# **GANNAWARRA** NEWS



#### **EASTER SERVICE CLOSURES**

Council services will be closed for Easter between Friday, 10 April and Monday, 13 April 2020.

Transfer stations at Cohuna and Kerang will be open on Sunday, 12 April 2020 from 1pm to 4pm

For after-hours animal/livestock emergencies, call the Local Laws Officer on 0428 500 212.

Household waste collection services will continue as scheduled on these dates.

#### **IMMUNISATION SESSIONS**

COHUNA Maternal & Child Health Centre

Wednesday, 15 April 2020

10.30am - 12noon

KERANG Gannawarra Children's Centre

Wednesday, 15 April 2020

4.00pm - 5.30pm

NOTE: Bookings must be made prior to attending any of Council's immunisation sessions, which can be done by phoning (03) 5450 9333. It is encouraged that only one parent/guardian attend with the child to be vaccinated. Anyone showing any of the symptoms of Coronavirus, or those who are in isolation, should not attend.

For more details, visit www.gsc.vic.gov.au/immunisation

#### **COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Wednesday, 15 April 2020 at 6.30pm in the Kerang Senior Citizens Clubrooms, located at 169 Boundary Street, Kerang. Interested members of the public are welcome to attend. Any changes to these arrangements will be communicated via Council's website and social media accounts.

The agenda will be available two days prior to the meeting at <a href="https://www.gsc.vic.gov.au/meetings">www.gsc.vic.gov.au/meetings</a>



#### **MEALS ON WHEELS CONTINUING**

Council will continue to provide its popular Meals on Wheels program to residents during the current Coronavirus pandemic.

Council staff will deliver fresh and frozen meals to residents on Mondays and Thursdays until further notice.

#### **CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION**

For up to date information regarding Coronavirus and Council's efforts, please visit

www.gsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Residents who are concerned regarding Coronavirus are encouraged to phone the Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398 or visit <a href="www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus">www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus</a>

#### **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

In this difficult and ever changing world, I would strongly encourage those not working to play their role in helping to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

The simple message is to stay home when possible, and only go out when shopping for food or medicine, exercising or travelling to and from work if you cannot work from home. It is important at this time to keep in contact with the vulnerable and older members of our community. This can be as simple as offering to do shopping, phoning them for a chat, writing a note or dropping a surprise at their door.

If you are social isolating, please take care of your physical and mental health. I encourage you to check out the Gannawarra Library Service's online resources, keep up to date online with what's happening locally and keep in touch with family and friends. Importantly, if you need help, please ask. Don't hesitate to call Council's Customer Services, your friends, neighbours or Councillors. We are all here to care for our communities and to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

Kind regards, Mayor Lorraine Learmonth MAYOR
LORRAINE
LEARMONTH



### **BUSINESS SUPPORT AVAILABLE**

Council's dedicated Coronavirus website, <a href="https://www.gsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus">www.gsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus</a> lists resources for businesses and employees impacted by the implementation of measures that aim to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

Council staff are assisting as much as they can, and are in regular contact with local businesses as part of efforts to report the local impact back to the State Government. Measures Council is currently undertaking to support local businesses include:

- Liaising with Regional Development Victoria regarding what support is needed;
- Investigating the hosting of business training programs once the Coronavirus pandemic has subsided;
- Promptly paying local businesses for Council works to improve their cash flow; and
- An increased focus on supporting local business through Council's Procurement Policy by increasing the weighting on supporting local businesses.

Council will be looking at other assistance measures at its April Ordinary Council Meeting.



# PLAYGROUNDS, SKATE PARKS AND EXERCISE EQUIPMENT CLOSED

Playgrounds, exercise equipment and skate parks throughout the Gannawarra are now closed as part of efforts to stop the spread of Coronavirus and save lives The Kerang Exercise Pool, located in Patchell Plaza, is also closed until further notice.



#### **CONTACTING COUNCIL**

Although Council's Customer Service Centres at Cohuna and Kerang are currently closed as part of efforts to stop the spread of Coronavirus, residents can still contact Council.

Residents can communicate with Council in the following ways:

- By phoning the Cohuna Customer Service Centre on (03) 5456 5222 during business hours;
- By phoning the Kerang Customer Service Centre on (03) 5450 9333 during business hours;
- By e-mailing <a href="mailto:council@gannawarra.vic.gov.au">council@gannawarra.vic.gov.au</a> at any time;
- By visiting <u>www.gsc.vic.gov.au</u> and chatting live with a staff member during business hours;
- By lodging a request form at <u>www.gsc.vic.gov.au/request</u> at any time; and
- By writing to PO Box 287, Kerang VIC 3579.

Please be advised that customers may experience some delays when contacting Council at this time.

#### LIBRARY SERVICES ONLINE

Residents wanting to access Gannawarra Library Service's online resources can continue to do so whilst all branches are currently closed due to Coronavirus social distancing measures.

These resources include the Beamafilm catalogue of movies and documentaries; the BorrowBox catalogue of e-books and audiobooks; and Story Box's range of clips featuring some of Australia's favourite celebrities reading various children's books.

For more information, please visit

www.gsc.vic.gov.au/libraries



### **COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES CONTINUING**

Gannawarra Shire Council is continuing to provide its Community Care services to residents. Residents receiving these services are asked to contact Council on (03) 5450 9333 if they are feeling unwell; if anyone in their home is feeling unwell; or if anyone in their home is recommended to self-isolate.



