

# Weekly what's on

tourism newsletter



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**11 March 2010**

Welcome to this week's edition of the *What's On in Ballarat* from Ballarat's Visitor Information Centres.

## This Weekend

### Friday 12 March: Nick Parnell - Classical Vibes

Nick Parnell is a percussionist who plays works by Bach, Chopin, Beethoven and more. Winner of the 2001 International Melbourne Percussion Competition, his explosive energy is sure to impress. Location: Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts. Time: 7.30pm. Cost: Adult \$25.00 Concession \$15.00. Contact: 5338 0980 (Tues-Fri: 9am-1pm & 2pm-4.30pm)

### Friday 12 - Saturday 13 March: Killer Queen

The moment Freddie Mercury look-and-sound-alike Johnny Blunt sets foot on stage, Freddie's very essence is alive again, and all the other members of Killer Queen bear a very real and eerie resemblance to Queen - one of the greatest rock bands of the 20th century. Location: Her Majesty's Theatre, Lydiard St Sth, Ballarat. Time: 8pm Friday, 5pm Saturday. Cost: Adult \$35, Concession and Group (10+) \$30. Add \$1.40 for online tickets. Bookings through Majestix: 5333 5888 or online at [www.hermaj.com](http://www.hermaj.com)

### Friday 12 March: World's Longest Lunch - Melbourne Food & Wine Festival Event - **THIS EVENT IS NOW SOLD OUT**

This year, the World's Longest Lunch returns to the Prime Ministers' Avenue in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens. It is simply a superb location to unwind with the best of local produce, and in the company of good friends. Enjoy a relaxing lunch, turn off the phone and don't hurry back to the office. Cost: \$90 per person, including lunch with matching wines. Time: 12pm - 3pm. Call 5320 5758 for tickets

**Friday 12 March: Friday Race Day at the Ballarat Turf Club**

Enjoy a great day out at one of country Victoria's premier thoroughbred racecourses. Enjoy top class racing and superb dining options to suit all tastes at Dowling Forest Racecourse, Ballarat. Adult \$7; Concession \$4; Children under 16 free. Dining packages can be tailored to suit your needs or visit [www.ballaratturfclub.com.au](http://www.ballaratturfclub.com.au) Ballarat Turf Club, 240 Kennedys Road, Miners Rest Ph:5334 6273

**Saturday 13 March: Luck O' The Irish St. Patrick's Day Show**

The Saturday Arvo Club with Noel and Tracy Craven and special guests present this fabulous Irish show with music and dance. Tickets \$6. 1.30pm - 3.15pm at the McCallum Function Rooms, McCallum Community Centre, Corner of Learmonth and Leopold Streets, Ballarat.

**Sunday 14 March: Buninyong Garden Harvest Lunch - Melbourne Food & Wine Festival Event - TICKETS FOR THIS EVENTS ARE SELLING FAST**

Slow food Ballarat presents a roaming lunch in Buninyong's historic Botanic Gardens. A superb organic vegetable garden will be installed, attendees can meet and purchase from the producers and even bid for the mobile vegetable plots. Adults: \$35 Slow food members: \$30 and Children under 16: \$14. 11.30am - 4pm in the Buninyong Botanic Gardens, Inglis Street, Buninyong Ph: 5330 5555

**Sunday 14 March: Jazz Sunday Lunch at Narmbool**

The Garden Room at Narmbool is open for Jazz Sunday lunch, held once a month. Enjoy live jazz music and the seasonal menu featuring fine regional produce & superb wines. Location: Narmbool Homestead, 440 Horsehill Road, Elaine. Time: Lunch available 12:00 midday until 2:00pm, with live jazz until 3:00pm. Contact: 5337 1199 or visit [www.sovereignhill.com.au/functions](http://www.sovereignhill.com.au/functions)

**Sunday 14 March: Steiner School Autumn Fair**

An Autumn Fair with quality stalls, delicious food, roving circus performances, children's entertainment, pony rides, storytelling, live music and handmade items. Classrooms will be open and staff available for information. Entry is free. Open from 10am - 3pm at 244 Moss Avenue, Mt Helen. Visit [www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au](http://www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au) or Ph: 5341 8188

**Midweek**

**Tuesday 16 March: St. Patrick's Day Melodies**

Tracey and Noel Craven present a morning of all your

favourite Irish and Welsh songs and will be joined by Riordan on banjo and mandolin. Location: Ballarat Leagues Club, Mair St. Ballarat. Time: 10:30am. For bookings phone 5331 5830

**Tuesday 16 March: Ballarat's Biggest Playgroup**

City of Ballarat in conjunction with Pinarc will be presenting this annual event as part of Cultural Diversity Week. Community and supported playgroups will be showcasing activities that are usually found at playgroups, such as musical activities, storytime, baby play area and craft corner. Entry is free. Open from 10am - 2pm. The Mining Exchange, 8A Lydiard Street North, Ballarat Ph: 5320 5682

**Wednesday 17 March - Saturday 20 March: Cultural Diversity Week**

Ballarat Library will host various activities during Cultural Diversity Week. Includes Indian food tasting, yoga and meditation demonstrations, cultural stories and a sushi workshop. From 10am daily at the Ballarat Library, 178 Doveton Street North, Ballarat. Visit [www.chrlc.vic.gov.au](http://www.chrlc.vic.gov.au) or [www.ballarat.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au) or Ph: 5331 1211

**Thursday 18 March: Pirates to Pinafore**

Promac Productions present Pirates to Pinafore - the Complete Works of Gilbert & Sullivan in 89 minutes. Fast paced, hysterically funny and full of the usual surprises as the story is told through the eyes of the composers themselves. All tickets \$18. Her Majesty's Theatre, 17 Lydiard St Sth, Ballarat. Visit [www.hermaj.com](http://www.hermaj.com) or Ph: Majestix: 5333 5888

**Thursday 18 March: Phil Berry Exhibition**

An exhibition of recent works by local artist Phil Berry reflecting on the Ballarat of his childhood. Phil transforms everyday objects into a timepiece for the future, each building and object recall a time without computers, internet and flashing billboards. Free entry. 12pm - 5pm at Space 22 Gallery, 22 Main Road, Ballarat. Ph: 0400 311 668

Next Weekend

**Friday 19 March: Melbourne Food & Wine Festival  
Twilight Dining at Sovereign Hill**

Dine outdoors at twilight, enjoy a delicious 3 course dinner including accompanying wines and live jazz. Cost \$120 per person. Commences at 6.30pm at Sovereign Hill, Bradshaw St Ballarat. Ph: 5337 1199 or 5329 2329

**Friday 19 March: Mt. Clear College Festival**

Mt. Clear College present their major fundraiser with rides,

food, craft, activities and competitions. Free entry. 2.30pm - 8pm at Mount Clear Recreation Reserve, Recreation Road Mt Clear. Ph: 5337 2010

**Saturday 20 March and Sunday 21 March: Total Girl Soccer Tournament**

A fun filled soccer tournament for girls where families get to enjoy the art of soccer by participating in competitions, tournament expo/markets, tournament showbags and ongoing activities over the weekend. Ballarat Grammar School, Cnr of Forest and Norman Sts, Wendouree. Contact: Tony: 5334 3336 or [www.totalgirlsoccer.com](http://www.totalgirlsoccer.com)

**Saturday 20 March: Australasian Gold panning Championships**

The 16th annual Australasian Gold Panning Championships is a Gold panning competition using traditional steel pans. The aim of the competition is to promote the skill of gold panning in a friendly competition and celebration of our Australian heritage. Entry fees vary from Adults \$20 - \$15 depending on skill; Novice \$10; Junior U/17 \$10; Children U/12 \$5 and Teams \$30. Registrations are open from 9am-1pm. Heats: 9am - 4pm and Finals: 4.30pm - 5.30pm. Lake Wendouree (behind Pipers restaurant) Ph: 5439 9006

**Sunday 21 March: Diamonds In The Dust**

Dedicated to rural and farming women who face the many daily challenges, decisions and opportunities posed by the ongoing drought. Enjoy a day out with your friends in the picturesque surroundings of Ercildoune. 11am - 4pm. Adults \$25 (includes lunch, wine and guest speakers). Ercildoune Homestead, Ercildoune Road, Ercildoune. Ph: 5333 4426

## Regular Events

**Wednesday to Sunday: Eerie Tours**

Friday and Saturday: Eerie Tours of the Ballarat Cemetery  
Explore the dark side of Ballarat in this entertaining walking tour hosted by a professional team of historians and story tellers. Tour length - 90 minutes. Cost: \$25 adults, concession \$20, family 2 adults and up to 3 children \$65. Tours commence at either the Ballarat Train Station or at the Old Cemetery gates, arrive 10 minutes before tour time. Bookings essential. Dinner and tour packages available. Ph: 0423 653 512

**Daily: Blood On The Southern Cross**

Set under the night skies at Sovereign Hill, this sound and light spectacular tells the story of the Eureka Rebellion.

Packages available including day entry and show, or dinner and show. Bookings essential. Call 5337 1199 for show times and tickets

**Friday & Saturday: Castle Cabaret Variety Theatre Restaurant Show**

A fun filled night of great entertainment with dancing after the show. Three course dinner included in ticket price of \$55 per person. Accommodation packages available. 7.30pm start. Bookings essential. Located at Kryal Castle, Forbes Rd, Mt. Warrenheip. Ph: 5334 7318

**Friday & Saturday: Discover the Universe - Ballarat Observatory and 3D Movie**

Discover the universe and view the night sky with rare 19th - 20th century telescopes, or join an astrotour and view a 3D movie. Bookings recommended to confirm viewing times. Costs start from \$18 family for the telescope viewing, or \$25 family including viewing and 3D movie. Located at the Ballarat Observatory, Magpie St, Mt Pleasant. Ph: 5332 7526

## Ongoing Events

**Until 3 April: Down the Line with Nick Morris and Kat Jens**

Morris has produced art for brands including Quiksilver, Ripcurl and Mambo. His mother, Kat Jens a well respected Ballarat artist is also featured. Free admission. Mon-Fri: 9am- 5.30pm and Sat/Sun: 10am - 2pm. Gallery on Sturt, 421 Sturt St, Ballarat. Ph: 5331 7011

**Until 11 April: Queen - The Unseen Archive**

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the formation of the band, the Art Gallery of Ballarat will open its doors on Saturday 20 February to Queen - the Unseen Archive, which will unveil 70 signed, limited-edition intimate photographic images by their head of road crew Peter Hince, along with clothing, memorabilia and personal items sourced from private collections worldwide. Cost: Adult \$15 Concession \$10. Location: The Art Gallery of Ballarat, 40 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat. Ph: 5320 5858

**Until 26 April: The Secret Garden - Ballarat Botanical Gardens**

The 'Secret Garden' Begonia display will continue in the Conservatory until April 26th. Entry is \$6 Adult; \$4 Concession and Children free. Ballarat Botanical Gardens from 9am to 5pm daily. Ph: 5320 5197

**Until 9 May: The Legacy of the Lindsays**

The Legacy of the Lindsays is the second 10 day festival held

in Creswick, celebrating the life and influence of the Lindsay family of artists and writers on the town. With over 30 activities covering exhibitions, an art auction, children's activities, dinners, sporting activities and more. For more information on this major event visit [www.legacyofthelindsays.com.au](http://www.legacyofthelindsays.com.au) or Ph: 0409 358 839

#### **4 November - 2 June: Metropolitan Opera from New York**

Her Majesty's Theatre will become a cinema again for the first time in nearly 50 years, when it undertakes screenings of productions from the Metropolitan Opera in New York. The screenings take place in cinemas across the country, concurrent with the New York productions. As part of its efforts to reinvigorate opera and reach out to a broader public, the Metropolitan Opera launched this groundbreaking program in December 2006 - a series of opera performances transmitted in HD to cinemas and theatres around the world. All the operas are subtitled in English. Her Majesty's Theatre, Lydiard St Sth Ballarat. Tickets: Adult \$27, Concession \$24. A discounted price will apply if you buy tickets to six or more screenings. Ph: MajesTix 5333 5888

#### **8 November 2009 - 25 April 2010: Summer Painting in the Park on Sundays**

Members of the Ballarat Society of Artists paint and display their work opposite the Botanical Gardens outside Pipers Restaurant/Café on Wendouree Parade, Lake Wendouree. Weather permitting. For further details Ph: 5331 4305

### Upcoming Events

#### **Monday 22 - Sunday 28 March: 2010 Australian Polocrosse Nationals**

A full week of competition with competing teams from across Australia. Ballarat Polocrosse grounds, Airport Road, Ballarat. Full details at [www.polo2010.com](http://www.polo2010.com)

#### **Saturday 27 March: Ballarat Neighbour Day**

"So say G'day" concert, helping bring the local community together. The Victoria Police Pop Band will perform. Location: Performing Arts Centre, Howitt St, Wendouree. Time: 2pm. Cost: \$5 per person. Tickets at the door.

#### **Sunday 28 March: Caledonian Primary School Arts, Craft & Produce Market**

Quality hand made art and craft items and home grown produce. Market opens from 9am - 1pm at the Caledonian Primary School. Corner of Water & Thompson Streets, Brown Hill. Ph: 0420 528 729

**Sunday 28 March: Anderson's Mill Festival**

Anderson's Mill Festival at Smeaton featuring food, wine, mill tours and music. 10am - 5pm. Adults \$12; Concession \$8; Children \$5 and Family passes \$30. Anderson's Mill, Bendigo-Smeaton Road, Smeaton. Ph: 5334 6010

**Saturday 10 April: Poetry Slam**

The Blue Note Piano Bar and the Ballarat Library present a unique opportunity to perform your original poetry. Participants have 2 minutes and a microphone to perform their original poem and the audience will judge. Poet Registration fee \$5 Audience free. Registrations 7pm with the Slam to start at 7.30pm. Blue Note Piano Bar, 213 Mair St, Ballarat. Ph: 0408 202 033 or visit [www.chrlc.vic.gov.au](http://www.chrlc.vic.gov.au)

## Ballarat Markets

**Each Sunday**

Trash & Trivia Market  
Ballarat Showgrounds,  
Creswick Road, 8am - 1pm

**Monthly**

1st Saturday  
Daylesford Makers Market  
Daylesford Town Hall  
Vincent St, Daylesford, 10am - 3pm

**2nd Saturday**

Computer Swap Meet  
Ballarat Secondary College East Campus,  
Victoria Street, Ballarat  
9am - 4pm

Ballarat Lakeside Market - also last Saturday  
Windmill Drive, Ballarat (beside Botanical Gardens)  
9am - 1pm

Farmers' Market  
Ballarat Secondary College East Campus,  
Corner Fussell and Victoria Streets, Ballarat  
9am - 2pm

**3rd Saturday**

Buninyong Farmers' Market  
DeSoza Park, Buninyong, 9am - 1pm

**Last Saturday**

Ballarat Lakeside Market - also 2nd Saturday

Windmill Drive, Ballarat (beside Botanical Gardens)  
9am - 1pm

## Surrounding Markets

### **Every Sunday**

Daylesford Community Market  
The Train Station in Daylesford  
8am - 1pm

Castlemaine Wesley Market  
Wesley Hall Castlemaine  
7am - 2pm

### **1st Sunday**

Lions Tourist Market  
Carisbrook Trotting Complex  
Maryborough  
6am - 2pm

Harcourt Farmers' Market  
Cnr Midland Hwy. & Blackjack Rd.  
Harcourt  
9am - 1pm

Heathcote Bush Market  
High Street, Heathcote  
10am - 3pm  
Ph: 0409 358 839

### **2nd Saturday**

Skipton Market (excluding Jan)  
Anderson St, Skipton  
9am - 1pm  
Ph: 5340 2204

### **2nd Sunday**

Clunes Market  
Fraser Street, Clunes  
9am - 3pm Ph: 5345 3304

### **3rd Saturday**

CALCAN Maket

Victoria St, Creswick  
9am - 1pm  
Ph: 5345 2759

### **3rd Sunday**

Talbot Farmer's Market  
Scandinavian Crescent, Talbot  
9am - 1pm Ph: 5463  
2001

### **4th Sunday**

Avoca Wine, Arts & Craft Market  
Located on the River Flats  
10am - 2pm

Clunes Market  
Fraser Street, Clunes  
9am - 3pm

Trentham Market  
Railway Station, Trentham  
9am - 4pm

### **Last Sunday**

Carisbrook Town Hall Market  
Town Hall in Carisbrook (past Newstead)  
10am - 4pm Ph: 5464 2251

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If you have an upcoming event and would like it added to our Weekly What's On Newsletter, please [email the details](#) the details by Wednesday each week or call 03 5320 5758.

**Yours Sincerely,**

Staff and Volunteers

Ballarat

Visitor Information Centres



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