Buchan Phoenix

Rising from the ashes...

Communication for the community by the community.

December 2019 Issue 40

Produced by Buchan District Outreach Inc. trading as Buchan Neighbourhood House A14882S

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The newsletter is delivered to every household in the District and is also available online at buchan.vic.au or via Facebook at Buchan Neighbourhood House. All editions are available electronically at the State Library online site (Trove). If you are not receiving the newsletter please contact us and we will ensure that a copy is mailed to your address.

Newsletters can be posted for an annual fee of \$16.50 incl. GST per 12 editions to anyone outside the district, or contact us with your email address and we can send an electronic version for free. Dates for submissions will be advertised in each edition and we welcome your contributions.

Submissions closing date for the next edition will be Monday 6th January 2020.

We welcome articles and other contributions from the general public, clubs and organisations. Submissions can be sent to info.buchan@gmail.com or drop them into the Neighbourhood House.

Advertisements are \$55 for 12 editions or \$5.50 per edition.

The Buchan Neighbourhood House takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by contributors to the *Buchan Phoenix*. The Editors reserve the right to reject articles and advertisements and to edit submissions if necessary. All submissions should include the author's full name, address and phone number, but may be anonymous if preferred. Buchan Neighbourhood House is open Monday to Thursday from 10.00am—4.30pm.







Buchan & District Community Gathering 30/11/19



Preparations by Rhonda Coates, Judy Gray, Gina Cantarella, Henrietta Stoehr



BBQ champions Lindsay Fall and Alan Waack. More pics inside...



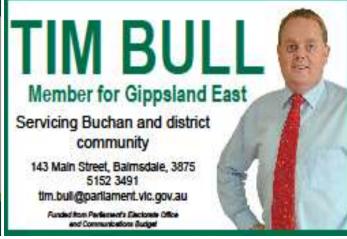
Buchan Neighbourhood House will be closed on Friday 20th December and reopen on Monday 13th January 2020. The Centre will be open to do the Phone Trees, etc, where necessary.

The *Buchan Phoenix* would like to acknowledge the Gunaikurnai People, Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



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> 51 Old Basin Rd, Buchan, Vic. 3885 Ph: (03) 5155 9394

E: buchan_farmhouseaccommodation@activ8.net.au

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 - Salt therapy is 30 mins in duration and costs \$30 per session.
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- Sometimes called halo therapy, the chamber is designed to provide a relaxing and unusual experience.
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The Community Preparedness Meeting possibly could not have come

at a better time with the meeting being held on Tuesday 19th and the Bruthen fire starting on Friday 22nd November.

Around 60 people attended and we all enjoyed a great BBQ dinner together. The CFA fire simulation table was fascinating with the guys showing us a demonstration of the Kinglake fires in 2009 and how quickly this fire spread. The tables are filled with walnut sawdust that can then be shaped into the topography and with the use of an ignitor a fire is started and then the simulator shows how the fire travels in the environment. We really appreciated the CFA bringing this to our meeting as they had been in the Woodend area before coming to Buchan.

Brad Fisher from DELWP gave us the seasonal outlook with conditions this year being dry and volatile due to the drought.

The insurance talk by Chris Nicholson from Victoria Legal Aid was very interesting and we still have some handouts from this session available at the Neighbourhood House. Some of the main points were to ensure that you have enough insurance to cover any temporary

accommodation and this accommodation maybe necessary for up to two years if you are required to rebuild.

It is very important that you read your policy and understand what you are covered for. Some common limitations including damage from scorching, burn marks or melting may not be covered where there has been no flame and many policies impose a general obligation to take responsible precautionary measures like cleaning out your gutters.

Under-insurance can be an issue as during times of natural disasters – the cost of rebuilding can easily rise due to increased demand for builders and materials. New local building laws and requirements may mean an increased cost to rebuild. There are also the costs associated with the removal or demolition of debris and the cost of architects, surveyors and legal fees.

Michelle Kearns from DELWP introduced the Buchan and District Community Based Bushfire Management (CBBM) Project and we are all looking forward to some new projects to assist us in our resilience and fire preparedness next year.

We have also introduced a new registration system together with the East Gippsland Shire for our community to be able to register their Leave Early Information. These forms can be completed if you are leaving your home for any period of time be it shopping or appointments for the day or even if you are leaving for a few days to visit friends or to take a break. Completed forms will be sent to the Shire and will form part of the Shire's online information used to advise emergency services if you are at home or away during any fire incidents.

These forms can now be accessed at the Gelantipy and Buchan Bush Nursing Centres during work hours. Folders containing the forms are available 24/7 at the Neighbourhood House and at the Recreation Pavilion.

If you complete a form that has no return date, because you are leaving in haste or do not know your movements, you will remain registered as absent until you advise any of the above agencies of your return.

And finally, the one-page LIMP plans that were handed out at the meeting have an error in the assembly areas so we have included a new plan for each household in the newsletter this month.

Evelyn Schmidt, Buchan Neighbourhood House





Emergency Management at the East Gippsland Shire Council

If you are leaving early in an emergency bushfire or if you would like to register your whereabouts on any given day or time you can now fill out a form on the Shire website: www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Community/Emergency Management

These forms are the same as the forms available 24/7 at the Buchan Neighbourhood House and at the Recreation Pavilion. The form is intended to be for advice of emergency agencies only. It is not intended to replace the Personal Identification Form (PIF). Persons attending a relief centre may still be required to complete a PIF form to ensure they will be listed on the Red Cross "Register, Find, Reunite" database. To assist us with our records please register your return home by notifiying EGSC Emergency Management Team at memr@egipps.vic.gov.au or by phoning 5153 9500.





Family Week at SIBA Retreat Centre With Margie Van Oosten 6pm Tuesday 22 January to 2pm Sunday 27 January 2020

SIBA Retreat Centre, located in W Tree, East Gippsland, is a Buddhist community founded on a spirit of harmony, respect and generosity. Summer at SIBA is a beautiful time and place to relax and enjoy yourself in space and freedom. Being there is a unique healing experience to give to ourselves and our families. During Family Week the focus is on being caring and mindful together with our families through sharing, offering and having fun. Kids have plenty of supervised activities, and parents have the opportunity to participate in meditation and other classes. This is a great way for the family to gain exposure to the teachings of Buddhism that are of lifelong value.

This year we are very fortunate to have the wonderful Margie Van Oosten leading the programme. Margie is very excited to be able to offer the programme this year. She is knowledgeable and experienced with conducting children's education and play programmes. She is also an old friend of our Society and a very experienced meditation practitioner.

SIBA Retreat Centre, 2592 Gelantipy Rd, W Tree, Victoria, 3885 Web: sakya.com.au/siba | Email: siba@sakya.com.au | Tel: 03 5155 0329

A huge thank you to the CFA crews who worked so hard, as volunteers, in my area, before and during the night of Mon 25th November (when W Tree was seriously threatened, both by a raging fire, but also by spot fires).

The Buchan crew were very welcome that night, but the Gelantipy team had already done 2 (or 3) big days when they answered another call out on Monday night. Our crew is always there when called. Keith Davies and Paul Sykes after untold years of service. Dave Hodge did a day on the truck and then was up all Monday night defending his own property. Lynton Hill and Matt Burns and Karma Teml all did 13 hours on the truck on Monday, went home and then answered another call out. These guys are not paid.

By Wednesday the whole burnt area was swarming with very well paid workers of all persuasions.

CFA
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VICTORIA...
DON'T SELL
THEM OUT!

VICTORIAL
DON'T SELL
THEM OUT!

VICTORIAL
DON'T SELL
THEM OUT!

Contributor: Deborah Woodburn

TOWARDS A FIRE RESISTANT HOME

We have all seen the disasters of fire but very few have tried to fireproof their houses. A small amount of planning can and will reduce the fire risk. Do you want to return to a nearly intact house after you have evacuated?

- 1. Look around your house! Do you know from which direction fire is likely to approach? (Ask the CFA where it has come from in the past.)
- 2. Are the fences in that direction solid or post and wire? Post and wire does not protect from radiant heat but a solid fence will reduce your fire risk.
- 3. Are plants in your garden shiny leafed? If so they are oily and flammable. Try not to have them near the house.
- 4. Most houses are on stumps. Have you run wire mesh around the edge of the house to prevent windblown material from carrying fire under the house?
- 5. Horses are everywhere in and around Buchan. Did you know that horse manure is very flammable and will bounce along the ground, burning? If you put a small mesh (chicken wire) on the fence between the house and the stables and manure pile, the beloved horse may not be a cause of you losing your house.
- 6. Venting the eaves of a house is a very good way of improving its efficiency but it offers a good path for hot gases into the roof. The answer is easy: run bronze flywire around the eaves. It will block the path of the gas but still give the needed ventilation.
- 7. Sprinklers around a house will do much to dampen down spot fires if there is water coming out. Much domestic water is pumped, therefore if the power goes off you have no water. Petrol or diesel pumps will work but use very flammable fuel. Use your electric pump but run it from a low cost inverter with the battery charged by mains or solar. If you like being comfortable and you plan well, that battery inverter will also power a cooling fan and lights, and of course your solar battery is stored so it is available if mains is not at any time.
- 8. If you are lucky enough to be creating a new garden, I have kept my lists from my old reports and if you contact me on researcherau@bigpond.com I will be happy to send the sheets to you.

This little missive is not intended to frighten you but to give a short list of possibilities for your summer enjoyment.

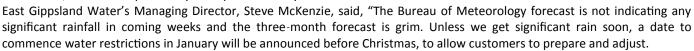
Contributor: Ian Gray

MEDIA RELEASE 2 December, 2019 Contact Ronan Carroll on 5150 4434 / 0428 539 303 Water restrictions likely from January for

Mitchell River, Buchan and Swifts Creek customers

It is now very likely that East Gippsland Water customers served by the Mitchell River supply system* - and those in Buchan and Swifts Creek - will be on water restrictions from January.

Recent rain has provided only a short delay to the introduction of restrictions, which were previously anticipated as early as December.



"Water flows down the Mitchell - which supplies customers in Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance, Paynesville, Metung, Bruthen and surrounding communities — were running at just 360 million litres per day on Monday 2 December. This is about half the normal flow at this time of year.

"We recently surveyed customers, about their attitude to water restrictions and an overwhelming 90 percent of respondents supported restrictions to conserve water and wanted to take action early. We're taking on board their clear feedback.

"We know from last year the Mitchell can drop rapidly and we may need to cease pumping from the river. We have a four stage restriction model and if restrictions are necessary we will be looking to go straight to Stage 2. This will be accompanied by the installation of water restriction signage at the entrances to all towns affected.

"Stage 2 water restrictions mean no watering of residential lawns at any time. They also mean no watering of residential garden areas except by means of a bucket, watering can, or hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle; with the use of a watering system only being permitted on alternate days, between 6am-8am and 6pm-8pm.

"We appreciate that water restrictions will impact on customers passionate about their gardens, as well as on sporting clubs and businesses such as those involved with garden maintenance, swimming pool construction and car washes. Therefore, we strongly encourage everyone likely to be affected to plan accordingly.

"To assist, a summary of water restrictions will be distributed to all customers served by the Mitchell River supply system in coming weeks.

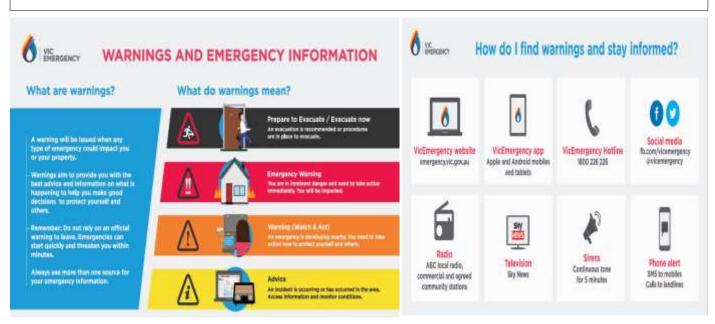
"We have prepared for a hot, dry summer and have four to five months of water stored. Importantly, managed water restrictions could add another month to our reserves.

"We greatly value customers' efforts to voluntarily reduce water use by two buckets per day to help conserve precious water reserves, after we put out the call five weeks ago. We strongly encourage them to maintain their water saving efforts."

It should be noted that all of East Gippsland is currently covered by Permanent Water Saving Rules, which apply every day of the year when formal restrictions are not in force. These rules will continue to apply for the communities of Orbost, Newmerella, Marlo, Bemm River, Cann River, Mallacoota, Omeo and Dinner Plain for the time being. They are not currently facing the prospect of restrictions, though we are mindful that this situation may change as we progress through summer.

The cooperation of customers is greatly appreciated at this challenging time. Further water situation updates will be provided over coming weeks. In the meantime, for tips on how to save water please visit the East Gippsland Water website www.egwater.vic.gov.au. In addition, anyone with a query about water restrictions can contact our Customer Business Team on 1800 671 841 during office hours.

* The Mitchell River supply system = Bairnsdale, Walpa, Lindenow South, Lindenow, Eagle Point, Newlands Arm, Paynesville, Raymond Island, Sarsfield, Bruthen, Nicholson, Johnsonville, Swan Reach, Metung, Kalimna, Lakes Entrance, Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust, Lake Tyers Beach, Nowa Nowa and surrounding areas





Are you a farmer, working in agriculture, or a community member living in a rural or remote location?

Are you

- · negatively affected by events such as drought or bushfire?
- · experiencing stress or anxiety?
- looking for mental health supports for you, your family, and friends?
- · finding it challenging to cope due to lack of employment or other difficult situations?
- · feeling isolated from friends. family or your community?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, and live in East Gippsland or Wellington, we can provide you and your family with support.

We can provide individual, couple and family counselling.

This service is fully funded by the Department of Health and Human Services and provided at no cost to you.

Where are services offered?

We can come to your home or meet you at a mutually agreed location.

We also have centres in Traralgon and Baimsdale, in addition to offering our counselling service via telephone and video conference facilities.

What do I do next?

Call our Traralgon Centre to find out more or make an appointment.

Phone: (03) 5175 9500 Local call cost: 1300 369 630 Ernail: traralgoneray orgau

We're open 9am to 8pm on Tuesday, and 9am to 5pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

EAST GIPPSLAND









Christmas Card Making Drop-in Session - FREE!



Drop into the library to design and make your own Christmas cards

All materials will be provided. No backings required. Visit your branch to create your own masterplace during the listed dates and times.

For more information, phone 51524225 or enquire in person at the library for this FREE activity.

Fri. á December

Fri. 9 December Baimsdole Library 9.30 am – 6.00 pm

Wed, and Thu. 11 to 12 December Omeo Service Centre 8.30 am - 5.00 pm

Libraries Change Lives



Movie Screening Top End Wedding



FREE BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



Join us for the screening of the romantic comedy Top End Wedding

Engaged and in love, Lauren and Ned ve just ten days to reunite her newly separated parents and pull all their dream Top End Wedding, But Lauren's mother has gone missing during a midlife crisis

THITTY Phone 5152 4225 or book Libraries in person of the library for Change Lives this FREE event.

Service Centre 10.00 cm - 12.00 pm & 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Thu: 9 January Boimsdale Library Boimsdale Library 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Tue: 14 January Orbast Service Centre



Food for Fines

Help support local families in need, and clear your overdue library fines by donating Food for Fines which will be distributed by local charities.



Gluten Free Sweet Potato, Coconut and Chai Loaf Ingredients

2 cups of almond meal or ground nuts (see method)

½ cup grated coconut, desiccated coconut, or coconut flakes

1 1/2 cups grated sweet potato

(skin included)

4 eggs

¼ cup sunflower or olive oil

(or coconut oil)

1/3 cup honey or maple syrup

2 tsp baking powder (choose gluten free baking powder if coeliac or highly sensitive to gluten)

1 tbsp vinegar or apple cider vinegar

1 tbsp chai powder or ½ tsp cinnamon mixed with ½ tsp nutmeg



Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celsius

For this recipe use 2 cups of almond meal or ground almonds. If you don't have almond meal, you can blitz 1 cup almonds in a blender and add 1 cup macadamias. This is your flour. Add the macadamias last as they have a higher oil content and will quickly turn to butter when blended. Alternative nuts are brazil nuts (don't over blitz), cashews and pistachios.

Place ground nuts in a large bowl.

Add coconut.

Grate the sweet potato and add to the bowl.

In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs lightly.

Add the oil to the eggs and whisk lightly to incorporate.

Add the rest of the ingredients into the bowl containing the oil and eggs and mix to combine.

Add this wet mixture to the dry bowl of nut flour and coconut.

Stir with a wooden spoon to thoroughly combine.

Pour mixture into a greased and lined loaf pan.

(Optional: Sprinkle with crushed nuts or seeds such as pumpkin or sesame to decorate.)

Bake for 30 minutes until brown and a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Remove from oven and leave in tin to cool.

13 reasons 2020 will be an awesome year due to these predictions

- 1. Japan will build a robotic moon base
- 2. China will connect Beijing to London via high-speed rail
- 3. Cars will drive themselves
- 4. The 'flying car' will be airborne
- 5. Biofuels will be cost-competitive with fossil fuels
- 6. We'll control devices via microchips implanted in our brains
- 7. All new screens will be ultra-thin OLEDs
- 8. Commercial space will take us to the moon and asteroids (and we'll be mining them)
- 9. A \$1,000 computer will have the processing power of the human brain
- 10. Universal translation will be commonplace in mobile devices
- 11. We'll finally see some decent AR glasses
- 12. We'll create a synthetic brain that functions like the real deal
- 13. Next year all the Committees of Management that are managed under DELWP in Buchan will be having their Tri Annual AGMs and these will be filled by a large number of enthusiastic and committed volunteers.

The Buchan Recreation and Hall Committee as well as the Buchan South Avenue of Honour are both DELWP committees and are both looking for new members. At the moment the Rec and Hall committee has only 5 active members. If you think that this number of people can effectively run the maintenance and bookings as well as look into any future developments for this site, you are dreaming.

So — please join a committee in 2020. If we all work together great things can be achieved.

VOLUNTEERS

ARE AWESOME!

'GROWING YOUR KNOWLEDGE' SESSIONS

The OAA is running monthly opportunities to learn more and share knowledge about a variety of topics on **organic food production, gardening, and other related subjects**. These fun and informative sessions are organised for the first **Thursday** of each month, **12.30 to 1.30 p.m.** at the Organic Centre, 14 McKean Street, Bairnsdale.

To confirm your interest or for further information, visit the OAA website: www.oaa.org.au, use the OAA online contact form, email: organics@oaa.org.au or phone/text: 0429 889 479.

Members and non members all welcome.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO INFORMATION SESSION ON JANUARY 2nd.

Thursday 6th February 2020, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

TOPIC: Beekeeping: We are all becoming aware of how important bees are for our food production. Even if we don't want to keep bees ourselves it is vital we learn how they live and the measures we need to take to protect and support them and our local honey industry. Presenter: Mick Camilleri

Thursday 5th March 2020, 12:30 to 1:30pm.

TOPIC: Growing new plants from cuttings: Arja is a horticulturist who ran her own nursery in Melbourne before coming to East Gippsland, specialising in Salvias, which are especially valuable for long term colour and attracting beneficial insects to the garden. Presenter: Arja Toivanen

Thursday 2nd April 2020, 12:30 to 1:30.

TOPIC: Asian Vegetables. Presenter: Arja Toivanen







Photos from the wicking bed workshop in Buchan.

Roadside Shootings of Wildlife

One of my neighbours, who regularly travels the roads from Buchan to the N.S.W. Border in his work role, was telling me about a distressing number of shot wild animals on the roadsides.

Lots of roos and wombats, but of particular concern to both of us, this carnage extended to 2 of the Koala colony that live around the Gelantipy Hall.

We both suspect that the culprits are not locals. Possibly frustrated Deer hunters who haven't made a kill, or just cowboys (or girls) killing for the thrill of it.

Our Policeman Ray tells me that it is just simply illegal to shoot from the roadside. It is also illegal to shoot just about anywhere else except on Private Property, either your own, or somewhere you have the permission of the owner.

Ray would very much like to chat to any of these trigger happy persons, and assures me that it would not be difficult to find them in breach of some aspect of the very thorough regulations covering the storage, transportation and use of firearms in our modern world.

Ray would appreciate any information to assist him and his colleagues in investigating the actions of these idiots, especially their rego numbers.

Contributor: Deborah Woodburn



Christmas Lights Competition 2019 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes of hampers valued at \$150, \$100 and \$50

LIGHT UP YOUR HOMES FOR CHRISTMAS!

The Buchan Heritage Group is reintroducing the Christmas Lights competition this December. We encourage everyone to put on a show this year. Judging will take place in the week leading up to Christmas. If you live out of town and would like to take part please contact Rhonda Coates.

Enquiries: Rhonda Coates 5155 9373 or 0427 170 714

This event supported by Emergency Management Victoria via funding received through the East Gippsland Shire Council to provide critical and immediate recovery to communities affected by the 2019 bushfires.

Buchan Valley Golf Club - November Report

All Members 18 holes played on Sundays starting at 10.30 am -

Sunday 3rd and 10th events were abandoned. Sunday 17th Event – Stableford: Winner — Dean Phelan 36 points. Runner-up - Lucien Barker 35



points. N.T.P. No. 3 D. Phelan, No. 5 A. Waack, No. 12 D. Phelan, No. 4 L. Barker.

Sunday 24th Event – 18 holes stroke: Winner — Helen Hume 71 nett. Runner-up – Julie Whillance 74 nett. N.T.P. No. 3 P. Whillance, No. 5 D. Murphy, No. 12 J. Whillance, No. 14 H. Hume.

Sunday 31st Event – results next month:

Men's Veteran Members 9 holes stroke for Men over 55 years played on Wednesday afternoons:

Wednesday 6th: Winner Ray Murphy 33 nett, Runner-up Dave Pedley 34 nett and N.T.P. No. 12 J. Hills, No. 14 D. Pedley.

Wednesday 13th: Winner Tommy Mee 36 nett, Runner-up John Hills 37 nett and N.T.P. No. 3 J. Hills, No. 5 A. Waack.

Wednesday 20th: Winner John Hills 31 nett, Runner-up Dave Pedley 33 nett and N.T.P. No. 12 D. Murphy, No. 14 D. Murphy.

Wednesday 27th: Winner John Croft 28 nett, Runner-up Dave Pedley 32 nett and N.T.P. No. 3 T. Mee, No. 5 J. Gartside.

Thursday morning's Lady Members 9 holes stroke – unfortunately for a number of weeks there has only been enough Ladies turn up to just have a practice round. We are looking forward to a brighter New

Please note the 15th December is now the Club Christmas break-up, not the 8th of December as previously expected.

Continuing explanation of 'Golf Games with a Partner':

Four Ball Best Ball (4.B.B.B.) Stableford – scoring individually with a partner each with their own handicap when the hole is finished the first to finish with the most points is recorded on the card. At the end of the eighteen holes the pairs with the most points are the winners. Four Ball Best Ball (4.B.B.B.) Par – is played the same as 4.B.B.B. Stableford, but scored as individual par. At the end of the eighteen holes the pair with the most pluses (+) on the card are the winners. <u>American Foursomes or sometimes called Pinehurst</u> – to determine the handicap halve the two combined handicaps of each pair. Each player drives a ball from the tee then changes over and has a second shot with their partner's ball. It is then decided which ball will be used to finish the hole and play continues to the green with players alternating until the ball is in the hole. The card with the lowest nett score wins.

Two Stroke Canadian Foursomes – as with Pinehurst both handicaps are combined then halved. In this game each player plays his own ball twice before the ball to finish the hole is chosen, then it is alternate hitting until the ball is holed and the card with the lowest nett score wins.

The four partner games I have outlined above are the most played at Club level with Foursomes and Canadian Foursomes not played quite so often.

Contributor: Cherry McArthur



Gelantipy Christmas Tree 2019

All welcome

Get in the Christmas spirit at the Gelantipy Hall on Sunday 15th December.

Santa will be dropping in at around 3:00pm with an early dinner of meat and potatoes to follow.

Bring along a salad or a sweet.

For further details please contact Lauren (03) 5155 0250



The Gippsland Regional Agrifood **Employment Programme**

(GRAEP) has reached a significant two-year milestone of 88 people now in continuous employment. Since April 2017, 130 people have Food & Fibre been placed in agribusiness related **Gippsland** jobs, with 88 of them achieving



continuous employment. Financially supported by the Jobs Victoria Employment Network, GRAEP had been successfully implemented under the East Gippsland Food Cluster banner and, in the amalgamation of EGFC and Agribusiness Gippsland to form Food & Fibre Gippsland, the programme has transitioned smoothly into the merged body. From labour hire companies to large scale dairy farms and food horticulture operations, manufacturing businesses across the region, the diversity and geographic spread of Gippsland employers and job seekers who continue to benefit from the programme is a solid indication of the flexibility of the support it offers. For job seekers, GRAEP assists them in finding permanent employment and career opportunities in Gippsland's vibrant agrifood sector via training, support and mentoring as required to find, and stay, in permanent employment. Meanwhile for employers, the programme is designed to help them build and plan their workforce capability by finding jobready people for their immediate and future needs.

For employers and job-seekers wanting to access the support of this programme, there is a simple registration form online at www.foodandfibregippsland.com.au/ employment-program.

LIVE, LEARN, ENJOY with U3A (University of the 3rd Age)

If you're retired or semi-retired you can join U3A and participate in many different courses and activities, including: art, craft, music, dancing, games, exercise, history, computers, languages, social outings, etc. There are no entry requirements and no exams, just the joy of learning. Annual membership fees are low because U3As are run by volunteers. Once you become a member of your local U3A, you may wish to contribute your time and skills as a volunteer to tutor a course, coordinate a social outing, organise an exhibition or concert, help with maintenance or in the office, cater for functions, join the committee of management.

Our two nearest U3As are in Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance.

U3A Bairnsdale & District

8 Rowe Street Tel: 0427 323 910 u3abairnsdale.org.au

U3A Lakes Entrance

Cnr Service & Rupert Street Tel: 5152 3063

lakesu3a.com.au



Ministerial Statement on the Future of Adult Community Education in Victoria 2020-25

The Minister for Training and Skills and the Minister for Higher Education, the Hon Gayle Tierney MP, has released a Ministerial Statement outlining a six-year reform agenda for adult community education in Victoria.

Adult community education plays an integral role in Victoria's broader education sector. Victoria leads Australia in providing accessible and tailored lifelong learning opportunities for adult learners seeking to develop the skills they need for work, further study, and to participate fully in the Victorian community.

This Ministerial Statement aims to fulfil the Victorian Government's commitment to uniting the adult community education sector with a focus on learners, and to build recognition of the distinct and invaluable role the sector plays.

It establishes a reform agenda for the six years 2020 to 2025, focusing the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board and the adult community education sector on adult literacy, employability and digital skills training.

It also identifies a strengthened role for the sector in supporting students to enter and successfully complete TAFE and university courses; and in upskilling and reskilling low-skilled workers who may be vulnerable to becoming unemployed as work changes.

The Ministerial Statement on the Future of Adult Community Education in Victoria 2020–25 is the first Victorian Government statement on adult community education since that made by the Hon Lynne Kosky as Minister for Education and Training in 2004.

Download a copy here: https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/learnlocal/Pages/min-statement-adult-education.aspx

Buchan Neighbourhood House is an ACFE Provider offering courses this year in Buchan, Bairnsdale and Benambra in the areas of Beginners and Intermediate Computers, Book Keeping, Drones and Local Hospitality and Tourism.

Buchan District & Community Gathering 30/11/19













Expression of Interest

Lifeline Accidental Counsellor, Free Training

Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Support Activity

Designed and delivered by Lifeline Gippsland in partnership with the GLCH Mental Health and Wellbeing Drought and Fire Support Initiative

Breaking the Cycle. Our rural and farming communities are experiencing a number of challenges as drought continues and worsens across the region. The uncertainty is causing financial and emotional stress to many people who live and work in farming communities. When people we know as partners, parents or community members struggle with the consequences of drought related mental distress they can often lose capacity to connect and share some of the 'stuff' that's going on inside. At such times reaching out for help might not be easy to do. So how can we break the cycle and work with families and friends in our community to build capacity and develop needed knowledge and skills?

Reason for Contact. Working in partnership through a Vic Govt drought funding initiative Gippsland Lakes Community Health and Lifeline Gippsland want to know if there is community interest in Wellington and East Gippsland to have the Lifeline Accidental Counsellor training program delivered locally.

How will it work? If there's enough community interest in a given area, over the next two weeks or so, we will then organise training with you and Lifeline Gippsland for a suitable date and venue. Ideally this would be mid Nov to mid Dec. It could also be possible to combine groups in a couple of areas to make up numbers if people were willing to travel for a combined group training session.

Lifeline Accidental Counsellor Training: What's it all about?. Many people find it challenging to talk with a friend, family member or colleague going through a crisis along with a range of other mental wellbeing issues. To break down the barriers, the training is a practical package that teaches vital communication skills that work along with basic counselling principals for people who aren't trained as counsellors but sometimes find themselves in a "counselling" role as part of daily community contacts.

Training Aim: The ½ day training aims to give community participants the confidence and skills to recognise signs that someone is facing challenges, to respond appropriately and (if applicable) refer to appropriate services and supports. Community participants are not expected to become 'counsellors' after training but rather knowing when and how to respond at the appropriate time when someone you know and care for may be in need of support can promote positive outcomes for the person concerned.

Self-care is also a critical part of any mental health training. Self-care is a way for community members to balance activities and preserve longevity and happiness in our relationships and our community work. To do this, we need to accept that it is OK, and actually essential, to know when to put our own needs first at times.

Objectives and Outcomes. The Lifeline Accidental Counsellor course participant training objectives are:

- To feel more confident in recognising the behavioural changes of a person experiencing crisis
- Feel confident in asking a colleague, friend, family member or client if they are alright. Knowing they
 may respond with NO.
- Know how to effectively listen, with empathy.
- Know how to respond in a way that empowers the client to discover their own solutions or actions.
- Know how to support the client and refer them to an appropriate service.
- To ensure they have good self-care practices.

The course also discusses a range of Mental Health issues including suicidal idealisation, Depression, Anxiety, drug/alcohol abuse. So make sure you are OK with this content before enrolling in the training.

Training Contact/s: You can express interest either by talking to your local Neighbourhood House or Men's Shed Coordinator and letting them know. They will then feed this to the Project Coordinator: Andre Zonn or you can call or email Andre directly. Email: andrez@glch.org.au Mobile: 0429 953 063.

East Gippsland Shire Outreach Services

Library Books can be reserved, collected or returned at the Neighbourhood House.

Mobile Library Bus days are held fortnightly on a Tuesday.

Buchan (near school) 9.15 am – 10.00 am

W Tree (near SIBA Retreat Centre) 10.45 am - 11.30 am

(Neighbourhood House & Kinder) 12.30 pm - 2.00 pm

The next service will be:

Tuesday 14th January 2020

Tuesday 28th January 2020

Library schedules, Council minutes and planning permits are also available upon request at the Neighbourhood House.



BUCHAN UNITING CHURCH

90 Main Street, Buchan

(North side of Buchan River)

Open Saturdays from 9.00am to 3.30pm

(or by appointment)

For more information please contact

Tony 0428 352 019

Large range of Novels, History, Military, Art, Craft, Cookery and more.

and more.

Arrangements can be made with

Janice Coates

Phone: 5155 9301

Justice of the Peace



MASSAGE

Tuesday 14th January 2020 From 10.00am

Late appointment by advanced booking

MASSAGE and NATURAL HEALTH CARE at the Buchan Neighbourhood House

including:

Relaxation, Aromatherapy, Sports
Therapies, Remedial Massage Therapy,
Pre and Post Natal and baby Massage.
Available for adults and children of all ages.

\$60 one hour session

For further information and bookings contact the Buchan

Neighbourhood House or Sharon Dent by email at

silvaaust@gmail.com or call 0468 387 524

Church Services Catholic Church

St Dymphna's, Woodgates Road, Buchan. Meets 3rd Saturday of the month at 9am until further notice. For service details contact Mary Wheeler 5155 9330

Uniting Church

The Andrew Davidson Memorial Uniting Church.

Main Street, Buchan. Services are held at St Mary's Anglican Church, Main Street, Buchan. For service details contact Leona Lavell 5155 9395

Anglican Church

St Mary's, Main Street, Buchan. Meets 1st Sunday of each month. For service details contact Rhonda Coates 5155 9373



Summer is fast approaching - with it comes extreme weather like droughts, fire and heatwaves. Be sure to keep an eye out for overgrown vegetation, water leaks, fallen trees and any other non-urgent issues that can be reported with

Snap Send Solve.

