

August 2024



## Mayor's Message

Welcome to the August edition of Connecting our Rural

City, your Council newsletter.

Changes are coming to waste and recycling services across Benalla. Aimed at boosting resource recovery, Benalla will soon align with the Victorian Government's 2030 mandate for a four-stream waste and recycling system. Your feedback matters, so please have your say on Benalla's waste and recycling services by Monday 16 September 2024.

Renewal works on the Lake Benalla Boardwalk (on the Art Gallery side) have now been completed. Council used an environmentally friendly material in the boardwalk upgrade, one that utilises waste wood and recycled plastic. This project is funded by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Council extends its thanks to the community for their patience while maintenance works were completed.

Council has also been busy with the mulching of the rose garden beds in the Botanical Gardens, extensive rural road and drain maintenance, while works continue along Riverview Road.

Residents will also be pleased to know the Council is now planning for the reconstruction of the Link Island Bridge.

These initiatives reflect our commitment to a sustainable, connected, and thriving community.

Until next time,



**Cr Danny Claridge**  
Mayor, Benalla Rural City



## Updated Lake Boardwalk opens

Benalla Rural City Council has been busy with a series of initiatives improving community infrastructure. Here's an overview of the recent and ongoing projects that are shaping a positive future for Benalla.

### Lake Boardwalk renewal

The Benalla Lake Boardwalk, adjacent to the Art Gallery, has undergone a significant renewal project. With completion of this project late last week, the boardwalk has now reopened to the public. This project promises to offer an enhanced walking experience by the lake, reinvigorating one of the town's cherished landmarks.

### Roads and drains

The Operations crew has undertaken maintenance of approximately 90km of gravel roads in the Lurg and Taminick areas over June and July. Their efforts included the cleaning and clearing of rural drains, vegetation clearance on

rural roads, wrapping up autumn leaf cleanup season, and kerb and channel cleaning around Benalla township.

### Link Island Bridge

Council is gearing up for the Link Island Bridge renewal project, set to commence within the current financial year. Watch this space.

### Riverview Road

Improvements are being made along Riverview Road with kerb and channel works nearing completion.

### Pea Straw spread at Benalla Botanical Gardens

Council has undertaken pea straw mulching around the freshly pruned roses in the Benalla Botanical Gardens.

This sustainable practice not only enriches the soil structure but also aids in moisture retention, ensuring the gardens remain a drawcard for residents and visitors alike.

## Important information about rates notices

Benalla Rural City Council wishes to inform all ratepayers that the annual rates notices are in the process of being issued. These notices are an essential part of our community's financial responsibilities and reflect our commitment to the collective enhancement of Benalla.

For clarity and understanding, we have prepared a detailed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page on our website regarding rates.

This resource is designed to provide straightforward answers to common queries. We encourage all residents to visit our FAQ page to gain a better understanding of their rates notices. Visit the page at [benalla.vic.gov.au/Rates-FAQ](http://benalla.vic.gov.au/Rates-FAQ)

If you still have questions, Council's Customer Relations team is available on 03 5760 2600 to ensure that all residents are well-informed about their rates.

## Changes to waste services

Changes are coming to waste and recycling services across Benalla.

Benalla Rural City Council will soon align with the Victorian Government's 2030 mandate for a four-stream waste and recycling system.

As part of a review of these services, Council is considering kerbside glass collection and communal drop-off points to cater to the varied needs of urban and rural residents.

These changes, to be introduced in July 2025, will rely on community feedback to determine the most effective collection methods.

Residents are invited to join the consultation process and have their say by Monday 16 September 2024.

For more information visit [haveyoursay.benalla.vic.gov.au](http://haveyoursay.benalla.vic.gov.au) or call 03 5760 2600.

### Earlier kerbside collection reminder

All residents with a kerbside collection service are reminded to please put your bins out the night prior to your scheduled collection day.

Council has recently transitioned to a new kerbside collection service with the supplier Foott. While your collection days have not changed, the time that your bins are collected may be significantly earlier than before.