



Kyneton Connect



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Barkly Square revitalised



Unveiling the Plaque

Barkly Square will soon return to full use following a comprehensive upgrade of its playing surface.

On Nov 24 State Member Mary-Anne Thomas and Mayor Annette Death were among those to inspect the ground and celebrate the \$1.26 million project's completion, which comprised close to \$756,000 from Council and \$500,000 from the Victorian Government.

Currently home to the Kyneton District Soccer Club and Kyneton Obedience Dog Club, the ground's drainage issues had previously made it prone to waterlogging, resulting in events often needing to be cancelled or relocated.

The completed sports field reconstruction aims to provide a fit-for-purpose, water-resilient playing surface that results in better reliability and greater opportunities for participation.

Works undertaken throughout this year included removing the existing turf wicket table, installing new irrigation and drainage systems, and overhauling the existing playing surface by stripping, regrading, cultivating, and resurfacing it.

New sporting infrastructure, including a synthetic cricket pitch and soccer goals, was also installed.

The ground is anticipated to be ready for use in February 2024 once the turf has established.

As a primary user of the ground, Kyneton District Soccer Club President Ron Cole said: "The big benefit for our club is that we're going

to be able to train and play throughout the year without having to worry about moving – that makes it more enjoyable and beneficial for everyone involved." "We'd like to thank Council, the Victorian Government, all our sponsors and everyone else who continues to support us. We've managed to continue to grow our numbers and we're excited for what the future holds."

Lauriston-born legend added to National Sound Archives

A 1927 recording of Verdi's Anvil Chorus performed by Lauriston-born harmonica virtuoso Percy Spouse was among 11 soundtracks added to the National Film and Sound Archive's Sounds of Australia registry for 2023.

Also added were "Slip Slop Slap", "Howsthat" and "I am Australian"

Percy Spouse was born in Lauriston in 1885, to John and Annie Spouse, the seventh child in a family of eleven.

His father, a highly regarded fiddle player, gave six-year-old Percy a sixpenny mouth organ, after his repeated requests for the money to buy a fiddle.

His first claim to fame however, came not from the mouth organ, but as a champion long-distance runner.

In 1922 he travelled to London with his wife Gertrude and played at Shepherds Bush and appeared on matinee and evening shows at the Chelsea Theatre, with great success as a mouth organ soloist.

He had settled in Sydney by 1925, and was employed as a traveller for a shoe company.

He travelled to Ballarat and entered the South Street competitions, the

Annual Grand National Eisteddfod of Australia where the Albert's 'Boomerang' mouth organ championships were held for the first time on Oct 12 1925 in the huge Coliseum Hall.

The audience numbered over 3,500 and with 33 competitors for the Championship of Australasia. Percy was the winner.

Through his unique arrangements Percy Spouse played a major part in fostering the popularity of the mouth organ in Australia and New Zealand. Sales of his records were excellent in the period 1927-1940.

He was Australia's most recorded and most successful mouth organ soloist and a true pioneer of the Australian recording industry.

Percy passed away on Sept 7 1970.

Splash Park re-opens



The Kyneton Community Park interactive splash pad re-opened from Dec 1 and will remain open between 9.30am and 8pm each day until March 2024.

Recent upgrades to the splash park have improved water quality and system reliability, so people of all ages and abilities can enjoy an interactive nature-based splash pad experience.

The splash pad features a range of timed jets and bubblers linked to foot sensors to provide children a place to explore, splash, connect, create and play.

The play space sits within the Kyneton Botanic Gardens and can be accessed from McKenna Drive (off Mollison St) or from Clowes St.



A man with a beard is sitting in the driver's seat of a car at night. He is blowing into a handheld orange breathalyzer device. The device has a red screen and the number '99' and 'SY21208' on it. The scene is dimly lit, with some light coming from the device and the car's interior.

Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again.
If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties,
including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed
in your car and having to blow zero for three years.



Toy Library Opening



Lisa Chesters, Angela Sloan, Erin Krusic Golub with Mayor Annette Death

The Kyneton & Districts Toy Library celebrated its new home on Sat Nov 25.

The rain cleared in time for the Federal Member of Bendigo, Lisa Chesters, Macedon Ranges Mayor, Annette Death and Councillors, Janet Pearce, Mark Ridgeway and Jennifer Anderson to join committee members, Council teams, members and other community supporters in recognising the efforts of those involved in the Library's relocation project and the opportunities the new location, next to Jean Haynes Playground, provides to the community.

"It took a village to make this relocation possible and we're delighted many members of our village joined us to celebrate our new home" said KLT President Angela Sloan.

"The support of our village, and in particular the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, enables us to continue our 39 year history of providing affordable access to tools that assist with play and to support the Council's waste and resource recovery vision by reducing waste to landfill through encouraging a circular economy approach to toys."

The Kyneton & Districts Toy Library is open on Saturdays at 127 High St (next to the Visitor Information Centre) and welcomes new members from across the Shire.

Record crowds at Show

The Kyneton Show has set a new attendance record with more than 9,300 people turning out in perfect weather on November 17-18.

Numbers were up for the Friday night carnival and legendary fireworks while sunshine saw Show Day attendance jump by 1,000 to just shy of 6,000.

Kyneton Agricultural Society secretary Josephine Rutledge said crowds have more than doubled in the last 10 shows.

"We were well below 4000 when I first started as show secretary," she said. "The difference is the number of volunteers.

"We put on a show with 30 volunteers then. Now we're up to nearly 200.

"We're now starting to get the number of volunteers we need to put on a show of this quality - but we still need more volunteers!"

President, Andrew Ferrington, said the show is affordable and inclusive.

"We make sure we provide lots of free things to do."

Free activities included woodchop, whip-cracking and dog agility demonstrations.

Children planted pots, made woodwork, art and craft to take home with free rides, laser tag and the farm-inspired parkour obstacle course.

More than 3000 entries filled the Watts, sheep and alpaca fleece pavilions and the LEGO pavilion.

People of all ages built a giant LEGO wall, piecing 32,000 bricks together to make a multi-coloured mosaic of the Kyneton Show.

Animals are the stars of the Show with horses on the main oval, the dog show, stud sheep, poultry and waterfowl, alpacas, llamas, cattle, Swiss black-nosed sheep and miniature donkeys as well as the popular animal nursery and children's pet parade.

There were also tips on everything from farm security to irrigation, permaculture and keeping bees in the growing Life on the Land section.

"People are interested in a genuine country show," Mr Ferrington said.

"Volunteer now for the next show! Save the date: Nov. 16-17, 2024" he said. www.kynetonshow.org.au



Res bridge refurbishment



Malmsbury Reservoir's picturesque access bridge is set to undergo a major refurbishment.

Whilst the reservoir itself was completed in 1870, the current dam outlet, tower and 50m long access bridge was constructed in 1906.

Works were to begin last week on the \$895,000 project to rehabilitate the bridge.

This will include replacing the bridge's foundations, repairing and refurbishing the steel bridge structure, its cast iron supports and bluestone abutment.

The bridge will be removed by crane in four 12-metre long sections, and transported off-site for repair

"Removal of the bridge will also allow for closer inspection of other parts of the structure that may need attention," Coliban Water's Chief Officer Assets and Operations Danny McLean said.

"There are buckled parts of the walkway and steelwork that is rusted beyond repair.

"The bridge will remain closed to the public once works are complete. However, Malmsbury Reservoir remains a popular destination for visitors and families who can enjoy walking, shoreline fishing, kayaking, canoeing and on-water recreation," Mr McLean said.

Funding boost for CFAs

Local CFAs have received funding as part of the recently announced Victorian Emergency Services Equipment Program annual grants. Coliban Group received \$65,334 towards a state-of-the-art Field Command Vehicle.

Langley Barfold CFA received \$223,333 towards funding a state-of-the-art Light Tanker and Spring Hill CFA received \$2,256 to use towards a thermal imaging camera.

Councillors' Update



Since the last edition of Kyneton Connect there have been changes in Councillor representation for the Shire.

We bid farewell to Anne Moore, South Ward councillor, who had to resign for health and family reasons. Her passion and enthusiasm for representing her community will be missed and we thank her for her contribution.

As a result of this there was a countback and Cr Christine Walker has been elected to the third South ward spot.

Welcome Christine and we look forward to working with you.

Cr Annette Death, of East ward, was re-elected as Mayor, and we see a change of Deputy Mayor from Cr Anderson to Cr Pearce.

Congratulations to both the continuing Mayor and new Deputy and we wish them a productive working relationship for the year to come.

With this being a short year in the lead up to the election of a new Council in 2024 it is sure to be a busy one.

We would like to thank outgoing member and Chair of Council's Audit and Risk committee, Mr Peter Matthews, for his dedicated service to the shire.

Thank you also to everyone who worked with staff to put together business cases, or at least ideas, for the 2024/25 budget.

We are doing things differently this year by having early submissions only to inform our final position with planned endorsement in May.

This is so that we can have tenders and contracts ready to go by July 1 limiting the delays we often encounter on projects when we do not endorse the budget until the end of June.

We have seen this done successfully in other councils, and feel it is better

than trying to make decisions with short turnaround times where all information and costings may not be accurately known.

Submissions received have been of a high quality and staff will work with submitters to refine potential content and costings of their requests.

We still welcome ideas throughout the year and encourage you to put them forward at any time.

Finally, Council is very proud of the collaborative work we have undertaken with the community on our Climate Emergency Plan.

Council has endorsed our zero net emissions plan, dealing with council's pathway to reduce operational emissions. This new plan, scheduled to be endorsed in December, has undergone extensive workshops and community feedback, following on from the township Cool Changes individual community climate action plans, to produce a document of how Council can work with businesses and residents to reduce the carbon footprint of the Shire overall beyond Council's own.

Thank you to all involved and we know collaboration will continue so we can achieve as many of the action items as possible in as short a time frame as possible.

Best wishes to you all over the festive season. We hope you manage to rest and relax and can spend time with loved ones or make new friendships.

Jennifer, Mark and Janet **Fire Danger Period has started**

The Fire Danger Period for the Macedon Ranges began on Nov 27 and will end on 1 May 2024 (unless otherwise advised).

During the Fire Danger Period, no fire may be lit in the open air without a permit.

The Big Summer Read is back

The Big Summer Read aims to arrest the 'summer slide' by engaging children and their families in a fun and dynamic campaign through public libraries, to encourage children to read over the school holidays.

Read ten books over summer, collect incentives, and be in the running to win great prizes!

There are two ways to participate - online, or on paper.

Online registrations are now open. Paper booklets are available at Kyneton Library.

Find more info at <https://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread> Library fun activities through January include Minecraft and Summer Bugs craft activities and a musical concert Min and Sean- The Book Song Show.

Bookings on the Library's event page <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/>

Volunteer Visitors Scheme

In February 2024, Macedon Ranges Shire Council staff will be visiting local markets and libraries to invite community members to volunteer with the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme (ACVVS).

ACVVS, funded by the Australian Government, aims to tackle social isolation and loneliness in older people.

Volunteers are matched with an older person with whom they share a passion or interest for regular visits.

The program started in July and it now has a waitlist of keen older residents looking for a volunteer visitor. Could you be one?

Council staff invite interested people to come and meet them in February next year to find out how to become involved with this rewarding program or to find out more, visit Council's ACVVS web page, call 54220333 or emvolunteervisiting@mrsc.vic.gov.au



Alois and Di enjoying a cuppa

Local CFA Volunteers Assist Queensland Firefighting Effort



CFA Volunteers from Kyneton, Malmsbury, Spring Hill and other local Fire Brigades were recently deployed to combat major bushfires at various locations in Queensland.

Multiple fires were burning across much of Queensland and many strike teams and an Incident Management Team (IMT) were sent from Victoria to assist.

Local crews were tasked at the Toowoomba and Tara fires, whilst the IMT was based at the Rockhampton Incident Control Centre.

Firefighting crews worked for 3 days per rotation and the IMT for 5 days. Shift times were 7am to 7 pm.

The Rockhampton IMT was dealing with a major fire burning in the Carnarvon Gorge Park.

This fire exceeded 350,000 ha and had a perimeter of approx. 850 kms.

The Park is surrounded by large cattle stations and the property owners were anxious to protect their grazing land from the fire escaping the Park.

Many of the owners provided support by preparing containment lines using their private equipment. Some owners unexpectedly lit backburns which they hoped would limit the fire spread.

Ex Group Officer John Pearce and Coliban Group Officer Andrew Jan played key roles in the IMT overseeing the on ground and aerial firefighting operations for this fire.

They were supported by a full team of CFA and Queensland personnel.

In commenting, John Pearce said "It was a rewarding time working with our interstate colleagues and a great opportunity for our CFA members to gain vital experience working at a major fire."

The Queensland personnel all expressed the desire to repay the favour should Victoria need a hand in the future.

Recycling and resale upgrade

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has been awarded a grant of just over \$150,000 through the Victorian Government's Circular Economy Councils Fund for an upgrade of the resale shop at the Kyneton resource recovery facility (Transfer Station) in Redesdale Road and the development of a new resale shop in Romsey.

The Victorian Government's Recycling Victoria New Economy policy, provides funding to councils for projects that reduce waste to landfill and transition towards a circular economy.

Council's Director Assets and Operations, Shane Walden, welcomed the funding and said resale shops were a fantastic way to divert usable goods from landfill while giving residents and visitors the opportunity to buy unique and affordable items.

The upgrade of the Kyneton resale shop is expected to be completed by Christmas.

Council has already expanded its services to include free textile and polystyrene recycling at resource recovery facilities in another proactive step to reduce waste going into landfill. Residents can drop their damaged textiles including clothes, shoes, linen and more, at resource recovery centres where they are then collected for reuse, repair, and recycling.

Items that are not damaged and still in good condition should still go to the nearest op shop.

The textile recycling initiative is delivered in partnership with Upcycle4Better, who turns recycled textiles into other reusable items such as bags and cleaning cloths.

Clean, white expanded polystyrene can also be recycled for free at resource recovery facilities as long as it is free from dirt, tape, labels and ink.

Recycled polystyrene is turned into items such as picture frames, skirting boards, decking and other household products.

For a complete list of the Council's recycling services visit the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website.



A busy Kyneton Band



The Kyneton Brass Band members are gearing up for a busy Festive season.

On Sat Dec 2 they performed at the celebration for the 150 years of the Malmsbury Primary School and later that day at the Kyneton Twilight Festival.

On Dec 16 the Band will be participating in the Riddells Creek Carols by Candlelight service and the next evening Sun Dec 17 at the Kyneton Community Carols service at St Paul's Anglican Church.

You will also see some members of the band playing carols in the main streets of the towns around the Shire, to add to the Christmas spirit.

Next year, 2024, the Kyneton Brass Band will be celebrating its 170th year. They are hoping to have some events celebrating this milestone during the year.

If you have had some connection with the Band in the past they would love to hear from you.

Contact Bandmaster Hugh Davies on 0418519398 for more details.

Connect production update

October saw the first ever colour edition of Kyneton Connect.

Its printing was financed by the new directors of Ray White Kyneton who for many years have generously paid for 3 of the 6 copies per year of Connect.

That colour print run which was very well received by readers was a little more expensive than our black and white edition and had to be done out of town.

We have now worked through production logistics and will be producing 2 colour issues per year courtesy of Ray White Kyneton but the other 4 issues will be black and white and printed as previously by the Kyneton Copy Centre.

What's New in Business

Charlie Bears in Kyneton



Worldwide bear maker Charlie Bears is basing its Australian operations in Kyneton in "Cubhouse" at Unit 3/9 Saleyards Rd – the first outlet on the right as your travel along Saleyards Rd from the Edgcombe Rd intersection. Charlie Bears started in the UK but now operates out of 37 countries.

Kerri Botwood who for some years had Kerri's Bundle of Bears in Woodend manages Charlie Bears distribution for Australia, New Zealand (and Japan).

There is a huge range Charlie Bears available to be purchased through the Kyneton Charlie Bears warehouse and shop in Saleyards Rd which is open 9-4pm Mon-Fri.

Appointments call 54274482 or email cubhouse@charliebears.com.

Willow & Co



Willow & Co have relocated from Albert Park to 61 Piper St Kyneton (formerly Josettes).

The homewares and gift shop specialises in classic homewares for the stylish home.

Owner is Sarah Birch who is assisted by her mother Sandra.

Willow & Co will be open Thursday-Monday but will open every day in the lead up to Christmas.

Bowling Club Bistro re-opens

The Kyneton Bowling Club's bistro has re-opened under the name Honey House @ Jack High.

The bistro is open 6 days Tues-Sun for lunch and dinner. Lunch is 12-2pm and dinner is 5.30-8.30pm most days but 5.30-9pm Fri & Sat.

Meals are Asian/Western cuisine with an extensive menu and a \$16.90 lunch special every day as well as specific night time specials.

Take away is also offered.

Club manager Leeanne Forde advises that other than Christmas Day the Bistro will be open throughout the Christmas-New Year period.

The dining area is ideal for functions with a capacity to cater for up to 266 guests.

To book phone 44122000.



New Kyneton Telstra Partner

A new Telstra Partner store is to be established in Kyneton.

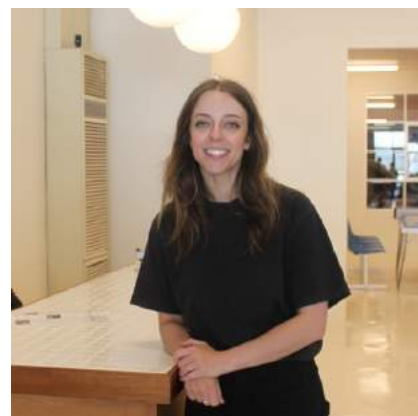
Bettatech, who have a Telstra Partner Store in Ballarat will also manage the Kyneton store.

In the interim each Wednesday Paula Johns of Bettatech and her team have had a pop-up adjacent to the Telstra Exchange in Jennings St.

They will be there in the New Year each Wednesday Jan 10 to Jan 31.



Easy Store



A unique retail experience, Easy Store, has recently opened in Kyneton at 160 Mollison St (formerly Kriskens Paintright).

Easy Store is owned by husband and wife, Eamonn and Jo and combines clothing with creativity. Offering an expanding range of core wardrobe essentials and workwear for men, women and kids, Easy Store stocks brands such as AS Colour, SUK Workwear, Patagonia, Hard Yakka, Bisley as well as their own quirky labels, Sir Harold and Dame Yung.

Within the clothing store you will find table tennis, cold drinks and at the back, a window into the creative space of their local Screen Printing & Embroidery business 'Print Laundry'.

Both Eamonn and Jo went to school in Kyneton and after a few years living in Melbourne, moved back to Kyneton together 8 years ago.

They have big things planned for Easy Store next year including workshops, pop-up events and an expanding range of clothing, but in the meantime, you can drop in and say hello or stock up on those last minute Christmas gifts.

Open Thu - Mon (9am-5pm weekdays and 10am-3pm weekends).

Dining venues recognised

Kyneton's standing as a great place to eat and drink has again been recognised in Awards this Nov.

In mid-November the Midnight Starling Restaurant (60 Piper St) was again awarded One Hat in the prestigious Age Good Food Awards.

On Nov 27 whilst in Golden Plate Awards celebrating the best of regional Victoria's hospitality industry The Kyneton Hotel (98 Mollison St) won the Best Hotel Dining Award and Miss M's Lounge (29 Piper St) was named Best Cocktail Bar/Cellar Door.

New Lingerie department

Oliver Campbell Trading, at 26 Piper St has launched its new lingerie department, designed to offer an exclusive and intimate shopping experience.

Oliver Campbell Trading is dedicated to providing private fittings, ensuring comfort, privacy, and a personalized touch.

Expert fitters will be available to assist clients in finding the perfect lingerie pieces for them.

To ensure an exclusive experience, bookings for these private fittings can be made via phone, 0456823349.



Rebecca Gannon of Oliver Campbell

Business Kyneton flourishing

Tim Sullivan who runs Sonder Sites, a website and ecommerce agency in Kyneton is the new President of Business Kyneton.

This past year has been remarkable for Business Kyneton, with notable achievements.

Business Kyneton hosted an engaging networking event at Rationale and provided vital support to local enterprises through updates on local grants and council information.

A highlight was their recent major event, RESET, aimed at both members and the local community.

Thanks to a government mental health grant, Business Kyneton designed a day for individuals to take a break from their regular routines and invest in personal growth.

The day featured a variety of activities, including breathwork, art therapy, an inspiring talk by Dr. Louise Mahler, a communal lunch, and even an ice bath challenge.

In the background, Tim has been developing the 'Instant Local' initiative which motivates both tourists and residents to engage with local stores,

using QR codes to accumulate points on a special trail.

Accumulating these points enters participants into a draw for substantial prizes, generously donated by local businesses.

Business Kyneton have also purchased the door bows for retailers in town to borrow as Christmas decorations on their store doors.



Central Pelvic Health Physiotherapy

Caroline Bender is an APA Continence and Women's Health Physiotherapist who has recently returned to the Kyneton region to live. She is offering a new Pelvic Health Physiotherapy service working out of Kyneton Health Consulting rooms at the Kyneton Hospital's Ambulatory Care Centre.

Caroline has been working as a Physiotherapist for over 20 years with post graduate qualifications in Pelvic Health

13 years ago, she founded then ran a dedicated Pelvic Health practice on the Mornington Peninsula.

Recently she moved back to this region and is happy to be bringing this service to the town.

Pelvic Health physio covers a wide range of issues relating to pelvic floor muscles, bladder, bowel, gynaecology, pregnancy, childbirth, prostate and musculoskeletal problems.

Help is available for any pain problems which includes help for sexual pain.

More information is available on the website at centralpelvic.com.au.

You can contact Caroline via the website and online bookings are available there.

Alternatively call 0487018665, or email caroline@centralpelvic.com.au.



Increased local pharmacy services

From Oct 30 Victorians across the State gained improved access to health care, with some community pharmacists able to provide treatment and advice for a range of common conditions.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas announced the start of a 12-month pilot that will give Victorians more choice about where and how they access basic primary care, especially for people struggling to access an affordable or bulk billing GP close to home.

Services include advice or treatment for women with uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) or a resupply of their existing contraceptive pill without needing a prescription – with a broader public health vaccination offering, travel health consultations and treatment for mild skin conditions to roll out in coming weeks and months.

Importantly, Victorians won't be charged for a pharmacy consultation for UTIs, mild skin conditions or a resupply of the contraceptive pill – pharmacies may charge a fee for a travel health consultation and vaccinations, while the cost of medication will remain the same as a prescription from a GP.

To be eligible to participate, all pharmacists are required to successfully complete mandatory training in the piloted services. Pharmacies in the Kyneton area currently participating in the trial are Terry White Chemmart Kyneton; Malmsbury Pharmacy Pty Ltd; Trentham Pharmacy and Terrywhite Chemmart Woodend.

Mila Pereira bound for Spain

Kyneton Rotary Exchange Student Mila Pereira is bound for a year in Spain.

She has been sponsored by Rotary International through the Rotary Club of Kyneton.

In Spain Mila will stay with local host families and be sponsored by the local Rotary Club and attend a local Secondary College.

The year includes a trip around Europe with other Exchange Students.

Mila has been learning Spanish and is already in touch with her host families and Club.

Around the Galleries

At the Stockroom

98 Piper Street

Exhibitions to 7 Jan 2024

Gallery One

Becc Orszag – *A whisper and a hush*

Gallery Two

Natalie Ryan *Night Creatures*

Catalogues available on request

See also work and ceramics of Rachelle Austen, Andrei Davidoff, Phil Elson, Cassie Hansen, Angela Hayes, Lauren Joffe, Janetta Kerr-Grant, Minaal Lawn, Kirsten Perry, Georgina Proud, David Ray, Alichia Van Rhijn, Dawn Vachon, Laura Veleff, Iggy and Loulou



Alichia Van Rhijn, *Why is a Raven Like A Writing Desk 2023*

The Old Auction House

52-56 Mollison St

New Growth - Group Exhib Jan 4 - 22

A new year is the perfect time to refresh, grow, and redirect our lives - taking cue from the natural world help us usher in the new year with fresh botanical displays.

F#ck and Flee - Christos Linou 4 Jan 4 - 22

This provocative exhibition reflects experiences from 2010 - 2019 and while the images themselves may not depict sexual activity, each painting captures the essence of these events through abstract illustration.

The written content questions promiscuous casual sex, challenging the notion of f#cking and fleeing.

Queerthentic Regional LGBTQIA+ Art Prize Jan 25 – Feb 12

Queerthentic reveals authentic stories from Central Victorian LGBTQIA+ and gender diverse artists in this regional art prize.

Art on Piper

44 Piper St

Art on Piper will be open on all days in the holiday period except Christmas Day and welcoming in 2024 with all the creative works made by 24 clever AOP members, plus a summer themed front window display.

OKPS Activations continue

Since Oct 21, when Amos Roach and the Yepenga Dancers performed, on every second Saturday Working Heritage has been hosting free events for the community on the basketball courts of the old Kyneton Primary School in Baynton St.

The last event for 2023 which will be held at 12pm this Saturday Dec 16 features performances by the Rainbow Choir and the U3A Choir.

The Activation events will resume in the new year – visit <https://okps.com.au> for updates.

Working Heritage has also marked up a half court on the Basketball Court for community use.

Works on the regeneration of Bluestone section of the old School are expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2024.



Jon Madin conductis OKPS Instrument Making Workshop on Nov 4

Fingers & Toes to Return

The inaugural Fingers and Toes Festival held by Kyneton Handweavers and Spinners Group during the 2023 Daffodil & Arts Festival was a huge success.

It is the intention of the Group to hold another Fingers & Toes Festival during the Daffodil & Arts Festival next year. Some changes will be made to the classes and these will be available in late January.

All details will be on Kyneton Handweavers and Spinners Group Facebook page or email fingersandtoesfestival@gmail.com.

The Preloved Pedlar Op Shop

The Preloved Pedlar operates as much as it can on a Re-use and Re-cycle pattern with little going into landfill.

Like all other Op Shops the Pedlar asks that people think about what they donate – items should be in good condition- something you would pass on to a friend.



At the sorting space at the back of the shop, volunteers sort clothes to be ironed, pressed and priced.

They may sew on a loose button etc but any articles of clothing not 'shop fit' are recycled into their rag bag.

These bags are collected on a weekly basis and at the base in Bendigo are sorted again, some cut and used for work-cloth rags others shredded to be remade into other articles.

The Preloved Pedlar also accepts larger household items; beds, clean mattresses and electrical goods in working order.

There are four fully trained 'Tag and Test' volunteers who check each electrical item is safe for resale.

These goods have a dated label attached as proof of having been passed safe for use.

All the workers at the Preloved Pedlar are volunteers and the shop is managed by a Committee of Management.

Margaret Lynch, secretary of the Committee, states that the generosity of the Kyneton community in donating and volunteering allows them to offer support in many different ways.

A few examples over the past year are Families and individuals have had emergency assistance with vouchers to purchase food and vegetables; money donations to local sporting and service clubs for community events; donations to both primary schools to reduce the cost of Camp and Excursions for children; Christmas gift cards for the local supermarket for young families.

The Committee of Management of the Preloved Pedlar takes this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated and/or volunteered over 2023.

Bald Hill Reserve

The Friends of Bald Hill Reserve have completed the long-planned brochure about Bald Hill Reserve which includes a map and information on the walking trails.

It is now available in the Information Centres in Kyneton and Woodend.

Bald Hill Reserve, is located only six kilometres to the east of Kyneton.

The 96-hectare reserve is valued as ecologically, geologically, and culturally significant consisting of forest, woodland, and remnant native grassland.

It is one of the largest and intact areas of native vegetation in the Kyneton Region. The Friends of Bald Hill Reserve have worked in partnership with the Shire Environmental Unit since 2014 to implement the Environmental Management Plan.



Carolyn Robb with the Bald Hill Reserve brochure

This brochure is just part of the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve's Masterplan to develop accessible public infrastructure at the Mt St Mary's Lane Entrance.

This has included the entrance itself, path, boardwalk, Brown Toadlet sign, seats, a shelter with seating and the brochure. A brochure box is yet to be installed.

The final stage to be completed by the end of this financial year includes the fabrication and installation of an Interpretative Sign for the back of the shelter, and a Taungurung Welcome Sign designed by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser near the entrance.

Maddi will also be designing an information panel for the shelter specifically about the Taungurung. also to be fabricated and installed.

Waypoint signage in the reserve itself is ready to be fabricated and installed.

The final part of the Masterplan is to install a picnic setting near the shelter, yet to be funded.

These developments are only part of the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve work over the years, which is to actively manage this unique reserve and act as advocates to protect its rich diversity of indigenous flora and fauna, including state and nationally significant species.

To find out more about the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve or to become a member em-kynetonfobhr@gmail.com

Kyneton RSL

For the Remembrance Day ceremonies in Kyneton and Trentham the good crowds in attendance were treated to warm, sunny weather.

The RSL were pleased to have Mary-Anne Thomas, State member for Macedon, attend the ceremony in Kyneton and lay a wreath.

This year marked the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Legacy. To commemorate this milestone, a Legacy Torch Relay was held commencing in Pozieres in France on April 23 before travelling on to London and then Australia – a journey of some 50,000 kilometres.

Isobella Bates, the daughter of Kyneton RSL Affiliate Member, Bill Bates, raised in excess of \$13,000 for Legacy as part of this commemoration and also participated in the relay leg held in Ballarat

On Dec 5 the Sub-Branch held its annual Veterans/Legacy lunch with about 80 people in attendance.

They were treated to a wonderful lunch and all received a small Christmas parcel. A great day was enjoyed by all.

Also the RSL was able again this year to provide all its Service members with a \$50 Woollies food voucher to enable them to buy a few extra goodies for Christmas.

The annual RSL Victoria Hall of Fame Awards Night was held at the Frankston RSL on Sat Nov 25.

Warren Rogan, who has been a Duty Manager at the Kyneton RSL since November 2020, received an Achievement & Recognition Award for all the hard work he puts in on behalf of the Kyneton RSL. Congratulations to Warren on a well-deserved award.

Finally a reminder to all Kyneton RSL members that memberships are now due for renewal for 2024.

Come February 1 2024, all those not renewed will become lapsed.

Kyneton Community House

The Kyneton Community House has had a very busy end of 2023, culminating in the Kyneton Twilight Festival on Dec 2.



The House will close for the Christmas New Year period on Wed Dec 20 with Childcare returning on Thu Jan 18 and the office re-opening on Tue Jan30.

All Term 1 courses are available for booking through the website or in the office during business hours.

Much loved courses such as Art and Carpentry will be returning along with courses based around Digital Literacy, Independent living and a great range of exercise based classes for all abilities.

The Kyneton Whole Town Garage Sale will be held Sat Mar 16. Registration will open early Feb.

Journey Christmas Collection

Journey Early Learning Centre at 13-15 Market St Kyneton have three collection boxes ready for families and community members to drop of donations for the local foodbank.

One box is labelled food items, one box is toys and books.

Journey will be delivering these two boxes to foodbank on Fri Dec 15 ready for local families to access.

The third box is for the Royal Children's hospital – Journey educators will be dropping toys and books into the Hospital on Sun Dec 17.

Please feel free to come in and see Kyneton Journey Director Kirsty to drop off donations and to chat about your family needs for 2024.



U3A 2024 Registration Day



U3A members enjoying Lunch Club

U3A Kyneton provides a stimulating environment for Macedon Ranges residents who have retired from full time work, enjoy meeting people and want to keep active.

The next U3A Kyneton Enrolment Day is Jan 19 2024, 9.30am-12pm at the Red Brick Hall 23 Yaldwyn St West.

New members can join via the website or they can also join in person on the Day at the Red Brick Hall, 23 Yaldwyn St West. Existing members can enrol either online or in person.

Kyneton U3A activities include a wide range of programs e.g. guest speakers; choir; movies; poetry; folk dancing; social activities; cycling; games and much more.

Further information is available via email u3akyneton@gmail.com and on the website <https://u3akyneton.org.au/> or phone 0439360763.

RM Begg Auxiliary

As the year draws to a close the RM Begg Auxiliary are happy to report a very busy and successful year with their last stall of the year held on Sat Dec 2.

The Auxiliary's Christmas raffle was drawn that day with prize winners, in order being: 1. Jean Fallon, 2. Helen Burgess, 3. Moira Greenwood, 4. Cathy Main, 5. Jenny Bowe, 6. Adrian Hickey, 7. Roza Babic, 8. Sue Pearson, 9. Ross Linaker, 10. Sally, 11. Karen Halloran.

The RM Begg Auxiliary wish to thank the community and their very generous sponsors as their success would not have been possible without such support.

The RM Begg Auxiliary stalls and Garage Sales will recommence from February next year, so watch for the ads around town and in the Express.

The stalls will continue to run on the first Saturday of each month in Bolton Hall in Epping St.

Successful year for Men's Shed

Twenty-twenty-three has been a great year for the Kyneton Men's Shed with successful fund raisers, the acquisition for new equipment, and making the Shed's first community grant.

The Shed also increased male membership and ladies' associate membership. Both memberships now total almost 70 in number.

New equipment includes a top of the range Vicmarc wood turning lathe plus a number of chucks and associated equipment.

The Shed plans on running wood turning classes in the new year.

The Shed also improved its wood stockpile storage area, acquired some purpose-built woodworking benches, and improved its training facilities in the library and lunchroom with new audio-visual equipment.

It now offers members free wifi Internet and has an improved garden.

An improved financial situation resulted in the Shed, at its 2023 AGM determining that 10% of its funds each year being made as a grant/grants to local community organisations.

The first grant of \$500 has been made to the Kyneton Kindness Collective.

The Christmas raffle was won by Eileen Gerber of Gisborne.

Mental health support for young people

A new support service for young people is available locally. The free counselling service is open to young people aged 12 to 25 years living in the Macedon Ranges and offers the option of meeting with a counsellor at a location that suits the young person.

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health has employed a new mental health outreach worker who is engaging with schools and families and helping young people work through matters affecting their wellbeing such as relationship challenges, identity issues, grief and health concerns.

Danielle Bell comes to the role with social work background and has had a number of youth support roles including in foster care, crisis accommodation, schools and in the prison sector.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this service, call 54211666 or email intake.kyneton@scchc.org.au.

No GP referral or mental health plan required.

Lions Club of Kyneton

The Lions Club has been very active over the last few months, getting out in the community, raising funds and giving back to people in need.

In August, the Lions were the grateful recipients of a \$500 Community Donation from the Commonwealth Bank, Kyneton Branch.

These funds will be used to assist in further fundraising efforts.

The Lions Club had a successful sausage sizzle at the Ferret Races during the Daffodil & Arts Festival - their first event using their newly purchased BBQ trailer.

The BBQ trailer is available for hire - contact the Club for more information. Annually, the Lions Club donates "trauma teddies" to the Kyneton Ambulance Centre.

The Club enjoyed a great day out at the Kyneton Show. The Lions Club Train was in full swing and provided enjoyment to its passengers all day.

The Lions Christmas Cakes are still available for sale at various businesses around Kyneton.

And finally, in November the Club hosted a Membership Drive event for people to find out more about being a Lions Club member.

Members and potential members enjoyed a BBQ and shared their experience of being a Lion.

If you were unable to attend the membership event, but are still interested in finding out more - the club has an open invitation to the community to attend Lions Club meetings. They meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Watts Pavillion and have a social dinner meeting the 4th Thur at various Kyneton based restaurants and pubs.

If you'd like to come along, please contact Denise Bertoncini on 0407589860 or email kynetonlionsclub@gmail.com



Lions Club members receive cheque from CBA staff

Kyneton District Services

Accountants

Craig Chester Accounting 5422 1966
 Watco Partners Pty Ltd 5792 2580
 David J Gibney Pty Ltd 5422 6480

Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine

Dr Michele Downes 0407582036

Art Studio and Gallery

Maxine McKee at Trio Art 0467025354

Auto Services & Repairs

Kyneton Auto Spares & Repairs 5422 1255
 Vereker Bros Smash Repairs 5422 2603

Catering & Cafe

Angies Café & Bakeshop 5422 6112

Chiropractor

Performance One 5422 6488

Concreting & Paving

MBC Concreting & Paving 0417545159

Dental

Campaspe Dental 5422 3988
 Kyneton Dental 5422 6159

Dry Cleaning

Kyneton Dry Cleaners 5422 1503

Electricians

Macedon Ranges Electrics 5422 2182
 Kyneton Electrics 5422 1369

Fabric, Yarn & Haberdashery

Alice in fabricland 5422 6031

Financial Planning

BTP Business Advisors Pty Ltd 5422 1588

Fishmongers

The Fishmonger Kyneton 0408127392

Holistic Health

Maiaveda Retreat & Spa 0420580886

Insurance

Simplex Insurance Solutions 5422 3333

School Aged Childcare

BugALugs 5422 2767

Shoe Suppliers

Kyneton Shoes 5422 2090

Legal Practices

Palmer Stevens & Rennick 5422 6500

LP Gas Supplies

Hendersons the Gas People 5422 7408

Medical Practices

Campaspe Family Practice 5422 2877
 Kyneton Medical Centre 5422 1397
 Springs Medical Kyneton 5422 1298
 Goonawarra Medical Centre 9744 9900

Optometrist

Kosmac & Clemens 5422 3822

Osteopath

Organic Mechanic Osteo 0423852874

Real Estate

Broadhurst Property 1300380980
 Ray White Kyneton 5422 2127
 RT Edgar 5422 3325

Town Planning Services

Macaulay Town Planning 5422 3054

Veterinarians

Dr Greg McIntyre 5422 1310

Kyneton Events Calendar

Thur Dec 14	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Fri Dec 15	Kyneton Old Time Dance St Mary's Hall 7.30pm
Sat Dec 16	'Once Upon a Christmas Eve' Bluestone Theatre 7.30pm Rainbow Voices and Kyneton U3A Choir Old Primary School 12-2pm
Sun Dec 17	Kyneton Community Carols St Paul's Church 7.30pm
Mon Dec 25	Christmas Day
Tues Dec 26	Boxing Day
Mon Jan 1	New Year's Day Hanging Rock Racing Hanging Rock Racecourse 11am
Sat Jan 13	Kyneton Farmers and Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebden & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm
Fri Jan 19	Kyneton Old Time Dance St Mary's Hall 7.30pm U3A Kyneton Enrolment Day Red Brick Hall 9.30-12pm
Fri Jan 26	Australia Day Hanging Rock Racing Hanging Rock Racecourse 11am
Wed Jan 31	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High St 12.30pm
Fri Feb 2	The Seven Ups 'A free wind blowing' Album launch Major Tom's
Sat Feb 3	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am RM Begg Auxiliary Stalls Bolton Hall 9am
Tues Feb 6	Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival AGM Kyneton Mechanics Inst 7.30pm
Wed Feb 7	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High Street 12.30pm
Sat Feb 10	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebden & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm
Sun Feb 11	'Ross Wilson and the Peaceniks' Kyneton Town Hall 4pm
Tues Feb 13	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Wed Feb 14	Kyneton Community Lunch 356 High Street 12.30pm

Christmas Services

Kyneton Anglican (St Pauls)

Dec 17: Carols 7.30pm
 Dec 24: Family Service 5pm
 Communion 11.30pm

Dec 25: Communion 9am

Malmsbury Anglican (St Johns)

Dec 20: Blue Christmas 6pm
 Dec 24: Communion 7.30pm

Kyneton Baptist Church

Dec 24: Carols 7pm
 Dec 25: Christmas Day 9:30am

Our Lady of the Rosary Kyne

Dec 24: Carols 5.30pm
 Vigil Mass 6pm

Dec 25: Mass 10.30am

St Andrew's Uniting Church

Dec 25: Christmas Day 9.30am

Live Music at the Albion

Kyneton's Albion Hotel now offers live music 2-5pm on Sundays. The Vintage Blues Machine, (pictured) performed on Dec 10. On Dec 17 the Amazing Valentinos. will perform.



Container Deposit Scheme

Victoria's container deposit scheme started on Nov 1.

The scheme rewards Victorians with a 10-cent refund for every eligible can, carton and bottle they return.

Nearby locations such as Daylesford and East Trentham have Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs).

Kyneton currently has over the counter return operations at Mollison's Fish and Chips and at Ruby Café.

More RVMs will become available as the rollout continues.

If you've got a large stockpile of drink containers you can also head to the Sunbury Reverse Vending Bulk Depot.

For more information visit <https://cdsvic.org.au>.

Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival AGM Feb 6

The Annual General Meeting of the members of Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival. Will be held in the Kyneton Mechanics Institute at 7.30pm Tues Feb 6 2024.

All are welcome to attend.

To enquire about becoming a member, please email kynetondaffodilandartsfestival@gmail.com.



Ferret racing returns—winners with organiser Mark James

Local Water Storages at 94%

In a stark contrast to the spring of 2022, rainfall at our storages this spring was only around half of the long-term average.

This resulted in inflows of just over 5 GL to Coliban Water's storages on the Coliban River, which is around a third of the median inflow received over the same period since 1975.

Executive General Manager Strategy, Anna Lamont said despite the drier conditions, previous wet years mean the water resource position is good.

"To put that into perspective, the average annual rainfall is around 710 mm at Malmsbury, and last year we recorded over 1,100 mm of rain."

"As a result, our storages on the Coliban River are at 94% of capacity" Anna said.

While the region remains in a strong position, Coliban Water is reminding customers to still consider carefully how they're using water around their homes and businesses.

"We are expecting hot and dry summers ahead, so we need to ask ourselves how we're monitoring our water use and whether we've slipped back into any wasteful behaviours."

Grant for Kyneton Primary

On Dec 1 Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas announced that Kyneton Primary School has been approved for funding under the successful Minor Capital Works Fund. It will receive \$399,576 to repair the school oval, including drainage and growing natural turf.

Once upon a Christmas Eve

Described as a fairytale for grown-ups packed with carols, laughs, fun and frivolity, "Once upon a Christmas Eve" will be held in the Kyneton Bluestone Theatre at 7.30pm Sat Dec 16.

Book via Trybooking.

Ross Wilson and the Peaceniks



Ross Wilson is hitting the road with his all-star band The Peaceniks to celebrate over 50 Years of Hits including all the Daddy Cool and Mondo Rock favourites and more.

With 26 ARIA Top 40 hits to his credit as a singer, songwriter and producer, Ross Wilson is one of Australia's most awarded, respected and well-known artists.

He will perform at the Kyneton Town Hall 4pm Sun Feb 11 2024.

To book visit the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website or call 1300888802.

Kyneton Community Carols

This year's Community Carols will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Sun Dec 17 starting at 7.30 pm.

Come along and join in to sing the traditional carols accompanied by the Kyneton Municipal Band and the Rotary Choir.

Bring all the family as Santa will make an appearance as well.

A donation will be taken during the carols to contribute to the Advent Christmas appeal and to assist the Kyneton Band.



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 2024 Issue of *Kyneton Connect* should be e-mailed to edearthcott@bigpond.com or left at Aesop's Attic, 70 High Street, Kyneton before 2 February 2024.
- To have *Kyneton Connect* mailed send name, address and cheque for \$15 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

Layout: Marg Dearthcott.



Auspiced by Sunbury & Cobaw Community Health Service Inc
Kyneton Connect is proudly supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council