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## Get social and stay updated

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**@** #campaspehire

Cover image – 'Azure Kingfisher'  
taken by Noel Ruedin in Echuca



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# Campaspe Times Newsletter

## June 2022

## Celebrating Diversity and New Beginnings

Last month saw our individual townships coming together to celebrate diversity and inclusion. I had the pleasure of attending and presenting at the IDAHOBIT event in Echuca, honouring the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia. The stories that were told on the day highlighted a great spirit and pride amongst my fellow Campaspe Shire residents. Another great annual recognition which many Councillors and Council staff attended was the National Reconciliation Week ceremony. This year's theme was 'Be Brave, Make Change.' A great theme which I encourage locals to carry with them every day of the year, not just during Reconciliation Week.

New beginnings and fresh starts were also evident during the last month. Several exciting project announcements were made, including a new early childhood community hub to be developed in Echuca West. We are proud to be partnering with

Sandhurst Catholic Early Childhood Education and Care to bring this development to life. The statutory process for transferring this land will start shortly. In time, this hub will relieve the strain from our existing kindergarten services as well as providing a location for our Maternal and Child health and children focused allied health services.

The community engagement process on our towns and our pools has also taken flight. I encourage all residents to gain an understanding of this process and how we are engaging with community members at all levels. There are many different steps to this process, so I would recommend you watch the informative video available on Council's website. You can read more on page 2.

And recently, Council adopted the budget for the coming year. The \$84.70 million Budget has been developed in line with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System with rate revenue capped at 1.75 per cent and supports a \$36.61 million capital works program. The 2022/23 Budget is now available on Council's website.

To all, please take care during these colder months.

**Cr Chrissy Weller**  
Mayor



Pictured (L-R): Assistant to the Executive Director, Carla Jeffrey, Executive Director of Sandhurst Catholic Early Childhood Education and Care, Paul Desmond and Mayor Chrissy Weller on the site of the new childhood hub in Echuca West.

## Community Engagement – Our Towns, Our Pools

How is the community engagement process going to work? There are several steps that engage our communities to build a better future for not just the outdoor pools, but all town assets.

### Step 1 – Initial review

A Community Panel of 30 to 50 Campaspe Shire residents will be randomly chosen by an external consultant. The panel will complete an initial review on the outdoor pools. The panel will assess Council documentation and data, along with data from a Shire wide telephone survey. The panel will also hear from pool user groups. Once all the information has been reviewed, the panel will give its initial position on the future of the public pools to the Councillors.



### Step 2 – Place Based Planning and Township Facility Planning

During this time, Place Based Plans and Township Facility Plans will also be created for each town. The towns with swimming pools are being prioritised.

These plans will be developed with the assistance of community committees. Locals nominated themselves to be members of these committees.

Place Based Plan Committees are made up of local people from different backgrounds, aligned to different community groups, with different skills and expertise. The Place Based Plan is a document that will showcase community aspirations, which will help to guide future planning. What do the residents want their town to be? Focused on agriculture, on art, on recreation? A haven for tourists, for families, for industries?

Township Facility Plan Committees are made up of local people with backgrounds in business, finance, construction, tourism, law, planning, real estate, recreation, and social wellbeing; people who can expertly evaluate and comment on a Township Facility Plan. The Township Facility Plans will assess all community assets and provide recommendations to Council about the future of these assets.

Both committees will then report the respective plans to the overarching 'Community Panel' for consideration.



### Step 3 – Panel to review

The Community Panel will then review each town's Place Based Plan and Township Facility Plan. It will examine both documents to ensure they address issues such as social health and wellbeing, economic development and more. The panel will then decide whether to adopt the plans, note the plans or decline to support the plans.



### Step 4 – Recommendation

Finally, the Community Panel will review all data and all community opinion – from the initial review, from all plans and from the telephone survey. They will then make a recommendation to Council on the future of outdoor public pools.





## 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.



Council partnered with Business Victoria to host 'Maximising Your Marketing' in Rochester. (L-R): Julie Roberts, Rebecca Lillio, Council Community Development Officer Deb Chumbley, Presenter Steph Douboudin, Clare Tracey and Emma Hearn.



Minister for Fishing and Boating The Hon Melissa Horne visited Victoria Park Boat Ramp to inspect the project and talk future development. (L-R): President of Rochester Anglers Club John Clark, Deputy Mayor Colleen Gates, CEO of Murray Regional Tourism Board Mark Francis, The Hon Melissa Horne, Council Economic Development Manager Astrid O'Farrell, Mayor Chrissy Weller and President of Moama Water Sports Club Steve Shipp.



As Council Waste Education Officer, Sheri Doyle's favourite job is talking to our youngest Campaspe residents. Kyabram P-12's Prep class enjoyed this visit from Sheri, learning about what items go in what bins.



A large crowd gathered to celebrate IDAHOBIT. (L-R): Jayden Howe, Kelsie Denahy, Lili McCamish, Council Community Development Coordinator Jess Ibbeson, Council Community Transport Officer Narelle Betts and Meaghan Sully.



The Southern 80 official launch was held at the American Hotel. (L-R): Deputy Mayor Colleen Gates, Mayor Chrissy Weller, Cr Tony Marwood and Council Event Support Officer Belinda Owen.



The Reconciliation Week ceremony was held in Hopwood Gardens. (L-R): Cr Rob Amos, Deputy Mayor Colleen Gates, Elder Rick Ronnan, Njernda CEO Tracey Dillon, Cr Leanne Pentreath and Acting Inspector Damian Keegan.



## Explore the Port

It seems we rarely explore the experiences that live in our own backyard. As locals, we often think of the Port of Echuca as being somewhere only the tourists visit, a place where you'd find a grey nomad walking around with their camera and thermos. But, as a Campaspe Shire local, what do you really know about one of the greatest historical landmarks in our area?



Explore the Discovery Centre and the outdoor displays like Evan's Sawmill, the Cargo Shed and the Rail Vans at absolutely no cost. The fantastic new audio-visual exhibits recite the story of the wharf while you stand back and admire the craftsmanship of our early pioneers. It's an encompassing experience that pulls you back into the past. Hear the fascinating true stories of the people who lived before us, the pioneers of the Murray. Hear about their struggles, their triumphs and their way of life 150 years ago.

Take a guided tour, a private charter or even join the exciting 'Port After Dark' tour. Journey through the Star Bar's underground tunnel and discover the secrets left over from prohibition. And of course, there's nothing more scenic than cruising down the Murray on one of the original paddlesteamers. The Port of Echuca is open every day from 9am – 5pm (excluding Christmas Day).

**Explore your own backyard! Why haven't you before?**



## The History: A Small Snippet

Built in 1865 by the Victorian Railways, the wharf is one of the reasons Echuca is the bustling town it is today. For decades, Echuca was the main shipbuilding centre for the river transport industry. At its peak, the Port of Echuca supported eight sawmills and turned over up to 240 paddlesteamers each year.

During this time, Echuca flourished. Pubs, breweries and businesses boomed as the town revelled in its success. Legend has it that it wasn't uncommon for horse races to stir up the dust down High Street where boutiques boasted the finest in European fashion and finery. Bare knuckle fights lasted hours down on the riverbanks and you could catch a Murray Cod as big as a man.

The centrepiece was the huge red gum wharf. Once Australia's largest inland Port at a staggering 1.2 kilometres long, it's home to the world's largest collection of paddlesteamers. Both PS Pevensey and PS Alexander Arbuthnot were restored in Echuca by shipwrights at the Port of Echuca.

PS Alexander Arbuthnot, or 'AA' as she's affectionately known, was named after the former owner of the Arbuthnot Sawmills at Koondrook – Alexander ('Squire') James Cooke Arbuthnot. The hull of 'AA' was built in Koondrook by shipwright Charles Felshaw and in 1916 she began life as a barge. It wasn't until 1923 she was commissioned and towed to Echuca for the fitting of engine, boiler and superstructure so she could start her new job as a working steamer.

PS Pevensey was named after a sheep station on the Murrumbidgee, 'Pevensey Station'. Back in her hey-day, the 'Pev' as she's known, carried 120 tonnes of cargo. She collected wool bales from stations and carried them into the Echuca wharf where they were then destined for Melbourne. The Pev could carry 815 bales of wool and a total of 2,000 bales when barges were towed along behind her.

To book a cruise or a tour, contact the Port of Echuca Discovery Centre on 5481 2832.

 PORT OF ECHUCA  
DISCOVERY CENTRE



## Celebrating Our Volunteers

The month of May played host to 'National Volunteer Week', a time that recognises the power of volunteering right around Australia. Council was proud to participate in several celebratory events throughout the shire, acknowledging those people who give their time to building better communities. Council currently engages around 125 volunteers in all sorts of services – at the libraries, animal shelter, community transport and the Port of Echuca. Council would like to extend sincere appreciation to the wonderful volunteers who enhance these Council services.

Outside of Council, organisations such as the Campaspe Murray Vibrant Volunteers Network are the backbone of our community. Last month, the Network formally unveiled the 'My Volunteering Story' project, documenting the contributions of many volunteers in our region. Those featured included Rochester's Bob Knight, Kyabram's Barry and Anne Churches, Murray River Tea Room's Barbara Sands, Tongala's Murray Ross, Vision Australia's Margaret Russell, youngster Nate Schubach and coordinator of the Isobel Harvey exhibits Margaret Smerdon.

"The project is a small way of expressing our appreciation to those who have been profiled. We are also highlighting the different ways people become involved in volunteering, the motivation behind their interest and most importantly, the personal rewards it can bring," explains Volunteer Project Coordinator Alma Limbrick.



Council Training and Volunteer  
Coordinator Suzanna Gorman



Barry and Anne Churches



Project Coordinator Alma Limbrick and Deputy Mayor Colleen Gates

## Hydrate!

Healthy Heart of Victoria has helped to install 'hydration stations' at the Rushworth Public Park Reserve and at the Colbinabbin Town Recreation Reserve. The GV Water Refill Stations provide locals with access to free, fresh water, as part of Healthy Heart's promotion of water over sugar sweetened beverages. These hydration stations will also support our local football, netball and tennis clubs.

The 2019 Active Living Census states that Tongala and district residents only consume on average 4.2 cups of water per day, around half of the recommended daily amount. Healthy Heart will be delivering water bottles to students

at Tongala Primary School and St Patricks Primary School Tongala. These schools were participants in the 'before school' exercise program, encouraging students to keep active. These drink bottles are the next step - encouraging the youngest members of the town to 'choose water.' Grade 5 and 6 students will also participate in a 'healthy lunch box' session and go on to develop an educational video to show the rest of the school. The video will also be shared with the local kindergarten and all future students.



## 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 July
- 17 August
- 21 September



## A Bad Case of the Blues

The streets of Echuca electrify as the Echuca Moama Winter Blues Festival rocks into town. In almost every pub, club and bar either side of the river, a new band on a new night. Artists from across the country and across the globe meet at our very own version of the crossroads, ready to sell their soul to the devil for one weekend of non-stop 'gigs'.

After a two year hiatus, this year's beloved blues fest is set to be bigger than ever. Held between 28 – 31 July, organisers have announced a line up that they say will 'blow the roof off all your favourite Echuca venues.' The festival is a non-ticketed event. All you require to enjoy the Winter Blues Festival is a good winter coat and your best pair of dancing shoes.



## What's On

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

### 24 – 26 June

Waranga Winter Film Festival, Rushworth Memorial Hall

### Saturday, 25 June

Jigarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

### Saturday, 2 July

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

Rochester Men's Breakfast, Rochester Uniting Church

### Saturday, 9 July

Hopwood Garden Market, Hopwood Gardens

### Sunday, 10 July

Girgarre Farmers Produce and Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Ave

### Saturday, 16 July

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

REHF Rushworth Market, High St, Rushworth

### Sunday, 17 July

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Shire Hall

### Saturday, 22 July

Jigarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

### 29 – 31 July

Echuca Moama Winter Blues Festival, various locations

### Saturday, 30 July

Echuca Races, Echuca Racecourse

### 31 July – 21 August

Moama Lights, Horseshoe Lagoon

### August – September

Tali Bird Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Quilts Show by SAQA – Travelling Juried, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

### 1 August – 6 August

Australian Darts Open, Moama Bowling Club

### Saturday, 6 August

Rochester Men's Breakfast, Rochester Uniting Church

Black Dog Ride – 2022 Red Centre Ride, Murray Esplanade

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

### Sunday, 7 August

Johnno's Run CLRS Fun Run, Moama Sound Shell

## Register your community event

Free website event listing is available to community groups within the shire. Register at [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au)

## School Holiday Activities

### Echuca

#### Monday, 27 June

Bubblemania Activity Station at Hopwood Gardens

#### Wednesday, 29 June

Gastropodia Snail Street Theatre in High Street and Hare Street

#### Thursday, 30 June

Meet the Animals at Hopwood Gardens

#### Monday, 4 July

Meet the Animals at Hopwood Gardens

#### Wednesday, 6 July

Whacky Worms Activity Station at Hopwood Gardens

#### Friday, 8 July

Get Slimed Activity Station at Hopwood Gardens

### Kyabram

#### Wednesday, 29 June

Get Slimed Activity Station in Allan Street

#### Friday, 1 July

Bouncy Balls Activity Station in Allan Street

#### Saturday, 2 July

Gastropodia Snail Street Theatre in Allan Street

#### Tuesday, 5 July

Meet the Animals in Allan Street

#### Wednesday, 6 July

Camel Rides around Edis Park

#### Saturday, 9 July

Meet the Animals in Allan Street



INITIATION

SCOPING

DESIGN

PROCUREMENT

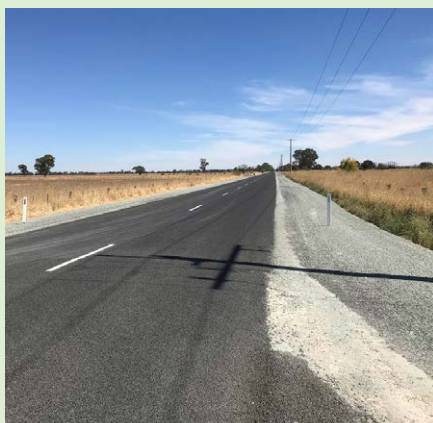
DELIVERY

REVIEW AND CLOSURE  
(COMPLETED)

## A Selection of Completed Projects

Roads, footpaths, bridges, drains, buildings and open spaces are continually being renewed as part of the annual Capital Works Program. Council has spent \$21.68 million year to date. The following are a small selection of this year's projects that have been delivered.

### Roads and Bridges



- Lake Cooper Road, Corop
- Sturt Street, Echuca
- Dalton Road Floodway, Barnadown
- Graham Road, Kyabram
- Grogan Bridge Crossing, Runnymede
- Shire Wide Stormwater Pits

### Footpaths and Gutters



- Dobinson Street, Echuca
- Crossen Street, Echuca
- High Street, Echuca
- Paynter Street, Kyabram

### Recreation and Open Spaces



- Rochester Play Space
- Lockington Recreation Reserve Storage Facility
- Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Storage Facility
- Resurfacing of Lockington, Gunbower, Echuca Victoria Park and Echuca South netball courts
- Shire Wide Swimming Pool Shell Painting

### Rochester

#### Monday, 27 June

Whacky Worms Activity Station at Wirima Rotary Park

#### Tuesday, 28 June

Meet the Animals at Wirima Rotary Park

#### Friday, 1 July

Gastropodia Snail Street Theatre in Gillies Street

#### Wednesday, 6 July

Texta Tie Dye Activity Station at Wirima Rotary Park

#### Thursday, 7 July

Meet the Animals at Wirima Rotary Park

#### Friday, 8 July

Pop Up Outdoor Cinema at Rochester Silos

### Rushworth

#### Monday, 27 June

Meet the Animals at the High Street median

#### Wednesday, 29 June

Bouncy Balls Activity Station at the High Street median

#### Thursday, 30 June

Gastropodia Snail Street Theatre in High Street

#### Friday, 1 July

Texta Tie Dye Activity Station at the High Street median

#### Monday, 4 July

Bubblemania Activity Station at the High Street median

#### Friday, 8 July

Meet the Animals at the High Street median

## Building in Campaspe

Council is responsible for implementing State Government planning and building regulations and Council policies.

Planning covers a broad range of issues but is essentially about the decision that changes the environment. A planning permit may be required for development projects, land uses, advertising signs and removing trees, depending on requirements under the Campaspe Planning Scheme.

A building permit will also be required for most development proposals including extensions to houses, new houses and sheds, and in some cases, fences and retaining walls. Even if a planning permit isn't necessary, a building permit may be. If you are using a builder, architect or draftsman, they will often get the permit on your behalf.

## Meet the Department



Municipal Building Surveyor Andrew Pope (centre) with Building Trainees Manish Kumar and Roi Adams.

## Building Permit Guide

**Do these common types of building work require a building permit?**

### Additions (extensions)

- ✓ To a dwelling or any other building

### Alterations

- ✓ Structural alterations to a dwelling or any other building
- ✓ New dwellings
- ✓ Removal of or alteration to a load bearing part of a building
- ✗ Remodelling a bathroom or kitchen, replacing internal walls cladding (like for like) that does not include structural alterations

### Carports & garages

- ✓ Building a garage/carport larger than 10m<sup>2</sup> in area
- ✗ Demolishing a freestanding garage/carport, not made of masonry, not more than 40m<sup>2</sup> in floor area, is not a building on the Heritage Register and the work will not adversely affect public safety or those occupying the building

### Decks/Veranda

- ✓ Building a deck/veranda

### Fences

- ✗ Building a side fence up to 2m high
- ✓ Building a brick front fence more than 1.2m high
- ✗ Building a timber front fence less than 1.5m in height and not within 9m of a point of intersection of street alignments
- ✓ Building a fence that is more than 1m high, and not within 9m of a point of intersection of street alignments (corner block)
- ✗ Building a chain wire tennis court fence

### Pergola

- ✗ Not more than 3.6m in height, has a floor area of no more than 20m<sup>2</sup>, and is located no further forward than 2.5m from the front of the associated dwelling

### Re-blocking

- ✓ Re-blocking, restumping or underpinning an existing building

### Retaining walls

- ✓ Constructed on or near site boundaries (any height) where there is a risk of damage of adjoining property

- ✓ Building a retaining wall 1m or more in height
- ✗ Building a retaining wall less than 1m not associated with any building work or with protection of adjoining property

### Roofing

- ✓ Replacing corrugated iron roofing with concrete or terracotta roofing tiles
- ✓ Replacing concrete or terracotta roofing tiles with corrugated iron roofing (This can affect the wind up lift on the roof structure)
- ✗ Replacing corrugated iron roofing with similar corrugated iron sheeting ("Colourbond") and no replacement of structural battens
- ✗ Replacing corrugated iron roofing with another pre-finished metal sheeting which requires the installation of structural battens

### Sheds associated with a single dwelling

- ✗ Building a freestanding shed, 10m<sup>2</sup> or less in area, 3m less in height, setback 1m or more from the boundary and located no further forward than the front wall of the single dwelling
- ✓ Building a shed more than 10m<sup>2</sup> in area

### Swimming pools, spas

- ✓ Installing/constructing a swimming pool or spa greater than 300mm in depth
- ✓ Swimming pool/spa fencing  
\*note Swimming Pools and Spas need to be registered with Council and owners are required to submit a Certificate of Barrier Compliance every 4 years

### Windows

- ✗ Replacing windows with similar type windows, where no structural alterations are required
- ✓ Installing 'bay' or 'corner' type windows, where structural alterations are required

### Wood heater

- ✗ Installing a wood heater (solid fuel burning appliances) \*Ensure a licensed plumber is employed to do the installation