

COUNCIL NEWS

Over the past few weeks, Council has been introducing new ways of communicating with our community. In addition to Facebook, this monthly newsletter and the letter drop with cinema and community information, we are creating a fortnightly email so that you can access up to date information on events, services and what Council has been doing in the community. To subscribe, visit <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/enews>, or call us on (03) 5391 4444 and we can do it for you! If you don't have a computer or use email, we'd love to get you a hard copy— just ask!



HARMONY DAY 2021

On Sunday 28 March 2021, we celebrated Harmony Day with a live music event in Jaypex Park. One Accord played music from around the world and EmJay's Street Food was there for those who wanted to buy their lunch.



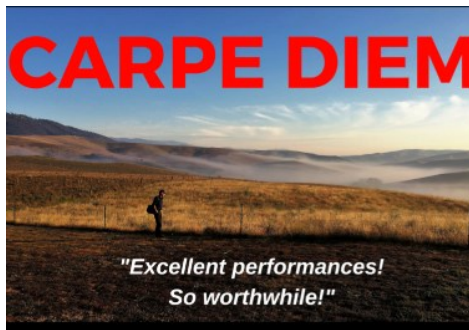
CINEMA

Thank you to everyone for your understanding as we rescheduled Penguin Bloom due to technical issues. It was fantastic to see everyone there on Tuesday 30th March!

Raya & the Last Dragon will screen at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre on **Thursday 8th April at 11.00am** as a special School Holidays Matinee. Tickets will be available at the door!



Carpe Diem—a hilarious play with a serious message. Centre Stage Scripts is bringing this acclaimed play to Nhill Memorial Community Centre on the 22nd of April at 7:30pm. Bookings are essential, call our Customer Service Team on (03) 5391 4444 to put your name down. Payment is a gold coin donation at the door. We hope to see you there for an entertaining evening!



LIBRARIES

For the full School Holidays Program at your local library, please look overleaf!

EXTENDED LIBRARY HOURS- NHILL & DIMBOOLA

You asked - we listened! The Nhill and Dimboola Libraries will now be extending their hours to close at 6:30pm on Wednesdays. Pop in after work to grab a book or browse our shelves and see what your local library has to offer!

STORY TIME SESSIONS

Join us at the Dimboola and Nhill Library for Story Time!

Nhill Library | Thursdays from 10:30am
Dimboola Library | Fridays from 10:30am

BABY RHYME TIME

Join us at the Nhill Library for Baby Rhyme Time!

Every Monday from 9:30am

BOOK CHAT SESSIONS

Dimboola Library will be holding a Book Chat session once a month. Book Chat allows readers to come together to have a cuppa and discuss what they have been currently reading, and to share book reviews and recommendations with each other. It's a great way to meet new people too.

If this is of any interest to you, please contact your friendly library staff on 03 5391 4452.

JIGSAW CLUB

Join us at the Nhill Library for Jigsaw club!

Every Friday from 2pm



SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP



Supported Playgroup caters for children from birth to school age, creating a space where parents and children can come together every week to encourage a positive environment to learn, explore, grow and nurture children's talents. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the playgroup sessions.

Supported Playgroups are held weekly during term times on the following days:

Supported Nhill Playgroup

Wednesdays from 10am - 12pm at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre

Supported Jeparit Playgroup

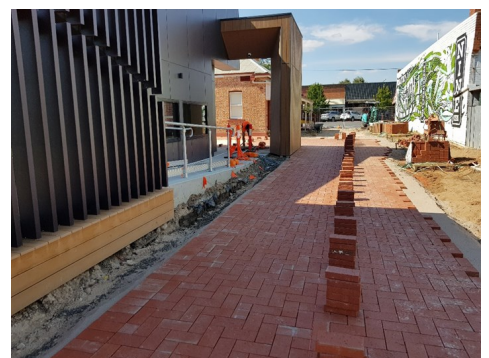
Thursdays from 10am - 12pm at the Jeparit Kinder

There are a variety of different community run playgroups that you may be interested at looking into. Go to <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/youth-early-years#playgroup>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Dimboola Library / Visitor Node Landscaping project

Landscaping is quickly progressing with paving of southern laneway and front of building complete. Paving to the northern side of the Library will be completed by Easter along with planting of garden beds, installation of bollards and solar lighting. Interesting fact – the extensive pathways have been laid using in excess of 30,000 pavers!



Jeparit Service Centre/Library

Works are progressing well with decking and the awning at the front entrance complete, and air conditioning units being commissioned this week. The office has relocated to its new (original) space, allowing work to progress on the newly allocated Meeting Room space. Painting, electrical and minor building works are still to be completed in the library space.



@ your
local
library

What's on

Libraries
Change Lives



APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

WEEK 1 - FRIDAY 9TH

JEPARIT TOWN HALL

10am EGGciting STEM Session with Cam

See what our resident scientist is up to these school holidays.

RAINBOW TOWN HALL SUPPER ROOM

2pm EGGciting STEM Session with Cam

See what our resident scientist is up to these school holidays.

WEEK 2 - MONDAY 12TH

NHILL LIBRARY

9:30am Baby Rhyme Time

TUESDAY 13TH

NHILL LIBRARY

11am WILD Action The zoo that comes to you! With a focus on Wimmera animals.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 5391 4452 or libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

DIMBOOLA LIBRARY

2pm WILD Action The zoo that comes to you! With a focus on Wimmera animals.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 5391 4452 or libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

WEDNESDAY 14TH

NHILL LIBRARY

6pm The Pyjama Sessions

Wear your PJ's, bring your favourite cuddly friend, & join us for a special, night time story time.

DIMBOOLA LIBRARY

6pm The Pyjama Sessions

Wear your PJ's, bring your favourite cuddly friend, & join us for a special, night time story time.

THURSDAY 15TH

THE SOUNDSHELL, JAYPEX PARK, NHILL

10:30am Be Your own Superhero!

Learn the skills that every little Superhero needs - to climb and jump over obstacles, land like a superhero, roll like a ninja and work in a superhero team! Suited to ages 5 and up.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 5391 4452 or libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

THE SOUNDSHELL, JAYPEX PARK, NHILL

11:30am Superhero Show for all ages (30minutes)

Full of comedy, tricks and flips! Watch in awe as our adult Superhero Trainer's demonstrate their incredible superhero skills right in front of your eyes!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 5391 4452 or libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

FRIDAY 16TH

NHILL LIBRARY

2pm Botanical Screenprinting Bookings Essential 5391 4452 or libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Learn to create your own stunning pieces of art with a take home screen print.

DIMBOOLA LIBRARY

10am EGGciting STEM Session

See what our resident scientist is up to these school holidays.



Nhill Memorial Community Centre Video Conferencing / Livestreaming Equipment
Council community interaction will be boosted with the completion of installation of new video camera and digital editing equipment at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre, along with dedicated video conferencing microphones, sound system and a new projector. Look out for the new features when you watch the next Council Meeting on Wednesday 7 April 2021 at 3pm via Council's Facebook page. This project has been funded by the State Government.

Nhill Caravan Park Amenities Building Upgrade
Advertised for tender in late march, this project will see the existing Amenities Building enjoy an extensive overhaul upgrade including new roof, ceilings, tapware, basins, painting and more, offering park visitors a fresh new experience.

Riverside Holiday Park Camp Kitchen
The concrete slab has been poured, shade sail installed and BBQ and picnic settings to be in place all in time for Easter!



Speed humps, bollards and new signage has been installed at the Dimboola Riverside Holiday Park to improve the safety of the park.



YOUTH COUNCIL



The first Youth Council meeting will be held on Monday the 26th April from 4:30pm at the Jeparit Hall. We look forward to seeing what they get up to over the coming year! Keep your eyes peeled on our social media, noticeboards and newsletters for any upcoming events!



MAINTENANCE UPDATE



Street furniture installation is starting in Rainbow and will be followed by Jeparit & Dimboola. Look out for changes in your streetscapes!

A grader crew have been in the Pella area conducting maintenance grading. In addition to their normal town maintenance work, the Parks and Gardens teams are also spending time getting the recreation reserves and surrounds ready for Football and Netball to start again.

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

Woorak – Ni Ni – Lorquon Rd (photos below)
-Council's construction staff have begun a 3.332km long sealed road construction of Woorak – Ni Ni – Lorquon Rd heading North from the Ni Ni Well Rd. The project includes widening the pavement and seal to allow for easier transport particularly for agriculture and a safer section for all road users. This project is funded by the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant from the Federal Government.



Kiata North Rd- This project includes completing a 1.5km long sealed road construction of Kiata North Rd heading North from the rail crossing near the Western Highway. The project includes widening the pavement and seal to allow for easier transport particularly for agriculture and a safer section for all road users. This project is funded by Council and the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program from the Federal Government.

Antwerp-Woorak Rd- Council's construction staff are finalising a 0.7km long sealed road construction of Antwerp-Woorak Rd east of the Nhill Jeparit Rd. The project includes widening

the pavement and seal to allow for easier transport particularly for agriculture and a safer section for all road users. This project is funded by Council.

Perenna Rd intersection- Council's construction staff have begun an intersection renewal and upgrade at the Perenna Rd and Lorquon-Netherby Rd intersection. The project includes renewing the failed pavement and widening the seal to allow for easier transport particularly for agriculture and a safer intersection for all road users. This project is funded by the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant from the Federal Government

JEPARIT DINING POD

A huge thank you to all who were involved in the working bee, preparation and installation of the new Dining Pod in Jeparit! This includes Councilor Ireland and Jeparit local Wendy Werner – thank you for your wonderful efforts. We look forward to them being used by locals and tourists alike!



ONLINE PRESENTATIONS – POOL AND SPA OWNERS INFO SESSIONS

Hindmarsh Shire Council hosted online information sessions on Wednesday 10 and 17 March 2021 to explain the requirements for pool and spa owners. The Victorian Government have introduced new laws to improve safety around swimming pools and spas. Under these laws, owners are required to register their pool or spa with Council and obtain a 'Certificate of Pool and Spa Barrier Compliance' for the safety of pool or spa barriers every four years. The laws apply to swimming pools and spas that can hold more than 300mm (30cm) of water, which can include:

- permanent pools, either above or below ground,
- Indoor pools,
- Hot tubs, and
- Some types of relocatable pools

In case you missed either of these online information sessions, they are available to watch on Council's website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/building-permits-and-services/registerpoolspsa and Council's Facebook page.

OFF ROAD RACING AT RAINBOW

Rainbow continues to build its reputation as the home off road racing, staging two very successful events on consecutive weekends in early March.

Over the Labour Day weekend round one of the Victorian Off Road Racing Championship attracted a capacity field to tackle the challenging 8km course on the outskirts of Rainbow. After a hard weekend of racing the event was won by SA driver Greg Gartner and co-driver Max Gartner in their ever popular V8 Trophy Truck.

The following weekend saw Rainbow host the opening round of the Australian SXS Championship for the first time, with competitors travelling from across Australia to participate.

Three time Australian Rally Champion Cody Crocker made a successful return to the series, he and co-driver Greg Foletta winning in their Polaris Buggy.

Competitors across both weekends were full of praise for the course and the welcome they received from the locals, promising to return for more off road racing action at Rainbow.

The next event on the calendar for Rainbow is the big one, the Rainbow Desert Enduro, round 4 of the Australian Off Road Championship on August 27-29, 2021.



BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS- OPEN FOR ROUND 3

Round Three applications for the 2020/21 Business Assistance Grants Program open today and close on Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 12:00pm.

Applications are invited from eligible businesses with grants are available across the following categories:

- Business development
- Streetscapes

Application forms are available on our website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/apply-for-grants or for more information, please contact Matt Sherwell, Community Development Officer, on 03 5391 4444 or via email to grants@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

SUPPORT LOCAL

NEW BUSINESS SUPPORT

Thank you for choosing Hindmarsh Shire as a place to start or grow your business. Our Economic Development team are here to support businesses in Hindmarsh. We assist you in accessing support with:

- Business planning and mentoring
- Business approvals and permit applications
- Business Grants
- Local and regional business networks
- Business support services

You may be taking over an existing business, making alterations or setting up a new business. It is likely that you will need our support with your Council permits.

Each of our towns has a unique competitive advantage with opportunities in industry such as agriculture, food and beverage, tourism and health. Each of these sectors may be impacted by unique permit requirements. We understand that it can be difficult to know where to start. We have created a business support page on Councils website as a roadmap to help you understand the permit application process, and the impact of regulations on your plans.

If you are in your planning stage, you may want to look at our Business Starter Kit found here www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/business-support or www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/about-council for more information about the Hindmarsh region.

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER VISITS HINDMARSH

On Tuesday 16 March 2021, Victorian Small Business Commissioner, Judy O'Connell visited Hindmarsh to meet with the council CEO and staff to discuss small businesses in our Shire.

During Judy's visit, Hindmarsh Shire Council signed a new partnership with the Victorian Small Business Commission for the Small Business Friendly Council initiative. We are the 50th Council to join this exciting initiative.

For more information about this, click here www.premier.vic.gov.au/backing-small-businesses.



SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER VISITS HINDMARSH

ACCESSIBLE PARKING PERMIT SCHEME—MARCH 2021 PROGRAM ROLL OUT



On Monday 22 March 2021, the Accessible Parking Permit Scheme started being rolled-out across multiple shires. This will replace the current Disability

Parking Permits that have been in use and is a change made by the State Government.

The Accessible Parking Permit Scheme is an online-based and streamlined application process that is jointly processed between the applicant, General Practitioner and/or Occupational Therapists and the Vicroads Accessible Parking Permit department.

Council is involved in some administrative parts of the process such as approving certain aspects of an application, but is no longer responsible for processing applications.

We anticipate that Hindmarsh Shire Council access will go live from Wednesday 24 March 2021.

All information and resources are available online at Accessible Parking Permits (APP) website here www.accessibleparking.vic.gov.au/permits/.

Please note, that any currently issued Disability Parking Permits are still valid. You will only be required to change your permit to the new Accessible Parking Permit once your current permit expires, or if your current permit is lost.

If you have a family member or contact who this may affect who may not see this post, please encourage them to visit the APP website or call our office if they have any questions.

Please note: This is a state initiative and your GP will complete the paperwork online on your behalf.

Please see overleaf for more information.

WORK IN COUNCIL

Council currently has vacancies for:

Senior Assets Engineer Full Time
Applications close Wednesday 7 April 2021

Community Care Worker Casual
Applications ongoing

Customer Service Officer Casual x2
Applications close Wednesday 14 April 2021

If you would like to join our team or find out more information, please visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/work-in-council.



Accessible Parking Permits

A simpler, quicker and fairer disability parking permit process

Individuals (New & Renew)

To find out more information about the Accessible Parking Permit Scheme, visit www.accessibleparking.vic.gov.au



1 Start your application online at accessibleparking.vic.gov.au



2 You'll receive an application reference via SMS



3 Take your reference number to your GP or Occupational Therapist



4 They will then complete an online assessment and submit your application to council*



5 Your local council* will review the application



6 If your application is successful, you'll receive your permit in the mail



Accessible Parking Permits

A simpler, quicker and fairer disability parking permit process

Organisations

To find out more information about the Accessible Parking Permit Scheme, visit www.accessibleparking.vic.gov.au



1 Start your application online at accessibleparking.vic.gov.au



2 You'll receive an application reference via SMS and email



3 Your local council* will review the application



4 If your application is successful, you'll pick up your permit(s) at the council*

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Members of our community were encouraged to attend Council's Community Conversation meetings over the past few weeks. Council are in the process of developing their draft Budget 2021/2022, Health and Wellbeing Plan, Council Plan and Council Vision and held Community Conversation sessions to engage with the community and seek their feedback, ideas and suggestions on the 6 following areas:

1. Communication
2. Youth / Ageing
3. Tourism / Economic Development
4. Localised Infrastructure
5. Environmental / Climate Change
6. Other issues / Suggestions.

A meeting was held in Dimboola on Wednesday 17 March 2021, followed by Jeparit on 24 March, Rainbow on Monday 29 March and finishing with Nhill's session on Wednesday 31 March.

Members of community who were unable to attend a session in person are able to watch a live stream of Nhill's session on Council's Facebook page. The community is also able to have their say by filling out a questionnaire on Council's website which covered the round table questions that were asked at the Community Consultation sessions. Access it here until April 11th - <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-your-say>

WASTE AND RECYCLING

Recycling Guide

 **Hard plastic bottles**
plastic lids in waste 

 **Steel cans, aluminium tins & foil**
clean, dry, foiled balled up

 **Glass bottles and jars**
clean, dry, lids separate in recycling bin

 **Flattened cardboard & clean paper**

 **NO bagged materials**
put recycling loose in the bin 

 **NO plastic toys**

 **NO mixed material cartons (milk)**

 **NO e-waste (phones/cords etc)**

 **NO soft plastics**

 **NO clothing or footwear**

Call 53 914 444 if you have any questions about what you can and can't recycle!

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE

Hindmarsh Shire Council facilitates a variety of support and care services to help our community members stay as independent as possible and remain in their own homes. This includes;

- Home Care
- Personal Care
- Home Based Respite
- Meals on Wheels
- Home Maintenance

To make a referral for persons under 65 years of age, or under 50 years of age for Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander people, call our office on (03) 5391 4444 or email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

For referrals for persons over 65 years of ages, or over 50 years of age for Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander people, please contact the My Aged Care program on 1800 200 422 or by visiting www.myagedcare.gov.au.

For further information visit Hindmarsh Shire Council's Community Care Services webpage at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/community-care-services or call our office on (03) 5391 4444.

ANIMAL REGISTRATIONS

Animal registrations have been sent are due by **10 April 2021**.

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 micro-chipping is also very important as this universal system reunites animals with their owners if they are located outside of their registered Council area.

Please contact our Customer Service Centres if you have not received your notice or have any other questions!



UNEARTH AMAZING

Have you seen our "Unearth Amazing" commercials on TV? If you have missed them so far - keep an eye out! We're very proud to promote local attractions in the Hindmarsh Shire!



SUPPORT SERVICES

There are many ways to support other people, or be supported if you are feeling anxious or uncertain. Below are support services available:

Lifeline Australia | Ph: 13 11 14 |
www.lifeline.org.au

A crisis support service offering short term support at any time for people who are having difficulty coping or staying safe.

Beyond Blue | Ph: 1300 224 636 |
www.beyondblue.org.au

Mental health information and support for all Victorians.

Kids Helpline | Ph: 1800 551 800 |
www.kidshelpline.com.au

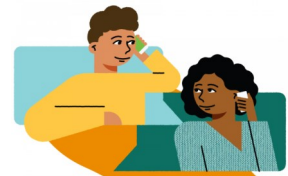
A free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25 years.

Rural Outreach Program | Ph: 1300 688 732

Responds to the immediate needs of people living in the Wimmera Southern Mallee Shires, improving the wellbeing of community members struggling with tough times and to support them navigating services.

Eheadspace | Ph: 1800 650 893 |
www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace/

Online and web chat support and counselling for people aged 12 - 25 years, their family and friends.



HAVE YOUR SAY

Proposed Local Laws - Hindmarsh Governance Local No. 1 (2021) and Hindmarsh Municipal Local Law No. 2 (2021)

Hindmarsh Shire Council is reviewing its Local Laws and is inviting submissions for 28 days. The consultation period is currently open and closes on **Thursday 14 April 2021**.

Visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-your-say to have your say now.

SCAM AWARENESS

Council is aware that a number of phone/letter scams have been reported in the Community. **If you or someone you know is vulnerable to scams or you think you might have been scammed visit <http://www.scamwatch.gov.au/get-help/advice-for-older-australians>**