

The New Woodend Star

Rotary  Club of Woodend

November 2024
Volume 28 | Issue 10



'A bunch of amateurs' acting as The Stratford Players putting on King Lear in a sleepy village in Suffolk, UK. What could possibly go wrong?

Actors L to R: Iris Mentor (sitting), Craig Lenaine-Smith, Chenoa Eljan, Karen Hunt, Tania Knight, John Taranto and Chris Sliwczynski (sitting)
Photo: Bruce Hedge | See article page 4

First published 1997 – by the community, for the community

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**Council is looking for
 volunteers to join its
 Aged Care Volunteer
 Visitor Scheme (ACVVS).**

The free program supports
 people living in aged care
 residential facilities or
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 Volunteers are matched
 with individuals with similar
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- Personal Growth

- Flexibility
- Training and Support

Who Can Volunteer?

Anyone with a desire to
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 the life of an older resident.
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Local community hosts nationally significant conference



The Macedon Ranges community proved capable of hosting
 conferences of national significance when almost 200 people from
 around Australia attended the 2024 Rural Australians for Refugees
 conference last month.

The biennial conference's sold out opening night at Kyneton Town
 Hall featured an address by international award-winning author
 Behrouz Boochani and a presentation by two-time Archibald Prize
 finalist artist Mostafa Azimitabar; both Kurds who fled Iran under
 fear of death only to find themselves denied refugee status and
 held for more than six years on Manus Island. Boochani, who was
 denied permanent settlement in Australia, is now a resident of NZ.
 Azimitabar, despite his growing reputation as a contemporary artist
 in Australia, is here on restrictive short-term visas and under constant
 pressure to leave.

Former Australian Human Rights Commission President, UNHCR
 Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees and RAR Patron, Gillian
 Triggs was critical of the Australian model of detention of people
 seeking asylum designed to deter refugees, and spoke of the

growing pressures from war, famine and climate change that continue
 to displace millions of people globally every year.

The weekend conference sessions at Sacred Heart College Kyneton,
 saw RAR members from 75 groups, including Grandmothers for
 Refugees, and many more allies of refugees travelling from around
 Australia to participate.

While acknowledging some important reforms that had occurred,
 such as the resolution of status for 19,000 people held for up to
 ten years on temporary visas, conference speakers pointed to the
 extremely restrictive nature of current policies, which continue to
 disadvantage people once they reach Australia, and called for urgent
 reform to address the protection of all refugees and people seeking
 asylum, regardless of their country, faith, ethnicity, or other factors.

David Manne, principal Solicitor and Director of Refugee Legal, spoke
 of the deterrence policy approach, which is contrary to the welcome
 for refugees inherent in Australia's character and history.

"Research consistently reveals sustained and very strong public
 support for our refugee resettlement program. This support has
 consistently reached 80%. But the truth is that harm and inhumanity
 still pervade our refugee policies." Manne said.


"We're just at the start of the road to fundamental reform so crucial
 to the rights and lives of people seeking asylum and refugees.
 While we've seen some progress, it doesn't come close to meeting
 international obligations and the values that underpin them:
 humanity, compassion, fairness and justice."

Chair of Macedon Ranges RAR, Jean Ker Walsh, said the conference
 was acclaimed by attendees as a success. "For me, the highlight
 was working over the past year with the Shire, the College, and with
 local RAR members so committed and generous with their time and
 creativity. We have welcomed some new members and are ready to
 welcome more. There is more to do as allies of refugees. Do join us!"
 Visit <https://www.macedonranges-rar.org/>

Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Sacred Heart College
 Kyneton were lead partners with the Macedon Ranges RAR group.
 Community Bank Gisborne was the major sponsor. SSI (Settlement
 Services International), Woodend Rotary, Woodend Community
 Bags group, local wineries Paramoor, Domain Epis and Granite Hills,
 Woolworths Kyneton and Watts Fresh provided other funding and
 in-kind support. Local caterers included FED and Monsieur Pierre in
 Kyneton.

SUBMITTED BY MACEDON RANGES RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES

**September was slightly drier than average
 at 58.2 mm for a year-to-date of 552 mm**
 by Peter Yates



Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	av 5yr
January	73.6	92.6	140.8	177	134.2	91.8
February	67.8	32.4	2.0	27.4	11.8	28.3
March	79.6	47.0	73.2	47.0	2.0	49.8
April	139.8	15.2	89.6	92.5	97.0	86.8
May	79.0	83.0	39.4	56.0	51.8	61.8
June	80.1	183.6	84.8	121.8	38.8	101.8
July	49.3	115.6	52.4	57.8	104.8	76.0
August	93.0	56.0	130.8	47.8	53.4	76.2
September	56.3	72.8	150.2	28.8	58.2	73.3
October	99.5	102.0	234.6	70.4		
November	54.4	91.2	107.0	74.8		
December	42.4	45.0	37.6	120.2		
Total mm	914.8	936.4	1142.4	762.2	552.0	

NB: averages vary due to rounding

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.





Don't miss the final show for 2024... it's a hoot!

The theatre is winding up its 2024 year with an English comedy where, in a sleepy village in Suffolk, The Stratford Players prepare for their production of King Lear. As you will expect, not everything goes to plan, especially for the American 'star' who is brought in to help save the humble theatre from the developers. He thinks he is in Stratford-on-Avon, birthplace of the Bard ... how wrong he is!

A *Bunch of Amateurs* will have you smiling and hopefully laughing out loud as you watch these delightful characters work towards presenting their show to the Stratford community. A real 'feel good' show! Something we all need right now!

The show runs from 1 to 17 November. Complimentary sherry, free tea, coffee, and treats are available at intervals. The bar offers drinks at very reasonable prices. You'll love it.

To book tickets and for everything theatre, visit the website www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892..

Did you know

The Mount Players theatre company was officially formed in 1972 by a few passionate thespians putting on one-act plays at drama festivals. In 1975, they obtained a lease for the old Presbyterian Church in Smith Street, Macedon, and so the theatre was born. Sadly, this was lost in the Ash Wednesday fires of 1983, and after Seven long years of hard work and fundraising by the dedicated committee, the current theatre was finally completed on the same site and opened in 1990.

Since their humble beginnings, they have staged productions non-stop, putting on hundreds of shows and entertaining thousands of audience members. From huge musicals to intense dramas, hilarious comedies and intriguingly contemporary pieces they have gained a passionate following at their unique Mountview Theatre in Macedon

For more on the history of The Mount Theatre, visit www.themountplayers.com/history

See you at the Mountview Theatre

SUBMITTED BY KAREN HUNT



Photo:ABOA Lear & Fool - Craig Lenaine-Smith and Tania Knight

'Free to be me' photography competition



A photography competition that aims to challenge restrictive gender stereotypes and expectations is central to Council's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign this year.

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

The theme of Council's photo competition is 'Free to Be Me': 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 male or female roles or spaces.

Council's Director Community, Maria Weiss, said the competition provided an opportunity to get people in the community proactively involved in raising awareness of the issue.

"Photography has the power to transcend words and touch hearts. We believe that with this competition, we can start a conversation about respect and raise awareness about preventing gender-based violence," she said.

Submissions are invited until 8 November and anyone over 12 years of age who lives, works, or plays in the Macedon Ranges can enter (note: parent/guardian permissions may apply for photographers/subjects under the age of 18).

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.

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

The photo competition is among a number of initiatives Council will be supporting as part of the 16 Days of Activism, with others including financial wellbeing workshops for women and a themed StoryWalk, storytimes and collection displays through local Goldfields Libraries.

Visit <https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Events-and-Awards/16-Days> for more information.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN, MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

"Cadella Park" - Circa 1845

107-109 James Road, Woodend North

Cadella Park, a premier property in the Macedon Ranges, is rich in pastoral history, situated on 135 acres (54.74 ha) of highly fertile pastures and featuring two superb residences. Cadella Park's renowned past includes stabling 1933 Melbourne Cup winner, 'Hall Mark', amongst prominent thoroughbred racing stables and an internationally renowned Murray Grey stud. In more recent times, it has been the destination for chic weddings and celebrations and now awaits its next custodians to an exclusive and private sanctuary set amidst exquisite formal gardens with mature European trees, equestrian facilities, extensive outbuildings, and limitless opportunities.

Features:-

- Circa 1845 original settlers' cottage;
- 100+-year-old elm tree driveway with rare historical trees;
- Simon Rickard garden design and incredible event space;
- 8 bedrooms;
- 5 bathrooms;
- 10 car spaces.

For sale by Expressions of Interest, closing Friday 15 November at 2pm (unless sold prior)

Price Range \$5,500,000-\$6,000,000

"Cadella Park" Circa 1845 - <https://www.boundrealestate.com.au/listing/2503955>



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Zonta says NO to violence

Monday 25 November is the International Day for the elimination of violence against women and 10 December is Human Rights Day. The 16 days that begin and end on these dates are recognised internationally as the '16 Days of Activism' to prevent violence against women.

Violence against women has an impact on communities throughout Australia. On average, one woman a week is murdered by her current or former partner and intimate partner violence is the leading cause of death, disability and illness for Australian women aged 18-44 years.

The Zonta Club of Kyneton will work with Macedon Ranges Shire Council and with other community groups to raise awareness of gender-based violence, challenge discriminatory attitudes and encourage community-based support for those living with violence through a program of activities.

In Kyneton, the Zonta Club will have a display in the community window on Mollison Street, and across the Shire and will work with local libraries to highlight the impact of violence against women. In Woodend, the Zonta Club will support financial workshops that will be held at the Woodend Neighbourhood House as a part of the 16 Days of Activism.

On Saturday 30 November, the Zonta Club of Kyneton will host an orange-themed 'pop up' event at the Social Foundry in Kyneton from 10am to 12 noon. Everyone is warmly invited to attend, wearing a touch of orange, and learn more about the 16 Days of Activism to prevent violence against women while sharing a cuppa and cake with Zonta's passionate members.

Wherever you are on 25 November, please wear something ORANGE and say NO to violence against women.

If you would like to know more about Zonta and how we are 'Building a Better World for Women and Girls,' contact the Zonta Club of Kyneton through our social media platforms (Facebook or Instagram) or email zontakyneton@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY DONNA FABRIS



The Ultimate WOODEND Gift Voucher & LATE NIGHT SHOPPING THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28 UNTIL 9PM

SHOP LOCAL TO WIN!!

During November and December, shop at participating local businesses for your chance to WIN the Ultimate Woodend Gift Voucher!

Simply shop and get your card stamped from 10 participating businesses.

Two winners will be drawn for the Ultimate Woodend Gift Voucher prizes!



TWO WINNERS! Over \$2,500* in vouchers DRAWN 14 DECEMBER

Visit our website for full details

3442

woodendvictoria.com.au

*Total prize pool of \$2,500 includes both Food/Hospo and Retail prizes

Plastic Free Bali: A collaborative effort for lasting change



Woodend Rotary Club is partnering with the Rotary Club of Bali Seminyak and the environmental group Yayasan Biosfir Indonesia on a project to end plastic waste in the environment surrounding West Bali National Park.

We read a lot about the problems that plastic is causing throughout Indonesia and the surrounding waters.

This project is a bold endeavour to change the way businesses, households and tourists manage waste in their region. Adopting a philosophy of reduce, reuse and recycle the project aims to provide knowledge and support infrastructure that allows people to stream their waste and prevent plastics from entering the environment.

The project team, led by project coordinator Rosa Halldorsdottir and project manager Dwi Kadek, will soon be training local women as educators, who will visit every business at least twice and go house to house to provide each household with two bins and training on how to separate plastics and general waste into the two bins.

In order to ensure long term sustainability the project team is working with the local villages to arrange waste collection services and to improve conditions at local waste management facilities.

Once waste is being properly sorted, the villages will gain an income stream from the sale of the recyclables.

The team is also training staff at waste facilities to make compost from the organic waste delivered by businesses. The compost is then sold to local farmers to improve soil quality and provide another income stream.

The Plastic Free Bali Project is made possible in part by a grant from The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

The Rotary Club of Woodend is actively involved in a number of projects to promote peace, health, education and the environment in Australia and overseas.

If you would like to know more, please visit our website www.woodendrotary.org.au

SUBMITTED BY DEIDRE WILLMOTT, FOR WOODEND ROTARY



Two of the facilities where the team has been working with staff to improve their efficiency and capacity to manage the additional waste that they will manage.

Top photo: The Compost structure completed .September 2024
Bottom photo: TPST Sumberkima after clean up painting and building shelving



Mortgage Choice Woodend's Nathan Newlan wins 'Best New Broker' award

Nathan Newlan from Mortgage Choice Woodend has been named as the best new broker in Victoria and Tasmania.

Nathan saw off strong competition in a field of ten nominees at the Better Business Awards, run by the respected mortgage and finance magazine The Adviser.

The awards recognise brokers' commitment to excellence and dedication to serving in their clients' best interests.

Nathan said, "I'm a huge believer that when you enjoy what you do and genuinely care about why you're doing it, you get the best out of yourself. It's nice to see this turn into results for our clients."

"Working in a regional area highlights the importance of building strong relationships and trust, too."

"Clients around here value the relationship and trust over the transaction itself a lot of the time. Getting to know and help such a variety of people is what makes it fun."

Nathan joined Mortgage Choice Woodend after four years with the Commonwealth Bank. He has built a strong reputation for his

level of service, as shown by the many glowing client testimonials and Google reviews.

Nathan said, "It's a great feeling being nominated for awards like this, let alone being fortunate enough to take this one home."

"It's awesome to have won the New Broker of the Year in 2024. I'm excited to see what comes next."



Photo: Nathan with his award

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Save on firewood and protect your property from bushfire

The fallen trees from the 2021 storms are now dry and ready to burn – both in your fireplace and, unfortunately, in a bushfire. Clearing them from your property is critical to reduce fire risks.

Five reasons why cleanup is essential

1. Reduce fuel load: Dead trees and debris act as fuel for bushfires, intensifying their spread. Clearing this fuel lowers fire intensity and makes it more manageable.
2. Prevent fire spread: Fallen trees create pathways for fires. Removing them slows down the fire, giving more time for response.
3. Ensure emergency access: Large debris can block access routes, delaying firefighting efforts. Clearing these ensures safe access for emergency vehicles.
4. Protect buildings: Debris close to structures increases fire risk. By creating defensible space, you reduce



the chances of fire reaching your home.

5. Reduce ember attack risks: Fallen trees, often covered in dry grass, are prime ignition points for ember attack. Clearing these reduces the risk of secondary fires.

Other Benefits:

Aesthetic appeal: A clean property looks well-maintained and can increase its value.

More usable space: Removing fallen trees frees up land for other uses like recreation or landscaping.

Our Solution:

Ranges Wood Cutting provides a dual service: clearing your property while turning the fallen trees into firewood. We charge based on the number of cubic meters of firewood produced so you can guarantee you'll get lots of value from our service. What's more, it's often cheaper than sourcing firewood on its own.

Save time, money, and effort while ensuring your property is safer and better prepared for the next bushfire season.

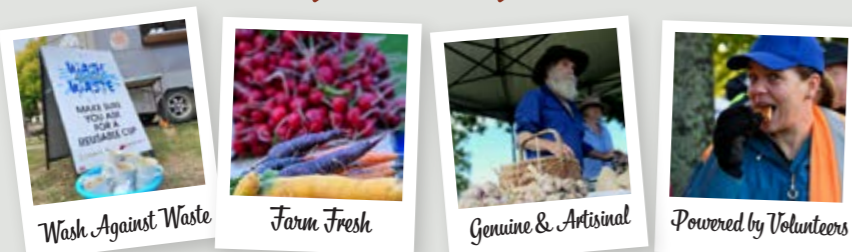
For more information Visit rangeswoodcutting.com



Want this to be your backyard?

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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



Macedon Ranges Environment Events

Citizen science Clover Glycine survey

Black Hill Reserve, 1 November 10am–12pm

Join local volunteer citizen scientists to survey the rare and threatened species of Clover Glycine at Black Hill Reserve. The reserve has an expanding population of this pretty plant, which is only visible over spring before disappearing back into the ground before the summer heat arrives.

Koala Count at Hanging Rock

18 November, 10am–12pm

Come along as a citizen scientist to walk the Hanging Rock grasslands or summit on the lookout for koalas. Bring your smartphone, and learn how to contribute to Hanging Rock Reserve's biodiversity data by recording sightings in the iNaturalist Australia app.

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

Healthy Landscapes events

Farm Walk – Highland cattle

Newbury (near Trentham), 7 November, 6–8pm

Join us on a property using a rotational grazing system with their small stud of Highland cattle. The owners have started their journey to understand their carbon position by doing the initial baseline steps themselves.

Grass guide webinar

Online, 19 November, 7.30–8.30pm

Do you want to know the tricks of the trade to identify grasses? This webinar will step you through how to use the guide to the Grasses of Central Victoria in the farm paddock or bush to help identify common grass species.

Grass identification field days

Session 1: Greater Bendigo area – 28 November, 10am–12pm

Session 2: Macedon Ranges – 4 December, 10am–12pm

Session 3: Clunes – 12 December, 10am–12pm

Using our Grasses of Central Victoria guide, our skilled grass identification practitioner will show you:

- how to use our new grass identification guide in the field
- traits of grassland plants
- how to identify native and exotic plants in the field
- how to identify important weeds in the region.

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



Jeffreys Street planting day



On Sunday 13 October, Woodend turned on a beautiful day for our last major planting for the year.

Landcare volunteers were joined by local families and the shire Bushland Reserves Officer, Martin Roberts, in adding more than 600 new plants to revegetate the area between the tennis club and exercise track. This is Stage 1 of the Black Gum BiLink Enhancement Project, sponsored by Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Bendigo Bank, that aims to expand and protect the threatened mature Black Gum trees while creating habits for native insects and animals over the next few years.

The area suffered a lot of damage in the storms of 2021, so we added some replacement Black Gums, together with a range of understorey plants, which will enhance both the visual amenity and increase the area's biodiversity.

Part of the planting also entailed installing over 100 native tussock grasses along the walking track, which it is hoped will develop into an attractive soft border between the track and the site.



Next working bee

9am–12pm Sunday 24 November, on the south side of Five Mile Creek between Wood Street and Bowen Street, where we will be attacking woody weeds. This will be our last bee for 2024, so a celebratory feast is in store for all who attend. Details will be on our blog – woodendlandcare.org

SUBMITTED BY PETER YATES

My efficient electric home handbook



The Sustainable Homes Action Group co-hosted Tim Forcey, founder of the "My Efficient Electric Home" Facebook group, in an author talk in Woodend library last week. Tim's book *My Efficient Electric Home Handbook* is available for purchase through ecoMaster and for loan from the library.

Induction Cooktops – proposed rebates

Good news for those concerned with the health impact of cooking with gas (which is estimated to be responsible for up to 12% of Australia's childhood asthma burden). The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA, Vic) is proposing to introduce rebates within the Victorian Energy Upgrades program, commencing on 25 October 2024. A draft consumer factsheet explaining the proposed rebate is available online at engage.vic.gov.au/download/document/37043.

In brief: the proposal is to introduce rebates for changing from gas to approved induction cooktops (including some range-style cookers but not portable models). The rebate value will be around \$140 and a minimum copayment of \$200 will be required.

Reminder - Information Sessions Coming Up

Electrify 3442 and GREG (Go Renewable Energy Group) are running information sessions on solar and batteries to assist households. The sessions are FREE but need to be booked. The remaining sessions are:

Solar 101: An 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: An 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!).

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

SUBMITTED BY SUE BARKER, MACEDON RANGES SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

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Join the adventure:

1st Woodend Scout Group seeks passionate volunteer for Group Leader role!

If you've ever been to the Log Cabin Café on the Kings Birthday weekend or had a snag at the break of day on Anzac Day, you'll know that 1st Woodend Scout Group has a long history, spanning 98 years, of providing fantastic activities for our young people and support to our local community.

We are a long-standing, energetic group of committed adult leaders and fantastic young people, currently seeking a dynamic volunteer to step into the exciting Group Leader role. Our current acting Group Leader, Chris Eagle, is stepping back into his Assistant Group Leader role.

Supported by two capable Assistant Group Leaders, fantastic section leaders, the parents Committee and our Scouting families, the newly appointed Group Leader will lead our group, which boasts 95 youth members ranging from 5 to 25 years of age.

The voluntary Group Leader role entails overseeing the recruitment of new Scouts and adult volunteers, leader training coordination, risk management, setting the overall direction of the group and working alongside local leaders to support the community.

No Scouting or management experience is required. Scouts Victoria, alongside the Committee and leaders, can share and teach all that is required.

Not only does Scouting provide youth-led fun and adventure, it gives adults the chance to support the development of our next generation. This is a brilliant opportunity for anyone passionate about our young people and our community, who wants to make connections and give back. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

For further information check out, <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/age-sections-adults/volunteer-in-scouts/> or reach out to Chris Eagle on 0428 592 502 / gl.1stwoodend@scoutsvictoria.com.au for more information.



New entrance enhances Bald Hill Reserve experience



The main public entrance to Bald Hill Reserve has been developed, following a decade of collaboration between the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve and Council.

The 96-hectare forest, woodland and grassland reserve, located about six kilometres east of Kyneton, is an ecologically, geologically and culturally significant site in the Macedon Ranges, featuring diverse indigenous flora and fauna, including state and nationally significant species.



In 2018–19, the Mt St Mary's Lane Entrance Area Master Plan was developed by the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve in collaboration with Council, aiming to provide a welcoming and accessible entry to the reserve while preserving and enhancing its environmental values. Funding was initially received through Council's 'Places for People' Grant in 2017–18.

Council supported the revitalisation project through a capital funding allocation of \$100,000 in 2018 to deliver key infrastructure features in phase 1 of the Master Plan implementation. This included an accessible entrance with a primary pathway and elevated boardwalks to connect to the network of walking trails. The manual installation of the concrete boardwalks reduced compaction to environmentally vulnerable areas whilst protecting the habitat of the Brown Toadlet, a rare and threatened frog species located in the area.

Further funding was secured over three years consecutively through Council's Funding Scheme Grant program (2021–2024; \$12,000 each year, totalling \$36,000), enabling the construction of a new shelter and seating at the entrance, the design and installation of Taungurung welcome and interpretative signage; wayfinding signs; and a picnic setting near the shelter.

Donations were also received from Lisa Chesters Federal Member for Bendigo (\$250), and the Rotary Club of Kyneton (\$500). An early Landcare start-up grant covered the cost of a brochure, while the Kyneton Men's Shed donated a brochure box.

Council's Acting Director Planning and Environment, Rob Ball, thanked all involved in supporting the project over the years, particularly the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve as its driving force.

"This really was a community-driven project and is a great example of how positive outcomes can be achieved when the community and Council work together," he said.

"The new entrance includes elements that reflect the community and pay tribute to the Taungurung peoples, the Traditional Owners of the land."

"New signage at the entrance, created by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser, shows people coming together and going about daily life on and around the reserve."

A celebration to mark the completion of the project will be held at 10am on Saturday 9 November 2024 at Bald Hill Reserve.

Anyone interested in attending the free event can find further information at <https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/See-Do/Events-and-Awards/Whats-on-around-the-shire/Bald-Hill-Reserve-Entrance-Revitalisation-Celebration>

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN. MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



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Woodend Golf Club 100th Annual Tournament

We had the privilege of sponsoring and attending Woodend Golf Club's 100th Open Tournament held over three days, which attracted around 180 registered players, both locally and from across Victoria.

The club committee and volunteers are doing a stellar job in maintaining the grounds, as you can see from the condition of the course!

Community Bank Trentham & Districts has been a significant supporter of the club, contributing to upgrades including path signage, and the upcoming clearing, revegetation, and eventual community use of the disused quarry space on the grounds.

Last year also saw women's golfing initiatives supported, bringing in new memberships and participation for the ladies.

Get down to the club for a round or join up!

When you bank with us, you invest in your community.



Safe space coming to Woodend

When dedicated organisations like Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group team up with amazing partners like the Woodend Neighbourhood House, incredible things happen!

Thanks to funding from Community Bank Gisborne & District, passionate volunteers are making their vision of having a community-led safe space in the Macedon Ranges a reality.

This welcoming, non-clinical drop-in centre – opening soon at Woodend Neighbourhood House – is designed for those experiencing emotional distress. Here, individuals can find a compassionate environment where they feel heard, supported, and understood. The calm and safe space will encourage reflection, with peer workers available to share their experiences and offer empathy.

Operating times of the space will be announced soon and include evenings and weekends.

Head to <https://www.mrspag.com.au/safe-space> or scan the QR code for more information about this project.

If you or someone you know needs support, contact Lifeline 13 11 14 | Text 0477 13 11 14 (24/7) | lifeline.org.au or Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 | beyondblue.org.au/forums



Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group is opening a community-led safe space at Woodend Neighbourhood House. Photo: Nikki Barker.



Celebrating Evolve Windows: The 2024 AGWA Showroom of the Year

In an era where sustainability and accessibility are paramount, the 2024 AGWA Showroom of the Year award has been rightfully bestowed upon Evolve Windows. This accolade highlights not just the aesthetic appeal of their showroom, but also the innovative principles that drive their design and functionality.

Evolve Windows has redefined the showroom experience, creating an environment that is both inviting and inspiring. Their commitment to sustainability shines through in their choice of materials; the main displays, constructed from recycled shipping containers, are a testament to their dedication to environmental responsibility. Each container serves as a unique exhibit, showcasing a different series of windows and doors, while also being thoughtfully designed to spark creativity in customers.



Visitors to the Evolve showroom are treated to more than just a selection of products; they are immersed in a space that encourages them to envision their dream homes. The design of the showroom caters to a diverse clientele, from those seeking traditional homes to individuals interested in alternative living solutions like container homes and tiny houses. This focus on accessibility ensures that Evolve Windows remains relatable and relevant in today's evolving market.

Evolve Windows has indeed created one of the most distinctive window showrooms in Australia. Their innovative approach highlights their full suite of offerings and serves as a blueprint for the future of showroom design. In a world increasingly leaning towards sustainability, Evolve Windows stands out as a beacon of inspiration and excellence, making them truly deserving of the Showroom of the Year Award.

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COME & SEE OUR AWARD WINNING SHOWROOM!



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News from the Woodend Neighbourhood House.

Reverse Advent Calendars

Woodend Neighbourhood House's hugely popular Reverse Advent Calendars are back for a fourth year. Last year, more than 70 boxes were sent to people in the community experiencing food insecurity or hardship, but we need your help filling them.

Unlike a regular Advent Calendar where the focus is on receiving a treat every day, the Reverse Advent Calendar encourages participants to place an item a day into the box in the lead up to Christmas (non-perishable food, toiletries or a Christmas treat). After 20 days, the filled Reverse Advent Calendars are returned to the Woodend Neighbourhood House for distribution. Contact the House to register your interest in filling a box – or receiving one.

Emergencies, insurance and you

We're delighted to welcome ARC Justice and Macedon Ranges Shire Council to the Woodend Neighbourhood House for a discussion on how to make sure you are legally prepared for a disaster. The session will cover steps to take before, during and after an emergency, how to manage the claims process and where to get additional help.

Please join us for this important session on Thursday 14 November at 10.30am. Registrations are preferred to help with catering (morning tea provided).

Art Club for Kids

We're delighted to welcome local artist/educator Penelope Cato to the Woodend Neighbourhood House for a brand new Art Club for Kids. Penelope brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the House and leads children aged 7+ through a series of creative classes that includes sketching, weaving, printing, painting and drawing. Wednesdays at 3.45pm until 5pm. Contact the House to secure your spot.

Social Connections

Join us for the November Community Lunch (Tuesday 12 November at 12 noon) or Chatty Cafe (Tuesday 26 November at 10am) for good conversation with friends, old and new. Contact the House for more information.

Wellbeing for Body and Mind

As the busyness of the 'end of year' takes hold, it's a good time to take stock and prioritise your own wellbeing. We have spaces in the following classes:

- Mindfulness and Meditation – Mondays at 2pm
- Gentle Hatha Yoga – Mondays at 2.15pm
- Hatha Yoga – Wednesdays at 9.30am or 7.30pm
- Yoga for Seniors and those with Chronic Conditions – Wednesdays at 11.15am
- Kids Yoga: Calming Connections – Wednesdays at 4.30pm
- Teen Yoga: Strengthening Souls – Wednesday at 6pm
- Rise and Shine Hatha Yoga – Thursdays at 7am
- Gentle Yoga, Qi Gong and Guided Meditation – third Sunday at 3pm
- Woodend Kirtan – fourth Sunday at 5pm

Woodend Food Bank

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.

Donations are also very welcome via the collection bins in Coles and IGA in Woodend and cash donations can be made in person or via bank transfer. Contact the Woodend Neighbourhood House between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday to donate.

For more information about any of our upcoming activities, workshops, courses, or events, drop by the house, visit our website www.woodendnh.org.au or call 5427 1845.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA BAKER



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



David Gormley-O'Brien: An Attractive Naivety

Saturday 9 November, 11.15am

Come along for a chat and a cuppa with local writer David Gormley-O'Brien as he discusses his historical novel, *An Attractive Naivety*. Inspired by real people and events, the story follows the lives of three generations of an Australian family living through the turbulent first half of the 20th century.



Book sales and signings. Bookings required.

The reviews for *An Attractive Naivety* so far are extremely glowing.

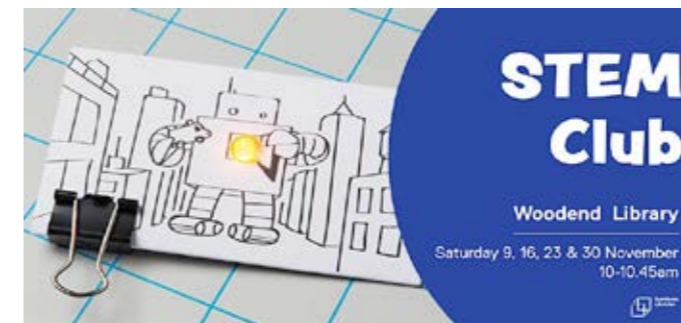
See <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/216780749-an-attractive-naivety--australia-as-a-new-nation-in-a-complex-world> For more information about the book and author see <https://nihilalienum.au>



Brain Training Games

Wednesday 13 November, 11am

Test your memory and tease your brain with a range of different games and challenges for computers and smart devices. BYO device. Bookings required.



Saturday, 9, 16, 23, 30 November at 10am

Join us for an exciting four-part series of STEM Lab activities designed to spark curiosity and inspire young minds! Perfect for budding scientists and enthusiastic tinkerers aged 7+ years. Bookings for all four sessions is essential.

Exciting Market Day Storytime and book launch

Saturday 7 December at 10.30am

Join us for the final Market Day Storytime of 2024, featuring a new children's book by beloved local author, Dee White. Kaz has planned a session filled with festive fun, laughter, and the chance to meet the author as Dee launches her latest creation and discusses the picture book writing process.

The Library is closed for Melbourne Cup Day holiday Tuesday, 5 November.

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

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 124 High Street Woodend

5422 3325
 5427 1222



Open Day at Woodend CFA Sunday 10 November

Woodend CFA is holding an open day at the fire station in Urquhart Street on Sunday 10 November, from 10am to 2pm.

This is a great opportunity for our community to come and see the impressive facilities at the CFA and SES, to meet some of your local emergency response volunteers and find out more about what we do.

This year we have decided to broaden our horizons beyond just the CFA and have invited other local emergency services to become involved. This means that visitors will get a much broader perspective of first responders and emergency services provided in the Macedon Ranges.

The CFA will be joined by the Woodend SES, who are also opening up their station, and other emergency planning and response organisations.

- Discuss your Fire Plan and summer safety
- Learn how to prepare for the forthcoming fire season
- Have a look at our facilities and fleet of emergency vehicles
- Interactive education sessions on fire safety
- Games and demonstrations for the children to enjoy
- Live firefighting demonstrations ... with real fire
- Take a tour of our FireWise garden
- View the new Brigade Memorial
- Find out about becoming a CFA and SES volunteer
- Find out about our new CFA Juniors Program for children aged 11 to 16
- We're hoping Captain Koala will make a visit
- FREE Sausage Sizzle

And so much more!

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 2 November 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



Message from your local Police Sergeant

It can be a little bit difficult to write about the current issues in Woodend for the local paper, as the authors have to submit their pieces some time in advance; these local publications are not daily news. I've been caught out a few times writing about stuff and when it comes to publication, the time has already passed.

My point is, recently there has been a spate of thefts from motor cars at the southern end of Woodend. This might have had something to do with the school holidays (hence my reference to timeliness). However, there was certainly a theme with most if not all of these: the offenders were successful because something wasn't locked, be it a house – they stole the car keys from inside the house or the car itself. Yes, I'm that annoying scratch on a record/CD (I'm exposing my age with this reference) making the same point repeatedly in these articles. "Lock it or lose it" is the message. Believe it or not, most modern cars and houses have easy locking systems, it's usually just the press of a button or turn of a doorknob and you have 90% prevented a theft from our area.

Yes, most of the people in Woodend are law-abiding people who wouldn't dream of stealing from within their community. Unfortunately, there's a dual-lane freeway that connects some rather large population centres whose residents are not as respectful and law-abiding as those from Woodend. It takes no time at all whilst commuting to diverge and do a little shopping at your expense.

The repeated message here is: "Please lock it up."

SUBMITTED BY DAVID ARNOLD, SERGEANT WOODEND POLICE



Roadside maintenance

Did you know that each year, Council slashes around 1,000 km of roadsides for fire prevention?

Fires can start on roadsides due to hot vehicle exhausts, mechanical failures and collisions. We slash high-use roadsides to reduce the chances of these incidents resulting in a fire. Typically, 80 per cent of traffic uses 20 per cent of our roads, so those roads are targeted as a priority.

Council contractors have commenced roadside slashing in Malmsbury and will gradually work their way south, to provide initial coverage of the shire.

Giant pumpkin competition returns for 2025



Get ready, Woodend!

The annual Woodend Lions' pumpkin competition is back for 2025, and this time it's set to be bigger and better than ever, and proudly sponsored by the Woodend Produce Store.

Whether you are a seasoned pumpkin grower or just getting started, this is your chance to claim the title of pumpkin-growing champion and win a prize from the Woodend Produce Store.

But the competition isn't just about bragging rights – it's also about giving back to the community. Last year, a whopping 43kg of pumpkins were donated to the Woodend Neighbourhood House, and this year promises to be even more fruitful.

Pumpkin-growing veteran John Rowe and his grandson Jack took the crown last year with a staggering 14.7kg pumpkin. Their secret? A mystery hybrid variety. But you don't need special seeds to grow giants – Queensland blues are a local favourite known for their impressive size.

For those seeking to grow for glory, now is a great time to get your pumpkin seeds in the ground.

Here are the Lions' top tips for growing prodigious pumpkins:

- Pumpkins love full sun and lots of space
- Train them to climb or let them sprawl but make sure they are well supported
- Plant seed in compost-rich, well-drained soil and space them 1.5 to 2 metres apart – they grow fast!
- Water deeply for strong roots and plant marigolds nearby to attract pollinators. Keep the soil moist and add liquid seaweed fertilizer every two weeks.
- Once your pumpkin sounds hollow when you knock, it's harvest time.

Whether you are growing for glory or just for fun, don't miss your chance to be part of this year's giant pumpkin showdown. The Woodend Produce Store has everything you need to get started - from seeds and seedlings, to manure, fertilisers, mulch and expert advice. Visit them at 31 Brooke Street, Woodend to get your pumpkin growing essentials.

So, what are you waiting for? Ready, set, grow!

SUBMITTED BY GAIL JONES ON BEHALF OF WOODEND LIONS

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Supporting local families in need this Christmas through local businesses.

A group of local organisations is partnering again this year to offer gift cards to local businesses in the Macedon Ranges to support local families in need during the festive season and is seeking financial donations to make it possible.

Families will receive Macedon Ranges Gift Shop Gift Cards that have a set amount for each child, and that can be redeemed at participating local business partners. The program hopes to have as many businesses on board, offering as many products and services as possible.

The amount of gift cards and assistance able to be provided per child will depend solely on the financial donations received.

The program's representatives say that donations need to be received by 18 November to enable them to distribute the gift cards to families at the end of November.

Macedon Ranges businesses interested in participating in the Gift Card system, can contact the group by finding them on Facebook, or by contacting Georgina Harvey, Macedon Ranges Gift Shop Coordinator on 0404 442 891.

Community organizations Kyneton Baptist, Sunbury Cobaw Community Health and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council are partnering to support local families in need at Christmas, serving families in the Macedon Ranges for 14 years.

Your New local destination for all things Kids & Baby!

Clothing, swimwear, books, toys, activities, shoes, hats, gifts and more!
From the team at Woodend General.

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Sat & Sun 10-4pm

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Woodend Seniors Club

As October was Seniors Month with free activities on offer, members went by bus to a concert in Castlemaine on Thursday 10 October. The main entertainer was Amber Joy Poulton singing songs by country music legends.

Our next bus trip is on Thursday, 14 November, to the Bendigo Talking Tram and surface tour of the Central Deborah Gold Mine. The cost is \$61 to be paid by Wednesday 6 November. Please support the bus trips.

Come and join us in the Undercroft of the Woodend Neighbourhood House, entrance through the gateway off Margery Crescent.

- Tuesday 1pm to 3pm for Button Bingo, a cuppa and a chat
- Friday 1pm to 4pm for a game of cards

Please note the next meeting of the club will be conducted on Tuesday 12 November as an extension of the Annual General Meeting, as key positions within the club were not filled. The main positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer

Your attendance would be greatly appreciated. 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).

SUBMITTED BY ALMA ON BEHALF OF WOODEND SENIORS GROUP

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Is your pool or spa barrier compliant?

In accordance with Victorian law, as a pool or spa owner you must ensure the safety barriers comply with the requirements of the Building Regulations 2018 (<https://www.vba.vic.gov.au/consumers/swimming-pools>)

To ensure compliance you must:

- organise an inspection of your pool barrier by a registered swimming pool inspector
- rectify any issues identified from your pool or spa inspection and obtain a Certificate of Barrier Compliance (CBC, also known as a Form 23)
- lodge the CBC to Council via the online portal and pay the lodgement fee by the nominated due date.

If you own a pool or spa, it is your obligation to have the barrier inspected every four years and submit the CBC to Council by the due date.

Learn more at mrsc.vic.gov.au/pools-and-spas or contact the building department on 5422 0333 or building@mrsc.vic.gov.au.

The first 72 hours after an emergency event: community-led resilience plans

Council has been working with seven communities in the Macedon Ranges providing support enabling readiness in the first 72 hours after an emergency event has occurred.

The Victorian Government has provided funding to local governments to assist communities to be aware of local services available to them prior to emergency activations.

'Community Readiness' can be as much as understanding who can provide immediate short-term accommodation and food and water services, as well as who is available to assist with communications and power back-up like generators.

Communities are creating individual documents outlining who and what is available locally, with contact information accessible by the Emergency Management team at Council, who can assist if power and communication are impacted.

Following the 2019-20 Black Summer fires and 2022 floods, it was identified that communities themselves are the best supporters of community immediately after an emergency, and that when a community is prepared for an emergency, support can be offered immediately.

Please contact Council's Community Resilience Officer for further information on 5422 0333.

Dog walkers reminded to do the right thing

Council's Local Laws officers are increasing their presence at popular dog walking locations, in response to strong community support for more enforcement in this area.

Council continuously receives community complaints regarding dog walkers ignoring the on-leash requirements and failing to pick up after their dog.

In January 2020, Council became an on-leash shire, meaning dogs in public places must be on a leash, except in designated off-leash areas. (Note: all footpaths in the shire are dog on-leash, even those in designated off-leash areas. This is to ensure the safety of other footpath users, including pedestrians, cyclists and others).

It is also a legal requirement to pick up after your dog and to carry bags – or a suitable device – for the collection of dog poo from your dog.

Dog walkers not adhering to these requirements risk on-the-spot fines.

Local Laws officers will be enforcing both the dog on-leash and dog poo collection requirements. The current fine amount for walking your dog off leash in an on-leash area is \$198, while the fine for not picking up after your dog or for failing to carry a dog poo bag with you is \$395.

If out walking your dog, please do the right thing. Remember to take your dog poo bags with you and adhere to the dog on leash areas to avoid a fine.

For more information about dog on-leash requirements, designated dog off-leash areas, and your responsibilities as a dog owner, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/pets

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN, MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



Central Highlands Orienteers' Twilight Series returns

CHOCs Twilight Series offers an exciting opportunity for adventurers of all ages and abilities to explore local towns.

Held on Wednesday evenings from 6–8pm, this family-friendly event guarantees fun and exploration while challenging your fitness.

Participants can choose from courses ranging from 3km to 9km, with a time limit of up to 60 minutes to complete their chosen path.

There is a small charge per participant, and parents can shadow their children at no extra charge.

Each event uses coloured maps and electronic timing to enhance the experience.

The series takes place at different locations, starting in Macedon on 13 November, followed by Sunbury on 20 November, Woodend on 27 November, Romsey on 4 December, and concluding in Gisborne on 11 December.

For more details, visit <https://centralhighlands.weebly.com/>, email centralhighlandso Orienteers@gmail.com or call Wendy on 0439 433 665.

GO EXPLORE

Twilight Orienteering

An adventure activity the whole family can enjoy. All ages and fitness welcome

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS \$5 per participant

NOV 13th	MACEDON	Ash Wednesday Park
NOV 20th	SUNBURY	Galaxy Lands
NOV 27th	WOODEND	Information centre
DEC 4th	ROMSEY	Lions reserve
DEC 11th	GISBORNE	Jackson creek reserve

Registrations 6.00pm - 6.30pm
Starts 6.30pm - 7pm
Courses close 8pm

Up to 1 hour to complete your adventure
Coaching, maps & electronic timing included.



SUBMITTED BY GO EXPLORE TEAM



Calling all tourism businesses and events in the shire

November is here and the festive season is fast approaching. We'd love to see our local tourism and event operators make the most of the free Visit Macedon Ranges website, which reaches over 400,000 users per year.

Business operators – Please check that your business information, trading hours, and images are up to date on the Visit Macedon Ranges website ahead of summer and autumn. Log in to Operator Admin to check your listing/s. Forgotten your password? Request a new one or contact us.

New listings – Listings are free and provide an opportunity for local tourism businesses based within the Macedon Ranges to reach over 400,000 users per year, not to mention our social media and email newsletter following. Tourism businesses without a listing can sign up free too. To list your business, visit visitmacedonranges.com/sign-up

Events – Whether you are a business operator hosting exclusive seasonal events, or a standalone annual event operator, we want every tourism event based within the Macedon Ranges to appear on our website. If you are an existing business operator with a one-off event, you can add it after you log in to Operator Admin. One-off/annual tourism events can list for free too. To list your event, visit: visitmacedonranges.com/list-your-tourism-event

If you notice any new or existing Macedon Ranges tourism businesses missing from our website, tell us about them at visitmacedonranges@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Property inspections

Council's Municipal Fire Prevention Officers have begun inspecting properties around the shire and will be issuing notices to landowners that require fuel reduction works to be completed.

Officers will be checking for fire hazards such as unmaintained long grass, excessive woodpiles or other debris.

Officers may issue Fire Prevention Notices where necessary. If a property owner does not comply, they may face an infringement of nearly \$2,000 plus any costs associated with completing the required works.

If you plan on baling grass and receive a notice, please let us know by completing the application for extension on the back of the notice.

If you are grazing stock, you must demonstrate that the number of stock is sufficient to reduce the risk, and if not, you may be required to do additional fuel reduction work.

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-heat to find out more about how you can prepare ahead of summer.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE CHAPMAN, MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



Contact Vlad 0400 563 563
E: info@storagewoodend.com.au
22 Wood Street

SECURE SELF STORAGE UNITS

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

— NOVEMBER —

- 1..... Fairytale STEM Storytime, Woodend Library
- 1-17 A Bunch of Amateurs Mount Players
- 2 St Mary's Guild Street Stall
- 2 Electrify 3442—Solar 101
- 2-3 Duneira Estate Bluebell Festival
- 2 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 2 St Mary's Guild street stall
- 2 Lions Community Market
- 2 Electrify 3442, Solar 101, Introduction to rooftop solar
- 7 Farm Walk—Highland Cattle
- 9 David Gormley-O'Brien: *An Attractive Naivety* - Library
- 9 Stem Club - Library
- 9 Kyneton Horticultural Society
- 10..... Woodend CFA Open Day
- Remembrance Day Service - Woodend RSL
- 13..... Brain Training Games - Library
- 14-24..... The Buttlejork Artists exhibition
- 16..... Stem Club - Library
- 16-17 Budburst Macedon Ranges
- 17..... Hazelmere Open Day
- 18..... Koala Count at Hanging Rock, MRSC
- 20 Knit, Chat and Cuppa, Norma Richardson Hall
- 23 Cool Climate Cinema - Norma Richardson Hall
- 23 Carlsruhe Country Fair
- 23 WAAF performance, Violinist Davide Monti
- 23 Stem Club - Library
- 24 Woodend Landcare working bee
- 25 .. International Day for elimination of violence against women
- 27 Go Explore, Twilight Orienteering
- 30 Stem Club - Library

— DECEMBER —

- 4 Electrify 3442—Home Batteries 101
- 7 St Mary's Guild street stall
- 7 Woodend Farmers' Market
- 7 Lions Community Market
- 8 KTH events, Tim Rogers in Concert
- 10..... Human Rights Day
- 20 Community Carols, on the Lawns at St Mary's Woodend
- 24 Christmas Day
- 26 Boxing Day

Read us online: www.newwoodendstar.com/view

Cool wines and warm hearts at Budburst Wine Festival

16-17 November, 2024

Discover the cool wines and warm hearts of the Macedon Ranges winemakers at Budburst, the much-anticipated annual wine festival, returning over the weekend of 16–17 November 2024.

On Saturday and Sunday, from 10am to 5pm, indulge in wine tastings paired with curated food menus celebrating local produce. Immerse yourself in the Macedon Ranges with a vibrant mix of art exhibitions, sculpture walks, and live music performances.

Attendees can create their own bespoke experience by choosing to travel independently around the Macedon Ranges' picturesque country roads and mountain ranges. Alternatively, they can connect with one of the various local wine tour companies and relax, knowing they are in experienced hands.

More information about what the wineries will have to offer over the weekend can be found at <https://www.macedonrangeswineandfoodfest.com.au/participating-wineries-2024>

Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.macedonrangeswineandfoodfest.com.au/budburst>

This year, the Budburst bus loops have already sold out! However, we have partnered with some of Victoria's leading wine tour companies to help attendees explore the many wineries over the weekend.

Discover more information about the tour options at <https://www.macedonrangeswineandfoodfest.com.au/budburst-buses>

Enjoy the full Budburst experience at venues such as 600 Above, The Cosmopolitan, and The Albion, which will showcase local wines and more through their Budburst offerings.

SUBMITTED BY OLIVIA BURTON



Kyneton Town Hall events

Tim Rogers Live in Concert

4–6pm, Sunday 8 December 2024

Thirty-one years after setting off on the great rock'n'roll adventure with You Am I, Tim Rogers is still operating at the top of his game, writing songs as rich and memorable and as heart-breaking as any he has ever written. The songs he writes are a soundtrack for a lot of lives of others too. Don't miss this special Christmas show with Tim in an intimate, raw and live performance to remember all summer long and for years to come.



Soweto Gospel Choir – Ho pe

7.30–9pm, Friday 14 February 2025

Out of the darkness comes a new dawn! This all-new concert by three-time Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir commemorates South Africa's Freedom Movement and the Civil Rights Movement in the United States.

Bringing joy to all, 'Hope' opens with a rousing program of South African freedom songs that inspired their Rainbow Nation. Then the choir's uplifting performance moves to the United States with beautiful renditions of the music of the Civil Rights Movement, including works by legendary artists Billie Holiday, James Brown, Otis Redding, Curtis Mayfield and the one-and-only, Aretha Franklin. Get ready, 'Hope' is a concert that will live forever in your hearts!

To purchase tickets to Kyneton Town Hall events, visit mrc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802 (10am–4pm, weekdays).



Cool Climate Cinema Returns to the Macedon Ranges in 2024

The Macedon Ranges Film Society has selected a program for its 2024 short film festival to be held on 23 November at the Norma Richardson Hall, 15 Buckland Street, Woodend.

The screening will comprise films from both Australian and international directors and has been curated to provide a range of thought-provoking, innovative and humorous topics.

The venue doors will open at 4pm and the show commences at 4.30pm. A bar serving a range of drinks at bar prices will be open for guests on arrival and at the interval.

The show will screen twelve films spanning some two hours, with a generous interval to allow guests to enjoy tasty refreshments, which are included in the ticket price.

Tickets are available at trybooking (www.trybooking.com/CVQVB) or by simply entering Cool Climate Cinema 2024 in your browser.

SUBMITTED BY NEIL APLIN, COMMITTEE MEMBER MRFS

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Open Studios Macedon

Open Studios Macedon members again invite the public to visit their working studios in their gardens in the Macedon area on Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December from 10am to 4pm each day. The longer and warmer days will offer you an opportunity to visit these diverse workplaces in typical Macedon Ranges rural settings.

The artists will welcome you to their studios where you will see a wide range of skills and art produced in this area, including pottery, painting, drawing, jewellery, textiles and printmaking, as well as work in progress. Brochures with maps are available at The Gallery Mt Macedon and in local cafes and businesses in the area, and also through Macedon Ranges tourist information sites online.

The Open Studios are all within a short driving distance of each other and include a pop-up display at Top of the Range Tearooms on the summit of Mount Macedon. Combine art in beautiful gardens with food at nearby cafes.

Instagram: @openstudiosmacedon

SUBMITTED BY SUE ANSON

Woodend Community Carols

- **When: Friday 20 December from 6pm**
- **Where: St Mary's Church lawns**
- **Bring: A rug or chair and snacks**

Join in with singing! Santa is coming and there are hampers to win.

For more information, call Sylvia on 0488 776 645

SUBMITTED BY SYLVIA MATHEWS



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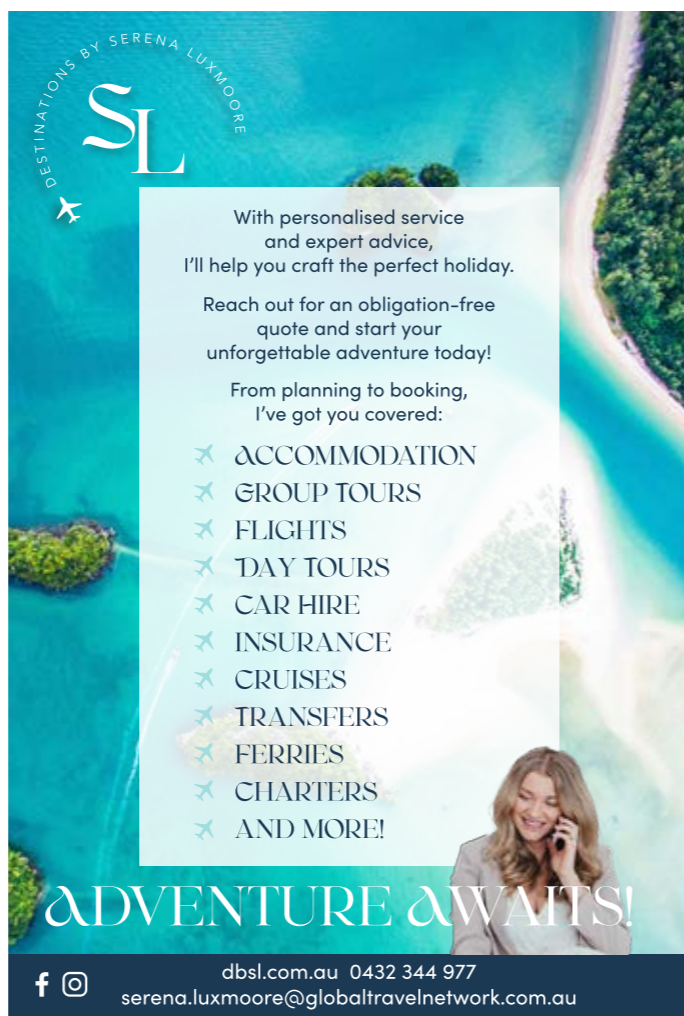


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A Festive celebration of creativity

The Buttlejorrk Artist Collective celebrates 48 Years with a pre-Christmas exhibition and exclusive book launch.



In a festive celebration of creativity, the Buttlejorrk Artists are holding their Annual Group Show at The Old Auction House Kyneton. The exhibition will run from 14 November to 24 December, offering an immersive showcase of painting, pottery, textiles, woodwork, sculpture and works on paper. The individual artists' backgrounds and work is varied, encompassing both traditional and contemporary works. All work is for sale so it is an ideal opportunity to purchase locally handmade art for yourself or a unique Christmas gift.

This year, Buttlejorrk are pleased to include members of the Macedon Ranges Potters who will be launching their book The Potters Kitchen on Saturday 30 November. The book provides an insider's look into the 14 members of the Macedon Ranges Potters, the inspiration behind their work and the recipes they cherish. Accompanied by vibrant photography, the book allows us a peek into the homes, gardens and studios of the potters with favourite dishes displayed on their own unique pottery. The book will be available to purchase at The Old Auction House.

The festive collaboration of the Buttlejorrk Artist Group and the Macedon Ranges Potters includes two special "Meet the Artists" events where visitors can engage with the creators and discover the stories behind their work. These are free events and everyone is welcome.

Meet the Artists: Saturday 16 November from 2-4pm

The Potters Kitchen book launch: Saturday 30 November from 2-4pm

The artists' work can be viewed on Instagram: @buttlejorrk @macedonrangespotters

The Old Auction House is located at 52-56 Mollison St Kyneton, open seven days from 10am to 4pm.





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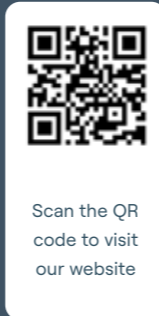
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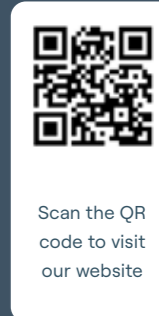


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Snake season means pet owners have to be more vigilant than ever. Here's how.

As temperatures rise, snake activity becomes more frequent, especially in our region, which is home to venomous species such as the Eastern Brown, Red-bellied Black, Taipan, and Tiger Snakes. Pets are most likely to be bitten on their head, neck and front legs.

Greencross Vets Macedon Ranges advises pet owners to remain alert and be aware of the warning signs of snake bites in their pets.

Snake bite symptoms

For dogs, snake bite symptoms vary, depending on the type of snake and venom injected. Common signs include:

- Discoloration, bleeding, swelling and pain at the bite site (often just one puncture)
- Lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea and excessive drooling
- Body tremors, seizures and other neurological changes

In severe cases, dogs may have difficulty breathing, pale gums, rapid heart rate, collapse, or signs of shock or haemorrhage (nose bleeds, blood in urine)

Snake bites in cats can be more difficult to detect, as they often hide symptoms and may show subtle signs that mimic other conditions. While many symptoms are similar to those in dogs,

cats may display additional signs that indicate a snake bite, including:

- Pain (vocalising when touched)
- Loss of appetite
- Excessive drooling
- First aid tips for snake bites

Keep your pet calm – do your best to avoid excitement and running.

Call your vet and let them know you are on your way. They can begin to plan for your arrival.

Do not attempt to catch the live snake or harm the snake (snakes are protected and killing them is illegal). It is not essential to identify the snake.

Prevention Tips

While it's impossible to eliminate the risk of snake bites, you can reduce it by doing the following:

- Know your local vets who stock anti-venom.
- Avoid high-risk areas (long grass, bush paths) or keep dogs on a lead.
- Always supervise dogs in snake-prone areas.

If you suspect your pet has been bitten, seek urgent veterinary care immediately.

If you have any questions or concerns about your pet and snakes, we are always here to help.

SUBMITTED BY TERESA LANE – GREENCROSS VETS MACEDON RANGES.

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Kyneton Horticultural Society

Annual Plant Sale

Spring has truly erupted, and we are now appreciating the efforts of our labours in our gardens over the cooler months.

The return of the ever popular Kyneton Horticultural Society and Friends of Kyneton Botanic Gardens Annual Plant Sale is just around the corner. The volunteers have been nurturing hundreds of groundcovers, perennials, bulbs, succulents, shrubs and trees and will be selling them at the Kyneton Rotary Market, Saturday 9 November 2024, 8.30am–1pm at the Kyneton Uniting Church, Ebdon Street and Yaldwyn Street West.

Available for purchase will be locally grown plants that have already acclimatised to the Macedon Ranges' weather. Raffle, merchandise, and free advice and guidance from members about plants for sale or answering any questions you have about your garden. Be sure to bring your barrow, box, or bags to take home your new additions.

Hazelmere Open Day

Margot and James McDonald are known for their passion for plants and gardening, and Hazelmere Garden is the embodiment of this passion.

An eclectic mix of both native and exotic trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials set in a harsh and difficult rural environment, the garden is not watered, so only the resilient plants survive the long, dry summers and the voracious native birds.

Join the Kyneton Horticultural Society for their annual fundraising event on Sunday 17 November, 10am–5pm, for a tour of the Hazelmere Garden.

Bookings essential at <https://events.humanitix.com/host/kyneton-horticultural-society> or by contacting 0499 188 815 or kynetonh1894@gmail.com.

SUBMITTED BY MELVA RYAN

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New Kyneton Women's Health Clinic

More local women will soon have access to free and comprehensive care and support with the announcement of the location of the next five women's health clinics.

Minister for Health and Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas has announced Central Highlands Rural Health in Kyneton as one of the next locations to open under a four-year plan to open 20 specialised women's health clinics.

The clinics will remove barriers women face in accessing specialist care, and providing more services closer to home, for pelvic pain, heavy bleeding, prolapse and incontinence, as well as contraception and menopause services.

Each clinic will include access to specialists including gynaecologists as well as specialist nursing and allied health support, making it easier for women to access specialist care for conditions like endometriosis, pelvic pain, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), incontinence, perimenopause and menopause.

Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas said, "We know the gender health gap is real – that is why we're offering these important services under one roof to give Victorian women easier access to the wide-ranging specialist treatments they so desperately need."

The first five of 20 women's health clinics were launched earlier this year.

The clinics are part of a women's health package to bridge the existing gap in women's healthcare – including a partnership with BreastScreen for a mobile women's health clinic which will visit remote parts of the state.

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



Photo (Left to right) Cynthia Pollard, Registered Nurse
Catherine Prestney, Registered Nurse
Mary-Anne Thomas, Minister for Health and Member for Macedon
Maree Cuddihy, Chief Executive Officer CHRH
Susan Jennings, Executive Director of Clinical Services

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Homelessness in the Macedon Ranges: a growing concern



On ABS Census night in 2021, 122,494 people were experiencing homelessness in Australia. Behind these numbers lie stories of hardship, resilience and communities grappling with a crisis that affects society's most vulnerable.

The Macedon Ranges, a region known for its close-knit communities and picturesque landscapes is not immune to this growing issue.

Over the past 12 months, The Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health Housing team has provided support to over 220 individuals, families and young people requesting housing assistance in the Macedon Ranges.

Homeless is not the result of one cause but arises from a complex mix of social, economic and health related factors. Whilst some may face housing insecurity due to a sudden loss of employment or personal crisis, others are at risk due to more persistent challenges. Individual factors such as low educational attainment, unemployment, family and domestic violence, disability, trauma and substance abuse can significantly heighten the risk of homelessness.

Structural issues, including inadequate income support and limited access to affordable housing compound these individual vulnerabilities.

Startlingly, one in seven people experiencing homelessness is a child under the age of 12. Other vulnerable populations include those leaving state care, First Nations people and older Australian.

These sobering statistics have driven local community groups, like the Woodend Lions, to try and make a difference. The Lions Club of Woodend, for instance, plays a crucial role in supporting Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health by providing donations that go toward housing assistance, transport and communication needs. As the Lions Club acknowledges, even small contributions can have a meaningful impact – providing phone credit for example, can allow someone to apply for jobs or stay in touch with loved ones. Repairs to a car can enable a person to maintain employment in an area where public transport options are limited.

The efforts of community groups are vital in helping to alleviate homelessness in the Macedon Ranges, yet the growing number of people seeking assistance underscores a broader need for change.

For those seeking to get involved, local organisations like the Woodend Lions offer valuable opportunities to get involved – whether through donations, volunteering or advocacy. Together we can build a more inclusive and supportive community where everyone has a place to call home.

Get housing support help at sunburycobaw.org.au

SUBMITTED BY GAIL JONES ON BEHALF OF THE WOODEND LIONS

Source: Homelessness and homelessness services - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (aihw.gov.au) and www.sunburycobaw.org.au



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Dr. Anne Peterson
Dr. Bronwyn Edmunds
Dr. Pritinsh Singh
Dr. Tanya Katz
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As energy prices rise and sustainability becomes a priority, many Macedon Ranges homeowners are considering solar and battery storage options.

Tesla's latest innovation, the Powerwall 3, offers a streamlined solution for storing excess solar power and reducing reliance on the grid.

Its all-in-one design, combined with an inverter and battery in one unit. This makes installation simpler and more cost-effective.

One of its biggest advantages is its flexibility - it supports solar systems up to 20kW, making it suitable for small and larger households.

With Tesla's reputation for innovation, it is no surprise that this new model combines state-of-the-art technology, value for money, and a great return on investment.

This makes it attractive for homeowners looking to future-proof their homes with solar and battery installations.

Get Expert Advice Before Making Your Decision

As with any major investment, getting the right advice is crucial. Bluegum, a local expert in solar and battery installations, can help you determine if the Tesla Powerwall 3 is the best choice for your home.

If you're curious about making the switch to renewable energy, now is the time to act. Book your free consultation with Bluegum today and discover how you can reduce your energy bills and prepare for a sustainable future.



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~Steve, Woodend



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Spring into style with the latest window furnishings trends!

As the days get longer and the temperatures rise, it's time to refresh your home with the latest window furnishing trends! Here's what's hot this season:

Light and Airy Fabrics: Embrace sheer curtains and lightweight fabrics that let in the fresh spring breeze while keeping your space bright and cheerful.

Vibrant Colours: Think bright whites, sunny yellows, and fresh greens! These colours can uplift any room and reflect the lively spirit of spring.

Natural Materials: Incorporate materials like cotton and linen for a fresh, organic look. They're perfect for creating a relaxed, breezy vibe.

Bold Patterns: This season, don't be afraid to mix patterns! Floral designs and tropical prints can add a fun pop to your windows and bring the outdoors in.

Energy Efficiency: Consider window furnishings that help keep your home cool as the sun shines brighter. Reflective blinds and light-filtering shades can help maintain a comfortable temperature while allowing natural light in.

Motorised Convenience: With longer days, enjoy the ease of motorised window treatments that can be adjusted with just a click – perfect for those hot afternoons!

Let's transform your windows this spring! Visit us to explore our seasonal collection and find the perfect window treatments that celebrate the season's beauty.

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Giving Victorians a say on Maternal and Child Health Services

Victorian parents and carers now have a valuable opportunity to help improve Victoria's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service through a new survey launched by the Victorian Government.

Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn announced the survey open and inviting everyone who has used the service in the past two years to provide their feedback.

By sharing their experiences, families can directly shape the future of the service, ensuring it supports the health and wellbeing journeys of parents, carers and families in raising happy and healthy children.

The insights gathered will guide improvements to the service and ensure it continues to support families effectively – with questions focusing on first home visits, ongoing appointments with MCH nurses, and the support and information shared as part of a child's growth and development.

The anonymous survey, open until 17 November, is available in 10 community languages in addition to English, including Dari, Vietnamese, Arabic, Mandarin, Khmer, Punjabi, Burmese, Pashto, Hazaragi, and Chin (Hakha), making it accessible to a wide range of families across the state.

The survey encompasses all aspects of the Maternal and Child Health Service, including the Universal MCH program, the 10 key ages and stages visits, the Enhanced MCH Program, the Aboriginal MCH program, and the MCH Line.

The survey will build on the roundtables currently being undertaken with parents and carers about how to improve families' access to services and supports to help their children thrive.

"I encourage local families who have used these services to participate in this valuable survey, to ensure your views and voices are heard," said Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Member for Macedon.

The roundtables are being held in Melbourne and regional Victoria, with families invited to discuss their experiences with maternal and child health services, early childhood education and care, early parenting centres, kindergartens and family services.

Each session is set to guide future policies, programs and initiatives that impact Victorian children from birth to 12 years old.

The MCH Service is a free service for all families with children from birth to school age, delivered locally in partnership with councils and Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. It also offers 24-hour support through the MCH Line.

The survey is open until 17 November is available at engage.vic.gov.au/have-your-say-onmaternal-and-child-health-services.

More information of Victoria's MCH services is available at betterhealth.vic.gov.au

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

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As your local Member of Parliament, I'm here to represent you and our community.

I'm keen to hear about the issues that matter to you.

Mary-Anne Thomas MP
Member for Macedon

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Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, News Centre, 9 Goodie Street, Gisborne

Hook, line and sinker: supersized fish stocking

More than 70 lakes across Victoria are now brimming with rainbow trout ready for families to enjoy the great outdoors. Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos announced that 35,000 rainbow trout have been released into lakes across Victoria as part of a \$96 million package to improve fishing, boating and piers.

Many of the freshly stocked lakes have fishing platforms, walking tracks, barbecues and playgrounds, at lakes across Melbourne and in regional areas.

Rainbow trout are the perfect catch for beginners because they can easily be caught using widely available bait and the Little Angler Kits provided by the Labor Government to school students across Victoria.

The Little Anglers' Guide to Fishing, which came with the rods, has advice on how to catch a rainbow trout, what bait to use and more handy hints for reeling in a catch.

Locally the following areas were recently stocked with Rainbow Trout:

- 300 in the Glenlyon Dam
- 300 in the Hanging Rock Lake, Woodend
- 300 in the Jubilee Lake, Daylesford

To view the full list of lakes and see what's been stocked at your local fishing spot, head to vfa.vic.gov.au/holidaytrout.

More information about fishing can be found in the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide, which is available for free at most bait and tackle shops, online at vfa.vic.gov.au/fishingguide or via the free Vic Fishing app on your smartphone.

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



Central Highlands Rural Health announced as a finalist in Public Healthcare Awards

Central Highlands Rural Health is a finalist in two categories in the Public Healthcare Awards,

- Premier's Small Health Service of the Year for delivering on its purpose to deliver the Best Care for every person, every time across five campuses.
- Excellence in residential public sector aged care service for enhancing person-centred care by implementing the Best Care for Older People project, which included significant improvements to residents' nutrition and a reduction in falls.

Central Highlands Rural Health is one of 59 finalists in this year's Victorian Public Healthcare Awards, being celebrated by the State Government.

Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Member for Macedon congratulated the team, saying "The team at Central Highlands Rural Health do incredible work every day, changing and saving the lives of so many people in our community – it is no surprise that they have been named a finalist and I wish them the best of luck for the ceremony in November."

The awards showcase and acknowledge some of the work delivered by healthcare workers and organisations across Victorian hospitals, aged care facilities, mental health services and in the community.

The awards also celebrate some of the innovative and critical programs helping to support key community groups, including those focused on women's health, Aboriginal health and wellbeing, LGBTIQ+ Victorians and multicultural communities.

"While they deserve praise every day, these awards are a special opportunity to acknowledge and give our heartfelt thanks to all health care workers who work together to make public healthcare in Victoria truly world class," said Ms Thomas. Finalists are shortlisted across 19 categories, including excellence in delivering care closer to home, services working together to improve access to healthcare, safety improvements, sustainability, improving the patient experience and strengthening the workforce.

Health volunteers with 30 or more years of service will also be included on the Health Volunteer Honour Roll, which recognises individuals for their selfless commitment and dedication to healthcare.

The categories reflect the State Government's focus on the sector's ability to drive change and improve health outcomes for all Victorians.

The winners will be announced at an Awards Gala Night on Tuesday, 19 November.

More information on this year's finalists can be found at health.vic.gov.au/victorian-public-healthcareawards/finalists.

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

Supporting young Victorians to navigate life

Young Victorians have a new online platform to help them navigate important aspects of life.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman has launched the new YouthNav website, which includes information about a range of topics and is fun to use. The online platform has been developed in collaboration with young people and those helping them in their work. The life skills resource was delivered by the State Government and designed to help young Victorians aged from 12 to 25.

YouthNav asks young users about their skills using interactive prompts and provides guidance on life topics using clickable information presented in an engaging way.

The platform teaches young people how to plan for and succeed in getting a job, moving out of home, travelling, having their say and managing money.

Over 160 young people aged from 13 to 25 were consulted during development of the platform and provided feedback that has shaped the information and topics it covers.

Financial counsellors and youth practitioners also provided insights from working with young people.

The platform was co-designed and tested with members of the Victorian Youth Congress, an advisory group made up of 20 young people aged 12 to 25, who work with the government to make sure a youth perspective is embedded in policies and decisions that affect Victoria's young people.

Victorian Youth Congress members were involved in concept and prototype testing of the online platform over a 12-month period, helping to create a resource that meets the needs and interests of young people.

Mary-Anne Thomas, Member for Macedon said, "I encourage our local young people to check out the website and start navigating and learning valuable life skills while doing so."

The YouthNav platform has been delivered as part of the Our promise, Your future Youth Strategy 2022–2027, designed to improve the health, wellbeing and future of young people in Victoria.

For more information, or to try YouthNav, visit youthcentral.vic.gov.au/youthnav.

SUBMITTED BY KATE LEE OFFICE OF MARY-ANNE THOMAS MP

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

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Public Notice

St Mary's Guild Street Stall

St Mary's Guild will hold its November and December street stalls on the first Saturday of the month (instead of the second Saturday).

This is due to the upcoming public holiday and the festive season.

When: 2 November and 7 December

Where: High Street, Woodend

Remembrance Day Service

Monday 11 November at 10.30am.

Woodend RSL, 32 Anslow St. Woodend

Contact John McCausland 0448 205 698

Woodend Probus Club

The newly formed club meets at the Norma Richardson Hall, Woodend, on the third Friday of the month at 9.30am for a 10am start.

We are taking an end of year break and we will resume in 2025. The first meeting will be held February 21 2025,

All welcome

Enquiries to Chris 0402 380 990 or Pat 0409 007 72.



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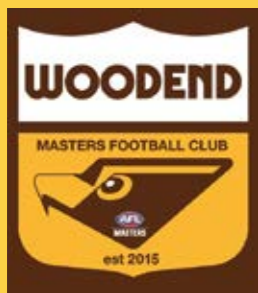


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“STILL GETTING A KICK OUT OF FOOTY”

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Hawks fired up for summer training

Footy's back! Well, kinda. Sure, the AFL season is over and there was a void in our lives so the Masters have returned to training.

To be fair, cricket season is upon us, but having trained and played through another cold season, the lure of warmer nights, daylight saving time, and cold beers to end the week was just too much to ignore.

We are back on track every Monday and Friday nights at the Buffalo Stadium oval, and we welcome any blokes keen to have a kick and get their rig up to scratch for the beach this summer.

October has been a busy social month for the club with a great family lunch at sponsor the Pig and Whistle Hotel in East Trentham.

Players, partners and kids enjoyed a sunny Saturday afternoon in the pub's great beer garden for a meal and refreshments.

We also had our annual end of season camp trip to Newbridge, where our camp cooks become Masterchefs with some fine cuisine (red meat and plenty of it!) passing from fire to plates.

It's case of banquet to bonfire with loads

of laughter and tall tales, some axe work and fishing, and the odd sneaky jar at the historic Newbridge Hotel.

Congratulations to Ron Curtis who won the Woodend Masters Football Club's Major Raffle with thanks to our wonderful sponsor Hunters Motors & Mowers. Ron won \$2000 to spend at Hunters.

Thanks to everyone who entered the Major Raffle for your support of our great club.

For anyone wanting to train with us over the warmer months, head down to Buffalo Stadium on Monday and Friday nights for training at 6.30pm. Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram pages for updates.

You don't have to have any skills, you don't even need to have kicked a footy before, just a willingness to enrich your social circle while getting fit.

Afterall, Masters is footy for fun. Come on down!

Check out our Facebook page for more details.

Go Hawks!

For more information email woodendmasters@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/WoodendHesketMastersFC



Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club

Well, our summer season has finally begun and will continue until the end of Daylight Saving next April.

We have had members playing during the winter at the Racecourse in Woodend each Monday and Thursday, battling the wind and rain on many occasions, but not deterred. We played on, hail, rain or shine! Now the fine weather is on its way.

We celebrated our first night of the season at our shelter at the Hanging Rock Reserve. Thirty-three of our members gathered to play three games of pétanque, some having not played all winter. It was fun getting back into the pétanque rhythm!

The games were drawn out-of-a-hat, so all the teams were varied over the three games. We had winners, Louise Potter, our President, taking out the trophy for winning three games, and Bob Hickman and Robyn Aitken, runners-up for second and third place.

A delicious BBQ was prepared by our new Social Co-ordinator, Marni Hickman, who put together chicken, salad and crusty baguettes, to be followed by sweets prepared by Cassie Simmonds, Robyn Aitken and Louise Potter. Thank you, everyone, on the night for the setup and clean up.

We continue to play on Mondays from 2pm at the Old Racecourse in Woodend and at Hanging Rock from 4pm on a Thursday. So, if you think this sounds interesting, drop by and have a chat with one of our members. We would love you to join us. No experience necessary! Or SMS Louise on 0438 302 218

SUBMITTED BY LOUISE POTTER



Kyneton Farmers Market's 20-Year "Backing Local" Celebrations

Kyneton Farmers Market has announced a special raffle for its 20th anniversary celebrations on Saturday, 9 November 2024. Proceeds will be donated to Kyneton Primary School's Music Programme.

Anyone attending the market at St Paul's Park, Kyneton, can buy tickets from the raffle stand from 8.30am, with the raffle to be drawn at 12pm.

The Kyneton Farmers Market 20th anniversary celebration will run on Saturday 9 November, 8.30am-1pm at St Paul's Park, Kyneton.

For further updates, please view our Instagram page: [@kynetonfarmersmarket](https://www.instagram.com/kynetonfarmersmarket).



Seasonal fire prevention works starting ahead of summer

Annual fire prevention activities in Council-managed areas are ramping up in coming weeks, aiming to keep grass low and trees a safe distance away from powerlines.

Council's roadside grass slashing program is already underway, while an electric line vegetation clearance program is set to begin. Additionally, private property inspections targeting potential fire risks will commence in early November.

CEO Bernie O'Sullivan said contractors started roadside grass slashing in Malmsbury and would be gradually working their way south, to provide initial coverage of the shire.

"This program prioritises high-use Council-managed roads and our contractors work within strict guidelines to complete these works safely," he said.

"Cutting grass on these roadsides, combined with other activities such as the powerline clearance works and property inspections, is all part of our efforts to proactively protect our townships and residents ahead of the higher-risk fire season."

In the lead up to summer, and during summer when safe, Council slashes roadsides to reduce the likelihood of fires starting from hot vehicle exhausts, mechanical failures and collisions. Transport Victoria manages the roadside maintenance of state-managed roadsides.

Council is responsible for keeping powerlines clear of vegetation on nature strips and Council-owned properties within declared areas of Gisborne and Kyneton. Powercor is responsible for most other non-declared areas of the shire, with Jemena responsible for Gisborne South.

As part of the program, qualified arborists inspect street trees and powerlines to identify potential breaches of clearance guidelines and organise trimming where appropriate, adhering to Council's Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 2024-25.

SUBMITTED BY BODEY DITTLUFF, MRSC COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



We had a ball on season Opening Day

On Sunday September 22, around 30 members of the Woodend Bowling Club gathered to mark the opening of the 2024-25 season.

The occasion celebrated the formal opening of the two new club greens with speakers President Mike Dornau and Macedon Ranges Shire Councillors Dr Jennifer Anderson and Deputy Mayor Janet Pearce. They were joined by Shire Recreation Development Officer Sass Gallus.

The synthetic and grass greens were both destroyed in the 2022 floods, nearly two years ago today, and it has taken time for all of the work to be completed.

Ladies Club Champion Anne Dornau sent down the first jack, followed by Men's Club Champion Norm Bickerdyke delivering the first bowl of the season.

The new Saturday Pennant season started on Saturday, 5 October and the Midweek Pennant on Tuesday, 22 October, with Woodend competing in Divisions 2 and 3 on Saturday, and 1 and 3 on Tuesday.

WBC wins over Gemlife!

Once the formalities were completed, the Club then went into the annual match against the residents of Gemlife, although a number of Gemlifers played for the Woodend Bowling Club. This was the fourth year the event was staged, with Gemlife winning the first match and the Bowling Club gaining revenge the last two years.

A total of 40 players contested this year's match with ten teams playing two games each. Both teams won five games each, so the final result came down to point difference, with the Bowling Club again successful in retaining the trophy 162 points to 130.

All players then adjourned to the clubhouse for afternoon tea and a very convivial gathering.

The day was such a success and the Gemlife match is now an annual event on the club Opening Day.

The weather is warming up for barefoot bowls. We have a wide range of lawn bowls sets available, so you just need to turn up and take your shoes off for a great fun event; you can also bowl with flat-soled shoes. Bookings are essential, and minimum numbers are required. Just get in touch with the club if you are interested.

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

SUBMITTED BY MIKE DORNAU, PRESIDENT WOODEND BOWLS CLUB



Photo: WBC President Mike Dornau (right) accepts the winner's trophy from Gemlife Team Manager Tony Lennie



Photo: Woodend Bowling Club members and Gemlife players at the opening ceremony



Cricket is back at the Woodend Cricket Club!

An exciting season awaits our Juniors with seven teams, including our very first Under 13 Girls side.

It's almost BLAST time! Come and join the fun with our Woolworths Cricket Blast program for kids of all abilities aged 5-9.

Commences Monday 11 November.

Registrations are open via www.playhq.com (search Woodend Cricket Club).

Senior update

Everyone knows the three certainties in life - death, taxes and rain for Round 1 cricket.

Round 2, a much different story with the club coming out with 2 of 3 wins. We had four club debuts this week with Joe Monk, Harrison Sheahan, Lachy Sheahan and Jock Braszell.

Xavier Tadd was awarded player of the round after an anchoring innings helping the McIntyre first XI reach a defendable total.

The day's play was followed by the club's first Family Dinner of the year, which is always a great night with many community members.

Premiership caps were presented to our club grade side on our first selection night. Congratulations again on your amazing effort last year. Let's go back-to-back!

Be sure to come and support your town and help continue to strengthen Woodend Cricket. The club is only as strong as its volunteers and community support.

We look forward to seeing many new faces at the club over the coming season.

SUBMITTED BY JOSH EASTLEY, WOODEND SENIOR COACH



Photo: Joe Monk with Kevin Sullivan

Save the dates

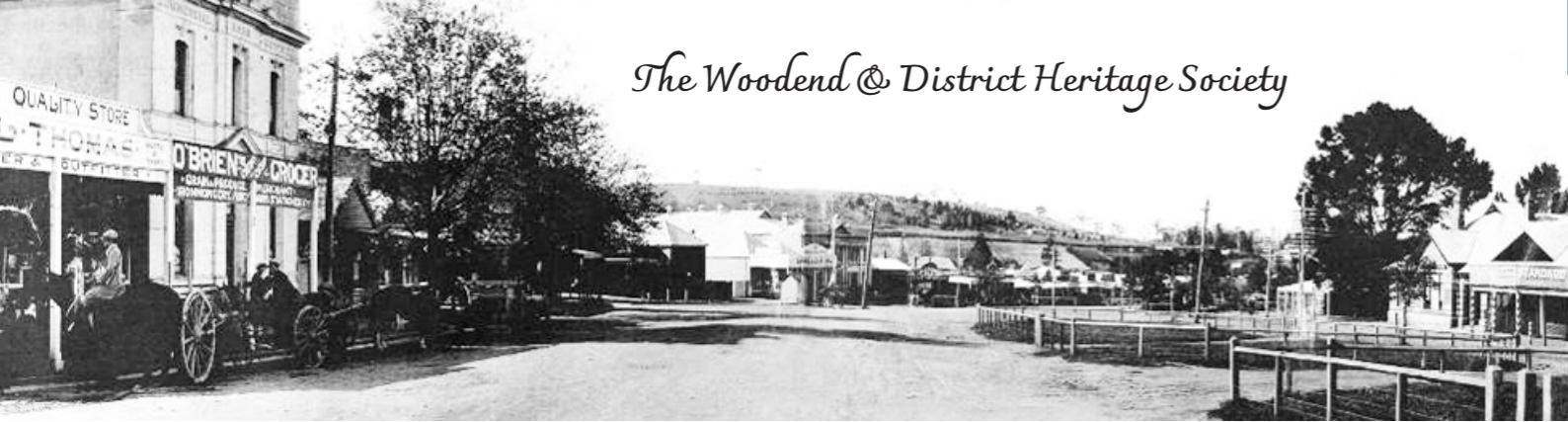
- Friday 8 November – Family Dinner including Junior Trivia/ Puzzles
- Monday 11 November – Cricket Blast starts
- Saturday 30 November – Trivia Night
- Friday 13 December – Community Christmas Party
- Saturday 14 December – Family Dinner

Photo: Club Grade South Premiership Team picture



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THE POWER OF STEAM

Steam once powered a variety of engines, from farm machinery to transport. Many examples are in the Macedon Ranges, including the trains passing through. Below are photos of some of these machines.



Photo 106: Portable steam engine and threshing machine owned by Mr Francis Bowyer (Snr), which he operated until 1906, when it was sold.



Photo 23: A steam train in Woodend, probably taken in 1864, just after the line had opened.



Photo:52: This train at the Woodend Station is marked DD1041. It would have been built between 1902 and 1920. The train bears the feathers of the Prince of Wales. The Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII) toured Victoria in 1920 in a train with a different number, so this one could have been a backup, a common practice at the time.



Photo 125: A steam engine used to drive a rock-crushing plant for road-making.

SUBMITTED BY JANNYSE WILLIAMS

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Woodend & District Heritage Society

Will be held at 10.30am on Wednesday 27 November 2024

At the Old Courthouse, Forest St Woodend

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