

# Council NEWS

March 2020

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

\$1 million has been made available to Benalla by the Australian Government with the area being recognised as impacted by drought.

The funding, which is through the Drought Communities Programme, is being made available to 52 drought impacted Councils across Australia and is to complete local infrastructure and other drought relief projects. Council is considering projects that will deliver the most significant and longest lasting benefit. We are grateful to the Australian Government for these funds and the opportunities they bring.

Thank you to the Council staff and local contractors who helped to clean up after our recent storm event.

Council has commenced the budget process for the 2020–2021 financial year. We welcome and value your input.

I'm delighted to announce that work on the splash park has started on the site of the old family pool. There will be lots of fun water activities including a giant tipping bucket.

**Cr Danny Claridge**  
Mayor



## ARE RABBITS A PROBLEM ON YOUR LAND?

Funding assistance is available to rural landholders for rabbit control across Benalla Rural City.

The Gecko CLaN Landcare Network delivers the project on behalf of the Council. The Australian Government's Communities Combating Pests and Weed Impacts During Drought Program funds the project.

Funding is limited so contact [landcare2@iinet.net.au](mailto:landcare2@iinet.net.au) or call 0418 140 710 for further details.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET REVIEW

Every year, the Council prepares its annual budget.

Our budget outlines the financial resources we need to implement core services as well as the key directions set out in our Council Plan.

The budget is the key financial planning document. It ensures we can deliver the objectives of the Council Plan and effectively allocate resources over the coming year.

We hope you'll have your say by visiting [benalla.vic.gov.au](http://benalla.vic.gov.au)



## LIBRARY GETS SOLAR

The Sir Edward "Weary" Dunlop Learning Centre is having solar panels installed.

The panels allow us to operate our venues in a greener, more cost effective and sustainable way.

The estimated annual electricity savings are around \$25,000 and 93 tonnes of greenhouse gas.

The installation is part of the Local Government Energy Savers Program with funding from Sustainability Victoria.

Through the Local Government Energy Savers Program, the Council has also installed solar panels at the Senior Citizens Community Centre, and LED lighting at the Senior Citizens Community Centre, Town Hall, Library and Benalla Art Gallery.

During an emergency, the Council works with other support and emergency service agencies. It also contributes to the prevention, preparedness, response to and recovery from emergencies. The main emergencies within Benalla Rural City Council are bushfires and floods.

The Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan has recently been updated with input from emergency service organisations. If you would like more information on Council's role in emergency management, download the Benalla Rural City Emergency Management Plan at [benalla.vic.gov.au](http://benalla.vic.gov.au)





## BE A PART OF THE 2020 BENALLA FESTIVAL



Are you interested in holding an event during the 2020 Benalla Festival? This year's Festival runs from 31 October - 8 November 2020. To be part of this year's program, download the Expression of Interest form from [benallafestival.com.au](http://benallafestival.com.au) and return it to us by Monday 3 August 2020.



The Wall to Wall Street Art Festival is back for its sixth year and the artist line-up is stronger than ever.

Wall to Wall is recognised as the largest regional mural festival with works from over 70 world-class artists adorning Benalla's walls.

The line-up in 2020 includes artists from across Australia including Adnate, DVate, Elliott Routledge, Minna Leunig plus a strong UK contingent in Helen

### 3-5 APRIL 2020

Bur, Hayley Welsh, Mysterious AI and Smug. You can also see works by Brisbane street artist Sofles at the Art Gallery in the exhibition Sofles: Compendium until 12 April 2020.

For the full line up and for more information about the Festival, go to [walltowallfestival.com](http://walltowallfestival.com)

## WORKS AROUND BENALLA RURAL CITY



Pathway between Noarana Drive and Evan James Drive

BEFORE

AFTER

We've upgraded the shared pathway between Noarana Drive and Evan James Drive. Local foot traffic can now use the pathway during wet weather because of the improvements.

We've completed the reseal of the footpath on Mackellar Street from Barkly Street and Nunn Street.



Faithful Street has had a new footpath constructed between Second and Third Avenues. This 215 metre stretch improves accessibility for residents.

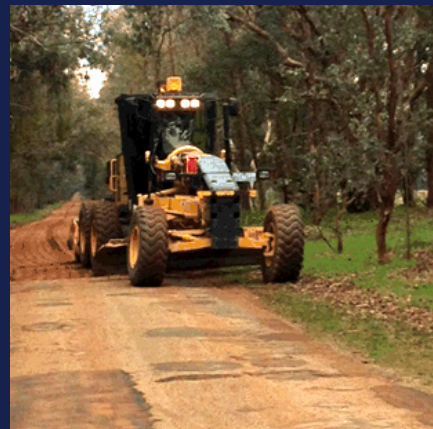
The footpath is 1.5 metres wide to meet Australian Standards for access and mobility. This new path now connects all the way from Third Avenue to Goodwin Street.

## GRADER



We've been busy in the Winton Lurg and Molyullah areas. We've also worked in Taminik and Goomalibee, where we've graded fire access and limited access roads.

We've had a grader working on the Winton-Lurg Road project. We use the grader to improve access and drainage to the properties along the road and on adjoining roads, including Coleman Road.



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