



Honouring our local volunteers

Community Update
Summer / Autumn 2026

FROM THE MAYOR

In my first term as Mayor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Summer/Autumn edition of our Community Update magazine.

Our summer has been characteristically Dorothea Mackellar's "I Love a Sunburnt Country" – with fires and floods in Victoria, and a cyclone and flooding further North.

We are thinking of the communities impacted and remind our own local community that the fire risk remains. We must stay vigilant and continue to prepare our properties and also help others to prepare.

Events such as these reinforce the tireless role our volunteers play in all facets of community life: those who keep showing up day after day – whether fighting fires, delivering essential services, running sporting clubs, hosting events, or contributing to community groups and organisations that support our local residents.

It was a privilege to officiate the Australia Day event in Maryborough, where we welcomed 13 new citizens and celebrated local volunteers who received Australia Day awards. You can read about this year's remarkable recipients on pages 4 and 5.

Find out how we are supporting local volunteers through our Community Grant Program on page 6. Additionally, there's an invitation to all local volunteers to attend our National Volunteer Week thank-you event in May, with all the details on page 7.

We've got project updates on the Maryborough Outdoor Pool, Princes Park, Jack Pascoe and Deledio reserves.

Read on to find out how you can keep cool during hot weather, discover hidden gems at our resale shops, discover what's on at the Gallery, and learn how to stay up to date with the latest Council news straight to your inbox.

Welcome our new Youth Officer, find out our key advocacy projects and learn more about which roads are the responsibility of the State Government.

Enjoy the read and stay safe.



Mayor Councillor Ben Green

Paddys Ranges Ward

✉ Ben.Green@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0456 624 323



We acknowledge and extend our appreciation for the Dja Dja Wurrung People, the Traditional Owners of the land that we are on. We pay our respects to leaders and Elders past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hopes of all Dja Dja Wurrung People.

Cover photo: 2026 Central Goldfields Shire Australia Day award winners – detailed on pages 4 and 5.

All information published in this publication is correct at the time of going to print.

CONNECT WITH OUR COUNCILLORS



FLYNN WARD

Cr Liesbeth Long

✉ Liesbeth.Long@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0429 108 007



MARYBOROUGH CENTRAL WARD

Cr Gerard Murphy

✉ Gerard.Murphy@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0428 923 546



MARYBOROUGH NORTH WARD

Cr Geoff Bartlett

✉ Geoff.Bartlett@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0455 544 537



MARYBOROUGH EAST WARD

Cr Jake Meyer

✉ Jake.Meyer@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0455 051 477



MARYBOROUGH WEST WARD

Cr Grace La Vella

✉ Grace.LaVella@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0429 048 112



TULLAROOP WARD

Cr Anna de Villiers

✉ Anna.deVilliers@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
☎ 0428 916 671



Meet your new Mayor and Deputy Mayor

At a Statutory Meeting of Council in November 2025, Paddys Ranges Ward Councillor Ben Green was elected Mayor, and Tullaroop Ward Councillor Anna de Villiers was elected Deputy Mayor for the next 12 months.

Congratulations to both councillors, and thank you to our outgoing Mayor, Councillor Grace La Vella.

Our funding wish list

Councils deliver the services communities rely on, yet receive just 3.5% of Australia's tax revenue. Around 80% goes to the Federal Government and 17% to the states. With limited ability to raise our own income, councils rely on grants, budget decisions and election commitments to fund vital infrastructure and services.

With the State election in November, we're calling on State and Federal governments, parties and candidates to back our key local priorities.

Economic growth and prosperity

- \$ Extend the Wimmera-Mallee Pipeline to the Central Goldfields
- \$ Build better and safer State Government owned roads
- \$ \$10 million to deliver a new Maryborough industrial precinct
- \$ \$5 million to revitalise and activate the Maryborough CBD
- \$ \$3 million to continue activating the Maryborough Railway Station



Healthy, connected and safe communities

- \$ Better Internet and mobile phone coverage
- \$ Five trains each way on weekdays between Maryborough and Ballarat
- \$ \$2.5 million for 'Go Goldfields' to continue its award winning work supporting children and families with programs such as The Nest
- \$ Establish a "Learning Hub" to provide facilities and opportunities that improve access to higher education
- \$ Operational funding for Central Goldfields Art Gallery
- \$ State incentives to recruit and retain essential workers



Infrastructure that supports growth and liveability

- \$ More affordable housing
- \$ \$40 million to implement a sewerage system for Talbot
- \$ \$8 million to upgrade the iconic Princes Park Grandstand
- \$ Upgrade Maryborough Aerodrome to support growth in regional aviation
- \$ \$10 million to repair and refurbish the historic Maryborough Town Hall
- \$ \$5 million to complete redevelopment of the Maryborough Outdoor Pool



Resilient and sustainable community

- \$ Relocate and improve facilities for the Maryborough SES



We look forward to working with both levels of government to secure the funding we need to achieve our 2031 Community Vision to be "an inspiring, thriving and prosperous community of choice."

CONGRATULATIONS!

Every year, as part of our Australia Day Awards, we recognise volunteers who go above and beyond to make our community a wonderful place to live.

Congratulations to our 2026 Central Goldfields Shire Australia Day award winners:

WE'RE ALL PART OF THE STORY



Citizen of the Year: **Nick Weaver**

Motivated by the loss of his father, John Weaver, to pancreatic and liver cancer in 2017, Maryborough resident Nick Weaver has become a tireless advocate for cancer awareness and local cancer care.

His fundraising journey began in 2018 through Relay for Life, where he pushed himself to extreme physical limits to raise over \$40,000 across two years.

Determined to make a direct impact on his community, Nick shifted his focus to supporting the Maryborough District Health Service Oncology Unit. In 2022, he spearheaded a wellbeing expo and the now-iconic Full Monty fundraiser at the Maryborough Highland Society. Through relentless community engagement, local business support, and media promotion, Nick has helped raise nearly \$250,000 – almost double his original goal.

These funds enabled the purchase of a permanent mammography unit, removing barriers of distance and access for local women. Nick's "nothing is impossible" attitude continues to inspire, and his efforts have created lasting benefits for the health and wellbeing of the Central Goldfields community.



Young Citizen of the Year: **Harriet Thoroughgood**

Harriet is an admirable and community-minded young person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Central Goldfields community. She demonstrates strong leadership, compassion and a genuine desire to help others, making her a positive role model for her peers and younger community members.

Harriet has been actively involved in Girl Guides for more than six years, achieving the Queen's Guide Award, the highest honour in Guiding. This required extensive community service, leadership of programs for younger Guides and the organisation of a two-day hike in the Brisbane Ranges. Since turning 18, she has continued her commitment as an adult volunteer, supporting younger members with a calm, empathetic leadership style.

Beyond Guiding, Harriet volunteers at her local dance school, Toy Library, Energy Breakthrough and Castlemaine Girl Guides, and provides mentoring support to students at Highview College.

Her dedication, organisational skills and environmental awareness reflect her passion for making a positive and lasting impact on her community.



Community Event of the Year: Goldfields Community Festival

This award was presented to Kerrie Dowling on behalf of the Festival.

The Goldfields Community Festival is a valued, family-friendly event in Maryborough and continues to grow as a celebration of community connection. The 2025 festival successfully brought together residents from all walks of life, showcasing local community groups, not-for-profit organisations, street food, arts and crafts.

Under Kerrie's leadership, the 2025 Festival grew to take in two days of activities, hosting large crowds enjoying diverse performance, multicultural food, craft stalls and interactive activities with strong engagement throughout. The event provided an important platform for community groups to promote involvement and volunteering.

Its success reflects the outstanding leadership of Kerrie Dowling and the Goldfields Community Festival Committee, who delivered a vibrant, inclusive festival that strengthens community cohesion and is becoming a cornerstone of the Shire's annual calendar.



WELCOME!

Congratulations to the 13 residents who became Australian citizens at the Citizenship Ceremony held on Australia Day:

- Conor Downey – United Kingdom
- Chandrika Edayath Madhavan Nair – India
- Kemoy Ellis – Jamaica
- Brent Freeman – New Zealand
- Philippa Freeman – New Zealand
- Paula Galeano-Kilmaster- Colombia
- Iris Galeano-Kilmaster – Colombia
- Alison Hinze – New Zealand
- Edward-Dominyk Hinze – New Zealand
- Logan Gerald Hinze – New Zealand
- Edward Gerald Hinze – New Zealand
- Sony K C – Nepal
- Elmer Pasatiempo – Philippines

Township Australia Day award recipients

Australia Day events were also held in the townships of Bealiba, Carisbrook, Daisy Hill, Dunolly and Talbot.

At some of these community-run Australia Day events, additional community members were also acknowledged with awards.

We congratulate all of our Australia Day award recipients and thank them for their contribution to making our Shire a wonderful place to live.



Central Goldfields Historic Machinery Society



Central Goldfields Bushwalking and Hiking Group



Goldfields Music Club Inc.



Dunolly Fire Brigade



Maryborough VRI Croquet Club



Bealiba Hall and Reserves Committee

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Seventeen grassroots community groups across the Central Goldfields Shire have shared in \$36,496 of funding thanks to the 2025-2026 Community Grants Program.

The program invites local clubs, volunteer groups and small organisations to apply for assistance to kickstart new ideas, improve capacity, or expand programs that enrich community life.

With so many passionate volunteers working tirelessly – and often on very limited resources – the Community Grants Program is a vital way to recognise, encourage and support their efforts.

While the grants themselves aren't always a lot of money, they can make a big difference – enabling new equipment purchases, supporting events, starting new programs or building new infrastructure.

Community groups are encouraged to visit Council's website for updates on future community grant opportunities.

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/grants

The 2025-2026 Community Grants Program recipients are:

Name of organisation	Project	Funding amount
Central Goldfields Historic Machinery Society	Shed power and lighting	\$3,000
Central Goldfields Bushwalking and Hiking Group	Bushwalking for everyone	\$2,208
Goldfields Music Club Inc.	2026 Vibes on Broadway – Dunolly Street Festival	\$3,000
Mill House Neighbourhood House	Smart shades for a cooler tomorrow	\$3,000
Dunolly Fire Brigade	Event readiness package	\$2,350
Maryborough VRI Croquet Club	Family friendly fun nights	\$1,570
Maryborough and District Garden Club Inc.	2026 Garden Competition	\$1,000
Carisbrook Historical Society	Air conditioner	\$2,699
Bealiba Hall and Reserves Committee	Update of history room electronics and storage	\$3,000
Maryborough Lawn and Tennis Club Inc.	Outdoor player/spectator seating	\$3,000
Maryborough Community House	After hours food access project	\$1,500
Maryborough District Girl Guides	Laptop and printer	\$1,500
Maryborough and District Horse and Pony Club	Sustainability project	\$1,500
Bowenvale Hall	Southern fence replacement	\$700
Words in Winter Central Goldfields Inc.	Delivery of 2026 Festival	\$3,000
Maryborough Horse Riding Club	Three phase obstacles, bridge and gate	\$1,220
Talbot Arts and Historical Museum Inc.	New photocopier	\$2,249



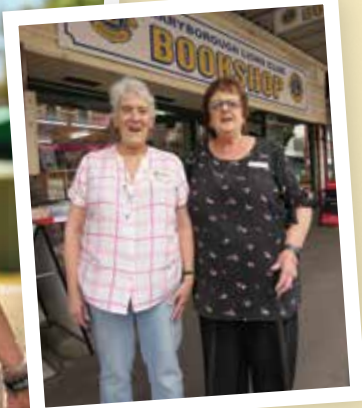
Bowenvale Hall



Maryborough & District Horse and Pony Club



Talbot Arts and Historical Museum Inc.



National Volunteer Week

18-24 MAY 2026

YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER

YOU'RE INVITED!

Volunteers are integral to our community.

They work in many settings and under a variety of conditions: they are there in disasters, they run events, they enable vital services, and often their work in our community goes unnoticed.

To celebrate National Volunteer Week, we'll be hosting a thank you evening to recognise and thank our wonderful volunteers for their dedication and contribution.

All volunteers in the Shire are invited to join us on:

Monday 18 May

5.30pm for a 5.45pm start

Maryborough Highland Society

To register email events@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au or call our Customer Service team on 5461 0610.

#NVW2026



MARYBOROUGH OUTDOOR POOL NEXT STEPS

Detailed designs for stage two and stage three of the project are currently underway and will be completed by 30 June 2026.

Using the funding already secured, it is anticipated that stage two will be delivered in 2026 and 2027.

The detailed designs will give us a clearer understanding of how much the project will cost in its entirety.

Given the size and complexity of the project, we anticipate that there is a shortfall in funding to deliver stage three of the project which includes the 50-metre outdoor pool.

We are actively advocating to the State Government to secure the funding needed to complete stage three.

We extend our thanks to the Friends of the Maryborough Outdoor Pool Precinct, who continue to collaborate with us and advocate strongly for this project.

We remain focused on delivering a facility that honours its heritage, supports long-term sustainability, and provides lasting value to our community.

How much funding do we have?

To date, \$9 million has been secured for the project:

- \$4.5 million from the Federal Government (funding commitment – still pending formalisation via grant application)
- \$3 million from the Victorian Government
- \$1.5 million from Council – \$150,000 in the 2025-26 Annual Budget and \$1.35 million in future borrowings in the 2026-27 Annual Budget

Why will the project cost so much money?

It is a large and complex project:

- Construction costs across the world have reached record highs and are expected to continue rising beyond 2027.
- Council values its heritage buildings as they are tourist attractions and the Maryborough Outdoor Pool is one of only two swimming pools in Victoria with a heritage-listing.

The presence of groundwater in the surrounding soil, as well as building and swimming pool regulations, are also key factors. Like any major project, we also need to plan for unexpected issues as the detailed designs advance.



PROJECT DELIVERY STAGES

✓ Stage One: Completed

Stage One included the rebuild of the Octagonal Toddlers Pool, extensive pavilion infrastructure preservation works and pump room repairs. The funding was also used for design and documentation – required in order to pursue funding applications and carry out future works. A detailed list of what was delivered as part of stage one is available at: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpool

Stage Two: Current Stage

Detailed designs underway and will be complete by 30 June, 2026. It is anticipated that stage two will be delivered in 2026 and 2027.

Stage two includes:

- Full replacement of the intermediate/learn to swim pool including new filtration system and balance tank, renovation of the tiling and shell and construction of a disability access ramp.
- Upgrade to pavilion to accommodate a new compliant entry with ticketing, kiosk, car parking, footpaths, ramps and landscaping.
- New change room facility – a new standalone building including family change rooms, accessibility and a changing place facility.
- Plant room structural repairs.
- Upgrades to the existing male and female changerooms including new toilets, showers.
- Upgrades to services at the site including power and sewer.

Stage Three: Future Stage

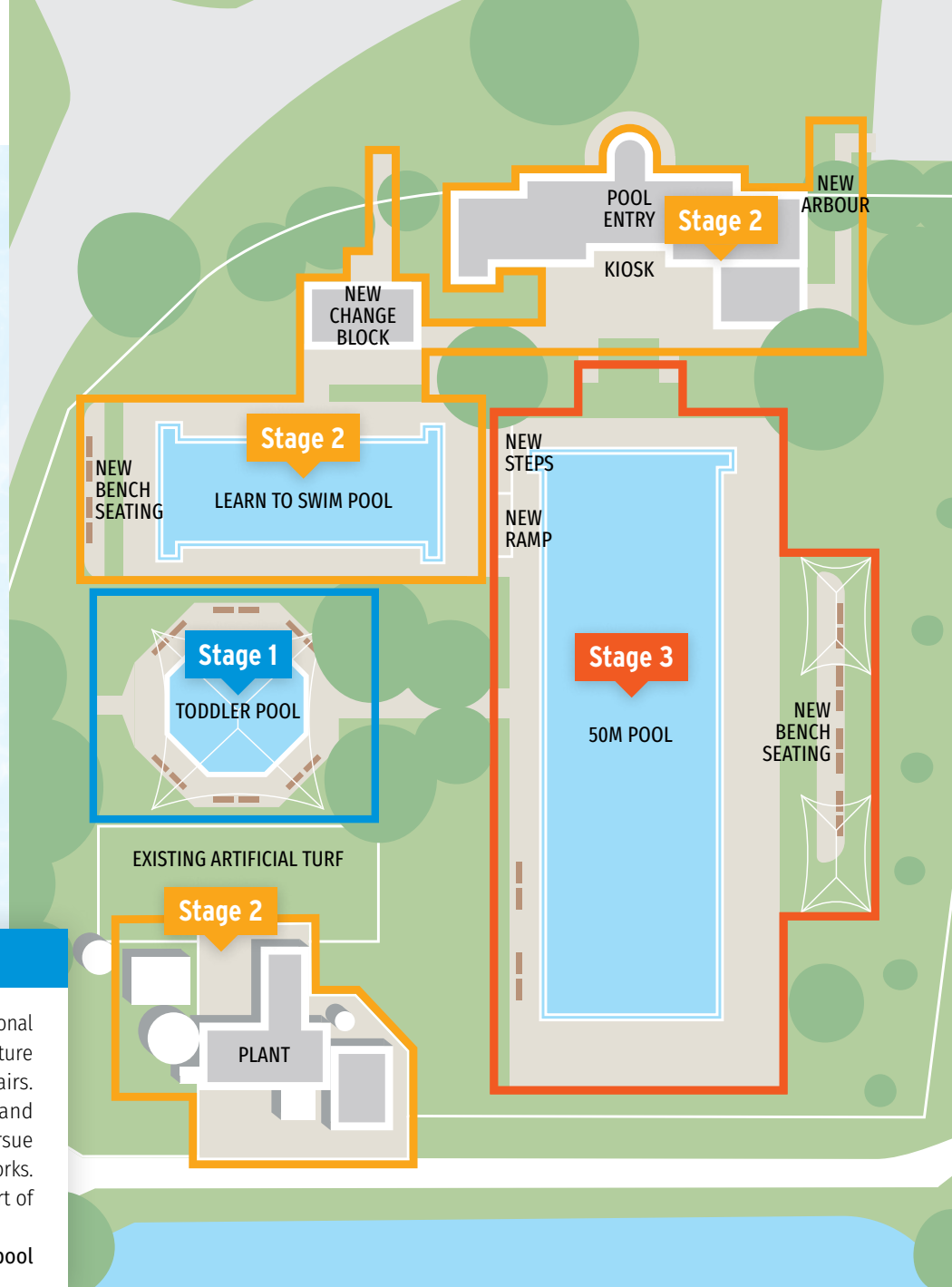
Detailed designs underway and will be complete by 30 June, 2026. The delivery of stage three is dependent on external funding.

Stage three includes:

- Demolition and rebuild of 50 metre pool
- New concourse
- New filtration system and balance tank
- Footpaths connecting all areas

For more information visit:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpool



HIDDEN GEMS

at your local Transfer Station



In past editions, we've shared updates on changes coming to household bin use by July 2027.

These changes are part of the Victorian Government's move to standardise kerbside waste services across all councils.

The reforms will introduce a four-stream collection system, reducing landfill and improving the quality of recyclables.

As part of these changes, there is also a stronger focus on reuse — including supporting resale shops that give items a second life and help keep valuable materials out of landfill.

Did you know that your local transfer station is more than just a place to drop off waste?

At Carisbrook, Dunolly and Talbot, you'll find Resale Shops that are making a big difference – for the environment and your wallet.

These Resale Shops give quality items a second life by intercepting them before they reach landfill. Instead of being thrown away, usable goods are carefully sorted, repurposed and offered back to the community as affordable, second-hand treasures.

Help us grow these shops into successful landfill diverters by visiting them when you stop by our transfer stations.

LOCATIONS AND OPENING HOURS:

Carisbrook – 125 Williams Road

Open Monday, Tuesday and Friday 10am to 4.30pm
Saturday and Sunday – 10am to 4pm

Talbot – 41 Rocky Flat Road

Open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday – 8am to 12 noon*

Dunolly – 1656 Maryborough Dunolly Road

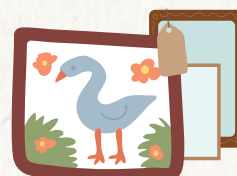
Open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday – 8am to 12 noon*

* Please note updated opening hours for summer – opening hours will change back to 9am to 1pm from April.

Opposite:

Artists at the Central Goldfields Art Gallery's *Upcycled* exhibition demonstrated how they take waste products and turn them into artworks.

Can you guess what this was originally?!



KEEP INFORMED AND PREPARED

The VicEmergency app provides a centralised location for Victorians to access timely emergency information and warnings.

The app includes warnings and incident notifications for fire, flood, storm, earthquake, tsunami, weather warnings and more.

You can download the app from the App Store or Google Play via your smart phone.

For emergency information and to download the VicEmergency app, visit:

📍 www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/



WHAT'S ON

AT THE GALLERY

The Central Goldfields Art Gallery's 2026 exhibition program is hot off the press.

Highlights include *Capturing the Wild* – a series of photographs and paintings by Milton Moss, showcasing the evocative work of this Maryborough artist inspired by the region's landscapes, and *RAGGED & TAGGED & FLAGGED* Caroline Chisholm, *Domesticity and the Victorian Goldfields* by Dr Flossie Peitsch – a striking installation exploring Victorian-era women's identities and domesticity.

National and touring exhibitions include *The Art of Gold – Treasures from the National Gallery of Australia* and ACMI's *Honk! Untitled Goose Exhibition*, a playful, family-friendly exploration of the hit videogame *Untitled Goose Game*. Portraiture will also take centre stage in *Pretty Much – Portraits and stories from real people* by Andy Ferg.



The program is complemented by artist talks, lectures, workshops, school holiday activities, guided tours and free public events.

The Gallery is open Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm and entry is free.

You can pick up a copy of the Gallery exhibition program at the Gallery, Visitor Centre, Maryborough Library or our Customer Service Centre or read it online at:

📍 www.centralgoldfieldsartgallery.com.au

Send Discard Signature Attach File

From: Central Goldfields Shire Council

To: You

Subject: You've got mail!

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You've got mail!

Through the Community Satisfaction Survey you told us that you wanted news from Council via email. That's why we are launching a new e-newsletter so you can keep up to date with our projects, events, updates and notices. It's the quickest and easiest way for you to stay informed about what's happening in your community.

To get the latest news delivered to your inbox, subscribe at:

📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/enews

You can also continue to stay connected via:

Socials: [Facebook](#) @centralgoldfields • [Twitter](#) @CG_Shire • [LinkedIn](#) Central Goldfields Shire Council

Website: www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au

Engagement opportunities: engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

Email: mail@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au

Phone: 03 5461 0610

Customer Service: 22 Nolan Street, Maryborough – open Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm

NRS-Friendly Hearing or Speech Impaired? Call via the National Relay Service on 133 677

A new face of youth

New Central Goldfields Shire Youth Officer Kyan Laslett O'Brien is focused on increasing participation and engagement among young people across the Shire.

Kyan brings a strong vision for youth-led initiatives shaped by the ideas of young people aged 14 to 24.

His first step is to form a diverse youth advisory group to ensure youth voices are heard and represented.

The group will help shape priorities, including deciding how they wish to identify themselves – with a name to be chosen by its members.

If you are interested in joining the youth advisory group, contact Kyan via youth@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au



GAME, SET, MATCH!

New cricket and tennis facilities are now ready for play at Maryborough's Princes Park precinct.



Our local cricket community has welcomed the establishment of four brand-new turf cricket pitches.

The project included the removal of the pre-existing pitches, installation of sub-surface drainage, upgraded irrigation, and construction of new pitches.

The \$190,000 project was made possible thanks to \$50,000 from Council, \$100,000 from the State Government and \$40,000 from Cricket Australia.

Local contractor Shay Excavations delivered the project with Council and the Maryborough Cricket Club leading the establishment of the turf.

Maryborough Cricket Club President Troy Bursill said it was an exciting milestone for the Club to play on a high-quality, modern centre wicket area.

"The new oval upgrades are a huge win for the community, providing long-term benefits for a wide range of local events and sporting activities.

"A major feature of the project is the new inbuilt sprinkler system, designed for maximum water efficiency."

Photo (above, left to right): Lachlan Bursill, Troy Bursill, Mayor Cr Ben Green and Ben Robertson.

At the Maryborough Tennis Centre, five new synthetic grass courts have been constructed to replace the existing middle bank of grass court - including lighting.

The \$523,000 project is jointly funded thanks to \$400,000 from the Victorian Government, \$71,700 from Council, \$20,000 from the Maryborough Tennis Centre and a \$31,300 National Court Rebate via Tennis Australia.

The project was delivered by our Operations team, Tuff Turf with the fencing works delivered by RNC.CO and the lighting installed by RJC Electrical.

Maryborough Tennis Centre President Heather Carr said the upgrade had been part of a 10-year advocacy process by the club and committee.

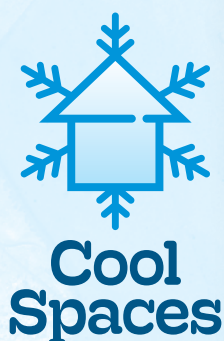
"The new courts will save on greenkeeper costs, maintenance of grass courts and lawn mowers plus water savings to have safe, sustainable courts for the future. The new light towers will allow play during the whole year and will mean tennis coaching programs can extend after daylight.

"The club volunteers and members look forward to welcoming the community to experience the new courts."

Photo (below): Maryborough Tennis Centre President Heather Carr with Maryborough East Ward Councillor Jake Meyer.



WHAT'S MAKING NEWS IN MARYBOROUGH



Three locations in Maryborough are operating as Cool Spaces this summer, providing the community with safe, comfortable places to retreat on days of extreme heat.



If you are looking for somewhere to go with air-conditioning to help you stay cool on days of extreme heat, head along to:

- Mill House Neighbourhood House
- Maryborough Paramount Theatre
- Maryborough Regional Library

For more information visit:

📍 www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/coolspacelocations



Dogs now welcome in CBD

Visitors to the Maryborough CBD can now enjoy their visit with their four-legged companions, following the adoption of our new General Local Law 2025.

Under the previous local law, dogs were not permitted in the CBD.

As part of the required 10-year local law review, 200 residents provided feedback last year. The community clearly supported removing the clause in the 2015 law that prohibited dogs in the main retail precinct. This concern had also been raised by tourists and our Visitor Centre team.

Dog owners are reminded to keep their pets under control at all times and to clean up after them.

Hop, skip, jump!

The athletic facilities at Jack Pascoe Reserve in Maryborough have been upgraded. After years of advocacy, the long jump, triple jump and javelin run-ups were re-asphalted.

The \$25,000 project was fully funded by Council and delivered by Doran Earthmoving and Centre State Asphaltting.

It's been great to see the upgraded facilities already being enjoyed by Maryborough Little Athletics Club with our local schools to also benefit.



**Councillor
Geoff Bartlett**

MARYBOROUGH NORTH WARD

Whatever experiences we've all endured since 2020, one thing for sure is that many lessons have hopefully been learned.

During COVID times and probably even a little before, a feeling of disempowerment appeared to have descended upon our community. The reasons being many, complex and lasting, but, in the last 12 months however, observing how fellow residents have dealt with the blows to our well-being, my hope and faith for a better future locally for us all, has been restored.

Those residents who lead campaigns, various action groups, and fundraising initiatives, rightfully deserve all the kudos and our heartfelt thanks.

There are too many to mention here, but of note was the formation of the Friends of the Maryborough Outdoor Pool Precinct, the Highland Society's Full Monty fundraiser, the pushback in regard to the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund and the Save Our Local VicRoads success in retaining services. The most recent addition to this list, with yet another groundswell of support, is the formation of a group to champion refilling the Goldfields Reservoir.

This is your community. Please don't be afraid to stand up and be counted for what you believe in! ”



**Councillor
Gerard Murphy**



**Councillor
Grace La Vella**



**Councillor
Jake Meyer**

WHAT'S MAKING NEWS ACROSS OUR TOWNSHIPS

CARISBROOK AND DISTRICT



**Councillor
Anna de Villiers**

TULLAROOP WARD

Following an extended cold spring and late, persistent rains, this past season has been an exceptionally challenging one for many local farmers.

Repeated weather interruptions made harvesting crops between downpours difficult and, at times, almost impossible. In my conversations with farmers across the district, it is clear that those running sheep and cattle were particularly hard hit, with some describing it as the toughest year they have experienced in more than 40 years.

The vagaries of the weather never cease to amaze, and my respect continues to grow for farmers who confront these challenges with resilience and determination year after year.

As a community, we are also deeply grateful that we were spared the worst of the recent bushfires that devastated adjoining shires, particularly Mount Alexander Shire, where losses were severe. Our thoughts remain with the many families who lost homes, livelihoods, or employment.

With a long, hot summer ahead, vigilance remains vital. Everyone is urged to follow CFA advice, clear gutters and clutter, and ensure emergency plans are in place.

Recent bushfires and flooding along the Great Ocean Road have reinforced the invaluable role of our volunteer CFA firefighters and SES crews, and I extend my sincere appreciation to these extraordinary individuals who give so generously of their time to keep our communities safe.

DUNOLLY AND DISTRICT

New pavilion moves a step closer

Dunolly's long-awaited pavilion at Deledio Recreation Reserve has moved a step closer.

The tender for design and construction of the new modular multi-use pavilion was advertised at the end of 2025 – with the successful tenderer expected to be appointed shortly.



Council has worked alongside the Deledio Pavilion Reference Group to develop the concept design for the facility which will feature:

- modern change rooms
- kitchen and community hospitality facilities
- undercover social and viewing areas
- first aid facilities
- sustainable design elements including rainwater harvesting and solar power.

The project is jointly funded by Federal Government, State Government and Council.

TALBOT AND DISTRICT



**Councillor
Ben Green**
PADDYS RANGES WARD

It gives me great satisfaction to represent Paddys Ranges Ward on Council. I can't think of anywhere better to live – because of our people.

We have a fabulous Football Netball Club, cricket, tennis and bowls clubs, outdoor pool, museum, gallery, bookshop (Mum's), library, old hospital/sanatorium, cafe, boutique store, visitors centre and active community volunteer groups looking after our assets and places of refuge. The Talbot Post Office and the Court House Hotel also provide full time support and services to Talbot and district and visitors. Thank you to all who supported Light Up Talbot, Anzac, Remembrance and Australia Day.

The volunteer spirit thrives in Paddys Ranges (and the entire Shire) from arranging community support events to looking after halls and protecting our people and property. Paddys Ranges CFA volunteers have once again stood in the breach and put themselves on the line.

On the halls' side we have Adelaide Lead, Bowenvale, Daisy Hill, Talbot and Wareek – apart from keeping the structures in good order the committees and members provide literally a human network of support, service and fun to our local communities and to visitors to our ward.



Flood planning in Carisbrook

Thank you to the community members who have attended the two community drop-in sessions held in Carisbrook over the past six months.

The Carisbrook Flood Study Advisory Reference Group has commissioned consultants Water Technology to develop flood modelling and mapping based on the latest information from the 2016 and 2022 flood events and changing climate considerations.

This will update the flood modelling originally completed in 2013 and provide improved mitigation modelling, flood risk and emergency management assessments, to inform the Carisbrook Flood Management Plan Review and Update.

A summary of each of the meetings, along with supporting presentations, can be accessed online at:

www.engage.cgoldshire.vic.gov.au/carisbrookfloodplanning

The third drop-in information session will be held on Tuesday 10 February, 3 to 6pm at the Carisbrook Recreation Reserve. The fourth and final session will be held March/April with the exact date to be confirmed.

If you weren't able to attend the community sessions and have input, you'd like to share please email assets@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au



**Councillor
Liesbeth Long**

FLYNN WARD

As I write this, we've finally parked our header in the shed after a very late harvest. Hopefully 2026 will return to a more normal rainfall for our farmers.

A massive thank you to the Bealiba residents who put on another fabulous Australia Day event this year. I was honoured to give a speech to those in attendance and the subsequent BBQ was fantastic as always. This small community punches above its weight time and time again with a community spirit that everyone can be proud of! Thanks for having me.

2026 will be an exciting year for Flynn with the building of the new Deledio Pavilion. This project reached a major milestone in December when, after more than two decades of advocacy, a request for tender for the design and construction for the new modular multi-use pavilion was publicly advertised. Submissions have closed and are now being evaluated. It's a case of 'Watch This Space' at long last.

Feel free to reach out if there are any Council concerns, I can assist you with, by contacting me either by phone, text, email or on social media. ”

Cool off at our outdoor pools

Talbot and Dunolly outdoor pools are a perfect place to cool off during the warmer weather – with **FREE** entry available all the way through until Monday 9 March.

Our outdoor pools open whenever the daily temperature is forecast to reach 25°C or higher:

- **School days:** 3.30pm to 7pm
- **Weekends:** 1pm to 7pm

Please note our outdoor pools will be closed on catastrophic fire days and a decision will be made on extreme heat days – based on conditions.

Maryborough Sports and Leisure Centre has also extended its opening hours to 7pm on weekends and public holidays with reduced casual-entry fees.

Full details at:

www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/outdoorpools



WHOSE ROAD IS IT?

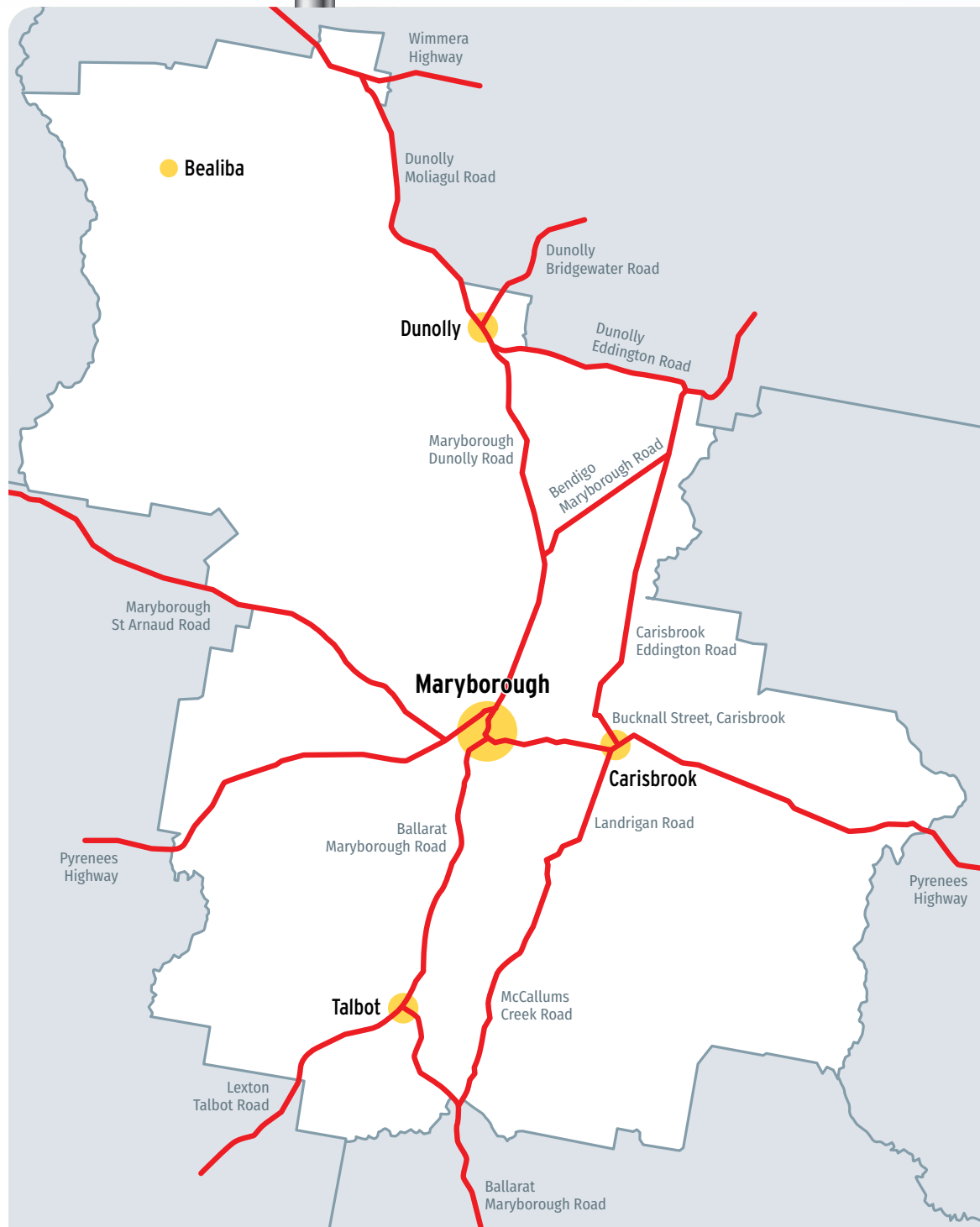
It can be confusing to understand which roads we maintain and repair and which are the responsibility of the State Government.

The map opposite explains which roads are the responsibility of the State Government (marked in red):

- Pyrenees Highway
- Ballarat Maryborough Road
- Bendigo Maryborough Road
- Maryborough Dunolly Road
- Maryborough St Arnaud Road
- Dunolly Eddington Road
- Dunolly Moliagul Road
- Dunolly Bridgewater Road
- Carisbrook Eddington Road
- Landrigan Road (Craigie Cross Roads to Carisbrook)
- Bucknall Street, Carisbrook
- Lexton Talbot Road
- McCallums Creek Road (Landrigan Road to Ballarat Maryborough Road)

Within the Maryborough township boundaries the following roads are also maintained by the State Government:

- Gladstone Street
- Park Road
- Elgin Road
- Derby Road
- Phelan Road
- High Street (Derby Road to Inkerman Street)
- Inkerman Street (High to Napier streets)
- Napier Street (Inkerman to Tuaggra streets)
- Tuaggra Street
- Sutton Road



For urgent attention on a State Government road, phone 13 11 70 or visit www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/StateRoadReport