CITY OF MONASH

Monash | November - December 2026

BULLETIN



Get on your bike

Have your say on Stan Riley Reserve

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- MARC's 25th birthday
- Community Grants opening
- Glen Waverley Civic Precinct
- New dog agility area

Leading Monash into the year ahead

Monash has a new leadership team, with Cr Rebecca Paterson elected Mayor and Cr Paul Klisaris elected Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

Cr Paterson said she was deeply honoured and humbled by the trust that has been placed in her to serve as Mayor.

“I accept this role with a strong sense of responsibility, but also with tremendous optimism for what we can achieve together.

“I look forward to working with my fellow councillors, Council staff, community organisations and residents to continue building a community where everyone can thrive,” said Cr Paterson.

The newly elected mayor thanked outgoing Mayor Cr Stuart James and Deputy Mayor Cr Elisha Lee for their dedication, steady leadership, and the thoughtful way they guided Council through important and, at times, challenging decisions over the past year.

Cr Paterson has been a councillor since 2013 and served as mayor in 2017. She is passionate about protecting the liveability of Monash’s neighbourhoods, increasing tree canopy coverage, and fostering a healthy, connected and sustainable community where everyone feels safe and respected.

Cr Paul Klisaris was first elected to Council in 2000 and has served as mayor five times. As a seasoned Councillor, Paul advocates for open and transparent governance and envisions a Council that actively communicates with residents.

Together, Cr Paterson and Cr Klisaris will work with their fellow councillors to support the priorities that matter most to the community and help shape the future of Monash.



Cr Rebecca Paterson and Cr Paul Klisaris have been elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

Aquatic party celebrates 25 years of MARC



Help us celebrate MARC’s 25th birthday.

Join the birthday fun as Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC) in Glen Waverley turns 25 on Saturday 12 December.

For a quarter of a century, MARC has provided Monash residents with an extensive range of fitness and recreation services including gym, group fitness, swimming lessons as well as indoor and outdoor pools.

There’ll be plenty of fun to dive into, including live music, sausage sizzle and birthday cupcakes, a visit from our Learn to Swim mascot Minky the Whale, face painting, inflatables, a scavenger hunt and the chance to win some great prizes.

Bring your family and friends, everyone is welcome.

For updates, visit **monash.vic.gov.au/25-birthday**

Time to get on your bike

Help shape the future of Monash's only BMX track

For years, Stan Riley Reserve in Oakleigh South has been a special place for Linda's BMX riding family.

"My son's been riding his BMX bike here since he was 4," Linda said. "Over the years we've watched his confidence, skills and love for riding grow. It gives our kids a place to be active outdoors, make memories with their friends, and simply be kids. It's more than just a BMX track to us – it's part of our community and part of his childhood."

Home to Monash's only BMX track, Stan Riley Reserve has helped generations of riders develop their skills and enjoy riding, while also providing much-valued open space in Oakleigh South.

Now it's your chance to help shape its next chapter.

Working with track experts, we're developing a concept plan to improve the reserve while keeping its BMX identity.



Stan Riley Reserve has helped generations of riders develop their skills and enjoy riding.

We want to know what makes a track fun and challenging, and what other features people might like to see such as paths, shade, seating and places to meet.

An early concept plan has been designed to start the conversation. Your feedback will help shape the final concept plan.

Feedback closes 13 December 2026.

Get involved at: **shape.monash.vic.gov.au/stan-riley**

Breaking ground on Glen Waverley precinct vision



Excavation work is in full swing as the Glen Waverley Civic Precinct project progresses.

Work on the $110+ million Glen Waverley Civic Precinct project is well underway with demolition of the former Glen Waverley Library now completed.

Excavation works have seen large earthmoving equipment and a concrete piling machine brought on site to establish the deep foundations required to support the new building.

During this time, residents and visitors may see an increase in construction activity, including additional truck movements around the site and on Kingsway.

Traffic management measures will be in place to ensure the safe movement of pedestrians and vehicles.

Construction will be completed in July 2028.

Follow the project: **monash.vic.gov.au/GWCP**

Monash at a glance

Holiday hours

Planning a visit over the festive season? Opening hours for Council offices, libraries, aquatic and recreation centres, and the Waste and Recycling Centre may vary during the Christmas and New Year period. Bin collections will operate as usual, including on public holidays. For more details:

monash.vic.gov.au

Oakleigh pool

The outdoor pool season is back and summer swimming is returning to the Oakleigh Recreation Centre as we open the 50m outdoor pool once again. The Oakleigh Recreation Centre is at 2A Park Rd in Oakleigh, find out more:

activemonash.vic.gov.au/ORC

Big Summer Read

Children of all ages, keep your reading up over the summer holidays and take part in the Big Summer Read. Register at your local Monash library branch or online, collect your reading log, and record your efforts from 1 December to 31 January. There are some exciting prizes to be won.

monlib.vic.gov.au/big-summer-read

Coming together as one

The We Are One Club is a multicultural organisation dedicated to connecting individuals of all ages from diverse cultural backgrounds through traditional music and dance to culinary delights and art.

Council's Community Grants and Partnership Program has helped support the club to run engaging activities, workshops and events where participants have the chance to experience the beauty of Monash's diverse community.

"Without council support, we wouldn't have come to this stage," Elena Guo, co-founder and director, said. "Last year we started in the Chinese community. Now we're connecting with the Indian community and the Greek community. Every Saturday, we enjoy each other's music and dances, and we come together to have lunch and talk about food."

Be part of our grants program in 2027: **monash.vic.gov.au/community-grants**



The We Are One Club brings Monash together through music, dance, food and smiles.

Grants strengthen Monash

Local community groups and organisations are invited to apply for 2027/28 funding through the Monash Community Grants and Partnership Program.

Small, medium and large grants are available to support projects, activities and events that strengthen and benefit the Monash community.

Each year, Council makes a significant investment in community grants and welcomes applications that reflect the diversity of Monash, including applications from groups and organisations working with First Nations, people living with disabilities, LGBTIQA+ communities and multicultural communities.

Applications are open from 9am, Wednesday 27 January to 2pm, Wednesday 3 March 2027.

Grant support information sessions and workshops will be held early in 2027, find out more: **monash.vic.gov.au/community-grants**

Shaping our child, youth and family infrastructure

How should Council plan for the facilities and spaces that support children, young people and families in the years ahead?

We're seeking community feedback on the draft Children, Youth and Family Services Infrastructure Planning Framework, which includes a proposed vision and principles to guide future planning and investment decisions.

The framework aims to support consistent, transparent and evidence-informed decision-making, helping Council respond to changing community needs over time. Importantly, this consultation is not about specific facilities, services, or projects. Instead, we're asking whether we've got the vision and principles right.

Review the draft framework and share your feedback via Shape Monash by 13 December 2026.

Find out more and have your say at **shape.monash.vic.gov.au**



'Tis the season to recycle. Get ready for this year's festive season.

Festive recycling

Our Christmas Recycling Guide is back to help make bin nights easier over the festive season.

No changes to bin days: Trucks may start collections earlier, so if your bin day falls on a public holiday, consider putting bins out the night before.

Packaging: Take soft plastics, cardboard and rigid white polystyrene (limits apply) to our Recycling and Waste Centre. It's free with proof of Monash address.

Drinks: Return eligible containers through the Container Deposit Scheme.

Food scraps: Freeze food scraps in airtight containers until bin night to reduce smells.

Christmas trees: Donate or reuse artificial trees. Natural trees can be disposed of as green waste at our recycling centre (discounted fee for residents).

Batteries: Batteries and electronics can start fires in trucks, so never put them in any bins. Take them to a safe drop-off point at a supermarket or our recycling centre.

More tips: **monash.vic.gov.au/christmas-recycling**

End gender based violence

Violence against women and girls remains one of the most significant preventable harms in our community, with more than one in three women experiencing violence from men.

We are proud to once again support 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence and will light up the Civic Centre orange as a symbol of support for respect and a future free of violence against women and girls.

From 25 November until 10 December, Council will run several events to support the movement. Our libraries will be hosting a community event, Understanding the Nature of Family Violence with Dr Lata Satyen, as well as special Storytime sessions.

Get involved at **monash.vic.gov.au/16-days**



Swap unsafe netting and protect local wildlife

Did you know that some types of fruit tree netting are illegal in Victoria due to the dangers they pose to our native wildlife?

You can now swap your unsafe fruit tree netting for safe wildlife-friendly alternatives as part of a new Net Swap program.

Netting can be exchanged free of charge at Monash Recycling and Waste Centre.

Choose from new netting (2.8m x 2.8m) or 10 fruit protection bags.

Net Swap helps protect native wildlife, including birds, possums and flying foxes, from becoming trapped or injured in illegal fruit tree netting.

By making the switch, residents can continue protecting their fruit trees while helping create a safer environment for local wildlife.

Monash Recycling and Waste Centre is located at 380 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill.

Responsible dog ownership

Being a responsible dog owner helps keep pets, people and our community safe.

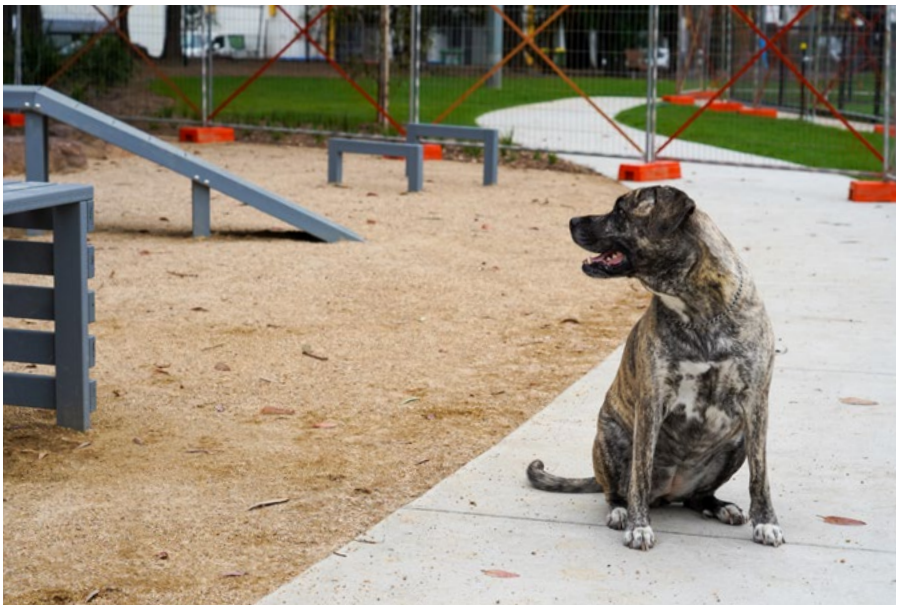
Make sure your dog is registered and wearing its registration tag, as this can help quickly reunite lost pets with their owners.

When heading out for a walk, remember to carry poo bags and always pick up after your dog. If you're visiting an on-leash area, keep your dog on a lead and under effective control.

A little preparation goes a long way towards keeping tails wagging and our parks enjoyable for everyone.

Find out more at **monash.vic.gov.au/animals**





Woof! That looks like fun. There'll be plenty more at Jack Edwards Reserve with the opening of new dog agility areas.

Big puppy playtime

Zoomies, digging and four-legged fun await at Jack Edwards Reserve, with 2 new agility areas now open for dogs and their people.

Upgrades include timber logs and rocks to explore, a digging pit, weave poles, seating, a new concrete pathway, upgraded gates, a drinking fountain and more.

Visitors will notice some areas are fenced off. These sections have been freshly planted with grass, which needs time to grow strong roots so it can handle the daily wear and tear that comes with a popular off-leash area.

During consultation, residents told us about bare patches at the park. By staying off the temporarily fenced areas until March 2027, we can give the grass the best chance to establish, creating a greener, more resilient park in the long run.

This project is supported by the Victorian Government through the New and Upgraded Dog Parks Program.

Learn more: **monash.vic.gov.au/jack-edwards-works**

A more resilient Monash

Cr Rebecca Paterson (Blackburn Ward)

This year, Council adopted the Climate Resilience Plan 2026-2030, with input from community members and Council staff, to help the whole Monash community respond to our changing climate. It builds on our 2025 net zero milestone, achieved by reducing emissions and investing in low-cost renewable energy.

Climate can sometimes feel like a global issue beyond our control. But, locally, we experience higher temperatures and more intense storms, wind and flash flooding. These affect roads, drainage, sporting fields and outdoor events, while stressing trees, shortening their lifespan and increasing the risk of falling limbs.

Older and very young residents, and those with health conditions, are especially vulnerable to heat or weather-related illness, social isolation, or losing power or wi-fi during a climate event.

The Plan strengthens the resilience of neighbourhoods, infrastructure, natural environment and community services. It recognises how tree canopy, green spaces and permeable surfaces cool homes and suburbs, support wildlife and improve wellbeing.

As my previous columns show, I'm passionate about protecting and expanding tree canopy across public and private land in Monash. Reducing the impacts of climate events on individuals and the community is at the heart of this.

Climate resilience isn't just about preparing for distant challenges. It's also about the many opportunities we each have today to contribute to a stable climate and a safer, more liveable community.



Our Climate Resilience Plan will help reduce the impact of climate events on our valuable tree canopy.

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday 15 December, 7pm
Monash Civic Centre, 293 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley
Access meeting agendas and watch in-person or online:
monash.vic.gov.au/meetings

Your Councillors

Banksia Ward
Cr Cameron Little
Cameron.Little@monash.vic.gov.au
0472 523 241



Blackburn Ward
Cr Rebecca Paterson | Mayor
Rebecca.Paterson@monash.vic.gov.au
0437 959 163



Gallaghers Ward
Cr Geoff Lake
Geoff.Lake@monash.vic.gov.au
0411 645 281



Gardiners Creek Ward
Cr Anjalee de Silva
Anjalee.deSilva@monash.vic.gov.au
0424 679 096



Jells Ward
Cr Elisha Lee
Elisha.Lee@monash.vic.gov.au
0461 305 956



Mayfield Ward
Cr Brian Little
Brian.Little@monash.vic.gov.au
0407 878 033



Scotchmans Creek Ward
Cr Nicky Luo
Nicky.Luo@monash.vic.gov.au
0451 560 398



University Ward
Cr Josh Fergeus
Josh.Fergeus@monash.vic.gov.au
0466 465 421



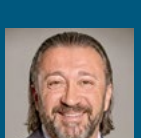
Warrigal Ward
Cr Stuart James
Stuart.James@monash.vic.gov.au
9518 3524 | 0413 184 250



Waverley Park Ward
Cr Shane McCluskey
Shane.McCluskey@monash.vic.gov.au
0466 345 406



Wellington Ward
Cr Paul Klisaris | Deputy Mayor
Paul.Klisaris@monash.vic.gov.au
0412 516 026



monash.vic.gov.au/councillors



Stay cool, stay safe this summer

Get summer ready with our program of free and low-cost educational events covering heat health, water safety and summer preparedness. Learn practical ways to look after yourself and others so you're prepared for any summer conditions.

Ambulance Victoria Community Session: Heat Health and Act F.A.S.T
Thursday 3 December, 1:30pm
Kerrie Road Neighbourhood House

Ambulance Victoria Heat Health essentials for seniors
Monday 14 December, 11am
Wheelers Hill Library

Low Sensory Quiet Sessions at Clayton Aquatic and Health Club

- Tuesdays, 12:30pm – 1:30pm
- Fridays, 7:30pm – 8:45pm
- Saturdays, 1:30pm – 3pm

Learn to Float Session
Thursday 21 January 2027, 11am-12pm
Clayton Aquatic and Health Club

Learn more and register for events at
monash.vic.gov.au/summer-safety

Contact us

Monash Civic Centre 293 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley | **Oakleigh Service Centre** 3 Atherton Rd, Oakleigh
Mon to Fri, 8:30am to 5pm | monash.vic.gov.au | mail@monash.vic.gov.au | 9518 3555

CITY OF MONASH

Monash Interpreter Service

普通话	4713 5001	Việt Ngữ	4713 5003	हिंदी	4713 5005	한국어	4713 5010	தமிழ்	4713 5021
廣東話	4713 5002	Ελληνικά	4713 5004	Italiano	4713 5008	සිංහල	4713 5020	Other languages	4713 5000

Monash Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land that makes up Monash, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.