

**INTRODUCING DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE,
LEAH JOHNSTON**

Where were you born?

I was born in southwest Victoria, in a small country town called Terang.

What was your first job?

My very first job as a teenager was doing a paper round. I was too little and not strong enough to hold the papers on my bike, so my Dad drove beside me in a ute and passed the papers out the window to me, as I ran along beside him. I use to jump on the back of the ute where I could - I had a wonderful and supportive Dad, as not many would do that sort of thing at 5am! Since then I have done a range of jobs. After qualifying as an engineer with honours, I have worked at several Councils including Boroondara City Council (2 years), Corangamite Shire (11 years), Warrnambool City Council (2 years), Moyne Shire (12 years) and now Swan Hill Rural City Council.

What is your favourite food?

Nothing is better than a home cooked roast. Particularly pork (with crackle) or beef for me!

What are your hobbies and/or interests?

I really enjoy playing indoor netball. I did suffer a foot injury last year which was my first ever injury - maybe my age is catching up with me and trying to send me the message to quit! I haven't played since and am a little nervous to start again.

What is something interesting about yourself?

I went to an all-girls catholic boarding school in Ballarat - St Martins in the Pines, or Micks in the Sticks! It is now Damascus College.

What are you most proud of?

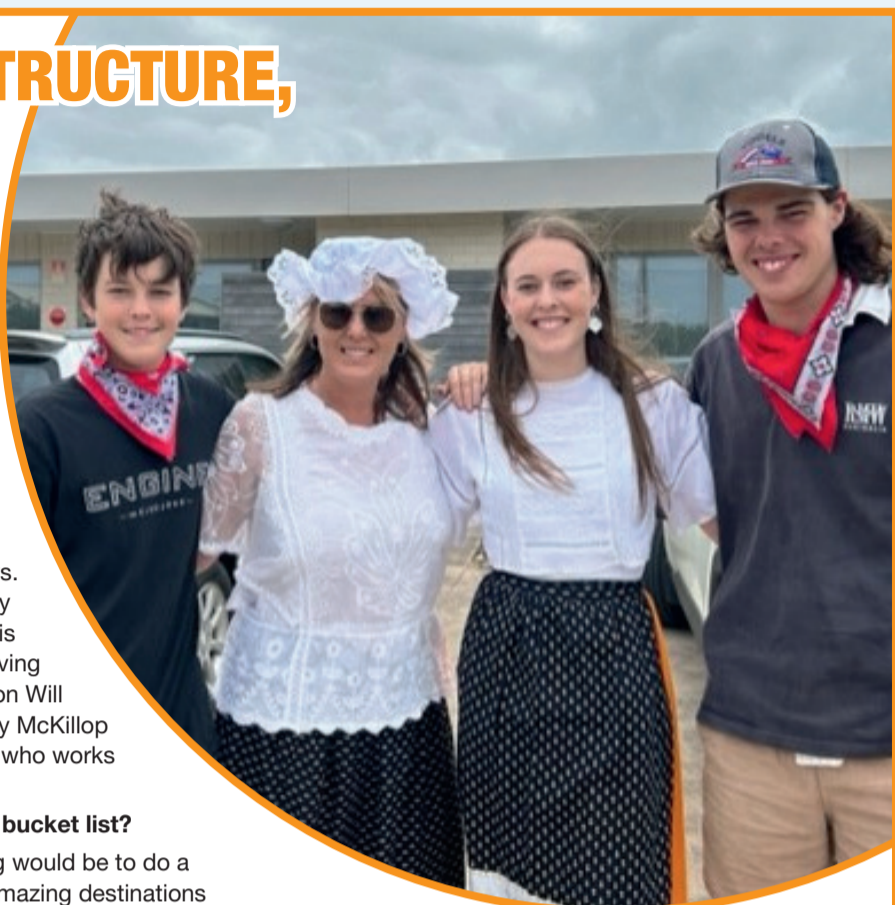
I have 3 children, Amy, Alex and Will. They are amazing young people, and they have made me proud in so many ways. My daughter Amy is at University studying teaching, my son Alex is working a variety of jobs and saving to buy his first house, and my son Will is commencing year 9 at St Mary McKillop and is a very bright young man, who works really hard.

What are three things on your bucket list?

I love to travel, so the main thing would be to do a lot more travelling and visiting amazing destinations - like the Maldives, Europe etc

In one word, describe yourself.

I need 3 words, enthusiastic, reliable, and friendly!



Leah Johnston is pictured with her 3 children - Dressed up for a family reunion. Her mother was born in Holland and it was 70 years in Australia since they migrated

LEST WE FORGET

ANZAC Day is a time to honor the sacrifice of those who fought for our freedoms. Let's never forget their bravery and selflessness, and work towards a peaceful future for all Australians.



MINISTER SHING VISITS ROBINVALE HOUSING PROJECT

Recently Minister Shing visited Robinvale, to tour four new houses built by Council in Ronald Street, Robinvale.

Four houses form stage one, with the total project to see the construction of eight houses.



SKILLS SHORTAGE PAIN

A 2022 Council Workforce Skills and Capability Survey (VIC) reported that 97.5% Councils were experiencing a skills shortage.

Our Council is not immune to these shortages and we are currently seeking passionate and dedicated individuals to join our dynamic team! To find out more about current vacancies please visit: swanhill.vic.gov.au/about/employment/

Please remember to be patient as we work through the difficulties associated with staff shortages that are being felt broadly across many industries.

COLDIE WITH A COUNCILLOR IN BEVERFORD

The next Coldie with a Councillor will be running on Friday, 19 May from 4-6pm at Beverford Tavern. All are welcome.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Can you spare some time?

Our Meals on Wheels team is currently looking for more volunteers. If you have some time to spare, for a great community initiative, please get in touch with our Community Care Services team on (03) 5036 4700.

SWAN HILL TOWN HALL PACC

The external refurbishment of Swan Hill Town Hall PACC is looking impressive!



SPLASH PARK ON THE WAY

Concepts for a new Splash Park at Robinvale Leisure Centre are underway. The community is being invited to leave their feedback via letstalk.swanhill.vic.gov.au



LEISURE CENTRE UPGRADES

Progress continues on the Robinvale and Swan Hill Leisure Centre expansion projects.



STAY INFORMED

Would you like to be kept informed about Council services and projects?

A great way to keep up to date on Council services, is to ensure that you are following us online.

-  [SwanHillCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/SwanHillCouncil)
-  [swanhillruralcitycouncil](https://www.instagram.com/swanhillruralcitycouncil)
-  [@swanhillruralcitycouncil](https://www.youtube.com/@swanhillruralcitycouncil)
-  [linkedin.com/company/shrcc/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/shrcc/)
-  letstalk.swanhill.vic.gov.au/
-  swanhill.vic.gov.au