



Our FOGO champions are excited that the FOGO service has officially launched.

FOGO is here!

Council's new Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection service has started!

As part of the new service, you can add food scraps as well as garden waste in your green-lidded FOGO bin. Food scraps you can place in your FOGO bin include meat and bones, dairy products, fruit and vegetable scraps, bread, pasta, plate scrapings and more!

The materials in your FOGO bin are collected and sent to an organics processing facility, where they are turned into compost. The compost is then used on Victorian farms to grow more food.

Over 40 percent of garbage collected (by weight) in Maroondah is food waste. In landfill, food releases methane, a harmful greenhouse gas that is 25 times stronger than carbon dioxide. By using the FOGO service, you are helping to divert food waste from landfill and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Jane, one of Maroondah's FOGO champions, who have supported the launch of the service, is excited to see it begin.

"We're passionate about playing a role to reduce food ending up in landfill and helping our community to move towards a more regenerative relationship with the Earth."

Aurora, a Junior FOGO champion who has been trialling the FOGO service with her family, has already seen the benefits of using the FOGO service.

"[There is] less general rubbish in the normal bin; [we are] becoming more conscious of the environment and correctly separating wastes."

For a full list of what can go in your FOGO bin, handy tips and tricks, plus how the FOGO service complements home composting, visit Council's website.

Households with a Council-provided waste service should have received their FOGO kit. If you haven't received yours, please contact Council on 1300 88 22 33.

Welcome to Maroondah news

Hello and welcome to the May edition of Maroondah news.

This is one of many ways that you can keep informed and engaged with the range of Council's services, events and programs.

We also provide other digital and print news publications, including our quarterly Maroondah news magazine, our eNewsletter and regular updates via our website and social media.

If you haven't already, visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au and subscribe to our regular eNewsletters, or keep up to date on our social media channels.

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and Dorset Recreation
Reserve formally open**

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 Council meeting dates are:

Monday 15 May

Monday 19 June (includes adoption of Annual Budget and Council Plan)

Monday 17 July

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 in time for the start of the meeting. Agendas are made available on the Friday before the meeting date.

Council opening hours

Our customer service centres are 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 most Victorian public holidays.

Croydon Library

5 Civic Square, Croydon.
Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.
Closed on weekends and public holidays.

Get in contact with us



Call 9298 4598 or 1300 88 22 33
SMS 0480 020 200



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



maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au



Subscribe to Maroondah eNews
via our website.



Maroondah news is our digital community newsletter that features a range of news, consultations and events to keep you connected with what's happening in and around Maroondah.



Please recycle

The information provided in this newsletter was accurate at the time of print. Visit Council's website for the latest information.

Are you due for your COVID-19 booster dose?

If you're an adult and it's been six months since your last COVID-19 dose or infection, you can get your new booster.

The 2023 booster dose is available for everyone aged 18 and above, and at risk children between the ages of 5 and 17 years.

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends the 2023 booster for people at higher risk of severe illness, including everyone aged 65 and above, and people aged 18 and above who are at risk. Maximise your protection from the virus and give an added boost to your immune system. Immunity wanes over time, so receive your booster dose to have added protection against COVID-19.

Bookings

You can book an appointment using the online Vaccine Clinic Finder at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au

Find out more

Visit the Department of Health website www.health.gov.au to learn more about the COVID-19 booster vaccine.



Nominate an exceptional volunteer

Nominations are open for the Bill Wilkins Volunteer Award – a wonderful way to recognise an exceptional volunteer in the Maroondah community.

The annual award is named in honour of community stalwart Bill Wilkins OAM. It recognises those in our community who inspire others and embody the spirit of volunteerism through their contributions to Maroondah.

Geoff Moss was named recipient of the 2022 Bill Wilkins Volunteer Award in recognition of his 45 years of service to Maroondah Volleyball.

"It's very rewarding to go and help people in the community. The rewards are intangible – it's having people smile at you and thank you for your work. It makes you feel worthwhile and appreciated for what you do," Geoff said.

Nominations close at 5pm on Sunday 22 October 2023. The winner will be announced at a special volunteer awards function in December. For more details and to make your nomination, visit Council's website or call 1300 88 22 33.



2022 Bill Wilkins Volunteer Award recipient Geoff Moss has dedicated 45 years of service to Maroondah Volleyball.

Become a volunteer

Council offers a range of volunteering opportunities. Visit the 'Volunteering' page on Council's website or call us on 1300 88 22 33 to learn more.

Reconciliation Week

It's Reconciliation Week between Saturday 27 May and Saturday 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the Reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 Referendum and the High Court Mabo decision, respectively.



Chris Hume, proud Yorta Yorta man and Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place Men's Worker, conducting a Smoking Ceremony.

Here are some of the ways Council is recognising Reconciliation Week, in celebration of the achievements of our First Nations community and Council's commitments and partnerships.

These events are presented in partnership with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place and Maroondah Movement for Reconciliation.

**Please note: Performances will move inside Realm in the event of inclement weather.*

Realm, Ringwood

Enjoy the following artworks and activities from National Sorry Day on Friday 26 May until the end of NAIDOC Week on Sunday 9 July. National Sorry Day commemorates the anniversary of the apology to the Stolen Generation by the Australian Government.

ArtSpace

- From *Our Elders* exhibition, featuring video works by Narungga/Kaurna and Trawoolwaway filmmaker Daen Sansbury-Smith, based on interviews with Elders.
- Cultural displays by Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place.

Realm windows

- Mural by Amanda Wright featuring recent portraits of local Elders Auntie Irene Norman and Auntie Daphne Milward.

Realm Library

- A book display by Eastern Region Libraries
- Children's activities

Ringwood Town Square*

Join us on Friday 2 June from 10am to 12noon for Maroondah Celebrates Reconciliation, featuring:

- A Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country
- Performances by award-winning singer/songwriter and proud Mutti Mutti man, Kutcha Edwards, local music group Yeng Gali Mullum with members from Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, and the Eastwood Primary School choir
- The launch of Yeng Gali Mullum's new CD, *Cultural Synergy*

Last chance to have your say on important consultations

Local Law review

Following community consultation in 2022 on what matters to you regarding safety and local amenity, Council's Draft Community Local Law 2023 has been prepared.

Many clauses have been retained from the current Local Law No. 11 while some new provisions have been added to address current issues impacting the community.

To view the draft documents and learn more, visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website. Consultation closes Wednesday 10 May.

Staley Gardens, Ringwood

Staley Gardens is a highly valuable green space located in the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre. Council would like to know how current visitors to Staley Gardens use the area and how the wider community may use the space in the future.

Your feedback will help inform the future of Staley Gardens to ensure it meets the needs of the Maroondah community. Have your say via Council's Your Say Maroondah website. Consultation closes Tuesday 16 May.



Staley Gardens, Ringwood

Share your thoughts via Council's Your Say Maroondah website:
www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au

Mayoral Art Exhibition acquisitions announced

The 28th annual Mayoral Art Exhibition acquisitions for 2023 were announced to a full house at the launch of *Interior|Exterior* on Thursday 30 March.

Congratulations to Kari Henriksen, Xiao Yu Bai and Althea Wong, whose pieces will become part of Council's permanent art collection.

The Mayoral Art Exhibition is an annual fundraiser for the Bone Marrow Donor Institute and is supported by Maroondah City Council and the Ringwood East Community Bendigo Bank.

This year's theme, *Interior|Exterior*, invited artists to submit works of all mediums to explore interior and exterior worlds.

Kari Henriksen said *Weather Watching* depicts how clouds are "elusive, subject to constant change, shape-shifting and in flux" which "metaphorically mirrors the uncertain times we are currently experiencing with climate change".

Xiao Yu Bai's *Study of Dao #25* allows the viewer to "experience the mystery of Dao" while feeling "calmness, movement, vital energy and contemplation."

"The space of Dao is boundless, and time has no beginning and end. It is silent and soothing. It is included within everything," Xiao said.

Althea Wong's work, *The Lovers*, expresses "the delights and turbulences of life, playfully connecting with the viewer through absurdity and humour".

"*The Lovers* reflects the charming ideal of an innocent love and intimacy – something that I myself desire," Althea said.



Save with solar



In partnership with the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA), Council is participating in the Solar Savers Program.

Solar Savers provides support to Maroondah residents, including homeowners, renters and businesses, who would like to install rooftop solar and battery storage. The program can also connect residents with technical guidance and advice, and help residents make the most of available rebates. Installing rooftop solar can be a great way to reduce your electricity costs and greenhouse gas emissions, particularly if members of your household:

- Use appliances during the day
- Work from home
- Spend 3 to 4 days at home per week
- Care for someone in need

Information session

Join us on **Wednesday 14 June from 11am at Realm, Ringwood**, to learn more about how the Solar Savers Program can help you make the most of solar power. Visit Council's website to register or learn more about the benefits of solar power and our work in this space.

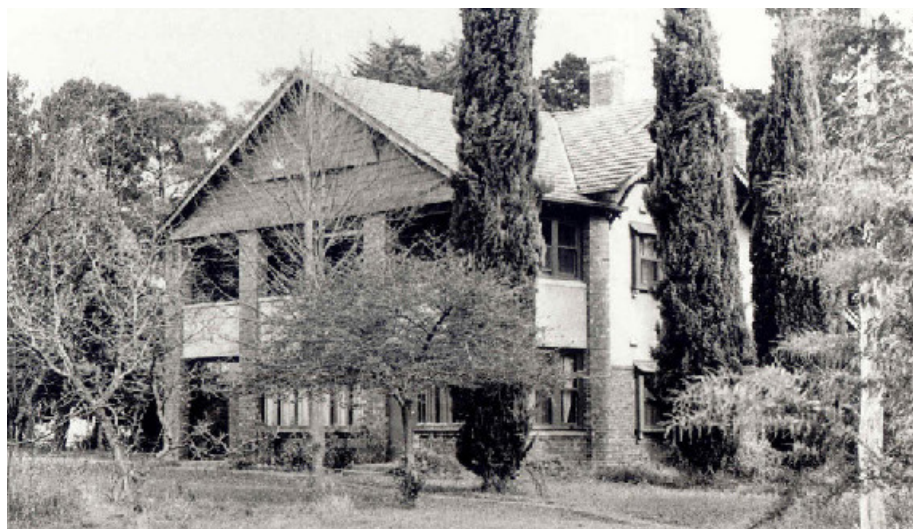
Wyreena building celebrates 100 years!

Wyreena Community Arts Centre is a historical property in Croydon featuring The Arts Lounge, the Conservatory Café, beautiful gardens and an interactive Playspace.

Wyreena has an interesting social and architectural history. It was originally built as a family home, with two of the buildings on the property constructed in the 1920s and 1930s.

The main building was then sold to the Catholic Church in the 1950s for use as a convent and commercial college. In the late 1970s, the building was saved from development by passionate community members and in 1978 it became a Community Arts Centre.

Today, Wyreena offers a wide range of arts-based programs and workshops for all ages and abilities. Visit Council's website to learn more and to book a workshop, program or guided tour.



Dangers of e-cigarettes

World No Tobacco Day on 31 May is a timely reminder to be aware of the dangers of smoking, particularly electronic cigarettes (vapes).

E-cigarettes, also known as 'vapes', are battery-powered devices that heat a liquid until it becomes an aerosol, which is a fine spray of chemicals and particles. These small particles can become stuck in the lung and the chemicals enter the body through the lungs.

While buying an e-cigarette or liquid containing nicotine is illegal in Australia without a doctor's prescription, there are no quality or safety standards for e-cigarettes or nicotine-free liquids, which means that ingredients and labels are not regulated or checked. In fact, most e-cigarettes and e-liquids in Australia that don't show nicotine on their label actually do contain nicotine.

Nicotine is particularly dangerous for teenagers, as it harms how teenage brains grow and can affect memory and concentration. Teenagers can become addicted to nicotine more easily and rapidly than adults, and teenagers who use e-cigarettes are also more likely to start smoking cigarettes.

Regardless of nicotine content, e-cigarettes contain a wide range of chemicals that likely cause harm, with potential long-term impacts of smoking with e-cigarettes including an increased risk of cancer, heart disease or lung disease.

With World No Tobacco Day approaching, Council reminds residents that smoke free areas, including enclosed workplaces and certain public spaces, remain in place throughout Victoria and Maroondah, including at Ringwood Town Square and Croydon Town Square. These bans also apply to e-cigarettes. For more information, visit the Department of Health website.

For more information on the dangers of e-cigarettes, visit the Quitline website www.quit.org.au or call Quitline on 13 7848.

Young people and vaping

Parent, carer and educator webinar

Tuesday 9 May, 7pm to 8.30pm
Online via Zoom

Join this webinar to receive up-to-date information about vaping, trends in use among young people, and the potential harms of vaping.

Learn how to talk with young people about vaping to prevent or reduce use.

Visit Council's website to learn more and register for the webinar. A Zoom link will be sent after registration.

2024 Maroondah Australia Day Awards

**Do you know someone who goes above and beyond?
Why not nominate them!**



Presented annually at Council's Australia Day event, the awards honour some of Maroondah's most outstanding residents.

Submissions can be made for an individual or community group for their contribution to the Maroondah community in either a professional or volunteer capacity.

Nominations close 5pm, Sunday 19 November 2023.

Visit Council's website to nominate for the 2024 Maroondah Australia Day Awards or to learn more about the 2023 award recipients.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Have you completed the Australian Liveability Census?

There's still time to provide feedback in the Australian Liveability Census and take part in the largest social research project in Australia. Share your thoughts on the things you value, need and experience in your local neighbourhood.

Your feedback will help us consider the needs, values and goals of our residents when planning future programs, initiatives, facilities and more.

Please visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au to share your thoughts by 30 June 2023.

Book your 2023 flu vaccine



Have you booked your flu vaccine? Council offers free flu vaccines to eligible persons through the National Immunisation Program (NIP), and payable flu vaccines are also available for those not eligible for the free flu vaccine.

Dedicated flu vaccine sessions are available from May onwards at venues across Maroondah. Visit the 'Immunisation' page on Council's website for eligibility criteria and to make a booking.

Happy Mother's Day!



We wish all Maroondah mums, grandmothers and care givers a very happy Mother's Day on Sunday 14 May.

Council offers a range of services to support mums. Our Maternal and Child Health Service provides a free program for all parents, from first-time parent groups to sleep and settling talks and toddler talks. Visit the 'Maternal and Child Health' page on our website for more information.

What's On

To view more events and activities in Maroondah, visit the [What's On in Maroondah](#) section of Council's website.



21
May

Yours: The Maroondah City Council Art Collection

Until Sunday 21 May

ArtSpace at Realm
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood

The Maroondah City Council Art Collection is a resource of culturally and aesthetically significant works of art that tell the stories of our environment and our people, enriching community life through interpretive display. It celebrates the contribution artists, working within the region and beyond, have made to defining Australian culture and identity.

Visit Council's website to view opening hours for ArtSpace at Realm.



23
May

Smart Storage to Reduce Food Waste workshop

Tuesday 23 May
10am to 11.30am

Central Ringwood Community Centre
Rosewame Lane, Ringwood

Choosing the right food storage can extend the life of your food, which means less waste and saving money. Join this workshop to help you cut down on food waste at home with some know-how and simple tips to keep food fresh for longer.

Visit Council's website to register or to learn more about our range of community waste education workshops.



26
May

Morrigan and Wilding at Wyreena Music Café

Friday 26 May
7.30pm to 9.30pm

Wyreena Conservatory Café
13-23 Hull Road, Croydon

The folk-fusion duo brings together Carly Wilding's extensive theatre and music background and Kylie Morrigan's classical and contemporary musical background.

Tickets are \$40 per person and include entertainment and supper. Bookings are essential. Visit Council's website to book or find out more information.

New sporting facilities formally open

The newly refurbished \$1.8 million Cheong Park pavilion in Croydon South and the redeveloped \$9.5 million Dorset Recreation Reserve in Croydon were formally opened in April.

Funded by Council in partnership with the Victorian and Australian Governments, the projects were formally opened by Mayor Cr Rob Steane, Sonja Terpstra, Member for Eastern Metropolitan Region representing the Victorian Government, and Raff Ciccione, Federal Senator for Victoria, representing the Australian Government.

Cheong Park pavilion

Home to South Croydon Football Club, South Croydon Cricket Club and utilised by U3A Croydon, the improvements made to Cheong Park pavilion include upgraded façade, additional female-friendly change rooms, umpire change rooms, game-day toilets, renovated social space and kitchen. The design ensures inclusiveness and all-abilities access.

President of the South Croydon Cricket Club, Steve Duke, said the new facilities are a welcome addition. "The new change facilities will be great for our women players. The new kitchen area will certainly make it easier for our dinners and match day needs, and the overall refresh of the building is welcoming for everyone. We also now have enough dedicated storage for the needs of both clubs!"



Dorset Recreation Reserve

Dorset Recreation Reserve

The \$9.5 million transformation of Dorset Recreation Reserve was celebrated by those who call it home, including Croydon City Soccer Club and the Eastern Burmese Ethnic Community (EBEC).

The facility boasts a large multipurpose space, kitchen and bar upstairs with impressive views of both the synthetic and natural soccer pitches and multipurpose courts with female-friendly player and umpire change rooms downstairs.

President of EBEC and representative from the Karen Community, Sal Pe, said the EBEC community is "thrilled to share the space with Croydon City Soccer Club" and hopes this will "strengthen the relationship and encourage sports engagement" within the community. "Our common goal was that we wanted this space to be a safe space. The main purpose was to provide a family-friendly environment for the celebration of Burmese cultures and participation in sport."

This project was funded with \$2 million from the Victorian Government and \$2 million from the Australian Government.

Progress on projects in your area

As part of Council's \$51.69 million Capital Works Program, progress on major projects is taking shape.

JW Manson Reserve pavilion redevelopment



Redevelopment of JW Manson Reserve pavilion in Wantirna, owned by Maroondah City Council, is nearing completion.

The building modules were built off site and installed on site, to reduce construction time and disruption to the area. Final fit out works are underway and the pavilion will soon be home to local soccer, AFL and cricket clubs. The pavilion features female-friendly and accessible facilities, large multipurpose space, kitchen, bar and kiosk.

The cricket nets are also being upgraded as part of this redevelopment. This project is funded by Council in partnership with the Victorian Government.

Town Park sportsfield redevelopment



The sportsfield that sits within the athletics track at Town Park is being upgraded following works to install the Tarralla Creek Stormwater Harvesting system. Drainage and irrigation have been installed, while 2,000 tonnes of sand has been spread over the soccer pitch, with the drought tolerant couch grass also laid last month.

The turf is now being established and is expected to be ready for use in July.

The athletics track will open for users within the coming weeks. This project is funded by Council in partnership with the Victorian Government.

Indoor cricket training centre at Jubilee Park



Construction of the five-lane indoor cricket training centre at Jubilee Park is nearly complete. The facility, to be named Maroondah Edge, is preparing to open, with final works being completed, including final internal fit out and external soft landscaping.

The state-of-the-art facility boasts five lanes for indoor cricket training and will become a regional women's centre of excellence for cricket, as well as being used by the premier grade Ringwood Cricket Club, Cricket Victoria and the Ringwood District Cricket Association (RDCA). This project is funded by Council in partnership with the Victorian Government.

East Ringwood Reserve lighting upgrade



Located on the corner of Mt Dandenong Road and Dublin Road, new lighting has recently been installed at East Ringwood Reserve. The four LED sportsfield lights on 27 metre poles will illuminate the oval to 200 lux using LED lamp heads.

The lighting is concentrated on the oval and ensures that any spill light is controlled and minimised in accordance with Australian Standards, making it safer for players to train at night.

The lighting will accompany the other high quality facilities at the Reserve, following increased demand for female participation in sport, and will assist with a more enjoyable and better quality experience for all players. This project was funded by the Victorian Government.

Engineering works update



Council is continually improving Maroondah's roads, drains and footpaths to ensure the safety and accessibility of residents and visitors.

Check out works recently completed in your area:

- Tintern Avenue, Croydon South – road and pedestrian safety improvements
- Parsons Street, Croydon – parking improvements and footpath construction
- Eastfield Road, Ringwood East – infrastructure enhancement works
- Alexandra Road and Scenic Avenue, Ringwood East – flood mitigation works
- Ainslie Park Carpark, Croydon – carpark construction
- New Street, Ringwood – pedestrian safety improvements
- Hendra Grove, Sunhill Road, Sang Court, Ambrie Avenue, Ringwood – footpath construction

The following works are currently underway or expected to start shortly:

- Dorset Recreation Reserve, Croydon South – carpark improvements
- New Street, Ringwood – RMAC Sherbrook Catchment Stage 3 drainage upgrades
- Yarra Road, Croydon footpath works – final stage
- Jubilee Park Carpark, Ringwood – carpark improvement works
- Eastfield Road, Croydon South – footpath construction and pedestrian refuge
- Churchill Way, Kilsyth – disabled bay parking improvement
- Sonia Street, Ringwood – drainage improvement works
- Stirling Road and Toorak Avenue Intersection, Croydon – waste vehicle turnaround improvements

Learn more Visit the 'Projects' page on our website to find out more and see other projects in progress.

International Compost Awareness Week

Let's get composting, Maroondah! This year International Compost Awareness Week runs from Sunday 7 May to Saturday 13 May.

It is a week of activities and events to raise awareness about the importance of composting, and how compost is used to help build healthier soils.

Composting has many benefits for you and your garden all year round, such as:

- creating a rich fertiliser for your garden
- improving the yield of your home-grown fruit and vegetables
- adding important minerals, nutrients, bacteria and micro-organisms back into your soil

- increasing the water retention of your soil
- getting you out in the garden more

Did you know Council, via Compost Revolution, offers Maroondah residents up to 60 percent off the purchase of a range of home composting systems?

Each Maroondah residential property is eligible for one subsidised system each year.

You can learn more about composting at Council's Compost, Worm Farm and Bokashi workshop on Monday 8 May.



Scan the QR code to book for our *Compost, Worm Farm and Bokashi* workshop or subscribe to the Waste and Sustainability newsletter for composting updates all year round.

Your Councillors

Barnegeong Ward



Cr Marijke Graham
0418 109 015

Bungalook Ward



Cr Tony Dib OAM JP
0438 515 089

Jubilee Ward



Cr Mike Symon
0436 002 080

McAlpin Ward



Cr Suzy Stojanovic
0429 916 094

Tarralla Ward



Cr Paul Macdonald
0436 001 760

Wicklow Ward



Cr Tasa Damante
Deputy Mayor
0438 704 819

Wombolano Ward



Cr Kylie Spears
0436 003 660

Wonga Ward



Cr Linda Hancock
0473 194 871

Yarrunga Ward



Cr Rob Steane
Mayor
0407 519 986

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 if you would like to receive this newsletter in a different format.



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
Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon



Realm
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood
(opposite Ringwood Station)

