

# Join our advocacy journey!

In preparation for state and federal budgets in the first half of next year, Council has updated its advocacy prospectus with a range of new and existing projects which we will be advocating to other levels of government to fund.

From the list, we have selected a top 3 priority list for Victorian Government funding and a top 3 priority list for the Federal Government to fund.

The projects are:

*State:*

- Upgrade of Griffith Street, Bacchus Marsh, including expansion to four lanes
- Oval upgrades for the townships of Gordon, Ballan, Dunnstown and Wallace
- An athletics track at Mason's Lane Bacchus Marsh

*Federal:*

- An indoor pool at Bacchus Marsh
- Upgrade of Griffith Street, Bacchus Marsh, including expansion to four lanes and upgrades to the Western Freeway
- Upgrades to Lal Lal Reserve

As part of our campaign to advocate for funds for these projects, we invite the community to lobby their local Members of Parliament to join our voice.

Letters have been set up on our website that residents can sign and send to their local MPs – their contact details are also on our site.

If you're passionate about one or more of the above projects, add your voice and help us help Moorabool thrive:

[moorabool.vic.gov.au/helpmooraboolthrive](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/helpmooraboolthrive)

## New citizens welcomed

There were plenty of joyful smiles as more than 60 Moorabool resident became Australian citizens at a ceremony in Ballan in July.

Our newest citizens have travelled from countries across the globe including India, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, Albania, Ireland, Philippines, Russian Federation, Thailand, Italy, Samoa, North Macedonia, Ethiopia, Vietnam, United States, China and Brazil.

Cr Munari hosted the ceremony and said she was excited to be a part of this significant event in Council's calendar.

"It's a fantastic opportunity for us to give a warm welcome to our newest citizens and acknowledge the importance of what it means to become a full member of the Australian community. There is no greater privilege than our citizenship. It's a life-long commitment to Australia's values of freedom, democracy, equality and respect," Cr Munari said.

"It was a pleasure to congratulate our newest Australian citizens on making their commitment to Australia."



## Calling local artists!

Calling all local photographers and artists working in photo-imagery. Together with Metro Trains, Yarra Trams, V/Line, VicTrack and local councils, the Transporting Arts Pilot Program aims to enliven the community and passenger experience at transport hubs across Victoria, through public art installations by local artists.

Ballan Station has been selected as a location for an artwork installation. We're looking for artists based in Moorabool Shire (individuals, groups or collaborations) to submit an Expression of Interest for this art commission.

We are looking for artwork that reflects the unique nature of Ballan and its surrounds; the lived experience, natural environment and its stories (these could be contemporary or historical, symbolic or personal). The successful proposal will be designed to have broad appeal and resonate with a local and visiting audience with an impactful visual presence.

Your finished artwork will be digitally reproduced on vinyl wraps and fixed onto the concrete pillars indicated in the Expression of Interest.

### How to apply

Complete the expression of interest form on the news section of Council's website and return along with your proposal.

Submissions close 5pm Friday 6 September 2024.

The artist of the selected artwork will be notified in September 2024.

Further Information: [arts@moorabool.vic.gov.au](mailto:arts@moorabool.vic.gov.au)

## Wanting to stand for Council?

Are you interested in representing Moorabool Shire Council as a Councillor? Nominations open on 9 September 2024 via the Victorian Electoral Commission's website, with nominations, candidate statement, photos and questionnaires closing on 17 September 2024.

There is information available on the VEC's website about eligibility, how to nominate, campaigning, donations and the voting process:

[vec.vic.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/becoming-a-local-council-candidate](https://vec.vic.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/becoming-a-local-council-candidate)





## Playspace and ovals open, library hub progressing



A recent community celebration marked the opening of the all-abilities adventure playground at Bacchus Marsh Racecourse and Recreation Reserve (BMRRR). Kids enjoyed the playground facilities, which include:

- Two climbing towers (6.6m and 7.1m tall, with a netting tunnel connecting them)
- Junior play equipment
- Climbing nets
- Three trampolines (2 are accessible)
- Accessible spin platform
- Inclusive spinning dish
- A sensory and sound area with 3 accessible musical instruments
- Flying fox with one harness style accessible seat
- Swings (including one basket swing)
- See-saw
- Sand pit with an accessible sand table on the side.
- Three picnic shelters, all with accessible BBQ and tables

"This is a fantastic facility for the community of Bacchus Marsh and surrounds, and even people living in Melbourne or anywhere else in Victoria – it's worth the drive and to there's plenty to do to make a day

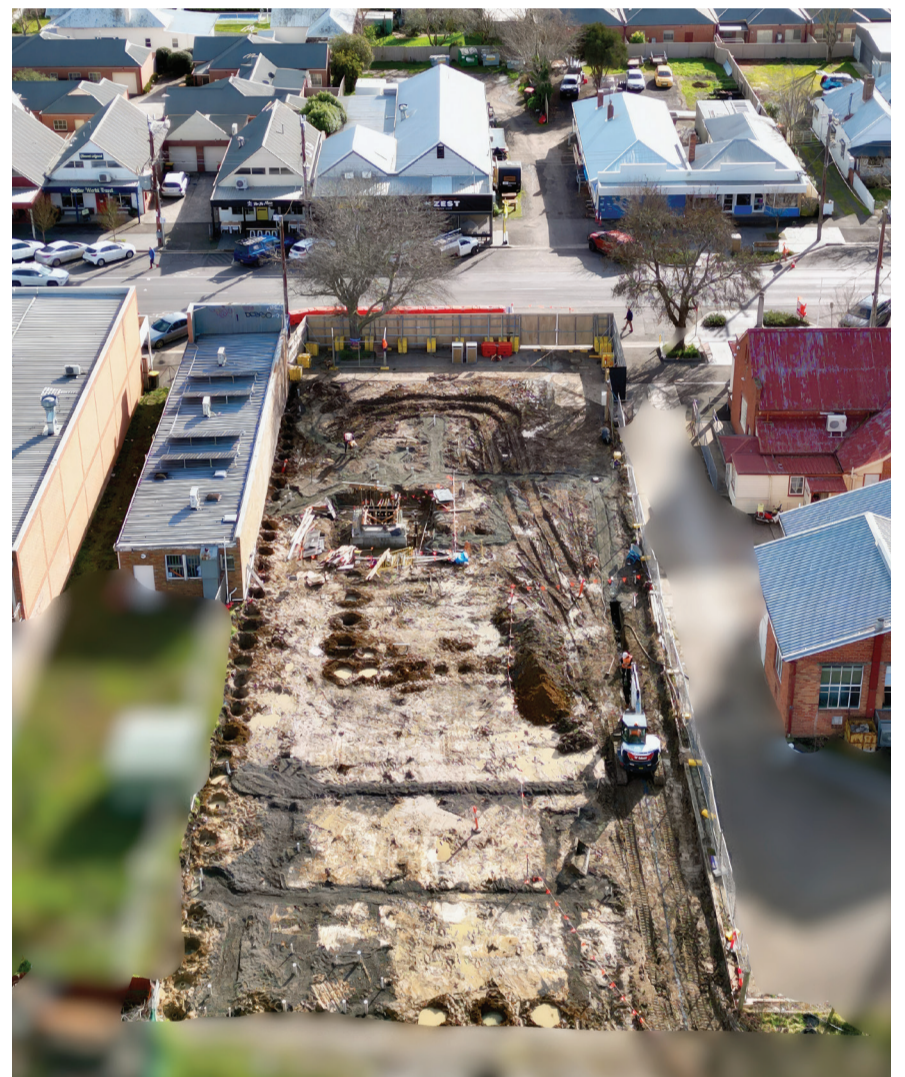
of it," Moorabool Mayor Cr Ally Munari said.

Meanwhile, in Ballan, construction is underway on the new Ballan Library and Community Hub. Earthworks and excavation work is done and the foundations are being laid.

We're very excited about this project which will deliver:

- library services
- designated areas for youth and children
- Maternal and Child Health services
- an art exhibition space
- Visitor information centre and
- community meeting rooms.

For project updates, go to [moorabool.vic.gov.au/ballan-library](https://moorabool.vic.gov.au/ballan-library)



## No smoking or vaping signage

In partnership with our neighbouring councils City of Ballarat and Hepburn Shire and local health providers, Council is supporting an awareness campaign to address the harm from tobacco and vaping.

Council's first action has been to display no smoking or vaping signage at the West Maddingley Early Years Hub, Darley Early Years Hub, Studio 22, Ballan MCH and kindergarten, and Wallace MCH and kindergarten.

The new signage provides clear direction to customers and staff about the restrictions under the legislation applicable to venues where children and young people learn and play.



# Keep batteries out of your bins

## FREE BATTERY RECYCLING IN MOORABOOL SHIRE AT:

### Council offices: (small household batteries only)

- 182 Halletts Way Darley
- 15 Stead Street Ballan
- Lerderderg Library, 215 Main Street Bacchus Marsh

### Moorabool Shire Transfer Stations (household, car and computer batteries, e-waste)

- 51 Osborne Street Maddingley
- 118 Monteville Lane Ballan
- Ballan-Egerton Road Mount Egerton

Find out more: [moorabool.vic.gov.au/waste](https://moorabool.vic.gov.au/waste)

A small act like keeping batteries out of your bins makes a big impact on Victoria's sustainable future.

When batteries are put in your household bins they can cause fires both in your bins and in the trucks that collect them.

Never put any type of battery in your kerbside bins. Instead, take used batteries to your nearest battery drop-off location so they can be recycled.

All batteries are made up of toxic substances and can pose risks to you, your property and the people who empty your bins. This includes batteries in laptops, mobile phones, cameras, power tools and toys. These hazardous materials pollute the environment when disposed of in landfill.

Recycling used batteries correctly means we can make the most of existing resources and rely less on mining new materials.

Here are some simple suggestions to store your batteries safely at home before taking them to a drop-off:

- Cover the ends of used batteries with duct tape or clear sticky tape, to prevent sparking and reduce the risk of fire
- Store them in a glass container and make sure the container is not airtight
- Don't keep them in metal containers or with other metal objects
- Store them in a cool, dry place away from heat sources
- Keep them away from children and pets.

You can recycle AA, button and rechargeable batteries as well as batteries from cars, laptops, mobile phones, cameras, power tools and electronic toys.

# Batteries don't go in household bins

Putting batteries in your bins poses fire risks to your property and to the people who collect your recycling and waste.

Take used batteries to your local drop-off location to keep harmful materials out of your bins and the environment.

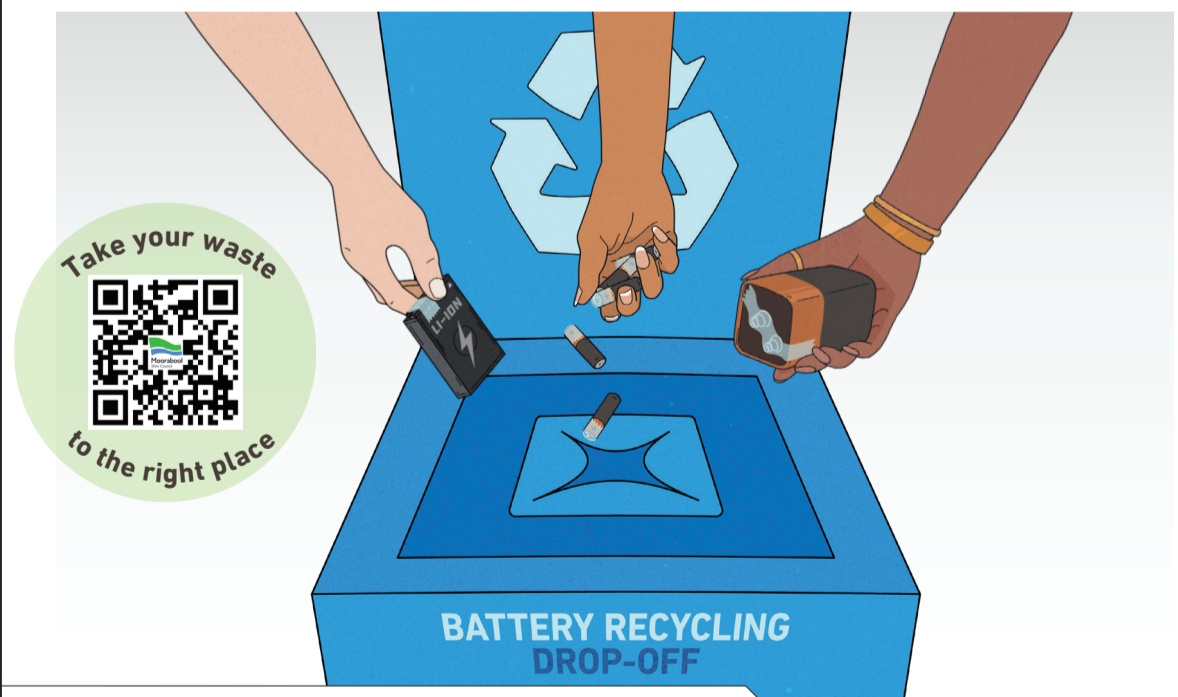
### Free battery recycling at:

#### Council offices: (small household batteries only)

- 182 Halletts Way Darley
- 15 Stead Street Ballan
- Lerderderg Library, 215 Main Street Bacchus Marsh

#### Moorabool Shire Transfer Stations (household, car and computer batteries)

- 51 Osborne Street Maddingley
- 118 Monteville Lane Ballan
- Ballan-Egerton Road Mount Egerton



Small acts make a big impact.  
Find out more: [moorabool.vic.gov.au](https://moorabool.vic.gov.au)





## Young Communities Strategy adopted

We are excited to share that for the first time, Council has combined the Municipal Early Years Plan and Youth Strategy to develop a fully integrated plan for 0-25 year olds; the Young Communities Strategy 2024 – 2028 (adopted by Council 3 July 2024). The Young Communities Strategy recognises that the holistic development— cognitive, social, emotional and physical—of children and young people starts at birth and extends until the age of 25. A key benefit of this strategic approach is ensuring the needs of the 8-12 years age group are not overlooked. Council recognises that our children of today are our young people

of tomorrow and values the pivotal role families play in nurturing the wellbeing and connectedness of children and young people. Through the Young Communities Strategy, four key themes of focus were identified:

- Health and Wellbeing Services and Supports Community Engagement and Participation
- Education and Learning
- Safety and Inclusion

Please visit Council's website to view the document.

## Tree-mendous look throughout the shire



Keep an eye out for new trees being planted across the shire!

Our annual planting is complete, with this year's plantings concentrating on various streets in Maddingley, Darley, Gordon, Millbrook, Navigators and Ballan.

This is done in line with Council's Street Tree Planting Strategy.

Council is responsible for the management and maintenance of more than 18,000 urban, rural and reserve trees and is committed to an ongoing program for the planting of street trees throughout the municipality.

Council's plan for street tree planting covers the supply, planting and establishment of the trees across the urban and rural areas within the Shire.

The new plantings are a blend of natives and exotics depending on the location.

Careful planning has been given to the species of trees planted in each area, with consideration of the environment, climate, soil conditions, aesthetic, and the growth of the trees.

"Our trees are one of Moorabool's greatest assets," Moorabool Mayor Cr Ally Munari said.

"Council is committed to planting more trees each year and caring for our existing trees."

## Imagine with us

Imagination Magic is an engaging dynamic imagination program delivered specifically for Moorabool children through the Maternal and Child Health Service.

The program nurtures creativity enhances self-expression through a variety of fun filled sessions of music storytelling, puppetry and dance.

Imagination Magic stimulates creative thinking, imaginative play, expression, social interactions and supports cognitive and emotional development.

Free sessions are delivered monthly alternating between Ballan and Darley for all children aged 0-5 years.

We invite all to join in the fun. For details, please contact the Maternal and Child Health Service on 5366 7100 or email us at [mchadmin@moorabool.vic.gov.au](mailto:mchadmin@moorabool.vic.gov.au)



## Moorabool Youth Awards 2024

**Have you got a friend who is kicking goals?**

**Is your child making meaningful contribution to community?**

**Has your student shown incredible personal growth this last year?**

The Moorabool Youth Awards is proudly presented by our Youth Action Group (YAG) and Youth Services team with the aim of supporting, recognising, and celebrating young people's achievements and contributions within our community. Young people between the ages of 12-25 who live, work or study in Moorabool can be nominated for one of our numerous award categories.

We encourage the teachers, parents, family, coaches, members of community and peers to nominate young people who you believe have made a significant contribution within community, or who have demonstrated commitment to personal growth.

Nominations are now open and close 30 September. Each nomination for a young person will be assessed by a judging panel, made up of representatives from our community.

The 2024 Youth Awards will be presented at an award ceremony on 28 November 2024, at the Bacchus Marsh Public Hall. The event will include a guest speaker, live music performed by local young people and a fashion show.

## Social Q

**Are you a young queer person who wants to meet friends who identify as LGBTIQ+?**

**Is someone you know seeking support regarding their sexuality or gender identity?**

**Do you just want to know more about what is going on for LGBTIQ+ youth in Moorabool?**

Come along to Social Q!

Social Q is for young LGBTIQ+ people between the ages of 12-25. We meet fortnightly during school terms on Friday afternoons between 3-5pm. The idea behind Social Q is for queer youth to hang out, form connections, plan events, explore ideas, meet community and get out and about. And of course, we snack, play games and craft!

Social Q is youth-led, which means it is created by and for young LGBTIQ+ people. Our Youth team is onboard to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all and provide assistance and a listening ear.

If you are interested, you can find our registration link at [moorabool.vic.gov.au/youthservices](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/youthservices).

## Youth School Holiday Program

**Do you find yourself bored on the school holidays?**

**Want to make new friends and experience exciting activities?**

The July youth school holiday program was absolutely jam-packed fun! It was an amazing opportunity for young people aged between 11-17 to form new friendships and explore new experiences – encouraging them to step out of their comfort zone.

Activities included sports days at MARC Stadium, sewing and textiles

workshops, a visit to Bounce, the NGV, roller skating, laser tag and Beatball. At MARC Stadium young people and their families got to try out different sports like pickleball, basketball and yoga with an instructor. At our sewing and textiles workshop, creativity was flowing as young people designed and made their own pillowcases from start to finish. Over at the NGV's Pharaoh Exhibition, our young explorers dove into the world of ancient Egypt with hands-on exhibits and workshops. Then there was beatball, roller skating and laser tag – adrenaline rushes where teamwork and friendly competition were the name of the game.

We are looking forward to our next youth school holiday in September where we will have fun activities like outdoor laser skirmish, art workshops and more!

## Youth Creators & Makers Market

**Are you a young person that likes to design, make and share your creations?**

As part of the annual Youth Fest where we celebrate the skills and achievements of young Victorians, there will be a Youth Creators & Makers Market. We are proud to partner with the Indie School year twelve class to deliver this event.

The market will be held on Thursday 19 September from 5-7pm on the Village Green in Bacchus Marsh. It aims to platform the creativity and talent of young artists and entrepreneurs within our community. Stallholders will be aged 12-25 and be selling a variety of items including jewellery, crochet, artwork and more! There will be food and live entertainment from young local musicians.

## Parallel Wilds

**Are you interested in tech that allows us to create a virtual reality?**

**Are you passionate about the state of the environment and how we can protect threatened species?**

**Do you have a wild imagination that likes to explore the future?**

Parallel Wilds is an immersive and empowering platform featuring creative writing, digital photography and videography, cosplay and modelling, 3D and drone imagery and sound composition. This innovative convergence of art forms allows young people to express their self-identity in the natural world and to create a speculative universe in the future of wilderness, all set in the year 2050.

Moorabool Youth Services have engaged through Parallel Wilds in their Wildland: 2024-2026 series of projects and workshops. The Wildland series encourages young people to investigate the future of a currently threatened native species within the Moorabool landscape. Young people explore and reflect while situated in a local natural landscape and learn about the environment through a biodiversity lens. The educational workshops run over three days in the school holidays, from 2 to 4 October.

The Parallel Wilds program is for young people between the ages of 10-16. Spots are limited so quick registration is essential. Registrations close 30 August.

More information on the above programs and events can be found on Council's website: [moorabool.vic.gov.au/youthservices](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/youthservices) or on our Youth Services Facebook and Instagram page.



# Enjoy our library programs this spring!

## September BacchChat: Local Heroes in Flight



115th Squadron (Max Durham)

Presented by Emma Muir, John Molesworth and Leigh Durham.

The Moorabool community boasts a rich tapestry of personal narratives steeped in history. Uncover the untold stories of some of the local Moorabool men who took to the skies during World War II. Bob Molesworth served as a Squadron Leader in the RAF leading the No.114 Squadron. In the Second World War, he flew 74 operations and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by King George IV. Max Durham was posted to the No.115 Squadron in the RAF as Pilot Officer. He flew a Lancaster bomber plane through 30 missions and received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

**Saturday 7 September 2024**

**10:00am to noon**

**Lerderderg Library,  
215 Main Street  
Bacchus Marsh**



Photo: Bob Moleworth

## Altered or made books exhibition

BMAC will have their annual community art exhibition throughout the Lerderderg Library space in September. This year's theme is 'Altered or Made Books', inviting local artists and creatives to contribute pieces that are original or re-purposed book creations. The exhibition will run from Monday 2 September to Monday 30 September and we encourage the community to check it out and enjoy.



## "Roar" through time at Moorabool Libraries: Prehistoric beasts to modern marvels

Our September school holiday events, in partnership with Museums Victoria and our October BacchChat, will celebrate and explore the world of dinosaurs and megafauna. There will be:

- an all-ages dinosaur and megafauna scavenger hunt
- an early years Palaeontologist Story Time
- an early years and primary-school-aged pop-up session that combines Australian dinosaurs, megafauna and animals; featuring a life-



sized Muttaborrasaurus skull and leg; a Diprotodon skull cast and footprints artwork; various taxidermy, fossils and artwork

- an adults' BacchChat session: "Paleo detectives... the curious case of Lancefield Swamp!"

For more information on our upcoming events, see the events listing on Council's website and for information about our services, go to [moorabool.vic.gov.au/libraries](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/libraries)





**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  
 Phone: 0407 108 025  
 Email: ptatchell@moorabool.vic.gov.au



**EAST MOORABOOL WARD**  
 Cr Moira Berry  
 Phone: 0418 691 529  
 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](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au)

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

Refer to Council's website for a full list of Ordinary and Special Meetings of Council.

**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
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)