

CITY OF
BALLARAT



myBallarat

Summer
2018–19



The Civic Hall hits the right note

After a year of restorative works,
the Civic Hall gets set to reopen

myContact

Customer Service

Open hours Monday to Friday,
8.15am–5pm

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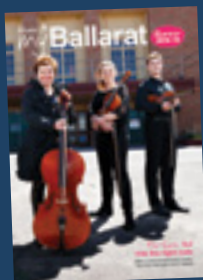
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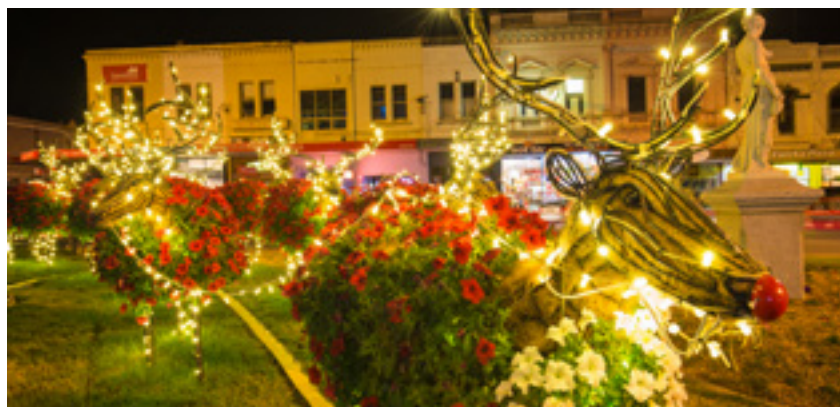


Cover image: Ballarat Symphony Orchestra performers Elena Polevaya, Kath Both and Reuben Morgan are excited the reopening of the Civic Hall will deliver a major boost to live performances in Ballarat.

You can also read myBallarat magazine online at
ballarat.vic.gov.au

The City of Ballarat respectfully acknowledges the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung people - traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work.

All information correct at time of going to print.



myMayor's message

The Civic Hall has long been recognised as a Ballarat landmark.

Many people in the community have fond memories of attending performances, debutante balls and even bingo in the Civic Hall. It has long been an integral structural thread bringing the Ballarat community together.

This magnificent building created by the Ballarat City Council – for the people of Ballarat – now has a new lease on life.

After its doors closed 16 years ago, works began earlier this year to bring this incredible gem back to life.

While the exterior of the building has undergone some minor repairs and cleaning, it's the landscaping and the internal restoration that will enable this building to once again become a vital community hub.

As you'll read on pages 3–5, landscaping around the building continues to evolve with new plantings and works, transforming this area into a vibrant and attractive space for people to gather.

Inside, the interior fixtures and finishes have been restored and upgraded, including acoustic treatments to make the hall suitable for a wide variety of uses.

This building is regional Victoria's largest flat floor auditorium and when it reopens its doors to the

community in early 2019, the hall will once again fill with the sound of performances, events and, most importantly, our people.

The reopening of the Civic Hall marks an exciting time of major construction and investment in Ballarat.

As you'll read on pages 6–8, works are also beginning in early 2019 on Ballarat GovHub, alongside significant development at Ballarat Base Hospital, the Ballarat Station Precinct, the redevelopment of Mair Street and the first stage of Her Majesty's Ballarat conservation works.

In all, these projects total more than \$800 million worth of commercial investment in Ballarat – creating jobs and reinvigorating our CBD.

With this outstanding investment in our city, Ballarat will be ringing in a New Year that is just the start of a dynamic and thriving future for our magnificent city.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, a happy New Year and a safe holiday period.



Mayor Cr Samantha McIntosh



A new era: Ballarat Symphony Orchestra performers Bill Stewart and Kate Both outside the Civic Hall.

The Civic Hall hits the right note

After a year of restorative works, the Civic Hall will reopen for community use in early 2019. Already, this multi-format venue is striking a chord with its rich performance past.

INXS, AC/DC, Slim Dusty, Silverchair and Chubby Checker. These are just a few of a long line-up of star performers who have graced the stage of the Civic Hall over the years.

This unique performance venue – regional Victoria's largest flat floor auditorium – will soon host a wide range of civic and community events, catering for up to 1,400 people.

City of Ballarat officer Daniel Henderson, who is responsible for overseeing Her Majesty's Ballarat and Civic Hall, says the completion of \$4.6 million of restorative works heralds a new era of performances in this iconic Ballarat building.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Ballarat to have a landmark live music hall recognised by the country's touring promoters of some of the biggest names in live music," he says.

"After 16 years of closure, I can't wait to see the Civic Hall once again brimming with performances – and our community embracing the opportunity to enjoy these performances – right in the centre of Ballarat."

Ballarat Symphony Orchestra performed at the Civic Hall up until the doors to the building closed in 2002.

Reuben Morgan, who has played violin in the community orchestra for the past seven years, welcomed the addition of another venue that can support live music in Ballarat.

“I think it will help revitalise performing arts in central Ballarat – it's wonderful.”

– Reuben Morgan

"I've never played in the Civic Hall. The last time I was in the Civic Hall was when I saw The Wiggles there in the 90s – I was about four or five.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the Civic Hall open."

The City of Ballarat fully-funded the works to revamp the 1956-opened Civic Hall, including internal restorative works and staged landscaping, which will include a deck and cafe.

The Civic Hall will reopen for community use in early 2019. Follow us on Facebook to find out more.



Days gone by: Rose Stereograph Co. CIVIC HALL, BALLARAT, VIC. [picture]. Courtesy: State Library Victoria

The Civic Hall – a place for the community

Officially opened on 20 August 1956 as a place to host a wide range of civic and community events, the Civic Hall is set to reopen its doors and again take pride of place in the heart of Ballarat.

Step back in time

The then City of Ballarat built the Civic Hall to replace the 1908-built Coliseum, destroyed by fire in 1936, and the Alfred Hall, built in 1867.

With the Ballarat Town Hall unable to accommodate civic gatherings larger than a few hundred people, a new large venue was needed to bring the community together.

The Civic Hall was built on the Haymarket Reserve. Designed by architects Gordon Murphy, of Melbourne and Ballarat's HL and LJ Coburn, local builder Walter Trahar was the successful tenderer, and construction began in November 1953.

The design of the Civic Hall is typical of the stripped classical style, commonly used for public and commercial buildings in Australia from about 1915–1940 while it also has art deco features and a prominent fly tower.

A cultural landmark

The Civic Hall is a landmark building in the lives of many Ballarat residents.

It regularly brought the community together – from special concerts for visitors of the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, the ABC Celebrity Concert Series and exhibitions for home and motor shows to the Royal South Street Eisteddfod competitions, BLOC Theatre Company and the annual Mayoral Ball, right through to debutante balls for Ballarat schools, exams and bingo.

Recognised as a building of cultural significance, the Civic Hall has

played host to concerts, performing artists on tour, politicians and royalty, including:

- Australian stars – Midnight Oil, Australian Crawl, The Angels, Jimmy Barnes, Chubby Checker, Cold Chisel, Daddy Cool, The Delltones, Diesel, The Divinyls, The Easybeats, Eurogliders, John Farnham, Hoodoo Gurus, Killing Heidi, Lee Kernaghan, Little River Band, The Living End, Brian Mannix and The Uncanny X-Men, Masters Apprentices, Wendy Matthews, The Meanies, The Mavis's, Men At Work, Mental As Anything, Mondo Rock, Olivia Newton-John, Noiseworks, Johnny O'Keefe, Normie Rowe, Regurgitator, The Seekers, Sherbet, Skyhooks, Silverchair, The Ted Mulry Gang, Billy Thorpe and The Aztecs, John Williamson, Johnny Young and The Young Talent Time performers



Today: The Civic Hall prepares to reopen for community use after major restorative works.

- International performers – The Bay City Rollers, Crispian St. Peters, Split Enz, Billy Thorpe and Wang Chung
- Productions – Royal South Street, Ballarat Light Opera Company, The Wiggles, Ballarat Symphony Orchestra, Ballarat City Choir, Ballarat Choral Society, Ballarat Ladies Pipe Band, Ballarat Grammar, ABC Celebrity Concert, Frank Lucas Orchestra, Victorian Symphony Orchestra, Robert Lemke, Queen of Begonia Quest, Ron Rosers Orchestra, Lionel Rose speech, Vienna Boys Choir and many more.

Restorative works

After being closed for 16 years, works began in early 2018 to restore the interior of the Civic Hall. Ballarat building contractor S.J. Weir won the \$4.6 million contract to carry out the works, fully-funded

by the City of Ballarat, including:

- Internal detailed demolition
- Restoration of the main auditorium with painting, repairs, lighting, electrical and mechanical services, including new heating, cooling and ventilation, along with insulation, acoustic treatments and window restoration
- Upgrades to the stage and below stage dressing rooms
- Installation of two new lifts to the mezzanine, foundations to the new external decks, ramps and stairs
- Floor finishes, with tiling for the foyer, carpeting in the upstairs area, vinyl in the wet areas and existing floorboards to be polished
- Staged landscaping, including the addition of palm trees.

The revamped Civic Hall

As regional Victoria's largest flat floor auditorium, the Civic Hall is once again a multi-format venue capable of staging a range of events and catering for up to 1,400 people.

It features raked balcony seating, a green room and six dressing rooms.

The Civic Hall will reopen for community use in early 2019.



The new date palms were specifically chosen to complement the classical and art deco building design.

Ballarat – our boom city

The City of Ballarat has lobbied for growth and development to revitalise our city centre. As a result, Ballarat is now on the cusp of an exciting new era. More than \$850 million of public and private investment is delivering major projects, like GovHub, and generating hundreds of jobs.

A new government office, located next to the redeveloped Civic Hall, GovHub will be home to up to 1,000 government employees, including some 600 public sector positions being relocated from Melbourne.

The City of Ballarat lobbied successive Victorian governments over many years to secure a development for the site that will bring jobs to the CBD, and revitalise an underused part of the city.

This \$100 million project will create about 500 jobs during construction. Works are expected to be completed in December 2020, with government workers expected to move in mid-2021.

The Victorian Government's investment in this key development will create an iconic community, government and commercial precinct, including a five-storey building, with basement car parking and a glass conservatory connecting GovHub and the Civic Hall.

The development, in line with the City of Ballarat's *Making Ballarat Central - The CBD Strategy*, will generate long-term jobs growth, and joins a long list of projects set to advance Ballarat's prosperity.

The largest single capital investment in the city centre is the Victorian Government's \$461 million budgeted investment into the Ballarat Base Hospital. This project will create a new emergency department,

an acute mental health facility, an intensive care unit, a women and children's hub and an expanded critical care floor, all delivering an extra 100 inpatient beds and an extra 4,000 surgeries each year.

The redevelopment will create more than 1,380 construction jobs and up to 1,000 extra ongoing full-time equivalent positions once complete.

The \$51 million redevelopment of the Ballarat Station Precinct will deliver a commercial, transport and community precinct featuring a 77-room hotel, a refurbished Goods Shed with a conference and events centre, a retail and dining space, and more than 550 car parks.

The project will create 140 jobs during construction and 30 ongoing jobs and ties in with a new \$5 million bus interchange.

Another significant project is the \$7 million redevelopment of Mair Street. This VicRoads initiative will create two lanes running each way in Mair Street, upgraded intersections, cycling lanes and a tree-lined boulevard.

In other public investment projects, work has begun on the \$3.3 million first stage of Her Majesty's Ballarat conservation works, delivering 20 jobs, thanks to a \$2 million grant from the Living Heritage Program, via Heritage Victoria, and the City of Ballarat.

Just outside the CBD, the \$24 million Ballarat Sports and Events Centre redevelopment is creating 55 jobs during construction. This project is being delivered with \$5 million in funding from the City of Ballarat, \$10 million in funding from the Federal Government and \$9 million from the Victorian Government.

Construction zone

Ballarat Base Hospital upgrade **\$461 million**

Due to be completed in 2026

GovHub

\$100 million

Construction early 2019-late 2020

Ballarat Station Precinct redevelopment

\$51 million

Construction works underway, due to be completed late 2020

Ballarat Sports and Events Centre

\$24 million

Construction works underway, due to be completed mid-2019

Her Majesty's Ballarat restoration

\$3.3 million

Stage one restorative works underway, due to be completed mid to late 2019

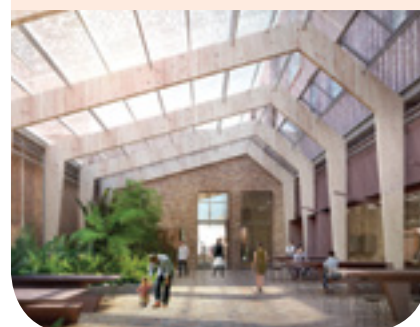
Mair Street

\$7 million

Construction works from late 2018, due to be completed 2019-2020

Ballarat Hospice Care **\$6.2 million**

Construction works due to be completed in 2019



This page and below left: An artist's impression of where the Civic Hall meets GovHub Ballarat.





Ballarat – our boom city

Major investment: Provincial Home Living Ballarat store manager Vesna Medovarsky and CEO Jade Kammergruber in the new flagship store.

Turning CBD dreams into reality

After almost 10 months of works, Provincial Home Living is preparing to open its new flagship store right in the heart of Ballarat.

It's just one example of the City of Ballarat's Economic Development Unit working with local businesses on major developments as part of its goal to drive economic growth in Ballarat.

The team provides a business concierge service to support and assist new and relocating businesses and industry, develops and facilitates business opportunities, and provides advice and information for business development.

Provincial Home Living will move from Grenville Street to the corner of Sturt Street and Armstrong Street North, in the former Collins Booksellers store.

CEO Jade Kammergruber says the family has worked to retain the original external patterned brick work as its bones while adding new-look cladding.

"It's such a significant location opposite the Town Hall – we've worked with the town planners and heritage consultants," she says.

"They've been really supportive about what we're doing here and trying to re-invigorate the Ballarat community and invest in the local trades."

Jade says it's exciting to be opening the store in early 2019, alongside significant investment taking place in the Ballarat CBD.

“It's so nice to see everyone developing and redeveloping together – we just hope we're one of many businesses who are really going to invest in the city, and this is by far the biggest investment that we've ever made in the retail space,”

– Jade Kammergruber

"We've challenged ourselves here to go above and beyond – it will be our first double-storey store, but it's so worth it because we see this as a model that can be the beginning of a next generation of stores for Provincial Home Living.

"It's great to come here, to work with the cafe team and work with some new retail space concepts – ones that we haven't tried before, in a city that's been really good to us."

Business Concierge

Starting or operating a business in Ballarat may require you to engage with several City of Ballarat departments. The Business Concierge service is here to help.

The Economic Development Unit at the City of Ballarat will provide you with one point of contact to help navigate the services you need, from building and planning through to environmental health.

To find out more contact the Economic Development Unit on 5320 5500.



Sleeping like a baby: Faizan and Nabiheh Bomassy with their newborn daughter, Myra, at the Bonshaw Early Learning Centre.

Supporting baby steps

A new early years community facility is connecting residents in Ballarat's burgeoning western growth zone with essential maternal and child health care and kindergarten.

At just five weeks of age, Myra Bomassy is oblivious to all the fuss around her.

Myra dozes as City of Ballarat Maternal and Child Health Nurse Verity undertakes her key developmental and physical assessments.

The first baby of mum Nabiheh Noshwan and dad Faizan Bomassy is also one of the first babies to begin life with the care from a qualified and experienced Maternal and Child Health Nurse at the new Bonshaw Early Learning Centre.

Originally from Pakistan, Nabiheh and Faizan, both IT professionals, settled in Ballarat to pursue careers at IBM.

Now living in Ballarat's growing western suburbs, Nabiheh and Faizan are thrilled to live so close to essential care and support

while adjusting to new parenting challenges.

"It's a changed life," Nabiheh says.

Faizan agrees. "I have accepted it as a parenthood challenge. I think we are adapting pretty good to it. We want to thank our nurse, she is really amazing how she guides us."

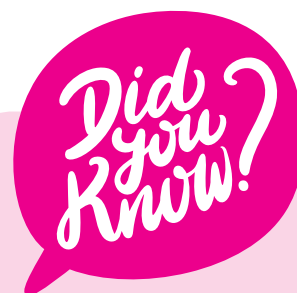
Verity says local families have quickly embraced the Bonshaw Early Learning Centre.

"It's important maternal and child health programs are located close to where families live, and with new housing developments in this area, it's vital we ensure universal services are readily accessible to all families with young children," Verity says.

"It's lovely seeing parents enjoying their children and growing with their family into their new role."

Officially opened in August, the centre is one of six local centres across Ballarat providing free maternal and child health services – including Lucas Community Hub, Girrabanya Integrated Children's Centre, Sebastopol Community Hub (opening in early 2019) and Buninyong Children's Centre.

Following construction in 2019, the Cooinda MCH will relocate to the Wendouree Children's Centre.



The new \$1.6 million Bonshaw Early Learning Centre features two kindergarten rooms with 66 places, two maternal and child health consulting rooms, and a multi-purpose community space to accommodate parents' groups, playgroups and other community activities.

The Sebastopol West Kindergarten relocated to the centre and is now known as Bonshaw Kindergarten.

Kindergarten enquiries to Eureka Community Kindergarten Association (ECKA) on 5339 5055.

An action plan **for more active women**

Four ambassadors of the City of Ballarat's new Active Women and Girls' Strategy are working to re-shape the stereotypes of women and girls in sport and physical activity – encouraging and empowering women and girls to get moving.

Research shows the number of females playing sport between the ages of 4 to 15 years plummets from 32 per cent to two per cent when females reach their mid to late teens, while twice as many Ballarat men than women participate in sport.

The City of Ballarat's 2018 Active Women and Girls' Strategy is tackling the barriers restricting female involvement in sport and physical activity – as participants and as leaders.

This four-year strategy outlines an action plan for Ballarat sports clubs,

local associations and social active recreation groups, City of Ballarat facilities, health and community organisations and research.

The strategy links with our plan to become one of Australia's first municipalities to have female-friendly sports facilities.

A community ambassador drives the social change of each of the four pillars of the action plan – targeting participation, culture and environment, infrastructure and media.

Participation

Ambassador: Rochelle Eime

As a researcher, Rochelle is improving active participation, athlete pathways and data collection.

Research into sport participation is providing insights into the participation trends as well as the

key barriers and levers empowering women and girls to be active.

"We know there's a lot of opportunities now for females to play in sports that were traditionally male," she says.

"Infrastructure has got to catch up. A lot of the football, soccer and cricket pavilions were built for males, so they don't necessarily have female changerooms and some still have open urinals."

Culture and Environment

Ambassador: Sue Brown

A researcher in women's leadership in sport and an ABC Radio sports commentator, Sue is championing initiatives that support women and girls in leadership and governance roles, positive female role models, club education, development and volunteer support.



On the ball: From left to right, Associate Professor Rochelle Eime, Sport Participation, Federation University and Victoria University, Sue Brown, Lecturer and Coordinator, Sport and Management Program, Federation University, Rhonda Cator, Ballarat Badminton Stadium Manager and former Olympian, Bryley Murrell, Sales Manager, Radio Ballarat (3BA)

Sue, an AFL Goldfields Commissioner board member, says we need to encourage more women to have a voice in sport to shape the future.

"I'm quite passionate about giving women the confidence to say – we can do this job – and to take it on, and to help navigate the male-dominated world of sport.

"With the growth of AFLW, it's an exciting time. My vision is to have a VFL women's side in Ballarat."

Infrastructure

Ambassador: Rhonda Cator

Rhonda, a badminton competitor for the past 38 years, represented Australia in three Olympic Games and five Commonwealth Games, taking home five bronze medals.

Now as an ambassador, Rhonda is driving equitable access to

facilities in a bid to improve female participation in sport and physical activity.

A WestVic Academy of Sport coach and board member, Rhonda wants women and girls to access opportunities enabling them to progress through the sporting ranks.

"I've seen more boys being active than girls so I think it's very important that girls have the opportunity to access activities and sport in a non-intimidating and non-threatening environment."

Media Action

Ambassador: Bryley Murrell

With a career in sales, spanning print, digital and radio media, Bryley has witnessed the changes taking place in the Australian media landscape, from more female sports commentators to better coverage of women's sports.

But, she concedes more needs to be done to level the playing field.

Research shows the way women and girls are portrayed in the media influences participation outcomes. Raising awareness of the opportunities, involvement and successes of women and girls in sport and physical activity also boosts female participation.

As an ambassador, Bryley is shining the spotlight on enhancing positive messaging in the media for women and girls' sport and physical activity – helping to motivate and encourage women and girls to get active.

Check out the Australian Government's *This Girl Can Victoria* campaign online or on Facebook.

For more information read the City of Ballarat's 2018 Active Women and Girls' Strategy at ballarat.vic.gov.au



Ballarat changemakers

Meet Isaac Moses – the Ballarat African Association President is one of the City of Ballarat's 10 new Intercultural Ambassadors. The Berry Street Student Engagement Case Manager and his young family are proud to call Ballarat home.

Isaac Thok Moses is grateful Ballarat gave him a second chance at life.

Born into a refugee camp during the Civil War in South Sudan, as one of four siblings, Isaac grew up in an Ethiopian refugee camp until he was forced to join the militia at the age of 13.

"It was one of the toughest situations – a difficult environment. You do not have dreams. You do not know whether you are going to live or going to die tomorrow because it is a constant war, constant fighting every day," he says.

Two years later, Isaac fled – walking barefoot for several weeks from Ethiopia to Sudan.

After working as a labourer in Sudan Khartoum for a year, he headed to Egypt where he paid for travel on a people smuggler boat. The boat was intercepted by Egyptian coastguards and he was then sent to a refugee camp in Egypt.

Isaac was eventually granted a humanitarian visa and travelled to Australia to live with his father's relatives.

Unable to speak English, Isaac found support and strength from a group of Ballarat community members and soon embarked on establishing a new life in Ballarat. He completed his VCE at Damascus College, where the school community rallied around him, providing free support and education.

Twelve years on, the 37-year-old has completed his Bachelor and Masters degrees, and is now studying for his PhD candidature at Federation University, works to help disengaged youth, and is raising two daughters, Nyabboam and Nyabuom.

"I am so grateful and I will be grateful because with what I have accomplished here, I can go and change other people's lives. I will always be grateful to Ballarat and the city," he says.

“I love Ballarat because it's become more diverse, more multicultural, more accepting and more welcoming. I have seen it change so much.”

Ballarat has a strong African community, with more than 640 people from African nations now living in our municipality.

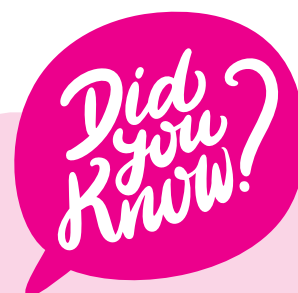
Isaac says African families are drawn to the regional city for its great schooling and health services, along with Ballarat's incredible employment opportunities.

"There is opportunity everywhere in Ballarat. It is a quiet city, it is an accepting city. I think people look for where they can fit in and, in this case, Africans in Ballarat feel part of the community."

The Ballarat African Association, formed in 2007, contributes to the Ballarat community, providing support to Africans living in Ballarat and celebrating African culture.

Isaac says his appointment as a City of Ballarat Intercultural Ambassador will enable him to have a voice to help elevate the city's cultural diversity.

"I see the role of Intercultural Ambassador as very, very crucial. We may look different – we have different culture, religion and different values but we are, at the end of the day, we are friends, we are one human kind. I say we have to accept our differences."



Ballarat's new Intercultural Ambassador Program has 10 ambassadors, including Rosita Boquida, originally from the Philippines, Jingjing Huang, from China, Sarabjit Kaur, from India, Magdalena Kazmierczak, from Poland, Verinder (Bobby) Metha, from the United Kingdom, Rachel Muir and Ashlee Rogers, from Australia, Ita Rahmawati, from Indonesia, and Annakaren Young from Mexico.

With Ballarat renowned as Australia's first Intercultural City, the new program coincides with the release of the Intercultural City Strategic Plan 2018–2021. The plan demonstrates the vision of Ballarat as an inclusive intercultural community that celebrates diversity while providing direction for planning for the needs of the city's diverse communities.

Find the Intercultural Ambassador Program on Facebook.







Summer daze: Honey Hunter's Floyd Quinlan-Baskett and Arian Lane.

The beat of the gardens

**Ballarat Botanical Gardens? Tick.
Warm summer days? Tick.
Talented local performers? Tick.
Great food vendors? Tick.
Comfy bean bags? Tick.
The sound of summer in Ballarat – Summer Sundays – is back this January. Join the thousands of people preparing to enjoy this much-loved free event, presented by the City of Ballarat.**

Arian Lane started singing at the age of 12 and began playing the guitar at the age of 15.

With several years of performing on the folk circuit under her belt, including at the Port Fairy Folk Festival, the Grampians Music Festival and at White Night in Melbourne, the 20-year-old singer-songwriter is looking forward to returning to perform in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens as part of Summer Sundays 2019 on Sunday 6 January.

After performing at Summer Sundays 2016 as part of a folk duo, Arian is this time taking to the stage at the gardens with her new folk rock group, Honey Hunter.

“Last time I played here was great – it was a beautiful sunny day, there were so many people around and it was a great environment,” she says.

“I like doing all kinds of gigs but it’s a more relaxed atmosphere at an afternoon, outdoor show.

“I love performing at night time shows but ... I think a lot more people feel really comfortable coming to events like Summer Sundays.”

– Arian Lane

After jamming for several years, Honey Hunter formed earlier this year and has since played regular gigs at The Eastern, The Karova

Lounge and at the Biennale of Australian Art (BOAA). The group features Floyd Quinlan-Baskett on lead guitar and Griffin McGookin on drums.

Ballarat has been soaking up the sound of Summer Sundays, since it first began as Arts in the Park in 1990. The annual event has continued with the City of Ballarat presenting a range of local, regional and metropolitan acts from 1996 and renaming the event Summer Sundays in 2012.

Summer Sundays 2019 will be held on January 6, 13 and 20 from 3–7pm. Follow Summer Sundays on Facebook for the latest event information.

“Hopefully the sun is out and people can enjoy themselves,” Arian says.

“Live music, food trucks and bean bags – what more could you want really?”



Event calendar

December

1–31 FREE EVENT	Christmas in Ballarat Various CBD locations Runs the month of December christmasinballarat.com.au
2–3	Eureka Community Day and Commemoration Service Eureka Stockade Memorial Gardens ballarat.vic.gov.au
1–8	Natural Causes Ballarat National Theatre The Courthouse Theatre, 8pm hermaj.com
8 FREE EVENT	Buninyong Community Carols De Souza Park, Warrenheip Street Buninyong, 5–9pm
8	The Messiah Loreto College Auditorium, 5pm ballaratchoralsociety.com
16 FREE EVENT	Launch and celebration of Art Gallery of Ballarat's summer exhibitions Live music, pay bar, 3–6pm artgalleryofballarat.com.au
16 FREE EVENT	Ballarat Carols Mars Stadium, from 6.30pm f @BallaratCarols
18–22	AMT Ballarat Platinum Pro Tournament Ballarat Regional Tennis Centre ballarattennis.com.au
26–27	OZACT presents Much Ado About Nothing Kirks Reservoir Park, 6.30pm ozact.com
26–31	Australian Jazz Convention Various CBD locations f @australianjazzconvention

January

1–31	Louiseann King: solis exhibition Runs until 7 April artgalleryofballarat.com.au
	Locals Rule exhibition Runs until 10 February artgalleryofballarat.com.au
1	2019 Burrumbeet Cup Gates open at 10am country.racing.com/burrumbeet
4–8 FREE EVENT	Cycling Australia Road National Championships Ballarat CBD and Buninyong roadnationals.org.au
6 FREE EVENT	Summer Sundays Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Lake Wendouree f @summersundaysballarat
11–20	Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Various locations ballaratorgans.com.au
13 FREE EVENT	Summer Sundays Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Lake Wendouree f @summersundaysballarat
19	Ballarat Beer Festival North Gardens ballaratbeerfestival.com.au
20 FREE EVENT	Summer Sundays Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Lake Wendouree f @summersundaysballarat
26 FREE EVENT	Australia Day Fireworks Lake Wendouree f @ballaratcitycouncil
27	Red Hot Summer Tour with Jimmy Barnes North Gardens, 3–10.30pm f @redhotsummertourofficial

February

1–31	Eliza-Jane Gilchrist: Strange Garden Runs until 17 March artgalleryofballarat.com.au
2–3	Australian Ladies Professional Golf Pro Am and ALPG Tour Event Amateur entries and spectators welcome ballaratgolfclub.com.au
8–10	Ballarat Beat Various venues ballaratbeat.com.au
9 FREE EVENT	Ballarat Farmers Market Lake Wendouree, 9am–1pm f @ballaratfarmersmarket
16 FREE EVENT	Ballarat Vintage and Classic Car Club presents 48th Begonia Rally Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club, 9am–12pm f @vcccballarat
17	Ballarat Cycle Classic Windmill Drive, Lake Wendouree f @ballaratcycleclassic
24 FREE EVENT	Ballarat Highland Gathering Victoria Park, 10am–5pm fedunipipeband.weebly.com
24 FREE EVENT	BAS Head of the Lake Regatta Lake Wendouree vic.rowingmanager.com
28	Jekyll and Hyde – The Musical Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts, until 10 March ballaratlyrictheatre.com.au

Make sure **your summer goes swimmingly**

Dip your toes into one of the City of Ballarat's aquatic facilities to beat the heat this summer. Whether you're learning to swim, you're a recreational swimmer, a lap swimmer or you just like to have a splash on a hot day, our aquatic facilities have something for everyone.

This summer, cool off at the water play spaces at Midlands and Sebastopol, and explore what the Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre (BALC) and the outdoor swimming pools at Eureka, Buninyong, Brown Hill and Black Hill have to offer.

Strokes ahead

At the age of five, Charlie Cannell loves swimming at the Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre.

"The best bit is swimming with Emma (the teacher)," he says, grinning.

Charlie began swimming lessons at the centre two years ago.

"He can do freestyle, he can do

backstroke, he can do survival backstroke, he's just starting to learn breaststroke and he's just moved into the 25m pool, so he's pretty excited about that," his mum, Dianne says.

Charlie is one of 1,100 children, aged six months and older, who dive into weekly swimming lessons at the centre.

The centre features a range of learn to swim and water safety programs, such as the new casual aqua playgroup for parents and their babies, aged eight weeks to eight months.

BALC Aquatic Education Team Leader Leanne White says water safety education is paramount for children and teenagers – year-round.

"We're not only educating the student, we're educating the parents," she says.

"The casual playgroup is about water conditioning – how to hold a baby in the water, active

supervision – those things that just give them a head start.

"Those skills cross-over wherever else they go – at home in the bath, when they are away on holidays, it's just about some really gentle education."

Leanne says while the nation's drowning statistics for children aged under five decreased this year, parents should never become complacent about the dangers of children around water.

"We are an AUSTSWIM Accredited Centre – all our programs are fun and effective. They build confidence, stroke technique and help people of all ages to prepare for emergency situations in the water," she says.

"Look at Charlie – he's knee-high to a grasshopper and he can swim really well.

"It's never too late. I've recently had a phone call from a lady in her 80s, who wants to come through and learn how to swim. How amazing is that?"



Making a splash: Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre teacher Emma White and Charlie Cannell.



Cleaning up: Allan Glenwright transforms the outdoor pools, such as Black Hill (pictured), each spring.

Shaking off the winter blues

Each spring, Allan Glenwright completely transforms the municipality's outdoor pools – taking them from paddling pools for ducks during the off-season into sparkling and inviting blue waters each summer.

Allan, the City of Ballarat's Aquatic Services Coordinator and Duty Manager John Oates spend at least a week cleaning up and preparing at the Black Hill Aquatic Centre – working to ensure the pool and its surrounds are in top shape for the local community opening day.

"There's a lot of work involved. It probably takes a good week to tidy up," Allan says.

"We turn something around that people wouldn't even think about looking at, into something that

people start to come through the gate and think – this is great, it must always be like this."

The Black Hill Aquatic Centre, located in Chisholm Street, features a solar-heated 25m outdoor pool, toddlers' pool, picnic facilities and barbecue, shade structures and is the only outdoor facility to have a diving board.

The City of Ballarat's five outdoor aquatic centres are not only a cool escape on a hot day, they also provide employment for up to 50 people over the summer, either working in the kiosks or as qualified lifeguards.

Allan says the Black Hill pool is a hidden gem, and a much-loved, popular haunt of the local community.

"It is a good-looking pool when it's up and running. It runs at about 27 or 28 degrees with the solar and it's very community-orientated with the same families attending all of the time," he says.

"The staff that work here tend to know the people coming through the gates, which gives it that community feel – everyone feels at home.

“I think the community feel like they’ve pretty much got a pool in their own backyard.”

– Allan Glenwright

For more information about the City of Ballarat's aquatic facilities, including opening hours and admission prices, visit ballarataquaticcentre.com



Fun in the sun: Kat and Laura King enjoy the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

Our great outdoors

From Lake Wendouree to our most-loved outdoor parks and spaces, get out and about this summer. Explore and rediscover the Ballarat area's magnificent range of outdoor spaces and attractions.

Long, sunny days, warm weather and holidays are here. Whether you want to relax, get moving or explore, you'll find it all in our spectacular great outdoors.

Lake Wendouree and Ballarat Botanical Gardens

Lake Wendouree is the perfect escape. Walk, jog or cycle around the six-kilometre Steve Moneghetti track, where you can watch the swans, ducks and yachts glide by.

Pack a picnic or prepare a barbecue and have some fun at the Adventure Playground, visit one of the lake-side cafes, go fishing or explore the spectacular Fairyland area, and escape to the quiet North Gardens Wetland.

Venture into the beautiful and historic Ballarat Botanical Gardens. Renowned as Australia's most attractive cool climate gardens, they celebrated 160 years in 2017 and feature 52 mature trees listed on the National Trust Significant Trees Register, as well as marble statues set among colourful bedding displays.

Step into the Robert Clark Conservatory and visit the iconic Prime Ministers' Avenue.



In summer, water from Lake Wendouree is used to irrigate the Ballarat Botanical Gardens. Each year, 33 megalitres of water keeps the gardens thriving throughout the warmer months.





Blooming: Geoff, Juliana and Cheryl Betts walk their dogs along the Prime Ministers' Avenue in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

Gardens, parks, lakes and more

They may reach just 20m in width, but at 2kms in length, the Sturt Street Gardens have a big impact on thousands of people passing by, or lingering to enjoy the beautiful landscaped gardens every day.

Take in the amazing garden beds and one of the finest collections of Victorian era statues, fountains and memorials in the southern hemisphere.

Victoria Park, established in 1890, features 130 hectares of tree-lined avenues and large open spaces, including the off-leash dog park, while families will love all the equipment at the Victoria Park Inclusive Play Space.

Discover the revitalised Miners Rest Community Park and if you're after action, check out the Black Hill Mountain Bike Trails, with six cross country trails, four downhill trails, two pump tracks, skills area and an advanced jump park.

Want to journey further afield?

Explore the picturesque Kirks Reservoir at Brown Hill, go bushwalking in the 641ha Woookarung Regional Park, previously known as Canadian Regional Park, on Ballarat's western edge or visit De Soza Park in Buninyong.

Looking for lakes?

Go swimming at Lake Esmond (*pictured below*) in Canadian, explore Lake Learmonth or go skiing and trout fishing at Lake Burrumbeet.





Our great outdoors

A green oasis: Explore the Buninyong Botanic Gardens.

Buninyong Botanic Gardens

Located next to the Buninyong Primary School, the Buninyong Botanic Gardens is one of the region's best kept secrets.

Established in 1861, the gardens are one of the oldest in the state and are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens President Roger Permezel says the 10 acre reserve features a significant collection of trees, including conifers and acers, with the upper gardens centred around a small lake, known as The Gong.

The gardens include an elegant latticed rotunda, the 1858-built former Warden's Office, the 1892-built Buninyong Butter

Factory and, on the school grounds, the 1859-built original Police Station where the Friends operate a nursery.

“These gardens really are an oasis in the middle of the village – it’s just a lovely, quiet space to explore, to take time out and to enjoy with other people,”

– Roger Permezel

Take the family and pack a picnic as The Bard in Buninyong presents its third Summer season of Shakespeare in the Gardens with Love's Labour's Lost in February. Find @artsbuninyong on Facebook for more information.

Stay safe this summer

Keep cool

- Beat the heat and stay cool during heatwaves.
- Ensure you look after yourself, keep in touch with others, and keep an eye on older neighbours, especially those living on their own.
- Remember to drink plenty of water, stay out of the heat and remain in cool or air-conditioned buildings.
- Keep out of the sun but if you need to venture outdoors, stay in the shade and wear a hat and light, loose-fitting clothing.





Journey back in time: Ballarat Tramway Museum Marketing Manager Peter Waugh.

On the right track

All aboard! Step back in time this summer to explore the trams that rocked and rolled along the tracks of Ballarat streets from 1887 to 1971. A group of dedicated rail and tram enthusiasts have been working to preserve this piece of Ballarat's unique heritage since the tramways closed in 1971.

While Ballarat's tramways have not operated for more than 40 years, Peter Waugh says they still pull on the heartstrings of many residents.

"For Ballarat people, it brings back all of these memories. We hear them all the time," the Ballarat Tramway Museum Marketing Manager says.

"There were quite a few famous incidents with the trams.

"One hit a brewery truck and one went through the Bucks Head Hotel, which is where Priceline Pharmacy is in the Bridge Mall. We know it ran into an empty room at the Bucks Head Hotel and there was only one person on the tram.

"But if you talk to people in Ballarat, the tram must have been absolutely chock a block because they all claim they were on it or they were all in the bar and had to jump out of the way – it's one of those stories that just gets better and better."

The heritage trams, which run on 1.3km of original track at Lake Wendouree, and the tram depot attract thousands of people, mostly visitors to our city, each year.

The trams feature conductors in uniforms, paper tickets and tram stops while the depot houses a museum display with photos, videos, memorabilia, stories and souvenirs.

The depot is home to most of the museum's tramcar collection, which includes the 1887 Ballarat Horse Tram No. 1 – the only surviving horse tram – and the internationally significant 1905 Electric Supply Company of Victoria tramcar. The collection also includes the restored Cuthberts 939 function tram, a modified Melbourne Colonial Tramcar Restaurant tram.

Peter says the operating fleet consists of many tramcars which initially operated in Melbourne around the time of World War 1 and were sold to Ballarat in the 1930s and 1950s.

"These trams are from a different era – they are some of the only surviving rolling stock of that vintage too," Peter says.

“ This is Ballarat's heritage – people can not only come and look at it, they can touch it and ride on it and hopefully go back in time a little bit. ”

– Peter Waugh

Trams run every weekend, public holiday and during the Victorian school holidays, between 11.30am–4pm. The Tramway Museum's display area is open 11am on operating days and on Tuesdays between 10am–5pm, subject to volunteer availability. For more information visit btm.org.au



A work of art: Bacondrum works on his mask for the *Local Rules: Identity* exhibition.

Unmasking Ballarat artists

A new exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ballarat will use large masks to unveil the talent of 11 Ballarat artists. It's one of a series of exhibitions being held at the gallery this Summer, designed to showcase local talent.

Bacondrum and Jay Rankine are creating masks not to conceal but to reveal their identities.

As part of the *Local Rules: Identity* exhibition, on show at the Art Gallery of Ballarat until 10 February, Bacondrum and Jay are part of a group of artists exploring the theme of identity and what it means to be an artist working in a regional centre.

"A lot of the time you don't see the artists – you see their work," Jay, who is also the exhibition's co-curator, says.

"A lot of artists don't like to be public, they like to be hidden. We all have facades."

The artists are forging large masks, using a combination of industrial fabrication and handcrafted techniques, to showcase their identities while creating an exhibition that celebrates and connects local artists. Renowned for being an influencer in the early years of

Melbourne's graffiti scene under the alias of Merda, Jay joins Bacondrum, as well as artists Aislinn McKinnis, Ben Mangan, Bren Luke, Cax One, Cody Joy, Karl Stehn, Karl Woodward, Kat Barrand and Travis Price.

"A lot of artists in Ballarat might actually live here but do their work for clients in Melbourne or overseas and this exhibition brings them together. It shows some of the hidden talents of Ballarat," Jay says.

Jay says art audiences should expect to see a diverse range of styles in the works, from illustration to design and fine art.

"It's something very different from the normal exhibition – the work is very mixed, some of it is very highly finished, some of it is raw – it ties in with each individual artist."

A contemporary artist, Bacondrum has crafted his mask from recycled shipping pallets, basing his creation on Star Wars' character C-3PO.

Bacondrum, who has exhibited in venues across Melbourne, Ballarat and Mildura, says it's exciting to see local artists showcasing their talent inside the walls of Ballarat's pre-eminent gallery.

“Anytime your work is on display at a big, beautiful, quality gallery like the Art Gallery of Ballarat, it's always heaps of fun – it's always a bit of an honour,”

– Bacondrum

The Art Gallery of Ballarat is also exhibiting the works of Eganstown artist Louiseann King, who is presenting her exhibition, *solis*, until early April.

Louiseann's unique sculptures will be exhibited throughout two rooms of the permanent collection, bringing together her new pieces with the gallery's prominent works.

Castlemaine artist Eliza-Jane Gilchrist will showcase works from her exhibition, *Strange Garden*, from 15 December until 17 March. This exhibition will also mix works from the gallery's collection with her extraordinary cardboard creations.

A free drop-in activity will be held, enabling people to make and decorate their own cardboard shape.





Flying the Eureka flag

Meet Anthony Camm. The recently appointed Manager of the Eureka Centre is leading a new direction for Ballarat's tourist and community hub, renowned as the home of the Eureka Flag.

The Eureka Flag has long drawn intrigued visitors to the Eureka Centre.

Each year, hundreds of people go through the doors of the centre to take in the sight of this fragile yet impressive blue and white cotton and wool flag, which is showcased in a secure, purpose-built, climate-controlled room.

The flag, which was first hoisted and fluttered above gold miners on this historic site – the location of the 1854 Eureka Stockade – represents the birth of Australian democracy and a pivotal moment in Australia's history.

The Eureka Centre has been the custodian of the Eureka Flag, on loan from the Art Gallery of Ballarat, since 2013.

In his new role at the helm of the Eureka Centre, Anthony says it's a great privilege to preserve, protect and showcase the Eureka Flag to the Ballarat community and our visitors.

"The Eureka Flag is one of Australia's national treasures," Anthony says.

"It's really an iconic cultural object. Its significance is tied to the history

of the Eureka Stockade but over time momentum has built around that flag and it's come to represent so many other things.

"It's a fascinating object in which to build conversations with the community."

After transforming the Ararat Gallery TAMA (Textile Art Museum Australia) to become a major tourist attraction, Anthony is working to reimagine the Eureka Centre – establishing it as an invaluable community asset and attraction built around the history of the site, the Eureka Flag and the Eureka story.

Since commencing in his role with the City of Ballarat in September, Anthony has been working with the community – taking on board the many passionate people invested in the heritage of Eureka and who care deeply about the centre's future – to develop a new vision for the site.

The centre's main exhibition space is being renewed with interim works underway to refocus the centre's visitor experience on the story of Eureka.

"What I'm really keen to do here is look at activating the social spaces in and around the building, engaging strongly with the community, ensuring the way we tell the Eureka story meets audience needs at a number of levels – whether you're a really devoted history buff or whether you're a

family looking for an activity to do at the weekend," Anthony says.

"We need to serve the community in its entirety, and I believe we can do that while maintaining our integrity as a museum.

“Ultimately, we want to develop the Eureka Centre into a significant community asset and shine the spotlight on it as a major attraction for Ballarat.” – Anthony Camm

Want to rediscover the Eureka Centre, the Eureka Stockade Memorial Gardens and the playground? The Eureka Centre is open daily, from 10am–5pm. Entry to residents is free.

What's next for Eureka?

The City of Ballarat's next step in planning for the future of the Eureka Centre is to develop an Interpretation Plan, which will set a new vision and objectives for how we tell the Eureka story. Tell us what you love about the Eureka story, what we should retain about the Eureka Centre and Stockade Gardens, and what you imagine for their future.

Visit mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au to have your say or request a hard copy questionnaire. The survey is open until 31 March.





Be fire ready: The City of Ballarat's emergency management team Carlie McKimm, Mark Cartledge and Bill Cook.

Helping to protect the community

With Victoria one of the most fire-prone areas in the world, residents are being urged to prepare their properties for the fire season. The City of Ballarat's emergency management team is inspecting properties throughout summer to help safeguard the community.

Mark Cartledge has seen the devastation of fire on local communities first-hand.

As the City of Ballarat's Fire Prevention Officer for the past eight years, Mark has assisted in the response and recovery with the Scotsburn and Mt Bolton fires.

"Whether it's the person who has just lost their house during a single house fire or whether it's the larger community, such as Scotsburn or Mt Bolton, we can help people in one way or another," he says.

“We all enjoy our work because we're able to help the community – before, during or after an event.”

– Mark Cartledge

The Emergency Management team, including Mark, Carlie McKimm and Bill Cook, play a vital role in the behind the scenes work of Ballarat's emergency management – from facilitating emergency management planning, coordinating relief, providing recovery support for affected communities and providing support to response agencies.

A crucial part of the team's work each summer involves regularly inspecting properties for fire hazards, such as long grass.

Mark says it's vital residents work to reduce fire hazards, which not

only place their property at risk but also jeopardise their neighbours' properties.

"Above average temperatures and below average rainfall have been predicted, so we're coming into what could be a very hectic fire season," he says

"If they haven't already, residents need to prepare – prepare their properties and have a plan in the event of an emergency. We want everyone to be safe this summer."

When fire hazards are identified, the team issues a Fire Prevention Notice to the property owner. Failure to comply will result in contractors being engaged to undertake the work with costs charged against the owner and will result in a fine of \$1,612 or court action, with penalties of \$19,343 and/or 12 months imprisonment.



Prepare for the fire season

If you live in a high-risk bushfire area, the best way to stay safe is to leave the night before or on the morning of a Code Red day.

How to prepare:

- Know what fire weather district you're in, and check the Fire Danger Rating and Total Fire Ban for that district every day
- Create a written plan that maps out what you'll do on a hot, dry and windy day, and let your family and neighbours know where you will go
- Pack an emergency kit with important documents, photos, medication, drinking water, money and clothes, so you're ready to leave early
- Decide in advance what you'll do with your pets – people die during fires trying to save their animals
- Your power may be the first thing that goes. Make sure you have alternative lighting, and a battery powered radio

Tune into ABC Radio, your local commercial and community radio stations and TV channels. You can also phone the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226, visit emergency.vic.gov.au or cfa.vic.gov.au, follow CFA warnings on [@CFA_Update](https://twitter.com/CFA_Update) and [@cfavic](https://www.facebook.com/cfavvic).

Mark advises residents to cut any long grass, remove flammable material from around their home, to clear away dead undergrowth and fallen branches, ensure timber is stored away from houses and outbuildings, and to remove noxious and environmental weeds, including highly flammable gorse infestations.

"Keep your grass down. The recommended height is 100mm, clean up your twigs and branches around the property and clean your spouts out.

"Make sure there's access for CFA appliances to be able to get into your property. What the CFA recommends a 4m by 4m clearance zone.

"And look at what you plant around the garden. If your plants are flammable, consider planting something that's a bit more ever-green."

Whether it's fires, storms or floods, the Emergency Management team supports residents and responding agencies, organising relief centres, equipment and providing assistance.

"We assist the community with recovery – so after an event, we are there to help the community recover and to get back to a new normal,"

Fire restrictions are now in force. Permits must be obtained to carry out any burning off.

Failure to have a permit is a serious offence with penalties including large fines and/or 12 months imprisonment.

To apply for a permit, contact the City of Ballarat's Fire Prevention Officer on 5320 5568 or apply online at ballarat.vic.gov.au

Reducing waste – A family of waste warriors



Saying no to plastic: Georgia Siemensma empties a bucket of household waste directly into the bin.

Little changes can have a big impact.

The Siemensma family's young waste warriors, Charlotte, 7, Angus, 9, and Georgia, 14, have halved their household's kerbside waste.

Inspired by the ABC's *War on Waste* program, Georgia began exploring ways for her family to reduce, reuse and recycle.

The family, which lives in central Ballarat, started to reuse disposable coffee cups, which are non-recyclable, for planting seeds to grow herbs and plants for their garden.

They then bought four chickens and began feeding their food scraps to the chickens and to their two pet dogs.

Georgia says the family is also recycling its soft plastics – such as cling wrap, soft plastic packaging and wrappers – which can be dropped into REDcycle collection bins at some supermarkets.

The family has now stopped buying bin liners and using plastic shopping bags to line their inside bin.

"We've got a bucket now," Georgia says.

"So instead of putting the shopping bags in to line the rubbish bin and then taking that out to the bin, we just empty from the bucket straight into the wheelie bin and then wash the bucket out."

Georgia says these simple steps are working to reduce what the family sends to landfill.

“Our bin was overflowing but now it's half of what it was. Reducing the waste that we're throwing out is awesome,”

– Georgia Siemensma

"Now we have eggs from the chickens and the joy of having pets but it's also just knowing that you're helping the world."

"I think people should do as much as they possibly can because the smallest thing does help and if we all do little things, it builds up and we're going to have a much healthier, happier world."



Reduce, Reuse Recycle

1. Avoid food waste.

Food in your bin goes to landfill, which creates greenhouse gases. Wasting food also wastes the resources used to grow food and the energy used to process, pack and transport food. For tips, visit lovefoodhatewaste.vic.gov.au

2. Reuse.

Replace disposable coffee cups with BYO cups. Visit responsiblecafes.org to see which cafes provide a discount when you BYO cup. Opt for reusable water bottles and reusable shopping bags

3. Recycle.

Soft plastics which can be scrunched into a ball – bread bags, pasta and rice bags, frozen food and veggie bags, cereal box liners, confectionery bags, plastic bags, old green bags – can be dropped off at REDcycle bins. Find your nearest REDcycle bin at redcycle.net.au/where-to-redcycle/

4. Reuse.

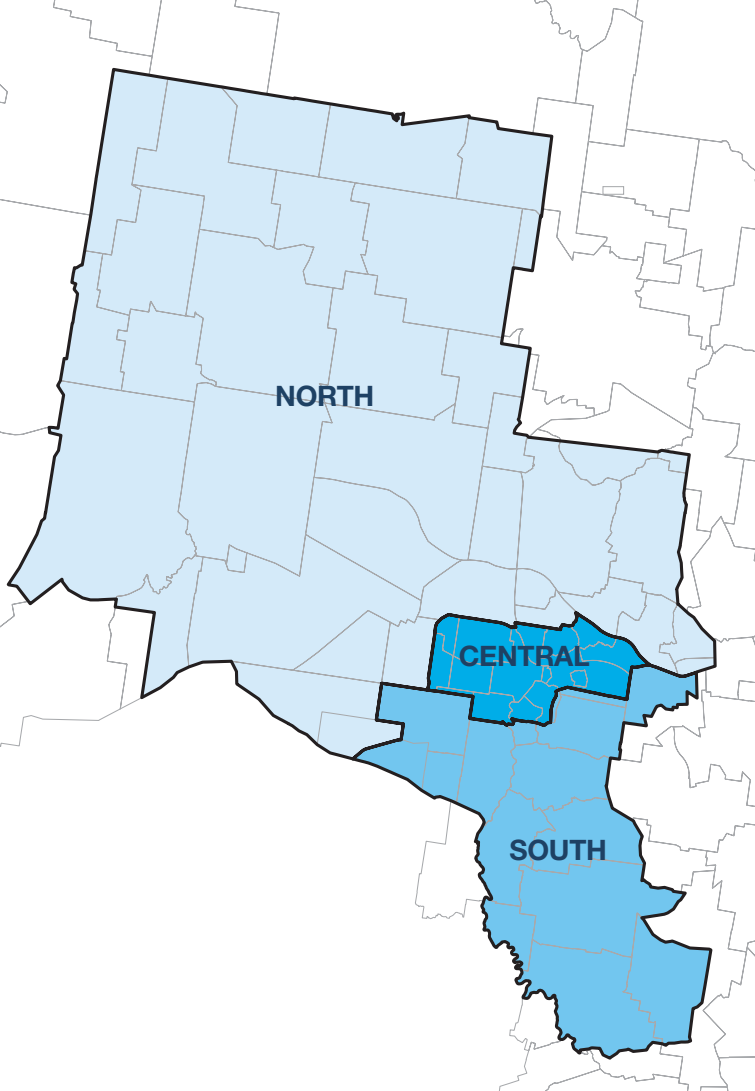
Feed food scraps to chickens and enjoy fresh eggs, put food scraps in a worm farm, or learn how to make garden compost

5. Be sustainable at Christmas.

Living Christmas trees are biodegradable and recyclable. Mulch and compost your tree, or use the City of Ballarat's kerbside green waste collection. Suppliers may take back trees for mulching. Choose reusable or recyclable wrapping.

From little things big things grow: Angus, Georgia and Charlotte Siemensma are reducing what the family sends to landfill.





The Ballarat municipality is divided into three wards – Central, North and South - with three elected Councillors representing each ward. The City of Ballarat Council is made up of a dynamic group of people, led by Mayor Cr Samantha McIntosh.

Council encourages community participation at its Ordinary Meetings, which are open to the public and held at the Ballarat Town Hall every three weeks, on a Wednesday, from 7pm.

The next Council meeting will be held on 12 December, with meeting dates for January and February 2019 to be confirmed. Follow us on Facebook to find out more.

CENTRAL WARD

- Ballarat East • Eureka • Black Hill • Soldiers Hill • Redan
- Newington • most of Mount Pleasant and Brown Hill
- part of Alfredton

NORTH WARD

- Ballarat North • Invermay Park • Wendouree • Lucas
- Cardigan • Miners Rest • Learmonth • Burrumbeet
- most of Alfredton and part of Brown Hill.

SOUTH WARD

- Delacombe • Sebastopol • Canadian • Mount Clear
- Mount Helen • Buninyong and part of Mount Pleasant.

CENTRAL WARD



Mayor Cr Samantha McIntosh

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Cr Belinda Coates

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Cr Mark Harris

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NORTH WARD



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Cr Grant Tillet

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Cr Des Hudson

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Cr Ben Taylor

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