

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

For the most recent information regarding current COVID19 restrictions, please call 1800 675 398 or visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19.

For information on vaccinations or to book your appointment, please visit www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines

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!

COUNCIL MEETING

Council's next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 September 2021 commencing at 3pm. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to confirm if this meeting will be held at Nhill Memorial Community Centre or completely online. Members of the public are able to view the meeting through Council's Facebook page.

The agenda for this meeting has been published on Council's website and can be found here: www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/council-meetings.

The meeting will also be live-streamed on Council's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil.

MAYORAL MATTERS



To read the latest from Hindmarsh Shire Council's Mayor, Cr Ron Ismay, read the latest Mayoral Matters column on Council's website.

Visit: www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/news

EVENTS POSTPONED AND CANCELLED

Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic and recent lockdowns the following events and activities had to be cancelled or postponed:

- Council Plan Drop-in Sessions were cancelled.
- The Jeparit Community Conversation Meeting was postponed and will be rescheduled when restrictions allow meetings to be held.
- The Level-Up Gaming Event was postponed and will be rescheduled when restrictions allow public gatherings.
- Nhill Cinema Movie Matinee – Gallipoli was postponed and will be rescheduled when restrictions ease.
- Rainbow Desert Enduro has been cancelled and will return in 2022.
- The October 2021 Seniors Concert with Credence Clearwater Survival has been postponed and will likely be rescheduled for 2022.

FREE GREEN WASTE MONTH POSTPONED

The Free Green Waste Month that was scheduled to commence on Wednesday 1 September 2021 will be postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the state remains in lockdown, Council is unable to encourage residents to leave their homes for reasons other than one of the five reasons listed under the Victorian State Government table of restrictions.

Please ensure any Green Waste that you have accumulated is stored safely until Council can re-offer Free Green Waste Month once Regional Victoria exits out of lock down. Council will advise members of the community of the new dates following the easing of restrictions.

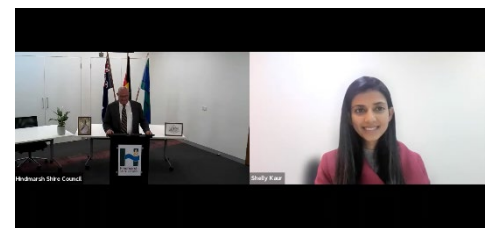
NEW AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

Mayor of Hindmarsh, Cr Ron Ismay, welcomed three new Australian citizens this month.



On Wednesday 4 August 2021, a Citizenship Ceremony was conducted in Dimboola (prior to lockdown) where Radmila Lindner and Katerina Blahova made a pledge of commitment in front of their closest friends and family.

On Wednesday 25 August, Hindmarsh Shire held their first online virtual Citizenship Ceremony due to the lockdown in Regional Victoria. Gagandeep (Shelly) Kaur joined Mayor Ismay virtually and made a pledge of commitment in front of her family and friends who tuned in from all over the world, including from India.



AN AFTERNOON WITH LUCY STEPHAN

On Thursday 19 August 2021, Lucy Stephan joined community members, councillors and invited guests, along with Hindmarsh Shire Council CEO, at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre for a ceremony to celebrate Lucy's success in winning an Olympic gold medal at the recent Tokyo Olympic Games.

The ceremony was live-streamed to Council's Facebook page to allow community members who were unable to attend in person the opportunity to hear from Lucy.

If you missed this, you can watch it back on Council's Facebook page by visiting www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil.



BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The first round of the recently revised 2021/2022 Hindmarsh Shire Council Business Assistance Grants program is now open for applications from eligible businesses.

If your business is looking to upgrade, expand or relocate to Hindmarsh Shire, the Business Assistance Grants Program may be able to assist you. Businesses and organisations are encouraged to review the grant guidelines as changes have been made to the funding program, making it more suitable to the individual needs of your business.

Application forms can be completed online or downloaded on Council's website at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/apply-for-grants.

Applications close 5:00pm on Friday 17 September 2021.

COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

Round 1 applications for the 2021/2022 Community Action Grants Program is now open and **closes on Wednesday 13 October 2021.**

Application forms are available on the Hindmarsh Shire Council website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/apply-for-grants and can be completed online or downloaded.

If your club/organisation has a project that requires financial assistance, the Community Action Grants Program may be able to assist. Clubs and organisations are encouraged to review the grant guidelines as changes have been made to the funding program.

For more information please contact Matt Sherwell, Community

Development Officer, on 5391 4444 or via email to grants@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

BUSINESS CONCIERGE AND HOSPITALITY SUPPORT PROGRAM UPDATE

Across Victoria, the Business Concierge program has engaged with over 10,000 businesses since its inception in April. The data collected is being used by the Department of Health to understand the uptake and implementation of COVIDSafe practices across the state. Council would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our community endeavouring to meet all COVID-19 compliance regulations.

The following operational and informative resources are available to assist in managing challenges.

COVIDSafe plan review

Free and confidential assistance in reviewing your COVIDSafe Plan is available from Ernst & Young. Their service is able to provide guidance on your COVIDSafe plan and any relevant details, discuss how you have implemented the plan, and provide advice on how to address any gaps or areas needing improvement.

Contact:

covidsafeplanreview@dpjr.vic.gov.au

NewAccess for small business

Developed by Beyond Blue in recognition of the unique challenges facing small business owners wellbeing coaching and advice is available to small business owners (including sole traders) delivered by coaches with a business background to deliver a very solution-oriented service. Available via telehealth until March 2022.

Contact: Beyond Blue

Free Infection Control training

Training specifically for customer-facing workers to assist in identifying and mitigating the ongoing risks of COVID-19. Available in a variety of locations including online.

Contact: Free infection control training (skills.vic.gov.au)

Council appreciates the feedback that has been received to date, and

encourage businesses, community groups and event organisers to get in touch with any questions they may have on operating in a COVID safe way.

LIBRARY CLICK & COLLECT HOURS

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries is offering Click & Collect at all library branches on Wednesdays throughout lockdown. See hours below:

Dimboola Library

(03) 5391 4452

Wednesdays | 2pm - 5pm

Nhill Library

(03) 5391 4449

Wednesdays | 2pm - 5pm

Jeparit Library

(03) 5391 4450

Wednesdays | 9am - 12pm

Rainbow Library

(03) 5391 4451

Wednesdays | 2pm - 5pm

If you are unable to use the Click & Collect services during the hours listed above, please call your local branch to discuss contactless delivery options. If you have any other questions regarding our library services, you can also email Hindmarsh Shire Libraries at libraries@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Hindmarsh Shire Council is very excited about the announcement of funding from the Federal Government for upgrades to Nhill-Jeparit Road and Dimboola Rainbow Road.

Council has long advocated for the upgrades to these roads and we look forward to the improvements of driving conditions on rural highways.

You can watch the announcement from Dr Anne Webster on her Facebook page here: fb.watch/7KN97nyu-D/

The works on Dimboola Rainbow Road involve improving safety along a 15.2km section by widening both sides of the road and resealing. Works are expected

to commence on Monday 13 September and will run through to November 2021.

Works on Nhill-Jeparit Road involve improving safety along a 6.2km section by widening both sides of the road and resealing. Works are expected from September to November 2021.

Road users may experience disruptions between 7am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

PROJECT UPDATES

RAINBOW LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

The new Rainbow Library is starting to take shape with the concrete slab for the building being poured on Friday 27 August. There will now be a short pause in on-site activities allowing the concrete time to cure properly before the commencement of framing works.

The Library will add a fresh new look to the bottom end of Federal St and future landscaping works will also help to link the site with community hub The Oasis.

AMENITIES UPGRADE AT NHILL CARAVAN PARK

Stage 1 of a project to upgrade the Amenities building at the Nhill Caravan Park has been completed with the male facility now completely refurbished. New toilet and shower facilities, flooring, wall panelling and ceilings have been installed, providing future park guests with a fresh new bathroom experience.

Stage 2 of the project, which will see similar upgrades applied to the Female facilities will commence in early September.



RAINBOW CARAVAN PARK REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Planning for the redevelopment of the Rainbow Caravan Park is progressing well with Hindmarsh Shire Council and electricity supplier Powercor currently working through the design stage of a power supply upgrade which will increase capacity at the Rainbow Recreation Reserve and Caravan Park.

The power upgrade will be the first stage of a multi-faceted project that will ultimately see the redevelopment of the Rainbow Caravan Park.

Council has allocated funding to upgrade the power supply into the Rainbow Recreation Reserve and Caravan Park. The power upgrade will provide sufficient power for future developments including the new joint use change rooms that will be located within the grounds of the caravan park but used by participants utilising the adjacent netball and tennis courts.

WIMMERA RIVER DISCOVERY TRAIL UPDATE

The Wimmera River Discovery Trail is a 62km cycling/walking trail linking Dimboola to Jeparit through to Four Mile Beach at Lake Hindmarsh. The trail incorporates mostly existing trails and vehicle tracks along the Wimmera River Corridor. The majority of the trail is on Native Title land that is co-managed by

Barengi Gadjin Land Council and Parks Victoria who have been strong supporters and partners in the project from the initial planning stages. The Trail implementation has been jointly funded the Federal Government, Victorian Government and Hindmarsh Shire Council.

The trail will include upgraded visitor nodes in Dimboola, at the rear of the library (completed), and Jeparit at the 'swimming hole' opposite the Jeparit Caravan Park. It is also planned to install a new footbridge in Jeparit to cross the Wimmera River near the old rail bridge, giving visitors and locals the opportunity to view, appreciate and learn about the old rail bridge as are crossing nearby.

The Wimmera River Discovery Trail will offer a unique experience of the riparian environment along with the significant Cultural heritage and importance of the Wimmera River to the Wotjobaluk peoples.

It is expected to attract visitor numbers to Dimboola and Jeparit and increase the visitor economy in those and surrounding towns. It is a priority project from the Grampians RDV Region Cycling and Trails Strategy and an important attraction to help grow the greater region as a cycling destination.

CAMP KITCHEN EXPANSION AT RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK

Visitors to Dimboola's Riverside Holiday Park are set to benefit from further improvements at the popular tourist facility on the banks of the Wimmera River. Contractors have recently completed a project to extend the existing camp kitchen with the addition of an all abilities accessible bathroom.

The new bathroom provides shower and toilet facilities for park patrons regardless of their mobility, in a convenient location adjoining the park's public camp kitchen. The bathroom also includes a change table which will be a handy addition for families with young children utilising the camp kitchen.

You can read more about this is Council's website here:

www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/news



NEW STREET FURNITURE TO BE INSTALLED IN JEPARIT

In conjunction with the Jeparit Town Committee, Hindmarsh Shire Council will commence installing new street furniture throughout Jeparit in coming weeks.

The street furniture replacement is a continuation of a program to replace outdated concrete and timber seating across the Hindmarsh Shire with the new seats constructed of powder coated steel frame and fitted with modwood (composite plastic and timber) slats.

In most circumstances the new seats will be located where existing seats are but there will be others installed in new locations.

The Jeparit Town Committee has requested for some of the existing seating that is being replaced to be relocated and re-used at various locations around Jeparit including the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum and the Jeparit Cemetery.



OUT AND ABOUT

MAINTENANCE WORKS UPDATES

Jeparit, Rainbow and Dimboola Maintenance teams have been

completing grader work in Antwerp and Gerang areas.

Council's Town Maintenance Team have been planting new trees, patching up pavement and completing edging repairs around townships, and on top of their normal duties, have been completing additional COVID cleaning.

The Roadside spraying program has started up to prepare for fire season.

The Nhill Maintenance grader team completed a limestone re-sheet on sections of Propodollah-Netherby Road and have since moved on to the Broughton area. Another grader crew is currently working around the Woorak area.

The Town Maintenance and Capital Works teams have both been completing earthworks at the Nhill Aerodrome to create a new hardstand for the firebombing planes during fire season. Works are expected to be complete before the fire season is here.



CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

The construction team are currently working on two concrete projects in Dimboola. The team working on the Anderson Street kerb and channel is close to finishing the kerbing, and once complete, works will begin on shaping and constructing the roadway.

The second concrete project being undertaken is upgrading the kerbing and footpath at the Normanby and Lloyd Streets intersection. This is also close to completion.

The grader crew has recently completed a gravel re-sheet on Propodollah Road and is now planning on starting back on the sealed road construction projects (weather permitting).

SUPPORT SERVICES – R U OK?

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

• **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

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 AND COUNCIL VISION TO 2040

The draft Council Plan 2021-2025, incorporating the Health and Wellbeing Plan, and Community Vision 2040 is available for public inspection and the receiving of submissions for the period Monday 9 August 2021 to Friday 10 September 2021.

Council will consider submissions and adoption of the Council Plan 2021-2025 (incorporating health and wellbeing plan) and Community Vision 2040 at the Council Meeting at 3:00pm on Wednesday 22 September 2021.

The Council Plan 2021-2025, incorporating the Health and Wellbeing Plan, and Community Vision 2040 is available for public inspection at Council Customer Service Centres (subject to COVID-19 restrictions and when customer service centres are open).

To view the DRAFT Council Plan 2021-

2025 and Council Vision to 2040 online and to make a submission, visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-your-say.

Submissions must be received before 5pm on Friday 10 September 2021.

CONNECTING VICTORIA SURVEY

Victorian Government is fast-tracking better mobile coverage and broadband across the state through the \$550 million Connecting Victoria program.

It's never been more important to be connected – for family, community, work and safety – and the Victorian Government is asking Victorians to help identify where mobile and broadband improvements are most needed. You can read more about Connecting Victoria here.

Hindmarsh Shire Council is seeking feedback from all Hindmarsh residents to help identify where its community is experiencing mobile and network connectivity issues. This could be mobile blackspots, issues with accessing broadband, poor broadband speeds, etc.

To assist Council in gathering this information, you can complete this survey by visiting www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-you-say.

This survey closes 5pm on Friday 17 September 2021.

NHILL CINEMA

Nhill Cinema is hosting monthly Classic Matinees. Held on Tuesday morning from 10am, join us for morning tea and a movie. Classic Matinees will be held free of charge and have been funded by the State Government's CASI initiative. Pre-bookings are preferred.

To Kill a Mockingbird

Tuesday 21 September 2021
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

The Philadelphia Story

Tuesday 19 October 2021
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

On Golden Pond

Tuesday 23 November 2021

Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

Jedda (rescreening)

Tuesday 7 December 2021
Morning Tea – 10am
Film Screening – 10:30am

FREE ENTRY

Morning tea provided prior to screenings

Pre-bookings are preferred.
Please call 03 5391 4444.

TRANSFER STATION VISIT

Council staff met with Cathy Moll and some of the Karen community from The Patch at the Nhill transfer station Tuesday.

The visit was to explain what the transfer station will accept and what can be recycled, the visit was very productive and informative and they went away with a better understanding of the function of a transfer station.



OVERPOPULATION OF CATS IN HINDMARSH SHIRE

Did you know that cats can have kittens as young as four months of age, and can have up to five litters per year?

If cats do not get desexed it can result in a huge number of unwanted kittens each year. Unexpected or unwanted litters usually end up in animal pounds, depleting resources that could otherwise be used to help other animals in need.

Desexing your cat can also reduce urine spraying, aggression and roaming of neighbourhoods. Having your cat desexed also protects it from certain illnesses and diseases.

Kittens can be desexed from as early as 12 weeks old.

Please contact your veterinarian to make an appointment to desex your cat today!

SWIMMING POOL AND SPA COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS



Hindmarsh Shire Council are pleased to let residents know that Shane Ledgar has been appointed as

Council's Swimming Pool Compliance Officer.

To improve the safety of pools and spas, the Victorian regulations changed on 1 December 2019. From that date, if you own a property with a pool or spa you were required to register the pool/spas with your local Council by 1 November 2020.

The first round of Pool and Spa inspections are due to be completed by November 2021.

If you have registered your pool or spa and wish to have it inspected, please contact the Swimming Pool Compliance Officer, Shane Ledgar by phone on 0419 379 564 or email building@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au to arrange an inspection time.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Development Team have been busy this last year with fifty four (54) planning applications received which was a 45% increase on applications received for the previous year.

Forty-three (43) decisions were made and these included permits issued for the following:

The issue of Permit included the following:

- 8 – Farming zoned land subdivisions
- 7 – Construction of sheds in the farming zone
- 4 – Construction of sheds in the general residential zone
- 3 – Vegetation removal in the farming zone

- 3 – Places of Assembly
- 2 – Buildings and works in the heritage overlay
- 2 – Subdivision and unit development in the residential zone
- 1 – Extractive industry in the farming zone

We are currently processing nineteen (19) active applications.

When calling for verbal advice it is paramount that you provide an address and as many other details of the proposal as possible.

A copy of the Title is very useful, as are any site plans you may have that detail the proposed works and the setbacks to boundaries.

The advice provided will be general in nature.

If more specific advice is required, it is best to complete a 'Request for Planning Advice' form which can be located on our website. There is a fee of \$151.50 associated with this form however following assessment of the information the advice will be provided in writing.

EARLY YEARS

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

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

SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP NHILL

Nhill Memorial Community Centre
Wednesdays 10am - 12pm

SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP JEPARIT

Jeparit Kindergarten
Thursdays 10am - 12pm

BABY RHYME TIME

Join us at the Nhill Library for Baby Rhyme Time!
Every Monday from 10:30am

LOCKDOWN PROJECT



We know that the lockdowns have been tough on our young people, so we wanted to find a way to celebrate some of the creative ways that they have filled their lockdown hours.

Please share with us anything you have achieved, invented, created, watched, read, grown or filled your time with. It can be big or small - think Minecraft worlds, trick shots, gardens, baking or photos from your walks.

You can direct message us, tag @hsyouthcouncil in your Instagram posts, comment on our 'Lockdown Project' Instagram or Facebook posts or email us at youth@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Make sure that it's something that you're happy for us to re-share anonymously! We'll be sharing what you send us on our Instagram, so head to @hsyouthcouncil and follow us! We can't wait to see what you have been up to.

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.

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!

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

If you would like to know more information about COVID-19 Vaccinations, you can find the correct information on the Australian Government Department of Health website here:

www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines

NON-MAINS ENERGY CONCESSION FORM 2021

Concession card holders who source non-mains energy for their heating, cooking and hot water can apply for a concession to help cover their yearly energy costs.

What does this concession apply to?

Non-mains sources of energy:

- liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)
- firewood for domestic heating, cooking or hot water
- heating oil
- electricity accessed via an embedded network
- generator fuel.

Who can apply for the concession?

An account holder who holds a Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card and/or Veteran's Affairs Gold Card can apply for this concession.

To apply for this concession, you must

complete a Non-Mains Energy Concession 2021 form. These are available for collection at all Hindmarsh Shire Council offices or can be found online here:

services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession

For more information, phone the Concessions Information Line on 1800 658 521.

TOGETHER FOR THE LONG RUN

Hindmarsh Shire Council staff have teamed up to run/walk/ride 72kms each to raise funds and awareness for Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

To follow our journey, visit: www.thelongrun.org.au/fundraiser/hindmarshshirecouncil

Have you signed up for The Long Run too?



WEAR IT PURPLE DAY 2021

On Friday 27 August 2021, Hindmarsh Shire Council staff dressed up in Purple to celebrate Wear It Purple Day.

Wear It Purple Day is all about starting up conversations to raise awareness on gender equality and the issues that the LGBTQIA+ community face. Their focus is to support and empower all LGBTQIA+ people, especially young people, to help them feel safe and included.

See below some of the Council staff who dressed up in support of Wear It Purple Day 2021.



VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL



The Victorian Seniors Festival Reimagined is back!

Enjoy monthly releases of #VicSeniorsFestival online video and radio programming featuring a remarkable range of Victorian and Australian performers, creators, makers and thinkers. To tune in to Festival performances, visit Seniors Online

www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/festival

WHAT ARE THEY

DOING

Are they:

- Experiencing mood swings
- Becoming withdrawn
- Changing their online behaviour
- Losing interest in what they used to love
- Unable to concentrate
- Less interested in their appearance and personal hygiene
- Behaving recklessly
- Changing their sleep patterns

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THEIR

LIFE

Are they experiencing:

- Relationship issues
- Major health issues
- Work pressure or constant stress
- Financial difficulty
- Loss of someone or something they care about

WHAT ARE THEY

SAYING?

Do they seem:

- Confused or irrational
- Moody
- Unable to switch off
- Concerned about the future
- Concerned they're a burden
- Lonely or lacking self-esteem
- Concerned they're trapped or in pain



Australian Government

ARM your community AGAINST COVID-19

A COVID-19 vaccine is your best defence and our only way forward. Now's the time to arm yourself, your family, your friends, your work mates, your community – someone you love.

Book your vaccination online or call 1800 020 080.

COVID-19
VACCINATION

Find out when you can get vaccinated | australia.gov.au