



Mayor's Message

Welcome to another edition of Connecting our Rural City.

Following the severe storms and weather event that battered our town in early January, the tireless clean up by SES and CFA workers, agency crews, and volunteers is to be applauded. We are a resilient and caring community and I thank everyone for coming together in times of need.

We have a lot to be positive about in 2024, with several capital and community projects in the works. These include the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment, Fawckner Drive Precinct Master Plan, Benalla Art Gallery Redevelopment and the installation of all-abilities playground equipment.

I look forward to a productive and fruitful year as we enjoy the last month of Summer and the opportunity it brings to explore our gorgeous region.

Until next time,



Cr Danny Claridge, Mayor



Benalla Rural City Mayor Cr Danny Claridge with Citizen of the Year Jenny Wapling, Junior Citizen of the Year Oliver Hall and Australia Day Committee Chair Cr Bernie Hearn.

Photo: Christine Knight

2024 Australia Day award winners

Congratulations to the Australia Day award winners, who were presented with awards at BPACC on 26 January 2024.

The award winners are:

- Benalla Rural City Citizen of the Year - Jenny Wapling
- Benalla Rural City Junior Citizen of the Year - Oliver Hall
- Benalla Rural City Young Citizen of the Year - Millicent Scriven
- Benalla Rural City Community Group of the Year - the Full Impact Squad
- Community Event or Project of the Year - Diwali @ the Mural

- Baddaginnie Achiever of the Year - Greg Dennis
- Benalla Achiever of the Year - Peter and Margaret Poel
- Benalla Young Achiever - Emily Snell
- Devenish Achiever of the Year - Russell Lowe
- Goorambat Achiever of the Year - Phillip and Joanne Thomson
- Molyullah Achiever of the Year - Thomas Hill
- Thoona Achiever of the Year - Mount Bruno Picnic Committee
- Swanpool/Lima Achiever of the Year - Sue Kucia

Congratulations to all award winners. Thank you for your contribution to your community during 2023.



Works Update

Council crews have been busy completing:

Tree pruning, including canopy uplifts and powerline clearance across Benalla and rural townships.

- Road slashing at town entrances.
- Roadside spraying, including gutter spraying and noxious weed control.
- Refreshed line-marking at intersections throughout Benalla and rural areas.
- Footpath replacement in Mackellar Street.

Asphalt resurfacing have been completed in:

- Thomas Street (between Waller and Cowan streets)
- Ackerly Avenue (at the

roundabout and near the level crossing)

- Witt Street (near the level crossing)
- The intersection of Benalla and Nunn streets
- Eastern side of the Denny Street carpark (above pic)
- Faithful Street kerb with channel works continuing.

Roads to Recovery Program

As part of the 2023/24 Road Resurfacing Program, the following roads have been completed in Stage One of the program:

- Arundel Street (from Bridge Street to Neil Avenue)
- Cecil Street (from Showgrounds Gate 1 to Arundel Street)
- Deas Street (from Gardens entry to Arundel Street)
- Dunlop Place (from Arundel Street to end)
- Garden Street (from Arundel Street to Benson Street)
- Lakeview Close (from Arundel Street to end)
- Samaria Road (from Bridge Street to Kilfeera Road)
- Wedge Street (from Arundel Street to Gardens entrance)
- Benalla-Warrenbayne Road (from Dobson Road to School Road)
- School Road (from Benalla-Warrenbayne Road to Stow Road)
- Sessions Road (from Whites Road to end of seal (Hurrell Road))
- Stow Road (from School Road to end of seal).

Have Your Say

The community engagement period for the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre Redevelopment Project is being extended due to the considerable number of ongoing responses, surpassing 550 thus far. Submissions will now close at 5pm Friday 9 February.

Council will also be holding a face to face consultation session on Thursday 8 February, from 6pm to 8pm at the current BIRC site at Ackerly Avenue, to share your thoughts. Your input is highly valued.

To participate in the online survey, please scan the QR code or pick up a hard copy at Benalla Library or Council's Customer Service Centre.

