



COMMUNITY UPDATE

August 2010

This COMMUNITY UPDATE provides information about the construction of a new \$6.4 million Youth and Community Hub at Batesford Reserve in Ashwood. It is relevant to sports club members, individuals and residents who use the Waverley Basketball Centre, Jordansville Community Centre (JCC), the sports pavilion and oval, and the playground at Batesford Reserve. For further information contact Fee Harrison, Manager Community Planning & Development at Monash City Council on 9518 3526 or email fee@monash.vic.gov.au



The Youth and Community Hub at Batesford Reserve is taking shape

PROJECT UPDATE

Progress is continuing on the Youth and Community Hub building at Batesford Reserve which is now at lock up stage and on schedule for completion in December 2010.

Internal brick walls and partitions have been built and the lift shaft has been installed, along with windows and external doors. Landscaping, including paving and earthworks, are now underway surrounding the Hub and drainage work has started. The carpark lighting upgrade is complete and feedback from users has been positive.

The next stage will see installation of some of the Hub's environmentally sustainable features. This includes the roof mounted photovoltaic panels which will generate solar power, and 12 rainwater harvesting tanks which will store 90,000 litres of water and make the building almost self sufficient in terms of water requirements.

ACCESS TO BASKETBALL STADIUM

Council thanks users of the basketball stadium and JCC for their patience during construction of the Hub at Batesford Reserve and wants you to know that Council is doing everything possible to minimise disruption while the building work continues.

Council has taken steps to upgrade the gravel path adjacent to the oval fence which many people are using to access the basketball stadium. While we realise this path provides the quickest access to the stadium, this is only a temporary pathway and is not suitable for wheelchair access. The safest access to the basketball stadium is via the street footpath.

THINGS TO REMEMBER DURING CONSTRUCTION

1. Please stay away from the building zone and fencing.
2. Watch out for heavy trucks and machinery entering and leaving the construction site.
3. Slow down when driving in the carparks near the entrances to the reserve. Watch out for people on the Eastern entrance access road.
4. Basketball stadium users should arrive at their games early to allow time to access the stadium via the street footpath.

We thank you for your continued patience during construction of this project which when completed will provide a wonderful facility with many services and programs for the community to access.



The southern elevation of the Hub.

THE HUB PROJECT IS
PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



COMMUNITY UPDATE Continued...

ACTIVATE AND ACCELERATE PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT JORDANVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE



Rachel Ficus, a Youth and Family Outreach Counsellor from Waverley Emergency Adolescent Care and Ben Heard play table tennis with a young person at the ACCELERATE program.

ACTIVATE is a program for young people from 10-17 years that has been operating at Jordansville Community Centre (JCC) on Mondays from 4.30pm - 6.30pm for the past 10 years.

Due to the success of ACTIVATE, Monash Council's Youth and Family Services (MYFS) staff have started another program at JCC called ACCELERATE on a Wednesday from 4pm - 5.30pm for 15-20 year olds.

MYFS Youth Worker, Ben Heard said the aim was to get young people to "take the lead" and drive the direction the ACCELERATE program takes. "We are providing a great space at JCC for young people to hang out and socialise, but we want them to tell us how they want to use the space."

For further information on either the ACTIVATE or ACCELERATE programs currently operating at JCC contact Ben on 9518 3900.

SENSORY WALK PROJECT PROGRESSING

The Batesford Hub Sensory Walk Project is progressing with ground-shaping now being undertaken to collect and direct rainwater runoff to the areas where trees will be planted.

While tree planting, which is scheduled for August, will establish a green framework for the shared pathway, the second stage of the project involving the installation of community artwork is something everyone is looking forward to.

The community artwork installation, which is being co-ordinated by Amaroo Neighbourhood House in collaboration with several local primary and secondary schools, will enrich the Sensory Walk experience by providing attractive artwork along the walkway.

CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE

The new Youth and Community Hub will be home to education programs offering young people the opportunity to reconnect with education and link them into further training and employment.

A new pathways program being offered by Berengarra School, with support from Gateway Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN), started in July at the Jordansville Community Centre (JCC), but will move into the Hub when it is completed.

Senior teacher at Berengarra, Graeme Barwise, said 12, Year 9 and 10 students were spending three days on literacy, numeracy, life skills, personal development and work education. The other two days are spent experiencing taster programs at Homlesglen TAFE and undertaking work experience.

Graeme says once the Hub is open they plan to extend the program to include a VCAL class tailored for the young people participating. He said they were looking forward to the additional space and opportunities that moving into the Hub would create and also thanked Gateway LLEN for their support of the pathways program. For further information contact Graeme on 0419 569 604.

BATESFORD RESERVE IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to the sporting facilities at Batesford Reserve are continuing with the installation of new sports lighting planned over the coming months.

Four new sports lighting poles will be installed surrounding the field to allow suitable lighting for the Ashburton Women's Junior Soccer Club to train in the winter months.

The state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly lights are designed to concentrate the light on the playing surface and reduce the impact on neighbouring residents.

The lights are part of a number of improvements to the Reserve which are being funded by the State Government, Monash Council, and Ashburton Women's Junior Soccer Club.

The playing field has already been extended using soil which was removed as part of the excavation of the Batesford Hub project. Irrigation and drainage work will begin in September, and the field will be converted to warm season grass over the summer months. The work is expected to be completed by April 2011 in time for the soccer season.