



Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne) will use their grant to support newly arrived Burmese women through the Maroondah Burmese Social Enterprise Pathways project.

Grants supporting our community

Council will support 38 not-for-profit community groups and organisations to deliver projects that strengthen the community and provide emergency relief services.

Approximately \$207,500 in funding will be distributed through Annual Community Grants, Emergency Relief Grants, and the new Changemaker Grants.

Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne) will use their Changemaker Grant to deliver the Maroondah Burmese Social Enterprise Pathways project.

Chief Executive Officer, Rachna Muddagouni, said the project will support newly arrived Burmese women as they develop social enterprise ideas and co-design pathways for social and economic participation.

"By supporting Burmese community members to explore social enterprise opportunities, we hope to create pathways to employment, small business development and leadership while also celebrating the skills and cultural assets within the community," she said.

"The project will bring together local residents, community organisations, businesses and Council to develop practical solutions that benefit the Burmese community [and] the broader Maroondah community through increased diversity, innovation and social cohesion."

Other projects include a program to help employers create psychologically safe and gender-equitable workplaces; targeted elite-led skateboarding workshops to reduce participation barriers and social isolation and a food share program to support Maroondah's food relief agencies.

Council will also support individuals and not-for-profit organisations through Quick Response Grants, with funding now available throughout the year.

Visit Council's website to find out more.



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Celebrating 10 years
of Run Maroondah



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Become a Meals on
Wheels volunteer

Welcome to the August edition of Maroondah news

In this edition, read about a range of community news, updates and events.

Council Customer Service opening hours

Our Customer Service team is here to help. Visit us at one of our Service Centres:

Ringwood

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

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

Croydon

Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
Closed on weekends and public holidays.

Read online

Scan the QR code to read our latest edition of **Maroondah news** online.



Scan the QR code to subscribe to **Maroondah eNews**, our digital community newsletter.



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

CONNECT WITH US



Projects for community and sporting groups

Sixteen community and sporting groups will be able to renew and improve their facilities with support through Council's 2026/27 Capital Funding for Community Groups program.

A total of \$230,000 will be distributed to support a range of projects that will improve safety and benefit the community.

Among this year's recipients is U3A Ringwood, who will use the funding to install solar panels at the Parkwood Community Hub.

President, Daryl James, said this will help address rising electricity costs.

"As a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation, the costs savings from the solar panels will allow U3A Ringwood to keep membership fees low," Daryl said.

"This ensures that local residents over 45 years of age who are out of the full-time workforce can afford classes and social activities,

regardless of their financial situation, which are essential elements for healthy ageing.

"The solar panels will also reduce utility expenses for the hub's co-tenants, the Ringwood Men's Shed, Maroondah Toy Library and the North Ringwood Community House, extending the financial and social benefits to a broad cross-section of the Maroondah community," Daryl said.

Other projects include shed ventilation upgrades at Glen Park Community Centre, a fence replacement at Knaith Road Childcare Centre, synthetic cricket pitch replacements at St Andrews Cricket Club and Heathmont Cricket Club, upgraded safety netting at Ringwood Cricket Club, and a verandah over the alfresco area at Ringwood Bowls Club.

You can find out more on Council's website.



U3A Ringwood will install solar panels at the Parkwood Community Hub, to help keep membership costs down for residents who take part in classes and activities there.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday 24 August, 7.30pm

Monday 21 September, 7.30pm

Monday 19 October, 7.30pm

Where: Council Chamber, Realm, Ringwood Town Square

Join online:
www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Council-meetings

If attending in person, please arrive on time for the start of the meeting.



Maroondah bin lid colours are changing to statewide standard

Under a Victorian Government directive to standardise bin lid colours across the state, Council is required to change Maroondah's bin lids.

During August, September and October:

- Green general waste bin lids will be changed to red, and
- Blue recycling bin lids will be changed to yellow.

To help crews complete this work, please place both your general waste and recycling bins out every recycling collection day and leave them out until 5pm (even if they are empty) until their lids have been changed over.

The old lids will be recycled and turned into useful new products like bins and bin lids.

These changes are intended to make waste disposal and recycling simpler and more consistent for everyone as they move between areas in Victoria.

New league of gymnastics competitions at Aquahub

The gymnastics stadium at Aquahub was in full swing last month for the opening of the 2026 Futures League Victorian Series Competition.

Over 300 athletes from across Victoria competed during the two-day opening event, which was held at Aquahub for the first time. Hosting the event in Maroondah provided a great opportunity for our athletes to compete locally.

The event also showcased the state-of-the-art gymnastics stadium at Aquahub, which was refurbished in 2024 to include a sprung floor, updated equipment, a Ninja frame and a new foyer area.

The refurbishment allowed Council to expand the dynamic gymnastics program to cater for all ages and abilities, with progressive foundation levels for participants aged 1 to 18 years and beyond, as well as an Access All Abilities program for students with additional learning needs.

With the opening Futures League competition a great success, the Victorian Series will conclude with the State Championship in October. Best of luck to Maroondah gymnasts who will be competing!

You can find out more about the gymnastics program at Aquahub on the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au



Enhancing local arts and culture

Council will support some exciting new projects through the 2026/27 Maroondah Annual Arts and Cultural Grants program.

The funding will support community projects, initiatives and events that celebrate Maroondah's arts and cultural scene and encourage more people to experience the arts.

Heartsleeve Creatives will use their funding to bring Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* to the gardens at Wyreena Community Arts Centre.

Audiences of all ages can enjoy "live music, plenty of humour and a fresh take" on the story in an accessible, affordable production, said Jenn Walter, a Founder and Creative at Heartsleeve Creatives.

"By presenting Shakespeare in the gardens of Wyreena, we're celebrating the creative talent and the unique spaces that make Maroondah such a special place to live."

Other projects to receive funding include workshops and a school holiday theatre program for young people, a large-scale choral-orchestral performance of *Handel's Messiah*, a collaboration between a First Peoples artist and a netball club to design a culturally meaningful artwork and a community art fair where visual artists can showcase and sell their work.

Visit Council's website to learn more about the 2026/2027 Arts and Cultural Grants recipients.



Heartsleeve Creatives will bring Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* to the gardens at Wyreena, following their production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* there in January 2026.
Photo credit: Miranda Frost.

What's On

Visit Council's website or scan the QR code for more information about these and other events.
Hosting a community event? Visit our website and add your event to our online 'Events calendar'.



Aug

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS AT REALM

**Various dates and times in August
Realm Library, Ringwood
Town Square**



Your Library is hosting a range of events to raise awareness about homelessness, including the *Walk in Her Shoes* exhibition running from 17 to 24 August, a community forum on homelessness, Census support for people experiencing housing insecurity, an origami workshop and information session, and an author talk with Lisa Ireland, whose novel addresses issues of homelessness. Find out more or register via the Your Library events website, events.yourlibrary.vic.gov.au



Aug/Sep

PROUDLY Q

**Fortnightly on Wednesdays
after school hours
Croydon**

Proudly Q is a safe, inclusive space for LGBTQIA+ young people to connect, make friends, build skills, and enjoy fun weekly activities. With free snacks, craft supplies, video games, and support from Council's Youth team, there's something for everyone in age-specific groups for 10 to 14 and 15 to 25 year olds. To find out more, register via Council's website.



3 Sep

FOLLOW YOUR FOGO TOUR

**Thursday 3 September,
9.15am to 12.30pm
Departing from Yarrunga
Community Centre, Croydon Hills**

Have you ever wondered what happens to your food organics and garden organics (FOGO) waste after it is picked up from your kerb? Join our tour to follow your FOGO to Bio Gro in Dandenong South, where we will see how it is sorted and processed, ready to become compost. Bookings are essential and places are limited.



9 Sep

WOMEN'S HEALTH FORUM

**Wednesday 9 September,
10am to 2pm
Karralyka, Ringwood East**

Join us for engaging discussions and valuable support networking opportunities, with guest speakers from Fight Parkinson's, Breast Screening Vic, Third Age Fitness and a Group Fitness Guru to highlight the importance of movement and a healthy brain. Tickets are \$20 per person and include lunch with entertainment. Registrations are essential.

20 Sep

CLEVER URBAN COMPOSTING

**Sunday 20 September,
10.30am to 1pm
Central Ringwood Community
Centre, Ringwood**



Join permaculture educator Kat Lavers at Central Ringwood Community Centre's Community Day to learn how to compost, worm farm and use a Bokashi system. Kat will share practical tips on how to create natural fertilisers for your garden, avoid common mistakes and choose the best system for your apartment or house. Registrations are essential.



24 Sep

LIVING WELL WITH DEMENTIA

**Thursday 24 September,
9.30am to 12.30pm
Maroondah Federation Estate,
Ringwood**

This event will raise awareness about dementia and highlight supports available for people living with dementia, as well as their carers, families and friends, with a focus on mental health, wellbeing, physical health, home care options, medical options and more. You can also make connections with people near you who are also living with dementia or supporting someone who lives with dementia. Registrations are essential.

News in Brief

EXTENDED LIGHTING CONTINUES

Council's walking at night extended lighting program is continuing until early October, so make the most of it!

Through the program, lights will be on at the athletics track at Town Park in Croydon between 5.30pm and 8.30pm each Thursday until 1 October, providing an opportunity to exercise after hours.

With a flat track and access for those who use prams or wheelchairs, it's a great way to exercise during the colder months when the days are shorter.

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

Do you know someone who has made a valuable contribution to community service in Maroondah? Nominate them for the 2027 Maroondah Australia Day Awards!

These awards recognise exceptional community service at a local level – either a significant contribution or achievement – over the past year.

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

Nominations close at midnight on Sunday 18 October. Visit Council's website to learn more or nominate.

SAVE THE DATE FOR MAROONDAAH CAROLS!

Join us on Saturday 5 December at Town Park in Croydon for Maroondah Carols, with family fun from 6pm to 10pm.

This much-loved event is back once again in 2026, providing a great opportunity to get together as a community and celebrate the festive season together.

Stay tuned for more information, which will be provided on Council's website closer to the event.

Are you thinking about adding more animals to your household?

Did you know that under Maroondah's Community Local Law 2023, there are limits on the number and type of animals that can be kept on a property without a permit?

These rules are in place to help protect neighbourhood amenity and support the welfare of animals and pets. They also help make sure animals are kept safely and appropriately, with suitable housing, cleanliness and secure confinement.

In Maroondah, properties can generally keep up to two dogs, two cats, 20 domestic birds, 20 pigeons, five poultry and five rodents without needing an additional permit. Large birds and agricultural animals are not permitted without the appropriate approval.

If your land is less than or equal to 5,000 square metres and you would like to keep more than the permitted number of animals, you will need to apply for a permit.



Existing dogs and cats must also be registered before a permit application is submitted.

Additional animal permits are renewed each year on 10 April. By checking the requirements before adding more animals to your property, you can help keep Maroondah safe, healthy and enjoyable for pets, owners and neighbours alike.

For more information, please visit Council's website.

Rates notices arriving soon

Maroondah ratepayers will soon receive their 2026/27 rates notice, as well as a brochure that highlights important rates information and key upcoming community services and projects.



If you opt to pay your rates by instalments, the first instalment is due on or before 30 September 2026.

If you are paying your rates in one lump sum, the full payment is due on 15 February 2027.

The rates notice also itemises the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) and waste levy that Council collects on behalf of the Victorian Government.

Visit the 'Rates' page on Council's website to learn more about rates in Maroondah.

If you would like to register for eRates and receive your rates via email, visit the 'Receive your rates or animal registration notices by email' page on our website.

Making progress in Maroondah

As part of Council's \$72.32 million Capital Works Program, projects are continuing to take shape.

PATHWAYS

Milton Street and Pleasant Drive footpath works, Heathmont



Following community consultation and design development, construction is underway in Heathmont to build a new footpath. This project will create a pedestrian connection between Armstrong Road and Allens Road, improving access to Heathmont shops, nearby public transport and local schools.

Bedford Road bicycle path construction, Ringwood



Works are underway to build a new off-road bicycle path along Bedford Road between Warrandyte Road and Rosewarne Lane. The path will improve cycling connections to the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre, nearby schools and other local cycling paths, with completion due by the end of 2026.

FACILITIES

Hughes Park Pavilion redevelopment, Croydon North

The new pavilion upgrades are now complete, delivering modern changerooms that support AFL and Cricket Australia requirements, including female-friendly facilities. The project also included roof reconstruction and accessibility improvements.

Wyreena Conservatory renewal, Croydon

Works are continuing on the \$1.3M renewal of the Wyreena Conservatory, with construction of a new glass conservatory, alfresco dining area, improved pathways and car park upgrades progressing. The Conservatory Café remains temporarily closed and is due to reopen at the end of 2026.

Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct, Croydon

Construction is continuing on the precinct's new cultural hub, with above-ground works underway following preliminary ground works. Early works have also begun for the multipurpose hub, with main works expected to commence from October 2026.

DRAINAGE

San Remo Road and Through Road flood mitigation works, Ringwood North

Flood mitigation works are underway to improve stormwater drainage along San Remo Road and Through Road in Ringwood North. Stage 1 includes stormwater drainage improvements from Evelyn Road Reserve to Through Road and at the San Remo Road and Through Road intersection. The project will help improve stormwater flow, reduce pressure on existing drainage infrastructure and support better flood management during heavy rainfall.

ROADS

Eastfield Road, Railway Avenue and Morinda Street safety improvements, Ringwood East

Safety improvement works at the intersection are well underway following a construction blitz over the winter school holidays. These works focused on intersection alignment, footpath and kerb ramp connections, traffic signal infrastructure and street lighting. The traffic signals are due to be turned on later in the year once configuration and testing is complete.

Heywood Street renewal, Ringwood



Road renewal works are progressing along Heywood Street, improving the condition of the local road surface and supporting safer, smoother travel for residents and road users.

OPEN SPACE

Evans Drive basketball court works, Croydon

Council is installing a new mini basketball court at The Range Estate Wetlands area, adjacent to Evans Drive in Croydon, creating another space for the community to get active outdoors.

Find out more about these and other projects on Council's website.



Learn more

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



Lina, Finn and Yasmin after completing Run Maroondah 2025

Celebrating 10 years of Run Maroondah

Grab your runners and start training for Run Maroondah, which is back once again on Sunday 4 October at HE Parker Reserve in Heathmont.

This year marks 10 years of Run Maroondah, which is all about challenging yourself within a supportive environment where all ages and athletic abilities are welcome. Individuals, families and friends are welcome to take part.

There's a variety of events, including the 15km run, 10km run, the 5km run/walk, and the kids' 1.2km race.

There's a range of registration options available, including concession, family and children's registrations.

Registrations are essential and will close at midnight on Tuesday 29 September.

Visit Council's website for details and to register.

Help ease the winter chill and save money

There are some simple and affordable steps you can take to heat and cool your home.

In winter, set your heater at 18 to 20°C. Every degree higher than this can add up to 15 per cent to your heating costs.

Aim to reduce draughts in your home, as up to 25 per cent of winter heat loss is caused by air leakage that can add up to 20 per cent to your heating bill.

To check your energy plan is the best one for you, visit the Victorian Energy Compare website compare.energy.vic.gov.au

If you are considering installing a reverse cycle air conditioner, insulation or draught proofing, see if you are eligible for discounts through programs such as Council-backed Solar Savers. Visit their website solarsavers.org.au to find out more.

Lastly, clean your air conditioner and heater vents and filters each summer and winter, to help reduce dust, save energy and reduce emissions.

For more tips, visit Council's website.



Your Councillors

YARRUNGA WARD

Cr Rob Steane OAM
0407 519 986



BARNGEONG WARD

Cr Chris Jones
0418 109 015



MCALPIN WARD

Cr Nate Henderson
0437 969 722



WICKLOW WARD

Cr Daniella Heatherich
0438 482 813



WONGA WARD

Cr Linda Hancock
Mayor
0473 194 871



BUNGALOOK WARD

Cr Catherine Gordon
0447 538 636



JUBILEE WARD

Cr Claire Rex
0476 010 752



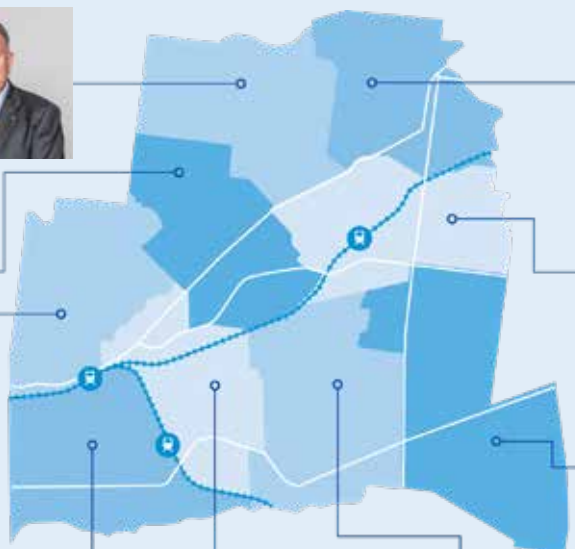
WOMBOLANO WARD

Cr Kylie Spears
0436 003 660



TARRALLA WARD

Cr Paul Macdonald
Deputy Mayor
0436 001 760



Become a Meals on Wheels volunteer

Can you spare a few hours a week, a fortnight, or a month? Our Meals on Wheels volunteers could use your help with delivering meals to clients.

Council's 84 Meals on Wheels volunteers generously give their time to deliver nutritionally balanced meals and 'safe and well' checks to Maroondah residents who are experiencing difficulties preparing their own meals.

These volunteers are individuals and couples from all walks of life, including people who are supported by their carer, a group from a special developmental school, and more.

Long-time volunteer Adele Allen OAM encouraged others to consider volunteering.

"I think doing volunteer work is very fulfilling, just helping others and talking to others. I've been very fortunate to be able to do it all these years," Adele said.

Fellow volunteer Daphne Krahe said: "I find volunteering really rewarding, because I'm putting myself out there and I'm trying to help someone else. I hope I've left a little mark somewhere in the community."

For many clients, the Meals on Wheels volunteers provide much more than a meal.

"The volunteers are fantastic. They're always positive, always nice and have time to talk to us," said Frankie, a Meals on Wheels client.

If you would like to volunteer, please call our Meals on Wheels team on 9294 5632.

To find out more about the Meals on Wheels service, visit Council's website or call us on 1300 88 22 33.

You can also scan the QR code to watch our Meals on Wheels service in action.



Daphne Krahe and Adele Allen OAM have been Meals on Wheels volunteers for more than 50 years.

Did you know?

It's National Meals on Wheels Day on Wednesday 26 August, which celebrates the invaluable contribution that Meals on Wheels volunteers make throughout Australia.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US



Visit a Service Centre

Realm, Ringwood Town Square,
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood
Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon



Mail

PO Box 156, Ringwood, VIC 3134



Live chat via our website

www.maroondah.vic.gov.au



Phone

Call 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598
SMS 0468 003 100



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maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au



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