

Hindmarsh Shire Council

Monthly Newsletter

February 2020



Australia Day Events

Happy Australia Day in Hindmarsh. It was an early start for our Australia Day celebrations kicking off in Rainbow with a BBQ breakfast at 7:30am, followed by ceremonies in Jeparit, Dimboola, and finally Nhill.

Hindmarsh Shire Council's Australia Day Ambassador, Neil Soullier OAM, provided an interesting and enjoyable address to the audience at each of the ceremonies where he was welcomed by local residents. Following presentations of local community Australia Day Awards at Rainbow, Jeparit and Dimboola, the recipients of Hindmarsh Shire Council's Australia Day Awards for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Community Event of the Year were announced at the Nhill Ceremony by Mayor, Cr Rob Gersch.

Congratulations to the award recipients:

*Young Citizen of the Year - Shannon Smith

*Citizen of the Year - Catherine Bates

*Community Event of the Year - Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Nhill Airshow 2019



From left: Mayor Cr Rob Gersch, Hindmarsh Australia Day Ambassador Neil Soullier OAM, President Rainbow Lions Club Roger Smith.

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Meals on Wheels Vouchers	Eligible meals on wheels consumers are being encouraged to join our meals on wheels program which aims to get people out and about in their respective communities all whilst enjoying a meal at a reduced cost (whether it's breakfast, lunch or tea). Hindmarsh Shire will contribute \$5.00 towards a meal at participating venues and the consumer would pay the remaining cost of the meal (eg consumer orders a meal worth \$15.00, they would only pay \$10.00 at the time of ordering, the remaining \$5.00 would be invoiced to Hindmarsh Shire Council). Vouchers are able to be used at participating across Hindmarsh Shire, not just in the town they live in.
Dimboola Library Update	Construction of the new Dimboola Library is progressing well following the Christmas New Year holiday break. The concrete floor slab has been laid with construction of the frame work expected to commence in early February. Whilst construction of the new building is underway, plans are being prepared for the refurbishment of the existing circa 1860's built Library which will be transformed into a Community Civic Hub. Plans for appropriate landscaping are also well underway.
Davis Park Grandstand Demolition Tender	Following Council's resolution to demolish the Davis Park, Nhill grandstand, tenders have been called for its demolition. It is anticipated that demolition will be carried out during February / March 2020 with the site cleaned and available for use prior to the upcoming 2020 Wimmera Football League season.
Kindergarten Extensions	Council received funding to undertake building works at Dimboola and Nhill kindergartens. The works will increase floor space to accommodate 15 hours of three year older kindergarten. Plans are being finalised and it is anticipated works will commence in late March / early April 2020.
Solar Power Projects	Council has been informed that two grant applications through the Victorian Governments Community Safety Fund were successful. The successful applications will see the installation of solar powered security / safety lighting in the Dimboola Recreation Reserve and the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum in Jeparit.
Jeparit and Rainbow Libraries	Following Council's successful grant application through the Victorian Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, final plans are being prepared for the refurbishment of buildings in Jeparit and Rainbow that will house new libraries and Council customer service centres. The new libraries will replace the existing mobile library service that is due to cease at the end of June 2020.
Library Community Consultation Sessions	During January Council officers hosted Library Community Consultation Sessions in Nhill, Rainbow, Jeparit and Dimboola.

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	<p>The sessions were well attended with attendees providing valuable information to enable the development of the Hindmarsh Shire Library Plan.</p> <p>Anyone unable to attend the information sessions is able to download the survey from the Hindmarsh Shire Website (https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/news/library-services-consultations) or contact Whitney Kingston on 03 5391 4444 or email wkingston@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au to discuss further.</p>
New Municipal Signs	 <p>The first of a roll out of new Municipal Entry signs has been installed along the Western Highway near Wail and Lawloit. These signs replace the older fading signs with a new design reflecting Councils new logo and branding, and in-line with VicRoads updated signage guidelines. Municipal Entry Signs will be followed by staged replacement of town entry signs.</p>