

# Maranoa Ward update

Councillor Philip Mallis | December 2015

Dear neighbour,

The past few months have been exciting times for the local area with a lot of progress having been achieved on the many projects occurring in and around Maranoa Ward.

This includes the completion of two new tennis pavilions in Greythorn and Balwyn North, as well as the development of final designs for both the Balwyn Library redevelopment and North East Community Hub. Both projects are projected to be completed by mid-2018.

Earlier this month I attended the celebration of the Boroondara Community Strengthening Grants program for 2014–2015. This was a great evening where the many positive programs assisted by the grants were showcased.

In October, Council approved 93 applications for funding in this program for 2015–2016. These projects included equipment for the North Balwyn Bowls Club, support for a Mandarin speakers support group at the Balwyn Evergreen Centre, and a defibrillator for the Probus Club of Balwyn Central.

Council also recently mailed every household in Boroondara seeking feedback on the draft Boroondara Housing Strategy. We have now received responses and are working on reviewing the document for presentation to the Urban Planning Special Committee before the end of the year.

I look forward to continuing the great work that Council has done in the area so far and wish you all a merry Christmas and great new year.

Regards



Cr Philip Mallis



**Maranoa Ward**  
**Cr Philip Mallis**

Including parts of  
Balwyn, Balwyn North  
and Mont Albert



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Cr Mallis (right) and council officers respond to resident enquiries at Pop-Up Council

## Council pops up around town

On consecutive Saturdays in September, Council trialled a new way of engaging local people by “popping up” in Ashburton and Balwyn North.

Pop-up Council was the most popular idea at the inaugural Community Innovation Tournament in May and was tested on 5 and 12 September as a way of interacting with locals who are difficult to reach via our regular channels.

This idea captures the essence of what the Community Innovation Tournament wanted to achieve – find more innovative ways for the community and Council to work together.

The Boroondara community is a very busy one, and it can be difficult to find the time to catch up on important local information or visit Council during business hours so the idea brought

Council to where people are rather than hoping they will come to us.

A number of councillors and Council officers from various departments were on-hand to field questions and talk to the community.

Pop-up Council will be evaluated with a view to running them across the City again in the future.

To find out more about what happened when we “popped up” in Ashburton and Balwyn North, visit [www.youtube.com/boroondara](http://www.youtube.com/boroondara) and search for “pop-up” to watch a short video.



2015 Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty, addresses the Boroondara White Ribbon Day event

## White Ribbon Day event

More than 450 people gathered at Swinburne University in Hawthorn in October for a White Ribbon Day event, organised by the Boroondara Family Violence Network.

Speakers included Rosie Batty, 2015 Australian of the Year, Superintendent Matthew Ryan of the Victoria Police Family Violence unit, Mayor Coral Ross and Professor Jennelle Kyd, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Swinburne University.

Family violence can be under-reported in communities, including Boroondara. Issues such as fear, financial stress and stigma can lead to women being hesitant to report. Local police say there has been an almost 50 percent increase in family violence reports since 2009-10 in the City of Boroondara.

With increasing numbers of women coming forward and continued pressure on local services, there has never been a better time for the community to mobilise around this issue.

Family violence affects all communities and crosses all demographic boundaries, including income, age and cultural background. Statistics continue to show that family violence is predominantly perpetrated by men against women with one in three women in Australia experiencing physical and/

or sexual violence perpetrated by someone known to them.

In the 2014-15 financial year, approximately 45 per cent of family violence incidents involved intimate partners.

The Boroondara Family Violence Network provides a forum for workers representing a range of organisations to discuss and develop strategies that focus on family violence in the City.

For help or advice with Family Violence issues contact:

**Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service – 1800 015 188**

Provides 24 hour support for women and children experiencing violence and abuse from a partner or ex-partner, another family member or someone close to them.

**Men's Referral Service – 1300 766 491**

Provides support by men for men to help them take action to stop using violent and controlling behaviour. Open for enquiries between 9am to 9pm, Monday to Friday.

## What's on in Boroondara

Hawthorn Arts Centre



### The Dusty Springfield Story

**When:** 11am, Wednesday

16 December 2015

**Cost:** \$14 or \$12 for groups of 8 or more

Wendy Stapleton presents the outstanding tribute to the songs and career of Dusty Springfield, Britain's greatest female pop singer.

### 3MBS Mendelssohn Marathon

**When:** 9.30am,

Sunday 28 February 2016

**Cost:** \$105 all day (full), \$300 all day (premium), \$25 single session

Following the immensely popular Beethoven, Schubert and Brahms Marathons, 3MBS Fine Music Melbourne is proud to present a 12-hour 3MBS Mendelssohn Marathon with lunch and dinner breaks.

## Town Hall Gallery

### Retrospective

**When:** 10am, Tuesday 1 December to Sunday 20 December 2015

Town Hall Gallery presents a selection of local artist John Ivan Bogdanov's extensive painting output. Following a stroke in his later years, Bogdanov turned to painting as a way to express a driving inner need to share his visions.

To make a booking or for more information on what's on at the Hawthorn Arts Centre, Town Hall Gallery or Kew Court House, visit [www.hawthornartscentre.com.au](http://www.hawthornartscentre.com.au).

# North East Community Hub update

Planning is well underway for a new Community Hub in Balwyn North with detailed designs to be completed by early 2016.

Throughout June and July 2015, the community provided feedback on the concept plans through information sessions and through an online survey.

Feedback will assist in developing the detailed design for the \$17.3 million community hub at 2 Centre Way, Balwyn North.

For a number of years, Council has been considering opportunities to provide a facility in Balwyn North that could offer a range of needed community services and programs for residents.

Council is planning to demolish the RSL building which is currently on the site, as well as the adjacent Greythorn Early Childhood Centre and Maternal and Child Health Centre.



An artist's impression of the proposed North-East community hub in Balwyn North

Temporary accommodation for the Greythorn Early Childhood Centre will be provided at the former Balwyn Leisure Centre in Balwyn Road. Families will also be able to access Maternal and Child Health services at Cherry Road Balwyn, Maud Street Balwyn North and Minifie Park Maternal and Child centres.

The new North-east hub will include:

- North Balwyn RSL and its memorabilia
- a neighbourhood house / community meeting rooms
- expanded Greythorn Early Childhood Centre
- relocated Greythorn Maternal and Child Health Centre

- allied health and counselling services
- a library lounge for pick-up and drop-off of library books, access to computers, community information and library programs
- community programs for all ages
- a large multi-purpose function room
- open space and memorial.

The project will also include landscape beautification across Centre Way.

The community will be able to comment on the plans as part of the planning permit process.

To stay up-to-date with the project, visit [www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/north-east-hub](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/north-east-hub).

## Balwyn Library redevelopment

The design for the redevelopment of the Balwyn Library is currently being finalised with construction expected to begin in late 2016.

The redevelopment will ensure the local community has access to a contemporary library with attractive and appealing spaces to meet, read and study.

It will be an active, welcoming destination for events and activities, and a place for people of all abilities and interests to connect to information, new technology and their community.

During construction, the Balwyn Library service will be temporarily relocated to the former Balwyn Leisure Centre premises in Balwyn Road.

Relocating the library service to Balwyn Leisure Centre is the most suitable option in terms of maintaining a high level of service for library users.

It is also seen as the most suitable temporary space to accommodate the collection and be a comfortable space for users. There is also adequate parking available.

The proposal also represents the best use of ratepayer funds as the cost of retaining Balwyn Leisure Centre for temporary accommodation is estimated to be considerably less than the

alternatives that have been investigated, which would have meant that the library would have been in portables.

Council will continue to keep Balwyn Library users informed of temporary relocation plans.

Should you have any questions about the Balwyn Library project, contact Joe Capomolla, Coordinator Special Projects on 9287 4586 or [Joe.Capomolla@boroondara.vic.gov.au](mailto:Joe.Capomolla@boroondara.vic.gov.au).

For service-related questions, contact Sue Gray on 9278 4650 or [sue.gray@boroondara.vic.gov.au](mailto:sue.gray@boroondara.vic.gov.au).





## Unveiling Greythorn Park's history through signage

Earlier this year, Greythorn Park's rich and diverse history was captured through colourful history boards which can be seen on display throughout the park.

In 1939 William Robert Maughan used a section of the site as a wildlife sanctuary which became a popular tourist attraction for over seven million visitors, both local and international.

In 1997 a master-plan was developed and a major renewal of the park commenced.

From its 'wildlife' beginnings, it is now home to sporting facilities, meandering walking paths, an open meadow and an ephemeral wetland.

It's a great time of year to take some shade amongst the lush bushland and take a walk to the diverse and rich history of the park.

## Renewed tennis pavilions for Balwyn

Tennis enthusiasts can now enjoy newly refurbished facilities at North Balwyn and Greythorn Park Tennis clubs.

The two facilities were renewed earlier this year as they were both in poor condition and no longer met current building regulations and community needs.

The North Balwyn Tennis Club was renewed with a budget of \$1.2million, and included:

- demolishing the old building and constructing a new pavilion
- improved building design and functionality
- improved building and toilet accessibility

- energy efficient lighting, glazing and water saving fixtures
- new court fencing which was completed and paid for by the club.

The Greythorn Park Tennis club was renewed with a budget of \$1.8million, and included:

- construction of a new pavilion
- upgrade to access routes into the park
- improved building design
- social space for community groups
- storage for Friends of Greythorn Park.

## Outcome of draft heritage study for Balwyn and Balwyn North

In response to community feedback, Council has decided not to proceed with the recommendations of the draft heritage study for Balwyn and Balwyn North.

The draft study was completed in June 2014 and sought to identify places and precincts of local cultural heritage significance in the suburbs of Balwyn and Balwyn North (incorporating Deepdene and Greythorn). This included the re-assessment of 45 properties previously identified in the Camberwell Conservation Study.

The Draft Balwyn and Balwyn North Heritage Study recommended Heritage Overlays be applied to 26 individual properties and the four heritage precincts.

The Urban Planning Special Committee received 137 submissions regarding the proposal - 94 opposed to the heritage overlays, 22 in support and 21 neither in favour nor opposed.

Issues raised by submitters included impact to property values, disagreement with the heritage value of properties and precincts, objections to specific properties being included or not included in a heritage overlay and objection to properties being included on the possible Heritage Overlay Register.