



The New Woodend Star

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Sacred Heart College
production 'The Dream'
receives rave reviews...
...full story back page

Photo: Sacred Heart College

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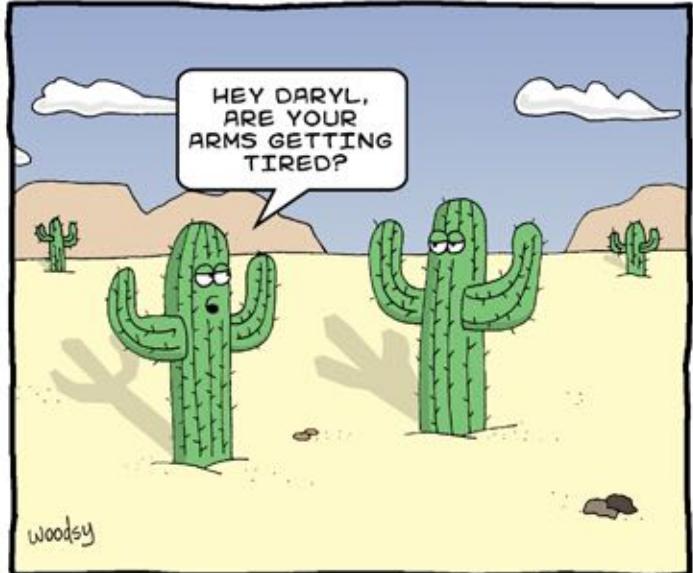
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FOR ENQUIRIES

August was a very wet month, with a total of 130.8 mm, compared to the average of about 85 mm. This was the wettest August since the flood year in 2010.
Peter Yates

Woodend's Rain report

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	av 5yr
January	80.0	9.8	73.6	92.6	140.8	79.4
February	3.8	12.0	67.8	32.4	2.0	23.6
March	31.7	12.2	79.6	47.0	73.2	48.7
April	31.0	7.6	139.8	15.2	89.6	56.6
May	115.6	114.8	79.0	83.0	39.4	86.4
June	78.2	168.2	80.1	183.6	84.8	118.9
July	73.3	63.2	49.3	115.6	52.4	60.2
August	91.3	78.1	93.0	56.0	130.8	89.8
September	26.2	38.3	56.3	72.8		
October	69.0	29.4	99.5	102.0		
November	55.5	64.8	54.4	91.2		
December	91.0	10.0	42.4	45.0		
Total mm	746.6	608.4	914.8	936.6	613.0	

The New Woodend Star and the Rotary Club of Woodend acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples and their Ancestors as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands of the Macedon Ranges on which we meet, work and live. We recognise their living culture and continuous connection to the land and waters in our area and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



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Residents warned to watch out for swooping birds

Residents are being urged to keep an eye out for swooping birds in the shire. Many parts of Australia experience bird swooping at this time of year and instances of swooping can be unpredictable and subject to individual birds and their nesting behaviour.

There are some things you can do if you come across swooping birds. Do not harass, interfere with or throw things at birds. This gives them added reason to see people as a threat and may increase swooping behaviour. All Victorian native wildlife is protected by law and it is illegal to harass or harm them.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/managing-wildlife/swooping-birds to register swooping birds. The Victorian Swooping Bird Map shows where people have been swooped, mainly during the annual spring breeding season.

Residents can also take the following steps to minimise negative interactions between swooping birds and people:

- Walk or ride a different way; the bird won't swoop for long, so it won't be a permanent change
- If you must pass through the area, move calmly and quickly – do not run.
- Cover your head. Wear a hat or carry a stick or umbrella above your head. Cyclists should always wear a helmet, dismount and walk through the area.
- Do not destroy nests, as this is illegal and may prompt birds to rebuild their nests, prolonging the swooping behaviour.
- Birds may be less likely to swoop if they think you are watching them. Draw a pair of 'eyes' and attach them to the back of hats and helmets.
- Don't feed swooping birds, as this may encourage swooping behaviour.
- If possible, in areas where there are swooping birds try to travel in a group.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN, MRSC

Farewell to Rev. Melissa Clark



Many people in Woodend and surrounding towns know and have an association with "Rev. Mel", who has been the priest at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Woodend and St. George's in Trentham for almost seven years.

Rev. Mel has worked with local organisations like CWA, Red Cross, Lions, Rotary and Woodend Neighbourhood House to raise funds and distribute food and clothing to those in need.

She is almost always serving on the St. Mary's Street Stall, which is held on the second Saturday of every month. Rev. Mel's cheerful disposition and ready laughter are a panacea to cold winter weather and hard times; she has made herself available for anyone who needs a friend to talk to.

We have all been blessed to have Rev. Mel in our town for these last six, quite often difficult years. She helped us cope with Covid restrictions and repercussions by re-inventing her church services online and by holding many Zoom meetings and discussion groups. Mel ramped up her Facebook page to keep in touch with those in isolation, and she phoned those who were staying at home because they weren't well.

Rev. Mel feels "called" to her new place of ministry in the Parish of Mansfield, Victoria, and of course, we wish her well, but we will miss her very much.

Please join in a community 'Bring Your Own' Picnic to say farewell to Mel.

**4pm Sunday, 13 November,
in the grounds of St. Mary's Church,
15 Buckland St, Woodend**

There will be a sausage sizzle and entertainment, singing groups, face painting, children's craft tables and, if the weather is inclement, we will make use of the hall. It will be a fun time and a good time to say thank you and farewell to a very special, caring and compassionate friend.

SUBMITTED BY JANE FRAZER

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Community reference group invitation

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health is inviting community representatives from the Macedon Ranges and Sunbury to join one of two community reference groups to help guide the work of the organisation.

A community reference group's role is to offer reflection and feedback on the needs and concerns of the community. Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's community reference groups offer a unique opportunity to represent your community and learn more about your local community health service.

While anyone can join the group, they are seeking local individual community perspectives, rather than those from community organisations. Ideally, you will either have received services from Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health or have a strong connection to the Macedon Ranges or Sunbury.

"We want the community to see Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health as their local organisation where the services provided are safe, welcoming and effectively meet their needs," says Chief Partnerships Officer Jeremy Hearne. "The community reference group is a central way that we engage with the community and a key contribution to us achieving our purpose of building stronger social fabric in the communities we serve."

The organisation's community reference groups provide important input to service and program development and strategic planning. Both groups meet four times per year with representatives from the Sunbury and Cobaw Board and senior staff. There is an additional fifth meeting each year where both groups can get together.

If you would like to find out more, email healthpromotionssunbury@scchc.org.au or call Lisa Richards on 5421 1666.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER

Mount Macedon wins bronze at National Tourism Awards

The village of Mount Macedon has won bronze in the Top Tiny Tourism Town category at Australia's Top Tourism Town Awards 2022 held at Parliament House in Canberra on 13 September.

Mount Macedon is recognised for its fantastic nature-based experiences, including Macedon Regional Park and nearby Hanging Rock, which visitors can enjoy year-round.

The awards are held annually with representatives from each state across three categories:

- Top Tourism Town Award – those with a population over 5,000 people.
- Small Tourism Town Award – those with a population below 5,000 people.
- Top Tiny Tourism Town Award – those with a population below 1,500 people.

A two-day itinerary called 'Mount Macedon Nature Escape', which was submitted as part of the award process, can be viewed at visitmacedonranges.com/itineraries

A list of finalists can be viewed at qualitytourismaustralia.com.australian-tourism-awards

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



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Illegal firewood collection from roadsides

Council is aware of increased illegal firewood collection occurring on roadsides and conservation reserves across the shire.

The removal of timber or other materials from roadsides is prohibited in the Macedon Ranges, except under special circumstances with permission from the road manager—typically Council and Regional Roads Victoria.

Removal of fallen trees, logs, tree hollows and branches destroys the habitat for wildlife including bats, birds, and possums. Logs and leaf litter play an important ecological role in helping to regenerate and retain moisture in the soil and are the food source for insects and fungi.

Collection of firewood from roadsides also creates a safety risk for those collecting and other road users. Penalties apply for the removal of any timber, including dead trees and fallen branches from any Council roadsides and reserves.

Where to sustainably source your firewood

The Victorian Government recently announced that the spring firewood collection season is open until the 30 November. There are designated firewood collection areas in state forests in Central Victoria that are restricted to residents of specific local shires.

To find out where you can collect firewood locally, visit the Forest Fire Management Website: www.ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/firewood-collection-in-your-region

If you purchase firewood from a commercial supplier, always confirm whether it comes from sustainable plantations. The Victorian National Parks Association's Sustainable Firewood Guide provides helpful information about sustainable options for staying warm in winter. Visit <https://vnpa.org.au/conserving-nature/sustainable-firewood/>

Reporting illegal firewood collection

Community members can report any suspected illegal firewood collection activities on roadsides and in Council managed reserves by contacting Council on (03) 5422 0333.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

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Photo: Australian Stork's Bill indigenous plant

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Friendship bears please

When I am not designing and making my own dolls and bears (I worked with the late Mirka Mora), I renovate bears and give them to charity. Mostly I have been buying from op-shops, but giving away as many as 12 or 15 in a day it is difficult, although hugely rewarding. Can you help?

Please, can you donate teddys to me so that I can give them free of charge, renovated, and renewed to people in need. It is amazing what bears are stuffed with, I have found wire, metal, screws. I have to make sure the bears are clean and safe.

If you have bears – knitted, or fabric or fur – and would like to pass them on to people who will love and adore them (and keep them out of landfill or save them from being chopped up for their fibre), please let me know, or drop them on my doorstep at 37 Morris Road in Woodend. I am hoping to be inundated. All the best Jahne Hope-Williams

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Photo by KGMG Creative. Daffodil field

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THE NEW WOODEND STAR

| 7 |



Woodend Landcare and Woodend Primary School team up to plant



Woodend Primary School's Community Children's Garden received a boost from Woodend Landcare last month, to help the school's Garden Club with tools and seedlings for its indigenous garden.

The Children's Garden is a food production space started by a group of dedicated parents about 15 years ago, and reinvigorated in 2017 with the help of a Junior Landcare Biodiversity Grant. Now, each Monday, volunteer parents run Garden Club, which teaches children permaculture and STEM principles, such as plant lifecycles, pollination, seed saving, healthy food and composting.

The indigenous garden was planted in 2019, adjacent to the veggie patch, again with the help of Woodend Landcare, to attract pollinators, to increase food production. Three years on, the original indigenous seedlings have grown, some four metres high, so in September, Garden Club students and volunteer parents

planted endemic grasses, sedges, herbs and shrubs between and under the previously planted vegetation to increase biodiversity. To assist, Woodend Landcare provided some planting tools for the day and donated the seedlings through their 'Box of Habitat' program, one that, according to parent co-ordinator of Garden Club and committee member of Woodend Landcare, Nicole Middleton, aims to increase vegetation and biodiversity on private land. Local residents purchase a box containing a variety of plant species that would have grown on their land prior to European settlement, and that are suited to the environmental conditions, providing the perfect habitat and diet for native fauna.

Woodenders wishing to participate in 'Box of Habitat' program next year, please email woodendlandcare@gmail.com.

SUBMITTED BY NICOLE MIDDLETON



Low-maintenance lovelies: the benefits of indigenous plants in your garden

You're probably familiar with native plants, but what are indigenous plants and why are they an even better choice for your garden?

While native plants come from anywhere in Australia, indigenous plants originate from a more specific area, or bioregion.

Greater Western Water recommends indigenous plants because they're perfectly adapted to the local soil, climate and geology – meaning less

maintenance and a reduced water bill. And while you sit back and enjoy your garden, so will the native bees, birds and animals who'll be paying you a visit.

Choosing indigenous plants also allows us to connect with and care for Country, explains Aunty Kym Monohan, Greater Western Water's Senior First Nations Advisor.

"For First Nations people, when we talk about caring for Country, an important part of that is the restoration of traditional plants and animals. This restoration supports the relationship between the environment and all of us. In other words, 'healthy Country,

healthy people'."

Find your bioregion

In the Macedon Shire (on Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country) the bioregions are Central Victorian Uplands, Victorian Volcanic Plains, or both.

For more water saving tips and news visit gww.com.au

Find out more about biodiversity and bioregions at environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JURY



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MACEDON RANGES SHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Submitted by Catherine Chapman, Communications Unit MRSC

Biosecurity for livestock owners and operators

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) has been detected in Indonesia. The potential impact of this animal disease to our local agricultural industry and hobby farmers is very serious. Fortunately, FMD has not been detected in Australia and is also not transmissible to humans.

To raise awareness and improve our biosecurity practices, Agriculture Victoria are running free, public events. To find out more visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/foot-and-mouth

Now is the time to take control of Gorse weeds.

Land managers have a responsibility to control noxious weeds such as Gorse. If left unchecked, Gorse can cover paddocks and bushland areas, reducing the land available for stock and native flora and fauna. Each plant can produce thousands of seeds, creating problems for you and your neighbours.

Whilst it's not easy to manage, Gorse can be controlled if strategically tackled at two key times of year. Gorse is in flower now and the removal of seed heads after flowering with a brush cutter will slow its spread.

The second time to tackle Gorse is during the soft tip growth stage prior to summer. Spraying is most effective at this stage, particularly on new regrowth. Slashing or grooming of larger bushes can also be undertaken. This produces new growth the following year that is more easily controlled.

To find out more on how to control Gorse visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/weeds



Going gangbusters for Gang-gang Cockatoos this spring!

Whether you are a seasoned birder or a fledgling beginner, we invite you to participate in the annual Macedon Ranges Bird Blitz.

This year, we are proud to be partnering with BirdLife Castlemaine and District. We have 84 bird monitoring sites to survey across the Macedon Ranges Shire. Bird monitoring helps us to assess the health of our reserves and roadsides, and includes species and numbers of birds present such as the threatened Gang-gang Cockatoo.

On the Bird Blitz day, participants gather at Hanging Rock Reserve, before breaking into small groups to fan out across the shire to survey 3-4 sites. Each group will have a leader who is confident with bird identification. Participants are also invited to attend an online webinar the week before the surveys to discuss sites and survey methodology.

To get involved or register visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bird-blitz or contact Tanya Loos at 5422 0333.



Photo: by J Harrison.
The Gang-gang Cockatoo found across the Macedon Ranges.



Macedon Ranges Community Energy Park on hold indefinitely

Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRS) has put its community energy park project on hold indefinitely after receiving a letter from the State Government confirming that any help overcoming regulatory barriers will not be forthcoming in the next term.

"This effectively spells the end of a community dream," said Dr David Gormley-O'Brien, MRS President. "Until the last two years the dream looked likely," he said; as the project had secured a financed development

partner, a planning amendment to allow a planning permit, technical feasibility, and the potential to power all homes in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

The vital step to enable the project to move forward was for the government to amend the Plantations Act to allow for non-forestry uses, such as an energy park, on the Hancock Victoria land. "It's hard to fathom the reason behind the government's reluctance to address this seemingly minor regulatory hurdle," said Dr Gormley-O'Brien. "Community initiated renewable energy is central to government policy and the project is on government-owned land. And there are already many non-forestry uses on Plantations Act land around Victoria, such as mountain bike tracks and adventure parks, so why not amend the Act to allow those uses to legally

operate and allow community projects like ours to proceed?"

Because the fundamental features of the wind, solar and battery project make good economic and environmental sense, there is a chance that a government may support the community energy park in the distant future.

For now, and the foreseeable future, MRS's Renewable Energy Action Group will be busy exploring other projects and means to attain its goal of the electricity grid in the Macedon Ranges moving away from its dependency on fossil fuels and being entirely powered by clean, affordable, and reliable renewable energy.

Enquiries: president@mrs.org.au

SUBMITTED BY DAVID GORMLEY-O'BRIEN

Safer fire access tracks

Throughout September, Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) and their contractors, Johns Lyng Group (JLG), conducted hazard reduction works along a number of Council-managed fire access tracks.

This initiative cleared damaged and hazardous trees that may impact the effectiveness of fire access tracks, while balancing conservation values.

Council arborists and Environmental unit staff undertook assessments of the proposed cleanup sites and worked closely with JLG and BRV to ensure high value conservation areas along fire tracks were not unduly impacted.

"More than one year on from the June severe storm event, clean up works to improve public safety and support the natural environment continue," said Maria Weiss, Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Director Community.

"Council continues to advocate for local priority projects, and we welcomed this funding, which helped ensure fire access tracks in the Macedon Ranges are ready ahead of the coming fire season," she said.

Storm recovery events help strengthen community resilience

Macedon Ranges Shire Council, along with Woodend Neighbourhood House, Lancefield Neighbourhood House and Macedon Ranges Seed Savers, are the grateful recipients of a Department of Fairness, Families and Housing (DFFH) Targeted Funding Initiative grant.

This funding is being used to build resilience and community connection for those impacted by the June 2021 storm event.

Upcoming events and programs will be published on the Woodend Neighbourhood House website www.woodendnh.org.au, as well as Council's calendar of events www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/events

Activities are focused around themes of resilience building, mental health support and environmental recovery and will include:

- Community Storm Recovery Barbecue at the Woodend RSL on Sunday 16 October, International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. Guest speaker Craig Castree – Edible Gardens, Red Cross, free BBQ, face painting, children's activities, local community stalls, free recovery show bag and local seeds.
- Storm Recovery Fungi Caravan: This wonderful caravan will be created by artist Kathy Holowko. Youth focussed art workshops will be offered in October and November to highlight the diversity of fungi with a focus on the June 2021 storm and the process of natural replenishment and recovery. The Fungi Caravan is a statewide initiative to be shared with other storm-affected councils across the state in 2023.
- Storm Recovery Psychological Self Care events at Woodend and Lancefield Neighbourhood Houses, open to all residents across the Macedon Ranges
- Environment Recovery: the building of canopy rope bridges to assist the movement of native fauna at Hanging Rock.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN, MRSC

Are you flood ready?

Meteorology have confirmed that we are in our third La Niña event in a row, meaning higher than average rainfall over the coming months that can increase the chance of flooding. This climate pattern contributed to the flooding in northern NSW and Queensland last summer and could also impact Victoria.

The Victorian State Emergency Service (Vic SES) have some great tips on their website and resources for preparing for and managing floods if they occur. Visit ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe/emergencies/flood

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Returning in 2022: Macedon Ranges Wine and Food Budburst Festival.

Friday November 18 to Sunday November 20.

The much-loved celebration of Macedon Ranges wine and hospitality returns in 2022. Discover the cool wines and warm hearts of Macedon Ranges winemakers at Budburst this spring. Dotted amongst the picturesque mountain ranges, winding roads and lush box hedges you'll find some of Australia's best wines. Budburst is your chance to come behind the vines to meet the family-owned and small batch makers that shape Australia's coolest wine region.

This year, Budburst kicks off on Friday 18 November with Budburst Blooms. Celebrate the festival opening as Budburst brings the cellar door to you. Enjoy tastings at four hubs around the region (Lancefield, Kyneton, Daylesford and Woodend) between 5.30pm and 7.30pm from wineries off the beaten path. A great chance to pick up your wine glass, start the Budburst journey and speak directly to some of the Macedon Ranges' more artisanal winemakers. In Lancefield, Budburst

Blooms will be taking place at the Lancefield Hotel.

Come the weekend (19 and 20 November), travel independently to explore the wineries of your choice and taste and explore the diverse wine styles grown and produced across the region, or board a Budburst Hoppa and visit up to five wineries on two designated routes. From Merlot to Shiraz; Chardonnay to Riesling; Sparkling to Pinot Noir.

Settle in at each stop to experience the country charm of Macedon Ranges winemakers, and feast on a curated menu featuring local produce – think spring lamb, gourmet pies and sausages, woodfired pizzas, cheese platters and charcuterie boards – while listening to the sounds of live music.

Macedon Ranges wineries started small and remain boutique, offering wine that is limited in quantity and exceptionally high in quality. So come join us for Budburst 2022, and discover the hidden treasures set among the maze of laneways that weave around the

Macedon Ranges.

Budburst tickets start from \$33 (Budburst Blooms) with packages for across the weekend:

- Budburst Weekend Wanderer (Budburst Blooms + 2 days): \$95
- Budburst Sampler (Budburst Blooms + 1 day): \$59

Tickets include a \$20 voucher to be spent at participating Budburst cellar doors and events. A Budburst Hoppa bus ticket is \$50 per person per day and is only available to purchase online prior to the festival.

Festival tickets are now on sale, with bus tickets available from 1 October. Book tickets at budburst.com.

LANCEFIELD WINERIES PARTICIPATING IN BUDBURST: Cleveland, Double Oaks, Lane's End, Lyons Will, Northern Hope, Parkside, Wilimree

SUBMITTED BY OLIVER RAPSON

Why solar is the single most important investment for your home

Ongoing Electricity Costs

According to the ABC, the cost of electricity has risen by over 117% since 2008, increasing another 5% in July this year.

Mind-blowing, right?

Installing solar can significantly reduce the cost of powering your home. The savings add up, year on year, paying for itself and saving you money for years to come.

Caring for our planet

Australia produces most of its power by burning fossil fuels.

CO₂ pollutants primary impact is its greenhouse warming effect and poor air quality.

By producing your renewable power for your home, you're doing your bit to make our planet a better place for future generations.

Living more comfortably

Living more comfortably looks different for everyone. Most commonly, this shows up in heating and cooling your home to a comfortable temperature.

It can also include relaxing in your spa, charging your new electric car, or not needing to nag teenagers (or your partner) to turn off the lights.

When we are more comfortable at home, we are often healthier, work better, have happier relationships, and our kids might sleep better in their beds (we can all hope!).

But here's the thing...

While the right solar can be life-changing, it's not as simple as it sounds.

Solar is unique to your situation, and it's easy to get lost in conflicting information. And we see a lot of people make five really avoidable mistakes. And they can be very expensive if you don't know them.

That's why we're putting on a special online information session to show you EXACTLY what these five mistakes are AND how you can avoid them. It's happening on Thursday 13 of October.

It's easy - to access the free session, all you need to do is scan the QR code below.

Installing Solar: The Real Secret to a \$0 Electricity Bill



FREE Information session

Revealed:

- The 5 common mistakes and how to avoid them
- Local case studies
- Battery back-up



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"A Necessity For Anyone Considering Solar!"
Bluegum's session was clear and precise and answered all our questions."

Gill & Alan

**DATE: October 13th 7:30pm
WHERE: Online via zoom**

**Use the QR Code to get
your FREE ticket**



1300 306 342

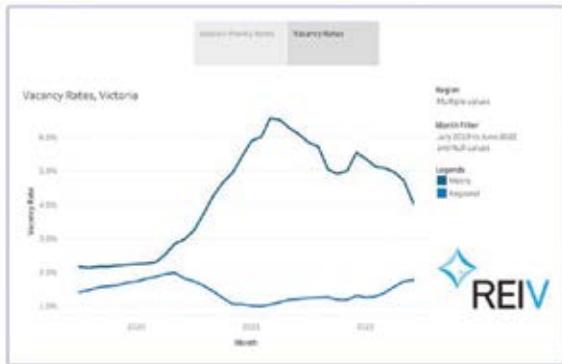
bluegumelectricalsolutions.com.au

Update on Current Rental Market in Macedon Ranges

By Marissa Boyd, Rental Department Manager, Partner

What does it mean when agents talk about Vacancy Rates? Vacancy rates mean how much competition is in the current market for rental properties. Indicating the demand on an area for rental properties and whether you will have more success of finding a tenant for your investment. An extremely low vacancy rate (for example below 2%) means that there are more occupied rental properties and a higher rental demand. Whereas a high vacancy rate (above 4%) shows that more rental properties are vacant and available to rent. This shows at that specific time people are not interested to live in that area.

There are now signs of a peak in the rental market in regional Victoria with a larger number of regions now recording rising rental vacancy rates and some falls in rents. This time last year Macedon Ranges was in higher demand compared to today. However, I expect that this is due to the last of the lockdowns and isolations from COVID last year, and the demand of people wanting to move the Macedon Ranges, to escape Melbourne's lockdowns. Now we are finding that from Gisborne, through to Woodend and Kyneton- there are lower numbers of renters applying or enquiring on properties.



Ideally a good level for vacancy rates we expect around 3%, where you get a balance of people coming to the area and people moving out of an area allowing for more availability of rental properties for those wanting to make the move.

The vacancy rate across metropolitan Melbourne went down to 4.0 per cent over the month while the vacancy rate in regional Victoria rose to 1.8 per cent in June 2022. Shown in the graph here from REIV results, you can see a major difference on the vacancy rates being lower in Rural Regional Victoria and higher in Melbourne over the last 2 years.

The average rent prices have also changed during this time, with peaking rental prices this time last year especially in Woodend and Gisborne. If you see the tables here, (sourced from REIV June Quart Results 2022) they are showing that now Kyneton has had a strong peak, with Woodend, Gisborne, Heathcote, and New Gisborne dropping slightly for house rentals. For units, it is Woodend coming in stronger in the last quarter of June 2022.

Suburb	June 2022 Quarter	March 2022 Quarter	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
KYNETON	\$550	\$520	5.8%	22.2%
CASTLEMAINE	\$425	\$420	1.2%	7.6%
HEATHCOTE	\$325	\$335	-3.0%	-14.5%
RIDDLELLS CREEK	\$500	\$500	0.0%	0.0%
SUNBURY	\$390	\$390	0.0%	0.0%
WOODEND	\$560	\$570	-1.8%	-2.6%
GISBORNE	\$545	\$550	-0.9%	11.2%
NEW GISBORNE	\$510	\$525	-2.9%	-8.9%

Suburb	June 2022 Quarter	March 2022 Quarter	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
CASTLEMAINE	\$350	\$350	0.0%	6.1%
RIDDLELLS CREEK	\$440	\$440	0.0%	0.0%
SUNBURY	\$360	\$360	0.0%	2.9%
WOODEND	\$460	\$455	1.1%	22.7%
GISBORNE	\$390	\$393	-0.6%	0.0%

Beliefs that these figures are from the cooler weather in the area, the economy and interest rates, and how expensive it is to buy a lettuce these days. We do find that as the spring weather sneaks a peak – we should have an even higher demand and more movement of people from and to Macedon Ranges and therefore hopefully creating more of a balance in vacancy rates.

After the chilly starts to the days, it's lovely to see the sun shining, the flowers beginning to bloom and the birds singing – Spring in the Macedon Ranges is glorious.

With this hint of spring, there has never been a better time to start preparing your property for sale. Make a time to talk to one of dedicated agents to discuss getting ready for the Spring market and what needs to be done to prepare your property now.

Our offices are located across the Macedon Ranges and our agents are specialists across the local area – call now for an obligation free appraisal.



Preparing your property for the fire season

With spring here and the weather improving it's a great time to start preparing your property for the summer bushfire season. You can reduce the risk to your home and property by cleaning up around your dwelling and clearing potential fire hazards before the fire danger period kicks in.

These jobs include:

- Removing overhanging tree branches and shrubs over one metre high next to or below windows
- Keeping grass short and clearing other combustible debris near your home
- Clearing roof gutters of any leaf litter
- Maintaining any defendable space around your home
- Ensuring any rainwater tanks are accessible and full
- Ensuring you have a bushfire survival plan in place and practise it regularly
- Attending local CFA community meetings around fire preparedness.

Council also encourages residents to familiarise themselves with the new Fire Danger Rating system that recently came into effect and update their fire plans accordingly. The new system is being used across Australia, so whether you're at home or travelling, you will see the same system being used.

Community feedback was used in the design process to help make it easier to understand and to provide you with clearer advice about how to stay safe.

There are four levels of fire danger in the new system:

- Moderate - Plan and prepare
- High - Be ready to act
- Extreme - Take action now to protect your life and property
- Catastrophic - For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

If you have any questions about the new Fire Danger Rating System, contact your local CFA brigade.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



Change your clock, change your smoke alarm battery

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2am (AEST) on Sunday 2 October.

When you change your clock, you should also change your smoke alarm battery.

The CFA recommends that all Victorians should replace their smoke alarm batteries at the start of daylight saving.

The message is quite simple: only working smoke alarms save lives. If there's no sound from your smoke alarm, there's no warning.

Remember, it is normally smoke, not flame or heat, that kills most fire victims. When asleep, our sense of smell is largely diminished, and we're unlikely to smell smoke. The smoke may also put occupants into a deeper sleep, so a smoke alarm helps wake you.

Smoke Alarms In The Right Places

The CFA wants Victorians to go beyond ensuring there is a working smoke alarm in their home and to make sure they are installed in the right locations. New statistics from CFA have revealed fatal fires are more likely to start in bedrooms, lounge rooms, kitchens, and garages – prompting calls for smoke alarms to be installed in all sleeping and living areas. Without properly-placed smoke alarms, your chances of surviving a house fire are greatly diminished – especially when you are asleep.

Smoke alarms are compulsory in every home

Victorian law states that smoke alarms (complying with Australian Standards) must be installed in all homes, units, flats and townhouses. It is the responsibility of all owners and landlords to install working smoke alarms.

Homes constructed after 1 August 1997 must have smoke alarms connected to 240-volt mains power. These smoke alarms must also have a backup battery installed in them in case there is a loss of power; these batteries should be replaced regularly.

Newer photoelectric smoke alarms with lithium batteries can last for up to 10 years without the need to change the battery. Please note that all smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years to ensure optimum safe operation.

Special smoke alarms are also available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. For further details visit the VicDeaf website.

To ensure you have a working smoke alarm:

- Test it weekly by pushing the test button with a broom handle to make sure it beeps.
- Dust the alarm with a vacuum cleaner brush.
- Change the battery at least once a year.

For further information, contact the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, email woodendcfa@gmail.com visit our website: www.woodendcfa.org

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, FORMER CAPTAIN, WOODEND CFA



Contact Vlad 0400 563 563
E: info@storagewoodend.com.au
22 Wood Street

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Charity run sponsors revved up to raise \$60,000 for palliative care van

The sponsors of next month's Mount Macedon Realty: Wooling Hill Run 2022 are revved up to raise \$60,000 to buy a new van for the Macedon Ranges specialist Palliative Care in the Home service.

The van will be used to transport essential equipment, including electrical hospital beds and air mattresses, and wheelchairs and other mobility aids to and from clients' homes to enable specialist community nursing staff to provide the best end-of-life care and support in the home for clients and their carers across the Macedon Ranges shire.

How To Make A Difference

The Mount Macedon Realty: Wooling Hill Run 2022 kicks off on Saturday 1 October, and runs through until Sunday 30 October at the scenic Wooling Hill Memorial Estate, New Gisborne.

Individual and team entries are welcome.

Simply go online and follow the steps to sponsor or participate: <https://woolinghillestate.com.au/charity-run/> Participants are asked to create their own 'CrowdRaiser' then seek donations from friends, family, colleagues and neighbours.

Individuals, families, businesses, teams and community groups are encouraged to sign up and start fundraising for this special cause via <https://woolinghillestate.com.au/charity-run/> or contact Kathryn Kosloff, Fundraising Manager, via giving@chrh.org.au or (03) 5321 6555 for more information.



Photo L-R: Susan Jennings, Troy Upfield, Lisa Fowler and Maree Cuddihy
CAPTION: Central Highlands Rural Health executives met with Troy Upfield, Wooling Hill Memorial Estate owner, and major sponsor Lisa Fowler, owner of Mount Macedon Realty, to walk the course as they officially launch the fundraising event.

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before you know it!...*

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Rotary on the move

The Rotary Club of Woodend
invites all witches, ghouls, zombies, fairies and...
to the

COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY

Monday
October 31
5.00pm - 8:00pm

**FREE
ENTRY**

free sausage sizzle, fairy floss, popcorn,
entertainment and much more

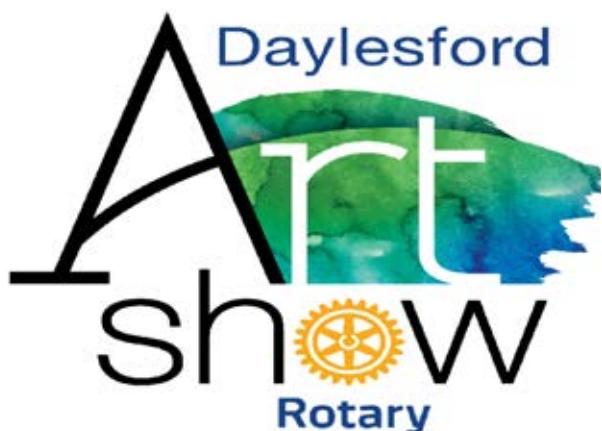
Woodend Children's Park

To help with catering please register your attendance
via <https://www.trybooking.com/CCBVO>



Community Bank
Trentham & Districts
B Bendigo Bank





Vocational mentoring

On 25 August, a group of Rotarians from the Woodend Rotary and Macedon Ranges Rotary conducted a series of mock interviews and mentoring for the students at the Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School.

The purpose of the session was to provide the interviewees with experience and confidence when applying for positions in the workplace. Over forty students participated in the interviews, and the feedback from everyone rated the event an overall success! It is hoped that we can repeat the process next term to reinforce what has been learned so far.

Our thanks go to Cassie Cheffers from Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network who organised the day and the dedicated staff from the Specialist School who assisted with the interviews.

Congratulations also to those students who prepared an excellent morning tea for the visitors!

SUBMITTED BY BRENDAN WATTERS



Daylesford Rotary are excited to announce that the Daylesford Art Show is on again this year. Running over Melbourne Cup long weekend, the show will host artworks of up to 60 artists, both local and from further afield. Held at the Daylesford Town Hall, the opening night celebrations on Friday 28 October will include live art, music, and an auction of art and other items supplied by local businesses. This ticketed event will bring together many local businesses and community members, giving them the opportunity to experience the art and share in an informal and fun night that promises to enliven the community spirit.

The opportunity to purchase affordable art is unmissable, with works submitted by emerging and mid-career artists alike; the range of art on offer is remarkable. With many genres and styles covered, there is something for everyone to enjoy. The Art Show, now in its 39th year, has bought the community of Daylesford culture and enrichment over the years, and this year is no exception, we are anticipating a great opening night and fabulous show for all to enjoy.

The Daylesford Art Show would like to acknowledge its generous sponsors, without whom the Art Show would not exist.

This year, our sponsors include the Community Bank Daylesford District (Bendigo Bank) which is sponsoring our opening night celebrations. With the Bendigo Bank Bar, we will be showcasing local wines. Other funds have been generously donated by Blooms, the Chemist Daylesford, the Daylesford Meat Company, Blakes Family Grocers, That Bargain Place, and Daylesford Equestrian.

SUBMITTED BY FIONA MARTIN, ROTARY CLUB OF DAYLESFORD



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Auctions, Underquoting and Transparency.

The state government recently announced they are going to fund a \$3.8m Consumer Affairs Victoria dedicated taskforce to have yet another blitz to try to stamp out real estate auction under quoting.

- Just a simple new rule needed. -

The government's intent is honourable, however the current rules are fundamentally flawed and underquoting in real estate auction sales will never be stamped out until auction rules are reformed by the introduction of a simple new rule to require estate agents to publish their vendor's reserve prices in all auction advertising.

The reform should also be Australia-wide. It is ridiculous that every state has different and confusing auction rules for home buyers for what is one of the most emotional and biggest financial decisions most people make.

A published reserve price auction model would bring maximum transparency and integrity to auction sales.



It would also be widely welcomed by all stakeholders from first home buyers to the reserve bank - except perhaps by rogue estate agents and some vendors, who working in cahoots with their agent, artificially manipulate quotes to engage in unbridled greed.

If auction reserve prices were required to be published, the auction selling system would also thrive, many more properties would be sold by auction, and we would have a much more trusted and respected estate agency profession.

Publishing reserve prices would be self regulating as vendors would not want to waste expensive advertising costs if their reserves were set too high. Policing quotes would also be simple and at negligible cost, and the problem of thousands of prospective purchasers being duped every weekend would be fixed instantly.

Publishing reserve prices is how auctions should be done. Done right.

- John Keating

"We proudly promote and conduct totally transparent declared reserve price auctions"



Rochford

641 Rochford Road - Cnr Monument Creek Road

Absolutely prime location mid-way between Woodend, Lancefield and Romsey

"Darrandeen II" 88.9 Ha (219.9 Acres)

Auction Saturday 8 October at 11.00am

Reserve Price \$3.2m View by appointment

Contact John Keating 0419 880 444 or Peter Wood 0408 866 774

Lancefield

370 Tooborac Road

Enjoy your dream country life.

"Lanceview" 50.45 Ha (124.6 Acres)

Auction Saturday 15 October at 11am

Reserve Price \$2.45m View by appointment

Contact John Keating 0419 880 444 or Peter Wood 0408 866 774

New national Fire Danger Rating system from 1 September

Macedon Ranges Shire Council encourages residents to familiarise themselves with the new Fire Danger Rating system that came into effect Australia-wide on 1 September 2022.

The new system will be used across Australia, so whether you're at home or travelling, you will see the same system being used.

There are four levels of fire danger in the new system:

- Moderate – Plan and prepare
- High – Be ready to act
- Extreme – Take action now to protect your life and property
- Catastrophic – For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

Fire Danger Ratings will be issued on days when there is a fire risk.

Each fire danger will have a clear set of messages including the actions the community can take to reduce their risk.

What are Fire Danger Ratings?

Fire Danger Ratings provide information so people in affected areas can take action to protect themselves and others. The higher the fire danger, the more dangerous the conditions and the greater the impact will be if a fire starts.

What's changed?

The new Fire Danger Rating system has four levels (instead of six); Moderate, High, Extreme and Catastrophic.

There'll be actions for each level, so you'll know what to do to

protect your life, family, pets and property. Vic Emergency and CFA warnings will include actions on what each rating should trigger you to do. Please update your property fire plans to reflect these new ratings.

You'll start seeing the new fire danger ratings online and in your local community from September 2022.

Fire Danger Rating roadside signs

Roadside signs will start to be replaced and updated from 1 September. The look and feel of the new signs will be the same in all states and territories across Australia. Prioritisation in Victoria will be given to those communities most at risk. For more information go to cfa.vic.gov.au or contact your local CFA brigade.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



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Upcoming events and dates to remember



**SUNBURY
COBAW
COMMUNITY
HEALTH**

Queers on the Catwalk

Celebrate your LGBTIQA+ identity with pride at Queers on the Catwalk 2022 in the Macedon Ranges this November.

Queers on the Catwalk is back for its third iteration, thanks to a Victorian Government Pride Events and Festivals Grant, and the organisers invite the LGBTIQA+ community and their allies to join in for an evening of fashion, expression and affirmation.

Ahead of the Queers on the Catwalk event, Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's CLIP and WayOut teams will host a workshop on Saturday 22 October in Kyneton, where participants can explore their style and identity through clothes and accessories, and by sharing ideas with others. TGD Clothing Swap and PollyFilla Productions will help provide a safe and affirmative opportunity for participants to connect and share their experiences of living queer in a regional setting, and how this may or may not have influenced their self-expression through clothing and fashion over the years. Participants will have access to a wide variety of free items to try on, explore their style and discover what makes them feel affirmed and confident in a supported environment.

"The workshop is a great opportunity for participants to meet each other and talk through their identity expression," says WayOut Project Worker, Rhani Dean-Talbett. "Having renowned costume maker and drag artist PollyFilla as workshop co-host and Catwalk compere is a great addition. PollyFilla will be a wonderful support to participants exploring their styles and selecting their outfits."

The project will culminate in the now annual Queers on the Catwalk event on Friday 25 November at the Mount Players Theatre in Macedon. Participants will be encouraged to invite friends, family and significant others to watch them 'strut their stuff' on the catwalk to their signature audio tracks and celebrate and delight in their authenticity.

To register your interest in the workshop or attending the event, contact healthpromotion@scchc.org.au / 5421 1666.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER, 0448 294835

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FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

4 - 27 NOVEMBER

BLUESTONE THEATRE
HUTTON ST, KYNETON

ADULTS: \$35, CONCESSION: \$28
TICKETS: TRYBOOKING.COM/CCBAU

PHOENIX Macedon Ranges Art & Craft

Made up of residents of the Macedon Ranges, and brought together by interests in all forms of art and crafts, Phoenix Macedon Ranges Art & Craft was very happy to hold its first exhibition for two years in March, and although challenged by road closures and Covid restrictions, it was very successful.

Many thanks to the local community, who have supported us over the years.

Phoenix will be holding its next exhibition on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 December 2022 (Gisborne Christmas Market Day). The Phoenix members use many different mediums, including painting, pottery weaving, glass, and jewellery, just to name a few.

If you would like to find out more about the group's history, work and exhibitions, people can visit the website <https://phoenixmrac.com/>, or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/phoenixmrac. Those who are interested in joining the group can contact Kay Beale on 9744 2646.

SUBMITTED BY KAY BEALE

Upcoming events and dates to remember

Celebrate nature in the Macedon Ranges this spring

Council's Environment Events program is full of citizen science activities, nature walks and workshops, to get you out in our beautiful reserves, waterways and parks throughout the Macedon Ranges this spring.

There are plenty of biodiversity surveys to participate in and webinars to learn from this spring:

- A World Habitat Day - Hollow Identification Walk, Mount Gisborne, Tuesday 4 October
- Grazing and Farming Discussion Group, Kyneton, Friday 14 October
- Flora Walk – What's on your roadside? Newham, Saturday 15 October
- Insect and Flora Identification Walk, Taradale, Saturday 15 October
- Macedon Ranges Bird Blitz 2022, various locations, Sunday 16 October
- Woodland Flora Surveys, Bald Hill Reserve & Black Hill Reserve, Saturday 29 October
- Koala Count at Hanging Rock, Monday 7 November
- Selecting and sourcing plants for your property, webinar, 8 November
- Integrated weed management on rural properties, webinar, 15 November

For more information and to reserve your spot, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

Get involved in the 2023 Autumn Festival!

Businesses, community and creatives are encouraged to start considering events and activities to feature on the shire-wide 2023 Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival program. It could be a unique food, drink or nature-based experience, live music or even an autumn-themed workshop.

To be included on the program, your event or activity will need to appeal to tourists and meet set criteria. Organisers are encouraged to schedule their events from 7-23 April, when locals and visitors have more time to explore during the school holidays.

To get the most out of promotional campaigns driven by Council and Daylesford Macedon Tourism, make sure to submit your event by the end of November. Submitted events and activities will need to be self-funded (targeted funding that supported business and event COVID recovery in 2022 no longer exists).

For hospitality businesses, a specific opportunity also exists to feature a pie or tart on the popular Autumn Pie & Tart Trail.

For information on how to feature on the event program or Autumn Pie & Tart Trail, or to subscribe to the Autumn Festival management newsletter, go to mrsc.vic.gov.au/autumn-fest

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



HANGING ROCK MARKET

Sat 29th Oct

9am to 2pm

Hanging Rock Reserve - South Rock rd, Woodend

Upcoming Market Dates:

Sat 29 Oct | Sat 10 Dec | Sat 18 March

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Your community diary

— al

— OCTOBER —

- 1 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 1-30 Wooling Hill Charity Run
- 1 Official opening Rotary 100 Community Space
- 8 Chambers Poets, RSL, 1-4pm
- 13 Community Storm Recovery BBQ RSL
- 13 - 21 Natural Science Week
- 16 Lions Sunday Market
- 16 Start of National Nutrition Week
- 28 Out of the Ashes, MRRAR
- 29 Hanging Rock Market
- 29 The Pavilion Artshow, Agnes Mudford Reserve

— NOVEMBER —

- 1 Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
- 4-20 Madagascar, Mount Players
- 4-27 We will Rock You, Bluestone Theatre Kyneton
- 5 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 13 Farewell Picnic for Rev Melissa Clark, St Mary's
- 18-20 Budburst Festival
- 20 Lions Sunday Market
- 25 Queers on the Catwalk, Mountview Theatre

— DECEMBER —

- 3 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 3&4 The Phoenix MR Art & Craft exhibition
- 10 Hanging Rock Market
- 18 Lions Sunday Market
- 25 Christmas Day (Sunday)
- 26 Boxing Day (Public Holiday)
- 27 Public Holiday in lieu of Christmas Day

Always check with organisers about any events listed. To have your event listed on our calendar just send the details to: content@newwoodendstar.org.au

Kyneton Town Hall events

Lior & Domini – Animal in Hiding, 7.30pm, Friday 21 October

The first release from a collaboration between one of Australia's most established and critically acclaimed singer/songwriters Lior, together with exciting emerging artist Domini Forster. Featuring songs that are rooted in intimate storytelling, underpinned by intricate guitar, Lior and Domini's close vocal harmonies are the focal point of the songs harking back to the iconic folk duos of the 60s.



Jude Perl: Participation Award, 8pm, Thursday 10 November

An entertaining musical-comedy exploration of bullying and our school system, featuring Jude Perl's unique brand of stream-of-consciousness style songwriting.

To purchase tickets, call 1300 888 802 (8.30am–3pm, weekdays) or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets



THE PAVILION ART SHOW

Craft/Local Produce Market
SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 10am – 2pm
Pavilion Art Show
SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER 10am – 4pm

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Upcoming events and dates to remember

THE MOUNT PLAYERS PRESENTS
MADAGASCAR
AN INTRIGUING STORY OF A DISAPPEARANCE THAT CHANGES THREE LIVES FOREVER.
WRITTEN BY JT ROGERS
DIRECTED BY VICKI SMITH
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE
4-20 NOVEMBER 2022
MOUNTVIEW THEATRE
56 SMITH ST, MACEDON
BOOKINGS AT WWW.THEMOUNTPLAYERS.COM OR 5426 1892

The Mount Players presents Madagascar – a drama.

It's been a very busy time for the Mount Players, with the launch of a book commemorating 50 years of the theatre's history, and its final production for 2022 now in rehearsal: a drama by JT Rogers, directed by Vicki Smith. 'Madagascar' is the haunting story of a mysterious disappearance that changes three lives forever.

At three different periods in time, three people find themselves alone in the same hotel room overlooking the Spanish Steps in Rome.

They each tell their individual story of how and why they are here. Their relationship to each other, what this room means to them, and why they have been called to it slowly reveal themselves. Their stories spill out, weave back and forth—each contradicting, clarifying, deepening what the others say—becoming strands of one gripping and disquieting tale.

Tickets on sale at www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

See you at the theatre.

SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT

**UPCOMING EVENTS
2022 into 2023**

HEDGEfarm
FUNCTIONS • GALLERY • ACCOMMODATION
124 Three Chain Rd, Carlsruhe

NOVEMBER

Nov 6 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
The Ranges Little Big Band Special event with the 10 piece

Nov 20 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Aruba Ariba Beach Party
Reggae, Soul, great dancing music

Nov 25 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Late Night Radio ft. Simon Wigney & Paris Swing

AUGUST

Aug 26 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Harmony Plus with Rod and Jenny

SEPTEMBER

Sep 18 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Martini Set Trio Swing / Sinatra / Deano / Bobby Darin)

Sep 30 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Francis & Sherwill Swing / Standards

OCTOBER

Oct 23 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
The SoSaxy Band
Smooth Jazz / Dancing

Oct 30 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Cupid's Irony Trio
Great acoustic covers and originals

DECEMBER

Dec 9 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Djangology Gypsy Jazz Trio + Shaun Evans on clarinet

Dec 10 - SATURDAY MUSIC AFTERNOON
Blast From The Past Christmas Spectacular

Dec 16 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Bossa Nova Night featuring Danielle Formica & the Choro Connection

JANUARY

Jan 8 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Ranges Little Big Band

Jan 13 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Jazz Deuce & Friends (Sinatra, Swing)

Jan 15 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Blast From The Past (TBC)

Jan 20 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
Juliana & James Clark & Friends

Jan 22 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
The SoSaxy Band

Jan 27 - FRIDAY JAZZ NIGHT
The Hot 5 Cool Jazz band

Sun Jan 29 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
The Red Apple Band
(music inspired by movies of Quentin Tarantino)

FEBRUARY

Feb 10 - FRIDAY NIGHT JAZZ
The JB4

Feb 19 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
Fleetwood Rocks (friends from the city)

Feb 24 - JAZZ FRIDAY
tbc

Feb 26 - SUNDAY MUSIC ARVO
The Spirits (great 60s & 70s)

Bookings on-line:
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Eat a Rainbow in National Nutrition Week

Did you know that eating red fruits and vegetables is good for your eyes, skin and immune system? Or that deep green leaves contain calcium and vitamin K that keep your bones healthy? Eating a rainbow of fruits and vegetables each week can have huge benefits to your overall health. For instance, purple and blue fruits and vegetables have been linked with improved memory and healthy aging.

During National Nutrition Week, which takes place from 16 October, Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health is teaming up with early learning centres and kindergartens in the Macedon Ranges as part of the Smiles 4 Miles dental program, to encourage everyone to 'eat a rainbow'.

Boxes of delicious seasonal fruit and vegetables provided by Lancefield Providore will be sent to all participating centres and children will be invited to sample things they may not have tried before and take part in creative eating activities to encourage them to eat a range of colourful fresh foods.

"Last year, the centres did all sorts of fun activities with the produce boxes we gave them to engage the children," says Smiles 4 Miles coordinator, Lisa Richards. "They made fruit and veggie animals and had votes on which foods were the tastiest. We are excited to see what the kinders and childcare centres will come up with this year."

In Australia, research shows that 95% of children aged 2-18 years do not consume the recommended quantity of vegetables, and 32% do not consume the recommended amount of fruit.

A wide variety of nutritious foods in early childhood is important for children's growth and development and for laying the foundation for their lifelong healthy relationship with food. In line with the Australian Dietary Guidelines, children should enjoy a wide variety of nutritious foods every day from the five food groups and limit foods containing added sugar.

Eat Well, along with Clean Well and Drink Well, is a key message of the Smiles 4 Miles preventative oral health program for babies and children aged 0-5. Smiles 4 Miles is an initiative of Dental Health Services Victoria, working in partnership with local organisations to improve the oral health of the youngest children in our community.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER

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SUNBURY COBAW COMMUNITY HEALTH

Alcohol and Drug Support

Are you, or is someone you know, experiencing issues related to alcohol or drug use? Free help is on hand locally, with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's experienced counsellors. People can either refer themselves or go through their GP, and appointments can be held in person or over the phone.

There is currently no waiting list, and the program can help individuals, couples or families impacted by their own or someone else's alcohol or drug use. There is also a specialist youth counsellor who works with young people aged 12 and over.

"The support we provide is based on each person's needs and goals," says Adam Stefano, Manager Community Mental Health. "Our clinicians can help people reduce or stop their use of alcohol and drugs, and we can refer people to other services, such as withdrawal units, housing support, financial counselling, or emergency financial relief."

Both individual and group counselling is available, and services can be accessed Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. To find out more, call 5421 1666 or email admin@scchc.org.au.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER


Brooke Street
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Yes, we can see you! In our Rapid Response Clinic.

Brooke Street Medical Centre's fully equipped Treatment Room operates as a Rapid Response Clinic Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm. The Rapid Response Clinic is managed by our experienced Nurses and GPs and offers patients a timely appointment service in a controlled environment for your on the day medical needs.

To make an appointment for our Rapid Response Clinic, please call the practice on 03 5427 1002.

Brooke Street Medical Centre also has on site Radiology and Pathology services.



Located 500m from the Woodend Train Station, Brooke Street Medical Centre is a short walk for those travelling by public transport.



Download the
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For our latest updates, please visit our website or follow us on Facebook @
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14 Brooke Street, Woodend
Tel: 03 5427 1002 www.bsmc.net.au



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



To make an appointment for a first consultation, please call the unit on 9419 1166.

In light of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Ranges Medical would like to introduce our new visiting Breast Surgeons, Dr Jenny Huynh and Mr Su-Wen Loh from Melbourne Breast Unit.



Dr Jenny Huynh has extensive exposure and training, and strives to provide exceptional and compassionate care to all patients. Her areas of interest include Oncoplastic Breast Surgery and management of all Breast Diseases, Thyroid & Parathyroid Surgery and Melanoma Surgery.



Mr Su-Wen Loh teamed up with, and now heads, the Melbourne Breast Unit to continue his provision of excellent care for patients with breast related issues. He is Director of Breast & Surgical Oncology at the Austin Health & Olivia Newton John Centre, and part of the Epworth Medical Advisory Committee.



Please visit our website for more information.



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Are you a carer living in the Macedon Ranges?

Join us for a casual stroll to connect with nature and other carers through Pathways for Carers, part of our Village Connect program.

Hear from guest speakers and learn about local services and supports that may assist you in your caring role. The group meets once a month for a walk along the Campaspe River trail in Kyneton and enjoys morning tea together afterwards.

Our next walks are:

Friday 7 October and 4 November, 9.45am (meet at the Barry Doyle Rotunda, corner Campaspe Crescent and Piper St, Kyneton).

This is a free event. Registration is required. Contact Abbey on 5422 0262 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect





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Do you care for a loved one with an eating disorder?



PS My Family Matters is hosting an information session – ‘Caring for a loved one with an eating disorder’ – on 25 October, 7.30-9pm at the Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House – 59 Main Road Riddells Creek.

Lynn Garvey and Merrill Bohn from Eating Disorders Families Australia will give a presentation regarding caring strategies for loved ones with an eating disorder.

From the organisation’s website: Eating Disorders Families Australia (EDFA) was founded by a passionate group of parents who have cared for, and are caring for, young people with eating disorders. We believe in the power of lived experience and sharing our knowledge with others to reduce the time and suffering the whole family endures. Because recovery is possible, but it’s not always linear, and there is much to consider and understand.

“During the last two and half years, we have seen a significant increase in families seeking support for eating disorders,” said Tamara Wilson, president of PS My Family Matters. “With the generous assistance of the Bendigo Bank in Gisborne, we are able to host this event, which we hope will give carers the opportunity to learn from each other’s experience in a caring, supportive way.”

Please book at <https://www.trybooking.com/CCVUF>. Numbers for this event are limited and booking is essential. Please call 0475269965 or email psfm@outlook.com if you have any questions.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER, PSMFM



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Out of the ashes, a warm inner glow

When David Laity lost almost everything he owned in the devastation of the Black Saturday fires, so moved was he by the support he received, that he resolved to pay that help forward and established Goodwill Wine, an enterprise whose ethos is to offer fine affordable wines in support of worthy causes. Half of all David's profits are donated to nominated charities and service organisations. In the years since its inception, Goodwill Wines have donated over \$450,000.

In partnership with Macedon Ranges Rural Australians for Refugees, Goodwill Wine will be hosting an evening of wine tasting at 7pm on Friday 28 October at Norma Richardson Hall, 15 Buckland Street, Woodend. Price of admission includes wine tasting, finger food and music by Trio Elegante. The event will feature a silent auction and the drawing of MRRAR's major raffle, tickets for which can be purchased at the door, subject to availability.



Receipts from admission, silent auction, raffle ticket sales and 50% of profits from all wine sales will be donated to the support of refugees in Australia. All are welcome. The knowledge that you are helping to support a worthwhile cause should promote a warm inner glow – as, no doubt, will the wine.

Bookings are essential and can be made through Trybooking:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CCULD>

SUBMITTED BY ANDREW GRIMES MACEDON RANGES RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES

Cash back program to support businesses in Macedon

The Victorian Government's popular Dining and Entertainment Program – Eat, Play, Cash Back is now live, saving Victorians money on restaurant meals, live gigs and museum visits over spring and summer while supporting hardworking businesses in Macedon.

The Program, open from today, allows customers to claim 25 per cent cash back when they spend \$40 or more enjoying the best our state has to offer.

Eligible purchases include meals at restaurants, cafes and pubs, tickets to live music or art performances, and entries into museums, galleries and amusement parks.

Customers can claim up to \$125 cash back each and make multiple claims until they reach the cap.

For more information and to make a claim visit vic.gov.au/dining-entertainment.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE

Big Tree Distillery the beginnings



In June 2018, Gary Jago and Catherine Crothers 300-litre copper still, affectionately known as Beryl, produced its first commercial range of Big Tree gin. In the years since, Beryl's output has garnered Big Tree multiple gongs, including Best Australian Classic Gin at the World Gin Awards in London, many gold and silver medals at the Australian Distilled Spirits Awards (ADSA) and double gold at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition.

Jago and Crothers were also approached by the sommelier from

one of Australia's most celebrated restaurants, Brae, to stock their Elegant Dry gin, one of nine styles that Big Tree produces.

"It's a relief and nice to know we're on the right track," says Crothers of the gin's success.

Big Tree Distillery is on the couple's 32-hectare Jack's Springs Farm, 18km drive from Woodend in the Macedon Ranges, where they grow botanicals to use in their gin. The gin is made from a mixture of farm-harvested rainwater and grain-based spirit. The botanicals are ground and added to the still pot in a one-charge distillation process.

"Gary developed the recipe based on what we liked," says Crothers. "We also befriended a gin-loving botanist who would send us parcels of native botanicals he found in Victoria. That is how we came across the amazing botanical southern sassafras, which is a key flavour for our Claude Navy Strength. It won the double gold in San Francisco."

Big Tree has a tasting room open on weekends in spring and summer and is also open on Mondays so people

can come and try before they buy and take in the views overlooking over the Cobaw Ranges whilst sipping on a G&T.

The distillery has just launched a new gin, Grapefruit, Olive Leaf and Rosemary, in collaboration with Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, and it is featured in a beautiful new bottle design. People can try and buy it at the tasting room. For every bottle sold through farmers' markets and the tasting room, or purchased online, \$10 goes back to the Friends so they can fund important restoration projects around the Royal Botanic Gardens.



SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CROTHERS

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community round-up



Goldfields
Library
Corporation

We haven't charged late fees since the beginning of the pandemic, but we have made it official, no more late fees... ever!



Yep – you read right! Goldfields Libraries is proud to join the growing number of public libraries no longer charging late fees for overdue items. We are all about providing free and universal access to information. Late fees sometimes made access tricky, so we've made the decision to remove them. Everyone should be able to enjoy the library, borrow as many books as they can carry and keep coming back for more! This also means that if you had overdue fines on your account, they're now gone.

Rather than getting a fine if you return an item late, you'll get a friendly reminder. If your item reaches more than 21 days overdue, you won't be able to borrow or reserve

until they are returned. If they become lost or damaged, then you'll need to pay a replacement cost before you can borrow again.

We are excited to close the chapter on library fines and move forward with a fine-free library service!

Children's Week 2022 – Teddy Bear Sleepover!!

Bring your favourite teddy or soft toy to the library and say goodbye to your cuddly friend for the night. We wonder what those teddies will get up to overnight...?

All children will receive a certificate and photos of their toy's adventures!



Drop off times: Friday
21 October, 10-11am or
3.30-4.30pm

Pick up: Sat 22 October,
10-11am

Author talks



14 October, 11am -12pm

Peter Quarry - If I Were You

Curious to make sense of your life? Want to understand who you are and why you're here? Psychologist Peter Quarry shares his insights.

In this fascinating book, experienced psychologist Peter Quarry skilfully deconstructs his own life, showing how you, too, can unpack and reboot yours. His insight and practical wisdom will inspire you to reflect on your life's journey and provide tools to confront the curveballs inevitably heading your way.

27 October
11.30am-12.30pm

Pauline Wilson – Conflict at Hanging Rock

Meet Pauline Wilson, family historian and writer of historical fiction based on the true stories of her ancestors. Conflict at Hanging Rock

follows the story of pioneer Robert Blayney, anxious to hide his convict past amidst community conflict over the use of Hanging Rock water and land. A work of fiction based on true events in an environment you will know and love.

Go to www.ncgsl.vic.gov.au to book for these author talks or call us on 5427 2074.

Work weekdays? Saturday Storytimes are for you!

In 2022, the Woodend Library is running monthly Saturday Storytimes to make these fun and educational sessions accessible to even more families.

Come along on the first Saturday of the month (the same day as the Farmers' Market), listen to the librarian tell a story, join in the activities, and learn just by having fun! Our storytimes are 100% free and 100% welcoming. You don't need to be a library member to join in, and there is no obligation to attend every session.

For more information call us on 5427 2074.

See you at the library!

SUBMITTED BY EMMA KEENAN

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Your Goodbye matters.

For a printed version of the Your Goodbye and Your Story booklets call our Kyneton Office on 03 5422 6455.

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Ladies Exercise Group

A fun and social exercise group for senior ladies.

All fitness levels welcome

9-10am Monday mornings at the Woodend Community Centre (with coffee afterwards)

Come along and have some fun and keep moving. The first class is free.

Woodend RSL presents premier national award

The Woodend RSL Sub-branch recently celebrated the presenting of the organisation's premier national award, Life Membership, to a popular local resident.

Vietnam veteran and RSL stalwart, Barry Meldrum, was presented with this national award by the Woodend RSL President, John McCausland, who was joined by local sub-branch members.

Barry received this award for over 30 years' service to the RSL, especially in Woodend. A past president of the local sub-branch, Barry has served continuously on the management committee. He has been instrumental in the growth of the sub-branch and of a deeper cooperation with the local community, especially schools, and is a support to local veterans.

Barry continues his service today.



Photo: Woodend RSL President John McCausland, presents the RSL Life Membership award to Barry Meldrum, joined by sub-branch members.

Others present from L to R: Dr Frank Donovan, Amy Meldrum, Glenda Calvitto, Chris Latcham, Ruth De Jong, Tony Fusco, Les Thurgood, Howard Burvill, Ken Bryce, Mary Hildebrandt, Ron Hall, Wally Fiedler and Reg Till

SUBMITTED BY HOWARD BURVILL

WOODEND PROBUS

The Combined Probus Club of Woodend & District Inc will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary later this year. Are you a past member or keep in touch with any that have left the area? If so, please let us know by contacting Diane Dobson (Secretary) on 0438 585 664, leave a message or email dmd25453@gmail.com.

Woodend Probus meets the first Thursday of the month at 10am at the Woodend 1st Scout Hall (behind the Log Cabin) at 41 Forest St. If you think you might like to join, you are welcome to come to three meetings to see if our club suits you. Our next meeting is October 6 and then November 3, after that February 2, 2023. For further information, please contact Diane (details above), or Rosalie Campbell (President) on 0438 892 315 or vrasalie282@gmail.com.

SUBMITTED BY DIANE DOBSON, SECRETARY

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MACEDON RANGES
**BUSINESS EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**
2022

Macedon
Ranges
Shire Council

Vote for your favourite finalist!

The finalists for the **Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards 2022** will be announced on Tuesday 11 October. Check out who will be in the running for an award at the gala event being held on Friday 18 November.

Once the finalists have been announced, it will be over to you to vote for your favourite finalist in the People's Choice Award. Voting will remain open until Monday 14 November so let your fingers do the talking.

To book your tickets for the gala event and find out how to vote for your favourite, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards

Vote for your favourite finalist in the Business Awards!

The finalists for the Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards 2022 will be announced on Tuesday 11 October. Check out who will be in the running for an award at the gala event being held on Friday 18 November.

Once the finalists have been announced, it will be over to you to vote for your favourite finalist in the People's Choice Award. Voting will remain open until Monday 14 November so let your fingers do the talking.

To book your tickets for the gala event and find out how to vote for your favourite visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

Compost for your garden

Council is now offering delivery of Australian standard FOGO compost alongside mulch to residents in the shire.

Delivery sizes and costs are:

- 3 cubic metres: \$146.30
- 6 cubic metres: \$182.60

To book delivery, call our customer service team on 5422 0333 or visit your nearest customer service centre. To learn more visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/mulch

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Share coffee and a chat with Village Connect

Village Connect is a new service for older people provided by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

As part of the program, free 'coffee cup' events are being held for older residents, their families and carers.

Come along to hear about how Village Connect can help you stay socially connected. Enjoy a chat with others in the local community and a free cuppa and cake.

The events will be held from 11am–12noon at:

- Maison Maloa, Woodend, 13 October
- Vics@Seasons, Riddells Creek, 11 October
- Aspy, Lancefield, 1 September and 27 October
- Social Foundry, Kyneton, 25 October
- Malmsbury Bakery, Malmsbury, 3 November.

Registration is essential.: Call Abbey on 5422 0262 or email villageconnect@mrsc.vic.gov.au

For more information about the program visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect

Do you have a damaged bin?

If your bins are damaged, lost or stolen, Council will repair or replace them at no charge.

Repairs and replacements are usually completed during your next two collection days. To report damaged or missing bins, call our customer service team on 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bins

Bin clips for sale!

Is litter spilling from your bins? Council has bin clips available for purchase from our customer service centres. Bin clips are easy to use and help you to secure lids during strong winds and prevent animals from getting into your rubbish. The clips release automatically when emptied into the rubbish trucks.

You can view an instruction video at mrsc.vic.gov.au/binclips

For office locations and opening hours visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/contact



A message from your West Ward Councillors



It's lovely to see the start of spring and the exciting range of festivals and activities that occur at this time of year. Our local area recently celebrated the 50th Kyneton Daffodil and Arts festival. The festival was a great success – showcasing a wide range of events and attracting a huge number of visitors to our shire. The final day of the festival saw the return of the annual street parade, with many of the participants and spectators describing it as the 'best ever'. Congratulations to the organisers, helpers, participants, and everyone for coming along and making the festival a success. And keep an eye out for a report of the festival in a future episode of Gardening Australia. Costa, Millie, and a camera team were busy around the parade and the fair in the grounds of the old Kyneton Primary School afterwards.

We also have several upcoming events to watch out for. The Mountain Writers Festival will be held on 4 to 6 November at Jubilee Hall in Macedon, and the Spring Bliss Festival will be held at Hanging Rock on 5 November, featuring Aboriginal cultural activities, live music, dance, market and a children's village. The council events calendar on the MRSC website contains a full list of upcoming activities around the shire at: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Events/Whats-on-around-the-shire

Our environmental team will also be busy in the coming months with a range of community activities, including a Flora Walk at Hennerbergs Rd in Newham on 15 October from 10am and an Insect and Flora ID Walk, also on the 15th from 1pm, starting from the Taradale Mechanics Institute in Taradale. The 4th annual Macedon Ranges Bird Blitz will be held on 16 October from 9.30am to 3pm at bird monitoring sites across the shire. A Koala Count is to be held at Hanging Rock on 7 November. If you are interested in these activities (or any of the others on offer) – please register on the shire website: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au.

A reminder too that the Shire will be running free immunisation sessions at Kyneton and Woodend on 6/10, 3/11 and 1/12. The immunisations are as set out by the National Immunisation Program and will be held at the Mechanics Institute in Kyneton 12 to 1pm and at the Woodend Community Centre from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

Council has recently cleared fire access tracks across the shire from storm related damage from last year. Officers took particular care around high conservation areas, but residents are encouraged to contact council if you identify areas that are still of concern. We are also very keen to hear from residents if you see any clearing activity on fire access tracks and are unsure if it is part of an approved council clean up.

Lastly, we would like to highlight a recent council supported initiative by Goldfields Libraries to install Traditional Owner acknowledgment plaques at their libraries across the shire.

Best wishes, Mark, Janet, and Jennifer.



Cub Scout Leadership Course.

One of the requirements for the Grey Wolf award for Cub Scouts is that the Cub must complete a leadership course. The purpose of this course is to assist Cubs to develop as leaders within the unit and the community.

On the first weekend of August, Woodend Scout Group (Burke Cub Scout Unit) had five Cub Scouts attend a weekend at Rowallan Scout Camp in Riddells Creek. This camp was a Macedon Ranges District camp where Cub Scouts from across the district joined together to practice their leadership skills, communication, planning and community involvement. As well as meeting other members from other groups and most of all having fun.

Each participant was put into patrols, where they had to work in a team with Cub Scouts from across the district for the weekend. Topics covered within the course were:

- Leadership styles
- Roles of the patrol leaders
- Working together to solve problems
- Behaviour management
- Begin a Code of Conduct for their unit
- Tent challenge
- Compass and navigation challenge
- Completing Scouting skills such as flag protocol, knots and construction,

the Scout Law and Promise and what it means to them.

Across the weekend Cubs, had to lead the group in games of their choice, further developing their leadership skills. The cubs held a campfire and built a Da Vinci bridge. The Cub Scouts also had to keep their bunk houses tidy for the weekend – a challenge for some.

Each Cub Scout attending had a pre camp workbook with tasks to be completed prior. On successful completion of the camp, each Cub Scout received their certificate and a Cub Scout Personal Development badge.



Congratulations Caleb, Sienna, Will, Charlie and Viv on completing the course requirements to receive your certificate and badge.

Scouting welcomes youth members from 5-25. For more information on joining Scouts, or assisting as a leader, visit scoutsvictoria.com.au/location/1ST-WOODEND or email gl.woodend1st@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY ELAINE YOUNG, CUB LEADER, BURKE UNIT, WOODEND SCOUT GROUP

Poetry and song a great success

Chamber Poets #81 at the Woodend RSL on Saturday 10 September was a poetry and song extravaganza. The new format of a mix of spoken word and song was greatly appreciated and will be a continuing component of this much-loved monthly event.

Seventeen poets and seven songwriters performed in the Open section, the highlight being an engaging performance by Gisborne creative, Katrina Buttigieg, who sang a beautiful song inspired by her sister. Woodend poetry-and-music band Black Forest Smoke supported headlining act Lauren Lee Williams, who previewed poignant songs from her forthcoming album She Blew Into Town.

Gisborne musician Michael Robinson said, "Lauren Lee from Maldon thrilled the audience with lovely country-esque songs with a touch of Joni Mitchell in her voice. A more wonderful afternoon of poetry and song could not have been enjoyed."

Kyneton writer Wendy Purcell also had a positive experience, "There's such variety in the performances . . . there was comedy, bush poetry, haiku, rhyming poems, protest poems, and some songs. And the topics ranged from love, death, dementia, the war in Ukraine, street art, exercise, wine and jealousy and beyond. But the thing I love most about Chamber Poets is how down to earth and friendly everyone is."

For the upcoming event on 8 October, there are two regional poets being featured: Ross Donlon of Castlemaine, who has recently returned from a poetry tour of Europe, and David Kelly of Euroa, who has the distinction of being Australia's first paid Poetry Development Officer.

**Chamber Poets #82, Saturday 8 October, 1pm - 4pm
Woodend RSL, 32 Anslow Street
All welcome**

SUBMITTED BY MYRON LYSENKO

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Young Voices herald spring at the Kyneton Daffodil Festival

Following two years of very restricted performances, Young Voices of Macedon burst into song at the Bluestone Theatre on 3 September as part of the Kyneton Daffodil Festival.

The program was shared with the Kyneton Primary School Choir, both choirs under the direction of Polly Christie and accompanied by Cathy Hutchison.

The Vivo group from Young Voices charmed the audience with "You've Got a Friend in Me" with well-choreographed actions chosen by their teacher Jess Demare. Actions also featured prominently in the amusing two-part rendition of "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better" by the whole choir. The beautiful lullaby "Hushabye Mountain" was also sung by the whole choir in three parts, and the stunning rendition of "Pure Imagination" from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory in two parts by the Cantabiles moved a number of audience members to tears. There were also instrumental solos from members of both choirs, including a harp performance by Josie Barnes of Young Voices. A small group of Cantabiles showed admirable initiative by organising (without help from teachers) an excellent two-part performance of "Exsultate, jubilate", learned by Zoom during lockdown. As a finale to a wonderful concert, all children from both choirs joined in a rousing performance of the rollicking two-part sea shanty "Eye of the needle", which relates the dangers faced by sailing ships navigating the Shipwreck Coast of Victoria.

Young Voices of Macedon looks forward to a busy Term 4, when a number of performances are booked.

New members are very welcome. See www.yvmacedon.org.au.

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA DEMARE

News from the Woodend Neighbourhood House



Term 4 at the Woodend Neighbourhood House

We're looking forward to another exciting term at the Woodend Neighbourhood House, with lots of new and returning classes on offer.

The Term 4 brochure has everything about classes for the upcoming term, including yoga, meditation, craft workshops, art classes, permaculture, children's programs and languages, as well as the latest updates on our regular social programs including cycling, walking, craft, Community Lunch and the Chatty Café. A brochure can be picked up from the House on a Monday to Friday between 9am and 3pm – or you a copy can be downloaded from our website.

We recently relaunched our site to what we hope is a more user-friendly format. The website includes dedicated pages about some of our regular programs, including the Repair Café, Community Bags and the Woodend Youth Space. There's also a new 'What's On' section, which lists all the activities, courses and workshops taking place at the House – check it out at: <https://www.woodendnh.org.au/whats-on>

Food Relief at the Woodend Neighbourhood House

Woodend Neighbourhood House continues to rely heavily on donations to keep the Community Food Pantry well stocked. Thanks to the kindness of the IGA, we recently installed a donations bin in the foyer of the store. Please consider adding a few extra items to your shopping basket when you're next at the supermarket - and popping them into the donations bin.

Items in demand include breakfast cereal, tinned soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, baked beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits and UHT milk. We also welcome toiletries, sanitary products and baby basics.

Donations from other stores can also be dropped off at the Woodend Neighbourhood House on a Monday to Friday between 9am and 3pm – and of course, everyone is welcome to come along and take what they need from the Community Food Pantry.

For more information about any of our upcoming activities, workshops, courses, or events, drop by the House, visit the website www.woodendnh.org.au or call 5427 1845.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA BAKER

Ranges Editorial

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What goes in each bin



Recycling 2 - non-recyclable glass and metal, chemicals, asbestos, paint and building materials. Share the bin code 121212 or contact bin at email address or visit website for general info.



New savings finder helps Victorians with cost of living

Victorians can now quickly and simply access discounts, rebates and savings through a new Savings Finder on the Service Victoria app and website.

The Service Victoria Savings Finder features more than 60 discounts, rebates and savings to maximise benefits for individuals and families.

By answering a few simple questions to personalise their experience, people will be given a list of possible savings across energy, utilities, health, education, transport, recreation, leisure services and more.

New savings are being added regularly and the Savings Finder is easily accessible through the Service Victoria app, which has been installed on more than 6 million devices.

One of the savings is the Victorian Government's \$250 Power Saving

Bonus, which has already been taken up by more than 1.4 million households since July and is available to all Victorian households. Seven out of 10 Victorians can save money by switching energy offers, enabling typical savings of \$330 on energy bills in the first year of switching.

Concession card holders can check their eligibility for discounted motor vehicle registration and TAC fees, as well as for reductions on gas bills through the colder months.

Victorians can also use the Savings Finder to locate any unclaimed rental bonds and to determine if they are eligible for the \$10,000 First Home Owner Grant.

Casual and contract workers will be able to use the Savings Finder to check whether they can claim the Victorian Sick Pay Guarantee to receive a day's pay when they can't go to work due to illness.

Recreational savings range from free visits to Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary and Werribee Open Range

Zoo for children under 16, to an array of Senior Card benefits including free travel and discounted entry fees.

"The Savings Finder is a great way for our community in Macedon to ease cost of living pressures, with discounts available on everything from energy bills to days out with the kids – and we're adding more all the time," said Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas.

The Savings Finder builds on more than 90 government services already available through the Service Victoria website and mobile app, making Service Victoria a one stop shop for Victorians to get the services they need.

Among these services is a new online help tool for small businesses to find the permits and licences they need to operate, which can be done in around five minutes. To access the Savings Finder, go to service.vic.gov.au or download the app at the App Store or Google Play.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE

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Mary-Anne Thomas MP

LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

As your local Member of Parliament I am keen to hear from the community and assist with any State Government matter.

Mary-Anne Thomas



A: Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne, VIC 3437

P: 5428 2138 E: maryanne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

W: www.mary-annethomas.com.au

MaryAnneMacedon maryannethomasmp

Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne

Protecting roadsides against weeds and pests in Macedon

The Labor Government is investing \$42,186 through the Roadside Weeds and Pests Control Program to support the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. Weeds and pests cost the Victorian economy over \$900 million each year by disrupting agricultural production, damaging native biodiversity and contributing to the spread of fires.

The funding will assist the Macedon Ranges Shire Council with a range of activities along their rural roadsides, including treating and preventing 'regionally controlled' and 'restricted' weeds, managing rabbit populations and community consultation.

'Regionally controlled' weeds are defined as being widespread in a region, requiring landowners to prevent their growth and spread, while 'restricted' weeds are considered a serious threat to all states and territories.

Trading 'restricted' weeds and their propagules, either as plants, seeds, or contaminants, in other materials, is banned.

Weeds can be categorised differently depending on where they are in the state, for example, Ragwort is 'Controlled' in Corangamite, Glenelg, East and West Gippsland, Port Phillip and Western Port, 'Prohibited' in Goulburn and Northeast Victoria and 'Restricted' in Mallee, North Central Victoria and the Wimmera.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE

Applications open for Premier's Spirit of Democracy Tour

School students in the district are being encouraged to open their minds and channel their inner Greek philosopher for the chance to embark on an immersive study tour and deepen their understanding of democracy.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins announced applications for the 2022-23 Premier's Spirit of Democracy study tour are now open to secondary school students currently in Years 9 to 11.

The competition gives 22 students from government, Catholic and independent schools the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of civics and citizenship, including the role ancient Greece has played on the origins of Australian democracy and, in turn, helped shape and influence contemporary society. Students will be encouraged to share their experiences and new perspectives with their peers and wider school community upon their return.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins said of the tour, "The Premier's Spirit of Democracy study tour is an amazing opportunity for young critical thinkers to learn about the origins of Australian democracy and consider how young Victorians can contribute to positive change in our society."

The Premier's Spirit of Democracy program maintains strong links to learning outcomes from the Victorian senior secondary curriculum and will appeal to students with an interest in civics and citizenship, history, philosophy, legal studies and English – as well as those with a broad interest in developing leadership skills.

The week-long study tour will take place in Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory from 13 to 19 April 2023, during Term 1 holidays.

To enter, students must respond to a statement exploring the ability of young people to drive change by drawing on the ideas of classical Greek thinkers and reformers, such as Cleisthenes and Solon.

Students can submit their entries in a range of formats, including an essay or creative writing piece, audio or video presentation, musical composition or artwork. Applications close on Sunday 16 October. For more details or to enter, visit go.vic.gov.au/36jjQZ.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE

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WOODEND BOWLING CLUB

Season open day – Sunday October 2

The Woodend Bowling Club will officially open the New Season at the Club on Sunday October 2. All Club Members past and present are welcome to the Opening Day, to celebrate the start of the new season.

The new Saturday Pennant Season starts for our Division 2 team the previous day on Saturday October 1, with Division 3 starting the following Saturday, October 8. Our Midweek Division 1 and 3 teams start on Tuesday October 11.

Gemlife friendly match

In March 2021, the bowlers at Gemlife invited the Woodend Bowling Club

to a social competition at the new Gemlife bowling rink, to thank the Bowling Club for their help in getting started. The Gemlife team proved too good on the day and won the Perpetual Trophy.

The Woodend Bowling Club has issued a return invitation to a match to be played on Sunday October 2. We will publish the result in next month's The New Woodend Star.

Thinking of trying lawn bowls?

If you have thought about giving lawn bowls a try, why not give us a call, and

we can organise a trial session. Or, if you have never thought of giving it a go, why not come and try?

What do you need to get started?

We can provide everything you need, including the bowls and important guidance from one of our experienced players. You just need the time – an hour is all it takes to get started, and it's free!

Check out our website and Facebook page

For more information, please call our NEW phone number 5407 9220, or visit our website at [www.woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com](http://woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com). You can also follow us on Facebook.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT

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Activities for kids at Buffalo Sports Stadium Woodend

Active Kids Sports Program

Learn correct sporting techniques and skills to develop confidence and knowledge of sport. Children use a range of equipment from soccer, netball, hockey, basketball and more, and learn skills for catching, rolling and throwing in a relaxed, fun environment.

Sessions are held from 10am–10.45am on Wednesday mornings at Buffalo Sports Stadium, Woodend for children 2–5 years. Parent participation is required.

KinderGym

Held in the stadium, this program is based on developing gross motor skills, confidence, balance and social skills. KinderGym is a structured class with free play options for children to explore the array of equipment on display.

Sessions are held on Fridays at Buffalo Sports Stadium, Woodend:

- 10am–10.45am for 1–3 year olds
- 11am–11.45am for 4–5 year olds

For more information, including costs, call 5427 3411 or email buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au



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Changes in technology over the years



Back in the 'old days' everything used to take longer. Remember?

In the soft-furnishings industry, this amounted to taking a screwdriver out of your pocket and installing curtain tracks by hand. There were no battery impact drivers and most new homes didn't have power.

Michael clearly remembers when the Windows program for businesses came out in the mid-1990s. The Bradleys had an old computer with DOS on it, so Michael said, 'Dad, I really want one of these new computers.'

Jim replied with, 'Oh, what are you gunna do with a bloody computer? Stupid things.'

When Michael finally got his way and a new, shiny, modern machine arrived, Jim said, 'Well, that's the last computer I'll be buying!' Michael reckons they've probably been through 15 computers since then.

'Mobile phones helped us out a lot,' Michael says. Prior to this technology, if the installers forgot a part for a job, they'd have to drive back to retrieve it rather than call the office to see if someone could drop it off. Smart phones made work even easier—they no longer had to look for an address in the phone book at the post office and write it down but could tap it into any phone with an internet connection.

Speaking of mobile phones, Michael laughs at the memory of being on building sites when mobiles first came in. They were the size and weight of a six-pack of beer and the sound came through the car horn. Whenever one of the builder's horns started beeping, they'd all rush out to see if it was theirs ringing then try not to look disappointed if it wasn't...

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THE NEW WOODEND STAR

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Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5.30am	Resistance Training			Resistance Training			
6.15am	X-training Circuit		X-training Circuit		Gym Circuit		
6.20am		Fitball Class		Fitball Class			
7.00am						Fitball Class	
8.00am							Resistance Training
9.15am	Circuit	Gym Circuit		X-training Circuit	Gym Circuit		
10.15am							
6.00pm	X-training Circuit		X-training Circuit				

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Completion of Romsey Ecotherapy Park



The Romsey Ecotherapy Park is the result of a community-led initiative by the Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc. committee (REP) to build an inviting and accessible recreational open space for the community.

It is designed to provide people of all ages and abilities a unique sensory and therapeutic experience through engagement with nature.

The park is on the site of the former Romsey Primary School and consists of an active nature space, complete with cubby house and nature-based play elements, and a climbing forest for older children with a ropes course, lookouts and climbing net.

It also includes an events space with picnic and barbecue facilities, and an area showcasing several artistic features and a sensory garden. The final stage of the park has very recently been completed, finishing off the unique community space with a 'woodland ramble', a hut-building frame and onstreet parking. A community celebration event will be held on Saturday 19 November from 1–5pm. More information will soon be available at mrsc.vic.gov.au/ecotherapy

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



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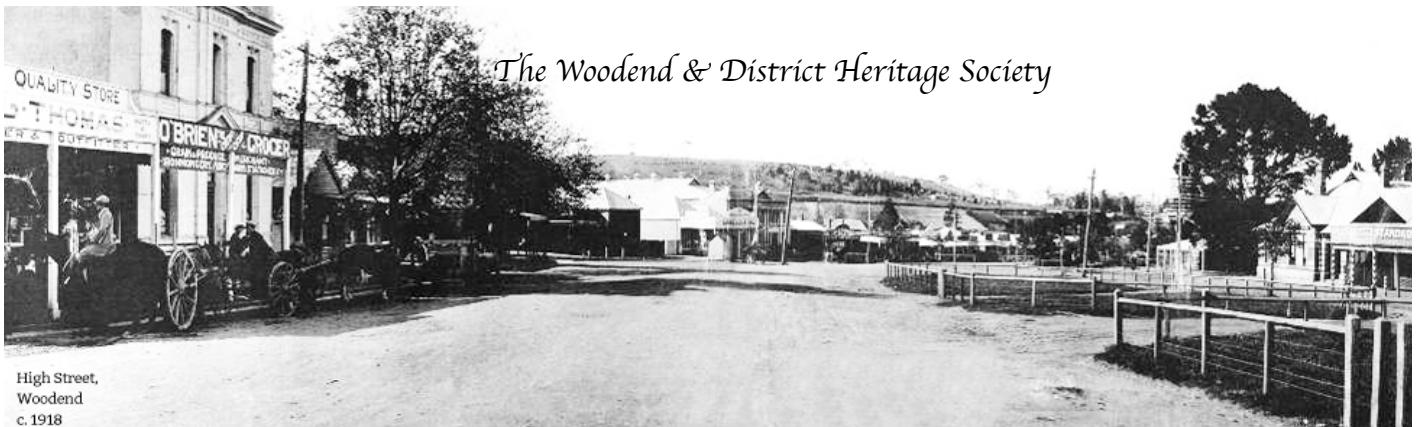
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THE NEW WOODEND STAR

41



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Woodend
c. 1918

Chetwynd

On one of the earliest pastoral settlements in the Macedon Ranges, there once stood an impressive home built with square stones for Edward Dryden, between 1849 and 1867. The walls of this solid house were 18 inches to two feet deep. A separate stone kitchen, as was common in those days, a large weatherboard and shingle barn, and huts for employees and stables completed the requirements of a sheep-grazing property. This farm, on Garth Road, was once part of Newham Station.

A beautiful avenue of elms led to the house, and near the house were planted Monterey cypress and pine trees. An orchard kept the family well stocked with fruit, and there was a beautiful garden.

Edward died in 1886 and was remembered in the Woodend Star as 'highly respected by all who knew him for his upright honourable conduct'.

By the early 1900s, the Clarke family owned Chetwynd. Richard Henry Clarke and his wife Mary Burston migrated to Australia from Somerset in England. Richard worked at Chetwynd before taking possession. Richard died at Chetwynd in 1913, handing on the property to John Clarke. Richard's wife died in 1921. The Clarke family took part in various social activities in Newham, and Richard was mentioned in the Woodend Star in December 1910 for inventing a machine that planted potatoes.

When Commonwealth Serum Laboratories bought Chetwynd in 1959, Jim Godden from Woodend started work there the following year. He remembered walking through the uninhabited house and being struck by how low the doorways were. He also remembered how one time, several sheep were missing, and a few days later, they were found stuck in the outdoor toilet.

After the arrival of CSL, the house gradually fell into disrepair. What was once a beautiful home is listed on the National Trust database.

SUBMITTED BY JANE HOLTH



Photo 462: Chetwynd, built for Edward Dryden between 1849 and 1867



Photo Alice Ettridge: Descendants of Edward Dryden, Alice Etheridge and Winnie Brown, outside Chetwynd in 1999

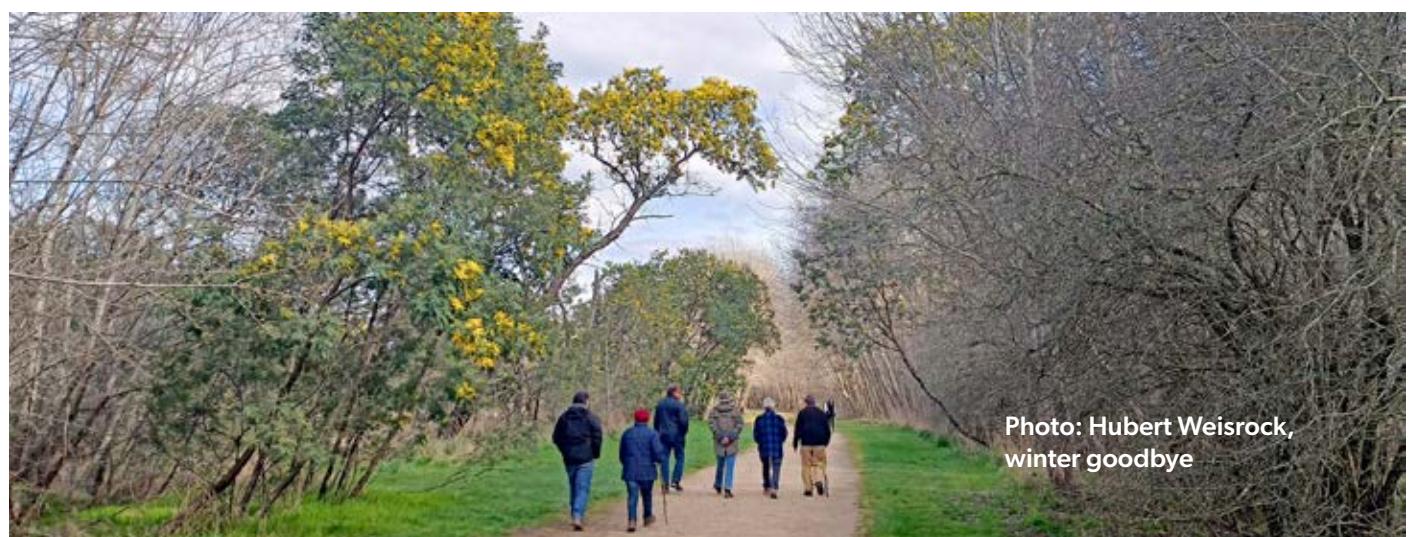


Photo: Hubert Weisrock,
winter goodbye

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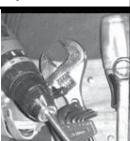
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SHC Production 'The Dream' receives rave reviews



Early in September, the Mary Moloney Theatre at Sacred Heart College was transformed into a mystical and mythical landscape for the College's production of *The Dream*, a reimagining of Shakespeare's arguably most well-loved play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

It was wonderful to see our students shine during four amazing and highly entertaining performances of *The Dream*, which were the culmination of around eight weeks of intense work. Due to the impacts of the pandemic, we had been unable to present a college production since '*The Addams Family*' in 2018, so we were all super excited to be onstage again and bringing '*The Dream*' to the community.

Our incredible cast, crew and band put in an amazing effort and really rose to the occasion. Reviews of the show have been outstanding, with many of our audience commenting on how they were completely blown away by the quality and talent of our actors and musicians.

To prepare the play to be stage-ready in such a short amount of time really was a credit to all involved, as we managed to

condense the entire process of a school production, which normally takes three terms, into just over two months.

The Dream was a 'hybrid' production with Year 9 and 11 drama classes essential to this process, as these students took on the bulk of the character parts spending much of their class time developing their interpretation of Shakespeare for a modern audience. Students from Year 7 to 10 were also involved as characters, dancers, and musicians.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is about a pair of lovers who flee an arranged marriage and escape to the forest, ending up getting caught in a power struggle between the king and queen of the fairies. One of the exciting things about staging Shakespeare is taking a play that was written 500 years ago and making it somehow 'fresh' for a modern audience. We were keen to get as many students involved as we could, to have fun while also presenting something unique – the outcome was even better than we had imagined.

Photo: TL Ben Gallagher, Haley Galloway, Annie O'Shannessy and Freya Egberts

Co-Directors and Choreographer

Cast Feedback

*"Taking part in *The Dream* was such an amazing and fulfilling experience. Being in the production enabled me to understand Shakespearean language better and know exactly what a character is trying to say and the emotions they are expressing."*

Sofia T - Year 11 (*Hermia*)

*"What I enjoyed most about *The Dream* was the time I spent with everyone. I've grown so close to everyone from all the rehearsals and shows, it was such an enjoyable experience."*

Grace S - Year 11 (*Helena*)

*"The thing I liked most about *The Dream* was making new friends and I liked that it was a community. I also loved the makeup."*

Isabelle Ellul - Year 7 ('Cobweb' Fairy & Costume Design)

"The Dream was a great experience for me. It gave us room to be creative and make new friends. I met a lot of older kids and had actual conversations with them. The show was nerve-wracking, but it was fun to be onstage."

Holly A - Year 7 ('Mustardseed' Fairy & Costume Design)

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER BALWIN



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Junior School Showcase

Thursday 20 October, 4:00pm - 8:00pm

We invite you to experience the amazing project work of our Junior School students:

- Year 7 Portfolios
- Year 8 Making a Difference Research Work
- Year 9 Major Projects
- Years 7 - 9 Exhibition of Art and Design



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