

L'S & P'S ARE NOW FREE

The Andrews Labor Government has slashed the costs for new drivers and their families with the abolition of learner, probationary licence fees and online testing fees.

L-platers now save up to \$51.40 in licence and online testing fees. While learner drivers going for their P-plates save up to \$133.30 in licence and online hazard perception tests.

Victoria's new online learner permit and hazard perception tests are also free.

We are also reintroducing the Safe Driver Discount. After 1 October 2022, car, motorcycle, and heavy vehicle licence holders of all ages across Victoria, who have not incurred demerit points or committed road safety offences in the previous three years, will receive a 25% discount off their next licence renewal, meaning a saving of up to \$73 on a new ten-year driver licence.

For more information visit vicroads.vic.gov.au.



OUT & ABOUT IN OUR COMMUNITY



Celebrating the Zine magazines produced by Marymede Catholic College Year 10 & Year 11 students



Having a chat with community members at the Greenbrook Community House



Celebrating Teej Mela with members of the Epping - Wollert Nepalese Community

Celebrating Greenbrook Community House achievements



With Alex Joseph, President of the Whittlesea Malayalee Association at their Onam festival



At Al Siraat College's 6th Interfaith Ramadan Dinner



Celebrating the beautiful Sri Lankan culture with Daya Silva, President of the Northern Sri Lankan Association & members of this lovely local community group.



With the Uni Hill Eagles Football Club family celebrating the start of the season.

Lily D'Ambrosio MP
State Labor Member
for Mill Park

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Mill Park Community newsletter. There's some good news to share in this update so I hope you enjoy reading it. In 2018 the Andrews Labor Government promised to deliver a better Childs Road that would ease congestion and reduce travel times for more than 25,000 drivers who rely on it every day. I'm pleased to report that this very important project is now complete. I want to thank all residents for your patience whilst construction was underway, and I hope you can enjoy the much-improved road.

Our government understands the pressures being faced by households and we'll keep working to drive down the cost of living for all Victorians. In these past months we announced a number of initiatives to help families cope with financial pressures.

Our one-off \$250 Power Saving Bonus provides immediate relief to households and gives families the opportunity to lower their bills by comparing their retail energy rates.

We all want our children to grow up to be the best they can be, and with 90 per cent of a child's brain developing before the age of five, those early years really matter. At the same time, childcare costs have never been higher. The costs of care and the shortage

of places see many parents – mainly women – not able to return to work or take on extra shifts if they want to.

That's why from 2023 onwards the Andrews Labor Government will expand the Best Start, Best Life program which offers Free Kinder for all 3-year-old and 4-year-old children, saving an average of between \$2000-\$2500 per child, each year.

In an Australian first, the Andrews Labor Government Sick Pay Guarantee provides eligible casual and contract workers up to 38 hours sick and carer's pay leave. I am so happy to see that one third of our local casual and contract workers have signed up to this fabulous program.

Please read through to find out more about these cost-of-living measures and many more.

Feel free to contact me should you have any questions or need assistance.

Warm regards,

Lily D'Ambrosio MP
State Member for Mill Park

Lily D'Ambrosio MP
State Labor Member for Mill Park

Representing the communities of South Morang & parts of Mill Park, Epping & Wollert

GET YOUR \$250 POWER SAVING BONUS

We know that many Victorians are struggling with the cost-of-living pressures.

That's why we are offering all Victorian households a one-off **\$250 Power Saving Bonus** payment. This payment has so far provided immediate relief to more than 16,000 families in our local community. If you haven't claimed your \$250 Power Saving Bonus I urge you to do so. To claim it just visit compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

By visiting the State Government's Victorian Energy Compare website you will also be able to compare retail offers and get a better deal on your power bills. Seven out of 10 households who use the Victorian Energy Compare website to compare the current offers save around \$300 off their power bills in the first year alone.

The one-off \$250 Power Saving Bonus will be available until 31 June 2023.



ORANGE DOOR NOW OPEN

The Orange Door in Epping is now officially opened!

The Orange Door network is a recommendation of the Royal Commission into Family Violence to make it easier for people to get the help they need when they need it.

The Orange Door is an Australian-first free service that brings together family violence, men's, Aboriginal and child and family services in one place, providing co-ordinated support to the whole family closer to home.

Since opening in 2018, the North-East Melbourne Orange Door Network has already helped more than

40,000 people, including more than 15,000 children, across Darebin, Banyule, Yarra, Whittlesea and Nillumbik.

Now, with an access point in Epping, more families will be able to get the support they need closer to home.

The Orange Door in Epping is located at the DPV health site in the Quest Epping building adjacent to the Pacific Epping Shopping Centre, Corner of Miller & Cooper Streets, Epping. Phone: **1800 319 355**

Victoria is leading the nation with its work to end family violence, with more than \$3.7 billion invested since the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

ONE THIRD OF CASUAL OR CONTRACT WORKERS IN MILL PARK SIGN UP FOR OUR SICK PAY GUARANTEE PROGRAM

It is exciting to see that one third of casual and contract workers in our local community have already signed up to our Australia first Sick Pay Guarantee Program.

Signing up for the Andrews Labor Government **Sick Pay Guarantee** is easy and free, and only takes 15 minutes to register.

The Sick Pay Guarantee provides up to 38 hours sick and carer's pay for eligible casual and contract workers.

To check eligibility register or make a claim visit service.vic.gov.au/services/sick-pay-guarantee

We're guaranteeing five days of sick pay for casuals in **hospo cleaning security laundries supermarkets retail aged care and more.**



CHILDS ROAD UPGRADE DELIVERED

In 2018 the Andrews Labor Government promised to deliver the Childs Road Upgrade as part of our \$2.2 billion investment in Suburban Roads Upgrades. That's what we've done. Motorists are now enjoying safer and less congested journeys thanks to this Upgrade.

We delivered:

- An extra lane in each direction between **Beaumont Crescent** and **Prince of Wales Avenue**
- Traffic Lights at the intersection of **Bowman Drive** and **Childs Road**
- A new bridge over **Darebin Creek** and an upgrade to the existing one
- Pedestrian operated traffic light to the crossing at the left turn from **Dalton Road** onto **Childs Road**

- New shared walking and cycling paths
- Safety barriers along the road.

The new rest area at the Darebin Creek Lookout and the new walking and cycling path connecting to the Darebin Creek Trail will be ready for all to enjoy in the coming months.

Enjoying the new Childs Road pathways with Meni, George & Beau



SUPPORTING OUR NURSES & MIDWIVES

We all want our loved ones to get the care they deserve faster and closer to home. That's why the Andrews Labor Government is investing over \$12 billion to put patients first.

We're backing our healthcare workers with training and the extra pair of helping hands they need, so they can give you the very best care. 10,000 students will have the cost of their nursing or midwifery undergraduate studies paid for. Scholarships will also be available for thousands more who complete postgraduate studies in areas of need including intensive care, cancer care and paediatrics. All new domestic students enrolling in a professional-entry nursing or midwifery course in 2023 and 2024 will receive a scholarship of up to \$16,500 to cover course costs. If you're in Year 12 and you've been

thinking about studying nursing or midwifery - go for it. The Andrews Labor government has your HECS fees covered.

We have also invested \$14.3 million to establish and run five new GP-led Priority Primary Care Centres including one that is **NOW OPEN** next to Northern Hospital in Epping. This new centre operates seven days a week, 16 hours a day, handling conditions such as mild infections, fractures and burns, and offers pathology and imaging services. It accepts walk-ups, referrals and pre-booked appointments, ensuring that vital Emergency Department resources are freed up for patients with more critical needs while also taking pressure off the Northern Hospital's very busy Emergency Department.

FREE KINDER COMES TO MILL PARK- FAMILIES CAN SAVE UP TO \$2,500 PER CHILD, EVERY YEAR

The Andrews Labor Government understands that family budgets are tight – and there's no doubt that childcare costs are crippling.

We need childcare to be cheaper and we also want our children to have the best start in life. That's why the Andrews Labor Government is making kinder for three and four-year old's completely free from next year.

This will save families up to \$2500 per child every year delivering immediate relief to household budgets. We are giving all children the same opportunities and mums the option to return to work if they want to.

