



## ASHWOOD DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWS

### I'm Matt Fregon MP, your local State Member of Parliament

In November 2022, I was elected as your Member for Ashwood. As a local resident, I care greatly about our community and being your representative in the Victorian Parliament has been the greatest privilege of my working life. Every day I have spent in this role, I have sought to make our community even better.

I am proud of the Andrews Labor Government's track record delivering for our community and I am proud to say that our recent budget has delivered on every commitment we made in the 2022 election campaign.

I'd also like to thank our community for allowing me the opportunity of being elected as the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Inside, I've included additional information on some of the exciting projects already delivered and currently underway in our local community

But there is always more to do and my main role is to listen to you and your views, while advocating for our community.

Please get in touch with my office if I can be of any assistance to you or your family.

Sincerely,

Matt Fregon MP

### Matt's 23-24 Budget Wrap

**BIG NEWS:** Last year I made a lot of exciting local commitments and I'm very happy to report that we are delivering on each and every one!

The recent budget delivers on what matters most to our community, right here in the Ashwood District.

Here's what the budget means for our community:

- ✓ \$5.86 million upgrade at Mount Waverley Primary School
- ✓ \$5.3 million to upgrade and modernise Parkhill Primary School
- ✓ Funding to plan a school hall upgrade at Pinewood Primary School
- ✓ \$1.5 million towards improving the Waverley Rail Trail between Mount Waverley and Jordanville Railway Stations
- ✓ Funding to commence the roll-out of zero emission buses
- ✓ \$2.5 million for a Chinese Community Centre in the East
- ✓ Funding to support Holmesglen Education First Youth Foyer to continue rental supplementation supporting young people
- ✓ \$1.3 million for covered courts at the Waverley District Netball Association
- ✓ A new fenced dog park in Mount Waverley
- ✓ \$80,000 for Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre

**MATT IS  
DELIVERING  
FOR THE EAST**

- ✓ \$125,000 towards a new scoreboard and moveable player shelter at Ashburton Reserve
- ✓ New neighbourhood battery for Monash
- ✓ \$50,000 towards a new shaded seating area at Ashburton Bowls Club
- ✓ \$50,000 for upgrades at Mount Waverley Bowling Club
- ✓ \$1.0 million grant for Monash Council to improve Scotchmans Creek Trail near Warrigal Road and Blackburn Road

**I'm absolutely thrilled to have secured funding for all of these local projects and more. Our community deserves nothing less and I look forward to keeping you up to date on all of these big wins!**

# Education

## Premier Visits Ashwood High School

The State Member for Ashwood District, Matt Fregon MP was joined by Premier Daniel Andrews when he dropped into Ashwood High School for a sneak peek of the new STEAM and Research Centre, due to open next year.

The tour was hosted by Principal Dr. Brett Moore, Assistant Principal Meg McLellan, Executive Assistant Donna Mineo, and student captains Sebastian Millan, Carol Yuan, and Stephanie Millan. The visit also included engaging interactions with teachers and students, and discussions on the school's diverse educational offerings.

The new centre reflects the school's commitment to fostering innovation and excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.



## Mount Waverley Primary School

The latest Victorian State Budget has allocated \$5.86 million for the upgrade and modernisation of the North Building at Mount Waverley Primary School. Matt Fregon MP was on-site at the school in May this year, alongside Assistant Principal Tania Hunter, to formally make the announcement.

This funding is part of an effort to invest in local schools, with a focus on creating an optimal learning environment for our local students.



## Parkhill Primary School Upgrades!

Back in November 2022, Matt Fregon MP was joined by Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins MP at Parkhill Primary School in Ashwood for an exciting pre-election announcement. The Andrews Government pledged to invest \$5.3 million to upgrade and modernise the school, including improvements to the playground, landscaping, fencing and acoustics in the gymnasium.

As part of the 2023/24 State Budget, this funding promise was delivered, with \$5.3 million allocated to ensure this fantastic school continues to grow and provide the modern learning spaces our local students deserve.

This funding builds on the \$9.7 million already invested to make Parkhill Primary an outstanding local school for the Ashwood community.

Matt would also like to welcome and introduce new school Principal, Jo Jolley, who he looks forward to working closely with in the coming months.



## Pinewood Primary School One Step Closer to a New Gym and Music Space!

Following the State Budget announcement back in May, it was announced that planning will commence this year for a new competition-grade gymnasium and music space at Pinewood Primary School!

This much-needed upgrade will provide students with a gymnasium to stay active and pursue their passions in music and the arts. This is part of a broader effort to upgrade our local schools to ensure our children have the brightest possible future.



## Mount Waverley Secondary College Full STEAM Ahead!

Back in June, Matt Fregon MP was welcomed by MWSC Principal Karen Wade and Middle School Principal Ian MacLeod for a progress tour of the \$7.9 million STEAM Centre.

The new facility will be a place that fosters culture and innovation and leadership through the creation and sharing of ideas. This STEAM building demonstrates the college's dedication to enhancing current infrastructure to develop a crucial technological environment that will provide students with an advanced educational approach and will be a centrepiece for Mount Waverley – as you come down Stephenson's Road, it is there for all to see.

Matt would also like to thank Zinia Rohila, a Year 10 Mount Waverley Secondary College student, who joined his team for a week as part of the 2023 work experience program.



## Free TAFE

The Victoria State Government is making TAFE free for all Victorians. This move aims to provide thousands with access to skills training, essential for securing desired jobs.

This initiative signifies an investment in human capital, allowing all Victorians, regardless of their prior education, to benefit from quality education and skills training. The courses cover a diverse range of industries, catering to different interests and career paths.

The free TAFE courses will have a positive impact on individual career growth and, in the long run, contribute to the state's economic health. This initiative by the Victoria State Government illustrates the importance of accessible education in fostering a skilled and diverse workforce.



# Environment

## Container Deposit Scheme - A Win-Win for the Environment and the Community

By November 2023, Victorians will be able to return eligible cans, cartons and bottles for a 10-cent refund at selected locations. This initiative will aim to promote recycling, reduce litter and create a sustainable future for all of us. In our electorate, these locations will be easily accessible e.g. linked to supermarkets and community organisations. With exact locations to be provided in the coming months.

The scheme will encourage community engagement and empower us all to make a positive environmental impact in our area. Community organisations will be able to partner with recycling centres, enabling them to raise funds for their causes or support local initiatives.

This is a fantastic step in the right direction to preserve the environment in the Ashwood electorate and beyond.



## Anniversary Trail Budget Win!

The Anniversary Trail, which starts in the heart of Ashburton and ends in the northern suburbs, is a beautiful part of our area. That's why it is great to hear that \$1 million in funding is going towards improving the trail in Ashburton.

This funding marks a crucial step in the ongoing efforts to make the community more vibrant and pedestrian-friendly.

This funding will go towards developing designs for a pedestrian and cycling underpass at High Street, and will ultimately make the trail a more safe and accessible space for all to enjoy.

## Mark Your Calendars for the Electrify Boroondara Expo!

**When:** Sunday, 8 October, 10am-4pm  
**Where:** Hawthorn Arts Centre

The future is electric! Across Australia communities are electrifying everything as more and more people want to save money, create comfortable, healthier homes and a safer climate.

This Expo will arm you with the knowledge and connections you need to plan your electrification journey, whether you're just starting out or already on your way. The free, family-friendly event features inspiring speakers including Saul Griffith & Alan Kohler, live demonstrations, engaging panel discussions and opportunities for hands-on learning. Plus many giveaway prizes to be won. Explore topics such as improving home energy efficiency, rooftop solar and batteries, induction cooktops, electric vehicles and e-bikes, and getting off gas. Find out about your financing options, subsidies and rebates. Book a one-on-one chat with an expert.

Join Electrify Boroondara at **Boroondara's first electrification and energy efficiency expo** and be inspired to make your home **low-emissions, super comfortable and energy efficient while helping make our climate safe.**

Visit [electrifyboroondara.org](http://electrifyboroondara.org) to learn more and to register for the expo.



# Community Sport

## Waverley Netball Association Court Covers

The Waverley District Netball Association is set to receive a significant boost with an allocation of \$1.30 million in the Victorian Government's May budget. This funding will facilitate the construction of much-needed court covers for the local netballers.

The investment is a big win for the community, as it will ensure that players have better playing conditions and can train and compete irrespective of the weather. Not only does this show support and recognition for netball as a sport, but it also reflects the government's commitment to enhancing local sports facilities. The court covers are expected to greatly benefit the local netball community.



## New Lights Shine on Ashburton Sport

Ashburton's soccer and cricket players are set to shine both day and night, thanks to a lighting upgrade at Warner Reserve sports ground, backed by the Victorian Government.

Member for Ashwood Matt Fregon MP joined representatives of Ashburton United Soccer Club and the Boroondara City Council, to officially switch on the new lighting, made possible by a more than \$144,000 investment from the Victorian Government's *World Game Facilities Fund*.

Soccer is one of Victoria's fastest growing sports, and Warner Reserve is at the heart of the action for the more than 760 members of Ashburton United Soccer Club.

The new 100 lux LED lighting will bring the reserve up to Football Victoria standards and allow Ashburton Soccer Club to expand its programs and also include an Access for All Abilities Soccer Team, Go Mums and Masters programs, Junior National Premier League training, and a Pride Cup tournament.

The lights will also allow the club to offer training for multiple teams at once, helping build a more social family atmosphere at the club, and supporting the growth of both the membership and volunteer bases that are critical to ongoing growth.

The fun won't stop with soccer, as the lights will support pre-season training for the more than 1,000 members of Glen Iris Cricket Club, Ashburton Willows Cricket Club, STC South Camberwell Cricket Club and Camberwell Magpies Junior Cricket Club, and provide better facilities for use by local schools including Ashburton Primary School, St Michael's Primary School and Solway Primary School.

Matt Fregon MP acknowledged Boroondara City Council for its commitment and financial contribution of more than \$144,000 to the project.

# Spotlight on Members of Our Local Community!

## Sarah Larcombe Goes for GOLD

We are excited to shine a spotlight on one of our local sporting heroes, Sarah Larcombe, a paraclimbing athlete who has defied the odds and emerged as a true inspiration to us all. Join us in celebrating her remarkable achievements and determination.

Sarah's journey into the world of paraclimbing is a testament to the power of resilience. Despite facing physical challenges, she has fearlessly embraced the sport, demonstrating incredible skill and pushing her limits on the international stage. Sarah is Australia's first ever IFSC Sport Climbing World Cup medallist and winner.

Some of her recent achievements include winning a silver medal in Salt Lake City at the IFSC Paraclimbing World Cup and a silver medal at the Masters international competition.

We wish her all the best at the upcoming IFSC World Championships in Bern, Switzerland this August!

To learn more about Sarah and how our community can support Sarah to achieve her sporting goals, visit: @sarah\_la on instagram or <https://asf.org.au/projects/sarah-larcombes-paraclimbing-world-cup-and-world-championships-journey-2023>



## Elijah Guer is USA Bound!

Matt Fregon MP was delighted to meet with local athlete and talented basketballer, Elijah Guer and his family earlier this month to hear more about his upcoming scholarship opportunity to attend High School in Maryland, USA.

Elijah currently plays representative basketball for Waverley Falcons under 16s division 1 as well as the Red Roos. He was also selected as an emergency player for the Victorian Under 16s boys state team. He currently attends Rowville High School basketball academy and we wish him every success on his US adventure.

For more information about Elijah and to offer your support: @elijahwitdashifts.



## Ashburton United Soccer Club Welcomes 1,000 Playing Members for Season 2023

AUSC welcomes back its new and existing members to the club for season 2023! After a few tough years, their membership has rebounded across all their cohorts with over half their club being under the age of 13 and more than 220 girls and women playing the beautiful game!

Their club has been part of the community since 1979, and are spread across six different venues operating from the months of October through to August. Their club aims to provide a soccer experience for all players of any ability providing player pathways for social and performance players. They run a "kick off" program for players from the age of 4 years old on Saturday and Sunday in terms 2, 3 and 4, with the aim of new players falling in love with the game first and foremost.

The pinnacle of their club is their senior womens and mens teams playing the Victorian State Leagues 2 and 3 respectively. They rely on many volunteers to run the club at all levels and aim to provide a great experience on and off the pitch for everyone involved.

They have a proud history and connection with the community via their many local sponsors but also their annual "Charity Match" which they organise in November each year that raises money for CAMCARE, a local community charity.

For more information phone: 03 9885 2374 or 0409 020 143



## Boost for Local Bowls Clubs

Local bowling clubs Ashburton Bowls Club and Mount Waverley Bowling Club have both been allocated \$50,000 as part of the May budget announcement.

At Mount Waverley this will see \$50,000 towards a brand new deck, delivering facilities that club members and the whole community can be proud of.

In Ashburton, this will see \$50,000 towards a new shaded seating area.

Local clubs work hard to fundraise for better facilities – and they deserve a government that backs them.

## South Camberwell Cricket Club

Founded in 1967, the STC South Camberwell Cricket Club is one of the largest clubs in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

Affiliated with the Eastern Cricket Association and located in Glen Iris, STC caters for all standards and age groups, offering junior development programs, junior cricket for girls and boys aged 8 to 16, nine senior teams that include two in elite shield grades, and Veterans cricket.

The club is family-friendly and inclusive with a rich history of on-field success and they welcome players of all abilities. So, if you love cricket, appreciate the community and enjoy off-field fun as much as playing the game, come down and say hello - they'd love to have you!

For more information phone: 0409 191 551



## Burwood District Cricket Club Milestone

On December 12, 2022, Adrian "Dogman" Reus achieved a remarkable milestone in his cricket career by completing his 1,000th wicket and 500th game for the Burwood District Cricket Club. Reus secured the crucial catch and bowled a wicket on the last ball of the day against the Croydon Ranges CC Vets' team. Reus is considered a legend in the Burwood District Cricket Club, not only for his exceptional achievements but also for his competitive spirit, determination, loyalty, and longevity. He has played the most games and taken the most wickets in the club.

In comparison to other players in the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association (BHRDCA), Reus holds significant records. He has played 46 seasons in the BHRDCA, surpassing the previous record of 39 seasons. Reus is believed to hold the BHRDCA record for the most games played. Reaching 1,000 wickets, Reus joins a small group of four others.

Adrian Reus's career summary with the Burwood District Cricket Club includes 502 games, 4,095 runs, and 1,000 wickets. He has been a dedicated member of the club for over four decades, creating lasting friendships and memories along the way.



# Our Community

## A New Dog Park Right Here in Ashwood District

Everyone in your family deserves somewhere nearby to play, socialise and exercise. That's why the Andrews Labor Government is investing over \$13 million to build six new dog parks and upgrade 22 existing dog parks, including a new park right here in our community - which will include enclosed fencing, fountain, bins and bench seating. Matt Fregon MP welcomed the Minister for Environment, Ingrid Stitt MP to Heany Reserve last month, to discuss this wonderful commitment.



## Queen of Quilts, Joan Walker!

A big congratulations to local Mount Waverley quilter, Joan Walker. Joan won a Highly Commended 1st Ribbon in the Small Quilts Amateur division for her stunning entry at the 2023 Victorian Craft and Quilt Fair. Held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, this event showcases everything from handcrafts and fine art to patchwork and quilting. Joan's quilt, called 'I Spy for Caitlyn and Carlos' is a special piece she lovingly made to mark the upcoming birth for two special family friends based in the USA. Congratulations Joan, it is a memento that will be treasured for years to come.



## A New Look Mount Waverley Reserve!

Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, Catherine King MP joined Federal MP for Chisholm Carina Garland, and City of Monash Mayor Tina Samardzija last month to unveil the masterplan designs for Mount Waverley Reserve. Supported by Local, State and Federal governments, the exciting redevelopment plans promise a fresh look for the local sports hub and home of the Waverley Blues Football and Mount Waverley Cricket clubs.

- Project update and timeline:
- Sportsground redevelopment design - completed. Including turf wicket, oval lighting, pathway, seating, goal posts, oval fencing and behind the goal netting.
  - Sportsground redevelopment construction. Monash City Council aim to award the project at the August Council meeting and start construction 1 Nov 2023.
  - Playground design - completed.
  - Playground construction - to commence March 2024.
  - Pavilion construction - to commence April 2024.

A huge shout out to the Carina Garland MP, Minister Ros Spence, the Waverley Blues, Mount Waverley Cricket Club, Presidents Stephen Pewtress and David Grossman, their committees and members for working with all levels of government to see this project become a reality.



## Hamilton Place Activity Centre Structure Plan Submissions

The City of Monash has made an amendment to The Mount Waverley Activity Centre Structure Plan. This plan guides future development for the centre as part of the Monash Planning Scheme and sets out a long term vision for the future growth and improvement of the centre. The plan makes a number of recommendations around urban design, car parking and planning controls. The Council is now inviting feedback through formal submissions from residents in our community. If you are interested in providing your feedback about the proposed activity centre, you can lodge your submission online, by email, by post or in person.

- <https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/amendment-c167/C167-make-submission>
- Email: [strategicplanning@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:strategicplanning@monash.vic.gov.au)
- Post: To The Strategic Planning Coordinator, PO Box 1, Glen Waverley VIC 3150
- In Person at the Glen Waverley Civic Centre.

**Submissions close Friday 4 August 2023.**  
It is our understanding that late submissions however may be considered. Please submit these with urgency.

## Looking for a Local Multicultural Community Group to Join?

The Chinese Seniors in Monash are a vibrant community of individuals who come together every Friday (except the first Friday of each month) from 9 am to 2:30 pm at the Mount Waverley Community Centre.

The club is dedicated to promoting health, well-being, and cultural exchange among Chinese seniors in the area. For all enquiries phone: Sue 0435 758 874 or Roujuan Zhang (中文) 0491 062 165 or drop in!



The Chinese Seniors Cultural Association, also known as 澳洲华人文化中心, is a vibrant organization created specifically for seniors to unite and engage in a variety of activities. Their primary goal is to establish a welcoming community where seniors can socialise, share their experiences, and contribute to society.

The group hosts meetings every Saturday in the bustling and vibrant location of 296 High Street, Ashburton. For more information, you can enquire with Julia Fu at 0426 965 866 or the Venue office 03 9885 3815. Join them for a chance to connect with other seniors, learn new skills, and enjoy your golden years!



## Neighbourhood House Budget Win!

The Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning Centre is one of the terrific neighbourhood houses in the Ashwood community.

That's why it is fantastic to see that the recent budget included an \$80,000 grant for the centre. ANLC offers a wide range of educational, recreational, and social activities for individuals of all ages.

It serves as a hub where members of our community can connect, learn, and grow together. This funding will allow the centre to expand its offerings and create new opportunities for our community members to thrive.

Are you part of a local community group and would like to feature in our Spring newsletter edition? Please contact 9561 0511 or email [matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au) for more information.

# Transport

## Zero Emission Buses - Delivering Victoria's Bus Plan

We know action is needed to protect and improve the environment, and that is why the Andrews Labor Government is excited to announce a ground breaking initiative to introduce zero emission buses in Victoria by 2025. This visionary step aligns with Victoria's Bus Plan and their commitment to sustainable transportation, reducing emissions and creating a greener future for all.

Victoria's Bus Plan outlines a comprehensive vision for improving public transportation across the state, prioritising efficiency, accessibility and environmental sustainability. As part of this plan, the implementation of zero emission buses on metro bus services will commence with the recontracting of bus service contracts expiring in 2025.



## SRL East Update

Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) is a city and state-shaping project that will transform Victoria's public transport system, connecting our suburbs and making travel easier and more convenient.

The new underground station at Burwood will deliver better access to Deakin University, one of Australia's biggest universities for thousands of staff and students and connect locals to Melbourne's train network - providing faster and more convenient access to key destinations across Melbourne. Trains will be running by 2035.

Construction of SRL East from Cheltenham to Box Hill is ramping up, with the first phase of works in Burwood underway to establish the launch site for some of the tunnel boring machines that will dig the twin tunnels from 2026.

As part of the works, the Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA) constructed a new park and playground between Cumming Street and Gillard Street and new BBQ facilities off Highbury Road at Lundgren Reserve. These facilities are an alternative to Sinnott Street Reserve, which is closed so that the new underground SRL Burwood Station can be safely built.

## Free Rego for Eligible Apprentices

For those starting out in apprenticeships, the budget can often be tight. That's why the Victorian Government is investing in free registration for eligible apprentices like carpenters, joiners, bricklayers, plumbers, electricians and chefs.

Eligible apprentices can apply for the free vehicle registration via the **myVicRoads** portal on the VicRoads website.



# Local Business

## Minister for Small Business Visits Ashburton Village

The Minister for Small Business Natalie Suleyman MP, joined the member for Ashwood Matt Fregon MP at Ashburton Village this month to meet with a round table from the Ashburton Shopping Centre Traders Association.

A visit to High Street Ashburton wouldn't be complete without dropping into some of the great local businesses in the area including Ashburton Fresh Meats, Ashburton Fresh and Two Doors Brewery.



## Ashburton Community Centre - Mobile Office Drop-in

Need in person assistance with a State Government issue or help applying for the latest round of the power saving bonus?

The current round is scheduled to end on August 31st 2023, so there is still time to submit your application. Please give us a call on (03) 9561 0511 or drop in to our mobile office in Ashburton. Make sure to bring a copy of your electricity bill.

We're at the Ashburton Community Centre, 160 High Street Ashburton on the following Fridays from 11am-1pm:

**August 18th, September 1st, September 15th, September 29th, October 13th, October 27th, November 10th, and November 24th.**



## A Message from Victoria Police and Your Monash Local Area Commander, Matt Volk

Monash Local Area Commander, Inspector Matt Volk wants all residents in the Mount Waverley and Ashwood areas to be aware of an increased number of house break-ins during the night and the early hours of the morning.

"Offenders are breaking into houses to steal car keys, before taking vehicles while you sleep. This is often made easier for the offender, with many residents leaving their doors unlocked and garage remotes in their unlocked vehicles.

"I want our community to know that their police are doing a significant amount of work every day and night. We have had considerable success arresting those responsible for these break ins and we remain firmly committed to this work."

A large-scale police operation is currently in place with a range of Police tasked to Operation Trinity which runs overnight, 7 nights a week. This includes uniform police, covert patrols, specialist units including Highway Patrol, Air Wing and the Dog Squad.

"We can commit all the resources we have, however I need the community to play their part and secure their houses and vehicles." We all need to be contributing to community safety so that Monash continues to be a great place to live, work and play.

### The following are some simple steps to safeguard your homes:

- Install good quality locks on doors and windows
- Lock all doors and windows as unlocked side and rear doors are the most common entry points for burglars
- Ensure garage doors and internal access doors to the house and backyard are locked
- Ensure gates are closed and locked

### Steps to reduce the risk of your car been stolen from your house:

- Lock your car at all times-even if parked in the garage
- Secure your car keys and garage remote and never leave them in your car
- Remove all valuables from your car

Insp. Volk urges the community to call Triple Zero (000) to report any suspicious behaviour at the time it is occurring. This gives Police the best opportunity to respond as quickly as possible, and to apprehend an offender if a crime is in progress.

You can follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with messages and arrests in your local area: Eyewatch-Monash Police Service Area on Facebook

For any issues of a non urgent nature you'd like to raise with Mount Waverley Police Station, please email:

**UNI-MOUNTWAVERLEY@police.vic.gov.au**



## Get in touch?

If we can assist you with State Government or community matters, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

📞 03 9561 0511 ✉️ [matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:matt.fregon@parliament.vic.gov.au)

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