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
A WORD FROM YOUR COUNCILLORS

CR LES MCPHEE
Mayor
0427 319 394
les.mcphee@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.

I’m freely available to be contacted either by phone, email or through social media.
Instagram: @LesMCPhee Facebook: Les MCPhee Twitter: @LesMCPhee

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.

I look forward to working closely with 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.

CR BILL MOAR
Deputy Mayor
0429 496 194
bill.moar@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 - keep rates and charges to a minimum, 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 employment to the region. We are known to grow some of the world’s best clean green produce and it’s only natural that value adding at the source will help us build the economy and create employment.

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

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

I look forward to working with 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.

CR GARY NORTON
0428 398 981
gary.norton@swanhill.vic.gov.au

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? I heard, I am, hood accountable. Put aside your grudges over green shades sails that offer no shade, dysfunctional cars that don’t suit your 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.

CR ANR YOUNG
0409 503 711
ann.young@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I look back on my career, I know the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle. Bike riding, triathlons and marathons keep me fit, and the training involved keeps me fit, both physically and mentally.

All of this is quite a change. Thank you to my friends and 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.

CR CHRIS JEFFERY
0492 447 802
chris.jeffery@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.

I’m frequently available to be contacted either by phone, email or through social media. Instagram: @ChirsJeffery Facebook: JefferySH Twitter: @ChrisJeffery

I look forward to working with our four new Councillors, our 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.

CR LEA JOHNSON
0487 770 456
lea.johnson@swanhill.vic.gov.au

I was born, raised and educated in Swan Hill and live with my husband Ken at Berford. 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 look forward to working with our four new Councillors, our 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.

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

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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:

a) Provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal district.

b) 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.

c) Control and regulate emissions to the air in order to improve the amenity, environment and quality of life in the municipal district.

d) Ensure that the public can properly use and enjoy public reserves by regulating activities and behaviour in public reserves.

e) Prohibit, regulate and control the consumption of alcohol in designated areas within the municipal district.

f) 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 and public needs and the need to maintain freedom of movement for the public.

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f) 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 and public needs and the need to maintain freedom of movement for the public.

g) 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/consultations.
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 heavily involved in the development and nearby businesses and residents will be contacted to obtain work approvals, with the work expected to be completed by this September.

Trinity College, the Catholic school in Robinvale, has a new title. It will now be known as the Robinvale Catholic College, or RCC for short.

Mr McGinty said, "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 a great place to spend some time in the sun." Ms Harbinson added that the group encouraged anyone in the community to bring forward any ideas or concerns.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.”

BIG TICKET PROJECTS STARTING 2017

Council will start work on three major road and drainage projects in Robinvale 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 to obtain work approvals, with the work expected to be completed by this September.

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, Watchic, 4.6km resheeted
> Nowie Road, Bulga, 5.2km resheeted

COMING UP

> Boundary Bend-Kooloonong Road, Boundary Bend, 3km shoulder resheeted
> William Avenue, Boundary Bend, 1km resheeted
> 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 built on the pavilion at Swan Hill Showgrounds grandstand. The new facilities will provide a safe practice base for St Mary’s Tyntynder Cricket Club. The new cricket practice nets will also be constructed at Swan Hill Showgrounds in 2017, in partnership with Swan Hill Cricket Club, under the same funding program.

Mr McGinty said, "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 Garnett 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 important projects. These projects are a perfect example of how that can happen," Mr McPhee said.

SHADE, NETS AND PITCHES FOR CRICKETERS

Nyah District Cricket Club and Nyah Shire Council recently received $20,000 from the State Government’s Sports Training Equipment Grant Program to develop and install more cricketers nets around the North Park, for all Nyah’s cricket clubs to use.

Mr McGinty said, "This will continue a project to mitigate 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 – ULTIMA

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 McCaullum streets intersection to the NAB building.

Stage 2 will be completed in 2016/17 and 2017/18. This $927,000 project will extend the 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.

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

“With this, coupled with the potential forINPUT WHAT INPUT HEREdoes not work, try with another sentence.

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

“Of this, coupled with the potential for making the next level, even further activating the area, providing economic stimulus and creating more jobs.”
EMERGENCY CONTACT
AFTER HOURS - 0419 888 779

A GOOD EXCHANGE

WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION
The kerbside waste and recycling collection services will be unchanged.

LANDFILL AND TRANSFER STATIONS
All transfer stations closed Christmas and New Year’s Day.
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 at 8.30am Tuesday, 3 January.

PLANNING SERVICES
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.

SWAN HILL REGIONAL ART GALLERY
Will close at 3pm on Friday, 23 December; and will be back up and running shortly. Please check website for updated details.

SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL NEWS | SUMMER 2016

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.

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 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.

A draft masterplan will be released for public comment in early 2017. For more information contact Meagan Monk on 5038 2449.

Reserves included in the study:
- Swan Hill Showgrounds Reserve
- 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

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

Improve 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 air chair that is also supplied by the pool.

Made out of poly pipe, the air 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.
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 surroundings.

“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 hot drinks and a Christmas Party Style Buffet onboard.

Artists include Tullie Roberts and Paul Roxters.

SUMMER SUNSET CRUISES

The one hour cruise 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 required.

Contact Carol on 0408 382 503 or visit www.psyap.cruises.com.au for more information.

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 4pm.

SWM HILL REGIONAL LIBRARY

Summer Reading Club from 1 December until 31 January.

School holiday Lego Club sessions start on Wednesday, 4 January, 3pm-4pm. $2 per child. For children 5 years and up.

FREE Loom Band sessions on 11, 18 and 25 January. Book bands, beaded bracelets, will be supplied to make a range of jewellery and craft!

Minecraft Monday sessions run from 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.

PET Rock Making with Bunnings, 18, 25 January from 9.30am and 10.30am. $2 per child. This is a FREE activity but bookings are essential.

SUMMER CRUISING IN SWAN HILL

Youth Band Southern Stars will be back to perform again at Riverside Park, and the Australian National Gallery Kids on the Road will return to perform a children’s concert.

FASHION, VR AND HISTORY

REACHING 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).

 sadly the weather warming up we wanted to give local people and their surrounds.

TIME TO TAKE A CRUISE, WITH THE HIGH RIVER AND LUSH RIVERFRONT SURROUNDINGS.

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 submit 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

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

Deborah Kelly’s acclaimed exhibition 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 YEPI Project, funded through Creative Victoria.

January 27 – February 28

Earth Connections, Malee Artists of Swan Hill

Don’t miss this group show from local artists.

SUMMER 2016

IMAGINATION

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.

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Deborah Kelly’s acclaimed exhibition No Human Being Is Illegal (in all our glory) is set to shock and delight visitors to 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.

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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.

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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.

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.

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BEATING THE MOZZIE BITE

MOZZIE PATROL: Council’s Darren Roveo 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 Coordinator Trish Ficarra said mosquitoes were most active at dawn and dusk, so it’s important to take extra precautions at these times.

“A good quality repellant containing N-Diethyl-meta-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 best 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 there is a high concentration of numbers. Overall numbers will be significantly reduced in the area for one to two days, making it a suitable area to be before the fertile 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 at pettits or bricks to ponds, drains, pools of water on the roadside, culverts, ditches and drainage channels.

DO YOU KNOW WHICH BIN TO THROW IT IN?

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 is being well used, and new paths along Yana Street averaged about 60 people.

THE BEAUTY OF RECYCLING

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 the 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!”

– DAVID SOUTAR

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Do you know a young person who’s doing an awesome job in the arts, sports 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 seen 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.

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 excelled or shown great potential in the academic community.

**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 or call 0419 286 365, or online at youth.swanhill.vic.gov.au.

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.

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.

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**SWAN HILL RURAL CITY COUNCIL NEWS | SUMMER 2016**

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**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!

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**WHAT’S ON NOW**

Until 22 January

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

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.

31 December

**NEW YEAR’S EVE**, at Swan Hill Riverside Park.

**JANUARY**

1 January

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

13-14 January

**MURRAY LASER LIGHTS**

17-19 March

**ROBINVALE EUSTON 80**, all weekend.

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**>> 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.

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**>> GET A FREE EVENT LISTING**

Anyone can have their events uploaded to the www.visitswanhill.com.au site for FREE! Please email the details to tourism@swanhill.vic.gov.au, or get in touch with the friendly team at Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery.

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**FEBRUARY**

11 February

**SWAN HILL SPEEDWAY**, Chisholm Reserve Motorsports Complex. Late Modern Day (MDV), racing starts 7pm.

18-19 February

**VOYAGE FITNESS RIVERSIDE TRI**

24 February – 20 March

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

**MARCH**

3 March

**MUCH MORE THAN NOODLES**, outdoor performance from Essentinal Theatre at Pioneer Settlement, 7pm. Gates open 6pm.

9 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 Malice Master, racing starts 6pm.

10-12 March

**SWAN HILL REGION FOC**

17-19 March

**ROBINVALE EUSTON 80 SKI RACES**, all weekend.

**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 SHOW** (every night) at the Pioneer Settlement. Call 5038 2410 for details.

And don’t forget **STORYTIME** each week at the Swan Hill Regional Library for the kids, Saturday Story Time 11am, Wednesday Story Time 10.30am, Thursday Baby Rhyme time 10.30am. Call 5038 2480 for details.

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**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.

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

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