

The Chronicle

• Keeping our communities informed •

APRIL 2026

Yandoit Cultural continues to host a variety of musical events, spoken word, film screenings, author's talks, conversations relevant to our local area, as well as festival events.

We encourage local, acoustic, quality, and affordability. The organising group has recruited new members from Yandoit and surrounds, as well as from Daylesford and Castlemaine.

In 2025 the Uniting Church, with support from Castlemaine Church Council, granted us a further 3 year lease, which secures Yandoit Cultural and Yandoit Sacred up until mid 2028.



We welcome any support locals can offer to help organise and publicise events, and suggestions for events in 2026 and 2027.

UPCOMING: SATURDAY APRIL 18 • 5.00pm



Dai, Ciccio!

Dai, Ciccio! is an Italian language ensemble that celebrates the people and places of Bella Italia and the music that tells their story.

Led by opera singer Cristina Russo (Victorian Opera, Opera Australia), the group has a long list of performance credits including The National Museum of Australia, The Melbourne Italian Festa, and Paris Cat Jazz Club.

The ensemble is thrilled to make their debut at Yandoit Cultural, a venue with acoustics befitting of such beautiful music, in a region with a deep connection with Italian culture – a night to remember!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.daiccicio.com/about

BOOKINGS: <https://events.humanitix.com/dai-ciccio-plays-at-yandoit-cultural>

(Suggested donation: \$20/\$15)

YANDOIT CULTURAL CALENDAR 2026

APRIL – AUGUST 2026

Location: Uniting Church Rd, off High Street, Yandoit

Saturday April 18th • 5pm: Dai, Ciccio!

Saturday May 23rd • Time TBC:
Band without Borders (Central Vic)

Saturday May 30th • 5pm:
Central Vic Indigenous Film Festival Screening including Dja Dja Wurrung short films plus director's Q&A.
(Joint hosting by Yandoit Sacred and Yandoit Cultural)

Friday June 19th • 6pm:
Honey Tones Choir (Daylesford)

Sunday July 5th • 2pm:
Blackwood (Castlemaine and surrounds).

Saturday July 18 • Time TBC: Kinship (Daylesford)

Sunday August 30th • 11am: Words in Winter Festival - (Daylesford and surrounds) – Open Mic

And more to come, visit www.yandoitcultural.org/calendar

SUBSCRIBE: Keep informed about upcoming events at Yandoit Cultural and Yandoit Sacred gatherings at:
www.yandoitcultural.org



Next Gathering

Wednesday APRIL 15 • 5pm

Location: Uniting Church Rd, off High Street, Yandoit

Yandoit Sacred is gathering once a month during 2026, alternatively on Saturday afternoon at 2.00pm and on Wednesday evening at 5.00pm.

We continue to explore the sacred in our lives and our current focus is the practice of deep listening.

Everyone is welcome.

SUBSCRIBE to stay informed of upcoming Yandoit Sacred gatherings. Click on the subscribe tab via Yandoit Cultural's website: www.yandoitcultural.org

For MORE LOCAL EVENTS: Discover a wide range of events playing or located in central Vic in 2026: from yoga to festivals, concerts, gigs, sports. VISIT: www.humanitix.com/au/events/au--castlemaine

Pop Up Cafe • Sausage Sizzle • Morning Tea

CLYDESDALE

Community MARKET



SUNDAY 19 April | 10-2pm



Pop Up Cafe • Men's Shed Sausage Sizzle • Artisan ironwork • Jams
Hestia Bakery - bread & baked good • Plants • Trees • Treasures
Artwork • Soaps • Collectables • Vet Herbal Supplements • Eggs
Mellowood Farm & Nursery • Roving Musician

SUPPORTING LOCAL. Visit Clydesdale Hall & Grounds - 249 Locarno Rd



Newstead MARKET:

SAT 16th MAY
NEWSTEAD CFA
Community Market
8.30am – 1:00pm

Supporting local.
Our local markets are a great way to find out what is available within the community. Come along and support our local producers, farmers, stallholders and artisan producers.

Guildford Upper Loddon Landcare

Below are a number of online classes that may be of interest, along with a presentation by Tanya Loos (at Shedshaker in Castlemaine):

• Designing Resilient Gardens

> **Wednesday 22 April • Online 7–8pm**

Join horticulturist Alistair Kirkpatrick for a practical, inspiring session on creating a garden that can handle Australia's changing climate. Learn how to use plant layering, diversity and smart design to build shade, improve soil, and reduce watering. If your garden struggles with heat, hail or poor yields, you'll walk away with simple ideas to get it thriving again.

BOOKING HERE: <https://weteachme.com/classes/1046998>

• Creating a Wildlife Haven: The Must-Know Essentials

> **Wednesday 20 May • Online 7–8pm**

Want more birds, bees and butterflies in your garden? Join Claire Bickle to learn easy, practical ways to support local wildlife. Discover how to choose the right plants, create shelter and water, and make your garden a safe haven—starting this winter. Perfect for beginners or anyone wanting to make a real difference.

BOOKING HERE: <https://weteachme.com/classes/1047138>

• Making your property a Refuge for Wildlife presentation – with Tanya Loos

> **Wednesday 29 April • 6–7.30pm**

LOCATION: Shedshaker • 9 Walker Street, Castlemaine

If you'd like to join or learn more about Guildford Landcare, contact Gendrie (President) on 0428 732 561... OR.. come along to the Clydesdale Market on Sun. 19th where GUL will have an information table, and registration forms.

I spy with my little eye..

Highlighting our amazing natural environment, wildlife and ecosystem – one pic at a time.

This issue's little beauties are thanks to Jill Williams.



Orb Weaver spider, with a packed lunch.



Blue Flower Wasp, *Austroscolia soror*

Please send through a pic of your favourite local cohabitant: e.g. lizard... spider... fauna... bug... bird... fungi... etc, etc... and yes, maybe even one of those sadly maligned snakes!

Email to: chronicle3461@gmail.com

VALE Joan Sartori • 1940-2025



Joan Sartori, née Ramsey, was born in Castlemaine on 20th September 1940, the first child to Jim and Dolly. Her brother Mervyn was born five years later. Joan's primary school education was at Franklinford and Yandoit's schools. From there she moved on to Daylesford Technical High School where she obtained the Intermediate Certificate. A job at the Maldon hospital as a nurses' aid followed - as a Division 2 nurse for 35 years.

Following a five-year engagement, Joan and Ralph Sartori married in February 1963 at Castlemaine's former Methodist church. Their children, Andrew, Anne-marie and Adrian were born in 1965, 1968 and 1972 respectively.

Joan Sartori epitomised a generation of women for whom nothing was beyond their capabilities and 'when needs must'. She mastered multiple skills – Joan was very artistic, doing folk art and scrapbooking. She could crochet, knit, sew and cook ... where her roast lamb from the old wood stove was a highlight for the grandchildren. Joan's most-loved hobby of cake decorating won her many prizes at local shows and those talents were sought after by many blushing brides and for christenings, engagement and birthday celebrations, both far and wide.

Gardening was a great love of Joan's and she won prizes for flower arrangements at local shows. No matter the hobby, Joan had the curiosity, drive and patience to master it to an outstanding level. Literature was a huge passion for Joan along with her love of the computer and the internet. To this end, she carried out many genealogy searches for her family and for many other families during her 15-years membership of the Newstead and District Historical Society. Joan was a talented writer, and won a prize for writing at primary school. The prize was a framed print of the young Queen Elizabeth. It still hangs in the former Clydesdale school. Her talent for research and writing led to her presenting on various topics around Daylesford, Castlemaine and Newstead. A highlight for Joan was her appearance on the ABC TV's program Restoration Australia, where she revisited a childhood home and reminisced about her early years.

Joan engaged with the local community in many ways including President and secretary of Newstead Primary School Parents Club, Secretary of the Newstead Primary School Council, Member of the Newstead Swimming Pool catering committee, Proud Life Member of the Newstead Fire Brigade Auxiliary (47 years), Member of the Methodist Church Auxiliary, Member and office bearer of Newstead and District Historical Society for 15 years, Organiser of two Back-to-Newstead celebrations.

Joan died in December 2025, and was an incredible wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She was loyal, giving, proud, fierce, determined, curious and her best trait was that she would always stand up and fight for what was right, no matter the consequence.

Note: This is an edited version of the eulogy at her Memorial Service. Photo credit: Thompson Family Funerals

Thanks to the contributors for this issue:

Nikki Marshall, Jill Williams, Gendrie Klein-Breteler, Liz Butler

The next Chronicle is scheduled for June/July.

Any and all contributions are welcome. E: Chronicle3461@gmail.com

Newsletter Distribution - re. PAPER COPIES:

An audit of the number of printed Chronicles picked up from the three 'Distribution Stations', has helped determine the numbers required. Now 'Distribution Station No.1' (adjacent to the CFA station) will be the primary Pick up Point for paper copies.

(Printed copies will continue to be dropped-off to letterboxes along Locarno Road, plus to a number of specific boxes elsewhere.

If you are aware of any locals who have not received their preferred paper copy, pls let me know. (e: Chronicle3461@gmail.com)). *Thank you.*