



News at Donnybrae

Summer 2023


DONNYBRAE



ANOTHER DENNIS FAMILY
COMMUNITY

Construction Updates

Since our last construction update, with stretches of mostly warmer and drier days, civil works have continued to keep pace across the estate.

In Stages 10, 11, and 12, sewer works which commenced late last year are progressing well, along with drainage works which have now commenced.

Across Stage 13 a range of significant works have now been completed. Water main works, sewer system and pavements were finished, and electric cabling work which began a few months ago is also now complete. Stage 13 marks the final undertaking of compliance works, with the lodgement of titles anticipated within the month.

For Stages 14, 15 and 16, with the civil works having been tendered, civil construction across these areas started in late 2022. This milestone sees site establishment, environmental controls and bulk excavation works now well underway.

The Hayes Hill Boulevard Branch Sewer, which proves the critical sewer support to the estate, is now complete and has been handed over to the relevant Authority.

\$22,500 awarded to local groups through the Donnybrae Community Fund

Fifteen not-for-profit groups operating in the Donnybrook and Craigieburn area have shared in \$22,500 of financial grants distributed through the Donnybrae Community Fund.

The successful recipients were announced at a presentation evening on November 17, with each group awarded a grant of \$1,500 to support their local community project.

Dennis Family Corporation, the developer of the Donnybrae estate, has successfully operated Community Funds across its residential developments, both in Victoria and Queensland, since 2002 and distributed more than \$950,000 in grants over that time.

Dennis Family Corporation Executive General Manager, Peter Ryan, who

hosted the presentation evening said, “We are proud to support the local communities in areas where we operate our business. We believe their efforts greatly contribute towards the liveability of our estates.”

Marisa Debattista, from Second Chance Rescue (SCAR) one of the worthy grant recipients, says the funds will be used to help support their pet outreach programs.

“Since we started in 2008 we have rescued and rehomed over 12,000 cats and dogs that needed a second chance at a happy life. SCAR has always aspired to take a preventative approach to pet homelessness in Victoria rather than the band-aid approach of rescuing and rehoming, a cycle which is difficult to break,” explains Marisa.

“The grant funding will help us to support community members with their pets BEFORE they need to consider surrendering. Our program addresses some of the deeper social issues leading to the increasing number of homeless animals in our community and keeps families together and pets happy and healthy in their homes.”

“Owners are supported with resources to care for their pets without fear of financial hardship. We provide support to a range of pet owners to care for their pets before they become sick or homeless via our Community Animal Hospital which aims to prevent animal abandonment by offering veterinary care to all pets, free food and educational programs.”



Congratulations to all of the recipients of Donnybrae Community Fund grants:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Happy Hands Animal Rescue | Craigieburn Sport and Exercise Club | Compassion North Church |
| Hume Men’s Shed Craigieburn | Craigieburn Cricket Club | Whittlesea Community House |
| The Brahma Kumaris | Craigieburn Little Athletics | Wollert Fire Brigade |
| Bandicoot Chess Club | Craigieburn Fire Brigade | Craigieburn Basketball Association |
| Kalkallo Fire Brigade | Tigers Basketball Club | Second Chance Rescue |

Tips for growing your own summer fruits



Fruit and summer go hand-in-hand. There's nothing better than a fruit salad or a delicious smoothie on a hot day. You could attend your local market or grocery store and find a wide selection, but nothing compares to the satisfaction of harvesting your own crop.

Make the most of great weather and long summers with our tips for planting and enjoying the benefits of your fresh summer fruits, while also reaping the rewards long after summer has gone, with options such as freezing, preserving and making jams and condiments.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT FRUIT

Do you often find yourself craving a particular fruit that's hard to find at the supermarket? Growing your own fruit is a simple way to keep costs down and ensure there's always enough for you and your family.

Deciding what fruit to plant in your garden can be subject to several factors, including taste, space, weather conditions and adequate lighting.

Many citrus and stone fruit trees require at least 6 hours of uninterrupted sunlight throughout the day, whereas raspberries, bananas, mandarins, and oranges are more adequately suited to partial shade.

INVESTING IN FRUIT TREES

Fruit trees provide flowers, fruit, and beneficial shade during the hot, Australian summer. Almost all fruit trees benefit from full sun, good soil drainage, and enough room to thrive.

Plant your trees with enough space in between, keeping them away from other plants, fences, and infrastructure. Plan your garden according to the size of the mature plant. Maintain adequate drainage by adding organic matter, including kitchen compost, garden compost, and well-rotted manure to your soil. Save on citrus and stone fruit trees by purchasing bare-rooted varieties during winter. Soak the tree in a large container of water before planting it in a hole large enough for the tree roots and any organic soil. Water your tree well.

Citrus and stone fruit trees are self-fertile, which means they will produce fruit even if they are grown in solitary conditions (away from other trees).

Apple, pear, cherry, and plum trees require a cross-pollinator to bear fruit. Cross-pollinating includes transferring pollen from the flowers of one plant to another. These trees are best suited when planted among other flowering fruit trees, as the

proximity is ideal for the wind and other cross-pollinating sources. Bees are expert cross-pollinators. Invite bees into your garden by planting plenty of native Australian flowers and abstaining from insecticides.

A BERRY GOOD CHOICE

Summer berries include blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, and strawberries. All summer berries thrive whether they are planted in the garden or plant pots. Ensure your berries are planted in direct sunlight. Raspberries are the only berries that require partial shade. To ensure healthy, fruiting plants, maintain nutrient-dense, freely draining soil.

GROWING OLIVES

Did you know olives are regarded as fruit? These European diet staples are packed full of Vitamin E and antioxidants beneficial for heart health. Olives thrive in long, hot climates just like their native Mediterranean conditions. Plant your olive trees in full sun, where the fruits find at least 6 hours of light. Keep protected from strong winds with a stake as support or by planting among other tall plants.

CARING FOR YOUR TREES

Lightly prune your fruit trees right after you've collected your summer crop. Only prune where necessary though, as severe pruning during summer may weaken the trees.

Keep significant pruning to winter to fix any issues, including dead wood and broken or tangled branches.



*<https://donnybrae.com.au/great-15k-rebate-campaign-terms>

The Great 15K* Rebate has arrived at Donnybrae!

Enjoy exclusive summer savings at Donnybrae with a \$15,000* rebate on selected lots. Plus, we're also offering 5% deposits across all lots!

And if all that isn't enough - if you're a first home buyer you could also be eligible to receive the Victorian Government \$10,000^ First Home Owner Grant to put towards your new home!

Now is the time to take advantage of this great offer and make the move to Donnybrae! Hurry, our \$15K* rebate offer is available for a limited time only.

Contact the Donnybrae team on **1300 303 380** and at info@donnybrae.com.au for more information.

The Donnybrae Team have moved offsite!

With the final stage now released and limited lots available, the Donnybrae Land Sales Centre has permanently closed.

The Donnybrae sales team are available to assist you remotely via phone, email, video call and by appointment if needed. Contact us now on **1300 303 380 300** and at info@donnybrae.com.au



Summer fruit and berry galette

INGREDIENTS:

- ½ cup pistachios finely chopped (optional)
- ¼ cup (55g) caster sugar
- 30g butter, chopped
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 3 Tbsp of any jam
- 2 tbsp plain flour
- 1 egg, lightly whisked
- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry, just thawed
- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup raspberries
- 3 large stone fruit such as plums, apricots, nectarines, cherries or peaches, pitted and cut into rough 2-cm thick slices
- Honey, to serve
- Vanilla ice cream or lightly sweetened whipped cream to serve (optional).

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 200°C. Line a large baking tray with baking paper. Place finely chopped pistachios (optional) caster sugar, butter, jam and vanilla in a food processor and process until combined.
2. Transfer to a bowl. Add the flour and use your fingertips to combine. Lightly whisk egg and set aside 2 tsp. Add the remaining egg to the mixture and stir to combine.
3. Place the pastry on the baking tray. Use a small sharp knife to score a 2cm border around the edge of the pastry (don't cut all the way through). Use a fork to prick the pastry all over the inside the border.
4. Spread mixture onto pastry inside the border. Arrange and layer stone fruits and berries till the mixture is covered. Brush the pastry border with the reserved egg.
5. Form the galette by folding, overlapping and pleating the edges of the dough over the pastry filling to enclose. Brush the crust with egg wash and sprinkle it with sugar. Transfer to the fridge or freezer to chill until firm — this will help it retain its shape during baking and prevent any fruit juices from seeping out.
6. Bake for 20 mins or until the pastry is crisp and golden brown and the fruit filling is cooked and bubbling. Remove from the oven and allow to cool at room temperature. Drizzle with honey and serve with a generous scoop of vanilla ice cream or lightly sweetened whipped cream.

Drought-proof your garden this summer

After a damp and chilly spring, who isn't looking forward to a little sunny weather this summer? Depending on where you live, keeping your garden going during the hotter months can be challenging.

Here are some simple water-wise ways that you can adopt to give your place some love in the warmer months and make sure that it doesn't just survive but thrives.

FERTILISING

The start of summer is a great time to give your garden beds and pot plants a feed. Use a liquid fertiliser to correct any nutrient deficiencies and to promote flowering and fruiting. Seaweed powder mixed with water helps plants in times of stress.

COMPOST

Healthy and well-prepared soil goes a long way to making your plants drought-tolerant. The slow release of nutrients as the organic matter disintegrates produces healthier specimens of all your plants, allowing them to better resist disease, infestations of pests and lack of water in dry periods. Soil that contains a lot of organic matter can hold more moisture. Add concentrated sources of organic matter into your soil like compost, organic soil improvers or worm castings to top up garden beds, veggie patches and pot plants.

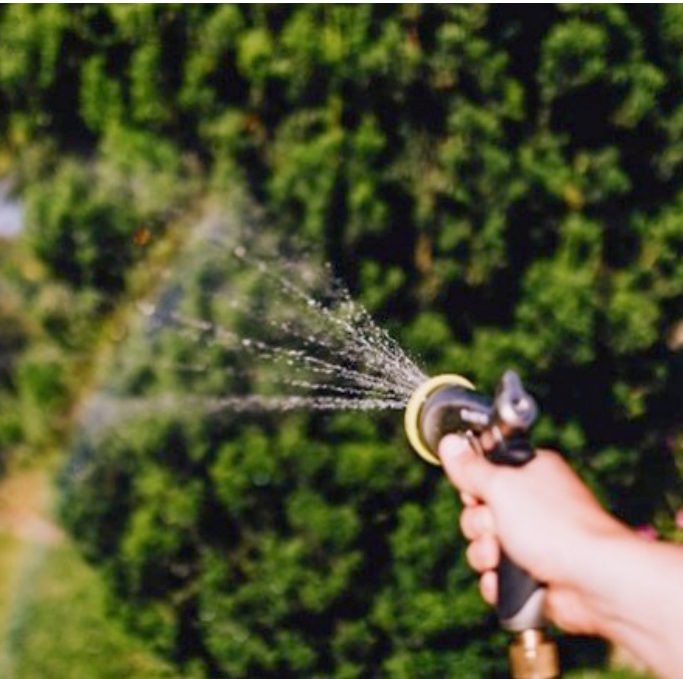
MULCHING

Fresh mulch holds moisture in the soil and helps to maintain a constant soil temperature that prevents heat stress in plants. It also helps to suppress weeds and supplies nutrients to the soil as it breaks down, providing an environment for beneficial organisms.

Water your soil thoroughly before mulching. A five-centimetre layer of chipped bark, untreated wood chips or sugar cane mulch will greatly improve moisture retention on hot days. But don't overdo it; too much mulch will prevent water from getting in and may restrict airflow to the soil, suffocating your plants. Keep mulch away from the stems and trunks of your plants to prevent them from rotting.

BE WATER WISE

There are many practical steps you can take around the garden to help your plants survive without turning on the



hose unnecessarily. Make sure you water in the early morning, as the cooler temperature helps to hydrate and prepare plants for the heat of the day.

Water your plants heavily once or twice a week rather than lightly every day. Watering less frequently encourages plants to send roots deeper into the soil where it's cool. It also prevents weeds and creates more resilient plants. Going on holiday? Heavily water everything before you leave and move smaller pots out of the sun, and indoor plants outside where they may get some rain.

Collect greywater in a bucket from an area where there is no contamination risk, like your shower. While you can't use this water in food gardens, it's great to tip onto non-edible plants or your lawn within 24 hours.

DON'T FORGET YOUR POT PLANTS

On hot days, temporarily moving pots to shady spots can prolong their life. Place them on soil or garden borders as the heat from pavements, concrete and patios can be detrimental. Place deep saucers, bowls or buckets under pots to catch any water run-off. Take down hanging baskets once a week and place them in a bucket of water for a thorough soaking.

CHOOSE YOUR PLANTS WISELY

Plants originating from low rainfall areas, such as parts of South Africa and the Mediterranean, are better suited to survival in hot Australian summers. Look for Rosemary, Sage, Thyme, Lavender, Fairy Iris, and African Daisies. Many Australian natives are also drought-tolerant, including Corokia, Coprosma, Kapuka, and Buchanan's sedge. Other drought-tolerant plants include Geraniums, Lamb's ear and Silverbush, while hardy tree varieties include Ginko, Pine Trees, Eucalyptus and Robinia.

Snakes love Summer too. What to do if you see a snake

With Summer in full swing, snakes do become more active in the area. Anyone who encounters a snake is advised to:

- Be aware, stay calm and do not approach a snake.
- Safely remove any people or pets from the area where the snake was sighted.
- Do not try to capture the snake.
- Apply first aid and seek medical help immediately, if anyone is bitten.

- Call **136 186** if you need advice or a trained snake-catcher to remove a snake.

More information can be found at

<https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/health-safety/problems-with-animals-and-pest-control/kangaroos-snakes-magpies-possums/>

Donnybrook Primary School is open!

We know an important factor for many families deciding where to build their forever home, is the ability to access great schools in their local area.

So we are delighted to see the new State Government funded Primary School – Donnybrook Primary has been completed and is ready to open its doors to new students for Term 1 2023.

Located at 145 Olivine Boulevard, Donnybrook, the school has space for 525 local students and is open for enrolments for students in Prep to Grade 6, ensuring families will be comprehensively catered for when it comes to their education needs – right in their own neighbourhood!

When the school opens in Term 1, 2023, it will include:

- An administration building with a library, staff offices and amenities as well as specialist teaching areas for science and food technology.
- Two learning neighbourhood buildings with general purpose classrooms, and flexible and collaborative teaching spaces.
- A community hub building with a competition-grade gymnasium, canteen, music and drama space.
- Two outdoor hard courts and a sports field.

David Williams, who has been appointed as the inaugural Principal of Donnybrook Primary School, said, “We are



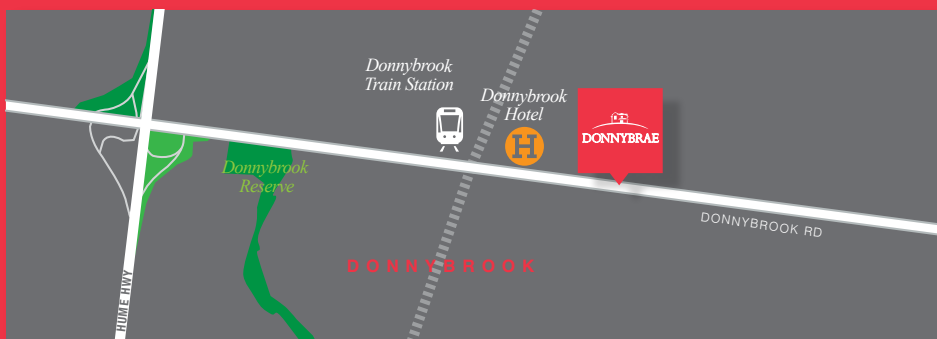
delighted to be welcoming families across the Donnybrook area, and will support an inclusive learning community to meet the needs of each individual child”

For more information on the school or to enrol visit

<http://donnybrookps.vic.edu.au/>

*Rebate Terms and Conditions apply – <https://donnybrae.com.au/great-15k-rebate-campaign-terms> please click on the T&Cs link or see our website for details.

^Grant subject to State Government eligibility rules. See <https://www.sro.vic.gov.au/first-home-owner>. The Developer makes no warranties or representations regarding eligibility rules or criteria for any government grants.



Donnybrae Estate, Land Sales:

Contact us now on 1300 303 380 300 and at info@donnybrae.com.au

This brochure is not a contract and is not binding. While we have taken all care in preparing it, prospective buyers should make and rely on their own enquiries. Photographs, plans, maps, drawings and dimensions are for illustrative purposes only, may not be to scale and may differ from final built forms. Information is current as of publication but may change without notice, check your land sale contract for full up-to-date terms and conditions. "Donnybrae" is a registered trade mark used under license © 2023.