**Peninsula Wide**

**March 2014 | Issue #109**

**Council Contact: Ph 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000 or visit www.mornpen.vic.gov.au**

**Think Less Waste**

In 2013, a waste review which involved looking inside the rubbish and recycling bins of peninsula residents revealed much room for improvement.

Many residents were placing recyclable items in the rubbish bin and some recyclables were still contained in plastic bags (this prevents them from being sorted at the recycling facility). An abundance of food and other organic material was also found to be heading for landfill via rubbish bins.

With this in mind, the Shire has developed a program to help reduce the amount of useful resources in our waste.

The Think Less Waste program aims to give residents and holiday-makers on the Peninsula information and tools to help them reduce the amount of waste they place in their rubbish bins.

Seawinds Ward Councillor and Chair of the Mornington Peninsula Regional Waste Management Group David Gibb, said the Shire’s Think Less Waste team will be present at local markets and events providing information and advice on how to reduce and sort waste. “This will be coupled with an education campaign running in our local papers during the first half of the year. We’ll be talking about the four key elements of ‘know your waste, reduce your waste’, which include smart shopping, recycling right, making the most of food and leaving less for the rubbish bin”, said Cr Gibb.

Watch out for the Think Less Waste challenge this month - 200 homes will get the chance to take part in a tailored, practical waste-in-the-home challenge complete with incentives.

Head to our Facebook page to connect with other community members and get practical advice, tips

and information on waste reduction, www.facebook.com/thinklesswaste

Residents can also find information on the Mornington Peninsula Shire website: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/
Think\_Less\_Waste

**You can contact the Think Less Waste team via email:** **thinklesswaste@mornpen.vic.gov.au**

**Contacting the Shire**

The Shire’s Customer Service Unit provides extended Customer Service telephone hours from 8.00am until 6.00pm each weekday, excluding public holidays. Calls to 1300 850 600 will be received by a Shire Customer Service Officer who will directly assist you.

Outside of these extended hours, your call to 1300 850 600 will be taken by our after-hours contact service. In an emergency, our key duty officers are available on a standby basis. The Shire’s Customer Service Centres are open from 8.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

Locations

Rosebud: 90 Besgrove St (Mel: 170 A4)

Mornington: 2 Queen St – Cnr Main St (Mel: 104 D10)

Hastings: 21 Marine Parade (Mel: 154 K11)

Somerville: 14 Edward Street (Mel: 107 E12)

1300 850 600 or 5950 1000

custserv@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**The residents’ newspaper**

‘*Peninsula-Wide*’ provides information about Shire services, activities and community events, and we welcome your suggestions.

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Rosebud, Vic 3939
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The information in this publication is of a general nature. The articles contained herein are not intended to provide a complete discussion on each subject and/or issues canvassed.

Mornington Peninsula Shire does not accept liability for any statements or any opinion or for any errors or omissions contained herein.

**FRANKSTON MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS ...**

Frankston Music Society presents the Inaugural Vera Bradford Youth Concerto Competition 2014.

Featuring four young finalists performing alongside the Frankston Symphony Orchestra. Finalists are: Magdalenna Krstevska – Weber Clarinet concerto, James Bakirtzis – Gliere French horn concerto, Allan Tao – Haydn Cello concerto in C major and Kevin Suherman – Chopin Piano concerto no 1.

Sunday 30 March 2.30pm, Peninsula Community Theatre, Wilsons Road, Mornington.

Ticket bookings: 03 9789 3686.

Adults $22, PSSU $20, 14 years and under $10.

Shire Mayor, Cr Antonella Celi will attend and adjudicator Mr Jeffrey Crellin, principle oboe from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

Proudly sponsored by Mornington Peninsula Shire.

**NEW LOOK PENINSULA-WIDE**

This is the first edition of the ‘new look’ newspaper format for Peninsula-Wide. We hope you find the new layout easier to read.

The Shire received great feedback on the ‘new look’ Summer magazine which was distributed last December.

The magazine will be produced annually in December each year. Peninsula-Wide will continue to be published five times a year in newspaper format, approximately every 6-8 weeks.

We value your feedback and we can be reached on: penwideeditorial@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**Council & Committee Meetings**

Council and committee meetings are generally conducted on a Monday evening and rotated around the Shire.

11 March (Tuesday)

Council’s Rosebud Office, Besgrove Street, Rosebud

7.00 pm Council

17 March

Council’s Mornington Office, Queen Street, Mornington

5.00pm Special Purposes Committee

7.30pm Development Assessments Committee

24 March

Somerville Mechanics Hall, 66 Station Street, Somerville

7.00pm Community Council Meeting\*

31 March

No scheduled meetings (5th week)

7 April

No scheduled meetings

14 April

No scheduled meetings (second week of school holidays)

22 April (Tuesday)

Council’s Mornington Office, Queen Street, Mornington

4.30pm Special Purposes Committee

5.30pm Special Council Meeting

7.30pm Development Assessments Committee

28 April

Safety Beach Sailing Club, Marine Drive, Safety Beach

7.00pm Community Council Meeting\*

5 May

No scheduled meetings

12 May

Council’s Rosebud Office, Besgrove Street, Rosebud

7.00pm Council

19 May

Council’s Mornington Office, Queen Street, Mornington

5.00pm Special Purposes Committee

7.30pm Development Assessments Committee

26 May

Hastings Community Hub, 1973 Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings

7.00pm Community Council Meeting\*

**The Night Owl**

Late-night bus trial for southern peninsula

A late-night bus service the ‘Night Owl’ will be trialled on the southern peninsula throughout March and April.

The trial is an initiative of Mornington Peninsula Shire, supported by the Southern Peninsula Liquor Accord, Rosebud Police, and McCrae Buslines.

Public Transport Victoria has extended the existing late-night Portsea-Sorrento loop (also known as the Conti Bus) to include Rye.

The ‘Night Owl’ trial service involves a second bus to run a loop between Rye and Dromana. The bus will pick up and set down passengers at 13 designated bus stops along the route.

Operating hours for the Night Owl trial are between the hours of 11pm and 2am Friday and Saturday nights. Cost is from $6 per person (one way travel).

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi said the trial service is in response to community feedback.

“Community feedback has indicated the need for improved late-night transport on the southern peninsula, and this trial will test the viability of the service,” she said. “The trial will need public support to ensure its continuation throughout the year, so get on board and support this initiative.”

The trial route will operate from Saturday 1st March until Saturday 26th April 2014, and will be operated by McCrae Buslines.

Laurie and Lorraine Williams of McCrae Buslines have operated ‘The Conti Bus’ late-night transport for the past 20 years from Portsea and Sorrento to Rye, and are happy trialling the Rye to Dromana route with a second bus so the peninsula is serviced from Portsea to Dromana late at night to complement the day services.

Shane Williams, President Southern Peninsula Liquor Accord (SPLA)said: “The new bus service is a great start to resolving some of the major transportation issues on the peninsula. The SPLA looks forward to continuing to work closely together with the Mornington Peninsula Shire to achieve our goals for the benefit of everyone on the peninsula”.

For route information please refer to [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Night\_Owl](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Night_Owl)

**Night Owl Schedule**

Trial service running Friday & Saturday evenings from 11pm–2am 1 March – 26 April 2014

Cost: from $6 per person (one way)

Pick up and drop off points
(travelling along Point Nepean Rd).

LOOK OUT FOR THE NIGHT OWL MARKED BUS SIGNS:

• New Wave Carwash, Rye

• Outside Woolworths, Rye

• Laura St, Rye

• Carmichaels St, Tootgarook

• Truemans Rd, Tootgarook

• Near Rose St, Rosebud West

• Rosebud West shops near Chatfield Ave

• Outside ANZ Bank, Rosebud

• Jetty Rd, Rosebud

• The Avenue, McCrae

• Near Beverley Road, McCrae

• Dromana Shops outside Stockdale & Leggo.

• Woolworths, Boneo Rd, Rosebud.

**PEN BUS**

Better buses for students, apprentices and job seekers.

Mornington Peninsula Shire improved its free PenBus service to better meet the needs of local students, apprentices, trainees and job seekers looking to get to work, school and job interviews in 2014.

The free PenBus service operates from Rosebud to Monash University Clayton Campus, including stops at Dromana, Safety Beach, Mount Martha, Mornington Bus Interchange, Mount Eliza, Chisholm TAFE Frankston and Frankston train station, Monash University Peninsula campus in Frankston, and Monash University Clayton campus.

The service provides six round trips per day between the hours of 6.25am – 7.40pm.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Antonella Celi said the improvements to the service are in response to passenger feedback.

“To be able to offer this service helps support our local community to ‘get to where they need to go’ to take part in education, training and jobs, and it helps to improve the long-term issue of access to education and employment from the peninsula.

“PenBus transports passengers to the main tertiary education options in the southern region, and helps people get to and from training and job opportunities with key connections to transport hubs such as the bus terminal in Mornington and Frankston station,” she said.

PenBus is free to eligible travellers (those who are students, apprentices, trainees or jobseekers) and also has free Wi-Fi access.

To register for PenBus and to access the timetable visit: [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/penbus](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/penbus)

**National Trust Mornington Peninsula Heritage Awards**

Nominations for the 2014 National Trust Mornington Peninsula Heritage Awards are now invited.

The Heritage Awards recognise those in our community who have demonstrated excellence in retention, restoration and reuse of our heritage places.

2014 Categories

Restoration of a Heritage Place – best practice restoration work in heritage buildings.

Creative Reuse of a Heritage Place – a process that changes a disused or redundant heritage place to a different purpose.

New Work or Development in a Heritage Area – sympathetic design of new buildings or structures within heritage conservation areas or within a cultural heritage landscape.

Sustainability and/or Greening of a Heritage Place including heritage gardens, wetlands and cemeteries.

Specialist Heritage Trade Skills – recognition of professionals and tradespersons using traditional methods and craftsmanship to a very high standard.

Nominate via the Shire website at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au

For further information or hard copy nomination forms, please contact National Trust Mornington Peninsula Branch - 5988 9853 or Helen Bishop, Shire Strategic Support Planner on 5950 1928.

Nominations close Friday 13th June.

**ST KILDA FOOTBALL CLUB VISITS THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA**

The St Kilda Football Club visited the Mornington Peninsula during February as part of the AFL Community Camps initiative.

Players visited local hospitals, nursing homes and schools, and conducted a training clinic with junior footballers at Olympic Oval in Rosebud.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Antonella Celi welcomed the players to the Peninsula at a Civic Reception at the Shire Offices in Rosebud.

Pictured with Cr Celi are St Kilda players (from Left) Lenny Hayes, Nick Riewoldt, David Armitage and Leigh Montagna.

**MOUNT ELIZA FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME**

The Shire is currently working towards reducing flooding to the Mount Eliza shopping precinct as part of its Local Integrated Drainage Strategy (LIDS).

In the past the precinct has been subject to serious flooding during severe wet weather. This means drainage infrastructure must be improved to reduce the likelihood of future flooding to businesses and surrounding homes.

Works will be undertaken in stages to reduce any disruption to shops and local traffic. It is envisaged that road closures and driveway access restrictions will be kept to a minimum and that a safe environment will be maintained for community members and contractors at all times.

The Shire is committed to keeping the community informed at all times throughout the project and will be seeking input from residents and business owners to minimise any disruptions.

For further information and details of the project location please visit the Shire’s website or contact Chris Lyne, Drainage Project Manager on: 5950 1294.

**Municipal Waste Management Strategy – the Shire’s vision for waste management on the Peninsula**

Are you interested in the future of waste management on the peninsula? The Shire is currently reviewing the Municipal Waste Management Strategy and would like to invite you to become involved.

The Municipal Waste Management Strategy outlines the Shire’s long term vision and direction for sustainable waste management services on the peninsula.

The review will result in a new Strategy which will focus on: the kerbside collection service; Resource Recovery Infrastructure (the Resource Recovery Centres or Transfer Stations, Recycle Shops, Hoppers and Green waste processing facilities); and management of landfill waste.

The review will be considering issues such as:

How can the kerbside collection service be enhanced? Should we introduce an additional bin at the kerbside for the collection of food and green waste? Do we need to make any changes to the operation of our Resource Recovery Centres? Should we extend the life of the Rye landfill?

Get involved

There are a number of opportunities for people to get involved in the review process. If you are interested in providing feedback on the kerbside collection service and/or the Resource Recovery Infrastructure (i.e. the Resource Recovery Centres at Rye, Mornington and Tyabb, Green Waste Processing facilities, the Recycle Shop at Mornington or Hoppers) you can fill in a survey or be involved in an on-line forum. If you are interested in the management of landfill waste including the life of the Rye landfill you can nominate to attend two face-to-face Community Engagement Forums.

If you would like to find out more about the engagement process, Shire Officers will be available in person at the following times:

Mornington Council Chambers Monday 31 March, 2014, 3-6:30pm

Rosebud Shire Office Meeting Room 1 Tuesday 1 April 2014, 3-6:30pm

Hastings Shire Office Meeting Room 1 (upstairs) Thursday 3 April, 2014, 3-6:30pm

Alternatively to register your interest in the review process please contact 5950 1257 or email: wastereview@mornpen.vic.gov.au and indicate the area of the review you are interested in:

1. Kerbside Services (survey or online forum)

2. Resource Recovery Infrastructure (survey or online forum)

3. Management of landfill waste (Two face-to-face Community Engagement Forums)

To find out more information about the Review please visit [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Waste\_Strategy](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Waste_Strategy)

**Landcare Network**

Mornington Peninsula Landcare groups are forming – the Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network.

The network has been established to assist local landcare groups to deal more effectively with the administration of large-scale projects and to provide a way for groups to deal with cross-boundary issues such as weeds and pests as well as developing biolinks across the landscape.

Bernie Schedvin, a member of the steering committee for the Landcare Network states: “The development of a Landcare network is an important step and will enable us to work together more effectively to address local land management issues and develop constructive projects to enhance the environment”.

For more information, please contact Jacqui Salter on: jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**CONNECT TO LOCAL GREEN GROUPS**

Are you a resident interested in local conservation groups? The Shire’s new Sustainable Peninsula Directory is now available.

The Directory lists peninsula groups and organisations involved in various sustainability initiatives along with local conservation groups. Residents are able to find, amongst other things, community groups involved in re-use and repair, local fresh foods, food initiatives such as food swaps and food co-operatives and community gardens.

Visit the Shire’s website www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Sustainable\_Peninsula\_Directory

Listing on the Directory is a great way to promote your group. If you would like to list your group please contact Nicci Tsernjavski on ph. 5950 1259 or nicci.tsernjavski@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**Local Australia Day Awards**

Leading Senior Constable Mick Mears was recently awarded Mornington Peninsula Shire 2014 Citizen of the Year, Timothy Thomaidis awarded Mornington Peninsula Shire 2014 Young Citizen of the Year and the Hastings Community House World Record Snake Day is the Mornington Peninsula Shire Community Event of the Year.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Antonella Celi announced the winners of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Australia Day Awards 2014 at the Shire’s Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony in Rosebud on Sunday January 26 where more than 60 people became Australian citizens.

Councillor Celi said the Local Australia Day Awards recognise people and events that have made a significant contribution to our local community.

“On behalf of my fellow Councillors and our community, I sincerely congratulate the winners of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Australia Day Awards 2014.

“We are really very lucky to have such wonderful people and events that help make the Mornington Peninsula the special place that it is for all of our residents and visitors”, she said.

Leading Senior Constable Mr Mick Mears - Mornington Peninsula Shire 2014 Citizen of the Year

Mick was recognised for his dedication and commitment to the Schools Police Education Program, most especially his work with the Drum Corps at Mornington Secondary College, and in his capacity as Youth Resource Officer at Mornington Police Station.

Timothy Thomaidis - Mornington Peninsula Shire 2014 Young Citizen of the Year

Timothy is involved in improving the lives of the East Timorese. Timothy became involved in an East Timor Immersion Program where he worked with children in East Timor, conducting English classes and workshops. He has also been recognised for establishing and managing the ‘Canossa Timor-Leste Shop’.

Hastings Community House World Record Snake Day - Mornington Peninsula Shire 2014 Community Event of the Year

The Hastings Community House registered with Guinness World Records in September 2011 the World Record Snake Day after an idea formed with the Hastings Happy Crafters Group to attempt a knitting world record.

The goal was to create a fabric and knitted snake longer than the current world record of 1281.8 metres.

300 local groups, charities, residents, schools and kindergartens contributed to the snake which was formally measured on 22 March 2013 at the remarkable length of 1768 metres.

This smashed the existing record and secured the honour for Hastings and greater Western Port.

**Young people wanted to organise live gigs on the Peninsula!**

Are you a young person interested in Events? Want to work in the music or arts/cultural industry?

Impakt Freeza is a committee of young people aged between 12-25yrs who organise events such as skate-comps, art exhibitions and live music gigs for other young people on the peninsula. As part of the committee you will learn skills needed to organise live events such as risk management, marketing /advertising, stage management, equipment and sound set up, photography and much more!

If you are between 12-25 years of age and are interested please contact us.

Applicants should live, work, go to school or recreate on the Mornington Peninsula.

For more information please contact Jackie Rickard from Mornington Peninsula Shire Youth Services Impakt Freeza Committee on: 5950 1666 or email: Jackie.rickard@mornpen.vic.gov.au.

**COMMUNITIES THAT CARE - GET INVOLVED**

Communities That Care (CTC) is a community driven, evidence-based process aimed at building capacity within communities to improve the healthy development of children and young people.

CTC engages members of the community who work together using a public health approach to reduce or prevent problem behaviours within their communities such as:

– violence

– antisocial behaviour

– early school leaving

– substance use.

The CTC process appoints a local Committee to oversee a 5 year cycle. This is followed by a detailed survey of all Year 7, 9 and 11 students in all local secondary colleges. The data from the surveys is analysed by an epidemiologist and then analysed by Local Area Groups (LAGs) who prioritise issues to address and compile a Community Action Plan, (CAP).

The CAP is launched to the community and then implemented progressively over 5 years by local agencies.

Recruitment is now underway for interested residents to join a LAG.

There are six LAGs covering the entire Mornington Peninsula Shire area:

1. Somerville - Tyabb - Baxter

2. Hastings - Crib Point - Bittern - Cerberus

3. Mount Eliza

4. Mornington communities

5. Rosebud to Portsea and

6. Two Bays, (Dromana to Balnarring).

If you would like to be a part of real change in your community please contact David Conley, Team Leader, Strategic Outcomes – Children, Youth and Family Services on: 5950 1642, david.c@mornpen.vic.gov.au to register your interest.

**Our Library - much more than books!**

Get the latest CDs and DVDs or revisit old favourites at Our Library

Our Library has a wide selection of music CDs and DVDs available for loan. DVDs can be found at each of Our Libraries. Our music collections can be found at Hastings, Mornington, Rosebud and on the Mobile with Somerville soon to receive its own collection. Members can request music CDs to be collected from any of our libraries.

You can find and reserve all the titles mentioned here (and much more) on our online catalogue. You can also browse DVDs and CDs under ‘Featured Items’ below the virtual bookshelf on the catalogue home page.

Go to http://ourlibrarycat.mornpen.vic.gov.au/ to access our online catalogue.

TV Series

Game of Thrones (Season 3)

Based on George R. R. Martin’s fantasy novels A Storm of Swords and A Song of Ice and Fire. Season 3 continues to tell the story of several noble families who fight for control of the Iron Throne.

Boardwalk Empire (Season 3)

Chronicles the life and times of Nucky Thompson, the undisputed ruler of Atlantic City, who was equal parts politician and gangster.

Drama

Little Red Wagon Based on a true story, prepare to meet a force of human nature: Zach Bonner is an 8 year old boy on a mission to change the world. Little Red Wagon details Zach’s courageous quest to highlight the plight of America’s homeless.

The White Queen Based on the best-selling novels by Philippa Gregory. A story of love, lust, seduction and deception, betrayal and murder, it is uniquely told through the perspective of three different, yet equally relentless women – Elizabeth Woodville (The White Queen), Margaret Beaufort (The Red Queen) and Anne Neville (The Kingmaker’s daughter).

Documentaries

Pandora’s Promise Director Robert Stone exposes the controversy within the environmental movement head-on with stories of defection by heavy weights including Stewart Brand, Richard Rhodes, Gwyneth Cravens, Mark Lynas and Michael Shellenburger who have undergone a radical conversion from being fiercely anti to strongly pro-nuclear energy.

The Royals This 6 part documentary series on the British Royal Family takes viewers on a journey through all facets of royal life in all its grandeur, splendour and even controversy.

Foreign Language Films

Bekas (Arabic with English subtitles) The story of two homeless brothers living in Iraq in the early 90s. When they see Superman through a hole in a cinema wall, they decide to go to America to live with him. To get there, they’ll need passports, money, luck and a donkey called Michael Jackson.

The Patience Stone (Persian with English subtitles)

Adapted from Atiq Rahimi’s novel of the same name which won the illustrious Prix Goncourt in 2008. Set in Afghanistan, a Muslim wife tends to her comatose soldier husband who has been shot in the neck, for the first time ever she is able to speak to him without fear of censorship.

Music CDs

Lorde – Pure Heroine (2013)

Arctic Monkeys – AM (2013)

Haim – Days are Gone (2013)

The Bamboos – Medicine Man (2012)

Jinja Safari – Jinja Safari (2013)

Various Artists – 20 years of Triple J’s Hottest 100 (2013)

Birds of Tokyo –March Fires (2013)

Arcade Fire – Reflektor (2013)

Various Artists – Mytunes 3.0:

Various Artists – 20 years of Triple J’s Hottest 100 (2013)

Birds of Toky – March Fires (2013)

Arcade Fire – Reflektor (2013)

Various Artists – Mytunes 3.0: Adam Spencer’s Breakfast Music (2013)

Bruno Mars – Unorthodox Jukebox (2012).

**Arts & Culture on the Peninsula**

Mornington Peninsula Shire is home to 44 towns and villages with each community having distinct community groups, artistic and creative populations, interests, activities and events being enjoyed and celebrated.

Often arts groups and artists have either a limited or no budget to promote events and activities. The Shire’s Arts & Culture Team have been focussing on initiatives to assist our local arts and culture groups promote their events and activities.

The Shire’s Arts & Culture team established an arts blog www.artsonthepeninsula.com.au in 2010 which has become a highly successful platform for artists, community-based arts groups, art centres, galleries, arts businesses, musicians, schools, creative projects and to promote their events and programs as well as reach and attract new audiences, volunteers and viewers.

The arts blog provides links to most arts and cultural groups on the peninsula along with metropolitan, state and federal arts and funding organisations through the blog roll.

The blog provides a handy point of reference in understanding the breadth of the creative industries on the peninsula.

The arts blog has received more than 64,000 views to date, making this around 100 views on average per day.

Shire Mayor, Councillor Antonella Celi said the arts blog is a simple way to create and connect our creative communities and audiences. “This is a fantastic reference for residents and visitors to see what arts and culture activities are on and also a great tool to promote the peninsula as an arts and culture destination”, she said.

The Shire’s Arts & Culture team encourage community groups to connect with the arts through Our Libraries. Our Libraries provide a centralised place where people can meet and find out what’s on.

Our Libraries provide a community hub and record visitation numbers of up to 2,500 people per day.

The Arts & Culture team has a dedicated arts wall in each of the Our Libraries branches. These provide a great space to promote events and activities.

If you’re a community arts and culture group seeking to promote your event or activities consider these opportunities when developing your marketing plan.

To find out more contact Andrea, arts@mornpen.vic.gov.au or phone: 5950 1716.

**MORNINGTON PENINSULA MUSIC NETWORK**

The Shire is encouraging local musicians to join the Mornington Peninsula Shire Music Network

Established in 2010, this Shire sponsored Music Network is free. The Shire has supported the development and administration of a website and advocating for the support of a number of peninsula music events.

Shire Mayor, Councillor Antonella Celi said the website provides a platform for a diverse group of musicians to connect and work together on a local level. “Musicians can post a listing and be directly contacted by other local musicians interested in working together”, she said.

The committee meets bi-monthly to discuss a range of issues faced by the music industry. Musicians are encouraged to view the site and complete the membership form at www.morningtonpeninsulamusic.com.au. For further information contact the Shire’s Cultural Planner on: 5950 1716.

**ARTS & CULTURAL FACILITIES AUDIT**

The Shire’s Arts & Culture Strategy 2012/13 – 2014/15 A Creative Peninsula highlighted the need for dedicated arts and cultural facilities.

In early 2013, the Shire’s Libraries, Arts & Culture Team undertook a review of arts and cultural facilities with the aim of drafting an Arts & Cultural Facilities Development Plan for the coming decade.

The Audit Project was introduced to peninsula residents in a variety of ways; a Performing Arts Forum @ the Southern Peninsula Art Centre and a visual artists forum ‘Artalk’, interviews and discussions were held with individual artists and arts groups and the Shire’s website promoted an online survey. The review process concluded last year.

A draft of the Arts & Cultural Development Plan will be available for community feedback shortly.

This is a fantastic opportunity for arts and culture groups or individuals to have a say in what facilities are lacking or what facilities are needed on the peninsula.

If you would like to know more about the project contact the Shire’s Cultural Planner Andrea Ebsworth on: 5950 1716.

**Arts & Cultural Community Grant Recipients**

Each year the Shire invites submissions from not-for-profit arts and cultural groups to propose projects and programs that have positive public outcomes. Since 2010 the Shire has supported more than 40 groups, helping these organisations ‘get projects off the ground’. The Shire is pleased to announce the following groups as the successful recipients of Arts Stream funding this year.

• Rosebud Chamber of Commerce & clients of Skills Plus Employment Agency, Rosebud will design and create a place-based community art project for Norm Clarke Walk.

• Mornington Peninsula Camera Club will employ peninsula photographer, Peter McConchie, to run seminars to enhance the skills of local photographers involved in recording military artefacts for RSL, portraiture of residents in retirement accommodation, Relay for Life, vineyard & settlement landscapes for Mornington Peninsula Tourism.

• Westernport Secondary College, Year 9 students will create a Bush Tucker Garden that links civics and citizenship and awareness of Indigenous culture.

• Baluk Arts will engage an Indigenous artist to work with peninsula Aboriginal artists to create bush toys and woven sculptures representing the Mornington Peninsula.

• Sorrento Portsea Chamber of Commerce Inc will work with the Shire and the local community to commission a sculpture as part of the Streetscape enhancements on Ocean Beach Road, Sorrento that celebrates and connects residents and visitors to local history and the landscape.

• Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group Mt Martha will commission local artist Annie Dowd to illustrate 48 birds for a coloured bird identification brochure of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves.

• In celebration of the 10 years of the Anglican Parish of Sorrento & Rye’s Friday Club it will produce an audio story project called the ‘Friday Club’ that better integrates those suffering mental health issues with their community.

• Dream House Theatre will further develop their youth theatre group structure and activities program.

• Mornington Secondary College will expand their annual theatre / music production to engage new members of the community in the theatrical experience.

• Rosebud Secondary College will work with teenagers and older women on a creative dance project.

The Shire also awards Community Grants annually to assist local community groups and organisations to assist with projects that benefit the peninsula community. The full list of grant recipients is available on the Shire’s website: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Community\_Grants.

The Arts Stream and General Community grants funding opens again in August.

Please visit the Shire’s website: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au for more information.

**Mornington Winter Jazz Festival**

Planning for the second Mornington Winter Jazz Festival on the Queen’s Birthday weekend in June has begun and another rich program of music is scheduled for 2014.

The 2013 headline acts were James Morrison, Vince Jones and Andy Cowan, with a mix of young swing & jazz musicians from across the state, a feature of the program was crowd favourites the Naval Jazz and the Westernport Regional Bands, upcoming stars from the VCA music program and a strong contingent of local musicians. The festival attracted more than 30,000 people to Mornington.

The Shire’s role was to seed and support the development of a new music festival and to source a partner that wished to build an ongoing arts and cultural festival concept. The inaugural festival was produced in 10 weeks by a committed group brought together by the Mornington Chamber of Commerce and Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The Shire is pleased to announce that as part of the 2014 Winter Jazz program and the MPRG exhibition of Paul Kelly Photographs this June, a music program will accompany the exhibition as homage to local songwriters.

If you would like to know more about the Winter Jazz Festival please contact: 5975 4522.

The 2014 line up will be announced in the May edition of Peninsula-Wide and will be promoted via the Arts Blog and on the Arts Walls at Our Libraries.

Like us on Facebook:

[www.morningtonpeninsulamusic.com.au/facebook/](http://www.morningtonpeninsulamusic.com.au/facebook/)

**THE MORNINGTON LIBRARY FOYER EXHIBITION SPACE**

The Mornington branch of Our Libraries houses an exhibition wall which the Shire manages and utilises to promote local artists’ work.

The exhibition wall has 12 exhibitions running per year and the Arts & Culture team are now asking for applications from interested groups/individuals who would like to utilise the space in 2015.

Forms can be downloaded via the Shire’s website at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au or contact arts@mornpen.vic.gov.au

If you’re interested in utilising this space, please download and submit the form or contact Andrea Ebsworth, the Shire’s Cultural planner on: 5950 1716.

**New website at Our Library breaks user records**

Our Library recently launched a new website making it easier for members to find, reserve, download, or renew Library items with just a few clicks.

“Demand for online library services is rapidly growing so it was important that we delivered a reliable solution that could evolve with community demand,” said Antonella Celi, Mayor, Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The new website lets users view book covers in the online catalogue, post book reviews, recommend books on personal Facebook pages, and allows for recommendations.

“We are extremely pleased with the revamped website, many of the new features were driven by Our Library members who were pivotal in providing website change recommendations,” said Geoff Carson, Manager of Library, Arts and Culture, Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Three months in and the website has seen more than 60,000 visits, 208,536 items searches, 261,045 items viewed, and nearly 5,000 eBooks. Overall, the website use has increased by a staggering 20 per cent since this time last year.

“We knew that we were hitting the mark with the new website, but the user volume has surpassed our expectations,” said Geoff Carson.

As part of Our Library’s planning process and the Shire’s IT Strategy, technology will continue to be a key focus in delivering reliable access to digital resources such as free Wi-Fi, YourTutor, eBooks and Ancestry.com Library Edition.

Already, new web catalogue terminals have been installed at all libraries so members can search the online catalogue more effectively. The terminals are more powerful and have larger screens for increased visibility to make library exploration more enjoyable.

According to member, Tom La Cerf, “The new screens make it easier to find the right book.”

If you have not had the chance to visit the new website or find out what else is new at Our Library, simply visit www.ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au or your local library. The library team is happy to help you, even help you download your first eBook!

The next steps for Our Library will include an increase to the eBook collection, including exciting authors such as David Baldacci, Hannah Kent and Di Morrissey. Other changes and improvements to Our Library will be guided by the results of a recent community survey that was contributed to by over 4,000 people. Watch this space!

**Indigenous art, amusing cartoons and stylish jewellery at the Gallery**

From the 14 March, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery is displaying three fascinating and contrasting exhibitions.

Jimmy Pike’s Artlines: you call it desert, we used to live there is a vibrant exhibition of previously unseen drawings by notable Western Australian Walmajarri artist, the late Jimmy Pike. Touched with a lively sense of humour, the works bring the artist’s country in the Great Sandy Desert into life through renderings of whimsical beings, shapes and landscapes. The artworks reveal Pike’s intimate knowledge of country, learnt as a young boy growing up in the hunting-gathering tradition of his family. Jimmy Pike’s Artlines is on display until 11 May.

Behind the Lines 2013 looks back on the highs and lows of the political year through the eyes of Australia’s best cartoonists. The cartoons provide amusing and insightful commentary into the parties, personalities and political power-plays that characterise Australian politics. From asylum seekers to leadership battles, the carbon tax to the economy, this exhibition employs wit and wisdom to reflect on a year of controversy, crises and moments of unintentional comedy to celebrate the robust nature of Australian democracy. Behind the Lines is on display until 4 May.

Signature Style brings a bit of quirky glamour to the peninsula. This exhibition showcases contemporary jewellery pieces. By challenging conventional understandings of jewellery, the work in this exhibition explores relationships between the body and wearable art using a range of co-creation models. New possibilities emerge from the expansive energy generated by the fusion of creative minds giving form to innovative pieces that question notions of authorship and style. Signature Style is on display until 11 May.

**GUN SHIELD MYSTERY**

HMAS Cerberus Museum and the Shire are interested in uncovering the mystery attached to two gun shields located in the Mt Eliza Regional Park on Two Bays Road.

It is believed the gun shields came from 6-inch guns and possibly from a First World War navy ship, (the Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Adelaide ships). Any relics associated with these ships and from this era are considered to be extremely important.

These gun shields were retrieved from the creek when the park was being cleaned up in the 1980’s, but nothing is known about how these shields came to be in the area.

If you remember how these shields came to be here or if you have any other information, please contact HMAS Cerberus Museum on 5931 5678 or the Shire’s Local History Co-ordinator on: 0438 076 535.

**New Residential Zones**

Is your property located in a residential zone under the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme? Then this information will be of interest to you.

Under the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme most residential areas on the Peninsula are in what is called the Residential 1 Zone.

The State Government has published new reformed residential zones to – as stated by the Government – “better respond to present-day requirements and .. give greater clarity about the type of development that can be expected in any residential area”.

Details of all the reformed residential zones are available on the web site of the State Government’s Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI).

Of the reformed zones, the two zones that are considered most relevant to the Mornington Peninsula are the:

• General Residential Zone

• Neighbourhood Residential Zone

The State Government has given all local Councils a target to put the new zones in place by 1 July 2014 (replacing the existing Residential 1 Zone). At that date the General Residential Zone, which is the closest equivalent to the existing Residential 1 Zone, will be applied to all areas that have not been previously converted. This will not prevent further zoning changes at a later stage.

Council will be making a recommendation to the Minister for Planning on how the new zones should be applied. This will be detailed in a planning scheme amendment referred to as C179. This amendment may be approved by the Minister without further notice and property owners are not required to take any action.

However, if you are interested in learning more please visit the Shire’s website www.mornpen.vic.gov.au and search for ‘Amendment C179’ to find out about:

• The link to the DTPLI website.

• The content of the new reformed residential zones.

• The differences between the current Residential 1 Zone and the new residential zones.

• Council’s recommendation to the Minister about the application of the new zones to the residential areas on the Peninsula.

If you do not have access to the internet or otherwise need help, you may contact the Council’s Strategic Planning Unit on: 5950 1928.

It should be noted that the conversions proposed in Amendment C179:

• do not apply to properties that are currently in the Low Density Residential Zone; and

• do not override the existing controls under the Design and Development Overlays of the Planning Scheme that apply to many properties in the Residential 1 Zone.

**Mobile Network Coverage**

Mornington Peninsula Shire has been working in partnership with Telstra, CFA and the Fire Services Commissioner in efforts to improve mobile network coverage and capacity on the Mornington Peninsula, particularly during peak Summer periods.

The Mornington Peninsula Network Coverage Committee chaired by the Fire Services Commissioner Craig Lapsley first met back in August and again in December. Mr Lapsley has welcomed the progress to date.

“Following our meeting in December, Telstra made considerable improvements to the network on the Mornington Peninsula before the fire season begun,” he said.

Key achievements so far include the upgrade of 28 locations to LTE (4G) capability which will substantially improve the ability to transmit data on the mobile network.

Telstra has also proposed to add capacity to the network by installing five new mobile network telecommunications base stations. The sites have been strategically selected.

Network demand on parts of the Mornington Peninsula can increase 3 to 4-fold during peak periods.

Over the coming months Telstra will seek necessary planning approvals for the five new sites.

**DRAFT HASTINGS SOUTH COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Draft Hastings South Coastal Management Plan will be placed on public exhibition for a six week period running from March 24 to May 2, 2014. During this period the community is invited to review the draft document and provide feedback to the Shire.

The Draft Hastings South Coastal Management Plan has been prepared to provide strategic guidance for the use, development and management of the Hastings south foreshore reserve.

The key objectives of the draft plan are;

• to promote and enhance the role of the Hastings south foreshore as a regional boating centre;

• to connect and enhance the Western Port Trail;

• to improve the landscape amenity of the foreshore; and

• to protect and enhance the biodiversity values of the foreshore.

Key actions outlined within the draft plan are:

• Improved public boat ramp and associated access and trailer parking facilities.

• Improved layout for Pelican Park/foreshore car park and the introduction of a pedestrian ‘forecourt’ between the pier and the Hastings Yacht Club along the water’s edge.

• Improved public amenity and landscaping based on a Landscape Master Plan.

• Completion of the connection of the Western Port Trail between Pelican Park and the Warringine Park board walk.

• Revegetation of protected areas to enhance the biodiversity values of the foreshore.

A copy of the Draft Hastings South Coastal Management Plan can be viewed at the following locations:

Customer Service Centres at

• 90 Besgrove Street, Rosebud,

• 2 Queen Street, Mornington, or

• 21 Marine Parade, Hastings

• Council libraries

The Shire’s website at: [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Building\_Planning/Coastal\_Planning](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Building_Planning/Coastal_Planning)

**Building a sense of belonging to our community through play**

A part of life on the peninsula for the past 40 years playgroups recognise family and community as the most powerful influence on the development of a child.

Volunteer mums, dads, grandparents, carers and their young children meet weekly at their local playgroup.

Every week more than 60 playgroups operate throughout the Shire with 700 families enrolled across the peninsula.

Organised by local family groups; charitable organisations, churches or community houses, community playgroups provide play opportunities for children 0-5. Story time; music; outings; art and craft; planned play opportunities enhance the quality of children and family experiences.

Playgroups provide an opportunity to establish genuine connections with families and community that are long lasting and meaningful.

They are a wonderful source of local community knowledge for families with young children.

Playgroups rely on volunteer families who are able to help organise the play opportunities and activity ideas and outings. It can be very rewarding to run your local playgroup.

It’s not just the children who benefit from this routine contact but the mums, dads and caregivers too. A dedicated playgroup leader’s network circle supports families in this role. The group

meets once a term to support each other in the various roles and attend free workshop training sessions together.

The training opportunities are chosen together and include topics such as music for babies and toddlers.

For any further information on your local playgroups or the playgroup network meetings please contact Mornington Peninsula Shire Playgroup Development Officer on: 5950 1632.

**Wine, food and farmgate trail**

There are many fabulous wine, food and farmgate experiences hidden away throughout the Mornington Peninsula, especially in the hinterland where little country roads reveal some of Victoria’s top vineyards, farmgates, restaurants and producers.

The best have been brought together in the new ‘Wine, Food and Farmgate’ Trail. It’s the most extensive wine and food program ever created on the peninsula, featuring chefs and restaurants, vignerons and vineyards, growers, orchardists and gourmet storeowners.

The hinterland hills are laced with vines, olive groves and intimate vineyard restaurants. Cellar door experiences kindle many a conversation over a glass or two of our world-ranking Pinot Noir.

Stellar cellar doors

There are more than 50 cellar doors stretching from Mornington and Moorooduc in the north, through the famed Red Hill and Main Ridge, to Fingal in the south. The gentle maritime climate puts a very individual stamp on our wines, as do the many little microclimates.

An epicurean eden

Fine wine and abundant local produce have proved to be an irresistible temptation for top city chefs seeking a sea change. They’ve raised the bar on regional dining, with one restaurant holding two Chef’s Hats, and three restaurants each holding one Chef’s Hat.

Freshest at the farmgate

The fabulous food experience on the Mornington Peninsula all starts at the farmgates, which grow and create a vast range of gourmet produce.

Red Hill and Main Ridge are the best spots for luscious fruit, particularly pick-your-own strawberries (November to April) and cherries (December and January). And don’t leave Red Hill and Main Ridge without visiting the dairies – their handmade cheeses are legendary, particularly with bread from a local bakery. Baxter is home to vegetable growers, so watch for organic produce; salad greens, herbs, heirloom carrots, beans and pumpkin, depending on the season.

Your next move

Log onto the Wine, Food and Farmgate website to start planning your own Wine, Food and Farmgate Trail: www.winefoodfarmgate.com.au

**RED HILL SHOW**

The Red Hill Show will be held on Saturday, March 22 from 8.30am to 5pm at the Red Hill Recreation Reserve, Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill (Melway Ref 190 J4).

This iconic event is one for all the family! Show highlights include the Whip Industries motorcross show, the popular fruitcake and homemade cheese judging competition, the working dog demonstrations and the shearing competition. Children have the chance to get up close and personal with Australia’s wildlife or mingle with miniature goats, learn about pet rats and see many other animals on show. The wood chop competition is always a favourite. Come along and enjoy the music, food and demonstrations.

Visit www.redhillshow.com.au for more information.

Cost: Family ticket (2 adults, 3 children 6-18 years) $50; Adults $15; Children 6-18 years $10; 5 years and under free; Students and Pensioners $10. Free parking.

**HEALTH HOPE AND HAPPINESS**

Health and Wellbeing can mean different things to different people.

To some it’s about personal health such as diabetes, obesity, drug and alcohol issues, mental health and/or physical activity.

To others it can be about the health and wellbeing of the natural and built environments such as the conditions of our towns and villages, nature and/or pollution and waste minimization etc.

To others it is about social or cultural aspects such as community connectedness, friendships, creative expression and events.

During 2014 the Shire will be profiling a number of these Health & Wellbeing issues through:

• The release of the Shire’s Health and Wellbeing Plan. This plan provides a framework of key priorities for the Shire and partners to enhance health and wellbeing across the peninsula

• Research with other southern region councils, on the impacts or potential impacts of packaged liquor outlets and the potential impacts these types of venues have on vulnerable communities

• Facilitating family violence prevention and community education sessions

• Food access through the development of the ‘connecting local people to local food’ project and the release of the draft community gardens policy and information kit.

For more information, please contact Social Planning & Community Development Team on: 5950 1685 or email spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**’A Community For All Ages’**

The Shire’s 5 Year Positive Ageing Strategy for Ageing Well on the Mornington Peninsula

Comedian Evelyn Krape and local ‘Tale Tellers’ performed at the recent launch of the Shire’s new Positive Ageing Strategy 2013 – 2018 - ‘A Community For All Ages’.

‘A Community for All Ages’ outlines a ‘whole of council’ and ‘whole of community’ approach to support people to age well on the Mornington Peninsula. It contains many actions that will enhance opportunities for older residents to live and age well, with strong social connections and as valued contributors to their community.

Mornington Peninsula Shire has the second highest older population in the state with 29% aged over 60, compared to an average of 18%, and as is the case across the globe, this is expected to increase significantly by 2030.

Availability of local services, although vitally important, is only part of the solution to meeting the peninsula’s ageing population’s needs and aspirations. The provision of infrastructure and age-friendly neighbourhood design that enhances the physical, social and economic environment of the local community is also essential to the overall wellbeing of seniors.

The Shire recognised some years ago that it can play a unique role in the provision of positive ageing opportunities and the facilitation of an age-friendly community with the development of the Elder Citizens Strategy in 2001 and this is now further developed by the new Positive Ageing Strategy 2013 – 2018.

The Positive Ageing Strategy, ‘A Community For All Ages’ was developed through research into current government policy and international best practice as well as comprehensive consultation with community members, community groups, local agencies and teams across Council.

A key and valued ongoing contributor to the Strategy is the Peninsula Advisory Committee for Elders (PACE) formed in 2006 as part of the original Elder Citizens Strategy to act as a formal community based advisory committee to the Shire. PACE played an essential role throughout the planning, consultation and development of ‘A Community For All Ages’ and will continue to remain closely involved as it is implemented.

Contact PACE email: pace.issues@gmail.com

Copies of the Strategy are available by contacting the Shire on: 1300 850 600.

**All Abilities Consultative Committee**

The Shire is calling upon community minded individuals or representatives from local organisations/groups to join our All Abilities Consultative Committee.

The purpose of the committee is to work with Council to improve access to services, programs and infrastructure for people with disabilities and their carers on the Mornington Peninsula. We encourage people from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences to apply, including people with disabilities, family members and carers, who are able to provide a broad range of community views and interests. This committee will meet bi-monthly (every 2 months) at one of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Offices (Mornington, Hastings or Rosebud).

For an Expression of Interest form please email spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au or Ph 5950 1685.

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can also contact us through the National Relay Service.

TTY users can phone 13 3677 (NRS) then ask for 03 5950 1000.

**MOBILITY SCOOTER SAFETY**

An increasing number of peninsula residents are turning to a mobility scooter or electric wheelchair to enable them to go shopping, get to appointments or spend time with family and friends.

With more scooter users sharing the footpaths and roads, safety becomes a very important issue.

Mornington Peninsula Shire is planning a series of Scooter Education Forums in 2014 to add to the work already undertaken as part of our Motorised Mobility Devices (Scooter) Policy Statement and Action Plan.

Disability Community Inclusion – MetroAccess officer Virginia Richardson said, “Residents don’t need a license to ride a mobility scooter, but a number of other safety precautions need to be considered, in order to prevent injury or accidents. Also in Victoria, the same road rules apply to both pedestrians and scooter users”.

It is important to get expert, independent advice before you purchase a motorised mobility device, ideally from an Occupational Therapist who is trained to help people maintain independence in daily living. They may even be able to help you access subsidies if you are eligible. Information about safe use and selection of Mobility Scooters is available for purchase through VicRoads. www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/Home/SafetyAndRules/PedestriansSafety/MotorisedMobilityDevices

The Shire has also produced number of resources designed to assist residents who use a motorised scooter. These include a Practical Guide to Your Mobility Scooter booklet, a Rosebud Mobility Map (with more planned for major towns in 2014/15), and a Scooter RECHARGE Scheme.

For more information about the Mobility Scooter Education Forums and other topics discussed please contact Social Planning and Community Development on: 5950 1685 or spcd.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**IN 2014 DEVELOP NEW SKILLS, NEW KNOWLEDGE AND NEW NETWORKS**

Small Business Mentoring Sessions

We invite businesses to book into a no cost one-on-one business mentoring session.

These free 45 minute sessions are with a professional business mentor who can provide you with general business advice and assist you in the initial steps you need to take to overcome an issue or information gap in your business.

Visit the website for dates and availability.

Digital Enterprise Program

Are you keeping up with the rapidly advancing digital world? Want some assistance with leveraging online technologies?

The DEP invites small or medium enterprises and not-for-profits to participate in free workshops and one-on-one coaching sessions.

The Digital Enterprise Program is brought to you by the Australian Government, VECCI and the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The Small Rural Landholder Network promotes a range of workshops, training sessions, seminars and field activities targeting local smaller rural landholders to build technical knowledge and skills to enhance agricultural production systems critical thinking and on-ground action around themes such as soils, water, vegetation and technical agricultural management strategies.

To become involved please contact the Rural Business Officer agriculture@mornpen.vic.gov.au or visit the website below

In 2014 the FMP Business Breakfast series will consist of four high-profile breakfast events to be held across the Frankston City and Mornington Peninsula region.

This is a collaborative venture between Frankston City Council, Greater Frankston Business Chamber, Monash University (Bus Eco), Mornington Peninsula Shire, Mornington Peninsula Regional Tourism and St Kilda Football Club.

Visit the website below for dates, venues, speakers and costs as they become available

Visit www.mpbonline.com.au for full information, dates, costs and booking details or contact the Economic Development Unit on 5950 1842 or business@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**Showcasing Volunteer Mentors and Learner Drivers**

Fully licensed community volunteers are assisting young learner drivers gain their 120 hours of driving experience, using vehicles provided by the Mornington Peninsula Shire, at Hastings and Rosebud.

Learners who have limited or no access to a vehicle and/or supervising driver to gain the experience to acquire their license and concurrently a sense of independence, are matched with volunteer mentors who supervise their driving.

The Shire is seeking community volunteers to assist in this program. Volunteers would be willing to commit to one hour per week.

Peter Richards, a Mount Eliza resident has been involved in the L2P Program since May 2010, “I am about to start with my fifth student in the L2P program and have been a part of the initiative now for over three years. I have found the experience a most rewarding one, particularly the interaction with young people. I am certain that both mentor and student gain a lot from the experience and it keeps older people like me in touch with younger values and gives younger people an insight into more mature viewpoints. Many spirited discussions occur whilst driving. I would highly recommend involvement in the program”, he said. Peter has ‘clocked up’ nearly 400 hours as a supervising driver with the Shire L2P Program.

The program has assisted 18 drivers gain their probationary licence to date (since 2010).

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Clare, L2P Coordinator on 0448 080 527 or email l2p@mornpen.vic.gov.au

**South East Water Eco Shop**

Nepean Ward Councillors Tim Rodgers and Hugh Fraser welcomed the opening of South East Water’s Peninsula ECO shop in Rye to provide residents with information on the construction of the new reticulated sewerage system on the southern peninsula. The project connects one of the last major un-sewered areas in Melbourne’s south east area to a reticulated system.

Residents across the southern peninsula can drop in to the shop and find out how they can make the switch from their household septic tank to the new reticulated sewerage system. Residents can also sign up for an Early Connection Option (ECO), which in some cases can fast-track their connection by up to 16 years.

Further information on
Peninsula ECO can be found at southeastwater.com.au/ECO or by
calling 1800 720 613.

**What’s On on the Mornington Peninsula**

For details go to: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au and view the events calendar

March 15

Peninsula Music Society presents: Australian String Quartet

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington,
7.30pm–10.30pm

March 15 – 16

Heronswood Harvest Festival

Heronswood Gardens,
105 Latrobe Parade, Dromana, 9am–5pm

March 15

The Anglican Parish of Mount Eliza Annual Fete

105 Koetong Parade, Mount Eliza, 9am–4pm

March 22

RED HILL SHOW

Red Hill Recreation Reserve, Red Hill
8.30am–5pm

March 22-23

BIBLE EXHIBITION

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington, 9am–5pm

March 24

Mornington Peninsula Schools Environment Week

The Briars Historic Park, Mount Martha, 9.30am–2.30pm

March 29

The Light Workers Way Psychic & Wellbeing Festival

Mount Eliza Community Hall, Mount Eliza,
10am–4.30pm

March 29

Baany to Warrna Ngargee - Water to Water Festival
The Briars Historic Park, Mount Martha, 2–10pm

March 30

Berg Mount Martha
Family Day at the Estuary

Rotunda at Balcombe Estuary, Mount Martha, 10am–2pm

March 30

Neighbour Day
Tootgarook Primary School,
Tootgarook, 10am–2pm

March 30

Frankston Music Society presents: Vera Bradford
Youth Concerto Competition

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington, 2.30–4.30pm

April 5

SES Family Fun Day

Village Green, Rosebud, 9am–4pm

April 5-6

Creative Arts Expo

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington, 10am–3pm

April 6

Rock N Rods Festival

Eastbourne Primary School, Allambi Avenue, Rosebud, 10am–5.30pm

April 13

Peninsula Family Easter Picnic

Mornington Racecourse, Mornington 9.30am–3pm

April 18

Way of the Cross

Dromana Info Centre to Dromana Pier, Dromana

April 18

Uncle Bob’s Annual Good Friday Wheel barrow Push

Sorrento to Safety Beach, 9am–4pm

April 19-20

Annual Bonsai Show

Balcombe Grammar School, Mount Martha 10am–4pm

April 19-21

Dromana Potters Exhibition

Dromana Old Shire Offices, Dromana, 10am–4pm

April 19-21

Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron Easter Art Show

Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron, 2900 Point Nepean Road, Blairgowrie, 10am–4.30pm

April 25

ANZAC Day - full details including locations and times available on our website

Western Port Craft Festival Hastings Uniting Church, Hastings, 10am–4pm

May 3

Primrose Fair

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington, 10am–4pm

May 3-4

Quilt, Art & Cake Expo Crib Point Community House, Crib Point, 10am–4pm

May 3-4

Art Red Hill Red Hill Consolidated School, Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill, 10am–5pm

May 4

Walk for Western Port Hastings Foreshore, Hastings, 9am–3pm

May 11

Mothers Day Classic Walk/Run Dromana Pier to McCrae Lighthouse, 9–11am

May 11

Mothers Day Walk Flinders Yacht Club and around Golf Course, Flinders, 9–11am

May 17

Peninsula Music Society presents: Trio Anima Mundi Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington, 7.30pm–10.30pm

May 18

RSPCA Million Paws Walk Hastings Foreshore, 9am–2pm

May 25

Mornington Running Festival Mornington Park to Mount Martha, 6am–11am

May 31

The Light Workers Way Psychic & Wellbeing Festival

Mount Eliza Community Hall, Mount Eliza, 8am–5pm

**FUNDRAISING in 2014/15**

Are you a community group or charitable organisation looking to fundraise on Shire owned or managed land in 2014/15?

Applications for a permit for the period of July 2014-June 2015 are now open.

Applications close 31 May 2014 and can be downloaded at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au.

To find out where a permit is required for fundraising, guidelines and further information is available by calling: 5971 9300.

**The Peninsula Family Easter Picnic**

Sunday April 13, 10am-3pm (Mornington Racecourse)

The Peninsula Family Easter Picnic will be an egg-travaganza for families. Children will be able to hunt for thousands of Easter eggs. Everyone’s favourite friend, the Easter Bunny will be performing on stage and children and join in with singing, dancing and interactive games.

Plus Jimmy Giggle will be joining the fun and hosting the event. There will be familiar characters making appearances, as well as shows from Cat in the Hat, Bananas in Pyjamas, Spot and many more. There will be a free magical Easter Craft Village where kids can make their own Easter masterpiece to take home. And there will be rides and amusements, plus so much more entertainment.

This fun family event was a sell-out last year, so don’t miss out and purchase your tickets via Ticketek. For more information, please visit www.peninsulafamilyeasterpicnic.com.au

A portion of ticket sales will be donated to the Mornington Peninsula Mayoral Charity Trust.