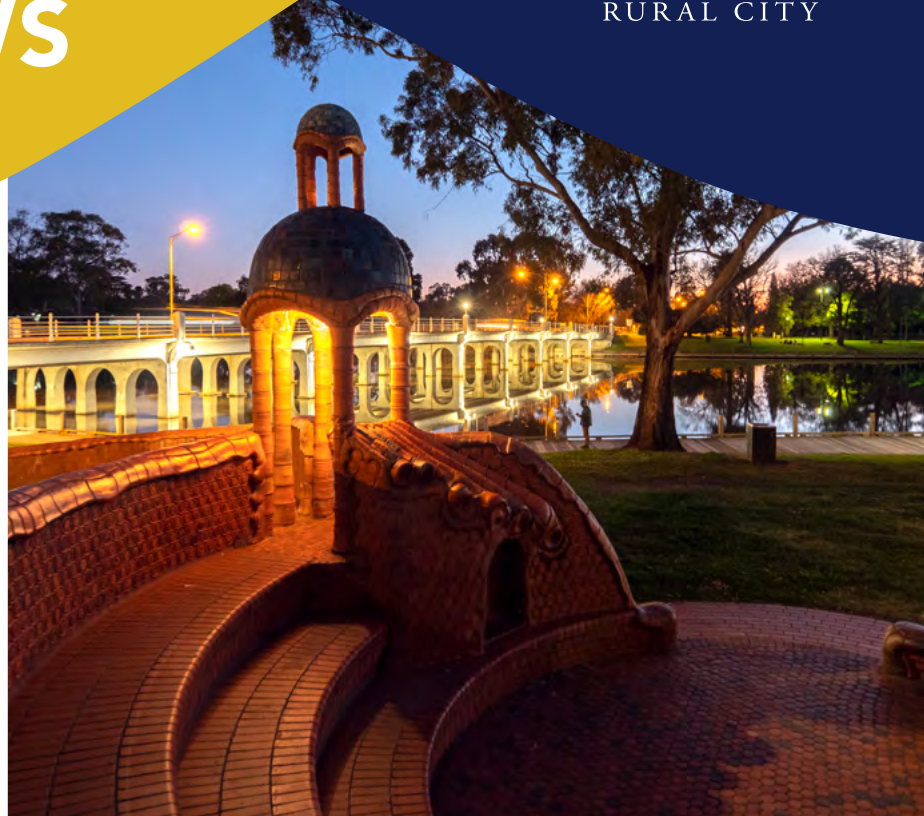


Council NEWS

December 2021



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As your newly elected Mayor, I wish to thank outgoing Mayor Cr Claridge for his leadership over the past 12 months. I have admired his passion and commitment to the community, particularly during a year of significant stress, change and challenges for so many in our community. I also congratulate my fellow Councillors, management and staff on their achievements in representing our community.

I will continue to work hard for our vibrant and diverse community, to ensure it continues to prosper as we emerge from challenging times. We all have a role to play in caring for our neighbours and helping local businesses survive. I encourage you to shop local, as every dollar spent creates a ripple effect in our economy – helping businesses employ staff, purchase from local suppliers and sponsor community groups and events.

With the easing of restrictions and now the opportunity to spend time with family and friends, on behalf of all at Council, I wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful festive season and look forward to working with you in 2022.

Cr Bernie Hearn
Mayor



THIS CHRISTMAS, MORE THAN EVER, IT MATTERS WHERE YOU SHOP

More than ever this year, your support of our local businesses has been invaluable. For every dollar you spend in a local business the multiplier effect is enormous. Businesses not only employ locals, they also sponsor our many sporting clubs, local organisations and events. When you shop local you are supporting our whole community and helping create a vibrant, sustainable Benalla for future generations to enjoy.



COUNCIL KEY PROJECTS

We are committed to ensuring all residents are up-to-date with the latest upcoming Council initiatives and opportunities.

DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The 2021-2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan is currently open for community input.

For more information visit our website, phone or pop into the Customer Service Centre and ask to speak with one of our Compliance Team members.

RURAL COMMUNITIES TO SHARE THEIR VISION

The project offers rural communities the opportunity to get involved and to voice suggestions, ideas and opinions on what matters most to them in their community.

The plans will be used by Council to inform future strategic planning and can be used as a resource for rural communities when applying for grants.

To learn more email:
communitydevelopment@benalla.vic.gov.au

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

During the warmer spring days, you may have seen the grader out on the following rural roads:

Taminick area

- Booth Road
- Amery Road
- Irvine Road

Lurg area

- Wattle Creek Road
- Greta Road
- Greta-Lurg Road



COUNCIL VENUE CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

Over the holiday period, Council venues will have different operating hours:

Customer Service Centre

Closed from 2pm 24 December. Reopens from 8.30am 4 January

Benalla Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre

Closed Christmas Day

Benalla Performing Arts and Convention Centre (BPACC)

Closed from 25 December to 29 December

Benalla Art Gallery

Closed from 25 December to 28 December

Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop Learning Centre (Library)

Closed from 25-28 December and 1-3 January

Visitor Information Centre

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day

Should you need to contact Council for any urgent matters during the Christmas office closure periods, please phone 5760 2600.



THE HIVE

The HIVE is a new community engagement platform on our website. This new participation tool will empower residents to participate in shaping projects and provide Council staff with improved ways to identify issues, gather local knowledge and explore ideas and solutions.

The online tool will complement Council's current means of community engagement, which include face to face consultation, community visits and meetings, communication through the local newspaper, direct mail, and social media.

The HiVE welcomes and encourages community engagement at a local level, feedback on council projects and stakeholder input.

For further details please visit Council's website or phone Customer Service.

STAY COOL IN SUMMER

The best way to survive the heat is to plan ahead. Hot weather can affect anyone, including the young and healthy. Check in on friends, family and neighbours who may fall into a risk group on days of extreme heat or during heat waves. And, don't forget your pets!