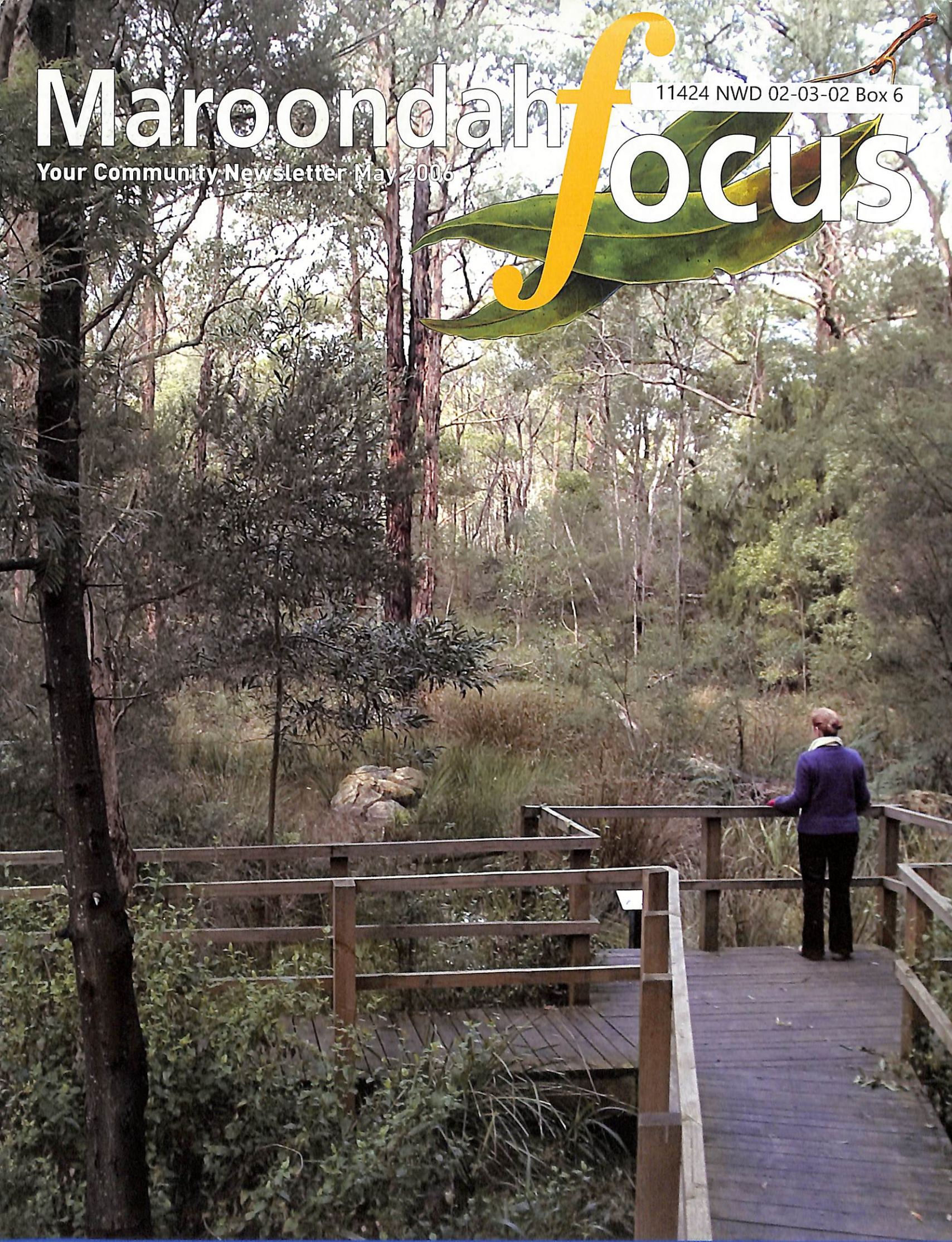


# Maroondah *f*ocus

Your Community Newsletter May 2006

11424 NWD 02-03-02 Box 6

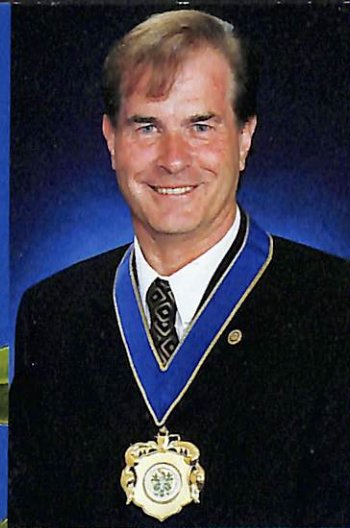


**3** Update on Ringwood & Croydon

**5** Accreditation for Immunisation Service

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## Mayor's message

We are fortunate to have a breadth of cultural events in Maroondah. We have so much to enjoy right on our doorstep.

Most recently we had the Commonwealth Games which brought a great range of activities thanks to the Getting Involved program and Council's Leisure and Culture staff who worked closely with the event organisers to include Maroondah in the schedule of activities. The Baton Relay saw our streets lined with excited spectators, with over one thousand in the bypass alone. We welcomed the Sri Lankan athletes and the President of the Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka that same week at Federation Estate. They were touched by our gesture of friendship and the relationship formed between the visiting athletes and the Ringwood and Croydon Athletic Associations is set to continue.

Many of the community braved the threatening weather to view the opening of the Commonwealth Games at Ringwood Lake with a large outdoor screen providing live to air coverage of the spectacular. The Games experience for Maroondah was very much enjoyed and will be the stuff of fond memories of a once in a life time event.

Throughout the year Maroondah Art Gallery has a variety of wonderful exhibitions while Karryalyka brings the very best of theatre and music to our community. The WinterArts Fest is set to begin shortly and that always warms up our winters with plenty to enjoy at a variety of venues.

Also good news for the community is that Council recently adopted the Maroondah Integrated Transport Strategy, which provides a basis for moving towards sustainable and integrated transport within Maroondah. It provides an overview, discusses the issues and proposes future actions for the improvement of alternative modes of transport to the motorcar, such as public transport, walking and cycling. A strong emphasis of the Strategy is on advocating for improvements to public transport. The strategy sits well with Maroondah's clean and fresh environment which we all want to retain.

It has been a busy few months, and I am looking forward to seeing many of you as we enjoy what's on offer with arts, winter sports and entertainment in our own city.

Cr Les Willmott

# Ringwood Going Places

Nominated by State Government as a major centre bringing together transport, a lively city centre, active local economy and lifestyle options to meet the projected community needs as we move toward the year 2030.

The Ringwood Transit City project is set to transform Ringwood into a key business centre and a sought after place to live – with entertainment and lifestyle choices that will be second to none.

To ensure the community has a voice in the process, the Ringwood Transit City Community Reference Group (RTCCRG) was formed in 2004 and consists of twelve members of the Maroondah community.

The RTCCRG recently welcomed Judy Magassy and Dawn Olliffe to the Group to fill two vacancies, which occurred late in 2005.

Both Judy and Dawn bring to the RTCCRG expertise and interests that complement those of the existing ten members and they are looking forward to participating in the ongoing work of revitalising Ringwood.



Planning Minister Rob Hulls with Maroondah CEO Mike Marasco (L) and Mayor of Maroondah, Cr Les Willmott (R) with a power company representative at the commencement of the undergrounding of power lines in Ringwood Street.

State Government funding to assist with the development of the Ringwood Transit City project is being used to improve accessibility, lighting and recreational reserves, and to help businesses adapt to the growing population.

Specific funding for Clocktower Park has provided the opportunity to redevelop and improve the park's grounds and amenities in consultation with the Ringwood RSL, Ringwood Historical Society and other key stakeholders.

## Snapping up Maroondah

It's that time of year when Maroondah residents and visitors are invited to show their own special view of Maroondah, taken through the eye of a camera lens, by entering Maroondah City Council's Photo Competition which is now in full swing.

Councillor Natalie Thomas wants to encourage people to enter a fresh and exciting new category included in this year's competition called the Kids Out and About Challenge, where young people are asked to capture their favourite outdoor adventure, park or path from the Maroondah Walks and Trails brochure.

"But the photo competition is not just limited to younger residents. There are categories to accommodate everyone," Cr Thomas said.

"All photographic styles and visions are welcome, be it your favourite place or landmark, the great outdoors, happy families, sporting shots or any artistic creations. The competition will suit all photographers," explained Cr Thomas.

There are plenty of great prizes on offer thanks to our sponsors Croydon Camera House, Hoyts and Eastland. Information and entry forms are available from Croydon and Ringwood Libraries, Croydon Camera House, Council's Customer Service Centres and on line at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au)

The annual Photo Competition closes on 31 July 2006 and there are many photo possibilities out there – so get out and get snapping!

Some of the images used in Focus were entries in previous Photo Competitions. With acknowledgement to: Teresa Di Mascio, Wendy James, Judith Jarman, Christine Wills.

# The Next Generation on Display

Maroondah was alive with excitement and energy for National Youth Week held from 1 to 9 April.

Councillor Alex Makin said April 6 was an outstanding day at EV's Youth Centre as the community gathered to celebrate the skills, talents and achievements of local young people.

"The feature of these festivities was the launch of a mosaic art panel located at Croydon railway station and despite slight rain, a great crowd attended the afternoon with everybody enjoying the musical talent of local band *The Strangers* and a sausage sizzle provided by Heathmont Scout Group," Cr Makin said.

A massive live music event, hosted by Maroondah FReeZA Group, Operation YELL, was also held on 7 April.

"The drug, alcohol and smoke free event for all ages, was a huge success bringing in great crowds to EV's Youth Centre to enjoy a mixture of interstate and local bands," Cr Makin said.

"Following on from the successful Youth Week festivities, Council also celebrated the valuable contribution young people make to the Maroondah community through volunteering at a special Youth Volunteer Recognition Evening in May. The dedication of these young people to their volunteer work is inspiring," Cr Makin said.

# Croydon Town Centre

As part of Melbourne 2030, Council and the State Government are developing the Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan to ensure Croydon becomes a more attractive and diverse place to visit, work and live.

Commuters at Croydon railway station have a new piece of public artwork to brighten up their day thanks to a mosaic art panel created by students from the Croydon Community School.

Councillor Tony Dib said the art panel was donated for permanent display at Croydon railway station, and has been fixed to the western side of the station house. "The panel recognises the talents and achievements of youth in Maroondah, and provides a voice for them within their community."

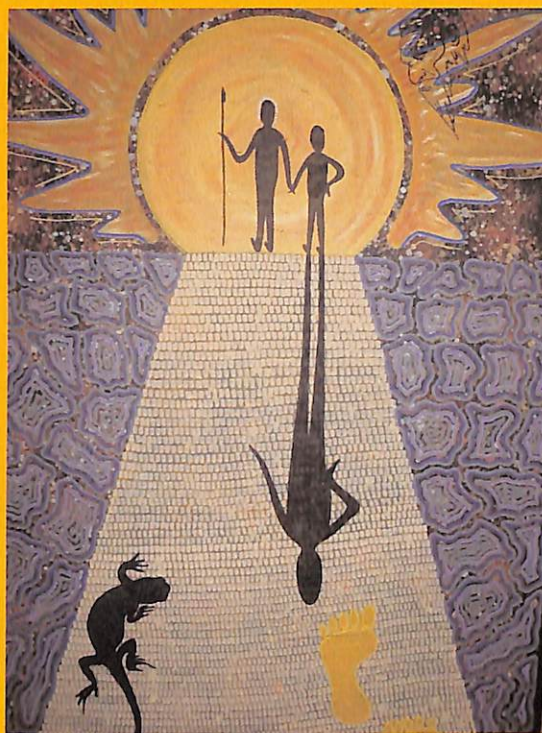
"The development of the art project followed a Youth Forum in 2005, which sought to raise the profile of young people in Croydon. Following consultation with the Croydon community, a number of key stakeholders and young people in the area, the working group identified a variety of strategies to respond to youth safety and lifestyle issues," said Cr Dib.

The mosaic artwork is one of the first tangible outcomes of the ongoing process of youth involvement in the Croydon community.



Members of Operation YELL, Maroondah's FReeZA Group, discuss some of the upcoming events with Cr Alex Makin.

# Showing Appreciation for Change



"Maroondah is embracing National Reconciliation Week with support and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians," Cr Jo-anne Taylor said.

"The annual Reconciliation Week was first celebrated in 1996 and is timed to coincide with two significant dates in Australia's history."

May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum in which over 90 percent of Australians voted to remove clauses from the Australian Constitution, which discriminated against Indigenous Australians. There will be a week of celebration ending 3 June, which marks the anniversary of the High Court of Australia's judgement in 1992 in the Mabo case, recognising the Native Title rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

"Over the week, Maroondah will be hosting activities honouring the local and national Indigenous community. They include a flag raising ceremony to be held at Cheong Park on Thursday June 1, an Indigenous art exhibition at Wyreena Community Arts Centre until June 3 and a special movie screening of 'Radiance' at Maroondah Federation Estate on Monday May 29," said Cr Taylor.

Start your engines,

# AAA

are powering on!

The DENSO group in Australia, known as Australian Automotive Air has recently opened a state-of-the-art Research and Development Centre at their manufacturing plant in Croydon.

The plant is available for all major local car manufacturers, giving them the opportunity to utilise the facility, further enhancing local knowledge, production and automotive design.

Mayor of Maroondah, Councillor Les Willmott said Australian Automotive Air (AAA), established in 1989, has been generously supporting Maroondah's local economy for 17 years. Creating local jobs for local people, AAA employ just over 570 staff in the Croydon manufacturing plant.

"Australian Automotive Air don't just support local people as an employer, but they are also heavily involved in many community initiatives such as the Community Support Program, Positive Future Program for local youth, Ringwood Secondary College Hybrid Vehicle Program and the annual Maroondah Business Awards," Cr Willmott said.

"Not only is AAA supporting the Maroondah community but they are also proud to be producing environmentally friendly products and manufacturing processes. They are one of the very first companies to be awarded Environmental Management System Accreditation, which they received in 1996," said Cr Willmott.

"And AAA has had the design of their Croydon plant recognised as a planning benchmark for future factory concepts due to its reduced impact on the natural flora and fauna of Maroondah," Cr Willmott said.

# Bridging the Divide



Commingled recycling is the way of the future. It allows for more space in recycling bins and in turn makes the process of recycling really easy for all residents.

Over the next twelve weeks the dividers will be removed from all recycling bins converting them into commingled bins. This change makes possible the recycling of all paper and cardboard products as well as bottles, jars, cans and cartons all together in the one bin.

Removal of the bin dividers will be carried out during the normal recycling collection days over the three month period. Simply putting your bin out for collection as usual will ensure all bin dividers will be removed throughout Maroondah.

Once removed the dividers themselves will be recycled and turned into products such as new wheelie bins, pipes and guideposts.

Maroondah is making the change to commingled recycling because of recent technological advances at the sorting facility, meaning the recyclables no longer need to be separated prior to collection.

Commingled recycling is considered Best Practice by Sustainability Victoria, the key advisory body for water, energy and waste sustainability issues in Victoria.

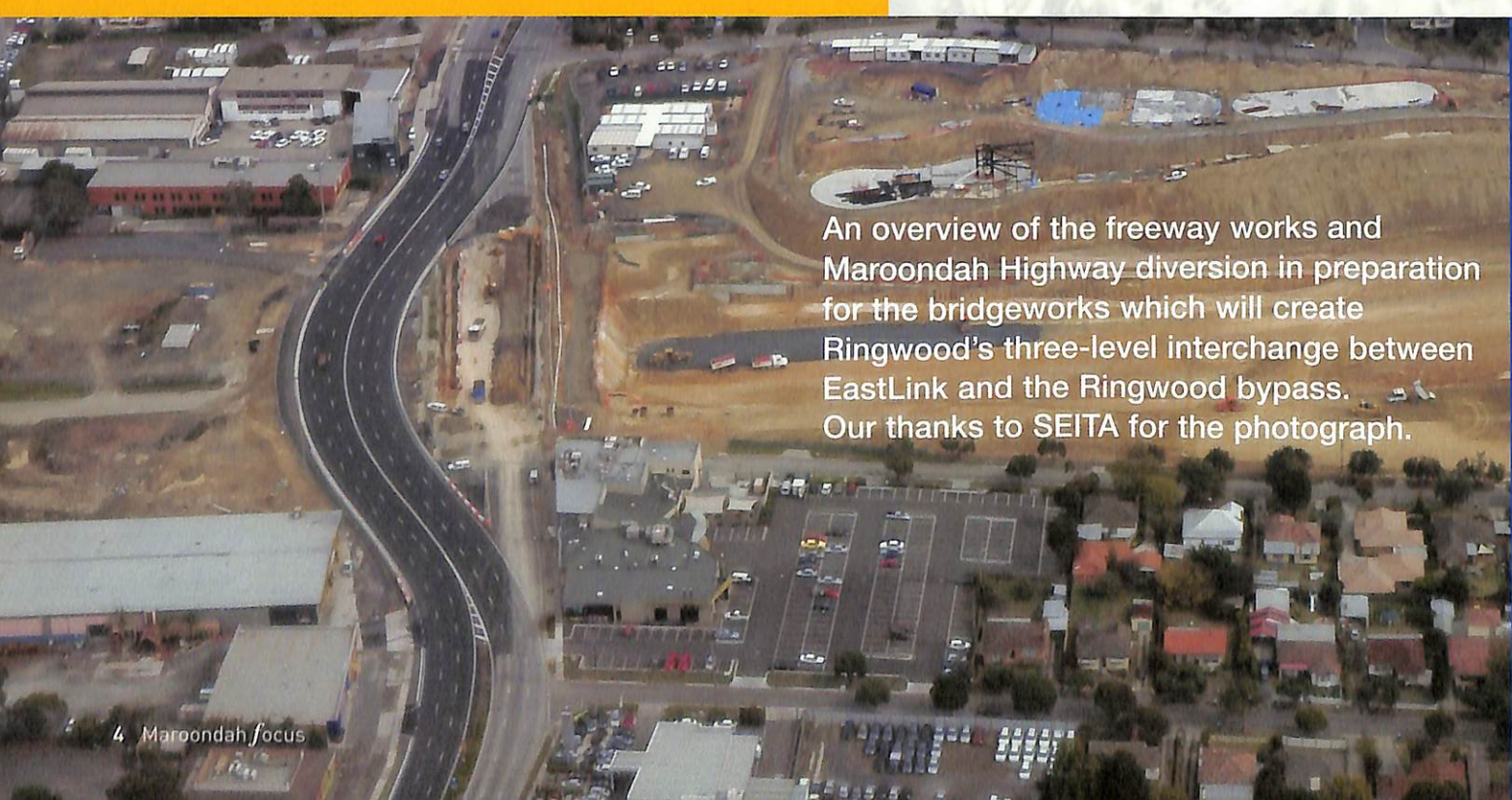
Even before the changes take place, Maroondah residents have always been keen recyclers, with both household goods and garden organics.

Over the last year, Maroondah was ranked in the top three Councils in Victoria for providing kerbside garbage, recyclables and green organics services.

In 2004 the Eastern Regional Waste Management Group, comprising Maroondah, Knox, Whitehorse and Manningham Councils and the Shire of Yarra Ranges, came in at number 1 in Victoria for recycling household garbage.

For the same period Maroondah City Council was ranked second in the state for recycling amounts, with 50.6 percent of materials collected from our residents being either recycled or reprocessed.

These statistics are taken from the Local Government Data Collection for the period and Sustainability Victoria's *Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2005*.



An overview of the freeway works and Maroondah Highway diversion in preparation for the bridgeworks which will create Ringwood's three-level interchange between EastLink and the Ringwood bypass. Our thanks to SEITA for the photograph.

## EastLink update

## Protection by Injection

The safety of our children and family members, not to mention ourselves, are all important factors in our lives. Maroondah City Council also takes the safety and protection of the community very seriously.

Council's Health Services team offer a free immunisation service which has recently achieved full accreditation in compliance with AS/NZS ISO 9001:2000 Quality Standards.

Councillor Peter Gurr said this is an exciting time, not only for Council but also for local residents as Maroondah is the first local Council to achieve this accreditation standard in Australia.

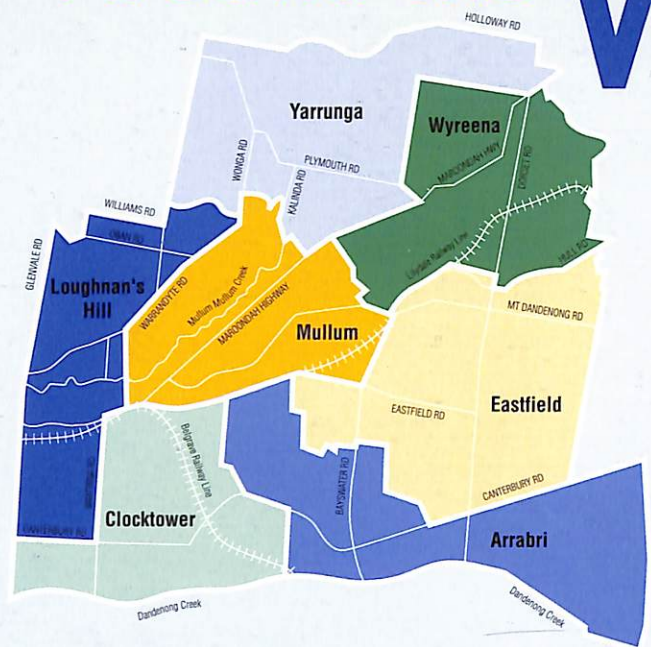
"It has taken twelve months of dedicated work by the Immunisation team to achieve accreditation status. This has involved a full review of all processes, an update of procedures and training, and the implementation of a Quality Management System. The development and implementation of the Quality Management System was not a legislative requirement, but was inspired by the desire of the Immunisation team to provide a recognised quality system for the community," Cr Gurr said.

"The accreditation means Maroondah families can be confident of a safe, effective service, and feel proud that Maroondah is the first local government immunisation service to be accredited," explained Cr Gurr.



Cr Peter Gurr experiences first hand the excellent service provided by Council's Immunisation team.

# Around the Wards



**Loughnan's Hill** Alex Makin  
Mobile 0408 311 645

From traffic issues in Barnsdale Way through to noise issues in Heatherdale Road the challenges are many and varied. In Barnsdale Way I have been working closely with residents to develop options for safer traffic movement and Council is awaiting the results of a survey distributed to these residents. Progress has also been made on the much-anticipated Ringwood Skate Park and if all goes well this project should be completed by the end of July. Additionally I represent Council on the Eastern Transport Coalition and we have reissued our requests for much needed public transport improvements.

**Mullum** Jo-anne Taylor  
Mobile 0409 003 048

The long awaited pedestrian and bike refuge at the Oban Road and Mullum Mullum Creek intersection is currently being constructed and will soon provide safe passage for everyone. I have been working with a number of the local sporting clubs over recent months to assist them as they develop much needed improvements to their facilities which will in turn benefit all user groups. Council's Emergency Management Committee and the Country Fire Authority are working together to develop an integrated fire management plan so that all local risks can be identified and managed using an all agency approach.

**Wyreena** Les Willmott  
Mobile 0417 391 743

We have several capital works projects in Wyreena Ward, including the completion of accessible toilet facilities at the Richard Silcock Reserve. This was an initiative of the Croydon Ranges Cricket Club and was a joint project between Council and Sport and Recreation Victoria. The reserve has also been upgraded with improved drainage and irrigation. Council undertook the work on the northern oval and the three clubs who use the oval funded works on the southern. Council's decision on the Croydon Golf Course has been appealed by Australand at VCAT and we must now await their decision. I will be monitoring closely.

**Yarrunga** Maureen Naylor  
Mobile 0417 371 017

We are proud in Maroondah of our recycling efforts and now traders at McAdam Square have achieved Waste Wise Accreditation for developing recycling standards that make a difference to our environment and our future. They worked in partnership with the community and truly deserve our congratulations. Parkwood Secondary College received a Federal grant to improve their wetland next to Quambee Reserve and Council was able to assist and work with them on this project. I was also pleased to present the Lyrebird Awards, which celebrate theatrical and artistic endeavor and encourage participation in the outer-eastern region.

**Arrabri** Peter Gurr  
Mobile 0417 377 145

The Commonwealth Games provided a great sporting spectacular, and in Maroondah we were fortunate to forge strong links with the Sri Lankan team. The many community events organised around the games provided a great opportunity for everyone to get involved. Recent improvements at Grayswood Reserve include modifications to the skate track area, paving of the paths, installation of new seats and over 100 trees planted. Council approved partial funding to assist Glen Park Community Centre with the relocation of a church hall to their existing site, which will provide additional space for their many courses and activities on offer.

**Clocktower** Natalie Thomas  
Mobile 0400 560 253

Our history is in good hands thanks to the Ringwood Historical Society who staged the recent Heritage Weekend. Also, it was lovely to be invited to Heathmont East Primary School to speak to a group of visiting Japanese students as part of their sister school program. Such an invaluable cross-cultural experience for our children. Drainage works have been carried out at the Russell Lucas Oval at Jubilee Park and a little metamorphosis is taking place at the small shopping strip in Wantirna Road. The area is getting a general spruce up and is set to become a local community hub.

**Eastfield** Tony Dib  
Mobile 0400 873 350

It's great to see the upgraded shared path at Town Park being used by all sorts of wheeled traffic. Works have commenced on the car park at Croydon Leisure Centre as part of the preliminary works for the Croydon Aquatic Facility. This will be a fabulous community facility when completed. I am also very happy to see the Rotary & Community kiosk in Main Street being used and enjoyed by community groups. And lastly, congratulations to Croydon South Primary School on their Sunsmart policy, which I was pleased to help launch at the school's National Sunnies for Sight day.

# Maroondah

## a bushland paradise

Walking through the bushland is a special pleasure in Maroondah. There are fine bushland and nature reserves, parks and walking trails rich in native flora and fauna. Maroondah's lakes, waterways and bushland are sensitively managed to ensure the many species that are indigenous inhabitants of Maroondah remain protected.

### Bushland and Wetland reserves

Council staff work with the local community to manage and improve our wonderful bushland reserves. Friends groups and committees of management welcome involvement from interested residents to assist with the maintenance programs.

If you've walked through Warrien Reserve recently you may have noticed significant improvements following the removal of environmental weeds and revegetation planting near the Everard Wildflower Sanctuary. Green Corps, a youth initiative of the Federal Government worked with Council's bushland team to complete these works, which also included a new pondage to create additional habitat for the frog species living in the area.

Maroondah is the starting point for many of Melbourne's waterways, with Brushy Creek, Dandenong Creek and Mullum Mullum Creek all contributing to the water system of Melbourne.

Along these creeks are many walking/cycling trails, bushland reserves and wetland areas that can be enjoyed at all times of the year. These creeks can change from a gentle flow on a blue sky day to a crashing roar when the rains arrive further upstream.

State Government funding for recent works along Jumping Creek, which begins in Waranwood Reserve, has seen Council work closely with local property owners to assist with the eradication of environmental

weeds along this important waterway. The program involved the owners being trained in land management, weed control and plant identification as well as the planting of over 3000 tubestock.

### Living in harmony

Our bushland provides some of the last remaining refuges for our unique flora and fauna so, whether or not you're one of the lucky ones in Maroondah to live near a bushland reserve, we all have a responsibility to minimise any damage to them.

When visiting bushland areas please stay on established pathways and do not remove or break any plants. Adjoining neighbours can assist by not dumping any rubbish, garden waste or building rubble into reserves, and taking care with excessive water runoff from their properties.

Growing indigenous or locally native plants can help our local fauna survive as development occurs in our City. These plantings can provide food and shelter for many creatures, who in turn can provide hours of enjoyment for humans to watch and enjoy.

### Walking and cycling

Trails in our bushland and reserves encourage the community to ride or walk. Many of these trails are suitable for prams and wheelchair or scooter use. There are a number of brochures available from Council that provide more information on walking and cycling trails in Maroondah.



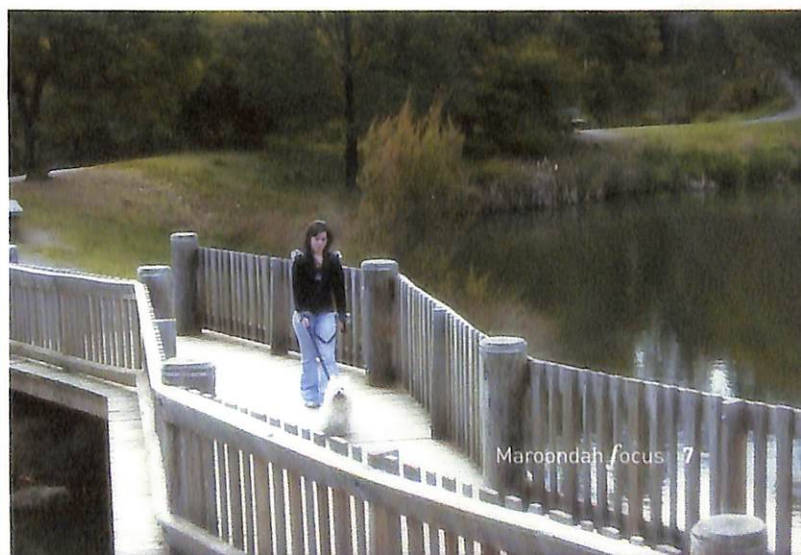
The Maroondah community are fortunate to have over 400 reserves covering 540 hectares, which is approximately 10 per cent of the entire City.

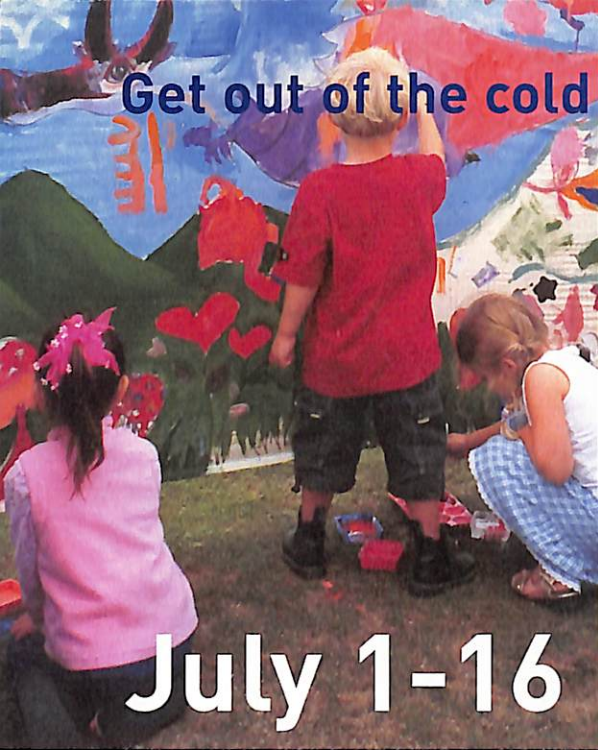
Maroondah is home to 41 bushland reserves, 118 playgrounds, 47 turf sports fields and 4 golf courses.

Currently there are 700,000 trees in Maroondah's reserves and 50,000 trees planted to improve our streetscapes. About 70,000 people use our parks at least once a week.

### Dogs and cats

Dogs and cats can have an impact on our natural bushland areas. In Maroondah, dogs must be under effective control at all times and owners must carry a receptacle to clean up after them. It is recommended that in bushland areas dogs should be on a leash and if you live close to a bushland area that your cat be kept inside overnight for its own safety and that of native wildlife.





Get out of the cold and experience the arts at the

# Maroondah Winter ArtsFest!

“Don’t hibernate this winter – get out of the house and visit one of the many exciting performances and exhibitions offered by the Maroondah Winter ArtsFest,” said Councillor Maureen Naylor, a member of Council’s Leisure and Culture Panel.

“This year’s dynamic program invites Maroondah residents and visitors to experience the arts by participating in free and low cost art and craft workshops, children’s activities, art exhibitions, musical performances, dance and film screenings,” said Cr Naylor.

“Community groups have joined forces with Maroondah City Council to provide an exciting program packed with creative delights that will brighten up what can sometimes be a dull winter season,” said Cr Naylor.

“There’s certainly something for everyone, so get out this winter, experience the arts and be part of the fun.”

# July 1-16

Here's a taste of what's on offer

### Pinocchio

Thursday 29 June 6.30pm  
and Friday 30 June 11.00am

Karralyka Theatre,  
Mines Road, Ringwood East

Featuring the well-loved characters of Pinocchio, Gepetto, The Fairy, The Cricket and much more, Pinocchio tells the tale of the stringless puppet, whose quest to become a real boy has captivated and entertained children and audiences of all ages for generations.

Enquiries: 9879 2933

### Opus 21 Big Band

Sunday 16 July 1.30pm to 4.00pm

Maroondah Secondary School  
Concert Hall

Enjoy the sounds of swing, jazz,  
blues and rock 'n' roll.

Enquiries: 9581 6222

### 52nd Ringwood Eisteddfod Grand Final

Saturday 15 July 7.30pm

Finalists compete for major prize and scholarship awards and includes the ARIA and Open Winners Concert.

Enquiries: 9879 2161

### Wyreena Music Café

Friday 14 July 7.30pm

Wyreena Community Arts Centre

Tracey Roberts & Maria Forde join together to present a fabulous evening of song.

Tracey is one of Melbourne’s most versatile and respected singer-songwriter pianists and Maria is one of Australia’s finest voices, known for her rich beautiful vocal tones.

Enjoy a powerful and fascinating fusion of musical styles including jazz-infused pop with hints of blues and cabaret.

Enquiries: 9294 5590

### Award Winning Movies

Friday 7 July 8.00pm to 10.30pm

East Ringwood Senior Citizen’s Centre

Screening prize winning movies by the Ringwood Film and Video Makers Club.

Enquiries: 9874 2993

### Images of My Life

Monday 3 July to Friday 14 July

10.00am to 3.00pm

Foyer of Monkami  
Administration Building

An in-house art exhibition.

Enquiries: 9725 6652

### R & M McGivern Art Prize

Thursday 6 July to  
Saturday 5 August

Maroondah Art Gallery at Maroondah  
Federation Estate

An exhibition of entries in the triennial R & M McGivern Art Prize, including the award winning piece which will remain the property of Maroondah City Council for the enjoyment of our community.

Enquiries: 9298 4542

### Maroondah Winter ArtsFest Showcase

Saturday 15 July 12noon to 4.00pm

Wyreena Community Arts Centre

A great family day - come and experience the best of the 2006 Winter ArtsFest program. Entertainment will include music, performances and art activities.

Enquiries: 9298 4553

For a complete list of events being held during the Winter ArtsFest, call 1300 88 22 33.

## A commitment to equity

Maroondah City Council is committed to providing equitable service to all in our community.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in a format more appropriate to the visually impaired, please contact us on 1300 88 22 33.

## At your service. . .

Council’s Service Centre staff are able to assist you with any Council business.

Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or visit one of our Service Centres:

**City Offices Service Centre**

Braeside Avenue, Ringwood

**Eastland Service Centre**

Level 2, Eastland Shopping Centre, Ringwood

**Civic Square Service Centre**

Civic Square, Croydon

Or visit Council online at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au) Email [maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au)

