



# **Moira Matters**

**ISSUE 5**

October 2025

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

# Welcome to Moira Matters!

Over the last couple of months, it has been a delight to be part of celebrating the people of Moira through a range of events and activities, acknowledging the region's strong community spirit.

In September and October we have been celebrating popular events, including the return of Youth Fest to Moira Shire. Designed and led by the Moira Youth Council with the support of Council's community services team, the event was designed around creating an event for local youth that celebrates the interests of young people.

We also welcomed the return of the Victorian Seniors Festival in October, and in December we will host the much-loved All Abilities Talent Show. A pinnacle event for our community, the Talent Show celebrates inclusion, support and creativity and it's fantastic to see more performers take the stage each year. We can't wait to see the talents on show at this year's event.

We have more in the pipeline this summer too, with the return of the Bush Nippers water safety and education program, expanded to include a new location at Frank Keenan Reserve in Yarrawonga in addition to Thompsons Beach in Cobram.

Community members are key drivers in building strong, resilient and connected communities and now is a great opportunity to recognise their work with a nomination in the 2026 Australia Day Awards. Council is inviting nominations in six award categories in 2026 – Citizen of the Year; Junior Citizen of the Year; Young Citizen of the Year; Community Event of the Year; Community Organisation of the Year; and Arts, Culture and/or Environment Project of the Year. Nominations are open until Friday November 21 via Council's website.

As we look towards the end of 2025, we begin to reflect on what has already been an incredibly successful year. There has been significant work in setting strong



directions for our future with a focus on delivering for our communities. We also look forward to construction beginning on the long-awaited Yarrawonga Multisport Centre, and continued progress on other landmark major projects including the Numurkah northern flood protection levee, significant bridge renewal works in Nathalia, and the Yarrawonga Library.

We look forward to keeping you informed.

Dr Graeme Emonson PSM  
Chair Administrator

Susan Benedyka  
Administrator

# Australia Day Awards 2026

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond for our community? Now's your chance to recognise their outstanding contribution!

Nominations for the 2026 Moira Shire Australia Day Awards opened in August and will close on Friday, 21 November 2025.

Who can be nominated?

- Australian citizens who have made significant voluntary contributions during 2025
- Individuals who have provided outstanding service to the community over many years
- Schools, community groups, or organisations that have run impactful projects or events.

These awards celebrate the exceptional people and initiatives that inspire and strengthen our community spirit across Moira Shire.

How to nominate: Submit your nomination online at [www.moira.vic.gov.au](http://www.moira.vic.gov.au)

Award announcements will be made at individual District Town Australia Day events.

Help us celebrate the unsung heroes who make Moira Shire such a wonderful place to live!

## Award Categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Arts, Culture and/or Environment Project of the Year

These events are an opportunity to come together, acknowledge our volunteers, and encourage more people to get involved.



## Community Leadership Program

Moira Shire's Community Leadership Program (CLP) commenced on Wednesday, 8 October, welcoming 15 participants eager to develop leadership skills and strengthen community resilience.

The program began with a focus on Emergency Management through the 72-Hour Program, which encourages preparedness during the critical early stages of a crisis.

Sessions were hosted at the Cobram SES facility, where Emma Bugler, Deputy Controller and CLP alum, shared her leadership journey and insights into the SES. Participants also toured the facility and took part in a Survival Scenario Exercise, gaining hands-on experience in emergency response.

Moira Shire Council thanks Emma Bugler and the Cobram SES team for their support in helping make the program a valuable learning experience.





## Seniors Festival

Throughout October, we celebrated our incredible seniors and the amazing contributions they make to our Moira Shire community every day.

This year's Seniors Festival theme was all about:

Connect – rediscovering interests and meeting new people

Create – building new skills and friendships

Celebrate – enjoying all the wonderful experiences life has to offer.

Across the month, more than 25 free and low-cost activities were held, from carpet bowling and table tennis to crafts, morning teas, and information sessions like Understanding Dementia.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and helped make this year's Seniors Festival such a success!



## Youth Fest 2025

What an incredible day at Federation Park on Sunday, 21 September! Youth Fest 2025 was a huge success, bringing our community together with live music from local talent Antonia Maher, Desirable Addictions, Jeramiah Johnston, Makayla Pestrucchi, The Vicerboys and Matilda Altoft, plus a great mix of stalls, service providers, and hands-on activities for all ages.

The atmosphere was buzzing from start to finish as families, friends, and locals came together to celebrate our young people and their creativity.

Developed in partnership with the Moira Youth Council and supported by the Amplify program, Youth Fest is a true collaboration between Council and young community members. The Moira Shire Youth Council, made up of up to 12 locals aged 16–24, helped bring this event to life, turning their vision for a fun, inclusive community celebration into reality.



# All Abilities Talent Show Returns in 2025

Back by popular demand! Moira Shire Council is thrilled to announce the return of our highly anticipated All Abilities Talent Show.

Celebrating the International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD), this special event brings together Council, the All Abilities Advisory Committee, and community partners including Cobram & District Specialist School, Providing All Living Supports (PALS), NCN Health, and Cobram Community House.

While applications to perform have now closed, tickets for audience members will be available from Wednesday, 5 November 2025.

Our 2024 All Abilities Talent Show was a resounding success, bringing the community together to celebrate inclusion, creativity, and the incredible talents of performers of all abilities. This year's theme, We Shine Brighter Together, perfectly captured the event's spirit, inspiring everyone to embrace compassion and positivity.

We can't wait to see what this year's show has in store!



## Event Details

**Date:** Friday 5 December 2025

**Location:** Cobram Civic Centre, Punt Road  
Cobram

**Time:** 9.30am - 12pm

**Cost:** Free

**Parking:** Ample parking available on site and off street

**Accessibility:** We will try our best to make arrangements to suit everybody's needs

## Welcome to Our New Citizens

Moira Shire proudly welcomed 13 new Australians at our National Citizenship Day ceremony on 17 September.

Our new citizens come from nine different countries and now call towns across our Shire home.

We're so proud to celebrate their pledge and the rich experiences they bring to our community.





# Bush Nippers Now at Two Locations

Bush Nippers Expands to Cobram and Yarrawonga

Moira Shire's popular Bush Nippers water safety program is back and for the first time, families can choose between Thompson's Beach, Cobram-Barooga and Lake Mulwala, Yarrawonga, with qualified Life Saving Victoria instructors teaching vital water safety and lifesaving skills in a fun and supportive environment.

Running throughout January 2026, Bush Nippers is designed for children aged 5–13 years, helping them gain confidence around water while learning how to stay safe in regional inland waterways.

The program provides essential skills for local families and is a great way for kids to learn essential water safety skills and build confidence in a safe environment.

The program focuses on building practical skills including:

- Water safety and survival
- Rescue and emergency response
- Environmental awareness
- Physical fitness and confidence

Proudly brought to you by Moira Shire Council, Life Saving Victoria, Barooga Aquatic Recreation Centre, YMCA, and Yarrawonga Health

Registrations are open now!



## BUSH NIPPERS 2026

1 PROGRAM, 2 GREAT LOCATIONS



### COBRAM

JANUARY 2026  
6-8 & 13-15





### YARRAWONGA

JANUARY 2026  
20 - 22



SCAN QR CODES TO REGISTER!



## Bush Nippers 2026 Program

### Cobram Program

6–8 January or 13–15 January 2026

Thompson's Beach, Cobram

Ages 5–13 years | Limited spots

### Yarrawonga Program (NEW!)

20–22 January 2026

Frank Keenan Reserve, Yacht Club

Ages 5–13 years | Limited spots

## Upcoming Local Safety Forums:

Moira Shire Council, in partnership with Victoria Police, has been hosting a series of Local Safety Forums to bring residents together and work towards creating safer communities. These forums provide a chance to raise concerns about crime, road safety, and gender-based violence, and to work with local stakeholders to set safety priorities.

The final session will be held in Yarrawonga:

- **Yarrawonga**  
Tuesday 18 November, 5.30pm – 7pm  
Sacred Heart College Gym, Yarrawonga

# Stay Connected with Moira Matters

Did you know there's always a way to have your say? The Moira Matters website is your go-to place to share your ideas, give feedback, and stay up to date with projects happening across our Shire.

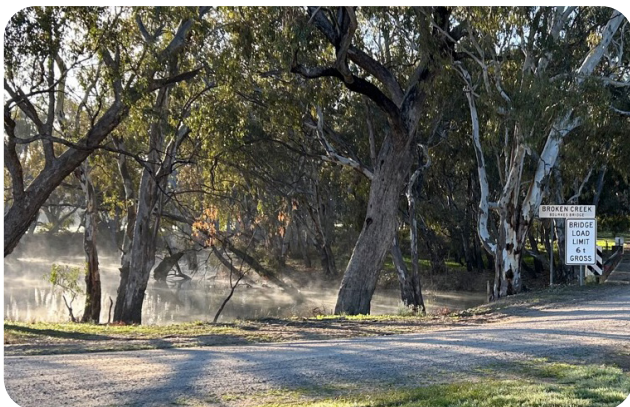
Whether it's a big project or a small local improvement, your voice helps shape our community.

Here are some recent opportunities the community had to have their say:

- **Economic Development Strategy:** Helped shape the next stage of economic growth across the region.
- **Cobram East & South Drainage Strategy:** Provided feedback on two draft strategies to tackle stormwater management in Cobram East and South.
- **Yarrawonga Aerodrome Master Plan:** Contributed to plans outlining \$7 million in proposed upgrades over the next decade.
- **Numurkah, Katunga and Strathmerton Corridor Plan:** Supported a proactive step to ensure the Corridor continues to thrive, economically, socially, and environmentally.
- **Road Safety Strategy:** Shared ideas to help reduce road trauma and improve safety for everyone in our community.
- **Domestic Animal Management Plan:** Guided how we support pet owners, enforce animal regulations, and promote responsible pet ownership over the next four years.

Visit Moira Matters anytime to see what's open for comment, learn what's coming up, and join the conversations that matter most to you.

Your ideas.  
Your feedback.  
Our community.



## Bourke's Bridge Closure

Construction has started at Bourke's Bridge, with Murray Construction on site to carry out demolition and rebuilding works. From Monday 15 September, Bourke's Bridge and Murray Road (between Hardings Road and Ormonds Road) are closed to traffic.

Detours and traffic management are in place and will continue until December. Please plan ahead, allow extra travel time, and take care when travelling.



In progress



## Cobram Tennis Gets a Boost

A brand new hydration station has just been installed at Cobram Lawn Tennis Club on William Street - perfect timing for the start of the 2025-26 season!

This is the 14th hydration station across our region thanks to the fantastic partnership between Goulburn Valley Water. You'll now find stations in 10 towns across the Shire.

Now players and visitors can easily stay hydrated while enjoying the club's 16 lawn tennis courts.



Completed

Scan to  
subscribe



## Community eNewsletter

If you'd like to stay informed about all the great things happening in our region, we have just the thing for you - our free email newsletter.

## Snap Send Solve

See something that needs fixing?

Snap Send Solve is a free app that makes it quick and easy to report local issues like potholes, graffiti, dumped rubbish, or broken street signs. Just snap a photo, send the details, and the report comes straight to Council.

Download the app on the App Store or Google Play, or scan the QR code.

## Do your bit, on the go.



### Snap a photo

Open the app, select 'Snap' and add your photo.



### Confirm Snap location

Confirm your Snap's location either using the map pin or address bar.



### Select incident type

Select the relevant incident type for your Snap.



### Send your Snap

Select 'Send Snap' to send your Snap off to be solved.



### Solve

The relevant Solver will receive your Snap, so that it can be solved.



## What's On

There's always something happening in our vibrant region - from local markets and festivals to workshops and live performances. Check out our events calendar and discover what's on from Bundalong to Barmah and everywhere in between.

Do you have an event coming up? We'd love to share it! Local community groups and organisers are encouraged to add their events to help everyone stay connected and involved.

Visit our website to see what's on in our region or submit your event



Scan to  
visit website



### PHONE

5871 9222



### NRS

133 677



### EMAIL

info@moira.vic.gov.au



### CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

44 Station Street, Cobram & 100 Belmore Street, Yarrawonga