

## Learning the Art of Giving



☆ The big pitch: this group of Maldon Primary School students was one of five that took to the stage to present their big idea at the *Kids as Catalysts* event last week.

Photo courtesy of Jodie Mengler



☆ Baringhup Primary School students, with assistance dog plus adult cheer squad, pictured at the *Kids as Catalysts* event last week.

Photo courtesy of Janette Leaver

**STUDENTS from several primary schools came together at the Maldon Community Centre last week as part of a philanthropy program called *Kids as Catalysts*.**

This is an in-school philanthropy initiative where children get to make a positive impact on their local community.

Students in the program chose a local issue they were passionate about and formed partnerships with a community group. They then developed a project that best addressed the issue, in terms of using their time, talents and treasure. Last week was the 'big pitch', where they stepped up onto a stage to present their ideas to a panel of judges.

**Maldon Primary School** students chose five separate projects to tackle:

- Animal Welfare Group - working with Landcare to help control the rabbit population. They were awarded \$190 towards their project.
- Boys and Men - working with the Maldon Men's Shed

to build billy carts. \$145 was awarded to this group.

- Cultural Diversity - working with The Meeting Place in Castlemaine to provide quality art supplies for the use of local indigenous children. The group was given \$160 to make their project a reality.
- Disability Support - working with the Maldon Hospital as part of their garden rejuvenation project. \$160 was awarded to this project.
- Kids Expressing Talents - working with Maldon Pre-School to install a percussion music wall in the kinder playground. The panel gave this group \$150 towards its project.

**Baringhup Primary students** opted to work on a single project. The panel awarded them \$1,000 to fund their application to work with Righteous Pups. This is an organisation that funds assistance dogs. One of these carefully trained animals will be placed with Jen, a returned service woman.

## Maldon In Winter



☆ There's plenty happening these school holidays during Maldon In Winter.

**CELEBRATE Maldon In Winter these school holidays, starting with the shops on High Street and Main Street that are lit up with the town's famous Christmas windows.**

There are several kids' events, including stamp printing and readings at Cascade Print Room, a movie at the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre this Sunday, the Athenaeum children's library and Steam Train for Kids on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 July.

For more family fun, check

out the Maldon Art Show, the Vintage Machinery Museum and Battery and Carman's Tunnel tours.

And don't miss the huge CFA community bonfire on Saturday 2 July, with marshmallows and hot chocolate, at the railway yards!

There's plenty on in Maldon these school holidays. Check out the Maldon In Winter list of events at [www.maldon.org.au](http://www.maldon.org.au) or pick up a program at selected shops or the Maldon Visitor Information Centre.

## Men's Shed in June



☆ One of the Men's Shed's projects: restoring an old dray.

**THERE has been a lucky winner of our famous dunny which featured on our second prize-winning float in the Easter Fair Parade. It is Chris Hodge of Axedale who was visiting Maldon for the long weekend, saw it at the Maldon Market and couldn't resist buying the winning ticket.**

The shed is humming along at the moment with many huddled in the social area playing pool, chatting and bragging of their contribution to the universe, while others are out in the workshop playing with tools, chatting and just bragging.

We have just had an afternoon trip to Castlemaine to visit a large and extensive collection of chainsaws and other associated machinery. More excursions are planned for the future; hopefully we can cover the diverse range of interests that are found in a Men's Shed.

Another woodworking class has been successfully completed through the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre with four more pupils

of the female gender acquiring a bit more confidence in using hand tools under the guidance of Mike Hiley.

The Maldon Men's Shed has recently been fortunate to receive grants in various categories. The Mt Alexander Shire Community Grant is to purchase a new wood heater for the shed. A big thank you to the Shire.

The Federal Community Volunteer Grants has also been generous with funds to help our members continue to contribute to the community of Maldon.

And last, but far from least, the Men's Shed in partnership with the Maldon Vintage Machinery Museum has won a grant from the Federal Department of the Environment to install solar panels onto the shed. This will reduce our carbon footprint and reduce our power bills into the future.

Remember the shed is open each Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. Come along to work on your own project and share your skills with others.

## New Funding to Map Wheel Cactus Invasion



☆ New funding from Norman Wettenhall Foundation will help to map Wheel Cactus plants within Victoria.

**THE Tarrangower Cactus Control Group (TCCG) has recently been awarded a grant from the Norman Wettenhall Foundation (NWF) which will enable us to map wheel cactus infestations within Victoria.**

We sincerely thank the NWF and are very pleased to receive this funding, hoping the results of this project will be useful in convincing authorities of the gravity of the invasion of this noxious weed.

Wheel cactus is classified as a Weed of National Significance, due to the very serious threat it poses to our primary industries and natural environment. It spreads very quickly and is costly and difficult to effectively kill. We need to control wheel cactus now before it spreads further.

You can help us map existing infestations. If any

community member finds an infestation beyond our immediate Maldon and Baringhup district, please take a photo of it and email that to Max, at [mschlachter@outlook.com.au](mailto:mschlachter@outlook.com.au).

Our next Community Field Day will be on Sunday 26 June at a property at the end of Whitlocks Road. If you leave Maldon via South Parkins Reef Road, just continue straight along into Whitlocks, and it's the last property on your right before you get to Cairn Curran Reservoir. This will be well signposted from Parkins Reef Road. The morning's activities will begin at 10.30am and end at 12.30pm with an enjoyable BBQ and friendly chat. If you have any queries, please contact Ian on 0412 015 807 or check out our website at [www.cactuswarriors.org](http://www.cactuswarriors.org).

Lee Mead

## Fibre to the Premises for Maldon

**BENDIGO Member Lisa Chesters promised this week that if Labor was successful in the forthcoming Federal elections, Maldon would be connected to the NBN using best practice technology: optic fibre to the premises.**

This would result in significantly faster speeds and more reliable delivery than fibre to the node, which is the alternative that is on offer under the Turnbull government.

"This is a very exciting prospect for Maldon's businesses and residences," Ms Chesters said. "I argued strongly for fibre to the premises is because connectivity is always an issue that is raised whenever I visit Maldon."

The reason why fibre to the

premises can be offered to Maldon is because, to date, no contract has been signed with NBN stipulating the method of delivery. "After the election, in the event of a Labor win the NBN will be instructed to roll out fibre to the premises in Maldon," Ms Chesters said. "There's also another reason why it's important to deliver fibre to the premises rather than fibre to the node were to be used, then the town's streetscapes would be littered with nodes. We don't want ugly nodes on the footpaths in front of Maldon's historic buildings. Fibre to the premises is the only way to go for Maldon."

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& from the winemaker Russell Clarke  
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