

PATCHEWOLLOCK PLAYGROUP – GALA DAY

On Sunday 6 February, Patchewollock Playgroup is holding a Gala Day as a thank you to the community. There will be a BBQ lunch provided as well as pony rides, face painting, animal nursery and fete stall. An open invitation is extended to the community.

Contact: Brooke Smith, 5084 1212

CHANGE TO RECYCLING IN WARRACKNABEAL

Due to the unfortunate situation where Stawell Recycling has advised Council and the Warracknabeal Lions Club that it is no longer going to collect material from community groups, together with a WorkSafe proposal to stop community groups from conducting manual kerbside collections, Council's Waste Manager Bernie Naylor stated that Council is now reviewing the overall recycling system throughout the Shire.

As part of this review Council is considering the implementation of a mechanical kerbside recycling collection throughout the municipality along with several other options.

Warracknabeal ratepayers are therefore requested that whilst Council considers these options they take their recyclable materials to the transfer station (former tip site) free of charge.

Recyclable materials which will be accepted include steel, aluminium and steel cans, plastic bottles, glass, paper and cardboard.

Contact: Bernie Naylor, 5398 0105



WHATS ON FOR THE MAYOR

Tuesday 8 February
Council Meeting, 9.30am

Wednesday 9 February
Anzac Park Memorial Park Trust,
Public Meeting, Warracknabeal,
7.30pm

Sunday 13 February
Drag Races, Warracknabeal, 4pm

SEPTIC TANK DECOMMISSIONING

Now that the sewerage schemes in Hopetoun and Minyip are nearing completion, residents may be wondering what will happen to their existing septic tanks. Disused septic tanks can pose a risk to the health and safety of the community with the potential of exposure to disease causing organisms, or of physical injury, should an abandoned tank collapse.

For this reason disused septic tanks must be decommissioned within 60 days of connection to the sewer.

To decommission a septic tank:

1. Any remaining sludge or effluent must be pumped out by a liquid waste contractor, and disposed of to an approved site. The sides, lid, baffle (if fitted) and square junctions of the tank should be hosed down as the waste is being removed.
2. Builders lime should be liberally applied to any exposed surfaces.
3. Several holes should be punched into the base of the tank. The lid and those parts of the walls, baffle and square junctions above the ground should be demolished and collapsed into the tank, and the tank filled with clean soil or rubble and topped with clean soil.

Reuse of Septic Tanks

Residents with recently installed septic tanks or Aerobic Waste Water Treatment Systems (AWTS) may also have the option of reusing the tank for storage of stormwater or greywater (in the case of AWTS) for garden irrigation. Older tanks are generally not suitable for reuse.

For reuse additional steps must be taken to sanitise the tank, and prevent contamination of the environment and other water supplies. If you are considering this option you should contact Council to obtain specific guidelines, and to see if your system is suitable for reuse. An application for a permit to alter a septic system must also be made.

Under no circumstances should a septic tank be reused for holding water for domestic or household use.

For further information on decommissioning or reuse of septic tanks, **Contact: Louise Gertner, 5398 0127**



CEO THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

The love of life is necessary to the vigorous prosecution of any undertaking.