

LODDON

BULLETIN

A PROSPEROUS
VIBRANT AND
ENGAGED COMMUNITY



Australia Day celebrations

Many wonderful celebrations were held across our Shire as people reflected on what it means to be Australian. Well done to the township committees for their tireless efforts to bring these events to our towns.

Congratulations to our Australia Day award recipients, in particular Loddon Shire's Citizen of the Year Peter Norman. Since moving to Wedderburn in 1967, Peter has worked tirelessly for the benefit of his community. He has been involved with more than twenty community groups and committees, including holding executive positions.

Peter has given countless hours and has been instrumental in gaining some major improvements for the people of Wedderburn. He is still an ongoing member of many clubs and organisations.

Congratulations also to Calivil's Chelsea Hicks and Eddington's William Morrison for being awarded joint recipients of the Young Citizen of the Year.

Chelsea has demonstrated a strong sense of volunteerism and community spirit. She is involved with a broad range of community groups in the Calivil area and the East Loddon P-12 College. Chelsea's positive contribution to her community in the areas of sporting, academic, social and cultural involvements has set a great example to her peers and younger students.

Despite his young age, William Morrison also displays great leadership skills, work ethic and empathy for young and old. He has been instrumental in raising funds for the 'Shave for a Cure' charity and has shaved his head on three occasions and encouraged others to contribute to this worthy cause.

Other award recipients acknowledged on the day included the Community Event of



Wedderburn Community Service Award recipient Karen Fazzani, Loddon Shire Citizen of the Year Peter Norman (right) with Cr Gavan Holt

the Year which was awarded to Boort Senior Citizens. Their 'Wedding Dresses Through the Ages' event showcased over sixty gowns and accessories from the 1930s through to modern day. The lavish event involved the cooperation of a number of community groups and provided the audience with a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

Other award recipients were: Isabel Loader (Boort Community Service Award), Joe Watts (Inglewood Community Service Award), Hedley Price (Tarnagulla Community Service Award), Karen Fazzani (Wedderburn Community Service Award) and David Demaine (Terrick Community Service Award). Other community groups recognised were Rejoov Salon (Wedderburn) and Tandarra Junior Tennis Competition (Terrick).

Congratulations to all of our Loddon Shire Australia Day competition winners for their fantastic entries of colouring, literature and photography.

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

MARCH 2020

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Joe Watts receives the Inglewood Community Service Award from Cr Colleen Condliffe [photo Suzi Birthisel]

A word from our Mayor



Once again I was delighted to take part in some of our Shire's Australia Day celebrations. It is a great opportunity for all Australians to reflect on what it means to be Australian and to recognise the hard work of those who contribute so much to our community. It is also a time to strive towards greater understanding and unity between our first peoples and non-Aboriginal Australians.

Recently I had the opportunity to attend the launch of the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP). This valuable program develops emerging leaders to help build vibrant and sustainable communities.

As a former participant in the program, I can attest to the personal and professional growth the participants will experience and the deeper understanding of leadership they will gain. I wish the participants from the Loddon Shire every success on their journey.

Speaking of leaders, the next round of Council elections will be held in October this year. Local government presents an exciting challenge for individuals to contribute to the development of the community and to participate in decisions that affect the lives of everyone in the community.

If you are thinking of becoming a Councillor and think you have the passion needed, then consider standing at the next election. You will find information and resources on our website www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Council/Council-elections and also that of the Victorian Councils www.viccouncils.asn.au.

Official opening of Boort Dental Clinic

At the end of November 2019, Mayor Cheryl McKinnon attended the official opening of the new dental clinic at Boort District Health. The existing dental clinic has been relocated into a refurbished area of the main hospital site, which will greatly enhance patient privacy and accessibility.

The new facility has two dental chairs which will improve access to oral health services for people living around Boort, as well as improve the efficiency of how the clinic can operate. It will also be part of an integrated health care hub which means that patients will no longer have to travel to Bendigo for detailed oral x-rays and related treatments.

This clinic will provide lasting benefits for the residents of Boort and the wider community, and was made possible by funding through the Victorian State Government's

Regional Health Infrastructure Fund, as well as additional funding from Dental Health Services Victoria, the BDH Ladies Auxiliary and the Charlton and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank).



Boort Hospital Chair Wendy Gladman and Mayor Loddon Shire Cheryl McKinnon officially open the dental clinic at Boort District Health

Website short cuts

Our new-look website is a wealth of information for residents needing Council information and you can find almost anything by using the search function. The Home Page has links to News, Events, Public Notices and Council minutes as well as links to Waste and Recycling, the Business Directory and current job vacancies. See details in the pull-down menu on the left. Here are some quick links to frequently requested pages:

Forms and permits:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Forms-and-permit-applications

Garbage and recycling:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/For-residents/Your-home/Garbage-and-recycling

Agendas and minutes:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Agendas-and-minutes

Community facilities:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/For-residents/Community-facilities

Tourism:

www.bendigoregion.com.au/visit-loddon-valley

Facebook is a useful source of information for job vacancies, notices, alerts and news



Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/LoddonShire/

From the Visitor Information Centre

New volunteers welcome

The Loddon Visitor Information Centre in Wedderburn is looking for people to become part of the enthusiastic team, to help visitors and promote the region.

Volunteers are trained with knowledge of the region and enjoy a free familiarisation tour that helps promote team building and friendship and offers fascinating insights into the local attractions. Volunteers are also rewarded with a Christmas function, free internet access when volunteering and the opportunity to meet new residents as well as visitors from Australia and overseas.

To obtain an information pack and learn more about this valuable service, please contact the Loddon Visitor Information Centre.

Event calendar

If you are planning an event in the Loddon Shire, you should register it for consideration on the Loddon Shire Council and Loddon Valley Tourism website event calendars. This will make it easier for the local community and visitors to find out about events in the region. Submitting an event is free and so easy to do, just go to the Visit Loddon Valley website. For certain events, the Visitor Information Centre can also help with ticketing.

Visit Loddon Valley

Visit Loddon Valley has its own Facebook page and this is a great source of information about coming events and wonderful local businesses. The Loddon Valley Instagram puts information at the fingertips of potential visitors and helps showcase Loddon's natural beauty using the hashtag #UnearthLoddonValley.

Planning has begun on the Naturally Loddon Festival 2020 which runs from September to November. This year there is an opportunity for new events to be included – they don't have to be nature-based. Please contact the Visitor Information Centre for more information.

Loddon Valley Business Network Dinner

The next Loddon Valley Business Network Dinner will be held on Tuesday 17 March at the Eucalyptus Distillery



Museum, Grant Street Inglewood. Guest presenters will include local producers as well as Food Fossickers and Bendigo Tourism's ticketing services.

This is a great opportunity for businesses, event organisers and sole operators to share and learn new ideas, develop connections and promote their businesses within the local area.

The cost is \$10 per person and includes finger food. To attend the Network Dinner, RSVP by 9 March to shutchinson@loddon.vic.gov.au.

How to Deliver Excellence and Delight Every Customer

A customer service workshop will be held on Tuesday 5 May at the Loddon Shire Council Office, 41 High Street, Wedderburn from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

The workshop is for all businesses and tourism operators in the Shire who want to enhance their business by improving the customer experience. Participants will gain valuable strategies to provide the best service possible.

The morning will be run by Despina Karatzias who is a passionate tourism professional, published author and business coach with over 15 years' experience.

Cost per person is \$11, including morning tea and lunch, with bookings essential. RSVP by Thursday 23 April to Loddon Visitor Information Centre.

Contact the Loddon Visitor Information Centre

Phone: 03 5494 3489

Email: loddonvisitorinformation@loddon.vic.gov.au

Web: www.bendigoregion.com.au/visit-loddon-valley

Instagram: www.instagram.com/visitloddonvalley

Address: 24 Wilson Street, Wedderburn, 3518 VIC

Open Mon – Sat 9am to 5pm

Sun and public holidays 10am to 4pm

Excluding Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day

Dates for your diary

Loddon Valley Business Network Dinner
Tuesday 17 March

2021 Event Calendar deadline
Wednesday 18 March

How to Deliver Excellence and Delight Every Customer
Tuesday 5 May

Wellbeing—Move It Loddon

Sport Australia's *Move It Aus – Better Ageing Program*, has funded the Loddon Mallee Regional *Move It* project in an effort to encourage older Australians to remain active. Regular activity supports good mental wellbeing and social connectedness, and the *Move It* project aims to educate the community on the benefits of staying active.

As part of the Loddon Mallee Regional *Move It* project, Council has been successful in receiving funding for *Move It! Loddon*. The *Move It! Loddon* project is based on an existing collaborative and strategic partnership between local government, and health and community services organisations across the region; creating more opportunities to deliver fitness classes in the local area for people of all fitness level and abilities 65 years and over.

Water aerobics classes are held in Wedderburn and Inglewood and strength training classes are held in Inglewood, Wedderburn, Bridgewater, Korong Vale, Tarnagulla Pyramid Hill and Boort. For timetables and more details, please contact IDHS reception on 03 5431 7000 or Boort District Health for classes at Boort and Pyramid Hill on 03 5451 5200.



Free waste disposal days

Council offers residents quarterly free waste disposal at each of its landfill and transfer station locations. The next free waste disposal days are scheduled for the following dates (check Council's website for times):

Saturday 16 May 2020

Inglewood Transfer Station

Sunday 17 May 2020

Wedderburn Transfer Station

Pyramid Hill Landfill

Dingee Transfer Station

Boort Landfill

Newbridge Landfill

You may dispose of up to four cubic metres of general domestic waste free of charge. This includes green waste, mixed recyclables, general household waste and E-waste such as television and computer screens, home appliances and electronic items, refrigerators, freezers, microwaves and air conditioners. You can also dispose of battery operated products that have reached their end of life.

Charges still apply for tyres, bricks and concrete, and mattresses, as these items have additional third party costs associated with their disposal.

Boort Park kitchen

Work has been completed on the kitchen refurbishment at the Boort Football, Netball and Hockey Canteen. This included new serveries, benches, flooring and equipment as well as covering all exposed brickwork.

This project ensures that the kitchen facility is compliant with relevant legislation and marks the completion of the clubrooms renewal project.

The budget for this project of \$140,000 comprised \$20,000 from the Boort Ward 2019-2020 Community Planning allocation, \$109,000 from Council's Major Project Reserve budget and a \$20,000 contribution from the Boort Park Canteen Committee (Boort Football, Netball and Hockey Clubs).



Community Grants Scheme now open

Community Grants are now open. The grants are open from 1 March 2020 and close 1 May 2020.

Community groups are encouraged to apply if they have projects that:

- develop or improve upon existing facilities
- fund programs or purchase equipment that will increase accessibility and participation
- meet a demonstrated community need.

Successful grant applications are funded on a two-to-one basis. This means for every \$2 provided by Council, the successful applicants must contribute a minimum of \$1 towards the cost of the project. Up to 50 per cent of an applicant's contribution can be in-kind.

Community Grant applications can be submitted online through Smarty Grants. The link is available on Council's website. To find out more, call Council's Community Support Team on 03 5494 1200 or refer to the Community Grants Guidelines on the website.

Remember that if your community group received a grant in 2019, this needs to be fully acquitted to be eligible for the 2020 grants.

Mitiamo Pipeline Project update

Construction is expected to start shortly on the Mitiamo Pipeline project which will supply water to 75,000 hectares near the townships of Mitiamo, Tennyson and Dingee.

Customers in these areas can expect to be contacted individually in the next few months by Goulburn-Murray Water as this project progresses. Goulburn-Murray Water will soon be releasing information to the market regarding tenders.

Recycling: keep it up

While it may seem that recycling in Victoria is in crisis with tonnes of recycling being dumped in landfill, this is not the case in the Loddon Shire. Council's waste services contractor (Veolia) has confirmed it remains unaffected by the recycling industry issues brought on by processing plant closures in Melbourne recently, and it is 'business as usual'.

Although the processing of co-mingled materials was interrupted in the wake of the bushfires at Tumut in NSW, processing resumed again after 17 February 2020. Meanwhile, it is important for all of us to look at ways in which we can reduce waste. This includes limiting the use of single-use and disposable products and trying to choose alternatives which can be used again.

Currently all recycling material collected within Loddon Shire is transported and processed in either Bendigo at Endeavour, owned by JJ Richards, and the multi reuse facility (MRF) in Echuca, owned by

Veolia. Once collected, Veolia or one of Veolia's sorting partners will use a number of technologies to pre-screen and manually separate the recyclables into viable streams that will enable their reuse in new manufacturing processes.



Council not only implements a best practice kerbside collection for waste and recycling, but also provides local football/netball/hockey grounds with bins for recycling and garbage including pick up free of charge. Council produces an annual Recycling Calendar to assist households.

In the last financial year (2018/19) we collected the following:

- 619 tonnes recycling from Council's kerbside collection contract
- 65 tonnes comingled recycling at Council landfills and transfer stations.

Secure your load

Over 10,000 tonnes of litter is removed from Victorian roadsides every year, according to a Sustainability Victoria study. Much debris and roadside litter can be avoided by securing your trailer load when driving to resource recovery centres, transfer stations and landfills.

Items falling from unsecured loads risk damaging the environment through littering, injuring other road users who might be hit by items falling off a load, and might also incur a fine for littering. Cleaning up roadside rubbish is also a cost to Council and diverts funds and resources from other areas.

Ensure loads are secured with appropriate straps and covers to prevent littering during transit. For more helpful tips and information relating to waste and resource recovery services within your area, download the FREE Loddon Mallee Waste Info App or visit the Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group website www.lmwrrg.vic.gov.au.

Works update

- Work on footpaths commenced in January 2020. Council is currently undertaking eight projects in Boort, Inglewood, Wedderburn and Bridgewater.
- The contract for the Sloans Road bridge replacement project has been awarded and on-ground works are expected to take place from February to March. Further road closures will be advised.
- Tenders are sought for the Pyramid Hill culvert replacement project at the Kelly Street and Coliban Access Track.
- The Wedderburn-Brenanah Rd drop structure to help regulate water flow, is nearing completion.
- Solar panels equating to 130kW are being installed at sixteen Council buildings with identified high energy use.

- Contracts for the 2019-2020 Road Reseal Program were awarded at the January Council meeting.
- The contract for safety upgrade works at the Old Inglewood Reservoir was awarded at the January Council meeting.

Wedderburn-Brenanah Rd drop structure



Upcoming infant immunisation sessions

Immunisation sessions will be held at Boort Senior Citizens Centre, Dingee Bush Nursing Centre, Inglewood Maternal and Child Health Centre, Pyramid Hill Senior Citizens Centre and Serpentine Council offices on:

Thursday 12 March	9.15am Serpentine, 11.15am Boort
Thursday 9 April	9.30am Inglewood, 11.30am Dingee, 2.00pm Pyramid Hill
Thursday 14 May	9.15am Serpentine, 11.15am Boort
Thursday 11 June	9.30am Inglewood, 11.30am Dingee, 2.00pm Pyramid Hill

To make an appointment for an infant's immunisation, call Council's Serpentine Office on 5494 1201.

Please bring your Medicare card and Child Record Book to each immunisation session and allow 15 minutes waiting time following immunisation.

For information regarding immunisation, or to contact immunisation staff during sessions, call 0488 095 205. Information is also available from Council's website at www.loddon.vic.gov.au.

Upcoming Council meetings 2020

Community members are always welcome to attend Council's monthly meetings to learn of issues affecting their community.

Meetings start at 3pm and are held at the Serpentine Council Chambers.

Tuesday 24 March

Tuesday 28 April

Tuesday 26 May

Tuesday 23 June

Easter and Anzac Day office hours

Due to the Good Friday and Easter Monday public holidays, Council offices in Wedderburn and Serpentine will close at 4.45pm on Thursday 9 April and reopen at 8.15am on Tuesday 14 April.

The Loddon Visitor Information Centre will be closed on Good Friday and Anzac Day, but is otherwise open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm and from 10am to 4pm on Sundays and other public holidays.

For enquiries phone 5494 3489.

There will be no changes to scheduled kerbside garbage and recycling collections during the Easter period or on Anzac Day.

All waste facilities across the Shire are closed on public holidays.

For details regarding Anzac Day services visit Council's website www.loddon.vic.gov.au.



Shire offices

Wedderburn 41 High St, Wedderburn 3518 **T:** (03) 5494 1200 **F:** (03) 5494 3003
Serpentine 37 Peppercorn Way, Serpentine 3516 **T:** (03) 5494 1201 **F:** (03) 5437 8407

Offices open Monday to Friday 8.15am to 4.45pm

Email: loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au **Web:** www.loddon.vic.gov.au

Your Councillors



Mayor Cr Cheryl McKinnon
Terrick Ward
0409 557 888



Cr Neil Beattie
Boort Ward
0427 552 468



Cr Colleen Condliffe
Inglewood Ward
0428 778 025



Cr Geoff Curnow
Tarnagulla Ward
0429 383 553



Cr Gavan Holt
Wedderburn Ward
0408 943 008