

COMMUNITY UPDATE



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Thank you for all the work you have all done in keeping our communities safe throughout 2020 in a year that we could never have predicted. The fact that our Shire has remained free of any known cases of COVID-19 is all down to the good work of community members taking individual responsibility and doing what needs to happen to protect our communities.

Here we are in 2021 and we need to remain as vigilant as ever. It has been great to see many people enjoying all Buloke has to offer over the holiday season, from our lakes to the silo art, our natural landscapes and our wonderful local businesses. By keeping up-to-date with the latest restrictions and keeping our newfound skills of social distancing and hand hygiene we can continue to enjoy all of this.

Recording your attendances at places to help business owners, caretakers and community groups keep records in the event that contract tracing is needed is one way we can help keep our communities safe. Staying home if we have any sign of symptoms and getting a COVID-19 test is another critical way of helping keep our communities safe. Local testing is available across the Buloke Shire through our health services by phoning ahead and making an appointment.

Whilst mask requirements are easing it is still essential to have one with you when you leave home. For any community members unable to access a mask, please contact the Shire as the Victorian Government has supplied us with an allocation of masks which we can post out to vulnerable community members unable to otherwise get access.

Mayor – Cr Daryl Warren.

Celebrate Australia Day

Council will again host an Australia Day event to celebrate its community.

The 2021 event will be held at Auchmore, Nullawil and will feature the presentation of Council's Australia Day Awards and special guest speaker Mervyn Keane.

There will also be a community dinner and plenty of time to check out the amazing Auchmore Homestead and grounds.

Where: Auchmore, Quambatook Road, Nullawil.

When Monday 25 January 2021.

Gates open from 4.00pm.

Guided Tour from 4.30pm. Dinner from 5.30pm.

Official Proceedings from 6.30pm.

All welcome to attend.

Ripping Up the Court

The Birchip Netball Court Redevelopment project has commenced on site with works to remove the old netball court material at the Birchip Recreation Reserve and prepare the site for the installation of two new Netball courts.

As per the EPA Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites, to reduce noise nuisance to nearby residents operating hours should be between 7.00am and 6.00pm weekdays and 7.00am to 1.00pm Saturday, except where, for practical reasons, the activity is unavoidable.

The site entrance for the work is the carpark entry on Watson Street. Please note that the area otherwise referred to as the northern carpark and netball courts will be an appropriately fenced off construction site with no public access. During the project there will be increased truck traffic on Watson Street and Cumming Avenue. There will also be some raised dust generated from the site during this time. We thank the surrounding neighbours for their understanding at this time.

The project is jointly funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria – Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources - Drought Communities Programme, Buloke Shire Council and the Birchip Watchem Netball Club.

Construction works are expected to be complete by the end of March 2021 in time for the commencement of the 2021 North Central Netball Season.



Keep It Down

Council has been receiving an elevated number of noise complaints relating to roosters. The keeping of roosters in townships without a permit is not allowed.

The opportunity to keep animals is one of the many pleasures often enjoyed as part of a rural lifestyle. The keeping of animals must be balanced with the right to quiet enjoyment of the environment by individuals, the community in general and especially our closest neighbours.

To learn more about pet limitations and to apply for a permit visit www.buloke.vic.gov.au/pet-limitations or call 1300 520 520.



Keep An Eye Out

Scammers are using the spread of COVID-19 to take advantage of people across Australia. Common scams include phishing for personal information, online shopping, and superannuation scams.

Scammers may pretend to have a connection with you. So it's important to stop and check, even when you are approached by what you think is a trusted organisation.

Visit the Scamwatch website for helpful advice and tips on what to look for at www.scamwatch.gov.au



PHONE: 1300 520 520
www.buloke.vic.gov.au

