

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY NEWS

SPRING 2013



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COUNCIL'S 2013/14 BUDGET ADOPTED



MASTERPLAN: Council's Community Planning and Development Officer Fiona Gormann and Mayor Les McPhee look at plans for the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan. The masterplan has been allocated \$780,500 (subject to external funding).



KINDERGARTEN UPGRADE: The Nyah West Kindergarten has received \$326,470 towards the new multipurpose child care facility.



BUDGET BOOST: \$7.4m will be spent on Council's road network, including \$620,000 on unsealed road gravel resheets.

Total revenue: \$56.9 million
Revenue raised from rates and garbage charges: \$23.3 million
Capital works and assets expenditure: \$23.4 million

Swan Hill Rural City Council's \$57 million budget has been adopted at a Special Council Meeting held at the end of July.

A total of \$23.4 million worth of capital works are planned across the municipality, including Swan Hill, Robinvale, Nyah, Nyah West, Boundary Bend and Piangil.

Keeping in line with Council's intention to improve roads, around \$7.4 million will be spent on sealed road reconstruction, resealing and unsealed road resheeting and construction.

The budget includes an average 4.9% rate and garbage charge rise (dependent on property type and valuation), placing Council at the

lower end of the scale within the state.

Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Cr Les McPhee said each year Council strived to find a balance between delivering essential community services and ensuring infrastructure was maintained while passing on a minimal rate increase to the community.

"Funding has not only been allocated for major projects but for more than 100 different community services including Home and Community Care, Family Day Care, youth services, Performing Arts, library services, sports and recreation and economic development," Cr McPhee said.

"The budget also highlights a large capital works program that will again deliver major projects right across the municipality, including Swan Hill CBD beautifications, drainage upgrade in Robinvale, Nyah Recreation Reserve

lighting upgrade, and the Swan Hill Aerodrome to name just a few."

In response to community requests throughout the region, the draft budget also includes \$530,000 for the continued implementation of Community Plans including Beverford, Ultima, Robinvale, Lake Boga, Boundary Bend and Wemen.

"Council will also concentrate its efforts on attracting grant funding, of which both the Victorian Government and Federal Government continue to support Council projects," Cr McPhee added.

"Council is also committed to high quality waste management services and will continue to deliver ongoing savings to the community as a result of waste contracts that have been renegotiated."

The 2013/14 budget is available from Council offices or www.swanhill.vic.gov.au.

Community highlights

Swan Hill Rural City Council's 2013/14 budget aims to maintain service levels while making provision for significant projects and initiatives throughout the municipality including:

Beverford

Beverford intersection \$50,000

Lake Boga

Increase height of Turtle Lagoon bank \$101,375
 Lake Boga Caravan Park assets renewal \$20,000

Nyah

Nyah/Nyah West United FNC ground lighting \$192,820 *
 Implementation of Nyah District Community Plan \$15,000

Nyah West

Nyah West Kindergarten \$326,470
 Nyah West commercial area drainage upgrade \$180,000

Piangil

Construction of new multipurpose building \$49,150
 Piangil playground fence \$11,000

Robinvale

Robinvale retarding basin \$941,825 *
 Robinvale Town Levee detailed design \$67,800

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Aerodrome development \$7,035,000 *
 Chisholm Reserve Raceway

upgrade \$ 2,000,000 *
 Swan Hill Community Hub – Racecourse Reserve \$1,132,120 *
 Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan \$780,500 *
 Beveridge Street reconstruction, kerb and channel \$281,495
 Swan Hill Show Grounds lighting \$200,000 *
 Alan Garden Reserve – resurfacing netball courts \$150,000 *
 Swan Hill Dog Pound upgrade \$150,000
 Swan Hill CBD development \$125,000

Wemen

Wemen public toilets \$40,000

Ultima

Ultima Heritage/Overnight Stay \$28,235

Other budget highlights:

Sealed road reseals - \$880,000
 Reconstruction Lake Boga – Ultima Road, Dog Netting Fence to Donald Road (5km) \$700,000 *
 Unsealed road gravel resheets \$620,000
 Capital improvements at landfills \$343,960
 Aboriginal Strategic Placement Program \$225,355 *
 Gateway signage project \$177,255
 Footpaths major repairs and renewal \$145,000
 Library collection purchases \$105,000

* indicates the project is conditional on external funding

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A FOCUS ON PROJECTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR LES MCPHEE

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Firstly I would like to thank Councillors and staff for their hard work in getting this year's budget together, which was adopted in late July. It's always a very involved process that we go through in the preparation of the budget and I would like to thank everyone for their efforts. Now that the budget has been adopted, we can focus on the upcoming year and look forward to projects outlined in



the budget getting underway.

Speaking of projects, the Lake Boga foreshore is looking terrific following the completion of works, through funding from the State Government's Flood Recovery Community Infrastructure Fund and Council.

The works have greatly improved the access to the foreshore and I've received some great feedback from locals who are very happy with the results.

The past month or so has also seen the launch of a number of projects, including the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan, of which I had the honour of presenting a final copy to our Member for Swan Hill the Honourable Peter Walsh MP at a business breakfast in early August.

This has been an outstanding project, and I would like to thank our community for taking such a huge interest in the masterplan and providing their feedback. I would also like to congratulate staff and consultants for their hard work. We'll now start

to see a number of projects getting underway for the plan.

Early August also saw a number of official openings of projects, including the new PS Pyap wharf at the Pioneer Settlement, George Lay Park and the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC lighting and audio upgrades.

All of these projects were launched by the Honourable Peter Walsh, and were made possible through State Government funding.

The Town Hall PACC celebrations particularly highlighted how well the facility is used by our community and the diversity of this building as a performing arts venue. This includes major events such as the Tour de Crawford and the State Schools Extraganza, major touring shows and its

use as a cinema.

It's also great to see our region continuing to host major national events. This includes the Australian Motocross Championships round in the middle of August, which was anticipated to see around 2000 people turn up to Swan Hill's Chisholm Reserve. Next April, Robinvale will play host to the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia's (CMCA) 2014 Rally. Previous CMCA rallies have brought in around 2000 people and the Robinvale event is expected to be one of the biggest yet. This event is a huge coup for our communities and will be an enormous economic boost to Robinvale and our region, and its reputation as a tourist destination.

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Central Ward
CR GREG CRUICKSHANK
Deputy Mayor
0419 754 174
greg.cruickshank@swanhill.vic.gov.au

What a great half year we have had in the Swan Hill Rural City Council. The list of projects either completed or being planned is very exciting.

The Pioneer Settlement redevelopment is really going places with the new PS Gem Wharf, the Lower Murray Inn and the opening of the new PS Pyap Wharf putting a fresh new face to the Settlement.

Also the completion of George Lay Park and Barry Steggall Park all abilities playground, the endorsement of the Riverfront Masterplan, construction of the Community Hub at the Swan Hill Racecourse underway, continued redevelopments of the CBD including approval of new traffic conditions at the clock tower intersection, prime development land for sale at North Park, solar power developments and Chisholm Reserve Drag strip nearly ready to go.

Combined, these projects will create jobs and inject millions of dollars into our economy. I truly believe that the Swan Hill region is set for an exciting future.



Central Ward
CR JESSIE KILEY
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The past few months have seen a number of important decisions being made at Council, including that of the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan. Development of our greatest asset, in my opinion, is crucial to the future economic development of the tourism and hospitality industry in our region.

The budget for the 2013 - 2014 year has recently been passed and includes funds allocated to several major projects in the next financial year. While it is important that Council remains fiscally conservative in times of economic downturn, this must be balanced with foresight and vision for our future so that our municipality remains in a position to attract tourism and investment in years to come.

I would also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our new CEO, Dean Miller. Dean has done a commendable job of educating himself about our region's key issues as well as the community's wants and desires moving in to the future.



Central Ward
CR JIM CROWE
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I recently attended a meeting at the Swan Hill Agricultural and Pastoral Society and was amazed at how much work goes into putting on a show each year. It is easy to think that because the annual Swan Hill Show runs only for two days it would not take much organising. However, it takes the better part of two people at least three days a week for the entire year.

It was great to see some young ones helping, as many of our show veteran volunteers are getting up in years.

They are always looking for more helpers, not only on the two days of the show but the days before and after. If you think you could lend a helping hand, please ring the show office on 5032 4314 or contact Ann Crowe, treasurer on 0438 331 733.

If it was not for these volunteers and their generous support, there wouldn't be a show for our community to enjoy.



Central Ward
CR MICHAEL ADAMSON
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michael.adamson@swanhill.vic.gov.au

The past few months have been a busy time for Council and it is great to see some major plans being passed and moving forward.

The South West Precinct land development provides great new opportunities for expansion and growth for Swan Hill. The development will also complement our current land release at Tower Hill.

Planning of the river precinct is also an exciting project. The Riverfront Masterplan includes the proposal to decommission the railway north of Swan Hill, including moving the station further south of its current location. If this can be achieved, the river precinct can be opened and connected to the heart of the town.

I have and will continue to advocate for good recreational facilities in our community and believe good planning will add to the liveability of our community for the benefit of us all.



Murray Mallee Ward
CR GARY NORTON
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gary.norton@swanhill.vic.gov.au

The Nyah District has been a hive of excitement these past few months with a number of great projects getting underway and progressing.

The Nyah West Kindergarten upgrade is another step closer with Council's Major Projects team working on the draft concept plan. This facility will be a major asset to the Nyah District community ensuring the best services are available for the youth of the district.

May saw the announcement of State Government funding to upgrade the lighting at the Nyah Recreation Reserve. Sport and recreation clubs are vital to communities and this upgrade will help increase participation and usage of the facility and to also bring opportunities for other activities.

Finally, the Nyah District community plan was formally adopted this month. I would like to congratulate and highlight the exceptional work of the Nyah community in creating a plan that will ensure continued growth in the Nyah District.



Robinvale Ward
CR JOHN KATIS
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There are exciting times ahead for Robinvale with some great upcoming events and projects.

In March 2014 Robinvale will host to the 28th annual Motorhome Rally. This rally will see an influx of over 2000 people to our township, providing a major boost to our local economy.

Not only will Robinvale reap the benefits of the fantastic event but visitors are sure to explore our beautiful region increasing tourism across our entire municipality.

This event will put Robinvale on the map and I would like to extend my thanks to Council for allowing this event to take place.

I was also pleased at Council's decision to approve the purchase of a section of vacant land along Bromley Road. This land will allow the extension of McGinty Park and will be a major asset in the Bromley Road Masterplan. I look forward to works beginning on this project, helping to further highlight the wonderful features Robinvale has to offer.

CONTACT COUNCIL

WWW.SWANHILL.VIC.GOV.AU

Swan Hill office

45 Splatt Street Swan Hill VIC 3585
Phone: 5036 2333, Fax: 5036 2340

Robinvale office (Robinvale Resource Centre)

68-72 Herbert Street Robinvale VIC 3549
Phone: 5051 8000, Fax: 5051 8010

Both offices are open Monday to Friday 8.30am until 5pm.

After hours emergency

Roads, trees etc 0419 888 779. Storms and floods call SES 132 500

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UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held each month at 7pm

- » 17 September at Swan Hill Town Hall
- » 15 October at Nyah Recreation Reserve (upstairs)
- » 19 November at Swan Hill Town Hall
- » 10 December at Swan Hill Town Hall

All members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings. Agendas are available at www.swanhill.vic.gov.au in the days leading up to the meeting.

Special Council meetings will also be held from time to time. Visit www.swanhill.vic.gov.au for details or check local media.



IN BRIEF

COUNCIL PLAN ADOPTED

Swan Hill Rural City Council has adopted its four-year Council Plan at its Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 25 June.

The Council Plan guides Council's key decision-making over the next four years.

With a strong focus on continued growth in population and the local economy, it sets out how Council intends to address important issues such as growth, community engagement, financial sustainability and maintenance of essential infrastructure.

Copies of the Council Plan are available from Council's Splatt Street Office or can be downloaded from Council's website at www.swanhill.vic.gov.au.

NYAH COMMUNITY PLAN

The Nyah District Community Plan was formally adopted by the Nyah community earlier this month.

The plan focuses on 'beyond tomorrow' and identifies opportunities and projects that will see continued growth in the area and to support the vision of a liveable, quiet and safe community.

The plan highlights youth support as a major priority as well as supporting Nyah District Action Group projects.

Copies of the plan are available from Council's website at www.swanhill.vic.gov.au.

FAMILY DAY CARE EDUCATORS

Council's Family Day Care is currently recruiting suitable Educators in Swan Hill, Nyah, Nyah West, Robinvale and Manangatang. Family Day Care offers an exciting opportunity to run your own rewarding business and work flexible hours while providing an education and care program for children aged from 0 to 12 years. The scheme is committed to continuous improvement to ensure high quality education and care for children in our communities.

If you have been considering a career in early childhood, please contact Council's Family Day Care service on 5036 2370 to discuss your options.

IMMUNISATIONS

Council will host monthly immunisation sessions at the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC on the following dates:

9 September, 7 October, 11 November, 9 December from 10am until 11am.

23 September, 21 October, 25 November, 16 December from 6pm until 7pm.

Immunisations will be offered for protection against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough; haemophilus influenzae B; poliomyelitis; pneumococcal; rotavirus; measles/mumps/rubella; meningococcal C; chicken pox; and hepatitis A/B.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



As the new CEO, the last three months have been a very exciting and informative time as I have travelled around the municipality meeting hundreds of people, engaging with various communities, government agencies, and inspecting many of the Council's assets and facilities. In coming weeks and months I hope to visit many more of the smaller communities of the municipality to hear directly from them about their aspirations and issues.

Local Government is all about relationship building, having conversations, understanding other people's and organisations' aspirations and challenges, and working together towards common goals. A great example of this was the recent community engagement in relation to the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan, which saw 2000 people participate, including our indigenous families. I pay tribute to Council's Fiona Gormann for her outstanding leadership of the project, and wish to thank everyone in the community who offered their time and suggestions. The Riverfront Masterplan was adopted unanimously by Council in July.

The Mayor and I have met with members of parliament, both State and Federal, and prospective candidates for the upcoming election, to

advocate for our big projects including a quarter mile drag strip at Chisholm Reserve and "Heartbeat of the Murray" – the amazing sound and light show at the Pioneer Settlement. Recently, we had the opportunity to showcase the Riverfront Masterplan, the Pioneer Settlement and the Heartbeat of the Murray to Member for Swan Hill the Honourable Peter Walsh, Regional Development Victoria and Tourism Victoria at a breakfast at the Pioneer Settlement. Everyone was impressed with the vision that Council has for its riverfront and its role in a wider regional campaign to attract tourists to the Murray River.

It was very pleasing to secure the rights to host the 28th anniversary rally of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) in Robinvale in March and April

2014. The rally is expected to attract about 2000 people to the town, and this will bring a significant economic boost not only to Robinvale but to surrounding areas including Swan Hill. More information about the rally will be provided to the community in early 2014, and there will be opportunities for the general community to participate in CMCA activities on their 'open day'. The rally will put Robinvale on the map and lead to return visits by club members and their friends and families through word of mouth.

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Brett Luxford to the position of Director Development and Planning. Brett is a qualified planner with extensive experience in economic development. He was formerly the Manager of Business Growth and Sustainability at Melton

City Council, one of Victoria's fastest growing councils. Brett joined the organisation on 26 August.

I am also very pleased to announce that the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency the Hon Alex Chernov AC QC, and his wife Elizabeth, will tour the municipality on 28 and 29 November 2013. I was very fortunate to have had the pleasure of hosting Governor Chernov and his wife when I was the CEO at Hindmarsh Shire. They are very warm and engaging people and are interested in everything that rural and regional Victoria has to offer. An itinerary is being drafted, and we hope as many people as possible will get a chance to meet the Governor.

Dean Miller
Chief Executive Officer

SWAN HILL RIVERFRONT MASTERPLAN ENDORSED



GARDEN DESIGN: Swan Hill College student Jack Connor's design for the clock tower garden redevelopment will be fully scoped.

After extensive community consultation, research and meetings the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan has been endorsed.

The masterplan will guide the redevelopment of the 4.5-kilometre section of the Murray and Little Murray rivers over the next 30 years.

Extensive community consultation saw over 2000 residents and visitors provide input into the masterplan.

Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Les McPhee praised the work of Council staff and consultants in developing the plan and also the level of community involvement.

"The amount of work that went in to creating such a detailed plan for the future of our riverfront in only six months is a fantastic achievement," Cr McPhee said.

"I congratulate and thank the staff and consultants for their hard work and dedication during the development of the masterplan.

"I also want to extend that thanks to the community for taking such a big interest. With over 2000 residents and visitors providing feedback, this is largest community consultation project conducted by Council," he said.

"And, it is with this feedback that we now have a masterplan that has been created by our community,

for the community."

The key themes highlighted through the extensive community consultation included linkage from the riverfront to the CBD, a water play park, upgrades to river walk tracks, environmental and revegetation works, an adventure park and an overall focus on family friendliness.

Following the endorsement of the masterplan, a number of projects are anticipated to begin shortly.

One of the first projects to get underway will be the redevelopment of the garden area behind the new clock tower.

The garden has been designed by Swan Hill College student Jack Connor. Jack submitted his concept during the redevelopment of the clock tower in 2011. His design captured the attention of Swan Hill Rural City Councillors who recommended the garden design be fully scoped.

A community celebration will be held to commemorate the endorsement of the masterplan and to thank the community for their input. This will coincide with the turning of the first sod signalling the beginning of the riverfront upgrade.

To view the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan visit www.swanhill.vic.gov.au.



MEN'S SHED: Lake Boga Men's Shed Members (L-R) Allan Treble, Max Lord, Barrie Free, Frank Saul and Roy Dewhurst.

NEW LAKE BOGA MEN'S SHED

Construction of the new Men's Shed at Lake Boga was completed in July and projects have already started rolling in.

The Men's Shed, located behind the Lake Boga Bowling Club, was constructed with the aim of improving the health and wellbeing of men in the area.

In the short time the shed has been running, the group has been

overwhelmed with community support, receiving donations of tools and projects to raise money for future needs.

One of the first projects for the group is the repair of five donated barbecues. Once repaired, the barbecues will be sold and funds raised will go towards future equipment.

Another upcoming project is the completion

of a 1.3-metre model sailing boat that was bequeathed to the Men's Shed.

A celebration and official opening of the shed will take place in the near future - all are welcome to attend.

This project was made possible thanks to funding from Swan Hill Rural City Council and generous community support, donations and volunteers.

BEVERIDGE STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Beveridge Street, between McCallum and McCrae streets will undergo a complete reconstruction from the end of August.

It is anticipated the works will take approximately 16 days to complete.

Council's Director Infrastructure David Leahy said every effort will be taken to maximise accessibility during the works.

"The reconstruction of the street will be completed in two sections, leaving one half of the street accessible to vehicles," Mr Leahy said.

"There will be one or two days when a complete road closure will be necessary but these will be kept to Sundays, keeping the impact on trading to a minimum."

The section of Beveridge Street will be completely reconstructed and resurfaced and the centre line shifted. The upgrades will assist with drainage and make the road safer for pedestrian crossing.

Community members will be advised of road closures through public notices in the local media and on Council's website.



NEW PS PYAP WHARF LAUNCHED



MASTERPLAN: Mayor Les McPhee presented the Honourable Peter Walsh MP with a copy of the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan at a business breakfast held prior to the PS Pyap wharf opening.

The Pioneer Settlement's stunning new PS Pyap wharf has been officially launched.

A crowd braved the cool August weather to see firsthand this fantastic new upgrade to the Pioneer Settlement and watch the Member for Swan Hill the Honourable Peter Walsh MP and Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Les McPhee unveil a commemorative plaque.

The wharf features a new

redgum deck and ramp to the PS Pyap (with four access points for different river heights), making it much more user friendly and accessible for people of all abilities.

The upgrade also includes a new retaining wall. Works were completed by Hunter Wharf and Barge, while the project was funded through the State Government's Flood Recovery Community Infrastructure Fund.

The opening followed a business

breakfast where the Member for Swan Hill and members from Regional Development Victoria and Tourism Victoria heard presentations about the Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan, Pioneer Settlement upgrades and the Heartbeat of the Murray.

Cr McPhee then presented Minister Walsh with a final copy of the Riverfront Masterplan.



WHARF LAUNCH: The Member for Swan Hill, with Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Les McPhee, unveils the official plaque commemorating the new PS Pyap wharf.



GARDEN MAGIC: Stage one of the Manangatang P-12 College's Monster Garden has transformed an old courtyard into a vibrant learning space.

The first stage of Manangatang P-12 College's Monster Garden has been completed, with the transformation of an old courtyard into a vibrant learning space.

With the involvement of the school's VCAL students, the area is now being used as an outdoor classroom and recreation space. A sensory garden has been planted, while wooden chairs and other outdoor furniture

have changed the area. A weather station has also been installed.

As well as providing a stimulating environment and natural light, the sensory garden also has different textures to touch and feel for students with autism spectrum disorder and developmental delays. The garden also enables students to observe a living garden.

Through Council's Community Grants

Program, Council provided \$1100 towards the first stage of the three-stage project, which will also see the planting of an orchard and installation of a community kitchen with a pizza oven.

The garden, which is open to everyone, is also used for community meetings and gatherings, and is used by local playgroups and the pre-school, staff meetings and Student Representative Council meetings, as well as

Family Day Care.

Manangatang P-12 College Principal David Griffin said stage one had created momentum for the completion of the overall project.

"I think it is great that we now have this additional resource within our community," Mr Griffin said.

"The volunteers who have worked hard to implement this project have done a magnificent job."

ALSO IN THE WORKS

Council officers and contractors have been busy working on roads and other projects around the municipality over the past few months, including:

» Road reconstructions

Crete Road, Robinvale — reconstructed and widened 2.6km

Higgins Road, Robinvale — reconstructed 200 metres

Woorinen Vinifera Road, Vinifera — reconstructed and lime stabilised 1.2km

Church Road, Nyah — reconstructed 540 metres

Lakeside Drive, Lake Boga — reconstructed 700 metres

Little Murray Weir Road, Lake Boga - reconstructed 500 metres

» Resheeting

Meatian North Road, Meatian — gravel resheeted 3.6km

River Road, Swan Hill — gravel resheeted 1.2km

Tresco Mystic Park Road, Tresco — gravel resheeted 1.25km

Vivian Road, Chinkapook — gravel resheeted 1.6km

Quambatook Road, Kunat — shoulder resheeted 3km

Woorinen Road, Swan Hill — shoulder resheeted 1.3km

» Ultima Lions Club Park

Works are nearing completion on the Ultima Lions Club Park. The Ultima community continue to be impressed that the concept plan they developed through Council's community planning process and landscape architect Noreen Jones, is now starting to take shape. Over 400 bricks with current and former residents' names have been laid in the park to resemble a train track, keeping with the theme of the park *End of the Line*. A footpath

has also been made from recycled bricks. The development of a ramp, which is accessible from the east and west sides of the public hall, provides the park with all-abilities access.

The park also has a feature garden planted with miniature bottle brushes from a tree-planting day, which involved Council's Chief Executive Officer Dean Miller and Council staff, as well as students from Ultima Primary School (see page 8).

The new playground, footpaths and landscaping has encouraged many visitors and former residents to return to Ultima and locals encourage everyone to visit the park.

The Ultima Lions Club is now focused on creating an outdoor memorabilia museum in conjunction with the local community.



PARK PROGRESS: The new ramp at the Ultima Lions Club Park. The ramp is accessible from the east and west sides of the public hall.



COME AND TRY FOOTBALL FOR ALL DAY SUCCESS

A fantastic crowd of around 120 people came to the Barry Steggall All Abilities Park for the Come and Try Football for All Day in late June.

Sixty-five participants took part in the day, which included a circuit of football stations such as a handball wall and kicking drills as well as football activities. The activities were planned and co-ordinated by PUSH committee members Billy Carpinteri and Sean Ewart, and Swan Hill College Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation students.

The AFL also provided giveaways for the participants, who included Murray Human Services, Task Force, Swan Hill Specialist School and other community members.

Funded by Council's Rural Access program, the crowd enjoyed a barbecue lunch (with bread donated by Coles), while McDonald's supplied drink containers.

PUSH committee members Delia Baber, Clinton Hucker, Lynne Johnstone

and Peta-Lyn Nosatti helped organise the day. Also assisting the event was Football Administration Manager for the Football Integration Development Association Logan Whitaker, Region Development Manager for Central Murray/North Central WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Trevor Mellington and volunteer Daryl Powell.

The event was also supported by Swan Hill College Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation teachers Whitney Kennedy and Chris Grant, and Murray ACE students.

It is hoped that the Come and Try Day will be followed by a six-week program similar to Auskick.

**Want to know more?
Contact Delia Baber,
Mallee Sports Assembly
on 0429 332 008,
delia@malleesportsassembly.org.au
or Clinton Hucker, Rural Access
Co-ordinator on 5036 2404.**



FULL FORWARDS: (L-R) Sean Ewart, Trevor Mellington, Phillip Evans, Clinton Hucker, Logan Whitaker, Delia Baber and Billy Carpinteri with Swan Hill Specialist School students Connor Gifford Andrews and Jade Barr.

PIANGIL MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE



FUNDING: Piangil Memorial Park Committee Member Malcolm Vallance with Local Member for Swan Hill, the Honourable Peter Walsh MP.

After two years of planning, the Piangil community will see a new multi-purpose centre built in the town.

In addition to State Government funding of \$300,000 through the Putting Locals First Program, the community has raised \$26,000. Council will also contribute \$81,000 towards the project (including \$49,150 from Community Planning).

The Piangil community have already created plans to identify the building's layout and its many uses including

the Maternal and Child Health Service and toilets which will be accessible from inside and outside the building. The former community centre will be demolished to make way for construction.

It is anticipated that the concrete slab for the building will be poured before Christmas this year, and the new multi-purpose centre ready for hire by the end of 2014. A Christmas party is one of the first events planned to celebrate the new building.

NYAH WEST KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

The Nyah West Kindergarten upgrade is scheduled for completion during the 2013-2014 financial year. Council's Major Projects team is currently working on the following:

- Feature survey/site investigation.
- Ensuring that the existing utilities (power supply, sewer, water supply), will be sufficient for the upgraded centre.
- Setting design criteria in light of community consultation

and current legislation relating to children's services.

- Putting the concept plan into an engineered architect design.
- Tendering (one month) and construction (anticipated two to three months).
- Landscaping options.

Further discussions will take place with the user groups within the community, to work out the finer details, and then a physical building date will be determined.

GEORGE LAY PARK OFFICIALLY OPENED

A crowd of students, teachers and staff gathered on a cool day in early August to see the official opening of George Lay Park by the Member for Swan Hill, the Honourable Peter Walsh, MP and Swan Hill College VCAL students.

The land that was formerly known as "prickle park" has undergone a complete transformation to become a much-used and loved community space.

Swan Hill College Year 11 and 12 VCAL students have taken a leading role in the George Lay Park project from its very beginning. The students carried out initial surveys with local residents, helped with concept designs for the park and provided major input into the George Lay Park Masterplan.

The students also helped to raise funds for developments to George Lay Park through barbecues, family fun days, garage sales and cake stalls.

Speaking at the opening, Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Cr Les McPhee congratulated the VCAL students for their hard work, and also thanked the State Government who provided funding of \$197,500 through the Putting Locals First program. Council also contributed \$124,000 towards the park.

Following the official proceedings, Mayor Les McPhee, with encouragement from the Honourable Peter Walsh and students, took a ride on the park's flying fox (pictured).



RIBBON CUTTING: Member for Swan Hill the Honourable Peter Walsh, MP with Swan Hill College VCAL students and Mayor Les McPhee.



FLYING HIGH: Mayor McPhee takes his turn on the flying fox (with encouragement from the Member for Swan Hill and students).

COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATIONS – OPEN NOW

Applications for the Category One and Community Pride grants are now open, giving community, sporting, cultural and other not-for-profit groups the opportunity to apply for up to \$2000 from Council's Community Grants Program.

Funding under Category One will be provided for applications that target projects such as structural repairs or minor upgrades to community facilities, current OH&S or risk management issues, equipment upgrades, local community events or new

programs and activities within a community.

The Community Pride category provides funds towards sustainability initiatives that contribute to the vision of community pride, enhance the look and feel of the community, and develop innovative solutions for sustainable communities.

Applications for both categories will be open until Friday, 13 September 2013.

Groups and organisations based in the Swan Hill Rural City Council or organisations from outside the

municipality but with a project delivering services to residents of Swan Hill Rural City, are eligible to apply.

Groups and organisations must also be an incorporated body, or be auspiced.

Application forms are available via Council's website www.swanhill.vic.gov.au, Council's Splatt Street office and from the Robinvale Resource Centre.

For more information, contact Casey Hovenden at Council on 5036 2331 or email chovenden@swanhill.vic.gov.au.



YOUTH NEWS

More than 500 young people have attended Swan Hill Rural City Council Youth Support Program events during the past year. This includes a number of FReeZA events such as:

- Ice skating at the Pioneer Settlement with music from local youth band 9 Day Kings.
- Pre-Australia Day pool party at the Swan Hill outdoor pool.
- Metal Mayhem concert at Longhurst Hall.
- Skate/Scoot/BMX Jam during 2013 National Youth Week at the Swan Hill Skate Park.
- Red Rave at the Swan Hill Leisure Centre to raise money and awareness for Red Nose Day.

The Swan Hill Youth Council also held public speaking workshops for around 75 young people with trainer Peter Dhu at the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC. The Youth Council also held Swan Hill's first ever dry debutant ball at the Town Hall in conjunction with Southern Lights Church.

Other youth activities include:

- Coaching Young People for Success – SHRCC Youth Support Program. A complete life, career and school performance coaching system transforming the approach to traditional career guidance, case management and support for young people.
- Youth Kitchen – a free weekly session on a Wednesday from 4pm to 6pm at Youth Inc. The Youth Kitchen provides an opportunity for young people to learn valuable cooking skills.
- Youth Inc school group visits from the Swan Hill Specialist School, Murray Ace – GGEA class, SuniTAFE – SuniTech and Swan Hill College – VCAL and Which Way Now students.
- Swan Hill Specialist School Tuesday afternoon visits. This is an elective for the Senior School students, with around 10 young people coming into Youth Inc every week for free time. A new group of students come in each term. The Youth Connections program for Swan Hill Specialist School graduates is also held every Thursday from 10am to 3pm.

Young people will also have the chance to get involved in the decision-making within Local Government with the development of a Youth Engagement, Inclusion and Participation Framework. The framework will involve youth across the municipality giving them a voice in the policies, programs and initiatives affecting young people and their community. The framework is funded by the Department of Human Services – Office for Youth (a component of the Government's Shape It! Strategy).

Want to know more?

Visit www.youthinc.net.au or call Youth Support Co-ordinator Kane Sparks on 5036 2482.

RATES NOTICES

Council rate notices were sent out recently and residents may have noticed a few changes.

FIRE SERVICES LEVY

This year's notice now includes the Fire Services Property Levy.

In the past, the Fire Services Levy was charged through home and contents insurance policies.

The levy will no longer be charged through home and contents insurance, it now appears on property rate notices.

Council would like to reiterate that it does not keep any of the funds collected for the levy. These funds are sent directly to the State Government.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

The option to pay rates in one lump sum in February each year is no longer available, however the early payment in full discount will still apply.

Payment by instalments allows all ratepayers to better spread their rate payments over the financial year.

It also enables ratepayers who may miss an instalment payment to receive a reminder notice via their next instalment notice, with a minor interest penalty on the overdue amount only.

For further information on the Fire Services Levy or rate payment options please read through the brochures included in your rates notice or contact Council's revenue department on 5036 2333.

MORE THAN JUST PARKING

MEET THE REG SERVICES TEAM: Council's Regulatory Services team members (L-R) Darren Rovere, Harold Rovere, Cliff Ryan, Jennifer Connell (Robinvale) and Adam Hunter.

There is never a dull moment in the Regulatory Services Department. From rehousing dogs to litter enforcement, the role of a Reg Services Officer is as interesting as it is varied.

The purpose of the Regulatory Services Department is to provide for the peace, order and wellbeing of the people in the municipal district and to create a safe environment for all members of the community to freely go about their day-to-day lives.

Changes to legislation and upgrades in technology keep Council's Regulatory Services team on their toes. Over the past few years some major changes and upgrades have taken place to ensure Council is at the forefront in keeping the municipality safe. The Reg Services team's highlights include:

The Swan Hill Pound underwent Stage one of its redevelopment which saw the number of holding pens

double and an isolated area created for sick and injured animals. The extra pens means that more dogs can be housed while trying to re-home them.

The Robinvale Pound also received an upgrade and now consists of five dog bays, one cat bay, an isolation bay, washroom and food preparation area.

New parking meter technology was introduced with positive feedback received from community members for its ease of use and the ability to pay for time rather than a set space.

A free micro-chipping day was introduced in 2011. Each year Council offers 50 pet owners the chances to microchip their dog or cat for free. Micro-chipping is vital to ensure the best chance for the safe return of missing pets.

At the beginning of 2013 Council joined forces with animal welfare groups to re-house dogs that were not

claimed from the pound or surrendered. This incredible project ensures that all dogs deemed safe for rehousing are sent to different agencies around Victoria to be placed in loving homes.

The K-9 Kube - a hydraulic lifter that safely loads and transports animals from ground level onto a transport vehicle - won the WorkSafe Award for Best Solution to a Workplace Health and Safety Issue. The development of the Kube, a joint partnership between Council and local business CJM Attachments, revolutionised Occupational Health and Safety for our authorised officers who handle dogs and other animals.

All of these highlights, and many more, help Council's Reg Services Officers with the not always easy task of keeping our community safe.

Residents can contact the Regulatory Services Department on 5036 2346.

Did you know?

As well as handling the more well known areas such as parking meters and animal control, Regulatory Services also manages:

- Municipal fire prevention and inspections
- Litter enforcement
- Prevention of cruelty to animals
- Inspection of Domestic Animal Businesses
- Investigation of animal complaints
- Education within schools on responsible pet ownership

STATS

From January to July this year Council has re-housed 137 dogs. Since the free microchipping program began in 2011, 240 cats and dogs have been microchipped for free.

PS GEM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAY CAKE: A special PS Gem cake also marked the occasion.



A REAL GEM: Guests at the Lower Murray Inn celebrated the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the PS Gem.

In late July around 180 guests turned out to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the PS Gem to the Pioneer Settlement.

The 50th birthday also marked the beginnings of the Pioneer Settlement that we know today.

Guests enjoyed a spit roast, music from the Happy Wanderers and plenty of memories at the Settlement's Lower Murray Inn. Swan Hill Rural City Council Mayor Les McPhee also led a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday.

Purchased in 1962 by the then Swan Hill Folk Museum, the Paddle Steamer Gem was towed to Swan Hill by the PS Oscar W.

What was originally expected to be a 10-day trip, turned into 10 months due to low river levels, however the Queen of the Murray finally arrived in Swan Hill in July 1963.

Since her arrival to the Settlement, the PS Gem has undergone a number of transformations, including major restoration works in 2010, breathing new life into the paddle

steamer.

Further works were completed earlier this year around the PS Gem, including a new wharf area, viewing platform, a walking path along Monash Drive and a new wedding entrance. These recent works were funded by Council and Regional Development Victoria's Local Government Infrastructure Program.

Want to know more?

Contact the Pioneer Settlement on 5036 2410 or visit www.pioneersettlement.com.au.



FANTASTIC WEEKEND OF MUSIC



STREET PARTY: The band Young Guns perform at last year's YESFest.

Swan Hill Cultural Services are teaming up with the Fairfax Festival and Songlines to present a weekend of music and entertainment – the perfect way to start the September school holidays.

The weekend gets underway on Friday, 20 September with YESFest – a street party like no other.

A night of youth art and creativity, YESFest is the ideal start to what is shaping up to be a huge weekend. Don't miss the chance to see some of the state's up and coming bands, singers and

actors in a night of carnival-style entertainment, food and music. The event is free for anyone under the age of 18 and is just a donation on entry for everyone else.

Saturday night brings another night of free music to the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC with Songlines and Swan Hill Rural City Council presenting some of Indigenous Australia's best musicians for one night only.

Nationally renowned performers Kutcha Edwards, The Egoz and Skin Choir will be joined by local dancers and

performers for a free concert from 6pm – the perfect lead-in to a night on the town.

The weekend will also see musicians and bands performing at pubs, clubs and restaurants throughout Swan Hill. Visit www.swanhill.vic.gov.au for other session locations and times.

YESFest:
Friday, 20 Sept
5pm - 9.30pm

Songlines Concert:
Saturday, 21 Sept
6pm - 8.30pm



TOWN HALL MARKS LATEST TRANSFORMATION

PERFORMANCE: The Breakaways helped to showcase the Town Hall's audio and lighting upgrades.

The Swan Hill Town Hall PACC has marked its new audio and lighting upgrades with an official celebration in early August.

Launched by the Member for Swan Hill the Honourable Peter Walsh, the commemorations saw a number of guests gather to celebrate the Town Hall's latest upgrades, including showcasing the new equipment with a performance by The Breakaways.

Recognising the diversity of the Swan Hill Town Hall PACC as a

performing arts venue, it's now equipped with one of the best PA systems in regional Victoria, catering for weddings and bands, through to full theatrical performances.

Brand-new LED lights which can change to any colour have also been installed, while the stage has been fitted out with smoke and haze machines for visual effects. Six moving lights can also display colours, patterns and other effects.

Other upgrades include a new

wireless communications system between backstage and sound and light operators, monitors in the foyer and dressing rooms and a facelift for the ticket box. A hearing aid loop has also been installed in the auditorium.

The upgrades, which were completed by Outlook Communications, were funded through a joint partnership between Regional Development Victoria and Council.

ROBINVALE COMMUNITY GARDEN UNDERWAY



PLANNING: Robinvale P-12 College students and Paul Ward plan the layout for the new Robinvale Community Garden.

Through Council's community planning process, the Robinvale community identified as a priority to have a community garden which the whole community can access.

Robinvale P-12 College kindly made available school land for the garden, while the Year 10 Agriculture students are leading the project. Garden concept plans have been developed and already a number

of local partners are supporting the garden's development including Council, Robinvale Health Service and SuniTAFE to name a few.

The students have also held soup days to raise funds and awareness. Robinvale community garden partners encourage others to support the garden by either participating in its development or through monetary donations to help grow the garden.

GET SET FOR PIONEERS WEEKEND



HOMESTEAD: Tours of the Murray Downs homestead are among the activities planned for Pioneers Weekend.

Kicking off on Friday, 27 September and running until the Sunday, this year's Pioneers Weekend will have something for everybody.

Formerly known as Pioneers Week, Pioneers Weekend will see the event brought back to the Pioneer Settlement and will run in conjunction with the site's school holiday program. Returning this year will be

the ever-popular Antiques and Collectables Appraisals Day at the Lower Murray Inn, which will run alongside the Pioneer's Book Fair at the Pioneer Settlement on the Sunday.

Also on Sunday will be the Rare Trades and Skills Day as well as tours of the Murray Downs homestead.

In other exciting news, a film night is also planned to be

incorporated into this year's event. The night, hosted by Swan Hill's film buff Barrie Bales will include the Australian film Newsfront on Friday night.

Stay tuned to local media for more details of Pioneers Weekend events, including the film festival, or call the Swan Hill Region Information Centre on 5032 3033.

FREE E-WASTE DISPOSAL AT SWAN HILL LANDFILL

Community members can now dispose of e-waste, including televisions and computer screens for free at the Swan Hill Landfill.

At its June meeting, Council voted to become an E-Waste Stewardship Provider under the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.

Council's Director Infrastructure David Leahy said previously the cost to ratepayers to dispose of TVs and computer screens was \$15 per screen (up to three only) and \$25 for each extra screen.

"Council held a Free E-Waste Collection Event at the Swan Hill Landfill

during May and over 1100 televisions and computer screens were collected from just 292 transactions," Mr Leahy said.

"The overwhelming result highlighted the amount of unwanted e-waste in the community.

"This program allows us to not only divert e-waste from landfill cells but will also have a major impact on the number of illegal dumping incidents and reducing the municipality's ecological footprint," he said.

The Swan Hill Landfill is open Sunday to Friday from 9am to 4pm and Saturdays from 9am to 2pm.



ULTIMA TREE PLANTING DAY

Fifty native miniature bottle brush trees were planted in June at the recently upgraded Lions Club Park in Ultima.

Ten students from Ultima Primary School worked alongside Swan Hill Rural City Council staff to plant the new trees, which will be a main feature of the park.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Dean Miller was there to lend a helping hand on the day.

"Working side by side with the students, getting our hands dirty planting the trees and then seeing how proud they were with the finished result just made for an excellent day," Mr Miller said.

"The children were so enthusiastic to be involved, which just highlights the community pride in Ultima."

Other recent upgrades to the park include the installation of bollards, a final layer of mulch spread over the garden beds, an extension of the disability access ramp to the public toilets and the installation of adult gym equipment.

The project has been made possible through funding from Swan Hill Rural City Council and support from the Ultima Lions Club, Ultima Primary School, Ultima Progress Association and the Ultima community.



TREE PLANTING: Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO Dean Miller and Environment Officer Natalie James pictured with Ultima Primary School students at the Ultima Lions Club Park.

COMPELLING VIEWING



Paul Blackmore Festival of the Epiphany, Russia 2010, type C photograph 36 x 55 cm, edition of 15.

The CCP Documentary Photography Award is returning to Swan Hill from the 15 August to 29 September. This very popular contemporary photography exhibition showcases some of the best photographers in the country. From traditional black and white imagery, to vibrant colour recordings — all are done without digital manipulation. These works are compelling, leaving the viewer wanting to know and see more.

Themes range from the effects of war on US Marines through to dog shows, roller derby and the annual Miss South Sudan Australia pageant.

In this snap happy age where

digital images are taken and uploaded to the internet within seconds using the average mobile phone, it is a privilege to see real photographs and the work of skilled professionals, which is considered meaningful and insightful.

Following on from this, and in sharp contrast to, the tour de force of information and imagery is the subtle and contemplative work of local artist Anna Stewart. Her work *Quiet – thinking of nature*, will give us time to consider our footprint on the earth, and critically too, on this region. Natural materials and reclaimed objects are the medium for this thoughtful and

inspiring exhibition, which runs from 2 October to 10 November.

Don't miss out on American concert pianist, Roman Rudnytsky, who is returning to Swan Hill on the 22 September for an afternoon recital. Always a popular performer, Rudnytsky will play works by Grieg, Hoist, Chopin and Stravinsky. Book early on 5036 2430. Tickets are \$35, Gallery Members \$30, Students \$7.00.

**Want to know more?
Contact the Gallery on
5036 2430 or visit
www.swanhillart.com.**

WHAT'S ON

SEPTEMBER

Sun 1 Sep – Sun 8 Sep
MAX BRERETON, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery. Local identity and sign writer Max Brereton brings a lifetime of experience in sign writing to the Access Gallery.

Tues 3 Sep – Sun 8 Sep
2013 TOUR OF THE MURRAY RIVER. A six-day, seven-stage road cycling tour which starts in Mildura and travels throughout the region, including Robinvale, Swan Hill, Kerang, Echuca and Cobram. Contact Karin Jones, Cycling Australia: karin.jones@cycling.org.au.

Sun 8 Sep – **TWILIGHT CINEMAS**, "We're the Millers if anyone asks" (MA15+), Swan Hill Town Hall. Contact 1300 734 014 or visit www.TwilightCinemas.com.au.

Tue 10 Sep – Sun 6 October,
COLOUR ME CRAZY, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

Colour Me Crazy gives artists who live with mental illness the opportunity to rally against negative stigma that is often associated with mental illness. Contact 5036 2430.

Thurs 12 Sep **NYAH HARNESS RACING**, Swan Hill. On-course facilities, TAB, meals dining and takeaway, broadcaster on track. Contact 5030 2411.

Thurs 19 Sep **THE 39 STEPS**, Harrison Theatre, Swan Hill, 7.30pm. John Buchan and Alfred Hitchcock's *The 39 Steps* adapted by Patrick Barlow. Contact 5036 2444.

Fri 20 Sep **YESFEST**, McCallum Street, Swan Hill. From 6pm the street is going to be filled with young performers, overgrown puppets, live bands, carnival

>> LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE?

This is just a taste of the events occurring across the Swan Hill and Robinvale regions from September to the end of November taken from swanhillonline.com. There are other regular community events listed at swanhillonline.com including euchre, bingo, community group meetings and more.

>> GET A FREE EVENT LISTING

Anyone can have their event uploaded to the swanhillonline.com site FREE!
Visit swanhillonline.com, go to the events calendar and follow the Log In instructions at the bottom of the page.
Your event will be confirmed by a member of the Swan Hill Region Information Centre team in no time and be up on the web for everyone to see.

games and (hopefully this year) a bouncy castle. Gold coin donation (Under 18 free).

Fri 20 Sep **BRENDAN SCOTT**, singer/dancer, Swan Hill Racecourse Bowls Club, 8pm. For bookings contact 5032 1212.

Sun 22 Sep **SWAN HILL HORSE RACING**, Quambatook Cup Day, Swan Hill Race Course. Visit www.murraymallee.countryracing.com.au or call 5032 2110.

Sun 22 Sep **ROMAN RUDNYTSKY RECITAL**, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, 3pm. Bookings and details contact 5036 2340.

Fri 27 Sep – Sun 29 Sep **PIONEERS WEEKEND**. Featuring a film evening with Barrie Bales, tours of the Murray Downs Homestead, Antiques and Collectables Appraisals Day at the Lower Murray Inn and more. Contact 5032 3033.

OCTOBER

Fri 4 Oct – Sat 5 Oct 2013 **SWAN HILL ANNUAL SHOW**. A range of features have been confirmed for this year's 118th Swan Hill A&P Show. Visit www.swanhillshow.com.au or contact 5032 4314, swanhillshow@bigpond.com.

Mon 7 Oct **MIDWEEK HORSE RACING**, Swan Hill Race Course. Contact 5032 2110 or visit www.murraymallee.countryracing.com.au.

Tues 8 Oct – Sun 27 Oct **THE ACRE PROJECT**, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery. The rural arts program, the ACRE Project, will have documentation and works on display from the workshops held recently from across the region. Contact 5036 2430.

Wed 9 Oct **ME AND MR JONES**, Swan Hill Town Hall PACC, 7.30pm. Cabaret. Table allocated seating. Contact Swan Hill Region Information Centre Booking Office 5036 2444.

Fri 11 Oct – Sat 12 Oct **BUSINESS EXPO AND MARKET FAIR SWAN HILL AND DISTRICT**, The Grain Shed. Recreation, home and leisure Friday 1pm - 8pm and Saturday 9am - 2pm. Children's attractions, home decor, caravan and camping, wide selection of Swan Hill traders. Contact Wayne 0417 525 385 or Geoff 0438 372 164.

Sat 12 Oct **MANANGATANG RACES**, Manangatang race track. Don't miss this huge day on the Country Racing Calendar. Each and every year patrons travel far and

wide to join with 4,000 others as the small township of Manangatang celebrates its biggest day of the year! Live entertainment, Fashions on the Field and more. Contact 5032 2110.

Wed 16 Oct – Sun 1 Dec **STUDIO PHOTOS**, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery. Behind the scenes photographic tour of Australian artists working in their studio environments, providing a unique insight into the minds, moods and creative processes of some of the nation's most acclaimed painters. Contact 5036 2430.

Fri 18 Oct **FLEECE AND FLOWER SHOW**, Uniting Church (cnr Rutherford and Beveridge Streets). Contact Jan Hackett 5032 4618.

Fri 18 Oct – Sat 19 Oct **RELAY FOR LIFE SWAN HILL**, Alan Garden Reserve Swan Hill. Contact Jamie Lea Jones 1300 656 585 or email swanhill@relayforlife.org.au.

Sat 19 Oct **NYAH HARNESS RACING**, Swan Hill. On-course facilities, TAB, meals dining and takeaway, broadcaster on track. Contact 5030 2411.

Sat 26 Oct **VINTAGE FASHION SHOW**. Charity Fundraiser for the Swan Hill Hospital. For more details contact Sally 5037 2898.

Sat 26 Oct – Sun 27 Oct **JUNIOR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**, Swan Hill Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre and various locations. Junior Invitational Basketball two-day tournament. Contact: 5033 1402, email shba@bigpond.net.au.

Sat 26 Oct **SIDESHOW SUPERSTARS**, Swan Hill Town Hall PACC, 7.30pm. Cabaret Theatre/Circus Stunt

Show (may contain coarse language). Contact: Swan Hill Region Information Centre Booking Office 5036 2444.

Sun 27 Oct **OPEN GARDEN DAY**. Hospital Auxiliary. Contact 5032 4802.

Sun 27 Oct **SHOW AND SHINE**. Cars, bikes, kids entertainment, catering. Contact Neville Roesler 5032 2107.

Mon 28 Oct **MIDWEEK HORSE RACING**, Swan Hill Race Course. Contact 5032 2110 or visit www.murraymallee.countryracing.com.au.

Sun 29 Oct – Sun 1 Dec **TREES AND WATER** by artist Julie Chislett-Duffus. Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery. Contact 5036 2430.

NOVEMBER

Fri 1 Nov – Sun 10 Nov **NOISES OFF**, Swan Hill Theatre Group, Memorial Hall, McCrae Street, Swan Hill.

Sun 3 Nov **THREE RIVERS RUN**. Tinny trip from Moulamein to Tooleybuc. Edward, Wakool and Murray Rivers. 50 boats, 200 people and a heap of fun. Contact Dick Phillips 0458 802 211, www.threeriversrun.com.au.

Tues 5 Nov **NYAH HARNESS RACING**, Swan Hill. On-course facilities, TAB, meals dining and takeaway, broadcaster on track. Contact 5030 2411.

Thurs 14 Nov – Sun 17 Nov **MURRAY MUSIC MUSTER**, Tooleybuc Sporting Club. Contact 5030 5478 or visit www.tooleybucsc.com.au.

Fri 29 Nov – Sat 30 Nov **HOME, LEISURE AND OUTDOORS**, The Grain Shed, 2pm – 8pm (Fri), 9am

– 2pm (Sat). Contact Geoff Hickmott 0438 372 164.

WHAT ELSE?

There are also regular **PYAP CRUISES** (weekdays 2.30pm; weekends, Victorian school holidays and public holidays 10.30am and 2.30pm) and Sound and Light tours at the Pioneer Settlement. Call 5036 2410 for details.

And don't forget **STORYTIME** every Saturday at the Swan Hill Regional Library at 10.30am. Move and Groove is held every Wednesday at 10.30am, Thursday Baby Rhyme time at 10.30am. Call 5036 2480 for details.

MARKETS

1st Sat of the month **MURRABIT MARKET** (about 45km south east of Swan Hill), 8.30am to 1pm. Contact 5457 2205.

2nd Sat of the month **NYAH LIONS CLUB MARKET**, Nyah Trotting Complex (24km north of Swan Hill), 9am to 1pm. Contact 5030 2533 or 5030 2619.

3rd Sat of the month **ROBINVALE COMMUNITY GROWERS' MARKET**, Caix Square, Robinvale, 8.30am to 12.30pm. Contact 5051 8000.

3rd Sat of the month **ANGLICAN BOOT SALE MARKET**, Anglican Function Centre, Splatt Street, Swan Hill, 9am to 12pm. Contact 5032 2506 or 5032 3765.

3rd Sun of the month **ROTARY CLUB OF SWAN HILL MARKET**, railway car park, Curlewis Street, Swan Hill, 9am to 1pm. Entry by gold coin donation. Contact 5032 2164.