

Solway Ward update

Councillor Kevin Chow | October 2010

Dear residents,

The most satisfying part of being a councillor is speaking and working with local residents and community groups to help deliver vital services and projects that make Solway Ward a better place to live.

In the last six months it has been great to see funding secured for stage two of the Ashburton Community Garden, which will see the addition of a picnic shelter and sustainable water supply.

It is very satisfying to see meaningful projects being completed in our ward and earlier this year I opened the newly refurbished pavilion at Dorothy Laver Reserve East in Ashburton, as well as stage one of the Gardiners Creek Trail extension.

In the second half of my first term on Council, I am looking forward to overseeing the delivery of new projects and meeting the ongoing challenge of negotiating positive outcomes for Solway Ward residents.

This ward update features interesting stories on upcoming events and projects, and I hope you enjoy it.

I look forward to seeing some of you at my upcoming ward meeting.

Best wishes,



Cr Kevin Chow



Ashburton Community Garden will soon have a sustainable water supply and new picnic shelter.

2010–11 Council Budget highlights

Solway Ward received its fair share of project funding in this year's budget.

These projects include:

- continuing to connect the Gardiners Creek Trail between Solway Street Bridge in Ashburton and Warrigal Road in Ashwood
- restoring the Eric Raven Reserve, Ferndale Park, Warner Reserve and Watson Park pavilions
- finishing the innovative Ashburton Community Precinct Cogeneration Project at Ashburton Recreation Centre and the nearby Craig Family Centre
- planning for the renewal and upgrade of the Ashburton Community Hub
- basketball half court and youth space at Markham Victory Reserve
- adding a picnic shelter and sustainable water supply to the Ashburton Community Garden
- a public toilet at Markham Victory Reserve Regional Playground.

Have your say

Councillor Kevin Chow will be conducting a Solway Ward meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 12 October at Ashburton Library, 154 High Street, Ashburton.

The key issue at this meeting will be the parking difficulties surrounding the Hartwell shopping precinct in Glen Iris.

A range of stakeholders, including residents, traders and Council officers will attend the meeting to discuss the issues and possible solutions.

For more information and to flag your interest in attending, please call 9278 4473.



Solway Ward
Cr Kevin Chow

Including parts of
Ashburton and Glen Iris.



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Lighting up the Gardiners Creek Trail



Cr Kevin Chow launching the solar lighting in September.

Walking and cycling on the Gardiners Creek Trail just got safer thanks to new solar lighting in Ashburton.

The trail is used by more than 2000 cyclists and 1000 pedestrians every day and Council wants to make it as safe as possible.

With this in mind, overhead solar powered lights have been installed where the path winds through Markham Reserve, Ashburton.

This innovative project would not have been possible without generous funding (\$78,000) from the Victorian Government.

Council believes the improved safety will lead to an increase in the number of commuter and recreational shared path users on the Gardiners Creek Trail.

Get involved in the community

Here are a few ways you can become more involved in the Solway community:

Neighbourhood centres

Solway Ward is home to three neighbourhood centres: Craig Family Centre, Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre and the Ashburton Community Centre.

Each facility offers terrific courses and classes, which not only give you the chance to improve skills but also meet plenty of like-minded neighbours.

For more information on the programs available, please call the following centres or visit their websites:

- Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre
– 9885 9401 or alameinnlc.org.au
- Craig Family Centre
– 9885 7789 or craigfc.org.au
- Ashburton Community Centre
– 9885 7955 or ashburtoncc.org.au.

Volunteers wanted

While not situated within the boundaries of Solway Ward, the Boroondara Volunteer Resource Centre (BVRC) performs a vital role referring locals to rewarding volunteering opportunities.

Volunteers make an incredibly important contribution to people's

lives and the BVRC is always looking to refer new people to a variety of roles across the community.

If you have some spare time on your hands and would like to volunteer, please call the BVRC on 9278 4550 or visit bvrc.org.au.

Toasting to better public speaking

The recently formed Glen Iris Toastmasters Club gives its members the opportunity to develop and improve their public speaking abilities through local club meetings, training seminars and speech contests.

Experienced professionals and beginning speakers alike can benefit from their practical, face-to-face learning program.

Whether you're speaking to a board of directors, customers, co-workers or your kids, Toastmasters can help you do it better.

The meetings take place at 7.30pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the Glen Iris Community Centre, 200 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris.

For more information, please call Melissa Prause on 0448 002 887.