

# WESTBROOK NEWS BITES SPRING 2024

## INSIDE OUR NEW SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024:

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WESTBROOK   
ANOTHER DENNIS FAMILY COMMUNITY

# SPRING AT WESTBROOK

Welcome to the Spring edition of Westbrook's News Bites. We have our latest construction updates, an overview of Diwali, interior design ideas to refresh your home, recipients of a Westbrook Community Fund and the incredible work they do in our community, 100 days of Club Tarneit and we catch up with resident Radhika and her plans for a second home in Westbrook.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Residents and visitors to Westbrook will see it has been a busy few months, as the estate continues to grow! Here's a wrap up of some the exciting new developments and milestones achieved in the past couple of months.

| STAGE | WORKS PROGRESS                          | TITLE PROGRESS             |
|-------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 51    | All works completed                     | Titled                     |
| 65A   | Stripping and Bulk earthworks completed | Titles expected in Q1 2025 |
| 66    | All works completed                     | Titled                     |
| 67    | All works completed                     | Titled                     |
| 68    | All works completed                     | Titled                     |
| 69    | All works completed                     | Titled                     |

Stay tuned for more updates!



# DIWALI 2024

## The whole family is invited to our Diwali event at Central Park!

Celebrate the festival of 'light' therefore, we'll be hosting the event in the early evening and incorporating different elements of light and colour.

The whole family is invited:

When: Saturday 26th October 2024

Where: Central Park, Latitude Promenade Truganina

Time: 7 to 9 pm

### Entertainment consists of:

- Roving performs
- Bollywood Dancers and Hip Hop Dancers
- Dance workshops
- Kids Craft
- DJ playing all the songs you'll want to dance to
- And much more

We look forward to seeing you at Westbrook Diwali!

**THANKS FOR COMING ALONG!**

# Get ready for *DIWALI* the Festival of Lights!



Diwali is a prominent Hindu festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil.

The festival runs across five days where people worship Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth to bless them with prosperity in the coming year.

Along with Lakshmi, Ganesh who is the God of auspicious beginnings is also prayed to on Diwali. The Puja (prayer) is followed by fireworks, feasting and festivity.

We speak with Shweta, who lives in Melbourne's Northwestern suburbs and has strong ties to India. Each year she celebrates Diwali with family and friends.

For Shweta, Diwali is more than just a celebration; it's a meaningful occasion to gather with loved ones, honour her heritage, and embrace the light that dispels the darkness.



## When is Diwali Celebrated?

In 2024, the full five days of Diwali begin on 29 October. The main day, called Lakshmi Puja, lands on 1 November.

The Hindu lunar calendar determines the dates each year, much like the Christian celebration of Easter.

Diwali falls on the night of the new moon in the October -November lunar cycle, when the moon is not visible in the sky.



# Five days of Diwali



# 1

## **Dhanteras:**

The first day, focused on wealth and prosperity, is traditionally a time to buy precious metals such as gold.

# 2

## **Naraka Chaturdashi:**

This day marks Lord Krishna's victory over the demon Narakasura.

# 3

## **Lakshmi Puja:**

The main day of Diwali, dedicated to the worship of Goddess Lakshmi.

# 4

## **Govardhan Puja:**

Celebrating Lord Krishna's protection of the people by lifting Mount Govardhan.

# 5

## **Bhai Dooj:**

The final day, focused on the bond between brothers and sisters.

This five-day celebration is an extended period of joy, spirituality, and family gatherings, with Diwali itself being the central event. Families come together to share food, gifts, and blessings.

"It's more of a festival...for catching up with family," Shweta says.

Preparing your home for Diwali is a meaningful and festive ritual, filled with deep spiritual significance. By cleaning, decorating with lights and flowers, and creating beautiful Rangoli designs, you're not only honouring the traditions of this ancient festival but also preparing a welcoming space for Goddess Lakshmi.

Diwali is a time of reflection, joy, and togetherness, where families come together to celebrate the triumph of good over evil and to seek blessings for the coming year.

Whether it's lighting diyas or offering prayers, each tradition is a reminder of the spiritual significance behind the festival.

# Get ready for Diwali, the Festival of Lights! *Cont...*

## Getting your home ready for Diwali is essential.

Much like the festive preparations for Christmas, the entire home undergoes a deep cleaning to create a welcoming space for the Gods and Goddesses.

Shweta lights the diyas or earthen oil lamps (similar to candles) that cast a warm, inviting glow throughout their home, she helps her mother prepare their favourite sweets, filling her with joy and nostalgia.

Diyas are lit to honour the return of Lord Rama to his kingdom, Ayodhya.

"People lit up diyas to welcome him back to his kingdom because he was in exile for 14 years," Shweta says.

They also symbolise the triumph of light over darkness and are an offering to the Goddess Lakshmi, ensuring the home is bathed in light when she arrives.

It's then decorated with lights, flowers, and other festive ornaments to set the atmosphere.

One of the most beautiful traditions involves creating Rangoli designs made from coloured powders, rice flour, or even flower petals at the entrance of the house.

Shweta enjoys decorating the floors with vibrant rangoli and sharing stories about the festival's significance around the dinner table.

"Rangoli serves as a welcome mat of sorts, as it is used to welcome Hindu gods to the household," she says.



## Why Homes Are Prepared for Diwali

Diwali is not just a time for celebration-it's a deeply spiritual occasion, especially when it comes to welcoming Goddess Lakshmi into your home.

Known as the goddess of wealth and prosperity, she is believed to visit homes during Diwali to bestow blessings for the year ahead.

A clean and decorated home shows her respect and reverence, Shweta explains "The guest is coming, and we say that God or goddess is the guest who's coming into our house. We hope they bless us with good wealth, health, and prosperity for the coming year."

Families also perform Lakshmi Puja (a ritual worship) on Diwali night, offering prayers and seeking her blessings for health, wealth, and success.

## Diwali food

In the leadup to Lakshmi Puja, Shweta and her family will pack hampers with snacks, sweets and dried fruit to distribute among friends.

After the home is ready, puja (prayer) complete and blessings sought from the guest, Lakshmi, Shweta said everyone will enjoy the food.

"So laddoo and barfis are specific sweet types. Ladoos are the round ones, and then barfis are like little square ones and made of milk - they're very sweet."

"Traditionally offer some sweets. Dry fruits were a big thing. We'd offer a lot of, like, almonds and cashews and pistachios and fun things. We also do a lot of savoury, deep-fried items like murukku. "Or if I go to the northern part of India, we do shakarpara, which is like sweet balls made with maida flour, sugar, cardamom powder and ghee."





# Congratulations to the 2024 Community Fund recipients

## Thanks to everyone who sent an application for the 2024 Westbrook Community Fund.

At the presentation night, 23 community organisations received grants of \$1500 each to go directly to local initiatives assisting the immediate community.

We had a record 52 submissions from organisations in and around Westbrook this year.

The Westbrook Community Fund has been running annually since 2017, distributing over \$200,000 in grants to local organisations.

## Community Fund Spotlight - Big Group Hug

With over 350 volunteers, Big Group Hug is helping vulnerable children and families.

The charity turns 10 in 2024 and, in 2023, helped 6002 children by providing 120,000 items to assist families.

Bernadene Voss, CEO of Big Group Hug, said of Westbrook Community Fund grant...

"We rely on community support, that's what mobilises us," Bernadene said.

"The \$1500 from the Westbrook Community Fund will go towards purchasing toiletries for teens when families have to flee a situation such as domestic violence."

"The cost of living is skyrocketing and it's very hard now to find, you know, a bottle of shampoo under \$10.00."

"For teens in these situations, their identity is being challenged and they want to be like everyone else, which makes toiletries quite an important part component of that," Bernadene said

"Volunteers are critical in helping us support more families and children in need. It's been wonderful to see our volunteer numbers increase along with our geographical reach.

"With the recent opening of Tarneit in the west we are seeking more volunteers in that region."

Looking forward, the next 10 years are about helping more children and how they make that happen.

"A key priority for us is making sure every child gets the items that they need, the urgent and essential items that they absolutely need."

"We're looking strategically at which locations might benefit from our presence and where there aren't any services for children at the moment."

## Support Big Group Hug

Big Group Hug will accept donated items that help young families, such as new toiletries or bed linen.

Volunteering positions are available. Visit the Big Group Hug SEEK Volunteer page to find the latest openings.

Looking for another way to contribute? Find it here [biggrouphug.org/](http://biggrouphug.org/)



# Top Spring 2024 Decor Ideas for a *Stylish Refresh*

As Spring arrives, so do new and exciting interior trends. The latest trends include warm and cool colour palettes that maintain the freshness of spring. Incorporate any of these palettes into your home for bold and balanced interiors.



See next page...



# Top Spring 2024 Decor Ideas for a *Stylish Refresh*



## **Earth Tones Naturals**

The Earth Toned Naturals trend draws inspiration from raw and handcrafted materials.

Key colours for this trend include rust, terracotta, and pops of mustard and apricot pink. These hues sit perfectly alongside finishes of warm-toned woods, textured fabrics in earthy colours, and natural stone.

Introduce earth tones into your interiors with paint colours of off-white or light taupe. Ensure there are elements of natural timber and timber laminates in your joinery. Add freestanding furnishings and small décor items to your rooms for a less permanent option.



## **Nothing but Neutral**

The Nothing but Neutral trend primarily focuses on built-in and freestanding furnishings in your home, elevating them to luxury long-term investment pieces.

A neutral colour palette of warm cream, taupe, and brown allows standout pieces to shine while maintaining a calming and cosy environment.

Prevent your interiors from becoming too lacklustre by adding visual interest; add textured floor rugs, freestanding furniture covered in velvet, boucle, or chunky weaves, and opt for higher contrast items like a light occasional chair against dark walls.

# Top Spring 2024 Decor Ideas for a *Stylish Refresh* *Cont...*



## Classic Chrome

The polished chrome finish is back in a new modern way.

Resurfacing with glamour, the Classic Chrome trend influences freestanding furnishings, like chairs, lighting, and accessories. Chrome surfaces act as mirrored finishes that enhance light and make spaces feel larger.

Soften the appearance of chrome with textured surfaces, like plush rugs and sherpa fabric chairs. Pairing modern chrome against natural walnut woods also creates a colour and texture contrast.

As you refresh your space for the season, these interior design trends offer an array of styles to explore, each bringing a unique flair to your home. Embrace any of these trends to infuse your home with life and create a sanctuary that reflects your interior style.



## Playful Minimalism

Moving away from traditional palettes, the Playful Minimalism trend leans towards clean lines, curved edges, and whimsy.

The Playful Minimalism palette is perfect for a master suite, where a calming neutral base can add to the relaxation.

The base of this trend is minimal with clean lines and neutral tones. Layer in playful colours and elements through bed linen, bathroom towels, and cushion covers.

For more interior ideas, visit the Westbrook Experience Centre at 17 Society Boulevard, Truganina.

# BEYOND 100 DAYS OF CLUB TARNEIT



Club Tarneit is already a well-loved part of the local community since opening in May 2024.

Visitors are coming from across the Wyndham region, including Tarneit, Werribee, Hoppers Crossing, Point Cook, Truganina and other surrounding areas.

The venue has been continuously evolving thanks to feedback from visiting patrons.

Melissa Longo, Marketing Manager at Club Tarneit, shared this update.

**Three highlights from the first 100 days?**

**1. Membership:** We've had a fantastic response from the community, with a surge in memberships.

**2. Events:** There's been high interest in our event spaces for both private and corporate bookings.

**3. My CT App:** Our membership app is out. It's easier for members to stay connected and access exclusive offers.

**Do you have any weekly activities that the general public can join?**

APL Poker nights on Fridays and QuizzaMe Trivia on Wednesdays.

Families have also been making Tuesdays and Thursdays their regular dining-out nights, taking full advantage of the free face painting we offer for kids.

**Has the venue changed since it opened?**

We've been continuously evolving based on community feedback. We want our community to know that their feedback matters.

It might seem like a small example, but our friends at the Wyndham Grange Retirement Village wanted cream served with their cake, instead of ice cream.

They were so excited to discover that their request had been actioned.

**What's one thing to do/see/try at Club Tarneit this spring/summer?**

We have got a lot to look forward to as the weather warms up, and the days get longer. We are excited to see our outdoor dining area finally come to life and are looking forward to bringing live music to the venue. Watch this space!

**For community groups, how can they use the club?**

We encourage community groups to make use of our state-of-the-art function spaces, ideal for meetings, social gatherings, and events.

We also have flexible packages to accommodate a range of needs, from small group meetings to large community events.



CLUB TARNEIT

## CLUB TARNEIT GALA NIGHT

Club Tarneit members visiting between 30 September and 13 November could receive an invitation to the Gala Night, held on Thursday, 14 November 2024.

At the Gala one lucky member will get a chance to play for the big prize - \$100k.

For more information about the promotion go to: [clubtarneit.com.au](http://clubtarneit.com.au) Prize terms and conditions here.

**Contact us at:**

[events@clubtarneit.com.au](mailto:events@clubtarneit.com.au)

We can't wait to connect with the wonderful humans that make up this community.

Visit [clubtarneit.com.au](http://clubtarneit.com.au)



# WESTBROOK TESTIMONIAL

*The Edge is going to be something special:*

**In 2020, Radhika took a bold step during Melbourne's first lockdown, moving from the northern suburbs to her new home in Westbrook, in Melbourne's west.**

*Now, just a few years later, she's preparing to upgrade with her second home in The Edge, an exclusive precinct within Westbrook.*

"I'm so excited about this new chapter. The Edge has such a great reputation, and it's such a beautiful area. It's sought-after for a reason," Radhika said.

***When Radhika first moved to Westbrook, it was to be closer to her family.***

"My parents, brother, auntie, and grandparents all live within five minutes of me," she said.

***Westbrook was still developing when Radhika first moved in, and she's enjoyed watching the area become a residential community.***

"When we first bought land here, it was mostly empty. There weren't many houses, and the bridge over Morris Road wasn't even built yet. Now, there's so much development—schools, parks, and homes springing up everywhere. It's amazing to watch.

Westbrook's location within Melbourne is another draw for Radhika, it's close to work.

"The location is perfect. It's close to the city, not far from Williamstown, and we have great shopping options with Truganina Central and Tarneit Central nearby."

***Even with the significant growth in the local area, Westbrook retains a sense of calm, making it ideal for families.***

"It's a great area for families with the new schools and child care centres that have opened. I think that's why Westbrook is so highly regarded."

"Plus, the parks and the walking paths like Latitude Promenade and Forsyth Waterway are lovely for relaxing walks."

***Deciding to build her second home in The Edge precinct represents more than just an upgrade.***

"The Edge precinct is special. When I was looking at land, I knew location was key. I wanted something close to nature, and this plot ticked all the boxes.

"It was a bit of a last-minute decision, actually. I wasn't feeling well one day, and while I was resting at home, I saw this plot online.

See next page...

# Westbrook Testimonial Continued...

*As someone who loves nature and gardening, the outdoor space was a huge selling point.*

"The front landscaping is included with the land price, which is a nice bonus. I'm excited to design the garden and bring my vision to life. I love nature, so having a garden is just perfect for me."

*This will be the second time Radhika has built a new home on a block of land in Westbrook.*

"There's something magical about building a home. Watching your house come to life, picking every detail—it's a blessing. I feel so lucky to have this opportunity again."

The home will be two storeys, designed with both practicality and beauty in mind.

*She's particularly excited about the kitchen window.*

"Instead of a splashback, I'll have a window that looks out onto the garden. I can already imagine spending time in the kitchen, looking out onto that view. It's going to be wonderful."

"The last four years here have been great, the neighbourhood is lovely, the people are friendly, and the houses are stunning, inside and out.

"I'm so glad we chose this area. I know this new home in The Edge is going to be something special."

*For anyone considering making Westbrook their home, Radhika's experience speaks volumes.*

"It's a beautiful, growing suburb with everything you need - I'd recommend it to anyone looking for a place to settle down and build their dream home."



# SALES CENTRE

To enquire about current land availability and pricing, or for information about upcoming stage releases, visit the Land Sales Centre at 17 Society Boulevard (off Leakes Rd).

We are also available via phone, email, Zoom, SMS and WhatsApp.

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Hermione Wong - Sales Consultant

Phone: 0488 321 157

Email: [hermione.wong@denniscorp.com.au](mailto:hermione.wong@denniscorp.com.au)

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Rachna Kumari - Sales Associate

Phone: 0427 341 181

Email: [rachna.kumari@denniscorp.com.au](mailto:rachna.kumari@denniscorp.com.au)

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Ali Haidari - Sales

Phone: 1300 303 420

Email: [ali.haidari@denniscorp.com.au](mailto:ali.haidari@denniscorp.com.au)

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Phone 1300 303 420

or visit [WestbrookEstate.com.au](http://WestbrookEstate.com.au)

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