

# Gardiner Ward

July 2022



Glen Iris resident Dang Ho at the recent Nettleton Park planting day.  
All locals are welcome to join.  
Email [back2nettletonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:back2nettletonfriends@gmail.com) to find out more.

**Cr Victor Franco**

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 **BOROONDARA**  
*City of Harmony*





## A message from your Councillor

I'm delighted that in May, Council adopted dedicated draft Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) planning provisions and sought approval from the Minister for Planning to amend the Boroondara Planning Scheme. If the Minister agrees, Council will undertake public consultation on the ESD provisions before they can be finally approved by Council. This was one of my election commitments. It will address a gap in the planning requirements and ensure sustainability measures are incorporated in new residential and commercial developments.

We've also done a lot to protect heritage in Gardiner, as you'll read in this newsletter. I've been contacted, however, by many residents concerned about the impact of Council's heritage policy which says that solar panels should not be mounted on the principal, visible roof in heritage precincts.

Amid the energy crisis, our recently adopted Climate Action Plan and our goal to encourage the rollout of solar panels, it is – in my view – time for

the planning provisions to change. Residents in heritage precincts, and there are many in Gardiner, should be able to position solar panels in an effective and efficient manner, and this sometimes requires panels to be visible from the street. I will therefore continue to advocate for this change.

I also committed in my election to working to develop a Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) master plan and a new bike strategy. I'm on the advisory committees for these and I'm delighted that both have been progressing well.

Finally, it was a pleasure to attend the Harmony Day launch of the upgraded Bowen Street Community Centre and the re-opening launch of the Tooronga Village Community Room, which has been secured once again for our community to use through the collaborative efforts of Council officers and local residents.

**Cr Victor Franco**

## Dog infrastructure upgrades at Lewin Reserve

We're providing some new dog-friendly infrastructure at Lewin Reserve in Gardiner Ward to improve overall safety for our community, including our four-legged members.

The new features include a recently installed drink fountain with a dog bowl, and more safety chain-mesh fencing around part of the existing playground planned for July. The fencing will be the same height as the existing fencing around the playground.

Together with responsible pet ownership, these upgrades will help to prevent dogs from running onto the playground and improve use and enjoyment of the off-lead area.

For everything you need to know about pets in Boroondara, visit:



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





## Glen Iris Heritage Gap Study complete

Council recently adopted the Glen Iris Heritage Gap Study and submitted it to the Minister for Planning for final approval. The study proposes to include 3 precincts and 15 individual heritage places in the Heritage Overlay on a permanent basis.

Glen Iris boasts many properties with the unique and distinguishing characteristics of Melbourne houses built in the inter-war period, between the First and Second World Wars. This was a time of significant change throughout the world, and saw a surge of development in the area. The inter-war style is architecturally and aesthetically significant for its global eclecticism, as it combines styles such as art deco, Californian bungalow and Spanish mission.

The suburb gap study includes the Japanese-inspired Californian bungalow

Carinya, designed by architect Marcus R Barlow, best known for designing the Melbourne CBD's Manchester Unity Building. Also included is the Romanesque Revival-style St Oswald's Anglican Church (above), which brings together works by Australian and migrant artists, such as glass windows, a font and pipe organ.

Completing the Glen Iris Gap Study (part of our Municipal Wide Heritage Gap Study) brings us closer to finishing the heritage review of Gardiner ward, as we completed East Hawthorn in May 2021. Still to be completed is the review of the Mont Iris Estate and the Environs precinct.

You can find out more about the details of Glen Iris' heritage properties by viewing the report, which is available on our website by searching 'Glen Iris Heritage Gap Study'.

### Heritage gap study – explained

We know that preserving our city's history and protecting heritage properties and precincts is important to you. In the Municipal Wide Heritage Gap Study, a key action of our Heritage Action Plan 2016, we went street-by-street to identify properties and precincts that are not currently included in the Heritage Overlay but hold significant heritage value and are worthy of heritage protection.

Glen Iris is the final suburb study in our Municipal Wide Heritage Gap Study – you can read more about it in the accompanying July-August edition of the *Boroondara Bulletin*.



## Bicycle strategy update

The draft Boroondara Bicycle Strategy aims to deliver a safe, connected and appealing bicycle network right across Boroondara. It was informed by thorough research and community feedback received between November 2019 and March 2020, which helped us better understand issues and opportunities for Boroondara's bicycle network.

From December 2021 to late-February 2022, we released the draft Boroondara Bicycle Strategy for community consultation. Thank you to more than 600 community members from a diverse cross-section of our community who provided feedback. We have taken this on board and have been working hard to review and update the draft strategy so it better reflects their needs and aspirations.

At the time of writing, the updated draft Boroondara Bicycle Strategy and implementation plan was about to be presented to Council for formal consideration. To learn about the outcome, visit: [engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/bicycle-strategy](https://engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/bicycle-strategy)





## Our plan for Gardiners Creek, and what it means for our local community

From late-May to late-June 2022, we asked our community to comment on a draft master plan for Gardiners Creek.

We asked for feedback about whether the actions in the draft master plan respond to the aims outlined for Gardiners Creek. Thank you to everyone who had their say. Your valuable feedback is currently being reviewed and will inform the final Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan, which is due to be released later this year.

The draft plan proposed a number of actions and advocacy opportunities for parks and open spaces here in Gardiner Ward. This includes Lewin Reserve, Howard Dawson Reserve, Nettleton Park and Dorothy Laver Reserve West – all of which connect to Gardiners Creek.

The proposed actions include improving signage, garden beds and seating at entry

points connecting these open spaces to Gardiners Creek, improving or installing new gravel trails for people to walk on, adding educational signage at key points of interest, improving permeability and vegetation with more indigenous plants, and considering water-sensitive urban design.

There are also specific opportunities to upgrade bridges and underpasses, improve access, and create new pedestrian routes.

While community consultation is now closed, you can still view the draft master plan online at **[engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/gardiners-creek-master-plan](https://engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/gardiners-creek-master-plan)**

Be sure to select 'Follow' at the top of the page to receive any updates about the project and view the final Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan following endorsement by Council in late-2022.

## Launching our reconciliation strategy

Council officially launched the Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy 2022-26 at a special event held during National Reconciliation Week (27 May to 3 June) – a significant milestone in our reconciliation strategy.

The event, held at the Balwyn Community Centre on Thursday 2 June, was opened with a Welcome to Country conducted by a Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elder. Guests enjoyed performances by the Djirri Djirri Dance Group and Yeng Gali Mullum, a singing and storytelling choir with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal members. They were also treated to food provided by Mabu Mabu, an Indigenous-owned and run business that specialises in using native ingredients.

To develop the strategy, we worked collaboratively and consulted with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations, including Boroondara's Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. The strategy outlines a clear, 4-year roadmap for implementing reconciliation initiatives.

To learn more, visit **[www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-strategy](https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/reconciliation-strategy)**

