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Cover image: 'Cobweb in the  
Morning Sunrise' taken in Bamawm  
by Ellen McMinn.



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# Campaspe Times Newsletter

## May 2022

### Budgets and Bridges

During the past six months, councillors and staff have been busy preparing the 2022-23 Budget. As the organisation's leading financial blueprint for the delivery of services and capital projects, this upcoming financial year sees the State Government's rate cap at 1.75 per cent. Now open for comment, the proposed 2022-23 Budget is available on Council's website. A summary of the budget is available on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter.

The community celebration for the opening of the second Echuca Moama bridge has been one of many highlights in my Mayoral term to date. A project that has been in the pipeline for 50 plus years, finally coming to fruition and sharing it with the community. The official naming of the bridges, Dhungala and Yakoa, followed the community celebrations, with the bridge now open for traffic.

Good news also for our industry sector, with the Goulburn Valley Designated

Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) launched and open for application. Many employers have said they are struggling to attract and retain skilled workers and the DAMA allows approved employers to access migrant workers. Workers are not replacing local workers, they are filling large gaps in our labour market which have been increasingly holding businesses in our region back. The DAMA will mean that businesses in our region can remain productive, competitive and sustainable into the future. To apply, or for further information, contact can be made through Kirsty McIntyre on 5832 9501.

Recently I had the pleasure of conferring Australian citizenship on 20 conferees, one of our largest groups to date. As Campaspe Shire is not known for its cultural diversity, it was great to welcome residents from Sudan, Philippines, India, Britain, Thailand and Iran celebrating the last step of their citizenship journey.

**Cr Chrissy Weller  
Mayor**



Mayor Chrissy Weller with Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation CEO, Monica Morgan and Mayor of Murray River Council, Chris Bilkey.

# 2022-23 Budget – Open for comment

Campaspe residents still have time to provide feedback on Council's draft 2022-23 budget, on display until 5pm on Friday, 20 May.

"The budget allows for all current services to be maintained while adhering to the Victorian Government's rate capping constraint of 1.75 per cent," Cr Weller said.

"The budget has been carefully prepared across the past six months, with councillors and staff. It is financially responsible and continues to deliver all existing services at current service levels."

The budget links to the foundations of the Council Plan, a four-year plan setting the strategic direction for Council, in the key theme areas of

flourishing local economy, protected and healthy natural environment, well planned places, and growing quality of life.

The budget details a range of new initiatives to be completed across the year, linking directly back to the Council Plan.

"This highlights how Council is working towards achievement of its vision – Our places are vibrant and sustainable, our people are strong and supportive," the Mayor added.

"I encourage members of the community to review the draft 2022-23 Budget and provide any feedback to help inform the final version of the budget for Council's consideration on 15 June."



The draft budget is available on Council's website (Now Open), or in hard copy at each customer service centre.

**Cr Chrissy Weller**  
Mayor

## Budget fast facts

**\$ \$84.70m** budget

**1.75%** rate increase

**\$13.79m** to roads

**\$36.61m** capital works

## Where every \$100 goes

Road services	Parks & gardens	Organisational support	Recreation	Assets	Community development	Customer communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewal, upgrade and maintenance of roads, bridges, footpaths, drains</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of open spaces, parks &amp; gardens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human resources</li> <li>Financial services</li> <li>Information management</li> <li>Property management</li> <li>Governance, including Council and Councillor support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sporting reserves &amp; stadiums</li> <li>Aquatic facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property management</li> <li>Strategic asset management</li> <li>Aerodrome</li> <li>Plant &amp; fleet management</li> <li>Engineering services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place based planning</li> <li>Youth engagement</li> <li>Community programs</li> <li>Community support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customer service centres</li> <li>Networked call centre</li> <li>Media communications</li> <li>Online communications</li> </ul>
<b>\$42.59</b>	<b>\$11.41</b>	<b>\$10.24</b>	<b>\$10.06</b>	<b>\$9.09</b>	<b>\$3.57</b>	<b>\$3.07</b>



## Capital works



### Roads

Total \$13.79 million

#### Including

Gravel resheeting of local roads	\$4,292,000
Resealing of local roads	\$1,350,000
Resheeting gravel road shoulders	\$1,000,000
McColl Road, Rochester	\$573,000
Internal road, Lions Park, Rushworth	\$141,500



### Stormwater & flood control

Total \$495,000

#### Including

Colbinabbin Gamble Court, flood pump works	\$125,000
Echuca Mt Terrick Road, flood pump works	\$150,000
Rural drainage culverts, pits and pipes	\$220,000



### Footpaths & cycleways

Total \$3.03 million

#### Including

Footpath replacement program	\$780,000
Rushworth Murchison rail trail	\$2,245,590



### Public buildings

Total \$5.47 million

#### Including

Campaspe Animal Shelter, dog & cat areas	\$408,505
Resource Recovery Centres, skip loading bays Colbinabbin, Lockington, Toolleen	\$150,000
Solar program for community buildings	\$450,000
Rushworth Service Centre, refurbishment	\$849,404
Echuca Victoria Park, changeroom refurbishment	\$200,000



### Open spaces & recreation

Total \$1.51 million

#### Including

Kyabram Northern Oval, amenities block	\$60,000
Kyabram Recreation Reserve, netball court & lighting	\$750,000
Lockington Recreation Reserve, two multi-purpose courts	\$600,000
Echuca Apex Park, BBQ shelter	\$40,000



### Bridges

Total \$2.70 million

#### Including

Gunbower Thompsons Bridge	\$500,000
Echuca Boat Ramp, boat ramp and retaining wall upgrades	\$880,128

## Where every \$100 goes

Library	Regulatory compliance	Economic development	Statutory & strategic planning	Community health	Children's services	Environment & conservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library branches &amp; depots</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local laws</li> <li>Animal management</li> <li>School crossings</li> <li>Parking</li> <li>Emergency management</li> <li>Building services</li> <li>Environmental health</li> <li>Immunisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business networks</li> <li>Tourism support</li> <li>Event attraction</li> <li>Museum &amp; Discovery Centre operations</li> <li>Echuca Paddlesteamers</li> <li>Echuca Holiday Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land use planning</li> <li>Strategic planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior citizens support</li> <li>Volunteer transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supported playgroups</li> <li>Child care</li> <li>Maternal &amp; child health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community education &amp; programs</li> <li>Tree planting</li> <li>Weed management</li> </ul>
<b>\$2.56</b>	<b>\$2.51</b>	<b>\$1.95</b>	<b>\$1.17</b>	<b>\$0.67</b>	<b>\$0.57</b>	<b>\$0.54</b>

## Out and About

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.



Mayor Chrissy Weller with newly conferred Australian citizens – Andrew, Angustia, Andres Jr and Andres Villablanca of Gunbower (originally Philippines).



Project Manager Peter Favero and Manager Recreation Kerrie Hawkes showing EMFM's John Vincent (centre) around EMFM's studios in the new Echua East Community Building.



Community Development Officers Jim Gow, Lachlan Cozens, Deb Chumbley and Clark Patching met with Kyabram's Acting Senior Sergeant Paul Gordon to discuss neighbourhood safety in the smaller surrounding towns and how Council could help to promote these initiatives.



Community Development Officers Deb Chumbley and Clark Patching pictured with Murray River Tea Rooms employee Kellie Berryman. Deb and Clark met here with Team Leader for the Defined Programs Social Enterprises at CLRS, Rebecca Burns. They discussed volunteering, upcycling and their social enterprise model which combines a café and up-market op shop.



Emma Brentnall of Campaspe Prevention & Population Health, Anne Trickey of CCLLEN, Balance For Better Scholarship recipient Sophie Douglas, Balance For Better Scholarship recipient Jodie Baetge, Deanne Armstrong of C4EM and Mayor Chrissy Weller.

## Wicked SURVEY

**8 prizes to be won!**

- \$200 Visa Prepaid Card
- \$100 Visa Prepaid Card
- 3 x Zero Waste Vouchers, \$100 value
- 3 x Zero Waste Packs, \$100 value

**Scan to enter:**

Or go to Council's website

**Survey closes Monday, 23 May**

## Win With Wicked!

The Wicked Annual Survey is now open! Tell us how you manage your waste and recycling to go into the draw to win one of eight amazing prizes. The results of this survey will be used in our waste education program over the next 12 months. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



## Youth!

Our Campaspe residents on the younger end of the age scale have been involved in some fantastic projects and forums across the past month.

### Tongala Industry Day

The Tongala Industry Day was a pilot project organised by Council, Shepparton Industry Training Hub, and Kyabram P-12 College. The day was a continuation of work already underway with HW Greenham and Sons regarding recruitment strategies and sought to educate the kids on the opportunities available locally. The Kyabram P-12 VCAL students toured several different businesses including Greenham's, SLTEC Fertilisers, Tyler's dairy farm and Council's Works Depot. The students were surprised by the different types of jobs on offer and were keen to hear about the remuneration and career progression opportunities. Feedback from both the students and the businesses has been extremely positive, with many of the businesses engaging in conversations with students regarding jobs, traineeships and apprenticeships.



Students with Council staff at Council's Tongala Depot.

### Lockington Youth Matters

Lockington hosted the first quarterly Campaspe Youth Matters Forum. These forums were an initiative developed by councillors, to give people aged 12 – 25 the opportunity to engage with them, to discuss their issues as young residents. The next forum will be held in June in Rushworth. All residents aged 12 – 25 are welcome to attend, the date and location will be released shortly.



Cr Tony Marwood, Community Development Officer Ben Hearn, Cr Leanne Pentreath and Cr Chrissy Weller with young local advocates in Lockington.

### Campaspe School Leaders Forum

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School played host to the Campaspe School Leader's Forum in their brand new facility known as 'The Centre'. Organised by Council's Ben Hearn and Youth Affairs Council of Victoria (YACVic), the day focused on engaging leadership sessions. Guest speakers from YACVic and several interactive activities were presented. This is the second year Council has facilitated the Campaspe School Leaders Forum, thanks to State Government Engage! funding. To utilise this funding, this forum is just one of 10 activities planned, encouraging leadership, development, participation, and celebration.

For more information regarding youth activities, contact Community Development Officer Ben Hearn on 5481 2200.



High school leaders from schools in Kyabram, Rochester and Echuca were involved in the day.

## Resource Recovery Centres Update

Council has introduced a new and improved point of sale system at all Resource Recovery Centres to meet legislation and to address comments submitted to Council by regular customers. The Environmental Protection Act 2017 came into effect midway through last year and required more compliance measures of the Resource Recovery Centres. The new system will mean standardising payments across all centres, addressing community concerns regarding inconsistent charges. Not only will the new process resolve any varying charges between centres, but if the customer has any complaints as to how much they were charged, we can review their load via the photograph. The electronic point of sale system will also allow customers to pay via EFTPOS and receive SMS receipts where cellular networks permit. This will allow our services to be more accessible and convenient. Signage has been put up at all Resource Recovery Centres to explain to customers what to now expect on entry.

## Waking Up the Murray

We can all agree, it's been far too quiet. In 2021, Echuca went without the Southern 80 Ski Race for the first time since 1971. This year, the untimely postponement of the race just before the traditional 'second week in February' was another crushing blow for Moama Water Sports Club. But this tightknit club and crew weren't going to be intimidated by a little thing like a global pandemic. Thanks to their good old fashioned grit and determination, the internationally renowned Southern 80 will return to wake up the Murray. Despite the unfamiliar autumnal weather, the feeling leading up to Friday, 13 May is one of pure excitement. It feels like nothing could deter our skiers, observers, and drivers from the big weekend on the water. And fingers crossed, nothing will.

Eight 'super class' boats will show off their breathtaking skills, with the 'Shootout 40 to 1' starting from 2pm. The top forty teams will race the clock for pole position, starting from Boat 40 and finishing with the ultimate



speed machine, Boat 1. The only other changes to this year's event will be the lack of street display which is no longer happening like on previous Southern 80 Saturday mornings. There will also be a new layout for the finishing line, thanks to the new bridge.

#lovewhereyoulive

Campaspe Shire Council is proud to be a major partner of the Southern 80 Ski Race. We hope to see you all cheering on our homegrown superstars and enjoying the action from the riverbank. (BYO thermos and beanie). And if you can't get there, you'll find a livestreaming link on the Southern 80 website.

## What's On A listing of upcoming events across our region. Events may be cancelled or amended at short notice.

### April - May

Jan Preston Textiles Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Rathbone Collection Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

### Saturday, 7 May

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

### Sunday, 8 May

Girgarre Farmers Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall & Park Reserve

Girgarre Mother's Day Classic, Progress Park

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Ave

### 13 - 15 May

Southern 80 Ski Race, Echuca Boat Ramp

### Saturday, 14 May

Rushworth Speedway Race Meet, Rushworth Speedway

Hopwood Garden Market, Hopwood Gardens

Echuca Races, Echuca Racecourse

### Sunday, 15 May

Lockington Lions Club Swap Meet, Show & Shine and Market, Lockington Park

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Town Hall

### Saturday, 21 May

REHF Rushworth Market, High St

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

### Saturday, 28 May

Girgarre Jammin, Girgarre Memorial Hall

Rushworth Speedway Race Meet, Rushworth Speedway

### June - July

Peter Conroy Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Linda Steel Textile Exhibition, Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

### Thursday, 2 June

Echuca Races, Echuca Racecourse

### Saturday, 4 June

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve

### 4 - 5 June

Victorian Women's Par 3 Championships, Kyabram Parkland Golf Course

### 11 - 12 June

Victoria Men's Par 3 Championships, Kyabram Parkland Golf Course

### Saturday, 11 June

Hopwood Garden Market, Hopwood Gardens

Echuca Moama Uniting Church Makers Market, Echuca Moama Uniting Church

### Sunday, 12 June

Echuca Rotary Family Fun Day, Rotary Park  
Girgarre Farmers Produce & Craft Market, Girgarre Memorial Hall & Park Reserve  
Stanhope Monster Garage Sale, Birdwood Ave

### Saturday, 18 June

Echuca Farmers Market, Aquatic Reserve  
REHF Rushworth Market, High St

### Sunday, 19 June

Echuca Country Music Club Monthly Concert, Tongala Town Hall

**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)**



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.



### Graham Road, Kyabram

#### Complete

Following assessment and design, a section of Graham Road 120 metres east of Bolitho Road has been replaced.



### Anstruther Street Footbridge, Echuca

#### Delivery

Bridge maintenance works are currently underway on Anstruther Street Footbridge, scheduled to be completed in late June.



### Kyabram Fauna Park Reptile House

#### Delivery

The construction of a new reptile house at the Kyabram Fauna Park is now underway and nearing completion.



### Lockington Netball Courts

#### Complete

Thanks to funding from the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, the Lockington Netball Courts have been resurfaced.

## 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:

▪ 18 May ▪ 15 June ▪ 20 July

## Our Advocacy Priorities

In the newly adopted Advocacy Priorities document, Council has identified five key priorities. This document is used by councillors and staff to present our key targets in our shire to governments and decision. The document is easy to read and understand, to give decision makers a clear overview of projects and issues Council intends to deal with.

### Victoria Park Recreation Reserve Redevelopment

Victoria Park is a key recreation space that needs redevelopment following construction of the new Echuca Moama Bridge to cater for sporting and recreation users. We're seeking \$6 million in funding to support staged implementation of the Victoria Park Master Plan. Council has already committed \$3 million.



### Regional Trails Experience

By delivering and improving key shared walking and cycling paths, we will showcase the uniqueness of the region, connections to the natural environment and linkages to significant state trails. We're seeking funding to support finalisation of construction of the entire Murchison to Heathcote Rail Trail, identification of key links and further support for the Murray River Adventure Trail and funding to improve connections and linkages to these regionally significant trails.



### We Support These Local Issues:

- Secure and Affordable Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector
- Policy Impacting Freight Routes
- Long Term Funding Certainty for Regional Road Maintenance and Upgrades
- Electric Vehicle Charging Network
- Digital Connectivity
- Investing in Rural and Regional Victoria's Future
- Addressing Barriers to Recycling and Reducing Waste
- Education Drives Economic Growth
- Kindergartens: Universal Access to 15 Hours
- Opening the Borders to Business

## #campaspeservices

### Improving Public Transport

Current service timetabling fails to provide connectivity and frequency, significantly impacting smaller towns and communities accessing larger and regional centres. We're seeking five return train services each day (comprising 'shuttle' services to Bendigo rather than through-services to Melbourne), improved integration of the region's bus and train networks to minimise travel and waiting times, and funding, approvals and support for implementation of the Echuca Rail Precinct Master Plan.



### Lifesaving Aerodrome Upgrades

To provide the capacity and capability, upgrades are required to cater for the new larger air ambulance fleet of aircrafts. We're seeking \$2.1 million in funding to enable the project to progress to construction. Council has already spent approximately \$275,000 in detailed design and committed a total of \$1.9 million.



### Echuca Aquatic Reserve Redevelopment

Redevelopment of the Aquatic Reserve is a key milestone in a broader master plan to activate and link the Echuca/Moama riverfront. We're seeking \$3 million to support stage implementation of the master plan. Council has already committed \$1.5 million.

