

HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

5 FEBRUARY 2024

HINDMARSH WELCOMES NEW AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS



On Monday 29 January, Hindmarsh Shire Council Mayor, Cr Brett Ireland, officially welcomed two new Australian Citizens!

Congratulations to Diana and Dah Lay on becoming Australian Citizens.

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

Acknowledgement of Country

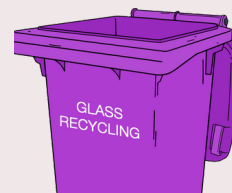
Hindmarsh Shire Council acknowledges the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations as Traditional Owners of Country.

We recognise the important ongoing role that Indigenous people have in our community and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.

NEXT SHIRE WIDE GLASS BIN COLLECTION DAY

All purple glass bins within Hindmarsh Shire Council will be collected on **Friday 16 February 2024**.

Please remember to put your bins out the night before and place them on the kerb facing the road.



HINDMARSH SHIRE AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2024



Hindmarsh Shire Council's Mayor, Cr Brett Ireland travelled to Rainbow, Jeparit, Dimboola and Nhill on Friday to be a part of the Australia Day events that local volunteers held throughout the day.

Hindmarsh Shire Council's Australia Day Awards were presented by Mayor Ireland throughout the day.

Council would like to congratulate the award recipients for 2024:

- **Citizen of the Year - Rhys Webb**
- **Young Citizen of the Year - Chelsea Elliott**
- **Community Event of the Year - Dimboola Wimmera Steampunk Festival**
- **Lifetime Achievement Award - John Deckert**

The Lifetime Achievement Award is a new category that Hindmarsh Shire Councillors have created this year. This is presented to any person who has continuously contributed to the Hindmarsh Shire community for a number of years, whether it be through volunteering, running a local business, offering a helping hand when needed and/or being a positive advocate for the community and people. *Continued on next page.*





HINDMARSH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR RHYS WEBB

Since Rhys moved to the Hindmarsh Shire almost 10 years ago, he has been an active member of the Hindmarsh community. He's been a member of the Nhill Township Advisory Committee for 3 years, has been the Secretary of the Nhill RSL since 2016 where he has reinvigorated the local branch and played a key role in growing its membership and is the President of the RSL Flag Committee which he co-established and which will implement the posting of flags in the Nhill Cemetery on the graves of those who served in the Australian Defence Force.

Rhys is currently the Worship Master of Nhill's Lowan Lodge 107, Vice President of the Victorian Blue Lounge Social Club, District Youth Representative on the Wimmera District Coordinators Panel and the Vice Chairperson of the West Wimmera Holy Royal Chapter.

In 2021, Rhys became Divisional Manager of the Horsham Division at St John Ambulance Victoria which involves providing first aid coverage of all Hindmarsh Shire localities and many events including the Nhill Show, Nhill Air Show, Pony Express and Nhill Anzac Day. He has been a St John Ambulance member for 27 years.

Amongst all of that has been mentioned, Rhys also works as West Wimmera Health Service's Executive Manager of Community Health, as well as provides informal mentoring to locally based Samoan / Pacific Islander migrant residents; provides much valued informal social support to a number of older men in the local community; and regularly attends to provide relevant information to various local groups including Rotary, Lions, sporting clubs, the SES and the CFA.

For a person that is 32 years in age, and has been in Hindmarsh for nearly 10 years, Rhys involvement in the community and local groups is outstanding.

Congratulations Rhys!



HINDMARSH YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR CHELSEA ELLIOTT

Chelsea, age 11, contacted Hindmarsh Shire Libraries in November 2023 to ask whether she could run a Christmas Giving Tree Appeal in the Dimboola Library. This was soon spread out to all four Hindmarsh Shire Libraries, and in a matter of time, each library had a Christmas Tree and drop off location for the community to donate presents for a great cause.

In total, Chelsea collected 190 gifts that were generously donated throughout the Shire and delivered them personally to the Salvation Army in Horsham on 18 December 2023 just in time for them to be redistributed to those in need for Christmas.

Chelsea is thoughtful and caring, and is dedicated to fundraising in order to help others less fortunate than herself. She has founded a fundraising group at her school, St Peter's Lutheran School Dimboola, by encouraging gold coin donations for dress up and casual dress days. Because of this, money has been raised for a number of charities including Phoenix Pet Rescue and the Good Friday Appeal. She has also participated in the MS Readathon for the last four years, raising over \$1,000 in that time.

She has been a great role model for those around her, which has also encouraged others to participate in fundraising activities and to help those in need within our community.

Congratulations Chelsea!





HINDMARSH COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR DIMBOOLA WIMMERA STEAMPUNK FESTIVAL

The Wimmera Steampunk Festival was held in the main streets of Dimboola on 22 April 2023, being the second time this event has been held in Dimboola. It was organised and run by the Dimboola Township Advisory Committee (now known as the Dimboola Progress Association Inc) amongst many other individual volunteers and volunteer groups, with a special mention to Chan Uoy.

This Festival attracted 4,000 people from all over Australia, with some coming from as far as Perth and Brisbane, and even an international visitor from Singapore. There were over 250 visitors from Melbourne and more from South Australia than Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong combined demonstrating the interest in our region and events from the South Australian tourism market. Around 46% of attendees were from outside the local Wimmera Mallee region bringing in substantial tourism dollars from outside our region.

The event saw impressive light shows lighting up Lochiel and Lloyd Streets, market stalls and displays, a variety of food stalls, and excellent live music throughout the evening in Lochiel Street and at rear of the library.

A special mention must be made of the enormous amount of work done by the organising committee and volunteers that planned and ran the event, along with all the sponsors. All the hard work resulted in a fantastic event that will continue to grow in scale and reach.

Event Tourism is one of the main contributors to the visitor economy, and important marketing and awareness opportunities to local attractions and revisitation.

Congratulations to all organisers involved in the Wimmera Steampunk Festival!



HINDMARSH SHIRE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD JOHN DECKERT

At the age of 16, John started his long journey of volunteering in the community by joining the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and becoming the Assistant Secretary at the Winiam Football Club. Since then, he has contributed an outstanding amount of his time and hard work to local volunteer groups, organisations, events and more.

Over the years he has held a variety of positions such as CFA Captain, Secretary and President of the Nhill Camera Club, Inaugural President of Nhill Jaycees and Board member of the Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre since the moment it formed in 2008.

He has been a member of the Nhill Historical Society, Tourism and Agricultural committees, Nhill Church choir, Council committees and the Nhill Silo Committee, just to name a few.

He taught himself how to play button accordion and has performed at many concerts, dances and events since. He started his own book and map publishing business in Nhill, wrote his own book on the history of Kinimakatka, Winiam and Winiam East, and has been a Councillor for Shire of Lowan.

In 2019, John attended the Victoria Senior Awards hosted by the Victorian State Government where he was presented a COTA Senior Achiever Award by the Governor of Victoria, which is a huge accomplishment that he should be very proud of.

There are no number of words that can perfectly sum up everything that John has achieved in his lifetime, because he has achieved a lot. This is what makes him a very deserving recipient of this award.

Congratulations John!



UPCOMING EVENTS



FEBRUARY

07



Nhill Senior Citizens Games Afternoon

Join the Nhill Senior Citizens on the first Wednesday of each month for games and afternoon tea (excluding the month of January). Ages 50+ welcome.

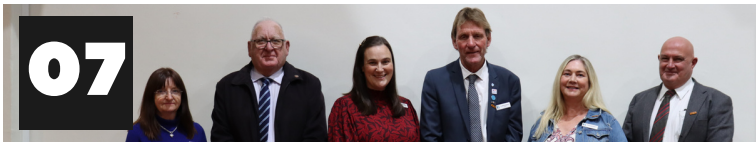
Time: 2:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: Nhill Senior Citizens Clubrooms

Cost: \$2

Contact: Heather - 0417 911 867

07



Hindmarsh Shire Council Meeting

Time: From 3:00pm

Location: Council Chambers, 92 Nelson Street Nhill

13



Drop-In Session Dimboola Senior Citizens Building

Hindmarsh Shire Council is holding a drop-in community consultation session to discuss the future of the Dimboola Senior Citizens building.

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Location: Dimboola Library, 101 Lloyd Street

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4444

14 + 15



Heavy Vehicle Safety Drop-In Sessions

There will be Heavy Vehicle Safety Drop-in sessions being held in Nhill hosted by National Heavy Vehicle Regulator in conjunction with Victoria Police, VicRoads and neighbouring Councils.

Time: 4:00pm - 11:00pm

Location: Nhill Trailer Exchange

15



Writing Hour at the Nhill Library

Join us at the Nhill Library on the third Thursday of every month for a writing hour.

Time: 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Location: Nhill Library, 5 Clarence Street

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4444

16



Dimboola Book Chat

Join us at the Dimboola Library for Book Chat! Bring along a current book that you have been reading and share reviews with others over a cuppa and biscuits.

Time: From 2:30pm

Location: Dimboola Library, 101 Lloyd Street

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4444

17



Dimboola Pool Party

YMCA invite you to the Dimboola Party!

Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Location: Dimboola Pool

Cost: FREE

Contact: Hindmarsh Outdoor Pools Facebook page

20



Nhill Cinema Classic Movie

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Join us at the Nhill Cinema for another Classic Movie!

Time: Morning tea at 10am | Movie at 10:30am

Location: Nhill Cinema, 77-79 Nelson Street

Cost: Gold coin donation

Rating: PG

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4444

21

Nhill Senior Citizens Lunch and Entertainment

Join the Nhill Senior Citizens on the third Wednesday of each month for lunch and an afternoon of entertainment (excluding the month of January). Ages 50+ welcome.

Time: 12:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: Nhill Senior Citizens Clubrooms

Cost: \$15 - \$25

Contact: Heather - 0417 911 867

21

Nhill Kids Craft Club

Join us at the Nhill Library every third Wednesday of the month for Kids Craft Club FREE of charge!

Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Location: Nhill Library, 5 Clarence Street

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4449

22

Nhill Cinema

Force of Nature: The Dry 2

Join us at the Nhill Cinema for our first movie screening for 2024.

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Nhill Cinema, 77-79 Nelson Street

Tickets: Adult \$12 | Concession \$7 | Family \$30

VIP Tickets: Adult \$25 | Concession \$20

Rating: M

Contact: Council - 03 5391 4444

23 - 25

Peter Taylor Memorial Barefoot Waterski Tournament

The Dimboola Boat and Water Ski Club invite you to the Peter Taylor Memorial Barefoot Waterski Tournament!

For more information, visit

www.facebook.com/petertaylorlormemorial

Times: Friday 7:00am - 10:00pm

Saturday 7:00am - 1:00am Sunday

Location: Dimboola Recreation Reserve

Contact: Darren - 0429 198 599

ONGOING

Cuppa Connections

Join us at your local Hindmarsh Shire Library for a free morning or afternoon tea and chat. It's a comfortable, safe place to meet new people.

Dimboola Library

Thursdays 10am - 12noon

Nhill Library

Thursdays 10am - 12noon

Jeparit Library

Wednesdays 10am - 12noon

Rainbow Library

Wednesdays 2pm - 4pm

We hope to see you there!

Nhill Rhyme Time

Join Council's Supported Playgroup Officer for Rhyme Time at the Nhill Library.

Held every Monday (excluding school holidays)

Time: 10:00am - 11:00am

Location: Nhill Library

Supported Playgroup

Parents with pre-school aged children are welcome to attend our Supported Playgroup sessions.

Benefits include fun activities for you and your kids, information about local services and supports, tips on child development, self-care strategies and a chance to meet other local families.

Held weekly excluding school holidays.

Dimboola Library

Tuesdays 10am - 12noon

Jeparit Library

Wednesdays 10am - 12noon

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/hindmarshshiresupportedplaygroups

PROJECT UPDATES



INCREASED CAPACITY AT RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK, DIMBOOLA



Accommodation availability for holidaymakers visiting Dimboola is set to increase with the installation of 5 new powerheads at the Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola almost complete. The dual powerheads, which supply electricity and water to caravans and camper trailers, will provide a further 10 powered sites for park patrons. At peak times, powered sites at the park are fully booked so the additional powerheads will provide greater capacity for the park to accommodate visitors to Dimboola. Located amongst the pines on Wimmera St, the sites are sure to prove popular.

Pictured are the electrical contractors wiring up the power supply prior to installation of a powerhead.

NEW BOOM GATE AT RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK BENEFITING PARK PATRONS

Completed just before Christmas, the new boom gate at the Caravan Park in Dimboola has proven to be popular with patrons. With access now limited to guests of the park only, traffic around the site has decreased, with unauthorised access no longer possible. The boom gate also makes it easier for the Park to manage traffic at each site, minimising the incidence of several vehicles being parked at one site and creating overcrowding issues.

Access is via a PIN code which is entered into a keypad each side of the boom gate to allow authorised vehicles to enter and exit. Park patrons are provided with their PIN when they complete their booking.



NHILL CINEMA UPGRADES JEPARIT SWIMMING HOLE



We are looking forward to holding more movies at the Nhill Cinema in 2024. Attendees will now enjoy brand new seating with cup holders! Like our Nhill Cinema page on Facebook!



The Jeparit Swimming Hole has seen a huge uplift with a new deck and public amenities installed, along with new seating, BBQ area & turf installation. Make sure you pop down for a look if you haven't already!

OTHER NEWS



COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

Round Two applications for the 2023/24 Community Action Grants Program are open and close **5:00pm** on **Friday 9 February 2024**.

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

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

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Round Two applications for the 2023/24 Business Assistance Grants Program are open and close **5:00pm** on **Friday 9 February 2024**.

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

If your business has a project that requires financial assistance, the Business Assistance Grants Program may be able to assist. Businesses are encouraged to review the grant guidelines before completing their application as changes have been made to the funding program.

ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT

If you have an event coming up in Hindmarsh Shire, we would love to help you promote it!

If you complete the 'Advertising an Event' form on our website, we will promote your event under the Upcoming Events page of Council's website, share it on Facebook and include it in Council's fortnightly e-newsletter and monthly newsletter.

Visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/advertising-an-event.

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION



Hindmarsh Shire Council invites suitably qualified and experienced contractors to respond to its Quotation for -

CONSTRUCT AN EXTENSION TO DIMBOOLA SOUNDSHELL

(CONTRACT NO. 2023-2024-21)

The specific requirements are detailed in the tender documents, which can be downloaded via Council's website at:

www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/tenders.

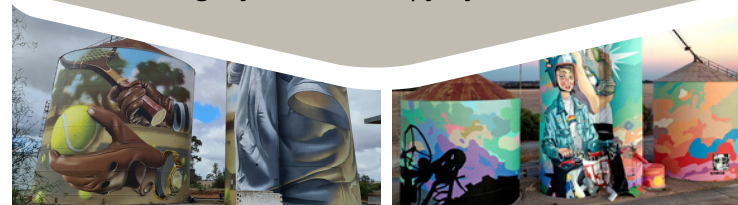
Closing time for the above tender is **2:00pm** on **Thursday 15 February 2024**.

All enquiries should be directed to Phil King, Manager Economic & Community Development, via email to pking@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au or telephone (03) 5391 4444.



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You can receive all of Hindmarsh Shire Council's news directly to your inbox! 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!



JOIN OUR TEAM

To view all current vacant positions, position descriptions and application forms, visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/work-in-council

SCAN



CURRENT VACANT POSITIONS

Cleaner Riverside Holiday Park (Part Time)
Applications close 12pm 14 February 2024

Asset Accountant (Full Time)
Applications close 12pm 14 February 2024

Manager Economic Development and Tourism (Full Time)
Applications close 12pm 7 February 2024

Health and Safety Officer (Full Time)
Applications close 12pm 7 February 2024

CONTACT A COUNCILLOR



If you would like to raise a matter with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and/or a Councillor, or if you would like to invite them to an event, you may contact them directly. You can find your Councillors contact details on Council's website at:

www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/contact-a-councillor

Alternatively, you can contact them via email to info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au and put the Councillor name(s) in the subject line.



Cr Brett Ireland
Mayor



Cr Wendy Bywaters
Deputy Mayor



Cr Debra Nelson
Councillor



Cr Rob Gersch OAM
Councillor



Cr Melanie Albrecht
Councillor



Cr Ron Ismay
Councillor

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Nhill Cinema
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