

# myballarat

City of Ballarat – community magazine

May 2006

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## Immunisation today: more than just a jab in the arm

Gone are the days when the only option available for free immunisation was lining up single-file in a draughty hall, only to reach the front and receive a quick and impersonal jab in the arm. Today, immunisation programs increasingly focus on the overall health and wellbeing of the child, encouraging the establishment of the relationship between the Maternal & Child Health nurse and child from birth until school-age.



CITY OF  
BALLARAT

## From the CEO's desk

A measure of any community is its willingness to take on new challenges, to think outside of the square, to embrace change, and welcome new people to its midst. Ballarat succeeds on all counts and I'm excited to report on three initiatives recently undertaken by Council which have enriched our community.

As part of the Migrant Attraction and Retention Population Strategy (MARS), Council has launched its Multicultural Ambassador Program to enhance community awareness, and foster social acceptance of migrants in Ballarat. The program will provide leadership within the migrant community and recognise the commitment and contribution made by migrants in our community.

It is envisaged the ambassador program will provide positive advocates for skilled migration through testimonials, speaking engagements and project work.

Earlier this month Ballarat's second Innovation Festival, IF06, with its theme 'Imagination', was held in our city. I'm passionate about the value of innovation - its importance in nurturing creativity and keeping communities at the cutting edge. IF06 highlighted local achievements in innovation through a series of workshops and forums which involved business, industry and schools.

The third initiative is the establishment of a Ballarat Treasures Register in which the city's historic monuments and sites will be showcased in a photographic expo. The Register will allow us to formally recognise our most treasured landmarks, structures and artifacts, which played a role in shaping Ballarat's history and cultural identity. The Register will not include people, and items do not necessarily have to be decades old, for example the Australian Ex-Prisoner of War Memorial could be included.

Nominations from the community will be invited later this month and assessed during August and September with the announcement of successful items to be placed on the Register to coincide with the

commencement of the 10th World Conference of Historical Cities in Ballarat in October 2006.



Richard Hancock  
CEO  
City of Ballarat

## The City's commitment to child health

Immunisation is vitally important for the health of our children, and to the public at large. The City of Ballarat's immunisation service provides an increasingly thorough and holistic program to ensure that each child receives the necessary protection from some of the world's most preventable and harmful diseases.

Over the next financial year, the City's Maternal and Child Health nurses will deliver the child immunisation program at child health care centres, as part of their responsibility to follow the child's health from birth to school age.

During the coming months, Maternal and Child Health nurses will begin immunising at the centres to coincide with infant's or toddler's key visits, and in line with the National Immunisation Schedule Program.

The immunisation process should prove less daunting to parents when administered at the Maternal and Child Health Centre by a nurse who knows both the parent and their infant. The nurse will ensure that the parent is provided with information relating to vaccines prior to the first immunisation. Parents will have extra time with the nurse at each immunisation visit to ensure their anxieties are dispelled and the child does not have any adverse reactions to the vaccine.

### The City's Immunisation Coordinator

A qualified Nurse Vaccinator stepped in to the role of Immunisation Coordinator in September last year to provide support to the three Nurse Vaccinators (one part-time, two casuals). The Immunisation Coordinator, Louise Feery, recently facilitated the service's move from Environmental Health to the Maternal & Child Health unit.



*During 2004-2005, the City of Ballarat immunised 10,735 adults and children. Up to 90% of 0-6 year olds were immunised during this year, which was above the state and national average.*

# Immunisation schedule - May 2006

The City of Ballarat's free public immunisation sessions are held each month throughout the municipality. The full Immunisation Schedule can be accessed via the City's website at [www.ballarat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au), or by calling 5320 5850.

Immunisation sessions during May 2006:

Ballarat Central	Wednesday 3 May, Wednesday 17 May, 2.30-4pm	Eastwood Leisure Centre, Eastwood Street, Ballarat
Wendouree	Tuesday 9 May, Tuesday 23 May, 10-11am	Cooinda Centre, Learmonth Road, Wendouree
Sebastopol	Tuesday 16 May, 2-3pm	Sebastopol Senior Citizens Centre, Corner Vickers and Beverin Streets, Sebastopol
Buninyong	Thursday 18 May, 11.15am-12pm	Maternal & Child Health Centre, Learmonth Street, Buninyong
Evening	Wednesday 31 May, 5.30-7pm	Eastwood Leisure Centre, Eastwood Street, Ballarat
New mothers	Wednesday 10 May, Wednesday 24 May, 9.30am-12pm	The Phoenix, 25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat

## School Immunisation Certificates

It is a legal requirement that all children have an immunisation certificate before they start primary school which shows whether or not they have been vaccinated against a range of diseases. The certificate shows if a child has been immunised against measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) and polio.

The City of Ballarat no longer issues School Immunisation Certificates. Parents requiring a school immunisation certificate should contact the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.

The Australian Childhood Immunisation Register records details of vaccinations given to children under the age of seven, helping parents to ensure that children are protected from preventable diseases.



## From the Mayor's desk



Volunteers play a vital role in strengthening regional communities such as ours. Ballarat is fortunate to be home to a large number of people who selflessly give up their time for the benefit of those less fortunate and in need of support.

We see volunteers at work in a wide range of areas. The back page of this edition of Myballarat looks at some of Ballarat's volunteers; those who tirelessly continue the important work of the Meals on Wheels service; those who keep the world-class Ballarat Begonia Festival running smoothly year after year; and, those who provide invaluable advice to visitors at the City's Visitor Information Centres.

One of the most important volunteer-supported organisations is Lifeline Ballarat. Last year Lifeline Ballarat helped over 10,000 callers in the Ballarat community. This is a significant gift to our community.

To allow this service to continue to help Ballarat people 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Lifeline Ballarat needs the help of more caring and committed telephone counsellors.

New volunteers are asked to commit to 12 hours per week for a minimum of two years, and are required to complete a rewarding 60-hour training course, a supervised 12 hour probationary period and a nationally recognised two day Assist Workshop (suicide prevention) for the contribution fee of \$290.

I urge anyone with the time and willingness to give back to the community to get in touch with Betty or Lois at Lifeline Ballarat on 5332 1009.



Cr David Vendy  
Mayor  
City of Ballarat

# ABOUT US: Local Laws and Traffic

Based in the accessible Local Laws and Traffic office on Gillies Street, the City of Ballarat's Local Laws and Traffic unit looks after a wide range of areas, ranging from the 60-plus people who make sure our kids make it safely across the road to school, to on-call collection of dangerous animals. The division delivers services within five broad areas of responsibility.

## Local Laws 1

The Local Laws and Traffic office also issues permits to people who want to place tables and chairs on a footpath, hold an event, raffle, or busk on council-managed land such as the Bridge Mall, or hold a controlled burn during a fire restriction period. The permits ensure that the Local Laws and Traffic officers can manage and protect public Council-run land in the interests of all residents.

## School Crossing Supervision 2

Local Laws and Traffic is also responsible for ensuring that School Crossing Supervisors help school children cross 58 of the 65 school crossings in the Ballarat area. The School Crossing Supervisors work for around three quarters of an hour, to an hour a day, and are managed and recruited by the Superintendent of Traffic. For more information, please call 5320 5714.

## Parking enforcement 3

The Local Laws and Traffic parking enforcement service monitors and enforces parking provisions across the municipality. Council's six Traffic Officers pay particular attention to the Central Business Areas of Ballarat to encourage greater access and parking turnover for all residents to the most popular business precincts. Parking time restrictions are based on 'greater access' recommendations by engineering consultants.

## Animal Control 4

The Local Laws and Traffic unit is responsible for the maintenance of a register of registered cats and dogs. The division actively promotes responsible pet ownership and encourages the registration of all dogs and cats at the City of Ballarat's Customer Service Centre in the Phoenix Building on 25 Armstrong Street South.

The division also provides an after hours service for animal emergency situations, and assists with animal nuisance issues such as dog attacks. The Local Laws and Traffic office also provides a cat cage lending service for people who need to capture feral cats, and works to resolve resident issues when dealing with domestic animals, such as barking dogs.

## Fire Prevention 5

The City of Ballarat's fire prevention role is determined by the Country Fire Authority Act, which requires the employment of a Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. The Local Laws and Traffic unit's Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, Bill Cook, is responsible for a wide range of activities including the development and implementation of the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan, coordination of the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee, and for minimising fire hazards on Council land.



## Business corner

### Ballarat Business Trade Day

At the heart of the M2006 Commonwealth Games a number of high-level business and government representatives from India and Victoria joined the Ballarat business community for networking and a fine-dining lunch prepared by creative Ballarat chef, Peter Ford.

The Ballarat Business Trade Day, held at the Ballarat Mining Exchange in March, was attended by 180 guests. Organised by the City of Ballarat as part of the M2006 Business

Club Australia Program, the event provided local businesses with a 'golden opportunity' to network and show credentials to potential business partners.

During the lunch, special guests Sunil Kant Munjal, the Indian Managing Director of Hero Cycles Ltd, and the Hon. John Brumby, State Treasurer and Minister for State and Regional Development, discussed Indian business, industry and trade opportunities with attendees. Cricketing identity and businessman Ian Healy was the highlight of the day when he provided a light-

hearted insight into the Indian cricket industry.

Lunch was followed by the Networking & Business Capability Showcase - a one-on-one networking session to further develop trade ties with India. "All sectors of Ballarat's business community were present: ICT; manufacturing; tourism, food; health," according to Damian Lubeek, Council's Economic Development Officer.

"People mingled and networked all day, and not just during the showcase as was expected. Two Memorandums Of

Understanding were signed, and there are two or three deals in the pipeline between Indian and Ballarat businesses because of the event. This may be the beginning of something which happens every couple of years."



## Local laws made easy

The responsible use of toy vehicles, skateboards, roller skates and in-line skates

Any person who uses toy vehicles, skateboards, roller skates or in-line skates on a road or footpath - or causes or authorises another person to use toy vehicles, skateboards, roller skates or in-line skates - must ensure that the use does not inconvenience, obstruct, hinder, endanger, alarm or prevent the free passage of any other user of the road or footpath.



### Local Law 5.24 - the use of skateboards and bicycles

Local Law 5.24 requires that a person must not use a skateboard, bicycle, roller skates or in-line skates in an area where such activity has been prohibited by Council resolutions. Currently, the use of skateboards, bicycles, roller skates or in-line skates is prohibited in the Bridge Mall and the Phoenix Mall.

Any person who uses a skateboard, a bicycle, roller skates, or in-line skates in the prohibited area may receive an on-the-spot fine, and may have the item removed and impounded by a City of Ballarat appointed Authorised Officer.



## Blueprint Ballarat Community Committee

From August 2004 to March 2005, the City of Ballarat conducted the most extensive community planning exercise the city had seen for more than a decade. The objective was to establish priorities for the growth and development of Ballarat over the next 25 years, a blueprint plan for Ballarat.

An outcome of this process was the recommendation to establish a community committee to assist with the implementation of the plan. Ballarat's vision for the future is now a step closer to implementation, with the formal launch of the Blueprint Ballarat Community Committee on Wednesday 5 April, which was attended by former Premier of Victoria, the Hon Joan Kirner AM.

To be led by Ms Gerardine Christou, the Committee comprises a number of prominent Ballarat individuals who will work with the City of Ballarat to drive the implementation of Blueprint Ballarat's community vision.

The Committee will provide advice on the prioritisation of projects to Council, facilitate and initiate projects to ensure the community's vision is achieved, and work with a number of agencies and organisations to coordinate Blueprint Ballarat's implementation and its periodic review.

For more information on the Blueprint Ballarat Community Committee, please contact Anne-Marie Maley, Corporate Strategy Officer, on 5320 5739.

## Building Ballarat



### Howitt Street streetscape improvements

Over the period from February to May 2006, the popular Howitt Street shopping centre strip received a much-needed makeover. Funding for the project was allocated under Council's 2005/06 budget for capital works recommended in the Howitt Street Shopping Centre Urban Design Framework, as well as funding from the Department of Sustainability and Environment under the State Government Pride of Place Program.

This shopping centre precinct is in the process of receiving new trees and groundcover plantings, new street furniture including seats, bins, bollards and bike racks; new pedestrian and vehicle crossings; footpath and feature paving treatments and new precinct signage and a community shelter. Other improvements include kerbs, minor drainage works, and line marking.

### Ballarat Aquatic Centre redevelopment

The Ballarat Aquatic Centre, the region's most popular and well-used indoor recreation complex, is in the process of receiving a one million dollar upgrade. The City of Ballarat has contributed \$900,000 to the upgrade. Sport and Recreation Victoria has contributed additional funding of \$200,000.

The redevelopment, which focuses on improvements to the dry-area facilities, has already begun. The size of the gym will be increased, a new aerobics area and health suites will be provided, the main entrance foyer and cafe areas improved, and new office, storage and meeting spaces will be built.

The City of Ballarat anticipates that the improvements will result in an increase in the number and level of services offered by the Ballarat Aquatic Centre, and a rise in the number of patrons who access the facilities.



## Our Roads

### *Roadworks completed*

Significant work on Ballarat's roads was completed during April. Mair Street, west of Drummond Street, has been reconstructed, in the second stage of the upgrade of this section of the road network. Work at the Cuthberts Road roundabout involved pavement reconstruction and realignment of the kerbing on the entries and exits to improve traffic flow.

Norman Street, a key east-to-west link road received pavement reconstruction and drainage improvements. Gregory Street has also been reconstructed including drainage improvements for the section approximately 300m west of Gillies Street. This section of Gregory Street provides access to an important and developing industrial area of Ballarat.

The Camp Street upgrade concluded in late March, complementing the adjacent infrastructure in this highly important heritage and arts precinct. The M2006 Commonwealth Games Live Site was a fantastic activity in this quarter of Ballarat's Central Business Area.

The upgrade of four of Ballarat's historic streets and laneways in the Central Business Area - Camp Street, Bath Lane, Town Hall Lane and Chancery Lane - has been completed. Bluestone kerbs and channels were restored, overhead powerlines were placed underground, and various pavements were reconstructed, footpaths resurfaced, and street lights installed. The powerline undergrounding was made possible via a one for one State Government Powerline Relocation Committee Grant.



### *Works in-progress*

Roadworks currently in progress include the conversion of heritage street lights along Lydiard Street from gas to electricity.

The Greenhalghs Road link through the south west sector of Ballarat (between Wiltshire Lane and Sutton Street) is receiving pavement reconstruction and drainage improvements.

The Phoenix Mall upgrade will see lighting upgraded and improvements to access the space fronting the Central Square shopping centre. The upgrade will also include use of functional public art in the space. These works are consistent with the design principles adopted by Council for the Phoenix Mall. The aim is to assist the Phoenix Mall achieve its full cultural and physical streetscape potential as an inviting and effective public space.

### *Roadworks ahead*

A large number of roadworks are in the pipeline for the coming months. Reconstruction of the section of Humffray Street between Elsworth Street to Sykes Avenue has commenced and will improve access to residential areas and the Ballarat South Sewerage Treatment Plant.

Reconstruction of the Fussell Street link from Brown Hill to the Canadian precinct, the first stage of the upgrade of this road, is nearing completion. Also in progress are works on Slatey Creek Road, and the Princes Street connection between Victoria Street and Eureka Street, which is being widened and upgraded.

Residential access via Larter St, around 200m south of Lal Lal St, is under reconstruction and due for completion in May. To improve access to the Little Bendigo Primary School, Monte Street (east of Draper Street) will receive pavement reconstruction and improved parking.



# My ward

The City of Ballarat is divided into nine municipal electorate wards with one councillor elected to represent each ward. Councillors are elected for a four-year term unless as the result of a by-election.

## Ward & Councillor finder

Not sure which ward you live in?  
Not sure who your Councillor is?  
The City of Ballarat Ward & Councillor finder is available at  
[www.ballarat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr David Vendy  
Wendouree Ward  
P: 5320 5528  
E: [mayor@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:mayor@ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr Gary Anderson  
Canadian Ward  
P: 0418 503 770  
E: [garyanderson@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:garyanderson@ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr Geoff Hayes  
Alfredton Ward  
P: 0411 857 788  
E: [geoffhayes@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:geoffhayes@ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr Herman Ruyg  
Central Ward  
P: 0409 153 092  
E: [hermanruyg@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:hermanruyg@ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr Peter Innes  
Buninyong Ward  
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Cr Wayne Rigg  
Learmonth Ward  
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E: [waynerigg@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:waynerigg@ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Cr Stephen Jones  
Caledonian Ward  
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Cr Ian Jolly  
Nerrina Ward  
P: 0418 617 996  
E: [ianjolly@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:ianjolly@ballarat.vic.gov.au)

Want to write to your Councillor?  
All correspondence is to be addressed to:  
City of Ballarat  
PO Box 655  
BALLARAT VIC 3353



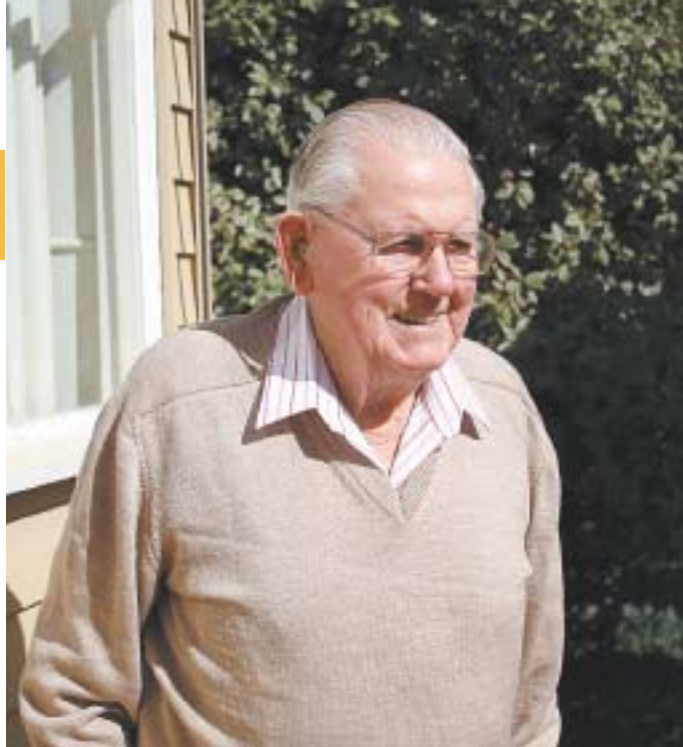
Cr Des Hudson  
Sebastopol Ward  
P: 0409 865 093  
E: [deshudson@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:deshudson@ballarat.vic.gov.au)

## Residents discuss

Caledonian Ward: Alex Barnett

Alexander Barnett OAM (Order of Australia Medal) has lived on Eureka Street for all of his 90 years. He has lived in his current house, which is just a hop-skip-and-jump from the Eureka Stockade, for 62 of those 90 years.

A keen participant and supporter of Caledonian Ward issues, Alex joined the the Eureka Stockade Memorial Park Committee in 1946 and was a member until fairly recently. "The committee has been going since 1912," he said. "My grandmother was a foundation member, and my parents were members, so I naturally got dragged in!"



"I was one of the volunteers responsible for building the Eureka Pool in 1972. The Committee also set the ball rolling for the development of the Eureka Centre and also set up, and still runs, the Eureka Stockade Caravan Park, which is where all the funds come from for the Reserve. We had a big committee for a long time there. We even used to run carnivals and events. I'm not involved anymore - I leave it to the younger ones, although it's hard to get them involved these days."

Today, he is concerned to see so many public spaces under-used. "Community facilities such as the pools in Brown Hill and Buninyong were all put in by dedicated teams of volunteers over the years," he said. "We'll lose a lot of public space if we're not using them all the time."

Recognising that it is "not an easy job" to prioritise where community money is spent, Alex is concerned about a couple of recent decisions to "spend big money on one place and not another". He explained; "The Brown Hill pool was closed as it was underused, then a few weeks later Council announced that it will plan to spend over \$1million on the Ballarat Aquatic Centre. All the Brown Hill pool would have needed was a few thousand dollars, or possibly even up to \$15,000."

Back on the topic of the Eureka Reserve, Alex would like to see a cover installed for the Eureka Pool to enable it to be used for more than four to five months in the year. "The Eureka Pool is a 50 metre, eight lane, Olympic pool. Because of the McKenzie family, it's as good as the day it was put in. Graeme McKenzie, who manages the place, already has the plans for the cover. It wouldn't be cheap, I know there's a need to justify these things."

"We can't do much with the gardens because of the water situation. I would like to see the Reserve gardens like they used to be. There were garden beds right through there once."

# Protecting our future

## Lead On - engaging Ballarat's youth

Established in 2005 and chaired by City of Ballarat CEO Richard Hancock, Lead On Ballarat is one of 16 groups which participates in the six year-old national Lead On initiative. The program aims to foster strong connections between young people, the community and business groups, by providing real-life projects and business industry mentors.

The young people who have been involved in the program over the past year gained increased confidence in the workplace environment, worked with mentors (or 'active advisers'), developed project management and industry skills, and gained valuable work experience to add to their resumes.

Lead On Ballarat supports a number of engaging programs, such as the Community Door participation program, which provides opportunities for young people to network and further develop business-related skills through committees and involvement in a number of community groups.

Lead On Ballarat is auspiced by the City of Ballarat in conjunction with Lead On Australia. Sponsors and supporters include: CGU Insurance; Highlands Local Learning & Employment Network; Bendigo Bank; Central Highlands Primary Care Partnership; The Courier; Neighborhood Cable; Strong Consulting; Central Highlands Sports Assembly; Ballarat Community Health; Grampians Psychiatric Services; Department of Human Services; Federal MP Catherine King; Regent Cinemas; and, University of Ballarat.

Any young people, businesses or community groups wanting more information should contact Dawn Veale on 5336 5023, or visit [www.leadon.com.au](http://www.leadon.com.au)



## Looking after Ballarat's waterways

Sediment and erosion can cause significant problems to Ballarat's waterways, harming aquatic plants and animals, and potentially leading to stormwater pipe blockages, flooding and increased maintenance costs.

To address sediment and erosion issues, the City of Ballarat hosted a conference in March conducted by the International Erosion Control Association (Aust) to provide information to many different groups on how to comply with legislative requirements for sediment control.

City of Ballarat staff, other councils (some from as far away as Shepparton), Department of Primary Industries (DPI) staff, consultants, road contractors and developers attended the conference and heard from expert presenters from Melbourne, Sydney and Tasmania.

Delegates shared information and were presented with the latest research and technologies. Topics included: the types and causes of erosion and sedimentation; techniques to control erosion and sedimentation; EPA regulations and enforcement; council regulation of building and construction sites; sediment run-off from unsealed roads; and, benefits to builders and developers in maintaining a clean and well-managed site.

Some of the most popular sessions focussed on practical tips and techniques for controlling erosion and sediment. Very graphic images of erosion and sedimentation were displayed, which made attendees think about their own activities, and how they could improve their practices.

Liz Mynes, Council's Stormwater Co-ordinator and Acting Environmental Policy Officer encourages education and awareness to lead to a reduction in sediment polluting Ballarat's waterways, and ensure a healthy environment for the future. For more information, please call 5320 5108.





## Litter is everyone's responsibility...

Many tonnes of rubbish are removed from Ballarat's stormwater system each year at a huge cost to the community. Even more rubbish escapes into our creeks and waterways, polluting the environment and damaging fragile ecosystems.

Litter is a significant issue for the City of Ballarat which spends over \$500,000 every year on clean-up activities such as litter pick-up, street sweeping, street litter bins and emptying Gross Pollutant Litter Traps in the drains system.

To avoid this, don't sweep litter or dirt from a footpath into the gutter, always place rubbish securely in rubbish bins, and keep litter bags in the car to prevent rubbish being thrown out the window. Business owners are advised to minimise the amount of product packaging and to encourage customers to dispose of their waste appropriately.

### Recycling update

Last year the Ballarat community recycled 7,848 tonnes of material. According to data compiled by the City of Ballarat's recycling processor this equated to: 61,221 trees saved; 11,773 barrels of oil; 193,082 kWh of electricity; 18,837 of cubic metres of landfill saved; 149, 662, 444 litres of water; and, 805 greenhouse gas saving Co2 equivalents (tonnes).

### What can and can't be recycled?

What **can** be recycled: glass bottles and jars; newspapers, magazines and cardboards; steel and aluminium cans; plastic containers (numbers 1 to 7); milk and juice cartons; and, UHT long-life containers.

What **can't** be recycled: garden waste; Pyrex; crockery or broken glass; motor oil containers; hazardous waste; polystyrene; plastic wrap; plastic bags; nappies; and, general garbage and waste.

### Don't bag it and then bin it

Materials in plastic bags cannot be processed safely in the sorting process and are therefore treated as contamination.

Ultimately contamination costs the community both environmentally and economically as the material goes to landfill instead of being recycled.

### If in doubt, leave it out

Some items can contaminate the recycling process, causing whole loads of recyclables to go to landfill. Dangerous items can also cause health and safety problems for workers at the materials recycling facility.



### Collection Calender

Have you moved into a new house and aren't sure what day your recyclables and rubbish are collected? The City of Ballarat's Collection Calender is available at [www.ballarat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au).



### Greenwaste to nutrient rich compost

Did you know that the grass clippings, prunings and leaves taken to the transfer station as greenwaste are converted into nutrient-rich

compost? Now is the time to utilise the City of Ballarat's kerbside greenwaste collection service to accommodate your autumn gardening efforts.

The kerbside greenwaste collection service operates on a user-pays system and is collected on Council's behalf by contractors Organic Recyclers Pty Ltd. Residents can use their old 240 litre garbage bins to dispose of unwanted greenwaste and other approved organic matter, including foodscraps (wrapped in newspaper), and have it collected on a fortnightly basis.

Fees for collection are \$6 per month to collect greenwaste from a 240 litre bin provided by the owner, and \$9 per month (including a \$20 deposit) to collect greenwaste from a 240 litre bin provided by Organic Recyclers. Prepaid packages of three, six or 12 months duration are also available.

For more information, please call Organic Recyclers on 5334 2621, or call at the Gillies Street Transfer Station on 5334 2621.

# Ballarat @ play



The Cinema Theatre Association from the UK toured Her Majesty's Theatre in February, guided by Theatre Publicist Peter Freund.

## Her Maj backstage pass

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be backstage at Her Majesty's Theatre, to be waiting for the curtain call and then to step out under the bright lights to face the waiting crowd? If you're not a world-class performer, or about to compete in the annual South Street Competitions, then the best way to get backstage is through the Theatre's on-request Tours Program.

On non-performance days, the Tours Program takes bookings from groups of up to 50 people at the very reasonable price of \$5 per-head. Two or three one-and-a-half hour tours are booked each month. Visitors are shown through the historic building and given an up-close look at the equally historic theatre organ.

Tours are lead by Her Majesty's knowledgeable Theatre Publicist, Peter Freund. "I tell the story of the building - the way you can read the history of the place through changes to the building," he said. "A lot of people just like poking round backstage or having a demonstration of the Compton Organ. We show some interesting artefacts, including our lucky charm, a mummified cat found in the foundations: kids love that."



## Thank you...

Many of the 2006 Ballarat Begonia Festival's volunteers received an official "thank you" from Cr Des Hudson and Festival Director Barbara Chalkley at Portico Restaurant on Monday 10 April.



Next Generation VCE Art and Design 2006, formerly The Len Brookman VCA Art Awards Exhibition, was launched on Friday 17 February. The exhibition highlights some of the outstanding achievements of young artists from Secondary Colleges in the Grampians Region and was on display at the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery until Sunday 23 April.

This important annual exhibition of young people's art was supported by the Department of Education & Training, the Catholic Education Office, the Lions Club of Ballarat and City of Ballarat Community Arts as well as a range of local sponsors. The exhibition catalogue was funded through the Hugh Williamson Foundation.

Announced on Thursday 27 April, the public-voted People's Choice Award went to Justine Crameri for her portrait of 'Lindsey' (oil on canvas). The winners of the Next Generation VCE Art and Design 2006 awards were:

Category	Winner	Work
Photography	Robert Jordan	Advanced Hair-(series of 3)
Works on Paper	Ella Dobbyn	Eat, Drink, man woman
Encouragement	Roscoe Gunn	Pollution No 1
Painting	Emma Parker	Green Mass
Folio	Mary Quinn	Reflection on change, self portrait
Sculpture	Hannah Shaw	Paper Wall
Mixed Media	Karinne Tunnccliffe	Cultural Overlay
Textiles	Anna Rowlands	Two Series, Dancing



## The M2006 Live Site gig

On Tuesday 21 March, Camp Street was jammed with up to 1,000 people celebrating the 2006 Commonwealth Games Live Site gig.

The free gig got underway with local bands Chris Appleton, 6 Months Later, Flynt and I am Spartacus, and featured street performances by ErTH and the Exisdance street dancers. The crowd then rocked to the sounds of Killing Heidi which performed several of its No.1 hits such as 'Mascara' and 'Superman/Supergirl'.

The gig was supported by the FreeZa Funship committee, Mushroom Music, The Push and City of Ballarat's Youth Services unit. The Funship Committee is a group of Ballarat teens who organise and support events for Ballarat's youth.

The Committee also supports local bands by providing them with the opportunity to showcase their talents. Freeza has helped launch the careers of Ballarat bands including Armageddon Sky and Epicure.



## Successful M2006 Cultural Festival and Live Site

The verdict is in - the M2006 Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival was a success! Nearly 10,000 people attended the incident-free festival held at the Camp Street Live Site over the entertainment-packed 11-day period from Wednesday 15 to Sunday 26 March.

This successful festival highlighted the suitability of the Camp Street precinct as a world-class arts venue and gathering point. It exposed locals to a diverse range of talent, from Indian hip hop to Islander pop, and provided an opportunity for local talent to perform to large crowds.



In front of a crowd of around 200 locals and visitors, 38 skaters competed in the **Ballarat Skate Competition** on a sunny Saturday in March at the Ballarat Skate Park on Main Road. Special guests on the day were from new skate company Folklore, which brought along in-house skate team members, promoted their new products and gave out lots of stickers to the crowd.

Luke Pettingill won the U15 category, Matt Foy won the U18 category, and Folklore skater Brenton Weihrach won the Open category. New to the competition, a 'deck' (skateboard) for the Best Slam of the Day was awarded for the best crash, which was received by courageous 14 year-old Jaymz Staves.



## Events and entertainment

### What's on at Her Majesty's Theatre



#### Mr Baileys Minder

Tuesday  
2 May

Leo Bailey is Australia's greatest living artist.

Incapacitated, his brain burned out by booze, he lives in a fabulous hovel, built into a cliff overlooking Sydney Harbour. His resentful daughter has been through a succession of minders. But along comes Therese - down to her last job and determined to make a go of it.

Kate Mulvany stars in this tough and funny play. The culture vultures circle and the house disintegrates along with the artist's body, as discoveries are made about the beauty of letting go. Griffin Theatre Company in Sydney is Australia's leading new writing theatre. It develops, produces and promotes contemporary Australian theatre texts in a way that is fresh, passionate, challenging and entertaining.

### Queen - It's a Kind of Magic Saturday 6 May

The Queen tribute show 'Queen - It's A Kind of Magic' is coming back to Australia. The revue was started by Craig Pescos who was singing the music of Queen 10 years ago in Manchester pubs. That evolved into the 'It's A Kind of Magic' tribute show five years ago.

The show will be back in Australia not long after the successful 'We Will Rock You' stage show finished up on the live circuit. Queen had 23 Top Ten hits and the tribute show has a setlist of 23 songs. Queen guitarist Brian May has given approval to the show calling the performance "brilliant".

### South Pacific Wednesday 17 - Saturday 27 May

On an idyllic South Pacific island during the turbulent years of World War II, an American Lieutenant and a Navy nurse each have to reassess their American values when one falls in love with an Island girl and the other with a French plantation owner with a past.

Featuring such well loved tunes as 'Some Enchanted Evening', 'Bali Ha'i', 'Happy Talk', 'There is Nothing Like a Dame' and 'I'm Gonna Wash that Man Right Outa My Hair', the company that produced 'The Wizard of Oz' in 2005 brings this Rogers & Hammerstein Classic to Ballarat for the first time in thirty years.

For more information, please contact Her Majesty's Theatre on 5333 5888, or visit [www.hermaj.com](http://www.hermaj.com)

### What's on at the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery



H. J. Johnston, The Primrose Gatherer, watercolour. A.S. Murray Bequest.

#### Drawn Together - the drawing lives of Nora Heysen, Judy Cassab and Margaret Woodward 6 May - 2 July

A Parramatta Heritage Centre Touring Exhibition, this extraordinary exhibition, gathers drawings and associated prints and paintings that span the lives of these three artists and covers nearly eighty years of art making in Australia.



Margaret Woodward, Epiphany and the feather of a dove, c. 2000. Private Collection

#### Watercolours from the BFAG Collection 13 May - 9 July

The Ballarat Fine Art Gallery has an exceptional holding of watercolours collected over 120 years, which includes both European and Australian works. This exhibition brings together a selection of the best from the collection, some of which have not been on display for several decades.

For more information, please contact the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery on 5320 5858, or visit [www.balgal.com](http://www.balgal.com) Open daily 10.30 - 5.00, closed Good Friday and Christmas Day.

## May Events

### Buninyong Film Festival Friday 5 May - Saturday 6 May

Screened in the Buninyong Town Hall, this is a friendly, country-style festival with great films and supper. For more information, please contact Sue Nunn on 5341 2266, or visit [www.vicnet.net.au/~filmfest](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~filmfest).



### Redan FNC Free Fun For Kids Day Saturday 6 May

The Free Fun For Kids Day provides an opportunity for pre/primary school children to enjoy a day of sport and fun. For more information, please call Anthony Jackson on 0419 335 206, or visit [www.redanfc.com.au](http://www.redanfc.com.au)

### Ballarat Autumn Day Ride - B.A.D Ride Sunday 7 May

The B.A.D. Ride offers fully-supported set route bicycle tours of 50, 75 or 100kms suitable for all levels of ability. All rides start (9am) and finish (5pm) at the Pleasant St Primary School. For more information, please contact Ron Kemp on 5331 4606.

### Redline Raceway Speedway Sunday 7 May

Redline Raceway Speedway is held at Yankee Flat Rd in Mt Buninyong. For more information, please call Chris Overall on 0409 847 780, or visit [www.redlinespeedway.tk](http://www.redlinespeedway.tk)



### Buninyong Country Market Sunday 7 May

Crafts, home made and home grown. For more information, please contact the Buninyong - Mt Helen Lions Club on 5341 3950.

### Trash and Trivia Market Sunday 7, 14, 21, 28 May

390 stalls selling fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, hardware, clothing, second hand goods, prints and toys at Ballarat Showgrounds. For more information, please call the Rotary Club of Ballarat South on 0418 518 106.

### Ballarat Greyhound Racing Wednesday 10, 17, 24, 31 May

Meetings held each Wednesday night at Morshead Park, Rubicon Street, Sebastopol. For more information, please call the Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club on 5335 7201.

### Computer Swapmeet Saturday 13 May

Over 30 local and Victorian traders will sell computer equipment at Ballarat Secondary College. For more information, please call the Technology Supermarket P/L on 9886 1466, or visit [www.comtrader.com.au](http://www.comtrader.com.au)

### Ballarat Symphony Orchestra Sunday 14 May

Held at the Ballarat Christian Fellowship Church, the program will be conducted by Willem van der Vis. For more information, please contact MajesTix on 5333 5888.

### Ballarat MS Mega Swim Saturday 20 May - Sunday 21 May

15 teams of 20 swimmers will compete in a 24-hour swim at the YMCA Aquatic Centre to raise funds for MS sufferers. For more information, please call Wayne Pick on 0417 366 951.

### Buninyong Farmers' Market Saturday 20 May

Fresh home-grown fruit and vegetables, fine wine, cheese and gourmet fare from 9am to 2pm at the Buninyong Town Hall (winter). For more information, please call Evie Dichiera on 0438 290 751, or visit [www.buninyong.com](http://www.buninyong.com)



### The Courier Ballarat Home Show Saturday 20 May - Sunday 21 May

Held at the Ballarat Badminton Centre, this is Victoria's biggest regional home ideas exhibition. For more information, please call Ann Krause on 5337 2740, or visit [www.unitingcareballarat.com.au](http://www.unitingcareballarat.com.au)

### Royal South Street Society Highland Dancing Competition Saturday 20 May

Over 70 competitors from Victoria will compete in this prestigious competition. For more information, please call Peter Bowler on 5332 1054, or visit [www.southstreet.ballarat.net.au](http://www.southstreet.ballarat.net.au)

### Invermay Country Market Sunday 21 May

Old-style traditional market at the Invermay Primary School featuring food, wine, fresh produce, and entertainment. For more information, please call Lou Cudia on 0438 311 405.

# Volunteers build communities

## *Meals on Wheels*

On his 90th birthday, Ballarat resident George Augustine received birthday wishes and cheer, as well as his Meals on Wheels dinner, from his son Barry Augustine.

Barry appreciates the excellent Home Care services his father receives, and delivering meals weekly is one way he can express his thanks.

During the 2004/05 financial year, a 200-volunteer strong Meals on Wheels workforce delivered 136,300 meals to more than 4,500 people in their homes. The service provides meals for those considered to be at nutritional risk and assists in the monitoring of health and wellbeing through interaction with Meals on Wheels volunteers.

Around 30 volunteers are required each day, from 10.45am to 12.30pm to deliver approximately 20-25 meals. Volunteers are also provided with a petrol voucher to offset their costs.

If you would like to become a valued Meals on Wheel volunteer, or would like to know more about the service, please call Ruth Nunn on 5320 5633 or visit [www.ballarat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au)



Meals on Wheels volunteers Barry Augustine and Vic Gill deliver a birthday dinner to George Augustine.

## More VIC volunteers needed

The City of Ballarat operates a number of Visitor Information Centres (VIC) across Ballarat, and last year assisted more than 180,000 visitors to our city. We are seeking to expand the service and are currently recruiting additional volunteers.

If you are passionate about Ballarat, and have just four to eight hours to spare each week, we would love to hear from you. If you are interested, and would like a better understanding of what being a member of our team involves, please contact Jim McConkey at Ballarat Visitor Services on (03) 5320 5671.

Ballarat's primary VIC is now located at The Eureka Centre, having moved from its Sturt Street location at the start of the month. Satellite VIC's are located at the Town Hall, the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery and Sovereign Hill.



### City of Ballarat

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The Phoenix Fax: 5332 8122  
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## *Begonia Festival's loyal volunteers*

Almost one hundred dedicated individuals gave their time to volunteer at this year's Ballarat Begonia Festival and should be thanked for adding a special touch to each visitor's experience.

Mrs Valerie Crimp has been a Ballarat Begonia Festival volunteer for 16 years. Her now-retired husband, Mr Geoff Crimp, has been a volunteer for ten years and used to take a week off from work for the Begonia Festival because he "loved doing it so much".

Mr and Mrs Crimp were volunteering in the information tent near the Robert Clark Centre most mornings this year. "It's a happy place," Mr Crimp enthused. "We enjoy the people we get to work with, and the people who come through the Festival gates. As you can tell - we love a chat!"

A former Ballarat Begonia Festival board member, Mr Robert Elshaug, has been a Festival volunteer for around two decades. His wife, Bev Elshaug, volunteered at the Festival for the first time last year.

"It was a great way to meet people, and such a pleasure to stand at the gates and enjoy the beautiful weather," Mrs Elshaug said. "Most people can afford to give a few hours and put something back into the community. And it's fun. We took a picnic and stayed on to watch the free Vince Jones concert, which was really magical."

Beautiful weather was once again on the side of the Begonia Festival Team making each day and night a very pleasant experience for volunteers and visitors alike.

If you would like to be a Ballarat Begonia Festival volunteer next year please call 1800 656 374.



Many loyal volunteers have become familiar faces at the Ballarat Begonia Festival over the decades.