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invites all witches, ghouls, zombies, fairies and
others of the night to the

COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY

THURSDAY
-31 OCT-
5PM - 8PM
At Woodend
Childrens Park

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PUBLISHER

The Rotary Club of Woodend
 ABN 32 685 225 No. A0021518E
 PO Box 333 Woodend 3442
 Published monthly (except January).
 Distributing 4,100 free copies across
 Woodend 3442 postal district.

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First read our editorial policy on
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 The cut-off date for copy is the 15th of each
 month, preceding publication.

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Quarter page V	90 x 134mm	\$142
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Half page V	90 x 270 mm	\$263
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This paper is a member of
 Community Newspapers
 Association Victoria

Supported by
 Macedon Ranges
 Shire Council

Printed by Mulqueens Printers
 147-151 Allingham St,
 Golden Square, VIC 3555

13-20 OCTOBER 2024

VETERANS' Health Week

keep connected

Woodend RSL is hosting two events to raise awareness around improving health and wellbeing for Veterans

Health stimulation program

Thursday, 17 October 2024
 Held at Macedon Reservoir and led by a qualified instructor.
Attendees must affirm liability conditions to participate.

Woodend Community Walk

Sunday 20 October 2024
 Walk with other locals as a fun event – dogs are welcome. After the walk, gather at the Woodend RSL for a chat, a snack and to view the information available to support Veterans.

RSVP: 7th October 2024
Ken Bryce 0407 737 386

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wanted ads, for sale or job vacancies. We will prepare your advert with your text.

WANTED Grazing land

for lease or agistment - MACEDON RANGES

- Regenerative land management principles used.
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- Will maintain and improve farm infrastructure, control invasive weeds, improve pastures.
- Property must have access to a reliable water source (dam, bore, water catchment).

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0403297737

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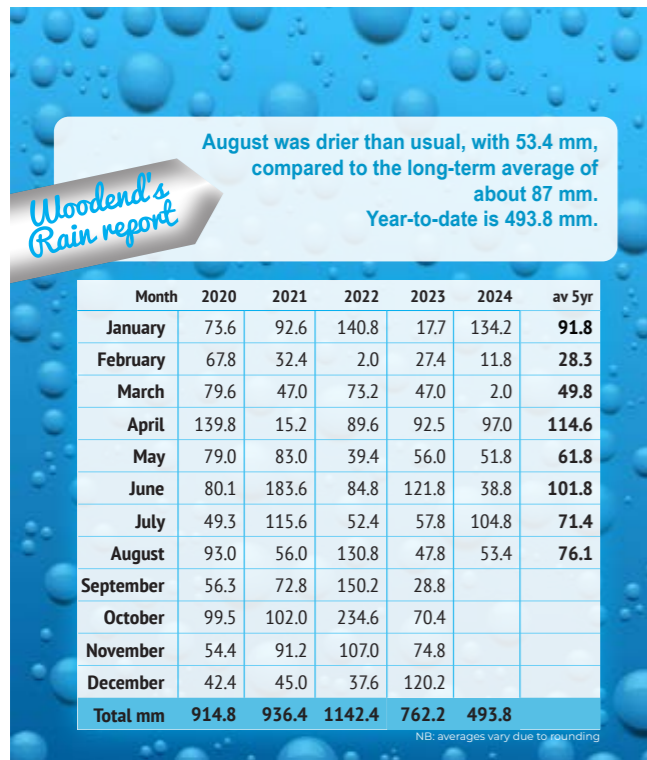
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0418 183 360

Cash - Bank Cheque - Finance Paid Out - EFT

SELL TODAY

LMCT 10132 SHD 0015048



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.

Meet Eriko and Gareth, owners of Kuzu and ZenZen restaurants.

Eriko Pannam was born and raised in Yamaguchi, Japan, famed for its beautiful castles and some of the country's best seafood. She studied Communications and embarked on a career in advertising. "Work/life balance" isn't found in many corporate job ads in Japan, and, at the age of 24, Eriko found herself working six days per week, often until 2am, then sleeping in the office to be ready for the next day's meetings. When she achieved her sales targets, they were promptly doubled, and the future was looking exhausting. Time for a circuit breaker, and with the encouragement of her parents, she got a working holiday visa to Australia. Not surprisingly, she loved the Australian lifestyle and more relaxed approach to work and was soon looking at the list of skills needed in Australia. At the time, it was chef, hairdresser and pastry chef. Eriko's ex-tended family had a strong interest and experience in food as grocers, fishmongers and wonderful home cooks, so it was no surprise she chose the chef path. Off to study at William Angliss, she then applied for permanent residency and was soon cooking in Melbourne's restaurants. Initially her cooking was focused on European menus, until someone contacted her about working in a Japanese restaurant. She was interested but needed to get some intensive training back home in Japan. Her great-uncle arranged a mini "MBA" in Japanese cooking, which began with 3am trips to the fish markets before she could start thinking of food preparation. Now Eriko goes back when she can, to top up her Japanese culinary skills, and following the philosophy of "manabu" – to constantly learn and improve.

When Eriko and her husband and young baby moved to the Macedon Ranges, she started working at a popular Macedon pizza restaurant. Around this time, Baringo Food and Wine Co. was opening up in Gisborne.

Meet Gareth Rowlands.

Gareth grew up in the Macedon Ranges and like many, he "fell into hospitality" and found a skill and passion for it. A gap year after school took him to Port Douglas, working at the Sheraton Mirage hotel. He also followed the trail of Aussies to London and was soon working in prestigious hotels, climbing the corporate ladder into general management, and working in pressured seven-day businesses. After a few years away, Gareth came home to his family in the Macedon Ranges.

While working casually at Colenso, (now the location for Kuzu) Gareth was approached to join the Baringo opening team in Gisborne; an exciting time, with a new café, bar and restaurant to set up. Gareth's skills in management and front of house were well utilised and were a great step to going out on his own.

Meanwhile, Eriko's mother-in-law thought that her daughter-in-law's talent could be better utilised and secretly sent Eriko's resume off to Baringo. Gareth immediately contacted Eriko and she soon started as the two-nights-a-week Japanese chef.

They worked together for the next two years until the Baringo business was sold. Sharing the same ethos about hospitality and their love for making customers happy, their skills complemented each other. A restaurant space became available in Woodend, and after many conversations, they signed a lease in December 2017.

The next project was three months of hard work for Gareth and Eriko, their families and tradie friends. Favours were called in and payments made in beer and food, and finally the Izakaya, (Japanese pub-style restaurant) was ready to open. They thought there would be a soft opening, but this was the "worst kept secret" and locals were quick to book in. Ambitious business plans meant they were open five days per week for lunch and dinner.



When Covid came around and lockdowns started, Gareth and Eriko actually felt a strange relief, a chance to "get off the treadmill" for a while and have a break. The forced pause gave them time to reflect over a six-week shutdown and then to shift to a takeaway business. Customers were extremely patient as they figured it out, and recalled the first Mother's Day – a "disaster" with long delays and the day ending in tears and exhaustion. But they gradually got the hang of it and locals were delighted to be able to treat themselves to Kuzu takeaway throughout the pandemic.

Surviving Covid led to the opening of ZENZEN in 2021, bringing the vibe of "Yatai" (a Japanese street food stall) to Gisborne, with a more casual and laid-back dining experience. They could afford to pay their tradie friends this time, to refurbish this former Chinese restaurant. With a bigger kitchen and more storage space also comes the challenge of finding more staff. Hospitality staff shortages are well-known and it's not uncommon for family and friends to be called in to do a shift or two.

What are some of their secrets for doing well in these challenging times? Closing the restaurant three days and having Sunday off gives them important time with family and friends. Thursday is dedicated for Eriko and Gareth to focus on the business and have time to talk and strategise. What keeps them going? "Feeling the love from the local community".

Thankyou Eriko and Gareth!

SUBMITTED BY ROSEMARY GUYATT

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Entrepreneurs on show

A Woodend resident demonstrated his startup idea last month for an appreciative audience at a special showcase for aspiring businesspeople in the region.

Woodender Matt Grant was one of 39 people from ten local government areas who participated in the free, 13-week Pre-Accelerator program, run by Startup Central Victoria.

Matt said that the program was a great opportunity to turn his big idea into something real, give him access to mentors and local experts and masterclasses to bring the idea to life.

During the Showcase event last month, hosted by futurist Steve Sammartino, Matt presented his idea, "Tinkeru" – a web platform that builds community around car "tinkering", providing DIY car mechanics with the knowledge and tools needed to fix and maintain their cars.

Steve Sammartino said of Matt's presentation, "I love that Tinkeru recognizes that we irrevocably live in a physical world ... It acknowledges that things still need to be built and fixed, in many ways going against the modern ethos of a throw-away society. This is especially true when it comes to modern tech ..."

Matt is excited to see where his idea and the rest of his cohort go from here. "This experience has been invaluable," he said.

There are free events and meetups held each month to help those interested in exploring their startup ideas. More information can be found at <https://startupcv.com.au/>.

SUBMITTED BY KERRY ANDERSON, STARTUP CENTRAL VICTORIA



Photo: Matt Grant from Woodend had a little extra encouragement from his children when presenting at the Startup Central Victoria Showcase event in Bendigo.

Refugee icon to speak at national conference

Behrouz Boochani, journalist and opponent of Iran's oppressive regime, will appear as keynote speaker at a national conference this month.

Mr Boochani was forced to flee his homeland when the offices of his magazine Werya were raided by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard. When intercepted by the Australian Navy as he was making a crossing of the Timor Strait he was detained on Christmas Island before being transferred to Manus Island. He would be imprisoned there for six years.

Boochani's mobile phone became his most valued possession. It enabled him to contact advocacy groups and fellow journalists and to file reports on the abuses occurring on the island. These reports would form the basis of his award-winning prison memoir, *No Friend But The Mountains*.

Boochani's arrival on Christmas Island caused him to miss, by only a few days, a deadline imposed by the Rudd government. He was denied the opportunity to settle in Australia but, in July 2020, he was granted refugee status by the New Zealand government. He is now a Research Fellow at the University of Canterbury.

With his new-found legal status, Behrouz Boochani can now set foot on Australian shores. He will appear as keynote speaker at the opening night of the Rural Australians for Refugees 2024 national conference to be held at the Kyneton Town Hall on Friday 11th October.

The conference will be compered by former ABC presenter Derek Guille and will include an appearance by former UNHCR Commissioner Gillian Triggs. Organisers expect heavy demand for tickets and urge anyone interested to book early.

For more information visit:

<https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Events-and-Awards/Whats-on-around-the-shire/Rural-Australians-for-Refugees-National-Conference>



SUBMITTED BY ANDREW GRIMES FOR MACEDON RANGES RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES



A celebration of Macedon Ranges wine and hospitality

Budburst is a once-a-year opportunity to step behind the vines and meet the family-owned and small-batch makers who shape mainland Australia's coolest wine region.

From 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday, 20+ Macedon Ranges winemakers will open their wineries and cellar doors to wine enthusiasts; enjoy wine tastings, curated food menus championing local produce, art shows, sculptor walks and live music.

Budburst Buses

This year smaller buses will be run to deliver you directly to cellar doors around the Macedon Ranges. Two Bus routes will be operating on a hop-on hop-off system with frequent buses navigating between 5+ vineyards, with 8+ wineries per loop!

- Lancefield Loop (picking up and dropping off at Lancefield Town Centre and Woodend Train Station)
- Woodend Wander (picking up and dropping off at Woodend Train Station)

Tickets to board one of the Budburst buses are only \$89 and include a Saturday bus ticket as well as weekend festival pass allowing patrons to come back on Sunday and explore a little more of the region on their own, for no extra cost!

Head over to our Budburst buses page for more information about the bus loops for 2024.

Please note that this year, buses will only run on the Saturday.

Festival and bus tickets are on sale now. For more information and to book tickets, visit budburst.com.

Where: Wineries, cellar doors and venues across the Macedon Ranges

When: Saturday 16–Sunday 17 November 2024

Tickets: Available now from budburst.com

SUBMITTED BY MACEDON RANGES VIGNERONS ASSOCIATION



"Free to be me" photography competition

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence global campaign, Council is holding a photography competition that aims to challenge restrictive gender stereotypes and expectations.

The annual campaign, established by the United Nations, seeks to raise awareness and encourage communities to take action to end violence against women.

The theme of the photo competition is "Free to Be Me" and is an invitation to show how we can all live, work and play outside of restrictive norms, where men can be gentle and caring, women can be strong and lead, and gender diverse or non-binary people can be active in typically gendered roles or spaces.

Submissions are invited from 11 October until 8 November. The competition is open to everyone over 12 years of age who lives, works, or plays in the Macedon Ranges (permission is required for those aged under 16).

Shortlisted photographs will be exhibited locally and online from 25 November to 10 December. Prizes will be awarded for First Place Adult, First Place Youth, and People's Choice.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/16-days

This initiative is supported by Maddisons of Gisborne, Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health and Safe+Equal Respect Victoria

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER

St Mary's Guild Street Stall

Second Saturday of the month, at 101 High Street, Woodend. Cakes, jams and knitted items.

5427 2477
chinkasteel.com.au

74 High St, Woodend &
3a/1 Puckle St, Moonee Ponds



Woodend

3/27 Corinella Road

Setting a new standard for architectural design and sustainable living in Woodend.

The first 3 detached townhouses in this superior quality and landmark 13 dwelling project by a very reputable local builder are now completed and ready for inspection.

Varying in size from 169m² to 182m² (18sqqs to 19.5sqqs) included integrated garages, each townhouse comprises bright open rooms including two large bedrooms, large deluxe kitchens, spacious dining/living spaces, 2 bathrooms, laundry and an outdoor living area.

Features include high vaulted timber ceilings, superior joinery, double glazing, gas hydronic heating in slab floor plus gas log fire space

heating, travertine tile floors, low energy and mood lighting, AEG appliances, concealed refrigerators and dishwashers, and many subtle features an inspection will reveal.

Located in a prime inner township location within very easy walking distance of all Woodend village's great community facilities, and after several years in the planning process and site development, 27 Corinella Road is destined to become an acclaimed and treasured Woodend address.

Price \$1.6m

View Saturday 5 October 11am-11.30am

Contact John Keating 0419 880 444



Rotary Club of Woodend members were delighted to welcome Sergeant David Arnold, officer in charge at Woodend Police Station, as the speaker at our first meeting in September at The Vic. Sergeant Arnold arrived on the night in uniform, wearing some of his kit, having warned us beforehand that he feared an unruly crowd at the weekly Rotary meeting! But we're pretty sure the sergeant found us quite well behaved.

Sergeant Arnold gave us some highlights of his VicPol career in policing, which spans 34 years; he shared his thoughts on the ups and downs of country policing, before answering questions from the floor.

Sergeant Arnold's work took him across Melbourne's north and west, including plain clothes and detective roles in some high-profile operations before he became a sergeant in 2006. He shifted operations to the regions for five years in Wangaratta/Wodonga and returned briefly to Melbourne before moving to the Macedon Ranges, where he has remained – leaving aside a health hiccup – joining Gisborne station in 2018 and becoming sergeant in charge at Woodend station in March 2020.

The change of pace has been real, he told us. Unlike many city stations and those in urban fringe towns, the entire regular Woodend team is small; just Sergeant Arnold and one other officer, and they're kept too busy with patrolling to be able to open the station often. The upside of the small police force is it can indicate a relatively low crime rate.

Sergeant Arnold said he likes to keep a handle on what's going on in the town, both on social media and offline. We know he's not one to keep out of sight; he can be seen out and about often, whether it be out on patrol, treading the footpath of High St chatting to the locals, or a glimpse of navy blue at the farmers market. We are glad to have spent some time getting to know our local sergeant. Thanks for speaking to us!

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Electrify 3442 update

Electrify 3442 is about helping households install or upgrade six things: transport, home heating and cooling, water heating, cooking, rooftop solar and home battery.

Information Sessions coming up

Over the next few months, Electrify 3442 – in conjunction with GREG (Go Renewable Energy Group) – will be running information sessions on solar and batteries to assist households. The sessions are FREE but need to be booked.

Making the most of your solar – Saturday 5 October 11am

Helpful for households already with rooftop solar and wanting to find out how to optimise their system and prepare for the loss of the premium feed-in tariff. We have a panel of locals lined up to share their ideas and experience (30 minutes). Our panellists and volunteers are happy to chat afterwards.

Solar 101: Introduction to rooftop solar – Saturday 2 November 11am

For those who want to install rooftop solar for energy independence and lower energy bills. This session will help you find out how to get started.

Home Batteries 101: Introduction to home batteries – Wednesday 4 December 7pm

Explore your options with home batteries for energy independence and saving even more on energy bills (whether you already have rooftop solar or not!).

My Efficient Electric Home

Tim Forcey, author of "My Efficient Electric Home Handbook", and one of the founders of the Facebook group of the same name, is coming to the Macedon Ranges. Tim will share tips to help you make your home more comfortable and cheaper to run at Romsey and Woodend Libraries on Thursday 10 October (2.30pm at Romsey and 6pm at Woodend).

For further information and bookings for all events see our website: mrsg.org.au/events-calendar

SUBMITTED BY SUE BARKER

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Woodend Landcare update

Planting day – Help protect our black gum

9am–12pm, Sunday 13 October: Five Mile Creek near Jeffreys St.

You may have noticed areas between the Woodend Tennis Club and Jeffreys Street have been prepared for revegetation over the last 12 months. There are a number of mulched areas and some have already been planted with understorey plants, thanks to the 1st Woodend Scout Group.

The aim of this project is to protect the Black Gum trees (*Eucalyptus aggregata*). In Victoria this eucalyptus species only grows within 4km of Woodend, so you could call it Woodend's floral emblem. Many mature trees at this site were blown over during the wind event of June 2021 and the remaining trees are in danger due to soil compaction and future climate extremes.

To protect the remaining black gums we are providing them with a buffer of understorey habitat and weed-free, mulched ground to enable self-propagation.

Starting at 9am, on Sunday 13 October, Woodend Landcare with help from our local Scouts, MRSC staff and anyone who would like to join in, will be planting a further 700 indigenous plants in these areas. This planting will complement that already undertaken by the Scouts near the Scout Billabong.

This project will continue until all the mulched areas are progressively filled with plants over the next few years.

Everyone is welcome to come along and contribute to this project, creating another beautiful area along our creek.

Future working bee

If helping our native vegetation by attacking invasive weeds is more your thing, Landcare will be holding its monthly working bee on the south side of the creek between Bowen and Wood Streets two weeks later, at 9am on Sunday 27 October. Please check our blog (woodendlandcare.org) for more details.

SUBMITTED BY PETER YATES, PRESIDENT, WOODEND LANDCARE

Soft plastic recycling pilot



Council's shire-wide soft plastic recycling pilot program allows residents to recycle their soft plastic conveniently in their kerbside recycling bin. All soft plastic items that carry the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) – Return to Store symbol or REDcycle logo are accepted.

If you'd like to participate, visit your nearest Council customer service centre; Council's resource recovery facilities in Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend; Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre or Gisborne Aquatic Centre to collect an information pack, which includes a letter and 20 orange collection bags.

If you have large amounts of soft plastics such as animal feed bags or plastic wrap from electrical goods, or you are not on Council's kerbside service, you can take your soft plastic to a Council resource recovery facility for recycling.

The soft plastic collected in the pilot program will be sent to specialist processors in Victoria to make new plastic products locally, which supports our objectives to reduce waste to landfill, and lower greenhouse gas emissions and litter.

For information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics-trial

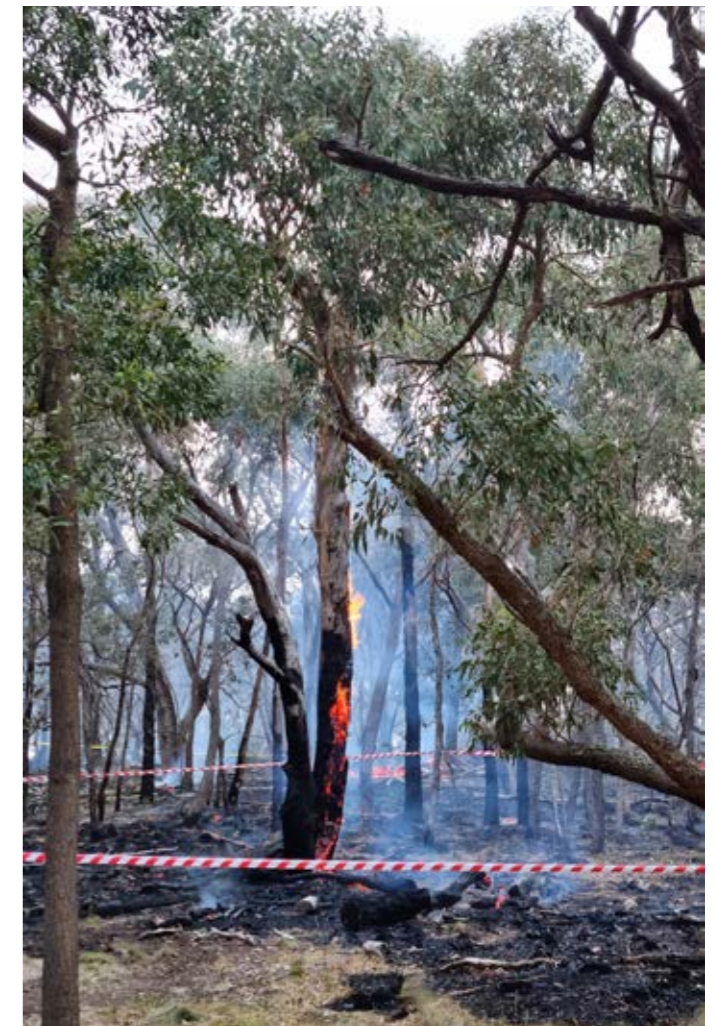


Photo credit: Andy Sayers, Heskett-Kerrie CFA

Newham & District Landcare – Biodiversity and Bushfire Risk



Join Newham & District Landcare in October to learn how to manage your property for bushfire risk and biodiversity conservation in two separate events:

Friday 25 October

Local fire risk and "Landscaping for Bushfire" Presentation and discussion run by CFA statewide Vegetation Management team at Newham Mechanics Institute, 6.30 drinks for 7–9pm session. No booking required.

Saturday 26 October

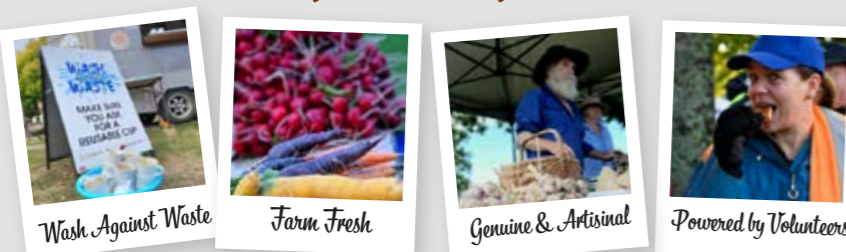
Field Day on a local property, 10am–3pm, lunch provided

Join CFA's statewide Vegetation Management team, an independent fire ecologist and a fauna ecologist to undertake practical assessments on a local property and discuss the decision processes in managing your land to mitigate fire risk and preserve conservation values.

Registration is required at Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/bushfire-risk-biodiversity-field-day-tickets-1020305891387?aff=oddttdtcreat> or)

SUBMITTED BY HELEN SCOTT

Sustainable, Local, Zero-Waste



Discover the Woodend Community Farmers Market: where sustainability and great food meet to support a healthier planet!

1st Saturday of every month



9am-1pm
mrsg.org.au



Environmental health updates from Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Aussie Bird Count walks

10–11am, 13 October, Five Mile Creek, Woodend

12–1pm, 13 October, Campaspe River Walk, Kyneton

Celebrate the start of National Bird Week and get ready for the 11th Aussie Bird Count! Local bird enthusiast and Aussie Bird Count veteran Tanya Loos is leading two one-hour walks to introduce you to some local feathered friends, and get you all set to start counting using the Aussie Bird Count App.

What's on your roadside

10–11am, 17 October, Tylden

Join Josh Gomez, Roadside Conservation Officer, as he takes a walk down a roadside reserve in Tylden. Roadsides play an important role in providing habitat and shelter, and in supporting biodiversity for many native plants and animals. Learn about the many different types of flora and fauna that we might find along the way and the things we do to protect them.

Clover Glycine – Flora survey

10am–12pm, 25 October, Bald Hill Reserve, Kyneton

10am–12pm, 1 November, Black Hill Reserve, Kyneton

Do you want to learn how to survey flora? The Nationally Threatened Clover Glycine is only visible for a couple of months a year, as it emerges in spring and disappears back into the ground before the summer heat arrives. The community survey provides essential data

to improve our understanding of the extent of the population. Each year, new areas are surveyed, providing an opportunity for a unique guided walk with Council's Bushland Reserves Officer.

To register for events or to sign up to the monthly environment eNews, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events

Healthy Landscapes events

Farm walk and discussion

12.30–2.30pm, 11 October, Barfold

Visit a property that uses a rotational grazing system, trialled multispecies crops, has a dung beetle nursery and various other regeneration agriculture techniques. Find out how grazing strategies have been used to promote biodiversity, weed reduction, soil health and dam water health.

Planting and protecting seedlings

4.30–6.30pm, 18 October, Hanging Rock

Join us at Hanging Rock to discover how to prepare your site, order plants and then plant. We'll discuss how different guards have been successful (or not) in this environment with the high pressure of kangaroos, and visit riparian zone plantings and how this differs from other areas of the park.

For information and to register, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/healthy-landscapes



Spring mulch promotion

With spring just around the corner, get started on your garden now with free self-loaded mulch available at Council's three resource recovery facilities at Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend.

If you need a hand loading, Council staff can load mulch for you at a reduced cost of \$15 per load (previously \$30). Home delivery of larger (6m³) loads is available at a reasonable price, just order through customer service on 5422 0333. For information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/mulch

Thinking about doing a backyard clean-up? Don't forget to check out the back page of the latest edition of ShireLife – delivered to mailboxes across the shire in August – for a green waste trailer voucher.

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Vineyards turn green into gold



Suburban green waste improves yield and helps wine grapes thrive, trial shows

A Melbourne Water trial at Macedon Ranges vineyards has shown that composted recycled green waste collected from suburban green bins can create healthier vines and higher grape yields when used as mulch.

Evaluation of the three-year trial, funded by Sustainability Victoria and delivered by Melbourne Water, has shown recycled organic green waste mulch applied under vines during spring leads to soil temperatures that are just right – moister soil, and fewer weeds. This 'Goldilocks zone' refers to the optimal range of soil temperatures for vine growth and grape production.

"The result is higher yields and reduced need for chemicals compared to conventional practices such as brush cutting, herbicides, or application of other mulch types such as straw," said Karen Thomas, Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator, Melbourne Water.

"This is great news for the wine industry, and the environment. We hope it will encourage other vineyards to look at using high-quality composted green waste made to vineyard specifications."

The results from the project include a cost-benefit analysis, which shows increased grape yields can offset the cost of purchasing composted green waste if the green waste mulch has high nitrogen content.

Melbourne Water has launched a digital mulch calculator for vignerons who want to calculate how much mulch is needed for under vine area and how much it will cost.

Ms Thomas says the trial demonstrates Melbourne Water's role as a Catchment Management Authority, responsible for delivering projects that benefit food production, improve biodiversity and champion land stewardship. We're working with farmers to expand climate-smart, sustainable agricultural practices aimed at boosting food production, caring for land and protecting biodiversity," she said.

Soil temperature measurements showed the composted green waste mulch created cooler soil in summer and warmer in spring, meaning roots have a longer time in the 'Goldilocks' soil temperature zone vital for healthy vines.

Hesket Estate is one of two Macedon Ranges vineyards that participated in the trial. Operating at high altitudes, Hesket Estate is among the coldest vineyards in mainland Australia.

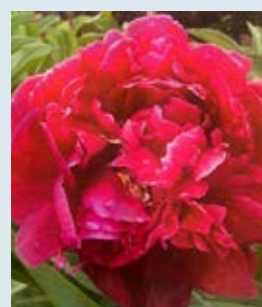
"These conditions allow for the production of outstanding cool climate wines, but also means vineyards in the region are susceptible to extreme weather," said Ms Thomas.

"These highly labour-intensive vineyards need a reliable method to increase the time vine roots and grapes can spend at beneficial temperatures, and this trial shows that composted green waste mulch is a cost-effective solution," she said.

Hesket Estate grape grower Elizabeth Hudspeth said of the trial, "It has been very interesting to see how composted green waste mulch can improve soil water retention, increase nutrients, and reduce weeds."

This project is delivered by Melbourne Water in partnership with Macedon Ranges Vignerons Association, Bio Gro and GrapeLinks, and is funded through the Sustainability Victoria Circular Economy Markets Fund – Organics, on behalf of the Victorian Government.

SUBMITTED BY LANIE HARRIS



White House Nursery and Fresbrook Peony Farm

Present another FREE EVENT

Our Pacific Coast Iris and Peony Show

Every weekend in October 2024

10am to 4pm Saturdays and Sundays or by appointment

691 Ashbourne Road, Ashbourne 3442
(7 kms on the left, outside of Woodend)

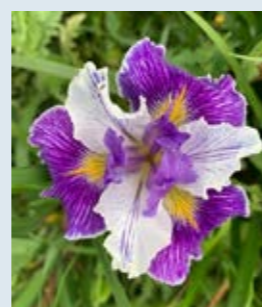
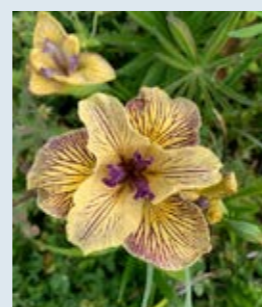
Carparking at rear of property

Pots of both available for purchase

Bunches of home-grown Peony also available for sale. Growing instructions for both, given with purchase. This is the first time we have had a Pacific Coast Iris and Peony show.

For further information Contact Peter on 0400313703 & leave a message.

Please note, public toilet facilities are not available on site. The nearest public toilet is in Woodend



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Woodend Cricket Club – New Season Girls Cricket

We are really pleased to have assisted with some awesome new gear for the girls cricket U13 team, making cricket more affordable and accessible. If your girls are thinking of getting into a team sport and having lots of fun with friends while learning new skills, there are spots available for the upcoming season in Cricket Blast (ages 5-9), U11 mixed team and the U13 all girls team. Contact Woodend Cricket Club if you'd like more information on how to join the team, get involved or come and try.

Woodend Heskett Football Netball Club Premiers

Congratulations on the back-to-back Premiership win for the Senior A Grade Netball team. A fantastic effort to again go all the way for the flag! The junior boys Under 15 B team also came away with the football premiership. Congratulations to all players to have made the effort all season, whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game!



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As Community Banks, we share a founding purpose — feeding into the prosperity of our customers and communities, not off it. We love nothing more than to reinvest profits into community projects created by inspiring locals.

Contact Edyta at our Trentham branch or Courtney at our Gisborne branch to find out more about your local Bendigo Bank Community Bank products and services or how to apply for community support!

Helping Wash Against Waste splash for good

Community Bank Gisborne & District is thrilled to continue supporting the Wash Against Waste (WAW) Trailer to fight waste one cup at a time.

This eco-friendly initiative of Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group, backed by Community Bank Gisborne & District, keeps local events greener and more sustainable. With our funding, the WAW Trailer is now stocked with reusable plates, cups, cutlery – and exciting new additions like wine glasses and extra plate sizes – making it easier than ever for more food vendors to join the zero-waste movement.

The WAW Trailer, powered by passionate volunteers like Katya, Rehana and Ed, pictured, is a hero at the Woodend Community Farmers' Market, where over 300 disposable cups and 100 plates are saved from landfill each month as visitors enjoy their brew from Rafaels Coffee and their favourite market treats in reusable dishes.

Thanks to this initiative, more events across the Macedon Ranges are reducing their environmental footprint, making festivals, markets, and community gatherings better for the planet and more fun for everyone.

To hire WAW for your community group event, contact Mark Mulcahy on waw@mrsq.org.au or express interest at mrsq.org.au

Let's keep the momentum going!



Meet Edyta Your local Trentham Branch Manager



37B High St,
Trentham
0435 042 017

Community Bank

The Norris's saved \$5,772 last year on their home loan!*

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Community Bank - Gisborne & District

Bendigo Bank

*Amount saved was annual payments reduction on an owner-occupied home loan when repayments dropped by \$461 a month from lower interest rate and loan restructuring. Actual savings will depend on individual circumstances. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply and are subject to change. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 998 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237076, A1903171 OUT, 40282300, 11/05/2024

Meet Courtney Your local Gisborne Mobile Lender



11 Nexus Way,
Gisborne
0478 435 114

Community Bank

Lions Club Woodend

Second chance art show

When: Sunday 13 October 2024, 10am-4pm
Where: St Ambrose Hall, Templeton St, Woodend

Have you downsized and now have too many pictures to hang? Wondering what to do with that picture from a relative you never got around to hanging?

Or just having a spring clean and wondering what to do with your excess artworks?

Woodend Lions want your old artworks, let us re-sell your excess artworks and upcycle the frames and canvas for students, clubs or artists. Make your old artworks part of the circular economy.

Pop along on 13 October to pick up something "new to you" and to enter our raffle. All proceeds will go to the Woodend Neighbourhood House Foodbank.

To donate, drop off your artworks to St Ambrose Hall Saturday 12 October 3pm-6pm or contact us at info@woodendlions.org.au woodendlions.org.au/second-chance-art-sale-2024/

The Lions Woodend market is getting a revamp!

We are excited to announce a new chapter for the Woodend Lions Market, a change of venue and a change of date. The first Saturday of the month.

You will be able to find us at the rear of the Neighbourhood house, right beside the repair café.

We will be separate but also complementing the Woodend Farmers Market offering collectibles, handmade, crafts and more.

Monies raised at the market help us to support local community projects such as the Neighbourhood House Foodbank, the skin check and awareness unit, art scholarships, Lifestyle Carers and the Woodend Community Chest.

If you are interested in having a stall at the market, please contact us using our market stall form woodendlions.org.au/market/market-stall-form/

SUBMITTED BY GAIL JONES, WOODEND LIONS



Funeral Directors

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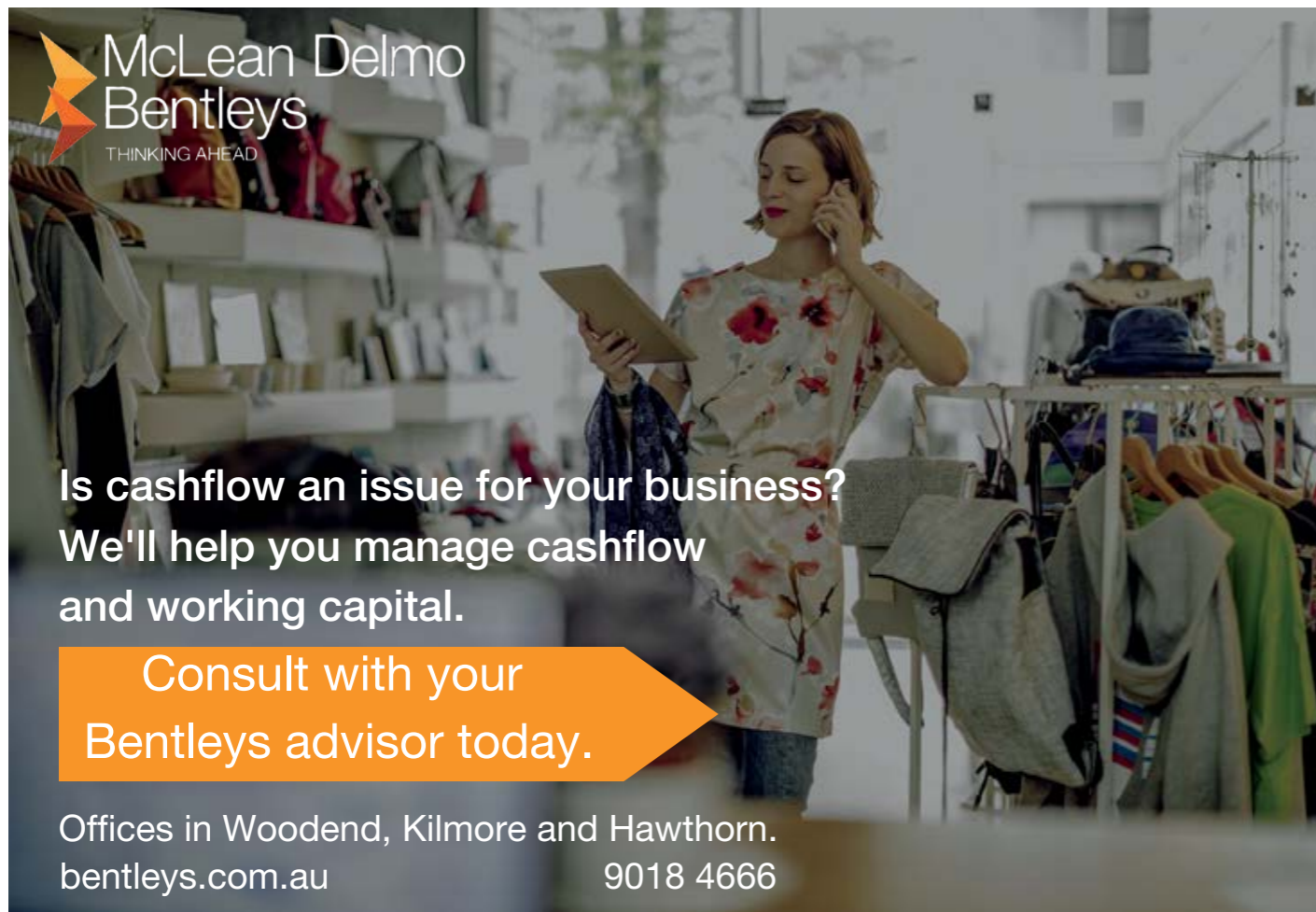



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News from the Woodend Neighbourhood House.

Term 4 Program

By the time The New Woodend Star goes to print, our Term 4 program will be published! Make sure you download a copy from our website, or pop into the House to pick up a copy.

We have lots of new activities this month, including events for Seniors Month in October and Carer's Week between 13 and 19 October.

For those that like to get creative, we're excited to welcome back basket weaving, eco-dyeing, a blacksmith workshop and mosaics.

Or perhaps you're keen to find out more about recycling and waste recovery in the Macedon Ranges? We're looking forward to an informative presentation from Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Waste Education Officer on Wednesday 30 October.

Find out all the details of our new and returning courses and activities in the latest copy of the Woodend Neighbourhood House term program - you wouldn't want to miss out!

Community Lunch

We love to welcome familiar faces and newcomers to our community lunch each month. Our next lunch is on Tuesday 8 October at the Woodend RSL. Bookings are essential to help with catering (a \$5 donation is appreciated to help cover costs, but by no means necessary).

Chatty Cafe

Pop in for a cuppa, sweet treat and good conversation on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Our next Chatty Café is on Tuesday 22 October at 10am. No bookings required - just turn up (donation welcome).

IT Help

The Woodend Neighbourhood House's IT Help has moved to Wednesday afternoons between 1pm and 3pm. Book an appointment with our friendly IT volunteer by calling 5427 1845 or email reception (reception@woodendnh.org.au).

Our Village Donations

Our Village is the new name of St Kilda Mums, Geelong Mums and Eureka Mums. Together, as Our Village, they will increase their impact for vulnerable babies, children and the environment. Their van will be at the Woodend Neighbourhood House to collect donations on Tuesday 15 October. Items can be dropped off on Friday 11 October or Monday 14 October and we'll make sure they're in the van and on their way to a family in need.

Food Bank at the Woodend Neighbourhood House

The Woodend Community Food Bank is open on Mondays and Thursdays between 12.30pm and 2.30pm in the Undercroft of the Woodend Neighbourhood House. Access to the Undercroft is via the gates by the Skate Park, off Margery Crescent. Everyone is welcome to stop by to access food and personal hygiene items.

For more information about any of our upcoming activities, workshops, courses, or events, drop by the House (47 Forest Street, Woodend), visit our website www.woodendnh.org.au or call 5427 1845.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA BAKER




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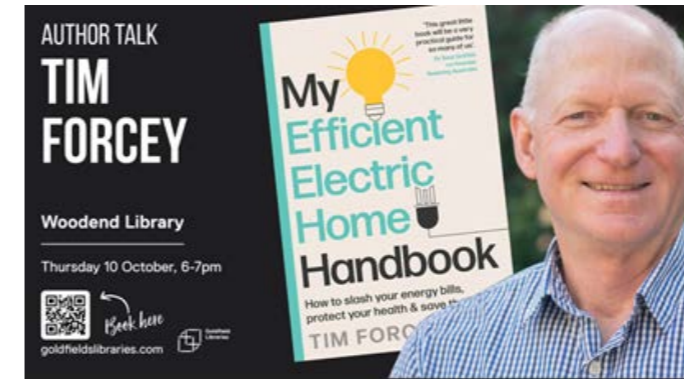
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Mon - Fri: 9 am - 5 pm Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm



Woodend Library News

Tim Forcey: My Efficient Electric Home Handbook – Thursday 10 October, 6-7pm



Author, researcher and energy advisor Tim Forcey shares his insights from this essential, first-of-its-kind handbook for homeowners and renters. Tim will discuss tips and strategies for converting your home into an efficient, healthy and comfortable space for our all-electric future.

Book sales and signings. Bookings required.

Special Storytimes at the library! Bonjour Storytime – Saturday 19 October, 10.30am

Bilingual Storytime with stories and songs in the French language. Ages 3–5 years.

No bookings required.

Grandparents Storytime – Tuesday 22 and Friday 25 October, 10am

Grandparents are invited to come along and join a fun session filled with classic nursery rhymes and some of our all-time favourite picture books! For ages 2–5years and their grandparents.

No bookings required.

Curious Kids: Fairytale STEM Storytime – Fri 1 November, 10am



Could Cinderella really dance in glass slippers? Could a prince really climb Rapunzel's hair? Join Angela from the Discovery Science and Technology Centre, Bendigo, to explore STEM in the fairytales we all know and love. For ages 3–6 years. Bookings required.

For all bookings, please head to our website or give us a call. See you in the Library!

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

SUBMITTED BY EMMA KEENAN

Stand Together: A Community Event to Support Men's Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

The Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) is hosting a community event aimed at supporting men's mental health and suicide prevention. Recognising the importance of addressing grief, loss, and mental wellness, this event offers a supportive space for men who are navigating these challenging experiences.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, 24th October

Time: 6.30pm, beginning with a free BBQ

Location: Mt Macedon Golf Club

Guest Speaker: Liam Twomey, Paralympian

Paralympian Liam Twomey will share his inspiring story of overcoming mental ill health after experiencing grief and loss. His journey towards wellness serves as a powerful example of resilience, making his address a highlight of the evening.

This event is open to all men, whether you are currently working through grief or seeking to improve your mental wellness. The evening is designed to be a welcoming space where men can come together, share experiences and find hope through community.

Don't miss this opportunity to stand together with other men in your community, support one another, and hear from a speaker who has walked the path of recovery and come out stronger.

To book a free ticket, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stand-together-a-community-event-to-support-mens-mental-health-and-suicide-tickets-1003312423467?aff=oddtcreator>

SUBMITTED BY DANIEL DARMANIN

Woodend Primary Carlsruhe campus in the spotlight

Woodend Primary School's country Carlsruhe campus is set to be featured on network TV; as Episode 34 of The House of Wellness lifestyle TV show on channel 7. The show will, says a representative of the show, cover the history of the old-world campus and the curriculum that removes kids from the modern-day environment, considering the benefits to children's personal development and emotional and mental health of being out in nature; promoting social skills, reducing stress, and increasing attention span. "Plus playing in dirt improves their immune systems!"

Look out for the episode on The House of Wellness, which is scheduled for late October or early November, on Channel 7.

SUBMITTED BY EMILY ELLIOT



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Our RT Edgar Gisborne Team

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10 High Street Kyneton
124 High Street Woodend

5422 3325
5427 1222



Change your clock, change your smoke alarm battery

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2am (AEST) on Sunday 6 October.

When you change your clock you should also change your smoke alarm battery. The CFA recommends that all Victorians should replace their smoke alarm batteries around the time that they set their clocks forward for daylight saving – which is NOW.

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

Special smoke alarms are also available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Here are some interesting fire facts about bedrooms

- A recent CFA survey of Victorians revealed less than 20% of Victorians have smoke alarms in or near their bedrooms. Fewer than 50% do not have a smoke alarm in any living room.
- If fire breaks out in your bedroom and the door is shut, the hallway smoke alarm will not activate until the fire has burned through the door, which will be too late.
- Smoke will not wake you – in fact, it will put you into a deeper sleep. When asleep, your sense of smell is largely diminished, and you are unlikely to smell smoke.
- Think about all the items we now find in bedrooms that could catch alight – from rechargeable battery products to electronic devices and heaters.

The importance of a working smoke alarm

- Without a working smoke alarm, you may not get the chance to safely escape. Quite simply, they could save you and your family's lives.
- On newer systems, smoke alarms should be interconnected, so when any alarm activates, all smoke alarms will sound.
- Smoke alarms should be tested monthly by pressing the test button on the alarm and waiting for the test alarm to sound.
- Smoke alarms should be cleaned with a vacuum cleaner or dusted at least once a year to remove particles that will affect smoke alarm performance. Replaceable batteries in a smoke alarm need to be changed yearly.
- Smoke alarms, including those attached to mains power, should be replaced every 10 years.

See you at the Woodend Farmers Market

Now that spring has sprung, it is time to start getting your summer Fire Plans in place. Woodend CFA is planning to be at the Farmers Market on Saturday 5 October to answer any of your questions and help with some advice and information on preparing you and your property for the coming fire season.

For further information, contact the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, email woodendcfa@gmail.com or visit the station in Urquhart Street.

Follow us on Facebook, or you can visit our website: www.woodendcfa.org

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, FORMER CAPTAIN WOODEND CFA

News from Woodend Police Station

What can I talk about this month?

Last Tuesday, several Macedon Ranges members were involved in a very protracted operation, starting around Gisborne, passing through nearly every large town in Macedon Ranges, finally concluding in Lancefield.

The person in question drove through Woodend and other townships at horrendous speeds, showed no regards to the safety of the community. Several vehicles were damaged, and a police officer from Castlemaine was injured, requiring surgery.

With the way the offender was driving, we were extremely fortunate that there weren't more serious injuries. The offender was remanded in custody for 140 offences and will be appearing in court later.

Woodend Station has certainly been open a lot more over the last month or so. I will endeavour to try and have the station open as often as I can, to take phone calls and counter enquiries. But rest assured, if there isn't someone "in the Station", we are likely to be within the general area and able to come and assist you wherever we can.

I'm pretty sure Ambulance Victoria will be undertaking their Shocktober campaign in October, this is a great reminder that we only have one heart and it's important to look after it.

Crime-wise, it's still much of the usual events in the area: thefts of items which are easily accessed or in clear view. I can only say this in so many ways, but if you make it harder for the light-fingered, they usually move onto the next easy target. Make it hard for them, lock things away and don't lead them to temptation.

Spring will be here shortly, so enjoy the change in weather; we might even get a few warmer days. Until next month.

SUBMITTED BY DAVID ARNOLD | SERGEANT 27575 | OIC WOODEND POLICE STATION WESTERN REGION | MACEDON RANGES DIVISION 5 | VICTORIA POLICE

Fragile Fragments

Fragile Fragments is a textile exhibition by Elizabeth Harvey which incorporates cloth, paper, thread, metal cloth wire and mesh.

For as long as she can remember Elizabeth has been a maker using her hands and imagination to "make". In the last few years she has added metal materials to her creative work. Elizabeth often uses nature as inspiration and particularly looks for the fragile elements as nature begins its journey of decay, opening the prospect of new life. She finds such beauty as leaves change texture and form the sustenance of new beginnings as seed pods grow, swell and burst, spreading the potential of new life which, in turn, eventually fades and dies.

Elizabeth is not trying to replicate nature. Instead, she interprets this cycle of change from decay to new beginnings, using the fabric, fibre, tools and techniques that she loves to handle.

Wabi Sabi is a Japanese aesthetic concept which inspires Elizabeth. She finds beauty and serenity in objects, landscapes, designs etc., that are simple yet imperfect and impermanent.

The exhibition runs from Tuesday 8 October to Sunday 3 November. Fragile Fragments Opening is on Saturday 12 October at 2pm.

The Gallery, 684 Mt Macedon Rd, Mt Macedon. Gallery open Friday – Tuesday, 10am–4pm.

Elizabeth Harvey 0408506283 Sue Anson 0413581632

SUBMITTED BY SUE ANSON

Woodend Men's Shed Open Day

Woodend Men's Shed Open Day – Saturday 12 October 2024, 10am until 2pm

The Woodend Men's Shed will be celebrating another year of mateship, activities and service with its annual Open Day at the Shed on October 12.

During the year, members have been busy repairing household items for community members restoring garden furniture and building a range of items including nesting boxes.

Special projects undertaken have included providing shelves, a potting bench and a "Music Wall" (assisted by the Scouts) to the Neighbourhood House terrace area. Also there have been requests from the Kyneton Museum for assistance to modify part of their display area, from Rotary for ten small commemorative boxes for the parents of stillborn babies and, most recently, new heritage signs for in front of the courthouse and along the heritage walk.

A recent activity has been a pilot program to cut bags of kindling, which we have been selling to raise funds that we can apply to building our new shed when we have secured a suitable piece of land!

On our Open Day, the workshop will be operating to show what we do, with many and varied items available for sale – a range of heirloom toys, turned timber items, new and restored garden and household furniture – all of which would make unique presents. There will also be free tea, coffee and sausages sizzling for anyone who feels a bit peckish.

If you are unable to make it on the Open Day, Woodend Men's Shed invites you to drop in on any Monday or Wednesday between 9am and 12 noon.

Woodend Men's Shed is located at 988 Black Forest Drive Woodend in part of the old Black Forest Sawmill.

Contact us for further details on 0418 322 680 or info@woodendmensshed.org

SUBMITTED BY KEVIN DAVIS





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Macedon Ranges Obedience Dog Club

Our September new members induction was typical of those held in spring weather, but we still had four new members join us.

Spring has sprung, and with it our return to the great outdoors. As we start spending more time outside with our fur babies, we may see an increase in allergies. Yes, our doggos can suffer from spring allergies just like us. Pollen, grass and mould seem to thrive in the spring and the most common signs are itching, sneezing and coughing, along with runny nose, watery eyes and skin irritations. Yep, just like us.

So, what can we do to limit their exposure?

- If there is a high pollen day, keep them inside as much as possible. If they do go outside, wipe their paws and fur with a damp cloth and swap out rubber chew toys for plush ones, give them a good wash and dry.
- Keep their living space as clean and dust free as possible, and doing some spring cleaning; this includes floors, bedding, toys and food/water bowls
- Make sure they have a balanced diet full of essential nutrients and vitamins to help support their immune systems.

Just remember that if your dog's allergy symptoms are persistent or severe, or they have other health issues causing concerns, take them to your vet, who can determine the cause and recommend the best course of action.

So, this spring, keep a watchful eye on your furry friends, and help them stay healthy during their time outdoors.

Visit our website www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au, our Facebook page or email to info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au and we will contact you.

Take care, stay safe ... a dog is family.

SUBMITTED BY CAROL, INSTRUCTOR/TREASURER MRODC

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CWA News – Show me the money!

Sconezilla has left the building! She came, she ate, we ate and the scones are all gone. We raised a total of \$2026.75

Which brings us to the next question on our agenda. Where does the money from fundraising efforts such as a scone-a-thon go?

We have said in the past that the CWA is more than scones. It's about what we do with the money: it goes straight back to our community!

There are a lot of worthy causes which need money. Our members work with community organisations to develop short proposals, and we assess the alignment of the request with the CWA purpose, which is to "provide assistance and support to women, children and families who are facing disadvantage or vulnerability throughout metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas in Victoria", and against our own goal of ensuring that the money goes back to our local community. We cover the areas of Newham, Tylden, Carlsruhe and of course Woodend, and we have recently expanded to include Heskett.

So where is the money we raise from the scone-a-thon and other fundraisers donated?

Community Bursary – this is offered to each of the five primary schools in our area to assist a student with the financial costs associated with transition from year 6 to high school. The Bursary has a set of assessment criteria which includes a community mindset that aligns with CWA values. This is the third year that we will offer this Bursary.

Donations to:

Glen Osmond Farm – to assist with the purchase of a ceiling hoist to assist vulnerable and terminally-ill children and their families.

Sunranges Twin Plus Association – to support families in the local area under financial and emotional pressure due to multiple births.

Provision of funds to each of the five primary schools in our area to provide food and other essential items such as clothing to disadvantaged students and families. These funds could be for a breakfast club or a pool of school uniforms.

Every scone we bake, everything we stitch and make for you to buy gives so much more than you receive.

Thanks for all your support. One for the diary is our annual Christmas market on 7 December in Macedon. It is scary but it will be here before you know it!

For more information visit our Facebook Page CWA Woodend Eves.

The CWA Woodend Eves meet on the third Thursday of the Month, at the Woodend Golf Course Club Rooms. Every woman is welcome, message us via Facebook or email cwawoodendeves@gmail.com and say hi.

Crafted by Megan Sharkie and Anita La Forgia for the Eves

SUBMITTED BY OFFICE BEARERS, CWA WOODEND EVES



“STILL GETTING A KICK OUT OF FOOTY”

Proudly sponsored by



Hawks end eight-year drought in local derby

Winning isn't everything in Masters footy. In fact, with most games played without a scoreboard, the final score isn't always clear.

However, some games carry more weight than others. For us it's our game against Gisborne.

We ventured down the Calder to Gissy to take on the Bulldogs and hopefully turn the tables on the thumping they gave us at Gilbert Gordon Oval just four weeks earlier.

Kudos to Gisborne, who made the round a Beyond Blue fundraiser, and recruited former Adelaide and Geelong AFL star Ronnie Burns to pull on the Dogs jumper to highlight men's mental health.

Masters footy is constantly referred to as a form of Men's Shed, and before the game Gisborne's coach bravely spoke about his mental health challenges, which many could identify with.

Footy may not soothe your body, but it certainly improves your mind. Where else can strangers tackle and bump each other and afterwards laugh together over a cold beer?

The night before our game the AFL elimination final was held

and the Hawks ran away with a great win over the Bulldogs. Was it an omen?

The first quarter set the tone early with both teams hard at the ball and each other, determined to win the footy.

Unfortunately, Gisborne's star recruit was injured five minutes in, which was disappointing for everyone keen to say they played in a game with him.

The Hawks finished the quarter a point in front with the Bulldogs, coming out in the second term eager to put us away early on the back of a well populated bench.

Thanks to a larger than average bench for us, our smart rotations meant we were saving our tank for a solid second half, with the Dogs ahead by 4 points at half time.

After a solid rev up by coach Chewy, our guys blew the Dogs away to take a 22 point lead into the last quarter. We were not about to let up and a three-goals to one last quarter saw us end the season with an impressive 34-point win over the Bulldogs.

It was our first win against them since beating them on the same ground in a pre-season game in 2016, and celebrations flowed on at our sponsor

Holgate Brewhouse.

The Hawks AGM was held on September 13 with the new committee voted in.

President Sam Gibbs will again lead the club for a second term with Matt Chilton (vice president), Chris Reed (treasurer) and Simon Close (secretary). They will be well supported by the committee members.

While the serious stuff was sorted, the award everyone wants to know, but not be awarded, was announced.

This year's clear winner was Nathan 'Wookie' Kelly whose exceptional Tool-foolery earned him the silverware. He joins an illustrious list of Tools, and a reminder that the game is about fun, not skill.

We are taking a break from training for a few weeks but will resume after some well earned rest. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for an announcement of when we will get back to having a kick.



Check us out
www.facebook.com/groups/

Fr John Healy: new parish priest of St Ambrose, Woodend

St Ambrose's new parish priest, Fr John Healy was delighted to arrive in Woodend on 9 July. He grew up in Sunshine, attended secondary school at St John's College Braybrook, then joined the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, who had taught him. He became a teacher himself, and taught in Narre Warren, Braybrook, Deer Park and in the United States.

In 1992, he entered the seminary to study for the priesthood and was ordained on 23 August 1997. After appointments in Frankston, Greensborough, Corio and Lara, Fr John joined the Royal Australian Air Force as a chaplain and was posted to Laverton, East Sale, Amberley (QLD), Tindal (NT), Afghanistan and finally Wagga Wagga.

After his service in the RAAF, Fr John became parish priest of Laverton, Altona Meadows and Point Cook. When Fr Martin Fleming announced his retirement as parish priest of Woodend, Lancefield and Romsey, Fr John saw his chance to finally move to the country.

Fr John follows Geelong in the AFL, likes to cook and looks forward to doing some gardening once again. He brought his two furry friends – cats Ambrose and Augustine!

He has enjoyed the warm welcome and the beauty and the friendly nature of Woodend. He is looking forward to the years ahead with great joy. The other delight is that the town has some great coffee shops.

St Ambrose Catholic Church – 47 Urquhart Street Woodend, phone 0354 272690, email woodend@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses – Saturday Vigil: 6pm, Sunday Mass: 11am.

Everyone is welcome!

SUBMITTED BY MAURICE FANNING



Community round-up 1st Woodend Scout Group



1st Woodend Scout Group descended upon Rowallan Scout Camp in Riddells Creek for the weekend of 13–15 September for a Group Camp – a large camp for all members – with more than sixty Joeyes, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers attending between the ages of 6 and 17.

It was our first Group Camp for many years; our collective memory thinks it must be a least 20 years, so if readers of The New Woodend Star have any recollections of past Group Camps, we'd love to hear from you via the email address below!

Our youth members tried a range of activities, including a low ropes course, orienteering, pioneering, a nature walk, wide games, fire challenges and a camp fire. They were also treated to snow flurries, rain, hail, wind and patches of sun, but despite the varied and challenging weather, spirits were not dampened!

The camp would not have been possible without the support of an amazing group of parents and leaders – all dedicating many hours to ensure the Joeyes, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers were safe, warm, well fed and having fun throughout the whole weekend!

If your family is interested in getting involved in Scouting, get in touch with our Acting Group Leader via gl.1stwoodend@scoutsvictoria.com.au.

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS EAGLE



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E: info@storagewoodend.com.au
22 Wood Street

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Your community diary

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

— OCTOBER —

- 3 Australian Native Bees talk, Woodend Library
- 5 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 5 Lions Community Market
- 10 Tim Forcey Author, Woodend Library
- 11-13 National Rural Australians for Refugees Conference
- 11 U3A Kyneton Tooth and Nail
- 11-14 St Marys Guild Street Stall
- 12 St Mary's Guild Street Stall
- 12 Woodend Men's Shed Open Day
- 13 Australian Bird Count walks, MRSC
- 15 U3A Kyneton, Tooth and Nail
- 16 Carers Week Afternoon Tea, WNH
- 16 Knit, Chat and Cuppa, Norma Richardson Hall
- 17 RSL Health Stimulation - Macedon Reservoir
- 17 What's on your Roadside, MRSC
- 18 U3A Kyneton, The Ethics of Gene Editing
- 18 Healthy Landscape events, MRSC
- 19 Bonjour Storytimes, Woodend Library
- 20 RSL Community Walk
- 25 Landscaping for Bushfires, Newham Mechanics Hall
- 25 U3A Kyneton, The Impact of Memory Loss
- 25 Clover Glycine - Flora survey, MRSC
- 26 Newham & District Landcare Field Day
- 31 Rotary Community Halloween Party, Children's Park

— NOVEMBER —

- 1 Fairytale STEM Storytime, Woodend Library
- 1-17 A Bunch of Amateurs Mount Players
- 2 St Mary's Guild Street Stall
- 2-3 Duneira Estate Bluebell Festival
- 2 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 2 Lions Community Market
- 2 Electrify 3442, Solar 101, Introduction to rooftop solar
- 16-17 Budburst Macedon Ranges
- 20 Knit, Chat and Cuppa, Norma Richardson Hall
- 23 Carlsruhe Country Fair
- 23 WWAf performance, Violinist Davide Monti

— DECEMBER —

- 4 Electrify 3442 Home Batteries 101
- 7 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7 Lions Community Market
- 24 Christmas Day
- 26 Boxing Day

Read us online: www.newwoodendstar.com/view

BUDBURST 2024

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November 2024

Budburst – a celebration of Macedon Ranges wine and hospitality, various wineries, cellar doors and venues across the Macedon Ranges

Tickets: Available now from budburst.com

Two local plays return for Seniors Festival

Two local plays will be staged in Kyneton and Trentham this month for the Seniors Festival, including the new, extended version of *The Vessel* by Dawn Bamforth and *Until Then*, by Paul Canlan. *The Vessel* is a deeply personal account of the final days and hours of an older woman in the latter stages of dementia, as she shares memories from her earlier life with the audience. *Until Then* is about the relationship between a father and his son.

Kyneton, Social Foundry – Saturday Oct 19, 7pm–8.30pm www.trybooking.com/CUCTN

Trentham Mechanics Hall – Monday Oct 21, 1pm–2pm www.trybooking.com/CUCTY

Duneira Estate Bluebell Festival: 2nd and 3rd November

Live music, CWA scones, jam and cream, coffee, sausage sizzle. Stalls. For further information including ticket costs and Open Garden dates, go to www.duneiraestate.com.au/whats-on



Woodend Senior Citizens

Come and join us in the Undercroft of the Woodend Neighbourhood House (access via the gates next to the Skate Park, off Margery Crescent) for one of our regular meet ups.

- Tuesdays between 1pm and 3pm for Button Bingo, a chat and a cuppa.
- Fridays between 1pm and 4pm for cards

Please note our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 1 October 2024.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, please call Margaret (0458 272 767), Irene (0417 676 843) or Alma (0400 134 478).



Woodend to host musical and artistic extravaganza

The Italian Devil Returns: A Musical Feast

The Woodend Winter Arts Festival is excited to announce that renowned Italian violinist Davide Monti, affectionately known as 'The Italian Devil', will perform in Woodend this November. Prepare to be captivated by his extraordinary talent as he leads an afternoon of incredible music at St Ambrose Church.

Monti, a master of baroque violin, will be joined by the exceptional Josephine Vains on baroque cello and Jacqueline Ogeil on Cristofori piano. Together, they will present a program of exquisite classical music by composers such as Corelli, Vivaldi, Tartini, and Scarlatti.

Monti's unique approach to violin playing is characterized by his improvisational genius and exceptional bowing techniques. His passion for fencing has significantly influenced his musical style, as he draws parallels between the two disciplines in terms of spontaneity, communication, and expressiveness.

Prepare to be enchanted by Monti's playful and charismatic stage presence, as he breathes life into each piece with his unparalleled artistry. This concert promises to be a truly unforgettable experience for music lovers of all ages.

Monti is no stranger to Woodend, having performed at the Woodend Winter Arts Festival in 2019. Be sure not to miss your chance to see him again.

The concert will take place at 2.30pm on Saturday 23 November at St Ambrose Church. Tickets are on sale now at woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au

SUBMITTED BY ALISON RIVERS, WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL



The Mount Players presents **A BUNCH OF AMATEURS**
 Nov 1 - 17 2024
 written by Ian Hislop & Nick Newham
 directed by Sonja Prater & Craig Lenaine-Smith
 Mountview Theatre, 56 Smith St, Macedon
 Bookings: www.themountplayers.com or 5426 1892
 ORIGIN Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. - A Concord Theatricals Company



The Mount Players presents A Bunch of Amateurs in November

Our fourth production for the year opens Friday 1 November; *A Bunch of Amateurs* by Ian Hislop and Nick Newham, directed by Sonja Prater and Craig Lenaine-Smith.

In a desperate plight to save their theatre from developers, a washed-up Hollywood star is flown in to play the title role in King Lear at "Stratford", believing he will be appearing onstage at the legendary RST in Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Instead, he finds he has signed on with the "Stratford Players" in the Suffolk village of Stratford St John. The local villagers are somewhat of a motley crew and are naturally delighted to have a star – albeit an unsuccessful one – playing with them. As acting worlds collide and Jefferson's career implodes, he discovers some truths about himself – along with his inner Lear!

Lots of laughs and great characters guarantee a light hearted wind up to The Mount Players 2024 season. For full details and tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

If you haven't been to our theatre then do yourself a favour and come along. With a fantastic show, complimentary sherry on arrival, a well priced bar and complimentary tea, coffee and treats at interval ... it's great value ... you'll love it!

See you at the theatre.

WRITTEN BY KAREN HUNT

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Out and about



Backman Builders named Business of the Year

Backman Builders took out the Business of the Year award at the 2024 Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards, held last month.

Capping off a stellar night at host venue Mount Macedon Winery, the family-owned and operated local business also won awards in the categories of Excellence in Manufacturing, Trades, Retail and Innovation; and Champion of Social, Environmental or Sustainability Principles.

The biennial, Council-run awards recognise businesses offering an outstanding service to the shire and beyond, and which are of great value to the community in providing local jobs, services and supplies.

A total of 42 businesses entered this year's awards, with 25 finalists chosen by a panel of independent judges. All finalists were also eligible for the People's Choice award, which saw more than 560 votes cast by the public and Gisborne's Three Little Pigs taking out this year's award.

Local personality Shane Jacobson kept everyone entertained as MC and was able to add a number of personal anecdotes recognising businesses well known to him as a customer.

The full list of award winners is as follows:

- Business of the Year - Backman Builders (Kyneton)
- Excellence in Manufacturing, Trades, Retail and Innovation - Backman Builders (Kyneton)
- Champion of Social, Environmental or Sustainability Principles - Backman Builders (Kyneton)
- Excellence in Agribusiness and Food Manufacturing - Rafael's Coffee (Lancefield)
- Excellence in Health, Wellness and Care - Gentle Sensory (Gisborne)
- Excellence in Professional Services - KGMG Creative (Woodend)
- Excellence in Tourism and Visitor Experience - Braeside Mt Macedon Country Retreat (Mount Macedon)
- Small and Thriving - KimCo (Woodend)
- Young Achiever Award - Rebecca Philpot - Bug-A-Lugs Indoor Play Centre and OSHC (Kyneton, Woodend)



Backman Builders, Business of the Year award winners at the 2024 Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards. Pictured (L-R): Dean and Nicole Backman of Backman Builders, Macedon Ranges Shire Council CEO Bernie O'Sullivan and the night's MC, Shane Jacobson. (Photo credit: Angelica James Photography)

SSUBMITTED BY MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

"WE ARE BACK"



Joel Agnelli at Radical Customz has taken over Firebird Motor Repairs.

Garry and Jenni Dudderidge are delighted to recommend Joel for your one stop automotive repairs and servicing.

Firebird Car Wash will be open 7 days a week 8.30am - 8.30 pm daylight saving hours and 8.30am - 6pm winter months. The car wash at the moment is DIY.

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LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATES FOR MACEDON RANGES SHIRE WEST WARD

Disclosure

The New Woodend Star invited all candidates for West Ward in the council election to provide a brief article introducing themselves and their priorities to Woodend and district. Here is the final list of West Ward candidates, according to the Victorian Electoral Commission website, along with an article where the candidate has submitted one.

Displayed in alphabetical order by surname, the articles have not been edited, and are presented exactly as submitted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

You are welcome to the Meet the West Ward Candidates Forum.

When: Thursday 3 October 2024

Where: Norma Richardson Hall, 15 Buckland Street, Woodend

Time: 7pm- 8.30pm

Candidates will have a chance to briefly introduce themselves and then it will be open to questions.

Another Forum organised by Kyneton Connect will be held at the Kyneton Mechanics Institute on Wednesday 2nd October from 7.30pm- 9.15pm



Jennifer Anderson

Hello. My name is Jennifer Anderson. While working part time as a GP I have had the privilege of serving as your councillor for the past 12 years, five of these as Mayor, advocating for a sustainable environment, supporting people to live healthier lives. I have always been and remain independent. I am proud of my contributions to Council policy to improve recycling and biodiversity and reduce our impact on Climate change. In looking towards the future, I will continue to focus on what you have told me is important to you including: mitigation of, and preparedness for, climate change; emergency management; maintaining and improving the safety of our roads; providing healthy public open spaces; affordable housing; mental health; promoting local businesses and our agricultural industry; ensuring food security; waste reduction; supporting volunteers and protecting our natural environment. Planning needs to not only be for today but must set the scene for the future.

Through collaboratively working with you I have demonstrated I can consider all opinions, make important decisions then get things done. Many of us are feeling the rising cost of living, Council included. That's why whilst working on these priorities, it is important that Council explores alternative ways to provide funding and reduce costs.

I remain dedicated to the community and representing you so that together we can create the future we want for the Macedon Ranges.

Vote 1 Jennifer Anderson 0417 112 582 jennifer4westward@gmail.com www.jennifer4westward.net
Authorised by J Anderson P O Box 748 Woodend 3442



Rob Bakes

Over the last thirty years, I have consistently stood up for community through my involvement in many campaigns, petitions and VCAT cases. To learn more, put Rob Bakes into the Facebook search bar and find my authorised page.

The first of these initiatives, decades ago, was the Save Bald Hill Action Group which stopped the sell-off of that ecologically significant reserve by the Kennet government. I am presently the Chair of Kyneton and District Town Square Co-Op which supports the concept of a Town Square in the heart of Kyneton bounded by Mollison, Simpson, Ebden and Baynton Streets.

We also were pivotal in the successful campaign to stop the sell-off of the Old Baynton Street Primary School.

My vision as a Councillor will be to maintain ten minute towns across the Ranges with iron clad town boundaries. Growth must come from well-designed infill development which promotes social connection and strengthens our country town rural values. I will uphold the aims and spirit of the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy.

Authorised by Rob Bakes, P.O. 446 Kyneton Vic 3444.



Callum Keats

'Let's get one thing clear: Bunnings isn't just a shop. It's part of our Australian lifestyle—a DIY paradise where the snags sizzle, tools sparkle, and every aisle whispers, 'Go on mate, you've got this!'

Personally, I'm obsessed. There's nothing quite like roaming that endless warehouse, dreaming up ideas for my next big project. Sure, I should be at home finishing off my last one, but hey—where's the fun in that? And I'm not the only one; my kids love it too—racing around with their tiny trolleys, grabbing anything that's not bolted down, like they're on some Hammerbarn adventure. It's a bit of chaos, a lot of fun, and it's what weekends are all about.

So, imagine my disappointment when the council rejected Bunnings. What were they thinking? That's like banning outdoor BBQs—completely un-Australian! It's time for a change. We need a council that gets us! One that knows a proper weekend just isn't complete without a Bunnings run and a snag on the way in.

Because, at the end of the day, it's not just about hardware—it's about getting outside, getting your hands dirty, having a crack at something new, and keeping that country lifestyle alive. Let's not lose sight of that."

Authorised by Callum Keats, PO Box 107, Kyneton, VIC 3444



Kate Kendall

My name is Kate Kendall and I'm an independent candidate offering a fresh and energised voice for Woodend. I started my campaign in June this year and have been proactively engaging with the community since. I moved to Macedon in 2018: my mother's group and Maternal and Child Health visits were in Woodend – time has flown. I now live in Kyneton on a farm with my husband and three young daughters. One of the reasons I put my hand up for West Ward was my dissatisfaction with the current state of our council. The state of our roads is a continual source of concern. I believe we're not strongly advocating to the State Government for roads not in the local remit such as the Tylden-Woodend Road and the Coles intersection. I recently discovered a Facebook Page from 2015 addressing our dangerous intersections and here we are 10 years later with no action. I also thought removing free green waste disposal at transfer stations was a poor decision. Other councils in our area offer free drop-off for bushfire periods. As a startup founder and CEO, I have a yes, can-do attitude and offer innovative solutions to make things happen. I volunteer as the President of Business Kyneton and am on the board of Tourism Macedon Ranges. I stand for helping families, reducing red tape, genuine community consultation and supporting business. We are missing a younger voice on the council. Vote 1 Kate Kendall for change. Connect @ katekendall4westward or 0436 111 820.

Authorised by K.Kendall. PO Box 834, Kyneton VIC 3444.



Andrea Haintz

Announcing Andrea Haintz as a first time, independent candidate for the West Ward of Macedon Ranges Shire Council Election 2024. A resident of Woodend since 2017, two children at Woodend Primary School with over 4 years on school council, an enthusiastic volunteer at children's sport and owning a small business in Kyneton, I am across the West Ward daily. The 30 years of experience gained in the strategic development of brands and products for some of Australia's biggest retailers has offered successful implementation of organisational learning, service delivery and quality control. All of which I would like to apply in a role on Council.

In Woodend, traffic is obviously an issue with the Coles junction still to be addressed. On page 12 in the Council publication, Woodend Structure Plan & Neighbourhood Character Study (28/05/2014), issues with High Street traffic and intersections were acknowledged. Long before the new Coles was built or opened. This plan is to last until 2036. I have heard numerous issues with building planning delays and/or restrictions despite very limited housing. In 10 years so much has changed, shouldn't our plans be reviewed more regularly? Since State jurisdiction can over-ride local housing plans shouldn't plans be more aligned with State plans and be actionable?

There are other issues, but I would prefer to hear from you! I see you, I hear you and I will be your voice on council.

Please contact me by email to andreaHaintz4westward@gmail.com.

Authorised by A. Haintz, PO Box 595, Woodend VIC 3442



Karan Hayman

Home is a small property on the edge of Kyneton with my family, horses and dogs.

My links with Kyneton go back 44 years - first moving to MR in 1981-84 while a student, returning in the late 80s, and permanently moving back in 2013. I have a diverse working background and have owned and managed 2 small businesses and local holiday accommodation. Primarily I am an artist, painter and have a home based studio.

I would describe myself as practical and down to earth with a realistic understanding about local government's role to provide services, infrastructure and land planning. I have a solid understanding of the planning schemes in the MR and engage with council, councillors and community on the vision for our region's future.

I have acted as a community advocate in land planning and the protection of our environment and waterways, and advocated for The Greenhill to Blackhill Alliance, who are directly impacted by the illegal dumping of toxic treatment water into the The Campaspe River from the antiquated Kyneton Water Treatment Plant. Upgrades are desperately required to protect our waterways.

I am passionate and positive about MR's future growth and development; pro development that is appropriate and sustainable for our unique townships and region; and supportive of urban growth in keeping with the character of our region that respects nature and farmland.

I will engage, support and listen to all in our diverse community and represent all views fairly and honestly.

Authorised by Karan Hayman, PO Box 79 Kyneton Vic 3444



Janet Pearce

I am proud to have represented this amazing community as an independent Councillor over the last eight years, including time as Mayor and Deputy Mayor. It is a joy connecting with so many of you, listening to your thoughts, ideas, and attending community events. This remains a priority for me. Some of the best ideas come from passionate locals and I'm constantly looking for ways to strengthen your access and participation in Council processes and decision-making. I love finding ways to support volunteers and community groups - you are the heart of the Macedon Ranges. I advocate for community at every opportunity. My energy, enthusiasm and commitment are as strong as ever and my knowledge and connections continue to grow. I'm grateful to have raised our family in Woodend for 24 years where we have been involved and welcomed in many groups and sporting organisations. Let's continue to protect the wonderful lifestyle and environment here while carefully planning to accommodate growth and housing, maintain our assets including roads, invest in infrastructure and improve Council communication and services.

I'm a Nurse and Midwife working at Kyneton Hospital and support my husband Jacques who owns a local GP Practice- Ranges Medical. Supporting local businesses and growing our economy is how we ensure our towns stay vibrant and create jobs for us.

Thanks for your continued support and I am always happy to chat- 0400230431. Please Vote 1 Janet Pearce- dedicated, experienced and independent. Our home. Our community. Our Future. Facebook: JanetPearceforWestWard. Insta: janetpearce4westward

Authorised by Janet Pearce 27 Bawden Road, Woodend

1 JENNIFER ANDERSON



Dedicated to the Macedon Ranges



Contact me:
0417 112 582
jennifer4westward@gmail.com



Authorised by J Anderson, PO Box 748 Woodend, 3442

KATE KENDALL

4 WEST WARD

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0436 111 820

VOTE 1

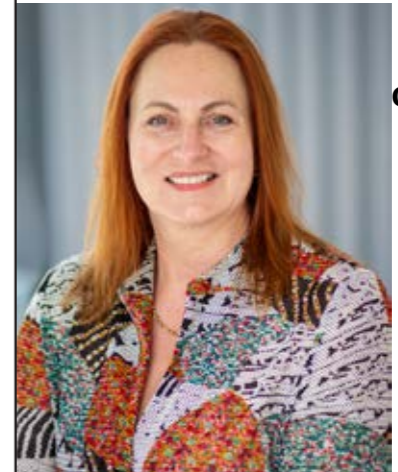


Authorised by K. Kendall, PO Box 834, Kyneton VIC 3444.

JANET PEARCE

VOTE 1

Our Home. Our Community. Our Future.



I want to continue to build on all that we have achieved together, provide stability and continue to invest in the future.

DEDICATED EXPERIENCED INDEPENDENT

janetpearce4westward
JanetPearceforWestWard

Authorised: J. Pearce, 27 Bawden Rd, Woodend VIC 3442

Did you know over 80% of adult dogs and cats have some form of dental disease?

Regular dental check ups and preventative care can help prevent painful diseases and keep your pet's smile happy and healthy. The team at Greencross Vets Macedon Ranges bust some common pet dental care myths and answer some of your commonly asked pet parent questions.

Fluff: Pets don't need dental check-ups

Fact: Regular dental check-ups help catch potential dental issues early. Our vets look for signs of gum disease, tooth fractures and cavities, inflammation and much more, to help prevent pain and severe health problems later.

Fluff: My pet eats dry food. They don't need daily dental care.

Fact: No matter what your pet eats, you should be looking after their dental health by providing additional dental care. Brushing their teeth daily and/or using dental chews, dental diets and other dental products, will all help support good dental health.

Fluff: Poor diet is why pets have bad teeth.

Fact: While diet can be a contributing factor to dental disease, it's not the only cause. Other factors like misaligned teeth, genetics, chewing on abnormal materials, food allergies, and more, can cause gingivitis and predispose to plaque and tartar build up.

Fluff: My pet doesn't need to go under general anaesthesia for a scale and polish.

Fact: Without anaesthesia, it is impossible to fully assess and clean your pet's teeth thoroughly. Anaesthesia allows your vet to safely and thoroughly check and clean all your pet's teeth, especially below the gum line, without inflicting pain or stress.

Fluff: Dental care for pets is too expensive.

Fact: Regular dental care, vet checkups and addressing any problems caught early are often much more cost-effective in the long run, preventing more serious issues and expensive procedures later on. This also ensures your pet's dental health remains in the best condition possible.

Should you have any questions or concerns in relation to your pet's dental needs, we are always here to help.

SUBMITTED BY TERESA LANE



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Neurodivergence Addiction Support Group

A new support group has recently started in Kyneton that is aimed at neurodivergent adults in the Macedon Ranges who are experiencing addiction issues.

The group meeting takes place fortnightly on a Wednesday at 1.30pm at Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health, 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive in Kyneton. The group is facilitated by an alcohol and other drugs counsellor but the group also draws on the lived experience of the participants, who are encouraged to support fellow members of the group.

The group provides a safe, inclusive and non-judgemental space where participants can explore challenges and successes from the previous fortnight.

Current group members report that benefits of attending the support sessions include meeting others experiencing similar problems and struggles, sharing stories, not feeling alone and being able to discuss things that may help, or have worked in others' experience.

The new support group recognises the unique challenges neurodivergent people experience and their strengths, and the importance of providing tailored guidance and support to help overcome addiction. The group is open to adults with diagnosed or undiagnosed neurodiversity and addiction issues.

If you are interested in joining the group, contact Lynsey or Staumn on 5421 1666 or email admin@scchc.org.au

SUBMITTED BY SARAH TURNER.



Free Teen Gym for Year 11 and 12 students

Council is supporting teenagers completing Year 11 and 12 school exams with free access to our Teen Gym program from Monday 21 October until Saturday 23 November.

While students are preparing for and completing exams, stress and anxiety levels may increase, which can sometimes be detrimental to their mental health and wellbeing. The Teen Gym program can offer a release of these pressures while students enjoy the benefit of physical exercise.

Teen Gym can be accessed at Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre (KTSAC) on weekdays from 4–5pm and Saturdays 10–11am, or at Gisborne Fitness Centre (GFC) from Monday to Thursday, 4–5pm or Saturdays from 9–10am.

Our fitness instructors can discuss and document a personalised program with attendees (booking required).

Students aged under 16 years must have parent/guardian written approval on our required paperwork prior to beginning the program. Year 11 and 12 students should present their School Student Card to the centre reception staff to be eligible for the free entry offer.

For information or to make a booking with one of our fitness instructors, contact KTSAC on 5421 1477 or ksac@mrsc.vic.gov.au; or GFC on 5428 3318 or gfc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Catch up on HPV vaccination

Did you or your child miss out on the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine at school? The HPV vaccine is free for children aged 12-13 years through school-based programs and protects against nine types of HPV which cause most cervical cancers, other HPV-related cancers and genital warts.

Australians aged 25 and under who missed getting the HPV vaccine in school can catch up for free through their doctor, local council immunisation service or some pharmacies. If you or your child have missed out on the HPV vaccine, it's important to catch up as soon as possible.

Book an appointment and find out more about the HPV vaccine at mrsc.vic.gov.au/immunisation

Supporting carers in the shire

Council will host a free afternoon tea during Carers Week 2024 for local carers and families in the shire to find out about available supports and meet other carers.

Guest speaker Niki Moko, Carer Support Services at Bendigo Health, will provide in-formation about services available and give tips on how to look after your own health and wellbeing.

1-3pm, Wednesday 16 October, Woodend Neighbourhood House (47 Forest Street). Registrations are essential. Call 5422 0333 or email hshort@mrsc.vic.gov.au

This event is being delivered in partnership with Bendigo Health and Woodend Neighbourhood House.

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Sexual and Reproductive Health Hub in Kyneton to open in October

Work to open Kyneton Health's Sexual and Reproductive Health Hub to the community is progressing, with an expected launch in October 2024.

From October, the Sexual and Reproductive Health Hub in Kyneton will provide access to free Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) clinical services and information in a locally established, supportive and confidential environment.

It will be staffed by experienced SRH Nurses, partnering with GPs, Nurse Practitioners, Advanced Practice Nurses and Specialist services.

The services will include:

- Sexual health education: Screening, and management of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and blood-borne viruses, as well as cervical screening tests with options for self-collection or clinician collection.
- Contraception services: Providing information and counselling on all methods, alongside prescription services, injection delivery, implant insertion and removal, IUD insertion and removal, post-insertion checkups, and emergency contraception.
- Reproductive health care: Pregnancy testing, pregnancy options counselling, and supported access and referral to services covering both medical and surgical termination of pregnancy, as well as follow-up care.
- Our service is for people from any geographical location within Victoria requiring sexual and reproductive health services including:
 - Women, girls, and non-binary people of reproductive age
 - Young people of any gender under the age of 25

In late June, Kyneton Health was selected as one of the final six Women's sexual and reproductive health hubs in Victoria joining the current network of 14 hubs that are already delivering free or low-cost care.

For more information on the Sexual and Reproductive Health Hub ahead of its launch, please email SRHHub@chrh.org.au.

Note: If a referral is required to a partner service, an out-of-pocket cost may occur.

SUBMITTED BY BEN STEEL



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Home Energy Savings: Government Incentives Guide

Navigating the world of home energy incentives can be overwhelming. However, there are three different government incentives in place to support you. Here's a breakdown of each one.

Solar Victoria

This means-tested, Victoria-only scheme offers the following rebates if eligible:

Solar Panel Rebates & Interest-Free Loan

- A \$1,400 rebate to reduce the cost of installing solar panels.
- An additional \$1,400 interest-free loan is also available.

Battery Storage Interest-Free Loan

- An interest-free loan of \$8,800 for installing battery storage solutions.

Heat Pump Rebates

- Solar Victoria offers a \$1,000 rebate for installing energy-efficient heat pump systems, which can significantly reduce your energy consumption.

Note: These rebates are reviewed and may decrease each financial year.

Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs)

STCs are part of a federal government initiative and support both solar and heat pump hot water installations across Australia. There is no eligibility, every business and homeowner can access them.

How It Works:

The amount you receive varies depending on the year and the size of the installation. For example, installing a 10kW solar system could earn you over \$3,500 towards your installation costs. These rebates are reduced every calendar year.

Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates (VEECs)

VEECs are part of the Victorian Energy Upgrades program, which encourages energy-efficient upgrades. This program focuses on what you decommission and what you replace it with.

The incentives available depend on the

appliance being decommissioned and the specifications of its replacement. It's the more complex of the incentives.

Common Applications:

- Replacement of a ducted gas heater with a reverse cycle air conditioner.
- Replacement of a gas hot water system with a heat pump hot water system.
- Replacement of an electric element hot water system with a heat pump hot water system.

Incentives can range from \$350 to \$4,000, depending on the situation.

Download Your FREE Rebate Guide

To find out more about what rebates might apply to you and how much you can get, download our free guide to home energy rebates at www.rebateguide.com.au.

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The following matters were considered and resolved at the August 2024 Council Meeting, held on 28 August 2024:

Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy This item was considered and an alternate motion passed at the meeting, however a Notice of Rescission motion has since been lodged – see separate media statement, also issued on 30 August 2024.

Adopted following community consultation:

- **Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy 2024-2034** The strategy was adopted following earlier community and stakeholder engagement, including a four-week public consultation in June 2024. It outlines how Council will manage, protect, and celebrate the unique heritage of the region.

In the most recent public consultation period, 11 submissions were made by the community and key stakeholders including The National Trust, member groups of the Macedon Ranges Heritage Council, Registered Aboriginal Parties, and the Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid team. Minor updates to the strategy were made as a result.

- **Barkly Square Multipurpose Facility Location** Council endorsed a preferred western option for a new multipurpose facility at Kyneton's Barkly Square, following earlier community consultation.

A total of 71 online submissions were received, with overwhelming support for the western option location. Council will now progress with the design of the future facility, with construction subject to future budget funding.

Other matters:

- **Plan for Victoria submission** Council endorsed a submission to the Victorian Government's Plan for Victoria proposal, relating to a new land use strategy that will guide how Victoria grows and develops in the period to 2050.

Council's submission outlines how the Plan should support the Macedon Ranges community, economy, environment and landscape.

Council reinforces that Plan for Victoria must have regard for the Macedon Ranges' status as a declared distinctive area and landscape and ensure the continued implementation of the Macedon

Ranges Statement of Planning Policy. Council's submission also references the importance of Council's priority projects, Climate Emergency Plan (2023-2030) and other recently endorsed key township plans, including the Riddells Creek Movement Network Plan (2024-2033), Kyneton Movement Network Plan (2024-2033), Gisborne Futures Structure Plan (July 2024) and Romsey Structure Plan (May 2024).



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- **Community Awards Review** Council endorsed a change to the timing and format of the annual Community Awards, to better align and streamline the process alongside other relevant annual awards.

Under the changes, from 2025 onwards, the Community Awards – and others such as the annual Youth Awards – will be held together in May to coincide with National Volunteer Week. Categories will be refined to allow for a broader range of activities and age groups in the community to be recognised.

- **Management of unsealed roads within township boundaries** – Council endorsed a report containing recommendations for the future management of unsealed roads within township boundaries.

Council manages about 860 kilometres of unsealed roads, with about 76 kilometres of those within township boundaries. Over the past five years, factors such as floods, storms and increased traffic have caused a significant rise in the number of requests for maintenance to unsealed roads.

Recommendations included undertaking an unsealed road network condition audit to inform the future management of Council's unsealed road network; trialling a 'Light Pavement and Spray Seal' solution for suitable unsealed roads within township boundaries; and proceeding with a Special Charge Scheme process for Noonan Grove in Woodend under the previous policy.

Video recordings of past Council meetings are available at webcast. mrsc.vic.gov.au (generally available within two business days of a meeting).

SUBMITTED BY BODEY DITTOFF

Be part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival!

Business and event submissions are now open for the 2025 Autumn Festival, which will be held from 1–30 April. We are seeking Food & Drink Trail participants, along with a range of signature events (including markets, workshops, exhibitions, guided walks, tours, etc).

Food & Drink Trails:

- Take part in Australia's Biggest Pie & Tart Trail. We'd love to see more local seasonal produce featured within pies. Venues must have a permanent street address.
- Do you produce wine, gin, or another fermented or distilled alcoholic beverage? Take part in the Tipple Trails and hero a signature beverage at your venue.
- Would you love to celebrate a signature plant-based meal as part of the Edgy Veg Awards? (With thanks to the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group).

Also, if you are a hospitality venue, you can additionally submit individual events for the Festival – think degustations, tastings, and exclusive food/drink events. Could it be a workshop on how to make the flakiest pie pastry, venue openings/launches, or making those signature cocktails?

Tourism Events:

Does your event align with the Autumn Festival and seek to leverage the season? Would it appeal to visitors from Melbourne or further afield? Could it take place between 1–30 April 2025? Whether it's an exclusive local fashion launch, art exhibition, signature foodie experience, market, exhibition, tour, workshop, or otherwise, we'd love to hear how you could take part in next year's Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival celebration.

For information and to submit your interest by Friday 18 October, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/autumn-festival

Sports clubs score grants boost

Grassroots sporting clubs will be able to apply for a new round of grants to help break down participation barriers and get more people involved in community sport.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas announced recently that applications were open for the Sporting Club Grants Program, with grants of up to \$5,000 for clubs to improve the skills and knowledge of volunteers, coaches and officials – helping clubs across the state to empower and enhance the experience of volunteers.

Grants of up to \$4,000 are also up for grabs to help clubs delivering a new sport or active recreation program.

Clubs can also apply for grants of up to \$1,000 to purchase uniforms and equipment, and \$750 travel grants are available to help clubs participate in competitions away from home.

The Sporting Club Grants Program has injected more than \$17 million into thousands of community sport and recreation clubs across the state since 2015.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said of the program,

"I encourage all our local sporting clubs across Macedon to apply." The program is backed by the Regional Community Sport Development Fund that is delivering infrastructure upgrades and other programs including the Regional Community Sport Infrastructure Fund to help more regional Victorians get active and be part of their local sporting club.

Applications close 7 October 2024. For more information and to apply for Sporting Club Grants Program visit sport.vic.gov.au.

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



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Knit, Chat and Cuppa

Third Wednesday of the month from 11am, Norma Richardson Hall next to the Woodend Primary School.

Come along to knit your own garment or squares, which we make into knee blankets to be donated to various charities.

Yarn and needles provided if needed. See you there!

SUBMITTED BY SYLVIA MATHEWS

School Saving Bonus will help busy families

Families in the district will be able to spend the School Saving Bonus on more when the Victorian Government's once-off \$400 bonus becomes available later this year to all students at government schools and eligible non-government school students.

Mary-Anne Thomas announced that the School Saving Bonus – which can cover the costs of uniforms, camps, excursions, and other extracurricular activities through the year – can also be spent on textbooks.

The \$400 School Saving Bonus can be accessed later this year, so families have time to plan and budget for the 2025 school year.

The once-off bonus will be available in November 2024, and will be applied for each child, so a family with three school children will receive \$1,200 in support to spend on school costs.

No family with a child in a government school will need to apply for their bonus: it is free, automatic and universal.

In Term 4, families will receive a code granting them access to the bonus. They will get to choose how much of the funds they want allocated to a uniform and textbook voucher, and how much they want to use on school activities – like camps, sports, excursions, graduations, and other eligible programs.

The voucher for uniforms and books will be redeemable at a school-approved uniform or textbook supplier, while funds that families allocate to school activities will be managed through the school.

The voucher can be combined if families have children at different schools but use the same supplier for uniforms and textbooks. Families can also use the voucher to buy second-hand uniforms and textbooks directly from schools.

Non-government school families who are eligible for the means-tested Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (including healthcare and concession card holders) are eligible for the School Saving Bonus. Their application process will be the same as that for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.

For families of students at non-government schools, the \$400 will be provided directly to each school – to be managed in consultation with the student's family and in line with the intent of the program.

Ms Thomas said, "Our \$400 School Saving Bonus will help ease the pressure on household budgets – and help local students get the most from their education."

For more information on the \$400 School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus

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



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October digital workshop series for business



Could your business or workplace benefit from you improving your skills in online design and communication, building a website, or discovering how search engine optimisation can help grow your customer base?

Council is running three face-to-face workshops in October designed for businesses to gain an introduction and learn more about these topics.

These two-hour workshops can benefit new or established businesses and will be run by Karlie Plowman from Techno Bird.

Canva for beginners

10am–12pm, Thursday, 17 October

An introductory course to get started on Canva and learn design basics.

How to build a website

10am–12pm, Thursday 24 October

An introduction to the Shopify and Wix platforms for beginners, to teach you how to build your own website.

Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) for beginners

10am–12pm, Thursday 31 October

An introduction to search engine optimisation (SEO) for new or established small businesses.

All three courses are located at Kyneton Community House, 35 High Street, Kyneton. Bookings are essential. For more information such as costs, and to register, visit mrcs.vic.gov.au/business-events

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Hawks claim back-to-back A-grade netball premierships



The Woodend-Hesket Football Netball Club A-Grade netball team claimed back-to-back premierships in the Riddell District Football Netball League on Sunday 15 September.

Playing against the Riddell Bombers for the second year in a row in cold windy conditions with a huge crowd watching, the team were focused but excited to be playing in the grand final again. The Hawks started strongly with full-court defensive pressure and were steady and accurate in goals. The Hawks were leading 26-18 at half-time but Riddell was not going to give up and reduced the margin to only four goals at three-quarter time. Supporters were hoping it would not be a repeat of the nail-biting 2023 final when Riddell got a run on and closed the margin. Again, the team steadied and with some excellent intercepts in the defensive end and impressive goal shooting, the premiership cup was secured. The final score was Hawks 46, Bombers 41.



As the final siren sounded, the huge Hawks crowd erupted, and the team and all of the supporters were overjoyed. It had been a wonderful team effort from all players, not just in this game but across the season. Sam Coppinger was named Best on Court after her outstanding game in centre for the full match. Playing coach Ty Coppinger was ecstatic with the win, having set the team the task of going back-to-back. For a club whose netball department was virtually non-existent in 2016, claiming successive premierships is an outstanding effort and credit goes to everyone who has helped to get the netball to where it is today. Congratulations to Ty and all of the team on an outstanding season and to Kellie Duff, Brenda McDonald, Lia McQualter and Joel Dwyer for all of their support. This year, all



five netball teams played finals and the senior women's football team played off in the preliminary final. While the reserves and seniors didn't make finals this year, they are already looking to 2025. The club is extremely proud of all of the players, coaches, assistants, trainers and team managers, who worked so hard to get our teams to the finals, as well as getting the teams on the oval and court each week.

The club could not function without the tireless help of our volunteers. Whether it be on game day, Thursday nights or behind the scenes, we are extremely grateful for their contribution and commitment to the club.

Thank you to all of the club's sponsors, but especially our major sponsors, who through their financial support of the club, we are able to provide the best possible experience for our players and supporters.

Finally, to all of our members and supporters right across the Woodend community and beyond, we hope you enjoy the premiership success. Go Hawks!

SUBMITTED BY PAUL PODBURY, PRESIDENT WHFNC



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Woodend Hawks Junior Football and Netball Club news

Off the cusp of a very successful football and netball season, we are pleased to announce our under 15B football team brought the flag back to the Nest this year.

A big congratulations to all the boys, coaches, team manager and parents involved.

Over the weekend of the 24 and 25 August, we held our two presentation events. On the Saturday night we hosted our U17's teams Football and Netball players upstairs at the Vic Hotel in Woodend for their end of season awards and to wish the players who are top age all the best for their future endeavours.

On Sunday 25 August, we held our Annual General Meeting alongside player presentations for the season. A new committee was elected to lead the Junior Football Netball Club for the 2025 season. Danielle Galle has been re-appointed President, with Emma Tuck to serve as Vice President. Jodie Warner was re-appointed as Secretary, as Sam Bennett as Treasurer. Joining them on the general committee is an amazing bunch of enthusiastic people with the insight of building on the success of last season and making 2025 a stronger season again. Our committee is committed to promoting a welcoming, safe and friendly atmosphere within the junior club.

WATCH THIS SPACE

The wheels have already started turning for the 2025 season and registrations will open in November 2024. EOI for both Football and Netball coaching positions are open, if you have any interest in coming on board, please contact president@woodendhawks.com.au.

SUBMITTED BY DANIELLE GALLE



Photo: September was an extremely significant month in the MRSPAG calendar, as we acknowledge World Suicide Prevention Day with our Annual Walk in Woodend.

Ava Ryan's State Selection

Twelve-year-old Ava Ryan from St Ambrose Parish Primary School in Woodend has been selected by School Sports Victoria to represent the State in the U12 girls soccer team, after attending a regional and two state trials.

Ava along with 13 other girls will be off to Western Australia in October for a week, competing against other states in the national championship.

Ava began her love of soccer by joining the miniroos program in Woodend, aged five. From there, Ava joined Gisborne Soccer Club (GSC) in 2020 as an U8, playing her first year of Metropolitan competition soccer. Ava has continued to play for GSC, playing U13's A this year.


Ava's parents say she has been fortunate to be involved in a local soccer club that has provided her with a great foundation and opportunities to develop her skills. Ava's selection into further development programs, such as the Melbourne Victoria pre academy, and Football Victoria Skills Acquisition Program are a testament to the coaching that Ava has received and her drive to continually improve her game.

A huge thank you to GSC, committee and president Carl Valeri for the continued support and encouragement provided to Ava over the last four years.


A "FundAva" raffle has been put together by her club. Please visit www.raffletix.com.au/fundava to help Ava get to the national championship.

We wish Ava and Team Vic all the best in the upcoming National Championship.

SUBMITTED BY U13A COACH, GISBORNE SOCCER CLUB




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New grass green up and running



The long-awaited work to replace the flood-destroyed grass surface has finally been completed, thanks to a 12-month rebuild in the expert hands of specialist company True Turf. This follows the replacement of our flood-damaged carpet green some 12 months ago.

This means that the Woodend Bowling Club will now have two high quality bowling surfaces – grass and synthetic.

Members have begun playing and practising on the new green in preparation for the forthcoming Pennant season.

A huge thank you to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and contractor True Turf for getting the greens completed in time for the new season.

If you're interested in trying one of our new state-of-the-art surfaces please get in touch to organise a free trial.

Season Opening day – Sunday September 22

The Woodend Bowling Club has officially opened the new green and the new Pennant season at the Club, with special guests including Macedon Ranges Shire Councillors and Recreation staff who helped with the replacement of the greens.

We will report on the formal opening of the new green in next month's *The New Woodend Star*.

The new Pennant season gets under way soon, with our Saturday Division 2 and 3 teams starting on October 5, while our Tuesday Division 1 and 3 teams will start on October 22.

Gemlife friendly match returns

Several years ago, the bowlers at Gemlife invited the Woodend Bowling Club

to a social competition at the new Gemlife bowling rink, to thank the Bowling Club for their help in getting started. The Gemlife team proved too good on the day and won the Perpetual Trophy. The Woodend Bowling Club issued a return invitation with the match won comfortably by the bowling club for the last two years.

The now annual match will take place again this year on the club's Opening Day. We will also publish the result in next month's *The New Woodend Star*.

Thinking of trying lawn bowls?

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

call and we can organise a trial session. Or, if you have never thought of giving it a go, why not come and try? We can provide everything you need to get started, including bowls to use and coaching.

Check out our website and Facebook page

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLS CLUB

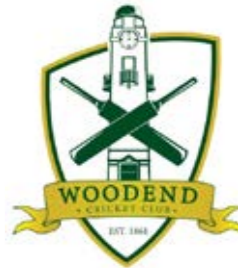
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Exciting times ahead for Woodend Cricket Club!



Cricket season kicks off on 5 October, and we're thrilled to invite you to join us at Gilbert Gordon Oval from 1pm to 6pm as our First XI will face off against local rivals Macedon, in what promises to be an exhilarating start to the season. This season, we're excited to welcome both familiar faces and new additions to the club, including bolstering our bowling attack with Joe Monk joining us from Oswestry in the UK and James Morley making a return.

Preseason preparations have been outstanding, with our Head Coach Josh Eastley setting the pace and bringing a lot of enthusiasm, professionalism, purpose



and direction. Regular training resumes this week on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Gilbert Gordon Reserve, and we're excited to host technical coaching sessions with Brett Cavigan and Gavin Mackay on the first Tuesday of each month. For those eager to join the action, training sessions are held at Gilbert Gordon Reserve on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5-7pm. Reach out to Josh Eastley at 0419 720 195 for more details. Their expertise will also benefit our Junior Coaching Team, providing top-notch support for our coaches and players. Don't miss the Community Coaching Course by Cricket Victoria at Gilbert Gordon Reserve, Woodend on October 13 – limited spots are still available, so contact the club for more information on how to participate. As we gear up for a fantastic season, we also look forward to the start of our junior season and the start of the Senior Third and Fourth XI matches next week on Saturday 12. Our Under 13 Girls team will make their season debut with a Friday night fixture on October 18 – an exciting time for our club!

Make sure you register!

Registrations are now open for both junior and senior players at Woodend Cricket Club! Whether you're a budding cricketer aged 5-9 eager to join Cricket Blast, a junior player ready to tackle Under 11s, Under 13s, or Under 15s, or an adult looking to join one of our competitive or social senior teams, we welcome you to be part of our cricketing family. Signing up is easy and ensures you're ready to hit the ground running as the season starts. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of the action and create lasting

memories on the field. Register now and join us for an exciting season ahead! <https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/org/woodend-cricket-club/12b3e7d2/register>

Our Leadership Team!

We are proud to announce our Senior Cricket leadership team for the 2024-25 season:

- Head Coach: Josh Eastley
- First XI Captain: Marcus Stewart
- Second XI Captain: Brett Gardner, Vice-Captain: David Robinson
- Third XI Captain: Jamie Walker, Vice-Captain: Scott Vernon
- Fourth XI Captain: Stewart Black, Vice-Captain: Dale Ranson

Our Child Safety Officer – Jess Horan



We would like to introduce you to Jess Horan, who has been a part of the club for a number of years now, including taking on the committee role of our Child Safety Officer. On top of this, she does a wonderful job as scorer for the McIntyre Second XI and also her son's junior team – she's a busy lady! Australian Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People' is in place to ensure that cricket creates a safe, fair and inclusive environment for all Children and Young People associated with our sport from Affiliated Associations and Clubs through to Australian Cricket programs and



services. As a part of Australian Cricket, we are all committed to ensuring that Safeguarding Children and Young People is central to the development of our game. A nationally endorsed Policy focused on Safeguarding Children and Young People, provides greater support to community cricket clubs and associations, helping everyone understand their responsibilities when around children, and how to report any incidences of abuse. If you are unhappy with the way you, your child or another child is being treated speak to your parent/guardian or to Jess (Woodend Cricket Club Child Safety Officer) on 0431 288 138 or email her at jimmyjess-jj@hotmail.com Woodend Cricket Club will treat any complaint or allegation of Child Abuse, Bullying, Harassment or other inappropriate conduct seriously and with a high degree of sensitivity and confidentiality. All matters will be dealt with in accordance with the CV Member Protection Policy Guidelines.

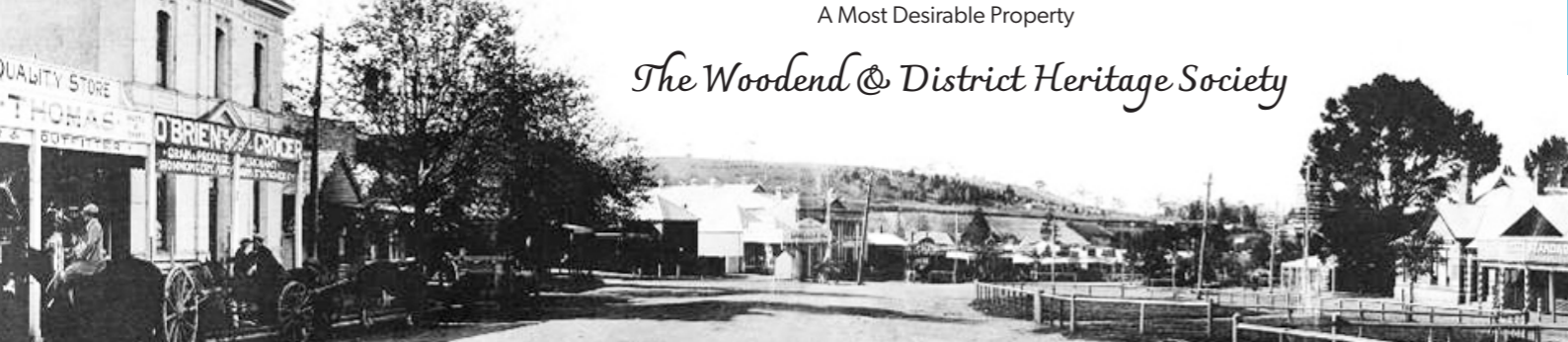
Don't forget the Social Calendar!

Our social calendar is brimming with excitement this season. Join us for our first Family Dinner of the season on Saturday, October 12, as we celebrate the return of cricket and welcome Joe and Ashlyn to the Woodend Cricket Club! The evening promises delicious food, lively music, and plenty of fun for the whole family. Dinner will be served from 6.30pm, so come along to enjoy a great night and get to know our new international guests as they settle into life in Woodend. Other events this season will include a Junior Trivia/Puzzle Night, Family Dinners with Live Music, Comedy Night, a Community Christmas Party with Outdoor Cinema, and our Pink Stumps/Ladies Day. Join us as we kick off another thrilling cricket season and make unforgettable memories at Woodend Cricket Club!

SUBMITTED BY DANIEL HEANEY

REGISTER PLAY HQ





Charcoal burners – once a very important industry

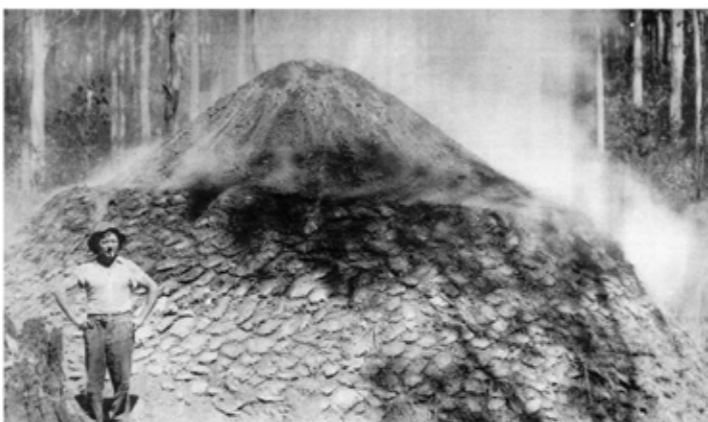
Bull boars, cheese, claret, hard-boiled eggs and bread was the staple diet of many charcoal burners in the Macedon Ranges. From the late 1800s until after World War II, many small-scale and larger burners operated in the forest. Some built a hut near their kiln from the timber at hand and, sometimes, with an iron roof.

Charcoal was made in kilns, called retorts. Styles varied, but the most common was a number of logs stood up in a cone shape, with a tube of stringy bark in the middle and kindling at the bottom. The fire was lit by pouring hot coals through the tube at the top. When burning well, the hole would be covered with earth to exclude air. The burners had to ensure that the fire did not break out of the kiln, when they would have to shovel more earth on to seal the hole. Wood that is burned without oxygen becomes charcoal, which was burnt in forges by blacksmiths and in furnaces instead of coal.

When the smouldering logs had become charcoal, they were removed, crushed and bagged. In larger operations, the kilns were made from bricks and metal. In his memoirs, John Hickey from East Trentham, with help from brother Bill, remembered many of the burners; Bill Taylor who only had one leg and had a hut at the back of the Hickey farm; Jack Birrane of Ashbourne, who stacked the wood in a huge hole like a dam, covered it with tin and then dirt, which all had to be removed when the charcoal was ready. Some of the burners were Italian.

In about 1934, Caesar and Tony Nesa came from Rome to Australia to escape the call-up. Tony's hobby was making walking sticks from wattle roots, which he sent to old people's homes and hospitals. For many years, the remains of their huts were highlighted in spring by flowers such as daffodils and jonquils. Charcoal burning was hard, particularly for the Italians with little English. With the introduction of gas and electricity, the need for charcoal declined, leaving only the remains of huts and retorts until even they were obliterated by bushfires.

Photo 647: During World War II, more charcoal was needed for gas producers, fitted to the back of many cars and providing fuel during the years of petrol rations. Here Clarrie Donald stands beside his kiln.



SUBMITTED BY JANE HOLTH

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Year 7 Reading Program: Building Strong Literacy Foundations

Sacred Heart College's Year 7 Reading Program is designed to foster a love of reading while building essential literacy skills for academic success. As students transition from primary to secondary school, the program plays a vital role in helping them develop strong reading habits that will serve them throughout their education and beyond.

The program emphasises independent reading, encouraging students to choose books that interest them. Each week, time is dedicated to silent reading this includes during homeroom, English classes, and fortnightly library sessions. By giving students the freedom to select their own books – whether fantasy, science fiction, or biographies – Sacred Heart College nurtures positive reading experiences and a lifelong passion for literature.

At the heart of the program is The Hillary Collection, an extensive library located in the Year 7 area, offering a wide variety of books to cater to different interests and reading lev-els. Students access this collection during English lessons and homeroom, with additional opportunities to explore new genres during library sessions. This rich resource helps students broaden their literary horizons and fosters a sense of ownership in their reading journey.

In addition to promoting a love of reading, the program integrates literacy strategies to support student growth. For those who need extra help, targeted interventions such as small group instruction and one-on-one support address key literacy challenges like flu-ency and comprehension.

To create a strong reading culture, Year 7 students participate in

an activity where they share their favourite books, which are then displayed in a word cloud above The Hillary Collection. This visual display personalises the reading space and strengthens the community's engagement with literature. A further activity providing connection to the literary world is the whole College annual celebration of Book Week including the ever-popular book character dress up competition.

The Year 7 Reading Program at Sacred Heart College not only nurtures a love for books and the wellbeing opportunities these provide, but also develops critical literacy skills that are essential for success across all areas of study. By combining student choice, targeted support, and a vibrant reading culture, the program lays a solid foundation for lifelong learning.

Kellie Boorman, Year 7 Learning Area Leader

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER BALDWIN



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Junior School Showcase

Thursday 17 October, 4:00pm - 7:30pm

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

- Year 7 Project Respect
- Year 8 Make a Difference Projects
- Year 9 Major Projects

Scan for more showcase information

