

The New Woodend Star

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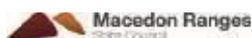
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This paper is a member of CNAV

Supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council



Your community diary GET YOUR EVENT LISTED ON OUR CALENDAR
 Just send the details to content@newwoodendstar.org.au

DUE TO THE CHANGING NATURE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC YOU SHOULD CHECK WITH ORGANISERS ABOUT ANY EVENTS LISTED HERE

— AUGUST —

- 7 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7-8 Woodend Winter Arts Festival Event Weekend
- 7-8 Scout's Log Cabin Cafe
- 13 U3A AGM
- 18 St Mary's Knit and Natter
- 28 Hannah Gadsby at Kyneton Town Hall

— SEPTEMBER —

- 4 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 4-5 Kyneton Spring Flower Show
- 11 Don Watson at Norma Richardson Hall for MRRAR
- 15 St Mary's Knit and Natter
- 18 Hanging Rock Market
- 18-19 Rotary Club of Yea Garden Expo

— OCTOBER —

- 2 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 30 Hanging Rock Market

— NOVEMBER —

- 12-14 Wine Retreat at Lancemore

June was a tumultuous month, with lots of rain and wind causing huge amounts of damage in the area. Our long-term average rainfall for June is about 87 mm. This time, we received 183.6 mm, taking it within 1 mm of the highest June rainfall since records began in 1890. The highest was in 1991. Good luck to all with your rehabilitation works and be careful with those chainsaws!

Woodend's Rain report

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	av 5yr
January	27.8	80.0	9.8	73.6	92.6	56.8
February	26.5	3.8	12.0	67.8	32.4	28.5
March	23.7	31.7	12.2	79.6	47.0	38.8
April	165.0	31.0	7.6	139.8	15.2	71.7
May	38.6	115.6	114.8	79.0	83.0	86.2
June	10.6	78.2	168.2	80.1	183.6	104.2
July	60.0	73.3	63.2	49.3		
August	119.6	91.3	78.1	93.0		
September	55.2	26.2	38.3	56.3		
October	45.8	69.0	29.4	99.5		
November	77.4	55.5	64.8	54.4		
December	77.2	91.0	10.0	42.4		
Total mm	727.4	746.6	608.4	914.8	453.8	

Meet your Local

February 2016 marks two significant events for Bonnie and Remy Fox: starting their own business by taking over ownership of the Chamber café and welcoming a new Fox in town, with the birth of their first child, Finn.

Their partnership story goes back to 2014, when Remy, a senior barista in a Melbourne café, and Bonnie, a communications specialist involved in setting up social enterprises, had moved to Woodend and frequently dropped by the then-Chamber Art and Coffee house, owned by Philip Holgate, for their weekend coffee fix. Remy started helping Philip out as a barista on weekends ...and like the old Remington ad, they loved the coffee so much, they bought the company!

With joint interests in hospitality, small business, social enterprise and providing opportunities for people to learn new skills, they have successfully taken over this popular Woodend cafe and added their own flair and vision to the interior and running of this iconic Art Deco former council chambers. New plants, renovations, fresh paint, locally-crafted furniture, fresh lighting, soundproofing (thank you!), table service, a new menu, Fox merchandise, all create a fresh, inviting space.

It is clear that while they love hospitality, seeing their recruits learn new skills and gain confidence is their real passion. This encouraged Remy to run a coffeemaking and hospitality skills course through Neighbourhood House, with over 80 people signing up to take this popular course.

“A barista is always learning, but it takes at least 12 weeks before they really know what they are doing. Technical skills, managing workflow, cleanliness, equipment knowledge, keeping pace under pressure – it’s a mix of art and craft,” says Remy.



“Every day, there’s a start of day procedure called ‘dialing in the machine’ – it almost sounds like a telepathy ritual. This process sets the tone for how the day runs, and the taste of every subsequent cup of coffee. The team tastes that first cup, makes the required adjustments and only then are we ready to start business for the day.”

“Constantly adapting and pivoting helped us manage Covid,” says Bonnie. “At every lockdown, we closed for a day to regroup and establish the new routine. Lockdown ended up being an opportunity to get all the little jobs done. We were able to complete our staff training, and it also provided some welcome family time at home with the addition of twin girls to the family.”

Bonnie and Remy have plans to launch a new enterprise alongside their café, the Ranges School of Hospitality. Their courses will focus on teaching basic hospitality skills to young people, to provide them with confidence and employability and help provide a solution to the short supply of qualified hospitality workers.

Weekend travellers from Melbourne have been great for business, but Fox is committed to Woodend locals especially in these times of uncertainty.

SUBMITTED BY ROSEMARY GUYATT



1st Woodend Scout Group's Log Cabin Café

The Woodend Winter Arts Festival is on again, and the 1st Woodend Scout Group are getting ready to bake cakes and make soups for our annual pop-up Log Cabin Café.

The café will be open 10am to 4pm on Saturday 7th and 11am to 3pm on Sunday 8th August.

The log cabin café has become a Woodend institution and is our major fundraiser for the year.

This year, we are raising funds to purchase new tents to take with us to the Scout Jamboree, which is being held in Elmore in December 2021.

Come along to the Log Cabin Café and experience for yourself our cosy wood fire, our homemade soups and cakes, Rose’s famous sponge cake and our fresh-baked scones!

Find us at the log cabin, 41 Forest St Woodend. All Covid regulations are in place.

SUBMITTED BY VICKI WATERS ON BEHALF OF 1ST WOODEND SCOUT GROUP.



Rescheduled for 2021

The Covid-safe festival has:

- more space between events
- cleaning between events
- ticketed, seated events
- reduction of large crowds

7-8 August

Contingency plans if needed

- If lockdown or restrictions affect the planned weekend, new dates will be announced
- All ticket-holders will be immediately advised and all online event dates changed
- Tickets can be refunded or converted to a future event, if new dates don't suit
- Keep an eye on Facebook and website for info
- Subscribe to the festival newsletter

Reimagined. Reconstructed. Rescheduled.

Call it what you will, but the Festival is back (again) for August

Part Two of this year's reimagined/rescheduled/reconstructed Woodend Winter Arts Festival is planned for **7 and 8 August**, pending outcomes of lockdown of course!

A successful July event weekend has spurred the committee on in their determination to bring the arts to the region, and support artists. The back-up plan if the weekend can't go ahead will be a reschedule to another August weekend (fingers crossed)!

Share in a very special experience on **Saturday 7 August** as **John O'Donnell** gives the first performance of his edition of the original version of Bach's *Art of Fugue*. Published in December 2020 by the new European imprint Lyrebird Music, this is the first-ever publication of the first version of this work, of which Bach made a fair copy in 1742.

There will be a free lecture by John before his première performance of the original version of *The Art of Fugue*. This will be a demonstration of the working methods of a musical sleuth and a fascinating insight into Bach's compositional processes.

On **Sunday 8 August** there will be two more musical events.

Vocal ensemble, **Melbourne Octet**, will present an afternoon of close harmony jazz arrangements, of repertoire written in historically turbulent (eerily familiar) times. Eight of Melbourne's finest singers will bring you arrangements of Cole Porter, Richard Rogers, and others.

MCM Winds – a collaboration of talented students and teachers from the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music – will perform a program of Beethoven's *Octet in E-flat Major* and Raff's *Sinfonietta for 10 wind instruments* featuring the dulcet tones of horn, flute, clarinet, oboe and bassoon.

For film buffs, we'll be featuring Woodend's world-renowned filmmaker **Michael Dillon's** *A Little Bit Mongolian*, a multi-international award-winning film about Angus Paradise, a 12-year-old Australian horse rider who dares to race with local Mongolian children in their dangerous long-distance horse races.

After the movie, known for the wonderful music score, Australia's world-class virtuoso in throat and harmonic

singing **Dean Frenkel** – who is the holder of the Guinness World Record for the world's longest continuous vocal note. He will provide a first (covid-safe!) lesson in this ancient art form to warm up for a full performance where everyone will be invited to join in. A perfect opportunity for the whole family to try something new together.

Author **Beth Wilson** will discuss her new (and first) novel with **Dr Sally Cockburn** (known to many radio listeners as Dr Feelgood). Beth's book looks at where the line between revenge and justice might be drawn – and in this session she'll also discuss what it's like to be a first-time author in her 70s.

Over the August weekend three local arts organisations will fling open their exhibitions to round off your cultural experience – all located around the now much looked-forward to Woodend 1st Scout Group's Log Cabin café.

The Macedon Ranges Art Trail members present their 10th exhibition **Crescendo** at Woodend Tennis Club, the **Gallery Mt Macedon** present **Make Your Mark** at the Woodend Neighbourhood House, and **Macedon Ranges Potters** will exhibit their latest works at the Cobaw Community Health Service in Forest Street.

Covid-safe and flexible, part two of the (reimagined / reconstructed / rescheduled) 2021 Woodend Winter Arts Festival is certainly brimming with fantastic options for everyone.

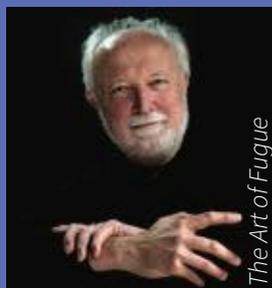
For more information and to support the return of festivals and live performance in our region, or to book tickets for these planned events on **7 and 8 August** go to woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au.

SUBMITTED BY THE WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE



Melbourne Octet present *Afternoon Jazz*, Sunday 8 August

WOODEND winter arts FESTIVAL



The Art of Fugue

Festival timetable

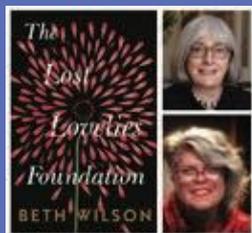
CHECK ONLINE FOR ANY DATE CHANGES

SATURDAY 7 AUGUST

- 10am Exhibitions: **Crescendo** (MR Art Trail), **Pottery Exhibition** (Macedon Ranges Potters) and **Look, Learn, Create** (Gallery, Mt Macedon) all within walking distance
- 11am **Lecture on Art of Fugue**, St Ambrose Church
- 1pm **A Little Bit Mongolian**, St Ambrose Hall
- 2pm **Art of Fugue**, concert in St Ambrose Church
- 4pm **A Little Bit Mongolian**, St Ambrose Hall

SUNDAY 8 AUGUST

- 10am Exhibitions: **Crescendo** (MR Art Trail), **Pottery Exhibition** (Macedon Ranges Potters) and **Look, Learn, Create** (Gallery, Mt Macedon) all within walking distance
- 1pm **MCM Winds**, Passing the Torch, St Ambrose Hall
- 2.30pm **Afternoon Jazz**, St Ambrose Church
- 3pm **Revenge, Justice and The Lost Lovelies Foundation** St Ambrose Hall



On-demand performance brings Italy to Woodend!

Unable to travel to Australia for 2021, Italian violinist Davide Monti and his wife, harpist Maria Cleary, have instead recorded a special performance exclusively for the Woodend Winter Arts Festival. In the nine years that he has been performing in Woodend, Davide feels very attached to Woodend and wanted to share something that could be enjoyed by everyone.

Until 11 August, this on-demand performance is available to purchase with



only one ticket required for a household. It's set in a beautiful and ancient Italian villa, where you'll not only hear and see gorgeous performances, but explore private rooms that are not open to the public.

A perfect antidote to Woodend's long winter blues! Tickets on the festival website.

Three official festival exhibitions for 7-8 August

All going well (*check website for any changes*) the three umbrella events for this year's reimagined Woodend Winter Arts Festival will run on 7-8 August. You'll be able to walk between these three exhibitions and stop in at the Woodend 1st Scout Group's Log Cabin Café for some wonderful lunch!

The Gallery artists of Mt Macedon

This exhibition will once again be held at the Woodend Neighbourhood House, and will provide many opportunities for children and adults to have a go at creating their own piece of art. Visit **The Gallery of Mt Macedon Artists at the Woodend Neighbourhood House**, Forest Street, Woodend from Saturday 7 August & Sunday 8 August.

Macedon Ranges Potters Exhibition

The creative members of **Macedon Ranges Potters** are busy in their studios, finalising and choosing their best work for their annual exhibition, once again part of Woodend Winter Arts Festival. Visit the Macedon Ranges Potters at **Woodend Community Hub, Forest St Woodend**, from Saturday 7 August & Sunday 8 August.



Crescendo, Macedon Ranges Arts Trail

A symphony of visual art is promised at **Macedon Ranges Art Trail's 10th exhibition**. The exhibition will showcase paintings and drawings in all mediums, fine art photography, ceramics, textiles, basketry and jewellery. CRESCENDO will be at the **Woodend Tennis Club** from Saturday 7 August & Sunday 8 August with entry by donation.



SUBMITTED BY WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL



A still from Michael Dillon's award-winning film, *A Little Bit Mongolian*

MCM Winds performs Beethoven & Raff on horn, flute, oboe and bassoon.



information & tickets: www.woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au

Endangered

6

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 SURPRISES IN THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST.

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Helping community members experiencing power bill stress

Woodend Neighbourhood House is helping community members experiencing financial hardship to access the State Government's \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

The Power Saving Bonus provides eligible Victorians with a one-off \$250 payment to assist households with the cost of living during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic has only exacerbated existing poverty within our communities, and many people have lost work or significant income as a direct result of Victoria's lockdowns," Neighbourhood Houses Victoria CEO Nicole Battle said.

"This bonus offers some financial relief for these community members, many of whom have to choose whether they can pay their next electricity bill or put food on the table."

To help spread the word about the bonus, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has engaged Neighbourhood Houses Victoria in partnership with Good Shepherd.

"It makes sense to have Neighbourhood Houses spreading the word about this bonus," Nicole said.

"Being such grassroots organisations, they are best positioned to reach people within their communities who already come to them for other support services such as food relief, job seeking support, digital literacy programs and Centrelink assistance."

Woodend Neighbourhood House manager, Melissa Baker said the House was able to help community members complete their online applications for the bonus.

"We know there are members of our community who have never used a computer before or lack confidence and skills to do something like submit an application online," Melissa said.

"We don't want this to be a barrier to them accessing the \$250 payment, so we are available to step them through the process, and make sure they aren't left behind."

To be eligible for the Power Saving Bonus, applicants must hold a pensioner concession card or receive JobSeeker Payment, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance.

For assistance with accessing the Power Saving Bonus, visit Woodend Neighbourhood House at 47 Forest Street, Woodend, or call on (03) 5427 1845.

Melissa Baker can be contacted for further information. Direct contact details: 0403 607 433, manager@woodendnh.org.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA BAKER

HANGING ROCK MARKET

NEXT MARKET:
18TH SEPTEMBER

LATER DATE:
30TH OCT

With over 180 stalls its the perfect place to spend your Saturday!

Opens 9 AM - 2 PM

Hanging Rock Reserve. South Rock Road, Woodend Via Calder Fwy. Parking \$5 - usually \$10
 For more info visit - craftmarkets.com.au



YE A GARDEN EXPO

18 & 19 SEP 2021
9AM - 3PM
 Location: Yea Saleyards
Flat Lead Road, Yea (see website for directions)

Only an hour from Melbourne!

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- Garden sculptures
- Motorised barrows & vehicles
- Garden tools & Vegetable bins
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- Plant Creche
- Speakers Program
- And much more...

FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE!

Entry \$10 for adults - Kids FREE!
 Pay at the gate or book online via www.trybooking.com
www.trybooking.com/BQVDP (bookings open June 1st)

FREE PARKING

Contact: yeagardenexpo@optusnet.com.au
www.yeagardenexpo.com.au

Garden Expo Rotary Club of Yea

The Rotary Club of Yea is again hosting a Garden Expo on Sat/Sun 18-19 September, 9am—3pm. This is an opportunity to view garden-related products at the Yea Saleyards (Flat Lead Road), a flat, sealed and easily accessible site. Entry is \$10 (free parking), with food available on site. Over 70 vendors with all things related to gardens on display, plus daily speakers. Website (www.yeagardenexpo.com.au) or www.yearotary.org.au or Facebook. Bookings at www.trybooking.com/BQVDP or pay at the gate.

Read us on issue
www.issuu.com/newwoodendstar



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Woodend Nursery

“Not all storms come to disrupt your life; some come to clear your path!” – *Anonymous*

Indeed, I can say with over 80 established trees uprooted on my property, the night of the storm was a scary evening and the aftermath was horrendous. I’m sure many of you are in the same position. As harsh as it may sound, I have adjusted to the fact that I now have a blank or new canvas to start from!

At Woodend Nursery and Landscaping, we are helping locals re-establish a garden norm. Our gardening ground and landscaping crew can help you clear up your property and plant for your future pleasure. Book a free 30-minute consult with Cassius to explore how our team can assist. Remember it’s time to plant your bare-rooted trees! Not only will you save up to 50% off normal retail prices; you also get to redesign, replenish, rejuvenate and resurrect your green space. Call us!

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your place

DIY Repairs

During the last 18 months of lockdowns, we've have many calls, texts and emails asking about product repairs. We love that everyone is having a crack at maintenance and repairs around the home. It's good for our brains and good for the environment.

But here's the thing: we consult, measure and install curtains and blinds. We're not a repair shop. We're happy to help if you bought the product from us and it's still in warranty. But that blind right near the wood heater with all the soot bunging up the mechanism so it doesn't lock? It might need a good clean. If you clean it and it still doesn't work, you may need to



replace the part. (Note: parts are cheaper if you contact the supplier directly, not through us.)

You can try:

1. *Googling it!* There are many 'how-to' YouTube videos out there. Some are great! Others are too long, irrelevant, misleading or just plain wrong... But once you find a generous, knowledgeable site, bookmark it for future reference.

Bradley's Curtains+Blinds

72 High Street, Woodend 3442
t 03 5427 2361
e sales@bradleyscurtains.com
w bradleyscurtains.com

2. *Contacting the manufacturer* by phone or webpage. If they can't give you advice, they should offer a repairer. Make sure you ask them if they think the issue is repairable or has come to the end of its life. Asking this can save time and angst.

3. *Asking a handy person* to help. There are many 'handymen' advertised in local papers and internet searches.

And remember: if the product has batteries, check them before you troubleshoot further. (Ahem.)

Greater Western Water launches, bringing more affordable water services for customers

The region's new water corporation, Greater Western Water (GWW) was launched last month with a brand-new look revealed at the special event held at the Sunbury office.

The new water corporation follows long-term planning by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and the former water authorities to best cater for population growth in the region and deliver high quality, affordable water services.

The formation of GWW will save on costs and reduce household water bills into the future with former Western Water customers also securing greater access to the Melbourne supply system.

GWW will support and grow regional jobs, consolidating \$1.5 billion of investment across the western region over five years to serve a fifth of Victoria's population.

Inaugural GWW Managing Director, Maree Lang, said that it was an honour to lead and serve the new organisation that spans such a wide region.



Photo caption: From left, Wurundjeri Elder Uncle Bill Nicholson, GWW Inaugural Managing Director Maree Lang, Chair David Middleton and Member for Sunbury Josh Bull, unveil the new GWW sign

"We will use our size and the full resources available to us to continue to deliver the water quality and security, affordability, reliability and continuous supply our customers deserve.

"We are lucky to have a diligent and dedicated expert team, and I look forward to supporting each one of them to produce their best for our customers."

For more information, Visit Greater Western Water at gww.com.au or call 13 44 99.

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JORQUERA





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Jahne Hope-Williams

Tarot therapist/Reader/Author Artist

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Google: "Jahne Hope-Williams You Tube" for our free videos.



TAROT: I have an unusual background - 50 years experience as a teacher of yoga teachers. Clients who knew I could read the Tarot and the pendulum would ask if I could do "readings" for them as part as our work. This seemed to greatly enhance and expedite the healing process.

I offer single sessions or short term counselling either zoom, email or in person. I address everyday issues, career, relationships, health etc. I also teach tarot /pendulum reading classes.

For information bookings or enquiries
Email: yogafirst@netcon.net.au

The TAROT and Pendulum with Jahne

I have authored my own deck "Revelation Tarot" and read the deck and work with my pendulum every day. Are you 'stuck'? Come see me, book a zoom or studio appointment today.

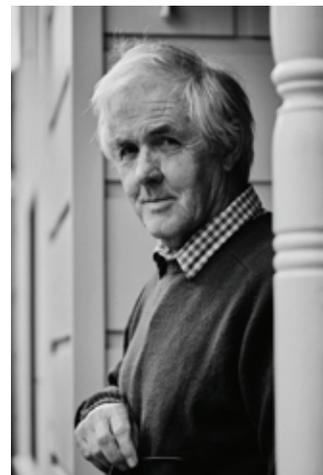
I have been providing confidential consultations for many years (business, personal relationships), unravelling difficult situations, and bringing about meaningful change and abundance in all things. My heartfelt, mindful approach combines Christian ethics with Buddhist and Western philosophies and offers practical solutions ... My tarot is never far away.

Email: yogafirst@netcon.net.au for information or to book an appointment. And as a friend of mine said - "Mucho, mucho amore".

Watsonia and Woodend

Macedon Ranges Rural Australians for Refugees

Advisor and speechwriter to Premier and Prime Minister, screenwriter, satirist and traveller, Don Watson is the author of 13 books. His latest offering, *Watsonia: A Writing Life*, features musings on subjects as diverse as Travel and Terrorism, Language and Leadership, Football and Faith and, perhaps most intriguingly, the question of Australia: Who are we? Where are we? And where do we go from here? Don will



sign copies of his books and share some of his thoughts, in conversation at the Norma Richardson Hall at 4pm on Saturday 11 September as guest of the Macedon Ranges Rural Australians for Refugees. All proceeds from admission will be donated to various refugee support groups such as Friends of Refugees in Springvale and the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project in Albert Park. Bookings for the event are essential and are available on the trybooking website: www.trybooking.com/BSYAU

SUBMITTED BY ANDREW GRIMES



Two More Very Successful Declared Reserve Price Totally Transparent Auctions

This time for small farming acreage lifestyle properties
sold on two of the coldest winter days this year!



keatings.com.au 83 High Street Woodend (03) 5427 2999

Auction Saturday 19 June at 11am
"Blackwood Hill"
15.24 Ha (37.6 Acres)

177 Shannons Lane, Kerrie
Auction Saturday 19 June
Published Reserve Price \$1,350,000
Sold under the hammer for \$1,850,000 - 3 bidders



keatings.com.au 83 High Street Woodend (03) 5427 2999

Auction Saturday 26th June 12 Noon
44.76 Ha (110 Acres)
A very special small farm with planning permit
and magnificent views.

1067 Rochford Road, Newham
Auction Saturday 26 June
Published Reserve Price \$1,475,000
Sold under the hammer for \$1,800,000 - 4 bidders

Both auctions were excellent demonstrations of the best auction model.

That is, one where there is maximum public trust and transparency,
and where the price is set by purchasers competing in a fair and transparent process without
any artificial price manipulation by the agent, auctioneer or vendor.

For an appraisal of your property please call

John Keating 0419 880 444 or Peter Wood 0408 866 774

Boost for storm recovery efforts

Council has welcomed the announcement of \$55.5 million recovery funding from government to address urgent requests to help Victorian communities impacted by storm damage in June, including those in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

Operations crews responded to emergency callouts and supported the SES in the initial response. Since the event, Council officers have responded to hundreds of calls for on-site clean-up, other support, or insurance and financial advice.

Local property owners can now register with Bushfire Recovery Victoria for funding of flood and storm clean-up operations on private properties across Victoria, under jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. A link to register with BRV is available on Council's storm recovery webpage, mrsc.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery

Council has engaged specialist arborists and clean-up contractors to help assess storm damage and lead the clean-up and tree clearing efforts on roadside and parklands and to provide urgent access to private properties. The cleanup is expected to take at least the next six months. Officers are identifying sensitive conservation areas whilst gradually reducing the fire hazard.

After activating its Recovery Operations Centre based at Gisborne, staff are still dealing with a high volume of enquiries covering a range of issues. Council also continues working with all emergency authorities and supporting our Neighbourhood Houses and other health organisations in their response efforts.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council CEO Bernie O'Sullivan said staff across all key areas of the Council are still assessing the level of impact in the region, natural environment and the extent of our community's needs.

"We are still assessing what support our community members need for their long-term recovery," Mr O'Sullivan said. "This includes any displaced residents and those in the farming sector whose livelihoods are impacted by reduced access to grazing land for their livestock after extensive damage to fencing."



STORM AND FLOOD RECOVERY SUPPORT HOTLINE



1800 560 760

- ✓ Register for Clean-Up on private property
- ✓ Access your own Recovery Support Worker
- ✓ Mental health and wellbeing support
- ✓ Financial counselling support
- ✓ Information on available payments

8am–7pm Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)
9am to 1pm on weekends

Accessing support

If you are a resident or landowner in Macedon Ranges Shire and have been directly affected by recent damage, please visit Council's website (details below) for information updates on the support available. This includes how to register for the \$55.5 million clean-up program delivered by Bushfire Recovery Victoria.

The website also provides general advice on tree removal, drainage, access, road closures and roadside wood collection, transfer stations and free tip vouchers for debris disposal. If you've been affected by this emergency, our relief and recovery staff will be on hand to speak with and help you with your basic needs via the Recovery Operations Centre on (03) 5422 0237 Monday to Friday 8:30am–5pm, email recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au. For more information, refer to www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/News/News/Storm-Recovery

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL



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Free energy advice

Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group paves the way for a sustainable future, with a new partnership offering free energy advice and access to trusted solar suppliers

Macedon Ranges residents will receive complimentary advice on PV solar systems and energy efficiency, as well as an opportunity to purchase solar and battery storage systems through carefully selected and vetted suppliers. This is thanks to a new partnership between Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSG) and the Australian Energy Foundation.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said Council is pleased to have been able to support MRSG and this project through last year's annual Community Funding Scheme.

"Council recognises the benefits of renewable energy for the environment and the economy.

This is a great example of a community-led project that complements a range of environmental programs that Council has recently implemented, including our partnership with VECO – the largest ever emissions reduction project by local government in Australia.

I would encourage everyone to take advantage of this free service that's designed to help you reduce energy consumption, save money and reduce your environmental impact," Cr Anderson said.

Since launching their Energy Advice Service in 2013, the Australian Energy Foundation has supported 27,000 households with energy advice and abated 372,000 tonnes of emissions.

As the nation's leading energy organisation, Australian Energy Foundation works with homes, businesses and all levels of government (including local councils) to tackle the climate emergency and to accelerate the transition to an equitable zero carbon society.

To take advantage of the free service, residents can call the Australian Energy Foundation and speak to an energy advisor on 1300 23 68 55 or visit MRSG's website mrsg.org.au/home-energy-advice. For further information, contact David Gormley O'Brien 0408 578 032.

SUBMITTED BY DAVID GORMLEY-O'BRIEN

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A Biodiversity Crisis: Animals and plants of the Macedon Ranges

Did you know that 376 animal species have been recorded in the Macedon Ranges? And 1,457 varieties of native plants?

Celebrate National Biodiversity Month with this interactive exhibition, which brings together a collection of historical accounts of local species and photographs. Get up close with a collection of animal specimens, or take a peek inside some natural tree hollows to see who lives inside. Schools are encouraged to express interest in participating in educational workshops and talks associated with this interactive exhibition.

A Biodiversity Crisis: Animals and plants of the Macedon Ranges is open from 3 September 2021 to 27 February 2022.

For more information, call 1300 888 802 or email us at museum@mrsc.vic.gov.au

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL

Kyneton Horticultural Society

After a two-year absence, the Kyneton Horticultural Society will be eagerly hosting its annual Spring Flower Show on Saturday 4 September from 1pm to 4pm and Sunday 5 September from 10am—4pm in the Watts Pavilion, Kyneton Showgrounds in Mollison Street. The popular flower show is one of Victoria's longest-standing and is part of the Kyneton Daffodil Festival. Everyone is encouraged to enter; for more details, please visit the website at www.khs1894.com. The Spring Show will be held under the COVID-19 regulations operating at the time. There will be a plant stall and raffle. Enquiries can be directed to President, Nicholas Scott on 0438 664 849. The Spring Flower Show is proudly sponsored by Kyneton Garden Supplies.



SUBMITTED BY NICHOLAS SCOTT

Green Sport

How to be environmentally sustainable these Olympic and Paralympic Games

Of the top 25 most-viewed television events worldwide, twenty-four are sports events and fifteen of these are the Olympic Games. 3.6 billion people viewed events of the Rio Olympic Games in 2016. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) expects close to 4 billion people to engage with the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. Imagine if 4 billion people did one thing to support the health of our planet. That's a whole lot of sport positive climate action.

Here are some actions you can take.

- When streaming coverage on your phone or ipad, earthdefinition.org recommends selecting Standard Definition (SD) at 480p instead of High Definition (HD) at 1080p. You won't notice any change in video quality on a small screen, and it reduces your personal digital carbon footprint. Choose #earthdefinition and #streamresponsibility.
- Support athletes who support the environment. Follow them on social media, share their stories. Medallist or not, they are champions for the planet and for the future of sport's smallest fans, our children. You can find Australian athlete ambassadors for climate action at sportsenvironmentalliance.org and ecoathletes.org. Look out for #teamgb, who have launched a movement for climate change at #oly_earth.
- Purchase responsibly as an Olympic and Paralympic fan. If you love to wave a flag, check out the op-shop before you buy something new. Cater with fresh local food (the food of athletes) that is #plasticfree when you sit down to watch the opening ceremonies. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has committed all Games will be climate positive from 2030. #Paris2024 has committed to being climate neutral already. Let's all win the #racetozero.
- Plant a tree for sport and the planet. Rally your club, friends, workplace and family to plant a tree (or trees) when your favourite athlete or team competes, when they make a final or win a medal. The IOC is planting an Olympic Forest in Mali and Senegal as part of its climate positive strategy with partner Tree Aid. You can plant a tree through donation platforms like treeaid.org, onetreeplanted.org and greeningaustralia.org.au. Or get out there and plant a tree at home or, if you don't have space get in touch with your local Landcare and see if you or your club could get involved with a planting day.

Remember, every effort counts for #teamplanet. Shout out your #planetsavingplay on social media, in your conversations at work, with friends and family.

#noplanetnoplay #strongertogether #greenplanetsport

Need more ideas? Contact me at annabel.greensports@gmail.com or follow me @a_bella_life.

SUBMITTED BY: ANNABEL SIDES, LEAD, GREEN SPORT ACTION, COOL CHANGES 3442 – MRSC WOODEND REGION CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN



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Rotary Club of Woodend



Rotary Club of Woodend 34th Annual Changeover

Josephine Falzarano was announced as Rotary Club of Woodend's new president at the club's changeover lunch at Glen Erin Winery, Lancefield.

Outgoing president Mick Deviny performed the official changeover, and the club welcomed many guests, including District Governor Dale Hoy and Maureen Hoy, MRSC Mayor Jennifer Anderson, councillors Janet Pearce and Mark Ridgeway, presidents from Rotary clubs of Kyneton and Gisborne.

Mick told the audience that despite the Rotary Club of Woodend being in a number of lockdowns it was still able to continue publishing *The New Woodend Star* and carry out other fundraising activities to ensure its usual causes, both local and international, were supported.

A highlight of the day's activity as outgoing President is to present awards to deserving recipients.

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition is very special honour named after the Founder of the Rotary movement and has been recognising individuals for their service and dedication to the ideals of Rotary since 1957. Mick was pleased to award a Paul Harris to Rotarians Jane Watters and Terry Longton, and community member Kellie Flanagan for their contribution to the Rotary Club of Woodend during his Presidential Rotary year.

Jane Watters, who without fanfare, has worked tirelessly for Rotary and Rotary Youth Programs for her local club and District. Jane is a consistent volunteer for all fundraising and community events and is a member and the treasurer of *The New Woodend Star* Committee.

Terry Longton was recognised for his outstanding and constant contribution to a number of the club's projects and events. Terry joined the committee of *The New Woodend Star* twelve months ago and hit the ground running, negotiating and securing a new printing company yielding substantial production savings for the club. He visited Woodend's businesses, promoting *The New Woodend Star*, and with his daughter Kate, contributed a number of stories about local identities and traders.

Kellie Flanagan although not a Rotarian was awarded the Paul Harris for her service to our local community and particularly to our club through her hard work, and her commitment to the production of *The New Woodend Star* has been exceptional. Kellie joined the committee of the *New Woodend Star* in July 2018 and freely gives her time to copyedit and contribute to each edition. Without seeking any recognition or accolades Kellie is happy to tackle any job and she does it with aplomb.

Another Club award presented each year is the Darryl Crozier Award. The Darryl Crozier Award is the Club President's Award recognizing a Club member who has made a difference in strategic goals of Rotary.

Darryl Crozier is a charter member and longest serving member of RCW. He was a quiet achiever working in the background and was always willing to help out at activities.



Josephine Falzarano announced as Rotary Club of Woodend's new president, pictured here with outgoing president, Mick Deviny.



Photo: Grant and Melissa Hocking



Kellie Flanagan and Mick Deviny



Photo: L_R Jane Watters, District 9800 Governor Dale Hoy, Past President Mick Deviny, Carol Webber and Terry Longton

He was a regular attendee at club meetings with an unwavering commitment to the Club, a true example of service above self.

This year, Past President Mick Deviny presented this award to Carol Webber for 'Service Above Self'. Carol is a committed and active member, and since joining Rotary two years ago is recognised as a tireless volunteer who contributes to club projects and activities for the betterment of the Club and Rotary generally.

Local Rotarians also received a District 9800 Award and a Rotary International Award.

This year, the District Paul Harris Recognition awards were presented by PDG Phillip Archer to a couple who many of our readers know, as active and familiar members of our local community, Grant and Melissa Hocking.

Melissa was given the +1 sapphire Paul Harris recognition for the work she did in supporting Grant during his two years leading and during the District Governors' year by supporting and working with many causes sponsored by the clubs in the District, and also for all the community work she does in her own right including with the Red Cross and the Emergency Team supporting state fire and flood relief and recovery events.

Grant was given his +8 first ruby Paul Harris recognition for his amazing work as Optimisation Director, a new area which Grant initiated and which includes setting in place the Acknowledgement to Country, the work he has done on diversity, equity and inclusion, the work he has done on the District's new Microsoft Teams, his support of Foundation projects including the Virtual Walk With Us End Polio fundraiser, and of course, for his excellent leadership as District Governor 2019–20.

The Rotary International Award for Excellence in Service to Humanity is a prestigious award with one nomination per District.

The Rotary Club of Woodend is pleased to announce that the award this year has gone to Shirley Cann of Woodend.

Shirley is an Honorary Member of our club and was recognised for her contributions supporting Rotary activities, both overseas and locally for 31 years. Shirley

has worked side by side with husband and Rotarian Alan Cann first at Wendouree Rotary and for the past nine years at Woodend Rotary. Locally Shirley has been actively involved in learning and education at secondary schools supporting our vocational services and participating in the mock interview exercises at Braemar College and the secondary school.

Outside of Rotary, Shirley and Alan have delivered business education across the Pacific, including the Cook Islands and Vanuatu working with the local Chamber of Commerce. This project was initiated and self-funded for ten years. In recent years, Rotary Woodend has begun supporting the Pacific Islands projects through the installation of the water tank and the Mwast school building.

For the past seven years, Shirley has also been a member of the local Woodend Red Cross and the Emergency Team supporting state fire and flood relief and recovery events, as well as phone support at the Red Cross office.

We know that the Woodend community joins us in congratulating Shirley Cann.



Photo: Shirley and Alan Cann



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Protecting habitat and promoting the great outdoors

In June the Victorian Government released its response to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's (VEAC) Central West Investigation Final Report. The government's response includes the announcement of a new 44,700-hectare national park between Daylesford and Bacchus Marsh.

The creation of a new Wombat-Lerderderg National Park will safeguard crucial habitat for many of Victoria's threatened species, while ensuring local forests remain a drawcard for nature lovers and all those who enjoy getting out in the great outdoors, Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said.

Mary-Anne Thomas said the new national park will bring together the Lerderderg State Park and much of the Wombat State Forest, while new Hepburn and Cobaw Conservation Parks will also be created, adding a further 5,000 hectares to Victoria's protected area estate.

Four new regional parks near Barkstead, Blackwood, Spargo Creek and west of Macedon (totalling more than 15,000 hectares) will also be created; and almost 3000 hectares will be added to the existing Hepburn Regional Park.

"While our immediate focus is on the recovery of our public land assets impacted by recent severe weather, it's important we share these landmark changes with the community and start planning ahead," Ms Thomas said.

The new and expanded regional parks are all located close to regional towns, making them easily accessible and perfect to suit the growing demand for nature-based recreation activities and outdoor adventures.

All of the new regional parks are sites where activities including horse-riding, dog-walking and recreational prospecting can be enjoyed, while domestic firewood collection will also continue from designated sites in the new and additional areas of regional parks until June 2029.

The new Wombat-Lerderderg National Park helps improve the protection of threatened species, including the greater glider, while providing Victorians with the space and opportunity to explore the great outdoors

and connect with nature through four-wheel-driving, horse riding, bushwalking and camping. While hunting restrictions in regional parks will remain, seasonal deer hunting (by stalking) will be allowed in the new national park in areas it already takes place between May and the start of the spring school holidays.

The VEAC report was commissioned in 2017 to evaluate the condition and status of public land in Victoria's central west and make recommendations to ensure its ongoing management balances the needs of all park users and conserves the region's natural and cultural values.

The government's response creates new parks and reserves, while continuing to provide support for the timber industry as it transitions away from native timber harvesting by 2030.

The government acknowledges the interests and aspirations of Traditional Owners for country and is committed to partnering with Traditional Owners in public land management, including through implementing this government response to the VEAC Report and identifying suitable names for the new parks and reserves. For more information about Victoria's Central West region please visit: www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/land-management/victorian-environment-assessment-council/victorian-government-response-to-veac-central-west-investigation/

SUBMITTED BY EMMA HARDING



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West Ward Councillors were pleased to attend the recent Woodend Rotary event and congratulations



to Josephine Falzarano, who was elected as the new president. We recognise the achievements and fundraising by Rotary that support many initiatives and projects, and also the wonderful team working on *The New Woodend Star* that provides us with the opportunity to share our news.

Message from your councillors

We are now in the recovery phase from the recent storms and would firstly like to acknowledge all the groups who continue to go above and beyond to assist and support our community. Our heartfelt thanks to the continued work of the SES, CFA, Powercor, Telcos, Neighbourhood Houses, Council staff, the multiple community groups, all the volunteers, neighbours, friends and all other agencies involved.

We are pleased that people are safe, and we realise that this has been very traumatic for many in our community. We know there is a longer recovery road ahead, and we will continue to work together.

Council has a dedicated and coordinated Recovery Operations Centre (ROC) which can be contacted on 5422 0237, or via email recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au. Please make contact if you have issues, concerns or feedback.

There are also regular updates, information and contact details for various support services and authorities on our website; www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/News/News/Storm-Recovery

We also welcome the announcement of recovery funding from the government to help our community.

Council received the highest number of community submissions to the budget, and we thank all of you who took the time to write and also those that presented to Councillors. It is always a balance. We know there were some items/projects that were considered and unfortunately were not funded in this financial year. We acknowledge that they have been raised and have provided a list and will ensure they are discussed and reviewed again in the following budget period. We also have a mid-year budget review, and sometimes at these reviews opportunities to re-submit can also arise.

The Annual Budget 2021/22 is now available on our website, www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/Council-Plan-and-Budget.

It has been lovely to be able to attend some more community events in person, and we welcome the opportunity to share in your events and celebrations, to meet and talk about Council and how we can work together. We were happy to see that the Woodend Winter Arts Festival could proceed in its reimagined format and look forward to more events planned for August including the art shows that were postponed.

Recently a few groups presented to all Councillors and Executive at our weekly Briefing. We welcome you to make contact: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/How-Council-Works/Request-A-Meeting-With-Councillors

To end on a positive note, the recent announcement of Council's participation as one of 46 Councils forming the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO). It took a few years to formalise and is the largest ever emissions reduction in Australia. It is expected to save our Council 40% each year in electricity bills, so it has been worth the wait.

Stay safe and warm.

Best wishes,

West Ward Councillors – Janet, Jennifer and Mark.



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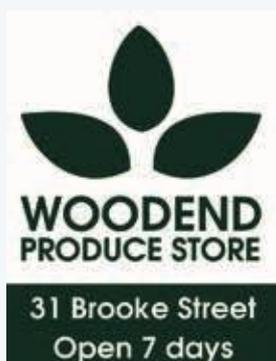
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Have your say on education reform

Victorians are being encouraged to have their say on the government's major reforms of school-based vocational education and senior secondary education.

The reforms will see the integration of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) into the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). This will give Victorian students high-quality, practical skills that deliver a pathway to Victoria's most in-demand jobs.

A new foundation certificate will be established from 2023 to support students in all settings to successfully transition to entry level VET or employment after finishing school, particularly students with a disability and additional needs.

Mary-Anne Thomas is calling for all Macedon electorate locals to have their say on the new certificate designs, on what units students are going to do as part of their certificate and on what the certificates will be called. "This is such a fantastic opportunity for our students, families, employers and educators from local secondary schools to tell us how to best support them as we make these crucial reforms. I encourage you to contribute to the Senior Secondary Pathways Reform to ensure the best possible outcomes for our VCE students," said Ms Thomas.

The government is keen to hear from students, parents, caregivers, schools, TAFE, universities and other service providers, peak bodies, industry, employers and the wider community through the Engage Victoria website.

The move to the new certificates follows a review by former Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority CEO John Firth. They will be complemented by broader reforms to the senior secondary system, which will improve the quality of, and access to, vocational and applied learning pathways for all students. The reforms are supported by a \$38 million investment announced in the Victorian Budget 2020/21. To participate and give feedback on Senior Secondary Pathways Reform, go to engage.vic.gov.au/have-your-say-senior-secondary-pathways-reform

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE

Hannah Gadsby, live at Kyneton Town Hall, Saturday 28 August, 5pm

In 2018, the global sensation and ground-breaking Netflix special *Nanette* really changed things for Hannah. She won an Emmy and a Peabody. After that a lot of people (heaps actually) started paying attention to what she had to say.

The year that was like no other saw Hannah hunkering down in her homeland, Australia, sheltering from a global pandemic and pondering what was next. That ponder is now a show. A brand-new live show. One could say it's a new body of work, couldn't one?

Fortunately, being in Australia at this particular moment in history means that Hannah is able to premiere *Body of Work* here.

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL

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Woodend Corridor Study

Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) and Macedon Ranges Shire Council recognise that it is difficult for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles to navigate some intersections along High Street, Woodend. One such concern is the Coles intersection (corner Urquhart and High Street).

As part of the Woodend Corridor Study initiative, Council will work with the community in identifying areas of concern and possible solutions. The study will include traffic surveys and data collection of existing conditions, future traffic modelling, and strategic traffic analysis.

The consultants will work throughout August, collecting data and understanding traffic surveys. Community consultation to commence in late November.

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL



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U3A Kyneton launches into the second half of the year, with our regular weekly and monthly on-going courses. These include French, mah jong, low impact exercise, cycling, First Nations history, tai chi to name but a few.

Once again, we extend a huge thank you to all our tutors, who give so generously of their time. Without them, U3A Kyneton, would not function.

We welcome anyone in the community who would like to offer either a short or long course in an area of their interest.

The Red Brick Hall, home to U3A Kyneton, has just established a book exchange for all members to enjoy.

Due to the success last term of International Folk Dancing, this will be offered once again commencing on 19 July.

Members will be gathering at the RSL Kyneton to celebrate a Christmas in July on the 23rd of this month.

Our AGM will be held at 2pm on Friday 13 August and as our membership is growing, we are asking expressions of interest for another two committee members.

For further information, visit our website www.u3akyneton.org.au, or email info@u3akyneton.org.au; alternatively have a friendly chat with our secretary, Roni, on 5422 2552 or 0439 360 763

SUBMITTED BY JAN MCCOLL

The Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club Inc.

In times of need, it's certainly an advantage to be connected and involved in your community.

Joining Life Activities is a great way to do just that, with activities to suit everyone.

If you enjoy the outdoors, there are walking groups, men's and ladies petanque, horse riding, (all obviously weather permitting), and the Garden Group, which on suitable days visits local gardens, and over winter organises indoor activities.

Indoor activities include the very popular Mahjong group, Foodies and Craft groups, Scrabble and Music Lovers. Jigsaw puzzles are available to borrow, and there are also Ballroom Dancing classes.

For more information, contact the President and Activity Group Co-Ordinator Di Clausen, on 0425 008 763, or the Secretary Gaye Lovelock on 0411 150 114.

Website www.life.org.au also has information, just click on Trentham in the list of clubs.

SUBMITTED BY WENDY REDMAN

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Woodend Probus Club news

Woodend Probus Club is an association that promotes fun, friendship and fellowship for retired and semi-retired people. It meets in the Scout Hall, 41 Forest Street, Woodend on the first Thursday of each month, to hear an invited speaker give a presentation on an interesting topic. On 5 August, we will welcome Lorraine Smith to speak about an interesting historical document that turned up in a second-hand book. Visitors are welcome to attend at no cost.

The Club also organises monthly trips and outings, which include social gatherings at local restaurants, visits to art galleries and museums, and day trips to local events and attractions, as well as longer journeys. In August, the Club is organising a 4-day/5-night tour to Wedderburn and Swan Hill and an outing to see a production of Love Song by the Mount Players.

The Club is seeking new members who are retired or not in full-time work. Contact either Diane (0438 585 664) or Henry (0425 784 597), email woodendprobus@hotmail.com, or visit our website www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/woodendanddistricts

SUBMITTED BY HENRY ROBERTS

Never forget bin day with the new MSRC waste app

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has launched a new app that will replace the current Loddon Mallee Waste Info app.

Existing Loddon Mallee Waste Info App users will need to download the new MRSC Waste App. The Loddon Mallee Waste Info App will not be updated from 1 July.

The new app will enable people to quickly find the most up-to-date information on what bins go out on what night and guides people on what should and should not go in each bin.

Features include:

- Personalised bin collection calendar for residents, with optional reminders
- A-Z list of materials and images showing which bin to put materials in
- Further information, hints and tips to help with waste management
- Information about Council's waste and recycling services and facilities, including contact details, opening times and maps
- Push notifications to advise people of changes to collection dates, as well as events and programs.

The app is available for both Apple and Android users. Download the app by searching MRSC Waste app or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bin-days.

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL



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Introduction

The wines this month come from two producers who speak more of place than winemaking technique. They are the custodians of a couple of the most important vineyard sites in the region and both craft world class wines. The first wine comes from Wilimee, with Ben and Sally Ranken bringing the Portree Vineyard in Lancefield back to life with a focus on soil health and sustainable farming. The second comes from Bindi Wines, a producer that has pushed forward the region for decades in terms of an ageworthy Pinot Noir and a wonderfully precise and complex Chardonnay.



2019 Wilimee Chardonnay

One of the oldest vineyards in the Macedon Ranges, paired with one of the best winemakers has delivered a layered and complex Chardonnay with an underlying elegance.

The wine comes in at 12.6 % alcohol and showcases the influence of a cool site where grapes can be ripe and flavourful, yet maintain energy and drive.

A light to golden yellow in colour, the nose gives white peach set against flint and cashew notes. The palate has structure and drive, with a baseline of mineral acidity that sees pristine stone fruits and a gentle build of mealy richness. There is a textural grip to finish that gives length and contrast to the primary fruit. A great example of Macedon Ranges Chardonnay.

Rating: 95 | Price: \$45 | When to Drink: 2021–2030

2020 Bindi Dixon Pinot Noir

A blend from a number of blocks on the Estate vineyard, with a pretty light red hue in the glass and a nose of floral dark cherry and spice meeting earth and raw beetroot.

The palate has a savoury core, yet flowing structure with an initial suppleness of fruit before the impact of tannins that are etched with fresh earth, and giving a gentle pull of texture. To finish, fruit tends more dark than red, with oak-derived spice providing a veneer of richness alongside stem, undergrowth and spice.

A young wine, with time sure to be kind.

Rating: 94 | Price: \$80 | When to Drink: 2021–2032

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK ECKEL

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Proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Vignerons Association.

Please note: Due to Covid this event will now be held on the new dates of 12-14 November 2021

New disability worker registration gives regional Victorians with disability a safe choice

Victoria's disability workforce will be stronger and safer under a new Victorian Government disability worker registration scheme, giving regional Victorians with a disability greater choice and better protections.

The first scheme of its kind in Australia, voluntary disability worker registration opened on 1 July to allow workers to be independently assessed by the Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria.

Across the disability sector, different onboarding checks, standards and screenings in place for disability workers may vary in consistency or may not exist in some cases. Registration fills a critical gap by ensuring registered disability workers meet rigorous standards and are assessed for safety, skills and professionalism, no matter how they are employed or how the services they deliver are funded.

By becoming registered, disability workers can demonstrate their commitment to upholding the safety and quality of the workforce for people with disability. By



Photo supplied by Victoria Disability Worker Commission

registering, disability workers will not be charged a fee in the first year and can have their experience recognised without needing a qualification.

People with disability and their carers will be able to easily check if a disability worker is registered through a public list on the Victorian Disability Worker Commission website.

Disability worker registration is a key part of the Disability Worker Regulation Scheme – a new set of regulations to strengthen protections for Victorians with disability and ensure the quality of the disability workforce.

The new safeguards were established in response to recommendations of the Victorian Parliament's 2016 inquiry into abuse in disability services, which evidenced alarming abuse and neglect of Victorians with disability, including in regional areas. The launch of worker registration also shadows the current Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, which has heard cases of the disturbing mistreatment of regional Victorians with disability.

Melanie Eagle, Chair of the Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria, which regulates registered workers and sets their standards, said everyone living with disability deserves a safe choice.

"For someone living with disability, knowing their worker is registered provides confidence they have the right skills to deliver high quality services.

"Registration supports increased professionalisation in disability work and for people seeking services to find workers they know have been independently assessed as safe, skilled and professional."

Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner Dan Stubbs said: "I'm really pleased to be part of implementing a registration program that recognises the excellent, high-quality work so many disability workers do in Victoria."

Disability workers can apply to register at vdwc.vic.gov.au.

SUBMITTED BY KIRSTEN HOWE



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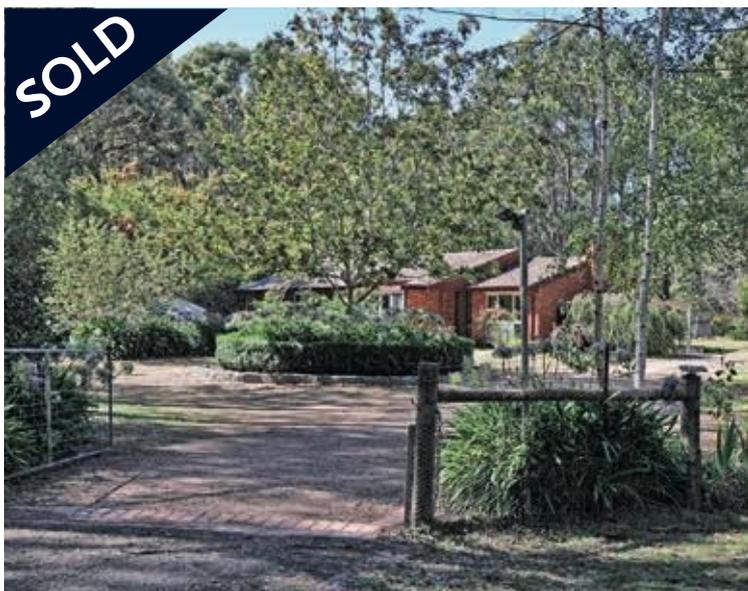
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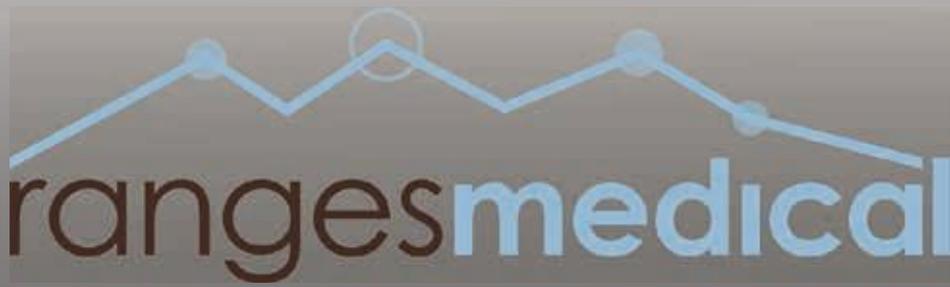
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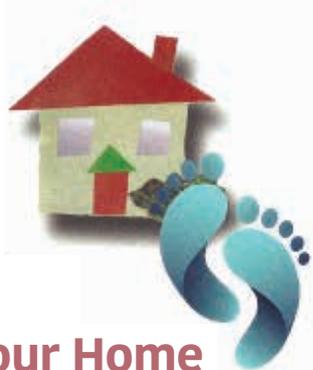
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Pulmonary Rehabilitation

After contracting pneumonia following a bout of influenza, Madeline was left feeling weak and breathless when doing the smallest amount of physical activity. After she was discharged from hospital, Madeline was referred to Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's pulmonary exercise and education program.

The eight-week program teaches people with a chronic lung disease how to manage their symptoms. The Kyneton-based program covers topics such as how the lungs work, how medications can alleviate symptoms and the importance of good nutrition. The program also includes a weekly exercise component.

"The exercises that I learnt as part of the program have really improved my quality of life and have become part of my morning routine," says Madeline.

The program is offered free of charge, thanks to the support of Murray Primary Health Network and is suitable for those with lung complaints such as bronchitis, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as well as lung cancer.

"I was able to bring my daughter along to the sessions each week," says Madeline. "She took notes for me and has been able to support me through my recovery since the course finished."

For details on the next program start date or what is required for a referral, contact Wendy Hemphill on 0417 699 389 or email wendy.hemphill@scchc.org.au

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER



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Planet GAGA

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's WayOut team is hosting a morning of games and activities for non-binary, transgender and gender-diverse children and their parents and carers. 'Planet GAGA', aimed at primary school-aged children, will offer an opportunity for people from across the Macedon Ranges to connect and have some fun.

"For a long time now, we have realised that there is the need for a local group for young children who are gender-diverse or gender questioning," says Mez Lanigan, from WayOut. "Planet GAGA - Gender Affirming Games and Activities - will be safe, welcoming and inclusive, and we hope to make it a regular event."

WayOut has been running in the Macedon Ranges for nearly 20 years and provides a range of services and support for LGBTIQ+ young people and their families, as well as education and training for professionals, including teachers, healthcare workers, youth services and community organisations.

"We have exclusive use of Bug-a-Lugs Indoor Play Centre for the morning, which has always been a popular place for children to have a run and a jump around, especially in the winter," says Mez. "There will be time for some free play as well as organised and engaging activities, and drinks and snacks will be provided."

The event takes place on Saturday 14 August from 10am to 12 noon at 3 Hoyle Court Kyneton. This event is aimed at children aged 6 to 11, but you are encouraged to get in contact if you are interested and your child is older or younger.

Call WayOut on 5421 1666 or email healthpromotion@scchc.org.au.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER

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What's on at the Kyneton Museum

Kyneton Museum explores our natural environment in two exciting upcoming exhibitions. Join us at Kyneton Museum, 67 Piper Street to learn more about our unique surroundings.



Treasures of this Land

Treasures of this Land is a three-week art exhibition that celebrates the rich and diverse ecosystems of the Macedon Ranges and features artworks from renowned local artists, including Daniel Butterworth, Peter Cole, Samantha Slicer, Karan Hayman and Jason Waterhouse, combining a display and time-capsule artwork that considers the ecological treasures that face an uncertain future across the Macedon Ranges.

Following the exhibition, the Biolinks Alliance are holding an art auction, whereby proceeds will be used to help fund the Greenhill to Black Hill biolink.

Treasures of this Land is presented by the Central Victorian Biolinks Alliance and is supported by Kyneton Museum.

Entry is via a gold coin donation, and is viewed in the Downstairs Gallery space. Standard entry fees apply to the rest of the Museum exhibition areas.

Treasures of this Land is open from 30 July to 22 August.

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Woodend CFA: You could save your house by shutting a few doors

In the last two years, we have attended three fires that could have been a lot worse if people had not closed doors inside their properties.

In the first incident, we were called to a house fire in North Woodend, where Woodend Captain went direct to the scene and discovered a fire in the garage. The first thing he did was check on the fire and make sure the young family was safely evacuated.

Fortunately, the residents had closed the garage door into the house, which contained the fire and significantly reduced smoke damage to other parts of the house and stopped it from spreading into the roof space.

The mother told the Woodend Captain that she had seen a recent post on the Woodend CFA Facebook page advising people to close doors to contain a fire to a room ... and this is exactly what they did.

Earlier this year, we attended a unit fire near the fire station that had potential to seriously damage the entire unit. But as doors were closed to several rooms, these rooms sustained no fire or smoke damage at all.

And, just recently, we were part of the many crews that attended the fire at the Macedon Hotel in the middle of the night. Once again, potential damage to the entire property was limited, as the owner was fastidious about closing doors to rooms that were not being used. And, once again, these rooms sustained no smoke or fire damage, and the hotel was able to re-open just a few days later.

So, what is the lesson to be learnt from these incidents? It's pretty clear – when you are not at home and do not need doors open for heating, close the doors to as many rooms as possible. It could save your house!

Beware of the hot spots around your home

The CFA has an informative interactive website to highlight the 'hot spots' that should be checked in all houses. To download the Winter Fire Safety Checklist, please visit the CFA website.

Here you will find lots of useful information about appliances and places that will be found in nearly every home, and the dangers that they can present in winter.

Dangers during winter

CFA statistics show that one-third of all house fires started in the kitchen, 20% were caused by heat from fuel fires and fuel-powered objects such as stoves and heaters, and another 20% from faulty or overloaded equipment

Some simple things you can do to help reduce the risk of fires:

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Keep tea-towels and pot-holders away from the stove
- Keep grills, fans and cooking surfaces free from grease and residue
- Make sure heaters are off before going to bed or going out
- Keep clothing, curtains or toys one metre away from heaters
- Never overload power boards
- Don't wait to replace faulty appliances – do it immediately
- Clean chimneys and flues every year
- Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire
- Keep candles, incense, and oil burners away from anything flammable
- Don't leave electric blankets on for more than 30 minutes
- Clean the lint filter on your clothes dryer after each load

Never deadlock yourself into your home. Deadlocks should have keys in them when you are home. Develop and practice your escape plan – have two ways to escape from your home. And above all else, make sure your smoke alarms are working.

For further information, contact the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, or visit the station in Urquhart Street. Follow us on Facebook, or you can visit our website: www.woodendcfa.org.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, CAPTAIN WOODEND CFA



Always supervise children in the kitchen

DON'T LET THIS - BECOME THIS



Clean the lint filter in your clothes dryer before each use

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/fires-in-the-home



An update from the RSL

It has been some time since we reported in The New Woodend Star, so we thought we had better report on ANZAC Day and more current items we think will be of interest to the general community.



The Woodend RSL Sub-Branch Committee and Members wish to thank the community for both the excellent attendance and support for ANZAC Day. We especially thank the local school children, who presented and spoke well on this solemn occasion.

The screening of the Mount service at the RSL was also well attended at dawn but had to be restricted due to COVID risk. Thank you to those that made the effort. We also appreciate that many driveway services were again undertaken at dawn across the town. Thank you.

We would also like to acknowledge the generosity of our community in the ANZAC Day Appeal, from which we raised \$9,803. These funds will support veterans in need, both locally and across the state. We wish to pass on a special thanks to Coles Woodend for not only allowing us to set up our stand to sell badges, but for the generosity of their staff in buying badges as well.

We also thank the schools and other locations that helped with collection boxes. The following businesses also deserve our community thanks for their support to help us advertise and raise funds through their generous donations: Paysanne Café; Black Forest Meats; Flowers in a Vase; Woodend Ice Cream Co.; Woodend Bookshop; Woodend Wine Store; Karismatic Kids; Woodend Newsagency; M&Co Hair Design; Maison Maloa; Into the Woods.

Since ANZAC Day, it has been a difficult time for many, with further lockdowns and the devastating storm. Anyone needing both physical help or mental health help to get through these periods, please take up the offer of the services in our community. Make sure you watch out for your mates, friends, and neighbours. We are all in this together and must help each other. Even proud old soldiers swallow their pride and ask for help when they need it.

At the time of writing, Victoria was under COVID lockdown. However, once lockdown is lifted, we at the Woodend RSL Sub-Branch would like to remind the community that we have COVID-safe facilities which can take a number of patrons inside, when gathering restrictions allow. Some families have taken advantage of this and booked the hall to get together and stay in touch. Our facilities are available for members and the community for weddings, memorials, birthdays, celebrations, annual dinners, and luncheons. We have an A1 commercial kitchen, which you can hire to self-cater, or we may be able to cater, depending on volunteer availability. Our bar is well stocked and our prices particularly good. We can open the bar for functions.

Our charter is not only to help and support veterans, service personnel and their families but is also to work with the community to support each other and spread the culture of mateship. That culture of mateship helped get our past and recent ANZACs and soldiers through some tough times. Mateship is what we all need during these tough events that are upon us now.

Our bistro is closed for winter, but we are open for a refreshment at 5pm on Thursdays and Fridays –come in for a chat and a drink, and have a look at our facilities for your next function or family gathering. Bring your takeaway food with you if you wish, but due to our licence, BYO drinks are not allowed.

If you are not feeling well, please do not attend the RSL and follow the guidelines for COVID testing.

Please contact us if you are aware of any Veterans or Veteran families who may need some help or assistance. We have many Veterans from recent conflicts in Afghanistan and other places who are now in our community. They may need our support and mateship as well. admin@woodendrsl.org

SUBMITTED BY HOWARD BURVILL, SECRETARY, WOODEND RSL SUB-BRANCH

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Authorised by Lisa Chesters, ALP, 16 Myers St, Bendigo



Library News

National Science Quiz Viewing Party – 6pm, Thursday August 19, Woodend Library



The National Science Quiz (NSQ) is a celebration of the world of science. Have you ever wondered about questions like:

- Does grass grow at night?
- Is an empty rollercoaster faster than a full one?

Then join a panel of scientists and science communicators for an online live viewing as they ponder these types of intriguing scientific questions – and you can play along and test your knowledge and win some great prize packs while you're at it! Get ready for a fun hour of great scientific discovery and see how much you really do know about science!

The Quiz will be hosted by Charlie Pickering, and there will be panel discussions, experiment videos, and the fastest and correct people to answer each of 15 questions via the quiz app will win a prize pack.

Introduction to Ancestry – 10am, Thursday August 5, Woodend Library

Ancestry is one of the world's most popular online resources for genealogy. In this workshop, we'll show you how to access the free library edition of Ancestry, and discover digital copies of a range of historical records.

One on One Genealogy Sessions

Did you know you can book in for a one-on-one session at the Library? We can give you some tips for where to look for information and help get you started on using Ancestry websites and archives.

For all of our event bookings, please head to our website www.goldfieldslibraries.com or phone on 5427 2074.

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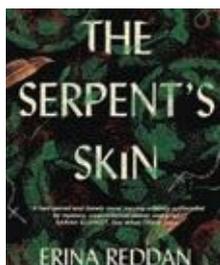
Researching your family history? Did you know you can access Trove for free wherever you are?

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www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/elibraryfamilyhistory

Local Connections – The Serpent's Skin by Erina Reddan

We have some fantastic writers living in our area, and this month we begin a semi-regular column shining a spotlight on their work.



Recently released mystery novel *The Serpent's Skin* is picking up glowing reviews for Macedon Ranges author Erina Reddan. In a quiet farming town, a grieving daughter obsesses ... what drove her mother away, how did she really die ... and why doesn't her father's story ever add



up? With some striking vernacular and a country town very recognisable to those of us who grew up in the pre-internet era, this novel is truly searing. Fans of Jane Harper should pop this straight on the to-read list.

The Library has regular and large print copies of *The Serpent's Skin* available for loan, as well as the ebook and eaudiobook in our Borrowbox app.

Connecting the Pieces: Memoir Writing Course – Wednesdays in August

This series of four narrative memoir writing workshops teaches you how to apply some tried and true story-weaving techniques, explore imaginative ideas about how to preserve your work and enjoy the therapeutic benefits of writing. Sessions start on Wednesday, 4th August at 2pm – phone the Library directly on 5427 2074 for bookings.

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Despite the name, *Love Song* is not just a story about love. It is a story of hope, of fight and of learning not to be afraid of change. It explores that it is ok not to be ok. When we meet Beane he is an exile from life – an oddball and has been subject to social judgement for most of his life. Once he meets Molly, he realises that life is worth living, it's worth fighting for and in turn, he changes the lives around him.

Talented Melbourne director, Travis Handcock will bring this play to life on our stage in August. Travis has been acting and directing for over ten years since completing a Bachelor of Arts in 2007, and has worked at many theatres across greater Melbourne. This will be his second play as a director with The Mount Players.



This play contains some coarse language and sexual references, so is suitable for a mature audience. For full details and to book tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892.

SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT

Have your say on Council's draft Economic Development Strategy

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is encouraging residents and business people to have their say on the draft Economic Development Strategy 2021-2031 between 25 June and 9 August.

The draft strategy was developed in consultation with the community and provides a vision for economic development, job creation, education and training and COVID-19 recovery in the Macedon Ranges over the next ten years.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council encourages all residents and business operators to take this opportunity to give feedback between 28 June and 9 August. Input from all sectors of the business community and from all age groups from the broader community, is welcome.

There are a number of ways to provide feedback:

- Complete an online survey at mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay
- Email mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au
- Post a written submission to PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC, 3444
- Call the Economic Development team on 5422 0333

Contact ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au for more information.



SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL



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Photo: L to R: Daniel Champagne, Two of Us: The Songs of Lennon & McCartney.

Kyneton Town Hall performances this September

There are some great shows coming to the Macedon Ranges in September! We're delighted to bring a range of acts, and you're sure to find there's something for everyone. Join us at the Kyneton Town Hall for one of these exceptional experiences.

For those who love passion-filled wicked comedy/drama then 'The Hunter. The Hunted' is the perfect show.

Desire can be wonderful, can drive you crazy and even get you killed. Think Frankenstein meets Downton Abbey, and everything in between. When: Saturday 11 September, 7pm.

For the music lovers, Daniel Champagne is a must-see.

Australian-born, Nashville-based Daniel has been touring across Australia and New Zealand and selling out shows wherever he plays, featuring songs from his five studio albums. When: Friday 17 September, 8pm.

Damien Leith brought the house down the last time he visited Kyneton Town Hall, and this time he is teaming up with Darren Coggan in the Two of Us: The Songs of Lennon & McCartney.

All the classics like Hey Jude, Let It Be, Here Comes the Sun and so many more! If you love The Beatles, then this will be the best sing-along of all time! When: Saturday 18 September, 7.30pm

For all bookings, phone 1300 888 802 or go to mrsc.vic.gov.au/arts-events

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL

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L to R: Hunter. The Hunted, KTH Kids Electronic Adventure

What's on at Kyneton Town Hall

Our last KTH Kids for the year with Electronic Music Adventure these September School Holidays. This will get the kids off their phones and creating their own soundtrack. This workshop is a highly immersive and interactive creative music-making experience.

Participants will learn how to collect and manipulate sounds using intuitive apps on tablets.

Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 September, 10am and 1.30pm sessions each day.

For all bookings phone 1300 888 802 or go to mrsc.vic.gov.au/arts-events



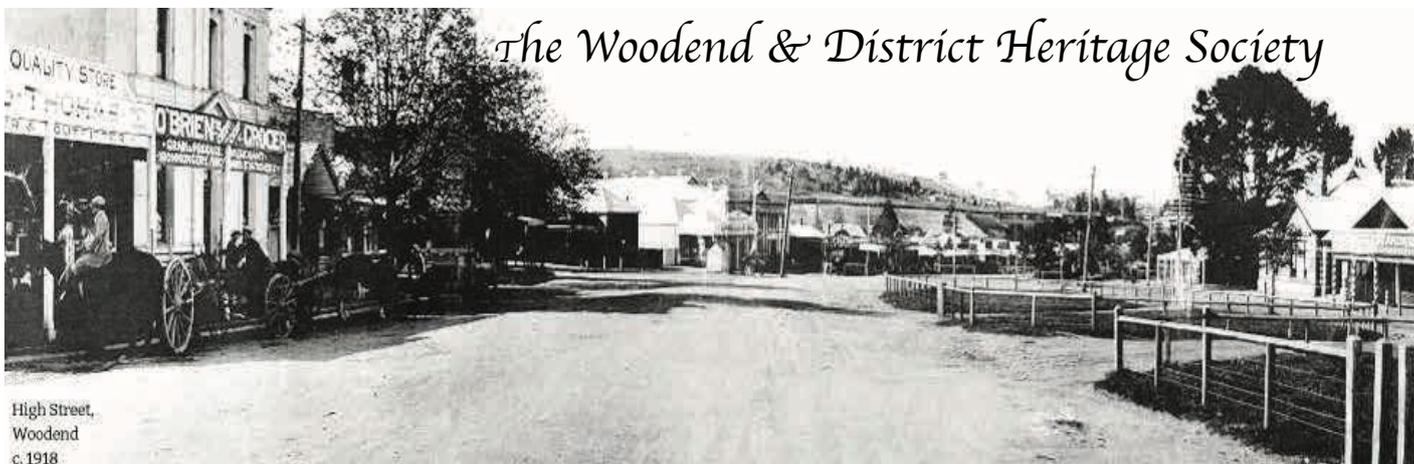
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c.1918

The Woodend Cannon

What happened to the Woodend cannon? Rumours abounded – that it was buried in the front yard of the police station, put down a mineshaft, or is under the K Hub in Woodend.

To celebrate the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh in December 1867, the Woodend Road Board bought a small cannon to fire a royal salute from Racecourse Hill. Later it was sold to Mr E. C. Dixon, who fired it on New Year's Eve mornings and other 'auspicious' occasions, according to the *Woodend Star*, which commented that the roar of the cannon was 'something surpassing the sweetest music to the ears of Cr Neil Johnson.' In June 1900, Cr Johnson suggested that the Council buy back the cannon for £3. The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr Dixon agreed, although he had offered it for £5 earlier.

In Woodend, a procession along the main street was led by Murial Froomes in a chariot representing Britannia. Master Johnson, in jockey costume, rode a white pony and Master Keating, in clown costume, rode a chestnut pony. Children dressed up in colourful costumes or carried national banners. A salute of 21 shots from the Woodend cannon signaled the end of a memorable parade in the police paddock.

Not everyone appreciated the boom of the cannon. In 1903, the *Woodend Star* reported that Mr Thorburn requested that the cannon be fired some distance from the railway bridge, as on the last occasion it damaged the windows and plaster of his Victoria Hotel and 'alarmed various inmates'. Local resident Mr Don Cameron, who had a strong interest in military history, thought that the cannon was probably a breech-loader because 21 rounds could be fired in less than three minutes. There were two types of cannon in the state in the 1800s and, according to Mr Cameron, the breech loader could be loaded more quickly and safely than the muzzle loader.

As to its demise, the cannon may have been melted down for arms during World War II.

SUBMITTED BY JANE HOLTH



Photo 36: The peace celebrations on 19 May 1900, when patriotic fervour soared with the celebrations of the relief of the Boer Siege of the British in Mafeking in South Africa.



The Woodend Cannon would have been similar to this 40-pounder in Tasmania but smaller, to be easily pulled by horses. Photo: David Spethman, "The Garrison Guns of Australia" page 49. 2008, published by Ron H Mortensen

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Basketball News in the Macedon Ranges

Representative basketball is expanding in the Macedon Ranges, starting with an open men's team set to register with the Country Basketball League for the 2021/22 season. While registrations are processed, the team is planning tryouts and pre-season training in preparation for the upcoming summer league.

This is a welcome development for the MRBA, which currently offers an Aussie Hoops program, a rapidly growing U10s competition, and all abilities and junior representative basketball programs.

MRBA CBL teams will provide opportunities for all current players across the Shire to play for a local team when they outgrow junior basketball. The Association plans to include Open Women's and U21 CBL teams in future seasons.

"I'm excited for the MRBA to be starting up a CBL program," MRBA President John Gehman said.

"The MRBA representative program has been focused on junior basketball. CBL will at once both extend juniors' playing careers into their young adult years, and strengthen the junior program itself."

John said players would no longer age out of U19s with nothing to aspire to locally.

"Our juniors will push themselves to jump that much higher, and work that much harder to perfect their shot, when the very people who they watch dunk and stroke the threes on the weekend are running their clinics and supporting our coaches. We've got really exciting times ahead."

Past MRBA junior players Tom Scott and Matthew Quinn are both hoping to be successful at the upcoming tryouts.

"I've been blessed with opportunities to represent the MRBA at various levels within basketball in Victoria," Tom said. "CBL opens a basketball pathway for kids playing basketball in the Macedon Ranges. It's an exciting opportunity for local businesses and groups to get on board and be involved in the development of youth in the region."

Matthew Quinn added his support for getting men's representative basketball up and running locally. "Many players from the region are currently playing elsewhere and it will be good to bring them back to where it all started," he said.

Coach of the U12 boys MRBA representative team Nick Lethbridge recently welcomed Tom and Matthew to join a training session, where he was putting some of the region's most promising young players through their paces. While it has been a few years since these senior players played junior basketball, they were all smiles to be back on the court at Buffalo Stadium.

Increasing the number of senior basketballers in the Shire will provide additional coaches and mentors for junior teams, as well as opportunities for the transfer of skills from the senior to the junior age groups. These developments support the plans of the MRBA to expand local basketball programs and competitions.

The home game venue for the MRBA CBL team is Buffalo Stadium in Woodend, with away games being played in towns such as Mildura, Swan Hill, Bendigo, Maryborough, Castlemaine and Kyneton. The MRBA, along with the basketball community across the Shire, is looking forward to the additional facilities, which the sports hub in New Gisborne will provide. These facilities are critical for the continued growth of basketball in the area.

Local community members or businesses interested in supporting the team as sponsors or game day support staff are invited to contact Paul Quinn on 0437304757. Details of the tryouts for the Men's team are available on the MRBA website and Facebook page.

SUBMITTED BY PAUL QUINN



Woodend General



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WWAF July snapshots

Thanks to Festival Photographer Bruce Hedge for capturing some special moments last month.



Max Gillies was in fine form at his event on 10 July.



Audiences appreciated the rarely-heard pieces performed by Ensemble 642 on theorbo and Italian baroque harp.



Australian treasure Barry Jones presented the Inaugural Sheila Drummond Memorial Lecture at the first Woodend Winter Arts Festival weekend on Saturday 10 July



New committee elected for 2021–22

The Woodend Bowling Club recently held our Annual General Meeting, which included the election of new office bearers for the 2021–22 year. The last election was held back in 2020, with last year's election unable to be held due to Covid, and all office bearers agreeing to continue for another year.

It was a good attendance by members, with reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Greenkeeper, with all major positions filled in the election process.

The new Board/Committee was elected: President – Mike Dornau, returning for a 6th consecutive term; Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer – Rob Smithies; Committee Members – Anne Dornau, Trevor Sturt, Rosalie Campbell and John Shaw.

Saturday Selectors: Norm Bickerdyke, Trevor Sturt, John Shaw and Eric Nothard; Midweek Selectors: Irene Boldiston, Trevor Sturt and Eric Nothard.

Social bowls every Wednesday though winter

Even though we are in the middle of a Woodend winter, you still have the opportunity to have a bowl at our club. We have an organised Social Bowls every Wednesday, starting at 12.30pm. The cost is only \$6, which includes several games, afternoon tea and entry into the raffle.

We can also organise a social Barefoot Bowls, for both large and small groups.

If you are new to bowls, this is a great way to get started with a friendly social environment.

Social bowls is a good way to get started.

We are always looking for new members, young and not-so-young. In fact, many of the leading lawn bowlers in Australia are now in their twenties and thirties.

All you need to provide is yourself, we can provide everything else that you will need, including some supervision and instruction.

We are still able to have people on our all-weather carpet green, so if you're interested in coming down for a roll, simply get in touch with the club to find out more.

Check out our Website and Facebook page

For more information, please call 5407 9220, or visit our website at www.woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com. You can also follow us on Facebook.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLING CLUB INC.



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An Indigenous Immersion Trip with a local flavour

Each year, students in Years 10 and 11 from Sacred Heart College can apply to participate in our Indigenous Immersion Trip to Jarlmadangah Burru (250 kms East of Broome). This trip offers our students a hands-on experience of the uniqueness of Aboriginal culture, spirituality and language, with a key component of this visit being time spent in classroom activities at the Nyikina Mangala Community School.

After 18 months of back and forth and uncertainty, the 2020 Jarlmadangah group were able to set off on their much-awaited adventure ... almost. As a result of Victoria's lockdowns and struggles with the virus, we weren't allowed to visit the community in Western Australia, understandably. Ms Tanner and Mr Minter were extremely considerate and worked to find a way for us to still get to have this experience and have our work pay off. So finally, on 24 June, myself, Jack Turner, Kate



Photo: Student Aleshia tries on the possum skin coat

Bartlett, Lincoln Roberts, Hayden Clune, Carmen Moore, Aleshia Vella and Tegan Hickey set off for Warrnambool in the south west of the state. With Mr Minter driving and Lincoln on music, we spent the three-hour journey excitedly looking at the many wind

turbines littered along the way. After some unsuccessful whale watching and an entirely fictitious backstory for John the whale watcher, we headed to Budj Bim, a cultural landscape on Gunditjmara country.

We were greeted by our tour guide Pam, as well as the rain, much to the dismay of those of us with puffer jackets. Pam is a local indigenous woman and told us about her culture and showed us around the oldest aquaculture sites in the world, the eel traps. Being female, she was able to show us how they would weave the baskets and traps, despite her Aunty's hesitation to teaching her as a result of the stolen generation. Pam encouraged us to try some of the bush tucker in the area and gave us the opportunity to try on a possum skin coat that were once used to tell the story of indigenous people and would be buried with them. The most moving thing that we were shown at Budj Bim was their war memorial, a circle with wood burnings to represent the civil wars that have occurred in each state as those at Budj Bim felt that the Avenues of Honour that are in many towns didn't properly represent war in Australia.

On Friday, we headed to Tower Hill, Victoria's largest dormant volcano. We got to take in the beautiful scenery and hear about the weapons that were used by the people of that area and learn more about Blak Law. Once again, we were given the opportunity to eat some of the bush tucker from the area, and we were also greeted by a very cute koala.



Photo: Students with the woven basket eel trap

Although it wasn't the experience we all thought we were getting ourselves into, it was still an incredibly rewarding experience, and we're incredibly thankful that Sacred Heart along with Ms Tanner and Mr Minter ensured we were still given this opportunity.

SUBMITTED BY ANNA DONNELLY, YEAR 12



Photo: The touring party enjoy the views on their way to Budj Bim



Learn. Care.
flourish



Enrolments Closing Soon

Enrolments for Year 7, 2023 are closing soon.

Limited places are currently available at Years 7-12, 2021.

Opportunities for College Tours and Online Virtual Conversations can be found in the 'Enrolments' section of the College's website.

Contact the College Registrar for enrolment enquiries.