



THE LOO REVIEW



BODY'S BUSINESS

Wanna to know if our public amenities meet community needs? Have your say at www.yoursaywarrnambool.com.au
Infrastructure Services
infrastructure@warrnambool.vic.gov.au

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IT'S EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Warrnambool City Council wants to know if our public amenities meet community needs. Have your say at www.yoursaywarrnambool.com.au
You can also write to Manager Infrastructure Services, PO Box 198, Warrnambool, 3280 or infrastructure@warrnambool.vic.gov.au

APRIL 2013



Speed planting: a different kind of dating

Whether you want to meet that special someone, try a fun new way to socialise or simply do your bit for the environment, this exciting new event could be for you.

Warrnambool Coastcare Landcare Group is presenting Warrnambool's first ever Speed Planting event, proudly supported by Warrnambool City Council.

Similar to speed dating, participants will be grouped into new pairs every few minutes so everyone has a chance to meet everyone.

But instead of the pressure of traditional speed dating, participants will enjoy relaxed social interaction while planting trees and enjoying the great outdoors.

At the end of the two-hour planting session everyone will have a chance to mingle over a free barbecue lunch.

"It brings people together through undertaking a common activity and helping the environment."

So you might be wondering 'how will people know if I'm looking for love or just love planting trees?'

All participants will have a choice of 'traffic light' badges to wear, with each colour symbolic of a different social status.

Red: I'm here to plant and socialise.

Orange: I'd like to meet new people and friends.

Green: I'm open to meeting someone special.

Warrnambool Coastcare Landcare Group leader Bruce Campbell said the Speed

Planting day would be a great way for people to help the environment and meet new friends regardless of their status.

"The Speed Planting concept has proven very successful in other parts of Australia," he said. "It brings people together through undertaking a common activity and helping the environment."

**Warrnambool Coastcare Landcare Group
Speed Planting Day Saturday April 20,
10am-Noon, followed by a free BBQ
Harris on Merri revegetation site, Harris
St, Warrnambool (opposite the old Woollen
Mill)**

**Bookings essential. RSVP to Vince on
0403 487 974 or email
speedplantingwclg@live.com.au**

The new Victorian Fire Services Property Levy & what it means for you

All Victorian property owners will notice a new charge on their rates notice this year.

The State Government will introduce the Fire Property Services Levy from July 1, 2013, to fund the Country Fire Authority and Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board.

The new levy is intended as a fairer and more equitable property based levy to replace the existing insurance-based funding model, as recommended by the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.

Until now, state fire services have been largely funded by contributions made by the insurance industry and the State Government. The insurance industry passed the cost of its contribution onto Victorian policy holders through a fire services levy on insurance premiums.

The reform of the fire services levy, including abolishing the associated GST and stamp duty costs on the existing insurance based levy, will provide savings of more than \$100 million to households and businesses across the state.

The new property-based levy will ensure Victorian property owners pay a fair contribution to fire services and are not penalised for adequately insuring their property.

About the new levy:

- The levy will consist of a fixed component and a variable component calculated as a percentage of capital improved property values
- The fixed component will be \$100 for residential properties and \$200 for non-residential properties
- The variable component will vary for different property types such as residential, industrial, commercial and primary production. This component will be announced by the State Government as part of the State Budget in May of this year.
- The levy will be collected by local councils as part of the rates notice and a concession will be available to some Department of Veterans Affairs gold card holders and Pensioner Concession Card holders as they currently apply to rates.
- Separate levies will be charged in the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and Country Fire Authority areas in recognition of the different costs associated with funding each service

**For more information about the State Government's Fire Property Services Levy visit: www.dtf.vic.gov.au/firelevy
Call the Fire Levy Monitor: 1300 300 635, or the
Concession Information Line: 1800 658 521**



It's a cycle city this April

Hundreds of cyclists from the elite through to beginners will converge on Warrnambool this month for the 2013 Tour of the South West.

The two-day event is set over three stages in Warrnambool and throughout the Moyne Shire on the last weekend of April.

The inaugural event in 2012 attracted 180 riders but is this year expected to more than double an official fixture of the 2013 Victorian Road Series.

This year's event will feature a road race and time trial on the Saturday, followed by a VIP dinner at Lady Bay Resort.

Sunday's program includes the criterium event beside the Hopkins River and a Social Cycle Day, where riders of all skill levels can take part in a ride along the foreshore and other free activities.

Entries for the races will remain open until April 21. For more information visit www.tourofthesouthwest.com.au



WCC has committed to developing a public amenities strategy to ensure our toilets meet the needs of the community.

The council owns and manages 24 public toilets across the municipality ranging from those at the Visitor Information Centre and car parks to the CBD and at sports grounds in towns including Allansford and Bushfield.

A key part of developing the strategy involves asking residents, ratepayers and visitors what their expectations are when it comes to public toilets.

We're calling our consultation 'The Loo Review – it's everybody's business' because we recognise that the entire community has a stake in our public amenities.

So we would like to know what people think about:

- the provision and maintenance of public toilets;
- whether the basic level of service expected by the community is being met;
- how the absence or condition of a toilet impacts on your activities, e.g. would you not visit a park or walk along a footpath because a toilet was unavailable;

- whether there are gaps in public toilet provision;
- preferred locations for public toilets;
- community preferences for public toilet design and functionality;
- the effectiveness of public toilet signage; and
- whether council could partner with other organisations to provide public toilets.

The Council has available a limited budget to invest in public toilets. Depending on the public's views, this money may be invested in new facilities or in upgrading existing facilities or a mix of both.

Input from the public will help devise a public amenities strategy that will inform council decisions on public toilets over the next 10 to 15 years.

To have your say you can complete an online survey at www.yoursaywarrnambool.com.au You can also pick up a printed version of the survey at the Civic Centre, 25 Liebig Street, Warrnambool.

Or you can write to us with your views on public toilets. Send your submissions to Manager Infrastructure Services, PO Box 198, Warrnambool, 3280 or alternatively, wbool_city@warrnambool.vic.gov.au

Surveys and letters will be accepted until 5pm, April 26.

We want your feedback on the council plan

The Council Plan is the document, required by law, which sets out the direction and priorities for the council over a four-year period.

Following last year's local government elections the newly elected Council was given the responsibility of developing a new council plan.

The draft Council Plan contains key objectives and describes strategies that will be followed to fulfil those objectives.

Over recent months the Council has been working to review its key objectives for the period 2013 to 2017.

The objectives are:

- to be a leading regional city;
- to be a sustainable city;
- to be a liveable city; and,
- to be a city of growth.

A preliminary council plan has been prepared by the Council and will soon be made available for public comment.

Mayor Cr Michael Neoh is encouraging residents to read the draft council plan and provide feedback – which can be done through a written submission or an online survey.

“The Council Plan outlines the broad strategic direction for the municipality and the way we would like to see the city develop,” Cr Neoh said.

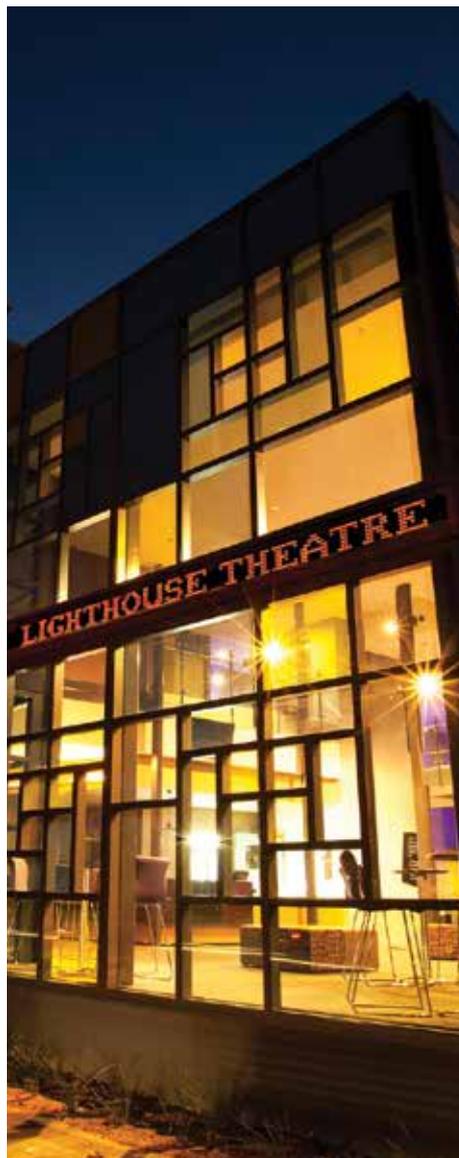
“It covers a range of issues and activities ranging from the financial sustainability of the Council and a development plan for Lake Pertobe, to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of residents and pursuing investment in the Warrnambool Regional Airport.”

The plan provides a focus for Council and helps determine which projects the council will fund in its annual budgets.

A copy of the draft plan can be downloaded at www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

Printed copies of the draft Council Plan will also be available to the public at the Civic Centre, 25 Liebig Street, Warrnambool. We'll also run online and printed surveys to help people have their say on the Council plan.

Printed surveys will be available at the Civic Centre while the online survey can be accessed at www.yoursaywarrnambool.com.au



Flagsta



charting a

Two of Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village's (FHMV) boats have been placed on the Australian Register of Historic Vessels.

The register is governed by the Australian National Maritime Museum which recently accepted the application by FHMV to have the Reginald M and Viator recognised for their significance to Australia's maritime heritage.

Council Tourism Services Manager Peter Abbott said having the boats added to the register was a first for Flagstaff Hill.

Mr Abbott also acknowledged the work of post-graduate student Sirianne Hose from Deakin University's School of Cultural Studies in preparing the application to the museum.

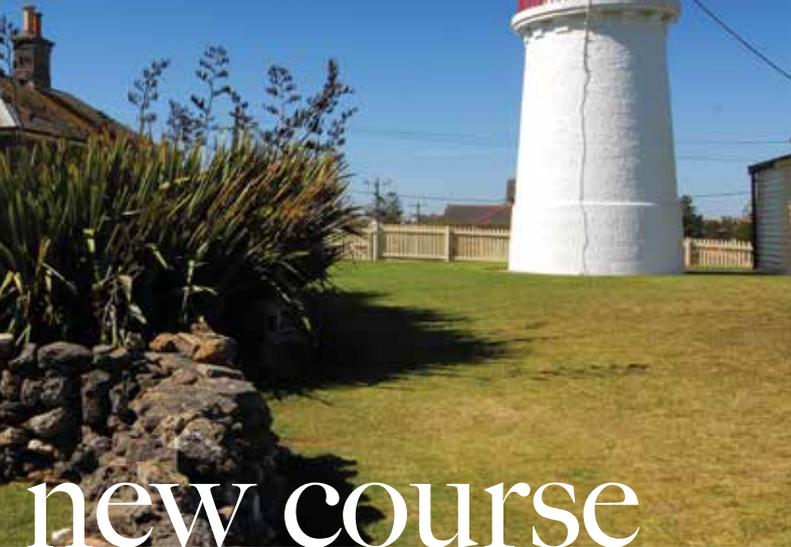
“The provenance of each vessel had to be well documented as part of the application,” Mr Abbott said.

“In the case of the Reginald M it was launched in 1922 and delivered cargo including barley, wool and timber to South Australia's ports. She was bought by Flagstaff Hill in 1975 and was recently remasted and restored.

“Similarly the Viator, now in dry dock at Flagstaff Hill and undergoing restoration work, was busy for many years carrying out the mail run between Warrnambool and Portland.

FHMV is looking to work with the Warrnambool Surf Life Saving Club in a bid

ff Hill



new course

to have one of the club's historic surf boats added to the register.

"Documenting the history of the water craft has also allowed us to build relationships with Deakin University and the surf club," Mr Abbott said.

Most of the boats on the register were built before 1965, the point at which mass production of water craft became more common.

There are more than 450 vessels on the register.

* Results of a survey on the future of Flagstaff Hill are now being collated.

The Council last year sought an operational and strategic review of the site's future development options.

As a result of the review, which included community consultation in mid-2012, work began on the creation of a master plan for FHMV. As part of the process a number of future options for Flagstaff Hill are being considered and these were included in a recent community survey.

Features of a possible redevelopment include: creation of a new precinct that includes becoming Victoria's maritime heritage centre; free access to the village area; paid admission to an expanded main building that would include a world class maritime interpretative centre; an expanded restaurant space and visitor information centre; more on-site accommodation; improved access and links to the site from the Warrnambool CBD and foreshore.

News in brief

Green light for city growth

A \$1.5-million investment from State Government will boost residential and retail areas in the city of Warrnambool. The Local Government Infrastructure Funding includes \$800,000 toward the construction of Aberline Road, a further \$500,000 will help fund construction of Coghlan's Road and \$200,000 will kick-start Warrnambool's City Centre Revitalisation Project.

Caring for our trees

Warrnambool City Council is developing a Street Tree Management Policy and Guidelines to ensure the city's trees are managed in the best possible manner.

The document, which was on exhibition for public comment during March, will also ensure future plantings are appropriate for particular sites. Warrnambool is home to more than 10,000 street trees including the iconic Norfolk Island Pines.

Map makes life easier

A new map is helping people with limited mobility move around Warrnambool more safely and easily than ever before.

The updated Warrnambool City Centre Mobility Map highlights the location of accessible toilets and parking bays as well as key buildings and services.

Copies are available from the Warrnambool City Council Civic Centre, Archie Graham Community Centre and Visitor Information Centres at Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village and the Foreshore Pavilion. The map can also be downloaded from www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

New 80kmh zones

Speed zones have been lowered along sections of Rowans Lane and Jubilee Park Road.

Rowans Lane from Raglan Parade to End of Road and Jubilee Park Road from Raglan Parade to Caravan Park are now designated as 80kmh zones.

The changes are part of a Victorian Government program to reduce speed limits on approaches to rail crossings across regional Victoria.

Green light project wins top gong

An innovative project that will cut regional Council power bills by around \$325,000 each year has won a state-wide award.

Warrnambool City Council is one of six Councils involved in the Great South Coast Street Smart Lighting Project which was awarded the top prize for 2013 LGPro 'Sustainability Initiative'.

Toot to save a life

Warrnambool motorists are being urged to sound their vehicle's horn before exiting driveways as part of a state-wide safety campaign.

The State Government has launched a new driveway safety campaign 'just

because you can't see me, doesn't mean I'm not here' aiming to reduce the number of tragic motor vehicle accidents involving young children outside the family home.

The call to action 'never reverse until you know where they are' is designed to prompt parents to check where their children are before reversing out of their driveway.





Fun Merrivale

Merrivale offers an active and exciting coastal lifestyle in Warrnambool's south.

With an array of cycling and walking paths, ocean views and beach activities, Merrivale is home to a growing, vibrant community of young couples and families.

At the time of the 2011 Census, 3500 people called Merrivale home, and 70 per cent of the population was aged under 50 years old.

To add to the liveability of the area, Warrnambool City Council has invested almost \$1.2-million in infrastructure improvements in the past four years.

The largest of the projects was the Port Fairy to Warrnambool Rail Trail, which features six kilometres of pathways throughout South Warrnambool.

Council has also invested in bike lanes which feature prominently throughout Merrivale, as well as improved footpaths and general recreational facility upgrades in the area.

Travel Smart officer Nicole Wood said the projects had helped make Merrivale one of the most active communities in Warrnambool.

Merrivale Primary School is a registered participant of the Healthy Moves program and more than half of the school's students either walk or ride to school.

"The school is very proactive in promoting the health and environmental benefits of walking and cycling," she said.

"And infrastructure like the rail trail, school crossing and footpaths all assist families to be more active."

Merrivale Primary School also offers a bike education program for students in grades three and four and all students take part in road safety education.

"The entire Merrivale community has really embraced the Healthy Moves program message," Ms Wood said.

"Children enjoy walking and talking together and there is a great sense of pride which comes along with children walking and cycling to school."

It's all happening...

AquaZone

Tender documents are being prepared for the upgrade of the air-handling system in the pool hall for improved ventilation, heating and air-conditioning.

Parking Review

A review of parking behaviour is under way in Timor and Redford Streets following complaints about disorderly parking.

Reid Oval

Council's engineering team and architects are preparing detailed plans for a multi-purpose pavilion. The building will provide netball facilities, public toilets and footy change rooms.

Friendlies Society Ground

Design of a major electrical upgrade is under way to improve energy efficiency.

Jubilee Park Allansford Boat Ramp

All work on the boat ramp is expected to be completed this month.

Did you know?

Merrivale is home to one of the region's largest private sector employers and one of Australia's largest food exporters – Midfield Group.

By turnover, the company is ranked 726 out of the top 2000 companies in Australia.



Compact stats | Merrivale - Source: Census 2011

3499

Population of Merrivale

55.8%

Population aged under 40

1521

Number of occupied dwellings

13.8%

Percentage of Merrivale residents employed in healthcare and social assistance, more than any other industry

1.6%

Annual growth rate of the Merrivale population

Contact us

Visiting us in person

Civic Centre
25 Liebig Street
Warrnambool Vic 3280
Open from 8.30am - 5pm, Mon-Fri.

Postal address

Warrnambool City Council
P.O Box 198
Warrnambool 3280

Telephone

03 5559 4800

SMS

0429 709 146

Facsimile

03 5559 4900

Website

www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

Online directories

Council's online Business and Community directories can be found at www.directories.warrnambool.vic.gov.au.

Connect2Council

Find out how to have your say by logging onto our website at www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au and visiting the Connect2Council page.

Council meetings

**Monday April 15,
5.45pm**

Reception Room,
Warrnambool Civic Centre,
25 Liebig St



Mayor Michael Neoh, Deakin University Head of Warrnambool Campus Greg Wood, Victorian Governor Alex Chernov and Deakin University Vice President Kean Selway on the Governor's recent tour of Warrnambool.

The current Council is well into its first year of the four-year term of office.

A number of significant opportunities for the community to have input into the future of Warrnambool have or are in the process of being facilitated.

Feedback from the community - on things such as the long-term future directions of library service provision, Flagstaff Hill, Aquazone, City Centre Renewal, Brierly Reserve, Foreshore/Harbour - will be used to inform the planning of our City.

Another exciting endeavor is to source funding to develop an aviation employment park - a project that we hope will drive further initiatives such as an upgrade of the runway and possibly a daily air service.

The expression of interest process for the possible relocation of the livestock exchange has closed with negotiations occurring with a preferred proponent. Similar relocations are also occurring around the state.

Public toilets are always topical, and council will be mapping out a plan to look at potential upgrades, redevelopments,

rationalisation and the possible need for new toilets and locations once a status report is finalised.

It was a pleasure to have hosted the Governor of Victoria, Alex Chernov, who was impressed with the city's infrastructure, services and people. It was the Governor's first visit and he has recently made contact with me to say he thoroughly enjoyed his two-day visit.

Finally, I am pleased to indicate that I have been elected as Vice Chair of Regional Cities Victoria, a network of the 10 regional cities of Warrnambool, Ballarat, Greater Bendigo, Greater Geelong, Horsham, Latrobe, Mildura, Greater Shepparton, Wangaratta, and Wodonga. Regional Cities Victoria plays a key advocacy role to ensure our network is at the forefront of the State Government's mind in terms of resourcing Victoria's growth and regional livability.

Michael Neoh

Councillor Michael Neoh Mayor

PO Box 511, Warrnambool
p. 0408 543 638
e. mneoh@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Rob Askew

4 Dunvegan Court, Warrnambool
p. 0428 394 888
e. raskew@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Peter Hulin

1-3 Ponting Drive, Warrnambool
p. 0411 697 052
e. phulin@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Jacinta Ermacora

PO Box 198, Warrnambool
p. 0400 155 180
e. jermacora@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Brian Kelson

120 Liebig Street, Warrnambool
p. 0478 773 372
e. bkelson@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Kylie Gaston

p. 0437 623 715
e. kgaston@warrnambool.vic.gov.au



Councillor Peter Sycopoulis

p. 0439 722 451
e. psycopoulis@warrnambool.vic.gov.au

April 2013 Calendar



C2C

Wednesday April 3, Wednesday April 10,
7.15pm

F Project Cinema

Lady Bay Resort

F Project Cinema screens a documentary and an arthouse film every month.

www.facebook.com/FPCFProjectCinema

Thursday April 4, 5.30pm-7pm

Green Drinks

Last Coach

Green Drinks is an opportunity for everyone who works, volunteers or has an interest in all things environmental, NRM, sustainability or otherwise 'green' to informally meet and chat with others in the industry.

www.greendrinks.org/VIC/Warrnambool

Friday April 5, 1pm-3pm

Funtastic Friday

AquaZone

Have a Funtastic Friday these school holidays at AquaZone, with the inflatable slide, games, and free fruit and drink at the end of the program.

www.aquazone.com.au

Wednesday April 10, 8pm

The Umpire Strikes Back

Lighthouse Theatre

Irish funny man Dennis Coard is back with 'The Umpire Strikes Back - May the Farce Be With You', the long-awaited sequel to The Fall of the Roman Umpire which he brought to Warrnambool in 2011.

www.lighthouse theatre.com.au

Friday April 12-Saturday April 13

Dynamic Dance Weekend

Warrnambool

The Warrnambool Rock 'n' Rollers' Dynamic Dance Weekend features a Dance with The Selectomatics at St Pius Hall Friday night, workshop with Jon and Zoe Saturday afternoon at Warrnambool College and Dance with The Cruisers at St Pius Hall on Saturday night.

e: wboolrockers@hotmail.com

Sunday April 14, 8am-4.30pm

Victorian Country Series Go Karts

Lake Gilliar

Karters ranging in age from seven to 70 will compete in the second round of the 2013 Victorian Country Series, staged at six tracks throughout Western Victoria.

e: ronshiells@bigpond.com

Sunday April 14, 11am

Speedway Day Show

Premier Speedway

The final day show of the 2012-13 season, featuring wingless springs, junior sedans, formula 500s, street stocks, open ASCF sedans, vintage modifieds and heavy hot rods.

www.premierspeedway.com.au

Monday April 15, 6.15pm

On the Road with Raimond Gaita

Lighthouse Theatre

A free one-hour presentation and book signing by the author of the much-loved Australian classic and subject of a multi-award winning film, Romulus, My Father.

www.lighthouse theatre.com.au

Friday April 19, 8pm

Bruce Mathiske

Lighthouse Theatre

Described as The Authentic Guitar Virtuoso by The Sydney Morning Herald, Bruce's music incorporates many rhythms and moods to leave audiences spellbound.

www.lighthouse theatre.com.au

Saturday April 20, 10am-Noon

Speed Planting

Harris on Merri Reveg Site, Harris St

Speed dating with a difference, meet a range of new and interesting people while doing your bit for the environment. A no pressure environment, where everyone wears a green, orange or red badge to symbolize relationship status and enjoys a fun day out.

e: speedplantingwclg@live.com.au

Saturday April 20-Sunday April 21, 10am

SSAA Laang Range Vintage Engine Display

SSAA Range, Laang

A collection of vintage motors, tractors, cars, bikes and machinery. Shearing displays, blacksmiths, portable timber mills, tractor pull and various stalls.

e: laangshooter25@bigpond.com

Tuesday April 23, 11am

360 Degree Allstars

Lighthouse Theatre

The production features a host of world champions and international special guest artists and aims to deconstruct a traditional circus by replacing usual art forms with contemporary performance styles.

www.lighthouse theatre.com.au

Friday April 26, 8pm

Diesel - The Velvet Curtain Tour

Lighthouse Theatre

Alongside the hits and rarities people have grown to expect from an artist of longevity, Diesel blends his influences by also playing tracks from Jimi Hendrix, Otis Redding and Neil Young in the unique theatre environment for an all-encompassing musical experience.

www.lighthouse theatre.com.au

Friday April 26-Sunday April 28

South West Coast Piper Drummer Workshop

Emmanuel College

SWCPD is three days of piping, drumming and dancing, learning and fun with tuition from experienced instructors. Featuring leading international tutors, workshops, performances and a come and try session.

www.wadpadi.org.au

Saturday April 27-Sunday April 28

Tour of the South West

Warrnambool and Moyne Shire

The two-day Tour of the South West features a challenging road race and individual time trial on day one, followed by the official tour dinner at Lady Bay Resort. Day two features both a criterium event and a community bike ride for people of all skill levels.

www.tourofthesouthwest.com.au

If you have a community event you would like featured in C2C email details to community@warrnambool.vic.gov.au