

HINDMARSH SHIRE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURE PERIOD

Hindmarsh Shire Council Libraries and Customer Service Centres will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period from 12pm Thursday 23 December 2021 and will reopen on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

Transfer Stations will be closed on Christmas Day, 25 December 2021.

There are no changes to kerbside rubbish collection. Any enquiries regarding waste collection, including missed bins, please contact Wimmera Mallee Waste on 03 5395 1377.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWS

To subscribe to our e-news visit 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!

EVENTS

HINDMARSH SHIRE LIBRARIES SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES



Visit your local library in the week leading up to Christmas to make some earth-friendly ornaments wrapping paper.

To reduce unnecessary waste, please bring along small dried flowers and leaves, unused yarn and patterned paper!

Dimboola Library
21 December 2021
10-11am

Nhill Library
21 December 2-3pm

Rainbow - MECCA SUPPER ROOM
22 December 2021
10-11am

Jeparit Library
22 December 2021
2-3pm

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Hindmarsh Shire Council is proud to be participating in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign. We received funding from Respect Victoria and Safe and Equal which was used to offer free Bystander Training for our community.

This webinar was held on 30 November 2021 and facilitated discussion around respect, equality and preventing gender-based violence.

We have also been sharing resources, messages from our Councillors and information around the campaign on our social media accounts. You can access this by visiting www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil.



NHILL CINEMA



Nhill Cinema will be screening a series of classic movies in the Nhill Memorial

Community Centre, 77-79 Nelson Street, Nhill.

GOLD COIN DONATION | Morning tea provided prior to screenings

Bookings are encouraged. In line with Victorian Government requirements, all attendees must be fully vaccinated and will need to show proof of double vaccination. Please call 03 5391 4444 to book your ticket.

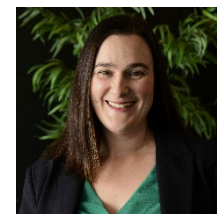
Philadelphia Story
Tuesday 22 February 2022
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

Ma and Pa Kettle
Tuesday 22 March 2022
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

Twelve Angry Men
Tuesday 19 April 2022
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

OTHER NEWS

CR ALBRECHT ELECTED MAYOR



for the next 12 months.

At Council's Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday 10 November 2021, Cr Melanie Albrecht was elected Mayor for Hindmarsh Shire

Congratulations Cr Albrecht!



The election of the Deputy Mayor was also conducted. Cr Brett Ireland was elected for the next 12 months.

Congratulations Cr Ireland!

Cr Melanie Albrecht has released her first Mayoral Column for her term as Mayor. You can read this on Council's website at:

www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/news

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES



On Wednesday 17 November 2021, Hindmarsh Shire Council Mayor, Cr Melanie Albrecht, officially welcomed six new Australian Citizens!

Congratulations to Alicia, Michelle, Mang Thi, Agostinho, Hser Nay Moo and Marina on becoming Australian Citizens.

It was an honour to be part of your special day!

their skateboard, scooter, roller-skate and BMX skills!

Thank you to Renton from Shredability for running the program, we hope to see him again soon!



COUNCIL MEETING

Hindmarsh Shire Council held its last council meeting for 2021 on Wednesday 15 December 2021.

The minutes for this meeting are published on council's website at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/council-meetings

This meeting was also be livestreamed on Council's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil

ALBACUTYA BRIDGE DEMOLITION

On 4 November 2021 ACE Infrastructure contractors successfully demolished the old Albacutya Bridge, marking the first major step in the construction phase. This took approximately 3-4 hours using a large excavator, with a small crowd of interested locals looking on from a safe distance.

Preparation is now underway for the next phase of the project with earthworks and access tracks to be installed.

The bridge is on track to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.



DIMBOOLA MEAL RECIPIENTS NEED YOUR HELP

Are you passionate about the Dimboola Community? Can you spare an hour? Do you want to make a difference?

Hindmarsh Shire Council is urgently seeking community-minded people to volunteer weekdays to deliver Meals on Wheels.

If you would like more information or wish to register as a volunteer, please contact Sharyn Salt or Kelsey Jenz on 03 5391 4444.

SWIMMING POOLS UPDATE

Hindmarsh Shire outdoor swimming pools opened for the 2021/22 summer season. Head over to Facebook and like the Hindmarsh Shire Swimming Pool page to keep up to date with what is happening this season. Visit: www.facebook.com/HindmarshOutdoorPools



FIRE DANGER PERIOD

The Fire Danger Period for Hindmarsh Shire Council started on Monday 15 November 2021. Fire restrictions are currently in force during this period. Find

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

On Friday 5 December 2021, a community BBQ and art event was held in Dimboola to celebrate International Day of People with Disability.

It was a great opportunity to create new connections and celebrate our diverse and wonderful community!

SHREDABILITY SKATE WORKSHOPS AND COMP

Hindmarsh Shire Council would like to thank the young people and families who came out to support the skate workshops and competition over the weekend of 13-14 November. It was a fantastic weekend where beginners and skilled skaters alike could learn some new skills, gain confidence and hang out with old and new friends. It looks like skateboards are now on a lot of Christmas lists!

Despite the wind and rain on Sunday, it was wonderful to see a small crowd gathered at the Nhill Skate Park to cheer on young people as they showed off

out what you can and can't do at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/can

completed by local artist Belinda Eckermann at Yurunga Homestead. Funded by Regional Arts Victoria and the Yurunga Homestead Committee, this wonderful mural tells the story of Yurunga through various vignettes depicting families and locals connected to the Homestead.

The video captures artist Kitt Bennett as he worked on the artwork and settled into his stay in Rainbow.

GRANTS

COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

At its meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021, Hindmarsh Shire Council awarded local community organisations grants from the first round of the Community Action Grants program for the 2021/2022 financial year.

The Community Action Grants program now consists of three categories; Small Equipment allows community organisations to apply for up to \$1,000 for the purchase of items and equipment, Events allows up to \$500 for the running of community events, and Community Assistance offers up to \$1000 for needs not covered in the first two categories.

Council will provide funding to fifteen local community groups totalling \$13,956.85 across the three categories.



RAINBOW LIBRARY

Works on the Rainbow library are progressing well with brickwork completed, electrical wiring partially installed, and all plaster, windows and glass have been installed.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS

ANDERSON STREET RESEALING

Anderson Street in Dimboola has been sealed marking the end of major works on this project which involved renewing all of the kerb, channel and road from Lloyd Street to the west end. Additional tidying of loose stones will be completed soon.



PROJECT UPDATES

DIMBOOLA SIGNAGE

10 new pedestrian signs have begun to be installed in Dimboola to help guide visitors to the new Civic Hub.



The signs have been constructed utilising reclaimed timbers from the old Wimmera Bridge and carry on the rusted steel theme established in the street art in Lochiel Street as well as the more recently erected 'tower' at the old Dimboola Hotel site.



ALBACUTYA SILO

Check out this film clip about the Albacutya Silo Art!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55wNv7xuZ9Q>

WORK FOR COUNCIL

Hindmarsh Shire is a vibrant and progressive rural council, rich in history, natural wonders and a strong community spirit, offering a rewarding career, with excellent working conditions and a positive team-focused culture.

We're a dedicated workforce, proud to deliver a huge array of services to our local community and striving to make a difference.

To view our current position vacancies at Council, visit our website at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/work-in-council.

YOUR LIBRARY FROM HOME

The Libraries Victoria app provides a clear and easy way to manage your library account. Browse the collection, make reservations, view and renew your loans, and more.

To download this app, search **Libraries Victoria** in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

YURUNGA MURAL

Continuing the Rainbow Town Murals theme, the latest mural has been

OTHER LIBRARY APPS

Libby



1. Download the Libby app
2. Find Hindmarsh Shire Libraries
3. Enter your library

card

4. Borrow a title and start reading
5. Borrow eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines

It's as simple as that!

BorrowBox



1. Install the BorrowBox app
2. Select Hindmarsh Shire Libraries
3. Activate with your library membership card

4. Borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks

Need a hand?

Ask one of your friendly library staff!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Hindmarsh Shire Council

www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries

www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirelibraries

Instagram: @hindmarshshirelibraries

Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council

www.facebook.com/hindmarshshireyouthcouncil

Instagram: @hsyouthcouncil

Visit Hindmarsh

www.facebook.com/visithindmarsh

Instagram: @visithindmarsh

Early Years Hindmarsh

www.facebook.com/early.years.520

SUPPORT SERVICES

Are you struggling following the latest lockdown? 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
- **Beyond Blue** | Ph: 1300 224 636 |

www.beyondblue.org.au

- **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

- **Eheadsace** | Ph: 1800 650 893 | www.headspace.org.au/eheadsace/
Online and web chat support and counselling for people aged 12 - 25 years, their family and friends.

COVID-19 VACCINATION CERTIFICATE HELP

Need a hand to download your digital vaccination certificate? Need a hand to set up your MyGov account? Just need a hand in general?

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries are here to help.

Simply book a time by contacting your local branch and remember to bring your Medicare card, photo ID, phone and your email address and password. We can also assist you to set this up if required.

Jeparit Library - 5391 4450

Mondays from 10am - 12pm

Dimboola Library - 5391 4452

Wednesdays from 4pm - 6pm

Fridays from 2pm - 4pm

Nhill Library - 5391 4449

Thursday from 2pm - 4pm

Fridays from 2pm - 4pm

Residents from Rainbow and surrounds can contact Alison from Rainbow Neighbourhood House on 0438 313 052 for assistance.

ACCESSING COUNCIL FACILITIES – VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

In line with Victorian Government requirements, as of 6:00pm Friday 29 October 2021, community members will need to show proof of double vaccination to access Councils community facilities including swimming pools, Nhill Memorial Community Centre, community halls and Hindmarsh Shire Libraries in Dimboola, Jeparit,

Nhill and Rainbow. You can do this via the Services Victoria app or with a printed Vaccination Certificate and photo ID.

Children under 16, or those with an approved medical exemption, will still be able to access services.

To assist our community who are unable to access library services in person, click and collect services are available along with e-books, e-audiobooks and e-magazines. Telephone your local Hindmarsh Shire Libraries branch to organise click and collect.

At this stage, Council's Customer Service Centre in Nhill does not require customers to be double vaccinated. Community members needing access to customer services in person can attend the Nhill Customer Service Centre at 92 Nelson Street, Nhill. Online services are available on our website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au or telephone 03 5391 4444 for assistance over the telephone.

HINDMARSH SHIRE 2021 WRAP-UP

As 2021 draws to a close, we would like to thank our community for their resilience, support, feedback and contributions over the past year.

We're proud of everything we've achieved as a community and organisation despite lockdowns, restrictions and disruptions to services, projects and events.

We've compiled a list of some the projects, services and events that we've been working on throughout this year.

CAPITAL WORKS 2021 WRAP UP

Since January 2021, the Capital works team have completed the following projects:

Kerb & channel – Anderson Street Dimboola: The project included renewing all of the kerb, channel and road from Lloyd Street to the west-end.



Albacutya Bridge: The old Albacutya Bridge has been demolished and a new bridge is currently under construction. It will be upgraded from an old single-lane bridge, which was unsuitable for heavy vehicles, to a dual-lane width bridge that will be suitable for heavy vehicles.



Woorak – Ni Ni – Lorquon Road: Approximately 3km of the Woorak-Ni Ni-Lorquon road has been upgraded from an old narrow seal and pavement to a dual-lane width and new pavement.



Footpaths & crossings: Footpath and crossing works have been completed on Queen Street, Nhill and Normanby Street Dimboola. Wimmera Street in Dimboola is currently under construction.



Other: Along with the above projects, the Capital works team have completed numerous sealed road constructions, gravel resheets, culverts and reseals throughout the Shire, maintaining our renewal needs.

BUSINESS CONCIERGE PROGRAM 2021 WRAP UP

Message from Emma Ussing, Business Concierge and Hospitality Support Officer:

“The state-wide Business Concierge program was rolled out in April this year. 71 councils are participating in the program, and have conducted more than 30,000 total business engagements. The understanding gained from engaging with businesses and the wider community feeds back into multiple state government departments, allowing them to understand how the COVID-19 health regulations are working on the ground.

From a business (and community) perspective, it has been an extremely challenging 2 years of responding to the pandemic. While there are many challenges still to come, it should be considered very welcome news that we are shifting from a response phase to a recovery phase of management, with the aim to provide greater consistency to the Victorian community.

The latest public health directions instruct businesses on how to manage confirmed COVID-19 cases in the workplace. This highlights how well understood the COVIDSafe practices required to minimise transmission of the virus are. It is also particularly critical that every businesses’ COVIDSafe Plan has been recently updated so that all staff understand what actions they must take to protect their colleagues and

customers. COVIDSafe planning also provides detailed instructions on how businesses and staff should respond in the event of workplace exposure without unnecessary confusion.

I understand the ongoing concerns and discomfort in complying with the vaccinated economy requirements. It was highlighted in a multi-departmental forum recently that any instances of customer aggression, abuse or harassment - however minor - should be immediately reported to Victoria Police either via 000 (if the customer is still present) or 131 444 (non-emergency number, if the customer has already left the scene). Notifying police of any instances of workplace aggression is vital to ensuring that there is a complete understanding of the challenges this presents to businesses at present and as well as assisting police in planning where to deploy additional resources.

Moving forward, I hope to be able to continue assisting the community with enquiries, engaging with the Department of Health, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, and other Business Concierges, to gain some clarity on how COVIDSafe directions can work in practice, as we work at building confidence in the ability to safely manage the transition to living with COVID-19.

All the best for the Christmas and New Year period, Emma.”

COMMUNITY PROJECT 2021 WRAP UP

Dimboola Community Civic Hub – Old Library Hall Refurbishment:

Dr. Anne Webster MP, Federal Member for Mallee, officially opened Dimboola’s refurbished Old Shire Hall on Thursday 1 July 2021. Hindmarsh Shire Council received funding of \$600,000 through the Federal Government’s 2019 Community Development Grants Program to undertake refurbishment works following the construction of the new Dimboola Library / Customer Service Centre.

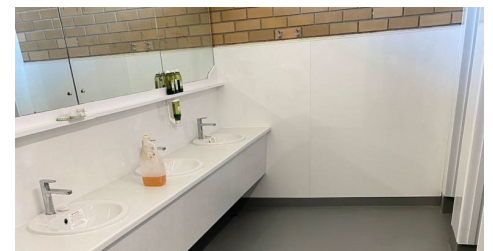
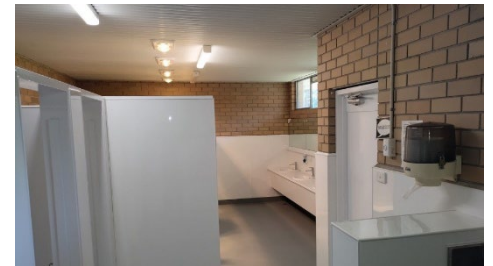


Riverside Holiday Park Camp Kitchen extension & new all abilities access bathroom:



Nhill Caravan Park Amenities Building Refurbishment:

The male and female amenities at Nhill Caravan Park have been completely refurbished. This includes new toilet and shower facilities, flooring, wall panelling and ceilings, providing park guests with a fresh new bathroom experience.

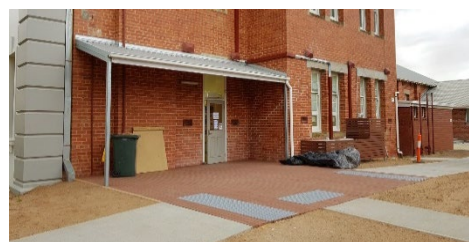
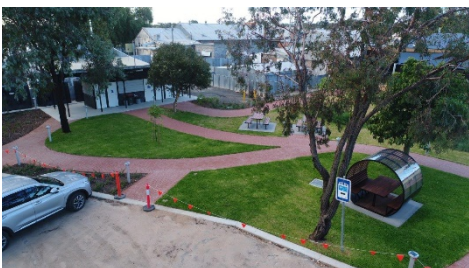
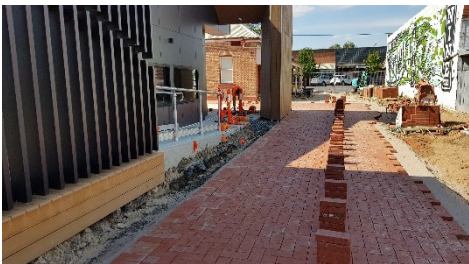


Jeparit Library Refurbishment:

The Jeparit Customer Service Centre was refurbished to include a library space. The library space replaced the previous mobile library model which visited two hours fortnightly. The new space will provide Jeparit residents with access to library services one and a half days per week.



Dimboola Library / Visitor Node Landscaping:



Nhill Early Years Centre additional internal space project:



Nhill Memorial Community Centre Livestreaming / Video Conferencing Project:

New speakers, microphones and live-streaming equipment was installed in the Nhill Memorial Community Centre to improve the quality of Council Meetings that are being live streamed on the Council's Facebook page.

Council will continue to hold its Council meetings at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre to allow for all future in-person meetings to be live streamed.



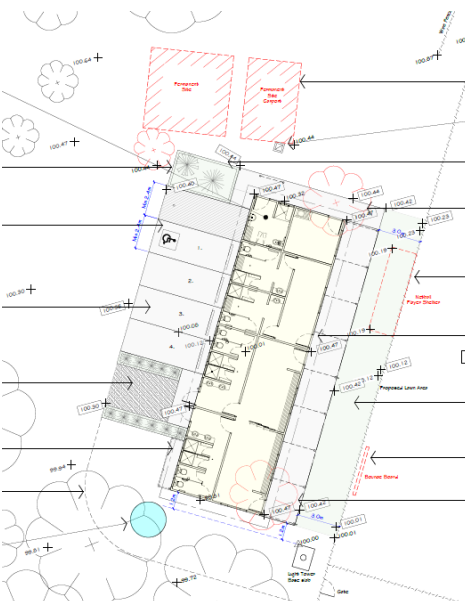
Construction of new Rainbow Library (almost complete):



Earthworks to open up access at the new Rainbow Lake (just completed):



Rainbow Recreation Reserve Female Change Rooms (Design and permit complete, construction early 2022):



YOUTH WRAP UP

Youth Council 2021 was able to achieve an amazing amount of work on the Youth Strategy, community projects and youth events while also working around COVID restrictions and lockdowns. The April school holidays saw Reptile Encounters and Superhero adventures, the June/July holidays saw a smartphone photography tour, First Aid courses, movie nights and craft activities.

Later in the year, we were able to host the skate lessons and competition, with Renton Millar visiting all our towns to teach young people some new skills. The team from Level Up also hosted an online Minecraft and Fortnite event to support those young people isolating at home.

We've also been working on Youth Spaces in all our libraries, which will come together in the coming months. Through receiving the FRRR Heywire grant, 2022 is looking just as exciting! We'll continue our Youth Council program and keep working on new opportunities, projects and events to ensure that Hindmarsh is an amazing place for young people to live.



LIBRARIES WRAP UP

Since launching our own unique and independent library service, Hindmarsh

Shire Libraries has continued to evolve to create a library service that meets the needs of our diverse community, during a global pandemic. Not only can you come in to one of our fantastic branches in each town, but you can organise home delivery services where needed. This year we have run Storytimes in person and online, Baby Rhyme Times and school holiday activities which were delivered both in-house and through take-away packs. Covering our commitment to STEAM we have had everything from Koalas in our libraries to Chemistry experiments, Pilates and First Aid Training to Smartphone Photography tours.

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries continue to develop relationships within our communities that allow our libraries to become centralised spaces for education, culture and information. We work closely with our CALD Community in Nhill offering learning spaces for our Karen families and facilitate cooperative learning with Nhill Neighbourhood House.

During lockdowns, we worked alongside our CASI funding guidelines in creating libraries as safe meeting spaces. Members of our community that were determined to be at risk and isolated were part of our telephone check ins. When we were able, we wanted to ensure that these members of our community were able to meet somewhere they were able to feel safe. Our libraries became extensions of people's lounge rooms – connecting people together. We hope these connections can continue when restrictions allow.

With successful Living Libraries grants for Dimboola, Jeparit, Rainbow and Nhill Libraries we have developed a rural library service that offers dynamic spaces for building on imagination, social inclusion and connection.

Don't forget our Christmas Holiday activities available at all four branches within Hindmarsh Shire – let your imagination run wild with our sustainably themed Christmas this year.

Don't forget to register your child in our amazing Big Summer Read program.

Newsletter

End-of-year special

There are fantastic prizes to be won across the shire with the added bonus of avoiding the “summer slump” children experience over the holidays.

On behalf of all Hindmarsh Shire Libraries staff, we wish you a safe and Merry Christmas, and hope for a bright New Year.



Hindmarsh’s first addition to the Silo Art Trail with a spectacular mural by Melbourne artist Kitt Bennett. This obtained coverage in the Herald Sun newspaper, along with reading over 50,000 people through Visit Hindmarsh, Visit Wimmera Mallee, Silo Art Trail and Visit Victoria social media platforms. For the period from 20 May to 16 June, the Albacutya Silo Art viewing area attracted 563 vehicles, averaging 20.9 vehicles per day.



Following last year’s Yurunga veranda replacement work, Council have been successful in obtaining continued restoration work to the homestead. This will commence in early 2022. Council also received a Regional Arts Victoria grant for the painting of a mural now on display at Yurunga.

Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum was awarded a Local Histories grant to have a significance assessment of the museum’s collection undertaken - this is due to be finalised early next 2022.

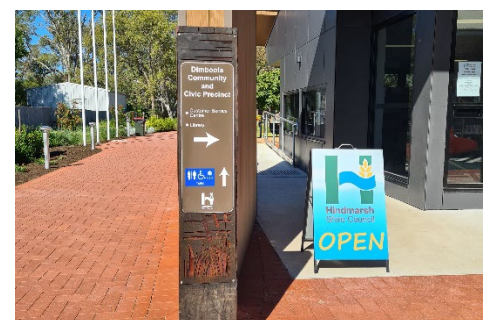
Street furniture was installed, including the outdoor dining pods, plus television and radio marketing through a Victorian State Government ‘Outdoor Dining’ COVID19 response grant.



The replacement of the faded Shire and Town entry signs was completed with the installation of the new style of sign.



New directional signs around the civic hub and shopping precinct of Dimboola have been installed utilising timber from the old Wimmera Bridge and continuing the cut-out rusty steel theme developing in the town.



TOURISM WRAP UP

Despite the impacts of COVID19 and lockdown restrictions affect travel, 2021 has been a significant year for tourism opportunities in Hindmarsh Shire Council.

In late 2020 the State Government announced a \$4.9 million investment to support the Silo Art Trail across the Wimmera Mallee Tourism area (Shires of Hindmarsh, Buloke, Yarriambiack and West Wimmera). This saw Hindmarsh Shire Council receive a commitment of up to \$2.1 m for a unique internal silo art and lookout at a silo in Rainbow, a new external Silo Art installation at Arkona just north of Dimboola, and some business pilot projects. This came on the back of three years of strategic planning, leveraging, and relationship building from Wimmera Mallee Tourism.

In May 2021, Albacutya Silo became

The Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola is having one of its highest yearly visitation numbers, despite the COVID19 impacts. This is a reflection not only of the professional management of the park but also the increase in visitor attraction to Dimboola, the shire and the greater region. This, along with significant funding, is one positive from the COVID19 situation which has seen increased support for regional tourism destinations as the State borders were closed and the focus pivoted from trying to attract interstate tourists to Victoria, to getting Victorians visiting and exploring other places in the state.

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES WRAP UP

The senior's concert scheduled for October has been rescheduled to take place at the NMCC on **10 March 2022 at 11.00am**. Information will be advertised in the new year with more details of the concert and when and where to book tickets.

We are still on the lookout for volunteers in all towns to assist with the delivery of **Meals on Wheels**. We are also seeking **Volunteer Taxi** drivers in Nhill to assist the elderly to get to appointments, run errands and shopping within the township of Nhill.



The **Meal Voucher Program** has been successful again this year. Thanks to the participating local businesses, this program has offered eligible consumers an alternative to Meals on Wheels while also providing opportunities for social interaction with friends and family.

Community Care Services will be closing down for the Christmas and New Year period from Friday 24th December

2021, resuming usual services on Tuesday 4th January 2022. During this time Meals on Wheels and shower services will remain in place. All Home Care, Home Maintenance and Respite services will be cancelled during the break.

SOCIAL SUPPORT WRAP UP

Message from Tracey, Community Development and Social Support Officer:

"My role as Community Development and Social Support Officer has been a constant challenge with ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions, and its effects on our community members. I have enjoyed representing Hindmarsh Shire Council and supporting people through unprecedented circumstances.

The main focus has been to support referred individuals within the Hindmarsh Shire community who have felt isolated, lonely and/or socially disconnected. The challenge has been to connect and reconnect people with social groups and events, as well as supporting people with individual needs. Examples of events held in Dimboola, Nhill, Jeparit and Rainbow include Scamming Information sessions, musical entertainment, Cuppa Connections held in the libraries, Community Meal Program and welfare calls for referred community members. Morning tea and Classic Movies are also held in Nhill once a month.

A positive outcome from this initiative has been the people who have thanked the Hindmarsh Shire for their support and some have gone on to either volunteer or join new groups in their town. People have shown extreme kindness to others during difficult times and meet people in their community they may have never met before."

PLANNING WRAP UP

The Planning Department has received applications for:

- Nine rural two lot subdivisions;
- One five lot subdivision in residential Dimboola;
- Four permits for multiple dwelling and subdivisions for 32 Rockley

Street, Nhill; 1 Dimboola Road, Nhill; 10 Russell Street, Nhill; and 27 Fraser Street, Nhill;

- Eleven permits for the construction of sheds;
- Three permits for single dwellings;
- Construction of a warehouse;
- Upgrade to Nhill Lutheran School;
- Decommissioning of redundant channel structures (GWM Water);
- Establishment of Limestone Quarry;
- New Country Fire Authority building in Dimboola;
- Harvesting of salt;
- Nhill Pony Express;
- Racing event in Rainbow;
- Six Dwellings and sheds
- Three x construct fences
- Three x replacement signs
- Removal of signs
- Six x Liquor license and 1 x brewery
- Change of use Rainbow Lake Committee

Council has applied for three permits for the removal of native vegetation to enable road upgrades.

The combined value of all planning permits submitted is around \$6.1 million. In addition to the above, our Planning Department takes general enquiries and advises with regards to planning procedures and planning requirements.

BUILDING WRAP UP

The Council's Building Permit services have processed a total of 87 building permits in our municipality. This equates to approximately \$6.8 million of construction works. Building Services also respond to numerous requests for assistance and ensure building permits are issued in accordance with relevant regulations.

FREE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Council has installed free electric vehicle charging stations in Nhill, Rainbow, Jeparit and Dimboola.

The Nhill and Rainbow charging stations are part of the Linga network, and the Jeparit and Dimboola charging stations are part of the Baidam network. Free charging stations encourage people passing through the Shire to stop and

enjoy what our towns have to offer.

GOVERNANCE WRAP UP

Our Governance team has had a very busy 12 months working on the implementation of the Local Government Act 2020 and Gender Equality Act 202 along with reviewing and updating policies and plans.

Council has actioned the following in 2021:

- Gender Impact Assessment process implemented for community related policies, programs or projects
- Completed workplace gender audit
- Advisory Committee Policy implemented
- Human Rights Policy implemented
- Community engagement policy implemented
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 implemented
- Council signed up to the CORE Strategy 2021
- Implemented Governance Local Law 2021 No 1
- Implemented Hindmarsh Municipal Local Law 2021 No 2
- Implemented CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy

WHAT ELSE OCCURRED THROUGHOUT 2021?

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2021:

On Australia Day, 26 January 2021, Hindmarsh Shire presented their Australia Day Awards.

Pauline McCracken of Nhill was announced Citizen of the Year.



Jack Kalms of Dimboola was announced Young Citizen of the Year.



The Community Event of the Year was awarded to the Rainbow Desert Enduro Rainbow Rises 240 event.



AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIPS:

Since January 2021, Hindmarsh Shire Council has welcomed nine new Australian citizens:

- Radmila Lindner
- Katerina Blahova
- Gagandeep Kaur
- Alicia Hutchinson
- Michelle Marsh
- Mang Thi Ohn
- Agostinho Pereira
- Hser Nay Moo
- Marina

OFFICIAL OPENINGS:

Dimboola Bowling Club Facility Upgrades: February 2021



Dimboola Library: February 2021



Dimboola Community Civic Hub: July 2021



NHILL CINEMA:

Throughout 2021, Nhill Cinema screened 11 movies. These included:

- Penguin Bloom
- The Dry
- Raya & The Last Dragon
- Nomadland
- Road to Nhill
- Jedda
- To Kill a Mockingbird
- On Golden Pond
- Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone
- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- Supernova

Nhill Memorial Community Centre also hosted the play 'Carpe Diem' which discussed male mental health.

E-NEWSLETTERS:

In March 2021, Council implemented and commenced sending out fortnightly e-newsletters to community members who have subscribed to receive e-news.

A total of 21 e-newsletters have been prepared and distributed to the community since this commenced.

B DOUBLE ROAD ACCESS:

Hindmarsh Shire established a B-Double working group early 2021, which consisted of local farmers, operators, HSC officers, local businesses and Government departments.

This group met regularly to discuss opening HSC roads for B-Double access. New maps were produced which would allow B-Double and up to Level 2A vehicles to use our roads without an NHVR permit.

The maps went to public consultation and were approved by Council.

The Department of Transport and NHVR have updated their maps incorporating HSC B-double access map.

GRANTS:

In 2021 Hindmarsh offered both the existing Business Assistance Grants and Community Action Grants as well as the COVID19 Community Connection Grants and the Hindmarsh Youth FreeZa Grants

The **Community Connection Grants** were funded by CASI and provided funding for community groups to put on events or undertake activities that promoted community connection. This included BBQs, subsidised community group memberships, gallery openings and morning teas.

The **Hindmarsh Youth FreeZa Grants** were available to young people aged 12-25 to support youth creativity and initiative. The grants paid for music equipment, community events and music lessons.

OLD LOWAN SHIRE HALL:

In late 2021, Council decided to take on the role of Committee of Management for the old Lowan Shire Hall. This follows concerns from the Nhill and District Historical Society over the future of the building.

The building at 104-106 MacPherson Street Nhill was built in 1888 and was first occupied by the Lowan Shire Council following an official opening in early May 1888. Following the relocation of the Lowan Shire to the current Council office site at 92 Nelson Street in the 1960's the building has been home to the Nhill and District Historical Society.

Following the Committee of Management being finalised, Council will enter into a user agreement with Nhill and District Historical Society to remain tenants of the building into the foreseeable future.

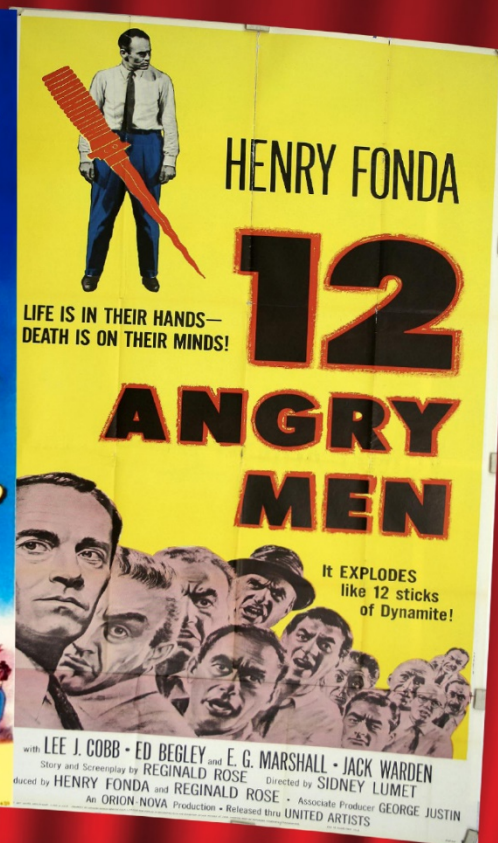


On behalf of Hindmarsh Shire Councillors and staff, we wish you all a wonderful and festive Christmas and a happy and safe new year!



Nhill Cinema CLASSIC MOVIES

NHILL MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTRE
77 -79 NELSON ST. NHILL



MORNING TEA PROVIDED AT 10.00AM

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY - TUESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY - 10.30AM

THE EGG AND I - TUESDAY 22ND MARCH - 10.30AM

TWELVE ANGRY MEN - TUESDAY 19TH APRIL - 10.30AM

GOLD COIN DONATION

ATTENDEES MUST BE DOUBLE VACCINATED

PRE-BOOKINGS PREFERRED

CALL 5391 4444 OR VISIT OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICE
92 NELSON STREET, NHILL