

COVID-19 Update

Following the State Government announcement on **2 August 2020** of **stage 3 restrictions** for Regional Victoria, Council's **customer service centre** in Nhill will, at this time, remain open to the public, **by appointment only**.

Dimboola, Jeparit and Rainbow customer service centres remain closed to the public. Members of the community are able to deliver payments and documents to Council's Jeparit, Rainbow and Dimboola offices and these will be collected on a regular basis and brought back to Nhill for processing.

Under stage 3 restrictions libraries will remain closed. Council will continue to monitor the directions and provide further information to the community when it is available.

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Dimboola Library Update

Construction of the new Dimboola Library / Council Customer Service Centre has been completed with minor corrections to be carried out.

Council staff installed new furniture into the building last week with books and other resources starting to be relocated.

An opening for business date will be advised shortly when appropriate compliance and certification processes have been approved.

When the new Dimboola Library / Council Customer Service Centre is open and operating, refurbishment work on the adjacent circa 1860's building will commence. The former Dimboola Library / Council Customer Service Centre will become the Dimboola Community and Civic Hub that will have a direct link to the new building and will be used for community and business meetings, exhibitions, Library activities etc. Refurbishment works are expected to be completed by the end of November 2020.



Jeparit Service Centre & Library Upgrade

The Jeparit Customer Service Centre and Library upgrade has reached procurement stage with Council seeking quotations from builders. This project will see several areas of the Jeparit Service Centre upgraded including the customer service area and a new library which will share space within the senior citizens' room. Access will be much improved with new concrete pathways and a deck providing all abilities access to the Customer Service Centre and Library.

The quotation period closes on Friday 28 August with Council to award the works shortly afterwards.

Riverside Holiday Park

Council has advertised for quotations from builders to complete an extension of the Camp Kitchen at Riverside Holiday Park, Dimboola. The extension will see the addition of a new All Abilities Accessible bathroom suite which will help to make the park more welcoming for all visitors. The upgrade will include a new All Abilities shower, toilet and hand basin, along with an infant change table for families with young children. Additional storage space will also be included as a part of the upgrade.

The quotation period closes on Friday 21 August with Council to award the works shortly afterwards.

Working for Victoria

All staff have been appointed through the Working for Victoria funding program, with 13 staff coming on board.

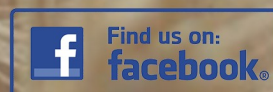
Staff are working throughout the Shire in a range of areas including Town Maintenance, cleaning, Human Resources support, and Social Outreach and Meals on Wheels delivery.

Yurunga Homestead veranda restoration



Yurunga Homestead northern veranda restoration project has been completed. The project, funded by Heritage Victoria, saw the necessary restoration to the northern veranda that had deteriorated to a condition not safe for public access. With the new veranda in place visitors to Yurunga can experience the (continued on next page)

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(continued) full grandness of the heritage listed property and appreciate the views north across the Mallee agricultural landscape. Whilst the Homestead is currently closed due to COVID-19, the veranda restoration work will be highlighted in media and social media once re-opening can occur.

Strategic Tree Plantings Complete

Strategic tree plantings are completed for this year. Approximately 114 trees were planted as part of the strategy, 33 in Nhill, 42 in Dimboola, 29 in Rainbow and 10 in Jeparit.

This is in line with proactive tree planting guided by Council's 2018 Street and Reserve Tree Strategy. The strategy is intended to provide the basis for why trees are important in our towns, an assessment of the current status in 2018 of the urban tree population and ideas and opportunities for both managing these trees better and encouraging the planting of new ones. It is a longer term strategy to help focus existing operational programs and to maximise Council's budgets with evidence based decision making.

In addition to the proactive plantings there are reactive plantings. These are requests by our customers throughout 2019-20 to have their nature strip site assessed for the suitability of getting new nature strip trees.

Maintenance Works

The tree plantations in Nhill along Nelson Street and Victoria Street are looking nice and tidy. Our Nhill maintenance and Working for Victoria staff have had the opportunity to tidy up throughout the plantations, trimming and cleaning up debris, making the area look like new.

Jeparit, Rainbow and Dimboola staff are also tidying up garden beds.

Winiam area, bringing roads back up to a smoother trafficable surface.

Other graders are doing limestone/earth maintenance in the Tarranyurk and Antwerp areas.

Construction Projects Update

Since the start of the financial year we have started Gravel Re-sheeting on roads in the north of the Shire. The first road was Wheatland's Rd at Allen's Rd intersection where a 2.8km section has been completed. The section had 100mm of gravel paced on top of the existing pavement with drift sands removed from the table drains to form a wider trafficable area in numerous locations.

The next Re-sheet on Miatke Rd has started and will be completed late this week or early next week, weather permitting. The works consist of 2 sections one near the Kenmare Rd of 700m and the other section just east of the rail line of 2.6km. A 100mm of Limestone Gravel has been placed over the pavement again and maintenance grading completed on other sections of Miatke Rd while in the area.

Charles street K&C (kerb and channel) project is making good progress, having finished the North side of kerbing, underground drainage and backfilling. The focus is



now on (cont)

Work in Council - Positions Vacant

- Manager Finance & Customer Service, applications close Friday 28 August 2020
- Civil Engineer, applications close Friday 28 August 2020
- Community Care Position, applications ongoing

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

establishing the intersections at Hindmarsh Street and the south side kerb, hopefully within the following weeks.

Wimmera River Discovery Trail

Planning and where possible, appropriate work for the Wimmera River Discovery Trail is continuing even though a major component of the project which is the establishment of Cultural Heritage Management Plans have been delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Landscaping plans for the Dimboola Visitor Node have been completed and tenders are currently open to undertake this work and the construction of a new amenities block at Dimboola is nearing completion. Five 3,000 litre rainwater tanks will be connected to the new public amenities which will be linked to rainwater tanks at the new Library. Rainwater will be used to water the landscaped gardens.

