



# THE DINGLEY DOSSIER

Volume 53  
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December 2025  
[www.dvnc.com.au/dossier](http://www.dvnc.com.au/dossier)

## KINGSWOOD PLANS ARE NOT EVEN CLOSE TO BEING ACCEPTABLE

Council received 8,000 objections for 840 units. Unfortunately Premier Allan promised to build 80,000 homes a year, so Planning noticed Kingswood and wanted even higher density.

It was protected by recreational zoning, so the Government set up a so-called "independent" golf course redevelopment committee.

This Committee received overwhelming submissions and made 100 resolutions. But government only accepted one resolution - that Kingswood could be built on.

Ninety-nine other resolutions went to the Planning shredder.

**ZERO services. No Doctors, No General Store, No child care, No Secondary School- NOTHING.**

**No reliable flood controls.** Nigel Satterley said Planning insisted on the most intense development.

The only time the Save Kingswood Group could meet Melbourne Water, their representative looked at a Kingswood map and said: IS THIS THE RIGHT MAP?



The development mess is dumped on the City of Kingston to pick up all the problems that occur, so they too are currently contesting it.

Thank you to Councillor Caroline White for her support.

Dingley Village is difficult to navigate in and out without a car. Satterley's plans are dependent on 2,000 people walking, cycling and E-Biking on our narrow footpaths. It will be a crime-magnet ghetto. No room to put bins, or for emergency vehicles. There are 50 reasons why Dingley Village will be ruined. See [www.savedingley.com](http://www.savedingley.com)

Kevin Poulter  
President, Save Kingswood Group

### Editor Note:

At a Special Council Meeting on the 10th of November, the City of Kingston voted to seek a review by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) of the State Government's decision to approve the development plan for the former Kingswood Golf Course site in Dingley Village. See more information in Our Council and Dingley Village Community Association articles.

## CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT FARMERS' MARKET

SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER - 3:00 - 8.00 PM - 31 MARCUS ROAD

*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, and pay our respects to them, their culture, their Elders past, present and future and uphold their relationship to this land and the important role all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within Australia.*

# WHAT'S ON AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE?

31B Marcus Road, Dingley Village. 8512 0505 admin@dvnc.com.au

## LIVING IN DINGLEY VILLAGE

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**City of Kingston:**  
1300 653 356

**Emergency:** 000

**Police:** 131 444

**Crime Stoppers:**  
1800 333 000

**Lifeline:** 13 11 14

**Suicide Call Back Service**  
1300 659 467

**SES:** 13 25 00

**Vic Emergency Hotline**  
1800 226 226

**Poisons Info:** 13 11 26

**Emergency Relief**  
(MADDV) 9551 1799

**MensLine:**  
1300 789 978

**WIRE**  
(Women's Information and  
Referral Exchange):  
1300 134 130

**Safe Steps:**  
1800 015 188

**Nurse on Call:**  
1300 60 60 24

**Tip Smells & Dust:**  
EPA 1300 372 842

**Aircraft Noise:**  
1800 802 584

**Neighbourhood Centre:**  
8512 0505

**Community Association:**  
dvcasecretary@gmail.com

**Men's Shed:**  
9551 5892

**VicRoads Faults  
and Hazards:**  
13 11 70

**RSPCA**  
9224 2222

**Justice of the Peace**

Marion Harriden 9551 1799

**Document Signing Station**  
Springvale Library  
1300 630 920

### Dingley Village Social Group

Looking to meet new people  
in a fun, relaxed setting?  
Playing cards, games, bingo,  
scrabble & mahjong.



Every Monday from 1.00pm-3.30pm in  
the Harold Box Hall at the Dingley Village  
Neighbourhood Centre. 31b Marcus Rd  
Dingley Village VIC 3172. \$2.00 per visit &  
light refreshments are provided.

Enquiries: admin@dvnc.com.au or  
Ph: **8512 0505**.

### Neurodiverse Parents Support Group with Geraldine

Parent lead group for children under the  
age of 16 with Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia and  
Dyscalculia. Meet in Meeting Rooms 4/5 every  
3rd Wednesday of the Month from 6.30pm-  
8.00pm. Contact Geraldine Howley on  
**0449 150 415** or email: geraldineahowley@  
gmail.com

### Music with Mummies

An interactive and personable  
experience for both you & your  
child. Ages: 6 months -3 yrs, Wednesdays  
in the Library Meeting Room 2. All enquires  
contact Emma: Ph: **0412 796 424** or email:  
musicwithmummies@gmail.com



### Teens Games Group

Fun environment for teenagers from 13 - 17  
to enjoy games together. Strategy, fantasy &  
sci-fi style board & role-playing. Friday 5.30  
- 7.30 pm in DVNC meeting room 4.5 & 6.  
**Free event.**

### Dingley Village Playgroup

Monday 9.00am-11.00am  
Tuesday 9.30am-11.30am  
\$40.00 Term fee in the Playgroup room.  
In the new DVNC centre & Early Years  
services building. Email: admin@dvnc.com.  
au or Ph: **8512 0505**



### Zumba Gold with Norma

Zumba Gold is a low- impact  
dance fitness class perfect for  
beginners of all ages and fitness  
levels. Thurs. 9.30am -10.30am in the Harold  
Box Hall, \$10.00 per class. No need to book  
just come along.



### Body and Balance with Norma

This class focusses on balance, ranges of  
motion and coordination. Thurs. 11am-12pm  
in the Harold Box Hall, \$10.00 per class No  
need to book just come along.

### Social Table Tennis with John

Catering to all skill levels both  
men & women. Come along  
and join this friendly group. Mon, 9am &  
Wed 12.30pm in the Harold Box Hall \$3.00  
per session. New members Welcome. No  
need to book just come along.



### Pilates

Mums and Bubs Pilates Tuesdays 11.15am-  
12pm \$12 session. Mat Pilates Tuesdays 12.30  
- 1.15 pm \$12 per session in the Harold Box  
Hall but please pay at reception first. Need to  
bring Yoga Mat, Water bottle and towel. All  
enquires please contact admin@dvnc.com.au  
or Ph: **8512 0505**.

### Knit, Craft & Natter with Marlene

Have a knitting or any other craft project lying  
around or want to learn how to knit. Thursdays  
10am -12pm in DVNC meeting room 4 & 5.  
Free Class, no need to book- Just come along.

### Chatty Café with Sue & Jo

The Chatty Café Scheme aims  
to get people chatting to build  
and encourage social connections within  
the local community, and to help reduce  
social isolation and loneliness. Let's keep our  
community connected! Wed 10am to 12pm in  
the staff room in the new DV Neighbourhood  
centre. **Free, just some along.**



### Collection Point

You can drop off the following items at the  
Centre: prescription glasses/ hearing aids,  
stamps & unused toiletries from hotel rooms.  
These items are then recycled for use by  
local service groups.

### Taekwondo with David

Mon & Thurs 5 -7pm in the 'Harold Box Hall'. If  
you are interested in joining, contact David on  
**0439 304 579**.

### Tai Chi

Tai Chi aids the reduction of anxiety of  
stress; it also helps increase flexibility and  
balance. Sessions are held in the Harold  
Box Hall. Tuesdays from 9am -11am.  
Wednesdays 6.30pm-9.30pm Contact James:  
**0430 570 460**.

### Agna Yoga with Sneha

Yoga & Meditation class in the Harold Box  
Hall, weekly on Fridays from 6pm-7pm. All  
enquires to agnayogawellness@outlook.com  
or Ph: **0421 876 858**

### Sound Healing with Danielle

Bio tuning session weekly on Tuesdays  
from 7pm-7.45pm in the Harold Box Hall. All  
enquires contact Danielle at Biofieldbayside@  
outlook.com or Ph: **0478 736 675**.





# COMMUNITY

## Carols by Kingston

Sunday, 07 December 2025, 5:00 PM to 09:30 PM. Bicentennial Park, Scotch Parade, Chelsea 3196

Join headliner Marina Prior and the Master of Ceremonies, the Kings of Christmas: Rob Mills & Bobby Fox. The night includes live performances, kids' activities, food stalls, a community BBQ from Edithvale Fire Brigade and a magical fireworks finale at 9:15pm.

Carols by Kingston is a free event, but reserved seating is available to purchase for those who like a guaranteed seat for the big night! Seating will be allocated on arrival.

## Christmas Twilight Market

Dingley Village Farmers' Market will be holding a twilight market on the 20th December instead of their regular day time market.

Heaps of fun activities for all the family, say hello to Santa, meet the Hawthorn team mascots, listen to Carols and music throughout the evening and much more. Saturday 20th December 3 – 8pm Marcus Rd Reserve.

## Dingley Village Library

Summer Opening Hours will be in effect between Monday 15 December and Sunday 11 January.

For more information go to [www.library.kingston.vic.gov.au/about-us/locations-and-hours](http://www.library.kingston.vic.gov.au/about-us/locations-and-hours) Extended Access Membership:

Enjoy the library for study, printing, browsing, borrowing, or simply relaxing in a cool, air-conditioned space even when staff aren't on site.

Make sure to join before Friday 19 December to use this service over the summer hours period, open to members 18 years and over.

For Extended Access Hours and to join go to [www.library.kingston.vic.gov.au/news/summer-hours](http://www.library.kingston.vic.gov.au/news/summer-hours)



## Special Dates in December + January

### 8th December: Bodhi Day, \*\*Buddhism

Bodhi Day is a holiday commemorating the day the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama reached enlightenment around 596 BCE. Prince Gautama took his place under the Bodhi tree vowing to remain there until he attained enlightenment.

### 15th – 22nd December: Hanukkah \* Judaism

Hanukkah (Chanukah), also known as the Feast of Lights, is an eight-day festival celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods. The Hebrew word Chanukah means "dedication," and is thus named because it celebrates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem in 165 BCE.

### Christmas Day 25th Dec

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, who is considered by Christians to be the Son of God, and the saviour of all people. Christmas is celebrated by many in Australia regardless of religious affiliation. Christmas lights and trees are displayed, carols are sung, and individuals come together to exchange gifts and spend time with family and friends.

### New Year's Eve – 31st Dec

New Year's Eve is a time for communities, families and friends to celebrate the year past and the year to come according to the Gregorian calendar.

### Christmas Day (Orthodox Christians) – 7th Jan

Christmas falls on a different day in the Orthodox Church because they still observe the traditional Julian calendar, which has the original dates for Christian celebrations before the Gregorian calendar was introduced.

### Australia Day- 26th Jan

Australia Day is the official National Day of Australia. Observed annually on 26 January, it marks the 1788 landing of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove and raising of the Union Flag by Arthur Phillip following days of exploration of Port Jackson in New South Wales.

In present-day Australia, celebrations aim to reflect the diverse society and landscape of the nation and are marked by community and family events, reflections on Australian history, official community awards and citizenship ceremonies welcoming new members of the Australian community.



Holy days (mainly Jewish, Islamic and Baha'i) which begin at sundown on previous day and continues until sundown.

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.



Dingley Village  
Neighbourhood Centre  
is now on



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Please either scan the code or search  
Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre  
on Instagram





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Terms and conditions, fees, charges and lending criteria apply. All information including interest rate is subject to change without notice. Full details available on application. Full offset facility is available for Bendigo Complete Home Loan for both fixed and variable loans. Offset facility can only be linked to one loan at any one time. A maximum of 6 offset facilities can be linked per loan account. Linked offset facility must be in same customer name/number. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879, (1728832-1767000) OUT\_43056864, 03/02/2025



**DINGLEY VILLAGE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD  
CENTRE**

## **Position Vacant: Finance Officer** **Part-time 10hrs per week**

Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre is seeking an organised and proactive Finance Officer to manage it's day-to-day financial operations. The ideal candidate will handle a variety of accounting and administrative duties, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and timely reporting and supports the Centre's commitment to transparency, accountability, and the efficient use of resources.

Start date March 2026 and Working With Children Check and Police Check required.

For full Position Description and or further information  
contact the Centre on 8512 0505 or [admin@dvnc.com.au](mailto:admin@dvnc.com.au)

**Applications close December 12th 5pm**

Include Resume and address to The Manager, 31B Marcus Rd, Dingley Village 3172.  
[manager@dvnc.com.au](mailto:manager@dvnc.com.au)

## **Little Villagers Childcare**

**Commonwealth Childcare Subsidy Approved Provider**

Don't need full time childcare, working part-time, working from home, home schooling or just need a few hours child free, then we have the answer. We have 6 hour sessions available for pre-school aged children.

You do not have to be eligible for Commonwealth Childcare subsidy for your child to attend, we offer affordable fee for service rates.



**Open 9 am - 3 pm**

Monday - Friday

**8512 0509**

Dingley Village Community Hub

31B Marcus Road, Dingley Village

Email: [lvcc@dvnc.com.au](mailto:lvcc@dvnc.com.au)

**Our caring, nurturing  
staff invite you to  
check out our  
new modern  
Childrens' Centre**



# DINGLEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Thank you

We wish every Dingley Village resident a Happy & Safe Christmas.

We hope that DVCA Dossier articles over this year have kept you informed and up to date on local issues. We return in February next year and will continue to work hard for our Dingley Village community.

## Dingley Village Annual Community Information Night 2025 - Thankyou

Thank you to our local Politicians, Councillors and community who supported the Annual Community Consultation meeting held last month at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre (DVNC).

DVCA greatly appreciated the generous donation of prizes made by our local businesses, for the raffle held at the meeting.

## Kingswood Golf Course - What's Happening?

At the end of October, our community was shocked by the Victorian Government Planning Minister, Sonya Kilkeny's approval of the dense 941 block housing development plan submitted by Satterley, for Kingswood Golf Course.

## The Next Step - VCAT

On Monday 10 November 2025, Kingston Council voted unanimously to lodge an Application for Review with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) of the Minister of Planning's decision to approve the Satterley development plan.

DVCA thanks Council; the Mayor, Councillors and the Kingston Planning Team, for their continued strong support, in taking this action to request VCAT's review of the Planning Minister's decision for Kingswood.

It is highly unlikely this will stop the development of Kingswood, but it could be an opportunity to halt it and bring the Planning Minister back to the table.

Council rightfully has many issues to raise, including the management of retarding basins being dumped on them, dangerously narrow roads, lack of tree / habitat retention and more, not to mention the impact of density on the community. The reasons for fighting so hard over the past 12 years against development such as this on Kingswood, still remain.

\*Any plan reflects the interest and inputs of people and will only be as good as the number of people who take an active part by contributing to the ultimate decision.

This large-scale housing development threatens to change Dingley forever and will adversely impact all residents.

Let's never forget this would be a 25% increase to our population with NO confirmed additional infrastructure or benefits.

## Good Planning Outcome Needed For Kingswood

Despite the 1000s of objections made against the various Tract Planning Consultancy designed development plans that have been submitted for Kingswood, the Satterley development plan approved by the Planning Minister has largely ignored our community's strong concerns.

As stated in Melbourne's first comprehensive strategic town plan, the definitive 'Planning Policies For Melbourne 1971':

Alan Croxford, MMBW Chair, Planning Policies For Melbourne and Metropolitan Region.

Good planning benefits everyone and there are strong reasons why government has spent time and resources in developing long term planning policies. They provide a framework in which future planning proceeds and planning schemes are prepared and implemented.

That's just it ..... good planning requires consistent application of planning zones in accordance with planning scheme policy, in order to support strong communities and protect neighbourhood character.

This Satterley development plan is a rushed plan in the name of "something something housing crisis" with no consideration for location, context and the years of submissions and arguments for balance involved.

DVCA will continue to strongly oppose this Satterley development plan for Kingswood, and will engage with State Government, Council and Residents on this.

Once again THANKYOU to everyone in our community for getting involved and fighting hard to protect Kingswood - the green heart of our village.

## Christmas Shopping - Support Our Dingley Village Shops

When doing your Christmas shopping or eating out during the Festive Season, don't forget to support our local shops and excellent restaurants/cafes. Please remember - it's in your interest to do so - each dollar you spend locally helps keep our shopping centre strong and vibrant and continuing to provide us with great local services right here in Dingley Village.

## Can We Help?

If you have a local issue, you need help with - don't hesitate to contact us and we will see if we can assist you with this.

## DVCA Contact Info:

Contact us by email at [dvcasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dvcasecretary@gmail.com) or come to our monthly evening meeting.

## DVCA Meeting Info:

Meetings are held in the Library Meeting Rooms, on the second Tuesday each month, February-November, at 7.30pm. located at 31b Marcus Rd. New members are most welcome to attend.

DVCA seeks new enthusiastic members to join and help keep our village a great place to live and work in. The DVCA is a voluntary group of Dingley Village residents, not affiliated to any political party and membership is open to all residents who genuinely care about our village.

For further information please contact the DVCA Secretary at [dvcasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dvcasecretary@gmail.com).



**NDIS Support Coordination**

**ADMIN@GERALDINESC.COM**

**0494 022 401**





# DINGLEY VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MARKET

From farm fresh produce to mouthwatering treats, there's no shortage of Christmas specials to tempt you at your Dingley Village Farmers market!

**SATURDAY**  
**20<sup>th</sup> December**  
**3 PM to 8 PM**  
**31 Marcus Rd Reserve**

**Bring the family and participate in the fun activities for all, while checking out all the stalls for Christmas specials and treats**



- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>3 - 4pm</b>     | Carol Singers                   |
| <b>4 -4.30pm</b>   | Father Xmas handing out lollies |
| <b>4.30 to 6pm</b> | Mystery prizes hunt             |
| <b>7.30pm</b>      | Xmas raffle draw.               |
| <b>4 - 8pm</b>     | Dingley Mens Shed band          |

Other activities: Face painting, fun hair plaiting, Xmas card making in the art room and meet Hawthorn Football Club team mascots

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**DINGLEY VILLAGE**  
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**SATURDAY**  
**17th JANUARY**  
**31 MARCUS ROAD**  
**FROM 8:30am - 1pm**  
**LET'S SHOP FOR**  
**FRUITS - VEGETABLES -**  
**ARTISAN - BREAD - MILK -**  
**SPICE - CHEESE - & MANY**  
**MORE...**  
**COME & SHOP...**  
 Shop among the gum trees for your farm fresh seasonal produce. At their heart, farmers' markets are a place for food producers and consumers to connect directly in the buying and selling process. Our farmers' market gives you a chance to meet the person who grew or made your food.  
 For More Information:  
 market@dvnc.com.au  
 www.dvnc.com.au/market

**Pantry Fresh**  
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 www.pantryfresh.com.au  
 (03)9551 1569  
 - Farm Fresh Eggs - Daily  
 - Chicken - All chemical free  
 - Deli goods - Wide range of cold meats and cheeses  
 - Coffee Shop - Italy's finest coffee beans  
 - Gluten + Sugar Free Products - Wide Range to choose from  
 - Gifts - Specific for any and even occasion  
 - Ice-cream and Desserts - Perfect for summer!  
 - Pasta and all your grocery needs!  
**AND SO MUCH MORE - COME IN AND SAY HELLO**

**Dingley Village Police Update**  
**Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000)**  
 To provide crime information. It can be anonymous.  
 neighbourhoodwatchkingston  
 www.nhw.com.au

## Operation Roadwise

Operation Roadwise is a targeted road safety initiative, primarily run by Victoria Police, to reduce road trauma during busy holiday periods.

- \* Obey the speed limit: Stick to the speed limit, as it is a major factor in crash risk.
- \* Plan your trip: Check traffic conditions, plan rest stops to prevent fatigue, and ensure you get enough sleep before driving.
- \* Avoid distractions: Put your phone away and focus on the task of driving.
- \* Never drink or drug drive: If you plan to drink, arrange alternative transport beforehand.
- \* Wear your seatbelt: This is a fundamental safety measure that could save your life.
- \* Check your vehicle: Ensure your vehicle is in good condition, including checking tires, brakes, and lights.

Neighbourhood Watch & Victoria Police would like to remind everyone to always securely lock your vehicle and never leave valuables visible.



# OUR COUNCIL

## Kingston seeks review of Kingswood development plan approval

11 November 2025

The City of Kingston will seek a review by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) of the State Government's decision to approve the development plan for the former Kingswood Golf Course site in Dingley Village.

Kingston Mayor Georgina Oxley said this is Council's final opportunity to push for the major improvements the community deserves. "We understand the land has been rezoned but this is a once-in-a-generation redevelopment that will permanently change the fabric of Dingley Village," Cr Oxley said. "While some refinements have been made, many of Council's key concerns remain unresolved. This review is intended to secure the best possible outcomes for our community — to make sure this development is sustainable and supported by the right infrastructure."

Council's ongoing concerns include the design and ownership of key infrastructure, guidelines for new housing, traffic impacts, the loss of native vegetation, achieving some genuine affordable housing, and the form and links into public open spaces and the Dingley Village Primary School and Shopping Centre.

"Council and the community have invested years in trying to get this right," Cr Oxley said.

"We've put forward our submission in good faith to the State Government and the developer to achieve a balanced outcome, but there are still fundamental issues that need to be addressed. With so much at stake, we owe it to our community to make sure local planning and infrastructure needs are not forgotten."

Cr Oxley said Council has a very significant track record in working with the State Government to plan and provide permits for housing. This experience has reinforced the importance of meaningful collaboration, something which we feel remains possible to address our concerns. "Our goal has always been clear — any development on this site must deliver lasting benefits for local residents and protect the character and liveability of Dingley Village," Cr Oxley said. "This review is about making sure the plan delivers on that promise."

*More information below*

## Council and community angry at State Government's approval of Kingswood development 21st October 2025

The City of Kingston and the Dingley Village community are angered and deeply disappointed by the State Government's decision — quietly announced late on Friday afternoon — to approve the controversial development of the former Kingswood Golf Course.

This decision has been made despite overwhelming community opposition, clear environmental risks, and warnings from the Government's own advisory processes that the site is highly constrained by flood risk and critical environmental values. Kingston Mayor Cr Georgina Oxley said the decision represents a complete failure to listen to local residents, thousands of whom have fought tirelessly to protect the character, liveability and environmental integrity of their neighbourhood.

"More than 1,400 residents took the time to make submissions. They were ignored. The Government's own advisory processes identified serious concerns. They were dismissed. This approval prioritises developer interests over community wellbeing — and our residents are angry," Cr Oxley said. "Let's be clear — this is not just another development. This is a fundamental transformation of an established suburb that was never planned to absorb this scale of growth."

"Allowing 941 new homes in this location is just reckless and our community has made their concerns abundantly clear for years — concerns around flooding, traffic chaos, pressure on schools, sporting facilities and health services, the destruction of mature trees and open space, and the complete loss of local character."

"Yet the Victorian Government has chosen to press ahead without committing to deliver the infrastructure and protections that residents rightly expect." Cr Oxley said the Government must now be held to account for delivering major infrastructure to offset the massive population increase. "If the State Government insists this development proceed, then they, along with the developer, must invest significantly in roads, schools, sporting facilities, drainage, active transport links and community infrastructure. Local residents must not be left to carry the burden."

Caruana Ward Councillor Caroline White said the community feels betrayed.

"This decision shows contempt for local people," Cr White said. "The Minister for Planning, who has ultimate responsibility for planning outcomes in Victoria, must now answer for a decision that places developer interests ahead of the environment and community safety."

"The Minister may have chosen to distance herself procedurally through delegation, but ultimately, she is accountable for allowing a development that will remove hundreds of mature trees, destroy vital habitat and increase flood risk in an area already prone to stormwater inundation. "This is not just a planning issue — it is a public safety and environmental crisis in the making." Cr White said the announcement being made late on a Friday only added to community outrage. "Sneaking out a decision of this magnitude at the end of the week is not transparent. It's not accountable. It's an admission that the Government knows this decision is against the wishes of the community."

Council is now demanding a binding infrastructure contributions package that reflects the real cost of supporting thousands of new residents and mitigating flood impacts.

"This decision may have been made in Spring Street," Cr Oxley said, "but the consequences will be felt in Kingston for generations. We will continue to fight for our community every step of the way."

## Kingston reassures older residents: "We are here for you through aged care reforms"

The City of Kingston is reassuring local older residents and their families that Council remains committed to delivering high-quality in-home support services through its AccessCare program, as the Federal Government introduces major aged care reforms from November.

Mayor Georgina Oxley said while the reforms may feel overwhelming, the community can have confidence that AccessCare will continue to provide personalised support through the transition and beyond. "We want our older residents to feel cared for, informed and supported — not worried," Cr Oxley said. "These reforms may bring changes to how services are funded for some people, but our focus remains exactly the same — ensuring our residents can live independently, safely and with dignity in their own homes."

The Federal Government's new aged care system introduces different funding arrangements for Home Care Package clients, including potential client contribution requirements depending on individual circumstances.

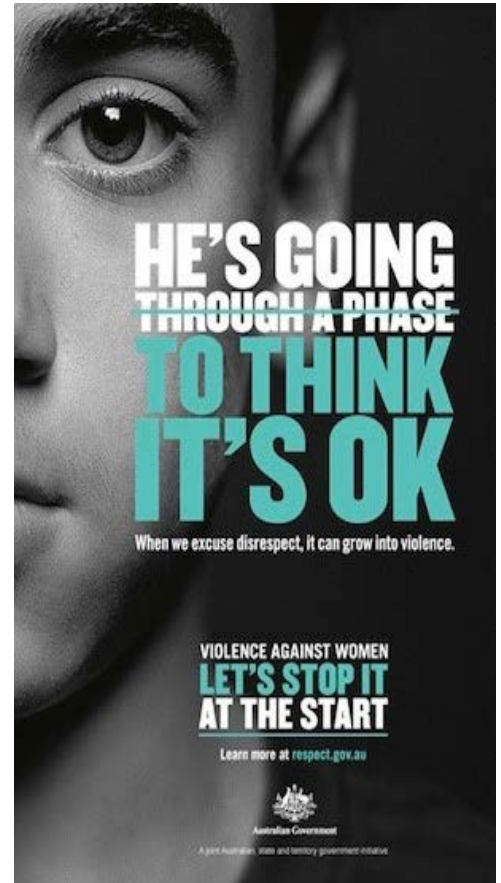
Council is encouraging residents to reach out early so they can understand what the reforms mean for them and be supported to make informed decisions. "You are not alone in this. Our experienced AccessCare team will walk beside you every step of the way, helping you understand your options and ensuring you continue to receive the care and support you need," Cr Oxley said.

AccessCare has provided trusted local aged care services for more than 30 years and will continue delivering a full range of in-home services to support older residents to remain independent, including personal care, domestic assistance, meals, allied health, transport and social support. "Your wellbeing is our priority — always," Cr Oxley said. "If you have questions or concerns about the new aged care reforms, please contact AccessCare. We are here to help you feel confident about the future."

For more information, including frequently asked questions about the reforms, visit [accesscare.org.au](https://www.accesscare.org.au) or call 1300 819 200.

*Information in this article provided by City of Kingston*





**Jolly Electrical Service P/L**  
**ELECTRICIAN**  
 9551 6505  
 Mobile 0412 370 314

**All Electrical Work**  
 HWS & Stove Repairs. Power Points.  
 Lights. Safety Switch & Surge Protection.  
 Homes. Factories. Garages. Extensions.  
 Switch Board Upgrades

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**Mowing**

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Older generations are often accused of having it easy, of buying homes cheap and profiting off the subsequent years of price rises. However, one of the key differences from those times is the changed (relaxed) credit environment that exists today, relating to everything you can buy.

If you could not afford something, then you did not buy it. No options, no choices. There was something called 'lay by', meaning the shop would put what you wanted aside in the back room and save it for you whilst you paid them off in installments over a few pay periods. But under that system you did not get to take that purchase home until it was fully paid. Pressure on to pay off the Christmas presents on time!

Of course, everyone at that time wanted that washing machine, furniture, new outfit, and the list goes on, they just had no choice but to wait.

So, which is better? To go without whilst saving to buy what is needed? Or to have it now, and pay 20% interest for the privilege?

Our previous generations cannot say how righteous they were; they simply had no choice. If today's free access to credit was available in those times the personal debt level problems the world is facing today would have surfaced, then. It is human nature to want, and to want it now.

Yet it is undoubtably true that those who fall victim to the easy credit / over-spend mentality end up worse off.



'Retail therapy', the act of shopping with the primary goal of improving one's mood or disposition, is a short-term feel good. Like a drug. For some people having a credit card does not work. Simply having one means overspending. If that is you, recognise the weakness sooner rather than later and cancel it.

I am not saying to live in poverty. Simply to recognise where your true happiness may lie. There are multiple studies on the greater long-term happiness brought about by delayed gratification (saving for the future).

Unfortunately, for many it is the easy spending of youth that prevents home ownership. The lack of teaching of money management skills at our schools is a major problem. Our youth are expected to learn it for themselves unless they are lucky enough to have parents to impart the correct money management practices. If there is intent to ever buy a home, the personal debt and over-spending issues need to be sorted.

Integrity Finance Australia has been serving the Dingley Village community since 2006. If you have any questions on the issues raised in this article or borrowing capacity or your home loan in general, then please email [loans@ifafinance.com.au](mailto:loans@ifafinance.com.au), or call us on **03 9511 8883**.

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## What's the difference between passwords and passkeys? It's not just the protection they provide

### THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic flair

**Published:** October 24, 2025, 10:31am AEDT

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Passwords are the keys to our digital lives – think how many times you log in to websites and other systems. But just like physical keys, they can be lost, duplicated and stolen. Many alternatives have been proposed in recent years, including passkeys. These offer a significant improvement in terms of user friendliness and potential for widespread use.

But what exactly are they – and how do they differ from passwords?

#### Passwords are vulnerable

In simple terms, a password is a secret word or phrase that you use to prove who you are to computer systems and/or online. If you have an account on a website or subscribe to a service provider, you likely have many.

Passwords themselves are fine; it is the way we implement and use them that makes them vulnerable. For example, weak password habits are everywhere. A CyberNews report from earlier this year identified 94% of 19 billion leaked passwords were re-used. It also identified several similarities in passwords, including strings of numbers such as "123456", people's names, cities, popular brands and swear words.

And when a breach occurs, stolen passwords can spread quickly. This leads to accounts being taken over, identity theft and/or phishing attacks. In one experiment, hackers were trying to use leaked credentials within an hour.

Passwords are also vulnerable to phishing, which is when scammers trick you into typing your password (or other information) into a fake account login page. Phishing emails continue to grow in number and consequence with one report indicating more than 3 billion phishing emails sent per day globally.

A good password is unique (that is, never re-used) and complex (imagine a sequence of letters, numbers and symbols such as "e8bh!kXVhccACAP\$48yb"). It can also be a unique combination of multiple words to create a phrase or memorable sequence.

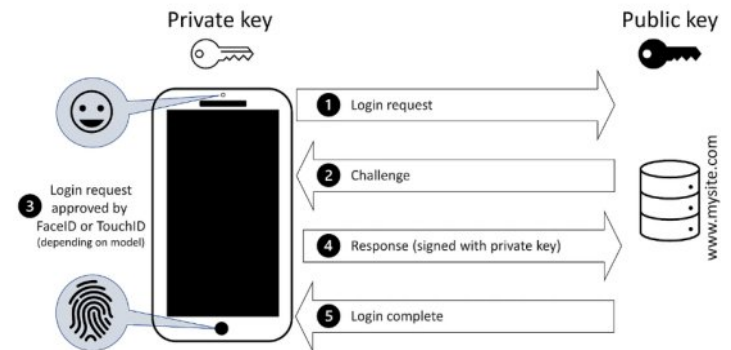
This could be difficult to remember, although creating a story that uses the contents of the password might help. For example, say your password was "CrocApplePurseBike". You could remember it by thinking of the Crocodile that packed its Apple into a Purse before riding a Bike.

#### What are passkeys and how do they work?

Passkeys first started to emerge roughly four years ago. They use a mathematical process called public-key cryptography to create a unique set of information that is split into two parts – or keys. One key is public and can be shared with websites; the other is a private key that is stored securely on your device.

To sign into an account, the website sends a random challenge (such as a number), and your device uses the private key to

"approve" the login request. This approval is usually called "signing" the request and applies a mathematical process to the challenge.



Your device won't just do this automatically; you will typically be required to approve the request. For many mobile devices this will require your face or fingerprint to be used to authorise the response to be sent. Finally, the website checks the signature via the public key it already has. If it confirms the challenge, you are in.

#### Stronger by design

Passkeys are stronger than passwords by design. It doesn't matter if the public key is stolen, because it cannot be used on its own. Your private keys are safely protected by your device's security, with most using face or finger-based biometrics to unlock (it is best to avoid relying on a PIN). Each passkey is also unique for every service you use; even if the key for a site could be stolen, it cannot be used elsewhere.

Another plus is that passkeys are resistant to phishing. From a user perspective, there isn't a password to send in response to a phishing email. A request to log in on a site has to come from the registered device combined with the approval of the user. Passkeys are also more convenient than passwords. You don't have to look for the password you used when you registered – the passkeys are already linked to your device and are only a finger/face verification away.

There are, however, some issues with passkeys. For one, while many browsers, operating systems and websites are embracing passkeys, this isn't universal. And some early implementations suffered with compatibility between devices (such as between Microsoft and Apple devices). As users move to newer devices and manufacturers improve integration, these issues should disappear.

#### A clear winner

From a security point of view, passkeys are the clear winner. They offer stronger protection, can resist phishing and are easier to use. But until passkeys are everywhere, passwords will still play a supporting role.

Implementing passkeys on a website requires effort from the company concerned. With a vast number of sites requiring users to create accounts, the process of migrating them all to passkeys is going to take decades. Many will never adopt the practice unless other factors force their hand. For now, it's crucial that we continue to focus on password hygiene by using strong, unique passwords and enabling multi factor authentication wherever possible. If you do nothing else after reading this article, at least change any re-used passwords.

#### Disclaimer Statement

The authors do not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article and have disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond their academic appointment.

#### Partners

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# GARDENING GUIDE



## General monthly planning for Melbourne

### Summer (December-February)

Plant root vegetables but be mindful that they require high water needs to germinate and grow. It is a good time to focus on pest management, as fruit fly can become more of a problem in warmer months. Check your watering schedule and be aware of the increased need for water, especially for young plants.



### Autumn (March-May)

Plant herbs like oregano, parsley, thyme, and rosemary, and start preparing for winter crops.

Continue to plant leafy greens like spinach, lettuce, kale, and rocket. Prepare beds by adding compost and planting green manure to improve soil fertility for the next season. Turn your compost heap and ensure a good balance of carbon and nitrogen. Check citrus and fruit trees for pests like gall wasp.

### Winter (June-August)

Plant bare-rooted strawberries and fruit trees and add crowns for rhubarb. Spray stone fruit trees for leaf curl if you haven't already done so before the buds open. Consider planting seeds for spring, such as asparagus.



### Spring (September-November)

This is a busy time with increasing temperatures and rainfall. Plant seeds or seedlings for a wide variety of vegetables and flowers. Resources like a specific planting guide for North East Melbourne can help you decide what to plant. Start seeds for warm season crops like zucchini, tomatoes, and cucumbers indoors. Continue to plant leafy greens and herbs.

Prepare beds for summer crops and remove any unwanted or dying plants to make space for new growth.

## Useful resources

**Australian Gardening Calendar:** A comprehensive book that provides a month-by-month guide for all climatic zones in Australia.

**CERES Nursery:** Offers a planting guide and seasonal gardening advice specifically for Melbourne's temperate climate. [www.ceres.org.au/nursery/seasonal-gardening-advice](http://www.ceres.org.au/nursery/seasonal-gardening-advice)

**The Diggers Club:** Provides monthly gardening guides for specific regions, including the "cool region" which covers Melbourne. [www.diggers.com.au/pages/my-garden-path](http://www.diggers.com.au/pages/my-garden-path)

**Sustainable Gardening Australia (SGA):** Offers monthly garden tips and guides to help you plan your gardening activities seasonally. [www.sgaonline.org.au](http://www.sgaonline.org.au)



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## National Lung Cancer Screening Program



The National Lung Cancer Screening Program is a screening program for people who may be at higher risk of lung cancer. It uses a low-dose computed tomography scan (low-dose CT scan) to look for signs of lung cancer before any symptoms appear.

The program is estimated to save the lives of 12,000 Australians over the next ten years, by detecting lung cancer early, when treatment is most effective. If people are eligible for the program, the scan is free and paid for by Medicare.

### Why lung cancer?

Lung cancer is Australia's fifth most diagnosed cancer but causes the greatest number of cancer deaths. Overall, less than one in five patients with lung cancer will survive five years. But for those diagnosed when the cancer is small and has not spread, two-thirds of people survive five years.

### Who is eligible?

The lung cancer screening program only targets people at higher risk of lung cancer, based on their smoking history and their age. People are eligible for the program if they are aged between 50 and 70 years and:

- show no signs or symptoms suggesting you may have lung cancer (that is, you are asymptomatic)
- currently smoke or have quit smoking in the past 10 years
- have a history of tobacco cigarette smoking of at least 30 pack-years.

The term 'pack-year' is a way of measuring the number of cigarettes a person has smoked in their lifetime.

To calculate this, you multiply the number of packets (of 20 cigarettes) you smoke a day by the number of years you've been smoking them.

### How screening works

Lung cancer screening involves 4 main steps:

- A healthcare provider, like a general practitioner (GP), nurse practitioner or a health worker at an Aboriginal Health Service, checks if you are eligible by asking your age and smoking history.
- If you would like to screen for lung cancer, the healthcare provider will give you a request for a low-dose CT scan. Ask your healthcare provider where lung cancer screening is offered in your area.
- For the scan, you will lie down on a table with your arms above your head while the equipment takes images of your chest. The scan is quick and doesn't involve any needles or other procedures. Your appointment will usually take around 10 to 15 minutes.
- Your healthcare provider will receive your scan results. The National Cancer Screening Register (NCSR) will send you an email or letter (depending on your registered communication preference) about what to do next. This may be to have a low-dose CT scan again in 2 years or to discuss your results with your healthcare provider. Information is available in the privacy notice on why, when and how your information is collected, used and disclosed to operate the NCSR.

### What are the benefits and risks?

International trials show screening people at high risk of lung cancer reduces their chance of dying prematurely from it, and the benefits outweigh any harm.

The aim is to save lives by increasing the detection of stage 1 disease (a small cancer, 4 centimetres or less, confined to the lung), which has a greater chance of being treated successfully. The risks of radiation exposure are minimised by using low-dose CT screening.

### What should I do?

If you are 50-70 and a heavy smoker, see your GP about screening for lung cancer. But the greater gain in terms of reducing your risk of lung cancer is to also give up smoking.

If you've already given up smoking, you've already reduced your risk of lung cancer. However, since lung cancer can take several years to develop or show on a CT scan, see your GP if you were once a heavy smoker but have quit in the past ten years to see if you are eligible for screening.

### Help and support to stop smoking

While there are many causes of lung cancer, tobacco use is the main risk factor associated with lung cancer. In Australia, 90% of lung cancer in men and 65% of lung cancer in women is estimated to be a result of smoking.

Smoking is addictive. Quitting can be one of the most difficult things a person can do for their health and wellbeing. If you or someone you know is interested in quitting smoking, there are a range of measures and services already available to help people to quit.



Find out more about How to quit smoking at [www.health.gov.au/topics/smoking-vaping-and-tobacco/how-to-quit](http://www.health.gov.au/topics/smoking-vaping-and-tobacco/how-to-quit)

Information in this article is provided by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. The information provided is for general informational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your doctor or other qualified healthcare provider with any questions you may have regarding your health.





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## Ozempic and the Eyes: What You Should Know About the Latest Findings

Ozempic, also known by its generic name semaglutide, has become one of the most talked about medications in recent years. Originally developed to help manage type 2 diabetes, it is now widely used for weight loss and is prescribed under several brand names including Wegovy. While its benefits in controlling blood sugar and supporting weight reduction are well established, new research has brought attention to its possible effects on the eyes. As your local optometrist, I want to help explain what these findings mean and what steps you can take to safeguard your vision.

Ozempic belongs to a group of drugs called GLP-1 receptor agonists. These medications work by improving the body's insulin response and slowing digestion, which together help reduce blood glucose levels and support weight loss. Because so many people are now using these medications for either diabetes or weight management, it is important for eye care professionals and patients to understand how they may affect the visual system.

Over the past year, several international studies have raised concerns about a possible link between Ozempic, and a rare eye condition called non-arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy, or NAION. This condition occurs when the blood supply to the optic nerve is suddenly interrupted, causing painless and often permanent vision loss in one eye.

It has sometimes been referred to as a "stroke of the optic nerve." A large study published in JAMA Ophthalmology in 2024 found that people taking semaglutide were about twice as likely to experience NAION compared with those taking other diabetes medications. The European Medicines Agency later reviewed the data and, in mid-2025, officially recognised NAION as a very rare potential side-effect of semaglutide, occurring in roughly one in ten-thousand users.

In addition to this, there have been reports of transient blurred vision and, in patients with diabetes, a temporary worsening of

diabetic retinopathy when blood sugar levels improve rapidly. This is not entirely new; we have known for some time that any sudden improvement in blood sugar can sometimes temporarily affect the small blood vessels in the retina.

Researchers are still working to understand why these visual effects might occur. One theory is that rapid changes in blood-sugar levels could alter the fluid balance and blood flow within the eye, leading to stress on delicate optic-nerve tissues. Another possibility is that semaglutide influences circulation to the optic nerve in some individuals, especially in those who already have anatomical risk factors such as small or crowded optic discs. It is important to note that at this stage, these are associations rather than proven causes, and the overall risk remains very small compared to the widespread benefits the medication provides.

For patients using Ozempic, there is no reason for alarm, but awareness and regular monitoring are essential. If you are using Ozempic or thinking about starting it, it is wise to have a thorough eye examination before beginning treatment, particularly if you have diabetes or any existing eye condition.

Regular eye reviews, ideally every twelve months or more frequently if needed, are an excellent way to ensure any subtle changes are detected early. It is also important to seek prompt attention if you notice any sudden loss of vision, new shadows, or areas of blur, as early detection can make a significant difference to outcomes.

Communication between your optometrist, GP, and prescribing specialist is also key. By sharing information about medications such as Ozempic, we can coordinate your care effectively and monitor for any potential side-effects. Most patients who use semaglutide experience significant improvements in their overall health, including better blood-sugar control and reduced cardiovascular risk, both of which can protect the eyes in the long term.

In summary, while recent studies have suggested a possible link between Ozempic and rare optic nerve complications, the evidence remains preliminary, and the absolute risk is very low.

The benefits of improved metabolic health generally outweigh the potential risks, provided that regular eye examinations are maintained. For anyone currently using Ozempic, or considering starting it, I encourage a proactive approach to eye care: schedule an eye health review, stay alert to any visual changes, and keep your healthcare team informed.

Your vision is precious, and with proper monitoring, we can ensure that advances in medical therapy continue to support your overall health without compromising your eyesight. Book an appointment by calling us, booking online or simply dropping in to see us in person.

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## Kingston House

This photo is believed to be of Kingston House. Samuel Kingston had built a brick house on the rise near Dingley Grange which had been built by the Attenborough's. The Historical Society does not have a lot of information about this house and we would be interested to hear from anyone who can shed some light on where it was and any of its history.

The Dingley Village Historical Society Calendar for 2026 (\$20 each) is now available and can be purchased from the society during office hours (see below) or at the Farmers' Market. If you cannot get to the society at these times please ring Bronwyn on 0439 808 000 and a purchase can be arranged.

The Dingley Village Historical Society has a collection of documents, photographs and information on the history of Dingley Village and its early families, we are always looking to add to our collections and would welcome any information people would like to share with us. If you would like information or would like to share any information with us please contact: The Dingley Village Historical Society enquiries@dvhs.com.au or visit us at 31A Marcus Road, Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 10am to 12.



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Or contact us directly and find out just how easy it is to live locally among friendly, supportive folk.

[www.greenwoodvillagemews.com.au](http://www.greenwoodvillagemews.com.au)

52-70 Centre Dandenong Rd, Dingley Village VIC 3172, (03) 9558 3322, [gvilleage@tpg.com.au](mailto:gvilleage@tpg.com.au)





## New Boy on the Block

The November '25 Farmer's Market was different to the many supported by the Dingley Village Men's Shed (DVMS) over the past three (3) years.

Our newest 'Boy on the Block' is the Hawthorn Football Club who prominently displayed their sign written gazebo, staff and not one but two very impressive 'Hawks' - see the attached pics.



With giveaways of miniature footballs, T shirts and caps all bearing Hawks livery the arrival of this new market participant was welcomed by young and not-so-young alike.

Our very own and popular "Shed Men" kept an enthusiastic audience entertained as shoppers took advantage of the wide variety of products and crafts on offer.

Weather forecasts are always a bit hit and miss so with fine conditions likely for most of the day we were all hopeful but cautious. Our luck held out and not a sign of rain appeared.

So, DVMS members were there in great numbers at the start and again at the end to ensure that all was in order to ensure a successful market which, according to regular attendees, was one of the best ever.



For the December Farmer's Market (Sat Dec 20th) again a change from the usual. This will be a 'Twilight' market operating from 3pm to 8pm. Same location and occurring just before Christmas this will be an ideal opportunity to obtain those last-minute gifts especially from the hand-crafted stallholders.

Our own Lyn Burgess - wife of longtime member Kel - will be there with her Lions Christmas Cakes and Puddings. Great gifts for family and friends or your own consumption.



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## Are you finishing Year 12? Here's how to avoid a post-school slump

### THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic flair

**Published:** October 30, 2025 5:33am AEDT  
**Sarah Jefferson** - Senior Lecturer in Education, Edith Cowan University

The period immediately after completing Year 12 can feel unexpectedly anticlimactic.

You have been building up to the end of school for years, then there is the intensity and pressure of exams and festivities of formals and graduation ceremonies. And then suddenly, it's all over. Irrespective of how much you enjoyed school, it can be a vulnerable time. The familiar structure of school is gone, and the next chapter is murky.

Now, you may face weeks or months of waiting, for exam results or to start study or work. Perhaps there is the (exciting but perhaps terrifying) limbo of a gap year.

Any kind of transition – even a positive one – can be stressful. You can't remove the uncertainty. But here are some research-informed strategies to help support you as you navigate the next chapter.

#### Reflect and debrief

It can be useful to reflect on Year 12. You've just completed something major, what did you learn about yourself? This is a life skill that is transferable across a range of contexts and research shows it facilitates self-discovery. Ask yourself what worked, what surprised you, what values or strengths did you discover?

For example, if you've applied to do a science degree, but the thing you loved most about Year 12 was your art major work, do you need reconsider your Uni preferences?

Remember many degrees offer broadening units (units outside your major) which allow you to explore other interests as well.

#### Make a flexible plan

You may already have a plan for what you do next. Or maybe you don't. This period is a good time to think through your options, away from the stress and focus of exams. There are many pathways after school, from TAFE, traineeships, short courses as well as university.

You also don't need to map out your whole life. You could just include some small, manageable milestones. For example, "this week I'll research options," "by the end of the month I'll have a shortlist of what I want to do next year".

#### 'Active' waiting

Rather than sitting around passively, waiting for "the next stage", think of something different to do with your time. This could include some paid work, volunteering or a project – such as starting a new sport or joining a local community group.

There are groups as diverse as tree planting through to visiting your local aged care home. This is a time where you can explore a field of interest, gaining work, or volunteer experience or developing a new skill like obtaining a barista or responsible service of alcohol licence. These can also widen your social circle and help you start to see what life outside school looks like.



#### Maintain some routines

While you need a break after all the work, it's good for your mental health to continue with some routines. This includes getting enough sleep and regular exercise.

#### Monitor wellbeing

Are you OK? This is a stressful time. Watch for signs of demotivation, persistent anxiety, withdrawal from friends or things you usually like to do or feeling hopeless. These can be early indicators of mental health strain. Seek help from a trusted adult or your GP if you are worried – and don't wait to speak up.

#### A note for parents

For any parents reading, this can also be a tricky time. Legally, your child may now be an adult or just about to become one. Research tells us 17- and 18-year-olds do not develop in a linear way. This means they may be ready for some challenges and thrown by others. So, it becomes difficult to know when to provide support and when to pull back and even let young people make their own mistakes. Each young person is different.

Some may know exactly what they want and others may need more exploration time. Research shows imposing pressure or controlling too tightly tends to backfire.



#### For parents it can help to:

Stay emotionally present. Parental warmth and connection remain crucial even as the child seeks independence. So, listen and validate uncertainty but resist the urge to "have all the answers" understand the role shift.

You're becoming more of an adviser, rather than a director in your child's life. Ask questions and listen carefully to their answers. Their experience will differ to yours, so try to avoid leaping in with your own stories.

Negotiate new boundaries. Maybe you paid their phone bill while they were at school, but this will change once they get a job. Talk this through. Clarity helps avoid resentment

Monitor wellbeing. Is your child overly stressed or depressed? Do they need help from a health professional? If they are transitioning out of youth mental health services, ensure there's appropriate handover to adult services or a GP.

If this article has raised issues for you or someone you know, contact Kids Helpline (for ages 5–25 and parents): **1800 55 1800** or [kidsline.com.au](https://kidsline.com.au).

#### Disclosure statement

*Sarah Jefferson does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond their academic appointment.*

*Edith Cowan University provides funding as a member of The Conversation AU.*

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# SENIOR SERVICES

The Australian Aged Care Act is a new law, effective from November 1, 2025, that shifts the aged care system to a person-centred, rights-based framework. Key goals include making aged care safer, fairer, and more respectful for older Australians, focusing on their rights to make decisions, and ensuring access to high-quality services.

The Act establishes a Statement of Rights for those accessing government-funded services and imposes new, clearer obligations on care providers to improve accountability and quality.

## Key features of the new Act

- **Person-centred care:** The system is designed to put individuals at the center of their care, with a focus on helping them live active, self-determined, and meaningful lives.
- **Rights-based framework:** A new Statement of Rights is legally binding for providers, outlining the entitlement to safe and high-quality care, respect for privacy, and the right to make choices about their services and life.
- **Increased provider accountability:** Providers have clearer legal obligations, including a code of conduct for workers and strengthened quality standards. The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission will have a more flexible and streamlined regulatory framework to hold providers accountable for quality and safety.
- **Enhanced choice and control:** Individuals will have greater choice in who provides their services and how those services are delivered.
- **Protection and advocacy:** The Act ensures a focus on protection from abuse, neglect, and harm. It also supports education and advocacy to help individuals understand their rights and provide feedback without fear of reprisal.
- **Improved access:** The system aims to make it easier to access aged care services when needed and ensure equitable access for everyone.
- **Respect for identity:** The Act ensures that individuals' identity, culture, and spirituality are respected and supported.
- **Support for decision-making:** People can have a "registered supporter," such as a family member or friend, help them make decisions if they wish.

From 1 November 2025, the Support at Home program replaces the Home Care Packages program and Short-Term Restorative Care Programme. The Commonwealth Home Support Programme will transition to Support at Home no earlier than July 2027.

Anyone receiving or approved for a Home Care Package as of 12 September 2024, when the Act was tabled in Parliament will be 'no worse off' financially under the new program. Those new to the system after this date may pay more. There are hardship measures in place for older people with limited means.

## Help & Support

### General aged care support

Call My Aged Care: For assistance with government-funded aged care services, call 1800 200 422. This is the primary number for all aged care needs, including starting the process for an assessment.

**Go online:** Visit the My Aged Care website to apply for an assessment or find information on available support.

### Urgent or immediate needs

For immediate medical help: Call Triple Zero (000) to contact their doctor or emergency services.

**For emergency respite care:** Contact Carer Gateway on **1800 422 737** for short-term relief.

**For urgent ongoing care:** Call My Aged Care on **1800 200 422** and explain the situation is urgent to arrange an assessment.

### Quality and safety concerns

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission: For any concerns or complaints about aged care services, you can call **1800 951 822** or email [info@agedcarequality.gov.au](mailto:info@agedcarequality.gov.au).

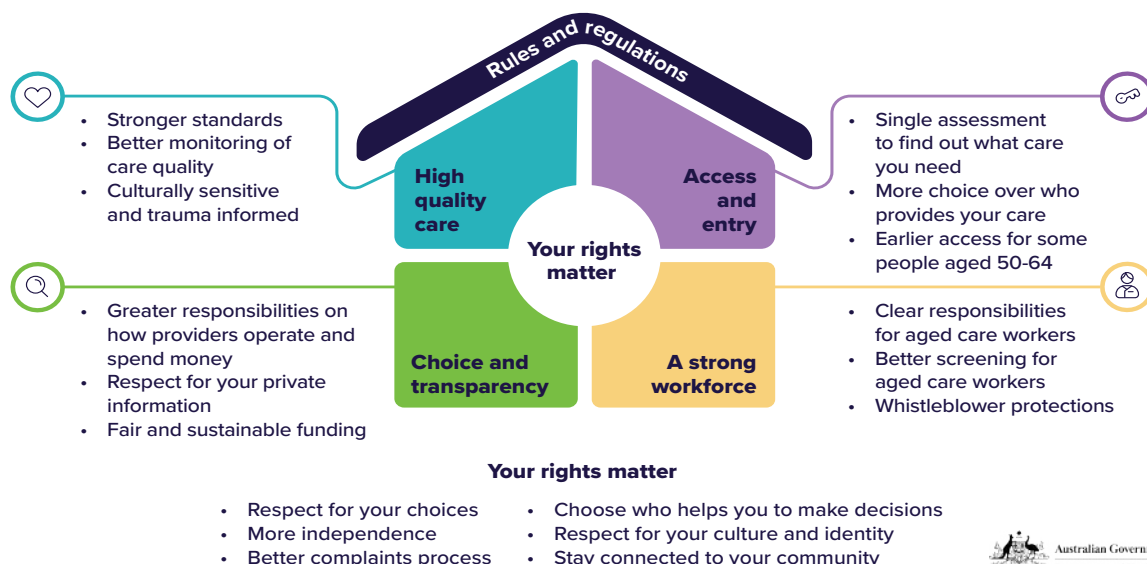
**Whistleblower protection:** The new Act protects people who report issues within the aged care system to the Commission, the department, or other designated authorities.

You can also find more information, Fact sheets and FAQ on the Department of Health website [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) or you can talk to your current provider/s

*Information in this article provided by Australian Government Department of Health, Disability & Ageing*

## The new Aged Care Act puts you at the centre of your aged care

It will make aged care safer, fairer and more respectful.  
This infographic outlines the main parts of the new Act and how they work together.





# CIRCLING THE CLUBS



## Country Women's Association Dingley Village



Get ready to kick off your festive season with a purpose! The CWA Dingley Village is hosting its Annual Christmas Stall at Woolworths, Dingley Village on Friday, December 5th, starting at 9 a.m. (until sold out).

Our talented members have spent all year crafting truly unique, hand-made gifts—from gorgeous knitted baby items, cozy knee rugs, and beautiful aprons to charming tea cosies. We've got your holiday shopping list covered!

Don't forget our famous home-baked Christmas treats and preserves, which make the perfect, heartfelt 'thank you' gift for teachers, colleagues, or neighbours. (Cash only, please!)

The best part? Every single dollar raised goes directly to support vital regional charities like the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and our local Food Bank.

Mark your calendar for December 5th. Stop by, find the perfect gift, and make a positive impact in the lives of those in need!

CWA Dingley Branch meets at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10am. If you need any further information about CWA or would like to consider becoming a member, please contact Sue **0434 879 875**.

## Dingley 60 Plus Social Group

Our friendly group of singles and couples meet at the Dingley Hotel on the second Thursday of the month from 7.00pm.

Last meeting for 2025 on 11th December and the first meeting for 2026 will be on 8th January. We also have a group dinner at various locations on the last Saturday of the month. Please come and join us – new members are welcome!

We wish all our members and Dossier readers have an enjoyable Christmas season and may 2026 be a healthy and prosperous new year for everyone. For more information contact Shirley on **0411 265 261** or Graeme on **0407 930 515**.



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## Probus Club Dingley Central



The guest speaker for our November Meeting was Ray Weston a Vietnam Veteran. Ray presented an insight into his experiences whilst serving in Vietnam, and the range of hazards they faced every day. Booby traps, mines and underground tunnel systems for ambushes, were effectively used by the Viet Cong. The use of chemicals in Vietnam exposed Australians and other allied groups to toxic substances, the effects of that exposure are still being investigated, and how it is still affecting veterans and their families today. A Memorial dedicated to all the Australians who served in Vietnam from 1962 -1973 is located in Canberra. For our November dine out we will be travelling to the Warragul Country Club, and in December to the Bridge Hotel in Mordialloc for our Christmas Celebration.

**Activities planned for December:** Happy Hour, Legs and Morning Coffee, Wine Tasting, Camera Club, Morning Melodie's, and Christmas Lunch.

Our meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at The Salvation Army Kingston Centre, 13/12-16 Garden Boulevard, Dingley Village. New members are always welcome. For further information contact Jean on **0438 272 232**

Web: [dingleycentralprobus.wix.com/dingleycentralprobus](http://dingleycentralprobus.wix.com/dingleycentralprobus)

## Dingley Village Historical Society



DVHS aims to document and collate information regarding our local history. The society holds information on early families of Dingley Village and the surrounding areas as well as the market gardens, farms, clubs and societies in the area.

We welcome any information or photographs of Dingley Village through time that we can copy.

Located at 31A Marcus Rd, (near the library) we are open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10am – 12pm. We are also open on the third Saturday of the month during the Farmers Market and other times on request.

Contact by email: [enquiries@dvhs.com.au](mailto:enquiries@dvhs.com.au)

## Dingley Village Men's Shed



Opening Hours and General Activities:

Day of Week	Open Hours	General Activities
<b>Monday</b>	9:00am - 1:00 pm	Metal Work, Wood Work, Art, Bicycle & Car Maintenance
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00am - 12:00 pm 1:30pm - 3:30pm	A' Team workgroup & Bike Riding Group Photography
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:00am - 12:00 pm	Bike Riding Group & Music Group
<b>Thursday</b>	9:00am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	A' Team workgroup Pool / Snooker
<b>Friday</b>	9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>Members Muster</b> This is our main day!

Every Friday Morning (except holidays as designated), come along, enjoy a cuppa, a chat & meet with your fellow shedders.

We also hold a great Raffle (fundraiser) for members & visitors, and also a Golf Putting Comp. Other Activities from time to time include Golf Days, Special Event Days e.g., Cup Day & Australia Day BBQ's, plus, the occasional outing to places of interest.

The Dingley Village Men's Shed is in Cypress Drive, Braeside Park (near Visitors Centre), Lower Dandenong Road.

Ph. **9551 5892**, E-mail: [info@dvms.org.au](mailto:info@dvms.org.au)  
 Web: [www.dvms.org.au](http://www.dvms.org.au)

## Lions Club of Dingley Village



If anybody has any of the following items, they can be left at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre. Pre-loved spectacles, sunglasses and hearing aids and used stamps are still needed.

Thank you to all who have donated, please keep them coming in.

Our meetings are held on the 4th Monday at 7.00pm at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre, 31B Marcus Road, Dingley Village (Public Holidays excluded). These meetings are informal and friendly.

For any enquiries, please contact Lynne – 9551 3770 / 0488 004 809. dingleylions@gmail.com

#### Rotary Club Noble Park – Dingley



Active Rotarians – making friends and making a difference.

The Rotary Club of Noble Park-Dingley has an active social and project program. Our members love being part of our club and enjoy participating in our activities. Once you get to know us you might like to join us in being part of a network of 1.2 million Rotary volunteers worldwide.

We meet at 6.30pm on the first three Thursdays of each month at the Keysborough Golf Club in Hutton Road. Please email info@npdrotaryclub.org.au for more information.

#### Dingley Cheltenham VIEW Club (Voice Interest Education of Women)



New members are most welcome to join our monthly meetings and learn from our guest speakers and enjoy our monthly social outings.

VIEW (Voice Interests, and Education of Women) Clubs support The Smith Family and their Learning for Life Programme which provides education for vulnerable Australian children. Australia has over one million children living below the poverty line.

Dingley Cheltenham VIEW Club are currently sponsoring 9 Children with their education. Women from all walks of life are most welcome to join us please contact Fran Thomas for further information. franniet@gmail.com or 0419 309 931.

**Meeting:** Second Tuesday of the month at 10am. Where: Keysborough Golf Club, 55 Hutton Rd Keysborough, easy parking.

#### Italian Senior Citizens of Kingston - "La Baracca"

The Italian Senior Citizens of Kingston offer a two course homecooked lunch with coffee and biscuits every Wednesday and Sunday at 12 pm.

\$17 for members, \$20 non-members.

New members welcome.

All are welcome to socialise, play billiards, bocce and cards and once a month Sunday Bingo. The first Sunday of every month we hold a lunch dance at 12pm offering a three course meal with coffee and a live band. Booking essential Giovanna 0421 045 648.

#### Braeside Park Walking Group

We need more walkers. Friendly mixed group meets Tuesday and Friday at the Visitors Centre Carpark. Arrive 9.20am for a 9.30 start to Circuit 5 km or shorter. Stay around for a chat afterwards, no booking just come along.

#### Burden Park Bowls Club

The good news is that if you have been thinking of joining a lawn bowls club, this is your time to act. So come down and have a go, you will love it.



If you're interested in having a bowl, call 9546 8851, or check out club website for more information [www.burdenpark.bowls.com.au](http://www.burdenpark.bowls.com.au). We are located on the corner of Springvale Rd and Heatherton Rd Springvale. We hope to see you soon.

#### Keysborough & District Multicultural Senior Citizens Inc.

This over 55s club is located at the Rowley Allan Reserve 352 Cheltenham Road Keysborough. We are now getting ready for the 2026 programme and the following activities will be available for members and visitors:

**Tuesdays** – Bingo on the 1st, 2nd and 4th of the month 1pm to 3pm. \$3.00 entry and \$1.50 per book. **Concerts** with professional entertainers are on the 3rd and 5th Tuesday of the month 1pm to 3pm. \$3.00 entry.

**Wednesdays** – Line Dancing 1pm to 3pm \$3.00 entry.

**Thursdays** – Ballroom dancing from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. Entry \$3.00.

**Tea and coffee are supplied for all activities.**

During 2025 we have experienced an increase in participation in all our activities so we must be doing some things right.

Our Christmas function for members will be at the Sandown Park Hotel. The Club will close on 12th Of December and re open on the 20th of January with entertainment by Rob Foenander.

Club membership for F/Y 25/26 remains at \$10.00 and it is not too late to join this growing organisation. Contact is Julie on 0428 561 694.

#### Spring Park YWCA Golf Club



A friendly welcoming group of ladies of varying standards meet at 7.45am for an 8.00am start on Monday mornings at Dingley's Spring Park Golf Course. Cup of tea & biscuit is shared after the round.

We play 9 holes & provide an excellent starting point for those who have completed golf lessons & are ready to hit the fairways.

**Further information:** Jillian Sanders 0419 501 365 (Captain), Julie Westcott 0438 269 622. (President), Jan Boyes 0497 096 377 (Secretary).

#### Mordialloc/Chelsea Evening VIEW Club

Mordialloc/Chelsea Evening VIEW Club is on the lookout for new members who want to give back to their community and make new connections with women in the area.

"We are always looking for women of all backgrounds and ages to join us and look forward to welcoming new faces at our next monthly meeting," said Club President Rhonda.

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at The Bridge Hotel 1-4 Nepean Highway Aspendale at 6.30pm, includes dinner and a guest speaker.

RSVP Myra 0407 041 734.

Anyone interested in becoming a member can call Maria on 0419 507 384 or Helen on 0418 557 358 or visit [www.view.org.au](http://www.view.org.au) for further information.

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## Kingston City Church



**Our Vision:** Connecting People To Jesus Christ

**Our Mission:** Reach, Restore, Relate, Resource And Release.

Ph: **8551 6600**, Fax: **8551 6690**.

Web: [www.kcc.crm.org.au](http://www.kcc.crm.org.au)

Email: [admin@crm.org.au](mailto:admin@crm.org.au)

**Senior Pastor: Dan Parker**

**Sunday Services: 10am Service has Children's Ministry**

Kingston City Church is Celebrating Christmas! Sunday 10 December - 4.30pm to 7.30pm.

Kingston City Church will not have a morning service on Sunday 14 December. Instead, we are having our Christmas celebration at 4.00pm to 7.00pm.

We will have outdoor activities on site from 4.00pm to 6pm. There will be a petting zoo and jumping castle for the kids and for those that are a bit peckish, a sausage sizzle, drinks and coffees will be available to purchase.

Then at 6pm, we will head into the Auditorium for an evening of Christmas carols from our KCC worship team. The kids from Kingdom Kids will also be performing a Christmas song. It will be an awesome afternoon and evening of family fun, fellowship and celebration.

All are welcome to come along and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We hope to see you there on Sunday 14 December. We will also be running a Christmas Eve service on Wednesday 24 December at 6pm.

From Kingston City Church, we hope that you have a lovely Christmas and New Year.

## Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church



Cnr. Kingston and Old Dandenong Roads, Heatherton. Sunday services at 10.00 a.m. Sacrament of Holy Communion second Sunday of the month at 10.00 a.m.

All enquiries phone Kaye on **0438 873 784**  
[www.heathertondingley.uca.vic.org.au](http://www.heathertondingley.uca.vic.org.au)

### Our Vision and our Mission

To seek to connect people to God and each other. Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church - Meeting U at the Crossroads of Life.

### What's On

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

A Carols service will be held on Friday, 12th December at 7.30 p.m. followed by supper. Our Christmas Day service will be at 10.00 a.m.

**Third Saturday And Odd Months Of The Year Bark And Chat** - This is an informal group of dog lovers who bring their dogs along for a chat and short information session on different topics relating to dogs, followed by morning tea.

For further information contact Margaret on **0401 392 772**

#### Second And Fourth Thursdays Of The Month

Kingston Music Club- 7.30 p.m. in the Church Hall. Community singing and music group. Instrumentalists and singers welcome. For further information contact Bob Lorraine on **0418 998 712**

#### Village Church Inc.



Address: 7-9 Fiveways Blvd Keysborough 3173

Pastor: Rodney Hole

Elders: Andrew Weston & Warren Dean

Church Office: **8712 8254**

or [admin@villagechurch.org.au](mailto:admin@villagechurch.org.au)

Visit our website: [www.villagechurch.org.au](http://www.villagechurch.org.au)

Village Church has been in the Dingley and Keysborough areas since the 1930's and exists for the purpose of the advancement of the Kingdom of God as we seek to obey our Lord's command to go out and make disciples of all people.

Village Church offers the following ministries to 'Inspire People to Discover and Develop Life in Christ':

#### CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Thursday 25th 9.00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Service, please come and join us at 7 Fiveways Boulevard, Keysborough and via livestream through <https://www.villagechurch.org.au>

#### Sunday Morning 10am Worship Service

In person or can watch livestream on our webpage.

#### The church service includes:

- Bible teaching through expository preaching.
- Pastor Rodney Hole is currently preaching through the book of Hebrews.
- Communion is held twice a month for those who know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord.
- Kids Church - Younger Primary (4-8 years old) and Older Primary (9-12 years old).
- Little Blessings Preschool Program (0 - 4 years old)
- Tea and coffee are served after the service.

#### Life Groups

Meets for Bible study and fellowship in various suburbs on a fortnightly basis in Springvale, Narre Warren, Pakenham, and Lyndhurst areas.

#### Ladies Bible Study

Meets regularly to work through an entire book of the Bible, alternating between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Previously studied are the books of Ruth, Philippians, Genesis and James and a video teaching series on "War of Words" by Paul Tripp based on his book.

We are currently studying through the book of Daniel and Martha Peace's "The Excellent Wife".

#### Men of Faith

Meets once a month at Village Church on a Sunday evening for a BBQ and men's Bible study.

#### Village Church Youth Group (Years 7 -12)

Meets weekly on Friday nights from 7-9pm during the school term for Bible study and fellowship.

#### Street Ministry

Village Church partners with 'Bought with a Price Ministry' here in Melbourne. Every Wednesday and Friday from 5pm to 7pm, a team witnesses at either Dandenong, Noble Park, Glen Waverley, Ringwood, or Springvale areas.

#### Marriage and Family Support

At Village Church, our heart is to serve the surrounding community to support the growth of families. Families and marriages are under attack, and we are committed to helping you out in any way. We have many gifted and equipped members who would love to listen, encourage, and give sound advice to you. Please call the church office if you need help.

#### Christ Church - Anglican Church Dingley Village



**Vision:** From within you shall flow rivers of living waters" John 7:38

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

##### Christmas Special Events

Saturday 20th Dec - Dingley Village Farmer's Market

Sunday 21st Dec - Carols by Candlelight in the Heritage Church

##### Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Wed 24th Dec - 5PM Nativity Carols Family Service (Auditorium).  
11PM Carols (Auditorium)

##### Christmas Day Thurs 25th Dec:

8:30AM Heritage Church  
Holy Communion Service.  
All are welcome to join us.

##### Weekly Sunday Services

8.30 AM (Heritage Church) Holy Communion Service  
10.30 AM (Auditorium) Worship Service with Kids' Church.  
Next Combined Service: Sun 1ST March 2026.

##### NEW Weekly Sunday Service

Bahasa Malaysia Service  
3.00PM (Heritage Church).

##### Life Groups for Bible Study

For more information, please contact our office.

##### Saturday Youth Group

Youth Group is taking a break over January and will return on Saturday 7th February 2026.

## 2nd Tuesday Monthly Service: NEW TIME

### 1.30pm Holy Communion Service Formerly Pleasant Tuesday.

Traditional Holy Communion with favourite hymns in the Heritage Church followed by a social afternoon tea. Please contact our office for transport if needed.

1.30pm, Tuesday 10th February 2026.

Holy Communion Service will take a break in January and return on Tuesday 10th February 2026.

### Weekly Prayer Meetings

Wednesday 10:30am for worship then 11am for prayers in the Prayer Rooms. Saturday 8 AM in the Atrium. Healing, Deliverance & Prayer Ministry available upon request.

### Roundabout Op Shop

Supports communities Locally, Nationally, and Internationally. Offering many bargains (good quality clothing, books, bric-a-brac, toys. Volunteers Welcome!

### Opening Hours:

**Wednesday** - 9.30am - 4.00 pm

**Thursday** - 9.30am - 1.30 pm

**Saturday** - 9.30am - 1.30 pm

Last open day for 2025 is Saturday 13th December and reopens Wednesday 4th February 2026.

**Donations:** We take clean, useable items but cannot accept electrical goods, or baby/child equipment. Please bring donations during opening hours. Thank you.

### Supported Missions

CCD supports: Make A Difference, Dingley Village; Common Grace; Hands At Work, Africa; BCA; CMS; NCIC.

### Food Parcels Available

For those in need, upon request.

### Prayer Ministry

Please contact our parish office for details and bookings.

**Senior Minister:** Rev. Richard Loh

**Parish Office:** 03 9551 7871

**Email:** [admin@ccd.org.au](mailto:admin@ccd.org.au)

**Website:** [www.ccd.org.au](http://www.ccd.org.au)

### St. Mark's Catholic Church

511 Lower Dandenong Road,  
Dingley Village, 3172.

Phone: 9551 6930 or 9547 4877

Email: [Springvale@cam.org.au](mailto:Springvale@cam.org.au)

Website for further information:

ST JOSEPH SPRINGVALE | Catholic church

Parish Priest: Fr. Joseph Truong Nguyen

OFM Conv.

### Mass Times

- Saturdays, 5pm
- Sundays, 9.30am
- Confession 4:30 - 4:50 pm before Mass on Saturdays

### The Salvation Army Kingston City 'You Belong'



13/12-16 Garden Boulevard, Dingley  
Village. Office Phone: (03) 9558 2045.

Facebook.com/KingstonCitySalvos

[www.salvationarmy.org.au/kingstoncity/](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/kingstoncity/)

Corps Officers (Ministers): Major Jennifer Cloke and Major Andrea Elkington.

### Hours of operation

10:00am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday  
or by appointment.

### Our Mission

The Salvation Army Australia is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus, by caring for people, creating faith pathways, building healthy communities, & working for justice.

### Our Vision

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia, one life at a time, with the love of Jesus.

## Emergency Relief | Casework

The Salvation Army Kingston City Doorways team offers assessments for emergency relief.

Please phone 9558 2045, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays between 10am - 4pm to make an appointment.

### Echo Church

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# THE DINGLEY DOSSIER

ABN: 71 463 442 675

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**Publisher:** Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre Inc.  
31B Marcus Road,  
Dingley Village. 3172

**Phone:** 8512 0505

**Email:** [dingleydossier@dvnc.com.au](mailto:dingleydossier@dvnc.com.au)

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We appreciate contributions from the community. Please contact us for details.

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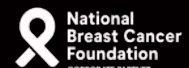
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