



Kyneton Connect



\$30M for social housing



Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas with Cobaw's Julie Cairns

The Macedon Ranges is to share in the Victoria's and Australia's – biggest ever investment in public and community housing announced in the Victorian State Budget 2020/21.

The \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build will see more than 12,000 new homes built throughout Victoria over the next four years.

It will boost the state's social housing supply by 10 per cent.

The Macedon Ranges has been identified as one of 21 priority areas across Victoria.

A minimum investment of \$30 million will be in the Macedon Ranges particularly in Kyneton and Gisborne.. Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said "This profound investment will make the world of difference to people in our community who need the stability and safety of a roof over their heads, to get ahead and thrive."

Cobaw Community Health has welcomed the funding.

Cobaw works with around 300 people per year and is currently working with 61 people who are either homeless or at risk of being homeless.

There has been an increase over the last few years in people over 55 and those with a disability seeking housing support which is driven by a number of factors including the increase in rental prices in Kyneton, the lack of smaller properties, the death of a partner or the breakdown of a relationship.

Cobaw has access to a very small number of transition properties that they can place people in but these are meant for emergency, short-term stays and due to the lack of public housing, Cobaw is finding it increasingly hard to find more permanent homes for their clients.

"People don't want to move away from Kyneton but they are being forced to due to the lack of affordable housing," said Julie Cairns, General Manager Community Services at Cobaw said.

"This funding will have a significant impact on our community addressing what is a serious housing shortage in our region."

Kyneton Community Carols

The annual Kyneton Community Christmas Carols will be held Sunday 20th December at St Paul's Park, Piper St, commencing at 7pm.

The Carols are being held outside this year for COVID safe reasons.

The evening will be led with music played by the Kyneton Municipal Band. Please BYO chair and remember COVID safe protocols, Pedestrian entry will be via the lane off Powlett Street.

There is a limit, given restrictions as to how many people can attend this event. Therefore there is a free ticket booking method through Try Booking. <https://www.trybooking.com/BNJMF> or call 54222500.

A voluntary donation can be made when booking or on the night. Proceeds will go towards the Kyneton Municipal Band for music and equipment and the ABM Advent and Christmas Appeal.



Mayor and Deputy elected



West Ward Councillor Jennifer Anderson has been elected for a one-year term as Mayor of Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

It is the fourth time Cr Anderson will serve as Mayor, having previously been elected as Mayor in 2014/15, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Councillors also elected fellow West Ward and first-time Councillor Mark Ridgeway as Deputy Mayor for a one-year term.

At the meeting the newly-elected Mayor said she was looking forward to the year ahead.

Mayor Anderson thanked her fellow Councillors for their support. Mayor Anderson also thanked Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Elder Uncle Bill Nicholson, who performed a Smoking Ceremony prior to the Council meeting.

The Scheduled Council Meeting for Wednesday 16 December 2020 has been amended from 6pm to 7pm.

Councillors decided to hold a January Council meeting next year, and this has been scheduled for Jan 27 2021.

New Train timetable coming

Public Transport Victoria has announced that there will be changes to train timetables as of Jan 31 next year.

Kyneton's service, the Bendigo line, will be affected. The new timetable will be available from Jan 8.

Rotary meetings resume



Kyneton Rotary has resumed its regular meetings at the Shamrock Hotel on Monday's at 7pm, bookings are essential.

Call 0419397936 for further information about Kyneton Rotary.

Summer Reading Challenge

From Dec 14 through to Jan 22, school aged children are encouraged to join the Summer Reading challenge.

The challenge is to read 10 books to then go into the draw for some great prizes to be won including book vouchers, book sets and lego sets.

Sign in at Kyneton Library or visit www.ncgri.vic.gov.au/src and download the form.

For more information ring Kyneton Library 54221365.

Kyneton Markets

The December Kyneton Community Market organised by the Rotary Club of Kyneton will resume in the grounds of the St Andrews Uniting Church on the corner of Ebden St and Yaldwyn St West will be held on Sat, Dec 12 from 8am to 1pm.

The theme of the market will be 'Christmas' and patrons will have the opportunity to stock up on all those last minute Christmas gifts whilst supporting the Rotary Club of Kyneton and the St Andrews Church.

The church will be holding their ever popular garage and book sale.

All the usual stalls will be present and there may even be an appearance by the Rotary Choir to sing a few festive carols. COVID safe practices will be followed.

The regular Farmers and Makers Market will again be held on Dec 12 at St Paul's Park, Piper Street.

Botanic Gardens Mementos

Do you have a cherished memory, photo or historical information about the Kyneton Botanic Gardens?

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is undertaking a heritage study of the site and is searching for historical information—from formal maps to personal memories, historical photos, maps, letters, artefacts, memorabilia or any form of documentation about the gardens.

Established in 1858, the gardens are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register as being of historic, aesthetic and scientific significance to the State.

The history of the gardens has been well documented, but there is an intriguing gap; the original 1861 plan of the site has been lost.

Local surveyor and civil engineer Stuart Murray won a prize for his design of the gardens in 1861, but the plan has not been seen for decades, and finding it would be of huge benefit.

An online form is available at mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay where memories can be shared and digital material uploaded.

If you have physical treasures and memorabilia that you would like to share, call Lisa Ryan on 54220333.

Submissions close on Mon Dec 21.

A single ember can spread bushfires as far as 30km.

Burning embers from bushfires can travel up to 30km, starting new fires in seconds, destroying homes and making escape impossible. If the Fire Danger Rating is ever extreme or above, don't hesitate. Leave early.

How well do you know fire?

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to emergency.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

New kinder for Kyneton



Minister Ingrid Stitt with Mary-Anne Thomas
KPS Principal Alastair Rayner with parents
and children

A new kinder will be built at Kyneton Primary School, boosting kinder capacity for the area and ensuring families will be able to ditch the dreaded double-drop off.

Minister for Early Childhood Ingrid Stitt and Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas visited Kyneton Primary School on Thursday Nov 19 to announce a new kindergarten would be built on site.

The new kinder, funded by the Victorian Government will feature modern learning facilities and outdoor play spaces – boosting kinder capacity for Kyneton and ensuring locals can access the best facilities.

The project will be delivered in partnership with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and will be ready to open for Term 1, 2022 – in time for the roll-out of the Three-Year-Old Kinder program in Macedon Ranges.

The Government is upgrading infrastructure through a \$1.68 billion co-investment with the early childhood sector to build and expand kindergarten facilities across the state.

The Government will also deliver a number of new kindergartens on or next to existing school sites to support the roll-out of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and provide benefits through co-location of facilities and convenience for families.

Library Christmas hours

Kyneton Library will be closing at 3pm on Thursday December 24.

It will then be open December 29, 30 and 31 from 10am – 1pm & 1.30 – 4pm.

The Library will resume its current opening hours from Monday January 4, 2021.

Aust Post Parcel Lockers

24/7 Australia Post parcel lockers have been installed adjacent to the Kyneton post office boxes in Mollison St.

Use of the free parcel lockers can be organised by signing up at auspost.com.au/parcellockers and searching and adding a Parcel Locker as one of your delivery addresses in MyPost.

When shopping online you can then use your Parcel Locker address as the delivery address.

Once received your parcel will be placed in one of the locker compartments and held for 48 hours for you to collect upon SMS and/or email notification.

Parcels can also be sent via the locker system.



Harpers Lane subdivision

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council has received a sub-division proposal for 85 Harpers Lane Kyneton.

The proposed subdivision plan is for 87 lots each of more than 2000 sq m and of average size 2114 sq m. The total area of the proposed subdivision is 23.84 hectares.

The subdivision has been advertised and objections have been received. Council officers are still assessing the application following the completion of advertising.

Business Kyneton AGM

Local traders association Business Kyneton will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday December 15 at 6pm via Zoom.

“After extended periods of service from some of our most valued committee members there will be a few vacancies this year so if you’ve been thinking about getting involved, now is the time” President Kate Fairley said.

“We have been fortunate to receive an allocation of grant funds to

support us in some new initiatives next year and we would greatly appreciate your support to get things done in 2021” Kate said.

For the meeting details please email biz.kyneton@gmail.com and a link will be sent.

Proposed Edgcombe Rd developments

Over much of this year there has been discussion about possible proposed developments on the east side of Edgcombe Rd Kyneton just to the north of the bridge over the Freeway.

The matters under discussion have included the possible development of the area for a hardware outlet, a fast food store, a service station and also residential lots.

Kyneton Connect understands that some elements of this matter may be before the December Macedon Ranges Shire Council Meeting, but others are expected to come before the Council early next year.

John Nevins Acting CEO

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council has appointed John Nevins as Acting Chief Executive Officer.

He was appointed Acting Chief Executive Officer for six months at the Council Meeting on Oct 21.

Mr Nevins has academic qualifications in economics and public policy and a long history working across the Victorian public sector. He brings a wealth of experience in leading large public sector organisations.

Most recently in August of last year he completed 15 years as CEO at the City of Kingston after which he moved into fixed term engagement and consultancy work.

John is very pleased to be here at the Macedon Ranges Shire for the next 6 months while Council undertakes the process of appointing a permanent CEO.



West Ward Councillors Report

This is the perfect opportunity to send a message of thanks from the three newly elected Councillors for the West Ward- Jennifer Anderson, Janet Pearce and Mark Ridgeway to those who supported us in so many ways during the election.

We feel honoured and are committed to listening and working hard together and with you all.

We also acknowledge those who wanted to contribute and took the big step to put themselves forward and nominated during the election across the Shire.

All nine Councillors look forward to working as a team together with Officers, the Community, Traditional Owners and Custodians, and all levels of Government and responsible authorities.

The Community Engagement policy is already out for feedback and as you may be aware, there are many changes to the Local Government Act 2020 and importantly the level of Community involvement and consultation.

This includes deliberative engagement and a Community Vision as well as the Council Plan and Budget.

We look forward to working together on this and many other projects and strategies over the next four years.

We realise how important the recovery phase of Covid-19 pandemic is, and this will also be a focus as we continue to support the many businesses and people in our Shire.

It has been wonderful to witness the unity and kindness residents have shown to each other during this year.

Speaking of support, thank you to the state government with the recent range of announcements of investments in particular \$12M into the Old Kyneton Primary School site on Baynton Street to remain in public hands. This will create a new exciting future for use by the community and a creative hub for the arts.

We know how special this site is to our community and like you all, we look forward to hearing more details.

We will alternate and write articles and welcome the chance to talk and hear your thoughts and ideas, so please feel free to contact us.

Wishing you a safe and happy festive season and thank you to all those who have volunteered this year to assist and care for others.

Best wishes,

Cr Jennifer Anderson 0408273670
janderson@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Cr Janet Pearce 0437282096
jpearce@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Cr Mark Ridgeway 0437938766
mridgeway@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Family Twilight Croquet



The Kyneton Croquet Club will be holding free 'come and try' croquet games on Monday evenings in January from 6pm. commencing Monday, 4th January.

The Club is on the corner of Ebdon and Donnithorne Streets.

All are welcome and all equipment and tuition will be provided.

"Come and try your hand at going for a hoop!! It's lots of fun and suits all ages. Croquet is one of the fastest growing sports. It provides an opportunity for all ages to join in. Croquet encourages a positive sporting attitude, good exercise and is outdoors" the Croquet Club's spokesperson Graham Smith said.

Contact Graham 0411707358 for further details or just turn up.

Grant for Tylden PS

Tylden PS has received the news of a Minor Capital Works grant of \$105,000 to repair and upgrade the basketball/netball court.

The much-loved multi-purpose court is the school's only hard surface area for organised team games such as basketball, bat tennis, netball and volleyball and is sorely in need of repair.

Welcome return for Cobaw

After a few months of its doors being closed, and most staff working from home, Cobaw Community Health is pleased to be able to share with the

community the new building at 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive Kyneton.

The front doors have re-opened and to celebrate Auntie Jo Honeysett, an Elder from the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, visited the building last month as part of NAIDOC Week to do a special Welcome to Country.

A number of staff gathered in the new reception area with the remaining staff connecting via video.

"It is wonderful to see the building finally being open to the community," said Margaret McDonald, CEO.

"After our move from High Street in May we have had only a handful of staff working from the building and clients by appointment only.

"Cobaw's doors at both their Kyneton and Woodend sites are now open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm offering a range of health and wellbeing services and support groups including counselling, housing support, physiotherapy, cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation and dietary advice.

Cobaw continues to be a local agent for Centrelink and Medicare and appointments can be made to access the Centrelink self-service telephone and computer. Call 5421 1666.



Taungurung Elder, Auntie Jo Honeysett giving the Welcome to Country at the Opening

Cathouse Players

Kyneton's Cathouse Players are excited that they can start thinking and preparing new shows to present to our local and surrounding communities.

Cathouse have begun reviewing what plays they are going to do in 2021 and will soon publish them.

Maggie Browne has become a life member of Cathouse Players in recognition of her many years of involvement and commitment to the Players.

Old Kyneton Primary School



Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas interviewed at old Kyneton Primary School

In the State Budget the Government announced that it will invest \$12M into the Old Kyneton Primary School site on Baynton Street to create a new exhibition space. Papers from Budget day indicate that the funds came from the Creative Victoria section of the Budget.

The exhibition space will complement existing public and private art galleries, workshops and other creative events across central Victoria.

The 1.2 hectare old school site, includes the original bluestone heritage building and non-heritage buildings and a large outdoor green space that adjoins the only public green space in the centre of town – the Mechanics Reserve.

Kyneton Connect understands that the new exhibition space will be located in the bluestone heritage building.

In 2018 the Premier made a commitment that the old Primary School site would continue to be a public space, a space for the community. This announcement will ensure that the necessary upgrades and essential maintenance can occur.

Kyneton community groups across the board had mounted a strong public campaign and prior to the 2018 election won a commitment from both major Parties to maintain the site in public hands.

The community groups saw the old school and its grounds as a central location for their and other community activities. The grounds, especially the open green space at the east end of the site, were seen as an opportunity to provide much needed space for general public use and community events and activities in the heart of Kyneton.

The funding to upgrade the site has generally been welcomed, but hopes

and concerns remain that a broad section of the community and local community organisations will be able to utilise the buildings and the site.

Three local groups: Kyneton Community House, the Town Square Co-Op and the Social Foundry lodged formal Expressions Of Interest (EOI) to manage the site but their bids were not successful.

Whilst the EOI process has been completed, the Government is negotiating in confidence with the preferred site manager.

Contemporary Art Triennial

In October 2021, Kyneton will be immersed in contemporary art for the second Kyneton Contemporary Art Triennial (KCAT).

Presented by a local non-profit collective and taking place over nine days from 9–17 October, KCAT showcases artists from WA, QLD, NSW, VIC and Macedon Ranges, and celebrates our own creative community.

In coming months artists will spend time in Kyneton getting to know the local community – observing the character, ecology and culture of the town – as they create new work.

The event will be presented in about a dozen familiar and unfamiliar locations around town, including Kyneton Motel, Stockroom and Watts Pavilion.

If you know of a building or interesting site for the event (could be almost anything from a large shed to a vacant block to an upstairs attic), or you would be interested in billeting visiting artists, please get in touch via info@kynetoncontemporary.com.

KCAT are keen to work collaboratively with the local community to boost cultural activity and drive visitation into our local economy.

The event is being sponsored by Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Creative Victoria and the Australia Council for the Arts.



Dauids Harp by Ravi Avasti

RSL re-opens



Following months of closure, the Kyneton RSL is finally back in operation, although some restrictions remain in force with patron numbers still limited.

However, with COVID-19 all but eliminated in Victoria restrictions continue to ease.

“To enable us to increase our patronage, we have also trialed an outdoor area (see photo) in the car park.

“During the lockdown we have taken the opportunity to carry out substantial renovations to the Sub-Branch with a complete repaint, re-carpeting and new bistro furniture.

“The toilet facilities at the southern end of the building have also been completely refurbished and expanded and we trust our members and guests will enjoy the new facilities” RSL Secretary Mike Gretton said.

The venue is once again open 7 days a week: Mon – Thur: 9am – 10pm, Fri & Sat: 9am – 11pm, Sun: 10am – 9pm.

The Bistro is also open 7 days a week although it remains closed for Sunday dinner for the time being.

Bistro hours are: Lunch 11.30am – 2pm, Dinner: 1st Sitting 5.30pm – 7.15pm, 2nd Sitting 7.15pm – Close. Bookings for the Bistro are essential on 54226735.

Despite the restrictions this year, the Sub-Branch has still honoured its commitment to the fallen by laying wreaths on ANZAC Day, VP Day, Vietnam Veterans Day and Remembrance Day.

Live music at Major Tom's

With the easing of COVID restrictions live entertainment has resumed at Major Toms at 57 Piper Street,

Forthcoming gigs include Kim Salmon at 8pm on Dec 11, Ali Barter Dec 19 and Amaya Laucirica on Jan 9.

Major Tom's hours are Tues-Sat 5pm-late and Sun 12pm-late.

Ph 54226395.

What's New in Business

Occupational Therapy and Speech Pathology Services



Therapists Nicole Bond & Joanne Rogers

The renovation of the old Landmark building at 140 Mollison St has led to the development of an exciting new Therapy space for Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy services.

Directors of Orbit Health Services and Macedon Ranges Speech Pathology Joanne Rogers and Nicole Bond have moved their practices to this beautiful space.

"We are excited by the positive feedback from current clients and the future opportunities these new purpose built rooms will offer in terms of service delivery to our clients.

"These new rooms allow the flexibility for group sessions, education sessions, telehealth and face to face assessment and therapy sessions" Nicole and Joanne said.

Both practices are registered with the NDIS and offer services with a strong focus and interest in children and adults with disabilities.

For any new referral enquiries for Occupational Therapy contact info@orbithealthservices.com and Speech Pathology contact admin@mrspeechpath.com.au.

Animus open 7 days



The Animus Distillery at 1/89A Piper Street Kyneton has expanded its hours to opening every day.

The cocktail bar is open Sun-Wed 12-8pm, Thu 12-9pm, Fri & Sat 12-11pm. Ph 54032431.

Fed Foodstore & Catering

On Sat Nov 28 Fed Foodstore opened at 162 Mollison St Kyneton (formerly the location of Macedon Ranges Chicken).

Fed evolved from Catherine and Troy Christmass' business Caterers of Kyneton.

Fed sources its produce locally and provides ready-made meals, salads, lunches cakes and curated pantry delights

Fed is open 10am-5.30pm Mon-Fri and 9am-3.30pm Sat. ph 54226611.



Catherine Christmass & Brittany Wheeldon at Fed Foodstore

Fox and Bear has opened



Fox and Bear is Kyneton's latest Antique and Collectables shop located at 27 High St.

Bill Coleby is passionate about providing an interesting mixture of antiques and collectables.

"We have a diverse range including vintage motorcycles, furniture, collectable toys, clocks and art work.

"Our range of ephemera is rapidly growing and we will be opening our back room to house antiquarian and second hand books soon.

"We will be open most weekends and by appointment to suit enquiries.

"We are keen to talk to you if you have interesting estates and collections for sale" Bill said.

For all enquiries call Bill on 0409949516.

Body and Soul Solutions



Body and Soul Solutions has recently opened at Mayfair Way, Kyneton, offering holistic health services to help children overcome anxiety and learning difficulties.

With over 10 years clinical experience, Michelle Teunon, the owner of Body and Soul Solutions, is passionate about helping people live life to their fullest potential.

"I specialise in working with children who experience learning difficulties. Learning is not all in the mind - sometimes factors such as auditory processing challenges, or unintegrated primitive and postural reflexes, can disrupt the brain's capacity to receive signals and therefore interpret information correctly. These aspects sometimes get overlooked, which makes learning more difficult" Michele said. Ph 0408081455.

Kyneton on Riverside

The lots of the initial Stages of Kyneton On Riverside, the development on the south side of the Campaspe River in Kyneton have been selling strongly. Stage 1 has sold out and houses are now rapidly appearing.

"We are pleased to announce that our Stage 4 and 5 lots are now available for purchase" James Schaefer, Projects Manager at Kyneton on Riverside said. For more information visit www.kynetononriverside.com.au

Holiday school ages care

Bug-A-Lugs will continue to provide quality holiday care from 6.30am-6.30pm throughout January.

In spirit of Christmas Bug-A-Lugs will be running a fun writing competition with the 2 winners to receive a \$25 voucher to Squishy Minnie.

Enrol in care, and enter the colouring competition at www.bug-a-lugs.com.au.

Matresses and More

Macedon Ranges Home Furnishings has expanded with a standalone bedding store directly across the road, in the old Watt's Fruit & Veg store 152-154 Mollison St.

"This means the furniture store has more space to showcase their unique pieces, including a new La-Z-y boy Gallery and increased high quality outdoor furniture range" Business Director Jason McKimm said.

The new bedding store, called Mattresses and More, has a full range of bedroom furniture, mattresses and linen for adults and children. You'll find a solid range of well-known brands in addition to what's on the showroom floor. The team can order in whatever type of design you're after.



Jason McKimm encourages you to shop local, "There is no reason to leave town. Everything you could get in the big cities you can find here".

Both stores are open seven days a week and offer free delivery within an hour and a half from Kyneton.

Phone 54221155.

Ms Moneypenny Lounge

Heather and Mike Allen are nearly ready to open their new Cocktail + Tapas Bar at 29 Piper St.

They will offer bespoke cocktails, wines they love and tasty morsels to have with drinks.

Heather and Mike are expecting to start welcoming guests from Dec 16.

Regular trading hours will be from 4pm till late Thursday, Friday and Saturday as well as Sunday grazing from 11am till late afternoon.



Better Stronger



'Strength is the foundation of wellbeing' is the philosophy that inspired Better Stronger, offering Exercise Physiology, Powerlifting, and Feldenkrais at 2A Yaldwyn St East.

"Strength exercise is so important for both mental and physical health" says Miranda Foyster, co-founder and Exercise Physiologist.

The studio is a supportive and inclusive space where people of any age or stage in life can get stronger.

Sessions for beginners right through to seasoned strength athletes are available, with individual coaching within a group class format.

"Even experienced lifters need help getting over a performance plateau" says Marco Kandybko, co-founder and Powerlifting Australia LI Coach.

Sessions are limited to 5 participants, for focussed coaching and strict COVID-safe training protocols.

Non-weights exercise sessions are also in the studio timetable.

Better Stronger is open Mon-Sat, but please call to make an appointment—phone 0448822225.

Open Days are planned for Jan 14 from 6.30-8pm, and Jan 16 from 1.30-3pm.

Hampers & infant wear



Greg Williams & Owner Michelle Till

Macedon Ranges Hampers and Blossom Possum will be opening soon at 2 Bourke St Kyneton.

Macedon Ranges Hampers seeks to provide gift solution for any occasion, or for no occasion at all. Blossom Possum is also part of the new store with clothing and other gifts for infants. Parking in High or Bourke St.

Kyneton Collective

Andy and Andrea Drieschner started up Kyneton Collective in September.

At 176 Mollison St, Kyneton Collective is a great place to shop and browse, with many vintage items and collectables including, furniture, clothing, signs, industrial wares, military, tools, ceramics, glassware, jewellery and more.

Situated in the towns former rabbit tannery, Kyneton Collective offers antiques, collectables and more from 10 stallholders under the one roof.

Kyneton Collective is open Thurs – Mon. Opening hours are 10am-4pm except Sat when hours are 9am-4pm.



Macedon Ranges Insurance

Local insurance broker Kate Fairley has recently launched her own business, Macedon Ranges Insurance.



Kate specialises in lifestyle property and small business insurance, but can assist with all general insurance needs.

"As we head in to peak bushfire season now is the perfect time to be reviewing your insurance policies" Kate said.

To get in touch with Kate visit the Macedon Ranges Insurance website or call her on 0407410206.

Skin Cancer screening service

Campaspe Family Practice is launching a new skin cancer screening service using FotoFinder, state of the art technology incorporating artificial intelligence to assist with the diagnosis of melanoma.

Campaspe Family Practice, now situated at Kyneton Health in Caroline Chisholm Drive, is celebrating 20 years in Kyneton.

Around the Galleries

Art On Piper 44 Piper St

The Art on Piper gallery is now open 7 days a week. It displays the works of 22 local artists.



One of Art On Piper's most recent members, Galen Sartore, specialises in hand made themed chess sets, paired with locally made timber boards. A young autistic man, he has been under the weekly tutoring of potter Jan Maxwell for more than ten years, continually expanding his repertoire under her skilled guidance.

Vibrant acrylic painter, Di Lehne offers iconic Aussie gum blossom florals on canvases and fabric cushions, together with striking mosaic type colourful compositions, mini painted blocks that can be rearranged and amusing mannequins for a bit of whimsy.

Art On Piper opens every day from 10 until 4. Ph 0408506283.

The Stockroom 98 Piper St

Open Thursday to Sunday 10:30-4.00.

Exhibitions to 20 December are:

Night River Signals by Cameron Robbins – Photos taken in the light of the half-moon on the nights of 27 and 28 August
Sneering, not smiling by Andrei Davidoff – large scale ceramic works produced using the ancient Korean Onggi technique

Nothing Is Promised by Michelle Hamer – a venture into language reflecting the promises made as individuals and as a society – some hand-stitched and some hand-drawn, and

I Like the way you Like, Channel 3 by Rebecca Agnew - A video work.

After a short break the next Exhibitions commencing on 30 January 2021 are:

Gallery One Mathieu Briand, Gallery Two & Project Space – *Inhabiting* by James Tylor and Rebecca Selleck and in the Ceramic Space *Reset* by Damon Moon.

The Old Auction House 56 Mollison St

Open 9am—5pm and will be open until 5pm on Christmas Eve and reopen at 9am on Jan 2.

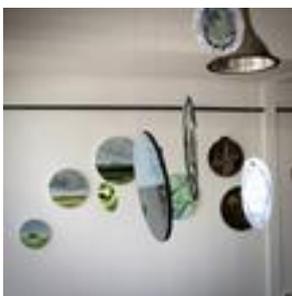
Current Exhibitions are:

Art Aviso 4.0 | Pause Button Nov 3rd - Jan 4th

What happens when you give 60 artists a swatch of 6 vintage buttons and ask them to use them as inspiration in the creation of a round piece of work? Beth from Art Aviso used this as the basis of *Pause Button*, each artist is a member of the online art platform that not only showcases artists but is a resource hub and helps artists progress their careers through mentorship and exhibitions.

Look Up In Wonder Nov 3rd - Jan 4th

Full of wonder at how beautiful the everchanging sky is, Jennie Culic tries to capture it's wonder not only by replicating it on canvas but also by capturing it's essence in glass.



Art Group Online Art Sale

The Kyneton Art Group have launched online sales via their website showcasing Members works.

As long-standing supporters of the Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival each year, Kyneton Art Group members have staged their own annual art exhibition as part of the Festival Program.

Many members would also work towards exhibiting as part of the Daffodil Festival's own Daffodil Art Show. Unfortunately, this year both Art Shows have been cancelled, taking away a valuable resource to exhibit and sell work.

But, Kyneton Art Group members have decided to take their new works online for all to see and purchase.

Kyneton Art Group's online sale site, a new addition to their existing website, is full of fresh, affordable and local art.

The works come in various mediums; canvases in oil or acrylic and watercolour, pastel, pencil and mixed mediums on paper or board, framed and unframed.

"If you are looking to buy beautiful, original art for your home, office or as a gift then be quick and jump online to make your purchase. Then keep an eye on our site as new art will be added each month, with great exhibitions and fantastic sales to come".

"If you like to paint, draw or would like to 'have a go' while meeting like-minded people, contact us through our website. "We will be meeting again at The Red Brick Hall in Kyneton as soon as Covid 19 permits, meanwhile we are active online and we would love you to join us" Art Group Secretary Jenny Chester said.

To view the Kyneton Art Group online art sale or to become a member visit www.kynetonartgroup.com.

Cusack & Cusack 31 Piper St

Cusack & Cusack Gallery is open and trading once again featuring 9 contemporary artists from around Australia; painters, sculptors, photographers, printmakers, drawers and even a comic book artist.

The Cusack & Cusack Gallery 'Artist's residency program' is proving to be a popular concept with artists interested in immersing themselves creatively in the region.

Artists stay onsite at the gallery with accommodation and studio to work in.

Gallery owner and artist Adam Cusack is also currently a finalist in the Paul Guest Prize showing at Bendigo Art Gallery until Feb 7.

Adam Cusack's Charcoal drawing 'Witness on



the road' Photo Neil Cash Creative

He also has a sculpture at Hanging Rock Winery and Vineyard, *Art in Vines -The Renaissance* alongside Anthony Vanderzweep and a number of other local high calibre artists until Mar 21. Gallery hours; Thur- Sun 11am-3pm.

Local action against violence



In recent weeks, members of the Zonta Club of Kyneton have supported the world wide campaign "16 Days of Activism to prevent violence against women".

On November 25 the Club joined with other members of Macedon Ranges Family Violence Network in a vigil to recognise the women and children who have died this year as a result of family violence. A minute's silence was followed by a performance of the dance, "Break the Chain (of violence)".

In the evening, members took part in the State wide 'Walk against violence', walking from Kyneton Mechanics' Institute to Kyneton Town Hall, accompanied by the Newham Drummers.

At the club meeting that night, guest speaker John Herron talked of the death of his daughter, Courtney, who was killed by a man recently released from prison on parole, and the subsequent court case.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, members of the Zonta Club also arranged a display in the community window in Mollison Street, Kyneton, highlighting the personal impact of violence.

A social media campaign through the club's Facebook page provided further information.

On average, in Australia, one woman a week is murdered by her current or former partner.

Each year, from 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, World Human Rights Day, the '16 Days of Activism' campaign calls for action to prevent violence against women, raising awareness of gender-based violence and calling for improved laws to end violence against women and improved services to support women and children whose lives are impacted by violence.

Input sought on consultation

Under the new Local Government Act 2020, Councils must adopt a community engagement policy which gives effect to the community engagement principles in the Act by 1 March 2021.

The policy must also ensure councils use deliberative engagement methods in creating at least four key documents – the Council Plan, Community Vision, Asset Plan and Financial Plan.

To view the Council's draft policy and find out how to have your say, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay. The Council has rescheduled online webinars designed to allow ratepayers find out more about the policy and ask any questions after the notices of the original webinars, included with rate notices arrived after those seminars were held.

Webinars will now be held on: Mon Dec 14 at 6pm and Tues Dec 15 at 11am.

To register your attendance, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay.

Submission deadline is December 20.

Following a review of community feedback, the draft policy will be finalised and presented to Council for its consideration and adoption at a future Council meeting.

Museum re-opens

Members of Friends of the Kyneton Museum are delighted that the Museum is open again after so many months of COVID lockdown.

The year began with grand plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the official opening of the Museum; sadly progress of the pandemic disrupted these plans.

The current exhibition, *Unique by Nature, United by History: towns and surrounds of the Macedon Ranges*, will remain in place until the end of February 2021 as there has been such limited opportunity for visitation through 2020.

This exhibition, presented by the Historical Societies of Macedon Ranges Shire, highlights the special features of each community, for example the megafauna of Lancefield, the bluestone of Malmsbury and the industrial history of Gisborne.

As the title suggests, there are unifying themes of shared history running

through each community narrative, as well as the story of municipal amalgamation which created the Shire of the Macedon Ranges in 1994.

Museum Officer Meredith Blake reported that: "In the brief weeks that the exhibition was open to the public, between the two COVID lockdown periods of 2020, feedback from visitors was positive.

"They enjoyed reading about the history of the towns and rural areas of the Shire, and complimented the historical groups on the creation of such professional looking displays" Meredith said

Staff, volunteers and Friends of the Museum look forward to welcoming visitors back to Kyneton Museum to see the current exhibition, to check out the permanent collection or even just to say hello: we have missed having visitors for so much of 2020.

Would you like to join 'Friends of the Kyneton Museum' or volunteer at the Museum?

For details please contact the president Ronda Walker, 0417541371 or secretary, Hanne Juul: friendsofkynetonmuseum@gmail.com



Kyneton Community House

The Kyneton Community House will be closed from the 18th December.

Its Occasional Care Service re-opens on Thursday January 21 and the office on Thursday January 28, 2021.

The Community House's Term 1 Program Guide is available for viewing on its website and copies will be letterbox dropped around town in January.

The House is able to run courses and programs (with Covid limitations) and bookings can be made via the website. This includes a new and improved Skills for Life program.

The Whole Town Garage Sale will be held during late March.

U3A readying for 2021

Like most other community groups the 2020 program of U3A was significantly affected by the COVID 19 pandemic.

However, planning is under way for 2021 with U3A Kyneton offering a wide variety of courses aimed at providing stimulating sessions where 'something for everyone' is offered.

Some of next year's courses include social and stimulating courses such as Coffee Club and Lunch Club; Film Club; a Walking Group, Table Tennis, Computer Workshop and Australian History. These will be viewable via the U3A website prior to the 2021 Enrolment day on 14 January.

After years of negotiation to find a suitable 'home', 2020 commenced with an opening celebration to the 'Red Brick Hall' in Yaldwyn Street West, Kyneton, where courses were to be held throughout the year.



Who knew that the pandemic was about to hit.

To assist its members to not feel isolated, U3A Kyneton has managed 2020 with the use of technology.

U3A courses are usually held face to face, however, throughout the COVID-19 period many Zoom sessions have been utilised and these have enabled members to retain the very important social structure necessary throughout difficult times.

Each Friday afternoon U3A has invited inspiring speakers to join its Zoom sessions. U3A have Zoomed Book Circle; French classes; Meditation; American Government & Politics; Living behind the Iron Curtain and Gentle Exercise sessions just to name a few.

In October an excursion to the beautiful Musk Farm was held.

As restrictions have been eased, U3A bike riders have been out and about and the belated 'Christmas in July' was recently held at the Kyneton RSL.

To enquire about courses and events, Email info@u3akyneton.org.au or call 0439360763.

Young Women in Public Affairs

An award to encourage young women to participate in public affairs by recognizing their commitment to the volunteer sector, volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy is being promoted by the Zonta Club of Kyneton.

Women, aged 16-19 by 1st April 2021, are eligible to apply.

Applicants would be expected to be able to demonstrate:

Active commitment to volunteerism;
Experience in local government, student government, or workplace leadership (paid or unpaid);
Volunteer leadership achievements;
Knowledge of Zonta International and its programs; and
Support for Zonta International's mission of empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Applications must be made to the Zonta Club Kyneton by March 1, 2021
Please visit: zonta.org/YWPAAward to download an application form.

Send completed form to secretary@zontakyneton.org.au

The successful candidate will win the \$400 Club Award, and could win a US\$1500 District 23 Award and a US\$5000 International Award.

Local stories podcasts

A new podcast series sharing local stories has been launched by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. The In This Together podcast series will share stories from across the shire about adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic, and looking beyond it. It will look at what's changed, what's stayed the same, and how the community is sticking together and supporting each other.

The series focuses on different topics, addressing subjects including Sustainability, Staying Connected, Creativity in Lockdown and more.

It features interviews with a range of local residents and information about a range of Council initiatives that support the community.

A supplemental program Humans of Macedon Ranges will be published on the same podcast feed, interviewing residents with fascinating and unique stories that range from high-profile residents to hidden gems.

To find out more, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/podcasts.

Baptist Church-160 years old



Kyneton Baptist Church has recently celebrated 160 years of service amongst people of Kyneton and the Macedon Ranges.

Even though the doors of the church building have until recently been closed, due to COVID-19, the church has reached beyond its 'normal' congregation through its online presence.

As restrictions were introduced earlier in the year, the church moved to meet in home groups and then eventually, to keep connected as restrictions increased, the church launched online Sunday morning 'Living Room' sessions. On the weekend of the 160th church anniversary, the Living Room looked back through the eyes of 97 year old Tim Collins, who told of his long heritage with the church and his desire to see it continue to flourish long into the future.

The congregation then all took part in a whole congregation zoom gathering where over 120 people joined in to get together and share stories.

Kyneton Baptist Church was officially formed on the 21st October 1860 and met together initially in the Kyneton Mechanics Institute.

It erected its own building in Piper Street in 1861 (now the site of TJ Scott and Sons funeral directors) before moving to its current site at 43 Ebdon Street in 1982 (former Methodist Church building).

Although the church congregation was physically separated during the COVID lockdown, Kyneton Baptist Church is very much alive and well.

Sunday gatherings at 43 Ebdon Street are now up and running again.

Registrations essential via www.kynetonbaptist.org or by phoning the office on 54221782.

Kyneton Connect by e-mail

Readers wishing to receive *Kyneton Connect* (in colour) by e-mail can request an e-mail copy by writing to eandmcot@netcon.net.au.

Kyneton District Services

Accountants

Craig Chester Accounting	5422 1966
Watco Partners Pty Ltd	5422 6511
David J Gibney Pty Ltd	5422 6480
Macedon Ranges Tax & Acc	5422 6460

Acupuncture

Kyn Acupuncture & Allied Health	0411558013
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Auto Services & Repairs

Mead Motors	5422 2450
Kyneton Auto Spares & Repairs	5422 1255
Vereker Bros Smash Repairs	5422 2603

Barber

Quick Snips	0400808157
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Chiropractor

Dr Rohan Kapoor	5422 6488
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Concreting & Paving

MBC Concreting & Paving	0417545159
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Dental

Campaspe Dental	5422 3988
Kyneton Dental	5422 6159

Dry Cleaning

Kyneton Dry Cleaners	5422 1503
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Electricians

Macedon Ranges Electrics	5422 2182
Kyneton Electrics	5422 1369

Fabric & Haberdashery

Alice in fabricland	0439993389
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Financial Planning

Adrian Plowman & Associates	5422 2622
BTP Business Advisors Pty Ltd	5422 1588

Florist

About Flowers	5422 7779
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Hair & Beauty

Studio 48	5422 1200
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Legal Practices

Palmer Stevens & Rennick	5422 6500
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LP Gas Supplies

Hendersons the Gas People	5422 7408
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Massage

Kyn Acupuncture & Allied Health	0411558013
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Medical Practices

Campaspe Family Practice	5422 2877
Kyneton Medical Centre	5422 1397
Springs Medical Kyneton	5422 1298

Optometrist

Kosmac & Clemens	5422 3822
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Osteopath

Drs Isabel Mettler & Clare Greig	0423852874
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Real Estate

Ray White Kyneton	5422 2127
RT Edgar	5422 3325

School Aged Childcare

BugALugs	5422 2767
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Town Planning Services

Crossroads Town Planning	5422 2235
Macauley Town Planning	5422 3054

Travel Services

Renee@Travel Managers	0418369411
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Veterinarians

Kyneton Veterinary Hospital	5422 1099
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Video Production & Live

Australasian Audio Visual	5422 3791
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Kyneton Health – A message from the CEO



As the year draws to an end, Central Highlands Rural Health CEO Maree Cuddihy has issued the following statement.

“I want to sincerely thank everyone for the important role they’ve played in keeping our state safe this year.

“By staying home when it mattered, and getting tested when needed, we have been able to contain the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community.

“Every single person in the Macedon Ranges should be proud of this achievement.

“I also want to thank the staff of Central Highlands Rural Health for their hard work supporting our patients, residents, clients and families.

“As healthcare workers, we are committed to providing the very Best Care for every person, every time, and this commitment doesn’t waver when faced with a global pandemic.

“It really does take a team to provide good quality healthcare and I sincerely thank all our staff for their hard work during the particularly difficult time,” Ms Cuddihy said.

Kyneton Health’s Respiratory Assessment Clinic will continue to meet demand for testing in the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Members of the community can call 54229900 to book an appointment for testing if they are experiencing any of the symptoms associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19) or have been directed by the Department of Health and Human Services to be tested.

RM Begg Fundraising

RM Begg Kyneton Aged Care are extremely grateful to the local community for their generosity during recent times.

To date, over \$130K has been raised to assist with provision of quality care to residents.

Thanks to the community, the fun has returned to fundraising. Pivotal to this has been the development of RMB’s new website, with great photos of daily life in RMB and donation “buttons” making it easy to contribute to this worthy cause.

While it may seem a lot of money has been raised, the crisis in Aged Care continues. The income stream generated by interest on RADS (Refundable Accommodation Deposits – or Bonds) has been drastically reduced. Thus income is falling, while costs are rising. Accordingly, the community’s ongoing support is needed.

RM Begg’s latest, exciting, fundraising activity is the Wall of Money, aiming to raise \$20,000 for a much needed Convothem oven for the kitchen. See the RM Begg website for further information.

Christmas Services (Anglican Parish of Kyneton)

Christmas Eve

5pm Children & Families Christmas Eucharist (St Paul's Kyneton)

7.30pm Christmas Eucharist (St John's Malmsbury)

11.30pm Midnight Mass (St Paul's Kyneton)

Christmas Day

9.00am Christmas Eucharist (St Paul's Kyneton).

Trail Riders

On Sun Jan 31: The Kyneton District Trail Riders Club will ride out from Bullarto, through bush via Lyonville Pub, returning for a BBQ.

From Fri to Mon 12 – 15 Feb the Club will conduct a High country ride in Mount Bogong area which will include 3 days of riding and camping. Horse numbers limited to 15.

Booking essential for any of these rides.

To book or make membership inquiries call Amy 0408342990.

\$10.99M for High School

Mary-Anne Thomas, State Member for Macedon, visited Kyneton High School on Fri Nov 20 to announce a \$10.99M funding grant.

In the Victorian Budget 2020/21, the Victorian Government announced an investment of more than \$3 billion in school upgrades.

Kyneton High is among 162 schools to directly benefit.

“The money is targeted to the upgrade and modernisation of buildings that include the Heritage Building (Administration), Science block and a 1960s general classroom wing.

“The school is particularly grateful for the injection of funds for the Heritage Building, as the maintenance of these historically significant buildings is costly.

“This is an exciting time for the school community.

“It means the next stage of the Master Plan for transforming its learning environment can continue, following on from the construction of the Training and Innovation Hub, the refurbishment of the Boomerang Wing, including a new library, and the conversion of the old library into a Senior Learning Centre” Principal Ana Rees said.

School Council President, Mr John Doyle, and students Olivia Hedge (year 7) and Amy Falkai (year 9) were on hand to accept the “cheque” present by Mary-Anne Thomas.



Historic Pig Shelter now open

The refurbishment of the historic pig shelter in the Kyneton Botanic Gardens is now complete and it is open for use. In its prime the shelter was a very popular place for family and group gatherings in the Gardens.

Its use will be on a first come first serve basis as there is not a booking system.



Fire restrictions declared

The Country Fire Authority has declared the Fire Danger Period for the municipality of Macedon Ranges Shire will begin at 1am on Monday December 14.

Once the Fire Danger Period comes into effect, fire restrictions come into force.

This means you cannot light a fire in the open air unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements.

To find out what you can or can't do during the fire danger period, visit <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can/>

Council's Director of Planning and Environment, Angela Hughes reminded residents of the importance of being prepared for bushfire.

“You need to keep leaf litter, shrubs and any other fuels to a minimum under trees on your property. This will help to stop a fire from reaching the tree tops, which will reduce embers and the fire intensity near your home.

“Prevention is everyone's responsibility. Early action can prevent fires threatening lives and property.”

To assist residents with cleaning up their properties, green waste disposal is available free at Council transfer stations this summer.

Transfer stations will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and Total Fire Ban Days.

To check your local transfer station's opening days and hours, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/transfer-stations.

John Condliffe wins Shield

John Condliffe of the Kyneton Angling Club has won the Perpetual Shield of the Midland Shield one of the oldest fishing competitions in the state, with a 550mm Golden Perch.

Castlemaine won the Club Shield, Maryborough second and Kyneton third.

Bendigo Fly and Heathcote also participated.

Run at Cairn Curran on November 8 it was the best day of the season thus far with great conditions - sunny and bright with a slight breeze.

All anglers caught fish whether on boat or shore- mainly Golden Perch, small Redfin, and carp.

The Kyneton Angling Club will hold its Christmas breakup, fish and awards on the 13th of December at Lauriston.



To the best of the Editors' knowledge the information contained in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing. Where inadvertent errors are made corrections will be included in the next edition.

Kyneton Connect Co-Editors: Eric Dearthcott 54222990, & Jenny Hince 54223364

- Articles for the February 2021 issue of *Kyneton Connect* should be e-mailed to eandmco@netcon.net.au or left at Cobaw Community Health Service in High Street before February 5, 2021.
- To have *Kyneton Connect* mailed send name, address and cheque for \$10 for a year's subscription to *Kyneton Connections*, PO Box 146 Kyneton 3444 or free by e-mail-write to e-mail address above. All recent issues of *Kyneton Connect* are posted on website www.kyneton.org.au

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Auspiced by Cobaw Community Health Service Inc

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