

What's On

May, 2026



Goodbye, farewell,
to our dear friend Kerry!
Off on an
exciting adventure.
We will miss your smiling
face and caring nature.



From the Minister...

Rev Andreama during a worship service...storytelling!



Behind every physical thing, there is a story. A social reality. Take an abandoned house, for instance. Imagine it in your mind: derelict, roof falling in, weeds shadowing dirty windows. What might the story be, behind the state of this house? A contested will, an unresolvable family drama? Is it government-owned, managed by a conflict-ridden department?

Imagine, now, a garden. It's nestled between a cycling path and a railway track, and it's full of lavender and snap dragons and daffodils in the spring. There is a blackboard with the words, "Next working bee is..." and you can see a woman there, hands lost in black earth and green growth. What is the story behind this place? Surely it's a good story.

When I walk around The Meeting Place, and I see vacuumed floors, polished timber, lush gardens and artwork on the walls, it makes me think, "There is a good story in this place". This is a place where cups of tea are shared, where people have a place and a role. Behind this beautiful physical place, is a beautiful social reality.

When we think of 'church' we often think of a building. We at Murrumbeena Uniting Church/The Meeting Place have a building, but it is not the building that makes us. It is the people, the community. The bonds of friendship and love that we cultivate in this place. It is our human story that enables the building to serve the people. I hope that we can keep writing this story, and be the Spirit-breathed, living stones that our communities really need.

With love,
Rev Andreama Reale minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Like living stones
we build
our communities
with bodies
souls
and Spirit.

Sundays 10am



**MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH
The Meeting Place**

Image by
valentin,
Unsplash

Surplus Socks Project



Located here, opposite
Macdonald Hall

Did you know that on average, we each dispose of 23kg of clothing into landfill EACH YEAR??

In response, we would like you to know about the Surplus Socks Project - a public art installation that will draw attention to waste clothing.

Want to help? Bring your clean surplus socks to The Meeting Place collection point at Murrumbeena Uniting Church.

Be an anonymous donor or include your name on a paper slip, tucked inside your donated socks, to be listed as a project contributor. Include your contact details into the notepad provided to stay updated about this ongoing collaboration.

Want to start your own collection point? Contact artist Rachel Mackay on 0438 774 679.

Coming Up in May

**In the
beginning...**

**You are invited to dive into a
4-part conversation on
Genesis 1-11**

**Thursday nights, 6-7.30pm
with dinner**

21 May, 28 May, 4 June, 11 June
@ Murrumbeena Uniting Church



**MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH
The Meeting Place**

For more info:
Rev Andreana
0439 375 718

Every Week at The Meeting Place

Monday

9.30am - 11.30am **Murrumbeena Playgroup**
Activities and play for parents, carers and children.
Contact: info@murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au



4.15pm - 8.15pm **Grace Gymnastics**
Rhythmic gymnastics for primary and secondary age.
Contact: grace@gracegymnastics.com.au; 0466 902 857

7.30pm - 9pm **Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)**
Support group for healthy relationships.
Contact: Christine 0414 370 658



6.30pm - 7.30pm **Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)**
A defensive Martial Arts Class.
Contact: sesoobahkdo@gmail.com

7.30pm - 9pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**
Support group for alcoholism recovery.
Contact: Barry - 0407 867 515



Tuesday

2 - 3pm; 6 - 8pm **JMDdance** (group & private classes)
Social dancing - Ballroom group classes
Contact: Jarrod 0410227803 or Sadhvi 0412802660

7pm - 8pm **Dance Be In It** (group classes)
Street Latin group classes
Contact: Kieren - dancebeinit@gmail.com



7.30pm - 9pm **Sing Club**
First Tuesday of the month. With the Tuck Shop Ladies.
Contact: tuckshopemail@gmail.com

Wednesday

10am - 1pm **Knitting & Craft Circle**
Knit and natter, crochet and chatter!
Contact: murrumbeenaknitting@bigpond.com



10am - 12.15pm **Mini Maestros**
Music and movement for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Contact: 9850 5566

12.15pm - 1.15pm **Wednesday Singing Group**
Fun and soulful community singing. No experience necessary. Contact: richard@richardlawton.com.au

2pm - 3pm **Line Dancing**
Easy-to-follow steps. No experience necessary.
Contact: modernlinedancinginc@gmail.com; 0433 076 225

Wednesday

2pm - 3pm

Creative Writing

Write and share - no experience needed! BYO pen/paper or computer. Contact: minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

4pm - 5.30pm

AM Dance Company

Ready Set Dance program for pre-schoolers - jazz, tap, hip hop, singing, music. Contact: visit www.amdance.com.au

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

5pm - 6pm

Twilight Gardening

Connect with others over gardening in our community gardening. Contact: murrumbeenaarden@gmail.com

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)



Thursday

10.30am - 12pm

Mini Maestros

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

Friday

9.30am - 11.30am

Murrumbeena Playgroup



10am - 11.30am

Friday Drop-in

A weekly gathering sharing conversation, great food & activities. Contact: connect@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Saturday

9am - 12.15pm

Stonnington School of Dance

They teach expert tuition in all dance genres. Contact: office@stonnington schooldance.com.au; 0499 003 722

11.30am - 3.30pm

Grace Gymnastics

2pm - 5pm

Knitting & Craft Circle *(1st Sat. of month)*

5.30pm - 9pm

Community Meal *(last Sat. of month)*

Potluck dinner, kids corner and fun games. All welcome. Contact: 0411 169 723

Sunday

10am

Church Gathering

Gather, sing, pray, reflect. Children, LGBTIQ+ . All welcome! Contact: minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au



3pm

Melbourne Canaan Gospel Church

Mandarin-speaking congregation. Contact: Pastor Jimmy jimtian7@gmail.com

Group & Activity News



The Big Screen - Movie Thursday 21 May, 2026

'Yesterday'

Doors open **1.30pm** for coffee and chat; movie starts **2pm**

Jack (Himesh Patel) is a musician with no career prospects. His life changes overnight when he wakes up from an accident to a world where no one has heard of The Beatles.

Jack rockets to fame by stealing their songs, but risks losing those closest to him along the way.

- Free event
- Rated M (language)
- 116 minutes.

Musician Ed Sherran plays a fictionalised version of himself. Also starring Lily James.

Contact: gredwards49@gmail.com

Friendship Fellas/Mens Group

Saturday 9 May

Breakfast 8am at The Servedy, 5 Royal Avenue, Glenhantly.

The breakfasts are on the second Saturday of every month at The Servedy, Glenhantly. Bi-monthly dinners are held. The next one will be in June. Feel free to contact the office for more information or just come along.

**New group at
The Meeting Place!**

First Tuesday of every month!
7.30pm - 9pm in the foyer.
Commencing **5 May 2026**

Sing Club is run by local duo The Tuck Shop Ladies.

Contact: tuckshopemail@gmail.com



Community Meal

Saturday 30 May, 2026

5.30pm Kids corner, meal from 6pm

Each night is different, depending on who comes along. We could have Games, Open Mic, but we always have good food and company. It's always great welcoming new people to our dinners.

Bring some food to share for this Pot Luck Dinner.



LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)

Saturday 9 May at 9am

The LIFT Ladies' breakfast will be at Cafe Omnia, 486 Neerim Rd, Murrumbreena. We'd love to see you there to have a relaxing coffee and chat with our friendly group. Contact the office for more information.

This month we are not meeting on the usual fourth Saturday of the month. It is back to every fourth Saturday from June.



Community Garden

Garden Working Bee

Saturday 2 May, 2026

10am - 1pm



The Murrumbreena Community Garden is a vital part of The Meeting Place. A committed number of garden volunteers put in hours each week in it's maintenance but there is always more to do. You are invited to come along to this working bee to pitch in and get your hands dirty. We will have our regular BBQ to end our hard work.

Murrumbeena Playgroup

Term 2 Calendar

Join us for some fun activities at upcoming playgroup sessions!
Activities run as part of the regular playgroup session and are free for all playgroup members.
Casual sessions for non-members are \$15 per family. No bookings required.

Murrumbeena Playgroup is open 9:30-11:30 on Mondays and Fridays including school holidays (closed public holidays)



murrumbeenaplaygroup



Murrumbeena Playgroup



117 Murrumbeena Road

Monday 20 April	Open Play Session	Friday 24 April	Open Play Session
Monday 27 April	Open Play Session	Friday 1 May	Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun.
Monday 4 May	Mother's Day Crafts Crafts activities for your someone special.	Friday 8 May	Mother's Day Crafts & Morning Tea Crafts activities and morning tea provided!
Monday 11 May	Open Play Session	Friday 15 May	Open Play Session
Monday 18 May	Open Play Session	Friday 22 May	Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun.
Monday 25 May	Open Play Session	Friday 29 May	Open Play Session
Monday 1 June	Teddy Bears Picnic Bring your teddy and picnic rug for a group picnic	Friday 5 June	Open Play Session
Monday 8 June	Closed for Public Holiday Kings Birthday	Friday 12 June	Gumnut Music Let's sing and dance about food!
Monday 15 June	Open Play Session	Friday 19 June	Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun.
Monday 22 June	Open Play Session	Friday 26 June	Open Play Session
Monday 29 June	Open Play Session	Friday 3 July	Open Play Session
Monday 6 July	Open Play Session	Friday 10 July	Gumnut Music Let's sing and dance about food!

More Info

info@murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au

www.murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au

Workshops

Tezhip Workshop

Held on Saturday 18 April, 2026

A group of intrepid creatives gathered to learn the beginnings of the sacred art of Tezhip. You might see this decorative art if you visit a Turkish mosque. Tezhip was brought to us by artist & teacher Meryem Aker, from the Turkish Islamic & Cultural Centre in Keysborough. Meryem gave us a feast for the eyes, by surrounding us in flowers, candles and her own Tezhip art as we drew and painted - and then a feast for our mouths, with homemade Turkish pizza!



Robotics Workshop

Held on Sunday 19 April, 2026

The Robotics Taster course was a blast! Francis was a great teacher: he taught us a few basic robot programming rules, and then let us get creative. He told us later that we were like excited school children (even though there was no one younger than 40 in the room). Thanks Francis for bringing out our inner robot geeks!



Care Fund Pantry



Our Care Fund program continues to provide local people with food vouchers and pantry items. In these difficult times we are seeing more people come through our doors seeking assistance. We always need items such as:

Food Items

- Coffee
- Cooking oil
- Jam
- Biscuits (savoury and sweet)
- Canned meals (e.g. braised steak & onion, beef & vegetable stew)
- Instant noodles (non-spicy)
- Peanut paste
- Vegemite
- Honey

Household Items

- Cleaning products

Personal care Items

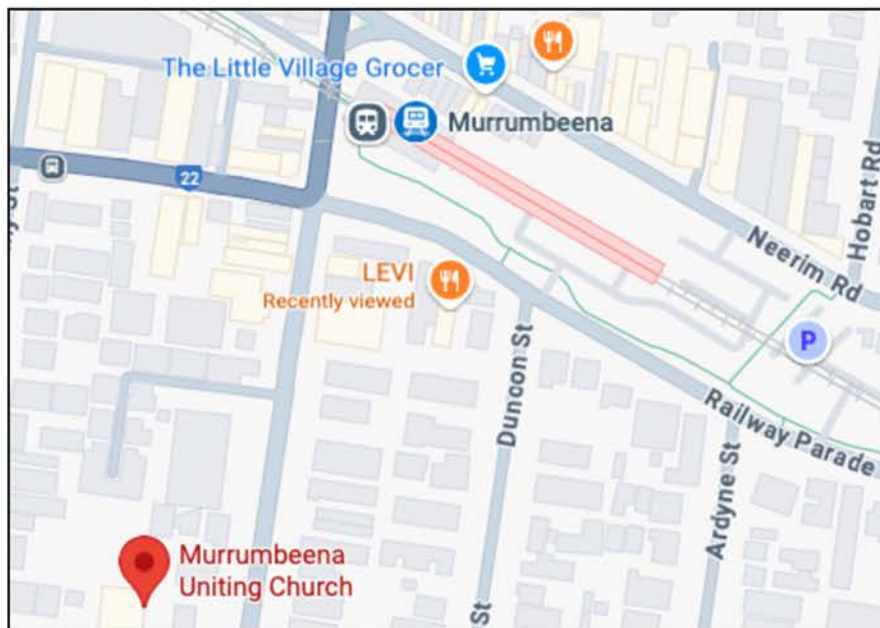
- Soap
- Hand and body wash
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant

Please note: we currently have plenty of baked beans and spaghetti, so we do not need these items at this time. Thank you for your support - it truly makes a difference to our community.

Join us at



 117 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena



 03 9568 8177

 office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

 www.murrumbeenauniting.org.au

 facebook.com/murrumbeenauniting

 instagram.com/murrumbeenameetingplace