



CELEBRATING OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

We're shining a light on some of our wonderful residents who give their time to help their communities.

[Find out more on page 7 >](#)

5 | Three things you can do to help your business

9 | Focus on the 2018-19 draft Council Budget

11 | Get involved in the Environment Strategy

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

The Well, Smythesdale Customer Service Centre

10am-2pm Tuesday-Friday
19 Heales Street,
Smythesdale
P: 5321 1500

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

Northern Community Centre

Sago Hill Road, Haddon
P: 5342 7000

Bannockburn Family Services Centre

2a Pope Street,
Bannockburn
P: 5220 7230



FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the June edition of the Gazette. We have well and truly entered winter now and I hope you are all enjoying the change in season (and keeping warm!).

It has been a busy time for us. Council's draft 2018-19 Budget was endorsed by Council for public exhibition at the April Council meeting in Linton, and was placed on public exhibition until 28 May. We received many submissions and these will be considered by Council in our decision making. Find out more about what the draft Budget included on page 9.

In this edition we are also celebrating our amazing volunteers following our annual National Volunteer Week events. You can read about some of your fellow residents who give up their time for their communities on page 7. You can also find out about what's happening around women's participation in sport in Golden Plains on page 6.

Cr Helena Kirby – Mayor



FROM THE CEO

Part of Council's responsibility is representing the interests and needs of our residents, which includes lobbying for the government to provide funding for important projects, services and infrastructure for Golden Plains. Recently we have had some great success for residents regarding the Hamilton Highway – find out more on page 4.

In this edition we highlight some great opportunities for Golden Plain businesses, or even those looking to get into business here. On page 5 you can find out about one-on-one small business mentoring clinics, a tax workshop and our next Business Networking lunch, on Wednesday 8 August.

We also have some important information for families about Kinder registrations for 2019 – if your child is turning 3 or 4 before 30 April 2019, kinder is something you should start thinking about! Find out more on page 8.

And finally, the 2018-19 garbage collection calendar comes into effect from 1 July, so make sure you go online to download your new calendar (or call Council if you'd like one sent) – find out more on page 10.

Eric Braslis – Chief Executive Officer

WHAT'S ON IN GOLDEN PLAINS?

JUNE

4TH**Responsible Service of Alcohol Course**

6.00pm. Bannockburn Cultural Centre.

Golden Plains Shire Council is offering a free RSA Course for community clubs and groups.

More info: Caroline Jordan 5220 7216.

9TH**Inverleigh Food Swap**

9.30am – 10.00am. 15a High St Inverleigh.

Held the second Saturday of the month, no money is required. This community event is all about a 'friendly swap of produce, knowledge and conversation'.

More Info: kloespiller@hotmail.com16TH**Smythesdale Country Market**

9.00am – 1.00pm.

35A Brooke St, Smythesdale.

A country market located in the historic precinct of Smythesdale with a variety of goods and craft stalls available.

More info: Di Moylan 0419 394 784.

18TH**Food Handling Safety Course**

10.00am. Meredith Community Centre.

Free for community groups, this course has been designed for people involved in food preparation and provides basic hygiene principles for all food handlers.

More info: Caroline Jordan 5220 7216.

21ST**Small Business Clinic Inverleigh**

10.30am – 2.45pm. Inverleigh Public Hall.

FREE one-on-one small business mentoring clinics to support local business.

More info: Mick Cosgriff 5220 7111.

23RD & 24TH**Smythesdale & District Pony Club Horse Trials**

8.00am – 5.00pm.

Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre.

Horse Trials and Combined Training competition attracting hundreds of riders from across the state.

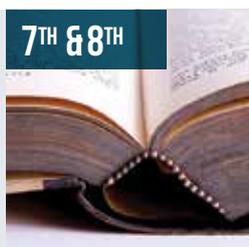
More info: Janet Jackson 0429 402 047.

JULY

7TH**Golden Plains Farmers' Market**

8.30am-12.30pm. Cnr High & Milton Streets, Bannockburn. Farm fresh produce, free parking, free entry and kids' activities.

More info:

goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au7TH & 8TH**Inverleigh Book Bazaar**

8.30am – 3.00pm. Inverleigh Public Hall.

A book sale featuring all types of books donated by the community. See back page for more information.

More info: amtarbett@bigpond.com14TH**Inverleigh Food Swap**

9.30am – 10.00am. 15a High St Inverleigh.

Held the second Saturday of the month, no money is required. This community event is all about a 'friendly swap of produce, knowledge and conversation'.

More Info: kloespiller@hotmail.com18TH**Small Business Clinic Smythesdale**

10.30am – 2.45pm.

The Well, 19 Heales St, Smythesdale.

FREE one-on-one small business mentoring clinics to support local business.

More info: Mick Cosgriff 5220 7111.

21ST**Smythesdale Country Market**

9.00am – 1.00pm.

35A Brooke St, Smythesdale.

A country market located in the historic precinct of Smythesdale with a variety of goods and craft stalls available.

More info: Di Moylan 0419 394 784.

28TH**Bannockburn Food Swap**

9.30am – 10.00am.

Bannockburn Station Café Car Park.

No money changes hands, just a friendly swap of produce, knowledge and conversation.

More info: 0425 735 581.



DOMESTIC FIREWOOD COLLECTION

There are restrictions that govern firewood collection; Council does not permit roadside firewood collection, however there are other options for residents.

Golden Plains Shire Council does not permit roadside firewood collection as dead and fallen timber provides habitat for small mammals and reptiles that use roadsides as habitat corridors to move from one forested area to another. If you observe someone removing timber from a roadside, take a photo or write down their number plate details and contact Council on 5220 7111.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) designate areas on public land for domestic firewood collection. For more information visit www.delwp.vic.gov.au or contact DELWP on 136 186.



SOLAR INSTALLATION DISCOUNTS

If you are interested in power security, reduced power bills and reduced carbon footprint, you are encouraged to register with the ShineHub Community Solar Program.

The program offers great discounts in solar installation, and already a number of residents have attended community information events in Golden Plains to learn more and register.

You can still participate in the Community Solar Program! Just book in a time to speak with one of the friendly solar experts over the phone and you can get access to exclusive bulk-order solar and battery deals – visit shinehub.com.au/Geelong to find out more.



HAMILTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS FLAGGED

The Victorian Budget was passed down in May and includes budgeted works to the Hamilton Highway.

According to the budget, there will be major works to vital connections, such as the Hamilton Highway, which will be upgraded between Geelong and Cressy to improve safety and traffic flow.

Council is delighted with this budget announcement, and looks forward to seeing the upgrade rolled out in due course. More information can be found on the State Government's website.

You can find out more about the Victorian Budget at budget.vic.gov.au/budget-201819.



WORKSHOPS: TAX ESSENTIALS AND RECORD KEEPING FOR BUSINESS

The ATO, in conjunction with Council, is offering a **FREE two-part workshop series to help small businesses.**

The workshops will cover opportunities and obligations in relation to taxation, business structures, and easy and effective book-keeping. You can find details on our events calendar at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events

Smythesdale: Thursday 19 July, 1pm to 3pm and Thursday 26 July 1pm to 4pm. The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

Bannockburn: Tuesday 4 September, 1pm to 3pm and Thursday 6 September, 10.30am to 2.45pm. Bannockburn Cultural Centre, 27 High Street, Bannockburn.



BUSINESS NETWORKING LUNCH

Join us, network with business leaders and young entrepreneurs from across Golden Plains Shire while enjoying lunch at the spectacular Clyde Park Vineyard & Bistro.

Hear from inspirational speakers as they tell the stories of their journey in business, make contact with other Golden Plains business people, and enjoy everything Clyde Park has to offer!

Wednesday 8 August, 12pm to 2.30pm. Clyde Park Vineyard & Bistro, 2490 Midland Highway, Bannockburn

For further information call 5220 7201 or email business@gplains.vic.gov.au

To book, go to goldenplainsnetworkinglunch.eventbrite.com.au



ONE-ON-ONE SMALL BUSINESS MENTORING CLINICS

These clinics provide general business advice and can assist you in the initial steps you need to take to overcome an issue or information gap.

You can take the opportunity to find out about business planning, marketing, finance and more.

Inverleigh: Thursday 21 June, 10.30am to 2.45pm, Inverleigh Public Hall.

Smythesdale: Wednesday 18 July, 10.30am to 2.45pm, The Well.

Meredith: Thursday 6 September, 10.30am to 2.45pm, Meredith Community Centre.

To find out more or to book, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events.



SUPPORTING WOMEN IN SPORT IN GOLDEN PLAINS

Council is committed to providing increased opportunities for women and girls to get active.

Council is invested in increasing opportunities for women and girls to lead healthier and more active lives, advancing gender equality in sport and improving the overall health and wellbeing of Golden Plains Shire residents.

According to VicHealth, females remain under-represented in sport – in participation, media coverage and leadership positions. A VicHealth ‘Female participation in sport & physical activity’ report outlines that two-thirds of adult Australian females were classified as being sedentary or having low levels of exercise. It also reports that participation in sport and active recreation by Victorian females declines as females get older.

The last few years have seen Council’s Recreation team develop women-only surveys to gauge barriers to participation in sport; conduct audits of Council recreation facilities to help determine their female-friendliness; set up a working group to develop strategies to increase female participation and physical activity levels; extensively promote recent funding announcements and grant opportunities that can benefit females in sport – the list goes on.

Over the next year, our Recreation team will work tirelessly to ensure that the women and girls of Golden Plains have more opportunities to get active, and that females are celebrated and encouraged to embrace physical activity and get their sweat on.



PET REGISTRATION AUDITS HAVE COMMENCED

Council is currently undertaking a Shire-wide Pet Registration Audit to encourage responsible pet ownership.

The Audit involves Council’s Community Protection Officers visiting properties in the Shire to make sure domestic pets are registered and microchipped.

This follows an increase in local dog attacks, dogs at large and nuisance complaints in Golden Plains – registration helps Council identify problem animals and follow up with their owners, minimising the chances of repeat issues.

Residents can find out more by searching ‘Pet Registration Audits’ on the Council website.



Lions 100th Centenary Dinner with nonogerman Lion, Ern Hutchinson, Lion President, Ann Marie Lander and Charter Lion, Harold Moyle.

GIVE A LITTLE, GET A LOT!

We proudly celebrated National Volunteer Week in May, and now we would like to acknowledge some of Golden Plains' amazing volunteers and star community groups.

Meredith Rural Fire Brigade

Since 1911, the volunteer firefighters of Meredith have attended thousands of fires, and assisted in local fire protection as well as township and regional emergencies. We are grateful for the efforts of every volunteer involved in the Meredith Rural Fire Brigade over the last 100+ years.

Bannockburn and District Lions Club

In their 29 years of community service, the Bannockburn and District Lions Club has donated food hampers, wheel chairs and walkers for disabled children, and even a support dog. Their invaluable work goes well beyond these examples and Golden Plains wouldn't be the same without them.

Diane Ritchie

Diane is a dedicated Meredith volunteer. She instigated the Country Festival (school fundraiser) in 1986, which ran for many years. She was also the driving force in getting netball up and running in Meredith, and was the first and only woman elected to the former Bannockburn Shire Council. Diane has been President of Advance Meredith since 1997 and much of the beautification of the town is due to her vision and energy.

Golden Plains Youth Committee

The Golden Plains Youth Committee meet weekly to plan events for other local young people. In a short period of time, the Committee has delivered the Youth Empowerment Roadshow, supported the Teesdale Twilight Market and Carols event and established the Golden Plains Youth Movie Nights, with more great events to come!

These volunteers are shining examples of people who selflessly contribute to their community. If you think you could give a little, we are sure you would get so much out of it – because volunteering really does feel great.



You can contact Caroline Jordan, Volunteer Coordinator on 5220 7111 to find out about volunteering in Golden Plains, and read more volunteer stories by searching 'Star Volunteers' on Council's website.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2019

**Is your child turning 3 or 4 before April 30 2019?
If so, they may be eligible to attend 3 or 4 year old
Kindergarten in 2019.**

Kindergarten registrations are now open for Golden Plains Shire Council managed Kindergarten programs for both 3 and 4 year olds. Kindergarten is offered at these locations in our Shire:

- Bannockburn Children's Service (offering long day care & Kindergarten)
- Inverleigh Kindergarten
- Meredith Kindergarten
- Rokewood Kindergarten
- Teesdale Kindergarten.

How to register

Is your family currently attending a service listed above?

NO: To register your expression of interest you will need to create an account through My Family Lounge; search for 'Kindergarten And Child Care Enrolments' on our website and fill out the online form. Once registered, families will need to select a booking request for the service they are interested in attending.

YES: Families with children already placed at one or more of the services listed above should not select the Register option in My Family Lounge. Instead a new booking request can be made using your existing log on. If you have not received your registration email or were not able to activate your account within the 7 day registration period you will need to contact our admin team.

To find out more, please contact the Bannockburn Family Services Centre on 5220 7230 or email earlyyears@gplains.vic.gov.au if you have any questions or require assistance.



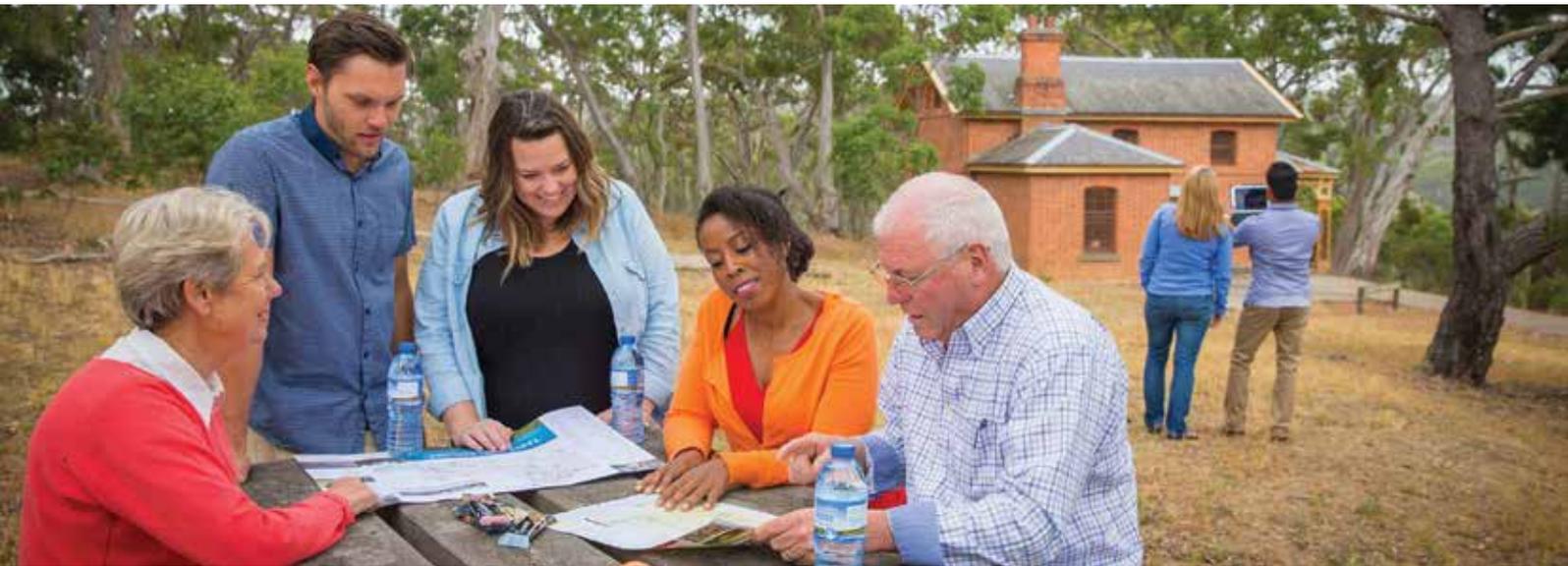
COUNCIL CONVERSATION POST

Join the conversation about what is happening in your community at the Council Conversation Post at the Inverleigh vs. Bannockburn game on Saturday 23 June, 2-5pm, at Inverleigh Reserve.

Come along to speak directly with Councillors and senior Council staff about the issues that are important to you.

This is part of a new calendar of pop-up 'Conversations with Council' which are being held across the Shire in 2018. For more information, please visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations

To stay informed about engagement opportunities relevant to you, sign up to the Community Engagement Register at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/community-engagement-register



FOCUS ON THE 2018-19 DRAFT BUDGET

The 2018-19 draft Budget and reviewed Council Plan were endorsed for public exhibition at the April Council meeting, held in Linton, and submissions have now closed.

The draft Budget was available for community review from 30 April to 28 May and residents were encouraged to review the documents and to make a submission to if they felt the Budget did not meet the community requirements.

The process

Now that submissions are closed, they will be provided to Council, and will be heard at a special meeting of Council at 6pm on 12 June 2018 at the Bannockburn Shire Hall. Following this, Council will consider any changes to the Budget and Council Plan. The final versions of these documents will be presented for adoption at the 26 June Council meeting.

Highlights of the Budget

The budgeted programs and infrastructure spending includes:

- \$15.1M investment in capital assets including roads, streets, telecommunications and infrastructure
- Increased expenditure of \$750K allocated to the construction and maintenance of road and street infrastructure
- \$5.5M to support and develop our recreation and community spaces and groups
- \$2M to human support services, including children, aged, disability and maternity support
- \$1.9M to managing Council's environmental and land use planning responsibilities

Addressing the national recycling crisis

To ensure recycling can continue to be collected and processed, the draft Budget would see the garbage charge increase to \$330 for the 2018-19 financial year.

The increase is necessary as, due to the global recycling crisis, we will now have to pay our recycler to accept recycling material, where previously we were paid for this material. Find out more on the back page of our Budget Summary document, available on our website.

Proposed child care fee increases

A proposed increase to Bannockburn Children's Service child care fees was included in the draft Budget. Community feedback clearly indicated that this proposal caused considerable distress for our families, and as a result, Councillors met and agreed to reduce the amount of the proposed daily fee; families have been advised of this via email.

Council would like to again thank everyone who provided feedback, and reassure you that Council has only the greatest regard and respect for our local families.



WASTE COLLECTION CALENDARS

Your new waste collection calendars are now available.

2018/19 waste collection calendars, nominating the general waste collection day for your property, are now available on Council's website.

The 2018/19 calendars start from 1 July 2018 and apply until 30 June 2019 and be can found at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/garbage-collection-areas.

If you would like a hard copy sent to you, please contact us on 5220 7111 or email enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au with your request, your name and postal address.



STREETSCAPE MASTERPLAN FOR INVERLEIGH

Council is preparing a concept Streetscape Masterplan for the Inverleigh town centre.

The Masterplan will guide the future development of the Inverleigh Streetscape in a unified manner as funding becomes available to undertake works.

The plan will consider existing trees, landscaping, lighting, footpaths, alfresco areas, traffic movement, car parking and drainage.

The community is encouraged to provide feedback. More information can be found on the Council website.



BANNOCKBURN TRANSPORT STRATEGY

The Bannockburn Transport Strategy (BTS) is a high-level strategic approach to improving the traffic, pedestrian, cycling, public transport and car parking conditions within Bannockburn.

A survey has been provided to every household in Bannockburn to gain local knowledge about areas of concern and to gather suggestions on possible solutions from the community and key stakeholders. Input from this survey will be used to inform the Draft Strategy, along with a range of other information. Over June and July we will conduct a Bannockburn 'street talk' activity and conversation post, and the survey results and feedback will be analysed and shared with the community. The draft Strategy is due to be completed in August; you can see the whole timeline on our website.



ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY 2019-2027

Golden Plains Shire residents are encouraged to contribute to our new Environment Strategy to make sure community aspirations are reflected in Council's vision, plans and actions for the local environment.

The role of the Environment Strategy 2019-2027 is to inform actions across all levels of Council and identify opportunities for the community to link, action, and advocate for environmental initiatives. Community engagement for the Strategy has started and opportunities to contribute include community workshops, pop-up conversation posts across the Shire and an online survey (also available in hardcopy on request). See the Environment Strategy 'Have Your Say' page on the Council website for more information, or contact the Environment team on 5220 7111.

RUSSELLS BRIDGE RESERVE GETS SOME LOVE

The public reserve on the Moorabool River at Russells Bridge (just adjacent to the bridge) has been the focus of fire hazard, weed and rubbish works.

The Reserve had become a place for antisocial behaviour, illegal fires and rubbish dumping. Following confirmation that Council is the land manager, Council has slashed the long grass, installed a new gate and signs, removed the Boxthorn which is stacked ready for burning, sprayed the Carpet Weed and cleaned up bags of rubbish. Revegetation efforts with local native species will commence in early winter. Future care for the site by Council should see this Reserve once again become a beautiful spot on the Moorabool for families to enjoy.



TANKS FOR FIRE FIGHTING WATER

Thanks to funding obtained through the Country Fire Authority Fire Access Road Subsidy Scheme and the Victorian State Government Emergency Water Supply Grants, Council has installed three new firefighting water supply tanks.

During summer, water supplies in rural areas for firefighting can be difficult to obtain as dams, creeks and waterholes dry up. The 58,000 litre steel tanks with CFA fittings located at Barunah Plains, Staffordshire Reef and Wallinduc provide a reliable and readily accessible water supply for local CFA brigades to draw upon during summer for firefighting in their area.

These new tanks complement existing firefighting water supply tanks at Dereel, She Oaks and Steiglitz.

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.

August deadline

Please note, the deadline for the August edition is Thursday 12 July 2018. Send your copy with "Gazette News" in the subject line to: ann.card@gplains.vic.gov.au
Fax: 5220 7100 or post PO Box 111, Bannockburn 3331.

Rokewood Resource Recovery Facility

Hours of operation:
Sunday 10am till 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.



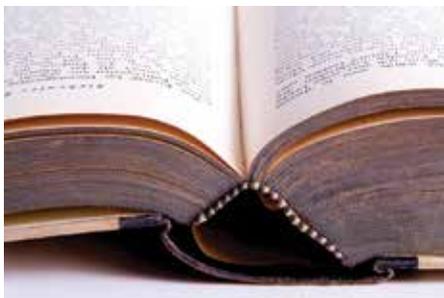
A SILVER MEDAL FOR KAITLYN

Maude resident and Golden Plains Shire's Young Citizen of the Year recipient Kaitlyn Schurmann has won a silver medal at the Para-Cycling World Cup in Belgium!

Kaitlyn has been a key member of our Youth programs for a number of years but we only recently learnt of her athletic talents. Kaitlyn now has her sights on representing Australia at the 2024 Paralympics in Paris.

Council recognised Kaitlyn's selection on the National Team at a recent Council meeting and provided some much needed funding for travel.

COME TO THE INVERLEIGH BOOK BAZAAR!



**Inverleigh Public Hall,
71 High Street Inverleigh**

Saturday 7 July, 8.30am – 3pm

Sunday 8 July, 9.30am – 3pm

Book donations welcome.

For more information call 0417 512 240 or email amtarbett@bigpond.com.

BANNOCKBURN NATURAL GAS UPDATE



The construction of the Bannockburn natural gas network has been completed with the final part of the network receiving gas at the end of May.

Eligible residents who are seeking a connection to this new network are encouraged to contact their gas retailer. Further enquiries can be directed to AusNet Services on 1300 360 795 or gasnetworkconnections@ausnetservices.com.au.



FIND US EVERYWHERE!



GoldenPlainsShire



@GPCouncilNews
@VisitGoldenPlains



goldenplains.vic.gov.au



Smart Phone
App