WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF THE ‘YOUR IRAMOO’ NEWSLETTER

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

Your Iramoo Ward

Iramoo Ward covers the largest land area of all wards & includes Little River, Eynesbury,

Wyndham Vale, Werribee and Werribee South.

It features the Werribee agricultural precinct, Werribee CBD, Point Cook RAAF Base, Werribee Park and the Western Treatment Plant.

WERRIBEE SPORTS & FITNESS CENTRE COMING SOON

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Work on the Werribee Sports and Fitness Centre is underway with all outdoor netball courts now complete and internal construction progressing well. Stage one of the project is on track for completion in mid-2014, which will see the delivery of the much needed new courts.

When fully completed in mid 2016, the $47 million redevelopment will include:

1. Expansion from 6 to 12 indoor courts
2. Show court with seating for up to 1500 spectators
3. A state of the art health club
4. Expansion of crèche and administration areas
5. Four new outdoor netball courts
6. Cafe and improved function rooms.

Keep up to date with the progress via Wyndham City’s website: www.wyndham.vic.gov.au

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Iramoo’s Community Centres

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Community Centres are a great community resource. The centres have something for everyone and offer great venues for parties, workshops, training groups and community events.

Community Centres give you the chance to renew your creativity and grow your mind with a number of arts, cooking (pictured above), gardening and other educational programs.

The Iramoo Community Centre, Wyndham Community and Education Centre, Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre and Wyndham Park Community Centre have a great range of programs. For a full list of activities and classes visit [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

From Cr Peter Gibbons

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Before I was elected as one of your Iramoo Ward Councillors, I said that I would continue the approach I took as a former member of Victoria Police of ‘team work and community partnerships to achieve common goals’.

I’m glad to report that the work of our Community Safety Roundtable which I Chair has modeled this approach with community engagement an important part of ‘listening to the community’ and identifying ‘strengths and needs’ when it comes to safety challenges.

I can tell you from my experience as a member of Victoria Police, a few simple security arrangements can make a lot of difference to prevent crime being committed. That’s why I was pleased to see local builders join with Council and local Police to see what extra security measures could be put in place at vacant residential sites.

Another safety challenge which I am lending my support to is how we work together to tackle the health and crime-related impacts of drugs such as ‘ice’ as well as alcohol. We’ve brought together Victoria Police, sporting clubs, local hospitals, the Australian Drug Foundation and over 70 other local agencies to focus on some alarming statistics.

Council definitely has a key advocacy and planning role to promote community safety. I will continue to bring key agencies together so that we focus on the things that can improve community safety and crime prevention.

If you have ideas on how we can build a safer community please contact me.

Major arterial road opens for Wyndham Vale

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The new $22.8 million Armstrong Road is now open and will provide a vital link in Wyndham Vale’s arterial road network.

Extending two kilometres from Ballan Road through to Greens Road, the project includes a bridge over Lollypop Creek and will also feature a three metre-wide off-road shared path.

This stage of Armstrong Road also provides important access to the new Wyndham Vale railway station, bus interchange, taxi rank and commuter car park.

Iramoo students lead the way

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With a new school year starting, it is timely to reflect and acknowledge the efforts of some of our Iramoo Ward students for 2014. Manor Lakes P-12 College recently celebrated their First Inaugural Valedictory Dinner to congratulate the year 12 students on the completion of their secondary school years. This cohort of students was the first year 7 class to begin at the college in 2009 and it is an amazing milestone for not only the students but also for all members of the Manor Lakes P-12 College community.

Fourteen Werribee Secondary College Year 12 students completed their studies in the internationally acclaimed International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma – the first ever by Victorian Government School students. Just under half of the students gained IB results that translated to an ATAR Score of 92 and higher (highest 99.4). All IB students have tertiary placements in 2015 including one student who will be studying architecture in Spain. Also, 94.4% of the Year 12 students from Werribee Secondary College who made application for tertiary placements received first round offers. A great outcome!

Did you know ...

In 2014/15, $35.16 million will be spent in Iramoo 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 the Mayor, Cr Peter Maynard

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In my first Column in this Iramoo Ward Newsletter, I wanted to highlight the ways in which Council is working together to provide practical support to sporting clubs and community groups and individuals.

As Council’s Portfolio Holder for Sport, Leisure and Open Space I am particularly glad to report that we have used the last year or so recruiting staff for a new structure that delivers the expertise and outcomes that clubs expect. We’ve also reviewed a large number of our sport and leisure policies that impact on clubs and individuals including naming rights, fees and charges, advertising and other more practical policies that will be in a new Sports Facility Users Guide. A draft version of this Guide will be sent to clubs and the community for their feedback.

We’ve also been preparing to review our Aquatic Strategy which is timely given the imminent opening of the new facilities at 80 Derrimut Road and the need for Council to consider future needs and challenges.

I am personally looking forward to Council hosting a Sports Forum early this year so that we can check in with all our clubs, and I am sure that our review of all our current occupancy agreements and policies will also mean we can provide the maximum amount of support for community use of our facilities and reserves.

I am also keen that we provide more access to our many wonderful community centres. Having spent many years heading a local football club, I know the value that sporting, community and social spaces provide. I encourage you to use these centres and reserves as they all contribute to building community strength.

Finally, I wanted to encourage local residents to continue to bring their concerns and issues to my attention. Regardless of my busier schedule as your Mayor this year, I look forward to working with my fellow Iramoo Ward Councillors and to being your eyes and ears on the ground in our local area.

Cottrell St upgrade

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A pedestrian crossing with flashing lights is under construction in Cottrell St after residents requested improved pedestrian access to Werribee Station.

The crossing will encourage the use of public transport and is expected to be completed by mid-March 2015.

Werribee South foreshore: A great place to visit

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Iramoo Ward is home to the beautiful Werribee South Foreshore - a great place to spend some time with the family.

The Werribee South foreshore requires a lot of maintenance to keep it looking its best all year round. From October to April, Wyndham City conducts beach cleaning fortnightly, including raking the beach, fluffing up the sand and removing rubbish. BBQ’s and fishing tables are cleaned daily during summer and mowing and maintenance of open space occurs every three weeks.

If you’re visiting, help us keep the foreshore beautiful. Pick up after your dog and dispose of rubbish appropriately. Report any issues to Council on 9742 0777.

From Cr Heather Marcus

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I have lived in Wyndham for the past 45 years and during this time I have seen Wyndham grow from a country town to the second fastest growth area in Melbourne

I am proud to hold the Education, Employment and Training Portfolio which gives me the opportunity to meet and work with many students & residents.

Council has a role to facilitate and advocate for better educational facilities, especially for TAFE and University levels. This year I plan to visit every College and to work with many of our Corporate Companies.

This year Werribee & Hoppers Crossing Secondary Colleges sent students to our Sister City in California and I am pleased that Council has supported each of these students with a grant. These students benefit from these visits and really grow and mature in this short time abroad.

In 2014, Council and Corpus Christi College launched the Active Travel Plan. Students, parents, council staff and Bicycle Networks walked together to encourage more children to walk to college. This was extremely successful and we hope to see more colleges take part in 2015.

As your councillor I would welcome every opportunity to work with you. Together, we can make a difference and make it happen

Clean Up Australia Day

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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