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Get social and stay updated

- @CampaspeShireCouncil
- @campaspeshire
- #campaspeshire

Cover image: 'Hay, My Name is Angus' by Rylee Dixon of Bamawm.

Campaspe Times Newsletter

March 2022

Welcome to Autumn

Council's focus at the moment is well and truly the budget - preparing a draft budget to release to the community in April. Our next newsletter will capture a summary of the budget, key timelines, and how submissions can be made. With a 1.75% rate cap imposed by the State Government, reviewing community proposals already received, maintaining existing services and delivering capital works, the development of a balanced budget is not a simple or easy task.

The job of actively pursuing external grants remains critical in a rate capped environment, and in February we received an exciting funding boost with the Federal Government announcing two grants totalling approximately \$2.5 million towards the Rushworth to Murchison Rail Trail. This funding will see an 11 kilometre trail connect Rushworth to Murchison along the former rail reserve via Waranga Basin. The trail will provide a free, safe and accessible space for locals and visitors to enjoy and increases what's on offer across our shire. This project will be just one of the projects included in our Capital Works Program, a key component of the budget for the 2022/23 year.

We also welcomed \$230,000 from the State's Office of Youth from the Engage! and FFreeZA programs to support youth participation and engagement. Staff are actively working with our Youth Advisory Group to deliver initiatives from these grant programs, required to be spent across three years.

And for our community, two important Council grant programs are now open, Community Grants and Business Assistance Grants. Full details about each program and how to apply are on page 2.

As we move out of COVID restrictions, councillors and staff are once again out in the community, at events and meeting with community groups. Our "Out and About" feature is back in this newsletter, capturing a range of photos. If you are wanting councillors to join your group or event, email or write to us so we can include it in our diaries. We all look forward to meeting you and your group and continuing to learn more about our shire.

Cr Chrissy Weller
Mayor



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Deputy Mayor Colleen Gates, Mayor Chrissy Weller and Waranga Ward Councillor Adrian Weston in Rushworth.

Apply Now!

Two of the most significant Council grant programs are now open for application. These grant programs only open for two rounds each year and are very popular. For full funding criteria or to apply for either of these grant programs, go to 'Now Open' on Council's website. Applications for both programs close at 4pm on Friday, 15 April.

Community Grants

This program offers financial support to not-for-profit community organisations, groups and associations for projects, exhibitions and/or performances that contribute to the municipality. Applications for this program have a maximum grant amount of \$4,000. Recent successful applicants of this program include:

- Kyabram Blue Light Inc – towards their health, fitness, and wellbeing centre at Kyabram P-12 College
- Tongala Cricket Club Inc – towards the TCC Mini Blues Program
- Girgarre Development Group Inc – towards a performing arts sound desk

Business Assistance Grants

Businesses can apply through this program to assist them to diversify and expand their business, or to encourage new businesses to start up. There are four funding categories, each with different maximum grant application amounts:

- Start up / new
 - Operating less than one year
 - 1 – 10 full time equivalent employees
 - Maximum grant of \$3,000
- Small business
 - 2 – 10 full time equivalent employees
 - Maximum grant application of \$5,000
- Medium business
 - 11 – 19 full time employees
 - Maximum grant application of \$10,000
- Large business
 - 20 plus full time employees
 - Maximum grant application of \$15,000

Council Meetings

Council meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to take part through 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.

Upcoming meetings:

- 20 April - 18 May - 15 June

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We're still flat there's no Southern 80 this weekend, but we can't wait for the boats to *wake* up in May. (BYO beanie and thermos) #maythe80bewithyou #s80backonthewater



Campaspe Shire – home to the famous Koyuga Australia Day yabby race and one million different sausage sizzles (loved by one hundred million flies) #australiaday #yabbydabbydoo



Can you guess where we are here? This town is one of our favourite spots on the Campaspe Shire map #lovewhereyoulive #mycampaspe #noneedtorush

Out and About

With COVID restrictions easing, Campaspe Shire staff and councillors have been 'out and about' in the community, attending various events and celebrating partnerships between Council and the local community. Here's a few of our most recent snapshots.



Community Development Officer Clark Patching, Event Support Officer Belinda Owen, Community Development Officer Lachlan Cozens and Economic Development Manager Astrid O'Farrell set up bike racks for the Riverboats Music Festival.



Works and Services Manager Rick Keen was one of five presenters at a career's day at Kyabram P-12 College. Rick was joined by representatives from local Tongala businesses to drive recruitment and reduce the gap between education and industry.



Economic Development Manager Astrid O'Farrell and Mayor Chrissy Weller gifting Riverboats Festival Director David Frazer with some 10-year anniversary celebratory balloons.



Executive Assistant Community Bobbi Aitken with Rotary Club of Kyabram member and former Campaspe Shire Councillor Carol Howell at the Australia Day Award Winners function.



Councillor Tony Marwood with Young Citizen of the Year Dimity Pearson at the Australia Day Award Winners function on PS Pevensey.

Chat With Us Online

Talk with our customer service staff through 'webchat'



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. The following are a small selection of this year's projects, all at various stages.



Dalton Road Floodway, Barnadown

Delivery

Floodway reconstruction works on Dalton Road are underway.



Sturt Street, Echuca

Complete

The Sturt Street drainage and road surface works are now complete. The road has been reopened to traffic.



Rushworth Service Centre

Design

The procurement for the Rushworth Service Centre upgrade designs were awarded and design work has started. This is partly funded by a Living Libraries Infrastructure grant.



Echuca Livestock Exchange

Delivery

The continued replacement of steel columns at the saleyards is underway. Approximately 600 have already been replaced.



Fenaughty Street, Kyabram

Delivery

Road works along Fenaughty Street, between Saunders and Mitchell Streets, have started.

Meet Our Community Development Team

Community Development Officers are what we like to call the 'concierges' between Council and the community. Each officer has a 'catchment area' that they work within, and community members are encouraged to reach out to the officer allocated to their town or area. The officers are often called to meet with community groups and businesses, invited to AGMs or asked to provide advice. The officers can investigate Council constraints on your behalf.

So, if you have a project or program that you are trying to get off the ground, speaking to a Community Development Officer is a great way to start. They can help you to negotiate the different challenges you may encounter when developing ideas for your business, club, or group.

To contact the Community Development team, call 1300 666 535 or email shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au



Jess Ibbeson

Profile: Tongala, Wyuna, Koyuga

Jess has more than 25 years' experience working with the community. She actively participates in multiple community groups as both a volunteer and at a committee level. She is passionate about mental health, gender equity and community safety. Outside of work, Jess loves to travel and coaches a local under 15s netball side.



Lachlan Cozens

Profile: Rushworth, Colbinabbin, Toolleen

Lachie is a graduate of La Trobe University with a degree in Health and Sustainability. He is extremely passionate about people and sustainability, seeking to maintain a balance between people, the environment, and the economy. Outside of work, you can find Lachie on the tennis court or mucking around in the garden.



Clark Patching

Profile: Echuca, Torrumbarry, Gunbower

Clark is a new officer with a background in business, hospitality and sales. He is passionate about business development and economics, specifically the survival and revival of small business post pandemic and youth employment. Clark spends his weekends chauffeuring his 7 year old daughter to her social engagements and watching sport.



Jim Gow

Profile: Kyabram, Stanhope, Girgarre

In his role, Jim is also involved in youth engagement. He has over a decade's worth of experience in putting on youth events, more than 60 in total. He has helped to manage a range of events, including concerts, pop culture shows, quiz nights, camps, horror shows – Jim believes in the more creative the event, the better!



Deb Chumbley

Profile: Nanneella, Lockington, Rochester

Deb (she/her) has extensive experience in healthcare and advocacy and is passionate about social justice, health and wellbeing. Outside of work hours she loves to practice and teach yoga, volunteer within community, spend time with friends and family and to spoil her adorable grandchildren.



Ben Hearn

Profile: Youth engagement

Ben was born and raised in Kyabram and is passionate about creating opportunities for young people in Campaspe. He is heavily involved in multiple community groups, volunteering across a range of organisations focused on youth participation. In his free time, Ben enjoys spending time with family and friends and being involved in local sporting clubs.

Turning It Up a Gear

The Echuca Moama Mountain Bike Club are turning it up a gear. The inaugural Ride the Murray will be hosted by the club across Saturday, 2 April and Sunday, 3 April.

While the club admits that Echuca Moama isn't known for its 'mountains', the two event routes will provide some epic challenges for new and old riders.

The Saturday event, Ride the Port, will be the first urban cross country mountain bike race in the historic Port of Echuca. Riders will find the short course unlike any other.

The route will take riders underneath the wharf, past paddlesteamers and along the river's edge.

Ride the Track is the Sunday event, a cross country Olympics format located at the Five Mile Mountain Bike Park in Moama.

A race village will be created with food vendors available. Open, masters, juniors and e-bike categories are on offer in both events. Even if you're aged somewhere between 2 - 10, the club hasn't forgotten about you!

Events for littlies will be available across the weekend to develop and fine tune their skills. Register online at www.ridethemurray.com.au or on the day.

Who will reign supreme as 'King and Queen of the Murray?'

#lovewhereyoulive



Chhay Williams takes on the stairs at the Port of Echuca.

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.

April - May

Jan Preston Textiles Exhibition - Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Rathbone Collection Exhibition - Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Saturday, 2 April

Murray to Moyne - Starting from Port of Echuca Pop Up Park

Ride the Murray: Ride the Port - Port of Echuca

Echuca Farmers Market - Aquatic Reserve
Rushworth Speedway Race Meet - Nine Mile Road

2 - 3 April

Torrumbarry Fishing Classic - Horseshoe Bend, Headworks Rd

Sunday, 3 April

Ride the Murray: Ride the Track - Five Mile Mountain Bike Park, Moama

Saturday, 9 April

Hopwood Garden Market - Hopwood Gardens, Echuca

9 - 25 April

Tongala Hay Bale Trail - Various locations

Sunday, 10 April

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

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale - Birdwood Ave

Echuca Races - Echuca Racecourse

Wednesday, 13 April

Rotary Club of Kyabram Community Easter Egg Hunt - Edis Park

Friday, 15 April

Ministers Fellowship Good Friday Service - Kyabram Memorial Gardens

15 - 18 April

Echuca Easter Lawn Tennis Tournament - Echuca Lawn Tennis Club

Saturday, 16 April

Rushworth Easter Heritage Festival & Market - High St

16 - 18 April

Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Annual Easter Tournament - Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club

Sunday, 17 April

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert - Kyabram Bocce Club

Moora Working Horse - Moora Recreation Reserve

Saturday, 23 April

Rushworth Speedway Race Meet - Nine Mile Rd

Jigarre Jammin - Girgarre Memorial Hall

23 - 24 April

Lockington Scarecrow Competition - Pump Park, Cnr Singer and Lockington Rd

Lockington & District Vintage Tractor & Stationary Engine Rally - Lockington Living Heritage Centre

Sunday, 24 April

Nanneella Dusk ANZAC Service - Nanneella Hall

Monday, 25 April

ANZAC Day services across the shire

30 April - 1 May

Hotel Rochester Motors & Music Fest - MacKay Street carpark

Sunday, 1 May

Echuca Moama Bridal & Events Presents Tie the Knot Festival - Echuca Racecourse

Register your community event. Free website event listing is available to community groups within the shire. Register at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cleaning Up Campaspe

When the late Ian Kiernan AO first picked up a rubbish bag 30 years ago, it was the beginning of a national environmental event. His simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard blossomed into one million Australians participating in a litter-fighting revolution.

On Sunday, 6 March, dozens of community groups, schools, businesses, and individuals in Campaspe Shire pulled on their plastic gloves. From six year old preppies to seventy year old retirees, this flock of volunteers helped to keep Campaspe Shire looking beautiful. Council continued to

support these events by aiding in collection disposal and providing essential resources.

Council would like to thank everyone who participated in a Clean Up Australia Day event. We know this national show of community spirit will continue well into the future!



Keep An Eye on The Mailbox

To thank you all for 'Giving a Scrap' to your green bin, a random selection of 300 residents across the shire will receive vouchers in their mailbox.

These vouchers can be redeemed for two free bags of compost which can be collected from Council's Resource Recovery Centres.

These bags of compost are the children of the garden waste and food scraps you put in your green bin. By placing your green waste in the green bin, instead of sending it to

landfill, you help to create a nutritious soil additive. Compost increases the nutrients in the soil and aids in water retention.

If you receive a voucher and don't plan to use it, please consider gifting it to a family member, friend or neighbour who will! If you missed out on one of the vouchers, mulch for your garden can be collected free of charge from Echuca and Mount Scobie Resource Recovery Centres. Spreading mulch on top of

your garden is another fantastic way to increase water retention in your garden beds!



Peter Keith, Alex Kleehammer and Dave Wells from VIVID with Waste Education Officer Sheri Doyle.



Hire Me!

Thanks to Healthy Heart Victoria funding, Council has constructed and fitted out a community exercise and activity trailer. Managed by Kyabram Community and Learning Centre (KCLC), the trailer is available to all community groups in the shire to hire. The trailer can be used for events, social outings, health and fitness classes and games days. Jam-packed full of goodies like trampolines, balls, racquets, weights and games, the equipment is brand new and ready to use! To hire the community exercise and activity trailer, contact KCLC on 5852 0000.

Become an Animal Foster Carer

#campaspeservices

Volunteering as an animal foster carer is a 'win-win' situation. We spoke to local animal foster carer Val McDonnell, to find out what the experience was like.

"As a senior, working minimal hours and now in retirement, I knew I wanted to volunteer in some capacity with the community. I love animals and had heard of the animal



Just two of the thirty kittens Val has fostered in her time as a carer.

shelter and its great work in looking after the animal's welfare. I learnt they were looking for foster carers for cats, kittens and dogs. After contacting them and going through the induction process, the little bundles of joy started to arrive!

Being a foster carer brings a lot of pleasure into my life. I have been a carer for three years and have fostered 30 kittens and four adult cats. They become part of the household for a time negotiated between the shelter and myself.

I have had a litter for one week and others up to 7 weeks. I can still enjoy what I want to do in my life without the time commitment and responsibility and demands of my own pet. I can still travel, visit children and maintain my lifestyle and yet experience the joy of having animals in my home.

I feel rewarded that I am helping the shelter in providing care, time and space and also looking forward in giving the foster animals every advantage to being adopted and loved. The whole process is seamless and there is no cost to me. Everything – such as food and toys are provided by the shelter, as is their support.

I would encourage anyone, whether in a family situation, with children or on their own, to think about enhancing their own lives and that of the foster animals by becoming a foster carer. It's a great thing to do!"

Interested in becoming an animal foster carer? Go to Council's website and search 'volunteering and work experience'. For further information, contact Campaspe Animal Shelter on 5480 3005.

Animal Ownership

How do I register my animal?

Dogs and cats aged 12 weeks and older must be registered with Council until they pass away. Annual registrations are due by 10 April each year. Pet owners whose cats and dogs are already registered with Council should have received their registration renewal by now. If you have not received your renewal, you can contact Council and pay over the phone or through our website. Dogs and cats must be microchipped before Council can accept registration.

How many dogs and cats can I have?

You cannot have more than two dogs and two cats on any residential property unless you have a permit to keep more. Farm zone properties are permitted to keep five dogs and five cats.

How do I change my registration details?

- If you move house or change your telephone number, please complete a change of owner's details form.
- If the owner of the animal changes, please complete a change of ownership form.

- If you move to Campaspe Shire and your animal is registered in a different shire, please complete an animal registration application form.

The above forms are available on Council's website.

How much will the registration cost?

A full fee amounts to \$147. If your animal is desexed or aged over 10 years, you are qualified for a cheaper fee of \$49. If you are member of an applicable organisation (eg. Australian National Cats Inc, Dogs Victoria) you are also qualified for the cheaper fee of \$49. If you are the holder of a Pensioner Concession Card, you are qualified for a fee of \$24.50.

When does my animal have to wear its registration tag?

It is illegal to not have the registration tag on the animal's collar when it is away from the property it is registered to. Rangers can issue an on the spot fine if an animal is away from its property and not wearing its tag. If your animal is registered and the tag is destroyed or lost, you are entitled to another tag free of charge. You can collect a registration tag from any Council Customer Service Centre.