

## Hay Visitors Information Centre

Council has been registered as an Accredited Visitors Information Centre (VIC) for a number of years. There has been a number of changes in the Tourism industry in the past year, with the Regional Tourism Organisations being disbanded by Destination NSW, Hay being shifted from the Outback and Inland Group back into the Riverina, and now some changes to reporting in accredited VIC's. As has become the norm in the governance with the tourism sector, there has been no consultation with Local Government, the largest provider of tourism services on the ground.

Accreditation of NSW VIC's has been handled by a Dubbo based company, Aurora Research, until 2016. At the end of 2016, Destination NSW contracted the accreditation process to a Queensland based company, The Tourism Group. Some changes instituted by the Tourism Group required an increase in reporting of nonsensical data, which will increase the work load of VIC staff state wide.

With the increased reporting and lack of representation and consultation, Council staff has started questioning the value of being an Accredited Visitor Information Centre. In conversation with other Councils at the last Tourism Conference, it was gauged that Hay is not the only VIC that is questioning the value of being accredited.

At the March Ordinary meeting Council considered a proposal that the Hay VIC becomes an independent VIC, and not accredited.

The report set out a proposal that would see Hay develop its own 'Tourism Information' sign to replace the trademark yellow 'i' sign. The new sign would be designed to be more internationally recognisable and have better visibility while fitting in with a rustic and heritage like look to suit Hay's tourism product.

The proposed new sign may not only be used for the Hay VIC, but also for "Visitor Info Points" throughout Hay, where local businesses can request a small sign, brochures and maps, and also become a source of information to visitors. This will tie in to the "Aussiehost Town" initiative of 2014, where the idea behind it was that every participating business becomes a tourism marketing node. Council can supply businesses with brochures, a brochure stand and signage, which can be funded from the savings in accreditation fees. Council has also had some interest from businesses in the wider Outback region using the same branding.

After consideration of the proposal Council resolved:-

- That the Hay Shire Council Visitors Information Centre cease to be an Accredited Visitor Information Centre.
- That Hay Shire Council creates its own Visitors Information brand, using a white "i" on brown background.
- That Hay Shire Council notifies businesses of the potential to become an "Info Point", and provide them a logo, brochures and maps to market the town with their customers.
- That Council further investigate using the white on brown "i" with businesses in the Outback region that have shown interest, using the term "Outback Visitors Info" instead of Hay Visitors Info.

The John Houston Memorial Swimming Pool will close for the season on 18th April 2017



**Youth Week**

Youth Week Activity for 10 - 17 year old  
FREE Movies and Bowling at Griffith  
Wednesday 12th April  
Movie to be confirmed  
Please put your name down at Hay Shire Council  
02 6990 1100 by Wednesday 5th April  
Limited seats available

Like our Facebook page to stay up to date  
[facebook.com/HayYouthWeek](https://facebook.com/HayYouthWeek)



**Hay's Pop Up Youth Centre**

Community Building  
@The Hay Park

Lunch - Snacks - Video Games  
Sporting Equipment & Games  
Board Games - Cards - Giant Games  
Reading Material - Chill Out Zone  
Movies and MORE!!!

Tuesday 11th April  
10am - 3.30pm  
ages 10-17  
years old

**FREE!**

**Road Closure Notice:** Council will be replacing a major sewer manhole in Lachlan Street commencing 3rd April. There will be a road closure in Lachlan Street between Belmore Street and Back Street with detours in place. It is envisaged the works will take up to four days and Council apologises in advance for any inconvenience.

**HAY SHIRE COUNCIL**  
134 Lachlan St  
Hay NSW 2711  
Ph: 02 6990 1100  
[mail@hay.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@hay.nsw.gov.au)

## Know Your Council

### Mayor

Cr Bill Sheaffe

### Deputy Mayor

Cr Michael Rutledge

### Councillors:

Jasen Crighton

Jenny Dwyer

Peter Dwyer

Robert Howard

Dave Townsend

Kevin Walter

## EVENTS

### April

- 8 Booligal Sheep Races
- 15 Hay Gun Club Easter Shoot
- 15 Shear Outback Hay Yard Dog Trial
- 29 Community Markets
- 29 SSAA Hay Branch Clays State Titles - Day 1
- 30 SSAA Hay Branch Clays State Titles - Day 2

## 2017 HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

## 15TH & 16TH APRIL S H E A R O U T B A C K

Includes:

- Inductions
- Yard Dog Trials
- Demonstrations

## REMOVAL OF WOOD IN PUBLIC AREAS

Below is an extract from the Local Government Act 1993 that states it is an offence to remove wood, dead or alive from public places, which in Hay, includes areas such as Sandy Point, Soapworks, Cemetery Bend, Madman's and Bushy Bend.

Recently there have been several trailer loads of wood taken from Sandy Point and Council advises the public that such action constitutes an offence.

*A person who, without lawful excuse, removes any plant, animal, rock or soil from a public place is guilty of an offence.*

*Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units (\$2200)*

## Library News

**Knitting:** Next Knit In will be on Wednesday 5th and 19th April. Keen knitters are invited to join the Knit In's.

**Scrabble Group:** Scrabble sessions will be held Wednesday 12th and 26th April.

**Children's Reading:** Children's reading and activities held every Tuesday commencing at 10.30am.

## Unregistered Vehicles

Council would like to remind residents that unregistered vehicles parked on road shoulders or in public areas, including carparks, are considered abandoned and can be impounded.

## Council Works in Progress

The status of Council's operations is as follows:

- Grading – Main Road 501 reconstruct and seal works have commenced. A primer seal to the first 2.5km of the 5km project was applied 8/3/17. The remaining 2km is currently being reconstructed in preparation for a primer seal next Wednesday.
- Grading – Bairds Lane Reconstruct and seal project has commenced and the first 800m has been sealed.
- Bridges – Replacement of two small timber bridges with large concrete culverts on MR 319 between Maude and Ravensworth.
- Sewer – Replacement of aged sewer manhole in Lachlan Street at the Simpson Street intersection. RMS has assisted Council with the planning of the works as the project will involve a large excavation in Lachlan Street. The expected project timeframe is five days. The project will include traffic control, sewer rising main bypass, site establishment, removal of old brick manhole, construction of new manhole and back fill. Project commencement date 3rd April 2017
- Weeds – Weed spraying in town including the lanes as well as some sections of sealed Rural Roads.
- Footpath – Replacement and extension of the footpath in Church Lane to link Lachlan Street to Myers Lane units.
- Trees – Separate contractors have been engaged to remove the trees in Hay pond enclosure and the raising of the trees in Lachlan Street.
- Weeds – Property inspection are being conducted.



## Australian Hay Mini NATIONALS

## Celebrate 50 yrs in HAY

In 2017 the Australian Hay Mini Nationals will be celebrating 50 years in Hay.

This year our aim is to attract more visitors and encourage local residents to be involved by providing outdoor markets and a festival atmosphere.

We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in having a stall (free of charge) in Moppett St at the Show and Shine.

**Saturday 10th June, 2017**  
**From 9.00am - 1.00pm**

Contact the Hay Visitor Centre on 02 6993 4045 or  
[hayvic@hay.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hayvic@hay.nsw.gov.au)

## Are you a HACC client?

If you are frail aged or disabled, or care for someone who is frail aged or disabled (who lives in their own home), you may be entitled to receive the assistance of the HACC services.

If you feel you may be in need of HACC services, call down to the HACC offices at the Library Complex and discuss your needs with either Paula or Rebecca. An assessment will be carried out to determine your eligibility to receive these services.

The HACC office is located at Offices 1 and 2, Hay Library 204-216 Lachlan Street, Hay.

Alternatively you can give the staff a call on 6993 3222 or 6993 2297.

## Meals on Wheels Roster

3 April	Zelda Rutledge & Kellie Rutledge-Robson
4 April	Gary & Jenny Clark
5 April	Gaylene Stephens & Jenny Rankin
6 April	Peter Casperson & Laurie McIlwraith
7 April	Jenny Bunyan, Helen Rogers & Gayle Griffiths
10 April	Trish Desailly & Liz Gibson
11 April	Lyn Schiller & Marg Robinson
12 April	RMS - Debbie, Serena & Cara
13 April	Robyn Howard & Irene Christensen
14 April	Commonwealth Bank Staff

**Meals to be picked up by 11.45am from Riverina Hotel.**

If volunteers notice any discrepancies between this list and the one provided by HACC please refer to your HACC roster.