



# Central Goldfields Shire Council Community Update

SUMMER 2021

**Cover Image:**

Local children enjoying summer at  
the Phillips Gardens in Maryborough.



# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

## Happy New Year to our Central Goldfields Shire community!

The year 2020 certainly had its challenges and I am looking to 2021 with renewed hope and excitement for the future, as I expect you are too.

Recovery and rebuilding represents a time of real opportunity and possibility and Council seeks to capture and build on that for a future our community wants and deserves.

It's with much pleasure that I write this column, my first as Mayor, in what is the second edition of our Central Goldfields Shire Council Community Update – the Summer edition.

2021 marks a decade since I was Mayor of Central Goldfields Shire. It is a great honour to be elected as Mayor again at the first meeting of our new Council held in October, as we all welcome the return to local democracy.

Congratulations to my elected Councillor colleagues. We have a strong, unified, focused Council combining deep experience and fresh perspective. In my view this is always the best combination and is exactly what our community voted for.

We appreciate that with the return of an elected Council expectations are very high. We also have a new Local Government Act (2020), which raises requirements of councils including more 'going to the people' approaches to community engagement in setting goals, priorities and budgets and genuine transparency in Council actions and decision-making.

There is an absolute need therefore to focus and to understand what our community wants us to achieve and to prioritise these things so we can progress them and share that progress. We need to review previous priorities and make sure they align with what the community is telling us. This must be our key priority.

In this edition we provide you with more information and opportunities to engage with us in the development of Council's Draft Community Participation and Engagement Policy as well as our Draft Communications and Engagement Strategy. I encourage you to read the documents and take the time to provide us with your feedback.

This is our opportunity to re-assess, re-invigorate and re-fresh the way we engage and communicate with our community moving forward and I implore you to get involved in this process.

Read on to find out more about Council's current projects and initiatives.

**Chris Meddows-Taylor**  
Mayor

# OUR COUNCILLORS

Central Goldfields Shire's Councillors for 2020-2024 were officially sworn in at a Council Meeting on Tuesday 17 November, 2020.



**Councillor Chris Meddows-Taylor (Mayor)**

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# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We're calling for the community to provide feedback on our Draft Community Participation and Engagement Policy and Draft Communications and Engagement Strategy.

### Why is it important?

This is Council's opportunity to re-assess, re-invigorate and re-fresh the way we engage and communicate with the community moving forward.

### What is the Draft Community Participation and Engagement Policy?

- Council's commitment to listening to and understanding our community's aspirations values and needs to improve Council's planning and delivery of services.
- It aims to further strengthen the community engagement activities that have been undertaken in previous years
- It provides guidance and support to Councillors and Council staff in the performance of their duties in accordance of the Local Government Act 2020.

### What is the Draft Communications and Engagement Strategy?

- It supports the Council Plan and details the actions Council will undertake to deliver on the Draft Community Participation and Engagement Policy
- It provides a guided approach to delivering effective inclusive communication to residents and stakeholders.
- It features a clear action plan so Council can continually improve communication and engagement methods into the future



These two documents promote open, transparent and active relationships between the organisation and our community. They also promote a positive engagement and risk management organisational culture.

### Where can I read the documents and provide feedback?

- **Online** – Read the documents and provide feedback via our website [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay)
- **Social media** – Participate in an online poll via our Facebook page
- **In person** – details available on our website [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay) and in our weekly full page Council News advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday.
- **Email** – [media@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:media@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **Phone** – Contact Council's Community Engagement team on 0457 604 252

## MORE REPRESENTATION NEEDED

# 50 INFLUENTIAL VOICES

Expressions of interests invited to expand the Community Voice Panel



- Representative
- Meaningful discussions
- Community ownership and influence
- Time and space to process information and put forward ideas
- Capacity building within the community

Registrations are now open to all members of the Central Goldfields Shire community to become part of the expansion of the Community Voice Panel, to provide increased input into Council decision-making and provide their insights and help shape proposed policies, programs and services.

Download the form from Council's website [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/communityvoicepanel](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/communityvoicepanel) and email the completed form to [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

## DINE OUT GOLDFIELDS A SUCCESS

Thank you to everyone who supported the Dine Out Goldfields three weekend event series in December.

Funded by the State Government's Local Councils Outdoor Eating and Entertainment Package and delivered by Council, the event supported the work of the JumpStart High Street program – a group charged with identifying key projects that Council and the High Street and Nolan Street business community could work together on as we drive economic recovery. In 2021, Council will look to host additional events in the communities of Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot.



## DISABILITY ACTION PLAN

Many complex issues, suggestions for practical solutions and smart actions have so far been identified during the consultation phase of the development of a new Central Goldfields Disability Action Plan.

An Advisory Committee has quickly helped to narrow the focus and identify specific recommendations for new infrastructure, but also for promoting for inclusion in employment, sport and the arts in the Shire.

The Action Plan will have a four-year life from early 2021 and as it is being implemented, there will be a further opportunity for community involvement through a Monitoring Committee.

The Advisory Committee, with representation from people living with disability, carers and key staff at disability service providers and the Maryborough District Health Service, has been meeting over the past month.

Their input has greatly extended the scope for improvements already identified by Council staff, which conducted thought provoking disability advocacy awareness sessions, evaluating services and infrastructure during the Local Government Caretaker Period ahead of the Council elections.

This included practical solutions such as ensuring picnic tables are wheelchair-accessible – and also some more complex problems such as learner drivers not wanting to disclose medical conditions that may stop them from getting a licence.

**Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to provide feedback. There is still time to provide input.** Please contact Council's Community Development Officer, Max Berry by emailing [Maxwell.Berry@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Maxwell.Berry@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au) or call 0428 895 491.

## POSITIVE AGEING STRATEGY

Community members are invited to provide input into the Central Goldfields Positive Ageing Strategy 2021-2026, which aims to identify how Council will deliver services that support our older residents to age healthily, feel connected and enjoy an age-friendly community

There are many areas where Council can play a key role in positive ageing, from providing options for older people to connect, learn, mentor, exercise and have fun to making Council services and facilities more accessible and providing information to older people about what is on in their community, how they can get involved and how to get support.

The Positive Ageing Strategy engagement process provides three ways for residents to have their say:

- Complete a survey – [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay)
- Participate in a phone interview – register for an interview by emailing your preferred date, time and contact details to [hello@claire-edwards.com](mailto:hello@claire-edwards.com) Interviews are available from 18 to 29 January, 2021
- In person by attend a community pop-up session – visit [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay) to find locations, dates and times in your township

Further to participation in the engagement process community members will be invited to view the Draft Positive Ageing Strategy and provide feedback in late February 2021.

**For more information about getting involved please contact:** Council's Manager Community Services Veronica Hutcheson by phone 0407 946 465 or email [VeronicaH@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:VeronicaH@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

## CURRENT RESTRICTIONS

At the time of going to print Victoria was in COVIDSafe Summer. For more detail and the most up-to-date information on restrictions visit: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

Although restrictions have eased we must continue to:

- Be vigilant:** Stay safe by washing your hands regularly, coughing and sneezing into your elbow, keeping at least 1.5 metres from others and staying home if you feel unwell.
- You must carry a face mask with you when you leave home.** Wearing a face mask is only mandatory on public transport, while in taxis or ride share vehicles, or when going to large retail venues, including shopping centres, supermarkets and department stores. Wearing a face mask is strongly recommended indoors and outdoors when you can't keep 1.5 metres distance from other people.
- Get tested:** If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, you must get tested. Symptoms include: ● Cough or sore throat ● Fever, chills or sweats ● Shortness of breath ● Runny nose ● Loss of sense of smell or taste.

You can make an appointment to get tested at Maryborough District Health Service by calling the Fever Clinic on 5461 0362.

**Remember – you must stay home and isolate whilst you await your test results.**

## FEELING ISOLATED?

Are you feeling lonely or isolated or do you know someone who is?

We are part of the Community Activation and Social Inclusion (CASI), which is an Australian Red Cross initiative that supports community members who are feeling disconnected due to COVID-19.

Community members can contact our Central Goldfields Community Connector by calling 5461 0610 – who can help with connections with local organisations, local networks and opportunities that provide ongoing emotional, practical or social support.

For more information, visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/communityconnector](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/communityconnector)



## IN THE CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE

Residents are invited to celebrate Australia Day on Sunday 26 January at ceremonies around the Shire.

**Celebration times and locations are as follows:**

- 8am – Talbot
- 8.30am – Maryborough
- 10am – Dunolly
- 10.30am – Carisbrook
- 11am – Bealiba
- 11am – Daisy Hill

Please keep an eye out for event details in local newspapers and Council's website [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au)

The Maryborough event will include the presentation of the Central Goldfields Shire Australia Day awards: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Award of the Year.

## TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP OUR TOWN COVIDSAFE

We've come so far. It's up to all of us to keep Victoria safe this summer.



Keep our fitted face masks on over our nose and mouth.



Keep catching up outdoors.



Keep up good hand hygiene and carry sanitiser when out and about.



Keep 1.5 metres apart.



Cough and sneeze into a tissue or elbow.



Keep staying home if we have any symptoms.

STAY SAFE  
STAY OPEN

Keep up to date at [CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au](http://CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au)

Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne



# CURRENT PROJECTS CAPITAL WORKS

## CARISBROOK FLOOD LEVEE – STAGE 3

- **Project schedule:** Complete
- **Contractor name:** Doran Earthmoving Pty Ltd

Construction of Stage 3 of the Carisbrook Levee commenced in October, 2020 with the project now complete.

Local company Doran Earthmoving Pty Ltd delivered the project which included the construction of the Levee being the section of Pleasant Street from the Pyrenees Highway to the railway line and High Street from the railway line to Church Street.

The works involved building up, and constructing a sealed road and associated open drainage works. The works associated with the railway line and Pyrenees Highway culverts will be undertaken in the future stage.

The levee project has been designed in response to major floods which occurred in 2010 and 2011.

## CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS ART GALLERY – PHASE 1 REDEVELOPMENT

- **Project value:** \$500,00 from Regional Infrastructure Fund and \$273,000 from Council
- **Project schedule:** Commencing in June, 2021
- **Completion Date:** 31 March, 2022

Identified as a transformational project in the Tourism & Events Strategy 2020-2025, the redevelopment of the Central Goldfields Art Gallery will deliver:

- Redevelopment of the entrance to the building, with the addition of floor to ceiling glass windows/doors set directly behind the metal fire doors.
- Creation of an open, contemporary reception and retail area and the removal of false ceilings to reveal the original 19th century beams.
- Environmental improvements including air conditioning and lighting to major gallery standards.
- Improving the linear metres of hanging space available to exhibit works.
- Improve accessibility throughout the gallery.
- The addition of two new water closets, including one for people using a wheelchair and those requiring nappy changing facilities.

## DUNOLLY LIBRARY

- **Project value:** \$140,000 made possible in State Government funding – Living Libraries Grant announced in December 2019
- **Project schedule:** Complete
- **Contractor name:** FNG Group Pty Ltd

The former Police station building in Dunolly – located in the Dunolly Courthouse precinct on Market Street – has been refurbished to become the new Dunolly library facility.

The project was undertaken by FNG Group Pty Ltd and involved the re-stumping of the existing building and the construction of an accessible toilet, ramp, new shelving, fresh paint and new carpet. The new site also features air-conditioning.

The new facility will replace the current visiting Outreach Van service that is offered by our Maryborough Regional Library team. The new static facility will feature a larger collection of resources, services and activities as well as an increase in opening hours making it more accessible to the community. It will also offer a public access computer, free WIFI and additional children's programming.

The Dunolly Library will commence operation late January, 2021.



## ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINT

- **Project value:** \$664,000 total for 20-24 charge points in 12 local councils (funded by the Victorian Government)
- **Project schedule:** Complete

Council is a member of the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA), which is working in partnership with 12 local councils in our region and the Victorian Government to roll out a network of public EV charging infrastructure.

The CVGA received funding under the State Government's stimulus package to address the Electric Vehicle charging station gaps identified in its Charging the Regions Case Study project.

The funding is fast tracking investment in key towns, including Maryborough, to ensure there is a dense network of charging stations in the Loddon Campaspe and Mallee region.

The Charge Point has been installed outside the Community Hub, in close proximity to the Nolan Street offices which will also facilitate an uptake of electric vehicles within Council's fleet and will be highly visible to members of the community visiting the Hub, playground and Station Domain area. With the Visitor Information Centre soon to be relocated to the station building, travellers stopping to charge their batteries will be encouraged to come into the station for a coffee and discover what else is on offer in the region.

## MARYBOROUGH ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

- **Project value:** \$1.5 million from State Government and \$900,000 from Council
- **Project schedule:** Underway
- **Completion Date:** 30 November, 2022

The Maryborough Energy Breakthrough Project will encompass a range of enhancements to the festival site, racing conditions and the visitor experience including:

- Expanded scope and technology focus
- Enhanced spectator experience
- Improved camping facilities
- Increased interactivity
- Improved safety

Phase 2 of the project will broaden the reach of the event, attracting new start-ups and established technology and utilities companies to create a world-class future-skills focused STEM Expo as part of the event.

## MARYBOROUGH RAILWAY STATION ACTIVATION PROJECT

- **Project value:** \$127,500 – \$50,000 from the State Government's Stronger Regional Communities Program, Council – \$67,500 and Committee for Maryborough in-kind contribution of \$10,000
- **Project schedule:** To commence early 2021

The first stage of the Maryborough Railway Station activation project will see the historical Maryborough Station housing a new co-working facility for small businesses and the relocation of the town's Visitor Information Centre.

The Maryborough Railway Station Activation project is a key priority identified in both the Economic Development and Tourism & Events Strategies that were adopted in March. It has been supported by the Economic Response and Recovery Taskforce as a key element in local economic recovery as we emerge from the pandemic.

The overall vision is to see the station building become a hub of activity that nurtures local small businesses and creative enterprises while providing a welcoming entry point to visitors to the Central Goldfields Shire.

The funding will enable some initial works to get this first stage of the project off the ground in 2020-21, while Council develops a long term master plan that will enable this heritage building to once again become a hive of activity.

## TALBOT/AVOCA ROAD UPGRADE

**The Talbot/Avoca Road upgrade was completed in October, 2020.**

The major upgrade included a full reconstruction, including a culvert renewal, of a one kilometre stretch either side of the Amherst Cemetery.

The \$693,000 project was jointly funded by the Victorian Government's Fixing Country Roads Program (\$462,000) and Council (\$231,000).



## TOWNSHIP INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

In 2019-2020 we had more than 1,035 conversations with our community as part of the Your Community 2030 project – funded as part of the Australian Government Building Better Regions Fund – which culminated in eight, ten year community plans for the townships of Maryborough, Bealiba, Carisbrook, Dunolly, Talbot, Majorca, Bet Bet and Timor.

Investment in our community hall facilities was a key theme of each of the plans.

Thanks to funding as part of the Australian Government Local Road & Community Infrastructure Program, the following improvement works will be delivered:

### Bealiba & District – \$80,000

- Shade sails & improvements to the playground
- Bealiba Hall improvement including upgrading of kitchen

### Bet Bet & District – \$80,000

- Improvement works at the Betley Mechanics Institute Hall including BBQ shelter & seating
- Upgrade of signage for Bet Bet & district
- Tree planting

### Dunolly & District – \$80,000

- Improvements to town signage
- Shade sails Dunolly swimming pool
- Tree planting within Dunolly
- Playground improvements

### Majorca & District – \$80,000

- Shade sails & improvements to the playground
- Tree planting within Majorca
- Hall improvement works including repainting internal & external of the building

### Timor & District – \$80,000

- Timor/Bowenvale & Wareek Hall improvements including install air conditioning & painting improvement works
- Shade sails & improvements to the playground
- Tree planting

For more information on our current projects visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentprojects](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentprojects)

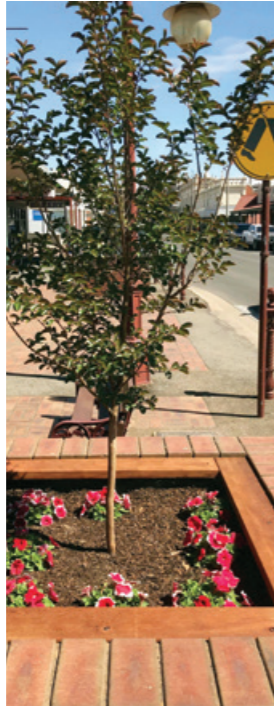
## GREENING THE STREET

You may have noticed one or two differences in the Maryborough CBD lately?

The 'Green The Street' initiative is being rolled out in High Street and Nolan Street in Maryborough – in response to feedback we received from the local business community.

'Green The Street' focuses on creating a visually pleasing streetscape that all members of the community can be proud of and want to spend time in.

As part of the project our Open Space team have refreshed existing garden beds with climate suitable plants in Alma and High Streets.



## BOTANICAL LABELS AT PHILLIPS GARDENS

154 botanical labels have been installed at the Phillips Gardens in Maryborough recently by our Parks and Gardens team.

The botanical labels are now in place on all trees and significant plants and feature the common name, botanic name, country of origin and species.

The labels were made possible thanks to a \$20,000 State Government Growing Victoria Botanic Gardens grant that also funded the planting of a number of advanced trees at the Gardens earlier in the year.



## LET THERE BE LIGHT!

We have been successful in securing \$150,095 in State Government funding for the lighting of Lake Victoria in Maryborough.

The project will include the replacement of existing lights with energy efficient LED lighting as well as the installation of an additional 10 new lights.

For more information, visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentprojects](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentprojects)



## NEW BIKE LANES

We have new bike lanes in Kars Street, Maryborough, to help increase cyclist safety – especially students riding to and from school – and encourage community members to remain active.

The new lanes are a key outcome of our Walking and Cycling Strategy and the Central Goldfields Shire Integrated Transport Strategy.

Above: Central Goldfields Shire Mayor Cr Chris Meddows-Taylor and Maryborough Education Centre students.

## HEALTHY HEART OF VICTORIA

Looking for some adventures in the outdoors during the January school holidays? Why not check out our Healthy Heart of Victoria funded projects:

1. Have some fun with the family and participate in the **Adventure Bingo** activity at Goldfields Reservoir. Pick up a copy of the Adventure Bingo card and map at the Maryborough Regional Library or Visitor Information Centre or download a copy at [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/healthyheartofvictoria](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/healthyheartofvictoria)
2. The new climbing wall, swing and BBQ facility at Maryborough Community House on the corner of Spring and Primrose Streets Maryborough.
3. The pumptrack, outdoor fitness equipment, basketball court and tennis court at Gordon Gardens Dunolly – something for all ages to enjoy.

For more information about the Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative, including the projects above, visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/healthyheartofvictoria](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/healthyheartofvictoria)



## NEW SOLAR BULK-BUY FOR HOMES & BUSINESSES IN CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE

- HIGH-QUALITY SOLAR AT GOOD VALUE PRICES
- FREE SOLAR FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS & SCHOOLS

"The process from our initial contact (with MASH) to discuss options through to the final inspection was conducted professionally and smoothly." – Margarita and Geoff Caddick

Request a quote  
Call 1300 466 274 or visit [mash.org.au/central-goldfields](http://mash.org.au/central-goldfields)



## COOL OFF AT OUR OUTDOOR POOLS

Cool off from the summer heat at one of our three outdoor pools at Maryborough, Dunolly and Talbot.

### Opening times are:

- Maryborough Outdoor Pool: 1pm to 8pm, weekdays, weekends and school holidays.
- Talbot and Dunolly outdoor pools: 3pm to 7pm weekdays and 1pm to 7pm weekends and school holidays.

Pools will be open when the forecast is 25 degrees or above.

### Entry prices are:

- Child – \$3
- Adult – \$4
- Family – \$14

Season tickets are also available.

For more information, visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpools](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpools)



## SQUIRTLE THE TURTLE

Have you noticed Squirtle the Turtle at Coronation Park when travelling down Park Road in Maryborough lately?

Squirtle is a brand new piece of playground equipment that serves as a giant reminder of the harm single-use plastic bottles have on our environment.

Squirtle is a gift to the Central Goldfields Shire community from Central Highlands Water.



## FEELING THIRSTY?

Dunolly residents can keep hydrated on their next visit to the Gordon Gardens with the installation of a 'touch-free' drinking fountain thanks to Coliban Water.

It's the first of its kind in the region – and even includes a touch free water bowl for pets.

The project was delivered after the leadership team from Dunolly Primary School contact Council to tell us this was an asset they wanted to see added to the precinct.

The drinking fountain complements the new pump track, basketball court and outdoor exercise equipment – projects made possible thanks to the State Government's Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative.

CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS  
**ART GALLERY**

## COMING UP AT THE GALLERY

It's set to be a big 2021 for the Central Goldfields Art Gallery – with a major redevelopment set to commence in June. For more information about the project please see page 6 of this publication.

### UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

**14 January to 28 February, 2021**

#### THE SALON-STYLE EXHIBITION

Featuring the Central Goldfields Art Gallery permanent collection

**6 March to 9 May, 2021**

#### 6th BIENNIAL GOLDEN TEXTURES

#### CONTEMPORARY ART QUILT EXHIBITION

Contemporary textile artists from around Australia will participate.

### JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

#### National Gallery Victoria KIDS ON TOUR

Art is for everyone and the National Gallery Victoria (NGV) free Summer Holiday Program for Kids and Families will return to Central Goldfields Art Gallery this month.

Drop into Central Goldfields Art Gallery anytime during the summer holidays and enjoy free activity books, artist activity templates and activities for teens.

**Wednesday 20 January 2021**

#### 10.30 to 11.30am – Little Warriors Yoga

Join a live streamed family mediation with the Little Warriors Yoga.

#### 2.30 to 3.30pm – Dance party!

Get active, learn some new moves and feel the positivity in a digital dance party for children and families.

These programs are for primary school aged children and their carers. All children to be accompanied by their parents or carers.

Programs are free. Bookings are essential.

Email [cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au) or call 0438 367 094.

*An initiative of the National Gallery of Victoria, NGV Kids on Tour is generously supported by The Truby and Florence Williams Charitable Trust, managed by Equity Trustees, the Packer Family and Crown Resorts Foundations.*



The Central Goldfields Art Gallery is situated in the Old Fire Station, 1 Neill Street Maryborough. The Gallery is open 10am to 4pm, Thursday to Sunday.



## LIBRARY NEWS

Our Library team is gearing up for a big 2021 with the opening of our Dunolly Library in January. For more information on the Dunolly Library project please see page 6.

The team is also hoping its children's programming will resume in person at the Library from Term One.

A STEM based school holiday program is also planned for late January.

To keep up-to-date with the latest news and information from the Maryborough Regional Library:

- Facebook @MBLibVIC
- Instagram @mblibvic
- Website [www.centralhighlandslibraries.org.au](http://www.centralhighlandslibraries.org.au)

The Maryborough Regional Library is open Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm and Saturdays 9.30am to 12noon.

## THE DIGITAL CONNECTION PROJECT FOR SENIORS

If you're a Central Goldfields resident over 55 and wanting to learn or develop your skills in using the internet or digital devices like tablets, computers or smartphones, then this program might be for you!

With support from a digital mentor, you can gain new skills to keep you connected with loved ones and the community and feel more confident in completing online tasks!

Call Maryborough Regional Library for more information and to register your interest on 5461 9111



## GOLDFIELDS FAMILY CENTRE NEWS

2021 is an exciting year at Goldfields Family Centre with the introduction of funded three-year-old kindergarten and the increase of hours.

Funded kindergarten is available to three and four-year-old children from Monday to Friday during the school term.

Council facilitated the first Central Registration program for the Shire in 2020. If you have or know of any three or four year old children who are not attending kindergarten in 2021 and would like to visit [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment)

In line with Government restrictions, educators are looking forward to returning to community excursions and incursions and slowly introducing families back into the Centre.

Services will re-open in January on the following dates:

- Long day care – re-commences 6 January, 2021
- Supported Playgroup – re-commences 8 February, 2021
- Kindergarten – re-commences 28 January (Kindergarten interviews will be conducted over January)

Vacation care is available from Monday 11 January to Friday 22 January from 9am to 4.30pm (Friday 22 January, 9am to 3pm). Bookings are essential by calling 5461 6500

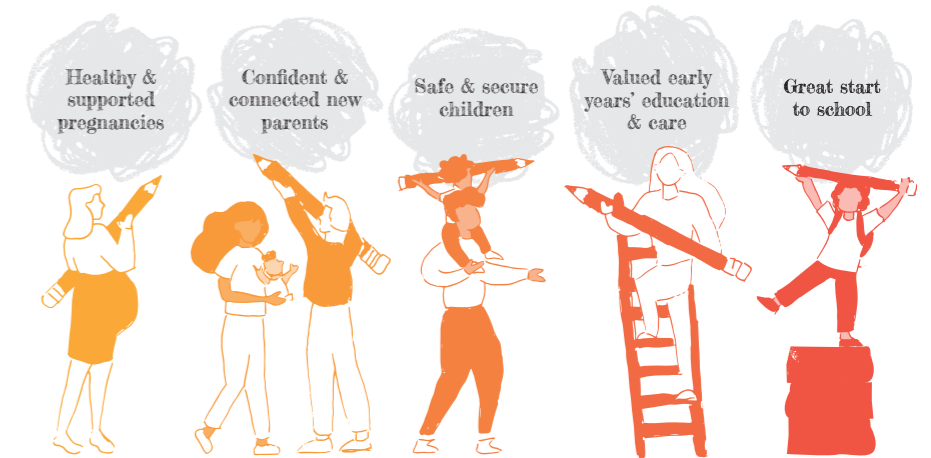
The Goldfields Family Centre is located at 100 Napier Street, Maryborough and can be contacted on 03 5461 6500 or by emailing [goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldhire.vic.gov.au](mailto:goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldhire.vic.gov.au)

Goldfields Family Centre is an integrated service offering for our families a range of services on site including: Maternal and Child Health, Immunisation, Long Day Care, Family Day Care, Kindergarten and Supported Playgroup.

For more information visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/goldfieldsfamilycentre](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/goldfieldsfamilycentre)



The new Go Goldfields initiative is here. EVERY CHILD, EVERY CHANCE IS OUR COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TO GROW SAFE, HEALTHY, AND CONFIDENT CHILDREN.



gogoldfields  
Central Victoria

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PRIORITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHANGE VISIT [WWW.GOGOLDFIELDS.ORG/EVERYCHILDEVERYCHANCE](http://WWW.GOGOLDFIELDS.ORG/EVERYCHILDEVERYCHANCE)



## FOR NEW PARENTS

Our Maternal and Child Health team regularly hosts sessions for new parents:

**New Parents Group** – a free, weekly facilitated five week program open to parents under the age of four months.

The first group for 2021 will run on Mondays 10.30am to 12.30pm commencing on Monday 1 February.

**Eat and Grow** – a free, one-off information session open to parents with a baby aged between four and six months of age. The next session will be held on Monday 18 January from 10.30am to 12.30pm

For more information, including full 2021 dates, and to register contact Council's Maternal and Child Health team on 5461 6550.



## WELCOMING VISITORS TO OUR SHIRE

Now that we have been able to welcome our wonderful volunteers back to the Visitor Information Centre, we will be returning to a 7 day a week operation in January.

We have a wealth of information about not only our Shire, but also the surrounding regions if you, your family or friends are planning to explore in 2021.

Increasingly, we are also posting suggestions about things to do on our social media channels @visitmaryboroughhandsurrounds so if you are looking for ideas and updates make sure you follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram.

You can also visit the Visit Maryborough and Surrounds website at [www.visitmaryborough.com.au](http://www.visitmaryborough.com.au)



## 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

During November and December, Council partnered with several community organisations to host a series of *16 Days of Activism* events and activities throughout the Shire to help raise awareness of violence against women and girls and to promote gender equality.

A special thanks to our Parks and Gardens team who planted out the *16 Days of Activism* flowerbed at the Phillips Gardens.

Thank you to all organisations involved.

**Together we can make a difference.**

## NAIDOC WEEK

The Maryborough NAIDOC Committee celebrated NAIDOC Week in November with an official ceremony on Dja Dja Wurrung Country.

The ceremony featured a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Flag Raising Ceremony.

Dja Dja Wurrung Elder, Rebecca Phillips conducted the Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony while Dja Dja Wurrung and Bangerang Descendant Aunty Kerri Douglas MC'd the event.

Two Indigenous students from Maryborough Education Centre were the official flag raisers.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia every year to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The event was presented in partnership with Anglicare Victoria, Asteria Services and Council.

The ceremony was recorded and is available to watch here: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/naidocweek](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/naidocweek)



**Did you know we have a Goldfields Mob Facebook page?** Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to following the page to connect and keep up to date with what is happening in the area.



## NOLAN STREET ROOF PROJECT

Major works to replace the roofing tiles on our Nolan Street building were completed in November, 2020.

The Nolan Street building, the former School of Mines, is a Heritage Listed Building and a valuable Council-owned heritage asset.

An assessment of the building two years ago identified the building needed to be water proofed, both the ceiling and the rising damp.

The removal of the tiles revealed damage to the roof trusses and work was undertaken to replace them as part of the project.

The project was funded by Council and delivered by BLR Provincial Construction.



## COMMUNITY HUB

The Maryborough Community Hub has re-opened to the public. Community members wishing to book a meeting room can contact Council's Customer Service team on 5461 0610 or download a copy of the Community Hub hire form at: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/councilfacilities](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/councilfacilities)

## CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Council has 70 volunteers across the organisation who each play a key role in delivering services and programs every day. Without volunteers, the delivery of these services and programs would not be possible.

**Council's volunteer duties include:**

**Aged and Community Care:** Our volunteers are critical to the delivery of our Meals on Wheels service and are also involved in our valuable Social Support team who take clients on regular outings in the region.

**Library:** Book deliveries to households once a month to those who have an ongoing or temporary inability to visit the Maryborough Regional Library.

**Youth:** Delivery of the Engage! Youth Program, Victorian Youth Week events, Teenage Holiday Program and FReeZA events.

**Central Goldfields Art Gallery:** Front of house and administration duties, events and education programs.

**Visitor Information Centre:** Hosting and evaluating Council events, distributing visitor information and directing visitors to points of interest and conducting short visitor surveys.

**L2P program:** Helping learner drivers gain their 120 hours of driving to undertake their probationary driving test.

**Energy Breakthrough:** An impressive 1,000 volunteers who set up and pack up, judging, marshalling, stage support, media and administration of this hallmark event.

**Pound:** Dog walking, general care and companionship of animal during their stay.

**We're always looking to welcome volunteers.** To find out more and to get involved contact Council on 5461 0610 or email [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

## ANNUAL REPORT

Our 2019–2020 Annual Report is now available to view. It provides our community with a comprehensive report of our operations, achievements and challenges throughout the year. It also provides in detail our performance during the 2019–2020 financial year against the Council Plan and the Budget.



You can view the Annual Report online at: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au)

## YOUTH SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our Youth Team will be running a January school holiday program. For program details visit our website Youth or follow the Central Goldfields Youth Facebook page: [facebook.com/CentralGoldfieldsYouth](https://facebook.com/CentralGoldfieldsYouth)

## COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who applied for our Community Grant Program. Successful recipients will be announced by the end of February, 2021.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Did you know our monthly Council Meetings are live streamed to our Facebook page? The video recording is also available to view on our website after every Council Meeting. To watch back visit: [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings)

## COUNCIL TENDERS

Did you know we advertise current Council tenders and quotations to procure goods and services in our full page Community News advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday?

All Council tenders are also advertised online via the Tender Search portal. To find out more about Council tenders visit [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/tenders](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/tenders)

## TRANSFER STATION NEWS

Good news for Transfer Station users with EFTPOS is now available at our Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot Transfer Stations. To find out more about our Transfer Stations, including locations and opening hours, visit [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/transferstations](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/transferstations)



**Lodge a request or report a problem to us quickly and easily via:**

- **Phone:** Call our Customer Service Team on 5461 0610
- **Email:** [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **Online:** [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/reportaproblem](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/reportaproblem)

# SURVIVE THE HEAT

Heat kills more Australians than any other natural disaster



## DRINK WATER

Even if you don't feel thirsty, drink water. Take a bottle with you always.



## HOT CARS KILL

Never leave kids, older people or pets in cars. The temperature inside a parked car can double within minutes.



## KEEP COOL

Seek out air-conditioned buildings, draw your blinds, use a fan, take cool showers and dress in light and loose clothing made from natural fabrics.



## PLAN AHEAD

Schedule activities in the coolest part of the day and avoid exercising in the heat. If you must go out, wear a hat and sunscreen and take a bottle of water with you.



## CHECK IN ON OTHERS

Look after those most at risk in the heat – your neighbour living alone, older people, the young, people with a medical condition and don't forget your pets.

## SURVIVE THE HEAT

Visit [betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://betterhealth.vic.gov.au)

For more information visit the Better Health Channel. Call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24 or see your doctor if you are unwell. In an emergency, call 000.



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## Stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating and know what to do.

The Fire Danger Rating predicts how a fire would behave if one started, including how difficult it would be to put out. The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions. The rating is your trigger to act, so to stay safe you need to stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating in your district. During the Fire season, the Fire Danger Rating will feature in weather forecasts, be broadcast on radio and TV and appear in some newspapers. It can also be found on the of CFA and VicEmergency websites or by calling the VicEmergency Hotline **1800 226 226**

	WHAT DOES IT MEAN?	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
<b>CODE RED</b>	<p>These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire. Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions.</p> <p>The safest place to be is away from high risk bushfire areas.</p>	<p>Leaving high risk bushfire areas the night before or early in the day is your safest option – do not wait and see. Avoid forested areas, thick bush and long, dry grass.</p> <p>Know your trigger – make a decision about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– when you will leave</li> <li>– where you will go</li> <li>– how you will get there</li> <li>– when you will return</li> <li>– what you will do if you cannot leave</li> </ul>
<b>EXTREME</b>	<p>Expect extremely hot, dry and windy conditions. If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Spot fires will start, move quickly and will come from many directions.</p> <p>Homes that are situated and constructed or modified to withstand a bushfire, that are well prepared and actively defended, may provide safety.</p> <p>You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider staying with your property only if you are prepared to the highest level. This means your home needs to be situated and constructed or modified to withstand a bushfire, you are well prepared and you can actively defend your home if a fire starts.</li> <li>• If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving high risk bushfire areas early in the day is your safest option.</li> <li>• Be aware of local conditions and get information by listening to ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations or Sky News TV, going to <a href="http://cfa.vic.gov.au">cfa.vic.gov.au</a>, <a href="http://emergency.vic.gov.au">emergency.vic.gov.au</a> or call the VicEmergency Hotline on <b>1800 226 226</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>SEVERE</b>	<p>Expect hot, dry and possibly windy conditions. If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be uncontrollable. Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety.</p> <p>You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – check your bushfire survival plan.</li> <li>• If you are not prepared, leaving bushfire prone areas early in the day is your safest option.</li> <li>• Be aware of local conditions and get information by listening to ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations or Sky News TV, going to <a href="http://cfa.vic.gov.au">cfa.vic.gov.au</a>, <a href="http://emergency.vic.gov.au">emergency.vic.gov.au</a> or call the VicEmergency Hotline on <b>1800 226 226</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>VERY HIGH</b>	<p>If a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your bushfire survival plan.</li> </ul>
<b>HIGH</b>	<p>Be aware of how fires can start and minimise the risk.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor conditions.</li> <li>• Action may be needed.</li> </ul>
<b>LOW-MODERATE</b>	<p>Controlled burning off may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave if necessary.</li> </ul>

For more information contact the VicEmergency Hotline **1800 226 226**

[cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)



For more information on how to get prepared for summer, go to [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au) and download the **VicEmergency App** on your smartphone to stay informed.





# CONTACT US

Our Customer Service Centre is open for cashier payments only, Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm (closed between 12.30pm and 1.30pm for cleaning).

## You can contact our Customer Service team via:

- 📞 5461 0610
- ✉️ [mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

## Keep-up-to-date with Council news, projects and announcements via:

- 📘 [www.facebook.com/centralgoldfields](https://www.facebook.com/centralgoldfields)
- 🐦 [www.twitter.com/CG\\_Shire](https://www.twitter.com/CG_Shire)
- 🌐 [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au)

We also encourage you to:

- read our full page Council advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday
- listen in to CEO Lucy Roffey's weekly radio interview on Gold Central Victoria every Wednesday at 8.10am

## You can also stay connected with the following services via:

### Central Goldfields Art Gallery

You can contact the Gallery team via:

- 📞 5461 6600
- ✉️ [cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

You can also connect with the Gallery via:

- 📘 @CGAGMaryborough
- 📷 @centralgoldfieldsartgallery

### Maryborough Regional Library

📞 5461 9111

✉️ [maryboroughlibrary@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:maryboroughlibrary@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

You can also connect with the Library team online via:

- 📘 @MBLibVIC
- 📷 @mblibvic
- 🌐 [www.centralhighlandslibraries.org.au](http://www.centralhighlandslibraries.org.au)

### Goldfields Family Centre and Maternal and Child Health

📞 5461 6500

✉️ [goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

📘 @goldfieldsscc

### Visitor Information Centre

Our Visitor Information Centre is open seven days a week from 10am to 4pm. You can also contact our Tourism team via:

- 📞 5460 4511
- ✉️ [visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

You can also connect with the tourism team online via:

- 📘 @Visit.Maryborough
- 📷 @visitmaryboroughhandsurrounds
- 🌐 [www.visitmaryborough.com.au](http://www.visitmaryborough.com.au)



## YOU'VE GOT MAIL!



Did you know we distribute a number of regular e-newsletters?

- **Central Goldfields Art Gallery**  
To register email: [cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **Tourism**  
To register email: [visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **Business**  
To register email: [economicdevelopment@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:economicdevelopment@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **Food For Thought (Environmental Health)**  
To register email: [environmentalhealth@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:environmentalhealth@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)
- **The Waste Space (waste and recycling)**  
To register email: [waste.management@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:waste.management@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

## JOIN OUR TEAM

Current employment opportunities are available to view anytime via our website [www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentvacancies](http://www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentvacancies) and are also advertised in our full page Community News advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday.



Central Goldfields Shire is a member of Translations Services Australia, which provides assistance to those who are non-English speaking to translate information Council provides to the community. The service is FREE. 131 450 or [www.tisnational.gov.au](http://www.tisnational.gov.au)