

Disability Parking Permits Are Changing

From March 2021, we will be moving our disability parking permit system to a new online platform - the Accessible Parking Permit (APP) Scheme and new online service.

The new APP Scheme and online service will provide significant improvements in the administration and enforcement of disability parking in Buloke Shire, freeing up parking bays for the people who really need them.

What's changing?

The new APP Scheme aligns with the national Australian Disability Permit Scheme (ADPS) and provides for a consistent process and permit across Victoria.

Many improvements have been made, including:

- Making sure the eligibility criteria for a permit is consistent across the state,
- Allowing occupational therapists to complete assessments, in addition to GPs,
- Introducing a permanent disability classification, so many will no longer have to return for reassessment,
- Increasing the permit length from three years to five years for individuals,
- Providing temporary permits for 6, 12 or 24 months, and
- A new single permit design to be used across the state.

Centralisation and digitisation of the scheme will reduce the subjectivity of the functional assessment and enable greater ability for councils to enforce the scheme.

A reduction in duplicate and misused permits will occur through system-wide crosschecks and visibility across council boundaries. Councils will now also have state-wide visibility on permits at the parking bay to assist with enforcement.

All existing Buloke Shire Council permits will remain valid until they expire.

For more information on the coming changes to disability parking visit www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/app or you can give Council a call on 1300 520 520.



Buloke Bounce Back

Building on the great work done by our Buloke residents in keeping each other safe, it is time to re-connect and recover as Buloke bounces back from COVID-19.

The Victorian Government's COVID-19 Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative aims to help people maintain important connections with family, friends and community and to build new social connections and networks within their local communities.

We are pleased to announce that quick-action Community Activation Grants of up to \$2,000 are available to community groups working within the Buloke Shire.

These grants are designed to help activate projects which increase social connections in our communities.

- Do you have an innovative way to connect people who are finding it hard to get out and about again?
- Does your group need a little extra boost to get members back together?
- Will some financial support help to make your social connection opportunity COVID Safe?

To enable the quick-response nature of this program, applications will be assessed on a rolling basis, with the closure of the program on Friday 11 June 2021.

Call our Community Development team on 1300 520 520 to request your application form and begin the bounce back!



King Of The Mountain Returns

How's the view?

The first item of the Brightening Broadway Project is now complete thanks to the wonderfully talented Kyle Torney, who was lead artist for Nacho Station, on the amazing street art piece depicting the famous King of the Mountain ascent of Mount Wycheproof.

Well done Kyle and thanks for taking the time to chat with interested onlookers during the delivery of the piece.

You were truly a star on Broadway. See it soon.

Buy Buloke

When was the last time you visited the Buy Buloke website?

The site is a great resource for the community to explore our many businesses and for business operators to link in with support services as well as accessing COVID-19 resources. See something that needs to be added or updated? Let us know!

Explore now at www.buybuloke.com.au



We Like It!

Council's Facebook page recently crossed the 2,500 milestone for page likes. With even more people following the page, it has become one of the most important and engaging means of communication we have.

Our Facebook page has also recently been recognised by an independent social media analytical outlet as the second most engaging Facebook offering of all 79 Victorian Councils across the month of February.

So, have you liked our Facebook page yet?



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