

# Riversdale Ward

July 2021



Cr Susan Biggar at the Wurundjeri Gardens in Hawthorn to mark the beginnings of the Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy

## Cr Susan Biggar

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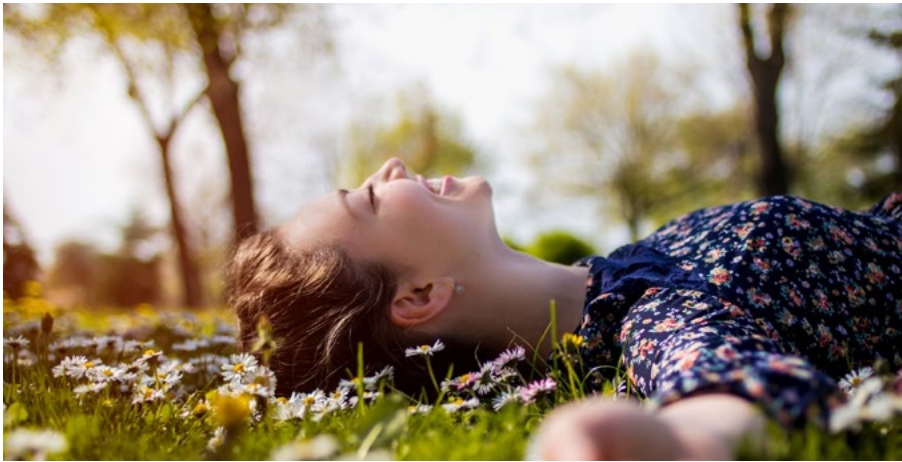
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 **BOROONDARA**  
City of Harmony





## A message from your Councillor

I love autumn, with its rich rust-brown, red-leaf displays, lingering warmth and abundant garden offerings. But as winter sets in, with its brief daylight hours and nippy temperatures, it can be a battle to stay positive and take care of myself mentally.

This year, 'taking care of ourselves' is more important than ever as COVID-19 continues to impact significantly on our lives. The repeated lockdowns, loss of control, health concerns, and financial impact has knocked our mental health and hit young people particularly hard.

A study by Headspace in mid-2020 found 86 per cent of the young people surveyed reported a negative impact on their mood, wellbeing or sleep. Nearly 80 per cent of those surveyed also reported a negative impact on their work, study or financial situation.

On a positive note, most young people have developed strategies to support their mental health, including talking to family (82 per cent) or friends (73 per cent) or engaging in activities and hobbies (82 per cent) and seeking help from a healthcare professional.

Encouraging others to get support is fundamentally important. For information about local counselling and mental health services, our website has a list of partner agencies in Boroondara.

Another issue that's always top-of-mind for me is our changing climate. Our Climate Advisory Committee has been hard at work developing Boroondara's Climate Action Plan. The plan will be set for public consultation as you read this. I strongly encourage you to read it and tell us what you think.

Finally, please arrange a COVID-19 vaccination for yourself as soon as you're eligible to do so. Contact your local GP to arrange an appointment. If you're displaying COVID-19 symptoms, 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.

Please do contact me if I can be of help.

**Cr Susan Biggar**

## Shop local

Supporting local businesses is more important than ever, especially in light of recent Victorian Government COVID-19 restrictions forcing some businesses to close or operate in a limited capacity.


Riversdale is home to a number of diverse shopping strips and centres. You can browse from an array of boutique retail stores, access services, and dine at cafes and restaurants (like Mister Sandrino below) right on your doorstep.

Consider shopping locally at the range of local shopping strips near you, including Glenferrie Hill, Riversdale Village, Auburn Road, Bills Street, West Hawthorn, Hawthorn East or Tooronga Village.

You can also support local by visiting Love Local Life, an online platform showcasing the best that small Boroondara businesses have to offer. Find unique offerings, products and services near you in one convenient online directory.

Learn about the diverse range of businesses in Boroondara at:

 [www.lovelocallife.com.au](http://www.lovelocallife.com.au)

 **9278 4444**





## Better cycling in Boroondara

Cycling will receive a significant boost this financial year, with a range of initiatives designed to improve the cycling experience.

Council's Budget 2021-22 includes a significant investment in cycling: \$274,600 for initiatives from our Bicycle Strategy, \$445,000 for upgrading our network of shared paths, \$200,000 to improve safety for on-road bicycle lanes and intersections, \$120,000 for new shared paths, \$85,000 for a Wayfinding Strategy, \$2,396,880 to replace Council's section of the Walmer Street Bridge, \$213,300 for lighting along shared paths and \$40,000 to investigate and design a path link and bridge over Back Creek, which will provide a link through Back Creek Reserve from Denman Avenue through to Somerset Road.

We're also investing \$160,000 towards the Strategic Cycling Corridor. The Department of Transport is developing a high-level study for the Box Hill to Hawthorn Strategic Cycling Corridor, to deliver a high-quality, dedicated cycling and pedestrian link for commuting and recreational use.

In support of this, and in alignment with our Boroondara Bicycle Strategy, we will conduct feasibility studies for two sections of the corridor:

- Elgin Street to Glenferrie Road, including an underpass at Power Street
- Burke Road to Stanhope Grove, including an underpass at Stanhope Grove.

These feasibility studies would then be submitted to the Department of Transport for their funding consideration and approval. Subject to approvals, the Department of Transport would then deliver these sections of the Box Hill to Hawthorn Strategic Cycling Corridor.

As well as Council funding, the Victorian Government has also included funding in the State Budget for a detailed design for a shared path bridge over Toorak Road in line with the Anniversary Trail. Council officers will be working with the Department of Transport to deliver a high-quality design for this important community project.

For more information about the final Budget 2021-22, visit:

- 📍 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/budget](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/budget)
- ☎ 9278 4444

## Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy

Council is formalising our commitment to reconciliation in Boroondara by developing a Reconciliation Strategy.

This is a significant step towards reconciliation in our community which acknowledges our shared responsibility to work together towards this outcome.

Consultation to explore our community's vision for reconciliation will consider issues that are important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, ways we can strengthen relationships with key organisations and groups in this space, how we can better acknowledge the strength and resilience of First Nations peoples, and our community's overarching vision for reconciliation.

This month, community members are invited to share their ideas about what reconciliation means to them and how they would like to see Council realise this in our community.

Your feedback will inform the draft Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy, which is expected to be released in late 2021.

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For more information and to get involved:

- 📍 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-strategy](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-strategy)
- ☎ 9278 4444



## A ride into history

We are opening the doors to some of Boroondara's iconic buildings for Open House Melbourne (OHM).


Held across the weekend of 24 and 25 July, this is your chance to discover some of our most significant buildings, including Riversdale Ward's Tay Creggan and the former Hawthorn Tram Depot.

Scottish for 'house built on a rock', Tay Creggan is considered one of Victoria's best examples of a Queen Anne Revival home, and has accommodated many famous guests including ballerina Anna Pavlova and Princess Margaret. It is now home to Strathcona Girls Grammar's year-nine campus.

Hawthorn Tram Depot is one of OHM's most popular attractions. Designed by architect Leonard Flannagan, it opened in 1916 and played a vital role in Melbourne's transportation history. Now a museum housing Melbourne's heritage tram fleet, a visit reveals the history of our unique tramways system.

For more information about Open House Melbourne's Boroondara properties, including free activities, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/open-house-melbourne](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/open-house-melbourne)

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## Meet your ward councillor

Your Ward Councillor Susan Biggar will be available to chat with locals on three occasions this winter. You will find her:

- At the Kilburn Hotel, 348 Burwood Road, on 22 July from 4pm to 5pm.
- At Guzman y Gomez, 1/674-680 Glenferrie Road (Glenferrie Centre dining area), on 19 August from 4pm to 5pm.
- At Boroondara Farmers Market, Patterson Reserve, on 21 August from 9am to 12:30pm.

## Protection for more Hawthorn East properties


A total of 26 properties and places in Hawthorn East have been added to Boroondara's heritage overlay as a result of recommendations from the 2017-18 Hawthorn East Heritage Gap Study.

Council adopted the amendment in late May, adding 17 individual heritage places, eight heritage precincts and one extension to the heritage overlay.

The Hawthorn East Heritage Gap Study is the sixth study to be completed in Boroondara's Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study program. The program protects around 1800 properties in Hawthorn East through the application of heritage controls.

To find out more about heritage in Boroondara, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/planning-building/heritage](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/planning-building/heritage)

 9278 4444

Auburn Primary School

