



2026/27 COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM



Our 2026/27 Community Funding Program will open on Monday 31 August, investing in projects, events and initiatives that strengthen our communities and improve the Shire’s social, cultural, environmental, and economic outcomes.

Funding is available for projects, events, minor capital works, equipment, and one-off or seed-funded initiatives.

- Funding categories include:
- Programs, Projects, Activities: Up to \$2,000
- Equipment: Up to \$2,000
- Community Event Support: Up to \$2,000
- Minor Capital Works: Up to \$7,000
- Tourism Event Sponsorship: Up to \$5,000

Further information will be available from Monday on pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-Funding-Program

COMMUNITY NEWS

Avoca entrance sculpture

Vote for the new Avoca entrance sculpture!

Several amazing entries were received, and have been narrowed down to two choices which can soon be voted on at pyrenees.vic.gov.au/engage

The winning artwork will stand at the Pyrenees and Sunraysia highways intersection, replacing the former wine barrel sculpture removed in 2023 due to safety concerns.

We can’t wait to see which one you choose!



Beaufort Storytime has a new time!

Come along to the Beaufort Community Resource Centre’s Library with a new Storytime timeslot of 10.30am on Fridays for a morning filled with wonderful stories, cheerful songs, and lots of fun.

It’s the perfect chance for little ones to spark their imagination, make new friends, and fall in love with reading. Bring the kids, bring a friend, and let’s make Friday mornings magical!

Pyrenees Seed Library to launch

The Pyrenees Seed Library will bring our community together through the joy of growing.

Join the seed library and you can borrow and share seeds, learn new gardening skills and grow your own fresh food.

The seed library’s launch will be held on Friday, 4 September at 11am at the Beaufort Community Resource Centre.

All you have to do is borrow four packets of seeds, grow them at home, harvest the seeds and return some to share – simple!

Together we can cultivate knowledge, sustainability, and build a stronger more connected community – one seed at a time.

Resilient Homes Expo

Our upcoming Resilient Homes Expo in October - including a special celebrity guest to be unveiled very soon - will help households prepare for bushfires, extreme weather and other emergencies.

The expo will assist residents with practical steps that can improve household resilience before, during and after emergencies.

This free, family-friendly event will be held on Sunday 11 October at the Lexton Recreation Reserve and the Lexton Community Hub.

More details, including the full program, participating organisations and the very

special guest announcement, will be released in the coming weeks.

The Resilient Homes Expo is being delivered by Pyrenees Shire Council through the Safer Together Bushfire Resilience Project.

For more information, go to pyrenees.vic.gov.au/expo

Pyrenees Writing Group

Have you always dreamed of writing a memoir, children’s book, novel or simply putting pen to paper? The brand-new Pyrenees Writing Group is launching on Saturday 29 August and welcomes writers of all experience levels.

Whether you’re just starting out or have been quietly working on a manuscript for years, this is a supportive space to share ideas, receive constructive feedback and connect with other local writers.

The group will meet on the last Saturday of every month from 2pm–4pm in the Beaufort Community Resource Centre’s Trafford Room. Annual membership is just \$25.

For more information, contact Pyrenees Community House at 5349 3150.



Respiratory illnesses on the rise

Respiratory infections such as influenza (flu) and COVID-19 are increasing in Victoria and cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) remain raised after peaking in July. This year, this is occurring later than previous seasons.

Vaccines are available to protect against common respiratory infections, including the seasonal flu vaccination.

Some people, including young children, older adults and those with a weakened immune system, are at increased risk of severe disease but early antiviral treatments can help to reduce severe disease.

Simple hygiene and preventive measures like covering coughs and sneezes, regular hand washing and staying home when sick can also help reduce the spread of respiratory infections.

For more information go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au/

The McFarlane Dress Collection – Fashion Through The Ages

Date: Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September, 10am-4pm
Location: Skipton Community Hall
Details: A stunning showcase of vintage ball gowns, including Australian designers such as Carla Zampatti. This

remarkable collection is privately owned and rarely displayed to the public.

On Sunday 20 September from 1pm, an afternoon team and fashion parade featuring local models presenting selected gowns from the collection will be held in a runway-style showcase.

For more information go to tinyurl.com/MDC-Skipton

GRANTS

Community Bank Spring 2026 grants

Community Bank Avoca, Maryborough and St Arnaud’s Community Impact Program invests in the growth of a resilient, sustainable, and thriving local community, with spring 2026 grants now open.

Community and not-for-profit organisations can apply for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit and align with five key impact pillars:

1. Leadership - Investing in people, leadership and resilience
2. Opportunity & Innovation - Encouraging innovation and creation
3. Wellbeing - Nurturing our community’s wellbeing and resilience
4. Collaborate & Connect - Working to establish, maintain and support partnerships and collaboration, for collective benefit and to build our community capacity
5. Liveability - Improving and sustaining our region

To apply, go to communitybankavocamaryborough.smartygrants.com.au

CAREERS AT COUNCIL

Team Leader Recovery and Resilience

Temporary Full time
Band 7 (Salary \$105,184 - \$116,776 incl. RDO) + Super

Interested candidates can download the position description and submit applications via pyrenees.vic.gov.au/employment

Applications for this position close at 12pm Monday 14 September 2026.

Pyrenees Shire Council is proud to be an inclusive and equal opportunity employer. We offer flexible work arrangements and welcome applications from individuals of all abilities and backgrounds.

YOUR PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw Avoca Ward 0458 704 011 avoca@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Damian Ferrari – Mayor Beaufort Ward 0437 662 295 beaufort@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Megan Phelan De Cameron Ward 0461 523 580 decameron@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Simon Tol Ercildoune Ward 0473 628 938 ercildoune@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Tanya Kehoe Mount Emu Ward 0439 571 480 mountemu@pyrenees.vic.gov.au
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