

FREE FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS - APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

Southern Grampians Shire Council is offering free influenza vaccinations to all children UNDER five years of age. Bookings are required so please contact Council on 5551 8480 to book and ensure you bring your Medicare card to the appointment.

Children (aged 6 months up to 5 years)	Tuesday 28 April 2020	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 4.00pm	HILAC
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Children must be over six months of age and under five years for this vaccination strain. Children under 12 months and those who have not had a flu shot before will require two vaccinations. The second vaccination will be held on Tuesday 2 June 2020, 9.00am – 11.00am. Please only bring the child/children booked for the flu shot to the appointment.

Access to HILAC will be from King Street at the Friendlies Oval. Entry to the building is through the rear of Court 1 - not through the front doors. Please remember social distancing rules apply during this time also.

For more information and to make an appointment, please contact Council's Community Services Department at the Frances Hewett Community Centre on 5551 8480.

HAMILTON TRANSFER STATION OPENING HOURS - ANZAC DAY

The Hamilton Transfer Station will be open to the general public **Saturday 25 April 2020 (ANZAC Day)** from **1:00pm - 4:15pm**.

Limits will apply to the number of people inside the gate at any one time so please expect delays. ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS only will be accepted.

LIGHT UP THE DAWN - ANZAC DAY

ANZAC Day 2020 will be a bit different this year due to social distances and coronavirus restrictions still being in place. This does not mean that ANZAC Day is cancelled. It just means that this ANZAC Day will be different.

The RSL is asking Australians to still participate this Saturday and #STANDTO.

At 6:00am this **Saturday 25 April 2020**, join us at the end of your driveway or on your balcony to remember all those who have served and sacrificed for this nation. Light a candle, or use the light on your phone and stand in memory of those who fought for our freedom.

We will still stand united in spirit.

If you feel up to it, take a photo and share it on the Council Facebook page at www.facebook.com/southerngrampiansshirecouncil/ and use the hashtag #STANDTO.

Together, we remain committed to the ANZAC spirit.

Lest We Forget.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESPONSE: UPDATE ON COUNCIL OPERATIONS

To remain in line with the extended Victorian State of Emergency as announced on 12 April 2020, the following changes to Council services will remain in place until at least **close of business Friday 15 May 2020**. Council will continue to be guided by the Victorian Government and the Department of Health and Human Services about appropriate actions going forward.

The Council has taken these steps as a precautionary measure to help slow the spread of COVID-19 within our community, to protect our staff, volunteers and visitors, and to play our role in the national response to limiting transmissions.

Council is still here to help you. Please contact Council on 5573 0444 or via email at council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au for more information.

Please note information was current at time of printing Saturday 25 April 2020. For more and up-to-date information, please visit Council website on sthgrampians.vic.gov.au or contact Council on 5573 0444.

The following measures have been implemented as of 5.00pm Friday 20 March 2020.

SERVICE	OPERATION
Customer Service Centres	Brown Street and Market Place offices will be closed to the public but staff are on hand to take enquiries over the phone 5573 0444 or via email council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au .
Visitor Information Centres	Visitor Information Centres are closed to the public but staff are on hand to take enquiries over the phone (1800 807 056) or email (hvic@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au). Updates are available via www.visitgreaterhamilton.com.au .
Hamilton Gallery	Closed
Hamilton Cinema	Closed
Hamilton Library	Closed. Scheduled events and programming, including school holiday programs will not proceed. This includes the Greater Hamilton Mobile Library. Digital Services are still available to borrow through library memberships. Items currently on loan will not have a due date and overdue fines will not apply during this close down period. Out of hours return chute is currently open for returns.

SERVICE	OPERATION
Hamilton Performing Arts Centre	Closed.
Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre	Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre (and all associated facilities and programs including Vitality Gym), and all outdoor pools throughout the Shire will be closed.
Outdoor Pools	Closed, including early morning swimming.
Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange	Will remain operational however access to HRLX weekly sales will be limited to buyers, stock agents, transport operators and council staff. The general public will not be able to attend, even if they are sellers at the sale.
Home and Community Care Services	Operating as normal.
Meals on Wheels	Service continues to operate as normal, however meals will be delivered to clients by Council staff only.
Senior Citizens Centre	Flu vaccination programs will not be provided through the senior citizens centres this year, to avoid large gathering of at risk persons in one place.
Family Day Care	Family Day Care will remain available until the Department of Education advises that the service should not be operated.
HILAC Occasional Care	Closed.
Maternal and Child Health	Phone only basis. If face-to-face appointments are required (immunisations, key age and stage appointments) 15 minute appointments will be scheduled. If you are unwell please reschedule your appointment. Contact the Frances Hewett Community Centre on 5551 8480 for concerns or queries.
L2P Program	Suspended.
Council Meetings and Engagement Sessions	The next Council Meeting will be held Wednesday 13 May 2020. The meeting will be live-streamed via council's Facebook page. We encourage you to engage with the meeting in this format. All other Council organised engagement sessions and events (eg Listening Posts, community meetings) will also be cancelled for the foreseeable future.
Playgrounds	Closed.
Regulatory Services	Market Place office will be closed to the public. Services will be by appointment only. Please contact 5573 0227.
Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services	Services will continue as normal.
Transfer Stations (Hamilton and all towns)	Hamilton Transfer Station open Saturdays 9.30am - 4.15pm and Wednesdays 8:00am - 4:00pm. ANZAC day changes as advertised - see left. Other Shire Transfer Stations are closed to the general public but remain open to account holders and commercial operators on weekdays only. Anyone who is adversely affected should contact 5573 0444 to discuss.
Lake Hamilton	All public boat ramps, piers and jetties are closed for recreational boating and fishing. This does not apply to commercial or emergency boating. Piers and jetties are still permitted to be used by walkers or people actively exercising. People are permitted to canoe, kayak, row or paddleboard for exercise, so long as this activity is undertaken alone and that any equipment used by a subsequent person is appropriately cleaned and disinfected. *Please note that during algae blooms, residents are reminded not to use the Lake for recreational activities.
Caravan Parks (Penshurst and Coleraine)	Closed.

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS DURING COVID-19

Council has created a new COVID-19 web page to assist Greater Hamilton businesses through this pandemic: www.businessgreaterhamilton.com.au

Here you will find:

- A quick reference guide summarising available financial packages and eligibility criteria
- Business Support Bulletins, outlining Council initiatives such as 1:1 support, subsidised websites plus 3rd party opportunities and resources
- Up-to-date local business and service listings
- A resource hub containing articles, tutorials and online training opportunities

Local industry are also encouraged to join the '**Greater Hamilton Business & Tourism - Covid-19 Facebook Group**' to stay connected during this challenging time.