



Some of our 2023/24 Community Grants beneficiaries, who were celebrated at an event last month.

## Supporting our community

**More than 100 local community and sporting groups will benefit from \$562,000 in Council funding as part of the 2023/24 round of community grants.**

Each year, Council offers eligible not-for-profit groups with limited access to financial resources the opportunity to share in funding through its Community Grants Funding Program, Arts and Cultural Grants Program, and Capital Funding for Community Groups scheme.

The funding will support valuable community projects and initiatives and help improve facilities and services, while also providing assistance for small equipment purchases and support to groups that provide emergency relief for disadvantaged people.

This year's beneficiaries were celebrated at an event last month.

New Community, one of the recipients, is a not-for-profit that collaborates with community partners and volunteers, including local schools, retailers, sporting clubs and hairdressers, to offer remedial

massage, hairdressing, meals and social connections for homeless and marginalised groups.

Community Engagement Pastor Bronwyn Arnott said the grant will enhance community and volunteer donations.

"Alongside donations that we receive, the Emergency Relief Grant has provided us with money to purchase food and pay for the rental of rooms. It will give us the funds to fill in the gaps when we don't have enough people to volunteer time, food and donations," Bronwyn said.

"It really does make a difference to have that extra money to treat our clients and make them feel special!"

Visit Council's website to learn more about community funding and grants.

### Welcome to Maroondah news

**Hello and welcome to the August 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](http://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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## 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 dates are:

**Monday 28 August**

**Monday 18 September**

**Monday 23 October**

(includes adoption of Annual Report)

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 online on Council's website 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 all weekends and public holidays

### Get in contact with us



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



email  
maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au



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



Scan the QR code to subscribe to Maroondah *news*, 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.

The information provided in this newsletter was accurate at the time of print.

Visit Council's website for the latest information.



Please recycle this publication

# Stay well

**If it's been six months since your last COVID-19 vaccination or COVID-19 infection, you may be eligible to receive your 2023 booster.**

### If you are:

- 65 years and over, or
- aged 18 to 64 years and are at risk (you have medical comorbidities or disability with significant or complex health needs)

and have not had COVID-19 or been vaccinated in the past six months, the 2023 COVID booster is recommended for you.

### You may like to receive a 2023 booster if you are:

- an adult aged 18 to 64 years with no risk factors for severe COVID-19, or
- a child or adolescent aged 5 to 17 years who is at risk (you have medical comorbidities or disability with significant or complex health needs)

and have not had COVID-19 or been vaccinated.

## Bookings

You can find your nearest vaccination provider on the Health Direct website, [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au)

## Protect yourself and others

You can help protect yourself and others by wearing a high-quality, well-fitted face mask when unwell, receiving the 2023 booster, letting fresh air in when indoors and taking a rapid antigen test (RAT) if you have symptoms. If you have COVID-19, you should stay home for five days and continue to stay home until you have no symptoms.

## Find out more

Visit the Department of Health website [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) to learn more about the COVID-19 booster vaccine.

## Free rapid antigen tests

The Victorian Government is providing free rapid antigen tests (RATs) to our community. These are available at Council's Realm and Croydon Customer Service Centres. Visit Council's website for more information.

**For more information about COVID-19, visit [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)**

## Rates notices arriving soon

**Maroondah ratepayers will soon receive their 2023/24 rates notice in the mail.**

Ratepayers will also receive a four-page brochure that highlights how rates are allocated and information about some key capital works projects that are planned for this financial year.

If you are paying your rates in instalments, a reminder that the first instalment is due on **30 September 2023.**

If you are paying your rates in one lump sum, the full payment is due by **15 February 2024.**

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

## Prefer to receive future rates notices via email?

Council offers an eNotice alternative where your rates notice is delivered to your nominated email address.

By registering for this service, you will have access to the eNotice portal, where your past and current rates notices are stored.

Visit the 'Receive your rates notice online' page on our website or call Council on 1300 88 22 33 for more information.

## Tell us what you think!

Do you have a topic that you'd like to see covered in Maroondah *news*? Email us at [news@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:news@maroondah.vic.gov.au)

# Smoke alarms a bedroom essential

**Do you have working smoke alarms installed in each bedroom and living area? 72 percent of fatal fires start in bedrooms and living areas, so it's vital to check.**

While some people believe a smoke alarm outside their bedroom door will be enough to alert them, research has revealed that if a fire starts in a bedroom with the door closed, smoke alarms outside of the bedroom will not activate.

Smoke alarms are an affordable essential for personal safety, costing about \$20 each plus the annual 9-volt battery replacement costs.

You can learn more about different types of smoke alarms on the 'Smoke alarms' page on the Victorian Government website [www.vic.gov.au/smoke-alarms](http://www.vic.gov.au/smoke-alarms)

Victoria's fire and rescue services recommend all smoke alarms are:

- Powered by a long-life lithium battery
- Installed in all sleeping areas of the home, including bedrooms and living areas
- Interconnected, if possible, so all smoke alarms will sound if any alarm is activated
- Tested monthly
- Cleaned with a vacuum cleaner at least once per year to remove dust
- Replaced every 10 years.



Visit the CFA website [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) for more information on the importance of smoke alarms and where to install them. You can also use the Home Fire Safety Checklist.

## It's not too late for a flu vaccine

**You can receive the flu vaccine at one of Council's immunisation sessions.**

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

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.

Visit the 'Public immunisation sessions' page on Council's website for eligibility criteria for the free flu vaccine, the cost of a payable flu vaccine, and to make a booking.



## Be aware of carbon monoxide poisoning

**We all rely on our heaters this time of the year, so it is important to make sure that our heaters are working safely and not putting our health at risk.**

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are non-specific and can be mistaken for flu-like illnesses or food poisoning, with symptoms such as headache, nausea, vomiting, skin flushing, muscle pain, weakness, shortness of breath, dizziness, confusion, chest pain or coordination difficulties.

Sources of carbon monoxide can include gas heaters, wood fired heaters, decorative gas log fires, gas cooking appliances, barbecues, heat beads, patio heaters, indoor hot water services, portable power generators and car exhausts.

Energy Safe Victoria recommends that all gas heaters are serviced and tested at least once every two years by a licenced or registered gasfitter.

You should also check if a safety alert has been issued for your gas heater, avoid leaving your heater on overnight or for extensive periods, and consider replacing your heater if it is very old.

It's also important not to use kitchen rangehoods or exhaust fans at the same time as your gas heater, as this can draw carbon monoxide into living spaces, and never bring portable outdoor gas appliances indoors.

### Learn more

Visit the Energy Safe Victoria website at [www.esv.vic.gov.au](http://www.esv.vic.gov.au) to view models of open-flued gas heaters that should be checked immediately.

Visit the Health Victoria website [www.health.vic.gov.au](http://www.health.vic.gov.au) for more information on carbon monoxide poisoning.

# Rethinking redevelopment

In December 2022, Council received ministerial approval to make an amendment to the Maroondah Planning Scheme introducing Amendment C134maro (Ringwood Greyfield Project) and C136maro (Croydon South Greyfield Project) as part of our innovative Greening the Greyfields project.



Greyfields sites are often located in the middle and outer-suburban areas.

In most cases, the redevelopment of these greyfields involves landowners demolishing the house and subdividing their lot into smaller lot sizes, which can lead to less open space and minimal landscaping.

Through collaboration, larger lots can be formed and developed according to these amendments, which can positively transform neighbourhoods through better dwelling design and a range of positive community benefits including improved canopy tree cover,

walking and cycling opportunities, open space provision, and reduced hard surface coverage.

Now, with the introduction of these new planning controls, Council is accepting expressions of interest from landowners within the first Greening the Greyfields precincts who would like to work together with neighbours, investors and developers to positively transform these areas.

Council is excited to be leading the way with an improved approach to residential redevelopment.

[Visit Council's website to learn more about Greening the Greyfields.](#)

## Active Kids, Healthy Minds

Save the dates these September school holidays for a series of Active Kids, Healthy Minds events for families with preschool and primary school aged children. Parents and carers are encouraged to take part and have fun too!

**Wednesday 20 September**  
12noon to 3pm

Outdoor games event at Town Park, Norton Road, Croydon. Free event.

**Wednesday 27 September**  
12noon to 2pm

Indoor play gym and swim at Aquahub, Civic Square, Croydon. Free event.

**Thursday 21 and**  
**Tuesday 26 September**

Indoor yoga and mindfulness classes at Aquanation, Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood.

Classes are at various times and grouped by age. \$10 per child. A parent or carer must stay with their child for the session. Registrations open on Wednesday 9 August.



[Visit Council's website to learn more and to register for these events.](#)

## Tonnes of FOGO not going to waste

In May, the new Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service collected 230 tonnes of additional food and garden organic waste that was diverted from landfill to become compost. This is thanks to Maroondah households using Council's FOGO service.

When you put food scraps and garden material in your FOGO bin, you help create quality compost for Victorian farms and gardens to grow food.

It's important to keep unaccepted items out of your FOGO bin, as these can contaminate the compost that

your food and garden waste turns into. Items like rubber bands, cling wrap, plastic food wrapping and stickers need to be removed before they go in your FOGO caddy and bin. Visit Council's website to learn what can and can't go into your FOGO bin.

Don't forget to ensure you are only using your Council-supplied liners. Council will deliver a new roll to households in March/April each year.

If you run out early and need a free top-up pack, visit one of our customer service centres.



### No Waste Cooking Workshop

**Saturday 19 August, 2pm to 3.30pm**  
**Central Ringwood Community Centre**

Join Open Table at this free cooking workshop and learn some simple ways to help reduce food waste in the home.

Spaces are limited and registrations essential. Visit Council's website to learn more or register.

# Have your say

MAROONDAH

# 2050

## Maroondah 2050 – Our next Community Vision

Council is calling on our community to share your thoughts, aspirations and ideas to help shape the future of Maroondah, as part of Maroondah 2050, our next Community Vision. This vision will provide a roadmap to help our community and Council work with partner organisations and other levels of government to enhance Maroondah as a great place to live, work, play and visit. Visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website to share what you hope our community will look, feel and be like in 2050.

**Consultation will open on  
Monday 21 August.**

### Extended outdoor dining in Maroondah

The extension of outdoor dining into public spaces, including car parking spaces, was introduced by the Victorian Government and councils in late 2020 to support hospitality businesses to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website to share your thoughts  
[www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au)

## Become a Meals on Wheels volunteer

**With a friendly face, a chat about the weather, a nutritious meal and dropping by to say hello, Meals on Wheels volunteers help hundreds of Maroondah residents each weekday.**

Meals on Wheels is a Council-run My Aged Care Commonwealth Home Program Support service. With nutritionally balanced meals, social contact and a 'safe and well' check, the service provides more than just a meal for those in the community who are experiencing difficulty preparing or cooking their own meals.

The meals are prepared by Council's Karralyka chefs and delivered by local volunteers. While recipients enjoy the delicious meals and the friendly chat, there are also benefits for the volunteers who generously give their time and energy to support members of the community.

Most notable is the social interaction and the fulfilling sense of helping others, said longstanding Meals on Wheels

37 businesses in Maroondah trialled free extended outdoor dining during a two-year period and a number of cafes and restaurants are still using Council land for this purpose. We now want to know if the ongoing use of Council-owned land for extended outdoor dining is supported by local businesses and the community.

Share your thoughts in our survey on the Your Say Maroondah website.

**Consultation closes on  
Monday 14 August.**

### Physical Activity Strategy

How can we support you to be more active, more often? As part of the development of the *Physical Activity Strategy 2024-2029*, Council would like to understand how you exercise and how often; and what is stopping you from being as active as you want to be.

Your feedback will ensure the strategy identifies the barriers to keeping active and any gaps in active opportunities available in Maroondah.

**Consultation will close on  
Thursday 24 August.**



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Maroondah Festival 2023

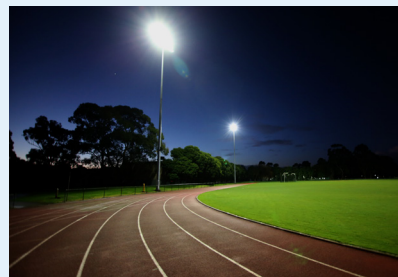


Save the date for Maroondah Festival on Sunday 12 November.

Get ready for a fun-filled day of music, delicious food, thrill rides and community activities at Maroondah Festival 2023.

Are you a community organisation or commercial vendor interested in getting involved? Applications are now open via Council's website.

### Don't let winter prevent you from exercising!



Take advantage of Council's extended lighting program, which gives residents more time to exercise outdoors at night during the colder months.

You can access extended lighting hours at Town Park Athletics Track in Croydon on Monday and Wednesday nights from 6pm to 8pm until Wednesday 27 September.

### Watch out for poisonous mushrooms

Beware of poisonous mushrooms, including Death Cap mushrooms and Yellow-staining mushrooms.

Consuming a Death Cap mushroom may result in death. Cooking, peeling or drying the mushrooms does not remove or inactivate the poison and there is no home test to distinguish safe and edible mushrooms from poisonous mushrooms. You should remove any mushrooms from your garden to prevent young children and pets from eating them.

Learn more on the Department of Health website [www.health.vic.gov.au](http://www.health.vic.gov.au)

## Did you know?

**Council's Meals on Wheels volunteers  
deliver around 48,000 meals each year.**



# What's On

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



20 Aug

## I'm Every Woman – Whitney Houston Tribute Show

Sunday 20 August  
7.30pm

Karralyka  
Mines Road, Ringwood East

Estimated to have sold 200 million records worldwide, Whitney Houston remains one of the brightest stars in music history. Now, 10 years since her passing, 'The Whitney Tribute Show' pays tribute to an extraordinary talent and story. Unforgettable songs that we know and love such as *I Have Nothing*, *How Will I Know*, *I Wanna Dance With Somebody*, and of course the iconic *I Will Always Love You*.

Tickets start at \$65 per person. Visit the Karralyka website [www.karralyka.com.au](http://www.karralyka.com.au) to book.



25 Aug

## Nick Charles at Wyreena Music Café

Friday 25 August  
7.30pm to 9pm

Wyreena Conservatory Café  
13-23 Hull Road, Croydon

Known internationally as Australia's virtuoso of acoustic roots and blues, Nick Charles' recordings and performances have won every award and accolade this country has to offer. His latest album, *Guitar Music*, has a typically broad palette of influences and includes renditions of acoustic guitar classics and a nod to his country blues heroes.

Tickets are \$40 per person and include entertainment and supper. The Café is fully licensed with allocated seating (maximum of 50), so bookings are essential. Visit Council's website to book or find out more.



29 Aug

## Strengthening Families Webinar

Tuesday 29 August  
7.30pm to 8.30pm

Online

Learn practical ways to help build wellbeing in your family. Alicia Ranfold from Emerging Minds will join us to explore building the social and emotional wellbeing of family members, with a focus on children and how to help them improve communication, build positive relationships and strengthen resilience.

A session is also available on Thursday 31 August from 10am to 11.30am for professionals and service providers who work with families and young children.

Visit Council's website to register or find out more about this free event.

## Supporting Maroondah's sporting clubs

Three projects were formally opened last month to support a range of sporting clubs in and around Maroondah.

The projects will also help encourage more people in our local community to participate in sport.

### JW Manson Reserve pavilion and cricket nets

The new double storey pavilion at JW Manson Reserve in Wantirna features female-friendly and accessible facilities, a large multipurpose space, a kitchen and a kiosk, as well as a balcony with views of both ovals in the Reserve. Five new cricket nets have also been installed as part of the redevelopment.

President of Aquinas Old Collegians Football Club, Ian Shaw, said these facilities are a welcome addition that will "enrich members' sporting life and social interaction" while catering for "the rapid expansion" of their women's teams.

President of St Andrews Cricket Club, Matthew Millar, said there will be significant benefits for the club, including "the expansion of women's and girls' cricket programs", more space for training, and "a safe place for all members to play cricket, socialise and enjoy the mateship" of the club.

### East Ringwood Reserve lighting upgrade

Four new LED sportsfield lights have been installed at East Ringwood Reserve, with concentrated light to help minimise spill light, in accordance with Australian Standards, and make it safer for players to train at night. The lighting accompanies other high-quality facilities in the Reserve, following increased demand for female participation in sport, and will help provide a more enjoyable and better experience for all players.

### Town Park sportsfield redevelopment



The sportsfield at Town Park has been upgraded and includes new drainage, irrigation and drought tolerant couch grass, providing a more enjoyable experience for all users.

President of Eastern United Soccer Club, Jeff Barr, said members of the club are "very much looking forward to" moving to Town Park and players are excited to use the new facilities.

Learn more

Visit Council's website to learn more about these projects, which have been funded by Council and the Victorian Government.

# Progress on projects in your area

As part of Council's \$65.77 million Capital Works Program, progress on projects is taking shape.

## Croydon Park Oval lighting upgrade

New LED sportsfield lights will be installed at Croydon Park over the coming months.

Sitting on 30-metre-high poles, the lights will illuminate the oval to 200 lux. Light will be concentrated on the oval, making it a more enjoyable experience for all users and safer for players to train at night while minimising spill light in accordance with Australian Standards.

## Ringwood Activity Centre carpark



Construction of a new carpark in the Ringwood Activity Centre is proposed to begin in late 2023/early 2024.

Located at 1 Bedford Road, the carpark is proposed to provide additional parking spaces to reduce parking congestion on nearby local streets and at the station carpark.

The remaining portion of the Blood Brothers storefront will be retained and relocated to a prominent position on the site, retaining the corner store significance of the original building. This project is funded by the Australian Government.

## Asset projects updates



Council's Capital Works Program ensures our assets will meet the needs of our community now and into the future.

Keep an eye out for works underway or starting shortly:

- Laura Court, Bayswater North – playspace renewal
- Longview Reserve, Croydon South – playspace and basketball court renewal
- Danielle Reserve, Heathmont – playspace renewal
- 1st Croydon Hills Scout Hall, Croydon North – room extension
- Croydon Oval, Croydon – LED lighting upgrade
- Wyreena, Croydon – outdoor furniture replacement

## Learn more



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

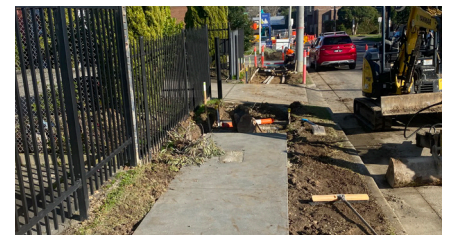
## Engineering works update



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:

- The Boulevard, Heathmont – drainage improvement works
- Crossman Drive, Croydon Hills – drainage improvements works
- Stirling Road and Toorak Avenue intersection, Croydon – waste vehicle access improvements
- Mullum Mullum Road and Sonia Street, Ringwood – drainage improvement works
- Towerhill Drive and Wonga Road intersection, Ringwood North – accessibility improvements
- Grant Drive, Bayswater North – accessibility improvements
- Churchill Way, Kilsyth – accessible parking improvements



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

- Jubilee Park Carpark, Ringwood – carpark improvement works
- New Street, Ringwood – Sherbrook Catchment Drainage Upgrades Stage 3
- Central Avenue, Bayswater North – road improvement works
- Todd Court, Croydon – drainage improvement works
- Bond Street, Ringwood – footpath construction
- Colchester Road, Kilsyth – footpath construction

## Maroondah Edge formally open

### Maroondah cricketers and netballers are enjoying a new place to train, following last month's formal opening of Maroondah Edge.

Located in Jubilee Park, the centre boasts five lanes for indoor cricket training, making it a one-of-a-kind facility in the Eastern Region and the first of four indoor cricket training hubs to be built in the Melbourne metropolitan area.



"Maroondah Edge allows us to further support the local cricket community. The focus on women's premier cricket and the development of girls' cricket is important as we continue to support our players with aspirations to play for Australia," said Vice President of Ringwood Cricket Club, Tamara Bourke.

Visit Council's website to learn more about this unique facility, which meets the needs of many clubs in our community and will help further raise the profile and skills of female cricketers in the eastern suburbs.

# Register for Run Maroondah 2023

**Challenge yourself and take part in Run Maroondah 2023 on Sunday 8 October at HE Parker Reserve, Heathmont.**

Come dressed in your brightest active wear and join in the fun at this family-friendly event where all ages and athletic abilities are welcome. Achieve your fitness goals and challenge yourself in a supportive environment, whether that means taking on the 15km or 10km run or the 5km run/walk. There is even a kids' 1.2km race!

Entry fees start at \$15 per child for the kids' 1.2km race and \$26 per person for the 5km run/walk. Concession and family rates are also available. Visit Council's website for more information and to register.

This event is supported by O'Brien Real Estate, Active Feet, Thrive Sports Medicine, and This Girl Can – Victoria (VicHealth).

Run Maroondah is a smoke-free event and dogs are not permitted.



Participants from last year's Run Maroondah event.

## 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 OAM**  
**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](http://maroondah.vic.gov.au) email [maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto: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)

