

Studley Ward

July 2023



Kew's Villa Alba Museum will open its doors for Open House Melbourne.



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 **BOROONDARA**
City of Harmony



Dear neighbours,

Welcome to the winter edition of the Studley Ward newsletter. I hope you are all keeping well during this season.

As your Councillor, I find immense joy in connecting with community members, and I'm always inspired by the heartwarming results that arise from our interactions.

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting a local resident who shared that he had an abundance of farm produce from his country property but wasn't sure what to do with it. Knowing about the exceptional work of Boroondara Community Outreach (BCO) here in Studley Ward, an organisation that provides crisis relief and food support for socially isolated individuals and those living with mental illness, I decided to take action.

With a quick phone call to BCO coordinator Natalie Dixon-Monu, all the surplus veggies were redirected to those in need. It was truly uplifting to witness how a simple act could have such a significant impact on those struggling in this economic environment. This story serves as a powerful reminder that small

actions can make a world of difference. And that there is a ready home for your surplus produce any time of year!

In times like these, a kind word or a simple phone call can make someone feel valued and supported. Donating to organisations like BCO allows them to continue their vital work, providing help to those who need it most. Moreover, volunteering your time and skills can offer hands-on practical help that benefits both recipients and volunteer.

As we embrace winter, let us remember the power we have to make a positive impact in our community. Together, we can create an environment of support and care for all residents of Studley Ward. If you're interested in knowing what sort of volunteering opportunities are available, you can take a look at the Boroondara Volunteer Resource Centre website: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/boroondara-volunteers. Stay safe and warm in these cooler months.

Cr Nick Stavrou

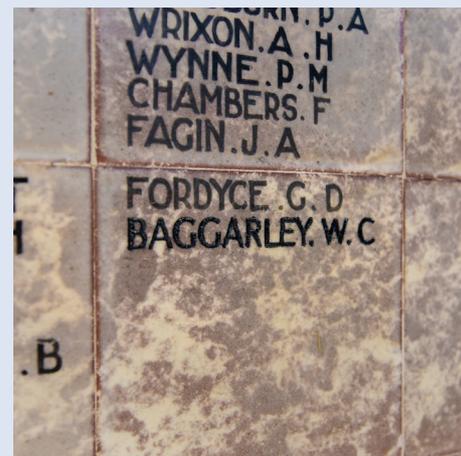
Soldier's service marked a century on

A desire to "put the record straight" has led to the name of a soldier killed at Gallipoli during World War One being added to the Kew War Memorial 108 years after his death.

Private William Charles Baggarley migrated to Australia from England in 1914, staying with relatives in Edgevale Road, Kew before enlisting in the Australian Army. He was killed in action on 7 August 1915, aged 21, within days of landing on the Gallipoli peninsula.

His relative Robert Blair was raised in the same Kew family home Private Baggarley departed from on his way to war. In his younger days Robert attended Anzac Day services at the Kew War Memorial, and later wondered why Private Baggarley's name was not recorded there.

He approached Council which worked with RSL Victoria and Heritage Victoria – the latter provided a permit exemption to add Private Baggarley's name to the memorial, and it was installed in May.





30 years of care for ‘the small stuff’

When Studley Ward resident Bob Karolos found himself with an excess of fresh vegetables earlier this year, a chance conversation with Cr Nick Stavrou while walking their dogs meant the produce made its way into the pantries of vulnerable locals within days.

Cr Nick Stavrou put the resident in touch with Natalie Dixon-Monu (pictured above) who leads **Boroondara Community Outreach (BCO)**, a Kew-based mental health ministry established in 1993 by the Uniting Church.

It offers those who are struggling crisis support, food relief and group activities, along with advocacy, health and legal referrals, disability support applications, and what Natalie calls “the small stuff”.

“They’re having trouble using their phone. Sewing a button back on... It’s about the hugs because you’ve had bad news, because your mum died. Or someone who is coming up to the anniversary of her son’s death.

“We give people somewhere to land where they feel like they’re being held and they’re no longer alone.”

During the pandemic, BCO began offering cooked meals as an emergency food relief service. This has continued, but at a lower level, with an average of 450 meals each week. However, demand for all their services has been growing, with roughly 6 new people coming in every week since February.

When asked how locals can help, Natalie says new volunteers are always welcome, as are monetary donations via the website, and donations of all types of packaged food (unopened), and fresh produce.

“We’re more than happy for people and local businesses to reach out, even if it’s once-off to donate items or to come and help cook meals for a day.”

To find out more about Boroondara Community Outreach, visit:

 bcokew.org



Step inside for 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 your municipality’s history and plans for the future.

Discover more

City of Boroondara is hosting several Open House Melbourne events this year with 11 venues to explore, including Camberwell Civic Precinct, Hawthorn Arts Centre, and Kew Court House here in Studley Ward.

Visitors to Kew can also take in the fascinating Villa Alba Museum, as well as explore the heritage-listed Willsmere estate dating back to the 19th century.

Access the full program

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

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



Planting trees to reduce our emissions

We planted around 2,000 new trees in Boroondara in the 2022-23 financial year. This included the 1,000 trees we commit to planting every year, as well as an additional 1,000 trees we promised to plant in the last financial year as an action of our Climate Action Plan.

Here in Studley Ward, this included around 240 new trees.

Young trees, whether planted on your nature strip by Council, or in your own backyard, will always benefit from a little extra attention.

Water it: We water new trees planted in public spaces to help them get established in their new home. To check whether your new trees need watering, feel the soil just below the layer of mulch – if the soil is dry, the tree should be watered.

Mind the bark: When mowing and using line trimmers, avoid contact with a tree's bark. Bark helps protect trees

from pests and diseases, and damaging it can cause serious harm, especially to young trees.

Give it space: Avoid parking cars too close to a tree or storing heavy machinery or materials beneath the canopy to ensure the soil doesn't compact and oxygen can reach the roots. For young trees, try to leave 2 metres of clear space around them.

Report it: Help us care for our street trees by letting us know if there are issues with a tree's health and reporting any acts of vandalism via our easy online form at: [service.boroondara.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue](https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue)

To find out more about our tree renewal program, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/tree-renewal-program-23

Winter wanders in Studley Ward

If you're in need of some fresh winter's air, why not enjoy one of our wonderful walks, parks or riding paths here in Studley Ward?

For the adventurous, take a stroll or a spin along the bushland walking trail on the Yarra River. Bellbird Park – with lovely views of the city – is a great spot for a winter picnic when the weather allows.

Alexandra Gardens are magnificent, Edwardian-style gardens just a short distance from Kew Junction shopping centre. Expansive lawn areas are surrounded by beautiful avenues of mature trees, while deep foliage and shrub borders offer splashes of seasonal colour. The park has accessible paths, electric barbecues, seating, and a public toilet at adjacent Kew Library.

You could also venture to dog and family-friendly Victoria Park (pictured below). With new adventure-filled playground facilities – including built-in trampolines and a bamboo forest, a 'learn to scoot, skate and ride' track, accessible paths and a dedicated exercise park for seniors – there's something here for everyone. It also has public toilets.

