Kyneton CONNECT

Volume Twentyone Issue Five Published third Thursday of each even month **October 2026**

Kyneton's Rock House

Guided tours of the historic Rock House property at the start of Burton Avenue were a highlight of this year's Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival.

The tours were conducted by custodian and beneficial owner of Rock House Peter Finlason aided by farm manager Alex Sims.

Rock House is an operating farming property overlooking Kyneton with 3km of Campaspe River frontage adjacent to the Kyneton Racecourse.

As well as its cattle and other stock and farming activities, Rock House is undertaking environmental and sustainable projects such as a 19 hectare mixed-species timber plantation.

Rock House homestead can only be seen in the distance between the trees from the street leading to the Racecourse.

Rock House was built between 1848 and 1853. Property owner at that time Reginald Argyle engaged architect Gabriel Fleck to design Rock House.

One of the remarkable features of Rock House is the bluestone used in its construction which was quarried on the property itself.

The craftsmanship of the original bluestone facade is particularly impressive. Each stone forming the front of the house was carefully bevelled and rounded along its edges, creating the highly detailed appearance that remains one of Rock House's most distinctive features.

During the 1920s, Rock House was sold by the Argyle family to an actress, Mrs McKay, whose stage name was Fanny Dango, and her husband.

The McKays undertook extensive renovations to the house, reflecting the fashions of the 1920s.

These changes significantly altered the character of the original house.

Following the deaths of the McKay family, Rock House was occupied by a succession of people associated with the horse-racing industry. During this period, the property gradually deteriorated and the house fell into a poor state of repair.

In December 1964, Peter's mother, Judy Finlason, and father, Max Finlason, purchased Rock House.

For Peter's family, the purchase represented a remarkable return to their own history.

Peter's great-grandfather, Hugh Glass, was a prominent land speculator in nineteenth-century Melbourne and had, at one stage, owned part of the Rock House property, known as the Glass Run. He subsequently sold the land to Reginald Argyle in the late 1840s.

Hugh Glass was responsible for the construction of the famous three-storey Glass Terrace in Nicholson St, Fitzroy, opposite the Exhibition Buildings, as well as the first terrace houses in Victoria St, Fitzroy.

Sadly, in 1966 Peter's mother, Judy, developed cancer and passed away and his father was left to raise the family - Peter, his older sister and younger brother.

Following Judy's death, Peter's late father decided to continue with the enormous task of restoring Rock House and returning the house to something closer to its original character – a task Peter is keen to continue.

The proceeds of the bus tour entry fees were donated to the RM Begg Auxiliary with special thanks to Betty McClure and the Auxiliary and in memory of past patron Jane Evelyn Lacey (nee Finlason Family).

Behind the mural: a Kyneton business with national reach

Behind the colourful bee mural at what was once the much-loved Laws Shed in Latrobe St, Waggle & Forage is quietly keeping beekeepers supplied across Australia.

Although the business has called Kyneton home for 6 years, owners Jo and Ally still welcome locals who say "We had no idea you were here!"

Inside, a retail space leads to a busy manufacturing workshop, where many of the products on the shelves are made. Among them are pure beeswax foundation sheets, which give honeybees a starting point for building their comb.

Waggle & Forage is also Australia's only commercial manufacturer of bee fondant.

Produced under its Honeybee Food Co. brand, this supplementary food supports everything from backyard hives to commercial beekeeping operations, with pallets shipped by the tonne around the country.

Beekeepers travel from across Victoria, and sometimes interstate, to visit and stock up.

For the pair, it is a pleasure to combine local manufacturing with a welcoming shopfront.

Whether you keep bees or are simply interested in the bee mural, feel free to pop in Tues—Saturdays from 10am.

Kyneton Bowling Club 150th Anniversary Celebrations

This year the Kyneton Bowling Club is celebrating its 150th Anniversary.

The first bowl was rolled on Dec 20 1876 which makes Kyneton the oldest bowls club in Victoria to have operated continually on the same site under the same name.

While the 150th celebrations will run all season long, the major Anniversary Dinner will be held on the night of Sat Nov 21.

The night will be hosted by Brian 'BT' Taylor with a 2 course meal. Guest speakers include Kyneton's own Australian representative and highest achieving bowler Chloe Stewart, Bowls Victoria & Australia representatives, auctions, raffles and more.

The Party Animals band will have everyone dancing long into the night.

Ticket costs are $75 per person – and can be purchased on Trybooking or by contacting the Club on 54221902.

The Club is inviting the entire community to join them in celebrating on what will be a night not to be missed.

Whisky tasting evening

The Rotary Club of Kyneton is hosting "an evening of tasting a selection of fine Victorian whiskies" from 7.30pm on Sat Oct 17 at the Kyneton Zetland Lodge 3 Piper St.

Tickets are $65 each. Guests may bring a designated driver (non-tasting) at no extra cost. Supper and light refreshments will be provided. Tickets via Trybooking.

Earlier December Connect

Kyneton Connect is usually delivered around the 3rd Thursday of each even month but due to the proximity of Christmas the December 2026 *Kyneton Connect* will come out on the 2nd Thu – Dec 10.

Post Office Creek Catchment Community Project

A Victorian Government Landcare Grant of $20,000 has recently been allocated to support the implementation of the Post Office Creek Catchment Management Plan.

Hence Pipers Creek Landcare is inviting the Kyneton community, and rural residents in the Post Office Creek Catchment, to be part of a new sub-group of Pipers Creek Landcare.

The subgroup is called the 'Post Office Creek Catchment Working Group' and its vision is to support: 'Post Office Creek Catchment connected and resilient, restored in health, expressed as a vibrant, grassy woodland and waterway tributary.'

Through the development of annual works plans, the Working Group will deliver on-ground works at project sites, draft grant applications, and promote the values of healthy, connected waterways as places to support wildlife and people.

Pipers Creek Landcare (PCLC) is keen to see this important link, from Bald Hill Reserve to the Kyneton Township, transformed and valued as an essential biolink to the Campaspe River.

Ways to contribute to this vision includes more than planting trees.

The Group is looking for people with social media and communication skills, event management, natural resource management and Water-Watch and grant writing experience.

If you would like to be a working group member or be in the loop for working bees and advocacy opportunities, please reach out by emailing postofficecreek@gmail.com

Come and meet the team at the Launch on Sun Nov 8, 10am–2pm, at the Cnr of Mollison St and Johnson Ct.

The Group will be planting sections of the waterway, conducting a 'Waterway Transformed' walk and talk with a local ecologist about the project.

Food and refreshments will feed the great conversations through the day.

Toy Library's New Chapter

The Kyneton & Districts Toy Library (KTL) is entering a new chapter as President Angela Sloan steps down after leading the committee since 2018.

"The upcoming AGM is a chance for others to help shape how the Toy Library grows, strengthen its volunteer community, and continue to make low -cost, sustainable play accessible to local families," Angela said

The KTL committee invites local families to bring their ideas and get involved to help take the Toy Library forward.

The Toy Library's AGM will be held Thu, Oct 29 at 7:30 pm upstairs at the Kyneton Bowling Club.

All members welcome! Current Committee members are particularly seeking enthusiastic volunteers interested in joining the committee to help keep the library running smoothly.

Angela joined the committee in 2016.

During her tenure, she navigated complex COVID-19 operating restrictions, secured a permanent home at 127 High Street, oversaw the fit-out, and successfully gained state grant funding for new safety fencing.

Her tireless work behind the scenes and during Saturday borrowing sessions leaves a lasting legacy.

KTL opens Saturdays 10–11 am ($40 standard / $30 concession 12-month memberships.

Kyneton Cup Wed Nov 4

The 2026 Kyneton Cup will be held at the Kyneton Racecourse on Wed Nov 4 which is a local holiday.

Cup Day includes fashions on the field, marquees, dining room package or simple general admission Tickets online or at the course. Gates open at 11am.

Kyneton Croquet Club Celebrates 150 years

In November 2026, the Kyneton Croquet Club will celebrate 150 years of existence, an amazing milestone, making it the oldest croquet club in all of Australia.

The first reference to croquet in Kyneton was in the "1866 Steven's Directory of Kyneton, Malmsbury & Taradale". The Kyneton Croquet Club is listed as a "sporting club", but there is no reference to any grounds or location.

The real beginning was Dec 20, 1876, when the Kyneton Bowling & Croquet Club opened at the current Kyneton Bowling Club site beside the Mechanics Institute. Men played bowls and the ladies played croquet, sharing the greens. This arrangement continued until 1914 when the start of WW1 meant the combined Club went into suspension.

In 1919, the Bowling Club reformed, and 2 years later the Croquet Club, but by 1926, the ladies needed more court space for their growing membership, and fund raising commenced to purchase their own site. A one acre site was offered to the Croquet Club for 1,000 Pounds, but the Club could not afford that. It is now the Woolworths carpark behind the Mollison St. shops.

Another site came up for auction, at the corner of Ebden & Donnithorne Sts, the current Club site. As women were barred from bidding in auctions, the Shire Secretary was engaged to bid on behalf of the Croquet Club, but with a strict limit of 200 pounds. When bidding reached 200 pounds, Mrs. Ferris, who had also attended the auction, convinced him to offer an extra 10 pounds which she would guarantee, and that became the successful bid.

The new clubhouse and lawns opened on November 2, 1929, at a cost of 231 Pounds, and that is still the current clubhouse, with a few minor modifications.

Membership seemed to hover around 30 members, but some years, it got down to single figures, resulting in some door-knocking around the nearby streets to raise recruits.

Despite many men being involved in building the clubhouse and ongoing maintenance, only women were Club members. There is a record of a discussion re the possibility of male members in 1951, but it wasn't until 1965 that male members would be accepted into the Club. The 32 current members are evenly split male and female, croquet being one of the few sports where men and women compete on equal terms.

In 1953, gold cardigans were introduced as the Kyneton Croquet Club colour, worn over white frocks or trousers. Over the years, the Club colours have evolved to a combination of gold and royal blue shirts over white trousers.

The Club's first open tournament involving outside players was held over 4 days in 1972, but nowadays the Club runs several successful tournaments each year.

The Kyneton Croquet Club is unusual among sports clubs in Kyneton, in that the Club owns the land, not the Council, and so financial support from the Shire for facilities, etc. is severely limited. The Club must rely on members' fees, fundraising, sponsors and donations.

In 1980, there were some negotiations with the Shire to buy the Club, but as there would be no guarantee that the Club might be asked to move, these did not proceed.

Many past members have made significant contributions to the success of the Kyneton Croquet Club, not least the foundation women that re-established the Club in 1920, but one name that was very significant was Dorothy Dettman. Apart from filling key roles as President (2 yrs) and Secretary (5 yrs), Dorothy was an authorised coach, Club Champion, tournament manager, the Club's first ever referee, and compiled an extensive history of the Club 1866-2001. She was appointed a Life Member in 1983. In 1972, Mr Colin Dettman made the wrought iron sign for the Club on Ebden St, and it still stands to this day.

Current Club President Len Baker is compiling a written history for the years 2001-2026 following Dorothy Dettman's work.

The Kyneton Croquet Club is very active around the region, including a Victorian Representative player. The Club plays Pennant competitions and inter-club challenges with other clubs in the area. Members also travel to other tournaments all around Victoria.

The Club will host an official 150th celebration on November 14th, inviting various dignitaries including the MRSC Mayor, current and previous members and sponsors of the Kyneton Croquet Club.

2026 Club members outside pavilion

Financial Wellbeing – a free workshop for older women

Financial security, knowing your rights, and Estate planning are among the issues that will be discussed at a free 'Financial Wellbeing' workshop designed for older women, to be held in the meeting room at Omnia Community Health at 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive, Kyneton. 2-4pm on Wed Oct 28.

The workshop is sponsored by the Zonta Club of Kyneton and presented by WiRE (Women's Information Referral Enterprise).

If you would like to attend the 'Financial Wellbeing' workshop, please book through Humanitix: https://events.humanitix.com/financial-wellbeing-workshop-6sxszbx2 or via the QR code below.

Places are limited and bookings will close on Oct 23.

Councillors' Update

The Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival was described as "10 days of everything that makes Kyneton such a great place to live and visit… celebrating growth, creativity and community". It certainly was. Our heartfelt thanks yet again to the hundreds of people who donated their time, the sponsors and especially the committee for their dedication and commitment. A huge effort.

Congratulations to the Kyneton Croquet Club celebrating their 150th year anniversary.

We recognise the many members and the volunteers who have enabled the Club to continue.

From well established clubs to new innovations, Council is always looking to improve our services.

There is information about new rate payment options using direct debit to allow people to make payments on the due dates or in smaller amounts to suit individual circumstances.

For more information see FlexiPay on the MRSC website.

Also, our waste app has changed- we are now using the Looped-in Councils app. Residents can download the new free app and delete the other. It includes improved layout and access to your free green waste vouchers from Council's website.

A reminder of free green waste disposal at our transfer stations Oct 26-Nov 8.

We encourage people to continue to maintain their properties leading into these warmer months. Council has a Municipal Fire Management Prevention Committee (MFMPC) consisting of Officers, CFA, various authorities, departments and groups that work and meet regularly throughout the year- assessing, planning and taking action in a coordinated way to ensure our Shire and residents are best prepared and safe. The annual updating of mapping has occurred.

Information sessions held annually by CFA units will commence shortly.

The Dog and Cat Order 2026 was adopted in August, taking effect from Oct 1.

This replaces the 2019 order and updates off-leash areas, conditions and prohibited areas across the Shire.

We know there was a lot of community interest in this work.

The changes balance and reflect community feedback, safety, amenity and environmental factors.

See Cats, dogs and pets on the MRSC website.

Council is also pleased to have worked together with Omnia Community Health to develop "Our towns, Our Supports" community maps. These assist people to find local support services and community resources from food, housing, crisis support, transport, Wi-Fi, charging points, warm and cool spaces, libraries, playgrounds and more.

See Community maps on the MRSC website.

Council continues to work with DEECA and Agriculture Victoria in relation to H5N1 Avian Influenza (Bird Flu).

At the time of writing, one case has been detected in the Shire (in Kyneton).

We ask that people remain vigilant and urge everyone to follow the official Avoid, Record and Report advice if you encounter any sick or dead birds or wildlife.

Information- Bird flu on MRSC website.

On a personal note, Vale Terry Moore- A sadness has been felt by many following Terry's sudden passing.

He worked at Council for over 25 years and community was at the heart of everything he did. Terry was loved and nothing was ever too much trouble.

Terry's kindness and dedication supporting so many will always be remembered.

Best wishes,

Janet and Jennifer

Submitted by Cr Janet Pearce on behalf of West Ward Councillors- Cr Janet Pearce and Cr Jennifer Anderson.

Budburst celebrates 35 years

Visit Granite Hills Winery during Budburst

Now a diary date on every wine lover's calendar, Budburst Festival returns this Spring celebrating 35 years of showcasing the cool climate wines of the Macedon Ranges.

Budburst 2026 boasts a packed two-day festival program across Nov 14 & 15, with events featuring 26 winemakers, hosted by 15+ venues across the Macedon Ranges.

Budburst weekend is a rare chance to sample many artisanal producers who don't usually open to the public.

These smaller producers join forces with iconic cellar doors to showcase their wines, which are matched with an incredible range of delicious food, eclectic music and art throughout the weekend.

Festival hours are from 10am to 5pm on both Saturday and Sunday, with tastings, curated food menus, live entertainment and the chance to chat directly with the winemakers.

Budburst participants can use their own vehicles but Budburst Buses will operate on two loops with starting points either at the Woodend Station or the centre of Lancefield.

For full information about the festival and to book visit Budburst.com

Net Swap Program

Can you make your backyard safer for wildlife? It could be as simple as changing your fruit tree netting.

In Victoria, netting on household fruit trees must have a mesh size of less than 5mm x 5mm at full stretch.

Larger mesh sizes can entangle and injure birds, bats and other native animals.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council are taking part in the Net Swap Program in partnership with the Victorian Conservation Regulator.

This program gives residents the opportunity to surrender illegal household fruit tree netting and receive one legal, wildlife-safer alternative at no cost.

A Festival to Remember

Kyneton was bursting with colour, activity and community spirit Sept 4-13 as the 2026 Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival delivered ten action-packed days of events across the town.

From Opening Night through to the Daffodil Dash, Dog Dash, Rock House Tours, One Act Plays, open gardens, exhibitions, markets, live music, workshops, Youth Open Mic, Emergency Services Open Day and Ferret Racing, the program offered something for just about every age and interest.

The much-loved Grand Parade and Fair Day on Sun Sept 13 drew a huge crowd, with the streets of Kyneton filled with colourful parade entries, community groups, families and visitors enjoying the final day of celebrations.

Behind the success is a significant community effort.

Months of planning by the volunteer Festival Committee is supported by event organisers, performers, artists, musicians, gardeners, schools, community groups, stallholders, parade participants, emergency services, officials and the many volunteers who give their time before, during and after the Festival.

Central to making it all possible are the Festival's sponsors and supporters.

Their financial and in-kind contributions allow the volunteer committee to deliver such a broad program, introduce new attractions and continue the traditional events that generations of locals have enjoyed.

Festival President Sharryn Smith said the response to this year's event had been particularly rewarding, with feedback suggesting the Festival had taken another step forward in 2026.

"While the Festival continues to grow and evolve, it remains all about bringing people together, celebrating spring, strengthening community connections and showcasing everything that makes Kyneton such a special place" Sharryn said.

Fat Magpie Farm

The Kyneton Horticultural Society will host a behind-the-scenes look at a local flower farm at the Shamrock Hotel at 7pm on Mon Oct 19.

Join Trudi Reilly & Byron Cocksedge, part-time flower growers and dahlia aficionados, as they share the story of Fat Magpie Farm in nearby Spring Hill.

Discover how they balance small-scale farming with a love of seasonal flowers, and learn what it takes to grow, care for, and showcase stunning dahlias (and others).

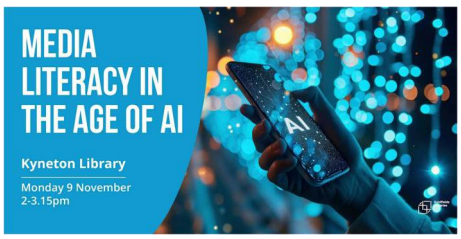
A selection of dahlia tubers from Fat Magpie Farm will also be available to purchase on the night.

Their presentation will offer practical insights into small-scale flower farming, tips for growing and caring for dahlias and inspiration for your own garden or floral projects

The event is free for members and $10 for non-members/guests.

https://events.humanitix.com/fat-magpie-farm

Media Literacy in the Age of AI



With AI increasingly shaping the news, social media and other online content, how can we tell what is reliable and what isn't?

Kyneton Library is running Media Literacy in the Age of AI: An Introduction on Mon Nov 9, 2–3.15pm.

This introductory workshop will look at how AI is influencing the information we encounter online and explore ways to think critically about what we see and read.

Bookings are appreciated.

Call Kyneton Library on 54221365 or visit goldfieldslibraries.com

Labor candidate welcomes opening up of OKPS

Labor candidate for Macedon Annette Death, pictured with KDAF President Sharryn Smith, has welcomed "the exciting milestone in the transformation of the Old Kyneton Primary School site" when she visited it on parade day of the Daffodil and Arts Festival.

She commented that the impressive exhibitions of the works of artists Lachlan Drake and Anne Anderson and the market featuring local makers displayed the Old School's great potential.

"With the security fence now down, the community can see this important landmark taking shape as a vibrant community space for future generations" Annette said.

All Day Sacred Harp singing

On Sat Nov 21 the 6th Kyneton All-Day Sacred Harp singing will take place in the Kyneton's Red Brick Hall 23 Yaldwyn St West with registration at 9.30am and singing 10am-4pm.

You can participate in a whole day of shape note singing from The Sacred Harp songbook (2025 edition).

No experience is necessary. An introductory singing school will be held at the start of the day.

Song books will be available for loan or purchase.

A shared lunch will be provided.

For more information email Lauren at kynetonsacredharp@gmail.com

Old time dancing at Kyneton

On the third weekend of each month, a dance is held at St Mary's Hall in Hutton St. Entry cost is $8.

The next dance is Sun Oct 18, 1.30-5pm, with music by Rod McKenzie.

The following dance is on Fri Nov 20, 7.30-11pm, with Family Rhythm providing the music.

What's New in Business

Bold new Kyneton restaurant

Rühe opened at 58 Piper St in late August. It is the work of Daniel Saligari host, sommelier and driver of the cheese trolley and chef Rob Kabboord, who counts Sydney fine diner Quay and Northcote landmark Merricote among his credits.

The Restaurant premises formerly housed The Spaghetti Bar and most recently Marchesa.

Saligari bought out his Marchesa business partner, Daniel Whelan, and went looking for a chef. A casual conversation with Kabboord turned into a partnership, and Rühe followed.

The menu is what Rob likes to call contemporary Victorian neo bistro, driven by local produce and season, with influences from Rob's Dutch heritage and his time working across some of Australia's best kitchens.

The menu is à la carte with three options in each bracket, and there's the choice of a five-course Rühe menu.

Hours: Fri 5.30 –9pm, Sat: 11.30am-3pm & 5.30-9pm, Sun:11.30am-5pm and Mon: 5.30-9pm

Ph: 0477967359 .

www.ruhe-restaurant.com

2027 Long Day Care & Integrated Kindergarten

Bug-A-Lugs of 3 Hoyle Ct Kyneton offers long day care alongside an integrated 3 and 4-year-old Kindergarten program.

Their program focuses on: play-based learning and school readiness, small-group experiences with children and families and an engaging program where children are encouraged to explore, create and build confidence.

Long Day Care is available 6:30am–6:30pm.

www.bug-a-lugs.com.au

Different by Design Coaching

Kath Parker, has recently opened her new practice, Different by Design Coaching, at 59 Mollison St Kyneton.

Kath works with young people aged 15 –24.

"ADHD coaching gives young people a calm, steady space to understand their unique wiring, build tools that actually work for them, and grow into confident, capable humans.

"Research shows ADHD coaching can make a real difference with motivation, organisation, and daily life.

"If you have a young person in your life who might benefit from this kind of support, or if you're simply curious about what coaching looks like, I offer a free 20-minute clarity call to explore whether it feels like a good fit" Kath says.Ph: 0477513389.

www.differentbydesigncoaching.com.au

Kattsafe Office in Kyneton

Kattsafe, a global provider that designs, manufactures, and supplies height safety, fall protection, and modular workplace access systems has set up a satellite office in Bourke St Kyneton

The company specializes in engineering commercial equipment that protects personnel working at elevated heights while simplifying installation and compliance processes.

James Thomas of Kattsafe at Kyneton

Will LeMessurier

After a rewarding career in accounting, Will LeMessurier is now offering reliable bookkeeping services to small businesses in the local area.

"As a retired accountant, living locally, I understand managing financial records, payroll and reporting can take valuable time away from running and growing your business.

"I am proficient in Xero accounting software and can assist with day-to-day bookkeeping, payroll setup and onboarding, and the preparation of monthly accounts and management reports.

"I can also help with the accurate and timely preparation and lodgement of Business Activity Statements (BAS) and Pay As You Go (PAYG) obligations.

"Whether you are a sole trader or operate a growing small business, I can help keep your accounts organised, current and easier to understand" Will said.

Contact Will on 0419302682 will@lemessurier.net.

Kyneton Band Concert Oct 18

The Kyneton Municipal Band's annual concert will be held at the Mechanics Institute on Sun Oct 18, starting at 2pm. The first half of the concert will feature the Band performing some old favourites and some new items showcasing the band's versatility.

The second half will feature guest artists The Naturally Cool Big Band from Sunbury who will play music from the swing era to the modern day.

To close the program both bands will combine to play three songs, with one of the songs being Highland Cathedral featuring a Scottish piper.

Entry fee is $10.

The Kyneton Brass Band are always looking for new members. If you would like to join or learn how to play a brass instrument, contact band master Hugh Davies on 0418519398.

Spring growth in the Kyneton Botanic Gardens

There's an abundance of new growth, blossoms and bulbs in the Botanic Gardens and the remarkable developing flower stem of the Agave Americana.

The stem will grow to more than six metres over coming months after which the entire plant will die.

After decades of growth the Agave plant produces one giant bloom in its lifetime, followed by seeds and multiple new `pups' of the mother plant, before it slowly wilts away.

Hence the flower stem is known as the `death bloom'.

Spring has also been the catalyst for a lot of extra effort in the Gardens with new wooden pamphlet boxes made by the Men's Shed, painted and installed by Head Gardener, John, and his team at several entrances. Re-development of a new natives garden bed, the addition of some significant trees and the identification, checking and re-checking of approximately 100 trees in preparation for new labels has also been undertaken.

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Kyneton Botanic Gardens will be held on Oct 28 at 7pm at The Campaspe Mill Distillery, 2 Wards Lane, Kyneton.

All financial members of the Friends are invited to attend.

The inaugural Patron and three new Life Members will be inducted.

For inquiries please email the FKBG Secretary: friendskbg@outlook.com

New Dog and Cat Rules

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council 's new Dog and Cat Order 2026 took effect from Oct 1.

The new Order updates dog off-leash areas, conditions and prohibited areas across the Shire.

Key changes include:

Extended morning off-leash access along part of the Campaspe River Walk in Kyneton and some locations returning to on-leash use.

To view the Dog and Cat Order visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/dogs

Emergency Services Open Day

Kyneton Police, Kyneton CFA, Woodend SES, and Ambulance Victoria were thrilled that their inaugural Kyneton Emergency Services Day, held on Sat Sep 5 was a huge success, more than 1,200 visitors attending throughout the day.

The weather held off, allowing visitors to enjoy the event, and many were pleasantly surprised by a flyover from the Police Air Wing helicopter.

Visitors were invited to tour the station and learn about the rich history of Kyneton Police.

A particular point of interest was the historic Ned Kelly cells, where the infamous bushranger was housed for three weeks in 1870.

Police display included Highway Patrol vehicles and motorcycles, a Divisional Van, as well as historical Police vehicles presented by the Victoria Police Historical Society.

The Kyneton CFA welcomed visitors to tour their fire station and learn more about the vital role they play in protecting the community.

Members provided informative sessions on bushfire readiness and preparedness.

Younger visitors particularly enjoyed the hands-on activities, with children given the opportunity to use fire hoses under supervision of CFA members.

The SES provided visitors with an opportunity to view its specialist equipment and delivered multiple demonstrations that showcased the dedication, skills, and important role it plays within the community whilst Ambulance Victoria provided CPR training and first aid awareness sessions.

Vets for Compassion attended the event with their mobile wildlife treatment trailer, providing visitors with an insight into the important work they do to rescue, treat, and rehabilitate sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife.

The Red Cross provided visitors with information and educational resources highlighting the important work they do in supporting individuals and communities before, during, and after emergencies.

Lunch was generously provided free of charge to all visitors by the Rapid Relief Team, whose support was greatly appreciated by everyone in attendance.

Kyneton Police would like to thank Rodilesa Nursery in Kyneton for donating plants and trees to help refurbish their garden and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council for providing a face painter.

The Police also thanked all volunteers, emergency service personnel, community groups, and visitors who helped make the day such a memorable occasion.

River Bridge petition

Kyneton On Riverside is encouraging people to sign the petition in support of the proposed Edgecombe St bridge over the Campaspe River to connect the growing residential area south of the Campaspe with the rest of Kyneton.

"After years of collaboration with Macedon Ranges Shire Council, VicRoads and other stakeholders, we are pleased to report that the Bridge Study was completed around 12 months ago.

The study now sits with Council as part of its advocacy to secure State Government funding" KOR says.

To sign the petition visit www.southkyneton.com.au/petition .

Around the Galleries

At the Stockroom

98 Piper Street
Contemporary Art to Nov 1
Mark Rodda *Abstraction + Watercolour = Good Times!!*
Ella Rizzi *Distance*
Steph Wallace *Grief is like Glitter*

The Old Auction House

52-56 Mollison St
The Winner of the 2026 Kyneton Daffodil Festival and Art Prize held at the Old Auction House was Denise Martin, for her piece 'I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud'. A full list of winners are on the Festival website.

Upcoming exhibitions are:
Oct 15–Nov 9, "In the Company of Birds" – Terri MacDonald
Oct 15–Nov 2, "Mix & Mess" – Group Exhibition by Students of Emily Raubenheimer
Nov 5–Nov 23, "From Teresa for Teresa" – Nic Germano
Nov 12–Dec 24, Buttlejorrk's 50th Annual Exhibition
Buttlejorrk was originally a ceramic's guild, but now includes many forms of ceramics, as well as painting, textiles, woodwork, sculpture and works on paper.
Nov 26–Dec 24, "Frequencies" – Group Abstract Exhibition

Art On Piper 44 Piper St
Art on Piper is welcoming the Macedon Ranges Photographic members for their second group exhibition this year.
Framed works, unframed images and cards will showcase the various adventures of this enthusiastic cohort throughout October.
In November and December, the exhibition room will be filled to the brim with Christmas decorations created by many of AOP's regular members. The front window will also herald the joyous festive season.
Open 10 am – 4 pm every day
www.artonpiper.com

Woodfired Exhibition at Trio

98 Trio Rd
Sergei Stavrov says, "There is a sound a kiln makes as it cools — small, sharp pings as the pots inside contract.

"After 34 years working with clay, I still find it compelling.
"It is the sound of something finished not by hand alone, but by fire, ash, timing and chance.
"Woodfiring makes that truth unavoidable. You pack the kiln, light it, then surrender to what the fire decides."
Shatrov's woodfired works, alongside 16 Victorian potters, will be on Exhibition and for sale at Trio Art Studio and Gallery until Nov 8.
The gallery is open Sat, Sun and Mon, 10am–4pm.

Cathouse Players' 'Deathtrap'

Cathouse Players are now in residence at the Kyneton Masonic Centre, 7 Yaldwyn St West, and standing by to present 'Deathtrap' a long-running Broadway hit by Ira Levin.
It's a comedy-thriller with more twists and turns than a pretzel!
Directed by Bette Sartore, performances are on Oct 17 & 18 & October 24 & 25 at 2pm sharp, and on Fri Oct 23 at 8pm sharp.
Doors open 30 minutes before showtime.
All-inclusive tickets are still $25/$20.
Bookings via www.trybooking.com/DPTDB or call 0494166257.
Companion card is welcome. Please book the reserved seat on 0494166257.

David Prince , Maggie Browne, Nicole Katiforis, Gail 'Murfi' McGregor and Frank Sartore

Healthcare Awards finalist

Central Highlands Rural Health (CHRH) has again been named a finalist in the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards, in the Premier's Small Health Service of the Year category.
This marks the fourth consecutive year CHRH has been a finalist.
In 2024, CHRH won the award for Excellence in Public Sector Residential Aged Care Services and in 2017 won the award for Small Health Service of the Year (as Kyneton District Health Service).
The Premier's Small Health Service of the Year category recognises the outstanding work being delivered by public health services in communities across the state.
CHRH Chief Executive Officer Maree Cuddihy said the recognition belongs to every member of the organisation.
"To be recognised as a finalist for the fourth year in a row is an incredible achievement and a testament to the dedication, professionalism and compassion of our people," Ms Cuddihy said.
Winners were to be announced at the Victorian Public Healthcare Awards Gala Night on Oct 14.

State election for Macedon

The field of known candidates for the seat of Macedon which contains Kyneton was 8 at the start of October.
Announced intending candidates for Macedon are Annette Death (Labor), Kate Kendall (Liberal), Marley McRae Morley (Greens), Michael Seton (Independent), Natalie Korinfsky (Animal Justice), Dom Bonanno (Independent), Damien Parolin (One Nation) and Catherine Wilson (Victorian Socialists).
Nominations for election candidates close on Nov 9 so more candidates could emerge.
The deadline for voters to enrol is 8 pm on Tues Nov 3.
Voting at Early Voting (pre-poll) Centres commences on Wed Nov 18. They are open each day (except Sun Nov 22) until 6pm Fri Nov 27.
It has not yet been formally announced if Kyneton will have an early voting centre.
Applications for postal ballots will open on Nov 4.
Election day is Sat Nov 28 when polling booths will be open 8am-6pm.

Men's Shed gearing up

Ian Curnow sitting at this year's raffle prize

The Kyneton Men's Shed is gearing up for Christmas by offering a new seasonal raffle prize - a hexagonal picnic table valued at $1,500 - with tickets on sale outside Woolworth's during November.

Says Shed president, Ian Curnow: "In previous years we have had as the raffle prize a rectangular table with fixed bench-style seating … but this year we are trying something different.

"And as in previous years, the new-style table has been made from timber specially milled by Shed member Peter Stone, with the table made by Peter, John Brooke and various Shed members".

The Shed has recently also taken delivery of a splendid new table saw to replace its old one - which has been donated to the Harcourt Men's Shed.

The new saw adds to the Shed's impressive range of new equipment which includes a laser engraver/cutter, 3-D printer, and free internet access throughout the Shed for all members.

"We have certainly come a long way since we opened our doors more than twenty-five years ago in a single garage on land previously owned by Cobaw Community Health - which was also the founder of the Shed," said Ian.

"And at our annual general meeting earlier this year we presented our oldest serving member, Bob Grubb, with life membership as our way of thanking him for the tireless way in which he has contributed to our ongoing growth and success."

The Shed's Christmas party will be held in mid December, after which the Shed will be closed until early January.

The Shed is always looking for new members, not just retired "tradies".

Be you a journalist, accountant, public servant, police officer or medic etc, you will always be welcomed.

Drop by at the Shed, 2 Riverwalk Boulevarde, opposite Bupa Care, Wed-Fri 10 am to 2 pm.

Social Foundry News

Social Foundry co-founder Simon Burnett has been awarded YMCA Victorian Father of the Year.

The Foundry soft launched the Old Kyneton Primary School during the Daffodil & Arts Festival and had young photographers host a pop up studio on Parade Day.

More pop-up events will be happening at OKPS over the coming months.

The Social Foundry will partner with other local organisations in presenting the annual Kyneton Community Christmas Carols at Kyneton Uniting Church on Sun Dec 6 starting at 4pm.

Independent candidate

Michael Seton from Woodend has announced he will be a candidate for Macedon in the November State election. He said in a statement:

"I decided to stand for Parliament as an independent candidate to help fix the poor state of Victorian politics".

"I am 100% self-funded, not taking any donations.

"The community is tired of major party politics and concerned about Victoria's financial position. Interest on debt is $9 billion each year, or over $1 million every hour.

"That significant proportion of State expenditure is unsustainable. You cannot develop infrastructure – roads, schools, hospitals – if that continues.

"There has been exponential growth in debt under the current government.

"Having been the chief executive of large superannuation funds, I have the skills and the determination to responsibly work with whoever the government is after 28 November to address this and other key issues.

"The community tells me that they want a representative who is not from the standard mould – former lawyer, local councillor, activist.

"They want someone who has strong financial skills and is willing to tackle these issues in a responsible, transparent way.

"My only allegiance is to the community, not to a political party whose views may differ from the community.

"Help me into Parliament to fix the issues facing our community and Victoria more broadly" Mr Seton said.

Contact details 0456 235 489 michael4macedon@outlook.com

Important commemorations

The Kyneton RSL Sub-Branch is about to commemorate two more important anniversaries, following on from its commemoration of Australia's involvement in Afghanistan earlier this month.

2025 Beersheba Day attemdees

Oct 31 will see the commemoration of Beersheba Day with a wreath laying ceremony at the Light Horse Statue outside the Kyneton Police Station.

This will take place at 10.30am with refreshments at the RSL afterwards.

The RSL is hoping to have some of the Light Horse group in attendance in World War I uniforms.

On Nov 11 at 10.45am Remembrance Day will be commemorated with a service at the Cenotaph in Kyneton and at the same time a service at the Cenotaph in Trentham.

On Dec 1 the RSL will host its Veterans and Legacy ladies at the annual Christmas lunch which is enjoyed by all those able to attend. Kyneton RSL have two World War II Veterans left and are hopeful that they may be able to attend.

For more information about what's on visit the branch website.

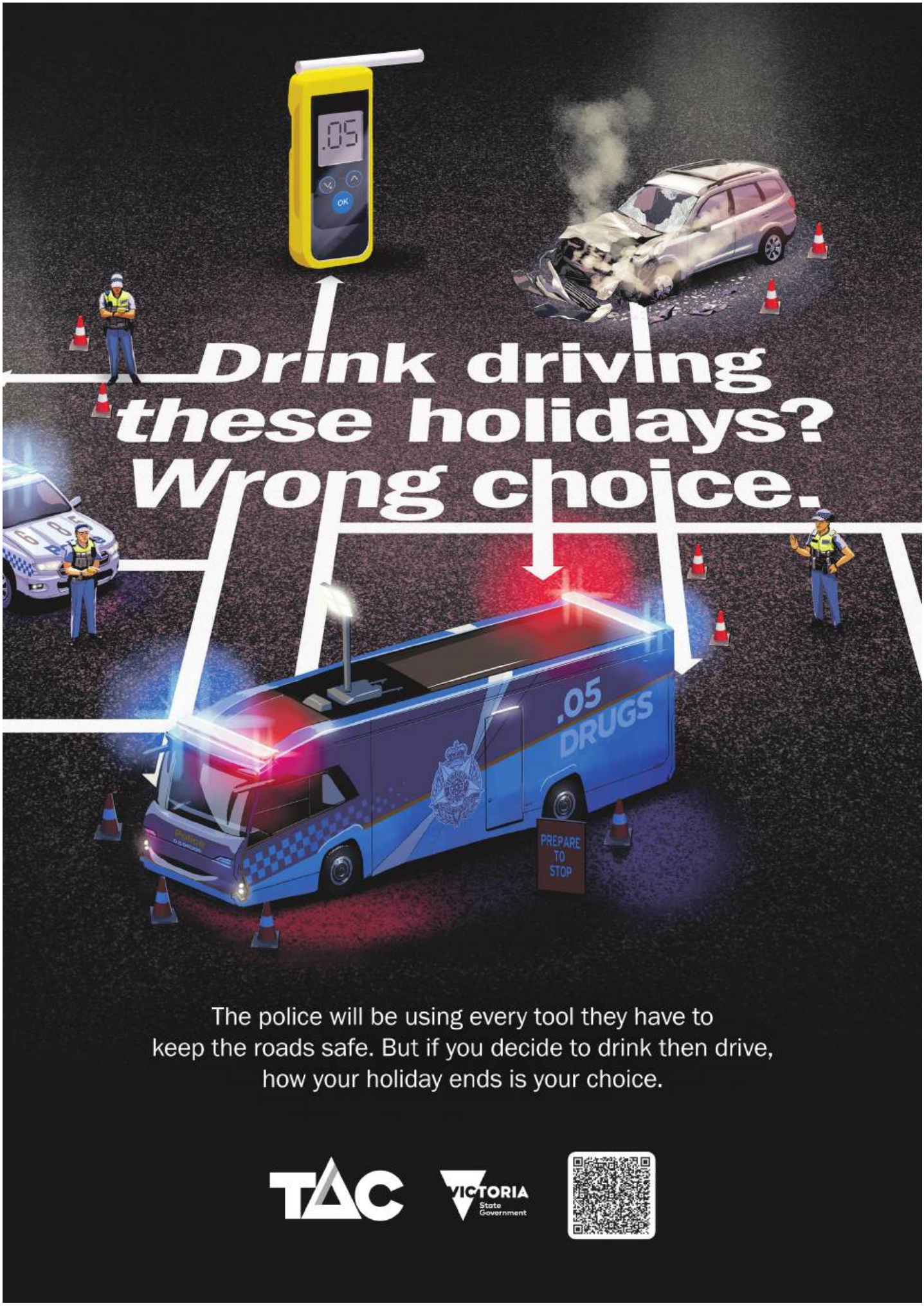
Vision Australia raffle

Kaye Butterley from "Gemlife" Woodend was the winner of the major raffle drawn conducted by the Kyneton Friends of Vision Australia.

1st Prize was a ticket to attend the Macedon Ranges Grand Tour on Sat Oct 3.

Second Prize-winner was Mick from Kyneton, who won a $100 voucher for Monsieur Pierre's Coffee Shop plus a $50 voucher for Shamrock Hotel Kyneton.

The Friends thank all who contributed towards the great success of this raffle.


.05
OK
Drink driving these holidays? Wrong choice.
.05 DRUGS
PREPARE TO STOP
The police will be using every tool they have to keep the roads safe. But if you decide to drink then drive, how your holiday ends is your choice.
TAC
VICTORIA
State Government

Kyneton District Services

Accountants	
Watco Partners Pty Ltd	5792 2580
David J Gibney Pty Ltd	5422 6480
Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine	
Dr Michele Downes	0407582036
Little Window Acupuncture	0459678684
Art Studio and Gallery	
Maxine McKee at Trio Art	0467025354
Auto Services & Repairs	
Kyn Auto Spares & Repairs	5422 1255
Vereker Smash Repairs	5422 2603
Bookeeping Services	
Will LeMessurier	0419302682
Chiropractor	
Performance One	5422 6488
Computer Repair	
Computers OK	0421367040
Concreting & Paving	
MBC Concreting & Paving	0417545159
Day Spa & Beauty	
Ellenis Day Spa	5422 3795
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
Financial Planning	
BTP Business Advisors Pty	5422 1588
Fishmongers	
The Fishmonger Kyneton	0408127392
Insurance	
Macedon Ranges Insurance	4411 2704
Simplex Insurance Solutions	5422 3333
Legal Practices	
Armstrong Collins & DeLacy	54221677
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
Phone & PC Repairs	
Skyline Phone & PC Repairs	0405619622
Podiatry	
One Step Podiatry	54221397
Real Estate	
Ray White Kyneton	5422 2127
RT Edgar	5422 3325
School Aged Childcare	
BugALugs	5422 2767
Shoe Suppliers	
Kyneton Shoes	5422 2090
Sewing Machine Repair	
Jeff's Sewing Machine Service	0431788360
Town Planning Services	
Macaulay Town Planning	5422 3054
Veterinarian	
Dr Greg McIntyre	5422 1310

Kyneton Events Calendar

Oct 8-18	Silvers Circus—1 Ironmonger St
Oct 16,17,18	Kyneton Theatre Co 'Broadway Baby' Kyneton Bluestone Theatre 8pm
Fri Oct 16	Nick Hanlon 'The Dead Crow' Major Tom's 8pm
Oct 17 & 18	Cathouse Players 'Deathtrap' Masonic Centre 2pm
Sat Oct 17	Whisky Tasting Evening Zetland Lodge 3 Piper St 7.30pm
	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm
	Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebden & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm
	Kyneton Theatre Co 'Broadway Baby' Matinee 2pm
	'Feast of Stories' Social Foundry 6pm
Sun Oct 18	Kyneton Old Time Dancing St Mary's Hall 1.30-5.30pm
	Kyneton Municipal Band Concert Kyneton Mechanics Institute 2pm
	Victorian Treaty Information Forum Baynton Hall 2.30-4.30pm
Mon Oct 19	Horticultural Society 'Fat Magpie Farm' Shamrock Hotel 7pm
Tues Oct 20	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Wed Oct 21	Kyneton Community Lunch 35 High St 12.30pm (each Wednesday)
Thur Oct 22	Anh Do—Happiest Refugee Live! Kyneton Town Hall 7.30pm
Fri Oct 23	Cathouse Players 'Deathtrap' Masonic Centre 8pm
Oct 24 & 25	Cathouse Players 'Deathtrap' Masonic Centre 2pm
Wed Oct 28	Friends of the Kyneton Botanic Gardens AGM Campaspe Mill 7pm
	Financial Wellbeing Workshop for Older Women Omnia CH 2pm
Thurs Oct 29	Kyneton Toy Library AGM Kyneton Bowling Club 7.30pm
Sun Oct 31	'The Moth Body' Major Tom's
Tues Nov 3	Melbourne Cup
Wed Nov 4	Kyneton Cup Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Fri Nov 6	'Same Like Yesterday' Kyneton Town Hall 11am, 2pm, 6pm
Sat Nov 7	RM Begg Auxiliary Stall RM Begg Car Park 9am-1pm
	'Same Like Yesterday' Kyneton Town Hall 1pm, 3pm, 6pm
Sun Nov 8	'Same Like Yesterday' Kyneton Town Hall 11am, 1pm
Mon Nov 9	'Media Literacy in the Age of AI' Kyneton Library 2-3.15pm
Tues Nov 10	'Same Like Yesterday' Kyneton Town Hall 10am, 11am, 2pm
Wed Nov 11	Remembrance Day Commemoration Kyneton Cenotaph 10.45am
	'Same Like Yesterday' Kyneton Town Hall 10am, 11am, 3pm
Nov 14 & 15	Budburst Festival Throughout Macedon Ranges
Sat Nov 14	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm
	Kyneton Farmers & Makers Markets St Paul's Park 8.30-1pm
	Kyneton Community Market Cnr Ebden & Yaldwyn St West 8.30-1pm
Tues Nov 17	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Fri Nov 20	Kyneton Show Carnival Showground 5.30pm
	Kyneton Old Time Dancing St Mary's Hall 7.30-11pm
Sat Nov 21	Kyneton Show Family Day Showgrounds 9am-4pm
	Sacred Harp Singing Red Brick Hall 10am-4pm
	Kyneton Bowling Club 150th Anniversary Celebration KBC 6.30pm
Sun Nov 22	Kyneton & District Town Square Co-op AGM Red Brick Hall 1pm
Sat Nov 28	Victorian Election Voting 8am-6pm
Mon Nov 30	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am
Thu Dec 3	Christmas Twilight Shopping—throughout town 5-7pm
Sat Dec 5	RM Begg Auxiliary Stalls RM Begg Car Park 9am-1pm
Sun Dec 6	Community Christmas Carols Kyneton Uniting Church 4pm
Thur Dec 10	Thoroughbred Racing Kyneton Racecourse 11am

Kyneton Show Nov 20 & 21

The Kyneton Agricultural Show takes place on Fri 20 Nov 5.30pm–10pm and Sat 21 Nov 9am–4pm.

The Show showcases the very best of agriculture, community spirit, entertainment, and family fun.

The Friday Night Carnival returns with plenty of free activities, including Laser Tag, Meltdown Madness, Whip Cracking, the Bucking Bull and live entertainment.

The spectacular Madstyle Moto stunt motorcycle team will once again thrill crowds before the evening concludes with the fireworks display.

On Saturday's Show Day visitors can enjoy horse events, sheep and wool competitions, alpacas, the dog show, woodchopping, the Farm Shed and the ever-popular children's pet parade.

New this year is a French Circus, come and try your hand at spinning plates, climbing and balancing.

Inside the Watts Pavilion, thousands of entries will showcase the talents of local and regional exhibitors across baking, preserves, photography, art, craft, horticulture, farm produce etc.

Families will find plenty to keep children entertained with a huge range of free activities, including the popular Country Parkour course, the hands-on Woodworking Tent, and the growing Life on the Land display.

The Kyneton Agricultural Society is proud to present a family-friendly, affordable event run entirely by volunteers.

For tickets, schedules and entry, visit www.kynetonshow.org.au.

Daffodil Dash brings the community together

Daffodil Dash—Fun Run 2026

Kyneton's inaugural Daffodil Dash Fun Run brought 238 runners, walkers and families together on Sun Sep 6 for a morning of fitness, fun and community spirit as part of the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival.

The event featured two distances: a 5km Maple Physiotherapy course and an 11km Embracia Aged Care course, taking participants through the beautiful Kyneton Botanic Gardens and along the Campaspe River Walk.

The event was supported by Maple Physiotherapy and Embracia Aged Care, alongside local sponsors, businesses and volunteers whose contributions helped bring this new community event to life.

"A big thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered and supported the inaugural Daffodil Dash. "We look forward to making it a regular fixture on Kyneton's spring calendar" Daffodil Dash Organiser and Festival Secretary Bill Meeker said.

Little Athletics has started

Little Athletics runs at the Showgrounds on Saturday mornings from October to March.

Little Aths is an inclusive community for all abilities and ages 5 to 17.

To register for a free trial and for all the info you need google Kyneton Little Athletics.

Calling on Kyneton Connect supporters

In the October issue of 2025 *Kyneton Connect* asked readers to consider becoming a supporter of this newspaper and we are now again seeking similar support in what looks like being more challenging circumstances.

We were buoyed by and thank those readers who answered our 2025 call and significantly helped our financial viability – their support has helped us to remain a key connection for our community, providing information and opportunities which readers may not otherwise receive.

We are very grateful for the financial support local community organisations have given and continue to give Kyneton Connect and the supporting businesses listed next to our calendar and to Ray White Kyneton who over the past 2 years have paid for our 2 colour issues and for many years prior to that 3 black and white issues.

Ensuring financial stability is important for us to continue to serve Kyneton as the printing of each issue costs more than $2300.

If you were able to support the service we provide by contributing say $50, that would be a significant help and very gratefully received.

To be a supporter please email edearricott@bigpond.com indicating the amount you wish to donate and we will send you details of how to make your contribution.

Eric Dearricott
Editor

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 Dearricott 0419357192 & Jenny Hince 0408388473

- Articles for the December 2026 Issue of *Kyneton Connect* should be e-mailed to edearricott@bigpond.com or left at Aesop's Attic, 70 High St, before Fri November 27 2026.
- To have Kyneton Connect mailed send name, address and payment of $15 for a year's subscription to Kyneton Connections, 18 Castles Cres, 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 Dearricott

Auspiced by Omnia Community Health Service

Kyneton Connect is proudly supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council