

# Maranoa Ward

December 2021



Maranoa Ward Cr Cynthia Watson with the new mural at Gordon Barnard Reserve paying tribute to Boroondara's most popular dog breeds.

## Cr Cynthia Watson

-  9835 7846 or 0419 488 204
-  [cynthia.watson@boroondara.vic.gov.au](mailto:cynthia.watson@boroondara.vic.gov.au)
-  Private Bag 1 Camberwell VIC 3124



## Dear neighbours,

“Art is unquestionably one of the purest and highest elements in human happiness. It trains the mind through the eye, and the eye through the mind. As the sun colours flowers, so does art colour life.” – *John Lubbock*

Public art, such as murals, plays an important role in our urban environment well beyond aesthetics. They make a positive contribution to our community wellbeing. Artists, through paint and brush, can reflect and reveal our community values, create a strong sense of place and identity, add vibrancy to activate our public spaces, connect us with our past, and inspire us through creativity. A great example of the ability of art to create and inspire is the wheat silos project in country Victoria, where artists have created iconic masterpieces that are beautiful expressions of the human imagination.

Boroondara is renowned for its beautiful parks and green spaces. Council is also beautifying our urban spaces through public art in laneways, shopping precincts and other built forms. Balwyn and Balwyn North now have two public murals, located in the Balwyn shopping precinct in Yerrin Street, and in Gordon

Barnard Reserve. The Yerrin Street mural (pictured above) was painted by Blender Creatives and draws inspiration from Balwyn’s living treasure, the nearby Maranoa Botanic Gardens which are Australia’s oldest native botanic gardens.

The newest mural is next to the new fenced dog-play area in Gordon Barnard Reserve, which opened on 5 November. Painted by internationally acclaimed artist and place maker James Price, it pays tribute to Boroondara’s most popular dog breeds, and uses a bright and joyful colour palette to reflect the happiness our family pets bring us.

There are other wonderful murals in Boroondara and I encourage you to enjoy their contribution to our city.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope the season brings joy as we spend time with those who are near and dear to us.


Warm regards,

**Cr Cynthia Watson**

## Seven things you didn't know can go in your FOGO

- ✓ **The greasy base of pizza boxes**  
Separate this from the ‘clean’ lid, which can go in your recycling bin.
- ✓ **Spoiled food**  
Yoghurt that’s past its use-by date, mouldy bread, leftover chicken soup from the far reaches of the fridge – it’s all welcome in your FOGO bin.
- ✓ **Hair**  
Couldn’t wait for that hairdresser appointment? Throw your hair trimmings in the FOGO bin, where animal hair is welcome too.
- ✓ **Fish ‘n’ chip wrappings**  
In they go – greasy paper, lemon wedges, leftover chips and all. But no greaseproof paper please.
- ✓ **Fruit pips and stones**  
FOGO welcomes avocado and olive pips, stonefruit seeds, and nut shells like peanuts and pistachios.
- ✓ **Greasy or oily paper towels**  
But chemicals are a no-no, so don’t include towels you’ve used with chemical cleaning sprays.
- ✓ **Wood ash**  
Cold fireplace ashes – wood only.

For more information, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/FOGO-bin](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/FOGO-bin)





## Our community plan in action

Council proudly endorsed the renewed Boroondara Community Plan 2021-31 in late-October. Thanks to the feedback of more than 5,000 people, the plan outlines our community's collective vision for Boroondara's future as 'a sustainable and inclusive community'. It also ensures we continue to deliver exceptional services and initiatives that meet the needs and aspirations of our community.

Our community's needs and aspirations are categorised by seven priority themes. Originally identified when the Boroondara Community Plan was first developed in 2017, these themes remain important to our community today, including 'Community, Services and Facilities', 'Parks and Green Spaces', 'The Environment', 'Neighbourhood Character and Heritage', 'Moving Around', 'Local Economy', and 'Leadership and Governance'.

In practice, this means everything Council delivers responds to at least one of these priority themes, like the planting of trees at Gordon Barnard Reserve to enhance our 'Parks and Green Spaces' and contribute positively to 'The Environment', or upgrading our sporting pavilions to better cater to our community's needs in line with 'Community, Services and Facilities'.

Council looks forward to officially launching the renewed Boroondara Community Plan 2021-31 in early-2022.

For more information and to read the plan, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/  
community-plan](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/community-plan)

 **9278 4444**

## New Hilda Street Reserve playground on its way

Local families can look forward to a new playground at Hilda Street Reserve, with construction due to begin early next year.


The playground design has been developed based on the ideas and feedback we received from the community in April.

Equipment includes a new combination unit with a rope bridge, inclined catwalk and a fire pole, and there will be monkey bars, a bucket spinner and junior and senior swings. Balancing logs, rocks for hopping and timber stumps will encourage nature-based play.

New pavement between the main path, picnic settings and some of the playground equipment will also be provided to improve accessibility.

For more information and to see the final design, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/  
hilda-street-reserve-playground](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/hilda-street-reserve-playground)

 **9278 4444**





## The show must go on – celebrating our Eisteddfod

Council congratulates more than 800 musicians who participated both live and online in the 30th annual Boroondara Eisteddfod. Participants again showed great resilience, submitting videos online for adjudication due to COVID-19 restrictions in Victoria.


This year's musicians ranged from violinists to bagpipe players, pop singers to opera singers. Participants also included interstate entries this year – a unique opportunity granted by the online performance format.

The Boroondara Eisteddfod's hallmark event, the Piano Concerto Final, progressed as an online streamed (and recorded) event at the Hawthorn Arts Centre in late-October with our finalists Anna Gao, Raymond Liang and Nathan Inkiriwang. Anna Gao was the winner.

As we look towards 2022, the competition will be re-energised with return to in-person delivery. We look forward to welcoming you as a competitor or audience member at that time.

Council acknowledges the Eisteddfod Advisory Committee members who have contributed to another successful program: Dr Elizabeth Mitchell, Yvonne Giltinan, Douglas Heywood OAM, Dr Yvonne Ho AM, Glenn Riddle, Dr Sharon Lierse, Louis Schmidt, Gary Kirby and Anne Gilby.

For more information and to view the Piano Concerto Final, visit:

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

## Our libraries' top loans

We know how important our library service is to the local community, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Our click-and-collect service and digital collections have proven very popular during periods of lockdown. Since 16 July, more than 5,000 library members have used the click-and-collect service at Balwyn Library, borrowing more than 8,000 physical items. In that time, 84,000 digital items have been loaned across all Boroondara Libraries.

If you're seeking summer reading inspiration, our librarians at Balwyn Library and Greythorn Library Lounge have shared the top local reads for 2021.


**Balwyn Library's most borrowed adult fiction books of 2021 are:**

1. *The Survivors*, Jane Harper
2. *Where The Crawdads Sing*, Delia Owens
3. *Bruny*, Heather Rose
4. *Dictionary of Lost Words*, Pip Williams
5. *The Thursday Murder Club*, Richard Osman

**Greythorn Library Lounge's most borrowed adult fiction books of 2021 are:**

1. *The Survivors*, Jane Harper
2. *The Good Turn*, Dervla McTiernan
3. *The Thursday Murder Club*, Richard Osman
4. *Where the Crawdads Sing*, Delia Owens
5. *All Our Shimmering Skies*, Trent Dalton

To join the library or to find out more about all our services, visit:

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