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Maroondah

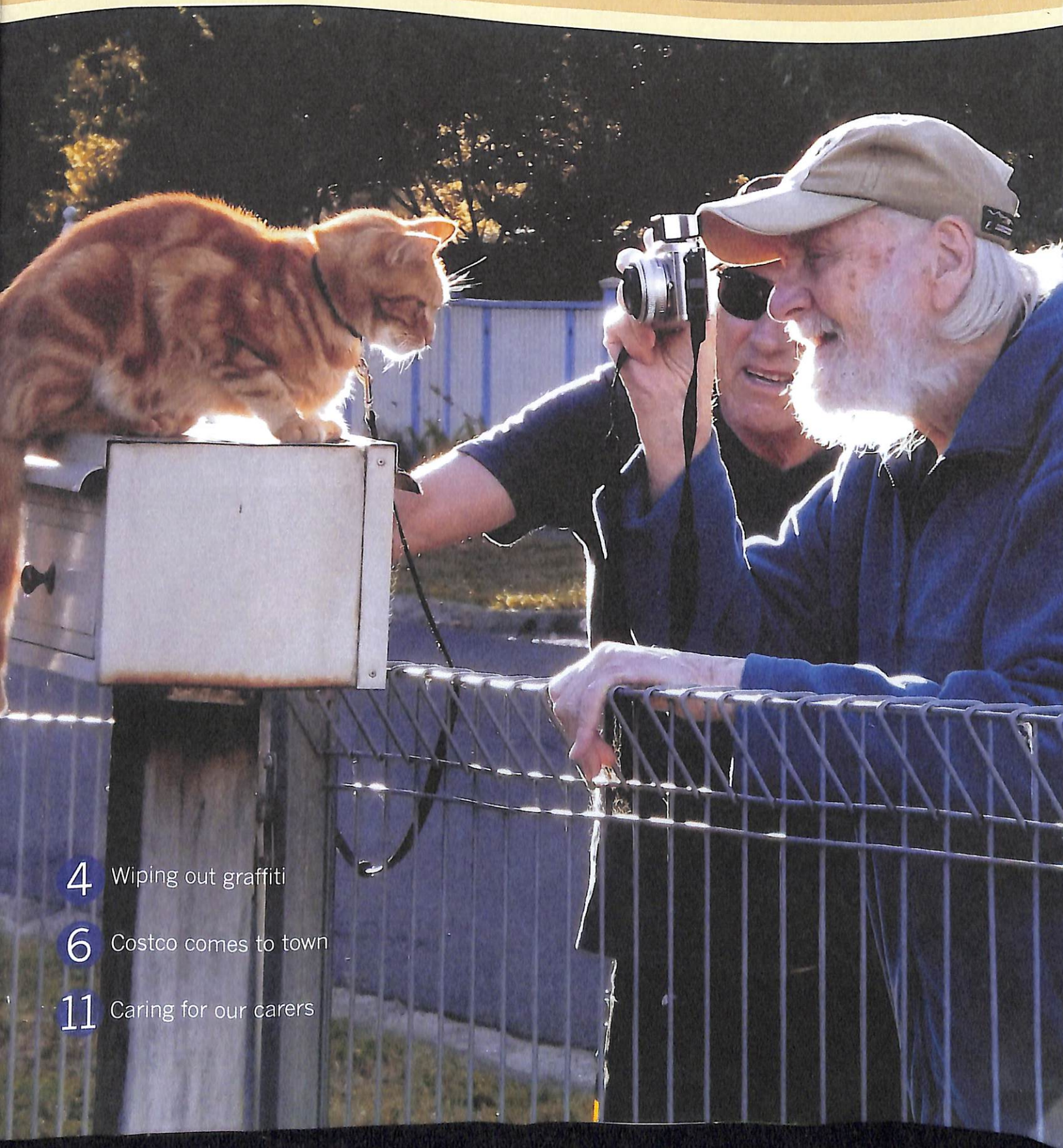
SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2012

IN FOCUS



Community, Lifestyle, Opportunity

your community newsletter



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Cr Rob Steane presents Monkami CEO Jillian Christie with the charity raffle funds.

Mayor's message

Welcome to the September edition of Maroondah in Focus.

I have had many highlights during my Mayoral term – attending Costco's announcement to build its second Victorian store in Ringwood; seeing works begin to allow for the development of the brand new Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre; and most recently I was particularly delighted to hand over a cheque for \$36,500 to Monkami.

The money was raised through the 2012 Mayoral Charity Raffle and silent auction.

This amazing result is a testament to the generosity of Maroondah businesses and the broader community who were willing to support this worthwhile cause.

In addition to this we were able to give away nearly \$35,000 in prizes including a brand new Honda Jazz, courtesy of Ringwood Honda, which was won by a local Croydon couple.

The money raised by the raffle and the silent auction will make a huge difference to Monkami - a fantastic service which supports 168 adults with an intellectual disability.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the Maroondah businesses who donated prizes for this year's raffle and silent auction. Without their generous support we would not have been able to raise such a substantial amount of money for Monkami.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of those people who have been involved in the raffle process – particularly those people who donated their time to sell raffle tickets and of course the thousands of people in the community who purchased tickets.

Thanks also to Eastland shopping centre, Croydon Central, Ringwood Square, Croydon Main Street and McAdam Square for providing space to display the Honda Jazz and sell tickets in the lead up to the draw.

Also a huge thanks to our other supporters, Baron Signs and Century 21 Real Estate Ringwood East which both contributed towards advertising and promotion of the raffle, particularly the signage on the Honda Jazz.

This is an amazing effort and shows just what can be achieved when a community comes together and works towards a common goal.

On a sad note, this will not only be the last *Maroondah in Focus* with me as Mayor, but the last edition for this term of Council. It has been a wonderful four years working together to make a difference for our community.

Best wishes,

Mayor Cr Rob Steane



End of Council term

This edition of *Maroondah in Focus* is the final for this term of Council.

Maroondah Mayor Councillor Rob Steane, on behalf of all Councillors, thanks the

community for their support and encouragement during the past four years.

The Council wishes all candidates in the upcoming Council elections the best of luck.

Council meetings are open to the community, so why not join your Councillors at one of the next meetings:

- Monday September 17
- Thursday November 8 (This meeting involves the swearing in of the new Council and the election of Mayor)

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are held in the Council Chambers, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood.

2012 Council Election

The Maroondah City Council election will be held on Saturday 27 October 2012. Council consists of nine Councillor positions - three for each of the Arrabri, Mullum and Wyreena wards. Councillors will be elected for a four-year term.

The 2012 Council election will be run by the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Nominations for standing as a Councillor open on Thursday 20 September and close on Tuesday 25 September 2012.

Maroondah holds postal elections – with ballot packs mailed to all voters between Tuesday 9 and Thursday 11 October 2012. Included within each ballot pack will be information on each candidate, a ballot paper and a return envelope. The ballot papers must be returned by Friday 26 October.

Results of the election are expected to be announced in the week commencing Sunday 28 October.

Demolition begins



Heavy machinery has been working on site since July.

The construction of the new state of the art Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre is one step closer, with the site currently being cleared.

Since the start of August, heavy machinery has been working on site to demolish the former Ringwood Aquatic Centre including demolishing the building and breaking up the concrete pool shell. This follows a month of salvage and site preparation works.

This is the beginning of what will be a 30 month program of works to construct the state of the art Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

The new regional facility will incorporate a 50 metre 10 lane pool; diving pool and the

state's first dry diving training room; warm water pool; a dedicated learn to swim pool; a large gym with three separate group fitness rooms; child care facilities and a café.

The new facility will ensure that the community will have an aquatic and leisure centre that will cater to their needs well into the next 50 years.

The exciting new Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre is scheduled to open in December 2014.



Want to see what the new Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre will look like?

Visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/RDAL.aspx and take a visual tour.

Your Councillors...

Cr Paul Macdonald | Arrabri Ward
Mobile 0428 352 046

Many thanks to Mike Symon, MP for Deakin, who has strongly supported the \$250,000 Federal Government grant to improve the facilities at Cheong Park. Council has contributed \$90,000 towards the redevelopment of the sports pavilion.

I wish to thank the football and cricket clubs who are based at the pavilion, as without their support this project would not have happened. Once completed, the facility will be available to other community groups throughout the week.

I also acknowledge the work of Glen Park Community Centre and Arrabri Community House in providing access to pre-employment courses for local residents as part of the 'Jobs for me in 3153' pilot project.

The pilot, an initiative of the Bayswater North Community Renewal Project, assists people to find local jobs and has the support of Kilsyth MP David Hodgett, local businesses, service providers and Council.

Both of these projects were possible due to strong partnerships between residents, private businesses, State and Federal Governments and Council.



A green future

Thousands of native trees and shrubs will be planted around the new Ringwood Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre to ensure the woodland character of the area is retained.

Council has developed an extensive Landscape Plan for the area which includes planting semi-mature trees, shrubs and native grasses.

The planting program will expand on the woodland character of the area and provide a natural outlook for visitors to the facility.

Initial planting has already started with Council adding to the existing vegetation along Reilly Street and Greenwood Avenue.

Wiping out graffiti

Community groups are able to tackle vandalism head on with the help of Council's new Community Graffiti Removal Trailer.

The purpose-built trailer is available to schools, kindergartens, community groups, trader associations and sporting clubs wanting to remove graffiti from open space and community infrastructure.

The trailer is fitted out with the necessary equipment including a high pressure washer; spray paint outfit; paint and protective equipment.

All first time users must attend a 30 minute induction session hosted by Council.



The Community Graffiti Removal Trailer is available for use by community groups wanting to clean up their facilities.

The Community Graffiti Removal Trailer is funded through a Graffiti Prevention and Removal Graffiti Grant, part of the State Government's Community Crime Prevention Program.

Residents and businesses wanting to rid their premises of graffiti can pick up a free graffiti removal kit at Council's Service Centres or depot. For suggestions on how you can prevent graffiti happening on your property visit Council's website.

Sharing their years of wisdom

Two generations of Maroondah residents were brought together during August as part of an education program focussed on helping students learn more about the ageing process.

Luther College students, as part of their Year 9 Rite Journey Service Challenge program, met with clients of Council's Aged and Disability Services Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Program to interview them about their personal perspectives on the ageing process; the challenges and opportunities that come with ageing and their experience in accessing services.

The program is aimed at exploring ageism and discovering the unique contributions older residents make to our community.

This initiative is one of the ways Council is working to create more opportunities to bring together different generations to work on projects which benefit the community.



Michael Garrity and Geoff Ruck spoke with Luther College students about their experiences with ageing.

What do you enjoy most about being involved in the Planned Activity Group at Kerrabee?

"Coming to these programs means I can still be active. The social aspect is the best thing because now I have lots of good friends." – Michael Garrity, Ringwood.



home and community care
A JOINT COMMONWEALTH AND STATE/TERRITORY PROGRAM PROVIDING FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE FOR AUSTRALIANS IN NEED

Your Councillors...

Cr Tony Dib JP | Arrabri Ward
Mobile 0438 515 089

Council provides more than 120 services to the Maroondah community. Council also financially supports a number of community houses – two of which are situated in the Arrabri Ward – Arrabri Community House and Glen Park Community Centre.



Working in partnership with these centres means that residents have access a broad range of services, social activities and support programs.

In March Arrabri Community House will be celebrating its 30th anniversary. The House is currently preparing a big celebration, so keep an eye out for more details.

The Bayswater North Community Renewal Project is one example of how Council and the State Government is working together to bring about positive change for our community.

I congratulate the Project team on its recent achievements including securing State Government funding to construct a community garden, establish outdoor exercise equipment and install lighting in the Dorset Road underpass.

Want to book the Community Graffiti Removal Trailer for your community group?
Call Council on 1300 88 22 33.

More payment options available

Maroondah ratepayers now have even more options when it comes to paying rates.

To make it more convenient Council is offering ratepayers the opportunity to pay their rates in nine instalments, payable via direct debit.

Ratepayers still have the choice of paying their rates on an annual or four equal instalment basis. However the nine instalment option means repayments can be spread throughout the year.

The first of the nine monthly instalment payments will be debited on Monday 1 October 2012. From there the direct debits will occur on the last day of each month. If this falls on a non banking day, the debit will occur on the next available banking day.

To register for this payment method contact Council to request a Direct Debit Authority form, or download it from Council's website. The form must be returned to Council by 20 September. If you have already registered for direct debit previously this process will continue.



The 2012/13 Budget & Rates brochure has been distributed to ratepayers.

The 2009/2013: Year 4 Council Plan and the 2012/2013 Budget are available online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au

Young people are at the heart of Council's Youth Plan



A group of Maroondah's young people assisted Council by conducting six months of consultation with their peers.

The voices of Maroondah's young people are being heard loud and clear! Following Council's largest ever youth community consultation, Council is developing the Maroondah City Council Youth Plan 2012-2016. The Youth Plan will guide Council's work with, and for, young people over the course of the next four years.

The aim of the plan is to ensure that Council plays an active role in engaging with young people, continues to respond to their needs and delivers best practice services. Council undertook substantial research during the development of the plan, including working with a dedicated team of young people to design and deliver the Maroondah youth community consultation.

Consultation with more than 700 young people aged 12 to 25 years has provided Council with the opportunity to find out what's important to them, and therefore create a Plan that reflects and meets their needs.

The Youth Plan 2012-2016 is available on Council's dedicated youth website www.maroondahyouthservices.com

Get your hands on the new Maroondah Youth Card which offers a range of discounts for young people aged 12 to 25. The pocket-sized card also features useful youth information and emergency numbers. Pick one up at EVs Youth Centre, Council Service Centres or email mys@maroondah.vic.gov.au

"Young people often feel like we are ignored, so it is a phenomenal feeling knowing that the views of Maroondah's youth are genuinely cared about and valued by Council."
Luke Thomas, 16.

Your Councillors...

Cr Ann Fraser | Mullum Ward
Mobile 0428 526 311

After teaching learner drivers for the past 38 years, improving safety on our roads has become a major passion of mine. So it was wonderful to attend the recent Young Driver



Forum held at the Karralyka Centre. Organised by METEC, the forum provided more than 90 young people with an opportunity to express their views of road safety and learner driving requirements. The who's who of road safety attended the forum including representatives from VicRoads, TAC, Victoria Police, the Minister for Transport Terry Mulder and four local State Members of Parliament.

I believe a hands-on approach is the best way to generate change, and the open discussion was an opportunity for young people to share their opinions directly with the decision makers. The atmosphere in the room was extremely positive and while there was intense discussion, everyone's opinion was heard and respected.

I encourage everyone to drive safely and have respect and patience for all other road users.

Ringwood Update

Ringwood is designated by the State Government as a Central Activities Area. One of only six key regional centres in metropolitan Melbourne – it will bring together transport, a vibrant city centre, active local economy and lifestyle options to meet community needs as we move towards the year 2030.

Costco comes to town

The local economy has received a massive boost with international retailer Costco announcing it will open its second Victorian store, to be located in Ringwood.

After months of speculation, Costco Managing Director Patrick Noone visited the site in July to officially announce the development alongside Victorian Premier Ted Baillieu.

Costco will form part of a major retail, commercial and business development being established near the corner of Ringwood and Bond streets, Ringwood.

This is one more vital step in creating a vibrant city centre that continues to meet

the projected needs of our community well into the future.

Mr Noone said Costco is very excited to be joining the Maroondah community.

“We feel it is the perfect location and is easy for both businesses and residents who shop with us. We look forward to being an integral part of the growth in Ringwood,” Mr Noone said.

QIC Global Real Estate’s Director of Investment, David Harvey said the development of the former Ringwood Market site was a ‘significant milestone’.

“Costco’s entrance to Ringwood is testimony to the strong economic potential of the area and supports the State Government’s commitment to the development of Ringwood as a vibrant centre of commerce with a range of retail, commercial and civic facilities,” Mr Harvey said.

The new development will integrate with



Mayor Rob Steane, Premier Ted Baillieu, Warrandyte MP Ryan Smith and Costco Managing Director Patrick Noone with a sample of what will be available when Costco opens in Ringwood.

the future expansion of Eastland.

QIC is preparing to undertake a \$500 million redevelopment of the shopping precinct bounded by Ringwood Street, Maroondah Highway and Warrandyte Road.

Ringwood is fast becoming a prime destination for regional business and commercial services, retail, community support services and social and cultural activities.

The Ringwood Costco store is expected to be open in late 2013.

Fast facts

- The Costco development will create more than 100 direct jobs and 160 indirect jobs during the construction stage, and once operational it will have employment for 400 people.
- Costco Ringwood will offer 14,500 square metres of retail space
- There will be 982 car parks over two underground levels.

Improving pedestrian safety

Pedestrians will have a safer way to cross Maroondah Highway, with new pedestrian lights linking Ringwood Lake and Larissa Avenue soon to be operational.

Council will also soon be flicking the switch on new sensor-operated lighting in the pedestrian underpass that links Larissa Avenue and the Mullum Mullum Creek Trail.

These safety improvements are part of the \$2.2million Lake to Creek project, which was funded with assistance from the State Government.

The project has created a major pedestrian and cycling link from Mullum Mullum Creek to Ringwood Lake. Works also included creating Larissa Park, a new open space in the heart of Ringwood.

Eastland early works continue

Works are continuing to transform Eastland into one of the country’s finest retail and commercial centres – bringing with it more jobs, opportunities and services to Maroondah.

QIC, owner of Eastland, has a permit which allows for the expansion of the current 80,000sqm centre construct an additional 58,600sqm of retail floor space; 12,600m² of office space; a 15,500m² hotel and 9000m² of public space.

This redevelopment includes Council’s new

town square and state-of-the-art Ringwood Library, Learning and Cultural Centre including an art gallery and Council service centre.

Detailed design of the redevelopment is currently being prepared by local and international architectural firms.

Preliminary works have already commenced on site, with \$5 million being invested to relocate Kmart Tyre and Auto, create new access ramps, and undertake other utility works around the boundary of the site.



The new ramps at the Warrandyte Road entrance to Eastland are nearing completion.



Once completed the Ringwood Library, Learning and Cultural Centre will provide access to the best community facilities and services available.

Funding boost for Library project

The State Government has invested \$400,000 towards the fit-out of the new Ringwood Library, Learning and Cultural Centre - to be constructed as part of Eastland’s \$500 million redevelopment.

New community facilities which will be created as part of the project include a new town square, a state-of-the-art Ringwood Library, Learning and Cultural Centre, art gallery and Council Service Centre.

Council has been working with Eastern Regional Libraries and QIC to ensure that the new facility will provide state of the art service provision and technology, and create even more opportunities for community integration.

By the end of this year Ringwood Library will be moving to 28 Warrandyte Road, Ringwood. For more information on the relocation visit www.erl.vic.gov.au

Your Councillors...

Cr Alex Makin | Mullum Ward
Mobile 0408 311 645

With Ringwood appointed as a Central Activities Area, it is important that we consider our community’s public transport infrastructure needs.

The redevelopment of Ringwood Station into an accessible and safe transport interchange is one example of the improvements we need for Ringwood. In 2010 over 3000 people signed a petition highlighting the need for the station redevelopment. The State Government has committed funding towards the development from 2014 and this should address the need for improvements to the station and the surrounding precinct. The station itself is one part of our transport needs and I hope it will be accompanied by improvements to train and bus frequencies.

Ringwood needs holistic transport improvements to ensure that it is an accessible urban centre, reinforced through state-of-the-art community facilities.

This is the last edition of *Maroondah in Focus* for this current term of Council and I would like to thank the individuals and community groups I have met during my time on Council.

your community newsletter



New park takes shape

Residents will soon be able to enjoy even more open space in the heart of Ringwood, with plans for Sherbrook Park now in the final stages.

The \$400,000 project, funded by Council, the State Government and ConnectEast, will see 3000sqm of grassland transformed into a community play space.

The space is easily accessible via the Mullum Mullum Creek Trail and the EastLink Trail.

During consultation earlier this year, the local community provided feedback on the elements they would like to see included in the park. The most popular requests were for barbecues, playground equipment,



An indicative image of how the new Sherbrook Park could look.

shelter, seating and an open grassed area.

Designs will be finalised in the coming months, with works expected to start on site later this year.

Once complete, the park will provide residents with access to quality open space right on their doorstep.

Housing boom continues

A steady stream of residential developments has resulted in more people moving into the heart of Ringwood.

More than 410 new apartments have been constructed within the Ringwood Central

Activities Area in the past few years.

More developments are currently in the planning stages, but once completed will bring another 500-600 apartments into the area over the next two years.

Your Councillors...

Cr Nora Lamont | Mullum Ward
Mobile 0428 394 581

I have had a long history with the North Ringwood Community House, having taken my first class there in 1989. Since that time I have taken numerous classes throughout the years.

I have been fortunate to have developed a relationship with the House, the staff and the Board.

The House is the only community centre in Maroondah to offer accredited courses for people wanting to gain qualifications which allow them to expand their employment potential.

The House has a special relationship with the Holy Spirit Parish which has been extremely supportive to the House over the years. However after years of growth the House is now overcrowded. I have advocated for the need to find the House a new home – one that provides more space for the programs and services to flourish. With this in mind, Council has been working with the House and Parish to assist them to find a solution to this need. At this point in time we are all excited as the progress for finding a solution for the House is full steam ahead! Stay tuned!



Picture perfect

Choosing the winners of this year's Photo Competition was no easy feat, with 74 photographers capturing 126 images of life in Maroondah.

First place in the open section was won by Peter Feeney for his entry entitled *Held up* – photographed during a match between Maroondah Rugby Club and Eltham Rugby Union Football Club.

Second place went to Denise Pike for her piece *Colours of the Mullum* – a colourful reflection of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Mullum Mullum Creek.

Laura Schutz's artistic look at one of Maroondah's natural wonders, entitled *Tree ascend*, won her the intermediate section. Monique Adeney's entry *What do you think?* was awarded second place.

The junior section, for those aged under 12 was won by Paris Korlaki, for her creative piece - *I don't need eyes in the back of my head*.

Second place was awarded to Monique Lyssenkovf, for *My great gecko* - a close up look at one of our native residents.

Being in the right place at the right time saw Andrew Carpenter capture his image, *Cyclists on ramp*, which took out the Mayoral Encouragement Award.

The Heidi Victoria Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts Encouragement Award was won by Michelle Sango for her entry *Autumn day*.

Top: Peter Feeney's winning entry *Held Up*.
Left: Paris Korlaki with her winning photo
Right: *Colours of the Mullum*, by Denise Pike



"It is so diverse what people photograph. It really makes you realise how much culture is out there in Maroondah."

- Andrew Carpenter, Mayoral Encouragement Award winner

The Annual Photo Competition was sponsored by Croydon Camera House; Karralyka Centre; Croydon Leisure & Aquatic Centre; Eastland Shopping Centre; and Fairfax Community Newspapers - publishers of *Maroondah Weekly*.

Dates for your diary

Theatre | An Audience with Frank Spencer

7.30pm, Friday 5 October

Karralyka Theatre, Mines Road, Ringwood East

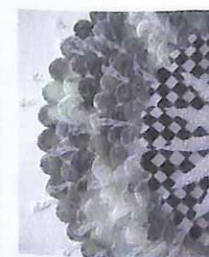
Experience a cabaret tribute to Frank Spencer, the disaster-prone character from UK sitcom *Some Mothers do 'Ave 'Em*. Starring George Harvey and Robert Pearson, the show features crazy routines, witty dialogue, swinging live music and special "guests" Billy Connolly, Sammy Davis Jnr, Dean Martin and Forrest Gump. Details: www.karralyka.com.au

Community | Relay for life

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 November

Town Park Athletics Track, Croydon

Create a team or come along and support others as they walk throughout the night to celebrate cancer survivors. Remember lost loved ones and raise funds to fight back against cancer. Details: www.relayforlife.org.au



Exhibition | Antidote

Thursday 25 October to Saturday 8 December

Maroondah Art Gallery, Maroondah Federation Estate, Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood

Artist Jan Berg uses tiny circles to create complex, map-like gardens that link man-made constructions with nature. Details: www.artsinmaroondah.com.au



Croydon Update

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

With an eye to the future, Council has made a strategic purchase of property in Main Street, Croydon.

During the development of the Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan, Council identified the need for greater pedestrian linkages between Main Street and Croydon Station.

Council has purchased 97 Main Street, opposite the intersection of Main Street and Hewish Road, with future plans to create

an open space area which will be a community focal point in the heart of the Croydon Town Centre.

The area will be incorporated into the current look and feel of Main Street, with shop frontages lining the wide laneway to create a vibrant and safe area for people to enjoy.

This area will link Main Street with both the station and the proposed redevelopment of the Croydon Central Shopping Centre.



An indicative image of the future Croydon laneway.

In the meantime, the current building will be used for community purposes.

Drainage works in the pipeline

Works to improve drainage in Croydon will begin in the coming months.

Council has undertaken extensive flood mapping of the area which has resulted in the development of the Croydon Civic Flood Mitigation project.

Engineering designs for the project are currently in the final stages and include the

creation of a new open drain in Civic Square to more effectively capture and distribute storm water during times of excessive rain.

In recent years the severity and frequency of storms has highlighted how important it is that Council's drainage infrastructure is able to cope, particularly if the storms continue to worsen.

Council has allocated approximately \$2.27 million in the 2012/13 Budget towards drainage improvement works.

Your Councillors...

Cr Michael Macdonald | Wyreena Ward
Mobile 0408 106 177

The recently opened Y Space in Croydon has been recognised as the best new playspace in Victoria and Tasmania by Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA). Croydon Y Space will now compete



against other states in the national awards, which will be announced in September. This is wonderful recognition for a project which has achieved its goal of providing recreational and leisure opportunities for a variety of age groups and members of our community.

The facility not only attracts young people to the skate and BMX facilities, but families, older residents and community groups are also making use of the concrete activity court and permanent table tennis table. Council and Yarra Valley Water have also recently installed water refill stations in Croydon Park, adjacent to the Y Space, and in Ringwood Lake Park.

So whether you're skating at the new Y Space in Croydon Park, walking around Ringwood Lake, or going for a bike ride, the new water refill stations make it easier to enjoy a drink along the way.

your community newsletter

Your Councillors...

Cr Les Willmott JP | Wyreena Ward
Mobile 0417 391 743

One of the best ways to see how far we've come is to look back at where we started. Croydon Historical Society is working hard to ensure that the history of Croydon is not forgotten with its latest book *Croydon Then and Now*.

I was given the honor of writing the foreword for the book, which is a pictorial guide of Croydon's transformation from a quiet country town into a Major Activity Centre. Over the years there has been many changes to the suburb and I am extremely proud that the community spirit that existed all those years ago still exists today.

Croydon Then and Now not only highlights the changes in Croydon - it is an indication of how society has changed over the years. Today we have vibrant shopping areas; community facilities; parkland; sporting reserves and play areas - all in the heart of the town centre.

I commend Croydon Historical Society for collating this wonderful historic document. The book will be available later this month from Croydon Historical Society between 10am and 4pm Saturdays or by calling 9726 0605.



Nominate now

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised for the contribution they make to the Maroondah community?

Then why not nominate them for the 2013 Maroondah Citizen of the Year awards.

The categories are Maroondah Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year.

People contribute to our community in many ways - perhaps through the volunteer work they do, the encouragement they bring to others, or the passion they have for life and our community.

Nominating an inspirational community member or event is a wonderful way to ensure their contribution and dedication is rewarded.

Australia Day Awards are presented to groups and individuals at the annual Maroondah Australia Day presentations



The 2012 Young Citizen of the Year Frances Rowlands and Citizen of the Year Peter McArthur.

which will be held at Ringwood Lake on Saturday 26 January 2013.

Nominations for the 2013 awards close at 5pm, Friday 16 November.

More information and nomination forms are available on Council's website and at Council Service Centres.

Did you know?

19.2 per cent of Maroondah residents volunteer with a group or organisation.

More than just a meal

The contribution Maroondah's Meals on Wheels volunteers make to our community was recognised on Wednesday 29 August as part of National Meals on Wheels Day.

Each weekday a dedicated group of volunteers assists Council with the delivery of delicious meals to Home and Community Care clients in and around Maroondah.

The meals are prepared by chefs in the Karralyka Centre kitchen and are delivered to those in our community who are unable to prepare and cook their own meals.

In total Maroondah has 122 individuals and four community groups who assist with the delivery of meals to nearly 250 residents.

Want to become a Meals on Wheels volunteer? Find out more by calling 9298 5729.



Maroondah has more than 120 volunteers who assist Council with the Home and Community Care Meals on Wheels program.

Did you know? On average 60,000 meals are made and delivered each year as part of the Meals on Wheels program.



Focus on safety

Making our community a safer place to live, work and visit – that's the objective of Community Safety Month.

During October, Council is hosting activities aimed at encouraging people to think about simple things they can do to make our community a safer place.

Perceptions of safety can have a huge impact on how people feel in different environments. One of the best ways to combat this is to create a strong community where people play an active role in their neighbourhood.

Council is continually working with local police, RoadSafe, Neighbourhood Watch, community organisations, businesses and

individuals on a range of projects to improve community safety. This includes:

- Being part of community safety committees
- Actively supporting Preventing Violence Against Women campaigns
- Graffiti removal
- Road Safety programs

To find out more about Community Safety Month activities in Maroondah, visit www.maroondah.vic.gov.au or call Council's 1300 88 22 33.

Join in the fun!

Maroondah's youngest residents are being treated to two free concerts to celebrate the upcoming Children's Week.

Popular entertainer Mister Whiskers, performed by Franciscus Henri, and his dog Smiggy will have the children singing and dancing.

The event is for children aged 6 and under and their parents, grandparents or care providers.

Children's Week aims to raise community awareness of children's needs, rights and achievements as they thrive and grow. It is also a time for children to demonstrate their talents, skills and abilities.

The free concerts will be held at 10.30am and 1pm, Wednesday 24 October at EV's Youth Centre, 212 Mount Dandenong Road, Croydon.

Tickets will be available from Monday 8 October at Council's Croydon Service Centre in Civic Square or by calling 9294 5740.

Did you know? The theme of this year's Children's Week is A Caring World Shares.

Celebrating our seniors

The contribution Maroondah's older residents make to our community will be celebrated during this year's Victorian Seniors Festival - held from 7 to 14 October.

With the support and assistance of local seniors groups, clubs and services, Council will be hosting a range of events during the week.

A Maroondah Seniors Festival Booklet will be distributed during September and will include information on all of the activities and events on offer including community

lunches, CPR for seniors; recreation and exercise Come 'n' Try programs; cooking classes; and a performance by musical group Sentimental Journey.

Council, in partnership with Eastland shopping centre, is also hosting a free Seniors Wellbeing Expo. The event will link Maroondah's seniors with services and

VICTORIAN
SENIORS
Festival
7-14
OCTOBER 2012
IT'S YOUR TIME



Last year's Seniors Wellbeing Expo was a huge success, so make sure you don't miss the next one on Monday 29 October.

social opportunities, as well as providing ideas on how they can increase their community participation.

Don't miss the Seniors Wellbeing Expo on from 9am to 5pm, Monday 29 October at Eastland. Pick up your brochure at a Council Service Centre.

Caring for our carers

Caring for a loved one is a selfless act which can have an enormous impact on a person's own health and social life.

That's why Council provides various support services to allow carers to have a bit of 'me' time.

Maroondah is celebrating Carers Week from Sunday 14 October to Saturday 21 October.

As part of Council's Home and Community Care (HACC) program there are a number of programs that support carers of frail older people and people with a disability.

The Respite Care Service supports carers by coming into their home to look after a loved one while they run errands or simply take some time out. Centre-based respite is also offered as part of the Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Program and is held at Kerrabee Centre in Croydon.

Council's Aged & Disability Service also

Did you know?

11.4 per cent of residents in Maroondah provide assistance to a person with a disability.

offers a number of carer support groups in a variety of models and settings.

The Maroondah Carers Support Group, which is co-facilitated with EACH, assists carers of people of all ages and disabilities. The group provides carers with an opportunity to discuss important social, financial and physical needs with other carers. The group meets regularly and takes part in a variety of activities including information sharing, listening to guest speakers and going on group outings.

For more information on Council's support programs for carers call 1300 88 22 33 or visit Council's website.

Your Councillors...

Cr Natalie Thomas | Arrabri Ward
Mobile 0400 560 253

In August I had the great pleasure of attending a Literary Festival hosted by Bayswater North Primary School (BNPS). I first heard about the concept at a literary event and knew this was a worthwhile initiative.



Through the Bayswater North Community Renewal Project, funding was secured and BNPS was able to host its own festival. The literary event saw eight children's authors and illustrators come and talk to the children about writing, drawing and inspiring them to open up their imaginations.

It was extremely rewarding to see children of all ages interacting with the guest speakers and learning new skills - while having fun. I was also privileged to attend Stroke A Chord Choir's second sell out performance at our wonderful Karralyka Theatre. This group of stroke survivors never ceases to amaze me, with their determination to share their voices with the world.

Stroke a Chord Choir has recently released its first book sharing personal stories of choir members. All proceeds of the book will be used to produce a documentary on the choir. For details visit www.strokeachord.com

Maroondah City Council is committed to providing equitable service to all in our community. Please contact us on 1300 88 22 33 if you would like to receive this newsletter in a different format.

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Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598, online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au email maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au or visit one of our Service Centres

City Offices Service Centre Braeside Avenue, Ringwood
Croydon Service Centre Civic Square, Croydon
Eastland Service Centre Level 2, Eastland Shopping Centre, Ringwood

Your Councillors...

Cr Rob Steane | Wyreena Ward
Mobile 0407 519 986

My number one priority as a Councillor has been to improve community safety in Maroondah. As Council's representative, and Deputy Chair, of the National Local Government Drug



and Alcohol Advisory Committee I am at the forefront of national discussions on drug and alcohol issues.

This information means that Council is better placed to take a preventative stance rather than simply reacting to issues once they have emerged.

People are also a major catalyst for change when it comes to improving community safety.

Research has shown that the best way to improve perceptions of safety is to increase people's involvement in their local community - whether that is getting to know their neighbours, joining a local club, or volunteering with a community group. October is Community Safety Month - a wonderful opportunity to stop and think about how your actions can impact on others in your neighbourhood. To find out more about the activities on offer visit Council's website.

your community newsletter

presents

MaRoondah Festival

Sunday 11 November
10am to 5pm | Town Park
Norton Road, Croydon | Mel Ref 50K5

**Come along and be part of
the most exciting community
festival in Melbourne's East**

Each year more than 20,000 people join in the range of free and low cost activities that are on offer throughout the day including community displays, tasty food vendors, market stalls, roving entertainment and amusement rides.

Plus continuous activities at the:

- Community Expo
- Bankwest Main Stage
- Fun and Fitness Arena
- Eastland Kids Kingdom
- Sustainability Expo
- Youth Precinct

This year's event includes a special Remembrance Day service and a minute's silence in honour of our fallen diggers.

Maroondah Festival is a free community event

How do you get there?

The Park 'n' Ride or Travel 'n' Ride facilities provide a hassle free way to get to the event.

The continuous free service, provided by Ventura, leaves from Eastfield Park and Croydon Station throughout the entire day. Alternatively you can Park 'n' Walk from Eastfield Park to the Festival site.

Council encourages active and sustainable transport to the event by providing, fast, secure and free bike parking located on Fred Geale Oval.

Accessible parking is available at Norton Road.

An electric mobility vehicle charging station is located at the Information Tent.

 **MAROONDAH
WEEKLY**

Maroondah Festival is proudly sponsored by:

EASTLAND

COSTCO
WHOLESALE

bankwest



festival hotline
9294 5604

This is a waste wise event.

For a full list of event details visit www.maroondahfestival.com

