



Campaspe Times Newsletter

December 2022

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Get social and stay updated

- @CampaspeShireCouncil
- #campaspehire
- campaspe-shire-council

Cover image - 'Harvest Time' taken by Tymika Weppner in Colbinabbin.



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Approach to Recovery

Firstly, thank you all for your words of encouragement and support when I stepped into the role as Mayor in early November.

Our number one priority is to, quite simply, get our communities back on their feet. Recovery will require a shire wide approach, ensuring all residents have the same level of support and access to resources and services. This is particularly pertinent to our rural residents.

We have been working with all local communities to understand their needs. Council has developed a Recovery Plan which you can read about on Page 4. This Recovery Plan outlines the recovery activities which we as a Council deliver and will continue to deliver into the foreseeable future.

Within the Recovery Plan is the newly structured Recovery Management Team, along with our objectives and their respective timeframes. This plan will be a 'living' document and updated to respond to circumstances as required.

Aside from flood recovery, Council's other priorities during my term (which are obviously not as critical) include

the development of our Economic Development Strategy and looking closely at agriculture, our ongoing commitment to Place Based Planning, along with supporting redevelopments such as Victoria Park and the Bridge to Bridge project.

Lastly, it's that time of year where Christmas is sneaking up on us rather quickly!

I'm pleased to see so many community events and Christmas carols still going ahead this year, despite the challenges we've faced during the last couple of months. It's a fantastic opportunity to bring our communities together and to share in some seasonal cheer. You can read about local events in our What's On column on page 5.

Council offices will be closing for the Christmas holidays from 3pm on Friday, 23 December, reopening on Tuesday, 3 January. You can find a full list of operating hours for all Council services over the next page.

Remember to stay safe and look after your family and friends during the festive season. Take care.

Cr Rob Amos, Mayor



Mayor Amos takes Minister for Emergency Management the Hon Murray Watt and Coordinator General for National Emergency Management Brendan Moon on an inspection of flood waters at the Port of Echuca.

Christmas Operating Hours

Kerbside bin collections

There are **no changes** to red, yellow or green bin collections across the entire holiday period.

Customer Service Centres

Close 3pm on Friday, 23 December and reopen Tuesday, 3 January.

Library branches

Close 3pm on Friday, 23 December and reopen Tuesday, 3 January. Book chutes will remain open and all online services available.

Resource Recovery Centres

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Maternal and Child Health

Contact the MCH booking line to discuss your options on 1300 644 964.

Campaspe Animal Shelter

Closed Christmas Day. Open from 10am – 12.30pm on public holidays.

Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre

Closed Christmas Day.

Outdoor swimming pools

Closed Christmas Day.

Quarries

Closed for sales from Friday, 23 December and reopen on Tuesday, 3 January.



Road maintenance

Close 3pm on Friday, 23 December and reopen on Tuesday, 3 January.

Campaspe Community Children's Centre

Close 5.45pm on Thursday, 22 December and reopen Thursday, 5 January.

Rochester and District Childcare Centre

Close 6pm on Thursday, 22 December and reopen Thursday, 5 January.

Rangers

On call ranger services operate throughout the holiday period for emergencies only.

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



Calendar Out Now

The 2023 Campaspe Shire calendar is now available from Customer Service Centres. Calendars are free and available to all residents.

The calendar cover image competition was won by Robyn Ryan with her image 'Reflections' taken at Colbinabbin.

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

- 14 December
- 21 February
- 21 March

Out and About

Campaspe Shire councillors and staff have been 'out and about' in the community. Here's a few of our most recent snapshots.



The Governor General and Mrs Hurley visited Rochester, Echuca and the Elmore Events Centre. (L-R): Cr Leanne Pentreath, Cr Chrissy Weller, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley, Mayor Rob Amos, Cr Tony Marwood and Cr Colleen Gates.



Council staff and emergency service personnel met with Minister for Emergency Management Murray Watt.



Community Development Officer Lachlan Cozens and Corporate Executive Assistant Donna Standfast at the Rochester Recovery Centre, supporting flood affected residents with food, clothing and other needs.



CEO Pauline Gordon speaks with volunteers at the Elmore Events Centre.



Members of Council's Works and Parks and Gardens teams, along with volunteers, sandbagging houses in Echuca.



Cr Tony Marwood with Ron Wood of the Echuca RSL sub branch at the Echuca Remembrance Day service.

Road to Recovery

Council's Flood Recovery Plan is a living document that details the recovery activities required to be undertaken by Council up to June 2024.

The people in charge of delivering this plan, the Recovery Management Team, are split into five teams –

Human/social – issues of health, welfare, housing, education, social support, transport, child care, employment, library services and donations.

Economic – issues of small business, disaster relief grants, tourism, insurance and broadly, economic recovery.

Environment – issues of debris and waste, virus, pest and weed control, hazardous materials and clean up activities.

Built – issues of roads and bridges, public buildings, utilities, and levees.

Cultural – issues relating specifically to the indigenous community, access and inclusion and culturally and linguistically diverse groups.

Executive Director Keith Oberin will lead the Recovery Management Team. Keith has been with Council since 2004 and has a wealth of experience in leading previous emergency recoveries. He is well known across the community and within the local government sector.



Captain Darrell Phillips and Secretary Stuart Stevens from Echuca Village CFA with Council's Executive Director Keith Oberin.

Objective	Category	Timeframe
Remove flood debris from natural assets including waterways, conservation areas and open space/recreational areas	Environment	Short term – 6 to 8 weeks
Prioritise road and transport recovery works and seek funding for priority works	Built	Long term – 3 to 12 months
Work with local chambers of commerce, agriculture and tourism networks to identify needs and strategies for economic recovery.	Economic	Long term – 3 to 12 months

Within these teams are objectives, for completion within short, medium, long term and ongoing timeframes. For example –

In addition to these, actions within each team will be completed to ensure the objectives are met within the designated timeframes. For example –

Human/social

- Establish recovery hubs
- Work with our communities to identify specific needs
- Collaborate with Federal and State governments on short and long term housing recovery options

Many of these objectives and tasks have either been conducted or completed. As a living document, the Flood Recovery Plan will be updated to respond to changing circumstances as required.

As recovery continues to progress, the community will be updated through Council's website and local recovery networks.

Directory

Main contacts

Flood Relief Hotline
1800 560 760

VicEmergency Hotline
1800 226 226

VicSES
132 500

Other contacts

Agriculture Victoria
136 186

Bendigo Health
5454 6000

Beyond Blue
1300 224 636

Coliban Water
1300 363 200

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
136 186

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
1300 475 170

Department of Health
1300 650 172

Echuca Regional Health
5485 5000

Lifeline
131 114

VicRoads Traffic Management
131 170



What's On

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



December

Santa's Cave, Kyabram Town Hall

Friday, 2 December

Girgarre and Stanhope Christmas Carols, Gargaroo Soundshell

2 December - 16 January

Tongala Hay Bale Trail, various locations

Saturday, 3 December

Sounds of the Soul - The Leigh Barker Band with Heather Stewart, Echuca Moama Uniting Church

Echuca Farmers Market, Alton Reserve

Sunday, 4 December

HomeTown - Isaiah Firebrace Concert, Paramount Theatre

4 December - 30 January

Splinter Contemporary Artists New Works, Kyabram Town Hall

8 - 11 December

Victorian Clay Target State Titles, Echuca Gun Club

Saturday, 10 December

Tongala Community Carols by Candlelight, Tongala Soundshell

Hopwood Garden Market, Echuca

10 - 24 December

Santa's Workshop, Echuca Moama Uniting Church

Sunday, 11 December

Christmas by Candlelight, Echuca Moama Uniting Church

Girgarre Farmers Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Avenue

Thursday, 15 December

Kyabram Combined Church Christmas Carols, Memorial Gardens

Saturday, 17 December

Rushworth Market, High Street

Echuca Farmers Market, Alton Reserve

Sunday, 18 December

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Hall

Saturday, 31 December

New Years Eve Kids Day Out Race Day, Echuca Racecourse

Sunday, 1 January

Echuca Harness Racing Club Meet, Frank Ryan Raceway

4 - 8 January

Girgarre Moosic Muster, various locations

Saturday, 7 January

Echuca Farmers Market, Alton Reserve

Sunday, 8 January

Girgarre Farmers Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Avenue

Saturday, 14 January

Hopwood Garden Market, Echuca

Sunday, 16 January

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Hall

Saturday, 21 January

Echuca Farmers Market, Alton Reserve

Rushworth Market, High Street

21 January - 22 January

Echuca Moama Multi Sport Festival (inc Junior Triathlon, Triathlon, Wharf to Winery Swim), Various locations.

Saturday, 4 February

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve



10 - 12 February

Southern 80 Ski Race, Victoria Park Boat Ramp

Saturday, 11 February

Hopwood Garden Market, Echuca

Sunday, 12 February

Girgarre Farmers Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Avenue

17 - 19 February

Riverboats Music Festival, Victoria Park

Saturday, 18 February

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

Rushworth Market, High Street

Sunday, 20 February

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Hall

Friday, 24 February

Echuca Pro Rodeo, Echuca Rotary Park

Saturday, 25 February

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

Girgarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

27 February - 3 March

Massive Murray Paddle, various locations in Echuca

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!

It's A Bugs Life

Masses of mosquitoes are thriving in the wet conditions. Make sure you protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites by following the information below.

How does Council manage mosquito numbers?

Council is part of a statewide program that delivers mosquito management from November to April each year. Our Environmental Health Officers undertake this program, which involves surveillance of mosquito numbers through routine trapping, species identification and virus testing. This surveillance also includes the monitoring of treatment sites.

The officers carry out treatment on Council land, however Council can investigate complaints about mosquito breeding on private properties and are then authorised to support landowners.

All treatment options are considered safe to humans. Risk assessments are continually carried out to determine the best approach and to address public health risks.



How can you protect yourself?

The best way to protect yourself against mosquito borne diseases is to avoid getting bitten.

- Mozzies can bite through tight clothing. Cover up by wearing long, loose fitting clothing.
- Use mosquito repellents containing picaridin or DEET.
- If possible, remove as much stagnant water from around your home as you can. This also means changing the water in pet drinking bowls, birdbaths and vases at least once a week.
- Make sure your home is fitted with mosquito netting or screens. Screens should be no coarser than 12 x 12 meshes per 25mm.
- Use 'knockdown' fly spray, mosquito coils or plug in repellents. Target areas that are shaded.
- Consider using a long acting surface spray in areas where mosquitos like to rest, such as around windows and ceilings.
- Don't forget the kids! Always check the repellent label. On babies, repellents can be rubbed into their clothes instead of directly spraying their skin. Avoid applying repellent onto the hands of young children.

What vaccines are available?

The mosquito borne viruses most commonly heard of in our region are Ross River Virus, Barmah Forest Virus and Japanese Encephalitis Virus. Ross River and Barmah Forest viruses are known as 'endemic to our region', meaning they are always present in the mosquito population.

Japanese Encephalitis was detected in Campaspe Shire in early 2022. Our Environmental Health Officers continue to complete extensive trapping and testing for this virus, with no recent detections.

Council's Immunisation team are offering Japanese Encephalitis vaccines. The vaccine is available for those considered most at risk, which includes those that spend majority of their time outdoors and communities that are flood affected.

You can find the full eligibility criteria on Council's website. Bookings are required and can be made by calling 1300 666 535.



Get the Latest News!

Council is starting a regular news segment via social media and email.

You can sign up to the mailing list and keep in touch with Council news, upcoming events and more! Scan the QR code and join for free.



Keep Christmas Green

The amount of waste we produce as a nation increases by 30% across the Christmas period. As a shire, we want to try and reduce that colossal amount of waste one household at a time. Please follow these helpful hints!

Christmas waste	Which bin?	Or what else?
Christmas tree – real	Cannot go in any bin – too big!	Take to any Resource Recovery Centre. Free if using a recycling voucher. Small fee to turn into mulch.
Christmas tree – fake	Cannot go in any bin – too big!	Reuse or take to any Resource Recovery Centre. Small fee to dispose of to landfill.
Batteries	Cannot go in any bin	Take to any Resource Recovery Centre for free.
Tinsel	Red bin	Reuse if in good condition.
Fairy lights	Red bin	Reuse if bulbs can be replaced.
Polystyrene	Red bin	Take to Echuca or Mount Scobie Resource Recovery Centre for free.
Broken plates or glasses	Red bin	Always bin broken plates or glasses for safety.
Wrapping paper – glossy, shiny, foil	Red bin	Reuse in craft projects or kids' activities.
Wrapping paper – non shiny	Yellow bin	Take to any Resource Recovery Centre for free.
Aluminium trays and scrunched foil (no food remnants)	Yellow bin	Take to any Resource Recovery Centre for free.
Paper napkins and plates	Green bin	Turn into compost.
Food scraps	Green bin	Turn into compost or feed to your chooks.
Prawn shells	Green bin	Turn into compost or feed to your chooks.

When you visit a Resource Recovery Centre, remember to sort your waste beforehand. If you're disposing of cardboard boxes, please ensure all polystyrene and soft plastic has been separated from the box, as the cardboard can be disposed of free of charge.

Each year, Council offers free green waste disposal at all Resource Recovery Centres. To assist residents to clean up their properties, this is typically offered one month before the start of the CFA declared fire season. Please follow Council's Facebook page to find out when this will be offered to the community.



You can check what waste can be disposed of free of charge by scanning the QR code.



Did You Know?

During Christmas, Australians use 150,000 kilometres of wrapping paper!



Outdoor Pool Season

#campaspeaquatics



Enjoy summer free of charge at an outdoor pool.

At the September Council meeting, Council resolved to allow free admission to all seven outdoor pools for the entire 2022/23 season. Pool usage at some of our pools has declined across a number of years, and Council wishes to find out if this is a direct result of the entry charge.

All outdoor pools are equipped with lifeguard supervision, changerooms and toilet facilities. For more information on outdoor pools, contact Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre on 5483 9698.

Operating Hours

Please note: Due to flooding, the Rochester pool is closed until further notice.

During the school term, all outdoor pools open on weekdays from 4 – 8pm and weekends from 1 – 8pm. During school holidays, all outdoor pools open on weekdays from 1 – 8pm and weekends from 1 – 8pm. The Kyabram pool also opens for early morning sessions on weekdays between 6.30 – 8am.

All outdoor pools open or close depending on temperatures advised by the Bureau of Meteorology. If the temperature is below 25 degrees, the two pools that open for early morning sessions (Kyabram and Rochester) open in the morning as usual but close in the afternoon. For all other pools, when the temperature is below 25, they close for the entire day and only open for swimming club sessions or programs.

All outdoor pools close on Christmas Day.

Locations

Colbinabbin – 52 Mitchell Street

Kyabram – corner Fenaughty and Union Streets

Lockington – 5 Burns Street

Rochester – 26 Ramsay Street – *closed until further notice*

Rushworth – corner Geyle and Southam Streets

Stanhope – 31 Midland Highway

Tongala – 621 Henderson Road

