

Woodend Neighbourhood House Solar Win

A 31-panel solar power system has been installed on the Woodend Neighbourhood House, thanks to funding from the MASH community solar bulk-buy and Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSG).

This 10.23kW system will save around \$6,000 off the combined electricity bills of Woodend Neighbourhood House and next-door neighbour Cobaw Community Health, as they share the same electricity meter. Producing an average 41-kilowatt hours a day, the system will slash the combined bills of these organisations by around 53%.

"This much-needed solar system will help offset our running costs with bill savings going into our community development initiatives and helping us deliver on our strategic plan. We are very grateful to MASH and MRSG for making this possible," said Melissa Baker, Manager, Woodend Neighbourhood House.

"We also want to inspire other local community groups to become more sustainable," said Melissa.

"We're part of the Woodend Cool Changes Climate Action Project, which aims to transform

the region to zero-net carbon emissions. Having solar helps us demonstrate our commitment to renewable energy and show what's possible."

MASH donated \$5,600 and the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group contributed an interest-free loan of \$6,400 to Woodend Neighbourhood House.

"The savings from this system will benefit the Woodend community as at least 200 people access programs each week through the Neighbourhood House – plus those who use the services provided by Cobaw Community Health," said Jo Kaptein, Program Lead for solar bulk-buys at the not-for-profit Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance, which runs MASH.

For more information about MASH, visit mash.org.au or call 1300 466 274.

SUBMITTED BY JO KAPTEIN



Celebrating the new solar system. L-R: Melissa Baker, Manager, Woodend Neighbourhood House, Jo Kaptein, MASH, Dr David Gormley-O'Brien, President, MRSG, Jenny Kerr, President, Woodend Neighbourhood House

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Your community diary

GET YOUR EVENT LISTED ON OUR CALENDAR

Just send the details to
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— February —

4 Woodend Volleyball starts
 4 Coffee for Carers PSMFM
 5 Hanging Rock night walks
 6 Woodend Farmers' Market
 7 Woodend Landcare working bee
 11 Coffee for Carers PSMFM
 12 Hanging Rock night walks
 13 Picnic at Hanging Rock movie night
 18 Coffee for Carers PSMFM
 22 Mount Players AGM
 25 Coffee for Carers PSMFM
 26 Woodend District Historical Soc AGM
 26 Young Trades Awards close
 27 Lancefield Relay for Life
 28 Woodend Landcare working bee

— March —

6-8 Woodend Lions Club Art Show
 8 Labour Day
 13 Whole Town Garage Sale

— April —

2 Good Friday
 4 Easter Monday
 25 ANZAC Day

— May —

9 Mother's Day

— June —

10-14 Woodend Winter Arts Festival
 14 Queen's Birthday Holiday

Due to the changing nature of the COVID-19
 pandemic you should check with organisers
 about any events listed here

Rainfall Report for 2020

Well, we finished the year on a dry note, but we still ended up with a total
 rainfall for the year that was well above average. Woodend received 42.4mm
 for December, for a grand total of 914.8mm for 2020.

While the year was about 15% wetter than average, December and in fact
 November were both drier than average, which explains our dry gardens.
 So we still need La Nina to hold on a bit longer and give us more of a drink
 heading into the hot months.

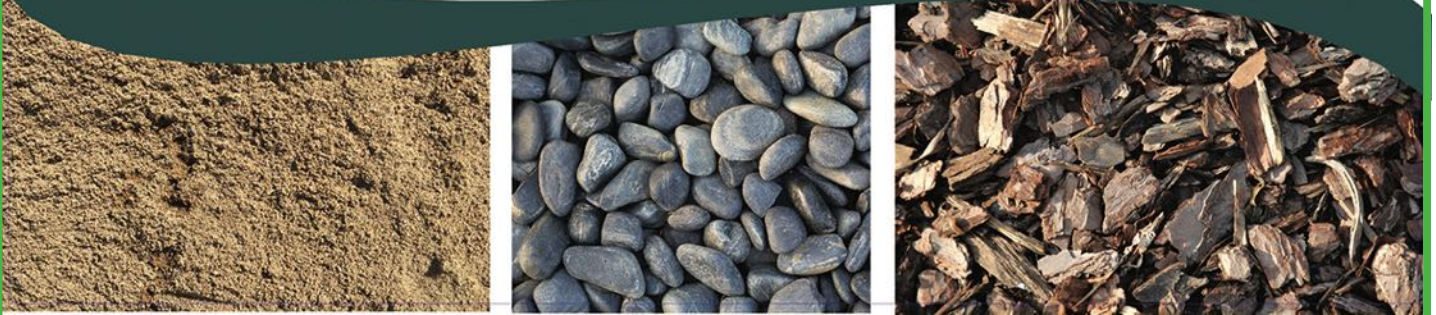
Woodend's Rain report

Woodend received
 54.4mm for November and
 42.4mm for December.

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	av 5yr
January	35.3	27.8	80.0	9.8	73.6	45.3
February	14.3	26.5	3.8	12.0	67.8	24.9
March	47.0	23.7	31.7	12.2	79.6	38.8
April	36.2	165.0	31.0	7.6	139.8	75.9
May	101.2	38.6	115.6	114.8	79.0	89.8
June	98.8	10.6	78.2	168.2	80.1	87.2
July	186.6	60.0	73.3	63.2	49.3	86.5
August	107.0	119.6	91.3	78.1	93.0	97.8
September	163.6	55.2	26.2	38.3	56.3	67.9
October	91.8	45.8	69.0	29.4	99.5	67.1
November	63.2	77.4	55.5	64.8	54.4	63.1
December	92.8	77.2	91.0	10.0	42.4	62.7
Total mm	1037.8	727.4	746.6	608.4	914.8	807.0

SUBMITTED BY PETER YATES

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Western Water smoking out cross-connections

Western Water is 'smoking' its sewer network to detect any cross-connections to their system, as part of its ongoing investment program. Cross-connections exist when a pipe is incorrectly connected to the Western Water system, allowing stormwater to enter the sewer network.

This can cause major problems for their infrastructure and is particularly stressful to the system during periods of high rainfall, where it can cause pipe blockages and sewer spills.

The innovative 'smoking' technology involves blowing non-toxic smoke into the network, which passes through sewer pipes, before it eventually evaporates. If a pipe is cross-connected to the sewer network, the smoke escapes and becomes visible in the air, alerting Western Water to the incorrect connection.

"When we see white smoke seeping from gutters, rooftops or the ground, we know there's something wrong with the customer's connection, and we need to investigate the area further," said Western Water's Chief Operating Officer, Graham Holt.

Western Water launched the program recently in Hopetoun, and several cross-connections into their network were detected.

Since identifying the cross-connections, Western Water has had more than a 90% success rate with rectifying them.

"The program has been really successful," said Mr Holt. "We understand that for most customers, the cross-connection was unintentional, and once they've been alerted to the situation, they've been really cooperative in working with us to fix the issue."

Following the successful launch of the program in Hopetoun, Western Water is expanding the program further across their service area, with the next inspections to occur in Maddingley, Bacchus Marsh.

"Our priority at Western Water is to deliver quality, reliable services to our customers. We're working with our customers to identify and fix cross-connections as it helps us keep our whole system working effectively," Mr Holt said.

Customers are advised to engage a licensed plumber if they suspect there are any issues with their connections.

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JORQUERA



Lancefield Relay For Life receives boost ahead of February event

Local fundraisers have been buoyed to receive generous support from the local community, despite a challenging year for many; in particular, the Lancefield & Romsey Bendigo Bank branches for a generous grant of \$11,000, ahead of the Lancefield (Macedon Ranges) Relay For Life event in February 2021.

The event was fortunately able to go ahead in 2020, prior to COVID-19 restrictions being enforced, and, following a tough year for all, community support for the event hasn't wavered. The local Bendigo Bank branches acknowledged the power of the event to bring the community together to recognise and celebrate those affected by cancer during a time when the community needs it more than ever. The grant was provided through the Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank Branches Community Investment Program.

Captain of the Community Bank Carnival Team, Jodie Dobbs, said, "Having participated in the Lancefield Relay For Life since the event began in 2002, I know it to be an incredibly inclusive community event that supports an important cause.

After such a tough year for so many, it will be so important to come together and support locals touched by cancer."

The event is planned to go ahead on Saturday 27th of February at the Lancefield Park, with locals of all ages encouraged to get a group of family, friends or colleagues together to form a team.


Relay For Life is a local fundraising movement that empowers communities to come together to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost and fight back against cancer. The event raises vital funds for Cancer Council Victoria's cancer research, and prevention and support programs, and is suitable for families and people of all ages.

To join the Lancefield Relay For Life event, please phone 1300 65 65 85 or visit relayforlife.org.au.

SUBMITTED BY KATHY AND TONY LAKEY



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The popular night walks give visitors a rare opportunity to experience Hanging Rock after dark.

The walks are suitable for all ages and sell out so book early as spaces are limited. Bookings are essential.

For more information or to book your space, call (03) 5422 0387.

Upcoming dates:

Friday, 05 February 2021 | 7—10 pm

Friday, 12 March 2021 | 7—10pm

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Picnic at Hanging Rock film night



Pack a picnic and gather your friends for an annual outdoor screening of the iconic 1975 film *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. This Australian mystery film directed by Peter Weir is an adaptation of the 1967 novel by the same name by Joan Lindsay. The plot involves the disappearance of several schoolgirls and their teacher during a picnic at Hanging Rock on Valentine's Day in 1900. Joan Lindsay was deliberately ambiguous about whether the events had really taken place, however the story is entirely fictitious.

Dress up in a 1900s theme and tap into your inner Miranda for a bit of fun. Or just come as you are, ready for a fun night out under the stars.

Saturday, 13 February 2021 | 7pm

Book online via the Council website.

Discover more local events

More info: mrsc.vic.gov.au/see-do



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CFA Woodend

A few minutes, or even seconds, can make an amazing difference when we are called to an incident. The quicker that we can accurately arrive on scene, the faster we can take action.



There are some simple things that you can do as members of our community to help us achieve that goal.

Meet the truck to give directions

In last year's New Woodend Star, we wrote about the importance of meeting CFA trucks, where possible, to give directions to speed up their arrival on scene.

There were several occasions in recent years where this proved the point. The homeowners or neighbours were out on the road when the trucks arrived and pointed out the quickest way to get into the properties. This meant that we were directed straight to the incident without any delays. So, we thought it was worth repeating, as we are now in the middle of the fire season and are approaching the more dangerous period.

Incidents can often be several hundred metres from the main road, and therefore difficult to spot. Once you have made a call for an emergency service to respond, if possible, send someone to the roadside to meet the vehicle. If at night, make sure you take a torch.

Make sure your house is clearly numbered

It is amazing the number of houses in our area that are not clearly numbered or identified. If you ever have to call 000, please make sure that you give the operator as much information as possible – especially your location, the address with the property number and even the closest cross roads or a nearby landmark.

All too often, we lose valuable time looking for the actual property number. Sometimes the numbers are very small, dark in colour or difficult to read, have been overgrown, or don't exist at all.

Please check the numbers outside your property and do so from a few metres away, to make sure they are very clear and easy to read, especially at night!

Stay at the scene if you made the call

Sometimes you might make a call away from home or in a remote location, such as a motor vehicle accident. If possible, please remain at the scene until emergency services arrive. This will not only help us arrive at the precise location more quickly, your information will also be invaluable.

Thanks Woodend Farmers Market

The Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group has allowed the Woodend CFA to have community safety information available at their December, January and February Woodend Farmers' Markets. It gives us the chance to speak to hundreds of community members about their Fire Safety Plans. See you at the February market. For further information, contact Captain Mike Dornau on 0409 093 935. On Sundays, call 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.

The Woodend CFA is a 100% volunteer emergency service, committed to Creating a Safer Community.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, CAPTAIN WOODEND CFA

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University of the Third Age cycling into the new year

U3A Kyneton provides a meeting place for like-minded retirees and is a great place to form new friendships. Enrolments are increasing after a very successful enrolment day on 14 January, however it is not too late to join.

Diverse and dynamic, whether you wish to learn a language or interact with highly informed tutors, put pen or paint to paper, cycle, develop your sporting skills or just enjoy social interaction, U3A is for you.

At the Friday afternoon meetings, there are guest speakers that provide stimulating discussion on numerous inspiring topics.

U3A Kyneton courses are held at the Red Brick Hall, 23 Yaldwyn St. West, Kyneton and other locations include outdoors or in private homes. All COVID procedures will be followed for the safety of all members with both contact tracing and a QR Code provided.

Due to the volatile nature of the pandemic, event information is subject to change.

The website at www.u3akyneton.org.au shows a full list of courses available with most commencing in early February.

For further information email info@u3akyneton.org.au or call secretary Roni on 5422 2552 or 0439 360 763. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/u3akyneton

SUBMITTED BY JAN MCCOLL



U3A cyclists enjoying their summer, and it's not too late to join!

Photos supplied by Jan McColl, U3A



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Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group: Why are farmers' markets so important to our local community?

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen a resurgence in people growing vegetables, rearing chickens and making sourdough bread, among other home maker pursuits. We've begun to realise that properly made, home-grown food just tastes better and so we're eating better quality, more sustainable food – and really knowing where our food comes from.

The Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSNG) very quickly and decisively ensured the viability of the Woodend market throughout the pandemic crisis, by committing to a COVID safety plan. This meant that our local growers and producers could be confident that their efforts would not go to waste, and the people of the Macedon Ranges were extremely grateful to be able to still access fresh, local produce.

A secondary initiative of the MRSNG under the leadership of Robert Bruhn was the establishment of the Farmers' Market Online (FMO), a click-and-collect model that operates on the 1st Saturday of every month. The FMO has been received enthusiastically by many who are unable to attend a market, or who choose not to do so.

We are now in a "COVID Normal" phase, which means that we can relax just a little, although the Farmers Market Action Group are not leaving anything to chance; there will still be COVID safety measures in place at least for the foreseeable future.

We're looking forward to market enthusiasts tasting their way around the market, while enjoying live music, hot coffee and catching up with friends. See you on the first Saturday of the month.

And if you can't make it to the market, give Farmers' Market Online a try www.mrsg.org.au/farmers-market-online.

SUBMITTED BY NIKKI BARKER FOR MACEDON RANGES SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

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Message from your councillor

New year greetings to everyone. I hope you managed to find some time to recharge and relax, and I know that many of us are looking forward to the year ahead.

Councillors have commenced back with weekly briefing sessions, which are now held on a Tuesday morning. In a few months, we will have some times available and an opportunity during briefings to hear from community groups and people interested in presenting to all councillors and executive. During the past term, councillors really appreciated these times, so please look at Council's website under Our Council/ Request a Meeting with Councillors. Also on that note, Councillors enjoy being invited to your events, celebrations and activities, so please continue to keep in touch with us.

Staff are gradually moving back into the Shire offices and all reception areas are open. The Submitters Committee Meetings for items such as planning permit applications continue as required on the second Wednesday of the month and are being live streamed, as are the Scheduled Council Meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month commencing at 19:00.

This is an important period, when Council commences discussions on the upcoming Budget and Council Plan. This year we will also be developing a community vision. We welcome the regulations in the new Local Government Act that require all Councils to use deliberative engagement, and we will be providing more details shortly about how this will occur. In the meantime, if you have any feedback or requests for budget considerations, please send them through to mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Following a consultation period, we are continuing to make progress on the Draft Woodend Community Centre Redevelopment Masterplan, and further updates and information should be provided shortly. We know this is a very important project for Woodend.

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As I write this, we are looking forward to the Australia Day awards ceremony and thank all those who nominated people in a range of different areas. We know we have some wonderful people in the community who contribute and achieve great things, and it is pleasing that this can be recognised. Speaking of dedication, as always during the summer period, we thank those volunteering their time and working for the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Best wishes and stay safe,
Janet



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Woodend Landcare Back in Action

We are very pleased to be starting our Sunday working bees again. To make up for lost time, we are planning two working bees in February!

On Sunday the 7th of February from 9am, Woodend Landcare will be working in the paddocks near the Children's Park. Tasks will include woody weed removal, ivy removal, plant guard maintenance and a check of the ornamental trees Landcare have planted in this area. The best place to park is near the gym in Wood Street. Look out for the blue Landcare trailer to find us.

On Sunday, 28 February from 9am, we will target willow and gorse regrowth downstream of Romsey Road. Park at Ruby Mackenzie Park and meet us near the Shirley Park weir.

Our amazing Thursday crew are also back in action on many important sites around town. See the before and after photos of their recent activity near Lake Earnshaw. Thursday Crew working bees are held every Thursday morning at different venues around Woodend during most of the year.

Please register your interest in attending our working bees or Thursday Crew by emailing woodendlandcare@gmail.com. Newcomers are always very welcome. Due to COVID restrictions we encourage participants to bring their own secateurs, gloves, and protective eye and ear wear. A tasty morning tea is provided at our Sunday



Mother's Day plantings BEFORE Thursday crew.



Mother's Day plantings AFTER Thursday crew.

working bees. Landcare events will be cancelled if a total fire ban is declared in the Central district.

Let's hope we can get in a more consistent run of working bees this year as, after the wet past year, the weeds have not taken a break. Our volunteer work is more important than ever.

SUBMITTED BY KRISTA PATTERSON-MAJOOR

Happy New Year Woodend!
Thank you for all your support in 2020.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Monday - Saturday: 9.30-5pm, Sunday: 10-4pm
Closed Tuesday.

Woodend General

News from Woodend RSL

The Path of the Horse is a registered charity whose focus is to assist post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) sufferers and those suffering from depression. Founder Dean Mighell is certified by the Equine Psychotherapy Institute as an Equine Assisted Learning practitioner and has also done trauma training. At the Path of the Horse, the practitioners work with veterans and other service personnel such as police, ambulance paramedics and firefighters in their battles with PTSD and mental issues, at their facility in Trentham.

Horses model some very helpful behaviours: they live in a constant state of awareness that has enabled them to survive for millions of years; they always notice what is happening in their environment and what is happening with their feelings and their bodies; they have an amazing ability to release stress and a truly unique capacity to share their empathy with humans.

Woodend RSL, along with other RSL branches, has made a donation to the Path of the Horse in recognition of its valuable work.

The donation came from funds raised from the local community during the Poppy Appeal.

For more information go to www.pathofthehorse.com.au

SUBMITTED BY RUTH DE JONG



Pictured at the presentation of the donation are, from left to right: Ken Bryce, President of Woodend RSL; Ruth De Jong, Appeals Officer; Chris Latcham, Treasurer of the Woodend RSL; Jane Lincoln, Director of the Path of the Horse, and Dean Mighell, practitioner at the Path of the Horse.



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Library news

Woodend Library is open Monday and Friday 9–1, Tuesday and Thursday 10–5 and Saturday 10–12. The opening hours will increase in 2021, so call if you are unsure.

Information on Storytimes and using our space for groups, like Book clubs, will be available in February too.

Please ask to 'check your card'. With the on-and-off closures last year, many members have outstanding items, fines and other blocks on their cards. We are currently waiving all fines. Let's all start 2021 with cards that don't have old problems blocking you from using library services!

Beat the heat this summer and check out what's on offer at Woodend Library. If you haven't set foot in a library recently, or are new to Woodend, you might be surprised that modern libraries offer so much more than books!



While there are still shelves upon shelves of reading materials, today's libraries are bustling community hubs, and a perfect place to escape the scorching summer heat. We have met many people who have recently moved to Woodend. Welcome! Come in and get a card soon, and if you don't want to borrow, you may be interested in our eLibrary resources, including papers to read, films to watch and talking books to listen to on your next road trip.

Here are just a few things you can do at the library:

- Pick a quiet corner and read: Obvious, we know, but still a popular choice. Choose your medium: book, magazine, newspaper, eBook or audiobook, and while away the hot summer days in air-conditioned comfort. Note: it may not actually be very quiet!
- Watch movies or TV: If you've got a laptop, smartphone or tablet, connect up to the free library Wi-Fi to watch free movies or TV shows with Kanopy or Beamafilm. Or better still – catch up on past library events and programs on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/goldfieldslibraries
- Jump on a public computer: No device? No problem! All of our libraries have free-to-use public computers. Browse the web, fill in an online form, watch a movie, play a game – our

computers can do it all, and our staff are on hand to help if you need assistance.

- Research your roots: Get started online via Ancestry or FindMyPast or come into the library to begin researching your family history. Library staff are on hand to help get you started.
- Get some tech help: All our libraries offer one-on-one tech help to help you decipher your device. We can help you get started on the internet, borrow a digital book, shop online or fill in forms. Check with your local library for dates and times.
- Catch up with friends: Gone are the days of the quiet library. Libraries these days are hives of activity! Come in and enjoy our clean, safe and welcoming spaces, for whatever reason you like. Or no reason at all!
- Working from home? Come in and use one of our 10 workspaces. Email us docs to print and have some work time in a different space.

"We think the library is the best place to escape the summer heat. We recently heard a little boy tell his grandmother that the library was more fun than the playground, and we can't argue with that!" says Goldfields Libraries CEO Mark Hands. "Restrictions are continuing to ease and library-land is slowly starting to return to normal, so if you haven't been into the library in a while, now's the time!"

Listen to the library podcast – (Ok, you don't need to do this one IN the library, but we just love it so much that we needed to share it with you.) Want to know what others get up to at the library? Listen to the new 'Meet Me at the Library' podcast to see how local libraries across the region are inspiring people to do amazing things. www.facebook.com/meetmeathelibrarypodcast. For more information on what's available at your local library, drop by or visit our website at www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au. Woodend Library website, Facebook page and Google entry are all kept up to date with opening hours.

SUBMITTED BY LULU COCKRAM



Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group launches Healthy Homes project



The MRSNG Healthy Homes project aims to alleviate the many disadvantages suffered by low-income families living in cold, substandard housing, by improving the overall energy efficiency of up to 15 homes in the Macedon Ranges.

The Australian Council of Social Services has identified that people on low incomes tend to live in less energy-efficient housing and are more likely to operate inefficient appliances, resulting in higher energy costs and leading to adverse health and wellbeing impacts.

A pilot study conducted in the Macedon Ranges demonstrated that a 30% reduction in energy usage is achievable by implementing a number of simple home improvements. The associated improvements in indoor temperatures also provided significant comfort and well-being benefits.

Referrals are now being sought from welfare agencies, churches, schools, food banks and other

appropriate agencies. These referrals will identify needy cases who would benefit from a home energy audit. Following the audit, specific energy efficiency improvement measures will be implemented at no cost to the occupant.

This project not only benefits individual households but provides benefits to the broader community through improvements to the region's lower cost housing stock, as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions through lower energy consumption.

Project sponsors and volunteers who can provide goods, services, or donations to support the project are also being sought.

To obtain a referral form, or for further information on volunteering or sponsorship, please contact Project Leaders: Bob Evans (evansrgw@bigpond.com) or James Mackenzie (james.mackenzie@mrsg.org.au)

SUBMITTED BY JAMES MACKENZIE



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Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club

As the New Year begins, we are all hoping for an uninterrupted Life Activities programme. COVID-safe practices will be in place, and numbers may be limited for some activities.

Ladies and men's petanque has already begun, with other activity groups not far off commencing. If you have an interest in petanque, gardening, walking, mahjong, Chinese exercises/Qiqong or craft, Scrabble, or visiting local restaurants/cafes with the Foodies Group, the Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club is well worth joining.

For information about membership, contact the President Di Clausen 0425 008 763, or Secretary Gaye Lovelock 0411 150 114/gaye.lovelock@gmail.com

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

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Woodend Lions Art Show 2021

The Woodend Lions Club is currently working through the planning requirements for a COVID-safe Art Show, for the Labour Day long weekend, March 6, 7 & 8.

As usual, it will be held at the St Ambrose Hall. This is always an important fundraiser for the local Lions Club.

For more details, visit www.facebook.com/woodendlionsclub.

The reviews for this month are from one of the most consistent producers in the Macedon Ranges, Curly Flat. Given we are still in the midst of summer, one is a refreshing yet complex Pinot Gris, and the other a Chardonnay that is representative of the quality and purity that the Macedon Ranges is known for. If you are looking at vineyards around the region, you will be starting to see the nets going on in preparation for vintage, with picking dates extending from March – May, depending on the vineyard site and variety.

2019 Curly Flat Pinot Gris

A light to golden yellow in the glass, with a nose of butter-poached pear, with some background floral spice. The wine is medium bodied and has a luxurious texture and palate weight, whilst still having a backbone of mineral acidity and tones of pickled ginger. Pear takes on a citrus thread to finish, with just enough phenolic grip to give contrast now and underwrite medium term cellaring. A wonderfully balanced and pretty release.

Rating: 94 | Price: \$26 | When to Drink: 2021—2025

Wine review

2019 Curly Flat Chardonnay

The quality of Curly Flat Chardonnay has always been excellent, but the quality continues to grow in recent vintages.

The wine epitomises the potential of the Macedon Ranges for cool climate varieties; there is such concentration and texture, yet only 12.7% alcohol and a baseline of mineral acidity that is more akin to quality Burgundy. The nose has white peach that is laced with spice and almond meal; the palate shows an understated elegance, with stone fruits and lees inputs building slowly, whilst being tempered by citrus and lifted by spiced impact of quality oak.

The finish has piercing stone fruits, mealy richness and driving acidity that both hold your attention and focus now but underwrite a significant future for the wine.

Rating: 95 | Price: \$46 | When to Drink: 2021 – 2030

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK ECKEL

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Woodend Winter Arts Festival plans for 2021; hold the dates 10-14 June

Like other local community organisations, the Woodend Winter Arts Festival is working through a range of scenarios in order to have a COVID-safe Festival in 2021.



"We are in the midst of planning at the moment, and part of that is the need to ensure that audiences are able to attend and enjoy the festival in a safe and sustainable way," said Festival Founder and Artistic Director, Jacky Ogeil. "This year there will be a special focus on Victorian artists and some new adventures".

Regular updates will start from February on the Festival's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/woodendwinterartsfestival. The Festival Committee is interested to hear from organisations and businesses who would like to contribute through sponsorship or collaboration. For more information, email: ireneoduffy@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY IRENE O'DUFFY

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Young Voices end 2020 on a high note

2020 came to a joyful end for Young Voices of Macedon, when they presented a 30-minute program of Christmas carols and songs to residents of the Bupa aged care facility in Woodend. Performing in a garden, the highly-excited children sang to a very appreciative audience, who were also seated in COVID safety outdoors. Fortunately, the expected storm held off. For the children, this was their first performance for the entire year, and, under the direction of Jess Demare and Emma West, and with accompaniment provided by Cathy Hutchinson, they sang with immense enthusiasm, showing that the months of online tuition had not compromised their vocal standard. The performance was followed by a picnic meal at the Woodend Children's Park.

The choir will re-commence rehearsals at the Norma Richardson Hall, Woodend, on Thursday 4 February at 4.15 pm. This year's program will build on that of 2020, leading to performances featuring songs of the sea, and including a presentation of the jazz cantata Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo. The choir is indebted to the Bendigo Bank for holding over the 2020 funding award for the Captain Noah project.

Children from the age of five are warmly invited to join the choir, which offers separate programs for younger and older singers. It is well documented that choral singing offers rich rewards for children in respect of intellectual, social, personal and creative development.

For further information visit yvmacon.org.au

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA DEMARE

Summer Gardening Advice from Woodend Nursery, Garden Design & Landscaping

Maintaining a great garden in the Ranges isn't the easiest things to do, so here are my top 10 tips:

1. Do not water at night. Early morning is the best time, to avoid mildew.
2. Mulch, mulch, mulch ... did I say mulch? Absolutely.
3. Consider wetting agents (such as Penetraide) or water crystals, to boost water retention.
4. Terracotta (cooked earth) literally bakes, so mulch, and also occasionally place the pot in a saucer of cold water.
5. If potted plants dry out, soak them for one hour.
6. Add nutrients to the water to feed and enhance the look or taste of your plants.
7. Keep your lawn looking lush, by mowing ONLY on a high setting. Spot spray to remove weeds as they appear.
8. Remember to do the hard work when it's cool (before 11am or after 5pm).
9. Keep on top of those pests, either organically or chemically!
10. Pop into Woodend Nursery for advice!





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The Mount Players ends its interval

With hopes high and fingers crossed The Players are now putting in place their plans for their 2021 season.

Membership

2021 membership was due on 1 January. More than ever, The Players need support on all levels to ensure the group moves forward after what we have experienced these past 12 months.

AGM

Monday 22 Feb at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

Play Readings

Monthly play readings are planned throughout 2021. Play readings are an opportunity to socialise and listen to a play or if you are keen, read a part. The first for the year is on Friday 12 February at 7.00 pm, reading *The Savages of Wirramai*, an Australian play by Sandy Fairthorne.

Productions

Three productions are in planning for the season; the first in May (more details next month).

Registration for the AGM and play reading are mandatory, as numbers will be limited. For full details, or to purchase membership, go to www.themountplayers.com.

See you at the theatre ... finally.



SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT



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Gather the people!

TGD Central Vic is a peer support group for Trans and Gender Diverse (TGD) folk living in Central Vic to come together, make connections and create a group that meets the needs of local people.

Early in 2020, Cobaw Community Health (Cobaw) received funding through Transgender Victoria's SPARK (Support for Peer-Support Activities that Revitalise Kinship) grant. The funding is aimed at increasing health and wellbeing outcomes for TGD Victorians, by supporting the bright ideas of existing groups or the start-up of new groups.

In recognition of the community need for TGD peer support in Mount Alexander Shire, Cobaw has teamed up with CHIRP to support TGD community members across Central Vic to come together for regular catchups in 2021. The plan is to rotate the venue between Macedon Ranges and Mount Alexander shires and to explore opportunities for supported transport if there is a need.

"We are all very committed to supporting the TGD community across the life span," says CLIP Project Worker, Belinda Brain. "By collaborating with CHIRP, we hope to better connect with our local TGD community and ultimately hand the reins over to community members if that is what they want."

Whilst Cobaw and CHIRP will continue to be involved in the monthly organizing of TGD Central Vic, the direction, purpose and shape of the group will be driven by community members.

"Together we can raise awareness and increase the visibility of the TGD rural and regional experience within our local community," says Sherene Clow, Project Worker, CHIRP.

If you would like to find out more about TGD Central Vic, call Cobaw on 5421 1666 or email admin@cobaw.org.au, or CHIRP on 5479 1000 or email sclow@cdch.com.au.

SUBMITTED BY RHANI DEAN-TALBETT



Read us on issuu
www.issuu.com/newwoodendstar

Vale Julie Wilson-Annan

It is with the deepest regret that the Woodend CFA learnt of the death of long-term member Julie Wilson-Annan on Thursday January 14.

Julie joined the CFA as a volunteer soon after husband Andrew, which was not long after they both arrived in Woodend.

She was an important and active member of the brigade for many years, until her health did not allow her to continue.

In fact, this year would have been her 17th year as a member of the CFA.

Her commitment as a volunteer fire fighter is just one example of the significant contribution she made to our community.

"We were very proud to be part of Julie's farewell from Woodend on the morning of Saturday January 23," said Woodend CFA Captain Mike Dornau, "with all Woodend CFA vehicles (fully crewed) taking part in the emotional parade along the Avenue of Honour, flanked by what seemed like half the town on either side of the road.

"It was an amazing and emotional experience to be driving in the lead vehicle, with Andrew leading on foot behind us as the enormous crowd showed their respect and released special balloons as we passed.

"I would like to pass on a special thanks to the Macedon Ranges Police for their co-operation, especially Woodend Sergeant David Arnold, and also to the Woodend CFA volunteers for their strong show of support."

Julie will be greatly missed by all of her mates at the Woodend CFA.

The Brigade's thoughts and wishes are with Andrew, Liv and Lottie at this difficult time.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, WOODEND CFA

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COVID Creative and Cultural Support Program

Join us as we awaken creativity, re-connect our community, and increase engagement in arts and culture!

We are looking to arts practitioners, groups and organisations to submit ideas to develop and deliver art projects.

- Opens Monday 1 February
- Closes Sunday 28 February
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- Projects delivered before Wednesday 30 June 2021.

Find out more:

- mrsc.vic.gov.au/get-involved
- [MacedonRangesArtsCulture](#)
- [#InThisTogether](#)

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Call out to artists to lead creative recovery and reconnect our communities



We are looking to local artists, arts practitioners, art groups and arts organisations to submit their ideas to develop and deliver art projects that awaken creativity, reconnect our community and increase engagement in arts and culture.

There are three levels of funding available for projects ranging from \$3,000 to up to \$10,000. Expressions of interest open on Monday 1 February and close on Friday 28 February; projects must be delivered by 30 June 2021.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/get-involved.

SUBMITTED BY MONICA HILL



Tylden/Woodend UCA Op Shop

The committee of the Tylden / Woodend Uniting Church Op Shop wishes everyone a happy, healthy 2021, and thanks the community for its continued support, understanding and assistance during 2020 and especially during their recent move to 37 Forest Street, Woodend, at the Uniting Church hall, next to the police station.

The shop can be reached on 0492 932 610, and current opening hours are:

Monday: 9.30am—1pm

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SUBMITTED BY BRONWYN HEWITT

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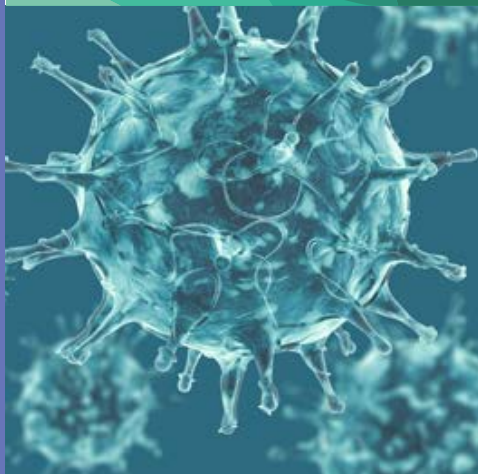


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National Charities Commissioner visits local Charity



Late last year, National Charities Commissioner Hon Dr Gary Johns met with members of the PS My Families Matters (PSMFM) team in Gisborne. This was part of Dr Johns' visit to the Macedon Ranges to catch up with local charities to offer support and to learn about the work they have been doing during the pandemic.

The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) is the national regulator of charities. The ACNC was established in December 2012 to maintain, protect, and enhance public trust and confidence in the Australian not-for-profit sector.

"We spent a fruitful hour with Dr Johns," said Tamara Wilson, president of PSMFM. "He was particularly interested in our operating model and how we been able to maintain our focus on peer-to-peer support for those living with a loved one with mental illness," said Tamara. "We have been able to continue our services throughout 2020 and with the support of our key funders and supporters have been able to provide practical assistance to carers throughout the pandemic."

PS My Family Matters is now running its regular Coffee for Carers get togethers at 10.30 am on the following dates:

- 4 February: Vics @ Seasons Riddells Creek
- 11 February: Kaffeine Bar, Gisborne
- 18 February: Social Foundry, Kyneton
- 25 February Kaffeine Bar, Gisborne

All are welcome.

For further information, please call 0475 269 965.

If you need immediate support or assistance, contact Lifeline on 131411.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER



Caption: Dr Gary Johns with Tamara Wilson and Jo Szkilnyk



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What if being a good man just meant being a good human?

Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Trial Site is excited to announce the launch of a new study, #thehumancode. The study seeks to support boys and men in the Macedon Ranges break free from harmful gender stereotypes and improve the health of everyone in the community.

As part of the study, 1,000 people of all genders aged over 16 living in the Macedon Ranges are being recruited to complete a 20-minute survey on what it means to be a man.

If you live in the Macedon Ranges, we would like to hear from you. Complete the survey and you will go into the draw to win one of four \$500 Coles vouchers.

Visit www.orygen.org.au/thehumancode or scan the QR code to complete the survey.

If you need help now call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14 (6pm-midnight).

SUBMITTED BY DEEPA PATEL

 **the human code**
Beyond Gender Expectations



Woodend Police Update

I hope this newsletter finds you thriving and well-rested after the Christmas/New Year festivities. I would like to remind the community that Woodend Police Station is staffed by only four officers. We are out in the community as often as we can be, patrolling, attending 'jobs', traffic enforcement, basically ensuring community safety. Which means whilst we are working, we probably won't have someone staffing the station as well. Just because the station isn't open, it doesn't mean we aren't around to assist you if you need us. And if we aren't around, we are supported by our neighbouring stations.

Woodend Police will be getting a little bit smaller for the foreseeable future, with the retirement of Leading Senior Constable Leslie (Les) Drew. He is well known in the area, having served the Macedon Ranges communities of Gisborne and Woodend for nigh on 20 years. He has always gone the extra mile to engage and help those in need of assistance. He will be deeply missed by his work colleagues and those who know him. We all wish Les health and happiness in his well-earned retirement, and we hope that he catches a bounty of fish; so much so that he feels he can share some with us.

I'm in the process of writing a letter to VicRoads. There are a number of roads/intersections within Woodend, which I hope by working together, we can make safer and flow better. These include the much commented on social media Urquhart/High Street and High Street/Romsey Road intersections. Writing to VicRoads does not mean that my concerns will be addressed or the situation rectified; however, hopefully by putting forward a strong case, we might improve these areas for the community. I'll keep you updated of any progress in these matters.

There have been reports of damage around Woodend. Some of these have been reported to Police, and others I'm aware of through social media. These include Spoonville, the crochet Christmas tree, the Church surrounds, the primary schools, sporting facilities and the ovals. These are predominantly late at night, mainly on weekends but not exclusively. If you see or hear anything suspicious late at night, then please don't hesitate to call 000. As I said at the beginning, I hope you're well-rested and are looking positively into the coming year.

SUBMITTED BY SERGEANT DAVID ARNOLD, WOODEND POLICE

Young Trades Awards

Nominate a young tradesperson for their effort and contribution to their trade.

We invite you to get involved and nominate a young person who you believe shows exceptional skills, commitment, and community engagement.

Whether they're qualified or apprentices, trainees, or diploma students, these awards show our appreciation for their hard work and acknowledge young tradespeople in our district.

If you employ young workers learning their trade through training, please consider nominating them in the Young Trades Awards Program. If you're a young, qualified tradesperson you can nominate yourself.

Nominations opened 26 January and close 26 February 2021.

There are generous (\$5000) prizes in three categories:

1. Apprentice or trainee – Employed and learning
2. Qualified tradesperson – Employed
3. Entrepreneur or Self-employed Tradesperson

Nominations are open for tradespeople aged between 16 and 30 years old who work in:

- Carpentry and building
- Electrical and plumbing
- Hair and beauty
- Automotive
- Nursing and childcare
- Civil construction
- Landscaping and gardening
- Hospitality
- Fitness and health
- Agriculture and farming
- Other trades

Nominations can be made at the Community Bank Trentham & Districts branch, or register your nomination at www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-trentham-districts/young-trades-awards/

We look forward to you being part of this community initiative sponsored by CCCE and Community Bank Trentham & Districts.

SUBMITTED BY CHARL PARRIS

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Nominate a young tradesperson for their effort and contribution to their trade.

Nominations close 26 February 2021.

Nominations can be made at:

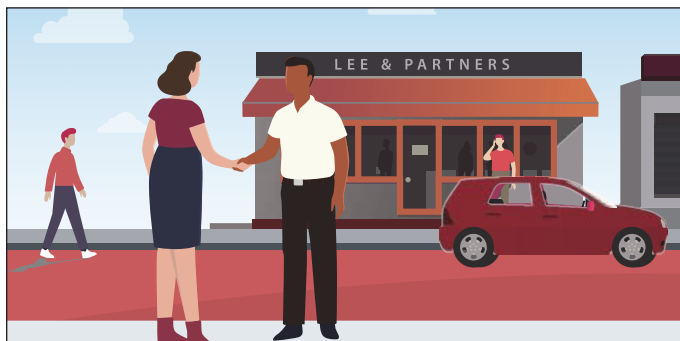
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Woodend Bowling Club

Congratulations to our new club champions

The Woodend Bowling Club has decided Ladies and Mens Singles Champions for the 2020-21 season.

Lois wins back-to-back

Lois Scott won her second consecutive Ladies title, with a comfortable victory in the final against Arlene Johnstone. On the way to the final, Lois had a bye in the first round and then defeated Henny Brama, whilst Arlene defeated Pat Morgan and Anne Dornau.

Lois started well by winning four of the first five ends and then played a solid game to win thirteen of the twenty ends played to win 25-9 – marker was club president Mike Dornau.

Norm hot in the heat

It was an early start at Woodend Bowling Club on a hot day for the Grand Final of the Club Men's Singles, with Norm Bickerdyke taking on Mike Dornau. To reach the final, Mike had victories over Clarrie Brett 26-13, John Fisher 25-16 and Rob Smithies 27-18. Neil Jamieson had played brilliantly to make the final but was ineligible to play for technical reasons, which saw Norm move up to play in his third consecutive Grand Final, after defeating Ken Usher in the play-off 25-21.

Norm made the most of his second chance to take an early lead 7-nil before Mike fought back to make it 11-all. Norm then went away again before Mike fought back again, with Norm finally winning 26-17. Thanks very much to Trevor Sturt for marking in the semi-final and grand final matches.

Congratulations to the Grand Finalists and winners

The two will now represent the Woodend club in the Champion of Champions events, starting with the CHBD winners.

Other events still to be completed include the Consolation Championship, Ladies Pairs, Mens Pairs, Mixed Pairs, 21 Up and 100 Up.

The new pennant season rolls on

The Club has teams in both Midweek (Tuesdays) and Saturday Competitions. The teams returned to competition in early January. All teams are in contention for the Final Four in their divisions.

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Barefoot bowls a great success

Despite the COVID restrictions, we were able to open up the club to host a number of social and barefoot bowls bookings through December. Hundreds of people of all ages were able to enjoy the club facilities, some for the first time.

Come on down for a free trial

If you have wondered what playing lawn bowls is like, why not come down to the Club for and have a go.

Bowls and guidance from an experienced player are provided. And it's free!

For more information visit the website at www.woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com, or follow the club on Facebook.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLING CLUB INC.



Macedon Ranges Squash Competition

2021 - Summer Squash Mixed Competitions

Monday 18th January and Thursday 21st January

Kyneton: Mondays and Thursdays, from 7pm

Kyneton Sports & Aquatic Centre

4 Victoria St, Kyneton

Play one or both days whichever suits you best

We're a friendly bunch who enjoy the social side as much as the competitive stuff. Whether you're a beginner or an accomplished player, or like most of us somewhere in between, you'll get a warm welcome.

New member contact: 0438 117 706

Existing members
email: macedonrangessquash@gmail.com
and we will add you to the list.

www.facebook.com/macedonrangessquash/
www.macedonrangessquashclub.org.au

Business chambers and trader groups receive vital funding

Four business chambers and trader groups based in the Macedon Ranges and Hepburn will share in \$90,000 awarded through the state government's Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said the funding will help local business chambers and trader groups to provide critical advice, connections and resources to businesses in the Macedon Ranges and Hepburn to support their members' transition to COVID Normal. Recipients include:

- Daylesford Macedon Tourism
- Woodend Traders
- Kyneton Region Business and Tourism Association
- Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association

"We're committed to assisting businesses throughout the Macedon Ranges and Hepburn region recover from the coronavirus pandemic – and our business chamber and trader groups are a key part of this recovery," said Ms Thomas.

The program has provided \$4.15 million in support through grants of \$10,000, \$20,000 or \$50,000 to business chambers and trader groups across Victoria to support their local business community's recovery and restart.

Grant recipients will use the funding for business activation initiatives, like facilitating members' adaptation to COVID Normal, 'buy local' campaigns and improving access to programs and services focused on resilience and recovery.

The four local chambers and trader groups are part of 182 organisations across Victoria that have so far received grant funding through the initiative.

The Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program is part of more than \$7 billion in direct economic support provided by the state government to Victorian businesses and workers to help them weather the storm of the pandemic.

Some \$2.6 billion in funding has supported more than 130,000 small and medium businesses to date through the Business Support Fund, while \$87.5 million has been provided to support hospitality businesses prepare for COVID Normal.

For more information about the Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program, go to business.vic.gov.au/businesschambers.

SUBMITTED BY BELLA MANSON



Woodend Traders facilitated the making of the wonderful Christmas tree with the help of dozens of fabulous volunteers in 2020.



Mary-Anne Thomas with the Woodend Traders committee.



A few Christmas memories ...

Local photographer Hubert Weisrock found these Christmas scenes around Woodend in December.

Great work from local families who decorated their gardens and participated in the Christmas lights display.



Commemorative Redesdale quilt inspires a book

A recently-published book, *Commemorative Quilt*, charts the creation of a triptych quilt made in honour of the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Redesdale Bridge.

The quilt, constructed in three sections that are designed and framed to be hung together, shows important historical events and buildings, and farming activities and wildlife that represent the two townships linked by the unique iron bridge. It is on exhibition at the Redesdale Gallery (next door to Budburst café).

The book *Commemorative Quilt* is illustrated in colour and details the story of local Redesdale and Mia Mia quilters and sewers who created the quilt. A copy of the book can be purchased by emailing an expression of interest to: kathhall32@gmail.com. Proceeds from sales of the book go to the Redesdale community via the Redesdale and District Association.

Wildflowers of Woodend and Newham photographic display

Newham & District Landcare Group and Woodend Landcare teamed up to organise a photographic display for the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group's online Sustainable Living Festival. Called Wildflowers of Woodend and Newham, the video celebrates the wildflowers found in Woodend's Grassland Reserve and Quarry Road Reserve, and along the rural roadsides of the Newham district. Go to www.mrsg.org.au/environment – I suggest a bigger screen than a mobile phone.

To further explore these and many other species, visit the late David Francis' website – Macedon Ranges Flora at www.macedonrange flora.wordpress.com.

SUBMITTED BY HELEN SCOTT



L-R, Kathy Hall, Gloria Pocock, Wendy Hulls and Ruth Booker.

Woodend Neighbourhood House

Happy new year from Woodend Neighbourhood House! We hope everyone had a happy Christmas, and let's hope 2021 is brighter.

We are very excited to inform you that as of the 17th November 2020, the House has reopened.

It has been lovely to see people return to the house to attend groups, drop past to say hi, and to see the House open and vibrant.

Thank you for your continued support and the positive messages and feedback that we received during lockdown.

We had fabulous support with our reverse advent calendar, which allowed us to distribute food to over 40 families within the region, and that is all thanks to the community, who contributed to making this happen.

The date for the 2021 Whole Town Garage Sale has been set for Saturday 13 March. Registrations are now open via our website www.woodendnh.org.au. This year we are looking for local community groups who would like to assist the house with this event. If your organisation or community group is interested, please contact Melissa at manager@woodendnh.org.au.

Stay tuned for more details.

The Term 1 Course Guide is now out and available from our website, and the 2021 membership drive has started. Your membership fee will support the House to be an important place for locals to make connections.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA BAKER

Newham Garden Club

Successful Newham Plant Sale

A very successful plant sale was held in November under strict COVID rules. Thanks to all our growers, donors of bulbs, volunteers on the day and the Newham Walking Group for all their assistance prior to and on the day.

Proceeds have gone to many local projects, including Kyneton and Romsey food banks, Romsey Ecotherapy Park, Macedon Ranges Toy Appeal, Live4life, and Macedon Wildlife Network.

Thanks to all the buyers who came on the day.



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Lancefield launches girls' football in 2021

Lancefield Junior Football Netball Club for 2021 has announced the launch of the first ever girls' football sides in Lancefield in 2021. New Girls Footy Coordinator, Jacqui Green, says LJFNC are set to establish a fresh new sporting opportunity for local girls to develop a football skill set in a fun, family team environment. "I am truly grateful the LJFNC committee is passionate about getting girls' footy off the ground," she says.

The club's aims in starting girls' football sides are many: to bring diversity and a new dynamic to the club and local community; to give girls a pathway from Auskick to Youth, Senior and even to the surging AFL Women's (AFLW), and the new opportunities it provides to build confidence, to meet new friends, socialise and build connections, with access to mentors and role models.

Importantly, to the club, girls' football is about building confidence in the players, and it encourages girls of all fitness levels, size and body shapes to participate; no football or sporting experience is necessary. "Everyone can play footy," Ms Green says.

For more information, please contact Jacqui Green on billb@grangecc.com.au.

SUBMITTED BY JACQUI GREEN



Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club

A Great Christmas Celebration, now we're back on the piste

The Club enjoyed a really great Christmas Celebration at Hanging Rock, with a huge turnout of members. The weather was kind to us with a wonderfully balmy evening allowing us to play a few games of petanque before descending upon the Hanging Rock Cafe for a most enjoyable Christmas party. We didn't get a visit from Santa as he was busy packing up the sleigh and feeding the reindeer, but we enjoyed some excellent food, good liquid refreshments, a lot of socialising and great fun.

Membership of the club continues to flourish, with a swag of new faces joining in November and this looks like it will continue in the new year, with much interest being shown by potential members. Many of these new members are recently arrived residents in the area and are finding the Club an excellent means of meeting people and becoming part of the local community. If you have just moved into the area, why not come along and see what a

wonderful game petanque is, make some new friends and join the fun.

Social competition is now back in full swing at the Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club at both our Woodend and Hanging Rock terrains, and we welcome everyone who would like to try this great sport to come along and give it a try. We are sure you will enjoy it as much as we do. We play at the Old Racecourse in Woodend on Mondays and at Hanging Rock Reserve on Thursdays. Start time is 4.30pm at both venues, and you don't need any kit or special equipment - just bring a smile, we provide everything else you need to try the game.

What is Petanque?

It's a funny French sport with an even funnier name; a bit like bowls and bocce, but without a lot of those sport's formalities – and it's a lot more fun! It is played by all ages and people of all fitness levels; it can even be played in a wheelchair! It's inexpensive to play; there are no fancy uniforms to buy, and we provide free Club boules to use while you give the sport a try. Come and join the fun, we'd love you to.

For more information, please contact us through: john.pizzey@petanqueattherock.com.au or visit our website www.petanqueattherock.com.au, or phone 0419 118 360

SUBMITTED BY JOHN PIZZEY

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New release reveals the small stories of Gold Rush Victoria

A new book explores the stories of little-known gold rush towns in Victoria. *The Ghosts Have Never Left – Victorian Gold Rush Towns and the Stories They Could Tell* captures in words and infrared photography the gold rush history of twenty-one Victorian towns, all of which are now either small, minute, or no longer exist.


Each of these stories emphasises that while gold drove the creation and growth of the towns, they have all been part of a much richer story. One such story is that of the Coliban water scheme and its importance to gold mining in the vicinity of Chewton. The scheme, which is operational to this day, delivered water from just south of Malmsbury to Bendigo, Castlemaine and Chewton, over a distance of 70 kilometres. A section of the Goldfields Track, south of the Sandhurst Reservoir, follows the channel and provides a fascinating cross section of the extraordinary engineering required to deliver the project.

Reference is made to specific locations, helpful visitor centres, websites and walking guides to enable further exploration by those wishing to do so. *The Ghosts Have Never Left – Victorian Gold Rush Towns and the Stories They Could Tell* is printed in Victoria and can be obtained from the Royal Historical Society of Victoria website: [https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/bookshop/..](https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/bookshop/)

SUBMITTED BY JOHN AND MARIE WATT



SUMMER SOCIAL MIXED COMPETITION



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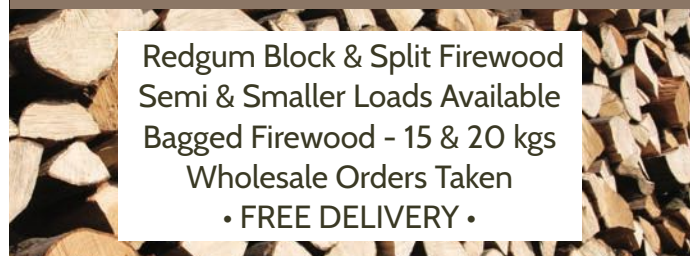
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Macedon Ranges Family Law

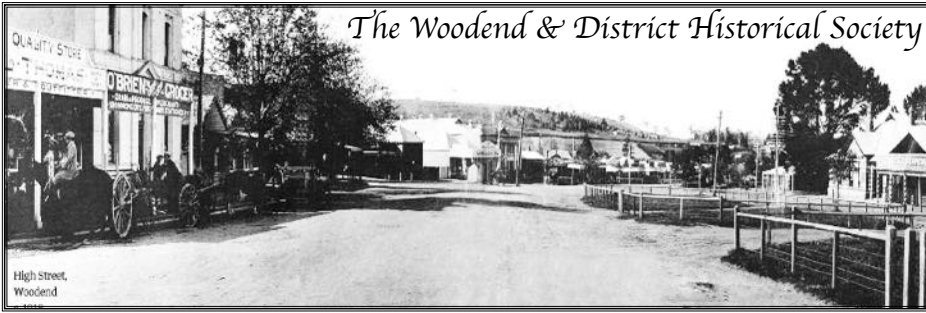
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www.issue.com/newwoodendstar



Newham Methodist Church

Henry Andrews had been in partnership with his brother Thomas who had tragically died, so a few weeks after the birth of her daughter in 1857, the widowed Fanny found herself, baby Emily, younger brothers Frederick, Charles and Septimus, taking the slow, jolting trip over the corduroy road through the Black Forest to Newham with her brother-in-law Henry and his wife and children. There they all settled into a four-room cottage, only the second house to be built of sawn timber in the area.

Henry Andrews was now in partnership with Peter Barker and Methodist church services were held at the Barker home with Peter Barker as the preacher so the Andrews, Barker, Adams and Shelton families joined other Methodists to build a slab church with a bark roof approximately where the Newham CFA shed now stands. It was burnt down, so in 1859 the Methodists paid £6 for 1 acre of land on the corner bounded by Jim Rd on the north and Rochford Rd to the east from Mr



Photo 1538 Newhampic 039 Newham Methodist Church built 1860. Note the post & rail fence.

Francis Rogerson, and the Wesleyan Church opened in January 1860. Thanks to Thomas Shelton, who paid the final £1, the church could open free of debt, the land and building having cost £116/3/4.

In 1906, the Independent Order of Rechabites, called the Hope of Newham, opened with a temperance lecture. The Order of Rechabites was a friendly society, that is, an association of people who paid regular dues in return for

Public Notice—Woodend District Historical Society Annual General Meeting

The Woodend District Historical Society Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 26 February 2021 at 10:30 am, in the old Woodend Courthouse in Forest St, Woodend 3442

SUBMITTED BY JANNYSE WILLIAMS,
DIRECTOR

life insurance, sickness and funeral benefits. In this case members were preferred to be teetotal and the fees were 2/6 per year. This was a wonderful opportunity for people to have some hedge against the vicissitudes of life and the members read like a who's who of Newham, but some of the more militant temperance females would sit outside the Methodist Church across the road from the Newham Hotel, jotting down the names of those entering the bar.

The church served the Newham/Cobaw community for well over 100 years, fully maintained by the locals, until finally the Methodist Church sold it in 1985 to the Shire, who then sold the building to Harvey Newnham who arranged its removal to Mt Macedon for use as a studio and the site, next to the Mechanics Institute, became a small park.

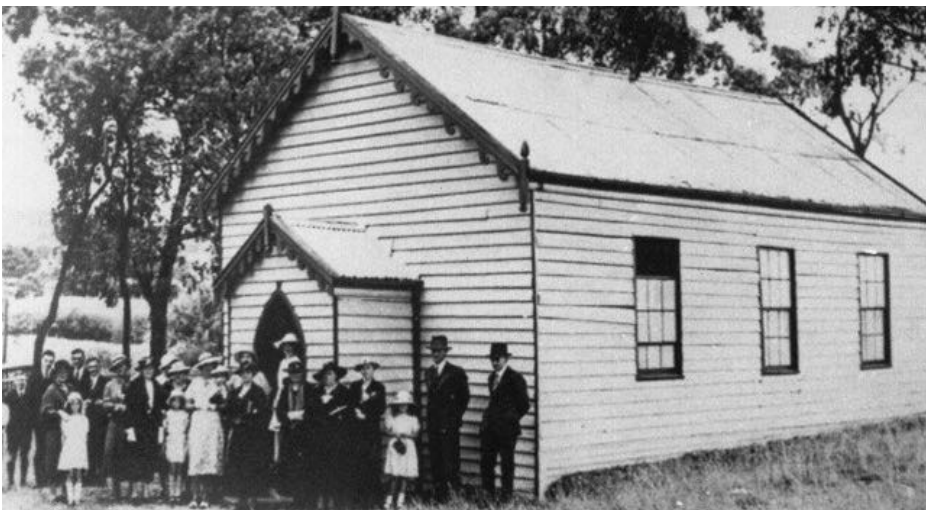



Photo 1809 Newhampic 316. Newham Methodist Church c1950

SUBMITTED BY JANNYSE WILLIAMS, AUTHOR
OF "ECHOES OF THE PAST", A HISTORY OF
NEWHAM AND COBAW.

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Learn, Care, Flourish at Sacred Heart College

2021 promises to be another exciting year at Sacred Heart College, with staff and students keen to welcome the Year 7s, the newest members of the College community, while looking forward to the opportunities and experiences the next twelve months will bring.

Our new Year 7 students have the additional attraction of a newly refurbished Hillary Building that will welcome classes in February. The refurbishments include new windows, large sliding glass doors, and new furniture and lockers, and will provide our newest Sacred Heart students with contemporary and innovative learning spaces.

When I introduced the College's new byline 'Learn. Care. Flourish.' to the broader community at this time last year, none of us realised how much it would encapsulate the year we were about to experience. Together our staff, students and families learned in many different ways, cared for each other and about the wider world, and I believe we, in the SHC community, flourished throughout the experience. These three words were chosen as our byline as they capture our offerings as Catholic school in the Mercy tradition.

Learn. The provision of an engaging, challenging and personalised education for each student is a key priority for all Sacred Heart College



Principal Dr Darren Egberts with Year 7 students at the start of the 2020 school year

staff. Our staff utilise a breadth of evidence-based strategies to ensure that each young person achieves at least twelve months academic progress each year.

Care. Sacred Heart College is immensely proud of the wellbeing programs in place for our students and works in partnership with parents to ensure that students grow into resilient, happy and compassionate young people. Our staff undertake regular and comprehensive professional learning to support the safety of all young people in our care. The College has an outstanding counselling team to support students and families with the challenges of contemporary adolescence.

Flourish. As Principal, I am committed to providing a holistic education for each student at Sacred Heart College, so that they can grow academically as well as spiritually, psychologically, emotionally and physically. At Sacred Heart College, we want every student to live life in abundance.

I encourage those in our local community currently considering options for their children's secondary journey to learn more about the diverse educational offerings of Sacred Heart College Kyneton, by visiting the College website, or attending either a tour or a virtual conversation.

SUBMITTED BY DR DARREN EGBERTS,
PRINCIPAL

Sacred Heart College Kyneton

Learn. Care. Flourish.



Sacred Heart College Kyneton is a Catholic Secondary School in the Mercy Tradition where students thrive in a vibrant learning and caring community.

Limited places available for Years 7 - 12, 2021.

Onsite College Tours

We welcome the return of onsite tours, which will be limited in numbers and follow current safety guidelines.

Tours are scheduled for:

Tuesday 16 February & Wednesday 10 March (Principal's Tour)
Tours commence at 9:15am - Bookings Essential

Virtual Conversations

Join the Principal, students & staff for a conversation with other prospective families via Zoom to learn more about life at Sacred Heart College. See website for scheduled dates.

Visit our website for bookings or contact our Registrar for enrolment enquiries:
T: 5421 1238 E: dlawrence@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au
W: www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au

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