

# Studley Ward

December 2021



Studley Ward Cr Nick Stavrou riding on Yarra Boulevard.

## Cr Nick Stavrou

📞 9835 7848 or 0482 999 209

✉️ [nick.stavrou@boroondara.vic.gov.au](mailto:nick.stavrou@boroondara.vic.gov.au)

📍 Private Bag 1 Camberwell VIC 3124





## Dear neighbours,

Welcome to the summer edition of your Studley ward newsletter.

As I write, our suburbs are in the process of returning to life as (near) normal after another tough year for Melburnians. I encourage you to enjoy all Boroondara has to offer, to look out for each other in the Christmas spirit, and to keep supporting the businesses and institutions that make our municipality a special place to live.

I know from meeting and speaking with you over the past year that our local ward community strongly supports action on climate change. I am therefore so very pleased that in late-September Council unanimously endorsed Boroondara's Climate Action Plan, a wide-ranging 10-year plan that was passed alongside an implementation plan that pins specific actions to timeframes over the next two years.

While this plan broadens, multiplies and accelerates our efforts, it's important to acknowledge that this is not just the beginning – Council has taken significant steps in recent years to reduce our environmental impact, including the introduction of FOGO collections, and transitioning Council to

100 per cent green energy, which have brought us to almost net zero carbon within Council operations.

I am proud that this new Climate Action Plan now underpins so much of what we do, and hopefully also inspires our community to increase their own efforts to cut carbon emissions. I encourage you to read more about it at [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/CAP](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/CAP), and to think about the changes you can make in your own household.

Every effort helps – in this newsletter, you can read about what not to put in your FOGO bin, to keep it free of contamination that can consign material to landfill. You'll see from my cover image that I'm a keen cyclist – every trip we make without burning fossil fuels makes a difference too.

Like you, I am looking forward to being with friends and family at Christmas, and what I hope will be an easier year for all of us in 2022.

Cr Nick Stavrou

## Works for Victoria Park Regional Playground begin

Part of the works to deliver the Victoria Park Regional Playground have been completed, with the construction of the minibus drop-off and accessible car-parking bays finished in August.

Construction of the playground is scheduled to start early next year and be completed by mid to late-2022.


Play equipment includes an accessible flying fox, a giant basket swing and a sensory nature trail with logs and planting. The bluestone embankment will be revitalised and offer accessible pathway and rope scramble access to the top and a 4m-high tube-slide exit. Other playground elements include a build-your-own-cubby frame, sandpit, learn-to-scoot-and-ride area, 6m-high rope climb, and a dedicated seniors' fitness area.


Additional park and playground infrastructure includes shade sails, improved picnic and barbecue facilities, public amenities, and accessible furniture and pathways.


The Victoria Park Regional Playground is supported by the Victorian Government through the Suburban Parks Program.

In other recreation news, our Kew Recreation Centre remains on track for completion in mid-2023. Visit the link below for a 'fly-through' view of the centre design.

For more information, visit:

 [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/victoria-park-playground](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/victoria-park-playground)

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

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## Walmer Street Bridge and Yarra Boulevard safety improvements

Work to replace the Walmer Street northern land bridge with a safe, new wider bridge that is disability compliant is progressing.

Council has submitted a detailed application to Heritage Victoria, seeking a permit for the replacement of our land bridge. Depending on the outcome of our heritage application, a planning permit application will follow.

Meanwhile, Council remains hopeful that the upgrade works to improve the level of safety and security along Yarra Boulevard will start in the coming months.

The Department of Transport (DoT), formerly VicRoads, plans to:

- Add new raised safety platforms at Wiltshire Drive, Bellbird Road, Molesworth Street, Yarravale Road, Boathouse Road and Walmer Street.
- Add a new raised intersection at Yarra Street.
- Reconfigure the Studley Park off-ramp intersection (both top and bottom).

Improved street lighting, line marking and signage will be installed at each of the key intersections, as well as providing a physical median at some intersections to complement the raised safety platforms.

DoT officers will advise the community once they have a clear start date for the works. If you have questions, you can contact DoT directly by emailing **MSE\_mail@roads.vic.gov.au**

## 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)



## What not to put in your FOGO bin

Did you know that a whole truckload of organic material can end up in landfill if just one FOGO bin contains banned items? These are five of the most common 'contamination' mistakes residents make:

### **Mistake #1 Using a plastic bag to collect food waste**

Only use lime-green liners that are made from 100 per cent cornstarch and certified compostable (with AS4736 and AS5810 symbols).

### **Mistake #2 Binning food in plastic containers, jars and cans**

You must remove all food from wrappings, jars, bottles or cans before placing it in your FOGO bin. Put clean containers in your recycling bin, and take soft plastics to REDcycle at Coles or Woolworths, or put in your waste bin.

### **Mistake #3 Binning nappies**

Nappies should be disposed of in your waste bin.

### **Mistake #4 Binning fruit stickers**


Please remove stickers from fruit and peels before they go in your FOGO bin.

### **Mistake #5 Binning pet poo and litter**

Compost pet poo at home using a pet poo composter (Council offers these for a subsidised price) or put in your waste bin only.

Spread the word and help us keep our FOGO material contamination free.

For more information, visit:

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

## Kew Library's 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 over the last 12 months, with 1.25 million items borrowed across the Boroondara Library Service.


Whether you're looking for a cult favourite, a classic, or something a little more niche for your next read, our librarians at Kew Library have shared the top local reads for 2021 for inspiration.

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

1. *The Survivors*, Jane Harper
2. *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, Pip Williams
3. *Shuggie Bain*, Douglas Stuart
4. *Where the Crawdads Sing*, Delia Owens
5. *Bruny*, Heather Rose

Council scrapped all overdue borrowing fines earlier this year. We did this knowing our members are committed to returning borrowed books, and also hope this encourages new members to join Boroondara libraries.

You can join the Boroondara Library Service in person at any branch or join online to access the digital collection. To find out more, visit:

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

