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# GARDENS GET TECH TREATMENT



The Southern Grampians Shire is home to one of the most intact examples of 19th century botanic gardens in all Victoria, and, thanks to some 21st century technology, its future can now be assured for many generations to come.

In May 2015, Council adopted a Masterplan for the Hamilton Botanic Gardens, with one of the key recommendations being the need for an improved tree management process.

Prior to this, inspections were being conducted reactively, particularly following incidences of limbs falling from older trees, which was jeopardising the longevity of the heritage trees, and creating a potentially unsafe environment for visitors.

Council engaged the services of tree management experts Arborsafe earlier this year and have now begun using their specialist software to assist with scheduling of works and risk assessments for the Gardens.

All 266 trees in the Gardens have now been tagged and

are under active management in the system. These trees will be assessed on an annual basis, with a qualified arborist detailing the attributes of each tree, including any potential hazards and the risk of injury or damage. The arborist then outlines work to be undertaken over the next 12 months with a budget estimate of the works required. The system allows managers to view data on any tree in the gardens at any time and provides them with clear guidance on works required. It also provides guidance on pest management and disease control and advises on potential construction impacts.

Council Team Leader Works Brett Holmes says the software is a great resource, which has made a huge difference to the

way his parks and gardens team manages the Botanic Gardens.

“Using this system is a really proactive approach to tree management, scheduling of works and budgeting. Not only do we get an accurate condition report of each tree but we are able to build a history of works and costs on individual trees which helps with future planning and cost estimates. It has really changed the way we oversee this asset and we are now looking at the potential use for the software across the shire”.

Works have already been completed to remove a number of hazardous trees identified since Council began using the software.

# Did you know?



## Council data is an open book!

Council now has data available on a range of locally managed assets including sports grounds, camping sites, footpaths, and road management amongst others.

The public release of this data aims to create opportunities for innovative use and reuse of data, and allows the commercial, research and community sectors to add value.

"Even basic information, like whether a particular road is managed by Council or VicRoads, is now easily accessible through this 'open data' site," said Russell Bennett, Council's Manager, Business Systems.

Open Data is an opportunity to enhance transparency and accountability, to drive innovation and economic opportunities and, at the same time, create a more cost effective, efficient and responsive government. Open Data is also an initiative that was identified in the joint Glenelg/Southern Grampians Digital Strategy. In December 2015, Council officially adopted a position that promotes the publication of Open Data that is in line with privacy requirements.

The data is free for anyone wishing to use, view, print, or share the information.

Published Council data and instructions on its use can be accessed from this website: <https://data.gov.au/organization/southern-grampians-shire-council>

# Every child a STAR



## A joint community project aims to promote disability awareness in Southern Grampians Schools through play.

Six Student Teacher Awareness Resources (STAR) boxes are now available for loan from Council, thanks to a partnership project with Hamilton Community House and Hamilton Special Development School, with funding from the South West Community Foundation.

A STAR box is an educational and play based 'disability awareness' resource that aims to promote positive attitudes to people with disability in preschool and primary aged children.

Council's Community Development Officer Lynne Millard said the project was based on the idea that if we can start to positively influence children's knowledge and experience of people with disability, we will start to develop a broader community with inclusive values and principles.

"The boxes contain a range of everyday games and toys, which are modified to allow students to experience them the same way someone with a disability would. So the board games have braille to communicate instructions, and balls have bells inside them. The boxes also contain Auslan resources, hand-signing puppets, and picture books and dolls designed as a conversation starting point about disability" Mrs Millard said.

The project is aimed for use within early childhood and primary school settings in the Southern Grampians Shire. The resources are play based, transportable and interchangeable. They can be used to compliment the educational program as well as support the personal and social development of children.

Educators can contact Lynne Millard on 5573 0218 for more information or to arrange a loan.

# Let's Read



## A new Community Program will be introduced across the Southern Grampians Shire in the coming months to support and encourage all families to read together.

'Let's Read' is one component of the 'Growing Greater Readers' project – an initiative of Southern Grampians 'Beyond the Bell' Local Action Group.

'Let's Read' is a national, evidence-based early literacy initiative that promotes reading with children from birth. The program was developed by the Centre for Community Child Health at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) and the Royal Children's Hospital. The Murdoch Children's Research Institute and The Smith Family have partnered to implement 'Let's Read'

with communities across Australia.

Council has appointed 'Growing Greater Readers' Project Officer, Gina Makris, to coordinate the 'Let's Read' program. Families will receive book packs and resources through the Maternal and Child Health Service at their key milestone visits at 4 months, 12 months, 18 months and 3.5 years. Each pack will include an age-appropriate book to encourage families to read together.

Community practitioners, including Council staff, local agency representatives and volunteer community members, will also come on board to deliver 'Let's Read' in Southern Grampians Shire. Training for these professionals will be conducted in July and will provide all participants with the skills required to support

# Abattoir Given the *Green Light*



## **A \$30 million dollar meat processing facility is proposed in Hamilton, after a planning permit application was approved by Council in April this year.**

The detailed and comprehensive application, submitted to Council by the Steve Myers Planning Group on behalf of Australian Meat Farmers (AMF), said the abattoir plans to process 100,000 cattle annually.

Shire CEO Michael Tudball said the application supports Council's advocacy for development that adds value to the local agri-business sector.

"The Southern Grampians is a strong rural economy built around the agriculture sector and any investment in adding value and jobs only builds on our reputation and achievements".

Located in Hamilton's south west industrial precinct, the proposal is separated from residential zones by the Livestock Exchange, Wannon Water's waste water facility and the Hamilton Landfill and is consistent with Council's zoning and planning scheme provisions. "Council has been planning for this kind of development in the region for many years and this application and investment reflects a long-term strategic approach".

Council's economic modelling estimates that the project will:

- create 130 Full Time Equivalent direct jobs
- generate \$78.14 million in economic output
- generate \$26.12 million dollars in the Southern Grampians Gross Regional Product annually
- impact the population with an additional 519.3 residents.

During construction of the Abattoir, it is estimated that:

- 151.2 new Full Time Equivalent jobs will be created; and that
- an additional \$19.15 million will be generated into the Southern Grampians Shire's Gross Regional Product.

This proposed development, along with the works underway at the Hub, the recent Coles refurbishment, Cheap as Chips and significant projects underway in our education facilities, shows that there are real opportunities for investment and growth here in the Greater Hamilton region.

"These are all positive signs for the future of Greater Hamilton economy and reflects the very important role that Hamilton plays in providing services to the broader region" concluded Mr Tudball.

the delivery of the 'Let's Read' program.

"Sharing books from birth helps children become better readers, and better learners, for life", said Hamilton Library Manager, Sarah Stephens.

"We want to ensure that all families in the Southern Grampians will have access to the 'Let's Read' community program and any other resources that will provide the encouragement and tools families need to share the joy of reading with their children."

For further information please visit 'Beyond the Bell' Local Action Group website, or the 'Let's Read' resource at [www.letsread.com.au/](http://www.letsread.com.au/)

Follow us on Facebook - Growing greater readers.



# Landfill Projects *Update*

The Hamilton landfill serves a population of approximately 16,000 people within the Southern Grampians Shire, accepting around 9,500 tonnes of waste material every year.

Amazingly, the Hamilton Landfill has been in continuous operation since 1979, but is expected to reach full capacity within the next 6 to 12 months.

As a result, the old landfill will be capped and rehabilitated and new cells are being constructed.

The site for the proposed development of the new landfill is located on 17.2 ha of land immediately south of the existing landfill. The site is located adjacent to and west of a wastewater treatment facility operated by Wannon Water.

The proposed development consists of a minimum of 19 landfill cells, covering a landfill area of approximately 15ha and providing a total airspace of 1.2 million cubic metres. Individual cells will have an expected life of around 3- 4 years each.

Work to complete Cell 1 and a new leachate dam commenced last summer and is due to be completed in July/August this year.

Rehabilitation of the old landfill is divided into six stages. Stage 1 and 2 were rehabilitated in 2014/15, with Stage 3 and 4 to be completed in late 2016.

Rehabilitation includes a 'capping' of the site, to prevent any possible leaching of contaminants or gasses. The capping system will comprise of a thick layer of compacted clay liner, followed by a soil sub base, topsoil and grass. The site will be subject to inspections and audits by the EPA until the site is considered fully rehabilitated.



## Quality childcare *at HILAC*

The Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre Occasional Care Centre offers high quality flexible care for children aged from 7 weeks to 7 years of age in a warm, safe, caring and stimulating environment.

The centre is available to all parents/guardians, regardless of whether or not they are using the centre. All staff are fully qualified and experienced. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 12pm, including school holidays.

Contact the Occasional Care Centre Coordinator Susan Pope on 5551 4314 for further information on enrolment, payment and programs.



# A Moment With *The Mayor*

**As we approach the end of our term as Council, it is appropriate to look back on the things that have been accomplished over these past four years.**

We have worked hard to pursue our Vision 'To Be Australia's Most Liveable Provincial Community.' Key strategies, goals and outcomes have been developed linking into this Vision, and we endeavoured throughout our term to implement those strategies into tangible, measureable actions and provide quality outcomes for our community.

Major emphasis has been placed on economic and population growth in our Shire as we strive to better position ourselves and promote awareness of our role and capacity as a major regional centre. The development of a set of Advocacy Priorities in 2014 aimed to solidify and plan for that vision, and this framework is certainly one of the successes for this Council. We are now starting to see the fruits of this planning and advocacy, with the commencement of the Grampians Peak Trail, the building of six mobile phone towers to rectify black spot issues, the redevelopment of the Airport and the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange and the continued funding for the next four years for the National Centre for Farmer Health. Our priority projects aim to continue supporting our agriculture base, improving freight efficiency to support farming and industry and most importantly reinforcing the important service role Hamilton plays to a catchment much greater than the Shire boundaries.

One of the more significant projects completed in this term of Council was the "Brand Hamilton and Southern Grampians Project". This project aimed to develop a unified message and vision for the region to help create jobs, attract investment and tourism, and drive population growth. The re-branding of the region to "Greater Hamilton", presents a strong, consistent voice to build the profile and awareness of the excellent attributes of the Greater Hamilton region. The brand has been well entrenched in the language of the press and the broader community and with signage throughout the townships and promotion of the brand into Metropolitan Melbourne. Hamilton is a very important regional centre providing services across south west Victoria which is one of the most important food bowls in Australia and it is important that our assets such as education and health continue to support the region and are supported by higher levels of Government.

We have delivered quality recreation and leisure facilities for our community

with the All Abilities Playground at Lake Hamilton and the synthetic Hockey Pitch at Pedrina Park officially opened in 2013, the Hamilton Soccer Pitch and lighting project completed in 2014, the Melville Oval lighting project, Hamilton Skate Park redevelopment and Balmoral change-rooms completed in 2015, along with the construction of the Dunkeld Community Centre.

We have maintained Shire roads and footpaths, built bridges and preserved our many assets. We worked hard to improve our sustainability practices by installing Solar Panels on many Council buildings, water harvesting facilities on the new roof at the livestock exchange and replaced all of the street lights in the Shire with LED lights, which will save us thousands in the coming years both in maintenance and energy costs.

The adoption of the Arts and Cultural strategy was another major achievement, reflecting the excellent cultural attributes including gallery and performing arts facilities that are the envy of much larger towns. Already this strategy is bearing fruit with major achievements of Council and the energetic community including: the fantastic efforts of the nationally recognised Woolly West Fest; the development of the Corriedale Lane pocket garden and installation of the Hamilton Farmers, two Dean Bowen sculptures from the extensive Hamilton Gallery collection, the renovation of the Heritage listed Dunkeld Railway Station as an artist-in-residence space and most recently the innovative Ansett Aflight celebration that complemented the Ansett anniversary event which was very capably organised by the Ansett Museum volunteers.

I feel the Shire is well planned for. The C25 Amendment to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme, incorporating the Hamilton Structure Plan and the Economic Development Strategy 2011-2021, was approved in 2013. Whilst some of the work was undertaken in the previous Council term, investors have now been provided with a high degree of certainty and since its adoption there has been significant investment in Hamilton's CBD and new projects are emerging such as the \$30 million abattoir which has received planning approval recently. Structure Plans for Dunkeld and Tarrington have also provided certainty and opened new opportunities for development including the zoning of industrial land in Dunkeld and new lifestyle opportunities in both towns.

Council has also supported our townships develop their own community plans and it is very pleasing to see the self-driven ownership shown by those communities



as they work to implement their plans. The response from these communities as Council works to engage in a constructive and positive manner has been enthusiastic and responsive. Council is determined to build on its engagement strategies to ensure that all members of the community have a voice that is heard.

This four year term, has truly been a team effort between residents, staff and councillors.

My sincere personal thanks go out to you, the community for caring about our shire. No place can be its best without committed and compassionate people coming together and focusing on common goals. You continue to make the Southern Grampians Shire a wonderful place for us all to call home.

We are also fortunate to have committed employees, and every day we see the results of their commitment to delivering excellent services to our residents. We have dealt with a particularly difficult fiscal environment in the last few years with the repayment of the unfunded superannuation liability, the freezing of Federal Government Financial Assistance Grants and now rate capping. This has challenged Council and staff to be more creative and resourceful. Council has avoided applying for a rate capping exemption in 2016/17 because of this work and the community continues to enjoy the delivery of quality services. This is something of which we are particularly proud.

Finally, Southern Grampians Shire is led by a committed team of Councillors who give their time because of their passion for our Shire. I would like to thank my colleagues, in particular my mayoral predecessor Councillor Calvano, for their hard work, dedication and commitment to our shire and our residents.

# Ansett



## John Wolseley

### *Exhibition*

**Hamilton Gallery is delighted to present John Wolseley, Mallee – Maquis – Desert – Rainforest 1990-2016, a major exhibition by one of Australia's most noted and distinctive landscape artists from 15th July – 16th October 2016.**

Bringing together a diverse selection of artworks from public and private collections from around Australia, the exhibition traces the artist's work from the early 1990's to the present day, in association with four geographic bodies: the Mallee, Maquis (the slopes of Mont Sainte-Victoire in Provence, South-eastern France), the Simpson and Tanami deserts and the monsoon rainforests of East Arnhem Land.

Wolseley works with local pigments, pollens and charcoal to allow nature to partially depict itself. Likewise he incorporates found fragments – pieces of bark, lichen, leaves, feathers and insects – into the fabric of his work.

Hamilton Gallery Director, Sarah Schmidt said, "I began developing this idea in the weeks prior to

commencing in Hamilton, eager to forge connections between the Gallery and its remarkable Southern Grampians landscape. I selected John Wolseley because he is an artist represented in our collection who has the right appreciation of this landscape's complex and beautiful terrain, and its significance to Indigenous Australians, bush walkers and pastoralists alike. John's work captures a world of microscopic detail, the unique vegetation and moving qualities of any landscape he addresses. This is an artist that camps in the bush that he paints, for months on end, and who cares deeply about the land, its ecology and future."

John will lead a public field tour to Mt Eccles in association with the Hamilton Gallery exhibition.

The exhibition will be on display at Hamilton Gallery from 15 July – 16 October 2016. Entry to the Gallery and the exhibition is free. This exhibition has been generously supported by Sir Roderick Carnegie in memory of his late wife, Carmen ~ Lady Carnegie, formerly of Dunkeld.

### Two thumbs up for Hamilton's Festival of Live Art

The Ansett Aflight! Project was pitched as a 'festival of live art' - a way of engaging the community and new audiences in an unconventional setting and to say it was a resounding success would be an understatement!

Over 650 people attended the event, including a street parade featuring the majestic singing of soprano Isabel Hertaeg. More than 250 people took one or more "Flights" into the site and over 120 people enjoyed the performances in the Lubritorium as the sun went down, in a celebration of the site of a significant part of our cultural history.

There were 23 local and regional artists and performers who were engaged to work in the many and varied art forms represented throughout the event. Coincidentally there were also 23 businesses that supported Ansett Aflight and were in turn supported by the project. Local café Henriz, for example, supplied the liquor licence for the lubritorium, kept their doors open well into the evening, then generously donated the profit from the bar back to Ansett Aflight.

"We supported Ansett Aflight because family events like this help bring Hamilton to life" said Henriz owner Abe Haddad.

A staggering 250 community volunteers attended workshops, performed in or assisted

# Aflight!



in some way with the project which undoubtedly contributed to its success.

There was also significant activity in the two weeks leading up to the day, with 33 amazing workshops held covering the weird, the mad and wacky such as; paste-ups, buntings, shadow play, a giant paper mache head of Reg Ansett, sculpture, a life size yellow woolly taxi, jam sessions on the Lubritorium stage, set and sign designing, 'feather fantasies', 'flight fantasies' and so much more.

The four key people responsible for making the vision come to life were: Sue McGinnity (Project Manager), lead artists and co-collaborators Trevor Flinn from Dunkeld and Jillian Pearce from 'Made in Natimuk', and Ben Hunter (Production Manager).

Local wool-craft artist Jacinta Wareham coordinated one of the crowd favourites – the yarn-bombing of an old Holden car, transforming it into a woolly yellow taxi which literally drove the festival out to our surrounding towns.

The Ansett Aflight 'Festival of Live Art' captured the imagination and support of the community. It was a unique and original arts event, which broke down social barriers and was enjoyed by all who attended. We were very proud to be able to employ and provide opportunities for local artists and artisans to show off their wondrous talents and also to engage and mentor younger artists & performers.

## Get it right on bin night

Changes are on the way to ensure we recycle right.

Contamination of waste (think nappies in the recycling bin and plastic bags in the organic bin) is one of the biggest challenges faced by the recycling industry.

These items cannot be processed using existing system and are therefore returned to Council for disposal, with additional cost incurred and therefore passed on through the waste levy.

Furthermore, if unwanted material manages to make it through the sorting process, it can ruin the new material being produced.

We need to work hard to keep our recycling and organic material out of

our landfill. Not only is it bad for the environment, it is costly for Council.

New measures are being introduced soon by Council to assist in driving the message home about waste contamination.

Council will undertake audits of kerbside recycling and organic bins in the coming weeks and months to identify contaminated waste. If a bin is found to contain incorrect waste items, then Council will advise the owner of the bin of the contamination.

We all need to work together to get it right on bin night. For more information on what can and can't be recycled or placed in organic waste, please visit our website [www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)

### What goes into your recycling bin?

Now including plastic codes  

Aluminium and steel cans, foil trays

Glass bottles and jars

Milk and juice cartons

Plastic milk, juice, soft drink and detergent bottles with codes

ITEMS MUST BE LOOSE  
NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Plastic ice cream, margarine and takeaway containers with codes



Cardboard boxes

Telephone books, work and school papers

Newspapers and magazines

Letters, envelopes and advertising material

**NO!!**  
THESE ITEMS CANNOT GO INTO YOUR RECYCLING BIN



NO household garbage



NO green waste



NO broken crockery



NO polystyrene



NO motor oil containers, hazardous or chemical waste



NO waxed cardboard or paper with food remains



NO plastic bags

Enquiries:  
03 5573 0444



[www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)

# WHAT'S ON *July-August*

## 3 JULY

### VICTORIAN 100KM CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP

HAMILTON CYCLING CLUB  
Departing from Pedrina Park, cyclists will complete for title of Victorian Road Champion.  
[hamiltoncycling.com.au](http://hamiltoncycling.com.au)

## 10 JULY

### JACK RUSSELL TERRIER & HUNTING DOG SHOW HAMILTON SHOWGROUNDS

10am – 3pm.  
Events for registered Jack Russell Terriers. Fun events for all breeds. Sack race, waggiest tail and more.

## 23 JULY

### WINTER SWIM SERIES HAMILTON INDOOR LEISURE AND AQUATIC CENTRE

From 5pm.  
Popular short course qualifying swim meet held over two nights.

## 31 JULY

### AUSTRALASIAN YOUNG DESIGNER WOOL AWARDS FASHION PARADE HAMILTON EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

5.30pm. The Australasian Young Designer Wool Awards encourage design students to use wool in their designs. Winner receives a Handbury Scholarship for the Istituto Marangoni in Milan.

## 23 JULY - 7 AUGUST

### WOOLLY WEST FEST VARIOUS VENUES

This years Fest is based on the book "Extra Yarn" by Mac Bennett. Join us in our yarn bombed Greater Hamilton and feel the Woolly love. Shire-wide community art project showcasing the vegie-cart and wooden sheep, plus much more.  
03 5582 0200

## 1-2 AUGUST

### SHEEPVENTION HAMILTON SHOWGROUNDS

8am - 5pm. Sheepvention is the Hamilton P & A Society's premier two day field day event. A mix of competitions including inventions, young auctioneers, stud sheep and yard dog trails. 500 trade display sites over 12 hectares. Enjoy a range of entertainment, food, fashion and much more.  
[hamiltonshowgrounds.com.au](http://hamiltonshowgrounds.com.au)

## 6-7 AUGUST

### PEAKS & TRAILS DUNKELD

This is a two day trail run event jam packed with something for all levels of trail enthusiasts. Saturday sees the kids dash and includes a 6km Mt Abrupt challenge and the Royal Mail gourmet trail. Sunday includes a 5km, 11km, 21.5km, 26km trail runs and the 50km Trail Ultra!

## 12-14 AUGUST

### COLERAINE ART & PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW MECHANICS HALL

Friday 6.30pm-8.30pm.  
Saturday and Sunday 10am - 4pm.  
Art and photography exhibition open to all. Gala opening Friday evening with winners announced. General admission over the weekend.

## 13-14 AUGUST

### ST MARYS CHURCH CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

LONSDALE STREET HAMILTON  
Enjoy a weekend celebrating the 150th year of the Hamilton parish. Ceremonial mass, evening dinner, commemorative stone, cemetery tours and historical record displays.

# COUNCILLOR *contacts*



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## COMING TO THE

## HAMILTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

### MILES AND SIMONE PACKed Stage Gig

Miles's chocolaty deep voice sounds so unexpectedly perfect with Simone's clear and sparkling sound; catch these mesmerising singers up close and personal on stage.

**Saturday 2 July, 7.30pm, 7.30pm**

### THE ADVENTURES OF ALVIN SPUTNIK: DEEP SEA EXPLORER

A multi award-winning one man micro-epic puppet show that melds technology and multimedia into a touching story of enduring love and the end of the world.

**Saturday 16 July, 7pm suitable ages 12+**

### AUSSIE AUSSIE AUSSIE! CIRCUS TRICK TEASE

Circus Trick Tease takes elements of traditional circus and incorporates comedy and satire with jaw-dropping displays of strength, poise and flexibility.

**Thursday 21 July, 7.30pm**

### NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

HANGMEN by William Shakespeare  
Following a sell-out run at London's Royal Court Theatre, Olivier and Academy Award@ winner Martin McDonagh (The Pillowman, The Cripple of Inishmaan, In Bruges) returns to the West End with Matthew Dunster's award-winning production of his deeply funny new play Hangmen, broadcast live to cinemas by National Theatre Live. Here is your chance to see a London show with an international star in Hamilton!

**Tuesday 26, 7.30pm & Wednesday 27 July, 1.30pm**

### SIMON & GARFUNKEL 'THE CONCERT'

Shelley & Robertson and their live band recreate the magic, the sound and the stories of those memorable singers.

**Friday 29 July, 7.30pm**



## Southern Grampians SHIRE COUNCIL

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Instagram: [@sthgrampiansshire](https://www.instagram.com/sthgrampiansshire)

