

Studley Ward

December 2022



Studley Ward Cr Nick Stavrou
at the upgraded Victoria Park
Regional playground.



Cr Nick Stavrou

📞 9835 7848 or 0482 999 209

✉ nick.stavrou@boroondara.vic.gov.au

📍 Private Bag 1 Camberwell VIC 3124

Information in this newsletter is correct at the time of going to print.





Dear neighbours,

Welcome to the summer edition of your Studley Ward newsletter.

It has been heartening to move about freely in our community throughout spring and early summer, knowing that a back-to-normal festive season and summer holidays are on the horizon.

September saw the one-year anniversary of our Boroondara Climate Action Plan coming into effect, and our Sustainable Living Festival in November was a wonderful celebration of community and all our efforts to combat climate change. The festival combined a fun morning out with hands-on activities and expert advice to encourage community members to consider sustainable changes we can all make to the way we live our lives. It is an important part of our commitment to give our community opportunities to learn about how to live more sustainably.

As a member of the Climate Action Plan committee I am proud to have played a leadership role in bringing this plan to life. I know that our local Studley Ward community strongly supports action on climate change, so it is pleasing to see concrete action on reducing emissions.

Sustainable transport is an important part of that, which is why I welcome the July endorsement of our Boroondara Bicycle Strategy. This Council initiative was shaped with the input of our community and will help boost health, transport and climate outcomes in Boroondara, with an emphasis on safety for riders and pedestrians alike.

I wish you all a joyful Christmas with family and friends, and hope you have the chance to take a restful summer break.

Cr Nick Stavrou

Park yourself this summertime

Summer is a fantastic time of year in Boroondara, perfect for enjoying time with family and friends in our many beautiful parks.

One of our summer highlights is Summer in the Park. This season, our local Victoria Park is playing a starring role in the program. We'll be hosting A Little Musical Theatre in the Park on Sunday 26 February from 1 pm to 2 pm. This bite-sized dose of live performance is sure to delight people of all ages, and might even inspire a singalong.

The Summer in the Park series will be appearing at parks across Boroondara, including the highlight events Family Fun, Jazz, Opera and Cinema in the Park, as well as a number of musical pop-ups. Check our website for all the details: boroondara.vic.gov.au/summer-park

We're also lucky to have Alexandra Gardens on our doorstep, perfect for a summer picnic. These magnificent Edwardian-style gardens with a rotunda and lily pond are walking distance from Kew Junction shopping centre.





Delivering on our Climate Action Plan

It's been a year since Boroondara's Climate Action Plan was adopted by Council and launched to help deliver what's important to our community.

Over the past year, we've implemented and achieved several actions with our community, to respond to environmental sustainability and tackle climate change together. These include:

- buying green electricity for Council's small sites, so that all Council electricity is now renewable
- holding a Sustainable Living Festival to engage with the community
- releasing the Boroondara Bicycle Strategy to set a framework for advancing cycling infrastructure across our municipality
- running a sustainability leadership course to further support community leadership on climate action.

Many more actions are coming up over the next year, including the development of a Circular Economy Strategy, an Urban Greening Strategy including

assessment of the performance of our trees, and renewal and planting of 1,000 street trees each year.

Here in Studley Ward, we upgraded a water-harvesting system at the Kew Depot in 2021. This included a new pump and refill point connected to high-capacity tanks which store water collected from the building's roof. The rainwater is transferred into our watering trucks and is used to establish newly planted trees, saving an estimated 300,000 L of water each year.

Council also launched the Solar Savers program earlier this year for homes and businesses, and due to its success has extended the program into 2023. The local-government program has given community members advice about solar power, and supported them in getting affordable, quality rooftop solar. This can help cut energy bills, reduce environmental impact, and give greater peace of mind against future power price rises.

If you're thinking about installing solar or would like to find out more, contact the Solar Savers team at solarsavers.org.au or call **1300 548 598**.



Walmer Street Bridge update

Construction of the new northern land bridge section of the Walmer Street Bridge is progressing well. This project aims to significantly improve the northern approach, making it compliant with required accessibility standards, increasing its width, structurally improving the bridge and the staircase connecting it to the riverbank, and enhancing its overall look.

The former northern land bridge has now been removed, new footings have been built, and work on the concrete columns has begun. All works are being managed carefully to protect the surrounding landscape, in consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and adopted Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

The full length of Walmer Street Bridge closed from mid-August for construction works to take place. Community members are encouraged to consider alternative routes or ways of getting around during this time. We thank our community for their patience while we deliver these necessary works, which are currently on track for completion mid-next year.

For more information and to subscribe for updates about the project, visit:



[engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/
walmer-street-bridge](https://engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/walmer-street-bridge)

Playground update: one complete, and another on its way

There are exciting things happening in Studley ward for our local families to enjoy.

After years in the making, the fantastic new Victoria Park Regional Playground was completed in October, with an official opening event held to celebrate the milestone with community members.

The design of this new playground represents our community's needs and wishes, with elements for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy. There's a giant basket swing, in-ground trampolines, sensory art elements inspired by flora and fauna of the local area, sand and water-play, and an adventure trail with Ninja Warrior-style elements. The playground and park also have a fitness station, a dedicated seniors' exercise park, improved picnic and barbecue facilities, restrooms and accessible pathways.

It's a great new area to bring your family, meet friends, be active and enjoy the outdoors this summer.

For more information, visit:
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/victoria-park-playground



New ways to play at Victoria Park Regional Playground.

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

We're also upgrading the playground at Kate Campbell Reserve to meet the needs of local families and improve the play experience for all children. Thanks to your feedback during May and June on our draft design, we've developed a final design that includes the community's most popular themes and aims to enhance the playground's peaceful, natural character. Upgrades will include a

new accessible play unit, swings, nature-play opportunities and retention of the rocker. Park infrastructure will also be enhanced with upgraded picnic furniture, accessible pathways, park benches overlooking the playground, and native trees for shade and enjoyment.

Works are scheduled to start in the 2023–24 financial year.

To find out more and to view the design, visit: **www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/kate-campbell-playground**

Kew Recreation Centre update

On Thursday 20 October, a section of the steel roof structure at the Kew Recreation Centre construction site collapsed. No one was hurt and there was no impact on neighbouring properties, with damage contained within the construction site.

The builder, ADCO Constructions, is in the process of preparing a methodology to safely remove the collapsed structural steel for the approval of WorkSafe.

We anticipate that these works will commence in December 2022 and continue in early 2023. WorkSafe will be on site to supervise the removal of the steel.

Thorough investigations into the cause of the collapse are still ongoing with WorkSafe and ADCO and will continue while the removal of the collapsed steel takes place. The full impact of the collapse on the project timeframe is not yet known.

An update will be shared once a revised construction timeframe is confirmed.

Every step will be taken to ensure the final structure is safe and secure, and a high-quality, modern recreation and aquatic facility is delivered for our Boroondara community.

We will share any updates as they become available at:
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/KRC