October 2025

Hello, and welcome to the Spring edition of Housing Talks

We hope that you are all safe, happy, and thriving. 'Spring has sprung' in Melbourne town, and the warmer weather and longer days invite us all to step outside, get active and enjoy all the events on offer in our local community. So – Let's get moving and check out what's on in our neighbourhoods!

Rental Rebate Reviews

EACH Housing's annual review of rental rebates is now underway. As part of this process, we will be reviewing household incomes, which may affect your fortnightly rental rebate amount. To ensure you continue to receive your rental rebate, please return your completed application form by <u>Friday 24th October 2025</u>. Any changes to rent payments will take effect from **17 November 2025**, unless you are otherwise advised.

If you would like more information about how EACH Housing calculates rent payments, please contact your EACH Housing Coordinator directly, or visit Rent Charges Explained on the EACH Housing website.

Important Safety Update - Blind Cords in Rental Homes

From 01 December 2025, all rental properties in Victoria must have secured cords on blinds and curtains so they cannot form dangerous loops. This change is being introduced to improve safety, particularly for children, and will apply to all rental properties, not just those with blinds installed after 2015.



If you notice that the cords on your blinds or curtains are loose, unsecured, or forming loops, please let us know as soon as possible so we can arrange for this to be fixed. You can raise a maintenance request in the following ways:

- Submit a request through the EACH Housing website
- Email us at housing@each.com.au
- Contact your Housing Co-ordinator directly on their mobile
- Call our EACH Housing's office on 9847 5916

Your safety is our priority, and we appreciate your support in helping us prepare for these important new standards.



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I Need Support - Where Can I Go?

At EACH Housing, our primary role is as a Registered Rental Housing Provider; to manage your tenancy, including collecting rent and addressing property maintenance related to the physical structure of your home. While we are not a support service provider, there are numerous organisations that can assist with social and emotional challenges. Below are some referral pathways that may be helpful for self-referral:

Each Services:

Each provides altogether better care with a network of health and social support services that wraps around you. The integrated range of health and wellness services include:

- Child / Youth / Family Services
- Disability / NDIS, support for older adults
- Counselling
- Community mental health services
- Health and Wellness

Visit Each's website to find the right services for you

Free call: 1300 003 224

Email: info@each.com.au

Or contact your EACH Housing Co-ordinator for assistance.



The Victorian Seniors Festival is a major state-wide festival for and involving seniors and runs from 01 to 31 of October every year. The Victorian Seniors Festival delivers a range of free and low-cost events for older Victorians. Celebrate positive ageing and take part in events and activities close to home and right across the state.



During the festival, Victorian Seniors Card holders can access 8 days of free public transport across Victoria from 5 to 12 October 2025. This includes travel across all metropolitan services, V/Line train and coach services, and selected regional bus services outside of the myki-enabled area. You can find more information at the public transport webpage.

Check out the <u>Victorian Seniors Festival</u> online and access the <u>Seniors Festival Events Calendar</u> for all the events, dates and times.



October 2025

World Mental Health Day – 10 October 2025

World Mental Health Day aims to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and provides an opportunity for community members and people working in mental health to talk about the importance of mental health as well as what more needs to be done to make access to mental health care a reality for people worldwide. This year, Mental Health Australia's theme for World Mental Health Day is "connect with your community." Connecting with our communities includes the people and places where we feel safe, seen and heard, and can help us feel cared for and supported, which is good for our mental health.

Download this year's <u>2025 World Mental Health Day calendar</u>, which includes daily tips throughout October for good mental health.

World Mental Health Day 10.10.2025 CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week (19 – 25 October 2025)

A lot of disabilities are actually not visible. It's estimated that one in seven people worldwide have a disability, and that 90% of those disabilities are invisible. Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week was created with the intention of bringing more awareness to invisible disabilities. Raising awareness can help able-bodied people understand the barriers and difficulties that people with invisible disabilities face. Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week offers a platform for people with disabilities so that they have a better opportunity to share issues they face. Many people can offer insights into how society can support those with disabilities in a more effective and meaningful way.

Invisible disabilities are very varied. They can be neurological, mental, or simply not visible when looking at someone. Although they aren't seen from the outside, they are still barriers to everyday life. Some examples of invisible disabilities are:

- Epilepsy
- Diabetes
- Autism
- Ulcerative colitis
- Fibromyalgia
- Long Covid
- · Learning difficulties like dyslexia
- Chronic conditions



To learn more about invisible disability check out The Sunflower Conversations



October 2025

Cardinia Shire Council – Cockatoo Country Market

First Saturday of every month from 8:30am to 1:30pm (no market in January).

77 Pakenham Road, Cockatoo



The Cockatoo Country Market showcases local wares including craft, preserves, poultry, candles, clothing, woodcraft, jewellery and much more! As well as supporting local business, the market provides opportunities for local community groups to fundraise and attract new volunteers.

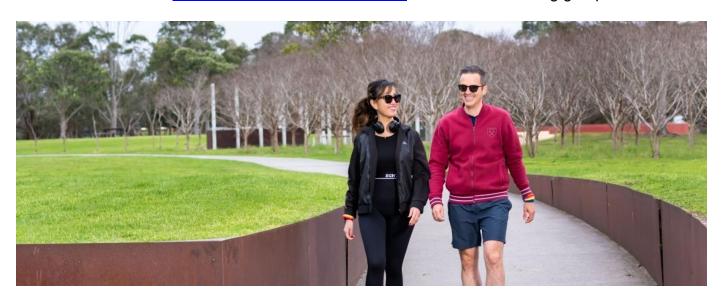
Check out the <u>Cockatoo Country Market website</u> and stock up on all your Spring essentials!

City of Casey – Walktober 2025

Throughout the month of October, the City of Casey is encouraging all residents to take steps to better their health and participate in Walktober 2025.

Walking is one of the simplest ways to improve your physical and mental health. It's free, accessible, and a great way to connect with your community. Taking time to walk regularly can help clear your mind, reduce stress, and boost your energy levels. It's a small step that can make a big difference to your overall wellbeing.

You can find a walking trail near you using the City of Casey's <u>walking trails interactive map</u>. You can also check out the <u>Walktober 2025 events calendar</u> to find a local walking group to attend.



October 2025

City of Greater Dandenong – Deckchair Movies

Monday 22 September to Saturday 11 October 2025

Springvale Community Hub in Springvale (Harmony Square, Dandenong)



Pack your movie munchies and a picnic blanket and enjoy a FREE outdoor movie screening on the big screen. There is something for everyone in this year's Deckchair Movies program and all films are suitable for all ages. The current program is part of the Children's Festival. Check out the <u>Deckchair Movies website</u> for more details. The events are FREE, and no bookings are required.

City of Frankston – Roving Repair Program

Frankston City Council has launched the new 'Roving Repair Program.' The program aims to empower people to develop skills and confidence to repair items instead of throwing them away. Frankston City Council has appointed expert and hobby repairers to assist locals, and wherever possible repairs will be conducted for free. In some instances, participants may be advised to purchase materials or parts and bring your item back to a subsequent event. Sessions are held regularly during each month, but bookings are essential. Check out the website for more details about dates, locations and make a booking.



City of Glen Eira – Diwali Festival of Lights

Saturday, 18 October 2025 (4.30 - 9.00pm)

Booran Reserve, corner Booran and Glenhuntly Roads, Glen Huntly



Enjoy a vibrant FREE evening of light, culture, and celebration at this year's Diwali Festival. Diwali is a time to come together, honouring the triumph of light over darkness and the power of unity. Expect a colourful night filled with live entertainment, music, dancing, and plenty to explore, including free face painting and henna, a photo booth and bustling market stalls. Check out the website for more detail (bookings not required).



October 2025

City of Knox – Children's Week 2025 Event

Thursday, 23 October 2025 (from 9:30 to 11:30am)

Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre

Children's Week 2025 highlights the importance of children's rights, encouraging both children and adults to learn about and understand these rights. This year's theme reinforces that every child has the right to feel safe, to take part in activities, and to have their voice heard and valued.

This year's FREE activities include:

- Fun, play activities and experiences
- Paul Jamieson The Music Man Performance
- Story time Session with Rusty Arnold Teddy Bear
- Safety Road Education with Macot Lottie
- Knox Toy Library display and information
- Book swap meet

For baby to preschool age, everyone is welcome!

Check out the <u>Knox Children's Week 2025 website</u> for details (bookings required).



Maroondah City Council - Young Families Village

Every Tuesday (1.30 to 3pm) - 7 Civic Square, Croydon



Join this FREE weekly drop-in program designed for parents aged 26 and under and their children. Meet other parents while developing practical skills, building supportive connections and engaging with your local community. Each session features activities, valuable information and access to helpful resources. Topics vary each week based on the group's interests and needs, ranging from play-based learning and cooking to discussions on managing stress, building daily routines and more.

Check out the <u>Maroondah City Council website</u> or the <u>flyer</u> for more information and registration details (drops in welcome).



October 2025

City of Monash – Community Safety Month (October 2025)

'Community Safety Month' takes place each October and is a reminder that we all have a role to play in keeping our community safe. This year's program features a range of fun and engaging events and gettogethers to help empower our community. Whether it's story time with the children, or various safety education sessions, learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones for many different situations. Check out the website to discover the range of FREE events.



Whitehorse City Council - Spring Festival

Sunday 19 October 2025 (10am - 4pm) Whitehorse Civic Centre Precinct, Nunawading



Whitehorse Spring Festival is a vibrant community celebration bringing together entertainment, family-friendly activities, local food and market stalls. Held annually, the festival offers a fun-filled day of music, performances, interactive experiences, and activities for all ages. Whether you're exploring the diverse range of attractions, enjoying delicious food, or connecting with the local community, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Stay tuned for event details and updates as we get closer to the festival date.

Yarra Ranges Shire Council - Badger Creek Women's Choir

FREE Annual Concert - 08 November 2025 (07:00 to 08:00pm)

The Memo Healesville, 235 Maroondah Hwy, Healesville



The Badger Creek Women's Choir has been singing together for the past 11 years. This eclectic group of women perform a mixture of Soul, Celtic, Indie Pop and good old Aussie rock.

Joined by a 5-piece band these singing gals will bring wonderful spirit and verve to some classic tunes. Expect great energy, great music and a yummy supper. Check out the website for details of this FREE event (bookings required).