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JANIEMBER PARK COMPLETE

Thanks to the hard work of the community and Council staff, the Janiember Park redevelopment project is now complete.



The \$1.2 million Janiember Park redevelopment project is now complete, with the facility officially handed over to the Serpentine community in June.

The completion of the building, which includes new multipurpose training and change-room facilities and a commercial grade kitchen, has been welcomed by the community.

Recreation Reserve President Robert Hooke said the project would benefit current and next generation users.

"We've got an up-to-date facility that everyone is going to enjoy."

Mr Hooke acknowledged the hard work of the community which helped bring the Janiember Park project into reality.

"A lot of people have put in a lot of work into it in all different ways.

"One of our aims has been to get a lot of people involved;

the community has had ownership of the project. When you work hard for it, it's always great to see it done."

The Janiember Park redevelopment project began around nine years ago, when members of its Users Group approached Council with the initial concept for the project. The new facility is the result of tireless work by the community and the project's community steering group.

Council has also committed to the installation of new drainage, kerb and channelling along Chapel Street. The \$225,500 works will improve stormwater management, general access and the overall appearance of the area, and complement the Janiember Park project.

Funding for the Janiember Park redevelopment project was made possible by a mix of funding from the Victorian Government, the Inglewood and Districts Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank, the Serpentine community and Council.

SOUTH WEST LODDON PIPELINE UPDATE

Loddon Shire Council and GWMWater have developed a memorandum of understanding to work together to oversee the management and delivery of the South West Loddon Pipeline Water Supply Project.

The project involves construction of a rural water pipeline to provide a secure piped stock and domestic water supply for the climate stressed region of south west Loddon.

A story in the December 2016 Loddon Bulletin gave an insight into the significant funding commitments made by both the state and federal governments towards this project.

It has now reached a milestone with the tender documentation currently in the market. The successful contractor will finalise design and planning work from July 2017, with construction expected to commence late 2017 or early 2018.

GWMWater thanks everyone who has submitted their expressions of interest. Landowners who have done so will be contacted by GWMWater in the coming months to discuss their individual property requirements.

If you haven't submitted an expression of interest form, please do so soon to make sure you don't miss the

opportunity for the pipeline to be designed to supply your property under a heavily-subsidised arrangement. GWMWater is accepting expressions of interest forms from interested landholders up until July 2017.

Any request to connect in the future can't be guaranteed and if a supply is available, it is unlikely to be subsidised, with additional costs to be paid by the landholder.

If you are a landholder outside of the current project boundary that is interested in connecting, you are still encouraged to register an expression of interest, as the boundary may change due to levels of interest. For landholders concerned about costs, payment arrangements are available to all landowners for the payment of the capital contribution, with additional support available to landholders facing financial hardship. Landholders are encouraged to speak with GWMWater to discuss their individual circumstances.

For more information visit www.gwmwater.org.au/services/rural/south-west-loddon-pipeline or call GWMWater on 1300 659 961.

A number of fact sheets regarding the project are available from the website including the expression of interest form.

LODDON'S COUNCIL PLAN TAKES SHAPE

Council will soon meet to consider any submissions received as part of consultation on its new four-year Council Plan before it is presented with a final Plan for adoption later in June.

Following significant consultation involving the community, staff and Councillors, the draft 2017-2021 Council Plan was developed with the key focus areas being Population, Economic Prosperity, Liveability, Sustainability and High Performance Organisation.

A workshop at Fortuna Villa in Bendigo brought almost 100 Loddon Shire community and business leaders together where they could focus on the municipality's future strategic direction.

Community members were invited to contribute ideas for the Council Plan and vote on them through an online OurSay Forum, with a commitment given that the top 10 ideas would help inform the Council Plan.

From a total of 34 ideas submitted and 137 votes cast, top ideas included implementation of the Donaldson Park Masterplan, advocacy for access to quality childcare, improving availability of aged care facilities and advocacy for improved public transport.

Loddon's youth were invited to contribute ideas through a workshop and surveys, which identified issues including the lack of employment opportunities, along with limited career options/role models in the community, limited transport options to travel to study and work, and the need for more entertainment and community events to bring people together.

The input from these sources, as well as interviews with Councillors



Loddon Shire CEO Phil Pinyon and Mayor Neil Beattie consider great ideas generated at a Council Plan workshop held in March.

and Council staff, has come together in a draft Plan that will guide the direction of Loddon Shire for the next four years.

"As a Council, we want to enhance the sustainability and liveability of Loddon Shire," Loddon Shire Mayor Neil Beattie said.

"By focusing on the strategic objectives in the Council Plan, we believe that Council will go a long way towards achieving our vision to have a prosperous, vibrant and engaged community."

Once the Plan is adopted, progress of actions will be reported to Council regularly. Every financial year, Council will consider whether the Plan needs to be adjusted for the remaining period. This will help Council to stay responsive to any changes in its environment over the next four years.

EASING THE PATH TO YOUR DOOR

One steady step at a time, Loddon Shire is opening the door to residents and visitors with a disability.

Loddon Shire Council Senior Disability Inclusion Officer Jolie Middleton is playing a key role in delivering the new Inclusive Towns project designed to support businesses to make simple changes that will increase their accessibility.

"Inclusive Towns is being delivered with State Government support as a joint partnership between Loddon Shire and City of Greater Bendigo," Ms Middleton said.

"At its heart is a strong desire to create inclusive communities in which people with a disability have the same opportunities and choice as those without.

"We can go a long way towards achieving this through taking a number of relatively simple achievable steps which make life a little easier for someone with a disability, and in turn which benefit participating businesses who are rewarded with loyal, repeat business."

Ms Middleton said when the word disability was raised people often associated it with wheelchairs, but she explained that was just one picture of what disability looked like.

"We need to broaden that picture to encompass those with vision and hearing impairments as well as learning difficulties or autism.

"Statistics have demonstrated about 40 per cent of adults identify as having some form of disability or long-term health condition, so making businesses accessible for these people can deliver tremendous economic advantage to a municipality such as Loddon," she said.

"Little things like having a magnifying glass on hand for people living with a vision impairment to read prices and always having a pen and paper available in case they are a person's preferred choice of communication, can all make a difference.

"There are numerous readily achievable changes which can be made without imposing any significant cost or time commitment on behalf of the business owner."

Ms Middleton said participating businesses across the Shire would have the opportunity to display an Inclusive Towns sticker on their door which identified their commitment to providing the best possible accessibility for all.

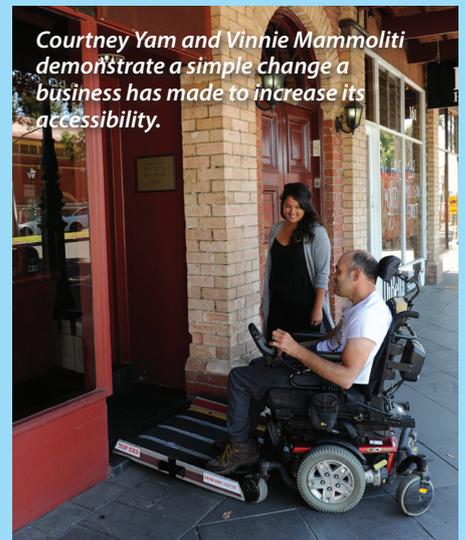
"The more businesses in Loddon Shire we have on board, the more we can build a name for ourselves as being a municipality which is welcoming and accommodating to people of all abilities."

Ms Middleton said by becoming involved with the program there may also be opportunities for businesses to access funding streams they may otherwise have been unaware of,

particularly for any larger modifications which are identified.

"While we continue to liaise with and support businesses to adopt Inclusive Towns practices, word is spreading about other initiatives designed to increase the quality of life of people who choose to live, work or visit in Loddon Shire."

If you would like to find out more about how you can make your business more inclusive and accessible, please contact the Disability Inclusion team on 5434 6000 or email inclusivetowns@bendigo.vic.gov.au.



Courtney Yam and Vinnie Mammoliti demonstrate a simple change a business has made to increase its accessibility.

FIRST STAGE OF YORKSHIRE ROAD PROJECT SEALED

Stage one of a \$4 million project to seal a 12.4 kilometre stretch of Yorkshire Road, which runs east off Bridgewater-Maldon Road, has been completed.

The first 3.8 kilometre leg of the three stage project was delivered for less than the estimated cost of \$1.3 million.

Tarnagulla and Inglewood residents may have also noticed groundwork has begun for stage three of the sealing project, covering a further three kilometre stretch of Yorkshire Road at an estimated cost of \$1 million. This work is expected to be completed in mid-2017.

Stage one and stage three of the capital works project have been funded through the Federal Government's Roads to Recovery Program.



Grader operator Neville Mills and his team are completing the first stage of the Yorkshire Road project.

Stage two, the final stage of the project to be delivered, covers a six kilometre stretch of Yorkshire Road at an estimated cost of \$1.8 million.

Timeframes for the final stage of the project are expected to be discussed in light of other identified priority works at a Council meeting later this financial year.

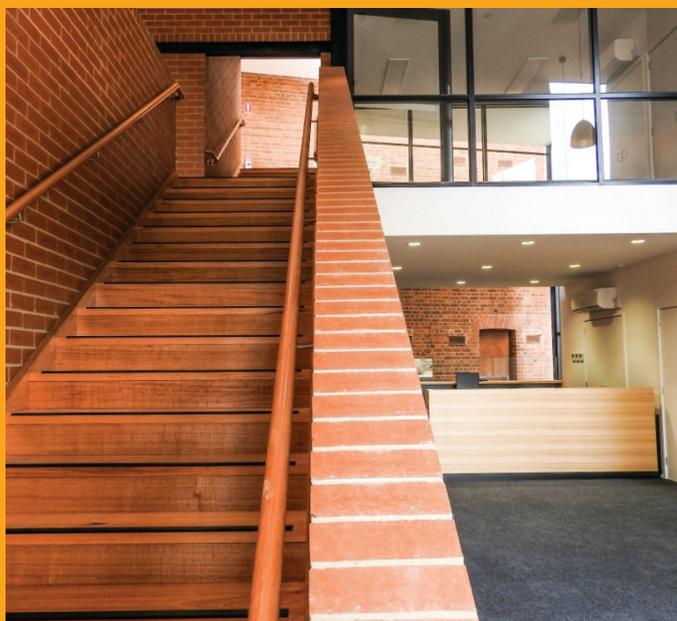
The decision to upgrade roads is determined by a number of factors including traffic vehicle count data, the condition of the road and industry developments.

Hazeldene's Chicken Farm and Scato Plus mushroom composting businesses, which are located in the immediate Yorkshire Road vicinity, account for a large proportion of traffic volume.



Scato Plus mushroom composting is located along the freshly sealed section of Yorkshire Road.

REDISCOVER INGLEWOOD TOWN HALL



These photos give a small insight into what lies behind closed doors. It's now time to step inside and take a look for yourself!

The doors to Inglewood Town Hall have been reopened.

The Inglewood Community Neighbourhood House (formerly the Inglewood Community Resource Centre) has set up shop in the refurbished building.

A new permanent library agency, established by Goldfields Libraries to replace the previous mobile service, is also operating from the site.

It will be exciting to see a range of health and community focused programmes which appeal to residents across all age and interest groups run from this fantastic community hub.

An official opening will be held in the not-too-distant future. Details regarding the opening will be provided to the community once they're confirmed.

Don't forget, if you're also looking for a unique space to hold your next event, there are a range of rooms available for hire at the town hall. Office space, meeting rooms and the supper room and hall are all available again now to hire.

For bookings, contact Kim at the Inglewood Community Neighbourhood house on 5438 3562 or email info@icnh.org.au



GET SET FOR THE 5 TO 8 CLUB

If you're aged between 50 and 80, enjoy good company and living life to the full, the 5 to 8 Club could be for you.

Loddon Shire Planned Activities Officer Linda Canfield said 5 to 8 Club activities provided an opportunity for residents experiencing physical limitations to get out and about and enjoy activities they may otherwise be hesitant to do.

"The trips are run with two staff members who are there to provide any assistance which may be needed along the way.

"There are some fabulous opportunities and we would love to have more people join us."

Mrs Canfield said there were several exciting planned activities on the 5 to 8 Club calendar in the coming weeks and months.

"We have an excursion to Geelong on Thursday 22 June, a mystery day trip coming up on Thursday 27 July and a four-night trip to Adelaide scheduled for Monday 4 September to Friday 8 September.

"The planned trip to Aladdin The Musical on Wednesday 1 November will be a real treat," she added.

Mrs Canfield said while the 5 to 8 Club was named to reflect the 50 to 80-year-old participant range there were some exceptions to that rule.

"We have residents who are over 80 join us, some of my clients are 90!"

If you would like to find out more about the 5 to 8 Club and how to become involved, phone Linda Canfield at the Serpentine Office on 5437 7999.

Margaret and Don Rothacker of Boort were among those to enjoy a trip to Queenscliffe.



TEAMWORK TRANSLATES TO STATE TOURISM AWARD

Boort business owners Ian and Marilyn Lanyon, and Loddon Shire Marketing and Tourism Officer Robyn Vella, claimed the Best Stand Award at the Victorian Caravan Camping and Touring Super Show in late February.

While Ian and Marilyn promoted their Aussie Wool Quilts and Simply Tomatoes products, in doing so they also helped sell Loddon Shire as a must-see tourism destination.

Robyn also presented several short break seminars in the Outback Seminar Dome at the event.

Let's hope their terrific teamwork pays dividends with increased visitor numbers to Loddon!



Marilyn Lanyon and Robyn Vella are kicking goals for Loddon Valley Tourism.

Volunteer Voice

Q. What's your name?

A. Philip Vernon

Q. What town/locality do you live in and who with? (feel free to include pets!)

A. Mt Moliagul, with my wife, two kelpies, a horse, sheep and chooks.

Q. What organisation do you volunteer for?

A. Rheola Fire Brigade, Rheola Hall Committee, Dunolly/Bealiba RSL.

Q. What attracted you to volunteering with this organisation?

A. Initially joined the CFA to meet the local people and it snowballed from there.

Q. How long have you been volunteering for this organisation?

A. CFA – 35 years, Rheola Hall Committee – 16 years, Dunolly/Bealiba RSL – two years.

Q. What led to you putting your hand up to help?

A. I wanted to give back to the community.

Q. What's the most rewarding thing about volunteering?

A. Meeting some great people doing the same job for similar reasons.

Q. What's the most challenging thing about volunteering?

A. Balancing work/family/volunteer life. Distances travelled to attend meetings.

Q. Who do you most admire?

A. Any volunteers who give up their time to help the community.

Q. What would we find if we snuck a look over your back fence?

A. Two happy retired kelpies taking it easy.

Q. Sum yourself up in four words or less?

A. Hard working.

Q. Why would you encourage others to try their hand at volunteering?

A. It's a great way to meet other like-minded people who like to help the community.



This photo of Phil Vernon with Tarnagulla Ward Councillor Geoff Curnow was taken at a celebration marking the 100th anniversary of Rheola Hall.

PIPELINE PROJECT TO BENEFIT INGLEWOOD

Inglewood sport and recreational facilities will benefit from improved water security after Council secured a \$132,740 State Government grant through the Sustainable Water Fund Community Sport and Recreation Program.

A branch will be added to the existing Inglewood Reservoir pipeline, providing a cost-effective means of watering Inglewood Bowling Club, Inglewood Town Hall surrounds and the Inglewood Primary School sports oval.

Sports and recreational facilities are the cornerstone of our community, providing shared meeting spaces which are vital to health and wellbeing. While recent rainfall is welcome, conditions can change quickly and this project provides an alternative and more cost-effective water supply to ensure our shared spaces are kept in optimal condition, even in dry periods.

The new pipeline connection will run about 500 metres from the corner of Verdon and Sullivan Street, through to Inglewood Bowling Club.

Inglewood Bowling Club representatives Arthur Harrison and Phyllis McEwan with Loddon Shire Council Mayor Neil Beattie, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Mr Colin Brooks MP and Inglewood Ward Councillor Colleen Condliffe.



WEDDERBURN STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

Loddon Shire Mayor Neil Beattie has “turned the first sod” for the Wedderburn Streetscape Improvement Project at an official ceremony in May, signalling the next stage of works.

This phase of construction will involve extensive civil works including drainage upgrades, road pavement replacement, kerb and channel replacement and footpath improvements.

The works will be staged to minimise interruption to road users, pedestrians, residents and business owners. However, due to the nature of the project, the way by which you normally move around town or access services may be affected from time to time.

Traffic management will be in place for the whole project, and property owners, businesses and residents in the area will receive ongoing information from Council and the contractor so that disruptions can be managed as much as possible.

Removal of overhead power lines and installation of new streetlights

in the heart of Wedderburn was completed as the first activity for the project.

Following a VCAT decision in January 2017, Council modified the streetscape plans to ensure retention of the Soldiers Memorial Park fence, and adjusted the adjacent footpath level so not to obscure the concrete plinth at the fence’s base. A planning permit was issued, and Avard Civil Pty Ltd has been awarded the construction contract.

We thank you for your patience and cooperation over the coming months as we enhance our beautiful town.

Information is constantly being updated on Council’s website on our Current Projects site (under About Us at www.loddon.vic.gov.au), where you can view the project staging plan, advice to residents, construction plans and other information.

Funding for the project has been made possible through the Federal Government (\$1.3m) and Regional Development Victoria (\$500,000). Loddon Shire Council has provided the remaining funding, including through the Community Planning Strategic Fund.

If you have any questions about the Wedderburn Streetscape Improvement Project, you are welcome to contact Council’s Project Management Coordinator, Jodi Schumann, on 5494 1200.



(L-R) Loddon Shire Councillor Gavan Holt, Project Management Coordinator Jodi Schumann, Avard Civil Operations Manager Michael Haigh, Loddon Shire Mayor Neil Beattie and CEO Phil Pinyon at the sod-turning ceremony for the Wedderburn Streetscape Improvement Project.



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