



Development Update

In this development update we'll focus on landscaping and sustainability projects. After all, living in a place where life is enriched by a like-minded community, that enjoys the great outdoors, is what many residents love most about Warralily. Lush greenery, pocket parks, ample sporting facilities and a vast network of walking and cycling trails connect residents to nature and to each other.

Importantly, the rehabilitation and re-construction of the degraded creek corridor into a multi-award-winning Armstrong Creek community centrepiece, has delivered an exemplar of integrated stormwater management and protected the sustainability of downstream internationally recognised Ramsar wetlands.

Here's what development manager Jeremy Minter is working on:

- The footpath connection providing safe access across the creek to the Geelong Lutheran College and Armstrong Creek Town Centre is complete. This is an important link that continues to make local shops, schools and services accessible to our community without needing to get in the car!

For any queries on what's happening around us please contact community@newland.com.au

- We are currently working on the final section of the Armstrong Creek wetland system on the eastern side of Barwon Heads Rd. This is the final piece of the puzzle for Armstrong Creek before it flows through to the Lake Connewarre Ramsar wetlands. There will be additional footpaths, viewing platforms and management of existing environmental habitat.
- We will be planting 130,000 aquatic and terrestrial plants over coming months to maximise water quality and provide for habitat and biodiversity. This adds to the 1.5 million indigenous plants already planted upstream of Barwon Heads Rd. Works are expected to be completed mid-2023.
- The masterplan for further extensive restoration works to the creek between The Surf Coast Highway and Airport Rd is now in the detailed design phase with a view to starting works in Spring this year. The plan includes an expansion of our shared pathway and award-winning creek, in addition to providing a direct cycling/walking track between Barwon Heads Rd and Mount Duneed.
- Masterplanning for the Ackland St Park is progressing to ensure the park and playground cater to a wide group of ages and abilities. The proposal for council approval will provide kickabout informal areas, nature exploration and sensory play, sandpits, climbing structures, swings, slides, basketball, netball and skating elements. This park will be sited along the shared pathway running along the southern tributary that is currently being constructed.
- The City of Greater Geelong continues to manage a parcel of land we've handed over after 5 years of preparation and sowing. The 8 hectares of native grasslands provide an additional biodiversity buffer along Armstrong Creek and increase the overall width of the creek's ecological footprint, providing habitat for a wider range of native flora and fauna.
- Council has just completed a biomass reduction throughout these areas to encourage further germination of native species and to assist in the control of exotic weeds. This exciting initiative ensures a sustainable environmental outcome into the future.

OUR COMMUNITY

Community garden new digs a step closer!

Our Warralily Community Garden members are very excited to share news that their application to establish a community garden on an agreed site is progressing and an update will be provided as soon as an outcome is reached. Meanwhile, working bees continue to buzz along. After a slow start, seasonal vegetables in the edible garden are growing in abundance; beans, tomatoes, lettuce and the first squash! Meanwhile gardeners are excited about eating freshly picked corn and pumpkins! If you're into gardening, come along and meet fellow enthusiasts and the garden's new cheery resident Farnta the scarecrow. It's a great way to socialise with locals and feel part of our wonderful community.



Community Champion Award

Congratulations to Armstrong Creek School student Cadi Nibloe on being awarded the 2022 Warralily Community Champion Award. In her final year of primary school Cadi was an active leader in the student representative council, was highly supportive of younger students and her peers and always a reliable and trustworthy support to teachers and adults. Cadi led a proposal for students to volunteer in the school canteen and initiated the development of outside play clubs. Her kind-heartedness and infectious positive personality lifts the morale of those around her, making her a great community champion! Keep up the good work Cadi!

Warralily is proud to announce...

Our Major Sponsorship of the Armstrong Creek Sharks Football Netball Club for the coming season. The Sharks are centrally located at the sporting precinct on Central Boulevard including playing fields and courts and a community sports pavilion. We're happy to help the club, and our little sports enthusiasts, grow and thrive.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



PLAYGROUNDS A PLENTY

With school holidays upon us and the weather still warm, it's a great chance to pack a picnic and enjoy local playgrounds without even needing to get in the car!



MIRAMBEENA PLAY PARK

Located at the Surf Coast Highway end of the creek trail, Mirambeena features spinning hammocks, swings, a massive sandpit, a flying fox, basketball/netball zones and a village green/kick-about oval for ball sports and community events, as well as BBQ's, picnic tables, toilets and baby-changing.



AMBROSIA PARK

Ambrosia features exercise stations for those walking or running by or catch up with mates on the flying fox and swings.



SHOALHAVEN PARK

New Shoalhaven is just a short walk from the creek trail within our Grange community. Complete with a downhill mountain bike trail, basketball/netball quarter court, skating features and kickabout space, plus slides, swings and climbing structures.

DINING OUT WITH KIDS

Here's some ideas that will keep the kids inspired and entertained while you stay seated to enjoy the great food and wine our region has to offer.

You eat, they go exploring. Sound good? Kids can run amok on the grassy hill overlooking the sea at **Jack Rabbit Vineyard**, build castles in the sand pit at **Basils Farm** and at **Mr Grubb @ Oakdene**, dining outside amongst the birch trees makes a great natural playground. Not only does **Flying Brick Cider** have a massive lawn to play on, it's right next door to **Adventure Park**, Victoria's biggest water theme park.



PLAYZONES

If you need any proof that play centres in pubs have come a long way in recent years, head to **Buckleys Entertainment Centre**. Alongside the bar and bistro is Uncle Bucks, a super impressive fun zone catering to every age group with foam climbing mounds, ramps and ropes, an 8-metre tower, theatrette and even a mini ninja warrior course. **Geelong RSL** has a pretty cool play parlour too, with everything from slides to beanbags.



GO COASTAL



Show me a kid who doesn't like fish & chips. On the rooftop deck at **Geelong Boat House**, floating on a barge over Corio Bay, is an ideal place to tuck into some. Further along, Eastern Beach is a magnet for pleasure seekers of all ages with its protected sea baths, diving boards and floating pontoons. You'll find the indoor/outdoor café **Pavilion** (it's in the old art deco bather's pavilion) sitting right opposite the children's pool and fountain.



In its 60th year of competition, **The Pro** takes place at world renowned Bells Beach, the home of Australian surfing and attracts the world's best surfers to town to compete for professional surfing's most treasured trophy. The Rip Curl Pro runs from the **4th Apr - 14th Apr**.



With thanks to
Visit Geelong & the Bellarine.
See www.visitgeelongbellarine.com.au
for more great ideas on things to do and
places to visit in Geelong and surrounds.

Felix Story



Hey everybody,
its Felix the
Frog here!

My mates and I are a plenty at Armstrong Creek and are an important part of its ecosystem, helping to keep the water clean and controlling bug populations. Hear us chirping and whirring next time you're out exploring – species that are regularly spotted here include the Southern Brown Tree Frog, Pobblebonk Frog, Spotted Grass Frog and the Spotted or Striped Marsh Frog.

Croak, croak for now, from
your friend Felix the Frog

UPCOMING EVENTS AT WARRALILY



Keep an eye on socials for date confirmation and more information

Here are some things to look
out for when you're

OUT & ABOUT

1. DOOLIEBEAL

Tranquil Dooliebeal (formerly Stewarts Reserve) is a nature reserve, tucked in along the creek on Warralily Boulevard and opposite Neville Drive. This reserve is a significant Wadawurrung site and is among one of the greatest remaining examples of Grassy Woodland in the Geelong region. With eucalyptus trees like Manna Gum, Swamp Gum, large old River Red Gums and a variety of native grasses, wildflowers and sedges.

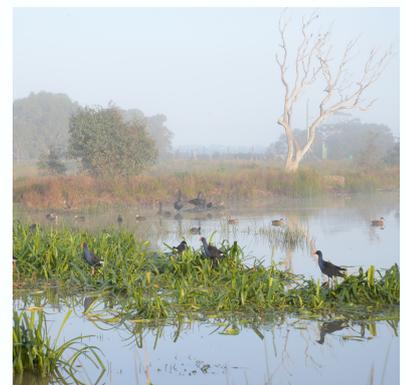
2. STAG TREES

Stag trees provide critical habitat for our birds, reptiles and mammals to shelter in hollows, cracks, crevices or notches. Estimated to be from 200 to 500 years old, these valuable resources have been integral to the successful restoration of the creek and conservation of fauna.

The award-winning Armstrong Creek waterway pleasantly meanders through the neighbourhood creating a green centrepiece and thriving ecosystem. Intrinsic to our cultural heritage, the creek is beautifully landscaped with an abundance of indigenous plants and grasses and creates 22 hectares of new habitat. Along the creek there's a 4.9km shared path network which not only allows you to take in the beauty of the creek but connects you to schools, shops, community facilities, sporting grounds and parks.



PHOTO CREDIT: COGG



3. NATIVE GRASSES

Don't underestimate the surrounding grasses along the creek and shared pathways. A vast number of beneficial insect species and wildlife call grasslands home including finches and parrots (attracted by seeding plants), native butterflies, lizards and their natural predators such as kookaburras.

The seeds for these grasses were cultivated and harvested for 3 years from Warralily conservation reserves and include native grass species such as red leg, spear, kangaroo and silky blue grasses. These types of Australian native grasses maintain an ornamental look throughout every season, are stress tolerant to intermittent droughts and fires and have huge biodiversity values.



4. BIRDS

With our proximity to Lake Conewarre, one of the most important sites in Victoria for migratory birds, it's no wonder our wetlands are a bird watcher's heaven! 91 species of birds have been sighted at the Warralily wetlands on Barwon Heads Road, from the Black Swan (the only swan native to Australia) to the beautiful Royal Spoonbill. Head up to Dooliebeal for more bird watching delights, 81 species have been recorded there including the red-rumped parrot and straw-necked Ibis.

5. SCULPTURE TRAIL

Our cultural heritage is celebrated throughout the community with magnificent public artworks. Follow the sculpture trail around the wetland at Warralily Boulevard Reserve. "Bulrush" can be found along the creek trail on the corner of Barwon Heads Rd and Warralily Boulevard. This striking installation represents the Bal-yan or Bulrush, used for weaving and the roots were roasted and eaten as a healthy food staple for Wadawurrung people.

TRENT SULLIVAN GREATER GEELONG MAYOR



The largest community infrastructure project in Armstrong Creek's Town Centre is taking shape. The first major concrete pour for the \$21.8 million library and learning hub was completed in mid-February. The three-level facility will feature generous library spaces, with flexible areas for a range of activities, including children, youth, creative, co-working and meeting spaces. Council has contributed more than \$20.3 million towards the

development, with support from the Victorian Government (\$1.5 million). The building is beginning to rise, with in-ground floor columns being constructed and the first wall panels due to be installed at the end of February. The bulk of construction works will be completed this year, with commissioning and the set-up of the library scheduled for the first quarter of 2024. The facility aims to meet the local community's expectations for the central site, which adjoins the Armstrong Creek Town Square and shopping precinct. Residents asked for a state-of-the-art, environmentally sensitive, creative, technologically enabled, library and community space, and that's what we're delivering. The facility has been designed by Buchan Architects, who worked with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to create a 'Living Water' narrative. The site has views to the You Yangs and Mount Duneed, and is near to Lake Conewarre, all of which are significant places for Wadawurrung People.

You can find more information about the Armstrong Creek Library & Community Hub at yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/ACLCH

BARWON WATER USING CLASS A RECYCLED WATER



Barwon Water supplies Class A recycled water to some customers in Armstrong Creek, Torquay, Mt Duneed and Claremont through the 'purple pipe' network. Using Class A recycled water for washing your car, flushing your toilets and watering your garden is a great way to save precious drinking water.

Class A recycled water is treated and disinfected to an extremely high standard, but please ensure you're only using it for approved purposes. Remember that recycled water is not suitable or approved for drinking, cooking or use in the kitchen, bathing or showering, filling pools or spas, bidets or water toys.

For more information about Class A recycled water, visit: <https://www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/recycled-water/>

You can also contact Barwon Water on 1300 656 007 or info@barwonwater.vic.gov.au

Local Updates from Darren Cheeseman MP

It has been an eventful and exciting year for our growing suburbs, with a number of major announcements made and projects underway. I am proud to have been re-elected as the Member for South Barwon, to represent this fantastic community that has such an exciting future ahead of it.

New Schools: The Andrews Government has committed to delivering new Primary Schools at Charlemont and Warrally, and planning a new Secondary School for Mount Duneed.

Commonwealth Games: New sporting facilities and an Athletes Village will be built in our region for the 2026 Games. This includes a sports complex on Baanip Blvd for basketball

and netball, and a swimming pool on Barwarre Road for aquatic sports. These facilities will leave a strong legacy for our community long after the Games are finished.

Surf Coast Hwy Level Crossing Removal: This project will see a rail bridge built over Torquay Rd, and the project is already underway. Removal of this dangerous and congested level crossing will be completed in 2024.

To find out more and get future updates, please follow my Facebook page at facebook.com/darrencheesemanmp. If you have any enquiries, please contact my office using the details below.



ANNOUNCED: Armstrong Creek will be getting a swimming pool for the 2026 Commonwealth Games! Further details to come.

UPDATE: The Barwon Heads Road Bridge over the rail line is now open! There is still work to be done but this is a fantastic milestone.

After successfully lobbying Council, roadworks will be carried out on some of our local roads that need the most attention.



Darren Cheeseman MP Labor Member for South Barwon P: 03 5218 5070 E: Darren.Cheeseman@Parliament.vic.gov.au

COMMONWEALTH GAMES ARMSTRONG CREEK MAKES A SPLASH ON THE WORLD STAGE

Geelong is set to host of a brand-new athletes' village, nine sports, and the Closing Ceremony for the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games and Armstrong Creek residents will be close to the action.

A new purpose-built aquatics centre in Armstrong Creek will host the Commonwealth's best swimmers, para swimmers and divers. After the Games, the aquatics centre will become a community pool facility, with multi-purpose courts and green open space preserved.

Gymnasts, weightlifters and Para powerlifters will aim for gold nearby in Waurn Ponds and after the final medals are won, the new artistic gymnastics and weightlifting venue will become seven multi-sport courts, a dance studio, and a regional-level gymnastics centre.

The Games village location is now also confirmed at Waurn Ponds. The Waurn Ponds Station Precinct is to become a home-away-from-home for about 2,500 athletes and officials in March 2026. While Coastal Rowing will be making its debut in Torquay beach.

As well as delivering a sporting spectacular, the \$292 million Andrews Labor Government investment into sporting infrastructure will create a legacy our community will use for generations.



For more information please visit:
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warrally.com.au

Whilst all care has been taken to ensure the information in this newsletter is up to date, Armstrong Creek Development Corporation does not make any guarantees regarding the accuracy, currency and completeness of any content. March 2023

EASTER OPENING HOURS

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| Good Friday | CLOSED |
| Easter Saturday | 11:00 am - 5:00 pm |
| Easter Sunday | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm |
| Easter Monday | 11:00 am - 5:00 pm |

