

23 October 2019

## HEPBURN WHITE RIBBON COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE OPERATING

Despite reports that the White Ribbon Australia charity is in liquidation, the Hepburn White Ribbon Committee will continue to operate.

Chair of the Hepburn White Ribbon Committee, Cr Greg May, said that the Committee still has lots it wants to achieve and has had great support from the local community, sports clubs and businesses.

"We were thrilled with the response from the community we had when we advertised the Sport and Recreation Provider Initiative within the community. There was a range of initiatives funded such as the purchase of signage promoting support services, lived experience guest speakers supported by Women's Health Grampians, and education programs," said Cr. Greg May.

The Hepburn Shire White Ribbon Committee was established in 2017 with the goal to end violence against women in all its forms.

The Committee has worked hard over the past two years to raise public awareness of the issue, and to challenge men to speak out and think about their own beliefs, language and actions in the community.

The Committee has also formed many partnerships across a variety of settings to help raise awareness. The Committee really made an impact in 2019 funding seven sport and recreation clubs within the Shire to implement their own initiatives that aimed to raise awareness about violence against women within the community and to their members.

"The Committee will continue to support the international movement of White Ribbon and strive to end violence against women within the Hepburn Shire community," said Cr Greg May.

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