

Maroondah news

Your community newsletter



Autumn 2024



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



Mayor, Councillor Kylie Spears

Mayor's message

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Maroondah News.

It was wonderful to see community members of all ages on 26 January at Ringwood Lake Park for our first event for the year. I had the honour of presenting the Maroondah Australia Day Awards to outstanding citizens and events in our community, and also declared 60 Maroondah residents as Australian citizens. I look forward to welcoming our community to many more events throughout 2024.

We are also looking forward to BizMonth – a month-long line up of business workshops, training programs, and mentoring services throughout May. BizMonth will also include the launch of the Maroondah Business Excellence Awards 2024, so save the date and visit the BizHub Maroondah website for details.

Easter and the school holidays will be here before we know it! If you're seeking ways to keep your children entertained, you might like to enrol in Council's school holiday programs at The Rings, Maroondah Nets and Wyreena Community Arts Centre. Places often book out quickly, so visit Council's website for dates and details and to book.

You can also experience a range of exciting exhibitions and shows for all ages, as part of Maroondah's vibrant arts and cultural scene. Whether you are looking to enjoy Parisian cabaret, children's shows, comedy or popular culture and music, there's something for everyone in Maroondah. You can view some upcoming highlights on page 11, or visit Council's website to view our online 'Events calendar'.

Visit Council's website for news and updates on events, activities and programs near you. I look forward to seeing you in the community soon!

Regards,
Cr Kylie Spears
Mayor of Maroondah

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 18 March

Monday 22 April

Monday 27 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 Labour Day and Easter Monday, 10am to 5pm. 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.

Get in contact with us

- phone 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598
- email maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au
- SMS 0480 020 200
- live chat via our website www.maroondah.vic.gov.au

Late last year, Council invited our community to share their vision for the future of Maroondah as part of Maroondah 2050, our new Community Vision. Thank you to everyone who provided ideas and feedback. You can read some of this feedback on page 3.

Applications are now open for Council's Community Grants and Arts and Cultural Grants funding programs for 2024/25. These programs are a fantastic opportunity for eligible, not-for-profit community groups to obtain support for development projects that will benefit the community. Eligible artists or arts and cultural groups and organisations can also apply for support to help raise Maroondah's arts and cultural profile. Learn more on pages 4 and 6, or visit Council's website to apply.

Projects are taking shape as part of Council's Capital Works Program, with construction set to begin soon on new playspaces at Bungalook Reserve in Bayswater North, San Martin Reserve in Croydon North and Little John Reserve in Warranwood. You can read more on page 17.

Stay in touch with us

Do you have Council business, but not sure how best to contact us?

Our Customer Service team is available to chat over the phone on 1300 88 22 33, on 'live chat' via our website or you can send us a text message to 0480 020 200 or email us at maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Our website also has several ways you can stay in touch, make a request and report matters to Council.

To make sure you're keeping up with the latest news and activities in Maroondah, why not subscribe to our fortnightly Maroondah News e-newsletter. It includes the latest Council news – delivered straight to your inbox!

To subscribe for the e-newsletter, visit our website and fill in your details – it's that easy.

While you're there, why not subscribe to Council's other e-newsletters?

These provide news and updates from our Children's Services, Waste, Bushland and Arts teams, plus Maroondah Leisure, Karralyka, Wyreena Community Arts Centre and more.

You can also stay in touch and interact with Council on a range of social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), as well as have your say about projects on our Your Say Maroondah consultation website, yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au

Front page: A Maroondah family all smiles at Ringwood Lake Park.

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

Community Vision update



Green, sustainable, inclusive, connected, community and safe – these are some of the words being used by the community to describe the vision for the future of Maroondah.

I love the closeness of facilities like the pools, library, train station, bike tracks, parks and the ability to drive into the country-side without driving through too much traffic.

Croydon resident

Trees, nature, wildlife still plentiful whilst easy access to services.

Croydon North resident

It's clean, green and wonderfully located within greater Melbourne.

Bayswater North resident



In the second half of 2023, the Maroondah community was given the chance to shape the future of the municipality in which they live, work, play, study, or visit. By participating in various engagement opportunities, the community was able to have their say in the development of the new Maroondah 2050 Community Vision.

Four months of broad community and stakeholder engagement ended in early December, but further engagement will continue in early 2024 as Council works in partnership with the community to create the new Community Vision for Maroondah.

Initial findings show that the Maroondah community highly values our natural environment, particularly Maroondah's green, leafy nature; flora and fauna; parks; tree canopies, and green spaces.

This is closely followed by the location, proximity and accessibility of Maroondah, including the City's location within greater Melbourne; ease of access to local services and facilities; and transport options.

Neighbourhood character and sense of space, safety and peacefulness are also considered important.

The extensive community engagement process included online and hard copy surveys and more than 30 face-to-face engagement sessions held at Council events and other locations across Maroondah.

Workshops were also held with Council's seven advisory committees, along with targeted workshops with young people, culturally and linguistically diverse community leaders, and over 80 community and business leaders from across Maroondah.



Next steps

The engagement process continues in early 2024, with the creation of the Maroondah Community Panel as well as further targeted engagement.

Following a call for Expressions of Interest for the Maroondah Community Panel, a diverse and representative group of community members has been selected to work in partnership with Council over a series of four workshop sessions to draft the Maroondah 2050 Community Vision.

Further targeted community and stakeholder engagement ensures that feedback captured is representative of the entire Maroondah community.

Thank you to the 461 people who completed our online survey, and the many community members who took part in our interactive activities at our pop-up events and onsite consultations.



Learn more

For further information and the full project timeline for the Maroondah 2050 Community Vision, visit yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au/maroondah-2050

Supporting community groups

Applications are now open for Council's 2024/25 Community Grants Funding Program.

Funding is available for not-for-profit, incorporated groups to assist with projects or programs that make a positive contribution to the Maroondah community. The funds can be used to buy equipment or to deliver a program, project or event in Maroondah.

Groups can apply for funding under Community Development Grants, Small Equipment Grants Scheme and Emergency Food Relief Grants.

Applications close on Sunday 14 April, with applicants being advised of the outcome of their application and funds distributed in July.

Big Little Buddies received a grant as part of Council's 2023/24 funding program. The grant helped fund new equipment and instruments for the charity's music-based intergenerational programs, which promote shared enjoyment, learning and positive health and wellbeing outcomes for participants young and old.

Monique Waterhouse of Big Little Buddies said the programs are helping to reduce isolation and loneliness experienced by aged care residents, "fostering positive attitudes towards ageing and older people," and "positively influencing children's social skills, confidence, empathy and kindness."

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



Keep an eye on Council's social media channels over the coming weeks for videos featuring some of our previous Community Grants Funding Program recipients.

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.



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



Register your pet by 10 April

You'll soon be receiving your renewal form for pet registration.

Dogs and cats in Maroondah must be registered with Council by three months of age. If you're a new pet owner and are yet to register your pet, you can do this online at anytime. Once registered, you will be issued with a lifetime tag to place on your pet's collar, which helps us to reunite you in case your pet goes missing. Your pet is required to wear its tag at all times. The tags are lifelong, so they are not reissued when you renew your registration.

Registering your pet also means Council can maintain dog parks, service dog waste bins, attend to nuisance animal complaints and provide community education on responsible pet ownership.

Register your pet by Wednesday 10 April online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/PetRegistration or contact the Local Laws team on 1300 88 22 33 for more information.



Supporting families with kinder enrolments

Council offers information and resources to assist Maroondah families with choosing the right kindergarten option for their child.



Kindergarten, also called preschool or kinder, is an early childhood education program for young children, delivered by qualified early childhood educators. Kindergarten is a Victorian Government-funded service and is free for all three- and four-year-old children at participating services. Eligible children can now access up to 15 hours of kinder each week for the two years before starting school.

To be eligible for kinder, a child must turn three or four before 30 April in the year they will be attending kinder. You can check your child's age eligibility on Council's website. As each child's development is unique, the best time to start kinder can depend on a range

of individual factors, so speak with your child's Council maternal and child health nurse for advice. To book an appointment, call 9294 5777.

Kindergarten programs operate in a range of settings in Maroondah, including standalone community kindergartens, kindergartens within community-based or private long day care, and kindergarten services in independent schools. Navigating the process can be difficult, but Council's team is here to assist with any queries you may have.

Most standalone kindergartens in Maroondah are part of the Maroondah Integrated Kindergarten's Association (MIKA) central enrolment system.

Kindergarten Outreach Program



Council has an outreach program that supports children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds to enrol and participate in kindergarten.

Bilingual employees are available to support families that have recently arrived in Australia and interpreters are available if required.

Scan the QR code or visit the 'Kindergarten Outreach Program CALD' page on Council's website for details. The website has translations in numerous languages, including Burmese and Chinese.



Information on the enrolment process is available on Council's website.

MIKA kinder enrolments for 2025 are currently open and will close on 30 June 2024. If you are ready to enrol, contact MIKA on 0449 997 488 or visit www.mika.org.au, where you can also watch a handy information video.

Scan the QR code or visit the 'Kindergartens' page on Council's website to learn more and connect with a range of resources to support you in choosing the right kindergarten for your child.



Sense of connection for local dads

Council recently partnered with MensLine Australia to offer a pilot program, 'DadConnect', to provide a dad-friendly program to support dads and help them build connections with other dads in Maroondah.

Fifteen families took part in the program and were invited to bring their baby aged under 12 months.

The program was led by a Council maternal and child health nurse and a male facilitator from MensLine, to provide information and support to dads on strengthening child health and development – in particular, ensuring that children have a thriving relationship with their dads, families and community while growing up.

The program aimed to help prevent isolation that can be experienced by new parents.

Participant Todd said: "Initially I attended the 'DadConnect' group to meet and connect with other dads in the area, to share and learn together. I took away some valuable ways to better communicate, express opinions and support my wife through what has been the biggest change in our lives so far.

"A special mention to Jane the Maternal Child and Health Nurse who attended all sessions and always provided timely and critical information to each dad about their baby's development."

Fellow participant Tim said: "My main focus was to make new connections, hear the

opinions and experiences of other dads and gather information to improve my quality time with my son. I found the group met all of these goals."

With the pilot program now complete, Council is supporting this new initiative with further programs this year.



Ringwood Golf is turning 50!

Ringwood Golf celebrates a milestone 50 years this month, having opened on 30 March 1974.



Archival image of Ringwood Golf from the 18th hole, around the late 1990s.

The original course had nine holes, but the course was so popular that players would complete the nine holes and wait in line to play them again! The course expanded to 18 holes in June 1976, when the back nine holes were officially opened. Ringwood Golf has proven its popularity ever since. In the last 30 years, there have been 2,476,379 players. 1997 was the most popular year with 94,760 players, followed by 2023, when 93,242 golfers took to the greens.

Today, Ringwood Golf continues to hold its reputation as one of Melbourne's finest public golf courses. Wide, open fairways and large greens provide beginners with an enjoyable round while strategically placed bunkers challenge players with lower handicaps.

The course is also home to a well-stocked pro shop and Mister Fox, a fully licensed café that offers a stunning view of the 10th fairway from every table.

With experienced community coaches and PGA professionals on hand, Ringwood Golf offers a range of clinics for beginners and experienced players, covering individual lessons as well as adult, women's and junior clinics that cover chipping, putting, pitching, bunkers, full swing and more.

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

Step back in time...

Life was a little different when Ringwood Golf opened in March 1974! Here are some interesting facts from that year:

- A round of golf cost \$2.50, with the average wage being \$140 per week
- Petrol was 57 cents per litre
- The average house cost \$19,800
- Gough Whitlam was Prime Minister of Australia
- The hottest day in Melbourne was 3 March, with a temperature of 36.4 degrees
- When Ringwood Golf opened on 30 March 1974, it was 20.2 degrees
- Gary Player won the Open Championship, with the new larger ball in play.

Visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au for updates on celebrations to mark 50 years of Ringwood Golf.



Archival image of the flower garden at Ringwood Golf

Boosting community arts and culture



Artists, arts and cultural groups and organisations are invited to apply for Council's Arts and Cultural Grants Funding Program for 2024/25.

The grants are part of Council's Community Grants Funding Program for community-driven projects, initiatives and events that increase Maroondah's profile and participation within the arts.

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.

Applications close on Sunday 14 April, with applicants being advised of the outcome of their application and funds distributed in July.

Blossoms of Life – The Eucalyptus Flower for Everyone was supported by Council's 2022/23 funding program. The collaborative art project between artist Hsin Lin and poet Lauren M Hancock was installed at Ringwood Lake Park.

"As a local artist, most of my inspiration comes from my observation of nature. Ringwood Lake Park is one of my favourite places in Maroondah to visit,

where we are blessed with various native vegetation and beautiful flowers in different seasons," artist Hsin Lin said of the project.

"To celebrate and promote the beauty and strength of native flowers, I wanted to deliver a bigger, brighter artwork cooperating with local poet Lauren M Hancock to present a permanent display in a public area, that aims to bring colourful, joyful experiences to local residents. Having the artwork in this location, a place we love and belong, and where children grow, seeing the flowers in full bloom reminds everyone that we are alive, vibrant, and blossoming."

Visit Council's website for application details, guidelines and criteria. You can also contact Council's Community Cultural Development Officer on 9298 4533 or email arts@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Join in the fun at Maroondah Night Run



Friday 19 April, 6pm start
Ringwood Golf, 352 Canterbury Road, Ringwood

Join us for Maroondah Night Run, a glow-filled 5km run or walk around Ringwood Golf course.

Try for a personal best or simply enjoy the beautiful views on offer. Dress in your brightest activewear or bring your own glow sticks to stand out from the crowd! All ages and athletic abilities are welcome.

Registration costs \$26 per individual, \$20 per concession, or \$57 for a family of up to four participants, with additional family members \$10 per person. Individual registrants must be over 12 years of age and family registrations must have at least one adult aged over 18 years.

Registrations close on Friday 12 April.

Visit Council's website to register or find out more.

Register your interest for gymnastics in 2024

Aquahub's dynamic gymnastics program will be returning in April 2024 following a redevelopment of the stadium into a purpose-built, industry-leading facility.

The gymnastics program at Aquahub is specifically designed for children 1 to 16 years of age and is delivered by nationally qualified coaches, offering progressive foundation levels to build your child's skills.



Scan the QR code or visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au to express your interest, stay up to date on the return of gymnastics at Aquahub and be one of the first to experience the new and improved program!

Over 55s walking their way to healthy outcomes

A recent study has found walking sports such as walking football can boost health and wellbeing for players over the age of 55.

The 2023 Deakin University and Football Victoria study surveyed players over the age of 55 and explored how walking football contributed to their health and wellbeing. Of the 42 people who participated in the survey, 88.1 percent felt satisfied with their health since they took up walking football and felt that the game improved their mood.

The weekly walking football program helped players learn new skills while being physically active in a gentle game, with 90.5 percent of survey participants satisfied with their game skill improvement.

Some players even sought additional physical activities to continue maintaining their health, skills and confidence.

Walking football can also have positive impacts on social health by providing opportunities to build social skills and long-term friendships. Almost 80 percent of survey participants felt satisfied with being part of a community and 74 percent said walking football was the highlight of their week.

Want to get involved?

Walking sports provide opportunities for players to move regularly in a safe, fun way, so they are great for older residents who, due to physical or health factors, have been relatively inactive, or for those returning to sport after a break.

Low impact and walking sport programs in Maroondah include:

- Pickleball
- Badminton
- Table tennis
- Walking cricket
- Walking football
- Walking netball

Visit the 'Events calendar' on Council's website to find activities near you.



Daily FOGO habits make a tonne of difference

Maroondah's Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service is helping to turn truckloads of food and garden organic waste into quality compost, all thanks to your daily FOGO habits.

Between May 2023 and January 2024, the first nine months of the service, Maroondah residents collected an average of 200 additional tonnes of organic waste in their FOGO bins each month. In that same period, the FOGO service collected 1,640 tonnes more organic waste, or the equivalent of 205 additional truck loads, when compared to the same time in 2022.

The amount of organic waste going to landfill went down as well. In those same nine months, 1,530 tonnes (97 garbage trucks' worth) of waste did not go to landfill. Your small FOGO actions are making a big difference.

Need more FOGO caddy liners?

An annual supply of liners is being delivered from 13 March to 17 April to Maroondah households who didn't previously decline to receive them. Keep an eye on your letterbox for your new liners.

Contact Council's Customer Service team if you have not received your liners by Thursday 18 April or if you no longer want to receive your annual supply from next year. To learn more about what can and can't go in your FOGO bin, visit Council's website.



Waste education workshops



Council hosts a range of community waste education workshops throughout the year to help our residents learn more about a variety of topics, including:

- recycling correctly
- composting and worm farming at home
- reducing food waste
- reducing waste at home.

Sessions are often presented by guest speakers and AUSLAN interpreters are available for all workshops.

Presentations can also be run for community groups on request.

Scan the QR code to visit the 'Community waste education and workshops' page on Council's website and find out more.



Recycle your aluminium foil this Easter... and any time

Did you know that aluminium foil can be recycled in your blue-lidded recycling bin?

By following these steps, you will ensure it can be recycled and used to make new aluminium products:

- Scrape off solid food
- Save small pieces of foil from chocolates, such as Easter eggs, and roll them into a ball. Keep adding to the ball until it is about the size of a tennis ball
- Scrunch larger pieces of foil into a ball

To find out more about what can be recycled and how, visit the 'Recyclables collection' page on Council's website.

Council also holds helpful waste education workshops throughout the year. Visit the Community Waste Education page or Council's website to learn more.



Learn more

While you're there, why not subscribe to the Waste and Sustainability e-newsletter to stay updated on upcoming workshops, events and waste news.

Seed farming to restore Maroondah's bushland

Council's Bushland Management team is farming seeds of rare and declining plant species to help prevent them from becoming extinct in Maroondah.

As part of the conservation program, plants are grown with the specific purpose of producing as much seed as possible, which is then used to restore Maroondah's bushland areas.

Despite very low weed content, seed farming has become necessary because many plant species have not been reproducing in reserves, mostly due to the changed conditions plants experience in urban areas.

Seed farming has several benefits, including:

- Providing insurance against the loss of plants in reserves.

- Allowing plants from several small populations to be combined, creating more genetically diverse seed that can better adapt to environmental change.
- Producing greater quantities of seed, with plants grown under ideal conditions, making collection easy, cost effective and fast. This sees more seed return to the natural environment than was taken.
- Greater overall success rates of seed production, even in years when plants do not seed well in the bush.

The farmed seed is used to improve the population size and genetic diversity of rare plants in Council reserves, while also providing improved genetic diversity in revegetation plantings.

Council's seed has also been shared with other indigenous nurseries in the region, where populations are under similar threats.



Species that have been farmed successfully include: Long Purple-flag (*Patersonia occidentalis*), Short Purple-flag (*Patersonia fragilis*), most species of Australian Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia*), Golden Weather-glass (*Hypoxis hygrometrica*), Common Hovea (*Hovea heterophylla*), Matted Flax-lily (*Dianella amoena*), Common Fringe-lily (*Thysanotus tuberosus*), Brown-black Wallaby-grass (*Rytidosperma duttonianum*) and Blue Stars, Blue Squill, Mudrurt (*Chamaescilla corymbosa*).

It is hoped that the seed farming program can be expanded over the coming years as cultivation methods improve for various species.

Learn more



Are you interested in hearing more about Maroondah's natural environment? Subscribe to Council's Nature News e-newsletter. Nature News is curated by Council's Revegetation and Community Team and features information on community projects, events and environmental volunteer activities. Nature News is a great resource for those in the community wanting to make a difference to their natural environment.

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

Caring for native pollinators

Native pollinators are vital for a healthy ecosystem, so it is important to support and protect them.

Australia is home to thousands of species of pollinators, including native bees, flies, wasps, beetles, moths, butterflies, birds, bats and small mammals, that transfer pollen and help plants develop seeds and fruit.



Australian Painted Lady (*Vanessa kershawi*) butterfly by Suzanne B

Around 65 percent of Australia's flowering plants rely on insect pollinators for reproduction. Native pollinators are vital for the survival of wildflowers and food crops and contribute significantly to the preservation of biodiversity and ecological stability.

Australian native pollinator populations are facing a significant decline due to threats such as pesticide and weed control use, urbanisation, habitat loss and competition by non-native pollinators.

You can help native pollinators by:

- reducing outdoor chemical use wherever possible
- providing habitat in your garden and including a pollinator pad or pollinator nest
- avoiding over-clearing certain weeds that are being used by pollinators

- including a variety of plants in your garden that are suitable for Australian native pollinators, with flowers of different colours, shapes, sizes that flower throughout the year
- planting species that are indigenous to Maroondah, such as wattles (*Acacia spp.*), wallaby grasses (*Rytidosperma spp.*), kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) and Purple Coral-pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*). You can find more indigenous species on Council's website.

By encouraging and supporting the diversity of native pollinators, you can help to create a healthy ecosystem and protect these species for future generations.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's blog to learn more about native pollinators and how you can care for them.

Discover Maroondah's plants and wildlife

Save the date to discover Maroondah's remarkable urban biodiversity in the 2024 City Nature Challenge, from Friday 26 April to Monday 29 April.



Over the four-day challenge period, Council is encouraging the community to document observations of wild plants and animals found in local areas, such as nearby creeks, local reserves or even their backyards, using the free iNaturalist app.

Simply download the iNaturalist app, check out our many natural reserves, parks and trails, and document your observations. The data compiled will include the number of different species identified as well as total observations.

Participating in the City Nature Challenge is a great way to learn more about nature in your local area while also helping make Maroondah an even better place to live – for you and other species.

Until then, why not make a start by downloading the iNaturalist app and becoming familiar with making observations of wild plants, animals and fungi in your backyard, your street or a local park.

Keep an eye on the 'Discovering nature' page on Council's website for more information closer to the Challenge.

Barangeong Ward

Your Councillors



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

As part of the 2023/24 Playspace Improvement Program, Council is planning to renew the playspace in San Martin Reserve, Croydon North.

The proposed works will include renewed park furniture and playground equipment, with a monkey bar, spider climber, swings, a spinner and a rocker. The works will also include a multi-age play unit featuring slides, a climbing wall and various play elements for junior and teenage play.

The renewal will improve accessibility for all users, encourage local children to be more active, and update Council's assets to ensure we continue to meet our community's needs.

Visit Council's website to learn more about the project or view the draft designs.

Bungalook Ward



Cr Tony Dib OAM JP
Mobile: 0438 515 089
tony.dib@maroondah.vic.gov.au

It's been almost 12 months since the transformed Dorset Recreation Reserve was formally opened. This significant project saw Dorset Recreation Reserve become a sporting and community hub in the Bungalook Ward, featuring female-friendly player and umpire change rooms, along with a large multipurpose space and kitchen offering impressive views of the synthetic and natural soccer pitches and multipurpose courts.

I have really enjoyed seeing local sporting and community groups, including Croydon City Soccer Club and the Eastern Burmese Ethnic Community (EBEC), using the facility and bringing the space to life as a sporting and community hub.

You can learn more about Dorset Recreation Reserve on Council's website.

Jubilee Ward



Cr Mike Symon
Mobile: 0436 002 080
mike.symon@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Works are underway in Emerald Street in Ringwood to renew the road pavement, kerb and channel, and to upgrade the drainage infrastructure in the section between Great Ryrie and Thomas streets. The renewal works will improve the road surface and the surroundings, making it safer for all road users.

Vehicle and pedestrian crossings will be reconstructed, with new islands and a pedestrian refuge at the intersection of Emerald and Ford streets to improve safety for pedestrians.

The project is expected to be completed in April and is funded by Council and the Australian Government as part of the Roads to Recovery Program.

Visit Council's website to learn more or view detailed designs.

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.



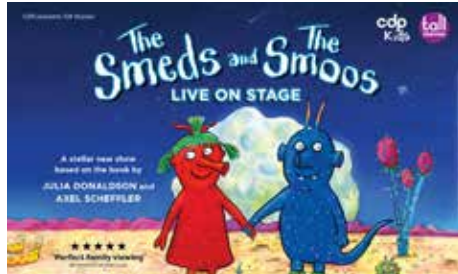
Paris After Dark

Saturday 16 March, 7pm to 9pm

\$105 per person (includes a two-course dinner and cabaret show)

Paris is coming to Karralyka! Award-winning entertainer Milko Foucault-Larche has joined forces with Parisian-born leading lady Corinne Andrew to create this new stage cabaret celebrating the essence of French popular music.

No passport required as you travel to the City of Lights with Corinne and Milko along the avenues and boulevards of Paris to the romantic sounds of some of the most famous 'chansons' of all times – Piaf, Aznavour, Bécaud, Dalida, Yves Montand, Charles Trenet, Enrico Macias, Joséphine Baker to name a few.



The Smeds and The Smoos

Thursday 11 April, 12noon to 1pm

\$30 per person or \$112 for a Family Pass (two adults and two children)

Soar into space with this exciting adaptation of the award-winning book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (also seen in the TV animation on ABC Kids).

On a far-off planet, Smeds and Smoos can't be friends. So, when a young Smed and Smoo fall in love and zoom off into space together, how will their families get them back?

Music, laughs and interplanetary adventures for everyone aged 3 and up, from the team that brought you *The Gruffalo* and *Room on the Broom* live on stage.



Rumour Has It – The Music Of Adele

Friday 19 April, 7.30pm to 9pm

\$88 per adult | VIP Cocktail Party \$30 per person, from 6.30pm

Starring award-winning British performer Naomi Price, *Rumour Has It* charts the astonishing story of blockbuster soul sensation Adele with the upfront British wit and heartfelt tunes that made her the highest-selling recording artist of the 21st century.

Featuring the biggest hits from record-breaking albums *19*, *21*, *25* and *30* including *Rumour Has It*, *Rolling in the Deep*, *Hello*, *Skyfall*, *Easy on Me*, *Someone Like You* and more. *Rumour Has It* is an unmissable evening of story and song.



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.



15
Mar

EPAR OPAR

Until Friday 15 March
Maroondah Federation Estate, Ringwood

Epar Opar in Bengali essentially means the two sides of the border. *Epar Opar* brings nine artists into dialogue as contemporary Bengali citizens of the world who reflect on their post-colonial state of being, while living in their adopted country of Australia.



15
Mar

Worth 2 Billion I'm Told

Until Friday 15 March
Maroondah Federation Estate, Ringwood

Worth 2 Billion I'm Told defines the priceless currency of popular culture through the bejewelled shutter shades of contemporary artist duo 2 Halves as A Whole.

This exhibition is a proud participant of Midsumma Festival 2024.



06
Apr

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place First Nations Art Trail Project

6 April to 19 May
ArtSpace at Realm, Ringwood

A new project mapping First Nations artworks in Naarm/Melbourne's Eastern regions. The exhibition presents a newly commissioned mural and exhibition works by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

Voices from the Void

Visit the Artspace at Realm for a unique experience of creating sound through movement.

Voices from the Void is an installation by artist Daniel O'Toole featuring nine drums that vibrate and produce sound when they detect movement.

Now in its final days, the installation has sung with an ever-changing landscape of music for everyone entering the Artspace at Realm.

The sound from each 'void', or drum, also features field recordings of local birds.

Visitors of all ages are encouraged to work together, moving amongst the drums to create a unique composition.

O'Toole notes, "I am interested in observing how the group behaves; do people coordinate movements to express particular musical ideas? Is there a meditative and quiet atmosphere to the installation, or does it bring out people's inner child, and become joyous and noisy?"

Voices from the Void ends on 5pm at Sunday 24 March.

Visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/voices to learn more.

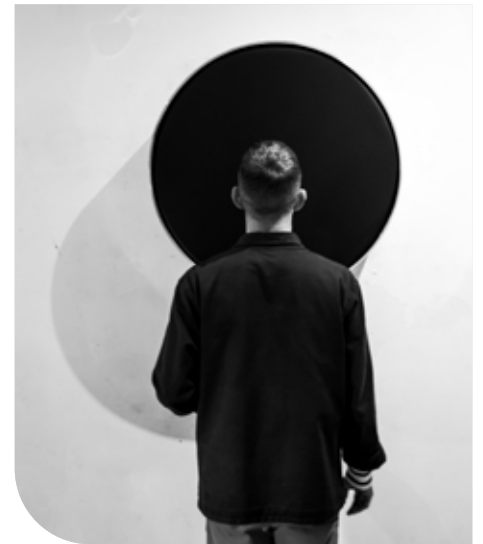


Photo by Marcus Coblyn

Mayoral Art Exhibition opening soon!

Don't miss this year's Mayoral Art Exhibition at Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, Ringwood from Tuesday 2 April.



Now celebrating its 29th year, this annual exhibition is a fundraiser for the Bone Marrow Donor Institute, Croydon Branch and is supported by Maroondah City Council and the Ringwood East and Croydon Community Bendigo Bank.

The theme of this year's exhibition is: Tangent.

From realism to abstraction or traditional to contemporary, artists have been invited to go on a 'tangent' as they explore new ideas and directions, thinking differently and experimenting with subjects, materials or techniques.

All eligible artworks will be exhibited and a number of works will be selected for the Mayoral Acquisition and the Ringwood East and Croydon Community Bendigo Bank Acquisition.

The chosen works will be announced at the exhibition launch at Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery on Thursday 4 April.

Experience the exhibition from Tuesday 2 April until Saturday 4 May.

Visit Council's website to learn more.

Theo Strasser, *Memoriam*, 2011, synthetic polymer paint and ink on paper.

Immunisations for our community

Council offers a safe, reliable immunisation service for Maroondah residents and the wider community.

Public immunisation sessions

Council provides vaccinations to babies, young children, adolescents and adults at public immunisation sessions held under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and the Immunisation Schedule Victoria.

Sessions are held at Maroondah Federation Estate in Ringwood, Keystone Hall in Croydon, North Ringwood Community House in Ringwood North, and Arrabri Community Centre in Bayswater North.

Visit the 'Public immunisation sessions' page on Council's website to find out more or book.

Flu vaccines available soon

Council offers free flu vaccines to eligible persons through the National Immunisation Program (NIP).

For eligibility criteria, please visit the 'Immunisation' page on Council's website. Payable flu vaccine is also available for those not eligible for the free flu vaccine.

Flu session appointments will be available from April. Keep an eye on the 'Immunisation' page on Council's website to make a booking.

School and adolescent immunisations

Council, in collaboration with schools, coordinates and administers adolescent vaccinations at schools in Maroondah.

As part of the National Immunisation Program (NIP), school students in Years 7 and 10 receive free vaccinations. Adolescents (up to 19 years of age, or 25 for the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine), who are not attending secondary school are also eligible for these vaccinations.

Learn more

Visit the 'Immunisation' page on Council's website to learn more.

The importance of cyclist safety

It's a great time of year to get out and about and discover Maroondah's bicycle network.

With a wide variety of paths ranging from shared user paths to separated paths and on-road bicycle lanes, there's something for everyone that provides safe, connected and calm environments to cycle. Cyclists should prioritise safety when sharing roads, trails and pathways in Maroondah.

Following these simple steps can ensure the safety of all road users:

- Always wear a bike helmet when cycling and familiarise yourself with bike laws and road rules.
- Wear high visibility clothing so that other road users can easily see you.
- Move off the bicycle path if you need to stop for any reason, including using your phone or attending to your bike.
- Slow down near pedestrians and give plenty of warning and room when passing. A little courtesy goes a long way – say 'hello' or 'thanks' as you pass.

- Stay on the designated off-road path. Cutting corners or using informal routes is risky and can damage vegetation.
- Always be alert along paths that have private vehicle crossings. Travelling at a safe speed will allow you to see and hear any vehicles leaving their driveway. Motorists must check for pedestrians or cyclists and give way.
- Be courteous to cyclists of all ages and abilities and ride in a predictable manner so that other cyclists can safely navigate around you.

Safe cycling not only protects yourself but also ensures the well-being of others. Let's make our roads safer for everyone.

Visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Explore/Cycling-in-Maroondah for more information



Detox your home

Saturday 23 March, 9am to 3pm
Maroondah City Council Operations Centre, Croydon

Did you know, household chemicals cannot be disposed of in your waste bins, hard waste service or down the sink?

Clean out those unwanted household chemicals from your shed, cupboard and under your sink and dispose of them safely at this free event.

Accepted items include cleaning products, fertilisers, cosmetics, hand sanitiser and many more. Bring them along in the original packaging or contained inside clearly labelled, disposable containers. Decanted chemicals cannot be accepted.

Detox Your Home events are free and run by Sustainability Victoria. All events around Melbourne are drive-through and contactless and you can attend any event.

Registration is essential for all events. For event details and to register, plus handy tips for around the home, visit the Sustainability Victoria website www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome



NEWS IN BRIEF

Make a splash at Croydon Memorial Pool



The outdoor pool season ends at Croydon Memorial Pool on Sunday 31 March, so lap up the fun while you can!

Croydon Memorial Pool is an outdoor facility and seasonally opens during the warmer months. With facilities to cater for the young and young at heart, you're bound to enjoy your visit.

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

No smoking or vaping in Town Squares

Smoking and vaping bans are enforced in Ringwood Town Square and Croydon Town Square.

Council has a Community Local Law that makes these locations permanent smoke free areas.

Under the Local Law it is illegal to light up, smoke or be in possession of an ignited tobacco or e-cigarette product in the Town Squares and fines can apply.

Visit the 'Community Health and Safety' page on Council's website to learn more.

Works continuing at Aquahub

Works are well underway to replace the roof that extends over the gym and group fitness studios at Aquahub, along with heating, ventilation and air conditioning works and additional maintenance to stop leaks.

To complete these major renovations, some areas will be closed until May 2024.

Please visit the 'Aquahub roof replacement' page on the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au for details or follow the Maroondah Leisure Aquatics and Fitness Facebook page at facebook.com/MaroondahLeisureAquaticsFitness to stay up to date with the progress of the works and any interruptions to regular operations.

Visit your local library

There are some wonderful events on offer at the Realm and Croydon Libraries this Autumn.

Meet authors Karen Kirsten, Tony Birch, Alli Parker, Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson, Pauline Hopkins, Patricia Sykes, Angela Costi and Robyn Bishop and hear about their latest books.

Or for something greener, come along to a plant swap and chat or learn more about keeping backyard chickens, permaculture, creating a habitat garden, getting involved in community gardening or taking up beekeeping.

There are plenty of opportunities to get creative, with origami, macramé, crochet, or creating some truly bad art.

You can also join in one of the regular colouring in sessions at both Croydon and Realm, or visit Croydon Library's regular craft group.

Throughout Autumn, there will also be special events, including a monthly carers cuppa and pathway for carers walk, Croydon's biggest morning tea, weekly Intermediate Auslan classes at Realm and a monthly Auslan chat group at Croydon.



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



Cr Suzy Stojanovic
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suzanne.stojanovic@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Maroondah's parks and reserves are great places to enjoy the changes that Autumn brings to our landscape. But our open spaces wouldn't be what they are without the hard work and dedication of our environmental volunteers, who support Council's tree planting, weed removal and revegetation events.

If you love being in nature but also want to connect with others, many of these groups hold planting days where you can learn important skills, for example, plant identification and propagation, seed collection and weed control.

Nature enthusiasts can visit Council's website for more about Maroondah's natural environment and ways to help preserve it, or to sign up for our Nature News e-newsletter.

Tarralla Ward



Cr Paul Macdonald – Deputy Mayor
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Council will be launching BizMonth in May. The theme is 'Building on Success' and the month is set to be a great opportunity for business owners to connect, share stories and learn from their colleagues. I encourage you to get involved!

BizMonth will offer free or low cost, face-to-face and online business workshops and special events, all aimed at providing practical skills to enhance local business.

Come along to explore various topics, including leadership, business fundamentals and recruitment, along with culture and team building.

Visit the BizHub Maroondah website for details and to register, or to sign up for the BizHub eNewsletter for updates.

Wicklow Ward



Cr Tasa Damante
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It's an exciting time at Aquahub in Croydon, with works continuing to build the new purpose-built gymnastics facility to cater for the growing gymnastics program. The industry-leading facility will include updated and new equipment with sprung flooring, enhancing the experience and quality of service for current and future gymnastics members.

With programs specifically designed to suit children aged 1 to 16 years delivered by nationally qualified coaches, Aquahub is a great place to start or continue your child's gymnastics journey.

Works are expected to be completed in April, with programs starting soon after. I'm keen to see families enjoying the new facility. Visit the Maroondah Leisure website to learn more or to register your interest.

School holiday activities

Keep the family entertained these school holidays!

Wyreena Community Arts Centre

Wyreena Community Arts Centre offers a school holiday program featuring a wonderful range of creative and fun activities.

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

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

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

School holiday programs are available for basketball, netball, tennis, futsal (soccer) and multi-sports. The programs are a fun way to keep active and social during the school holidays.

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



Get into golf

Council owns and operates two 18-hole golf courses in Maroondah, Dorset Golf and Ringwood Golf. Each offers a clinic to suit your needs, whether you're brushing up on your skills or picking up a club for the first time.

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



Dates for your diary

Scan the QR code to visit Council's website for more information about future events. Are you hosting a community event? Visit our website and add your event to our online 'Events calendar'.



Celebrate Maroondah Movie Night – Elemental

Friday 15 March
6.30pm, for an 8.15pm movie start
Gracedale Park, Ringwood East

Come along to meet your Tarralla Ward Councillor and enjoy free entertainment at Council's Celebrate Maroondah event.

There will be children's activities including crafts, face painting and roving entertainment from 6.30pm, before the movie begins at approximately 8.15pm.

The event is free to attend and no bookings are required.

Visit Council's website to find out more.



Saoirse at Wyreena Music Café

Friday 19 April, 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Wyreena Conservatory Café, Croydon

Come and enjoy Saoirse perform live at the Wyreena Music Café! This vibrant vocal and dance group from Melbourne delights audiences with beautiful renditions of traditional Irish ballads and original work. Saoirse will join hands to offer some spirited jigs and reels to get your feet tapping!

Bookings are essential.

Tickets are \$40 per person and include entertainment and a light supper. Visit Council's website to book or learn more.



Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

Friday 3 May, 8pm to 9.30pm
Karralyka, Ringwood East

Australia's biggest and best comedy spectacular is setting off on its 26th annual road trip around the country!

Showcasing the finest talents from the 2024 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, this event will deliver a dose of laughter right to your doorstep.

Tickets are \$56 per adult.

To book, visit the Karralyka website www.karralyka.com.au or call 9870 2888.



Kilsyth to Croydon water mains renewal update

Melbourne Water is on track to replace the water mains between Croydon and Kilsyth, with 4.5 kilometres of temporary pipeline laid and six road crossings completed with the new water mains.

The temporary pipeline was commissioned in September 2023, ensuring residents maintain access to water throughout the project.

The old water mains, which are between 80 and 100 years old, are being replaced with two new 1350mm wide pipes.

Seven further road closures, managed by Melbourne Water, will take place over the coming months to allow for further old water mains to be replaced.

Once complete, this project will ensure a safe and reliable water supply for decades to come. Find out more at www.melbournewater.com.au/M55

Level crossing removal projects continue

Works are powering ahead on the Ringwood and Croydon level crossing removal projects, with boom gates to be removed in 2024, a year ahead of schedule.

Construction blitzes at Dublin Road, Ringwood East and Bedford Road in Ringwood and Coolstore Road in Croydon are currently underway, with Bedford Road closed at the level crossing while crews build the rail trench under the road.

During the Bedford Road level crossing closure between Pitt Street and Rosewarne Lane, detours are available via Warrandyte Road, Canterbury Road, Dublin Road and Maroondah Highway.

Part of Great Ryrie Street is also closed at the Bedford Road end. Plan ahead and expect delays in the area.

Major construction also continues at Dublin Road to build the new rail trench. A new Ringwood East Station is also being built with better facilities for passengers, including more lighting and CCTV.

Croydon Station is closed, with a new station to be open by Spring 2024.



Works are progressing to build the new station, elevated rail bridge and new road connections that will unify Croydon's town centre.

Lilydale Line trains are not stopping at Croydon Station, with shuttle buses in operation to connect train passengers to Ringwood East and Mooroolbark.

For more information, visit the Victoria's Big Build website bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/level-crossing-removal-project

Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark

Construction on the new carpark at 1 Bedford Road is ramping up this month.

Soon the site hoarding will be installed and the footpath around the construction site will be closed to ensure pedestrian safety. Alternative pedestrian routes will be clearly signed, with detours in place for pedestrians accessing Eastland and Ringwood Station from Bedford Road.

The main works will begin soon and the community will start to see some exciting progress. The carpark will provide additional parking spaces for commuters, residents and visitors and reduce car parking congestion at the station carpark and in nearby streets. Council is also championing the heritage elements of the building, with the original Blood Brothers portion of the building to be repositioned on the site, retaining its corner-store significance.

The project is due to be completed in late 2025.



Find out more at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Ringwood-Activity-Centre-Carpark

Making progress in Maroondah

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

Carparks

Improvements to HE Parker Reserve carpark are due to begin shortly.

Improvements include the construction of a raised pedestrian and bicycle crossing, which will link the internal reserve path to the Heathmont Rail Trail. This will provide a continuous link between the two paths while improving overall pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Council will also reconstruct the Heathmont Parker Reserve Tennis Club carpark. This includes sealing and line-marking dedicated carparking bays.



Pathways

Footpath construction works along Canterbury Road in Heathmont and Ringwood are due to start this month.

Council will be constructing the missing link of footpath within the Canterbury Road service lane, between Wantirna Road and 307 Canterbury Road, Ringwood, on the north side of the road.

Find out more at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/newfootpaths



Drainage

As part of Council's ongoing commitment to reducing the impacts of flooding on properties and the community, stage 4 of the Sherbrook Drainage Upgrade project commences this month.

The works include the installation of 280 metres of reinforced concrete drainage pipes at depths ranging from 2 to 4 metres deep, plus the construction of 16 new drainage pits.

Find out more at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/RMAC-drainage-upgrade

Open space

Playspace improvements continue across the municipality. This month, construction will begin on new playspaces at Bungalook Reserve in Bayswater North, San Martin Reserve in Croydon North and Little John Reserve in Warranwood.

Cantala Reserve in Ringwood North playspace is now open for play! The playspace features a multi-age play unit, including slides, climbing wall and a variety of play elements suitable for junior and teenage play.

Keep up to date with playspace renewals at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/maroondahprojects



Roads

Road improvement works continue to take shape in Emerald Street in Ringwood.

Council is upgrading the deteriorated road pavement and kerb and channel from Great Rynie Street to Thomas Street. Pedestrian connectivity improvements will be completed at the intersection of Emerald Street and Ford Street and new drainage infrastructure will also be included. This project is jointly funded by Council and the Australian Government through the Roads to Recovery Program.

Find out more at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Emerald-Street-Works



Asphalt resurfacing works are also taking place in Seymour Street and Market Street in Ringwood later this month.

Find out more at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Seymour-Street-Works



Learn more

Scan the QR code to visit the 'Maroondah projects' page on Council's website to find out more.

Safety and connection for older residents

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

A Council-run initiative, the program provides residents, relatives and friends with peace of mind, knowing that someone is looking out for their welfare.

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

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.



Learn more

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.

Wombolano Ward

Wonga Ward

Yarrunga Ward

Your Councillors



Cr Kylie Spears, Mayor
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kylie.spears@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Council's Food Organics and Garden Organics service began last May. In the first nine months of the service, Maroondah residents collected 1,640 tonnes of organic waste. This was then used to make quality compost for Victorian farmers, meaning we were able to reduce waste to landfill by 1,530 tonnes. Congratulations to households that contributed to this success.

From Wednesday 13 March, an annual supply of kitchen caddy liners will be delivered to households who didn't previously decline to receive them. Contact Council if you haven't received yours by Thursday 18 April. If you run out before then, collect a free top-up pack from Customer Service at Realm and Croydon.

Visit the 'FOGO' page on Council's website for more information.



Cr Linda Hancock
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linda.hancock@maroondah.vic.gov.au

BJ Hubbard Reserve in Ringwood North is a hidden gem. The reserve has great walking trails; a large, open recreational area; sheltered areas and picnic tables, all of which make it an ideal space to visit for exercise and leisure.

It's also home to the newly upgraded 7th Ringwood Scout Hall, which benefits a range of community groups, including Scouts, karate, calisthenics and more, while allowing young people of all abilities and genders to enjoy the space.

In other news, works will begin shortly on stage 4 of the Sherbrook Drainage upgrade project in Ringwood to help reduce the impacts of flooding in the area.

Visit the 'Projects' page on Council's website to learn more.



Cr Rob Steane OAM
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Council's popular Community Grants program is now open. The grants program offers financial assistance for community groups, artists, and arts and cultural groups for a range of projects.

Under the 2022/23 Arts and Cultural Grants funding program, Yarrunga Community Centre received a grant to support a sculpture commemorating their 25 years of service. Completed last year, the sculpture is a wonderful addition to the centre and joins other public artworks that help make Maroondah such a vibrant place to live.

If you have a project that could contribute to Maroondah's arts and cultural scene, I encourage you to visit Council's website to learn more about the funding program and apply by Sunday 14 April.

Visit your local community centre

Maroondah's local community centres 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 centre and find out what's on offer?

Arrabri Community House



Rose Cupcake Decorating Workshop

Make a gorgeous rose pot with cupcakes.

When: Sunday 24 March, 2pm to 4pm

Cost: \$100

Contact: 9720 0877 or visit www.arrabri.org

Glen Park Community Centre



Seniors Strength

Exercise to be fit and healthy, no matter your age!

When: Tuesdays and Fridays, 1pm to 2pm

Cost: \$8 per session. Bookings by the term

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

North Ringwood Community House



Laughter for Wellbeing

Lower blood pressure, reduce stress, increase your energy levels and feel good.

When: Thursdays, 10.30am to 11.30am

Cost: \$14.50 per session. Bookings by the term

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

Central Ringwood Community Centre



Bike Care and Repair

Receive help with your bicycle repairs and maintenance.

When: The third Saturday of each month (excluding school holidays and public holidays)

Cost: Free

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

Yarrunga Community Centre



Yarrunga Writers

Share your love for writing and enhance your writing skills.

When: Mondays, 1pm to 3pm

Cost: Attend weekly for \$125 per year

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

Learn more

For more information on these activities and many more, visit the 'Community centres' page on Council's website. You can also find links to each community centre website.

BizMonth 2024: Building on Success

BizHub Maroondah is thrilled to launch BizMonth 2024: 'Building on Success', featuring a month-long line up of business workshops, training programs, and mentoring services throughout May. BizMonth will also incorporate the official launch of the highly anticipated Maroondah Business Excellence Awards 2024.



Running from 1 to 31 May, BizMonth 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.

With topics designed for business owners, leadership development and team building for small to medium businesses, the BizMonth program also provides the opportunity to connect with other local businesses in Maroondah and in other municipalities.

Each stream aims to address specific needs and challenges faced by businesses and features a diverse range of development streams to help you build on success.

Topics will include:

- **Business fundamentals and enhancement**, including BAS bootcamp, finance for non-finance people, system setup, marketing and social media
- **Leadership and empowerment**, capacity building, succession planning, owners guide to preparing for a holiday, and mental resilience
- **HR, recruitment and compliance**, how to stand out, traineeships and placements, creating employment templates, and employment law basics
- **Culture and team building**, including team enhancement and working with other types.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to enhance your skills, expand your network, and take your business to new heights with BizMonth 2024: 'Building on Success'.

Further information on BizMonth 2024, including the full program of events and ticket details, is available at www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au



Subscribe for BizHub updates. Join our mailing list to receive the latest updates.



Visit www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au for more information and bookings

In partnership with



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)

