Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Thursday, 1 May 2025

NEW DINING DESTINATION ON THE WAY FOR MOUNT MACEDON

A major refurbishment is about to get underway at Macedon Tea Rooms, transforming it into spectacular dining experience on top of a 1,000-meter-high mountain.

The Benito Family Pty Ltd have been awarded the new lease for the famous tearooms. They bring a fresh energy and exciting plans to the local landmark, including an expanded outdoor seating area to take in the scenic views, evening dining, and space for events and functions.

With a passion for hospitality and the region, the family-owned business has honed their craft in restaurants and hotels across the country and internationally.

The tearooms opened to customers in 2000, replacing a building destroyed in the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires.

Works are expected to start in the coming weeks, with the building reopening in late 2025. While renovations are underway, visitors will be able to grab a coffee or bite to eat from a mobile coffee van.

Macedon Regional Park, its iconic Memorial Cross and summit area receives more than 300,000 visitors a year, drawn to the stunning views and range of outdoor activities on offer, including bushwalks, horse-riding and cycling.

The Allan Labor Government is also upgrading other iconic sites, with an \$810,000 investment to upgrade The Mount Macedon Memorial Cross Reserve. The landmark annually hosts the region's Anzac Day dawn service and is a popular visitor destination.

To keep up to date on progress at the Macedon Tea Rooms visit, <u>parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/sites/macedon-tea-rooms</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

"Everyone who has visited the summit of Mount Macedon knows what a special place it is. This is a beautiful, historic park that offers opportunities for horse riding and hiking, picnicking, cycling, rock climbing and scenic drives."

"The new tenants have exciting plans to renovate the tearooms and make it an even better experience, bringing the best local produce to the more than 300,000 visitors who come here each year."

Quote attributable to Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas

"The Mount Macedon Tearooms are an incredible economic and tourism asset for this community and the wider region – this will attract even more visitors to our beautiful region."

Media contact: Pam Kiriakidis 0472 725 548 pam.kiriakidis@minstaff.vic.gov.au