

# Maroondah *f*ocus

11425 NWD 02-03-02 Box 6

Your Community Newsletter August 2006

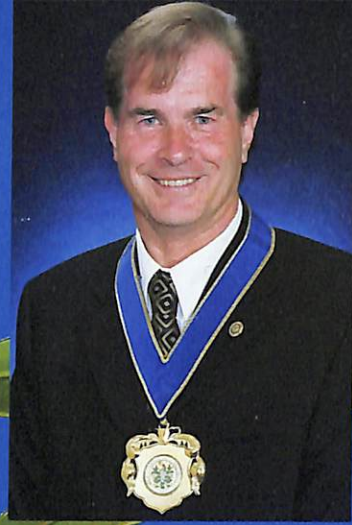


**3** Update on Ringwood & Croydon

**5** Ringwood Skate Park completed

**8** Maroondah Business Week





# Mayor's message

Welcome to the August edition of Focus.

It has been a very busy last quarter with the Red Cross volunteer thank you function and more recently, the Mayoress' luncheon to thank our many hard working community organisers and volunteers. Recently I was pleased to meet with a group of young people who have just completed Council's Young Leaders Program. These are our leaders of the future and I was delighted to hear of their challenges and development and to encourage them in considering a public life as they mature.

We have been successful with our advocacy again. I was pleased to endorse a petition for Federal Government funding of the cancer drug Herceptin. Council and our community really got behind the petition and 5,000 signatures were sent to Canberra. The Minister for Health, Mr Tony Abbott MP has responded and the Maroondah community can feel proud to have played a role in progressing this issue to the stage where it is now available with some conditions. Hopefully, the next stage will see it available more widely.

It is very much the role of Council to advocate on important local issues and this we did, and successfully so, with a coordinated community submission to the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation. A decision was handed down in favour of Council's submission opposing an application for a 75 gaming machine venue in the municipality. The hard work was well worthwhile and the quality of our submission was specifically noted as a key element of our success. Council is not blanketly against gambling, but the advocacy on this issue was based on the economic and social impact of another venue in Maroondah.

In the next week the new skate park in Ringwood will be officially opened for our youth, and in the coming months work on the new aquatic centre in Croydon will take us closer to completion and the much anticipated opening of this exciting project. We will have the many activities of Business Week to attend, and of course continue to enjoy the theatre on offer at Karralyka and the arts programs and exhibitions at Wyreena and the Maroondah Art Gallery at Maroondah Federation Estate.

Cr Les Willmott

Front cover picture: 'Mushroom' by Alana Romeo, winner of the inaugural Kids Out and About Challenge in the 2006 Maroondah Photographic Competition.

# Ringwood Going Places

Nominated by the 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 recent announcement in the State Budget of a further \$2.7million in funding for the Ringwood Transit City project has been enthusiastically welcomed by the Maroondah community.

"In particular the \$1.5million committed for the design of the Ringwood Station and Bus interchange, which are central to the development of Ringwood as a vital transit city, will allow the State Government to move from the scoping and planning stage to the design stage where the feasibility of design options can be assessed," said Maroondah Mayor, Councillor Les Willmott.

"The station and bus interchange design parameters are quite complex, requiring careful research to ensure the design not only meets disability, access and safety regulations, but that it also fits with the streetscape and public amenity works on Maroondah Highway," said Cr Willmott.

The announcement builds on funding of \$250,000 from the State Government in June last year which provided funds for a scoping



Ringwood Transit City Community Reference Group members Pastor Douglas Faircloth and Mrs Jean Faulds with District Inspector Denis Collins from the Maroondah Partners in Safety and Well-Being Committee on site at Ringwood Station, are looking forward to continued involvement with associated stakeholder groups to develop the new station design.

study into future public transport improvements around Ringwood Station and redevelopment of the nearby Clocktower Park.

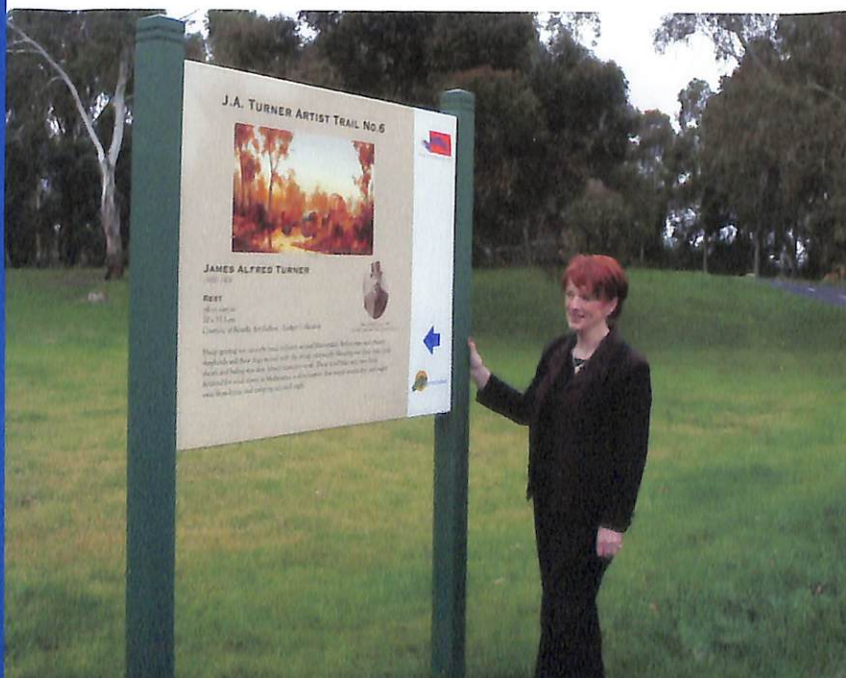
"Council is confident that the final design for the Ringwood Station and interchange will be agreed to in time for the State Government to allocate funds in next year's Budget to allow the works to commence," said Cr Willmott.

# A painted trail

Discover a little of the history of Maroondah through the paintings of James Alfred Turner while enjoying a stroll along the JA Turner Artist Trail.

The Trail travels a one kilometre circuit within Croydon Town Park, taking you past six large signs which depict a variety of Turner's work.

"Each sign shows a slice of how life was for the people of Maroondah during the late 1800's when JA Turner began



visiting the district. 'The Haywagon' is traveling along what became Mt Dandenong Road, while 'Rest' shows a group of travellers and a stage coach taking a break beside an unrecognisable Maroondah Highway," said Councillor Maureen Naylor.

"Council has recently upgraded the JA Turner Artist Trail with a fully sealed, accessible pathway that makes it suitable for people in scooters or wheelchairs, and also for parents with prams," said Cr Naylor.

The JA Turner Artist Trail begins at the Civic Square carpark opposite the Croydon Library. Accessible parking is available.

Cr Maureen Naylor, Chair of the Maroondah Tourism and Heritage Advisory Board, examines one of the six refurbished signs along the JA Turner Artist Trail.

# Croydon Town Centre

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

Exciting times are ahead for Croydon with the Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan progressing through the final stages of development. Council has formally adopted the Plan and has put a request to the Minister for Planning for authorisation to prepare and exhibit an Amendment to the Maroondah Planning Scheme.

Community interest and feedback during the many community consultation stages has been essential to the development of the Structure Plan.

During the most recent exhibition period ten submissions were received from the community, all of which generally supported the overall concept of the Structure Plan. Each submission was responded to individually and suggested changes were incorporated in the Plan where appropriate.

The Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan will assist in the future planning and development of the Croydon Town Centre over the next 30 years, responding to the community's needs while also addressing the State Government's Melbourne 2030.

Implementation of the Structure Plan will involve a range of statutory and non-statutory tools and actions, with responsibility for the various elements shared by Council, State Government departments, public transport providers and private developers.

# Stamping out Graffiti

Council's goal and long term commitment is to work with the community to reduce graffiti in Maroondah and has developed the Maroondah Illegal Graffiti Policy to establish methods and strategies to tackle this anti-social and illegal activity.

"Graffiti not only negatively impacts on the urban environment, but creates negative perceptions of safety and detracts from the community pride we have in Maroondah," said Councillor Peter Gurr.

"As such, Council has a commitment to work towards an optimal state of health, safety and wellbeing for the community by providing leadership and a co-ordinated approach for this issue," said Cr Gurr.

The draft Maroondah Illegal Graffiti Policy has just completed a public exhibition period and received positive feedback in this latest opportunity for community input. The Policy was developed collaboratively with Council service areas and key external stakeholders, and draws on local, regional, national and international best practice research in relation to the management of illegal graffiti.

"The Policy will outline a multifaceted and strategic approach, incorporating seven core elements: removal, enforcement, prevention, diversion, education, monitoring and strategic initiatives," said Cr Gurr.



# Jump and grind

The long awaited Ringwood Skate Park at Staley Gardens is open for action!

"Skateboarders, inline skaters and BMXers were quick to take to the range of features to hone their skills on the ramps, grinds, pipes and bowl," Loughnan's Hill Ward Councillor Alex Makin said.

"Council received funding assistance for Ringwood Skate Park from the Federal Department of Family and Community and from Sport and Recreation Victoria," said Cr Makin.

For more information on skate and BMX facilities in Maroondah visit Council's website at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au) or collect a brochure from one of Council's Service Centres or EV's Youth Centre.



## Mullum Mullum Festival

Sunday 3, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September  
Enjoy the 10th Mullum Mullum Festival across these three days. A detailed program is available from Council Service Centres, Ringwood and Croydon libraries, neighbourhood houses, phone 9874 2641 or online at [www.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/).

## Microchip Day

Saturday 9 September from 9.00am to 12noon  
Keystone Hall, Civic Square, Croydon

Have your dog or cat microchipped by a qualified veterinarian at the Council run session to ensure your pet meets the new legislation that comes into effect from 1 May 2007. Cost is \$20 per animal.

## The World's Greatest Pram Walk

Saturday 7 October – meet at 10.30am  
Ringwood Lake, Cnr Mt Dandenong Road & Maroondah Highway, Ringwood (Mel Ref 49 J8).

Bring a drink, a picnic lunch and after the walk, enjoy the organised festivities.



## Pocket sized pal



The youth of Maroondah have a new pocket sized pal, to help in times of need – without saying a word.

The 2006 - 2008 edition of the Maroondah Youth Information Card is now available for young people of Maroondah, continuing to provide them with benefits and support.

"The card is distributed to approximately 20,000 young people aged between 12 and 25, providing them with a range of 24 hour support numbers including emergency services and help lines," Councillor Jo-anne Taylor said.

"An added bonus is a great list of discount offers available with a number of local businesses," said Cr Taylor.

This is the second edition of the Maroondah Youth Information Card, which has become a 'must have' item for Maroondah youth following its launch in 2004.

## Dial 'MCH' for Baby

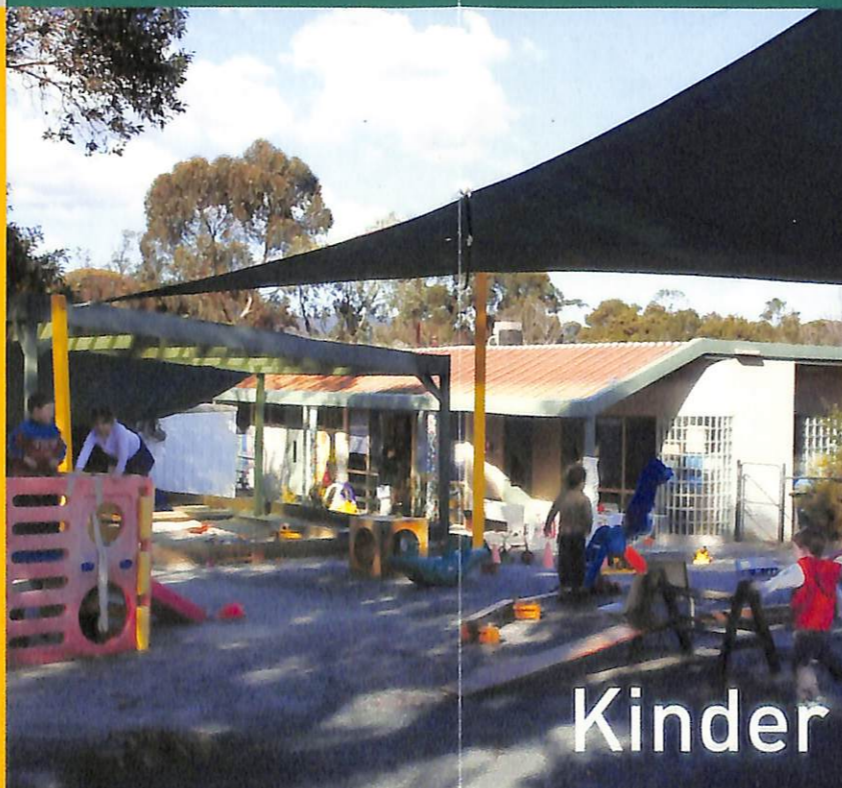
Becoming a parent for the first time not only gives you a beautiful baby, but it also raises a thousand questions and provides many new things to do and learn.

Maternal and Child Health Nurses play an important role assisting with the new experience of parenting and managing with a new baby in the family. With so many questions to ask it is important to make the most of each consultation with your Maternal and Child Health Nurse.

The introduction of a new Maternal and Child Health appointment phone number will mean fewer interruptions during parent and baby visits.

The one easy number not only makes booking appointments with your nurse simple and convenient but also allows nurses at each Maternal and Child Health Centre to focus on the important things, such as the health of parents and their babies.

The new appointment only number is 9298 4444. Parents should still call their MCH Centre for queries regarding either their baby's or their own health.



On hot sunny days kids want nothing more than to play outside. Hats and sunscreen can give our children some protection but laughter and fun in the playground can be hindered by the heat. Soon there'll be no limit to playing outside for some Maroondah kindergarten children with a great shade sail being installed – thanks to funding assistance via Council's Community Grants program.

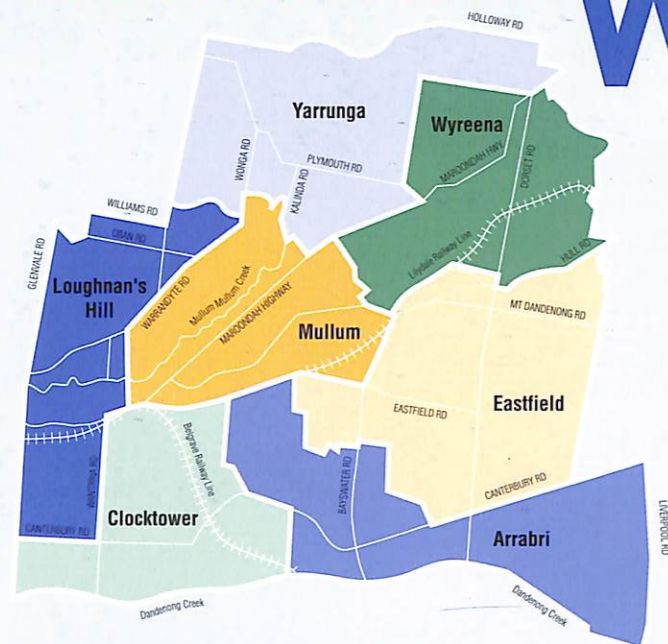
"Community groups and organisations can get a helping hand through Council's Community Grants program," Councillor Natalie Thomas explained. "Each year Council invites grant applications and in the latest round there has been nothing but smiles for several community groups."

"Central Ringwood Community Centre will be upgrading their playground; East Ringwood, South Croydon and Warranwood Cricket Clubs will be upgrading their cricket pitches; Ellie V Pullin Pre-School will construct a multi purpose room and two new offices and Bayswater North Kindergarten will be installing a shade sail in the playground," Cr Thomas said.

Keep up to date with the program of Community Grants by checking local papers during the year, or visit Council's website at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au)

## Kinder kids set sail

# Around the Wards



**Arrabri** Peter Gurr  
Mobile 0417 377 145

Traffic improvements in Arrabri Ward are ongoing, with a splitter island to be built at the intersection of Hume Street and Walhalla Drive and traffic calming treatments to go in along Glen Park Road. It is exciting to see the improvements along Colchester Road come to fruition with road works continuing on the next section between Chandra Avenue and Collier Road. Council was also pleased to receive notification of an additional \$339,000 funding through the Federal Government Roads to Recovery program, which will be put to good use to advance our program of road works.



**Clocktower** Natalie Thomas  
Mobile 0400 560 253

The redevelopment of Clocktower Park is progressing, with works planned to start after Remembrance Day to ensure this important day will not be disturbed. The Ringwood Aquatic Centre has benefited from significant capital works over recent months to improve water filtration and pumping processes, with new shade sails installed ready for the warm summer months. And of interest to me, and other small businesses in Maroondah, is the fast approaching Maroondah Business Week with the presentation of the prestigious Business Awards. Nominations are accepted throughout the year and recognise the diversity and skills of local business in Maroondah.



**Eastfield** Tony Dib  
Mobile 0400 873 350

Council's Kerrabee Club, located in our ward, provides a great range of social activities for our older community members and for those with special needs and recent improvements have made quite a difference. The sealing of the carpark has created better access to the facility and there are plans to upgrade the kitchen and flooring in the coming months. Improvements to the service road entrances and exits along Eastfield Road will make accessing them easier and safer. We are one step closer to the construction of the exciting Croydon Aquatic Facility with the completion of the new carpark at the site.



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

A number of exciting projects will be completed shortly with the long awaited Ringwood Skate Park to be opened on the first weekend in September and new equipment will be installed for the playground in Evelyn Road. Splitter islands will be placed in San Remo Road at the intersection with Cameron and Park Roads and a speed cushion will be installed at Montalbo Road near Cielterre Avenue. Many issues are being addressed including industrial noise along Heatherdale Road and the advancement of studies for Barnsdale Way. Advocacy for better public transport is also continuing.



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

First Tuesday of the month at 9.30am, Eastern FM 98.1 are broadcasting Emergency Management prevention tips to bring our community up-to-date on what to do in a significant emergency. We will have a different emergency service agency every month, please tune in, as I know you will find it interesting and we must all be prepared for our own safety. I recently attended an 80th birthday celebration for Ringwood Lake, a significant landscape feature among Maroondah's many parks and waterways as well as being a great picnic spot. Come on down and celebrate Ringwood Lake's 80th birthday anytime this year.



**Wyreena** Les Willmott  
Mobile 0417 391 743

Our community is very active in its involvement and support of leisure and cultural events as well as matters affecting our environment and amenity, including municipal planning. Unfortunately, some of our hard fought battles are lost at VCAT, as evidenced recently with the overturning of Council's refusal to issue a permit for development of the Croydon Golf Course – a refusal which was strongly supported by the local community. Despite such a disappointing setback, Council will continue to advocate on behalf of the community to follow through a planning scheme amendment to preserve the remaining character of the area.



**Yarrunga** Maureen Naylor  
Mobile 0417 371 017

Capital works are planned on a number of local streets, including splitter islands at the intersections of Leyland Street and Highland Avenue, and Croydon Hills and Langdale Drives. Discover Yarrunga Community Centre and check out the range of courses and programs available, not to mention all the fun and gourmet products that can be found at their Farmers' Market held on the fourth Sunday of every month. The Winter ArtsFest included a fabulous range of community and Council events and workshops with a highlight being an outstanding night of musical talent at the Ringwood Eisteddfod Gala Concert held at Karralyka.



Burnt Bridge traders worked closely with Maroondah City Council on the submission to the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation. Tony Evans from Mayerling Cellars (L) and Bob Henderson from Burnt Bridge Newsagents (R) exchange congratulations with Dymna Beard MP, Cr Les Willmott and Jarrod Panther.

## Making a difference

Community Planners work quietly in the background – but they pack a punch in delivering the kind of social capital the Maroondah community values.

Their role is to represent and advocate on issues that greatly impact on a community. Topics range from effects of electronic gaming machines in Maroondah through to community safety or disability and access.

Maroondah's Community Planners can be working with any number of individuals as well as groups. Often the issues can be very personal to people. "We try to get an understanding of the individual's perspective and balance this with the community's concerns or expectations. Our advocacy must be truly reflective of what our community wishes. It also must fit the parameters of the legal processes or agencies who ultimately make decisions," according to Debbie Seddon, Council's Community Development team leader.

"Recently we put together a comprehensive submission regarding an application by a

local sporting group for a new gaming venue in Maroondah. We had a good understanding of the community's perspective, but it was also important to address the potential impact on local businesses and established venues. The application was refused by the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation and we were pleased that our submission achieved this outcome," Debbie said.

"Health and ageing is a current area of focus and work has begun with the community to identify needs, issues and aspirations over the next ten years. The process will explore services for older adults as well as social and leisure needs." Debbie and her team never seem to lose enthusiasm and says "it is very rewarding to be working so closely with the community."

# Picture Perfect

Subjects have been targeted, shots have been taken and Maroondah has been captured... and the photographers have done a fantastic job!

The Annual 2006 Maroondah Photo Competition was a huge success with the exhibition of entries on show at the Maroondah Art Gallery at Maroondah Federation Estate until Saturday 2 September.

The winner of the Intermediate section (people aged 13 to 17 years) was Nathan Jacobs for his fascinating photo of a bee entitled *Motion blur*. Stephanie Atchison took second place for *The sky's the limit*.

The first prize in the Junior section (up to 12 years) went to Nicholas Oldfield for his photo, *Afternoon at the lake*. Liam Williams and his photo titled *Waterfall*, was awarded second prize.

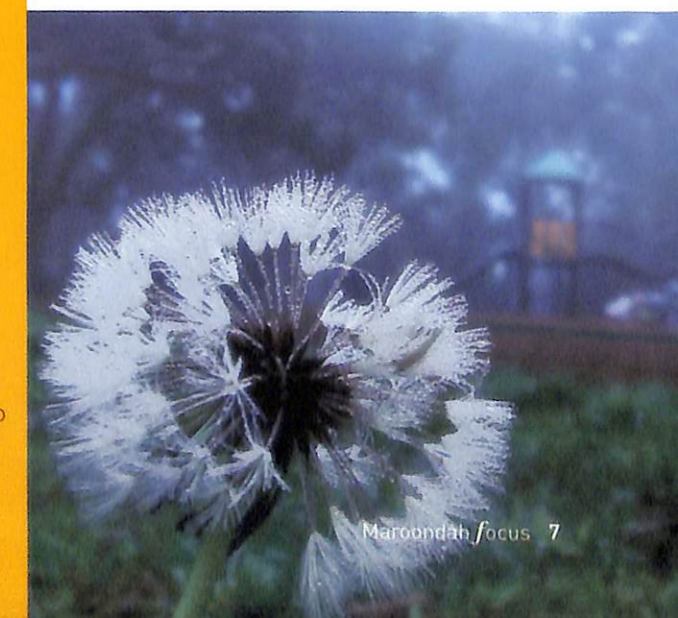
The Kids Out and About Challenge, a new category for this year, saw some great photos taken in parks and reserves from the Maroondah Walks and Trails brochure. Young people up to 17 years of age were eligible.

Alana Romeo was awarded the inaugural first prize of a Croydon Main Street voucher for her photo *Mushroom*.

Maroondah Mayor, Councillor Les Willmott chose *Scottish Links* taken by Ken Vogel to receive the Mayor's Encouragement Award.

With thanks to the sponsors, Croydon Camera House, Hoyts, Maroondah Journal and Eastland.

*'Imagine – a time to dream and play'* is the winning entry in the Open category by Wendy Capper. Don Appleton received second place for *'Log cabin'*.



# Maroondah Business Week

# 2006

"If you're in business, then you'll find opportunities abound at this year's Maroondah Business Week," said Councillor Tony Dib.

"This annual Council run event offers local businesses a great range of workshops and seminars to access information on training, business promotion and networking," said Cr Dib.

"This year, we are fortunate to present three very special guest speakers who will share their experiences and shed a little insight into how they do business and motivate their team," said Cr Dib.

Kevin Sheedy, AFL Coach and an inspiring motivational presenter, will speak at the NAB Business Breakfast on Wednesday 4 October, while Robyn Henderson, a global networking specialist, will headline a huge networking function at the Karralyka Centre (proudly supported by RACV Business Insurance) on Wednesday evening.

Book early for the Women in Business Lunch, sponsored by Eastland, on Monday 2 October and be entertained and inspired by the vivacious Rhonda Burchmore.

## Program of Events

### Monday 2 October

Show me the money –  
A woman's guide through the financial maze  
9.30am – 11.30am

Boost your business potential and uncover the most appropriate debt and equity funding for your business.

Eastland Women in Business lunch –  
Rhonda Burchmore  
12.00 – 2.00pm



From television to the big screen, musical theatre to cabaret, there are few entertainment mediums that Rhonda Burchmore has not embraced. Be entertained, motivated and enthralled by her captivating personality and outstanding speaker skills.

### Tuesday 3 October

Buying a franchise  
8.00am – 11.30am

Assess different franchise opportunities and gain an overview of standard franchise agreements.

Implementing workchoices in your business  
1.00pm – 5.00pm

Information to assist the implementation of the Federal Government's 'Workchoices' legislation in your business.

### Wednesday 4 October

NAB Business Breakfast – Kevin Sheedy  
7.00am – 9.00am



Kevin Sheedy is one of the Australian Football League's most enduring coaches. Come and listen to this icon who is not afraid to test the boundaries of innovation when it comes to team building.

Operating your business (networking)  
12.00 – 2.00pm

Find out what makes a successful networker, how to build business contacts and the art of self-promotion.

RACV Business Insurance Networking function – Robyn Henderson  
6.00pm – 8.00pm



Robyn is regarded as a global networking specialist who is convinced that it's 'not who you know, it's who knows you'!

Home based businesses that work forum  
8.00pm – 10.00pm

A panel of successful home-based businesses will discuss what they've done to grow their businesses and the pitfalls that can be avoided. For bookings contact Maroondah Homebiz on 9879 0622 or visit [www.homebiz.org.au](http://www.homebiz.org.au).

### Thursday 5 October

Getting started in small business  
9.00am – 11.00am

Discover the essentials before you start a business – licensing, planning, marketing, training and taxation – just to name a few.

Marketing  
3.00pm – 5.00pm

If you need help with marketing your small business, get the tools and framework to develop your own marketing strategy.

### Friday 6 October

Bounce into business  
9.00am – 4.00pm

2-Day Course  
(Friday 6 & Saturday 7 October)

This two-day course will provide participants with a simple, but effective system for running a profitable small business. Bookings can be made on 9726 1610.

Maroondah City Council Business Excellence Awards & QIC Cocktail Function  
5.30-7.30pm

In its 11th year, the Excellence Awards recognise and celebrate our unique, vibrant and world-class local businesses. Congratulate the winners for 2006 and enjoy a wonderful night out!

**We encourage everyone to book early to secure their seats as places are limited and filling up fast. Don't miss out, book online today at [www.bizmaroondah.com.au](http://www.bizmaroondah.com.au)**

**For further information, please phone the Maroondah City Council Economic Development Unit on 9298 4244.**

#### Thank you to our local business sponsors:

Australian Automotive Air, Croydon Chamber of Commerce, Eastland, Maroondah Journal, National Australia Bank, Queensland Investment Corporation, RACV Business Insurance, Remington Wright & Co., Ringwood Chamber of Commerce, Sarina Russo Job Access, Swinburne University and the Victorian Government.

## 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 different format 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)

