



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Parklets continue to support local business](#)

[Diversity magazine](#) [Local business](#) [COVID-19](#) [Your community](#)

## Parklets continue to support local business

Published 11 March 2021



If you've been out and about in our City these past few months, it's likely that you've seen our business parklets – you may even have dined or had coffee at one. We recently announced that this program will be extended until at least the end of June. Here we look at its positive impact.

### [Back to Diversity](#)

**Business parklets** involve the temporary repurposing of parking bays outside businesses to increase **footpath trading** while offering patrons a COVID-safe environment to enjoy a meal. They also provide opportunities for hospitality traders to employ new staff.

As part of Live Love Local, 64 hospitality traders have installed business parklets on roads to assist with their post-lockdown recovery efforts.

We're incredibly proud of the contribution the parklet program has made to our hospitality traders with 64 per cent of them saying they've been able to retain staff due to the parklets and 71.5 per cent being able to engage new staff.

Keeping hospitality flourishing is vital for all businesses in our neighbourhoods as busy cafes and restaurants have flow on effects of trade to other retailers.

Many members of our community have enjoyed utilising the spaces for their catch ups with friends and family and we are happy to announce that this program will be extended until at least end-June with a further extension to December possible.

This extension allows Council to continue supporting traders while providing additional time to progress with developing the criteria for a longer-term program.

This is a great result for our traders and community. We hope you continue to enjoy the parklets (and the amazing hospitality our City has to offer) into the cooler months.

### **The little game that could**

Another initiative that provided both support for traders and local fun for the community was our old-school [Spotto](#) game, which gave participants the chance to win a prize pack valued at \$1,000 simply by exploring Port Phillip and supporting our local stores.

The prize packs included \$100 gift vouchers from 90 businesses from across the City providing a cost benefit of around \$10,000 in total for traders.

The competition also required participants to spend at least \$10 in local businesses. With 1,007 entries and participants spending on average \$43, Spotto contributed more than \$43,000 to our local economy.

Spotto also provided a sense of town pride when considering local icons, connection to neighbourhoods as well as nostalgia for parents and guardians playing the game with children.

***“Just wanted to give some great feedback about Spotto. My five-year-old played it in Albert Park yesterday and it was such a great activity – she would pop into cafés and ask the traders if they had seen any of the items, and they loved getting involved with her! It felt like such a great way to connect traders with the community” - Port Phillip Resident***

Here are some other Live Love Local initiatives that have been supporting our City's recovery.

### **Open for business directory**

We've built a local [business directory](#) so you can find out which restaurants, cafes and other businesses are open for business in your neighbourhood. We encourage ordering directly from businesses rather than using food delivery apps or services. By calling directly, the full cost you pay goes straight to the local venue.

### **Stay and Play**

Take advantage of Port Phillip's [Stay and Play offers](#) including some of our city's best hotels, restaurants, attractions and shopping experiences. Enter the draw to [win a Port Phillip getaway](#) before 30 April 2021.

### **Explore Port Phillip**

Visit our [Explore Port Phillip Facebook page](#) for general information and tips on travelling around the City of Port Phillip. We're always showing love for our local traders on this page!

### Hidden Gems tour

Download a free app offering fun interactive self-guided trails, where you can discover South Melbourne's unique vibe, amazing history, its artisans and creators, and its colourful local characters. Collect virtual gems and enter the [Hidden Gems Competition](#) to win weekly prizes until the end of April 2021.



### Community parklets

[Community parklets](#) have turned parking bays into a place where you can safely gather to meet friends, eat lunch, enjoy a coffee, read a book or play with your family.

### Play Streets

A Play Street involves the temporary closure of a street, reimagining the street as family-friendly public space, encouraging connection and play through safe, inclusive and accessible programming. [Visit a Play Street](#) as they debut this month.

## Related Content

**You are invited to Live Love Local**



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [New off-leash park in Elwood](#)

[Diversity magazine](#)   [Sport and recreation](#)   [Your community](#)

## New off-leash park in Elwood

Published 11 March 2021



[Feedback](#)

Let your pooch off-leash at Moran Reserve in Elwood.

[Back to Diversity](#)

As part of a recent funding boost and the [Suburban Parks Program](#), the Victorian Government is working with local councils, including the City of Port Phillip, to deliver 18 new parks and nine off-leash dog parks.

Mayor Louise Crawford said, “Some exciting news for the pups of Port Phillip. Council will receive funding from the state government to deliver a dog off-leash park at Moran Reserve in Elwood.”

Parks were selected for funding based on their accessibility by road, public transport or well-linked to bike and walking tracks.

With allocated funding of up to \$275,000, the Moran Reserve will be transformed into a safe and lively space for social activity and recreation, for pooch pals and their owners.

The dog parks have been purposefully planned and designed to include features such as designated ball play areas, rockeries, education and agility equipment and seating.

“These parks will create local jobs while they’re being built, boost surrounding local businesses and provide social, health and wellbeing benefits for families and their pets for years to come,” said Lily D’Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

Find [secret spots to explore](#) with your pup around Port Phillip.

Visit [Dog parks and reserves](#) for more information about off-leash activities and best practices when adventuring with your pooch pal.



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Got a great idea for a festival?](#)

[Arts](#) [Diversity magazine](#) [Grants](#) [Your community](#)

## Got a great idea for a festival?

Published 11 March 2021



Space 2B Laneway Festival, photograph courtesy Janine Lawrie

We want to help you create events that celebrate our City's community spirit, identity, arts and culture. Not-for-profit orgs and community groups are invited to apply for our Local Festivals Fund Recovery grants up to \$10,000 to develop small to medium-scale local neighbourhood festivals or events.

[Back to Divercity](#)

Projects must be completed by 31 December 2021.

**Who Can Apply?**

Not-For-Profit organisations and community groups proposing an event will need to consider Victorian Government regulations and advice regarding COVID-safe events.

Applicants can apply online. Go to this webpage to find out more about the grants guidelines and criteria and how to apply:

[portphillip.vic.gov.au/explore-the-city/arts-and-creative-industries/funding-and-support/local-festivals-fund](https://portphillip.vic.gov.au/explore-the-city/arts-and-creative-industries/funding-and-support/local-festivals-fund)

**What type of event festival or celebration can be funded?**

- Outdoor events/festivals
- Indoor events/festivals
- A combination of indoor or outdoor

Events can include an online component.

If you have an idea for a small to medium festival or event contact the Arts Administrator on 9209 6217 or

[lff@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:lff@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

Advice and assistance will be available to help you with COVID-safe event planning.



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Women's History Month](#)

[Diversity magazine](#)   [Your community](#)

## Women's History Month

Published 11 March 2021



Anu Bajwa, multicultural community leader

Celebrating Port Phillip women, past and present.



### [Back to Divercity](#)

To celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) and Women's History Month we're recognising the work and achievements of significant local women with a series of events including a unique and thought-provoking [Poster Project](#).

Throughout March, we're inviting you to join us on a quest to explore the rich history, cultural heritage and untold stories of influential Port Phillip women by keeping an eye out for posters around the city.

The posters feature a scannable QR code that links through to an individual biography of each woman. You'll find posters on walls, street corners, at local shopping centres in Port Phillip and virtually on our [Facebook page](#).

Creating this project involved local museums, historical societies and cultural organisations coming together to share stories about women who have made important contributions to our community in past and present times.

Present subjects, Boon Wurrung elder [Parbin-ata Dr Carolyn Briggs](#) and multicultural community leaders [Anu Bajwa](#), [Alba Chliakhtine](#) and [Kelly Kotsonis](#) debuted the project at our International Women's Day 2021 conversation-based community event on 4 March.

The event was a wonderful opportunity for members of our community to celebrate, get to know Port Phillip women and engage with this year's IWD theme of [#ChooseToChallenge](#), a reminder that we can all choose to seek out women's achievements.



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Renew Fitzroy St open for business](#)

[Diversity magazine](#)   [Arts](#)   [Local business](#)   [Your community](#)

## Renew Fitzroy St open for business

Published 11 March 2021



Mr Macramé is one of the Renew Fitzroy Street participants in the ARTWORKS St Kilda Artists Collective

After receiving their keys to move in just a few weeks ago, our very first Renew Fitzroy Street tenants, Farm Goat, Mike Stretch Finds and Calistags Plants and ARTWORKS studio space of creatives Flo & Co, Mr Macrame, Rus Kitchin and Tom Cerdan have officially set up shop!

[Back to Diversity](#)

On Tuesday 2 March 2021 the [Renew Fitzroy Street project](#) debuted as participating businesses opened up their doors to Fitzroy Street for the very first time.

Delivered in partnership by City of Port Phillip, [Renew Australia](#) and Fitzroy Street Business Association (FSBA), the initiative encourages makers, creators, artists and social enterprises to occupy the vacant retail space where they can bring their creative ideas to life.

Council contributed \$75,000 to the project, which was matched by FSBA.

Mayor Louise Crawford visited the newly opened spaces on Tuesday and said she was excited to see the project come to fruition.

“Renew Fitzroy Street is a fantastic project which supports both emerging and existing traders. It’s been a tough year for retail due to COVID-19 and we’re proud to be supporting our community to bounce back,” Cr Crawford said.

“We’re look forward to seeing these seven creatives thrive, as they contribute to an important period of growth and development of Fitzroy Street. I encourage everyone to come down to Fitzroy Street to see the wonderful things that are happening.”

Flo & Co. owner, Sam Sagginelli said the opportunity had allowed her to expand her client base, as well as work with other creatives.

“Previously, most of my business leads have come via my website, social media or word of mouth, whereas now I get to make instant connections with my customers. The initiative has been fantastic, as everyone who is part of Renew Fitzroy Street is new to bricks and mortar retail, which means we’ve been able to support each other through the highs and lows. I can’t wait to share my work with more people and grow my business,” Miss Sagginelli said.

### **Support a local business near you**

Check out our [Open for business directory](#) to find a list of traders who’d love your support.

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# DIVERSITY

March 2021



FROM THE CHAMBER



CITY NEWS



ARTS IN FOCUS



SHAPE OUR CITY



COMMUNITY SPIRIT



WHAT'S ON



## Parklets continue to support local business

If you've been out and about in our City these past few months, it's likely that you've seen our business parklets – you may even have dined or had coffee at one.

We recently announced that this program will be extended and you will be able to enjoy the parklets until at least the end of June. In this issue, we look at the positive impact of this program.

[Find out more](#)



## Festival celebrates our First Nations' culture

Come along or jump online to celebrate Indigenous culture at the [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival](#) in St Kilda from Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 March.

Experience a diversity of COVID-safe live and virtual events showcasing Australia's leading First Nations talent and rising stars in live music, art, food and fashion as well as traditional dance, workshops, cooking demonstrations, competitions and exciting activities for all ages.

Illustration by Charlotte Allingham

[Find out more](#)

## From the Chamber

**A very local summer has come to an end – a summer in which we enjoyed the best of home, could support each other and [Live Love Local](#).**

Despite summer being over, the need to support our local communities post-COVID continues and I am delighted that Council unanimously voted to extend our business-parklet program until the end of June. These parklets have provided opportunities for our hospitality traders to employ new staff and keep serving their customers and we hope you continue to enjoy them into the cooler months.



Following this uncertain time, it is wonderful that the [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival](#) returns to St Kilda from Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 March. With online offerings and live events, the festival will showcase a diverse program of First Nations talent in a COVID-safe way. You can read more in our feature article – and I hope to see you there.

We're lucky in our City to have an engaged and passionate community with a deep well of knowledge and lived experience.

To make sure that we are creating genuine and transparent opportunities for you to provide feedback and inform the decisions being made, we have recently adopted a new Community Engagement Policy, which you can read [here](#).

Engaging with our community is core to what we do at Council. It involves having conversations and working with people who are interested in or may be affected by Council's decision-making. It also provides opportunities for our community and Council to learn together and build shared knowledge through experiences, actions and learnings.

You can read more about how you can get involved in the Shape your City section below, or visit [Have Your Say](#). Your contribution allows Council to have a greater understanding of diverse points of view, values, concerns and priorities when making decisions and enhances our capacity to make well-informed, acceptable and sustainable decisions on your behalf.

Regards,

Cr Louise Crawford  
Mayor, City of Port Phillip

## City news

### Women's History Month

To celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) and Women's History Month we're recognising the work and achievements of significant local women with a series of events including a unique and thought-provoking [Poster Project](#).

Pictured: Anu Bajwa, multicultural community leader



[Find out more](#)

## Fitzroy Street open for business

After receiving their keys to move in just a few weeks ago, [our very first Renew Fitzroy Street tenants](#), Farm Goat, Mike Stretch Finds and Calistags Plants and ARTWORKS studio space of creatives Flo & Co, Mr Macrame, Rus Kitchin and Tom Cerdan have officially set up shop!



[Find out more](#)

## Let's get on our bikes

Thinking about getting on your bike, but don't know where to begin? Let's Ride Melbourne supports everyone to choose to ride. Bike riding is a convenient and healthy way to get around the city, whether you're a beginner or pro.



[Find out more](#)

## New off-leash park in Elwood

Some exciting news for the pups of Port Phillip. Council will receive funding from the state government to deliver a dog off-leash park at Moran Reserve in Elwood.



[Find out more](#)

## Got a great idea for a festival?

We want to help you create events that celebrate our City's community spirit, identity, arts and culture. Not-for-profit orgs and community groups are invited to apply for our Local Festivals Fund Recovery grants up to \$10,000 for local neighbourhood festivals or events.



[Find out more](#)

## Arts in focus



### Time to chime for Catani Clock Tower

St Kilda finally has a 'village bell' ringing out, more than 80 years after the distinctive Catani Memorial Clock Tower appeared on the foreshore.



### Carlisle Street Arts Space reopens

Attention art lovers – the [Carlisle Street Arts Space](#) is now open weekdays from 9.30 am to 4 pm.

The arts space reopened to the public

The digital chimes replicate the solemn tones of a classic clock tower bell. In a further nod to the past, the chimes were installed by the same company responsible for activating the clockface and mechanism in 1932.

earlier this month. With physical distancing measures in place, our community is happy to see the latest [VISTA exhibition](#) resume.

Image: Elizabeth Parsons (1831-1897), The First St Kilda Jetty and Kenny's Bathing Ship c1855 (detail)

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

## Help shape our City



### Thanks for sharing

From 20 February to 7 March, we were out and about in some neighbourhoods seeking feedback on draft action plans for libraries and live music, and listening to what you wanted to share. If you missed us, we'll be nearby again in May, August and November. Register at [Have Your Say](#) to find out when we're next near your 'hood.



### Council Plan 2021-31

Council is moving into next gear in developing the Council Plan 2021-31. Thirty-five community members came together in February to help shape a vision and plan for the future of our City. Visit [Have Your Say](#) to find out how you can give feedback on the draft Plan.



### Future South Melbourne

We are planning for the future of South Melbourne to manage change and guide how the area looks, feels and functions. Tell us what you think about South Melbourne and what you want it to be like in the future. Your responses will help create a vision and establish key directions for the area.

[Have your say](#)

## Community spirit

### Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation

This month, we celebrate the work of local community group, the Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, which has had a meaningful presence in our community for over 20 years, with strong connections with the local Indigenous community and organisations.



[Read more](#)

### We want your stories

We want Diversity to reflect our community and feature the stories and voices of Port Phillip. If you or somebody you know has unique stories from our City, or maybe you know of some unsung heroes, please email us at

[divercity@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:divercity@portphillip.vic.gov.au) using subject line 'Community spirit'.

Image: Brigitte Dawson, *Mural on Wynyard*, 2020.



## Freebies and discounts



### Gasworks: Locals' Night

Gasworks Arts Park is offering discounted tickets for Port Phillip residents for all opening night performances.

'Locals Night' tickets are available for \$30 (a \$15 saving) and can be booked over the phone, in-person, or online.

[gasworks.org.au/whats-on](http://gasworks.org.au/whats-on)



### Miss Fisher and the Crypt of Tears

**Rippon Lea**  
**10 am to 4 pm**  
**Wednesday to Sunday**  
Phryne Fisher is back with a new exhibition filled with glamour, romance and adventure. Experience Miss Fisher's world, complete with an interactive mystery, and feature film costumes. Port Phillip residents receive a 20 per cent discount on entry. Tickets must be purchased on arrival.

[Read more](#)



### Win tix to Yaluk-ut Weelam Festival

We have tickets to giveaway for [Gareeal](#), the opening night event of [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival](#), on Thursday 25 March. Experience a COVID-safe showcase of leading First Nations talent and rising stars. For your chance to win, [email us](#) with 'Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee tix' in the subject line before 10 am Tue 23 March.

[Explore our City](#)

## Your Councillors

### Gateway Ward



**Cr Heather Cunsolo**  
0466 227 014



**Cr Peter Martin**  
0435 390 821



**Cr Marcus Pearl**  
0466 448 272

### Lake Ward





**Cr Andrew Bond**  
0481 034 028

**Cr Katherine Copsey**  
0466 478 949

**Cr Christina Sirakoff**  
0435 419 930

## Canal Ward



**Cr Tim Baxter**  
0466 495 250



**Cr Rhonda Clark**  
0435 098 738



**Cr Louise Crawford**  
0466 514 643

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[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Let's get on our bikes](#)

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## Let's get on our bikes

Published 11 March 2021



Thinking about getting on your bike, but don't know where to begin? Let's Ride Melbourne supports everyone to choose to ride. Bike riding is a convenient and healthy way to get around the city, whether you're a beginner or pro.

[Back to Diversity](#)

Let's Ride Melbourne provides everything you need to boost your confidence, promotes safe riding behaviour and raises awareness of safe bike routes to allow more people to begin to ride or ride more often.

Let's Ride Melbourne is a shared partnership between the RACV and the Cities of Port Phillip, Melbourne and Yarra.

[letsride.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://letsride.melbourne.vic.gov.au)



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > Time to chime for St Kilda's Catani Clock Tower

[Infrastructure development](#)   [Your community](#)

## Time to chime for St Kilda's Catani Clock Tower

Published 1 March 2021



Feedback

The Catani Memorial Clock Tower, The Esplanade, St Kilda, circa 1950

St Kilda finally has a 'village bell' ringing out, more than 80 years after the distinctive Catani Memorial Clock Tower appeared on the foreshore.

[Back to Divercity](#)

St Kilda finally has a 'village bell' ringing out, more than 80 years after the distinctive Catani Memorial Clock Tower appeared on the foreshore.

The digital chimes, turned on by Port Phillip Council today, replicate the solemn tones of a classic clock tower bell. In a further nod to the past, the chimes were installed by the same company responsible for activating the clockface and mechanism in 1932.

Following extensive community consultation with nearby residents and traders, the chimes will sound on the hour from 8 am to 10 pm on weekdays and 9 am to 10 pm on weekends.

Carlo Catani, who died in 1918, set the design principles for the St Kilda foreshore to be a cosmopolitan Mediterranean-style entertainment and promenading park scape.

His vision included a prominent public clock tower as the centrepiece, and a tower was delivered posthumously after a design competition in 1930 - but without a bell.

Digital chimes have many advantages, including easy to control sound and directional settings.

Mayor Louise Crawford said the chimes provide a moment of stillness and a sense of community as residents and visitors go about their daily life.

"This project represents a great combination of the old and the new, fully in keeping with St Kilda's reputation as a unique destination. The chimes will be able to be heard nearby on Victoria's most popular beach," Cr Crawford said.

Council is planning to hold an event later this year to celebrate the completion of the Catani Memorial Clock Tower chimes project.

The idea to complete the bell tower was raised by resident Isaac Hermann and championed by former councillor David Brand.



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > Carlisle Street Arts Space reopens

Arts    [Diversity magazine](#)

## Carlisle Street Arts Space reopens

Published 11 March 2021

Feedback



Elizabeth Parsons (1831-1897) The First St Kilda Jetty and Kenny's Bathing Ship c1855 (detail) oil on canvas 33 x 58cm.

Attention art lovers – the Carlisle Street Arts Space is now open weekdays from 9.30 am to 4 pm!

[Back to Diversity](#)

The arts space reopened to the public earlier this month. With physical distancing measures in place, our community is happy to see the latest [VISTA exhibition](#) resume.

## VISTA – views from the Port Phillip City Collection

**Open until 31 March 2021**

**Free entry**

**Carlisle Street entrance, St Kilda Town Hall**

VISTA brings together historical and contemporary perspectives to explore the recognisable scenes and picturesque panoramas from around our city, dating from the 1860s including unfamiliar views from other places and landscapes constructed from the imagination. Curiously, in a time where people are isolating at home, very few works include human figures, creating a strangely now familiar atmosphere of solitude and spaciousness.

Be sure to call in or visit [VISTA online](#) for an immersive 3D tour of the exhibition.



[Home](#) > [About the council](#) > [News and media](#) > [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival returns in 2021](#)

[Arts](#)   [First Peoples](#)   [Your community](#)

# Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival returns in 2021

Published 9 March 2021

Feedback 



Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Festival 2021




This year will see four exciting days that celebrate and showcase First Peoples arts and culture.

### [Back to Divercity](#)

Events featuring talented First Nations female performers and music legend Archie Roach are highlights of this month's Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee First Peoples Arts and Cultural Festival (YWN).

Previously a one-day event held by Port Phillip Council on the first weekend of February, the festival will run from 25 to 28 March, with a mix of onsite and virtual events to meet COVIDSafe requirements.

The festival opens on Thursday 25 March with a night of song, ceremony, dance and immersive art at Memo Music Hall, St Kilda 

Named for the current season as identified by the Boonwurrung, Gareeal (summer rains) is an all-female First Peoples production co-curated by Allara Briggs Pattison, featuring performances by Alice Skye, Bumpy, Monica Jasmine Karo and accompanied by string arrangements by Ensemble Dutala and friends. Gareeal celebrates the collective and individual journey all living things take, and the powerful connection to the land.

The festival also features a landmark performance from music legend Archie Roach, who will be performing Koorie, his grassroots album from 1988, on Saturday 27 March at the Espy.

Replay, Koorie (1988): The early protest songs of Archie Roach, will celebrate Archie's little-known connection to St Kilda, revisiting the songs he wrote while living behind St Kilda's Village Belle Hotel in the 80s. The intimate concert has been curated especially for the festival, with special guests joining Archie to talk, sing and celebrate the underground tape.

"It's impossible to think about St Kilda's music history without thinking of Archie Roach and the powerful songs he wrote. This event is a fantastic opportunity to experience an intimate performance from Archie in St Kilda and hear the powerful stories behind the songs," Mayor Louise Crawford said.

Cr Crawford said Port Phillip Council had adapted many of its festivals to meet COVIDSafe requirements, including last year's popular St Kilda Film Festival, Mabo Day and NAIDOC Week events.

"It's exciting that we can continue to showcase First Peoples arts and culture this year. As well as this cultural event now being held over four days, the online component makes Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee festival even more accessible for both our community and audiences across Australia."

## More information

For more information about the Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee First People Arts and Cultural Festival, go to [Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee festival](#).

*Gareeal: Yaluk-ut Weelam Ngargee Opening Night Concert* is on Thursday 25 March at Memo Music Hall, 88 Acland St, St Kilda. Doors open at 6.30 pm. Tickets: \$25 (full price) or \$15 (concession). Bookings via [YWNF opening night concert](#).

*Replay, Koorie (1988): The early protest songs of Archie Roach* is on Saturday 27 March at the Gershwin Room, The Espy, 11 The Esplanade, St Kilda. Doors open at 3 pm. Tickets: \$40 + booking fee. Bookings via [YWNF songs of Archie Roach](#).





Home > About the council > News and media > Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation

Diversity magazine   First Peoples   Your community

# Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation

Published 11 March 2021

## I want to

<http://www.ppcfr.org/>

Feedback



This month, we celebrate the work of local community group, the Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation, which has had a meaningful presence in our community for over 20 years, with strong connections with the local Indigenous community and organisations.

The group meets monthly, distribute a monthly newsletter called 'Mungo', present a bi-annual Reconciliation Writing Competition for students and adults.

They host an annual lunch to commemorate National Sorry Day for members of the Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander community, faith groups, members and friends, organise public forums on topical themes

Last year, the group's events were cancelled, but they plan to hold a COVID-safe lunch for Sorry Day on 26 May in South Melbourne.

To find out more, visit [ppcfr.org](http://ppcfr.org).