Keeping the community safe

“To the firefighters, the volunteers, the Police members, the SES crews and Shire teams - I commend you on your work in keeping our community safe. My sincere thanks for your efforts throughout the January fire in Hastings-Bittern and storm event in Somerville-Tyabb. Your ‘on-the-ground’ work and support following the events is most appreciated – thank you,”

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor, Councillor Bev Colomb.

Recent events have highlighted the significance of local emergency services working together for the safety of our community.

“The Shire plays an important role in times of emergency. We work hard to support our community during these times. The Shire’s main role is in assisting emergency services in response and recovery efforts,” said Cr Colomb.

The Shire undertakes a varied range of duties throughout an emergency situation, including:
- Establishing Municipal Emergency Coordination Centres
- Establish and providing staff at Emergency Relief Centres
- On-the-ground crews to assist emergency services
- Traffic management controls
- Post-impact assessments including building inspections and assistance with alternative accommodation
- Animal management
- Road clearing and vegetation removal
- Facilitation of personal support/counselling for the community
- Provision of additional waste resources for clean-up
- Recovery from the event

Cerberus Ward Councillor David Garnock also added his thanks on behalf of the grateful communities of Hastings, Bittern and Crib Point.

“I wish to thank our emergency services for the important role they played in helping achieve a successful response to the fire that started in Hastings; I also extend my thanks to the teams ‘behind the scenes’ who contributed to the establishment of a Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre at the Shire’s Mornington Office and an Emergency Relief Centre at the Bittern Stadium to support members of the affected communities.”

Cr Garnock said the Warringine Park boardwalk remains closed, and the Shire has commissioned an independent consultant to provide feedback on the park’s fire management.

To show her support for the efforts of all involved, Emergency Services Minister Jane Garrett visited the fire-hit areas before joining Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor, Councillor Bev Colomb, Councillor David Garnock, CEO Carl Cowie and emergency services workers for a debriefing at Hastings CFA. “The manner in which these people came together was very impressive,” Ms Garrett said. Ms Garrett said she thought the fire scene had been well managed and good communication had been crucial.

Watson Ward Councillor Lynn Bowden said “I would like to thank the many volunteers, organisations and community-minded residents who so promptly came to the forefront with actions needed to assist many people who needed help”.

“We can be proud of our volunteer organisations and individual residents who provided important assistance at this time of real emergency,” she said.

Cr Bowden said the Somerville Mechanics Institute Hall, which is much loved and used by the local community and home to the Somerville-Tyabb and District Heritage Society was unfortunately damaged in the storm and will remain closed while the Shire works through options for repairs. Alternative venues have been found for hall users.

For information about how to stay cool in the heat – see page 3
Contacting the Shire

The Shire’s Customer Service team provides telephone hours from 8am until 5.30pm each weekday, excluding public holidays, simply call 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000.

Outside of these hours, your call to 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000 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 5pm, 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 Pde (Mel: 154 K11)
Sorrento: 14 Edward St (Mel: 107 E12)

1300 850 600 or 5950 1000
customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au

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.

Council & Committee Meetings

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

Meetings are open to the public except where matters of a confidential or ‘in-camera’ nature are discussed.

The Council conducts community Council meetings monthly which commence with community briefings to the public, followed by dinner and the Council meeting.

Agendas are available at all Shire Customer Service offices and branch libraries on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. Agendas and minutes of the meetings are also available on the Shire’s website at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au Please refer to the Shire website at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au for any changes to the Council meeting arrangements.

RATES REMINDER

For residents paying their rates in full, payment was due Monday 16 February 2015 and those paying in instalments the third payment is due Monday 2 March 2015.

Have you moved? If you have changed address you should notify the Shire’s Revenue department within 30 days to ensure you receive correspondence in a timely manner, as failure to receive notices is the responsibility of the rate payer.

If you have any queries, please contact the Shire’s Revenue department on 5950 1080.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

For Appointments and Meetings please contact:

Mayor: 5950 1411
Councillors: 5950 1428
Heatwave – How to Prepare?

It’s important to think about planning ahead for hot days. Extreme heat can kill.

Heat-related illness can range from a rash or cramps to very serious conditions such as heat stroke, which is potentially fatal.

Those most at risk are people over 65, particularly those living alone, the very young and those with a pre-existing medical condition.

Practical tips:
- Check on older, sick and frail people
- Never leave anyone in a closed, parked car (including pets)
- Drink plenty of water and non-alcoholic fluids (Note: If your doctor normally limits your fluids or you are on fluid tablets, check with your doctor how much to drink while the weather is hot)
- Limit or avoid alcoholic drinks
- Stay indoors, if possible in air-conditioning, or in the shade
- Use external blinds to shade your home
- Take a cool shower/bath or drape wet cloths over yourself
- Wear lightweight, loose fitting clothing
- Reduce physical activity

• Know the signs and symptoms of excessive heat exposure – cramps, dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, fainting.

The most important things to remember are to keep cool, drink plenty of water, stay out of the sun and to look after yourself and others. Please remember your animals can also suffer during heatwave periods. It is important that they are given enough cool water to drink and have somewhere shady and cool to rest during high temperatures.

More information and alerts:
Visit the Better Health Channel website or download the Better Health Channel app at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/app, switch on the ‘hot weather alert’ and follow the information provided on the Better Health Channel to protect yourself and loved ones during hot weather.

Heat health alerts are online at www.health.vic.gov.au/chiefhealthofficer/heatalerts/index.htm

Health concerns:
If you are concerned that someone may be suffering heat-related illness, encourage them to see their doctor or call an ambulance on 000.

For health concerns see your doctor or call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24.
For more information about preventing heat-related illness, please contact Mornington Peninsula Shire on 1800 850 600 or 5950 1000.

Fire restrictions now in force
Fire restrictions are now in force (from 8 December, 2014 until 0100 hours on Friday 1 May, 2015 unless extended or curtailed in the meantime). No fires in the open air are allowed during this time without a permit. Illegal burning off during the Declared Fire Danger Period should be reported to: 000.

Stay safe – be informed
Use multiple sources to stay informed:
- 774 ABC local radio, commercial and designated radio stations or Sky News
- FireReady App – Push notifications for incidents, Total Fire Bans and Fire Danger Rating
- Victorian Bushfire Info Line: 1800 240 667
- www.emergency.vic.gov.au website
- CFA Twitter and Facebook accounts
- Morn Pen Alert Twitter and Facebook accounts
- Mornington Peninsula Shire is in the Central Fire Ban District.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@mornpenshire

Official tweets Mornington Peninsula Shire: news, events, info & more. We’re here Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Report urgent issues 1300 850 600 (24 hours).

THE SHIRE’S SMART PHONE APP
This free smart phone app provides a mobile resource for residents, visitors and people working on the Mornington Peninsula.

USERS OF THE APP CAN...
Read IT Keep up to date with the latest Shire news
Do IT Find out about upcoming events on the peninsula
Find IT Find out about Shire services and programs in your local area
Report IT Report maintenance issues
Say IT Participate in discussions about a community topic
Download the free Mornington Peninsula Shire Community App via your smart phone’s app store.

PENINSULA-WIDE FOR VISUALLY IMPAILED
Did you know that Peninsula-Wide is now available in DAISY form? Head to www.visionslowvision.org.au/livingwithlowvision/library and join up as a library member to access these, along with a huge selection of digital audio publications, or call 1300 654 656 to have a CD copy delivered to your home.

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OUR SHIRE | 3
Australia Day on the Mornington Peninsula

On Monday 26 January the Mornington Peninsula came alive with celebrations across the Shire for Australia Day.

Activities included flag raisings to fireworks, songs to sausage sizzles, bowling to balloons.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor and Australia Day Committee Chair Councillor Bev Colomb said it was a fantastic day.

“This is a major event for the Shire and one of the favourite days of the summer for our community on the Mornington Peninsula.

“Our team has worked hard all year to be able to bring together the best line up of events - a huge thank you to Shire officers, sponsors and volunteers for making this year’s events something special.”

Winners announced: Mornington Peninsula Shire Australia Day Awards 2015

At the recent ceremony held on Monday 26 January, Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Bev Colomb announced the winners for the Mornington Peninsula Shire Australia Day Awards for 2015.

Mr Tim Nolan – Citizen of the Year
Miss Sarah Berry – Young Citizen of the Year
Mornington Yacht Club’s 2014 international Optimist Championships – Event of the Year

Cr Colomb said the awards recognise the tremendous efforts of people and groups that make an outstanding contribution to our community and beyond.

“I am incredibly proud to announce the winners of the 2015 Mornington Peninsula Shire Australia Day Awards.

“As in previous years, our awards winners are people who have made a real difference within our community.

“Tim Nolan received the award in recognition of his efforts with the Teenage Road Accident Group towards educating our young people about road trauma and its effects within our community. Tim is a paramedic, and the delivery of his road safety and road trauma messages is very important – especially for our young people.

“Sarah Berry – such a young and enthusiastic person – has been acknowledged for her contribution to our community, as well as her contribution to communities within Cambodia through the provision of reading material. What an amazing effort by a young person to help literacy and access to literature to communities that may not be as fortunate as ours.

“And Mornington Yacht Club has won for its event ‘The International Optimist Championships’ sailing regatta where more than 340 young people between the ages of 9 and 15 competed in January 2014. It was not only a great event – supported by a local club and many volunteers – but attracted a large number of visitors to our beautiful peninsula.”

Cr Colomb said the Shire received very high calibre nominations from across the peninsula, and congratulated all nominees.

“I sincerely thank our award winners and all of the nominees who put so much of their own time and effort into making the peninsula the place we love to call home and who put on fantastic events to make the peninsula such a great place to visit. Well done!”
Explore the Shire’s brand new sporting hub in Mornington. Civic Reserve Recreation Centre, home of:

- Mornington Peninsula Table Tennis Association
- Mornington Tennis Club
- David Collings Stadium
- Mornington Youth Club
- Gymnastics
- Kids Boot Camp
- Healthy Cooking Workshops
- Meet Andrew Gaze
- Come and try basketball junior hoop clinics.
- Watch gymnastics demonstrations
- FREE face painting and rides
- FREE show bags for the first 500 visitors!
- Learn about and join in - everything from high intensity to over 50’s group fitness

Located at:
Civic Reserve Recreation Centre
350 Dunns Road, Mornington
For more information: 5975 0133
www.mornpen.vic.gov.au
TOURISM  Delivering prosperity for the Peninsula

The Mornington Peninsula region has always been a popular destination in Victoria. Tourism is an important driver of economic activity for the Mornington Peninsula region. The industry remains one of the biggest employers and contributes 10.3% of all employment in the region and 11.3% of gross regional product. Melbourne and Victoria have traditionally been the core markets for the Mornington Peninsula region. Whilst that still remains the case, the region has been improving its profile with interstate and international markets.

Overall satisfaction by visitors to the Mornington Peninsula region is high (amongst the highest in Australia). Market research shows that visitors are impressed with the diversity and number of things to experience in the region.

With no particular iconic attractions or destinations dominating, the Mornington Peninsula region is seen as a rejuvenating destination with lots to do and good food and wine.

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is committed to the sustainable development of tourism for the Mornington Peninsula region working in partnership with the Mornington Peninsula Regional Tourism Board, Frankston City Council and Tourism Victoria.

TOURISM QUICK FACTS

- 10,184 Tourism Jobs
- 1.26 billion Visitor Expenditure
- 26 MOTELS & SERVICED APARTMENTS
- 24,000 HOLIDAY HOMES
- 3,589,000 TOTAL DAYTRIPPERS
- 1,336,000 TOTAL OVERNIGHTERS
- 1,138,000 VICTORIAN OVERNIGHTERS
- 160,000 INTERSTATE OVERNIGHTERS
- 38,000 INTERNATIONAL OVERNIGHTERS

62% of visitors surveyed were very satisfied with their stay.

Reference: Mornington Peninsula Region, Destination Management Plan 2014

P&O CRUISES COME TO MORNINGTON

P&O Cruises has selected the Mornington Peninsula as a new cruising destination! A P&O Cruise ship will call in for a day’s shore visit.

Each ship carries 2,000 passengers and 700 crew down Australia’s east coast from Sydney.

Passengers participating in shore activities will be ferried from sea to shore via tender boats which can carry 90 people at a time.

They will then be taken to experience activities across the Mornington Peninsula, including: horseback winery touring, swimming with dolphins, wine food farmgate tours, free surfing and historic Sorrento tours. Some will simply take a meander up Main Street, which will be alive with market activity.

Arriving:
24 February
18 March

visitmorningtonpeninsula.org
Commitment to prevention of family violence

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has formally committed to the prevention of family violence across the peninsula and is developing a three-year prevention implementation plan as part of a broader Community Harm Prevention Strategy. The Statement of Commitment for the Prevention of Family Violence was endorsed by Council at its meeting on the 24th of November. Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Bev Colomb said the Council’s statement reaffirms its broader commitment to the prevention of family violence in the Mornington Peninsula and builds on existing work in support of the Shire’s Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-2017 to raise awareness.

“Local government has an important role to play in fostering safe and healthy communities,” said Cr Colomb.

“The Shire is committed to promoting a culture of community harmony, wellbeing and a sense of safety and belonging. The Shire is well positioned to take a leadership role on this important community issue, and will continue to collaborate with key stakeholders including the Peninsula Model, the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Family Violence Network, Victoria Police, advocates and our community to progress work in the area of family violence prevention and to foster an environment where we can all make a difference,” she said.

Cr Colomb said the Statement of Commitment to the Prevention of Family Violence outlines that the Shire will enable and promote;

- The Mornington Peninsula Shire community as a safe place and act to eliminate violence in all its forms;
- Relationships between all members of the community are respectful and promote the rights of men, women and children to live free from violence;
- That women, men and children have the opportunity to participate equally in all spheres of public and private life without fear or discrimination;
- Increase awareness of family violence as a key social and health issue.

The implementation plan will provide a framework for the Shire to work in partnership with relevant support agencies to assist in the prevention of family violence.

Helpful contacts:
- If you are in immediate danger contact the Police on: 000
- Phone services:
  - Women’s Domestic Violence Crisis Service: 1800 015 188
  - Talk it over Men’s Line Australia: 1300 78 99 78
  - Peninsula Family Violence Program: 5971 9454 (business hours)
  - Kid’s Helpline: 1800 55 1800
- ‘Ask Someone’ website and app:
  - For free professional support and information 24/7, the ‘Ask Someone’ website is www.asksomeone.org.au.
  - The ‘Ask Someone’ app is available for free for iPhone and iPad, Android and BlackBerry – links from above website.
- For more information visit: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au

Above: Family violence campaigner Rosie Batty, now Australian of the Year 2015, Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Cr Bev Colomb and Senior Sergeant Dean Clinton – Frankston Police hold the Mornington Peninsula Shire Statement of Commitment for the Prevention of Family Violence.

Careers & Jobs Expo May 2015

The FMP Careers and Jobs Expo 2015 will be the first major interactive careers and jobs expo across the wider Frankston and Mornington Peninsula region. It will be the only all-encompassing careers event to take place in the region in 2015. The Expo will be held at the Mornington Racecourse, and will be divided into six main sectors:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Tourism & Hospitality
- Trades & Services
- Agriculture & Outdoors
- Business & Commercial
- Media & Creative

There will be a strong emphasis on inter activity, hands-on activities and demonstrations. A series of speaker forums will run throughout the day featuring current students and recent graduates telling their ‘career journey’ stories – what it’s really like and how they got there. Information sessions will also focus on employment trends for the future: what skills will be required into the future, and which industries are forecast to experience the highest growth. There will be prizes and giveaways throughout the day and a roving MC to keep everyone motivated!

Date: Tuesday 5 May 2015
Time: 9am – 4pm
Location: Mornington Racecourse
This event is FREE ENTRY for all.
www.fmpcareerexpo.com.au

The FMP Careers & Jobs Expo is a joint initiative from the Frankston City Council and Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

NEW WEBSITE FOR MOUNT MARTHA PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

If you’re looking for something to do, why not rediscover Mount Martha Public Golf Course.

Their recently launched website makes it easier than ever to find out more on memberships, fees, facilities and the extensive range of activities on offer such as unlimited twilight golf, foot golf, junior golf and lessons.

Whether you’re a seasoned pro or a newcomer to the game, you’re sure to have a ball at the Mount Martha Public Golf Course!

To find out more, head to www.mtmarthapublicgc.com.au

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To find out more, head to www.mtmarthapublicgc.com.au
OUR YEAR AHEAD

What a busy start to 2015 we have had! Councillors have hit the ground running and as the summer season draws to a close, we look forward to the rest of the year ahead. Councillors are not only excited about what is happening in their own wards, but across the entire Peninsula.

Early preparations have commenced where feedback from the local community has been sought to provide input on a number of Shire projects including:

• The Shire’s budget for 2015/16
• Draft Master Plans for Balnarring Civic Reserve and Red Hill Station Reserve
• Yaringa Boat Harbour Upgrade and Expansion
• Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy
• Planning Scheme Amendment C188
• Dromana Community Garden

You can keep updated on these and other projects throughout the year or to have ‘your say’ simply visit the Shire’s website for further information at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Your_Say

Councillors look forward to working with the community over the coming year and have highlighted some of the key projects in their wards in the messages below.

Mayor Councillor Bev Colomb

SEAWINDS

Antonella Celi/Graham Pittock/David Gibb

I’m keen to see the $1.7m investment in the refurbishment and upgrade of our community buildings, such as the Dromana Visitor Information Centre that provided a much needed face-lift. Works are also progressing towards a Dromana Town Centre Plan, and the Shire has also committed $50k for investigating options for ‘missing links’ in the Bay Trail and continues to work to complete the pathway. The construction of a community garden for Dromana will beautify and enhance the Town Centre for residents and visitors.

Although Council is not proceeding with SPA on the foreshore, I’m heartened by our resolution that Council will expedite the Aquatic centre development in Rosebud. Workshops are planned and I’m hoping for Plan B: SPA and a new library at Wannaeue Place. This satisfies all those who said “I support SPA but not on the foreshore” and still provides an economic boost to the southern Peninsula as well as the important health and well-being benefits. I look forward to seeing the beautification of Rosebud with the $200k Rosebud streetscape plan coming to life, and works progressing on the Rosebud Foreshore landscape master plan.

NEPEAN

Tim Rodgers / Hugh Fraser

The planning of the public footpath and bay trail in the Whitecliffs/Tyrone foreshore area will continue this year, as will work with VicRoads on improving traffic management and amenity of the Rye Township better linking the town to the foreshore and works associated with Rye’s $40k Foreshore Landscape Master Plan which will entail works near the pier and nourishment of the sand at the beach. Council will also continue to seek to secure CCTV for Rye. On a broader canvas, there is the work being undertaken by Council officers to bring reports to Council on a Civic Precinct at Wannaeue Place and a Community Hub at Boneo Road Rosebud.

This year I look forward to works starting at the Sorrento Community Centre to improve the functionality and comfort for users and visitors. Streetscaping works will continue in the town, with revitalisation works at George St Sorrento. I look forward to seeing the future community use of the former helipad hangar in Sorrento and working with the community in cooperative land management of the historic site of Lieutenant-Colonel David Collins’s first European settlement at Sullivans Cove. Recognising the past ten years of Police Point Park and a community Family Day in autumn to showcase the history and public amenity that can be enjoyed will also be a highlight.
Mornington. The Theatre precinct in the renovated Mornington Pier with new forecourt works, and the historic moment of welcoming the very first cruise liner to Mornington. Foreshore works will beautify the Mills Beach area, and new amenities at Mother’s Beach will be installed. Planning is well underway for developing a new, $1.2 million Youth Centre at Tootgarook Wetlands, and works will beautify the Mornington Foreshore area, including works at Rosebud West, Bittern, Mount Eliza, Portsea, and Red Hill. $1.5M including playgrounds and $1.2M for rehabilitation works at Fruitgrowers Reserve.

Somerville Fruitgrowers sporting pavilion is on track to be completed in June – a new modern facility to meet community needs. Last year refurbishment works commenced at the War memorial including the relocation of the cenotaph. New plaques, seating, landscaping and replacement of the original heritage lantern will be completed by Anzac Day. Somerville Township Plan commenced in February. Consultants were appointed in relation to the urban design, involving a review of current land use, land available for further residential development, preferred future character and opportunities for improvement, such as, pedestrian connections, railway reserve presentation and community facilities. First stage master plan works at Bunguyan Reserve is due for completion by the end of February, including a walking path and safer pedestrian access to the pavilion, culvert and carpark works near the pavilion, upgraded vehicle access and drainage to the roadway entrance to make the reserve more user-friendly and two netball courts will be built before the coming season in April.

The community is already enjoying the recently-completed Civic Reserve Recreation Centre and – I hope to see lots of you there at the open day in March. I also look forward to seeing the re-opening of the renovated Mornington Pier with new forecourt works, and the historic moment of welcoming the very first cruise liner to Mornington. Foreshore works will beautify the Mills Beach area, and new amenities at Mother’s Beach will be installed. Planning is well underway for developing a new, $1.2 million Youth Centre at Tootgarook Wetlands, and works will beautify the Mornington Foreshore area, including works at Rosebud West, Bittern, Mount Eliza, Portsea, and Red Hill. $1.5M including playgrounds and $1.2M for rehabilitation works at Fruitgrowers Reserve.

I look forward to enhancing the look, feel and function of our Cerberus townships. The implementation of the Hastings High Street Streetscape and Laneways Plan will commence and builds on the works already underway at the new Alfred Street plaza. Crib Point Football Club is set to receive new sports lighting at the oval this year, and maintaining and enhancing the neighbourhood character of the great town of Bittern will be boosted through township planning, consultation and planning scheme amendments.

During my short time as the new Councillor, I have met with residents, sporting, tourism, agriculture and many other community groups, clubs and associations across the large area of the Red Hill Ward. The round of meetings has been helpful and informative. In order to advance the needs of the Ward, Red Hill Ward being 45% of the peninsula, I am convening regular meetings with these groups at Rosebud Council offices with the objective of achieving positive results in the coming year. The condition of roads and sensible speed limits remains the focus of my attention and necessitates perseverance. Construction of a new play space was completed in December at Flinders Park and in the meantime, the Shire is upgrading facilities at the Red Hill Station Reserve, Merricks Station Reserve, and the Red Hill and Balnarring Reserves.

The 10-year $30M Local Integrated Drainage Strategy will include works at Mount Eliza, Somers, Mornington, McCrae, Flinders, Portsea and Bongaree, and an additional $700K for drainage infrastructure upgrades. Libraries: $1.3M towards library books and materials at Hastings, Rosebud, Mornington and Somerville. Streetscapes: $1.3M including Mornington, Sorrento, Hastings and Rosebud, $320k for beautification and placemaking across the peninsula. Mount Martha Life Saving Club: completion of the $2.1M re-building/upgrade. Skate and BMX Strategy: $270K including Mt Martha Skate Park and Red Hill Skate Park (Design).


Footpaths: $956k for new footpaths and $1.2M for rehabilitation works. Including works at Bittern, Mount Eliza, Mount Martha, Rosebud West, Rosebud, Rye and Tootgarook. Pavilion Strategy: $33m including upgrades at Fruitgrowers Reserve Somerville, Mount Martha Tennis Club, Mornington Netball Association Pavilion, Olympic Park Rosebud and Balnarring Football Club.

Drainage: The 10-year $30M Local Integrated Drainage Strategy will include works at Mount Eliza, Somers, Mornington, McCrae, Flinders, Portsea and Bongaree, and an additional $700K for drainage infrastructure upgrades.

ICONS SHOW 2014/2015 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- Foreshore landscape master plans and works: $475k including Hastings, McCrae, Mornington and Rosebud.
- Netball Strategy: $200k Mornington Netball Courts.
- Playground Strategy: $300k including Flinders and Red Hill.
- Tennis Strategy: $160k for works at Mount Martha, Somerville and Red Hill.
- Sporting facilities lighting upgrades: $100k including Crib Point, Mount Eliza, Point, Balnarring, Flinders and Red Hill.
- Recreational Master Plan Implementation: $11M including Tyabb, Crib Point, Mount Eliza, Portsea, Balnarring, Flinders and Red Hill.
The festival is packed with fun for all the family with entertainment provided by dirtgirl and local bands. There will be food stalls with many healthy and organic options. Hands-on activities include a marine touch tank, live reptiles to hold, farm animals to pat, plants to pot up, recycling activities, face painting, Landcare puppet show and many Friends groups and community gardens activities.

The day will also highlight the fabulous resources at The Briars with tours of the woodland and wetland, homestead and heritage gardens, Shire nursery and the Eco Living Display Centre.

Free Trees grown by Mornington Peninsula Youth Enterprises are available at the event to residents of the Mornington Peninsula by presenting proof of residency.

Entry is $10 per car.

The Briars, 450 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha.

**ENVIRONMENT WEEK FESTIVAL AT THE BRIARS** Sunday 15 March 2015 11AM – 4PM

**Fun for all the family**

School kids look forward to another exciting Schools Environment Week at The Briars, 16 – 19 March

Following on from the Environment Week Festival for the community is Schools Environment Week for local primary school and kindergarten students. Environment Week has been a tradition at The Briars for more than 30 years and continues to provide an exciting environmental education program to ensure our children understand their environment and have an awareness of its impact on our health and well-being.

There will be six programs in 2015: Wetlands birds and water beasts, Woodlands flora and fauna, Indigenous culture, Hands in the dirt, Green living and the Expo paddock.

Bookings are now open and for more information on the Festival and Schools programs visit: www.morningtonweek.com.au

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**Think Less Waste Cookbook**

Mornington Peninsula Shire was pleased to launch *Make More - The Think Less Waste Cookbook* in November. This wonderful cookbook is full of great ideas to make the most of leftovers and over abundant produce.

The Make More cookbook was produced using recipes donated by Mornington Peninsula residents and businesses as part of the Think Less Waste program. The recipes include fantastic ideas to use up leftovers and excess seasonal produce.

Think Less Waste has aims to support our community to change their waste behaviours.

The Make More Cookbook is available to purchase online at www.thinkless.myshopify.com/MakeMore

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**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY - SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2015**

Celebrating 25 years of volunteer clean up action across Australia

Every year hundreds of thousands of Australians pitch in and get active to clean up their local parks, beaches, bushland and waterways as part of the annual Clean Up Australia Day to help the environment.

2015 was no different with hundreds of local residents participating in Clean Up Australia Day at many sites across the peninsula on Sunday March 1.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Bev Colomb congratulated everyone who participated, and thanked site organisers such as Norm McKinlay (Chinamans Creek Friends Group) and Jan Oliver (Tanti Creek Friends Group) who help keep the peninsula beautiful not only on Clean Up Australia Day but throughout the whole year.

For more information on clean up activities or how to get involved in local environmental activities visit: www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au or www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/environment_waste

Below: Norm McKinlay (Chinamans Creek Friends Group), Cr David Garnock, Mayor Cr Bev Colomb, Jan Oliver (Tanti Creek Friends Group)
The Shire has been working closely with the CFA and the local community with the tank. Councillor Bev Colomb officially handed over a new 105,000 litre water tank for fire-fighting purposes to the CFA brigades of Red Hill and Main Ridge.

The Shire-funded water tank, located on Arthurs Seat Road Red Hill, provides the hinterland brigades with another accessible, strategically positioned source of water in an area where reticulated water is not available.

Red Hill Ward Councillor Tim Wood said Council was pleased to be able to support the CFA and the local community with the tank. “The Shire has been working closely with the brigades on this project as part of its commitment to an integrated fire management response and working to protect our communities during the fire season,” he said.

The Shire also upgraded facilities at existing strategic water points at Pindara Rd Arthurs Seat and Old Main Creek Rd Main Ridge.

Main Ridge CFA Captain Ian Troubeck said “the installation of the new tank is a significant step forward in further protecting hinterland communities against fire”.

“The strategic water tank provides firetrucks with the ability to refill on the top of the hill, rather than having to travel into valleys to source water,” he said.

Red Hill CFA Captain, Darrel Setter added that “the new water tank would assist local brigades in responding rapidly to incidences in the Arthurs Seat area and provides the ability to fill the largest CFA fire truck twenty-five times over.”

Councillor Bev Colomb said the new water tank complements other Shire fire prevention activities including its fire prevention inspection program, bushland reserve fire management works, emergency evacuation mapping, community information sessions and roadside vegetation clearing.

“Mornington Peninsula Shire continues to work closely with all agencies involved in fire prevention on the peninsula, and we remind all residents to ‘be prepared’ this fire season,” he said.

WATER TANK SAFETY

In rural and some residential areas of the Shire, mains water is not available and residents rely on their own private water supply, either through water tanks or bore water.

Water quality from rainwater tanks is variable, even in well-maintained systems. Your system can become contaminated with microorganisms from a range of sources such as leaf debris, animals or animal faeces. Chemicals are another source of contamination, for example pesticides from spray drift, or lead-based paint on flashings or roofs.

Water tanks can also pose a physical hazard. The greatest risk is to young children playing on or near rainwater tanks. All above-ground rainwater tanks should be roofed and access points should be child proofed. Lids of inground water tanks should be secure and checked regularly.

These tips on collecting and storing water will reduce the risk of pathogens or chemical hazards contaminating your private drinking water supply:

- Regularly check and maintain your water tank. If sludge has built up on the bottom of the tank it should be removed by draining and cleaning the tank.
- Seal, screen and cover your tank so that insects, pests and sunlight cannot enter.
- Regularly clean your roof and gutter to remove leaves and other organic material.
- Install screens between your roof and the water tank and consider installing gutter guards.
- The first rainfall after a dry period usually washes most of the contaminants off your roof. A ‘first flush’ or other diversion system can help prevent this dirty water from entering your water tank.
- Disinfect your water supply if you suspect it has become contaminated with pathogens.

For further information contact the Department of Health at www.health.vic.gov.au/water/privatedrinking/rainwater.htm

M MORNINGTON PENINSULA 

WHAT CAN I RECYCLE IN MY BIN?

Waste items that can be recycled include:
- Wrapping paper
- Flatten cardboard
- Drink bottles and cans
- Aluminium cans and foil
- Milk and juice cartons
- Breakfast cereal boxes
- Pots and pans
- Plastic soft drink bottles
- Glass bottles and jars
- Steel cans
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Phone books
- Cards, envelopes and writing paper
- Plastic kitchen ware
- Pot plant containers
- Plastic cups
- Plastic children’s toys

BUT IT WON’T FIT IN THE BIN!

If you have recyclable items that won’t fit into your recycling bin, they can be disposed of for free at any of the Shire’s Resource Recovery Centres or hoppers. All recyclable items are accepted for free, including larger items such as:
- Steel goods
- Some white goods (excluding fridges)
- Hot water services
- Bikes
- Computer equipment including monitors and televisions

Resource Recovery Centres are open every day except Christmas Day & Good Friday, and are located at Rye (280 Truemans Road), Tyabb (21 McKirdys Road) and Mornington (134 Watt Road).

NEED ANOTHER RECYCLING BIN

Did you know?

Mornington Peninsula Shire offers residents the option to purchase an additional recycling bin for a once-off fee of $60. The $60 fee purchases a second recycling bin (same as the normal 240L blue-lidded recycling bin) that will be collected each fortnight alongside the current recycling bin.

There is no further ongoing cost for the additional recycling bin.

TO ORDER YOUR ADDITIONAL BIN

To order an additional recycling bin, please contact Mornington Peninsula Shire and pay the $60 fee or call 1300 850 600 or 5950 1000.

In person: at a Shire Customer Service (Rosebud, Hastings, Mornington and Somerville).

Your additional recycling bin will be delivered within two weeks.
Grants now available for Community Placemaking Projects

New funding opportunities are available from Mornington Peninsula Shire for Community Placemaking projects that require a ‘kick start’. Grants of up to $5,000 are being offered for projects from a total pool of $110,000.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Bev Colomb said Community Placemaking grants are a new initiative for the Shire.

“The grants aim to support local, not-for-profit groups and organisations in delivering projects that have a placemaking focus. Potential projects might be shared activities such as community murals, improvements to local reserves, or community garden projects.

“Most importantly, the projects should provide opportunities for residents to get involved and make new connections to the people and places in their community.

“The Mornington Peninsula has a great track-record in community-driven activities. Placemaking grants are a way of encouraging more groups to share their ideas and activities with the wider community,” she said.

If you have a great idea, talk to your neighbours and approach a local community organisation to work with you. For community groups this is an opportunity to reach out to local residents. Individuals or businesses that are not partnering with community groups in their area will be ineligible.

“Placemaking is about making a difference to the community. It’s about making places ‘special’ and supporting the people, places and spaces that make the Mornington Peninsula such a great place.

“I encourage people involved with community projects to check out the guidelines on the Shire’s website for more information,” said Cr Colomb.

Applications are now being sought and will close on Tuesday 10 March 2015.

Further detail is available in the “Community Placemaking Grants Guidelines” available on the Shire’s website or by contacting the Shire’s Social Planning and Community Development team on 5950 1685.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS OPENING SOON

Is your child ready to start kindergarten in 2016? Registrations for both 3 and 4 year old kindergarten will open on Wednesday 4 March and close on Sunday 12 July.

Mornington Peninsula Shire operates a Central Registration System for 28 community kindergartens providing 4 year old kindergarten and 22 that provide 3 year old kindergarten.

Eligibility

- For 4 year old kindergarten, your child must turn 4 years of age by 30 April 2016.
- For 3 year old kindergarten, your child must turn 3 years of age prior to commencing kindergarten.

Early Start Kindergarten

Early Start Kindergarten provides free or low cost kindergarten to eligible 3 year old children where programs are offered by a qualified teacher. Some services will be able to offer your child a place in a program for four year olds or a mixed age group. Your child may be eligible for early start funding. Your child is eligible for Early Start Kindergarten if they are aged 3 by 30 April in the year they will be attending a kindergarten program, and:

- your child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, or
- your family has had contact with Child Protection (or been referred by them to Child FIRST).

How to Register

- Online at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Kindergarten and complete the online registration form; pay the registration fee and supply the required documents (copy of your child’s birth certificate and copy of a document showing your resident or ratepayer status unless previously supplied)
- one of our customer service centre's, complete the registration form, pay the registration fee and supply the required documents (as above)

For more information please visit our website www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Kindergarten or contact the central registration team on 5950 1650.

FREE homework help for students!

Our Library provides free access to yourtutor, an online service connecting students with qualified teachers and tutors to assist them with their homework needs. Through yourtutor, students have online access to one-on-one personalised homework for assignments, exam preparation, study questions, assignment research and general study skills.

Each tutor is an expert in their field and assists the student with their questions online through controlled chat, whiteboard demonstrations and students can even attach their homework files for review.

It's available for students from Grade 3 to Year 12 in many subjects including English, maths and science, either in the library or at home, from 4pm-8pm Sunday to Friday.

Help is free, immediate, professional, and secure ....all you need is your current library card number and PIN.

To use yourtutor, simply visit Our Library website and select 'yourtutor' from the eLibrary drop down menu. If you need any help with yourtutor, feel free to chat to Our Library customer service staff.

Hastings - T: 5950 1710
Mornington - T: 5950 1820
Rosbud - T: 5950 1230
Somererville - T: 5978 0834
Or visit us at: www.ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au
Neighbour Day 2015 will be held on Sunday 22 March, at Eastbourne Primary School and Seawinds Hub, in Allambi Avenue, Rosebud West between 10am and 2pm.

Neighbour Day is an annual event that celebrates the strength of our community by showcasing local activities and being a great Neighbour.

“Neighbour Day is a great opportunity for local community groups to promote their activities in the local area. Come and enter your pet in a Pet Parade, enjoy the free sausage sizzle and Devonshire teas. Bring the family and enjoy face painting and the jumping castle,” Mornington Peninsula Shire Councillor Antonella Celi said.

Support the local poster and scarecrow competitions where winners will be announced on the day. Also the Good Neighbour awards are back and this is a great opportunity to recognise someone who really makes a difference to your neighbourhood or street.

If you have a good neighbour you would like to nominate, are available to volunteer, donate or wish to have a stall on the day please email your request to tootgarook@familylife.com.au or telephone Moira on 03 5985 1297 or mobile 0425 776 817.

Volunteering builds connections and contributes to a happy, healthy and safe community.

SENIORS STAY CONNECTED

This March will see the first edition of the Shire’s new Positive Ageing Newsletter produced to help keep seniors updated on local activities, events, opportunities and information that is available.

The newsletter will be published four times a year on a seasonal basis and will be available from libraries, neighbourhood houses, Shire Customer Service centres, seniors clubs and groups and online at: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Positive_Ageing
THE RED HILL SHOW.... THERE’S NOTHING LIKE IT!

It’s all systems go for the 87th Red Hill Show to be held at the Red Hill Showgrounds, Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill on Saturday March 28 from 8.30am to 5pm, plus an Entertainment Stage Extra (Bands and Bar) - 3.30pm to 7pm.

The 2015 Show is great value for money – once you have your admission ticket there are many things that are free to see and do.

The pavilions overflow with art, craft, cooking and produce and the livestock competitions let you get up close to the animals – large and small. See the biggest pumpkin; watch the spinners and weavers; pat and feed the farmyard nursery animals; see the cow being milked; cheer on the racing ferrets and watch the open judging of the cooking and cheese. Watch the sensational woodchop where top line axemen compete.

Amazing activities abound on the Showgrounds - circus workshops, Australian wildlife displays, new fairground rides, demonstrations, vintage cars, working dogs, roving performers, sheep shearing and free face painting and pony rides for the kids, food and drinks are available.

Don’t miss the traditional Grand Parade at 2.45pm.

Admission - Family Ticket (2 adults, 3 children 6-18 yrs) $50.
Adults $15. Children 6-18 yrs $10, 5 yrs and under free. Concession $10. Paddock parking $2 per car.

For further information and tickets, please visit www.redhillshow.com.au or follow the Red Hill Show on Facebook and Twitter.

Horse lovers!
Don’t miss the Red Hill Showjumping – 11 and 12 April at Boneo Park, Rosebud or the Clydesdale Spectacular – 11 April at Boneo Park.

This event is proudly supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

ROSEBUD COLOUR THE SKY KITE FESTIVAL
8 MARCH 2015

As Victoria’s largest kite flying event, this free family festival attracts an internationally-acclaimed line-up of professional kite makers and wind artists. Guest kite makers from interstate and New Zealand and will be gracing the skies with their giant maxi kites, colourful land-based wind art and unique delta kite creations.

Novice kite flyers, family kite makers and spectators are invited to join in on the fun and celebrate ‘the art of the kite’.

The kite flying displays are matched by an exciting program of family entertainment: kids activities, kite making workshops, carnival rides, circus workshops, roving performers, live music on stage, heaps of food stalls and more!

Meet the professional Kite Makers informally on Saturday March 7 from 10am-1pm as they preview their 2015 creations, while the festival’s main event is on Sunday 8 March from 11am-5pm.

For more information: www.rosebudkitefestival.com.au
This event is proudly supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Baany to Warrna Ngargee – Water To Water Festival

Learn more about our local Indigenous history, art and culture from members of Willum Warrain Gathering Place, Baluk Arts and community members.

Enjoy a meal from a select group of food vendors, including renowned festival caterer Jerry’s Vegiburgers, food vendors, including renowned

Yirmal and the Yolgnu Boys will return to The Briars to join local musicians, dancers and artists to honour and celebrate our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditional and contemporary cultures. The festival also promotes human rights and diversity and the program will include music and dancers from different parts of Australia and the globe to mark the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Bring a picnic rug and the whole family and let the children explore the natural beauty of The Briars while they participate with Indigenous elders in didgeridoo playing, boomerang painting, book publishing, art workshops, face painting and more.

Meet the professional Kite Makers informally on Saturday March 7 from 10am-1pm as they preview their 2015 creations, while the festival’s main event is on Sunday 8 March from 11am-5pm.

For further information and tickets see links and contact details below:
www.watertowater.org.au
www.facebook.com/watertowaterfestival
Instagram: watertowaterfestival

This event is proudly supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Above: Axemen competing in the woodchop event

Right: Meet the professional Kite Makers
100 YEARS OF ANZAC
ANZAC CENTENNARY 2014 – 2018

Between 2014 and 2018 Australia will commemorate the Anzac Centenary, marking 100 years since our nation’s involvement in the First World War.

The Anzac Centenary is a milestone of special significance to all Australians. Events will take place across the Shire on Anzac Day, Saturday 25 April 2015.

For more information about the Anzac Centenary visit www.anzaccentenary.vic.gov.au.

The program of services and marches held across the peninsula will be available on the Shire website in April.

International Tennis hits the Mornington Peninsula!
21 March – 5 April

Come and see some of the best Australian and international tennis players hit it out at the Mornington Peninsula Tennis International at the Mornington Tennis Centre based at the Shire’s Civic Reserve Recreation Centre, Mornington.

The Mornington Peninsula Tennis International will include the women’s US$15,000 ITF Challenger event from 21-29 March followed by the men’s US$15,000 ITF Futures event from 28 March-5 April.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor Councillor Bev Colomb said the venue is a true tennis destination and offers 12コンピュート clay courts, the same as those used for the WTA event in Stuttgart, state-of-the-art facilities including a player gymnasium and is proving to be perfectly equipped to attract international events.

“On behalf of the Shire and our community I am so pleased to welcome this event and its players to the Mornington Peninsula. International and Australian players will have the chance to compete on this international clay surface unique in Australia prior to their next part of the Tour at the European claycourt season.

“I’m sure our local and visiting tennis fans can’t wait to come along and watch this free event. As well as the top tennis action, there will be a range of activities including the ANZ Tennis Hot Shots clinics and Cardio Tennis sessions.

“This event offers a fantastic opportunity for the community to see world-class tennis right in our backyard. I congratulate the team at Mornington Tennis Club and Civic Reserve Recreation Centre for their support of this Australian Pro Tour event,” she said.

The Mornington Peninsula Tennis International will be held from 21 March – 5 April at the Mornington Tennis Centre, Civic Reserve Recreation Centre, Dunns Road, Mornington. For more information visit www.tennis.com.au/protour

Don’t miss the action! This event is proudly supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire.
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery is the Shire’s major public gallery and is presenting CUSP – the most significant contemporary exhibition of design produced in Australia within the last 10 years. A bold and stimulating exhibition that covers the breadth of design from data visualisation to social robotics, discover some of the most exciting ideas currently being explored by Australian designers. Working ‘on the cusp’ at the edges of what is possible 12 designers apply their ability to think creatively to develop solutions to some of the big challenges we are facing today and into the next decade. CUSP is a major touring exhibition from Object: Australian Design Centre and will be enjoyed by lovers of design, architecture, fashion and anyone who is interested in how designers’ ideas may change the way we inhabit the world. The exhibition will be supported by a number of interesting events for members of our community:

- Hear Chris Bosse’s vision for future cities as large networked systems with intelligent buildings – think soap bubbles, snowflakes and spider webs!
- Find out about designing and retrofitting an established home for sustainable living with Ella Boyan
- Discover how artist and designer Leah Heiss is designing high performance medic jewellery and making them more desirable to wear
- Design focused independent exploration activities for primary and early secondary students

To find out more, visit: www.mprg.mornpen.vic.gov.au/events or phone 5975 4395.

CUSP: Designing into the Next Decade
at Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, 27 February – 3 May 2015