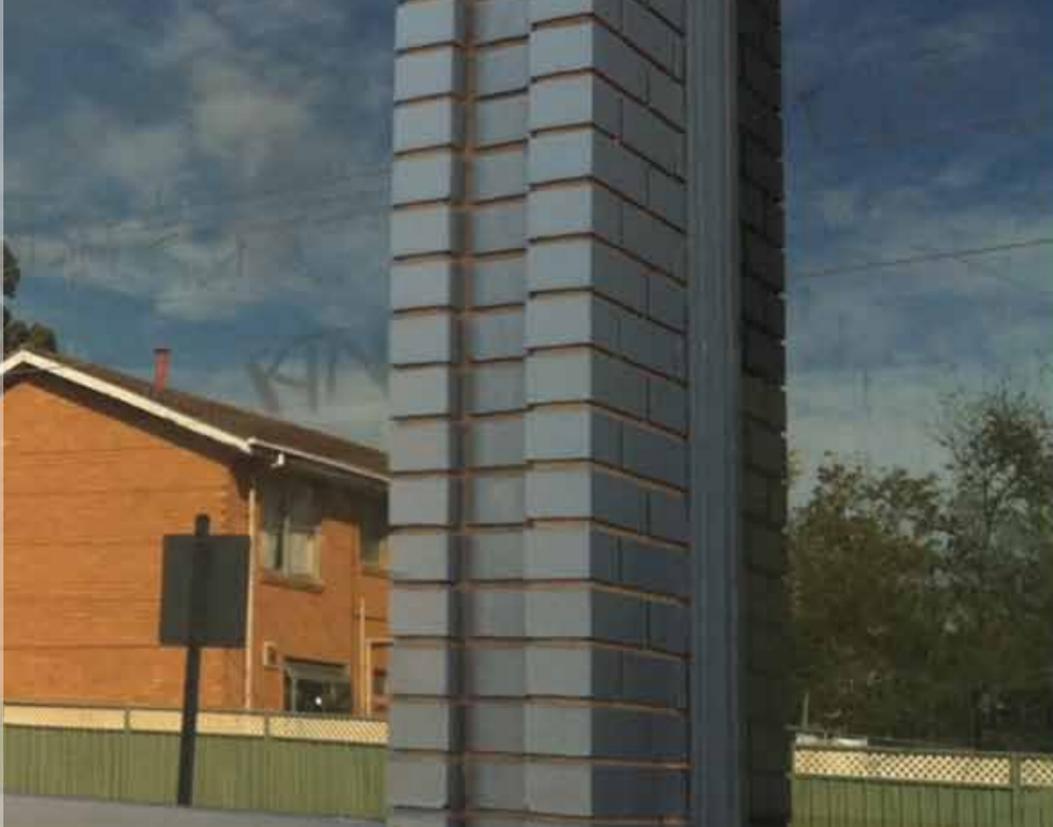


woods street arts space



Hobsons Bay City Council, with the support of the community, has taken the lease of the former post office in Laverton in the spirit of urban renewal, recognising the role the arts can play in activating spaces.

Woods Street Arts Space provides a shop front arts hub supporting a program of workshops and exhibitions.

About Lohse and Woods

The former post office in Laverton's Lohse and Woods shopping precinct became vacant during 2010. Left to sit in a disused state, it attracted vandalism and became more dilapidated.

Being 'on the market' for rental it represented an opportunity for the Council to intervene. A positive outcome has been created in this important location that is noted in the Council's planning as being critical to community and urban renewal in Laverton.

Urban revitalisation and activating spaces

Creating a shop front arts space in Laverton was inspired by the good outcomes of Renew Newcastle, which was established to find short and medium term uses for buildings in the CBD that were vacant, disused or waiting development. Renew is well regarded in arts and urban development around the world, due to its success in bringing life to the CBD of that city on a really large scale and stands alongside other successful place-making initiatives in the US and UK. One of the principles of this approach to revitalisation is that it's acceptable for spaces to be ever changing, to be adaptive to resources ('pop ups' being an example in this context). Encouraging people to be in and around a space is also a principle of place-making that has relevance here. At Woods Street, effective 'grass roots' renewal is driven by the arts and innovation.

Woods Street Arts Space is activated by a calendar of workshops and exhibitions that enable local artists to use the space at no cost, so long as their pitches and ideas meet particular criteria.



For bookings and enquiries contact Hobsons Bay City Council's Arts and Culture unit on (03)9932 1000 or via email woodsstreetartsspace@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

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