



Welcome to the April edition of Shire News

Shire News is going monthly!

There are so many exciting things going on in the shire that we've decided to go monthly. We'll be bringing you the latest in news, events and opportunities more often.

In this issue you'll find changes to dog and cat laws, new footpaths, upcoming events, and more.



First round of 2022 Community Grants awarded

We're pleased to announce that 18 community groups will share in almost \$50,000 in grants to deliver community projects and initiatives throughout the shire.

This round of funding will support the creation of a welcome kit for new residents of Campbells Creek, provide support for community members of Maldon who are living with dementia, upgrade the accessibility of the Mount Alexander Vintage Engine Club and provide new equipment to improve safety for the Castlemaine Cycling Club.

"We're proud to support such a diverse array of projects through our Community Grants program," said Sarah Gradie, Social Equity and Inclusion Officer at Mount Alexander Shire Council.

"It's exciting to see so many applications from organisations that focus on inclusivity and community engagement."

To read the full list of recipients and to find out more visit the [Grants](#) page of our website.

The next round of Community Grants opens on 18 July 2022.



New footpaths are a-foot

In December, we asked for your [feedback](#) to help us design new footpaths in Castlemaine, Chewton and Campbells Creek. The new footpaths will provide access to community centres from major roads and train stations.

In good news, we've completed construction of the first new shared path, located on Campbells Creek Fryers Road (Campbells Creek Recreation Reserve to Eleanor Drive, Campbells Creek).

Keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#) for more footpath updates!



Changes to cat and dog laws

At the February Council meeting, Councillors voted to implement changes to local cat and dog laws, including a cat curfew and new dogs on-lead rules.

We understand that pet owners will need time to adjust, and would like to assure you that we won't actively be enforcing the changes immediately.

[Learn more](#) about the changes and view our [cat curfew FAQs](#) and [dogs on-lead FAQs](#).

Also, a reminder that animal registration renewal is coming up. The deadline has been extended to Monday 9 May 2022 and your renewal form will reflect this new date.



View local art in the Phee Broadway Theatre foyer

The Phee Broadway Theatre's Foyer Exhibition Program will kick off this April with a selection of local artists taking over the space.

The first artist to exhibit their work is Nadyne de Vel, a Castlemaine local who creates beautiful, dark and allusive drawings.

Stop by the theatre foyer from 11 April until the end of the year to see some incredible artwork ... and maybe even purchase something unique!

[Find out more](#) about the program and upcoming exhibitions.



Maldon's Old Bank Corner comes alive with local music

We're excited to be partnering with the Maldon Folk Festival to present a series of free gigs on Sundays from 12.00pm to 2.00pm at Maldon's Old Bank Corner.

Maldon's Old Bank Corner was transformed into a public park last year as part of Making Space – a Council project to revitalise outdoor spaces in the midst of COVID-19 restrictions.

The next gig is Sadie Mustoe, a folk-indie-pop musician and modern day storyteller. She'll be playing on Sunday 10 April.

Discover upcoming gigs at [Get Lost](#).



Let's talk community buildings

Do you use a community building in the shire? There's all sorts of activities going on in them, from arts and crafts, music, sports, education and more.

Phyllis and Daniel (pictured) are at the Harcourt Leisure Centre, enjoying a cuppa and chat as part of [Castlemaine Health's](#) Adult Day Services Program. ☕

Right now, we're reviewing our community buildings and want to make them better.



Pride Across the Ages podcast

Pride Across the Ages is a podcast series that shares generational stories of pride from LGBTIQ+ people who call central Victoria home. It is a collection of incredibly moving, funny and raw stories from our community.

Join the Mount Alexander Shire Council's LGBTIQ+ steering group at the Castlemaine Library for the podcast launch and a listening party on Thursday 5 May, from 5.30pm.

If you visit a community building in the shire, make sure to have your say via our [online survey](#), and tell us what you love about your local space and anything you'd like to see improved.



We're planning something great in Newstead

The beautiful town of Newstead is in the midst of an upgrade with new footpaths, trees, bike racks and more.

We're also planning something special for the corner of the Newstead Friendly Grocer/bakery – an interpretive feature.

We recently asked for your input to help us highlight the 'story' of Newstead. Feedback has now closed, but if you'd like to stay up-to-date on the project as it develops, visit [Shape Mount Alexander](#).

These initiatives are part of the [Small Town Streetscapes program](#) which takes in the townships of Newstead, Taradale, Guildford, Campbells Creek, Chewton and Elphinstone.

[Read more](#) about the podcast and [register](#) for the listening party.

Listen to Pride Across the Ages on [Spotify](#) or [Amazon Music](#).

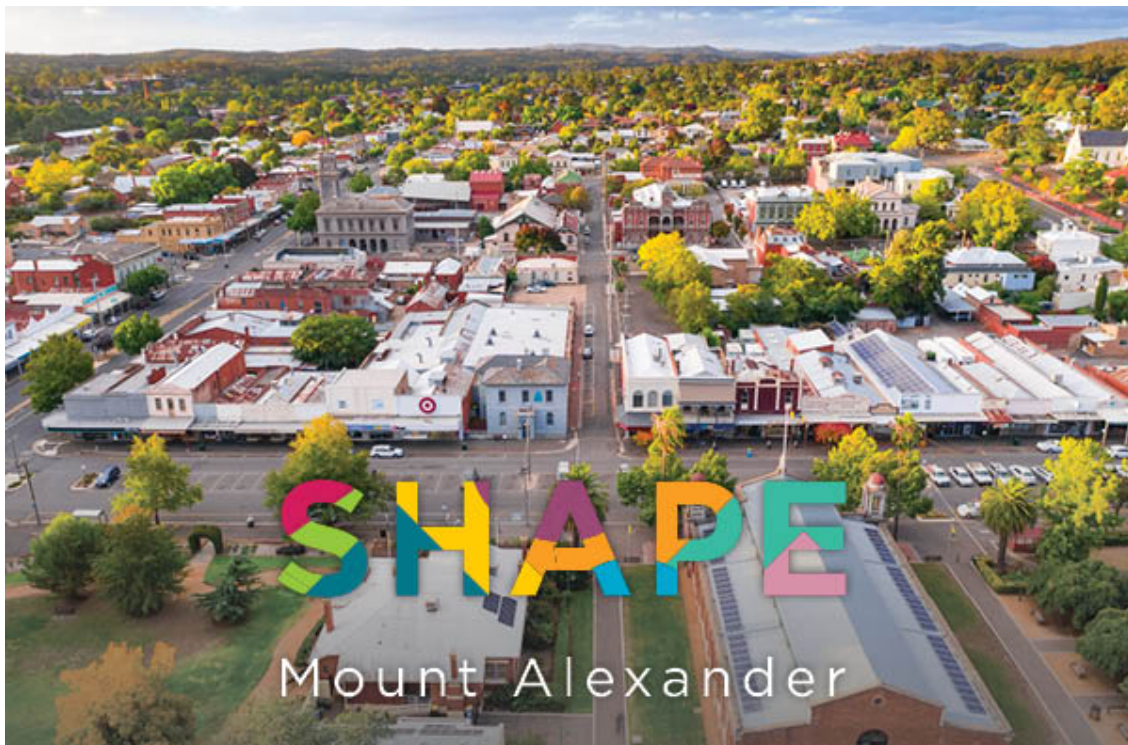


Proposed budget 2022/2023

Each year we prepare a budget and give the community the opportunity to review the proposed budget and make a submission. Key dates:

- 6.30pm, Tuesday 19 April: Ordinary Meeting of Council to consider proposed budget
- 12.00pm, Wednesday 20 April: Proposed budget goes on public exhibition
- 5.00pm, Wednesday 11 May: Closing date for public submissions
- 5.30pm, Wednesday 24 May: Special Meeting of Council to hear budget submissions
- 6.30pm, Tuesday 21 June: Adopt 2022/2023 Budget at an Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Look out for the proposed budget at www.shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.



Have your say with Shape

Do you want to know what's happening in our small towns? How outdoor public space is being utilised, or what's coming up in the next budget?

Sign up to our online engagement platform, [Shape](#), to have your say on projects and initiatives happening in the shire.

The latest project to get involved in is the [Mostyn Street zebra crossing](#). We're making temporary changes to two parking bays in Castlemaine's CBD to improve safety and accessibility.

Learn more about the project, and others you can have your say on via [Shape](#).



What's On

Our shire is home to so many creative people and we're proud to host gigs, festivals and markets (to name a few!), all run by Mount Alexander Shire locals.

Last month we had a stellar line up at the Village Square for International Women's Day including Hannah Blackburn, Jess Parker and K5, with a live-stream from MainFM.

Check out [what's on](#) this month including events in the shire, art exhibitions and much more.

You can also get the monthly What's On guide send straight to your inbox every month. [Sign up](#) now.

Upcoming Council meeting

Our next Council meeting will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 19 April.

To raise a question at the Council meeting [email](#) the Governance team or write to them at PO Box 185, Castlemaine VIC 3450. Messages must be received by 12.00pm on the day of the meeting.

The meeting will be live-streamed to [Youtube](#).

Follow us



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