

# News from our Neighbourhood

**February 2025**

- Banyule Volunteer Awards
- Masterplan for Bell Street Mall
- Olympic Park building update
- Malahang Lantern Festival



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## Volunteer Awards return

We're bringing back the Banyule Volunteer Awards after a four-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

It's your chance to nominate one of the individuals or organisations who contribute so much to our community.

### Volunteering in Olympia

There are so many volunteers doing fantastic work in Olympia Ward. I met up with a few of them recently at Buna Reserve Community Garden in Heidelberg West.

The garden is a beautiful and productive urban oasis, thanks to members such as Charu, who shares her experience of seed propagation and food gardening.

Tony and Avril also volunteer with Transition 3081, a group dedicated to climate and sustainability action on a local scale. Among other initiatives, Transition 3081 hosts a vegie swap in Olympic Village from 10am to 11am on the first Saturday of every month. You don't have to contribute vegies to be part of it.

The garden and Transition 3081 welcome new members. Check their social media.

### Nominate a volunteer

 [banyule.vic.gov.au/VolunteerAwards](https://banyule.vic.gov.au/VolunteerAwards)

 **9457 9955**

 [volawards@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:volawards@banyule.vic.gov.au)

Nominations close 23 March.

Nominees will be invited to Banyule's annual Volunteer Celebration in May.



## Revitalising Bell Street Mall

Council is asking the West Heidelberg community to help us create a masterplan for Bell Street Mall.

The Mall has a rich and diverse heritage, reflecting its history as a hub for Heidelberg West. However, community needs are shifting and a plan is needed to guide this change.

Many of you have already provided valuable input through projects such as Banyule Futures and the Housing Strategy.

During March, Council teams will set up in the Mall for community engagement and will gather input and feedback through an online survey.

**Tell us what you think:**  
scan the code or go to  
[banyule.vic.gov.au/BellStMallMP](https://banyule.vic.gov.au/BellStMallMP)



## Olympic Park transformation enters final lap

We appreciate your patience while we build the new community sports pavilion and public toilets between the north and south ovals at Olympic Park. Some of you have had to adjust your walking and cycling routes to bypass the building site. Signs in the area show the detours.

We're also working on landscaping, trees and paths around the grounds as well as renovations and gardens at Barrbunin Beek Aboriginal Gathering Place.

Work should be finished by the end of this year, completing the transformation of Olympic Park into a premier league regional sports facility, recreation park and community sports and leisure hub.

Originally due to finish in 2030, the project will be completed much sooner thanks to the Victorian Government adding \$8 million to Council's \$10 million commitment.

**View the plans:**  
scan the code or go to  
[shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/olympicpark](https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/olympicpark)

