

# CORANGAMITE SHIRE news



SUMMER 2020

- + Meet your new Councillors
- + 2040 Vision: Help shape our future
- + Our local heroes
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- + Meet our new staff



CORANGAMITE  
SHIRE

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Elected councillors (from left to right) Jo Beard, Laurie Hickey, Geraldine Conheady, Ruth Gstrein, Kate Makin, Jamie Vogels, and Nick Cole.

## Welcome to the summer edition of Corangamite News

It was an absolute honour to be elected Mayor by my fellow Councillors recently and I look forward to leading Corangamite Council for the next 12 months. I extend a warm welcome to the four new faces at the Council table - Laurie Hickey, Kate Makin, Nicholas Cole and Jamie Vogels as well as to returning Councillors Geraldine Conheady and Deputy Mayor Jo Beard.

The new Council has been extremely busy participating in induction sessions which have covered all aspects of the Shire operations. There is a lot to take in and I think we have a great team in place.

Work on the Council Plan has already begun which will be the lead document outlining Council's priorities for this term. The new Local Government Act 2020 calls for Council to also prepare a Community Vision. This has to be done over the coming months and are now calling for nominations from the Corangamite area to form a Citizens Jury to put together the Vision.

Please consider putting your name forward and think about what you envisage Corangamite will be like in the future.

The short term goal will be bringing our communities back together after COVID 19. The results of everybody's commitment and hardship is evident with the gradual easing of restrictions and our thoughts turn to reuniting with family and friends and coming together to celebrate Christmas.

One positive aspect of the lockdown has seen us looking to our own local businesses to provide goods and services rather than heading out of town. I encourage all Corangamite residents to continue to do this. Our local businesses have in many instances been hit extremely hard by the restrictions and are looking forward to a busy Christmas trade to help them keep their doors open in the future.

After the year we have all experienced I hope that you all can have a restful and peaceful Christmas.

Cr Ruth Gstrein  
Mayor



Cr Ruth Gstrein (Mayor)  
Central Ward  
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Cr Nick Cole  
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Cr Geraldine Conheady  
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Cr Laurie Hickey  
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Cr Kate Makin  
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Cr Jamie Vogels  
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Merry   
Christmas  
and Happy  
New Year

From all of us here at  
Corangamite Shire.

Our offices will be closed  
from 1 pm Wednesday 23  
December, re-opening  
Monday 4 January 2021.

Please check our website for  
more details.

# 2040 Community Vision



**You should have received your pack in the mail.  
Have a look and get involved!**

**You're invited to participate in a unique opportunity  
to shape the future of Corangamite Shire**

## A SHARED VISION

Under the new Local Government Act (2020) Council must develop a community-led vision for the whole of Corangamite Shire.

Like the current township plans, this Shire-wide vision will be created by the community, for the community. The Community Vision will be updated every four years to keep it current.

## A CITIZENS JURY

This first Corangamite Community Vision is being prepared by a Citizens Jury. The Jury will be selected by an independent agency and supported by an independent facilitator. It will consider ideas advanced by members of the Corangamite community. All public submissions will be posted online.

## GETTING INVOLVED

If you have ideas and opinions about how we should prepare for our preferred future this is your opportunity to share them and influence the strategic direction of Council.

To find out how you can get involved  
Visit [www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/2040](http://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/2040)  
Email [2040@corangamite.vic.gov.au](mailto:2040@corangamite.vic.gov.au)  
Phone 5593 7100

**Nominations for membership of the Citizens Jury close  
on 31 December 2020  
Submissions to the Citizens Jury close on 19 March 2021**

## Council meetings

**Wednesday 27 January**  
Killara Centre, Camperdown, 7 pm

**Tuesday 23 February**  
Killara Centre, Camperdown, 7 pm

**Tuesday 23 March**  
Simpson, 7 pm

**Tuesday 20 April**  
Killara Centre, Camperdown, 7 pm

Council meetings are now  
livestreamed on our Facebook  
page: [facebook.com/  
corangamiteshire](https://facebook.com/corangamiteshire)

Agendas are placed on our website  
on Friday before a Council meeting:  
[corangamite.vic.gov.au](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au)



**Australia Day**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

## Australia Day Celebrations

**Port Campbell Recreation Reserve, Tuesday 26 January  
from 10 am.**

**Australia Day Awards, local keynote speaker and BBQ.**

**For more information visit [corangamite.vic.gov.au](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au) or  
phone 5993 7100.**

# Meet your new council 2020-2024

1. What inspired you to run for Council?
2. What do you believe some of the challenges will be for this Council?
3. What do you hope to achieve as a Councillor?
4. If there is one thing (or project) you want to see happen in your time as Councillor, what would it be?



**Cr Gstrein**

**Contact**

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M. 0407 320 283

Ruth and her husband Peter live in Camperdown where they raised their children, Chris and Lucy. Ruth works at a local architectural firm and catering business. She has been heavily involved in her local (and the wider) community, and has served on Council since 2002.

1. I love local government and the ability to work closely with groups and the wider community to achieve their goals.

2. The ability to attract State and Federal grants will be harder to achieve following the enormous investment in dealing with COVID-19.

3. To reunite our communities following COVID-19 - socially and a thriving business community. Improved digital and mobile connectivity. Reversal of population decline in the Shire.

4. Improved digital and mobile connectivity resulting in a connected and thriving municipality.



**Cr Beard**

**Contact**

[jo.beard@corangamite.vic.gov.au](mailto:jo.beard@corangamite.vic.gov.au)

M. 0417 369 457

Jo lives in Cobden with husband Daniel and sons Jordan and Cooper. Jo is a long-term Cobden resident and is passionate about where she was born and raised. She is constantly inspired by her community and feels a great responsibility being a Councillor.

1. I have loved being a councillor. I feel it gives me great purpose and it is an honour to represent the people of the Corangamite Shire.

2. The challenging year has reminded me that we live in an amazing part of the world. We have incredible landscapes and resilient caring communities. We

need a population boost, but we also need adequate housing and land. I would love to see our towns thriving with people who have relocated.

3. Being a strong voice for all is my commitment. COVID recovery, safe roads, community inclusiveness and wellbeing along with reliable connectivity.

4. Corangamite Shire needs to be known for more than the 12 Apostles. We have a strong agricultural industry that is an ideal location for investment. With that comes diversity of employment and population attraction.



**Cr Cole**

**Contact**

[nick.cole@corangamite.vic.gov.au](mailto:nick.cole@corangamite.vic.gov.au)

M. 0455 111 459

Nick lives on his family property in the north of the shire where he and wife Sue raised their children Nicholas, William and Emma. Nick is passionate about the farming industry and hopes he can represent the rural voices of Corangamite Shire.

1. I wanted to run for the council to be a voice for farmers, considering the landscape between the north and south is so diverse. I aim to represent all residents of the shire to make it one of the best places live, work and raise a family in Victoria.

3. I endeavour to use my experience within various community groups to rejuvenate the Corangamite community spirit.

4. I hope to get the shire to provide the basics, improved roads and lobby to fix the State controlled roads and basic infrastructure so residents can move about the area in safety and comfort.



## Cr Conheady

### Contact

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M. 0418 689 617

Geraldine raised her seven children with husband Edward in Noorat, four of whom now work in the family dairy business. She cares about how Corangamite develops and the legacy we leave for our young people and families, our prime food/fibre production zones and the agricultural industries that have sustained the Shire for generations.

2. Our immediate challenge is to assist our community to move forward as we deal with the damaging experiences of COVID-19. Rejuvenating our hospitality and tourism sectors is a pressing issue.

3. I believe improving infrastructure is a key component to continued prosperity and to encourage population attraction and retention – safe roads, effective transport links, high standard connectivity. I will be advocating actively to achieve this.

4. I hope to see Corangamite Shire positioned for appropriate growth, to be recognised as a premium municipality for opportunity, where families want to live and business wants to invest.



## Cr Hickey

### Contact

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M. 0455 111 670

Laurie and his wife Annette call Bookaar home where they raised their children Emily, Daniel and Olivia. Having lived rurally for more than 50 years, Laurie is heavily involved in the agricultural industry and understands the issues facing farming communities. Laurie aims to bring an experienced and optimistic voice to Council to navigate the COVID-19 recovery.

1. The inspiration to run for council came from some friends who encouraged me to consider nominating. I wanted to be part of the decision-making process, and believe I have the

necessary skills to help achieve this.

2. Recovery from COVID-19 shall be unprecedented. However, our close-knit community is resilient, supportive, and resourceful.

3. I appreciate the need for improved infrastructure and services, for quality health, education, and recreational facilities. Our various sectors will need support as they form the fabric of our region.



## Cr Makin

### Contact

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M. 0427 983 566

Kate lives with her husband Matt and sons Jasper, Oliver and Leo near Scotts Creek where they run a small agricultural business. Kate is passionate about giving back to her local community and has been an active volunteer at various sporting clubs across the Shire. As a mum of young children she hopes to bring that point of view to the Council table.

1. I have always had a passion for my local community and felt it was time to give back and challenge myself. I believe being on council would be the best way to achieve this.

2. COVID-19, recovering the tourism industry and getting businesses back on their feet. Keeping our youth in the region, having reliable internet, and ensuring our roads are safe.

3. I hope I can represent the whole community to the best of my ability so we can make the right decision together to help Corangamite be a fantastic place to live and visit.

4. Getting our major arterial roads upgraded to an acceptable and safe standard for the community to travel on.



## Cr Vogels

### Contact

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M. 0455 111 645

Jamie lives with his wife Sheryn and son Ben in Scotts Creek where he owns and runs a dairy farm with his brother. He was born and raised in Corangamite Shire before completing an electrical apprenticeship in Geelong and returning home. Jamie is looking forward to representing the rural community voice of Corangamite.

1. I ran for Council because I think it is an advantage to have a farmer's voice at the council table and I will be a voice for reason representing our community. I will aim to listen to all advice so I can make informed decisions as I believe this is

the best way forward. I practice common sense in all that I do and I always make decisions with an open mind.

2. I believe council has a major role to play in community health, wellbeing and education. A first class job in these areas is a must.

3. Corangamite Shire will be challenged with COVID recovery and I have every faith that with teamwork, cooperation, respect and community support we will achieve a new and better normal.



Bushfire Place of Last Resort, Camperdown

## Bushfire places of last resort

We now have signage for Bushfire Places of Last Resort (BPLR) in six of our towns (see list below) – with Cobden and Noorat on the way. We are currently working on finding a suitable site in Terang.

Choosing a location for BPLRs involves quite a bit of planning, with approvals needed from the Country Fire Authority and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Residents need to be aware that BPLR locations are chosen based on bushfire planning and are not a

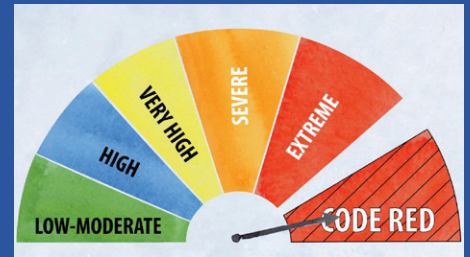
place of shelter from other types of emergencies, such as floods and storms.

These locations meet criteria including protection from radiant heat, access and exit, vegetation clearance, traffic management and other uses of the site.

Signage is in place in time for this fire season and we encourage residents to keep an eye on our website or social media for fire season advice and updates.

Township	Location	Address
Skipton	Recreation Reserve	Osborne Street
Derrinallum	Part of Recreation Reserve	Hamilton Highway
Lismore	Part of Recreation Reserve	Seymour Street
Camperdown	Service road & centre reserve	Manifold Street
Timboon	Timboon and District Hall	53 Bailey Street
Port Campbell	Port Campbell Foreshore	Cairns Street

## Fire danger ratings



Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions.

Talk to your family about the fire risk where you live and make plans for what you'll do on hot, dry, windy days.

Check the Fire Danger Rating for your area every day and know which Fire Danger Rating is your trigger to act. If the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe, you're risking your life if you wait and see.

To check the Fire Danger Rating visit [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au), the VicEmergency app or phone the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

### Warnings

#### Advice

An incident is occurring or has occurred that may escalate to impact you. Access information and monitor conditions. Also used for All Clear and Safe to Return when there is no longer a threat.

#### Warning (Watch & Act)

Conditions are changing and you need to act now to protect yourself and your family.

#### Emergency Warning

You are in imminent danger and need to act now.

#### Evacuation

An evacuation is recommended, or procedures are in place to evacuate.

## Lots of love for our local heroes



### Wastewater grants

Building a new home in some of Corangamite's towns is cheaper and easier with Corangamite Shire's Domestic Wastewater Contribution Program.

The program aims to encourage new houses in township areas that don't have reticulated sewerage.

This includes Darlington, Derrinallum, Lismore, Noorat, Skipton and Princetown.

Manager of Growth and Engagement, Rory Neeson said the program was designed to attract new residents to strengthen the local economy, and provide work for local tradespeople.

"We developed the program in response to feedback that high costs associated with wastewater treatment on small blocks in these towns were a barrier to development," Mr Neeson said.

"This is unique—no other councils in the state have anything like it."

Landowners could be eligible for a one-off grant with applications now open.

For further information, go to [corangamite.vic.gov.au](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au) or contact Council on 5593 7100.



Cover heroes Ronnie Greagan and Neville Robertson photographed by Andrea Stoddart.

**A big thank you to everyone who submitted photos to the local heroes photo competition.**

We had some fantastic entries with wonderful insights into everyday people who go above and beyond for their community, or who inspire others through their actions.

Our calendar cover heroes are Ronnie Greagan and Neville Robertson submitted by Andrea Stoddart from Cobden Technical School.

Ronnie has volunteered at the Tech "for a long time", while Neville has been there for the past seven years. Ronnie was on school council when Bill Malady got him involved working around the grounds.

"After Bill passed away, I was there on my own doing the mowing. Neville started helping out once he retired."

Ronnie said that Neville goes up most mornings and cleans the front garden area, while they get together on the bigger jobs.

"Neville and I just potter along and do our bits and pieces. We've just finished pruning the trees so the mower can fit under them."

Volunteering is something Ronnie does to make it easier for the school and "save them a few bob".

"They are all good people up there at the Tech. My kids went there and now I've got grandkids there," he said.

Andrea Stoddart, who nominated Ronnie and Neville, said the school was so grateful to the pair for maintaining the large open spaces, gardens, school orchard and bush land.

"We held a morning tea in Ronnie and Neville's honour, and to announce their photo appearing in the calendar.

"The Year 8 students presented them with an Akubra each and gratitude sheets," she said.

Ronnie said the morning tea was a bit of a buzz. "We didn't know anything about that. I always stir them up in the staff room about putting on scones and cream.

"Well we got cake and pens to autograph the calendars," he grinned.

If you missed out on a copy of the 2021 Calendar, please call us on 5593 7100.

## Kooler Dairy



Craig and Fiona Hanks, Mathew Hanks and Peter Rhodes

**In the four years since they bought Kooler Dairy, Craig and Fiona Hanks have added another business, employed three locals, and found ways to collaborate with other entrepreneurs.**

In January 2017 the Hanks took over Cobden-based Kooler Dairy as the Local Sungold Distributor. After outgrowing the original site, they moved to new premises in Cobden.

“We felt it would offer us room to grow. Not knowing what that growth was, but knowing that we wanted to become more efficient as well,” Fiona said.

At the start of 2020, the Hanks’ bought the Coastal Pure Water businesses.

“When we first started with Kooler Dairy we had one employee,” Craig said.

“And now we’ve got four staff. The water side has given us the flexibility as well as adding extra staff.”

The company has a strong local priority, supporting people and businesses in the Shire through partnerships, as well as servicing the community.

“We make our ice here which is something we promote because we feel it’s good to have it made local,” Fiona said. “We have Sungold milk and Green Pastures milk which are both local brands and then Bulla cream.”

“We embrace that too with the hampers we do. We do a local hamper which has 14 or 15 local companies or businesses. We support them and promote their product through those hampers for them.”

Craig said buying Coastal Pure Water was a way to diversify and grow the business.

“We’re not people to sit on our hands so much,” he said.

“We threw ourselves in headfirst and we took over, then COVID hit. It was going to be a very sharp learning curve, but it certainly threw us in the deep end big time,” he said.

“We brought all the water production here. We distribute the 11-litre water bottles to homes, businesses... We filter it and bottle it and distribute it from here.”

A grant from the Innovation and Entrepreneur Program helped set up the water filtration system and bottling plant.

“Because we left the Warrnambool shop open, we still needed to have reverse osmosis water available over there,” Fiona said.

“Therefore, we had to invest in new reverse osmosis plant and equipment to filter water here (Cobden).”

Craig said local electricians, plumbers and builders all benefitted from the installation work.

## Business support

There is so much COVID and support information for your business that it can be difficult to find your way. Our dedicated web page at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/covid-business](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/covid-business) has links to Federal and State Government support packages, financial support information and counselling, video tutorials and more.

Things are still changing regularly so make sure you sign up for our Business Connect E-News, follow the Business Corangamite page on Facebook or call our Economic Development Team on 5593 7100 or email

[ecodev@corangamite.vic.gov.au](mailto:ecodev@corangamite.vic.gov.au)

### COVIDSafe Plans

If you’re in any sort of business—whether it’s a one-person office to a farm, shop, café or gym—you must have a COVIDSafe plan to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

COVIDSafe Plans include:

- Reducing infection risk in the workplace
- Keeping records of everyone who comes to the premises
- Personal Protective Equipment
- How to respond to a suspected or confirmed case

For more information go to [dhhs.vic.gov.au/workplace-obligations-covid-19](https://dhhs.vic.gov.au/workplace-obligations-covid-19) or call our Economic Development team on 5593 7100.



# Spend summer at your local pool

Our swimming pools are being prepared for a COVIDSafe summer.

The 2020-2021 season is scheduled to start on Saturday 19 December, to coincide with school holidays, and close on Monday 8 March.

Season tickets can be used across our six swimming pools and are available from the pools or the Civic Centre in Camperdown.

COVIDSafe practices include sanitisation stations, additional cleaning, signage and users' details will be collected for contact tracing purposes.

For all the latest updates, follow [facebook.com/corangamiteshirepools](https://www.facebook.com/corangamiteshirepools)

Opening times and fees can be found at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/Pools](https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Pools)

## Opening hours | All pools open on Saturday 19 December

### Camperdown

**10 am - 7 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**2 pm - 7 pm**

school term

**6 am - 7:30 am**

lap swimming (Mon, Wed & Fri)

### Cobden

**10:30 am - 7:30 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**2:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

school term

**6:30 am - 8 am**

lap swimming (Tues)

### Lismore

**10:30 am - 7 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**1:30 pm - 7 pm**

school term

**10 am - 11:30 am**

water aerobics (Tues & Wed)

### Skipton

**11 am - 7 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**2:30 pm - 7 pm**

school term

**6 am - 7:30 am**

lap swimming (Tues & Thurs)

### Terang

**10:30 am - 7 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**3:00 pm - 7 pm**

school term

**6:30 am - 8 am**

lap swimming (Tues & Thurs)

### Timboon

**10 am - 6:30 pm**

weekends, public holidays & school holidays

**3 pm - 7 pm**

school term

**6 am - 8 am**

lap swimming (Mon, Wed & Fri)

## Season tickets 2020-21

**Family**

2 adults & children aged 18 & under

**\$137.60**

**Adult**

**\$70.40**

**Child**

**\$62.40**

## Day admissions 2020-21

**Family**

2 adults & children aged 18 & under

**\$14.40**

**Adult**

**\$4.80**

**Child**

**\$3.90**

# New plan for Camperdown-Timboon Rail Trail

The Camperdown-Timboon Rail Trail will need more than \$800,000 in upgrades over the next five years to ensure the trail remains safe and meets visitor expectations.

The Camperdown-Timboon Rail Trail Committee of Management has launched the 10 year plan to guide future management of the 30 kilometre trail.

The plan identifies priority works such as replacing five by-pass bridges; widening and repairing sections of the trail; installing handrails and new signage; and improving drainage.

Committee of Management president Pat Robertson said the plan had given the volunteer committee a sense of direction and confidence.

“We’ve needed a detailed management plan from the word go,” Mrs Robertson said.

“We now have an idea of what our assets are and what needs to be done.



Mayor Ruth Gstrein, Pat Robertson and Greg Farmer.

“The trail opened in 2010 and the initial work was done by volunteers. All the by-pass bridges are now due for replacement,” she said.

“The committee is extremely grateful to the Corangamite Shire for helping to develop the plan,” Mrs Robertson added.

The committee plans to finance the upgrades through government grants and fundraising. Mrs Robertson estimated that volunteers spend nearly 1000 hours each year maintaining the trail and trestle bridge.

“It’s a huge task, but one we all enjoy doing,” she said.

“People really do love walking or riding through the bush and we often get comments that people love the fact that the trail is really natural, not asphalt.

Mayor Ruth Gstrein said the trail had become a highly valued community asset and had the potential to become a significant visitor attraction once linked to the new Twelve Apostles Trail (Timboon to Port Campbell) section.

“We will have more visitors accessing the coast on foot or bike from Camperdown train station in the future.

“We owe this small volunteer committee an enormous gratitude for the vision and work done over the past decade to establish and maintain the trail”.

“This plan is really important because it supports the committee to carry out a vision, which will benefit our communities well into the future,” Cr Gstrein said.

## Slashing program doubles

Almost 2000 km of Shire roadsides will be slashed to double the normal width before Christmas.

Historically, Council has completed two rounds of slashing and spraying along local roads, slashing a two metre width along sealed roads and spraying a two metre width along gravel roads.

This year, we have doubled the slashing width to four metres on sealed roads, while the second round of spraying on gravel roads will be four metres.

The annual Community Satisfaction Survey tells us that keeping our roadsides clear is a service our residents want us to improve. The program has been revitalised to improve road safety and fire prevention.



Slashing, first pass.

### Slashing and spraying program 2020-21

	Timing	Spraying Around signs	2 m shoulder spraying	4 m shoulder slashing
Round one	Sep/Oct	344 km	1208 km	337 km
Round two	Nov/Dec	0 km	0 km	1545 km
Totals for 2020-2021		344 km	1208 km	1882 km

## Upcoming Council road projects

- **East Hill Road, Bookaar**  
– major rehab from Darlington Camperdown Road for 1.34 km
- **Blake Street, Skipton**  
– major rehab from Skipton Beaufort Road to Bridge Street
- **Terang Framlingham Road**  
– major rehab from Keilambete Road to Coombs Lane
- **N Robilliards Road, Timboon**  
– major rehab from bridge for 0.9 km. Includes a retaining wall at Timboon-Nullawarre Road intersection.
- **Talindert Road, Camperdown**  
– widening and rehab from County Boundary East Road for 1.07 km
- **Linton Road, Bradvale**  
– major rehab from Hamilton Highway for 1.9 km
- **Windham Street, Skipton**  
– sealing entire length of street
- **Koallah Road**  
– from Koallah-Pomborneit Road for 2.68 km. Includes realigning the intersection.
- **Lower Darlington Road, Larralea**  
– upgrade for heavy vehicles from Camperdown-Larra Road to Camperdown-Derrinallum Road
- **Hawkins Road, Cooriemungle**  
– upgrade for heavy vehicles
- **Church Street, Camperdown**  
– widening and rehab from Gellie Street to railway line
- **Wiridjil Road, Camperdown**  
– widening and rehab from Wire Lane to creek
- **Dalvui Lane, Terang**  
– crest widening and rehab
- **Foxhow Berrybank Road**  
– stabilisation and resurfacing

## Weeds be gone!



Blue periwinkle on East & West Road, Timboon

Have you noticed less weeds along our local roadsides? (Not arterial roads – this is a Regional Roads Victoria responsibility).

We have been doing a power of work to reduce weeds along 1500 km of our Council-managed roadsides. This program costs more than \$250,000 annually.

Between November and May we are following up treatment of blackberry, ivy, ragwort, St John's wort and periwinkle. Sweet pittosporum and mirror bush regrowth will also be tackled.

Summer outbreaks of pigweed, stinkwort and Canadian fleabane on roads will be targeted in the north, while gorse and boxthorn will be treated across the entire shire.

For more information on our weeds program, or to talk to us about a weeds issue visit [corangamite.vic.gov.au/weeds](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au/weeds) or call us on 5593 7100.

Weed species	Location in Shire	Distance to be surveyed and treated
Blackberry	South/Central	1100 km
Sweet pittosporum	South	600 km
Pampas grass	South	250 km
Gorse	North	120 km
Ragwort	South	330 km
Boxthorn	North	500 km
St John's wort	South	165 km
Sweet briar	Central	100 km
Mirror bush	South	498 km
English & Cape ivy	South	200 km
Blue periwinkle	South	175 km

# MEET OUR NEW STAFF

## Mens Shed tables



Timboon Men's Shed members John Wood, Ray McCraw, John Wigley, and Terry O'Connor

The Timboon Men's Shed have helped us serve up 50 new picnic settings to support outdoor dining across the Shire.

The project is a result of a \$250,000 grant from the State Government's Outdoor Dining Package. Due to the need for quick action to support hospitality businesses across the Shire, some commercial settings were bought while the volunteers at the Men's Shed were getting their manufacturing up and running.

Their work is finished with an oil-based treated pine stain to keep them weatherproof and easy to clean.

Simpson Men's Shed has also started building outdoor dining settings.



**Pulkit Pahwa**

### Project Engineer

#### How long have you been at Corangamite shire?

I started with Corangamite Shire as a Project Engineer in August 2020.

#### What is your background?

I am a Civil/Structural Engineer and have worked in industries such as mining, design, infrastructure and aviation. I was working as Assistant Project Manager at Melbourne Airport, managing and delivering roads and infrastructure projects.

#### What does your role involve?

My role as project engineer involves delivering capital works programs which comprises roads, kerb and channel, footpaths, bridges and gravel re-sheeting. I also look after the spraying-slashing program and dust suppressant program.

#### What attracted you to Corangamite?

My love for the South West region especially the Great Ocean Road and surroundings attracted me to Corangamite Shire. I come from Melbourne but I am always fascinated by the country life and the amount of personal time I get to spend on my goals.

#### What do you enjoy about your job?

My role requires a lot of focus, planning, negotiation, technicality and support to deliver civil construction jobs which keeps me very busy. Everything in this role is about solving problems which is what I enjoy the most. I feel accomplished every day as I see my projects progressing forward. Finally, working for the community and providing better infrastructure for people is a very fulfilling part of this role.

#### What are some of the biggest challenges facing road networks and projects in Corangamite Shire?

The biggest challenges for this role will be associated with rain, floods, temperature and so on. These aspects are out of anyone's control and they can have a serious impact on construction projects.

## Justine Linley appointed Director Sustainable Development



Justine Linley, Director Sustainable Development.

Justine Linley has been appointed Director Sustainable Development at Corangamite Shire.

Ms Linley has a long career of working in local and state government. She was the CEO of Northern Grampians Shire and City of Ballarat. She will lead a team of 57 staff across three departments at Corangamite.

Ms Linley said she had a career-long interest in sustainable industry and community development.

"I feel very privileged to be working here," she said.

"My first impressions of Corangamite are that it is truly a land of milk and honey: golden grain, plump cows, woolly sheep and a wild stunning coast.

"Corangamite in particular has more than just the core ingredients for sustainable development, it has the whole Christmas dinner, from the seafood appetiser through to the flaming, whisky-soaked ice cream pudding."

"I hope to be able to work with Council, officers, business and community to deliver on your priorities and aspirations and to celebrate the best that Corangamite has and is."

## Draft plans released for Cobden facelift

Detailed designs are being finalised on the Cobden town centre rejuvenation project, after two rounds of public consultation on the concept plans.

Construction is expected to happen in early 2021.

Earlier this year we invited community members to tell us what they thought should be included in the project. Thirty-one ideas were submitted. These were given a rough costing and a follow-up survey in May drew 60 responses.

Proposed works include:

- Address slippery surfaces
- Improve outstands
- New and upgraded accessible car parking spaces
- Directional signage at roundabout
- Directional signage for long vehicle parking at Apex Park
- Hinged banner poles
- Creative street furniture
- Wider car spaces
- Curdie Street
- additional seating and replacement
- new concrete footpath
- upgraded plantings
- street art
- Victoria Street:
  - footpath and kerb and channel renewal
  - new “gateway” outstands
  - tree replacements at powerlines
- Adams Street
- Additional car parks, including for long vehicles

To view plans, visit [corangamite.vic.gov.au/cobdenstreetscape](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au/cobdenstreetscape)

## Sound of Music and Me



Marie Ewing, and her son Pete

If social distancing has taught us one thing, it's the importance of family. Luckily we had modern technology to keep us connected with our loved ones during lockdown.

Marie Ewing could only see her 19 grandchildren on FaceTime but, on the up-side, her son, Pete, returned home in June, leaving the coronavirus emergency in the United States.

A productive partnership was born between the folk singer and her hip-hop producer son. The pair produced a YouTube series, 'Music and Me'. Originally just for her grandchildren, it has reached a wider audience and is even being used in classrooms.

"If other people recognise something in that or appreciate that, well that's great. But hopefully the music that was written was good quality. I feel it is."

Pete agreed that the social media audience gave the show a life of its own.

"As a musician you have to have a certain amount of self-belief and know that what you're doing has merit in its creation. You don't own it after

that. Once you put it out there it's always someone else's."

Marie was full of praise for Pete's technical skills that allowed so many people to enjoy her songs from far away.

"We did the first one really for the grandchildren. We got a green screen, and we got lighting, and Peter had a drone, so we knew we could have imagery of the countryside. We did six episodes in series one, and we're going to do another Christmas one. We'll think about doing some more next year, as a series.

"It's amazing to hear people's reactions. After all the restrictions, and all of this stops, I think we've actually gained something from it. There's so many things that go on that no one has any control of, but people's own stories, they have true ownership of. I think that's a really beautiful thing for people to regain."

You can check out 'Music and Me' at [youtube.com/channel/UCCjkcZpt-Gy0LOccr6UI92w](https://youtube.com/channel/UCCjkcZpt-Gy0LOccr6UI92w)

## Wake up to the wonder of our region



12 Apostles, Great Ocean Road.

Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism is calling on residents to invite people they know to visit our region.

The Great Sleepover campaign encourages residents to reconnect with loved ones and entice them to revisit now that coronavirus restrictions have eased. Tourism is a huge part of our local economy and a significant employer. You can help businesses get back to work by taking your next holiday close to home and encouraging everyone you know to rediscover all that is special about the Great Ocean Road and Volcanic Lakes and Plains regions.

There are many things we can do to help businesses get back on their feet and shopping local for Christmas is a good place to start. Why not consider a local experience gift or voucher for your loved ones? Perhaps a gourmet picnic ride, a local tippie or a produce

hamper chock full with local goodies? Why not treat someone you love to dinner at their favourite restaurant or consider buying wetsuits and beach gear locally to create some special summer memories together?

As we prepare to wave goodbye to a testy 2020, let sweet summer memories guide you on a voyage of rediscovery of your own backyard. Put on the zinc cream, don a terry towelling hat, remember the smells of the ocean and you just might find those most special of places are closer than you think.

Why not enjoy a staycation in the Shire this summer? And be sure to invite your friends.

*Great Ocean Road*

## Register for our community directory

Sports, arts, crafts, book clubs and service organisations all contribute to the richness of life on offer in Corangamite Shire.

Whatever your interests are, if you're part of a community group then spread the word and attract new members.

Register for our Community Directory at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-Directory](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-Directory) or by calling 5593 7100. Tell us a little about what you do and we'll share your contact details on our website.

If you've already signed up, please check the details are up to date so we can help you attract like minds.

## Community care opportunities

Join us in helping people live independently in their own homes longer.

We're looking for Certificate III Community Services qualified staff in Lismore and Derrinallum.

A Community Care Worker helps people live independently at home for as long as possible, and supports with:

- Home care
- Transport to medical appointments
- Meals on Wheels
- Personal care
- Access to the community, including shopping

If you are interested, please complete the Expression of Interest form at [corangamite.vic.gov.au/employment](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/employment)



OZACT presents

## A feast of Shakespeare

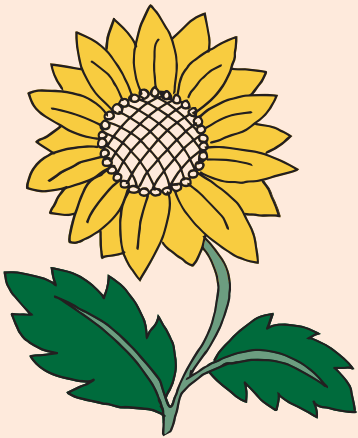
Camperdown Botanic Gardens

Saturday 23 January, 4 pm

Sunday 24 January, 4 pm

Tickets: \$40 general admission

Bookings essential via [ozact.com](https://ozact.com)



## SunBurst Corangamite

With more than 4000 packets of sunflower seeds distributed to residents across the shire as part of SunBurst Corangamite, residents are now being called on to take the next step and plant them in their front yards. Set to bloom throughout the New Year, the sunflowers will create a bright start for 2021 for residents and entice visitors to Corangamite to take a drive and discover everything it has to offer while they are here.

## Emotional support

**Red Cross**  
1800 232 969

**Mental Health Services**  
1800 808 284

**South West Healthcare**  
5593 6000

**Colac Area Health**  
5232 5100

**Headspace**  
1300 276 749

**beyondblue**  
1300 224 636

**Lifeline**  
13 11 14

**Kid's Helpline**  
1800 551 800

**MensLine**  
1300 789 978

## Aussie Hay Bale Trail



Adding to the New Year excitement will be the Aussie Hay Bale Trail, which is set to be held across the Shire in January. With an 'Australiana' theme and a \$500 spending voucher up for grabs, farmers are sure to come up with some great creations made of hay rolls and bales. Entrants will be included on a touring map for shire residents and visitors to enjoy a fun day out driving through the countryside to view the colourful creations. To get involved visit [corangamite.vic.gov.au/haybaletrail](http://corangamite.vic.gov.au/haybaletrail)

## COVID-19 Road to Recovery



Wearing masks, staying at home, home-schooling and not being able to visit friends or family were all consequences of COVID-19, but the pandemics affect had a much deeper impact for some residents across Victoria, including those in Corangamite.

According to a VicHealth study on the impacts of the first Lockdown, one in six Victorian's experienced high psychological distress, one in four experienced financial hardship and three in 10 were worried about their job prospects. While the community did a great job keeping case numbers low across the Corangamite Shire, residents would have been similarly impacted.

Our support services are working hard to provide for our community. As restrictions continue to ease, it's time to take stock of how our lives have

changed and work towards creating a new 'normal'.

As acclaimed clinical psychologist and disaster recovery expert Dr Rob Gordon says, the path to recovery lies in talking with others about our experiences throughout this year.

"A lot has changed, and we have gone without many of the usual activities that bring us joy," he said in a recent Corangamite Shire webinar entitled 'The Psychology Behind Community Recovery'.

"It may seem a small change, but the loss of activities that bring us joy has lasting impacts on our health and happiness."

Dr Gordon said keeping people connected is integral for everyone's mental health and happiness. That means heading back to your favourite club, chatting with your neighbours and phoning someone you haven't noticed around for awhile.

Reconnecting also allows people share their experiences of the 2020 pandemic, the lockdowns, missing family and friends and what they are looking forward to most as restrictions ease. These conversations will help put the community on a path to recovery.

# WHAT'S ON : JANUARY - MARCH 2021



JANUARY	WHAT, WHEN & WHERE	MORE INFORMATION
Saturday 2 January	Terang races - Kids' Day Out. From 1 pm-6 pm.	Ph: 0400 557 625
Sunday 3 January	Camperdown Rotary Market. From 9 am-2 pm in Avenue. Port Campbell Market. From 9 am-2 pm.	Ph: 0447 139 639 visit12apostles.com.au
Saturday 16 January	Sungold Camperdown Cup	Ph: 0400 557 625
Saturday 23 January	A feast of Shakespeare. From 4 pm at Camperdown Botanic Gardens.	ozact.com
Sunday 24 January	A feast of Shakespeare. From 4 pm at Camperdown Botanic Gardens. Port Campbell twilight market	ozact.com visit12apostles.com.au
Tuesday 26 January	Australia Day celebrations. From 10 am-1:30 pm. Port Campbell Rec Reserve.	corangamite.vic.gov.au
Wednesday 27 January	Council meeting from 7 pm, Killara Centre, Camperdown.	corangamite.vic.gov.au
FEBRUARY		
Wednesday 3 February	Ed Gym starts. Camperdown Theatre Royal (Wednesdays). Terang Civic Hall (Thursdays).	corangamite.vic.gov.au
Thursday 4 February	Thursday Pictures. From 7 pm. Killara Centre, Camperdown.	corangamitefilmsociety.com
Saturday 6 February	Terang market. From 9 am-1 pm at All Saints Church.	Ph: 0427 922 221
Sunday 7 February	Camperdown Rotary Market. From 9 am-2 pm in Avenue.	Ph: 0447 139 639
Saturday 13 February	Skipton market. From 9 am - 1 pm at Mechanics Hall. Tweleve Apostles Plunge. Port Campbell foreshore.	Ph: 5340 2204 shipwreckcoastswimseries.com.au
Sunday 14 February	Mt Elephant open day. From 1-4 pm.	mountelephant.com.au
Monday 22 February	Farmers Day Out races. Terang Racecourse from 11 am.	Ph: 0400 557 625
Tuesday 23 February	Council meeting from 7 pm, Killara Centre, Camperdown.	corangamite.vic.gov.au
MARCH		
Thursday 4 March	Thursday Pictures. From 7 pm. Killara Centre, Camperdown.	corangamitefilmsociety.com
Saturday 6 March	Terang market. From 9 am-1 pm at All Saints Church. Cobden Vintage Rally and Tractor Pull. SWDRG Rally Ground from 10 am-4 pm.	Ph: 0427 922 221 Ph: 0448 711 476
Sunday 7 March	Camperdown Rotary Market. From 9 am-2 pm in Avenue.	Ph: 0447 139 639
Thursday 5 March	Thursday Pictures. Theatre Royal, Camperdown. Screenings start @ 7:30 pm.	corangamitefilmsociety.com
Saturday 13 March	Skipton market. From 9 am - 1 pm at Mechanics Hall. Kangaroobie Klassic. Adventure race starts at 8 am at Princetown.	Ph: 5340 2204 kangaroobieklassic.com.au
Sunday 14 March	Mt Elephant open day. From 1-4 pm.	mountelephant.com.au
Thursday 18 March	Terang Jumps Day. Terang Racecourse from 11 am.	Ph: 0400 557 625
Tuesday 23 March	Council meeting from 7 pm, Simpson.	corangamite.vic.gov.au
Sunday 28 March	Crayfest. Port Campbell from 10 am-4 pm.	Facebook> Crayfest Port Campbell

Please note that event details may change. Check with event organisers closer to the date.

To add your event to our online events directory, visit [corangamite.vic.gov.au/events](https://corangamite.vic.gov.au/events)