large Eiffel Tower made from magnetic tiles in the shop window
- **Robe** boutique celebrates Parisian flair, where you can capture your French style with a selfie against a Parisian backdrop

More experiences over the page!



CITY OF LOVE AND LIGHT

- **The Engine Room** features Windows of Bendigo's Belle Époque from eight local artists that capture both Paris and Bendigo at the end of the 19th century
- **La Trobe Art Institute's** *Dressings* exhibition is by artists Jeremy Eaton and Nicholas Smith. It makes visible historically hidden or codified themes, continuing these artists' investigation of queer sensibilities in Australian modernism
- The *Lifelike* exhibition at the **Living Arts Space** (in the Bendigo Visitor Centre) features four artists who capture the spirit and essence of a landscape or subject by incorporating natural light, colour and movement into their works
- **Alvah Gallery** in Dunolly highlights a selection of John Moir's works from his visits to Paris, which are available to buy
- The beautiful **Langley Estate** will provide the perfect setting for a variety of French chamber music performances
- **Discovery Science & Technology Centre** presents *Pointillism to Pixelation: The Evolution of Art & Science*, an interactive display based on the Pointillism layout of Paris
- A Trip to the Moon with Georges Méliès screens at **The Capital Carriageway** from 6pm to 6.30pm on May 5 and June 16 accompanied by local musicians and sound artists
- Bonjour Bendigo at **Star Cinema** screening *Stories of Love from the City of Love* at 1pm on Sunday June 9
- **Botanical Lane** Parisian Candle Making Workshop at Belvoir Park Estate winery on June 16

Langley Estate -
Patrick Savage
Premieres, May 19



Please check availability with the operators. For the full Bonjour Bendigo program, visit: www.bendigoregion.com.au/explore-bendigo gb

Local creatives and producers have added an exciting French twist to the Uniquely Bendigo range with new souvenirs and mementos to celebrate Bendigo Art Gallery's *Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 - 1925*.

The new additions to the Uniquely Bendigo range are on sale now at the Visitor Centres in Bendigo and Heathcote. Pop into one of the centre's and support local artists and producers by choosing from inspiring gifts for family and friends. You'll find everything from delicious treats and teas, through to stunning jewellery, postcards, prints and tea towels.

1. Bernadette Scanlon from Bee Two Bags has been busy fossicking for Paris-inspired fabrics to create her beautifully hand-crafted bags and purses, all in store now.
2. Grab some colourful Frankie O tea towels to pop in the basket! Frankie O, with her usual flair, has delivered a special range of gorgeous tea towels along with a range of postcards and prints that would entice any Francophile. Also choose from Bob Boutique tea towels or perhaps one of their journals or purses available in French prints created by artist, Sonia Britt.

3. If you're keen to get cooking, Squirrel Gully has brought out a Bouillabaisse salt, based on Auguste Escoffier's classic French fish stew. Pop in for your bag or jar of salt and grab some free, accompanying French recipe cards for inspirational dishes you can whip up at home.
4. Other yummy French-inspired treats that would be great on your next picnic come care of Bendigo Fine Foods' range of condiments. Grab a jar of Confit de Figure, a delicious fig jam, or perhaps Confit de Oignons, a tasty onion jam. The fine food makers have also created a French-inspired apricot and vanilla jam and a French honey mustard - yummy!
5. Stitch in Time, known for their highly sought after purses and hankies, have delivered a limited range made using exquisite, French-inspired fabrics, including a fabric titled Rue de Paris.

6. Kerry McCuskey from Tea Associates has created a scrumptious new blend of tea, reminiscent of the romantic city called Parisian Grey.
7. If you're looking for something wearable, local master jeweller Milton Long has created a stunning range of art deco-inspired silver jewellery, some inlaid with semi-precious stones. While Sue James has created pendants and earrings with Parisian-styled cameos.
8. Last but not least, Sue Schrieber, an artisan chocolatier from Choclatiste, has printed the bold Bonjour Bendigo mascot on delicious bars of white and milk chocolate, while the Beechworth Bakery has created Eiffel Tower biscuits that are available in two cute designs.

Drop into the Heathcote or Bendigo Visitor Centres to peruse the selections of limited fine foods and handicrafts while stocks last!





MSO: MOZART AND TCHAIKOVSKY

Join Korean conductor Han-Na Chang as she conducts the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in this delightful program of musical treasures, including lively works by Mozart and Tchaikovsky's striking Fifth Symphony.

May 25 / Ulumbarra Theatre / gotix.com.au



BSO CONCERT #2 'EMPEROR'

A spirited burst of energy from Strauss's Radetzky March kicks off this rousing program, from which follows an extraordinary exploration of the relationship between music and power. Performed by the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra.

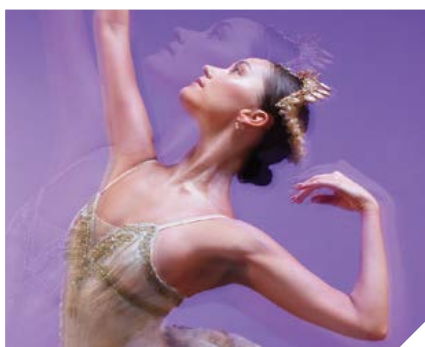
June 2 / Ulumbarra Theatre / gotix.com.au



HEATHCOTE ON SHOW

Be welcomed to the Heathcote region by artisan winemakers, chefs, brewers and musicians at Heathcote On Show. Enjoy exclusive tastings, new releases, music, gourmet food, community activities and more at over 30 locations across the region.

June 10-12 / Heathcote / heathcote.org.au



THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET

The Australian Ballet is delighted to be bringing a program of classical favourites and contemporary pieces, featuring Act III of Marius Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Stephanie Lake's *Circle Electric: Prologue* and George Balanchine's *Allegro Brillante*.

July 5-6 / Ulumbarra Theatre / gotix.com.au



BONJOUR BENDIGO

In celebration of Bendigo Art Gallery's international exhibition, *Paris: Impressions of Life 1880 - 1925*, Bendigo has transformed into the city of love and light. Revel in French food, art, culture and much more with our exciting Bonjour Bendigo program.

Until July 14 / Various / bendigoregion.com.au



BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL

The festival features a diverse range of local and international authors. The festival offers an exciting program of talks, workshops and panel discussions, making it a must-attend event for book lovers and writers alike.

August 16-18 / Various / bendigowritersfestival.com.au



BENDIGO ON THE HOP

Australia's best and most unique beer festival will once again pair some of the city's finest beer venues with Australia's best independent breweries. Meet and talk to the brewers, experience exclusive beers and be entertained by live music.

August 31 / Various / bendigobeer.com

WHAT'S ON



ILLUMIN8 FESTIVAL OF LIGHT AND PEACE AT THE GREAT STUPA

Immerse yourself in all the experiences the festival has to offer. Wander the Peace Park and interact with different light sculptures, be amazed by the performers, take a selfie with the Stupa, and enjoy delicious vegetarian and vegan food.

May 13 / The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion / stupa.org.au



Bendigo Writers Festival

*The annual weekend festival for
readers, writers and creative thinkers
is coming back this year in winter.*

Save the date

**August
16 to 18
2024**

More information at:

www.bendigowritersfestival.com.au



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO