



A Draft Knox Park Master Plan is set to breathe new life into the popular park.

working towards the knox park of tomorrow

Knox Park is set for a major facelift after Council put its Draft Knox Park Master Plan up for public exhibition in January and February.

The draft master plan proposes a number of changes that promise to breathe new life into one of Knox's favourite parks.

Planned works include improved traffic flow and car parking; water conservation features; synthetic surface for use by various sporting groups; improved directional signage; improvements to park trails and the installation of exercise equipment; tree planting; and pavilion improvements.

This proposed plan for the park underlines Council's ongoing commitment to a sustainable environment and is sure to create a truly family friendly resource.

Knox Park is home to a number of local sporting clubs. On any given day, you can find soccer, cricket, athletics, BMX, the CFA and dog clubs all using the park. With its popularity and growing use for both structured and unstructured recreation, Council has the added responsibility of ensuring Knox Park caters for everyone and meets community expectations regarding sport, leisure and sustainability.

Following public exhibition, the draft plan will go back to the Council where we will review your comments and consider the final plan before endorsing it.

The future of Knox Park is just around the corner, and thanks to the ongoing partnerships of Council and the community, that future seems a bright one.

sport booms in friberg

It has been a massive few months for sport in Friberg Ward.

Statistics are showing that the Knox Park BMX Club has received a 25 per cent boost in its membership base in the past 12 months. And race meeting attendance is booming, with people coming from as far away as Bendigo to participate. These figures could be set for another rise with the opening of the Gilbert Park Skate and BMX Park in Knoxfield.

Numbers attending the Knox Dog Obedience School are also up. Every Sunday, up to 300 dogs grace the open space at Knox Park.

This is in addition to the fact that up to 1500 people are playing soccer in Friberg. Soccer is blossoming in our community, with more and more people taking to Knox's soccer fields.

Another impressive figure is the 40th anniversary of the HV Jones Reserve in Ferntree Gully. For four decades, this premier reserve has had countless players grace its field and has been the focus of sport and recreation in our community.

Friberg really is an active and healthy community.

improvements planned for mountain gate

With Council's decision to bring forward preparation of a Mountain Gate Structure Plan, efforts to improve the Mountain Gate Shopping Centre are progressing well.

Work on the Structure Plan has commenced and will include significant opportunities for community input in coming weeks.

The plan looks at everything from footpaths to car parks, as well as retail mix, lighting and landscaping.

Complementing Council's initiative is a proposed expansion of the Coles supermarket. This will provide a new, larger, state-of-the-art supermarket, constructed and operated within strict, environmentally responsible principles.

It is expected that work on the project will commence in the coming months.

This planned Coles expansion is in addition to a vibrant mural that's been painted on the wall at the Mountain Gate Shopping Centre by 'work-for-the-dole' artists.

Murals are renowned for their ability to deter graffiti and add a splash of colour to the shopping centre environment. And this one in particular has been wonderful in helping the artists feel more connected to their community.

The proposed Structure Plan will transform the Mountain Gate Shopping Centre into the ideal retail focal point in the heart of Friberg Ward.



Debbie Field Friberg Ward
email: debbie.field@knox.vic.gov.au
mobile: 0438 072 823
fax: (03) 9800 4719

Knox City Council

511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South 3152
 Telephone: 9298 8000 TTY: 9298 8521 Fax: 9800 3096
www.knox.vic.gov.au



Knox City Council

Council & Community: A Partnership in Progress



a boost for knoxfield

The Knoxfield Shopping Centre features much improved access and pedestrian crossings thanks to extensive Council works to the popular shopping centre.

Works included the creation of three disabled parking spaces and additional bike bays, a move sure to encourage sustainable transport among people who shop there.

The roads surrounding the Knoxfield Shopping Centre are also much safer after the installation of a range of traffic calming devices designed to slow drivers down.

Capping off the works, landscaping was undertaken and new trees planted, greatly enhancing the visual appeal of the area.

But these works are only the beginning. Over the next few years, the Knoxfield shopping centre will be the subject of continued works to ensure it meets the needs and expectations of our growing community.



Summer 2008



A newsletter for Friberg Ward residents from Cr Debbie Field

'thrillsters' love gilbert park



BMX riders and skaters are flocking to Gilbert Park, Knox's newest regional skating facility.

Skateboarders and BMX riders have rolled out in the thousands to try Knox's recently opened state-of-the-art skate facility at Gilbert Park.

With the skate bowl opening in late December and landscaping works finishing in January, Knox has a world class BMX and boardriding facility right on its doorstep.

The new facility is perfect for people of all abilities, with some sections designed to nurture budding skate stars and others providing a great ride for intermediate and advanced users. But it is also ideal for beginners wanting to have a go at skateboarding or BMX riding.

The regional facility features a futuristic design that will make it a major attraction for people right across Melbourne, whether they are young people trying out their wheels for the first time or seasoned skaters and BMX riders still looking for a thrill.

And despite its obvious appeal to the skating and BMX community, the Gilbert Park skate and BMX facility is another feather in the cap for wider sport and leisure opportunities in Knox.

So far the facility has received a resounding 'thumbs-up' from the skating and BMX community, with hundreds of thrill seekers hitting the pavement to try out the new facility.

The numbers are set to rise as we anticipate a global boom in the popularity of BMX riding following its demonstration at the Beijing Olympics later this year. You can try out the new Gilbert Park skate facility in Knoxfield, Melways reference 73 C6. Parking is available in Forbes Close.

inside...



working towards the knox park of tomorrow

Please refer to:
 Knox Leader article 08-Jan-2008



Knox City Council

Council & Community: A Partnership in Progress

KNOX

FESTIVAL 2008

MAKE A SONG & DANCE!

1 and 2 March, 2008
 Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve
 Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully

Warm up those vocal chords and dust off your dancing shoes!... it's time to Make a Song and Dance, at this year's Knox Festival: Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 March!

Now celebrating its 30th birthday, the 2008 Knox Festival will transform Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve into an entertaining feast of family fun, tasty food, art and craft workshops and activities.

There'll also be roving performers and three stages of entertainment featuring some of Australia's finest performers.

But that's not all. If picnics are your 'thing', then pack a basket tea and enjoy the Carnivale on the Saturday night from 4pm to 8pm. The program will boast several stages covering a world of music and dance, international food and more. Then stay around for the amazing fireworks display after dusk.

Visit www.knox.vic.gov.au and any Knox library for the full program. Or call the Council on 9298 8000 for more details.

Knox Festival 2008 is an 'accessible for all event', presented by Knox Council for you, the Knox community. Tickets: \$1.50 kids/conc, \$2.50 adults, \$6 families.

great ride honours great rider oppy bike ride

Pump up the tyres, strap on the helmet and fill up the water bottle. The annual Oppy Bike Ride is on again as part of the 2008 Knox Festival on Sunday 2 March. Supported by Apex Rowville, the number of riders grows every year as cycling becomes increasingly popular. Pedal alone, with friends or as a family group - whatever you prefer.

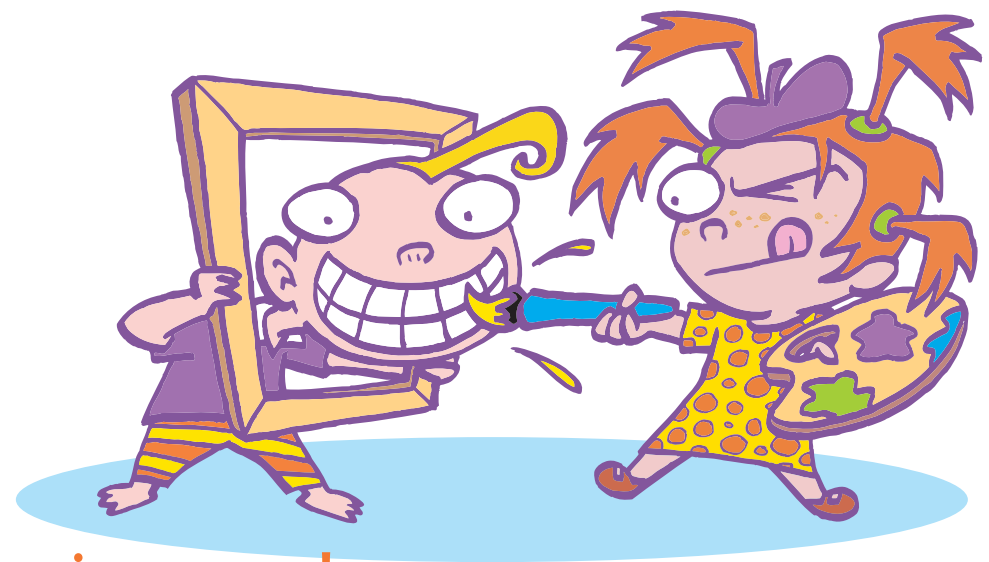
The Oppy Ride is a free event commemorating Australian cycling great, Sir Hubert Opperman with two courses - a 14.5km main circuit for fitter, more experienced riders meanders through Ferntree Gully, Upper Ferntree Gully and Wantirna South and a short 2 kilometre circuit starts at the Knox Regional Netball Centre and ends at the Knox Festival site.

Competition is keen for cash prizes of up to \$500 for biggest group registrations. That's particularly attractive for community groups and not-for-profit organisations.

oppy registration

Registration is essential, though must be received by Friday 29 February, online through Rowville Apex Club: www.apexrowville.org.au

Alternatively, contact Sean by calling 0414 787 830 for further information or collect a form at the Knox Civic Centre or Council's Stud Park Shopping Centre office. All riders must wear helmets and safe footwear.



cinema under the stars at new venue

**Friday 29 February, 2008
 Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve
 Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully**

This year's Cinema Under the Stars is on the move, to a bigger venue to match the popularity of the family film time.

On Friday 29 February, Alvin and the Chipmunks will be on the big screen at Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve, starting at dusk. Bring your family, low chairs or rug and a picnic dinner. You can even buy your food from the food stalls.

The annual Cinema Under the Stars has been moved from the Arboretum on Dorset Road to cope with the growing popularity of the screening.

For more details, visit the Council's website - www.knox.vic.gov.au - or call 9298 8000.



world class skating fun

Skaters, BMX riders and inline skaters are in for a fantastic time at the Knox Festival with a world class street course installed for the weekend of 1 and 2 March.

Helmets are essential and protective pads are recommended for this free

Festival event! Host venue will be the Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve on Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully.

For more details, check out our website: www.knox.vic.gov.au



fido's attitude to fireworks

Your dog may be as keen for the start of Knox Festival as the rest of the family. But don't forget to take a few precautions when it comes to fireworks. Many dogs react to fireworks in the same way as they do to thunder and storms. So anyone living within a radius of 500 metres to the Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve is advised to secure their animals on the evening of Saturday 1 March, from 9 to 9:15pm.



pets, pets and more pets eastern regional pet expo

Everything you (and your pet) need to know about healthy, productive partnerships will be in place when the Eastern Regional Pet Expo kicks off in April.

The Pet Expo will be held on Sunday 6 April, from 10am to 4pm at the Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve, Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully. The aim of the day is to promote businesses, organisations and clubs, incorporating all types of animals as pets, at one event with the main theme being Responsible Pet Ownership.

Craig 'Huggy' Huggins from Gold 104 will MC the day to let you know who's on stage and when, including;

The Snakehandler accompanying Charlie the Crocodile, along with venomous and non-venomous snakes and pet friendly reptiles;

Victor and Victoria, from the State Government's Responsible Pet Ownership Program, who will perform songs and dances to teach children what to do if approached by a strange or aggressive dog.

Demonstrations of dog obedience training, skills and tricks.

Come and speak with the experts. Find out which pet best suits your lifestyle, and what you need to keep your animal a happy and contented pet.

Speak with local vets, dog trainers, wildlife carers, dog and cat breeders, animal welfare groups, groomers and more.

Win some great prizes with your pet! Categories for pet competitions held throughout the day will include Best Dressed Pet, Happiest Pet, Most Looks Like Owner, Most Obedient, Most Impressive Trick, Best Tennis Ball Retrieve, Fastest Fetch and an Egg and Spoon Race with you and your pet!

what else is on?

Eastside Flyers will demonstrate the sport of flyball. Try your dog in the lure coursing arena, laugh at their antics as they race each other to the finish line!

Visit the Microchips Australia site and have your pet microchipped for only \$20. All dogs and cats being registered for the first time must now be microchipped.

Complete a survey to go in the running for a great hamper prize. Have your face painted for free or get an airbrushed tattoo. Be there when the major winner of the Responsible Pet Ownership Competition is announced.

For more details, check out our website: www.knox.vic.gov.au Pet owners, don't forget to register your pet before 10 April. You can do that at the Expo or Council.

KNOX

FESTIVAL 2008

1 and 2 March, 2008