

Summer Bulletin



A message from our Mayor

It is with great joy that I bring you the first edition of our MyStrathbogie Bulletin during my tenure as Mayor. I was thrilled to be elected to the role in November and I am excited for the year ahead.

We have had an incredibly productive and social past few months with COVID-19 restrictions easing and our state beginning to open back up.

Council celebrated some of the important capital works projects that took place during the previous financial year, officially opening the Nagambie Youth Active Hub and the Nagambie Netball Courts Redevelopment.

We are looking forward to officially opening some great projects in Violet Town soon, including their new skatepark.

With the festive season now upon us, it's great to see so many community-ran events taking place after a relatively quiet year on this front.

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We are so proud of how our community has handled this challenging time and are now embracing the opportunity to come together and share in some much-needed socialising and fun.

I wish everyone a fabulous and safe festive season. I hope you all get to enjoy catching up with your loved ones and take the time to relax and reflect over the summer months.

I look forward to seeing where 2022 takes Strathbogie Shire Council and taking the Mayoral role into the New Year.



Share Strathbogie a useful engagement tool

After Council officially launched its online engagement portal Share Strathbogie on April 23, 2021, there has been a total of 20 public projects.

The new tool has enabled community members to have their say on our important projects.

It's a fantastic way for you to contribute ideas, provide feedback and exchange views with others on key decisions and priorities for our community.

And you have been engaging with 1,024 contributions to the site since it began to the end of November this year and 8,295 site views in the same timeframe.

It's updated regularly so we keep encouraging you to visit often and have your say.

Visit Share Strathbogie via **www.share.strathbogie.com.au** where you will be able to view and engage with several Council's current projects.

There are currently six projects open for input on the site.

Rural Outreach

Council recently appointed Brian Hill as our new Rural Outreach Worker, providing a valuable link between rural community members and various support services and agencies. Brian is eager to gain a better understanding of the concerns, issues and challenges facing the Shire's rural community members.

Take part in the short survey to assist new Rural Outreach Worker Brian Hill. The purpose of the survey is to collect information to gain a better understanding of the issues impacting on the health and wellbeing of farmers and rural communities in Strathbogie Shire.

The page also features details on how to reach out to Brian.

1. Nagambie's main street revamp is one of the projects currently open for feedback.
Photo by *Bethanie Photography*
Cover photos by *Bethanie Photography*



Pitch My Project 2022/23

This year we're taking community engagement to develop our 2022/23 Draft Budget a step further.

We're building on the successful Pitch My Project initiative we established last year and asking people to pitch their ideas before we release our draft budget for feedback.

We want our community to be involved in every step of the development of our 2022/23 Budget. This means our budget reflects the projects and initiatives that matter to you.

Last year we received some incredible submissions, and we were proud to be able to deliver funding to more than 10 projects through the initiative.

This year we want to do better!

Projects can be pitched until 5pm on Friday 31 December, 2021

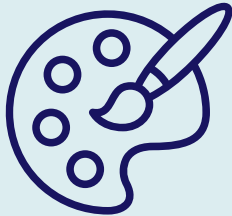
Arts & Culture Connections

Hear from Council's new Arts & Culture Officer Kobe Pallis and connect with her through our online questionnaire.

The page is a place for our local creative and cultural practitioners, advocacy groups and community members who are keen to develop and enjoy arts and culture in our region to have their say and help Council to understand your goals.

Take part in a survey, sign up for the Arts & Culture newsletter and have your say on the discussion board to engage with Kobe and share your ideas.

Through this network, you can make connections and extend your networks, benefit from links to aligning agencies and funding opportunities, discover what's coming up in our Shire in arts and culture, contribute your valued feedback and receive support in promoting arts and culture within our region.



Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Strathbogie, Violet Town draft streetscape plans

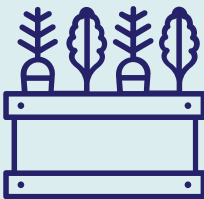
Please note: Draft Streetscape Plans for these towns are expected to be released for community feedback any day (and they probably are by the time this hits your letterbox).

We urge you to watch our social media channels, advertising in local papers and www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au to find out how to have your say.

Draft Nagambie Streetscape Plan

In partnership with Go Nagambie, Council engaged Planit Consulting to develop the masterplan for Nagambie's main street that can be implemented as a staged approach in coming years.

The High Street design has put a focus on key landmarks like the water tower, cenotaph, old mill and the median strip.



Visit the Share Strathbogie page to view the artist impressions of the planned design and complete the survey to provide your thoughts and feedback on the proposal.

Council is eager to get the community's feedback to sure the draft masterplan reflects their ideas and priorities and we haven't missed anything important.



Euroa Gathering and Grow Space

With help of a grant from a successful Pick My Project pitch members of the Euroa Community Action Group are delighted to be planning a community gathering and growing space for Euroa.

Council is supporting ECAG to engage with the community and get their thoughts and ideas via Share Strathbogie.

Share your ideas, take part in a prioritising activity and sign up to be involved on the page.

Your feedback will help contribute to the project which will see ECAG partnering with local organisations including Design Euroa, Friends of the Sevens, the Arboretum and local schools to revitalise a space in Brock St, Euroa, to encourage connection with others and the local environment.

Resale Shops Feasibility Study

Take part in a short survey which will assist Council to complete a feasibility study into the possibility of establishing one or more resale shops at our Transfer Stations.

The study comes after Council received a \$10,000 grant from Sustainability Victoria and we are engaging JustWaste Consulting to put it together.

Have your say by visiting Share Strathbogie as well as upcoming drop-in sessions with Justin Jones from JustWaste Consulting and Council staff on the following days:

- Nagambie Transfer Station, December 16, 8.30am to 12pm
- Euroa Transfer Station, December 17, 8.30am to 12pm

Survey submissions for this project close at 5pm on December 22, 2021.

Scotty Reid: Avenel’s ‘rockstar’ butcher

Scotty Reid is among the local ‘rockstars’ featured in Council’s Rock Your Senses in Strathbogie Shire podcast series. Created in partnership with Storytowns, the series features ‘rockstars’ of their craft who give insight into what makes their town rock as a tourist destination.

For nearly three decades, master butcher Scotty Reid has propped an antique bike outside Avenel Meats to signal when the weatherboard shop is open.

“It’s an old butcher’s delivery bike,” Scotty said of the 1930s Malvern Star, which is an iconic sight in the historic Bank St streetscape.

“I bought it from a mate in Trawool about five years after moving to Avenel.”

The shop front is a picture of yesteryear and the business is renowned for good old-fashioned service and quality, locally sourced meat the wholesaler is equally acclaimed by customers across Victoria for its handmade gourmet goods.

Especially famed for its speciality sausages (about eight varieties) and smoked goods, the family business works closely with local eateries which have built Avenel’s reputation as a foodie haven.

- 1. John Reid (middle) socialising with workmates during the ‘50s when working as a butcher on the RMS Queen Mary.
- 2. Scotty Reid with the iconic bike which signals to customers when Avenel Meats is open for business.



Scottish-born Scotty and his late parents John and Jill opened Avenel Meats in 1987. It was the first opportunity to work together for John, an old-school butcher transitioning to semi-retirement, and Scotty, who was at the tail end of his butcher apprenticeship.

“We worked together for about 15 years,” Scotty said of the move to Avenel from Broadmeadows.

Scotty, who now runs Avenel Meats with wife Neisha, cherishes an old black and white photo of John then aged in his 20s, which is displayed inside Avenel Meats.

“That one photo tells a thousand words,” Scotty, 54, said.

“It’s really special, I just love it.”

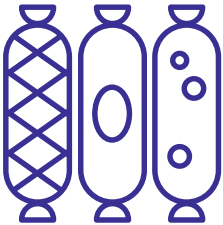
Scotty believes the photo was taken in the 1950s, when John worked as butcher aboard the transatlantic passenger liner RMS Queen Mary.

“I love the look on Dad’s face with a couple of his workmates,” Scotty said.

“They partied pretty hard, but they went through some tough times as well, just like we are all going through tough times today [due to COVID-19].

“One of Dad’s crazy mates used to get on the bow of the ship like Leonardo DiCaprio [with Kate Winslet in the movie Titanic].

“Dad travelled the world: when we he got back to Scotland he’d be dressed in these suits from America and looking pretty suave to all the girls; he was talk of town.”



John and Jill Reid left Scotland for South Africa in the early ‘70s with their two sons, Scotty the youngest. John opened a grocery store and Scotty started school before the family migrated to Melbourne when Scotty was six years old.

The family settled in Broadmeadows, and at 15-years of age Scotty started his butcher’s apprenticeship in Coburg.

Somewhere along the way, his dad’s part-time band, Deep Sea Rhythm Boys, scored a guest appearance on The Graham Kennedy Show.



“Dad played the piano accordion. It was a really exciting time,” Scotty said.

Fast forward to 2021: some of Scotty’s six children have at various stages worked at Avenel Meats, alongside apprentice and qualified butchers and other local teenagers seeking their first part-time jobs.

Avenel Rocks Foodie Haven



Avenel Meats is as intrinsic to the Avenel community as its famed sausages, smoked goods and other lines of local products ranging from honey, chutneys, sourdough, cider and wines.

“It’s like the saying ‘The butcher the baker, the candlestick maker – but we don’t sell candles!’ Scotty said.

Across the road, Bank St Wood Fired Pizza and Garden use Scotty’s pork and fennel sausage in the aptly name gourmet pizza – The Scotty.

Scotty loves the country pace of life and close-knit community in Avenel – and he enjoys sharing the area’s must-visit destinations with newcomers and tourists.

“I feel lucky to live and work here,” he said.

Visit www.strathbogiestory.com or download the Storytowns app to hear from our Shire’s podcast rockstars.

Exciting plans for Euroa’s Rockies Footbridge

Works on the new Rockies Footbridge are getting underway in mid-December after Strathbogie Shire Council awarded the tender at its November meeting.

The tender was awarded to Struktis Steel for a total amount of \$509,680.00 plus GST.

Strathbogie Shire Council Mayor, Cr Laura Binks, said the construction of the footbridge was a long-awaited project for the Euroa community and broader Strathbogie Shire residents.

“We know our community has been calling for a new bridge at the Rockies for a long time, so we’re excited to see it happening,” Cr Binks said.

“During our Share Strathbogie session at the Euroa Farmer’s Market we heard loud and clear to get on with the job, with the community giving the plans a huge thumbs up.”

The suspension type bridge will provide pedestrian access across the Seven Creeks at ‘The Rockies’. The bridge will be 2m wide and accessible.

“Our Shire is known for its incredible walking tracks and the Apex Walking Track in Euroa is no exception,” she said.

“The track is well utilised by our community and visitors, so this is a fantastic way to showcase our beautiful environment along the Seven Creeks while also ensuring pedestrian safety.”



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1. An artist impression of what the new footbridge will look like.

2. The current footbridge at the Rockies in Euroa will be replaced.

Works are expected to start at the end of 2021 with an anticipated completion date of April 2022. As part of the works the current footbridge will be removed.

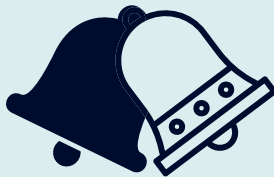
“I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our passionate community who has been advocating for this project for many years,” Cr Binks said.

“This community passion and drive has ensured a truly special bridge will be built that will not just benefit our community, but visitors to our area.”

The project was made possible thanks to \$560,000 in Federal Government funding from the from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Council received a total of \$1,234,110 funding from the department, which was also allocated to road sealing around Kirwans Bridge and aquatic upgrades in the Shire.

Capital Works Project Highlights 2021/22	Funding
Nagambie Splash Park	\$1,000,000
Longwood Netball Courts	\$420,000
Digital Projector and screen for Avenel Memorial Hall	\$13,000
Southern Aurora Gardens	\$30,000
Strathbogie Recreation Reserve pavilion	\$250,000



Holiday season operating times

Holiday Office Hours

Council offices in Euroa and Nagambie will close at noon on Friday December 24, 2021 reopening at 8.45am on Tuesday January 4, 2022. If you have an emergency during this time, we will be here to help! Please phone 1800 065 993 and follow the prompts.

Visitor Information Centres

The Euroa centre will be open from 10am to 2pm daily with the exception of Christmas Day.

The Nagambie centre will be open from 10am to 4pm daily with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

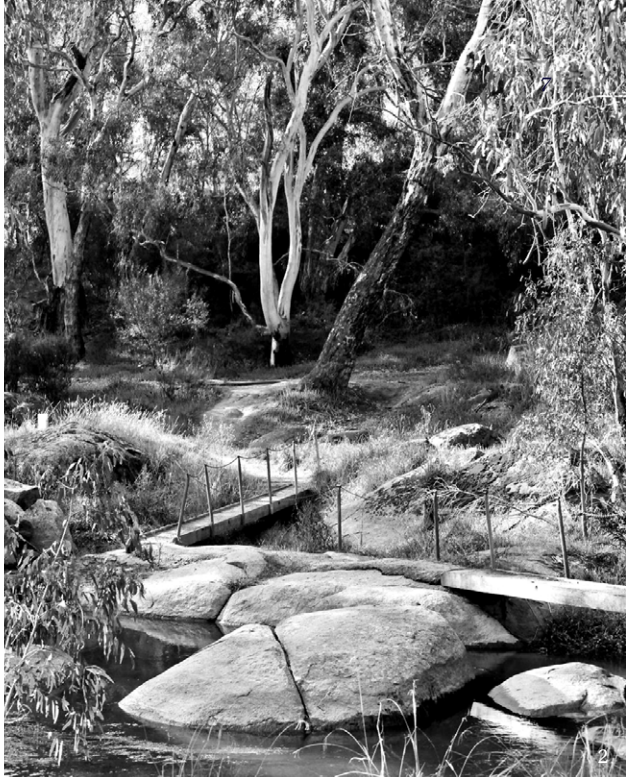
Kerbside Collections

Kerbside collections continue as normal.

Transfer Stations

Our transfer stations will close on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

Please take note that Graytown Transfer Station will be open from 8am to noon on the Monday December 27 and Monday December 3 as a result of the public holiday closures falling on Saturdays.



Please remember our transfer stations are also closed on days of Total Fire Ban, Extreme and Code Red Fire Danger Ratings.

Libraries

Euroa Library will be close at 2pm on 24 December and Violet Town and Nagambie Libraries close at 12.30pm that day, as per usual.

Goulburn Valley Libraries will be closed for public holidays and will be operating their normal hours on other days.

The Mobile Library will follow its regular schedule on from December 29-31 and normal hours resume on January 4.

Maternal Child Health

The Strathbogie Shire Maternal & Child Health Program will be closed from 3pm Friday, December 24 and will reopen for normal operating hours on Monday, January 3, 2021.

If you require assistance during this time, please call the Maternal & Child Health line on 13 22 29 for 24-hour advice and support, or alternatively contact your local GP or birth hospital.

In brief



Sign up for our eNews

Keep up-to-date on Council's latest news and information with our eNews. Visit our website to sign up.

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Splash into summer

The Shire's pools are ready for you to take a dip this summer.

Pool operating hours:

1 December 2021 – 17 December 2021:

Weekdays: 12pm – 6pm

Weekends: 12pm – 7pm

18 December 2021 – 30 January 2022:

Daily: 12pm – 8pm

31 January 2022 – 14 March 2022:

Weekdays: 12pm – 8pm

Weekends: 12pm – 7pm

Morning swims (Avenel, Euroa and Violet Town pools only):

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 7am – 9am

Closed: On Christmas Day, if less than 22 degrees and in extreme weather events

Open longer on extreme heat days if more than 30 degrees at 6pm

Summer Splash Series

Strathbogie Shire Council is excited to present this event for our young people during the pool opening season. Featuring healthy food, music and games, the events will be held on Saturdays from 4.30-7.30pm on the following:

Euroa: 17 December 2021 (4 – 7pm) and 5 February 2022

Avenel: 8 January 2022 and 19 February 2022

Violet Town: 15 January 2022 and 12 March 2022

Nagambie: 29 January 2022 and 5 March 2022



Upcoming events

December 10 – The Meltdown live gig and dinner, Northern Republic, Kirkland Ave, Euroa | 6pm (dinner and show)

December 10 – Twilight Christmas Shopping, Binney St, Euroa | 4.30–8.30pm

December 10 – Eddie Perfect Live in Avenel, Avenel Memorial Hall, 15 Queen St, Avenel | 6pm (dinner and show)

December 11 – Eddie Perfect Live in Avenel, Avenel Memorial Hall, 15 Queen St, Avenel | 2pm

December 11 – The Old Married Couple LIVE in Ruffy – Everybody Loves Ya single tour, Ruffy Produce Store, Nolans Rd, Ruffy | 1-4pm

December 11 – Violet Town Market, Tulip St, Violet Town | 8.30am-1pm

December 11 – Avenel Twilight Market, Jubilee Cres, Avenel | 4.15-9.15pm

December 11 – Kelvin View Christmas Party, Kelvin View Public Hall and Recreation Reserve, Kelvin View

December 12 – Euroa Miniature Railway, Turnbull St, Euroa | 11.20-2.30pm

December 18 – North East Skatepark Series, Euroa Skate Park, Kirkland Ave, Euroa | 11am to 4pm

December 18 – Euroa Village Farmers Market, Kirkland Ave, Euroa | 9am

December 19 – Rotary Family Picnic Day by the Creek, Seven Creeks Park, Kirkland Ave, Euroa | 1-6pm

