‘YOUR IRAMOO’ NEWSLETTER

This newsletter provides you with updates relating to your ward and the key projects Ward Councillors are involved in.

# Your Iramoo Ward (photo: map of Iramoo Ward)

# The Iramoo Ward contains around one quarter of the Wyndham population *(44,917 Census 2011)*. Based on population forecasts, it is estimated that Iramoo’s population will have the largest growth, with approximately 100,000 additional people living in this Ward between 2016 and 2036.

# The top overseas countries of birth are England followed by India, New Zealand, Italy and Philippines. European languages are more common in Iramoo and Italian is the largest language other than English spoken at home.

# From Cr Peter Gibbons

Many people know how passionate I am about local biodiversity and environment issues. So it has been a personal pleasure for me to contribute to our community as Council’s Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability.

We’re currently working hard to improve the water quality of the Werribee River which is so important for local biodiversity. I’m pleased to report that as a result of our advocacy, we received correspondence from the Minister for Environment highlighting the importance of the Werribee River and the need to release water for environmental flows, acknowledging current low storages. Melbourne Water is also doing regular audits of gross pollutant traps, stormwater drain outlets and is investigating the feasibility of floating litter traps. Council is having ongoing meetings with Melbourne Water, the State and Federal Governments regarding this matter.

Speaking of litter, we’ve received State Government funding for our ‘hook, line and litter’ project to take a targeted approach to littering of our waterways and beaches and prevent the impact to amenity and wildlife.

**Cr Peter Gibbons**

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# From Cr Heather Marcus

I’ve previously spoken about my passion, which is high quality education for all ages because this creates more employment and improves family life. I wanted to share some local news about our secondary and post-secondary education developments.

McKillop College recently opened a new chapel and landscaped gardens and Werribee Secondary College students have just returned from visiting our sister city Costa Mesa in the United States. Manor Lakes Secondary College continues to grow at a huge rate and has a diverse curriculum that will no doubt equip students to meet whatever challenges and career path they choose. Wyndham Central College is also well underway to being a state of the art school with the upgrade to their facilities through State Government funding.

As Council’s Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Training, I’m also pleased to see local education providers focused on keeping disengaged young people at school or in alternative learning courses. I’m also pleased that Council continues to talk with Deakin, Swinburne and other universities to see if we can expand tertiary education options locally.

**Cr Heather Marcus**

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# From Cr Peter Maynard

A rewarding part of being a Councillor is talking to residents. Having attended a number of listening posts in the Iramoo Ward, I have discussed with many residents issues that are of concern to them.

Some of Council’s policies have recently changed that impact on sports clubs including naming rights, fees and charges. As Council’s Chair of the Sport, Leisure and Open Space Portfolio, I will be attempting to visit all sporting groups on our Council database this year to discuss these changes.

Finally, I wanted to encourage local residents to continue to bring their concerns and issues to my attention. It is important for Councillors to be aware of your issues so we can ensure we are addressing the things concerning our community.

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.

**Cr Peter Maynard**

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# Eagle Stadium – change title (photo: 2 external and internal of the facility)

Wyndham City is committed to the development of quality leisure facilities that create more opportunities for our residents to keep active and participate in sport. Sports does not only support our community’s wellbeing but it also helps promote social cohesion and that is why we are proud to welcome the completion of Eagle Stadium in June.

Since Eagle Stadium opened its doors upon completion of Stage 1, community use has increased with over 200,000 visits recorded in 6 months and the majority of the users are Wyndham residents.

The number of sports teams competing at Eagle Stadium has also increased. We now have 380 basketball teams competing under the banner of Werribee Basketball Association and 162 netball teams under the banner of Wyndham Netball Association and Hoppers Crossing Netball Association.

Aside from basketball and netball, we have badminton and table tennis matches driven by the Werribee Badminton Association and the Werribee Table Tennis Association. Junior sports programs are also delivered by Soccer Time Kids and Little Kids Sports.

Eagle Stadium not only caters for junior and senior domestic sports. Since it opened, it has already hosted a number of regional sporting events. When fully completed in June, the facility will also have a gym area, conference rooms for hire, and a crèche.

There is definitely an activity for everyone at the Eagle Stadium. So if you haven’t had the chance to visit this newly transformed leisure facility, now is a great time. We hope to see you there!

# What to do @ Iramoo?

**Chirnside Park Redevelopment Gets Off the Ground (photo: Chirnside Park plans?)**

It is definitely game on for the Chirnside Park redevelopment project with funding announced in December 2015. Wyndham City welcomed the Federal Government’s contribution of $3.25 million to this $10.25 million project.

The project will create a multi-purpose community and sports hub associated with AFL football, cricket and community education organisations. There will also be opportunities for residents to participate in programs delivered by the North Melbourne Football Club “Huddle”, an award winning program that brings together young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds and the Wyndham Community Education Centre.

Major construction is expected to commence in October this year.

**Wyndham Vale Community Centre and Library (photo: library internal with people?)**

With a community centre and a library all in one place, there will always be an activity or two that locals can participate in and enjoy.

The Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre offers a range of services including a kindergarten, maternal and child health services, dance and fitness classes, parenting groups and youth programs. Customer services such as paying rates, pet registrations and booking hard waste collection are also available.

The Library has an array of activities and programs that cater for all age groups and interests – from Story Time, Movie Club, to Conversation English and Bilingual Computer (English/ Karen) classes.

To find out more about the programs on offer, come and visit the Library at 86 Manor Lakes, Wyndham Vale or contact 8734 8934.

**Did you know… (photo: Wyndham Vale train station)**

In a recent survey conducted by RACV and The Leader Newspaper, the Regional Rail Link station at Wyndham Vale has been rated as the best in Victoria with a rating of 8.95.

**Community Heroes (photo: fire truck?)**

Wyndham City is fortunate to have a number of emergency services and fire brigades within our municipality. Iramoo is home to four of these groups - SES Werribee, Wyndham Vale CFA, Werribee CFA and Little River CFA.

Emergency services and fire brigades play an important role in our communities. Not only do they rescue and save lives, they also help educate our residents by providing training programs on fire prevention and emergency response activities. Most of all, these community heroes are volunteers!

**Did you know…**

Volunteers make Wyndham a much better place to live in by helping provide services that improve community health and wellbeing. There are several service clubs and community groups within the Iramoo Ward which residents can join and participate in such as Rotary clubs, Lions clubs and Auxiliary groups.

**Iramoo Schools Get Active (photo: check with Healthy Together team for any photos)**

Schools in Wyndham celebrated the National Ride2School Day on 4 March. Seven schools within the Iramoo Ward participated in this fantastic event organised by Bicycle Network Victoria.

Since 2014, Wyndham City has been working with schools as part of the Get Wyndham Moving and Wyndham Active Schools Travel program to encourage families to walk and ride to and from school, reducing traffic and congestion.

# Capital Works Project Update

Iramoo Ward residents will continue to benefit from a number of road and infrastructure projects that are underway across the Ward.

Works are underway or near completion for:

* Eagle Stadium (Final Stage)
* Galvin Park Ovals and car park construction
* Regatta Cove Reserve Upgrade
* Little River Sports Lighting
* Chirnside Park Redevelopment

Footpaths are also being constructed at the following locations:

* Armytage Way/ Nordic Crescent, Wyndham Vale
* Beach Road, Werribee South
* Elizabeth Avenue / Kelvin Grove/ Eldan Drive Werribee
* Hodge Street/ Rainsford Street / Melita Avenue Werribee
* Manor Street / Vincent Street Werribee

The following footpaths will also be constructed before 30 June 2016 through the State Government Interface Growth Fund:

* Bolton Road, Wyndham Vale
* Cottrell Street, Werribee
* Parker Street, Werribee
* Duke Street, Werribee
* Endeavour Way, Werribee
* Shared Path on Ballan Road, Werribee to Wyndham Vale

While some of these projects are in progress, there are other projects in the pipeline for Iramoo Ward which are currently in the planning and design phase.

# Discover Iramoo Ward

Do you want to know when your waste collection days are? Or are you wondering what’s around your area? Do you know about your local park where you can take your kids for a picnic or are you looking at taking your new bike for a ride but don’t know a nearby bike trail?

**myWyndham** displays a range of location-based information including waste collection days, your ward and councillors, as well as places of interest, features and services based on a specific address and search area.

**Werribee River**

The Werribee River is a valuable natural asset that takes its name fom the Aboriginal word meaning ‘backbone’ or ‘spine’. With the River Red Gum trees providing shelter, nature lovers can also have the opportunity to see a diverse range of water birds.

**RAAF Museum**

Point Cook Road, RAAF Base Williams, Point Cook 3030

**Western Treatment Plant**

*1 New Farm Rd, Werribee VIC 3030*

The Western Treatment plant is one of the most popular sites for bird watching in Victoria, with hundreds of birds recorded. The plant is home to numerous lagoons, estuaries, salt marshes and the beautiful lake Borrie.

**Gordon O’Keefe Reserve**

Corner of McGrath & Black Forest Roads

**Werribee South Beach**

\*\*\*Note that pictures will be inserted in this page\*\*\*