

Your Harrison

BRINGING NATURE AND FUN TO TRUGANINA

Construction on the new Clearwood Drive Reserve, Truganina was completed in December 2014.

The \$2.5m project included construction of a multipurpose sports and recreation facility and the park is now home to a blended basketball, skate-park and youth hang out space.

Fitness equipment, a marked walking track, two soccer/rugby pitches and a junior cricket oval are also part of the upgraded facility; as are a viewing for those who just want to sit back and relax and a BBQ and shelter area.

For kids, a nature-based playground has been built to encourage exploration and creativity. A pavilion and car park will be built in the 2015/16 financial year.

Pictured: Clearwood Drive Reserve is complete and ready for fun

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF THE 'YOUR HARRISON' NEWSLETTER

This newsletter will keep you up to date on the issues affecting your ward and the key projects Councillors are involved in.

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Pictured: An artists impression of how the Saltwater Promenade Community Centre might look when complete



From Cr Intaj Khan

As one of your Harrison Ward Councillors I know just how much change has occurred in our local area - particularly in Point Cook. In 2011, we had a population of under 33,362 and in 2015 it's expected to be 46,209 growing to 65,914 by 2031.

As portfolio holder for Economic Development, I am concerned that this population growth has not been matched by job growth.

The new shopping centre at Williams Landing is therefore a welcome addition to Wyndham. It's close to the new train station, close to the freeway, just 20 minutes' drive from the CBD off-peak and is serviced by an improved bus service. Most importantly this shopping centre features small businesses offering not just wonderful food, clothes and professional services – but jobs too.

I am doing all I can to ensure this shopping centre creates employment opportunities and it would be great to see a range of other services offered here – health, education, aged care, retirement, and potentially a university campus. A strong, smart and passionate business community is essential to our future.

If you would like to know more about how Council is facilitating and promoting economic development, feel free to contact me.

Community Hub for Saltwater Promenade

A new Community Centre in the Saltwater Coast Estate will be the fourth added to the Point Cook Community Hub (Jamieson Way, Point Cook and Featherbrook Community Centres).

The Centre is expected to open early 2016 and will feature:

- Community Garden and amphitheatre
- Two integrated public artwork commissions
- Community kitchen, lounge, arts studio
- Flexible undercover outdoor space and Wi-Fi
- Two kindergarten rooms + 2 large community rooms
- Two maternal and child health consulting rooms

The \$7.3 million project includes funding from The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development who have provided \$1.5 million towards the cost of the centre.

Your Harrison Ward

Harrison Ward is situated in the north-eastern corner of the municipality. It incorporates industrial precincts in Laverton and Laverton North, commercial and residential areas in Hoppers Crossing, Truganina, Tarneit and Mount Cottrell.

The rapidly expanding suburbs of Point Cook and Williams Landing are also located in Harrison. The ward is home to the West Point business park and Port Phillip Prison.



Coming Soon: Williams Landing Boulevard Reserve

Williams Landing Boulevard will soon be home to a lush new reserve.

The planning and design of two football or cricket ovals with playgrounds, a youth space, BBQ area, picnic area and shelter facilities is now underway. The new reserve will be constructed in Williams Landing Boulevard and is expected to be complete in 2017.

Snake sightings

Be on the look out for snakes in your local area with more than 100 sightings recorded in Wyndham City this summer - over 80 of which were in the Harrison ward area.

If you have been bitten by a snake call 000 immediately for assistance and advice. If you think your dog or cat may have been bitten by a snake, visit your vet as soon as possible.



Did you know ...

In 2014/15, \$13.9 million will be spent in Harrison ward to upgrade buildings, roads and parks and reserves.

This newsletter will be published quarterly to help keep you informed about how these projects are progressing.



From Cr Glenn Goodfellow

Many Harrison Ward residents would know how passionate I am about traffic and transport issues and the daily impact it has on our family and working lives.

As Council's Transport Portfolio Holder and one of the longest serving Councillors, I understand the local frustrations about seeing infrastructure keep pace with population growth. Sometimes outcomes take a while, I am really pleased to see 2 new Council-backed projects funded and started this year, a full diamond interchange onto and off the freeway at Sneydes Road, and a major upgrade of the intersection of Leakes



From Cr Bob Fairclough

One of the highlights of last year was to work closely with my fellow Harrison Ward Councillors to successfully lobby VicRoads for the upgrade of

the intersection of Palmers and Leakes Roads and the construction of the Sneydes Road Interchange. These projects will relieve some traffic congestion particularly for Point Cook residents.

As the Councillor Portfolio Holder for Community Wellbeing I am joined on a committee by 8 prominent community members with skills and knowledge and together we try and make a difference for locals. Our important work is underscored by recent statistics which show that Wyndham has one of the highest incidences of chronic diseases in Melbourne. Statistics also show that only 5% of residents eat their requirement of 5 vegetables per day and around 30% of us are not getting sufficient exercise.

Our Healthy Together Wyndham Program delivers a range of healthy eating and physical activity programs to people outside of the paid workforce to increase individual skills and capacity. Although it has only been going for only 2 years the results so far have been very impressive with 38.4% of Early Childhood Services, 18.5% of Primary Schools and 3.2% of Secondary Schools participating in the program.

I am proud of another initiative of this program called the Sons of the West Project (with the Western Bulldogs) providing men with skills and choices to better manage their health.

I encourage you to get involved in our community wellbeing and health programs. If you need assistance with this or any other issue, please contact me.

and Palmers Roads. Both of these will provide much needed relief, but are only the 'tip of the iceberg'. The recent State Election also provides us with opportunities to improve liveability, and we need to stay on the ball to keep the State Government focused on our local needs. The commitment to the removal of 2 level crossings on the Werribee line - Cherry Street and Werribee/Cottrell Streets will also have huge benefits for travel times for locals and we look forward to working with the State Government to deliver them.

It's great to see Council being listened to for the expansion of carparking at the new Tarneit Train Station from 400 planned spaces to 1000. I know we're all excited about the opening of this Regional Rail Link station in April.

If you'd like to know about local traffic and transport issues, and how they may impact on you, feel free to contact me.



Pictured: Aerial view of the Cheetham wetlands



Cheetham Wetlands: A great place to visit

Harrison Ward is home to the beautiful and important Cheetham Wetlands - bring your family to check them out.

The Cheetham Wetlands include 420 hectares of artificial and natural lagoons, created on old salt works land in the eastern corner of Harrison Ward.

The wetlands are part of the Point Cook Coastal Park and are protected under the Ramsar Convention. They are well worth a trip with the family with bike and walking paths throughout.

The wetlands are home to thousands of bird and wildlife species, including the endangered Growling Grass Frog.



From Cr Adele Hegedich

I am pleased to see our local area benefit from Council's current budget with our area receiving \$4 million for open space projects, \$7.9 million

for new and improved community facilities, and \$4.1 million for much needed roads projects. I know the pressures of growth can have real local impacts. That's why we've listened to local concerns about the infrastructure gap by adopting a record \$125 million capital works program – the largest of any Victorian Council.

On a smaller but equally important level, I have been busy as Council's Portfolio Holder for Services. Our focus in this area will be on improving our customer and community focus; innovation in the ways we deliver services; ensuring we're getting value for money from the investment that Council makes, and using technology and consultation to create easier ways for you to do business with us.

Council recently adopted its first ever Customer Service Charter and I believe this will be seen as one of our enduring achievements. I am confident that it will continue to build upon an organisational culture of delivering positive customer experiences.

A great example of how we're trying to make doing business with Council easier for you, Council has now introduced secure e-payments for rates, infringements and registrations. You can access our online payments and online e-requests by clicking on the red icons on the right-hand side of our website.

If you have any ideas about how we could improve the delivery of our services, please contact me to discuss.

Clean Up Australia Day

If you are looking for a way to get involved in this year's Clean Up Australia Day at a local level, join us on Sunday, 1st March 2015 at the Heathdale Glen Orden Wetlands – meeting at Wyndham Park Community Shed. The event will run from 10am – 12pm.

Bring along gloves, a hat, sturdy shoes and a bottle of water. For more information or to register for Wyndham City's public Clean Up Australia Day event, visit: www.experiencewyndham.com.au



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