

# A message from your Councillor

Welcome to the first edition of the Solway Ward newsletter for this new Council term.

This year has started with an increasing level of optimism from our community, our traders and our Council. It was a privilege to be elected Mayor by the newly elected Council, which comprises five new councillors and six returned councillors. I am immensely proud of this Council and how we have immediately focused our attention on the needs and aspirations of our community. This Council has a breadth of view and depth of capability that fully represents the diversity of our Boroondara community. Our community can be encouraged by our shared optimism and high expectations.

Locally, it was a pleasure to open the new Ashburton Seniors' Centre late last year. It has already become a significant asset serving our seniors. More recently, we have all embraced our local outdoor spaces and continued to support our local businesses. I encourage you all to let us know the issues of importance to you through our Boroondara Community Plan consultation. This is a timely initiative as we emerge from 2020 and consider what will be important to us as a community in the years ahead. Please join us, your new Council, on this journey of discovery.

I look forward to sharing more local news with you in upcoming newsletters.

**Cr Garry Thompson** 



### Heritage Gap Study update

Council's Municipal Wide Heritage Gap Study (MWHGS) aims to protect valued heritage places and precincts by including them in the Heritage Overlay. Under a Heritage Overlay demolition, alterations and additions, and new buildings, trigger the requirement for a planning permit.

Nine suburb-wide heritage assessments have been progressed and are at various stages of completion. The Glen Iris and Ashburton heritage gap studies are two of three remaining studies to be completed by Council.

## Glen Iris and Ashburton heritage gap studies

During the 1920s and 1930s (interwar period), significant residential development in Glen Iris saw the emergence of California bungalows, Old English Revival, Spanish Mission, Mediterranean, Moderne and Art Deco styles. In Ashburton, there was also significant residential and commercial development during the interwar and early post-war periods.

#### Glen Iris - Amendment C333

This amendment proposes permanently including 15 individually significant places and four heritage precincts in the Heritage Overlay. The amendment was exhibited during February and March. Council officers are reviewing submissions and are

preparing a report for the Urban Planning Delegated Committee.

#### **Amendment C334**

An interim Heritage Overlay has been applied to several properties within Mont Iris Estate and Summerhill Estate precincts, and 15 individually-listed properties, effective until 31 January 2022. Proposals for demolition or other works to these properties may now require a planning permit.

#### Ashburton - Amendment C337

Amendment C337 seeks to permanently introduce the Heritage Overlay to nine individual heritage places and one heritage precinct, as identified in the Ashburton Heritage Gap Study. Affected and adjoining property owners and occupiers will be notified when the exhibition period commences.

#### **Amendment C338**

This amendment applied interim heritage controls to properties recommended in the Ashburton Heritage Gap Study on 29 January 2021. The interim heritage controls expire on 31 January 2022.

To learn more visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/ C337boro or call 9278 4444.



## Young Citizen of the Year a model of compassion

Year five student Aidan Dimitriadis has spent nearly half his life giving back to his community. The Solway Ward primary student is a volunteer at Four Golden Hearts, a group that supports local families, and his Build Anything, Be Anything by Aidan campaign has provided hundreds of packs of LEGO® to children in need.

Every year on Australia Day, Council recognises people who have made an exceptional contribution to our community as part of the Boroondara Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year awards. Aidan's impressive efforts were recognised this year when he was announced as Young Citizen of the Year alongside joint Citizens of the Year, Yvonne Giltinan and Dr Elaine Ong.

"When I heard about the many children who are removed from their home each year in Victoria, it made me incredibly sad. I do my charity not expecting a reward, but the best reward is knowing that I am helping people in a tough situation. I hope to inspire others to do the same," said Aidan.

In addition to his own campaign, Aidan helps sort and pack toiletries, clothing and toys for those in need and for charities such as St Kilda Mums and Backpacks 4 VIC Kids Melbourne. He is also involved in an annual Coats of Kids campaign, which donates winter clothing to children in need. "I am very proud of myself and also of everyone who has helped me along the way," said Aidan, when he learned of his nomination.

For more information visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/citizens-awards or call 9278 4475.

### Ashburton Library reopens

It's wonderful to see people back in the Ashburton Library, enjoying the wide variety of resources on offer.

We know our libraries provide a valuable and important service for our community. Although we closed the doors for a significant period during Victoria's COVID-19 lockdowns, our librarians rallied, providing book collection (when allowed) and home delivery services, and answering questions online and over the phone. During this time, more than 110,000 items were loaned to members, and we expanded our ebooks, eaudio, emagazines and online resources.

Ashburton Library is now back to pre-lockdown capacity. Our library staff are thrilled to welcome familiar and new members, and to see the return of friendly chatter and learning and reading.

For more information visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/libraries or call 9278 4666.





### Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre renewal underway

Construction has begun on the renewal of the Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre with the concept plan reflecting feedback received from centre stakeholders. The refurbished centre will include:

- a new reception space
- new staff offices and a meeting room for use by visiting services
- a new kitchen and a common area with outdoor deck
- more classroom space for craft workshops and computer classes
- remote learning technology in classrooms
- bicycle racks and a new car park accessed from Ashburn Grove.

While construction works are underway, Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre will operate from 1 Samarinda Avenue, Ashburton, until the works are completed in late 2021.

Sally Holdsworth, President of Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre's Committee of Management, said, "The team and committee are delighted with the plans for our refurbished centre.

"The consultation process undertaken by City of Boroondara and the design was extensive and thorough, with all our needs and suggestions taken into account in the concept plan. It will be a wonderful asset for the local community," she said.

For more information visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/anlc-renewal or call 9278 4538.

For more information about the courses and activities delivered at Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre visit www.alameinnlc.com.au or call 9885 9401.

## Shaping the future of Boroondara

The Boroondara Community Plan sets out a ten-year vision for the future, guiding our decision making to ensure we deliver what you told us is most important.

Earlier this year, we heard from more than 4700 community members who participated in stage one of consultation to help refresh the Boroondara Community Plan, including many from Solway Ward with 281 from Ashburton, 457 from Glen Iris, and 657 from Camberwell.

Stage 2 is now underway, with a series of 'Boroondara Conversations' workshops bringing together community members from diverse backgrounds, age groups and suburbs to discuss the ways we can work together to deliver on our community priorities.

The workshops build on the findings of stage one and will help us make sure the Boroondara Community Plan continues to meet the needs and aspirations of those who live, work and study here.

You will have an opportunity to review the Boroondara Community Plan when it is presented for public exhibition in August/ September this year, before it is formally presented to Council in October 2021.

To learn more about these findings and the next steps on the journey, visit **engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au.** 





boroondara.vic.gov.au



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