



Bellevue Ward

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BOROONDARA
City of Harmony



Message from your Councillor

Dear residents,

The local government elections are behind us and the new Council has settled in well, appointing Councillor Phillip Healey as the Mayor and me as chair of the Urban Planning Special Committee. Councillor Steve Hurd will chair the Services Special Committee for six months, followed by Councillor Garry Thompson for the balance of the term.

Last month I had the pleasure of joining Federal Member for Kooyong and Minister for the Environment and Energy, the Hon. Josh Frydenberg, the Mayor of Boroondara, Cr Philip Healey and Maranoa Ward

Councillor Cynthia Watson and our joint Boroondara Citizens of the Year, Graham Foard and Gwenda Foard, at the turning of the sod ceremony at the North East Hub. Works are now well underway and the hub is expected to open in mid-2018.

Work is also underway at the Balwyn Library and the extensive redevelopment will see a state-of-the-art facility which preserves the heritage value of the original building. The library will feature more casual reading and study areas with better amenity and comfortable furniture; improved access to the collection through a more intuitive layout; a new quiet study area separated from

the rest of the library; a larger community meeting room that is accessible after-hours and improved technology, including more efficient Wi-Fi.

Many residents share Council's concerns about the ongoing graffiti problem in Boroondara. Research shows that the faster graffiti is removed from a property, the less likely it will return. While we are committed to removing graffiti from our property within 24 hours, it is important that graffiti on private property is also removed quickly. The City of Boroondara supplies free biodegradable graffiti removal kits to private and commercial property owners. The kit contains

a graffiti removal solution, a scouring pad, scrubbing brush, rag and protective eyewear. Residents needing to repaint property can also receive a Dulux paint voucher for the necessary paint (up to four litres). Together we can make a difference and keep Boroondara beautiful.

Regards

Councillor Jim Parke

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Upgrade of the Jack O'Toole Reserve pavilion

The renewal of the Jack O'Toole Reserve Pavilion is well underway, with construction having started earlier this year. The pavilion, which is home to the North Kew Tennis Club and the 1st Kew Scout group, is undergoing renovations to address the general ageing and functional limitations of the existing building.

Improvements to the pavilion include upgraded amenities, increased storage and a reconfigured kitchen. The new arrangements have been designed to bring the building up to current standards and to provide a functional space for the user groups.

The renewal is expected to be completed by mid-2017.



New bike repair stations

Cyclists using the Koonung Trail will soon have access to a bike repair station off Columba Street near the entrance to Freeway Golf Course, Balwyn North.

The station, to be installed this year, will feature a series of tools to help keep your bike in tip-top shape, including allen keys, wrenches and a high quality bike pump.

This will be the fifth station to have been installed on the City's major shared trails across Boroondara.

The other four are located at:

- Koonung Trail, near the playground off Gardena Road, Balwyn North
- Anniversary Trail, just off Fordham Avenue near Hartwell Station, Camberwell
- Main Yarra Trail, off Willow Grove near Willsmere Reserve, Kew
- Gardiners Creek Trail, next to the HA Smith Reserve, Hawthorn.



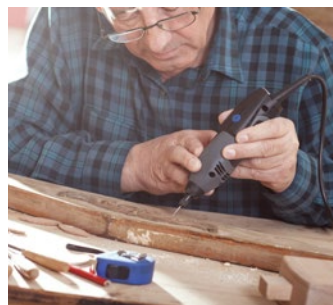
North Balwyn Men's Shed Update

Boroondara men will soon have a place to meet for a yarn and take part in a variety of activities when the new North Balwyn Men's Shed is completed in June 2017.

Construction of the North Balwyn Men's Shed, located on part of the North Balwyn Bowls Club site at 60 Buchanan Street, began in January 2017.

Men's Sheds provide a welcoming space for men of all ages and backgrounds to try a range of activities and make new connections in the community. The Balwyn North venue will offer a variety of activities including woodwork, metal work, computer courses, cooking, gardening and painting, and a space where people can drop in for a cuppa and chat.

This project is a partnership between the City of Boroondara, the North Balwyn Bowls Club and the North Balwyn Rotary Club. For more information, please contact Ria Mountford on **9278 4753**, or email ria.mountford@boroondara.vic.gov.au .



Dam construction at Freeway Golf Course

From April 2017, an open water storage dam will be constructed between the 14th and 15th holes at Freeway Golf Course.

Once completed, water from the dam will be used by the City of Boroondara to irrigate the entire golf course. To allow for the dam's construction, the 15th hole will be closed for approximately five months. The green on this hole will be reconstructed during the works, and the course spare hole will be open to allow golfers to continue to play 18 holes.

This sustainable water project will allow the golf course to be better irrigated during the dryer months, and the new water feature will offer an additional challenge to golfers on the 14th and 15th holes

The dam project is part of the wider Bolin Bolin Integrated Water Management Project, led by Manningham City Council, in conjunction with project partners Carey Baptist Grammar School and City of Boroondara. Grants have also been provided by Melbourne Water and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

For more information, visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/freeway-golf .

Local volunteers named joint Citizens of the Year



Graham Foard and Gwenda Foard have been named joint Boroondara Citizens of the Year for devoting over 60 years of service to the Boroondara community.

They were awarded their honours alongside fellow joint recipient Jan Dimmick at the Australia Day citizenship ceremony at the Hawthorn Arts Centre in January.

The Foards share a long history of being members and office bearers of numerous community organisations in North Balwyn, including the Lions Club, Rotary Club, Probus Club, Apex and Neighbourhood Watch, and Boroondara Primary School's Safety House Program committee.

Graham was a trainer at St Stephens Cricket Club and the Greythorn Balwyn Youth Football Club for many years and is a life member at the Balwyn Bowls Club.

Meanwhile Gwenda volunteers for the Greythorn Girls Friendly Society, Bulleen T.O.W.N. Club and Cancer Council Victoria. She also conducts funerals for people who have no means to pay and specialises in funerals for RSL members.

As president and secretary, respectively, of the North Balwyn RSL, Graham and Gwenda were instrumental in realising a vision to create the North East Community Hub for long needed services, through a lease of the RSL site to Council.

The North Balwyn RSL will continue to operate in the new hub alongside a range of community services and programs for residents.

North East Hub update

Construction of the North East Community Hub is underway, with earthworks now in progress. Contractors Ireland Brown Constructions Pty Ltd took over the site in January and have completed demolition of the existing buildings. Construction vehicles are primarily entering Centre Way via Doncaster Road, minimising access via Trentwood Ave.

Once completed in mid-2018, the multi-purpose community hub will offer a range of important community services and programs for people of all ages, including a neighbourhood house, meeting rooms and community programs spaces, North Balwyn RSL and its memorabilia, an expanded Greythorn Early Childhood Centre and Kindergarten and Greythorn Maternal and Child Health Centre, allied health services, underground parking and open space.

While works are underway, Greythorn Early Childhood Centre and Kindergarten (GECCK) is operating at the former Balwyn Leisure Centre, 230 Balwyn Rd, Balwyn North, two kilometres from the current GECCK. The former leisure centre is served by buses along Belmore and Balwyn Roads and has ample parking.

Families who use the Greythorn Maternal and Child Health Service can visit the Greythorn nurse at either Balwyn, Balwyn North or Minifie Park Maternal and Child Health centres. For MCH appointments phone 9278 4606.

Council gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Australian Government through the National Stronger Regions Fund of \$3.2m towards the construction of the North East Community Hub.

To recognise their support for this significant project, as well as that of the local community who helped Council plan the hub, a sod turning event was held in March.

To become a Community Hub Ambassador, or find out more, please contact Fiona Read, Planner, Community Strengthening, Community Planning and Development on **9278 4438** or **fiona.read@boroondara.vic.gov.au**. For information on design, development and construction contact Joe Capomolla, Coordinator, Special Projects, **9278 4586** or **joe.capomolla@boroondara.vic.gov.au**.