**Peninsula Wide**

**May 2014 | Issue #110**

**Council Contact: Ph 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000 or visit www.mornpen.vic.gov.au**

**MORNINGTON CIVIC RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT**

The $8.5M redevelopment of the Mornington Civic Reserve is now 50 per cent complete.

Structural steel for the new Gymnastics Hall has been installed and tennis court surfaces have been cut and levelled in preparation for surfacing works.

The building works will effectively double the size of the existing leisure centre and will include:

**Tennis**

• Clubrooms including social room, tournament office, kitchen, storage, change rooms and amenities;

• 12 outdoor tennis courts (Conipur Pro-Clay surfacing) with lighting;

**Gymnastics**

• Gymnastics hall including multi-purpose room, office, coach’s room, storage, change rooms and amenities;

**Table Tennis**

• Options for additional table tennis courts;

**Program Rooms and Entry Foyer**

•Group fitness rooms, administration office, reception area and kiosk, crèche, storage and new and refurbished amenities;

**Supporting Infrastructure**

•Upgraded electricity supply, new gas supply, recycled water supply, increased car parking (175 spaces) and associated landscaping.

During construction works, many of the Shire-provided activities that are usually conducted at the leisure centre have been relocated to the basketball stadium and a temporary location at 99-101 Beleura Hill Road, Mornington.

Group Fitness, All Access and Children’s programs are still operating with a revised timetable. For more information on programs currently available call 5975 1033.

Temporary offices and toilets are being provided on-site. Only minimal disruption is likely to affect table tennis activities.

You can now follow progress
and updates on the Centre at
www.morningtoncivicreserve.com.au

If you have any queries please call the Shire on: 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000.

**CONTACTING THE SHIRE**

The Shire’s Customer Service Unit provides extended Customer Service telephone hours from 8.00am until 6.00pm each weekday, excluding public holidays. Calls to 1300 850 600 will be received by a Shire Customer Service Officer who will directly assist you.

Outside of these extended hours, your call to 1300 850 600 will be taken by our after-hours contact service. In an emergency, our key duty officers are available on a standby basis. The Shire’s Customer Service Centres are open from 8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

Locations

Rosebud: 90 Besgrove St (Mel: 170 A4)

Mornington: 2 Queen St – Cnr Main St (Mel: 104 D10)

Hastings: 21 Marine Parade (Mel: 154 K11)

Somerville: 14 Edward Street (Mel: 107 E12)

1300 850 600 or 5950 1000

custserv@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**THE RESIDENTS’ NEWSPAPER**

‘*Peninsula-Wide*’ provides information about Shire services, activities and community events, and we welcome your suggestions.

Communications Unit
Mornington Peninsula Shire
Private Bag 1000,
Rosebud, Vic 3939
Tel: (03) 5950 1203
Fax: (03) 5950 1430
Email: penwide@mornpen.vic.gov.au
Editor: Megan Pascoe

The information in this publication is of a general nature. The articles contained herein are not intended to provide a complete discussion on each subject and/or issues canvassed.

Mornington Peninsula Shire does not accept liability for any statements or any opinion or for any errors or omissions contained herein.

**RATES REMINDER**

If you are paying your rates in instalments, do not forget to pay your fourth instalment due Monday June 2, 2014.

Have you considered paying your rates via direct debit? Simply provide your cheque or savings account details to pay either quarterly instalments or 9 monthly payments.

If you have any queries, please contact the Shire’s Revenue department on (03)5950 1080.

**CERBERUS WARD COMMUNITY MEETING**

Wednesday 18 June 2014

6:30pm to 8:30pm at Bittern Community Hall,

2426 Frankston-Flinders Road, Bittern

Supper and refreshments will be provided, and you
are more than welcome to bring along your community
brochures to share on the night.

RSVP to Mayor and Councillor
Support prior to Monday 16 June 2014
by telephoning 5950 1428 or via email:
councillor.support@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Council and committee meetings are generally conducted on a Monday evening and rotated around the Shire.

Meetings are open to the public except where matters of a confidential or ‘in-camera’ nature are discussed.

The Council conducts community Council meetings monthly which commence with community briefings to the public, followed by dinner and the Council meeting.

Agendas are available at all Shire Customer Service offices and branch libraries on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. Agendas and minutes of the meetings are also available on the Shire’s website at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au

Please refer to the Shire website at
www.mornpen.vic.gov.au for any changes to the Council meeting arrangements.

\*RSVP essential, by Wednesday prior to the meeting, please call Christine Aslanadis on: 5950 1137.

5 May

No scheduled meetings

12 May

Council’s Rosebud Office, Besgrove Street, Rosebud

7.00pm Council

19 May

Council’s Mornington Office, Queen Street, Mornington

5.00pm Special Purposes Committee

7.30pm Development Assessments Committee

26 May

Hastings Community Hub, 1973 Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings

7.00pm Community Council Meeting\*

2 June

No scheduled meetings

10 June (Tuesday)

Council’s Rosebud Office, Besgrove Street, Rosebud

7.00pm Council

16 June

Council’s Mornington Office, Queen Street, Mornington

5.00pm Special Purposes Committee

7.30pm Development Assessments Committee

23 June

Peninsula Community Theatre, Cnr Nepean Highway and Wilsons Road, Mornington

7.00pm Community Council Meeting\*

30 June

No scheduled meetings (5th week)

7 July

No scheduled meetings
(second week of school holidays)

**BRIARS WARD COMMUNITY MEETING**

Briars Ward - Community and Service Group Winter Expo

The Briars Ward Councillors are pleased to be hosting a Community and Service Group Expo on June 3.

Cr Colomb, Cr Shaw and Cr Dixon are excited to provide the opportunity for local volunteer and service groups to share information about the services they provide and the successes they are achieving.

You are invited to come along, enjoy a light supper, chat with your Ward Councillors and hear about all the wonderful services available to you in the Briars Ward.

Tuesday 3 June at 6:30pm

Municipal Offices, 2 Queen Street, Mornington

Please advise Nicole in Councillor Support,
if you would like to attend.

If your group would like an opportunity to
exhibit please phone to discuss with Nicole.

Email Councillor.support@mornpen.vic.gov.au
or phone: 03 5950 1428.

**LOCAL KINDERGARTENS BENEFIT FROM CAPITAL GRANTS**

Seven local kindergartens were successful in the Victorian Coalition Government’s recent minor capital grants. The seven kindergartens were among the 87 kindergartens across the state sharing in $700,000 in grants, with the money to be used to improve play areas, enhance quality programs and assist with facilities. Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development Wendy Lovell said the minor grants were announced as part the Coalition Government’s recently announced $20 million children’s capital grants program.

The successful kindergartens were as follows:

• **Baxter** and **Somers** kindergartens will use their grant to develop their outdoor play area.

• **Hastings, Balnarring** and **Mornington Park** kindergartens will use their grant to install café style blinds in their veranda area so the children can play there all year round regardless of the weather.

• **Kunyung** kindergarten is looking at creative options to improve the functionality of their foyer and storage area

• **Sorrento** kindergarten will use the grant to contribute to their newly expanded service with the installation of a veranda area.

Antonella Celi, Shire Mayor, said the Shire performed extremely well in the recent grant round. It was a great opportunity for local kindergartens to be assisted with grants of up to $10K for specific projects. “There were very tight timelines between when the grants were announced and the closing date for applications. It is a credit to both the hard working volunteers on the kindergarten Committees of Management and the Shire’s Child Youth and Family Care team for the way they worked together to get so many successful applications lodged.”

“It is hoped that the State Government will open further Minor Capital grant rounds in the future so that more local kindergartens can benefit from well deserved funding”, she said.

**And in more kindergarten capital works news….**

Progress is well underway at Baxter kindergarten with the construction of an expanded purpose built facility. At Bentons Square kindergarten, the much anticipated construction of a second licensed space will significantly increase the availability of kindergarten places.

Both of these projects were made
possible following successful application
to the State Government for funding and significant Council contributions.

The Baxter and Bentons Square new kindergartens expanded services will be available to local children and their families from the beginning of the 2015 school year.

**BALNARRING SKATE PARK**

A new skate park has been constructed in Balnarring Civic Court Reserve between the playground and the paths to Balnarring Beach).

The skate park has a bowl which features a roll over curb for easier access and egress for less experienced skaters.

The Skate Park is adjacent to the cutting of the former Red Hill Railway. The design incorporates a ‘railway sleeper’ fence to reflect the local history.

The park has been hugely popular with local youth and children since it opened for use.

Additionally other planned works include installation of a steel quarter pipe, additional grinding rails and lighting (when funding is available).

The neighbouring ward councillor Cr David Garnock said the new facility was designed and planned in consultation with local skaters. “Involving the locals from the outset has given a real feeling of ownership amongst the skaters”.

**Official Opening**

The Balnarring Skate Park official opening and skate event is planned for Saturday 24 May visit mpys.com.au or contact Jackie in Youth Services on 5950166 for more details.

Come along and enjoy.

**MOUNT MARTHA LIFE SAVING CLUB**

Work has commenced on the Mount Martha Life Saving Club (MMLSC).

The new facility will include three training rooms, a larger first aid communications room, an office which state and district officers can work from, as well as space to store emergency equipment, some of which is currently stored off-site due to lack of space.

The Victoria Government are contributing $950,000 through the Life Saving Victoria Capital Works Program and the Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program. MMLSC will contribute $482,799 and the Shire approximately $700,000.

**KIDS LOVE SCHOOLS ENVIRONMENT WEEK**

During March, thousands of primary school aged children from across the peninsula converged upon The Briars to learn about their local environment by taking part in a range of hands-on activities during Schools Environment Week.

A collaborative project between the community, schools and the Shire, Environment Week has been a favourite activity of students for 30 years. This year, children had an opportunity to take part in a wide range of programs and learn about indigenous culture, woodland and wetland environments, growing their own food, green energy and how to live more sustainably at home and at school.

In addition to the Activities Program, children also had the opportunity to visit the ‘Expo Paddock’ and participate in hands-on learning activities focusing on native plants and animals, gardening, composting, sustainable fishing, fire safety, water conservation and much more.

Heather Tytler from the Schools Environment Week Committee, said “We aim to build upon the learning taking place in schools to ensure our children are aware of the environment, and that they learn through a hands-on-approach that they can make a positive difference to the environment”.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi opened the event, and couldn’t believe the enthusiasm from the children. “Wow! They were interested in everything” she said, “It’s a fabulous testament to the hard work of the committee, volunteers, our Briars team and the teachers that these students enjoyed the activities so much, and that they took away incredible experiences and education about environmental issues on a local and global scale”.

Jarrod Ruch, Ranger at The Briars and E Week Committee member said “The Police Band and Roundhouse were a big hit with their musical performances on stage and, judging by the smiles, the students really enjoyed their time in nature’s classroom”.

Don’t let your school miss out on the fun of Schools Environment Week next year.

 To find how they can take part, contact Heather Tytler on lesandheather@bigpond.com or visit the website [www.morningtoneweek.com.au](http://www.morningtoneweek.com.au)

**TOWN BASED CLEAN TEAMS**

A real hit with locals and shop keepers

Positive feedback on the first season of the Shire’s Clean Teams has been received from many townships across the Shire.

Local residents have expressed their pleasure with the condition of their towns following the efforts from the many street presence staff onsite.

A core group of 30 people provided a 7 day per week service to 16 townships across the peninsula over the busy Summer period.

The additional time spent in ‘hot spot’ locations across the peninsula proved extremely successful in managing litter and bins. Having the hard working team out early (from 6am) also improved the efficiency of the early morning street litter bin runs.

Lisa Sheehan, the Shire’s Contract for Cleansing Coordinator said the Clean Teams also provided an opportunity for residents to work in their local area. “These teams have provided the opportunity for many to re-enter the workforce. The improvement to their self-esteem, financial wellbeing and sense of worth, as well as personal health, is a positive side benefit of the program”, she said.

**THE BRIARS TRAINEESHIPS**

As part of the Shire’s commitment to training our local youth The Briars, a rural property in Mount Martha, offers a two year ‘on the job’ training program for year 11s and 12s. Ten students are currently undertaking this traineeship.

Students worked two days a week and received formal training from the Briars Rangers, gaining a Certificate 3 in Conservation and Land Management.

“I undertook this program because I wanted to learn more about our earth and why we need to take care of where we live,” said Rhys Tingwell.

The next round of traineeships will be open for applications from September/October 2014. Please contact Simon Lloyd, the Shire’s Natural Systems Team Leader for more information on 5950 1000.

**LET’S TALK WASTE**

Are you interested in the future of waste management on the peninsula? The Shire is currently reviewing the Municipal Waste Management Strategy and would like to invite you to become involved.

The Municipal Waste Management Strategy outlines the Shire’s long term vision and direction for sustainable waste management services on the peninsula.

**Have your say…**

With the Shire’s overall vision to move towards zero waste to landfill there are a number of opportunities for the community to get involved.

• Complete a survey (either online or request a paper copy); and/or

• Participate in an online forum

There are a number of important issues the Council is considering including the possible introduction of new services such as an organics kerbside collection for food and garden waste. Currently more than 47 per cent of waste found in the average household rubbish bin is made up of food and garden waste.

Other issues include the effectiveness of the waste voucher system, possible extension of the ‘no charge’ green waste drop off weekends, and the future of the Rye landfill.

The initial consultation process is running until May 30 and will inform the development of a new draft Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy. The community will then be invited to comment on the draft Strategy, with comments feeding into the final Strategy which will be presented to Council for adoption later in the year.

“This is a very important community engagement process. It is an opportunity for all community members to have a say on the future of waste management within the Shire and help guide Council to make sustainable decisions for the future,” said Shire Mayor, Antonella Celi.

To complete a survey and participate in the Online Community Forum visit yoursay.mornpen. vic.gov.au To receive a hard copy of the survey email wastereview@mornpen.vic.gov.au or phone 5950 1257.

To find out more information about the Review please visit www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Waste\_Strategy

**THINK LESS WASTE**

The Shire’s Think Less Waste campaign is running until the end of June and is encouraging all residents to reduce their waste through taking up the Think Less Waste – Know your Waste challenge.

This challenge is a FREE 12 week program for peninsula residents. It offers practical tips and hints to inspire a reduction in the 30,000 tonnes of food waste, garden clippings, rubbish and recyclables we send to landfill each year.

Two residents who have taken up the challenge, Cheryl and Graeme King, have found a number of ways to become more sustainable and reduce their waste.

Graeme and Cheryl have already started educating themselves on what can and can’t be recycled. Many residents on the peninsula are great recyclers but are placing plastic bags in their recycling bin which contaminates other recyclables and results in these being sent to landfill rather than being recycled. Did you know that plastic bags can be recycled simply by taking them to your local supermarket (Coles, Safeway or Ritchies).

Since starting the program, Graeme and Cheryl have collected their plastic bags and have returned these to their local supermarket to be recycled.

The next part of the program will focus on shopping smart and avoiding food waste. Simple steps such as planning your weekly meals and using a shopping list will help reduce waste from leftovers and packaging.

Graeme and Cheryl bulk buy and cook and freeze meals. “Any food scraps are given straight to the chickens or dog and we’ve found by simply bulk cooking and freezing our meals we have saved time, petrol and food waste”, said Graeme.

“Being sustainable is part of our day to day routine”, said Cheryl.

**If you’re interested in the Think Less Waste challenge or would like to start the challenge, visit www.facebook.com/ThinkLessWaste for more information.**

**‘NO-CHARGE’ GREEN WASTE WEEKEND**

**17 - 18 May 2014 at all Resource Recovery Centres**

To encourage residents to reduce green waste around their homes, the Shire will hold a ‘No-charge’ Green Waste disposal weekend at all Resource Recovery Centres on 17 – 18 May 2014.

The ‘No-charge’ Green Waste Weekend is for Shire residents only, with green waste accepted only from residential vehicles and trailers. No commercial vehicles or commercial green waste accepted.

Mornington can only accept up to 3 cubic metres of green waste per trip.

Proof of residency is required to dispose of green waste for no-charge on this weekend.

Green waste includes all types of garden waste and untreated timber. Please note that due to the popularity of this event, **delays** are to be expected at the Resource Recovery Centres, particularly at the beginning and end of each day.

For more information please contact Customer Service at the Shire on: 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000 or visit [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

The Community Partnership Program is a Shire initiative aimed at engaging with the community to achieve outcomes consistent with the Shire’s Strategic Plan programs and objectives.

The Partnerships are aimed at achieving social, environmental and economic goals by bringing community groups together with the Shire so that there is a sharing of resources, ideas and expectations.

The Shire allocates $65,000 a year to the Community Partnership Program.

The following community groups (and projects) have been recommended to receive funding:

• Arts Access Society, Art About ($5,000)

• Moorooduc Primary School, ANZAC Commemorative Naming Project ($2,000)

• Mount Eliza Chamber of Commerce, Mount Eliza Pop Up Park Activities Program ($4,000)

• Peninsula Family Violence Network, Children’s Chatterbox Family Violence Safety Plan Resource ($3,000)

• Secondbite, Van refrigeration for responsive delivery to vulnerable communities ($5,000)

• Tootgarook Primary School, Tootstars – Human Powered Vehicle ($5,000)

• Dromana Community Garden, Soil Test & Fencing ($5,000)

• Mornington Peninsula Community Contact, Mornington Street Art Attack ($5,000)

• Frankston Mornington Peninsula Local Learning Employment Network, Mornington Peninsula Literacy Villages Box Project ($4,000)

• Shoreham Community Association Inc, Shoreham Community Signage Project ($5,000)

• Rosebud West Community Hub, Seawinds Community Hub Activity Garden ($4,000)

• Mornington Yacht Club, Community Youth Scholarship Program ($2,500)

• Human Rights Arts & Film Festival, Business Case for Biennial Mornington Peninsula Human Rights Arts Competition ($2,500)

• St Thomas More Primary School, Garden equipment for sustainability programs ($1,000)

One of the Community Partnerships supported by the Shire this year is the Hastings Primary School ‘Learning Stones’ and Koori Culture Project.

This project involves establishing a ‘Learning Stones’ area for the use of the school, Koori and Hastings community with smoking pit, learning stone, totem poles and seating. Children will paint the totem poles and produce artwork depicting Dreamtime stories and Koori symbols under the guidance of Koori artists for display around the school and site.

The project aims to develop a sharing of Koori culture and partnership with the Willum Warrain community, increase all student’s knowledge of our Australian Koori culture and in particular the Boonwurrung culture and increase our Koori student’s connectedness to their roots while establishing a place for reflection and learning.

The Community Partnership program will open again for submissions in August/September. Guidelines can be downloaded from the Shire’s website: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Grants

For more information, please contact the Shire’s Customer Service on: 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000.

**COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Early this year, the Shire awarded almost $80,000 in General Community Grants to local Community Groups. These Grants assist local groups get new projects off the ground. The average grant awarded was $2000 and the maximum awarded was $5000.

Recipients of the grants included:

**Western Port Equestrian Association** Funds were given for the purchase of a portable dressage arena to be shared between equestrian clubs using the grounds at Woolleys Road Recreation Reserve, Crib Point. The equipment will assist the club to provide classical dressage training, encourage adult and youth participation in the community to train and practice with their families.

**Search and Rescue Dogs Australia.** Search and Rescue Dogs Australia is a non-profit, volunteer organisation based on the Mornington Peninsula that provides specially trained search and rescue dogs for Australian Emergency Services to assist in locating missing persons. The funds will go towards the purchase of a team laptop and associated software, GPS/UHF radio/transceivers and first aid kits. This project will enable SARDA to be a more professional and efficient volunteer organisation, achieving best practice standards and valued resource to the community.

**Rosebud Men’s Shed**. The Grant will be used to purchase computer equipment, 10 laptop computers and software. This project seeks to provide a venue for assisting training and educating senior men in the operation of windows based computer programs in a social atmosphere. Providing as well a social structure for mutual support.

**Probus Club of Balnarring Inc** will purchase a projector & spare globes/adaptor for the use by guest speakers and members in presentations to the members of the club at Balnarring Hall.

**Dromana Secondary College**. The College will run a pilot program to provide quality nutritional education to students, with a focus on Healthy Food Choices, Nutrition for Healthy Body Composition, Nutrition for Positive Mental Health, and Diet related Disease Prevention. The body of the program will target Year 9 students, as this is a crucial stage of brain and physical development.

The Grants are available to local voluntary non-profit groups but are not for major capital projects. The General Community Grants scheme opens again in August. Visit the Shire’s website for more information and to visit the full list of grants awarded.

**DIGITAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAM**

The Shire is offering a number of FREE digital workshops for small to medium enterprises and not for profit organisations, focussing on the digital world.

Workshops are being held at Rosebud, Mornington and Hastings.

**Rosebud**

Tuesday 3 June, 10am–12pm
Managing Customer Relationships Online

Tuesday 9 Sept, 10am–12pm
Developing an e-strategy

**Mornington**

Tuesday 15 July, 6pm–8pm
Improving Business Efficiencies

Tuesday 5 August, 6pm–8pm
Going Global Online

Tuesday 7 October, 6pm–8pm
Social Media

**Hastings**

Tuesday 11 November 10am–12pm
E-Commerce

Please visit www.mpbusiness.com.au
for full details and booking instructions.

**FOOD INDUSTRY ADVISORY BODY**

The newly appointed Mornington Peninsula Food Industry Advisory Body (F.I.A.B.) had its inaugural meeting on March 12.

The establishment of the FIAB was identified, through industry consultation, as an important structure to progress implementation of the Shire’s Local Food Strategy.

Each member brings a working knowledge of key elements of the local food supply chain; an interest and enthusiasm for strengthening the identity of the local food economy; and a willingness to raise awareness about Mornington Peninsula’s local food products and services through advocacy, communication and representation at industry events.

Shire Mayor, Cr Antonella Celi, officially welcomed the FIAB members:

1. Tash Sheilds: Peninsula Fresh Organics

2. Steve Marshall: Peninsula Avocados

3. Lucy Firth: Peninsula Wild Food

4. Susan Humphries: Horticulture, Abalone and Nursery owner

5. Kevin Wyatt: Main Ridge Cattle Co.

6. Tim Hollands: HF Promotions and Tim Hollands Catering

7. Sarah Saxton: Agribusiness Professional and Merricks General Store

8. Ted Smirnoff: Hamper Yourself

Steve Marshall from Peninsula Avocado, said this is an exciting step for the local food industry. “The food sector is a significant contributor to the local economy. It is estimated that the value of the industry is in excess of $1.3 billion. Therefore the establishment of this body will assist us in collectively supporting, promoting and fostering the local food industry.”

The FIAB group will focus on the promotion of local peninsula food systems to enhance awareness of:

• The significant food production systems within the shire

• The diverse scale of production – artisan through to large scale commercial enterprises

• A Maritime climate and soils provide superb growing conditions for a range of enterprises

• Pathways for the local community to actively participate in ‘their’ local food economy

• Access options for local people to identify and purchase local products

• The importance of broad based ‘buy in’ from both business and the community to foster a resilient local food economy

• The quality of produce and local food on offer more widely which is linked to a ‘Trust Mark’ that denotes integrity and authenticity of MP products and services.

For more information regarding the Food Industry Advisory Body (FIAB) or the Local Food Strategy please contact Gillian Stewart, the Shire’s Rural Business Officer at gillian.stewart@mornpen.vic.gov.au or 1300 850 600.

**NEW LOOK BUSINESS WEBSITE**

Mornington Peninsula Shire’s Economic Development Unit is pleased to announce its new look business website **www.mpbusiness.com.au**

The site has been refreshed and is more user friendly.

The site enables businesses to register their own business information and events, which in turn allows public users to view and search the information listed online.

Information can all be found with ease on a wide range of business topics such as: footpath permits; economic statistics; business grants and local trader groups.

Keep up to date with regular business highlights, news and events across the region. It’s free to register and there are more than 6,000 members on the site.

Why don’t you find out more about the wide range of quality goods and services that are available locally within the region and visit us at [www.mpbusiness.com.au](http://www.mpbusiness.com.au)

**SMALL BUSINESS MENTORING SESSIONS**

Are you after business advice and looking to speak to an expert?

We invite local businesses to book into a no cost one-on-one business mentoring session with a professional business mentor.

During these free 45 minute sessions the mentor can provide you with general business advice and assist you in the initial steps you need to take to overcome an issue or information gap in your business.

Sessions are available from June - October at the Shire’s Mornington Offices.

These are no cost events but numbers are strictly limited and bookings are essential.

Please visit
www.mpbusiness.com.au for full details and booking instructions

**FARM GATE GUIDE**

Connecting local people to local food

Mornington Peninsula Shire has launched a new Farm Gate guide to connect local people with local food.

The Shire launched the guide at a community lunch featuring dishes of locally-grown produce.

Shire Mayor, Councillor Antonella Celi, said the guide has been developed as part of the Shire’s commitment to facilitating access to local farm gates, community gardens and food security programs.

“People’s access to fresh, local, affordable food is essential to good health. Food insecurity is an issue than can affect a range of people, for many reasons, and the Shire is committed to working towards connecting local people to local food.”

Lisa Gray, the Shire’s Health & Wellbeing Team Leader, said that food insecurity describes the inadequate access, supply or inappropriate use of nutritious and healthy food.

“On a ground level this means that people who live with food insecurity are people that are restricted to easy access of affordable, healthy food and sometimes go without any food at all. The reasons behind this vary, but may include a lack of transport, high density of fast food restaurants, low density of fresh food producers, or poor education about healthy food.”

Cr Celi said that although the Mornington Peninsula is well-known for its produce, the Victorian Population Health Survey Report 2008 “indicates that 8.7% of residents in the Mornington Peninsula experience food insecurity as opposed to a state average of 5.6”.

“The launch of the Farm Gate Guide is another step in improving the links between healthy foods on offer locally, with the people of the peninsula.

“Ensuring access to a range of healthy, local food resources can have great positive impacts on health and wellbeing, and focusing on buying from local producers helps the positive growth of the local economy”, she said.

A food security booklet, action plan and strategy are currently in development by the Shire, and the Shire is working on projects to better connect disadvantaged people to local produce.

The Farm Gate guide is available from local council offices, community centres and neighbourhood houses, and can be downloaded from the Shire website at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Farm\_Gates

For more information regarding food security on the Mornington Peninsula please contact the Shire Customer Service on: 1300 850 600 or 5950 1685, or email: spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**ART ABOUT**

Anew and exciting visual arts respite program for people with a disability called ART ABOUT is starting at the Seawinds Community Hub in Rosebud West.

Running across 13 Saturdays in 2014, the full day workshops offer a range of visual art making materials and methods including painting, drawing, print-making, textiles and puppetry.

Developed in partnership between Arts Access Victoria and the Mornington Peninsula Shire, and partly funded by a MPS Community Partnership Grant, the workshops are being offered in response to community need.

Adults aged 18-65 with an intellectual or physical disability or Acquired Brain Injury, who have an interest in visual art are encouraged to attend. For more information or to make a booking, contact Melissa Banks at Arts Access Victoria on mbanks@artsaccess.com.au or 8640 6019.

Cost is $10 per workshop. Workshops run: 22 March, 5 April, 3 & 24 May, 21 & 28 June, 5 July, 2, 16 & 30 August, 27 September, 15 & 29 November.

**FAMILY VIOLENCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA**

Mornington Peninsula Shire is working with film maker, Sian Darling, Peninsula Advisory Committee for Elders (PACE) and Peninsula Health to develop an awareness campaign regarding the prevalence of family violence on the Mornington Peninsula.

Several posters, as well as a roadside banner and a short film will be launched soon. The Shire is committed to promoting a violence free community in which all people can feel safe, respected and equal.

For more information on the campaign call 5950 1685 or email
spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**HEALTH HOPE AND HAPPINESS – THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN**

Mornington Peninsula Shire officially launched its Health & Wellbeing Plan in April.

Health, Hope and Happiness II is a four-year strategic document that focuses on the Mornington Peninsula as a happier, healthier and more hopeful place.

The plan was launched at The Barn at The Briars with a traditional Welcome to Country by Dean Stewart, a senior representative from the Boonwurrung Foundation and musical performances by Sherilyn Angel and youth rap group Foreign Souls.

The launch featured a home harvest exchange where people could swap excess fresh produce and a market stall by Sister Works, a social enterprise that has brought women asylum seekers, refugees and migrants of non-English speaking backgrounds together to make and sell craft.

In the afternoon community workshops focussed on fresh, local food systems with a 3000 acres presentation by Hannah Schwartz from Planisphere and a developing local food systems presentation by Kirsten Larsen from Melbourne University and Edible Enterprises.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Antonella Celi said the plan is a holistic document that promotes community inclusiveness based on sound evidence-based research.

“Together with the community, local services and other levels of government, the Shire seeks to support and create opportunities and partnerships across the peninsula to facilitate healthy places and spaces, healthy lifestyle choices, active local communities, quality of life for all, and a sense of hope and belonging.

“The Shire supports community connectedness and social justice as part of its overall core business, and we seek to promote compassion and encourage opportunities for all citizens to live in a community which embodies peace and dignity and enables individuals to reach their fullest potential.

“The Shire’s Health and Wellbeing plan will help guide the actions needed to develop the Shire as a happier, healthier and more hopeful place for all,” she said.

More than 1000 people from all ages and walks of life participated in the community consultation for the development of the plan through a range of activities including community development projects, youth forums, community arts projects, surveys, workshops and forums, and partnership projects.

For more information or a hard copy of the Plan, please call the Shire’s Customer Service on 5950 1000 or 1300 850 600 or email spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au or visit the Shire’s website [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Health\_Wellbeing](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Health_Wellbeing)

**VOLUNTEERING AND A COMMUNITY FOR ALL AGES**

**T**he Shire’s new five-year plan for ‘Positive Ageing’ recognises that volunteering provides an important opportunity for many older people to be socially connected and continue valued roles in the community.

Feeling valued by family, friends and community plays a crucial role in ageing well. Research into happiness and wellbeing highlights that ‘giving back’ is vital to many people’s self esteem and health.

The Shire promotes age-friendly communities and a wide range of volunteering activities including ongoing funding for Volunteering Mornington Peninsula (VMP). One of the ways VMP promotes volunteering is through working with volunteer organisations so they better understand the various interests and what is meaningful to volunteers of all ages. For example the newly retiring Baby Boomer generation tend to be less interested in ‘traditional’ volunteer roles, but desire to contribute in ways that add value to organisations and utilise their knowledge and skills.

To find out more about the new five-year plan for Positive Ageing contact the Shire’s Positive Ageing Officer on 1300 850 600.

**CELEBRATE THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING**

Volunteering in Australia continues to grow with more than six million people engaged in voluntary work, who collectively power many essential community, environmental, sporting and cultural services and supports.

As the country’s ageing population increases, more and more people retiring from paid employment are seeking meaningful activities through which to stay involved in community life and continue to be socially connected. Together with younger generations they are contributing in a powerful way to shape local communities that are safe, healthy, resilient and socially cohesive.

On the Mornington Peninsula approximately 18% (more than 22,000 people) of the population actively participate in community life through a variety of formal or informal volunteer roles, greatly enhancing both individual and community health and well-being.

Young volunteers are tackling problems head-on such as the health of the natural environment and bullying, as well as organising youth focussed recreation and music events. Parents are heavily involved in supporting the academic, sporting and recreational interests of their children and older volunteers are bringing years of experience and specialised skills to a variety of health, welfare, life-long learning, environmental and community wellbeing organisations as well as advocacy and advisory groups.

This year, the theme for National Volunteer Week is Celebrate the power of Volunteering. In National Volunteering Week, 12 -18 May 2014 many volunteer organisations across the Mornington Peninsula will invite volunteers to lunches and afternoon teas to celebrate and recognise the individual and collective contribution volunteers make to our communities.

To find out more about volunteering visit Volunteering Mornington Peninsula at
www.volmornpen.com.au, ask for assistance at any Mornington Peninsula Library or Customer Service Centre, or phone 1300 850 600 / 5950 1000.

**PENINSULA PLAYGROUNDS**

The Shire has more than 145 public playgrounds with a variety of play experiences and equipment to suit varying ages and abilities.

The Shire’s Playground Guide provides details on the location and features of each playground including information about toilets, seating, picnic tables, barbecue and drinking water facilities and any off-leash dog areas.

**What’s New**

Mornington Peninsula Shire has installed a large outdoor chess board and a table tennis facility on the old helipad at the Hastings foreshore. They are located beside Pelican Park Recreation Centre and the Hastings playground. Cerberus Ward Councillor David Garnock said the Shire hopes the improvements will be an attraction to locals and visitors alike.

Six new outdoor fitness stations have also been installed along the walking/cycling track at Hastings foreshore.

**New Playground For Dromana**

Pier Street, Dromana, Mel Ref 159 J6

The Shire replaced the playground at Dromana Recreation Reserve in December 2013. Intended for local children and families visiting the recreation reserve, the equipment caters for a wide range of age groups, from toddlers to teenagers.

The position of this playground provides natural shade and also offers seating for the comfort of children, adults and carers.

An easy access rubber entrance to the equipment allows people with limited mobility the opportunity to enter the play space without restriction.

Some unique play elements have been included to this playground which include:

• An Orbit Hemisphere, Talking Tubes

• Rotating Concord and Jitterbug Twin Rocker

**Recent Playground Upgrades**

A number of playground improvements have recently taken place throughout the Shire, some of which include:

• George A Bishop Reserve, Dromana Pier – two new social play elements

• Hastings Recreation Reserve, Hastings – playground replacement

• Tom Salt Park, Rosebud – three new unique social play elements

• Dromana Recreation Reserve – playground replacement

• Railway Reserve, Crib Point – new double swing

• Currawong Community Centre, Mornington – new basketball/netball posts

• Colchester Park and Deanswood Drive, Somerville – new basketball/netball posts.

**BUILDING ON THE APPEAL OF MORNINGTON**

Asuite of upgrades are in progress along Mornington’s Main Street right through to the foreshore reserves.

In Mornington town centre, works recently completed include the upgrading of pavement and the addition of planting and seating along the northern end of Main Street.

At the corner of Schnapper Point Drive and Esplanade, the Mornington Footballers Disaster Memorial Park recently received $110k towards works at the western end of the reserve. These works included lighting of the historic monument and an upgrade to paving and the path network. In addition, weed removal and landscaping has improved the vegetation quality and opened up view lines to the bay. A main pathway extending from the monument to a look-out point over the bay is planned.

The Shire will contribute another $160k to improve the eastern end of this prime foreshore reserve. Planned works include continuation of the path network, improvement to vegetation and an upgrade of the picnic area. These works are expected to commence later this year.

The much anticipated upgrade of the Schnapper Point Playground at the adjacent Mornington Park will also add to the attraction of this area.

These works tie together key elements of the Shire’s Mornington Main Street Streetscape Design Framework and the Mornington Football Memorial Precinct Landscape Master Plan and have involved various units from the Shire working together to achieve a coordinated ‘look and feel’ across the precinct.

The plans involved extensive community consultation and reflect the unique, multiple values of this part of Mornington:

- Indigenous and European cultural heritage

- Environmental

- Scenic and recreational

Shire Mayor, Cr Antonella Celi said, “Once these works are complete, we imagine residents and visitors will enjoy strolling through the town centre and our beautiful foreshore reserves right down to the pier and back again.”

**PENINSULA PRIDE**

Mornington Peninsula Shire Youth Services have stepped it up in supporting the same sex attracted and gender diverse (SSAGD) youth community on the Mornington Peninsula. Peninsula Pride is a youth project facilitated in collaboration with Headspace Frankston which provides social groups, support groups, camps and events for any young person to attend. Peninsula Pride runs a weekly Queer Straight Alliance (QSA) drop in group every Tuesday afternoon at the Rosebud YLounge 4-6pm (excluding school holidays/public holidays).

“QSA is the only place that I can really be myself. It has become a second family for me. QSA is irreplaceable”- Stella aged 15.

If you require any further information about Peninsula Pride please contact Seb Stewart or Lisa Dinale at 9769 6419.

**WINTER HOME FIRE SAFETY**

In 2013, CFA recorded 37 per cent of residential fires are started in the kitchen, 8 per cent in the bedroom and 18 per cent in the lounge room. Each year there are more than 3,500 house fires in Victoria, that’s 10 per day.

Ensure your home is safe this Winter. Plan how you would escape a fire in your home and practise your home fire escape plan with your family. Remember, only working smoke alarms save lives.

Check how safe your home is – complete the simple checklist at www.homefiresafety.com.au

**Simple fire safety tips**

**Cooking/kitchen**

• Never leave cooking unattended.

• Keep combustibles such as tea towels and curtains away from cooking and heat sources.

**Older people**

• Install more than one smoke alarm in your home to increase early warning of a fire.

• Keep passageways and exits uncluttered.

**Electrical appliances (including heating, electric blankets and clothes dryers)**

• Keep electrical appliances and equipment in good working order – replace if damaged.

• Keep clothing, curtains and toys at least one metre from heating.

• Supervise children near heating equipment.

• Turn off heaters before you go out or go to bed.

• Install, maintain and operate heaters according to manufacturer’s instructions.

• Regularly check electric blankets for broken and worn wiring.

• Turn electric blankets on no more than 30 minutes before you go to bed and turn them off before you get into bed.

• Keep heavy items off your bed when your electric blanket is on.

• Clean the lint filter on your clothes dryer after each load.

• Let your clothes dryer complete its cool down cycle before stopping.

• Don’t overload power boards and choose power boards with an overload switch.

**Open fires**

• Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire.

• Put out fires before you leave the house or go to bed.

**General**

• Have and know how to use your fire blanket and extinguisher.

• Never deadlock doors when you’re at home and keep keys in deadlocks when you’re home.

• Extinguish cigarettes, candles, incense and oil burners before leaving home or going to bed.

• Use candles, incense and oil burners only on stable, non-combustible surfaces.

**SOMERVILLE LIGHTS UP**

New traffic signals installed at Eramosa Road West in Somerville are now operational.

Mornington Peninsula Shire finished construction of a signalised intersection at the entrance to Somerville Shopping Centre on Eramosa Road West, Somerville.

Watson Ward Councillor Lynn Bowden said it is great news for the local community.

“The lights will not only break up traffic flow but will help to safely control the movement of pedestrians and vehicles crossing Eramosa Road West and entering the shopping centre car park”, she said.

Works involved the construction of the signalised intersection on Eramosa Road West at the entrance to Somerville Shopping Centre, widening of Eramosa Road West, modification of traffic islands and footpaths, and signage and linemarking upgrades.

Cr Bowden thanked the tenants and patrons of the Somerville Shopping Centre for their patience while construction was underway.

Works were joint-funded by Mornington Peninsula Shire, Somerville Shopping Centre and Centro.

**HERITAGE AWARDS**

June 13 is the closing date for the 2014 Mornington Peninsula Heritage Awards. Categories include Restoration, Creative re-use, Sustainability, Professional and Trades Skills of Heritage Places.

To complement existing categories a new award – The Student Heritage Award, is now open to peninsula students under the age of 18. Details and conditions of this award will be distributed through the Schools with the closing date of 18 July. Students are invited to submit a two minute clip in any media i.e. film, video, DVD etc., on one of six nominated peninsula heritage sites.

“We recognise that young people are very adept at using this media in really creative ways and are very excited by this new element of the Heritage Awards”, said Judy Walsh, President for Mornington Peninsula National Trust.

For more information, please contact Ms Judy Walsh, President Mornington Peninsula National Trust on: 5988 9853 or the Shire’s Strategic Planning Support Officer on: 5950 1928.

**COUNCILLORS BROWSE LIBRARY INNOVATIONS**

Mornington Peninsula Shire councillors recently toured Melton and Williamstown libraries to help inform the development of a long-term strategic plan for our local libraries.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi said the tour was “fantastic” and provided a “first-hand view of the impressive ways other councils conduct their library services”.

“*Our Library* is a much-used service of the Shire, so it’s important to research, plan and develop library services to continue to meet growing and changing community demands,” she said.

Key trends observed on the tour included multi-purpose spaces to cater for varying community groups, learning areas, art spaces, multi-media rooms, local history access, facilities for the disabled, and the use of renewable resources.

 “*Our Library* is certainly more than books. It is vital that we incorporate proven best-practices to future-proof the services we provide,” said Mayor Celi.

Libraries are a valuable community hub that connect people with information, technology and lifelong learning. *Our Library* service has more than 77,000 library members and welcomes more than 2200 people each day across its services.

The Library Strategic Plan will consider the trends observed on the tour as well as opening hours, customer service enhancements and layout and design.

**LIBRARY SURVEY ENTHUSIASTICALLY EMBRACED BY THE COMMUNITY**

*Our Library* recently rolled-out a community survey which received more than 6,000 responses. “We’ll use this significant insight into the needs of our community to help inform the Library Strategic Plan,” said Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi.

The survey analysis is expected to be completed this month, with the Library Strategic Plan drafted by the end of the year.

All participants of the library survey went into the draw to win an iPad mini. Kathie Clarke of Bittern was the lucky winner and was awarded her iPad mini by the Mayor at Hastings Library in March.

**More eBooks for library members**

More than 500 new eBooks have been added to Our Library’s collection, and members just can’t get enough!

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Cr Antonella Celi said the loan rate for eBooks has continued to increase since the introduction of the new service in September 2012.

“eBooks provide a fast and convenient way to browse, select and read what you want, when you want it.

“We’ve more than tripled the number of titles in the eBook collection in the past year, and we make sure to have the latest books available.”

Recent additions include titles from Wilbur Smith, Di Morrissey, Steig Larsson and biographies of Nelson Mandela, Jim Morrison and Lindy Chamberlain.

**http://ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au**

**RECONCILIATION WEEK – LET’S WALK THE TALK**

Reconciliation Week will be celebrated nationally and across the peninsula during May 27- June 3.

Reconciliation is about building better relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians.

To create positive change we need more people talking about the issues and coming up with innovative ideas and actions that make a difference.

This year’s theme is Let’s Walk the Talk and as part of Reconciliation Week, a special presentation will be made to Council on Monday 26 May at Hastings Hub and the community is warmly invited to attend.

A traditional welcome will be performed by Boon Wurrung Elder, Carolyn Briggs and didge and dance performance as part of the presentation.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi said Council adopted its commitment to reconciliation in 2008, and has organised a number of events and activities such as council presentations, film screenings, NAIDOC week activities and flag raising ceremonies to raise awareness of Aboriginal culture.

A recent example of reconciliation in action was the opening of Aboriginal gathering place in Hastings, Willum Warrain (place by the sea). Willum Warrain is a partnership between Willum Warrain Association, Department of Health, and the Shire and provides a place for a range of programs and activities to promote the health and wellbeing of the local Aboriginal community.

For more information about Willum Warrain see page 13 or call the Shire on 5950 1685.

To find out more about reconciliation, please visit the Shire’s website at: [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)

**FREE LAW WEEK SENIORS’ FORUM**

Do you have an up-to-date Will and Powers of Attorney? Are you considering selling your home and moving in with your family?

Law Week (May 12-18) aims to raise awareness about the law in our community. Seniors Rights Victoria, Peninsula Community Legal Centre, the Peninsula Advisory Committee for Elders (PACE) and Mornington Peninsula Shire are pleased to present a FREE Seniors Forum.

Come along to hear about money, ageing and family – protecting your interests and rights.

**FREE SENIORS FORUM:** Dromana Community Hall, 359 Point Nepean Road, Dromana on Wednesday 14 May, 2014 from 10am – 12:30pm.

Morning tea will be provided and there is free transport available for residents of the Mornington Peninsula (please let us know at the time of booking if you require transport).

Bookings are essential. To register, call Peninsula Community Legal Centre on 03 9783 3600 or 1800 064 784 or email pclc@pclc.org.au

**NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WEEK**

Twelve Neighbourhood Houses across the peninsula are working together to run an Expo in Neighbourhood House week to showcase what happens in the houses.

The Expo will be held at Peninsula Community Theatre in Wilson Road Mornington on Thursday 15 May from 10am to 3pm.

As well as each house having a stall with information about activities at the house there will also be performances, demonstrations and pop up classes showcasing the activities that happen every week in your local Neighbourhood House.

Other Community Service groups have been invited to be involved to raise awareness in the community and to further develop partnerships with Neighbourhood Houses.

The Rye Lion’s Club will have the BBQ going with free sausages, various cooking groups will provide scones and Wallaroo Community Centre in Hastings is providing homemade jams, all provided free of charge to visitors.

There will also be a number of mini buses running from various locations across the Peninsula to assist people who have no transport. Ring your local Neighbourhood House for pick up points and times.

It will be a fun day allowing people to connect with their local Neighbourhood House and see how they can become involved.

Linda Wimetal, the Shire’s Community Liaison Officer said “The week aims to showcase activities and services available in Neighbourhood Houses and other services in the peninsula area, to develop partnerships with these groups to better serve the community and to reach out to community members with a variety of issues as well as improve people’s health and wellbeing through involvement in activities and programs.”

Involvement with the project will give the other groups an opportunity of exposure to different members of the community and an opportunity to develop partnerships with other community based organisations.

To find out more, visit the Shire’s website: [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood\_houses](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood_houses)

**WILLUM WARRAIN OFFICIALLY OPEN**

The local community came together to officially say ‘Wominjeka’ or ‘welcome’ to the Willum Warrain Aboriginal Gathering Place when it was officially launched by Georgie Crozier, Parliamentary Secretary for Health in March.

The gathering place - Willum Warrain (a Boon Wurrung term for ‘home by the sea’) is located at Pound Road Hastings, and provides a connection to community and place.

The gathering place is the vision of Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association – reflecting the aspirations and hard work of the Aboriginal community on the Mornington Peninsula.

Willum Warrain officially opened in March this year.

Managed by a community-led board – the Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association - the gathering place will be an important community hub that will provide information, support and referral services, health and wellbeing programs, art and culture programs, and links between the Aboriginal community and the broader local community.

President of Willum Warrain, Peter Aldenhoven, said: “We’re so proud to launch Willum Warrain after 20 years of hoping and waiting. It will provide a real home for us, a welcoming and culturally safe space to gather. We are both saddened and exhilarated by the opening. Saddened because some Elders who dreamed of this place have passed on or moved away. Exhilarated for them too, and for all of us Aboriginal people in the community, for our kin, our supporters and friends. It is a wonderful moment.”

Willum Warrain Aboriginal Gathering Place was established by the Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association with support from the community, Mornington Peninsula Shire and the Victorian Government Department of Health through the Closing the Gap program.

For more information please contact the Shire’s Customer Service on: 5950 1685.

**DIAL-A-BUS**

The Shire operates a $1 Dial-A-Bus service on the Mornington Peninsula for older residents and people with a disability.

Offering a Door to Door Service, the bus will collect you from your home address and transport you within your local area. There are buses operating within the following areas:

• Red Hill area dropping passengers in Balnarring or Hastings every Mon

• Flinders Shoreham to Balnarring or Hastings every Mon

• Mt Martha to Mornington every Tue

• Portsea, Sorrento, Blairgowrie dropping in Rosebud every Tue

• Rye through to Rosebud every Tue

• Mornington area every Tue and Wed

• Balnarring through to Hastings dropping in Mornington every Wed

• Somerville Local area every Wed

• Mt Eliza local area with a drop in Mornington every Wed

• Balnarring, Somers, Crib Point, Bittern through to Hastings every Thu

• Safety Beach to Mornington every Thu

• Dromana local area with a drop in Rosebud every Thu

To be eligible passengers must be over 60 years of age or can be someone of any age with a disability (and their carer).

**For schedules, more information or to book your seat contact Carol from the Shire’s Aged & Disability Services ph: 5950 1605**

**TRAILS PROJECT**

Mornington Peninsula Tourism (MPT) has developed new technology to map trails online and link them with selected points of interest to more appropriately respond to visitor queries about trails. This innovative technology has already helped the team map 60 walks across all areas of the Mornington Peninsula. These can be seen on our visitor website: www.visitmorningtonpeninsula.org.

The technology which enables the team to show part trails, linking trails and historical and other themed points of interest along the way is totally responsive to visitor needs. It will allow them to compile their own personal trail map online and download it prior to arriving on the Mornington Peninsula. Incorporating points of interest in themes will help drive productivity by boosting visitor expenditure on overnight stays – because now the trail is more than a simple walk and needs more exploration time.

**Qantas Australia National Tourism Awards Win**

Mornington Peninsula tourism businesses outnumbered all other Victorian regions in vying for a national tourism award this year. In the recent State awards, Mornington Peninsula businesses won eight categories outright. In February these winning business owners travelled to the Gala National Awards ceremony in Sydney to compete against the winners of their category from all the other Australian States.

Blue Moon Cottages won their category outright, as did Frankston Visitor Information Centre which operated by Frankston City Council (and is in the Tourism Victoria region of the Mornington Peninsula). The Enchanted Adventure Garden and Stillwater at Crittenden both won silver awards. Moonraker Dolphin Swims won two silver awards – one for Ecotourism, the other for the Tours and Transport category. Indeed, Mornington Peninsula operators won 50% of the total Victoria award pool at the National ceremony.

This stunning result is testament to MPT’s finely tuned program of mentoring and tourism excellence workshops throughout the year for aspiring entrants. This is another fine example of building productivity, innovation and responsiveness within our region’s tourism business, thus enabling them to excel and become more profitable and sustainable.

**AT THE GALLERY**

**Paul Kelly and the Portraits**

**23 May – 20 July 2014**

Singer songwriter Paul Kelly is regarded by many as the Australian people’s poet. The portraits selected from a range of artists and leading music photographers displayed in this exhibition provide insights into the complexities of Kelly’s dynamic and contemplative persona.

Kelly’s ‘bread and butter’ is public performance. His songs are considered by many as hymns of the Australian psyche. Born in Adelaide in 1955, Melbourne-based Kelly continues to tour nationally and internationally. His most recent album, *Spring and Fall,* was released in October 2012 along with the feature-length documentary, Paul Kelly: *Stories of Me* based on his ‘mongrel memoir’ *How to make gravy*.

The exhibition features two paintings, 17 photographs, one lithograph and a new screen-based portrait commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery. The exhibition also features a collection of short films developed by Shark Island Productions. These four films explore the relationship and connection between Paul Kelly and three iconic Australians – Donald Bradman, Archie Roach and Vincent Lingiari.

A National Portrait Gallery Touring Exhibition developed in partnership with Shark Island Productions with the support of The Caledonia Foundation.

**2014 National Works on Paper**

**23 May – 20 July 2014**

*National Works* on Paper is one of the most prestigious acquisitive prize exhibitions of its type in Australia. The *2014 National Works on Paper* showcases recent work by some of Australia’s leading artists working in the field of drawing, print-making and digital media. This diverse and exciting exhibition provides a survey of contemporary practice across Australia today.

This exhibition is also supported through the extraordinary generosity of the Mornington Peninsula Shire, Friends of Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery and the Ursula Hoff Institute.

**GREAT GREEN ACTIVITIES ON THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA**

A number of ‘green workshops’ will be held on the peninsula over the coming months.

**EcoLiving Display Centre**

Worm farming for kids

Sat 10 May: 10 – 10.45 am. Discover the world of worms while constructing a mini worm farm to take home. Cost $5 per child.
For ages 6 – 10 y.o.

Backyard composting and worm farming.

Sat 10 May, 11.30 – 1 pm.
Learn to set up compost and
worm farming systems.
Cost $15. For adults.

Eco Living Display Centre,
The Briars, 450 Nepean Hwy,
Mount Martha. To book phone
5987 3078.

**Rosebud Community Garden**

Growing perennial vegies

Sat 31st May, 1 – 2 pm.
Rosebud Community Garden. Learn to grow vegies that will produce crops throughout the year. Gold coin donation. Bookings essential. Ph. mob. 0403 008 016

Rosebud Community Garden, Lawson Park, Leon Ave, Rosebud.

**POSTCARDS:
Stories from the Mornington Peninsula**

The early history of some of the peninsula’s most popular holiday spots will go on exhibition from June, exploring when holidaying was a grand pastime and memories were shared by the iconic postcard.

Over the past three years the peninsula’s eight historical societies have gathered special objects and stories from Rye, Balnarring, Sorrento, Mornington, Hastings, Somerville, Dromana and Flinders.

The exhibition will be launched by the Mornington Peninsula Shire in conjunction with the Mornington Peninsula Local History Network at the Sorrento Museum on Sunday 8th June at 1.30pm. Following the launch the exhibition will tour the peninsula before being shown at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria in Melbourne.

Discover the holidaying history of the peninsula at:

• Nepean Museum, Sorrento – 8 June to 17 August 2014

• Frankston Library – 8 September to 5 October 2014

• Mornington Library – 11 October to 16 November 2014

• Coolart Wetlands, Somers – 22 November 2014 to 25 January 2015

• Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Melbourne – 2 February to 9 March 2015

An audio visual presentation and online education kit have also been developed to complement the exhibition.

For more information visit: http://ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Postcards

*POSTCARDS: Stories from the Mornington Peninsula* is supported by Museums Australia - Arts Victoria, Public Records Office - Victoria and the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

**MORNINGTON PENINSULA INTERFAITH FESTIVAL**

A celebration of diversity

On Sunday June 8, 2014, the Mornington Peninsula community will come together at the Peninsula Community Theatre in Mornington to celebrate diversity through music, dance, art, film, workshops and food.

Join in the festivities and take part in many exciting activities:

- Watch Aboriginal Whale Dreaming, Chinese Lion Dancing, Burundi Drumming and a Venezuelan ensemble at the ‘Multicultural Concert’.

- Ignite your sense of adventure with ‘African Drumming and Dancing’, ‘Community Choir Singing’, ‘Shake, Rattle and Roll’ and ‘Laughter Yoga‘.

- Observe faith leaders come together in the spirit of peace to offer blessings to the community.

“The Interfaith Festival is a celebration of diversity – a celebration of multiculturalism and multifaith, a celebration of the diversity that exists in our community, and a celebration of our unique indigenous history”, says Sandy Kouroupidis, General Manager of the Mornington Peninsula Interfaith Festival.

“This year particular recognition will be given to U3A branches on the Mornington Peninsula for the great contribution their members have made to our community.”

Bring the family along as there will be special activities for the kids.

The festival kicks off at 12:30pm and finishes at 5:30pm.

For further information phone Judy O’Donnell on 0400 088 410 or visit www.interfaithfestival.org.au

Come along to the FREE Interfaith Festival

**Location:**

Peninsula Community Theatre (PCT)

Cnr Nepean Highway &
Wilsons Road, Mornington VIC

Melways Ref: 145 E2

**Times:**

Sunday, 8th June, 2014:
12:30pm to 5:30pm.

**Prices:**

FREE Entry

**Parking:**

Parking on site (Peninsula Community Theatre)

**Website:**

www.interfaithfestival.org.au

**COOL CLIMATE WINE SHOW**

Showcasing some of the best Cool Climate Wines, this annual event attracts interest from around the world. Wines must be made from grapes grown in specific latitudes, or from vineyards with an average winter temperature below 19 degrees Celsius, or above 600m in altitude. The Mornington Peninsula fits within these criteria.

Established in 2000, the show aims to raise the profile of cool climate wines
by emphasizing the styles predominantly produced from grapes grown in cool climates, and highlighting quality, aged wines from cool climates. The results will be celebrated at the Annual Cool Climate Wine Show dinner on May 27 at the Mornington Racing Club.

Visit: www. coolclimatewineshow.org for more information.

**WHAT’S ON ON THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA**

For details go to: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au and view the events calendar

MAY

May 11

Mothers Day CLASSIC
Flinders Yacht Club and around Golf Course, Flinders,
9–11am

May 11

Mothers Day Classic
Dromana Pier to McCrae Lighthouse,
9–11am

May 11

Mothers Day Classic
Coolart Wetlands & Homestead, Somers
7.30am–12.30pm

May 15

Your House Your Community Expo
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington
10am–3pm

May 17

Peninsula Music Society presents: Trio Anima Mundi
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington,
7.30pm–10.30pm

May 17

Bumble Bee Baby & Childrens Market
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington
9am–12pm

May 18

RSPCA Million Paws Walk
Hastings Foreshore,
9am–2pm

May 25

Film Screening - Colourfest Shots
Dromana Community Hall, Dromana
2pm–4pm

May 31

The Light Workers Way Psychic & Wellbeing Festival
Mount Eliza Community Hall, Mount Eliza,
10am–4.30pm

May 31 – June 1

Taste of Sorrento
Ocean Beach Road, Sorrento
11am–8pm

JUNE

June 1

Southern Masters Cycling Races
Crib Point Road Circuit,Crib Point
9am–1pm

June 2

Anniversary of the Italian Republic
Dromana Pier Precinct, Dromana
11–11.30am

June 5

World Environment Day
Special Film Screening
For more information, please visit Facebook – Social Planning & Community Development MPS

June 6-9

Mornington WINTER Jazz Festival
Various Venues, Mornington
[www.morningtonjazz.com.au](http://www.morningtonjazz.com.au)

June 7

Winter Wine Fest
Red Hill Recreation Reserve, Red Hill
11am–4pm

June 7-8

The Flinders Art Show
Flinders Civic Hall, Cook Street, Flinders
10am–5pm

June 8

Mornington Peninsula Interfaith Festival
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington
12.30pm–5.30pm

June 8-9

The Flinders Art Show
Flinders Civic Hall, Cook Street, Flinders
10am–2pm

June 20-21

Winter Solstice Festival
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington
7.30pm -10.30pm

June 22

Winter Solstice Festival
Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington
2.30pm–5pm

Information is correct at time of printing. For up to date information on these events and more – please refer to the website www.mornpen.vic.gov.au

**MORNINGTON WINTER JAZZ FESTIVAL - JUNE 6-9, 2014**

Street Corners, bars, restaurants and parks will come alive this June with the sights and sounds of the Mornington Winter Jazz Festival. This year’s line-up includes big national artists such as the exquisite Katie Noonan and her 3 piece band Elixr, the ever famous Vince Jones and breakthrough chart topping 9 piece band Saskwatch.

There will be a number of ticketed events and dinner shows to choose from as well as FREE jazz and music performances held across Mornington all weekend. The free event program features a mix of young swing and jazz musicians, VCA music students and host of local artists.

2014 will see a return of the ‘Music After Dark ‘ series at the Mornington Library, ‘Jazz n’ Swing’ performances, ‘Market Grooves’ on Main Street, ‘Live in the Park’ on the Saturday afternoon and the Mornington Historical Railway ‘Jazz at the Station.’ These and many more great events are set to make the 2014 Mornington Winter Jazz Festival an event to be remembered.

Tickets on sale 1 May, register online now to receive event updates or become a ‘Friend of the Festival’ and receive pre-sale event notification and early bird ticket prices. Visit www.morningtonjazz.com.au

Events and performances are being confirmed daily and we encourage artists, community groups and business sponsors who would like to be a part of the festival to show their interest and support by contacting Mornington Chamber of Commerce on 03 5975 4522 or via email on info@morningtonchamber.com.au