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 #campaspeshire

Cover image: 'Spring has sprung!'
The winning cover photo from the 2021 #MyCampaspe photo competition, by Sharon Perry.



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Campaspe Times Newsletter

December 2021

Season's Greetings!

I was honoured to be re-elected Mayor in November by my fellow Councillors and as a team we are looking forward to the year ahead and enacting the plans we have put in place.

Two key documents were adopted by Council in October which will play an important part of this; Campaspe Tomorrow – a long-term plan, and Council Plan – a four-year plan. The Council Plan actions for Year One are now underway. Each document is outlined in more detail on page 5.

In November Council approved two new grant programs, one supporting community groups in purchasing equipment and the other supporting businesses in meeting governance requirements, undertaking future planning and developing new skills. Both were recognised as gaps in previous grant programs. Online application forms, guidelines and eligibility criteria are now available on Council's website – Now Open.

Congratulations to the 14 winners of the 2022 #MyCampaspe photo competition. The photos feature in our free 2022 community calendar, now available from all service centres. Be quick though, they are always very popular.

As we approach Christmas, there are a couple of reminders. Service centres and libraries will close at 3pm on Friday, 24 December and reopen on Tuesday, 4 January.

This year, there are no changes to kerbside bin collection services across the holiday period. All collections will continue on the usual day. A full listing of Christmas service hours is available on page 2.

On behalf of councillors and staff, may I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.

Cr Chrissy Weller
Mayor



Christmas Opening Hours

There are no changes to waste (red bin), recycling (yellow bin) and garden / food (green bin) collections across the Christmas / New Year holiday period.

The following services close 3pm on Friday, 24 December and reopen on Tuesday, 4 January:

- o Customer service centres
- o Library branches – book chutes will remain open and all online services will be available
- o Road maintenance

The following services only close on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day:

- o Resource Recovery Centres
- o Maternal & Child Health centres – with all bookings and enquiries to 1300 644 964

The following services only close Christmas Day, with restricted services on public holidays:

- o Campaspe Animal Shelter – public holidays, open from 10am to 12.30pm
- o Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre – public holidays, open from 8am to 4.30pm
- o Outdoor swimming pools – open public holidays, each individual pool timetable is on Council's website



Other services:

- o Quarries will close for sales from Friday, 24 December and reopen on Tuesday, 4 January
- o Child care centres, to close COB on Thursday, 23 December and reopen on Thursday, 6 January
- o Port of Echuca Discovery Centre and Echuca Paddlesteamers will be closed Christmas Day only
- o Emergency on call ranger services will be operating throughout the holiday period

For urgent requests, call 1300 666 535 and follow the prompts.

Merry 'Waste-Wise' Christmas

How can you reduce waste this festive season?

- o Update your household bin system to include four bins:
 - 1 Recycling
 - 2 Food scrap containers (for green bins or chooks and compost)



3 Soft plastics (recycled at the Echuca or Mount Scobie resource recovery centres)

4 General waste

- o Use brown kraft paper to wrap gifts and tie with ribbons. 'Kraft' paper is recyclable and ribbons can be reused
- o Make your own Christmas cards and gift tags
- o Look for recycled, plastic-free packaging or package-free presents when shopping for gifts

How can you reduce food waste?

- o Make a list and buy only what you need
- o Store any leftover food in airtight containers in the fridge
 - 1 Put any leftovers on a 'use it up' shelf
 - 2 Freeze leftovers
- o Decide on some leftover recipes to make on Boxing Day

Rochester: Growing Our Future

Living on the Floodplain

The Resilient Rochester project has received Victoria's Resilient Australia Award in the Government category. This joint initiative between Campaspe Shire Council, VicSES, North Central Catchment Management Authority and of course, the Rochester community, has helped to build a prepared, well equipped community. Implementing one of the recommendations of the Rochester Flood Study, the project delivered several tools and resources to assist the community in their preparation and response to future flood events.

A key resource was a personalised magnet that directly linked flood risk at the resident's property to a level at the Rochester Town Gauge. Two 'Living on the Floodplain' information signs and six flood markers were installed around the town. Rochester SES Unit Controller, Judith Gledhill, played a significant role in the development and delivery of the project.

Ms Gledhill said the effectiveness of the project was due to a winning combination of interventions.

"The personalised property packs, flood markers, flood information signs, videos, school program and the detailed flood pre-plans we have at the unit are all pieces of the larger puzzle.

"Residents can now understand what it means and how they should respond."

SES Loddon Mallee Regional Manager Sharon Unthank said the project team has set the standard for community-driven, collaborative projects going forward.

"Rochester Unit volunteers, together with our project partners, have not only delivered incredible outcomes for their local community, but given us all a blueprint for how to



Rochester VicSES Unit Controller, Judith Gledhill, Council's General Manager Community, Keith Oberin and NCCMA Project Manager Waterways and Floodplains, Sarah Stanaway.

successfully engage with residents and get real results.

"We have a lot to be proud of in Rochester and so does the community."

Leisure Paradise

Rochester is a thriving centre for recreation and relaxation. For both locals and tourists, new recreational facilities like the Rochester fishing platform and kayak launch, will be of fantastic benefit for years to come.

As part of the Rochester Holiday Park redevelopment, this was a collaborative project between Council, North Central CMA, DELWP, Murray Darling Basin Authority and the Rochester Recreation Reserve Committee.



INITIATION

PROJECT
PLANNING

DESIGN

PROCUREMENT

DELIVERY

REVIEW AND CLOSURE
(COMPLETED)

Project Updates

Roads, footpaths, bridges, drains, buildings and open spaces are continually being renewed as part of the annual Capital Works Program. Council relies on Federal and State government funding, along with funding from other authorities, to support these projects. The following are a small selection of this year's projects, all at various stages.



Paroo Street Open Drain, Echuca **Completed**

Works to replace the open drain at Paroo Street in Echuca are now complete.



Rochester Community Open Play Space **Delivery**

The play space is currently underway with completion scheduled for early next year. This project is funded by the Murray Darling Basin Authority.



Echuca and Mount Scobie Resource Recovery Centres **Design**

Funded by DELWP as part of the Victorian Government Recycling Victoria policy, glass bunkers at the Echuca and Mount Scobie centres are currently in the design stage. Construction is scheduled to start at the end of December.



Netball Court Resurfacing **Procurement**

Procurement is currently underway for the resurfacing of netball courts at Lockington, Gunbower, Toolleen and Echuca's Victoria Park. These projects are funded by the Australian Government's Local Road and Community Infrastructure grant program.



Roslynmead Road, Torrumbarry **Delivery**

Shoulder stabilising works, also funded through a Local Road and Community Infrastructure fund, are underway, having started in early November.

Shaping Our Future, Together

Enshrined in the *Local Government Act 2020*, Community Visions now drive strategic direction, planning and operational priorities for all Victorian councils.

This feature provides a glimpse into Campaspe's long-term (10-20 years) Community Vision strategy *Campaspe Tomorrow* and how it has informed the four-year *Council Plan 2021-25*.

Campaspe Tomorrow 2040

*Our places are vibrant and sustainable;
Our people are strong and supportive.*

This is the aspirational Community Vision that describes our community's desired future state for the Shire of Campaspe. It is the core of *Campaspe Tomorrow*, our long-term strategic plan, developed from nearly 4,000 comments provided by more than 800 people through an extensive engagement process earlier this year. In addition to the Community Vision, this strategy also articulates the principles we strive to uphold as a community, and the key priority areas in which we will collaborate and take action on together, to bring the Community Vision to fruition.

These priority areas are:

- A place where we belong
- Activity for all
- An environment for all, now and always
- Towns and land that we love
- Opportunity for all
- Engaged and participative people



Council Plan 2021-25

The *Council Plan 2021-25* sets out the commitment to the community, and outlines what will be delivered, how it will be delivered, and how progress will be measured.

The themes and issues raised by the community through the Community Vision engagement process – such as the environment, economy and jobs, community connectedness, liveability and wellbeing – are directly reflected in the strategic directions of the Council Plan.

The strategic directions are:

- Flourishing diverse local economies
- Resilient, protected and healthy natural environment
- Well-planned places
- Growing quality of life

The Council Plan acknowledges that collaboration leads to better community outcomes. That's why we are committed to continuing to work in partnership with residents, businesses, community groups and other levels of government, to move closer towards our shared Community Vision, through delivery of the Council Plan.

The document includes Year One Actions and this is where the community can see the focus for the current year.



Want to Know More?

To learn more about these strategic plans and the many other strategies that guide our work, visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/plans

Council Meetings

Council meetings are open to the public (COVID restrictions allowing) and residents are encouraged to take part by submitting questions for the question time portion of the meeting. Meetings are held in Echuca and start at 6pm and are streamed live on Council's website. The agenda is available the Friday before each meeting.

▪ 15 December ▪ 19 January ▪ 16 February

Tongala: Our History in Murals

Tongala Place Based Plan

In partnership with the Tongala community, Council has launched the development of a Tongala Place Based Plan and Community Facility Plan.



Essentially, a Place Based Plan is to make places better. It involves looking at what 'makes' the local community, along with listening to and engaging with community members who live, work and play in that community. This allows Council to better understand residents' needs and aspirations.

It involves both Council and the Tongala community identifying physical and social assets that are unique to their locality and capitalising on these to create distinctive, sustainable spaces.

An open session meeting was held in early December to discuss Tongala's Place Based Plan. This consultation allows the community to get an understanding of what goes into planning each asset's future. This includes the current usage rates, capital value, costs, and any proposed capital works.

Community members are encouraged to participate in ongoing engagement and project planning. For more information, contact Sam Campi on 5481 2200 or email shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Tractors and Tinsel: How Tongala Does Christmas

Ahead of the festive season, Council works closely with community groups across the shire to develop town decorations.

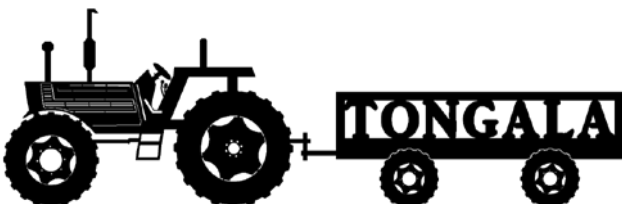
Mayor Cr Chrissy Weller said each community group was to be congratulated for their unique decoration ideas.

"Every community group who sat down with Council representatives had something distinctive and inventive in mind. The creativity behind each project is remarkable.

"For some, their project may be completely Christmas orientated, while others may have elected to complete a project that adds to previous town developments.

"We're tremendously proud to provide this annual program, which in turn, supplies some shire wide Christmas cheer."

'Ol Tonny' Tractor Selfie Station has been one of the standout features in this year's Christmas decoration program. 'Ol Tonny' is the latest addition to the town's recent development projects, the Tongala Hay Bale Trail and Tongala Street Art. Imagined by the development committee, crafted by Tongala local Rowan Garth and funded by Council, 'Ol Tonny' was a collaborative project from start to finish.



Organiser Robbie Graham with Tongala Development Committee Vice President and organiser Amber Townsend.

Be Prepared: The Scouts Are Out!

#lovewhereyoulive

Nearly 3,000 Scouts, 2,000 Cubs, 450 Venturers, 120 Rovers, and 940 leaders and helpers are set to rain down on Campaspe Shire for their biggest celebration this year. Between 29 December 2021 and 8 January 2022, the Victorian Scouts Jamboree (VicJam) will be held at the Elmore Events Centre.

This collective gathering of Victoria's young men and women restores a sense of normality to lives disrupted by restrictions and lockdowns.

Across the eleven days, the attendees will participate in a

festival of fun. From canoeing and caving to mountain bike riding and rafting, the program also includes day trips to Echuca and Nagambie. Not only is VicJam a terrific time for the participants, but also a profitable boost for businesses in Campaspe Shire expected to be inundated with people in scarves and woggles.

Scouting has moulded youth development for more than 100 years, building our leaders of the future. With an outstanding event like VicJam, you can easily see why scouting will continue to grow for the next 100 years.



What's On A listing of upcoming events across our region. Events may be cancelled or amended at short notice, pending changes to COVID restrictions and approvals.

13 November - 5 December

Lockdown Legacy Exhibition by Heather Wellington - Motofinish Café, High St, Rushworth

December - January

Bill Harris Photography Exhibition - Kyabram Town Hall, Allan St

Summer Exhibition - The Foundry Arts Space, Murray Esp., Echuca

Friday, 10 December

Rochester Town Twilight Market - Gillies St

Saturday, 11 December

Hopwood Garden Market - Hopwood Gardens, Echuca

15 - 21 December

Santa's Cave - Kyabram Town Hall, Allan St

Saturday, 18 December

REHF Rushworth Market - High St

Echuca Farmers Market - Aquatic Reserve

Sunday, 19 December

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert - Kyabram Bocce Club, Breen Ave

29 December - 8 January

Victorian Scout Jamboree - Elmore Events Centre

Friday, 31 December

Echuca Racing Club NYE Kids Day Out Race Day - Echuca Racecourse, Scott Rd

Saturday, 1 January

Echuca Harness Racing Club Meet - Frank Ryan Raceway, Simmie Rd

5 - 9 January

Girgarre Moosic Muster

Saturday, 8 January

Hopwood Garden Market - Hopwood Gardens, Echuca

Rushworth Speedway Race Meet - Rushworth Speedway, Nine Mile Rd

Sunday, 9 January

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale - Birdwood Ave

Girgarre Farmers' Produce and Craft Market - Girgarre Memorial Hall and Park Reserve

Saturday, 15 January

REHF Rushworth Market - High St

Echuca Farmers Market - Aquatic Reserve

Sunday, 16 January

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert - Kyabram Bocce Club, Breen Ave

Saturday, 22 January

Echuca Moama Multi Sport Junior Triathlon - Moama Beach

Sunday, 23 January

Echuca Moama Multi Sport Festival Wharf to Winery Swim - Riverboat Dock, Murray Esp, Echuca

February - March

Northern Planes Basket Weavers Exhibition - Kyabram Town Hall, Allan St

Sonya Else Textiles Exhibition - Kyabram Town Hall, Allan St

Saturday, 5 February

Echuca Farmers Market - Aquatic Reserve

Saturday, 12 February

Hopwood Garden Market - Hopwood Gardens, Echuca

Rushworth Speedway Race Meet - Rushworth Speedway, Nine Mile Rd

11 - 12 February

Southern 80 Ski Race - Scenic Drive, Echuca Boat Ramp

Sunday, 13 February

Girgarre Farmers Produce and Craft Market - Girgarre Memorial Hall & Park

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale - Birdwood Ave

A Wise Head on Young Shoulders

The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) provides people aged between 12 – 25 the ability to have input in Council's planning and decision-making.

In the past year, the YAG has been involved in the development of the 2021-2025 Council Plan, 2040 Community Vision and the Arts and Culture Strategy.

Members develop skills and experience, including community engagement, project management, training and qualifications, public speaking and leadership roles that

#CampaspeCareers

create pathways to education and employment.

From 2022 onwards, there is a renewed focus on providing young people with access to more youth activities and events, council and youth forums, life skills programs, work experience and placement opportunities.

The YAG prides itself on being accessible to all young people in Campaspe Shire. You can join at any time. To find out more, contact Community Programs Officer Ben Hearn on 5481 2200 or email b.hearn@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Meet a Few From the Youth Advisory Group



Jack Norris

Current Member

Age: 18

Hometown: Kyabram

What's your favourite moment from YAG?

Presenting to the 2016-2020 Council and the 2020-2024 Council about Council's 'Youth Vision.'

What is one long term future goal of yours?

Entering into public service and becoming an elected Member of Parliament.

How has being a part of YAG benefited you?

I have learnt and developed, becoming a better individual by being a leader for my peers, communicating with others and critically thinking about current to long term goals.

Who is one person you look up to and why?

AFL Field Umpire and 427 game veteran Matt Stevic. Ever since I started umpiring 8 years ago and transitioned across in becoming a field umpire, I have looked up to Matt.

Why should others consider joining YAG?

I highly encourage others to become part of something special and rewarding, helping to make Campaspe Shire a better place to call home for ALL young people.



Lucy McKenzie

Current Member

Age: 21

Hometown: Rochester

What's your favourite moment from YAG?

When engaging with other likeminded people.

Why did you decide to become a YAG member?

To give and feel like the youth in our area had a voice.

Why should others consider joining YAG?

To gain skills and knowledge about what goes into setting up projects. Giving back to the community as well.

What is one long term future goal of yours?

To give youth a voice and make small changes in their life.

If you were Prime Minister for the day, what would you do?

Make mental health service accessible to everyone.



Mia Oberin

Former Member

Age: 20

Hometown: Echuca

What's your favourite moment from YAG?

Our first meeting in 2016 was pretty special because we'd lobbied Council and worked really hard to get the group up and running.

What is one long term future goal of yours?

I would love to have a career focused around helping people and resolving injustices.

Who is one person you look up to and why?

This sounds so mainstream, but I'd have to say my mum. She taught me how to stand up for what I believe in and to hold my line.

Why should others consider joining YAG?

It's a place where you can meet friends outside of school a place you can be yourself completely. There are no pressures or expectations on how you should act or who you should be.

What is the best piece of advice you've received?

"You didn't come this far to only come this far."