

Cotham Ward

July 2023



Cotham Ward Cr Felicity Sinfield with
Anthony D'Anna at Enoteca Boccaccio
in Balwyn North.

Su questa terra, ottieni solo quello che inseguì



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 **BOROONDARA**
City of Harmony



A message from your Councillor

Every neighbourhood is bound together by the community-minded – the parent volunteers who keep kids' sport on track, the neighbours who check on vulnerable folk next door, and the more formal charities and organisations that help others on a wider scale.

Rotary International is the world's first service club organisation, its members dedicated to serving their communities and the wider world in the spirit of humanitarianism. It has more than 33,000 clubs across the world, with seven of them in Boroondara, each delivering in different ways on the theme 'Imagine Rotary'.

I am delighted to have been made an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Camberwell – a tradition afforded to the Mayors of Boroondara. This is a big year for Rotary in Victoria with its international convention held in Melbourne in late-May. I encourage you to consider offering 'service above self' by volunteering with Rotary or another local organisation.

I was pleased to see a new restaurant open in Cotham Ward recently. Enoteca Boccaccio sits above the Boccaccio IGA on Burke Road, and is run by the D'Anna family which has operated the supermarket for 50 years. Three generations of D'Annas work at Boccaccio's, and Anthony D'Anna says the restaurant is "the final piece of the puzzle" that ties in what the family has built over half a century in Balwyn. "It combines all our work and passion into one space to showcase what we love about food and wine."

Visitors to the supermarket will soon notice improvements to the Stradbroke Village Shopping Centre car park that sits behind it. They include creating a dedicated loading zone, and other changes to improve access and pedestrian safety, and regulate loading and unloading activities.

Cr Felicity Sinfield

Kindergarten set for refurbishment

Kew's much-loved JJ McMahon Memorial Kindergarten, which has served local families for more than 70 years, will be refurbished in 2024 as part of Council's early childhood facility renewal program.

Council officers have worked closely with the kindergarten's committee of management, teachers and staff to develop a design for a high-quality early-years facility for our community. We were pleased to share the concept designs with prospective families at the kindergarten's open day in May.

Works will include rebuilding the front playroom, refurbishing the rear playroom, a larger office, a combined staff and meeting room with a kitchen, and a new children's bathroom between the playrooms.

Works are expected to start in early-2024 and be completed in the second half of 2024, with the kindergarten program relocating temporarily to the former Balwyn Leisure Centre on Balwyn Road.

To find out more, visit:



www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/renewal-jj-mcmahon-kinder





Precinct proposed for heritage protection

As part of our ongoing commitment to conserving identified heritage places in Boroondara, we are proposing to apply a permanent Heritage Overlay to 12 properties in Hawthorn East's Smythesdale Estate Precinct – at 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 Carlyle Street and 81, 83, 85, 85A, 87 and 89 Harcourt Street.

Our heritage consultants have identified this precinct as worthy of protection for its:

- historical significance reflecting the late-Victorian period of suburban building in the area that followed the extension of the railway to Camberwell station.
- representative significance as a small, cohesive group of late-Victorian housing.
- aesthetic significance – relating to 'Tempe' at 89 Harcourt Street as an intact and commodious, late-Italianate style villa of rendered brick distinguished by cast-iron detailing. It is proposed that 89 Harcourt Street be graded a 'significant' property.

To apply a Heritage Overlay to these properties, we need to amend the Boroondara Planning Scheme, and have just completed the community consultation stage of this process.

The next steps in heritage protection for the Smythesdale Estate precinct are:

Planning Panels Victoria hearing June and July 2023

The Urban Planning Delegated Committee has referred all submissions to Planning Panels Victoria. This will give submitters an opportunity to share their views at a public independent panel hearing.

Council consideration Mid to late-2023

Our officers present the report and officer recommendations from Planning Panels Victoria at an Urban Planning Delegated Committee meeting. Then an ordinary Council meeting will decide if the amendment will be adopted or abandoned.

Ministerial decision Late-2023

If Council adopts an amendment, we will submit this to the Minister for Planning for a final decision. Council will tell all stakeholders about this decision.

You can learn more about the amendment and follow the project page for updates at: engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/C388-heritage

Step inside ... it's Open House

Open House Melbourne (29 and 30 July) invites you to step inside some of Boroondara's most iconic buildings to explore something old, learn something new and discover the possibilities of our city's urban fabric as it continues to evolve.

Explore some of Boroondara's architectural gems to find out fascinating facts about our municipality's history and plans for the future.

Discover more near you

City of Boroondara is hosting several Open House Melbourne events this year with 11 venues waiting for you to explore.

Here in Cotham Ward, guests can explore the Carey Grammar Centre for Creativity and Collaboration, pay a visit to the Preshil Arlington Campus or discover more at the nearby Villa Alba Museum*.

Access the full program

Further information about the full range of Boroondara buildings and activities featuring in this year's Open House Melbourne is available on the City of Boroondara website. Visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/open-house-melbourne-2023

**Locations listed are correct at time of printing but may be subject to change.*





Keeping our community safe

Community safety influences many aspects of everyday life, from crime prevention to building personal resilience and maintaining the amenity of our facilities and streets.

Based on crime statistics, Boroondara is proudly one of the safest local government areas in Victoria.

Council's Community Safety Advisory Committee consists of key community and crime prevention stakeholders and is part of our commitment to a healthy and safe community. Alongside our Mayor, Cr Felicity Sinfield, and Cr Lisa Hollingsworth, representatives include Victoria Police, Boroondara Neighbourhood Watch, Metro Trains and Swinburne University of Technology.

Its purpose is to provide feedback to Council about local community safety needs that relate to our policies, programs and services, as well as providing a forum to work together to identify and respond to new and emerging issues.

Recently, Council partnered with Swinburne University of Technology and specialist family violence services to deliver training to student leaders in our community to learn about

respectful relationships and challenge attitudes and behaviours that contribute to violence against women.

Each year in October, the committee partners recognise Community Safety Month by hosting activities such as community safety pop-ups and our Emergency Services Family Fun Day, and sharing important safety information with our community.

Playing our part

We can all work to keep our neighbourhood safe, including by:

- keeping an eye out for suspicious activity and reporting issues to Crime Stoppers or the police
- if you have CCTV on your property, submitting footage of suspicious behaviour to Crime Stoppers (you may also be able to register your CCTV system with local police)
- following the Boroondara Eyewatch Facebook page for police updates
- getting involved with your local Neighbourhood Watch group
- reporting graffiti and maintenance issues by contacting Council at [service.boroondara.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue](https://www.vic.gov.au/service.boroondara.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue) or **9278 4444**.

Have your say on Myrtle and Macleay Parks

Community consultation is now open to help shape a master plan for Myrtle and Macleay Parks in Balwyn North.

The plan will help guide the current and future use of the parks and make sure this popular open space can be enjoyed by our whole community. It will allow us to support the diverse uses of the parks by:

- providing for organised sport
- providing for recreational use by the wider community
- providing amenities like park furniture, shade, shelter, public toilets, lighting and paths
- enhancing pedestrian safety
- protecting the character of the park
- improving access and wayfinding throughout the park.

Council wants to hear what you like about Myrtle and Macleay Parks, what improvements you would like to see and to share any big ideas you have. I encourage you to have your say via an online survey until Monday 24 July: [engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/myrtle-macleay-parks-plan](https://www.vic.gov.au/myrtle-macleay-parks-plan)

