

Bellevue Ward

July 2021



GP Dr Jane Crowe administers a COVID-19 vaccination at Deepdene Surgery, one of a number of local general practices providing dedicated Astra Zeneca vaccine clinics for eligible people.

Cr Jim Parke

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 **BOROONDARA**
City of Harmony



A message from your Councillor

Welcome to your winter ward newsletter.

Council has recently approved the Budget 2021-22, with the Kew Recreation Centre redevelopment topping the list of major projects. Excavation works for the new centre are almost complete and piling works have begun, keeping the construction timetable on track for an opening in mid-2023. Council will invest more than \$14 million for transformation projects to allow customers to better connect with Council and \$3.61 million for sustainability initiatives including heating and cooling upgrades and delivering a 5-star Green Star-equivalent standard for new Council buildings. Investment in vital community services includes \$9.4 million for seven-day-a-week library services, \$8.3 million for aged care support and \$19.7 million for parks and gardens, biodiversity and street tree maintenance.

With our wider Melbourne community recently emerging from its fourth COVID-19 lockdown, once again I encourage you to look out for your neighbours and continue to shop locally to support our traders and keep our

neighbourhood shopping strips lively and prosperous. More importantly, please arrange your COVID-19 vaccination as soon as you're eligible. Contact your local GP to arrange an appointment. If you are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please get tested immediately. More than ever, our wider community relies upon all of us continuing to play our part and do the right thing.

Bellevue ward residents proved resilient throughout 2020, and I am pleased to see that our council officers have been working with young community members on a project emerging from the resourceful use of our outdoor spaces during that time. Together they are developing a small dirt-bike jump track to be built on vacant land at Koornung Creek Reserve, as many ad-hoc structures that sprang up last year have had to be removed.

A stylized blue ink signature of Cr Jim Parke.

Cr Jim Parke


Kew Recreation Centre build on track


Construction of the new Kew Recreation Centre is well underway and on track to be completed by mid-2023. Most of the bulk excavation works have been completed and piling works have started.

Over the coming months the community will start to see the concrete foundations for the new building. The appointed builder, ADCO Constructions, has a detailed traffic management plan to support the concrete truck movements to and from the site during this time. Careful consideration has been given to mitigate impact on surrounding residents where possible.

The concept design for the new aqua play area was also recently shared with the community for final feedback. Once finalised, an updated virtual tour of the completed design will be shared on the project webpage.

To stay up to date with the latest information, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au /kewrec](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/kewrec)

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New trees for Hyde Park as part of North East Link

The construction of the North East Link (NEL) is expected to remove at least 3000 trees in Boroondara.

Council has developed a Tree Canopy Replacement Plan to guide the replacement of the native vegetation and amenity plantings being removed. This includes planting 4000 new canopy trees over seven years, to provide more shade in open spaces as the new trees grow.

Before major construction begins, the North East Link Project (NELP) has started planting trees near the works zone, including Hyde Park, in Kew. This is one of 30 locations identified in the Boroondara Tree Canopy Replacement Plan with the greatest opportunities for tree planting.

We are managing and coordinating the planting, as well as the maintenance for the first two critical years of the new plantings, with full funding for these works from NELP. Very careful consideration is being given to what is planted, to ensure it suits local conditions, is resistant to climate change and will be long-lasting.

More sites for NEL tree planting in Boroondara will be selected from 2022 onwards.

New layout confirmed for Freeway Golf Course

In November this year, the North East Link Project (NELP) will acquire up to three hectares of land from the existing Freeway Golf Course (FGC) to construct the entry and exit ramps to the North East Link tunnel.

In April, Council endorsed a golf-course design and construction method for the required reconfiguration works.

The construction staging method will see the course close from early September

this year for between 12 and 14 months. The closure ensures the works can be completed in the shortest possible timeframe and allows us to open the course sooner rather than later.

The design was developed by leading golf-course architects Pacific Coast Design in partnership with Council officers, with feedback from our golfing community incorporated into the final design.

For more information:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/freeway-golf-course-reconfiguration

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For more information:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/tree-canopy-replacement-plan

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Dirt bike rider Nicholas at the site of the dirt jump he is helping to design



Jumping for joy – a new dirt bike jump track for Bellevue

Council officers are working with a passionate group of young people to develop a small-scale dirt jump track on vacant land at Koornung Creek Reserve.

With Victorian Government restrictions impacting the community's ability to participate in traditional sporting activities, we've seen a big increase in the use of our outdoor spaces.

Bike riding over dirt jumps has been popular, but it has also resulted in ad-hoc structures being built throughout Boroondara. Unfortunately, the majority of these have had to be removed as they were either built on protected bushland or in areas that posed a risk to the safety of walkers and runners.

The Koornung Creek Reserve project is an initiative of Nicholas, 15, from

Ashburton, and Ben, 14, from Glen Iris, who are developing a draft design to create their dream track with help from Council officers to identify risk and environmental impacts.

"Working with Council will help us design the jumps so they are safer and meet the skillsets of people from all age groups," said Nicholas.

"Giving people the opportunity to have their say and actually working with young people helps create a functional space that people will actually use and enjoy," said Ben.

Council is proud to support the vision and needs of young people in our community. We look forward to sharing a draft design with you soon.


New facilities near Willsmere Station Community Garden

Council recently finished installing a new public toilet along the Anniversary/Outer Circle Trail in Kew.

Following community feedback, the new facility has been located on the eastern side of the Willsmere Station Community Garden. The new toilet will be welcomed by residents, walkers and cyclists using the Anniversary Trail, and also supports residents using the community gardens.

The toilet is an automatic single-occupancy Exeloo with touch-free toilet flushing and automatic doors, and locks automatically overnight. We are also improving the appearance of the area with additional landscaping and planting.

For more information about Willsmere Station Community Garden, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/willsmere-station-community-garden

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