

Community Conversation – Summer Living in Woodend

On Saturday 1 February, in the Community Hall beside the library, a unique conversation took place amongst Woodend residents; to give our own community the opportunity to consider how they might respond to and recover from a major disaster. The conveners are a group of Woodend residents who work internationally, nationally, in the state, and locally in emergencies and recovery, and who came up with the idea to run this session, on the basis that a connected community is much more resilient, and recovers better from disasters. Many local groups and organisations such as the Library, Council, Woodend Neighbourhood House, the churches, the Red Cross, CFA and SES were consulted, and supported the event.

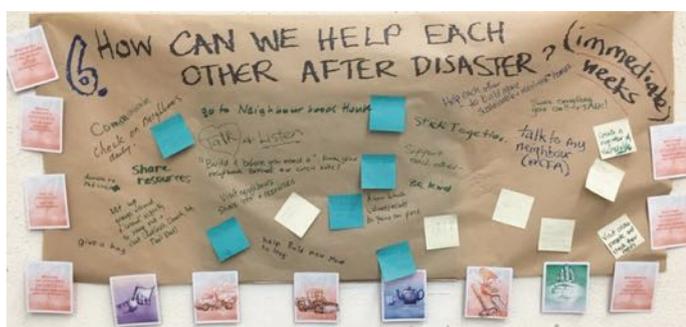
The idea was to build greater connectedness and to get us all thinking about the central question: “How prepared for disaster/emergency do I feel?” This is a question that has had particular resonance this year, given the severe natural disasters that have hit parts of Australia this summer. Attendees were given the opportunity to rate themselves on a scale of 1, for not yet at all prepared to 5, very prepared. During the session, about 100 people of ages ranging from five weeks to 85 years wandered through, speaking to each other and with facilitators, experts and community leaders, and sharing their experiences, questions, and worst fears.

Of the town, people said that they love the community infrastructure, and the town’s ‘...good sense of community’; many noted in particular Woodend’s organisations and groups that offer residents the potential for rich connections, friendships, information and support.

The session considered many ways the community could navigate a disaster successfully to recover, by considering how people could help each other immediately following a disaster, and in the long term.

The conversation resulted in a ‘picture book’ slideshow of the ideas and information captured from attendees. You may view the picture book, on the Woodend Neighbourhood House website here <woodendnh.org.au/summer-living-in-woodend>.

If you would like to have input into whether we hold a follow up conversation, let us know through the Woodend Neighbourhood House at reception@woodendnh.org.au.



Supporting people living with mental illness in Macedon Ranges

The Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) is excited to announce a new local project that explores ways to make practical support available to people living with poor mental health in the Macedon Ranges.

This work is one of several projects being funded by North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network through the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention trial site. The trial site brings together local organisations, services and community through the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Collaborative, to develop activities that aim to prevent suicides at a local level.

Annie Rowland, Chairperson of MRSPAG, said having access to some practical support with everyday activities can be very helpful for people experiencing mental illness.

“Things like getting to an appointment, preparing meals, going for a walk or just having someone to have a coffee and a chat with can make a difference,” Annie said. “Macedon Ranges is a really generous community; we see evidence of this every day. We know we can deliver this kind of support, using the best resources we have – our people.”

Local health and community organisations, Council, emergency services, and members of the community have all been busy sharing ideas on how to make this support a reality.

MRSPAG are also consulting with community members who experience mental illness or who care for someone with mental illness, to make sure there is a focus on providing the support that local people really need.

“We’ve recruited over 20 people with lived experience from the region who are willing to share their insights and advice on what supports would best suit them,” Annie said.

“It’s important that what we provide is tailored to local needs, and that means listening to the local community. People with lived experience need to be at the centre of anything we build to support them. Nothing for them, without them.”

Next steps will see MRSPAG and local partners working to secure funding to trial the support model and to explore our local service system to progress this important work.

If you are interested in supporting this project, please contact info@mrspag.com.au

If you or someone you know is in need of immediate mental health support, phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14 (6pm–midnight).

SUBMITTED BY DEEPA PATEL

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Your community diary

GET YOUR EVENT LISTED ON OUR CALENDAR

Just send the details to content@newwoodendstar.org.au

— **March** —

- 7..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7-9..... Lions Art Show
- 9..... Labour Day Holiday
- 14..... Hanging Rock Market
- 14..... St Ambrose Carnival
- 15..... Lions Sunday Market
- 21..... Whole Town Garage Sale
- 21..... Harmony Day
- 21..... Tylden Primary School Fair
- 21..... Champagne dinner @ The Vic
- 22..... Landcare Working bee
- 28..... Petanque Open Day
- 28..... WAAF Launch concert
- 28..... Vince Jones Concert

— **April** —

- 4..... Camp Out at the Rock
- 4..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7..... Small Business Bus Woodend
- 10..... Good Friday
- 12..... Easter Sunday
- 13..... Easter Monday
- 18..... Run the Rock 2020
- 19..... Lions Sunday Market
- 23..... Rotary Trivia Night
- 25..... ANZAC Day

— **May** —

- 2..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 17..... Lions Sunday Market

— **June** —

- 5..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 5-8. Woodend Winter Arts Festival
- 8..... Queen's Birthday Holiday

— **September** —

- 25..... AFL Grand Final Holiday

— **October** —

- 3..... Sustainable Living Festival

— **November** —

- 3..... Melbourne Cup

The New Woodend Star is a fully on-line process. Pre-printed inserts can be delivered to the Neighbourhood House, or call us on 0458 525 671 to make an alternative arrangement.

Wildlife Victoria Fundraiser at Mountview Theatre

The Mount Players are donating all proceeds from the Thursday 5 March performance of *Switzerland* to Wildlife Victoria.



Our state has been ravaged by devastating fires this summer, and our precious wildlife has been decimated. The Players would love to see a packed house on 5 March to enable a large donation to be sent to help care for and rehabilitate surviving animals.

Switzerland by Melbourne playwright Joanna Murray-Smith is a superb two-hander thriller and runs until 15 March. If you can't make the fundraising performance, make sure you book a ticket to another. There will an opportunity to donate to Wildlife Victoria at every performance in the season.

To book tickets, go to our website themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for enquiries.



SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT

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Woodend's Rain report

We received 73.6mm during January, mainly in a couple of big storms. So it has been a wetter than average start to the year, with the long-term average being about 47mm. Let's hope the dampness continues!

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		19.6
March	47.0	23.7	31.7	12.2		28.1
April	36.2	165.0	31.0	7.6		55.8
May	101.2	38.6	115.6	114.8		87.8
June	98.8	10.6	78.2	168.2		79.6
July	186.6	60.0	73.3	63.2		95.7
August	107.0	119.6	91.3	78.1		89.3
September	163.6	55.2	26.2	38.3		65.5
October	91.8	45.8	69.0	29.4		49.8
November	63.2	77.4	55.5	64.8		60.4
December	92.8	77.2	91.0	10.0		62.5
Total mm	1037.8	727.4	746.6	608.4	73.6	



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Train in mental health first aid to help young people

Youth mental health first aid 2020 courses are now open, and training is available for those adults wanting to increase their awareness of mental health issues and problems experienced by young people.

The training offers an opportunity for people to develop skills and confidence in supporting young people to seek help.

The 14-hour accredited course covers information about mental health problems, risk and protective factors, and treatments and support services available, as well as the role of a mental health first aider in supporting young people.

The Youth Mental Health First Aid course will be held from 9am to 5pm on May 2 and May 9 at Romsey House, 96 Main Street, Romsey. There will also be a youth mental health first aid refresher course at Kyneton Town Hall on April 18. For more information and costs, contact Loren Polzot on 5422 0275, and to register, email kmoore@mrsc.vic.gov.au

SUBMITTED BY LEANNE YOUNES

Get behind the scenes with Woodend's own adventure filmmaker, Michael Dillon

Special Woodend Sneak Peek 6.30pm, Friday 20th March

Watch never before seen footage and hear untold stories from some of the world's most historic expeditions. Don't miss the pioneer of Australian adventure cinematography, Michael Dillon at the Norma Richardson Hall, 6.30pm, 20th March!

It will be an exciting mix of the greatest and wackiest journeys Michael has filmed over the past 50 years. On Everest alone, you'll join Australia's first ascent, climb it from sea level with Tim Macartney-Snape, witness Lincoln Hall's miraculous survival, and watch an Australian boy climb Mount Cook, Kilimanjaro, Elbrus and Aconcagua BEFORE attempting Everest, aged fifteen. We'll travel from Buckingham Palace to the Sydney Opera house by London cab, catch malaria at the world's highest dinner party, share Tim Cope and his dog Tigon's journey from Mongolia to Hungary, go extreme rafting in Russia, and share a little time with Dick Smith, Tenzing Norgay and Dame Edna Everage. You will even get a preview of one of this year's Woodend Winter Arts Festival Events – Michael's Film *A Little Bit Mongolian* about 12 year old Angus Paradise's dream to ride in Mongolia's epic Nadaam horse races.

Michael guarantees no frostbite, no blisters, but lots of laughs, behind the scenes stories, and unforgettable experiences. Tickets \$20 available at the door, Norma Richardson Hall. Talk begins at 6.30pm sharp, Friday 20th March. Tea/coffee included, proceeds in support of St Mary's.

For more information <facebook.com/michaeldillonfilms>

SUBMITTED BY ROBYN LEEDER

Woodend Lions Art Show

This annual art show continues to delight and surprise. Each year we are gratified to see the breadth of talent choosing to exhibit in our show. This is a large number of mostly local artists offering works for exhibition and sale. It is held, as usual, in the St Ambrose Hall on the long weekend March 7-9th. There is an opening night on the Friday between 6 and 8.30pm where the judges award the prizes and first purchases are made. The show is in its 46th year and continues to be a much-loved event in the community calendar. Artists wanting to make a last minute entry go to www.woodend.vic.lions.org.au for the link to entry forms.



This year's show will be raising money for bushfire relief (Blazeaid, East Gippsland Emergency Fund, Habitat Boxes for wildlife recovery and Lions projects in the Corryong-Tallangatta area). All enquiries woodendlions@hotmail.com. Rose Wilson, an Archibald prize finalist and well-regarded local artist, has generously offered a painting for the raffle prize at this year's show.

SUBMITTED BY BARRY MCDONALD

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Free Smile Squad school dental checks coming to the Macedon Ranges in 2020

Victorian school students in the Macedon Ranges will enjoy healthier and brighter smiles this year, as the next phase of the government's landmark Smile Squad free dental program gets underway.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, announced last month that every public school in the Macedon Ranges Shire Council region, and Toolern Vale Primary in the City of Melton is being invited to join the program in 2020.

This means families in the Macedon electorate are next on the list to receive free dental care and save hundreds of dollars every year.

The Smile Squad vans provide free check-ups and treatment to Victorian public school students, including teeth cleaning, fluoride application, fissure sealants, fillings, root canals and any other non-cosmetic treatments – to ensure our kids have healthy teeth.

Poor dental care can lead to more serious health problems. Across Australia, a quarter of all children have untreated tooth decay and in Victoria, dental conditions are the highest single cause of preventable hospitalisations for kids under 10.

"I encourage all local schools to take up the invitation to have Smile Squad vans visit them this year so all children can have the opportunity for free dental check-ups," said Ms Thomas.

More information about the program can be found at <smilesquad.vic.gov.au>.

Woodend Landcare News

March working bee

Woodend Landcare is continually following up on funded willow removal from a decade ago along much of Five Mile Creek. On Sunday 22 March we will be taking to the weeds again. Our March working bee will be on the creek at Ruby Mackenzie park, where Anne Rd meets Tennyson St. From here, we can work north (upstream) to Romsey Rd, or south past the historic traces of Shirley Park weir, down to Five Mile Creek Reserve.

Restoring areas of native vegetation is hugely rewarding, and this entire section has benefited from our past blitzes on willow, broom, gorse and blackberry, which we have replaced selectively with grasses and strappies, banksias, sheoaks and tea tree. It's great to see the creek path so widely used by walkers and joggers, and we appreciate all the positive comments that come our way.

We'd love a few extra hands, so if you're able to pop in, bring along some gloves and secateurs, firm footwear and long-sleeved clothing. Non-members welcome. Our well-stocked tool trailer will be onsite, and we provide a CWA-calibre morning tea.

Thursday Crew

If you're around Quarry or Bawden Rd, Lake Earnshaw or the racecourse on any Thursday morning, you are quite likely to see the hardworking Thursday Crew, who gather every week for productive working bees and to enjoy a brew and a chat. All retirees, these Landcare members do close to a thousand hours of environmental work a year in Woodend. A big thank you to Dave Bower and the team for their constant effort.

See the calendar on our board at Coles or visit <woodendlandcare.org> for more information.



SUBMITTED BY KATE DANIEL

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Woodend Nursery news ...

Thank you to everyone in the Macedon Ranges for your continued support. Last season saw an abundance of variety and choices at Woodend Nursery! Why? Because you all keep ordering more! The team at the Nursery love it. As one client says, "I love old fashioned nurseries like this, where it feels like a destination, and every corner is crammed with colour and style!" This month we also launched Woodend Nursery Landscape Design, so visit us at <woodendnursery.com.au> to view projects or request a consultation.

Follow on Facebook to see regular updates about landscaping, seasonal changes, garden ideas, or simply send us an email for advice. Woodend Nursery also offers an "on-site" service where we come to your home to give you some creative ideas or to assess and give you advice on your garden. Contact us via the website and book an appointment!

SUBMITTED BY CASSIUS ARMITAGE



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Suzuki violin teaching method

One day when I was in the middle of a very busy period in my life, I heard the sound and saw the amazing technique of some young Suzuki violin students performing. I was struck by their completely relaxed and confident performance, from memory, of the Concerto in A minor by Bach. These children were probably no older than 10 years old!

Their beautiful and resonant tone and musical phrasing were far ahead of any student I had heard at this age. What a joy to observe! My first thought was I want to have students like this.

And so I began my Suzuki Teacher Training. I had finished my music degree at the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne and I had been working as a professional musician and teaching at a prestigious private school.

I remember being moved many times by the positive and caring environment of the Suzuki method, during the Suzuki Teacher Training. It was not that teaching the violin was not important, but the main philosophy of Suzuki Method was the development of the child's character.

Part of the teacher training was to observe lessons given by experienced Suzuki teachers. I remember one lesson in particular, where a young 4 year old was having a lesson in front of a big group of Suzuki teacher trainers. How positive and warm the teacher was with this young girl! Small steps were implemented for the child to achieve in a fun environment. The child had her mother by her side observing and recording the lesson, enjoying her child's responses of laughter.

Being a Suzuki violin teacher has been a very enriching journey for me, and seeing the development of young children and their musical talent inspirational. Contact Chantal Jones on 0425 726 892 or by email violinchantaljones@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY CHANTAL JONES



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Death over Dinner

There's a saying that goes something like this: "You can't get pregnant if you talk about sex, and you don't invoke dying by talking about death!" With this premise in mind, Natural Grace's inaugural Death over Dinner was eagerly attended by a small group of Woodend locals who wanted to learn and talk about one of the greatest gifts you can give your loved ones – a well thought out expression of your funeral wishes.

The event was held at The Victoria Hotel, Woodend in a private function room, and monies raised from the cover charge contributed to The Willow Tree Foundation—a not-for-profit organisation that assists families when a child dies—to cover the cost of a child's funeral.

Death over Dinner participants learnt how to plan their own send-off, what legal requirements need to be fulfilled, the differences between coffins and shrouds, or what to wear when being cremated, and more. There were lots of laughs, conversations and information sharing. All were given information packs for following up on various practical aspects. Natural Grace Holistic Funeral Directors are based in Woodend and will hold this event every two months to educate, assist and fundraise. Get some friends together and join us! Enquiries on 5427 3112 or info@naturalgrace.com.au



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New dog on leash requirements in effect

Did you know new requirements for dog owners and dog walkers in Macedon Ranges Shire came into effect this year?

All dogs in public places must now be on a leash, except in designated off-leash areas. Dogs also must be under effective control at all times, and cannot be left unattended.

Designated off-leash areas for Woodend and Hanging Rock are:

- Campaspe Park *
- Lake Earnshaw Reserve
- Peppermint Lane Reserve
- Quahlee Park
- Racecourse Reserve Pony Club Oval *
- Racecourse Reserve Cricket Oval *

** Some off-leash areas are subject to certain restrictions and conditions. Please refer to brochures, maps available online, or onsite signage for further details.*

Some environmentally sensitive areas are now prohibited for dogs. Prohibited areas in Woodend and Hanging Rock are:

- Within 5m of Five Mile Creek waterways and embankment
- Hanging Rock conservation zones
- Woodend Grassland Reserve at Racecourse Reserve

Signs will be installed at relevant sites to help dog owners identify where they can exercise dogs off-leash, and to outline any restrictions. Signs will also be installed at sites where dogs are now prohibited. In the absence of signage, dog owners should consider the area on-leash.

Woodend and other town-specific brochures with detailed maps are available at Council service centres, local veterinarians and pet supply stores.

For more details on dog on- and off-leash areas, visit: mrsc.vic.gov.au/dogs or phone 5422 0333.



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Workshop will help artists refine their bio

Artists need a well-crafted biography to help promote and increase awareness of their respective skills and other valuable information. An artist or maker biography is important for artists to have on their website and to use for social media.

To obtain the best results, an artist's bio should be memorable, meaningful and unique. It is also a good idea to update it annually.

The process of writing a biography can also be something that helps an artist focus on their goals, purpose and drive.

It is also a helpful resource to send to retailers and galleries, and to use in grant applications, market applications and press releases.

To help with creating this important tool, an Artist Bio Writing workshop will be held from 7pm to 9pm on Thursday 23 April at Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street. The workshop will provide ideas and tools for editing and re-writing your biography.

Bookings are required. Tickets can be purchased online or contact the Box Office on 1300 888 802 (Monday to Friday 8.30am-3pm). For more information, visit <mrsc.vic.gov.au/arts-workshops>

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Launch of WWAFF 2020 with Bach's Cello Suites 1, 2 & 3

**St Ambrose Church, Woodend,
2.30 pm, 28 March**

Composed nearly three centuries ago, the *Solo Cello Suites* of Johann Sebastian Bach are cherished by cellists the world over, and contain untold delights for the listener.

Join three Australian cellists, Edwina Cordingley, Rosanne Hunt and Josephine Vains as they explore the exquisite French Dance forms of *Suites 1, 2 and 3* on period instruments in the perfect acoustic of St. Ambrose Church, Woodend.

Tickets are available at the door or online with discounted prices for concessions and children. This beautiful concert will inspire cello students of all ages. The concert will launch the 2020 program of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival. For more information visit: woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au or facebook.com/woodendwinterartsfestival.



Vale Sheila Drummond

It is with much sadness that we share the news that our much loved friend, Sheila Drummond, passed away peacefully in hospital on Sunday 16 February with her ever-faithful, most loyal husband, Don by her side.

To say that Sheila was an integral part of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival is an understatement. She and Don made a formidable duo, bringing together the literary program every year since the festival was just a dream over 15 years ago. She gave her energy, her contacts, and her considerable professional expertise freely and willingly to support our vision and without her it would not have become the reality it is today. She loved books and ideas, and she loved our community – her work every year on this festival was an ode to both.

As you might imagine, we are heartbroken. She is simply irreplaceable. We will honour her the best we can in this year's program somehow, but in our hearts we know nothing we can ever do will properly express our gratitude and our sorrow.

On behalf of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival Committee and our volunteers, we offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to Don and all their family.

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE



Rotary Promotes World Peace

Promoting peace is one of Rotary's main causes. The fully funded Rotary Peace Fellowship, which covers tuition and living expenses, increases the capacity of existing leaders to prevent and resolve conflict by offering academic training, field experience, and professional networking.

Up to 130 fellows are selected every year in a globally competitive process based on personal, academic, and professional achievements. Fellows earn either a master's degree or a professional development certificate in peace and development studies at one of the seven Rotary Peace Centers, located at leading universities around the world.

More than 1,300 program alumni are working in more than 115 countries as leaders in national governments, nongovernmental organizations, social enterprises, the military, law enforcement, and international organizations such as the United Nations.

Key features:

- 15-24-month program, small-group classroom learning, in fields related to peace and development
- Intended for leaders near the start of their careers
- 50 fellows selected annually to study at one of five Rotary Peace Centres at partner universities, which offer interdisciplinary curricula with research-informed teaching
- 2-3-month field study experience to develop practical skills
- Fellows connect with an international cohort of fellows, thought leaders, and a global network of Rotarians

If you would like to learn more about the selection criteria and application process, please contact local club president Mike Hamer on 0411 549 432.

Rotary Club of Woodend

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Message from your Councillor

School is back and the activities and events have started in full swing in Woodend and across the Shire.

The Farmers' Market was as busy as ever, and I would like to acknowledge the members of our community who initiated the community event on this same day, to facilitate conversations around the recent bushfires and recovery. Gatherings like this assist everyone to be better prepared, and to talk and connect.

Thanks to all the community groups and organisations and businesses who have provided fundraising and support towards Bushfire relief over the last months. Some Council staff also went to other Shires to support them during the emergency and recovery phases.

It is no surprise to me to learn that in the last census, the postcode 3442 had the highest rate of residents who volunteer in the State.

Congratulations again to our Macedon Ranges Australia Day Award Recipients— Lisa Richards, Georgie Garvey-Hawke, Lloyd (Neil) Pomroy and the team at the Woodend Neighbourhood House. I would like to recognise all those nominated and all those that volunteer across our Shire.

Council has received so many positive messages since the roll out of the new Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) and glass-only collection services this month. We realise it is early days and it will take time for people to become familiar with the new collection times. We thank you for your patience and support, and we also recognise the work by Council staff implementing this.

You may notice some artwork on the side of our bin collection trucks. These designs were by local young people in our shire who were winners of an art competition run through schools to launch the rollout, and we had over 1000 entries.

I am pleased to have been appointed with 14 other Mayors to the Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel with four meetings a year chaired by the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Adam Somyurek. The panel aims to provide high level advice to the Minister on legislative, regulatory, strategic and policy decisions which impact on local government and it is a great opportunity.

The Consultants have been appointed for the Woodend Community Precinct Project, so please watch out for opportunities to provide your thoughts and ideas for this important area.

Council has many e-news which provide a range of information and events – Aquatic and leisure, Arts and culture, Business, Environment, Kids, Disability and Over 55s Connect so please look online and subscribe.

Look out for the annual Events and Festivals grant program which opens 2 March.

Councillors are in the last year of our elected term of four years. Council is hosting candidate information sessions for anyone interested ahead of the 2020 Council elections in October and details are on our website. I know Councillors are happy to discuss this further with residents who are interested, so please feel free to get in touch. It is a wonderful opportunity to represent your community.

SUBMITTED BY CR JANET PEARCE





for all your Property Transfers
 contact Sue Fairhurst
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 27 Urquhart Street, Woodend

Macedon Ranges Film Society's 2020 Vision

The Society has secured a brilliant and diverse selection of films for the 2020 season, offering a film every month until November, plus the return of the hugely popular Short Film Festival on Saturday October 24.

The lineup for the remaining 2020 Season is;

- March 11 – 'Gran Torino' – USA 2008
- April 8 – 'Woman at War' – Iceland/France/Ukraine 2018
- May 13 – 'The World's Fastest Indian' – USA 2005
- June 10 – 'The Kid with a Bike' – France/Belgium 2011
- July 8 – 'Loving Vincent' – Poland/UK/USA 2017
- August 12 – 'See You Up There' – France/Canada 2017
- September 9 – Members' Choice – Favourite Aussie Film
- October 14 – 'Eye In The Sky' – UK/Canada 2015
- October 24 – Short Film Festival
- November 11 – 'Love Serenade' – Australia 1996

If you like good films, supper and some lively chat, consider joining.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday each month at Woodend Community Centre. Film notes and an informal supper are part of the evening.

MRFS is a membership-based club; initial enquiries by email to mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or call Lorraine 5427 0921 or Christine 5429 5452.

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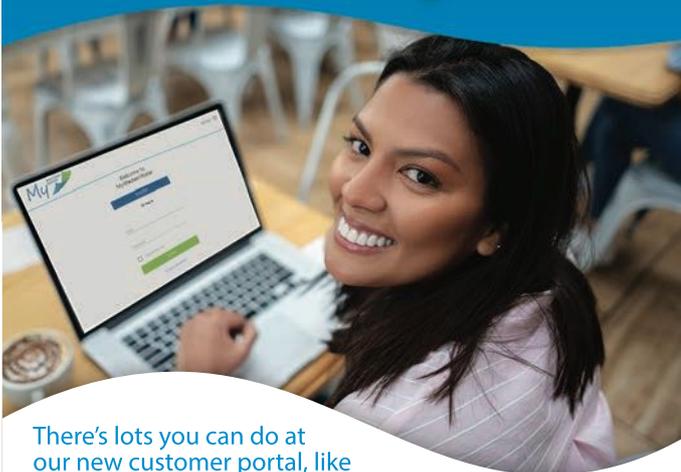

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Customers have more control with new portal, says Western Water

Western Water customers can now easily access their account information, update their details and see their water usage data all online, with the newly-launched customer portal.

The new portal, known as MyWesternWater, is a customer self-service platform designed to give customers more independence and control over their account management.

Paul Clark, Western Water's Acting Chief Operating Officer, said the new portal offers customers many different functions which previously were only available through visiting or phoning the organisation. "Our customers today are increasingly more internet savvy," he said. "When they want information, they don't want to spend time making calls. They want to be in control and be able to do things quickly, at any time that suits them."

"That's why we've developed the customer portal," he said.

The customer portal has been released along with a new SMS service which allows customers to text the customer team with their enquiry. This service responds to customers' expectations to be able to engage with Western Water in a way that suits their busy lifestyle.

"It's all about offering many options," Mr Clark said. "We are continuing to offer the same, friendly customer service we always have, but in different ways to suit our customers' needs."

To celebrate the release of the newly launched MyWesternWater, the organisation is running a competition, offering customers who sign up in the next four months the chance to get \$500 off their water bill.

To find out more, visit WesternWater.com.au

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JORQUERA

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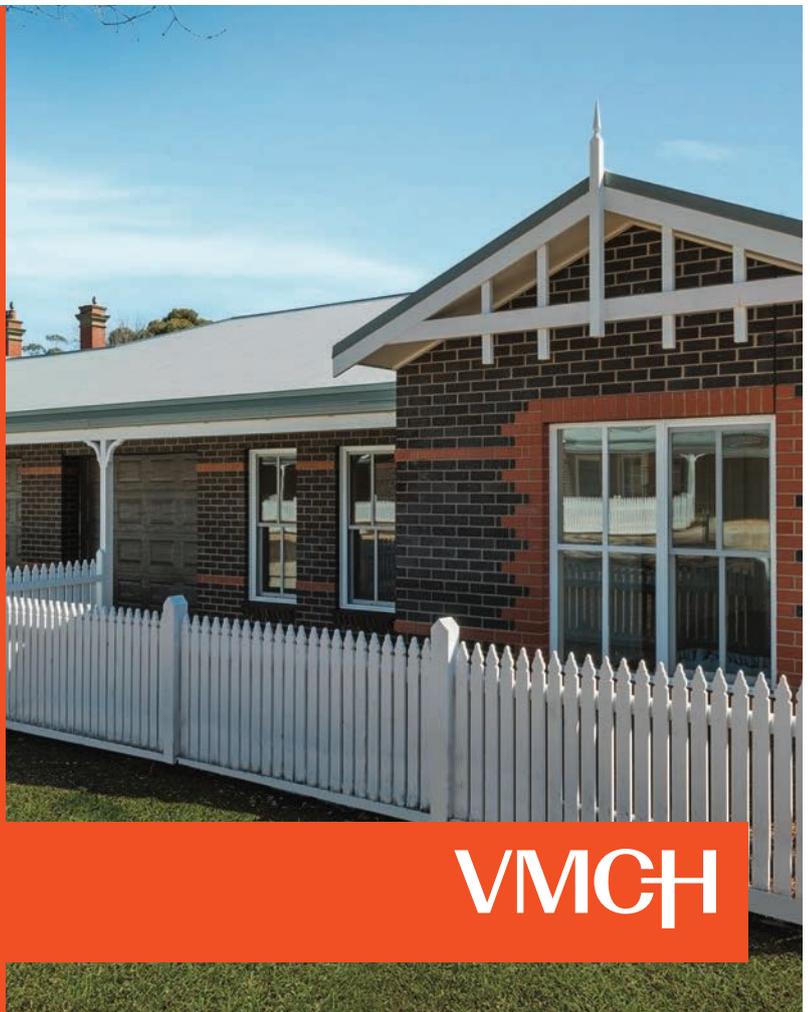
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Carnival celebrates our community spirit

One of the biggest events on Woodend's calendar is coming up on Saturday March 14 (10am-3pm), the Woodend St Ambrose Community Carnival.



The event, which attracts around 2,500 to the town annually, is set to be bigger and better than ever in 2020. Whether you're interested in rides and activities or beautiful stalls, food and entertainment – there is truly something for everyone.

This year's carnival will have a sustainability focus that aims to minimise waste and respect the environment. Children and adults are encouraged to bring their drink bottles and refill them at the portable water bubbler, provided by Western Water. Meanwhile, all waste will be sorted into different categories, such as plastic and cardboard recycling, glass, food waste and general waste.

The rides at this year's carnival promise to be bigger and better than ever, with a zip line, dodgem cars, rocking climbing wall, cha cha, jumping castle and others. For those wanting a quieter experience, the petting zoo is sure to satisfy. Adults can purchase children's all-day rides wristbands online at www.sawoodend.cdfpay.org.au.

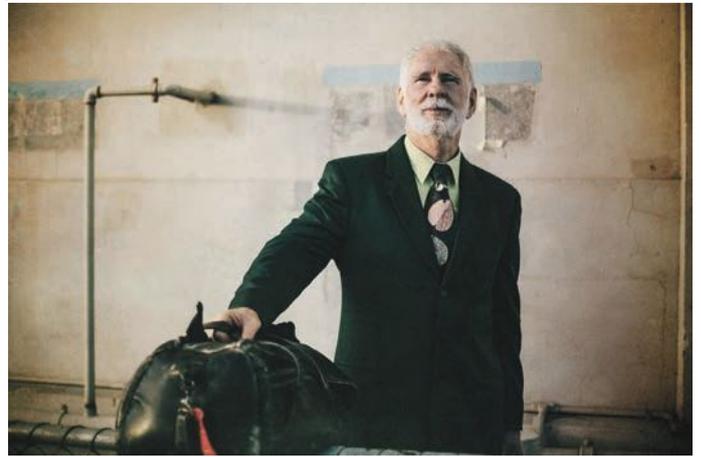
There are several activities to keep everyone busy, from Devonshire tea and a spinning demonstration by the Spinners of Macedon Ranges group, to a shearing demonstration by farmer Laurie Cossar, an impressive silent auction, and plaster painting for the kids. Live entertainment, including a Minute to Win it competition on the big stage, and roving buskers will run throughout the day.

Stalls such as the pre-loved clothes and book stall are always very popular, as well as our famous pop up stalls that sell beautiful homemade goods. The plant stall has an amazing array of plants this year that have been carefully grown from cuttings and seeds by our dedicated volunteers in the year leading up to the carnival.

If you have any questions, please contact us at info@stambrosecarnival.com.au or call the school office at 5427 1285. Please like our Facebook page and Instagram for regular updates.

We can't wait to see you there!

SUBMITTED BY JANE LINDHE



Vince Jones to perform in Woodend

Woodend, Victoria, March 28th 2020 – The Macedon Ranges will be graced with one of leading Australia's jazz greats, Vince Jones and his band The Heavy Hitters on the 28th March in Woodend.

Vince Jones has set the benchmark for Australian Jazz singers since his emergence in the jazz clubs of Melbourne in the late 70s and early 80s. His 20-album international career has never hesitated in its musical evolution – a career played in the moment. He is that rare genre-defying artist who creates music without borders.

Be it singing jazz, rock or Celtic soul, Vince Jones doesn't show off, he just shows everyone else how it's done. And the voice just keeps getting better: his recent Van Morrison tribute was testament not just to the intelligence and taste of his interpretations but to the sheer beauty of his sound.

"Jones remains the benchmark ... [he's] a man with great ears for harmony, an instinct for musical logic and a love of ... surprise and spontaneity." *Sydney Morning Herald*

This concert promises a selection of personal favourites from 40 years and 14 albums, with an astoundingly talented band of long-standing companions: Matt McMahon, Sam Anning, Danny Fischer and Tim Wilson.

This cabaret-style event will be set within the charming backdrop of the 91-year-old St Ambrose Hall, Woodend, on Saturday 28th March. Doors open at 7:00pm, and showtime is 8:00pm. All tickets include a reserved seat/table, and drinks and food are BYO.

Vince Jones and The Heavy Hitters will perform at the St Ambrose Hall in Woodend on Saturday 28th March. Tickets are \$45 for a reserved seat at a table, and drinks and food are BYO. Tickets at www.trybooking.com/BIAFC. For enquiries call Ben 0412 092 189.

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Yeah Nah raise the bar

If you haven't heard of Yeah Nah by now you must be living under a rock and have missed some of the most entertaining live music performances in Woodend over the past year.

Yeah Nah was formed about 12 months ago, with five of the six band members coming from the awesome Woodend-Hesket Masters Football team, and the remaining member sourced via a Coles noticeboard flyer.

The boys play covers ranging from INXS, Killers, AC/DC, Midnight Oil and everything in between, that has proven to be a popular format, with sold-out gigs last year culminating in the infamous Xmas Spectacular downstairs at the Vic Hotel in front of 300 people.

The boys played another sold-out gig in February at the Gilbert Gordon Social Rooms to help the Woodend Cricket Club raise funds for Pink Stumps Day, with the



band donating \$2,000 of ticket sales to the McGrath Foundation. Joining the band were also two support acts, with band members coming from local schools. The Woodend Warblers also joined the stage for a spine tingling performance of the Beatles classic "Hey Jude".

The next few months is a solid line up of gigs taking the band further afield with gigs at Elphinstone Hotel (March) and Newham Hall (April).

Check out the Yeah Nah Facebook page and give us a like to stay up to date.

We look forward to seeing you at the next show!

SUBMITTED BY DES DOWLING

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2020 Tylden Primary School Fair

Come along to our country fair

Save the date! Tylden Primary School fair is on Saturday 21st March from 10am-3pm. As our major fundraiser for the year, all proceeds from the day go directly back into our little school. Funds support the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, annual swimming program, new computers and technology, upgrades to our playground equipment, and much more.

This fun day is a proper country fair and a great day out for the whole family, offering arts and crafts, gourmet preserves, local produce, and music, plus a variety of delicious food stalls and great entertainment.

For the kids, the amusement is endless. With the purchase of a ride wristband, the kids will be able to enjoy camel rides, jumping castles, the giant slide, bungee trampolines, an animal farm and more, as many times as they like throughout the event.

Enjoy a variety of food and coffee stalls, including Devonshire tea. Grab some plants for the garden, or that special gift for Easter at the craft stall. There is also a fantastic range of goods up for bid in the renowned Tylden Silent Auction, and as always, there will be a raffle with wonderful prizes donated by local businesses.

This is the premier event on the Tylden calendar, and we hope to see you there!

For more information about the fair or to purchase ride wristbands contact the school on 5424 8244 or follow us on <facebook.com/tyldensps>

SUBMITTED BY SALLY STEINKRUG

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Dr Emma Read
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Dr Elspeth Harrison
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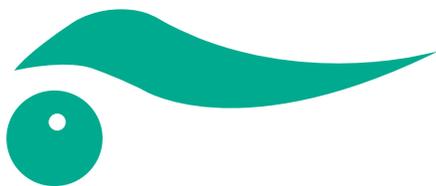
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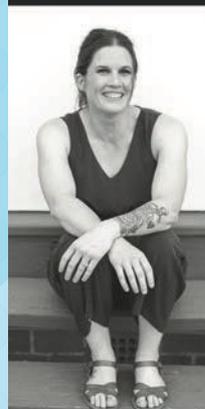
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New funding secures future of PS My Family Matters

Local charity, PS My Family Matters has received a significant funding boost, which secures the future of the charity for the next three years. "Over the last three months we've received funding from both the National Disability Insurance Agency and from the State Government" said charity president Tamara Wilson. "This funding ensures that we can continue to support local carers of loved ones with a mental illness. However, with the recent growth in the demand for our services, we now need to expand our committee to guide and manage the charity over the next period of our growth."

The PS My Family committee is responsible for the oversight of the charity's operations. Committee meetings are bi-monthly, and members take a hands-on role in assisting the development of the charity. "At this stage of our growth we are looking for people who have experience in a number of areas," said Tamara. "In particular, we would like to hear from people with mental health, medical or finance experience. We'd also be keen to hear from those who have fundraising experience. This is an opportunity to be part of a team who are working to improve the lot of those caring for a loved one with a mental illness."

We will also be running our regular Coffee for Carers sessions in Gisborne, Kyneton and Romsey. For dates and venues please call 0475 269 965. All are welcome.

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER



Join the Walking Group organised through Woodend Neighbourhood House to make new friends and get into the fresh air!
 Photo by Hubert Weisrock.

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Whole Town Garage Sale

Saturday 21 March from 8am

There's nothing better than picking up a bargain and saving a trip to the shops or better still, saving someone's 'trash' from landfill; someone's trash is always someone else's treasure!

How does it work? Sellers register before Wednesday 18 March to get their garage sale on the Whole Town Garage Sale map for only \$5.

We sell maps at the Woodend Neighbourhood House on Saturday 21 March listing all the events around town to let buyers know where to shop.

Register your spot now! Call us on 5427 1845 or sign up online in a few easy steps <bit.ly/WoodendTownGarageSale2020>

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Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Healthy Landscapes for Healthy Livestock project invites rural landholders to three informative events during March.



On Monday 16 March, from 10am to noon, there will be a moveable/strip fencing demonstration focusing on the practical use of the fencing and showing how moveable electric fencing—called strip fencing or temporary fencing—can be used.

The fences can be used effectively for a range of livestock, including pigs, sheep, cattle and horses. For better grazing results, stock need ready access to water.

The delivery of stock water to where it is most needed and then using the water efficiently and effectively is the focus of the second workshop, 'Managing your Stock Water', at Tylden Hall on Monday 23 March, from 9.30am to 2.30pm.

The final presentation for March will be with expert grazier Colin Seis on Monday 30 March, from 7.30pm to 9pm, at the Newham Mechanics Institute.

Colin's presentation will be on, 'Managing pastures in a changing climate' and how he has been able to adapt his own farm in a changing climate.

He will also speak about how plant diversity, grazing and soil health are all interlinked and how he has been able to re-establish native grasses into his sheep grazing business.

To register and for more information, visit <mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events>



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Book your tickets to Woodend Wine Store's Champagne Dinner

Saturday 21st March will see Caz from Woodend Wine Store host a spectacular Champagne & Sparkling event, this time at the newly-refurbished Victoria Hotel.

Caz has 20 years' experience making and selling wine and is currently studying the internationally recognised WSET Diploma of Wine, and she invites you to join her and special guests including John Harris from Mitchell Harris' Sabre Sparkling fame and European wine importer Felix Riley to explore French Champagne and Australian, Italian, Spanish and German Sparkling wines matched to an exquisite four-course menu from Head Chef Carl Middleton.

The Victoria Hotel's current owners, Carl Middleton and Emily Blades, have spent the last six months renovating the Mountain View Room. Prior to moving to Woodend, Carl was executive chef at both Lilianfels in the Blue Mountains and The Hilton in Sydney, as well as Senior Sous Chef at Quay in Sydney, before taking up Emily's challenge of becoming one of the Macedon Ranges' most outstanding food venues.

Join us for the evening of Saturday March 21st in The Mountain View Room, The Victoria Hotel, Woodend, for a 4-course tailored menu by Carl, matched to a range of Champagnes and Sparkling wines.

Saturday, 21 March, 6:30pm in the Mountain View Room, Victoria Hotel, 67 High Street. Tickets are \$165 and are strictly limited to 30 guests. For more information: caz@woodendwinestore.com.au or 5427 2228. Tickets can be purchased in store or online at woodendwinestore.com.au

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MACEDON RANGES WINE BUYERS GUIDE
 Patrick Eckel's
Wine review

Introduction

The wines for this month come from some of the oldest producers in the region, Granite Hills and Curly Flat. Granite Hills is a true pioneer of the region, with the first small vintage produced back in 1974. They are known for their world-class Riesling, but also produce elegant and age-worthy reds at very affordable prices. Curly Flat was established in 1989 and is one of the most consistent producers of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in the region, and is playing a big part in growing the profile of Macedon Ranges across Australia.

2018 Granite Hills Pinot Noir

A blend of grapes that are sourced from Romsey and the Granite Hills Estate vineyard in Baynton. In terms of colour, the wine looks like it could have been bottled yesterday, with lovely clarity and a bright reflective red; the nose has strawberry and rhubarb, with a touch of earth and crushed herbs; tight grain oak gives background spice.

The palate has the mineral acid structure the region is known for, with fruit starting to give some faint secondary notes of undergrowth and old leather against dark cherry fruit. Tannins are tight and compact, whilst giving length and dimension to gently spiced fruits. The wine is drinking very well now but is set to reward a number of years yet in bottle.

Rating: 93 | Price: \$30 | When to Drink: 2020–2025

2019 Curly Flat Chardonnay

Curly Flat has been producing some of the best wines in the Macedon Ranges for a number of years, however in 2017, Matt Harrop took over as Chief Winemaker and has set the path to lift the label even higher, pushing further into the top echelon of cool climate producers in Australia.

2018 was a good year for the Macedon Ranges, with quality and yield generally achieved across the board; what is immediately evident with the 2018 release is the concentration of fruit; the sheer power of the wine is quite remarkable, but held in balance by the vanillin impact of new oak and the mineral acidity that the region is known for.

To get specific, the nose focuses on white peach and nectarine, with cashew oak and flinty top notes; the palate unfolds with stone fruits atop a lithe line of acidity and white grapefruit and lemon pith giving texture on the mid palate. The finish enjoys the impact of oak that leaves a lingering richness.

The wine will be drinking even better in years to come.

Rating: 96 | Price: \$46 | When to Drink: 2020–2028

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK ECKEL

Big Tree Distillery is open to visitors.

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Shading – inside or out?

Logic tells us that shade comes from something – a tree, wall, blind, awning – stopping the sun from heating another thing, like a floor, a wall or the ground. We think of shade ‘blocking’ the sun. In last month’s article, we covered the many blocking options available.

External blinds and awnings can handle an amount of wind and rain, but are ideally retracted to protect them from extreme weather. Either we go outside to extend or retract them or invest

in a remote-controlled system that’s operated from inside our home. The latter adds cost to the installation. Blinds and awnings also change the look of a house, which you may or may not want. Note – they can add a lovely splash of colour to your home and, as last month’s article indicated, can even add an entire ‘room’.

But if you want to keep the external appearance of your home just the same and don’t need an extra room, internal blinds can be effective. Recent developments in



blind-fabric technologies that reflect heat, rather than merely block it, are making large claims.

Not only do they reflect heat back out the room through the glass, they also radiate infrared energy. As well, internal blinds are made of finer fabrics thus your view is better maintained. Then in winter these same blinds can insulate us against the cold!

For more information, read our article in NWS Nov. 19 or make an appointment to discuss the internal/external conundrum.

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New season for local choir

The end of the summer holidays has brought the welcome return of the sound of singing to the Kyneton Mechanics Institute.

The Cobaw With One Voice Central Victoria choir, conducted by internationally acclaimed singer and musician, Gabriel Macura, was established a year ago with funding from Creativity Australia, the not-for-profit organisation behind With One Voice, the network of 25 choirs across Victoria, and other states.

The choir, which meets every Wednesday at 7pm, welcomes anyone who wants to sing, regardless of their experience, and there are no auditions and no requirement to be able to read music.

The aim is to promote social connectedness and inclusion, and to improve the health and wellbeing of participants through the benefits of singing.

The Central Victorian choir, set up by Cobaw Community Health, has performed at a number of events over the last few months, and they already have two bookings lined up for 2020.

“It has been so rewarding watching the choir develop over the last year,” said Carly Visscher, Cobaw’s Community Connections Manager. “We have grown steadily in numbers, and in a short space of time established ourselves as a respected group of performers.”

Singing is said to make people happier, healthier, smarter and more creative; a recent Swinburne University study showed that 98% of With One Voice choir participants experienced less stress, and 66% felt less depressed.

“What I love about our choir is its diversity,” said Carly. “We have people from across Central Victoria and the Macedon Ranges from all backgrounds, all abilities and of all ages.”

If you are interested in giving the choir a go, come along to the Kyneton Mechanics Institute any Wednesday night at 7pm, or come and see the choir perform at the Tylden Hall on Sunday 22 March from 2pm onwards.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER



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Woodend CFA

Neighbours, everybody needs good neighbours!

One of the valuable lessons we learn from difficult times is the importance of being aware of those who live in our neighbourhood, so that we can all work together.

One of the great lessons to come out of the recent fires, and especially Ash Wednesday and Black Saturday, is the amazing sense of community that exists. As well as the importance of developing a strong neighbourhood network.

Now is the time you should work with your neighbours, before another fire or event threatens our area.

Here are a few helpful ideas:

- Get to know your own neighbours and share your Fire Plans
- See if there are any elderly or disabled people in your area so that you can help them
- Start a phone tree so that people know who is home and who has gone
- Start a Community Fireguard Group with the help of the CFA

Electric gates could slow the CFA down

We have noticed that more and more properties in the Woodend area, and in Macedon Ranges, have electric front gates. In fact, at one major fire recently, one of our tankers was significantly delayed by such a gate.

Whilst electric gates make opening and closing gates on rural properties much easier, they can also present a barrier to CFA fire fighters if we are called to an emergency on a property. A delay of a minute or two can make a significant difference.

Under law, the CFA can force our way in if necessary, and any damage is covered by special insurance.

However, there are also some properties where 'serious' electric gates are installed that are both very large and very strong, and where breaking in would be virtually impossible. In such cases we would look at cutting through fences, or some other means of gaining access to the property.

One way of giving us access if residents aren't at home, without causing damage or breaching security would be to leave a contact phone number clearly visible close to the electronic access point for the gates. We could then make a quick phone call to gain access.

Thank you for more generous donations

Since the last Woodend Star, we have continued to receive some very generous donations to the Woodend CFA. We wish to thank everyone for donations both small and large, they will make a huge difference to the brigade and how we are better able to serve our community.

For All Your Dog Walking and Pet Sitting Needs

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**The Woodend
Woof Walker**

Call Chris 0431 533 509

Special thanks to Mort & Pestle, Paysanne, the Top Shop and Ian Marks Cellarbrations for their ongoing collections. There were also two special donations, one from a 95-year-old new resident to Woodend and another from the English father of a resident who was concerned about the fires in Australia ... all very special.

We have already started purchasing some much-needed equipment and will give you more details as they come to fruition.

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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Library news

Congratulations to the Macedon Ranges Shire Australia Day Award winners: Woodend Neighbourhood House R U



OK? Day Community Lunch and Lisa Richards from the MRSG Waste Action Group. We value the contribution the award winners make to the Woodend community and the ongoing partnerships the Library has formed with groups and organisations like Woodend Neighbourhood House. The partnership with the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group has resulted in a Terracycle collection point here at the Community Centre. Georgie Garvey-Hawke makes a wonderful contribution to our community, and we congratulate Georgie for her dedication to community engagement, diversity, gender equality and promoting respect for all. Congratulations Georgie – our Young Citizen of the Year!

It's time for the **Autumn Book Binge!** Did you know reading for pleasure plays a significant role in a person's happiness and success, and it's good for your health! We want you to binge on books this autumn and see how great you feel! Join the state-wide Autumn Book Binge for a fun way to read more and read more widely. There are nine possible challenges with linked reading lists and book vouchers to be won. Collect your book challenge brochure from Woodend Library and get reading!

Events that are all about the environment are on in Woodend this month. Meet William Terry from Macedon Ranges Shire as he talks about forming a Field Naturalists Group. Tuesday March 3rd at 7pm at Woodend Community Centre. <eventbrite.com.au/e/macedon-ranges-field-naturalist-group-inception-meeting-tickets-90256861703>

Join us at the Library for the Macedon Ranges Seed Library launch. David Sparks and others will discuss collecting seed and how to pick, store and sow. Saturday March 7th at 10.30am.

Terracycle collection point

You can recycle items like contact lenses, bread tags, batteries and coffee pods here at Woodend Community Centre. Thanks to the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group's Waste Action Group. Happy Recycling!

Harmony Day Community Event will be at Woodend Children's Park on Saturday March 21st from 2pm–5.30pm. This free family friendly event features musical performances, dance workshops and more.

Easter School Holiday program with Trace Balla

Join children's author and illustrator Trace Balla during the school holidays to create mini books or postcards of local wildlife with their Dja Dja Wurrung names. Trace's graphic novellas explore connection to Country, and we want you to connect to Country too with local wildlife in the local language.

Vale Sheila Drummond

Sheila Drummond passed away peacefully on Sunday 16th February. Sheila made a huge contribution to the Woodend community, and we have valued her role as President of Friends of Macedon Ranges Libraries. Sheila was a tireless advocate of the importance of our libraries as community hubs. She organised talks in local libraries by authors; this was facilitated by her networks as a self-employed publishing agent. Hundreds of children have enjoyed the sessions Sheila organised here at the Library during the Woodend Winter Arts Festival. We are thinking of Don and the family at this sad time.

SUBMITTED BY LULU COCKRAM



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Mindfulness Through Movement with Fran White, Feldenkrais Practitioner.

Classes Begin Feb. 20th from 11am–12pm for 6 weeks at Norma Richardson Hall, 15 Buckland St., Woodend. These are gentle, powerful and mindful movement classes that bring new awareness and possibility into your life.

Call Fran on 0421 889 812 for information and booking.

www.feldenkrais.org.au

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New date for 2020 Sustainable Living Festival

The 2020 Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival, to be held later in the year, is calling for exhibitors and volunteers.

The Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival (MRS LF) has been a part of the local, sustainable living movement for the past decade. The event provides a vibrant platform to showcase the environmental work of a large number of fantastic Macedon Ranges businesses, schools and community groups.

The date for the festival has been moved to October to enable broader community participation. “The springtime date has lots of appeal—the weather is favourable—and we hope to work in with the local school curriculums,” says Dr David Gormley O’Brien, President of the MRSG.

The MRS LF is in good company, with plenty of other post-winter celebrations happening across the Macedon Ranges in the spring—and already, an exciting 2020 festival program is coming to life. The volunteer team are promising an outstanding line-up of family-friendly activities, delicious food and refreshments along with a wide range of sustainable living talks and presentations.

More details and session times to come!

If you are interested in being involved in the 2020 Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival, please register your interest at <mrs g.org.au/sustainable-living-festival> or phone David for more information on 0408 578 032.

SUBMITTED BY DAVID GORMLEY O'BRIEN

Cool changes program will guide local climate change effort

Council’s Cool Changes program will guide the development of local community climate change action plans in several locations throughout the shire during the next few years.

In 2020, the Cool Changes program will focus on postcode 3442, which incorporates the wider district of Woodend, including Ashbourne, Newham, Carlsruhe, Kerrie and Hesket.

Consultants will hold a series of community information workshops from March through to June to help 3442 postcode residents identify and action projects that can address climate change at a local level.

For more information, and to find out about upcoming workshops, visit <mrs c.vic.gov.au/cool-changes>.



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LATER DATE:

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New kerbside collection system is under way

Thank you to our customers who have been sorting their waste effectively and making best use of our new kerbside collection system.

The new system, of up to four bins, started in early February and includes a new glass-only bin for each customer and an additional food organics garden organics (FOGO) service for many households.

More than 14,000 customers are part of the first stage of the FOGO service. These residents received a kitchen caddy, compostable caddy liners and a guide for how to use the service.

Garden bins (lime green lid), now known as FOGO bins, were supplied to customers who did not already have one.

The FOGO service will be rolled out to all of Council's 20,000 kerbside collection customers during the next five years.

FOGO allows residents to place all food waste, including meat and bones, into garden bins.

FOGO bins will be collected weekly, and collection of rubbish/general waste bins will move to fortnightly for households that have the FOGO service.

An estimated third of the contents of the average household rubbish bin in the Macedon Ranges Shire is food waste.

A FOGO collection, coupled with a recycling service, has been proven to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill, where it produces harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

The four bins in the new kerbside collection service are:

- glass only (purple lid)
- recycling (yellow lid)
- FOGO (lime green lid)
- rubbish/general waste (red or dark green lid).

For further information on the new services, visit <mrsc.vic.gov.au/bins>, call 5422 0333 or email mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au



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KN243067/M

Rotary

Club of Woodend



Trivia NIGHT fundraiser

Money raised will be used by Cobaw Community Health housing program to support those at risk of homelessness in the Macedon Ranges.



THURSDAY APRIL 23rd, 2020

START 7pm

Bar open at 6:30

WOODEND RSL, ANSLOW STREET, WOODEND

Entry \$21 per person

BYO snacks and nibbles only

Drinks at RSL 'crackerjack' prices

4 rounds of trivia, games and raffles. Bring gold coins

Booking essential

<https://www.trybooking.com/BIK0X>

Table bookings 6-8 people
smaller groups / individuals will
be seated on shared table

For further information
please contact

Mike Hamer
on 0411 549 432

Community Notice Board — proudly sponsored by Rotary Club of Woodend



Call for Applications

Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award 2020

Are you, or someone you know aged 16-19 (by 1 April 2020)?

- Actively committed to volunteerism?
- Have experience in local government, student government, or workplace leadership?
- Have volunteer leadership achievements?
- Have knowledge of Zonta International and its programs?
- Support for Zonta International's mission of empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy?

The Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award recognises young women for their commitment to volunteerism, volunteer leadership achievements and dedication to empowering women worldwide.

One application, three opportunities

- Zonta Club of Kyneton Award - \$400 AU
 - Zonta District Award - \$1,500 USD
 - Zonta International Award - \$4,000 USD
- Applications close Monday 9th March 2020, 5.00pm.

For more information or to submit an application - secretary@zontakyneton.org.au
Application forms can be found at <foundation.zonta.org/YWPAAward>

Apply today to the Zonta International's Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award Program.

Rotary Woodend Trivia Quiz

On April 23rd, Woodend Rotary club will host a fundraising trivia quiz at the Woodend RSL at 6.30-9.30 pm, in aid of Cobaw Community Health. Proceeds from the night will go to funding emergency housing relief. Based on definitions from the Dept. of Justice, a person is considered to be homeless if they are living in crisis accommodation, transitional accommodation (couch surfing, cars) or has inadequate access to safe and secure housing, a situation which may threaten their safety. Regrettably, this is a significant national and local issue.

There will be four rounds of trivia, hosted by local trivia maestro 'King Maxwell', games, raffles and drinks at the RSL's Crackerjack prices. BYO nibbles and snacks. It promises to be a fun night for a very worthy cause. For costs and table booking details, please see the ad on page 25 or contact Mike Hamer on 0411 549 562.

St Mary's Guild

We meet socially to learn new skills from each other and to make knitted squares for blankets for those in need in our community and beyond.

We start at 11am and finish around 1 pm. BYO lunch; tea, coffee etc. provided. and in the cooler months, we'll have soup and crusty bread for a small charge.

Please come along and make new friends and bring any project you are working on. We also have a fun raffle each month.

Our next meeting is on March 18th in the Norma Richardson Hall.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. Oh, and if you have spare 8 ply yarn you could donate, we would be most grateful!

Thank you.

SUBMITTED BY JANE FRAZER

RED CROSS

Our next meeting is on Thursday March 5th, 1.30pm at the Woodend Library.

New members are very welcome.

We are planning a cake stall on March 7th at the Woodend Newsagency 9 am - 1 pm.

Be early to snap up our yummy fare!!

As always a generous raffle will be there too.

Margaret Altmann 0400 077 064

A Treasurer Needed

The Woodend & District Heritage Society desperately needs a treasurer. We meet each Wednesday at the Old Courthouse in Forest St, Woodend. If you have an hour or so to spare, we would be most grateful. If you would like to volunteer. Please email woodendheritage@outlook.com or phone 0409 551 665



Enter a team for the Woodend Bowls Battles in March!

We are inviting all members of our community to enter, with the Battle of the Sports Clubs on Sunday March 15 and Battle of Businesses & organisations on Sunday March 22, both starting at 2pm. And it's free to enter.

All you have to do is organise a team of four and we will supply everything else ... the bowls and the opponents. Plus, you will be able to enjoy our bar facilities at famous low Crackerjack bowls club prices!

We will also be holding a Special Sausage Sizzle at both events to raise funds for the Bushfire Appeal.

To register your team, see contact details below.

You become part of a great community

Lawn bowls is the sort of sport that fits in with your lifestyle. It can be as competitive or as social as you want it to be, and you can find a game just about any day of the week.

You will find our clubhouse facilities comfortable and inviting, and bowlers are well known for their hospitality towards newcomers.

Once you join a bowling club, you will discover your membership becomes a passport to a friendly welcome at any bowls club in Australia. And being an international sport, your membership means you will never be without a friend when travelling.

Expanding our community use

In recent years, we have developed several initiatives that have further increased the community use of the Club.

Our Schools program has really taken off, with numerous successful sessions completed by Braemar College. The above Community Bowls Battles is another huge success.

During the year the Clubhouse is also used on a regular basis for a number of different meetings, events and functions. It is also available for hire; please visit our website.

Woodend Bowling Club – an important part of our community

We recently formalised some statistics to show how often our club is used during a normal year, and by how many people. Naturally, the facilities are used regularly for bowling, but we were amazed at how much they are used by the broader community.

Over the last 12 months, the Woodend Bowling Club was used for more than 600 different events, with 20% of those for a community use. The Club was used by more than 2,000 different people, with more than 75% of those for community use.

The Clubhouse was used for nearly 450 different events, with nearly 20% for community use. And, the Clubhouse was used by more than 9,000 person visits, over 40% for community use.

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLS CLUB

Men's Shed

Recent fires across the country have generated a flurry of activity at the Woodend Men's Shed.

The wholesale destruction of vast tracts of native forest has created intense competition for nesting hollows among small marsupials and birds.

To help overcome this shortage, the Woodend Men's Shed is constructing nesting boxes and feeding stations from recycled and donated materials. These will be distributed across the fire-ravaged areas.

To date, boxes have been sent to Gippsland and Batemans Bay, and work is underway on more boxes to be sent to these areas and for local use.



Woodend RSL Report



The Woodend Avenue of Honour

Near the end of WW1, most rural towns and cities throughout Australia decided to either erect a monument or plant a number of memorial trees in an Avenue of Honour to recognise the service and sacrifice of their local soldiers and nurses. Victoria led the way with Avenues of Honour, planting 312 Avenues out of a total of 567 across Australia.

In June 1918, in Woodend, Victoria, a grateful community decided to honour the service men and women from the district who had gone to fight in the Great War with an Avenue of (initially) 150 oak trees planted on both sides of the road towards Bendigo. In 1919 the number grew to 186 trees (185 soldiers and one nurse) and today the total is 224 trees.

The trees were originally reported as 150 Portugal oaks (*Quercus faginea*) however the trees have been more recently identified as a mix of English Oaks (*Quercus robur*) and Algerian Oaks (*Quercus canariensis*).

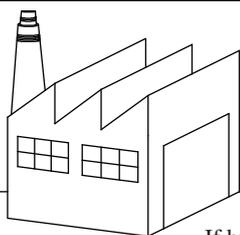
Many of the copper name plaques were lost over time; only 75 remain, and they are now on display at Woodend RSL. In 2013, a project was commenced to build a Wall of Remembrance at the entrance to the Avenue of Honour. The Wall displays all 186 names and tree numbers and was dedicated in 2015 on the 97th anniversary of the dedication of the Avenue.

On Anzac Day 2020, Peter Whitelaw will launch his book titled "The Story of the Woodend Avenue of Honour – 1918 to 2018".

SUBMITTED BY PETER WHITELAW, PRESIDENT, WOODEND RSL



Avenue of Honour, Woodend.



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2020 funding program to open soon

Not-for-profit community groups, clubs and organisations are invited to apply for financial assistance through Council's Community Funding Scheme, which opens on Monday 2 March.

The Community Funding Scheme is for all not-for-profit organisations within the Shire that are looking to complete a project or idea that benefits the community.

This year there are five main funding streams and groups can apply for up to \$12,000 depending on the stream:

- *Community and cultural development projects: Up to \$10,000*
 - *Enhancing the effectiveness of local community groups: Up to \$6,000*
 - *Supporting local environmental priorities: Up to \$10,000*
 - *Enhancing community places and infrastructure: Up to \$12,000*
 - *Commonwealth Home Support Program* Up to \$10,000*
- Your project or idea should aim to achieve one (or more)

of the below:

- Meet local needs.
- Strengthen community relationships.
- Aligns with the scheme priorities of:
 - Accessibility, diversity and fairness
 - Economic benefit to local towns
 - Environmental sustainability and conservation
 - Health and wellbeing
- Complement strategic Council directions and plans.

Applications must relate to projects/activities starting from 1 July 2020 and ending by 30 June 2021.

The scheme is open to all incorporated and community-based, not-for-profit groups operating or being established in the Macedon Ranges.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/community-funding-scheme or call 5422 0206.

SUBMITTED BY LEANNE YOUNES

Woodend Hanging Rock Pétanque Club

Coming to our Petanque Community Open Day on 28 March? There's plenty of entertainment in store ...

Mick & Pete

Mick and Pete play a wide range of styles, from 50's to current era, electric and acoustic. Both vocalists and guitar players, they also feature harmonica, mandolin, accordion and ukulele. With over 300 songs prepared, as band backings, they're able to provide variety and a great listening or dancing environment. You will usually find Mick & Pete playing in hotels, restaurants, wineries, clubs, parties and weddings.

Woodend Warblers

The Woodend Warblers are a community group that gets together once a week to sing.

Jade Pisani

Recently returned from South America with new songs, new lyrics and great enthusiasm for your entertainment with her own style of music.

SUBMITTED BY CHINKA STEEL

Come give a toss!

You're invited, we're excited!

Petanque Community Open Day

\$10 per adult includes gift bag to value \$10

Kids play for free!

All welcome - young and old - just do need to book in

Venue behind the Woodend Community Centre

*Saturday 28 March
10am start*

Refreshments
BBQ by Men's Shed
Coffee
Buskers and more!

Further information email
shirleymarshall@bigpond.com
0412 756 154

BOOK via
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 facebook.com/petanqueattherock/

*Woodend Hanging Rock
Petanque Club*

Sponsored by:



Food & Drink

Options

- Black Cat Espresso coffee cart
- Woodend Men's Shed BBQ, sausages, veggie & meat burgers
- Holgate's beer
- Daylesford Cider
- Cheeky Grog Co Cider
- Western Water Cart – free water

Each Entrant

Receives

- Community Bag
- Club Badge
- Club Brochure on Petanque.
- Vouchers
- Raffle Ticket
- Value in excess of entry fee of \$10

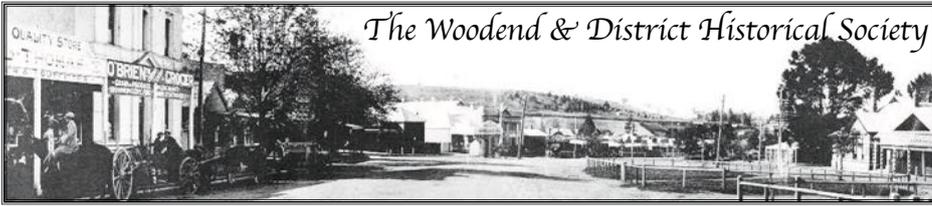
Entertainment

- Woodend Warblers
- Jade Pisani – Singer, songwriter
- Mick & Pete – Musical duo

**Pre booking a must
Winner's prizes**

Ian Castle Memorial Plate awarded

Come give a toss!



The Woodend & District Historical Society

Woodend and District Historical Society

Springfield School



Photo 1: Springfield School, later known as North Woodend, No: 1963.

According to "Vision and Realization", page 803: the building on the S.W. corner of allotment 68, 1 acre was gazetted as a school reserve on 23 March 1877. The 3-room brick school was built by McGIBBON for £550. It opened 1 Jan 1878, with John Muntz (prev.No.666,) as teacher, leasing it for £1 a month. In 1886 attendance was down to 10 so it closed on 16 Jan 1887.

In 1892 a number of residents, including George W Burden, James Clark, Thomas Bowyer, Alfred A. Godden, Isaac Godden and John Johnson petitioned for the school to be reopened without success. The following families had children at the school in 1883: Williams, Hurlstone, Ring, Godden, Rae, Ellison, Orr and the Muntz children.

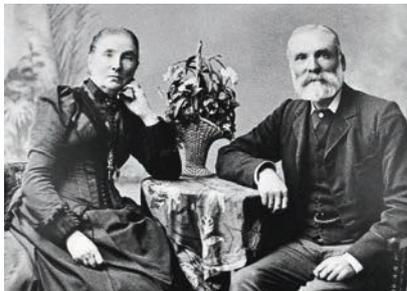


Photo 2: Mary Harriet and John Muntz

Mary Harriet (nee Malone) and husband John Muntz who was the Head Teacher at the Springfield School during its nine years of operation from 1878. Mary Harriet was the aunt of the late Margaret (Margery) Baker who lived in Woodend for a number of years.

Photo 649: Remains of Ivy Cottage



This small section of a house wall is all that remained of the cottage built by John Muntz during the time he was headmaster of the Springfield School (North Woodend). The school building was very cold, but the Education Department refused his request for a fireplace in the bedroom. Consequently, he built his own cottage just over the road from the school. It soon became known as The Ivy Cottage.

The Field Trip

On 28th March, local young people aged 9-25 from Woodend and surrounds will sing on stage at Federation Square, along with young Aboriginal people, and Aboriginal Elder and singing sensation Dave Arden. The purpose is for Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people to unite, to sing together, to promote the concept of returning Ancestral Remains to Country. The event at Federation Square will launch a new and startling documentary called Returning our Ancestors.

You can see the trailer here: aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/returning-our-ancestors

The issue of returning remains to Traditional Owners and to Country, to their rightful resting place, is universally embraced. Museums with bones and bodies of Aboriginal people are finally returning these remains to Australian and to Country. There is still much work to do. Join us at the event at Federation Square on Saturday 28th March 6pm. Find us on Facebook by searching for "Returning our Ancestors" and if your child wants to sing with us, please contact The Field Trip at info@thefieldtrip.co

SUBMITTED BY PAUL KOOPERMAN



“

Return our Ancestors. Bring them back home. Their spirits cannot rest in the Dreamtime.”

Dave Arden
Kokatha/Gunditjmara

aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/returning-our-ancestors

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Further Success for SHC School Captains

The 2019 Sacred Heart College School Captains received fantastic news recently, being informed that they had both achieved scholarships to assist in their tertiary studies. Keeley Rankin has been awarded the Deakin University Vice Chancellor's Academic Excellence Scholarship and Ned Dowling received an Aspire Scholarship from LaTrobe University.

The scholarship Keeley has received will allow her to study a Bachelor of Vision Science/Master of Optometry and covers her entire tuition fee (HECS) for the duration of her course (valued at around \$80,000). As an added bonus, this achievement includes her in the Vice Chancellors Professional Excellence Program, connecting her with young leaders through one-on-one and group workshops, social events and as mentors for personal and career goals.

Keeley explains, "I received this scholarship due to my 'exceptional academic and extra-curricular achievements', particularly through my achievement of the Deakin Accelerate Excellence Award for accomplishing two High Distinctions (equivalent to a 50 study score) in 1st and 2nd year University Accounting units during Year 12. It is difficult to put into words how much this scholarship means to me, I am beyond ecstatic particularly as I never expected anything in return for my volunteering and academics. Most excitingly though it will ensure that I am able to put my best foot forward in completing my course and living away from home, while also allowing me to continue to volunteer and achieve the academic results that I need to stay in the program and become a practicing optometrist."

The Aspire Scholarship awarded to Ned is valued at \$2000 per year and

will assist him while participating in the Murray-Darling Medical Program to complete a medical degree. The Program, which began in 2018, trains doctors in regional Victoria and NSW, commencing with a three-year undergraduate bachelor of biomedical science at La Trobe University (Bendigo or Albury-Wodonga campus). Students are then guaranteed entry into the University of Melbourne's four-year postgraduate medical program at its Shepparton Campus. The program has been developed with an aim of easing the doctor shortage in regional Australia.

Of his achievement Ned said, "Being accepted into this Program and being awarded the Aspire Scholarship allows me to do exactly what I wanted to. This is perfect for me as a regional student, and the course was my first preference so I'm really excited about the years ahead."



High achieving Sacred Heart College 2019 School Captains – Keeley Rankin & Ned Dowling

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER BALDWIN

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**College Tours: Tuesday 10 March (Principal's tour)
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