



Thank you for helping us shape our Comunity Vision!

Read more about this project on page 3.



Mayor's message

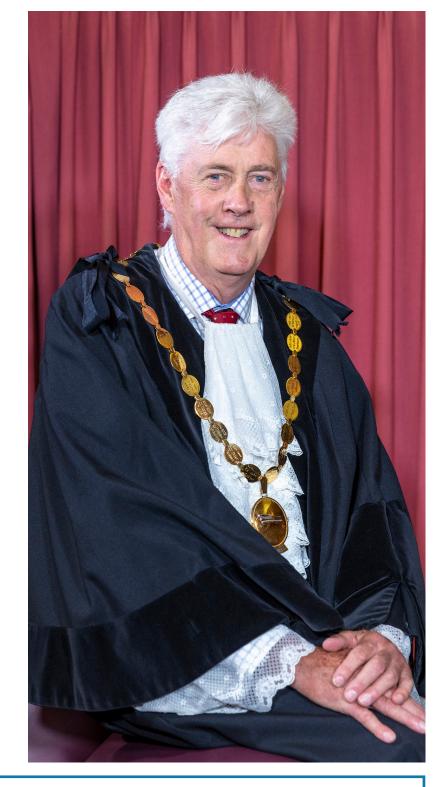
Welcome to the autumn edition of Moorabool Matters. This edition is jam-packed with information and opportunities for people to have their say about various projects and proposals throughout the Shire.

We have had a big focus on consultation lately and have greatly appreciated the community's input on plans such as the Health and Wellbeing Plan, the Arts and Culture Strategy, our Community Vision, and the Bald Hill project, to name just a few. The feedback from our community has been detailed and extremely useful in helping shape our Shire in these areas. I encourage our residents to keep an eye out for further opportunities to have your say on various projects coming up.

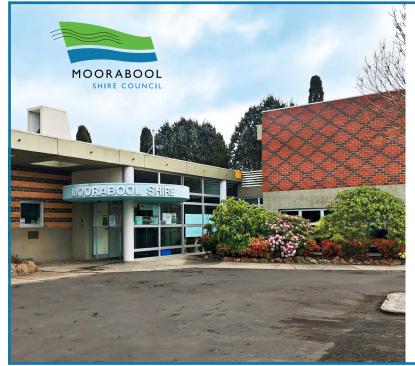
There is also a lot of work going on in the advocacy space as we have many big projects we want to get off the ground, and we can't make them a reality without the support of other levels of government. See inside for details on the Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre and grants we have applied for in the past few months. I was pleased to attend the State Government's announcement of funding for the gas connection in the Parwan Employment Precinct recently. We need to keep an open dialogue with our local MPs and State and Federal Ministers and ensure our projects stack up on a regional level so we can attract the funding required to create great infrastructure outcomes for our communities.

As we continue to navigate our way through the COVID-19 pandemic, we are very pleased with the work that has been done to support our local businesses through the tough year – see more on page 10. It's also very encouraging to see our customer service and social services, such as Maternal and Child Health and Active Ageing, getting back to normal face-to-face assistance. We all hope this continues!

Finally, I'd like to thank my fellow Councillors for voting me to serve as Mayor for this one-year term. I'm about five months in and enjoying the opportunities and challenges that come with leading this growing Shire. I look forward to continuing to represent Council as Mayor and advocating for this great region.



Cr Tom Sullivan, Mayor



COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Principal Office: 15 Stead Street, Ballan
Bacchus Marsh Service Centre: 182 Halletts Way, Darley

- የ Lerderderg Library: 215 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh
- Postal Address: PO Box 18, Ballan VIC 3342
- 2 (03) 5366 7100
- info@moorabool.vic.gov.au
- B www.moorabool.vic.gov.au

Keep in touch with us through our digital channels!



As well as our Website, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, you can subscribe to our e-newsletter at this link

http://eepurl.com/gZL9fz or use the QR code below, to have all the latest Council news delivered straight to your inbox.





Shaping a vision for our Shire

The people of Moorabool Shire are at the heart of everything we do. So, we spoke with you, our community, and asked 'what do you want in an ideal Moorabool Shire in 2030?' The result will be our 10-year Community Vision.

Our Community Vision is important as it helps inform key Council strategies, including the Council Plan and actions for the next 4 years. The draft 2021-31 Community Vision and 2021-25 Council Plan will be available for community feedback in May.

Who did we speak to?

We contacted our community through both a paper and digital survey and community workshops, asking what you wanted 'life' to be like in Moorabool Shire in 10 years. The feedback from more than 450 people will be imperative in helping us shape the Community Vision.

What did you tell us?

What you hope will stay the same in Moorabool Shire in 2030:

- Unique, country town feel
- Strong community connection
- Celebrate the natural environment

How do you find out more?

Head to: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/my-council/about-council/shaping-the-shire or scan the QR code



What you hope will be different in Moorabool Shire in 2030:

More well-planned communities and townships

• Stronger local economy

Increased access to healthy and supportive services



VOTE on the next Moorabool Shire identity

Step into the Central Highlands

As Moorabool Shire plans for the future, it's important our visual identity represents who we are and what we are growing towards. Our current identity is almost 20 years old! We have evolved- so it's time for a new identity that's accessible for digital formats, as well as Vision Australia's requirements.

Council staff have made it their project to research our people, towns and businesses, our nature and wildlife, and our past and future vision. Luckily the research and design work has been undertaken in-house at no additional cost to Council.

It's your Shire, so we want you to have your say on the new designs!

Check out the new design options and vote for your favourite. Head to: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/brand or scan the QR code (closes May 21).

Once we have your feedback, our Councillors will decide on any changes. Our assets will be updated with the new identity over time, when they naturally need replacing due to wear and tear.



Time to get voting! #MyMoorabool



1996 - 2003 (7 years)



2003 – 2021 (18 years)



2021 - future

Moorabool Matters Community Newsletter-Autumn 2021



Moorabuild infrastructure projects update



Rebounding better than ever

Moorabool Shire Council is investing \$42 million in new projects and works for the 2020-21 financial year. Our aim is to have the best infrastructure in place to cater for our growing community. We are thrilled to be able to deliver a range of exciting projects this year, with help from State Government funding. View the detailed 2020-21 Capital Improvement Projects Dashboard at www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/moorabuild

Road projects

Halletts Way / Holts Lane Roundabout has recently been resealed and is looking better than ever!



Work has begun on **Old Melbourne Road, Bungaree** – we'll be doing a full rehabilitation of the existing pavement, new guard rail over the bridge and more; from the intersection of Old Melbourne Rd/Lesters Rd extending about 500m east.



We're doing safety upgrades to **Dunnstown-Yendon Rd/ Yendon Egerton Rd Intersection and Yendon-Lal Lal Rd / Yendon-Egerton Rd Intersection**. The safety improvements include widening, kerb and channel, minor drainage works, pavement rehabilitation and asphalt surfacing.



Recreation reserves

Lidgett Street Reserve, Darley

Stage 2 of works has begun including irrigation, shade sail, concrete footpath and planting.



The Bacchus Marsh 1000+ Steps

The Bald Hill Activation Project will help to transform the precinct into an attractive tourist destination. This project will see the installation of 1000+ steps travelling up Bald Hill along the route of the existing Lerderderg Track. The project is progressing well, with works scheduled to commence later in 2021. Additional funding of \$1.6m was announced in March 2021 as part of the State Government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund – Stimulus Round. This funding is for the construction of an all-accessibility sculpture trail to expand on the Bacchus Marsh 1000+ experience. Follow Moorabuild and Council's Facebook page for updates on the development of the Bald Hill Activation Project.





Moorabool Regional Community Sports Hub

Council is pleased to share that Stage 1 of the Moorabool Regional Community Sports Hub is anticipated to be completed prior to June 2021. The following features are already completed:

- Bulk earthworks
- A new BMX track
- A multipurpose oval/field
- A new equestrian cross-country course
- The establishment of dressage arenas
- A new sports pavilion
- New cricket practice nets
- A new playground

Pre-planning for Stage 2 and 3 is currently in progress with construction subject to funding.





Aqualink

Council is excited to receive announcements from the Federal and State Governments confirming funding for strategic cycle corridor upgrades, including the Aqualink Two Rivers Linear Park. The Aqualink project has been a long-term strategic vision for Moorabool Shire Council and the local community. Aqualink will connect the Lederderg River and Werribee River corridors with a 4.5-kilometre shared path.



Have your say here: www.moorabool.engagementhub.com.au/aqualink

Ballan Recreation Reserve

Upgrades to Ballan Netball and Tennis Courts including the installation of 100Lux LED lights have been completed. Further upgrades to Ballan Recreation Reserve are currently in the planning stage.



Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC)

Located on Taverner Street, the planned Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC) will include:

- 4-court indoor sports stadium
- Indoor aquatic centre
- Regional bowls facility

Council is seeking to partner with the State and Federal Governments to make this game-changing sports and recreation precinct a reality.



West Maddingley Early Years Hub

The proposed development of West Maddingley Early Years and Community Hub will provide integrated, inclusive and collaborative integrated early years services. It will offer access to high quality health, education, care and children and family services. Council is currently advocating for funding to turn these plans into a reality.





Accessible parking permits

Council has transitioned to the new Accessible Parking Permit (APP) scheme along with 79 other Victorian Councils.

The new scheme means that if you require a new permit, or need to renew or replace your existing permit, you will need to apply using the new application process.

In line with the new Accessible Parking Permit Scheme, Council has removed its \$11 application fee, making it even more affordable for residents.

How to apply

- 1. Start your self-assessment online application by visiting www.accessibleparking.vic.gov.au
- 2. You will then receive your application reference number via SMS
- 3. Book an appointment with your GP or Occupational Therapist
- 4. Provide your application reference number to your GP or Occupational Therapist
- 5. Your GP or Occupational Therapist will complete the online medical assessment
- 6. You will receive a SMS advising that your application has been approved

7. You will receive your Accessible Parking Permit in the post or if you have opted to collect your permit from one of our Customer Service Centres – you will be notified via SMS when your permit is ready for collection.

All existing disability permits remain valid until their expiry date and permit holders are not required to do anything until it's time to renew their existing permit.

For more information, contact Council's Community Safety Team on 5366 7100.

Community tree planting day

Council is excited to partner with Grow West to create a biolink with 4,000 trees!

The Grow West Annual Community Planting Day is on World Environment Day (Saturday 5 June 2021) at Kel Shields Flora Reserve, Bacchus Marsh St, Maddingley.

The day will run a bit differently to previous years, with volunteers being split into a morning session (9.30am-12noon) and an afternoon session (1.30pm-4pm). Volunteers can select their preference when registering. For more information and to register for the planting day visit www.growwest.com.au.

Detailed consultation will help inform Health and Wellbeing Plan

Council has completed community consultation on its Municipal Public Health Plan and is putting together a plan for the next four years that will aim to reduce barriers to preventative health measures, and empower individuals and communities to make positive decisions about their health.



During February and March, Council conducted community consultations which included a survey, quick question postcard, stakeholder sessions and workshops.

Community Strengthening General Manager Sally Jones said 2020/21 had been challenging and had impacted on people's health and wellbeing.

"Health issues including family violence, food insecurity, and mental health are emerging more strongly in the data we are seeing in Victoria and locally," Ms Jones said.

"Council has the ability to support a number of actions, but it is through a broader community focus and working with other organisations that we are able to achieve a greater impact.

"We are currently looking at the data, and survey responses, as we progress into the next stage of workshops with our Health and Wellbeing Committee and other stakeholders. We will be identifying health outcomes we can work towards, opportunities to strengthen existing activities and actions, gaps and opportunities, and ways that we can work together with stakeholders and partners to improve health and wellbeing within our community."



Have Your Say: Female Friendly Strategy

Female friendly sporting facilities and opportunities will be the focus of a consultation Council and Sport & Recreation Victoria are about to commence.

The Female Friendly Sport & Recreation Facilities & Participation Strategy will help to provide a future direction to enable, facilitate, encourage and inspire women and girls to get active.

An integral part of the Strategy's development will be hearing from the Moorabool community, particularly women and girls, who are currently participating in local sporting activities or want to but are not currently doing so.

"We are very keen to hear from women and girls to understand the types of activities they are currently participating in, as well as what motivates them to participate and what hinders them," General Manager Community Strengthening Sally Jones said.

A community survey and a series of focus group workshops will commence throughout May and June.

More communication regarding the engagement period will be distributed very shortly. We will also be seeking a number of local ambassadors to help promote the Strategy and engage as many people as possible in the process.

For further information contact Council's Connected Communities Team on **5366 7100**.

Grants recently applied for are:

Building Better Regions Fund

\$7.5 million for the Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre indoor stadium and regional bowls facility.

Growing Suburbs Fund

\$2 million for Regional Bowling Club Facility (for community accessible components of the facility); \$3.5 million for aspects of the West Maddingley Early Years Hub (just announced as SUCCESSFUL).

SRV Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus

\$3.5 million for Stage 2 of Bacchus Marsh Racecourse and Recreation Reserve, including AFL/cricket oval and lighting, 2 netball courts, 2 tennis courts, all-abilities playground and associated works.

SRV World Game

\$500k for Stage 2 soccer pitch delivery and lighting at Bacchus Marsh Racecourse and Recreation Reserve.

SRV Community Sports Infrastructure Loan Scheme

\$10 million for Stage 1 delivery of an indoor stadium for Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre.

SRV Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF)

\$2 million to finalise funding for an indoor stadium for Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre.

\$150k to deliver a combination of hard court netball surface upgrades across the Shire.

\$25k for goal netting at Ballan Recreation Reserve.

"We can't build these projects without support from other levels of government and external funding.

The process is extremely competitive across all local government areas, so we have to be realistic about what we will receive in funding. No matter what the outcome of these grants, we will continue to advocate to other levels of government to fund these important projects," Mr Madden said.



Grant applications to advance sports infrastructure in Shire

Council is eagerly waiting on the results of nine sports and recreation and community grant applications totalling just over \$29 million, made in the past few months.

"We have a huge focus on improving sports and recreation facilities in Moorabool as we strive to cater for our growing population," CEO Derek Madden said.

7



Injection of cash for gas at Parwan

Mayor Cr Tom Sullivan was pleased to join Minister Mary-Anne Thomas and local State MPs to announce the State Government's contribution of \$2.7 million towards the gas conversion in the Parwan Employment Precinct – something Council has been advocating for over many years. We are looking forward to new businesses moving in and local people being employed!

> Parwan Employment Precinct City Gate Gas

Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative helping the community

Council's CASI Local Support Network (LSN) has been meeting fortnightly to discuss projects to address the community's needs during the COVID-19 pandemic and to support people who are at risk of loneliness, isolation and disconnection. Some of the projects that the Local Support Network have partnered on are:

- Building a community pantry at the Darley Neighbourhood House – a collaboration between Bacchus Marsh Rotary, Moorabool's CASI program, Darley Neighbourhood House and Bacchus Up to Pay it Forward.
- The purchase of 10 iPad/tablets that can now be borrowed from Lerderderg Library by people over 50 years of age who do not currently have access to a device and/or the internet.
- The creation of a safe online shopping course, a collaboration between the CASI Community Connector and Darley Neighbourhood House.
- A BacchChat session at Lerderderg Library "Making Meaningful and Starting Conversations Using Creative Tools to Write About the COVID-19 Experience".

The CASI LSN is currently inviting all seniors to a free community morning tea at the Bacchus Marsh Public Hall on 5 May 2021 at 10am.

Please RSVP to Council on 5366 7100 as places are limited. There will be a speaker from Djerriwarrh Health who will present on the pandemic, vaccinations and infection control measures, and then some fun activities and an opportunity for some socialising over a delicious morning tea.

For more information contact the Community Connector at Council on 5366 7100.



Applications for enrolment in 4-year-old sessional kindergarten for 2022 are now open

Kindergarten is an early learning program for children in the year before school entry, designed to engage children in quality learning experiences and provide them with opportunities to further develop their cognitive, creative, social, emotional and physical skills. Council allocates children to four-year-old kindergarten programs on behalf of five kindergarten services located in Moorabool.

Participating kindergartens				
KINDERGARTEN	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEB/EMAIL	
Ballan Kindergarten	88 Simpson St Ballan 3342	03 5368 1228	www.ballankindergarten.com.au ballan.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au	
Darley Kindergarten	Darley Early Years Hub 182 Halletts Way Darley 3340	03 5367 8605	www.ecms.org.au enrolments@ecms.org.au	
Montessori Kindergarten	176 Gisborne Rd Darley 3340	03 5367 7706	www.bacchusmarshmontessori.com.au bacchusmarsh.els@vt.uniting.org	
Wallace & District Kindergarten	739 Bungaree-Wallace Rd Wallace 3352	03 5334 0268	www.ecka.org.au admin@ecka.org.au	
Young St Kindergarten	Cnr Young and Bennett St Bacchus Marsh 3340	03 5367 2443	www.ecms.org.au enrolments@ecms.org.au	
Children must turn four on or before the 30 April in the year they attend kindergarten.				

To lodge your application:

- 1. Contact/arrange a visit with the kindergarten service to decide on the kindergarten that will best meet your child's needs.
- 2. Read the 2022 kindergarten information booklet.
- 3. Apply by completing the online application at www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/formskindergartenapplication-form Remember, applications are assessed and allocated on the Priority of Access.
- 4. Offers for Round One will be made in June, and Round Two offers in August. Following an offer of a place, return the completed acceptance form to Council by the date indicated in the email.
- 5. Kindergartens will contact families in October 2021 to finalise enrolment. This is when you will receive information about fees, group session times, etc.
- 6. Ensure any changes to contact details are forwarded to Council in writing, so that you receive all information in a timely manner.

For more information about enrolling your child in a 4-yearold kindergarten program in Moorabool contact the Child, Youth & Family Team via email earlyyears@moorabool.vic.gov.au or call 5366 7100.





Economic Development update

Spend Local and keep it Moorabool Localised!

Council is excited to launch its new Spend Local campaign, encouraging locals to spend local, and our businesses to support each other.

As part of our Spend Local messaging, we've also relaunched the Moorabool Localised Directory – a contemporary one-stop-shop for discovering local businesses www.moorabool.localised.com.au

Moorabool Localised helps you shift your spend local sentiment into buy local action, helping you discover the wealth of businesses in Moorabool Shire – including those that are home-based.

Calling all Shire businesses. Sign up free:

www.moorabool.localised.com.au/register/

We look forward to seeing your new listing!



Discover funding for your business

Moorabool Grants Hub is a free and quick way for local businesses to discover hundreds of Federal, State, local, private and philanthropic grant funding programs. You might be surprised at what is available for your industry sector. You can also register free to receive tip off emails about grant programs of interest. Available grant programs cover both business and community.

Start here https://www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/business/ funding-opportunities, then click 'Start Exploring the Moorabool GrantsHub' to get searching.

Find places to eat out with Taste the Central Highlands

With our endlessly breathtaking agricultural landscapes, rolling hills and vast waterways, we're celebrating Moorabool's key role within the Central Highlands, and encourage both locals and visitors alike to Taste the Central Highlands. Visit the landing page to discover a wealth of local venues to eat out and watch our new video **www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/orderlocal** Taste the Central Highlands is the extension of the original Hungry? Order Local marketing campaign. The continuation of the campaign in 2021 is possible with thanks to State Government hospitality funding supporting adaptation to outdoor dining.

The campaign will run until at least 30 June 2021.

Other campaigns the economic development team has been running to help businesses and the community through the COVID-19 pandemic are:

- Reigniting tourism through Victoria Tourism Industry Council membership, and early groundwork has been done to develop a Visitor Economy Strategy,
- Communicating the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse digital listings for local tourist organisations to leverage free digital advertising opportunities,
- Launching the pop up parklet trial to support outdoor dining, and,
- A suite of Business webinars covering resilience and business adaptation case studies to better deal with risk, recovery, safety and hygiene, digital innovation, and grant writing.





Warriors of waste

Dumped rubbish is a problem across the Moorabool Shire – costing Council more than \$80,000 annually to clean up. Dumped items are unsightly and can cause environmental harm. The practice of dumping rubbish is illegal.

Eight months ago, Council was lucky enough to secure its first Litter and Graffiti Crew through the Working for Victoria initiative. This Victorian Government program has helped many jobseekers gain employment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gerard and Mohammed, Council's Warriors of Waste, have collected more than 400 piles of dumped rubbish across the Shire since August last year. Items that have been cleaned up include bags of garbage, cardboard, timber, furniture, mattresses, electronic items and tyres. Many items that have been dumped could have been recycled for free at any one of Moorabool's three transfer stations.



Moorabool's Litter and Graffiti Crew have been brainstorming with the Community Safety Team to combat dumped rubbish. They have been mapping and monitoring common dumping grounds and are exploring the idea of installing surveillance cameras to catch people in the act.

Keep an eye on Moorabool's Facebook page as we'll soon be calling for community feedback on our new Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy. The new strategy is currently in development and exploring opportunities for hard waste, organic waste and much, much more.

Please report dumped rubbish and litter by calling 5366 7100.

Recycling refresher

Yellow lidded recycling bins only accept:

- ✓ Hard plastic bottles and containers (numbered 1-5)
- ✓ Aluminium cans and foil (scrunched into a large ball)
- Steel cans (including empty aerosol cans)
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars
- Cardboard (not waxed) and paper

It's important to recycle right – it ensures our recycling service charges remain reasonable and valuable resources are kept in circulation. Remember: if in doubt leave it out!

Transfer stations – Drop off recyclables for free

Kerbside recyclables (paper, cardboard, glass bottles/jars, steel, aluminium and hard plastic packaging) and electronic waste can be dropped off at any of our three Transfer Stations at Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Mount Egerton, for free recycling. Transfer Stations are facilities designed to recover valuable materials and to help us use landfill as a last resort.

Think about how you can save time and effort by sorting your load before you visit. Keep recyclables separate from any other materials you may be dropping off and make sure you've covered your trailer so nothing flies off!







WEST MOORABOOL WARD Cr Tom Sullivan Mayor Phone: 0418 323 221 Email: tsullivan@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD Cr Rod Ward Deputy Mayor Phone: 0417 478 139 Email: rward@moorabool.vic.gov.au



CENTRAL WARD Cr Paul Tatchell Phone: 0407 108 025 Email: ptatchell@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD Cr Moira Berry Phone: 0418 691 529 Email: mberry@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD Cr Tonia Dudzik Phone: 0407 014 489 Email: tdudzik@moorabool.vic.gov.au



EAST MOORABOOL WARD Cr David Edwards Phone: 0435 326 370 Email: dedwards@moorabool.vic.gov.au



WOODLANDS WARD Cr Ally Munari Phone: 0428 116 001 Email: amunari@moorabool.vic.gov.au Refer to Council's website for a full list of 2021 Council meeting dates and times: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au

Ordinary Meetings of Council dates: (commencing at 6.00 pm – venue to be advised)

DATE			
5 May-2021	1 September-2021		
2 June-2021	6 October-2021		
7 July-2021	3 November-2021		
4 August-2021	1 December-2021		

Important emergency contact information

Police/Fire/Ambulance	000
SES	132500
Flood and Storm Info Line	1300 842 737
Victorian Bushfire Information Line	1800 240 667
Bacchus Marsh Hospital	5367 2000
Ballan Hospital	5368 1100
Moorabool Shire Council	5366 7100
Emergency after hours animal control	0400 501 696
Aged and Disability Services	0409 138 201
For all other emergencies	0419 887 065



IMPORTANT NOTES TO READERS

Moorabool Matters is Moorabool Shire Council's official community newsletter, promoting events, activities, projects and issues in our Shire.

This publication is part of Council's ongoing commitment to improve communication and consultation with residents. It is published four times a year and delivered to residents through The Moorabool News newspaper.

Every effort is made to ensure information included in Moorabool Matters is accurate at the time of publishing but may be subject to change. Readers are encouraged to contact Council or organisations listed in the newsletter for specific information.

If you have any questions or comments about Moor abool Matters, please contact the Media and Marketing Officer at Moorabool Shire Council on **5366 7100** or email info@moorabool.vic.gov.au