



Central Goldfields Shire Council Community Update

SPRING 2020

And the winner is...

Thank you to the 58 community members who entered our *All Things Gold Victoria Snapshot Competition* during August. We received more than 220 photo entries with a further 389 community members taking the time to review the entries and cast their vote – 2,853 votes were received in total!

Congratulations to Meagan from Maryborough – whose stunning photo of Lake Victoria in Maryborough received the most votes! Meagan won a \$100 hamper for her efforts.



COVID-19 COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing unprecedented challenges for everyone. Many individuals, families and communities find themselves needing support. It can be daunting to ask for help, and to know where to start. There is a range of services and information available from agencies and government organisations to help answer any questions you may have and provide support.

COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, you must get tested. Symptoms include:

- Cough or sore throat
- Fever, chills or sweats
- Shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Loss of sense of smell or taste.

You can make an appointment to get tested at Maryborough District Health Service by calling the Fever Clinic on: 5461 0362. St John Ambulance provides transport for COVID-19 testing and door-to-door COVID-19 test collection between 8.30am and 5pm. You can book by calling: 1300 360 455 or 03 8588 8590.

For other testing locations, including a detailed map, visit <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19>

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

RESTRICTIONS FOR REGIONAL VICTORIA

At the time of this publication going to print Regional Victoria was in Step Three of the Coronavirus Roadmap. For the latest information about restrictions visit: www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19

Where to go for the latest COVID-19 information:

- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
- www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19
- Facebook @CentralGoldfields

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

- **Lifeline:** 13 11 14 (24 Hrs) or www.lifeline.org.au
- **Beyond Blue:** 1300 22 4636 (24 Hrs) or www.beyondblue.org.au
- **Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659 467 (24 Hrs) or www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au
- **Kids Helpline:** 1800 55 1800 (24 Hrs) or www.kidshelpline.org.au
- **Eheadspace:** 1800 650 890 or www.eheadspace.org.au
- **MensLine Australia:** 1300 78 99 78 (24 Hrs) or www.mensline.org.au
- **Qlife:** 1800 184 527 (3pm- 12am) or www.qlife.org.au
- **Head to Help:** 1800 595 212 or www.murrayphn.org.au
- **With RESPECT:** 1800 542 847 or www.withrespect.org.au/covid-19
- **Centre for Non-Violence:** 1800 884 292 or www.cnv.org.au

CONNECTING LOCAL COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19

Are you, or someone you know, feeling lonely? If so, you can call us and ask to speak to a Community Connector, or call the Victorian coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398 to get support. A Community Connector in Central Goldfields will help you to access local practical supports such as food, transport, firewood and more, plus social activities, such as video chats, online book clubs, fitness groups and more. We are here to help and connect you with the support you, or someone you know, needs. Please give us a call.

APPS AND TOOLS

Want to stay informed on coronavirus?

- Coronavirus Australia app
- Healthdirect symptom checker
- Australian Government WhatsApp channel for COVID-19
- COVIDSafe app

Need help to practice self-care?

- Calm Harm
- Headspace
- Daylio
- eMoods Bipolar Mood Tracker
- I am sober
- MoodMission
- PAUSE

Need help to connect with family and friend?

- The Check-in
- Chats for life
- Gather My Crew
- HouseParty
- Friend line

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HELP DURING COVID-19?

Aged support:

Central Goldfields Shire Council – Aged and Disability Services

- ☎ 03 5461 0610
- 🌐 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au
- Home, Respite, and Personal Care, Meals on Wheels, Home modifications, Home and Property Maintenance. Social Support Groups are currently suspended and individual support is being provided.

Disability support:

ASTERIA Services

- ☎ 03 5459 0300
- 🌐 www.asteria.net.au
- NDIS Support Coordination is available via phone and email during office hours. Essential respite and 1:1 in home supports continue to be provided.

Community service organisations:

Maryborough Lions Club Inc.

- ☎ 0456 040 823
- 🌐 www.maryborough.vic.lions.org.au
- Physical and Financial Services to local and district individuals and organisations.

Maryborough Rotary

- ☎ 0418 642 314 – Alison, Maryborough Rotary
- ☎ 1800 737 732 – 1800 Respect
- Serving the community wherever we can.

Lions Club of Carisbrook, Victoria 201 V1-4

- ☎ 0427 326 166 or 0427 828 466
- Serving the community wherever we can. Emergency Relief & Assistance Services

St Vincent De Paul Society (Vinnies)

- ☎ 03 5461 1074
- 🌐 www.vinnies.org.au
- Emergency relief support.

The Salvation Army Maryborough

- ☎ 03 5461 2789
- 🌐 www.salvationarmy.org.au/maryborough
- Food parcels, groceries & fuel gift cards, prescriptions, clothing (from our thrift shop if needed), budget help, debtor advocacy and community care calls.

Community and neighbourhood support:

Maryborough Community House

- 📍 23 Primrose Street, Maryborough, Victoria (Corner of Primrose and Spring street)
- ☎ 03 5461 4551
- ✉ reception@maryboroughcommunityhouse.org.au
- 🌐 www.maryboroughcommunityhouse.org.au
- 📘 [facebook.com/mcohouse](https://www.facebook.com/mcohouse)

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday- 9 am to 4 pm

Services provided:

- MCH Emergency Food Pantry Assistance (by appointment)
- General community information service (phone and email based general service support)
- MCH Community Kitchen Garden (rostered access basis)
- Maryborough Community House Facebook
- Hosted online social support group for a “Cyber coffee and chat “(For people who are feeling isolated, lonely or stressed out and want a relaxing friendly online place for a chat.)
- MCH Video Chat e.g. using Zoom

GELC Neighbourhood House

- 📍 88 – 90 Burke Street Maryborough
- ☎ 03 54 613 185
- 🌐 www.gelc2020.com
- 📘 [facebook.com/GELC-Neighbourhood-House-302235543523780/](https://www.facebook.com/GELC-Neighbourhood-House-302235543523780/)

Hours: Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 4pm, Friday 8.30am to 2pm

Services provided:

- All services are free of charge until further notice: food parcels cooked frozen meals, shopping for people who are unable to shop for themselves including home delivery service, prescription collection service, resume service, access to facilities via pre-approved small group bookings, Free wifi from carpark, NILS loans processed remotely, Zoom for groups (please call and organize).

Dunolly Rural Transaction Centre

- ☎ 03 5468 1205
- Core services include Centrelink [Services Australia] access, public internet access and the community bus on Friday to Maryborough. Bendigo Bank services available at a reduced time schedule.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HELP DURING COVID-19?

Counselling support:

Anglicare Victoria

☎ (03) 5461 0200
🌐 www.anglicarevic.org.au
Assistance with managing everyday tasks, financial counselling, help connecting individuals with other services including drug & alcohol, housing and medical.

Uniting Ballarat

☎ 03 5332 1286 (main reception)
🌐 www.unitingballarat.org.au
Drug and alcohol counselling, general counselling

VCC Emergencies Ministry

☎ 03 94128481
✉ emergencies@vcc.org.au
🌐 www.vccem.org.au, www.vccem.org.au/LGA
Provide psychosocial support including emotional spiritual care.

Mind Australia

☎ 9938 1960 (contact by phone to arrange assistance)
🌐 www.mindaustralia.org.au
Mind Australia Mental health information, advice, and support coordination.

Family violence:

Centre for Non-Violence

☎ 1800 884 292 free call from any mobile (with or without data), landline or public phone
✉ reception@cnv.org.au
📍 @CentreforNonViolence
📍 Centre for Non-Violence
We want women to know we are here for them. If you are experiencing family violence contact us on free call 1800 884 292 or you can send us messages via Facebook or Instagram.

1800 Respect

☎ 1800 737 732 (available 24/7)
🌐 www.1800respect.org.au/
The National Sexual Assault, Family & Domestic Violence Counselling Line for any Australian who has experienced, or is at risk of, family and domestic violence and/or sexual assault. 24 hours, 7 days a week

Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre

☎ 1800 015 188 (available 24/7)
🌐 www.safesteps.org.au
✉ safesteps@safesteps.org.au (available 24/7)
If you are afraid or at risk of experiencing family violence, do not hesitate to call our 24/7 crisis response phonenumber.

Food support:

Maryborough Community House

☎ 03 5461 4551
✉ reception@maryboroughcommunityhouse.org.au

GELC Neighbourhood House

☎ 03 5461 3185
🌐 www.gelc2020.com

The Salvation Army Maryborough

☎ 03 5461 2789
🌐 www.salvationarmy.org.au/maryborough

Medical and health support:

Clarendon Medical Centre

📍 4 Neill Street, Maryborough
☎ 03 5461 0100
✉ andrewl@clarendonmed.com
🌐 www.clarendonmed.com

- The Clarendon Medical Centre is operating as normal to accommodate for the medical needs of the community.
- Prescriptions can also be arranged via telephone consultation. The doctors will organise the scripts and we send them to the relevant chemist for collection.
- People can book appointments online via HotDocs or via our website by clicking on the HotDocs logo

Maryborough District Health Service

📍 75-87 Clarendon Street Maryborough
☎ 03 5461 0333
🌐 www.mdhs.vic.gov.au
Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm

- Aged Care, Acute Ward, District Nursing
- Community Services – MDHS is utilising Telehealth to facilitate ongoing support and treatment as a measure to reduce face to face contact where possible.
- Providing services: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Counselling, Dental – emergency only

Legal and housing support:

Housing Justice

📍 171 Hargreaves St Bendigo (office closed)
☎ 03 5445 0990
✉ info@housingjustice.org.au
🌐 www.housingjustice.org.au
Tenancy information and advice via telephone or email

Winn Legal

☎ 03 5461 1995
🌐 www.winnlegal.com
Supportive Powers of Attorney, Victims of Crimes Assistance Tribunal.

Legal and housing support:

Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Service

📍 171 Hargreaves St Bendigo (office closed)
☎ 03 5445 0909
🌐 www.lcclc.org.au
Telephone service only. Legal information and advice in the areas of Child Protection, Family Violence, Family Law - Parenting (No Property), Fines and Debt.

Local mobs support:

Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative

📍 119 Prouses Rd, North Bendigo VIC 3550
☎ 03 5442 4947
🌐 www.bdac.com.au
Our Bulk Billing Medical Clinic is accessible to all members of the public, with some services offered only to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Providing all the services, including health, wellbeing, family and community, for more info please go to www.bdac.com.au

Yarning Safe 'n Strong

☎ 1800 959 563 (available 24/7)
✉ ysns@vahs.org.au
📍 @YarningSafenStrong
Providing services like: social and emotional wellbeing, financial wellbeing, medical support including COVID-19 testing, drug and alcohol counselling and rehab services.

Connect with us on Facebook: The Goldfields Mob Facebook page is for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to share information and connect with each other.

Young people:

Central Goldfields Shire Council – Youth Services

☎ 03 5461 0610
🌐 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/youth
Youth Holiday Program, activities, and events. TAC L2P and Road Trip

Anglicare Victoria – Maryborough

☎ 03 5440 1100
🌐 www.anglicarevic.org.au
Hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
Support to families with dependent children aged zero to 18 years, victim's assistance, financial counselling and youth services.

Headspace Bendigo and Ballarat

☎ 03 5406 1400 (Bendigo)
☎ 03 5304 4777 (Ballarat)
✉ headspace@bchs.com.au
Tailored and holistic mental health support to people aged 12-25 years.

Don't forget your face covering!

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
1800 675 398 • 24 hours, 7 days

VICTORIA
Health and Human Services

FACE MASKS
It is mandatory to wear a mask or face covering in Victoria when leaving your home. A \$200 penalty will apply. For more information visit <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/face-coverings-covid-19>
Vulnerable members of the community can contact Council's Customer Service team to access free face masks.

be kind
TO YOURSELF

It's really important to look after your mental health and wellbeing and there are a range of support services available. We've got a detailed list – including contact details – on our website here: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/covid-19

Got symptoms?
Get tested.

- Runny nose
- Loss of smell or taste
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fever or chills

Head straight home.

VICTORIA
Health and Human Services

ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY

BUILDING A STRONG ECONOMIC FUTURE FOR CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all and none more than our local business community.

Since the pandemic hit in March we've worked to support our local economy through the delivery of a range of response and recovery actions.

A list of our immediate actions are provided below and on the next page we explore the next stage of projects we're working to deliver to ensure a strong economic future for the Central Goldfields.



WHAT WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON TO DATE

Economic Response and Recovery Taskforce

10 local business representatives from a range of sectors, working with us to report on local impacts and how to respond. Outcomes have included:

- Identified high priority actions from Economic Development and Tourism & Events Strategies
- Advocacy to Council for targeted financial relief for hard-hit local businesses, and extended support beyond September
- Advocacy to Dr Ann Webster MP for federal support measures to be extended
- Advocacy to Bendigo Regional Tourism Board for a greater share of state funds to support local tourism
- Meeting with the Committee for Maryborough to discuss collaborative actions
- Established working sub-groups for tourism, accommodation and retail support; with a food & fibre working group to be established soon

Council actions (with support from Taskforce)

Financial Support Package (released in March)

- Rent waived for businesses occupying Council buildings and facilities
- All current debt recovery actions suspended
- Extended rate payments to 30 September 2020 with no interest
- Waived interest on overdue rates and waste charges from 16 March 2020
- Changed payment systems so suppliers are paid weekly to improve business cash flow
- Dedicated business contact officer within Council
- Extended expiry dates for septic, building and planning permits for 12 months at no cost upon request
- Refunded permit fees for events and business activities that have been cancelled or closed as directed by Government upon request
- Waived building or planning permits fees under Council's Community Support Policy

Information on our extended financial support measures is available to read on page 8.

- **#GoLocalFirst** – Social media campaign encouraging community to support local businesses and services.
Facebook – @CentralGoldfields – Go Local Instagram @centralgoldfields_golocal
- **Jumpstart High Street Maryborough** – Working with businesses to devise and implement joint actions to attract people to the Maryborough CBD
- **Tourism Tribe Training** – Visitor Information Centre staff undertaking training focused on helping businesses emerge from COVID-19 with a stronger digital footprint
- **Digital footprint** – Visitor Information Centre staff working with tourism operators to increase their digital footprint, including listing on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse
- **Regional Promotion** – Central Goldfields Promotional Group developing a TV campaign, social media content and image library to better promote the region
- **Better Approvals** – Streamlined 'concierge' process now in place for new or expanding businesses through the permit processes for planning, building and environmental health
- **Small Business Friendly Charter** – Council has committed to 12-month process to improve services to businesses and build relationships with business groups
- **Direct contact** –
 - Database of 550 local businesses developed
 - Phone calls to businesses in early weeks of the pandemic
 - Weekly email newsletter collating information on state, federal and regional sources of support, online events and training in business adaptation
 - Response to business requests for support and information
- **Additional resources** – two additional resources appointed to Economic Development under the Working for Victoria scheme:
 - Steve Barnes – Economic Recovery Coordinator
 - Catharine Densley – 'Support Local' Campaigns Officer
- **Revised procurement policy** –
 - Greater weighting to local content in tender evaluations
 - Higher threshold allowing direct procurement of local goods and services

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

Economic recovery is a major priority and the following actions are some of the ways we are working to build a strong economic future for the Central Goldfields Shire.



Capital Works Program

The 2020/21 Council Budget features a \$15.9 million capital works program to help stimulate our local economy. This program was made possible thanks to \$9.5 million secured funding from the Federal and State governments. This will support local businesses and jobs during the works phase and provide lasting community infrastructure.

The projects include:

- Maryborough Outdoor Pool upgrade – \$2 million
- Community halls and facilities improvements – \$565,000
- Talbot Town Hall toilet upgrade – \$250,000
- Energy Breakthrough infrastructure upgrades – \$500,000 (\$1.5 million over three years)
- Central Goldfields Art Gallery redevelopment – \$675,000
- Maryborough Skate and Scooter Park – \$645,000
- Carisbrook Recreation Reserve upgrade – \$4 million
- Worsley Cottage repairs – \$150,000
- Carisbrook Scout Hall and Lions Club roof repairs – \$10,000
- Maryborough Community House – carpark lighting and disability access – \$10,000
- New footpaths in Bealiba, Carisbrook, Talbot and Dunolly – \$81,000

Implementation of Tourism & Events Strategy

- Central Goldfields Art Gallery redevelopment
- Social Media Strategy
- World Heritage listing for the Victorian Goldfields – participating in the regional process to develop a bid for this game-changing recognition
- Visitor Information Centre relocation to be incorporated into Maryborough Railway Station Master Plan

Implementation of Economic Development Strategy

- Maryborough Railway Station Activation project
 - Stage 1 to include co-working facility and small business support hub (early 2021)
 - Long term master plan and business case (to be developed 2020-21)
- Economic Development Officer – on-going position – recruitment occurring in September/October
- Investment attraction plan, including Maryborough food manufacturing cluster
- Resident Attraction Strategy – collaborating with Committee for Maryborough’s Attraction and Retention Working Group to identify ways that local employers can attract and retain staff
- Better Approvals – completed

Strategic Land Use Planning

- Implementation of Planning Scheme Review and Population, Housing and Residential Settlement Strategy – providing direction for new residential growth and supporting the construction industry
- Industrial Strategy being developed

Financial support measures extended to 31 March 2021

- Updated COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy
- Waived rent for businesses occupying Council buildings and facilities extended to 31 March, 2021
- All current debt recovery actions suspended
- Extended rate payments to 31 December 2020 on request, with no interest – Financial Hardship application required
- Waived interest on overdue rates and waste charges extended to 31 March 2021
- Waiver of 2021 registration fees for food, accommodation, beauty, hair dressing salons and various permits
- Continuation of local suppliers weekly to improve business cash flow
- Ongoing dedicated business contact officer within Council
- Waived outdoor dining fees and a simplified and streamlined outdoor trading application process now in place
- Extension of expiry dates for septic, building and planning permits for 12 months at no cost to 31 March, 2021
- Waived rent for all occupiers of Council buildings and facilities extended from 30 September 2020 to 31 March, 2021
- Waived building or planning permits fees under Council’s Community Support Policy extended to 31 March, 2021
- Waived 2021 registration fees for community organisations who require permits for various services
- Council will continue works as scheduled so as to maximise local business and employment opportunities
- Council will proactively promote local procurement for capital and other expenditure and Council’s Business and Economic Development Units will work with local businesses to achieve it



Connect with us:

Own a business in the Central Goldfields Shire and want to know more or need support?

Contact our Economic Development team via:

- **Website:** Visit our dedicated COVID-19 Business section of our website here: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/businesssupport
- **Email:** economicdevelopment@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
- **Phone:** 5461 0610

We also distribute a regular Business Update e-newsletter. To register email economicdevelopment@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au



THE CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS GO LOCAL FIRST CAMPAIGN IS NOW LIVE.

Go Local First is a new nationwide campaign by Council of Small Business Organisations Australia, aimed at highlighting the vital role of small businesses in our nation’s recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Go Local First encourages all of us to choose local small businesses when purchasing products and services to help boost the economy.

We will be promoting **#golocalfirst** and our local businesses via the following platforms:

- 📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/golocalfirst
- 📘 Facebook – Central Goldfields – Go Local
- 📷 [instagram.com/centralgoldfields_golocal](https://www.instagram.com/centralgoldfields_golocal)

How do I get involved? Simply register your business details with our ‘Support Local’ Campaigns Officer, Catharine Densley, via email catharine.densley@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

For more information, visit: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/golocalfirst

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Our 2020 Central Goldfields Shire Community Grants Program will be launched in November.

The grants are available to community organisations that are:

- based in the Central Goldfields Shire; and
- benefit the Central Goldfields Shire community.

This is a golden opportunity for community groups and clubs to re-boot their activities and start the new year with renewed energy.

The good news is that the total amount available to community groups has increased this year. This should allow many more groups to access funds to support their groups in the process of recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

A comprehensive set of guidelines will be available on Council’s website in October and the application process will be open on the website between 2 November and 18 December.

For more information contact Council’s Pandemic Recovery Community Development Officer James Rigby via email james.rigby@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au or 0428 927 338.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

THANK YOU

Hundreds of residents have provided input into a number of key Council documents in recent months.

These include:

- Disability Action Plan
- Tullaroop Creek Management Plan
- Gordon Gardens outdoor fitness equipment colours
- Active Central Goldfields Recreation and Open Space Strategy
- Integrated Transport Strategy
- Governance Rules
- Public Transparency Policy
- 2020-21 Council Budget
- Public notice of proposed intention to sell Council-owned land
- Flood study amendment for Carisbrook and Dunolly
- Youth Hub
- COVID-19 community and business focus

During these challenging COVID times, much of our engagement has been online so thank you for taking the time to complete surveys and email and call.

Our community engagement activities are currently on hold due to the Council Election Period. This will re-commence when the Caretaker period ends on 24 October, 2020.



To keep up-to-date with opportunities to get involved visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay follow Council on Facebook or see our full page Council News advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday.

COMMUNITY CULTURE AND DIVERSITY

Georgia MacGuire is a Wurundjeri woman who has been an active member in the Central Goldfields community since 2013 and is working with Council and Dja Dja Wurrung traditional owners to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan.

This will create more opportunities to develop and strengthen Council's capability to represent, advocate for and support local Dja Dja Wurrung and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the region.

Local knowledge is important to this process and Council is committed to working with local community. Council will be looking at more innovative ways to collaborate to provide greater access to services, employment, economic, and career development opportunities for all.

Georgia has been a practicing visual artist for 10 years and has previously worked in the community sector with children, young people and families for more than 20 years.



NAIDOC Week

Council is hoping to find a way to celebrate NAIDOC Week, which has been postponed this year to 8 – 15 November. Keep an eye out on Council's Facebook page the Goldfields Mob Facebook page for more information.

"My aim is to build a strong connected Goldfields community and I would really encourage local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to follow the Goldfields Mob Facebook page, as a way for our local mob to connect and keep up to date with what is happening in the area" – **Georgia MacGuire.**

A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL TO LIVE AND WORK

Montoya Turner's smile (pictured) warmed everyone's hearts when she took the first swing on the 'Liberty Swing' at Maryborough's Princes Park in 2018. Her smile embodies the changes Central Goldfields wants to see in our community for those living with disability:

- Reducing barriers for access to goods, services and facilities
- Reducing barriers to getting and keeping a job
- Promoting inclusion and community participation
- Tangible changes in attitudes and practices that discriminate

The Central Goldfields Shire Disability Action Plan is committed to delivering these four outcome areas under the Disability Act 2006, as well as asking about the impacts of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and COVID-19 virus.

A Steering Group including a person living with disability, a carer, disability service providers, as well as Council staff, will guide the development of the Plan.



Many thanks to the community members and disability agencies who have already contributed to Council's September survey. It's not too late to take part, although the Local Government Caretaker Period will restrict public consultation until October 24. For more information, please contact Council's Community Development Officer, Max Berry by emailing Maxwell.Berry@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

HAVE YOUR SAY ON ALL THINGS YOUTH IN CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS!

Want to help design cool and fun programs for young people in Central Goldfields?

Want to help design cool and fun programs for young people in Central Goldfields? The Central Goldfields Youth team are looking for young people aged 12-25 to help create and design new programs for youth! We'll be meeting to discuss ideas and design projects throughout November this year.

Want to get involved? Send an email to Youth Engagement Officer Molly Jessop: molly.jessop@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au or FreeZa Coordinator Penny Wilson: pennyw@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au or L2P Coordinator Audrey Bartlett: audreyb@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au



Central Goldfields Youth have just launched a new Facebook and Instagram page!

Follow our page for updates on events, giveaways and fun how to videos to keep up to date on all things youth in Central Goldfields.

[facebook.com/CentralGoldfieldsYouth](https://www.facebook.com/CentralGoldfieldsYouth)

[@central_goldfields_youth](https://www.instagram.com/central_goldfields_youth)

GET CREATIVE

Get experience in project design alongside our experienced team.

EVERY CHILD EVERY CHANCE

Go Goldfields has refocused efforts on early years and will be supporting a mission to ensure every child in central Goldfields Shire has every chance to be healthy, safe and eager to learn.

We will soon be launching a community conversation to better understand how Go Goldfields can support parents and children in the shire from pregnancy right through to starting school.

We look forward to speaking with interested community members, parents, and children in the coming months.



go goldfields
aspiring and achieving



Active Central Goldfields Recreation and Open Space Strategy

After hundreds of conversations with local sporting, recreation and community groups, key organisations and residents the Active Central Goldfields Recreation and Open Space Strategy was adopted by Council in September.

The Strategy provides us with a clear vision and framework for participation in sport and recreation and will guide decision making for the next 10 years.

To find out more about the Strategy and to read the document visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/recreation



Central Goldfields Shire Council staff participated in a range of events last year as part of the 16 Days of Activism event program.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

We're working with local organisations and community to coordinate a program with a range of events and activities to promote the global initiative *16 Days of Activism*.

16 Days of Activism (to End Violence Against Women) aims to raise awareness and strengthen local interventions in violence against women and girls.

Events will be held between 25 November – *International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women* and 10 December – *Human Rights Day*.

Keep an eye out on Council's website and Facebook page for more information once the program is finalised.



2020 Central Goldfields Shire Citizen of the Year recipient Robert Ipsen with Central Goldfields Shire General Manager Infrastructure Assets and Planning Rebecca Stockfeld and Louise Staley MP.

NOMINATE FOR AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Nominations for the 2021 Australia Day Awards will open on Wednesday 4 November.

If you know someone who goes above and beyond for their community, nominate them today.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Award of the Year

For more information and to access a nomination form visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/australiadayawards

NB: Our Australia Day celebration and awards ceremony may look different in 2021 in keeping with COVID-19 restrictions.

ARE YOU FIRE AND FLOOD READY?

If you haven't already prepared your property for the upcoming season now is the time.

No matter where you live in Central Goldfields Shire – whether you're in a town or on a farm – your property is likely to be at high bush or grass fire risk. Central Goldfields also has flood prone communities, if you live in low-lying land a well prepared property could reduce the impact.

Now is the time to increase your understanding of the fire and flood risk where you live, prepare your property, and talk to your loved ones about what you'll do to stay safe from emergencies. For more information visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/planningforanemergency and see the following link: In an Emergency what is your plan?

Residents should also prepare their properties by:

- Clearing undergrowth and fallen branches
- Moving firewood and other flammables away from the house
- Cleaning leaves from gutters
- Ensuring that grass is cut



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



BRING ON SUMMER!

Our Outdoor Pools in Maryborough, Dunolly and Talbot will open in December.

Visitors to the Maryborough Outdoor Pool will notice some improvements that have been undertaken during the winter months:

- Three new shade sails
- Turf under the existing shade structure
- Plant room upgrade
- Upgrade to the plumbing in the showers
- Repair and painting of change room seating
- Repairs to the kiosk servery window
- New doors installed in change room cubicles.

For more information on our outdoor pools, including opening hours and locations, visit: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpools





HEALTHY HEART OF VICTORIA

Funded by the State Government, the \$5 million Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative aims to make residents living in Loddon Campaspe communities more active, more often.

To date the Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative has funded the following projects in the Central Goldfields Shire:

Goldfields Reservoir – COMPLETED

- \$137,171 upgrade to the path, the implementation of a parkrun at the site; and the installation of a nature play area

Maryborough Community House – UNDERWAY

- \$51,272 for upgrades including support of the kitchen garden project; the installation of a new BBQ and shade structure; and playground enhancements

Gordon Gardens, Dunolly

- \$51,272 for a new basketball court – **COMPLETED**
- \$140,000 for new bicycle scooter pump track, outdoor exercise equipment and shade structure as part of the Gordon Gardens Master Plan – **UNDERWAY**

For more information on other local Healthy Heart of Victoria projects, visit: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/healthyheartofvictoria

FOR FAMILIES

The Central Goldfields Shire Maternal and Child Health team regularly hosts sessions for new parents:

- **Eat and Grow sessions** – a free, one-off information session open to parents with a baby aged between four and six months of age. The next session will be held on Monday 19 October, 11am to 12.30pm, location TBC.
- **New Parents Group** – a free, weekly, facilitated five week program open to parents under the age of four months. Our next group will be held every Monday from 9 November to 14 December from 11 to 12.30pm, location TBC.

For more info and to register for the sessions please contact our Central Goldfields Shire Maternal and Child Health team on 5461 6550.



BECOME A L2P MENTOR

The TAC L2P Program matches learners aged 16 to 21 years with a fully-licensed volunteer driver and practice vehicle to help them gain driving experience.

The program doesn't just benefit learner drivers, it also provides volunteer mentors an opportunity to connect with their community, and directly help a young person.

We provide full training to mentors to ensure you're well prepared to mentor a learner driver and understand your role as a supervising driver.



Mentors need to meet the following criteria to join the TAC L2P program:

- be over 21 years old
- hold a current full Victorian driver licence
- can commit approximately two hours per week

The TAC L2P program is funded by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), managed by the Department of Transport, supported by the Victorian Government and coordinated by Central Goldfields Shire Council.

To apply as a mentor please email Council's L2P Coordinator Audrey Bartlett via email audreyb@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au or call 0418 536 517.

For further volunteer opportunities with Council contact 5461 0610 or mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au



MORE AUSTRALIAN SOLAR HOMES

Gerard Maloney, bulk-buy participant with his new solar system

MASH (More Australian Solar Homes)

Central Goldfields Shire Council is pleased to be a partner in a solar bulk-buy to help households and businesses save money by reducing their energy bills. The MASH Solar BulkBuy makes it easier for households and businesses to go solar with an option they can trust. Benefits include:

- High quality solar at good value prices
- Cut your electricity bills
- Cut your CO2 emissions
- Plus free solar for community groups and schools

Supported by Central Goldfields Shire Council

MASH is a partnership between Council and the More Australian Solar Homes (MASH) initiative. MASH is owned and organised by the not-for-profit organisation Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance, which supports councils across central and north western Victoria. More than 1,500 households in central Victoria have installed solar panels through MASH in the last six years.

Good value

Backed by warranties and installed according to best practice industry standards by a Clean Energy Council Accredited Solar Retailer, the systems provide good value at competitive prices. The MASH team evaluates the companies they work with to ensure residents can trust the quality and value of the solar systems being offered.

Local jobs

The program encourages CEC accredited local installers to get in touch if they are interested in working as sub-contractors on the program – please email info@cvga.org.au

Community bonus

MASH will donate 1% of sales revenue from solar in Central Goldfields in the form of free solar for eligible organisations. More information will be released in coming months. Alternatively register your interest on behalf of a community group or school at info@cvga.org.au

Solar rebates – worth up to \$1850

The State Government is offering eligible households a solar rebate of up to \$1,850 on the cost of a solar power system through its Solar Homes program, as well as an interest-free loan of up to the same amount. Visit solar.vic.gov.au for more information.

Request an obligation-free quote

For more information and to request a quote, visit mash.org.au/central-goldfields or call 1300 466 274.



CONTACT US



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

You can contact our Customer Service team via:

- 📞 5461 0610
- ✉️ mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

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

- 📘 www.facebook.com/centralgoldfields
- 🐦 www.twitter.com/CG_Shire
- 🌐 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au

We also encourage you to:

- read our full page Council advertisement in *The Maryborough District Advertiser* every Friday
- listen in to CEO Lucy Roffey's weekly radio interview on Gold Central Victoria every Wednesday at 8:10am

You can also stay connected with the following services via:

Central Goldfields Art Gallery

Our Gallery is currently closed*, but our exhibitions are still available to enjoy online.

You can view the exhibitions at:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/exhibitionsandevents

You can contact the Gallery team via:

- 📞 5461 6600
- ✉️ cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

You can also connect with the Gallery via:

- 📘 @CGAGMaryborough
- 📷 @centralgoldfieldsartgallery

- Register for the Gallery e-newsletter by emailing cgsc.art@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

Maryborough Regional Library

Our Library is currently closed*, but our Click and Click service is operational and Library services are also being offered online including our children's programs.

- 📞 5461 9111
- ✉️ maryboroughlibrary@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

You can also connect with the Library team online via:

- 📘 @MBLibVIC
- 📷 @mblibvic
- 🌐 www.centralhighlandslibraries.org.au

Goldfields Family Centre and Maternal and Child Health

Our Kindergarten, Long Day Care, Family Day Care, Supported Playgroup and Maternal and Child Health Service continue to operate – some just in an online format. To make contact with our Goldfields Family Centre team and Maternal and Child Health team contact:

- 📞 5461 6500
- ✉️ goldfieldsfamilycentre@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
- 📘 @goldfieldsscc

Visitor Information Centre

Our Visitor Information Centre is open six days a week – every day except Tuesdays from 10am to 4pm.

You can also contact our Tourism team via:

- 📞 5460 4511
- ✉️ visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

You can also connect with the tourism team online via:

- 📘 @Visit.Maryborough
- 📷 @visitmaryboroughhandsurrounds
- 🌐 www.visitmaryborough.com.au

- Register for the Tourism e-newsletter by emailing visitorinfo@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

* At the time of going to print the Gallery and Library were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Food For Thought

Our Public Health and Environment team are about to commence distribution of a regular e-newsletter to food businesses in the Shire. The 'Food For Thought e-newsletter will feature information and the latest news from Council's Environmental Health Officer.

We'd love to hear your feedback on this Council publication. Did you read it, was it worthwhile, is this something you'd like to receive regularly?

Soon we'll be developing a *Central Goldfields Shire Council Communications and Engagement Strategy* as well as a *Community Engagement Policy* – a requirement of the new Local Government Act. We'll provide opportunities to provide feedback on this in the coming months.

In the meantime, if you'd like to share feedback on this publication you can email media@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au