Cotham Ward





A message from your Councillor

I am delighted to be returned as your representative for Cotham Ward. Thank you for the opportunity to continue in this role.

We are part of a wonderful community here in Boroondara, and it has been heart wrenching to see the devastation the pandemic has caused, but also so very heartwarming to see how our community has come together to support one another through this challenge.

As our economy continues to re-open, I encourage you to support local businesses. Locally-owned businesses and those that provide employment in Boroondara play an important role in contributing to a thriving local economy, fostering a sense of community, and enabling residents to live locally. In our recent Boroondara Community Plan consultation, 'local shops and businesses' was identified as one of the top three priorities for the people consulted. Shop locally and consider buying a restaurant voucher or tickets to a live event as a gift. You can explore

some of the great local businesses near you via the Council's lovelocallife.com. au directory.

Local sports clubs and community groups have also suffered due to COVID-19, and they provide a great opportunity to rekindle or build relationships.

I look forward to sharing more local news with you in the upcoming editions of this newsletter and hope to meet many of you this year in the community and at Council events.

On the cover

In April 2020 our community was rocked by the tragic deaths of four police officers on the Eastern Freeway. One year on, my thoughts remain with their families, friends and colleagues and I encourage you to again display your support with blue ribbons/symbols.

Cr Felicity Sinfield

Supporting our creative artists

The creative industry has been incredibly hard hit by the pandemic. Local business owner John Tyrrell from The Music Group (pictured left with Cr Sinfield) in Kew recently shared the devastating impact of the pandemic on the music industry.

"We have had no income for a whole year and are very worried this will continue. When we cancel or defer shows the impact is extensive and wide-reaching. Surrounding cafes, restaurants and shops also suffer by losing fans having dinner and shopping before the show," John said.

Council developed new ways of delivering programs and events to support local artists and creative organisations throughout COVID-19 restrictions. We launched online exhibitions, and livestreamed performances, enabling people to enjoy these experiences in their own home, but now it's time to get out and enjoy events.

The much-loved Summer in the Park series ran with COVIDSafe measures in place, and live music has resumed at the Hawthorn Arts Centre, with a robust program supporting local and emerging musicians.

Council continues to support creative groups and events through grant programs and our Community Exhibition Program.

You can get involved by visiting Town Hall Gallery, attending a live performance, buying tickets or vouchers as gifts, or visiting a live music venue.

To view the Boroondara Arts program and find information on support available for local artists, visit **www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/arts** or call **9278 4770**.



Rathmines Road Reserve pavilion renewal

Council is upgrading the Rathmines Road Reserve pavilion, which is currently used for junior, senior, and women's football and cricket.

The pavilion will be refurbished to help it meet the needs of the sporting clubs and the increased participation by women and junior teams in sport.

The facility will include four change rooms, a dedicated first aid room, dual umpire rooms, extended multipurpose community space, and upgrades to the kitchen and public toilet facilities.

The existing ground floor footprint will remain. The first floor, including the multipurpose community space, and kitchen and amenities space, will be increased to match the ground floor footprint.

Once construction works are complete, the rear of the building will be landscaped to improve the amenity and appearance of the site.

Council approved the construction contract on 22 February and in March, temporary facilities were established in the adjoining Sir William Angliss Reserve. Construction works on the pavilion are expected to commence mid-April.



FOGO FAQs

Still confused about what you should be putting in your FOGO bin? Here are three of your most frequently asked FOGO questions:

1. Raw bones or cooked?

Raw bones from meat or seafood can be safely added to your FOGO bin, but cooked bones need to go in your household waste bin (the one with the dark green lid) as they don't break down in the composting process.

2. Can I compost pet poo?

Pet poo is a no-go for your FOGO bin but it's great for your pet poo composter or green cone solar composter (council subsidies available – check our website!). If you're adding it to your household waste bin, be sure to bag it.

3. What if my nappies are labelled compostable?

All disposable nappies, including the ones labelled as compostable or biodegradable, are not accepted in the FOGO bin. Disposable nappies need to go in your household waste bin. If you're keen to cut down on nappy waste, consider switching to modern cloth reusable nappies.

For more information visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/ rathmines-pavilion-renewal or call 9278 4540 or 9278 4857. For more information about what can and cannot go into your FOGO bin visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/fogo-bin.



Kew Recreation Centre redevelopment update

Construction of your new Kew Recreation Centre has commenced - an exciting milestone for Council's biggest ever infrastructure project. The new centre will be a purpose-built facility, with modern fitness and aquatic facilities for people of all ages and abilities.

Surrounding residents and the broader community recently attended an online briefing session to hear details about the construction management plan for the project. The construction management plan provided a detailed description of the processes and methodologies being used during the construction works and

the key principles that guided this plan. A recording of this briefing session is available on our website.

During community consultation, we heard how much our community valued the sauna at Kew Recreation Centre, So. in addition to a bigger and better sauna within this new facility, we're pleased to share that plans are currently underway to add a sauna to the Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre as well.

Over the next few months excavation works will commence, including removal of the existing carpark, stormwater drainage and services to make way

for the new underground basement carpark. Once the bulk of the excavation is complete and new site levels have been established, piling rig works are scheduled to commence in June.

Construction is currently on track for completion by mid-2023. We'll keep you updated on the progress of the project and share milestones along the way.

For more information on the redevelopment and to sign up to receive project updates visit www.boroondara. vic.gov.au/kewrec.





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