






# Campaspe Times Newsletter

## June 2020

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### Get social and stay updated

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-  @campaspehire
-  #campaspehire

Cover image - 'What? Suzie the Goat' by Celia Hobbs.



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## Living in a supportive community

It's been a challenging past three months as the coronavirus pandemic has forced restrictions to services and trade. The Campaspe community is to be congratulated for banding together during these difficult times and supporting each other. Our customer service centres and library branches re-opened on Monday, 1 June. Keep up to date with changes to Council services via our dedicated webpage [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/covid19](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/covid19).

While on community support, Council recently announced the recipients of this year's Campaspe Community Volunteer Awards. We are indeed very fortunate to have so many individuals and groups within our shire who give freely of their time, volunteering to improve the lives of others. Thank you to all volunteers across Campaspe – your efforts don't go unnoticed. Details of this year's award winners are on page seven.

The Victorian Government is further investing in kindergarten and from 2021, will be subsidising up to 15 hours of three year old kindergarten programs, giving children an extra year of learning, playing and making friends. More information on three and four year old funded kindergarten programs is on page two.

Caring for our environment is an important topic for Campaspe residents. This is evident from the many WickED (Waste in Campaspe – Know, Educate, Do) surveys recently completed by community members. This important feedback will assist Council in setting waste education programs over the coming years. Thank you to those who contributed.

As winter conditions increase, please take care on our roads and drive to the conditions. Be safe.

**Cr Adrian Weston**  
**Mayor**



Mayor Cr Adrian Weston paying tribute to Campaspe volunteers with a National Volunteer Week campaign 'wave'.

## 2021 kindergarten registrations now open

Kindergarten provides a strong foundation for young children to learn and develop essential skills. It is an important stage of a child's social and emotional development.

The kindergarten environment allows children to engage in fun methods of developing language, literacy and numeracy skills and prepares children for the transition to school.

Evidence shows that two years are better than one when it comes to early learning. With funding available for Victorian families for three year old and four year old kindergarten programs, participation is much more affordable.

Children are eligible to attend a funded kindergarten program if they turn either three or four years of age on or before 30 April in the year of attendance.

Council coordinates a centralised registration process which makes it easy for parents to indicate their kindergarten preferences in the



one application, saving time and effort. Registration includes 12 of the 17 kindergartens across the shire with Colbinabbin this year joining the program. Central registration is available for kindergarten programs at Echuca Central, Echuca East, Echuca South, Colbinabbin, Rochester, Lockington, Tongala, Gunbower, Stanhope, Berrimba, Pink & Blue and Goodstart Early Learning.

Families are encouraged to submit their central registration applications

online through Council's website. With restrictions in place due to the current coronavirus pandemic, hard copy forms can be downloaded from Council's website or are available by contacting customer service on 1300 666 535.

Further information about kindergarten can be found on the kindergarten page of Council's website.



**Applications for first round offers close 31 July 2020.**



## Are you following?

Council is committed to staying in touch with you, **so get social!**  
Stay updated on the latest council news by following us on Facebook.

We're also on  
Instagram + Twitter



@CampaspeShireCouncil



#campaspehire



@Campaspehire

## Need more compostable bags for your food scrap caddy?

Not all bin liner bags are as 'green' as they seem.

Compostable bags with the AS 4736 symbol are the only ones you should use.



### Compostable bags can be purchased from:

**Echuca:** Woolworths, Coles, Bunnings and IGA Xpress Echuca

**Moama:** Woolworths

**Kyabram:** Ritchie's SUPA IGA and Woolworths

**Rochester:** Mitre 10 and Major's IGA

**Tongala:** Tongala IGA Plus Liquor

**Rushworth:** Coghlan's IGA Plus Liquor

**Stanhope:** Stanhope Supermarket

**Lockington:** FoodWorks

**Gunbower:** Gunny Roadhouse

### And online at:

**Compost-a-Pak:** [compostapak.com.au](http://compostapak.com.au)

**Cardia Bioproducts:** [cardiabioproducts.com](http://cardiabioproducts.com)

**Source Separation Systems:** [sourceseparationsystems.com.au](http://sourceseparationsystems.com.au)

**Ecovend:** [ecovend.com.au](http://ecovend.com.au)



Plastic, degradable and biodegradable bags can NOT go in your food scrap caddy or green bin.



## I compost at home, so why should I get a green bin?

These items can go into a green bin and are not recommended to go into a backyard compost bin:

- Meat and seafood scraps
- Bones
- Used tissues, paper hand towel & napkins
- Animal poo
- Cheese and other dairy products
- Pizza and other processed foods

Order your green bin and choice of FREE food scrap caddy today at [campaspe.vic.gov.au](http://campaspe.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 666 535.



## Project update

As we draw closer to the end of the financial year, the Project Management team has been busy progressing various projects. Below is a snapshot of current works in the project lifecycle:



**Delivery**  
**Transfer Stations, e-waste Compliance Facility Installation**  
 E-waste facilities at Rochester, Kyabram, Toolleen, Colbinabbin and Rushworth are under construction. With Gunbower and Lockington facilities already completed.



**Delivery**  
**Campaspe Animal Shelter Facility Improvements**  
 Upgrades are underway at the Campaspe Animal Shelter which include sound proofing, a new reception area, new shade sails in the dog outdoor play area and a new synthetic grass play/meeting place.



**Completed**  
**Shire Parks and Playgrounds Irrigation renewal**  
 Irrigation works at John Pilley Reserve at the entrance to the Kyabram Fauna Park were completed in May.



**Delivery**  
**Corop Wanalta Road Reconstruction, Burrumboot**  
 Road works on a section of Corop Wanalta Road have started and are anticipated to be finished by late June.



**Procurement/Delivery**  
**Echuca Murray Esplanade Retaining Wall**  
 The contract has been awarded and construction of a 65 metre section of new retaining wall started in May, north of the Echuca Wharf.

## Covering Campaspe's 4,138km of roads

By the end of this year, Council will have spent around \$15 million in maintaining and upgrading its local road network, a network of more than 4,000 kilometres. Roads make up Council's largest single item of expenditure, with 18 per cent of the total \$81.8 million budget allocated.

Roads are important to our community, this comes through loud and clear in community surveys, in service requests, in feedback on the street. Funding is however limited and works are prioritised in order to meet the highest needs, such as school bus routes, transport routes and high traffic volumes.

Maintaining the road network is ongoing. Maintenance is scheduled from regular inspections of the network as well as customer service requests. Whilst Council undertakes regular inspections, the community is relied upon to be the "eyes and ears" on the ground.



Resealing works on Hare Street, Echuca - part of this year's Sealed Road Resurfacing Program.

Campaspe's service request system captures requests from residents. After logging the request, it is sent through for inspection, considered in line with our Road Management Plan, and actioned as needed.

As well as planning for projects on its own network, Council advocates to the Federal and State governments to fund projects to the main road network.

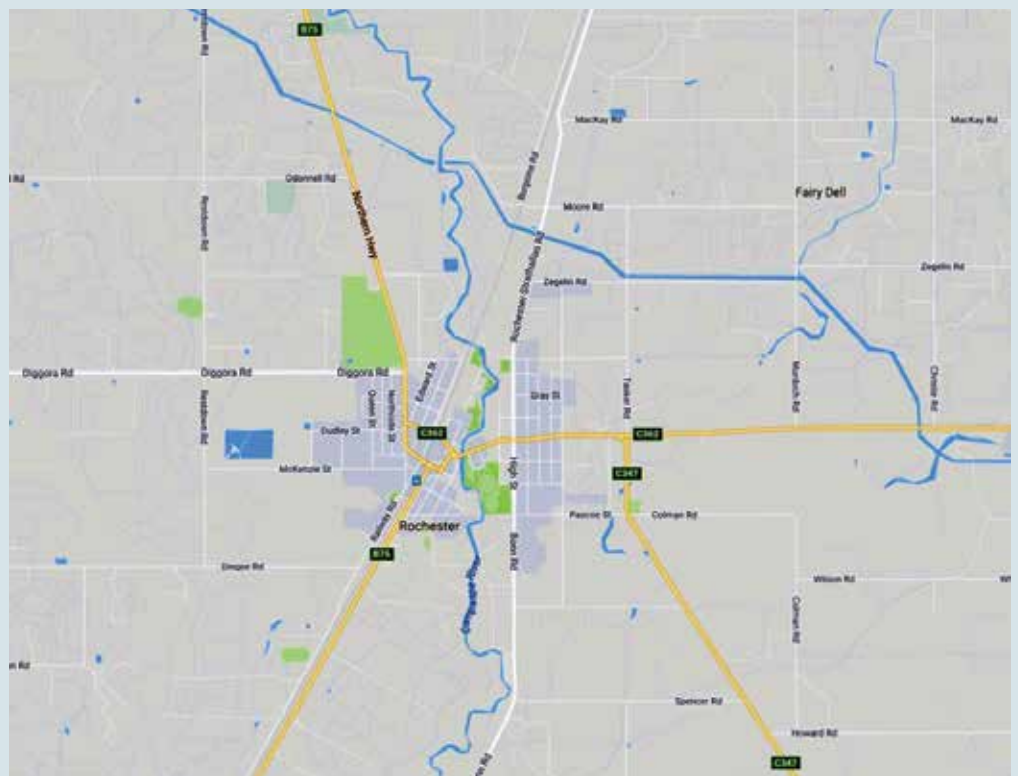
Some of the road projects this year include:

- Corop Wanalta Road, Burrumboot reconstruction
- Annesley Street, Echuca reconstruction
- Shire wide Road Resealing Program
- Shire wide Kerb and Channel Replacement Program

## What is a main road?

Main roads are the responsibility of Regional Roads Victoria. These roads are marked as "A", "B" and "C" roads, such as the Northern Highway (B75), Murray Valley Highway (B400), Echuca Kyabram Road (C351), High Street Echuca (B75/C349), Echuca Mitiamo Road (C334), Prairie Rochester Road (C341), McCormick Road Kyabram (C351) and Echuca Shepparton Road (C355). Google Maps clearly shows these roads in yellow as shown in this picture.

The other roads are local roads and are the responsibility of each local council.



### WHAT DOES IT COST?

To resheet a gravel road  
\$24 per metre (4 metres wide)

To grade a gravel road  
\$1.30 per metre (4 metres wide)

To reseal a sealed road  
\$4.15 per metre (squared)



## Funds secured to improve community health & wellbeing

The Healthy Heart of Victoria is an initiative of the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership that sought funds from the state to improve the community's health and wellbeing.

The project was developed in response to the higher than average rates of obesity, chronic disease and high-risk health behaviours across Victoria. Campaspe Shire is one of six local councils involved in this initiative.

The Healthy Heart of Victoria project is based on a three-pronged approach:



One of the newly installed picnic tables in Girgarre.

- **Projects** - Focusing on improvements to infrastructure and activation;
- **Survey** - Completing an Active Living Census to get an understanding of our community's health behaviours, activity levels, preferences and needs;
- **Health Brokers** - Appointing health brokers across the region to coordinate the project.

In round 1 of funding, upgrades were completed at Crossenvale Park in Echuca. This upgrade included improved access to continuous paths, better seating, a water fountain, shade and new play equipment.

In round 2 of funding, Council was successful in receiving funds to support three community projects:

- **Walking on Eyre project** - Construction of more than 250 metres of footpath for continued connection along Eyre Street,

Echuca. This will create better connectivity for cyclists and pedestrians in the east of Echuca. It will also encourage more residents and visitors to safely participate in active transport to school and work. Project funding: \$142,302

- **Activation on Wheels** - An activity trailer that will offer communities low cost access to a range of sports and games equipment. Later this year community groups will be able to hire the trailer for use in their town, providing access to affordable activities across the shire. Project funding: \$56,561

- **Girgarre Walking Track** - Improved seating along the Girgarre Walking track for all to use. Better seating will allow community members and visitors to enjoy getting active outdoors in Girgarre. Project funding: \$13,654

## Active Living Census results are in!

Conducted in early 2019, The Healthy Heart of Victoria, Active Living Census collected data from across the shire to get an understanding of the community's health behaviours, activity levels, preferences and needs.

Campaspe Shire residents aged 18+ accounted for 3,424 individual responses. Information from the survey will help Council in advocating for the region's needs and obtaining grants to support future projects that provide better outcomes and help drive ongoing change.

Some findings from our residents include:

- 2 in every 3 adults are overweight or obese
- 42.6% of residents consider themselves in very good or excellent health
- 1 in 10 households do not have enough to eat
- 55.4% of adults engage in weekly physical activity, as recommended
- 42% consider being 'time poor' is the biggest barrier to being more active
- 52.9% want to do more activity
- Aussie Rules football, active play and swimming are the top three most popular activities
- Footpaths are rated as the highest used facility
- In children aged 3 - 11, 89% use parks, 80.5% use

- swimming pools and 74.4% use sports grounds/ovals
- On average, people travel 13.5km to get to their activity
- Only 1 in 8 adults meet the daily vegetable consumption guidelines
- 1 in 2 adults meet the daily fruit consumption guidelines
- Adults drink an average of 4.8 cups of water per day
- Children aged 3 - 11 spend an average of 222.2 minutes per week exercising
- Aussie Rules and netball are the most popular activities for residents aged 12 - 17

A detailed summary of Council's survey results is available on our website, under the Healthy Heart of Victoria webpage.



Loddon Campaspe regional leaders.

## Rewarding outstanding local volunteers

As part of National Volunteer Week, Council was delighted to recognise and pay tribute to the outstanding contribution of volunteers, presenting annual awards.

Although COVID-19 restrictions precluded a formal presentation, winners were announced across the three categories - individual, young person and organisation. The Campaspe Community Volunteer Awards program acknowledges the valuable support of individuals and groups across the shire. It's an opportunity to praise not just the winners, but all volunteers who make Campaspe the perfect place to live, work and visit.



### Individual

Winner of the Individual Volunteer Award, **Heather Darbyshire** is a proficient event organiser in the Rochester community. A very creative and skilled individual, Heather has been an outstanding leader of two major initiatives - the Rochester Wheelie Good Christmas Decorations Project where old bicycle wheels were repurposed into Christmas decorations and proudly displayed throughout the town, and the Rochester Natural Play Space at Rotary Park - a key action from the Economic and Community Economic Plan for Rochester.

Heather has also been actively involved in a number of other community projects where she worked collaboratively with colleagues, supporting ideas and creating a very comfortable environment to bring projects to life.



### Young Person

A member of Council's Youth Advisory Group (YAG) since its inception, **Mia Oberin** is the winner of the Young Person Volunteer Award. Mia has been an active member of the YAG with significant influence and success advocating on behalf of her peers.

Mia recently met with the UN Youth Representative of Australia to discuss regional and rural issues for young people. She is also involved with the Echuca Moama Hockey Club and the Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation.



### Organisation

A very important community organisation in the Rochester community, the **Rochester Lions Club** is the Organisation Volunteer Award winner.

The club regularly provides support to the community and is involved in many community projects including Meals on Wheels, the Australia Day breakfast, Lions Youth of the Year, Santa run, community education on fruit fly prevention and many more.

With 24 members, the Rochester Lions Club is a very important and active community organisation within the township.

### Council meetings

Council meetings are normally open to the public - please refer to our website to see if COVID restrictions still apply. Residents are encouraged to lodge a question online, which will be answered during the question time portion of the meeting. Meetings are held in Echuca and start at 5pm and are streamed live on Council's website. The agenda is available on our website the Friday before each meeting.

- 23 June
- 21 July

## Service profile

#campaspeservices

### Community Rangers

Campaspe Shire Council's Community Rangers play an important role in educating the community about responsible animal ownership.

This work includes enforcing the Domestic Animal Act 1994, the Impounding of Livestock Act 1994 and Council's Local Laws in relation to animal matters such as animal control, pet laws, and emergency management.

Rangers respond to customer requests regarding a number of issues, including complaints about animal nuisances, such as barking dogs and unlawful animal activity.

A day in the life of a Community Ranger could include responding to:

- Livestock on the road
- Pet nuisance/noise control
- Dog attacks
- Dogs at large



Council's Community Rangers (L-R) Anthony, Julie, Zane and Tim.

- Returning lost pets to their owners
- Domestic animal business audits
- Puppy farm and animal cruelty investigations
- Registration enquiries
- Community education

Council also provides an after hours Community Ranger service for matters such as dog attacks, dogs at large, livestock on roads.

For all animals enquiries, Community Rangers can be contacted by calling 1300 666 535.

## Register your pets!

It is an offence under the Domestic Animal Act 1994 not to register an animal over the age of three months with the owner's local council. Registration, along with microchipping, helps Rangers return lost or wandering pets to their homes.

Animal owners that are found to have unregistered pets may be fined \$330 per animal.

Did you know it is also an offence if your animal is found without a registration tag attached to its collar? Registration tags help identify the animal and makes a return to home quicker. Replacement tags are available at no cost from Council.

In addition to registration, there are limits to the number of animals that can be housed on a property. Residential properties can have no more than two dogs and two cats and farm zones must have no more than five cats and five dogs – unless a permit is acquired.

Council Rangers have started the process of door knocking households to educate the community on the requirements of the Domestic Animals Act.

## If Your Dog Poops It, Scoop It!

A \$300 fine applies if  
pet owners do not  
pick up their  
dog's poo.

