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Cover image – 'The Range'
taken by Robyn Ryan in Toolleen.



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Campaspe Times Newsletter

September 2022

Blossoming into Spring

Council recently released the draft Environment Strategy and invited feedback from the community. I would like to thank all community members who contributed their thoughts. Your comments were insightful and will help to construct the final strategy. Council's annual Rural Tree Scheme is one action within this strategy that we intend to continue. The scheme is currently open for rural landowners to apply for subsidised native trees, shrubs and ground covers. Hear from Koyuga resident Meryl Brown and her experience with the scheme on Page 2.

Thanks to funding recently secured by Council from the State Government's Office of Youth, many youth focused activities and programs have occurred across the last month or two. The Youth Activity Grants, which assisted groups with costs associated with hosting events for young people, can be read about on Page 6. Council's Job Skills Support Grants are currently open for young people aged between 16 – 25 to assist with the cost of accessing and completing courses and qualifications.

Following on from the announcement of the Kyabram Fauna Park's new management transition to Zoos Victoria, Council has approved the transfer of land ownership within the park. The park's wetlands play an integral role in providing flood protection to Kyabram and within this land transfer, Zoos Victoria has recognised the importance of this function. An agreement will now be finalised capturing the guiding principles to ensure the wetlands remain part of Kyabram's drainage network.

Finally, I would like to encourage all of you to recognise and acknowledge the exceptional contributions made by individuals and groups in our community. The 2023 Australia Day Awards are now open for nominations right across Campaspe Shire. Please take the time to put forward a nomination and recognise someone deserving of our praise and recognition. You can complete a nomination by going to Council's website.

Cr Chrissy Weller, Mayor



Peak bodies met to discuss closing the gap between education and industry at the Campaspe School Industry Round Table. (L-R): Echuca Regional Health Director of Education, Training and Research Meagan Whan, Cr Rob Amos, Strategy, Policy and Research Freelancer Jeanette Pope, Kyabram P-12 College Careers Advisor Donna Campbell and Council Economic Development Manager Astrid O'Farrell.

Sowing a Sustainable Future

Koyuga's Meryl Brown loves life on the land and is passionate about leaving it better than she found it. That's why she accessed Council's Rural Tree Scheme, where eligible rural landowners in Campaspe Shire can buy native trees at a subsidised rate.

"We planted a range of tall and short trees in August to create corridors of trees along the fence lines," Ms Brown said, "We have cattle and crops, the trees help create a shelter belt, that provides protection from wind and storms."

Farming is in Ms Brown's blood, her parents were dairy farmers in Bamawm before retiring to the 18 hectare property she resides on in Koyuga. In 2018, she expanded the farm with a further 54 hectares that adjoins the property, a family enterprise she purchased with her sister and brother-in-law, Lauren and David Gates.

"The land was quite bare, there were some old trees, but it was quite sparse."

As a member of the Koyuga-Kanyapella Landcare Group, Ms Brown had a small army of volunteers help to plant the round of 100 seedlings in July, in a good old working bee. She has used the annual scheme twice before. Eucalyptus, Acacias, Melaleucas and Eutaxias were the varieties chosen, with help from Rochester Native Nursery.

"The nursery staff were a wealth of knowledge and provided advice on the soil type being clay or sand, and the best plant choice. Maintenance of the seedlings is essential to help them grow and needs to be considered, products like tree guards help to protect from weather and pests."



Koyuga's Meryl Brown and brother-in-law David Gates with a tree planted in 2020 using the Council's Rural Tree Scheme.



A working bee to plant the 100 seedlings in July, with help from Koyuga-Kanyapella Landcare Group.

She said a watering schedule was important to ensure the trees survive and could be tapered off as they become more established over several years. Ms Brown called for eligible landowners to reap the rewards of the tree scheme.

"It improves the land, but it also promotes native birds in the area and provides shade for livestock – it's all about improving the environment. It's a great incentive, it's so satisfying to see the trees grow and I'll be accessing the scheme again next year."

To be eligible you must own property in the farm, rural living or rural



Engineering student Jotham Gates, who is Ms Brown's nephew, captured the growth of the trees over two years by creating an onsite "time lapse photo box". The camera took a photo daily since the 2020 planting and the video project is titled 'Pandemic Plantation'.

conservation zones. You can complete an online order form or download an order form from Council's website, pick one up at one of Council's Customer Service Centres or have one posted to you. Full details are available on Council's website.

#MyCampaspe Calendar Photo Competition closes soon!

Get your entries in by Friday, 30 September on Council's website.



Out and About

Campaspe Shire councillors and staff 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.



Senator Bridget McKenzie visited the Echuca Aerodrome. (L-R) Member for Nicholls Sam Birrell, Senator Bridget McKenzie, Cr Rob Amos and Interim CEO Tim Tamlin.



Rochester Secondary College hosted 'Look After Your Mind Day' funded by Council's Youth Activity Grants. (L-R): Anglicare KIT Project Worker Rory White, Community Programs Officer Ben Hearn and Youth Action Group member and advocate Dimity Pearson.



Community Development Officer Jim Gow and the student organising committee of Kyabram's recent youth event 'Cosplaza'. This event was delivered by Council and the State Government's youth program 'FreeZA'



Mayor Chrissy Weller hits the airwaves for the monthly councillor segment hosted by EMFM's Ron Wood.

Eat, Drink and Dance in October

Throughout the month of October, food, wine and music are on the menu at three special events in Campaspe. At the start of the month, Stanhope will introduce us to their new event – Celebrate Stanhope Food and Wine Festival. The celebration will include wine tasting, multicultural food experiences, roving children's entertainers, horse and cart rides and cooking demonstrations.

Tongala Eats and Beats will return for its second year, after hosting such a successful event in 2021. Families and friends will gather their picnic rugs and chairs and meet at the soundshell to enjoy the smooth sounds of local musicians amongst food vendors and stall holders. The primary schools and kindergarten will set up their own shops, although they may get distracted by the children's games area.



A new festival for Kyabram will be launched, the aptly named Kyabram Tastes and Tunes. An evening event, Allan Street will come alive, crammed with live music, food and drinks, as well as activities for the kids. Between

Lake Road and Albion Street, cars will be detoured so the street party can scatter across the asphalt. Bookmark your calendar, round up your family and friends and make tracks to Stanhope, Tongala and Kyabram.

What's On

A listing of upcoming events across our region. Events may be cancelled or amended at short notice.

9 – 11 September

40th Anniversary of the Horse Riding Club Association of Victoria, Elmore Events Centre

Saturday, 10 September

Hopwood Garden Market, Hopwood Gardens

10 – 11 September

Echuca Truck Show, Rotary Park

Sunday, 11 September

MND Fundraiser, Apex Park, Echuca

Girgarre Farmers' Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Avenue

16 September – 9 October

Through Our Lens Exhibition, The Foundry Art Space

Saturday, 17 September

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

Rushworth Market, High Street

17 – 20 September

Basketball Victoria Country Junior Jamboree, Echuca Stadium

Sunday, 18 September

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Community Hall

Tuesday, 20 September

Kyabram Water Tank Mural Official Opening, corner of Union and Drum Street

21 – 22 September

Tomorrow's Basketball Stars Clinic, Echuca Stadium

23 – 25 September

Echuca Basketball Junior Tournament, Echuca Stadium

Saturday, 24 September

Makers Market, Echuca Moama Uniting Church

Jigarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Thursday, 29 September

Henley Friends Soup, Sandwich and Slice Day, Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

Friday, 30 September

Melbourne Cup Tour, various locations in Echuca/Moama

October – November

Vic Quilters Bi-Annual Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Saturday, 1 October

Gunbower Cup, Gunbower Racecourse

Tongala Community Garage Sale, various locations in Tongala

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

Upcoming Projects

Roads, footpaths, bridges, drains, buildings and open spaces are continually being renewed as part of the annual Capital Works Program. Here is a selection of major projects scheduled for this financial year.

Nish Street, Echuca

Works to replace the road surface and a culvert on Nish Street, between Pakenham and Anstruther Street, will be undertaken in the coming weeks. This project is currently in procurement stage.

Breen Avenue, Kyabram

This project will involve the development of a dual cycling and walking trail along the north side of Breen Avenue from Cooma Road to Allan Street. Project design has been completed.

Rushworth Service Centre Redevelopment

Supported by a grant from the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, this redevelopment will include a new entrance, additional windows and community and communal spaces. Construction will start shortly.

Echuca Boat Ramp Redevelopment

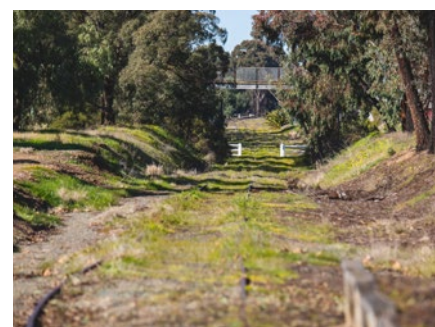
Supported by Federal and State Government funding, initial stages of this development are currently in design. This includes the boat ramp and the refurbishment of the upstream retaining walls.

Kyabram Recreation Reserve Netball Courts

This project will see the resurfacing of one netball court at the recreation reserve. This project will be undertaken once the netball season has finished.

Rushworth to Murchison Rail Trail

This \$3 million project will see the development of 11 kilometres of rail trail between Rushworth and the Campaspe Shire boundary of Chanel Inlet Road. Community engagement and design is currently underway.



Shire Wide Solar Program

Solar panels are scheduled to be installed on eligible community buildings across the shire. This program will start shortly.

Sunday, 2 October

Celebrate Stanhope Food and Wine Festival, Birdwood Avenue

3 October – 3 December

Susan Paul and Judy Hitchins Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

4 – 6 October

Elmore Field Days, Elmore Events Centre

Saturday, 8 October

Hopwood Garden Market, Hopwood Gardens

Sunday, 9 October

Sweat vs Steam, Hopwood Gardens

Tongala Eats and Beats, Tongala Soundshell Gardens

10th Campaspe Carp Catch, Strathallan Hall

Girgarre Farmers' Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Avenue

Wednesday, 12 October

Echuca Harness Racing Club Meet, Frank Ryan Raceway

Friday, 14 October

Melbourne Cup Tour, various locations in Stanhope

14 October – 6 November

What Could Be More Than a Bird in a Tree Exhibition, The Foundry Art Space

Saturday, 15 October

Kyabram Agricultural Spring Show, Kyabram Showgrounds

Victorian Canoeing Mini Marathon, Echuca Boat Ramp

Open Day, Echuca Moama Toy Library

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

Rushworth Market, High Street

Sunday, 16 October

HeartKids Two Feet and a Heartbeat Walk, Rochester Silo Park

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Community Hall

21 – 23 October

Lockington Country Music Festival, Lockington Community Hall

Saturday, 22 October

Kyabram Tastes and Tunes, Allan Street

Tongala Beersheba Rod, Custom and Classic Car and Bike Show, Soundshell Gardens

Jigarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Monday, 24 October

Annual Service of Remembrance 3rd Cavalry Regiment (Vietnam) Associations, Tongala War Memorial

Register your community event

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

Keep an eye on this event directory as events are added and updated regularly!

A Helping Hand for Youth Events

Six worthy recipients have been awarded a Council Youth Activity Grant to assist in hosting events for young people in Campaspe Shire. The 1st Kyabram Scouts received one of the \$500 grants, with group leader Jessica Bartlett saying the funds would help host a 'Girls Can Scout' come and try session on Sunday, 25 September, focusing on encouraging females to join.

"We currently have girls representing only 20 per cent of our members – we would love to increase this as Scouts is an activity that lets you do anything and everything!

"Scouts gives great opportunities for leadership, encourages youth to be part of the community and develops confidence in many different skills. It's fun, youth led and always changing."

Weekly meetings include games, hiking, cooking and camping. The club caters to youth aged 4 to 17 years old, with 35 members across their groups of Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers.

Rochester Secondary College also received one of the grants, which aided in the delivery of their 'Be Kind to Your Mind' day in August. The event included a range of interactive activities to promote positive mental health for students; from boxing classes to mindful colouring, cookie decorating, rock painting, yoga and a colour run.

Other community groups to receive the grants include:

- **Fighting Trigeminal Neuralgia:**
To assist a community family fun day, raising awareness and funds to support the fight against Trigeminal Neuralgia.
- **Kyabram Blue Light:**
Supporting Kyabram Blue Light to host a safe, inclusive and fun disco for young people across Campaspe.
- **Lockington Business Centre:**
To assist the Lockington Youth group in planning and delivering a Halloween-themed disco for young people in Lockington and surrounds.
- **Echuca Swimming Club:**
To support the Echuca Swimming Club, to host an Encouragement Swim Meet for young people, promoting the health and social outcomes that swimming can provide.

The grants were funded through the State Government Office of Youth's Engage! initiative and will be open for application again during the next two years. Event dates will be announced on Council's website under 'Event Directory', and on Click Campaspe's Facebook page.



Campaspe Youth Action Group (YAG) member Dimity Pearson and Rochester Secondary College students Dana Mussared and Denvah Matthews at the school's 'Be Kind to Your Mind' day. Dimity encouraged suggestions for fun activities the students would like to see in their town.



The 1st Kyabram Scouts took part in a state wide hiking event at Tallarook State Forest in May.



History Trail Map

A new History Trail Map showcasing the vast array of historical landmarks in Campaspe Shire has just been launched. From old jail cells to vintage horse carriages and gold mines, the map is an eye-opening guide to the diverse attractions in our historically rich region. The History Trail Map is available on Council's website and from a number of tourist attractions and businesses. To request maps to display in your business, contact Council on 1300 666 535.

Men's Shed Building Stanhope

The Stanhope Men's Shed isn't just a place where friendships are cultivated, it's a meeting place for those who want to see Stanhope thrive. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that the Shed's members are heavily involved in helping action Stanhope's Place Based Plan. The plan is led by the community in partnership with Council, guiding development for the future of the town.

Rolling up their sleeves since they opened in 2014, the Stanhope Men's Shed has been involved in projects including creating signage for Station Park, making it a clear landmark and rest point for visitors. There's also a place to sit and have a picnic at the park, thanks to a wheelchair-accessible table and bench seats which the Men's Shed built for the Stanhope RSL.

Shed President Graham Wakefield said a future task would be to build a shelter to shield the table and seats from the sun.

"It's great to see how often the table does get used but it does get hot in the sun so the shelter will be a future project which we will apply to receive a grant for."

He said once given the green light, they'll also be helping to create a proposed observatory area at the town mural. Mr Wakefield said the Shed was welcoming to all and among their 35 members were several women, who played a key part in the success of the group.

While they do receive some grants for their works, the members also



The Stanhope Men's Shed members with the 1948 Massey Ferguson tractor they are restoring.

fundraise to sustain the cost of the shed through garage sales, barbecues and crafting furniture to sell. It's not all tools and trade though, Mr Wakefield said Fridays at the shed featured coffees and a cooking class – with good-fashioned scones on the menu.

In 2019, Stanhope Men's Shed were recognised by the Australian Men's Shed Association, receiving the national award for Outstanding Recycling/Upcycling activity. To get involved in a Men's Shed in Campaspe Shire, go to mensshed.org and click 'Find a Men's Shed'.

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

- 21 September
- 19 October
- 16 November



Food Waste in Campaspe

Food waste is a national issue. Australian households throw out 7.6 million tonnes of food each year, which costs the economy more than \$36.6 billion. It's simply a staggering amount of waste, which creates harmful greenhouse gases when disposed of at landfill.

A recent red bin audit highlighted that within Campaspe Shire more than 30 per cent of the material in the bin was food waste. As a result, Council is exploring ways to reduce this percentage. Rural properties, who are not eligible for a green bin service, are encouraged to start a compost or worm farm, that is, if not already doing so.

Currently, 75 per cent of properties that are eligible for a green bin have one, which is a fantastic number.

Material from the green bin (food and garden waste) is composted at Biomix to make high quality, nutrient rich compost. The compost improves the soil, avoids creating greenhouse gases and reduces the need for fertilisers. Opting for a green bin is ultimately cheaper for you, and for Council, as composting material is cheaper than disposing of it in landfill – a 'win win' for all involved.

The recent bin audit also highlighted that the shire's green-binned residents still put 82 per cent of their food waste into the red bin. If you have a green bin, that's the best bin for your food waste. And by putting all food waste into the green bin, households may be able to reduce the size of the red bin and save money.

Our Top Tips:

- Avoid food waste at the supermarket. Make a list, shop smart, save yourself money and reduce the amount you throw out.
- Avoid food waste going into the red bin. If you live in a rural area, compost it. If you live in a township area, use your green bin.
- If you don't have a green bin, and live in an area eligible for the service, order your green bin today.

Visit Council's website for more ideas on how to reduce the material going into your red bin.



Congratulations to the 2022 WickED Survey Winners!

Wendy Linford of Kyabram

Bianca Johnstone of Echuca

Tyler Stagg of Tongala

David Simkin of Tongala

Julie Golledge of Echuca

Sharee Lynch of Kyabram

Thomas Jeffreys of Moama

Michelle McMaster of Kyabram

What is Bin Tagging?

Bin tagging is a way for Council and JR Richards to provide direct feedback to households and businesses on their bins or waste. You may receive a bin tag if your kerbside bin contains the wrong items, they're too heavy, overfull or placed in the wrong location. This will be placed on the handle to notify the occupier that something needs to be corrected before the next collection. The bins will still be collected in the first instance.



Of particular concern are hazardous items which unfortunately end up in the yellow recycling bin. Items such as syringes, chemicals, batteries and electrical items pose a significant risk to our local workers who sort the recycling by hand from the Echuca facility.

A QR code is currently being rolled out on the bin tags which allows occupiers to provide their own feedback to Council.

Otherwise, occupiers who need to enquire about their bin tag can contact the Waste Services Unit on 1300 666 535.