

Maree Edwards MP

STATE MEMBER FOR BENDIGO WEST

Media Release



Sunday, 30th August 2015

NEWSTEAD STATION COMMUNITY CENTRE OFFICALLY OPEN

Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards, yesterday officially opened Newstead's new creative, community and business hub in the town's historic station building.

The formerly disused heritage station building now includes a gallery, exhibition space, workshop and performance spaces, flexible community meeting and event areas, a kitchen and a café.

The \$430,000 works to restore and fit out the building included creating accessible entrances, work to the station and canopy roof, internal painting and repairs, installing a kitchen and accessible toilets, and constructing a fence along the track side of the platform.

Mount Alexander Shire Council has taken on the head lease of the building, which will be used by local groups Newstead 2021 Inc., Newstead Salon and Friends of Newstead Station.

The project was delivered by Victorian rail asset owner VicTrack on behalf of PTV, with local Castlemaine contractor VR Builders carrying out the works.

Newstead station first opened in July 1874. The station building had been unused since 2004.

Quotes attributable to Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards

"This new creative, community business hub is a celebration of Newstead's historic past and its bright future."

"The \$430,000 project has revitalised Newstead's historic station, making it part of the everyday life of the community once again."

"It will be used by local groups hold exhibitions, performances and meetings, and will include a café for visitors to enjoy a coffee and relax."

"The Andrews Labor Government wants to see country communities thriving, which is what this project is all about."

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