

# Gardiner Ward

December 2021



Exploring the new playground at  
Bowen Street Community Centre.

**Cr Victor Franco**

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 **BOROONDARA**  
*City of Harmony*



## A message from your Councillor

More than 12 months have passed since I was first elected to Council. It has been an honour to be your representative, and it's timely to review the commitments I gave and our achievements. During the past year:

- We established a Climate Advisory Committee on which I have served, and adopted Boroondara's first Climate Action Plan and Declaration.
- I have remained personally committed to Camberwell Green – the restoration of what I consider to be much-needed green open space near the Junction for our community, which the State Government has committed to deliver.
- We established a Gardiners Creek Advisory Committee, on which I have served, and have begun developing a draft masterplan to guide revegetation and biodiversity works, water-sensitive urban design, and shared-path upgrades.
- We established a Cycling Advisory Committee, on which I have served, and are well underway in developing a Bicycle Action Plan to create safe on-road cycleways and reduce pressure for pedestrians on our congested shared paths. I hope the draft will be out for public comment in the new year.

- We established a Heritage Advisory Committee, of which I am a member, and completed heritage studies and overlays for Hawthorn East and Glen Iris. I also remain personally committed to a municipal-wide mid-century modernist heritage study.
- I have worked closely with local sporting groups, including cricket, football, netball, lacrosse and tennis, to ensure we have the facilities to help our community stay fit, health and active.

Finally, I remain committed to open, transparent, secular and inclusive government and have tried to be accessible and responsive to your concerns and get things done. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

PS: A well-deserved congratulations to Gardiner Ward's very own Christine McKillop, the Victorian State Finalist in the inaugural Fred Hollows Foundation Humanitarian awards. An incredible sense of community spirit is what drives her to donate her time and efforts to the wellbeing of residents in our neighbourhood.

**Cr Victor Franco**

## New playground at Bowen Street Community Centre

Children attending Bowen Street Community Centre are enjoying a new jungle and bush-themed playground completed by Council.

The centre is an important part of the local community offering classes, childcare, room hire and playgroups. Renovations to the playground began in June, with the design reflecting the ideas of the centre's educators.

With a jungle floor and bush theme throughout, the purpose-built space invites children to play and explore. It features carved wooden sculptures, musical elements, a mud kitchen and a brightly coloured slide. Finished with colourful rubber rock and AstroTurf, the area has plenty of greenery including a vertical garden.

The centre has continued to offer sessional childcare services for essential and approved workers throughout 2021, and the children attending the centre have given the new play area a big tick of approval.







## Taking action on climate change

In late September, Council adopted our new Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlining how we plan to respond to climate change over the next 10 years. The declaration of a climate emergency was also passed by Council, in acknowledgement of our community's strong desire to take action on climate change.

Council plans to be net carbon neutral by 2022, along with the aim for our broader Boroondara community to be net carbon neutral by 2035. By 2040, we hope as a Council and community to reduce our actual emissions by 100 per cent (compared with our corporate baseline year of 2007-08 and community baseline of 2020).

Within the CAP and the supporting implementation plan, there are hundreds of actions outlined that will be implemented by Council and the broader community in an effort to reduce emissions, improve our environmental performance, and ultimately reach our targets.

Implementing a community solar PV, battery and energy-efficiency bulk-buy program, halving the number of our buildings that use natural gas, and converting at least 90 per cent of our fleet cars to electric vehicles or other low-emission technology are just a small sample of what we intend to achieve.

To learn more about all the actions we are implementing, visit:

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

## Lewin Reserve Pavilion upgrade

In late 2020, Council proposed an original two-storey concept design for the Lewin Reserve Pavilion renewal. Community feedback identified a number of elements for review.

We listened to our community and formed a community reference group to help shape an updated concept design that would help address the feedback and some concerns raised.

The revised design has now been finalised, with the location, size, roof and overall exterior of the new pavilion design all carefully considered in consultation with the community reference group, tenant sporting clubs and surrounding local residents.

Council would like to thank the community reference group members – Stephen Hare, Marie Felsbourg, Gavin Watson and David Williams – for volunteering their time and effort during this period to help us reshape the design.

Works to construct the new pavilion will begin in mid-2022.

To see the design and details visit:



[www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/lewin-reserve-pavilion](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/lewin-reserve-pavilion)



Tooronga residents Robyn Golder and Rob Evans outside the meeting room. Image: Lyn Young



## Tooronga Village community room reopens

We know how important it is for community groups to have the space to come together and connect. Since 2012, the meeting room at the Tooronga Village Shopping Centre has been one of those spaces for local residents and community organisations.

Following the recent sale of the shopping centre, and COVID-19, the community space was closed. We renegotiated an agreement for the use of the space and ensured its reopening. The room can be reserved at no cost for community and not-for-profit use. In line with government regulations it is cleaned regularly, and each use will incur a small cleaning fee.

Ideal for club and social group gatherings, education courses or

community arts and crafts, the multipurpose room is home to organisations like the Tooronga Village Community Inc.

Robyn Golder, Chair of Tooronga Village Community Inc, and local resident Rob Evans played a key role in ensuring the room's availability. Robyn says the room holds a special place in the hearts of nearly 100 Tooronga Village residents.

"The Tooronga Community Centre has provided a valuable on-site space for activities like CPR courses, trivia nights, book club meetings, travel presentations and training programs. Looking back at our newsletters and photos brings fond memories of some wonderful events. We are looking forward to returning to our special room."

To book the space, visit the Tooronga Village Community Centre website:

 [otvc.com.au/our-place-community-room](https://otvc.com.au/our-place-community-room)

## A fresh wicket at Camberwell Sportsground


The final turf has been laid on Camberwell Sportsground's new turf wicket table.

The renewal works include new wicket soil, levelling and renewing the turf cricket-wicket table.

The levelling and renewal of the turf cricket-wicket table will provide improved playing conditions for both bowlers and batters.

This upgrade will provide all cricketers with an improved playing surface and a high-quality sportsground for our local clubs, including Camberwell Magpies Cricket Club.

For more information on this project, please call:

 **9278 4444**

