

Maroondah news

Your community newsletter



Spring 2024



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View Maroondah news online at
www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/MaroondahNews

Council meetings

Council meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month in the Council Chamber at Realm and are live-streamed via Council's website. Please visit the website for further information on dates and times.

Upcoming dates:

Monday 16 September, 7.30pm

**Monday 14 October, 6pm
(for the purpose of adopting
Council's Annual Report)**

**Wednesday 20 November, 7.30pm
(election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor)**

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 online on the Friday before the meeting date.

Council opening hours

Our Customer Service team is here to help. Visit:

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 Grand Final Eve, Friday 27
September, 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

Phone 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598

Email maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au

SMS 0480 020 200

Mail PO Box 156, Ringwood VIC 3134



Scan the QR code to subscribe to Maroondah *news*, 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.

Front page: Performers joining in the fun at the Children's Week Twilight Picnic. Find out more on page 12.

Council thanks the community

This is the final edition of Maroondah *news* for the current term of Council. On behalf of all Councillors, Mayor, Councillor Kylie Spears, would like to thank the Maroondah community for their support over the past four years.

It has been a busy and productive term for Council, with positive changes and developments throughout the municipality.

As representatives for the community, the Councillors have played an important role in decision-making and in the development of

a range of programs and projects that have benefited the Maroondah community.

We thank them for their contribution over the four-year term.

Good luck to all candidates in the upcoming October 2024 Council elections.



Back (L – R): Cr Rob Steane OAM; Cr Suzy Stojanovic; Cr Linda Hancock; and Cr Tony Dib OAM JP.
Front (L – R): Cr Mike Symon; Cr Tasa Damante; Cr Kylie Spears, Mayor; Cr Paul Macdonald, Deputy Mayor and Cr Chris Jones

2025/26 Community Directory listings closing soon

The Maroondah Community Directory 2025/26 will be printed soon, so make sure your organisation's listing is included and up to date.

The Community Directory is a great place for community and not-for-profit organisations within Maroondah to promote a range of services and offerings to local residents.

For community members, the Community Directory is the place to search for local community groups, sporting clubs and activity groups, or to find support services such as food or financial assistance.

The directory is available on Council's website, while a printed version is distributed every two years to Council service centres and facilities across Maroondah.

With the latest version just around the corner, make sure your organisation's listing is up to date or add your organisation by Sunday 13 October 2024.

Visit the 'Community Directory' page on Council's website to learn more about updating or adding your organisation.

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

Nominations now open for the Maroondah Youth Awards!

Do you know a young person who deserves to be recognised for their strength, resilience or accomplishments?

The annual Maroondah Youth Awards are a great way of celebrating the unique contributions and achievements that young people, aged 10 to 25, make to our community. The awards look further than conventional leadership and academic achievements, instead focussing on young people's creativity, teamwork and personal resilience.

The awards will be presented at an event on 28 November at Karralyka, which will include young people sharing their personal stories, inspiring speeches and amazing performances.

Each young person who is nominated will receive an award, which will be presented by the Mayor and Councillors.

To nominate a young person, or for more information about the Youth Awards, visit Council's website or contact the Youth team at youth@maroondah.vic.gov.au or 9294 5705.

Nominations close Friday 18 October.



Recipients of the 2023 Youth Awards in the team work category.

Upcoming 2024 Council elections

The 2024 Council election for the City of Maroondah will be conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) and will be held on Saturday 26 October 2024.

Maroondah is divided into nine Wards, with one Councillor representing each Ward.

You can view detailed maps of each Ward on Council's website.

Nominations to stand as a Councillor open on Monday 9 September and close at 12noon on Tuesday 17 September.

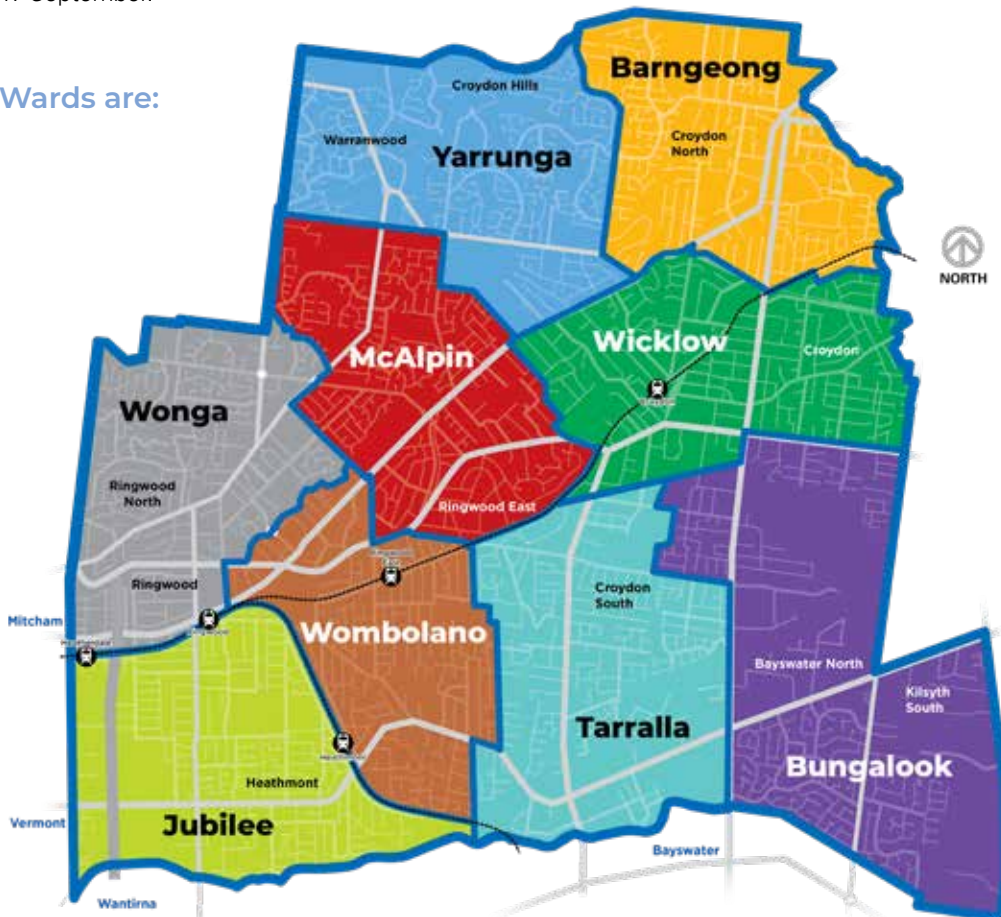
The election will be conducted by postal ballot, which will be mailed by the VEC to all enrolled voters from Monday 7 October. Voting closes at 6pm on Friday 25 October.

The ballot packs will include information on each candidate, a ballot paper, and a return mail envelope.

To stay up to date with the Council Elections, visit the Victorian Electoral Commission website www.vec.vic.gov.au

Maroondah's Wards are:

- Barneong
- Bungalook
- Jubilee
- McAlpin
- Tarralla
- Wicklow
- Wombolano
- Wonga
- Yarrunga



October is Community Safety Month

We all have a role to play in keeping Maroondah a safe place to live, work, play and visit.

Council's website provides information on how you can help, including tips on:

- Preparing an emergency plan for you, your family and your pets, with the 'Are you prepared for an emergency?' booklet, plus resources from CFA, Fire Rescue Victoria, SES and more.
- Preparing your property for the storm season between October and March.
- How to help minimise the risk of flash flooding around your property.
- What to do during a power outage, including storing food safely.
- How to cope and stay safe during heatwaves and extreme heat.

During emergencies

- In an emergency, call 000 for police, fire and ambulance. You can also report non-urgent crimes and events anytime, anywhere by calling the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or by submitting an online report on the Victoria Police website www.police.vic.gov.au
- Call Council on **1300 88 22 33** to report after-hours emergencies that need immediate action by Council, such as road-based hazards, flooding, fallen trees, a dog attack, or illegal burning off.
- Check in on your neighbours.



Council's website lists other important contacts and resources to help you stay informed. These include:

- Local police stations:
 - Croydon: 171-175 Mt Dandenong Road, Croydon. Call: 9724 0100
 - Ringwood: 31 Ringwood Street, Ringwood. Call: 9871 3000
- Maroondah SES unit: Maroondah City Council Operations Centre, 24-28 Lincoln Road, Croydon. For flood and storm emergencies, call 132 500
- The Vic Emergency app, hotline 1800 226 226 or website, www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond
- ABC local radio: 774 AM
- Eastern FM radio: 98.1 FM
- The Ausnet Power Outages tracker: www.outagetracker.com.au



Scan the QR code or visit the 'Emergencies' page on Council's website to get started.

BizHub Connecting you with business news and support

Subscribe to the BizHub eNewsletter for the latest business news and support services for your business.

Council's BizHub team can help you stay informed on what matters most to your business with BizHub eNews.

With a fresh new format, the fortnightly eNewsletter is sure to keep you up to date on the latest business news, grant information, mentoring services, workshops and training, upcoming events at BizHub and much more.

Visit the BizHub website
www.bizhubmaroondah.com.au
and subscribe to stay connected.

Dispose of rubbish responsibly

Help us protect Maroondah's natural environment. Report littering behaviour and litter in bushland areas and reserves.

Do you live near a reserve, bushland or creek and see litter all the time? Litter has a much worse impact than you might think.

Litter pollutes the environment and can kill wildlife. It contaminates natural waterways and blocks stormwater drains.

Litter also poses a risk to public health, and costs ratepayers tens of thousands of dollars a year in removal costs. But

you can make a difference. If you see something, say something. Report littering behaviour and litter in bushland areas and reserves.

Learn more about the impacts of litter or report online at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue

Please dispose of rubbish responsibly – our natural environment depends on it. Remember, penalties apply for littering.



Explore and engage at our Seniors Festival

Victorian
Seniors
Festival
2024

EXPLORE.
ENGAGE.
EVOLVE.

Join us for the 2024 Maroondah Seniors Festival – an event acknowledging the contribution made by older people to our community, celebrating their achievements and promoting positive ageing and wellbeing.

Older people who live in Maroondah are encouraged to attend and learn more about the range of community groups available to them.

The festival is also a great way to meet new people, explore new interests, and discover ways to enhance your life and develop your resilience to remain happy, healthy and productive as you age.

The festival runs in conjunction with the Victorian Seniors Festival and coincides with International Day of Older Persons on 1 October.



Wellbeing Expo

**Tuesday 29 October, 12noon to 2.30pm
at Karralyka in Ringwood East**

The free expo is a great way for Maroondah residents aged 65 and over to find out more about the opportunities and supports available to them. There will be a range of stallholders and prize giveaways.

Bookings are not required.

Seniors Community Luncheon

**Wednesday 6 November from 10am
at Karralyka in Ringwood East**

Older people who live in Maroondah are invited to attend our free Seniors Community Luncheon.

Join us for music and merriment, with a performance from 10am to 12noon, followed by a delicious two-course lunch and a conversational atmosphere.

Bookings are essential and will open in September. Keep an eye on Council's website for details and to book your tickets.



Seniors Transport Guide

Pick up a copy of Council's *Seniors Transport Guide* for information on travel discounts for older people, using a Myki card, transport options and other helpful travel tips.

The booklet is available at Council's customer service centres, or you can download a copy from our website at www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/SeniorsFestival

Contact us on 1300 88 22 33 to request to have a copy posted to you.

Mental health matters

In recognition of World Mental Health Month, Council is hosting events this October to raise awareness about the importance of positive mental health and wellbeing for community members of all ages and backgrounds.

Growing Wellbeing Activity Day

Join us for our free Growing Wellbeing Activity Day at Realm and in Ringwood Town Square on **Wednesday 2 October, 10am to 1pm**.

Experience ways to look after your mental health and wellbeing and discover how to support your family and friends too.

A range of organisations will be there, so you can learn about some of the local

mental health and wellbeing support services and programs available.

Join in fun, free activities for all ages, including an urban art walk, a light and sound show, an art therapy talk with related art activities, positive ageing information and activities, Active Kids program, plus yoga bunnies storytime with Your Library and a 'Get active around the Library' challenge!



This event is presented by Council in partnership with Eastland, EACH, Your Library and Communities of Wellbeing.

'Leading with wellbeing' breakfast with Trent Cotchin

Save the date for our 'Leading with wellbeing' breakfast at **Eastland at 7am on Thursday 10 October**, featuring former Australian Football League (AFL) player Trent Cotchin.

Trent Cotchin is best known for his time as a professional AFL player at the Richmond Football Club. As captain from 2013 to 2021, he established himself as a well-respected leader who supported a culture of continued growth, staying true to his values of living with purpose.

Along with his achievements at Richmond, Trent is a proud father of three and loves spending time with his kids and wife, Brooke. Together, they created Posisocks in 2020 – a sock company with the purpose of impacting people's lives positively and inspiring them to live a more positive version of the life they already have.

Trent enjoys staying true to his own purpose and supporting others on their journey in all areas of life and business.

Enjoy breakfast while Trent reflects on the importance of supporting wellbeing when in a leadership role.

Visit Council's website to find out more about these events and to book.

2025 Maroondah Waste and Recycling Guide

Yes! We can go in your FOGO bin!



Fruit and vegetable scraps



Meat, seafood and bones



Grass clippings, weeds and prunings



Dairy and grains



Plate scrapings and leftovers



Small branches and logs

(up to 10cm in diameter and 40cm in length)

Tips for your FOGO bin:

- Place garden material loosely into your FOGO bin
- Do not use any plastic bags, wrapping or string to bundle your garden waste material
- Remove all fruit stickers/rubber bands
- No animal waste or kitty litter.

ONLY use Council-supplied compostable liners.

If you run out of liners, top up packs can be picked up from one of our Customer Service Centres.



Yes! We can go in your recycling bin!



Hard plastic bottles and containers



Steel cans



Paper and cardboard



Glass bottles and jars



Aerosols



Aluminium cans and foil

Tips for your recycling bin:

- Place items loosely into your recycling bin
- No plastic bags
- Remove food and liquid from containers and packaging
- Flatten and break up cardboard into smaller pieces
- Leave plastic lids on your plastic bottles and jars
- Leave steel and aluminium lids on your glass bottles and jars.



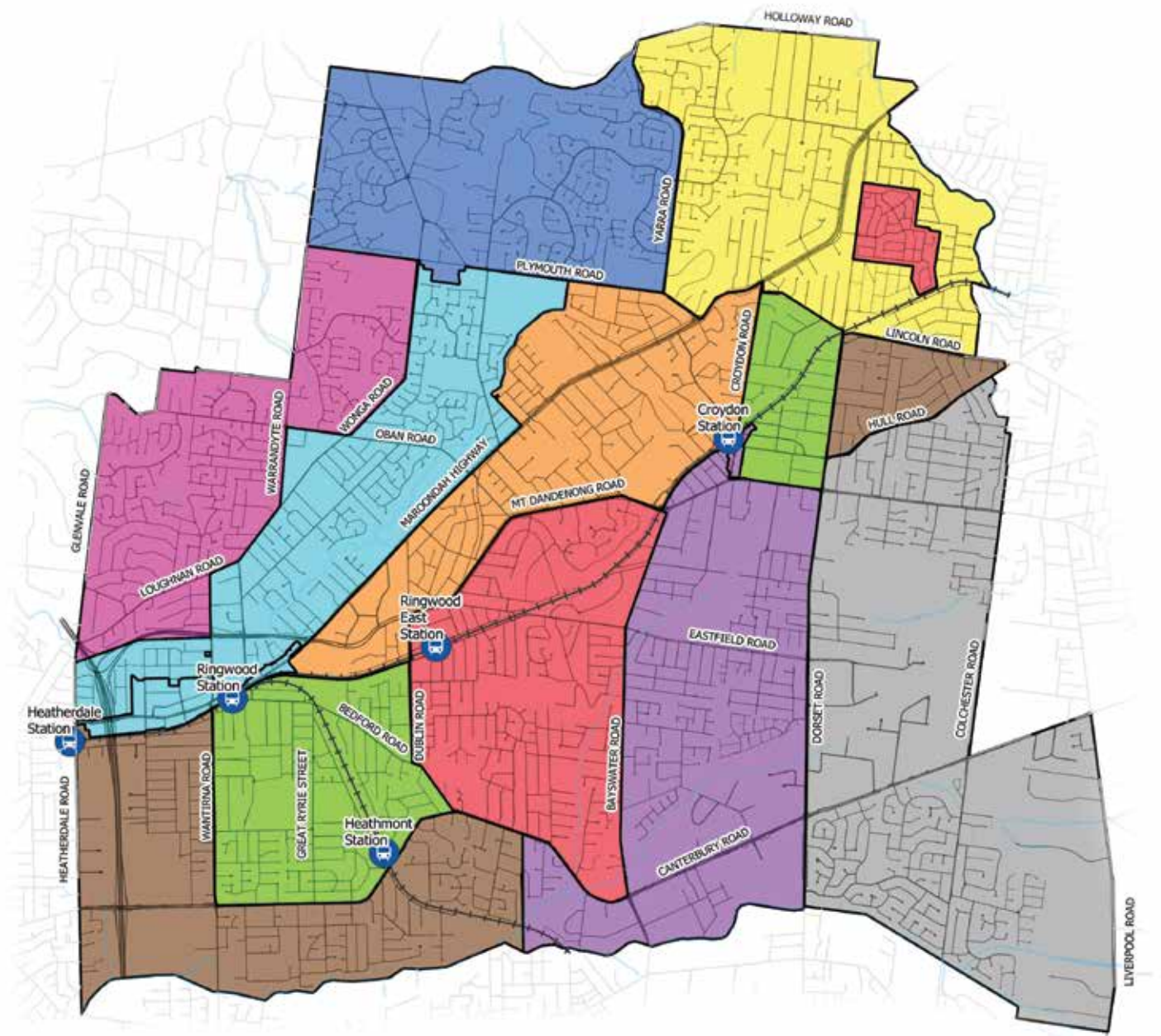
Scan the QR code to learn more about what can and can't go into your bins.



For more information on where you can safely and responsibly dispose of items, visit Council's A-Z of waste disposal guide.

2025 Waste Map

Collections occur on the day of the week shown on your area of the map below. Your bins will still be collected on a public holiday – even Christmas Day!













How to use the waste calendar map

Find your street on the map to see your collection day and area. Once you know your area, refer to the calendar overleaf to see which week you should put out your bin.

Legend

Waste collection

 Monday – Area A	 Tuesday – Area A	 Wednesday – Area A	 Thursday – Area A	 Friday – Area A
 Monday – Area B	 Tuesday – Area B	 Wednesday – Area B	 Thursday – Area B	 Friday – Area B



Scan the QR code to find out more about your collection days and what can go into your kerbside bins.



2025 Waste Collection Calendar



Recycling **Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO)**

Keep the calendar on your fridge for a quick reference guide on which bin night it is.

Area A

JANUARY 2025							FEBRUARY 2025							MARCH 2025							APRIL 2025												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
			1	2	3	4						1								1					5				1	2	3	4	5
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26						
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30									
														30	31																		

MAY 2025							JUNE 2025							JULY 2025							AUGUST 2025						
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

SEPTEMBER 2025							OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025							DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
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Area B

JANUARY 2025							FEBRUARY 2025							MARCH 2025							APRIL 2025							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
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MAY 2025							JUNE 2025							JULY 2025							AUGUST 2025						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

SEPTEMBER 2025							OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025							DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													

Collection guidelines

- Place the correct bins out by 6am and bring them in within 24 hours of collection.
- Check your bin weight. If you can't easily wheel your bin to the kerb, or it weighs more than 40kg, then it's probably too heavy to be collected.
- Your bin lid must be fully closed. Don't overfill your bin as extra bags of rubbish will not be collected and you will be required to pick up any litter created due to the lid not being closed.

Give your hard waste collection a helping hand

If your household is having a spring clean this year, follow our handy tips to ensure a smooth collection for your hard waste items.

Book your collection before placing any hard waste out onto your nature strip. The quickest way to book is online through Council's website. You can also call us on 1300 88 22 33.

Once your hard waste collection is booked and confirmed, remember to:

- Put your items out on the nature strip no earlier than the weekend before your collection date.
- Wrap any mirrors or glass in paper or cardboard and clearly label them.

- Group all electronic items together.
 - Only put accepted items out. Place them in a neat pile and within your booked size limit. Ensure footpaths, in-ground hydrants and pits are clear.
 - Place mattresses to the side of your pile with nothing on top. Mattresses are collected by a separate truck and recycled.
 - Remove doors from freezers and fridges.
- Visit Council's website for a full list of accepted items and what can't be collected.



Did you know?

Did you know you can book a bundled prunings collection instead of hard waste?

What to do with household waste

Did you know that there are a number of options to reduce your waste and dispose of household items?

Safely recycle your old household batteries

There are approximately 5.7 million used batteries in homes across Australia. But did you know old household batteries cannot go in your kerbside bins? Throwing used batteries into your bins is a serious fire hazard.



To recycle your old household batteries, including AA, AAA, C, D and 9V, tape the ends using clear sticky tape and drop them off at a battery recycling location such as the recycling station at Realm, Ringwood Town Square.



Scan the QR code for drop-off points in Maroondah and tips on how to safely recycle your batteries.



A-Z of waste disposal

Council's online A-Z of waste disposal is a useful guide on how to dispose of some of those more difficult to dispose items you might have around the house, such as aerosols, car batteries and X-rays.

Scan the QR code on the front page of this Waste and Recycling Guide or visit the 'Waste and Recycling' page on Council's website.

Join the Compost Revolution



Composting is a great way to keep food waste out of your general waste bin (and out of landfill) while also producing a rich fertiliser for your garden. Council offers residents up to 60 percent off a range of home composting and worm farming systems through our Compost Revolution program.

Each Maroondah residential property is eligible for one subsidised system per year.

To access the discount and free tutorials, visit www.compostrevolution.com.au/maroondah



E-waste + More collection events

Council holds an e-waste collection event in May and October each year. Disposal of e-waste is free for Maroondah residents.

We also accept clean polystyrene, cardboard, textiles, gas bottles, fluorescent lights, batteries, vapes and e-cigarettes along with e-waste. Please note, items should be in residential quantities only.

Council's next event is on Saturday 19 October. Registrations will open soon.



Visit Council's website or sign up to our Waste and Sustainability newsletter for further updates.

If you are dropping off sharps or fluorescent light bulbs to the recycling station at Realm, please see Customer Service for assistance first.

Arts in Maroondah

What's happening across Maroondah's arts sector, including exhibitions and theatre shows for all ages.



KARRALYKA

Scan the QR code for more information or to book, visit the Karralyka website at www.karralyka.com.au or call 9870 2888.



The Velveteen Rabbit

Thursday 3 October, 11am or 2pm

\$28 per person or \$100 for a Family Pass (2 adults and 2 children)

Set within a film shoot and layered with live projections, physical theatre company 'Born in a Taxi' thoughtfully and hilariously reimagines this 100-year-old children's story by Margery Williams. The story is infused with dynamic audience participation, music, live stream video and projections layered into the work, playing with multiple scales and giving the audience the perspective of a child. Playful, visual and poetic. A must-see for families and anyone who has ever cherished a beloved toy!



Morning Music

Various dates from September to December, 9.30am

\$25 per person

Join us for an array of Morning Music shows, with something to delight all audiences until the end of year! Performances include *The Winner Is – Ian Stenlake & Michelle Fitzmaurice* on 10 September, *The Bobby Darin Story* on 29 October, *It's Time – Glen Starr – Michael Bubl  Show* on 12 November and *The Joy of Christmas* on 17 December. Every ticket includes tea, coffee and delicious treats one hour prior to the show time. Limited tickets remaining for all shows – get in quickly to avoid disappointment!



Cabaret By Candlelight – Whispering Jack: The Music of John Farnham

Saturday 9 November, 7pm

\$120 per person, including 2-course meal

Mike Vee is 'The Voice' behind the Australian *Whispering Jack* show, a tribute to the music of John Farnham, which has toured Australia and internationally for almost a decade. Join Mike and his seven-piece band as they deliver an uplifting evening of entertainment, jam-packed with Farnham's greatest hits including *Age of Reason*, *Pressure Down*, *A Touch of Paradise*, *Burn For You*, and of course, *You're the Voice*, from Farnham's legendary 1986 album, *Whispering Jack*.



What's On

Don't miss these exciting exhibitions! Scan the QR code or visit the 'Exhibitions and arts events' page on Council's website to learn more about these and other exhibitions.



Until
6
Sep

Boundless Threads

Until 6 September

Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, Ringwood

The Gifford Arts Project has been a laboratory for art workshops and self-development in Croydon North for the past 18 years.

This exhibition showcases diverse perspectives of participants that emphasise individuality through drawings, sketches, and painting.



Until
6
Sep

Aurora Arborescus

Until 6 September

Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, Ringwood

The exhibition includes paintings exploring the soft, lucent quality of daybreak.

A large installation immersing the viewer in a tree-lined journey along the Birrarung (Yarra) River is a creative call for appreciation of our bushland, environmental consciousness and conservation.



Until
15
Sep

Labours of Love

Until 15 September

ArtSpace at Realm, Ringwood Town Square

Labours of Love showcases Kate Golding's intergenerational co-making art practice and her experience of art and life entwined as an artist, mother and caregiver.

Utilising lens-based and cameraless photographic techniques, the artworks form a tangible record of memory, the essence of caregiving, and the dynamics of compassionate relationships.

Lilydale Line level crossing free

Major works to remove the two level crossings at Dublin Road, Ringwood East and Coolstore Road, Croydon have been completed after a six-week construction blitz as part of the Victorian Government's Level Crossing Removal Project. This milestone marks the Lilydale Line as Melbourne's first rail line to be boom gate free.



The construction blitz also saw a brand-new Ringwood East Station open to passengers, with trains running through the new rail trench. The station features a main concourse, upgraded parking with more accessible parking, and platforms accessible by lifts and stairs.

Over at Croydon, the new Kent Avenue to Lacey Street intersection has opened to traffic, replacing the Coolstore Road roundabout and improving connections to Croydon's town centre.

A new Croydon Station is also open and once fully completed will feature two entrances and safer, modern facilities.

Works to complete the Ringwood East and Croydon station precincts will continue into spring 2024. The works include opening new road connections at Croydon; and completing shared use path connections and landscaping across both Ringwood East and Croydon sites.

Visit the Victoria's Big Build website www.bigbuild.vic.gov.au to find out more.

Language and learning across the ages

An intergenerational language program has led to learning across the ages.

Over four weeks, migrant students from Swinburne University of Technology visited Council's Social Inclusion and Wellbeing service at Kerrabee, where they shared conversations with older residents, led activities and played games.

The partnership provided benefits for both groups, allowing the students to practice their conversational English skills while social support group members at Kerrabee learnt more about different cultures.

Migrant English Teacher at Swinburne University of Technology, Jane Barbieri, said the program helped students develop their confidence in speaking to people who ordinarily speak in English and improve their speaking and listening skills, which would help students have the confidence to get a job or volunteer in the community.

Swinburne student Ella enjoyed building meaningful connections with the social support group members at Kerrabee while gaining insights into their life experiences and wisdom and enhancing her communication and listening skills.

Social support group members Fay and Kay also enjoyed the program.

"I learnt a lot about other nationalities, particularly the week the students made a placard of their country and brought in a lot of cultural items. I hope they got as much enjoyment out of it as we did," Fay said.



"I asked the students about where they came from and why they are here, what they are learning. They were from different parts of the world than most of the people I have spoken to, [so] it has been interesting to hear more about where they are from," Kay said.

Council is looking forward to continuing the program in the future with different social support group members.

[Visit Council's website to find out more about our Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Program.](#)

Help keep Maroondah clean



Report dumped rubbish and help keep Maroondah clean and beautiful.

Rubbish that has been deliberately dumped on streets, in parks and near waterways can cause huge problems for the environment and community health.

Every year, \$30 million of Victorian ratepayer money is spent investigating and removing illegally dumped rubbish. Not only does illegal dumping cost Council a lot of money, but it also impacts on the amenity of the local area and can even reduce the value of a property or area.

Illegally dumped rubbish is also harmful to our local environment. Dumped rubbish can enter stormwater drains and local waterways, attract insects and pests and even pose a fire hazard.



Have you spotted illegally dumped rubbish near you? Report it by scanning the QR code or visiting the 'Request a service or report an issue' page on Council's website.

Dates for your diary

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

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



Moves: chair-based exercise for older people

Wednesdays from 4 September, 10.30am to 12noon

Kerrabee, Louisa Street, Croydon

Come and flex, stretch and have fun with our weekly chair-based exercise class, then stay for a chat over morning tea. Caters for all fitness levels and abilities, with all equipment provided. The classes are part of Council's Social Inclusion and Wellbeing program. From \$7.22 per session per person (fee may vary depending on eligibility for individual funding). Bookings are essential as places are limited.



Scan the QR code to visit Council's website or call 9294 5531 to learn more.



Mature Rainbows

Fortnightly on Thursdays, 2pm to 4pm

Kerrabee, Louisa Street, Croydon

Mature Rainbows is a peer social group that provides a support network for LGBTI+ residents, allies and friends from around 50 years and over to connect in a safe and inclusive space, reduce social isolation and loneliness, build friendships, share stories/information and provide education, where needed.



Scan the QR code to visit Council's website or call 9294 5531 to learn more.



Great Southern Bioblitz

Friday 20 to Monday 23 September

Throughout Maroondah

Explore, discover and learn about Maroondah's rich biodiversity! Head to local nature areas and photograph biodiversity you can find, such as birds, insects, plants and fungi, and document your observations using the iNaturalist platform.



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



Run Maroondah

Sunday 20 October, 9am to 12noon

HE Parker Reserve, Heathmont

Join in the fun at this family-friendly event where all ages and athletic abilities are welcome. Options include the 15km or 10km run, the 5km run/walk, and the kids' 1.2km race. Registrations close on Friday 11 October.



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



Children's Week Twilight Picnic

Thursday 24 October, 4pm to 7pm

Town Park, Civic Square, Croydon

Bring a picnic and enjoy free fun activities for young children and their families, plus entertainment including hip hop dancers, stilt walkers and Mr Marvel Bubble! Handy information for families will also be available. Presented by Maroondah City Council in partnership with the Victorian Government.



Scan the QR code to visit Council's website and register for event updates.



Maroondah Carols

Saturday 7 December, from 6pm

Town Park, Croydon

Save the date and join us for Maroondah's much-loved Christmas carols event. Enjoy pre-show entertainment from 6pm, followed by the Maroondah Carols Band from 7.30pm. Singalongs encouraged, so brush up on your lyrics!



Scan the QR code or visit Council's website for more information closer to the date.

Visit your local community centre

Maroondah's local community centres offer a range of affordable programs, courses and activities in a supportive, friendly environment. Whether you're looking for a new hobby or to study something new, why not visit your local community centre and find out what's on offer?



Arrabri Community House

Talking Café hosted by Arrabri Community House

Come together with other over 60s and enjoy casual conversation and a cuppa.

When: Tuesdays, 2pm to 3pm

Where: Jolly Miller Café and Patisserie, 5-15 Kent Ave, Croydon

Contact: 9720 0877 or visit www.arrabri.org



Central Ringwood Community Centre

Heart Foundation Walking Group

Join us for a fun walk to improve your health and wellbeing. Stay for a cuppa and a chat after your walk.

When: Fridays, 10am (excluding public holidays)

Cost: Free

Contact: 9870 2602 or visit www.crccinc.org.au



Glen Park Community Centre

Art with Gabriele

Explore your art journey – create and immerse yourself within a friendly and supportive group.

When: Wednesdays, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Cost: Fees payable by the term.

Contact: 9720 5097 or office@glenparkcc.com.au



Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP)

Supports and facilitates a variety of cultural activities and programs that incorporate art, music, language and storytelling, providing a culturally safe and inclusive space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to feel connected and empowered.

Contact: 9725 2166 or visit mmigp.org.au



North Ringwood Community House

The Paper Club

Fortnightly creative sessions with all things paper! BYO tools and paper.

When: Mondays (fortnightly), 10am to 12.30pm

Cost: \$2 per session

Contact: 9876 3421 or visit www.nrch.org.au



Yarrunga Community Centre

Chair Exercise

This class is perfect if you have balance issues or are recovering from an injury.

When: Thursdays, 1pm to 2pm

Cost: Fees payable by the term

Contact: 9722 8942 or visit www.yarrunga.org.au

Learn more

For more information on these activities and many more, visit the 'Community centres' page on Council's website. You can also find links to each community centre website.

School holiday ideas

Council's website is your starting point for school holiday fun!

School holiday programs at Maroondah Leisure's stadiums keep your child active, entertained and social as they enjoy activities led by experienced coaches. Tailored sports programs are available for children aged 5 to 14 years.

Wyreena Community Arts Centre offers creative and fun workshops for children, with guidance from Wyreena's experienced artists.

Your Library hosts a variety of activities and workshops, and junior golf clinics are available at Ringwood Golf or Dorset Golf.

Alternatively, enjoy some sunshine and public art in Maroondah's beautiful parks, playgrounds and reserves.

Visit the 'School holiday activities and programs' page on Council's website for details.

Let's get our waste sorted!

Council makes it easy for you to get your waste sorted with its bin-credible waste program.

Council hosts fun and free workshops throughout the year that will take your waste to the next level. Over 60 workshops have already been held this year, featuring waste-free cooking and everyday recycling hacks, a beeswax wrap masterclass, composting basics, re-purposing old textiles and more.

So, whether you are struggling to put the right things into the right bin, have a burning composting question or are keen to turn potato peels and lemon rinds into something sensational, there is a workshop for you!

Schools and community groups are also busy sorting

Did you know Council also supports the community in other ways? On top of our action-packed regular programming, our Waste Education Team also runs sessions at the request of local schools and community groups.

From answering questions about what plastic goes in which bin, to keeping your worm farm happy over summer, our team is ready to help.



Scan the QR code to learn more and sign up to book in for a workshop or request a workshop for your group. You can also sign up to our monthly waste education eNewsletter for all the latest waste news and events.

Active Kids, Healthy Minds event

Join in the fun at our free outdoor games day and help boost your family's health and wellbeing.



Join us from 12noon to 3pm at Town Park, Norton Road, Croydon on Wednesday 25 September. Outdoor games and activities on offer include golf, gymnastics, football, basketball, volleyball, cricket, giant games, hula hoops and an obstacle course.

The games and activities are suitable for families with pre-school and primary school aged children, with parents and carers also encouraged to join in the fun and help improve their body and brain health too.

Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the leafy surrounds of Croydon Town Park. A coffee van will be on site from 12noon to 3pm.

You can also take part in school holiday activities with Your Library at Realm Library and Croydon Library. Visit the Your Library website www.yourlibrary.com.au to find out more.



Scan the QR code or search 'Active Kids' on Council's website to register for event updates.

New ways to make your home more comfortable

Make your home greener and more comfortable with the Solar Savers program.



Solar Savers is a local government initiative working towards a brighter future for our communities. The program has recently expanded, with energy efficient split systems and heat pump hot water systems now available for Maroondah households. These systems are a smart yet cost-effective way to save on your energy bills, reduce your electricity consumption and become more energy efficient.

Energy efficient split systems are designed to heat or cool a specific area or room, rather than an entire house, minimising energy consumption while giving you more control than traditional ducted reverse cycle systems.

Heat pump hot water systems use around 60 to 75 percent less electricity than a conventional electric hot water system. The electricity is used to operate the heat pump and does not heat the water directly with an element, but top down with a heat exchange. This means your water heats up quickly and stays hot. These systems also come with an in-built timer, giving you more control over your system.

High-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) systems and batteries are also available through Solar Savers.

Council and the Solar Savers team can help you work out if you are eligible for a \$1,000 hot water pump rebate from Solar Victoria.

Visit the 'Solar Savers' page on Council's website for more information.

Spectacular spring events at Your Library



There is so much to celebrate at Realm and Croydon Libraries this spring!

In September, try your hand at something new during one of the many Adult Learners' Week events, running between 2 and 16 September.

Or in October, get involved in one of the numerous events held throughout the month in celebration of the Victorian Seniors Festival.

In November, come along to Transgender Awareness Week events (13 to 19 November) or visit Croydon Library during Maroondah Festival on Sunday 10 November to meet children's authors Meredith Costain and George Ivanoff.

At Realm, there's also the chance to learn more about raw food diets in 'Raw and Ready September', find bliss where nature and creativity meet in 'Naturally Creative October', or be inspired by all that's on offer in 'Inspired November'.

Meanwhile, at Croydon, meet the author Anna Johnston as she discusses her book *The borrowed life of Frederick Fife*, learn all about insects and creatures in The Zoo in Your Backyard, or discover how to nourish your body after birth at a postpartum nutrition event.



Learn more [Visit the Your Library website www.yourlibrary.com.au](http://www.yourlibrary.com.au) to find out more or call Croydon Library on 9800 6448 or Realm Library on 9800 6430.

Aquatics program supporting people with a disability

The Aquabuddies program at Aquahub in Croydon provides an important opportunity for inclusion, fitness and friendship for people with a disability aged over 16 years.

The casual swimming program focuses on positivity and empowerment, using music and games to heighten the release of endorphins while combining exercise in water with social interaction.

Water and regular exercise are both proven to relieve stress. The warm water is also therapeutic, helping to improve flexibility and circulation and decrease pain or discomfort. Some participants can join in unassisted because the buoyancy of the water helps them move their bodies more easily. For others, a carer or friend helps them in the pool.



After attending weekly sessions for more than four years, Tiana said "[Aquabuddies] has provided me with techniques to help [reduce] stress and anxiety."

Jenny, another regular Aquabuddies attendee, said the teachers "get us moving and make us happy." Jenny has been attending the program with her carer once a week for more than three years and enjoys the "games and socialising".

Through the weekly activities, Jenny has been able to improve her swimming and gain more independence in the pool.

Over time, Jenny has gradually strengthened her muscles and improved her swimming so much that she can now swim through a hoop unassisted!

Having achieved this goal, Jenny has her sights set on a new goal: "I'd like to learn to swim by myself".

To find out more about the program, visit the Maroondah Leisure website www.maroondahleisure.com.au or contact Aquahub Swim School on 9294 5500 or Aquahub.Programs@maroondah.vic.gov.au

Your Councillors

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0418 109 015

Bungalook Ward

Cr Tony Dib OAM JP
0438 515 089

Jubilee Ward

Cr Mike Symon
0436 002 080

McAlpin Ward

Cr Suzy Stojanovic
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**Cr Paul Macdonald
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Cr Tasa Damante
0438 704 819

Wombolano Ward

**Cr Kylie Spears
Mayor**
0436 003 660

Wonga Ward

Cr Linda Hancock
0473 194 871

Yarrunga Ward

Cr Rob Steane OAM
0407 519 986



Maroondah Festival 2024

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

Come and experience all our community has to offer, with food trucks, rides, free activities, stage entertainment, market stalls and so much more!

1300 88 22 33

www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Festival



Major sponsor



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EASTLAND

Maroondah City Council is committed to providing equitable service to all in our community. Please contact us on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598 to receive this newsletter in a different format.



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Contact Council on 1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598, online at maroondah.vic.gov.au email 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)

