

Moira Shire

ENRICHING LIFE ON THE MURRAY

COMING EVENTS

'EVENING WITH THE STARS' FAMILY EVENT
6pm, Wednesday 19 January 2011, Katunga Recreation Reserve

Evening with Stars



BAND IN THE PARK

5pm-7pm, Sunday 6 February 2011, Kennedy Park Yarrowonga

FIRE READY

Despite recent rain Moira Shire Council has joined with the CFA and state authorities in reminding people to ensure their Fire Safety Plan is in place.

CFA fire restrictions are in force in the municipalities of Moira, Campaspe, Strathbogie, Indigo, Wangaratta, Benalla, Shepparton and Wodonga, preventing people from burning off without a permit from their Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or District CFA office. People are reminded Total Fire Bans may be declared during extreme hot weather.

Victoria has adopted the Fire Danger Rating scale to help communities understand fire danger information. Every day during the fire season the Bureau of Meteorology forecasts a fire danger outlook based on predicted weather conditions. For more information on fire danger ratings visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au. Residents are reminded they should also have a Fire Safety Plan when they are away from home.



COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2011

All meeting commence at 6pm
Monday 21 February 2011
Cobram Civic Centre
Monday 21 March 2011
Numurkah Council Meeting Room
Monday 18 April 2011
Community Hall Yarrowonga
Monday 16 May 2011
Community Centre Nathalia
Monday 20 June 2011
Council Meeting Room Numurkah
Monday 18 July 2011
Cobram Civic Centre
Monday 15 August 2011
Community Hall Yarrowonga
Monday 19 September 2011
Community Centre Nathalia
Monday 17 October 2011
Council Meeting Room Numurkah
Monday 21 November 2011
Community Hall Yarrowonga
Monday 7 December 2011
Cobram Civic Centre
(Special Meeting Mayoral Election)
Monday 12 December 2011
Cobram Civic Centre



Keeping the community informed SUN COUNTRY ON THE MURRAY FARM GATE TRAIL



The Sun Country on the Murray Farm Gate Trail provides an opportunity for people to pick fresh fruit for their own fruit salad, observe a working farm in action, indulge in a drop of boutique beer and taste a range of local produce and wine. The Trail is made up of a group of primary producers who provide their produce direct from its source – the farm. Providers range from those who have shop fronts open seven days a week to those who service a roadside stall that operates on the honesty box system. The Trail is not a designated route but rather an opportunity for people to tour the region and visit a number of unique farm providers to purchase or view products that are freshly grown, made or propagated in the immediate locality.



Sun Country on the Murray food, wine and produce is also on display and for sale at the Cobram/Barooga, Yarrowonga/Mulwala and Numurkah Visitor Information Centres. Moira's local produce is also available at local markets including the Yarrowonga Farmers Market.

The Sun Country on the Murray Farm Gate Trail features:

- Cactus Country (2km east of Strathmerton)
- KNM Berries & Fruit (Koonoomoo)
- Glenarron Farms (Katunga)
- Wytterica Alpacas (3km east of Cobram)
- Tranquil Hills - 'the house of marmalade and

- memories' (5km from Cobram)
- Woodhaven Herbs and Lavender (18km from both Cobram and Yarrowonga)
- Buffalo Brewery (Boorhaman)
- Locheilan Farmhouse Cheese (6km from Wunghnu)
- Rosebrooke Farm (situated between Cobram and Yarrowonga)
- Fyffe Field Wines (situated between Cobram and Yarrowonga)
- Murray Estate Wines (7km from Mulwala)
- The Big Strawberry (Koonoomoo)
- Eddy's Gourmet Buffalo Café and Coffee Lounge (Wunghnu)
- Monichino Wines (Katunga)
- Rich Glen Olives (8km west of Yarrowonga)
- Boosey Creek Cheese (Boosey)
- Aintree Farm - Almonds and Apiary (13km Strathmerton)
- PJK Fresh Fruit (8km east of Cobram)

For more information on the Yarrowonga Farmers Market, the Farm Gate Trail or local produce see the below websites:
www.yarrowongafarmersmarket.com.au
www.farmgatetrail.com.au (map and more information available on website)
www.suncountryfoodandwine.com.au

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Moira Shire Council currently has the following vacant position:

Recreation & Safety Officer

Job No: 240823

Salary: \$50,597 p.a. (Band 5) + 9% super

Hours: Temporary – full time until July 2011

Applications close 5pm Wednesday 12 January 2011

For full details, see the Situation Vacant section of the Classifieds in this newspaper or go to www.moira.vic.gov.au/jobs

GRANT INFORMATION

Moira Shire Council supports its community by offering a number of grant opportunities to organisations who provide facilities and programs that benefit our community and contribute toward making Moira Shire a better place to live, work and play.

Each year, Moira Shire Council distributes \$300,000 through a range of programs which include:

• Small Grants

Provide financial assistance to voluntary, not for profit community groups to support the development of programs and projects which assist in promoting the health, welfare and social well-being of the people of Moira Shire. Small Grants are advertised in January and August each year. Maximum funding available is \$2,500.

• Community Assistance Grants

Provide a higher level of financial assistance to that of Small Grants while retaining the same community benefit objectives. Community Assistance Grants are advertised in April each year. Maximum funding available is \$15,000.

• Event Sponsorship Funding

The key focus of the Event Sponsorship Funding is fostering new and existing events that promote economic, cultural and social benefits throughout the community. Events Sponsorship Funding is advertised in January, April, July and October each year. Maximum funding available is \$2,000.

• Economic Development Grants

Provide financial assistance to business and community groups to deliver projects that boost their town's economy. Economic Development Grants are advertised in February and October each year. Grants of between \$500 and \$2000 available.

Moira Shire will conduct information sessions in 2011 to give interested groups a better understanding of not only Council's grants program but also external funding opportunities. Information sessions will be advertised in local papers and attendance encouraged by community groups.

LEADING AGRICULTURE NETWORKS AND DEVELOPMENTS (LAND) EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT

Agricultural business owners and operators are asked to express their interest in participating in Moira Shire Leading Agriculture Networks and Developments (LAND).

Topics for discussion will include:

- skills development;
- education opportunities;
- climate change;
- business planning;
- irrigation (effects of modernisation, water cluster opportunities);
- investigating new markets; and
- diversification.

The group will meet quarterly and discuss trends, issues and opportunities that will enable the agricultural sector to become more resilient and sustainable. Participants are sought from a diverse range of farming and agricultural businesses including dairy, broad acre cropping, fruit, market garden, beef, sheep, stockfeed and agricultural manufacture.

To register or for more information, contact Rural and Workforce Development Officer Greg Laidlaw on (03) 5871 9222.

MOSQUITO INFLUX

Moira Shire Council is urging residents to be vigilant in protecting themselves against mosquito transmitted viruses.

Recent rain and warm weather has provided ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes and resulted in a significant influx in mosquito numbers throughout the region.

Moira Shire has a mosquito monitoring program in place to monitor adult mosquito numbers, species and breeding patterns.

You can help reduce your chance of being bitten by:

- applying mosquito repellent regularly;
- wearing light coloured, loose-fitting clothes with long sleeves and long trousers (mosquitoes are attracted to dark coloured clothes and can bite through tight clothes);
- avoiding outdoor activity around dusk and dawn when most mosquitoes are most active;
- ensuring flyscreens on houses, caravans and annexes are in place;
- emptying open containers of water from around the home regularly to prevent mosquito breeding; and
- controlling mosquitoes that enter your house or caravan with an insecticide aerosol spray and spraying bedrooms before going to sleep.

Anyone requiring more information can contact Moira Shire Council Mosquito Monitor Ian Morley on (03) 5871 9222.