

BOROONDARA

Bulletin



BOROONDARA

Local artists from QArt Gallery and Studio in Kew have illustrated our new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.



Workshops:
how to go
renewable
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APRIL/MAY
2024

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Message from the Mayor, Cr Lisa Hollingsworth

Like many of you, I hold a deep appreciation for heritage-protected properties. They contribute to the charm and character of Boroondara, connecting the past with the present and giving us a window into the generations that came before us.

The recent arson attack on the Mangarra Road property 'Shenley Croft' was an incredible shock. While I feel great disappointment, it

has also ignited a strong sense of determination within me to see it rebuilt to its original glory.

In light of this tragic event, I stand firmly in support of our decision as a Council to take swift and decisive action. This iconic heritage home is worthy of resurrection.

We are appealing to Victoria's Minister for Planning to make amendments to the Boroondara Planning Scheme so that we can protect what's left of Shenley Croft and enforce reconstruction. You can learn more about our submission to the Minister for Planning on page 4.

I urge the Victorian Government to work with us to make this vision a reality.









On a more positive note, I am heartened to see the actions outlined in our updated Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–28 coming into reality with an official launch planned

for May. Turn to page 7 to learn about some of the artwork Council has commissioned for the plan, and to read about how we are working to increase participation in art and sport for people with disabilities.

Also in May, we will announce the award winners of Boroondara Volunteer of the Year 2024, recognising the outstanding contributions of our volunteering community who give their time to support local organisations delivering vital services to our community. Keep an eye out for an announcement of the winners, who will be profiled in the next edition of the *Boroondara Bulletin*.


**Mayor of Boroondara
Cr Lisa Hollingsworth**

Contact us

- | | | | |
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Translation and interpreting services

If you would like a printed translation of a section of this document, please make your request through Council's free interpreting service on **9278 4002**.

 **For speech or hearing impaired:**
National Relay Service TTY **13 36 77**
Speak and Listen **1300 555 727**

Italian

Se desiderate che vi venga tradotta una parte di questo documento, siete pregati di chiamare gratis il servizio telefonico di interpretariato del Comune al 9278 4002.

Greek

Αν θέλετε τη μετάφραση κάποιου τμήματος αυτού του εγγράφου παρακαλούμε καλέστε την δωρεάν υπηρεσία διερμηνείας στο 9278 4002.

Vietnamese

Nếu quý vị muốn một phần nào đó của tài liệu này được biên dịch, xin hãy gọi đến dịch vụ thông dịch miễn phí của Hội đồng ở số 9278 4002.

Cantonese

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Mandarin

如果您希望我們翻译本文档的某部分，请联系市议会的免费普通话口译服务，电话：9278 4002

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The City of Boroondara acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and original custodians of this land, and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

In Boroondara

Shooting hoops of the croquet variety in a Monday-morning social game at the Kew Croquet Club.



Meet our 2024 Citizens of the Year

Brenton Ponza and Henry Shirrefs are intent on making a real difference.

For Boroondara local Henry Shirrefs, volunteering is a way of connecting with his community.

Henry was named Boroondara Young Citizen of the Year 2024 at our Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.

‘Volunteering has opened connections with groups and people who share the same passion,’ he says. ‘Standing before an assembly hall or a room full of people keen to take action is an incredible feeling.’

Henry was awarded for his exceptional leadership and volunteer efforts. He has led initiatives in sustainability and environment, including creating an inter-school collaboration. He



increased mental health awareness at his school and helped raise \$47,912 over 3 years for Lifeline.

‘It’s like my job’

Our new Citizen of the Year, Brenton Ponza, is a local volunteer, athlete and fundraiser. He was recognised for his advocacy and work as a volunteer coach at Balwyn’s GoZone Gymnastics.

‘Volunteering is important to me because it’s like my job,’ says Brenton. ‘I get to help in the community since my disability makes it hard for me to find work and have employment opportunities.’

Brenton, who has cerebral palsy, joined the GoZone program when

he was 8 and is now a volunteer coach and disability advocate. He will continue in his volunteer roles with the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre, Gymnastics Victoria and Cerebral Palsy Achieve. He also hopes to start a blog about accessibility.

‘I hope to continue being part [of a] community where people with a disability are more accepted and given the opportunity for paid work,’ Brenton says.

Nominations for the 2025 Boroondara Citizen of the Year Awards will open in September. Find out more at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/2024-citizen-award-winners

Push to rebuild heritage-listed home after arson attack

After a heritage-listed Canterbury house was gutted in an arson attack, City of Boroondara councillors have voted to take the strongest action possible to protect the home's remains and prevent illegal destruction of heritage-listed property in Boroondara.

The 118-year-old Mangarra Road house, called Shenley Croft, was set alight in December. It is included in Boroondara's Heritage Overlay, which intends to protect it from inappropriate development and demolition. The property's Statement of Significance described it as a 'fine and substantially intact example of a large timber Edwardian residence in the Queen Anne style'.

For decades it was home to the James family. Dance teacher Merle James was well known for teaching hundreds of children and adults to dance in her studio at the home. The property was sold in November 2020 and has remained vacant.

Since the arson attack, Council has been exploring all possible avenues to ensure what remains of the property is protected, and push for the reconstruction of the heritage house.

A formal submission has been made to the Minister for Planning, asking the Victorian Government to exercise its powers to amend the Boroondara Planning Scheme to apply a Specific Controls Overlay (SCO) to the property. The SCO will prevent development except for the reconstruction of the heritage house.

If enacted by the minister, this will be a first in Victoria, setting a clear mandate for heritage-listed buildings to be reconstructed where they have been unlawfully demolished.

Protecting the distinct character of our neighbourhood streets is a top priority for Council.

The SCO incorporated document was presented to councillors at an Urban Planning Delegated Committee Meeting earlier this year. Read a PDF version of the council report here: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/arson

Read more:
See Mayor's message on page 2

Shenley Croft, photographed shortly before the arson attack. Image: Hin Lim Photography, 2023



HAVE YOUR SAY

Winton Road Reserve playground renewal in Ashburton

Share your feedback on our draft design for this new playground.

Closes: Tuesday 30 April



Artist's impression. Features and colours are subject to change.

Maintaining and renewing Council-owned roads

Share your thoughts on a new draft policy.

Closes: Friday 12 April

Join at engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au for news of more consultations.



Coming soon: Boroondara Community Plan 2025 - 2035

In the coming months we'll be asking what's most important to you, to help us renew our Boroondara Community Plan.

To receive updates and to have your say, join our community consultation website:

www.engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/register

Tips for kindergarten open days

Parents with kindergarten-aged children, it's time to start looking ahead to 2025.

Attending kindergarten is an important step in a child's development as they start to get ready for school. Children learn important skills through play in a safe and supportive environment.

Throughout May, kindergartens in the Boroondara central registration scheme will invite families to attend open days at their centres.

Follow these tips to get the most out of the kindergarten open day and registration period:

- **Plan ahead** so you can visit multiple kindergartens to get a sense of each one's atmosphere.
- **Talk to the teachers** and find out about the activities and facilities they offer to help you find the one that best fits your child's needs.

- **Submit your registration for 2025 by 30 June.**
- **Submit 3 kindergarten preferences** when registering. This gives your child a greater chance of being placed.

Bonus tip for younger children

Submit an expression of interest (EOI) for children not yet of kindergarten age. This can be submitted from birth and enables you to receive important updates from us, including information about when to register and attend open days.

To find the list of open days, visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/open-days-24 or contact the Boroondara Families team on **9278 4444**.

To access the EOI and for more about the kindergarten registration process at our 27 member kindergartens, visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/enrolment-24



Celebrate National Reconciliation Week

Join us in commemorating National Reconciliation Week this year with a powerful performance by Kutcha Edwards, a multi-award-winning artist, proud Mutti Mutti songman and a survivor of the Stolen Generations.

National Reconciliation Week runs from 27 May to 3 June. This year's theme is 'Now More Than Ever'.

We'll be hosting community events to mark the week. Be part of our National Sorry Day event on Sunday 26 May from 10 am to 11:30 am at Balwyn Community Centre. This free event, in collaboration with Boroondara Arts, includes the Kutcha Edwards performance. Bookings are a must.

For information about all our National Reconciliation Week events, visit our website: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-week-24



Share your writing in this year's Literary Awards

Storytellers and poets of all ages, it's your moment to shine. Entries are now open for the 2024 Boroondara Literary Awards. You can take part in the Open Short Story or Young Writers' categories.

More than \$8,500 in prize money is up for grabs. Winning stories from each category will be published in an anthology held at Boroondara libraries, the State Library of Victoria and the National Library of Australia.

Get writing and submit your entry by Friday 17 May. Or if you know a talented local writer, encourage them to enter. For more information, visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/lit-awards-24

NEWS BITES

We'll collect your prunings...

April is a great time to cut back hedges and tidy shrubs and trees. Remember to prune branches and shrubs so they're well clear of footpaths, allowing pedestrians and mobility scooter users to pass. We can collect prunings from eligible properties through our free bundled green waste collections. Bookings are open, and close at 2 pm on 26 April. Collections begin on 2 April and end on 3 May. Find out what we collect and how to prepare at www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/green-waste-april-24 or ring 9278 4444.



... and your autumn leaves

In autumn, we offer a special leaf collection service on streets with the most leaf fall. Contractors will collect leaves from these streets between mid-April and early-July. The number of collections will depend on the predicted volume of leaf fall, as assessed by our consultants. All other streets in Boroondara will be swept every 2 weeks until Friday 14 June. This is an increase to our regular 4-weekly street-sweeping service. Find your autumn bulk leaf collection and street sweeping days by visiting our website and typing your address into the map: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/leaf-sweeping-april-24

Renew or register your pet!

All cats and dogs over 3 months old must be registered with Council by **Tuesday 9 April**. Renew or register your pet – or update your details – at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/pet-reg-24



Book a flu vaccination

We're running dedicated flu vaccination sessions in April and May to help keep you and your family safe this winter. You can get your whole family vaccinated at the same time. If you don't qualify for a free flu vaccine the cost is \$25, which is payable when you book. To see if you're eligible, and to make a booking, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/flu-2024

Thanks to all our volunteers

From 20 to 26 May, we mark National Volunteer Week. Thank you to all the volunteers and volunteer groups across Boroondara for all you do for our community. We'll recognise and thank our volunteers at the 2024 Boroondara Volunteer Awards event on Thursday 23 May at Hawthorn Arts Centre. We'll also announce the 2024 Boroondara Volunteer of the Year and Volunteer Program Innovation Award. Join us to celebrate. Registrations are required at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/volunteer-week-24

Call for crossing supervisors

We're calling on friendly and community-minded people to join our team as a school crossing supervisor. If you're keen to stay active in the community and boost your income, this could be the job for you. We have part-time and casual positions available. You can work 45-minute shifts between 8 am and 9 am, and 3 pm and 4 pm on school days, and earn an annual salary of up to \$10,300. Find out more at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/school-crossing-supervisor-info



Go-ahead for Camberwell Structure and Place Plan

Our Camberwell Junction Structure and Place Plan was adopted by Council in March. It's our guide for transforming Camberwell Junction into a vibrant, inspiring and community-focused place. It covers both private development proposals and public upgrades. The plan has actions for how to deliver the community's vision for the centre in the 6 priority areas. They are: thriving economy, sustainable living, built form, public realm, access and movement, and community wellbeing. Find out more on our consultation website: engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/camberwell-go-ahead

The art of accessibility

Greater participation for people with disability is a key aim of our new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Boroondara artist Henry Deakin has an eye for the fantastical. He uses it to turn out vivid and playful artworks at Kew's QArt Gallery and Studio where he works 3 days a week.

Part of the social enterprise Endeavour Foundation, QArt supports artists with disability to create, showcase and sell their work.

'Creating artwork does feel like the perfect career for me,' says Henry.

QArt connects him with other artists and gives him space and freedom to create his unique works.

'I like to make work about nature and animals, in particular birds,' says Henry. 'I also like dragons... mythical creatures.'

'I've sold a fair few paintings. I feel proud of myself, and it feels really good. My owl and bird paintings seem to be the most popular.'

Henry's *Magical Story for Magical People* is one of 13 QArt artworks we commissioned for our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–28. One of

its aims is to enable more people of all ages with disability to take part in programs for arts and culture, sports and recreation, and libraries.

We adopted the plan in December. Thank you to everyone who shared feedback to help us develop it. A final version of the plan, which includes the artworks, will be launched at a community event on 15 May. Keep an eye on our website for details.

What's next?

Over the next 2 years, we'll be undertaking actions linked to the plan's 5 key themes:

- Celebration and belonging
- Access and safety
- Inclusive community
- Employment and volunteer opportunities
- Participation in decision-making.

You can read more about the plan on our website: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/disability-access

Inclusive sport and recreation

Launched in February 2023, the Boroondara Disability Sport and Recreation Hub aims to connect people with disability to programs and services at Boroondara aquatic and leisure facilities. From gymnastics to AFL Wheelchair and Auskick programs, dance classes to swimming, there are fun and inclusive activities to try. Find out more at: boroondaraleisure.com.au/hub

To see the full range of sport and fitness activities for people with disability in Boroondara, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/inclusive-sport

Art on the spectrum

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) estimates 1 in 70 Australians are on the autism spectrum. To recognise World Autism Understanding Day in April, you can join a free artist tour of the community exhibition *The Future is Interest-pective* by Aspect at Town Hall Gallery on Friday 5 April. The exhibition is on until Saturday 27 April.

Image: Henry Deakin and his artwork *Magical Story for Magical People*.





Tim and Lynda Entwisle's revegetated nature strip is a haven for native plants and animals.

Giving nature a helping hand

There's much we can do to help bring biodiversity back into balance.

When Australian botanist and former Royal Botanic Gardens director Tim Entwisle heard of a plan to revegetate nature strips with native plants he was delighted to offer his own patch of Boroondara for the project.

It's now home to grasses and wildflowers indigenous to the area, thanks to the work of the Kooyongkoot Alliance and the local 1st Glen Iris Scout Group.

'There are so many ways these nature strips will benefit our local neighbourhood,' says Tim.

'Together they will create a corridor for native plants and animals to thrive, particularly pollinators we need in our gardens and in nature. They are a reminder of what used to be here before we paved and bricked paradise.'

The Kooyongkoot Alliance's program, supported by a City of Boroondara grant, is now finished. But you can apply for a Nature Strip Renovation Permit and create your own habitat for pollinators. www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/nature-strip

Why biodiversity matters

Biodiversity is the range of all forms of life – micro-organisms, plant and animal species, the genes they contain and the communities they belong to. Biodiversity plays a vital role in creating sustainable and thriving cities. It contributes to the health and wellbeing of both humans and the environment in Boroondara.

Boroondara's native biodiversity once included woodlands, grasslands and herb fields, and wetlands along our rivers and streams. Urbanisation has brought many challenges, such as invasive fauna, weed proliferation, light pollution, domestic pets, and development, all of which put stress on our native plants and animals.

What is Council doing?

Boroondara's many parks and reserves play a crucial role in supporting native flora and fauna. Council is working to protect and enhance our biodiversity – by restoring bushland, revegetating to create more habitat for wildlife, working with other councils and expert bodies, by mapping and recording local species, showcasing local flora in public gardens, and encouraging sustainable gardening and habitat planting on private land.

What can you do?

Planting indigenous gardens gives nature a hand by creating habitat for insects, lizards, butterflies and birds.

Council, community groups and many residents are working with what we have by strengthening our 'biodiversity corridors'. These link isolated ecosystems, so animals and the seeds they carry can move safely through trees, bushes or along the ground. Private gardens can play a role by enhancing corridors or making 'stepping stones' for birds and other wildlife.

7 things you can do to boost biodiversity

Join our Backyard Biodiversity program

Learn how to make a habitat garden in your backyard, courtyard or on a balcony. Our in-person program starts on 1 May. An online version of the program will run later this year. www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/backyard-biodiversity

Take part in the City Nature Challenge

Become a citizen scientist in late April by finding and documenting wild things in your neighbourhood. Learn more at citynaturechallenge.org or book into our local events supporting City Nature Challenge at www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sustainable-events

- Start attracting wildlife by adding just a few bushes and some local grasses to your garden.
- Keep cats inside to protect nesting birds, reptiles and native mammals.
- Join a neighbourhood 'Friends' group protecting your local environment.
- Be inspired by the 4,000 native plant species at Maranoa Botanic Gardens in Balwyn.
- Avoid environmental weeds such as Agapanthus and Sweet Pittosporum. Find out about our environmental weed swap program at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/environmental-weeds



How to go renewable at home

In Australia most of our electricity comes from fossil fuels.

But the proportion generated by renewables is growing – rising to 32% in 2022, up from 29% the previous year. This is the highest figure yet, with solar panels and wind turbines playing a major part.

Transitioning to 100% renewable energy means solar, wind or water are used to generate all your power needs.

Moving to renewable energy at home is easier than you might think. Join our April and May workshops to learn more about making the switch.

All about e-bikes

Electric bikes are a popular sustainable transport option with great battery options. Attend our workshop on 21 April at the Boroondara Civic Centre in Camberwell to learn more about

e-bikes from an expert. They'll help you decide if an e-bike is right for you and which type is best for your needs. You can also test ride an e-bike.

Learn about Solar Savers

We've partnered with Solar Savers, a government program that helps households and businesses install affordable and high-quality solar panels and batteries.

Come to our free session on Wednesday 22 May at the Boroondara Civic Centre in Camberwell to learn if solar power is right for your home and how to choose the best system.

To register, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sustainable-events



Plug in your EV at our new charging stations

Did you know Boroondara has more registered electric vehicles (EVs) than any other council area in Victoria? We also rank in the top 5 local government areas for EVs in Australia.

Now you can plug in your EV at 2 new charging stations – one at the Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre car park and the other behind Burwood Village in Camberwell (at 238A Warrigal Road). Charge up while you're exercising, shopping or dining in these areas.

Our Climate Action Plan commits us to making charging stations available within a 2 km radius of major centres by 2030.

The EV chargers are powered by 100% renewable electricity and can charge all EV types. You can access the EV charging stations through the Chargefox app. Find out more at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/ev-charging

Nominate a bright young local

Each year the Boroondara Youth Awards celebrate the brilliant young people in our community. Nominations are now open for the 2024 Youth Awards.

If you know a young person, youth service or organisation that deserves to be recognised for their contributions to our community, you can nominate them now. There are 6 categories: creative arts, environment and sustainability, inclusive program, leadership, volunteering and youth professional.

Nominations close Friday 17 May. Visit our website for more information and to nominate: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/youth-awards-info-2024

Stage craft

Last year, 23-year-old Benjamin Chesler was awarded in the creative arts category for his work with Camberwell Grammarians' Theatre Company. Ben wrote and co-produced an original play called *Memory's Recess*, allowing other theatre groups to use the work free of charge.



'I was thrilled to receive an award in recognition of (many) months and late nights developing an original theatrical work,' says Ben. 'It's important that young people, who lack the professional experience or connections of their older counterparts, get recognised for the work they produce.'

Benjamin will work on 2 Grammarians productions this year, as well as polishing up a screenplay, developing new ideas and scouting for work.

5 WAYS TO SHOP LOCAL FOR MUM

As Mother's Day approaches (Sunday 12 May) there's a wealth of ways to pamper mum while supporting local businesses across Boroondara.

- Explore 53 local shopping precincts for gifts (or gift vouchers) from retailers right on your doorstep.
- Book a table for dinner at one of Boroondara's many restaurants or plan a special brunch at a cosy cafe.
- Unearth gems at Camberwell Sunday Market or find unique artisan wares at Hawthorn Makers Market (open 7 April and 5 May).
- For those putting on a home-cooked feast, Camberwell Fresh Food Market and Boroondara Farmers Market have farm-fresh produce and unique ingredients.
- Immerse yourselves in an exhibition at Town Hall Gallery or create a lasting memory with a ticketed live performance at Hawthorn Arts Centre or Kew Court House.

This Mother's Day, if you're shopping local, you're supporting local too. Find more on our local markets and shopping areas at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/mothers-day

Celebrating our LGBTQIA+ communities

We are committed to fostering an inclusive community in Boroondara. On 17 May, we recognise IDAHOBIT, also known as International Day Against LGBTQIA+ Discrimination.

We'll be recognising IDAHOBIT with community events including a free screening of the feelgood movie *Pride* at Lido Cinema on Friday 17 May. We anticipate this event will book out so registrations are a must via our website. To book your seat

and find out about other IDAHOBIT events, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/idahobit-24

To reinforce our commitment to ensuring our LGBTQIA+ communities have their voices heard, we are hosting bi-annual LGBTQIA+ community round tables. At these meetings, a group of committed community members meet to share their ideas with Council about how we can improve the health, wellbeing and inclusion of LGBTQIA+ communities. The next round table will be held later this year.



More than 20 local sports clubs now accredited

Twelve sports clubs have been accredited in the second year of our Boroondara Sports Club Accreditation Program.

Congratulations to Koonung Heights Cricket Club and Kew Croquet Club for achieving silver level, and the 10 clubs that reached bronze level.

These clubs will hold their accreditation until the end of 2025. This brings the total accredited clubs to 22, including the 10 accredited last year for the 2-year period 2023–24.

The program recognises local clubs that provide a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for all players, spectators and volunteers, while fulfilling their obligations.

The program is free for applicants and has gold, silver and bronze accreditation levels. Clubs that apply are assessed, and accredited clubs retain their level for 2 years before they need to reapply.

Applications will open in August 2024 for the 2025–26 accreditation period.

To see the full list of accredited clubs, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sports-clubs-24

Nominate a local club or sports hero

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Boroondara Sports Awards.

Through 7 awards categories, we recognise sports clubs, their volunteers, athletes and members for the essential roles they play in our community.

Nominations are open until Friday 17 May. Find out more: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-2024-sports-awards

Commemorating Anzac Day in Boroondara

As dawn breaks on 25 April, we remember the courage of Australian and New Zealand soldiers and their sacrifice during the Gallipoli campaign of World War I.

The war left a heavy mark on the suburbs of Boroondara. As more than 4,500 local men left to serve in the armed forces, their community supported them through fundraising and clothing drives. The names of those who did not return appear on 4 local war memorials.

In Boroondara, Anzac Day commemorative services are held at local memorials, along with other events. Find out what's happening near you at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/anzac-day-24

The Art of Sacrifice

On 23 April 'The Art of Sacrifice' at Hawthorn Arts Centre will feature artist George Petrou discussing his book of portraits and stories of Victoria Cross recipients. Find out more at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/art-sacrifice



RIDE SAFE: REMEMBER THE RULES FOR E-SCOOTERS

The Department of Transport's e-scooter trial was extended late last year. Some Boroondara residents have decided to get on board.

Boroondara local area commander Inspector Sandy McIver says: 'It's great to see people embracing new forms of transport to move around Boroondara. They need to ride responsibly to stay safe and be considerate of others in the community.'

To help you ride safely, there are strict trial rules to follow:

E-scooter riders must:

- be aged 16 or over
- always wear a helmet
- ride only on shared paths, and on roads with a speed limit up to 60 km/h
- not exceed 20 km/h
- follow traffic rules
- be visible at all times.

E-scooter riders cannot:

- ride on the footpath
- ride on roads with a speed limit above 60 km/h
- use a mobile phone while riding
- carry passengers or animals
- ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- ride a scooter capable of more than 25 km/h.

Find out more at: vicroads.vic.gov.au/escooters

Backyard Boroondara

Sightings of powerful owls are rare in Boroondara, but its distinctive 'woo-hoo' hoot lets us know they're here. Australia's biggest owl, it can stand up to 60 cm tall with a wingspan of up to 1.4 m.

Powerful owls mate for life, have 2 chicks a year and feed mostly on possums and flying foxes. They need old-growth trees with large hollows to nest in, and may be hunting and roosting in the inner city but nesting further out.

Their population is considered vulnerable in Victoria. Habitat loss is a threat for this apex predator, and they can be poisoned after eating rodents that have eaten baits.

Help track the powerful owl

You can help monitor powerful owls in Boroondara by recording any sightings on the iNaturalist Australia website (inaturalist.ala.org.au). They have been seen along the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek.

We have some fantastic citizen science events coming up. They include a **Birdwatching for Beginners** walk on 26 April, and a **Spotlighting Night** at Willsmere Park on 29 April.



Bookings are essential:
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sustainable-events

Find and book a space for your next event

Did you know there are more than 70 venues and spaces available to book in Boroondara?

In 4 easy steps, you can now find the perfect space for your next meeting or event on our website.

1. Plan
2. Browse spaces
3. Check
4. Book

From weddings and social events to meetings and workshops, the new browsing feature lets you filter and choose the perfect space with the features just right for your event.

These improvements are part of our efforts to transform Boroondara and improve your experience when you interact with Council. This year we're enhancing your experience further with a self-service booking tool that will enable you to access and book our venues and services when and where you need to.



Explore the different spaces you can book at www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/book-space



Boroondara quiz

1. Are there more men or women living in Boroondara?
2. In which suburb does Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) join the Yarra River?
3. Which 3 cities were amalgamated to form the City of Boroondara?
4. Which World War II-era TV drama of the 1980s was set in Camberwell?
5. Name Boroondara's botanic gardens.

Answers: (1) Women - 52% according to the 2021 Census. (2) Hawthorn (3) Camberwell, Hawthorn and Kew (4) *The Sullivans* (5) Maranoa Botanic Gardens.



Time to celebrate our neighbourhood houses

Neighbourhood House Week runs from 13 to 19 May and this year's theme is 'Stronger Together'. It's a great time to visit your local neighbourhood house or community centre in person or online to see what they have to offer.

Many venues are hosting come and try sessions to mark Neighbourhood House Week. Take a free trial, join a taster class and attend a range of activities. Check our website from mid April to find out more: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood-houses

Below you'll find a taste of some of the other classes and activities coming up...

Get ahead with English

Classes run every term on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. New students are welcome to join any time. Contact centre for details.

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning
Call: 9885 9401

Cost: Contact centre for details

French conversation

Perfect for students who know some French grammar and vocabulary and want to build conversational skills. Fridays 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Starts 19 April.

Ashburton Community Centre
Call: 9885 7952

Cost: \$318 (11 sessions)

Fashion illustration

Learn fashion illustration – from a detailed drawing to a stylised single sweep of a brush. Saturdays 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Starts Saturday 4 May.

Balwyn Community Centre
Call: 9836 7942

Cost: \$172 (6 sessions)

Yoga classes

Improve your strength, flexibility and clarity of mind. Suitable for all levels. Thursdays 7:15 pm to 8:15 pm. Starts 18 April.

Bowen Street Community Centre
Call: 9889 0791

Cost: \$180 (10 sessions)

Portrait techniques

Learn essential techniques, proportions and shading to breathe life into your drawings. Thursdays 1 pm. Starts on 2 May.

Camberwell Community Centre
Call: 9882 2611

Cost: \$240 (8 sessions)

Women's health workshops

Go from surviving to thriving through a series of workshops for women in their 40s and beyond. Thursdays monthly 10 am to 12 pm. Starts 18 April.

Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre
Call: 9830 4214

Cost: \$145 (5 sessions)

Kids' woodwork workshop

Students (aged 5 to 10) will make their own emergency vehicles in this creative school holiday workshop. Wednesday 10 April, 1 pm to 3:30pm.

Craig Family Centre
Call: 9885 7789

Cost: \$15

Meditation and mindfulness

Join our meditation and mindfulness beginner class. Relax your body, calm your mind, overcome anxiety, sleep better and enjoy life more. Tuesdays 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Starts 23 April.

Hawthorn Community House
Call: 9819 2629

Cost: \$120 (6 sessions)

Make a digital cookbook or photobook

Master your digital skills in a supportive class environment while making a digital cookbook or photobook.

Thursdays 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Starts 15 April.

Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre
Call: 9853 3126

Cost: \$130 (10 sessions)

Qi gong

Unlock the benefits of the ancient practice qi gong, a holistic approach to wellness. Harness the power of gentle movements, breathwork and meditation. Wednesdays 10:30 am to 11:30 am. Starts 17 April.

Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre
Call: 9890 2467

Cost: \$170.50 (11 sessions)

Belly dance classes

This is a fun, low-impact dance workout for people of all ages, sizes and stages of fitness. Beginners are welcome. Thursdays 2 pm to 3 pm. Starts 18 April.

Trentwood at the Hub
Call: 9006 6590

Cost: \$176 (10 sessions)



Neighbourhood Houses
Boroondara

Find your local centre at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/community-centres

Exhibition Q&A: Old Hawthorn, Fresh Eyes

Hawthorn Historical Society marks its 50th year with a community exhibition on at Town Hall Gallery until 4 May. Society member Elizabeth Love says it's an opportunity to show that exploring the suburb's history can be both fun and engaging.

Why 'Fresh Eyes' in the title?

The exhibition gives new ways of looking at Hawthorn's historical narrative and the familiar places around us. There are stories about people, ordinary and extraordinary events, and the changing ways of social involvement. They reflect what we were, and what we are now.

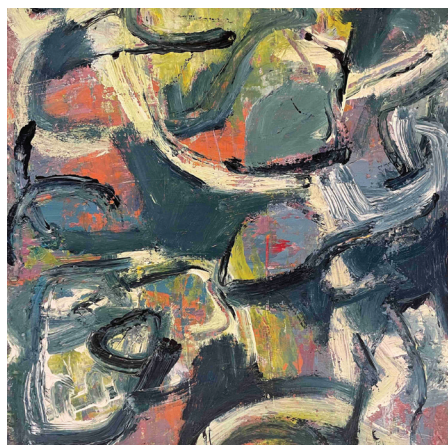
What exhibits stand out to you?

I like the old 1921 municipal map of Hawthorn overlaid with vintage postcards. People love to recognise these familiar places from their neighbourhood or childhood and are delighted to see the changes in the way people dress, their different activities and the transformation of streetscapes. The postcards, yesterday's equivalent of SMS or email, give us glimpses of Hawthorn from another time and the messages give us an insight into daily life.

How do you aim to inspire

exhibition-goers? We hope it will encourage participation, for visitors to look around the area and appreciate the value of Hawthorn's cultural heritage. We hope they'll want to share their memories and experiences for the future, and we encourage them to preserve and document them.

Visual arts



DISH

This major exhibition indulges in the beauty and complexity of food. Featuring Mechelle Bounpraseuth, ChiliPhilly, Zena Cumpston, Laetitia Olivier-Gargano, Callum Preston and Elizabeth Willing.

📅 **On now until Saturday 27 April**
Town Hall Gallery

Exhibition tour

Saturday 6 April, 2 pm to 3 pm
Free, bookings essential

Image: ChiliPhilly, Watermelon Hat, 2015, acrylic yarn, polyfill, dimensions variable, image courtesy of the artist.

Old Hawthorn, Fresh Eyes

This community exhibition by the Hawthorn Historical Society unpacks complex narratives and hidden stories that enrich our society.

📅 **On now until Saturday 4 May**
Town Hall Gallery

Image: Unknown, Grocer shop of Herman Magnus at 150 (now 707) Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn, c. 1950, digital photograph, image courtesy of Peter Smyth and Hawthorn Historical Society.

Coming Home

Bold and textural, the abstract paintings in this community exhibition by Marina Floreancig explore place and identity.

📅 **Wednesday 1 May to**
Saturday 15 June 2024
Town Hall Gallery

Image: Marina Floreancig, detail from Dorn, 2023, acrylic and oil on canvas paper, 33 x 29 cm, image courtesy of the artist.

Special event

Boroondara Eisteddfod 2024

Celebrating its 33rd year, the prestigious Boroondara Eisteddfod kicks off on 20 May with 16 weeks of thrilling competitions and events at Hawthorn Arts Centre. Find out more at: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/eisteddfod

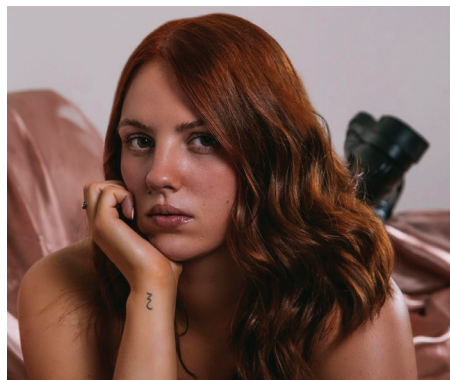
Performance



Little Feet Music


Little Feet Music is educational music, movement and entertainment for little feet. Join them at Kew Court House for this special school holiday performance.

 **Thursday 11 April, 11:30 am**
Kew Court House
Tickets \$20



Canisha


First Nations artist Canisha is a soulful singer with an edge, a lyricist whose emotive and playful music captivates and draws you in.

 **Saturday 20 April, 8 pm**
Kew Court House
Tickets \$26/\$20



Emily Soon and Invictus Quartet


Emily Soon's folk-pop music melds with the luminous sounds of Invictus Quartet for musical alchemy that is bound to captivate.

 **Saturday 11 May, 8 pm**
Kew Court House
Tickets \$26/\$20



Affinity Quartet

Affinity Quartet's program of Haydn, Beethoven and Bartok promises a fascinating glimpse into the evolution of the string quartet across 2 centuries.


 **Friday 31 May, 8 pm**
Hawthorn Arts Centre
Tickets \$40/\$32

Workshops



Foodie tea towel design


With artist Miranda Sims you'll use pigment inks to decorate a tea towel inspired by your favourite food. All materials provided. For ages 16 and above.

 **Tuesday 16 April, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**
Hawthorn Arts Centre
Tickets \$60/\$48



Painting with collage

A fun and inspiring workshop whether you're new to collage or expanding your skills. All materials provided. For ages 16 and above.

 **Tuesday 21 May, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**
Hawthorn Arts Centre
Tickets \$60/\$48

Boroondara councillors



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Mayor

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Council meetings

For information about upcoming meetings and agendas, visit:
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

Bulletin online

Read the *Boroondara Bulletin* online at:
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/bulletin

It's an easy, convenient and accessible way to read your local news from your device, any time and anywhere.

Information in this issue of the *Boroondara Bulletin* is correct at the time of going to print.

Need a document signed?

Local Justices of the Peace provide 2 free Document Signing Stations. No appointment is needed.

Boroondara Police station (34 Harp Road, Kew East):
Mondays and Wednesdays 11 am to 1 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 5 pm to 7 pm, Saturdays 9 am to 11 am.

Ashburton Community Centre (160 High Street, Ashburton): Mondays 1:30 pm to 3 pm, Tuesdays 10 am to 12 noon.



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