

Victorian Seniors Festival 2026

CONNECT CREATE CELEBRATE

1-31 October



Accessibility Symbols for Activities

Walking requirements: You will see the shoe print symbols when outings require low moderate or high amounts or challenge with walking. It is always recommended you bring any prescribed mobility aids with you on outings.



Low involves minimal walking to and within the activity and mostly flat ground. There is always an **alternate option to sit somewhere**.



Moderate involves walking as part of the activity around the venue, for example a museum or nursery.

There may be a slope with different surfaces. There is usually an alternative option such as a place to sit somewhere or easier paths.



High involves a large amount of walking within the activity. It may involve slopes or outdoor spaces with different surfaces to navigate. There may be an alternative option provided to sit or do a smaller amount of walking.



Hearing requirements: The loudspeaker symbol indicates the venue may have higher amounts of background noise.



Outdoor activity: The tree and path symbol indicates there is at least part of the day that will be outside and to be prepared with appropriate clothes, outwear, sunscreen, sunglasses and hat or mobility aid if required.



No Toilet: This venue itself does not have a toilet. There will be a public toilet close by or at the place where you stop for morning tea.



Stairs: The activity includes a venue that may have steps to access some parts.

See updated details or book online at:

www.cch.org.au/community/mount-alexander-seniors-festival

or call 03 5472 4842 between 9am - 3pm



Generations

A Seniors Festival taster! Older and younger artists collaborate to transform old gramophone records into unique artworks. The finished pieces will be showcased in a community exhibition, raising funds for Community Houses Art Projects.

Tues 15 Sep | 5:00pm - 7:30pm |
Castlemaine Community House



Superannuation Essentials

Join us for an informative session and a Q&A on superannuation and retirement planning, including practical tips to help you make the most of your super.

Fri 2 Oct | 10:00am - 11:00am |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



Biyal at Castlemaine Art Museum

BIYAL is a celebration of the Guildford Biyal (Red gum), known locally as the Guildford Big Tree. The exhibition is a part of DJAARA's Guildford Biyal Project.

Open until 21 November 2026

Thurs - Fri: 10:00am–4:00pm

Sat: 11:00am–4:00pm

Sun: 12:00pm–4:00pm

14 Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine

***Free Entry**



Harcourt Valley Community Lunch

Join us for a hearty and delicious meal with your community. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy good food and company. It's a great opportunity to connect with others, share a meal and enjoy a welcoming community atmosphere.

Fri 2,9,16,23 & 30 Oct |
12:00pm - 1:30pm |
23 Station street, Harcourt
***\$5 Donation suggested**



Three Cord Club

A relaxed open mic event celebrating folk, blues, country and singer-songwriters, providing a space for performers to share their music and connect with the community.

Sun 4 Oct | 2:00pm - 5:00pm |
Maurocco Bar Midland Hotel
\$5 entry fee at the door





1:1 IT Help

Get one-on-one IT help at Castlemaine Library with support for your technology needs. Call 5472 1458 to book.

Every Tuesday & Wednesday |
2:00pm - 4:00pm |
Castlemaine Library
***Bookings Required**



CCH Chess Club

Join our weekly Chess Club for friendly games, social connection and a chance to sharpen your mind. All skill levels are welcome, whether you're an experienced player or new to chess. Come along, meet fellow chess enthusiasts.

Mon 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct |
1:00pm - 3:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House



Castlemaine Community Lunch

Join us for the Castlemaine Community Lunch and enjoy a delicious two course vegetarian meal. Come along with friends, family and community members for a relaxed and welcoming meal together.

Tues 6, 13, 20 & 27 Oct |
12:30pm - 2:00pm |
25 Lyttleton street, Castlemaine
***\$7 suggested donation.**
***Community Lunch on Oct 13 includes a mini-expo**



Community BBQ in the Park

Come along for a relaxed and friendly gathering in Castlemaine's Victory Park as part of the 2026 Seniors Festival. Bring your lunch or something to cook on the BBQ, and enjoy drinks and nibbles while catching up with friends, meeting new people and enjoying good company. Facilitated by Isis Jordan who manages Get Connected.

The park BBQs will be fired up, with Isis taking the reins as our resident barbie expert. Bring something along to cook if you'd like!

She will also tell you about Chatty Cafes where you can connect, chat and build community.

Wed 7 Oct | 12:00pm - 2:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



Maldon Community lunch

Join us for the Maldon Community lunch for a good feed and friendly chat with local people. Vegan and gluten free meals are available by request, please contact Maldon Neighbourhood Centre by the Tuesday.

Wed 7, 14, 21 & 28 Oct |
12pm |
6 Francis Street, Maldon
***\$7 donation suggested**



ATO Stay Safe From Tax Scams

Learn how to recognise common ATO scams and protect yourself from fraud. Discover the warning signs of scam calls, texts, emails and messages claiming to be from the Australian Taxation Office and learn simple steps you can take to keep your personal information and money safe.

Wed 7 Oct | 09:00am - 10:30am |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



JIMPA movie screening

Join Shedshaker Brewery for a community screening of the acclaimed film JIMPA, inspired by the life of activist Jim Hyde who had strong connections to and involvement with our Castlemaine community.

Funny, accessible, full of sadness and joy, and with a wonderful multi-generational cast, JIMPA is a celebration of LGBTQ+ culture. It brings a queer family to screen, taking a nuanced look at just how much has changed in terms of social expectation and our understanding of family over three generations.

Wed 7 Oct | 6:00pm - 9:00pm |
Phee Broadway Theatre
***Bookings required**
***Donation appreciated**





Danielle De Andrea: Country Concert

Thur 8 Oct | 2:00pm - 3:00pm | Castlemaine Town Hall | ***Bookings required**

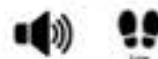
Join an afternoon of song at the Castlemaine Town Hall!

Dannielle De Andrea's performance is like a masterclass in blending the nostalgic charm of the Great American Songbook with a contemporary sensibility, delivering an event that resonates with both seasoned jazz enthusiasts and casual listeners.

Dannielle's voice is a revelation, exuding the kind of effortless warmth and authenticity that draws listeners in from the first note. Her natural charisma and the impeccable craftsmanship of the songs give her performance substance and depth.

Presented by Mount Alexander Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire and Hepburn Shire Councils.

Frederick Street is closed to traffic; Town Hall remains accessible by the footpath.



Cooking For Blokes

Build your kitchen confidence in this free four-week course. Learn practical cooking skills, explore simple recipes and gain confidence preparing delicious, everyday meals.

Thur 8, 15, 22 & 29 Oct |
1:00pm - 3:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



LGBTI Short Stories A podcast for seniors

Share a short, anonymous five-minute story for the Pride Across the Ages Podcast. Stories will be recorded at Silver Rainbow Social Club. Morning Tea provided.

Fri 9 Oct | 10:30am - 12:00pm |
Ray Bradfield
***Bookings required**



Harvest Community Lunch

Join us for the Harvest Community Lunch at the Anglican Church Hall. Come along with friends or by yourself, everyone is welcome. Vegetarian and gluten free options available.

Fri 9 & 23 Oct | 12:00pm |
8 Moyston street

***Gold coin donation**



Digital Legacy Planning

What happens to your digital life when you're no longer here? Learn how to plan for your digital legacy with Goldfields Library, including online accounts, photos, social media and important digital information. This practical session will help you understand your options and take simple steps to make your digital affairs easier for loved ones to manage.

Fri 9 Oct | 10:30am - 11:30am |
Castlemaine Community House

***Bookings required**



Tap Dance Class

Dust off those tap shoes and twinkle toes and learn a tap dance in one session with Paula! Some tap dance experience required

Fri 9 Oct | 1:00pm - 2:00pm |
Over The Moon Studio, 9
Templeton St

***No Bookings required, Gold Coin Donation**



Chair Yoga

Enjoy gentle, accessible yoga with Meera, suitable for beginners and all abilities. Practise simple movements, stretches and breathing exercises from a chair or mat, at your own pace.

Sat 10, 17 & 24 Oct |
10:30am - 11:30am |
Castlemaine Community House

***Bookings required**



Getting Up With Confidence

Join Dhelkaya Health staff for a practical and informative session focused on preventing falls and staying steady on your feet. Learn simple strategies to improve balance, strength and confidence, reduce your risk of falls, and feel more secure in your everyday activities. You'll also discover local support options, helpful resources and practical tips to help you stay active, safe and independent at home and in the community.

Mon 12 Oct | 9:30am - 10:30am |
Castlemaine Community House

***Bookings required**





Community Lunch & Mini - Expo

Tues 13 Oct | 12:00pm - 2:00pm | Castlemaine Town Hall

Join us for the Seniors Expo and Community Lunch, a free event celebrating Seniors Month and bringing the community together. Discover a wide range of local services, community groups, activities and opportunities that support healthy, active and connected ageing.

Drop in anytime from 12.00pm to 2.00pm, with lunch served from 12.30pm.

Quiet Time from 1.30pm–2.00pm will provide a calmer experience with reduced noise and fewer announcements for those who prefer a quieter setting.

Frederick Street is closed to traffic, but the Town Hall remains accessible by the footpath.

Transport available upon registration AND Seniors eat for free!!

Planning Ahead: Taking Control Of Your Future

Join Seniors Rights Victoria for a free Planning Ahead session. Learn about Enduring Powers of Attorney, Medical Treatment Decision Makers and Advance Care Directives, with practical information and resources to help you plan ahead and ensure your wishes are understood and respected.



Wed 14 Oct | 10:30am - 12:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required.**





Housing Rights For Older Renters

Learn about renters rights and protections, including minimum standards, repairs, rent increases and notice periods. ARC Justice housing advocates will share practical legal information to help renters understand and advocate for their rights.

Fri 16 Oct | 11:00am - 12:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



No Tech Games: Mahjong

Put down the technology and join others to try the classic game of mahjong, a tile-based game of Chinese origin.

Fri 16 Oct | 3:30pm - 4:30pm |
Castlemaine Library
No Bookings required



Jazz Jam

A welcoming Jazz event bringing musicians and music lovers together to enjoy live performances, creativity and community connection.

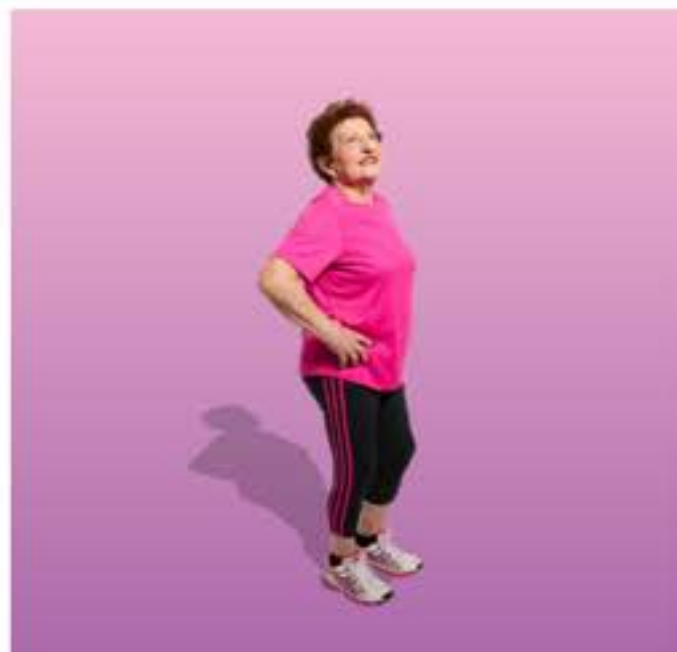
Sun 18 Oct | 2:00pm - 5:00pm |
Maurocco Bar Midland Hotel
*** No Booking required,**
\$5 Entry fee



Wills - Why Having One Matters

Join us for an informative session about wills and why having a valid will is an important part of planning for the future. Learn what a will does, what can happen if you die without one, key things to consider when making or updating your will.

Mon 19 Oct | 10:00am - 11:00am |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**





Discover The Gardens - A Guided Walk

Join Tina Thanos for two relaxed guided walks exploring the history, plants and beautiful landscapes of the gardens. Discover the stories, features and seasonal highlights of these special spaces while enjoying a gentle pace and plenty of opportunities to stop and take in the surroundings.

Day 1 (20 Oct): Explore Lake Joanna and the Front Gardens, discovering the history, plantings and landscapes along the way.

Day 2 (27 Oct): Visit the Pinetum and Rose Garden, exploring their unique plants, design and history. Both walks use the main access paths and include regular opportunities to rest, making them suitable for a range of abilities. Come along for a leisurely stroll, learn something new and enjoy the gardens in good company.

**Tues 20,27 Oct |
9:30am-10:30am |
Castlemaine Community House
*Bookings required**



Summer Safety: Apps to know

Join Mount Alexander Shire Council for a free Get Online Week morning tea, featuring a presentation from a local CFA representative. Learn how to use digital tools to stay informed and prepared this summer: download emergency apps, find trusted weather and bushfire updates, and build confidence using your smartphone or tablet.

**Wed 21 Oct | 10:30am - 12:30pm |
Castlemaine Community House
Free transport available
*Bookings required**



Understanding Services In Retirement

Learn how Services Australia can support you in retirement, including help at home, means-tested fees, overseas travel and using myGov. Enjoy a friendly session with practical information and time for questions.

**Thur 22nd Oct | 9:30am - 10:30am |
Castlemaine Community House
*Bookings required**



Understanding My Aged Care & Local Support

Understand your aged care options with Phillipa from Mount Alexander Shire Council, whether planning ahead or supporting a loved one.

**Thur 22 Oct | 11:00am - 12:30pm |
Castlemaine Community House
*Bookings required**

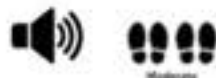




A Creative Day Out In Bendigo

Join Dhelkaya Health's Get Connected group for an excursion to Bendigo Town Hall to explore an exhibition and enjoy a creative activity. Connect with others and enjoy the outing, with pick up and drop off from Castlemaine Community House.

Fri 23rd Oct | 12:30pm - 3:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



Media Literacy In The Age Of AI

In a world where anyone and anything can publish online, how do you tell fact from fiction? In this timely seminar, we take a look at how AI is influencing news, social media and other online content.

Fri 23 Oct | 2:00pm - 3:15pm |
Castlemaine Library
***Book via the Goldfields Libraries website.**



Supporting You in Your Caring Role

Learn about Carers Victoria, Carer Gateway and local support services available to unpaid carers and their families. Find information, connection and support.

Mon 26 Oct | 9:30am - 11:00am |
Castlemaine Community House
*** Bookings Required**



Silver Screen Social - Calendar Girls

Enjoy "Calendar Girls" a much loved classic film with Dhelkaya Health's Get Connected program. A relaxed afternoon of friendship, film and connection.

Tues 27 Oct | 1:30pm - 3:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



Hearing Australia

Reconnect with sounds you love and learn how good hearing can help you stay connected to family, friends and your community

Wed 28 Oct | 10:00am - 2:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House



Breads, Birds and Herbs

Join regional authors Mara Ripani, Tanya Loos and Caroline Parker for an inspiring chat about nature, birds, herbs and yeast.

Thur 29 Oct | 5:30pm - 6:30pm |
Castlemaine Library
**Book Via the Goldfields
Libraries Website**



Protecting Babies, Grandchildren And You

Learn about recommended vaccinations for older adults and how they help protect loved ones.

Fri 30 Oct | 9:30am - 10:30am |
Castlemaine Community House
***Bookings required**



Age - friendly Gardens

Explore simple ideas for creating beautiful, safe and practical gardens that are easy to maintain as we age.

Fri 30 Oct | 11:00am - 12:00pm |
Castlemaine Community House |
***Bookings required**



Lifes2Short

Laugh, reflect and be inspired by Lifes2Short, a heartfelt theatre performance that reminds us to embrace life's unexpected moments.

Sat 31 Oct | 2:00pm - 3:15pm |
Thompson Family Funerals |
**No Bookings required, \$20 entry
fee**



Good Grief Lounge - Embracing Joy

Missing Seniors Festival already? Here's a follow up event. Join Lucy Mayes for a conversation, followed by music, singalong and movement with Close To The Bones and Silvertops dancers. Enjoy a relaxed morning of connection, music and community, with homemade tea provided.

Sat 14 Nov | 11:00am - 1:00pm |
Northren Arts Hotel | Registration
link:
<https://www.events.humanitix.com/g-g-lounge26>
\$10 entry fee



Contact Castlemaine Community House to book for an event.

- Phone 03 5472 4842
- email reception@cch.org.au
- or visit us at 30 Templeton Street, Castlemaine
Monday - Friday | 9am - 3pm



See updated details or book online at:

www.cch.org.au/community/mount-alexander-seniors-festival