

## Message from your Councillor

Woodend is a great community, as witnessed by your strong support of others in their time of need during the bushfires. Macedon Ranges was lucky enough to only have some smaller fires this summer, but we are now facing the challenging times of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This will be a stressful time for us all, where it will be even more important than ever to remember to look after one another.

I know the Macedon Ranges community usually has great events and fundraisers at this time of year, and that Autumn is often a peak time for visitors. It will be a very different picture this year.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council will be doing whatever it can to assist in helping staff and the community to stay well during this time as well as in the recovery phases afterwards.

This may mean some services that put our staff or the community at risk will cease until further notice. Please be assured we always consider the impact of change in services on the more vulnerable members of our community and will seek to find alternatives where we can.

I have not listed services that have been suspended or altered in response to the current situation here, as this changes rapidly.

Please be patient, and if you cannot find the information you need on our website or Facebook page, which will be updated frequently, feel free to email Council officers at [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or if a more immediate response is required call the office on 5422 0333. Front counter face to face services at all our centres have been ceased for the time being.

I am happy to take calls or emails, but much of the information you may need is more easily gained by contacting council via the above means.

For a while all our consultation will need to be either online or via post or telephone, and we may need to defer some decision making.

Remember good hand hygiene and stay home if you are unwell and may be at risk of infecting others, but not so unwell that you require medical advice.

Regards,  
**Jennifer**



## Pulling together in the crisis

We all know that the next few months promise to be extremely challenging. However, our local community is responding with compassionate action in the face of the health crisis. We know that we can all lend a hand by maintaining high standards of personal hygiene and following the guidelines regarding social distancing. We can also ensure that we look out for our neighbours, for example, by exchanging contact details and keeping an eye on their wellbeing.

The local vicar of St Mary's Anglican Church, the Reverend Melissa Clark (Rev Mel to us all) has been touched by the community response. "One morning, I opened the church doors to be faced with a pile of donated grocery and household items," said Mel. "Donations have come in at such a rate that we have now opened a popup food bank inside the church. It's open 9am-6pm every day and goods are available, free of charge, to anyone who needs them, no questions asked." Mel's motto for the food bank is "Take what you need. Give what you can. Go in Peace."

Goods have been donated from all around the Ranges. The Woodend Neighborhood House and Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group have been collecting items and passing them onto Mel. "Now, more than ever, we need to come together to support those in our community who need our help."

If you can donate some goods to help out, please drop them in at St Mary's any day.

St Mary's pop up food bank is open daily, 9am-6 pm. The church is always open for prayer and reflection. Church services over the Easter period will be live streamed via the Parish Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/woodendanglican](http://www.Facebook.com/woodendanglican)

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER



**PUBLISHER:**

The Rotary Club of Woodend  
 ABN 32 685 225 No. A0021518E  
 PO Box 333 Woodend 3442  
 3850 copies published on or about the first  
 week of the month (except January)

**NEXT EDITION:**

If you would like to contribute an article to the  
 Star please submit your story [with pictures, if  
 you have them] by email to [content@newwoodendstar.org.au](mailto:content@newwoodendstar.org.au). The cut-off date for copy is the  
 15th of each month, preceding publication.

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# Your community diary

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Just send the details to  
[content@newwoodendstar.org.au](mailto:content@newwoodendstar.org.au)

*Please note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you should check with organisers about any events listed here.*

**— April —**

- 4..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 10 ..... Good Friday
- 12 ..... Easter Sunday
- 13 ..... Easter Monday
- 18 ..... Run the Rock 2020
- 19 ..... Lions Sunday Market
- 25 ..... ANZAC Day

**— May —**

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

**— June —**

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

**— September —**

- 25 ..... AFL Grand Final Holiday

**— October —**

- 3..... Sustainable Living Festival

**— November —**

- 3 ..... Melbourne Cup

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Local vicar Rev Mel, with Isabella Lane, youth action group leader, MRSRG and Mike Hamer, president of Woodend Rotary club

*Woodend's Rain report*  
 Rainfall was well above the average of 67.8mm for the year to the end of February; this year's for that period was 141.4mm. March is also starting out quite wet, with another 70.4mm falling in the first week! So at time of writing, 8 March, we have received 211.8mm for 2020 so far.

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	av 5yr
January	35.3	27.8	80.0	9.8	73.6	45.3
February	14.3	26.5	3.8	12.0	67.8	24.9
March	47.0	23.7	31.7	12.2		28.1
April	36.2	165.0	31.0	7.6		55.8
May	101.2	38.6	115.6	114.8		87.8
June	98.8	10.6	78.2	168.2		79.6
July	186.6	60.0	73.3	63.2		95.7
August	107.0	119.6	91.3	78.1		89.3
September	163.6	55.2	26.2	38.3		65.5
October	91.8	45.8	69.0	29.4		49.8
November	63.2	77.4	55.5	64.8		60.4
December	92.8	77.2	91.0	10.0		62.5
<b>Total mm</b>	<b>1037.8</b>	<b>727.4</b>	<b>746.6</b>	<b>608.4</b>	<b>141.4</b>	

## Woodend Traders adapt

The recent shutdown of non-essential businesses was a blow to the High Street traders in Woodend. Local businesses had been busy innovating their delivery options to get through social distancing and new rules, but the news that some businesses would probably need to close worried many.

“Your local High Street businesses are not only important for our local economy, but are there for community organisations, helping to raise funds for groups and sporting clubs. Our local businesses need community support to keep our economy vibrant, our residents in work and product available when needed,” said President of Woodend Traders Inc, Catherine Bartlett.

It is hoped that the Federal Government assistance packages will help local businesses keep going and especially help them ensure that staff have options.

“Most local businesses are family-owned, and will likely still have to pay rent, utilities and wages. We want to support our hard-working staff. Let’s hope that our staff can access the appropriate government support if needed and that we as businesses can survive the difficult times ahead.”

To find out more, follow <[www.facebook.com/woodendvillage](https://www.facebook.com/woodendvillage)> where all news from businesses and organisations in 3442 postcode will be shared.

“Following the **Woodend Village Facebook** page is the quickest and easiest way to find out who is operating, what changes they have made and any updates that affect the community. We’ll be sharing news about which businesses are open and considered essential. We ask the Woodend community to keep supporting our local businesses in whatever way is possible. Your messages of support are greatly appreciated.”

SUBMITTED BY WOODEND TRADERS INC.



*Can't keep business spirit down! Local business owners have popped flags up and down the High Street to cheer everyone up!*

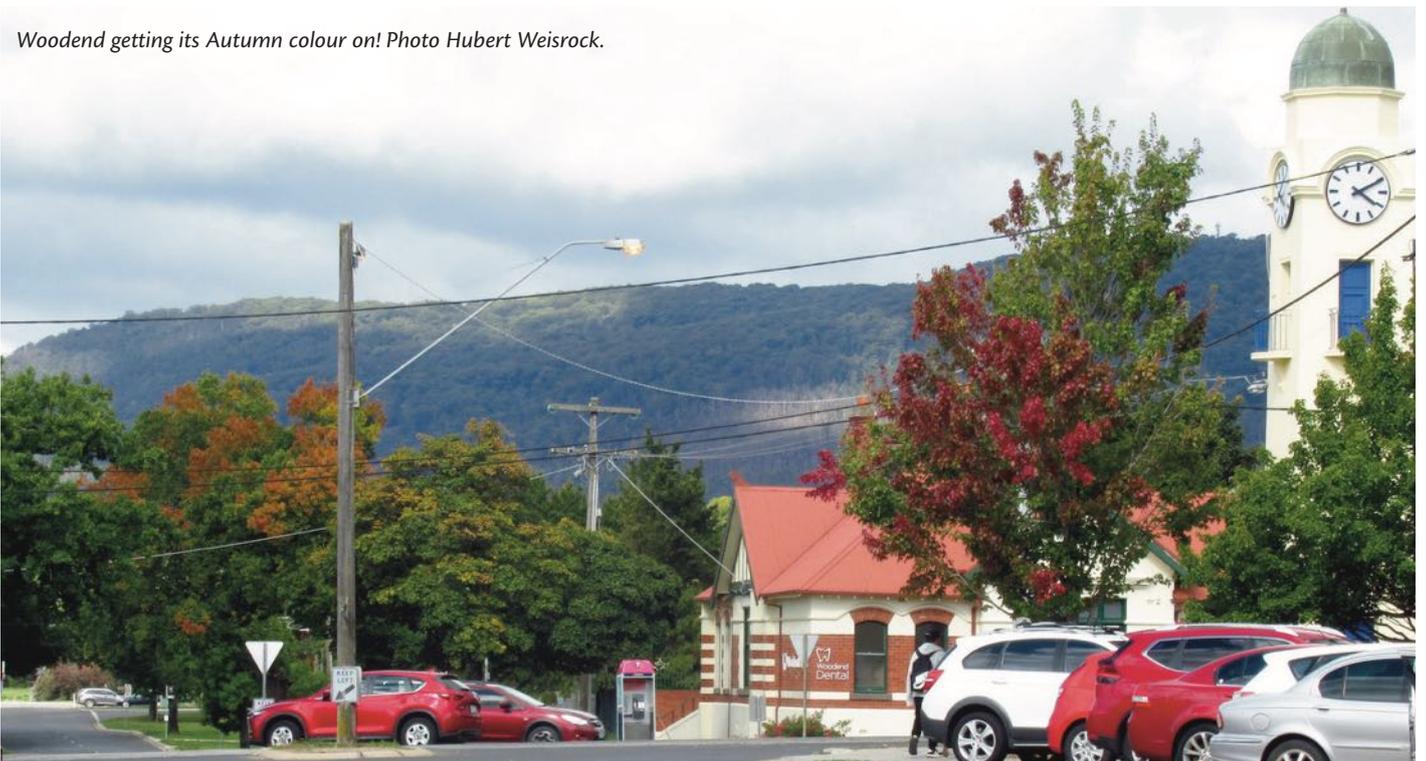
*Some businesses might be closed, others are changing their options but all of them are here if and when you need them.*

*Remember: [www.facebook.com/woodendvillage](https://www.facebook.com/woodendvillage) has all the information!*

**Advertise your business on these pages.**

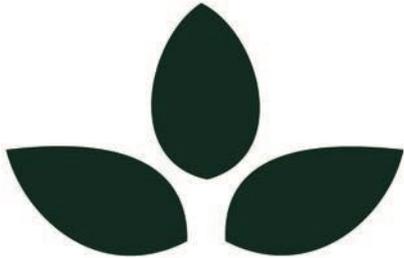
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*Woodend getting its Autumn colour on! Photo Hubert Weisrock.*



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## 2020 Mt Macedon ANZAC Day Dawn Service Cancelled

Due to the restrictions placed on community events with more than 500 participants as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Mt Macedon ANZAC Day Dawn Service has been cancelled.

Chair of the organising committee Bruce Mildenhall issued the following statement:

“It is with a heavy heart the Dawn Service committee has cancelled the 2020 Mt Macedon ANZAC Dawn Service. With the escalating seriousness of the coronavirus pandemic the health and safety of the public, especially our veterans, is our highest priority.”

A closed Dawn Service will be held at the Shrine of Remembrance and will be available via television radio and social media.

Planning had been well advanced for this year’s Service, and the Committee is determined to use material it had already collected from local veterans to ensure next year’s Service will again be a moving and quality event attended by thousands of people in our region.

SUBMITTED BY BRUCE MILDENHALL  
0419 302839 / BMILDENHALL@ME.COM



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## Get creative!

If you’re stuck at home, self-isolating and nurturing your creative self, share your works of art!

In next month’s New Woodend Star, we’d love to see creative works at home, in your garden, from your knitting needles or sewing machine or your paintbrush! Maybe you made an awesome cake or created a Japanese garden or even just cleaned up the shed creatively.

Email <[content@newwoodendstar.org.au](mailto:content@newwoodendstar.org.au)> and we’ll choose a selection to print in the May edition. Be sure to say who the photographer is and a line or two about the art/project/activity!



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## Project time!

Can you believe it's April already?

If your 2020 project/s are already on their way, good on you! If not, there's still plenty of time...

What's the best time of year for a project anyway?

Straight out of the blocks on the 2nd of January or when summer's over and you can actually think? Maybe you like to hunker down over winter dreaming, designing and then doing or delegating. Some people see tax-return time as a good opportunity to get something they sorely need or would love to have, which wasn't part of their annual budget.

Do you want to improve on the flimsy curtains or ugly blinds that were there when you first moved

in? Or shade that blistering western wall ahead of next summer? It might be time to upholster your favourite chair or even the whole lounge. If the furniture is fine, you can brighten your days by shifting the theme of your cushions from the bold blues you enjoyed last decade to the subtler shades now in fashion, with a hint of spicy yellow, pinky-red or moss green. Apparently all of the greens are in this year. Yay!

Most importantly, how do home projects make you feel?

'Designy' people talk about freshening up your home. It's true, yet 'playing house' goes deeper than that... We thrive on beautiful things around us. The right colour affects our daily mood. Unfortunately so do the wrong colours!

Pondering, creating and installing a project helps make your place your own, a place to come home to.



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## Council responds to COVID-19



Many of Macedon Ranges Shire Council's public facilities have closed and events have been cancelled or postponed as a preventative measure following the outbreak of coronavirus COVID-19.

Chief Executive Officer, Margot Stork, said Council was taking a proactive approach in order to protect the health and wellbeing of the community, especially elderly and vulnerable people.

Council facilities across the shire were closed last month and will remain closed for at least a month, including:

- Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre
- Gisborne Aquatic Centre
- Gisborne Fitness Centre
- All leisure centres in all townships
- Libraries in Kyneton, Gisborne, Woodend and Romsey
- Council service desks at Romsey Community Hub and Woodend Community Centre
- Kyneton Museum

All arts and culture events at Kyneton Town Hall and other venues, such as the Harmony Day concert at Woodend, have been cancelled or postponed. Visitor Information Centres did not open at the weekend and will remain closed.

Residents who have memberships, programs or tickets at Council facilities or centres will be contacted directly regarding future arrangements.

Ms Stork said Council was following state and federal government advice by minimising large public gatherings, dispensing with non-essential meetings and events, and encouraging social distancing.

"We are committed to acting in the best interest of our community and keeping everyone safe," Ms Stork said.

"This is a constantly evolving situation and we will review our response daily and adjust as required.

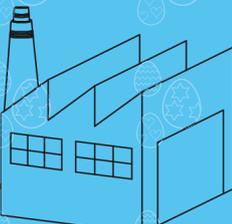
"We will keep the community fully informed as the situation continues to unfold."

Council's kindergartens and Maternal and Child Health Centres will remain open until Council is otherwise notified by the relevant Victorian Government departments.

For more information, visit at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus), the Australian Government Department of Health, <https://www.health.gov.au/> and the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/>

Photo by Hubert Weisrock





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These are unprecedented times so take time to garden and relax. Your plants and garden are a safe environment. Take time to be sustainable and support your family. Be green; be happy be like Bob Marley is in your garden! If in isolation, call and let us know. We accept online payments.

We don't offer toilet rolls, but we have an abundance of plants and trees and we are a safe space for you this season! Call us.

SUBMITTED BY CASSIUS ARMITAGE



**Festival Postponed**

Like most other local community groups and arts organisations, the Woodend Winter Arts Festival Committee took the difficult decision to postpone this year's June festival and all associated events.



Ideally, another date will be found later in the year but if that's not possible, June 2021 will then be planned.

While plans and progress happen in the background, the committee hopes to start bringing some content from our planned performers, artists, writers and presenters via social media and newsletters, and invite you to jump online to find out more, especially on our Facebook page <facebook.com/woodendwinterartsfestival>

It's going to be a tough time for the arts sector so as much as possible will be done to promote the 2020 program and all planned contributors, even if a virtual experience is the only one on offer at the moment. Connecting audiences with creators is vitally important.

While we wait to see what will happen with the COVID-19 pandemic, watch this space and online for updates. For more information visit <woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au>

SUBMITTED BY IRENE O'DUFFY, WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL

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## Woodend Lions Art Show... what happened

You might think that an art show running for 46 years would lose its momentum. This year's Woodend Lions Art Show, which ran on the March long weekend, defied that prediction, with another resounding success. The quality of art on display was excellent, which was reflected in the sale of 30% of the works displayed.

The judges, Jill Rivers and Llael McDonald, offered informative insight into their allocation of prizes on the well-attended Friday opening night. The sale of the last remaining unsold works of the recently deceased John York created lively interest, with both watercolour sketches and oil paintings being snapped up.

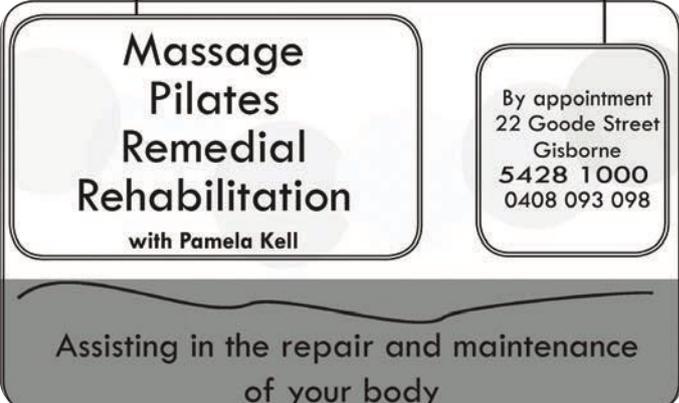
The show was well supported locally by the Mrs A Wiber Memorial, Bourkies Bakehouse, Shirley Park Pty Ltd, Andrews Mountain View Café, Jellis Craig, Armstrong Collins & DeLacy, Delta-V Experts, Woodend Nursery and Firebird Motor Repairs. This support is central to making the art show a success. We are grateful and proud of this support.

We were pleased with the enthusiastic participation of the many community volunteers in the running of the show. It is the intention that all money raised by the Art Show will be divided between the East Gippsland Fund (a local volunteer organisation), BlazeAid, native wildlife projects, and Lions Clubs in the fire-affected areas, to assist with recovery.

Cookies over the canola, the painting Rose Wilson donated, was raffled with a great deal of interest and excitement.

Sadly, there could be only one winner, and that was Rebecca Anderson of Woodend, who was over the moon.

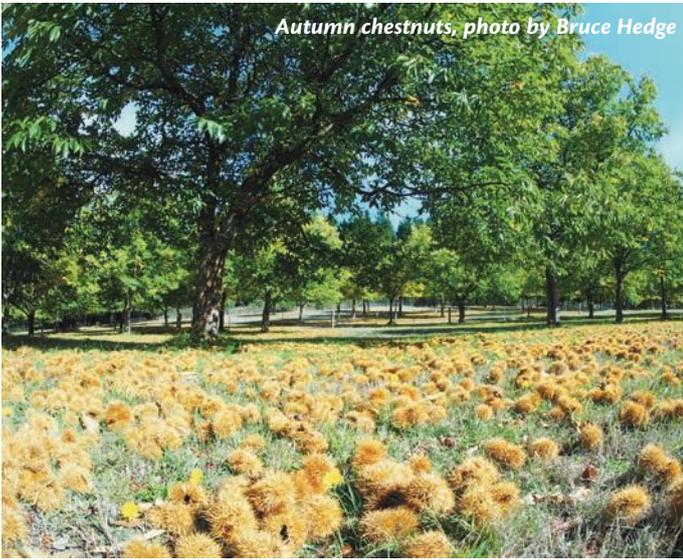
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Autumn chestnuts, photo by Bruce Hedge

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Autumn leaves at the Community Centre. Photo by Bruce Hedge.



# Please don't flush wipes, paper towels or facial tissues down the toilet.

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Find out more at  
[westernwater.com.au/  
whatnottoflush](http://westernwater.com.au/whatnottoflush)

WESTERN WATER

## Important update from Western Water

### Paper towels, wipes and tissues can't be flushed like toilet paper says Western Water

Western Water is reminding their customers that toilet paper is the only type of paper that should be flushed down the toilet.

Western Water's Acting Chief Operating Officer, Paul Clark, says products such as paper towels, wipes and tissue paper are not designed for sewerage systems and could lead to sewer spills.

"Toilet paper is the only product that is designed to break down properly in our sewerage network," Mr Clark said. "Paper towels, tissues and wipes don't disintegrate the same way as toilet paper and can get stuck in the pipes or cause fatbergs to form in the pipes."

"This can lead to sewer spills in the home or in public spaces, like parks and waterways" he said.

Western Water also recommends customers avoid 'flushable' wipes as there is no current Australian industry standard that provides criteria to manufacturers on how to make them compatible with our sewer systems.

"While we wait for the development of a nationally agreed standard, our advice is to play it safe and only flush the three P's – Pee, Poo and (Toilet) Paper", said Mr Clark.

To find out more – visit the Western Water website  
<[www.westernwater.com.au/whatnottoflush](http://www.westernwater.com.au/whatnottoflush)>

## Woodend Library News

Explore the range of eLibrary resources available free to Goldfields Libraries members! If you are not a member, please email us on [woodend@ncgrl.vic.gov.au](mailto:woodend@ncgrl.vic.gov.au). We'll set you up with a logon id and password.

User guides and videos are provided for some resources, otherwise contact the individual provider for help, or speak to a library staff member.

Goldfields Branches are closed, but the eLibrary is available 24/7. Your children will enjoy Story Box Library; there are films, magazines and books to download on any device. You could also learn a language, play games, listen to music, brush up on your typing skills or complete a computer training course.

Email us if we can assist [woodend@ncgrl.vic.gov.au](mailto:woodend@ncgrl.vic.gov.au)



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**Chris Short**

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## A big thank you

The 2020 Lancefield Relay For Life was held in beautiful weather over the weekend of 29th February and 1st March. A big thank you goes out to everyone who supported us, whether it was through participating, donating to teams or volunteering.

17 teams took to the track to raise funds for the Cancer Council Victoria with over \$63,000 raised.

Six teams raised over \$5,000, which allowed them to be awarded a Research Award.

Clarkefield and Friends took out the highest fundraiser award, raising over \$7,000. Harry Nanos was named the Spirit of Relay for all his support over the years, entertaining us with his singing and sourcing a wide range of performers to assist him. Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank Branches were one of our major

sponsors again, and Romsey IGA provided breakfast for all our walkers early on Sunday morning. Romsey Golf Club provided a lovely dinner on the Saturday.





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**Dr Bronwyn Edmunds**  
Skin check, Skin cancer



**Dr Jacques de Groot**  
Aviation medicals, Paediatrics, Men's health



**Dr Emma Read**  
Family health, children, youth, geriatrics



**Dr Elspeth Harrison**  
Child behavioural issues, Youth, Family health



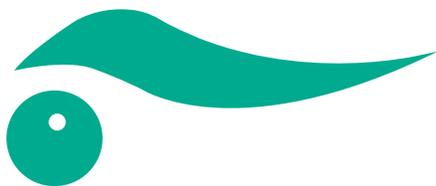
**Dr Manisha Fenando**  
Women's health, Family health, Mental health



**Dr Susi Fox**  
Mental health, LBGTOI, Sex therapy, Counselling



**Dr Frances Squires**  
Family health, Adolescents, Womens health, Sexual health



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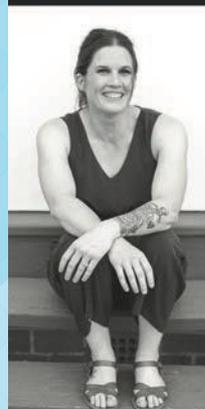
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### Coronavirus (COVID-19) health alert

The World Health Organization has announced COVID-19 is a pandemic.

Please follow government advise on what measures you may need to take.

Call **1800 675 398** or visit **www.dhss.vic.gov.au/coronavirus**

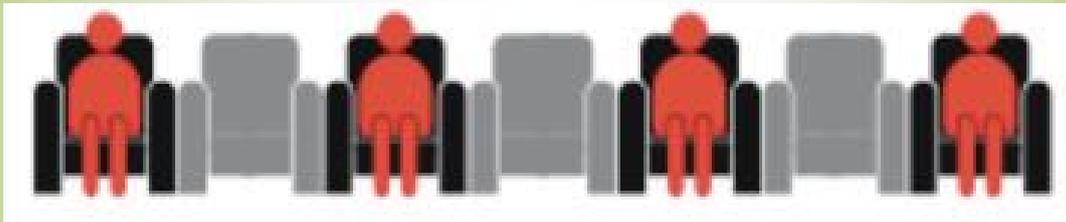
### Brooke Street Medical Centre (BSMC)

The COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations are reviewed on a daily basis.

BSMC continues to service the community based on those guidelines.

BSMC is able to offer bulkbilled telephone consults for vulnerable or isolated patients.

Please call 03 5427 1002 to arrange a telephone consult.



BSMC has implemented seat separation within our waiting rooms to reduce the risk of spreading. Currently anyone that is displaying COVID-19 symptoms is seen in a designated area away from other patients.

Please visit our website or Facebook for information on what measures we are implementing.

We thank you for your co-operation in this unique situation.



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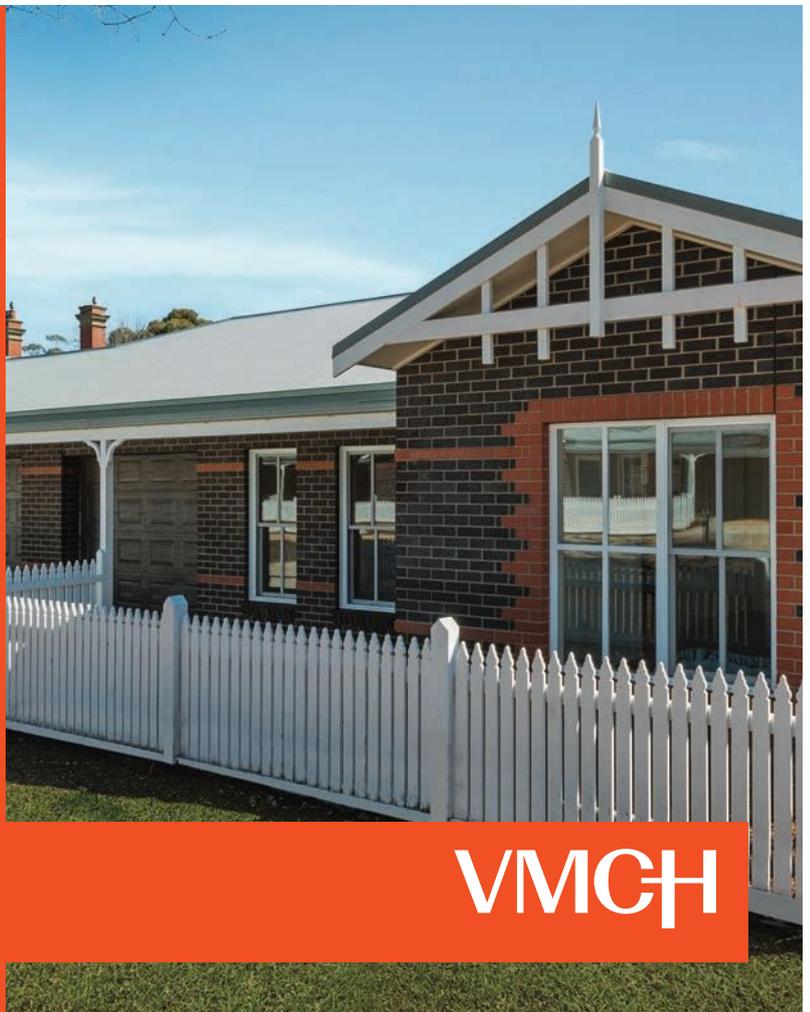
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There are more neural connections in the brain (your brain) than there are stars in the universe .

If you don't understand the philosophy of yoga, including working with your brain, then yoga is just an exercise routine,.

Yoga can change your waistline, but yoga philosophy can change you , and the generations who come after you. I was the first to teach about yoga and the cerebrospinal fluid, and I am sure it changed lives.

**NOW Let's CHANGE YOUR BRAIN, AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE. It's yoga (philosophy).**

**The Mount Players make a sad decision**



After much deliberation and discussion, The Mount Players General Committee made the sad decision that, effective from 17 March 2020, we will be postponing all theatre activities at the Mountview Theatre, due to the COVID-19 virus. This will include Youth Theatre programs, play readings, rehearsals and set building. We have also taken the cautious step to defer the next two productions, *The Vortex* and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, which were scheduled to be performed from mid-May to late June 2020. The musical *Annie* will be rescheduled to 2021.

We believe that this action is the most responsible to ensure the health and safety of all our members and patrons. Our website and Facebook page will be kept up to date pending information that comes to hand.

On a more positive note, our 5th March performance of *Switzerland* together with program takings and donations raised \$2,430 for Wildlife Vic. A huge thanks to all who donated to this wonderful cause.

Keep well and we will hopefully see you at the Mountview Theatre in the not too distant future.

SUBMITTED BY  
 KAREN HUNT

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For up-to-date information, visit their websites and/or Facebook pages.

Also visit [www.facebook.com/woodendvillage](https://www.facebook.com/woodendvillage) where information will be shared frequently.

Always check with the business beforehand if you are not sure whether they are open.

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## PS My Family Matters

### Call for committee members for local mental health charity

PS My Family Matters is looking for local people to join its committee, to oversee the development of the charity, in light of recent funding gains.

“We have been successful in our funding applications to both the NDIS and the State Government” said Tamara Wilson, president of PSMFM. “This funding will secure our operation for the next 3 years and we have a need for people to volunteer as committee members to oversee the next phase of our development.”

PSMFM is looking for people who live in (or near) the Macedon Ranges, who have a passion for issues related to mental health and would like to serve on the committee. In particular, we would like to hear from people with mental health, accounting and fund-raising experience.

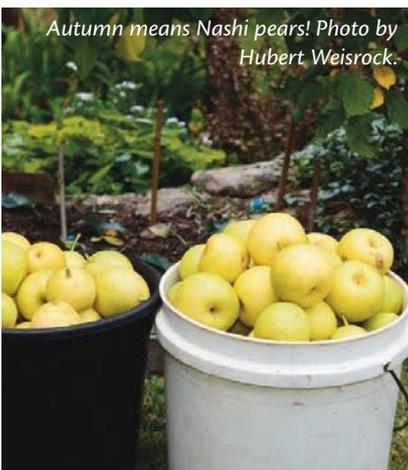
“This is a chance to join a team who are truly making a difference to the lives of many in our community. If you can spare a few hours a month, we would love to hear from you,” said Tamara. “Our new funding arrangements give us a great opportunity to develop our service proposition and offer support to more carers throughout the Ranges.”

For further information and to register interest, please call 0475 269 965.

If you need immediate support or assistance, contact Lifeline on 131 411.

For more information on PS My Family Matters, visit their website <[www.psmfm.org.au](http://www.psmfm.org.au)>

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER.



Autumn means Nashi pears! Photo by Hubert Weisrock.



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## Woodend Red Cross

Welcome Autumn, knowing that our protectors and defenders can put their smoky gear into stand-by mode. We salute every man and woman who battled the terrible fires, then floods(!) including our own stalwart volunteers.

Our Branch was recently featured on Foxtel Lifestyle with Scott Pape, the Barefoot Investor himself, who is making a "Road to Recovery" program and visiting fire-affected areas with advice and empathy. Empathy because he has personal experience of fire survival, and his little boy has the Red Cross Trauma Teddy to prove it.

We are all in this awful coronavirus situation now. Please take care, self-isolate as much as possible, which is difficult but enormously helpful in limiting infection. Check on friends and neighbours – by phone or online!

Wash your hands with soap. Stay home where possible. Wash those hands again! Stay hydrated. Avoid crowds. Scrub your hands. And the almost impossible, stop touching your face with unwashed hands.

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Nearly forgot – wash your hands with soap, up to your forearms, for as long as it takes to sing Happy Birthday slowly. Keep hand sanitiser (with 60% alcohol) in your pocket.

Check our Facebook page for time and venue of our next meeting: <[facebook.com/Australian-Red-Cross-Woodend-Branch-182033799250703/](https://facebook.com/Australian-Red-Cross-Woodend-Branch-182033799250703/)>

Be well.

SUBMITTED BY WOODEND RED CROSS

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## Meet the Owner—Brooke at BP&Co

We are fortunate to have a wide variety of retail and service businesses in Woodend. They add to the colour and appeal of the town and offer tremendous choice to locals and visitors alike.

This is the first in series of profiles to meet some of our local business owners, who are helping to make Woodend a great shopping destination.

### Brooke Pearse: B.P &Co.

B.P &Co brings a touch of French Country flair to High Street. Making optimal use of store space, the store is full of stylish homewares.

Owner, Brooke Pearse has been resident in Woodend since the age of 9. Brooke was educated at St Ambrose, Braemar, and finished her year 12 at Assumption College.

Design and styling are in her DNA and Brooke has brought her passion for them into her first business enterprise. B.P &Co specializes in home and gift wares but also offers home styling and advice. Customers can even taste a range of specialty teas, as they browse.

“I wanted to ensure that we offer a broad range that would appeal to most home owners” says Brooke. “I have been able to source some excellent hand-crafted furniture pieces, made from solid oak, which are a lifetime investment as well as a broad range of homewares from rugs and throws to candles and table linen.”

“I’ve spent the majority of my life in Woodend” says Brooke “and being able to create a little something of me and give back to the community is very special. I do get a lot of tourists in the store but it is the loyalty of local residents who really drive the business. I’m really grateful for their support.

Please shop local and support our Woodend businesses. Please drop in and say hi to Brooke next time you’re passing – B.P &Co 70 High St Woodend.



Brooke has hand picked a wide range of beautiful homewares

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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

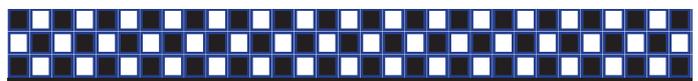


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Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne. Funded from Parliamentary budget.



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## State Government News

### More police for Macedon Ranges to support safer communities

Residents in the Macedon Ranges will soon see more police on the streets, with an additional nine officers allocated to the police division that services the local community.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, welcomed the new police resources.

The \$3 billion investment has seen more than 1,900 of 3,135 new police deployed to communities across the state, and from May this year, another 580 police officers will be progressively deployed to stations across Victoria.

An additional 208 officers will go to specialist roles, such as family violence, road policing, and state emergency support.

By April next year, more than 2,700 new police will have been deployed across Victoria.

Victoria Police is deploying new police when and where they are needed most, using the sophisticated Staffing Allocation Model, a model developed by Victoria Police in consultation with the Police Association of Victoria.

In their latest allocation, police are focusing on meeting minimum service levels for a growing population and making sure each Victorian community has the required resources to effectively respond to crime in their local area.

All 788 police will be deployed by April 2021 and will address issues important to Victorians, like family violence, drug crime, road safety, and counter terrorism.

“These police will be out in the community protecting and serving residents to reduce crime, backed by the resources they need to target and prevent burglaries, violent crime, and family violence,” said Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas.

SUBMITTED BY BELLA MANSON



Mary-Anne Thomas & Macedon Ranges Inspector Chris Large

 An advertisement for a law firm. The top part of the ad shows several old, worn books on the left and a wooden platform scale on the right. The books have titles like "THE VICTORIAN STATUTES 1929" and "EDGER". The scale is a traditional mechanical platform scale. Below the image, the firm's name "PALMER, STEVENS & RENNICK" is written in large, bold, serif capital letters. Underneath that, "Barristers & Solicitors" is written in a smaller, italicized serif font.
 

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# Community Notice Board — proudly sponsored by Rotary Club of Woodend

Rotary



## New pool and spa registration laws

On 1 December 2019, new laws to improve swimming pool and spa safety came into effect in Victoria. Property owners with a pool or spa now have to register their pool or spa with Council and new swimming pool and spa registrations are due to Council by 1 June 2020.

You can register your pool online, in person or at any Council office.

You can also phone Council on 5422 0333 to request a registration form.

For more information about the new regulations, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/pools-and-spas](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/pools-and-spas)

## Call for Committee Members for the New Woodend Star

The New Woodend Star is a vibrant community newsletter, published eleven times per year. It's distributed to most houses in our area and is widely available at community outlets and at Coles supermarket. We are looking for enthusiastic local people to join our management committee. If you have a passion for making a difference in the Macedon Ranges, and like the idea of contributing to the Star's future development, please contact Mike Hamer on 0411 549 432.

Rotary



## Got a story to tell?

If you're a young person (aged 17 and under) who likes to write, why not submit a short story of 300 words or less to The New Woodend Star for consideration for publication in our May and June issues?

Email [content@newwoodendstar.org.au](mailto:content@newwoodendstar.org.au) to submit your story and make sure you indicate your name and age.

Who knows, we might even be able to rustle up a small prize for the published stories!

At the time we went to press, the Woodend Community Farmers' Market, as a fresh food market, was believed to be an essential service, and was expected to run, albeit in a heavily modified form, as planned on 4 April. However, as the Covid-19 situation is so fluid, you are encouraged to refer to [mrsg.org.au/farmersmarket-status](http://mrsg.org.au/farmersmarket-status) for the latest status update on the Market.



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Photo Hubert Weisrock

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SUBMITTED BY FIONA DARLING



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# News from Woodend CFA



## Gail's very special donation shows she has a big heart!

Gail Jones wanted to make a donation to the Woodend CFA at a recent market but was unable to do so on the day. We suggested she drop into the fire station the next day during our Sunday roster.

When she arrived, the only person at the station was Secretary Annette van Huffel. Gail asked if there was anything special the Brigade needed, and Annette said we were looking at purchasing a Defibrillator. Gail then asked how much was needed, and when Annette mentioned the amount, Gail covered the cost immediately.

The Brigade has now purchased the defibrillator machine, which has been placed on our new tanker. Gail recently dropped into the station, where she was photographed with Annette and the new purchase. A very special donation from a very special person!

Thanks Gail, and also thank you to the many other generous donations, including a recent one from Sally Scanlan and the team at Woodend Community Bags.



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## Fire Restrictions ended on March 23

The Fire Danger Period ended in the Macedon Ranges last month. However, fires can only be lit in the Macedon Ranges shire under certain conditions. Depending on when you want to burn off, the size of your land, and the amount of vegetation you need to burn, a permit may be required.

This means that you are now able to burn off on your property, as long as your property is an acre or more in size.

A person **MUST NOT**, without a permit, light a fire in the open air on land, including in an incinerator, where the land size is less than 4,000 square metres. Please check the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website under burning off for all of the details.

If you are able to burn off, please remember a few simple rules: always clear an area around your fire, don't locate your fire too close to trees or bush, make sure someone is always present, and make sure you have the means to extinguish a fire should it spread.

Remember, you can dispose of your green waste for free at the shire transfer stations.

## Change Your Clock, Change Your Smoke Alarm Battery

With the end of daylight saving on Sunday 5 April, Woodend CFA brigade captain, Mike Dornau, is reminding us that when we move our clocks back one hour, it is the perfect time to also change our smoke alarm batteries.

Captain Dornau said that as house fires occurred more frequently in the cooler months, it makes good sense to check our smoke alarm battery at the same time as we change our clock. "In autumn and winter, we tend to stay indoors more, turn on the heating and do more cooking indoors," he said. "Only the sound of a smoke alarm, not the smell of smoke, will wake you in a fire, so it's essential that smoke alarms are tested on a regular basis, and the batteries changed."

"All smoke alarms, whether hard-wired or wireless, require a battery" added the Captain. "Hard-wired alarms use a battery as a backup, and that battery needs to be changed as well."

Smoke alarms usually have a lifespan of about 10 years—alarms older than this should be replaced. Some smoke alarms have a printed use-by date, but if an alarm is still 'beeping' after its battery has been changed, it should be replaced.

For further information contact Captain Mike Dornau on 0409 093 935. On Sundays, call the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, or visit the station in Urquhart Street. Follow us on Facebook, or you can visit our website: [www.woodendcfa.org](http://www.woodendcfa.org).

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

SUBMITTED BY CAPTAIN MIKE DORNAU, WOODEND CFA



### Woodend are 2020 Midweek Champions!

Woodend Bowling Club won our first Championship in several years after winning the CHBD Division 3 Midweek Final at Gisborne on 10 March. Woodend defeated Macedon in the first semi-final with Robert Read winning 35–23 and Rob Smithies going down 25–30. Macedon then won their next final to again play Woodend in the Grand Final.

At the lunch break Macedon held a lead of 7, but Woodend fought back to quickly level the scores and then a great battle ensued. Woodend finished up winning 44–40 with Rob Smithies rink 26–17 and Robert Read going down 18–23.

Congratulations to those pictured from left to right Rob Smithies, Lois Scott, Rosalie Campbell, Pat Morgan, Eric Nothard and Robert Read. Absent were Ron Frost and Darryl Cameron. Other players who made a contribution during the season Jenny Cameron and Anne Dornau.

Our Saturday Division 2 team also made the finals but was eliminated in the Preliminary Final with a narrow 8 point loss to Kyneton after defeating Macedon in the Semi Final.

### Players on fire for annual CFA match

On Sunday March 8 we hosted the annual Laurie Thomason Trophy Match between the Woodend CFA and Woodend Bowling Club, named in honour of the former Woodend CFA Captain and Bowling Club Committee Member.

Eight teams contested the event over a four game round-robin format.

The winners were Robert Read and Juliette Pereira with a score of 37, just ahead of the team of Henny Brama and Rosalie Campbell.

Thanks to members from the CFA and Bowling Club for a very pleasant afternoon, and especially the Ritchie Family who had four players.

### You could be ready for next pennant season

If you are thinking of taking up bowls and may be interested in being part of one of our teams next season (starts in October) please get in touch and come on down for a free trial. We can provide everything to get you started ... the bowls and the coaching.

However, if you are not interested in the competitive side and just want to have a friendly social bowl – it's a great way to get out and about with a low impact activity – the same applies.

### Check out our website and Facebook page

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLS CLUB



Congratulations to those pictured from left to right: Rob Smithies, Lois Scott, Rosalie Campbell, Pat Morgan, Eric Nothard and Robert Read

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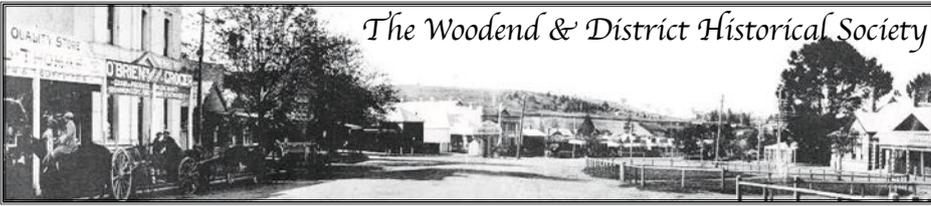
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## Woodend and District Historical Society

Washington Lane was named after the family of John Washington, who came as a young man to Victoria in 1859 from Galway, Ireland, and shortly thereafter, settled at a farm in south Woodend. He took up employment with the railway service, retiring at the age of sixty, and enjoyed his retirement in good health until his death at eighty-two in 1917. He left a family of one son and seven daughters. His wife, Mary, came out to South Australia from Ireland to join her brother, John Duggan, in 1860. After four years in Adelaide, she came to this district, possibly with her brother, where she married John Washington. Mary died suddenly at the age of seventy in 1907, her husband waking to find she'd died during the night.

## The Woodend Grandstand

A group of keen community members has an interest in seeing the old Grandstand at Woodend's Racecourse Reserve restored to its former glory. Photos in the town's archives reveal a time when the venue was a hive of activity. Recollections of the site being used to train and race horses show Woodend in a new light for many of us. A push is underway to see this precious facility, currently in a state of disrepair, restored – including signage that reveals the Grandstand's colourful history – and brought back into use, whether it be as a venue for the town's Christmas carols, school concerts or evening outdoor theatre.

If you have photos, stories, or indeed, are interested to help with this restoration initiative, please come forward – we would love to hear from you.



WOODEND CUP 1979. WON BY TREE PELLA.

Woodend Grandstand 1976



Horse Race at Woodend Racecourse (date unknown)



Photo 120: The marriage of Lizzie Washington and Nicholas Jongebloed c1900. Mr Jongebloed was the local Baker.

SUBMITTED BY JANE WALDUCK  
JANE.WALDUCK@ICLOUD.COM



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## Embracing Autism at Sacred Heart College

### CHRIS VARNEY – ICAN Network

The College was pleased to welcome Chris Varney from the ICAN Network on Thursday 10 March. Chris is a young man on the Autism Spectrum (in his words he is 'proudly Autistic'), who has made it his mission to help young people, their families and their teachers understand about how it feels to be Autistic and to think I CAN, not I CAN'T.

Chris met with our teachers after school to offer practical strategies, to build understanding and to inspire us to get the best out of this very diverse and interesting group of young people. He stayed on at night to talk to a wide and varied group of parents who came from all over the Macedon Ranges and from all different schools. He offered wonderful insights into

his world of growing up 'a bit different'. Chris, through his story telling, was very generous, honest and open about the challenges he faced growing up, and he shared with us his efforts to support young people in building pride, confidence and self-acceptance.

The highlight of Chris' visit for me, was sharing lunch with Chris and a group of students who voluntarily came along to talk about Autism – what it means, how it feels, how brothers and sisters are impacted and how we can help each other feel comfortable conversing about it. These young people showed incredible bravery in coming along, and we soon found comfort in sharing stories and experiences with a group who 'get it.' We all had the chance to contribute to a safe, informative and

interesting discussion, where the young people could feel valued and listened to in a non-judgmental and accepting forum.

Sacred Heart College has partnered with the ICAN Network in 2020, and we look forward to more groups like this supporting our young people. We hope to engage in regular mentoring sessions where young people can develop self-acceptance, belonging, optimism

and confidence. Sessions also focus on helping students prepare for the transition through high school, TAFE, university and post-school pathways. The ICAN Network is a social enterprise which is driving Autistic people and the community to bring out the 'awe' in Autism through education, advocacy and providing opportunities, by building an I CAN belief.

SUBMITTED BY SALLY DICK,  
DIRECTOR OF LEARNING  
SUPPORT, SACRED HEART  
COLLEGE KYNETON



Chris Varney of the ICAN Network & Sally Dick, SHC Director of Learning Support

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