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Park Orchards Community House & Learning Centre



Term 1, 2026 Courses & Activities

New Courses & Workshops



Needle Felting Workshop



Join us for a gentle and uplifting morning of creativity as you discover the art of needle felting. Using soft, natural wool, you will craft your own Pocket Pal or Pocket Goddess—a small, meaningful creation that reflects your personal style and imagination. This beginner-friendly workshop is perfect for anyone curious about exploring a new craft, expressing creativity, and enjoying a mindful, hands-on experience. All tools and materials are provided, including a take-home felting kit so you can continue your creative journey at home and keep exploring the endless possibilities of this beautiful craft.

Saturday 28 February, 10:00am - 1:00pm

\$75

Zoom in, Zoom out – Nature Journaling Workshop



Have you ever been on a holiday and wished you could capture your memories through drawing? In her nature journal workshops artist Peta McDonald aims to equip you with the skills you need to quickly draw the world around you without the pressure of perfection. We will be zooming in to notice the smallest things in nature and then zooming out to see broader landscapes. Through guided activities, you will create your own nature journal page and leave with a pocketful of ideas to keep you drawing on your next holiday!

Saturday 21 February, 9:30am - 4:00pm

\$125

Miniature Landscapes – Nature Journaling Workshop

This workshop with Peta McDonald will introduce you to creating simple miniature landscapes. You will learn techniques to quickly sketch meaningful locations, whether it's a favourite lookout, a hidden walking trail, or a quiet corner of your garden.

Through guided activities, we will explore how to work at a tiny scale, simplify a scene, and focus on the features that make a place unique. You will create your own miniature landscape bookmarks or postcards using pen and watercolour, and will leave with a pocketful of ideas to help you capture the places you love, wherever you go.

Saturday 21 March, 9:30am - 4:00pm

\$125



Terrarium Workshop

POPULAR

Discover the art of creating your own mini living garden! In this beginner-friendly workshop, you will learn how to layer soil, pebbles, moss, and a variety of plants to build a thriving and beautiful terrarium. With step-by-step guidance on plant care, arrangement, and design, you will take home your own small glass terrarium—a unique and vibrant piece of greenery perfect for brightening your home or giving as a thoughtful handmade gift. All materials provided.

Saturday 28th March, 10:00am - 11:30am

\$95



Learn Local – Pre-accredited Training



Learn Local courses can help you get the skills you need for study, work and life. Learn Local courses are government subsidised and are offered at low or no cost to eligible Victorian adults. Class sizes are small, with training delivered by highly experienced professionals in a relaxed environment. **Check our website for more details or contact us.**

Introduction to Mental Health & Peer Support

This beginner course is ideal for those new to mental health, whether you are considering a career in the mental health or community services sector, or want to better support others in your personal life. Develop foundation skills to connect with people, understand their needs, work collaboratively, and provide peer support. It is a positive first step toward making a meaningful difference and exploring a rewarding career. Pathway into CHC43315 - Certificate IV in Mental Health and CHC43515 - Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work

Thursday 19 February - 2 April, 9:30am - 12:00pm, 7 weeks
\$65 (Concession \$35*)

Foundations of Mental Health

Explore a rewarding pathway into the mental health sector by building skills for compassionate and effective practice. This course provides foundational knowledge to support individuals experiencing mental health challenges. You will learn to communicate with empathy, recognise different needs, and develop collaborative, person-centred approaches to care. Pathway into CHC43315 - Certificate IV in Mental Health and CHC43515 - Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work

Thursday 19 February - 2 April, 12:30pm - 3:00pm, 7 weeks
\$65 (Concession \$35*)



Journaling for Wellbeing

Discover how journaling can inspire positivity, reflection, and personal growth. Through engaging classes, practical techniques, and gentle guidance, you'll learn how writing can help you better understand yourself and navigate life with ease. Suitable for beginners and seasoned writers alike.

Friday 6 February - 27 March, 2:00pm - 3:30pm, 8 weeks
\$65 (Concession \$35*)

All Abilities Courses

Designed for people with additional learning needs, these courses build communication, literacy, numeracy, confidence, and social skills. Activities are tailored to individual goals. Carers, support workers, and assistance animals are welcome. Free trial offered.

Let's Cook!

Build confidence in the kitchen and learn to prepare simple, tasty meals such as tacos, pies, pancakes, and fresh salads. Learn basic cooking skills and food safety, then enjoy the meal you have made with the group. All ingredients included.

Friday 6 February - 27 March, 9:30am - 12:00pm, 8 weeks
Friday 6 February - 27 March, 12:30pm - 3:00pm, 8 weeks
\$180 per term*

Creative Art

Explore a wide range of art materials, including watercolour, acrylics, clay, and mixed media, while creating your own unique artworks in a supportive, social environment. Learn new techniques, and enjoy expressing your creativity. All materials are provided.

Friday 6 February - 27 March, 12:45pm - 2:45pm, 8 weeks
\$120 per term*

Floristry



Learn floral design skills, from wrapping and tying, to arranging, and more. Create a variety of beautiful floral arrangements, colour harmony, and proper care techniques, a new piece each week including charming hand-tied posies, elegant gift boxes, and exquisite corsages. Our hands-on approach ensures practical experience, working directly with a diverse selection of flowers and foliage. Build both confidence and creativity as you learn to handle and arrange materials with precision and flair. All flowers and materials are included, with an optional \$30 toolkit available to keep.

Introduction to Floristry

Tuesday 10 February - 31 March, 10:00am - 12:00pm, 8 weeks
\$255 (Concession \$200*)

Level 1 Floristry

Tuesday 10 February - 31 March, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, 8 weeks
\$255 (Concession \$200*)

Everyday Tech Skills

POPULAR

Perfect for beginners or those wanting to improve their tech skills, this course will help you use your laptop, smartphone, iPad, or tablet for everyday tasks and online communication. Learn to send emails, use Zoom, browse safely, explore social media, download apps, and protect your privacy online. We'll also cover how to spot and avoid common scams. Please bring your own device to get the most out of the course.

Wednesday 11 February - 1 April, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, 8 weeks
\$15 (Concession \$5*)

How to Use AI

NEW

Curious about artificial intelligence but not sure where to begin? This friendly, hands-on course is perfect for beginners, including those, who want to explore the possibilities of artificial intelligence. You will learn how AI tools can make everyday tasks easier and more enjoyable, such as planning a trip, writing letters, finding recipes, or managing simple digital tasks. The course also covers how to use artificial intelligence safely and responsibly, with practical tips on privacy, online safety, and building confidence in the digital world.

Monday 9 February - 30 March, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, 7 weeks
\$15 (Concession \$5*)



*Concession prices for ACFE courses are capped at \$50 tuition per calendar year. Course fees may incur additional costs such as administration, materials, amenities, etc. For more information about the fee structure for pre-accredited courses please speak to one of our friendly staff.

Park Orchards Community House & Learning Centre Inc.
9876 4381

www.parkorchards.org.au
enrol@parkorchards.org.au



Natural History painting combines artistic creativity with scientific accuracy, often using live subjects or photos for reference. Techniques range from detailed work with microscopes to expressive wet-on-wet styles. Students explore various methods and techniques, guided by Nature in Art tutors to achieve accuracy while nurturing their unique style.

Terry Napier

Join Terry, an accomplished botanical artist and founder of the Nature in Art program, as he shares his expertise in Natural History watercolour painting. Terry has been teaching and sharing his talent for over 25 years. With his gentle and patient teaching style, Terry will guide you in the art of creating realistic depictions of plants, native animals, and birds, while helping you develop skills in painting techniques and colour mixing. Suitable for beginners and experienced students.

Monday 2 February - 30 March, 7:00pm - 9:30pm	8 weeks
Tuesday 3 February - 31 March, 9:30am - 12:00pm	8 weeks
Tuesday 3 February - 31 March, 1:00pm - 3:30pm	8 weeks

\$280

Peta Harrington



Peta will guide you through the techniques needed to create realistic Natural History paintings using pencil and watercolour, focusing on flora and fauna as your subjects. Emphasising careful observation and technique, you will learn to capture the details and beauty of your subjects. Peta tailors her teaching to meet each student's individual skill level—from beginners to experienced—providing support and encouragement to help you refine your skills.

Wednesday 4 February - 25 March, 9:30am - 12:00pm	8 weeks
Friday 6 February - 27 March, 9:30am - 12:00pm	8 weeks

\$240

Peta McDonald

Explore the fascinating connection between Science and Art with Peta McDonald. This course is designed to equip you with the skills needed to accurately depict natural subjects through drawing. Beginner or experienced artist, these structured classes will guide you through sketching, shaping with shading, recognising colours and adding texture and detail to your drawings. Starting with graphite and progressing to coloured pencils, you'll be amazed at what you can accomplish with a willingness to explore and experiment!

Wednesday 4 February - 25 March, 1:00pm - 3:30pm	8 weeks
Friday 6 February - 27 March, 1:30pm - 4:00pm	8 weeks

\$240

Learn Online - short courses, big skills!

Gain practical skills to boost your career and confidence. Join our courses online in real time from the comfort of your home – perfect if you're working or caring for family!

Canva for Beginners (Online)

POPULAR

Gain confidence creating beautiful, eye-catching designs with Canva. Learn to navigate the platform, use templates, apply colour and typography, edit photos, and design for social media. You'll finish with your own custom project such as a poster, flyer, or social media post made entirely from scratch.

Thursday 12 February - 2 April, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks
\$75 (Concession \$40*)



Canva for Business (Online)

NEW

Take your Canva skills to the next level and create professional, branded visuals for your business. Learn to build a Brand Kit, design templates, use Canva's AI tools, and manage content efficiently across social media and marketing platforms. You'll finish with a mini brand package ready to promote your business.

Tuesday 10 February - 31 March, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks
\$75 (Concession \$40*)

Introduction to Xero (Online)

Gain confidence using Xero to manage your business finances more efficiently. This practical course guides you through key features of the software – from setting up accounts and reconciling transactions to generating reports and tracking cash flow. Designed for those with basic bookkeeping knowledge, it will help you streamline your financial processes and make the most of Xero's powerful tools.

Tuesday 10 February - 31 March, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks
\$65 (Concession \$35*)

Introduction to Video Editing (Online)

FREE

Bring your ideas to life through video! This hands-on course introduces the fundamentals of video editing – cutting clips, adding transitions, music, text, and effects. Create short videos for social media, personal stories, or business use, and gain confidence producing polished projects to share online or with friends and family.

Wednesday 11 February - 1 April, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks
\$65 (Concession \$35*)

Literary Fiction Writing (Online)

NEW

Explore the craft of storytelling in this engaging introduction to literary fiction writing. Learn key elements of fiction, develop your voice, and workshop your writing in a supportive group setting. Enjoy time and guidance to work on your own short story, along with insight into resources, live readings, and publication opportunities.

Wednesday 11 February - 1 April, 7:00pm - 9:00pm (via Zoom), 8 weeks
\$35 (Concession \$15*)

Introduction to Creative Writing (Self-paced)

FREE

Over the duration of this practical yet creative course, you'll engage in a variety of writing exercises and receive personalised feedback on your work. This course is delivered via a flexible online format and allows you to learn at your own pace, making it easy to fit into your schedule!

Commences Wednesday 11 February, Flexible online format, self-paced
FREE

Health and Fitness



Regular group exercise is a great way to improve both physical health and mental well-being. Join us at Warrandyte South Hall for classes that are suitable for all fitness levels, led by our experienced and supportive instructors. **Enquire about a FREE trial session anytime!**

Email enrol@parkorchards.org.au or call us on 9876 4381 to arrange your trial

Monday

Yoga and Mindfulness

Yoga and mindfulness helps to improve focus and self-awareness. In these classes you will practice Hatha Yoga which involves exploration of breath, postures and meditation to reduce stress and anxiety. This wonderful, inclusive class is suitable for all levels and abilities.

Monday 6:30pm - 7:30pm

2 February - 30 March, 8 weeks \$138



Tuesday

Yoga

Enjoy this practice, which is shown to reduce stress, improve flexibility, and increase mobility. Start your day and week right with this safe, inclusive, and encouraging class which is suitable for all levels of ability and experience.

Tuesday 9:30am - 10:30am

3 February - 31 March, 9 weeks \$154

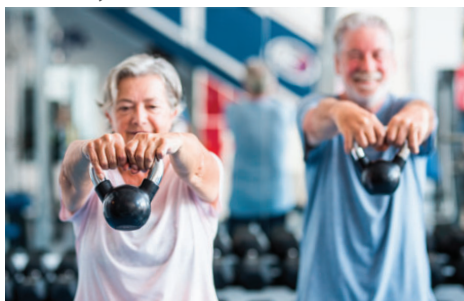


Stay Fit/Live Fit

A fitness class suited for our 50+ community who are looking to keep or build strength and flexibility for functional health! Combine strength, fitness and balance training while making friends and having fun. The class will involve resistance exercises, and weight training to help develop self-confidence, flexibility and cardio health.

Tuesday 12:30pm - 1:30pm

3 February - 31 March, 9 weeks \$100



Wednesday

Yoga

Increase your health and wellbeing with this relaxing yoga practice. This class incorporates breathing exercises, delivered at a gentle pace making it suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. Leave feeling uplifted and ready to start your day!

Wednesday 1:30pm - 2:30pm

4 February - 1 April, 9 weeks \$154

Thursday

Tai Chi

Tai Chi is a gentle exercise that combines slow, smooth movements and mindful breathing to relax the body and calm the mind. In this class, you'll learn a sequence of flowing movements designed to improve balance, coordination, and flexibility. Each session focuses on steady progress and relaxation. Suitable for beginners and those looking for low-impact movement.

Thursday 9:30am - 10:30am

5 February - 2 April, 9 weeks \$145

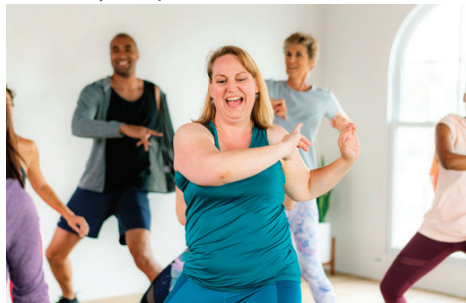


Rhythm & Movement

Movement not only stimulates our muscles and circulation but also supports mental health, boosts mood, and helps us express ourselves. This class combines structured and freestyle dance (including ballroom and global styles) with a focus on strength, control, and coordination. Join us for a fun, energising way to move your body, clear your head, and enjoy the rhythm.

Thursday 11:00am - 12:00pm

5 February - 2 April, 9 weeks \$145



Are you a carer? Carers are people who provide unpaid care and support to family members and friends who have a disability, mental illness, chronic condition, terminal illness, an alcohol or other drug issue or who are frail aged. **Carers receive 5% off any course with the Carer Friendly logo.**



Clubs and Groups **FREE**

Social Walking Group

Explore new and interesting places, enjoy a leisurely walk as you meet new people and enjoy lunch together! Great way to stay connected and fit while you connect with like-minded locals.

Third Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm (monthly)

Weekly Walkers

Join our local weekly walks for relaxation, fitness, or simply to connect with others.

Tuesday 9:00am - 10:00am (weekly)

Beekeeping Club

Connect with local beekeepers and take part in activities, discussions, and projects, hear from guest speakers, and gain confidence as a beekeeper.

First Tuesday 6:00pm - 7:00pm (monthly)

Genealogy

Research and share knowledge about tracing your family tree.

First Saturday 2:00pm - 4:00pm (monthly)

Garden Lovers

Help keep our garden beautiful in the company of other passionate gardeners!

Tuesday 10:30am - 12:00pm (weekly)

Photography

Connect with fellow photography enthusiasts, share ideas, and embark on exciting photography adventures.

First Thursday 7:00pm-8:30pm (monthly)

Book Club

Connect with fellow book lovers and enjoy discussions about your favourite reads in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Join us to meet new people and explore the world of books!

First Monday 7:30pm - 9:00pm (monthly)

Scones Together

Seniors, join us for this social event with free scones, jam, cream, and coffee & tea! Enjoy themed events some months, guest speakers, and fun activities.

First Monday of each month, 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Acknowledgements

Park Orchards Community House & Learning Centre Inc. (ABN: 18 790 057 404, INC: A0011092D) is a Registered Training Organisation (4008) and gratefully acknowledges funding support from:

Neighbourhood
Houses Victoria

Manningham
City Council

Adult Community
& Further Education(ACFE)

Accredited Training is delivered
with Victorian and Commonwealth
Government Funding

Government Funded places will be offered to
eligible applicants as indicated by the Department
of Education and Training



www.parkorchards.org.au

Vocational Education & Training



Our courses are led by highly experienced trainers with extensive training and industry experience. They possess an in-depth understanding of adult learners, especially those who are returning to study. Our small class sizes provide personalised attention for each student. **UPDATE: You may be eligible for a government-subsidised place, even if you already have a higher qualification.***

Certificate III in School Based Education Support CHC30221

Are you interested in assisting children in schools? As a qualified Education Support Worker, you can pursue a fulfilling career in education, playing a vital role in supporting students with diverse learning needs and contributing to their educational journey. You will provide support to both teachers and students within the school environment. This Nationally Recognised Training is ideal for employment as an Education Support Assistant, Support Worker for children with disabilities, or a Teacher's Aide. Additionally, this certificate can serve as a stepping stone for further study in the field of education.

Classes in Park Orchards

Commencing 9 February 2026 (Monday and Wednesday), 9:15am - 3:15pm

Commencing 10 March 2026 (Tuesday and Thursday), 9:15am - 3:15pm

Face-to-face delivery

Classes in Upper Ferntree Gully

Commencing 17 February 2026 (Tuesday and Thursday) 9:15am - 3:15pm

Blended delivery

Funded \$438.99 / Funded concession \$276.85*



Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care CHC30121

Are you passionate about making a difference in children's early years? Discover a rewarding career that allows you to inspire and shape the future generation. Our nationally recognised and accredited Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care is your gateway to becoming an Early Childhood Educator, Kindergarten Assistant, Nanny, or working in Out of School Hours Care. This comprehensive course harnesses your creative and communication skills while providing essential knowledge for nurturing and supporting young children's development. Embark on a fulfilling journey in the early childhood industry and gain the vital skills needed to make a positive impact on young minds.

Commencing 10 February 2026 (Tuesday and Thursday), 9:15am - 3:15pm

Flexible delivery, face-to-face or real-time via Zoom

Funded \$493.66 / Funded concession \$286.12*

Identify and Report Children and Young People at Risk CHCPRT025

This refresher program helps qualified educators strengthen their skills in recognising and reporting abuse, neglect, or harm in children and young people. Designed for those in education, childcare, health, and community services, it covers legal and ethical responsibilities, workplace procedures, and key legislation. Participants learn to identify indicators, document and report concerns correctly, and communicate with authorities professionally. Completing this unit supports safe environments and duty of care obligations.

Enrol anytime - Delivered online, study in your own time. Refresher program, suitable for experienced ELC Staff.

\$150 (group discount may be available, contact us for a quote)

Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care CHC50125

Exceptional Early Childhood Educators have the power to shape a child's future, fostering success, well-being, and a lifelong love for learning. This course covers essential topics such as learning frameworks, child health and well-being, leading educational teams, and much more. You'll also build confidence in supporting diverse needs and creating meaningful learning experiences. Completing the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care provides you with the opportunity to advance your career, deepen your knowledge, gain professional recognition, increase your earning potential and make a lasting impact as a leader in the field.

Commencing 13th February 2026 (Friday), 9:15am - 3:15pm

Commencing 2nd March 2026 (Monday), 9:15am - 3:15pm

Funded \$537 / Funded concession \$294*

Certificate IV in Training and Assessment TAE40122

This nationally recognised and accredited course qualifies you to deliver nationally accredited vocational training in registered training organisations (RTOs), TAFEs, enterprises, community organisations, and schools. You will develop skills in the design, delivery, and assessment of vocation-based training. After completing the course, you will have gained knowledge on how to perform competency-based assessments, develop learning programs based on national training packages, deliver presentations, train groups and individuals, and address learners' language, literacy, and numeracy skills.

Commencing 11th February 2026 (Wednesday), 9:00am - 4:30pm

Funded \$895.50 / Funded concession \$368.25*

Full fee \$3347.60 / Full fee concession \$2852.50

Certificate IV in Training and Assessment TAE40122 - Upgrade

Now is the perfect time to upgrade to the latest TAE40122 qualification. Our upgrade program is designed specifically for experienced VET Trainers and Assessors who hold TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and have accrued at least two years of training experience delivering nationally recognised qualifications or units of competency within the past four years. This is an individual RPL process with no set intake dates, allowing you to enrol anytime and complete the process online, with no class attendance required.

Enrol anytime - study in your own time

\$400 - \$500* (variation based on units eligible for credit transfer)



***Funding eligibility criteria apply and availability and criteria can change, so please check with us for the latest details.**

Early Learning Centre

Longer Session Times

We are pleased to share that the extended session times introduced in 2025 are now a permanent part of our schedule.

Sessions begin at 8:00 am, with families able to choose pickup at either 1:00 pm or 5:00 pm for greater flexibility. This schedule is designed to offer more convenience and options for families, while giving children extra time to learn, play, and grow in a supportive and engaging environment.

Sessions and Fees – Term 1, 2026

Monday to Friday

8:00 am - 1:00 pm \$93.75*

8:00 am - 5:00 pm \$168.75*

Annual Enrolment fee \$20

A SunSmart hat will be provided to each child.

*Fees listed are before Child Care Subsidy (CCS) has been applied.

One room, one team – present, engaged, and connected

Our not-for-profit Early Learning Centre operates as a multi-age group service, allowing children to learn from and with each other in a natural, community-focused environment. Our centre is one large, open floor space that encourages freedom of movement and collaboration, creating a safe and connected space for children to interact and connect.

The team offer our children flexible learning opportunities to enjoy the choice of both indoor and outdoor play spaces, encouraging active and meaningful exploration and supporting a healthy body and mind through play in a safe setting. We have been offering childcare for over 30 years, building strong connections with our families, and offering inclusive, flexible, and future-focused early education that prepares children for lifelong learning.

Our Educators offer stability, experience and engagement supporting children in our care. Our team of educators have been with us for many years which builds strong, trusting relationships with each child, supporting their individual development through our play-based program that fosters curiosity, creativity and exploration. Our educators' long-term commitment to our service helps create a consistent, nurturing environment where every child is known and valued. To maintain and ensure a high standard of care during staff absences, we have our own dedicated relief bank of casual Educators that are familiar faces who understand our routines, children, and our values.

The Early Learning Centre operates Monday to Friday during



school terms. We welcome children aged 0-6 years. We offer both permanent and casual booking options (dependant on availability), and you have the flexibility to tailor care to your needs. At our service, we believe in fair and transparent fees – you only pay for the care you use. We do not charge for public holidays or absences (with a minimum of 48 hours' notice given).



School Holiday Childcare Sessions

We offer school holiday care during each of the term breaks throughout the year, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Please contact office@parkorchards.org.au or call us for more information on (03) 9876 4381.

Ride Safe



Riding together is a fun way to stay active and explore, but safety comes first. Babies and toddlers should only ride once they can support their own head, and always use properly fitted helmets and approved seats or trailers. Cargo bikes and trailers must be ridden on the road, while bikes with baby seats or tag-alongs can use the footpath. For young riders, teach them to keep left, give way to pedestrians, ring their bell, and stay alert near driveways. Balance bikes are a great way to build confidence before pedalling. Always ride slowly with children and set a safe example.

To read more on how to stay safe riding with children and toddlers, visit: www.transport.vic.gov.au

Harmony Week – 16 - 22 March 2026



Harmony Week, celebrated this year from 16–22 March, is a time to recognise and embrace Australia's rich cultural diversity. In childcare settings, it's an opportunity to engage children in activities that promote inclusivity, respect, and a sense of belonging. Through storytelling, art, music, and shared experiences, children learn the values of kindness, empathy, and unity. By celebrating Harmony Week, we help shape a future generation that appreciates diversity and fosters harmonious relationships.

To learn more about Harmony Week and how to get involved, visit the official website: www.harmony.gov.au

Clean Up Australia Day – 1 March 2026

Clean Up Australia mobilises communities to improve and conserve our environment, eliminate litter, and end waste. More than 22 million Aussies have participated in Clean Up Australia activities and events over the past three decades. Over that time, Clean Up Australia has evolved to provide practical solutions to help all Australians live more sustainably every day of the year. In childcare, it's a fantastic opportunity for children to learn about caring for the planet, develop respect for nature, and take part in hands-on activities that make a real difference in their local community.

To find out more, visit: www.cleanup.org.au/community

9876 4381

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Park Orchards 3114