

# Cotham Ward

April 2022



Cotham Ward Cr Felicity Sinfield at Rathmines Road Reserve's upgraded pavilion, with (from left) David Stanford of the Hawthorn Citizens Junior Football Club, Robert Ryan of the Hawthorn Cricket Club, and Sam Waldron of the Hawthorn Amateur Football Club.

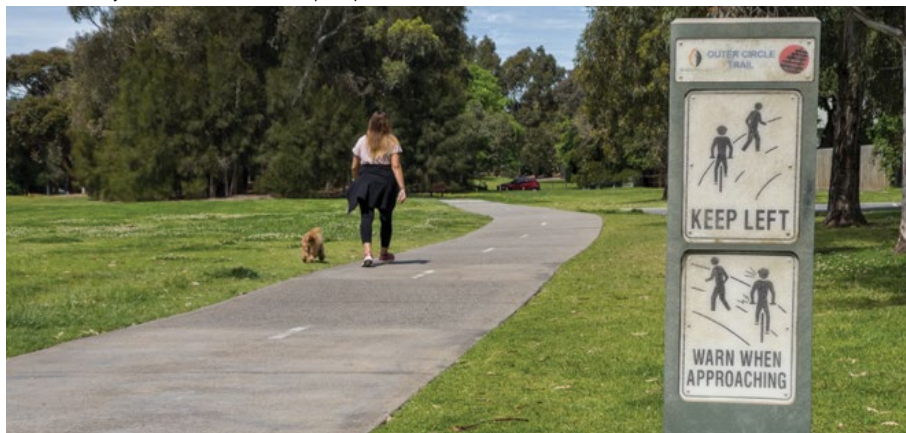


## Cr Felicity Sinfield

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 **BOROONDARA**  
*City of Harmony*



## A message from your Councillor

We have seen some beautiful weather over the summer months and it has been great to see such high usage of our parks, shared paths and open spaces. It has been challenging to maintain the standards of these public spaces after the damage caused by storms last year, and grass and weeds have grown quickly with the warm and humid conditions. I am confident our public spaces have now been returned to the standard we are used to enjoying.

There is a great opportunity to increase accessibility to the Anniversary Trail at Mont Albert Road that we are exploring, and lighting will soon be improved west of Normanby Road.

To continue supporting our community rebuild and recover from the impacts of the pandemic, I encourage you to consider the Annual Community Strengthening Grants which are now open. The grants of up to \$10,000 provide financial support for new one-off projects and activities that strengthen the Boroondara community.

Applications in the following categories are encouraged:

- Active Community – Sports and Recreation
- Life-long Community – Opportunities for Over 55s
- Creative Community – Arts and Culture
- Healthy Community – Health, Safety and Wellbeing, Youth, Children and Families
- Sustainable Community – Environmental Sustainability
- Vibrant Retail Precincts.

Our community has been particularly engaged on our new consultation platform Engage Boroondara with feedback sought on many proposals across the organisation. You can visit Engage Boroondara at any time and browse the projects that are currently open for consultation and provide us with your thoughts.

As we head into the cooler months with the pandemic still present, please stay safe and take care,

**Cr Felicity Sinfield**

## Anniversary Trail ramp proposed

We are working to investigate a new bicycle and pedestrian shared ramp to connect the Anniversary Trail with Mont Albert Road in Canterbury.

The Anniversary Trail provides an important shared-path connection through the north and south of our municipality. Currently, there are limited access points along the trail between Whitehorse Road and Rubens Grove due to the high embankments and fencelines.

This much-needed ramp connection would improve access, safety and security for all trail users. It would improve connections to nearby schools, give access to the Burke Road shopping strip and deliver access for emergency services. Improved landscaping, new trees and energy-efficient LED handrail lighting are also proposed.

Based on local community feedback, we intend to submit an application to the Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads) for funding consideration and approval to deliver the project.

For more information on the off-road shared paths in Boroondara, visit:



**[www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/  
find-bike-or-walking-path](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/find-bike-or-walking-path)**







## Rathmines Road Reserve pavilion opens

Council is pleased to announce the revitalised Rathmines Road Reserve pavilion (as shown on the cover of this ward newsletter) is now open and ready for use by junior, senior, men's and women's football and cricket teams.

The pavilion upgrade and refurbishment provides a more vibrant and fit-for-purpose facility to better meet the modern needs of the sporting clubs and to encourage greater participation in junior and female sports.

As the pavilion is subject to a heritage overlay, the north-facing facade retains its original character, with appropriate and sympathetic additions to the building's south and east sides.

The facility now has 4 change rooms, a dedicated first-aid room, dual umpire rooms, a multipurpose community space, an upgraded kitchen and public toilet facilities.

Thank you to the sporting groups for their flexibility during construction.

Landscaping works around the building, including re-turfing and laying down additional garden beds, will be carried out in the coming months.

The \$2.2 million project budget includes a \$280,000 Federal Department of Health grant secured by local sporting clubs.

For more information on the new pavilion building or planned landscaping works, please contact us on:

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

☎ 9278 4444

## Work has begun on new Victoria Park Regional Playground

Works to deliver the new Victoria Park Regional Playground started in February.

This exciting new playground has been shaped by two rounds of community consultation to create a fun and inclusive design for the whole community to enjoy.

Play equipment will include an accessible flying fox, a giant basket swing, and Ninja Warrior-style elements including jumping pads and a warped wall.

The bluestone embankment will be revitalised, and there will be a sensory nature trail with logs and planting, a learn-to-scoot-and-ride area and a dedicated seniors' fitness area.

The park and new playground will also benefit from shade sails, improved picnic and barbecue facilities, public amenities, furniture and pathways.

The playground is expected to be completed by mid-late 2022.

Its original play equipment has been sent for recycling through the Rotary Overseas Recycled Playground program, which 'harvests' playgrounds set for replacement and sends them overseas, where they are restored and re-erected by Rotarians for local children. The Victoria Park playground equipment is destined for a new life in Fiji.

The \$2.6 million Victoria Park Regional Playground renewal budget includes a \$300,000 grant from the Victorian Government through the Suburban Parks Program, \$25,000 from the National Ageing Research Institute for seniors' exercise equipment, and \$15,000 from Kew Rotary for a double barbecue.

For more information, visit: [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/victoria-park-playground](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/victoria-park-playground) or call 9278 4444



## Eastern Freeway police tragedy was close to home

Friday April 22 will mark the second anniversary of the tragic crash on the Eastern Freeway at Kew that claimed the lives of four police officers.

I was honoured to represent the City of Boroondara's Mayor, Council and community members at the state memorial service held at Marvel Stadium on 3 February to honour the legacies of Leading Senior Constable Lynette Taylor, Senior Constable Kevin King, Constable Josh Prestney and Constable Glen Humphris. They were killed when a truck crashed into them on the side of the freeway after they had intercepted a speeding driver.

The officers were remembered with tributes and performances, the reading of the Police Ode, and a minute of silence. At the closing of the service,

more than 1000 uniformed members formed a very moving guard of honour, with the pipe band leading a lap of honour as a mark of respect for their fallen colleagues.

As a police officer myself, and a resident of Kew, this tragedy hit close to home. It arose from a routine traffic stop and resulted in four broken families, as officers who gave their lives in the service of their community did not return from work that day. We will not forget them.

The muster room at Boroondara Police Station in Harp Road, Kew East, has been named after former Boroondara police officer Josh Prestney.

City of Boroondara is exploring how we can honour the officers locally.

## Kew Recreation Centre coming along swimmingly

Major development works for the Kew Recreation Centre are well on track for a mid-2023 completion and the appointed builder is making steady progress.

Since late last year the tower crane has been in operation, delivering materials around the site and enabling the builders to begin the pool structures, including the learn-to-swim pool. The base of the 25-metre pool has now been poured and development of the 2 indoor sports courts is also progressing.

Steel structural works have begun, and the community can start to see the new Kew Recreation Centre really taking shape. Roof works will commence in mid to late-2022. Council is very pleased with the progress of the project.

To see the construction timeline and a 3D 'fly-through' of the centre design, and to stay up to date with the latest information, please visit:



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



9278 4444

