



CONNECT

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A Habitat worth preserving

Ever thought about how a new community gets its name? You might think it's as simple as a fancy-sounding title being plucked out of nowhere, but it's never as random as that. In some cases, a name describes a new district within an existing suburb; in others there's an even more involved story behind it.

Before Habitat had its own display village. Before there was even a masterplan laying out proposed residential areas, walking paths and bus routes. Before Habitat was Habitat, we knew that we were working around a unique natural waterway with nearly 14 hectares of designated natural parkland, comprising approximately 5 hectares of conservation zone. In fact, we knew the community would become custodians of a rejuvenation and enhancement effort focused on Davis Creek.

The conservation zone in question includes protected wetlands, native vegetation, grasslands and is home to a creature that is running out of habitat in Victoria. Growling Grass Frog numbers have declined rapidly in Australia over the last decade. It's a threatened species in Australia, listed as "vulnerable" at the national level, but "endangered" – a step closer to extinction – in Victoria.

With all this in mind- the importance of Davis Creek, the beauty of the land that surrounds it, the plight of the Growling Grass Frog – the name for our project became obvious and Habitat was born.

That was more than four years ago. Now, the Davis Creek parkland is fast becoming one of the community's major attractions. It's pretty rare these days to be able to build on land less than 30 kilometres from the CBD with creek and parkland frontage, but that's exactly what Habitat buyers have done and can still do to this day.

Hello and welcome to Habitat on Davis Creek's mid-year newsletter.

In this issue, we'll update you on how the project is coming along, provide some news and information about what's happening in and around the community, and pass on some handy home design tips from one of our builder partners.

Stage update

Construction commenced on Stage 13 with the sewer reticulation already complete. Stage 13 comprises of 64 lots and is expected to be complete around Christmas.

Parks and Davis Creek

Designs are well underway for the all-age park that is located in Stage 10. The park will feature play equipment, exercise stations, BBQ facilities, family seating areas and wide open spaces for ball sports. The central location of the park also integrates well with Davis Creek and the shared path network that will run next to the Creek. Once the designs are completed, they will be submitted to Council for approval. Our ambition is to start construction in the second half of 2018.

The rejuvenation and enhancement of the Davis Creek waterway is a unique feature of the estate and, once complete, will serve as an important social amenity for residents. Satterley are currently working with Council to confirm the designs for the Creek and to try and speed-up the planting of some areas near Stages 1 and 4. It is hoped that work can start on beautifying this area in Spring.

Included within the plans for Davis Creek will be a dedicated wildlife conservation zone running from the bottom of Stage 1 up to the top of Stage 7. This part of the Creek will include native plants and has been designed to improve and protect the habitat of the Growling Grass Frog. It is hoped that this work will help to boost the numbers of this threatened species.

Roads



Entry along Beckworth Boulevard

Sayers Road continues to be upgraded and improvements to the intersection on the corner of Sayers and Davis roads have also recently been completed. Driving to Habitat you may also have noticed some planting on the corner of this intersection.



Andrew Jones,
Senior Development Manager

Construction and titles update

For the most up-to-date information regarding construction and titles, visit the 'Building Toolkit' tab on the Habitat on Davis Creek website. This portal is updated fortnightly and also contains useful documentation, such as engineering drawings and plans-of-subdivision.

Did you know

There are at least 200 species of dragonfly in Australia, many hundreds more if you include the very closely related damselfly (they look similar to a dragonfly, but with a generally more slender appearance and a tendency to fold their wings along their bodies while resting).



New sculpture set to create a buzz

If you're entering Habitat via Beckworth Boulevard, don't forget to keep an eye out for the community's shiniest new resident.

A stainless steel sculpture of a dragonfly was installed in [November 2016]. The artwork, created by Melbourne sculpting studio, Lump, measures 1.2 metres in height and 2.5 metres in length. Each of the insect's wings is 1.1 metres wide.

The dragonfly motif was selected to represent the abundance of natural fauna living within Habitat's Davis Creek grasslands and wetlands.

As well as being lovely to look at, dragonflies (and damselflies) love to eat mosquitoes, so they're a great asset to the natural environment.



Display Village finished and open for business

Habitat's Display Village is officially complete with the final four homes now open for inspection. First launched in November last year, with eight of the 14 planned homes – the remaining houses in the display village built by Simonds and Dennis Family Homes complement an impressive line-up of Melbourne's top builders.

The display village is the perfect environment to immerse yourself in the latest designs and interior fit-outs, and if you haven't already settled on a builder or design, it's the perfect place to spend a couple of hours.

The houses cater to a broad range of purchasers and it's an excellent starting point to selecting your dream home.

Habitat on Davis Creek Display Village, is located right next to the Sales Office (located on the corner of Sayers and Davis road).



Feeling Bookish?

Are you one of those people who thinks libraries are just as important as the local coffee shop? Or was the last time you stepped foot in a library during your primary school days?

If it's been a while, you'll be pleased to know that most council-run libraries aren't the musty old book rooms they were 30 or 40 years ago. There's still a huge selection of physical books to borrow – novels, graphic novels, non-fiction, young adult fiction, children's books, picture books, and more – but there's also free access to more-than-handy digital technology.

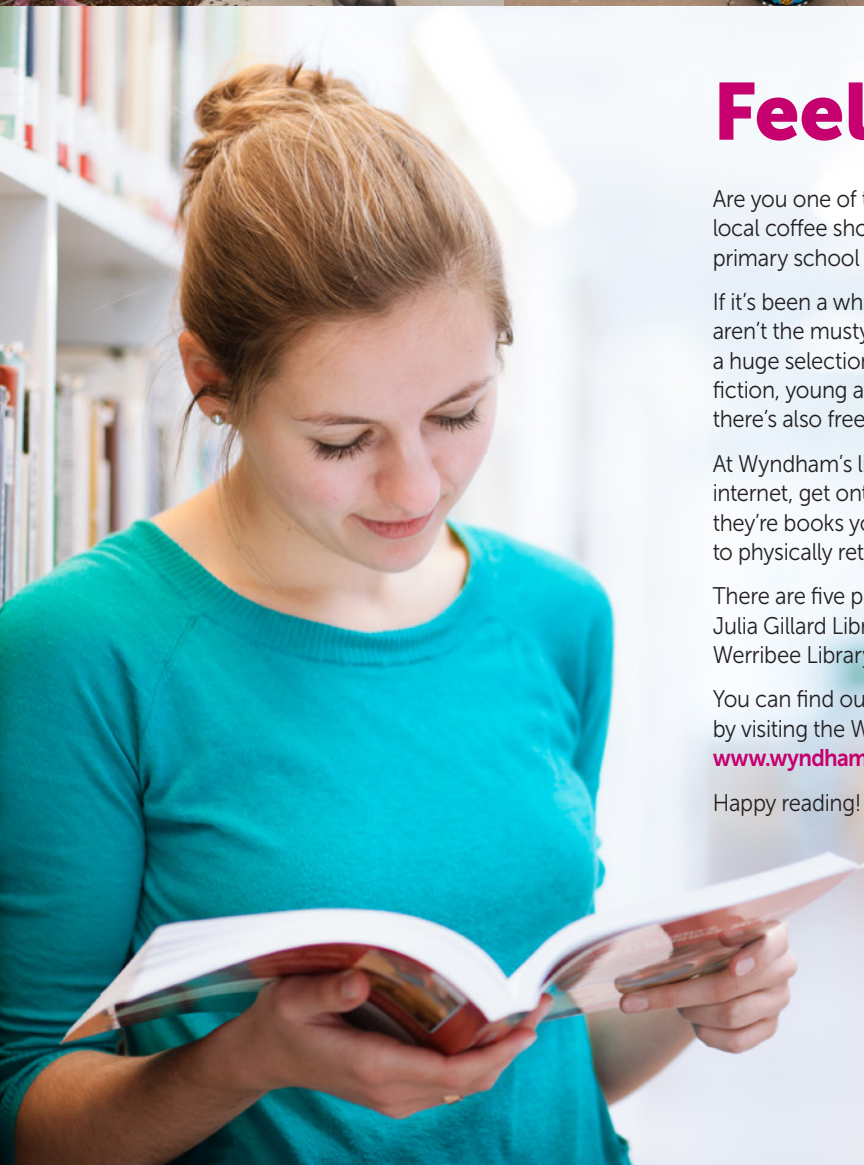
At Wyndham's libraries, for example, members can connect to free wireless internet, get onto a desktop PC, use a free scanner or even borrow e-books – they're books you can download to your computer (at no cost) and don't need to physically return; they simply expire after a fortnight).

There are five public libraries in the City of Wyndham; Point Cook Library, Julia Gillard Library (Tarneit), Plaza Library (Werribee Pacific Shopping Centre), Werribee Library, Wyndham Vale Library (Manor Lakes).

You can find out more about the libraries, joining as a member and much more by visiting the Wyndham libraries website at

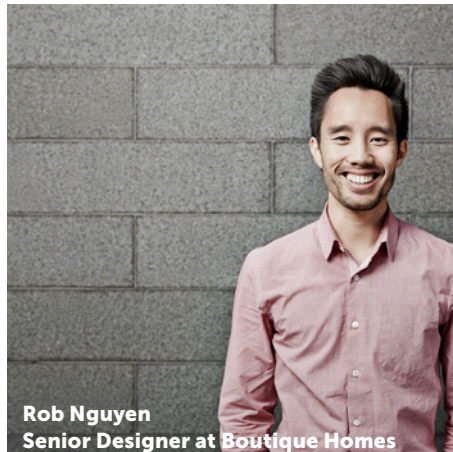
www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/services/libraries

Happy reading!





Mitra Whittle
Senior Interior Designer at Boutique Homes



Rob Nguyen
Senior Designer at Boutique Homes



Sorting the design fads from long-term trends

Boutique Homes Insight

Recently we spoke with two design experts from our valued building partner - Boutique Homes - about house design and how they approach the subject of design fad versus long-term trend. Below is an extra from our conversation with Rob Nguyen and Mitra Whittle, both senior designers at Boutique Homes.

For Rob Nguyen, the most important aspect of interior design is interpreting a current trend so that it works for the context he's working within.

"A lot of times the stuff that becomes a trend is the stuff you see more often – online, in apps and in magazines – and so you start to think 'Well, this is pretty cool; how can we perhaps interpret that and put it into our design?'" he explains.

Similarly, Mitra Whittle, says, novel styles often begin not with a trendsetter, but with something far more practical.

"Some of the trends filter through hardware. For instance, for the last few years, various metallics have become the trends which are riding the market. You started with copper and bronze and brass and gold and this has translated into, for instance, the look of some tapware and doorware."

Whittle reveals that, in her opinion, natural colours, as well as materials, rarely go out of fashion.

"Basically they have sustainability and people can relate to them. Timber flooring, for instance, will never go out of fashion. And there are numerous varieties of timber flooring, including engineered timber, laminated timber flooring, which is very practical – it's hard-wearing and scratch-resistant and you can literally put it down in a couple of hours."

However, Whittle explains that there's an art to determining what's a fad and what's a long-term trend and ways to mitigate against burdening your home with a flash-in-the-pan design.

"I'm very careful about how I apply trends because I know they come and go and what looks really hip and happening today certainly can look dated in eighteen months' time. Once you put down a kitchen splashback or bathroom tiles, as a trend of the day, it can be very restrictive; they're difficult to replace easily."

Of course, some things just refuse to go out of fashion according to Rob. "Take open plan, living, which is often declared dead, but seems never to even lie down, let alone look like fading away."

You can view a Boutique Display Home within the Habitat Display Village.

boutique
homes