

# SWAN HILL RURAL CITY NEWS SUMMER 2016



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## NEW COUNCIL GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS



The new Swan Hill Rural City Council is getting down to business.

The Council was sworn in and inducted in November, and is now working on its four-year Council Plan.

Mayor Les McPhee said Councillors were working as a team to bring positive change to the municipality.

“Councillors have all expressed a strong desire to work together, both as a group of Councillors, and with staff and community, to benefit our municipality,” Cr McPhee said.

“As a group we have experience in agriculture, small business, the public service and the community sector. I look forward to bringing all that experience together in this team environment as we work on our Council Plan, setting the strategic direction for the Council and setting goals for the future of our municipality.”

Four new Councillors were elected at the October poll - Crs Chris Jeffery, Lea Johnson, Bill Moar and Ann Young, all representing Central ward.

Crs Les McPhee (Lakes ward), Gary Norton (Murray Mallee ward) and John Katis (Robinvale ward) were returned.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be on 20 December at 2pm at Swan Hill Town Hall.

Council meetings in 2017 will be held at either 4pm or 6pm on the third Tuesday of each month. The new Council has set the meetings at a later start time to give more community members the chance to attend.

You can find out more about your Councillors and upcoming meeting dates on Page 2 of this newsletter.

“Councillors have expressed a strong desire to work together, both as a group of Councillors, and with staff and community, to benefit our municipality.”

– CR LES MCPHEE

WORKING TOGETHER: Councillors Bill Moar, Chris Jeffery, Gary Norton, (front) John Katis, Mayor Les McPhee, Lea Johnson and Deputy Mayor Ann Young on the steps of the Swan Hill Town Hall.

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HEARTBEAT IS COMING BACK! CHECK FACEBOOK OR CALL 5036 2410



**CR LES MCPHEE**

Mayor  
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# WELCOME THE NEW, AND THANKS TO THOSE LEAVING

Our new Council is in place and working together to set goals for our four-year term.

Work has started on our Council Plan – the overarching document that sets out our goals and the actions that will help us achieve them.

It will be a working document that all Councillors and Council officers refer to as they carry out their roles.

The community always has a chance to provide feedback on the plan before it is finalised, and I encourage you to do so when the draft is released for comment in the new year.

I would like to thank the people of Lakes Ward for giving me the opportunity to be their representative again, and thank fellow Councillors for their confidence by elected me Mayor.

I would also like to take this final chance to thank our four outgoing Councillors. Greg Cruickshank, Jessie Kiley and Jim Crowe did not stand for re-election at the October poll, while Michael Adamson had resigned in May.

Being a Councillor can be both a rewarding and challenging experience and I thank them all for serving our Council and community so diligently.

## MASSIVE DRAG MEET A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

In November I had the privilege of opening the new drag strip at Swan Hill's Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. What a massive event it was.

Drag teams from around Australia lined up to be part of the very first official drag meeting at Australia's

newest and most advanced drag strip.

It was nothing like Swan Hill had seen before, and I want to congratulate the Swan Hill Drag Racing Club for getting the track ready and for putting on this event.

Thanks also go the Council officers involved in building the strip, the State Government for its major contribution, and the many local businesses who have helped out by providing their services and, in some cases financial support, to the drag club. Council also contributed \$450,000 of ratepayers funds to the construction of this drag strip.

If this event was a sign of things to come, I look forward to what the future might hold for this track and its ability to bring people to our region.

# A WORD FROM YOUR COUNCILLORS



Central Ward  
Deputy Mayor  
**CR ANN YOUNG**

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ann.young@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I was born, raised and educated in Swan Hill and live with my husband Ken at Beverford. I am a mother and grandmother who understands the many issues associated with raising a family, meeting commitments and being involved in the community.

I want Swan Hill Rural City to have happy, healthy and positive residents with facilities, resources and attitudes to further develop and grow their communities.

And I want Swan Hill to be a region that encourages our young people and residents to stay in, return to and be involved in.

I hope to draw on my diverse background in a family stonefruit farm, accountancy, an education and training business and my experience with government organisations and departments to make this all a reality.

Thank you to the people who voted for me, to my husband for encouraging me to put my hand up, and to my fellow Councillors for endorsing me as your Deputy Mayor.

I look forward to working with Council and the community as we capitalise on the many opportunities to move our communities forward.



Central Ward  
**CR BILL MOAR**

0429 496 194  
bill.moar@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I've been a resident of the Swan Hill region for more than 50 years, and am a father of six.

Being a semi-retired farmer, I know the value of innovation and the importance of roads, infrastructure and water in the district's agricultural sector.

As a former and present member of many volunteer and community-based organisations, I recognise that they keep us connected, that their work and value are what make us and the importance of continuing to provide them with support.

And after training and working as an aged care nurse, I also know the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle. Bike riding, triathlons and marathons keep me busy, and the training involved keeps me fit, both physically and mentally.

With all of this is mind, I am dedicated in forming a strong team of Councillors and executive to carry forward the aspirations of not only people in the Central Ward, but all wards.

Thank you to my friends and my family for their support and to the people who voted for me. I look forward to working closely with you, my fellow Councillors and Council staff over the next four years.



Central Ward  
**CR CHRIS JEFFERY**

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It's a great privilege to represent you as a Councillor for the next four years. Having four new Councillors will bring fresh ideas, new approaches and better action. But it doesn't stop there for you.

I need you to have a say on one or two projects, buildings, community groups/activities and provide your ideas in areas that really interest you – if you're not helping to make it right, then how can you complain about it being wrong? Be heard, be seen, hold us accountable.

Put aside your grudges over green shades sails that offer no shade, dysfunctional chairs that don't suit our town.

You've elected new Councillors, we've got a fantastic new CEO and a strong team of Directors. I'm really impressed by the knowledge and experience that we have within Swan Hill Rural City Council.

I'm freely available to be contacted either by phone, email or through social media -

Instagram: @crchrisjeffery, Facebook: CjefferySH, Twitter: @CrChrisJeffery



Central Ward  
**CR LEA JOHNSON**

0487 770 456  
lea.johnson@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I am a proud mum of three teenagers and a keen sports woman.

In a previous life I was a naturopath and ran a clinic on the Mornington Peninsula. I also had a bookkeeping business and two school canteens - so moving to Swan Hill and working with the community was quite a change.

In saying that though, I have been co-ordinator for Swan Hill Neighbourhood House for the past nine years and it has been an absolute pleasure. And being committed to and passionate about this community, becoming a Councillor seemed like a logical extension to my current role.

I believe that community members at all levels deserve representation and an opportunity to participate equitably and with fair access, and I will work towards this in my role as Councillor.

Finally, I want to thank you, the community of Swan Hill for putting your trust in me. I look forward to working with you, Council staff and the newly elected Council.



Murray Mallee Ward  
**CR GARY NORTON**

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gary.norton@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I want to start by saying what an honour it is to be re-elected to Swan Hill Rural City Council. Thank you to the people in our great community of Murray-Mallee. I really appreciate the support they have given me to stand as their representative again.

During this term on Council my aims are clear - to keep rates and charges to a minimum, to increase road maintenance, to keep the channels of communication between Council and the community open, to support and promote our agricultural industries, and to lobby for better health and aged care services for the region.

I believe Council needs a strategy to attract value-adding business to the region. We are known to grow some of the world's best clean green produce and so it's only natural that value adding at the source will help us build the economy and create employment.

I also believe Council needs to place a higher priority on implementing Community Plans within the ward, and look forward to continuing to work together to see our region prosper.



Robinvale Ward  
**CR JOHN KATIS**

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I'd like to thank my community for having the faith to allow me to be uncontested in the Council election.

I'd also like to congratulate the new Councillors who were elected in October.

I look forward to working with all Councillors, under one umbrella, to make the best decisions that we can, in the best interests of our community.

I have represented the Robinvale ward since 1997, and the reason I came back after so many years is to make sure my community of Robinvale, and the wider municipality, receives the best services this Council can provide.

A new Robinvale levee is one of my biggest priorities. We need new housing and we can't afford to open up horticultural land because of its economic and social value to our community. We need to have this levee built to protect land in what we call the flats, so it can be developed.

Another priority for me will be Bromley Road. We have received TAC funding for the roadworks, but need to push on with beautification too. I look forward to working with the community and Council officers to make that happen.

## CONTACT COUNCIL

**WWW.SWANHILL.VIC.GOV.AU**  
Email: [council@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@swanhill.vic.gov.au)  
PO Box 488, Swan Hill VIC 3585

**Swan Hill Business Centre**  
45 Splatt Street Swan Hill VIC 3585  
Phone 5036 2333, Fax 5036 2340

**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

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## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- >> 20 December, Swan Hill Town Hall at 2pm
- >> 21 February, Swan Hill Town Hall at 4pm
- >> 21 March, Swan Hill Town Hall at 6pm
- >> 25 April, Swan Hill Town Hall at 4pm

All members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings. Agendas are available at [www.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://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](http://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au) for details or check local media.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO,  
JOHN McLINDEN

## LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

Council has achieved some wonderful outcomes in 2016, working alongside local communities.

These achievements ranged from the completion of Swan Hill's \$2.45 million drag strip to a new public art space in Swan Hill's CBD. And from the new Robinvale community plan to the Rural Land Use Strategy for our entire municipality.

We have completed road upgrades, improved public lighting and installed new waste facilities.

Of course, there is always more to do and I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in 2017.

You will see some major projects roll out in the first few months of the year. This includes the upgrade to Nyah Road, between Pritchard Street and Stradbroke Avenue, and the next stage of drainage improvements in Swan Hill's CBD.

Community concern around the safety of McCallum Street will also be addressed as Council upgrades the section between Splatt and High streets, thanks to a \$1.2 million from the Federal Government Black Spot program.

You will also see work start soon near the Art Gallery. The shared pathway will be extended from the Gem to the levee bank, a deck will be built across the front of the Gallery, and lawn put in for outdoor events. This project is thanks to a partnership between Regional Development Victoria and Council.

You can find out more about these projects on Page 4.

In Robinvale, we look forward to continuing work on the Bromley Road improvement. Funding has been received – thanks to the TAC - for part of the upgrade, and we will continue work in 2017 to attract the remaining portion to complete this project.

Finally I would like to thank our Councillors, staff and the community for their input this year.

And a special mention to one of our long-standing staff members, Paul 'Babba' O'Loughlin, who retired last month. Babba is one of the better known faces on our Council staff, having worked with us for 41 years, most recently as the Parks and Gardens Co-ordinator. Thank you Babba for your long and dedicated service.



**SAYING THANKS:** Council's Sam Uebergang (left) and Julie Wardle (right) with Paul 'Babba' O'Loughlin at his farewell last month.

# COMMUNITY GROUPS SHARE \$70,000



**TESTING THE NEW GATES:** The Little Athletics Club's new timing gates being used as under 11 boys Rory Thompson, Rory Vial, Tyson Hayes and Brooklyn Whitla finish their 80m hurdles event. The club meets at 5pm each Friday at Ken Harrison Sporting Complex.

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	FUNDING \$
Alan Garden Netball Centre Committee of Management	Electronic scoreboards	3,000
Australian Inland Wine Show	Australian Inland Wine Show	2,000
Lake Boga Incorporated	Install three themed seats around Lake Boga foreshore	3,000
Lake Boga Men's Shed	Dust extractor system	3,000
Lakeside Golf Club	Irrigation upgrade	2,500
Mallee Steam Oil and Machinery Club	Dragline restoration	2,500
Manangatang and District Bowling Club	Clubhouse refurbishment	795
Manangatang Improvement Group	Active Mums and Kids	1,000
Mid Murray Pistol Club	Upgrade Range 2 concrete flooring	3,000
Nyah District Christmas Carnival Committee (Sub-committee of Nyah District Action Group)	Nyah District Christmas Carnival	2,000
Nyah District Bowling Club Incorporated	Paving safety upgrade	3,000
Nyah West Golf Club Incorporated	Bar area flooring safety upgrade	1,450
Nyah District Men's Shed Incorporated	Kitchen bench and cupboards	2,795
Piangil Memorial Park	Playground equipment	2,650
Pioneer Country Quarter Horse Association	Powered sites at EF Butler Reserve	3,000
Riding for the Disabled	Equipment for horse riding lessons	500
Robinvale Basketball Association	New basketball sporting equipment and shade cloth	3,000
Robinvale Euston Vintage Machinery Association (Rural Life Museum)	To install 'exterra' termite interception and baiting system	1,500
RSL Cricket Club	Install security lighting, fix broken window and purchase seating	2,510
Sustainable Living in the Mallee	Mallee Seed Bombs	1,000
Swan Hill Archery Club	Shade structures	2,500
Swan Hill Little Athletics Centre	Perfect timing gates	3,000
Swan Hill Kart Club	Canteen upgrade	3,000
Swan Hill Clay Target Club	Verandah/outdoor area upgrade	3,000
Tyntynder Football Netball Club	Change rooms carpet	3,000
Tyntynder South Hall Dance Committee	Kitchen upgrade	3,000
Ultima Progress Association	Water tanks for community garden	3,000
Waitchie Landcare Group	Cemetery rabbit proof fence	2,800
Woorinen Football Netball Club	Convection oven	2,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>70,000</b>

TWENTY-nine community groups have shared in \$70,000 through Council's 2016 Community Development Fund.

"The Community Development Fund is a wonderful way for Council to support the volunteer groups that help make our communities great," Mayor Les McPhee said.

"I'm pleased to see that diverse groups from right around the municipality have been successful," he said.

The Ultima Progress Association will use its \$3,000 grant to buy water tanks for its new community garden.

"We are absolutely rapt to get the funding... we could not have afforded to buy the tanks and the project was stalling because of that, so we're pretty excited," the Association's Sonia Cunning said.

Swan Hill Little Athletics Club used its \$3000 grant to buy wireless timing gates, which accurately time long and short distance races, and cross country.

"The data uploads directly to our recording software, eliminating the need for manual data entry each week," Club President Lisa Thompson said.

"We started using the gates at the beginning of our season and we are really pleased with how well they work."

Community Development Fund grants of up to \$3,000 are awarded annually, with applications opening in August each year.

Organisations can also apply for up to \$200 from the Community Support Fund year-round, for small equipment purchases, new programs or events, and projects and activities for high-needs groups.

Find out more at [www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/community](http://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/community).

**"We are absolutely rapt to get the funding... we could not have afforded to buy the tanks and the project was stalling because of that, so we're pretty excited."**

**- SONIA CUNNING**

# REVIEW OF COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW 2

Council is currently in the process of reviewing Community Local Law 2. But what does this mean for you?

Under the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act), all councils in Victoria have some form of local law regulation. These regulations provide councils with the ability to put control measures in place that reflect the different circumstances and objectives of each council and to allow them to individually tailor requirements in response to how things occur in each municipality.

As per the Act, Council is required to review its local laws every 10 years.

Currently, the purpose of Swan Hill Rural City Council's Local Law 2 is to:

- Provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal district.
- Provide a safe and healthy environment, in which the residents of the municipal district enjoy a quality of life that meets the general expectations of the community.
- Control and regulate emissions to the air in order to improve the amenity, environment

and quality of life in the municipal district.

- Ensure that the public can properly use and enjoy public reserves by regulating activities and behaviour in public reserves.
- Prohibit, regulate and control the consumption of alcohol in designated areas within the municipal district.
- Manage, regulate and control the different uses to which streets, roads, footpaths and Council land can be put so as to ensure that there is a proper balance between private uses and the need to maintain freedom of

movement for the public.

- Manage, regulate and control the keeping of animals and birds.

Council will complete an initial review before seeking your input. Information on community consultation sessions will be available through local media, Council's website and social media pages.

To view a copy of Council's current Local Law 2 visit our website at [www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/community/concerns](http://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/community/concerns).



# INTRODUCING THE NEW RIG

The Robinvale community planning group has a new title. It will now be known as the Robinvale Improvement Group, or RIG for short.

Heavily involved in the development and implementation of the Robinvale Community Plan 2031, RIG has a number of smaller projects underway, including Christmas decorations for Perrin Street, new signage for Caix Square and investigating improved lighting and power access for the Robinvale community market site.

RIG member Bev Harbinson said RIG was a group that represented the whole Robinvale community.

"We've only held three official group meetings, but have already covered so much and have a lot of great ideas for the future," Ms Harbinson said.

"Last month we took a bus tour of Robinvale and surrounds to familiarise ourselves with the area as a group, as well as using the opportunity to identify anything we thought could be improved.

"We've also started looking into erecting a storyboard detailing Robinvale's history at Bill McGinty Park.

"We thought the park would be the perfect place to tell Robinvale's story, already being home to historic items from our railway days and the old bridge lift-span. The area is also very visible and easily accessible to all visitors and locals who use and enjoy the park."

Ms Harbinson added that the group encouraged anyone in the community to bring their thoughts, ideas or concerns to RIG for discussion.

"RIG is the representative group for our community and we would like everyone to take some time to think about how it can best support our town.

"No idea will be too big or small. Just get the details and information to a RIG member and we will make sure it's discussed."



GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS: RIG members at their latest meeting.

# WORKS UPDATE



NEW SEATS: The showgrounds grandstand after new seating was installed.

Our works team and contractors have been busy completing these projects over the past few months...

- > **New seating installed** at the Swan Hill Showgrounds grandstand, just in time for the CMFNL grand finals
- > Reconstructed a 2km section of **Lake Boga-Ultima Road**, near Lake Boga
- > Reconstructed a 1.6km section of **Ultima-Culgoa Road**, completing a staged reconstruction and widening of this road to 6.2 metres wide
- > **Smith Road**, Waitchie, 4.6km resheeted
- > **Nowie Road**, Bulga, 5.2km resheeted

- > **McClelland Road**, Waitchie, 3.2km resheeted
- > **Grey Road**, Meatian, 1km resheeted
- > **Staley Road**, Wemen, 3.2km resheeted
- > **Balikpapan Road**, Robinvale, 1km shoulders resheeted

### COMING UP

- > **Boundary Bend-Kooloonong Road**, Boundary Bend, 3km shoulder resheet
- > **William Avenue**, Boundary Bend, 1km resheet
- > **River Road**, Swan Hill, upgrade will continue to the Swan Hill Abattoirs early in 2017



TRIBUTE: Mark Rosenbrock is pictured with his cedar wood sculptures of AN Lewis and William Lewis, that will be soon be installed in Nyah's AN Lewis Park.

### COMING UP IN YOUR COMMUNITY PLANS:

- > Walking tracks in:
  - Manangatang
  - Boundary Bend
  - Two Bays to Nyah West
  - Nyah Rec Reserve
- > Installations of bike racks throughout the municipality
- > Upgrades to Caix Square, Robinvale
- > Upgrades to AN Lewis Park, Nyah West
- > Installation of outdoor gym equipment, Woorinen and Manangatang

# SHADE, NETS AND PITCHES FOR CRICKETERS



HELPING HAND: These RSL cricket supporters were on hand to plant trees as part of improvements to shade at North Park.

Cricketers and cricket supporters will go into this summer with some new and improved facilities around the municipality.

At **Nyah Recreation Reserve**, a new turf wicket table featuring four pitches has been built on the southern oval. The new facilities mean that Nyah District Cricket Club can provide the best and safest playing surfaces for all participants, provide more opportunities for its juniors, and can potentially host regional and state level cricket.

At **Ken Harrison Reserve**, retractable three lane cricket practice nets have been installed. The new facilities will provide a safe practice base for St Mary's Tyntynder Cricket Club.

The cricket clubs, Council and the State Government - through its Community Sports Infrastructure Fund - provided funding for these projects.

New cricket practice nets will be also constructed at **Swan Hill Showgrounds** in 2017, in partnership with Swan Hill Cricket Club, under the same funding program.

"The aim of these State Government grants is to increase participation in sport and to help community members build active lifestyles. All of these projects will allow this to happen through updated facilities and, in turn, allowing clubs to attract new participants," Mayor Les McPhee said.

Meanwhile at **North Park's Gurnett Oval**, a new verandah has been built on the pavilion and trees planted to provide shade, which will provide UV protection for the RSL Cricket Club and other user groups.

RSL Cricket Club contributed to the project by replacing concrete under the verandah.

Council sourced funding for the project through the State Government's Community Shade Grants Program.

"One role that Council plays is working with community and sporting groups to achieve funding for improved facilities. These cricket projects are a perfect example of how that can happen," Cr McPhee said.

### SWIM SHADE TOO

NEW shade has been installed at the **Swan Hill Outdoor Pool** too, thanks to funding from the Community Shade Grants Program.

New structures will be installed near the 50 metre pool, near the dive pool and at the waterslide entrance. New lawn has also been planted in the area.

Visit [www.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au) and search for 'swimming pools' to get opening times and contact details for pools at Swan Hill, Robinvale, Manangatang and Nyah.

# BIG TICKET PROJECTS STARTING 2017

Council will start work on three major road and drainage projects in Swan Hill between February and May 2017.

More information about each project will be available closer to the start dates, and nearby businesses and residents will be contacted about information sessions.

In the meantime, here's a sneak peak at what is being planned.

### NYAH ROAD UPGRADE

Nyah Road will be upgraded between Pritchard Street and Stradbroke Avenue.

The \$900,000 project will include reconstructing the road, constructing new pedestrian kerb crossings, footpath extensions, replacing any defective kerb and drainage pipes, plus landscaping works where needed.

Council is now in the process of finalising survey works and detailed design documents.

### MCCALLUM STREET UPGRADE

McCallum Street will be upgraded, between Splatt and High streets, thanks to a \$1.2 million Federal Government Black Spot Program grant.

The upgrade will include a new traffic island and medians at the intersection of Splatt Street, a new roundabout at the intersection of High Street, plus kerb realignment and new line marking.

### CBD DRAINAGE PROJECT - STAGE 2

This will continue a project to mitigate flooding of CBD businesses. Stage 1 was completed in 2012/13, with a new 1.2m concrete pipe installed from the Beveridge and McCallum streets intersection to the NAB building.

Stage 2 will be completed in 2016/17 and 2017/18. This \$927,000 project will continue the new drainage system from the NAB building to the river.

Council is working with relevant authorities to obtain work approvals, with the tender expected to be advertised this month.

# NEXT PHASE AT SWAN HILL RIVERFRONT

The redevelopment of Swan Hill's riverfront received another funding boost recently, with \$50,000 from the State Government's Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund to develop a Commercial Development Business Case.

The Swan Hill Riverfront Masterplan identifies a number of sites for potential private development, which could include things like

accommodation, restaurants and retail.

The business case will further investigate the kinds of development that might be possible and viable in these locations, as well as acting as a support document to attract further funding and encourage development.

Council's Director Development and Planning Adam McSwain said Council was thrilled to receive news of this funding.

"We have already achieved some wonderful outcomes along the Swan Hill riverfront and are now designing an Active Play Precinct near the park pond," Mr McSwain said.

"All of this, coupled with the potential for private development, will take the riverfront to the next level, even further activating the area, providing economic stimulus and creating more jobs."



## COUNCIL SERVICES OVER CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR

### WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

All kerbside waste and recycling collection services will be unchanged.

### LANDFILL AND TRANSFER STATIONS

All transfer stations closed Christmas and New Years days.

Saturday, 24 December - Swan Hill open 9am-2pm

Monday, 26 December - Swan Hill open 9am-2pm, Robinvale closed

Monday, 2 January - Swan Hill open 9am-2pm, Robinvale closed

### SWAN HILL RECYCLE DEPOT

Closed on all public holidays. The Swan Hill Landfill can accept recyclables. Please note that Monday, 26 December; Tuesday, 27 December; and Monday, 2 January are gazetted public holidays.

### SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL OFFICES AND ROBINVALE RESOURCE CENTRE

Will close at 3pm on Friday, 23 December and re-open 8.30am Tuesday, 3 January.

### PIONEER SETTLEMENT

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. All other days will be normal opening hours 9.30am-4pm.

PS Pyap river cruises will depart each day at 10.30am and 2.30pm, except on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Heartbeat will be back up and running shortly. Please check website for updated details.

### SWAN HILL LEISURE CENTRE

Closed Christmas Day. Open Monday, 26 December; Tuesday, 27 December; and Monday, 2 January from 8am-6pm. All other days will be normal opening hours.

### SWAN HILL REGION INFORMATION CENTRE

Closed Christmas Day. All other days will be normal opening hours 9am-5pm.

### SWAN HILL REGIONAL LIBRARY

Will close at 12pm on Saturday, 24 December and re-open at 10am on Tuesday, 3 January.

Regular Mobile Library visits will finish on Friday, 16 December. The Mobile Library will visit Robinvale from 11am-12.30pm and 1pm-3pm on Thursday, 22 December, 5 January and 19 January. There will be no visit to Robinvale on Thursday, 26 January due to the public holiday. The regular Mobile Library timetable will resume from Monday, 30 January.

### SWAN HILL REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. Open 27 December to 31 December 10am-4pm, and 2 January 10am-4pm.

For the duration of the school holidays, opening hours will be Monday to Friday 10am-5pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm.

### SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS

Including the After School Program, will be closed at 6.15pm Tuesday, 20 December. The Vacation Program will open at 8am on Monday, 9 January.

### COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

Will close at 3pm on Friday, 23 December and re-open at 8.30am on Tuesday, 3 January.

### MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. The Piangil, Woorinen South, Nyah West, Ultima and Lake Boga Centres will be closed between Christmas Day and New Years Day. Appointments to attend the Swan Hill Centre can be made by calling 5032 0300. Families can also call the 24 hour Maternal and Child Health Service on 132 229.

### FAMILY DAY CARE SERVICES

Will close at 3pm on Friday, 23 December and re-open at 8.30am on Tuesday, 3 January.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT AFTER HOURS - 0419 888 779

# A GOOD EXCHANGE



**FUNDS ANNOUNCED:** Council CEO John McLinden with Member for Mallee Andrew Broad at the livestock exchange.

Swan Hill Regional Livestock Exchange will undergo a \$1.75 million redevelopment.

Member for Mallee Andrew Broad visited the livestock exchange in early October to make a \$876,150 announcement, made available from the National Stronger Regions Fund.

With matching funds from Council, the project will include upgrades to the cattle selling facilities and loading and unloading areas, a redesign of the penning and buying area, sheep laneway resurfacing, pen reconfiguration and overall safety improvements.

Once completed, these upgrades will allow the exchange to host two sales a week, with weekly sales of cattle and sheep rather than the current fortnightly cycle.

Council's Fleet Operations and

Livestock Exchange Co-ordinator Pat Ahern said the upgrades would also make the livestock exchange more efficient and safer.

"Sale days at the exchange are fast paced with staff, stock agents, livestock and trucks constantly moving around and throughout the facility," Mr Ahern said.

"Safety is especially paramount on these days and we are always looking at ways to make improvements.

"These upgrades will not only allow us to provide a safer environment for our staff and agents, but will also contribute to a higher level of animal welfare."

Works are anticipated to begin next year and will be completed in stages to ensure minimal impact to sales.

## LOOKING TO FUTURE FOR REC RESERVES

Local recreation reserves in Swan Hill and surrounds will soon have a clearer future. Council has partnered with the State Government to fund a planning study of nine reserves across the municipality.

Looking at current opportunities available at these reserves, and the broader recreational needs of the Swan Hill community, the study will provide Council with a costed, prioritised and achievable 10 year plan for future development.

Recreational planning consultants ASR Research spent two months consulting with key sporting associations, user groups, sporting clubs and community members taking on feedback and ideas at a local level.

Council's Director Development and Planning Adam McSwain said the final masterplan would outline clear directions for the future use and development of each reserve.

"One of the aims of the study was to

assess how well the existing facilities could meet the changing needs of the many user groups at the reserves," Mr McSwain said.

"It also provides the chance to identify how we can bring new activities or facilities to these reserves as well as shared usage between clubs, community and schools facilities."

A draft masterplan will be released for public comment in early 2017. For more information contact Meagan Monk on 5036 2449.

### Reserves included in the study:

- > Swan Hill Showgrounds Reserve
- > Alan Garden Recreation Reserve
- > Ken Harrison Sporting Complex
- > Robinvale Recreation Reserve
- > Lake Boga Recreation Reserve
- > Ultima Recreation Reserve
- > Nyah Recreation Reserve
- > North Park Reserve
- > Manangatang Recreation Reserve

## FUTURE PLANNING

Council's Planning Department has recently completed a number of projects to help further guide and shape our region, and there are more underway.

### PLANNING FOR OUR HEALTH

Work recently started on a Swan Hill Health Precinct Study to assist Council in developing a long-term strategic vision to expand the existing health services precinct around the Swan Hill Hospital.

Taking into consideration the implications of our ageing population on existing services, the study will highlight opportunities for new services and the jobs that these will create.

It will also feature a masterplan detailing the possible future development of the area, and the changes required to the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to achieve this.

Amendments to the scheme will make the process of establishing a business in the health sector much easier for this area, and subsequently assist in attracting new businesses.

The Swan Hill Health Precinct Study should be finalised in early 2017.

### PLANNING FOR GROWTH

The Commercial and Industrial Zone review will examine commercial and industrial issues in Swan Hill and Robinvale. Based on this information, a planning framework will be developed to accommodate and encourage future development in these areas.

The study will assess the current supply of land available against the current demand for land to be developed, and produce a document recommending where areas of current and future growth should be.

A consultant has recently been appointed with the review expected to be complete by the end of April 2017.

### PLANNING FOR LAND USE

After extensive community consultation including public information sessions, addressing community groups, surveys, feedback forms, one-on-one appointments and formal submissions, Council adopted the Rural Land Use Strategy at its September Council Meeting.

The first of its kind for our municipality, the strategy has been developed to assist with a co-ordinated approach for the use and development of rural land now and into the future.

It also enables the Swan Hill Planning Scheme to be reviewed and updated to respond to current and emerging rural land use issues and opportunities, and focuses on the protection of agricultural activity from conflicting land uses.

Download a copy of the Rural Land Use Strategy from Council's website at [www.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://www.swanhill.vic.gov.au).

**If you have any questions or would like more information on these projects contact Council's Planning Department on 5036 2352.**

## A POOL FOR ALL



**WATER WHEELS:** The new change room hoist will allow wheelchair-bound swimmers to transfer from their wheelchair into the aqua chair.

Improvements to the Swan Hill Outdoor Pool are underway and are hoped to be completed just in time for Christmas.

A former storage area is being completely transformed into a unisex all-abilities change room, including toilet and shower facilities and a custom built hoist and change table.

Once installed, the hoist will allow people to transfer from a wheelchair into an aqua chair that is also supplied by the pool.

Made out of poly pipe, the aqua chair can be fully submerged into water, allowing all members of our community to access and use our pools.

Council's RuralAccess Co-ordinator Clinton Hucker said the new change room highlighted Council's commitment to making our community accessible for all.

"We are constantly working towards removing barriers of all kinds for people with a disability in our community," Mr Hucker said.

"And these upgrades are just another step in ensuring that our services are available, and easily accessible, for anyone who would like to use them."

For more information on the services the Swan Hill Outdoor Pool provides, contact the pool on 5032 2264.



# SUMMER CRUISING IN SWAN HILL



**JUST BEAUTIFUL:** The PS Pyap will cruise the Murray at sunset in the lead up to Christmas and throughout summer.

The PS Pyap will cruise the high Murray River at sunset this Christmas and into summer.

PS Pyap's Carol Hogg said this summer would be the perfect time to take a cruise, with the high river and lush riverfront surrounds.

"Evenings on the river are wonderful at the moment – and with the weather warming up we wanted to give local people and visitors the chance to experience it for themselves," she said.

## CHRISTMAS CRUISES

Christmas cruises will be held on Friday, 16 December and Thursday, 22 December, boarding at 6.30pm and departing at 6.45pm.

"These cruises are open to everyone - you can come along with a big group of work colleagues as your Christmas party, or get a couple of friends or your family together for a nice night out," Ms Hogg said.

Tickets are \$40 per person and include a one hour cruise, free drink on arrival, nibbles provided by Boo's Place and live music. Artists include Tullie Roberts and Paul Rovere.

## SUMMER SUNSET CRUISES

Sunset cruises will operate on 27-30 December, 27 January, 31 March and 28 April, boarding 6.30pm for a 6.45pm departure.

Tickets for the one hour cruise are based on normal Pyap pricing - adult \$23.50, child under 16 \$16, family (2A 2C) \$63, concession \$18.50 and children under 5 free.

## BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW

Tickets for the Christmas and Sunset cruises are limited, and bookings are essential.

Contact Carol on 0408 382 503 or visit [www.pioneersettlement.com.au](http://www.pioneersettlement.com.au) for more information.

# UNLEASH YOUR IMAGINATION AT THE LIBRARY

Swan Hill Regional Library invites children and families to discover heroes, villains, sidekicks and more by participating in the Summer Reading Club these school holidays.

The Summer Reading Club is a free online and in-library holiday program, run in partnership with State Library of Queensland, the Australian Library and Information Association, and the Australian Public Library Alliance.

This year, the Summer Reading Club is all about exploring the themes and conventions associated with super and everyday heroes, and their villainous counterparts.

At Swan Hill Regional Library, participants receive incentives for each completed read sheet they return to the Library, and are all invited to a celebration at the end of the read for a major prize draw.

Children can join in the fun at Swan Hill Regional Library or online until 31 January at [www.summerreadingclub.org.au](http://www.summerreadingclub.org.au)

For more information, please contact the Library on 5036 2480.

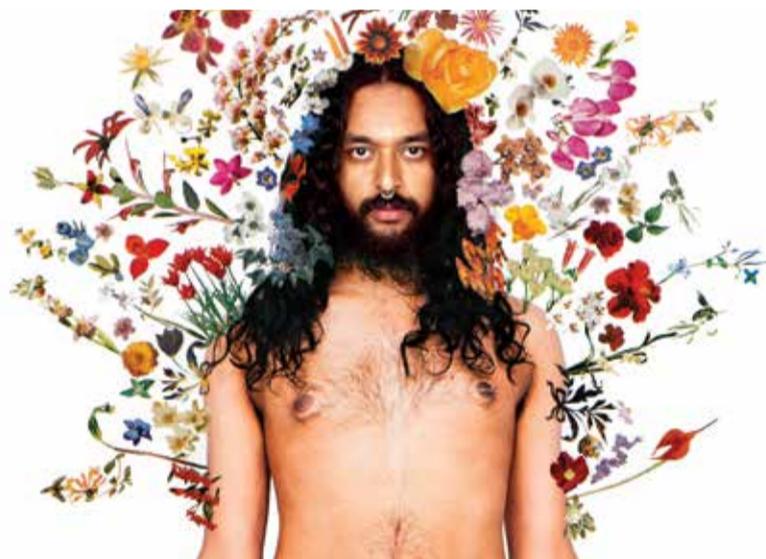
# CELEBRATING OUR NATION

It's almost that time again! Communities around the Swan Hill region are preparing their Australia Day celebrations with breakfasts, lunches, awards and music all on the cards.

In Swan Hill, the big breakfast will be on again at Riverside Park, and the Australian Youth Band Southern Stars will be back to wow us with their musical talents.

Australia Day celebrations will also be held in Beverford, Lake Boga, Manangatang, Nyah West, Robinvale, Ultima and Wemen. Watch Council's website and local newspapers for more details closer to the date.

# LIFE-SIZED NUDES AT GALLERY



**COMING TO SWAN HILL:** Ramesh Mario Nityendran from *No Human Being Is Illegal (in all our glory)* (detail), Deborah Kelly & collaborators. Courtesy the artist. Portrait photographer: Sebastian Kriete.

Deborah Kelly's acclaimed exhibition *No Human Being Is Illegal (in all our glory)* is set to shock and delight visitors at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery until 22 January.

The exhibition is coming to Swan Hill as part of a regional tour to galleries and cultural centres across Australia.

The exhibition comprises 20 life-sized photographic portraits created through discussion and art-making between the artist, subjects and contributors.

It centres upon nude photographic portraits that were collaged over time as workshop participants added layers of archival and contemporary images specific to the subjects' interests, attributes and vision.

*Please be advised No Human Being Is Illegal (in all our glory) contains nudity.*

A MAMA exhibition toured by Museums & Galleries of NSW. This project was created for the 19th Biennale of Sydney (2014) with the assistance of the Australian

Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. The Artist or Curator Residency program is supported by the Copyright Agency Limited's Cultural Fund.

## MAKE SURE YOU ALSO SEE...

**Until 22 January**  
**Cut Me Up**

Deborah Kelly – *No Human Being Is Illegal (in all our glory)* artist - has just held two days of youth workshops in Swan Hill. This exhibition will feature the results of this workshop.

It will also feature works created in July, when artist Jacqui Stockdale visited Swan Hill to run a series of collage workshops for young people.

These workshops are part of Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery's YEP! Project, funded through Creative Victoria.

**January 27 - February 26**  
**Earth Connections, Mallee Artists of Swan Hill**

Don't miss this group show from local artists.

# FASHION, VR AND HISTORY COMBINE THESE HOLIDAYS

There will be plenty to keep the kids entertained in Swan Hill these Christmas school holidays.

The Library, Gallery and Pioneer Settlement will all host full holiday programs, with the first activities starting on 28 December. Plus the Out of School Hours Program will run again from 9 January until 27 January (no program on Australia Day, 26 January).

## PIONEER SETTLEMENT

>> Free daily activities include **butter churning, skipping rope making, Pioneer School and Pioneer Laundry.**

>> **Ginger beer making** demonstrations.

>> Pioneer **Photo Parlour** each day from 10am until 3pm, \$5.

## SWAN HILL REGIONAL LIBRARY

>> **Summer Reading Club** from 1 December until 31 January.

>> School holiday **Lego Club** sessions start on Wednesday, 4 January, 2pm- 4pm. \$2 per child. For children 5 years and up.

>> **FREE Loom Band** sessions on 4, 11, 18 and 25 January, 2pm-4pm. Loom bands, boards and hooks will be supplied to make a range of jewellery and craft!

>> **Minecraft** Monday sessions on 9, 16 and 23 January, 1pm-5pm. \$2 per child. For school age children. Regular Minecraft Monday sessions finish 26 December and restart 30 January.

>> A **VR (Virtual Reality) Playstation** available for use, for 15-year-olds and up, from Monday, 9 January. Bookings essential.

>> **Pet Rock Making** with Bunnings - Friday, 13 January, 2pm-4pm. This is a FREE activity for children preschool age and up. Bookings essential.

>> **Sit and Sew** sewing activity - Tuesday, 17 January starting at 10am. For children 5 years and up. This is a FREE activity but bookings are essential. Children will sew their own appliquéd patch to take home, with help from local ladies craft group, Knitter Natter.

>> **Hula Hoop Making** with Bunnings - Friday, 20 January, 2pm-4pm. This is a FREE activity for children school age and up. Bookings essential.

>> **Origami Animal and Flower Making** session, Monday, 23 January, 10am-12pm. Children will receive step-by-step instructions to create colourful flowers and origami animals to take home! \$2 per child. For children 8 years and up. Bookings essential.

>> **Balloon Creations** sessions - Tuesday, 10 and 24 January, 2pm-3pm. \$2 per child. For children eight years and up. Bookings essential. Tania from Up Up 'N Away Balloons will be on hand to show children how to make their own colourful balloon animals!

>> **Evening Storytime** - Wednesday, 25 January, 7pm. For preschool age children and up. Bookings essential. Evening Storytime is a great chance for mums, dads and grandparents who don't get a chance to attend our regular Storytime sessions.

>> **FREE Creation Station** in the children's area during the school holidays, where children can draw, cut and paste, colour in, complete activity booklets and make all sorts of creations!

>> A big range of **board and card games** for use in the library throughout the holidays, including Monopoly, Scrabble, Guess Who?, Line-up-4, UNO, Mr Potato Head Pals, Fish, Chess, Snakes and Ladders and more!

>> **Move & Groove** will finish for 2016 on Wednesday, 21 December and restart on Wednesday, 4 January at 10.30am.

>> **Baby Rhyme Time** will finish for 2016 on Friday, 23 December and restart on Friday, 6 January at 10.30am. For babies aged up to 18 months and their parents, guardians or carers.

## SWAN HILL REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Four very special workshops will be held thanks to the National Gallery of Victoria Kids on Tour. Workshops are suitable for children aged four to 12. They each run from 11am-12pm and cost \$10 per child. Places are limited, so please call the Gallery to register.

>> **Painting or drawing** - Tuesday, 10 January. This collaborative drawing activity starts with a partly drawn image by artist John Olsen. Imagine what the lines and shapes could be and form a unique collaboration with the artist.

>> **Making with paper** - Thursday, 12 January. Inspired by fashion artists Viktor & Rolf's use of structure and layering, children are invited to use a range of paper products, including white crepe paper and strands of raffia, to make spectacular fashion accessories.

>> **Drawing and fashion design** - Tuesday, 17 January. In this richly illustrated publication, guided by Viktor & Rolf's pet dachshund, Little Swan, children learn about the designers' creative vision and spectacular fashion collections. Young readers will have fun filling this book with their own creative fashion designs!

>> **Collage** - Thursday, 19 January. Using a specially designed template, children can bring Viktor & Rolf's pet dachshund Little Swan to life using collage.



# NEW PATHS COUNTED

New Swan Hill paths are being well used according to Council tracking numbers.

Not even the cold winter weather could deter over 220 people from using the Swan Hill riverfront path between the bridge and boat ramp each day. More than 130 people walked along the south end of the caravan park on Monash Drive.

The path adjacent to the Showgrounds on McCallum Street leading to Tower Hill estate caters for around 100 pedestrians per day, and new paths along Yana Street averaged about 60 people.

# BE CHILD SAFE BY JANUARY 1

Council is encouraging organisations that provide services for children to learn more about the new Child Safe Standards that will be compulsory from 1 January 2017.

The State Government has introduced the seven standards to help protect children from abuse, as part of its response to the Betrayal of Trust Inquiry. These standards will apply to all organisations that provide services to children, including sporting groups, youth organisations, churches, health organisations, childcare centres and schools.

The State Government's Commission for Children and Young People can help organisations to meet the Child Safe Standards and have produced a guide and tip sheets that can be viewed at [www.ccyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.ccyp.vic.gov.au). You can also email [childsafestandards@ccyp.vic.gov.au](mailto:childsafestandards@ccyp.vic.gov.au) or call (03) 8601 5281.

For more information visit [www2.health.vic.gov.au](http://www2.health.vic.gov.au) and Council's website.

# BEATING THE MOZZIE BITE



**MOZZIE PATROL:** Council's Darren Rovere thermal fogging the Swan Hill Riverside Park.

With heavy rain and flooding creating ideal mosquito breeding conditions, Council is urging residents to take precautions against being bitten and to report any potential breeding sites.

Public Health and Regulatory Services Co-ordinator Trish Ficarra said mosquitoes were most active at dawn and dusk, so it's important to take extra precaution at these times.

"A good quality repellent containing N-Diethyl-m-toluamide (DEET) or Picaridin should be worn, as well as covering up exposed skin as much as possible," she said.

Ms Ficarra said property owners and residents should ensure potential breeding sites are eliminated.

"Breeding sites are where water has the potential to pond for more than a few days. One small pond of water can produce hundreds of mosquitoes each week.

"We are really urging everyone to walk around their yard and empty any containers that hold

water for more than a few days."

Use these control strategies around the home:

- >> dispose of containers that might hold water
- >> empty bird baths and pets drinking water at least once a week
- >> keep fish ponds stocked with fish
- >> remove leaves, weeds and grass from drains and gutters to enable them to drain freely
- >> keep lawns and gardens well maintained so that you are not providing shelter for adult mosquitoes
- >> install flywire screens on all windows and place self closing wire screens on doors
- >> check, repair and replace any screens with holes

Please report any potential breeding sites to Council's Public Health Services on 5036 2591.

The official mosquito season runs from November to April. During this time Council undertakes mosquito surveillance and control throughout the municipality.

**SURVEILLANCE**

**Mosquito trapping** – Traps are located throughout the municipality. These traps are set weekly and mosquitoes collected are sent to AgriBio Arbovirology Lab. Here they record the number of mosquitoes trapped, the different species and if any of the mosquitoes are carrying viruses.

**Sentinel chickens** – Council is one of nine councils along the Victorian border taking part in the Sentinel Chicken Surveillance Program. Regarded as one of the best methods in providing early warning of increased virus activity in Australia, flocks of chickens are placed in high risk locations and tested once a fortnight for mosquito borne viruses.

**CONTROL**

**Thermal fogging** – Used to target adult mosquitoes, thermal fogging is effectively the application of a large scale insect spray in areas where mosquitoes are active and high in numbers. Overall numbers will be significantly reduced in the area for one to two days, making it an effective measure to use before events or in areas regularly frequented by a large number of people. Council has and will continue to carry out thermal fogging in Robinvale, at the Swan Hill Riverside Park, Wetlands, Skate Park and Pioneer Settlement.

**Larval control** – Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water and take only 7 to 14 days to reach adulthood. Larval control is used to target mosquitoes in their immature stage, before they can emerge from the water into flying, biting adults. Council officers, by hand, apply larvicides in the form of pellets or bricks to high risk breeding sites including spoon drains, pools of water on the roadside, culverts, dugouts and drainage channels.

# DO YOU KNOW WHICH BIN TO THROW IT IN?

The benefits of recycling are as great as they are varied. From reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution to saving energy and creating more jobs – the list goes on.

However, something that often isn't considered is the safety of the workers who manually sort these materials. All items collected from recycling bins in the Swan Hill municipality are taken to the Material Recovery Facility in Echuca. Here, they are sorted by hand.

Council's Senior Waste Management Officer David Soutar said because of contamination in recycling bins, workers are faced with unnecessary risks.

"On a daily basis these workers are forced to handle items such as soiled and mouldy food scraps and containers, dirty nappies, used tissues, and in some cases even sharps and syringes," he said.

"Not only are these items extremely unpleasant to handle, but they are also potentially hazardous and can cause injuries.

"Being more self-aware about what you put in waste and recycling bins will make a huge difference to working conditions, as well as the amount of recycling that is contaminated and therefore becomes waste."

If you're unsure about what can and can't be recycled, check under the lid of your recycle bin or visit Council's website.

And always remember to give a thought to the people who sort!



**SORT IT OUT:** Workers sorting recycling at the Material Recovery Facility in Echuca.

# DUMPERS BEWARE

Illegal dumpers in Victoria's north-west region have been put on notice with an EPA advertising campaign that highlights the costs and risks of illegally dumping construction and demolition (C&D) waste.

The campaign supports the work of EPA's Illegal Dumping Strikeforce Program and aims to raise awareness of the legal requirements for managing C&D waste such as bricks, timber, asbestos and contaminated soil.

Under the Environment Protection Act 1970, C&D waste must only be disposed of at facilities licensed or permitted to accept it.

For more information on managing C&D waste, visit [epa.vic.gov.au/buildingwaste1](http://epa.vic.gov.au/buildingwaste1)

To report suspected illegal dumping, contact EPA on 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842) or visit [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au)

**"Being more self-aware about what you put in waste and recycling bins will make a huge difference to working conditions, as well as the amount of recycling that is contaminated and therefore becomes waste."**

– DAVID SOUTAR





# NOMINATE YOUTH NOW

Do you know a young person who's doing an awesome job in the arts, sport or through study? What about a young person who gives their time to the community, or to support a friend or family member?

If so, make sure you nominate them for the 2017 NOVO Youth Awards.

Councillor Les McPhee was part of the judging panel at the last awards in 2014, and encouraged people to nominate.

"We have some wonderful young people in our community doing wonderful things – through the arts, sports, school and in the wider community. The Youth Council Awards are a perfect way to recognise these efforts and encourage young people to keep up their positive contributions to the community," Cr McPhee said.

"I look forward to seeing the nominations come in, and look forward to the awards night

in April."

Nominations are open until 10 February, with nomination forms available from Youth Inc, and online at [youth.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://youth.swanhill.vic.gov.au).

The awards night will again be organised and managed by young members of the NOVO Youth Council.

Awards will be presented on 7 April at the Swan Hill Town Hall.

This year there are eight award categories.

**Young Achiever** – A young person who has made a significant effort to overcome obstacles and achieve their goals

**Young Leader** – A young person who has proved themselves to be a leader in the community

**Young Neighbour** – A young person who has given their time and effort to improve the lives of others

**Young Performer** – A young person who

has excelled or shown great potential in the performing arts.

**Young Visual Artist** – A young person who has made a positive contribution to the community through their visual arts.

**Young Scholar** – A young person who has shown outstanding academic achievement at any level.

**Young Sportsperson** – A young person who has excelled in the sporting community (includes participation, volunteering, coaching, umpiring etc).

**NOVO Award** – A youth group that is striving to make a positive difference in the community.

For more information or to get nomination forms, contact Nellie Patterson at Youth Inc via email [npatterson@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:npatterson@swanhill.vic.gov.au) or call 0419 288 365, or online at [youth.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://youth.swanhill.vic.gov.au).

## COME ON IN TO YOUTH INC THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Looking for something different to do these school holidays? Head into Youth Inc in Campbell Street, near the Classic Fish Shop.

It's free and open to young people aged 12 to 25. There's a pool table, Wii, Xbox, music equipment, iMac computer and comfy couches to just sit back and relax on.

Youth Inc is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5pm. We will be closed from 26 December to 3 January.

There will also be a number of programs run during school holidays – check the website and Youth Inc Facebook page for details.

# YAF A REAL HIT

More than 100 young people took part in the third Youth Arts Festival in October, in conjunction with Swan Hill's Market Day.

Bands, dancers and even a beat boxing duo performed on a stage set up in Campbell Street, while drawings, paintings and photography were exhibited in a pop-up gallery.

Thanks to all the young people involved in organising the festival, and to all the artists.

We're already looking forward to the 2017 Festival!



**GREAT SPACE:** Hayden Collins and Natalia King at the pop-up gallery space.



**ON STAGE:** Emma Kelly and Georgie Tully-Watts perform in Campbell Street.

# WHAT'S ON

## NOW

Until 22 January  
**NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL (IN ALL OUR GLORY)**, exhibition at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

## DECEMBER

22 December  
**CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MARKET**, hosted by Swan Hill Farmers Market at Riverside Park, 4pm-8pm.

30 December  
**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. Standard Saloons Mick and Jo's Race, starting 6.30pm.

31 December  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**, at Swan Hill's Riverside Park.

## JANUARY

1 January  
**SES DUCK RACE**, Swan Hill Riverside Park.

13-14 January  
**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. VSCF SSA Junior Titles, racing starts 6pm each day.

26 January  
**AUSTRALIA DAY** events across the region, including Swan Hill breakfast at Riverside Park.

27 January – 26 February  
**EARTH CONNECTIONS**, a group show from Mallee

## >> LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE?

This is just a taste of the events happening across the Swan Hill and Robinvale regions from December to March. There are other regular community events listed at [www.visitswanhill.com.au](http://www.visitswanhill.com.au).

## >> GET A FREE EVENT LISTING

Anyone can have their events uploaded to the [www.visitswanhill.com.au](http://www.visitswanhill.com.au) site for FREE!

Please email the details to [tourism@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:tourism@swanhill.vic.gov.au), or get in touch with the friendly team at the Swan Hill Region Information Centre.

Artists of Swan Hill at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

## FEBRUARY

11 February  
**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. Late Models (LMRV), racing starts 7pm.

18-19 February  
**VOYAGE FITNESS RIVERSIDE TRI**

24 February – 23 April  
**BLACK MIST BURNT COUNTRY**, touring exhibition produced by Burrinja Dandenong Ranges Cultural Centre on at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

## MARCH

3 March  
**MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**, outdoor

performance from Essential Theatre at Pioneer Settlement, 7pm. Gates open 6pm.

3 March - 2 April  
**SEIFU**, Japanese ink painting exhibition at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

4 March  
**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. Street Stock Mallee Master, racing starts 6pm.

10-12 March  
**SWAN HILL REGION FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL**. Three days of local food, wine and entertainment.

11-12 March  
**ROBINVALE EUSTON 80 SKI RACES**, all weekend.

17-19 March  
**75TH ANNIVERSARY FLYING BOAT REPAIR**



**IT'S BACK:** Shakespeare under the stars returns to the Settlement in March.

**DEPOT**, Catalina Park, all weekend.

25 March  
**HARMONY DAY**, 4pm-9pm at Swan Hill's Riverside Park. Community Kitchen with fabulous food. Kid's activities, workshops and performances.

25 March  
**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. F 500 Vic Stampede, racing starts 6pm.

## WHAT ELSE?

There are also regular **PYAP CRUISES** (weekdays 2.30pm; weekends, Victorian school holidays and public holidays 10.30am and 2.30pm) and the **HEARTBEAT OF THE MURRAY LASER LIGHT**

Swan Hill), 8.30am to 1pm. Contact 5457 2205.

1st Sun of the month  
**SWAN HILL FARMERS MARKET**, Riverside Park Swan Hill. 9am to 1pm. Contact 0456 531 606.

2nd Sat of the month  
**NYAH LIONS CLUB MARKET**, Nyah Recreation Reserve, 9am to 12pm. Contact 5030 2519 or 0409 302 519.

2nd Sat of the month  
**ROBINVALE COUNTRY MARKET**, Caix Square, Robinvale, 8.30am to 12.30pm. Contact 5026 3095.

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, Curlew Street, Swan Hill, 8am to 12pm. Entry by gold coin donation. Contact 0417 372 654.

## MARKETS

1st Sat of the month  
**MURRABIT MARKET** (about 45km south east of

## EMAIL OPTION @ @ @

Would you like to receive a copy of our newsletter delivered straight to your inbox? Just send an email with 'newsletter' written in the subject line to [media@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:media@swanhill.vic.gov.au).