

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Inglewood community celebrates hub opening**

**Cr Cheryl McKinnon elected as Mayor**

**Donaldson Park planning moving ahead**

**Flood damage restoration works continue**

**Australia Day events**

**BRIC Library construction update**

**Meet Council's Director Operations**

**Transforming the Wedderburn streetscape**

**South West Loddon Pipeline update**

**Volunteer Frank Winzar recognised**

**Loddon Healthy Minds Network celebrates 10 years**

**Works update**

**Council meetings 2018**

**Christmas and New Year operating hours**

## Inglewood community celebrates hub opening



*Don Walker, Cr Colleen Condliffe, Jill Burdett, Cr Geoff Curnow, Murray Baud, the Hon. Damian Drum MP, Donna Martin and Tim Jenkyn at the opening of the Inglewood Town Hall Community Hub.*

There were celebrations in Inglewood on 25 September as the community welcomed the official opening of the Town Hall Community Hub.

The new facilities were opened by the Hon. Damian Drum MP, Federal Member for Murray and Danielle Green MP, State Member for Yan Yean.

Consisting of office and community spaces available for hire to community members and businesses, the

community hub also accommodates the Inglewood Goldfields Library Agency and Inglewood Community Neighbourhood House.

The project included renovations to the existing kitchen and meeting rooms associated with the town hall, and will have a tremendous benefit to the community for a long time to come including many wonderful opportunities for hosting a range of social and business functions.

The Town Hall Community Hub facilities will also encourage regional groups and organisations to visit Inglewood, house major functions and help foster new businesses.

The project was made possible thanks to joint funding from the Federal Government, State Government, Council and Inglewood and Districts Community Bank which contributed \$100,000.

## Cr Cheryl McKinnon elected as Mayor

Terrick Ward Councillor Cheryl McKinnon has been elected as Mayor of Loddon Shire for the next 12 months at a Statutory Meeting on Friday 10 November at Pyramid Hill.

Cr McKinnon thanked her fellow Councillors for electing her as Mayor and said she was looking forward to the next year.

"It is a great honour to be elected as Mayor for the next 12 months and I am keen to work with Council, the Chief Executive Officer and Shire staff towards achieving the objectives of the Council Plan," Cr McKinnon said.

Cr McKinnon takes over the mantle from Cr Neil Beattie, who served two consecutive terms as Mayor from 2015 to 2017.

"I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Cr Neil Beattie for his tremendous work during his time as Mayor," Cr McKinnon said.

"Together with Council, I look forward to building on Cr Beattie's strong advocacy work, and will continue to work with our communities and strengthen our partnerships with neighbouring councils to support and advance our Shire and region."



*Loddon Shire Councillor Neil Beattie and Loddon Shire Mayor Councillor Cheryl McKinnon.*



## Donaldson Park planning moving ahead

Concept plans for a new purpose-built sporting and community complex in Wedderburn's Donaldson Park are expected to be launched before Christmas.

The new complex will replace the facility's three ageing pavilions. Donaldson Park, which is a key focal point of community life, is home to the town's football, netball, hockey and harness racing clubs.

The facility has also been used by the local P-12 college, community fundraising efforts and occasional special events such as the Great Victorian Bike Ride's visit in 2011.

Plans for the new complex include social rooms (with seating for up to 150 people), new kitchen, meeting room, kiosk, bar, office, change rooms and trainers' and first aid room. The building will also meet sustainability guidelines, including installation of solar panels and battery storage (reducing future running costs) as well as sustainable water practices.

The project is being led by the eight-member Donaldson Park Redevelopment Committee, which comprises representatives of the park committee, Council and user groups.

Loddon Shire Councillor Gavan Holt, who has chaired the redevelopment committee since its formation in 2016 said the original Donaldson Park facilities had been built around 1960.



Concept plans for Donaldson Park are expected to be launched in early 2018.

"They have been extended since, but, in our view, are not fit for purpose," he said.

"We looked at the idea of renovating, but reached the conclusion after a lot of discussion with user groups that we were better off starting again.

"People have reasonably high expectations these days of the quality of the facilities they use.

"To this point, we've developed a staged master plan for the park, commissioned an independent feasibility study and sent committee members on visits to comparable facilities in nearby towns to gather ideas."

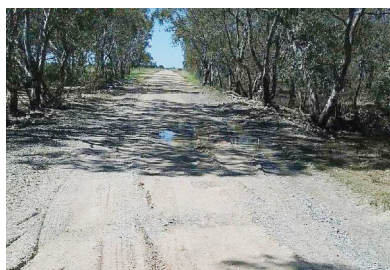
A feasibility study for the project was completed in 2016 and adopted by Council.

Funding options for the project were enhanced with the launch in Bendigo in September of the AFL Central Victoria Strategic Plan (Facilities).

The committee has also launched a fundraising campaign through the Australian Sports Foundation to help raise money towards the project. The foundation is a Federal Government body that raises money for Australian sport.

You can donate to the Donaldson Park Redevelopment project through the Australian Sports Foundation at <https://asf.org.au/projects/donaldson-park-reserve-committee-of-management>.

## Flood damage restoration works continue



Mitiamo Elmore Road before (left) and after flood recovery restoration works.

Council continues to work in collaboration with government agencies on flood damage restoration projects.

To date, 17 flood damage restoration projects have been completed, including works such as culvert repair, floodway reinstatement and road resheeting. Some of these were completed under Council's scheduled maintenance program:

- Around 205 patrol grading jobs
- Shoulder resheeting in a section of Wedderburn Serpentine Road
- Clearing of a number of blocked culverts
- Tree removal in Grisold Road, Laanecoorie
- Patching of several potholes on the sealed road network

A total of 2200 defects have been recorded which are being assessed in order to develop a scope of work and set priorities.

In undertaking the flood restoration projects, Council must ensure it follows the Procurement Policy. This requires a tendering or quotation process to be undertaken for selection of contractors. At the end of October, tenders were invited to complete flood restoration works, with the aim to establish a list of panel contractors. In November this list of panel contractors was presented to Council for consideration.

Flood damage restoration works can be classified into a number of categories – rehabilitation of sealed roads, unsealed roads, unformed roads as well as repair of storm water drainage systems, floodways and signage.

A couple of bridges have also been identified as needing flood damage restoration works. A structural analysis of these bridges has been undertaken to identify the scope of works needed.

Any restoration works can only bring an asset back to its pre-flood condition – any additional upgrades must be funded by Council. For example, an unsealed road damaged by flooding will be brought back to its original unsealed condition – it cannot be sealed under the funding arrangement.

All flood restoration works must be completed by 30 June 2019. Councils impacted by the 2016 flooding continue to work together where they can.

Council has also completed safety works on roads used during the harvest season and sought quotations for restoration of badly-damaged sections of particular roads to gravel standard (as an interim measure). Council's Flood Restoration Unit is liaising with VicRoads for the permanent rehabilitation of these roads.

Any flood damage restoration claims by Council to the funding body must be supported by documentary evidence (such as photographs showing flood water spread or anecdotal evidence from adjoining properties).

In view of this, Council is asking any member of the public who has any flood photographs or information to provide this to Council to help us with the funding acquittal process. Photographs should indicate the location of the flooding and road name details. Please send your photos to [loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au](mailto:loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au).

# Australia Day events

Don't miss the chance to celebrate what's great about our nation at an Australia Day event on Friday, 26 January 2018. Australia Day celebrations will take place right across our Shire with towns hosting community events. See below for details.

## LODDON AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS:

Boort	Nolan's Park	9.15am
Flag raising, national anthem, morning tea, merry-go-round		
Bridgewater	Sloan's Park	8am
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ breakfast		
Eddington	Eddington Community Centre	8am
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ breakfast		
Inglewood	Swimming Pool	11am
Flag raising, national anthem, sausage sizzle, swimming carnival		
Jarklin	Jarklin Hall	8.30am
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ breakfast		
Newbridge	Newbridge Hall	11.30am
Flag raising, national anthem, Newbridge singers, light luncheon		
Pyramid Hill	Pyramid Hill Hall	6pm
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ tea		
Tarnagulla	Soldiers Memorial Park	10.30am
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ lunch		
Wedderburn	Jacka Park	5pm
Flag raising, national anthem, BBQ tea		

Australia Day competition entries (literature, colouring, photography) will be displayed at Inglewood IGA, Pyramid Hill IGA, Wedderburn Old Milk Bar, Boort BRIC and Tarnagulla Community Centre or on Australia Day at Jarklin and Bridgewater.

The day will also include the presentation of Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Group/Event of the Year awards as well as Community Service Awards.

Speakers for Loddon Australia Day celebrations will be advised closer to the date.



## BRIC Library construction update

Following the completion of designs for the library extension to the Boort Resource and Information Centre (BRIC), the project has now been put out to tender.

The project, which is being overseen by Council and the BRIC Committee of Management, includes an extension of around 62m<sup>2</sup> to the eastern end of the existing building. This will house a library room, computer area and children's activity area.

With a static library agency operating from the building 25 hours per week, the extension will enable BRIC to provide around three times more on-site books, magazines and other items. It will also improve access to library programs, such as children's story time.

As well as providing a practical and functional area for the Boort library agency (as part of the Goldfields Library Service) the project will provide upgraded facilities and improvements to the amenity at BRIC. This

will complement the other services at the centre including Neighbourhood House, Rural Transaction Centre, Learn Local and community hub.

Funding for the \$280,000 project has been made possible thanks to the Victorian Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure Program (\$240,000), the Boort Resource and Information Centre (\$20,000) and Council (\$20,000).

It is anticipated that works for the project will start in the New Year.

*Steven Phillips was recently appointed to the Director Operations role.*



Council's new Director Operations Steven Phillips has started his role with Council, replacing former Director Ian McLauchlan who left Council in early 2017.

## Meet Council's Director Operations

Mr Phillips, who started in the role on 30 October, joins the executive team after having been Manager Operations with Council since 2011.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Phil Pinyon said Mr Phillips brought a great depth and knowledge to the role.

"This includes Steven's excellent experience in the infrastructure and operations fields.

"We welcome Steven to the role and are certain he will continue the great work of the Operations Directorate, including working towards achieving the overall strategic goals of Council, as set out within our Council Plan.

"I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Cownley who acted in the Director Operations role while Council underwent the recruitment process following Ian's departure earlier this year," Mr Pinyon added.

"The operations portfolio is certainly one that covers a broad range of on-the-ground Council activities, including infrastructure, maintenance and construction, waste, planning and building right through to compliance," Mr Phillips said.

"I look forward to continuing to advance the outcomes of the Operations Directorate, including working with Councillors, staff and the community to achieve our organisational goals."

Mr Phillips first joined Loddon Shire in 2009 as the Assistant Works Manager following seven years with the Department of Sustainability and Environment, where he worked in forestry and fire management.

His former role as Council's Manager Operations included, among other duties, responsibility for Council's maintenance and construction activities on roads, streets, bridges, footpaths and parks and gardens.



# Transforming the Wedderburn streetscape



Then (left) and now. The Wedderburn Streetscape Improvement Project has transformed the main street of the town

Works on the Wedderburn Streetscape Improvement Project in High Street has transformed the town, with works anticipated to reach practical completion in February, with landscaping works to follow.

Works have been completed for Stage 1 (alongside Randall's FoodWorks Supermarket), Stage 2 (Wedderburn Goldseeker Motel, Coach House Gallery/Museum and General Store Museum), Stage 3 (Council offices) and Stage 4 (Central Café and business centre). These stages involved drainage works as well as kerb and channel, footpath and car park upgrades.

Works in front of Steel's Butchers through to Jacka Park (Stage 7) will be completed in December. Stage 5 (between Australia Post and Wedderburn Produce) was completed in November. Similar to other stages of the project, these works include kerb and

channel, footpath and car park upgrades, as well as drainage works in front of Jacka Park.

As part of the works in front of Jacka Park, provision for a time capsule was constructed beneath the new footpath. This time capsule is part of the centenary celebrations of Lions International and provides future residents of Wedderburn (and the Shire) a look at the day-to-day life of the town in 2017.

The remaining project stages, Stage 8 (from the old ANZ bank to the Uniting Church) started in November and will be completed in January, with linemarking to follow. Stage 6 (in front of residential buildings) will be completed in December.

Loddon Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Phil Pinyon thanked businesses and the community for their patience throughout the project.

"We appreciate that the works entailed some inconvenience to our community, businesses and visitors travelling through Wedderburn. Council appreciates the patience of everyone in the community who were affected by the streetscape works.

"I think everyone can agree that the results are fantastic and a credit to all the hard work by the contractor Avard Civil and Council officers, alongside the Wedderburn community.

"The main street and surrounds are now more accessible, open and visually appealing, further making Wedderburn an attractive lifestyle option to live and work."

Funding for the project was provided by the Federal Government (\$1.3m) and Regional Development Victoria (\$500,000) as well as Council.

## South West Loddon Pipeline update

GWMWater has appointed Mitchell Water as the contractor to deliver the design and construction of the South West Loddon Pipeline Project (SWLPP).

The design of the pipeline network is continuing to progress based on the responses from landowners received to date.

Environmental and cultural heritage field investigations commenced during August 2017 and will continue, possibly through until March 2018. The contractor will require access to private property to undertake field surveys during the design period.

Affected landowners will continue to be contacted individually regarding these investigations and prior to the property being accessed. Landowners are reminded that no works actually take place during these investigations; it is an inspection to assist in determining suitable pipeline routes.

GWMWater would like to thank landowners for their cooperation shown during this process so far.

Construction activities are scheduled to commence early in 2018 and landowners impacted by construction activities will be contacted closer to the time by GWMWater and the contractor.

GWMWater wishes to remind landowners that you must lodge an Expression of Interest should you be interested in servicing your property from the system. There is a possibility that land not requiring a connection from the system may not have a pipeline constructed in the vicinity. Therefore it is important to immediately register an interest to ensure that the property can be serviced.

Landowners who have already received a Heads of Agreement and Land Access Permission Forms are reminded to return them signed as soon as possible to allow the system design to be finalised.

Please contact GWMWater on 1300 659 961 if you have any questions in relation to this project.

*Information provided by GWMWater.*

## Valuable volunteer Frank Winzar recognised



Dingee resident Frank Winzar has been recognised for his outstanding service to the community in a ceremony at Dingee Rotary Park on 6 October.

Mr Winzar, who is 91 years old, has been cleaning the public toilets in Dingee as a volunteer for the past 20 years.

Mr Winzar was presented with a certificate of recognition by Loddon Shire Mayor Cr Cheryl McKinnon and Chief Executive Officer Phil Pinyon (pictured).

# Loddon Healthy Minds Network celebrates 10 years



*The Loddon Healthy Minds Network was formed to actively pursue mental health issues for residents in the Loddon Shire.*

Addressing mental health issues and helping ensure people with mental health issues are represented, continues to be at the heart of the Loddon Healthy Minds Network.

Formed in 2007 to actively pursue mental health issues for residents in the Loddon Shire, the network celebrated its 10-year anniversary on 1 December.

Auspiced by Loddon Shire Council, the Loddon Healthy Minds Network is based on the original concept developed by the Swan Hill Healthy Minds Network.

Founding member Ric Raftis said he first learned about the Healthy Minds Network after hearing former Swan Hill Rural City Councillor David Quayle speak about the Swan Hill network.

"I heard David on the radio and wanted to start a similar support network in Wedderburn. I got in contact with David who invited me to go to Swan Hill to meet with the Healthy Minds Network," Mr Raftis said.

"When I came back to Wedderburn, local resident Maureen Turnbull and I met with the Chief Executive Officer at Loddon Shire Council with a concept to establish a Healthy Minds Network here with support groups."

Mr Raftis said he had seen many positive outcomes from the Loddon Healthy Minds Network during the past 10 years, including increased community representation on the committee.

"It's considerably reduced the stigma of mental health issues," he said. "It's still there, but the network has given people the courage to come and say if they have a mental health issue.

"It has provided people with information on access to support and improved available services that we have advocated and agitated for.

"We are trying to make sure that the mental health issues within the Loddon Shire are addressed and people with these issues are represented and their issues articulated," Mr Raftis added.

Loddon Shire Council Director Community Wellbeing Wendy Gladman said the network had expanded from local health services to encompassing different agencies and was still growing.

"We often have presenters at our meetings who are then keen to be involved on an ongoing basis," she said.

The network has also received funding through the Commonwealth Government's Building Better Regions program towards a suicide prevention conference, which will be held in August 2018. Further details regarding the conference will be made available closer to the date.

To find out more about the Loddon Healthy Minds Network visit [www.loddonhealthyminds.com.au](http://www.loddonhealthyminds.com.au).

## Works update

A glance at some of the works from our Technical Services department:

### Local roads construction

- Borung Hurstwood Road has been designed, with construction works starting in November to December this year.
- Yarrawalla West Road has been designed with works starting in November 2017.

### Local road amenity program

Kelly Street Pyramid Hill School precinct works are expected to start in mid to late December 2017. The works include kerbing and bus parking configuration works.

### Township street improvements

- Kelly Street Pyramid Hill footpath – construction works between Victoria Street and Ottrey Street are complete.
- Various other footpath replacement works in Victoria and Kelly Street Pyramid Hill started in November.

### Urban drainage

Stormwater drainage construction works in Chapel Street Serpentine, between Park View Street and Peppercorn Way (north side) started in October. Works are expected to be completed in early to mid January 2018.

### Townscape services

- Two irrigation upgrades in Boort have been completed.

- The installation of an irrigation system at the Inglewood Botanical Gardens is due for completion before Christmas.
- 14 new bin surrounds have been installed around the Little Lake Boort precinct as part of the Boort Bin Surround Improvements project.
- Several landscaping jobs are due to be completed before Christmas in Wedderburn and Pyramid Hill.

### Gravel road resheets

- All gravel road resheets have been completed for 2017/2018 program.
- All shoulder resheets will be completed by December 2017.



If not claimed return to



**LODDON**  
SHIRE

PO Box 21

Wedderburn VIC 3518

Loddon Bulletin

**PRINT  
POST**

PP: 381712/02450

POSTAGE

PAID

AUSTRALIA

## Your Councillors

### SHIRE OFFICES:

#### **Wedderburn**

41 High St, Wedderburn 3518

Monday to Friday 8.15am to 5pm

Tel: (03) 5494 1200

Fax: (03) 5494 3003

#### **Serpentine**

37 Peppercorn Way, Serpentine 3516

Monday to Friday 8.15am to 5pm

Tel: (03) 5437 7999

Fax: (03) 5437 8407

E: [loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au](mailto:loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au)

Web: [www.loddon.vic.gov.au](http://www.loddon.vic.gov.au)



#### **Mayor**

#### **Cr Cheryl McKinnon**

Terrick Ward

0409 557 888



#### **Cr Neil Beattie**

Boort Ward

0427 552 468



#### **Cr Geoff Curnow**

Tarnagulla Ward

0429 383 553



#### **Cr Colleen Condliffe**

Inglewood Ward

0428 778 025



#### **Cr Gavan Holt**

Wedderburn Ward

0408 943 008

## Council meetings 2018

Community members are always welcome to attend Council's monthly meetings to learn of issues affecting their community. Meetings start at 3pm and are held at the Serpentine Council chambers.

Council's 2018 meeting dates are:

Tuesday 23 January

Tuesday 27 February

Tuesday 27 March

Tuesday 24 April

Tuesday 22 May

Tuesday 26 June

Tuesday 24 July

Tuesday 28 August

Tuesday 25 September

Tuesday 23 October

Tuesday 27 November

Tuesday 11 December

## Christmas and New Year operating hours

Council offices in Wedderburn and Serpentine will close at midday on Friday 22 December and reopen at 8.15am on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

The Loddon Visitor Information Centre will be closed on Christmas Day, but is otherwise open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm and from 10am to 4pm on Sundays and public holidays. For enquiries phone 5494 3489.

The Community Services Department will be closed from noon Friday 22 December and reopen at 8.15am on Tuesday 2 January 2017.

Limited personal care will be provided and clients will be advised of their personal care services for this period. There will be limited Meals on Wheels provided and clients will be contacted to arrange meals

for this period. No home care, respite care or property maintenance services will be offered during this period. Client service emergencies are to be directed to After Hours on 0427 804 736.

There will be changes to scheduled kerbside garbage and recycling collections during December 2017 and January 2018.

Collections scheduled for Christmas Day (Monday 25 December) will instead take place on Saturday 23 December. Collections for New Year's Day (Monday 1 January 2018) will take place on Saturday 30 December.

Collections for Australia Day on Friday 26 January will take place as normal.

All waste facilities across the Shire will be closed on public holidays, including the Australia Day public holiday.