



## Mayor's Message

After the wonderful weather we had to start Spring, October has brought the rain

again. With more than 120 mls of rain falling over the Benalla area in less than 48 hours, making this the second consecutive year that we, as a community, have faced such challenges in October. Amidst these challenges, I am pleased to share some positive updates with you all.

Before the flood our outdoor crews were busy, planting more than 70 new trees, enhancing our leafy streets. If you have a new tree near you, feel free to give it a drink to help it along as the weather gets warmer.

With many people in the community requesting a designated Dog Park in Benalla it's great to see that the much-anticipated project is now completed with the Churchill Reserve Dog Park now open. Thanks to Benalla Lions Club and Benalla Men's Shed for their help in getting the park established. An official opening event will be held in the coming weeks.

Great news for electric vehicle owners, visitors and locals who are now able to charge their vehicles at the Denny Street carpark. Benalla's first charging station promotes eco-friendly transport and helps boost the local economy.

Starting 1 November Benalla Rural City residents will be able to participate in the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic). Start collecting all your drink containers and receive a 10 cent refund on each container. Support local causes or earn yourself some extra pocket money.

Thank you for your support. Together, we will overcome challenges and continue to make Benalla Rural City a resilient, thriving, and united community.

Until next month,

**Cr Bernie Hearn**  
Mayor

## New Public EV Charging Station

Benalla's Denny Street carpark now hosts a public electric vehicle (EV) charging station, providing swift and dependable charging services for residents and visitors alike. The 50kw Evie Networks EV charging station, fitted with CHAdeMO and CCS Type 2 DC connectors, accommodates the majority of EV models on the road. With two accessible parking bays, the station ensures convenience for users.

Supporting the transition towards eco-friendly transportation, the charging station not only benefits EV owners but also indirectly boosts our local economy. This move reflects Council's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fostering a more sustainable future for the community.



## Tails wagging over new Dog Park



Council is pleased to announce the opening of the Churchill Reserve Dog Park.

The park opened to the public on Tuesday 10 October, providing a dedicated space for dog owners and their pets.

The new dog park features perimeter fencing, two airlock-style gates for safe entry and exit, three bench seats generously

donated by the Lions Club of Benalla and Benalla Men's Shed, water stations with dog water bowls underneath, and two tunnel and mound constructions aimed at enhancing the dogs' sensory experience.

Council will announce details of an opening celebration at Churchill Reserve in the coming weeks.

## Lighting the way on public safety

Council has completed the Baddaginnie-Benalla Road Solar Pathway Lighting Project, enhancing safety and sustainability in Benalla West.

The initiative was sparked by a resident's concern for increased footpath lighting and community safety.

Installed in September by electrical contractor Leadsun, solar lights now illuminate the path from The Culdesac to the

Rose City Motel.

The project not only addresses safety concerns but also aligns with Council's commitment to a greener future.

The strategic placement of solar lights ensures a well-lit environment, enhancing the safety and security of residents.

This initiative signifies Council's dedication to fostering a secure and eco-friendly community for all.

## Container Deposit Scheme launching 1 November

Benalla Rural City residents will be able to participate in the Victorian Government's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic) starting 1 November. Under this initiative, people will receive a 10 cent refund for every eligible drink container returned. Operated by Foott, a dedicated depot at 22 Irwin Road, Benalla will facilitate easy and efficient returns with automated counting machines.

CDS Vic promotes responsible waste management and supports local charities,

schools, and environmental organisations. Beverage companies cover the 10 cent refund and operational costs, ensuring accessibility for all Victorians. Eligible containers include most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel, and liquid paperboard drink containers ranging from 150mL to 3L.

Residents can contribute to a cleaner environment by participating in this scheme. For more information and to become a donation partner, visit [www.cdsvic.com.au](http://www.cdsvic.com.au)