Now also available from display box outside IGA / Hardware

AVOCA ANGLE

Community Newsletter

www.facebook.com/VisitAvoca

Step Back in Time to 1876

On the 20th October 1876 and with great excitement, the first train pulled into Avoca for the official opening of the Maryborough to Avoca railway line. 24 kilometres in length, the line was later extended to Ararat in November 1890 thus forming a through route between the two main lines.

On Thursday the 20th October 2016 it will be 140 years since the ribbon was cut by His Excellency Sir George Bowen to open the rail line from Maryborough to Avoca.

History records that in lavish style, the town and road to the station were decorated with an enormous quantity of flags and bunting and large Union Jack flags were displayed at both entrances to the town. The unfinished station was decorated with colorful bunting, and the walls were draped in greenery and flowers. 'Festoons of bright banners' flew from the Avoca Hotel to the Post Office and flags flew from the Avoca Hotel and from the Victoria, Union and Albion.

All schools in the district were granted a special holiday and not less than 1,725 children from twenty schools met at the Avoca school before setting off at 12 noon for the procession to the station. Each school carried a distinguishing banner and all the children held a little flag. On arrival at the station the children were treated to a feast while the adults consumed a roasted bullock that was provided by the council and a hogshead of ale donated by Mr Scrase of the Lillicur brewery.

At half past one the procession commenced with the approach of the Chinese Pageant from Avoca Lead. This was a highlight of the day as the Chinese were dressed in their grandest silks, carried an array of warrior weapons and played music for the crowd.

At precisely 2.25pm the special train carrying Sir George Bowen and some 200 guests stepped off the train to the cheers of 5000 people who were assembled close to the platform.

Loo Chin of Percydale presented his address on behalf of the Chinese residents and then three cheers were given for the Governor and the Avoca Railway. After the National Anthem was sung by the gathering the procession headed into the township.

What a grand occasion for the township of Avoca and neighbouring district!

140 years ago these celebrations were a highlight for the community and it is felt that this significant page in our town's history should not be overlooked, especially with the railway station building due to be refurbished in the coming months and the return of trains to the railway line eminent.

If you have some ideas on how we should recognize this significant date, and/or would like to assist with plans for the event please attend a meeting to be held on Tuesday 7th June 2016 at 5pm at the Avoca Hall.

We welcome interest from the many community groups in town, as 140 years ago all the groups were involved with the celebrations in some form or other. **Let's Celebrate!**

OR Email your ideas /interest to **avocacommunity@gmail.com**

VicTrack Calls for Tenders

With the Pyrenees Shire Council approving the permit plans for the redevelopment of the Avoca Railway Station, VicTrack advertised a request for tenders to refurbish the building for community use this week.

The Avoca Community Arts & Gardens committee successfully applied for funding to refurbish the building for use as an arts-based hub.

Following the recent success of the inaugural Avoca Art Show, the committee is looking forward to the opening of the hub towards the end of the year and continuing to showcase the talents of arts in our region.

The group has also received funding from the Volunteer Grants program to provide items for the set up of the kitchen and community meeting spaces. Please consider how you can support this new venture for Avoca.

STOP PRESS: The official announcement of the Railway Station Project will be announced in Avoca on Thursday 2nd June

Edition 65
June 2016

The Avoca Angle is printed at the Maryborough Office of Ms Louise Staley Member for Ripon. 03 54611255

Avoca Men's Shed
Paper Drive
Saturday 4th June
Papers out by 8am Please.

FIRST AID COURSE (Level 2)
19th June 10am to 5pm
Cost: $120
Course is open to everyone, not just AFNC members.

Register by 31st May
Kate : 0408990694

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MOBILE BLOOD BANK— Thank You to all those who donated in April

Australian Red Cross BLOOD SERVICE

Call 13 14 95 to make an appointment & check operating times or visit **www.donateblood.com.au** for more information. Do something special. Give blood.

ARTS THERAPY GROUP:
Wellness through Creativity—No skills required.
Art supplies provided. Avoca Information Centre
Tuesday 1—3:30pm
Cost: Gold Coin
Bookings: Jennifer Stirling 54610300
Maryborough District Health Service with Grampians Partners in Recovery.

Maryborough District Health Service

Health in Motion : Maryborough District Health Service's new Health in Motion van has been very active visiting neighbouring towns doing health checks. This new initiative will enable the healthy living message to be delivered 'to your door' . During Heart Health Week the staff were very busy in Avoca so be on the lookout for their next visit and make use of the services provided.

Moonambel Arts & History Group wishes to let you know they are having a wonderful workshop at the Moonambel Hall.

It is called **'Light and Shade' - Charcoal Drawing** with Deb Wood on June 25th.

Our September Exhibition 'Celebrating Colour' will cover mixed media, and will be held on 24th-25th September.

Pyrenees Community Food Pantry

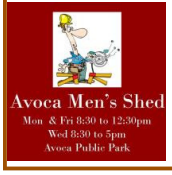
pyrenees community foodpantry

Avoca branch is open from 1pm—3pm every 2nd Friday at its office, 13 Liebig St. Next to Tristar Clinic)

For further information, please phone Annelies Strietman on 0419120687. If unattended please leave a message—we will respond

June Dates:
3rd & 17th
July Dates:
1st , 15th & 29

Avoca Men's Shed @ the Recreation Reserve



. Open every Mon & Fri 9 am to 12:30pm
Wednesday 9am to 5pm
Lunch for members at 12:30pm on Wednesdays
PAPER DRIVE– Saturday 4th June .
Papers out by 8am Please.

U3A AVOCA UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Term 2 classes for 2016

Book Club: (incorporating Social Issues) has now successfully morphed with our Social Issues Discussion Group. Always interesting, good natured, eclectic and often vocal. Every 3rd Tues of the month from 2-4pm @ AI&CC.
Photoshop Elements: 2nd & 4th Tues 10-1 pm. AI&CC

Computer : Wed 10-1pm :suits beginners and those with minimal to medium computer experience. Ring Mark on 0417-375-677

Line Dancing: Thur 2-4pm ASCC
Mahjong: Friday 2-4pm AI&CC
Excursions: Contact Deb Barravecchia (0427-375678)if you have any great ideas for excursions in 2016.
Monthly schedule of activities is displayed in the U3A shop front window (next to Laundromat, 136 High St Contact Sec for details 0417 375 677. E: **secretary.avocaU3A@gmail.com**

Avoca Community Arts & Gardens

arts & gardens AVOCA COMMUNITY

Annual General Meeting
Thursday 9th June 2016 at 7pm
Avoca Information Centre—RTC Room

With the Railway Station redevelopment project progressing, the committee is keen to welcome new members who are keen to see the development of arts & gardens in Avoca.
This is an exciting time for the creative arts in our region and your support will ensure that the momentum is maintained.
Please contact us to obtain a membership form, or discuss the future direction of the group.
E: **artsavoca@gmail.com**

St Kevin's Catholic Church, Avoca.

* Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 8.30 am.
* Lay led assemblies on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays at 8.30 am.

Avoca Community Gym & Fitness Classes at the Club Rooms, Avoca Public Park : Cost only $5

Avoca Community Gym

Monday & Wednesday Gym : 9am to 11am
Outdoor Circuit Tuesday & Friday : 9:15am
Contact Steph for details : 0417 575 689

Pyrenees Shire News

PYRENEES SHIRE

Immunisation in Avoca : Wednesday 8th June 11:30am to 12 :00 at the Avoca Primary Care Centre .
Planned Activity Group in Avoca: These groups are for persons 65 years and older. Please contact the Shire
Drought Information: Information on the support available to farming communities can be assessed from the Drought Information Line on 136 186 or at **http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought** A list of emergency water points is available at **www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/emergencywater**
.**Transport Assistance:** The Shire can assist with transportation to medical appointments. As services are limited PLEASE BOOK 53491100
Community Meals in Avoca: resume on 16th June. Meals Fees: HACC eligible clients $8.70 ; HACC ineligible clients $17.80 Assistance with transport to and from Community Meals available. To register ring Council Offices 53 491100
Animal Registrations: Any dog or cat over 3 months MUST be registered. Penalty for unregistered animals is $303. If you are registering for the first time or have overlooked renewing your registration please download form from Council website **www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au** or attend Beaufort Council Offices.
Fourth Instalment of rates due Tuesday 31st May.
Stop Press: Essential Service Commission announced its decision on rate cap variations this week and granted Council a 3.8% variation.

AB&T Update: www.facebook.com/VisitAvoca

Avoca Business & Tourism Inc

Meetings: are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7 pm. Venue : RTC Meeting Room at the rear Avoca Information Centre. Enter from Rutherford St

OUR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Next Meeting 16th June

The Annual General Meeting of AB&T will be held on Monday 18th July 2016. This year the AGM will be held at the Avoca Golf Club and we are hopeful that our guest speaker from Ballarat Tourism will address the meeting on the new Memorandum of Understanding between the Pyrenees Shire Council and Ballarat Tourism that comes into being from the start of July.

This new partnership will be a great opportunity to link Ballarat with the Pyrenees region and further develop our tourism potential.

Small Business Grants : Accounting for 47 per cent of all Victorian private sector jobs, small businesses are an essential part of the success and strength of Victoria's economy. Explore the various grants, vouchers and assistance programs that can help you start, run and Grow Your Business. The Small Business Grants end on the 30th June so check the website to see if you are eligible and discover what new items can be purchased to Grow Your Business. **www.business.vic.gov.au**

Avoca Mob—Relay for Life: Members of the team met at the Victoria Hotel to celebrate their successful fundraising during 2015-16 which took their seven year tally to over $50,000.

Following a call out for new members, and a Team Captain, the team is pleased to announce that Robyn Cocking has volunteered to assist Rosemarie with the management of the team.

If you would like to help the Avoca Mob raise funds to Fight Cancer during the year or carry the BATON for Avoca at the Relay for Life in April please contact Rosemarie

Casablanca Movie Club Avoca Hall

CASABLANCA MOVIE CLUB IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE FOLLOWING MOVIES AT THE AVOCA HALL ON

Saturday 4th June:

1pm : " Brooklyn" - 2015
3:30pm "Spotlight" - 2015
7:00pm "Creed" - 2015
Join the club for $6 movies or 2 for $10. General admission is $10 per movie.

Please contact Allen for details, 0408 396 844

Avoca Primary School News

Newsletter: we are looking at sending the newsletter home electronically. If you would interested in receiving your weekly newsletter electronically instead of a paper copy please let the office know.

Important Dates:
June 3rd: Fundraising committee to meet at 2:30pm to discuss ideas for future fundraising efforts
June 19th: Grade 6 students head to Canberra
June 24th : Last Day of Term 2
July 11th: Term 3 commences.

Spotlight on GROUPS

Avoca 'Gem' Girl Guide Sessions will now be held in the RSL Hall on Tuesday's during the school term. Sessions Start at 6pm to 7.30pm

Please contact Avoca 'Gem' Girl leader Abi Robinson 0448 711 369 if you have any queries.

Pyrenees Art Exhibition & Sale

Pyrenees Art Exhibition & Sale 2016

Beaufort artist Jilly Watkins is preparing to enter her artwork in the Pyrenees Art Exhibition & Sale over the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

The Beaufort Community Bank Pyrenees Art Exhibition & Sale will be held from the 11th to the 13th June, 2016 (Queen's Birthday long weekend) at the Shire Hall, Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Opening Night is on Friday, 10th June, where the Judge will announce the prize winners. Cost is $25.00 and includes a delicious supper and wine.

Entry to the Exhibition, which is open Saturday & Sunday 10am to 5pm and Monday 10am to 2pm, is $10.00 and includes Devonshire Tea plus entry to the Textiles, Junior Art and Junior Photography Exhibitions along with Rotary's Second Hand Book Sale.

To coincide with the Art Exhibition, the Pyrenees Arts Council are presenting an amazing exhibition of photographs from internationally renowned Indonesian Photographer, **Pimpin Nagawan,** at the Art Trax Gallery. Entry to Gallery will be free of charge over the weekend.

The Official Opening of the Photographic Exhibition, by the Member for Ripon, Ms. Louise Staley, was held on Sunday, 29th May at 2.00pm. Come and visit Beaufort and enjoy a wonderful weekend of Art in the Pyrenees.

ART TRAX GALLERY • BEAUFORT

Watch This Space

The proposed establishment of a residential subdivision at the northern end of town is progressing with the next stage of plans being submitted to Council.

AVOCA
Business & Tourism Inc

The heart of the Pyrenees
www.avoca.vic.au

AB&T :
PO Box 79, Avoca Vic 3467
E : abatsec@yahoo.com.au

The Avoca Community Website Online
www.avoca.vic.au
We are still adding items to the website so please bear with us...and please send your news and upcoming events so they can be added to the events calendar
Contact :
avocacommunity@gmail.com

Fire Restrictions for the Northern section of the Pyrenees Shire have been lifted. Please check the CFA website for more details **www.cfa.vic.gov.au**

What's On in Town !

	JUNE 2016
4th	Paper Drive: Papers out by 8am Please
4th	Casablanca Movies at Avoca Hall.
4th	AFNC vs Newstead : HOME. At night 7:30pm Gender Bender Beauty Pageant.
7th	Meeting to plan 140th Anniversary of Rail line
8th	Immunisation Avoca Primary Care
9th	Arts & Gardens AGM: 7pm
18th	AFNC v Talbot : AWAY
19th	First Aid Course: 10am to 5pm
25th	AFNC v Lexton : HOME
26th	Avoca Riverside Market
	JULY 2016
2nd	AFNC v Maldon : AWAY
11th	Term two commences
24th	Avoca Riverside Market
30th	AFNC Cabaret
31st	AFNC Cow Pat Day at the Park

What's On in the District !

	JUNE 2016
4th	Beaufort Market
10th	Art Show Official Opening—Beaufort Hall
11-13	Pyrenees Art Exhibition & Sale : 10am to 5pm Sat & Sun. 10am to 2pm Mon. $10
25th	Charcoal Drawing Workshop with Deb Wood at Moonambel Hall
	JULY 2016
2nd	Beaufort Market

Avoca Football Netball Club

AVOCA Football Netball Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gender Bender Beauty Pageant this Saturday 4th June from 7:30pm. Come along and find out who will be crowned Miss Bulldog 2016. Cost: $5

The Cabaret and Cow Pad Day will be held on the weekend of 30th / 31st July so you have plenty of time to find the perfect outfit for the Cabaret!

First Aid Course: Level Two

Sunday 19th June 10 am to 5pm. $120.Enrol by 31st May please

This is a great opportunity to upgrade your first aid skills and there will also be a session on taping injuries.

Monthly Meetings

Week 1	Mon: 1.Breast Cancer Support :11am - **AHSMR** 2. Avoca Men's Shed : 10 am -**APP** 3. ADHS Meeting : Avoca Court House 4. Health Service Auxiliary : 2pm -**AHSMR** Wed: Senior Citizens Lunch/Meeting:12noon **ASSC** Sun: St Kevin's Mass : 8:30am
Week 2	Tue: 2. RSL Sub Branch : 7;30pm **RSL Hall** Thur: 1. **CWA :10:30am AHSMR** Tue Avoca & District Landcare:7 pm **RTC Room**
Week 3	Mon: 1. Avoca Business & Tourism :7pm—**RTC** Tue: 1.U3A Book Club– 2-4pm 2. Avoca Chinese Garden Working Bee—8am 3. U3A : Meeting 11:00 AI&CC - Lunch : 12 noon Venue Varies Wed: Avoca Masonic Lodge : 7:45pm Thur : 1. Avoca Carer's Group : 1:30pm **AHSMR** 2. Sunday: St Kevin's Mass : 8:30am
Week 4	Sun:1. Avoca Riverside Market : 9am to 1pm 2..ADHS Garage Sale : 9am—182 High St

AHSMR : Avoca Health Service Meeting Room.
RTC : Meeting Room behind Avoca Information Centre
ASCC: Avoca Senior Citizens Centre -now called the Avoca Community Centre **(ACC) - apparently**
APP: Avoca Public Park
RSL: Returned & Services League Hall
ADHS ; Avoca & District Historical Society
AI&CC : Avoca Information & Community Centre

Weekly Events

Mon	1.Walking Group: 9:30am Meet at Avoca Health Service Car Park 2. Community Gym: 9:00 to 12:30 @ **APP** 3. Men's Shed : 9 am–12:30 pm (**APP)** 4. Community Gym: 5:30
Tues	1.Patchwork Group 10am – 2pm CFA Shed 2. Strength Class — 9-10am & 10-11am @ Senior Citizens Centre 3. Community Gym: Outdoor circuit –9:30am (@**APP** 4. Avoca Cub Scouts : 5pm - Scout Hall 5..Avoca Guides : 6:30pm - Guide Hall
Wed	1. Craft Group—Merryl Clifford : 54 653 358. 10-12 2. Avoca Historical Society Open — 10:30 am to 4pm **3**. Avoca Playgroup :9:30 -11:30am– Children's Centre 4. Men's Shed : 9 am to 5pm : —**APP** 5. Community Gym: 9:00 to 12:30 @ **APP** 6. RSL Bias Bowls—7:30pm @ **RSL Hall** 7.Senior Citizens Bowls / Cards 1pm to 4pm 8. U3A Computer Club 10am to 1 pm - **AI&CC**
Thur	1.Strength Class— 9 -10am & 10 -11am @ Senior Citizens Centre
Fri	**1.** Men's Shed : 9 am to 12:30 - **APP** 2. Community Gym: Outdoor Circuit 9-10 Gym10:00am to 12:30

Due Date for items for July edition is due 24th June 2016
News / Event items to be sent to Email: **avocacommunity@gmail.com**
OR left at the Avoca Information Centre.