# Surrey Hills Neighbourhood News

Issue No. 241 December/Term 1 2022

# THE TWO OF US

# Ella & Audrey

For a younger child, an older one can be both mesmerising and magnetic. This was the case with these two girls when they met and became great friends at Playgroup.

Ella, 2 ½, who was born in March 2020, like so many other COVID little ones, spent her first years with limited opportunities to meet other children. When restrictions eased, she came to playgroup with Nonna, (local Viv) and met the older Audrey. She was spellbound!

Audrey aged 5, who also comes along with her grandma, is kind, gentle and great fun. She took Ella under her wing and they fast became 'thick as thieves'. Both enjoy the Music and Movement sessions that are part of their playgroup and enjoy singing and dancing whilst playing their instruments. They do puzzles and play games together and, as you can see, both love PINK!

Audrey, is off to school next year and is very excited about her new start. We're sure she'll make lots of friends very quickly, and she'll have left a wonderful mark on Ella's pre-school years.

**CHRISTMAS** 

10 DECEMBER 11AM-2PM

**MUSICAL PERFORMERS** 

ANIMAL FARM • FREE

**SANTA PHOTOS · JUMPING** 

**CASTLE • SAUSAGE SIZZLE** 

FACE PAINTING • ARTS

AND CRAFTS · PRIZES AND

**GIVEAWAYS · DRINKS** 

**AND MORE** 



Audrey (aged 5) and Ella (aged 2 1/2)

# Christmas Vibes in the heart of Surrey Hills

Christmas Vibes is back at the Neighbourhood Centre, following its successful inaugural event last year. It takes place from 11am-2pm on Saturday 10th December – and this year there's even more on offer for families.

There will be an animal farm for children where you can take a photo with real animals (and we'll have Christmas dress-ups for those who'd like them), or just come along to visit the 30 animals who'll be here. There's also a Bouncing Castle with a slide (for children 10 and under) and free Santa photos.

If you have crafty kids, then bring

them along to have fun making Christmas decorations or labels. Younger kids can try their hand at creating cute Rudolph and Santa characters on icy pole sticks whilst older kids can attempt a mini paper straw Christmas tree. Or your kids can colour in some Christmas-themed pictures if they'd prefer. We're providing all materials free of charge, and most will be recyclable.

For the more grown up amongst us, it will be an opportunity to eat, drink and be merry as we enjoy a range of fabulous musical performances designed as a Christmas themed musical 'taster' ahead of our February 25 Music Festival. They include Rechoired, a local choir, the Surrey Hills Primary School Choir, Solo Hip Hop artist Emmanuel Cancino and a local ukulele group with Christmas cheer to spread.

Xmas Vibes will be a great refresher to your Christmas shopping experience, so do come along and give it a try!



Union Road traders hoping to see you this Christmas

# Celebrating Our Local Shopping Strips

We are fortunate to have many local shopping strips in Surrey Hills. These shopping strips are a life-force in our community, giving us cafes, wine bars and restaurants, and neighbourhood shops providing essentials such as pharmacies, food, and post offices plus more discretionary items like fashion, grooming, and interior decoration. Having these facilities within walking distance is a boon for those who have limited mobility, and an important social connection for the isolated and lonely.

Between now and Christmas there are events to encourage shoppers into our streets. In the Neighbourhood Centre's immediate vicinity we have the Hamilton Street traders' market on Sunday 27th November – this is their Christmas market, with music, face painting, Santa and a raffle. The Neighbourhood Centre's Christmas Vibes event on Saturday 10th December is designed to bring festive cheer to Christmas shoppers with music, refreshments, free phots with Santa, a jumping castle and an animal farm. Holy Trinity Church will be holding its last Treasures and Tastes Christmas market on Saturday 17th December.

Having local shopping strips brings our community so much: if we want to retain our local shops we must support them. Let's shop local this year, and do what we can to make this a Merry Christmas for all.

# On Wurundjeri Country -Honouring those Past and Present

The Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll recognises those who've made a profound contribution to their community and to Victoria. Their life stories and achievements are recorded in the Aboriginal Honour Roll book, which is on permanent display in the Victorian Parliament.

On 27 October, the Government announced the 2022 inductions at a ceremony to formally acknowledge and celebrate their achievements and invaluable contributions:

- Albert 'Pompey' Austin, who was a Djab Wurrung man
- Collin Hood, who was a Djab Wurrung Elder
- Lola James, who was a Yorta Yorta Elder
- Graeme 'Wilk' Austin, Gunditjmara
- Eva Jo Edwards, Boon Wurrung/Bunurong, Mutti Mutti and Yorta Yorta
- Marion Hansen, Kamilaroi Elder
- Francis 'Frank' Laxton, revered Gunditjmara Elder
- Patrice Mahoney OAM, Anaiwan Nation
- Elaine Taylor, Wemba-Wemba/Bunurong Elder

These esteemed nine join 126 others inducted, including Wurundjeri ancestors Billibellary, William Barak, Simon Wonga and Robert Wandin, 20th century Elder Winnie Quagliotti and current Elder Patricia Ockwell.

Check out the biographies for all Honour Roll inductees at <a href="https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-honour-roll">https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-honour-roll</a>



The artwork for the Roll, 'the blues and greens of our country', was created by Mick Harding, Taungurung Elder.

"The range of green leaves represent the diversity of Traditional Owners throughout Victoria and the shield that floats inside them represents the resilience of our people over thousands of generations that we have been here.

The concentrated line work represents our unique symbolism that we use to explain our connection to country here in Victoria. The wavy blue lines represent the ocean and inland waterways that surround and run through Victoria.

The subtle arcs that run through the water bodies represent the importance of water and our relationship and responsibility to it."  $^{\rm 1}$ 

 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}\,https://www.firstpeoples relations.vic.gov. au/victorian-aboriginal-honour-roll-nominations$ 



surrey hills Course Highlights It's hard to believe we've reached the end of 2022 already! I'm sure many of you are looking forward to Christmas and a

> hard earned break. Why not come down to the Centre for our Christmas Vibes event and celebrate the end of the year with us. This event is designed for the whole family and there will be plenty of fun activities for the kids as well as some live

music performances, a sausage sizzle and drinks for the adults amongst us. We hope to see you there.

For those who are beginning to think about what next year will hold, listed below is a selection of our courses for 2023. There are some exciting NEW options that are designed to invigorate and extend your world. 2023 Centre memberships are now open and are still great value at \$20. This enables participation in both our free, low cost and regular programming.

Have you ever reflected on the serendipitous twists and turns life takes? I find myself doing exactly that as I sit to write this column for the first time. Never in my wildest imaginings do! I think l'd end up managing my local Neighbourhood Centre. I've been a Surrey Hills resident for 23 years and

been shopping at Union Road for at least that long without ever considering the role the Neighbourhood Centre would play in my life one day! I'm excited by the opportunity to sow into a community I know well and love, (albeit at least until Easter 2023 at this stage) grateful to the board of management who asked me step up from my previous part-time role and in awe of the wonderful people in who's footsteps

My first event as Acting Manager is **Christmas Vibes.** In its second year as a fixture on the Community Events Calendar, this celebration of both the end of year and of the Christmas season, is a chance to get together as a community and enjoy the warmer weather. **Held on Saturday 10th of December between 11am and 2pm** it's designed for all ages. There will be plenty of fun activities for the kids (including Santa photos, an animal farm, a jumping castle and craft activities) as well as some live music options that include Re-choired and our Music Festival Director Emmanuel Cancino completing sets. Festival Director Emmanuel Cancino completing sets. There's also a sausage sizzle and drinks for the adults. We very much hope to see you there for a celebration of all that was good about 2022.

For those who are beginning to think about what next year will hold, listed to the right are a selection of our courses for 2023. There are some great NEW options including **Italian language** classes, a **Learn to Sew** or Learn to Knit class for tweens and teens aged over 10 and a new **Craft-ernoon Group** for Mums wanting some time out to work on their latest project in the company of other women at a similar stage of life. Cooking features prominently too with Cake Decorating, Italain Cooking, Blokes in the Kitchen and a High Tea proram. It's worth a reminder that the Term 1 'What's On Guide' will be available throughout the Summer Break from the perspex holder attached to the Centre sign on Union Road and you can find further information about all of our courses in the guide or at www.surreyhillsnc.org.au. Book in early to avoid disappointment.

Can I aslo take this opportunity to give a plug to our upcoming **Surrey Hills Music Festival**. Pop **Saturday 25th of February** in your diary. The afternoon from 3pm will feature our 'Chill Vibes' filled with acoustic, blues, roots and folk music, whilst the evening session (from 6pm to 10pm) is targeted at the younger (and young at heart!) amongst us with our 'Night Vibes' featuring pop, RnB, hip hop, soul and funk performers.

Lastly, you'll notice that we have a **NEW Children's Little Library** in the Centre forecourt. Both it and the 'grown-ups' version will be freshly stocked with books for the community to read over the Summer. We also have a puzzle library if jigsaws are your thing. Come on down and help yourself to a book or puzzle to take on holidays. You might also want to re-stock your FOGO bags before the office closes, so please pop in and collect a roll before we shut for the break at midday on the 14th December.

Until then, may I wish you and your family much peace and joy this Christmas season. May you have a safe, refreshing break and a very happy near year.

Rochelle Anderson **Acting Centre Manager** 

# **Diary dates**

#### Term 4, 2022

Christmas Vibes Community Event 10 December 11am-2pm Classes conclude Friday 9 December Centre closes 12pm Wednesday 14 December

#### Term 1, 2023

Centre Opens Monday 23 January Classes commence Monday 30 January Surrey Hills Music Festival Saturday 25th February 3pm -10pm

To book, visit our website at www.surreyhillsnc.org.au. Please also follow us on Facebook or Instagram, @surreyhillsnc.org.au.



## Community

#### **Christmas Vibes**

A community event to celebrate the end of year and the holiday season, join us between 11am and 2pm for Santa photos, an animal farm, jumping castle, children's craft activities as well as some live music options that include performances by Rechoired, and our beloved Music Festival Director Emmanuel Cancino. There will also be market stalls, a sausage sizzle and Christmas drinks. We very much hope to see you there for a celebration of all that was good about 2022.

December 10, 11am - 2pm FREE

#### **Art & Creativity**

#### Make a Mosaic Wall Plaque

A hands-on workshop making a beautiful garden wall plaque over three sessions in March. Enjoy a creative, fun and relaxed environment with a glass of sparkling wine or mineral water

Thursday 23 Feb, 2, and 9 March, 7pm-9pm \$195/180 (members) including materials

#### **Craft-ernoon Group**

This new Craft-ernoon Group for Mums wanting some time out to work on their latest project in the company of other women at a similar stage of life. Come along and meet others with a similar interest and enjoy afternoon tea as you get to know

First Sunday of each month from 5th Feb, 12pm-4pm \$5 per session using the SHNC Special Interest Group pass

#### Languages

#### **Spanish for beginners**

Study this beautiful language in a relaxed way. Over 9 weeks, you'll learn the basics of how to converse with the locals.

Monday 7pm-8.30pm from 30 January (9 wks) \$180

#### **NEW - Italian for Beginners (tbc)**

At last, we're able to travel again and Italy is top of the list for many! Learn the basics conversation, grammar and comprehension in this beginners course taught by native Italian speaker.

Wednesday 6.30pm-8pm (10wks) \$200

#### Fitness & Wellbeing

#### **After-drop-off Group Personal Training**

Conveniently timed for straight after kinder or school drop-off. Get in, get a fun work out done and get on with your day. Small children welcome under the supervision of their parent / carer.

Wednesday 9.15am-10.15am from 1 February (10 wks) \$180

#### **NEW - Fit for Life - Chair Exercise Class**

A challenging but safe stretch, strength and balance class for women and men at a later stage in life who, for whatever reason, want to exercise seated. Taught by Lisa Kendall

Fridays 12.15pm-1.15pm (9 wks) \$162

#### **Qi Gong**

A deeply therapeutic and restorative form of Tai Chi involving low impact, meditative exercise. Feel free to join in the friendly coffee catch-up that often takes place after this class.

Wednesdays 10.30am-11.30am from 1 February (10 wks) \$130

#### **Table Tennis**

Enjoy friendly, social table tennis.

NEW - Monday 7.30pm-9pm from 30 January Thursday 11.30am - 1pm from 2 February \$5 per sessionusing the SHNC Special Interest Group pass

#### Cooking

#### **Blokes in the Kitchen**

Learn to prepare simple and delicious meals under the guidance of our wonderful chef Shawn. Enjoy great company and conversation over a shared meal to finish the session.

10 February & 10 March, 8am-12pm \$90 includes ingredients, materials and lunch each time

#### **NEW - Cake Decorating Using 3D Shapes**

Join the accomplished Amanda Peters as she leads you through the basics of cake decorating using coloured fondants. You'll plan, design and mix colours to make spectacular exploding star cakes (or flowers if you'd prefer) AND you'll also receive three essential 'tools of the trade' that will enable you to continue your cake decorating journey at home.

Sunday 2 April, 1pm-5pm \$99 (bring your own cake to decorate) \$109 (have your cake supplied by us)

#### **NEW - High Tea Cooking Class**

Learn how to create a delightful classic high tea for friends and family. You'll make and take home sponge cake, scones and tartlets as well as learning the etiquette of high tea.

Friday 17 March, 7pm-9pm \$75 (includes materials)

#### **Italian Cooking with Lucia (NEW RECIPES)**

Lucia Silverii returns for an encore performance to share her fabulous recipes. Participants in this class will be treated to a combination of demonstration and hands-on cooking, before being delighted with the opportunity to sit down and enjoy a leisurely meal together.

Part 1: Homemade pasta con Zucchine e Tonno and biscotti de la

Part 2: Chicken Scallopine and Cantucci Thursday 16 Feb and Thursday 23 Feb, 6pm-9pm \$195/185 (members)

#### Children and Families

#### Children's Art Class (5-12 yrs)

Develop your child's individual creativity and self-expression in our weekly mixed media class that covers watercolour and acrylic painting, drawing skills, pastels, graphite and markers.

Wednesdays 4pm-5pm from 1 February Wednesdays 5pm-6pm from 1 February (10 wks) \$150 Plus a \$40 Materials Starter Kit for new students

This new program for 1-4 year olds is taught by YMCA instructors and includes activities that promote both physical and social wellbeing for children and carers.

Thursday 9.30am-10.30am (10wks) \$65

#### Learn to knit: Make a scarf

Perfect for beginners, participants in this class will learn how to cast on and cast off, learn basic knitting stitches such as garter, purl and rib. They'll use these skills to create a scarf of their own design using wool in their choice of colour and ply that they'll bring along to the class.

Suitable for ages 10 and up. Thursdays 4pm-5pm from 16 February (6 wks) \$75 (BYO wool in your choice of colour)



#### Learn to Sew: Make a fabric tote bag

Participants will learn how to set up a sewing machine as well as key foundational sewing skills that can be used and built upon for any sewing project. There will be a chance to practice and learn skills which will then be consolidated as you make a tote bag.

Thursdays 5pm-6pm from 16 February (6 wks) \$85 (Materials Included)

# TRADERS CORNER

## **Mont Albert Interiors**

This beautiful business in Hamilton St can help you with all your home interior needs. Sara and her team of 5 are experts when it comes to upholstery, wallpaper, soft furnishings, window furnishings, accessories such as rugs and artwork, lighting and much more.

Sara took over the business in 2016, and has worked in interior design for over 30 years. She thinks her interest in colour, design and creativity may have started in childhood as she helped in her mother's children's wear business. Whilst Sara was completing her Diploma of Interior Design and Decorating at RMIT, it was her parttime job working for Laura Ashley that really fired her imagination – the luxury fabrics .... the colours, the feel. She feels very fortunate to have had that experience.

Sara says that whilst each member of her team has particular strengths, they share a common love of colour, fabrics and good design. Then, behind the scenes, there are the crucial installers and suppliers – an invaluable resource she has built-up over the years. Ultimately, the basics are the same in all areas: there is a problem solving and technical component, as well as a communication component, understanding the customer's wishes. And accuracy is crucial – measure twice, check and double check.

I asked Sara if travel featured in her business. She replied that just before COVID struck when she was overseas, a supplier invited her to the Chelsea Design Show in the UK. She found it very inspirational. She was particularly struck by the different specialisations – tassels for the French; florals, of course, for the English; sophisticated lighting for the Germans and beautiful furniture for the Italians.

As with all local traders, Sara has found the level crossing removal project difficult, especially coming on the back of COVID. With access an issue she worries regular clients may not return, and the impact this will have on the business long term. She feels her responsibility to her staff very strongly.

On the positive side, the local community has been very supportive. Loyal clients touched base during COVID and now drop in to say thank-you or just hello. All the team at Mont Albert Interiors are very appreciative.

#### **Mont Albert Interiors**

14 Hamilton St, Mont Albert, 3127 W: www.montalbertinteriors.com.au

FB: montalbertInteriors

E: info@montalbertinteriors.com.au

Tel: 9898 4278



# Art Style Gallery

Cheerful colours lift your spirits when you step into Art Style Gallery in Union Road, and Jenni and Leda's welcoming smiles make you feel immediately at home.

Jenni and Leda have, over the past seven years, drawn on their backgrounds and passions in photography and fine art to provide both custom framing and artworks; these include both original artworks by some thirty local artists including Kari Henriksen, Maggie McGrath, Tonia Sanft, and Pat Porter, and by Indigenous artists. In addition they offer a wide range of prints – limited edition, open edition, fine art, and photographic. Their offerings also include Australian artisan jewellery, ceramics, giftware, and cards. Jenni and Leda have very different aesthetic tastes, but they must both love something before they take it in. 'We're always looking for something different' says Leda, 'and we like to support artisans'.

They have been delighted to become part of the Surrey Hills community. 'The customers are wonderful' they say; 'people pop in for a chat just to say "hello". We encourage that'. This business relies on in-person contact with customers. People need to see paintings or custom framing options in the shop before they buy. Jenni or Leda are always on-hand to advise and recommend.

In the weeks coming up to Christmas, Art Style Gallery is an Aladdin's Cave of aesthetic delights – something to suit everyone's need. Do call in and see for yourself: you know you'll be welcome.

Opening Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10-5; Saturday 10-2 Address: 148 Union Road, Surrey Hills, VIC 3127

Email: Info@artsylegallery.com.au

Phone: 9041 8278

Website: www.artstylegallery.com.au



# Fitness Without Exercise

It's been a long, wet winter, but with Summer around the corner, heat could come quickly. Then evergreen shrubs will burst away, lawns will grow daily, and the weeds, will pop up everywhere.... All that means maintenance, and 'getting out in the garden' suddenly has purpose – the festive season is nearly upon us, and we all want our garden looking good as we entertain.

Time to trim & shape. Most gardeners are a bit timid with this, but late Spring is the best time to start. Plants need room to grow, and just like us need a regular haircut. Stand back, visualize what the plant should look like and get those shears working. If you go too hard, don't worry, time will rectify. Some food would work wonders too; any general purpose fertilizer is good (unless you have some pH sensitive natives), and be liberal - your plants will appreciate the gourmet feast. A good water afterwards starts the feeding process.

In the nursery we keep it simple – trim to shape, give the plant a feed, water when needed, then stand back and let nature do its job. Follow the same and you'll soon have your home garden looking like the magazine ones. Some folk think all that trimming, weeding and feeding is hard work, but really it's just good exercise – for the body, the mind and the soul. Spending time in your garden feeds the senses and enriches our imagination; connecting with nature brings untold health and wellbeing benefits.

#### Christmas Services at Holy Trinity – 2022

Fr Mark Peace (our vicar) has confirmed that the following will be **Holy Trinity's Christmas Services** 

Sunday 11 December:

7.00pm Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve:

5.30pm Family Christmas service including This Child and Carols

11.30pm Midnight Mass with Carols (Carol singing from 11.00pm)

Christmas Day: 9.30am Christmas Eucharist and Carols

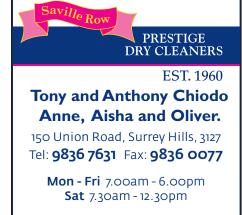
For more information see: www.holytrinity.sh



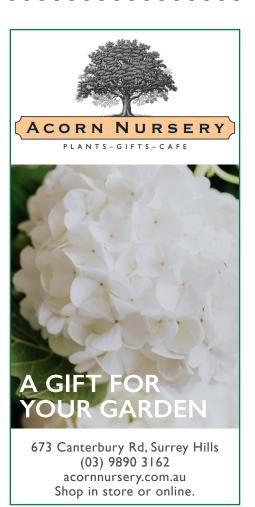












# ARTS AND CULTURE

# A Story of Local Clay

The interest in ceramics as a creative and expressive medium has continued its popularity over recent years. Clay is an enjoyably responsive medium with wide ranging potential for ideas and exploration, providing that engaging link between science and art. Kevin Boyd is a Surrey Hills local, whose interests in ceramics emerged with initial tertiary study and have been maintained over a long career as a maker and teacher.

When the Level Crossing Removal Project in the Surrey Hills, Mont Albert area started gathering pace, Kevin became aware of the local clay that was being revealed. It was his fortune to find members of the project who were very interested and supportive of providing samples of the clay available for him to test.

Considerable work is involved in taking samples from raw material through to workable clay in its various forms. The feel of the raw material provides initial insight into its potential as a ceramic medium but, until thorough processing is carried out, the true properties cannot be revealed. Kevin refers to the clay as Union Clay, as a connection with its location and the eventual new Union Station.

He is enjoying the evolving connection to the land of Surrey Hills while using the materials from the physical environment to bring attention to the aesthetic beauty of its properties. It will be an ongoing project, with no shortage of ceramic minerals still to be revealed and explored.





## **Book Review**

#### **Exiles - Jane Harper**

Pan MacMillan Australia

Aaron Falk is back in Jane Harper's fourth novel, Exiles. Once again Harper effortlessly cements herself to be the new queen of Australian suspense with this sophisticated work.

Exiles floats from present day to the past and back again with with such fluidity and clarity that one can't help but be taken on this suspenseful journey which has its basis in the past. And as with Harper's other novels, one of the vital characters, so richly used, is the Australian landscape.

Aaron Falk travels to the wine country of South

Australia to attend the baptism of his god son and inevitably gets hooked into the investigation of his friends sister in law who disappeared with out a trace from a festival the year before leaving her baby alone in a pram.

Harper's writing in her fourth novel is impressive. Her languid phrasing leaves the reader deliciously rereading passages just to enjoy the narrative.

As in her other novels, Harper's use of the Australian landscape, both native and urban, is impressive. She manages to proudly conjure up the sights and scents of downtown Melbourne so readers will delight in the scenes set in our very own city. It is refreshing to be able to have this level of suspense writing set in such a familiar vernacular.

I was very excited for this novel to debut and it certainly didn't let me down.

Review by Chris Kabay from Red Brick Café (215 Mont Albert Road)

#### **Neighbourhood News Volunteer Deliverers needed!**

Are you a walker? Would you like to deliver the Neighbourhood News on a handful of your walks around the neighbourhood each year?

It's just six editions per year and involves a pleasant walk delivering to homes in Surrey Hills.

Anyone interested should contact the Neighbourhood Centre to register as a volunteer for the newsletter.



We will empower you to have

- · Choice to spend more time away from your business
- Ability to spend more time with family and friends
- Ability to do things you want to do in your life

Suite 4 651 Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills Vic 3127 Ph: 9899 7511 www.mrsaccountants.com.au



- Professional Grooming of all breeds
- Large breeds welcome DIY Hydrobathing
- · Grooming products
- Bedding, Collars, Leads,
- Coats, Toys and more! Trainee groomer wanted
- PHONE: (03) 9888 6555

490 Whitehorse Rd, Surrey Hills, VIC Find us on Facebook



Surrey Hills Neighbourhood News is published for information and interest by Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated, 157 Union Road, Surrey Hills, Phone 9890 2467.

NE SEE WHAT WE EXPECT TO SEE

Views expressed do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Neighbourhood Centre Committee of Management, Boroondara Council or Whitehorse Council.

Setup and Printing: NEO Pty Ltd Mulgrave

**NEXT DEADLINE:** 

24 January 2023 at SHNC 157 Union Rd Surrey Hills or email manager@surreyhillsnc.org.au







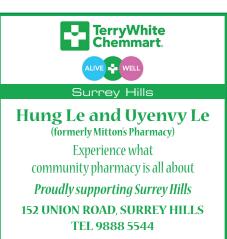
14 Hamilton Street, Mont Albert, Vic 3127 Ph: (03) 9898 4278





montalbertinteriors.com.au









Mont Albert 3127 ph 8589 1223 Breakfast and Lunch - 7 days Dinner - Friday and Saturday

