

Our Community Matters



Rural City of
Wangaratta

Issue 2 | Autumn Edition 2022

*Explore
Your Backyard
this Autumn*

*Embrace Sustainability
at Home*

*Green Thumb Tips
for Autumn*

*What's On
in Wangaratta
and surrounds*

*Library Programs
for Book Worms*

*Art is in our Heart event
and more...*

Know Your Backyard

Live Wangaratta

Autumn is the perfect season to explore our amazing region. Not too cold, not too hot. With so much to see and do, what are you waiting for?



Mitchell Avenue Reserve



Off-Grid Living Festival



Pine Gully Nature Trail



Gold mining in Eldorado



Pedal to Produce



Murray to Mountains Rail Trail



Brookfield Maze



King Valley Balloon Fiesta



Lake William Hovell



Mount Cobbler



Scan here for details of all these attractions and more!

livewangaratta.com.au



Buy small, make a big difference

You can't buy happiness, but you can buy local and that's kind of the same!



Find out more

Mayor's Message



Did you know you can...

Welcome to the second and autumn edition of the new-look community newsletter, **Our Community Matters**.

This newsletter is a space for us to share with you, the community, a range of events, initiatives and information about not only what is happening at the Rural City of Wangaratta but also in your community.

This autumn edition focuses on getting the most out of what you have in your backyard. We approach this theme from a number of angles, looking at what exciting and enriching experiences we are fortunate to have right here in our region. We all know that Wangaratta's backyard is full of amazing things to do, and autumn is the perfect time to get out and explore.

Another way to look at our backyard is a little more literally, so we join council's sustainability team to look at ways to get the most out of what's beyond your back door. From watering and growing tips to solar lighting, we have ideas to go green in the backyard.

This autumn we also have a jam-packed events calendar for visitors and residents alike to enjoy. Check out the plethora of offerings from the Wangaratta Art Gallery, Performing Art and Conference Centre, Sports and Aquatic Centre, events team and community partners.

There's certainly plenty going on, so make sure you get to know what's on in your backyard this autumn and most importantly, enjoy!

Mayor Dean Rees



Want to listen to this newsletter online?

Visit wangeratta.vic.gov.au/communitynews for an Mp3 version of this newsletter.

1 Connect with us anytime:

Phone: 03 5722 0888

Email: council@wangeratta.vic.gov.au

In person:

62-68 Ovens Street, Wangaratta
Monday-Friday: 8.30am-5.30pm

2 Stay up to date on our social media channels

- @wangerattacouncil
- @Wangeratta_Council
- @RuralCityofWangeratta



3 Chat to your Councillors

Council meetings are held monthly and are streamed onto our YouTube channel. The agenda is made public a few days in advance, and you can submit a question to be answered during 'question time' at council@wangeratta.vic.gov.au. Questions can be received until 10am the day of the council meeting.



4 Tell us when something needs fixing

Bins not been picked up? Public toilet leaking? A stray paving stone come loose? Let us know at: wangeratta.vic.gov.au/report-it



5 Recycle most household waste?

By knowing what goes in which bin and disposing of your waste correctly, you can contribute to more material recovery and less waste going to landfill. Check out the 5 R's of recycling on our 'what to put in your bins' web page.



Sustainability in Autumn



Upcoming Local Events

Sustainable King Valley – Autumn Harvest

When: **Saturday 19 March | 2pm-4pm**

Where: **Cheshunt Hall**

Sustainable King Valley, with support from the Rural City of Wangaratta, welcome you to join them for Autumn Harvest.

There will be demonstrations, opportunities to build community connections, learn about seed saving, renewable energy innovations happening locally and produce sharing – so bring your excess produce to share or a basket to take some goodies away!

With support from DEWLP's Community Mini-grants – Climate Ready Hume Program, it will also be the launch of the Sustainable Food Hub at Cheshunt Hall. This is also a great opportunity to find out more about Moyhu Food Share and EO's for future workshops to be held in the new Hub.

Follow: **@sustainablekingvalley**

Email: **sustainablekingvalley@gmail.com**

Community Garden Open Day

When: **Sunday 20 March | 9am-12pm**

Where: **Wangaratta Community Garden**

In partnership with the Grit and Resilience Program and the Rural City of Wangaratta, the Wangaratta Community Garden will be holding an Open Day .

Come down and have a tour of the Community Gardens and learn how you can grow your own fruit and vegetables at home, the best time of year for planting, and how to start your own compost. There will be live cooking demonstrations, where you can learn to make an easy, affordable and delicious meal using whatever you have at home.

You can also meet the Community Garden volunteers and find out how you could get involved. For more information on the Open Day, please contact the Grit and Resilience Program at **gritandresilience@wangaratta.vic.gov.au**

Green Thumb Tips for Autumn

1 Adjust Watering

Monitor rainfall in autumn and make sure you adjust watering in the garden as needed. As a plant's growing cycle slows down as the weather cools many plants require less water, and natural precipitation is often enough, especially if we have a wet autumn.

2 Shop local

A wonderful part about autumn is the harvest! From apples to pumpkins to heaps of other delicious vegetables in-between, the best way to get the freshest produce is to shop local.

By shopping local you help your community by supporting local business, and reducing emissions from long-distance food transportation. So make sure to check out local farmers markets and other food events this autumn!

3 Plant your own

From March through to May you can plant a variety of veggie seeds in your garden or containers if you don't have a garden. You can't get much more local than that! Depending on when you get your first frost, during these months you can grow Asian greens, coriander, garlic, cauliflower, spinach, spring onion, rhubarb crowns, leeks, lettuce and more.



Scan for a more detailed planting guide check out the north east planting guide that has been created by a local gardener.



4 Utilise those autumn leaves

Autumn leaves provide a wonderful source of high-carbon material that is perfect for composting and mulch. You can either add them to your compost piles by alternating layers between the leaves and food scraps and grass clippings. Leave it to decompose over winter but make sure to aerate as needed. To use them as mulch, add 2-3 inches of shredded leaves to your beds, just make sure to avoid applying mulch close to the base of plants.

5 Think energy, even in the backyard

As our days get shorter we may need some more outdoor lighting so we can enjoy gathering with others to celebrate the season.

Make sure to use solar lights and LEDs to save on energy and costs, you can install timers to avoid having them on when not needed, and instead of using electrical or petrol tools look at self-powered alternatives.



Remember

a rake rather than a leaf blower will not only save on energy consumption but will give you a good work out and won't wake up the neighbours!

Wangaratta

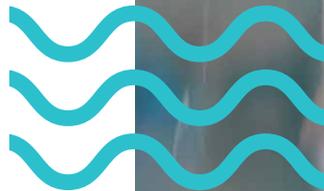
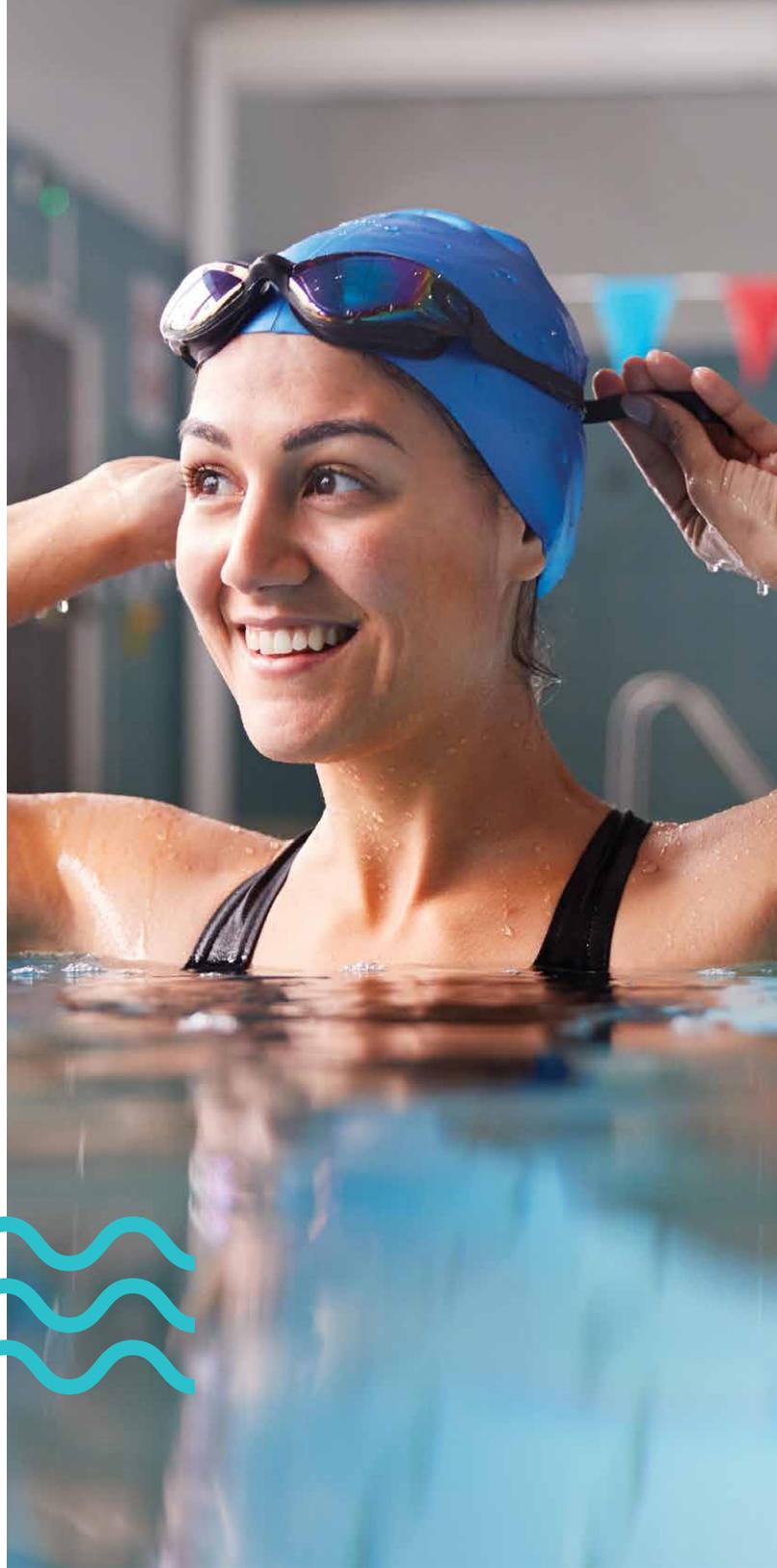
SPORTS & AQUATIC CENTRE

Lets Get Active!

- INDOOR POOL
 - OUTDOOR POOL
 - GYM FACILITIES
 - FITNESS CLASSES
 - STADIUM FACILITIES
- and much more!

Contact us about pool and gym memberships at wsac.vic.gov.au or call **03 5722 1723**

Proudly run by Rural City of **Wangaratta**



Art is in our Heart

The Grit and Resilience Art is in our Heart community group have created a progressive community painting which will be unveiled at the Grit and Resilience Gallery (gallery space at the Visitor Information Centre) in April.

Canvases were taken on the Grit and Resilience Heartbeat tour in February, where people were asked to answer the question, 'Who are we?' by making their mark on the canvas.

The canvases from all Heartbeat locations have combined to create a masterpiece titled 'This is Us,' which will help to highlight the importance of inclusion across the Rural City of Wangaratta in a spectacular visual feast.

Join us at the Grit and Resilience Art Gallery Launch on Friday 1 April from 5.30pm – 6.30pm, to see this community masterpiece unveiled and to hear about the exciting art workshops that you can get involved in across April – June.

Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Keep an eye on the Grit and Resilience Facebook page for details.



The Grit and
Resilience
PROGRAM

What's On

Our diverse and exciting calendar of events keep the community of Wangaratta buzzing all year round. Whether you're one for events in sport, entertainment, food, wine or art and culture; there's something for everyone in Wangaratta and surrounds.

MARCH

Wangaratta Rod Run

13 March 2022 | 2pm-6pm
Showgrounds

Self-Made Market

19 March 2022
Apex Park

Wangaratta Marathon

20 March 2022
Showgrounds

Black Dog Charity Ride

20 March 2022
Apex Park

King Valley Balloon Fiesta

25-27 March 2022
Brown Brothers Milawa Airfield
(6.45am balloon launches each morning)

King Valley Balloon Fiesta (Nightglow)

26 March 2022 | 2pm-6pm
Wangaratta Turf Club

APRIL

Bristol Owners Car Show

2 April 2022 | 10am-1pm
Apex Park

Sports Extravaganza

2-3 April 2022
Merriwa Park

Off Grid Living Festival

9-10 April 2022
Centennial Park, Eldorado

Battle of the Buskers

23 April 2022 | 10am-2pm
Various CBD Locations

Self-Made Market

24 April 2022
Apex Park

ANZAC DAY

25 April 2022
Cenotaph

Self-Made Market

24 April 2022
Apex Park

Wangaratta E-Sports Event

30 April 2022 | 2pm-6pm
Wangaratta Library

Which social media platforms your business should be on and why

27 April 2022 | 10am-11am
Performing Arts Centre

MAY

Official Opening – Parkour Play Space

6 May 2022 | 4pm
Apex Park

Hidden Creatures Event

14 May 2022 | 10am-12noon
Merriwa Park

Reconciliation Week

27 May - 3 June 2022
Apex Park



Scan for further details about these events and more!



Wangaratta Library

Calling all bookworms. Want to chat about your latest read? Need a book recommendation? Pop in for a visit or join one of our programs where we share our passion for all things literary!

Children's Programs

Do you want to encourage a lifelong love of books and reading in your child? Join one of our FREE weekly kid's programs where together we read stories, sing songs, and do craft activities that are specially designed for our youngest visitors. The sessions are also a wonderful way to meet other mums, dads, and grandparents.

- **Toddler Tales** | Mondays at 11am | Suitable for ages 1 - 3 years • Preschool Storytime | Tuesdays at 10.30am | Suitable for under 5s

- **Rhyme Time** | Thursdays at 11.30am | Suitable for babies under 12 months of age and their carer)

Adult Programs

Enjoy a cuppa at these FREE sessions and discover new authors and titles with some friendly conversation and good company!

- **Book Chat** | First Monday of the month at 1.30pm
Informal chat

- **Book Club** | Second Tuesday of the month at 3pm
Borrow and discuss a specific title

Season 2022

What's On

Wangaratta
Performing Arts &
Convention Centre



11
MAR
FRI 7.30pm

Melbourne International Comedy Festival Outta Town



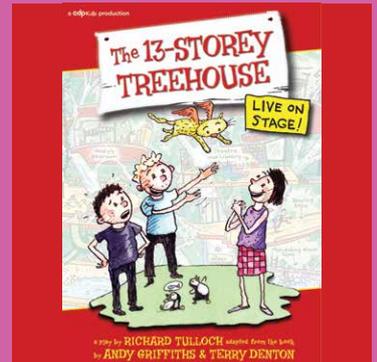
16
MAR
WED 7.30pm

Mother & Son



24
MAR
THURS 7.30pm

Become the One



29
MAR
TUES
12pm & 6pm

The 13-Storey Treehouse



1
APR
FRI 10.30am

Blowin' in the Wind – Salute to the ANZACS & Vietnam Vets



5
APR
TUES 7.30pm

Black Cockatoo



7
APR
THURS 7.30pm

Calvin Abdiel Recital – Sydney International Piano Competition



6
MAY
FRI 8pm

The Australian Bee Gees Show



7&8
MAY
SAT 6.30pm
SUN 2pm

U Can Cry Project 365



13
MAY
FRI 8pm

Bjorn Again – Mamma Mia! We Are Back Again



17&18
MAY
TUES 7.30pm
WED 7.30pm

Human Nature 'People Get Ready'



Pick up a 2022 Season Brochure today!

