

# THE NEW WOODEND STAR



Circulation of 3050 throughout  
Woodend postal district, Newham, Hesket, Ashbourne,  
North Woodend, Hanging Rock, Carlsruhe, Cobaw.

**AN INITIATIVE OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WOODEND**

July 08

A Monthly Community Periodical

First Publication 1997

Volume Twelve No. 6

## Peter & the Wolf a sell-out

A capacity crowd of children and adults in Heywood Hall at Braemar College enjoyed a performance of Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. This was one of the many highlights of the recent successful Woodend Winter Arts Festival. Rod Quantock was the narrator with music played by the talented Scotch College Symphony Orchestra directed by John Ferguson. The concert was presented in memory of John Nieuwenhuizen whose Woodend-based family were the sponsors.



*A capacity crowd attended Peter & the Wolf as part of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival*

## Festival thank you

The organisers of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival would like to thank their sponsors, volunteers, helpers and the local community for all their effort this year, making the Festival the biggest one to date. Many hundreds of people visited Woodend over the Queen's Birthday weekend, with local traders, hospitality and accommodation providers experiencing excellent results. More detail will be provided in the next issue of the New Woodend Star and will soon be posted on our website [www.woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au](http://www.woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au)



*Children of all ages had a great time at the Woodend Winter Arts Festival Children's Literary Event with guest author Elizabeth Honey. It was held at the Woodend Library.*

## Woodend RSL forging ahead

At a Special Meeting of the Woodend RSL on Monday evening 26th May, members voted by a ratio of 3:1 to keep the existing Anslow Street building. The meeting was presented with two general propositions open to the RSL:

**Proposition 1:** To replace the main roof, carry out several other essential repairs and renovate the inside and outside of the building to bring it up to modern standards for a licensed club that is open to members and guests, and promoted to the public.

**Proposition 2:** To demolish the existing building, redevelop the Anslow Street site and include a new, smaller, purpose-built facility that will serve the needs of this generation of RSL members and allow for the needs of the next.

Proposition 1 won the day. Chairing the packed and emotionally charged meeting, President Dr Frank Donovan described it as 'challenging and robust'.

Two days later, members of the Woodend RSL Committee met with Victorian RSL CEO, Mike Annett, to hear what assistance and support they could expect from the State Branch. Mr. Annett assured members that there was no pool of funds available at ANZAC House to contribute, but that Woodend could expect State Branch support for a properly considered business plan to retain the building. This could include raising substantial funds from its own assets (eg by sub-division and sale of part of its land) and local fund-raising. The trustees might also be impressed by evidence that Woodend Sub-branch was actively engaged in the 'core business' of the RSL – e.g. housing, health & welfare of veterans and their dependents, community engagement and education, inspiration and encouragement of young Australians etc.

*continued page 3*

## Breast awareness for women of the Macedon Ranges

Are you aware of the latest breast awareness checklist? Do you know someone who has either had breast surgery or has breast related problems? Have you ever considered how women manage following breast surgery? Would you, a friend or family member benefit from, or like to know more about breast awareness issues?

Join us on Saturday 5th July, 1–3 pm in Woodend for a free and informative session with Judy Strates, qualified & specialised bra & prosthetic fitter and associated health professionals. Refreshments will be provided. Learn about breast checks, information about lingerie for post-surgery, government grants for breast forms, and the importance of a positive approach to your breast health. This is a free session but bookings are essential. Register your interest by phoning 1300 66 17 66.

## WOODEND Proud to be Pokie-free



### New Members The Rotary Club of Woodend

Put something back into this great community and be part of a worldwide organisation that helps build goodwill and peace allowing ordinary people to achieve extraordinary things and bring about exceptional change in the world.

Contact Kai 5427 1029

### Woodend Rainfall Report 2008

Each month we add the rainfall details and the year to date total. Our rainfall report shows 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 comparisons. Please note that your own rainfall readings may not exactly match these. These readings are the official BOM readings and have been taken in the same location in Woodend for many decades. All measurements are in millimetres.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
January	21.2	47.4	49.8	83.5	17.1	Jan
February	6.2	72.2	53.1	27.4	22.1	Feb
March	19.0	5.8	20.6	35.7	25.4	Mar
April	41.2	18.8	46.4	20.2	20.4	April
May	39.3	13.6	58.8	95.7	43.7	May
<b>YTD:</b>	<b>126.9</b>	<b>157.8</b>	<b>228.7</b>	<b>262.5</b>	<b>128.7</b>	<b>YTD</b>

#### Reminder: We are now on Stage 3A water restrictions.

For the year to date 31/05/08 there was rainfall of  
**128.7 mm**

1 inch = 25.4 mm therefore the total year to date is 5.06 inches

## The New Woodend Star

An initiative of the Rotary Club of Woodend Inc.  
The Bank, 75 High Street, Woodend, Vic. 3442  
ABN 32 685 225 161 No. A0021518E

Layout & printing by Woodend Copy Centre

For people wishing to submit stories, articles, letters to the publication, simply place the information in the strategically placed drop-boxes. These are located at the Liquor Shop, Collier Office & Business Assist, The Bank @ 75 High Street and Woodend Newsagency.

**Circulation: 3050 copies throughout Woodend and district**

**Disclaimer: The opinions and views expressed by the contributors are theirs alone, and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Committee of Management, or the Rotary Club of Woodend.**

The Committee reserves the right to edit articles for length and clarity.

Committee: Barry Naphine, Ivor Johnson, Claudia Green, Irene Hatcher, Joy Barker and Jane Watters.

Closing date for inclusion of articles for each issue is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

#### Advertising available

For all bookings and artwork submission please contact Irene Hatcher 5427 3092.

Artwork to email [nws@collieroffice.com.au](mailto:nws@collieroffice.com.au)

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Do you live outside the *New Woodend Star* distribution area? be sure to receive your copy every month by subscribing. A yearly subscription of 11 issues is just \$27.50. Post to *New Woodend Star, C/- The Bank, 75 High Street, Woodend 3442.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed: Cheque/Money Order for \$27.50

### Advertising Rates for 2008

New advertising rates per month from 1/1/08

*All rates include GST & are priced per month.*

Business card size (per month) .....	\$38 inc GST
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*Advertisers: Please note – it is in your interest to book and pay for a year in advance, as a 10% discount applies to any full year pre-paid booking.*

*This now includes to Trade Page & Eating Out sections.*

*Any existing pre-paid ads will revert to the new rate on completion of the pre-paid period.*

#### Information for advertisers

Any accounts queries can be made to Joy on 5427 4089 during office hours.

Mail should be directed to: **New Woodend Star, C/- The Bank, 75 High Street, Woodend 3442.**

Drop boxes for articles are at: The Bank (75 High Street), Woodend Newsagent, Collier Office & Business Assist and Marks' Liquor Shop.

Copies of the publication will also be available.

#### Woodend Star Publication Dates for 2008

August	Delivery 4th August
September	Delivery 1st September
October	Delivery 29th September
November	Delivery 27th October
Dec / Jan	Delivery 1st December

*Advertisers and contributors are reminded to book in by the 15th of the month with artwork to follow immediately. Changes to advertisements, new advertisements or cancellations should all be made by email or in writing.*

continued from page 1 . . .

The Woodend RSL Committee met on Wednesday 4th June to consider a series of propositions related to the restoration and future maintenance of its building. First was the appointment of a Building Restoration Sub-committee headed by Mr Bill Gilchrist and comprising key RSL members who had advocated retention of the existing building. That sub-committee also was given responsibility to develop and implement a fund-raising program, conditional upon State Executive authority.

To demonstrate the Woodend RSL's willingness to 'put its hands in its own pockets', a resolution - first introduced by Dr Donovan in February 2008 - was carried unanimously to sub-divide its Anslow Street site and sell off half to raise the majority funds needed for the restoration project. A sub-committee headed by Dr Donovan was appointed to implement this resolution, also subject to Victorian RSL authority.

"The Committee also agreed unanimously a business concept for placing the restored building on a self-supported footing," said Dr Donovan. "Essentially this involves leasing out the the eastern half, containing existing kitchen, bar and restaurant areas, and retaining the western half as RSL club rooms. Toilet facilities and outside areas can be shared. This will free members to devote more time to RSL 'core business': that's the business of people - present and future, not just buildings or beer barns."

Kirsty Nuttall

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## Want to save money?

Come along to our **Energy Conservation - Home & Transport Seminar** at Newham Mechanics Hall.

Bob Evans, an energy & water auditor and expert in alternative energy, will be speaking on home energy conservation, cost saving and comfort. He will be speaking on what our appliances are costing to run, what to do to decrease bills and increase comfort, and solar energy.

Bob, who was the owner/manager of Evantech Research Pty Ltd (1991-2007) and previously a Load Research Engineer for SECV, will also explain Peak Oil and the conservation of transport fuels at home and on farm. He will also touch on what he believes is the future for petroleum prices and transport fuels.

Come along to the Newham Mechanics Hall and see for yourself how insulating floors can save heating bills and make workshops more comfy!

When: Friday 11th July, Time: 7.00 for 7.30pm Where: Newham Mechanics Hall. Cost: \$20 (proceeds to Newham Mechanics Hall restoration) Hot soup & roll provided. RSVP 8th July to Fran Spain 5427 0661.

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## Macedon Ranges takes action for Refugees

Recently the Macedon Ranges group held a service and a BBQ to raise awareness, funds and collect food donations for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. The BBQ was a huge success - 4 trolley loads of groceries and \$480 raised. The Vigil service raised \$170.

Local schools have also contributed food which is greatly appreciated. The ASRC was overwhelmed when Ann arrived with the food (more still coming in) as their shelves were empty.

For more information on MRRAR - contact Rosie 5427 3554 or Tony 5427 2460 or any of the Woodend Church. There is still much to do to help refugees and asylum seekers. Please contact Rosie or Tony to find out what you can do to help.



## DISCOVER THE HEALTHY BENEFITS OF AN ORGANIC LIFESTYLE

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## Woodend Red Cross

The Woodend Red Cross Unit will hold its Annual General meeting on Thursday 3 July at the home of the President, Norma Proctor, "Wahroonga", Tylden Road, Woodend.

A buffet luncheon will be served at noon and the meeting will follow at 1.30. All members are invited to attend this important function.

Guest speaker will be Australian Red Cross Fund Raising Coordinator, Rebecca Paton-Broad.

A warm welcome is also extended to anyone interested in becoming a member of our Unit.

An excellent "Dutch Auction" for this year's Overseas Appeal was held on 5 June when \$510 was raised. Thank you to all who attended, our caller Helen Roberts, and to members who helped behind the scenes.

Margaret Gaal, Secretary.

## Cambodian Kids Foundation at work

*Not much can prepare you for Cambodia.*

Corruption, poverty, vulnerability, exploitation. You can only be heart broken by the devastating poverty and the drastic effects that war and corruption has subjected on this beautiful country.

However, the thing that keeps me coming back to the country is of course the people and their will to overcome their hardships. Families living in complete poverty somehow still manage to keep a smile on their faces and live with their hearts full of hope. Although witnessing the hope inside of people is a beautiful sight it is often only brought out in the worst of situations. The Andong community is a prime example of this.

Andong is one of the many areas where displaced communities in Cambodia are being relocated. It is currently being called 'home' to approximately 1800 Khmer families. Andong is a slum area about an hour out of the hustle and bustle of Cambodia's capital, Phnom Penh. Andong however bears no resemblance to the nearby city. Instead it is an area prone to severe flooding, which causes many water-borne diseases to affect the families subjected to this environment. With limited sewage and water sanitation and phenomenal amounts of rubbish dumped all throughout the community you can only begin to imagine the stench that these people have to live in when the hot weather rolls in, which of course in Cambodia is most days of the year.

Walking through the community of Andong amongst the squatter housing, the neglected thatched roofing houses and through the canals of sewage and waste it is hard to believe that people actually call this place home, that for people and their families this is just a way of life. As you walk through Andong you are still bombarded by little children yelling out 'hello', children giggling, singing or dancing and Khmer ladies happily chatting away as they do their washing in the same lake used for drinking, bathing and swimming. Everyone seems to have a smile on their faces despite their devastating situation. It gives your life a real perspective. If any good had to come out of the horrific conditions of Andong it would have to be the hope. The hope that the people continue to have each day; that things will improve, hope it won't rain too much, in hope life will be little less difficult when they wake up the next morning. Hope is what guides the people of Andong and other displaced communities through the hardships they face. Hopefully the people of Andong can hold on a little while longer, continuing to keep their smiling faces to the sunshine, so they can overcome the dark shadows.

Submitted by Sam Cooper of Cambodia Kids Foundation, Woodend

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## Heavens, Nick turns wine into melody!

Just when one figured Nick Parnell had exhausted his repertoire, the percussionist was driven to drink.

As he gently rubbed the rims of several wine glasses Parnell demonstrated to an audience spanning three or four generations that wondrous music may evolve from the most unexpected sources.

Aptly billed as a "Percussion Spectacular", one of the highlights of this performance was an extended clapping duet with accompanist Graeme Burgan.

If anyone doubted that music wasn't one of life's most divine pleasures, Parnell had much to convert them in the form of the marimba, vibraphone, gongs, cymbals, drums, woodblocks and bamboo chimes

Performing to packed pews at St Ambrose Church in what he describes as "a selection of the most stunning compositions ever written for the solo percussionist", Nick Parnell delivered a stirring, energetic and utterly memorable concert to a rapt congregation.

Let's pray that, like the Demons and Pies clash at the MCG, the likes of Nick Parnell at the Woodend Winter Arts Festival will continue to draw a faithful following every Queen's Birthday weekend and cement the Macedon Ranges as the "Arts End" of Victoria.

Submitted by Nadine Hartnett (one of the winners of the New Woodend Star competition from last issue)

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**Note: "we only need so much, so first in, best dressed."**

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## Solar energy in Winter?

Winter may seem like a strange time of the year to be discussing solar energy in Woodend.

In May 2008 the Victorian State government as part of its State Budget announced the release of a new solar hot water (SHW) rebate scheme which will commence 1st July 2008.

This new rebate is available to all regional householders that are replacing their existing hot water system with an approved SHW unit.

Rebates of up to \$2500 are available depending on the type of system installed, ie: gas or electric backup and the efficiency of the system.

In addition to the state rebate, homeowners can claim further rebates in the form of Renewable Energy Certificates. This will further reduce the cost of the system by an average of \$1300 for the average family home.

Savings of up to 85% can be achieved when installing a solar hot water system throughout the Macedon Ranges.

The average family home will be recoup the cost of the solar hot water system within 2-3 years when replacing either an LPG or electric hot water system and between 5-7 years when replacing a natural gas hot water system.

There has never been a better time to install a solar hot water system than now. For any further information regarding solar power call Nenad Rodic of Solar Direct on 5429 2506 or 0411 269 489 further information.

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Authorised by D Petrovich, 84 Sydney Street, Kilmore.



**All news items, articles and community news columns must be received by 15th of each month.**

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[www.woodend.org.au](http://www.woodend.org.au) for information  
about Woodend businesses and events

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## Evening Counselling Skills Course

**Tuesdays, 7pm to 9.30pm, 6 weeks: 22 July to 26 August.**

If you are looking for better ways to communicate with people in your life, if you want more skills to deal with people in your work, if you are a volunteer in a community group, or if you have ever thought about counselling as a career... this six-week course is for you.

Sam Luxemburg is a local psychologist who has lived in the area for the past ten years. He has worked as a counsellor for twenty-five years, has practices in Woodend, Romsey and Melbourne, and runs his own training college. He loves working with people and believes "everyone can become a better communicator".

Sam's approach to counselling is person-centred: it is learning about empathy (not sympathy), respect, and how to relate authentically. This is developed through practice (real play rather than role play) in a safe and supportive setting.

Sam has recently run two daytime courses at the Woodend Neighbourhood Centre for local residents, and has had requests for an evening course to cater for those who work full-time.

For more information on Sam and his counselling and training work, visit [www.luxcollege.com.au](http://www.luxcollege.com.au)

For bookings call the Woodend Neighbourhood Centre on 5427 1845. Cost: \$120 or \$20 concession

This course could benefit you if you want to improve relationships, if you work with people, or if you want to take a step towards a new vocation.

## Coming Events at Sequoia

### Friday Happy Hour

After a long week, pop in on Friday for our happy hour from 5.00 - 6.30pm

### Christmas in July

Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>

Celebrate a traditional Christmas banquet with classic dishes with the open fire roaring in the background. \$50.00 per person

### Sunday Music Day

Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

All roads lead to Sequoia on the last Sunday in the month. Don't forget to book in early for this month's lunch and Harmony Plus with Athol Guy & Buddy England will be entertaining you for the afternoon.

### More to come.....

Keep your diary open for events to come, such as our Cowboy & Indian night in August and other regular wine and food tastings at Sequoia Restaurant and Wine Bar.

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## Local business wins award

Dr Shannon Lee of **Advanced Equine Dentistry** was the winner of the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards 2008 for "New Business". Shannon was thrilled to receive the award as a new business to the Macedon Ranges, having relocated from NSW recently. He was grateful to be nominated and acknowledges the support of the Macedon Ranges community and especially his clients and their horses!

Two other businesses from Woodend were also finalists, **Bodywise Underwear** – Trade, Industry & Manufacturing, and **Bourkies Bakehouse** – Food & Beverage. Both were delighted to be listed in the final three for their industry category.

The awards night was a great success and the business awards were spread across the towns of the Macedon Ranges.

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Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008

*Bookings essential.*

### Music Tuition

Term Three Lessons begin 14<sup>th</sup> July.

Contact the Director,

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**5th July**  
**Breast Awareness Session**  
Learn about breast checks, information about lingerie for post-surgery, government grants for breast forms and the importance of a positive approach to your breast health. This is a free session but bookings are essential. Saturday 5th July, 1–3 pm at Bodywise Underwear.  
For information visit [www.bodywise.com.au](http://www.bodywise.com.au)

## Braemar College Second Campus Update

Braemar College has purchased a 20 hectare parcel of land which is located north of the Woodend golf course. The College has applied to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to have the land rezoned for school use. As part of that process, the College was required to commission a detailed analysis of the site, which is currently underway.

"There are clear benefits to the local community if the project is approved," Mr Peter Mouritz, Braemar College Principal said. "A second campus will enable us to significantly increase our numbers which will benefit families wanting an independent education for their children. As a community based school, the second campus site will allow the College to provide new sporting facilities which will also be of benefit to the local community. Our extensive waiting lists are evidence of the high demand that already exists for a second campus of Braemar College.

The second campus will have a strong focus on environmental sustainability and the physical environment will reflect key principles of sustainability through the planning and design of energy efficient buildings that are appropriate to the Woodend climate. The site will also be prepared with water conservation, sustainable waste management and indigenous species re-vegetation in mind. All of this sustainable infrastructure will provide a key focus for eco-literacy education incorporated into the school curriculum."

Mr Mouritz acknowledges that the level of local community support for a second campus will heavily influence the likelihood of a positive outcome for the school. However, he also acknowledges that there are some people in Woodend who have concerns about the proposal.

Braemar College has appointed community consulting group Village Well to work in partnership with the school and the local community on Braemar's proposed second campus in Woodend. Village Well take a place-based approach, integrating social, environmental and cultural perspectives which will inform the community engagement meetings they facilitate for the project, and assist with the guiding design principles for the new campus, taking into consideration the community and stakeholder needs.

"We have asked Village Well to work with us to identify positive ideas and any concerns within the community, so that they can be taken into consideration as part of the overall planning process. As a part of this community engagement, Village Well will facilitate a community workshop which will

give people a chance to clearly understand the proposal, voice their opinions, and have input into the design and use of the new campus," Mr Mouritz said.

Braemar College currently has an extensive waiting list with a majority of waitlisted students currently living within a 20 minute commute to Woodend. The school is proud of its "open access policy, which operates without regard to religious, academic, physical or racial circumstances". Under the current policy, once a child is enrolled at the College, younger siblings are given priority access to available places. Whilst this policy is designed to be family friendly and benefits existing Braemar families, it has proved frustrating for newcomers to the area. The vast majority of recent offers for 2010 enrolments at Year 5, for example, were for younger siblings of students currently enrolled at the College.

Once the site analysis has been completed, a community workshop will be held before plans for the second campus go on exhibition later this year. Details of the workshop will be advertised in the local press nearer the time.

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## Opera in Woodend

Whoever would have thought it possible? Clearly the committee of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival did, though it was only after stage director Rodney Hall pronounced the St Ambrose Hall "perfect" that they realised that one of their regular venues could be transformed for the purpose. Clearly Festivals Australia and the Italian Institute of Culture did, for they contributed the financial wherewithal to turn the dream into a reality. And clearly some 480 audience members did, for the opera played to full houses on all three nights.

The stars in this quattro-centennial performance of Marco da Gagliano's 1608 opera *La Dafne* were national celebrities Sara Macliver, Sally-Anne Russell and Paul McMahon. None of them had encountered the work before, and so their roles were prepared exclusively for this Woodend performance, for which John O'Donnell, musical director, prepared a new edition from the original printed score. Ensemble Gombert, an 18-voice choir-turned-opera-chorus, and young Kyneton tenor Daniel Thomson provided the remaining vocal content, and Jacqueline Ogeil's Accademia Arcadia the period orchestra (including two aurally and visually exquisite theorbos). And let's not forget (the official program did forget!) the dragon, constructed and operated by Woodend residents Steve Scott and Sue Blakey.

*Dafne* was certainly the highlight of this year's Festival, and for the past few weeks it has been the talk of the Macedon Ranges, and well beyond. Negotiations are in play to repeat the production, possibly a year or two hence, at one of Australia's international festivals. But whatever comes of this, Woodend had it first.



## Chiropractor – Mark Brown

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## Follow the yellow brick road

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Friday 25 July 7.30pm

Saturday 26 July 2.00pm & 7.30pm

Sunday 27 July 5.00pm

Mary Moloney Theatre at Sacred Heart College, 94 High Street, Kyneton. Ticket prices for this 'family friendly' event are \$15 per adult, \$10 per student/child and concession holder, \$40 per family (2 adults/2 children; 1 adult/3 children) with additional child/ren \$5 each.

Tickets are now on sale at the College on 19 June, 2008 or contact the booking office on 5421 1287.

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## Next Exhibitions at Mad Gallery

until Thursday 17th July

"Rhythms" paintings and sculpture by Gemma Nightingale, paintings by Tessa Dodds. Both artists will show both botanical and figurative works. Also featuring the ever popular Stephen Phillis. Opening 2 -5pm Sunday 22nd June

Friday 18th July to Thursday 14th Aug, "Woman" paintings, drawings and prints by Chris Wyatt. Opening 5.30 – 8.30 pm Saturday 21st July.

Next Music Event: Crakajak:

Saturday 12th July 2008 - 7 pm for 7.30 pm, 'til late.

Bookings essential! This event is already 60% booked, and looks like it will be booked out soon.

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*James Morrison and his sextet wowed audiences with a fantastic jazz concert as part of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival. James accompanied himself in this instance — on trumpet and piano at the same time!*

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## Blackwood Arts Society

Blackwood now has established a Blackwood Arts Society Inc. in the last two weeks. I would like to thank the Moorabool Shire Council for the Art Grants it offers for the support and the funding that they provide to promote and implement the Blackwood Art Society Inc.

The Society is a "Not for Profit" and all proceeds will go to support local Charities and Volunteer groups in Blackwood.

Blackwood will be hosting its first arts exhibition at the Blackwood Mechanic Hall on the 27th and 28th of September 2008.

I hope it will encourage local and surrounding talent to participate in this coming event. We are already discussing the possibility of holding a Crafts Exhibition next year.

I would like to thank the Blackwood Arts Society committee members, Mr Clem Mooney, Treasurer; Ms Kath Persschel, Secretary; Ms Merylyn Lanigan and Mr Greg Cassidy for their support and input in this endeavour to put Blackwood on the map as an Artistic and Creative community.

I believe it will promote Blackwood as a Tourist destination and support local business and the Wombat State Park.

The Blackwood Arts Society Inc will be looking for Sponsorships to fund the prizes and awards for the various entry classifications, i.e. Best Local Subject, Best Oil painting, Best Watercolour, Best Multi Media, Best 3D, under 15 years and a Barbra Rosman Encouragement Award.

For those interest in Exhibiting or joining as a Member of the Blackwood Art Society, please contact: Ms Phillipa Osborn Smith on (03) 5368 6656.

## Joanne Duncan

STATE MEMBER FOR MACEDON

MP

**Friends,**

At the heart of good governance is honesty & accountability, as well as an understanding of the issues confronting the whole of society.

If you have any concerns you wish to raise, please do so.

**Feel free to call me on:**

**5428 2138**



*Nurse-On-Call – At your service*

*Dear Friend*

I thought it timely to remind residents of the free 24 hour telephone service for healthcare advice called Nurse-On-Call.

Celebrating its second year of operation this month, Nurse-On-Call has become a vital resource for families in the Macedon Ranges with over 3,000 calls made to the service from our area since it began.

Nurse-On-Call is staffed by highly-trained professionals who can help residents decide if they need to attend hospital or see a doctor straight away, or whether their illness or condition could be treated by their GP the next day.

More than 10% of the callers to the service in Victoria who had intended to care for themselves were told that they needed emergency treatment.

Just over one in five callers who had planned to ring an ambulance or go to the hospital emergency department were advised they could manage their condition at home.

The most common ailments about which calls were made were vomiting and fever among children, abdominal pain or discomfort, adult nausea and vomiting and chest pain.

Throughout Victoria, Nurse-On-Call has taken more than 740,000 calls since the service began, which is 1000 calls a day, or about one call every 90 seconds.

To contact Nurse-On-Call, telephone 1300 60 60 24 for free any time of the day or night.

If you require emergency assistance, please telephone 000 for an ambulance.

*Warm regards*

**JOANNE DUNCAN MP**

*State Member for Macedon*



*Lachlan Fleming*

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## Woodend by numbers

Woodend is the fourth-largest town in the Macedon Ranges Shire – having been overtaken by Romsey in the five years to 2006.

An excellent analysis of the 2006 census results by the Council's Social Planning Co-ordinator, Dr Lorraine Beyer, has thrown some insight on what makes Woodend and the Shire 'tick', including the rural areas such as Newham.

For example, the top towns by population in the Shire are Gisborne with 6398, Kyneton with 4286, Romsey with 3527, Woodend with 3170 and Riddells Creek with 2627, with daylight to Macedon next on 1439.

The "rural balance" of the Shire – the areas such as Newham outside of the nine main towns – comprises 37% of the population. Lorraine Beyer tells us that the Shire's population on census night was 38,360.

The overall annual growth of 1.2% for the Macedon Ranges Shire makes us the 11th-fastest growing local government area in regional Victoria. Overall we're a younger population as well, with 11% of the Shire's residents being aged over 65 compared to a State-wide average of 14%.

The important statistics showing our younger profile show that we need to ensure we retain a focus on developing and providing services for our young people – they're our future, and the figures confirm that we need to ensure we are catering for their needs.

While our annual population growth is 1.2%, we've tapered off from the 2.1% annual growth from 1996 to 2001, which at that stage had us the fourth-fastest growing

regional LGA.

Our middle-aged guys across the Shire have a window of opportunity – the analysis shows an apparent shortage of males compared to females in the 35 to 44 years age group.

However, we've got slightly more males than females in the age groups up to 24.

Home ownership in the Macedon Ranges Shire is higher than Victoria as a whole, with 83% of our residents buying or owning their own home, compared with a State-wide average of 74%.

However, just 16% of our households are renters compared with 25% for Victoria as a whole – primarily because there is a shortage of rental properties available locally.

These figures give us as a Council and as a community plenty to think about, and we need to closely analyse them to ensure that our services and priorities match the needs of our residents. Anyone wanting more information on the census results can phone Lorraine Beyer on 5427 8237.

### ***Hanging Rock grant***

The Shire has recently been successful in obtaining grants from the Brumby Government's Department of Sustainability & Environment to improve safety at some of Council's crown land reserves.

This includes \$12,267 to replace uneven and unsafe surfaces at the ticket machine and in front of the café at Hanging Rock.

Henry Bleec, Your Local Macedon Ranges Shire Councillor,  
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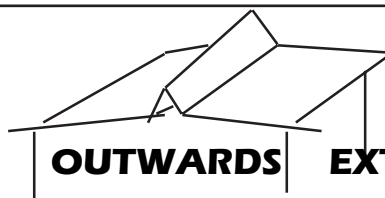


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## The Alice Springs Beanie Festival comes to Gisborne Peak Winery

What says 'Winter' more than a handmade beanie? The famous Alice Springs Beanie Festival, now in its 11th year, attracts thousands of beanies made by local artists, craftspeople and most importantly, Aboriginal women throughout the Northern Territory. Since the very first festival, the beanie festival has been involved with communities in the local area, running workshops and employing Aboriginal artists to demonstrate their skills. See a selection of these exhibition beanies at Gisborne Peak Winery throughout July. There will be beanies for sale and all proceeds will go directly towards 2008 Festival Remote Workshops.

A 'beanie-workshop' will also be held by the Victorian Chapter of the Alice Springs Beanie Festival. It will be held on Saturday, 12th July from 11:00 – 1:00, with lunch to follow. Come along and crochet a beanie with the help of Lisa Waller, a member of the Alice Springs Beanie Festival Committee. The price includes all materials (hooks and yarn) plus lunch, for \$25.00 pp. Call for details. (03) 5428 2228. There are limited spaces and a additional workshop may be planned for mid-week if there is enough interest. Get a bunch of girls (or guys) together and have some fun. This workshop is suited to all levels, from absolute beginner to totally experienced.



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## Woodend Senior Citizens

The next meeting is on 4th July and is a Committee Meeting at 10.30am.

Following the meeting will be the Fun afternoon and Cards at 1.30pm.

Carpet Bowls on Friday mornings followed by Cards in the afternoon. Bingo on Tuesday at 1.30pm.

All Senior Citizens are welcome to come along on Tuesdays and Fridays to enjoy friendship and a cuppa on these cold winter days.

Norma Richardson

**All news items, articles and community news columns must be received by 15th of each month.**

## What's on at Kyneton Town Hall

**Possum Magic**, Friday July 11, 6.00pm and Saturday July 12, 2.00pm. Tickets: \$15 Child: Under 15 \$10, Family: \$40 (2 adults, 2 children)

**A Taste of Tamworth – Country Music At Its Best** Saturday July 19, 8.00pm, Tickets: \$30 Concession: \$25

**Cosentino Threshold**, Saturday July 26, 8.00pm, Tickets: Full \$25, Concession: \$20, Child: under 15 \$10

**The First Step on a Tram is Hell...!** Saturday July 26 5.00pm, Gisborne Mechanic's Institute

**Slim Dusty Family – Reunion Tour** Wed July 30

**The Australian Army Big Band**, Thursday August 14, 11.30am, Tickets: \$15, Groups: 10+ \$13.50, includes complimentary scones and morning tea

**Milli, Jack & The Dancing Cat**, Saturday August 23, 10.30am & 2.00pm, Tickets: \$15, Child under 15 \$10, Family: \$40 (2 Adults, 2 Children)

For tickets and enquiries, phone 1300 88 88 02.



### Fancy That!

A cameo exhibition of the Leviny Family's textiles, including costume, embroidery, applique and other items of fancywork. June to September 2008.

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## Coming events at Buda

Public Lecture: Buda's Textiles, with Lauretta Zilles & Jan Harris on Monday July 7 at 2.00pm

Buda's House Curator and local textiles expert, Jan Harris will put into context items from the Leviny family's textile collection

### Fathers' Day Luncheon

Sunday September 7, at noon. To celebrate Fathers' Day in the Garden Room, be sure to make your booking early. Set three-course menu: \$30 per head. BYO

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Shakuhachi Master Riley Lee performed in the recent Woodend Winter Arts Festival to capacity crowds on both days. Those who attended remarked about the beauty and meditative quality of the concert, delighting the audience of all ages.



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## Botanical Bounties a Popular Harvest

Hundreds of people ventured along Woodend's beautiful Avenue of Honour by car, on foot and by bicycle to visit the recent Botanical Bounties exhibition of paintings and photographs by Macedon Ranges artists. Held as part of the Woodend Winter Arts Festival over the Queen's Birthday weekend, the exhibition attracted visitors from the local area, country Victoria, Melbourne and interstate. The charming Old School House Gallery and its magnificent gardens provided a fitting venue for the ninety works of art on display. About 200 people attended the exhibition opening by Neil Robertson, CEO of Australia's Open Garden Scheme. This set the scene for three days of intense activity at the Gallery where a constant stream of people filled the gallery rooms and enjoyed the gardens surrounding the historic gallery precinct. Many visitors expressed their amazement at finding a pool of work of such high quality from the artists Marg Castle (curator of the exhibition), Dene Douglas, Jan Duigan, Annabell Gordon, Mathew Gordon, Angela Langley, Steph Goss and guest artist Arnolda Beynon. Their exquisitely executed botanical paintings are acknowledged to be of international standard and were certainly appreciated by those who came to see them.

The raffle of an original botanical painting "Helleborus" which artist Marg Castle generously donated to the Woodend Winter Arts Festival was very well supported. Mrs Heather Perkins, wife of Gallery owner Stan Perkins, drew the winner at the conclusion of the exhibition. To the delight of those present, the winner was Kai Saldineri who is well known for her volunteer work both for the Festival and in the local community. Congratulations Kai!

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Photographer

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## Platypus forum for Woodend

Woodend & Five Mile Creek Landcare Group presents Geoff Williams of the Australian Platypus Conservancy at the Woodend Community Centre, Saturday July 26th at 2.30 pm. Geoff is an acknowledged expert on platypus, and is former director of the Healesville Sanctuary.

The recent sighting of a platypus in the Five Mile Creek has confirmed that the Landcare Group is making a real difference to the health of this waterway. Other Landcare groups and individual landholders will gain valuable knowledge and insight from Geoff's talk. The forum will commence immediately following the group's AGM which commences at 1.00 pm.

Afternoon tea will be available. There is no charge to attend but a gold coin donation would be welcome. RSVP by July 23rd to Jo Clancy, on 5427 1909 or [rasbooks@netcon.net.au](mailto:rasbooks@netcon.net.au)

Submitted by the Woodend & Five Mile Creek Landcare Group

# 'Special Events' is proudly sponsored by the 19th HOLE SHOPPING CENTRE

## Upcoming Events and Meetings

### July

- 3 'The Corporation' at Woodend Neighbourhood Centre 8pm
- 3 Red Cross AGM 1.30pm
- 4 Woodend Senior Citizens 10.30am
- 5 Breast Awareness info session 1300 66 17 66
- 7 ABA Meeting at Victorian Hotel Woodend
- 7 Buda textiles lecture 2pm
- 7 Public Lecture at Buda Castlemaine, topic Textiles
- 11 Energy Conservation Seminar at Newham Mechanics Hall 5427 0661
- 12 Beanie Workshop at Gisborne Peak Winery
- 14 Talking Threads mid-winter Ladies Luncheon 5427 1692
- 18 ABA Meeting Kyneton
- 18 Tai Chi & Chinese health exercises at Newham Hall 5427 0266
- 19 Landcare AGM
- 19 Sunbury Reiki Workshop 9740 3977
- 22 commencement of Counselling Skills Course 5427 1845
- 25 The Wizard of Oz production Sacred Heart College 5421 1287
- 25 Trivia Night in aid of Woodend Sustainable Community 0407 686 289
- 26 Curry and pasta night at Woodend Golf Club RSL Auxiliary
- 26 Platypus forum 2.30 pm at Woodend Community Centre
- 26 Christmas in July at Glen Erin 5429 5428

### September

- 27 Blackwood Arts Society Show



<i>Ian Marks Liquor</i> 5427 3961
<i>Blue Orange Concepts: homeware</i> 5427 4500
<i>Kosmac &amp; Clemens: optometrists</i> 5427 4577
<i>Woodend Pizza &amp; Pasta</i> 5427 3777
<i>Coles Supermarket</i> 5427 2377
<i>Collier Office &amp; Business Assist and Woodend Copy Centre</i> 5427 3092
<i>Pets Haven</i> 5427 3603
<i>Mitre-10 Woodend Hardware</i> 5427 2314
<i>BP Woodend</i> 5427 2248
<i>Target Country</i> 5427 4366
<i>Macedon Ranges Travel Services</i> 5427 4777
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<i>Woodend Cycles</i> 5427 2662
<i>Salvation Army Family Store</i> 5427 4421
<i>Loose Change Bargains</i> 5427 4466
<i>Bodywise Underwear</i> 1300 66 17 66
<i>Australia Post</i> 5427 2600
<i>Jasper Art &amp; Handwork Supplies</i> 5427 4455
<i>The Spa Beauty Therapy Centre</i> 5427 3322
<b>HIGH STREET SHOPS</b>
<i>Color Me Cooper: clothing/gifts</i> 5427 1454
<i>Chelleon For Hair</i> 5427 3246
<i>Not Just Fudge</i> 5427 2210
<i>RT Edgar Real Estate</i> 5427 1222
<i>Woodend Bakery Cafe</i> 5427 3434

Australian Breastfeeding Association, Heather 5427 2398	Panic & Anxiety Group, 5427 8256
Cobaw Thursday Walking Group 5427 3340	Parents & Carers of Children with Special Needs, Woodend Community Centre
Daylight Masonic Lodge, 5427 2480	Probus, 5427 2003
Friends of Macedon Ranges Library, Chris/Bill 5427 2469	R.S.L., Anslow Street 5427 3122
Garden Club 5422 6062 / 5427 3340	Red Cross, 5427 1260
Living Word Christian Church 5429 6327	Rotary Club of Woodend, meetings weekly at Holgates Leadlight Room, Kai 5427 1029
Historical Society, Courthouse, 5427 2523	St. Mary's Guild, 11am, 4th Wednesday of month
Macedon Ranges & District Motor Club, 10 Webb Cres, New Gisborne 1st Wednesday each month 8pm	St. Mary's Street Stall, 9-12 noon outside Woodend Newsagency (2nd Sat of the month)
Macedon Ranges Animal Aid, Buffalo Sports Stadium, 5427 1752	Woodend & Five Mile Creek Landcare Group, Jo 5427 1909 or Doug 5427 0666, 3rd Tues Meeting, 4th Sunday Working Bee
Macedon Ranges Bridge Club, 5427 4440	Woodend Angling Club, RSL Hall, 5427 2395
Macedon Ranges Families of Children with Disabilities Support Group, 5427 3365	Woodend Art Group, Railway Station, 5422 6172 or 5427 1659
Macedon Ranges Residents Assc. 5427 1481 or 5427 2651	Woodend Business & Tourism Association, Cori 5427 3434, 2nd Tues of month (BATA)
Macedon Ranges Communicators (ITC), 5427 2669	Woodend Lions Club, Meetings 2nd/4th Wednesday each month, ph Maureen Dougherty 5427 4949
Macedon Ranges Photographic Society, 1st Tues of month, Ron Mathews 5427 3284	Woodend Model Railway Club, Buffalo Stadium
Macedon Ranges Social Club (activities for singles over 35) phone 9740 5517 or 9744 2697	Woodend Pony Club, 5427 0487
Neurological Support Group "Contacts", Woodend Community Centre	Woodend Senior Citizens Club, Comm. Centre
	Woodend SES Training Nights, Urquhart St
	Woodend Winter Arts Festival Inc., Jacky 5427 1560
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**News from Woodend RSL  
Women's Auxiliary**

Our girls are working very hard raising funds. We have at the moment a wood raffle on the go which will be drawn at Coles Supermarket on Saturday 21st at noon. Winner will be notified.

The bus trip to Woop Woop has been set for a later date, as Woop Woop closes throughout June and July. Trip will possibly be now in September. Watch for later date.

The bus trip to the Cuckoo Restaurant is now fully booked. Sorry folks if you have missed out. Better luck next time!

Our next big effort is the Curry & Pasta night. This will be held at the Woodend Golf Club on Saturday 26th July. Bookings preferred. Contact Margaret on 5427 1226 or Betty 5427 2225. Cost \$15 all you can eat. Sweets available. Free tea & coffee. Bar will be open and good night assured. Don't miss this one!

We are very pleased to welcome back two members who have rejoined. Two of our other members, one on holidays at present, and Margaret W who is making good progress with her treatment will also be back soon. This brings our number up to 21, but if there are any more willing ladies out there please contact me on 5427 2225, we would make you very welcome.

Our happy little group are at present organising other fundraising ideas and our fundraiser Helen would be glad of more ideas so if anyone out there can offer good ideas, Helen would welcome them.

Our meetings are for the present being held at the Woodend Neighbourhood Centre. Next meeting will be at 1pm on Saturday 5th July. New members welcome.

Submitted by Betty Barned

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# Woodend Green Corps June Update

By Robert Cini and Tori Vincent, Woodend Green Corps Team Members.

The Woodend Green Corps team have had another busy and exciting month and a lot has been completed at the Woodend Hub. The team have now finished the mud brick wall for the chicken house. With the help of Rob Bakes from the Mudbrick Circus, the bricks were very professionally laid complete with nest boxes and a trap door to allow the chickens access to a food forest. The roof and guttering have been attached with help from Scott Boyle, who has kindly given up a lot of his time and knowledge to assist with the building project. The team have also finished the permaculture vegetable garden with five keyhole circular beds and the 4 bay composting system. The plan for the garden is to grow herbs and vegetables while providing an educational resource for the community.

Tony Cudmore, a local horticulturist, has been training the team in an 'Introduction to Permaculture' course, so that they can apply more permaculture principles to the Hub site. Having learnt some of the theory involved, they are now doing the practical side of things. The soils around the site have had their pH tested to find out whether the soil is healthy for plants and what other nutrients need to be added. Also as part of the course, a native garden was designed and built at the front of the Neighbourhood House, with Wallaby Grass, Lamandra, and Dianella species planted. In the next month, the team plans to build a pond in the centre of the vegetable garden to encourage frogs and other pond life. Frogs will keep various unwanted pest insects away from the vegetables.

The team have also been working outside the Woodend Hub site. They have been at the local Ruby Mackenzie Park removing Willow and Pine with the assistance of Doug Deglease. The Willow tree is a major pest along creek and river lines throughout Australia, taking up space and vital nutrients that other native plants and animals need to survive. The team chopped down roughly 10 large Willows and burnt them all. They have also completed much more of their training and everyone was assessed and obtained Certificate 1 in Conservation and Land Management.

Finally, a big part of the Green Corps program is to plan and implement a 'community venture'. The team have decided to raise much needed funds for the Woodend Sustainable Living Community in order to get materials to finish the community permaculture garden. They will be hosting a Saturday sausage sizzle in Woodend as well as a trivia night at the local Woodend Community Centre on Friday the 25th of July. Members of the public who are keen to support our project are most welcome to attend. Please call Kim or Mandie on 0407 686 289 for more information and tickets for the trivia night.



Keyhole circular garden beds completed at the project site.



The Green Corps Team celebrating the completion of the mud brick walls.



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**All news items, articles and community news columns must be received by 15th of each month.**

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## Upcoming workshop

The Cancer and Natural Therapy Foundation (non-profit and charity organization) would like to inform the community of our upcoming Reiki I Certificate workshop which will be held at the Sunbury Leisure Centre, 531 Elizabeth Dve on Saturday, 19th July. The workshop will be conducted by Rosemary Cameron, Reiki Master.

Everyone has the ability to transfer healing energy to another for it is innate to our human nature. Through attunement, and 'conscious awareness and practice', you too can learn the healing art of Reiki, and therefore help your family, friends and yourself bring physical, emotional and mental well-being into effect.

For bookings and enquiries, contact Sandra on 9740 3977 or mobile on 0411 100 947.

# Turn your baby's inside out!



We have just received stock of the versatile Cozyosko Reversible Pram Bags. Available in a range of colourful styles. Turn them inside-out to change the colour and motif. 5 Point Safety Harness slots to fit prams and car seats. Fully padded for extra comfort and top section zips off. Fun Pram 'Blankies' and Beanie & Scarf sets also available. Just part of our great new baby range.

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## St Andrew's Uniting Church

*Woodend and Tylden, welcome you to their community*

**Service Times – Sundays**

Woodend – 10.30am Service and Sunday School

Tylden – 9.00am Service and Sunday School

**Contact Persons**

*Woodend*

Dr Alison Killoh Ph: 5427 2780

Mrs Ruth Hodgson (Secretary) Ph: 5427 1604

Mrs Jenny Buckle (Sunday School) Ph: 5427 2543

*Tylden*

Mr Max Hinneburg Ph: 5424 8258

Mrs Shirley Bowen (Secretary) Ph: 5424 8542

**Gazelle Youth Group – Monthly**

Contact Mrs Jenny Buckle Ph: 5427 2543



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## Woodend Neighbourhood Centre

Our new term brochure should be delivered to your doors next week so check your role of newspapers and advertising material.

We have many new and old classes for you to experience at your Centre.

On offer this term are a wide range of classes to assist with study and employability opportunities. Some subjects covered include computer classes, first aid including paediatric and anaphylaxis training, hospitality subjects including Responsible serving of alcohol and food handler certificates, integration aide training, public speaking, counselling skills, computer graphics and our popular introduction to permaculture.

If you are more interested being creative or social then consider creative writing, jewellery making, scrap bag quilting, mosaic and glass fusing, craft and plenty of opportunities to complete those UFO's (unfinished objects).

Our exercise classes are always popular too with Tai Chi & Gentle exercise for seniors, cycling, Pilates – beginners and more advanced, flex & tone, belly dancing and yoga. Our walking groups are also expanding and there are groups to suit all levels of walking.

Occasional childcare is available 3 mornings a week between 9 and 12 – call 0434 262 511 for bookings and full details.

If you are new to the area please drop in to see what we offer, or what you could offer us – we are always looking for tutors and mentors to help local people.

Tax time is here again. If you are on a low income we have a trained volunteer able to assist with tax returns – call to make an appointment.

Call into 47 Forest St, ring 5427 1845 or look for details on our website [www.wnci.websyte.com.au](http://www.wnci.websyte.com.au)

Sarah Campbell, Coordinator



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## News from Newham

Progress continues quietly on our Hall plans. We have had talks with our architect Allan Morton on two occasions about our needs and there has been brisk and active discussion from all concerned. Alan, at this point, will get us up to planning permit stage. The Hall Committee has appointed Roger Rugless as Project Manager representing the Hall's interests and we are very blessed to have his depth and width of experience and fine eye for detail not to mention the time which will be required to work on the project.

Our essential requirements for the Hall are conservation of the main building and fresh 21st Century facilities which will make the Hall and its environment more user friendly and available for all residents of Newham to use. This includes warmth, cooling, a safe kitchen and accessible toilets for Hall users. Council requirements need to be met in terms of the toilets and carparking and we are very grateful to Council that the toilets are on the capital works budget for next year – thank you, thank you – especially our Councillors who have toiled long and hard.

Our Grant application to the Small Town Development is in train and this will be the major source of funding for our project. Our budget is limited so works to the Hall and its surrounds is definitely constrained by these limits, and at this point we cannot consider other things or ideas, we just need to get the basic things done to ensure the survival of the Hall as a community facility. We are not quite as active with fundraising over these winter months as we all burrow in from the cold but there will be a community event in July which we hope everyone will come along to, for more information see page 3 for the Bob Evans' seminar.

Twenty seven hardy souls got out into Wesley Park on a drizzly, cold Saturday morning in June and did a huge planting of over 800 plants as part of a revegetation project run jointly by Newham Gardner's Group and Newham Landcare. Lots and lots of prep work went into it with spreading of mulch, plant prep and so on and was followed by lunch in the Hall for all concerned. I could not go to this event but what has been achieved is remarkable and I'm told everyone had a good time and a good lunch. Thank you to all the folks concerned especially Hilary and Penny, Fran and Jenny.

Don't forget folks - keep those donations rolling in to our fundraising won't you, please?

Submitted by Sally Stabback

## The Company You Keep

“How the hell did I get myself into this?”

Such would be the conversation between Harry Colcord and Annie Taylor’s cat, should they ever have met.

In the late 1800s, Niagara Falls and its tumultuous river were the proving ground for skylarking thrill seekers anticipating rich rewards for their adventures.

Seasoned circus performer ‘The Great Blondin’ was the first of the tight rope walkers to sling a line across the mighty Niagara Gorge, and over the next few years performed, without incident, for the breathlessly admiring crowds.

Such was the ease with which he performed, that he decided to up the ante by walking out to the half way point while piggy backing his manager, Harry Colcord. One slip and there is no negotiating your way out of the enormous drop and a very sorry end, and one can only imagine what conversations took place that had Colcord agreeing to such a stunt.

Teetering on a tightrope, 200 feet (give or take) above the raging river rapids, he must have been thinking “How the hell did I get myself into this?”

A few years later in 1903, the thought of returning to school for another year of little brats was obviously too much for 63-year-old school teacher Annie Taylor.

Ignoring the detractors, she had her ample frame squeezed into a wooden barrel, complete with pillows for padding, an anvil for ballast, and her unwitting and long suffering cat.

Now what do you reckon the CAT was thinking? “This oughta be fun?”, “Gee it’s dark in here?”, or “I’d rather be

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tight rope walking with ‘The Great Blondin’?”

We’ll never know, but once set free upstream, the barrel bobbed and bounced its way towards the falls, and the crowd waited.

Emanating noisily from the barrel would surely have been “Oh My Lord!, Bang—Ouch—Meow!” 40 minutes later Annie was retrieved near the Canadian side of the river, having just written herself into the history books as the first person on record to go over Niagara Falls and survive – and setting in motion a long chain of followers.

Extricating herself from the barrel, complete with voluminous Victorian-era skirt, hair in a bun, and a nasty bang on her forehead, an extremely shaken Annie Taylor pronounced to the crowd :

“No-one—ought—ever—do—that—again”.

Too right Annie! And we can only assume the cat would agree.

Story submitted by Kathy Mexted



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## How not to cook your home

There is an increased risk of fire in the home during winter. Last year CFA statistics show that one-third of all house fires started in the kitchen, 20% were caused by heat from fuel fires and fuel-powered objects such as stoves and heaters and another 20% from faulty or overloaded equipment.

The fire danger risk when it's colder can come from very different sources than in the warmer months, and we should be equally as careful within the home during winter as we are around the home during summer. Here are some examples:

**Cooking Fires.** Never leave cooking unattended, keep stoves free of grease and fat, hang tea towels away, make sure exhaust fans are clean.

**Electric Blankets.** Make sure they are flat on the bed and free of creases, as the wiring can be damaged. Never sleep with it on or leave it on during the day. If you have an old one, it would be wise to have it checked by a professional.

**Clothes Dryers.** The CFA is attending more fires where items that haven't been washed properly are being placed in clothes dryers and have actually spontaneously combusted due to the oils left in them. Believe it or not, some fires occur after the clothes have been taken out and placed in the washing basket, especially cotton if it is dried at high temperatures and folded without cooling down. Also make sure you regularly clean the lint filter.

**Even Wheat Bags.** These are becoming more popular to help relieve aches and pains, but they can be dangerous. They can actually ignite during heating if they are over-used and the moisture content in the wheat is reduced. Please carefully follow the instructions,

And above all else, make sure your smoke alarm is working.

### *You can check your hot spots on the web*

The CFA has launched an interactive website to highlight the 'hot spots' that should be checked in all houses. To download the Winter Fire Safety Checklist, please visit: [www.checkyourhotspots.com](http://www.checkyourhotspots.com)

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

### *A successful and entertaining annual dinner*

The Woodend Fire Brigade recently celebrated its 112th year with a very successful annual dinner. It was attended by nearly 100 people, including Woodend members and partners, guest Gill Metz (General Manager for CFA Region 14), members of other emergency services and senior members from neighbouring CFA brigades.

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Highlights of the evening were the presentation of a 25 Year Service Award to Brad Jepsen (see his profile below), Member of Year Award to Keith Beman (who won it for the second time) and the Captain's Award to Troy Bowen for being possibly the thinnest Santa ever. Former Captain Laurie Thomason also gave special presentations to Captain Mick Christie (for his ability to multi task), Secretary Annette van Huffel (for her driving navigation skills) and new 3rd Lieutenant Geoff Wells (the new Ned Kelly).

Sincere thanks to the many local businesses who supported the brigade with donations for the dinner: Bites, Blue Orange Concepts, Bodywise, Bunnings Sunbury, Caras Matic, Chubb, Colliers Office Supplies, Colour Me Cooper, Dornau Group, E'Clips Hair & beauty, Eloise & Ken, Excessories, Gisborne Cottage Flowers, Firebird Motors, Glenn's Country Meats, Habitat, Hair Blues, Hanging Rock Winery, Holgates Brewery, Ian Marks Liquor, Jasper Art & Handiwork, Kerry's Bundle of Bears, Kosmac & Clemens, Mitre 10 Woodend, Mt Macedon Winery, Nature's Garden, Not Just Fudge, Plumrite, Shatzi's, The Key, Victoria Hotel, Warners Jewellers, Woodend Bakery Café, Woodend Bicycle Shop, Woodend Dry Cleaners, Woodend Fruit Market, Woodend Newsagency, Woodend Nursery, Woodend Pharmacy, Woodend Video and Zappa-do.

**Member of the month – man on the 'go' – 'Group Officer'**  
**Brad Jepsen**

Brad spent his early childhood in North Altona and later teenage years in Gisborne, moving to Woodend from Bullengarook 3 years ago with his wife Shelly and beautiful daughter.

He is a Production Planner by trade, and after leaving school worked for the same company for 16 years. Brad then worked with leading companies such as Tubemakers, Australian Hardboards, CSR Timber and Hudson's Frame Truss, and is now the National Logistics Manager for a major timber company.

Brad joined the CFA 25 years ago, when he started jumping on the trucks with a mate who was a member with Gisborne (that was when you could just jump on a truck). "I then thought that if I'm going to keep doing this I really should get some training ... Plus there was less pain involved with the CFA than playing football!"

He worked his way up through the ranks at Gisborne, holding the positions of 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st Lieutenants and then Captain, and is now the Group Officer for the entire Mt Macedon Group.

What do you enjoy about the CFA? "I enjoy being able to do something for the community that really makes a difference, and I also enjoy the friendships and teamwork involved."

Your most memorable moments in the CFA so far? "Seeing and meeting the people who thought they had lost their homes during Ash Wednesday - we had been fortunate enough to save them through the night. Also seeing the people of Gosford lining the street and clapping as we responded to jobs during the first majors NSW fires ... they were all so appreciative. And, of course, receiving the National Medal was a great honour."

As you can imagine, Brad doesn't have much spare time outside of work and the CFA ... but he does enjoy working with the cattle at home, helping Shelly with her horses and getting away with the family any chance he can.

"I couldn't have achieved what I've done over the past 25 years without the support of my wife and family. The biggest thing that separates a volunteer fire fighter from a paid one is all our jobs start from home." Well said Brad!

For further information contact Captain Mick Christie on 0419 870 601, call the Woodend CFA on 5427 2356, or visit the station in Urquhart Street. Or visit our website: [www.woodendcfa.org](http://www.woodendcfa.org)

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

Submitted by Lieutenant Mike Dornau, Woodend CFA

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**All news items, articles, advertising bookings and community news columns must be received by 15th of each month.**

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Trade Page Ads are \$25 per month inc GST. Pay for 11 months in advance and receive 10% discount.

# Heritage Society News

## John King and the Woodend Connection

The recent news that some tools and other items possibly belonging to the ill-fated expedition of Burke and Wills (1860 – 1862) have been found has been front page news. Arguably, for Victorians at least, of all the explorations, it is this expedition with its almost unbelievable bad luck and tragic end. that has stayed most vividly in our collective memory. One only has to look at the counters on the numerous web sites which now record it in extensive detail, to appreciate that this interest has not waned over the years.

For all this new electronic access, I am still grateful for a book published in 1963. *Coopers Creek – The Story of Burke and Wills* by Alan Moorhead. Not only was it interesting and what these days would probably be described as ‘a good read’ it provided a particularly vivid picture of the last days of the expedition, the efforts of the aboriginals to keep the men alive and their care for John King after the others had died, and one piece of interesting local information which I had not known before. Let me quote from Moorhead’s book which tells of King’s fate, once he had been rescued and brought back to the settled areas.

*“At Swan Hill they lifted King off his horse and brought him into town in a buggy to attend a public reception at the courthouse. There followed a drunken public dinner, speech after speech, toast after toast, and it went on till late in the night”.....The following morning they bundled him aboard Cobb’s Coach, and at Bendigo the gold-diggers rushed out, blowing horns, banging drums and firing their guns and pistols into the air.....Bendigo’s leading citizens were gathered at the Shamrock Hotel and champagne was being opened by the case. King was induced to make a speech after they had toasted him, but he faltered when he came to speak of Burke and Wills and fell back into the chair in tears”... At Castlemaine things were apparently not quite so frenetic although the town was “covered in decorations and settlers came out to wave to them as they trotted by. At Woodend a train was waiting – flags on the engine, bunting on King’s special coach – and they had to fight their way through the crowd to get him aboard.”*

Sadly, no photograph survives to record this event. It was, of course, very early days for Colonial photography. If only in the 1940s when wire recorders were first available, we had been able to record the recollections of some elderly citizen who could still remember the day when King passed through Woodend. Perhaps now is the time to remind you that if you would like to help us in our ongoing programme of oral history recording, why not call into the Local & Family History Resource Centre in Forest Street one Wednesday to find out what is involved!

**Family Heritage Walk, Australia Day Dedications, 2009.** If you are thinking about dedicating a tree and plaque along our Family Heritage Walk, we will need to hear from you before September 30th. Please phone the Centre on a Wednesday (5427 3361) or Rosemary Wilkinson at other times (5427 1893) to register your interest. We will then send you an information pack containing all details. In the meantime, if you have not been along the walk for sometime, can we suggest that you do so while the weather is still reasonable? The trees and plaques have now reached the creek and the path has opened up another really delightful area.

Submitted by Janet Hawkins.

# Welcome to the Woodend Star Kids Club

## July Birthdays

2nd	Allea Ferguson.....	Turns 9
2nd	Sophie Marsh.....	Turns 10
6th	Charlotte Dinsdale.....	Turns 5
6th	Briona Gregoire.....	Turns 13
7th	Lachlan Scott.....	Turns 13
9th	Daniel Muir.....	Turns 13
10th	Michaela Frantz.....	Turns 7
10th	Madeleine Leitch.....	Turns 12
13th	Cody Merlo.....	Turns 3
14th	Amber L. Patmore.....	Turns 12
14th	Elsie R. Lowry.....	Turns 13
16th	Connor Lever.....	Turns 8
22th	Kyra J Perry.....	Turns 9
24th	Michael Crozier.....	Turns 12
24th	Nathan Knight.....	Turns 13
26th	Georgia McKinnon.....	Turns 12
26th	Benjamin Botwood.....	Turns 11
27th	Brady Muir.....	Turns 3
28th	Christopher Patmore.....	Turns 11
29th	Christian Adamcewicz.....	Turns 8
30th	Grace Cooper.....	Turns 5

## Happy Birthday Everyone!

**You can collect your birthday surprise by visiting Collier Office & Business Assist in the Woodend shopping centre – but you must come in yourself!**

(PS: We need your jokes and pictures! Please drop them in.)

### JOIN THE WOODEND STAR KIDS CLUB

Fill in your details below and place in the drop-boxes. Age limit is restricted to 13 years old and under.

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Elizabeth Honey showed how paintings became part of her book, in the children’s literary session during the Woodend Winter Arts Festival.

## Take the plunge for a top workout

If you're missing that summertime dip in the pool and want to get physical again, aqua exercise might be just what the doctor ordered.

AquaSquirtz Swim Centre in Kyneton conducts water exercise classes led by instructor Lydia Cagney-Morris. The classes cater to adults of all ages with workouts adapted to suit different levels of fitness, chronic injuries and illness\*\*.

"Water Exercise can benefit the circulatory, cardiorespiratory and musculoskeletal systems of the body and will burn more calories than the same workout done on land. It also promotes a sense of wellbeing and can assist with toning, building muscle strength and weight loss," says Ms Cagney-Morris.

A qualified VICFIT, Aqua, Aerobics, Fitness & Arthritis Exercise Leader, her classes are held on Thursdays at the AquaSquirtz Swim Centre in Burton Avenue, Kyneton.

Those interested in returning to exercise or with a chronic condition such as arthritis, as well as seniors, are encouraged to attend the 9.30am class.

The 10.15am class is suitable for young mums and pregnant women. It includes deep and shallow water exercises.

People of all ages are welcome to join in the 11am class, which also includes deep and shallow water exercises.

Ms Cagney-Morris cited a US study (Cool Poll, 1988) which showed that 80 per cent of 125 water exercise participants experienced lower blood pressure and resting pulse rates after eight weeks of exercising in water two to four times a week.

All AquaSquirtz water exercise classes run for 45 minutes and cost \$12 per session. Bookings are essential and can be made with Kate or Debby on 5422 6233 or 5422 3699.

\*\* Water exercise may not be recommended for people with some medical conditions (eg; Multiple Sclerosis) so please check with your doctor prior to participation.

**All news items, articles and community news columns must be received by 15th of each month.**

## Tai Chi & Chinese Health Exercises

Held at Newham Hall, starting 18th July Friday 10-11am.

The slow movements and deep breathing benefit all parts of the body system, creating a wonderful sense of balance and calm.

For further information ring Coral 54 270 266.

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## Discover Walking has a new name. It is now Exploring Mobility. Why?

As I have spoken with people to promote the Up to 30 minutes walks (*Discover Walking* now called *Exploring Mobility*) what I have noticed is that people always follow the comment with "I can't walk". This is surprising as they often have walked into the hall, or room. It is then followed with "I can't walk your type of walking".

I have tried to explain our type of walking particularly with the Up to 30 mins walk is for people who do not feel they can walk far or fast for a variety of reasons.

I think the term "walking" has the image of people charging along covering many kilometres.

I think the term walking may have negative vibes to it and puts people off.

So... *Exploring Mobility* is a non judgemental group that allows people in the group to move

- In their own time
- At their own pace

Be it 10 steps over 10 minutes, walking for 30 minutes and covering 100 steps or doing 5000steps

The aim is to move the body safely (our bodies have been made to perform a combination lying down, sitting, and movement) regardless of age, sex, gender, and weight.

The aim is to do the movement with other people, so you can chat, have company, do it easy, but most importantly have FUN.

So why the name change?

It describes what I hope you will be able to feel when you move your body. The positive feedback you get will then makes you want to explore moving even more.

Remember you only need 2 feet and a heart beat and the desire to move and have fun.

Happy Moving

Jeannie, Coordinator Macedon Ranges Walk Together  
5427-1845

For walk times please contact your friendly Neighbourhood Houses-Romsey, Riddells Creek, and Woodend.