

Solway Ward

July 2021



Cr Garry Thompson at the at the soon-to-be-renewed Ferndale Park pavilion



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 **BOROONDARA**
City of Harmony

A message from your Councillor

Welcome to the winter edition of the Solway Ward newsletter.

By the time you are reading this newsletter our Council Budget 2021-22 will be adopted. The budget includes several Glen Iris and Ashburton initiatives such as the Gardiners Creek Master Plan; works to Eric Raven pavilion; renewal of the Ferndale Park pavilion; completion of the renovations to the Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre; continuation of pavement and roadway repairs; and the expansion of FOGO to units and apartments.

There are also many municipal-wide initiatives and consultations I encourage you to participate in over the coming months. These include:

Boroondara Climate Action Plan

Over the past six months Council has been working on a draft Climate Action Plan to target specific environmental initiatives to further reduce our carbon footprint. The next phase will consider broader initiatives for Council and the community, and I encourage you to participate in the consultation process.

Boroondara Heritage Action Plan update

Later this year, Council will be seeking feedback from the community on a renewed Heritage Action Plan. This builds upon the May 2016 Heritage Action Plan, which saw the introduction of the municipal-wide heritage gap studies.

Boroondara Community Plan refresh

Over the past few months many residents from across the municipality have participated in online and face-to-face workshops to discuss and identify the priorities for Boroondara over the next 10 years. Within a few months we'll seek community feedback on the refreshed plan before it is adopted by Council. Your feedback on this very important plan is crucial. I thank the many residents who gave up their time to be actively involved in the preparation of this draft.

I am pleased by the Victorian Government's funding commitment to start the detailed design for the Anniversary Trail bridge crossing at Toorak Road in Hartwell. This is a vitally important step to closing the gap in one of Boroondara's main cycling networks.

This winter, please shop local, enjoy our local parks and trails, and attend one of the many community events across Boroondara.

And importantly, please arrange your COVID-19 vaccination as soon as you're eligible.



Cr Garry Thompson



Ferndale Park pavilion renewal

Council is upgrading the Ferndale Park 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 local community.

We'll be working with the sporting clubs to develop a draft pavilion design that better meets their needs. Potential features may include additional change rooms, an improved multi-purpose space with storage, umpires rooms and more. The pavilion is scheduled for renewal in 2022-23. We'll be seeking community feedback on an early design later in 2021-22.

For more information about our sportsground improvements, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/
improving-parks-and-
sportsgrounds](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/improving-parks-and-sportsgrounds)
 **9278 4444**





Boroondara Conversations wrap-up

The stage 2 consultations to refresh the Boroondara Community Plan (the 'Boroondara Conversations' workshops) were a great success.

Ten workshops were held throughout March and April, with business owners, young people, health and wellbeing service providers, and residents from all age groups and suburbs coming together to deliberate on the findings from stage one and consider the key issues faced by the local community.

Participants also learned more about the work carried out at all levels of Council, and were able to advocate on behalf of their community.

The process

Those who took part in the resident workshops received a summary of findings from stage one and were briefed about the objectives and expectations of the engagement process.

Over two three-hour workshops, they developed an understanding of Council's role, explored findings from stage one in detail, and identified the priorities they felt were missing.

Participants worked together to prioritise Council's focus over the next 10 years and considered the trade-offs of short-term versus long-term priorities. The groups also considered Boroondara's community vision statement, exploring the community's aspirations for the next 10 years.


Outcomes

Boroondara Conversations participants reported feeling more confident in our engagement process and their ability to participate in Council decision making. They gained a deeper understanding of Council responsibilities and the environment in which we operate.

The draft Boroondara Community Plan 2021-31 will be released for public comment in late August.

For more information:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/BCP

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New Madeline Street Reserve playground

We recently completed some exciting upgrade works at the Madeline Street Reserve playground. The new playground was finished in March, with a design based on the ideas and feedback we received from the community.

The new playground features a train cubby with a log carriage, a new and improved mound, nature play, and the well-loved double swing set, which remains in its existing location.

New park infrastructure complements the new playground, including renewed picnic seating, landscaping, and improved accessibility with paved picnic and play surfaces.

For more information:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/madeline-street-playground

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Ashburton Seniors Centre opening

Come and experience the revitalised Ashburton Seniors Centre at a community open day on Thursday 15 July at 10:30am.

The Centre has undergone a \$7 million redevelopment, with features including a large hall, dining room, activity spaces, indoor kitchen and a courtyard with outdoor kitchen.

There are various activities on offer at the centre: wander through the art exhibition, enjoy a wok cooking demonstration in the outdoor kitchen, or cheer along at the inaugural Samarinda Table Tennis competition.

We are committed to supporting healthy ageing in Boroondara, and we're delighted to welcome our community to celebrate the centre, which is modern, accessible and better suited to the needs and activities of older adults.

Registrations are essential for this event. To find out more and to register, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/ashburton-seniors-open-day

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Stay active this winter


It can be hard to stay motivated to keep active during the colder months. Luckily, Boroondara provides many opportunities for you to get your fitness fix.

In Solway Ward you can warm up by walking or taking to two wheels along the Gardiners Creek, Ferndale or Anniversary trails, or take the kids or dog for a walk in Hill 'n' Dale Park or Markham Avenue Reserve.

If you're interested in joining a local sports team, Solway Ward is home to 13 sports clubs, including Ashburton United Junior Football Club and Riversdale Soccer Club, Ashburton Willows and Camberwell Magpies cricket clubs, along with two bowls clubs and a tennis club. The wider Boroondara area has clubs ranging from netball to table tennis, petanque, lawn bowls and croquet.

For a full list of sports clubs, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sport-and-recreation-clubs

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