

Maling Ward

July 2021



I am writing this at the end of our fourth lockdown, and although there has been an easing of restrictions, we are a long way from being back to normal. Fortunately our local businesses can re-open in a limited capacity.

I am trying to decide upon the appropriate tone for this message; should I be acknowledging the frustration and disappointment we are feeling about being in this situation again? Or should I be writing about what we have to look forward to in Maling Ward? Will Council be postponing all the activities planned in Maling Ward, or will we be back to more normal life?

We are fortunate to have our excellent parks and gardens to walk in, our local coffee shops, our families and friends to talk with, and our dogs and cats to give us unconditional love. All of these should be celebrated with our gratitude.

Some of us will have found this most recent lockdown very tough. If you do need help, please contact Council via ph **9278 4444** (press 6 to speak to a member of our support team between 8:30am and 5:15pm) or email **covidsupport@boroondara.vic.gov.au**. The community support page on our website has a list of mental health services.

I hope you will find the stories in this newsletter interesting and relevant. Some draw your attention to planned events – let us hope by the time you are reading this we are back to a more normal life and are able to enjoy the rich cultural and community life Boroondara has to offer.

Stay as positive and safe as you can, keep in touch with neighbours, friends and family, and have your vaccination as soon as possible to help protect us all.

Cr Jane Addis



At the centre of community

Maling Ward's Balwyn Community Centre, Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre and Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre sit at the heart of their communities.

With Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre's new premises set to open in mid-2022, enthusiastic and community-minded residents are sought to join its board.

To find out more, get in touch with Gordon Black on 0410 510 640.

Cr Jane Addis

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Pets of Boroondara

You may have noticed more puppies in our parks and playgrounds. Registrations for dogs have increased compared to this time last year.

Maling locals Jane and Stephen and their daughters Sophie, Millie, and Izzy said: “Arlo joined our family in August last year and has brought a lot of energy to our home. He loves to steal socks, playing ball and tug of war in the garden, and having a run around with other dogs in the neighbourhood. He is a much loved member of our family and certainly makes us all very happy.”

Anne and Peter, who recently adopted Bella, a Vizsla, agree: “Bella continually makes us laugh at her antics. She is a keen learner and enjoys her training, eager to please us and of course, get a treat. Vizslas are becoming more popular and for good reason; they are an intelligent, loyal and loving animal with a gentle nature.”


Bella and Arlo both love their new homes in Canterbury with lots of friendly people to meet on walks: “We live around the corner from each other and we enjoy a good rough and tumble when we meet. We cannot wait to get back to Maling Road and make more dog friends.”



Sophie, Izzy and Millie with Bella and Arlo

Boroondara has many areas where you can take your dog for a run, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/leash-dog-parks

 9278 4444

New railway station for Surrey Hills


Since the news that plans to remove the level crossing at Union Road in Surrey Hills would be fast tracked, the Council has submitted a response to the consultation identifying issues and offering solutions to reduce the impact of the project on the Surrey Hills community.

The Surrey Hills Progress Association (SHPA) has added its voice on the issue, calling on the State Government to address flaws with the design. President Greg Buchanan says problems with the design relate to public safety and accessibility. “The Surrey Hills entrance sits almost three metres out of the ground, with excessive steps and a long zigzag ramp to get up to the station entrance,” he said. “Lowering the station concourse will overcome access problems, the building will no longer overshadow the adjacent Lorne Parade Reserve and the station can have a more accessible and direct pedestrian connection back to the Surrey Hills shopping village – so the change would have many benefits.”

Mr Buchanan adds that avoiding major earthworks in the park could save many mature trees and better respect the streetscape to Windsor Crescent.

Council continues to advocate for a public space that enhances the environment, neighbourhood character and meets community needs.

For more information on the Surrey Hills level crossing removal and a copy of the Council’s submission, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/surrey-hills-level-crossing-removal


 9278 4444

Image courtesy of artist Carla O'Brien



Placemaking in Maling Road

Maling Road precinct is transforming as we deliver our community's vision.

We are progressing implementation of the Place Plan, with exciting projects underway including *All Aboard: Travel through Time*, a 40-metre-long artwork created by students from seven local primary schools in the laneway at 143 Maling Road. Another project is heritage facade upgrades led by 11 property owners who received funding through our Heritage Facade Maintenance Grants program.



Vibrant laneway upgrades will start early next year, marking the first major initiative to revitalise the precinct. Detailed designs have been developed in consultation with adjoining traders and landowners.

What's on

This month, come and explore our *Maling Road Winter Light and Art Walk* over the weekend of 16 to 18 July. Discover the magnificent art installations along Maling Road where neon brings vibrancy by day and glowing light by night.

There will be live music by talented musicians each evening, and a special opening-night celebration from 5pm to 9pm on Friday 16 July in Theatre Place.

For more information, visit:

-  www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/maling-road-placemaking
-  9278 4444



Canterbury Sportsground pavilion renewal

Council is upgrading the Canterbury Sportsground pavilion, currently used for junior and senior cricket and Australian Rules football.

The pavilion renewal will provide a fit-for-purpose facility to better meet the needs of the sporting clubs, including catering for increased female participation in sport, and improving accessibility and amenities for the surrounding local community.

We will be working with the sporting clubs to develop a draft pavilion design. Potential features may include additional change rooms, an improved multi-purpose space with storage, umpires' rooms and more. Council will be seeking community feedback on an early design soon. The pavilion is scheduled for renewal in 2021-22.

For more information about our sportsground improvements, visit:

-  www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/improving-parks-and-sportsgrounds
-  9278 4444





Preserving the heritage of Canterbury

As part of the Canterbury community precinct project, the former Canterbury Library is being preserved and upgraded. The former Canterbury Library, in Canterbury Gardens, will house the Canterbury, Balwyn and Surrey Hills history groups. Currently used for children's occasional care, the building has a rich history of its own, making it a fitting site for the history groups.

On 13 August 1898, the first municipal library in Canterbury was opened by John Maling, one of the councillors representing the area. Originally on Canterbury Road near the intersection with Balwyn Road, on 2 March 1907 the Canterbury and Balwyn Reading Room and Library was re-opened in a new building located within the Canterbury Gardens which were established in 1903.

John Maling (1840-1931) lived on the south side of Whitehorse Road in the section that is now Surrey Hills. He owned several properties in the area and was involved in building the first house of worship in Balwyn, the Church of England in Balwyn Road (St Barnabas). In 1887, he started his 38-year service to the Council, including being Shire President for several years and the first mayor of the City of Camberwell.

Construction to restore and develop the existing buildings in Canterbury Gardens is underway. Excavation and basement works for the new buildings are in progress, with the new structure to take shape by November this year.

For more information, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/canterbury-community-precinct

 9278 4444

Surrey Gardens rotunda


A small piece of history has returned to Surrey Gardens. Recently, the original bandstand plaque was reinstalled near the new rotunda. The new rotunda has been designed to reflect the original structure.


The plaque, which commemorates the original bandstand and honours the late John Gray, survived the fire that destroyed the rotunda in 1973.

Landscaping is also being provided around the new rotunda and in the long garden beds facing the war memorial to improve the appearance of the area.

The landscaping works started in June, and will feature new plants in keeping with the style of Surrey Gardens.

For more information, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/surrey-gardens-history

 9278 4444

