

Community Update Summer 2023

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Maryborough's new
Skate and Scooter Park
is ready for play...

GET YOUR SKATES ON!

Welcome to the summer edition of the Community Update magazine.

What a pleasure it is to be writing this message as your new Mayor, having been sworn in by my Councillor colleagues at the November Council Meeting.

It is a huge honour to be elected as Central Goldfields Shire Mayor and my privilege to represent this community for the next 12 months. We have accomplished so much as Councillors over the past two years but there is still much more to do.

I look forward to continuing to work hard on behalf of our community and continuing our advocacy for our Shire, particularly focusing on the delivery of Council's Priority Projects, the restoration of the Maryborough Town Hall, and the restoration and revitalisation of the Bristol Hill memorial tower and precinct to be a tourist attraction to be proud of.

Another focus is the progression of the Central Victorian World Heritage Bid which will be headed by Cr Chris Meddows-Taylor whom I would also like to thank for his outstanding leadership and commitment over the past two years.

Cr Meddows-Taylor has achieved many things for this community during this time, including but not limited to working to secure funding for the World Heritage Bid and four weekend rail services added to the Maryborough passenger rail line.

It's been a busy start to my term of Mayor with so much to look forward to and be excited about across our wonderful Shire.

The soft launch of the Skate and Scooter Park in December – which is featured in this edition – has been a highlight. Every time I've been past it's busy with users and so it is wonderful to see it being well utilised already.

I'm really looking forward to being part of the official opening of the redeveloped Central Goldfields Art Gallery early this year – which is set to be a fantastic community celebration.

The Australia Day and Pride Festival events later this month will also be important occasions for our community.

In this edition you'll find updates on these events, as well as the latest news from each of our Ward Councillors, major projects and the Welcome to Central Goldfields project.

Happy reading!

Cr Grace La Vella

Mayor

Follow the Mayor on Facebook [@centralgoldfieldsmayor](https://www.facebook.com/centralgoldfieldsmayor)



Councillor Grace La Vella (Mayor)

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Councillor Liesbeth Long

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Councillor Chris Meddows-Taylor

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CEO re-appointed

At the October, 2022 Council Meeting, Councillors unanimously resolved to re-appoint Lucy Roffey as Central Goldfields Shire Chief Executive Officer for a period of five years.

"I was delighted to be offered the opportunity to continue in the role of CEO.

"By making the decision to re-appoint me into this role, the Councillors are not only signalling their confidence in me but also their confidence in the organisation as a whole.

"As an organisation we have achieved a huge amount in what has been a challenging period, particularly over the last two years working through the pandemic.

"I look forward to continuing our work together and achieving great things for this community."

– CEO Lucy Roffey



SKATE & SCOOTER PARK - COMPLETED!

Opposite (from left to right):

Representatives from Community Bank Avoca and Maryborough Aley and Julie, Central Goldfields Shire Mayor Cr Grace La Vella, Maryborough Ward Councillor Wayne Sproull, Council's Manager Project Management Office Amber Ricks, Council's FReeZA Coordinator Audrey Bartlett and Ed Thiele - Skate Park Committee Member and petition instigator.



COME & TRY

Our Central Goldfields Youth team will host a series of come and try events during summer.

Come along and try out the new Skate and Scooter Park, and get some tips from a Skating Pro.

The Come and Try events will be held on Tuesdays - 4 to 6pm on 17, 24, 31 January and 7 February.

Follow Central Goldfields Youth on Facebook for updates and more information.

Drive past Maryborough's new Skate and Scooter Park at any given time or day and you'll see people of all ages skating, scooting and roller skating.

In 2018, 1,000 young people signed a petition for a new park and presented it to Council.

Turn the clock forward to 2022 and the park was opened to the public in early December, with an official opening planned for early this year.

Located at the Adventure Playground at Princes Park, Maryborough, the project was delivered by industry leaders Grind Projects.

The project was jointly funded by the Victorian Government through the Sports Recreation Victoria - Local Sports Infrastructure Fund - \$250,000, Community Bank Avoca, Maryborough and St Arnaud (in partnership with the Maryborough Lions Club) - \$40,000 and Council - \$395,000.

The Skate and Scooter Park has been designed to respect the heritage of the site and to accommodate a range of wheeled sports including skateboarding, scooter riding, roller blading and BMX riding.

The design incorporates spectator seating and viewing areas plus shade structures.

For more information, including a time-lapse video of the build, visit:

www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/skateandscooterpark

New-look Gallery to be revealed

The transformation of the Central Goldfields Art Gallery is set to be revealed early this year when the Gallery is officially opened to the public.

Excitement is building with planning for a community celebration underway - details to be communicated to the community shortly.

Keep an eye out for details in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* and both the Council and Gallery social media channels and websites.

The redevelopment is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and Council.

www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/gallery



Welcome to

Central Goldfields



Businesses and community leaders have been working together on a pilot project to attract skilled migrants to the Shire.



Above: The Shire's newest residents who moved to town as part of the Welcome to Central Goldfields project came together for a picnic at Station Domain in October.

Launched in mid-2022, it has been an ambitious initiative and an exciting opportunity to create a long-term plan for relocation and recruitment in the Shire.

The 12-month pilot, *Welcome to Central Goldfields*, is in response to staff and skills shortages that are affecting businesses big and small – both locally and nationally – and will provide a platform for advocacy at all levels of government on workforce and housing needs.

This project has enabled the community to welcome seven families from various backgrounds and skill levels to the Shire.

While this project is still in its early stages, we have learnt:

- Business should offer support with accommodation and housing to potential employees as this is a major factor in successful recruitment.
- We know the rental and housing market is stretched both locally and across the country – Council is advocating to all levels of Government for funding to ensure a solution.
- During this process we have also utilised housing that's not currently on the rental market – we are working to ensure these types of properties are available for employers to use into the future.
- While there is limited childcare availability in the short term, long term solutions are being advocated for by Council, including a new centre to be built under the Best Start, Best Life program.
- A support network for new residents has been welcomed and will continue to be implemented.



“As part of Welcome to Central Goldfields we established a community support network, run by volunteers, who have been a key contact for our new residents to help them feel welcome and offer local advice. Since being established, Maryborough District Health Service has reached out, asking if the network would be willing to support employees and their families who have recently relocated to the Shire. It's great that we now have a system in place to help make the move to the Shire a little easier.”

Welcome to Central Goldfields Support Network Volunteer Coordinator Tony Macer



“Thanks to the Welcome to Central Goldfields project, *The Advertiser* was able to employ a journalist, Prealene Khara (pictured above left). Recruitment for this skilled position is difficult, but being able to broaden our search through this program has enabled us to attract an employee who may have otherwise not considered the position.

“This pilot project has enabled us to fill a role we had been unable to fill for several months. It would be great if a long-term project was established which allowed businesses in the Shire to access a new stream of employees.”

Christie Harrison (pictured above right), The Maryborough District Advertiser Editor

“My time in Maryborough has been amazing. I've always liked living in a small town and here is no exception, everything is accessible and you don't have to drive far to get to where you need to go. The community has been so welcoming and having the support of Jane (support network volunteer) has been incredible and made our move to the Shire that little bit easier.”

New resident Ankita Upreti





Goldfields

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

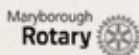


SATURDAY 18 MARCH 2023, 11AM - 4PM
PHILLIPS GARDENS, MARYBOROUGH

A Free and Fun new Festival for the Central Goldfields Shire
with Music, Art, Games, Rides, Information and Activities
for Community Connection and Celebration!



gogoldfields
Central Goldfields



WWW.GOGOLDFIELDS.ORG/GOLDFIELDSCOMMUNITYFESTIVAL



Deledio Reserve news

In November, the Victorian Government announced \$727,707 for the construction of two netball courts with lights at Deledio Reserve Netball Courts in Dunolly. Council will also contribute \$242,569 to the project to be allocated in the 2023/24 Council Budget. Following a public tender process in December, a contractor to design the new courts is expected to be appointed in January, 2023.

Opposite: Back – Former MP Jaala Pulford, Cr Chris Meddows-Taylor, Victorian Government Member for Ripon Martha Haylett, Flynn Ward Councillor Liesbeth Long, Deledio Recreation Reserve President Sonja Richards-Stuart. Front – Taylah, Grace and Mia representing the Dunolly Primary School.



Councillor Liesbeth Long Flynn Ward

I hope that you are all enjoying summer in the Central Goldfields Shire. It is certainly my favourite season of the year with warm weather and long balmy evenings.

Remember that you can access the Dunolly outdoor pool for FREE this summer when daytime temperatures are above 25 degrees, all the way through until March!

It's exciting to be starting my third year as your Flynn Ward Councillor with lots of things happening. There will be a new footpath constructed in Broadway and hopefully two new netball courts at Deledio, thanks to a Victorian Government funding allocation last year. Speaking of sports, this year will be the 150th anniversary of the Dunolly Football and Netball Club. It's a great milestone for the club and I look forward to celebrating with the community.

If there is ever anything I can assist you with, please contact me by phone, text, email or on social media:

#councillorliesbethlong ”

New footpath

A new 250 metre footpath along Broadway, from Daly Street to the railway line, will be constructed this year. The project will be delivered as part of Council's 2022-2023 Budget.



New wayfinding signage

Identified as a priority through community feedback during the development of the Community Township Plan for Dunolly and district – two wayfinding signs have recently been installed in Dunolly, along Broadway (near the Bakery) and one at Gordon Gardens.

The signs aim to help visitors find their way around the township. They include motivation copy, maps highlighting attractions and facilities as well as information about various points of interest.

The signs were made available for community feedback during May – for the results summary visit:

www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/dunollysignage

The project was funded through the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jacqueline Fankhauser who was nominated by a resident for the School Crossings Victoria "Supervisor of the Year" award.

School Crossings Australia holds a biennial School Crossing Supervisor of the Year Award in recognition of the great work performed ensuring the safety of the community, especially of our youngest members.

Jacqueline supervises the crossing located at the Dunolly Primary School and has been in the role for 10 years.

Congratulations to Jacqueline on her nomination and thank you to all of our school crossing supervisors for the amazing work they do.



Dunolly Pool

Did you know you can cool off for FREE at the Dunolly outdoor swimming pool this Summer?

The Dunolly Pool is open when the weather is 25°C and above through until March 2023.

PLAN FOR EMERGENCIES AT HOME

The rain events at the end of 2022 were a reminder to all of us of the importance of being prepared for an emergency situation.

Experience shows that those who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact of the emergency and can recover quickly afterwards.

Emergencies can happen anywhere, at any time. It's important to have a plan, know what to do and where to find information in an emergency.

Here is some information that will help you get started – as well as a series of websites and phone numbers where you can find additional information and support.

Warning levels

There are three different levels of warning:



Emergency warning

- You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted



Warning (Watch and Act)

- An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others.



Advice

- An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions.
- Can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you.

Additional messages

Additional messages that may be issued are:



Evacuation

- An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.



Community update

- Specific information and updates for affected communities regarding a particular event or incident.

Prepare

It's important to have an emergency plan so you know how to prepare yourself & your home in the event of a flood, fire or other emergency. For more information on how to prepare visit the Australian Red Cross website: www.redcross.org.au/emergencies/

Stay informed

- Know where to go for the most up-to-date information
- Monitor the Bureau of Meteorology website for latest weather forecasts and warnings: www.bom.gov.au
- Download the VicEmergency app to stay informed of incidents and warnings in your local area, or view here: www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond or call **1800 226 226**
- Know your flood risk, and view your local flood guide here: www.ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe/flood-guides
- Know your fire risk: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare
- Visit Council website for the latest news and information: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au

In an emergency

- Triple Zero:** Dial **000** for life threatening medical and emergency assistance
- SES:** Call 132 500 or visit www.ses.vic.gov.au (calls to this number are encouraged – as it alerts the SES of the scale of the emergency)
- Police:** Only in an emergency dial **000**

Accessibility

The following services can help you, or someone you know, access information during an emergency.

- To access this information in other languages, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 (freecall) and ask them to call VicEmergency Hotline **1800 226 226**.
- If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment contact National Relay Service on 1800 555 677 and ask them to call the VicEmergency Hotline **1800 226 226**.

Flood recovery – roads

Our roads, like many roads across the state, have been hard hit by the recent flood events.

Full restoration works on our road, bridge and drainage network will be a long-term challenge. It's going to take time and will require extensive funding through Federal and State Government disaster recovery funding streams.

To secure the funding, the condition of our roads, bridges and drainage culverts have been assessed. More than 880 repairs have already been identified as part of this assessment.

A priority list of works and improvements is now being compiled to be submitted to Government for funding to deliver the works that are needed.

In the meantime, Council will continue to do regular road maintenance to make our roads as safe as possible.

We'll continue to keep our community updated as this process continues.

MARYBOROUGH
DO YOU KNOW YOUR
FIRE RISK?
FIRE SAFETY ESSENTIALS SESSION

In the Whirakee Rise Estate
At the Quinn Street playground area
Date: Wednesday 18 January 2023
Time: 7:00 pm

For further information on how to prepare your property for the fire season scan this QR code or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au



Cr Anna De Villiers Tullaroop Ward

There's so much to be optimistic about with summer here and the beginning of a new year.

The fourth quarter of 2022 delivered a real mixed bag for Tullaroop Ward.

The Carisbrook Community Conversations continued and were well attended by community members. I'm looking forward to rolling out the Community Conversation events to Tullaroop residents living to the south of Carisbrook, including Majorca, Golden Point, Craigie and beyond.

We experienced a significant rain event in October 2022 and it is with gratitude that we can heave a sigh of relief that the Carisbrook community were saved the ravages and destruction of flooding still ongoing and occurring along major creeks and rivers both in Victoria and interstate. It was certainly a reminder to all of us of the importance of being prepared for an emergency situation – you can read more about this on page 7.

I hope your 2023 is happy and prosperous.



Majorca: Fresh soft fall has been welcomed by families at the Majorca Town Hall playground – thanks to Council's Operations team.

Recreation Reserve

The Carisbrook Recreation Reserve upgrade project is taking shape with fit out of the new Pavilion and Bowls Pavilion now underway.

The \$4.9 million project is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and Council.

The project is being delivered by Searle Bros Building Contractors – who were awarded the contract following a public tender process.

Identified as one of Council's Priority Projects, as well as a key project in Council's Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2020-29, the redevelopment of the Carisbrook Recreation Reserve will deliver an accessible and inclu-

sive modern sporting facility and community hub for the growing population of Carisbrook and surrounding townships. The project will deliver two new pavilions – one for the Carisbrook Bowling Club and the other consisting of changerooms for players and umpires including dedicated change rooms for females and a multi-purpose room. The project also includes a new netball court and upgrades to the existing tennis court.

For more information visit:

[www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/
carisbrookrecreationreserve](https://www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/carisbrookrecreationreserve)

Carisbrook Levee update

Works on the final stage of the Carisbrook Levee are continuing.

The construction of the levee has been over a very wet spring season. This has impacted the timing of the construction which was originally anticipated to be complete late last year. Weather depending it is anticipated that the construction will be complete by the end of February 2023.

The rain events in late 2022 highlighted the effectiveness of the Western Levee from overland flood inundation to the township of

Carisbrook. The levee, even as construction in progress, diverted the overland flows around Carisbrook, these flows would have previously utilised the existing bluestone drains running along Belfast Road/Virginia Street and the south/north drain through the town.

For more information visit:

[www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/
carisbrooklevee](https://www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/carisbrooklevee)

Community Conversations

Hosted by Cr Anna De Villiers, the Community Conversation events are a great opportunity to come along, connect and discuss community issues. The 2023 events details are:

Carisbrook (co-hosted with the Carisbrook Lions Club): 1 March, 3 May, 2 August and 4 October. The events will be held at 7pm at the Carisbrook Fire Station in Green Street.

Majorca (new initiative in 2023): 4 April, 6 June, 15 August, 10 October. The events will be held at 6.30pm at the Majorca Town Hall.

Infrastructure upgrades:

- 120 metres of new footpath will be constructed along Urquhart Street from McLachlan Street to McNeill Street this year. The project will be delivered as part of the 2022-2023 Council Budget.
- 1,200 metres of Cotswolds Road will be reconstructed in the first half of 2023. The project is funded through the Australian Government's Roads to Recovery Program and will be delivered by Council's Operations team.

MARYBOROUGH RAILWAY STATION NEWS

STATION SET TO BECOME A HUB OF ACTIVITY

Stage two of the Maryborough Railway Station is now underway.

Barpa Pty Ltd, an Australian indigenous construction company, were awarded the contract for the works in October last year following a public tender process.

Building on initial improvement works completed as part of Stage One, Stage Two will transform the Maryborough Railway Station into a visitor and activity hub that will accommodate a mix of tourism, commercial transport and community uses.



New, temporary home for Visitor Information Centre

To make way for the project to begin, our Central Goldfields Visitor Information Centre have a new temporary home.

From 9am on Saturday, 14 January you can find our Visitor Information Centre team located just down the road (opposite the Railway Station) at 53 Burns Street, Maryborough. Same opening hours and same friendly staff – just in a different location!

Follow the Visit Maryborough Facebook page for updates.



Weekend rail services

Four additional weekend train services were introduced to the Maryborough line in early December 2022.

In March, the cost of a regional daily ticket train fare will also be capped at \$9.20 for a full fare or \$4.60 for a concession

Above: Victorian Government Member for Ripon Martha Haylett with Mayor Cr Grace La Vella and Cr Chris Meddows-Taylor boarding the first additional train service in December.

Stage Two of the project includes:

- Refurbishment of the Visitor Information Centre interior – along with new entrance doors from the platform
- Installation of digital infrastructure and interpretive experiences
- Upgrades to the co-working spaces
- Provision of an arts hub for artists and community
- Improvements to accessibility and landscaping
- A sculpture courtyard
- Other refurbishment and upgrade works

Stage Two is jointly funded with \$1.8 million from the Victorian Government's Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (Regional Infrastructure Fund) and \$200,000 from Council.

The Maryborough Railway Station Activation Project is one of Council's Priority Projects and was also identified as a key project in the Economic Development and Tourism and Events Strategies.

The construction phase of the project is expected to generate an estimated 20 jobs. Once complete, the project is expected to generate five on-going local jobs as a result of extra economic activity and lead to around \$9 million additional visitor expenditure in the Shire over a 10-year period.

For more information on the project visit:

www.engage.goldshire.vic.gov.au/stationproject



World Heritage Bid

In November 2022, the Victorian Government announced \$500,000 in funding to deliver the Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid.

The Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive with a partnership of 13 central Victorian local governments, including Central Goldfields Shire Council, secured the funding to shortlist potential World Heritage sites within the region, to increase regional investment overtime and accelerate regional recovery.

The \$500,000 was received through Regional Development Victoria's Investment Fast-Track Fund.

For more information visit:

goldfieldsworldheritage.com.au



Feeling thirsty?

Locals and visitors can now keep hydrated with a new drinking fountain installed at Lake Victoria, Maryborough.

The Central Highlands Water Choose Tap drinking fountain was a welcomed addition to the Energy Breakthrough infrastructure and will remain a permanent fixture in Princes Park.

Opposite: Central Goldfields Shire Energy Breakthrough Event Director Alisha Chadwick with Central Goldfields Shire Councillor and Energy Breakthrough Governance Group Chairperson Liesbeth Long.



Cr Wayne Sproull Maryborough Ward

As summer finally arrives, we see the newly constructed Skate and Scooter Park is getting a lot of use which is great. This project is a great example of what can be achieved for our community.

We have welcomed new families to our region with the Welcome to Central Goldfields initiative which saw local businesses work with agencies to attract skilled workers to fill positions that have proved difficult to do locally.

January 26th will see Australia Day marked in the Central Goldfields Shire. These are such wonderful community events that are held at townships across the municipality. The Central Goldfields Shire Australia Day awards will acknowledge people and events that have had a significant impact on our community over the past year.

January 28th will be our inaugural Maryborough Pride Festival which will celebrate and support our LGBTQI+ community. It promises to be great day of fun and education with guest speakers and organisations as well as live local entertainment. ”

Outdoor Pool

With the closure of the Maryborough Outdoor Pool, Council has worked closely with our pool managers, Unified Community Sport and Leisure, to ensure our community still have access to aquatic facilities during summer. This includes:

- Free entry at the Talbot and Dunolly pools.
- Extended opening hours at the Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre – open until 7pm on weekends and public holidays.
- Reduced fees for casual entry at Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre during outdoor pool season.
- Free single-entry pool passes available to young people under the age of 25 (available from Council's Customer Service Centre) thanks to Victorian Government's FReeZa program.

Council will continue to advocate to State and Federal Governments for the funding needed to restore the Maryborough Outdoor Pool.

For more information visit:

📍 www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/maryboroughoutdoorpool

Urban Bike Path

In November, the Victorian Government announced \$35,000 for planning work for an Urban Bike Park at Bristol Hill.

Council applied for the grant through the Victorian Government's 2022 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund. Council will also contribute \$35,000 to the project – to be allocated in the 2023/24 Council Budget.



Above: Victorian Government Member for Ripon Martha Haylett, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos with representatives from Maryborough Football and Netball Club and Maryborough Cricket Club at Princes Park.

Recreation upgrades

The Victorian Government made the following funding commitments in November last year:

- \$450,000 towards a netball court upgrade with improved lighting and seating at J.H Hedges Memorial Park
- \$550,000 towards female friendly changerooms at Princes Park

Planning for both projects is still to be carried out.

Road and footpath upgrade

Primrose Street, between Spring Street and Golden Wattle Drive and the whole length of Porter Avenue will be reconstructed in the coming months.

The project also includes the replacement of the existing footpath – 300 metres along Primrose Street and 583 metres along Porter Avenue.

The \$1.24 million upgrade is made possible thanks to the Australian Government's Roads to Recovery program.



**Councillor
Gerard Murphy**



**Councillor
Geoff Lovett**



**Councillor
Grace La Vella**



“We want this to be a community, family-friendly event which has the support of as many employers as possible to show they are supportive of equal opportunities.

“This sends the message that this community is welcoming and inclusive.”

– **Adrian Masterman Smith**

Excitement is building for the inaugural Maryborough Pride Festival event on Saturday 28 January 2023 to be held at Mill House.

Aimed at youth, the Festival is being organised by local Adrian Masterman-Smith, Mill House Chair and Maryborough Ward Councillor Wayne Sproull, as well as local groups – including the Pride Crew at the Maryborough Education Centre and Pride Goldfields – a social group for the LGBTIQ+ community and the Central Goldfields Youth Council.

The event will commence with a rainbow conga line at Station Domain from 11am, alongside opening activities, the Festival will march to Mill House Maryborough from 12 to 4pm where festivities will get underway.

From 4 to 6pm the entertainment will kick in with the Maryborough Brass Band, a Drag Show, school bands and regional performers – thanks to the support of the Victorian Government’s FReeZA and Engage programs.

There will also be four conversations taking place, including with Headspace, one focusing on trans and gender and another with Thorne Harbour Health, an organisation which focuses on offering a range of health services and programs aimed at LGBTIQ+ communities and people living with HIV.

Pronoun pins will also be available to start conversations around why they’re important.

Visit pridefestivalmaryborough.org.au or follow **Pride Festival Maryborough** on Facebook.

Need help getting there?

Register to be picked up and dropped off at the Festival via the Community Bus. Register by contacting Mill House on 03 5461 3185.

Opposite: Charlotte Brown, Jasper Hanson, Claire Clarke, Sam Bundy, Racheal Diggle with Pride Festival organisers Adrian Masterman-Smith and Lowan Clarke.

AUSTRALIA DAY

Join us at 8.30am on Thursday 26 January for our free, family Australia Day event at the Station Domain, Maryborough.

The event will include the announcement of our Australia Day Awards and a Citizenship Ceremony.

A free breakfast and children’s activities will commence at 8.30am followed by official proceedings at 9.15am.

Medallions will be presented to all babies born during 2022 and books will also be presented to all four-year-old children starting kindergarten in 2023.

For more information, including registrations for baby medallions, kinder books and attendance at the event, visit:

 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/australiday2023



Australia Day events in the Shire

Talbot	8am	Talbot RSL Park	Contact: Greg and Heather McNeilly – 0427 090 172
Carisbrook	10.30am	Market Reserve	Contact: George Nagy – 0437 977 237
Dunolly	10am – Official address starting at 11am	Gordon Gardens	Contact: Gayle Boardman – 0409 724 253
Daisy Hill	11am	Daisy Hill Community Centre	Contact: Bill Robinson – 0493 384 687
Bealiba	11am	Bealiba Town Hall	Contact: Barbara Douglass – 0459 688 800



Introducing our Healthy Kids Advisor

The Healthy Kids Advisors Initiative is delivered by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation and supported by the Victorian Government. This three-year initiative is active in 13 priority communities in Victoria to spread positive food education and encourage participation in the state-wide Vic Kids Eat Well movement.

Ciel Lindley is the Healthy Kids Advisor for Central Goldfields and is working with schools, sport clubs and other stakeholders to boost young people's appreciation and access to healthy and delicious food and drink.

Six of the Shire's schools have now signed up to the program – including Timor Primary School.

Timor Primary School Teacher Support Karlie Gunn, cooks lunch orders once a week for Timor's 42 students. Ciel is supporting Karlie in refreshing their menu to amplify tasty, healthy snack options while showcasing the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation's approach to pleasurable food education to help the school to achieve their Vic Kids Eat Well goals.

The school is excited to see the ripple effects of the student's food education and enthusiasm for fresh produce reach families and the wider community.

For more information visit:

www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/healthy-kids-advisors

or contact Ciel Lindley on 0411 480 244.

***Pictured:** Healthy Kids Advisor Ciel Lindley with Timor Primary School Teacher Support Karlie Gunn and Timor Primary School students.*



Summer school holiday program

Looking for ways to keep the kids entertained during the January school holidays?

Our Gallery, Library, Youth and Goldfields Family Centre teams have got you covered.

They've put together a great program of events and activities – with something for all ages.

To find out more and to register visit:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/summerholidayprogram2023



New Parents Group

Did you know our Maternal and Child Health team runs a regular new parents group?

The eight-week facilitated program is an opportunity to connect with other families and share experiences.

The first New Parents Group for 2023 kicks off on Thursday 2 February and will be held at The Nest at the Maryborough Resource Centre (next to the Library).

To find out more and to register your interest contact our Maternal and Child Health team on 5461 6550.



THANK YOU

Together with Country Education Partnership, we'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the local businesses, contractors, valuable volunteers, community members and groups on a successful 2022 Energy Breakthrough.

With your ongoing support and contribution, Energy Breakthrough celebrated its 30th event.

We welcomed:

- ✓ 4,600 participants and their families
- ✓ \$3.3 million injected into the local economy

Bring on Energy Breakthrough 2023!

Calling all volunteers

Are you a fully licensed driver over 21 years old and interested in road safety? We are looking for enthusiastic people who can commit 1-2 hours a week to help a learner driver to get their licence.

The TAC L2P Program helps young learner drivers who don't have a supervising driver or a vehicle and help them complete the 120 hours of driving experience they'll need before taking their licence test.

A driver's licence opens up new opportunities for education and employment. As a volunteer mentor you'll contribute to your community by helping a young person take their next steps toward independence.

The TAC L2P Program is managed by the Department of Transport and delivered by Council.



To find out more and to register your interest contact Council's L2P Coordinator Audrey Bartlett on 0418 536 517.

FOR EVERYONE: DUE FOR A VACCINATION?

Council's immunisation team is making it easier than ever for you, or a member of your family, to keep up-to-date with vaccinations.

In addition to regular sessions in Maryborough the team will also visit Talbot and Dunolly.

The sessions are free for all vaccinations on the National Immunisation Program (NIP), and for all ages. Vaccines also available for private purchase for non-NIP vaccines.

Talbot

Sessions held at the ANA Hall, 15 Ballarat Street from 8.15am to 10am – Thursday 16 February and Thursday 16 March

Dunolly

Sessions held at Dunolly Town Hall, 83 Broadway from 10am to 11am – Wednesday 25 January; Wednesday 22 February and Wednesday 22 March.

For the full list of Maryborough sessions please see Council's website:

📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/immunisationprogram2023

Bookings are preferred for all sessions. Book online at the link above or contact Council's Immunisation Services team on 0428 894 724 or email immunisation@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

PADDYS RANGES WARD NEWS



Councillor Chris Meddows-Taylor Paddys Ranges Ward

It was good to join with many other Talbot residents on the first engagement of the Talbot Futures project and discuss how and where Talbot can grow sustainably, but importantly retain its heritage charm and character, which we all value so much. I am looking forward to continued engagement over coming months. There will be plenty of opportunities to connect.

The Open Day at the Daisy Hill Community Centre on 19th November was a really fun and exciting occasion with the Centre looking so good. I enjoyed working with residents on priorities for the Daisy Hill Community Plan. Further development of the activities of the Centre was a key priority. The Plan will undergo further development in 2023.

What a spectacular event Light Up Talbot has been! Such a wonderful evening and the lights have been a massive attraction. A big thank you to the team who made this a reality.



New footpath

200 metres of new footpath along Ballarat Street North from Ohara to King Street (east side) will be constructed this year.

The projects will be delivered as part of the 2022-2023 Council Budget.

Talbot Futures Project update


The two core components of the Talbot Futures Project include a town structure plan overseen by Council and an updated and fully costed sewerage system plan overseen by Central Highlands Water.

Both parts of the project will ensure Talbot continues to thrive in the future.

The Talbot community is being called on to shape the project with the community engagement process now underway.

Thank you to those who attended and provided input as part of the Walk & Talk event for the project in November last year.

For more information and to get involved:

 www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/talbotfutures



Daisy Hill Community Plan


Thanks to the 35 residents who attended the Community Day in November and provided input into the development of the Community Plan.

Residents were invited to share what they value and like about Daisy Hill, their concerns and priorities for the future.

Priorities included development of the Community Centre as a hub for community life and activity, development of a Men's Shed, creation of a community garden and reactivation of the V/Line bus stop.

The next step is for the feedback to be developed into a draft community plan for further comment and finalisation by the community.

For more information and updates visit:

 www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/daisyhillplan

Tribute to fallen soldiers

An official opening for the restored Talbot Soldiers Memorial Park Avenue of Honour was held in November last year.

Talbot RSL Sub-Branch collaborated with the Talbot Action Inc to re-establish the Avenue of Honour by re-planting trees that initially perished by the end of WWII.

The project was funded through the Federal Government's 'Planting Trees for the Queen's Jubilee' grant program.



Light Up Talbot

Congratulations to the Talbot Action Inc for bringing the Christmas cheer to Talbot.

The Light Up Talbot event in December was a huge success with the light displays continuing through until the new year.

The event was supported by Council through the 2022 Community Grants Program.

Talbot Pool

Did you know you can cool off for FREE at the Talbot outdoor swimming pool this Summer?

The Talbot Pool is open when the weather is 25°C and above through until March 2023.



Above: RSL Victoria State President Dr Rob Webster with Talbot RSL sub branch member Skip Lynch at the official opening.



In our last edition we explained the importance of our Annual Action Plan.

To recap, the Annual Action Plan is essentially a list of everything that Council is doing and will do over a 12-month (financial year) period.

The actions all stem from the strategic objectives of the Council Plan – which was developed at the start of the Council term with community input.

In the 2022 – 2023 Action Plan there are:

- 132 actions
- 17 actions are focused on advocacy
- 115 are new and ongoing initiatives

Of the 132 actions:

- 95% of the actions were underway
- 30% were not due to start until 2023
- 6% completed
- 1% not progressing

Some of the projects that have been delivered to date include:

- Advocacy for Bristol Hill Urban Bike Path funding – see page 10 for more info
- Funding to move events to be low waste – Energy Breakthrough
- Philips Gardens irrigation project
- Purchase equipment to make Goldfields Family Centre playground inclusive
- Re-launch of The Nest – Go Goldfields
- Review planning processes, policy and delegations to improve efficiency

To find out more visit:

- 📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/annualactionplan2022

YOUTH COUNCIL APPOINT MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYORS



In October last year, Khoa Do was appointed to the role as Central Goldfields Youth Council Mayor and Elizabeth Lewington and Anakin Hurley were named Deputy Youth Mayors.

Elected by their fellow Youth Councillors, Khoa, Elizabeth and Anakin will lead the Youth Council during their term which runs until December 2023.

“It’s a privilege for me to get to represent this group of wonderful like-minded people. I look forward to working together to achieve our goals.”

**Youth Council
Mayor Khoa Do**

“I’m grateful for this role and I’m excited for the opportunity to represent not just the Youth Council, but all young people in Central Goldfields.”

**Youth Council
Deputy Mayor
Elizabeth Lewington**

“I’m grateful that I was able to obtain the role of Deputy Youth Mayor, and I will fulfil it to my highest ability.”

**Youth Council
Deputy Mayor
Anakin Hurley**

Since their appointment in July 2022, the Youth Council have developed a Priorities Statement and an Action Plan – which identifies the areas they will be focusing on for 2023. Both documents are available to view at:

📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/youthcouncil

The establishment of a Youth Council has been funded through the State Government’s Engage! Program.

ENGAGE WITH US

Did you know we have a dedicated website for the community to provide feedback and input into Council decision making?



Soon we’ll be inviting our community to have their say on:

- Talbot Futures project
- Land Use Framework Plan for Maryborough, Carisbrook and Flagstaff
- Local Laws Review
- Waste

Visit www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au to find out about current and past engagement opportunities as well as information about major projects.

Let's talk... Climate!

In October last year, we celebrated Climate Conversation Month in the Central Goldfields.

It was the first community-led initiative to be delivered as part of the Central Goldfields Climate Action Plan 2022-30, which was adopted by Council in June 2022.

The intention was to get our community talking about climate change – listening and learning from their peers about what climate change means to them and what opportunities there are for our community to act.

Eleven kitchen-table style conversations were facilitated with community groups and organisations across the Shire, with a total of 114 residents participating in the discussions.

The initiative received a very positive response from participants and climate conversations are intended to continue throughout the delivery of the Climate Action Plan. These conversations will help ensure delivery of the Plan remains aligned with changing community needs, while also empowering participants with the knowledge, motivation and collaborative connections to act.



Above: Around 60 people attended the Renewable Energy and Home Sustainability Forum to hear from guest speakers about inspiring community energy projects from our region and practical ideas to reduce emissions and energy costs at home.

In the coming months, Council will profile local community groups and businesses who are playing their part in reducing their carbon footprint. Keep an eye out on Council's Facebook page and the website link below for updates.

For a summary report on the October 2022 Climate Conversations, or for more information about climate action in the Central Goldfields, visit:

engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/climateaction

The results are in!

Council is celebrating one year of emissions reductions and cost savings through VECO, Australia's largest ever emissions reduction project by local government.

Central Goldfields is one of 51 Victorian councils to have slashed their energy bills and reduced emissions through the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO), a joint renewable electricity contract.

The collective investment in Victorian renewables has delivered electricity 25 per cent cheaper over the first 12 months and saved approximately 172,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

At a local level, Council's electricity bills have reduced by 10% since joining VECO. Emissions saving is estimated to be 651 tonnes, which is equivalent to powering up to 132 homes or taking 250 cars off the road each year.

The long-term contract with Red Energy will continue to protect councils from record high wholesale prices in the coming years and help to increase the stability of the State's energy system.

For more information visit:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/vecoreresults2022

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

- www.facebook.com/centralgoldfields
- www.twitter.com/CG_Shire
- www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au and www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
- Central Goldfields Shire Council

- Read our full-page Community News advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday.
- Listen to CEO Lucy Roffey's weekly radio interview on Gold Central Victoria every Wednesday around 7.45am.
- Listen to Mayor Cr Grace La Vella's weekly radio interview with Dan Leddin on Goldfields FM every Wednesday afternoon around 2pm.

Join our team

Have you ever considered joining our team? Central Goldfields Shire Council is a great place to work. If you are passionate about delivering great customer service, working for a progressive and innovative Council, and making a difference to your local community then consider a career with us! For more information, including current job opportunities visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/currentvacancies

We'd love to hear your feedback on this publication.

Did you read it, was it worthwhile? Is there a story or information you'd like to see included in an upcoming edition? Please send your feedback to media@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

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

