

Hindmarsh Shire Council Monthly Newsletter

March 2020



Building Update – Swimming Pool Registration Changes	<p>New laws have been introduced by the Victorian State Government for owners of spas and pools.</p> <p>Since 2000, 27 young children have drowned in private swimming pools and spas. In at least 20 of those cases, the non-compliance of the safety barrier is likely to have played a role.</p> <p>Pool and spa safety barriers save lives and this is why new registration laws require pool and spa owners to register with their local council by 1 June 2020 and get their barrier checked every 4 years.</p> <p>Registration forms are available on Council's website https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/register-for-permits.</p> <p>More information on the Victoria Building Authority website https://www.vba.vic.gov.au/consumers/swimming-pools.</p>
Pests and Plants	<p>Funding continues for pest, plants and weeds in 2020. Co-ordinating with Landcare groups the project involves programs for controlling rabbits, foxes, snails and roadside weeds.</p> <p>This program is available to provide financial assistance to farmers for the control of pest, plants and weeds along roadside areas.</p> <p>For more information, contact your local Landcare group to see if this could be suitable to your farming operations.</p>
Rural Tree Trimming	<p>The rural road tree trimming projects following on from farmer consultation meetings has been back in progress since early February, with Sandy Road, Perkins Lane and the Broughton area recently completed.</p> <p>Contractors are preparing to head to Argall Road, Kennedys Road and Honeymans Road from mid-March 2020.</p>
Forming the Young leaders of Hindmarsh Shire	<p>Over the weekend of 14-16 February the 2020 Hindmarsh Shire Youth Councillors gathered at the Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola to participate in the annual leadership retreat.</p> <p>“We had a lot of fun, got to know each other better and learned a lot about each other and ourselves. There was a lot of confidence building and I feel that we all gained something from the weekend” said Trinity Cannell, Nhill Youth Councillor.</p> <p>Supported by FReeZA, the retreat puts the young Councillors through an intensive weekend led by youth education specialists YLead, helping them develop their skills in various areas. Some of the topics covered included leadership development, creative problem solving, positive communication and how to put their goals and ideas into action.</p>

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<p>Construction projects</p>	<p>Projects currently being undertaken by Council's construction team include the construction of Rainbow-Nhill Rd widening, Antwerp-Woorak Rd construction, Broughton Rd major culvert replacement, and gravel carting has commenced to the stack site at Geodetic Rd in preparation for a gravel re-sheet.</p>
<p>Youth in Partnership</p>	<p>The Horsham Youth Council extended an invitation to our Youth Councillors to have a lunch Saturday February 22 at their Youth Centre in Horsham.</p> <p>The young Councillors were excited to share ideas with youth from other areas and start planning for possible future collaborations.</p> <p>"It is awesome to be able to visit Horsham Youth Council and share ideas. I think that it is very important to have activities outside our area because this is helping us to learn from each other and also it is fun to meet other people and plan events together!" commented Clarissa Bigham, a Rainbow representative on Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council.</p> <p>The first partner event is only weeks away with Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council joining Wimmera Fest to celebrate National Youth Week on Sunday April 5 in Horsham. This festival will feature a range of activities including a talent show, photo booth, pop-up beauty salon, temporary tattooist, music and food. Young people who are interested in becoming involved can do so by contacting one of their local Youth Councillors at school, visiting the Youth Council Events section of the Hindmarsh Shire Council web page or via the Youth Council Facebook post.</p>

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Maintenance Update

Both town maintenance teams have been focusing on weed control, following on from the recent rains weeds have been heavily surfacing, particularly bindii (3 corner jack) weed.

The Nhill crew have been prioritising VicRoads road maintenance, lately working on Dimboola Jeparit Rd / Western Highway intersection.

Our Jeparit crew have been focusing on grading in the Jeparit, Gerang and Dimboola areas, along with the patrol truck getting out and about doing edging and road patching.

Council encourages community members to report pot holes and road defects by completing a Customer Action Request (CAR) form either in person at one of our Customer Service Centres or on our website <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/report-an-issue>.

Swimming Pools Close

After a successful swimming season our Nhill, Dimboola, Rainbow and Jeparit swimming pools will close on Monday 9 March 2020 for the cooler months.

Barefoot Skiing Event

Dimboola water ski club in conjunction with Barefoot South Australia hosts one of Barefoot Waterskiing's biggest events in memory of Peter Taylor, a legend of the sport on the weekend of March 27 and 28, 2020.

With lots on offer as part of this great event check on the Facebook page 'Peter Taylor Barefoot Waterski Memorial' for more information.

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<p>Meals on Wheels Vouchers Progress</p>	<p>14 businesses in Hindmarsh Shire have joined the voucher system for meals since its introduction in February 2020, with positive uptake on the vouchers by consumers.</p> <p>The program encourages eligible meals on wheels consumers to join our meals on wheels voucher program. The program 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).</p> <p>Vouchers are able to be used at participating businesses across Hindmarsh Shire, not just in the town they live in.</p>
<p>Animal Registrations</p>	<p>With April just around the corner, animal registrations will be here before we know it!</p> <p>By registering your animal, you are ensuring that you will be reunited with your beloved pet if they are found wandering. Registration allows Council to track the ownership to get you reunited with your pet promptly! For new animals microchipping is also very important as this</p>

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	<p>universal system reunites animals if they are located outside of their registered Council area.</p>
Stubble Permits	<p>Council's Local Laws unit has been busily reviewing the issuing of stubble permits. Depending on weather conditions permits should be available from Mid-March.</p> <p>There are at least 10 legal conditions that need to be complied with for stubble permits, these are required until the CFA lift the fire restriction period each year.</p> <p>Application forms for a stubble permit are available at Council's Customer Service Centres, on our website https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/register-for-permits or you can also apply through the CFA.</p>
Work in Council	<p>Council currently has job vacancies for the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Care Position• Coordinator Planning & Development or Senior <p>Have you thought about applying or letting someone know who might be interested?</p> <p>Position descriptions are available on our website https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/work-in-council or by contacting Kirsten Boad, HR & Governance Officer, on 03 5391 4444.</p>