

# Buchan Phoenix



Rising from the ashes...

Communication for the community by the community

July 2021 Issue 57

Produced by Buchan District Outreach Inc. trading as  
Buchan Neighbourhood House A148825



## SAVE THE DATE

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### Rural Recharge Community Concert

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Watch your letterbox over the coming weeks for how to secure your ticket

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*See inside this issue for more information...*

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.

The newsletter is delivered to every household in the district (on the/or near to the 15th day of the month) and is also available online at [buchan.vic.au](http://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 **Thursday 5th August 2021**. We welcome articles and contributions from everyone and encourage our local clubs, groups, agencies organisations and businesses to send us their information. Submissions can be sent to [info.buchan@gmail.com](mailto:info.buchan@gmail.com) or drop them into the Neighbourhood House. Advertisements are \$55 for 12 editions or \$5.50 per edition.



**Includes the localities of Black Mountain, Buchan, Buchan South, Buchan East, Butchers Ridge, Canni Creek, Gelantipy, Gillingall, Glenmore, Murrindal, Suggan Buggan, Timbarra, W Tree and Wulgulmerang.**

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.

**Darren Chester**  
Federal Member for Gippsland



Proud to support our community

#gippsland 1300 131 785 www.darrenchester.com.au

Authorised to Darren Chester MP, National Party of Australia, Level 2, 59-61 Normand Street, Sale VIC 3885

**Tim BULL**  
MEMBER FOR GIPPSLAND EAST



Bushfire Relief Images courtesy of VEC Victoria Content Hub

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Under new ownership, the Australian Tarmac Rally Championship is returning to Gippsland this year, in a new date slot.

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info@tarmacrally.com

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Australian Tarmac Rally



**Gordon Scicluna from Nowa Nowa Plant Nursery Stall**  
**Saturday 14th August 2021**  
**from 10am – 12noon**  
**Outside the Buchan Neighbourhood House**

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## Buchan Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association

Update – July 2021

### Interim Priorities

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You may remember that earlier this year we agreed to focus on three key priorities – ***A Tourism Destination Plan, Build a Play Space, Upgrade to Buchan Recreation Reserve.***

Plenty is happening across each of these priorities, here is an update:

- \* **Tourism Destination Plan** – this is now called a Tourism Opportunity Plan (TOP). Council has supported us to seek quotes for a preferred consultant who has now been appointed. Stafford Strategy – the appointed consultancy – have commenced work on this project, undertaking a review of all the tourism related projects, initiatives and planning that have been done in the past. Soon they will be coming to our District to see firsthand the opportunities we have to grow our tourism sector. This will include conversations with local businesses and individuals, discussions with key government agencies such as Parks Victoria and DELWP and a community workshop – the final methodology for the project will be designed by the TOP Working Group.

Thank you to the local nominees who have put their hand up to participate in the working group. We still have a couple more spots so would encourage you to put your hand up for this exciting project! If you are keen or would like to find out more, give our Council Place Manager – Suzie Healy a call on 0429 467 794.

Look out for regular updates on our website, our Facebook page (Buchan Gelantipy & District Renewal) or in future editions of the *Phoenix*.

- \* **Build a Play Space** – Council and BRV have supported the quote process to seek a qualified landscape designer to help the Play Space Working Group create a community space that meets our needs and attracts our visitors to stay in our District for longer. Final quotes are due to be submitted in mid-July, so we are hoping to have a more significant update next month!
- \* **Upgrade the Recreation Reserve** – the Recreation Reserve Committee of Management is working with a recreation planner to scope up this upgrade. Further updates to be provided by the Committee of Management.

### Local Economic Recovery Fund Projects – Round 1 Update

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Back in January it was announced that we were successful in securing \$120,000 to undertake upgrades to four community facilities across the District. Those being:

- \* Wulgulmerang Sports Ground – update and upgrade amenities block
- \* Gelantipy Hall – update and upgrade toilets to include an accessible toilet for overnight campers
- \* Buchan Hall – upgrade the kitchen
- \* Buchan Recreation Reserve – install 2 x increased capacity air conditioners and a generator

Council is now able to provide each of the facility Committees of Management support to deliver each of these projects. A site visit has occurred at each site and each upgrade is now being scheduled in for delivery in the coming months...or when trades are available to make it happen!

## Buchan Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association

Update – July 2021

### Local Economic Recovery Fund Projects – Round 2 Update

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The BGaDRA Committee is working through finalising the funding agreement between the Victorian Government and ourselves for the installation of the canoe launch facility at the Balley Hooley campground.

We were successful in securing \$40,000 for this project.

Parks Victoria will project manage and deliver this project on our behalf.

### Community Meals – hosted by Buchan Football Netball Club

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The Buchan Football Netball Club is still hosting community meals every Thursday evening from 6pm – 8pm at the Buchan Recreation Reserve for the remainder of the football netball season. These meals are funded by Windermere, Red Cross, East Gippsland Shire Council, Victorian Government and Australian Government as a bushfire recovery initiative.

To date the meals have been amazing so it is great incentive to have a night off cooking and come on down for a meal and a chat with friends. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Are you interested in joining the Committee?

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Due to the recent resignation of two Committee members we are now calling on nominations to fill these vacancies. If you are interested in becoming a Committee member or would like to nominate someone in the community, please email us on [bganddra@gmail.com](mailto:bganddra@gmail.com)

### You're invited to the Imagine Buchan – community workshop on 20 July



You would have seen the flier (pictured left) in this edition of the Phoenix.

Don't forget to register your attendance if you are interested in participating in what the Buchan Main Street and Linkages Project outcomes look like.

BGaDRA supported Council in securing this funding from the Victorian and Australian Governments.

### Contact us

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Our website is up and running. We will continue to use it as the place to provide updates on our meetings, events and projects as they happen. Our website can be found at:

<https://buchandistrictsrenewal.com.au/>

Don't forget that you can get in touch with us at any time.

We'd love to hear all your ideas for priorities and future events and activities. Our email address is: [bganddra@gmail.com](mailto:bganddra@gmail.com)

### **Hello from the Buchan and Districts Bushfire Recovery Hub!**

We have lots of things happening in the Bushfire Recovery Hub this month, including community discussion sessions with Dr Rob Gordon. Dr Rob is a clinical psychologist who has been working in the field of disaster recovery since Ash Wednesday in 1983. He is a consultant to Red Cross and the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and has worked with people and communities following the Port Arthur shooting, the Bali Bombing, Black Saturday, the Christchurch Earthquake as well as numerous floods, fires, cyclones and other events throughout Australia and New Zealand. Our community will benefit from his expertise on recovery. We have different sessions available.

### **Evening Session - Parents and Children in Recovery**

Wednesday the 14th of July 6.30pm Dinner with Rob Gordon at The Caves Hotel (Dinner provided) 7.30-9pm, followed by Rob Gordon Discussion Session.

**Morning Session - Communities in Recovery** Thursday the 15th of July 10.30am at The Rec Pavilion for Morning Tea and Discussion Session. This will be a great opportunity to have an open and facilitated session to discuss the progress of your community's recovery journey; what issues and themes you are witnessing as an individual, as a community or anything else that you would like to raise with Dr Rob Gordon. If you do have any topics or questions that you would like to raise, can you please submit to me ASAP, so that we can prepare Dr Rob for the session. [Please RSVP to Rebecca 0407 281 123](#)  
It is important to note that the evening session requires RSVP and your commitment to attend.



### **Wills Lingo-Bingo Morning Tea**

Monday 16 August 2021, 10:30 am at the Buchan Recreation Hall.

Come along for a cuppa, a slice a cake and a fun and informative game of Bingo, with a legal twist! Gen Wilks, Bushfire Lawyer from Victoria Legal Aid will help you understand some of the tricky legal words and concepts you need to understand when making a Will, all in a fun game of Bingo. Morning tea will be provided, as well a list of local legal practitioners who

can assist prepare your Will so you can take the next step to protect yourself and your family. Making a will, it's a piece of cake! [Please RSVP](#) to Gen Wilks via the Buchan Bushfire Recovery Hub or Gen on 9269 0582 or [Genevieve.wilks@vla.vic.gov.au](mailto:Genevieve.wilks@vla.vic.gov.au)

### **Rural Recharge Community Concert Registrations**

An incredible opportunity for the Buchan District community. A locals' only concert on the evening of Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of August. The secret artist is yet to be announced. This will be an evening of entertainment, food trucks and drinks for you to enjoy. You will need to register through EventBrite using a QR code. If you need assistance with this, Rebecca at the Hub can help you with your registration.

As always, the Hub team is here to help you on your recovery journey, so please reach out.

### **The Buchan Hub Team**

5609 Buchan-Orbost Rd, Buchan VIC 3885 | [buchanhub@brv.vic.gov.au](mailto:buchanhub@brv.vic.gov.au) | 0417 281 123

### **LER Local Community Projects**

Twenty-four projects were recently announced under the Victorian Government's Local Community Project Grants as part of the Australian and Victorian governments' \$68.6 million Local Economic Recovery (LER) program.

Local community projects funded in East Gippsland to support sustainable bushfire recovery include:

- \* \$1.92 million to upgrade the Swifts Creek Recreation Reserve.
- \* \$1.89 million to redevelop the Mallacoota Golf Course.
- \* \$1.5 million to upgrade the surface of the iconic East Gippsland Rail Trail.
- \* \$1.07 million to upgrade facilities at the Bruthen Recreation Reserve.
- \* \$818,000 to upgrade the Mallacoota Hall.
- \* \$362,000 for the development of a cultural journey walk in Orbost.
- \* \$432,549 to a mobile Play2Learn program that will engage vulnerable families in informal play spaces and community events.
- \* \$402,125 to upgrade the Lakes Entrance Recreation Reserve.
- \* \$336,000 to upgrade the Marlo Community Hall.
- \* \$296,000 to rebuild the Mallacoota Pony Club facilities.
- \* \$87,260 to support community participation and recovery through improved community facilities and support initiatives in Goongerah.
- \* \$40,250 for the construction of an accessible canoe launch on the Snowy River in Buchan.

For more information, visit [www.br.vic.gov.au](http://www.br.vic.gov.au)

### **Storm and Flood Recovery June 2021**

On Thursday 17 June 2021 the Acting Premier, James Merlino, announced that Bushfire Recovery Victoria will support the clean-up and recovery work for communities impacted by storm damage.

BRV is working closely with the relevant local councils, state government and community organisations to understand the full impact of this event on communities and their recovery needs.

While we're assisting Victorian's impacted by the June 9/10 Storm event, we're still here to assist Buchan and surrounds with your bushfire recovery needs. Please visit the Hub or [www.br.vic.gov.au](http://www.br.vic.gov.au) to see what support is currently available.

## Buchan Flower and Arts n Crafts Show Photography Competition and Display

We were unable to conduct the show last year due to Covid. Due to circumstances changing for the volunteers over the past few years, a few of the main event organisers and volunteers are unable to continue in planning and conduction the event.

The "Show" has been a part of the region's annual events for a very long time and some of its origins are with the then Buchan and Buchan South CWA organisations, later the Buchan Hall Committee and more recently the Buchan Arts Council.

Community interest in recent years has grown and involvement in this annual event via the many volunteers who assist with the setting up has been very supportive. With the growing interest in horticulture and home gardening experienced during lock down and the interest in the rejuvenation project lead by Grace Davis after the fires, the "Show" is something that we think, should the support be there, continue to be a part of our annual community calendar.

The school has also been very committed to both the Bairnsdale and Buchan Shows giving children and parents a platform to view their art works and the Buchan Neighbourhood House has supported this event annually with the September Holiday program craft activities day.

Past event organisers who are leaving the group are happy to assist in the succession of this event with a handover and remaining volunteers are still happy to continue to assist in their roles.

We are looking for some people to assist with the planning and if they would like to join the group to offer some time to organise and conduct the show.

The "Show promotes healthy lifestyles, recognises people skills in our community and provides an opportunity to share, come together and reduce isolation. We hope that there are some community members out there that could give some of their time.

Please contact Evelyn Schmidt at the Neighbourhood House by the end of July if you would like to join our group.

**FREE BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE LIBRARIES**

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## Movie Screening – Libraries After Dark

# Military Wives



Mildred Haynes Award for Adult Services



**Join us for the screening of *Military Wives***

With their partners away serving in Afghanistan, a group of women on the home front form a choir and quickly find themselves at the centre of a media sensation and global movement.

As unexpected bonds of friendship flourish, music and laughter transform their lives, helping each other to overcome their fears for loved ones in combat.

Libraries After Dark offers a variety of after-hours programming provided through local libraries on Thursday nights across fifteen local government areas. The program is designed to provide at-risk groups with a range of social or recreational options during the evening.

**Thursday 22 July**  
Bairnsdale Library  
6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

Phone 5152 4225 or book in person at the library for this FREE event.







**FREE BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE LIBRARIES**

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## Movie Screening

# Great Expectations



Mildred Haynes Award for Adult Services



**Join us for the screening of *Great Expectations***

Young orphan Pip is given a chance to rise from his humble beginnings thanks to a mysterious benefactor.

Moving through London's class ridden world as a gentleman, Pip uses his newfound positioning to pursue the beautiful Estella, a spoiled heiress he's known since childhood.

Phone 5152 4225 or book in person at the library for this FREE event.

**Monday 2 August**  
Bairnsdale Library  
2.00 pm – 4.15 pm

**Tuesday 10 August**  
Orbost Service Centre  
2.00 pm – 4.15 pm

**Tuesday 10 August**  
Orbost Service Centre  
2.00 pm – 4.15 pm

**Thursday 12 August**  
Bairnsdale Library  
2.00 pm – 4.15 pm

**Thursday 12 August**  
Lakes Entrance Service Centre  
10.00 am – 12.15 pm & 2.00 pm – 4.15 pm

**Friday 20 August**  
Paynesville Service Centre  
10.30 am – 12.45 pm & 2.00 pm – 4.15 pm









An artist's impression of the linkage path between Buchan Caves campground and the Main Street.

# Buchan street project

The efforts of the Buchan Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association to assist in the recovery process after the 2019/2020 bushfires that devastated the region have reaped rewards.

The Buchan Main Street and Linkages Project will boost the tourist economy by improving access to Buchan's town centre and enhancing its appeal, encouraging people to stop, stay and spend.

It will also increase accessibility for the local community to move around town more safely and instinctively.

East Gippsland Shire secured \$2.8 million for the project. This crucial funding can explore improvements and

refurbishments such as: reconfiguring the service roads; optimising car parking; increasing visual appeal of the streetscape; landscaping and improved street furniture.

A shared path link to the Buchan Caves campground will be introduced to facilitate tourist movement between the popular tourist destination and the town, to encourage campers and glampers to walk or cycle to town and spend.

Social and business infrastructure will be designed to leverage the main street and linkage pathways investment and provide existing and new businesses a 'wrap-around' service, which may include training for key skills, new events and enterprise

facilitation services.

This project will be undertaken in two parts, the first being the Buchan Caves Reserve Linkage, and the second the Buchan Streetscape Refurbishment.

The next stages include in-person community consultation and engagement sessions to begin in Buchan in July.

Surveys will be available in hard copy around Buchan township and interested locals can also fill in the survey online.

Visit the East Gippsland Shire Council YourSay page for all updates or search for Buchan under the Community Plans section with more information on this important project for the Buchan community.

## Monster mushroom grown in Buchan

I would like to offer a huge Thank You to Josef Sestokas and Family of Flooding Creek Fungi on behalf of the Buchan Neighbourhood House and Community for providing such an interesting session that was enjoyed by all who attended.



After the workshop, no longer commercially viable spawned straw parcels were made available to attendees. The photo above is the second crop from my take home gourmet Black Pearl mushroom straw, just the one mushroom this time, but is still growing! Black Pearl was chosen by the Flooding Creek Fungi family business due to its hardiness in the cold.

The Flooding Creek Fungi Mushroom Info Session held on Thursday 20 May was very well attended and extremely informative. Josef Sestokas began a fascinating account of his journey into building up the family enterprise from scratch, and the fungi varieties that they had chosen to grow.

Eddie Sady arrived at the session with a plastic bag in his hand containing a stick like fungus and I heard someone mention "Caterpillar fungus". At this stage Eddie had not opened the bag and our course continued. This included photographing fungi from certain angles and using something beside it for scale. Somebody piped up and asked if they could photograph Eddie's Caterpillar fungus. My goodness, all chaos broke loose when he took it out of the bag and most of the class took it in turns to examine and photograph this strange and rarely seen phenomenon of nature. It was a fungus stalk with a twin bud on top that had grown parasitically from the body of a caterpillar. The body of the caterpillar was about 10 cm (4 inches) long, the fungal extension around 17 cm (7 inches) or longer. It was a great spontaneous moment.

Four hours of fascinating fungi facts ensued, covering the role of fungus in the soil and its relationship with plants. Anatomy of fungi was also explored. There were a lot of good tips about being resourceful and recycling wherever possible.

Josef's recounting of the Sestokas family's experiences in building up the business was both heart-warming and invaluable. We all came away with something further to explore along with enough information to decide how we could include mushrooms in our lives.

A big Thank You to all who participated and helped to make it a fruitful day. Buchan Neighbourhood House would love to hear from you if you have photos of your straw satchels that you might like to share in *The Phoenix*. We would also like to hear if you have some tasty mushroom recipes to share!

Contributor: Alana Mill



Further to our front page news, a media release from the Victorian Government on Friday 9th July confirmed that Paul Kelly will be performing in Buchan on Tuesday 17th August:

## SUPPORTING GIPPSLAND LOCALS TO RECHARGE WITH PAUL KELLY

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting East Gippsland locals impacted by recent bushfires, drought and the pandemic to take a break and enjoy concerts with Paul Kelly - one of Australia's most celebrated musicians.

The ARIA Hall of Fame singer and songwriter will perform two shows in the region in August as part of the Labor Government's *Recharge* program, designed to provide time out to farmers, their families and other members of the community who have struggled with extreme weather conditions in recent years.

The Government established *Recharge* in 2019, backed by \$750,000, in response to severe drought conditions across eastern Victoria, before expanding the program following the summer bushfires of late 2019 and early 2020.

Tickets are normally limited to participants identified through local Primary Healthcare Partnerships programs. However, in addition to eligible participants, members of the community will have a chance to attend the concert.

The events will be held in Buchan on Tuesday 17 August and Mallacoota on Wednesday 18 August.

The *Recharge* program includes on-farm music and comedy-based *Shearing Shed Shows*, designed to allow farmers to connect with their neighbours and surrounding community members in a supportive environment.

Ten *Shearing Shed Shows* have been scheduled for this year featuring other music artists including Ross Wilson and Killing Heidi. Each event will feature a range of support acts and food and beverages will be provided from local suppliers.

The *Recharge* program also includes weekends away for families to enjoy in regional Victoria or Melbourne – with the Government providing subsidies for accommodation, meals and activities.

**Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas**

*"We know how challenging the past few years have been for the East Gippsland community. The Recharge Program is just one way that the community can take a well-deserved break, providing them much-needed respite from recent devastating events."*

**Quotes attributable to East Gippsland Shire Council Mayor Cr Mendy Urie**

*"The last few years have been particularly tough for the East Gippsland community, with the prolonged drought followed by the Black Summer bushfires. For affected residents to get some relief is important for health and wellbeing and the Recharge program has been a great support for these families."*

## Building Confidence Finding Purpose

Would you like to learn new ways to express yourself?

Are your ideas and opinions overlooked?

Do you want to make a contribution?

Are you too shy to speak up?

*If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, this workshop is for you!!*

### Workshop Explained:

*The idea for a workshop came from conversations with the Neighbourhood House, and the East Gippsland Community Resilience Project. The workshop will be based on skills to build confidence, communication practices to ensure you're being heard, and exploring opportunities to make a contribution.*

*The workshop will be facilitated by experienced teacher, trainer, facilitator & coach, Shayne Hyman.*

**Place:** Buchan

Neighbourhood House

**When:** Either a Thursday or a Saturday in September 2021

**Duration:** Three hours including a meal break - probably 10am - 1pm

**Age:** Suitable for >16 years

**Catering:** Light lunch & drinks

**Cost:** FREE

Places are limited so express your interest TODAY by emailing [buchanbnh@bigpond.com](mailto:buchanbnh@bigpond.com), calling Shayne 0417 330 081 or visiting the Neighbourhood House to see Ev. Make sure you say your preference for either a Thursday or a Saturday, and any dietary requirements.



This workshop is supported by Buchan Neighbourhood House, C4 Impact, Committee for Gippsland, and Regional Development Vic

## Healing Country during and after bushfires



*First Custodians Network. Gerry Laughton, Matt Russell, Mat Rodaughan, Ben Rotheram, Jade Bishop and Shaun Mongta.*

In the wake of the devastating bushfires of 2019/2020 and the recent severe floods that have ravaged Gippsland, the 2021 NAIDOC theme of *Heal Country* has never been more important.

*Heal Country* calls for the continued protection for Indigenous lands, waters, sacred and significant sites and cultural heritage.

The summer bushfires of 2019/2020 in East Gippsland threatened dozens of culturally significant heritage sites that were in the direct path of the devastating fire. Thanks to the innovative and dedicated work of a coalition of Traditional Owners and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) staff, these sites are still with us today.

Partnering with members of DELWP Aboriginal staff network and Cultural Heritage Specialists throughout Gippsland, Heritage Field Officers last year conducted urgent operations ahead of the fire front, wrapping known scar trees in sisalation to try and protect significant cultural history.

First Nations people then assisted with the removal of sisalation material once the fire areas were deemed safe.

Sisalation is the brand name for a special type of sarking material typically used as building insulation. Sarking is a pliable membrane that sits under roof tiles, like a protective second skin. The manufacturer adds aluminium foil to woven cloth or kraft paper and strengthens it with fiberglass, making it an excellent material to protect against ember attack and radiant heat.

DELWP Heritage Specialist Gerry Laughton, was heavily involved in the operation.

"Aboriginal scarred trees are found across all of Australia, with most being over 100 years old they hold great significance to our local Mobs," he said. First Nations people

still take part in the practice of scarring trees to preserve and pass on the knowledge and skills to the next generation.

"Protecting these pieces of history for future generations is one of the most important things we can do as First Nation People".

This new method of wrapping the trees was combined with large mineral earth lines created by hand, roughly 3-5 meters wide surrounding the trees. This is done to stop the fire from directly reaching them and to provide as much protection to the tree as possible.

This method proved to be extremely successful at protecting the scar trees from being directly impacted by fire and lost.



*A scar tree wrapped in sisalation*

Developed over the last seven years, this method of protection has been utilised to protect heritage bush huts in past fires and is now for the first time being implemented in the protection of scar trees.

Gerry and his team have continued to test this method in different environments at recent planned burns around Erica in Gippsland's West.

"Although we've had good results so far, this method is still new," Gerry said.

"We're still gathering the results of this test together, but it all looks very positive so far. We're continuously working to fine tune this approach which we hope will allow us to better protect and preserve significant cultural sites in the future."

This project will be presented at the upcoming Indigenous Cultural Heritage Conference in Melbourne, 27th-29th October 2021 by the DELWP Gippsland Cultural Heritage team.

Protecting and preserving Country is at the core of land management. Country today is facing unprecedented threats to sustainability. As land managers, DELWP looks to the First Custodians for guidance on how to best Heal and Care for Country.



#### INVITATION TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO VICFORESTS' TIMBER RELEASE PLAN

VicForests is seeking stakeholder and community comments on proposed changes to the Timber Release Plan (TRP).

The TRP identifies potential operational areas for the coming years and is updated regularly as part of VicForests' ordinary planning process.

The proposed changes will add new operational areas (called coupes) for harvesting and access, amend areas already on the plan and remove coupes that have been successfully regenerated or are no longer required.

VicForests is seeking coupe-specific feedback on matters that should be considered in deciding whether to include specific areas in the plan or as part of more detailed planning undertaken prior to commencement of activities in the proposed new areas.

Public and stakeholder feedback on the proposed TRP is open from 2nd July to 30th July.

All VicForests' timber harvesting and regeneration operations are conducted in line with Victoria's strict environmental regulations and the State's Forest Management Zoning scheme and are subject to oversight by an independent regulator.

A schedule of proposed timber harvesting areas, maps indicating approximate locations and a feedback form for public comment are available at: [www.vicforests.com.au/proposed-timber-release-plan-july-2021](http://www.vicforests.com.au/proposed-timber-release-plan-july-2021)

Submissions can also be provided via email to: [vfs.trp@vicforests.com.au](mailto:vfs.trp@vicforests.com.au) or made in writing and sent to VicForests, GPO Box 191, Melbourne 3001, from 2nd July until 5pm on 30th July 2021.

#### There was a girl...

There was a girl,  
A very little girl,  
Who just liked to call,  
For nothing at all.

No reason.

First it was her aunt,  
Then her Gran  
Because of her biscuits  
All cooked with bran.

Yummy!

The sweet honey and malted  
Were playing with her head.  
When mother cooked,  
She made lots of bread.

No salt.

Rejected.

She made lots of clothes,  
Gave her lots of hugs,  
And told her of her life  
When she was a little bud.

With Gran.

Wonderful!

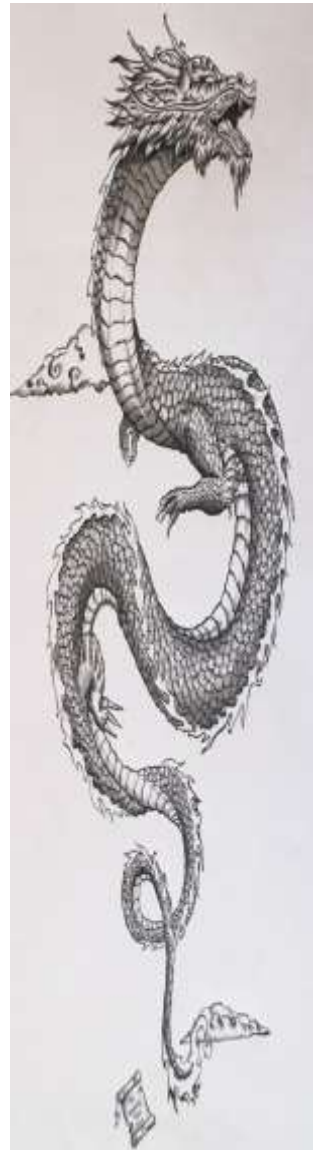
A visit to Aunt Mildred  
Was a special occasion,  
For she lived in a castle  
With a make-believe dragon.

Fantastic.

The little girl was sad,  
For now she is free  
To visit  
Anyone,  
Anytime.

It's me!!

— David Bloom



The W Tree and Gelantipy Communities were greatly saddened by the death of Rosanne Dooley on 16th June.

Our love and sympathy to Ian and Tristan who have lost their wife, mother and best friend.

Rosie was remarkable for the positive manner with which she endured her long illness and associated treatment.





### **End of the autumn firewood collection season**

The autumn 2021 firewood collection season closed across Victoria at midnight Tuesday 30 June.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Gippsland Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Geoff Conway said: "From 1 July it is illegal to collect firewood from public land.

"Domestic firewood is a limited resource. Under Victorian legislation, firewood can only be collected from designated firewood collection areas of State Forests during the firewood collection season which runs from 1 March to 30 June 2021 and 1 September to 30 November 2021.

Roadside collection outside of designated collection areas is not permitted at any time.

Many roads and tracks in our forests are still inaccessible due to damage sustained during the recent severe storms and floods in Gippsland. Please don't risk your safety or that of others attempting to collect firewood in areas that are closed or inaccessible due to storm damage.

"Limits are in place to prevent households stockpiling large volumes of firewood from public land and denying others a supply," DCFO Conway said.

Any information the community may have about the illegal removal of firewood for sale can be reported to DELWP on 136 186.

Concession card holders who rely only on buying firewood for home heating may be eligible for the non-mains energy concession. More information is available on the Department of Health and Human Services website: <https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession>

Victorians on low incomes (both concession card and non-concession card holders) who rely on buying firewood and have experienced unexpected financial hardship may also be eligible to apply for the non-mains utility relief grant of up to \$650 to help with firewood costs.

A person may apply for the grant if they have an amount owing for a previous firewood purchase, or if they will not be able to afford their next firewood purchase.

Information on eligibility for the Non-Mains Utility Relief Grant Scheme can be found at: [services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains](https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains)

From July 2021 low income households whose primary source of heating is wood, gas-fired or an electric heater more than 7 years old can apply for the Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades Program. The program provides a base rebate of \$1,000 towards the cost of purchasing and installing a high-efficiency heating and cooling system. Find out more about the program at: [heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au](https://heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au)

FFMVic supports domestic firewood provision through the creation of firewood collection areas on public land and a list of these areas can be found at [www.ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood](https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood)

During the designated collection periods an individual can collect a maximum of two cubic metres of firewood in a day and may collect up to 16 cubic metres per household per financial year.



### **Celebrating 40 years on the road with WWOOF Australia Hosts**

WWOOF Australia was established by Lionel Pollard in 1981, back in the paper era. 40 years on it has transitioned into an online platform that connects WWOOFers (Volunteers) with Hosts from many different commercial or hobby farms and suburban growers that are using Organic, Biodynamic, Permaculture, Aquaponics, Syntropic and Regenerative practices & techniques. With the assistance of WWOOFers, hosts embrace those extra set of hands when it comes planting, harvesting, animal care and everyday tasks that come with living and producing off the land, and in return hosts can pass on their skills and knowledge to WWOOFers in the industry they are in. Technology forever evolving has enabled Hosts and WWOOFers to instantly interact and connect through our messaging system on the WWOOF website and the free WWOOF Australia App. We celebrated our 40 years, by hitting the road at the end of May 2021 and visited some of our Hosts in South Gippsland Victoria. To our surprise upon arriving in Stoney Creek, to have lunch with Hosts Tinker, her Husband Ad and WWOOFers Marianne and Alexis, Marianne an extraordinary French pastry Chef surprised us with a beautiful desert for our Happy Birthday celebration, it was divine to say the least. We would like to take this time to thank those wonderful hosts that allowed us to share our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday with them and learn about their personal journeys which we will be doing a full article on each Host soon. A big thank you for a wonderful week! — Lynette and Traci

*Lynette, Garry, Lionel & Traci*





**East Gippsland Water**

### East Gippsland Water Native Vegetation and Habitat Creation Grants

The Native Vegetation and Habitat Creation Grants Program has been developed as part of East Gippsland Water's 2018-2023 Pricing Submission (business plan).

During extensive community engagement undertaken for the price submission, customers told us they wanted East Gippsland Water to be more environmentally focused and to do more for our local environment. As a result we have developed the grants program.

This initiative is also supported through the Victorian Government's Water for Victoria strategy, Resilient and Liveable Cities and Towns, which focuses on Victoria being a vibrant place to live, work and visit – with cities and towns that support thriving communities and attract business and industry. Water is seen as a vital resource for our health and wellbeing – keeping our trees, sporting fields and parks green, and supporting businesses and industries that rely on a secure water supply. The aim is to improve liveability and resilience across our region.

The program will run each year of the price submission, with applications open to educational and community groups across the East Gippsland region.

Grants can be for any native vegetation or habitat creation project that meets the application criteria.

Applications are now being invited for Round 7 of our grants program and these need to be submitted by **4pm, Friday 16th of July**. For further information, see: [www.egwater.vic.gov.au/grants/](http://www.egwater.vic.gov.au/grants/)

EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE LIBRARIES

FREE BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

## My Health Record Information Session



### Find out all about My Health Record

This hands-on session will cover

- How to set up a myGov account
- What is My Health Record?
- How to log in to My Health Record
- What are the key benefits?
- How to access your record?
- What a My Health Record looks like
- Document Types Privacy and security

Phone 5152 4225 or book at the library for this FREE event.

**Wednesday 21 July**

Bairnsdale Library  
1.00pm – 3.00 pm

**Thursday 22 July**

Online  
5.30 pm – 7.00 pm



### OAA "GROWING YOUR KNOWLEDGE" SESSIONS

The OAA is continuing with the 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, 1.00pm to nominally 2.00pm at the Organic Centre, 14 McKean Street, Bairnsdale. All events are outdoors - **please observe the current Covid-safe regulations**.

**Thursday 5th August**

TOPIC: BD - Cow Pat Pit, and 500 stirring hands on workshop.  
Presenter: Sharon Dent

**Thursday 2nd September**

TOPIC: Mulches - What to use, why, when.  
Presenter: Arja Toivanen

GIPPS-  
LAND  
LEARN  
LOCAL



## "Get ready for work and .....

...discover employment opportunities in.....

- Horticulture
- Agriculture
- Hospitality
- Food Processing



**JOBS VICTORIA**

### PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Course offered at the TAFE Gippsland FORESTEC campus, Kalinna West starting Thursday/Friday 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> August for six weeks. 2 days per week 9.30am – 3.00pm Transport available if required.

Providing entry level skills for working in the food and fibre sector, plus a range of essential job ready skills.

Ongoing mentoring provided during and after the course.

Gain valuable insights and knowledge from industry experts and on-site tours.

### CONTACT/BOOKINGS

Buchan Neighbourhood House  
Ph: 0427 588 038  
Email: [buchan@hahipgippsland.com](mailto:buchan@hahipgippsland.com)

## MASSAGE & NATUROPATHY

10th August 2021 from 10.00am

Late appointment by advanced booking

MASSAGE and NATURAL HEALTH CARE  
at the Buchan Neighbourhood House including:  
Naturopathy, Relaxation, Aromatherapy, Sports  
Therapies, Remedial Massage Therapy,  
Pre and Post Natal and baby Massage.  
Available for adults and children of all ages.

**\$70 one-hour session**

For further information and bookings contact the  
Buchan Neighbourhood House or Sharon Dent  
by email at

silvaust@gmail.com or call 0468 387 524



**East Gippsland Shire  
Outreach Services**

**Libraries are open with  
Covid-19 social distancing  
restrictions in place.**

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

Mobile Library bus days are held fortnightly on a Tuesday.

**The next services for 2021 will be:**

**Tuesday 27th July**

**Tuesday 10th August**

Buchan (near school) 9.15 am – 10.00 am

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

Buchan (near kinder) 12.30 pm – 2.00 pm

**2021 Library schedules available at the Neighbourhood House**

## 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. No services are held at present.

### Anglican Church

St Mary's, Main Street, Buchan. Café Church meets 3rd  
Sunday of each month at 2.30pm.

For details contact Rhonda Coates 5155 9373



**Buchan policeman rewarded for bushfire courage**

Buchan residents, Glen and Lisa Moreland, said it was a relief to see their police officer, Constable Ray Moreland, rewarded for his bravery in the bushfires. The reward was a Bravery Medal, awarded by the Governor of Victoria.

Constable Moreland was on duty in the bushfires on 12th May 2021. He was the only police officer in the area at the time. He was seen leading a group of residents to safety and was instrumental in the rescue of a child.

Moreland was awarded the Bravery Medal for his actions. The Governor of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, presented the medal to Moreland at a ceremony in Melbourne.

Moreland said he was proud to be recognized for his actions. He said he was just doing his job and that he was happy to help his community.

The Morelands said they were grateful to the police for the help they received during the bushfires. They said they were lucky to be safe and that they were grateful to the police for their bravery.

I hate to be wrong. It makes me feel like a failure. Being wrong has the same affect on me as a lack of food or sleep. It lowers my entire mood. But, I need to be proved wrong sometimes, as it restores humility, and doesn't allow my ego to swell to stupidly big sizes.  
- Paul Kelly

Congratulations to our Leading Senior Constable, Ray Moreland, whose bravery in the bushfires has been recognised by Victoria Police with a Medal of Courage, and also by the Royal Humane Society of Australia who will award him a Bravery Medal. Ray's colleague, and visiting Police Officer, Leading Senior Constable Andy Trace, has also received these honours. Due to Covid restrictions, the presentations will not occur until later this year. Ray says he'll keep us posted. The article shown above was published in the *Bairnsdale Advertiser* on Wednesday 12th May 2021.



The Buchan Neighbourhood House hours of opening will be slightly different for the first two weeks in August. We will be closing at 3pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August, otherwise we are open for our normal hours 10am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday.