



The Better family getting into the Christmas spirit at Maroondah Carols 2023.

## Celebrate the festive season

**Join us on Saturday 7 December for Maroondah Carols – our much-loved Christmas carols event.**

Hosted each year by Council, the event is popular with community members of all ages, welcoming everyone to come together and celebrate the festive season.

No bookings are required for this free event, so join in the fun at Town Park, Civic Square, Croydon, from 6pm for pre-show entertainment by Team Dream, along with children's rides, face painting, craft activities and roving performers.

The main show begins at 7.30pm. Brush up on your lyrics and get excited for a fun-filled night with a talented line-up of performers, including Master of Ceremonies Lucy Holmes, Lauren Neivandt, Sarah Stone, Samantha Du Rennes (U'Ren), Jonathon Guthrie-Jones, Julian Dunham, Vocal Vibes Chorus and of course, the Maroondah Carols Band.

There will also be a special visit from Santa, Elf and Frosty the Snowman, and a free kids' zone for children to enjoy!

Plus, don't miss the spectacular fireworks show at approximately 9.30pm – it's sure to light up the Maroondah night sky.

Food trucks will be available onsite, where you can purchase food and drinks to enjoy during the performances.

The Better family attended Maroondah Carols in 2023 and said it was "an absolute delight".

"We had a fantastic time enjoying the singing, rides, free activities and the incredible performances. The fireworks display was simply breathtaking. It was a magical evening that created cherished memories for our family," Christine said of her family's experience.

Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to learn more or to download the Maroondah Carols 2024 songbook closer to the date.



This event is presented in partnership with Eastland.

### Welcome to Maroondah news

Thanks for reading the November edition of Maroondah news.

This is one of many ways that you can keep informed and engaged with the range of Council's services, events and programs.

We also provide other digital and print news publications, including our quarterly Maroondah news magazine, our eNewsletter and regular updates via our website and social media.

If you haven't already, visit [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au) and subscribe to our regular eNewsletters, or keep up to date on our social media channels.

**Page 3: International award for Tarralla Creek project**

**Page 5: Ushering in a new era at Karralyka**

**Page 8: Uplift your financial wellbeing**

## Council meetings

Council meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month from 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at Realm and are live-streamed via Council's website.

Upcoming dates are:

**Wednesday 20 November**  
**(election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor)**

**Monday 25 November**

**Monday 9 December**

Council meetings are open to the public and are promoted across a range of channels, with an open invitation to attend. **If attending in person, please arrive on time for the start of the meeting.** Agendas are made available on the Friday before the meeting date.

## Council Customer Service opening hours

Our Customer Service team is here to help. Visit us at:

### Realm

Ringwood Town Square  
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood  
(opposite Ringwood Station)

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm  
Open Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 5pm  
Open Melbourne Cup Day, Tuesday 5 November, 10am to 5pm.

### Croydon Service Centre

Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm  
Closed on all weekends and public holidays.

### Get in touch with us



Live chat via our website  
[www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au)



Phone 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598  
SMS 0480 020 200



Email  
[maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au)



Subscribe to Maroondah eNews  
via our website.



Mail  
PO Box 156, Ringwood, VIC 3134



Scan the QR code to subscribe to Maroondah eNews, our digital community newsletter that features a range of news, consultations and events to keep you connected with what's happening in and around Maroondah.



**Please recycle  
this publication.**



Maroondah City Council is certified for its organisational operations.

# Search for funding opportunities

**Council's website now includes SmartySearch – a new, smarter and easier way to search online for funding opportunities.**

The online platform acts as a 'one-stop shop' for community groups, businesses, individuals, not-for-profits, sporting clubs and others to find funding sources, with a built-in filter for eligible groups, different kinds of grants, and where the grants are available.

SmartySearch is easy to navigate and provides users with a live, up-to-date list of current government, philanthropic, corporate and other grant opportunities from a nationwide database.

Visit the 'Current Grant Opportunities' page on Council's website or

search for 'smartysearch' to use the SmartySearch platform and find current funding opportunities.



*Council's 2023/24 Community Grants funding program helped to support Big Little Buddies' music-based intergenerational program.*

## Working towards a brighter future

**Join an online information session and discover how Solar Savers can help you enhance the comfort of your home, save money, and achieve energy independence.**

Solar Savers is a local government initiative working towards a brighter future for our communities.

The Solar Savers program is available to Maroondah residents through Council being a member of the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA).

Through the Solar Savers program, homeowners and renters in Maroondah can access affordable, reliable, and high-quality solar panels,

battery systems, heat pump hot water systems, and split systems for heating and cooling.

To help Maroondah homeowners and renters find out more, EAGA is hosting two webinars on Wednesday 13 November:

- A lunchtime session, from 12.30pm to 1.30pm
- An evening session, from 7pm to 8pm

Attend a webinar to hear directly from EAGA's trusted installer, Specialized Solar and Electrical, to learn more about electrifying your home, and ask questions during a live Q&A session.

Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to register for a session or to learn more about Solar Savers and EAGA.



## Council election update

The 2024 Council election for the City of Maroondah was conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) on Saturday 26 October 2024. The VEC declared the outcome of the election after this edition of Maroondah news was finalised for print. For the latest updates on the new Council, please visit Council's website or subscribe to Maroondah eNews.

**The information provided in this newsletter was accurate at the time of print. For the latest information, please visit Council's website.**



# Re-imagined Tarralla Creek recognised internationally

The Re-imagining Tarralla Creek project received a Category 3 award in the World Green Infrastructure Awards.

The awards are held by the World Green Infrastructure Network and recognise outstanding achievements in sustainable urban design and environmental stewardship.

This is the fourth award for the Maroondah partnership project, which transformed a former underground stormwater drain and boggy open space into a revitalised natural waterway. The expanded and reconstructed wetland provides an attractive open space for the community to enjoy.

The Tarralla Creek project began in 2020 and aimed to reimagine Tarralla Creek and its surroundings through an integrated partnership between the community, Council, Melbourne Water, Yarra Valley Water, and the Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning (DELWP).

The re-imagined Tarralla Creek aims to promote opportunities to interact with the creek, provide habitat and increase biodiversity of the site, and improve local and regional connections.

A new bridge was constructed over the wetland and a number of stop-off points with seating and landscape structures were installed.

Council also worked with project partners to enhance the area by including



contemporary landscape design solutions, incorporating suggestions from the community and fostering the establishment of a Friends group to promote community stewardship.

It's been fantastic to see our community enjoying the revitalised area since it was completed in 2022.

"I'm fortunate to live nearby and love visiting it. Always something of beauty to see there. It's a real treat," one community member said.

Another said, "I love walking my dog here. Such an improvement and I love watching all the ducks and other birds."

Visit Council's website to learn more about the Re-imagining Tarralla Creek project.

## Remembrance Day in Maroondah

Council is encouraging our community to pause at 11am this Remembrance Day, Monday 11 November.

The following Remembrance Day services are being held in Maroondah. Community members may wish to attend a service and reflect on the courage and sacrifices of soldiers, past and present.

### Ringwood service

The Ringwood RSL sub-branch will be hosting a Remembrance Day service at the Memorial Clocktower, on the corner of Wantirna Road and Maroondah Highway, Ringwood, from 10.30am.

The service will include a wreath-laying ceremony, a reading of *The Ode*, a sounding of *The Last Post* and a minute's silence at 11am.

### Croydon service

The Croydon RSL sub-branch is hosting a Remembrance Day service from 10.30am at the Croydon War Memorial, Civic Square, Croydon.

The service will include a wreath-laying ceremony, with light refreshments to be served at the Croydon RSL afterwards.

**For more information about these Remembrance Day services, please call the Ringwood RSL on 9870 6604 or the Croydon RSL on 9723 1315.**

## Keeping Maroondah looking beautiful

With spring bringing rain and warmer weather, you may have noticed Maroondah's parks, gardens and open spaces flourishing thanks to the work of Council's Parks and Open Space team.

The team helps keeps Maroondah looking beautiful for our community to enjoy all year round, maintaining parks and open spaces including Council's playgrounds, civic centres and garden beds.

The team takes a strategic approach to ensure the plants are well-suited for the areas, planting small native shrubs and larger native trees where appropriate.

Throughout 2024, the team has completed a tree planting program in garden beds and roadside areas,

including along Maroondah Highway and New Street in Ringwood.

They have also created and improved garden beds and parklets at several shopping centres, including The Mall and Merrindale in Croydon South and McAdam Square in Croydon.

Look out for the team's improvements in open spaces at Dorset Recreation Reserve in Croydon, too, as well as Karralyka in Ringwood East, and The Range Estate in Croydon.



You might have also noticed the garden beds in full bloom at Ringwood Clocktower, following the team's work in September and October! Their efforts will ensure the Clocktower looks its best for Remembrance Day in November.

**Visit Council's website to learn more about Maroondah's parks, playgrounds and open spaces.**

# We're joining the cycle this National Recycling Week!

Planet Ark's National Recycling Week encourages everyone to recycle right, reduce waste and reduce contamination. Running from Monday 11 to Sunday 17 November, this year's theme is 'Join the Cycle', inspiring all of us to engage with positive sustainable actions at home, work and in the community.



This year, Council is hosting a number of activities for our community to join the cycle! Are you a quizmaster champion? Get your friends together and test your recycling knowledge at Council's online recycling trivia night on Thursday 14 November. There's also a chance to win prizes. When you're visiting Realm next, stop by the recycling display. There are also online trivia events for schools and special Storytimes at Realm and Croydon Library.

National Recycling Week isn't about recycling more, it's about recycling better. Here are our top tips to improve your recycling habits:

- Keep your recycling loose – plastic bags do not belong in your recycling bin.

- Tear large cardboard boxes into smaller pieces, to save space in your recycling bin and prevent your bin from getting jammed.
- Paper takeaway bags also go into recycling, just make sure they are empty first.
- Leave metal lids on glass jars.
- Squeeze air out of plastic bottles and screw the plastic lids back on before placing in your recycling bin.
- Check Council's recycling webpage or A to Z of waste disposal guide if you're unsure how to correctly recycle your items.

Visit Council's website and social media pages for all event details, as well as recycling games, quizzes, videos, recycling information and more.



Local disability service provider Burke and Beyond are getting their recycling sorted. Scan the QR code to read the full story.



## Respect starts with a conversation

**Council is once again proud to be supporting the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.**

The 16 Days of Activism campaign runs from 25 November to 10 December. The global movement promotes gender equality and encourages people to take action to prevent gender-based violence. In Victoria, the campaign is led by Respect Victoria, supported by Safe + Equal.

Look out for Council's billboards supporting the state-wide 'Respect Is' campaign, which calls on everyone to have conversations that build healthy, equal relationships and create a future where everyone is safe, equal and respected.

Community members are also invited to take part in an engaging and informative online event on Tuesday 3 December, 7pm to 8.30pm, featuring MC Patricia Karvelas, host of RN Breakfast on Radio National. Council is supporting this event in partnership with Monash City Council and Knox City Council.

Visit Council's website for details and to register for the event.

## Support

If you or someone you know needs support:

- call 000 in an emergency
- call 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) for 24/7 confidential counselling, support and safety planning.

## Protect yourself from thunderstorm asthma

**It's important to know about thunderstorm asthma and how to protect yourself during grass pollen season.**

Grass pollen season brings an increase in asthma and hay fever. It also brings the chance of thunderstorm asthma. For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing, thunderstorm asthma can be sudden, serious and even life-threatening.

If you have ever had asthma, talk to your doctor about how to protect yourself. Taking an asthma preventer properly and

regularly is key to preventing asthma, including thunderstorm asthma.

If you suffer from hay fever, see your pharmacist or doctor for a hay fever treatment plan and check if you should also have any prevention medication for asthma.

Where possible, avoid being outside during thunderstorms – especially during wind gusts that come before a storm. Stay indoors, keeping all doors



and windows closed. If you have an air-conditioner, turn it on to recirculate.

You can use the Vic Emergency app to monitor the epidemic thunderstorm asthma risk forecast each day during grass pollen season.

For more about thunderstorm asthma, and how to protect yourself, visit the 'Thunderstorm asthma' page on the Better Health website [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/thunderstorm-asthma](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/thunderstorm-asthma)



# Ushering in a new era at Karralyka

**Council is ushering in a new era at Karralyka in Ringwood East, with works underway to upgrade the foyer and bar area.**

The works form part of the broader staged redevelopment project over several years at the award-winning arts facility.

At the completion of the works, visitors will be able to gather in a new, expansive, light-filled foyer and bar area to enjoy pre- or post-show drinks, soak up the warmer weather in an indoor into outdoor area, or use an extended function space for cocktail-style events.

Enhancements are also being made to the western building entry. These include the renewal of surrounding landscaping and upgrading balustrades, which will improve accessibility.

Please note, there is restricted parking and building access during the works.

Find out more online at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/karralyka-foyer-works](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/karralyka-foyer-works)



## Pool retiling at Aquahub

**Council is excited to be undertaking renewal works at Aquahub, which will improve the facility for our community.**

Council is undertaking essential maintenance works on the Aquahub pools and sauna from Monday 18 November 2024 to March 2025. These works will ensure Aquahub's facilities can be enjoyed by future generations.

The works will include re-tiling the 25-metre pool and maintenance on the grouting in the surrounding tiled areas, as well as maintenance and ventilation improvements in changing areas. Stainless steel fittings will also be replaced, along with general maintenance of the plant room and general tidying up of surrounding assets.

There will be no access to the spa, sauna and pools during these works, so if you're keen for a swim, consider visiting Aquanation in Ringwood or Croydon Memorial Pool in Croydon when the outdoor pool season starts on Saturday 16 November. The pools may be busier than usual, so plan ahead and

check lane availability on the Maroondah Leisure website [www.maroondahleisure.com.au](http://www.maroondahleisure.com.au)

The Health Club and group fitness studios at Aquahub will remain open throughout the works and the gymnastics program will operate as usual.

Scan the QR code or visit the 'Maroondah projects' page on Council's website to find out more.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Splash around this summer

**The outdoor pool season opens once again at Croydon Memorial Pool on Saturday 16 November, so get ready to make a splash!**

The 50m outdoor pool is heated to 28 degrees, making it a great option for fitness training and lap swimming. There are also aqua aerobics classes, a leisure pool and a toddler pool. A day at the pool can work up an appetite, so enjoy crisp fruit salads, wholesome wraps and sandwiches, juices and nutritious snacks alongside familiar favourites from the kiosk.

Visit the Maroondah Leisure website [www.maroondahleisure.com.au](http://www.maroondahleisure.com.au) or call 9294 5630 for opening hours.

### Maroondah Corporate Memberships



**Enhance employee benefits at no extra cost by taking advantage of a new corporate offer from Maroondah Leisure.**

Businesses can now register for all employees to enjoy discounted access to wellness, fitness, swimming, and golf memberships through Maroondah Leisure, with membership options to suit all tastes, ages and abilities.

Visit the Maroondah Leisure website [www.maroondahleisure.com.au/CorporateMemberships](http://www.maroondahleisure.com.au/CorporateMemberships) to see the Maroondah Corporate Memberships suite benefits.

### Survey on maternal and child health services

**The Victorian Government is seeking feedback on Victorian Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services.**

Parents, carers and families who have accessed Victorian MCH services in the past two years are invited to provide anonymous feedback to the Victorian Government through an online survey.

Visit the Engage Victoria website [www.engage.vic.gov.au](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au) to learn more and provide your feedback. Consultation closes on Sunday 1 December.

# What's On

Visit Council's website for more information about these and other events.

Hosting a community event? Visit our website and add your event to our online 'Events calendar'.



## Maroondah Festival

Sunday 10 November, 10am to 4pm  
Town Park, Croydon

Get ready for a fun day filled with music, delicious food, thrill rides, market stalls, 'come and try' sports, kids kingdom and rides, and community activities.

Thanks to our event sponsors, EastLink and Mercedes Benz Ringwood.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website for details.



## Elvis & Buddy Rock and Roll Sensation

Thursday 14 November, 8pm to 10.20pm  
Karralyka, Ringwood East

Join highly acclaimed entertainer Mark Caligiuri and The Sensational Memphis Beat Show Band as they bring to life the songs of Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly.

Tickets are \$69.90 per adult or \$64.90 per concession.



Scan the QR code or visit the Karralyka website to book or find out more.



## The Explorers – Trip to Torquay

Friday 15 November, 9am to 4pm  
Departs from Croydon Library

Head down to Torquay and explore the coastline. For Maroondah residents aged 65 and over, through Council's Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Program. To register, call Council's Social Inclusion and Wellbeing team on 9294 5531 or email [kerrabee@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:kerrabee@maroondah.vic.gov.au)



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



## Wyreena Makers Market

Saturday 16 November, 10am to 3pm  
Wyreena Community Arts Centre, Croydon

Visit artists and makers inside the Wyreena buildings and buy something for yourself or someone you love. You can wander through the beautiful garden and enjoy something to eat from The Conservatory Café.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.



## Thriving in Retirement: Overcoming Barriers to Joining New Activities

Monday 18 November, 10am to 11am  
Realm Library, Ringwood Town Square

Join Nantzee, Occupational Therapist, and Daniel, Social Support Coordinator, to learn ways to step out of your comfort zone, try new activities and stay socially connected in retirement.



Scan the QR code, call Your Library on 9800 6430 or visit the Your Library website to find out more and register.



## Australia Day event and awards

Sunday 26 January, 9am to 2.30pm  
Ringwood Lake Park

Watch as the winners of the 2025 Maroondah Australia Day Awards are announced.

You can also enjoy free family-friendly activities from 10.30am, including children's entertainment, rides and face painting.



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website to find out more.

## Returning to work webinar

Tuesday 26 November, 7pm to 8.30pm

Presented by Mums Matter Psychology, this free webinar is for women returning to work after maternity leave and those looking to enter or re-skill after a period away from work.

Learn how the experience of returning to work can differ between women, and

ways to deal with changing emotions as you prepare to re-enter the workforce.

The webinar will also cover how to foster positive experiences with your children through this period of change, and strategies to help you settle back into work/life balance.

Hosted by Whitehorse Council in partnership with Maroondah City and Yarra Ranges Councils. Visit Council's website to learn more or register.

Visit the 'Parenting information sessions' page on Council's website to view other upcoming parenting sessions.



# Making progress in Maroondah

As part of Council's \$65.77 million Capital Works Program, projects are continuing to take shape.

## Facilities

### Maroondah Federation Estate works



Renewal works to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at Maroondah Federation Estate are scheduled to commence in January 2025. These are essential renewal works that will ensure the building remains comfortable and serviceable into the future. The lifestyle section of the building, which includes the Gallery, multipurpose meeting rooms and offices, will be closed during these works. The old school building will not be affected, and activities in this precinct will continue as usual during works.

Find out more online at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Maroondah-Federation-Estate-upgrade-works](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Maroondah-Federation-Estate-upgrade-works)

### Croydon Memorial Pool



Croydon Memorial Pool opens this month, with pool filter renewal works now complete. The works included the renewal of the pool filtration system, pool liner cleaning, minor landscaping of surrounding areas, pathway renewal, painting and general maintenance of change rooms. These works are part of Council's schedule of regular pool maintenance and will ensure the facility can be enjoyed to the fullest in the coming summer season.

Find out more online at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Croydon-Memorial-Pool-renewal-works](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Croydon-Memorial-Pool-renewal-works)

## Drainage

### Norwood Reserve drainage works



As part of the Norwood Reserve Enhancement Plan, drainage improvement works are now complete. Council has expanded the existing retarding basin and earth bund and carried out drainage pit and pipe alterations to support the expanded basin.

These works will improve stormwater management of the site and provide greater flood protection to downstream properties.

The broader car park and open space works at Norwood Reserve will continue through to late 2025.

Find out more online at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Norwood-Reserve-enhancement-plan](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Norwood-Reserve-enhancement-plan)

## Roads

### Newell Street, Bayswater North



Road improvement works at Newell Street in Bayswater North are nearing completion.

Council is constructing a new road surface with new kerb and channel, widening the pavement, reconstructing vehicle crossings and installing underground stormwater drainage infrastructure.

The project is due for completion this month.

## Open space

### Grayswood Reserve skate precinct



Reconstruction of the skate facility at Grayswood Reserve in Kilsyth will kick off in January 2025. Following consultation in June 2024, community feedback helped to inform an updated concept design that will better cater to the target age and skill group of users. New seating, rubbish bins, drinking taps and shelter will also be included as part of this project.

Find out more online at [www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au/grayswood-skate-consultation](http://www.yoursay.maroondah.vic.gov.au/grayswood-skate-consultation)

## Pathways

### Wildwood Grove footpath works



Footpath improvement work at Wildwood Grove is nearing completion. A new footpath is being constructed on the southern side of Wildwood Grove, between Ringwood Street and Harrison Street. The pedestrian crossings at the Ringwood Street and Harrison Street intersections are being reconstructed to improve pedestrian safety. The project is due for completion this month.

Find out more at [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/wildwood-grove-footpath-works](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/wildwood-grove-footpath-works)



## Learn more

Scan the QR code to visit the 'Maroondah projects' page on Council's website to find out more and see other projects in progress. You can also enter your location to find projects near you.



# Women in Business

**Uplift your financial wellbeing!**

**Tuesday 26 November  
9.30am to 12.30pm at Karralyka**

Join us for an inspiring morning of learning and networking as we empower you with the knowledge and tools to uplift your financial wellbeing.

Hosted by Council's BizHub team and featuring industry experts, The Money Collective and Caz Hendrie.

Don't let financial uncertainty hold you back, uplift your financial wellbeing.

Book now at [www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au](http://www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au)



**Workshop  
and  
networking  
session**



**The Money Collective**



**Caz Hendrie**

In partnership with

**EASTLAND**

**BizHub**



Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598, online at [maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://maroondah.vic.gov.au) email [maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au](mailto:maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au) or visit one of our service centres.

**Croydon Service Centre**  
Croydon Library, Civic Square, Croydon

**Realm**  
179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood  
(opposite Ringwood Station)

