

# Maroondah Focus

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



August 2001

11413 NWD 02-03-02 Box 6

## Maroondah's new waste service

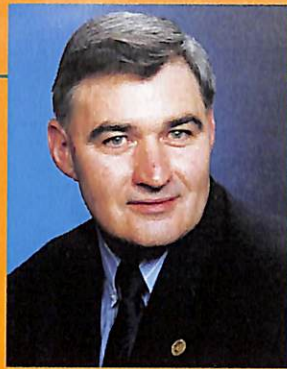
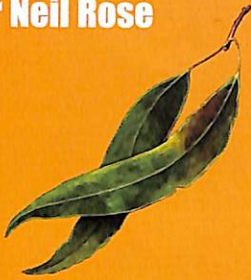


## Caring for the environment

- 2** Learn more about Maroondah's excellent results in the State-wide survey of community attitudes and needs.
- 4** Find out more about Maroondah's immunisation level, one of the highest in Victoria.
- 6** Get involved! Maroondah's arts and cultural facilities offer something for everyone.
- 8** Learn how you can be involved in Community Safety Week, which runs from 2 -8 September.

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

by Cr Neil Rose



Welcome to the August edition of the Maroondah Focus.

Since the last edition, Maroondah City Council has been busily planning for the short and long term future of our municipality, based on community feedback and consultation. We have developed three central planning and policy documents which will focus our services, programs and finances for the short and longer terms.

## 2001/ 2002 BUDGET AND RATES

There has been a huge amount of work completed on the new budget, which plans for how Council will continue to deliver its services and programs until June next year.

It takes into account a number of factors, including the sources of Council income, works required and levels of service.

The 2001/ 2002 budget ensures that existing Council quality services continue while some new initiatives are introduced.

There have been a number of external impacts on our budget this year, where Council is having to meet costs no longer funded by State and Federal Governments, while also having to accept lower grant funding and other increased costs, such as for Workcover premiums.

Council has attempted to limit the impact of these costs, however, the rate reflects some of these impacts on Council.

## 2001 - 2004 CORPORATE PLAN

The recently adopted Corporate Plan is a three year plan for Council services and programs and specifically it sets out what Council wants to achieve in the coming year. The Plan, available for viewing at Service Centres, sets out what Council must do to achieve community needs and is based on community input and the long-term vision for the community, Maroondah 2025.

## MAROONDAH 2025

Maroondah 2025 - a community planning together - is the long term vision for Maroondah. Each year, the Corporate Plan reviews how Council is meeting the objectives of this long term vision, so that every year, Council is planning and implementing services and programs which reflect what our community has said it wants. This document will be published shortly.

Our commitment to planning reflects our commitment to our community. The results of the recent Community Satisfaction Survey are very pleasing for Council and our residents. Congratulations to our officers who are a very professional and dedicated team.

We at Maroondah take planning for our City's future very seriously indeed and look forward to working with residents and business in building an even better Maroondah community.

# Top Marks

Maroondah residents have indicated their continuing satisfaction with Council in a recent Department of Infrastructure survey of community attitudes and needs. The annual independent survey was conducted in April/May 2001 and measures improvement in service provision across all Councils within Victoria.

For the purposes of the survey results, Councils were grouped together as 'like Councils' to provide comparisons of service levels for similar municipalities.

Maroondah's 'like Councils' include the Cities of Banyule, Kingston, Moreland, Bayside, Manningham, Port Phillip, Boroondara, Stonnington, Melbourne, Whitehorse, Glen Eira, Monash, Yarra and Hobson's Bay.

Maroondah achieved excellent results, with the ratings for Council's Interaction and Responsiveness in Dealing with the Public, Waste Management and Town Planning Policy and Approvals earning the highest ratings of all 'like Councils'.

Maroondah Councillor Les Willmott said, "We are particularly pleased that we are leading the way for other Councils with our service provision. We are up against some big competition and for us to be clearly in front in many areas is very gratifying".



Main Street Croydon is part of the Croydon Civic Precinct Master Plan.

# Your comments invited

## CROYDON

"To have our own community confirm their satisfaction with our services is very heartening. Whilst both Councillors and staff are pleased by the results, we all realise the need to work even harder still with, and for, the community in 2001 and beyond," he said.

Residents were asked to rate Council performance in key service areas:

- Local Roads and Footpaths
- Health and Human Services
- Recreational Facilities
- Appearance of Public Areas
- Traffic Management and Parking Facilities
- Waste Management
- Enforcement of By Laws
- Economic Development
- Town Planning Policy and Approvals



Cr Les Willmott (right) discusses the pleasing satisfaction survey results with Council staff.

Cr Willmott is particularly pleased by the rating for Council's advocacy and community representation on key local issues. This is also reflected in the increased satisfaction rating in Council's interaction and responsiveness in dealing with the public.

"These results tell us that we are listening to our community and responding to their needs and concerns. This is what good local government is all about," he finished.

A Master Plan study on the future of the Croydon Civic Precinct is currently being developed by Maroondah City Council in consultation with local residents, businesses and community groups. The Draft Master Plan is due to go on public exhibition in August.

Council and project consultant Stratcorp have sought the input of the community and key stakeholders to provide a new vision for the future development of the area.

"The Croydon Civic Precinct includes a number of key Council, business, leisure and transport facilities, and the Master Plan is designed to integrate these services and facilities so that the whole area works better," said Maroondah Mayor Cr Neil Rose.

The Croydon Civic Precinct is figuratively bounded by Eastfield Road, Dorset Road, Bayswater Road and Haig Street. The area includes 12 sporting and recreation areas, and 11 community centres and services including the Arndale, Main Street and Croydon Market shopping centres.

"Council, businesses, residents and facility users will all contribute significantly to the development of this Draft Master Plan. It is Council's aim to ensure that the Croydon Town Centre and its environs reflect a stronger sense of community, and provide a more functional, attractive and safe place to enjoy," said Cr Rose.

The Draft Master Plan will be on display at Council's Service Centres and local libraries, and further details will appear in local papers shortly.

## New Waste Service in full Swing

Maroondah's new improved waste service is now in full swing, providing an environmentally friendly and functional way to dispose of waste.

"Council would like to thank the community throughout Maroondah for their co-operation during the change-over period," said Mayor Cr Neil Rose.

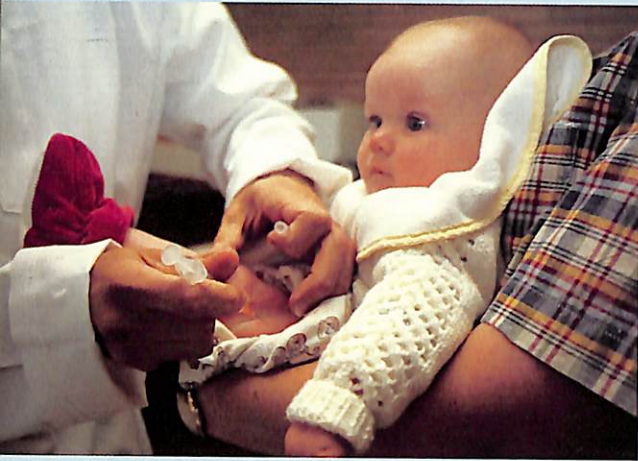
"We've had a fantastic response from the community and a very positive transition to the new service, which officially began on 2 July, right across Maroondah," he said.

The new service involves three wheelie-bins: the normal 120 litre household garbage bin, collected weekly (or a smaller 80 litre bin if requested); an Organics and garden waste bin with a maroon lid (collected fortnightly); and a divided wheelie bin with a light blue lid for Recyclables (bottles/cans/plastics and newspaper/cardboard) which is collected on the alternate fortnight. The old black crate is no longer used, and the wheelie bin is safer for residents to use and for contractors to collect.

Instructions for the new service were distributed by letterbox and more specific instructions were affixed to each wheelie bin when delivered.

"Please read the instructions carefully to get the most out of the new service. If you do have any queries or concerns, please contact Council's Waste Management Service on 9294 5666 where the staff will be pleased to assist you," said Cr Rose.

# Maroondah's child immunisation levels improving



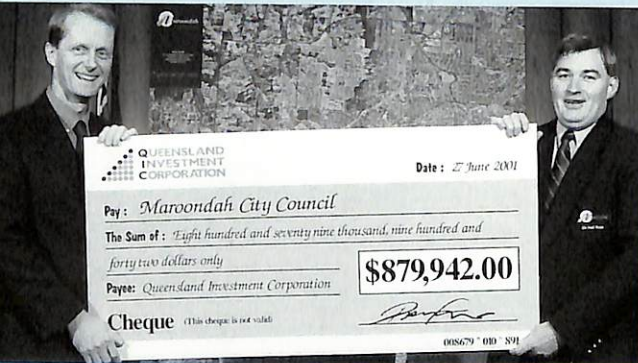
Maroondah has one of the highest immunisation levels in Victoria, especially for those children at 1 year of age.

Latest figures from the Australian Childhood Immunisation register show that Maroondah has continued to improve in this area.

At March 2001 the percentage of Maroondah children fully immunised at one year of age was 92.28%, above the State average (92.1%). At two years of age, 85.92% of children were fully immunised. Both figures are an increase on last year. "These results are very pleasing, although the ideal is to have a 100% coverage for all children," said Clocktower Ward Cr Nick Kirmos. "We are getting an excellent response from parents of young babies, although there is a drop off in the second year. It is important that parents continue the good health measures they have begun for their child by continuing the recommended immunisation program, including boosters," he said. Council conducts a free regular immunisation program for babies, pre-schoolers and students in Years 7 and 10, plus adults.

Young adults between 18 and 30 years of age are recommended to have a measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccination. Parents can arrange for immunisations to be done by their own family doctor if preferred, but they are requested to inform Council's Public Health unit so records can be updated.

For immunisation enquiries, telephone 9294 5627.



The Mayor Cr Neil Rose accepting the cheque from John White.

# Developer's Contribution

Maroondah City Council recently received \$879,000 from the Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC), the owners and developers of Eastland.

The funding was part of a developer's contribution for the new extensions to Eastland. Council requires developers to provide a contribution to fund improvements or changes to infrastructure for any additional floorspace within the Ringwood District Centre. The developers' contribution funding will be required to be used to fund traffic and urban design improvements.

This funding from QIC will go towards new works for the Ringwood Town Centre.

# Community groups Funding

Sixty-four local community groups have been allocated funding for various programs and projects through the 2001/2002 Maroondah Community Grants Scheme.

The financial assistance provided by this Scheme assists in increasing the availability and range of services, facilities and programs throughout the municipality.

There are many exciting projects happening in our community, as well as some ongoing support programs which will benefit from the funding.

A wide range of programs were nominated, including community projects, youth, senior citizens and community support programs, educational programs, disability programs, and emergency relief.

Some of the successful applicants include the Central Ringwood Community Centre which will conduct discos for people with a disability, Croydon Community Gardens for raised wheelchair accessible garden beds and the Stepping Stones Social Club for materials to make Christmas packages for needy families.

For information about next year's Community Grants Scheme, contact Leisure Services on 9298 4373.

# Main street power Goes to Ground

Electricity supply lines have been placed underground as part of the ongoing improvements and beautification of Main Street, Croydon.

Eastfield Ward and Mayor Cr Neil Rose said the undergrounding of power commenced in late April and would be complete in August.

"The undergrounding has involved Main Street from Lacey Street to Mount Dandenong Road, and was done in stages to ensure minimal disruption to traders and shoppers," said Cr Rose.

The \$700,000 project was jointly funded by Council, the State Government and TXU.

The new supply is located under the roadway and parking bays, with the supply to shops and offices placed under the footpath.

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Cr Marj Munro gets into the recycling habit as part of the CCP program.

"We could also look carefully at the amount of packaging when making decisions about products. This has a huge impact on the amount of rubbish in our bins," she said.

"At Council, we plan to stop 4,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year entering our atmosphere and to save money in the process," she said.

"We all have a responsibility to take action in reducing our waste," she said.

For further information on the CCP program, telephone 9298 4369.

# Recognised for Leadership

Maroondah City Council has been recognised for its commitment to cutting greenhouse gas emissions under the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) program, an international campaign by local governments to tackle greenhouse emissions.

Changes made by Council so far include improving building energy efficiencies, increased recycling of various Council wastes and the use of more efficient fleet cars and vans, including LPG vehicles.

"Many things we do as householders, such as recycling containers and green waste also contribute to reducing greenhouse gases," Mullum Ward Cr Marj Munro said.

# Stormwater management Funding

Maroondah and Knox Councils have received \$77,000 from the State Government for a new project to improve stormwater management throughout the two Cities.

Minister for the Environment and Conservation, The Hon Sherryl Garbutt MP presented the funding cheque to Cr Maureen Naylor at the Stormwater Management launch.

"We will be working with Knox, Least Waste, the Victorian Automotive Chamber of Commerce and local automotive businesses to clean up our local waterways," Maroondah Councillor Maureen Naylor said.

"When it rains, oil and other materials from local industry are washed into our creeks, rivers and lakes. This has an environmental impact on local wildlife and its habitat as well as being unsightly and contributing to poor water quality," she added.

The program will work with small and medium sized automotive businesses in the region to help reduce stormwater pollution through better workplace practices.

The project will involve businesses adopting best practice environmental management guidelines and implementing waste audits.

"The majority of businesses want to operate in a way that minimises the impact of their operations on the environment; they just require the right information about how they can achieve it. An added bonus is that reducing waste usually also reduces business costs. We look forward to a great outcome for our environment and our businesses," Cr Naylor said.

Community groups such as the Knox Environment Society, Australian Conservation Foundation Mullum Branch, First Friends of Dandenong Creek, PRAISE and local primary and secondary schools, will be involved in water quality monitoring as part of the project.

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The new supply is located under the roadway and parking bays, with the supply to shops and offices placed under the footpath.



Undergrounding of power cables in Main Street is almost complete.

As well as undergrounding of power cables and the removal of existing electricity poles, the project included the installation of heritage-style light poles and pedestrian lights.

"These works improve both the amenity and the attractiveness of this vital shopping centre and they enhance the customer-friendly village atmosphere which Croydon residents have always enjoyed," concluded Cr Rose.

# Cultural Grants

Community groups within Maroondah are invited to apply for a Cultural Development Grant.

Cultural Development Grants assist non-profit organisations within Maroondah to implement community arts projects, festivals and events and to develop heritage practices, exhibitions and performing arts.

Funding is designed to enrich residents' lifestyle choices and improve opportunities for the broad community to participate in cultural programs and events.

Funding of up to \$3,000 will be available on a 'one off' basis from the total pool of \$15,000.

The grants scheme will be advertised in August through the local papers. If your organisation is interested in receiving a copy of the guidelines please call Arts and Cultural Services on 9298 4537.

# Small business On show

## SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

Saturday 22 September

Maroondah residents and shoppers are invited to view a display of local businesses at the 2001 Small Business Expo at the Eastland Shopping Centre, Ringwood.

More than 20 small businesses will display information on their products and services, which is jointly organised by Council and Swinburne TAFE Business Enterprise Centre.

"Take a look at the displays and get to know what our local businesses offer as they come to you in this Expo event," said Maroondah Cr Frank Corr.

"Smaller businesses don't always have the resources or the time to give to public exposure of their products or services, so Council is pleased to assist in providing this opportunity," he said.

## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SHOWCASE

Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 October

The International Business Showcase is an initiative of the Maroondah Business Advisory Board, which aims to ensure continued economic growth in Maroondah.

It also aims to promote international trade partnerships, highlight the region's exporters and provide a networking opportunity for trade delegates, consulates and Maroondah's exporters.

Most activities for the Showcase are free of charge and will include a business breakfast, a trade expo, seminars on trading with Europe and South East Asia, export facilitators and an evening networking function.

To register your interest in attending or for further information, please telephone Council's Business Development and Major Projects Unit on 9298 4320

# Something

## The Events and Cultural Centre in the Outer East

# Karralyka Centre

Think Theatre, performances, conferences, expos - well about anything really - even wedding receptions - the Karralyka Centre can cater for them all!

The Karralyka Centre provides outstanding facilities and services for corporate events, social functions, conventions, exhibitions and performing arts.



Wyreena has its own Gallery which exhibits works from local and regional artists.

# Wyreena Community Arts Centre

Set in five acres of elegant gardens, the historic buildings of the Wyreena Community Arts Centre feature a gallery and art shop which exhibits works by emerging and established artists. Adjoining the gallery is a stunning classic English-style glass conservatory which operates as a tea room.

The current exhibition at the Gallery is *Focus and Fire*, by Lynne Jessup and Rosie Hugh. This exhibition features sculptured leather and collage work and unique ceramic sculptural pieces and runs until 2 September.

The following exhibition is titled *Ceramics* by Alistair White, which features fine ceramics made with oriental influences, with both functional and sculptural appeal. This exhibition begins on 5 September and runs until 30 September.

Once a month, the Conservatory Café comes alive to the sound of music, featuring a dynamic music program. Look out for the coming attractions:

Friday 31 August - *Wild Yam* - a 14 member vocal group will take you on a musical journey with dance, song and percussion blending world, blues and soul styles.

*Tallulah*, a three piece group singing soulful and contemporary music, will showcase their unique talents on Friday 28 September.

Tickets for both Music Cafés are \$15 per person, including supper and bookings are essential. For more information about activities or bookings at Wyreena, telephone 9294 5590.

# Something

# for everyone!

The Events and Cultural Centre in the Outer East

## Karralyka Centre

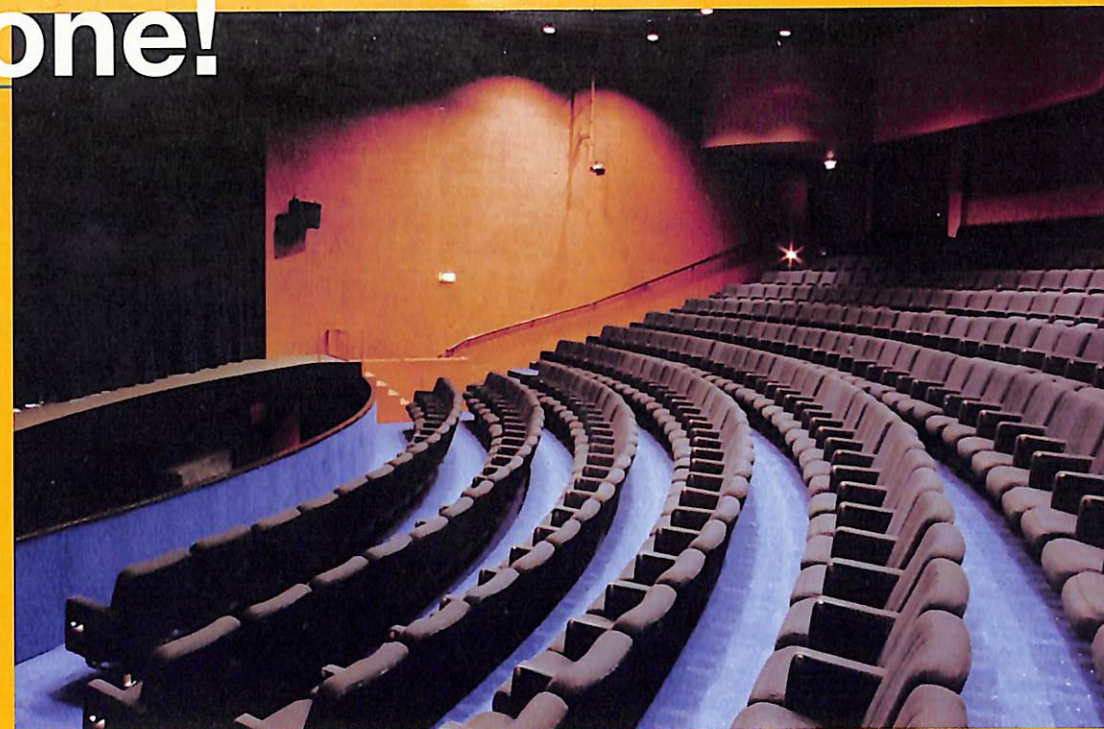
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Five meeting and function rooms catering to a maximum of 700 people and a professional theatre seating 430, display areas and landscaped surroundings suit both large and small occasions. Advanced audio-visual and lighting systems, an impressive foyer and superb catering complement every event.

Our theatre and performing arts program is very popular, showcasing some of Australia's biggest and brightest talents and also offers community groups and schools one of the best venues in Melbourne for staging productions. The traditions of drama and acting are very much alive and encouraged for Karralyka Theatre performers.

The Karralyka Centre is located in Mines Rd, East Ringwood. Telephone 9870 2888.



The Karralyka is ideal for community group and school productions.



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## Maroondah Federation Estate

The newly developed Maroondah Federation Estate is a community, cultural and arts facility for the residents of Maroondah and the outer east region of Melbourne. It provides a range of arts and leisure programs for the community. Maroondah Federation Estate is located at 32 Greenwood Ave Ringwood.

### MAROONDAH ART GALLERY

*Master Printmakers* 1493 - 1910 - 12 July to 12 August

Curated by collector Robert Smith, *Master Printmakers* seeks to delight us with the varied styles of highly skilled European printmaking, epitomised by the exhibited works of Albert Dürer, Rembrandt Van Rijn, Francisco Goya and others.

*Precious Women* (Gallery 1) - 6 August to 28 October

This exhibition showcases spectacular examples of contemporary holloware using a variety of techniques in gold and silversmithing. Selected artists include Janet Watts, Leah Teschendorff, Marion Marshall, Marian Hosking, Beatrice Schlabowsky, Pearl Gillies, Janine Tanzer and Kathryn Wardill.

*Encounters* (Gallery 2) - 6 August to 28 October

Featuring an intriguing installation by gold and silversmith Celia Roach, this exhibition explores the concept of objects and the body.

### GALLERY HIRE

Maroondah Art Gallery is currently seeking expressions of interest from artists who may be interested in exhibiting in the Gallery during 2002. We are seeking works that:

- reflect a contemporary aesthetic and high technical and conceptual standard,
- are experimental and innovative,
- pursue new ideas and/or media,
- are resolved and form a coherent body of work,
- are professionally presented and/or framed.

Interested artists may contact Maroondah Art Gallery on 9298 4538 to obtain an exhibition application kit.

### LOOKING FOR A ROOM?

Maroondah Federation Estate offers a range of facilities for hire on a regular or casual basis. There are six community rooms of varying sizes, available for hire 7 days a week.

The facility also features artist studio spaces and these provide a range of hire opportunities from one day workshops through to 12 month exclusive use of a single studio space. For more information, please call 9298 4545.

### ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

Keep your eye on the three Monterey Cyprus tree stumps at the top end of the car park at Maroondah Federation Estate. They are about to gain a new and interesting facade. The stumps were retained during the Estate construction and a sculptural project is now underway for visitors to the facility to enjoy. Drop in to Maroondah Federation Estate and see how the tree sculptures develop over the next month or two.



The Maroondah Federation Estate offers many artistic and cultural pursuits.

# Community Safety Week

## Making safety a priority

A free Family Safe Bike Ride, will form part of the celebrations for Community Safety Week 2001 in Maroondah. An initiative of the Victorian Safe Communities Network, Community Safety Week is a State-wide event coordinated by local councils. It aims to promote safety in the home, at work and in the community at large.

From 2 to 8 September, Community Safety Week will focus on local strategies to improve safety and safety awareness. Maroondah Council and community safety and health organisations will be conducting a number of events to highlight the importance of safer attitudes and behaviours.

"The message is to make yourself aware of safety issues so that you can be aware of ways to prevent crime and unnecessary accidents or pain," Maroondah Councillor and Chair of the Maroondah Health Planning Network, Peter Gurr said.

"With statistics from the National Injury Surveillance Unit estimating the cost of injury to Australian society to be well over \$11 billion annually, action to prevent injury will save lives and money," he added.

Activities for the week include:

- Child Safety Displays and Restraint Checks conducted by Eastern Access Community Health on Tuesday 4 September, from 9am to 11am, Patterson St, Ringwood
- A thank you luncheon for community safety and crime prevention volunteers on Wednesday 5 September
- A road safety forum for school students on Thursday 6 September at Croydon Entertainment Centre, 212 Mt Dandenong Rd, Croydon
- A forum with information about drug issues, to be held at the Maroondah Federation Estate on Thursday 6 September from 6pm to 8pm
- A magic safety show for young children on Friday 7 September at Croydon Entertainment Centre, 212 Mt Dandenong Rd, Croydon
- A poster competition promoting issues of safety for primary school students
- Activities by local secondary colleges to promote safety initiatives for young people.

The free Family Safe Bike Ride will complete activities for the week. It will be held on Saturday 8 September. Anyone with a bike and a safety helmet is welcome.

The fun kicks off at 10.30am at H E Parker Reserve in Heathmont and continues until 2pm. Other activities for the day include face painting, a jumping castle, community displays, bike engraving and musical entertainment.

"The emphasis is on proactive behaviour. Injuries, whether intentional or unintentional, don't have to happen and Community Safety Week is about promoting prevention," Cr Gurr said. "The message is to become involved and become safe. It's that simple," he continued.

Look out in local papers during August for more information about activities for Community Safety Week.

For further information about the Week, contact Council's Community Safety Coordinator, telephone 9298 4334.



The Maroondah Safe Bike Ride will be fun for the whole family.

## At your Service

The staff at each of Council's Service Centres will be happy to assist you with your Council business.

Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33.

City Offices Service Centre  
Braeside Avenue, Ringwood  
8.30am to 8.00pm every Monday  
8.30am to 5.00pm Tuesday to Friday

Main Street Service Centre  
50 Main Street, Croydon  
8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday

Ringwood Mall Service Centre  
12 Civic Mall, Ringwood  
8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday

Civic Square Service Centre  
Civic Square, Croydon  
8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday

Maroondah On Line  
Visit us on line at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au)

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QIC photo courtesy of Ned Meldrum.  
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## Wanted Your opinion

Have you had a good experience with a local business lately? Maybe it was exceptional customer service or a great product? Then why not nominate the business for a 2001 Maroondah Business Excellence Award? It just takes a phone call or a letter telling us briefly why you recommend a company for nomination, and we'll do the rest!

If you believe a Maroondah business should be recognised for exceptional service or products, then contact Council's Business Development and Major Projects Unit on 9298 4278.