



## CELEBRATING NATIONAL CHILDREN'S WEEK

More than 300 local children, parents and carers enjoyed memorable family events throughout Golden Plains Shire.

> Find out more on page 9 >

4 | The Twilight Market returns this Christmas

6 | International Day of People with Disability

6 & 11 | Stay safe this festive season

## **Bannockburn Customer Service Centre**

2 Pope Street, Bannockburn, Victoria, 3331.

## **Linton Customer Service Centre**

68 Sussex Street, Linton Victoria, 3360.

## **Phone**

P: 5220 7111

F: 5220 7100

## **Postal address**

Golden Plains Shire Council  
PO Box 111, Bannockburn,  
Victoria 3331.

## **Emergency contacts**

P: 1300 363 036

P: 5220 7111 (24 Hours)

## **Bannockburn Cultural Centre**

27 High Street, Bannockburn  
P: 5220 7260

## **The Well, Smythesdale Business, Health & Community Hub**

19 Heales Street,  
Smythesdale  
P: 5321 1500

## **Northern Community Centre**

Sago Hill Road, Haddon  
P: 5342 7000

## **Bannockburn Family Services Centre**

2a Pope Street,  
Bannockburn  
P: 5220 7230



## **FROM THE MAYOR**

It was my great honour to be elected Mayor of Golden Plains Shire for the 2018-19 term by my Councillor colleagues at the special meeting in Bannockburn on 7 November. I look forward to this new challenge and working with the new Deputy Mayor Cr Joanne Gilbert and the Councillor team to determine our future direction and decisions.

As a Council, we are preparing for an exciting 2019. We will be working hard to: lobby State Government for a review of the rating system; create better equality with household rates; lobby for improved public transport and health care options across the Shire; push for new job creation opportunities and economic development; stay on top of growth; manage community expectations and meet service standards.

More than 3,000 visitors enjoyed the Golden Plains Twilight Market last year and it's sure to be bigger and better in 2018, so remember to mark it on your calendars. For event details, see page 4.

I hope all residents enjoy a memorable holiday season.

**Cr Owen Sharkey – Mayor**



## **FROM THE CEO**

I would like to formally congratulate Cr Owen Sharkey on his recent election to Mayor of Golden Plains Shire, and Cr Joanne Gilbert on hers as Deputy Mayor. We have a passionate and dedicated Councillor group and we look forward to the next year. I would also like to thank Cr Helena Kirby for her dedication and efforts during year of service as Mayor.

The summer holidays are a wonderful time to celebrate with friends and family but it's also important to remember to keep your family, community and property safe. For example, over the Christmas break, keep an eye on your neighbourhood and if you see any suspicious activity, report it to the police. For more hints and tips on staying safe this summer, see pages 6 and 11.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holidays and as an organisation, we look forward to a busy and prosperous 2019 for the Golden Plains Shire.

**Eric Braslis – Chief Executive Officer**

## WHAT'S ON IN GOLDEN PLAINS?

## DECEMBER

 <p><b>1<sup>ST</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Golden Plains Farmers' Market</b> 8.30am – 12.30pm. Cnr High &amp; Milton Streets, Bannockburn. Farm fresh produce, free parking, free entry and kids' activities.</p> <p>More info: <a href="http://goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au">goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>9<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Bannockburn Christmas Carols</b> 5.30pm. St Mary Mackillop Primary School Oval.</p> <p>All welcome at a free festive evening of carols and celebration. BYO chair/picnic mat. Community BBQ before the carols.</p> <p>More info: Steve Abram 0400 958 130.</p>
 <p><b>15<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Smythesdale Country Market</b> 9am – 1pm. Historic Precinct, Smythesdale. A country market located in the historic precinct of Smythesdale with a variety of goods and craft stalls.</p> <p>More info: Di Moylan 0419 394 784.</p>	 <p><b>16<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Inverleigh Produce &amp; Lifestyle Market</b> 9am – 1pm. Lawsons Park, Inverleigh. A monthly event bringing together local producers, artists and professionals, providing the local and wider communities with the very best in produce our thriving region has to offer.</p> <p>More info: <a href="mailto:inverleighmarket@outlook.com">inverleighmarket@outlook.com</a></p>
 <p><b>19<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Teesdale Twilight Market &amp; Carols</b> 4pm – 8.30pm. Turtle Bend, Teesdale.</p> <p>The perfect opportunity to pick up those last minute Christmas gifts whilst enjoying the carols by the Mik Maks &amp; other entertainers.</p> <p>More info: 0407 835 731/<a href="mailto:gswild@bigpond.com">gswild@bigpond.com</a></p>	 <p><b>20<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Golden Plains Twilight Market</b> 4pm – 9pm. Corner High and Milton Streets, Bannockburn.</p> <p>A one-stop shop for all your Christmas needs – fresh fruit and veg, flowers, free range meats, vegan treats and bespoke gifts direct from the farmers, makers, artists and gourmet providers of our region.</p> <p>Live music and entertainment.</p> <p>More info: <a href="http://goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au/twilight-market">goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au/twilight-market</a></p>
 <p><b>31 DEC - 1 JAN</b></p>	<p><b>Bluestone Blues Fest</b> 6pm New Years' Eve – 5pm New Years' Day. Murgheboluc Public Reserve.</p> <p>A two day festival featuring an impressive line-up of classic and original blues musicians.</p> <p>More info: <a href="http://sleepyhollowbluesclub.org.au">sleepyhollowbluesclub.org.au</a></p>		

## JANUARY

 <p><b>WEEKLY EVENT – EVERY SAT</b></p>	<p><b>Bannockburn Park Run</b> 8am – 9am. Bannockburn Bush.</p> <p>Free event, all welcome! 5km route.</p> <p>More info: Owen Sharkey 0417 365 607 <a href="mailto:owensharkey@gmail.com">owensharkey@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p><b>4<sup>TH</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>2019 FedUni Road National Championships</b> Various roads in Ballarat and Golden Plains Shire. Australia's best cyclists battle for the coveted green and gold national champions jerseys in the criterium, road race and time trial competitions.</p> <p>More info: <a href="http://roadnationals.org.au">roadnationals.org.au</a></p>
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## FEBRUARY

 <p><b>2<sup>RD</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Golden Plains Farmers' Market</b> 8.30am – 12.30pm. Cnr High &amp; Milton Streets, Bannockburn. Farm fresh produce, free parking, free entry and kids' activities.</p> <p>More info: <a href="http://goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au">goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>24<sup>TH</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Shelford Duck Race</b> 11am – 5pm. Shelford Recreation Reserve. Family Fun! Free community event with live music and entertainment, craft and market stalls, demonstrations, show'n'shine, and the great Duck Race.</p> <p>More info: Rebecca Jenkinson 0417 519 116/ <a href="mailto:shelfordduckrace@gmail.com">shelfordduckrace@gmail.com</a></p>
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## COME TO OUR TWILIGHT MARKET

**We are delighted to announce that following the success of the Twilight Market in 2017, it will be running again this year!**

Join us on Thursday 20 December at the usual Farmers' Market site in Bannockburn from 4pm-9pm for the Golden Plains Twilight Market 2018.

Generously sponsored by Powershop and Bendigo Bank, the Twilight Market will feature farm-fresh produce, handcrafted gifts and artwork, live music, craft beer and a wine and cocktail bar. There will also be food vans and lots of fun for the whole family! The Voice star Johnny Rollins will entertain the crowd while friends and families enjoy an evening of Christmas shopping, fine food and entertainment, all whilst supporting local growers, makers and artists.



## BLUESTONE BLUES FESTIVAL

**Sleepy Hollow Blues Club is very pleased to present the 23rd Bluestone Blues Festival held over New Year's Eve and New Year's Day at Murgheboluc Reserve.**

A great line-up of performers will be appearing with the highlight being the sensational Blue Heat featuring Marco Goldsmith. We also welcome Dollar 20 Blues Band, Simon Kinny-Lewis Band, Catfish Voodoo and Louis King and the Liars Klub who will bring in the New Year with a bang.

Recovery Day will include Geelong's own Wayne Jury 4, followed by Rhythm X Revival, The P.J. O'Brien Band, and the six-piece McNaMarr Project. What a great way to begin the year! Free camping for ticket holders, a range of hot and cold food, and beer, wine and soft drink to cater for all tastes. For more information, visit [sleepyhollowbluesclub.org.au](http://sleepyhollowbluesclub.org.au) or call 0490 392 676.



## SCHEDULE 13 PERMITS TO BURN

**In October 2018, Council agreed to cease issuing Schedule 13 Permits to Burn.**

A Permit to Burn allows land owners or their representatives to conduct stubble burning for agricultural purposes during the Fire Danger Period. Traditionally, Council has issued these permits.

However, Council has recently joined a State-wide trend of local government organisations transitioning away from issuing Permits to Burn. Interim arrangements are now in place for the 2018-19 Fire Danger Period, with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) agreeing to issue Permits to Burn for residents. Find out more on Council's website (search 'Schedule 13 Permits to Burn FAQ').



## MEET THE STAFF

**Meet Mark, Council's Senior Youth Development Officer.**

The Youth Development team provides a range of events, programs and workshops for young people (12 to 25 years of age) who live in Golden Plains Shire. Mark De Campo, who started with us in 2016, says he loves working with young people and supporting them to become the best versions of themselves.

"I'm constantly inspired by the young people we reach through our programs who are making positive contributions to their communities," he said. "My role is about creating opportunities for young people to learn and grow." To find out more about local opportunities for young people, follow @goldenplainsyoungpeople on Facebook.



## LIGHTING UP THE BANNOCKBURN BOWLS CLUB

**Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney recently announced a \$250,000 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund grant to partner with Council to deliver the Bannockburn & District Bowls Club Greens Upgrade.**

Developed with guidance from Sport and Recreation Victoria and Bowls Australia, the project will include a brand new bowling green as well as the upgrade of the sub-surface and carpet on the existing green, the installation of high-quality lighting on the existing green, landscaping, paths, new seating and shelters. This partnership project will be delivered with \$274,400 from Golden Plains Shire Council, \$250,000 from Sport and Recreation Victoria, and \$90,000 from the Bannockburn & District Bowls Club.

It is expected the project will be completed by August 2020.



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

**International Day of People with a Disability is a United Nations sanctioned day celebrated around the world on 3 December.**

It aims to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and celebrate their achievements and contributions. Get involved and come along to following fun and free events for people of all abilities: NDIS Latrobe Community Health team: 11am-2pm, Monday 3 December at the Bannockburn Country Plaza; and the All Abilities Sports Come and Try Day: 4pm-5pm, Tuesday 4 December at the Bannockburn Recreation Centre (YMCA), 132 Milton Street, Bannockburn.

## MY HOME, AUSTRALIA ART EXHIBITION

**To celebrate Australia Day, we are looking for artists to respond to the theme “My Home, Australia,” with more than \$1300 worth of prizes to be won.**

We are looking for creative responses to how it feels to be an Aussie; from our rugged landscape, country and urban; to the quick witted characters that inhabit our land; and the unique animals and fauna. The competition closes at 5pm, Thursday 13 December 2018. Find out more: [facebook.com/pg/GPSCreatives/events/](https://facebook.com/pg/GPSCreatives/events/)

For more information or an application form, email Samantha Thompson, Arts and Culture Officer at [samantha.thompson@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:samantha.thompson@gplains.vic.gov.au), or call 5220 7111.



## FOCUS ON SUMMER SAFETY

**The summer holidays are a wonderful time to celebrate with friends and family. It's also important to remember to keep your family and your property safe.**

Golden Plains Shire is no stranger to fire danger and all residents are responsible for maintaining their property to the fire prevention guidelines. Confirm your home emergency plan, review and restock your emergency kit, and take a few minutes to share your plan with all your holiday visitors.

If you're heading out of town, make sure your home and contents are locked, secure outdoor furniture and play equipment in the event of a storm, arrange for care of your pets, and organise mail collection by a neighbour or Australia Post.



## COUNCIL HOLIDAY SEASON CLOSURES

Golden Plains Shire Council will have altered hours during the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

The Customer Service Centres at Bannockburn, and Linton Smythesdale will close at 1pm, Friday 21 December 2018 and reopen at 8:30am, Wednesday 2 January 2019.

The Smythedale Customer Service Centre will also close at 1pm, Friday 21 December 2018 and reopen at 10am, Wednesday 2 January 2019.

The Bannockburn Family Services Centre, Maternal and Child Health Services, Bannockburn Children's Service and Active Ageing and Disability Services will also close at 1 pm, Friday 21 December 2018 and reopen for normal operational hours from Wednesday 2 January 2019. A number of Community Care workers will deliver essential personal care during the holiday period, and Maternal and Child Health will also deliver essential services on designated dates.

Council's Kindergarten Services will close on Friday 21 December 2018 and reopen on Tuesday 29 January 2019.

Council's departments and Customer Service Centres will be closed on Monday 28 January for the Australia Day public holiday.

### GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

There are changes to Council's waste and recycling collection service over the Christmas period.

Refer to the table below for your revised collection day during the festive season and please remember to place your bins out the night before your collection day.

Normal kerbside collection day	Christmas/New Year kerbside collection day
Monday 24 Dec & Monday 31 Dec	Monday 24 Dec & Mon 31 Dec
Tuesday 25 Dec & Tuesday 1 Jan	Wednesday 26 Dec & Wednesday 2 Jan
Wednesday 26 Dec & Wednesday 2 Jan	Thursday 27 Dec & Thursday 3 Jan
Thursday 27 Dec & Thursday 3 Jan	Friday 28 Dec & Friday 4 Jan
Friday 28 Dec & Friday 4 Jan	Saturday 29 Dec & Saturday 5 Jan

### ROKEWOOD TRANSFER STATION

The Rokewood Transfer Station will open over the Christmas period during the site's normal operating hours from 10am-3pm.



## ‘CONNECTING WITH COUNCIL’ STRATEGY UPDATE

**Community input will feed into the development of the Communications and Marketing Strategy 2019-2021.**

During our six-week engagement program we heard from around 230 people through our engagement activities, including surveys, conversation posts and workshops. Our Community Engagement Report contains the data gathered during the community engagement program, which will inform the development of the Strategy by identifying how our key audiences would like to receive information, what types of information they value most and ways we can improve in the future. See the report and find out more at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations).



## VEC REPRESENTATION REVIEW

**At the start of 2019 the Victorian Electoral Commission will review the electoral representation in Golden Plains Shire ahead of the November 2020 Council elections.**

Currently Golden Plains Shire is unsubsidised (meaning that we have no wards) and our seven Councillors are elected at large. The VEC will be seeking submissions asking if this should continue or if wards should be reintroduced; and if so, look at how many wards and how many Councillors per ward. Council encourages residents to consider making a submission early next year. We will share more information closer to the time on our website and social media platforms. To see information about previous representation reviews, visit [vec.vic.gov.au/Reviews/goldenplainsrr.html](http://vec.vic.gov.au/Reviews/goldenplainsrr.html).



## WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGY UPDATE

**Council would like to thank the 1,200 residents who submitted their responses to the Waste Management Survey.**

Data from the survey and other sources will be gathered and analysed over the coming months to inform the development of a Draft Consultation Paper. The Draft Consultation Paper will include a summary of the data gathered, a vision, targets and service options for consideration by the community.

The community will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Consultation Paper online, in hard copy and at a number of Conversation Posts around the municipality which will be held in April and May 2019. Find out more about the development of the Waste And Resource Recovery Strategy at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations).



## A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE FUN!

Golden Plains families were treated to a great morning of fun in Rokewood, Bannockburn and Smythesdale in celebration of National Children's Week 2018.

More than 300 people attended the three events with blue skies and sunshine setting the scene for fun, learning and laughter. Local Men's Sheds provided BBQ fare for hungry tummies while the Cruzin Coffee Van offered a caffeine hit for parents to keep up with their young ones.

Children sported freshly painted smiling faces while exploring the play spaces and free entertainment on offer, which included Mini Muso Academy performances, Mind Body yoga classes, Grubby Gumboots Mobile Farm, Megajumps jumping castle and Addictive Art plaster painting.

The Emergency Services Hub proved the biggest hit of all, with children and their families relishing the opportunity to meet their local heroes at each event. Ambulance Victoria, Victoria Police, SES and the CFA crews were out in force, giving eager youngsters a rare, up close look inside their trucks and vehicles.

Children's Week proved a perfect opportunity to bring together families from across Golden Plains Shire with the wider community, local businesses and Council representatives.

National Children's Week is always a much-loved celebration in the Golden Plains Shire events calendar, but this year was the first time a multi-event format has been adopted.

Council wanted to find a way to celebrate local children and families and came up with these local, free and fun events spread around the Shire to ensure as many people as possible could come.

"It was a perfect way to spend the morning with my young boys, they loved it!" said local resident Christine at the Bannockburn event.

To stay in touch with activities and opportunities for Golden Plains Shire, follow @GoldenPlainsEarlyYears on Facebook.



## KEEP YOUR MONEY LOCAL THIS HOLIDAYS

**With Christmas and the holidays just around the corner, there's still lots to be done – but why not spend local and help your community?**

You might be in the middle of your Christmas shopping, or have friends and family coming to stay and are looking for a great place to take them. Whatever you need, there's a good chance you can get it locally and help support local businesses and families.

Check out the new Localised digital platform, featuring more than 155 businesses. If you're a local business, it's free and easy to register. To find out more, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/localised](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/localised).



## BENDIGO BANK: PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

**The Bendigo Bank, one of our Twilight Market sponsors, has been an integral part of the Bannockburn community for the last 15 years.**

Shaun Ridgeway has been the Manager at the Bannockburn branch for four years and wouldn't have it any other way. He says: "I love the small community vibe and through our great grants program we get to support some really awesome local initiatives like the new Men's Shed and the Golden Plains Twilight Market."

'Bannockburn and District Connected Communities' is an initiative of the Bendigo Bank and its contribution to the Golden Plains community has totaled more than \$400,000 so far! They have supported many local groups including sporting clubs, art groups, schools and kindergartens; and many more not-for-profit organisations such as the Shelford Hall, Maude Fire Brigade and the Golden Plains Rural Women's Network.

If you would like to contribute to your local community while you do your banking, drop into the Bendigo Bank Bannockburn branch to have a chat with Shaun and his friendly team.



## RECYCLING SUPPORTING OUR ROADS

**Did you know that Council uses a product in its road sealing treatments that consists of crumbed rubber from recycled vehicle tyres?**

Primal Surfacing service our Shire's road network with quality work that also provides environmental friendly practices. In the past financial year, Primal Surfacing alone used approximately 1,800,000 kg of recycle crumbed rubber – equivalent to an estimated 300,000 recycled car tyres or 60,000 truck tyres!

In addition to the abovementioned recycling benefit, crumbed rubber seals provide the many key quality performance benefits including reduced temperature susceptibility and prevention of reflective cracking.



## SWIM SAFE THIS SUMMER

**With summer on its way, outdoor activities are on the rise and we want to make sure you and your family stay safe.**

This is a reminder to all our residents who own, or are thinking of building, a backyard swimming pool or spa that it is extremely important to check its safety and compliance. Legislation requires domestic pools and spas throughout Victoria, regardless of when they were built, are equipped with safety barriers to prevent unsupervised children from accessing the pool or spa area.

Tragically, most young children who drown do so in a residential swimming pool or spa. Remember: safe barriers save lives.



## \$500,000 FOR TEESDALE-LETHBRIDGE ROAD

**Council has successfully applied for a \$500,000 grant from Regional Roads Victoria for vital safety upgrades under its 'Fixing Country Roads Round 1' program.**

In response to community feedback, a section of Teesdale-Lethbridge Road will be reconstructed and sealed to cater for increased traffic loading. The section of road will extend approximately 740 metres north of the Shelford-Bannockburn Road. Road safety, which is of utmost importance to Council, will be increased for local residents and all road users. The pavement widening and re-sheet works, along with drainage improvements, will also significantly increase the durability of this section of road.

## Alternative formats

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the Gazette in large print, please contact Customer Service on 5220 7111 or 1300 363 036.

The Golden Plains Gazette is published six times per year and is delivered to all households and mail collection centres and is also available on Council's website.

## February 2019 deadline

Please note, the deadline for the February edition is 9am, Thursday 10 January 2019.

Send your copy with "Gazette News" in the subject line to: [news@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:news@gplains.vic.gov.au)  
Fax: 5220 7100 or post PO Box 111, Bannockburn 3331.

## Rokewood Resource Recovery Facility

Hours of operation:  
Sunday, 10am to 3pm.

The Golden Plains Gazette is produced on stock which is FSC Certified; 100% recycled post consumer waste, Process Chlorine Free environment, 100% FSC certified fibre and ISO 14001 EMS accredited.

## TEESDALE'S TWILIGHT MARKET & CAROLS



**Wednesday 19 December 2018, 4pm to 8:30pm. Turtle Bend, Shelford-Bannockburn Rd, Teesdale.**

With up to 40 stalls, this popular twilight market represents the perfect opportunity to pick up those last minute Christmas gifts. Plenty of food vendors ensure you won't go hungry whilst enjoying carols by the Mik Maks and other entertainers.

## COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP NOMINATIONS



**Nominations are now open for the Golden Plains Wind Farm Community Reference Group, which will have up to eight community members.**

The Group will be an advisory body for the Golden Plains Wind Farm in the allocation of the Community Benefit Fund and help ensure the community benefits from the development. Complete a nomination form and read the terms of reference at [w-wind.com.au/golden-plains-wind-farm/project-specifications](http://w-wind.com.au/golden-plains-wind-farm/project-specifications).

## RECYCLED WATER OPPORTUNITY

**Barwon Water are seeking expressions of interest from business, industry and the community that are interested in using recycled water from the Bannockburn Water Reclamation Plant.**

This could include use of water off site or on farm land owned by Barwon Water, south of its Bannockburn Water Reclamation Plant. Tenders close at 3pm, Friday 14 December 2018. For more information, visit [tenderlink.com/barwonwater](http://tenderlink.com/barwonwater) or contact Doug Halloran, Coordinator Zero Waste Planning on [dwh@barwonwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:dwh@barwonwater.vic.gov.au).



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