



Media Release

Are You Lifeguard Material?

3 November 2017

Buloke Shire Council's swimming pool season kicks off on Friday 10 November for another summer of free family friendly fun.

Six of Council's seven pools are ready for the upcoming season. Only Wycheproof will have a delay to the start of its season with new change room facilities slated for completion for the pool to open on Monday 20 November.

Council is proud to offer its pools as a free service to the community and has an excellent group of pool lifeguards who suit up year after year to keep the pools open. Have you considered becoming a lifeguard this summer?

Jodie Bowles has been lifeguarding with Council for four years and loves seeing the value pools provide to each community during our sweltering summers.

So why does Jodie come back year after year and why should you consider donning the yellow and red?

"I love the involvement with the different people in the community who visit the pool. It is a family orientated facility where people can gather and have some fun in a safe environment," said Jodie.

To be a successful lifeguard you need to demonstrate a balance of interpersonal skills. Jodie is a reliable lifeguard who goes beyond her duties, is very caring and shows compassion while being assertive when the rules need to be adhered to. Jodie also demonstrates great decision making skills and judgement, vital tools for a lifeguard.

"The job keeps the mind active and it can be physical. I really love to watch the young ones improve from the start to the finish of the season, growing more confident in the water, and achieving those little milestones. When they successfully swim the width of the pool, when they are able to put their head under the water or can retrieve something from the bottom of the pool, it's a great job perk to witness kids develop these skills. I also love the older regulars who come for the fitness, to do laps or as an excuse to get out of the house to paddle in the warm water."

"It is a positive place to be. I often get feedback and comments from the community and travellers visiting our area as to how good the pools are and how well they are run and presented. When I am down the street, the kids come up to me and greet me because they know me from the pool. It makes me very proud," said Jodie.



You too can have a positive experience of your own and join our lifeguard team. Comprehensive training is provided which will certify you as a lifeguard and a first aider. You will also gain a working with children accreditation and undergo training in the use of chemicals. So why not contact Council on becoming a pool lifeguard this summer.

End release

For further information contact Team Leader Communications, Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520 or tfitzgibbon@buloke.vic.gov.au