

Boroondara Bulletin



BOROONDARA
City of Harmony



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VOLUME 50

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Vision into
reality



Local government is playing an increasingly important role in the day-to-day lives of our community. We recognise this in the Council Plan 2010–15.

Some people might question this idea but the reality is that many Council services are 'hidden', with people unknowingly benefiting.

Message from the Mayor and CEO

Council delivers more than 150 services to people at all stages of their life. If you've ever visited a maternal and child health centre, had an immunisation, walked across a staffed school crossing, borrowed a library book, been to a community concert or festival, received meals-on-wheels, parked in a Council car park, jogged around a sportsground or eaten at a local restaurant or café, then you've probably benefited from a Council service.

This edition of the *Bulletin* showcases some of the projects we will deliver as part of the Council Plan 2010–15,

which was recently adopted along with the Budget 2010–11. We've featured some of our high calibre staff who are committed to innovation and collaborating with the community to achieve great outcomes for our City. We hope you enjoy this edition and that it offers an insight into the work we do and what we are striving to achieve.

 Catherine Dale

Councillor
Jack Wegman
Mayor of
Boroondara

Dr Catherine Dale
Chief Executive

Top of the chart

Council is proud of its history of asset renewal – a program now recognised for its success by the Auditor-General.

Boroondara received the best result of all 79 Victorian local governments for the 'Renewal Gap' – an Auditor-General's report on the results of all local government audits for 2008–09.

The renewal gap refers to the level of expenditure required to renew and maintain existing assets including drains, footpaths, local roads, community buildings and other community assets. In 2010–11, Council will spend more than \$44 million on these assets.

The program also includes pavilions, fences, irrigation systems, signs, library equipment, recreation centres, neighbourhood houses and other assets.



Welcome visit: Professor David de Kretser, A.C., the Governor of Victoria, and Mrs Jan de Kretser were warmly welcomed by local residents and community leaders during their first official visit to Boroondara. Here they are pictured with Chatham Primary School students, Boroondara Mayor and CEO, Cr Jack Wegman and Dr Catherine Dale, and the school's principal, Stephen Rothwell.

House values on the rise

Every two years, Council is required to revalue all property within the municipality.

This information is used to calculate rates and is also purchased by the State Revenue Office and used to apportion land tax.

This year's independent general valuation of all properties found that there has been a 6.78% increase in the total valuation of properties within Boroondara in the last two years.

This means the median house valuation in Boroondara has increased by 9% from \$835,000 to \$910,000.



How the Budget is being spent

In the year ahead, Council's operating budget will deliver:

- More than \$11 million to maintain more than 40 sportsgrounds, 222 open space sites, 22 formal gardens and 103 playgrounds as well as 70,000 street trees and 52,000 park trees, and the Freeway Golf Course.
- More than \$11 million for health and aged services such as the delivery of 122,000 hours of home and community care, 32,000 meals on wheels, and about 20,000 vaccinations. These services are partly funded by federal grants and fees.
- More than \$6 million to operate five libraries plus \$1.3 million for new resource materials. This expenditure is partially offset by grants and fees.
- Approximately \$1.7 million for recreation and cultural services. Council operates five recreation centres, the Boroondara Tennis Centre, Boroondara Skate and BMX Park, Macleay Park Netball Courts and Kew Traffic School. Cultural activities include literary events, the Boroondara Eisteddfod, the Town Hall Gallery, the civic collection and community festivals.
- \$2.7 million to fund family services such as maternal and child health care, youth services, occasional care and family day care.
- \$2 million in direct grants to community organisations in Boroondara and also provides buildings and facilities at heavily subsidised or peppercorn rents for many community organisations including Camcare, eight community centres and neighbourhood houses, and two family centres.

Turn to pages 6 and 7 for more project details.

Turning vision into reality

The City of Boroondara's Council Plan 2010–15 and Budget 2010–11 promises a three-way result for the community.

It will continue Council's high quality service delivery, provide for its best practice program of asset renewal and enable substantial upgrades of major community buildings.

Last year's budget committed Council to a \$200 million program of investment over the coming years. In the year ahead, Council will continue to deliver on this commitment.

Mayor of Boroondara, Councillor Jack Wegman said the vision is to create a vibrant, liveable city.

"We will develop our arts and culture services, sustain our environment, support our economic development and ensure the wellbeing and safety of our community," Cr Wegman said.

"We have already achieved significant steps forward in the community consultation and concept design for the

redevelopment of the Hawthorn Leisure & Aquatic Centre and the creation of the Camberwell Library, and Hawthorn Town Hall Arts Precinct.

"What the community will see as a result of this Council Plan is this work proceeding to the architectural design stages.

"We will also commence construction on the redevelopment of the Hawthorn Library Precinct, Camberwell Library and stage one of the Kew Recreation Centre upgrade. The Kew Court House and Police Station restoration will be completed and transformed into an arts facility."

Copies of the Council Plan and Budget are available at Council customer service centres, libraries and on Council's website.

For more information, or to request a copy of either documents, email boroondara@boroondara.vic.gov.au or call 9278 4444.

[inbrief]

This month's Council meetings are as follows:

Monday 19 July

6pm Services Special Committee

8pm Urban Planning Special Committee

Monday 26 July

6pm Council Meeting

For more information, please call 9278 4474 or visit Council's website.

Welcome to the new-look

Boroondara Bulletin. We've refreshed the design, which emphasises the way that Council connects with community. There are also elements that highlight the environment, infrastructure and networking. To make sense of it all, log onto Council's website. We would also love to know what you think. Email us at bulletin@boroondara.vic.gov.au.

Say no to freeway noise

Community concern remains high about the impact of the Eastern and M1 freeways on noise and air pollution in parts of Boroondara. While the Victorian Government has contributed some funding to address the issue in certain locations, local residents feel not enough has been done to dull the noise. As Council continues to advocate to VicRoads and the Victorian Government, in this special *Bulletin* feature, local residents provide an insight into how freeway noise is affecting their lives.



Justin McKernan with Gardiner Ward Councillor Coral Ross.

Monash Freeway widening – Glenferrie to Warrigal roads

– as told by Glen Iris resident Justin McKernan

The Victorian Government and VicRoads' decision to unilaterally increase the level of allowable freeway noise from 63 to 68 decibels, as part of the expansion of the Monash Freeway, is deplorable and a threat to the amenity of Boroondara.

The shift from 63 to 68 decibels represents a 30% increase in the level of allowable noise in our homes, our gardens and our parks. It's staggering to think the State Government and VicRoads call this progress!

In response to the threat of more freeway noise, my neighbours and I have formed the Noise Abatement Action Group (NAAG) – a group of residents dedicated to obtaining a

commitment from VicRoads to reinstate the 63 decibel noise standard along the Boroondara sections of the freeway. NAAG's advocacy has included marches over the Burke Road overpass, community letterbox drops and extensive letter writing campaigns to Messrs Brumby, Pallas and Stensholt.

The State Government's response has been to litter the recent budget papers with platitudes about noise attenuation along the Monash Freeway. In Boroondara, those platitudes amounted to just 800 metres of improved walls.

This sort of window dressing should not be tolerated by the Boroondara community and I encourage you to join NAAG by registering your support with naag@live.com.au. Through the weight of numbers we WILL prevail!

Impact on amenity

– as told by Glen Iris resident Darren Mullen

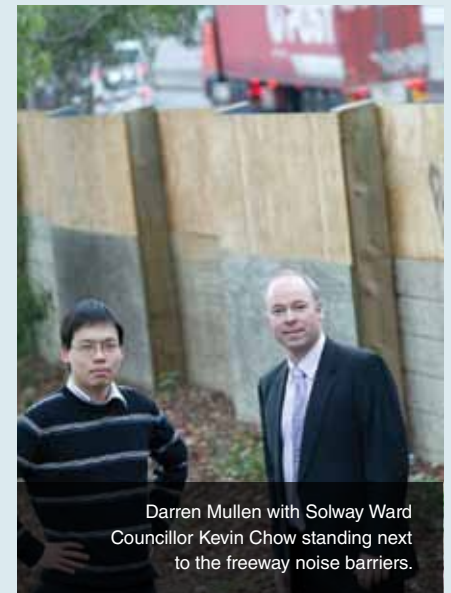
Residents in Glen Iris are concerned with the extreme volume of noise emanating from the nearby freeway.

With many homes in the area having their bedrooms upstairs, the residents are frequently woken or kept awake by the constant stream of noise.

The morning peak hour is particularly problematic when truck brakes can be heard as they slow down and take off.

Darren Mullen lives in the area with his young family. He says his son, who is just five years old, often comes into his parents' bedroom because he cannot sleep due to the trucks and freeway noise.

The family don't leave their windows open on the west side of the house during the summer months because the noise comes directly into their home.



Darren Mullen with Solway Ward Councillor Kevin Chow standing next to the freeway noise barriers.



Balwyn North residents and users of the Koonung Creek Reserve with Bellevue Ward Councillor Brad Miles.



Kew Gardens residents with Studley Ward Councillor Phillip Healey.

Balwyn North Freeway Noise Group

– as told by Balwyn North resident **Mary Harnan.**

Residents in Balwyn North love their area and living near the Koonung Creek Reserve.

As they are near a freeway, they accept that there will always be a level of freeway noise, however, with the opening of Eastlink in June 2008, they were in for a big shock. The nature of the freeway has changed. It now goes 24 hours, seven days a week.

The level of noise has reached horror levels and truck brake noise invades their community day and night.

A group of residents who met at a Council-initiated meeting in 2008 formed the Balwyn North Freeway Noise Group (BNFNG) to represent

their community and find a solution to protect their health, safety and environment as well as understand why some communities in our state get noise barriers while others do not (ie. award-winning noise barriers from Doncaster Road onwards but none for Balwyn North).

They were shocked to learn that:

- Current noise levels at houses and in the reserve drastically exceed World Health Organisation guidelines (of which Australia is a signatory).
- No environmental impact studies had been undertaken to assess the effect on their community of the various extensions over the last 20 years. The Environment Protection Authority seems to be missing in action.

- The Victorian Government's policy doesn't seem to be applied fairly.

Since the early part of the 1990s, not one cent has been spent by any authority to protect Balwyn North.

VicRoads' promise of continuous dirt mounds and fences as part of the various freeway extensions to Springvale Road were never delivered. Thus, the gaps let the noise swamp the whole valley and this, combined with the thinning of trees in the Koonung Creek Reserve means the freeway is now both audibly and visually present in this community.

For more information on BNFNG, please visit bnfng.info .

The nearby freeway has left Kew Gardens residents feeling the effects of noise pollution

– as told by Kew resident **Ros Oh**
While Kew Gardens residents closest to the adjoining Eastern Freeway are the most affected, even some of those farthest from the freeway still complain of the noise when the wind blows their way.

The extent of freeway noise varies across the estate, but it is always present.

Noise monitoring tests have been regularly carried out and they have confirmed the reason for concern.

At night, many residents cannot sleep with their windows open without being woken by traffic noise. Sometimes even closing the windows isn't enough.

The residents of this area have been actively protesting for many years and want a noise barrier.

Among the many Kew residents protesting the freeway noise is Ros Oh. "We've written letters to VicRoads and the relevant ministers from both parties over the past 15 years and we've held a residents' street meeting with

VicRoads representatives but to no avail," Ros said.

The residents have been very active in airing their grievances, but are yet to receive a favourable outcome. They collected 500 signatures and presented a formal petition to State Parliament.

To help their campaign for the installation of a noise barrier, residents have also met with Council. After 15 years, they still don't have any sound barriers to protect them from the constant drone.

Real work, real people = *outcomes*

This year's Council Plan and Budget reflect the broad range of projects that Council will complete to improve community amenity and sustainability. In this feature, staff members from across the organisation provide a snapshot of projects they will be working on in the year ahead.

Vesna Lijovic

Environmental Health Officer

Food Act and Public Health and Wellbeing Act

Food borne illness can be severe and, in susceptible people, even cause death. Our food business owners are legally responsible to ensure that food sold to customers is safe to eat and it is my role to ensure this occurs by doing routine inspections of these businesses and managing the food businesses in a variety of ways to help improve their standard.

Andre Peters

Supervisor Parking and Traffic

City Surveillance Program

This program will provide precise information on assets along with the ability to attach photos of the issue. It's a proactive approach to damaged Council assets, which should reduce the number of calls from residents and the general public. And on the personal side, when

a job has been completed an officer will have the satisfaction of seeing something they reported being repaired and made safe for all concerned.

Rick Kwasek

Senior Project Manager – Major Projects

Camberwell Library and Office Project

It's a project that reinvigorates an existing council building into a facility that is functional for the community. It is the ultimate in sustainable design. It will create a modern, technologically advanced library space that will benefit the community in many ways – creating informal places for children to learn, study areas for teenagers, a place for our historical collections and an opportunity for the community to relax have a coffee and read a book or magazine, or do some research.

Julia Smith

Sustainable Transport Project Supervisor

Shared path logo development

Boroondara has 32kms of shared paths across four major trails including the Gardiners Creek, Anniversary, Yarra and Koonung trails. We want to increase the number of cyclists and pedestrians using the network and facilities through upgrading and renewing paths. Travelling sustainably has immense benefits on our health, the environment and our wallets.

Paul Bennett

Leisure Facilities Development Officer

Hawthorn Aquatic & Leisure Centre and Kew Recreation Centre redevelopments

This will increase the types of health and fitness opportunities and leisure participation at both facilities. The designs we are creating will future proof the centres. I love creating facilities where people can get healthy, hang out with friends or spend the day with the family. I'm very fortunate to be involved with such exciting projects. These are two very significant redevelopments.

Michaela Skett

Team Leader Environmental Planning

Ashburton Community Precinct Cogeneration Project

It will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and demonstrate alternative energy and energy efficiency technologies. The heat and power from the cogeneration plant will be used to run the centre and warm the pool at the Ashburton Recreation Centre, and provide lower emissions power to the nearby Craig Family Centre. The most satisfying aspect of my job is working with a passionate and talented team that believe in the goals we are working towards.



Vesna Lijovic



Andre Peters



Rick Kwasek



Julia Smith
(image courtesy of Monash University)



Paul Bennett



Michaela Skett



Tara Godbold



Caroline Martin

Tara Godbold

Health and Wellbeing Planning and Policy Officer

Investigate mental health and wellbeing issues

It will provide an evidence-base for identifying emerging trends, opportunities for action and recommendations for Council planning and activities that focus on the prevention of mental health problems and early intervention. I enjoy my work because of the variety of tasks and topics that I am involved in on a daily basis. Health and wellbeing is my passion and it is such a pleasure to be able to work with a community that values their health and wellbeing so highly.

Caroline Martin

Senior Landscape Architect

Gardiners Creek Trail

A 1.5km gap exists in the Gardiners Creek Trail between Warrigal Road in Ashwood and the Solway Street Bridge in Ashburton. The project will result in a continuous shared path from Box Hill South to the Main Yarra Trail in Hawthorn. It provides a sustainable transport option and caters for recreational and commuter cyclists and pedestrians. Being a part-timer, it is often difficult to work consistently on large projects. I am really

pleased to have worked on a project of this scale continuously since early 2006, with completion due by June 2012.

David Williams

Metro Access Project Officer

Community Building Plan

The Community Building Plan outlines the work that the Metro Access Project and Council will undertake within the City of Boroondara to become increasingly understanding, inclusive and supportive of disability issues. Ultimately, my role allows me to incorporate my own professional and personal values and have input into the present and future. I have the pleasure of working with people all day, everyday.

Georgina Miller

Human Resources Advisor

Attraction and Retention Plan

The project ensures that Council takes a proactive approach to the attraction and retention of quality staff, both now and into the future. I enjoy the diversity that Council has to offer and being involved in a wide range of projects across the organisation. This allows me to broaden my skills and knowledge and enables me to interact with staff members at all levels and in all areas.

Mandy Bow

Engagement and Research Business Analyst

Corporate research

It broadly aims to measure levels of customer service satisfaction across the many different services that Council provides so that departments can understand where they need to prioritise future improvements to their services. Many research jobs have narrow areas of topics, but at Council there is such an incredible diversity of services that there is no way you would become bored working here.

Fiona Banks

Manager Economic Development

Economic Development Strategy

This strategy sets the scene until 2016 in terms of what Council is aiming to achieve in enhancing the City's economic health. It sets a clear strategic vision for the future. Every day I have the benefit of working with a very engaged local business community who continue to strive for Boroondara to stand out as the place to do business.



David Williams



Georgina Miller



Mandy Bow



Fiona Banks

Out and about

Thursday 15 July

Boroondara Stroke Support Group

10am to 12pm, Boroondara Community Health Centre, 378 Burwood Road, Hawthorn. Regular meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month. Cost: \$10 annual membership. Details: Jenny 0413 187 790.

Saturday 17 July

Winter bowls at Auburn Bowls Club

12pm, 2b Munro Street, Hawthorn East. Don't let the cold weather deter you from rolling up for a roll, our synthetic Green can withstand all seasons, and games are organised for learners and experienced bowlers. Cost: \$3, includes soup at mid-game break. Details: 9882 2138 or secretary@auburnbowls.org.au .

Sunday 18 July

Rising stars duet

3pm, St John's Anglican Church, Camberwell. Come and see two young musical stars, British organist Jonathan Hope and Australian soprano Allegra Giagu. Cost: \$25 adult, \$20 concession, \$10 student. Details: 0410 844 552.

Open Day at Burnley College

10am to 3pm, University of Melbourne, Burnley Campus, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond. Presented by Friends of Burnley Gardens. Workshops and demonstrations for pruning fruit trees, grape vines, native shrubs and roses. Details: 9250 6800 or www.fobg.org.au .

Endo-empathy

1pm to 3pm, Hawthorn Community House, 32 Henry Street, Hawthorn. This art therapy program gives participants the space to discover, explore and reflect on their Endometriosis journey. There will be 10 weekly workshops, all on Sunday afternoons, until 19 September. Details: 9819 2629.

Monday 19 July

Audiology Ultra Hearing Services

9am to 5pm, 87 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn and 330 High St, Ashburton. Free adult hearing assessments with a qualified audiologist. Also available 26 and 28 July. Details: 9885 8001.



Tuesday 20 July

Accessible Community forum and Accessible Voting workshop

12pm to 1.30pm, Craig Family Centre, 7 Samarinda Avenue, Ashburton. People with disabilities, carers and families are invited to participate in one of four planned 'Accessible Community...Your Say' consultation meetings, followed by a workshop. Details and bookings: David Williams 9278 4722.

Wednesday 21 July

Camberwell Film Society

7.30pm, Camberwell Community Centre, 33 Fairholm Grove, Camberwell. Screening and discussing classics of cinema. This month's film: *The Children of Huang Shi*. Cost: annual subscriptions are \$35 for single and \$65 for double. Details: Bill Kerr 9347 6969.

Thursday 22 July

Victorian Orchid Club

8pm, St Mary's Church Hall, 99 Bowen Street, Camberwell South. Talk by David Wain grower of champion Cymbidiums. Details: Di or John 9478 9764.

Saturday 24 July

Surrey Hills Music Festival

1pm to 11pm, Union Road, Surrey Hills. Come along and celebrate the spirit of music and community at the inaugural Surrey Hills Music Festival. Details: 9890 2467.

Sunday 25 July

South Camberwell Music Community

2.30pm to 3.30pm, South Camberwell Uniting Church Hall, 910 Toorak Road, Camberwell. Free guitar and drum lessons, as well as jamming and practice. The second and fourth Sunday of every month. Details: Matty 0402 739 543.

St Aidan's Church

5.30pm to 7.30pm, Duggan Street, Balwyn North. This month we have Beth

Dun from the Royal Children's Hospital talking about improving children's health with music therapy. Details: 9857 8412.

Tree planting at Yarra Bend

10am to 2pm, Yarra Bend Park, Kew. Parks Victoria is conducting a tree planting day, which is a great opportunity to help enrich Yarra Bend's biodiversity. Details: Kate Churven 9488 3999.

Monday 26 July

Camberwell Parkinson's Disease Support Group

10am to 12pm, St Mark's Church Hall, corner Burke and Canterbury roads, Camberwell. Information, support and morning tea. Cost: \$2. Details: Ruth Harrop 9889 3499.

Wednesday 28 July

Lighter Footprints presents climate forum

7pm, Chandelier Room, Hawthorn Town Hall, 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn. Federal candidates for Kooyong, as well as a selection of senators will be discussing their climate change policies and answering questions. Cost \$5 donation. Details: Lynne Holroyd 9882 3544.

Kew Ladies Probus Club

10am, Phyllis Hore Room, Kew Library, corner Cotham Road and Civic Drive, Kew. We are a club promoting social activities and fellowship for retired and semi-retired women. Cost: \$30 per year. Details: 9853 9395.

Friday 30 July

Camberwell Afternoon Slide Group

2pm, Chambly Community Centre, 405 Camberwell Road, Camberwell. Slides with guest speakers talking about cultural aspects of destination(s). This month: The 'Stans'. Cost: \$20 annual membership and optional afternoon tea available, \$1 per program. Details: 9889 7509 or 9882 8383.

This handy guide can be pulled out for easy reference.

What's on at your local Neighbourhood House

The new edition of the *Short Course, Activity and Social Guide*, July to December 2010 is now available from local libraries, Boroondara Council offices, your local neighbourhood and community centres and selected newsagencies. The guide outlines over 200 courses and activities available for the whole community at your local neighbourhood centre.

Acrylic painting

1.30pm to 3.30pm, Mondays at Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre with artist Velda Pellazi. Cost: \$15 per session. Details: 9890 2467.

Basic bookkeeping

7.30pm to 9.30pm, Tuesdays from 13 July at Bowen Street Community Centre. Cost: \$114 (six weeks). Bookings: 9889 0791.

Beginners computers for seniors

1pm to 3pm, Thursdays from 15 July at Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre. Learn how to use a mouse, practice keyboard skills, discover the internet and become familiar with Google. Cost: \$165 (eight weeks). Bookings: 9853 3126.

Botanical art

1pm to 3pm, Wednesdays from 14 July at Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre. Cost: \$165 (eight weeks). Details: 9853 3126.

Childcare

At Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre. Term and casual bookings available for children three months to school age. Cost: \$26.50 (three-hour session) and \$35 (four-hour session), generous discounts for siblings and concession holders. Details: 9830 4214.

Chinese playgroup

A friendly playgroup setting in Ashburton for children to learn Chinese and English languages in a friendly playgroup setting. Suitable for children up to the age of five, the playgroup has a focus on both Chinese and English language skills as well as social development. Details: 9885 7789.

Cooking classes

At Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre. Discover the history, culture and secrets of different culinary traditions in three separate hands-on cooking classes. Traditional ingredients and classic dishes served with regional wine. Spanish series with Maria Del Carmen Cabello, Sicilian series with Enza Centorame and an Indian series. Details: 9890 2467.

Creative writing

9.30am to 11.30am, Wednesdays from 21 July at Ashburton Community Centre. Indulge your imagination or write your family history. Cost: \$99. Details: 9885 7952.

Floral art

10am to 12pm, Thursdays from 22 July, or 10am to 12pm, Fridays from 23 July at Ashburton Community Centre. Create your dream floral display, just like a professional. Flowers not included. Cost: \$90. Details: 9885 7952.

French

Monday afternoons from 19 July at Bowen Street Community Centre. Beginners to intermediate level. Cost: \$98 beginners, \$130 intermediate (eight weeks). Bookings: 9889 0791. 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Wednesdays from 14 July at Alamein NLC. Cost: \$125, \$105 concession. Details: 9885 9401.

French art nouveau

1pm to 3pm, Thursdays from 22 July at Camberwell Community Centre. Learn about the French art nouveau movement. Cost: \$130 (eight weeks). Details: 9882 2611.

German for travellers

10.30am to 12pm, Mondays from 19 July, or 1.30pm to 3pm, Thursdays from 22 July at Ashburton Community Centre. For those planning to travel or enjoy Germanic conversation. Cost: \$98. Details: 9885 7952.

Golf for beginners

9am to 10.30am Sundays, or 9.30am to 11am Wednesdays for four weeks at Riversdale Golf Course. The golf pro will introduce you to the skills of the game. Cost: \$130. Details: 9885 7952.

Introduction to Publisher (MS 2007)

12.30pm to 3pm, Thursdays from 15 July at Alamein NLC. Cost: \$104.50. Details: 9885 9074.

Italian and French language classes

At Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre, most levels catered for including VCE French conversation. Phone for time, dates and costs: 9830 4214.

Japanese for busy people

11.45am to 12.45pm, Wednesdays commencing 21 July at Ashburton Community Centre. Learn to pen the characters as well as speak this ancient language. Beginners welcome. Cost: \$82 (eight sessions). Details: 9885 7952.

Learn to play bridge

1.30pm, Fridays at Camberwell Community Centre. Cost: \$80 (eight weeks). Details: 9882 2611.

Mandala workshop

10am to 12pm, Fridays from 23 July at Alamein NLC. Details: 9885 9401.

Medical reception

9.30am to 12.30pm, Wednesday mornings from 21 July at Bowen Street Community Centre. Certificate of attendance on completion. Cost: \$286 (13 weeks). Bookings: 9889 0791.

Meditation

1pm, Tuesdays and 2pm, Fridays at Camberwell Community Centre. Cost: \$60 (six weeks). Details: 9882 2611.

Operate computer hardware

12.30pm to 3pm, Tuesdays from 13 July at Alamein NLC. Cost: \$143. Details: 9885 9074.

Painting for pleasure

1pm to 3pm, Mondays, 7pm to 9pm Wednesdays and 1pm to 3pm Thursdays at Balwyn Community Centre. This course includes instruction in any main medium. Beginners and advanced students in a friendly positive group. Cost: \$143 (10 weeks). Details: 9836 7942.

Pastel painting

10am to 12pm and 1pm to 3pm, Tuesdays at Balwyn Community Centre. Classes cover the elements of drawing and sketching for a realist result. Beginners welcome. Cost: \$143 (10 weeks). Details: 9836 7942.

Short course in office skills

9am to 3.30pm, Mondays from 19 July at Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre. Understand the office environment and Microsoft Word fundamentals. Cost: \$90 includes manual (eight weeks). Details: 9853 3126.

Structured playgroups

9.30am to 11.30am, Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and 9.45am to 11.45am, Wednesdays at Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre. Structured fun activities for children. A great opportunity for parents to meet each other. Cost: \$64 per term, \$44 for second child (no charge for babies).

Water colour painting

10am to 12pm, Tuesdays from 13 July at Bowen Street Community Centre. Cost: \$149 (eight weeks). Bookings: 9889 0791. 1pm to 3pm and 7.30pm to 9.30pm, Tuesdays at Camberwell Community Centre. For beginners. Cost: \$135 (eight weeks). Details: 9882 2611.



Celebrating diversity

Like much of metropolitan Melbourne, Boroondara has an increasingly multicultural population, with more than 39,000 residents born overseas.

This diversity has enriched our community with a wide array of cultural backgrounds, languages and religions.

This month, celebrations will be held on:

4 July Paniyiri Greek festival

Tartan Day

NAIDOC Week (to 11 July)

Independence Day (USA)

9 July Matryrdom of the Bab (Bahai)

13 July Ulambana (OBON) (Buddhist)

14 July Bastille Day

26 July Asalha Puja (Dhamma) Day (Buddhist)

Major projects update

Hawthorn Library Precinct

As many of you will know, we are building a multi-purpose facility next to the Hawthorn Library to house a range of community services. Precinct users came together to explore potential names for the new community precinct through art activities such as sculpture and collage. Next month, the preferred pieces produced through this innovative method will provide naming recommendations to Council. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2010.

Kew Recreation Centre

In order to better cater for increasing demand, Kew Recreation Centre is being updated to include an extension to the gymnasium, a new expanded creche and outdoor play area, an extension to the program room, a new spinning/cycling room and the reorganisation of the entry area with a potential cafe. Construction is estimated to begin in October.

Camberwell Library and Office

The new permanent home for the Camberwell Library is destined to be the Camberwell Centre, with staff accommodation to additionally be built on the first and second floors. During April and May, community consultation involving feedback sessions with users

and interested individuals/groups, a drop-in session in the heart of Camberwell, and various survey methods, provided a wealth of community feedback on the proposed library's facade, internal design and layout, and landscaping aspects. Construction is estimated to begin in March 2011.

Hawthorn Town Hall Arts Precinct

The Hawthorn Town Hall will be converted into a new heritage-inspired arts and cultural space. An expert panel continues to be consulted on aspects of this exciting project with construction estimated to start in early 2012.

Hawthorn Aquatic & Leisure Centre (HALC)

Recent consultation on the preliminary concept plans included drop-in sessions at HALC and outside Coles on Glenferrie Road. Design work is progressing, and community feedback has provided valuable insights that the architects will take into consideration. Council will consider a HALC concept plan at a forthcoming meeting.

For more information on the various major projects, please visit Council's website. You can also register your interest to receive project bulletins online or phone Council's Customer Service team on 9278 4444.



Concept design for the Kew Recreation Centre upgrade, courtesy of Sutera Architects.



Boroondara's famous reserves and gardens, such as the native wonderland Maranoa Gardens (which the Governor of Victoria visited in May), have been judged the best council parks in Melbourne.

Community consultations – at a glance

“Your idea and my idea. Make them as one” - Martin Japanangka Johnson, Lajamanu community Aboriginal elder.

Help us make more informed decisions by sharing your thoughts on current issues, plans and projects. This page will provide you with information about past and present community consultations, as well as what's happening next. Watch this space for updates on what you've said and interesting tips on actively engaging with Council. For more information and details on consultation opportunities, please visit boroondara.vic.gov.au/your-say.

Have your say!

Markham Community Garden Playground

What do you think about this local playground? We will be starting our playground survey and consultation shortly, and signs in Markham Victory Reserve will let you know details of an upcoming community meeting.

Street Numbering Local Law

Council sought submissions on the draft Street Numbering Local Law and will consider passing it at the Services Special Committee on 19 July, where you also have the opportunity to make a submission. For more information, please call John Lorkin, Coordinator Revenue and Property Services, on 9278 4331.

What's been happening?

West Hawthorn Urban Design Framework

A Victorian Government-appointed Planning Panel, established to consider a change to the Boroondara Planning Scheme, which seeks to implement the West Hawthorn Urban Design Framework - Amendment C69, has reported back on Council's submission to alter the planning scheme.

Council met with members of the working group and stakeholders that contributed to the submission to brief them on the Panel's recommendations.

The most significant findings were:

- The panel did not support Council's proposed fixed height controls – all of the controls in the amendment are negotiable.
- The panel has increased the negotiable maximum height in the areas:
 - > north of Burwood Road between Power Street and Glenferrie Road from 16m to 22m
 - > south of Burwood Road between Power Street and Glenferrie Road from 16m to 18m
 - > between Lynch Street and the railway line from 9m to 18m.

The land affected is located on Burwood Road, West Hawthorn between St James Park and Glenferrie Road. The area is generally bounded by Lennox Street and the railway reserve abutting Lynch Street to the north, and Manningtree Road to the south. Maps clearly delineating the areas affected and the full panel report are now available on Council's website. Council will consider the matter in August.

Annual park user satisfaction survey results

Early May saw these results tallied. The City of Boroondara scored the highest overall for council parks in the Melbourne region. Park aspects measured included garden beds, tree health, shelters, and play equipment. Australia-wide, Council also ranked equal best on sport and recreation facilities.

Community satisfied with Council's performance

The Victorian Government's, 'Local Government in Victoria 2009 Report', shows a high level of community satisfaction with Boroondara's performance.

The report provides a snapshot of how councils are performing in the areas of community satisfaction, finance and asset management. It measures how Boroondara performed against other Victorian local governments.

Boroondara came second in the metropolitan category and third in the state for community satisfaction in the overall performance of Council.

It ranked number one in the metropolitan category and fourth in the state for communication satisfaction in engagement in decision-making.

Another high scoring area was community satisfaction in advocacy and community representation (fourth metropolitan and ninth in the state).

The full report can be accessed from the Local Government Victoria website at localgovernment.vic.gov.au.

Stay tuned....

Hays Paddock Plan

In May, you provided feedback on the current and future uses of Hays Paddock, Kew East. Honouring our commitment, during July there will be Hays Paddock Plan Steering Committee meetings. Please check our website for specific details.



Farm fresh to you

The Boroondara Farmers Market is one of the first markets in Melbourne to be granted official accreditation by the Victorian Farmers' Market Association.

This means local shoppers can be assured that at least 90 per cent of the stallholders are genuine farmers and have grown or raised the produce they are selling.

Farmers' markets have exploded in popularity over the last decade. Ten years ago there were a handful and now there are more than 70 markets across Victoria.

Our own farmers' market is in its eighth year and continues to supply locals with

farm fresh produce on the third Saturday of each month.

From 8am to 1pm on 17 July, you'll find fruit and vegetables (including organic produce), eggs, cereals, breads, cakes and biscuits, pasta, meats and a range of deli items such as cheese, olive oil and pate.

The market is run by Council together with the Rotary Club of Glenferrie. Entry: \$2 donation. Come along to Patterson Reserve in Auburn Road, Hawthorn East.

There is free parking or take the short walk from the 69 tram, the 624 bus and Tooronga and Kooyong train stations.

For more information, please call 9278 4814.

Be water wise

Pick up a new water-efficient showerhead* at the Camberwell and Hawthorn council offices.

There's no charge, you just have to bring in your old showerhead, as well as one of your water bills, and you will be well on the way to drastically cutting down your water usage and bill.

In fact, the new fitting will save

approximately 13,500 litres per person per year.

For more information, please call Council's Customer Service team on 9278 4444.

** Yarra Valley Water advises that water efficient showerheads are not suitable for gravity fed hot water systems and they only come in chrome.*

Backyard biodiversity

Are you interested in developing your garden to support our precious urban biodiversity but not quite sure where to start?

Council has published a special booklet to celebrate the United Nations International Year of Biodiversity.

Backyard Biodiversity is full of ideas and practical projects that residents can employ to enhance local plant diversity and attract native animals to their gardens.

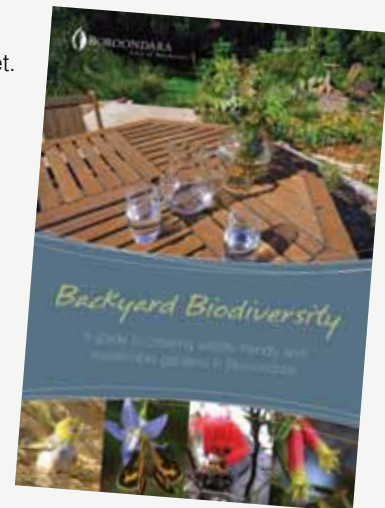
A key message behind the booklet is 'a little can mean a lot' – you don't have to transform your garden to have an impact.

By simply setting aside an area for local shrubs and indigenous grasses, mulch and a bird bath, you can make a difference.

The booklet includes inspiring stories about locals who have created beautiful and relaxing wildlife-friendly gardens, as well as advice on dealing with injured native animals.

This is a great opportunity for residents to make a tangible difference to our natural environment by creating habitat stepping stones throughout the municipality.

Copies of *Backyard Biodiversity* are available from Council offices. Early bird residents will also receive a voucher for indigenous plants with their booklet.





Preserving Kew Court House and the environment

An organic-based paint stripping product has been used as part of the repairs to the facade of local heritage icon, the Kew Court House and Police Station.

Over nearly three months, the damaged and unsound render was removed, the paint was stripped and the render was repainted.

Usually, paint is removed with high pressure water cleaning or sandblasting. This is a harsh method and involves combining high amounts of pressure, water and sand and is highly

toxic. It also creates high noise levels.

In this 'green' project, Council used a soy based paint stripper.

The restoration of the Kew Court House and Police Station will be completed in the year ahead. Council purchased the heritage building in 2007 with the intention for it to be restored and used for the community.

The building has required extensive renovation including repair of the slate roof and ventilation dome and the future renovation plans include a new foyer, bathrooms and kitchen.

Reaching their goals

Twenty-five artists, musicians and sportspeople are realising their dreams, thanks to a helping hand from the City of Boroondara.

The individuals were all beneficiaries of Council's 2009–10 Individual Initiative Grant Program.

The program enables them to participate in a variety of competitions and events, from exhibiting artworks in Canberra, touring Europe with the Australian Youth Orchestra, competing in the World Canoeing Championships in Portugal and representing the Australian Men's Blind Cricket Team.

The Individual Initiative Grant Program was set up to provide support for high achieving individuals who have been selected to compete, perform or represent their chosen sport, recreation or cultural field.

Grants of up to \$300 are offered to selected Boroondara residents to help ease the financial burden that participating at a higher level can bring.

For more information, please visit Council's website or call 9278 4783.

Immunisations

Council's Health Service's team administers more than 24,000 vaccinations a year. The immunisation service provides vaccinations to infants, school-aged children and some adults. Upcoming July immunisation dates, times and venues are as follows:

9.30am to 11.30am

- **14 July** – Balwyn, Balwyn Community Centre
- **15 July** – Ashburton, Ashburton Support Services
- **21 July** – Kew, Phyllis Hore Room
- **28 July** – Balwyn North, Marwal Centre

10am to 12pm

- **16 and 23 July** – Hawthorn, Hawthorn Town Hall

2.30pm to 4.30pm

- **26 July** – Hawthorn, Hawthorn Town Hall

5.30pm to 7pm

- **20 July** – Hawthorn, Hawthorn Council Building
- **29 July** – Balwyn North, Marwal Centre



[inbrief]

Talent on show

Indulge in an afternoon of great music by the best performers from this year's Boroondara Eisteddfod at the 2010 Showcase Concert.

There will be something for everyone, from talented young soloists to school ensembles.

The concert will be held at 2pm on Sunday 25 July at the Hawthorn Town Hall, 358 Burwood Road, Hawthorn.

Tickets will be available at the door and are \$6 for adults, \$4 for concession and \$14 for families.

For more information, please call 9278 4770 or visit Council's website.



Writers, make your mark

Hundreds of short stories, poems and prose pieces covering all genres are expected to be entered in the 2010 Boroondara Literary Awards.

The awards have two categories with great cash prizes up for grabs.

Young Writers: a local competition including prose and poetry sections for secondary students, who live, work or attend school in Boroondara.

Open Short Story: a national competition open to residents of Australia with a special prize of \$500 for the best Boroondara entry.

Winners will be published in an

anthology, and selected entries will be published in the *Progress Leader*.

The Writers in Schools program is also currently underway with selected schools in Boroondara given the opportunity to host a professional writer.

Entries for the awards must be submitted before Friday 27 August.

For more information or to obtain a brochure, email bla@boroondara.vic.gov.au or visit Council's website.

Jointly sponsored by the City of Boroondara, Leader Community Newspapers and the Rotary Club of Balwyn.



Artists reveal consumer culture

'Weapons of Mass Consumption' seeks to enquire how artists are influenced by contemporary consumer culture, material possessions and our disposable society.

In this exhibition, humans are the weapons, programmed to be mass consumers. As mass made objects have increasingly taken over the handmade, artists have responded to these changes.

If artistic practice is based on the handmade and the practitioner's craft or skill, how are artists now seeking to explore the spaces in between the mass made and the handmade?

This exhibition is co-curated by Louisa Marks as part of the Town Hall Gallery Young Curators' Project.

She is mentored by gallery curator Mardi Nowak.

Artists include: Adam Cruickshank, Karla Marchesi, Jessica Wong, Matthew Sleeth, Ryan Foote, Daniel Kaplon, Huang Xu, Peter Zylstra, Emma-Lee Crane and Ash Keating.

In Conversation: join curators and invited artists in conversation about the issues surrounding the exhibition from 2pm on Saturday 10 July.

Exhibition dates: until Saturday 31 July, Town Hall Gallery, rear 358 Burwood Road, Hawthorn, 3122.

For more information, please call 9278 4626 or visit townhallgallery.blogspot.com.

Children fossicking through the old Kew Library's collection in June 1945.



Happy 150th Birthday

Join in the chorus! Boroondara Library Service is celebrating 150 years of continuous community service.

Hawthorn and Kew libraries first opened their doors to local borrowers in 1860 – Hawthorn opened in July and Kew just a month later. This means both have reached their sesquicentenary. Celebrations will include a range

of activities and displays across all libraries to commemorate this tremendous milestone. For instance, there will be a list of library users' 150 favourite books of all time.

And the library service is not resting on its laurels, already planning for its 151st year which will celebrate the theme 'dream, reflect, imagine'.

A personal journey

When Sally White discovered she had a brain tumour she was in her 30's and had two young children.

Her book, *Three quotes from a plumber: how a second opinion changed the life of a woman with a brain tumour*, documents her journey from diagnosis through to multiple surgeries.

Three quotes from a plumber explores Sally's challenges with the medical profession, alternative therapies and managing a life-threatening illness in the context of family life, and how meeting world renowned neurosurgeon Dr Charlie Teo potentially saved her life.

When: 7.30pm, Thursday 29 July

Where: Kew Library

This session is free, however bookings are essential.

A family's vineyard dream

The brave decision of leaving behind life in Melbourne to start a winery on the Mornington Peninsula is the inspiration behind author Cathy Gowdie's book *Foxey's Hangout - the story of one family's vineyard dream*.

Cathy's family discovered that establishing a vineyard is hard work but they have been rewarded with beautiful wines and acclaim for their small restaurant.

Foxey's Hangout chronicles each month of a year in the vineyard with recipes, some Red Hill local history and evocative photography.

Cathy is a journalist for *The Age*, mother of two children and loves reading, cooking, writing and wine.

When: 7.30pm, Monday 2 August

Where: Ashburton Library

This session is free, however bookings are essential.

Click Goes the Library – Google Plus

There is so much more to Google than just a search engine!

Google now includes many useful online tools to help you to communicate and find information. Learn about Google's other online tools including Documents and Spreadsheets, Maps, Books, Image Search, Groups, Calendar and Gmail.

When: 7.30pm, Tuesday 13 July

Where: Kew Library

This session is free, however bookings are essential.

Boroondara Library Service

Ashburton 154 High Street, Ashburton
Balwyn 336 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn
Camberwell 25 Inglesby Road, Camberwell

Hawthorn 584 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn
Kew corner Cotham Road and Civic Drive, Kew

Enquiries and bookings:

9278 4666 or visit boroondara.vic.gov.au/libraries

Contact us



Telephone: 9278 4444
Fax: 9278 4466
TTY service (for speech or hearing impaired) Telephone: 9278 4848



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Council offices:
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Hawthorn > 360 Burwood Road
Kew Customer Service > corner
Cotham Road and Civic Drive

Important note to readers

The material contained in the *Boroondara Bulletin* is in the nature of general information only and readers should obtain more specific information from the City of Boroondara.

Audio tapes

The *Boroondara Bulletin* is available to vision impaired people on audio tape from Vision Australia.

If you or someone you know would like to receive the audio tape version, please call 9278 4444.

Translation needed?

English

If you would like an article translated, please call the Council Customer Service Centre on 9278 4444.

Italian

Se desiderate la traduzione di questa informazione, chiamate il Centralino del Comune (Council Customer Service) 9278 4444.

Greek

Αν θέλετε μεταφρασμένες αυτές τις πληροφορίες παρακαλούμε επικοινωνήστε με το (Council Customer Service) (Κέντρο Εξυπηρέτησης Πολιτών του Δήμου) στο τηλ. 9278 4444.

Chinese

如果您希望將這一資訊翻譯成您的語言，請致電 9278 4444 與 (Council Customer Service) 市議會客戶服務中心) 聯絡。



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City of Harmony

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