

2024



MARVEL STADIUM | 20-22 MAY 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



In the spirit of reconciliation, Parks and Leisure
Australia acknowledges the Traditional
Custodians of country throughout
Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The Parks and Leisure Australia VicTas Region Council is excited to host the 11th edition of our Region conference.

After a sell out event in 2023, we are back bigger and better than ever as we head to Marvel Stadium in the heart of Melbourne.

The only sector conference brought to you by local government for local government and its supporters, the event brings industry together celebrating the PEOPLE behind the PLACES.

We kick things off with a behind the scenes tour of Marvel Stadium and Welcome Event on Monday 20 May. You will then be able to immerse yourself in two days and 12+ hours of content across 3 diverse streams:

- Places + Spaces
- Parks + Projects
- People + Planning

And don't forget the social event of the year as we celebrate the best of the parks and leisure industry at our Awards of Excellence Dinner on Tuesday 21 May.

It takes a collective effort to deliver this exciting event and we thank all of the presenters for volunteering their time to showcase the best our industry has to offer. A big thank you also to our partners, who without their support we wouldn't be able to host this event.

A special shoutout to all who travel to attend, especially our Tasmanian presenters and delegates!



Rachel Thorpe - President, PLA VicTas

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

Platinum



Program





Gold



Industry



Support





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MINISTER'S WELCOME

On behalf of the Allan Labor Government, I'm delighted to welcome delegates from the sport, recreation, leisure and parks sectors to the 2024 Parks & Leisure Australia Region Conference and Awards of Excellence Dinner.

Sport, recreation, leisure and parks provide the foundation of our cities, towns and communities and are key to our state's health, wellbeing and livability. Thanks to the tireless work of our partners in Local Government Authorities and the Sport, Leisure and Parks industry, we have innovative, inclusive and accessible infrastructure, some of which will be showcased over the coming days.

With more and more families choosing to call Victoria home, we have the opportunity to build on the work that has already been done to ensure future generations have their chance to reap the benefits of community sport, recreation, leisure and parks close to home.

Through our Active Victoria strategy, which is the Allan Labor Government's state-wide plan for sport and recreation, we can focus on bridging the gaps and breaking down barriers to support equitable participation. This includes investment in community sport and recreation infrastructure that is accessible, welcoming and inclusive, and supports innovative, responsive participation programs.

In addition to these initiatives, our investment into the popular Get Active Kids Voucher Program has distributed over 140,000 vouchers to eligible families, ensuring more young Victorians can participate in sport and recreation.

We're also aiming to enhance the capability and capacity of the sport and active recreation workforce to ensure a

safe and sustainable sector that delivers positive experiences for all Victorians by providing state-wide support to deliver the Fair Access Policy Roadmap. This will fast-track gender equitable access to community sports infrastructure, working to dismantle this barrier to participation through education and support, through our Australian-first Office for Women in Sport and Recreation.

We're continuing our work with Local Government and Sport, Leisure and Parks industry partners to ensure all Victorians have access to the facilities they need. This is supported by the Allan Labor Government investing more than \$1.9B in infrastructure projects since 2014.

By working in partnership to provide the perfect settings for communities to come together, we can encourage people of all abilities to get active, connect, volunteer, learn, prosper and stay healthy.

Over the coming days, industry experts will be offering inspiring and innovative content to address the challenges faced by industry today and I'd like to thank PLA VicTas and all the sponsors who've made this event possible.

Finally, congratulations to all our award of excellence winners and nominees past and present. We're proud to have partnered with many of you on a range of game changing projects and I wish all delegates a great stay in Victoria, the sports capital of Australia.

The Hon. Ros Spence MP Minister for Community Sport

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ABOUT PLA

Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) is committed to representing, advocating, supporting and servicing all professionals and organisations involved in parks, leisure, recreation, sport, open space, and the environment. We have been servicing and advocating for the parks and leisure industry since 1926 - originally formed as the Victorian Tree Planters Association, becoming the Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation in the 70's, until merging with the Australian Leisure Institute in 1998 to form PLA.

Since then PLA has become the peak industry body for parks and leisure, and we are committed to being a leader in driving the professionalism, recognition and value of the industry. PLA is a now 2,500+ strong member-based organisation with a national office located in Adelaide but administered through five regions: Queensland; NSW/ ACT; VIC/TAS; SA/ NT; and WA.

We exist to

Represent, advocate, support, connect and empower our members, stakeholders and the wider industry; to achieve quality of life for all people in Australia.

Our Vision

For Australia to be the most liveable country in the world, renowned for its parks, sport and recreation facilities that provide the foundation for healthy communities and liveable towns and cities.

Our Members

Our members are "the people behind the places" who work across policy, planning and the provision of assets, services, facilities, programs, and research in the parks and leisure sector.

ABOUT THE VICTORIA/TASMANIA REGION

VIC/TAS is the leading PLA region with over 35% of total national PLA membership. We have over 1,000 passionate industry members with reach to 3,000+ sector colleagues via our region database and mailing list, and a further 1,200+ LinkedIn followers.

The VIC/TAS Region is managed by a voluntary <u>Council</u> comprising 20 industry professionals from across all parks and leisure sectors, and each with interests and knowledge across a range of sector issues.

VIC/TAS MEMBERSHIP



1,000+ members



3,000+ reach



35% of national membership

REGION COUNCIL



10 region councillors



10 co-opted members



11 Vic + 2 Tas LGAs, 2 State, 1 Uni, 4 business

EXECUTIVE TEAM



RACHEL THORPE

PRESIDENT

Hume City Council (Wurundjeri Land)



GRANT GREENWAY

CO-VICE PRESIDENT

Endeavour Turf Professionals (Bunurong Land)



ANDREA SZYMANSKI

CO-VICE PRESIDENT

City of Casey (Bunurong Land)



SAM TAYLOR

TREASURER

City of Boroondara (Wurundjeri Land)



NAOMI PATON

SECRETARY

Sport and Recreation Victoria (Wurundjeri Land)

REGION COUNCIL



MARK COREA

COUNCILLOR

City of Whittlesea (Wurundjeri/Taungurung Land)



LISA GAYDON

COUNCILLOR

Parks Victoria (Wurundjeri Land)



COLE

COUNCILLOR

Wellington Shire Council (Gunaikurnai Land)



DION GOSLING

COUNCILLOR

106 Architects (Wurundjeri Land)



ALLI COOMBE

TASMANIA COUNCILLOR

Clarence City Council (Mumirimina Land)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

We are also fortunate to have a number of co-opted members who provide additional guidance and support to our Regional Council:



Stephanie Ristevska

City of Whittlesea Wurundjeri/Taungurung land



Michael **Tanner**

Banyule City Council Wurundjeri land

Jamye Grossman

City of Casey

Wurundjeri land



Joanne Massoud

Melbourne University Sport Wurundjeri land



Rod Clark

Maribyrnong City Council Wurundjeri/Bunurong land



Lauren Close

Otium Planning Group Wurundjeri land



Ben Manning

Bunurong land





Mel Pratt

Cardinia Shire Council Wurundjeri/Bunurong land



Jo Hansen

City of Melbourne Wurundjeri land



Amy Walker

City of Devonport Pannilerpanner land

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

DAY 1

4PM TRADE BUMP-IN

4:30PM STADIUM TOUR

5:30PM-7PM WELCOME EVENT

MON 20 MAY

DAY 2

8AM REGISTRATION

9AM - 10.30AM WELCOME + KEYNOTE

10.30AM - 11AM MORNING TEA + TRADE SHOW

11AM - 12.30PM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

12.30PM - 1.30PM LUNCH + TRADE SHOW

1.30PM - 3PM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

3PM - 3.30PM AFTERNOON TEA + TRADE SHOW

3.30PM - 5PM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

6.30PM - 10.30PM AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

2:30PM - 4PM

DAY 3

8AM REGISTRATION

9AM - 10.30AM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

10.30AM - 11AM MORNING TEA + TRADE SHOW

11AM - 12.30PM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

12.30PM - 1.30PM LUNCH + TRADE SHOW

1.30PM - 2:30PM PRESENTATIONS (3 X STREAMS)

PANEL/KEYNOTE



Brand Architects

Brand Architects is a Melbourne based practice focused on the delivery of environmentally and socially responsible architecture.

brandarchitects.com.au

E: office@brandarchitects.com.au



TUES 21 MAY

WED 22 MAY

MEET YOUR HOST

Brett Phillips is a leading tennis commentator and long time supporter of Parks and Leisure Australia.

Host of SEN's The First Serve, a dedicated two hour weekly radio show, covering the world of tennis from the elite to the grass roots here in Australia and abroad.

Brett is also a host of Channel 9's French Open, Wimbledon, US Open, Davis Cup, Billie Jean King Cup, Brisbane International and Adelaide International TV coverage as well as being the big screens host for Tennis Australia at the Australian Open.

Conference host proudly brought to you by Green Life Group www.glgcorp.com

DAY 1: WELCOME EVENT

Join us for a behind the scenes tour of Marvel Stadium where we will be taken into the inner sanctum of the game day change rooms, walk up the players race to the boundary line, take questions in the media centre, and maybe even get a tour of the areas being upgraded as part of the \$225m redevelopment.

Then take the chance to network with industry colleagues over drinks and canapes for happy hour during early access to the trade expo.

• Tour: 4:30pm

Welcome event: 5:30-7pm



9 2024 PLA VicTas Conference **PROGRAM**

DAY 2: TUESDAY 21 MAY

	Places + Spaces (Room A)	Parks + Projects (Room C)	People + Planning (Room D)	Workshop Room (Room B)
8:00am	Registrations (Coffee + Trade Show)			<u> </u>
9:00am	Welcome (Brett Phillips, MC)			
9:30am	Keynote: Alicia McKay			
10:30am		Morning Tea (Trade Show)	
11:00am	The Community Benefits of Golf in Australia (SGS Economics and Planning)	Remote sensing for plants – how evolving technology can assist in sustainable decision making (Syngenta)	Evidence-based decision making for open space provision and priorities (Banyule City Council)	WORKSHOP: What does a best- practice club development program
11:30am	Redevelopment of Morack Golf Course (Whitehorse City Council)	Current design trends and opportunities for all Field of	Play Your Way: Play and Active Recreation Strategy (City of Kingston)	look like? (ProSportCoach)
12:00pm	The Active Maribyrnong program and using golf to activate your community (Maribyrnong City Council and Golf Australia)	Play surfaces + PANEL: Whole of life cycle maintenance and management (SportENG)	Risky Business: How we're shaping the future of play (Maribyrnong City Council)	
12:30pm		Lunch (Tra	de Show)	
1:30pm	Smart Cities and how parks and play can grow and work smarter (Lark Industries)	Field of Play management case study: Elsternwick Park Oval No 1 (ETP Turf)	Women and Girls: A Case Study of Two Local Governments (La Trobe University, Merri-bek City Council & Cardinia Shire Council)	WORKSHOP: Turning Open Space & Recreation Strategies Upside Down (Emerge Associates)
2:00pm	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (Victoria Police)	A plan to support threatened species in CoM gardens (City of Melbourne & Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria)	High-Impact Sports Volunteering: Achieving More with Less (Australian Sports Commission)	
2:30pm	How Safe is Your Playground? (PlayTest)	Biodiversity friendly maintenance standards (Emerge Associates)	Update on Play by the Rules Member Protection Information Officer Training (Sport Integrity Australia)	
3:00pm		Afternoon Tea	(Trade Show)	
3:30pm	Designing outdoor fitness equipment for inactive Victorians (Sport and Recreation Victoria)	Making Friends with Friends (City of Casey & Friends of Wilson Botanic Park Berwick)	Segmenting for Success: An Innovative Framework for Boosting Member Retention in Leisure Centres (Swinburne University)	WORKSHOP: Guide for Open Space Strategies (DEECA)
4:00pm	Results from the ENJOY MAP for HEALTH: seniors outdoor exercise equipment (National Ageing Research Institute)	Digital Trust in Public Places and Spaces (ENE.Hub)	Casual Leisure Staff Culture (Victoria University & Monash University)	
4:30pm	Evaluation of the installation of new playgrounds and older adults' outdoor fitness equipment in two suburban parks (Deakin Uni)	Nature friendly lighting and principals (Lighting & Electrical Distributors)	Building a better relationship between the parks & leisure and university sectors (PLA Advisory)	
	Close			



Alicia McKay is a leading authority on strategy, change, and leadership, empowering government, business and community leaders to make better decisions, challenge unhelpful norms, and turn good intentions into meaningful action.

Alicia is an expert facilitator and strategist who cuts through corporate jargon to get real about what it takes to change our lives, work and leadership as well as a celebrated author, speaker, and trainer.

Her first book – From Strategy to Action: A Guide to Getting Shit Done in the Public Sector – made waves across New Zealand

and Australia, thanks to a sharp and practical approach to making things happen in government. Her next book – You Don't Need An MBA: Leadership Lessons that Cut through the Crap – busts common myths for leaders in all sectors about what it takes to manage through uncertainty and challenge.

Alicia is also the founder of Not An MBA, a strategic leadership programme that turns busy leaders into savvy strategists. Alicia creates courses, runs corporate training, and consults with local, state, and federal governments in New Zealand and Australia.

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DAY 3: WEDNESDAY 22 MAY

	Places + Spaces	Parks + Projects	People + Planning	Workshop Room
	(Room A)	(Room C)	(Room D)	(Room B)
8:00am	Registrations (Coffee + Trade Show)			
9:00am	Sport and community facilities - An opportunity for building resilience and social cohesion beyond object creation (106 Architects)	Deconstructing Citizen's Park Playspace (Jeavons Landscape Architects)	Quarry Hills bunjil nganga Parklands 'Future Direction Plan' (City of Whittlesea + Aurecon)	
9:30am	Sport Facilities that meet the Future (DS Architects)	Assessing gender safety in parks - using a practical codesign approach (City of Melbourne)	The future of the 50m pool (Atlantis Liquid Dynamics)	
10:00am	Reid Oval (Brand Architects)	Designing for Good (Australian Institute of Landscape Architects)	Change Makers Program (YMCA Victoria & Jesuit Social Services)	
10:30am	Morning Tea			
11:00am	Active in Nature Project (Outdoors Victoria, Parks Victoria and VicHealth)	Native tree species will be vital urban infrastructure as climate changes (Melbourne University)	AusPlay: Changes to Methods and Reporting (Australian Sports Commission)	WORKSHOP: Level-Up your sporting/open space precinct projects with
11:30am	Park Life Survey Results + National Parks Database (Edith Cowan University)	Street Trees - An inconvenient Truth (City of Whittlesea)	Australian children and youth are being driven away from community sport (Federation University)	Urban Planning (UrbanKind)
12:00pm	Park features for children, teens, adults and older adults: which ones are most important (Deakin University)	Co-benefits of micro forests in recreation reserves (Monash Council)	Maximising the potential of informal sport for community health benefits (Monash University)	
12:30pm		Lunch (Trade Sh		
1:30pm	Fair Access Policy Panel (Office for Women in	Tying yourself in knots with the big open space strategy? Fixing the mismatch between big-picture	Feeling hot hot hot how do we make our suburbs cooler? (DEECA)	
2:00pm	Sport and Recreation)	strategies and play space design (@leisure + Jeavons Landscape Architects)	Reimagine your creeks (Melbourne Water)	
2:30pm	Chris Arnett, Sport and Recreation Victoria Sofia DeLeSantis, Parks Victoria			
3:30pm	Close			

SPORT VS ACTIVE RECREATION





SUE MCGILL Australian Sports Commission



STEFAN HAJKOWICZ **CSIRO**



CHRIS ARNETT Sport and Recreation Victoria



SOFIA DE LESANTIS Parks Victoria



parksleisure.com.au

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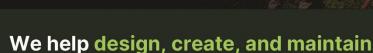




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ABSTRACTS

Day 2 - Tuesday 21 May

Workshop (Room B)

11:00am - 12:00pm

What does a best-practice club development program look like?



Nat Gilbert Managing Director Pro Sport Coach

If you're from a local Council or sporting organisation that is responsible for boosting participation in community sports clubs then this session is for you.

We'll unpack the five essential components for a club development program, how to implement them (including case studies), and give you a simple but highly effective system to measure your organisation's progress. This is an interactive workshop where you'll take away an individualised audit of your existing club development program which will include some specific strategies to ensure you're delivering a credible, best-practice program.

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

(Room A)

The community benefits of golf

This presentation will outline the economic, social

including transparent valuation methods and

national, state and local estimates.

and environmental benefits of golf across Australia,



Andrew Mcdougall
Principal
SGS Economics and
Planning



William Boadle
Associate
SGS Economics and
Planning

Remote sensing for plants – how evolving technology can assist in sustainable decision making

11:00am - 11:30am



Michael Bradbery
Territory Manager NSW/ACT-Turf and Landscape
Syngenta ANZ

Urban sprawl has resulted in many open spaces now surrounded by residential dwellings. As technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, use of drones for NDVI sensing of open space is becoming more limited and regulated due to privacy. Paul will be discussing the use of satellite imagery and NDVI as a way of managing urban landscapes remotely and assisting with informed decision making in our quest for continual improvement of the assets we manage. This presentation is designed to provide an insight into the use of Satellite imagery and the benefits of NDVI as a resource in horticultural management.

Evidence-based decision making for open space provision and priorities



Nadine Woolridge Coordinator Open Space Planning and Design Banyule City Council

Melbourne, ranked as the world's third most liveable city, faces challenges in maintaining open space provision amidst its third wave of population growth. Anticipating a surge to 10.6 million residents by 2051, local governments grapple with diminishing open space per capita. Banyule City Council conducted a review of the Public Open Space Plan 2016-31 in 2023 to measure progress and to refocus for the future. The review considered progress against identified actions and what has changed since its adoption, factoring in the impact of COVID-19, the North-East link development, policy, and strategy developments and most importantly, how our community has changed. Follow Council's journey to what Banyule looks like now, into the future and how leveraging extensive data sources has enabled the creation a heat map to prioritise future actions and address challenges posed by the burgeoning population, adopting an evidence-based approach for effective open space planning.

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

11:30am - 12:00pm

Redevelopment of Morack Golf Course



Terry Jenvey
Manager Leisure & Recreation

Whitehorse City Council

Whitehorse City Council commenced a redevelopment of the Morack Golf Course in mid-2022 to bring the course into a contemporary community facility to provide diverse leisure and social opportunities for golf enthusiasts, increase the health and wellbeing outcomes for the sport of golf and to bring golf to a new audience. The redevelopment delivered a multipurpose golf pavilion with inside/outside café overlooking the picturesque golf course and bushland surrounds, a 28 bay driving range with premium bays for group functions and hospitality services and an 18-hole premium adventure mini-golf facility. Council appointed Swing Factory as operators under a long term lease early in the project. The presentation will focus on the success of transforming Morack into a facility that is more inclusive and inviting for families, focusing on the community coming together and having a range of activities to appeal to a wide range of people.

Current design trends and opportunities for all Field of Play surfaces



Jarrod Hill Director SPORTENG



John Neylan Senior Turfgrass Agronomist SPORTENG



Andrew Morrow Senior Associate

Lucas Skelton Field of Play Team Leader SPORTENG

SPORTENG

With over 100 years collective experience come and listen to and ask question of some of the industry leaders for the design and construction of Fields of Play:

- John Neylan; Australia's leading natural turf agronomist with 40+ years experience
- Andrew Morrow; 30+years experience constructing Fields of Play; predominantly synthetic grass, acrylic and athletic tracks
- Jarrod Hill: 20+ years experience designing all types and level of Fields of Play

Each speaker will present on the current trends and opportunities within the Field of Play sector, followed by a Q&A panel session chaired by Lucas Skelton (20+ years experience).

Using data, numbers and community engagement tools to prioritise investment in play and active recreation in Kingston



Hannah Jane
Principal Recreation
Planner
Kingston City Council



Mark Stockton
Active Kingston Strategy
and Projects
Kingston City Council

With almost 50% of playgrounds in Kingston well beyond their use by date, multiple playgrounds used by only a handful of people per year, and significant disparity in provision across suburbs, drastic action was required to shift our focus and investment in these highly valued yet often forgotten Council assets. Kingston's 2023 Play Your Way Strategy was developed with extensive input from over 2500 of our residents and with the use of data and assessment tools to challenge the 'norm' and support Council's decision making for all things play and active recreation in Kingston. In our presentation we will share the tools and data we used to make evidence-based decisions that have supported us to totally rethink the way we plan for and provide play spaces for everyone to 'play their way' in Kingston.



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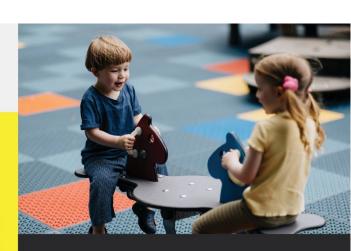
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Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

12:00pm - 12:30pm

The Active Maribyrnong program and Using golf to activate your Community



Sally Peers
Local Government
Coordinator
Golf Australia



Jake Cole-Sinclair Senior Relationship Officer - Victoria Golf Australia



Grace van der Merwe Participation and Events Officer





Chloe Dupont Senior Facilities and Participation Officer

Maribyrnong City Council

Active Maribyrnong is a suite of free participation programs for residents within Maribyrnong that aims to enhance the health and wellbeing of the community through a variety of health initiatives and physical activity programs. Active Maribyrnong celebrated its tenth year and the Recreation team conducted a review of the programs and hope to share key findings and new ideas to boost participation within the community and our future prospects. This presentation will delve into the creative and innovative ways to positively engage the community through our various health initiatives and recreational programming. We will showcase tools and ideas that were implemented in 2023 such as the Active Maribyrnong Guide and our partner program with Golf Australia.

Golf Australia is committed to ensuring the game is open to everyone. We are resourced to work together to bring Golf to your community, in a way they want to consume it. Golf is unique in that you can play at any age and any ability. No matter the format of golf you play, from mini golf to indoor simulator, driving range or on course, we are all golfers and can enjoy the many benefits the game brings. The presentation will focus on the ways Golf Australia can work with LGAs by showcasing a partnership with Maribyrnong City Council. Together we planned and delivered a Family Golf Event in Footscray Mall, where over 250 local community members experienced golf in a fun, family friendly setting. Future partnership opportunities are already in planning to help bring to life Council's community vision and the Australian Golf Strategy.

PANEL: Whole of life cycle maintenance and management

See above for panel details and participants.

Risky Business: How we're shaping the future of play



Recreation Planner

Maribyrnong City Council



Paul Jane
Manager Recreation and
Open Space
Maribyrnong City
Council

In collaboration with Play Australia and in light of recent incidents associated with our playspaces, Maribyrnong City Council have developed a Risk Appetite Statement that is specific to play within the municipality.

Understood to be an industry first, this statement aims to strike a balance between fostering beneficial experiences, such as learning and development through play, and ensuring the safety of individuals involved. The statement will also serve as a foundational framing tool for the municipal play strategy that is underway.

The development of this statement has allowed Council to define the tolerance of risk within the context of play as well as enabling the effective measurement and monitoring of these risks whilst also acknowledging that risk is an important part of play.

This presentation will explore the approach taken to develop this piece of work in addition to the principles that underpin this.

Workshop (Room B)

1:30pm - 2:30pm

Turning Open Space & Recreation Strategies Upside Down



Katherine Howard Principal Landscape and Recreation Strategist **Emerge Associates**



Joey Boothby Senior Landscape Recreation Strategist **Emerge Associates**

Local government decision making structures are complex and varied and there is increasing pressure for Councils to develop strategies to navigate complexities and determine roles, responsibilities, and priorities.

Councils often have a backlog of strategies that are due for review, underdevelopment or on-hold and Council officers are usually too busy to tackle the time-consuming task of developing a shared long-term vision for the community and practical actions to achieve goals.

Our experience writing strategies while working for local government and more recently writing strategies alongside Council officers, has provided opportunities to rethink standard processes and expectations that often lead to strategies becoming monumental, all-encompassing documents that can be repetitive and vague and are taking longer and longer to complete.

Turning strategy on its head and working through a bottom-up logic model has the potential to rethink our methods and draw focus to achievable outcomes that solve the most important issues.

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

1:30pm - 2:00pm

work smarter



Sharon Winbanks Senior Business Development Manager VIC/TAS Lark Industries

Technology is increasingly permeating into our daily lives, sometimes to the detriment of our social interaction and physical well-being. However, there are many potential positives, which could present innovative ways to encourage children and families to engage with playgrounds in new and intriguing ways.

Join our discussion as we cover: Where have we come from? How do we currently measure the success (or otherwise) of our playgrounds? How can we maintain relevance of our parks for the life of the playground? What are the future directions for smart parks?

This is not a discussion about virtual reality or technology that disconnects us from nature, but rather how we can boost those connections, and prove the worth of the measures that we are putting in place.

Smart Cities and how parks and Play can grow and Field of Play management case study: Elsternwick Park Oval No 1



Grant Greenway Director FTP Turf

Why, how, and what to do when a high-profile AFL community grounds condition fails to perform during a high profile and high use finals series in 2022 and needs to be ready to do it all again in

Women and Girls: A Case Study of Two Local Governments



Dr Katie McDonald Lecturer/Research Ass. La Trobe University



Dr Pam Kappelides Senior Lecturer La Trobe University



Christina Grayland Unit Manager **Recreation Services** Merri-bek City Council



Acting Team Leader Recreation Cardinia Shire Council

Currently, women and girls across Victoria do not have equal access to community sport and recreation in their local communities. We want to increase opportunities and the participation rates of women, girls, and others. Three collaborating organisations (Merri-bek City Council, Cardinia Shire Council and La Trobe university (LTU)) that have a desire to increase participation rates of women and girls in sport and recreation have partnered. LTU will be evaluating the two councils fair access approaches. This research project is in response to the Victorian Government Office of Women and Girls - 2022, Fair Access Policy Roadmap to identify the positives, challenges and implications of fair access on the community. The presentation will outline stages each council undertook to work with and develop their fair access policy whilst outlining the outcomes that aim to eliminate systemic causes of gender inequality, ableism and cultural bias in infrastructure allocation, programs/services, and communications.

17 2024 PLA VicTas Conference PROGRAM

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

2:00pm - 2:30pm

Crime prevention Through Environmental Design



Leading Senior Constable

Victoria Police

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design known as CPTED is defined as the proper design and effective use of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and an improvement in the quality of life. By implementing the key CPTED principles early on in the design process, this may reduce the opportunity of crimes being committed in the future at the development. These strategies can be implemented both in a public space, and residential neighbourhood designs.

A plan to support threatened species in Council gardens



Senior Ecologist City of Melbourne

Senior Curator Horticulture Royal Botanic Gardens

The City of Melbourne Threatened Plant Living Collection Plan aims to widen the focus of the city's parks and gardens from primarily amenity purposes to include the cultivation of threatened plant species to make meaningful contributions towards their conservation

This is a collaborative initiative between the City of Melbourne and the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, and incorporates methods typically undertaken by botanical gardens to curate living collections.

The plan is used to guide the selection, acquisition, maintenance, documentation, interpretation and display of threatened plant species for green spaces managed by the City of Melbourne. A Threatened Species Assessment Tool was developed to rate the species for inclusion in landscape plantings. The highest ratings were given to species which are the most threatened and locally indigenous. Fifty-six species were shortlisted for planting in City of Melbourne green spaces.

High-Impact Sports Volunteering: Achieving More with Less



Dr Catriona Rose Senior Program Manager, Sport Programs

Australian Sports Commission

The future of volunteering in sport is being reimagined as the eco-system unites behind the implementation of year 2 of the sport volunteer coalition action plan.

A person-centred approach is being used to develop high-quality resources housed in The National Sport Volunteer Resource Hub as a 'onestop-shop' to empower our volunteers. The ASC continue to advocate the use of these resources in developing volunteer and workforce strategies that reduce barriers to entry and allow for the reimagination of volunteering in sport. The ASC are leading a collaborative effort to improve the collection and use of data on volunteers and the volunteer experience, as well as the creation of a national database of sport volunteers. As core deliverables of the plan, these projects will connect volunteer cohorts, provide access to motivated local volunteers, and supply critical information needed to improve the experience of volunteering for all.

2:30pm - 3:00pm

How Safe is Your Playground



Grant Humphrevs Director Playtest, AcoustoScan and SAPIA

for Playgrounds have been rocked by the ban on loose rubber crumb coming in six years.

Europe is banning loose microplastic infill in Long Pile Artificial grass and FIFA systems. These are being replaced with organic infills (cork, coconut husks .etc.)

What does this mean for the surfacing rubber industry in Australia? Are the rubber surfaces we have still safe?

Are our impact rubber surfacing systems for playgrounds performing and still cost-effective and environmentally friendly to use? What if they start to break down and wash into the ocean?

Biodiversity friendly maintenance standards



Stephen Read Senior Landscape and Recreation Strategist **Emerge Associates**

The Playground Industry and the Surfacing Industry Landscape management is a critical link to better biodiversity outcomes; however, it requires a shift in how we engage with and maintain our urban green spaces. Connection to nature is good for our physical and mental health. However, too many of us see 'Nature' as something we drive to on the weekend, and we fail to see nature at our doorstep. Many view unmanicured and uncontrolled landscapes as inappropriate for the urban environment; this leads to standards and practices that over-maintain and control species in our parks, squeezing out any chance for biodiversity. There is increasing support for biodiverse landscapes; however, without a shift from highly controlled park management to regenerative practice, any biodiversity targets will be impossible to achieve, and opportunities for high-functioning urban landscapes will be lost.

Update on Play by the Rules Member Protection Information Officer Training



Tom Dixon National Manager - Play by the Rules Play by the Rules / Sport Integrity Australia

Over the past 12-18 months, Play by the Rules conducted a review of the role Member Protection Information Officers (MPIOs) in sport club and associations. Over 500 people contributed via direct interviews and an online survey. The review found strong support across state/territory governments and NSOs/SSOs and clubs of the value in someone at the grassroots level with the knowledge of the current National Integrity Framework system to play an important information, advice and support role for members by guiding them to Sport Integrity Australia or their NSO for complaint referrals, and championing safe, fair inclusive sport in their club. National Manager of Play by the Rules. Tom Dixon, will outline the focus areas of the refreshed training program for MPIOs and the plans for engagement across the sports industry.

Workshop (Room B)

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Guide for Open Space Strategies Workshop



Fran Horsley Manager Open Space for Everyone Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action



Kristen Jackson Senior Project Officer Open Space for Everyone Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action



Adrian Gray Senior Project Officer Open Space for Everyone Department of Energy, Environment and Climate

Well planned and comprehensive open space networks are crucial to maintaining and improving the liveability of our communities across Victoria. Local government and other land managers traditionally use Open Space Strategies to plan these important networks. The current State Government guidance (Planning Practice Note 70) for these strategies needs updating to be more relevant and contemporary to local council needs and reflect the State Government's Open Space for Everyone metropolitan open space strategy. With this mind, we are developing a new Guide for preparing Open Space Strategies (GOSS). The GOSS aims to reflect best practice, provide practical information and be adaptable for rural and metro councils. This workshop is a critical component of the process to develop the GOSS. The workshop will include an update on the draft GOSS and an opportunity to draw on the experience of open space professionals to provide meaningful input into this important project.

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

3:30pm - 4:00pm

People + Planning (Room D)

for Boosting Member Retention in Leisure Centres

Designing outdoor fitness equipment for inactive Victorians



Emma Jackson Manager, Active Recreation Sport and Recreation Victoria

research to explore the needs, expectations, barriers and motivators of inactive Victorians using

outdoor fitness equipment. The research also

research will inspire you with practical tips and ideas that you can use in your work.

looked at preferences for design and location. The

Marianne Mateer ienior Engagement Officer, Active Recreation Sport and Recreation Victoria Sport and Recreation Victoria commissioned

Joanne Hann

Coordinator Wilson **Botanic Park Berwick** City of Casey



Owen Janusauskas Coordinator Horticulture

City of Casey



Dr Carleigh Yeomans Research Fellow



Dr Adam Karg Professor

Swinburne University

Making Friends with Friends: Wilson Botanic Park

Segmenting for Success: An Innovative Framework

Swinburne University



Matthew Chester Secretary Friends of Wilson Botanic Park Berwick

Jenny Duncan Friends of Wilson

The Friends of Wilson Botanic Park Berwick (FOWBPB) share a longstanding connection with the park, originating in 1990 during its developmental phase. Serving as a vital volunteer force, FOWBPB played a pivotal role in transforming the site from an old quarry into a flourishing botanical park. During the early years, with minimal park staff, volunteers played a crucial role in diverse tasks such as planting, constructing seating, and organizing fundraising events. As the park evolved, the addition of horticulture staff led to a shift in the roles previously carried out by FOWBPB, altering the dynamic with the council. Recent leadership changes within FOWBPB, the Horticulture team, and Visitor Services teams have positively transformed how these major stakeholders collaborate. These collaborative efforts have resulted in a more productive, supportive environment which has proven beneficial for the park, staff, and visitors, and the initiation of new projects with a steady increase in group membership over the past 18 months.

Leisure service providers are facing a major challenge: high non-renewal rates from members. To address this, our presentation will showcase a novel process of customer segmentation to guide member retention understanding and strategy. This has recently been published in the academic journal 'Managing Sport and Leisure' and is publicly available. The segmentation process was derived from full-service fitness centre members in Australia, leveraging both self-reported attitudes collected via survey, as well as database behavioural attendance collected over 56 weeks. Four segments were yielded and will be discussed: Dissatisfied Casuals, Deliberate Regulars, Enthusiastic Absentees and Dedicated Reliables. Results supported greater non-renewal likelihood within segments with lower involvement, and lower attendance frequency and consistency. The proposed segmentation framework can assist fitness centre managers, as well as broader leisure service providers, to better understand their customer bases and develop and implement variant marketing approaches for retention.

19 2024 PLA VicTas Conference PROGRAM

4:00pm - 4:30pm

Results from the ENJOY MAP for HEALTH: agefriendly outdoor exercise equipment



Pazit Levinger
Principal Researcher
National Ageing Research Institute

This project was a natural experiment study design involved the installation of specialised Seniors Exercise Park equipment as part of park refurbishment, supported by promotion and community capacity building activities in six Victorian municipalities. Older people's park visitation, and park-based physical activity were evaluated prior to park upgrades, one-month post upgrade and 12-months from baseline. Overall number of visits increased following park upgrades, with the largest number of visitors observed onemonth post-upgrade (n=12501). The number of older people observed increased significantly postupgrade and site activation compared to prior to the refurbishment (IRR 3.55; 95% CI 2.68, 4.70). The number of older people observed to be exercising at the Seniors Exercise Park increased by 100% at 12-months post-installation relative to one-month post-upgrade (IRR 2.00; 95% CI 1.26, 3.17). Installation of the Seniors Exercise Parks and the supportive programs/activities resulted in an increase in older people's park visitation and physical activity engagement.

Digital Trust in Public Places and Spaces



Adam Beck Head of Digital Urbanism ENE.HUB

Digital trust is an important issue, but not necessarily well understood. In a world where our lives are more and more dependent on digital connectivity and data analytics, identifying the measurable steps that can be done to improve the trustworthiness of digital technologies and data collection become critical.

Casual Leisure Staff Culture



John Tower Honorary Research Fellow Victoria University

A challenge for parks and leisure organisations has been the recruitment and retention of casual staff to deliver leisure experiences. Butson, et. al's., (2021, 2022, 2023) research has focused on casual staff positions including lifeguards and swim teachers. The findings identified the temporary nature of employment, pursuit of higher paying positions, location of employment, negative working environment, and poor working conditions contributed to staff turnover. A recurring issue was the relationship with management and the lack of a positive culture within the organisation.

This presentation will focus on the nature of casual staff culture in aquatic and recreation centres and potential application to other casual park and leisure positions. Strategies to improve casual leisure staff culture will be explained and participants' insights will be discussed to discover how to improve casual leisure staff culture to create a more positive work environment.

4:30pm - 5:00pm

Impact of Urban Park Improvements on Active Park Visits in Australia and Belgium



Chahana Paudel
PhD Student
Deakin University



Amber Van Puyvelde PhD Student Deakin University

This presentation includes two studies in Australia and Belgium that examined the impact of park improvements on park use and park-based physical activity. Counts of people and their physical activity were assessed before and after the park improvements. The Australian study included two intervention parks and one control park and in one of the parks that was improved increases were observed in the number of park visitors and those engaging in physical activity. The Belgian study included one intervention and one control park and in the park that was improved increases were observed for the total number of visitors as well as the number of people being sedentary and vigorously active but no changes were observed for people walking. This presentation will provide a local and international perspective on the impact of park improvements with results underscoring the potential of park improvements to support active park visits.

Nature friendly lighting and principals



Nick Pockett
Sport & Recreation Manager
Lighting & Electrical Distributors

Historically, exterior lighting has enabled humans to overcome nature by illuminating the night. Today we understand the importance of working with nature rather than against it, which is why we always encourage Nature Friendly Lighting to be at the forefront of our thinking with our external lighting projects. We are proud to have Dark Sky Approved and Turtle Friendly Lighting systems available within our range. Studies have shown that it is not only the brightness level of artificial lighting at night that impacts both the animal and plant kingdoms, but the colour temperature, direction, and placement of fittings. Nature Friendly Lighting is an ecologically sympathetic, adaptative lighting solution that regulates both the colour temperature and brightness level of light in exterior environments. We would like to present these lighting design philosophies in an open forum and discuss how we can assist in ensuring future projects are environmentally conscious.

Building a better relationship between the parks & leisure and university sectors



John Tower

Honorary Research Fellow

Victoria University

Parks and Leisure Australia Advisory delivered a workshop at the 2023 International Congress to explore opportunities to improve the relationships between the parks & leisure and university sectors. The workshop has provided a foundation for a project to guide the parks & leisure and university sectors to establish better collaboration. The main initiatives are likely to be learning experiences for students and collaborative research / evaluation projects. This presentation will provide background to the project and share the status of current strategies to improve collaboration.









GreenLife Group proudly delivers a wide range of integrated commercial landscape and horticultural services throughout Australia.



Day 3 – Wednesday 22 May

Places + Spaces (Room A) Parks + Projects (Room C) People + Planning (Room D)

9:00am - 9:30am

Sport and community facilities - An opportunity for building resilience and social cohesion



Dion Gosling Director

106 Architects Over the last two years, connecting communities, families and friends has never been more important. We've seen just how vital our industry is an enabler, as we address the physical, mental, social, environmental and economic conditions which confront us. A critical role of design is to imagine alternative worlds that respond to current issues and improve the quality of life for everyone. Designers – architects, consultants, urban and landscape creators. Council planners and engineers - are rapidly reimagining our built and social environments through policy, strategy, and physical structures. Are these constructed environments really meeting the needs of our communities - particularly those faced with, or trying, to recover from adversity? As designers, are we really contributing to the rebuilding of a genuine, local, social fabric, or are we only interested in the gong at the end of it? Is there another approach to over-designed objects in our landscape?

Deconstructing Citizen's Park Playspace



Leong Khoo Associate

Jeavons Landscape Architects
The discussion will centre around the how the
design for the playground unfolded. The site had a
lot of site constraints to deal with ranging from
contaminated soils, existing significant trees,
playground vs dog users, needles in mulch and
ongoing maintenance.

The presentation aims to go through a discussion about the thought process starting from understanding the design brief, reviewing background documents, analysing the site constraints and coming up with a design solution.

Quarry Hills bunjil nganga Parklands 'Future Direction Plan'



Susan Hecker
Unit Manager Landscape
+ Open Space Planning
City of Whittlesea



Rhiannon Saward Principal Design Integrator Aurecon

The City of Whittlesea and Wurundjeri woiwurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, working with Aurecon have developed the Quarry Hills Parkland Future Directions Plan. The Plan reflects the Wurundjeri woi-wurrung cultural values as a framework for recognition, protection and enhancement of the parkland. The renamed bunjil nganga parklands, will now be a place of active reconciliation, expanded to 1100ha under shared governance and management between Council and traditional owners. This is an important and unlikely project for a Local Government straddling the Melbourne Metropolitan Growth Boundary. This presentation is for all those working with traditional owners we will share the project background, journey, and our commitment to implement this important legacy plan in the context of treaty.

9:30am - 10:00am

Sport Facilities that meet the Future



David Cardamone
Architect - Associate
DS Architects
What will the future of community sporting

facilities look like in 10, 20, 50 years time? There is ever present conversation on the legacy of major sporting stadia while the conversation for our local sports and community infrastructure remains. One dimensional pavilions are no longer enough, they fall short on providing complete community engagement. The future of the local sport pavilion is one of public amenity, a building which accommodates for local communities and can adaptively be reused as illustrated by Hume Indoor Cricket Centre (HICC). Social opportunities are not solely club focused but rather community focused, foyers and indoor dry areas ensure that the building better integrates through strategic consideration to accommodate social-inclusion, programs, and functions. The principles of stadia infrastructure are applied at HICC to create a 24/7 hub, accommodating for the different

Assessing gender safety in parks: co-design approach



Alicia Otto Senior Open Space Planner City of Melbourne

The City of Melbourne is committed to ensuring our city is a welcoming, safe, and inclusive place for everyone. This includes our community that live. work, play, and commute in and around our largest park, Royal Park, The project aimed to capture experiences of safety from a range users in Royal Park. This includes actual and perceived interpersonal safety, cultural and gender safety, conflicting uses (e.g. walking and cycling on shared infrastructure) and our community's experiences of safety-related infrastructure, such as lighting and road crossings. As considerations of what it is to 'feel safe' are experienced differently by our community, we developed a bespoke tool to help us engage with a diverse and inclusive group of participants through this process, resulting in codesigned recommendations for the revised Royal Park Master Plan.

The future of the 50m pool



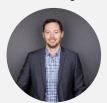
Shane Vardy Aquatic Specialist Atlantis Liquid Dynamics

Changing community demographics, an ageing population and a renewed focus on personal health and wellness is shifting the way communities use. connect and interact with their local aquatic facilities. Over the next 10 years, more than 40% of current Aquatic Centre infrastructure will reach the end of its usable life, with a projected replacement cost of \$8 billion. Instead of a like for like replacement and the resulting OPEX drain for Councils, there are a number of alternative facility and infrastructure investments that not only satisfy community expectations for aquatic centres but create a publicly accessible and social focal point. Analysing the latest industry trends from Australia and Europe, we will look at the options to replace the 50m pool. Aligned with each communities' specific needs, an inclusive and innovative design process can create a multi-use facility that delivers health and wellness outcomes for people of all ages and abilities within a social community hub.

times and days in the week to future proof the local facility for the future.

10:00am - 10:30am

Reid Oval Pavilion Redevelopment - Successes and Challenges



Gerard McCurry Director

Brand Architects

Reid Oval is Warrnambool's showcase sporting facility. The redeveloped facility was officially opened in April 2022, with the \$10.7 million project completed on-time and under budget. The upgrade included a new playing surface; a modern, accessible, gender equitable pavilion; lighting that allows for night football and cricket matches as well as better training facilities.

The redevelopment has taken out the top national honour in the Australian Football League's 2022 Ken Gannon Community Football Facilities Awards - State and National Community Facility of the Year.

While the project has been described as "a shining example of state government and local council coming together with sporting stakeholders to deliver a wonderful outcome for the community", it did not come without its challenges.

Prosperity by Design



Dr Robyn Mansfield Associate Director

McGregor Coxall

In this third decade of the 21st century, the concept of the 'resilient city' is emerging as the city of the future. Characterised by a low ecological footprint, a resilient city's consumption of natural resources is provided primarily by local biocapacity. Increasingly, urban planners recognise that to remain competitive and to provide citizens with prosperity and a good quality of life, a city must not de-mand more of its natural systems than those systems can provide. If the urban form is to remain the primary habitat of humans, then we must create cities that can live within their natural means. Essentially, these are the cities of the future.

Biourbanism proposes we radically rethink cities and reposition them as powerful engines in the race against climate change. The Biourbanism model stems from ecological science and landscape architecture theory. Robyn Mansfield will walk you through the work that McGregor Coxall have been doing in this space, introducing you to the ten interconnected systems that together determine the health, prosperity and resilience of cities.

Change Makers: Youth Male Program



Rick Morris Area Manager



Brett Phillips Manager – Early Intervention and Strategic Projects Jesuit Social Services

YMCA Victoria

Change Makers was a nine-week program delivered in partnership between the Y ONE Casey, Jesuit Social Services (JSS) and the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY).

Change Makers was designed to engage young people at risk of violence by challenging harmful gender norms, promoting more flexible ideas about what it means to be a man, addressing violence-supportive attitudes and behaviours, and building skills as well as strategies that can contribute to reducing violence. The program also aimed to build the capacity for The Y's ONE Casey workforce to engage and work with young people to prevent violence and build an evidence base to understand what types of interventions improve outcomes for participants in the program.

The structure of each session included an hour of facilitated group learning following by an hour of physical exercise and finished with sharing healthy food options.

There is an excellent opportunity to roll this program out across the state.

Workshop (Room B) 11:00am – 12:00pm

Sports of Tomorrow: 'Strategic Planning for the next era of Sports in your Local



Adam Cheyne
Director - Planning + Recreation
Urbankind

In 2024 we are witnessing the rise of sports evolving from traditional formats to more innovative products, backed by international sporting identities, public figures and celebrities. Take a look at the rise of Pickleball in the USA to now Flag Football being an Olympic Sport in LA28, the list goes on. With this shift, local governments are finding themselves needing to adapt their planning strategies to respond to evolving community sport/rec expectations, with a wide range of new and innovative formats potentially reshaping the design and provision of more traditional infrastructure.

The workshop explores the rise of emerging sports from Pickleball and Padel to Flag Football, focusing on key planning aspects such as increasing participation, transitioning underperforming sporting infrastructure, community engagement strategies, and navigating land use change within the community. We will explore a range of human-centred design and urban planning techniques to respond to emerging sports and community expectations, both from a local government perspective and a wider industry lens.

Delegates through this workshop will gain valuable tools to navigate the complexities of integrating emerging sports within the broader sport/rec planning frameworks, with actionable resources and techniques to apply within metropolitan or regional areas.

2024 PLA VicTas Conference PROGRAM

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

11:00am – 11:30am

Active in Nature Project



Andrew Knight CEO Outdoors Victoria

The Active in Nature 2023-24 Project will increase opportunities for young people to enjoy nature and outdoor recreation in some of Victoria's public parks, leading to increased physical activity, wellbeing and connection to nature. VicHealth is investing in Parks Victoria to lead this project in collaboration with Outdoors Victoria, including engaging young people in program design. Active in Nature seeks to strengthen the roles that parks play in local neighbourhoods and will engage young people who are less active due to social, physical and cultural barriers that have prevented their involvement in nature participation. Parks Victoria and Outdoors Victoria will collaborate with community organisations closely connected with various population groups, including multicultural communities, First Nations, and young people with disabilities and host 30 outdoor recreation events across four sites through Licensed Tour Operators. Initial locations include Yarra Bend Park, the You Yangs Regional Park and Lysterfield Park. Activities range from waterway adventures, walking, and canoeing to mountain biking and rock climbing.

Native tree species will be vital urban infrastructure as climate changes



Dr Greg MooreSenior Research Associate
University of Melbourne

Trees growing on streets and public open space will be essential to making Australian cities, regional centres and country towns both liveable and economically and environmentally viable as climate changes. Canopy cover is declining in most urban sites and the impacts of this tree loss on the urban heat island (UHI) effect, human health and medical costs will be enormous. Trees growing in the public domain must be considered as assets and essential infrastructure if society is to cope with climate change effectively.

We demand a great deal from trees growing in public spaces, which restricts the range of species considered for planting. Native species such as Corymbia maculata and Eucalyptus leucoxylon have much to commend them as urban trees. Using these species as examples, this presentation provides a series of checklists against which trees can be selected and appraised for successful urban use. Properly selected, many of our native species can perform well.

AusPlay Data: Changes to methods and reporting



Gary Rauber
Assistant Director, Insights
Australian Sports Commission

Australia's national sport and physical activity survey, AusPlay, is undergoing its biggest change since it was launched in 2015. Whilst the survey continues to collect a wealth of information on participation to inform strategy and planning (in fact, it now collects more data than ever before), the way in which that data is gathered has shifted from telephone to online.

This presentation will share why and how the survey has changed, the improvements that have been made, and what practitioners can expect when first results from the new method are released later this year.

11:30am - 12:00pm

The Australian Park Life Project – Development of a nationally standardised open space dataset



Paula Hooper Associate Professor Edith Cowan University

This presentation will provide results from the "Australian Park Life Project" that directly responded to these gaps in the research literature and public open space policy and planning practice and provide an overview of:

- 1) The development of a unique nationally standardised spatial layer of public open space for the eight Australian capital cities.
- 2) The development of a nationally harmonised classification framework of public open green space functions and hierarchy.
- Validation of the function and hierarchy classification frameworks with park use data from the inaugural Australian Park Life Community Survey.
- 4) Insights into park use and physical activity behaviour from the national survey of park use.

Street Trees - An inconvenient Truth



Mark Corea
Unit Manager, Parks & City Forest
City of Whittlesea

Trees are arguably the most significant form of vegetation used in the urban landscape and can generate great benefits. By virtue of their size and longevity, trees can also generate significant costs to maintain and inevitably cause areas of conflict, for instance, with overhead powerlines, residential homes and walls, public infrastructure such as footpaths, kerbs and underground services. The municipal tree officer often has difficult conversations with emotional residents, upset about dealing with the inconveniences of natural functions of trees at a local level while being completely oblivious to what's happening at a macro scale and global climate change. The City of Whittlesea has looked at petitions put to Council relating to street trees since 2004 and insights from them. We often hear the remark 'I like trees, just not the one outside my house'. This presentation will seek to give greater perspective about the value of street trees.

Australian children and youth are being driven away from community sport



Rochelle Eime Professor, Sport Science Federation University

Children and youth are the foundation for sport but they are being driven away. Latest research across 10 major sports in Victoria demonstrates that more Victorian's are playing community sport than ever before. In 2022, 924,235 Victorians played community sport up from 749,037 in 2015 and from the COVID-19 impact in 2020 when only 637,236 played.

However, participation amongst the age group with greatest participation, those aged 10-14, was lower in 2022 than previous years. It is a concern that for those aged 10-14 years participation dropped from a peak of 67% in 2017 to 57% in 2022.

We need to develop sport programs and competitions that meet the needs to our children and youth. We have developed the evidence of this and need for more flexible opportunities through a Sport4Me concept. The time for change and action is now before it's too late.

24

Places + Spaces (Room A)

Parks + Projects (Room C)

People + Planning (Room D)

12:00pm - 12:30pm

Park features for children, teens, adults and older adults: which ones are most important



Jenny Veitch Professor Deakin University

Parks can support health and well-being by facilitating physical activity and social interaction. It is critical to understand which features are most important to include in future park (re)developments to ensure optimal use and health gains by all age groups. This presentation will showcase findings from a comprehensive 3-year study that identified the relative importance of park features for encouraging park visitation, park-based physical activity, and social interaction among children, teens, adults, and older adults. We also explored if preferences varied by gender and frequency of park visitation. The research included 100 walkalong interviews in nine different parks and two on-line surveys with over 2000 participants across each of the age groups. Key findings for each of the age groups will be presented. This evidence will provide practical guidance on features to prioritise in park developments to optimise park use for children and youth as well as older adults.

Co-benefits of micro forests in recreation reserves



Anna Mezzetti Biodiversity Champion Monash City Council



Daniel Berry Zero Carbon Champion Monash City Council

Micro forests are a worldwide movement to bring biodiversity back into our urban areas in a short space of time. We have created Melbourne's first micro forest in Mulgrave, right next to a football/cricket oval. Our forest is already showing how it absorbs and retains water in the soil better than grass, provides spaces for people to immerse in nature, increase biodiversity in recreation reserves, decrease temperatures and encourage birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

Our micro forest utilises a sub-surface water trench to divert and retain water to self- sustain during dryer months. Construction included recycled and reutilised materials such as sand, soil, logs, and aggregate. We are also trialing climate-ready plant species in a forest design that involved the local community and corporate groups.

Maximising the potential of informal sport for community health benefits



Ruth Jeanes Professor Monash University



Justen O'Connor Associate Professor Monash University

Informal sport participation has developed to be a central and important part of the sporting landscape. Informal sport engages participants who are traditionally marginalised within more traditional forms of club based sport particularly attracting participants from multicultural communities. Despite the appeal and value of informal sport participation, as a format it generally remains unsupported and ignored within policy and planning. This presentation will draw on findings from a three year research project examining informal sport participation and the health and social benefits this format provides for communities. Drawing on data collected from over 150 stakeholders the presentation will detail the health benefits of informal sport and discuss the implications of informal sport for how we think about sport spaces, policies and the ways in which we support sport participation.

1:30pm – 2:00pm

Fair Access Policy Panel



Sarah Styles
Director
Office for Women in Sport and Recreation

Community sport and recreation shapes towns, suburbs, and cities, with the energy and excitement of people filling fields, courts, ovals and pitches - rain, hail or shine. When women and girls aren't benefiting from this infrastructure in an equitable manner, they are experiencing unequal health and social outcomes. This inequity is also contributing to a wider culture of gender inequality in their communities. Launched in August 2022, the Fair Access Policy Roadmap is addressing this through a statewide approach to locally relevant policy implementation at the grassroots level. Whether it's drawing up fixtures that work for all players, or making sure women and girls are fairly represented in leadership and governance, the Roadmap provides practical guidance on creating gender equitable access to community sports infrastructure in every corner of Victoria. Join Sarah Styles, Director of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation, for a panel discussion with representatives from state government, local government and the sports sector, as they share what Fair Access looks like in practice, the journey to today, and the hopes for an equal future.

Tying yourself in knots with the big open space strategy? Fixing the mis-match between bigpicture strategies and play space design



Sally Jeavons
Director and Principal
@leisure Planners



Mary Jeavons
Founding Director
Jeavons Landscape
Architects

Pt 1. of a combined session linking strategic /open planning goals with what happens on the ground...

Key points to be covered include:

- Aligning open space housing and other policiesAligning our language so everyone can
- understand what the plan is and who is responsible for what
- How much do we need and why open space standards do not work.
- Design your classification systems to be useful, directing change and diversity.
- Driving better master planning and design. How a strategy should change the process of park improvement programs and enrich the quality of local parks.

Feeling hot hot hot...how do we make our suburbs cooler?

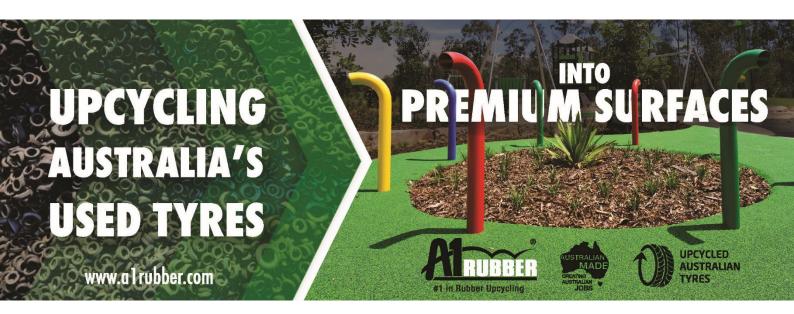


Katie Jackson
Urban Forest Programs Officer
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate
Action

Tree canopies can reduce the temperature of surfaces they shade (e.g. buildings and roads) by 10-25°C. This in turn, can help reduce heat-related morbidity and mortality. The western region of Melbourne currently has the lowest tree canopy cover, at a staggering 5.5%. To help address this, the Victorian Government is delivering the More Trees for a Cooler, Greener West program, which aims to plant 500,000 trees across Melbourne's west. This presentation will showcase the efforts of the collaborative partnerships contributing to cooling and greening across Melbourne, as well as addressing the challenges of tackling urban heat into the future.

25 2024 PLA VicTas Conference **PROGRAM**

Places + Spaces Parks + Projects People + Planning (Room A) (Room C) (Room D) 2:00pm - 2:30pm Fair Access Policy Panel - CONTINUED Tying yourself in knots with the big open space Reimagining Your Creek - Re-evaluating our strategy? Fixing the mis-match between bigwaterways in the context of creating a more picture strategies and play space design liveable city Sally Jeavons Neil Featonby Director and Principal Founding Director Senior Asset Planner and Program Manager Planner @leisure Planners Pty Jeavons Landscape Melbourne Water Ltd Architects Reimagining Your Creek is one example of a Refer previous for abstract Pt 2. of a combined session linking strategic /open planning goals with what happens on the ground... program that is re-evaluating our approach to the Regional, District, Local? What goes where? role water management can play in delivering This session addresses many questions relating to liveability outcomes for the community. It play space design for both urban and regional represents a change in how we are viewing the city councils. and how we can better see, feel and listen to • What is the difference between a local or district Country in the work of contemporary waterway play space? management. Central to this approach is • How can we get better at delivering the best play understanding the fundamental role water plays in and social value into all levels in the play space Country: the way it flows through the landscape, classification hierarchy? hydrates and nurtures the environment, cools • How do we use good strategic thinking to green open spaces for community use, and maximise the opportunities within a catchment so supports a strategy for sustainably managing our that the design of each park responds to the needs important waterways. of users. • How do we design even low budget spaces to be more inclusive and offer maximum play value for multi-ages? How do we enable participation through more thoughtful design of all of our play spaces? • What processes inside local government are getting in the way of better play provision? This session discusses practical design issues with the aim of delivering better value for communities from park and play space budgets.



DELEGATES

NAME	ORGANISATION	NAME	ORGANISATION
Aaron Biscan	Melton City Council	Bec Fountain	Wyndham City Council
Aaron Dragwidge	Frankston City Council	Becki McWhinnie	City of Port Phillip
Aaron Foley	Sustainable Landscaping	Belinda Griffiths	Bayside City Council
Abby Freney	Golf Australia	Belinda Griffiths	Monash City Council
Adam Beck	HUB Group	Ben Manning	Solucio
Adam Cheyne	Urbankind	Ben Toussaint	Proludic Australia
Adam Karg	Swinburne University	Bernadette	
Adam Scarlett	Glen Eira City Council	Hetherington	Merri-bek City Council
Adam Sparrow	Hobsons Bay City Council	Bevis Selby	Terrain Group
	Department of Energy,	Bircan Houssein	Brimbank City Council
	Environment and Climate	Brad Beard	HUB Group
Adrian Gray	Action	Brad Sly	Frankston City Council
Aidin Dinable.	Greater Dandenong	Brad Watt	Hobsons Bay City Council
Aidin Blockley	Council	Bree Lord	City of Greater Geelong
Aimee White	Bayside City Council	Brendan Hibbert	Nillumbik Shire Council
Alan Hale	Mitchell Shire Council	Brent Harris	Matta Products
Alex Christie	DA Christie	Brenten Braszell	Hume City Council
Alex English	Merri-bek City Council Mornington Peninsula	Brett Phillips*	Jesuit Social Services
Alex Gunn	Shire Council	Bridget Draper	KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL
Alex Hellriegel	Knox City Council	Bronwyn Grass	Yarra Ranges Council
Alicia Otto	City of Melbourne	Bryce Balsillie	Surf Coast Shire
Alli Coombe	Clarence City Council	Bryce Edwards	Activity Playgrounds
71111 COOTTIBE	Mornington Peninsula	Bryce Hinton	Convic
Alyce Fogarty-Burgess	Shire Council	Bryn Hannan	Clarence City Council
Amber Van Puyvelde	Deakin University	Byron Douglas	Frankston City Council
Amelia Lovejoy	City of Greater Geelong	Caitlin Lombard	Brimbank City Council
Amy Bonshek	Hume City Council	Callum Dean	Cricket Victoria
Amy Dingle	SPORTENG	Callum Parry	SPORTENG
	Macedon Ranges Shire	Callum Steele	Melton City Council
Amy Turner	Council	Cameron Miller	Cardinia Shire Council
Amy Weir	Bayside City Council	Cameron Tasker	Glen Eira City Council
Andrea Szymanski	Manningham Council	0 1 14:11	A_SPACE AUSTRALIA PTY
Andrew Chau	City of Whittlesea	Candyce Wright	LTD
Andrew George	City of Whittlesea	Carleigh Yeomans	Swinburne University PGA of Australia & Golf
Andrew Gualano	Green By Nature	Carly Goodrich	Australia
Andrew Knight	Outdoors Victoria	Cathrine Bennett	Yarra Ranges Shire Council
A readmon to Ma Daniera II	SGS Economics and	Catriona Rose	ASC
Andrew McDougall	Planning		Deakin University /
Andrew Morrow	SPORTENG City of Casay	Chahana Paudel	Whitehorse City Council
Andrew Mulholland	City of Casey	Chloe Cook	CIty of Boroondara
Andrew Smith	City of Casey	Chloe Dupont	Maribyrnong City Council
Angus Rowe	Solucio		Sport and Recreation
Anna Mazzetti	Monash City Council	Chris Arnett	Victoria
Anthea Dee	Parks Victoria	Chris Carter	Green by Nature
Anthony Traill	City of Whittlesea	Chris Gipps	Nillumbik Shire Council
Ash Dean	City of Stonnington	Chris Mitchell	City of Greater Bendigo
Ashley Fleming	Brimbank City Council	Chris Onslow	Greenplate Pty Ltd
Ashley Tenson	Yarra Ranges Council	Chris Saliba	Brimbank City Council
Asieh Motazedian	City of Kingston	a.	Hobsons Bay City Council -
Attendee One	Coolabah Turf	Christa Mitchell	ALTONA, VIC
Basil Mascali	Merri-bek City Council	Christie Watkins	Berrigan Shire Council
Beau Tran	AFL	Christina Grayland	Merri-bek City Council

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NAME	ORGANISATION	NAME	ORGANISATION
Christopher Falzon	Brand Architects	Fleur McDonald	Nillumbik Shire Council
Claire Anderson	DEECA		Department of Energy,
Claire Ulcoq	City of Port Phillip		Environment and Climate
Connie Wong	City of Stonnington	Fran Horsley	Action
Dale Stewart	City of Melbourne	Gabrielle McBain	Baw Baw Shire COuncil
Damian Carr	Bayside City Council	Garry Lusk	Lilydale Instant Lawn
	Department of Energy,	Gary Rauber*	Australian Sports Commission
Danies Taylor	Environment and	Gavin Martin	GLG - GreenLife Group
Damien Taylor	Climate Action Parks and Leisure	Gayatri Tate	Melton City Council
Dan Ferguson	Australia Vic/Tas	Gerald Mitchell	Glen Eira City Council
Daniel Berry*	Monash City Council	Gerard McCurry	Brand Architects
Daniel Schwarze	City of Casey	Glenn Farrow	Kress
	Macedon Ranges Shire	Grace van der Merwe	Maribyrnong City Council
Daniel Trevillian	Council	Graeme Knorr	Kompan
	Mornington Peninsula		Endeavour Turf
Danielle Mauger	Shire Council		Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP
Dave Burke	Hume City Council	Grant Greenway	Turf)
David Cardamone	DS ARCHITECTS PTY LTD	Grant Humphreys*	Playtest Pty Ltd
	Department of Energy,	Greg Moore*	University of Melbourne
David Dobroszczyk	Environment and Climate Action	Greg Rodwell	Merri-bek City Council
David Dobioszczyk	Endeavour Turf	Hannah Jane	Kingston City Council
	Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP	Hannah Jane*	Kingston City Council
David McGeary	Turf)		City of
	Active Tasmania,	Hannah Martin	Melbourne/Melbourne City Council
	Department of State	Hallian Martin	Hobsons Bay City Council -
David Munns	Growth	Hannah Pyper	ALTONA, VIC
David Nankervis	Bayside City Council	Hayden Annett	Glenelg Shire Council
David Porter	A_SPACE AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Helen Hewitt	Frankston City Council
David Rowe	City of Melbourne	Hoda Zanganeh	Baw Baw Shire Council
Davy Van Rooyen	City of Launceston	Jack Adams	Civiq
Dawn Penney	Edith Cowan University	Jack Sharman	City of Stonnington
Dean Frank	Mitchell Shire Council	Jackie Grieve	Monash City Council
Dean Jamieson	Green by Nature	Jagdish Kancharla	Colac Otway Shire Council
Deepthi Kurian	City of Greater Bendigo	Jake Cole-Sinclair	Golf Australia
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Dirk Heinzelmann	GreenLife Group	James Robortella	Wyndham City Council
Dylan Wood	City of Casey	James Van Leeuwen	Play Matta
Elizabeth Cameron	•		Greater Dandenong
Ella Jackson	Surf Coast Shire	Jane Brodie	Council
Emily Boucher	City of Kingston	jane hinds	Corangamite Shire Council
Emily Boyle	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Jarrod Hill	SPORTENG
	Sport and Recreation	Jarrod Westwood	Surf Coast Shire
Emma Jackson	Victoria (SRV)	Jarrod Woff	Corangamite Shire Council
Emma Laurie	City of Port Phillip	Jason Hammer	Lighting & Electrical Distributors
Emma Shorter	City of Stonnington	Jason Hammer	Mornington Peninsula
5. 0	Sport and Recreation	Jason Mathers	Shire Council
Erica Gee-Kot	Victoria	Jason Summers	Remarkable Trees
	City of Melbourne	Jeanette Ingram	Maroondah City Council
Erik Boom	City Council	Jeanette Simson	Melton City Council
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Fiona Dalla-Rosa	Frankston City Council		Friends of Wilson Botanic
Fiona Finlayson	City of Melbourne	Jenny Duncan	Park Berwick
Fiona McMahon	Landmark	Jenny Veitch*	IPAN, Deakin University
	•	Jessica van der Werff	Glen Eira City Council

NAME	ORGANISATION	NAME	ORGANISATION
	Endeavour Turf	Lara Zeccola	City of Casey
	Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP	Laura Heyning	Brand Architects
Jim Porter	Turf)	Laura Shaw	Maribyrnong City Council
Jo Elvish	Whitehorse Council		Hobsons Bay City Council -
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	Endeavour Turf	Leanne Terrington	City of Casey
Joanne Crampton	Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP Turf)	Lee Harrison	City of Melbourne
Joanne Hann	City of Casey		Jeavons Landscape
Joe Doak	Banyule City Council	Leong Khoo	Architects
JOE BOOK	Greater Dandenong	Lewis Read	City of Casey
Joe Pang	Council	Lewis Read	City Of Casey
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joey boothby	emerge associates	Lisa Dillon	Syngenta
John Cann	Abel Sports	Lisa Gaydon	Parks Victoria
John Neylan	SPORTENG	Lucas Skelton	SPORTENG Sport and Recreation
John Strachan	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Lucia Brennan	Victoria
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Jonathon Lane	City of Greater Bendigo		Environment and Climate
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Joshua Anderson	Terrain Group	Luke Armstrong	City of Kingston
Joshua Crawshaw	City of Port Phillip	Luke Casey	CIty of Boroondara
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	Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP	Lyndal McLean	Colac Otway Shire Council
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Justine Osborne	Cancer Council Victoria	Marc Basilio	ALTONA, VIC
Kacey Gambin	KOMPAN Australia	Marianne Mateer	Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV)
Kaitlyn Stringer	VicHealth	ividi idilile ividteei	Sanctuary Lakes Resort
Karly Tucker	Cardinia Shire Council	Mark Brown	Services
Karoline Klein	City of Greater Bendigo Sanctuary Lakes Resort	Mark Chatman	KOMPAN Australia
Katarina Nave	Services	Mark Corea	City of Whittlesea
Kate McMahon	City of Ballarat	Mark Nelson	City of Greater Geelong
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	Environment, and Climate	Martin Cakebread	Hume City Council
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	Merri-bek City Council	Mary Jeavons	Architects
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Kaveeta Desai	City of Whittlesea	Matt Grgic	Council
Kelly Hertzog	City of Melbourne	Matthew Barbetta	Glen Eira City Council Friends of Wilson Botanic
Kelly Yardley	Hume City Council	Matthew Chester	Park Berwick
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Kirsty Branagan	Rural City of Wangaratta	Melissa Thomas	City of Ballarat
Kristen Jackson	City of Casey Trailworx	Meredith Kelly	Surf Coast Shire
Kurt Martin	Whitehorse Council	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Moonee Valley City
Kyle Chandler	Hume City Council	Michael Barton	Council
Kylie Wright Lacey Gunn	Campaspe Shire Council	Michael Bradbery	Syngenta
Lacey Gunn Lachlan McDonald		Michael Tanner	Banyule City Council
Lacillati MicDollala	Kress		

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	Macedon Ranges Shire
Michelle Nolte	Council
Michelle Willis	Dept Energy, Environment and Climate Action
Michelle Wilson	Wyndham City Council
Mike Dean	Nillumbik Shire Council
Miles Rayner	Activity Playgrounds
Miranda Markovic	Otiuim Planning Group
Mitch Tyas	Endeavour Turf Professionals Pty Ltd (ETP Turf)
Monique Perry	Hume City Council
Murray Hocking	Shade N Sails
Nadia Stojan	Proludic Australia
Nadine Wooldridge	Banyule City Council
wadine wooldinge	Department of Jobs,
	Sports Infrastructure and
Naomi Paton	Regions
Narges Sarfi	Banyule City Council
Nat Gilbert*	Pro Sport Coach
Natalie Luckeraft	City of Casey
Nathan Lee	WillPlay Pty Ltd
Neil Featonby*	Melbourne Water
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Nick Marino	City of Boroondara
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Nuonan Lu	Whitehorse Council
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Paul Elshaug	Surf Coast Shire
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Paul Jane	Maribyrnong City Council
Paul Lacala	Whitehorse Council
Paul OConnor	King Island Council
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Paul Ward	WillPlay Pty Ltd
Paula Hooper	ECU ECU
·	National Ageing Research
Pazit Levinger	Institute
Pearl Lin	Monash City Council
Pete Leckie	Wyndham City Council
Pete Ryan	Sustainable Landscaping
Peter Gray	Porirua City Council
Peter Hindes	Terrain Group
Phoenix Lawton	Sport and Recreation Victoria

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Pilar Danlag	Urbania
Pinkey Shahi	Melton City Council
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Rachel Thorpe	Hume City Council
Ran Heydari	Banyule City Council
Rebecca Burton	Nillumbik Shire Council
Rebecca Lovett	City of Ballarat
Rhiannon Saward	,
	Aurecon
Richard Tolliday	Merri-bek City Council
Rick Morris	The Y
Robyn Mansfield*	AILA
Rochelle Eime*	Federation University
Rod Clark	Maribyrnong City Council
Russell Larke*	Royal Botanic Gardens VIC
Ruth Jeanes	Monash University
Ryan Longford	Lark Industries P/L
Sally Jeavons	@leisure Planners Pty.Ltd
Sally Peers	Golf Australia
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Samantha Sturma	Melbourne City Council
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Sarah Murley	City of Casey
C C *	Office for Women in Sport
Sarah Styles*	and Recreation
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Scott Spedding	Coolabah Turf
Sedat Sir	Merri-bek City Council
Sepideh Movahed	City of Whittlesea
Chaan Briggs	Sport and Recreation Victoria
Shaan Briggs Shane Joules	AFI
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•	
Shane Vardy Shannon Palmer	Atlantis Liquid Dynamics
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	VicHealth
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Simon Finlay	Council
Simone Bonella	Frankston City Council
Sofia de Lesantis	Parks Victoria
Stacey Robinson	Manningham City Council
Stefan Hajkowicz	CSIRO
Steph Ristevska	City of Whittlesea
Stephen Read*	Emerge Associates
Steve Kamboukos	Landmark
Steve Vernon	City of Boroondara
	Macedon Ranges Shire
Steven Williams	Council Australian Sports
Sue McGill	Commission
Suranga	
Dissakarunaratne	Darebin City Council

NAME	ORGANISATION
Susan Cannell	City of Port Phillip
Susan Hecker	City of Whittlesea
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Tam Watkins	Melton City Council
Tamara Mason	Merri-bek City Council
Tamzin McLennan	Colac Otway Shire Council
Taylah Wright	Sustainable Landscaping
	Parks and Leisure
Taylor Ferguson	Australia Vic/Tas
Terry Jenvey	Whitehorse Council
Terry Van Iersel	Landmark
Therese Abou-Antoun	Civiq
Tim Ekert	A1 Rubber
Tim Fitzgerald	FFLA
	Mornington Peninsula
Toby Laverick	Shire Council
Tom Dixon	Play by the Rules
Tom Scanlan	Knox City Council
Tom Van De Ven	Surf Coast Shire
Tom Vercoe	Bayside City Council

NAME	ORGANISATION
Toni De Clase	A1 Rubber
Tony Craswell	Golf Australia
Travis Morgan	Kompan
Trevor Clarke	City of Launceston
Trevor Croughan	City of Whittlesea
Tylah Ingram	Banyule City Council
Tyrone Downie	City of Greater Bendigo
Vicki Papas	VAILO
William Boadle*	SGS Economics and Planning
Wright Paterson	City of Casey
	Parks and Leisure
Zoe Dunworth	Australia
Zoe Eastick	Surf Coast Shire
Zoe Sells	insideEDGE



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2024 PLA VicTas Conference PROGRAM



2024



ABOUT THE VENUE

Marvel Stadium

Located in the heart of Melbourne, Marvel Stadium has welcomed more than 42 million fans through the gates since opening in 2000.

Renowned for regularly staging AFL, A-League and BBL action under the famous retractable roof, it is proud to be home to five AFL clubs Essendon, Carlton, North Melbourne, St Kilda and the Western Bulldogs and Big Bash League side the Melbourne Renegades.

Marvel Stadium is also currently going through a \$225 million upgrade investment by the Victorian Government.

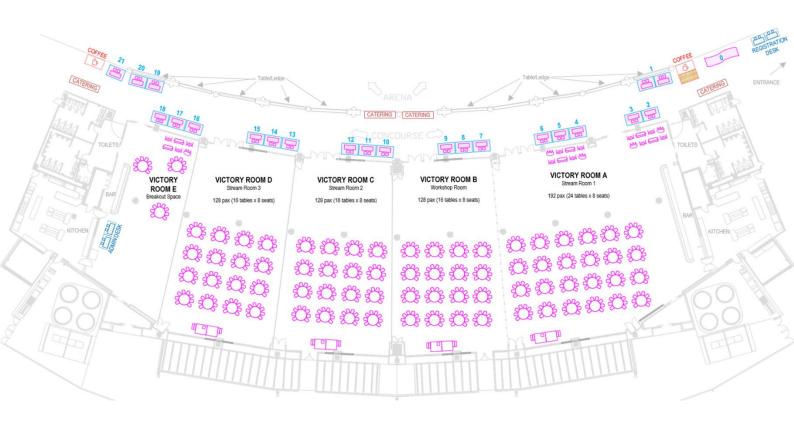
Victory Room

The Victory Room is the largest function room at Marvel Stadium and will be the home of our conference.

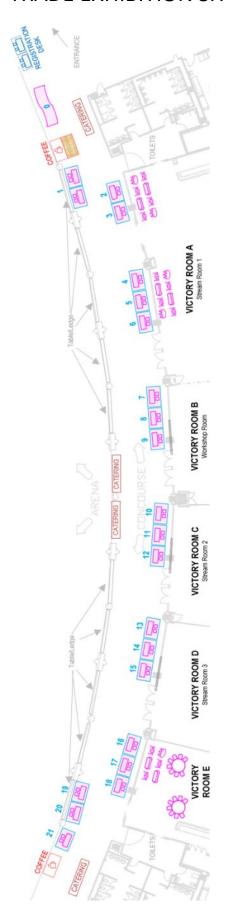
It boasts a large, open, and versatile floorplan of over 2,000 sqm of floor space and 4m ceiling height, with a stylish interior and in-built audio-visual facilities.

On one side, this stunning room boasts floor to ceiling windows with a view over the architecturally striking buildings of Victoria Harbour while the other end looks out to the concourse and field.

FLOOR PLAN



TRADE EXHIBITION SPACE



















#6



#13





















1 Terrain Group Furphy 13 GreenPlate **19** HUB 2 Activity Playgrounds 8 A1 Rubber 14 Syngenta 20 Proludic 3 Shade n Sails 9 a_space 15 Civiq **21** LED 10 Lark Industries 16 WillPlay 4 Abel Urbania 5 Kress 11 VAILO 17 Trailworx 6 Golf Australia 18 Coolabah Turf 12 Kompan

THE EXHIBITORS





Our purpose is to create healthier, more playful and inclusive communities. Since commencing in 1995, our core focus has been to create great play and fitness environments for people of all ages and abilities. Today, we are recognised as an industry leader. Our experience spans more than 10,000 projects and we are proud to be endorsed and approved by numerous leading councils, peak bodies and procurement groups.

www.aspace.com.au
a space e-Brochure
Tom Burgdorf, General Manager, Sales & Delivery
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A1 Rubber e-Brochure
Toni De Clase, Business Development Manager
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Abel Sports manufacture and install goal posts for all football Codes, AFL, Rugby Union, Rugby League and Soccer. Abel Sports goal posts can be seen at numerous Council sports grounds throughout Australia, and at major Stadiums like, MCG, SCG, Adelaide and Perth to name a few. Abel Flag also supply Flagpoles and Banner poles to Councils and State and Federal Government offices and facilities throughout Australia. Abel is an Australian manufacturer and supports the Australian Made Campaign.

www.abelsports.com.au Abel Sports e-Brochure John Cann, General Manager jcann@abelsports.com.au At Activity Playgrounds we proudly offer a diversity of outdoor fun and recreational spaces throughout Victoria and southeastern Australia. We offer playground solutions for Government parks, Schools and Early Learning Centres, Playground equipment, shade sails, climbing nets, fun and fitness equipment, rubber undersurfacing as well as site preparation, landscaping, park furniture and fencing.

www.activityplaygrounds.com.au Activity Playgrounds e-Brochure Miles Rayner miles@activityplaygrounds.com.au





Create healthy, happy communities with easy access to fresh and clean drinking water. Civiq is your trusted partner for high-quality, Australian-made drinking water stations. Built to last and designed to promote healthy lifestyles.

www.civiq.com.au <u>Civiq e-Brochure</u> Jack Adams, Business Development VIC | TAS <u>jacka@civiq.com.au</u> Coolabah Turf is an industry leader in the production, sale and distribution of premium instant turf and lawns for life. They are one of the nation's largest growers of premium drought-tolerant, water-smart turfgrass varieties and are regarded amongst the most efficient and technologically advanced turfgrass operations in the world. Coolabah Turf are passionate about the turf and lawn industry and the power their people and products have to make a positive impact on people's lives, one backyard and open green space at a time.

www.coolturf.com.au

Drew Elliott, Sales Manager
drew@coolturf.com.au





In 2023 we celebrated our 150 year anniversary and we are proud to be one of Australia's oldest companies, having grown from an agricultural implement maker to a diversified manufacturing business - specialising in Urban Design Products. Today we are a state of the art design and diversified manufacturing company and we're pleased to say we are still 100% Australian Owned and all our products are sustainably manufactured right here in Australia. We have highly skilled specialists in product design, engineering and a national installation service.

www.furphyfoundry.com.au
Scott Llewelyn, Marketing Manager
marketing@furphyig.com.au

Being the inaugural sporting organization to stand alongside Parks & Leisure Australia as our flagship Industry Partner, Golf Australia is poised to play a key role in cultivating enhanced connections between communities and the realm of golf. This strategic collaboration marks a significant milestone for both organisations, as we embark on a journey to facilitate open and meaningful communication channels within our diverse communities.

www.golf.org.au Community Benefits of Golf in Australia Report Sally Peers, Local Government Coordinator sally.peers@golf.org.au





Greenplate is an Australian company that design and manufactures energy-efficient electric and solar electric barbecues. With a commitment to sustainability and quality, Greenplate BBQ's use advanced technology to produce clean and healthy outdoor cooking solutions. They offer a range of products suitable for commercial and residential use and are proudly Australian made.

www.greenplate.com.au Greenplate e-Brochure Chris Onslow, National Sales Manager chris@greenplate.com.au HUB is driven by good, beautiful and functional design. For over 20 years, the HUB team have been dedicated to delivering the highest quality multi-function pole solutions for the public domain. This offers land authorities, place makers and facilities managers the opportunity and flexibility to uplift benefits to the community through digital and data enablement. HUB is a wholly owned subsidiary of Indata, Australia's leading owner and operator of digital infrastructure and majority owned by Australian Super.

www.hub-group.com Hub e-Brochure Adam Beck, General Manager adam beck@hub-group.com





KOMPAN is a global leader in play and fitness, with decades of experience creating happier and healthier Australian communities. Their high-quality outdoor recreational equipment and industry-leading warranties give council teams solutions to combat today's issues like physical inactivity, climate change and access to play & fitness facilities for people of all ages and abilities.

www.kompan.com.au KOMPAN e-Brochure Mark Chatman, Victorian Sales Manager marcha@kompan.com In nearly a century, we've never made a single internal combustion engine. And we never will. In June last year, the well-established Positec Group launched the Kress Commercial brand in Australia. Since 1928, the Kress brand has built its reputation around advanced German engineering, and endorsements from professional users who have operated and trusted Kress tools for 96 years. Today, Kress is committed to ensure the commercial landscape and maintenance industry a zero-emission future. The innovative CyberSystem™ battery technology offers a sustainable transition from petrol- to battery-powered OPE, not only benefiting the environment but, the users' profitability as well.

www.kress.com Kress e-Brochure





Lark Industries is a family owned and operated Australian business and one of the leading suppliers of multi-generational play and exercise equipment nationally. We boast a wide range of interactive, senior-specific and destination-level play, sport and exercise solutions and offer the freedom to either tailor an existing product to your specific requirements or to develop an entirely new and unique solution for your project.

www.larkindustries.com.au <u>Lark Industries e-Brochure</u> *Sharon Winbanks, Senior BDM, VIC & TAS* <u>sharon@larkindustries.com.au</u> The words "Australian made – for Australia" are more pertinent today than ever before. In these difficult times, the emphasis on supporting local Australian businesses has become paramount. Lighting and Electrical Distributors [LED] is one of the foremost and pre-eminent companies that has actively promoted and distributed Australian lighting manufacturers products for the past two decades. We have always been market leaders and supporters of Australian Manufacturers and we challenge any other company to match our commitment to the Australian lighting industry.

www.ledvic.com <u>LED e-Brochure</u> *Nick Pockett, Sport & Recreation Manager* <u>nickp@ledvic.com</u>





Proludic creates award-winning play equipment and playspaces throughout Australia for people of all ages and abilities. We design and build inclusive play and sports areas, nature-inspired and imaginative playgrounds, and multigenerational fun outdoor fitness areas that get every "body" moving. Our products and designs are innovative, functional and durable. We use sustainably sourced, recycled and recyclable materials that are perfectly suited to Australian conditions.

<u>Proludic e-Brochure</u> *Nadia Stojan, Inclusive Play and Fitness Consultant – VIC East & TAS*0419 603 622

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nstojan@proludic.com.au

Shade N Sails is an Australian company that specialises in designing manufacturing and installing shade products. The company was established in 1999 to provide durable shade products for both the domestic and commercial markets. With over 150 years of combined industry experience and a focus on exceptional customer service and communication they have grown rapidly servicing both the Australian and global markets, offering a wide range of solutions.

www.shadensails.com.au Shade N Sails e-Brochure Nick Mall, Business Development nick@shadensails.com.au





Syngenta has more than 20 years' experience in developing solutions specifically for turf and landscape businesses. Syngenta is the preferred partner for protecting valuable turf – regardless of species, season or situation. Our well-established, comprehensive product portfolio covers a wide market from golf courses and sports fields to council parks and garden beds.

www.syngentaturf.com.au

Syngenta e-Brochure

Peter Frewin, Sales Manager - Turf and Landscape
Peter.Frewin@syngenta.com

With over 50+ years of experience, Terrain Group delivers quality furniture for any outdoor or urban environment. Whether metropolitan or remote, Terrain Group can provide a complete project package, from planning and design to supply and installation. Terrain Group guarantees to deliver quality products built to last on time with 100% customer satisfaction.

www.terraingroup.com.au Terrain Group e-Brochure Bevis Selby, National Sales Manager 1800 335 112





From mountain bike trails and pump tracks to hiking and walking trails, we partner with clients to design, build and maintain trails to create innovative and sustainable spaces for local communities and visitors to get outdoors and get active. Our experienced and passionate in-house team are highly specialised in designing world-class trails that deliver the ultimate outdoor experience. Designed with both functionality and aesthetics in mind, every trail is carefully created to provide a safe and enjoyable experience and are inspired by the surrounding landscape that acknowledge environmental and cultural values.

www.trailworx.com.au Scott Llewelyn, Marketing Manager marketing@furphyig.com.au Creators of outdoor spaces that inspire, playspaces that spark the imagination of children, and memories created in the urban realm. Home of Richter Spielgeräte, moveart Swiss & Durbanis street and outdoor elements.

www.urbania.com.au Joel Thornborough, Director 0411 836 554





VAILO is an Australian advanced technology company specialising in manufacturing ultra-high-performance LED sports lighting and as a premier solutions provider of LED digital displays tailored to sporting venues and major outdoor events.

www.vailo.com

VAILO e-Brochure

Joshua Jowsey, Business Development Executive
(VIC & TAS)

J.jowsey@vailo.com

WillPlay is an Australian manufacturer of play and fitness equipment with an extensive range of products to suit all size projects and budgets. Using premium materials such as aluminium, stainless steel and recycled plastics, WillPlay offers world class quality in a cost effective package. WillPlay's custom design capabilities can bring your next project to life and create a true destination experience for all users.

www.willplay.com.au WillPlay e-Brochure Nathan Lee, General Manager nathan.lee@willplay.com.au



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