

SHIRE NEWS

Delivering for our community

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Marcus from Yandoit is a big fan
of the Pump Track in Creswick

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

► CR DON HENDERSON



It has been a busy few months in the role as Mayor since my election in November. Through the many official duties of Mayor, it has been a great privilege to meet many community members from around the Shire.

I am always keen to talk about what you think we are doing well and what we can do better. This is “Our Council” and together we can establish our priorities, explore opportunities and address challenges into the future.

I would like to welcome Cr Licia Kokocinski from the Coliban Ward to the Councillor team. Cr Kokocinski was elected at the recent by-election which resulted from the resignation of Cr Sebastian Klein. I wish Cr Kokocinski well in her role of representing the many communities in the Coliban Ward. My personal experience is that being a Councillor and representing our community is a very rewarding experience.

At the meeting on 16 April 2019, Council adopted the proposed Budget 2019-20 for public exhibition. This budget will fund the third year of our 2017-2021 Council Plan and outlines the operations, services and capital investment that we will deliver to our community to achieve the vision of Our Council. The proposed Budget outlines the extensive range of services provided by council, more than 100 - from home care for the elderly to road construction, urban planning, environmental initiatives, leisure facilities plus so much more. It also details the funding that is required to deliver these services and maintain community infrastructure. This budget will deliver \$9.84 million of capital works – improving, renewing and creating new infrastructure. This is a significant allocation of funding (55% of general rates), with small and large projects to be delivered across the Shire. There is information on page 5 on how you can make a submission on the proposed Budget and more details on the back page on what the Budget will deliver.

Cr Don Henderson
MAYOR

YOUR COUNCILLORS



BIRCH WARD

Cr Kate Redwood AM (Deputy Mayor)
0428 285 673
kredwood@hepburn.vic.gov.au



BIRCH WARD

Cr Fiona Robson
0428 322 454
frobson@hepburn.vic.gov.au



CAMERON WARD

Cr Neil Newitt
5321 6423 / 0400 906 599
nnewitt@hepburn.vic.gov.au



CRESWICK WARD

Cr Don Henderson (Mayor)
5345 2638 / 0427 559 684
dhenderson@hepburn.vic.gov.au



CRESWICK WARD

Cr Greg May
0409 251 743
gmay@hepburn.vic.gov.au



COLIBAN WARD

Cr Licia Kokocinski
0447 446 412
lkokocinski@hepburn.vic.gov.au



HOLCOMBE WARD

Cr John Cottrell
0429 094 023
jcottrell@hepburn.vic.gov.au

Get Social

Get Social with Hepburn Shire...
we're on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

Visit our website and check out our different social
media channels.



WELCOME TO CR LICIA KOKOCINSKI

► NEW COLIBAN WARD COUNCILLOR

Cr Licia Kokocinski has been a Trentham local for 20 years; living on a small-scale farm and now living in the town.

Before retirement in 2014, Cr Kokocinski's career (including as a Member of Parliament) focussed on the areas of local government, disability, health, ageing and diverse communities. Cr Kokocinski was most recently a member of the Cobaw Community Health Board and is a member of the Hepburn Health Community Reference Group.

"We need strong representation for everyone from Bullarto to Lyonville, Musk to Spring Hill – and everywhere in between. I am committed to:

1. Ensuring our Council invests our rates dollars back into our Ward fairly and sensibly
2. Improved local public-access transport links with larger centres



Evan King (CEO), Cr Licia Kokocinski & Cr Don Henderson (Mayor)

3. Upgrade to the substandard facilities in areas that attract tourists (eg Trentham Falls)
4. Greater access to community health services in our area

Longer term, I will support realistic sustainable planning decisions that consider community amenity, our capacity for volunteering, and serious consideration of alternative energies."

Cr Licia Kokocinski

A MOUNTAIN BIKING MECCA

Hammon Park in Creswick is the site of one of our Shire's newest and biggest attractions – a mountain biking Pump Track. The Pump Track is the first stage of the Creswick Trails project, a project that will see world-class purpose-built mountain biking trails in Creswick and surrounds.

The linking of the Pump Track and trail head to a network of around 120 kilometres in trails creates a greater opportunity for recreation in the Shire and will attract more visitors to the region, a major boost to tourism and the local economy. The proximity of the Pump Track to public transport will make this a destination of choice for mountain biking enthusiasts from near and far.



HELP US HELP YOU – BODY CAMERAS FOR A SAFER WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Just like any other employer, Council has a legal obligation to provide a safe workplace for its staff. Just like you, we all want to go home the same way as we came to work – free from injury (physical or psychological).

Council staff have received some unpleasant and aggressive treatment from community members in recent times and it's not ok. Our staff are employed to provide services to our community and deserve to work in a safe environment.

We have purchased body cameras for the Community Safety team to be worn in the field. These will be used to collect evidence and record our interactions with the community. Our usual practice is to report any abusive and aggressive behaviour to the Police, along with any available evidence collected.

Our Community Safety team are here to assist our community and employed to provide a safer place for you to live, work and visit. We commit to treating you with respect and honesty, and highly value these behaviours being shown to our staff in return. Your actions go a long way to helping make our community safer for everyone.

The cameras will be rolled out once we have developed policies and procedures for their use.



HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE 2019/20 BUDGET



See more on the proposed Budget on the back page.

Every year we invest millions of dollars in services and projects to benefit Hepburn Shire's 15,330 residents.

Developing a budget that delivers what our community needs, balanced with one that is responsible and sustainable, takes months of preparation. The proposed Budget for 2019/20 went to the April Council meeting, which resolved to make it available to the community for feedback and submissions. The proposed Budget is now available to view at our Customer Service Centres and libraries, or it can be downloaded from our website (www.hepburn.vic.gov.au).

Submissions on the proposed Budget must be received by Thursday 23 May 2019. If you would like to speak to your submission at a Special Meeting of Council on Tuesday 4 June 2019, please indicate this in your submission. Visit our website to find out how you can provide feedback.

ACTIVE WOMEN & GIRLS STRATEGY

Council, in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, has developed an Active Women & Girls Strategy specific to our community.

We are developing this strategy to address the inequality between female and male participation in physical activity. We want more girls and women to experience the health benefits that come from regular active participation.

What do we want to achieve with this strategy?

An increased proportion of women and girls in Hepburn Shire to be physically active and connected through sport and recreation.

How are we going to achieve this?

- Increased participation and programming opportunities
- Investment in spaces and places
- Leading cultural change

For more information on how you or your club can get involved please contact Rachel Murphy, Community Programs Officer, at rmurphy@hepburn.vic.gov.au.



"FEMALES IN THE HEPBURN SHIRE ARE LESS ACTIVE IN SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION THAN THEIR MALE COUNTERPARTS, WITH 32.3% OF FEMALES MEETING THE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY GUIDELINES IN COMPARISON TO 50.7% OF MALES."



Female Friendly Focus for Recreation Projects

We're building and upgrading recreation assets throughout the Shire, with a major focus on creating female friendly facilities. This investment in "spaces and places" is one way we can encourage more women and girls to get involved in sport and active recreation.

Sport and recreation project highlights...

- Trentham and Hepburn Netball facilities have delivered specific female friendly brand-new pavilions for the netball players, also incorporating umpire change rooms, accessible bathrooms and meeting spaces. These facilities will enhance the sense of pride and ownership for our netball players, who for years have had sub-standard facilities (or no facilities).
- Council has completed the long-awaited renovation at the home of the Daylesford and Hepburn United Soccer Club. The facilities are now refurbished female friendly multi-use facilities with a new accessible bathroom and storage.
- The Newlyn Netball court correction and lighting project is close to finalising the appointment of contractors to deliver a much need upgrade to these facilities.
- The Daylesford Skatepark builder has been appointed and the build should commence in mid-2019.



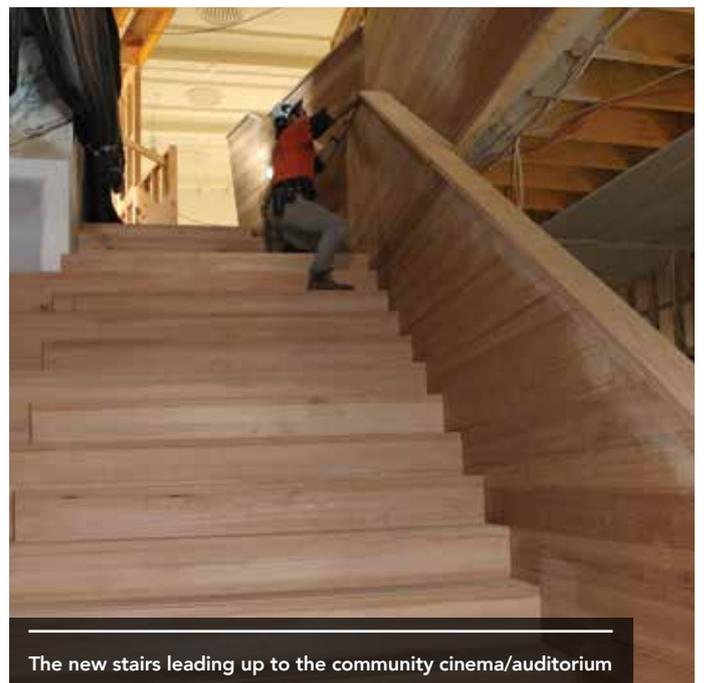
Sam Hattam & Ange Dooley from Council with Georgie Patterson (Secretary of the Committee of Management at the Trentham Reserve)

These projects have been delivered in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria.

HEPBURN HUB PROJECT UPDATE

The Hepburn Hub at The Rex will be a vibrant, inviting, accessible and comfortable place to visit. It will be a central hub of activity for community and Council. Works on the project have recommenced since the issuing of a planning permit in December 2018. Final construction works and fit out will take some months, with the anticipated completion of the project scheduled for late 2019.

The new community hub will accommodate an upgraded library with larger collection, community auditorium/cinema, social enterprise café and consolidated Council offices. The consolidation of Council staff from different locations into one central location will deliver greater efficiency and reduction in operating costs. The new Council administration centre at the Hub will be a one stop shop for all services, locating all Council departments in the one building.



The new stairs leading up to the community cinema/auditorium

REDUCING EMISSIONS IN OUR SHIRE

On 4 April 2019, the **Z-NET Community Transition Plan (CTP)** was launched. The CTP has been developed with input from the community, Council, Hepburn Wind, the local sustainability groups and a team of expert consultants. The Plan looks at stationary energy (electricity and heat), but goes beyond this to address more difficult sectors such as transport, waste, industry, agriculture and land use change. It is a comprehensive roadmap for tracking and reducing emissions within the Shire over the next 10 years, and includes a number of major projects.

The CTP will continually be adapted over time as new projects are developed. This Plan aims to reduce the emissions of the entire Hepburn Shire, currently estimated at approximately 260,000tCO₂-e annually. More information is available at www.z-net.org.au/hepburn

Hepburn Solar Bulk Buy

The Hepburn Solar Bulk Buy was very highly subscribed throughout 2018 and into 2019. The significant uptake of the program has meant that the Bulk Buy has experienced a back log of installations. There has also been a change in supplier of components to MASH (the organisers of the program). The team at MASH have been working hard to improve and expand the program and support customers. The backlog is reducing, and the Bulk Buy is well positioned to continue with solar installations in the Shire moving forward. The Bulk Buy has resulted in several hundred kW of additional solar within the Shire and \$22,000 of grants being made available to community groups. This additional solar will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 1000tCO₂-e annually.

Solar Savers

The Solar Savers program was rolled out in the region in 2018/2019. This is a scheme where Council purchases solar PV systems upfront for eligible pensioner and low-income households. A Special Charge Scheme is then applied to the property and the cost is recouped by Council over a period of 10 years. The 0% interest charged means that households will be in front from day one, as the energy savings are greater than the cost of repaying the debt. This was taken up quickly by 44 households in the Hepburn Shire. By contrast, neighbouring shires and cities had a subscription of between 4-10 for the Solar Savers program. This is a 260tCO₂-e annual reduction.

Towards Zero Emissions Roadmap

Council is working to reduce emissions due to its own operations through the Towards Zero Emissions Roadmap. This includes ongoing energy efficiency works and renewable generation at Council sites. We are participating in a statewide Power Purchase Agreement project, investigating the best way to source the remainder of our energy consumption from renewable sources. This will be completed in late 2019. These projects will result in emission reductions of around 600tCO₂-e annually.

Anaerobic Digester

The Shire's Anaerobic Digester pilot project is currently being commissioned. We will be sourcing small quantities of organic waste within the Shire and processing it through an anaerobic digester, located at Creswick Transfer Station. The goal of this State Government funded pilot project is to prove the viability of running a small-scale project in the region, as opposed to transporting waste to regional centres for processing and/or landfill. This pilot is particularly important due to the high potential for waste contamination and seasonal variation of the feedstock. Once operational, the pilot will be running throughout 2019, after which its success will be reviewed prior to expanding to full scale. Emissions from sending organic waste from the Shire to landfill is estimated to be approximately 6000tCO₂-e annually. The digester project could potentially reduce this significantly.



Evan King (CEO)

ELECTRIC CAR JOINS THE FLEET

Council is looking to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels for transport and have purchased our first electric vehicle, a Renault Kangoo ZE. This vehicle has zero tailpipe emissions and will commonly be charged from solar PV at Council sites.

With the electricity grid becoming increasingly renewable, even charging from the grid will result in much lower emissions than the diesel equivalent. Savings in fuel and maintenance costs will repay the higher capital cost of the vehicle in around 5 years. We have also been investigating the viability of electric heavy vehicles.

RECYCLING: A GLOBAL PROBLEM

The recycling crisis is a global one. China's restriction on the importation of contaminated (unsorted) recycling has directly impacted kerbside recycling services being offered by many councils.

Despite volatility and uncertainty in the market, over the last few months we were able to secure alternative arrangements for the processing of our recycling after the temporary closure of processing plants in Victoria. During this period, recycling bins

were collected as scheduled and **NO** recycling went to landfill. We will continue to closely monitor changes in the recycling processing market and encourage residents to keep up their recycling practices.

For more information on recycling visit www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/recycling/

REDUCING WASTE TO LANDFILL

► WHAT IS COUNCIL DOING?

As a community we produce large volumes of waste and much of it goes to landfill, the most common form of waste management. In order to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill, we have introduced some initiatives aimed at reducing, reusing and recycling. Here's some examples:

- In line with International Composting Awareness Week (Sunday 5 May – Saturday 11 May 2019), composting workshops will be held in May/June.
- In 2019-20, we will be offering residents subsidised compost bins and worm farms.
- Battery recycling tubes are now located at our three Customer Services Centres in Daylesford, Creswick and Clunes (there is also one located at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre). You can recycle all types of household batteries, including mobile phone batteries.
- Fluoro tube recycling boxes are available at our three Customer Service Centres in Daylesford, Creswick and Clunes (there is also one located at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre).
- Council is investing in its e-Waste recycling infrastructure, thanks to a grant from Sustainability Victoria. From 1 July 2019, e-Waste is not permitted to go into landfill. Residents should separate and drop off their e-Waste for recycling at our Transfer Stations, free of charge.
- AG and Vet chemical drums can now be dropped off at the Daylesford and Creswick Transfer Stations. The drums must be triple rinsed with no chemical residue on or in the drum. Drums carrying the drumMUSTER label will be accepted free of charge. Head to www.drummuster.org.au for a list of accepted containers and to see what products your drums are recycled into.
- A kerbside bin audit is currently underway to investigate how effectively the community is recycling and diverting recyclable waste from landfill.





EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The fire in Hepburn/Hepburn Springs in February and the recent fires outside of Ballarat highlight just how quickly an emergency can develop and the threat that fire can pose to a community.

Containing the fire in Hepburn/Hepburn Springs required the effort of many full time and volunteer fire fighters, from both the Country Fire Authority and Forest Fire Management Victoria. Assisting the community to recover from emergencies is the responsibility of Council. During this emergency, we opened a Relief Centre for affected residents and their pets. Council Staff also reacted quickly to assess homes affected by the fire for water quality to ensure that tank water used for drinking was not compromised. A Recovery Centre was established at our Duke Street Customer Service Centre for affected residents to access services and information after the fire.

We would like to thank the many businesses and community members who donated goods and services to the Relief Centre and throughout the emergency. It's important to also note that many Council staff took on emergency management roles that weekend.

This fire is a valuable reminder that it is important to have an emergency plan and to understand the environment in which we live.

Engaging with our Youth

Council has a focus on supporting Youth participation across the Shire to further develop the talent, skills, confidence and aspirations of our young people.

The implementation of our Youth Strategy has been progressing with key focus areas such as space activation, activities and social connectedness, leadership development and employment opportunities.

Our State-funded FReeZa program is ramping up and we are looking to engage young people. FReeZA committees are groups of young people that organise events for other young people in their local communities across Victoria.

Committee members gain valuable hands-on music industry experience and learn about planning, developing and managing events. They also get know-how in areas like event management, artist liaison, stage management and technical production.

The FReeZA Committee also supports local musicians, artists and performers by providing performance opportunities at events. Most importantly, the committee is putting on safe, drug, smoke and alcohol-free events for young people in your community to enjoy.

As a committee member, the types of music and cultural events you will help run could include youth stages and performances at community cultural and music festivals; skating, BMX and hip-hop competitions; art, film and fashion exhibitions; a battle of the bands competition; music, song-writing and dance workshops; or live radio shows.



If this sounds like something you (or someone you know) might like to do, join a FReeZA committee. Find out about your local FReeZA committee by contacting Jono, Council's Youth Engagement Officer on jvanderploeg@hepburn.vic.gov.au. You will never look back!

For more information on FReeZA visit <http://thepush.com.au/freeza-committees>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

▶ Supporting Community Engagement

Council has a keen focus on community engagement and is looking at how we as an organisation can leverage the knowledge, enthusiasm, skills and lived experience of our communities to improve planning and implementation of our adopted plans and strategies.

We are developing partnerships in the Shire and around the region to look at how we can maximise outcomes within our communities.

▶ Arts, Culture & Reconciliation

We have demonstrated strong support for our creative and cultural communities by investing in a new Arts, Culture and Reconciliation Officer role.

This role will be focused on developing our museums, public art program, creative and artistic communities and will be instrumental in driving the implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). It is estimated that this new Officer will commence in May.

▶ Community Development Position

We are currently recruiting for a Community Development Officer who will reinvigorate our Community Planning process.

A focus on capacity building in communities, community-led engagement and creating strong connections to Council departments, strategies, plans and financial planning processes will help bring the vision and priority projects of communities to life. We anticipate that this new Officer will commence in May.



► Community Grants

Council's Community Grants program provides community groups and clubs with the opportunity to apply for funding to support projects, programs and events.

Over the 2018-19 financial year, Community Grants were awarded to a number of community groups and clubs, with up to \$2,000 to support initiatives that benefit the Hepburn Shire community.

For more information on these grant categories and eligibility requirements, visit our website...
www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/community-grants-program/

GRANT CATEGORIES INCLUDE:

- Active and Engaged Communities
- Quality Community Infrastructure (including small equipment)
- Sustainable Environments
- Reconciliation Support
- White Ribbon & Family Violence Initiatives
- Children's Program
- Charitable Purposes

Here's a couple of examples of projects/initiatives supported by a Council Community Grant:



VOGA CYCLING CLUB

VOGA Cycling Club received a community grant to assist in the delivery of the 2-day cycling event – The Brackenbury. With assistance from the program, the club could successfully run this event, which included sessions dedicated to improving the skills of children and adult female riders. The event attracted a large number of competitors and spectators to our Shire.



CRESWICK BRASS BAND

The Creswick Brass Band received a community grant to upgrade its trailer and band equipment. This has made it easier for the group to transport equipment around the Shire, allowing more residents to enjoy their beautiful music.

PLANNING SCHEME REVIEW

Council will be commencing a project to review its planning scheme in late April/early May. A planning scheme is a statutory document that outlines the strategic direction/vision for a municipality. It also provides objectives and policies for development and land use.

A municipality must regularly review its Planning Scheme and report the findings to the State Government. We are required to report our review findings to the Minister for Planning, through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Council has recently advertised for a consultant to assist in reviewing the planning scheme. Following this appointment, we will carry out extensive consultation, including community and stakeholder consultation.

The aim of the review is to:

- reduce the complexity of processes and controls
- remove unnecessary permit requirements
- improve the performance of the Planning Scheme and strengthen its strategic objectives
- address key issues faced by the municipality
- ensure consistency with state policies and strategies.

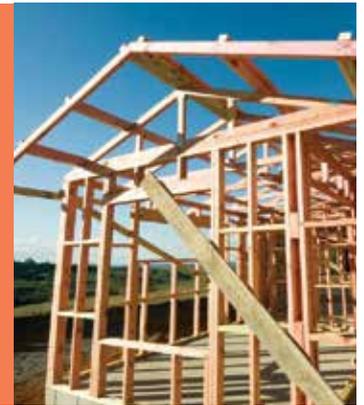
This will involve five key stages:

1. Community engagement meetings/workshops
2. Key stakeholder meetings/workshops
3. Submissions
4. Council consideration of submissions
5. Council feedback on submissions

The process includes:

- community and stakeholder consultation
- assessing progress since the last Planning Scheme Review
- reviewing current policies
- identifying policy gaps and inconsistencies
- setting goals for implementation of changes to the Planning Scheme before the next review.

We will let you know when the consultation period commences with updates on our website, Facebook and through print advertising. This is an important review and we want your feedback.



BETTER APPROVALS PROJECT

The BAP is a project that aims to reduce the time it takes for small businesses to get the regulatory permits they need. It also reduces the administrative burden on both businesses and Council, and leads to a better customer experience.

Through the BAP project we aim to:

- Create one central point for small business to contact Council to administer approvals, streamlining the permit process (e.g. consecutively process planning, environmental health and building permits)

- Develop a single online form for all permits that will intuitively direct a small business to the next logical step in the approvals process
- Reduce the time it takes to obtain approvals from Council
- Be informed of frustrations/blockages in the approvals process
- Develop a culture of "Our Council" and "Our Process" meaning that small business and staff assessing the application have joint ownership throughout the approvals process.

We will be working with Small Business Victoria, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, on this project which will commence in April 2019 and run for about for 8 weeks. We will implement project recommendations from June 2019.

REVIEW OF LOCAL LAW NO. 2

We are in the process of reviewing the General Local Law No. 2 (Community Amenity and Municipal Places) and designated dog areas. Feedback was requested from a range of stakeholders, including the community and businesses, to ensure the local law and dog areas are appropriate and meet the needs of our community.

LOCAL LAW NO.2

After considering feedback, a new draft Local Law is currently being developed and will be made available for public consultation in May/June.

DESIGNATED DOG AREAS

The majority of community feedback on designated dog areas relates to establishing particular areas as designated dog off leash areas, but would also require that dogs remain on a leash in busier areas.

We are also considering implementing cat curfews to reduce the nuisance caused by stray and feral cats.

DO YOU HAVE FEEDBACK?

We appreciate your feedback. If you would like to discuss the review of the Local Law and designated dog areas, please contact:

David George
Coordinator Community Safety, on **5321 6431**.

BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY IN ACTION

We've been busy implementing actions from our recently adopted Biodiversity Strategy. Here's some of what has been achieved:

- Developed a response to the State Government Victorian Environment Assessment Council (VEAC) process, which included a proposal to re-assign much of the Shire's reserves to National Park status.
- Partnered with the Victorian Gorse Taskforce to run a forum on the Atlas of Living Australia, where twenty-eight participants learnt about the CSIRO tool for recording and retrieving a treasure trove of Australia's biodiversity records.
- We have developed information sheets describing four of the Shire's most threatening emerging weeds.
- Partnered with the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce to run a demonstration of blackberry control techniques at Creswick in March 2019, including use of drones and integrated techniques that minimise synthetic herbicide use.
- Developed and launched the Shire's Biodiversity grant program with \$24,000 available to support projects that protect and enhance the Shire's biodiversity.
- Commenced an audit of biodiversity assets on all Council-managed reserves.



Gorse spider mite

Keep an eye on our Facebook page & website for updates on the Biodiversity Strategy.

EVENTS

It's been a busy start to 2019 with some exciting events taking place in Hepburn Shire. The year kicked off with the annual New Years Eve Gala in Daylesford and Glenlyon New Years Day Celebration.



This was followed closely by Australia Day celebrations throughout the Shire, with special mention and congratulations to our Australia Day award winners:

- Community Event of the Year - Centenary of the Shire of Creswick Avenue of Honor at Kingston (Kingston Friends of the Avenue)
- Citizen of the Year - Lawrence Porter
- Young Citizen of the Year - Ethan Brown

In February, we hosted the inaugural Daylesford Motorfest event at Victoria Park, attracting hundreds of spectacular cars to the region. In March, thousands of people shook their tail feathers for the annual ChillOut Festival and attended other events like the Bullarto Tractor Pull and Clunes Heritage Truck Show.

The International Women's Day event, which for the first time was hosted in Creswick, was another highlight. Congratulations to our successful Heather Mutimer Honour Roll 2019 inductees:

- Donna Cooper
- Caelli Greenbank
- Margret Lockwood
- Kathleen Morrison
- Rozanne Moynihan (posthumous).



WHAT'S ON...

Clunes Booktown Festival

4 – 5 May 2019

Fraser Street, Clunes

clunesbooktown.com.au

The Great Trentham Spudfest

4 May 2019

Various locations throughout Trentham

trenthamspudfest.org.au

Anderson's Mill Heritage Weekend

10 - 13 May 2019

Anderson's Mill, Smeaton

facebook.com/AndersonsMillSmeaton

The Brackenbury Mountain Bike Challenge

11 May 2019

Hammon Park, Creswick

vogacycleclub.com.au

Words in Winter Festival

During the month of August

Various locations throughout Hepburn Shire

wordsinwinter.com

**DON'T FORGET ABOUT
THE CLUNES BOOKTOWN
FESTIVAL ON 4 – 5 MAY 2019**



There are so many other great events taking place over the coming months, including markets every week in the Shire, so to find out more information head to:

visitheburnshire.com.au/events

Follow on Instagram & Facebook
[@visitheburnshire](https://facebook.com/visitheburnshire)

Contact the Visitor Information Centre
for further details on **1800 454 891**



Business mentoring workshop facilitated by Council

Supporting Business

Hepburn Shire's economy is rich and diverse, made up of many unique small businesses run by residents who choose to live here for the great lifestyle our Shire offers. The Shire's attractive lifestyle and convenient location between Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo, provides business owners with broad opportunities for both customers and employment of staff.

While we are lucky to have many special and unique businesses based within our Shire, the economy is still based on the foundational sectors of agriculture, manufacturing, tourism and construction, which together make up around 50% of economic contribution to the Shire.

Council's Economic Development Strategy takes a direct and proactive approach to supporting economic activity in the Shire.

One of the areas of focus is working closely with small businesses throughout the Shire, offering workshops and mentoring through facilitators and partnerships such as Small Business Victoria, ongoing collaboration with our business associations and providing general business support.

The 'Better Approvals Project' (see page 14) is an example of a project that will help get businesses started in the Shire by reviewing Council processes.

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the past four years we have significantly changed the way we communicate with the community. The community are now wanting more interactive communication with Council, including using social media tools like Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We have a number of social media channels that you can use to stay connected with us.

You can find links to these at...hepburn.vic.gov.au/social-media/



DID YOU KNOW?

Some interesting facts about the Hepburn Shire...



POPULATION:
15,330

DAYLESFORD: 2,548

CRESWICK: 3,170

CLUNES: 1,728

HEPBURN: 928

TRENTHAM: 1,180



POPULATION GROWTH: 1%



TOTAL AREA:
1,470 KM



ROADS: 1,503 KM

SEALED: 584,
UNSEALED: 562



BRIDGES & MAJOR CULVERTS: 146

Proposed Budget 2019/20 Summary

We have prepared a \$34.52 million budget for 2019/2020 to maintain and improve infrastructure and deliver projects and services which are valued by our community. We will do this within an average rate increase of 2.50% under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System, as we continually review and improve our processes to work more efficiently, deliver improved customer service and prioritise our investments.

Waste charges increases will be minimised to an average of 3.24% per property, while maintaining rubbish and recycling services at existing levels given significant cost pressures.

Your rates at work

Your rates fund more than 100 local services across the shire. The services range from maintenance and construction of footpaths, roads and bridges, managing our public open spaces and leisure facilities, supporting local arts and culture, and providing services like maternal and child health, home care and social support for our community. This is how Council allocates spending on different services for every \$100 it spends.

Proposed Capital Works Program



\$1.29M
Land & Building
Improvements



\$0.72M
Plant &
Equipment



\$0.42M
ICT & Library



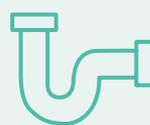
\$4.60M
Roads



\$0.25M
Bridges



\$0.46M
Walking & Cycle



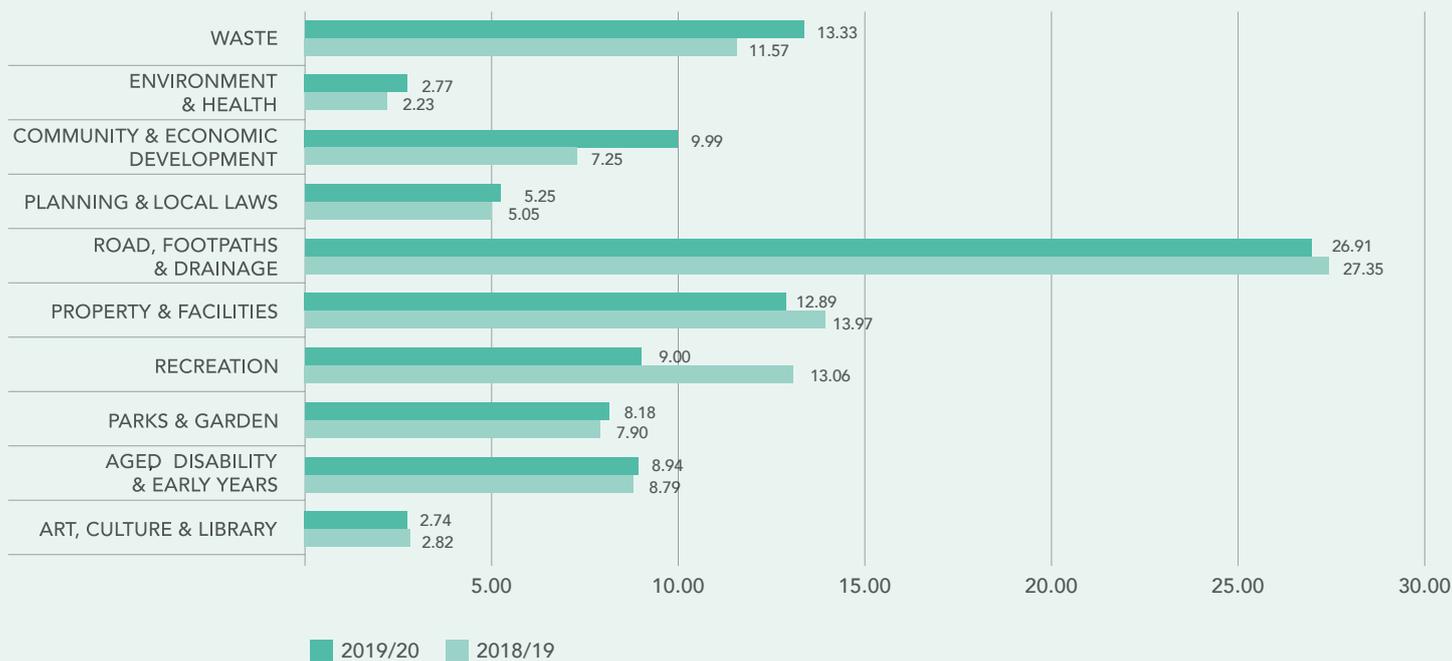
\$0.29M
Drainage



\$1.14M
Parks & Recreation



\$0.67M
Other



Hepburn
SHIRE COUNCIL

PO Box 21 Daylesford 3460
P: 03 5348 2306
F: 03 5348 2911

shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au
www.hepburn.vic.gov.au
www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil

DAYLESFORD

Cnr. Duke & Albert Streets,
Daylesford
8:30am – 5:00pm

CRESWICK

Creswick Hub
68 Albert Street
8:30am – 5:00pm

CLUNES

The Warehouse – Clunes
36 Fraser Street, Clunes
Mon & Thurs 10am – 6pm
Wed & Fri 10am – 4pm