

We're back! Hope to see members and residents at our first meeting for 2018



Join us on 12 February at 6.30 pm

We're officially back on deck with the first meeting on Monday, 12 February, at the Union Club Hotel, 164 Gore Street.

Once again, the Union Club Hotel has very generously agreed to support us by allowing us to use its first floor

venue.

What are we going to do in 2018?

If you come to our February meeting, we will be glad to get your feedback on some projects we're considering in 2018.

In our submission to the 2017-18 Budget we proposed three initiatives:

- Graffiti removal pilot project
- Waste and litter minimisation project
- Clean up our laneways campaign

Cleaning up our act!

We are pleased to report that the City of Yarra is undertaking pilot projects in selected neighbourhoods across the City in conjunction to initiate and evaluate action on graffiti, waste and litter. The projects will enable the Council and the community to act, test and monitor outcomes in an efforts to improve our amenity and sustainability of our City.

FRA, in partnership with the City, will select a neighbourhood in Fitzroy that reflects the diversity and vibrancy of Fitzroy and at times the unfortunate impact of graffiti, waste and litter on our streets, laneways and footpaths.

The Council project will involve residents and business owners in a concerted effort to clean up our City for all to enjoy. We look forward to participating, and would welcome residents' involvement in planning.

For our second proposed project, FRA has also been successful in obtaining a small grant from Yarra to undertake what we have called a 'Waste Not Want Not' project to inform and encourage residents to be waste and litter free!

Our third budget proposal was engage with the community and identify a number of pilot laneways across Yarra and conduct an education program for residents and business owners to design and implement a "I love Yarra's laneways" campaign.

The campaign of education should be supported by local laws to enforce non-use of laneways for bin storage (except where bins are unable to be stored on site), dumping of hard rubbish, placement of commercial or residential items, parking of vehicles. Watch this space!

St Vincent's Private Hospital expansion

Fitzroy residents are involved in VCAT proceedings which commenced on 15 January, and have now been adjourned to 12 February for a further four days.

The matter relates to the proposed construction of a multi-storey building as an extension to the existing hospital, including demolition and alterations to existing buildings.

Concerned residents support the Council conditions, and are parties to the VCAT proceedings to fight for the protection of heritage sites affected by this proposed development.

Show your support by attending during **12-15 February**, and check out [details online](#)



Budget time again!

Yes, Yarra Council is seeking your views on the 2018-19 Budget. Less contentious than last year when many of us got involved because of the proposed "bin tax".

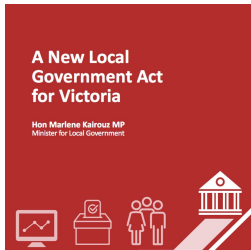
There are three upcoming budget info sessions for input on ideas and priorities in person.

- Thursday 8 February, from 6pm to 7.30pm, at Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library;
- Saturday 10 February, from 10am to 11.30am, at Richmond Town Hall;
- Monday 12 February, from 6pm to 7.30pm, at Collingwood Town Hall.

See also www.yoursayyarra.com.au/budget1819

Know your Council

Some residents may not be familiar with an [online site](#) which allows you to compare Yarra council with other councils, view council profiles and general information about how local government works in Victoria. You can view the latest State Government's annual report on the performance of Victorian councils.



Have your say on proposed new LGA

It is intended that a new Local Government Bill will be introduced to Parliament in early 2018 with a view to a new Local Government Act commencing from mid 2018.

There is an opportunity to comment on the Exposure Draft of the Bill until 23 February 2018. See

www.yourcouncilyourcommunity.vic.gov.au/exposure-draft

Can you help on Bridges2Harmony Day, 23 March?

The FRA is supporting the [Fitzroy Learning Network](#) on Friday 23 March from 3 – 8pm at 198 Napier Street and Condell Reserve.

We are seeking volunteers to assist the FLN in the organisation and management on the day. If you are able to assist for an allotted two-hour period between the hours of 3 – 8pm please [email FRA chair, Martin Brennan](#).

This is an opportunity to celebrate living in Fitzroy and help others to do the same!



Are you following us on Facebook?

FRA is relatively new to Facebook but it does offer the opportunity to keep you informed with news bites, events and more in-depth articles of interest.

We give advance notice of our meetings and events, and what's happening in our suburb.

One example is the not-to-be missed **The Life and Times of Fitzroy in the 1950s** showing in the Fitzroy

Library from **3 – 8 February**. The Fitzroy History Society is to be congratulated for this effort in collecting interviews for this project.

We look forward to seeing you on 12 February.

Martin Brennan, Chair
Margaret Portelli, Secretary



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