Are you in need of occasional care or a playgroup for your little one? We’re inviting new families to check out our services.

Details, page 7.
As we move into the beautiful autumn weather period we can also look forward to great festivals such as the Bacchus Marsh Harvest Festival, Ballan Autumn Festival and Blackwood Easter Woodchop.

We currently have 60 major projects underway across the Shire. Turn to page 3 for an update on those close to completion.

Notably, Council has started work on the Ballan Streetscape project and has accepted a tender for the earthworks component of the Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve (see page 5). This will set the scene for future stages of the reserve to meet the needs of our growing communities and address the shortfall in active recreation spaces over time.

The Council has decided to hold all ordinary Council meetings at Ballan this year and the planning committee will meet at the community hub that forms part of the Darley offices. Details on the meetings and raising questions are found on our website.

As I mentioned in the last edition, we are seeking feedback on your views on the value and importance and frequency of Moorabool Matters. Please take the time to tell us what you think.

Send your Moorabool Matters comments to info@moorabool.vic.gov.au.

Until next time,

Rob Croxford
CEO
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UPDATE

Projects Currently Underway

**Bennett Street, Bacchus Marsh**

A new raised pedestrian crossing point is currently being installed on Bennett Street, Bacchus Marsh (between Young Street and Gell Street). The crossing point will allow a safer passage for pedestrians to access both the shopping centre and bus stops/Rotary Park on the northern side of Bennett Street.

**Inglis Street, Ballan**

Inglis Street, Ballan streetscape improvement works have commenced, and will result in a new-look main street for Ballan, including new footpaths, more car parking, new street furniture and landscaping. While the work is going on, there will be disruption to the street (traders will still be able to operate as normal) so please be aware when in the area. More details on the project are on our website: https://www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/news/inglis-st-upgrade

**Egerton-Ballark Road, Bungal**

Council’s Operation Unit has commenced road rehabilitation works on Egerton-Ballark Road, Bungal. The 1.8km section continues on from the previous section constructed last financial year. These works include pavement rehabilitation, shoulder construction and drainage improvement works.

**Maddingley Park Pavilion Extension**

Building extension works have commenced within Maddingley Park. The works will see an outdoor viewing area extended north from the existing social rooms which includes provisions for an outdoor bar area, BBQ facilities and new toilets to suit. The extension will provide a perfect elevated viewing platform to enjoy sports played on the main oval.

**Dicker Street, Gordon**

Street upgrade works have commenced in Dicker Street, Gordon fronting the Gordon Primary School. These works include the formalisation of car parking and improved student/pedestrian connectivity to access the school grounds.

**Gravel Road Resheeting Program**

The Gravel Road Resheeting and Shoulder Resheeting Program is underway and includes pavement overlays and improved material quality to 11.5km of roads within the municipality. The following roads make up the programs for 2017/18:

- Ingliston Road, Ingliston Ch 8566 - Ch 9574 (complete)
- Ingliston Road, Ingliston Ch 10016 - Ch 11905 (in progress)
- Bences Lane, Ballan (complete)
- Mount Doran Road, Elaine (complete)
- Mount Doran-Egerton Road, Mount Doran (complete)
- Morrisons Lane, Korobeit (complete)

**Shoulder Resheeting Program**

- Greens Lane, Beremboke (complete)
- Myrniong-Korobeit Road, Myrniong (in progress)
WORKS

Recently Completed Projects

Old Melbourne Road, Ballan – Bridge Works
Works on the Old Melbourne Road bridge crossing the Bostock Reservoir tributary west of Recreation Road are now complete. The project included the construction of a new bridge deck overlay along with minor bridge rectification works and road approach improvements.

Berry Street, Ballan
Works on Berry St, Ballan (between Old Ballanee Road and Blackwood Street) included road rehabilitation and widening along the full length. The project also included formalisation of several intersections including the Blackwood Street intersection, improved drainage infrastructure and a new concrete footpath.

Old Melbourne Road

Old Melbourne Road, Gordon Road Rehabilitation
Works are now complete on Old Melbourne Road, Gordon (between Boundary Road and Ryans Road) with the project incorporating pavement widening and rehabilitation works and intersection improvements to both Chapmans Road and Ryans Road.

Berry Street, Ballan

Carween Lane, Ballan
Works on Carween Lane north of Ballan (between Ballanee Road and Von Stieglitz Drive) are now complete and included road rehabilitation and intersection improvements to Von Stieglitz Drive. These works delivered a safer road surface for all road users.

Upcoming Projects

Woolpack Road, Bacchus Marsh
Roadworks on Woolpack Road, Bacchus Marsh are scheduled to commence in April 2018. The project includes road rehabilitation and widening between Bacchus Marsh Road and the Werribee River Bridge.

Triggs Road, Bungaree
Road reconstruction works on the full length of Triggs Road (between Lesters Road and Murphys Road) are scheduled to commence in March 2018. The project includes upgrading the narrow unsealed pavement to a wider sealed road pavement.

Duncan Street, Ballan
Kerb and channel replacement works and school crossing upgrade works are set to commence in Duncan Street, Ballan in late April 2018. These works will improve safety for all road users but more importantly the Ballan Primary School community.
Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve (BMRRR)

Design works are well underway for the exciting new BMRRR redevelopment.

Preliminary construction works are scheduled to commence in March 2018, which will see major earthworks underway to start shaping the future of the new reserve layout.
MOORABOOL YOUTH MONTH
1st April - 29th April

2017 YOUTH AWARDS
TUESDAY 24TH APRIL
DARLEY CIVIC & COMMUNITY HUB

NOMINATE A YOUNG PERSON FOR A YOUTH AWARD

THE AWARDS WILL CELEBRATE & ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE MADE TO THE MOORABOOL COMMUNITY

APPLICATIONS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 7TH APRIL

BACCHUS MARSH SKATE BMX SCOOTER COMPETITION
SATURDAY 14TH APRIL
ROTARY PARK, BENNETT ST, BACCHUS MARSH

• STREET ART WORKSHOP
• PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS
ALL THE ACTION KICKS OFF FROM 10.00 AM

BALLAN SKATE BMX SCOOTER COMPETITION
SATURDAY 7TH APRIL
BALLAN SKATE PARK, INGLIS ST, BALLAN

• STREET ART WORKSHOP
• PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS
ALL THE ACTION KICKS OFF FROM 12.00 PM

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL WEBSITE OR BY CONTACTING MOORABOOL SHIRE YOUTH SERVICES ON:
5366 7100 • youthservices@moorabool.vic.gov.au • facebook.com/mooraboolyouthservices

Rating Strategy Review
Council’s Rating Strategy is currently being reviewed, and we want our community to have their say.

The strategy has been out for public consultation for several weeks but there is still time to make a submission, via our Have Your Say section of our website: https://www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/consultations

Submissions close on Friday 16 March, at 5pm.

Rate Payments
Ratepayers, who have elected to pay by instalments, are reminded that payment of the third instalment was due for payment by 28 February 2018 and the final instalment is due for payment on or before 31 May 2018. Third instalment reminder notices have been issued and fourth instalment notices will be issued at least 14 days prior to the payment date.

Penalty Interest will be incurred on any accounts not paid in accordance with the rate payment due dates. Interest will accrue at 10% per annum. Interest will calculate on and from the date on which each instalment was due.
Occasional Care

Council’s Occasional Care Service, located at the Darley Early Years Hub provides flexible hours of quality child care for children aged from six months to school age. The program offers children the opportunity to explore a wide range of play experiences building upon their skills and interests, in a calm and happy environment. Bookings can be made on an as needed basis, weekly on a casual basis, or per term, the fee is $9.00 per hour. Sessions are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the school term and families can book two hour, three hour or five hour sessions between 9am and 2pm.

Families new to the service are welcome to visit the program with their child to meet our experienced Educators and ask any questions that they may have about the program. Enrolment forms and information are available on Council’s website, or can be emailed to you upon request to earlyyears@moorabool.vic.gov.au.

Hard copies are available at the Darley Early Years Hub located in the Darley Civic & Community Hub, 182 Halletts Way Darley.

Parking can be accessed via Wittick Street.

Supported Playgroups

Supported playgroups provide opportunities for parents to meet and share experiences, and for children to play, learn and socialise. Supported Playgroups support the development and wellbeing of both children and their parents, together.

Supported playgroups are facilitated and provide a wide range of play experiences and activities to meet the interests and abilities of babies and children attending the group and morning tea is provided.

Funded by the Department of Education & Training, the playgroups are free for families with a Health Care Card, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and children in kinship care arrangements.

Supported Playgroups meet weekly during the school term in Darley at the Darley Early Years Hub and in Ballan at the Ballan Primary School.

For eligibility, group times or for more information you can contact a Supported Playgroup Facilitator by calling 5366 7100 or via email earlyyears@moorabool.vic.gov.au.

Rate Payments can be made as follows:

**In Person at any Australia Post Outlet**, by phone 13 18 16 or go to www.postbillpay.com.au

**In person at the following Customer Service Centres:**
- Ballan - 15 Stead Street;
- Bacchus Marsh – 215 Main Street; or
- Darley – 182 Halletts Way Service Centres.
- EFTPOS facilities are available (major credit cards accepted).

**By Post:** Cheque or Money Order can be made payable to the Moorabool Shire Council and mailed to PO Box 18, Ballan, Vic, 3342.

**Bpay facility, by telephoning your participating bank,** 24 hours a day, as shown on your rate notice (major credit cards accepted).
Pool Season Success

With the sun shining, mercury soaring and crystal clear water shimmering, it’s safe to say Moorabool’s first season operating Bacchus Marsh and Ballan Outdoor Pools was a success! While it was a slow start to summer, temperatures eventually reached as high as 43 degrees and patrons had plenty of days to enjoy a dip. Listening to feedback and suggestions from the community, we were pleased to implement new initiatives to increase the enjoyment of our facilities. On days forecast to be over 35 degrees and above, the pools will now extend their opening hours and remain open until 8pm, allowing swimmers to stay cooler for longer.

Both pools played host to the VicSwim Summer Kidz program in January, giving local children the opportunity to familiarise themselves with water safety and to participate in an intensive learn to swim program. Bacchus Marsh Outdoor Pool also held the highly popular Pool Party organised by Moorabool’s Youth Services. This event provided much excitement and entertainment to all who attended.

For the month of February, lap lanes were trialled at Bacchus Marsh Outdoor Pool giving swimmers the opportunity to swim laps in a reserved lane between 11am – 12pm and 5pm – 6pm. We encourage swimmers of all fitness levels to come along for some leisurely laps!

All in all we would like to thank the community for their patronage over the 2017-18 pool season. We hope you experienced many enjoyable summer days at our facilities and we will welcome you back next season with more excitement in store!

MSC Community Grants Supporting the Moorabool Community

Whether assisting the 100 year anniversary of the end of the First World War, honouring the tireless work of community volunteers, or tackling social isolation – Community Grants are making a significant contribution to the Moorabool community.

The most recent 2017 Community Grants Winter Round funding is helping local community organisations tackle social isolation, promote and honour Indigenous Australians, feed and support the disadvantaged, honour volunteer contributions, promote the historical significance of the region, improve access for people with disability, support land care, assist older residents renew their passions, commemorate significant and historical events and improve community safety.

Applications for the current 2018 Round 1 Community Grants close 31 March 2018.

Council encourages any community groups seeking funding for eligible projects to immediately contact the Community and Recreation Development Team on 5366 7100.
The Moorabool Landcare Network recently completed a DELWP funded project investigating threatened fauna in the Moorabool Shire. The network has been promoting the cause of threatened species of the Moorabool Shire and the role of Landcare, community groups and individuals in helping to protect them and their habitat. You may have seen us at last year’s Ballan Autumn Festival and the Ecolinc Sustainability Expo.

Running from April to November 2017, 6 motion sensitive infrared cameras were deployed across 12 private properties and public reserves. Almost half of the cameras were set up using a custom tree mount, the rest at ground level.

We identified 18 species; a small marsupial known as the Agile Antechinus, Black Rat, Common Brushtail Possum, Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Echidna, Red Fox, Grey Shrike Thrush, House Mouse, Koala, Feral Pig, Rabbit, Red Wattlebird, Ringtail Possum, Sugar Glider, Superb Fairy Wren, Swamp Wallaby, White-throated Treecreeper and Wombat.

Tree mounted cameras detected 9 species, with the Agile Antechinus, Koala, Sugar Gliders and 3 bird species only being detected with this mounting style. Ground level cameras detected 12 species (1 bird). On private property 16 species (4 introduced) were detected and 12 (1 introduced) on reserves, so the number of native species on each property type was similar; showing that private properties can play an extremely valuable role as habitat for native species if appropriately managed.

Now that the funded project has ended, the Landcare Network is seeking expressions of interest from landholders in the Shire who are interested to know what fauna lives on their property. Landholders will need to assist with the deploying of the cameras, which will be put out for 3 weeks at a time.

Please contact facilitator@mln.org.au if you are interested.
The Moorabool Landcare Network acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government in funding this project.

Don’t waste it… greenwaste it!

Did you know up to 20% of what goes into household garbage bins is typically made up of valuable garden materials? Keeping these organics out of landfill is good news all round!

Moorabool Shire Council offers a kerbside greenwaste collection to residents in Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Hopetoun Park and, since the trial started in January last year, more than 1770 of those households have come on board.

This opt-in service is part of Moorabool’s strategy to decrease waste going to landfill. To date, close to 500 tonnes of greenwaste has been collected and turned into compost for landscaping and agricultural uses.

We are delighted with the uptake of the service, as diverting greenwaste from landfill reduces costs and environmental impacts, and extends the useful life of landfills.

A review in late 2018 will help Council decide whether to continue the fortnightly collection. The more properties that participate, the better the outcome. So, have you opted in yet?

Simply apply for the service by completing the Waste Service Application Form at www.moorabool.vic.gov.au. Or, give us a call on 5366 7100 to be sent the form by post.
REGULAR EVENTS

BACCHUS MARSH & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB
Darley Neighbourhood House
33 Jonathon Drive, Darley
2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month (exc Dec & Jan)
7.30pm
5367 0495

BACCHUS MARSH & MELTON POULTRY CLUB INC.
Bacchus Marsh Poultry Pavilion
Racecourse & Recreation Reserve, Bacchus Marsh
3rd Sunday of the month
2pm
psbev.com.au/club information
9746 7137

BALLAN FARMERS & MAKERS MARKET
Mill Cottage, Ballan
2nd Saturday of the month
9am – 1pm
ballanfarmersmarket.com
0498 361 291 or 0490 114 130

BALLAN LIONS CLUB MARKET
Inglis Street, Ballan
1st Saturday of the month
8am – 1pm
0432 961 975

BLACKSMITH’S COTTAGE MUSEUM
100 Main Street Bacchus Marsh
Monthly (closed July)
cottageandforge.com
5367 0481

Go to moorabool.vic.gov.au/events for an update of all events
The Myrniong Car Sprint is a relaxed event showcasing quality cars and races with excellent spectator viewing – ensuring a lovely day out for competitors and enthusiasts alike! Contact David Lowe, Race Secretary, for further details on 9827 8124.

**CMCC & ST ANNE’S CARS FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL #3**
A family friendly Festival at the picturesque St Anne’s Winery is the perfect day out for everyone! Market stalls, trophies, live music, kids entertainment and wine tasting! www.facebook.com/events/580304168971865
10am – 4pm

**ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE MARCH**
A commemorative March to celebrate ANZAC day. Starting at the Bacchus Marsh Hospital the March heads north along Grant Street before turning right and marching along Main Street, concluding at the Bacchus Marsh RSL Hall. Come along and support our returned Service Men and Women. Contact Bacchus Marsh RSL – 5367 1855. 2pm

**MYRNIONG SPRINT CAR**
The Myrniong Car Sprint is a relaxed event showcasing quality cars and races with excellent spectator viewing – ensuring a lovely day out for competitors and enthusiasts alike! Contact David Lowe, Race Secretary, for further details on 9827 8124. Korobeit Rd, Myrniong. 8am – 5pm

**DUDDINGSTOWN ST. PATRICK’S DAY CARNIVAL**
A community event to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with live music, Irish dancing and sporting activities for the young and old. Food and refreshments available all day. Be sure to watch out for Leprechauns! www.facebook.com/DundingstownStPatricksDay
Dundie Football/Netball Reserve, 2855 Old Melbourne Road, Dundie. 12pm – 10pm

**BALLAN AUTUMN FESTIVAL**
Go down the rabbit hole & celebrate the “Mad Hatter’s Tea Party” at the 4th Autumn Festival. Be enchanted and amazed as you peruse over 100 market stalls, food trucks, the Grande Street Parade and float competition, and the famous Woodshop @ Hudson’s Hotel. There will be big and little kids rides, entertainment, live music, art, a pet show, vintage cars / machinery and much more! A great day out for the whole family. Inglis Street, Ballan. 9am – 4pm. www.ballansummerfestival.org

**GREEK AND OLIVE FESTIVAL**
A festival to celebrate Greek Food, beverages & culture at the gorgeous St Anne’s Winery. 84 Garrards Lane, Myrniong. Only $10 per car. www.facebook.com/events/517486561972056
10am – 5pm

**MEN’S PUB CLINIC AT THE PLough @ MYRNIONG**
Free Men’s Health Pub Clinic at The Plough @ Myrniong. Health professionals, guest speakers, free beer & food.
Topics: Cancer & Mental Health. Come along, have a beer on us and learn something about your own personal health. All welcome. The Plough @ Myrniong, 17 Main Street, Myrniong. 6pm

**BACCHUS MARSH EASTERFEST**
A fun Easter Egg hunt for kids (pre-sale tickets required), kids rides, food and market stalls, local performers and an Easter Bonnet Parade! All proceeds to the DJHS Urgent Care Unit. www.facebook.com/BM.EasterFest. 11am – 5pm

**BLACKWOOD HOTEL – 150 YEAR CELEBRATION**
The Blackwood Hotel is turning 150 years old and is hosting a double celebration of all things Blackwood! Bring the family along and help celebrate the rich history of Blackwood. There will be historical talks and walks, street stalls, live music and jumping castles. For further details, email darrenjlynch61@gmail.com 11am – 6pm

**BLACKWITE BLACKLITE**
Ballan shop windows will be ablaze with fluorescent creations each night.
Opening Night: Saturday 16th June – lots of fun for all the family!
Closing Night: Saturday 23 June. www.wombatarts.org/black-nite for further details. Dusk until 10pm each night.
**EAST MOORABOOL WARD**
Cr John Keogh
DEPUTY MAYOR
Phone: 0437 188 261
Email: jkeogh@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

**EAST MOORABOOL WARD**
Cr Jarrod Bingham
Phone: 0429 392 308
Email: jbingham@moorabool.vic.gov.au

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

**WOODLANDS WARD**
Cr Pat Toohey
Phone: 0439 009 677 or 5334 0648
Email: ptoohey@moorabool.vic.gov.au

**CENTRAL WARD**
Cr Paul Tatchell
MAYOR
Phone: 0407 108 025
Email: ptatchell@moorabool.vic.gov.au

**Refer to Council’s website for a full list of 2018 Council meeting dates and times: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au**

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**Important emergency contact information**

- **Police / CFA / Ambulance**: 000
- **SES**: 132 500
- **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**: 0400 501 696
- **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 and business within Moorabool Shire via Australia Post.

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.