Buchan Phoenix

Rising from the ashes...

Communication for the community by the community

October 2026
Issue 115

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



Next

Buchan Phoenix

contributions in by:

Mon, 9 November 2026

The ***Buchan Phoenix*** acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their Elders, past and present.

The **Buchan Phoenix** is distributed to the localities of:

Black Mountain,

Buchan,

Buchan South,

Buchan East,

Butchers Ridge,

Canni Creek,

Gelantipy,

Gillingall,

Glenmore,

Murrindal,

Suggan Buggan,

Timbarra,

W Tree

Wulgulmerang

Neighbourhood Houses
The Heart of Our Community

Learn Local

VICTORIA State Government

CNAV
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA
the voice of the community

CARER FRIENDLY

Buchan Flower, Art & Craft Show and Photography Display



Spring has certainly arrived early this year, with many flowering plants already putting on a wonderful display thanks to the warm weather and sunny days we have been enjoying.

After a dry September, the rain in early October has given the ground a good soaking and should help encourage plenty of spring growth and flowers over the coming weeks.



We know everyone is busy with life, but we are looking forward to seeing some great entries again this year. So, if you have something growing in the garden, a craft you have been working on, a photo you are proud of, or something you have baked, please find the time to enter and contribute to this great local event.



The **Marge Woodhouse Sponge Cake Competition** is also back again this year. We really can't let Evelyn Schmidt win by default again just because she was the only entry! So come on Buchan bakers – surely someone can give her some competition!



The **Red Cross** will also be at the show with their marquee. Take the opportunity to have a chat with Helen or Allison about your emergency plan and make sure you are prepared for the 2026/27 fire season.

Schedules are available on Facebook, at the Buchan General Store and at Buchan Neighbourhood House. If you would like a copy emailed to you, give us a call or send us an email and we will be happy to send one through.



LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBRANCE DAY

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

BUCHAN SOUTH AVENUE OF HONOUR
BUCHAN SOUTH

START AT 10.30 AM

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE BUCHAN SOUTH AVENUE OF HONOUR SUB GROUP UNDER THE BUCHAN HALL AND RECREATION COM

CAN YOU LEND A HAND?
REMEMBRANCE DAY IS A COMMUNITY EFFORT, AND WE'D LOVE SOME EXTRA VOLUNTEERS THIS YEAR. HELP IS NEEDED WITH SETTING UP, MOVING EQUIPMENT, MORNING TEA AND PACK-UP. EVEN A SMALL AMOUNT OF YOUR TIME MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!

CONTACT EVELYN ON 0427586038





Summer Comfort at Home

Thursday, 12 November 2026

7pm - 8.30pm

Did you know that by improving the energy efficiency of your home you'll stay cooler this summer, and also save money?

Book here! >



Summer Comfort for Renters

Thursday, 26 November 2026

7pm - 8.30pm

It can be difficult to keep rental properties cool in Summer, but there are tricks to improve the energy efficiency and comfort without breaking the bank.

Book here! >

https://thecap.com.au/sustainable-living-series

BASS COAST | South Gippsland Shire Council | WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL | EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL | LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BUCHAN DISTRICT OUTREACH INCORPORATED

TRADING UNDER BUCHAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Buchan District Outreach Incorporated will be held on

Monday 16th November at 6 pm

being held at the Buchan Neighbourhood House 6 Centre Road Buchan 3885.

2026

A light supper will be provided. Please RSVP
For further information, please contact the Committee of Management
Email buchannhcom@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Houses
The Heart of Our Community

Gelantipy District Bush Nursing Centre Inc

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Gelantipy District Bush Nursing Centre Inc. will be held on

TUESDAY, 20th OCTOBER 2026 at 7:00pm via ZOOM/in person at the centre.

Please contact the centre if you would like to attend and/or nominate to become a member of the Committee of Management.

Call 5150 2410

Wulgulmerang Recreation Reserve Committee AGM

When:
Wednesday
October 14th at 7pm

Where:
Wulgulmerang Recreation Reserve

For further enquiries please contact Secretary Amy Rogers 0429 922 362

REMOTE RURAL Meals

FREE FROZEN MEALS FOR EVERYONE!



A little help, a little variety & one less meal to worry about.

TAKE WHAT YOU NEED • ENJOY!

PICK UP FROM

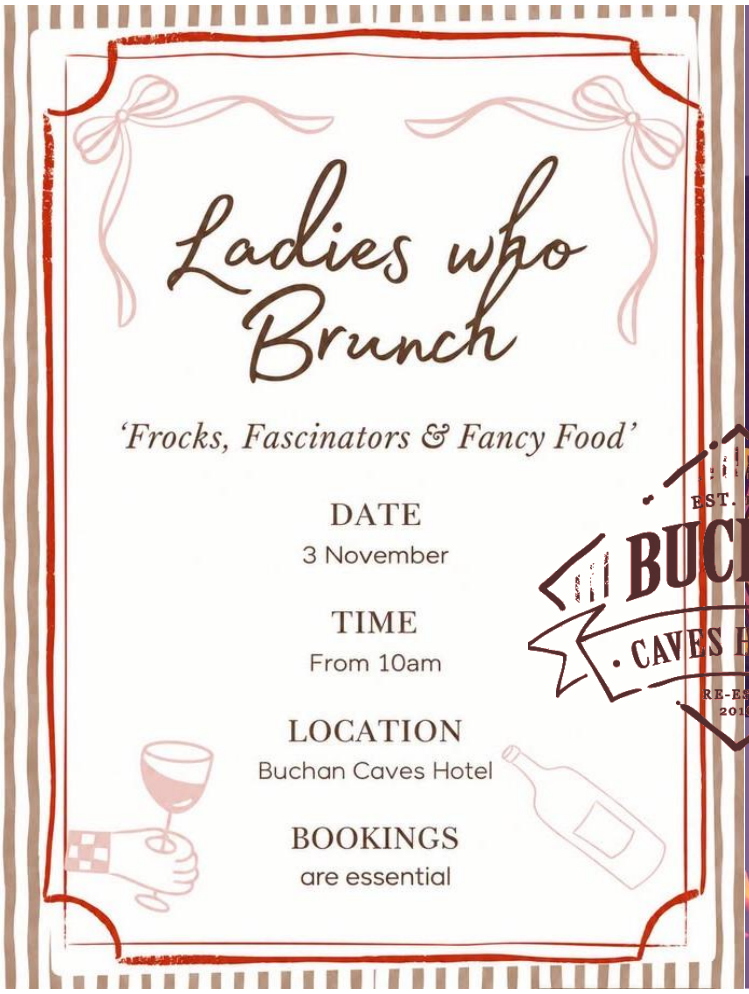
Buchan Bush Nursing Centre
------ or ------
Gelantipy Bush Nursing Centre
------ or ------
Buchan Neighbourhood House

DELICIOUS MEALS INCLUDING...

- Chicken Casserole
- Pea & Ham Soup
- Meatballs & Rice
- Italian Braised Lamb Chops
- Chow Mein
- Savoury Mince on Rice
- Baked Chicken & Vegetables

FREE FROZEN MEALS

GENEROUSLY SUPPLIED BY BAIRNSDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE





MELBOURNE CUP LONG WEEKEND AT THE BUCHAN PUB!

Get ready for a cracking Melbourne Cup Long Weekend at the Buchan Caves Hotel! We've got live music, dancing, fabulous frocks and plenty of good old-fashioned country pub fun lined up!

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER – LIVE MUSIC & DRESS-UP FUN!

Get your dancing shoes on because White Chocolate Diva Divine & Da Funk are hitting the stage from 8pm until midnight!

Expect a big night of funky tunes, great vibes and plenty of dancing. And because it's Halloween, we're throwing in some prizes for best dressed! Whether you're going spooky, spectacular or downright outrageous, dress to impress and join the fun!

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER – LADIES WHO BRUNCH IS BACK!

You spoke, we listened! Our fabulous Ladies Who Brunch returns for Melbourne Cup Day, kicking off from 10am!

Round up the girls, dust off your favourite frock, pop on a fascinator and settle in for a fabulous Cup Day at the pub. Think great food, bubbles, laughter and a whole lot of fun as we celebrate the race that stops the nation!

MAKE A LONG WEEKEND OF IT!

Why rush home when you can stay and play? Grab the Monday off, turn it into a four-day weekend and enjoy everything beautiful Buchan has to offer. Explore the caves, soak up the scenery and, of course, spend some quality time with us at the pub!

Mum, My First Solo Didn't Go So Well CONTINUED... from previous edition Phoenix Sep26

~ Written by Author Robert Bate-
LOCAL RESIDENT

Blues Skies Until Contact

To the assembled skydivers — an audience interested in attempts to push the limits — the whole sequence played out as spectacular entertainment, potentially dark comedy unfolding in real time.

Robbie called out: "Hey, watch this!" He'd given them some warning — at least five seconds or so before the propeller's first contact with the power lines. The nose spinner passed between the two wires, just before the fence of the airstrip's southern border. Right on target, the spark show started, though only lasting a couple of seconds.



The Moorooduc airstrip, January 1985, showing a view of the southern threshold of the north–south runway (frame from a private video of a Maya ultralight's first flight). Digitally lightened; not the incident date.

Credit: Graham Percy, "Maya Ultralight Aircraft – Pt 3, First Flight January 1985", YouTube

Shimmering blue small chimeras, flickering yellow-white sparkles were emitted as the still-whirring alloy propeller gnawed on the steel power lines. For the watching crowd, it was an amazing spectacle, with an extra dash of WOW factor.

Definitely a rare occurrence and totally unexpected. From the pilot's point of view, the open spectacle appeared quite different — the radio must have erupted in a buzz and hiss of static as the blue chimera, air ionising into plasma, arced up in front of the propeller, popping and spitting yellow sparks. "OMG, holy shit, what the heck — it must be power lines, I've flown into power lines, OMG." The sudden surprise of his worst nightmare was an uncomfortably close reality, and his overwhelming sense of helplessness — for what could he do about the dire predicament he'd flown into? In aviation, flying into power lines is a definite taboo — a golden rule of low flying, wherever you are: watch for power lines and any other obstructions, and try to avoid flying into any of them. His "short final" deceleration proceeded.

Instead of shearing through, the uninsulated lines acted like a massive bowstring, drawing taut from the propeller's contact point near the midpoint of their span, momentarily holding the aircraft up as the plane flew on, slowing all the while — the SECV's flying trapeze apparatus put to its first-ever test, straining under the loads placed on it by this ongoing sky-to-ground transition.

But the Cessna was about to stop flying — something had to give. As forward momentum bled away, the insulator tore off the cross-arm on the Mornington side — perhaps a fraction too soon — freeing the wires, which began lashing around.

Robbie, now scared by a released line that had touched the wing of a parked plane just one over, about-turned and ran, back under the wings, head down, wishing to avoid touching any metal or hitting his head.

Buchan Gelantipy & District Renewal Association Inc.

PO Box 8
Buchan Vic 3878
bganddra@gmail.com

5 October 2026

Proposed Buchan Dump Point

The BGaDRA has been working on securing a dump point for Buchan for a number of years, initially the Buchan Business and Tourism Association (BBTA) raised it with East Gippsland Shire Council. Following the 2019/2020 Bushfires BGaDRA began advocating for a dump point as it became a priority in the Community Renewal Plan.

The BGaDRA has put up to 20 proposed locations to the EGSC, but to date all have been rejected. However we have not given up! I am pleased to say that EGSC has now hired Consultants Crossco to assess 4 locations as possible sites for a Dump Point.

The BGaDRA met with a Council Officer and Crossco last week to look at the proposed sites. It is anticipated that Crossco will have a drop in Session in Buchan late November.

The BBTA and the BGaDRA believe that a Dump Point would be a real asset to the town, as the closest dump points are Bruthen, Orbost and Lakes Entrance.



Regards

Katie Hodge
President Buchan and Gelantipy Districts Renewal Association Inc.

Behind him he sensed a violent manoeuvre, heard a woosh as the wires let go, then a whiz, a tinkle and a thud as the trapeze dismount played out. Freed of the west pole's support, and with nothing left to hold it up, the aircraft succumbed to gravity — the left-hand wing dropping to the soft ground first, then, hauled round by the now-retracting wire on the eastern side, the plane pirouetted about that wingtip in a near-full right-hand turn, before coming down nose-first onto the runway's southern threshold, finishing 30 to 45 degrees off its original heading. Certainly, he was very lucky to step out A-OK.

The Aftermath

Mild chaos followed this remarkable event. A couple of potentially live wires lay across the packing area and continued on through to the carpark, draped over some of the parked cars, while others had recoiled across the Mornington-Tyabb Road. Remarkably, the pilot stepped out of the cockpit physically unscathed, perhaps with a bloody nose, having avoided both a severe impact and lethal electrocution. Though purely accidental, the student had executed an exceptional, novel use of a cable arrest system—utilising less than 30 metres of runway. Emergency services appeared on the scene fairly quickly, and quite a mass of them soon gathered at the scene: fire brigade unit, ambulance, State Emergency Service (SES), and later a State Electricity Commission of Victoria (SECV) vehicle. Surprisingly, it seems no police cars arrived. Recognising the immediate hazard on the local road, a few of the jumpers themselves had stepped onto Mornington-Tyabb Road, actively directing the vehicles attempting to pass away from the downed lines.

Nobody could move their cars from the carpark, or do much at all, for several hours as they waited for the SES and SECV crews to finish clearing any potential hazards. Once the area was finally deemed safe, Robbie got close enough to capture a photograph of the Cessna 150 VH-EAH, with relatively intact fuselage resting nose-down on the runway, completely devoid of any forward skid marks.

The Chain of Causation

In the aftermath, a glaring question remained: why hadn't the CFI checked the strip and briefed his student properly before releasing him? He'd been cleared for solo only a week or two earlier, yet was hit with critical, course-altering landing instructions over the radio on base leg, instead of on the ground beforehand. Critically, that assessment seems to have happened only after the student was already airborne, relayed by handheld radio mid-circuit. The CFI was attempting to save the student from the mud by telling him to land further down, but the sudden radio transmission likely induced confusion. The student had misunderstood what was intended.

Most likely the pilot focused on the wire fence he needed to overfly, not hit, and missed seeing the unmarked power lines the plane flew straight into. Yes, quite a drama had taken place.

It wasn't until 46 years later, during a conversation between two jumpers who were there that day, Simon Wyatt and Robbie, that the final piece of the puzzle fell into place. They discussed the solo pilot's incident and had a few laughs.

A Previous Event is Recalled

Then Simon brought up another event that occurred at Moorooduc. “Hey Robbie, do you remember when Harris put that female student into a tree?” At first, he replied, “No.” “It was quite dramatic; her canopy was caught high up,” and after a short silence, “Her name was Fiona Harrison, from the Mornington Peninsula area,” added Simon.

More silence. Then Robbie responded: "I remember, you see, I wasn't there to witness the canopy hook-up — I'd heard all about it getting back from lunch down the coast. It took some time spotting Fiona hanging from her “roundie” main, caught on a tree high up amongst that green wall of pencil cypress trees, south of the strip, with full line stretch — a canopy with little forward drive or steerability. Soon the fire appliance arrived and manoeuvred, through the paddock, into position. Then many watched it, with ladder extended, as one of the fire crew stepped up the ladder to rescue her, as the watching crowd responded with a distant gentle applause."

Simon had started jumping just after Easter that year and estimated the tree rescue occurred sometime after Easter 1980. From an approach flight-path “point of view”, the power lines crossing the road were never visually in play, because a single row of trees 40-odd metres high, gapped in the middle along the runway centre line, blocked the view and forced pilots to maintain a naturally high, safe clearance over the threshold, with the gap giving a little wiggle room in case of a challenging climb out.

The Response

Robbie remembered arriving at the DZ the next weekend thinking, “Geepers,” the “Damsel in Distress” incident had certainly been responded to. The local council, he assumed, had done a massive pruning job. That row of trees had a gap of about 50 metres, centred on the runway centre line, with two trees about 20 metres apart in the middle. The council had cut most of the row down to 20 metres, except for the two central trees, chopped to 8 metres and stripped of branches very unevenly. This completely altered the visual baseline of the runway approach. Those two stripped trunks now stood exactly like an open, inviting gateway — and, as it would turn out, the very totem poles the pilot flew perilously close to, before carrying on into the wires. Simply put, the pruning enabled the flatter flight path already described above, accentuating his “short final” approach into a zone he'd never before had reason to fear.

This brings up another issue. The trees being pruned brought the power lines into play. Had the CFI noticed this? Was that perhaps why he hadn't briefed his student about the newly emerged threat, or had the pilot, due to added stress and confusion, overlooked this?

Author's Note & Declaration

This account is based on firsthand witness testimony. Robert Bate (Robbie Bates) was present at Moorooduc Airfield on the day described and personally took the photograph of the aircraft included in this piece (the video still is credited separately). The narrative has also been checked against, and enriched by, recent conversations with fellow witnesses Simon Wyatt, Dennis Cairns, and Andrew (Andy) Harris, the MPC's CI.

To the best of the author's knowledge, and allowing for the natural fading and reshaping of memory over more than four decades, the events described occurred substantially as recounted. The one deliberate exception is the opening telephone conversation between the student pilot and his mother, which is a dramatised reconstruction written to convey the emotional aftermath of the day rather than a verbatim record of an overheard call.

The separate incident described later in the piece — in which a female student's parachute canopy became caught high in one of the cypress trees, requiring a fire brigade rescue — is likewise a real, independently corroborated event, initially recalled by Simon Wyatt and confirmed in conversation with the author.

Credits

Photograph: taken by Robert Bate, a local resident, on 35mm film, several hours after the incident, Winter 1980.

Text © Robert Bate 2026. All rights reserved.



BUCHAN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28TH

BUCHAN REC RESERVE | 6PM | ALL WELCOME

Could You Be Our Next Cave Guide?

We're looking for casual Cave Guides to join the Parks Victoria team at Buchan Caves!

If you enjoy meeting people, sharing stories and working somewhere a little out of the ordinary, this could be the opportunity for you.

Our Cave Guides lead engaging underground tours, share the stories and natural values of the caves, help visitors discover what makes Buchan Caves so special, and support day-to-day visitor services across the reserve.

We're looking for friendly, reliable and enthusiastic people with strong communication and customer service skills who enjoy being part of a team.

For more information, contact Leanne Hodge at Leanne.hodge@parks.vic.gov.au, or apply online

Vicwww.careers.vic.gov.au/job/cave-guide-90472

Turn your next job into an underground adventure!

Parks VICTORIA | Managing Country Together

BUCHAN COMMUNITY BUS

The bus has 10 seats plus the driver (11 in total) and has a wheelchair lift for accessibility.

To book the bus contact buchanfnc@hotmail.com

Please state your booking time and date and the bus return time or if an invoice is required.
First time Bus Drivers will be required to complete the Bus Induction and provide a copy back and front of your driver's licence, you are also required to read and sign the Bus Drivers Position Description which will be sent to you with your booking details.

The Bus is housed at the Buchan Recreation Reserve and a key will need to be collected to access the garage.

Hire Fees: $100

HALLOWEEN IN BUCHAN!

Get your costumes ready for a spooktacular Halloween evening on **Saturday 31st October!**

We'll meet at the **Buchan Neighbourhood House at 5:00 pm,** before heading across the Swing Bridge for a lap of the township, collecting treats along the way!

We'll then make our way back across the Main Bridge and finish at the **Buchan Cricket Club,** where there will be best-dressed prizes and dinner to round off the evening.

Want to be part of the trick-or-treating trail?

If you'd like to welcome trick-or-treaters, please let Jess at BBNA, Evelyn at the Neighbourhood House or Jade Harper know so we can add your home to the trick-or-treating map.

Come along for a fun-filled evening of costumes, treats and community spirit.

Everyone is welcome!





A sneak peak at the skateboard blanks drying that the Youth Group completed and will be at the Buchan Show.



Exciting news.....

Gordon and I have made a date for our long planned Working Bee and Social Day at the Old School House in Suggan.

Thursday 22nd October from 10am. BYO meat etc for a BBQ lunch, and a chair.

Rick and Poss Grealy have been able to loan a left-handed broad axe to rough up a timber for a bottom plate which needs replacing. Big thanks to Figsie for milling it, and Paul Sykes for the use of his Lucas Mill.

There's a heap more work to be done, but it's nice for our rebooted Committee to get started on this work on easily the most iconic building in our district.

The original restoration of the very dilapidated School House involved almost all the men of my childhood and youth. (My Father excepted - I presume he was just too ridiculously flat out busy trying to build his own family's home, establish a farm and teach school.)

Nigel Hodge was a main player both then and in later years. He had a great story about Buff, the man who deeply resented the evolving National Parks taking over the country he considered his birthright, going out into the Park to cut a huge White Box for one part of the early restoration work.

I'm delighted to contribute to this tradition.

Everyone is very welcome to join us, and we are still on the lookout for a right-handed broad axe if anyone happens to have one lurking in a dusty shed.

Deborah Woodburn



Youth Group Heads to Lakes Entrance

The Buchan Youth Group headed to Lakes Entrance on **Friday 2 October** for a day out during the school holidays, travelling in the new community bus.

We started the day with fish and chips for lunch and a walk across the Cunninghame Arm Footbridge to Ninety Mile Beach

Then it was off to Footbridge Mini Golf, where the group split into two teams and enjoyed a bit of friendly competition.

Seven young people took part, along with three staff members. We also enjoyed an ice cream and a lolly each as part of our booking.

It was a great day out and another opportunity for the young people to spend time together, enjoy some fun activities and get out into the wider community.

Planning is underway for our term four program with some highlights scheduled including painting skateboard decks for the flower show and an end of the year excursion.















EAST GIPPSLAND
SHIRE LIBRARIES

FREE | BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Living well at home
Information Session

Bairnsdale - 29th October | 10:00am - 12:00pm

How to remain living independently at home? Come and meet the BaptistCare team, learn about the services and supports available to help people age safely and comfortably at home.

East Gippsland
🎉 Seniors Festival 🎉

The 2026 event guide is out now, packed with over 40 free and low-cost events happening across the shire this month.

Whether it's chair yoga, pickleball, art and craft, live music, social gatherings, exercise classes or even a car and bike show — there's something for everyone to connect, create and celebrate throughout October.

1st – 31st October

Pick up your copy from:

Buchan Neighbourhood House





EAST GIPPSLAND
SHIRE LIBRARIES

FREE | BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Let's Talk Aged Care
Information Session

Bairnsdale - 19th October | 10:00am - 12:00pm

Paynesville - 19th October | 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Learn about support at home, aged care homes, how to get started and how to overcome common challenges faced by older people and their families — in simple, easy-to-understand language.

BUCHAN CRICKET CLUB

2026/27 SEASON

SENIOR FIXTURES

ROUND	DATE	OPPOSITION	TIME	VENUE / OVAL
1	–	BYE	–	–
2	Sat 17 Oct 2026	**Buchan** v Lakes Entrance	1:00 pm	Lakes Entrance Recreation Reserve
3	Sat 24 Oct 2026	**Buchan** v Lucknow CC	1:00 pm	Lucknow Recreation Reserve - Oval 1 (Synthetic)
4	Sat 31 Oct 2026	**Buchan** v Orbost	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
5	Sat 07 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v Lindenow South Senior Mixed Bulls	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
6	Sat 14 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v St Mary's Nagle	1:00 pm	Nagle College Oval #2
7	Sat 21 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v Meerlieu	1:00 pm	Meerlieu Reserve Meerlieu (Turf)
8	Sat 28 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v Bruthen	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
9	Sat 05 Dec 2026	**Buchan** v Wy Yung 3rd XI	1:00 pm	Wy Yung Recreation Reserve - Main Oval (Turf)
10	–	BYE	–	–
11	Sat 19 Dec 2026	**Buchan** v Lakes Entrance	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
12	Sat 16 Jan 2027	**Buchan** v Meerlieu	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
13	Sat 23 Jan 2027	**Buchan** v Orbost	1:00 pm	Orbost Recreation Reserve
14	Sat 30 Jan 2027	**Buchan** v Lindenow South Senior Mixed Bulls	1:00 pm	Glenaladale Recreation Reserve - Oval #1
15	Sat 06 Feb 2027	**Buchan** v St Mary's Nagle	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
16	Sat 13 Feb 2027	**Buchan** v Lucknow CC	1:00 pm	Lucknow Recreation Reserve - Oval 1 (Synthetic)
17	Sat 20 Feb 2027	**Buchan** v Bruthen	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
18	Sat 27 Feb 2027	**Buchan** v Wy Yung 3rd XI	1:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve

JUNIOR FIXTURES

ROUND	DATE	OPPOSITION	TIME	VENUE / OVAL
1	Fri 09 Oct 2026	Bruthen v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Bruthen Recreation Reserve
2	Fri 16 Oct 2026	**Buchan** v Orbost	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
3	Fri 23 Oct 2026	West Bairnsdale U13 Mixed v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Bairnsdale City Oval Oval #2
4	Fri 06 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v Lucknow CC	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
5	Fri 13 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v Lakes Entrance Maroon	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
6	Fri 20 Nov 2026	Wy Yung Div 2 v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Wy Yung Recreation Reserve Cameron White
7	Fri 27 Nov 2026	**Buchan** v MSRCC	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
8	Fri 04 Dev 2026	**Buchan** v Bruthen	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
9	Fri 11 Dec 2026	Orbost v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Orbost Recreation Reserve
10	Fri 18 Dec 2026	**Buchan** v West Bairnsdale U13 Mixed	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
11	Fri 29 Jan 2027	Lucknow CC v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Lucknow Recreation Reserve - Oval 1 (Synthetic)
12	Fri 05 Feb 2027	Lakes Entrance Maroon v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	St Brendans
13	Fri 12 Feb 2027	**Buchan** v Wy Yung Div 2	5:00 pm	Buchan Recreation Reserve
14	Fri 19 Feb 2027	MSRCC v **Buchan**	5:00 pm	Swan Reach Recreation Reserve

Sponsorship Opportunities

Support our club, make a difference!

$200 – Senior Game Ball Sponsor

- Sponsors the senior game ball for a home game
- Business named as the sponsor of that home game
- Social media thank-you

$300 – Junior Friday BBQ Sponsor

- Helps cover the cost of the Friday junior home-game BBQ
- BBQ provided for both teams
- Business named as the Junior BBQ Sponsor
- Social media thank-you

$400 – Saturday Night Dinner Sponsor

- Helps cover the cost of dinner at a Saturday home game
- Business named as the Saturday Night Dinner Sponsor
- Social media promotion and thank-you

Our Major Sponsors

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Danny Mitton · General Store Buchan Post Office · Buchan Motel · Graymont · Blackforest Fireworks Displays · Buchan Valley Plumbing and Gasfitting · BVG Buchan Valley Premium Automotive · Buchan Station Angus · Contracting & Fencing · BSM Bairnsdale Scrap Metals

Calling all young Gippsland artists!



#lovegippsland

Here's a terrific opportunity for parents and teachers with children in Years 5 and 6 to get their young artists involved in something pretty special.

Gippsland students are being invited to create an artwork showing what makes our corner of Australia special: the people, places, plants, animals and landscapes that make them feel connected to home and their community.
Selected artworks will become part of a spectacular animated projection onto the front of Australian Parliament House in Canberra during the 2027 Enlighten Festival, from February 26 to March 8.

The project will help celebrate 100 years of Federal Parliament in Canberra, with artwork from children across the nation lighting up Parliament House.

I'd love to see some talented young Gippslanders represented on the national stage, sharing through their artwork the people, places and landscapes that make our region such a special part of Australia.

Parents, teachers and students can find all the details about how to enter here:
https://www.aph.gov.au/studentartwork





It's that time of the year again

As we get into the warmer months our local snakes are becoming more active, especially in bushy areas.

Things to remember:

- Snakes do not chase, they have a defensive posture that is often mistaken for chasing. When they feel threatened snakes will raise their bodies and hiss, they may slither towards you. this is their attempt at scaring you off, remember to them you are a very large predator.
- The best thing to do is practice prevention. Always wear long pants and full coverage shoes in bushy areas.
- If you see a snake! Stand still and quiet, they will leave on their own once they realise you are not a threat.
- Keep dogs on leads and hold your children's hands near highly vegetated areas. Remember in certain areas like Raymond Island dogs are never permitted to be off lead at any point during the year.
- If you are bitten follow the first aid guidelines. *Remember the hospital and veterinary staff do not need the physical snake to treat bites.* To avoid repeated bites NEVER chase a snake that has bitten someone, let it go and move to safety.
- First aid guidelines below are the same for dogs.

Have a safe summer, make yourself a snake bite kit or ensure your first aid kid has everything you need for a snake bite emergency.

Posted by Gippsland Lakes Wildlife Care

BG
WATER CARTAGE
LOCAL DELIVERIES
Buchan | Gelantipy | W-Tree
We're offering a courtesy text service to let locals know when we're heading your way with a water delivery.
The more loads we can combine on the same day, the more cost-effective the delivery can be for everyone.
WANT TO BE NOTIFIED?
Text SCOTT on 0429 944 297 with your name, location and mobile number to join the list.
We'll give you a heads-up next time we're delivering in your area.
Bruthen Garden Supplies
Keeping it local. Keeping costs down.



Detox Your Home

returns to Bairnsdale!



Got old chemicals, cleaning products, paint, batteries or other hazardous household items you need to get rid of?

Mark your calendar for ***Saturday 14 November*** *and book your spot early for our upcoming Detox Your Home event.*

Newly accepted again this year: Red fire extinguishers and butane gas cylinders.

To help more residents access the event, we encourage neighbours, family members and friends to combine their items into one booking where possible.

For safety reasons, the following items require pre-approval before they can be accepted at the event.

- Heating oil (from old household heater oil tanks)
- Heavy metals (including mercury thermostats, thermometers)
- Helium gas canisters
- Propane gas cylinders (including Tradeflame)

Saturday 14 Nov, 9:00am – 1:00pm

East Gippsland Livestock Exchange

For pre-approval, call 1300 135 410 and provide the following information:

- The amount (in litres or kg) or number of items.
- The Detox Your Home event you plan to attend.
- A clear photo of the items

🔎Learn more about Detox for Home at **http://environment.vic.gov.au/hazardous.../detox-your-home**

Bookings are essential and places fill quickly, so secure your spot today and check the full list of accepted items here:
👉**events.humanitix.com/detoxbairnsdale2026**

FIRE DANGER PERIOD

The Fire Danger Period will begin **1:00am Monday 5 October 2026:**

Wellington Shire Council
East Gippsland Shire Council

cfa.vic.gov.au/firedangerperiod



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- In house/on site fabrication & welding

Kristaan Large

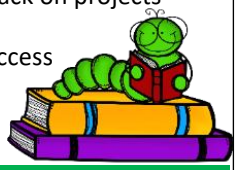
0483 104 111

buchanoathcarpentry@gmail.com

MOBILE LIBRARY DATES 2026

What can you do at this mobile service centre?

- Borrow books, CD's, DVD's audio books and more
- Pick up a council newsletter and subscribe
- Lodge a report or request
- Pay an account, make electronic payments
- Make enquiries, collect and lodge application forms
- Register your dog and cat
- Access and complete surveys, feedback on projects
- Use a computer with free internet access
- Have a chat and much more



TUESDAY OCT 20 | NOV 17	TUESDAY OCT 27 | NOV 10
9:00-10:00am	9:00-10:00am
Buchan Main Street	Gelantipy Bush Nurse
10:30-11:30am	10:30-11:30am
Buchan Neighbourhood House	Buchan Neighbourhood House
1:30-2:30pm	12:45-1:30pm
W Tree - SIBA	Buchan Primary School

MASSAGE & NATUROPATHY

MASSAGE and **NATURAL HEALTH CARE**

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Naturopathy, Herbal and Homeopathic remedies, 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 * Gift vouchers available *

For further information and bookings please contact the Buchan Neighbourhood House or Sharon Dent

silvaaust@gmail.com or 0468 387 524



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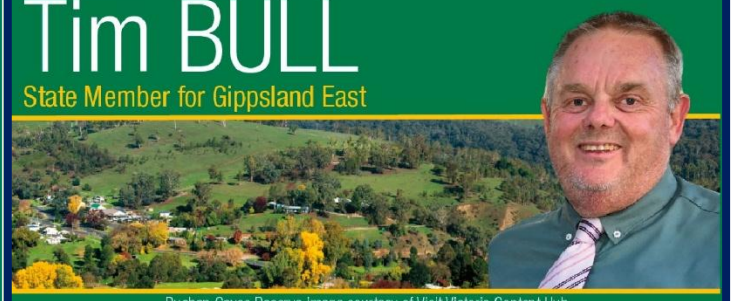
Tim BULL

State Member for Gippsland East



Buchan Caves Reserve image courtesy of Visit Victoria Content Hub

143 Main Street, Bairnsdale VIC 3875

03 5152 3491

tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

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Neighbourhood House

The heart of our community

Contact Buchan Neighbourhood House to advertise your business in this newsletter!

$55 FOR 12 EDITIONS

OR **$5.50** PER EDITION

INCL GST

This newsletter is delivered to every household in the district (on or around the 15th day of the month) 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 $18.00 incl. GST 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 is **Monday 9th November 2026.** 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 or drop them into the Neighbourhood House. 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. Advertisements are $55 for 12 editions or $5.50 per edition including GST.
Buchan Neighbourhood House contact details:

Buchan Neighbourhood House is dedicated to supporting carers in Victoria and offers a warm, secure, and welcoming environment.

Monday – Thursday 10:00am-4:30pm

6 Centre Road, Buchan
0493 070 332
03 5155 9216

Our organisation is Carer Friendly and helps connect carers to necessary services. We have strong ties with Carers Victoria and participate in their events, workshops, and informational opportunities for both carers and staff.

CARER FRIENDLY

Neighbourhood House
The heart of our community

East Gippsland Shire Outreach Services

The mobile bus service provides an opportunity to use the library service and engage with their staff on Council matters. All community members are welcome. Please see the schedule below for when the bus is visiting your community.

What you can do at the mobile service:
- Borrow books
- Pick up a Council newsletter
- Lodge a report or request
- Pay an account / make electronic payments
- Make enquiries, collect and lodge application forms
- Register your dogs and cats
- Access and complete surveys
- Learn about and provide feedback on projects
- Use a computer
- Have a chat and much more



The next services will be:

Buchan Neighbourhood House
Every Tuesday from 10:30am—11:30am

Buchan Primary School
Tuesday 27th October 12:45pm—1:30pm
Tuesday 10th November 12:45pm—1:30pm

Buchan Main Street
Tuesday 20th October 9:00am—10:00am
Tuesday 17th November 9:00am—10:00am

Gelantipy (Bush Nurse Centre)
Tuesday 27th October 9:00am—9:45am
Tuesday 10th November 9:00am—9:45am

W Tree (SIBA)
Tuesday 20th October 1:30pm—2:30pm
Tuesday 17th November 1:30pm—2:30pm

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

Anglican Church

St Mary's,

Main Street, Buchan.
Café Church

MEETS
5th Sunday of the month
For details contact

Rhonda Coates 5155 9373