



Temporary closure of Maldon VIC

The Maldon Visitor Information Centre (VIC) will temporarily close for minor renovation works. The VIC will be closed from Monday 19 August and reopen on Monday 2 September. To ensure visitors can still access information about things to do while in Maldon, staff will deliver a supply of brochures to local businesses. Signage on the centre will direct people to the tourism website www.maldoncastlemaine.com.au or to call the Castlemaine VIC. The renovations will include new carpet and paint to improve amenity for visitors, volunteers and staff.

Youth mental health first aid

Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged between 10 and 25 years? We are offering Youth Mental Health First Aid training starting at the end of August. During four evening sessions you'll learn how to recognise potential signs of emerging mental health concerns or a mental health crisis. The course will be held from 5.00pm to 8.30pm on Thursday 29 August and 5, 12 and 19 September. Registration is \$50 to cover course materials and catering. To book visit www.mountalexandershiroyouth.com.au or contact our Youth Development Unit on 5471 1700.

Sell your creations

We are looking for creative people aged 12 to 25 years to host a stall at our next Young Makers Market. The market will be held from 9.00am to 1.00pm on Sunday 1 September at the Theatre Royal Brickyard, Hargraves Street, Castlemaine. It's free to register a stall, or you can hire a marquee, power, tables and chairs for \$5. Complete a stallholder application form at www.mountalexandershiroyouth.com.au. The market is coordinated by the Young Makers Market Committee, which is made up of young volunteers and Council staff.

Battle of the Bands

Young musicians can still sign up to the Battle of the Bands, with the closing date extended until Monday 19 August. The competition is open to musicians aged 12 to 25 years in central Victoria. Winners will take home \$500 for musical equipment. The event will be held at the Castlemaine Theatre Royal on Friday 13 September. Pick up an application form from Castlemaine Secondary College, Castlemaine Library, Mondo Lounge, Civic Centre or visit our youth website.

Draft pool and spa requirements

The Victorian Government has drafted proposed new safety requirements for private swimming pools and spas to reduce the number of young children who drown. The regulations introduce mandatory requirements for owners of private pools or spas to register with council and engage a registered building surveyor or inspector to inspect and certify the compliance of the safety barrier every three years. The draft requirements are now open for public consultation and are available at www.engage.vic.gov.au by searching 'New safety standards private pools'. Have your say by 5.00pm on Friday 6 September.

Pet registration reminder

Pet registrations were due in April. If you have not registered your pet you risk a \$323 fine for each animal. By law, all dogs and cats over three months must be registered and microchipped. Final reminder notices will be soon sent via mail. Our Local Laws team will begin routine house checks where pets have previously been registered. If you are found to have an unregistered pet you will be fined. Pet registration fees go towards a range of services such as the local shelter run by Mount Alexander Animal Welfare (MAAW), Local Laws staff who collect and return stray animals to owners, education programs and much more. To arrange pet registration drop into the Civic Centre or contact Council on 5471 1700.

Relocation of library

Just a reminder that works are underway to repair the floor at the Castlemaine Library. A pop-up library is open at the Market Building at 44 Mostyn Street, Castlemaine. Opening hours are 9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays and from 9.00am to 1.00pm on Saturday. The library will reopen in early September. The Market Building is home to the Visitor Information Centre and is open 9.00am to 5.00pm every day. The Market Art Winter Exhibition is currently on display which features artwork from local artists. All works are for sale and everyone is welcome to drop in. Free entry.

Join Council meetings

- 6.30pm, Tuesday 20 August
- 6.30pm, Tuesday 17 September.

Meetings are held at the Civic Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend. Council meetings are filmed and broadcast live to the internet via YouTube. Search Mount Alexander Shire Council.