

Studley Ward

December 2023



Studley Ward Cr Nick Stavrou
at Yarra Boulevard.



Cr Nick Stavrou

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Dear neighbours,

We recently heard from community members on the draft vision and design brief for the redevelopment of Kew Library. This is a major project that will mean so much to our local area.

We are now reviewing your feedback, and I urge you to stay involved in this project by signing up for updates on Engage Boroondara's Kew Library redevelopment page at engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/kew-library-redevelop. You can read more about the project in this newsletter.

Another local spot that has benefited from community involvement is Yarra Boulevard. Council worked with the Victorian Government's Department of Transport (DoT) and helped secure Australian Government funding to improve safety along this thoroughfare. DoT works including new raised safety platforms, improved street lighting, line marking and signage are now complete.

Finally, local police advise there has been a recent trend in Studley Ward of theft from motor vehicles. They advise residents to remember to lock their vehicles, secure them in a garage if possible, and to be sure not to keep valuable items visible in vehicles overnight. Securing registration plates with anti-theft screws can save the trouble of replacing number plates if stolen.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a joyful festive season with family and friends, and a pleasant summer ahead. I hope to see you at some of the Summer in the Park events in our local area.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Stavrou'.

Cr Nick Stavrou

Kew Recreation Centre update

Planning is underway to rebuild the steel structure of the Kew Recreation Centre, following a partial collapse of the steel roof on 20 October 2022.

Sections of the steel structure have been dismantled and removed by Council's appointed builder, ADCO Constructions.

Investigations into the cause of the collapse remain ongoing by our industry experts, along with the Victorian Building Authority and WorkSafe.

We anticipate Council's appointed builder, ADCO Constructions, will begin sourcing and procuring material for the rebuild shortly. Off-site fabrication of key materials will take some time and we still currently expect major construction works to resume on site from mid 2024, with completion of the build anticipated for some time between late 2025 and early 2026.

Since pausing construction activity, we have received requests from residents to reopen the footpath at the top of Disraeli Street, as well as reinstate on-street parking. The footpath has now been reopened and can be used until construction works resume. The site fencing has also been relocated and residents can now park on Disraeli Street.

Additionally, the solid timber hoarding on the corner of Derby Place and High Street has been replaced with transparent mesh fencing to provide better visibility for pedestrians crossing at the intersection.

We thank our community for their ongoing patience as we navigate the rebuild to ensure the final structure will be safe and secure.

Visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/krc to sign up to receive the latest updates.



Local makes mark in sports awards

Studley Ward's Tom Roach was awarded Community Athlete of the Year at the 2023 Boroondara Sports Awards. He shared the award with Liam Henderson from Camberwell Hockey Club.

There were more than 50 award nominations in 7 categories, from 33 sports clubs across Boroondara.

Tom was awarded for his ongoing contribution to Kew Little Athletics, where he is a popular and active member. Tom is a para-athlete who works hard to not let his physical disability limit him.

In 2023 he represented Kew Little Athletics at regional and state competitions and was chosen by Little Athletics Victoria to represent them at the Little Athletics Australia National Training Camp and National Championships, where he took bronze in javelin and discus. Tom also qualified for the Athletics Australia Track and Field Championship where he represented Athletics Victoria and took home a bronze for javelin.

Because Tom was overseas on the night of the awards, Studley Ward Cr Nick Stavrou and Mayor of Boroondara Cr Felicity Sinfield presented his award at his school, Scotch College, in October.



Looking forward to a new chapter for Kew Library

Council is redeveloping Kew Library to build a modern, purpose-built facility that meets the needs of our community now and into the future.

In 2017, we asked the community what their views and aspirations were for a Kew Library upgrade. They told Council they wanted a library that:

- is welcoming and accessible
- has quiet and peaceful spaces, as well as active and social spaces for activities and meeting people
- is light, comfortable and sustainable
- is an iconic building that celebrates heritage
- connects indoor and outdoor spaces, taking advantage of its location between Alexandra Gardens and Petrie Square

- has flexible spaces that can adapt over time as community needs change.

These key themes were used to develop a draft vision and design brief, which will help guide the design for a library that delivers on what's important to the community.

Throughout August and September, 270 people had their say on the draft vision and design brief and told us which spaces and activities should be prioritised. This feedback is being reviewed and will help inform the final vision and design brief.

You can visit engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/kew-library-redevelop to find out more about the redevelopment. Click 'Follow' to sign up to receive the latest information.

Update: Road safety improvements

There are several traffic safety upgrades being delivered here in Studley Ward.

Yarra Boulevard works

Works to improve safety along Yarra Boulevard are complete. They include:

- new raised safety platforms at Wiltshire Drive, Molesworth Street, Yarravale Road and Walmer Street
- a new raised intersection at Yarra Street
- reconfiguration of the Studley Park off-ramp intersections
- improved street lighting, signage and line marking, and
- a new CCTV camera near the Studley Park Road off-ramp.

For more on this project, visit the VicRoads website at: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/planning-and-projects/melbourne-road-projects/yarra-boulevard-safety-improvements

Intersection of Carson and Stevenson Streets

We applied for and received funding from the Australian Government to improve road safety at the intersection of Carson and Stevenson Streets in Kew as part of its 2023-24 Black Spot Program.

Over a 5-year period there were 4 injury crashes at this intersection, involving drivers failing to give way to cyclists at the roundabout. With the funding we will:

- install speed 'cushions' on both Carson Street approaches to the intersection
- line-mark bicycle share-lane markings on all approaches and within the roundabout, and
- increase warning signage on all approaches to the intersection.

We'll also rebuild the raised islands of the roundabout. Works are expected to finish by the end of this financial year.

For more about these projects, contact our Traffic and Transport team at boroondara@boroondara.vic.gov.au or call **9278 4444**.

Walmer Street Bridge

Our upgrades to the northern land bridge section of the Walmer Street Bridge have created a safer shared path, with our main path works complete. This project included:

- increasing the bridge's width from 1.7 m to 3.3 m
- installing handrail lighting
- decreasing the bridge's steepness
- structurally improving the bridge and the staircase to the riverbank
- improving the bridge's overall look and convenience.

We plan to install a bicycle and pedestrian counter before the end of 2023. For more about our project, visit: engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/walmer-street-bridge-construction

Walmer Street Bridge is expected to stay closed until Salta Properties finishes its works on City of Yarra's southern land bridge section in December. For more about their project, visit: liveatriverbank.com.au/walmerbridge



Some Bite-Sized Latin in the Park this summer

Our Summer in the Park program makes a welcome return to Boroondara this year, including events taking place right across the community and on our doorstep here in Studley Ward too.

Boasting a variety of entertainment including theatre, cinema, opera and jazz, this year's Summer in the Park program includes singalongs, circus acts and Broadway classics too.

On Saturday 24 February, Victoria Gardens becomes the setting for our Bite Sized Latin in the Park, promising a wonderful afternoon pop-up musical experience, suitable for all the family.

Featuring vibrant rhythms and colourful melodies, audiences will be treated to a fun mix of Latin pieces, against the wonderful backdrop of Victoria Gardens.

For more about this event, and other Summer in the Park events, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/summer-park-24

