

Maroondah news

Your community newsletter



Autumn 2025



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View Maroondah news online at
www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/MaroondahNews



Mayor, Cr Kylie Spears, with the 2025 Citizen of the Year, Heidi Butler-Moore.

Mayor's message

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Maroondah news.

As always, lots has been happening in and around Maroondah! It was terrific to see community members of all ages on 26 January at Ringwood Lake Park for our first event of 2025. I had the pleasure of presenting the Maroondah Australia Day Awards and also declared 60 Maroondah residents as Australian citizens. Visit Council's website to learn more and to watch our videos featuring this year's award recipients.

You can also experience exciting exhibitions and shows for all ages, as part of Maroondah's vibrant arts and cultural scene. Whether you are looking to celebrate St Patrick's Day, learn the history of Wyreena Community Arts Centre or enjoy a family comedy featuring acrobatics and a wheelie bin, there's something for everyone. You can view some upcoming highlights on page 11, or visit Council's website to view our online 'Events calendar'.

Council meetings

Council meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month from 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at Realm and are live-streamed via Council's website.

Upcoming meeting dates:

Monday 17 March

Monday 28 April

Monday 26 May

Council meetings are open to the public and are promoted across a range of channels, with an open invitation to attend. **If attending in person, please arrive on time for the start of the meeting.** Agendas are made available online on the Friday before the meeting date.

Council opening hours

Our Customer Service team is here to help. Visit:

Realm

Ringwood Town Square
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood
(opposite Ringwood Station)

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm
Open Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 5pm.

Open 10am to 5pm Labour Day,
Easter Saturday and Easter Monday.

Closed Good Friday, Easter Sunday
and Anzac Day.

Croydon Service Centre

Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

Closed on all weekends and public
holidays, including Labour Day,
Good Friday, Easter Saturday,
Easter Sunday, Easter Monday
and Anzac Day.

Applications are open for Council's Community Grants and Arts and Cultural Grants programs for 2025/26. These programs are a wonderful way for eligible, not-for-profit community groups to obtain support for projects to benefit our community. Eligible artists or arts and cultural groups and organisations can also apply for support to bring people together through creativity and boost Maroondah's arts and cultural profile. Read more on pages 3 and 6, or visit Council's website to apply.

Projects are continuing to progress as part of Council's Capital Works Program. You can read about current works, including foyer extension works at Karralyka, retailing works at Aquahub and the skate precinct at Grayswood Reserve, on page 17.

In other news, Council is seeking our community's input on two important consultations this month. Don't miss your opportunity to provide feedback on liveability in Maroondah and our upcoming Domestic Animal Management Plan. Find out more on pages 6 and 9.

The April school holidays are just around the corner. Places often book out quickly for Council's school holiday programs at The Rings, Maroondah Nets and Wyreena Community Arts Centre, so visit Council's website for details and to book.

For something different, visit the Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival at Eastfield Park in Croydon on Sunday 23 March. This annual celebration of Scottish and Celtic culture and heritage has been held in Melbourne for more than 50 years, echoing the original games that took place in Scotland during the reign of King Malcolm III.

From 9am to 5pm, enjoy wonderful music, dancing and pipe bands, and watch as world-class athletes compete in the International Highland Games Federation Championship Competition. Up to 60 athletes and officials from Australia, North America, the United Kingdom, Europe and Japan will compete in the traditional Scottish Heavy Games Competition on the day. To find out more and book your tickets, visit the Melbourne Highland Games website www.melbournehighlandgames.org.au

To stay updated on news, events, activities and programs near you, visit Council's website. I look forward to seeing you in Maroondah soon!

Warm regards,

Cr Kylie Spears
Mayor of Maroondah

Get in touch



Live chat via our website
www.maroondah.vic.gov.au



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Subscribe to Maroondah eNews via our website.



Mail PO Box 156,
Ringwood, VIC 3134

Front page: Maroondah residents celebrating at Ringwood Lake Park after a citizenship ceremony.

The information provided in this newsletter was accurate at the time of print. For the latest information, visit Council's website.

Supporting Maroondah's arts and cultural scene

Do you have a project or program that could boost Maroondah's arts and cultural scene and bring people together through creativity? You may be eligible to apply for Council's 2025/26 Arts and Cultural Grants funding program, with applications now open.

Funding can be used for a wide range of projects at any stage of the creative process. Projects may include creative development and presentation, arts and cultural programs, and the activation of arts and cultural spaces in Maroondah.

One of this year's successful initiatives is 'You Can't Judge a Zine by Its Cover!', a project encouraging creative expression through a series of zine-making workshops. Participants can share their thoughts and ideas through drawings, images and text in a self-made magazine-style art form.

Project creator and facilitator Mel Jeffery said the funding received would give 36 participants, including LGBTQIA+,

neurodiverse and older people, the opportunity to explore and share their identities through accessible art.

"Zines have always been a low-cost and accessible art form, but not many people know what they are or how to make one. The Arts and Cultural grant will enable us to introduce zine-making to the community and hopefully facilitate an ongoing arts practice," Mel said.



Applications close midnight on Sunday 13 April.

For more information about the Arts and Cultural Grants funding program, contact Council's Community Cultural Development Officer on 9298 4533 or email arts@maroondah.vic.gov.au



Scan the QR code or visit the 'Community funding and grants' page on Council's website to find out more.

Installations lighting up laneways in Croydon

If you live locally, you may have seen some new art installations illuminating three laneways off Main Street, Croydon.

The *Reignite Croydon – Laneway Lights* project, which was formally opened last month, features four striking light installations that provide a welcoming space for community members, with captivating displays of light and art.

Local artist Jasmine Grace is delighted to have her first permanent public artwork in a neighbourhood she knows well. The installation, titled *Life Reflected*, features eight illuminated circular mirrors that light up in response to movement,

inviting passers-by to engage with their surroundings and capture their reflections.

"It's an exciting and defining moment for me artistically to have produced a work that the community can enjoy for years to come," Jasmine said.

The other installations are Alexander Knox's kinetic neon piece *Whisperer*, which reflects the swaying motion of Wallaby Grass; Sam Songailo's intricate steel arch, *Gateway 3.0*, which offers a



Kirsten Baade and Alinta Koehrer (*Wurundjeri/Yorta Yorta*), *Light Stitches: Illuminating Croydon's Indigenous Flowers, 2024*. Photo credit: Christian Capurro.

sense of renewal and transition; and *Light Stitches*, a collaboration between local artist Alinta Koehrer and Kirsten Baade, which celebrates Indigenous flora.

Visit Council's website to learn more about *Reignite Croydon – Laneway Lights*.

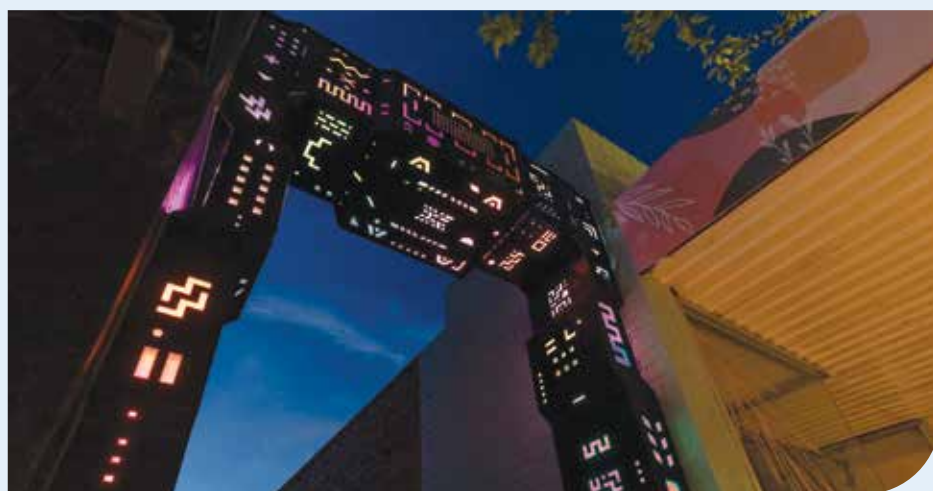
Reigniting the spark in Croydon

This project has been developed in partnership with the Victorian Government, through the Living Local fund, and aims to improve the amenity of Croydon and support local traders by increasing visitation to Main Street.

Help Council to continue to provide meaningful community activations.



Tell us what you think about the Reignite Croydon installations. Scan the QR code to take the 3-minute survey.



Sam Songailo, *Gateway 3.0*, 2024. Photo credit: Christian Capurro.

Milestone for Dorset Golf

This month marks the 40-year anniversary of 18 holes at Dorset Golf.

Dorset Golf first opened on 9 October 1983 as a 9-hole course that was privately operated on Council-owned land. While there were plans to expand the course to 27 holes, this later changed to 18 holes to allow space for other sporting facilities nearby, with the 18-hole course opening on 1 March 1985.

Dorset Golf, which Council has owned and operated since July 2003, may look a little different today, but it continues to be one of Melbourne's most charming public golf courses.

Around 2 million people have played at Dorset Golf since it first opened its doors, with a record 84,257 rounds of golf played in 2024.



Archival image of the former double storey driving range at Dorset Golf.

Players of all abilities enjoy the wide, open fairways and large, manicured greens with beautiful views of the Dandenong Ranges as a backdrop.

The course offers enjoyable playing conditions in all weather, including during the winter months, thanks to improvement works completed during 2023 and 2024 as part of Council's Capital Works Program. The works improved drainage and also included sand capping and cart path extensions, resulting in less surface water on the fairways, improved drainage in flood-prone areas and easier navigation around the course.

With experienced community coaches and PGA professionals on hand, Dorset Golf offers a range of clinics for beginners and experienced players alike. Individual lessons are available for all skill levels, as well as clinics for adults and juniors, covering chipping, putting, pitching, bunkers, full swing and more.

Play casually or with a membership, whatever suits you best!



Archival image of the entrance to the golf shop.

Other services available include:

- Golf shop on-site, with services including re-gripping
- Affordable equipment hire, including clubs, buggies and GPS motorised carts
- A practice putting green
- A 100m practice driving range and practice nets

To book or find out more, visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au or call Dorset Golf on 9294 5555.

Subscribe to our newsletters

Stay in touch with everything that is happening at Council and around our community by subscribing to our range of eNewsletters.

Maroondah eNews – updates from the Mayor, what's on, project updates, latest news and more.

Waste and Sustainability news – waste and sustainability workshops, news and education.

Nature News – community projects, environmental volunteer activities and events in Maroondah.

Children and Families news – family/children's events, programs, professional learning and more.

Active newsletter – health, fitness and lifestyle updates, the latest Maroondah Leisure news.

Youth News – information about participation and engagement programs, events, volunteering and more.

Arts in Maroondah – artist opportunities, events, performances, exhibitions and public art.

Growing Older and Living Well eNewsletter – news, events and updates for residents aged 50 years and over.



Scan the QR code or visit the 'Maroondah eNews' page on Council's website to subscribe.





Building healthy minds through physical activity

Help boost your family's health and wellbeing at our free outdoor games day.

Join us for Active Kids, Healthy Minds on Tuesday 15 April from 12noon to 3pm at Town Park, Norton Road, Croydon, for outdoor games and activities including golf, gymnastics, football, basketball, volleyball, cricket, giant games and more.

The games and activities are suitable for families with pre-school and primary school aged children. Parents and carers can also join in the fun and help improve their body and brain health too!

Why not bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the leafy surrounds of Croydon Town Park.



Scan the QR code or search for 'Active Kids' on Council's website to register for event updates.

Connect with your family and nature

Children and their families are invited to Council's free event to celebrate Nature Play Week.

Join us on Thursday 10 April from 10am to 1pm at Cheong Park, Croydon, for interactive and creative activities for children 2 to 10 years old. Families with younger children, older children and all abilities are welcome.

Bring a picnic and enjoy the benefits of being active outdoors with your family these school holidays. Remember to dress suitably for the weather and the variety of free activities on offer.

Please note, parents/carers are required to stay with their children at the event.

Registrations are essential.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to register or find out more.



School holiday activities

Keep the family entertained these school holidays!



Wyreena Community Arts Centre

Wyreena Community Arts Centre's school holiday program includes a range of fun and creative activities.

Children can learn new techniques and create masterpieces to display at home, with guidance from Wyreena's tutors, who are experienced artists with a passion for inspiring children.

Visit the 'Wyreena School Holiday Program' page on Council's website to view programs for the autumn school holidays and to book.



The Rings and Maroondah Nets

Maroondah Nets and The Rings offer a range of holiday programs for children aged 5 to 12.

With sports including basketball, netball, tennis, futsal (soccer) and multi-sports, the programs are a fun way for your children to stay active and social.

To find out more and book, visit the 'School Holiday Programs' page on the Maroondah Leisure website, www.maroondahleisure.com.au



Get into golf

Whether you're picking up a club for the first time or brushing up on your skills, you can find a clinic to suit your needs at Ringwood Golf or Dorset Golf.

Experienced community coaches and PGA professionals run individual lessons, as well as adult, women's and junior clinics that cover skills such as chipping, putting, pitching, bunkers, full swing and more.

Golf clubs and motorised carts are also available to hire, for a modest fee.

To book or find out more, visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au or call Ringwood Golf on 9298 4500 or Dorset Golf on 9294 5555.

Visit the 'Children's activities and programs' page on Council's website for more school holiday ideas.

Community groups invited to apply for funding



Are you a not-for-profit group in need of funding assistance to buy equipment or deliver a program, project or event in Maroondah?

Applications for Council's 2025/26 Community Grants Program are now open.

Each year, Council offers eligible groups the opportunity to share in funding that supports initiatives that positively contribute to the Maroondah community.

TeamSports4All CEO Simon Davie said thanks to the grant their organisation received last year, more Maroondah children from low-income families would be able to participate in team sports.

"The funding has allowed us to cover registration fees, uniforms, and equipment for kids who would otherwise miss out

entirely. Thanks to this support, these children are now able to join teams, connect with their community, and feel like they belong," Simon said.

Groups can apply for funding through three grant categories: Community Development Grants, Small Equipment Grants and Emergency Food Relief Grants.

Applications can be made online until midnight on Sunday 13 April, with applicants advised of the outcome of their application and funds distributed in July.



Scan the QR code or visit the 'Community funding and grants' page on Council's website for information on eligibility and assessment criteria, tips for completing grant applications and funding conditions. You can also contact our Community Development Officer on 1300 88 22 33 or email grants@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Share your thoughts on liveability in Maroondah



Do you live, work, play or access services in Croydon South or Ringwood North? We want to hear your thoughts on liveability!

Liveable neighbourhoods are important for health and wellbeing, as they can shape the way we live, feel, enjoy and experience our community.

A liveable neighbourhood is considered safe, attractive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. It is thoughtfully planned to allow residents to walk to many of the services they need.

To help make Maroondah more liveable, Council is preparing a Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy. The Strategy is part of the Place Planning for Liveable Neighbourhoods Project.

We want to hear from you to ensure that local aspirations are included in our future planning.

Croydon South and Ringwood North are the first focus areas for the project and feedback will help improve Council's approach to planning liveable neighbourhoods in these centres. The lessons we learn will help us improve liveability in other centres across the municipality.

We are grateful to those community members who shared their thoughts at our pop-ups in December.

We are now expanding on this recent feedback. We want to learn more about the key social, economic and environmental challenges and opportunities in your neighbourhood.

With your input, we can help ensure local aspirations are included in future planning, and that these neighbourhoods are places to connect with your community while also attracting investment and supporting local resilience.

Consultation will open in mid-March.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website to find out more or share your thoughts.

Dates for your diary

Visit Council's website for more information about these and other events.

Are you hosting a community event? Visit our website and add your event to our online 'Events calendar'.



Pitch Perfect

Wednesdays from 12 March (excluding public holidays), 10am to 12noon

Bill Wilkins Lodge, Ringwood

Connect, have fun and give your soul a lift with this singing program. No experience needed. For Maroondah residents aged 50 and over, through Council's Social Support Program. Fee may vary depending on eligibility for individual funding.

To register, call Council's Social Inclusion and Wellbeing team on 9294 5531 or email socialsupport@maroondah.vic.gov.au



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



Kindergarten Information Night

Wednesday 19 March, 6.30pm to 8pm

Karralyka, Ringwood East

Do you have a young child and want to know more about Kindergarten in Maroondah? Come to our information night to learn about the many kindergarten programs available in Maroondah. Listen to experts from Maroondah City Council, the Department of Education and the Maroondah Integrated Kindergarten's Association (MIKA) so you can make the best choice for your family.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



Dogs' Day Out

Saturday 22 March, 11am to 3pm

Parkwood Oval, Ringwood North

Join us for a 'pawsome' Dogs' Day Out in partnership with Animal Aid. There will be activities for our four-legged friends, experts on hand for advice, demonstrations and more. There will also be a free sausage sizzle along with ice cream and coffee to purchase from onsite vendors at this free outdoor event for dogs and their humans.



Please note, all dogs are required to be on a lead during this event. Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival

Sunday 23 March, 9am to 5pm

Eastfield Park, Croydon

This annual celebration of Scottish and Celtic culture and heritage has been held in Melbourne for over 50 years. Enjoy music, dancing and pipe bands, or watch as world-class athletes compete in the International Highland Games Federation Championship Competition.

Tickets are \$25 per adult or \$20 for concession card holders and students. Children under 16 and Companion Card holders are free.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



City Nature Challenge

Throughout Maroondah

Friday 25 April to Monday 28 April

Discover Maroondah's remarkable urban biodiversity during this four-day challenge! Get prepared by downloading the free iNaturalist app and learning how to make observations. Find a handy guide to using iNaturalist on Council's website. Participating is a great way to learn more about nature while also helping to make Maroondah an even better place to live – for you and other species. Keep an eye out for more information about nature discovery activities closer to the date.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.

Image by Suzanne B



Maroondah Night Run

Friday 2 May, 6pm start

Ringwood Golf, 352 Canterbury Road, Ringwood

Join in the fun in this glow-filled 5km run or walk around Ringwood Golf course.

Try for a personal best or simply enjoy the serenity of the golf course. Dress in your brightest activewear or bring your own glow sticks! All ages and athletic abilities are welcome.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website for details, registration prices and to register.

Feeding birds and wildlife

While many of us feel connected with the wildlife that share our backyard, feeding them can be harmful to local fauna, flora and humans.

When wild animals are dependent on being fed by humans, they lose foraging skills and are unable to teach their young to forage for natural foods, leading to the risk of starvation.

Feeding stations can encourage the spread of diseases such as beak and feather disease, while food left out can become stale, grow poisonous fungi, or encourage rodents that spread diseases further. Feeding stations or areas can also make



wildlife an easy target for predators.

Other unwanted impacts can include overcrowding in places too small to accommodate wildlife, leading to increased competition for habitat. Feeding wildlife can also disrupt the food chain and cause environmental problems such as pest plant invasion, decreased insect consumption and the loss of indigenous plants.

Humans can be impacted, too. Close contact with animals may increase the risk of diseases being spread to humans, while wildlife can become aggressive towards people when they expect to be fed. Meanwhile, birds such as Cockatoos and Galahs can be driven to chewing fence posts and other wooden housing fixtures if they no longer forage for Acacia and Eucalyptus seeds.

If you still want to attract wildlife to your backyard, consider reducing your lawn and using garden beds, native grasses or layered habitat areas. Choose a diverse range of plants indigenous to Maroondah

to provide shelter and food sources such as insects, fruits, seeds and nectar, and provide a water source, such as a bird bath with a rock or stick near the edge so animals can climb out.

You can also create nesting boxes or use hollow logs, fallen branches and leaf litter. Remember, never remove fallen wood, logs or branches from bushland areas or reserves.

If you decide to provide food for wild birds on your property, visit the Birdlife Australia website birdlife.org.au for advice on appropriate food substitutes.

Visit Council's website for more tips on supporting wildlife. You can also contact Council's Bushland team via email nature@maroondah.vic.gov.au or call 9298 4598.

Subscribe to Council's Nature News to stay up to date with community projects, environmental volunteer activities and events, and articles about the importance of a healthy environment.

Improving outcomes for local wildlife

Nature Havens is a free Council program that supports residents to make their gardens more wildlife friendly by creating habitat stepping stones for native animals like birds, insects, reptiles and small mammals. As part of the program, Council's Bushland Management team assesses your garden and discusses ways you can provide more food, shelter and water for wildlife.

Through the work of Bushland Management team and program participants, local backyards are flourishing. After incorporating indigenous plants into their outdoor spaces, residents are starting to see an increase in wildlife activity.

The 2025 program is currently fully booked, but if you would like to join the waitlist, please email nature@maroondah.vic.gov.au to be notified of any cancellations.

Learn more online by visiting www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Nature-Havens

Pet registration renewals due soon

Are you a pet owner? Did you know that your pet registration is due by 10 April each year?

While owning a pet has many benefits, it also comes with some legal responsibilities, including having your pet registered with your local Council.

Registration is compulsory for all dogs and cats over 3 months old and helps us reunite your pet with you if they become lost.

If you're a pet owner in Maroondah, you should have received your pet registration renewal notice in the mail recently.

Did you know you can receive this notice via email instead?

By registering for email notifications or creating an account, you can manage and access your registration renewals online whenever you want.

For more information, please visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/PetRegistration

If you haven't received your pet registration renewal notice, have moved to a new address or no longer have your pet, please contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or visit our website to update your pet registration details.



Your oppurrrtunity to have your say on the new Domestic Animal Management Plan



Dogs and cats are an important part of the community.

They provide us with companionship, teach us about responsibility, encourage us to stay active and help us build social connections in our community.

We want to hear from you, whether you own a pet or not, on what is most important to you about managing pets in Maroondah.

Your feedback will help to inform Council's animal management service priorities over the next four years.

Consultation closes on Thursday 17 April.

Visit www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au/damp to complete the survey or find out more.

Spotlight on: Friends of Herman Pump Reserve

Find out more about the work of the wonderful volunteers who help care for Council's Herman Pump Reserve in Heathmont.



Friends of Herman Pump Reserve was founded by Heathmont local Frank over ten years ago. What started out as a casual working bee with local residents has turned into an established Friends of volunteer group with around 180 members.

The group hosts working bees two or three times each year. Over the past 10 years, they have made great improvements to the reserve, including revegetating the entire reserve with plants that are native to the area.

Ann is an active member of the group and said, "One of the main outcomes of the working bees has been the connections people have made with other locals, which strengthens our community."

The reserve is also known for its special play elements – such as gnomes, chalk for drawing on paths, a book box, mosaic artwork, painted rocks and toy trucks

– which have all been added by volunteers and locals over the years, fostering the community spirit that has surrounded the reserve for generations.

This community spirit was celebrated on 7 July 2024 during a planting working bee and ceremony organised by the Friends of group, to acknowledge the reserve's namesake, Herman Pump, and his contributions to the community. Herman's grandson Brian, together with his family, officially opened a new seat and commemoration plaque in his grandfather's honour. The scissors used to cut the official ribbon were the same ones used by Herman Pump's wife, who officially opened Heathmont Station in 1926.

The group has focused on the removal of weedy trees and plants over the years, replacing them with over 9,000 indigenous plants.

They have also been working with Council's Bushland team to install new garden cells and sugar glider boxes. Ann is excited to see the results of these projects.

"Herman Pump Reserve will continue to be a place for people to meet, to have conversations with neighbours, where children can play and explore, where dogs can walk and where plants can continue to grow and create habitat for birds and animals. We are grateful for the amazing support and assistance from Council and CRISP Nursery who have worked alongside us."

Get involved

Friends of Herman Pump Reserve hosts working bees two to three times a year and all are welcome to join.

Visit the 'Natural environment community groups' page on Council's website to get involved or find another Friends of group near you.



Introducing 'Health Matters' for residents aged 50+

Are you a Maroondah resident aged 50 years or above and seeking tips on healthy, positive ageing? Try taking part in Council's 'Health Matters' information sessions.



The sessions are designed to provide you with important information about health and wellbeing issues you may face as you grow older and equip you with the knowledge and skills required to face and overcome practical challenges.

Health Matters sessions run from 10am to 11.30am on the first Tuesday of each month, excluding public holidays, at Glen Park Community Centre, Bayswater North.

Bookings are essential for each session. Book early to avoid disappointment, as places are limited and can book out quickly.

Health Matters sessions are part of Council's social inclusion and wellbeing programs, which offer social connection and wellbeing opportunities for residents who are 50 years and over. The programs support residents to maintain their social connections, interests, independence and maximise their health as they grow older.

Upcoming sessions include:

Remaining active and independent – Tuesday 1 April

Learn how to care for your back, conserve energy and stay safe and independent when carrying out daily activities. Discover strategies to continue doing the things you enjoy.

Creating a safe and accessible home for independent living – Tuesday 6 May

Learn about useful equipment, minor home modifications and the use of smart technology to promote independence and safety in your home.

To find out more or register, call Council's Occupational Therapy team on 9294 5729 or email ot@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Barnegeong Ward

Your Councillors



Cr Chris Jones
Mobile: 0418 109 015
chris.jones@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Holloway Road, a key connection between Maroondah and Manningham, has long served as a rural road. However, with around 3,500 vehicles using it daily, the need for an upgrade is essential to meet growing demand.

Council is planning to construct a new urban-standard road, improving safety and accessibility for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists.

Key elements of the planned upgrade include a wider, sealed road surface, kerb and channel, new footpaths and improved stormwater drainage infrastructure to reduce the risk of flood events in the area. These improvements will ensure Holloway Road continues to meet the demands of modern traffic, and will enhance safety, convenience, and accessibility for daily road-users.

For details, visit the 'Maroondah projects' page on Council's website.

Bungalook Ward



Cr Catherine Gordon
Mobile: 0447 538 636
catherine.gordon@maroondah.vic.gov.au

This year we're celebrating 40 years of the 18-hole course at Dorset Golf. Originally a 9-hole course, it was expanded to 18 holes in March 1985.

Since 2003, Council has proudly owned and operated Dorset Golf, which has become one of the region's most popular public golf courses. Recent improvements as part of Council's Capital Works Program have enhanced the course, ensuring enjoyable playing conditions year-round.

We're fortunate to have two fantastic public golf courses in Maroondah – Dorset Golf and Ringwood Golf. These facilities play a key role in supporting active lifestyles and fostering community connections for around 152,000 visitors each year.

For more information or to book a round, visit Maroondah Leisure's website or call Dorset Golf on 9294 5555.

Jubilee Ward



Cr Claire Rex
Mobile: 0476 010 752
claire.rex@maroondah.vic.gov.au

The \$33.2 million Ringwood Activity Centre Car Park adjacent to Ringwood Station is making excellent progress, with construction funded by the Australian Government and Council. This new car park will deliver much-needed parking spaces for commuters, residents and visitors, easing congestion in nearby streets.

The removal of the tower crane in January marked a key milestone, making way for work on the building's exterior and internal fit-out, which is well underway and due for completion around mid-year.

The project also preserves the historical significance of the site, having retained and relocated the original Blood Brothers storefront. Additionally, a Shared User Path will improve pedestrian connectivity as well as delivering environmental benefits.

Visit Council's website to find out more.

Arts in Maroondah

What's happening across Maroondah's arts sector, including exhibitions and theatre shows for all ages.



KARRALYKA

Scan the QR code for more information or to book, visit the Karralyka website at www.karralyka.com.au or call 9870 2888.



Melbourne Celtic Festival on Tour

Sunday 30 March, 2pm or 7pm

\$50 per person, \$45 concession
\$40 for K Club and Gold Members.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the cream of the crop from the Melbourne Celtic Festival, touring Australia in 2025.

Join us for an unforgettable production featuring the best of Celtic music with recently crowned Folk Band Of The Year winners Austral, international sensation, special guest artist Chloe Matharu direct from Scotland, and traditional Irish trio Bhan Tre.



Trash Test Dummies Circus

Thursday 10 April, 11am or 2pm

\$28 per person or \$100 for a Family Pass (2 adults and 2 children)

Recommended for ages 5+.

This "delightfully intelligent, highly entertaining" (*Herald Sun*) family adventure takes the humble household wheelie bin to new heights. With side-splitting slapstick comedy, daring acrobatics and dexterous juggling, these Dummies are off on an imaginative adventure that is anything but garbage.

Join a Circus Skills Workshop led by the cast on Wednesday 9 April. Visit the Karralyka website for details and to book.



THNDO

Friday 27 June, 7.30pm

\$59 per person, \$54 concession
\$49 for K Club and Gold Members.

Thndo, the widely loved Zimbabwean-born 'First Lady of Soul and R&B', has commanded massive crowds at festivals such as Bluesfest, WOMAdelaide, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Groovin the Moo, Woodford Folk Festival and more.

Any die-hard music fan can resonate with her talent for song structure, dragging in elements of TLC, Queen, Ladysmith Black Mambazo and more to keep crowds fixated beyond the encore.



What's On

Don't miss these exciting exhibitions! Scan the QR code or visit the 'Exhibitions and arts events' page on Council's website to learn more about these and other exhibitions.



Between the Details: Video Art from ACMI Collection

Monday 24 March to Sunday 18 May
ArtSpace at Realm, Ringwood

Showcasing six moving image artworks by Australian artists, this exhibition celebrates ACMI's vibrant collecting and commissioning program. Features artists Kaylene Whiskey, Jason Phu, Deborah Kelly, Zanny Begg, David Rosetzky and Christian Thompson. An ACMI Touring Exhibition.

Image: Kaylene Whiskey, *Ngura Pukulpa – Happy Place*, 2021. Courtesy Kaylene Whiskey and Iwantja Arts.
Photo: Max Mackinnon.



The Story of Wyreena – A Hidden Gem

Monday 28 April at 1.30pm and
Saturday 17 May at 10am or 11.30am

Wyreena Community Arts Centre, Croydon

Discover Wyreena's architectural and social history in a guided tour. Tickets are \$5 per person, including a hot drink from The Conservatory Café. Bookings essential.

Wyreena Community Arts Centre is delighted to be a part of the 2025 Australian Heritage Festival (presented by The National Trust).



Arts Activators Launch

Thursday 1 May, 6pm to 8pm

Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, Ringwood

Celebrate the artistic achievements of talented young artists (18 to 25 years) in the Arts Activators project. Attend the launch to hear from the artists and experience their incredible new works while enjoying complimentary food and drinks.

The project is an Arts in Maroondah initiative supported by the VicHealth Local Government Partnership.

Shine a light on a remarkable volunteer



2024 Bill Wilkins Volunteer of the Year, Marrianne Fry.

Nominations are open for the 2025 Bill Wilkins Volunteer of the Year Award.

The award recognises long-serving volunteers for their significant contributions to community or sporting groups in Maroondah.

Marrianne Fry, the 2024 recipient, was celebrated in December for her incredible 60 years of volunteering in Scouting. Her dedication and kindness have had a widespread positive impact on our community, encouraging young members to become the best citizens they can be.

A well-respected volunteer, Marrianne is known for her friendly nature. She has built many connections in the community over the years, causing a ripple effect across Maroondah and beyond.

"I've now got great-grandchildren of young people who were once in my groups. Parents say, 'You have no idea what you have done for my child' and that's what keeps me going," Marrianne said.

Council established the annual Bill Wilkins Volunteer of the Year Award in 2019, in honour of the late Bill Wilkins OAM, Freeman of the City of Maroondah, and his extraordinary 75-plus years of volunteering in Maroondah. You can learn more about the award and Bill's legacy on Council's website.

Nominations close on Sunday 21 September, with the recipient to be announced in December.

Visit Council's website to submit your nomination or find out more.

Recognise inspiring residents

Do you know someone who inspires others through their community service? Nominate them for the 2026 Maroondah Australia Day Awards.

Presented annually, these awards celebrate outstanding community service at a local level – either a significant contribution or achievement – over the past year.

There are three award categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year or Community Event of the Year.

Heidi Butler-Moore was named 2025 Citizen of the Year. Her transformative leadership as CEO of Glen Park Community Centre over the past 12 years has been pivotal in creating a stronger, more inclusive Maroondah community. Under her guidance, the centre has become a vital hub, offering essential services such as food relief,

pre-employment pathways, health programs, and creative workshops.

A passionate advocate for social justice, Heidi fosters inclusion through LGBTIQ+ awareness seminars, community events and initiatives such as the Proud Houses Project.

She has also led innovative social enterprises like Café on the Park and Hungry 4 Success, which both provide employment opportunities for disengaged youth and long-term unemployed residents.

"These initiatives change lives. When you can actually see that you're making a difference in people's lives, no matter how big or small, that's what keeps you going," Heidi said.



2025 Maroondah Australia Day Award recipients.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to nominate or to learn more about this year's recipients.

Lap up the fun at Croydon Memorial Pool

The outdoor pool season ends at Croydon Memorial Pool on Sunday 30 March, so lap up the fun while you can!

Croydon Memorial Pool is an outdoor facility that opens seasonally during the warmer months. Enjoy some sunshine in the outdoor pool, leisure pool or toddler pool, or relax with family and friends on the lush green lawns. With a kiosk that offers a variety of food and drink items, including healthy choices, Croydon Memorial Pool is the perfect place for a sunny day.

To find out more about Croydon Memorial Pool or to view opening hours, visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au or call 9294 5630.



Connection and care for older residents

The Maroondah Police Seniors Register is a free program run by volunteers who help older people living in Maroondah to feel safe, confident and connected with their community.

Members of the Council-run initiative receive fortnightly or monthly calls from volunteers, who provide social connection and a 'safe and well' check.

Among these volunteers is Aneese, who said, "I've made lovely friendships with some of the people I talk to fortnightly, and I know the families are very grateful for our calls and concerns for their parents."

The register provides residents, relatives and friends with peace of mind, knowing that someone is looking out for their loved ones.

Cassandra, whose mother is on the register, said "It's wonderful to have someone call Mum and check on her welfare".

The register also contains emergency contact details, such as next of kin or a regular doctor, that can be used to contact key people if there are concerns for the welfare of the person.

People on the register can also be supported and connected with social opportunities and updated on local information about activities and important topics such as safety.

To find out more about joining the register or about becoming a volunteer, call 9298 4569 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 12noon), email seniorsregister@maroondah.vic.gov.au or visit Council's website.



Please be kind

We all deserve to be treated with courtesy and respect, so please be kind to Council employees and everyone in our community.

Council employees all come to work to deliver services for our community, so please be respectful and courteous towards them.



Aggression, violence or harassment is never okay, and your actions have impacts.

Abusive language, aggressive behaviour and inappropriate or offensive acts will not be tolerated.

Council employees in the field can discuss some aspects of their work, but they are unable to change planned activities, make operational decisions or provide information on all aspects of Council or Council decisions.

Visit Council's website so we can connect you with the right person to answer your question.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Local volunteering opportunities

Are you looking for volunteering opportunities in the community? Try using the Virtual Volunteer Navigation Hub.

EV Strengthening Communities (formerly Eastern Volunteers), supported by Maroondah City Council, is encouraging the community to visit their new Virtual Volunteer Navigation Hub.

The Hub is a portal where Maroondah residents can register and receive assistance to find local volunteer roles within our community.

To find out more, visit site-volunteer-registration.powerappsportals.com

Exciting new children's program coming to Aquahub



Imagine jumping, climbing and conquering obstacles like a true ninja in Aquahub's state-of-the-art Gymnastics stadium.

The Ninja program, coming to Aquahub in June, revolves around the completion of missions that will help your child build a strong mindset, practice meditation, and develop discipline and resilience.

Visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au to stay up to date on the program and express your interest.

Reusable Nappies 101 Workshop

Join Elana from Cloth Nappy Workshops Melbourne to discover the world of modern cloth nappies.

Elana will take you through everything you need to know to get started with reusable nappies, including how to wash them, where to buy them and what to look for.

The workshop will be a hybrid event on Saturday 15 March, 10.30am to 12noon, with the option to attend online or in person at Realm in Ringwood Town Square.

Visit Council's website to learn more and to register.

Improve your health and wellbeing at Your Library



Visit Your Library this autumn to connect with others and learn how to improve your health and wellbeing at one of many free events!

Croydon Library events include:

- Creating social connections with LiveUp – Friday 21 March, 10am
- Navigating stress and anxiety – Monday 5 April, 10am
- A life less cluttered – Monday 28 April, 2pm
- Biggest Morning Tea – Wednesday 12 May, 10am

Realm Library events include:

- Reimagining Exercise: Transforming Daily Tasks into Fitness Opportunities – Thursday 20 March, 10am
- Communities of Wellbeing – Wednesday 7 May, 2pm
- Hearing checks with Hearing Australia – Thursday 8 May, 9.30am
- Understanding and Treating ADHD – Thursday 15 May, 6pm

Online events:

- Menopause workshop with Wellfemme – Thursday 1 May, 6pm



Learn more

Visit the Your Library website www.yourlibrary.com.au to find out more or call Croydon Library on 9800 6448 or Realm Library on 9800 6430.

McAlpin Ward

Your Councillors



Cr Nate Henderson
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nathaniel.henderson@maroondah.vic.gov.au

This March, as part of the Celebrate Maroondah series of free community events, Council is hosting a Dogs' Day Out and we're inviting residents and their four-legged friends to join in the fun.

Head to Parkwood Oval, Ringwood North, on Saturday 22 March, from 11am to 3pm for this free event held in partnership with Animal Aid. Enjoy activities for your dog, expert advice, demonstrations, kids' crafts, and a free sausage sizzle. Plus, there'll be coffee and ice-cream available for purchase from on-site vendors.

The event will also be a great opportunity to share your feedback on Council's latest Domestic Animal Management Plan in person, or you can share your thoughts online via Council's Your Say Maroondah portal.

Visit Council's website for details.

Tarralla Ward



Cr Paul Macdonald
Mobile: 0436 001 760
paul.macdonald@maroondah.vic.gov.au

The Tarralla Creek Wetlands project has brought about exciting changes, transforming a once underutilised area into a thriving, sustainable natural space.

Led by Melbourne Water as part of its Reimagining Your Creek program, Council worked with our community and key partners on the project, which has received state, national and international recognition for its environmental benefits and positive community impact.

With new walking paths, native plantings, and water management features to help protect the creek's surrounding habitat, the area has enhanced biodiversity and created a safer, more welcoming and accessible space.

This project is a shining example of how environmental stewardship and strong partnerships can create lasting benefits for everyone.

Wicklow Ward



Cr Daniella Heatherich
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Exciting changes are coming to Croydon through the \$15 million Croydon Main Street Revitalisation project. With \$7.5 million from the Australian Government's Thriving Suburbs Program, matched by Council funding, the project will support Council's long-term vision and planning for Maroondah, to ensure our infrastructure and facilities continue to meet the needs of our community. The project aims to create a safer, more vibrant Main Street and Croydon Town Square that will benefit residents, visitors, shoppers and traders.

Recent projects, such as the removal of the Coolstore Road level crossing, the new Croydon Station, and the 14-bay bus interchange, have already strengthened connections to transport and surrounding retail precincts, making Croydon more accessible than ever.

Visit Council's website to learn more.

Be besties with your bin

Getting to know your waste services and understanding the items that do not belong in your bins – choosing alternate disposal methods – is the key to keeping our community clean and green, and a sure way to be in the good books with your bins. By following these tips and using available resources, you will contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable Maroondah.

Bin guidelines

Tips for all bins

Place your bins on the nature strip by 6am on collection day or the night before to ensure they are emptied on time. If you can't easily wheel your bin to the kerb, then it's probably too heavy to be collected. When positioning your bin for collection, keep bin lids closed and pick up any litter around your bins, ensuring the opening faces the street, and the handle faces your house. After collection, return your bins to your property within 24 hours.

For a detailed list of acceptable items for each bin, visit the 'Residential waste services and bin collection schedule' page on Council's website.

General waste tips

Your general waste bin is used for general household rubbish. Securely wrap or bag general waste to prevent spills and odours.

Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) tips

Your lime green lidded food organics garden organics (FOGO) bin is used for the collection of food waste, grass clippings, prunings, weeds, leaves and other garden waste.

Only Council-supplied compostable liners should be used for food scraps. Do not use plastic bags or string for garden waste.

Small branches and logs should be within the specified size limits (up to 10cm in diameter and 40cm in length). Placing moisture-heavy garden material, such as freshly mown grass clippings, near the top of the bin can prevent sticking – it's best to mow your lawn close to collection day.

Mixed recycling tips

Your blue-lidded mixed recycling bin is used for the collection of loose – not bagged – recyclable containers and paper items.

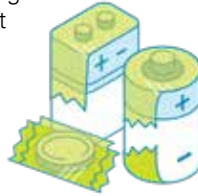
It's important to keep soft plastics like plastic bags, chip packets, bread bags, and other food packaging out of your recycling bin, along with items, such as paper towels, wipes, nappies, and tissues, which are also not recyclable. Flatten cardboard boxes to save space and prevent being jammed in your bin.

Safe disposal of other items

Correct disposal of batteries

Batteries and bins don't mix – do not place batteries in any bin. Instead, you can drop your batteries for recycling to our recycling station at Realm in Ringwood Town Square.

You can also visit the 'Find a drop off point' page on the B-cycle website: bcycle.com.au



Chemicals

Chemicals can only be disposed of via a Detox your Home event, and under no circumstances should they be placed in kerbside bins. Registration for these events is necessary, and details on safe storage are available on the Sustainability Victoria website.

If you can't make it to an event, visit 'Detox your Home' on Sustainability Victoria's website www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome to learn how to store chemicals safely.

A to Z of waste disposal guide



Be confident when placing waste in your bins by using the 'A to Z of waste disposal guide' on Council's website for a thorough guide on disposing of unwanted household items.

E-Waste

E-waste, which includes anything with a plug, cord, or batteries, cannot go in kerbside bins. E-waste can be recycled through Council's on-call hard rubbish collection or at one of Council's e-waste and more collection events. You can book a hard rubbish collection via our website.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to sign up to our Waste and Sustainability newsletter for updates on future e-waste events.



Realm Recycling Station

A recycling station is located at our Realm Customer Service Centre in Ringwood Town Square to help you dispose of some of those harder-to-recycle residential items so we can recycle them for you!

This station accepts residential quantities of items such as X-rays, various types of batteries (including AA, AAA, C, D and 9V), compact fluorescent light bulbs, CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, VHS tapes, small e-waste items like mobile phones and chargers, and sharps containers for household use.



Trash talk

Wednesday 26 March, 7pm, online

End the wasted debate about what things go into which bin, learn how to recycle right in Maroondah, and become besties with your bin at this online Q&A presentation.

Visit Council's website to learn more and register.



When is my bin collection day?

To check your bin collection day, scan the QR code or visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/waste-collection-schedule



Kilsyth to Croydon water main renewal complete

Residents and community members will continue to enjoy a safe, reliable water supply for generations to come, following the completion of Melbourne Water’s Kilsyth to Croydon water main renewal project.

The upgrade replaced 4.3km of 100-year-old infrastructure from Kilsyth to Croydon.

Reinstatement works are almost complete, and the shared-use path will reopen in the coming weeks.

You can find out more about the project on the Melbourne Water website www.melbournewater.com.au/m55

Ringwood East Station car park, Croydon bus interchange now open

An update on the Victorian Government’s Level Crossing Removal Project.

With the removal of the level crossings at Dublin Road, Ringwood East and Coolstore Road, Croydon in 2024, the Lilydale Line has become the first train line in Melbourne to be level crossing free.

At Ringwood East Station, more than 400 car spaces are now available across the car parks along Railway Avenue and Patterson Street, as well as a new pick-up and drop-off area and Parkiteer. A new integrated art feature, *Turtle Guardian* by Warrandyte artist Katie Stackhouse, welcomes visitors to the station precinct.

In Croydon, the new 14-bay bus interchange is open, making it easier and safer for commuters to connect between

bus and train services along with the new road connections.

The main entrance is framed by *Bloom*, two cast-bronze sculptures by acclaimed Australian artist Donna Marcus.

The striking sculptures are inspired by household objects, local seed pods and gumnuts, illustrating Croydon’s transition from its agricultural origins to today’s bustling multicultural community.

Crews have also been planting thousands of native and indigenous trees, plants and grasses across project areas.

Visit the Victoria’s Big Build website www.bigbuild.vic.gov.au to find out more.



Supporting safety in our community

Each year, Council supports various Gender Equity and Free From Violence programs and initiatives as part of our role in community safety.

‘Start the Conversation’ webinar recording

Among the initiatives and programs in 2024 was ‘Start the Conversation’, an informative and engaging webinar held in December.

‘Start the Conversation’ explored the impacts of family violence, how we can all help prevent it, and information about available supports, as part of the annual 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

The webinar, which you can view on Council’s website, was moderated by Patricia Karvelas, host of Breakfast on ABC Radio National. It featured a panel of speakers including Professor JaneMaree Maher from Monash University, lived

experience advocate Julie-Ann, and primary prevention educator Trent Larkman, who emphasised the importance of primary prevention throughout all aspects of our lives, along with positive role modelling and values-based parenting.

Council supported the event in partnership with Monash City Council and Knox City Council.

To view the recording and learn more about Council’s initiatives, visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Preventing-Violence

‘Are You Safe at Home?’ Day

‘Are You Safe at Home?’ Day is held on 10 May each year in recognition of the importance of looking out for those around us and asking, ‘Are you safe at home?’

Keep an eye on Council’s website for an upcoming event that will explore how we can all play a vital role in recognising and responding to family violence in our communities.

Support

If you or someone you know needs support:

- **Call 000** in an emergency
- **Call 1800 RESPECT** (1800 737 732) for 24/7 confidential counselling, support and safety planning.

Making progress in Maroondah

As part of Council's \$65.77 million Capital Works Program, projects are continuing to take shape.

Facilities

Karralyka redevelopment works



Foyer extension works at Karralyka in Ringwood East are continuing this month. The main structure of the building extension and roof has been constructed and internal fit out works have now started. Internal framing and lining is being installed, with joinery work to commence soon. The community will soon be able to enjoy a new expansive, light-filled foyer and bar area, an outdoor area perfect for the warmer months and an extended function space. These works are due for completion in May. Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/karralyka-foyer-works

Aquahub retiling project



Works at Aquahub are almost complete, with the newly tiled pools ready to be enjoyed by the community. The works include the retiling of the 25-metre pool, grouting maintenance, ventilation improvements in changing areas, replacement of stainless steel fittings and general tidying up of surrounding areas. The pools, spa and sauna are open as normal. Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/aquahub-retiling-project

Roads

Victoria Street reconstruction works

Infrastructure improvement works are underway in Ringwood East this month. The Victoria Street and Railway Avenue intersection will be reconfigured, with a new pathway to be constructed on the west side of Victoria Street.

Improvements to the kerb and channel, stormwater drainage and road surface are also included.

Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/victoria-street-reconstruction-works

Pathways

Dickson Crescent



Footpath works on Dickson Crescent in Ringwood North are nearing completion.

A new concrete footpath is being constructed along both sides of Dickson Crescent, which joins the existing concrete footpath along the northern side of Dickson Crescent between 174 Warrandyte Road and 9 Dickson Crescent.

Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Dickson-Crescent-Ringwood-North-footpath-works

Open space

Grayswood Reserve skate precinct

Following community consultation in June 2024, Council is building a new skate facility at Grayswood Reserve in Kilsyth South.

The purpose-built facility is designed to meet the needs and skill levels of local users including skaters, bike riders, scooter riders, roller bladers, roller skaters and other wheel users. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the month, subject to weather.

Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Grayswood-Reserve-skate-precinct



Learn more

Scan the QR code to visit the 'Maroondah projects' page on Council's website to find out more and see other projects in progress. You can also enter your location to find projects near you.



Discover events and activities in Maroondah

Looking for exciting events and activities in Maroondah? Our much-loved online 'Events calendar' and our printed 'What's On' booklets are the ultimate guide to Council and community events happening in and around Maroondah.



From festivals and workshops to sports events and cultural celebrations, find activities for every interest and age group. You can even add your community events to the calendar by using the online "Your Maroondah" portal.

Printed 'What's On' booklets with all Council, Karralyka, and community events are available monthly at Council Service Centres and facilities across Maroondah.

To find out more, visit the 'Events calendar' on Council's website.

Join our Community Directory

Are you a community or not-for-profit organisation looking to reach Maroondah residents? You can showcase your services and offerings in Council's Community Directory.

This valuable resource connects you with the community and helps ensure everyone finds the support, services, and activities they need.

Visit the 'Community Directory' page or the 'Events calendar' on Council's website to learn more.

Wombolano Ward

Your Councillors



Cr Kylie Spears, Mayor
Mobile: 0436 003 660
kylie.spears@maroondah.vic.gov.au

The current phase of the \$10 million redevelopment of Karralyka is almost complete, bringing exciting improvements including a spacious, light-filled foyer and bar area, and extended function spaces. The planned upgrades will enhance the overall visitor experience, and we're excited to unveil them this May.

Meanwhile, tickets for the 2025 Karralyka theatre season are now on sale. With a fantastic line-up of performances, there's something for all ages, from music and comedy to family-friendly shows.

We're also pleased to soon begin safety improvement works at the Eastfield Road, Railway Avenue and Morinda Street intersection in Ringwood East, with \$1.35 million funding through the Australian Government's Black Spot program.

Visit Council's or Karralyka's website for more information.

Wonga Ward



Cr Linda Hancock, Deputy Mayor
Mobile: 0473 194 871
linda.hancock@maroondah.vic.gov.au

As part of the Norwood Reserve Enhancement Plan, Council is improving accessibility and drainage infrastructure as well as planting indigenous vegetation. These efforts not only protect our natural areas but also create valuable outdoor community spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Norwood Reserve is one of around 44 reserves in Maroondah, which are home to some rare and threatened species. Council's dedicated Bushland Management team and local volunteers and Friends of groups play a vital role in providing ongoing care to these areas. They work together to restore habitats, plant thousands of native species each year, and carefully manage vegetation to support healthy ecosystems.

Visit Council's website to learn more about our reserves or the Norwood Reserve Enhancement Plan.

Yarrunga Ward



Cr Rob Steane OAM
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rob.steane@maroondah.vic.gov.au

The new deck at Yarrunga Community Centre will soon become a fantastic addition to the centre's facilities. Located on the west side of the centre, this \$250,000 addition will complement the natural surroundings while seamlessly connecting with multipurpose spaces. Once completed, it will be a versatile space for gatherings of all kinds, enhancing the centre's role as a hub for connection.

The bespoke balustrade and roof section are being manufactured off-site and will be installed in time to see the deck completed and ready for use by the end of March.

This project is an important investment in the community, and I'm excited to see the positive impact it will bring.

Stay updated by visiting Council's website for more details.

Visit your local community house

Maroondah's local community centres and neighbourhood houses offer a range of affordable programs, courses and activities in a supportive, friendly environment. Whether you're looking for a new hobby or to study something new, why not visit your local community house and find out what's on offer?

Arrabri Community House



Mexican Cooking Workshop

Learn how to make a variety of quesadillas and a flavourful one-pot chicken and rice dish. Perfect for anyone looking to spice up their cooking. You can enjoy some taste testing and should have some extra to take home too. All ingredients included. Bring your own apron, knife, chopping board and a container to take home leftovers.

When: Saturday 29 March, 10.30am to 1pm

Cost: \$65

Contact: 9720 0877 or visit www.arrabri.org

Central Ringwood Community Centre



Sustainability Fair

This vibrant, family-friendly event at the Bedford Park Community Garden and Sustainability Hub will celebrate all things sustainable, featuring hands-on workshops, eco-friendly market stalls, live demonstrations, and inspiring guest speakers. Discover practical tips to live greener, swap ideas with local eco-enthusiasts, and enjoy a day filled with community connection.

When: Sunday 16 March, 10am to 2pm

Cost: Free

Contact: 9870 2602 or visit www.crcinc.org.au

Glen Park Community Centre



Art Wednesdays

Explore your art journey, whether you're a beginner or an experienced artist. Create something and immerse yourself within a friendly and supportive group of people. Proceed at your own pace with your own piece of art or join in the group activity. A materials list will be provided upon enrolment.

When: Wednesdays, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Cost: Fees payable by the term

Contact: 9720 5097 or office@glenparkcc.com.au

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP)



MMIGP supports and facilitates a variety of cultural activities and programs that incorporate art, music, language and storytelling, providing a culturally safe and inclusive space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to feel connected and empowered.

Contact: 9725 2166 or visit mmigp.org.au

North Ringwood Community House



Easter Cookie Workshop

Decorate pre-made biscuits with fondant icing, stamp out your design and embellish with food safe paint, sparkles and other edible bling! Explore various decorating techniques and bring your artistic vision to life on delicious cookies.

When: Saturday 29 March, 1pm to 4pm

Cost: \$50 including materials

Contact: 9876 3421 or visit www.nrch.org.au

Yarrunga Community Centre



Chair Exercise

This class is perfect if you have balance issues or are recovering from an injury. Note: prior to commencement, all new participants must provide an exercise and self-assessment. Forms are available online at www.yarrunga.org.au or from the office at Yarrunga Community Centre.

When: Thursdays, 1pm to 2pm

Cost: Fees payable by the term

Contact: 9722 8942 or visit www.yarrunga.org.au

Learn more

For more information about Maroondah's community centres, visit the 'Community and Neighbourhood Houses' page on Council's website. You can also find links to each community centre website.

BizMonth is back!

Following the success of the first-ever BizMonth in 2024, the BizHub Maroondah team is thrilled to announce that BizMonth will be back in 2025.

BizMonth25, presented in partnership with Swinburne University of Technology, will feature a month-long line up of business workshops, training programs, and mentoring services throughout May.

Running from 1 to 30 May, BizMonth25 will offer a comprehensive program of free or low-cost, face-to-face and online

business workshops as well as special events; all aimed at providing practical skills to enhance local business.

Each workshop topic aims to address specific needs and challenges faced by businesses, including small business marketing, HR fundamentals, business financials and creating an inclusive workplace.

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your skills, expand your network, and elevate your business with BizMonth25.

To find out more about BizMonth25, visit the BizHub Maroondah website www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au



Subscribe to BizHub

Join our mailing list to receive the latest business updates, training and funding opportunities, news and events.

In partnership with



Visit www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au for more information



Maroondah City Council is committed to providing equitable service to all in our community. Please contact us on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598 to receive this newsletter in a different format.



Maroondah City Council is certified for its organisational operations.

Printed on sustainably sourced and renewable paper stock.

Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598, online at maroondah.vic.gov.au email maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au or visit one of our service centres.

Croydon Service Centre
Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

Realm
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood
(opposite Ringwood Station)

