TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

March 2024 NUMBER 294

Seniors cruise along to Wyanga Park Winery

GIPPSLAND Community Foundation

EGCF proudly supports the Tambo Rambler Community Paper

The Bruthen Seniors enjoyed a day out to the Wyanga Park Winery, travelling by boat from Lakes Entrance.

The Tambo Rambler is proudly sponsored this month by Elders Real Estate Lakes Entrance & Metung

The Tambo Rambler would like to acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather, and pay our respects to their Elders both past, present and emerging.

Are you looking to Sell, Lease, Buy or Rent a property?

CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY

Visit our website:
lakesentrance.eldersrealestate.com.au

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Elders Real Estate

03 5155 3133
1/521 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance VIC 3909
lakesentrance.eldersrealestate.com.au
admin@elderslakesentrance.com.au

Sail, wine & dine with the Bruthen Seniors

The last outing of the local Seniors Group was a real treat.
Thanks to the wonderful Sue Smith who applies for grants to enable us to enjoy outings at no cost. Thank you, Sue.
Funding for our outing to Wyunga Winery was made possible by Emergency Recovery, Victoria, who are funded by the State and Federal Governments.
As well as a happy group of seniors, we were joined by Nikki and Kelsey of Bruthen Neighbourhood House: the Seniors Club now comes under its umbrella. Hilary Vale and bush poet Liz Dorsett also attended, representing the EGSC. We had a guest speaker, The Rev Marian Bisset, based in Swifts Creek, who is the High Country Patrol Bush Chaplain.
Our local bus with 10 seniors on board left Bruthen at 10:30 on February 21, driven by Clay, again thank you, with other members driving by car.
We were met in Lakes Entrance by our Skipper, to board the boat Stormbird, which took us up Cunninghame Arm and out towards the Entrance, before heading up North Arm to Wyanga Park Winery. It was a beautiful scenic trip with many seabirds and seals. The journey is part of the destination. Upon arrival at the jetty, we were taken by bus up to the winery.
Tables were set with platters and immediately our maître d' Jeff Mahlook came round with tastings from each variety of wine made here. There must have been at least six different varieties, all excellent.

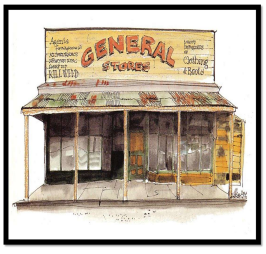
The menu was varied to meet all tastes, including a vegan option. For those still hungry there were desserts. The wine flowed, along with conversations and laughter.
Our journey home via bus and boat was a happy ending to a great day out in beautiful weather.
There are always the Seniors' lunches twice-monthly. The first this month was Wednesday March 6 at the Bowling Club at 12 pm, which includes the AGM.
There's a fantastic new program 'Live Longer, Live Stronger', being offered at the Lakes Entrance Aquadome. Participants will be offered a range of activities in the pool/spa/sauna, including aqua aerobics and group fitness classes. This program is on offer every Thursday from March 14, and a bus will leave from Bruthen GLCH at 8.30 am, and return by 12.30 pm. Bookings are essential as places are limited. Please RSVP to Sue Smith on 0407 507 849 by March 7.

- Kathy Gallagher

Bruthen Football Club welcomes new player / Treasurer

A massive welcome to new senior player and the club's 2024 Treasurer, Brayden Smith.
Brayden moved to Bruthen a few months ago and has been constant through the pre-season to date. Brayden is a self-confessed "Footy nerd" and very enthusiastic to be working with Bruthen over the coming period.
Big shout out to Indi Wegmann for putting her hand up to be sponsorship manager for the season. The Bruthen Football Netball Club have different options and levels for sponsorship so reach out to Indi or the club to discuss further. The Club encourages all players and members to support Indi by seeking new sponsors to help keep the club great.
The allocation of Easter raffle tickets has gone out to most coaches.
There are three Easter basket prizes to be won as explained in the attachment below. Anyone who needs more tickets please speak with the coaches.
The BFNC is also looking for donations of Easter eggs to help fill up the yummy prizes.
Any questions please don't hesitate to contact the club's Facebook page or ask a coach.

54 Main Street, Bruthen.
Open 7 days
Ph: 03-51575 415



✓**Your local ELGAS Distributor**

✓**Supplier of local produce supporting local growers**

✓**Provider of Butcher Supplied Quality Meats**

✓**Supplier of gas heating, stoves, hot water systems**
(provide a written quote & we will attempt to beat it)

Shop local – support local employment
email: BruthenGeneralStore@gmail.com

Come and try Bird Watching

Do you have plans for the Labor Day public holiday? Wondering what you might do? You could join BirdLife East Gippsland at one of our regular weekly outings. You will get the chance to see and hear birds and learn more about them.

On Monday, March 11, BirdLife East Gippsland will be hosting a free birdwatching walk at Wattle Point/ Blond Bay. This free event is part of the annual birdwatching program for BLEG and is open to the public. BirdLife members will act as guides for visitors. You only need a low level of fitness, as we only amble along with frequent stops to look and listen for birds.

Starting at 9 am and ending around 12.30 pm, the morning will be broken up into first and second sessions with morning tea around 10.15 and the option to stay for lunch around midday.

Recent visits have turned up a wide variety of water birds - ducks, coot, terns, herons, grebes, cormorants, waders etc. You never know what you will see. A visit in July turned up 53 bird species including an extraordinary 9,000 Eurasian Coot but that number is not likely to be repeated.

At every weekly walk, members record the bird species seen at each site and upload results to Birddata, the BirdLife Australia database which has built up over the years to be the basis of Australian bird distribution maps, helping us gain insight into our local birds and protect them into the future.

If you would like to participate in this event, please meet members at Wattle Point Road Picnic Area Car Park, Wattle Point Boat Ramp & Jetty, Williamson Rd, Forge Creek.

Bring a hat, sensible walking shoes, water, sunscreen, insect repellent and camera/binoculars if you have them. Also bring your own supplies - snack, tea, coffee, hot water, chair etc. - for a mid-morning tea break and lunch.

Vaccination is strongly recommended when attending any Birdlife activity.

St Matthew's Anglican Church Bruthen

EASTER SERVICES 2024

Palm Sunday – March 24, 2024
Holy Communion 9.30 am
Good Friday – March 29, 2024
Good Friday Liturgy 9.30 am
Easter Day – March 31, 2024
Holy Communion 9.30 am

Services are normally held every Sunday at 9.30am.
Volunteers always welcome at the Bruthen Op Shop.
ALL WELCOME!! Please come and you are most welcome to contact:
The Rev'd Brian Norris on 0418 633446

Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House

Neighbourhood House News

WE ARE BACK–2024

2024 Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House has seen some slight staffing changes with the departure of Joe as program coordinator. We will miss Joe an awful lot and wish him the best with his future endeavours and hope to see him again soon.

Stepping up into this role is Kelsey Schueler, born and bred local, who has been on the Committee of management for a few years now as well as an active volunteer and supportive administration role for the past year or so. Kelsey is passionate about her community and can't wait to get into the nitty gritty of it all, to see what we can do for our community this year. So if you get the chance feel free to pop down on a Tuesday or Wednesday and welcome her.

Our Mums and Bubs group has hit the ground running this year with a great group of regulars coming together to enjoy a few extra special days in February.

We celebrated International Pizza Day on Friday 9th Feb which as you can see from the pictures below was a big hit with the kids and parents alike.

They also got to celebrate National Tim Tam day on Friday 16th Feb which as expected was a chocolatey, gooey, messy session. A nice treat to have.

We are looking forward to seeing what else we get up to over the year!

Workshops & Key Dates

Co ming up on the BDNH calendar:

March

Friday 8th Mums & bubs Quick Pics Session
9.30am– 11am @ BDNH Hub

Monday 18th Resin Workshop
6:00pm–8:00pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Tuesday 26th Colour & Creativity
12pm – 3pm @ GLCH Creative Space

Thursday 28th TERM 1 ENDS

BDNH CLOSED for Week 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

APRIL

T er m 1 School Holiday Program

Wednesday 10th Cheese Making Workshop
@ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Friday 12th Parents & Kids Yoga
10:30–11:30am @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Saturday 13th Family Day Market
10am-2pm @ Main St Gardens

Monday 15th TERM 2 BEGINS

Monday 15th Come and Try YOGA
5:30pm - 6:00pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Tuesday 23rd Colour & Creativity
12pm – 3pm @ GLCH Creative Space

Thursday 25th ANZAC DAY

SAVE THE DATE

B&DNH's BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Wednesday 22nd May

Your Neighbourhood House, Your Programs!

We are here for you to reconnect, restore or engage and learn a new skill. If you have an idea for an event, program or community group , please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you and what you are interested in, what you think our community needs and to get people involved.

Some programs can only go ahead if we have sufficient registrations, so please let us know right away if you are interested. An enrolment form and pre-payment when necessary is our mutual commitment. **Please contact us via phone, email, or drop on in to enrol.**

We try to keep all programs as affordable as possible while ensuring that tutors are paid appropriately. Payment can be made via cash, direct deposit or card. If you would like to 'PAY it Forward' for someone else, or need a discount to participate, please do not hesitate to contact us. **Confidentiality is ensured!**

We look forward to seeing you soon.
To register your interest or intention to participate, give us a call or email.

CONTACT:
Phone: 03 4141 5302
Mobile: 0497 544 490
Email: info@bdnh.org.au
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/bruthenhouse

LOCATIONS:
Community HUB–36 Main Street Bruthen (slip road before town)

GLCH Creative Space–51 Main Street Bruthen (at the back)

N	M	R	L	B	S	N	Y	F	N	K	O	Y	E	E
R	S	F	U	R	L	K	T	S	R	G	T	R	G	T
J	C	E	N	I	C	A	N	T	Z	Q	O	A	G	D
T	F	Y	N	I	V	E	S	I	V	H	N	T	N	A
H	P	K	T	I	C	M	T	U	O	I	G	I	S	Z
F	B	S	D	H	P	R	W	C	C	Z	U	L	O	T
B	Z	E	I	H	M	S	M	V	U	K	E	O	S	N
X	W	D	C	S	A	T	R	A	I	N	L	S	T	X
S	N	U	U	S	E	I	C	E	P	S	E	E	F	A
A	O	N	Z	Z	R	V	H	B	A	L	R	S	E	S
P	M	L	W	Z	C	T	H	E	G	M	Y	S	I	Z
G	J	O	I	O	B	Z	H	G	I	T	U	O	N	S
O	W	L	U	O	G	O	U	T	I	X	E	F	H	W
L	F	F	S	N	S	P	E	F	P	M	N	I	E	R
U	N	K	W	Q	D	E	M	E	R	T	O	N	O	M

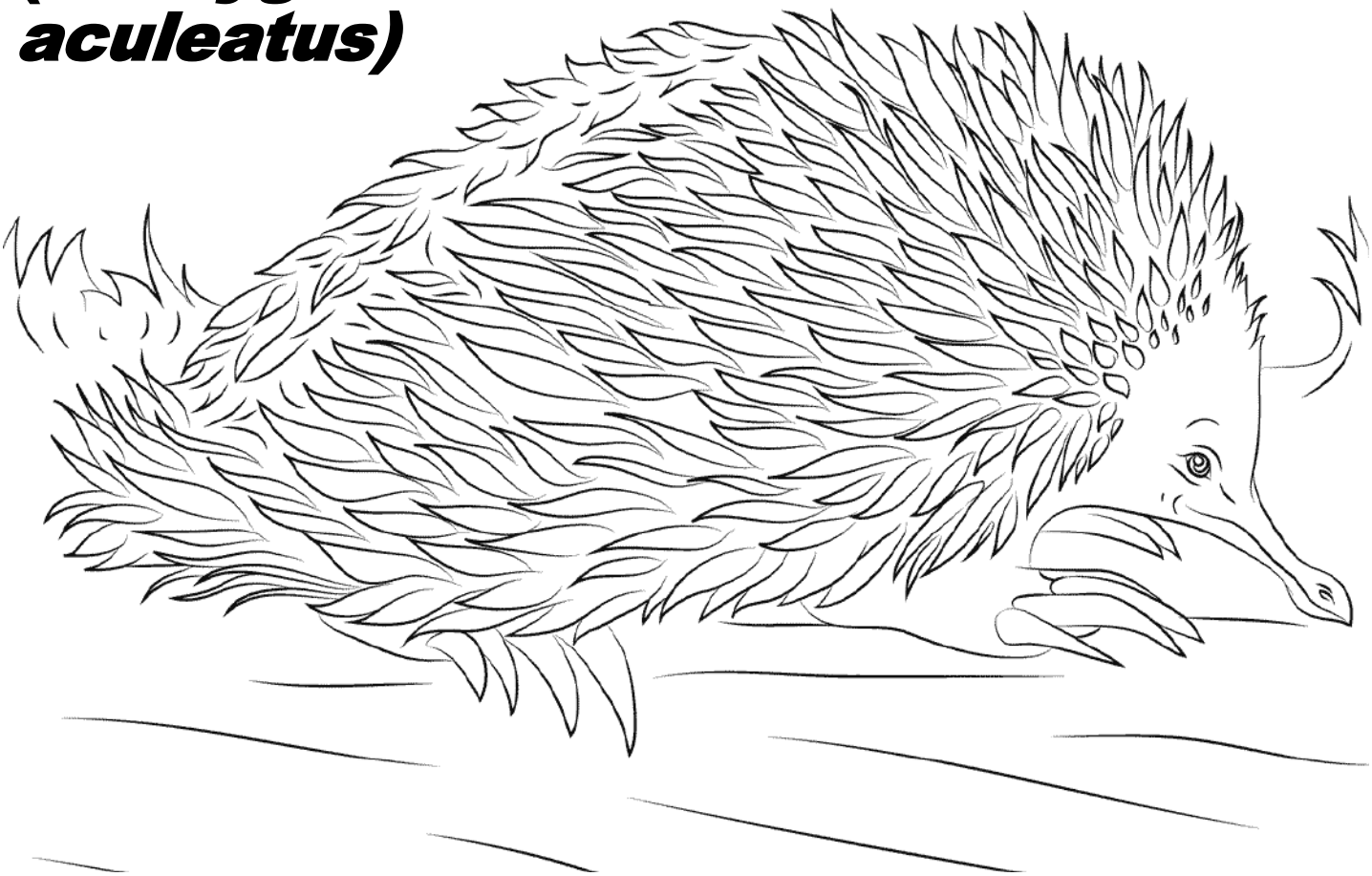
ANT	CREAM	ECHIDNA	EGG	FUR
LOG	MONOTREME	MOUND	POUCH	PUGGLE
SNOUT	SOIL	SOLITARY	SPECIES	SPINES
STICKY	SUCKLE	TERMITE	TONGUE	TRAIN

Target Words

R	W	R
O	I	G
U	N	B

How many words of four or more letters can you find? Every word must use the centre letter, and each letter is used only once.

Short-Beaked Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus)*



The Echidna is a monotreme, a mammal that lays eggs. Along with the platypus, they are the only known mammals in the world to do so.

There are two species of Echidna: The Long-beaked Echidna is found in Papua-New Guinea, and The Short-Beaked Echidna is found throughout Australia, including Tasmania.

An Echidna is covered with reddish to dark brown fur, and the spines on its back vary from cream to black. It has five flattened claws on its front feet which are used to dig burrows and rip into logs and termite mounds, while its hind feet point backwards and are used to push away the soil when they are burrowing. The snout, which is about 7-8cm long, is tough and rigid and is used to poke around into the termite mounds and rotten logs. The mouth is right at the end of the snout. The Echidna's tongue is sticky, saliva -covered and very long … it can be up to 17 cm long, and whizzes in and out very fast, slurping up ants and termites and sometimes worms and larvae. In fact, the Echidna's scientific name means 'quick tongue' (*Tachyglossus*) and 'spiny' (*aculeatus*).

Echidnas are mostly solitary wanderers, but when it comes to mating season (from June to September) a number of males (up to ten) will follow a female for up to four weeks. (The picture below of an echidna 'train' was taken one night a few years ago in Tambo Upper.) After successful mating the female will lay a single egg in her pouch. About ten days later the egg will hatch into a blind and hairless baby about the size of a jellybean. The young are known as 'puggles' …. And yes, we have a Puggle Lane near Sarsfield! The puggle will suckle on special pores inside the mother's pouch for two to three months. Once it develops spines the mother will remove it from her pouch and put in in a burrow, but it will continue to suckle for the next six months.

Echidnas usually live for about ten years in the wild.

What's on in March 2024

Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House

info@bdnh.org.au Call or SMS 0497 544 490

Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					9:30-11:00am Bruthen Mums n Bubs BDNH	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	9:00-1:00pm Bruthen Men's Shed BDNH		**1:00-3:00pm Sew What** BDNH Creative Space **4:00-6pm Young People's Project** BDNH		**9:30-11:00am Bruthen Mums n Bubs** BDNH—International Women's Day **10:30am Life's a Garden** BDNH (2nd & 4th Fridays)	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	9:00-1:00pm Bruthen Men's Shed BDNH	**10:30-12:00pm Bruthen Remembers** BDNH (2nd Tuesday of the Month)	**1:00-3:00pm Sew What** BDNH Creative Space **4:00-6pm Young People's Project** BDNH	**1:00-3:00pm Bruthen Bookies** BDNH	**9:30-11:00am Bruthen Mums n Bubs** BDNH	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	9:00-1:00pm Bruthen Men's Shed BDNH **6:00-8:00pm Resin Board Workshop** GLCH		**1:00-3:00pm Sew What** BDNH Creative Space **4:00-6pm Young People's Project** BDNH		**9:30-11:00am Bruthen Mums n Bubs** BDNH **10:30am Life's a Garden** BDNH (2nd & 4th Fridays)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	9:00-1:00pm Bruthen Men's Shed BDNH	**12:00-3:00pm Colour & Creativity Workshop** BDNH Creative Space	**1:00-3:00pm Sew What** BDNH Creative Space **4:00-6pm Young People's Project** BDNH	**School Term 1 Ends**	**Good Friday** ***CLOSED FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS —WEEK 1***	**Easter Saturday**
31						
Easter Sunday		***CLOSED FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS —WEEK 1***				

FIG & GINGER JAM

(Makes 3-4 jars)
1 kg ripe figs, roughly chopped
500 g caster sugar
1 vanilla bean or 1 tsp vanilla essence
1 cinnamon quill
Rind and juice of 1 lemon
1 tbsp grated ginger or ¼ cup of chopped crystallised ginger

1. Place all ingredients in a bowl, cover and let stand overnight.
2. Transfer ingredients to a large pot on the stove and stir to dissolve sugar and evenly mix ingredients.
3. Bring to the boil then reduce heat. Cook over low heat, stirring intermittently, for approximately 45 minutes. Mixture should be thick and sticky. Mash gently to break up the figs. Remove vanilla bean and cinnamon quill.
4. Seal in sterilised jars.

Bruthen - Bairnsdale Bus Timetable
Dysons Bus Lines Ph: 5152 1711

Bruthen to Bairnsdale Morning	**Monday & Friday AM**	**Tues, Wed, Thurs AM**
Bruthen (opp) General Store	08:10 am	09:50 am
Bairnsdale, Corner Main & Bailey St	08:30 am	10:20 am
Bairnsdale Train Station	08:35 am	10:30 am
Bairnsdale to Bruthen Afternoon	**Mon to Thurs PM**	**Friday PM**
Bairnsdale Train Station	1:25 pm	3:40 pm
Corner Chemist (Service & Main Street)	1:30 pm	3:45 pm
Bruthen, Station & Great Alpine Rd	2:00 pm	4:15 pm

Mobile Library

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

The mobile bus service provides an opportunity to not only use the library service, but to engage with them on Council matters. All community members welcome. See the schedule below for when one of our busses 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

1st & 3rd Wed	**Tambo Upper** *	9.00 am – 9.45 am
	Bruthen (Main Street)	10.15 am – 12.15 am
	Swan Reach Kinder	1.30 pm – 2.00 pm
	Nicholson	2:15 pm—3:15 pm
Thu	**Bruthen** (near kinder) *	11 am – 11.15 am
	Mossiface	11:30am to 12 noon

Sites marked are not visited during school holidays*

Phone 51524225 or 1300 555 886
www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au

@GLCH

Mondays & Wednesdays from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm

GP Clinic: Wednesday by appointment only. Call 5155 8300 and select option `1'. Please make sure you let our Customer Service team know you would like your appointment in Bruthen.

Community Health Nurse: Monday and Wednesday, $12 per consult or $6 concession. Note: services will not be denied if you are unable to pay. Call 5155 8300 and select option `1'.

Maternal & Child Health: Once a month on a Tuesday by appointment only. Call 5155 8300 and select option `4'.

Room & Bus Hire: all bookings are to be directed to our Customer Service team on 5155 8300.

Pathology collection: Monday and Wednesday from 8.30 to 11.00 am. Nurse fees apply.

These services are for Bruthen and district residents. For more information about GLCH, our services and programs, please visit glch.org.au or find us on social media.

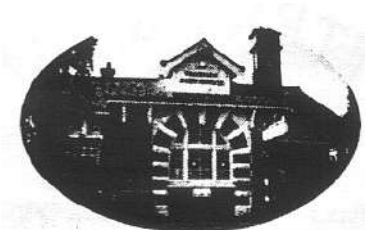
Gippsland Lakes Complete Health

EVENTS & NOTICES

Injured Wildlife Rescue

When you find injured wildlife please keep these details in case of emergency:
WILDLIFE SHELTERS
Jade Whittingham
Wombat Wisdom, (Bairnsdale), 0473 446 161
Holly Corbett
Holly's Wildlife Rescue (No bats) (530 Bairnsdale Dargo Rd Hillside 3875), 0432 539 408
Suzie
Waterholes Wildlife Shelter Clifton Creek Koala specialist, 0447 470 905.
Geoff Nicol
Treehouse Wildlife Refuge Metung, 0419 345 820
Birds, wombats, kangaroos, etc

BRUTHEN LICENSED POST OFFICE
(Est.1893)



East Link Toll Passes

Photocopying And Facsimile Service

CBA, NAB, WestPac Banking, Western Union Money Transfer, Bill Payments, Post Bill Pay, Stationery, Greeting Cards, Wrapping Paper, PostPak & Australia Post Postal Services

Howard & Jenny Young, Phone/Fax (03) 5157 5209

In event of an emergency

Bruthen has 6 Heart Start Defibrillators

Located at

Bruthen General Store
6.30am – 6.15/7.15pm (7 days)

Bruthen Rec Reserve
for sports events / Caravan Park

Bruthen Police Station
Note: under 24/7 video surveillance

Also Bruthen Bowls Club, CFA and Neighbourhood House

Bird of the Month – March 2024

LITTLE CORELLA

You may have noticed large, noisy flocks of screeching white birds flying over our region recently. These are Little Corellas which can form very large flocks, numbering into the thousands. It is an active, social bird with a cheeky personality, well known for its mischievous behaviour. They often engage in acrobatic displays or playful interactions with other birds. They are often heard before being seen, emitting loud, screeching calls that carry for long distances.
Physically quite small, Little Corellas are white, with a blue fleshy eye-ring and pale rose-pink patch between the eye and bill. They have a short, bone coloured bill, dark brown iris and grey legs and feet. Plumage for both sexes and juveniles is the same. The Little Corella has no visible feathers around its eyes, giving it a distinctive, somewhat comical appearance.
Widespread throughout Australia, their habitat ranges from the arid deserts of central Australia to the eastern coastal plains. They are often found in urban areas, including most major capital cities, on lawns and playing fields. Being strong fliers, they can travel long distances to their preferred habitat of seeding grasses along watercourses. As they need to drink at least daily, those that live in desert areas must also fly to watering holes twice a day.
Feeding mainly on the ground, Little Corellas are primarily herbivores with a diet that includes seeds, nuts, fruit, and insects. Their strong, hooked beak cracks open seeds and nuts. They often use their feet to hold food while they eat.
During the breeding season, they can engage in elaborate courtship displays, including synchronised flying. Little Corellas are thought to pair for life and begin breeding at the start of a long period of rain. The nest site is a suitable tree hollow, cliff cavity or

termite mound, lined with shavings of wood and normally used for several years in a row. They nest in large colonies and several nests may be found in the same tree. Both sexes incubate the clutch of 2 to 4 eggs and both care for the young. Chicks hatch naked and totally dependent on their parents.
The Little Corella's range is expanding with land clearing and increased sources of water. The increase in agricultural crops has increased numbers. In some areas they can be regarded as a nuisance. Their adaptable nature and tendency to gather in large flocks, particularly when they gather to roost at night can bring them into conflict with humans. However, they can provide great entertainment with their exuberant playful behaviour such as dangling from overhead wires by the bill or one foot, sliding off the roofs of silos and so on.
BirdLife East Gippsland meet weekly for Monday morning outings. New members are always welcome. Check our Facebook page and Birdlife Australia events page for more information.
Birdlife Australia recommends participants are fully vaccinated against Coronavirus.

Little Corella - (photo by Jack Winterbottom)

TRADES AND SERVICES

Chris Fella
Qualified Carpenter
Renovations, Decks Pergolas, New Houses, Fencing
20 Year Experience
TFN 195 357 871
MB. 0412 9912 60 PH. 5157 5198
E. chrisfella@bigpond.com

ACG
KITCHENS & CABINETS
Adam & Carly Greenwood
Email – info@acgkitchens.com.au
Phone – 0402 137 148
Tambo Upper

RIVIERA GAS SERVICES
Peter Weeks
Specialising in Gas Installations
Conversion and Maintenance
General Plumbing
Lic No 21065 **Mobile: 0418 516 745**

Bruthen Garden Supplies
NOW OFFERING WATER CARTAGE
• 13,000L WATER CARTAGE.
• DOMESTIC & GENERAL 7 DAYS
Tip-trucks 6m³ & 10m³, Bobcat, Excavator, Post Hole Boring, Trenching, Slashing.
SUPPLIERS OF SAND, SOIL & MULCH
WE NOW SELL CHOOK PELLETS
ALL AREAS
76 Main St, Bruthen
M: 0429 944 297
C13151

TAMBO RAMBLER

Tambo Rambler Advertising Costs

BLACK AND WHITE Advert Options

⇒ 9 x 5 cm - **Cost $15.00**
⇒ 9 x 8 cm - **Cost $20.00**
⇒ 1/4 page - **Cost $25.00**
⇒ 1/2 page - **Cost $50.00**
⇒ Full page - **Cost $100.00**

COLOUR Advert Option 1: Full Page

⇒ One full page, full colour feature / advert placed on the inside cover of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ Plus acknowledgement as the major sponsor for that month's edition of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ **Cost - $165 per edition**

COLOUR Advert Option 2: Half Page

⇒ One half page, full colour feature / advert placed on the inside cover of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ Plus acknowledgement as the sponsor for that month's edition of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ **Cost - $100 per edition**

COLOUR Advert Option 3: Quarter Page Full Colour Promotional Package

⇒ One quarter page, full colour feature / advert placed on the inside cover of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ Plus acknowledgement as the co-sponsor for that month's edition of the Tambo Rambler
⇒ **Cost - $65 per edition**

Closing date for April issue is March 25.

Please send your articles by e-mail only to:
tamborambler@gmail.com
(Word, Publisher, JPG or PNG format with photos please **PDF format will also be accepted**.)

Tambo Rambler is distributed across East Gippsland via email and on the web page at **https://bruthendistrict.org.au/tambo-rambler/**

We also distribute to Government representatives, Bairnsdale Library, Victorian State Library, and local Historical Societies
Hard copies are available in Bruthen at the P.O, General Store, Oppe Shoppe, Bakery, Blue Bee, Hotel and Neighbourhood House for a gold coin donation.

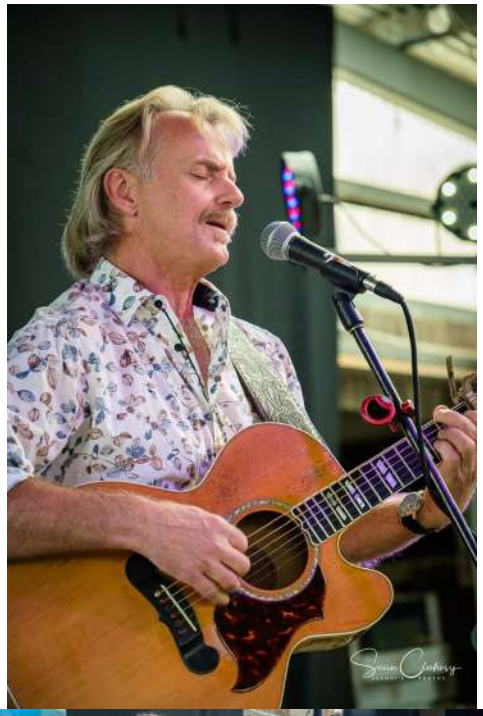
The Tambo Rambler Committee and BDCA do not take responsibility for opinions expressed by contributors to the Tambo Rambler.
The Editors reserve the right to reject articles and advertisements and to edit submissions if necessary
All submissions must carry the author's full name, address and phone number. They may be published anonymously if preferred.

Blues return to the Bruthen Inn

The Blues Inn Bruthen was back for 2024, and as promised, Mikey from Half Brothers booking agency ensured the line-up was even more amazing than 2023. It left a park full of happy campers and a pub of satisfied punters well exceeding last year's attendance.
Blues Roulette featuring ISEULA & Geoff Achison Music kickstarted the festivities and set the mood for a weekend of pure brilliance. Anna Scionti Band came straight from the Semi Finals of the International Blues Championship in Memphis to the Blues Inn to rip it up on the stage.
Local Bands Mamma Dee & The Machine and Midlife Crisis warmed up the crowd on Saturday with the right amount of funk and soul. Riding Northbound, Pepper Creek Revival with Kelly Aulty and the tour-shy Bondi Cigars, who hadn't been to Victoria for ten years, had the crowd dancin' their blues away as the sun set and into the night.
East Gippsland's Olivia Lay serenaded the lunchtime diners before the weekend really ramped up with the amazing talents of Oscar LaDell, Jungle Jim Smith, Geoff Achison and the Lloyd Spiegel Trio.
While former local Anna Scionti reminded us of the little things like the Bairnsdale Roller Rink and riding the bike to George's Burgers for chips, Geoff Achison reminded us of the importance of supporting the Blues Community by attending the Blues Inn events: he exclaimed how much he loved being on the stage with that view and ensuring Bruna's Birthday did not slip by without notice.
Remember the date, put it in your calendar and prepare for The Blues Inn Bruthen 2025 which promises to be bigger and better yet again.
Thanks go to Stretch and all the crew and Sean Clohesy for his awesome photos.

- Maz K.

TAMA.



JIM SMITH

Landcare's flood clean-up continues

The Bruthen & District Landcare Group have been engaged in revegetation works at two sites over the past year and a half.

These works are situated on the old course of the Tambo River at the Deep Creek confluence beside the Great Alpine Road in Wiseleigh and on the Tambo River, west of the rail-trail bridge that crosses the river. In December 2023, floods inundated both sites for over a week, scouring the revegetation, killing 40% of seedlings, removing 60% of guards and burying large sections of plants with 30-50cm of blackberry cane mulch. While there have been enormous gains at these sites with the elimination of 95% of willows and blackberries, the floods have created a number of problems, by spreading weed seeds and dispersing plant guards downstream, littering a number of pastures.

Many farmers have expressed concern about the 'pollution' these floods have left behind, pointing out that the guards contain a layer of plastic and fearing it would adversely affect young livestock, particularly calves, which will feed on any new material found lying in paddock. According to the manufacturers the guards, which are made from exactly the same material as milk-cartons, are made from 98% wood fibre and less than 2% polypropylene as a coating on the board material. Polypropylene does degrade in soil via microbial activity and from UV exposure.

Since the floods, the Landcare group has conducted a number of clean-up activities, collecting tree guards from riverside vegetation and a number of farmers' paddocks. The Landcare group has banked these guards and is re-using the good ones to re-guard plants that have survived the flooding.

The cleanup effort is still occurring, so if you would like to help, please contact us at landcare.bruthen@gmail.com

The group is also addressing the weed problem with spray programs in place and with the assistance of a small grant from the East Gippsland CMA's Community and Angler Grant program.

Congratulations to Bruthen Landcare's tireless leader Norm Borg, who has been nominated by the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority for an Australian Government Individual Landcare Award.