



Part of the expansive, light-filled foyer and lounge bar area at Karralyka.

Karralyka's warm welcome

Community members and visitors will soon enjoy a fresh new space at Karralyka, with foyer extension and improvement works almost complete. The new space is expected to open in mid-2025.

Building and roof extension works are now complete, with internal fit out works well underway. Once the remaining works are complete, Council's premier arts facility will include an expansive, light-filled foyer and lounge bar area, with adjoining outdoor space.

The new space will be bookable as the ideal cocktail-style function space – the perfect place to socialise before theatre shows.

Enhancements are also being made to the adjoining western entry of the building, with renewed surrounding landscaping and upgraded balustrades to improve accessibility for visitors. The sculpture *Cassini*, by prominent US artist Charles Perry, has also been restored to original condition using art conservation techniques and is in perfect view from the lounge bar.

Karralyka has been an important part of Maroondah's arts and cultural scene since it opened in April 1980. The architecturally award-winning building offers facilities and services for live theatre, corporate events and social functions.

Works to extend the existing foyer began in September 2024 as part of the staged redevelopment project. This redevelopment will ensure the facility can continue to meet the needs and expectations of the community into the future.

Other works completed under this redevelopment include upgrades to the air handling and electrical services, box office, car park and access path lighting improvements, and the replacement of theatre seating and carpet.

Visit Council's website to learn more about the foyer extension works at Karralyka.

Welcome to Maroondah news

Thanks for reading the May edition of Maroondah news.

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

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

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

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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 26 May
Monday 30 June
Monday 21 July

Council meetings are open to the public and are promoted across a range of channels, with an open invitation to attend.

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

Agendas are made available online on the Friday before the meeting date.

Council Customer Service opening hours

Our Customer Service team is here to help. Visit us at:

Realm

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

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm
Open Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 5pm
Open 10am to 5pm on the King's Birthday public holiday.

Croydon Service Centre

Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
Closed on all weekends and public holidays, including the King's Birthday public holiday

Get in touch with us



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



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



Email
maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au



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Scan the QR code to subscribe to Maroondah eNews, our digital community newsletter that features a range of news, consultations and events to keep you connected with what's happening in and around Maroondah.



**Please recycle
this publication.**



Maroondah City Council
is certified for its
organisational operations.

Recognising National Reconciliation Week

Join us on Thursday 29 May for a First Peoples Mullum Market recognising National Reconciliation Week in Ringwood Town Square.

From 10am to 2pm, come along and explore First Peoples small businesses offering arts and culture, homewares, jewellery and education market stalls, bush tucker inspired food, and free children's nature play activities throughout the day. There will be a Wurundjeri Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony at 11am in Town Square.

Explore the immersive exhibition *Marrup Biik – Spirit Land* by local artist Simone Thomson (Wurundjeri / Yorta Yorta) in nearby ArtSpace at Realm, as well as family

activities at Realm Library and a children's books showcase by First Peoples authors and illustrators.

National Reconciliation Week is celebrated from 27 May to 3 June. It is an opportunity to learn about Australia's shared histories, and to recognise and celebrate our First Nations people, culture, and reconciliation achievements to date.

This market is proudly presented by Maroondah City Council in partnership with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, Mullum Creations, Your Library and Eastland.

Visit Council's website to find out more about the Mullum Market.

Marrup Biik – Spirit Land by Simone Thomson

An extraordinary immersive video and sound installation featuring animations of paintings by local Wurundjeri/Yorta Yorta artist Simone Thomson, *Marrup Biik – Spirit Land* travels through a spiritual map of Maroondah exploring Country, Culture and traditional stories.

Experience a powerful reimagining of a significant artwork from Council's art collection as it comes to life in ArtSpace at Realm.

The project will be launched during National Reconciliation Week and will be on display from Monday 26 May until Sunday 20 July, the end of NAIDOCWeek. It will also be open for viewing during the

Mullum Market on Thursday 29 May in Ringwood Town Square, with an artist talk by Simone Thomson at 12noon.

*"This is where our heart is.
This is where our spirit lives.
This is Spirit Land.
Marrup Biik."
– Simone Thomson*



Image: Simone Thomson, *Marrup Biik – Spirit Land* (detail). Photo: Andrew Curtis.

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

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



Help shape the future of Maroondah

Share your thoughts on consultations currently open for feedback from our community.



Have your say on strategic Council plans

We're seeking your feedback on key strategic planning documents that set out our future strategic priorities and provide direction on how Council manages our budget and assets into the future.

These strategic plans include the Council Plan, Asset Plan, Financial Plan and Proposed Budget. All of these documents have been developed with input from the Maroondah community provided during our Maroondah 2050 Community Vision engagement process, including our Maroondah Community Panel.

Over a series of workshop sessions, the Community Panel members provided important feedback that helped to shape these key plans.

We now want to hear from our community and invite feedback on these draft strategic planning documents.

Your feedback will help us finalise these plans before they are formally adopted by Council later this year.



To find out more and to share your thoughts, scan the QR code or visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website before Wednesday 21 May.

Get ready to help shape the future of cycling and active transport

**Do you ride a bike, skateboard, scooter, walk or run for exercise, leisure, sport or transport purposes?
Get ready to share your thoughts on the Maroondah Bicycle Network Plan!**

The draft Maroondah Bicycle Network Plan explains how Council will improve and expand a network of pathways, trails and bicycle lanes over the next 10 years.

We want to encourage more people to ride, scoot, skate, run or walk by developing routes with infrastructure that is safe, convenient and accessible for people of all ages and abilities. So, whether you are a regular or casual cyclist or walker, runner or dog walker, we want to hear from you!

Complete our survey or drop pins to leave comments on our interactive aspirational map to help us find gaps in the network,

or to suggest areas that could use improved infrastructure, such as bike lanes, shared paths and bike parking.

Your feedback will help ensure that the Bicycle Network Plan reflects the diverse needs of our community, catering to all bike riders and pedestrians, including older residents, children, and individuals with limited mobility or vision impairments.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's Your Say Maroondah website to view the draft plan and provide your feedback. Consultation will open in mid-May and close on Sunday 15 June.

Share your home composting system with us!

International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) is just around the corner, taking place from Sunday 4 to Saturday 10 May. This year's theme is 'Better Soil, Better Life, Better Future'.

To celebrate, Council will be running a photo competition – submit a photo of your home composting system in action and enter the draw to win an exciting prize!

Our Waste Education Officers will also be available for 'Compost Chats' from Monday 5 to Friday 9 May. Book a 10-minute one-on-one conversation to discuss any challenges you are facing with setting up, maintaining or using your compost system.

On Sunday 18 May, our Waste Education Officers will be available again, this time at the Sustainability Hub Day at Central Ringwood Community Centre. Come and have a chat or get your soil pH tested for free!



For more information, visit Council's website.



Compost discounts for Maroondah residents

Did you know that Maroondah residents can receive up to 60 per cent off the price of composting systems and equipment?

Council offers Maroondah residents a discount on a range of products via the Compost Revolution program. Maroondah residents can take advantage of discounts on a range of products, including compost tumblers, pet poo composters and worm farms!

By composting at home, you can save money by transforming your kitchen scraps and garden waste into nutrient-rich compost, which you can use to enrich your soil and reduce the need for expensive chemical fertilisers.

So, whether you're looking for a bokashi bin, a compost aerator, or even live worms, check out the Compost Revolution website compostrevolution.com.au/maroondah

Happy composting!

Statement on implementing a glass-only recycling bin

Maroondah City Council is among a group of 32 Victorian Councils actively advocating to the Victorian Government to postpone the mandatory implementation of a glass-only bin service for households and explore existing, more cost-effective alternatives.

As part of this advocacy, a group of Councils wrote a letter to the Minister for Environment in late 2024 outlining their research findings and appealing for the system to be reviewed.

Their research found that a glass-only service would cost a typical Council approximately \$4 million to implement and would cost, on average, an additional \$27 per household per year to run – the largest-ever increase to a waste charge passed on to the community.

The research also showed that expanding the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) to include wine and spirit bottles would have similar benefits to a glass-only bin, with less contamination while removing millions of dollars of implementation costs for Councils.

Expanding and standardising the CDS would be more cost-effective for Councils and the community than implementing a glass-only bin service, as it would make use of existing infrastructure and

an existing service that the community already uses effectively, meaning less investment, resourcing and education.

Meanwhile, postponing the implementation date for the glass-only bin beyond July 2027 would provide Councils more time to work with the Victorian Government on our research findings and find a way forward that maximises recycling efforts but minimises the financial impact on local communities. It will also allow states and territories time to create a national standard for household bins.



You can read our full statement by scanning the QR code or visiting the 'Current Maroondah News' page on Council's website.

Recycle your electronic waste and more

Saturday 24 May, from 8am to 2pm
Council's Operations Centre, 24-28 Lincoln Road, Croydon

Council's popular E-waste + More collection event is on again in May to help Maroondah residents recycle 'hard to recycle' items.

As well as electronic waste (e-waste), we can accept clean polystyrene, cardboard, vapes, e-cigarettes and even clean textiles.

Acceptable e-waste items include any item with a battery or cord (excluding whitegoods or items that two people cannot pick up) and fluorescent light globes, including compact and tubes. Household batteries, car batteries, and gas bottles up to 9kg are also accepted.

Registration is essential, and bookings are limited. Only residential quantities can be accepted.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to view the full list of acceptable items, to secure your booking and to find out how your waste will be recycled.



Sporting program supporting families

Could you use some financial support to enrol your child in a team sport?

Council's Sports 4 All Maroondah program is a partnership with local sporting organisations and Melbourne-based charity Team Sports 4 All, who connects eligible families with their chosen sport and provides ongoing financial support so that every child can participate in team sports.

A range of sports are available for children of all abilities aged 5 to 18 years to 'Come and Try', including volleyball, AFL, gymnastics, golf, soccer, cricket, tennis and basketball; however, any team sport in Maroondah is supported.



To find out more, scan the QR code or visit the 'Sports 4 All Maroondah' page on Council's website.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Recognise a remarkable volunteer

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

The award recognises an individual who has provided excellent volunteer service and provided a positive impact to the Maroondah community over an extended period of time.

Nominations close on Sunday 21 September 2025, with the recipient to be announced in December. Visit Council's website to submit your nomination or find out more.

Book your flu vaccine

Council offers free flu vaccines to eligible persons through the National Immunisation Program (NIP). Payable flu vaccines are also available for those who are not eligible for the free flu vaccine.

Bookings are essential to attend an immunisation session. Council uses the immunisation booking portal Vitavo, to ensure your records are transferred seamlessly to the Australian immunisation register. You will also receive reminders about your appointments and can easily change your booking if needed.

Visit the 'Public immunisation sessions' page on Council's website to check eligibility criteria and to book. If you only require the flu vaccine, please select a 'flu only session' when booking.

Enrol in the Ninja program this month



Enrolments are opening soon for the exciting new Ninja program at Aquahub.

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

Visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au to stay up to date on the program and enrol from Monday 12 May.

What's On



May

Take care of yourself at Realm Library

Various dates and times in May
Realm Library, Ringwood Town Square

Take part in a series of events to help you improve your wellbeing. Events include an online menopause workshop, a session exploring the secrets to ageing well with a positive mindset, an author talk with Chris Ryan about *Feeding the spark: critical conversations with the dying*, an event about how donating blood can save lives, and a discussion with landscape architect Sandra Schwarz about green spaces for human wellbeing.



Scan the QR code, visit the Your Library website www.yourlibrary.com.au or call Realm Library on 9800 6430 to book or find out more.



13 May

Road ready: Tools and strategies to support learner and novice drivers

Tuesday 13 May, 7.30pm to 8.30pm
Online

Designed specifically for parents and carers of young learner drivers, this free session will equip you with the essential knowledge and skills needed to help support learner and novice drivers to become a safe and responsible driver.

Presented by Kathy Tessier and Di Casey from Road Safety Education Victoria, in recognition of National Road Safety Week.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to register or learn more



14 May

'Are You Safe at Home?' Day webinar

Wednesday 14 May, 7.30pm to 9pm
Online

Join writer and former journalist Jane Gilmore and a panel of experts to explore the theme 'Know your Rights', in support of 'Are You Safe at Home?' Day.

The online event will focus on how to navigate family violence support services, including legal services for victim survivors of family violence and their loved ones.



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



15 May

Growing through adversity with Professor Lea Waters

Thursday 15 May, 7pm to 9pm
(presentation starts at 7.30pm)
Karralyka, Ringwood East

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to hear from renowned psychologist and author Professor Lea Waters, who will explore the idea that we can still find happiness during hardship. Growing through adversity isn't one-sided, it doesn't mean we are free of all struggles. It means we become stronger because of our struggles, and we find a way to let happiness and hardship co-exist. Brought to you by Communities of Wellbeing with support from Council and Bendigo Bank. Tickets are \$10 per person, bookings essential.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to book.



18 May

Jubilee Park planting day

Sunday 18 May, 10am
Jubilee Park, Ringwood

Join us at Jubilee Park for a free planting day. The planting kicks off at 10am with a free sausage sizzle from 11am. There will also be free barista coffee onsite to fuel those green thumbs!

Please BYO gardening gloves and don't forget to bring a water bottle. We also recommend wearing closed toe shoes, a hat and sunscreen.



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



7 Jun

Rob Mills Performs the Songs of Bon Jovi

Saturday 7 June, 8pm
Karralyka, Ringwood East

In a career spanning four decades, this show celebrates Bon Jovi's career in all its glory, with the hits you know and love. Featuring a band of some of Australia's best musicians backing Aussie superstar of stage and screen, Rob Mills.

Tickets are \$85 full price, \$80 for concession and \$75 for members.



To find out more and book, scan the QR code, visit the Karralyka website www.karralyka.com.au or call 9870 2888.

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'.

Making progress in Maroondah

As part of Council's \$65.49 million Capital Works Program, projects are continuing to take shape.

Facilities

Ringwood Activity Centre car park



Construction to build a new car park in Ringwood is progressing, with exciting changes taking shape. The project will provide more than 300 additional parking spaces in the area, reduce parking congestion on surrounding streets and improve connectivity to Ringwood Station.

Last year we also saw the original Blood Brothers storefront relocated to the south-eastern corner of the site, retaining the heritage elements and corner store significance of the original building. With the main structure now mostly complete, the community will soon start to see the suspended brick façade of the new car park take shape.

As part of this project, modelling was undertaken to assess the functionality of the intersection at Bedford Road and Greenwood Avenue. Council will undertake safety improvement works at the intersection, which will reduce congestion along Station Street, provide alternative paths for cyclists and create safer crossing conditions for pedestrians.

You can find out more about the project online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Ringwood-Activity-Centre-Carpark

This project is jointly funded by Council and the Australian Government.



Drainage

Mullum Mullum Road stormwater improvements



Works to construct a new stormwater retarding basin are underway in Ringwood at the Council reserve near the south end of Mullum Primary School. These works will improve stormwater capture, reduce road flooding and provide greater flood protection for local properties. These infrastructure works are due for completion in June. Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/mullum-mullum-road-works

Roads

Athelstane Drive new school crossing



In collaboration with the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning, Council was successful in obtaining funding for a new supervised school crossing at Athelstane Drive in Ringwood North.

The new crossing will enhance road safety along Athelstane Drive during school pick up and drop off times and make it easier for families and students to safely cross the road. The crossing was installed in the Term 1 break and Ringwood North Primary School students have been enjoying using the crossing since the start of Term 2.

Find out more about school crossing safety online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/school-crossing-safety

Open space

Norwood Reserve Enhancement Plan



Works are progressing at Norwood Reserve as part of Council's Capital Improvement Program. Drainage and car park improvement works are complete, with landscaping works to kick off soon, subject to weather conditions. The improvements will include a flexible open space, nature play elements, seating areas, a loop walking trail and re-vegetating the reserve with trees and shrubbery. Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Norwood-Reserve-Enhancement-Plan

Grayswood Reserve skate precinct

Works are now complete in Kilsyth South on Phase 1 of a brand-new skate precinct in Grayswood Reserve. Skaters, bike riders, scooter riders, roller bladers, roller skaters and other wheel users can now enjoy the facilities, which have been designed and purpose-built to meet the needs and skill levels of local users. Find out more online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/grayswood-reserve-skate-precinct

Playspace upgrades

Croydon Z space and Lipscombe Park

Council is working to develop design plans for upgrades at Croydon Z playspace behind Croydon Memorial Pool (known as Five Slides) and Lipscombe Park playspace in Croydon. These exciting upgrades will include the renewal of ageing and outdated play equipment and will improve accessibility for users. More information will be available in the coming months.

Visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Explore/Parks-and-playgrounds to find a playspace near you.



Learn more

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



New hub for the community

In an exciting update on the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct, construction on a new cultural hub in Croydon is expected to begin in the second half of this year.

This hub, to be located on the corner of Mt Dandenong Road and Civic Square, will serve as a central gathering place, offering a range of services for the community including a state-of-the-art library, performance and events space, multipurpose rooms, meeting spaces, Council Service Centre, café and more!

With early works now complete, we're excited to see construction on this hub start in the coming months.



Artist impression of the new hub, incorporating the existing heritage façade.

Council has received funding from the Australian Government to help fund this important project. This funding will help ensure the performance and event space will meet the needs of Maroondah's different community groups now and into the future.

The cultural hub will retain the heritage frontage of EV's Youth Centre and 'the Cottage' building, paying tribute to and celebrating Croydon's history and character while ensuring the new spaces are modern, inclusive, sustainable and fit-for-purpose.

Once complete, the whole precinct will provide a place of connection and a beacon for wellbeing, bringing people together from all walks of life. To find out more and stay up to date with this project, visit Council's website.

Between the Details: Video Art from ACMI Collection

An ACMI Touring Exhibition.

Showcasing six moving image artworks by Australian artists, this exhibition celebrates ACMI's vibrant collecting and commissioning program, in ArtSpace at Realm, Ringwood Town Square, until Sunday 18 May. It features artists Kaylene Whiskey, Jason Phu, Deborah Kelly, Zanny Begg, David Rosetzky and Christian Thompson. Visit Council's website to find out more.



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

Your Councillors

Barnggeong Ward



Cr Chris Jones
0418 109 015

Bungalook Ward



Cr Catherine Gordon
0447 538 636

Jubilee Ward



Cr Claire Rex
0476 010 752

McAlpin Ward



Cr Nathaniel Henderson
0437 969 722

Tarralla Ward



Cr Paul Macdonald
0436 001 760

Wicklow Ward



Cr Daniella Heatherich
0438 482 813

Wombolano Ward



Cr Kylie Spears
Mayor
0436 003 660

Wonga Ward



Cr Linda Hancock
Deputy Mayor
0473 194 871

Yarrunga Ward



Cr Rob Steane OAM
0407 519 986

Maroondah City Council is committed to providing equitable service to all in our community.

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