

# Local Knowledge



Galina Zenin owns and operates Bonkers Beat Music Kinder and Childcare in Aspendale, which is Australia's first music-based kindergarten.



Galina Zenin with (from lower left) Finn, 4, Miles, 4, Tessa, 3, Abigail, 4, Kirill, 5, and Bella, 4.  
Picture: MARK WILSON N45MC202

**You moved to Australia from Russia 20 years ago. Why did you choose Australia?**

My husband and I didn't know much about Australia but we knew it was a beautiful country with lots of opportunities. When we first got here my parents wrote letters telling us to watch out for crocodiles.

**How did you develop your passion for music?**

I'll always be grateful to my parents as I started learning music when I was six. I didn't have as much interest as my parents, but when I went to music college at age 15, that's when I knew my heart was with music.

**And how did your passion for teaching children develop?**

In my second year of teaching rounds I just knew I wanted to teach music specifically to

children. I was just 17 years old and after three weeks in the placement the school offered me a job and I worked there for four years.

their behaviour and character. It's just so rewarding to see that transformation.

**Do you have any future plans?**

My next direction is to teach parents and educators. I can only reach certain amount of children teaching myself, but I can reach endless numbers of children if I'm able to spread my knowledge.

**What do you get out of using music in your kindergarten?**

When you teach music to kids in their early childhood you see an almost instant transformation in

## USEFUL CONTACTS

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Phone: 1300 653 356  
Website: [Kingston.vic.gov.au](http://Kingston.vic.gov.au)

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Website: [centrelink.gov.au](http://centrelink.gov.au)  
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Moorabbin Kingston/Moorabbin Glen Eira Leader has a total readership of 54,000\* and a CAB-audited circulation of 50,475\*. It is distributed in Bentleigh, Cheltenham, Clarinda, Clayton South, Dingley, Bentleigh East, Heatherton, Highett, McKinnon, Moorabbin, Oakleigh South, Ormond and Patterson.  
\*Roy Morgan Research Oct 09-Sept 11 \*CAB Sept 2011

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## GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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### Murrumbeena Park play space



Glen Eira City Council is currently finalising a proposed play space project at Murrumbeena Park on Kangaroo Road.

The proposal sees the removal of the existing playground adjacent to the main sports oval and the creation of a new play space in the eastern side of the park. The design incorporates a number of leading edge components and treatments which will make the playspace a model for future developments.

The design goes beyond any existing playground and merges traditional play equipment with interactive landscaping, family picnic areas, tree plantings and facilities. It provides areas from toddlers to more active adolescents and can be accessed by wheelchairs and prams.

In January, the Victorian Government announced a grant of \$258,921 to assist in the construction of the Murrumbeena play space as part of Sport and Recreation Victoria's *Community Facility Funding Program*.

The project is listed as an item for consideration as part of Council's 2012-13 Budget.

An opportunity to view the plans will be available at Murrumbeena Park Pavilion, Kangaroo Road on Thursday 24 May from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. This will include a brief presentation by the play space designer and Council officers will be available to clarify any issues and answer any questions.

If you require further information, contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333 or email [recservices@gleneira.vic.gov.au](mailto:recservices@gleneira.vic.gov.au)

### Free ewaste collection service

To make it easier for residents to dispose of electronic waste (ewaste) such as computer screens, keyboards and televisions, Glen Eira City Council will continue its free ewaste collection days in 2012. The next collection day will be:

Sunday 20 May from 8am to 4pm at Carnegie Swim Centre, Moira Avenue, Carnegie.

Please note commercial quantities will not be accepted.

In addition to using Council's ewaste collection days, the community can already take ewaste to various collection points. Details are provided in Council's *Residents' Handbook* and *Household Waste Calender*.

For further information on Council's ewaste collection days, contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.

### Community Consultation Enewsletter

Glen Eira City Council has developed a *Community Consultation Enewsletter* to keep members of the community better informed about Council community consultations. Council will produce a regular electronic newsletter of Council consultations and provide information about when and where they will be held and how to participate. The *Community Consultation Enewsletter* will be sent to you via email. To subscribe, go to [www.gleneira.vic.gov.au](http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au) Subscribers can also sign up for email alerts to ensure they're kept informed of any consultations planned between newsletter editions.

### Four-year-old kindergarten 2014 enrolment reminder

Glen Eira City Council operates a central enrolment system for 13 community based kindergartens within the municipality.

Parents wanting their child to attend four-year-old kindergarten in 2014 are reminded that enrolments open on 1 May 2012.

Children whose birth dates fall between 1 May 2009 and 30 April 2010 are eligible to attend kindergarten in 2014.

Applications are taken in date of receipt order from 1 May 2012. Applications will not be accepted prior to 1 May 2012.

Enrolment forms are available from your local kindergarten, online at [www.gleneira.vic.gov.au](http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au) or by contacting Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333. An application fee of \$17 applies.

Three-year-old kindergarten enrolments are taken directly by the kindergartens and do not influence when enrolling for four-year-old kindergarten.

**Please note:** Kindergarten programs are also offered in community and privately owned long day care centres, early learning centres, and kindergarten centres. Families interested in securing places in those services should contact them directly.



For more information about any of these items contact Council's Service Centre on:  
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TTY: 9524 3496  
Fax: 9523 0339  
[mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au)  
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