



42nd Annual Art Show
This year's show is held
over two weekends:
March 11–13 & March 18.

More details on page 2



Let the bargain hunting
begin: Get ready for
Woodend's Whole
Town Garage Sale.

Details on page 19



**Kyneton Air Show has
been rescheduled, now
taking place on Sunday
April 23.**

This event will be bigger
and better than what
was planned for 2016
which was postponed
due to heavy and
persistent Spring rainfall
last October.

More details on page 5



It's festival time again!

Macedon Ranges Sustainability Festival

Exhibitors in green technology, sustainable housing design, not for profit organisations and local community groups will all be represented, as well as hands on demonstrations, workshops, film screenings and speaking forums.

Would you like your home to be environmentally sound but don't know where to begin? or how to have reduced bills in a comfortable, non-toxic home while reducing your impact on the earth? Be inspired at the 8th Annual Macedon Ranges Sustainability Festival, it's all about demonstrating simple ways we can all live a more sustainable lifestyle.

With live music, free kids activities, including old-fashioned games, a wide selection of hot food vendors, along with live music and produce from the Farmer's Market on the same site, discover a bounty of all that has been grown, baked, brewed and stewed by 50+ local and regional producers. Be sure to bring your shopping baskets!

The 2017 MRS LF promises to be a great day out for the whole family!

Saturday March 4, 9am – 3pm. Entry is free! Corner High + Forest Streets

St Ambrose Carnival a real family affair

It's a fun family day where everyone feels welcome, memories are created, friendships strengthened and all those involved have an amazing day.

This years event features children's rides, main stage entertainment, Talent Quest for primary and secondary aged children, petting zoo, nail bar, jumping

castles, face painting, hair spray and tattoos, treasure hunt, cupcake decorating and a jumping castles, face painting, and much much more. SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS



Saturday March 18

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ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



Extended format for 42nd Lions Art Show

The ever popular Woodend Lions Art Show will offer the same quality works, but this year's event will be displayed on the following Saturday to coincide with the St Ambrose Community Carnival.

The show, which is in its 42nd year, is a feature event of the town's Lions Club.

Lion's president Barry McDonald said organisers were gearing up for another successful event and more than 200 works would be displayed. The event has attracted interest from artists from across Victoria and South Australia.

A dedicated team of Lions volunteers organise and man the show, which is one of the club's largest fund-raisers.

All proceeds go back into the Woodend community via Lions Club projects and visitors can vote for their favourite work in the People's Choice Award.

Club president Barry said, "Tickets to the opening night are available at \$25 covering entrance drinks and canapés. Toast the winning artists with us and get a first look at this year's exhibition." Doors open at 7.30pm on March 10. Book your ticket via Woodend Lions website or call 0438 363 242.

The 41st Woodend Lions Art Show is on this Labour Day weekend at the St Ambrose Hall in Templeton Street, March 11 - 13 and Saturday 18, 10am to 4pm.

By L. HEALY WITH THE NEW WOODEND STAR



Monthly Rainfall | Woodend

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	5 yr av.
JANUARY	31.0	3.9	19.2	61.4	35.3	27.8	30.6
FEBRUARY	133.0	97.4	11.2	41.6	14.3		59.5
MARCH	84.0	53.0	49.0	26	47		49.4
APRIL	35.5	20.5	84.1	39.4	36.2		48.6
MAY	54.4	47.2	46.0	68.7	101.2		58
JUNE	126.8	147.8	122.3	39.5	98.8		101.2
JULY	102.0	101.8	79.3	95.3	186.6		92.2
AUGUST	113.7	116.4	32.7	50.7	107		84.1
SEPTEMBER	54.6	85.0	55.9	44	163.6		67.6
OCTOBER	39.0	75.6	49.6	12.9	91.8		52.6
NOVEMBER	31.4	67.2	53.0	41.3	63.2		55
DECEMBER	21.4	35.2	36.6	41.7	92.8		51
TOTAL	826.8	851	638.9	562.5	1037.8	27.8	

The Red Cross, as an international organisation, performs an unbelievable number of services for those in need.

Trauma Teddies is one such service.

The Teddies are knitted by many wonderful volunteers and distributed to the public when the need arises.

We would like to assist our knitters by asking for donations of 8ply acrylic wool in any colour (not fluffy) to replenish stocks. Donations can be dropped into *Mort & Pestle - The Kitchen shop* in Woodend.

MIDNIGHT OIL TO PLAY AT HANGING ROCK

Legendary Australian rock band Midnight Oil have announced that they will perform at Hanging Rock on Saturday 4 November as part of their 'Great Circle 2017' world tour, organised by Frontier Touring.

This will be the band's first world tour in over 15 years, and Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson, said she couldn't be happier that they've added a show at Hanging Rock to their tour dates. "Midnight Oil is the quintessential Aussie rock band," she said. "They're political and passionate, and to see them reunited and in the Macedon Ranges is something really special."

A staple of the Sydney music scene in the 1970s, Midnight Oil rose to fame a decade later having etched some of the fiercest political anthems upon the Australian psyche, including classics such as Beds are Burning, Power & the Passion, U.S. Forces and Blue Sky Mine.

"It's been nearly twenty years since audiences have had the chance to sing-a-long to songs from this much-loved Australian act, but that's about to change", Cr Anderson said.



The announcement of Midnight Oil's appearance at Hanging Rock follows on from Bruce Springsteen's recent concert at the venue, along with The Eagles, the late Leonard Cohen, Rod Stewart and Cold Chisel.

Each of the previous concerts has been a huge success for the region, especially for accommodation providers and local restaurants, shops and cafes.

"The flow-on benefit for the community and businesses after the two Bruce Springsteen concerts in 2013 was estimated to be in the vicinity of \$9.7 million," Cr Anderson said.

To see other performance dates included on the tour, visit midnightoil.com/tour-dates For information about Hanging Rock visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Hanging-Rock or call 5421 1469.

BY A. MIDDLEMAST FOR M.R.S.C.

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RALLY FOR CANCER COUNCIL'S RELAY FOR LIFE

15th Cancer event for remembering + celebrating

Relay For Life brings together people all over the world who remember those who have had cancer including loved ones who have passed, are having treatment or in remission. It also pays tribute to carers, both in the home and working in the medical field.

Teams raise funds for cancer research, education, and support and advocacy services with their efforts culminating at an overnight Relay event.

Since 2003 the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life has donated more than \$1.23 million to the Cancer Council Victoria. On the weekend of March 4-5, around 22 teams will participate at Lancefield Park.

Relay For Life volunteer organisers are planning a weekend of fun activities to mark the 15th anniversary of the event at Lancefield.

Registrations are \$25 including a top and will be taken up until March 4. Cancer survivors including anyone having treatment and carers are invited to walk the opening lap at 3pm then stay for afternoon tea. For more information contact Kathy on 0419 644 688 or email jakalake57@gmail.com.

BY NADINE HARTNETT



www.mrslf.org.au



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2017 KYNETON AIR SHOW

'Spread Your Wings'

Thousands of spectators will flock to the rescheduled Kyneton Airshow on April 23 to witness historic and vintage aircraft dominating the sky whilst "The elite aerobatics team the Roulettes will be doing some breathtaking displays of precision and speed in their PC-9/A aircraft, said Grant Hocking of Woodend Rotary Club.

The Rotary Clubs of Woodend and Kyneton in conjunction with Kyneton Aero Club return the air show after high levels of rain during spring last year forced the cancellation of the event.



Gates open to the public at 8:30am.

"We pride ourselves in developing a very family friendly event" said Grant "There will also be entertainment for children, a vintage car display and lots of vendors with great food.

With visitors from all over Australia flocking to the Macedon Ranges, Kyneton Air Show is really an event you don't want to miss.

Book your tickets online via Kyneton Aero Club.

BY GRANT HOCKING

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Woodend RSL Looks to the Future

The RSL Sub-branch has embarked upon a 5-year plan because it recognises that to survive in the long term we must change and that means moving to a community focus whilst maintaining our traditions.

This will mean two major initiatives:

Firstly, we anticipate engaging with many more people in the community and becoming a resource that the community can utilise.

This might mean forming a community club or similar. We expect to engage with a wide spectrum of existing community organisations. The RSL hall has a large space for functions and events, a licenced bar and an accredited commercial kitchen, all of which are under-utilised at present. There is also a large outdoor area. We will consider any

suggested improvements to the facilities to attract community usage.

We would enjoy hearing from anyone with a view and we'd like to connect with representatives of community organisations. Secondly, to encourage interested ex-service men and women (preferably between the ages 25 to 55) to join the local RSL Sub-branch to create a new small committee in the future.

The plan is to minimise administration responsibilities but to continue with the traditions of ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and Vietnam Veterans' Day and providing welfare services for veterans.

We would appreciate hearing from any ex-service men and women who might be interested.

BY PETER WHITELAW

PETER@PETERWHITELAW.COM.AU

"Power" Tools for Community Collaboration

Riding on the wave of community engagement and inspired by the enthusiasm across the Macedon Ranges last year; a small group of committed volunteers have come together to create a series of workshops for 2017.

"People at the forums repeatedly expressed a wish that groups work more effectively with each other", John Brookes said. "Specifically a call for tools to put our ideas into action was a resounding cry."

"With that in mind, we came up with a series of workshops", explained Alice Aird, "with regular informal meet-ups in between for people to discuss and share what they had learned and to learn from each other."

The workshops have two distinct aims:

- To provide simple, practical tools that community members can apply to further their activities and projects.
- To connect groups through the practical application of the tools to each other's work. The intention being that they uncover ways their various goals align and therefore engender deep collaboration across projects and interests.

The first was run in February, please contact us, we would be happy to tell you more about the workshops and the get-togethers. Barbara Crljen, bcrljen@bigpond.net.au, 0413 774 677 or Alice Aird, airda@bigpond.com, 0400 068 551.

BY B CRLJEN



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Grab your gloves, roll up your sleeves and join in Clean up Australia Day

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is calling on local residents, community groups, schools and businesses to join in this year's annual Clean up Australia campaign.

There will be three clean up days held throughout the Macedon Ranges, including:

- _Business Clean Up Day - Tuesday 28 February
- _School Clean Up Day - Friday 3 March
- _Community Clean Up Day - Sunday 5 March

Council will support Clean Up Australia Day activities by assisting with the collection of litter and rubbish from designated sites, and will also provide a free disposal service at all Transfer Stations in the shire for all waste collected as part of Clean Up Australia Day events.

Council's Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson is encouraging everyone to lend a hand this year.

"While most people do the right thing and dispose of their litter responsibly, unfortunately some don't.

"Protecting our natural environment is important and if we all work together, we can make a difference and do our bit to keep local communities litter-free," she said.

To organise collection from a designated site or access the free disposal service, register a site via the Clean Up Australia Day website, cleanupaustraliaday.org.au or call 1800 CUA DAY (282 329).

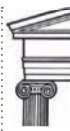
BY E. MCCORMICK | M.R.S.C

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ADFAS CENTRAL VICTORIA

Autumn program

March - Thursday 2, 7.30pm Sarah Deere-Jones, The History of the Harp

Our lecture series begins in splendid style with UK NADFAS lecturer Sarah Deere-Jones, who will musically illustrate The History of the Harp. Sarah is a scholar, composer and performer on the pedal harp. She will show the evolving sound and repertoire by performing on her own antique instruments.

March - Thursday 23 March, 11.00am, 'From Court to Kitsch at Castlemaine', 107c Farnsworth St., Castlemaine (members and guests)

Join other members on a self-drive event to the Castlemaine State Festival. Commence at the Studio of Caitlyn Lehmann, who is opening her collection of etchings, caricatures and photographs featuring ballet stars of yesteryear. Continue to glasswork and art displays in nearby Open Studios, then your choice of lunch in the Old Gaol Governor's café, or Das-Kaffeehaus or a BYO picnic. Nancy Toomey is organising this event so contact her at adfascenvic@gmail.com or 0419 494 822 for booking details.

April - Thursday 6, Sylvia Sagona, Madame de Pompadour and the Politics of Porcelain

Sylvia Sagona, our very popular first ADFAS CV lecturer, will return to Kyneton Town Hall to delight us all over again with another French-themed talk.

For membership enquiries, contact Norma Aplin - Chair 0419 234 012 or Greg Heath - Vice Chair 0418 561 051

BY D EDWARDS

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Planning for health and wellbeing

Local organisations focused on health are working together to create a healthier, happier community.

Cobaw Community Health, Kyneton District Health, Macedon Ranges Health, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Windarrang are inviting community members to identify health priorities via a short online survey, with the support of the Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership.

Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership's Executive Officer, Shelly Lavery said each organisation plays different roles but together they work to promote health and wellbeing of community members "from the cradle to the grave".

"It is great to see collaboration on health planning start with organisations asking community members what is important to them in relation to health and wellbeing" she said

Survey responses will help guide planning for community health and wellbeing in the Macedon Ranges Shire. The online survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MRsurvey2017> will close on March 10. Paper copies are available from each organisation.

People who complete the survey can also go into the draw for a chance to win one of 5 family swim passes and a family ticket to a Macedon Ranges Arts and Culture show.

If you have any further queries about the survey please feel free to contact Emma Shannon, Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership, 5472 5333.

BY E SHANNON | C.V.P.C.P.

If it wriggles, hops or has wings, we're talking about it!

From workshops on worms, rabbits and wildlife, to volunteer opportunities that support conservation, Council is delivering a diverse program of free environment events in March, designed to educate, engage and entertain.

If you've ever wondered what to do when you are swooped by a magpie or when a blue-tongued lizard suddenly appears in your backyard, join our free evening conversation on living with wildlife.

Presented by Wildlife Victoria on Wednesday 8 March from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Norma Richardson Hall in Woodend, this free discussion explores wildlife stories from your backyard.

On Saturday 11 March, the basics of worm farming are exposed in a free workshop as we shed light on what you need to build a successful worm farm. Held at Woodend Neighbourhood House from 10am to 11.30pm, the course will equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to get a worm farm up and running.

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity that supports our natural environment, come along to an information session and hear from existing Landcare members about what's involved in starting a new group, the benefits of Landcare and what support is available.

Sessions are being held from 6.30pm-8pm at the Gisborne Administration Centre on Thursday 9 March and at Kerrie Hall on Thursday 16 March. For details call 5782 0184.

For more information on Council's environment events or to book, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events or call 5421 9660.

BY E. McCORMICK | M.R.S.C.

Arts and Culture Unplugged

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MACEDON RANGES
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Music in the Macedon Ranges

It's time to get out and about!

We are about to make it much easier to locate the places to go to hear some great music in the Macedon Ranges. No excuses! Go and have some fun!

Many venues offer excellent live music at the weekends. There are probably far more gigs going on than what you expected! Coming up in March are some outstanding shows, including a major music festival in Gisborne, so take a look and get yourselves out and about!

To find all the details about what's on, in the Macedon Ranges, in one place, go to:

www.visitmacedonranges.com.

You'll be so glad you did!

BY J. DALTON FOR TMR

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Five Years of Growth for 2nd Woodend Scout Group

This February marks the 5th Birthday of 2nd Woodend Scouts, and coincides nicely with the founder Baden Powell's 160th Birthday too.

It's been a remarkable journey establishing a new Scout Group, and we are happy to report the Group is as happy and as vibrant as ever to mark this milestone.

Woodend collectively has one of the strongest participation rates for Scouting in the State. The membership is so strong in the town that there is a program to suit everyone.

The most important reason for scouts popularity, apart from the opportunity to experience the great outdoors, hang out with friends, feel a sense of achievement as you expand your practical skills and knowledge - is because of the fantastic Leaders that Scouts attracts.

We are immensely fortunate in Woodend to have a group of volunteers who create the most imaginative, challenging and inviting programs for our young people. It takes a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to be a Leader, but I believe the reward is a chance to also experience these adventures and to see the young people grow into respected and contributing members of our community.

Saying this, we would like to say a warm thank you to Andrew Johnson, who has retired from our Group at the close of 2016. Andrew not only helped establish 2nd Woodend, but was for many years one of the main contributors to the energy and drive that created an excellent scouting program in Woodend.

We would like to wish Andrew the very best, and thank him for the hundreds of hours he dedicated to the role.

For anyone interested in finding out more regarding Scouts, please check out our website at 2ndwoodendscouts.com.au or call Group Leader Phil Seeber on 0417 304 289.

** SEE PHOTO ON BACK PAGE
BY J. WALLDUCK | 2ND WOODEND SCOUTS

The Mount Players

Our first production "Little Gem" an Irish play, is now underway but there are still performances up till March 11 so don't miss out!

Auditions were held on 27 & 28 February for our second production "True West" and will swing into rehearsal mode shortly.

There will be an information night at the theatre for our 3rd production, The Full Monty on Monday April 10 at 7.00pm. We invite you to

come along to find out about the characters' requirements and hear all about this wonderful musical comedy set in Buffalo, New York.

Auditions will be held on Monday May 1, Wednesday May 3 and call backs on Saturday 6 May.

For all enquiries or to book a time please call Leo on 0458 582 838. To book your tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call our box office on 5426 1892.

BY KAREN HUNT



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SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON FLEXIRIDE

Nearly five months to the day since the Woodend FlexiRide service hit the road, local Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas and Parliamentary Secretary for Public Transport Ros Spence are giving the community a chance to tell them how it stacks up.

Ms Thomas and Ms Spence will be outside the Coles supermarket in Woodend from 10am - 12.30pm on Thursday 2 March to meet with local residents and discuss their experiences with the service.



"We have had a lot of positive feedback online and through the office, but we wanted to give the wider community a chance to tell us what is working for them" Ms Thomas said.

The FlexiRide service, operated by Dysons Group, is an 18-seater bus that departs from the central stop at Woodend Shopping Centre seven times each weekday between 9am - 5pm.

For the cost of a public transport fare, local residents can be picked up at one of the 28 designated stops located around the town and travel to the stop closest to their desired destination.

Ms Thomas encouraged Woodend residents and visitors to the town who have used the bus are invited to come and share their experience of the service.

"This new bus service for Woodend was a key election commitment, and I look forward to hearing what the community has to say about it now that it is on the road."

PHOTO: Mary-Anne Thomas MP with John Fuller and Rick Seymour from Dysons.

BY T TYLER | OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

"Enjoy your precious weekends"

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- Paddock slashing ☐
- Pre sale improvements ☐
- Rubbish removal ☐
- Property clean ups ☐
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Trentham puts arts and crafts on show during Easter Show

The Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show, which annually attracts more than 2000 visitors to see its 200-plus works, has this year added a new portrait category offering a \$500 prize donated by noted local artist Rose Wilson.

The best in show prize has simultaneously been doubled in value to \$1000 following support from a local benefactor and the East Trentham Fellowship.

Wilson, currently working on a major portrait exhibition and who has featured prominently in major national portrait prizes, including the Archibald, Doug Moran and Black Swan, offered the new portrait prize to encourage the blossoming Trentham and

local neighbourhood portrait scene.

"I wanted the prize to be in honour of Gweneth Wisewould because she made a huge contribution to our town's welfare as a doctor and, through her writing, as an articulate recorder of our social history, but also because she was artistic and a bit of a bohemian," Rose said.

"I didn't know of her until cast in a play about Trentham, 'Through the Mist', in which her character played a big part. This led to me reading her book, 'A Doctor on the Divide'. We have the sculptural town clock erected in her name in our High Street in 1973 but too many people don't give its plaque a second glance.

I have a passion for keeping history alive and would love her name to be kept alive."

Trentham Easter Art & Craft Show organisers are working with the Trentham Historical Society to support a Wisewould Exhibition to run in parallel with the art show. It will showcase documents, photographs and memorabilia from her life.

The Easter Art & Craft Show, regarded as one of the state's top regional exhibitions of its type, will be open over the Easter long weekend, April 14-17.

The portrait prize will be judged by Rose Wilson and Daniel Butterworth, who was a finalist in this year's prestigious Archibald Prize for portraiture with his striking painting of Trentham

chef Annie Smithers.

Prizes for the balance of the show, including the newly-enhanced best-in-show prize, will be judged by local artists Catherine Abel, herself an Archibald finalist, and Helen Cottle, winner of a long list of accolades, including last year's Trentham best in show award.

Entry is \$2 per adult. Part of last year's show proceeds helped fund an artist in residence at Bullarto Primary School, with Trentham East/Daylesford artist Cam Gill working with students at the end of 2016.

Artist entry enquiries can be made at: jacinta@jacinta-bourke.com.au

BY B. McLAREN



LOCAL AUTHOR SIGNING

Meet Macedon Ranges' talented author, Kirsty Manning, as she visits New Leaves to talk about her debut novel *The Midsummer Garden*



Date: Thursday 30 March 2017 **Time:** 7pm

RSVP: Essential - this will fill up quickly.

Email enquiries@newleaves.com.au and hold your copy to be signed!

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THE GOOD GUIDE

GREAT FOOD
& WINE FROM ACROSS
THE MACEDON RANGES

Wine review

Patrick Eckle's

Vintage is edging closer and closer with generous spring rainfall and a moderate summer meaning that most wineries in the region are expecting vintage to start in mid April, which is a return to the longer term average.

It's a busy time in wineries with one eye on the weather, and the other making sure that everything is ready to go once vintage starts as it is always a frenetic period.

The wines this month are both exceptional examples of top tier Macedon Ranges Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

2015 Domaine Epis Pinot Noir

A light to medium red hue in the glass, 2015 has been heralded as a great vintage and this ranks as one of the best Pinot Noir's that I have had from the Macedon Ranges. It has fullness and presence, yet retains femininity and beguiling complexity that comes from world class Pinot Noir. The nose is a heady mix of dark cherry, stem and rhubarb with quality french oak giving sandalwood like spice notes.

There is generosity of dark cherry on entry with fine and layered tannins that are given a rosemary and sage like complexity before rhubarb and earthen plum give further dimension. The fuller notes are quickly contrasted by drying baking spices that lead to a long, complex and satisfying finish.

Give this a decade in the cellar, and it will be something quite special.

Rated: 97 | Drink: 2017 - 2030 | Price: \$75

www.domaineepis.com.au

2014 Lane's End Chardonnay

Lane's End is one of Macedon Ranges best kept secret, with their Chardonnay in particular a consistent standout.

A lightly golden yellow in the glass, the nose unravels more each time you take a look, it starts with green fig and peach before showing leesy, almost flinty notes from time in new french oak and on solids.

It's worth noting that the wine is only 12.8%, showcasing cool climate viticulture and winemaking at it's best. This lower alcohol gives the wine a finely textured and embellished backbone with a lovely mineral acidity that derives elegance and subtlety when contrasted by the fruit and winemaker induced notes of the wine.

In terms of fruit, white peach and understated nectarine are on show with gentle wood spice and flint that join together on the long finish. This will live a long time and great value at the price.

Rated: 96 | Drink: 2017 - 2025 | Price: \$35

www.lanesend.com.au



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woodendwinestore.com.au

caz@woodendwinestore.com.au

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*Food Must be consumed with any alcoholic beverage
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What's on @ Woodend Library in March?

Goldfields Libraries Favourite Reads for 2016

The Goldfields Libraries top reads of 2016 are now official! A full list of the top ten most popular items in each category can be found at: www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/toptitles

The most popular Adult Fiction title was *Make Me* by Lee Child; Part of the Jack Reacher thriller series.

Adult Non-Fiction popular title was *Reckoning: A Memoir* by Magda Szubanski and Junior Fiction most popular title was *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (Parts 1 and 2) by JK Rowling; Part of the Harry Potter series and the Dvd with highest loans was *The Lady in the Van* starring Maggie Smith and Alex Jennings.

"It is great to see such a wide variety of authors and genres in our top reads lists for 2016, and to see that print and digital are co-existing very comfortably," said Pam Sheean, Goldfields Library Corporation Collections Manager. "The popularity and influence of social media and the web means patrons are much more across what is being published and when. The ease of sharing reading suggestions online, trading book lists and contributing to discussions has breathed new life into books and reading. By following popular blogs and reading sites, new gems can be discovered, reviews devoured, thoughts shared and opinions challenged." Notably, British titles were popular amongst Goldfields Libraries patrons,

with all but one category topped by British authors and filmmakers.

Coincidentally Magda Szubanski, who penned *Reckoning: A Memoir*, was born in Britain before immigrating to Australia as a child.

Thousands of titles are available in the Goldfields Libraries eLibrary. This service gives members free access to a range of eBooks, audio books, online training, children's stories and activities, language learning, music, films, family history resources and more.

The Autumn program is now available.

The April school holiday program promises to "gross out" the kids, with quirky science and craft activities, story theatre, crazy hair salon and a performance by The Itchy Scabs kids punk rock band.

In April there will be an IT session Reading Online. Book in to find out all about using borrowbox, OneClickdigital and reading sites.

Visit the Goldfields Libraries website to search the catalogue and access the eLibrary: www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au or book into Autumn events including the Holiday Program, most events are free. For more information view the school holiday program on our website.

BY L. COCKRAM | WOODEND LIBRAR



vicroads.vic.gov.au

Calder Freeway-Station Road Interchange

Gisborne ramp closure and detours

March 2017

Road users are reminded that the north bound Gisborne exit ramp from the Calder Freeway onto Station Road at Gisborne will be closed while works are underway to upgrade the Calder Freeway-Station Road intersection.



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

For a more reliable journey, we are asking all road users to plan their regular trips ahead of time, including becoming familiar with using the detours for journeys toward Gisborne.

When

Between 14 March 2017 to 18 April 2017 (weather permitting)

Where

The northbound Gisborne exit ramp from the Calder Freeway onto Station Road will be closed to traffic.

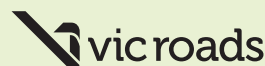
Detour details

Motorists travelling towards Gisborne are advised to use the following detour routes:

- Via Melbourne Road Interchange or via the Mt Macedon Road Interchange.

For diagrams of the detour routes visit: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au (search for Station Road)

Thank you for your patience while these important works are underway. Please observe the changed traffic conditions including work zone speed limits, for your own safety, the safety of other road users and the safety of our workers.



Music in the Sticks seeks new members

If you are aged 14–25 and interested in learning a range of new skills in areas such as event management, sound and lighting, publicity, media, photography, film, hospitality, and live and studio recording—then Music in the Sticks (MITS) is where you need to be in 2017!

MITS is a program for young people in the Macedon Ranges Shire with an interest in the music industry. The group meets twice a month at the Woodend Community Centre from 4.30pm to 6pm. Food and drinks are provided.

Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said MITS was an opportunity for young people interested in show business to meet like-minded people and gain new skills.

“MITS is a great program for young people”, said Cr Anderson.

“It gives young people an insight into what it’s like in the music industry, and provides invaluable work experience opportunities.

“Participants explore areas such as event management and sound production, and gain a head start in a notoriously competitive profession.”

To find out more or register your interest, contact Natalie on 5422 0333 or email mits@mrsc.vic.gov.au

BY E. MCCORMICK | M.R.S.C

Macedon Ranges University of the Third Age | Special Presentation:

Looting Greece to fill our Museums

A four-week course: Mondays, starts February 27 through March 27 with Guest Presenter: Janet Woods, B.A., M.Th.

- Week 1: How Aphrodite of Melos ended up armless in the Louvre.
- Week 2: How Greece lost her Marbles, and Lord Elgin lost his Nose. (Labour Day Holiday)
- Week 3: A Watery End – Sunken Pottery in the Mediterranean.
- Week 4: Modern Versions of Ancient Pastimes – Palmyra destroyed and Baghdad looted.

Anyone can attend this course. Non-members are asked to pay a \$10.00 fee to cover the insurance we are required to have for each person in the centre.

Our presentations are held at the Senior Citizens Hall each Monday beginning at 10.30am. At lunchtime we bring our own lunch with tea and coffee provided. This is getting-to-know-you-time. After lunch, our afternoon session of one hour is a chance to discuss individual items of news, chat about good or bad TV/films and books, and share opinions in a lively and informal way, led by one of our group.

For some of us who live alone, this is a really great way to be able to have a thoughtful discussion with others of our own age group. For more information call our President, Malcolm Colquhoun, on 5426 2331 and be assured of a hearty welcome.

BY JO CLANCE



Your community diary

Have your event listed in our calendar:

Simply send your details to content@newwoodendstar.org.au

MARCH

2..... ROTARY, RESPONSE TO HAITI DISASTER
4..... MACEDON RANGES SUSTAINABLE FESTIVAL
4..... MRSC, RABBIT CONTROL TALK
2..... M.R RUNNING CLUB, START RUN PROGRAM
8..... INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
8..... MRSC, WILDLIFE BACKYARD STORIES
9..... ROTARY, WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS
9..... MRSC, STARTING A NEW LANDCARE GROUP
11..... ST MARY'S STREET STALL
11..... MT PLAYERS, LITTLE GEM
11..... MRSC, WORM FARMING WORKSHOP
13..... LABOUR DAY
14-13 + 18..... WOODEND ART GROUP ART SHOW
14..... WOODEND GOLF, LADIES CLINIC

15..... ST MARYS, KNIT & NATTER
16..... ROTARY, EXCHANGE STUDENTS
16..... MRSC, STARTING A NEW LANDCARE GROUP
17..... WNC, COMMUNITY LUNCH
18..... DROMKEEN, LIT-FEST
20..... WNC, AGM
23..... ADFAS, FROM COURT TO KITSCH
23..... ROTARY, MEMBERS EVENING
11..... MT PLAYERS, LITTLE GEM
26..... DUNEIRA, CONCERT ON STH LAWN
28..... WOODEND GOLF, LADIES CLINIC

APRIL

2..... ROTARY, 30TH CHARTER CELEBRATION
6..... ADFAS, POMPADOUR & POLITICS, PORCELAIN
8..... ST MARY'S STREET STALL

9..... ROTARY, SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE
10..... MT PLAYERS, FULL MONTY
14..... GOOD FRIDAY
14-17..... WOODEND ART GROUP EASTER ART
14-17..... TRENTHAM EASTER ART SHOW
16..... BUPA HARVEST FESTIVAL AND ART SHOW
16..... EASTER SUNDAY
23..... KYNETON AIR SHOW
25..... ANZAC DAY

MAY

13..... ST MARY'S STREET STALL

JUNE

10..... ST MARY'S STREET STALL
10-12..... WOODEND ART GROUP WINTER ART SHOW

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a message from
Cr. Janet Pearce

As a newly elected Councillor, I am pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the New Woodend Star which provides a very important role in supporting our community, highlighting events and recognising achievements.

Jennifer Anderson, our Mayor and I will be alternating monthly messages.

Thank you to all those people who have contacted me. Councillors value and realise that the community is such a strength of our Shire. We are very open to groups and individuals contacting us, informing us about events and inviting us to meet and hear about your ideas. Feedback from residents for the Council Plan is well underway. This is just the beginning of four phases. A community forum will be held on 28th February in the Kyneton Town Hall. It will help shape the high level direction and priority areas.

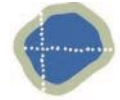
Remember it is your plan and it is very important to us that you all participate.

There is also an opportunity for groups to present to Councillors for 30 minutes at briefing sessions. Contact Debbie Peters at the Shire to request further information. We are very keen for groups to use this time to inform us all about projects and the work of volunteers.

The outcomes from The Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee have been announced. All 12 recommendations have been accepted and will include policy and legislative mechanisms to protect the significant values, attributes and character of the Shire. The Traditional owners, Community, Council and the State Government will work together on this, as we should.

Look forward to meeting more of you out and about in Woodend.

Best Wishes, -Janet



Kyneton Ridge Estate
MACEDON RANGES

Cruisy Sunday

SUNDAY 5 MARCH 1-3PM

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Upcoming events

Sunday 2 April:

Love among the barrels: Wine and cheese workshop

Sunday 14 May:

Mother's Day Sparkling High Tea

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(VIA HALLORANS LANE)
WWW.KYNETONRIDGE.COM.AU
0409 017 310

Are you aware of your Fringe Benefits Tax obligations?

Consider Joseph's case

Joseph runs a retail company and five of his sales staff receive motor vehicles as part of their employment agreement, which are accounted for using the operating cost method.

Outside of work Joseph's passion is the Western Bulldogs and he loves to give his employees football tickets. Joseph would like to understand his Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) obligations.

Recreation

Recreation fringe benefits can be a complex area of FBT. Some key points to be aware of are:

- If the gift is of a minor and infrequent nature, such as theatre or football tickets that cost less than \$300 per employee, then the entertainment is exempt from FBT.
- If the minor benefit exemption is applied then no Income Tax Deduction or GST credits can be claimed
- If the minor benefit exemption is not applied then FBT would apply to the value of the ticket

Motor Vehicles

FBT obligations associated with this commonly provided benefit depend on:

- Availability to the employees for private use. If the employees only use the car during work hours generally no FBT applies, however if they garage the car at their house FBT may apply. Where private use is minor or infrequent FBT may be minimised.
- Whether or not employees make contributions to the running costs of the vehicle. Personal contributions may reduce any FBT obligations.

Should you wish to discuss your FBT obligations please feel free to contact Andrew Marshall or Janine Orpwood on 5427 8100 for an initial consultation.

Langley McKimmie

Chartered Accountants

www.langleymckimmie.com.au E: info@lmaccountants.com.au

DID YOU KNOW?

The New Woodend Star is fully funded by the community advertisers and is written by people who live in our community about things that are happening in our community.

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Rotary
Club of Woodend



**CLUB HIGHLIGHTS
+ NEWS**

by Grant Hocking

Rotary is for everyone
— *You can make a difference*

If you want to make a real difference in your local community or around the world, and if you are interested in making new friends or taking action on a specific community issue, then you will be interested in Rotary.

Woodend Rotary gives you an opportunity to get involved in your community locally and around the world. Together, we are making great things happen and with your support we can do more. Members contribute to the development of all projects from inception to completion.

Projects in the Woodend community

- The New Woodend Star community newspaper
- Avenue of Honour Memorial wall fence and picnic setting
- Halloween community party
- Woodend Exercise track
- Railway fence at South entry to town
- Interview skills workshop for secondary students

Our recent overseas projects include

- A water tank at an evacuation centre in Vanuatu where members travelled to install the tank.

- Disaster Aid Australia, and Operation Cleft which conducts cleft palate repairs in Bangladesh
- If you want to be part of improving your community then Woodend Rotary is for you. We ensure everyone is made very welcome and get involved.

Woodend Rotary consists of men and women from all areas of the community, and whether we're socialising or working together on service projects, we always have a lot of fun.

Guest speakers at our weekly meetings are interesting and informative. Come along and visit one of our meetings and make up your own mind. We meet at the Victoria Hotel on Thursday nights from 6.45pm and make guests and visitors very welcome.

Upcoming guest presentations include:

- Disaster response to Haiti | March 2
- Russell Hayes – Wheelchairs for Kids | March 9
- Exchange Students Germany Inbound/Outbound | March 6
- Membership evening | March 23
- Club's 30th Year Charter Celebration | April 6
- Shrine of Remembrance Sunday | April 9
- Kyneton Airshow Sunday April 23

For more information about our projects or upcoming events visit rotarywoodend.org or find us on facebook.

To discuss what Rotary can offer please contact Membership Director Grant Hocking on 0429 802 722.

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Jill Kratsis - 0422 803 433

• Naturopath

Trish Dewberry - 0409 803 696

• Hypnotherapy/Counselling

Renae Boucher - 0403 233 232

• Bowen Therapy • Ionic Foot Detox

• Access Consciousness Bars



from left; Jill Kratsis, Trish Dewberry, Natalie Taranto & Renae Boucher

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Asthma, lung health & smoking cessation nurse



Our specialist nurse Michelle Neal is qualified in asthma education and smoking cessation.

For asthma patients, Michelle takes a comprehensive history including asthma triggers, medications etc and then works with you and your doctor to create a thorough plan for your ongoing health care. Health care for asthmatics often includes prescription of medications. The Victorian School Asthma Action Plan will also be provided for children who require a medically certified plan for school.

Patients over the age of 6 with asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or other lung diseases will have also have spirometry (lung function testing) done. This is useful to see how your lungs function before and after medication as well as how they function over time.

Thunderstorm asthma poses a significant risk to people with certain allergies – you can work with Michelle and your doctor to identify how to best manage this. Your doctor may authorise medical certificates to avoid going out on days posing severe risk to those known to be vulnerable.

Smokers wishing to quit can meet with Michelle in a supportive, non-judgmental environment to get you on your way to quitting. Using a number of different strategies, Michelle works with you and your doctor to create a plan of attack which may include medication.

Labour Day public holiday closure

The practice will be closed on Monday 13 March for the Labour Day public holiday.

Those with urgent needs should call
After hours GP helpline on 1800 022 222.

**In case of medical emergency –
call an ambulance on 000**

Brooke St. Medical Centre – tel. (03) 5427 1002

Under 16 years bulk billed

Patients under 16 years of age are bulk-billed for all GP consultations.

That means there is no out of pocket expense when children see a GP.

Book GP appointments on line

For your convenience, please visit our BSMC website to book your GP appointments on-line.
www.bsmc.net.au

Of course you can still ring our friendly receptionists to make your appointments too.

Gestational Diabetes



Women who have **ever** been diagnosed with Gestational Diabetes should alert us to this fact.

Women with a history of diabetes in pregnancy (recently or in the past) have a higher risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes than others.

Best practice is to test your blood glucose levels on an annual basis. We can also help you develop a plan of action to best work at the prevention of Type 2 Diabetes.

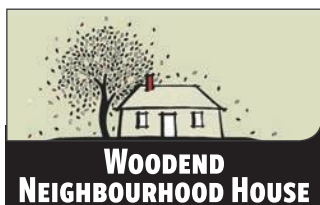
Please let your GP know of your history of Gestational Diabetes no matter how long ago.

Our specialist diabetes educator, Wendy Shepherdley can help you understand this condition and how best to manage it for the long-term. You can just book in to see Wendy and have the appointment linked to your preferred GP in order to give yourself the best chance of managing this.

Flu Vaccines

Watch our website www.bsmc.net.au and Facebook page to find out when flu vaccines become available.

After hours GP Helpline - tel. 1800 022 222



If de-cluttering is on your mind, join the club! We've had a huge working bee at the House and have lots of things to sell in the upcoming Whole Town Garage Sale on Saturday, 25 March.

If you're new to the town garage sale it's all pretty simple. To join in as a 'seller' you pay us \$5 and we add your garage sale to the whole town map and give you a poster and some balloons to show you're part of the event. If you're a 'shopper' you come to the Neighbourhood House on 25 March from 8am and buy a map with all the sales on for \$5.

This year we're limiting the number of sales on the map to 60 so get in quickly and sign up at www.woodendnh.org.au/garage or drop in to the House Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm. There's always a lot of fun on the day – last year we

helped a bride looking for a white fur coat and gumboots for her wedding in Daylesford that afternoon!

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 20 March at 7pm at the House. All members are invited to attend and vote for the Committee of Governance. If you are keen to be part of the Committee please get in touch.

Finally, we're proud to announce that a small team from the House has been selected onto the Social Traders CRUNCH program. Crunch delivers business skills and networks to enable social enterprises to become sustainable and generate social impact. So, over the next three months the team will be asking residents questions and conducting in-depth interviews. If you spot them out on the streets please spare a few minutes to answer their questions. We'll provide more of an update in the April edition of *The New Woodend Star*.

BY ANGELA VAN DAM |

WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

The Idea of North, comes South!

Duneira and the Woodend Winter Arts Festival have teamed up to bring you a fantastic event to launch the 2017 Festival Program.

From Australia's undisputed masters of a cappella wizardry comes "Homegrown": a show chock-full of larrikinism and songs by Aussie artists as fair-dinkum as the dog on the tuckerbox eating Vegemite while listening to Banjo Patterson sing "You're the Voice".

Revel in the glorious sounds of Australia's musical history from the 1930s right up to today, all without a single instrument in sight.

The Idea of North are Australia's only multi-ARIA Award-winning a cappella ensemble and they'll move you to laughter, tears and wonderment as you soak up their incredible arrangements, voices and performance.

By the end of the concert, you'll feel like you've known them all for years! Enjoy this concert on the South Lawn at Duneira. View the wonderful Autumnal colours while you relax with your picnic supper, drinks, blankets and chairs. Sunday March 26 at 4.15pm. Tickets \$35 / \$30 from www.duneira.com.au.

BY I. O'DUFFY | WWAF



Concert: The Idea of North

Sunday 26 March at 4.15 pm

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

DUNEIRA

View our 6-week Autumn Open Garden calendar of events online

duneira.com.au

Bookings essential

03 5426 1490

(Office hours Mon–Thurs 9am–3pm)

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Double Celebrations at Ramai!

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Wednesday 22nd March
12 noon till 7pm

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OR, get 25% off each

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5th Birthday

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Australia Day celebrations at Bupa



Residents of Bupa Aged Care, Woodend celebrated Australia Day with a BBQ lunch at a range of venues.

Fifty residents opted for an outdoor lunch, using the newly established "Friends and Family" garden.

This garden, planted with summer-flowering shrubs such as Buddleia and Hydrangea, proved an ideal setting.

Entertainment included "Throw the Thong, Australia Day crosswords and a sing-a long. Old favourites such as "It's a long way to Tipperary" and "If you knew Suzie" blended with the obligatory "Waltzing Matilda".

Activities at Bupa have an international flavour this year. Australia Day was followed by celebration of Chinese New Year – and a month of Irish activities will be next.

BY VAL POLLARD

Take a walk on the wild side...

Night Walks at Hanging Rock

Owls, kangaroos and koalas are a few of the creatures you might spot at Hanging Rock Reserve during one of the guided night walks, set to take place on Friday 24 February and Friday 17 March. Held monthly from December to March each year, the night walks are suitable for all ages and are a rare opportunity to immerse yourself in the secret life of animals that call this natural wonder home.

Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said the night walks were a fantastic opportunity to learn about the history and geology of Hanging Rock, and discover more about the region's distinct flora and fauna.

"Hanging Rock Reserve abounds with native animals, and these guided night walks are a great way to spot some of them," she said. "Our experienced park rangers will lead you on an exciting exploration where you may be lucky enough to spot a range of native wildlife that are naturally more active at night," she said.

The cost is \$55 per family, \$22 per adult and \$11 per child. Numbers are limited and bookings are essential. For more information or to book your space, contact 5421 1468.

BY E MCCORMICK | M.R.S.C.

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Discover new opportunities for your business

Need help preparing a business plan? Want to increase your social media skills? Looking to expand your client base?

Council's 2017 Business Seminars, Networking and Training Program begins this month with a diverse range of events and workshops on offer.

From social media tips, through to handy information on reducing energy bills; each event and workshop has been tailored to meet the diverse needs of business in our shire.

Developed following feedback gathered from previous business surveys and workshop feedback, Mayor, Jennifer Anderson said the 2017 program provided many opportunities for hands-on learning.

"This year's program has a diverse range of options from programs associated with environmental management to innovative and cost effective promotion and marketing techniques", she said.

"We're also offering a workshop later in the year on grants and services available to businesses to help reduce bills and increase energy efficiency".

"If you're a local business in the shire, whether you're just starting up or already established, Council is here to support you." "For those involved in the tourism sector, we've got workshops on increasing the profile of your business, along with Council services and assistance for event and festival organisers."

By popular demand, the two-day Macedon Ranges Business Conference returns to Kyneton Town Hall, and features workshops facilitated by Small Business Victoria. Hosted by Macedon Ranges Business Connect, this is an excellent opportunity for local business to have a quality conference experience for a fraction of what it would cost elsewhere.

"Council is always looking at what else we can do to support prospective, new and established businesses", said Cr Anderson.

"We want you to succeed, and I encourage local businesses to utilise the support, tools and resources Council can provide."

For more information on the 2017 Business Seminars, Networking and Training Program or to book your place, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events or call 5421 9616.

By E. McCORMICK | M.R.S.C.



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Juliana's practice is set apart from other firms due to her extensive experience in the health and business industries.

The firm is well supported by a team of professional support staff who collectively have over 50 years' experience in the legal industry.

Associate Solicitor Heidi Keighran is now regularly representing clients in the Magistrates Court and County Court.

Juliana is a member of the Family Law Section of the Law Institute of Victoria, the Law Council of Australia and current Vice President of the Bendigo Law Association.

A number of Macedon Ranges secondary students have undertaken



Structured Workplace Learning programs at the firm and several have gone on to pursue a career in law.

The firm is passionate about encouraging secondary students, in particular those from regional areas to pursue their goals.

For more details telephone 5444 1181 for an appointment in Bendigo, Woodend or Kyneton. Also, see our website for more: jslaw.com.au.

By K. SMITH, J.S. LAW

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Western Water calls for input on five-year plan

Water is fundamental not just to our survival but also to our communities, environment, businesses and lifestyle.

Now people can have their say on how water and sewer services should be planned and managed across the region.

Western Water is calling on Woodend residents to provide their input on the water corporation's five-year water plan for 2018-23.

Western Water's customer base of around 160,000 people is expected to double in the next 20 years, so planning for the future is critical.

It has launched a website, www.haveyoursay.westernwater.com.au, where people can find out more about topics like water quality and prices, and submit their views or suggestions.

A recent survey of 900 customers found people's top priority for water was planning to meet the challenges of the future.

Western Water will use the input to help produce a draft water plan, setting out service standards, capital works and prices for 2018-23. This will be submitted to the industry's regulator, the Essential Services Commission, late in 2017.

BY K.SMITH FOR WESTERN WATER

Works crews on the road again

Macedon Ranges Shire Council works crews are entering one of their busiest times of the year, with weather conditions optimal for roadworks and a \$2.2 million road reconstruction program to be completed before 30 June.

Council's Director Assets and Operations Dale Thornton said that the works will target roads most in need of repair in response to routine inspections, and will improve road safety and driving conditions for motorists.

"We manage a large road network covering a total distance of 1,700kms, and prioritise reconstruction works annually according to need."

Collier Street, Woodend will have kerb and channel and minor asphalt works to both sides between Anslow and Forest Streets.

New guardrails and anti-skid surfacing will be applied to a number of segments of Ashbourne Road Woodend, from Donalds Road to Currawong Road. Works are expected to start in March. The project is funded by Australian Government's Black Spot Recovery Program.

New guardrails will be installed along Cobb and Co Road, Carlsruhe under the Australian Government's Black Spot Recovery Program.

BY E MCCORMICK | M.R.S.C.

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International Women's Day

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We haven't, and we're here to remind you, just how important you are.

At Macedon Chiropractic we believe there is nothing more courageous than showing compassion to yourself and there is nothing more fierce or formidable than loving yourself.

We believe the way you treat your body, is a direct reflection of how much you value yourself and how much you believe you are worth. We believe in you, to make a commitment to nourish your body, empowering yourself and other women to do the same, collectively inspiring a community of bold women who can create sustainable change.

Remember, change is the only constant and looking after your self is a life-long commitment, you just need to know how to do it and how easy it can be.

We invite you to come along for the opportunity to be involved in practical health workshops where we will teach you our top five tips for looking after yourself and sustainably supporting your body through change.

To get your ticket or one for that person in your life you know could benefit, find us on Facebook: Macedon Chiropractic, where you can stay connected with event updates, or simply find out more information about our guest speakers and workshops.

You can call us on 5426 3945 to chat to us about why this is a great step in the right direction, for you or a loved one.

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Macedon Chiropractic Team.

By Dr Anne Kennedy

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When bushfire burns, don't expect a truck at every door

If a bushfire is burning out of control, CFA firefighters must concentrate their efforts on stopping the fire. There may not be enough fire trucks and firefighters to defend every home.

In fact, there are around 42,000 people living in the Macedon Ranges, serviced by eight CFA Brigades with a total of only 25 fire fighting trucks and support vehicles. You do the math!

"CFA firefighters will be doing everything they can, to prevent injury to people and damage to property, during a bushfire. But you should never expect a fire truck in your backyard to personally protect your home," Woodend CFA Captain Mick Christie said.

Instead, people who choose to live in a bushfire setting should prepare well in advance of a fire threat and know exactly what they are going to do.

"Often the first warning you receive of a fire approaching your property is smoke or flames. CFA firefighters can't knock on every door to give a personal warning. Don't be caught out. Prepare in advance and you can enjoy living in a bushland setting, knowing you have a well thought out bushfire survival plan.

"Never sit back and do nothing, thinking CFA firefighters will protect your house. The reality is this may not happen. Doing everything to protect your home

and asset is your responsibility," Captain Christie said.

To get ready for a bushfire, people in areas of high fire risk are advised to prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan. This is a well thought out plan about how you will prepare and respond to a fire in your area.

A part of this plan is deciding if you are going to leave early, before a fire threatens or road travel become hazardous, or stay and defend your home. Whatever your choice you need to spend a decent amount of time preparing you and your family. Five minute chats while watching the TV are not enough.

When the risk of bushfire is high, CFA will be on full alert but it isn't possible to give personal warnings to every home. Listen to your local ABC radio. Keep in contact with your neighbours. And watch for smoke. Keeping informed could save your life!

For further information contact Captain Mick Christie on 0419 870 601 or 1st Lieutenant Mike Dornau on 0409 093 935, call the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, visit the station in Urquhart Street, follow us on Facebook or our website: www.woodendcfa.org.au. The Woodend CFA is a volunteer emergency service, committed to Creating a Safer Community.

BY 1ST LIEUTENANT MIKE DORNAU, WOODEND CFA

Petanque! *Funny name, Great game*

Enjoyed by all ages as seen by 8 yr old Maya who is visiting from Cairns enjoying an evening at Hanging Rock with the Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque club.

A sport for all ages and ability.

Join us any Thursday evening at Hanging Rock for an intro to the game. Social boules available for use. Come and join us for our version of "Picnic at Hanging Rock". We can promise you no-one disappears!.

Our Season is October to April, Thursday nights 4.30 to 8.30pm.

Questions? Get in contact: secretary@petanqueattherock.com.au
by Helen Cottew, Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club (WHRPC)

'Knit and Natter'

St Mary's Guild, Woodend has restarted its monthly 'Knit and Natter', where volunteers knit squares which are sewn into blankets for the Salvos to distribute.

Recently, we have helped The Red Cross with completing 'Trauma Teddies' and will be working on them again in March.

St Mary's Guild needs help sewing up the teddy bodies and sewing on smiling faces. If you have some time to spare, contact Sylvia 0488 776 645 for more information, or attend on Wednesday March 15 from 11am at the Norma Richardson Hall. BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. We meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 11am to 2pm.

By S. FANZEN

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Woodend Art Group

Woodend Art Group (WAG) operates from the old tea rooms at the Woodend Railway Station. We have two very large rooms for teaching and use as the galleries for our exhibitions. Members and visitors alike find it very convenient! With very competitive class and workshop fees, we are well placed for students to travel from the city.

Coming events:

- Sunday March 4: Portraiture workshop 10–4pm, with Daniel Butterworth, \$85
- Sunday March 5, Plein Air workshop in oil 10–4pm, with Ben Winspear, \$85
- Sunday March 19, Pastel workshop with Maria Dee, \$85 plus \$5 materials

Regular Term Classes:

Student drawing after school in our Folio Club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Printmaking Friday mornings and afternoons.

Group gatherings:

- Tuesday Social Painting 10 to 1pm \$5 – come along and do your own thing. Members turn up to draw, paint and play with the encaustic equipment. Tea & coffee supplied.
- Plein Air on Wednesdays – members meet at the rooms around 9:30am then go off to some wonderful spot nearby to paint. No cost/unless bad weather prevails then I will open the rooms
- Portraiture Tuesday afternoons, 3–5pm, \$15

Would you like to join us for:

- A Thursday in March for a watercolour workshop with Helen Cottle
- Art instruction for 10 weeks in Term 2 with award winning Daniel Butterworth, approx. \$35 per week. Daniel presented his portrait of Annie Smithers in this year's Archibald – this is a great artist and great value.
- Life Drawing 1pm to 4pm, last Sunday \$35

Everyone is welcome – beginners to advanced – come and hone your skills or develop new ones. Further information check out our website www.woodendartgroup.org.au or contact president@woodendartgroup.org.au or Di Fitt on 0488 627 448 for details on any of the above.

BY DI FITT

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Come and say hello

Bike Safe Macedon Ranges will be at the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Festival on Saturday March 4.

It's held behind the Woodend Neighbourhood House and this year it is running in conjunction with the farmer's market.

We will be amongst the many excellent and interesting exhibitors for the day. It's a chance for us to continue to

connect with our local community and coincides with our "Pass with Care" campaign that is currently running throughout the Shire. This year, entry to the festival is free.

We love to promote our local area as a place for visitors to come and enjoy, preferably with their bikes!

Why not take the chance to sign up as a member? We will also have our "Pass with Care" vests for sale. They are a great way to spread our message whilst helping to be safe out on the road by wearing visible clothing.

JEM RICHARDS | BIKE SAFE MACEDON RANGES

Council funding grants

Get ready for the year ahead

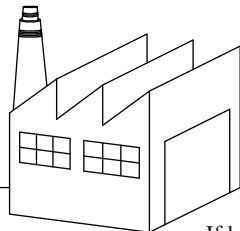
Council's grants and funding programs are a great opportunity for community groups to receive assistance to develop skills, programs, performances, artworks, events, festivals and much more.

Now is the perfect time to plan any projects and goals your group would like to achieve in the year ahead and to see if they will be eligible for a Council grant.

To assist with applying for grants, keep an eye out for upcoming workshops. and refer to the calendar below
January: Landcare and Environmental Friends Group funding, April: Community Funding Scheme, Events and Festivals Grant Program. August: Places for People, Community Weed Partnership Program
All year: Small Community Grants,

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants or call 5422 0333.


BY E.McCORMICK | M.R.S.C.



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Woodend Bowling Club

Congratulations to our Club Champions

Woodend Men's and Ladies' Club Champions Toby Barker and Arlene Johnstone represented the Woodend Bowling Club in the recent Central Highlands Champion of Champions Singles Tournament, where they compete against all of the other Club Champions from our area. Unfortunately, they were eliminated in the second round, both going down with scores of 21. Well-done players!

The New Pennant season finals have begun

The Club has teams in both Midweek (Tuesdays) and Saturday Competitions. While the Division 1 teams on Saturday and Midweek endured a tough season, and did not make the finals, the Division 3 teams both performed very well. The Midweek (Tuesday) Team finished in the Top 4 and the Saturday Team finished on top of the ladder, to take the minor

Premiership. We wish all players the best as the finals continue into March.

Welcome our new greenkeeper

We have recently gained the services of local Grant Davies as the new greenkeeper of the Woodend Bowling Club. Grant is also the greenkeeper at the Woodend Golf Club, where he has gained a deserved reputation for his meticulous preparation of the course, including the excellent greens.

Grant is a trained horticulturalist, and has already started work on improving the quality of the club's grass green. Whilst we are fortunate to also have an all-seasons carpet green, the tradition of bowling on a quality grass green is still one of the great pleasures of lawn bowls, especially for the purist.

We would like to thank the previous greenkeeper Colin Scott for his devoted work on the green over many years.

BY M. DORNAU

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Set the Program to Run!

Macedon Ranges Running Club (MRRC) is preparing for its popular Autumn Start Running Program starting across Macedon Ranges Shire in March.

The 13 week two part structured program helps people learn to run in a non-competitive safe, social and fun environment. The first part builds fitness using a well-developed successful method for runners to complete a 5km celebratory run, then extends into the second and final part for members to complete a 10km run.

This program is ideal for those new to running wanting to successfully achieve 5km the first time or for those to ease

back into running after a long break. Trained by the club's sponsor Cobaw Health, each Start Running Group has a qualified leader, safety and first of-ficers to assist you in making your future fitness an achievable goal.

The Woodend branch Start Running Group (SRG) begins on March 6 and meets three times a week, Monday & Wednesday at 6.30pm and Saturday at 7am at Gilbert Gordon Oval, Woodend.

The SRG also starts conveniently across five other Macedon Ranges Shire towns of Gisborne, Kyneton, Lancefield/Romsey, Macedon and Riddells Creek. This gives members the flexibility to fit the program into their busy

lifestyle. For further information on these venues and times please visit the club's website.

Member benefits - for an annual subscription of only \$10 for individuals or \$15 for families, members have access to training plans/programs to reach their goals, a monthly newsletter, event discounts and access to the club's Facebook page.

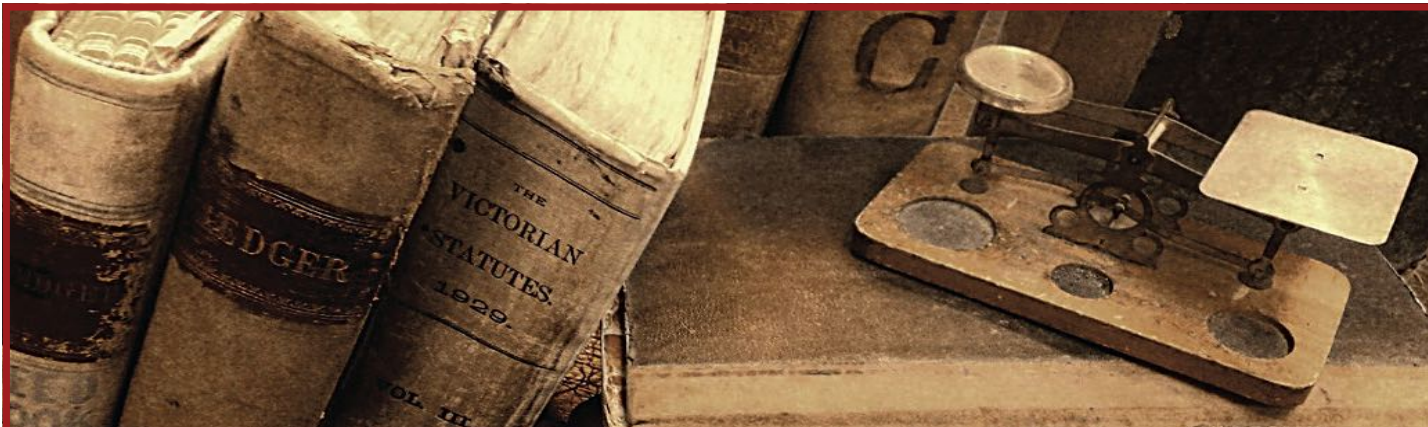
Other Club News

Run the Rock - the club's next main event meet is at Hanging Rock, Woodend on April 1. The event is hosted by the club's partner Sole Motive and, as last year, there will be a centrally placed marque available for members to meet. The event has a number of distances from a 2km kids or 5km run/walk run up to the more challenging 20km for

experienced members. The event also has a 12km run ideal for those who progressed through the club's Spring SRG 10km. Club training plans for the 12km and 20km runs are available to members.

Macedon Ranges Running Club is a local community based running club, offering a friendly welcoming social environment for all ages and abilities. Want to get involved? Then contact the club's Romsey/Lancefield Co-ordinator, Janine on 0400 727 474 for further information. Alternatively, email the club macedonrangesrc@gmail.com or visit the club's website www.macedonrangesrunning-club.com to register online and for session times/dates/contacts. All ages and walking/running abilities are welcomed, so come along to one of our sessions to discuss your needs.

By S. INGRAM



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Come and have a kick

The Woodend-Hesket Masters Football Club, footy for men aged 35 and over, are back training every Wednesday and Friday night at the Racecourse Oval at Buffalo Stadium in Woodend from 6.30pm.

After a successful first season in the Vic Country Masters AFL league last season we have increased our games to play 11 this season. Our first game is on Sunday April 2.

We encourage all men keen to improve physical and mental health to join us. Whether you want to simply just train, or pull on the boots for a game, come down and see what it's about, because we still get a kick out of footy.

There are no stars here and we love the fact we have guys who have never played a game in their life now running around having a great time. In fact, we have rugby, soccer, grid iron, and darts players running around ... and making new friends.

If you don't want to take on the physical side, we'd still love anyone keen to be involved in the club for any off-field roles. Find us on facebook for more information.

BY DARON JACKS | MEDIA MANAGER



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Fore the Ladies

Woodend golf club in association with PGA Golf professional Matt Duncan, will host a series of three clinics for Ladies who are interested in learning to play golf. It's all about creating a comfortable and social environment for like-minded women to learn and enjoy the game of golf.

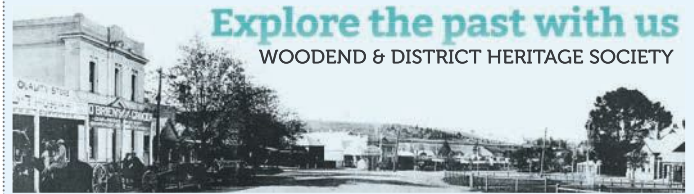
The clinics will begin at 10am on Tuesday 14, 21 and 28 March. Starting with an informal morning tea, followed by a 90-minute clinic, all golf equipment is provided or you can bring your own. The cost is just \$50 for the three-week program.

Following each clinic, Lady Members will be on hand for a few holes of golf, the perfect opportunity to put your lessons into practise.

Join us for the fun, easy exercise, and fresh air amongst new friends on Woodend's picturesque Golf course.

For enquiries & bookings call Loretta 5427 2349 or Veronica 0417 509 820.

BY VERONICA SULLIVAN



The Heritage Walk

Fifteen years ago the Woodend and District Heritage Society launched its Heritage Walk project, with annual plantings of trees to commemorate families and individuals who made Woodend their home and contributed to the town. In recent years it has expanded to commemorate community

organisations and groups which play important roles in the life of Woodend.

The Walk begins behind the Old Court House, heads down behind the tennis courts then along Five Mile Creek towards the Visitor Information Centre. It features over ninety trees - all Black She Oaks

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(*Allocasuarina littoralis*) typical of the area.

In March this year, another group of trees and commemorative plaques will be added to the Heritage Walk. This year we have 3 Dedications. The names of Dedications are: Henry King Clark, Anne & Sam Vary & Annie & Edgar

(George Snr) Olden.

So if you are or know any descendants of the above, come along and support the families that are dedicating their family members.

The Heritage Walk Ceremony 2017 will be held on Sunday March 26 at 1:30pm beside the Tennis Courts.

As in former years, the Kyneton Municipal Band have kindly agreed to play prior to the ceremony and a generous afternoon tea will be provided. Following this, a photographic display connected to the plaques will be open at the Heritage Centre at the Old Courthouse in Forest St. All are welcome to attend.

Pictured to left, A section of the crowd enjoying the Dedication Ceremony of Plaques and Trees in the Family Heritage Walk, Australia Day, 2005. The "Walk" follows a path from the rear of the Old Courthouse in Forest Street, Woodend, to the Five Mile Creek.

BY J. WILLIAMS

WRITE
FOR US!



Our story is your story!

If you like what we're all about, why don't you write for The New Woodend Star?

We welcome stories of all types about the local Woodend area, so long as it's positive and informative.

Contributions are welcomed from individuals and community groups. Simply send an email with all content & specific details (times, dates, contact person and details) directly to content@newwoodendstar.org.au.

Articles should be about 230 words, submit by 15th of each month.

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Petanque! Funny name, Great game. 8y/o Maya Cottew is learning the game at Hanging Rock Petanque Club



Kyneton Air Show will host a RAAF Roulette aerobatic aircraft demonstration on Sunday April 23



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2nd Woodend Scouts recently farewelled their Leader Andrew Johnson