



SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPIONS PROGRAM 2025 PROJECTS

**Graduation
Thursday 11 December 2025
Glen Eira Town Hall**

Taking climate action together



*“We don’t need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need millions of people doing it imperfectly.” — Anne Marie Bonneau, *The Zero-Waste Chef: Plant-Forward Recipes and Tips for a Sustainable Kitchen and Planet: A Cookbook**

FOGO Forward

Shabarish Gopal Sreenivasan, Anne-Marie Ning Yap and Dane Mitchell

The project, *FOGO Forward* aims to boost the uptake and correct use of green bins in Glen Eira households by addressing the behavioural barriers that prevent food waste separation.

Despite mandatory FOGO services, many residents still throw food scraps into landfill due to convenience, confusion, and the ‘ick factor’, smells, pests, and cleaning hassles. Our solution combines a thoughtfully designed FOGO starter kit (including a kitchen caddy, liners, freezer bags, and a clear A–Z guide) with a high-impact communications campaign that reframes food waste as a local, urgent issue.

Rather than relying on brochures, the campaign will use creative storytelling, short videos, and relatable local stats to evoke a strong emotional response and a sense of empowerment. By showing what’s happening “on your street,” we aim to shift the mindset from “it’s not much” to “every action counts.”

Contact

Email: fogoforward.gleneira@gmail.com

Instagram: [@fogoforward.gleneira](https://www.instagram.com/fogoforward.gleneira)



“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”
— Audrey Hepburn

Glen Eira Gardens for Wildlife

Jake Burrell, Claire Rafferty and Lyn Windsor

Access to green space is widely recognised as essential for human health and wellbeing. Green spaces not only provide us with beautiful surroundings, they also provide oxygen and clean the air, cool our cities, and provide a sanctuary from the stressors of urban life. Yet we often fail to consider that the green spaces in our cities are also essential habitat for a wide variety of other species - including indigenous wildlife. Living alongside us, our suburbs are home to native birds, insects, frogs, lizards and small mammals - many of which are threatened or endangered species.

However, in areas such as Glen Eira, recent years have seen a rapid and significant increase in the built environment and loss of green spaces. The increasing urbanisation and development of apartment blocks are impacting the availability of tree canopy and suitable habitat for wildlife. The loss of these natural areas has reduced the diversity of plant and animal species and forced surviving species to depend on any remaining habitat, primarily in private gardens, streets, parks or reserves.

Our project aims to counter the reduction in green spaces and loss of biodiversity by assisting and encouraging the Glen Eira community to utilise available spaces in the urban environment to create gardens with indigenous plants that provide suitable habitat for wildlife. This project will also work with Glen Eira Council to co-design an affiliate program with Gardens for Wildlife Victoria.

By protecting and expanding our greenery, we can support wildlife while also making our community healthier and more climate resilient - and make Glen Eira an even better place for us all to live.

Contact

Email: claire@ideas.net.au or gleneiragardens4wildlife@gmail.com

Instagram: [@gardensforwildlifegleneira](https://www.instagram.com/gardensforwildlifegleneira) **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/gardensforwildlifegleneira

Subscribe or scan to receive email updates: [gardensforwildlifegleneira.eo.page/55dv5](https://gardenforwildlifegleneira.eo.page/55dv5)





“Buy less. Choose well. Make it last.” — Vivienne Westwood, fashion designer

Re-love and Re-wear

Ling Koh, Priya Narasimhan, Renny Fang and Yue Ji

In Glen Eira, **re-love & re-wear** (r&r) began with a simple but urgent challenge - to reduce and redirect textile waste. Fast fashion and overconsumption of clothing areis leading to increased textile waste, making it the second most common contaminant in our recycling bins.

Our goal is to establish long-term behavioural changes around buying apparel by encouraging the community members of Glen Eira to explore alternative and affordable avenues to sourcing garments. We believe in:

- Exchanging or repairing instead of buying new,
- Prioritising high-quality, long-lasting clothes over fast fashion, and
- Eliminating the dumping of textiles in landfills.

We hope to replicate the successes of the Share & Swap events held in Port Phillip, which have to date resulted in over 5000 items swapped! We will also explore alternate avenues for the disposal of textiles, which may include partnering with Australian textile recyclers and upcyclers.

Through each swapped garment and each conversation sparked, we are nurturing a cultural shift where value is re-imagined, waste is refused, and community becomes the heart of sustainable fashion.

Interested in volunteering or attending one of our launch events in 2026? Join us on the journey towards Zero Waste, and reach out to us at the email or on Instagram below!

Contact

Email: relove.gleneira@gmail.com

Instagram: [@relove.gleneira](https://www.instagram.com/relove.gleneira)



Sustainability Network

Glen Eira

“The whole is more than the sum of its parts” — Aristotle

The Hive – Sustainability Network Glen Eira

Claire Rafferty and Kerri Tepper

The Hive will be a network for local groups and individuals working on sustainability projects in Glen Eira and surrounding areas to connect with like-minded people to further their sustainability goals.

This project will enable groups to share resources or skills across their projects to support their aims and collectively build on strengths and capacities. Our first objective is to build a database of local sustainability projects and people to enable the capacity to find and share knowledge, skills and resources.

The Hive will also bring those working on sustainability projects together through in-person gatherings – or Swarms – where participants can share their progress, collaborate and or generate ideas. Potential activities could include learning tours, hosting thought leadership / insight-driven guest speakers, and networking events.

We will use the network itself to research and shape how it should evolve - and work towards connecting this network with other networks in surrounding council areas. The Hive is also an opportunity for groups and individuals based in Glen Eira to build support for their projects and expand community participation in sustainability initiatives.

Contact

Email: claire@ideas.net.au or tepperkerri@gmail.com or thehiveglenira@gmail.com



“Waste isn’t waste until we waste it” — WILL.I.AM

Was I wasted? Campaign

Angela Arango

“Was I wasted?” is a curiosity-driven sustainability campaign that invites the community to see waste from a new point of view — as if the discarded object is asking the question. The campaign invites people to reimagine what happens to waste once it leaves our hands, the objects’ life journey beyond the bin — the issues and the opportunities — because what you throw away today, becomes the world you live in tomorrow.

The goal is to make the hidden journey visible, relatable, and thought-provoking through visual storytelling in social media, virtual or in-person waste tours. The campaign aims to humanise waste, revealing its journey and potential for renewal. It turns an ordinary environmental message into something personal, story-driven, and memorable, bridging education, humour, and social impact for all ages.

The title plays on a familiar phrase to create an instant emotional and cultural hook. It’s both provocative and reflective — a piece of discarded rubbish asking, “Was I wasted?”, while also connecting with a youth vernacular that makes people stop and think. The phrase cleverly plays on the slang for being drunk — language that some audiences immediately recognise, creating the opportunity to:

1. Capture attention through humour, irony, and familiarity.
2. Flip the meaning to start conversations about waste being ‘wasted’ when not disposed of correctly.
3. Build sub-campaigns around items relevant to young people — e.g. vape waste, fast fashion, e-waste and takeaway packaging.
4. Build sub-campaigns around items relevant to apartment blocks — e.g. food wasted.

Contact

Phone: 0404 115 423 **Instagram:** [@was.i.wasted](https://www.instagram.com/@was.i.wasted)

Email: was.i.wasted.campaign@gmail.com

Recycle Right

Together at Home



“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.” — Robert Swan

Recycle Right – Guiding Our Neighbours for a Cleaner Future

Viki Dan

As a new resident of Melbourne, I discovered that understanding the local recycling system can be confusing for many people. My project, “Recycle Right,” aims to guide my neighbours in our building to recycle correctly, efficiently, and in line with Glen Eira’s recycling guidelines.

Through a simple, easy-to-read brochure and visual guides near the shared bins, residents will learn how to separate items properly, avoid contamination, and make recycling part of our everyday habits. The goal is to reduce waste, support Glen Eira’s sustainability efforts, and build a stronger sense of community responsibility.

This project also encourages conversations about how our small daily actions, like sorting our rubbish correctly, can have a big impact on the health of our planet. I believe that by working together, we can keep our environment clean, respect nature, and create a greener, healthier world for future generations.

Contact

Phone: 0452 675 951

Email: vikidan@gmail.com



“Those who play rarely become brittle in the face of stress or lose the healing capacity for humour.” —
Stuart Brown, MD, founder of the National Institute for Play

Brain Food - Resilience Game For Seniors

Basak Kerimoglu

I am a NeuroMovement® practitioner. My passion in life is to help people move better, think better, and feel better. I do that by using movement as a tool to communicate with the brain and help create new neural pathways. Recent studies on the brain have proven that our brains have plasticity, which means it has the ability to change for the better at any stage in life.

I wanted to design a card game that involves physical, cognitive and social elements, which can create new neural networks in the brain. When the brain improves, the whole system improves. I called this card game Brain Food.

The elderly population has the highest risk of being affected by climate change. Brain Food is a card game that can be played by 2 or more people while sitting in a chair. It is suitable for seniors with limited mobility or who are in wheelchairs. I am hoping to make a meaningful difference in how people move, feel and think after playing this game.

The next step is to test the game. I am hoping to be able to reach out to different age care centres in the City of Glen Eira. This requires a group of volunteers who are willing to play the game. The same group is going to meet daily for the duration of 10 days, and each day they will play a different card. The length of the play is between 15-20 minutes each day.

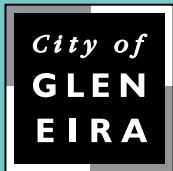
The effect of the Brain Food - Resilience Game will be measured to see if the game has any positive outcomes in terms of social connectivity, physical abilities, and cognitive functioning.

Contact

Email: basakkerimoglu1@gmail.com

Mobile: 0476 913 473

Website: www.theclarity.com.au



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

More information about the project:

www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/sustainabilitychampions

Glen Eira City Council

Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield
Mail address: PO Box 2421 Caulfield Junction, 3161
Phone: (03) 9524 3333
Fax: (03) 9523 0339
mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

National Relay Service

If you are deaf, hearing-impaired, or speech-impaired, we ask that you call us via the National Relay Service and then ask for (03) 9524 3333.

Online: <https://internet-relay.nrscall.gov.au>

Teletypewriter (TTY): 13 36 77

Speak and Listen: 1300 555 727