

# HUB READY TO WELCOME FAMILIES



West Maddingley Early Years and Community Hub is looking fantastic and nearing completion, and will be ready for the 2024 kindergarten year.

Once open, the hub will provide:

- Kindergarten rooms for three-year-old kindergarten and four-year-old kindergarten
- Childrens room for playgroups and other parent groups
- Maternal and Child Health Services (MCH)
- Consulting rooms for visiting health, allied and family services
- Community meeting room.

In recent weeks, all concrete and structural steel of the building has been completed, along with roofing, internal framing, doors and windows installation and brickwork. We are currently working on the interior of the building doing plastering and ceilings, and doing external works, including earthworks, stormwater, carpark and landscaping.

The West Maddingley Early Years and Community Hub is a joint project funded by Council and the Victorian State Government through the Growing Suburbs and Building Blocks funding streams.

For more information on the hub and kindergarten programs and registration go to [moorabool.vic.gov.au/kindergarten](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/kindergarten)



## Ballan Library to launch a seed library for the community

Ballan Library is launching a seed library in early September 2023, a place where community members can exchange seeds and learn how to grow various types of plants in their gardens or indoor spaces.

The seed library is a project initiated by Library staff members Narelle and Symone, enthusiastic supporters of sustainable living, who after much discussion with library patrons believe that it would be a valuable addition to the library and serve as an empowering and educational resource for the community.

The project has already received offerings of seed stock and expressions of interest from the community. It also aligns with the three strategic goals of the Moorabool Council Plan 2021-2025: healthy, inclusive and connected communities; liveable and thriving environments; and listening and adapting to the needs of the evolving community.

The seed library will initially stock a small variety of seeds that individuals can borrow, allowing them to plant and grow their seeds at home. Once the seeds have ripened and fully matured, borrowers are encouraged to save some of their seeds and return them to the library, to share with others.

The seed library will also provide a platform for community members to connect, exchange gardening tips, and share their experiences. It will foster a sense of belonging, encourage collaboration, and strengthen the social fabric within the community.

Additionally, the seed library will contribute to enhancing local food security by promoting home gardening and providing access to a diverse range of seeds. It will empower individuals and families to produce their own nutritious food, improving community well-being and belonging.

The library will collaborate with local gardeners, seed savers, and organisations to acquire a diverse selection of seeds. Donations from community members and seed companies can also contribute to the seed library's collection.

The library will develop a user-friendly system to package and label the seeds available in the library. A borrowing system will be established to allow patrons to check out seeds for cultivation.

As the seed library grows, the library will organise workshops on seed-saving techniques, ensuring that community members understand the importance of seed preservation and feel confident in participating. As the seed library develops and expands we believe it will also serve as an educational hub, promoting gardening, seed saving, and sustainable practices through sustainability talks, workshops, expert talks, and demonstrations. It will empower individuals, particularly children and families, with the knowledge and skills needed to grow their own food, create beautiful gardens, and appreciate nature.

The library will also host gardening experts and community events to engage patrons in the seed library. Workshops, guest speakers, and demonstrations will further enhance the educational and social benefits of the project.

The library invites anyone interested in joining or supporting the project to contact them for more information.



## Storm recovery program update

In October 2022, Moorabool Shire experienced a significant storm event, which resulted in extensive damage to the local road network. As part of the post event inspections, over 2,300 defects and the need for extensive rectification works across 198 roads was recorded.

Rectification efforts primarily focused on the repair of unsealed roads and shoulders, with over 100 kilometres of gravel roads rectified and over 35 kilometres of shoulders restored as a result.

Whilst some challenges have been faced with respect to the ongoing weather conditions, all road works on Council's local road network have now been completed and claims to the National Disaster Financial

Assistance Scheme submitted to the value of more than \$1.9 million.

Some additional works, primarily relating to unsealed paths and fire access tracks at a range of locations, will be completed over the coming months to close off the recovery effort.

Although the storm works are completed, there is still a significant maintenance effort ahead to rectify a range of defects around the local road network as a result of the continued inclement weather and Council will continue to work through this process.

The below images highlight the extend of some of the damages sustained during the event, and the current condition, following rectification works.





before and after, S Conroy Road, Ballan



before and after, Bakes Road, Elaine



before and after, Grey Street, Darley



before and after, Sultana Road, Spargo Creek



before and after, Dollys Creek Road, Morrions

## Bacchus Marsh Avenue of Honour Signage

Historical signage along the Bacchus Marsh Avenue of Honour walking track, has recently had a refresh. The five updated signs along the path share war service history taking information from published articles and personal accounts of service personnel.

Further signage replacements in the area are currently being programmed to help promote and acknowledge the heritage significance of the avenue and the area.



## Annual tree planting program

Council's annual tree planting program has recently been completed, seeing over 400 trees, ranging in species, planted along town entrances and centres, residential naturestrips and to complement capital works.

Locations on this year's program include:

- Bungaree township (multiple locations)
- Bacchus Marsh town centre (multiple locations)
- Capital works projects at Grey Street, Darley, Masons Lane, Bacchus Marsh and Old Melbourne Road, Gordon
- Naturestrip tree replacements in multiple locations throughout Bacchus Marsh, Darley, Maddingley and Ballan.



# Pools and shipping containers – helping you understand the requirements

## Swimming pool registrations

On 1 December 2019, new laws to improve swimming pool and spa safety came into effect in Victoria. It is mandatory for owners of land where a swimming pool or spa is located to register their pool or spa with the relevant council.

Existing swimming pools and spas are now required to be registered with new pools or spas required to 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)

Owners are also required to have their safety barriers inspected and to lodge a certificate of barrier compliance with their council once the swimming pool or spa are registered. If a safety barrier is not compliant, it is the owner’s responsibility to make the barrier compliant.

Deadlines for inspection and lodgement of certificate of barrier compliance for pools constructed:

on or before 30 June 1994 to 30 June 1994 – 1 June 2022 (now well overdue)

1 July 1994 and 30 April 2010 – 1 June 2023 (now overdue)

1 May 2010 to 31 October 2020 – 1 June 2024.

### Pools and spas constructed on or after 1 November 2020

Your first certificate of barrier compliance must be lodged within 30 days of the date of issue of the certificate. This certificate must accompany your application for registration.

Your next certificate of compliance is due four years after registration. Check with your council for exact dates.

To register your pool or spa visit Councils website: [moorabool.vic.gov.au/poolandspa](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/poolandspa)



## Building Permits for shipping containers

Did you know?

A building permit is required to place most shipping containers on a property for medium or long term use.

Generally, a building permit is required for all structures (residential, commercial or industrial) including but not limited to new works, alterations, additions, swimming pools, spas (below and above ground), pool and spa safety barriers, verandahs and sheds. It is an offence under the Building Act to commence any building work without a Building Permit.

Shipping containers of any size used for a habitable use require a building permit. This would include an office, bedroom, living or lounge room, music room, television room, kitchen, dining room, sewing room, study, playroom, family room, home theatre and sunroom.

A building permit is also required for shipping containers larger than 10m<sup>2</sup> in floor area used for medium or long term storage.

Shipping containers that require a building permit must comply with the Building Regulations and all relevant parts of the National Construction

Code. Depending on the planning zone and overlays a planning permit may also be required.

A shipping container used for storage for domestic purposes less than 10m<sup>2</sup> in floor area can be used without the need of a building permit if it complies with the following:

- is no more than 3 m in height or, if situated within 1 m of a side or rear boundary, is no more than 2.4 m in height; and
- is located behind the front wall of the existing building on the property, or if there are no existing buildings at least 9m from the front of the property and 2m from a side street (if a corner block).
- Does not interfere with the existing building compliance and is at least 1m away from windows etc.

Shipping containers placed on site for a short term, for transfer of house contents when relocating or the storage of tools during building work also do not require a building permit.

For further information: [moorabool.vic.gov.au/locallawpermit](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/locallawpermit) or contact Council’s building team on 5366 7100 or email us at [info@moorabool.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@moorabool.vic.gov.au)

# Planning

## Bungaree and Wallace Structure Plan – community consultation outcomes

Council’s very successful community consultation in June and July for the Emerging Directions Paper for the Bungaree and Wallace Structure Plan gave people the chance to comment on identified opportunities and constraints outlined in the Emerging Directions Paper.

Two drop-in sessions in Wallace and Bungaree in June were well attended with close to 100 people attending the session over the two nights. During these sessions, close to 200 comments from community members were captured and documented.

Council’s Have Your Say page was visited close to 1,000 times during consultation, with more than 500 documents downloaded in total, 62 online surveys submitted and 11 written submissions from government departments, agencies and residents received. Further late submissions are continuing to be received and accepted.

Given the size of the two local communities with around 500 residents in the two towns combined (2021 census data), the consultation has reached a large portion of the community who have provided valuable information for this project moving forward.

Council officers are currently reviewing all information received and will prepare a consultation summary document, which will be made available later this year.

## Moorabool Shire Heritage Advisory Committee

The Moorabool Shire Heritage Advisory Committee has stood the test of time. Currently chaired by Cr Paul Tatchell, this committee of volunteer community representatives and Council officers recently held its 84th meeting!

The committee has established an effective interactive presence between Council and the community which it represents. The committee meets every second month and provides support and advice to Council about heritage matters throughout the shire.

Group representatives include the Bacchus Marsh and District Historical Society, Bungaree and District Historical Society, Ballan Shire Historical Society, Australian Gliding Museum, Bacchus Marsh and Ballan RSL, the National Trust, and appointed community members.

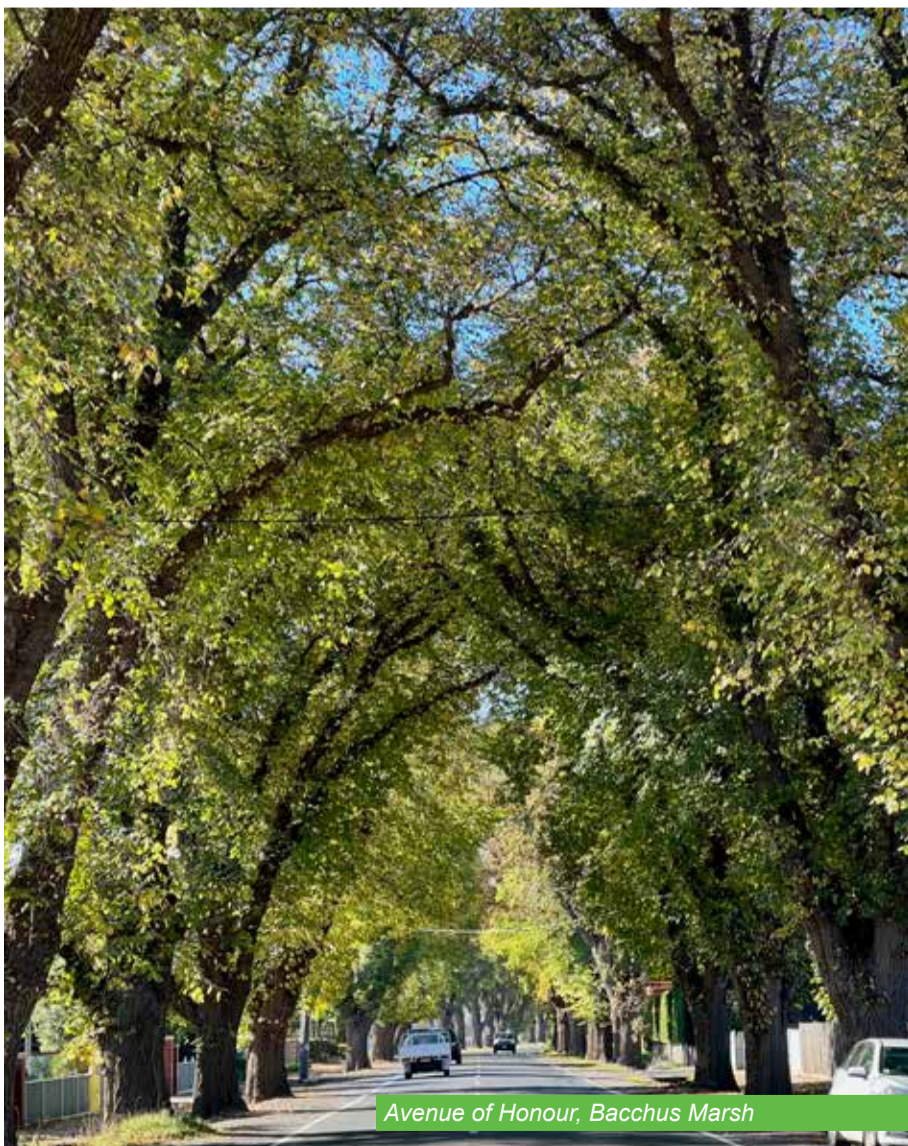
The committee’s objectives include celebrating and promoting awareness

of the shire’s heritage places, which can include signage, education and tourism, all of which contribute to the economy of the region.

There are 98 diverse places classified by the National Trust in the Moorabool Shire, including bridges, trees, cottages, shops, churches, mansions and hotels. Many of these places were identified in the 1960s and 1970s and are now protected by Heritage Victoria registration and Council heritage overlay to conserve them for the future.

Many types of places and objects can have heritage values, including an individual building, a tree or garden or site, a precinct (a collection of sites and buildings that contribute to the significance of a broader area), a streetscape, a bridge or an industrial building or factory.

Victorians value their history, their cultural heritage and their heritage assets. Heritage attracts people to our area and presents opportunities to promote tourism and economic prosperity. Of all the heritage places protected in Victoria, 90% are protected at the local level.



Avenue of Honour, Bacchus Marsh



Chicory Kiln, Bacchus Marsh with the original advertisement for Dr Morse’s Indian Root Pills

## Illegal dumping not tolerated

Council's community safety team is pleased the community is backing its non-tolerance stand on people illegally dumping household goods and other materials in public places.

After a recent court case win for Council in which two men who illegally dumped household waste in Coimadai were fined in the Ballarat Magistrate's Court, community safety officers have noticed the community is on the look-out and reporting people who do the wrong thing.

Council's advice to people who discover goods dumped illegally is to not approach offenders, but to try to take photos or record car registration details. People should not sift through dumped rubbish as this can hinder any legal proceedings.

The two men who faced court recently were fined \$13,000 plus clean-up costs.

Council was alerted to a massive amount of household goods and rubbish being dumped on the side of Reservoir Rd, Coimadai in January 2022. Evidence from the rubbish led Council to two residents from a neighbouring shire who told Council they had paid a rubbish removal service to clean up and dispose of a large amount of rubbish from their home. An investigation proved this to be the case.

Illegal dumping of materials, whether household, building materials, chemicals or general waste, costs Council about \$80,000 a year to clean up, so we encourage any residents who see it occurring to contact Council.

There is more information on illegal dumping on our website: [moorabool.vic.gov.au/dumping](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/dumping)



# Matthew Levy OAM in Bacchus Marsh VIC

Join a FREE community event with Paralympic gold medal winner, motivational speaker, inclusion advocate and author of 'Going the Distance'

**Saturday 2nd  
September 2023**

**12.00pm - 1.00pm**

**Bacchus Marsh Public Hall  
207 Main Street**



**Book your ticket:  
[www.levy.events](http://www.levy.events)**





**EAST MOORABOOL WARD**

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



**WOODLANDS WARD**

Cr Ally Munari  
Deputy Mayor  
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**CENTRAL WARD**

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**WEST MOORABOOL WARD**

Cr Tom Sullivan  
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Refer to Council's website for a full list of 2023 Council meeting dates and times:  
[moorabool.vic.gov.au](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au)

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

DATES	
6 September 2023 4 October 2023	1 November 2023 6 December 2023

**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](mailto:info@moorabool.vic.gov.au)