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

# 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.

# Iramoo Ward Tree Discovery

*By Charlie Buttigieg*

Local Heritage Tree Researcher, Charlie Buttigieg, and the Werribee District Historical Society have discovered a planting of mixed native and exotic trees and shrubs in Werribee planted in 1867.

The majority of the trees are still living with two types of shrubs also in good health. The planting lines the Watton Street side of Chirnside Park. The large trees are closely planted in two to three discernible rows or “trenches”.

The beginning is located at the Werribee Public Pool end in front of the former Shire of Wyndham Hall. The first tree is a Canary Islands Pine *(Pinus canariensis)*. It is planted in close proximity to its neighbour, a massive Southern Blue Gum *(Eucalyptus globulus)*. The planting ends towards the Werribee Street intersection with Watton Street. The end of the planting is indicated by a couple of Aleppo Pines *(Pinus halepensis)*.

The identifiable native and exotic tree and shrub species from this 1867 heritage planting that are living include: Bunya Bunya Pine, Hoop Pine, Sugar Gum, Southern Blue Gum, Grey Ironbark, Gippsland Red Gum, Monterey Cypress, Moonah, Mock Privet, Canary Islands Pine, Aleppo Pine and Peppercorn.

Of interest is the Moonah *(Melaleuca lanceolata)*. This very slow growing native shrub/small tree has a girth of just over 2 metres. It is possibly the oldest cultivated specimen of Moonah known in the City of Wyndham. Another interesting shrub/small tree, but of exotic origin, is a very old specimen of Phillyrea latifolia or Mock Privet.

To find out more about these historical trees in Iramoo Ward, visit [www.wyndhamhistory.net.au](http://www.wyndhamhistory.net.au/items/show/1969)

# Cr Peter Gibbons

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Being a former long-serving senior member of Victoria Police and a passionate advocate for community safety and protecting our environment, I wanted to mention two recent Council initiatives that will be of benefit to local residents.

As Chairperson of Council’s Community Safety Roundtable involving Victoria Police, the SES and CFA, local health and advocacy organisations, State Government departments and others, I’ve been working to implement our ‘SafePlate Partnership’ initiative to prevent number plate thefts in partnership with Wyndham Motor Car and Motor Cycle Franchise Dealership Principals and Victoria Police. This Initiative followed a successful community safety business breakfast and launch and it received extensive media coverage on Channel Nine and more widely.

As Council’s Environment and Sustainability Portfolio Holder, our ‘Recycling Vending Machine’ initiative to recycle mainly beverage containers through vending machines in Wyndham is a first for any Council in Victoria. This widely publicised initiative is part of our Environment and Sustainability and Waste and Litter Strategies recently introduced by Council.

**Greening Wyndham**

Wyndham City is part of a very exciting project that will see 20,000 trees planted across our City this September. Greening the West is a partnership project among 22 other Councils, government agencies, water authorities and community organisations. It aims to improve the health and liveability of communities in Melbourne’s West by planting one million trees.

One of the locations included in this project is in Iramoo Ward which is the Floodway/Drainage reserve between Heaths Rd (Presidents Park) and Black Forest Rd, Wyndham Vale.

Council is calling on our community groups, schools, organisations and residents to help plants these new trees. For more information about this project visit: [www.greeningthewest.org.au](http://www.greeningthewest.org.au)

**Working towards Wyndham 2040**

The 2015-2019 Wyndham Community District Plans present the priorities and the work that Council and the communities are doing together to realise the 2040 vision. The Iramoo Ward covers the planning districts of Wyndham West and Wyndham Rural and includes the suburbs of Werribee, Wyndham Vale, Manor Lakes, Little River and Werribee South.

Some of the accomplishments in these districts in 2015-2016 include:

* Installing lighting at the Little River Reserve to provide night-time sporting and community building opportunities;
* Delivering the Habitat Heroes program to provide native vegetation for native wildlife in urban areas adjacent to the Werribee River; and
* Launching an activation and events program for the Werribee City Centre to attract visitors and stimulate economic activity.

To find out more about the Wyndham 2040 Community Plan please visit [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/wyndham2040](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/wyndham2040) or pick up a copy of the plan at your local library or community centre.

# Cr Heather Marcus

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I enjoy being your Councillor working with you all on the many challenges and opportunities we have here in our great City. We have achieved quite a lot over the past 12 months.

I am pleased to report that as Council’s Portfolio Holder for Employment, Education and Training planning is well advanced for the Wyndham Technical School project with several stakeholder meetings already held, drafting of a curriculum framework which could include logistics, professional and scientific services, health care, social assistance and advanced construction all targeting the lifting of employment for our young people.

I had the pleasure of being a panellist for the Kids as Catalyst in-school philanthropy program. Their mission was to pitch to the panel to secure funding for their philanthropy projects. Their pitches were passionate, musical, enlightening and heart-felt and these children were determined that they were successful. It was great to see their work. If you have any concerns, please contact me.

**Kids Thrive Project**

In late June, 75 students from Manor Lakes P-12 College, Our Lady of the Southern Cross and Wyndham Park Primary Schools gathered at Manor Lakes College for the Kids as Catalyst (KiC) in-school philanthropy program. Their mission was to pitch to a panel of community leaders to secure funding for their philanthropy projects. The pitches were passionate, musical, enlightening and heart-felt and the children were determined.

KiC is co-ordinated by Kids Thrive and teaching staff. The KiC Philanthropy program has been active in 25+ primary schools over 6 years and addresses modules in VELS/F-10 that cover Resilience and Social and Emotional Learning.

The KiC Philanthropy program guides students in identifying social issues/values that resonate for them and coaches them to connect with relevant community organisations.

All the Wyndham teams succeeded in their applications and several community groups catering to the needs of men, women, children, the elderly and animals will benefit from their efforts. For further information, visit [www.kidsthrive.org.au](http://www.kidsthrive.org.au)

**What to do at Iramoo?**

Iramoo Community Centre offers a wide range of activities and programs for all age groups in a friendly and welcoming environment. The programs available include 3+ Kinder, Playgroups, Kids and Adult Cooking Programs, Arts and Crafts, Fitness Class, and many more.

This fantastic centre is run by a group of dedicated volunteers through the Volunteer Committee of Management. If you are interested to volunteer or know more about the programs they offer, you can contact the Centre for more information.

**Iramoo Community Centre**

84 Honour Avenue, Wyndham Vale – Ph: 8742 3688

# Cr Peter Maynard

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# Being a local Councillor lets you get to meet and help thousands of local residents and work together on ways to improve our local community.

# There’s a direct link between the contact I have with locals and many of this year’s capital works projects in our Iramoo Ward (over $23 million in value) adopted as part of our 2016-17 Budget.

# If you’d like more detail on these projects please contact me. Some notable highlights include $540,000 for designing an Integrated Family Centre in Ballan Road; $272 million for roadworks on Armstrong Road from Greens to Black Forest Roads; $500,000 for improvements to the Princes Highway Services Road between Davis Crescent and Old Geelong Road.

# As the Portfolio Holder for Sports, Leisure and Open Space I am particularly pleased that we are funding $5.5 million for the Chirnside Park Hub Precinct and 2 large land acquisitions totalling $2.415 million to meet future sport, recreation and other infrastructure needs in Alfred and Hobbs Roads.

**Armstrong Road Project Update**

Wyndham City is working closely with the Metropolitan Planning Authority, VicRoads and LendLease to get a set of projects designed for funding in 2017/18 and 2018/19 that creates a connection from the western interchange with the new bridge across the railway line up to Manor Lakes.

The State Government has committed $10 million in its 2016/17 Budget for detailed design work for this road and other road projects in Wyndham, including a full diamond interchange at Duncans Rd under the freeway.

Council continues to advocate for road infrastructure funding through its Get Wyndham Moving campaign. To find out more, visit [www.getwyndhammoving.com.au](http://www.getwyndhammoving.com.au)

**Did you know…**

**Wyndham City has a new website!**

SITE FEATURES include:

• Improved navigation

• Mobile friendly design

• What’s on calendar

• Superior search function to help you find what you need

• Refreshed content

Visit [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au) and experience the difference.

# 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:

* Little River Sports Oval Lighting
* Chirnside Park Redevelopment
* Cherry Street Car Park

Design Works:

* Armstrong Road (Greens to Black Forest Road), Wyndham Vale
* Cayleys Road, Masons Lane and Whites Road, Werribee South

Footpaths will also be constructed at the following locations:

* Vista Way, Wyndham Vale
* Watton Street (link to Greaves Street South), Werribee
* Winston Way, Wyndham Vale
* Salisbury Street, Werribee

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.

**What’s happening around Wyndham?**

**Wyndham Learning Festival**

1-8 September 2016

The Wyndham Learning Festival celebrates learning of all kinds, across all ages, interests and abilities, from pre-school to post retirement.

For more information contact Meg Cotter on Ph: 9742 4013 E: [megco@wyndhamcec.org.au](mailto:megco@wyndhamcec.org.au)

**Pet & Animal Expo**

11 September 2016 from 10am – 4pm

It is a fun, ‘family and pet’ friendly day where all activities and entertainment are free – held at Wyndham Civic Centre, 45 Princes Hwy Werribee.

**Health and Active Expo**

4-30 September 2016

This FREE Healthy & Active Expo is a combination of events and activities that will be held at various times and locations throughout Wyndham. Registrations open mid-August.

**Seniors Festival**

2-9 October 2016

Wyndham City will be hosting a series of events which are open to all seniors to celebrate the inspiring contributions of older Victorians. There is sure to be something for everyone!

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, 13 September 9am, contact 8734 6000 or online [www.wyncc.com.au](http://www.wyncc.com.au)

**Children’s Week Picnic**

23 October 2016 from 10am – 4pm

Children’s Week Picnic provides an opportunity for children to explore new experiences and activities in a fun, safe and family friendly setting. FREE to all.

For more information on these upcoming events, visit [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

# Discover Iramoo Ward

Are you wondering what’s around your area? Do you know about your local parks where you can take your kids for a picnic or your nearby bike trail?

Here’s a snapshot of what’s around your area:

**Werribee South**

Werribee South is recognised as the broad leaf vegetable capital of Australia and has over 3000 hectares of cultivated land, adding to the unspoilt and rural feel of the Werribee South Foreshore.

**Little River**

This township is historically significant – one of the many gems in our City! It is home to many historical features such as the First World War Nurses Memorial. The Little River runs through an important landscape, which includes significant native grassland and grassy woodland areas, associated with the remnant river red gums that line the river.

To discover more about your ward, visit: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/mywyndham](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/mywyndham)