

Glenferrie Ward

December 2023



The Electrify Boroondara Expo brought more than 1,200 people to the Hawthorn Arts Centre. Photo: Julian Meehan

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Glenferrie Place Plan update

Glenferrie Road sits at the heart of the Hawthorn community – a vibrant, bustling activity centre vital to Boroondara and beyond.

Back in 2020 we started gathering your ideas on how we could revitalise the centre through a Place Plan. Since then, our community has helped shape and confirm the vision, priorities and actions by sharing their thoughts in each stage's consultation.

The Glenferrie Place Plan sets out how to revitalise the precinct through 9 place initiatives. These include strategies to enhance it as a shopping destination, support arts and community events, and upgrade the streetscape.

Your feedback has reinforced that improving Glenferrie Road is the most important change we can make to revitalise the precinct. Creating more green space for social connection, widening footpaths to improve safety and installing new seating also depends on repurposing some of the space that's currently used for on-road parking.

Armed with research and your feedback from earlier this year, councillors are carefully weighing up the options for future parking before deciding on the potential relocation of these spaces.

We're continuing work and discussions this month (December) for an outcome that will best enable the improvements you want to see to the Glenferrie Road streetscape.

Once the Place Plan is finalised, we'll check in with you for your thoughts on any large-scale projects before launching them.

Follow the Engage page for updates on the adoption of this Plan: engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/glenferrie-place-plan

A message from your Councillor

I must begin this message with a sincere thank you to all who assisted in the planning and delivery of the Electrify Boroondara Expo, 'The Future is Electric', on 8 October at the Hawthorn Arts Centre. I also thank those who attended. The outcomes exceeded all expectations.

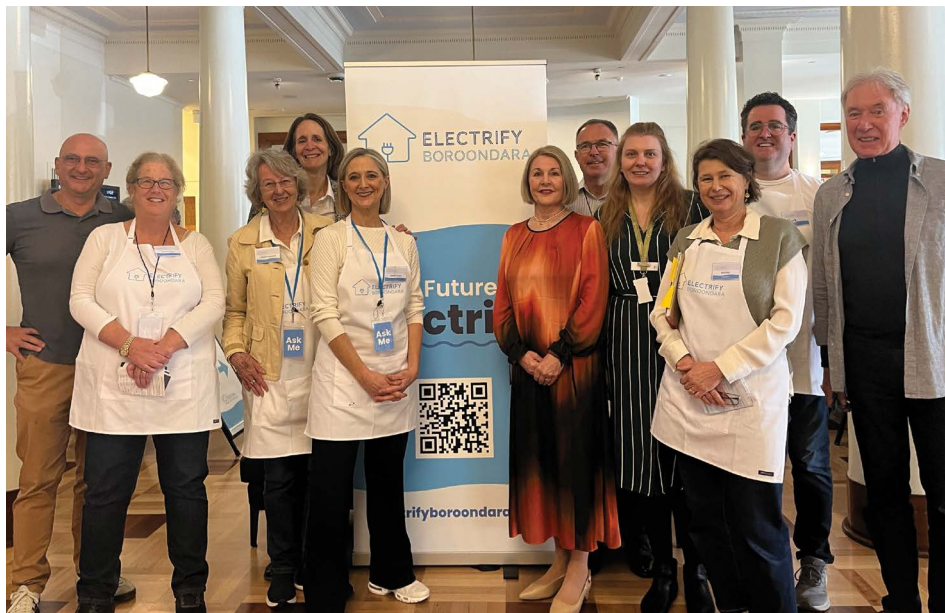
Electrify Boroondara is an alliance of groups independent of Council, working with community and Council to meet our Climate Action Plan aspirational community targets. The core expo team, including volunteers from all levels of government and the Boroondara community, worked tirelessly for months, with a team of more than 70 helping on the day. They supported 7 panel events, dozens of eco chats, more than 50 industry stalls, and numerous displays. More than 1,200 visitors attended, making the expo one of the largest-ever of its kind in Boroondara.

Industry stalls reported strong interest throughout the day and as a result I'm looking forward to having a lot more solar panels, solar batteries and electric vehicles in our municipality, contributing to a noticeable reduction in our fossil fuel use.

Our plans for the Glenferrie Oval precinct are also now moving at pace. We've heard overall positive community feedback on the vision and design brief for the area, and landscaping for the new open space left by the demolished Ferguson Stand will start soon. You'll find a Glenferrie Place Plan update on this page.

I wish you all well for Christmas and what promises to be a hot, dry summer.

Cr Wes Gault



Electrify Boroondara expo encourages the switch to electric

Electrify Boroondara is an alliance of community groups committed to accelerating the journey to a clean energy future. In October the group hosted its official launch and inaugural expo at the Hawthorn Arts Centre.

The Electrify Boroondara Expo was a success, with more than 1,200 community members attending on the day to learn about electrification. Topics covered included improving your home's energy efficiency, rooftop solar and batteries, induction cooktops and electric hot water, electric vehicles and e-bikes, how to transition off gas, and financing.

There was something for everyone to take part in and enjoy. Themed panel discussions ran throughout the day and attendees were able to book one-on-one chats with a range of experts. There were induction cooktop demonstrations and a showcase of electric vehicles, including Victoria's first all-electric Police Highway

Patrol car. Children enjoyed a variety of family-friendly activities, hands-on crafts and games.

Community members also gained valuable insights from Australian-American inventor and renewable electricity advocate Saul Griffith, who outlined the big picture of electrification, envisioning a sustainable Australia by 2030. During the plenary session 'Why electrify?', journalist Alan Kohler gave his perspective, then joined a panel discussion.

Electrify Boroondara is independent of Council, working with the local community to achieve the aspirational 'community targets' in our Climate Action Plan. Track our progress, find out more about the Climate Action Plan and learn how you can take action at: **climateactionplan.boroondara.vic.gov.au**

Update: soft plastic recycling service

We launched our temporary soft plastic recycling service in late July to fill the gap left by the collapse of the REDcycle program. Thank you to all residents who have embraced this new service and contributed positively to the environment by doing so.

In its first 3 months we had an estimated 2,850 visits across our 2 collection points, at the Boroondara Recycling and Waste Centre (648 Riversdale Road, Camberwell) and the Kew Depot Recycling Drop-off Centre (31-35 Hutchinson Drive, Kew).

We continue to advocate for action from the Australian Government to coordinate a longer-term, more viable soft plastic recycling solution with the supermarket and packaging industry.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to continue dropping off small household amounts of unavoidable soft plastics at our collection points. Check the web page below to ensure there is capacity at your chosen collection point.

To find out more, visit:

 **www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics**



The Ferguson Stand at Glenferrie Oval has been demolished, leaving open space set for landscaping.



Glenferrie Precinct progress

When the last edition of this newsletter hit mailboxes, demolition works were progressing to remove the dilapidated Ferguson Stand to create 500 square metres of new open space. Demolition is finished and landscaping for the new open space is set to start in the coming months, aiming for it to be ready for community enjoyment by mid 2024.

The next stage is revitalising the heritage-listed Michael Tuck Stand and Glenferrie Oval.

In August and September, we asked the community to have their say on the draft vision and design brief that delivers on the adopted Glenferrie Oval, Grace Park and LE Bray Reserve Concept Master Plan and Council's overarching strategy, the Boroondara Community Plan. It aims to:

- celebrate the historical significance of the Michael Tuck Stand and its unique connection to Hawthorn's history and culture
- improve the quality, safety and functionality of the Michael Tuck Stand and Glenferrie Oval

- maximise community use through access to health, fitness, arts, culture, and sport and recreation activities
- create opportunities for community connection across all ages and abilities
- connect with the new open space where the demolished Ferguson Stand stood.

We heard from more than 480 community members through community consultation. Overall, there was positive support for the vision and design brief. This feedback will help ensure these community facilities can be enjoyed now and into the future. Thank you to everyone who took the time to have their say.

You can visit engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/oval-glenferrie-revitalisation to find out more. Click 'Follow' to sign up to receive the latest information and follow the progress.

New pontoon is regatta ready

The new Hawthorn Rowing Pontoon has been completed in time for this year's annual Head of the Yarra rowing regatta.

Council, in partnership with the Hawthorn Rowing Club, Xavier College and Genazzano FCJ College, undertook the project to replace the Hawthorn Rowing Ramp with an 80-metre floating pontoon. The fixed wooden ramp was nearly 70 years old and at the end of its life. The new floating pontoon moves with the water level to provide safer and easier access to the river for all users.

It was ready to take its place as an important asset for this year's Head of the Yarra in late November, with 2,500 rowers competing in more than 270 rowing eights teams for the title of fastest crew. In its 62nd year, the regatta is a favourite in the rowing calendar. Visit hawthornrowingclub.com to find out more about this event.

