

The New Woodend Star

Rotary  Club of Woodend



AUGUST 2022
Volume 26 | Issue 7

**“Healthy landscapes in winter ...
Courses, events and workshops on
regenerative agriculture for soil and livestock
health. More inside.”**

Photo: KGMG Creative

First published 1997 – by the community, for the community

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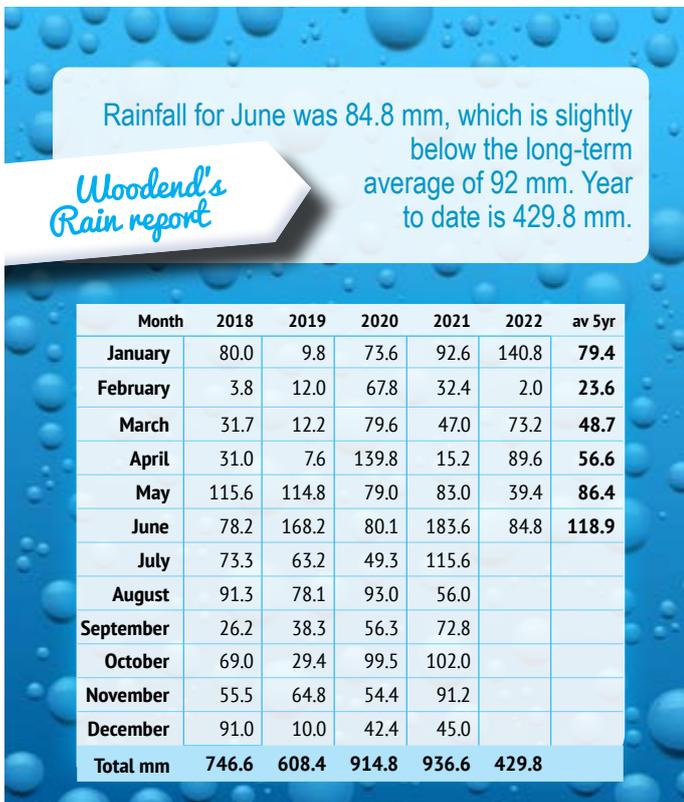


Photo: The cast of 'Reservoir Dog' in rehearsal

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

Council Adopts Budget 2022/23

Council voted to adopt the Budget 2022/23 and Council Plan 2021–2031 (Year Two Actions 2022/23) at the 22 June Scheduled Council Meeting.

Community members were invited to provide feedback on both documents during the consultation period, which commenced in April, in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy.

The Annual Budget will continue to support the community and local businesses with pandemic and storm recovery, and deliver on the Council Plan by continuing the progression of key capital works projects including the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct, the Shared Trails Project and the Woodend Golf Club clubrooms upgrade.

Included in the Annual Budget are new initiatives such as the Woodend Racecourse Reserve Master Plan and a shire-wide Equestrian Facilities Plan. Further work will be undertaken to progress the Gisborne Futures project and associated planning scheme amendment and the Romsey Structure Plan.

In total, Council's Capital Works program will deliver \$41.2 million in works across the shire over the next financial year, 37% of Council's total revenue.

Further highlights of the Annual Budget after the public consultation process include:

- Kyneton Tennis Club – lighting of playing courts 9 and 10.
- Hanging Rock Cricket Club – training net renewal and upgrades. Works will improve the safety of the facilities.
- Macedon Bowling Club – engagement of architect to prepare working drawings for improvements to the Club's current clubrooms.

- Kyneton Football Netball Club – detailed design planning to develop a female-friendly pavilion and upgraded netball courts at the Showgrounds Reserve.
- Pedestrian safety Woodend – installation of a new slow point prior to the existing crest in Brooke Street Woodend to cater for school and leisure pedestrians crossing, and design and construction of a crossing solution at the intersection of Brooke and Templeton Streets, Woodend.
- Council also received additional funding to include the following projects:
- Red Brick Hall, Kyneton – building renewal works and the inclusion of an On-Street Disability Discrimination Act compliant car park. Funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI), \$335,000.
- Off Grid Relief and Recovery Centres – taking three grid-connected locations off-grid, or providing the equipment to be 'self-sufficient' in terms of electricity, water, and telecommunications in times of emergency. Funded by Preparing Australian Communities – Local Stream program.

Council rates align with the state-wide rate cap of 1.75% in the Budget 2022/23. Last year's rate increase was 1.5%, and 2% the year before.

Council's total budgeted income for 2022/23 is \$111.5 million, which is mainly comprised of rates, grants, service fees and charges.

To view the Budget 2022/23 and Council Plan 2021–2031 (Year Two Actions 2022/23) visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Our-Council.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



Affordable housing crisis set to cost Victoria extra \$7.8 billion: economic study

A new study commissioned by local private sector affordable housing charity Housing All Australians (HAA), has found that Victoria could generate \$7.8 billion in cost savings through greater investment in more affordable housing, including more public and social housing.

The study, titled Give Me Shelter, says that the savings to the state would be in the areas of health, mental health and domestic violence services, a reduction in anti-social behaviour, and improvements in educational opportunities and business productivity, experienced across three decades.

Victoria's projected savings outstripped all other states and territories, according to the modelling, by SGS Economics and Planning.

According to the report, the accumulated cost to Australian taxpayers would reach \$25 billion annually by 2051 (in 2021 dollars) if the inadequate rate of investment in affordable, social and public housing continued.

HAA founder and director Rob Pradolin urged businesses to lead a push for a national discussion about how to address the chronic shortage of affordable housing. "This isn't just an issue for low-income households. This

is also an issue for business in attracting key workers close to where they serve society. It is in everyone's interest to make this a national priority. This will take 30 to 40 years to fix so we need to address the issue now," Mr Pradolin said.

People can register for an interactive public webinar at 12:30pm on August 2, 2022, featuring the report's author discussing the findings in more detail. Go to housingallaustralians.org.au/give-me-shelter/ to register and to access the full report.

SUBMITTED BY ROB PRADOLIN

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Palestinian short film night with Senator Janet Rice

Central Victorian Friends Of Palestine are thrilled to announce the screening of two multiple award-winning short films from leading female Palestinian directors in Kyneton on Saturday, 6 August; 'The Present' by Farah Nabulsi and 'Like Twenty Impossibles' by Annemarie Jacir.

Senator Janet Rice from the Australian Greens will join the screening and will be holding a Q&A between the films.

With so much happening in that region, it is important to hear the stories from those who live there. The Central Victoria Friends of Palestine are excited to have been given permission to screen the short films from two of the best storytellers in the region.

The event is also a fundraiser, with proceeds donated to Australian charity 'Olive Kids', supporting Palestinian children through healthcare, education and financial aid. All the work of Olive Kids is delivered by local volunteers and done through local businesses, providing children with hope and opportunity.

"We are extremely fortunate to have two acclaimed short films to screen and a Senator so focused on human rights here to address the community's queries," said Peter Wicks, organiser.

SUBMITTED BY PETER WICKS



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Dja Dja Wurrung history featured on new trail

Stories of Aboriginal history and geography are on display for locals and visitors to enjoy at Upper Coliban Reservoir, as part of a park upgrade.

Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas visited the completed works last month, which included the construction of a new shelter, known as a Mayam and walking trail named Djangi Walendjak.

The site now features paths and landscaping adjacent to the spillway, as well as interpretive signage telling the stories, history and geography of the Dja Dja Wurrung peoples.

The project also features black glass incorporated into the concrete slab to represent the tachylite mine that was submerged by the formation of the reservoir. Tachylite is a rock that was used by Dja Dja Wurrung peoples for making flaked stone tools.

Steve Jackson, general manager of economic development with Djandak Enterprise, said “The Coliban River and surrounding areas are significant areas for the Dja Dja Wurrung people. This project has been a great opportunity to have Djandak staff on Country building this important infrastructure.”

Djandak, a subsidiary of Djaara, designed the Mayam using traditional shapes and incorporating natural materials and landscaping.

Local sandstone and bluestone have also been used in the landscaping, and local timbers have been used as structural beams in the shelters and toilets. The plants have been selected due to their traditional significance to the Dja Dja

Wurrung peoples through their use as food and fibre plants.

Coliban Water provided \$130,000 for the upgrades, giving visitors to the reservoir more options to get outside and explore the great outdoors while learning about the area’s cultural history.



Photo: L to R DJANDAK General Manager Steve Jackson, DJAARA General Manager Cassandra Lewis, Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas, DJAARA Chairperson Trent Nelson



Photo: Representatives of Coliban Water, managing director Damien Wells and chairperson of Coliban Water Bob Cameron with DJANDAK and DJAARA representatives, along with Councillor Janet Pearce, Mayor Jennifer Anderson and Mary-Anne Thomas

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

Innovative grants fund supports Victorian creatives

The Andrews Labor Government is backing the creative workers who power Victoria’s creative industries with the largest ever round of the ground-breaking Creators Fund.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas recently announced two local recipients through the 2022 round of the fund, including local Woodend author, Ann Bolch.

Ms Bolch has been awarded a grant of \$35,000 to support the research and development of a memoir chronicling Baburam Poudel’s life story.

Fryerstown artist Tara Gilbee has received \$25,000 in the ‘Deaf and Disabled stream’ of the award to support research into the impact of temporal and elemental forces on the materiality of artworks imbedded in a landscape.

They are among 70 Victorian creatives and creative collectives supported

through the grant pool of almost \$2.7 million.

Part of the Creative State strategy, the Creators Fund provides local creatives with a stable income base of up to \$50,000 for up to six months, enabling them to undertake research and development, explore new ideas and hone their craft.

Since its launch in 2017, the Creators Fund has invested almost \$6 million directly into the careers of Victorian creatives – from fashion designers, composers and game developers to writers, visual artists and theatre-makers.

Supporting creatives for a sustained period, the Creators Fund provides the time and funds required for the delivery of innovative and ground-breaking new research, methods and works.

This latest round of the Creators Fund includes dedicated streams for First

Peoples creatives and creatives who identify as deaf or disabled.

“The Creators Fund enables local creatives to innovate, take their career to the next level, and make an even stronger contribution to our creative industries and cultural life – here in Macedon and beyond,” said Ms Thomas. “We are so proud of our creative talent in Macedon. Congratulations to Ann Bolch and Tara Gilbee for this achievement,”

To find out more about the Creators Fund, recipients and their exciting projects, visit creative.vic.gov.au.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP



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A few funny tales...

Bradley's transitioned to a dedicated draper over the years 1977 and 1978. The workroom got busy as the work came in from all over Australia.

Despite the rise of large department stores, such as K-Mart and Target and later Spotlight, throwing their hat into the drapery ring, Bradley's survived and thrived by focusing on quality products and personal service. 'We were always busy,' says Jim Bradley, even as other smaller drapery businesses had to close over the years.

Among the busy times, a few funny stories happened along the way...

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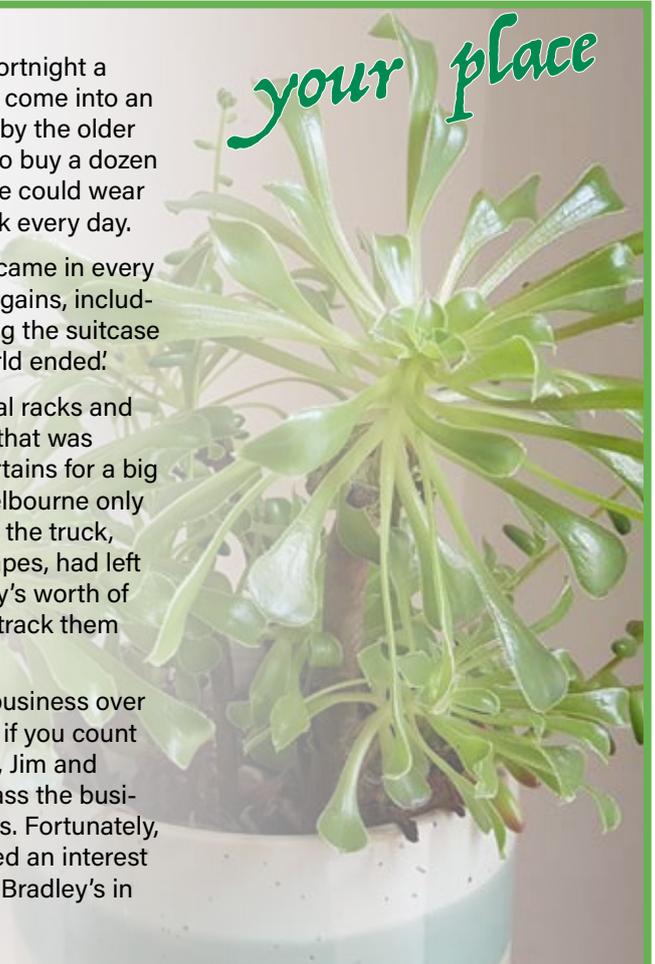
A long time ago, every fortnight a businessperson used to come into an earlier premises owned by the older generation of Bradleys to buy a dozen white Pelaco shirts so he could wear a brand new one to work every day.

For three years a bloke came in every sale time, buying up bargains, including a suitcase, then filling the suitcase to on-sell when 'the world ended'.

One day, Jim built special racks and tracks to fit into a truck that was transporting custom curtains for a big and important job in Melbourne only to realise days later that the truck, having delivered the drapes, had left with quite a lot of money's worth of tracks! (They never did track them down. Ahem.)

Having built up a solid business over two decades (and more if you count those Melbourne years), Jim and Rhonda were keen to pass the business on to reliable hands. Fortunately, their son Michael showed an interest and started working for Bradley's in 1994.

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Landcare grants and junior grants now open

The Victorian government is providing funding to volunteers and young people across the state, including in Macedon to help them protect and restore the natural environment in our area.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said the 2022 Victorian Landcare Grants and the 2022 Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants are now open and aim to help volunteers and kids across the state protect Victoria's environment.

As part of the Victorian Landcare Grants, \$3.35 million is available for grants of up to \$20,000 to fund on-ground projects that protect, enhance, and restore Macedon district land and environment. Support grants of up to \$500 are also available to help with group administration and running costs.

The grants are open to environmental volunteering groups, including Landcare groups and networks, Friends groups, Conservation Management Networks, Committees of Management, Coastcare groups and Aboriginal groups to support the important work they do in protecting and restoring our land and environment.

"This funding will assist our hard-working volunteers, community groups and youth to continue caring for our local natural environment," said Ms Thomas.

In 2021, five project grants were provided that helped fund projects for Landcare in Tylden, Upper Campaspe, Woodend, Newham & District and Ashbourne.

As part of the 2022 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants, \$450,000 of funding will be provided to environmental projects at local schools, kindergartens, preschools, childcare centres and other youth groups.

Grants of up to \$5000 will be available for projects that provide youth in Macedon district with an opportunity to participate in hands-on biodiversity projects or educate them in valuing and actively caring for biodiversity and the environment.

Both grant programs support the implementation of Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037, the Victorian Government's 20-year plan to protect Victoria's environment and native species.

For more information about how to apply, visit environment.vic.gov.au/grants

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP



Bin information fridge magnets are here!

Not sure what goes into which bin? Free fridge magnets that show what can go into each of Council's four colour-coded bins are now available for pick up from Council's Customer Service Centers, Neighbourhood houses and libraries.

To find locations and opening hours visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Our-Facilities

Equiculture course discount now open

Equiculture, short for equine permaculture, is a holistic horse property management program that promotes sustainable farm and pasture management techniques designed with your horse's welfare and natural behaviour in mind.

The program is delivered digitally, with participants able to learn at their own pace. Fifteen modules teach participants all about healthy soil and pasture, managing weeds, mud and erosion, property design and layouts as well as managing optimal equine health.

A discount for this online course is available to residents of both the Macedon Ranges and City of Greater Bendigo shires.

For information about Healthy Landscapes courses, including costs, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/HL-courses or contact 5422 0333.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

Macedon Ranges Shire environmental updates

Climate proofing sports for the future webinar

6pm Monday 15 August, online

Sport plays an important role in all our lives. We are fortunate to have sporting clubs in Macedon Ranges leading the way in future proofing sport for this area. Join us for this free online webinar to hear how you can make changes for sustainability at your club.

Annabel Sides from Green Planet Sports will highlight helpful tips to improve club practices for a sustainable future.

To register, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/future-proofing-sport



Learn sustainable land management practices with Healthy Landscapes

The Healthy Landscapes: Practical Regenerative Agricultural Communities program aims to raise awareness in the community about sustainable land management practices that improve soil health, reduce exposure to climate risk, enhance biodiversity and increase on-farm productivity.

There are a range of workshops and courses you can do over the next couple of months to learn about sustainable land management practices under the program:

Webinar: Grazing Management

Tuesday 16 August, 7.30–9pm, Online

Jason McAinch, Council's Private Land Conservation Officer has a passion for grazing management. In this webinar, Jason will share the fundamentals of grazing management that will improve the persistence, productivity and biodiversity of your grassland pastures.

Registration is free at: mrsc.vic.gov.au/grazing-management-webinar

Workshop: Learn how to graze horses the sustainable way

Sunday 28 August, 10–11.30am, Gisborne

Join Jason McAinch to learn how to graze your horse in a sustainable way. The location of the field day is on a property in Gisborne. Once you have registered, the address will be sent to you prior to the event.

Registration is free at: mrsc.vic.gov.au/workshop-horses

Gardens for Wildlife Info Session



6pm Wednesday 17 August at Woodend Community Centre

Would you like to attract more butterflies, birds, reptiles and mammals in your yard?

Come along to hear about the Gardens for Wildlife project, how to improve biodiversity and attract more birds and other animals to your property.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council would like to establish a group of ongoing volunteers who are passionate about biodiversity and would like to contribute to the program roll-out across the region.

To register visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/gardens-for-wildlife

Holistic Grazing Course

Commences Friday 9 September, Malmsbury

The Holistic Grazing Management Short Course has been designed to assist land managers to improve their skills and knowledge about grazing livestock, resulting in an increase in soil carbon and perennial pasture species, including native species.

Along with the presenters Jason McAinch and Sam White, guest speakers will be used to enhance the delivery of the program.

The course will incorporate:

- 16 sessions delivered between September 2022 and May 2023
- Face-to-face theory learning (six days)
- Online theory learning and support sessions
- Practical on-property learning

The course is structured for large and small landholders with grazing livestock. Landholders in the Macedon Ranges Shire, Hepburn Shire or the City of Greater Bendigo are eligible to attend.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



Woodend Landcare is in need of some enthusiastic and reliable volunteers, for two roles that do not require more than a few hours per month and do not involve on-ground work such as weed control.

Communications/PR role

We need someone to manage our Facebook page and WordPress blog and coordinate written material (and provide images) for ad hoc contributions such as The New Woodend Star and member newsletters.

Our goal is to communicate more

effectively with members and friends, to provide information on our upcoming events and promote the group’s projects. We’d also like to advocate (more) on behalf of the environment and raise awareness on local green issues, engage with the wider Woodend community and attract new members.

The focus of the role is promoting working bees (10 per year) and other Landcare events as well as providing updates on group projects and environmental matters of interest (eg Five Mile Creek bridge, creek environs masterplan, revegetation projects, waterways health, black gum restoration).

The role would suit a member who’d like a behind-the-scenes role or someone who wishes to contribute to an active environmental cause but does not have the capacity to attend working bees.

Requirements: a creative and proficient social media user and writer/photographer with a few hours a month to spare and an interest in the environment, habitat restoration and revegetation projects. Workload is flexible and variable.

Catering for working bees and events

One of our two volunteer caterers has moved away, and we need someone to help our catering person. Main duties would involve buying or cooking morning teas for the ten working bees we hold each year, filling the urn and setting up the table to feed the troops (8-15 people on average) and arranging food for our AGM each year.

Please reply to woodendlandcare@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY PETER YATES

Thriving communities and environment guide the future for Greater Western Water

Communities, customers and caring for Country are central to Greater Western Water’s approach to delivering essential water and wastewater services across our region.

These focus areas were identified through the launch of their 2030 Strategy which coincided with their one year anniversary following the integration of City West Water and Western Water in July 2021.

Managing Director Maree Lang said the first GWW strategy shows how the organisation will manage the challenges of population growth and climate change.

“We’re creating a more liveable region and supporting projects to help our diverse communities thrive economically, socially, environmentally and culturally,” she said.

GWW Senior First Nations Advisor, Aunty Kym Monohan said a key highlight of the strategy was GWW’s commitment to healing and caring for Country.

“One way we pay respect to Country is through our commitment to reaching net zero carbon by 2030 and leading the way towards zero waste through innovative solutions that will benefit the land and waterways,” she said.

The GWW strategy was developed with input from customers and Traditional Owner groups from the Kulin Nation.

Read the Strategy at the Greater Western Water website.

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JURY



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Plastic Free July is over – what’s next?

Plastic Free July 2022 saw participants taking positive and rewarding steps to change their habits when it comes to the use and disposal of soft plastics.

Curious to know what people did for Plastic Free July?

Read inspirational stories from the participants reducing single-use plastic waste at home, work, or in their community. Discover the steps they took, the challenges they overcame and lessons learnt at: plasticfreejuly.org. Recordings from the Plastic Free July workshops can be accessed at mrsc.vic.gov.au/waste-reduction.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



Rotary pairs students with top mentors

Woodend Rotarians and guests recently enjoyed a fascinating presentation by final year Master of Construction Management student and MentorMatch mentee, Savi Lu.

Savi is from Guangdong Province in China and has been studying at Melbourne University since 2020. Through the MentorMatch Pilot Mentoring Program established by Rotary Districts of Victoria in partnership with Study Melbourne, Savi was



matched with Woodend Rotarian Deidre Willmott as her mentor.

Savi speaks fluent English but, due to the pandemic, the evening at the Woodend Rotary Club provided her with her first ever opportunity to present in English to an in person audience.

The entertaining and informative presentation was all about the differences in design and construction of residential buildings in Australia and China. She explained feng shui design principles in China compared with open plan designs in Australia and looked at how most people in China live in high rise apartments compared with modern Australian houses that incorporate indoor/outdoor living. Modern construction techniques in Australia such as modules, precast panels and thin joint masonry reduce onsite labour costs while in China modern high rise makes extensive use of steel reinforced concrete.



Photo top: Deidre Willmott (Mentor), Savi Lu (Mentee) and President Rotary Club of Woodend Charles Bender

Photo at left: Savi Lu enjoying an outing at Hanging Rock Those present were especially interested to hear that traditional bamboo scaffolding is still widely used and valued for its flexibility and strength, light weight and ease of transport. A modern adaptation is the use of plastic ties.

The MentorMatch pilot has now been completed and is undergoing evaluation. Savi and Deidre both believe the program has provided a wonderful opportunity for them to meet new people and expand their networks and they hope to see it continue.

SUBMITTED BY JOSEPHINE FALZARANO

Braemar Students represented Rotary Woodend at the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)



Photo: L to R - Student Ryan Haque, Rotarian Adriaan Adolf, Student Nixon Stuart-Higgs and Michael Home, Associate Principal of Braemar college

This international youth program simulates the workings of the United Nations Assembly by having two senior students from a number of schools represent a particular UN country.

The Rotary Club of Woodend is pleased to have sponsored Year 11 Braemar Students Nixon Stuart-Higgs and Ryan Haque to participate in the program. The country they represented at the Assembly was the Solomon Islands.

The students debate on matters of world political and social concern. The assembly aims to build goodwill, world peace and understanding through the experience of tackling issues from the viewpoint of the team's 'adopted' country, even where this may be completely contrary to their own views.

Students use research, debating and public speaking skills to address a wide range of contemporary and world-focused issues. The program extends over a weekend and it is chaired and judged by Rotarians. Resolutions cover issues such as Education, Environmental Health, Human Rights, Nuclear Proliferation, Poverty, Terrorism and World Peace. Delegates must express the views of the countries they are representing and not their own or those views of Australia. Students are also encouraged to wear the appropriate costume of their allocated country and have fun dressing up.

The objective is to encourage young people to learn respect and tolerance for people of all races, religions and nationalities. They do this by debating U.N. topics from their given country's perspectives.

SUBMITTED BY JOSEPHINE FALZARANO

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SUBMITTED BY CHARL PARRIS




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Macedon Ranges Dog Obedience Club

The July new members event was cool but not wet. We had a total of 26 new puppies join us.

Training is important to both you and your pup.

How do we teach our pup acceptable behavior? Before starting to teach, what do you want them to know? Basic commands like "sit", "down", "come" and "stay" are the most commonly used.

Many people start with puppy school, often run by vets and pet stores. But where to go next? This is where dog obedience comes in, either at home, or at a private or group class. It's the next level in training.

Training at home is a great way for you and your dog to get to know each other and form a lifetime bond. Be consistent with your training, treats for good work are a great motivator, but they are not the only way; leading by example and positive reinforcement can be a better option. Pups love attention, and using verbal praise will strengthen your bond.

Taking a group class when they meet the requirements will provide them with a safe environment to learn from a trained instructor, and give them the opportunity to socialize with other dogs and people. The better socialized your pup, the better behaved they will be in public and at home.

Have fun, but be patient with your puppy; you're both learning. It's new to them, and they will make mistakes. But be calm, encouraging, patient and positive.



Visit our website: <https://www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au/>, Facebook page or email info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au and we will contact you.

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SUBMITTED BY CAROL, INSTRUCTOR/TREASURER MRODC

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-  robmitchell.com.au

Authorised Rob Mitchell MP, Australian Labor Party, 57-59 High Street, Wallan.



Federal Member for McEwen Rob Mitchell says thanks

Federal Member for McEwen, Rob Mitchell, is keen to thank McEwen constituents for the faith they have placed in him following his re-election on May 21.

“My job is to deliver on the promises I made. People have supported me and backed us to deliver on those promises, so that is my first priority,” Mr Mitchell said.

“We have already written to Ministers to kick off the process of delivering for our community,” he said. “The privilege bestowed onto me being elected as your Federal Member has always been about service and what we can do for our community. With a Labor Government and a focus on a better life for working families, secure jobs, a future made in Australia and action on climate change, I am excited about what we can achieve.”

Election commitments specific to the region included \$15 million for the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct, \$1.5 million to fix mobile blackspots in Woodend and Gisborne South and \$11 million to deliver safer and better local roads across Macedon Ranges and Mitchell Shires.

“My priorities have always been about our communities, to deliver on the promises I made, as I always have, because it’s about integrity, which is important to us,” Mr Mitchell said.

“I also think the Australian public has spoken and clearly

asked for a more progressive government than what we have had for the last nine years. They want action on climate change, they want the Uluru Statement from the Heart adopted, the NDIS working right and an independent commission against corruption. They believe in a better future under Labor.

“I thank the voters in McEwen for the enormous honour returning me to Parliament, I also have to thank my family and my amazing campaign team. We had over 230 volunteers on election day, setting up, manning booths, packing up, scrutineering the count and a huge amount of work was also done leading up to the day.

“It was massive effort. It’s really not about being a win for me, and a win for the people of McEwen, it’s a win for them,” he said.

SUBMITTED BY ROB MITCHELL MP



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Tradies Mental Health Awareness Breakfast

HALT (Hope Assistance Local Tradies) and PS My Family Matters are hosting a Tradies mental health awareness breakfast at Benton's Plumbing Supplies Gisborne at 9am on 19 August. The event is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank and Benton's Plumbing Supplies.

"The event aims to raise awareness of anxiety, depression and wellbeing amongst the tradie community," said Tamara Wilson, president of PS My Family Matters. "This is an information session to support tradies in their mental health journey, whether they are living with mental illness personally or supporting someone in their family or community as a mate or direct carer. This is a great opportunity to get some

information from people that have been there and walked in their shoes."

There will be a presentation by Jeremy Forbes, founder of HALT. Burgers and bacon and egg rolls will be served, and there will be information packs available.

"We wish to thank the Bendigo Bank and Benton's Plumbing Supplies for their generous sponsorship," said Tamara. "These types of events ensure that we can have open, honest conversations about mental wellness issues."

Benton's Plumbing Supplies is located at 16 Robertson Street, Gisborne, Victoria.

For further information, please call 0475269965 or email psmfm@outlook.com

SUBMITTED BY MIKE HAMER

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RESERVOIR DOGS -- A Thriller for the Mountview Theatre

The Mount Players' third production for 2022 opens on Friday 19 August and runs till 4 September: a gender-flipped version of Quentin Tarantino's iconic Reservoir Dogs for an all-female cast.

They were six strangers, assembled to pull off the perfect crime. Given fake names so no one could identify the others, they thought there was no way their heist could have failed. But after a police ambush, killing one and injuring another, the criminals return to their rendezvous point and realise that one of them had to have been a police informant. But who was it?

This production of Reservoir Dogs is for a mature audience only.

It contains high level course language, sexual references, stylised depictions of violence, simulated gun shots, the use of strobe lighting effects and stage cigarettes which produce an odour.

Reservoir Dogs is contemporary piece that will show the true diversity of The Mount Players!

For full details and to book tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892.

SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT



Spring is on the way and that can only mean it is chicken time!



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'Cool Climate Cinema' short film screening

The Macedon Ranges Film Society (MRFS) is pleased to announce the second Cool Climate Cinema for Saturday 3 September. This short film festival follows the highly successful inaugural event held four years ago, which was a sell-out, and the enthusiastic response has resulted in two screenings this year.

The festival will screen two hours of well-curated short films selected from Australian and International directors. The program includes comedy, drama, award-winning animation and several thought-provoking films and will be accompanied by complimentary delicious food and drinks at bar prices. There will be an afternoon and an evening screening at the Newham Hall on Saturday 3 September. Tickets are \$28 and bookings are open at Trybooking.com/CAWYS.

The MRFS has shaken off the difficulties of the past two years or more and have a program of excellent films for the current year. The July screening of *The Dish*, starring Sam Neill, was accompanied by the usual supper and wine. As a special mid-winter treat, a lip-smacking mulled wine was a welcome tippie on a cold night.

Our 12 August screening is *Edmund Hillary: Oceans to Sky*. This highly-awarded film will be introduced by the local filmmaker, Michael Dillon AM, who was Sir Edmund Hillary's filmmaker for over 25 years. The screenings start at 7.00 for 715pm in the Norma Richardson Hall.

Our September screening is the favourite Humphrey Bogart classic, *African Queen*. New members are welcome. Please contact Lorraine Rutherford for more details on 0402299153, or by emailing mrfsociety@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY NEIL APLIN

Photo: Committee member Jacky Willis samples the mulled wine at July meeting (courtesy Lorraine Rutherford)



Macedon Ranges Short Film Festival
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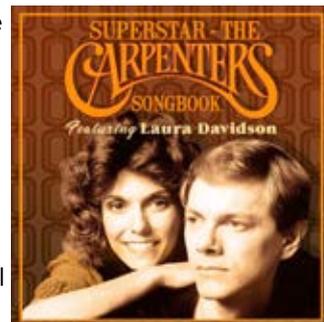
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Your community diary

Kyneton Town Hall events

There's something for everyone coming up at Kyneton Town Hall, kicking off with Superstar – The Carpenters Songbook on Sunday 7 August at 3pm; featuring Laura Davidson and celebrating 50 years of the Carpenters. Karen Carpenter possessed the voice of an angel and provided the soundtrack to many of our lives. You will be smiling and singing along to every song.



In The Two of Us – The Songs of Lennon and McCartney, on Saturday 27 August at 7.30pm, renowned musicians Damien Leith and Darren Coogan perform timeless songs from The Beatles' treasure trove of pop history, along with the richness and diversity of Lennon and McCartney's solo careers; Damien and Darren transport the audience back in time.



September will showcase a very special performance by Fred Smith and the Urban Sea Shanties Community Choir. This performance is a culmination of months of choir rehearsals under the guidance of choral leaders Andrew Price and Seija Knight, producing a multi-layered, witty and moving live performance with Fred Smith and his four-piece band. Scheduled for Saturday 10 September at 7.30pm, this is a performance not to be missed!



To purchase tickets, call 1300 888 802 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

— AUGUST —

- 2.....Inclusive Storytime at Woodend Library
- 2..... Feed me to the roses info session, Woodend Library
- 4..... Community immunisation session WCC
- 5..... Pathways for Carers (walking group)
- 6..... Palestinian Film Night
- 6.....Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7..... KTH - The Carpenters Songbook
- 13..... Chamber Poets - RSL
- 18.....Village Connect Coffee and Chat
- 19.....Mount Players opening of Reservoir Dogs
- 27..... KTH - The Two of Us, Lennon & McCartney

— SEPTEMBER —

- 1..... Community immunisation session WCC
- 2..... Pathways for Carers (walking group)
- 3.....Woodend Farmers' Market
- 3.....Kyneton Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show
- 3..... Macedon Ranges Film Society Short Film Festival
- 4.....Kyneton Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show
- 4..... Father's Day
- 7..... Humanity Talk on hope for climate change
- 10.....Fred Smith & the Urban Sea Shanties Community Choir
- 14-15.....Mental Health First Aid course – session 2
- 19..... HALT Breakfast - Save your Bacon
- 23..... Public Holiday Friday before AFL Grand Final
- 24.....AFL Grand Final

— OCTOBER —

- 1.....Woodend Farmers' Market
- 1..... Official opening Rotary 100 Community Space
- 16.....Lions Sunday Market
- 29..... Hanging Rock Market

— NOVEMBER —

- 1..... Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
- 20.....Lions Sunday Market

— DECEMBER

- 18.....Lions Sunday Market
- 25..... Christmas Day (Sunday)
- 26..... Boxing Day (Public Holiday)
- 27..... Public Holiday in lieu of Christmas Day

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

Post-Pandemic Poets

Chamber Poets is back in full swing after successful June and July events and continues to play a key role in supporting poets in the aftermath of the pandemic.

At the next spoken word event on 13 August, Tru S Dowling of Bendigo and Amanda Anastasi of Melbourne will converge in Woodend to promote their latest books, which were published during lockdowns.

The two featured writers will be reading from their most recent books, Tru from her gripping, verse novel set in 1940s Castlemaine, *Butcher, Baker, His-Story Maker* (Birdfish Books, 2020), and Amanda will read her mesmerising, compassionate, futuristic poems about climate change from *The Inheritors* (Black Pepper, 2021).

Tru Dowling is a performer, emcee, freelance editor, workshop presenter and competition judge, who teaches Professional Writing and Editing at Bendigo Kangan Institute and Victoria University. Her work has been awarded, and read widely and published in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Amanda Anastasi is the current Poet in Residence at the Monash Climate Change Communication Research Hub, where she writes stories of the climate crisis. She is a two-time recipient of the Ada Cambridge Poetry Prize and convenor of Melbourne's most prestigious spoken word event, La Mama Poetica.

The Woodend-based band, Black Forest Smoke, will provide musical interludes, showcasing compositions they have written for a forthcoming debut album.

As with each Chamber Poets event, one of the highlights of the



afternoon is the opportunity for attendees to read or perform spoken word in the Open Section.

At the July event, Angela Costi, Grant Caldwell and Claire Gaskin entertained the packed Woodend RSL with excerpts from their latest publications. Their performances were punctuated with readings from the Open Section and poems set to music by Black Forest Smoke.

Jenny from Woodend, who attended the event, says of Angela Costi's poems, "They were exquisite little pictures of the migrant experience, combining both a playful love of the strange new country with a bittersweet nostalgia of what was left behind. Poets are absolutely my favourite people in the universe, and we need more of them!"

The August event will be held on Saturday, 13 August at 1pm at the Woodend RSL. Entry is by donation of \$5 or \$10 at the discretion of the person attending, and the poets' books will be available for purchase. All are welcome.

SUBMITTED BY KATRINA BUTTIGIEG

Blooming marvellous to show what you grow

After an absence of nearly three years, the Kyneton Horticultural Society will host its Spring Flower show at the Watts Pavilion, Kyneton Showgrounds on Saturday 3 September from 1pm to 4pm, and Sunday 4 September from 10am to 4pm.



It seems apparent that with past lockdowns over recent years many people have shown a growing if not newly-discovered interest in horticulture. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone and everyone to share and show what you grow, as something bright and positive for all. The Flower Show is a major highlight of the Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival, celebrating its golden jubilee this year.

The show highlights an extensive range of daffodils, hellebores, cut flowers, shrubs, pot plants, cacti and succulents, and floral art. There will also be a special section to mark the platinum jubilee celebration of HM Queen Elizabeth II – so let your creative mind grow!

An excellent range of plants will be available for sale grown by the KHS members, as well as potted bulbs, quality used garden books and there will be a raffle.

Everyone of all ages is encouraged to participate to make this the best Flower Show yet. Go to the website, www.khs1894.com to download the entry schedule.

For enquiries, including entry cost, contact Nicholas Scott, President, 0438664849

SUBMITTED BY NICHOLAS SCOTT

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Rationale moves to Kyneton – bringing 100 local jobs

Prestige skincare brand RATIONALE has relocated to Kyneton, creating 100 local jobs and bringing more exciting opportunities to regional Victoria.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas announced last month that the completion of RATIONALE'S multimillion-dollar new facility, backed by the Regional Jobs Fund.

The relocation has enabled the company to create around 50 new jobs in Kyneton and for 50 existing staff to move to the region, which has supported RATIONALE to grow across local and international markets. New jobs have been created across areas including research, training, production, worldwide logistics and operations.

The new Kyneton headquarters will support the company to manufacture, package and distribute inhouse, onsite and at scale to meet expected growth in local and export markets. The move coincides with RATIONALE'S 30th anniversary of producing luxury skincare products.

"Having RATIONALE in the Macedon Ranges further highlights this region as a go-to destination for locally made premium products and I am delighted to see the company's vision come to fruition."

RATIONALE exports products to the UK, Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan and will launch in the United States later this year. The company operates 14 flagship clinics for consultations and sales in Australian capital cities and another two in Singapore.

Design elements within the new Kyneton facility reflect the company's close ties with art and culture, including a two-storey high screen gallery in the reception area that showcases work by Australian artists. The facility also includes a photo studio to support the company to create its own marketing content.

A new training facility, fitted to mimic the flagship clinic treatment rooms, will allow onsite training for product agents, cosmetic doctors and other partners.

RATIONALE'S products focus on local ingredients, and the new research and development centre allows the company to develop new mixtures, sourcing locally-made raw materials.

The company has started six months of trial batches at the facility to ensure its systems and procedures can be certified, before kicking off full-scale production at the end of the year.

The Regional Jobs Fund is part of the state government's Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund, a key part of the record investment of more than \$36 billion in rural and regional Victoria since 2015.



Photo: L to R Dept Mayor, Rob Guthrie, Cr Janet Pearce, Mayor Jennifer Anderson, RATIONALE CEO Shamini Rajarethnam, Founder and Director of Research at RATIONALE, Richard Parker, Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, Cr Mark Ridgeway, CEO MRSC Bernie O'Sullivan

New strategy for North-Central Victorian catchments

A vision for the care of the North Central catchment over the next six years has been released, ensuring the land, water, and biodiversity of the area are managed sustainably.

The North Central Catchment Management Authority's Regional Catchment Strategy will highlight actions needed to protect and improve the region's rivers, wetlands, grasslands, forests, and soil. It also partners with Traditional Owners and enables self-determined participation and leadership to care for Country, which has been identified as one of the highest priorities for the region.

The strategy will focus on combating climate change in the catchment and will ensure climate impacts will be considered in decisionmaking from now and into the future. The North Central Region is home to 250,000 people, with bustling regional centres and a wide range of agricultural land, including irrigation, large-scale cropping and mixed farming. This catchment strategy will ensure collaboration with user groups and the community to improve environmental, social, and economic outcomes. "Climate change is putting increasing pressure on our natural resources and communities, and people in our region are already adapting to change and working to improve their resilience," says North Central CMA Board Chair, Julie Miller Markoff

The North Central Catchment Management Authority prepared the Regional Catchment Strategy on behalf of the region. It was developed with Traditional Owners and regional agencies, organisations, groups, and local communities.

The Victorian government is investing \$222 million in priority waterways across the state, including the Campaspe River – where revegetation and monitoring projects are restoring river health.

To learn more about Victoria's regional Catchment Strategies visit: rcc.vic.gov.au

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

Local grants supporting regional Victoria to thrive

Grants are on offer for local councils and community groups to create better public spaces and improved streetscapes across the state.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas recently announced applications are open in regional Victoria for the Labor Government's \$20 million Living Local Fund.

The Fund is supporting a wide range of potential projects from upgraded halls to art installations and community gardens.

The Living Local Fund is part of the Government's Our Regions and our Suburbs: Living Local Initiative and is designed to ensure local towns will have the infrastructure and equipment they need to continue to thrive.

Grants between \$20,000 to \$200,000 will be available to councils and community groups for infrastructure

projects, including new playgrounds and community gardens, splash pads, art installations and community halls upgrades.

"It's great for our towns and communities to have the chance to build better public spaces to bring communities together," said Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas.

Also on offer are grants between \$2,000 to \$20,000, which will also be available for local councils and community organisations to undertake minor refurbishments, and buy new equipment such as kitchen appliances, laptops and audio-visual equipment.

Through Metropolitan and Regional Partnerships, the community has advocated the importance of living locally. The Fund is designed to support a wide range of locally led projects and equipment purchases for community organisations to improve livability.

Projects in areas most impacted by the pandemic and projects that align with the government's 20-minute neighbourhood principles will be given priority. The 20-minute neighbourhood principle aims to create local hubs where people can access services, like health facilities, parks and shops within a 20-minute walk from home.

"The Living Local Fund is a great initiative to provide the infrastructure and equipment that our communities need, while supporting local jobs and the economy," said Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas.

The Living Local Fund grant applications are now open and will close on Sunday 14 August 2022. For more information visit djpr.vic.gov.au/living-local.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

Mary-Anne Thomas MP LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

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

Mary-Anne Thomas



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

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

W: www.mary-annethomas.com.au

[MaryAnneMacedon](https://www.facebook.com/MaryAnneMacedon) [maryannethomasmp](https://www.instagram.com/maryannethomasmp)

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SECURE SELF STORAGE UNITS

What have the Rover Scouts been up to?

Hanging Rock Rover Unit—based out of 1st Woodend Scout Group—have been busy so far this year!

Recently they returned from Mudbash, an annual camp where Rovers from across Victoria come together to race cars that their Units have rebuilt and recycled, and to enjoy a weekend around a campfire. Hanging Rock spent the camp catching up with other Units from across Victoria and had a great time getting back out into the bush and away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

After Mudbash, the Unit went on their annual ski trip, staying up at the Rover-owned W.F. Water Ski Lodge at Mount Baw-Baw. The snow was light, but they had a great time regardless, skiing and snowboarding during the day and socialising at night.

Looking back to January, Hanging Rock went to the biggest event in the Rover calendar, Surfmoor; three nights camping at Eumeralla Scout Camp in Anglesea. From chilling out down at Anglesea beach, to trying their hands at archery and axe-throwing, or just cutting loose in front of the stage after dark, our Rovers had a great time meeting new people, relaxing in the sand and preparing for a new year.

Hanging Rock Rover Unit is always looking out for new members between the ages of 18 and 26. For all Scouting inquiries in Woodend, please contact Chris Eagle at gl.woodend1st@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS EAGLE



U3A Kyneton offers lifelong learning, physical activity and social and community interaction, primarily for members in the third age of life. Membership is open to all senior residents in the Macedon Ranges.

One of our most popular activities is Tai Chi.

Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese tradition that is practiced as a graceful form of exercise. It involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by

deep breathing. Each posture flows into the next without pause, ensuring that the body is in constant motion. Tai Chi is an exercise for all ages and levels of fitness.

U3A Tai Chi Group

Tai Chi was one of the first courses offered by U3A Kyneton when it commenced operation. Jan McIver, Phyllis Barling and others were founders in the early days.

Currently, we offer two classes at U3A: A Beginners Introduction course and an Advanced course. We teach Sun style and Yang Style, as well as an ancient

form of moving meditation called Qi gong.

Lindy Connell teaches the Beginners class.

Lindy joined U3A to do Tai Chi many years ago. Very grateful to the encouraging and patient teachers, she completed training with Dr Paul Lam and now teaches Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention. She also takes a seated class at RM Begg Nursing Home.

Jill Shaw teaches the Advanced class and practices Sun, Yang and Qi gong exercises.

Jill began as a student more than nine years ago. She also trained under Dr Paul Lam and other wonderful teachers.

Classes

Tai Chi classes are held on Tuesdays at 2pm, at the Uniting Church Hall in Kyneton.

Further details can be found via the website <https://u3akyneton.org.au/>, by email at info@u3akyneton.org.au or call John/Roni on 0439 360 763.

SUBMITTED BY STEPHEN CARISBROOKE





Inclusive Storytime – Tuesday, 2 August at 10am

For children with Autism Spectrum

Disorder (ASD), Storytime can be challenging. Large groups of people, loud noises and variation to routine can cause anxiety.

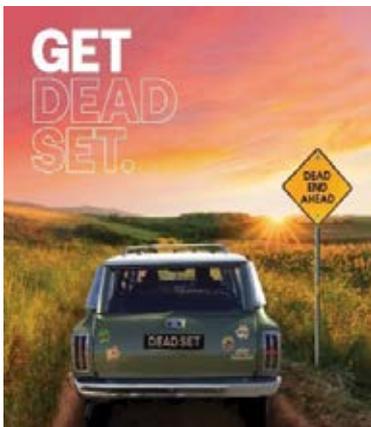
Inclusive Storytime sessions cater for all children and meet the unique needs of children with ASD by providing a controlled environment that helps autistic children feel safe and settled. The sessions also incorporate special features like sensory materials and picture exchange communication system cards (PECS).

As well as helping to develop early literacy and school readiness skills, Inclusive Storytime provides important opportunities for the children to interact socially and enables parents and carers on similar journeys to connect. These sessions also establish libraries as a “safe place” and can help to strengthen community awareness around autism.

Please join us on Tuesday the 2nd of August, 10am at Woodend Library for Inclusive Storytime. All are welcome to attend, and no bookings are required.

Feed me to the roses - Tuesday, 2 August, 2 – 3pm

In recognition of Dying to Know Day on 8 August, join Hayley West for a frank but fun information session on environmentally conscious body disposal methods – including natural burial, human composting and water cremation.



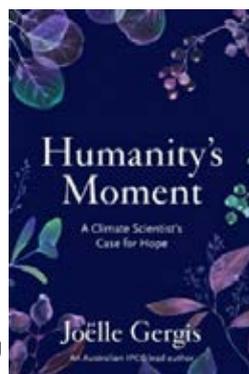
Hayley is an artist, death literacy advocate and a member of the Natural Death Advocacy Network. She also hosts Death Cafes and is on the Castlemaine Cemetery Trust.

Please book here: <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/woodend-events/> or call 5427 2074

Author Talk – Humanity’s Moment: A Climate Scientists Case for Hope – Wednesday 7 September 11am-12pm

Dr Joëlle Gergis, an award-winning climate scientist and writer at the Australian National University, is coming in to talk about her new book.

In *Humanity’s Moment*, Joëlle takes us through the science in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report with clear-eyed honesty, explaining what it means for our future, while sharing her personal reflections on bearing witness to the heartbreak of the climate emergency unfolding in real time. But this is not a lament for a lost world. It is an inspiring



reminder that human history is an endless tug-of-war for social justice. We are each a part of an eternal evolutionary force that can transform our world.

Joëlle shows us that the solutions we need to live sustainably already exist – we just need the social movement and political will to create a better world. This book is a climate scientist’s guide to rekindling hope, and a call to action to restore our relationship with ourselves, each other and our planet.

Children’s Book Council of Australia Book Week 20-26 August



This year’s theme is ‘Dreaming with eyes open...’. Book Week celebrates Australian authors and illustrators. Come into the library and check out our display.

Story Box Library is now an app! It’s Storytime, anytime! Story Box gets kids excited about reading and lets imaginations fly. It features Australian stories read by Australian storytellers. More than 200 picture books read aloud with animated illustrations. Free with your library card.

<https://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/ekids>

See you at the library!

5427 2074 | woodend@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

SUBMITTED BY EMMA KEENAN

Schools set to be fire-ready this summer

Schools in the Macedon district are set to be well-prepared ahead of the coming bushfire season.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas announced in July that the Government is investing \$9.15 million to continue the Bushfire Preparedness (Vegetation) Program across 2022-23, including allocations to 332 schools.

“We don’t need to look too far back to see how ferocious bushfires are and just how devastating their impacts can be, and that’s why we’re continuing to support schools to be as fire-ready as possible through the Bushfire Preparedness (Vegetation) Program,” said Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins:

Many schools in the Macedon Ranges, including Woodend Primary School; both main and Carlsruhe campuses, Newham Primary School and Hesket Primary School will benefit from funding to undertake essential vegetation clearance works prior to the bushfire season and in line with municipal fire danger periods.

Schools to receive funds are among those identified as being at risk and listed on the Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR).

These schools are required to undertake vegetation works on a regular basis to mitigate the risk of harm to the school’s community and buildings in the event of a bushfire.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP



Introducing new Woodend officers

On July 1, the new Leadership Group of the Woodend Fire Brigade began their important new roles. With Mike Dornau stepping down after five years at the helm, the new Captain is Steve Ritchie, who will hold the role for the next two years.

Steve brings a wealth of experience to the role, having joined the Brigade in 1994. He has served diligently in many leadership roles over the years, starting as Secretary in 1998. He took on the role of Treasurer in 2006 and did a brilliant job in managing the Brigade finances to this year, handing over to Rob Marsh. He has been a long-time officer, starting as 2nd Lieutenant in 2008 and then 1st Lieutenant in 2021, as well as OH&S Officer in 2016. Steve is a Life Member of the Brigade and was awarded a National Emergency Medal in 2009 and National Medal in 2021.

His impressive management team includes 1st Lieutenant Malcolm Judd, 2nd Lieutenant Sue Hobbs, 3rd Lieutenant Rob Marsh and new officer 4th Lieutenant Ben Richardson. Other key positions are held by Communications Officer Keith Mason and Secretary Annette van Huffel.

Mountain group elects new officers

Many of you may not know that Woodend is also part of the Mt Macedon Group of Brigades, which comprises the eight volunteer Brigades in our immediate region – along with Bullengarook, Gisborne, Heskett-Kerrie, Macedon, Mount Macedon, Newham and Riddells Creek.

The role of the Mt Macedon Group is to support the Brigades with experienced and senior fire fighters in the event of major incidents in the area, and to also manage the activities required on a broader scale through the Fire Danger Period – in particular, organising crews for Dangerous Fire Days and Strike Teams for major incidents across our state and Interstate.

The biennial election for senior roles was held recently, with long-term Group Officer Ian Hay stepping down after many years in the role on July 1. His efforts were rewarded recently with the presentation of an Australian Fire Services Medal (AFSM).

The new Group Officer is Greg Snart (ex-Captain Macedon), 1st DGO (Deputy Group Officer (ex-Captain Riddells Creek), 2nd DGO Dave Thompson (ex-Captain Riddells Creek), 3rd DGO Phil Challis (ex-Captain Bullengarook), 4th DGO Mike Dornau (ex-Captain Woodend), 5th DGO Bevan Moody (Lieutenant Gisborne), Communications Officer Ian Large and Secretary Peter Dillon.

Congratulations to these Officers and also other volunteers who took on other important roles for the next two years.

Beware of hot spots around the home

We had an early, cold and wet start to winter this year and, whilst we are now in our last month of winter, we still have many weeks of cold weather ahead of us.

This year, the CFA has attended several fires that have destroyed, or nearly destroyed, family homes. This is a timely reminder of the importance of the ongoing diligence towards winter fire safety.

The CFA has an informative interactive website to highlight the 'hot spots' that should be checked in all houses. To download the Winter Fire Safety Checklist, please visit: <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/home-fire-safety-checklist/>

Here you will find lots of useful information about appliances and places that will be found in nearly every home, and the dangers that they can present in our colder months.

For further information, contact 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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU

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Mother Goose seeks volunteers



Local community organisations and groups have always relied on the support of volunteers, but since the pandemic, they have seen a decrease in the number of people offering their time and sharing their life skills.

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's Parent-Child Mother Goose program is looking for volunteers to help with its weekly song, rhyme and storytelling sessions. The sessions are currently held in Kyneton and Romsey and, once enough volunteers are found, there are plans to extend the program to Gisborne and Riddell's Creek.

"We are looking for people that can spare three hours a week," says Tracey Thiele, who facilitates the groups.

"Volunteers for the Parent-Child Mother Goose program don't need any specific qualifications or experience working with children, they help support the parents and the pre-school participants, and help to set-up and pack-down for each session."

Volunteers are offered training in the Parent-Child Mother Goose program, which involves an introduction to the songs, rhymes and stories used in the sessions and learning the theory behind the program. Mother Goose enhances the bond between parent and child, and connects families in the



Photo: Chloe Smith Photography

community.

If you would like to volunteer with the Mother Goose program, email volunteering@scchc.org.au. If you are interested in coming along with your child, please contact Tracey Thiele on 5421 1666 or email tracey.thiele@scchc.org.au. Sessions are currently held in Romsey on a Wednesday afternoon and in Kyneton on a Thursday morning.

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER



Community refugee mentorship information session

Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA) invites groups of everyday Australians around the country to step up to the challenge and show the capacity and spirit of 'welcome' that exists in our local communities. An independent national charity, CRSA is at the forefront of delivering innovative community-led refugee sponsorship programs.

If you would like to be part of this initiative, or to know more about it, join us at an information session on Monday 15 August. Our guest speaker on the night, Blaise Itabelo, (pictured right) was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo and migrated to Australia in 2011 and has over ten years of experience in community engagement and development.



Blaise works passionately on assisting newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers with their settlement journey in Australia. Time has been allocated for open discussion.

The information session will be held at Social Foundry Café, 86 Mollison Street, Kyneton, on Monday 15 August at 7pm.

Registration is required via trybooking www.trybooking.com/CBHKC

For any further information please contact Fern 0490 177 309 or fern@cassinia.com

SUBMITTED BY FERN DEMACK

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Activities for kids at Buffalo Sports Stadium Woodend

Active Kids Sports Program

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

Sessions are held 10–10.45am Wednesday mornings at Buffalo Sports Stadium Woodend for children 2–5 years.

Parent participation is required.

Kindagym

Kindagym is a fun program for learning gross motor skills in a relaxed environment, and is casual, so no need to book.

Sessions are held Fridays at Buffalo Sports Stadium Woodend as follows:

- 10–11am for 1–3 year olds
- 11am–12pm for 4–5 year olds

For more information, including costs, call 5472 3411 or email buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Stay fit and healthy this winter! 25% off gym and aquatic memberships!

If you have been thinking about getting active during winter, now is a great time to join Council's gyms or aquatic centres. From 25 July until 22 August 2022, 25% is being offered off all memberships, including gym, gym/swim, swim-only and aqua aerobics. One membership per customer. No further discounts apply.

For information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/25OFF

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

Are you a carer living in the Macedon Ranges?

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

Hear from guest speakers and learn about local services

and supports that may assist you in your caring role. The group meets once a month for a walk along the Campaspe River Trail in Kyneton and enjoys morning tea together afterwards.

Our next walks are:

Friday 5 August and 2 September, 9.45am (meet at the Barry Doyle Rotunda in Kyneton)

This is a free event. For catering purposes please RSVP your attendance.

For more information call Abbey on 5422 0262 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect



Share coffee and a chat with Village Connect



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

As part of the program, a free coffee cup event is being held for older residents, their families and carers from 2–3pm Thursday 18 August at Gisborne Collective, 10 Robertson Street Gisborne.

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

Registration is essential. Contact Abbey Brown by phone 0409 915 760 or email villageconnect@mrsc.vic.gov.au

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YOGAFIRST, then ART.



The name of my business is YOGAFIRST, and that is how I start each day – with Yoga FIRST. But then art takes over. Never more than now, when I am getting really involved in making my dolls – painting and drawing has taken a back seat. I am sure some readers will have one of my dolls in their collections, or seen some of them, and I will still make dolls, but not like those.

Nowadays my dolls are made to give away to children in crisis, refugees, children from the Ukraine. There are so many worthy causes, so many children who need to love and be loved. Even at my age, a doll fills this need.

When you deprive children of dolls for whatever reason, they will find a way to make one. The Amish children from Orthodox Amish homes, where dolls were not allowed, wrapped logs in fabrics, and used these as dolls.

My dolls are a response to this need. I make dolls, and I also rescue discarded CLOTH dolls, wash and remake them to be loved again.

I am sure that someone out there has done a doctorate about the psychological impact of being without dolls, and we know what being totally alone in the world does to little monkeys – keep in mind that we are little monkeys, and we all need love and to be loved.

Email yogafirst@optusnet.com.au for information and to view the studio. To find the next open days, or dolls available for sale, please subscribe to my blog/newsletter at www.yogabeautiful.com.au

Jahne Hope-Williams

Yogi/ARTIST

www.jhwilliams.online
www.yogabeautiful.com.au
www.myyogabooks.etsy.com



For information bookings or enquiries

Email: yogafirst@netcon.net.au

Reusable Nappies Program – Survey results

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. Your feedback will help shape our Reusable Nappies Program, which aims to support families to use reusable nappies and reduce their household waste that ends up in landfill.

Out of 130 respondents, 19% already uses reusable nappies full time and 35% prefer to use a combination of reusable and disposable nappies. A majority of the respondents agree that the cloth nappies have financial, environmental and health benefits.

Rebates, educational workshops and nappy-washing services were among the top suggestions to encourage more reusable nappy use. Council is currently establishing the final initiatives to encourage more reusable nappy use in the shire.

Council also hosted a virtual workshop on plastic free nappies last month as part of Plastic Free July. The recording can be viewed at mrsc.vic.gov.au/waste-reduction.



Detox Your Home coming to the Macedon Ranges

Residents can dispose of household chemicals for free at Sustainability Victoria's Detox Your Home event on 17 September at the Kyneton Saleyards.

This is your chance to safely get rid of items such as household weed killer, cleaning products, old cooking oil, cosmetics etc.

To register and find out more visit sustainability.vic.gov.au



SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN

A message from your West Ward Councillors



August, we know, can often be one of the coldest months in Macedon Ranges, sometimes even with snow. It won't be long, however, before Council and the CFA start reminding us all to have our fire plans ready, well in advance of the fire season. Don't forget when you are tidying your property if you are unable to put your garden refuse in your light green lidded (FOGO) bin or take it to the transfer station (tip) for free, then always remember to check on restrictions in place for burning off, and whether you require a permit on Council or CFA's websites. Also check for animals, like Echidnas, that may have made a home in your pile.

July saw Macedon Ranges celebrate NAIDOC week through various external promotions, and internal staff activities, finishing with the free screening of *The Drover's Wife: The Legend of Molly Johnson*. Council is compiling a list of the contact details of anyone interested in learning more about reconciliation action plans and our First Nations people's history and culture, so please call (54220333) or email (mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) if you want to find out more.

July also saw many Council staff and Councillors take the Plastic Free July challenge. Every year it is an opportunity for anyone around the world to reflect on just how much plastic has entered our lives, the damage it does to the planet, and how we can change our habits to reduce our own use of plastics, particularly single use and soft plastics. If you find yourself with plastic you cannot reuse, check to see if it can go in the yellow lidded recycling bin, or in the case of soft plastics, bring it to the transfer station, for our free trial collection (see website for details), or to participating supermarkets for recycling.

By the time this edition goes to print, we should have announced those who were successful in their events and festivals grant applications, and by end of August, the Community Funding Scheme successful recipients will also be known. Thank you to everyone who took the time to apply, and congratulations to all the winners.

Thanks also to everyone for providing submissions on the Woodend Community Centre redevelopment. We appreciate that the timeline was very tight, due to grant conditions, and we appreciate everyone who made the effort to provide us with your thoughts during the two-week consultation period. The final designs must be endorsed by the end of September, and I am looking forward to their release to start applying for further grants to get the centre built. For those community members who have driven the project, thank you once again. You know who you are.

Local community advocacy is such an important part of what we do and was the backbone of Mount Macedon winning the inaugural Top Tiny Tourism Town 2022 at the recent Victorian Top Tourism Town awards; businesses, community and Council all worked in partnership.

Once again, Stay warm and safe.

Your West Ward Councillors: Jennifer, Mark, Janet



Wine Review

By Patrick Eckel

Introduction

The wines this month come from a relative newcomer to the region, as well as a producer whose winery may not be in the Macedon Ranges; however, most of the fruit it sources and vineyards it owns are! The first is Attwoods wines, who have taken over the Glenlyon Vineyard, meaning a Macedon Ranges Pinot and Chardonnay have been added to the existing range of wines that focus on Geelong. The latter is Shadowfax, a producer that has been around for 20 years, but that has really made the Macedon Ranges home over the last 10 years. Shadowfax manages a number of vineyards in the area and also established significant plantings in Little Hampton.

2020 Attwoods Glenlyon Pinot Noir

A medium red hue in the glass, with both red and black cherry on the nose that are lifted by earth and integrated spice. There is a generosity of fruit on the palate, but the wine retains its elegance; black cherry is supported by fine textural tannins and enough oak influence to provide a showy embellishment, but not at the expense of the fruit expression. What seems to be savoury and spicy whole bunch influence comes into focus on the finish with excellent length and great purity of fruit. An excellent first release from the Glenlyon site.

Rating: 95 | Price: \$70 | When to Drink: 2022 - 2034

2021 Shadowfax Chardonnay

A light to golden yellow in colour, with a nose of creamy white peach that is underpinned by fig, fresh nougat and almond meal. There is a mineral texture that is finely filamented and provides a backdrop to richer stone fruits on the palate. Citrus gives a chalkiness to the wine, with mealy notes combining with generous peach to finish. Sure to age, and a touch more bottle age won't go astray.

Rating: 91 | Price: \$40 | When to Drink: 2023 - 2032

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Free Chronic Pain Service

A Primary Health Networks grant-funded, cost-free, multidisciplinary, chronic pain service located at Merri Community Health in Coburg is offering free of charge services in a flexible model of care including face-to-face and online, for both individuals and in groups.

Servicing the Macedon Ranges region,

The chronic pain service provides individual appointments as required with:

- Senior Pain Physiotherapist
- Pain Psychologist
- Care Coordinators
- Pain consultant doctor and/or
- Referral to other Merri Health professionals or groups, such as: dietitian, aquatic or exercise groups (fees may apply)

Group sessions are also available:

- Two-hour introductory 'Understanding Pain' education session (UPS)
- Six-week 'ReConnect Pain Management Program' (rPMP)
- 'Five Weeks with Mindfulness Meditation' group program.

For further information, or to download a referral form, refer to the website at merrihealth.org.au/services/chronic-conditions/support-to-help-you-manage-persistent-pain/

SUBMITTED BY NICOLE MOORE, MERRI HEALTH

Enrol now for Youth Mental Health First Aid Community Courses



Learn how to help young people experiencing mental health problems by participating in one of Council's award-winning Youth Mental Health First Aid courses.

The 14-hour program teaches participants first aid skills to give initial help to young people who are in a mental health crisis situation or in the early stages of a mental illness. The course covers various mental health problems experienced by young people and is delivered using case studies, films and group discussions.

Dates, times and bookings

- LGBTQIA+ Youth Mental Health First Aid course, Kyneton Town Hall

Saturday 20 and 27 August 9am–5pm

- Youth Mental Health First Aid course, Romsey Community Hub

Saturday 17 September 9am–5pm, Monday 19 and 26 September 6–9pm

For information, including costs, call 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Youth-Mental-Health

Join the fun at the Woodend Youth Space!

The Woodend Youth Space has a packed Term 3, with plenty of activities! From movie nights to DJ workshops and street art sessions, there is something for everybody!

The Youth Space is located at the Woodend Neighbourhood House (47 Forest Street, Woodend), and is open to all young people aged 12 to 17 years, 4pm to 5.30pm every second Wednesday and is free to attend!

For more information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth-spaces

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN



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 Sat 7:00am - 12:00 noon
 Sun 8:00am - 12:00 noon



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

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More mental health support for young Victorians

The Victorian government will provide \$200 million to expand the successful Mental Health in Primary Schools program to every government and low-fee non-government primary school in Victoria – 1800 school campuses, for student mental health, to catch mental health concerns earlier.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas announced the funding last month, which will scale up across the state from 2023, so that by 2026, a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader will be employed by every school to implement a whole-school approach to wellbeing, supporting individual students, and help teachers better identify and support at-risk students, and build relationships and referral pathways to local mental health services.

“We’re making sure every Victorian child in the Macedon district has access to safe, tailored care through their trusted school environment – giving them the care they need, when they need it, close to home,” said Ms Thomas. The program builds on a successful pilot with 100 schools across Victoria in partnership with the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute and the University of Melbourne, where more than 95 per cent of Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders said the model improved their school’s capacity to support students’ mental health and wellbeing needs. Since the start of the trials,

students have improved mental health and wellbeing, as well as improved social, academic and vocational outcomes.

The Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System highlighted that schools play an important role in identifying children with mental health and wellbeing challenges, who can then be referred to treatment, care and support if needed.

Half of all cases of anxiety, mood, impulse control and substance use disorders manifest by the age of 14, and research suggests students with mental health concerns are behind their peers in Grade 3, falling further behind throughout school.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP



Going Overseas?

It may surprise you to know that up to 50% of travellers will suffer a travel related illness.

Anyone going overseas should see a health professional before they leave.

We recommend you make an appointment at least 6-8 weeks prior to departure just in case you need a course of vaccines. However, it’s never too late to get some health advice about your destination.

Our Travel Clinic is available every Wednesday by appointment!

Book today!

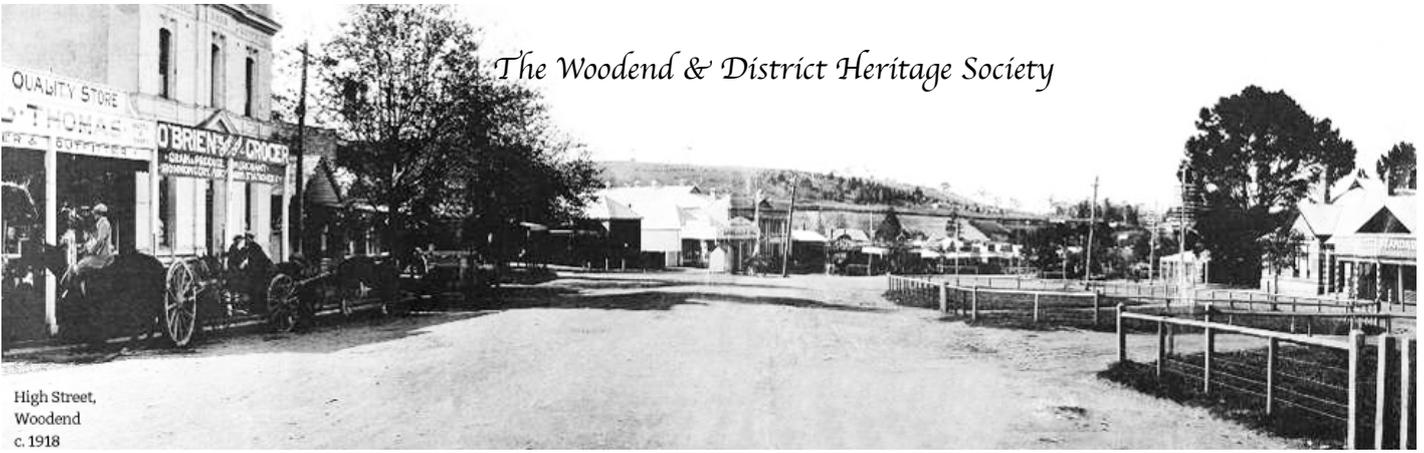
Opening hours

Monday	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Tuesday	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Thursday	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Friday	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday	Closed
Public Holidays	Closed



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High Street,
Woodend
c. 1918

Bullockies and Their Bullocks

In the 1800s, many locals carted all sorts of things around the Macedon Ranges with their teams of bullocks. Jack Colwell was one of many who cut timber and then carted it with a bullock team to a sawmill. The forests were riddled with tracks made for such teams. Henry Boxshall carted stone from Brydon's quarry to build the Newham Presbyterian Church and bullock teams regularly carried potatoes to the local railway station. Bill Bowyer remembered that Jack Birrane and Jim Liddy pulled a thresher to the farm with bullocks. Bullock drivers were tough old-timers, sleeping anywhere, in the hay or the barn or the bush with their blankets. In 1888, the Woodend Presbyterian Church was moved on a waggon with a team of bullocks from High Street (next to the lower garden of St Mary's Anglican Church) to the present site in Forest Street.

Photo 191: Pat and Mick Liddy with their bullock team coming through the Black Forest on their way to Woodend. They were the sons of Michael and Bridget Liddy. Pat was born in the Black Forest in 1860.



As late as 1927, a bullock team was used in the construction of a large natural swimming pool near the Five Mile Creek. The site was known as the Carp Hole. Bullock teams took part in the local ploughing matches, along with the teams of horses. The usual team consisted of eight to ten bullocks, yoked side by side in a dray with only two tired wheels, which meant that the bullocks carried most of the weight on their necks. The drivers were renowned for the colourful and imaginative language that they used to motivate their animals, which preferred to plod slowly along at their own pace, although one team was reported to have bolted at Hanging Rock, with a house on the dray. Bullockies also lashed their stubborn charges with whips which they often made from young wattles. Learning to drive a bullock team took patience and time.

SUBMITTED BY JANE HOLTH

Yes, it was in Woodend!

Sunday 10 July was a clear, sunny, cloudless-sky day (truly the best day of the winter by far!). The Woodend Hanging Rock Pétanque Club held their inaugural 'Ashes' competition against the Macedon Pétanque Club at our piste at the old racecourse on Forest St in Woodend.

Three games were played and the host club won the trophy on the day, with Louise Potter from WHRPC the highest scoring player.

A morning tea was provided by Macedon, with home-baked delicacies and the home club provided hot soup and extras for lunch.

And, of course 14 July was Bastille Day!

We celebrated at our home piste at Hanging Rock.

T'was a bit chilly, but 32 players managed to brave the elements, and we played three games, with Clive Potter the winner and Connie Ceccys and Beverly Forsyth running in equal second.

A delicious lunch was provided by our Social Committee of soup, French beef cassoulet and a yummy chocolate dessert with coulis and chantilly cream!



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We are at the Old Racecourse on a Monday at 2pm, and then, when daylight saving kicks in, we are at Hanging Rock as well, on a Thursday at 4pm.

Email any enquiries to secretary@woodendhangingrockpetanque.com.au

SUBMITTED BY LOUISE POTTER



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MACEDON CLUBS URGED TO APPLY FOR SPORTING CLUB GRANTS

Grassroots sports and active recreation clubs and organisations across Macedon are being urged to apply for funding to boost their equipment, skills and administration expertise.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas announced in June that applications had opened for the latest round of the Sporting Club Grants Program.

The program provides payments of up to \$1,000 for new uniforms and equipment (including defibrillators), up to \$5,000 for training coaches, officials and volunteers, and up to \$5,000 to improve club operational effectiveness.

Grassroots clubs and organisations in the Macedon district are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

The Sporting Club Grants Program is intended to make community sport accessible and inclusive, stimulate local economies, build sustainable sport and recreation and volunteer opportunities, and increase local participation.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence said, "Sport is the lifeblood of Victorian communities. That's why we're backing more clubs to help with uniforms and equipment, plus grants to investment in the future through training for coaches and volunteers."

She said that the grants program was about "... helping clubs get back in the game so more Victorians can join in the fun and tap into all the sport and career pathways that grassroots community sport offers."

For more information and to apply for the Sporting Club Grants Program, visit sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE, OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP



NEW BOARD-COMMITTEE ELECTED FOR 2022-23

The Woodend Bowling Club recently held our Annual General Meeting. It was a good attendance by members, with reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Greenkeeper.

This was followed by the election of new office bearers for the 2022-23 year, with all major positions filled in the election process.

The new Board/Committee was elected: President – Mike Dornau, returning for a 7th consecutive term; Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer – Rob Smithies; Board Members – Anne Dornau, Norm Bickerdyke, Trevor Sturt, John Shaw, Rosalie Campbell and Ken Usher.

Nominated Saturday Selectors: John Shaw, Pat Morgan, Ian Fletcher and Stephen Pickles; Midweek Selectors: Ken Usher, Bev Muir, Pat Morgan and Christine Gillman.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

It was a privilege to have presented two much-deserved Life Memberships at our AGM, with Bev Muir and Marg Bickerdyke being nominated by the Club Board and accepted by the meeting. Both have been keen competitive players in pennant, club championships and tournaments, enjoying much success over the years.

Bev and Marg both joined the Club in the late 1990s and, as well as their competition success, they have made significant contributions in the running of the club, working as delegates, officers such as President

WOODEND BOWLING CLUB BOARD MEMBERS 2022-23



MIKE DORNAU
PRESIDENT



ROB SMITHIES
VICE-PRESIDENT
SECRETARY, TREASURER



ANNE DORNAU



TREVOR STURT



ROSALIE CAMPBELL



JOHN SHAW



NORM BICKERDYKE



KEN USHER

and Secretary of the Ladies Committee, team managers, Match and Selection Committees and Catering Committees. Bev has also been diligent in keeping of Club records and match results.

They also join their respective husbands Graham and Norm as Life Members of the Woodend Bowling Club.

THANKS TO THE BRAMAS

An additional proposal was made to the Meeting to mark the efforts of long-term members and pennant players, Henny and John Brama, in recognition of their participation over many years to pennant and tournament competition, as well as their efforts as volunteers in the running and maintenance of the club. They were presented with Honorary Social memberships.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have also lost several other long-term members from our playing ranks, and we thank them for their contribution

to the club over the years. We are also fortunate to welcome new playing members including Tony Lennie, Ron Formica, and Arthur and Judith Jewell, and we look forward to many successful and enjoyable years ahead.

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS FOR THE COMING SEASON

The new Pennant Seasons (Midweek and Saturday) will start in mid-October. If you are a player with some experience, the Woodend Bowling Club is looking for some new players. If you believe you have what it takes to be a competitive bowler or a keen social bowler, please give us a call.

Check out our Website and Facebook page

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT
WOODEND BOWLING CLUB INC.

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Photo: Quarry lake by Hubert Weisrock

Service to Self and Others

Earlier this year, the Year 11 students from Sacred Heart College participated in an overnight Retreat at Camp Campaspe, Kyneton. The purpose of this Retreat was to allow the students to forge stronger relationships with their cohort, allow a break from the academic rigour of their studies, and importantly, allow them to participate in the Mercy value of Service.

On the first day the focus for the students was 'service to others' and on the second day it was 'service to self'.

The students were able to choose from a range of activities that related to providing a service either to others in need, to the landscape and nature around us, or connecting with students in the primary schools they attended.

The 'service to others' was conducted at the Kyneton food bank, where students helped prepare meals for people in need. On that day, they cooked spaghetti and a bolognaise sauce – which they were able to sample for their lunch.

The 'service to nature' was conducted at various venues and with organisations such as the Bald Hill Landcare, Cassinia Landcare, Friends of Black Hill Landcare and Landcare at Camp Campaspe. At these venues, the students (and teachers) worked extremely hard to plant thousands of trees, construct steps using sleepers, and do general cleanup of the areas.

The students were also given the opportunity to return to the primary school they attended and complete a day of service to the school, either through helping teachers and students in the classrooms, or working in the grounds of the school to maintain and establish gardens. The students were very excited to return to the schools and visit the classrooms and playgrounds where they spent their junior years.

The energy and excitement the students showed at the end of the day demonstrates that the reward for their service to others was knowing that they had made a difference to the landscape we live in or in the lives of others, for no material reward. Overall, the Retreat was very successful in its goal of encouraging students to think of others, and how they can help in the community in the future.

The remaining part of the Retreat focused on 'service to self' through various reflective activities and liturgies, as well as connections to the cohort with group initiative courses and an exciting trivia competition. All positive, useful and insightful pursuits before embarking on Year 12 next year.

WRITTEN BY ALISTAIR BLOOM, YEAR 11 - YEAR LEVEL LEADER



Choosing a school for your child?

Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2024 are welcomed.
Limited vacancies for Years 7 - 12, 2022.

Contact the College Registrar for enrolment enquiries, or download your enrolment application form via the College's website. Don't miss our next College tour: Wednesday 10 August, bookings essential.

