

Hindmarsh Shire Council Newsletter

February 2021



COVID-19 Update

Nhill Customer Service Centre is back to operating Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. Hindmarsh Shire Libraries and other Customer Service centres have re-opened their doors to members of the public for the following hours:

Dimboola Library/Customer Service

Tuesday: 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm
Wednesday: 2pm - 5pm
Thursday: 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm
Friday: 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm

Jeparit Library/Customer Service

Monday 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm
Wednesday 9am - 12pm

Rainbow Library/Customer Service

Wednesday 2pm - 5pm
Friday 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm

Nhill Library

Tuesday: 2pm - 5pm
Wednesday: 2pm - 5pm
Thursday: 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm
Friday: 2pm - 5pm

News

Support Local Businesses

Remember to support your local businesses and shop local! We have many wonderful businesses throughout Hindmarsh shire, so think local first.

Australia Day Events 2021

Australia Day started early in Hindmarsh Shire, commencing with a BBQ breakfast in Rainbow at 7.30am, followed by ceremonies in Jeparit, Dimboola, and finally Nhill.

Presentations of Hindmarsh Shire Council's Australia Day Awards for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Community Event of the Year were announced throughout the towns by Mayor, Cr Ron Ismay, as well as local community Australia Day Awards at Rainbow and Nhill.

Congratulations to the award recipients for 2021:

Young Citizen of the Year – Jack Kalms
Citizen of the Year – Pauline McCracken
Community Event of the Year – Rainbow Desert Enduro Rainbow Rises 240

You can read more about our award recipients on our Council website here <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/news>.



Pauline McCracken (second from right) pictured with her family at the Nhill Australia Day event.



Jack Kalms accepting his Young Citizen of the Year award in Dimboola.



A few members of Rainbow Desert Enduro Working Group receiving their Community Event of the Year award in Rainbow on Australia Day.

Nhill Cinema

The Nhill Cinema reopened for its first screening since the beginning of the pandemic. Around fifty movie lovers, including kids and adults, attended the school holiday double feature which included a screenings of Pixar's Onward and The War with Grandpa.

Our first evening screening was the critically acclaimed The Dry, starring Eric Bana. Over 200 people attended this screening, but unfortunately due to technical issues the full movie could not be screened.

Re-screenings with an interval are scheduled for Wednesday 10 February and Thursday 11 February 2021 from 7pm subject to no changes in the COVID-19 restrictions. This should help relieve some of the congestion on entry and exit.

Please contact Customer Services on 03 5391 4444 to book your seat.

Council Meetings 2021

Council meetings will be held at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre on the following dates for 2021:

WEDNESDAY	TIME
3 February 2021	3:00pm
3 March 2021	3:00pm
7 April 2021	3:00pm
5 May 2021	3:00pm
2 June 2021	3:00pm
23 June 2021	3:00pm
7 July 2021	3:00pm
4 August 2021	3:00pm
8 September 2021	3:00pm
22 September 2021	3:00pm
6 October 2021	3:00pm
10 November 2021 (Annual Statutory Meeting)	6:00pm
24 November 2021	3:00pm
15 December 2021	3:00pm

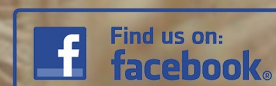
To stay up to date with what's on at the meetings go to Councils website <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/council-meetings>.

Council meetings will continue to be posted live via Council's Facebook page.

Nhill Caravan Park Funding

Hindmarsh Shire Council has been successful in receiving funding from The Camping and Caravan Grants project (round 2), to refurbish the Nhill Caravan Park amenities block. The Camping and Caravan Grants project is part of the Victorian Government's Victoria's Great Outdoors program. (cont)

Our offices are located at
92 Nelson St. NHILL VIC 3418
Customer Service: 03 5391 4444
Email: info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au



<https://www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil/>

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(cont) The grant of \$185,000 will go towards replacement of the ceiling in the toilet/shower units, replacement of existing vanity basins, toilet and shower fixtures, plumbing works, waterproofing, and works to the exterior of the building and much more.

Swimming Pools

Have you been heading to your local swimming pool with the warmer weather?

You can contact your local pool as follows:

Dimboola swimming pool (Lloyd St)
Michael & Lisa Polycarpou
Ph: 0434 557 919

Rainbow swimming pool (Park St)
Kathryn Klemm Ph: 0427 340 156

Jeparit swimming pool (Sands Ave)
Kerry Coyne Ph: 0400 301 219

Nhill swimming pool (Whitehead Ave)
Mark Meyer Ph: 0498 692 231

Pools will be generally open Monday-Friday from 3:30pm – 6:30pm, and Saturday, Sunday and school holidays 2:00pm – 7:00pm. Contact your local pool operators for variations to opening times, special events and season tickets.

At each of our pools, the facilities are outdoors. Nhill swimming pool, has a solar heated 25m x 12.5m six lane pool, a learners/hydro pool and a beach entry play pool.

Dimboola has a solar heated 50m x 13m size lane pool, a toddlers' pool. Rainbow has a 25m T shaped six lane pool, toddlers pool. Jeparit has a solar heated 20m x 9m pool, a toddlers' pool. All facilities have plenty of seating and shaded picnic areas along with toilet/shower amenities.



Above: Nhill Swimming Pool



Above: Dimboola Swimming Pool



Above: Rainbow Swimming Pool



Above: Jeparit Swimming Pool

For further information please phone Garry Salt, Coordinator Facilities Environment, at the Nhill office on 03 5391 4444.

Linga Network Electric Car Charging Facility

On Thursday 28 January 2021, Hindmarsh Shire Mayor, Councillors and staff met with Linga Network in Nhill to announce and launch Hindmarsh Shire's first ever electric car charging station.

Adrian Kinderis from Linga Network reached out to Council in late 2020 to discuss the opportunity to install electric car charging stations in Nhill and Rainbow, which Council was excited to jump on board with straight away.

Having electric charging stations in Nhill will benefit travellers who are travelling between Adelaide and Melbourne on the Western Highway, and will hopefully encourage visitors to stop in our beautiful town, have a coffee and a bite to eat and maybe check out our local businesses.

The stations have been installed in the centre carpark across from the Nhill CFA station and the Farmers Arm Hotel, which is easily accessible when coming in from both directions on the highway and is also

in the heart of Nhill and is within walking distance from Goldsworthy Park, public toilets and all of Nhill's cafes, pubs, banks and shops.

An electric car charging station is to be installed in Rainbow in the near future as well which will benefit those who are travelling along the Silo Art Trail in the northern area of the Wimmera.



Pictured left to right: Greg Wood (CEO, Hindmarsh Shire Council), Cr Rob Gersch, Mayor Ron Ismay, Adrian Kinderis (Linga Network), Cr Melanie Albrecht and Cr Wendy Bywaters.



Pictured: Adrian Kinderis from Linga Network showing our Councillors how the charging station will work.

Maintenance Teams Update

Our maintenance teams were busy over Christmas and New Year making sure the town's public facilities were up kept.

The teams have been focussing on maintenance grading around Lorquon area, edge repairs throughout the Shire, along with footpath maintenance renewing concrete and the Farmers arms carpark revamp.

Works have also been Albacutya grading in the area where gypsum trucks are, with the other grader heading to Gerang, Coker Dam area. Preparation for the lead up to Australia Day parks and gardens.

Capital Works Update

The construction team is busy in the middle of road construction season. Works currently being undertaken include road reconstruction/widening and sealing of Antwerp-Woorak Rd, Kiata North Rd and the Lorquon-Netherby Rd (cont)

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& Perenna Rd intersection.

The Albacutya Bridge Design & Construct contract is currently advertised with more information available at <https://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/search-tenders> with the closing date being 2pm 11/03/2021.

Dimboola Bus Shelter

Construction of the new Dimboola bus shelter in Lochiel Street has commenced.

During the works the footpath on Lochiel Street will be closed off to pedestrians. Signage will be in place to direct people safely around the site.



Community Action Grants - Round 2 Open

Round Two applications for the 2020/21 Community Action Grants Program is now open and closes on Wednesday 17 February 2021 at 12.00 noon.

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

- Events
- Small equipment
- Minor facility upgrades
- Community Assistance

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 5391 4444 or via email to grants@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Business Assistance Grants - Round 2 Open

Round Two applications for the 2020/21 Business Assistance Grants Program is now open and closes on Wednesday 17 February 2021 at 12.00 noon.

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

- Business development
- Streetscapes

(cont)

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 5391 4444 or via email to grants@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Planning Department Update

The Planning Department are currently assessing twenty-two planning permit applications.

This, together with the very high volume of enquires we are receiving will unfortunately result in a longer response times to the enquiries than Council would hope.

If your planning query is urgent please consider completing the Request for Written Advice Form which is found on Council's website.

The form contains a number of questions so we have the appropriate information to investigate your query. A current copy of Title is also required.

There is a fee of \$150 which would be invoiced upon receipt of the form. Following payment, your request will be prioritised for response in writing, rather than a verbal response.

Dimboola Library Hall

Refurbishment of the Dimboola Library Hall is almost complete with the builder expecting to finish on site before the end of January 2021.

Extensive refurbishment works have been completed to provide the community with a fresh community meeting space that compliments the new Library located to the rear of the Library Hall. Refurbishment was undertaken from the ground up with the old, uneven hall floor replaced with new flooring, along with carpet tying the existing building to the new Library. New plaster sheeting was also installed in the main hall, along with new ceilings in the meeting room and staff kitchenette. The Hall windows were also freshened up and where required replaced and painting was completed throughout. External changes included the replacement of water damaged timbers, painting and brick repair works.

One of the most noticeable changes saw the demolition of the existing toilet facilities which have been replaced by a new Amenities block at the rear of the new Library. Works continue on site with extensive landscaping improvements being undertaken which will provide Dimboola with a fantastic facility for community gatherings whether inside or out.

Dimboola Visitor Node Landscaping

Stage 1 of the landscaping works at the

Dimboola Library site is almost complete with Horsham Landscaper Landscape It, set to complete the initial stage in early February.

Significant works have seen the original bitumen carpark transformed in to a relaxing oasis with the establishment of lush lawn areas and new garden beds providing visitors with a perfect place to relax and soak up the sunshine. A shade sail has also been installed adjacent to the new Library decking, providing shelter for guests at community events such as the recent Australia Day celebrations. Meandering brick pathways provide visitors with access to the new Amenities block which includes both toilet and shower facilities.

Stage 2 will see completion of this project, with paving to be laid to link Lloyd St with the new outdoor space and Public Amenities, new parking facilities installed to provide better access to the new open space and development of a sheltered courtyard (on the site of the old Amenities block). This stage will be undertaken by Landscape It at the conclusion of Stage 1.



Rainbow Library Development

The new Rainbow Library is a step closer with the site now cleared in readiness for construction. Demolition of the old Maternal Health building in Federal St Rainbow, which wasn't fit for repurposing, has been completed. A building permit for the new Library build is expected to be issued in early February from which point Council will advertise the project for tender. A builder will be appointed at the conclusion of the tender period and it is hoped construction will commence shortly after thereafter.

Rainbow Recreation Reserve Netball Change Rooms

The project to build new Netball Change Rooms at the Rainbow Recreation Reserve is progressing with the concept design now being developed into full working drawings suitable for Council to advertise for tender. An extensive amount of information is required for this stage of the project with the designer sourcing geotechnical information, engineering design, an energy rating assessment and completing the project specification. Once this stage is completed, the design documentation will then be submitted for a building permit which once obtained will allow for the project to be advertised for tender.