

Community facilities open and ready to enjoy

Two of Council's major construction projects have been completed and officially opened recently.

Darley Park Sports and Community Hub and Ballan Recreation Reserve Pavilion were both officially opened recently by Councillors and State Member for Eureka Michaela Settle.

Both facilities provide fantastic modern spaces for sporting clubs, user groups and the wider community.

The Darley hub has a multipurpose pavilion, community and meeting

rooms with technology support, and modern and accessible changerooms.

Ballan Pavilion includes a new sports pavilion with a function room, kitchen and bar, office space, meeting rooms, storage sheds, and new change rooms.

Both were funded by the State Government, Council and local contributions.

Read more about these projects on our Council website.



Telford Park all-abilities trail

Continuing the celebrations of completed projects, we recently had two events at Telford Park, with the opening of the all-abilities trail and an official opening of the art sculptures on site.

The sculpture trail is stage 2 of the Bald Hill activation project. *Binak Biik* - a sculpture by artistic team Aunty Kim Wandin and Chris Joy - has created a beautiful space at Telford Park that we encourage the community to enjoy.

Christmas cheer throughout Moorabool Shire

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

Keep an eye out over the coming weeks for Christmas trees throughout the shire that have been decorated by our local primary school students.

Council will work in partnership with local primary schools each year showcasing the vibrant and creative works from our younger residents.

Charlie (6) and Lucas (8) from Ballan Primary School are already in the Christmas spirit and looking forward to seeing the tree their school has decorated in the street for everyone to enjoy.

To see what's happening in Moorabool Shire in the lead up to Christmas go to moorabool.vic.gov.au/tis-the-season-in-Moorabool.

Christmas office closures

Please note, Council offices will close at 12.30pm on Friday 22 December 2023 and re-open at 8.30am on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

We wish all residents, business owners, workers and visitors a happy festive season.

Be safe on the roads and in and around water.

We look forward to working with you in 2024.

Photo by Davies Designs Studio on Unsplash



Have Your Say – Partner with us to attract local services

Council is undertaking a large piece of work to identify where there are gaps in local services in areas such as health and education, and we welcome the community's input.

We are interested in hearing from a wide range of people throughout Moorabool – people involved in the health, education, recreation and community sectors, those who run community groups and anyone who can help shape our mapping, so that we can create an overall picture to help us advocate for services for Moorabool residents.

The first step in the consultation process is a survey through our Have Your Say portal on our website.

Head to haveyoursay.moorabool.vic.gov.au/community-services-engagement-2023 to complete the survey and help us future-proof our service delivery to the community.





Fire preparations including free green waste

A reminder to residents that this month, in preparation for the upcoming bushfire season, you can drop your green waste at any of our transfer stations for free.

There is no restriction on the volume of green waste received from properties as long as it is received in a residential vehicle or trailer. Residents will be required to show proof of residency such as a driver's licence or utility bill.

To be fire-season ready, clear the following green waste from your property:

- Undergrowth and fallen branches
- Leaves from gutters
- Grass

Tree stumps and branches over 200mm in diameter are not accepted within this service.

Residents must ensure green waste is not mixed with household garbage, building materials, recyclables, or any other contaminant.

With a very dry summer predicted, we urge residents to ensure their properties are cleared and people have bushfire plans in place.

Council strongly recommends that if a property owner intends to use an external contractor to provide slashing that this is booked in advance due to the high demand for their services at this time of year. Council has a list of contractors available on their website.

Did you know-if compliance is not achieved for fire prevention, Council is authorised to undertake the works outlined in the fire prevention notice or engage an external service to do this. The cost of this is incorporated into fees and charges and can be charged against the land owner.

There is information on our website that can help: moorabool.vic.gov.au/beforeemergency

Moorabool Shire sits in Victoria's central fire district. This is important to know so you can be aware of when fire periods and total fire ban days are declared. The CFA's website contains a complete list of declared fire periods for each district and local government area: cfa.vic.gov.au



YOUR BIN COLLECTION DAY MAY BE CHANGING



Around 50% of residents are affected by this change which will take place from 27 November 2023.

From this time, Council will provide new and replacement bins for damaged bins at no charge to residents.

There will be a two-week period where all bins presented will be collected while you adjust to the changes.

All residents impacted by the change will receive a letter outlining their new collection days.

We're updating our bin collection routes due to growth within the shire and to ensure we can continue to deliver a reliable and consistent service



CONTACT:

JJ's Waste & Recycling: 9791 9948
moorabool.vic.gov.au/bin-collection

Cr Munari Our New Mayor

We congratulate Cr Ally Munari who was appointed our new Mayor for the next 12 months at a statutory meeting earlier this month.

Cr Munari said at the meeting she was looking forward to working with and for the community on an exciting 12 months ahead with many major projects throughout the shire commencing or being completed.

Outgoing Mayor Cr Rod Ward said he had enjoyed his first stint as Mayor, and paid tribute to the work that has been undertaken in the shire over the past five years. A full report from the outgoing Mayor can be read on our website.

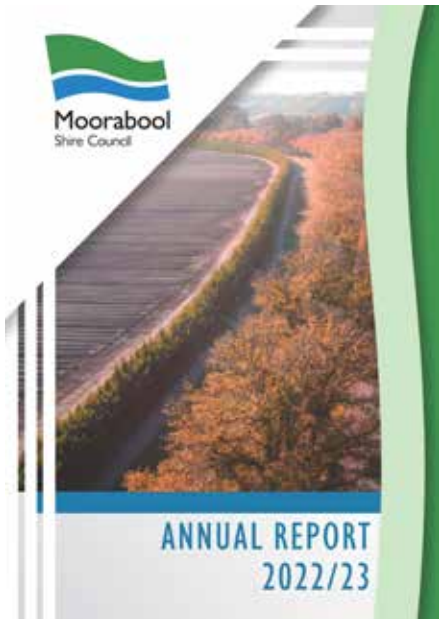


Annual Report adopted

Council adopted its 2022/23 Annual Report at a Special Meeting of Council in October.

The Annual Report is a legislative requirement and reflects Council's performance during the year against the goals set in the Council Plan 2021-2025. The report can be used by residents as a point of reference, and as well as the financial and performance statements, there is information about the highlights and challenges faced throughout the 2022/23 financial year.

The report can be viewed on our website: moorabool.vic.gov.au/annualreport.



Are you an MCH nurse?

We want YOU to join our team!

How about a tree change to Bacchus Marsh/Ballan: Moorabool Shire?

We have a fun, supportive, family friendly environment!

Consider the ease of travel to and within Moorabool Shire: less traffic and open green spaces to enjoy.

Consider the benefits of a positive, inclusive team that offers flexible workdays, weekends and supportive management.

We invite you to call Maternal and Child Health Co-ordinator, Fiona Hunter on 5366 7110 for a chat, and to meet our staff and view our facilities.



Unregistered pool or spa? Act now!

Swimming pools and spas **MUST** be registered with Council. The deadline for all existing pools/spas to be registered has now passed. If your pool or spa is not registered, you need to jump on our website or phone us as soon as you can.

New pools or spas must be registered within 30 days of receiving a certificate of final inspection.

You must register swimming pools or spas that are capable of holding a water depth greater than 30cm. This includes:

- in-ground and above ground pools and spas
- inflatable pools
- relocatable pools that have been erected for 3 or more days
- indoor pools and spa pools
- children’s paddling and wading pools
- spas, jacuzzis, hot tubs and swim spas (including portable spas).

This does not include:

- small toddler or wading pools that cannot hold more than 30cm depth of water
- structures such as bird baths, fish ponds, fountains
- spa-baths inside bathrooms that are used for personal hygiene
- water supply/storage tanks
- dams, rivers, creeks and lakes.

You can start the registration process at moorabool.vic.gov.au/poolandspa

This site details all the State Government regulations around pools and spas.

Council ensures all property owners comply with the regulations and penalties will apply for non-compliance.



How to look after and maintain an onsite wastewater management system (OWMS)

If you live on a property that is not connected to sewer, you will have an onsite wastewater management system (OWMS), also known as a septic system, on your property. Under the *Environment Protection Act 2017* you are required to maintain your OWMS to ensure that it does not pose a risk to human health or the environment. All systems installed in Moorabool Shire Council will have a tank, where the wastewater is treated, which then connects to an effluent field, where the treated wastewater is dispersed.

Problems with OWMS usually occur due to poor maintenance of the system and putting material and chemicals into the system when they shouldn’t be. Additionally, there may be some owners or renters of properties who don’t know much about how an OWMS operates. Proper maintenance of the system increases its lifespan, as well as prevents the need for costly repairs to occur.

There are tips on the Environment Protection Authority’s website on reducing the load on your system and maintaining it:

www.epa.vic.gov.au or contact Council’s Environmental health team on 5366 7100 if you have questions or concerns.

Get involved in our youth offerings!

Council's youth services team offers so many activities and programs for local youth – join in today!

Youth Spaces

Our youth spaces welcome all young people aged 12 to 17 to connect with one another, chat with members of our youth team, play games, create arts and crafts, share delicious food, and have a lot of laughs.

Our youth spaces run weekly during school terms at Studio 22 in Darley and at Ballan Youth Zone (BYZ) in Ballan. Our team of youth development officers ensure that the space is a safe and inclusive environment for young people to have opportunities to share their experiences and enjoy a range of engaging activities.

Some of the activities that have occurred at our youth spaces include Halloween cupcake decorating, guitar lessons, cooking class, oval games, trivia, and minute-to-win-it challenges.

Young people can access these spaces at the following locations:

Studio 22 – 182 Halletts Way, Darley (at the Darley Civic and Community Hub)

BYZ – 143 Inglis St, Ballan (inside the Ballan Mechanics Institute).



YES program

The Youth Engagement Support (YES) program is facilitated by our youth services team and works with young people between the ages of 12-25 who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging with education and employment pathways.

Fundamental to the YES program is one-on-one case management of all young people engaged with the program, that is focused on goal-setting and personal development in a range of key focus areas. Separate group sessions run weekly during school terms for each age group, 12 to 17 years and 18 to 25 years, with activities that support learning around wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, and social connection. The YES program is a holistic approach to ensuring individualised support for young people regarding re-engagement with education and employment.

Some of the activities that have occurred during YES sessions include personal training sessions at the gym, pottery, animal therapy, and team building games.

If you know or are a young person that would benefit from engaging in the YES program – contact our Youth Services team for a referral form.

Youth Action Group

The Youth Action Group (YAG) is comprised of young people between the ages of 12 to 25 who live, study or work in Moorabool Shire. The YAG contains young people who are driven to share their perspectives and contribute to their community. As an action group, the YAG will be a representative voice for the diverse young people in communities across Moorabool Shire.

The YAG will meet fortnightly during school terms. Our youth services team is making a huge call-out for young people who are engaged in making a difference to their community – join our YAG!

FReeZA committee and events

FReeZA is a youth-led program that delivers events and learning opportunities for young people in creative arts, recreational activities, and cultural celebrations. The youth services team support the FReeZA committee in the planning and delivery of youth-friendly events that ensure 12 to 25 year-olds in Moorabool Shire can watch and perform live music, celebrate days of significance, get out and active in community spaces, and flex their creative skills!

One of the highlights of our 2023 events was the silent disco – where young people were welcomed to an inclusive, all-abilities space that was designed in partnership with Year 12 students.



In our 2024 FReeZA calendar we have a battle of the bands, skate competition, pool party, photography competition, pride month celebration and more!

To join our FReeZA committee – get in touch with our youth services team and keep an eye out on our socials for announcements.

Youth Holiday Program

Our youth holiday program runs during each school holidays and has a range of activities for young people across the 12 to 25 age range. The youth services team brings in ideas from the young people we work with to design each program with the most fun and diversity in mind.

Some of the activities that have occurred during the program include skateboard art, Lego Masters, adventures at Lady Discovery Camp and bushwalking.

Keep an eye on our socials for upcoming program details during January 2024.

Contact the Team

You can contact our youth team via email youthservices@moorabool.vic.gov.au or phone **5366 7100**.

Children's Week 2023

Moorabool's Child, Youth and Family Services team celebrated Children's Week in October. Hundreds of Moorabool Shire children and families took part in the festivities, with the theme "Children have the right to relax, play and to take part in activities they enjoy".

This celebration was a wonderful opportunity for children and families to engage in fun and educational experiences while creating memories with family and the local community.





WOODLANDS WARD

Cr Ally Munari
 Mayor
 Phone: 0428 116 001
 Email: amunari@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD

Cr Rod Ward
 Phone: 0400 611 310
 Email: rward@moorabool.vic.gov.au



CENTRAL WARD

Cr Paul Tatchell
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 Email: ptatchell@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD

Cr Moira Berry
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 Email: mberry@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD

Cr David Edwards
 Phone: 0435 326 370
 Email: dedwards@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD

Cr Tonia Dudzik
 Phone: 0407 014 489
 Email: tdudzik@moorabool.vic.gov.au



WEST MOORABOOL WARD

Cr Tom Sullivan
 Phone: 0418 323 221
 Email: tsullivan@moorabool.vic.gov.au

Refer to Council's website for a full list of 2024 Council meeting dates and times:
moorabool.vic.gov.au

Ordinary Meetings of Council to be held at Ballan Council Chambers: (commencing at 6 pm)

DATES	
6 December 2023	3 July 2024
7 February 2024	7 August 2024
6 March 2024	4 September 2024
3 April 2024	18 September 2024
1 May 2024	4 December 2024
5 June 2024	18 December 2024

Important emergency contact information

Police / CFA / Ambulance	000
SES	132500
Flood and Storm Info Line	1300 842 737
Victorian Bushfire Information Line	1800 240 667
Bacchus Marsh Hospital	5367 2000
Ballan Hospital	5368 1100
Moorabool Shire Council	5366 7100
Emergency after hours animal control	5366 7100 <i>(option 1)</i>
Aged and Disability Services	0409 138 201
For all other emergencies	0419 887 065



IMPORTANT NOTES TO READERS

Moorabool Matters is Moorabool Shire Council's official community newsletter, promoting events, activities, projects and issues in our Shire. This publication is part of Council's ongoing commitment to improve communication and consultation with residents. It is published four times a year and delivered to residents through The Moorabool News newspaper. Every effort is made to ensure information included in Moorabool Matters is accurate at the time of publishing but may be subject to change. Readers are encouraged to contact Council or organisations listed in the newsletter for specific information. If you have any questions or comments about Moorabool Matters, please contact the Media and Marketing Officer at Moorabool Shire Council on **5366 7100** or email info@moorabool.vic.gov.au