

## A bigger, more inclusive St Ambrose Parish Primary

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, today announced that St Ambrose Parish Primary School in Woodend will receive \$3.2 million as one of the more than 50 projects under the Non-Government Schools Capital Fund.

The works will update and expand the existing facilities at St Ambrose, increasing the learning areas in a response to growing student numbers, as well as to address accessibility issues and provide a welcoming and identifiable entry to the school.

"Our school and local community welcome this exciting news. This money has come at a time where it is needed to build further classrooms to cater for

increasing enrolments, as well as make our learning areas more contemporary and flexible," said Bronwyn Phillips, the school's Principal.

"We also need this money to enable us to make our campus inclusive for all. We can now have wheelchair access built in as well as amenities upgraded to cater for everyone."

"This is a really exciting project for the entire St Ambrose school community - and will give our students the opportunity to learn in first-class facilities," said Ms Thomas.

The 56 projects will create close to 800 jobs during construction, and follows more than \$1.18 billion for new schools, upgrades and expansions of

government schools announced in May.

Additional funding for this second round of the Non-Government Schools Capital Fund has been brought forward to help stimulate the economy and create jobs. The successful schools will be able to start their projects within the next six months, driving Victoria's economic recovery from the pandemic and the summer's bushfires.

The projects will help these schools meet growing enrolment demand and includes six new schools in growth areas. More than a third of Victorian students attend Catholic or Independent schools.

SUBMITTED BY BELLA MANSON



Photo - Adults: Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Bronwyn Phillips (Principal of St Ambrose Parish Primary, Woodend) and Debbie Geisler (Deputy Principal)  
The senior students from left to right are: Joel, Arabella and Noah. The smaller students from left to right are: Arthur, Archer, Ruby, Paige & Orlando.

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# Your community diary

## GET YOUR EVENT LISTED ON OUR CALENDAR

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

- 7 ..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 8-12 ..... NAIDOC Week
- 11 ..... Remembrance Day
- 15 ..... Paint Unwined Heskett Estate
- 16 ..... Online Dementia Education
- 22 ..... Paint Unwined Botanic Estate
- 24 ..... World Polio Day
- 25 ..... Wear Orange Day
- 29 . Paint Unwined Mt Macedon Winery

## — December —

- 5 ..... Woodend Farmers' Market
- 10 ..... Human Rights Day
- 24 ..... Christmas Eve
- 25 ..... Christmas Day

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

**The New Woodend Star hopes its readers are keeping well in these unusual times, and we will continue to publish during the pandemic as long as we are able. We hold the safety of our readers at the forefront of our minds. Consequently, we would like to impress on our readers, community members and advertisers how important it is to be aware of, and adhere to, any current restrictions that may be in force, when advertising, or attending activities.**

**Restriction and other COVID-19 information is available on the Department of Health and Human Services website: [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/)**

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We need your feedback to make *The New Woodend Star* even better

## Complete our short reader survey

Please go to the survey link:  
[www.newwoodendstar.com](http://www.newwoodendstar.com)  
Or go directly to:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WoodendStar>

Our survey will take **less than 10 minutes** to complete and your responses will be anonymous.  
The closing date for your feedback is:  
**Friday 20 November 2020 at 5:30pm.**

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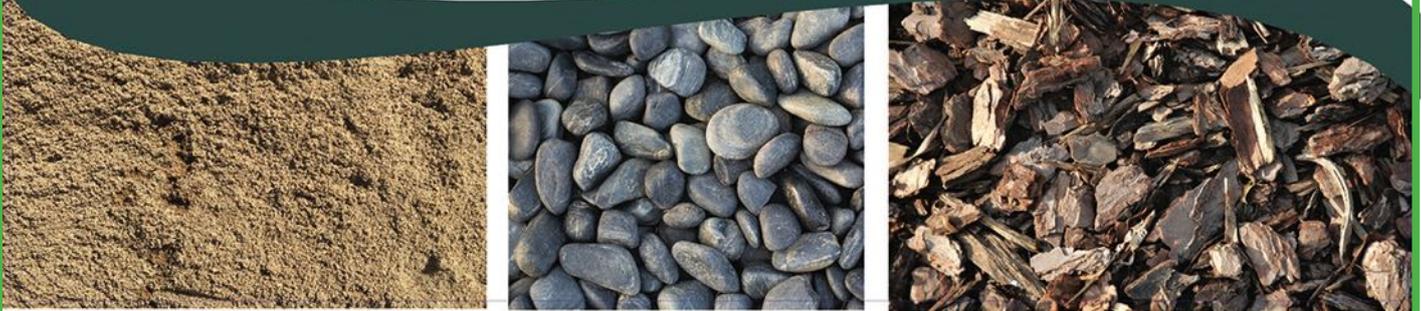
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**Woodend's Rain report** September was slightly drier than average. The year-to-date total is 718.5 mm, so we should end up exceeding our annual average of about 800 mm.

| Month           | 2016          | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         | 2020         | av 5yr |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| January         | 35.3          | 27.8         | 80.0         | 9.8          | 73.6         | 45.3   |
| February        | 14.3          | 26.5         | 3.8          | 12.0         | 67.8         | 24.9   |
| March           | 47.0          | 23.7         | 31.7         | 12.2         | 79.6         | 38.8   |
| April           | 36.2          | 165.0        | 31.0         | 7.6          | 139.8        | 75.9   |
| May             | 101.2         | 38.6         | 115.6        | 114.8        | 79.0         | 89.8   |
| June            | 98.8          | 10.6         | 78.2         | 168.2        | 80.1         | 87.2   |
| July            | 186.6         | 60.0         | 73.3         | 63.2         | 49.3         | 86.5   |
| August          | 107.0         | 119.6        | 91.3         | 78.1         | 93.0         | 97.8   |
| September       | 163.6         | 55.2         | 26.2         | 38.3         | 56.3         | 67.9   |
| October         | 91.8          | 45.8         | 69.0         | 29.4         |              |        |
| November        | 63.2          | 77.4         | 55.5         | 64.8         |              |        |
| December        | 92.8          | 77.2         | 91.0         | 10.0         |              |        |
| <b>Total mm</b> | <b>1037.8</b> | <b>727.4</b> | <b>746.6</b> | <b>608.4</b> | <b>718.5</b> |        |

SUBMITTED BY PETER YATES

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## Zooming through covid



For most of the year all of our suppliers' fabric launches have been via Zoom. You know Zoom? That video-communications thingy most of us had never heard of last year, but we now wish we had lots of shares in?

In this industry, we need to feel the fabric. But we also need to hold it up to the light, place it near other things, picture it in our home. Zoom is unsatisfying to say the least. But where would be without it?

Quite possibly lost and a little lonely.

Around here, community support means we never got lost and are

rarely lonely during covid times. We're grateful to the people still planning, designing and shopping for curtains, blinds and awnings. We're also thankful for living in a regional area while so many of our industry friends have been closed for months.

Manufacturing timeframes are still all over the place. There's no way of knowing if agreed deadlines will be met, despite the best efforts of our suppliers and work-rooms. Sometimes an order booked for two weeks ends up taking eight.

It can be hard to move into a new

house with sheets on naked windows. Yet we know people are riding this covid wave with grace and good humour, because we feel it every day.

Rest assured: we're not Zooming our consultations! They're either in-house or in our show room within covid-safe practices, often texting photos of samples and cuttings, receiving feedback, then texting more. Heck – someone even made their facemasks out of offcuts of Ink & Spindle. Now, that's classy!

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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

## Author of *Australian Women Pilots* reflects on how it all started.



The hardest part of anything when you're new at it, is to get started. But for a local wanting to get started as a writer, the first and seemingly strangest advice I was given by another local writer, was to start submitting to *The New Woodend Star*.

It turned out to be the right advice for me. Each month I'd set the task of coming up with a 300-

word column. I had to edit to that word count, submit by a dead-line, then face the rather immediate feedback when it came a couple of weeks later – usually in the supermarket or up at the school gate. It was a great lesson in the disciplines of writing and facing the consequences of the story.

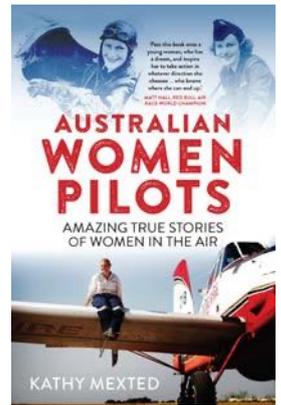
Once I ran out of tales about my own dalliances, I was asked to interview some local identities; volunteers, people

of note. It was good consolidation for the training I'd already begun as I'd started submitting magazine articles and photography elsewhere. I eventually put most of the 'Star Stories' into a little book called *Ride-on Mowers* and printed enough to sell to anybody who was interested.

My first 'real' book, *Australian Women Pilots*, is a book of non-fiction stories on ten Australian women who have taken on their own challenges and achieved their flying goals. It's a good time to reflect on where one of my leg-ups began, with *The New Woodend Star* in about 2010.

*Australian Women Pilots* comes out on 1 November 2020 and is available through New Leaves in Woodend.

I am happy to chat with your book club if you pick it up. email [kamex7@bigpond.com](mailto:kamex7@bigpond.com)



SUBMITTED BY KATHY MEXTED



A big New Woodend Star 'Hello!' from the team at Woodend Neighbourhood House. We wanted to let everyone know that although our doors are currently closed, we are still here and continuing to service the needs of the Woodend community, albeit under restricted arrangements.

In late April, we welcomed our new manager Melissa Baker, who joined us at an unusual and challenging time. Melissa brings extensive skills to our Woodend community, and the House is already seeing the benefits of her experience.

Our staff have continued to work at developing opportunities for our community by enhancing our engagement with each other and providing support to those in need of our assistance. We are still providing IT and printing support via appointment and contactless collection.

We hope you collected your school holiday activity bags! If not, we still have a very limited number of them available. Contact Woodend Neighbourhood House to enquire.

If you are looking at getting active, our walking and cycling groups have recommenced (registrations required) and our Yoga, Creative Writing and French classes are operating via online platforms.

WNH has started to connect not just people in Woodend, but also community groups and organisations that all play such an important role in making Woodend the strong community that it is. We have already held our first online conversation. For more information please email [manager@woodendnh.org.au](mailto:manager@woodendnh.org.au).

WNH are also looking to grow its Volunteer Team. We are currently looking for skill sets in the following areas - social media and marketing, meet and greet qualities and general administration such as laminating, photocopying, and

answering phone calls.

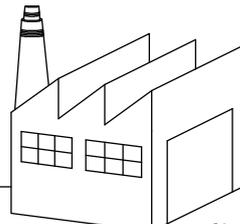
If you have any of these skills and have some time to support our organisation please email [manager@woodendnh.org.au](mailto:manager@woodendnh.org.au). We would love to hear from you.

We know that many of us in the community are doing it a little tough now, and if you need some assistance please contact the House. We are here for you.

Photo: Hubert Weisrock



SUBMITTED BY ANTHONY MONTAGUE



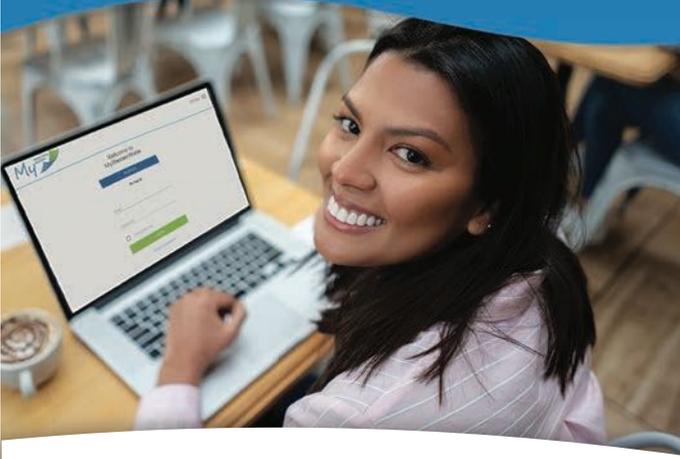
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## Western Water innovation identifying spill hotspots

Western Water is using artificial intelligence to monitor its network and identify areas where sewer spills happen most frequently.

Since January, Western Water has cleared more than 100 blockages across its service region, including the Macedon Ranges. Gisborne was identified as one of the most affected communities in the region.

Western Water's Chief Operating Officer, Graham Holt, said blockages are costly and cause significant harm to the environment, so it's important to invest in new monitoring technologies.

"The technology, combined with historical data, helps us predict the high incidence areas," Mr Holt said.

"As a result, we're monitoring those areas more closely."

Mr Holt said that most blockages are caused by customers throwing fats down the sink, flushing something other than toilet paper or planting invasive trees near pipe networks.

"Sewer spills present a risk to the environment and cost a lot to fix," he said.

"At Western Water, we're focussed on keeping bills affordable, and we hope customers will help us meet this goal by taking care of what they put down their sinks and toilets.

"Now we know the high-risk regions, we're reaching out to these communities to do the right thing. What you flush can impact your entire neighbourhood."

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA JORQUERA

## Envisage a world without violence

Wednesday 25 November is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and 10 December is Human Rights Day. The 16 days that begin and end on these dates are recognised internationally as the 16 Days of Activism to prevent violence against women. Through this period, members of the Zonta Club of Kyneton will join with members of Macedon Ranges Family Violence Network to raise awareness of this issue.

The club will host a display in the 'Shire window' in Mollison Street, Kyneton, highlighting the need to understand the underlying issues and inform the road to change.

On average, in Australia, one woman a week is murdered by her current or former partner, and intimate partner violence is the leading cause of death, disability and illness in Australian women aged 18-44 years. Statistics prepared by Women's Health Loddon Mallee show that of the reported sexual offences against women in Macedon Ranges during 2019, the perpetrator was known to the victim in 73.4% of cases.

**On Wednesday 25 November, wear ORANGE and say NO to violence against women**

SUBMITTED BY RONDA WALKER, ZONTA CLUB OF KYNETON

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Shire Council

## Nominations open for Council's 2020 Youth Awards

Do you know a young person aged 12–25 years doing amazing things in our community?

Tell us about the inspiring young people in your life by nominating them for Macedon Ranges Shire Council's annual Youth Awards, which celebrate and recognise the incredible achievements of young people in the shire.

Nominations are now open and can be for any young person, or group of young people, aged 12–25 years, who lives, works or attends school in the Macedon Ranges.

Award categories:

- **Will power:** young people who show real character and perseverance, especially in the face of adversity
- **Good deeds:** young people who give their time and energy to activities that support the wellbeing of another individual, group or community.
- **Pure imagination:** young people pursuing their passion for creativity through the arts.
- **Nicely played:** young people kicking recreational and physical activity goals.
- **Skilling it:** young people excelling in a mentorship program, workplace or business.
- **Well aware:** young people who shine a light on important issues/social causes and raise awareness in the community.

Submit a nomination online at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth), or email [youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au).

### Nominations close on Sunday 22 November.

The winners will be announced online on Saturday 12 December and, depending on pandemic restrictions during December, an outdoor celebration may be held at a later date.

For more information, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth), or email [youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au).

SUBMITTED BY AMY BILLINGS

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# MY

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## Local MP calls on young leaders for 2021 Youth Council

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, is calling for young people aged 16-22 to take part in the 2021 Macedon Youth Council.

The Macedon Youth Council is designed to empower young people to play a more active role in public life – it provides participants with the opportunity to build their understanding of government and the role and responsibilities of a Member of Parliament.

Made up of up to 12 young members selected from across the Macedon electorate, the group will meet five times over the year to discuss local issues and learn about the democratic system and how they can more confidently participate in the decision making processes.

A visit to Parliament House in Melbourne is also included as part of the program of activities. "The Youth Council was such an awesome way to get an insight into how politics and governments really work – and you'll get to meet some amazing people along the way," said 2019 Macedon Youth Council member Oliver Bagin.

In 2018, Ms. Thomas made an election commitment to establish the Macedon Youth Council. The inaugural program began in 2019, with 13 young people from across the electorate chosen to participate.

"We're very lucky to have such talented and motivated young people across our community, and the Macedon Youth Council is an opportunity for our young leaders to network and build their skills," said Ms Thomas.

Issues that were raised and explored as part of the 2019 council included single use plastics, youth mental health, renewable energy and the process to Treaty with Aboriginal Victorians.

Members of the Youth Council will be selected following an application process that can be submitted online.

Applications close on Sunday 23rd November. For more information about the Youth Council and to apply go to: <http://www.mary-annethomas.com.au/campaign/macedon-youth-council-2021/>.

SUBMITTED BY BELLA MANSON



Photo supplied by Bella Manson - Youth Council - Parliament 2019



## Barker Trailers donates \$20,000 to Mallacoota Lions Club

After a successful Bushfire Relief fundraising campaign, Barker Trailers was proud to distribute the first of its funds, \$20,000 to the Mallacoota Lions Club this month.

The Mallacoota community lost 120 homes, and more than 80 properties were damaged by the bushfires. As Peter Hillyer from the Lions Club described, the 'Monster' that invaded on New Year's Eve 2019 had a severe impact on businesses, infrastructure and livelihoods.

Witnessing the severe effects of the bushfires, Barker Trailers brought the transport and manufacturing industries together to help assist in a fundraising campaign.

The Barker Trailers team set a goal to sell 10 of their trailers, with each one sold providing funds to the campaign, specifically to help the farmers and communities affected by the bushfires. Barker's key supply partners also played an essential role in the campaign, by donating or discounting parts.

"Everyone should be extremely proud of their efforts and contribution to the Barker Bushfire Relief project. It shows how we can all collaborate in many ways to assist and have a positive impact in tough times. Nothing will erase the events of the terrible fires, but it's great to have been able to assist in a small way," said Simon Meadows, Barker Trailers CEO.

Today, the focus for the Mallacoota Lions Club is to assist

those who lost their place of residence.

As Mr Hillyer explains, "We expect that the rebuild will take at least three years or more, so we are committed to maintain assistance over that time, with the priority being to help the community rebuild from this devastating event."

"The first home to be rebuilt is happening, and burnt homes are still being cleared. Reassuringly, birds and animals are reappearing. Meanwhile, the crows continue to pinch golf balls on the golf course."

The Barker Bushfire Relief has been a huge success, with the last of the trailers recently sold, and a total of \$57,000 being raised. These funds have been distributed to three deserving charities and will help with rebuilding communities, supporting farmers and buying CFA equipment.

"We are very privileged to be a part of an amazing industry that pulls together to help others in times of need, and look forward to seeing the business working on more of these initiatives into the future," says Scott Barker.

SUBMITTED BY LIZ HALLORAN

Photo L-R: Garry Warren; John Hillyer; Thomas Nolan and Eryn Nolan



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## ‘Do you love your garden’ competition winner

Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo for the BioIQ and Rotary competition, it was a hard decision and the prize of 1 tonne of BioIQ garden and grass feed is awarded to Alan and Shirley Grinton, of Woodend.



Photo: The winning garden



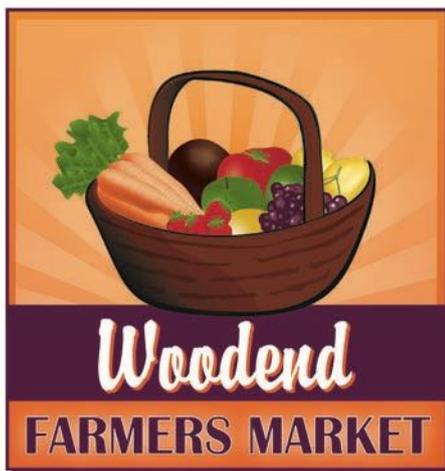
Photo: L-R Shirley Grinton, Alan Grinton and Rotarian Howard Burvill

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## Woodend Farmers Market

1st Saturday of the month

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[mrsq.org.au/farmers-markets](http://mrsq.org.au/farmers-markets)



Picture of scrub wren by  
Ralph Keller

## Woodend Stationeers Group

Spring is bursting forth all over Woodend, and some new planting is appearing in and around the Woodend Railway Station car park, thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of a small group of residents.

The group first came together about 18 months ago, with the aim of having the new, excessively bright car park floodlights dimmed to a more appropriate level, and one of the exits realigned to match the rest of Corinella Road. These issues were eventually solved, and the group turned their attention to the lack of landscaping and to the messy aftermath of the car park construction process. The group felt that the sterile and featureless car park was unwelcoming and not appropriate for a key entry point to the Macedon Ranges, especially following the shire's recent declaration, under the Planning and Environment Amendment (Distinctive Areas and Landscapes) Act 2018.

In consultation with VicTrack, the Woodend Stationeers group was formed, under the auspices of Keep Victoria Beautiful' Stationeers program.

The group has lots of ideas for improving the attractiveness and community value of the car park area, with the first priority being to install plantings near the pedestrian rail crossing. Mulch is being donated by the council, and VicTrack has granted some funds towards the purchase of plants from the Goldfields Revegetation nursery. Covid restrictions put plans on hold, but now as restrictions ease, working bees have been held, mulch spread and planting of a mix of native and introduced species has begun.

The Stationeers would love to hear from you if you or your group would like to get involved. Willing workers are always welcome, of course, but donations of suitable plants, plant shields, wooden stakes and so on would also be very much appreciated.

Contact Jane Monk for more information or to be included on the Woodend Stationeers mailing list. Email Jane at [monastic0@gmail.com](mailto:monastic0@gmail.com).



SUBMITTED BY ROBYN LEEDER

## Help for our Native Birds

Native bird species are becoming threatened by residential and commercial development and vegetation loss. Land clearing and climate change are leading to further losses in once-common local bird populations including honeyeaters, parrots, wrens, cuckoos, robins and finches. Jenny Zimmerman, a member of the Macedon Ranges Field Naturalist Group, suggests below a number of ways that Woodenders can make our gardens birdlife safe havens.

### Learn to love gum trees

Native vegetation such as banksias, wattles, bottlebrushes and tea trees provide food for birds and for the insects they eat. Australian wildlife is especially dependent on eucalyptus trees for nesting and food. Even a dead tree with its look-out branches and hollows can provide essential habitat.

### Make a mess!

A too-tidy garden is not inviting for local wildlife. Big old shade trees, pockets of thick vegetation and undisturbed grasses make great places for birds to hide and nest. Logs, rocks and fallen bark and leaves are all part of a healthy garden.

### Don't feed the birds!

Let birds find their own food in native vegetation. By offering kitchen scraps, seeds, bread and pet food to birds, you are likely to attract pest species such as sparrows and Indian mynas.

### Have a poison-free garden.

Pesticides and herbicides spell death to local wildlife, especially if they run off into waterways such as the Five Mile Creek. Rat and mice pellets are deadly to owls, falcons and hawks. See if you can find a way to garden without poisons. Bugs and creepy crawlies are what birds need to survive!

### Keep your cat inside!

Native birds evolved in an environment largely free of predators, and are extremely vulnerable to predation by cats. Cats can quickly adjust to life indoors and have no place in Australian gardens. Cats kill over two billion native reptiles, birds and mammals every year, and, Ms Zimmerman says, are the reason Woodend is losing its yellow robins, grey fantails and red-browed finches.

SUBMITTED BY JENNY ZIMMERMAN



## Woodend Landcare November Working Bee and AGM

After a long absence, our next Sunday working bee is slated for Sunday 22 November, from 9am until 12pm, subject to further easing of restrictions. The working bee will be concentrating on the Pyke/Wood St paddocks, which are east of the Children's Park and south of the creek. Please check our website ([www.woodendlandcare.org](http://www.woodendlandcare.org)), Facebook page or the Coles board nearer the time for attendance limits, RSVP requirements and other COVID-19 protocols, as well as details on the morning's tasks. RSVP will be essential as we anticipate a strict cap on attendance numbers.

Our AGM will also be outdoors this year, held immediately after the working bee at 12:30. Nomination forms for all positions will be made available online. As always, we warmly welcome new committee members. Please email us at [woodendlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:woodendlandcare@gmail.com) if you are interested.

SUBMITTED BY KRISTA PATTERSON-MAJOUR

*Photos by Hubert Weisrock*

*Spectacular Spring displays discovered along Quarry Rd Rail Reserve – the blue Wax Lip Orchid and the yellow Golden Moth Orchid.*



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## Community gift shop

Community organisations Kyneton Baptist, Cobaw Community Health and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council are partnering to support local families in need at Christmas. After 11 years of serving families in the Macedon Ranges at Christmas time, the group will see some changes in 2020. Firstly, the group has had a name change; it is now the Macedon Ranges Gift Shop.

As a response to the challenges of COVID-19, things will be done differently for the safety of all. The group is introducing a Gift Card program, offering gift cards for recipients to spend at local businesses in the Macedon Ranges, supporting local families in need and the local economy.

Families will receive gift cards, with a set amount for each child. Gift cards can be redeemed at participating local business partners. The group hopes to have as many businesses on board, offering as many products and services as possible.

Macedon Ranges Gift Shop is seeking financial donations from readers to make this possible. The amount of assistance that will be able to be provided will depend solely on the financial donations raised. For 2020, the target is \$15,000!

Macedon Ranges businesses interested in partnering in the Gift Card program should contact the Gift Shop on the details below. Reader donations can be made by direct deposit, cash, cheque and online. Follow on Facebook for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/macedonrangesgiftshop>. Contact details can also be found on the page.

SUBMITTED BY GEORGINA HARVEY, MACEDON RANGES GIFT SHOP



**Macedon  
Ranges**  
Shire Council

# How should we engage with you?

Come along to our online webinars on 12 and 13 November and find out more about our new draft Community Engagement Policy.



For more details or to provide feedback on the draft, call 5422 0333, email [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/youresay](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/youresay)



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## Plant sale re-organised for COVID-19

COVID-19 has forced the Newham Garden Club to completely rethink the way they run their popular plant sale. The group has been busy potting up plants, painting decorative 'pandemic pots', gathering their produce and making jams and gift cards. This year's sale will look different; it will be held on November 12 in the car park outside the Newham Mechanics Hall. Strict COVID-19 rules will limit numbers on site, so there will be three distinct sales periods – 9 till 10.30, 11 till 12.30 and 1 till 2.30 – and plants will be restocked in between.

As always, proceeds will support local charities and community projects.

Enquiries 5427 0661

SUBMITTED BY ROBYN LEEDER

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## Linking older residents and local businesses in Macedon Ranges

Are you over 65 and looking to enjoy a meal out at an affordable cost, or a local food business that would like to support older people to participate in their community? If so, Macedon Ranges Shire Council's new meal voucher program may be of interest to you.

The program, funded by the Commonwealth Home Support Programme, provides eligible clients with 10 meal vouchers worth \$5 each, which are redeemable at participating local food businesses. Older residents can support local businesses, while exploring some of the delicious and varied dining options available in the Macedon Ranges at a reduced price.

Local businesses can play their part in supporting some older residents to enjoy more independent and fulfilling lives, and perhaps gain some new loyal customers. The full value of vouchers will be reimbursed back to participating businesses.

Local businesses holding a current Registration of Food Premises and older residents who would like to know more are invited to contact the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Healthy Ageing Engagement team at 5422 0333, or to visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Older-People](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Older-People).

## Cloth nappies 101 - Free online workshop for shire residents



Did you know 3.75 million disposable nappies are used each day in Australia and New Zealand?

Do you want to know more about modern cloth nappies? Whether it is for cost savings, environmental impact by reducing waste, or the health benefits for your child, join Elana from Cloth Nappy Workshops Melbourne to discover the world of modern cloth nappies.

Cloth Nappies 101 is a comprehensive introduction to cloth nappies, which suits both expectant parents and those who already have children in nappies. The workshop will take you through everything you need to know to get started with cloth nappies.

The workshop, from 10.30am on Saturday 14 November will cover washing tips and where to buy them, and will debunk myths and share simple tips and tricks to make cloth super easy. With over 60 nappies and accessories, you can not only ask questions and be shown cloth nappies, but also other reusable nappies such as pull-ups, swim nappies, and cloth wipes.

This free workshop has been funded by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, and is open to residents of Macedon Ranges Shire only.

The workshop has limited capacity to ensure an intimate environment where each participant can have their questions answered, so bookings are crucial.

For more information or to book, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/cloth-nappies](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/cloth-nappies)

## Planning on removing a tree – do you have a Council issued planning permit?



With summer approaching, residents may be starting to prepare their property for the fire season, which may include pruning trees. While many tree removal companies operate in the shire and offer discounted rates to lop or remove trees, before you start you must have a Council issued planning permit.

Council has issued a reminder to residents that a planning permit is required to remove a tree within the Macedon Ranges Shire. Some exemptions apply in certain circumstances, including for emergency works and, in most cases, exotic trees.

A permit is also required to lop more than one third of a tree's canopy. Before authorising tree management works, make sure you have all necessary

Council permits, to avoid penalties and potential prosecution.

To confirm whether a planning permit is required, or for more information, you can contact Macedon Ranges Shire Council at 5422 0333 or email [mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

## Makeover for Old Market Shed at Kyneton Botanic Gardens

Restorations on the Old Market 'Piggery' Shed at the Kyneton Botanic Gardens are now complete.

Breathing new life into the old Piggery shed, Abode Restoration Pty Ltd, who were awarded the Council contract, replaced the roof and timber supports to enhance the appearance and improve the safety of this much-loved historical heritage-listed structure.

The works will extend the life of the shelter within heritage guidelines and ensure it meets Council's safety and risk guidelines.

Axiom Tree Management Pty Ltd was engaged to complete a full assessment of the area before works commenced, and all recommendations for tree protection were implemented.

Grass seeding has been completed around the Old Market Shed and Council advised the bunting will remain in place to protect the grass as it establishes.

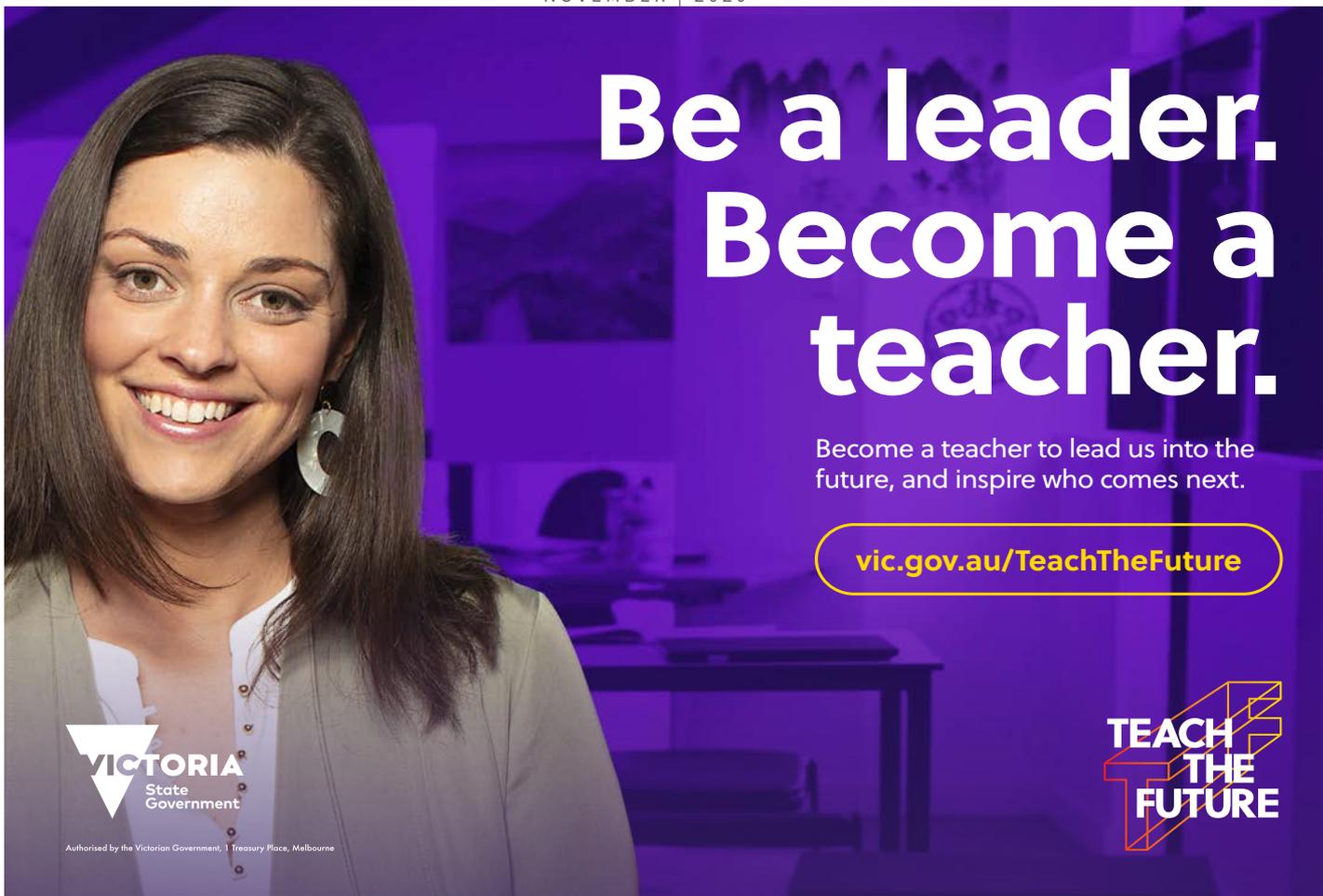
The Old Market Shed will be open for public use in November 2020.

To book the Old Market Shed, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Our-Facilities/Find-A-Venue](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Our-Facilities/Find-A-Venue)

*Photo: The restorations on the Old Market 'Piggery' Shed at Kyneton Botanic Gardens are complete, and open for public use in Nov 2020*



SUBMITTED BY AMY BILLINGS



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loading? Would you like your horse to be more responsive when riding?

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ground skills and freestyle and finesse riding skills, enabling people to better develop and prepare their horse for success in their chosen horse pursuits and specialisations.

Whether you are looking for an accessible, successful program offering supportive coaching from an experienced instructor to keep you on track, or you have roadblocks or issues that are preventing you from reaching your dreams and goals, Fiona Darling, 4 Star Senior Parelli Instructor at Seven Keys Horsemanship, based near Carlsruhe, between Woodend and Kyneton in the Macedon Ranges, is available for coaching to empower you to live your best horse life.

Fiona invites you to visit her website [sevenkeyshorsemanship.com.au](http://sevenkeyshorsemanship.com.au) for information on the types of face-to-face and remote, private and group lessons, workshop days, weekend clinics and multi-day intensive study module learning options, dates for upcoming events, perspectives, stories and much more.

SUBMITTED BY FIONA DARLING

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Training horses as willing partners



The Mount Players

## The Mount Players Reminisce with the Camerons

Marg and Allan Cameron have been an integral part of The Mountview Theatre for the best part of 50 years. Their ongoing commitment over this time has helped establish the strong basis for what we enjoy today. They met through the theatre in 1979 and were married in 1981.



Allan became involved in the mid '70's and was recruited to the committee in late 1978, with a core group of about ten managing the original theatre. It was tiny with cramped backstage facilities and half the current stage area we have now.

Allan performed on stage in a couple of musicals from 1979 and went on to be involved in

everything from stage managing, set building, lighting and front of house for over 30 shows over the coming years. He was secretary for a while and elected president in 1983, following the Ash Wednesday fires that destroyed the original theatre. In 1984, he resigned the presidency to concentrate on the process of incorporation, which was achieved in 1985. He was then elected the original public officer of the group.

He was caught by surprise in 2004 by being awarded Life Membership. Says Allan, "It means a great deal as a thoughtful memento from the group, for those years we had all put in. That simple plaque contains a million memories. The gallery in the theatre – a million more".

After reading an ad in the local paper in March 1978 inviting people to join the group, Marg found herself stage managing her first show in April the same year! She had been a member of theatre groups in all the towns in which she had worked as a teacher, so she embraced the opportunity to meet people from a wide background and to work in a team for a common positive purpose, enjoying the fun and friendship.

Marg has worked on about 70 shows with the company in a variety of roles - directing, backstage, lighting, set building, pianist, front of house and was even 'on stage' for two productions. Serving on the committee from 1983 till 1987, she had a range of major tasks, including (importantly) supporting members who had been affected by the fires, designing the new theatre, raising money, starting rebuilding, creating and being part of endless working bees, and taking shows on the road. She was also adviser to the committee during the '80's and early '90's on lighting needs and design.

In 1997, she was very surprised and proud to receive life membership of the Mount Players, in recognition for her contribution to the company.

SUBMITTED BY MARG AND ALLAN CAMERON AND KAREN HUNT



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SUBMITTED BY CHARL PARRIS

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## Woodend Police News

In my first article, I talked about speeding through school zones – then, by the time it was published, the kids were back home schooling. Last month, I wrote about how the majority of our crime was caused by opportunity and unlocked items, then we had a spate of cars broken into by someone smashing windows, in and around Washington Lane. I'll seriously have to look at what I'm writing about.

The positives I can tell you are Washington Lane, where the offender was identified by LSC Les DREW (Woodend), with the valuable assistance from our BP service station, as an offender from Echuca who had been on a crime spree down the Calder Freeway. He's been subsequently arrested and charged with these and many other offences, and appears to be out of action for a substantial period.

Recently, the Commonwealth Bank and at least one other shop in High Street were broken into overnight, where a phone call made by the newsagency result-ed in the offender being arrested (after having attempted to assault the police members). He's

since been charged with burglary, theft, assault of emergency workers, breach of Covid restrictions (he was from St Kilda) and remanded to appear at Kyneton Magistrates' in mid-November.

The Woodend members recently investigated a series of thefts of jewellery from six residential homes, arresting a cleaning contractor. It's great that people can support others with work etc., however, when you allow someone into your home who - or whose background or criminal history - you don't really know, it is risky. If you wish to use a cleaner, it may pay to ensure that valuables are properly secured, identifiable (photographs/ serial numbers etc) and that there is adequate supervision within the home.

Woodend Police Station has only a few staff, and in the current environment we have been supplementing a number of COVID enforcement-related activities. To enable us to do this, we are being supported by Kyneton and Gisborne and other stations within the Macedon Ranges, so there will be times when we are not here. Victoria Police will

certainly respond, but it just might not be us that attends. If you need to report crimes, there is a Police Assistance Line (PAL), which is manned 24 hours a day for what we would refer to as cold crimes, damages overnight, burglaries were the offender has left some time ago, cars broken into overnight, etc. You can also call 13 1444, if we are not answering the phone at Woodend. PAL will take the initial report, and it will be sent to me to assign to a Woodend member. However, if it's an emergency, or an offender is still present, then please do not hesitate to call 000.

Finally, I've been asked to mention that a number of kids have been riding bikes near the Post Office, causing concerns to our more senior community, and there has been a sharp increase of youths hanging around the football/cricket ground. We will certainly be targeting these areas in our patrols, to ensure that everyone is safe. Please stay safe.

SUBMITTED BY SERGEANT DAVID ARNOLD,  
WOODEND STATION COMMANDER



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## It's 'Blooming Spring', fellow Woodenders!

With so many plants bursting into flower and shortages of supply, we have now expanded the nursery business across several propagation sites to try to meet your needs.

### What does this mean for you?

More choices at a more affordable price; stay tuned! In the meantime, we are happy to announce we have joined forces with a 'plant broker' to help you with your unique plant needs. How does this work? Every Wednesday, we submit your plants request to the plant broker; alternatively send your plant requests to cassius@woodendnursery.com.au. Within seven days we aim to confirm the availability and price of your plant. Finding the plant you need is made easier at Woodend Nursery.

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Thanks for all the wonderful reserving over the last month. Great to see so many familiar faces dropping in to collect their books. Please keep checking our Goldfields Libraries website or Facebook page for the latest information on the services we can offer or the hours we are open for reserve + collect.

We are offering many online events. All our events are here <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/>

Have you heard about our new 'print from home' via email service? You can email your document to a special Woodend Library email address when using a common format like PDF or a Word Doc. We can't do double sided or anything fancy but we can do colour! Send it as an attachment and we'll send you a confirmation email back. Come to the Library during opening hours, let us know you have emailed a document; we'll print and you pay us when you are here.

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**Online Be Connected sessions in November**

We are continuing to run online Be Connected workshops via Zoom. Do you want to improve your digital skills and have a computer, tablet or phone connected to the internet? Join one of our online workshops to increase online skills for all those aged over 50. To see what we are running in November go to <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/> or email

[beconnected@ncgrl.vic.gov.au](mailto:beconnected@ncgrl.vic.gov.au) and we will get back to you.

**Australian Reading Hour**

The Australian Reading Hour / Carmel Bird, Alex Miller and Glenda Millard with Lauren Mitchell

In celebration of The Australian Reading Hour, three celebrated local authors read from their own work. To round out a wonderful hour, local journalist and writer Lauren Mitchell discusses with the trio their favourite reads, why they write and the power of words.

Carmel Bird writes novels, short stories and essays, and is the recipient of the 2016 Patrick White Literary Award. Glenda Millard writes picture books and novels for younger readers and young adults and is a multi-award winner. Alex Miller is a highly credentialled writer of novels, a two-time winner of the Miles Franklin Award and recipient of the 2012 Melbourne Prize for Literature.

Online Event November 12 7-8pm Bookings <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/>

If you have enjoyed Jane Harper's first three novels, her new compelling novel 'The Survivors' is out now and on our catalogue – reserve your copy now.

Kieran Elliott's life changed forever on the day a reckless mistake led to devastating consequences.

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SUBMITTED BY LULU COCKRAM



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Thanks to all our wonderful and loyal friends who have supported New Leaves during this weird time. November opening hours: Weekdays 11-5; Saturdays 9-4; & Sundays 10-4. Free delivery in the Macedon Ranges and we are excited to announce that we will be stocking art supplies soon.



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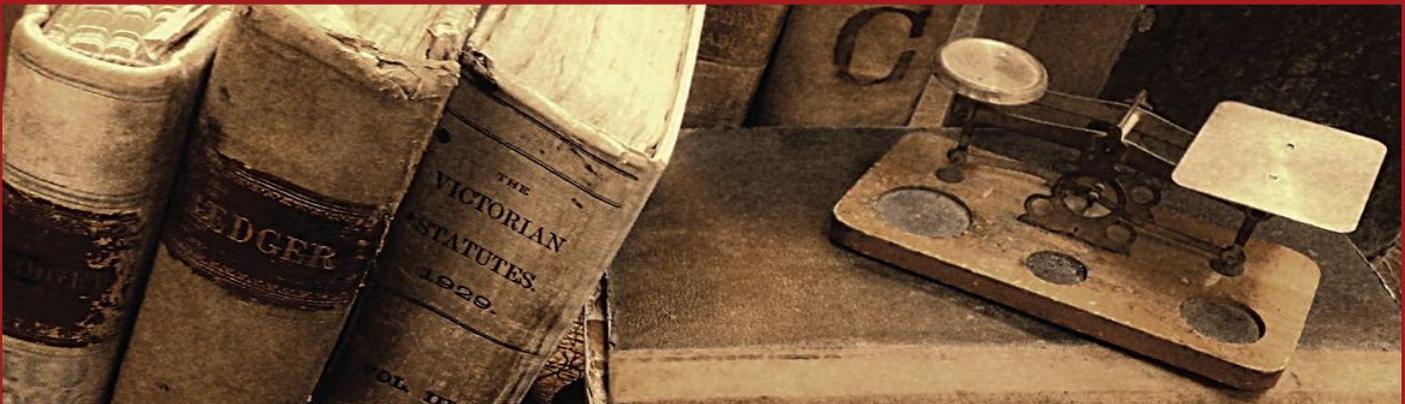
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New Aged Care's owners (Dr Alison Killoh, Dr Dennis Wong, Kellie Tobias and Deborah Stidwell) are passionate about delivering ethical and comprehensive services, by caring, well-trained staff.

The Royal Commission into Aged Care along with COVID has been a stressful and heartbreaking time for some. The New Aged Care team – doctors, nurses and home care services staff – continue to support the

community throughout these uncertain times. It is so important that you look after yourselves, remind yourselves that you have done, and are doing, everything you can to ensure your love ones are safe and receiving the comfort and care they deserve.

The community is entitled to quality medical services, home care and residential care. New Aged Care can help you through this whole journey. Working collaboratively with your own GP and specialists; their goal is to complement, not compete with other health services. "With you all the Way"

Aged care services can be complicated, and some find it hard to navigate the system. New Aged Care can help you plan your services, whatever that may be. Planning now

will avoid long wait times to access services when the unexpected happens. Their aim is to have you live well, in your home for as long as you wish.

New Aged Care is steadily growing and expanding services within the Macedon Ranges, Castlemaine, Sunbury and Bendigo areas, creating local employment opportunities.

Whatever your needs (Medical Services, Home Care services or Mind 4 Life - day respite programs) their specialised staff are available to help you plan the care and services you deserve. Contact New Aged Care to start your journey; this advice is a free service. (03) 5427 2002

SUBMITTED BY DEBORAH STIDWELL

## Trentham And Districts Life Activities Club Inc.

Make the second half of your life more enjoyable by joining the Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club.

Several activity groups have recommenced, with number limits,

mask wearing and social distancing rules observed.

Members have enjoyed the social benefits of the gardening group, ladies' and men's petanque and the walking groups.

Other activity groups will recommence when lockdown rules change and the numbers for inside and outside gatherings are able to safely

increase.

Information is available at [www.life.org.au](http://www.life.org.au), by clicking on Trentham in the list of clubs, or by contacting the President Di Clausen on 0429008763, or the Secretary, Gaye Lovelock on 0411150114.

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SUBMITTED BY WENDY REDMAN.



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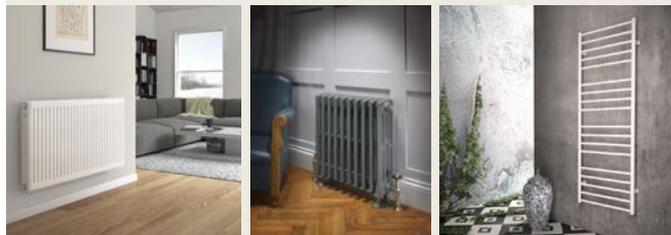


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## Challenging masculine stereotypes in the Macedon Ranges

We want boys and men in the Macedon Ranges to be free from unhealthy masculine stereotypes and enjoy better physical and mental health.

An exciting new research project, which includes a survey of 1,000 community members, targeted interviews and focus groups, will help us understand how the attitudes and behaviours of men and boys in Macedon Ranges aligns with traditional masculine stereotypes.

Shelly Lavery, Chair of the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention trial site said, "We know that traditional masculine stereotypes are harmful. They contribute to men's high rates of suicide, depression and anxiety, risky behaviours such as drink driving, and violence against women. Unfortunately, there is still a lot of pressure on men to live up to these unhealthy stereotypes, such as always being strong and in control."

This groundbreaking research will identify the local factors that contribute to these attitudes and behaviours and, importantly, what we can all do to challenge these stereotypes and improve the health of everyone in our community.

Ken Reither from Gisborne Men's Shed is a member of the working group overseeing this project. He told us, "My hope is that this project moves the community understanding of masculinity to be more like humanity, whereby we all keep an eye out for those needing assistance, we don't walk past what we don't accept and it is ok for any of us to ask for help."

Orygen, who is leading this project, is busy working with local partners, including health services, the council, sports clubs, young people and schools to develop the community survey, which will be launching soon.

North Western Melbourne PHN is funding this work through the Macedon Ranges place-based Suicide Prevention trial site. To find out more about this project, contact [deepa.patel@mrh.org.au](mailto:deepa.patel@mrh.org.au)

If you need help now call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14 (6pm-midnight).

SUBMITTED BY DEEPA PATEL, SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM OFFICER

## RSL is open for business



We have several activities planned at the RSL to help people recover from the isolation we have all been going through. We have also been able to re-commence work on the museum. Our aim is to provide a display of items relating to the military history of Woodend and the service of our residents in places around the world.

## Friday happy hour

The Woodend RSL is now open every Friday afternoon from 5 pm until 8 pm.

Cheap eats & bar snacks are available to accompany a refreshing beverage of your choice!

Walk-in's are welcome. However, limited seating is available and will be in accordance with current restrictions within regional Victoria.

At this time, the Woodend RSL has a limit of 10 seated patrons inside the building and can offer seating to a further 10 patrons within our outdoor enclosed patio area.

If the weather is fine, the Woodend RSL is now able to offer a large outdoor area which is fully licenced. This is unique to the area, and we hope to accommodate 70 patrons seated outside in an open-air environment as we head into summer and the holiday season.

We look forward to seeing you, and thank you in advance for your support during this time!

All patrons must show identification upon entry to confirm they are a regional resident. (To avoid disappointment, please ensure you bring along identification)

## Standard COVID Rules Apply.

If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend.

All patrons are required to wear a mask, except when they are eating and drinking.

Note: Melbourne Metropolitan customers will not be allowed to attend our premises at this time, based on the current regional restrictions.

## Remembrance Day

We are planning to open for seated patrons in the open-air on Remembrance Day. This will be from 10.30am through to 1pm on Wednesday 11 November. As per current restrictions, attendees will be seated for table service. We will observe silence at 11am to pay respects to those who have lost their lives in conflict and peace keeping operations.

We can cater for 70 people with outdoor dining, so there is plenty of room to come along and show your respects to those who we have lost during their service. This will be followed by a refreshment and a chat with friends to make sure they are OK.

SUBMITTED BY HOWARD BURVILLE

## Yet another Zoom term for Young Voices of Macedon

With current restrictions and concerns about the risk of infection posed by group singing, Young Voices of Macedon, along with countless other Australian choirs, is continuing to operate on the Zoom platform in Term 4.

Term 3 came to a joyous conclusion with a Zoom party, themed around current repertoire: pirates for the young Vivo group and the octopus for the Cantabiles. Competition for the best homemade pirate hat and octopus headpiece was keen, as was the best sea-themed decorated cup cake. With silly songs, jokes, a game of Pictionary and magic tricks by Orson Pillay, everyone had a memorable and fun time. The photo shows early comers doing very energetic warm-ups with pirate teacher Jess Demare.

In Term 4, the Cantabiles will continue their journey with Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo, and all will commence learning Christmas songs. Teachers continue to develop and refine strategies that engage children in singing and promote good learning. Given that singing at state schools (and possibly others) will not happen this term, the choir offers an opportunity for children to enjoy this valuable activity.

New members are welcome.

Visit [www.yvmacedon.org.au](http://www.yvmacedon.org.au).

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA DEMARE



## To the man who got Macedon Ranges voting and informed in times of Covid



Assembling all the local community group information in one place, candid 'candidate interviews, curated 'expert opinions', non-partisan Shire wide voting guide and waking us at 6.30am with 'Talking with Jazz' segments ...

And this ain't over 'til the fat lady sings!

Congratulations, job well done!  
Macedon Ranges Voice - Aka Paul Hoskings'

SUBMITTED BY PENE RICE



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## Are you MAD?

Each year, Year 8 students of Sacred Heart College participate in 'Making a Difference' (MAD), an enquiry project. Here is an independent point of view from Frida Foerster, a Year 8 student from SHC.

As most of you would know, the bushfires last summer had a huge impact on the lives of humans and animals alike. So much land was burned, houses and habitat lost, and animals killed. But what many might not know is that while many people think it was just a bad bushfire year, it was made so much worse by climate change. As the climate is changing, we have to change too, so that we can save the planet, before it is too late.

186,000 square kilometres of bush were burnt across Australia last summer. Victoria and New South Wales were the worst affected areas, but the bushfires raged right across the country. This caused serious damage to ecosystems, destroying habitat and significantly affecting flora and fauna.

In the most recent bushfires, nearly three billion animals were killed or displaced. You might just take it for granted that when we go outside, we see all sorts of wildlife from the tiny little insects to koalas and kangaroos, but if we don't do something, they will all die out. Koalas are a massive part of Australia's identity and culture, but their numbers are in rapid decline. They have suffered from substantial habitat loss and, after last summer, have been reclassified from an endangered to a critically endangered species. It isn't only koalas that are affected by terrible bushfires, but all kinds of animals. We need to do something to safeguard the future of all Australian wildlife.

2019 was the hottest year on record, and these temperatures will just keep rising. At the rate we are going, temperature increases will exceed 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and as a result, bushfires like last summer (if not worse) will become eight times more likely.

As a child growing up at this time, my whole generation and those in the future are threatened by climate change. Together, we need to pressure our governments to stop funding fossil fuels projects which cause climate change, and instead support renewable energy and help restore wildlife habitat.

SUBMITTED BY FRIDA FOERSTER

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MACEDON RANGES WINE BUYERS GUIDE  
Patrick Eckle's  
**Wine review**

The wines this month come from Mount Monument, from the estate vineyard that was planted in 1998. In recent years, the wines have been made under the watchful eye of Ben Ranken, and, with the release of the 2018s, it is safe to say that they are mixing it with the best in the region. The wines strike the balance between ripeness and structure and, given the pedigree, are very well-priced.

**2018 Mount Monument Pinot Noir**

Mount Monument is a relatively small vineyard, with two hectares of vines planted to Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Riesling in 1998. The vineyard is managed organically and is moving towards biodynamics.

Ben Ranken has taken on the role of winemaker and viticulturist in recent years and is definitely having an impact. The wine was a combination of 30% whole bunch and 70% whole berries fermented using wild yeast and held on skins for 18 days. It was aged in oak for 12 months (25% new oak) before bottling with light filtration. Only a tick over 3000 bottles are available.

A light but glossy red in the glass, with a nose that sees dark cherry, rhubarb and wet earth supported by gentle spice. The palate is mouth-filling and supple, with a continuation of dark cherry from the nose, and with a weave of herb and spice that leads into a drying, textural backbone of tannin. This tannin is complementary to the fruit, and when combined with precisely integrated acidity gives structure and length. The finish has an embellishment of spice to finely-textured cherry. A classic example of top end Macedon Ranges.

Rating: 96 | Price: \$45 | When to Drink: 2020 - 2030

**2018 Mount Monument Chardonnay**

A wine that has piercing purity, with white peach given a lift by brioche and faint wood spice on the nose. The palate has elegance and tension, with stone fruits working with a citrus and mineral backdrop. The mid-palate has a fullness of fruit and shows rich almond and fig from the impact of time on lees, but balance is maintained by wonderfully integrated acidity. White peach laced with delicate spice and nuanced nutty characters linger on the finish. Stunning.

Rating: 96 | Price: \$45 | When to Drink: 2020 - 2030

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK ECKEL

Your local food suppliers, cafes and restaurants will be adjusting to the changing circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic. For up-to-date information, visit their websites and/or Facebook pages.

Also visit [facebook.com/woodendvillage](https://facebook.com/woodendvillage) where information will be shared frequently. And check with the business beforehand if you are not sure whether they are open.

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## Is there room for a fire truck at your house?

The Woodend CFA has an excellent record in turning out to fires and other incidents in our region. However, during recent inspections of the area it was discovered that a lot of properties do not have safe access for fire trucks to get close to the house or other important assets. In fact, at one property we were unable to get down the driveway.

Fire trucks are very large vehicles and they need room to enter your driveway and somewhere to turn around. In fact, a CFA tanker is around 3 meters wide, 3.2 meters high and 7.5 meters long.

A driveway needs at least a four-by-four metre clearance and adequate access through gates. Bridges and culverts on private land also need to be able to carry the weight of a fire truck.

Also make sure the numbers on your fences and gates are large enough and clearly visible from the road, especially at night. Valuable minutes can be lost if we have trouble clearly and quickly locating a property.

### Strict local laws in the Macedon Ranges for burning off

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council recently changed the local laws in regard to 'burning off' in the open air. In fact, some properties that used to be able to burn off are no longer able to, and penalties may apply.

For example: "A person must not, without a permit, light a fire in the open air on land, including in an incinerator, where the land size is less than 4,000 square metres." That's one acre. So, please visit the MRSC website to make sure you are covered.

Where you are able to burn without a permit, prior to the start of the Fire Danger Period, you should be very careful. If a burn escapes due to carelessness, and it damages someone else's property, you will be held responsible. The most common causes of a burn getting out of control are strong winds and, more importantly, human error!

### Always register your burn-off

- Call 1800 668 511 before you start a burn. Too often, our volunteers are called to fight a fire which turns out to be a private burn.
- Keep your burn safe and legal.
- Never leave your burn unattended.
- Monitor weather conditions. If it's too windy you should delay.
- Have sufficient equipment and water to stop a fire spreading

### See you at the Woodend Farmers' Market

Hopefully we will be able to start our annual pre-summer Community Safety Information Sessions, beginning with our presence at the Woodend Farmers' Market in November, December, January and February. A huge thank you to the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group for giving us this opportunity.

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, CAPTAIN WOODEND CFA



## Pennant season gets started – fingers crossed!

At the time of writing this month's article, the Central Highlands Pennant Season was due to get started on Saturday October 31 and Monday November 2.

Woodend has several teams competing in both Saturday and Midweek competitions. The season runs to mid-December, and then continues from mid-January to the end of February. Last year, several of our teams made the Finals, with our Midweek Division 3 team winning the Championship. Fingers crossed we can do better this year ... and that we are able to get started!

## Book now for barefoot bowls or your Christmas function

Last year we had a very successful summer season of Barefoot Bowls and hopefully restrictions will allow groups to gather again this summer. Several local clubs and businesses also incorporated this into their Christmas Parties. If you are planning a social event in our warmer weather, Barefoot Bowls at the Woodend Bowling Club is a fun and entertaining way to ensure a great event – see details on our website.

## Wednesday afternoon social bowls

For all of our new Social playing members, you are all welcome to our weekly Social Bowls on Wednesday starting at 12.30. If you wish to try bowls, this is also a great way to get started. It costs only \$6 a head, which includes the bowls and afternoon tea – and we can provide everything you need. Please call the club and leave a message or put your name on the list on the notice board.

## Friday afternoon roll-up

We are now beginning a weekly Friday Roll-up starting at 2pm. For Pennant Players this can be a bit of practice, and Social Players are also welcome. Once again, this is also a great way for new bowlers to be introduced to the game in a relaxed environment – it's free to get started, and we can provide everything you need. Followed by a few drinks (if you wish) at around 4pm.

## A huge thanks to our sponsors

We would like to thank all sponsors of the Woodend Bowling Club for their generous support over the years – local businesses supporting our local clubs. The Club encourages all bowlers and residents to support them in return.

Our major sponsors are Coles Woodend, Barker Trailers and Bourkies Bakehouse. As well as: Altitude Electrics, Black Forest Meats, Bradleys Curtains, Brooke Street Medical Centre, RT Edgar Real Estate, Elgas, Fairhurst Conveyancing, Joan Gladman Real Estate, Il Caffé, Jellis Craig Real Estate, Keatings Real Estate, Kyneton Dry Cleaners, Kyneton Hire, Kyneton Tyre Service, L&L Smash Repairs, Langley McKimmie Chartered Accountants, Macedon Ranges Family Law, Macedon Ranges Signs, Macedon Ranges Travel Services, Mitre 10 Woodend, Raine & Horne Real Estate, TJ Scott Funerals, The Garage Auto Service, Woodend Dental Group, Woodend Pharmacy.

If you are interested in coming down for a fun, free trial ... just give us a call.

For more information please visit our new website at [www.woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com](http://www.woodendbowlsclub.weebly.com). You can also follow us on Facebook.

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WBC

## WOODEND HANGING ROCK PÉTANQUE CLUB

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## Breaking news! Playing again and with a great new second location in Woodend.

After seven long months of restrictions, due to the disaster of COVID, we are restarting play of our wonderful sport, and our members are overjoyed, but that's only part of our Club's great news.



For over 20 years, the Club has played at Hanging Rock Reserve - a beautiful place to play Petanque, with a spectator crowd of kangaroos, and where we will continue our Thursday evening 'Pétanque at the Rock' sessions, followed

by a BBQ through the spring and summer months for many years. Lovely though it is we desperately needed a home within Woodend itself where we could play throughout the year and more often than just Thursday evenings.

Well, the time has arrived! Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club has reached agreement with Woodend Pony Club and Macedon Ranges Shire Council to share their facilities in Forest St, Woodend. This will enable us to be far more active in supporting the Woodend community and surrounding areas, it will open up this wonderful sport to all residents of the town and throughout the Macedon Ranges.

This new Petanque Piste (playing area) means the Club will be able to play on selected time schedules Monday to Friday throughout the year, it also provides an area where we can train and coach new players. The Club is hoping to be holding State and National competitions at the new Woodend facility, bringing visitors to the region, and supporting the community and local businesses.

## What is Petanque?

It's a funny French sport with an even funnier name, a bit like bowls and bocce, but without a lot of the formalities of those sports. It is played by people of all ages and fitness levels. It can even be played from a wheelchair! It's inexpensive to play and here are no fancy uniforms to buy, We provide free Club boules to use while you give the sport a try. Petanque is a friendly sport and it's good fun - so why not give it a try?

Come and join the fun, we'd love you to try it. For more information please contact us through: [john.pizzey@petanqueattherock.com.au](mailto:john.pizzey@petanqueattherock.com.au) or visit our website [www.petanqueattherock.com.au](http://www.petanqueattherock.com.au)

SUBMITTED BY JOHN PIZZEY



# trades & services



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## Hands-on learning with VET building and construction

While we've all been eagerly awaiting the return to school, a small group studying VCE VET Building and Construction at Sacred Heart College have had an added incentive, the desire to complete their major building project. Students commenced this project near the end of Term 2, making a great start, only to be interrupted by the second COVID-19 lockdown.

Their project was to dismantle and rebuild an outdoor deck onsite at the College. Building and Construction teacher Craig Minter explained, "Students have built a variety of items in the past, including cubby houses, dog kennels and saw horses. This year, the deck project provided them with a real-life onsite demolition and construction scenario, which they have all enjoyed. They've been involved in all aspects of the project, including planning, ordering materials, demolition and of course, the actual construction."

Year 12 student Declan W explains how beneficial he's found this major project. "You really learn a lot when you get to do the practical hands-on building work. I've enjoyed making the smaller things in the workshop, using hand tools like chisels and saws, but this construction project has given me the chance to see the things we've been learning over the past two years put into practice, terms like stumps, ant caps, bearers and joists are all part of the build. It's been a great experience to see the project taking shape." Declan has plans for the end of 2020, with an electrical apprenticeship in place and the VET Building and Construction qualification will provide a good foundation for this or any trade.

The VCE VET program is designed to give students the opportunity to gain experience across a number of building trades and aims to provide learners with a basic understanding of industry-specific skills and knowledge to assist transition into an apprenticeship.

Students completing VET subjects can study either the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) and have recognition for this subject within their ATAR, or they can complete the VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning).

With the return to onsite learning, the end of the year is in sight for our Year 12 students, with practice VCE exams held in mid-October. VCAL students are focusing on completion of their folios, showcasing their units of study. All students are focusing on finishing a challenging year strongly.



Photo: Demolition begins, from left: Kyle, Mr Craig Minter, Declan, Tom and Zac



Photo: The VET building and Construction team take a break from their project, from left: Gianni, Will, Declan, Zac, Kyle and Tom

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER BALDWIN

## Sacred Heart College Kyneton

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### 2020 VCE STUDENTS - GOOD LUCK

*Wishing our Class of 2020 the very best as they approach their final exams. While the year hasn't been what we expected, your resilience and determination has been admirable. We know you will all do your best.*

Interested in discovering more about life at Sacred Heart College? Our Principal, Dr Darren Egberts, invites prospective parents and students to participate in one of our Virtual Conversations via Zoom.

**When: 18 November commencing at 9:30am**

**How:** Register using the online booking form on the Tours page of the College website. A Zoom link will be sent by email.

**Years 8-12, 2021 - Limited Places • Year 7 2022 - Waiting List**

Contact our Registrar for enrolment enquiries:

T: 5421 1238

E: [dlawrence@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dlawrence@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)

W: [www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au)

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