

Hindmarsh Shire Council Monthly Newsletter

May 2020



Construction Works Update

Council have been continuing work on projects across the Shire, one of those recently completed is the final stage of the Antwerp Woorak Road, road re-alignment. This was to re-align a section of Antwerp-Woorak Road from right angle bends to a safer and more efficient 'S' bend between Gerang Glenlee Road and Kiata North Road.



New Leahy street footpath crossover, tidies up the intersection and underground drainage, while providing new pram/gopher access.



The 9km Nhill Rainbow Rd Reconstruction is still underway, another 1.4km section seal completed this week followed by another 1km section to be sealed in approximately another fortnight. Works will continue on the remaining 2km to be completed by the end of June 2020 weather dependant.

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Slow Cooker Winter Casserole Program	<p>Hindmarsh Shire Council Community Services team are implementing a new initiative called the Slow Cooker Winter Casserole Program. This program encourages eligible consumers currently receiving community care services to participate.</p> <p>The program gives eligible consumers an opportunity to purchase a slow cooker for a small fee of 1 hour of service if you don't already own one.</p> <p>Each week a community care team member will visit their home to assist with preparing a casserole of the participant's choice. The staff member will return later in the day to help with serving the cooked meal. The preparation and the serving combined will cost 1 hour of service.</p> <p>This program gives consumers another option of meal choice throughout the week, plus the opportunity for participating in the task of preparing their own meal. Sounds like a great option in winter!</p>	
IPads	<p>Council are in the process of introducing iPads for eligible community care consumers. With the assistance of staff, consumers are able to connect socially to family and friends that they're unable to see in person during the current isolation period.</p>	
Meals on Wheels	<p>Hindmarsh Shire Council staff are currently delivering Meals on wheels in lieu of volunteers under COVID-19 procedures. Consumers are still able to utilise the Meal Voucher Program as another option for providing meals.</p>	

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Welfare Checks	<p>Council staff are currently undertaking welfare checks on residents in the community who have been identified by Council, Community members or family as vulnerable during the COVID-19 restrictions. They have been well received with residents enjoying the opportunity to talk to someone.</p> <p>The checks also allow Council to identify residents who require a little extra assistance at the moment.</p>
Active Online Fun at Youth Council Facebook page	<p>During the recent school holidays and the present lock down, Hindmarsh Shire Youth Councillors have been using the Facebook social media platform to share positive posts and fun activities with the youth of the region.</p> <p>One of the activities is a weekly online live yoga class by Zhenya Bell, a yoga professional who resides in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Zhenya holds a BA (Hons) in Psychology and is a certified practitioner in the Art of Wellness and Medical Qigong. The yoga class is delivered via Zoom, where Zhenya can interact live with the students, correcting their posture and allowing them to learn at their own pace. Thablay Khinshwe, one of the participants of the class, said that she enjoys the one-hour session and has learnt many interesting exercises that help her to release stress and improve her flexibility.</p> <p>Zhenya is delighted to share her experience with Hindmarsh youth and help them to cultivate clarity and peace of mind through her yoga class.</p>
Emergency Food Packages	<p>During the current COVID-19 pandemic Hindmarsh Shire Council are receiving a number of requests from people within our community who are unable to put food on the table. Council have assisted these community members by coordinating and delivering food hampers to ensure no one is going hungry.</p> <p>If you or someone you know are experiencing hardship during this difficult time, please don't hesitate to contact us on 03 5391 4444 for a confidential discussion.</p>
Dimboola Kindergarten Expansion project to get underway	<p>Works will commence shortly at Dimboola Early Learning Centre to support an increased capacity for kindergarten students with thanks to funding from Victorian School Buildings Authority's Children's Facilities Capital program and Hindmarsh Shire Council.</p> <p>The project will see a new children's bathroom and sleep room area constructed which will allow the Centre's Childcare service to relocate, in turn creating a much larger space for Kindergarten classes.</p> <p>The project will also see the relocation of the Maternal Child Health Nurse from her existing office to a larger, currently vacant office for future consultations.</p>

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	<p>The changes will allow for greater numbers of 3 and 4-year-old kindergarten students, both of which now offer families 15 hours per week, with 2 years of kinder helping to ensure children are ready for school when the time comes.</p> <p>The works are expected to be completed by the end of May 2020.</p>
<p>New Building Requirements - Swimming Pool Registration Changes</p>	<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>
<p>Work in Council</p>	<p>Council currently has an ongoing need for community care workers.</p> <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>
<p>Libraries</p>	<p>Construction works at the new Dimboola Library are progressing well with an anticipated completion date being late June early July 2020.</p> <p>Tenders have been called for the construction of the Rainbow Library and it is likely the successful tenderer will be appointed in early May with construction to commence shortly after.</p> <p>Final plans are being prepared for the Jeparit Library with tenders expected to be called in early May 2020.</p>
<p>Dimboola Community Civic Hub</p>	<p>The current Dimboola Library Council Customer Service Centre will be refurbished to become the Dimboola Community Civic Hub.</p> <p>The refurbishment will have a direct link to the new Library to create a multi-use facility.</p>

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	<p>Tenders have been called for the refurbishment of the circa 1860s building with an appointment of a contractor expected in late May or early June.</p> <p>Funding for the Dimboola Community Civic Hub is through the Australian Governments Community Development Grants Programme.</p>
Round Two - Community Action Grants	<p>Hindmarsh Shire Council has assessed and announced the successful applications from round two of the Community Action Grants for the 2019 / 2020 Financial Year.</p> <p>The Community Action Grant program was established in 2013 to support community groups with funds to provide services, self-help and assistance with community development, social action and connectedness.</p> <p>With the allocation of \$22,228.05 to 19 community groups and organisations through round two of the 2019 / 2020 Community Action Grants, Council has contributed more than \$170,000 to community groups since the program began in the 2013 / 2014 Financial Year.</p>
Recycling – Let’s get it sorted out	<p>The recycle truck driver will have in their truck new stickers with two flyers in. These stickers are to help residents sort out their recycling from their rubbish. One telling them what NOT to put in the recycle bin and the other telling them what CAN be. These will be in a water proof envelope with the words “A Message About Your Recycling” on the outside.</p> <p>Not everyone will receive one, but don’t feel left out - it means you got the sorting right! The stickers will be put on bins that aren’t picked up because of excess waste and non-recyclables in, or on bins that have been emptied and the driver notices that there was something in it that shouldn’t be.</p> <p>This will also help distinguish between those bins that have been targeted because of the contents of their bin and those bins that have simply been missed.</p>



Your bin was identified as having one or more of these.

Bagged Materials 	Clothing & Textiles 	Food & Garden Organics 	Soft Plastics 
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The Main Contaminates found in a Recycle bin are....

- **Bagged Materials.** That is, bagged recycling. Just put everything into your bin loose. When you've read the paper, throw it in. When the Shampoo bottle is empty, throw it in. Anything that is in a bag will go straight to landfill
- **Clothing and Textile.** Clothing, bedding, shoes, etc aren't pulled out. They end up in landfill. If its really worn out, throw it in the waste bin. If its OK, maybe a local mechanic might like it for rags, or if its really good, send it to charity.
- **Food & Garden Organics.** Garden clippings and pruning's get into everything. Put them into the waste bin, compost them or take them to the local Transfer Station for disposal
- **Soft Plastics.** We've all heard about the ban on single use Shopping bags. Unfortunately at the moment they can't go into the Recycle Bin. Bundle them up so they don't blow everywhere and put them into your waste bin, or take them to a point that does take them.

We thank you for your help. Feel free to pass this information onto your family, neighbours and friends. Together we can work to improve the quality of Recycling in this area.

Things that you CAN put into your Yellow Lidded Recycle Bins



Newspapers & Magazines can go in Loose. NOT bundled.



Milk Containers as well as Juice bottles. Please remove the lids



Tins containing things like Dog or Cat food, Spaghetti or Beetroot. Just give them a wash out first please.



ALL aluminium cans can be recycled (Did you know that they can be recycled an infinite number of times)



Shampoo & Conditioner containers are Recyclable.



Beer bottles are recyclable.

By following these simple rules you will be helping to improve the quality of Recycling going to be processed

Keeping children engaged during Covid-19

The Hindmarsh Bear hunt was run for 2 weeks during stage 1 and 2 restrictions.



Families were encouraged to display a bear, stuffed toy or the likes in their front window, garden or letter box for families to be able to walk, ride or drive past and 'hunt for'.

All 4 Hindmarsh towns took part, which also included rural locations and local landmarks. Overwhelmingly, over 250 households took part in the bear hunt locally. Many communities throughout Australia and the world had similar bear hunt activities in place, instigated to provide children with a safe activity to participate in with the introduction of COVID-19 restrictions, prior to lockdown stages.

Bear locations were provided by each person who joined the hunt at

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their home or at close by locations. These addresses were then anonymously marked by a pin drop on a live google map so families could either print the map, or use their smart phone or device to follow a bear hunt trail.

The response to the bear hunt was very positive by families, and was enjoyed by all who took part. There were reports of bears receiving car horn toots when spotted, some even got special mail and pictures from children. Some households went all out and made major displays for the hunt which included Teddy bears picnics, Teddy Bear weddings, Teddy bear pool parties and also thoughtful ANZAC display from Westprint maps in Nhill.

We thank all families for participating so eagerly in the Hindmarsh Bear hunt!