

TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

September 2024

NUMBER 300



Some of the staff from Tambo Valley Honey celebrate their second anniversary: Sam, Mel, Stacey, Mike and Vera.

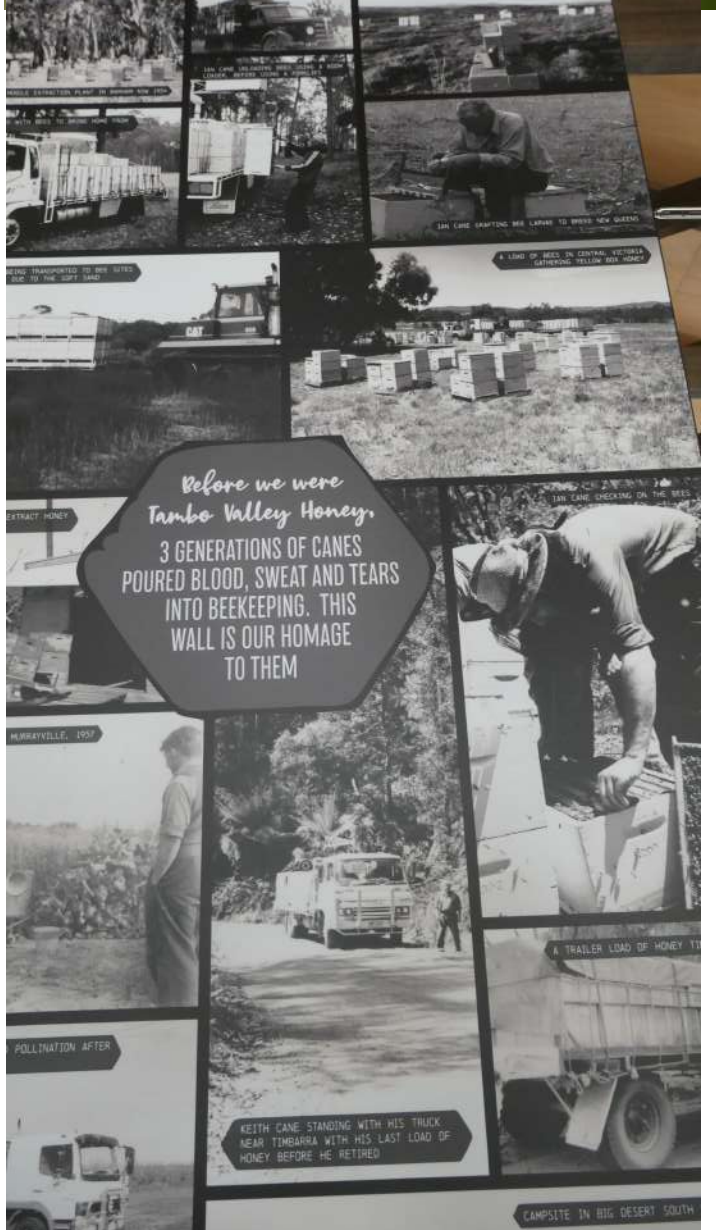


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The Tambo Rambler would like to acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather, and pay our respects to their Elders both past, present and emerging.



Meet The Team At



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Second birthday for Tambo Valley Honey

Bruthen's Tambo Valley Honey is testament to a wonderful shared vision, great collaboration with locals and people further afield, a hugely varied skill set and plenty of hard work. As the premises in Main Street approaches its second anniversary some of the Rambler team turned up to find out more from owners Ben and Stacey Murphy and their crew.

It wasn't too much of a surprise to find that Ben was out in the field ... this time in the Mildura region where he had gone to collect some of their bees which had been busy with almond pollination. But Stacey happily obliged us with her reflections on how their business has developed.

In 2018 Ben and Stacey purchased the bees from third generation beekeeper and local, Ian Cane. Ian had been a wonderful mentor to Ben in the years leading into purchasing the business, and still to this day helps to support and guide when they need a listening ear, or a helping hand. They are very thankful to Ian and Robyn Cane for their support, and have a wall dedicated to the Cane family to pay homage to them and the family history as well as a dedication photo to another local legend beekeeper Colin Sells. You can read some of the fascinating history of the Cane family's bee-keeping exploits on the Tambo Valley Honey website.

The Murphys own 1000 beehives, each housing 40,000 to 60,000 bees. (There are 4,000 to 6,000 in the working hive in the store.) The hives are primarily based in East Gippsland, and Ben has a number of licensed bee sites. He will hike through the bush searching out the best stands of native forest, and when the trees flower drives out with the hives to deliver the bees to the feed. But he will also travel further afield, including interstate, to help with pollination services. After all, without bees we would not have those almonds and many other fruits and vegetables.

They created a brand and labels and carefully selected the jars to stand out to complement the distinctive varieties of honey, and began selling wholesale products to a few businesses and restaurants around the area.

The 2019/2020 bushfires hit hard, wiping out a lot of the bush that housed the hives. 200 beehives were lost in these fires.

After the devastation of the bushfires, Stacey feels they were lucky to join in collaboration with other small local businesses – Gippsland Jersey, Seasalt Sourdough and Forge Creek Free Range Eggs – putting together breakfast gift boxes for people to sponsor towards those in need.

Out of this also came an application for a bushfire recovery grant.

This was approved and a contribution from the Government helped begin the journey, earlier than expected, for Ben and Stacey to create a space in Bruthen to showcase the importance of bees,

promote education about them and collaborate with other local businesses to showcase the region's food sector. And it also promised to create more local job opportunities and bring more people to Bruthen. The couple had a strong vision that their shop would complement a town which already had so much to offer everyone, locals and visitors alike.

Ben and Stacey have a young family, and with Ben working long hours caring for the bees and also travelling long distances, the process of bringing their vision to life was at times quite taxing on the family. Stacey says their staff have been fantastic. It was a little unknown how the business would look, but the team, one by one, jumped on board with them and put a lot of faith in what was envisioned: they have been flexible and are always thinking of fresh new things they can all do to bring more to the business.

Tambo Valley Honey employs around 15 local people, on a part time / full time basis, with some casual positions and junior members. One of the things Ben and Stacey are most proud of is that they have been able to provide an opportunity for a chef's apprenticeship for a young local.

Chef Sam Mahlook joined the team around 5 months after opening, bringing to life exactly what the Murphys envisioned the menu and café atmosphere to be. She came with a wealth of knowledge, passion for food and the passion for the local suppliers. She is also a wonderful mentor to Evelyn who is now into her second year apprenticeship.

In store there is a live, working beehive, a gift shop, showcasing other local makers, as well as a free honey tasting table, where visitors and locals can speak to the team about the many varieties of mono floral honeys. There is a stock around 15 flavours of raw honey.

The team harvests and processes all of the honey from the hive, to the extraction shed to the packaging facility.

Mel and Janine hand pour and label the honey, as well as pour the beeswax candles, make furniture polish, lip balms and more.

The business collaborates with Nicholson River Soaps, Bancroft Bay Distillery, Logans Distillery, Sailors Grave Brewing, Exquisite Treats, Chocky Sweet Box, Wildkraft Apothecary, Paynesville Pantry, Cassilis Estate, Big Bears Donuts and more. The Café menu showcases local suppliers and producers such as Gippsland Jersey, Johnsonville Blueberries, Paynesville Pantry and Wyanga Winery and more. Working with the local suppliers and makers is a huge highlight for Stacey: to be able to include them throughout the shop and café is what she and Ben hoped to be able to achieve. And she loves the group bookings, with people of all ages, to chat about bees.

Gippsland: 'Love Where We Live' Calendar

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester is challenging local photographers to capture images that showcase why they love our region for his 2025 calendar.

The local MP is running his popular calendar photography competition again this year with prizes for the best entries.

"Late winter and early spring are both wonderful times in our region, and it is a great chance to get out with your camera and capture some of our region's beauty," Mr Chester said.

"This year's theme of 'Love where we live' is a fantastic opportunity to showcase the diversity of the region.

"Whether it's the coastline, rivers, lakes, mountains or a special building in a town you love, the theme is open to interpretation, and I'm expecting some fantastic entries again this year.

"I encourage photographers to submit their entries by October 4 to be considered for the calendar."

More than 30,000 free copies of Mr Chester's #lovegippsland calendar will be available across Gippsland at the end of this year.

The best three entries will receive a hamper of local products, and 13 photographs will be chosen to

appear in the calendar (including the front cover).

To enter the #lovegippsland calendar competition, photos must be a minimum size of 4MB to a maximum of 10MB.

Entries close at 5pm on Friday, October 4, 2024.

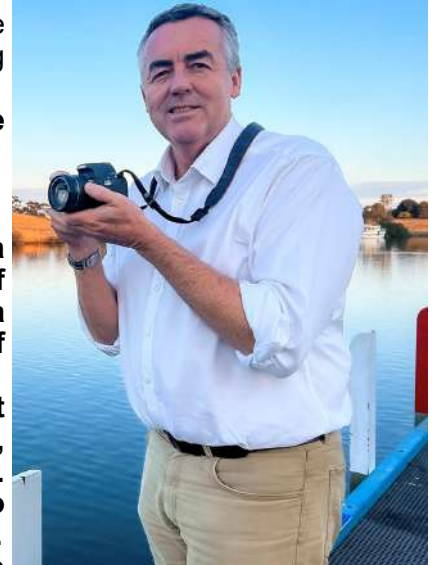
Maximum two entries per person. If photos are

selected for inclusion in the calendar, they must be available in a resolution of greater than 4MB at 300DPI.

Photos should be landscape oriented as per the calendar's shape.

Entrants need to provide their name, hometown and contact details, plus a caption for their photo.

To submit your 2025 #lovegippsland calendar competition photo entries go to <https://darrenchester.com.au/>



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Upcoming elections for East Gippsland Shire Council

With the 2024 EGSC elections coming up soon, some names might be pretty familiar to readers as four candidates that we know of so far ... Steven Columbus, Jess John, Aly Nichol and James Nicholas, hail from the Bruthen district. (PS that's just an interesting observation, with names in alphabetical order, not a voting recommendation!)

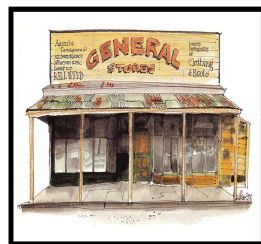
It's important to note of course that our Shire does not have subdivisions, and the nine councillors who are elected for a four-year term will each represent the whole shire.

Candidate nominations close on September 17, and the complete list of candidates in ballot draw order will be available from the following day, Wednesday 18. Voting for this election will be by postal ballot and is compulsory for all State-enrolled and Council-enrolled voters. Ballot packs will be posted from October 7-10, with the election period ending 6 pm Saturday 26 October.

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Hi my name is James Nicholas. I am standing in the upcoming municipal elections for council. I believe that community connected, independent councillors enable local government to best represent residents.

I am a part time Postie, and also work locally as a Disability Support Worker. If elected I can fully commit to being a councillor. I would like to tell you a bit about myself and why I am standing. I hold positions with several community organisations. I am involved in the Citizens Association, hold leadership positions as President of the Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House, Chair the Committee of Management for the Bruthen Recreation Reserve and am Captain of a local Bruthen Fire Brigade. I also assist in RSL community support programs. Skills gained in these organisations; are attributes I can bring as a councillor.

In addition, a decade as owner of the Bruthen General Store provided me with experience in delivering a service - on time and on budget.



Prior to my time in small business, I spent 22 years in the Australian Army in tactical, operational, and strategic appointment's. As an individual who has returned from active service – I am acutely aware of the need for team work in any organisation. I am not deterred by hard work.

The future for our families in Bruthen & District must be centered on a commonsense approach to development and job creation. Without it, local business (including farming) suffers, job creation stalls and opportunity for us as a community, stagnates. There must be a balance between developing Bruthen & District and maintaining the reason why we all chose to live in this gem of a region.

While I am an independent candidate for council – I believe that a broad collective of like-minded representatives will achieve best results if elected (I will advise of a ticket approach to voting for your consideration later on) – that said – the ticket does not represent any one main stream political party – as I believe this is not appropriate for local government. This approach, is opposed to the single issue, narrow focussed policies that some candidates without any involvement in their local community, may espouse (beware of the wolves in sheep's clothing is all I can say on this).

I have been at the fore front of delivering several community projects, including: the redevelopment of the Bruthen Recreation Reserve Community Sports Grounds. Representative on the Bruthen Main Street redevelopment (which is still being undertaken). The Main Street redevelopment has involved championing the cause of the local community to the EGSC – on a continual basis. I was also responsible (with others) for achieving funding for the establishment Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House that has become a key component of our community fabric. Likewise, I have been involved in ensuring we now have enough water to fight fires to protect out township with placement of key town protection water tanks.

What can I promise if elected? For one a balanced approach to issues. I promise to engage with the whole community, be transparent in my dealings and contribute to effective service performance of the Council. It's about time we had local representation and someone who has fought for the community (as a volunteer) in many community groups over the last 14 years. Let me represent you at the next level. As such, I seek your support. A fresh start ensuring..... community engagement, public transparency and good old common-sense.

Vote 1 – James 'Nico' Nicholas

[Authorised by James Nicholas, PO Box 129, Bruthen 3885. Mobile 0455-988-600](#)

Finding Joy and Peace with Donna Davies

With her dreamy, blissful new debut single 'Our tribe' out on Youtube, Spotify and Apple Music, Bruthen's own Donna Davies is living her dream. To find your own joy in doing what you love. Brent Hodgkins from Bruthen Music Recording Studio, who produced and recorded her song, gave her a guitar about eighteen months ago and advised "You get what you put in". So, Donna had a few lessons with him and pushed through the dispiriting practice and tender fingertips to develop the calluses needed to play.

Her gorgeous, easy-going ode to friendship in the videoclip is based on going to friends' houses and everyone playing music at various levels of proficiency. Donna "felt I could be me". Everyone was so supportive of each other's efforts and she felt she had really found "her tribe" right here in our amazingly talented little town and surrounds. They are some of the same happy group in the video, shot beautifully by local film and sound guy Joe

Ciemcioch, in Brent's backyard and they all quickly accepted her request to sing and appear. "That's the reality of having a creative community," she observed. Shooting it was exhilarating but exhausting. Donna encourages all of us to (like the Nike ad) just do it. Not say "I wish I had done that". Asked about her process for songwriting, Donna will start with a melody popping into her head, the words come later. She has already written nine songs for her planned album which will be called "Balance and Harmony". This perfectly describes Donna's own mantra to embrace positivity for a happy life. Drums were Donna's first instrument and she plans to play them on some of the tracks.

As if writing, recording, filming and releasing videos isn't enough, Donna is also a very talented artist. Last year she went whale-watching at Eden and was so captivated by their majesty that on her return she painted one with watercolours. Finding it not as difficult as she thought, and having received lots of



encouragement, she has continued to produce works meaningful to her. She says of the continuing pleasure and motivation she feels making art, "It's very relaxing and the hours go by." Observing, leaving the piece sometimes and coming back to it later when she's not quite pleased with it. While we were there, Donna showed us her latest pastel drawing of a friend's Jack Russell. The eyes were so expressive, the fur looked real. She loves her Prisma Pastel Pencils and highly recommends them. Donna intends exhibiting her work in the Mixed Bag Art Exhibition being held in the Bruthen Hall on October 18th, 19th and 20th with a very broad theme of Feathers, Fur, Fins and Flora. Lastly, Donna encourages everyone to have a go, be it art, music, gardening, whatever brings

happiness. She exudes contentment, surrounded by lovely things, in a charming house with her dear cats Cosmo and Jasper and exuberant poodle-kelpie cross Toki.

Pamela B




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Cheers and beers, Stretch

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Neighbourhood House News

SBA's Kitchen Returns with a Flavourful Polish Feast

Imagine a cozy setting where you not only master the art of cooking but also bond over heartwarming Polish family recipes made with heaps of love. This workshop was not only about mastering recipes; it was about creating lasting connections. As we diced, stirred and tasted our way through some delicious traditional Polish dishes we were able to share stories, laughter, and memories with fellow food enthusiasts. Because let's face it, good food tastes even better when enjoyed with great company. The workshop featured an array of traditional dishes lovingly crafted by SBA's Kitchen.

Among the offerings were:

The rich and savory *Zrazy*, a classic Polish beef roulade, showcased the intricate flavors and culinary expertise behind this beloved dish, inviting participants to savor each bite with a newfound appreciation for Polish cuisine.

Simple yet satisfying, the *Kluski Slaskie*, soft potato dumplings, offered a taste of comfort and tradition, reminiscent of homemade meals shared around the family table.

A dish that embodies the heart of Polish cooking, the *Kapusta Kiszona Zasmażana*, sauerkraut with a buttery twist, highlighted the perfect balance of tanginess and richness, illustrating the depth of flavors in Polish gastronomy.

Ending on a sweet note, the *Ryż Zapiekany z Jabłkami i Cynamonem*, a baked rice pudding with apples and cinnamon, provided a comforting and indulgent conclusion to the culinary journey, leaving a lingering sense of satisfaction and nostalgia.

Finally a take home delight of *Kompot z truskawek na zimę* a strawberry winter compote, brought a burst of fruity flavors to the table, setting the tone for the culinary journey ahead.

B&DNH is excited to announce the return of SBA's Kitchen for another unforgettable workshop focused on citrus! Participants can look forward to learning innovative recipes, techniques, and tips for utilizing this vibrant ingredient in their cooking. Join us for a delightful culinary experience that promises to inspire and tantalize your taste buds! Thursday 26th September 2024 10:00am – 2:00pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall. Limited spots so book fast to ensure your spot!



Workshops & Key Dates

Coming up on the BDNH calendar:

September

Thursday 26th Citrus Workshop—SBA’s Kitchen

10am–2pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Tuesday 24th Colour & Creativity

12pm – 3pm @ GLCH Creative Space

Friday 20th TERM 1 ENDS

BDNH CLOSED for Week 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



October



Term 3 School Holiday Program

Saturday 5th Beetroot Workshop—SBA’s Kitchen

10am–2pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Monday 7th TERM 2 BEGINS

Tuesday 22rd Colour & Creativity

12pm – 3pm @ GLCH Creative Space

Friday 25th HALLOWEEN Haunted Hall @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

Sunday 27th Pumpkin Carving Workshops

@ Bruthen Mechanics Hall



November

Tuesday 26th Colour & Creativity

12pm – 3pm @ GLCH Creative Space



HALLOWEEN EVENTS



Haunted Hall—Friday 25th October

Pumpkin Carving—Sunday 27th October

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:

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)

Gary Belskyj - Local Sculptor

Gary Belskyj is a local multi-disciplinary artist who is married to Colleen and has two sons. He was born in Ballarat and moved to Adelaide in his early teens. He studied by correspondence at the University of Akron, Ohio and locally at the South Australia Institute of Technology and Swinburne Institute in Melbourne working as a Physical Test Technician and later as a Chemical Analyst in organic polymers and plastics in the Automotive Industry. With the industry's demise, Gary changed occupation to move into Mechanical Test and Engineering for a R&D Laboratory in private industry. Later deciding to become a stay at home Dad and concentrate on his artistic endeavours. He has always enjoyed working with his hands so with a keen interest in old trades he learned blacksmithing and has been able to combine his engineering and computer expertise with old trade skills.

Visiting relatives and family in mid north NSW, there was a lot of travelling back and forth from Adelaide over the years, so in the late 1990's with a 5 year plan in mind, the family decided to move. With Gary's brother having relocated to a farm in East Gippsland earlier, an interest in the area grew. Proximity to family, to the sea and snowfields also held significant priority in the plan. After deciding that East Gippsland would be a nice place to settle and selling their historic Adelaide home, they purchased a 10 acre property in Tambo Upper. There was a house on the property to which Gary has made alternations and extensions and landscaped a wonderful garden retaining enough trees to keep the family in wood over the years.

Gary has always been very involved in the community and his interests and commitment are wide spread. In his early days in TU he volunteered with the Tambo Upper Primary School and joined the CFA, attending various community events as a means to get to know people and the local communities. A keen musician, playing guitar and banjo, in the early 2000's when his two boys attended Tambo Upper Primary school he was prominent in helping run the 'Tambo Jambo' and also the 'Bruthen Blues' where he helped to organise the Saturday street stage and book artists for the Mechanics Hall Music Café event.

He has made mostly large sculptures and I noted some in his garden. If you visit Tambo Winery you will see one which was commissioned there.

Gary has supported, exhibited at and worked on multiple exhibitions over the years including locally Nowa Nowa Nudes (where he invented mechanisms for the pupeteers), Bruthen's Mixed Bag (People's Choice prize) and at the Bruthen Food and Wine day last January. His work

has also been seen at the Firkin Exhibition and several East Gippsland Gippsland Art Gallery shows. His particular involvement with 'Float' is the F-lamp exhibition and he is currently preparing for this year's event. The work will have ambience and be decorative as well as serving as a light source. The Big Fish on the foreshore at Lakes needed to be re-made and made 'publicsafe' and the Dolphin Head at Paynesville needed refurbishment from canvas/fibreglass construction to stainless steel and Gary completed both works on behalf of and with financial assistance from the East Gippsland Council.

The Nowa Nowa Penny Farthing bike rack in 2010, the fruit cart for 'Froute' 2014 and the Art Cart for East Gippsland Art Gallery 2015 are all his creations.

Gary is a collector on many levels of old and sometimes quirky things and to try and document his interests is impossible, but it includes collecting 1950's - 60s Sci-Fi/Atompunk movies and paraphernalia, Alternative Universe and fantasy books, particularly of the same period. 'Steam Punk' is how Gary describes the multitude of sculptures I was fortunate enough to view in his sitting room. Steam Punk is a term I had only vaguely heard of until our interview. It is a retro-futuristic subgenre of science fiction or science fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery and expresses Gary's smaller works perfectly. He mentions writers Jules Verne, H G Wells and Phillip Pullman's 'The Amber Spy Glass' as good examples of the style, while explaining his work to me. It's extremely imaginative and kinetic using recycled, deconstructed antique items - brass/copper/bronze/ parts of an old piano/ old clock mechanisms/furniture pieces/bakelite/ old gauges/piping /old mechanisms animated by computerised light and sound coming from perhaps a small, glass screen and a test-tube or two. It's hard to explain but visually awe inspiring. He makes these pieces for his own enjoyment and aims to allow people to focus on art from a totally different perspective.

The sitting room is home not only to these amazing built objects but curiosity cabinets housing for example, a theodolite, a phrenology head, clock making equipment, a 2,000 year old Hittite ring and lots of old scientific equipment. In the future he would like to retro-fit a caravan and take a selection of these amazing works on the road as a travelling show. Exhibiting for education as well as entertainment... a time portal on the move. It would be thrilling for the public, I know.

Heather R



Bruthen's Haven of Wellbeing

The Tambo Rambler recently caught up with Mel at Bruthen's newest drawcard - Wildkraft Apothecary & Natural Medicine Centre.

What a beautiful, inviting showroom Mel has created with mood lighting, a comfortable couch, plants, crystals and jewellery, natural products and her shelves of tinctures and teas.

Speaking of teas, Mel makes a different brew every day, to share. The day's tea might include herbs and other things her customers bring in such as the lemon myrtle, rosemary, ginseng and orange on offer the day I was there. One of Mel's motivations is to get people to slow down, make a pot of herbal tea everyday to relax more and be mindful of what is happening to their bodies.

"Something as simple as having a cup of tea a day can provide individualised medicine to support our health."

Mel's customised teas come in 50g bags, all \$18, which provide 30 cups of tea.

Mel believes very strongly that education and healthcare should not be limited by income, but be accessible to everyone. It has become increasingly costly to access alternative and complementary healthcare, which is one reason Mel doesn't increase her prices when suppliers do. A few years ago Private Health Insurance provided a rebate for this kind of healthcare, but it has since been withdrawn. A review and hopeful reinstatement is pending.

Mel wants to support natural immunity through diet, lifestyle and herbal medicine, called Terrain Theory. One of her challenges is getting people to understand the differences between natural remedies and allopathic (prescriptive) ones. Naturopathy helps the body through natural processes which takes time, commitment and accountability. It treats the causes, not the symptoms like Western medicine.

Mel's mission is all about education; indeed, DOCERE ('Doctor as Teacher' in Latin) is the underlying principle behind Naturopathy. To discover why our health is in a state of imbalance and how to prevent it happening again. In other words, to have Sovereignty over our body. She is very non-judgemental and not dogmatic in supporting people's health choices. If they aren't ready to give up alcohol she will provide liver tonic or lung tonic for smokers, as examples.

Mel is available for Naturopathy and Holistic Coaching on Mondays. First consultations

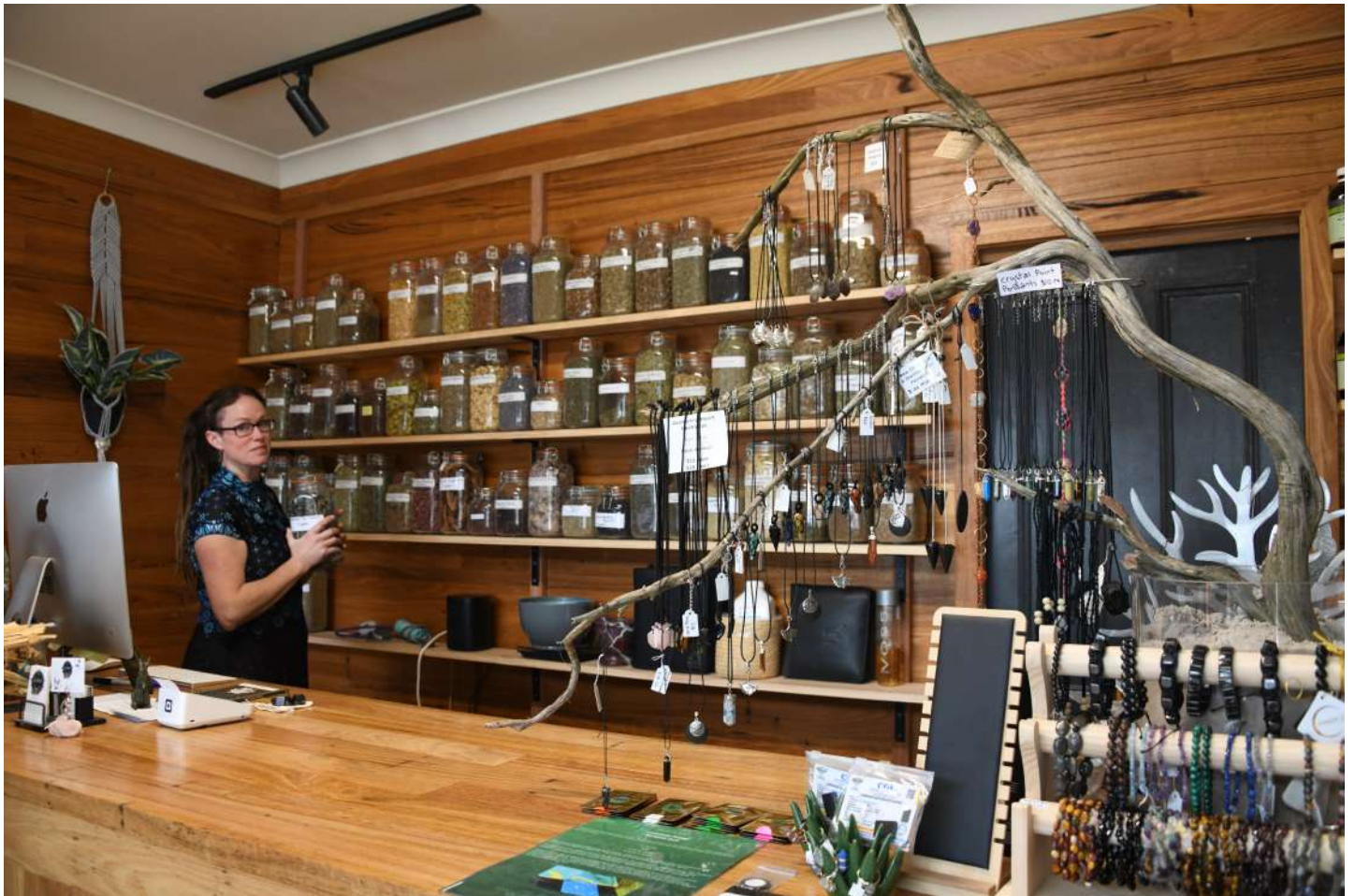
usually last an hour and a half with return ones usually 45 minutes. Tuesdays and Wednesdays offer Shiatsu and traditional Japanese therapies Friday - Naturopathy and coming soon Frequency Healing Reiki on Saturdays Workshops on Sundays at 5pm.

These might include Frequency Healing using the Tesla Theory. The RIFE machine invented by Royal Rife in the early 30s is based on our bodies vibrating at different frequencies while our diseases do also. So the machine helps to calibrate the two frequencies. Breathwork is another workshop used for anxiety and a Crystal Workshop is in the pipeline.

Mel is very approachable so if anyone has an idea or enquiry, she is a font of knowledge and wisdom. There is no pressure to buy. Come in, have a chat, a cup of delicious herbal tea, sit on the comfy couch or in the sunshine and enjoy the enthusiasm and experience Mel has to offer. Maybe, like me, you will marvel at her clear skin, eyes and equilibrium and concede that the wisdom of the ages have given us all the agency we need to lead better, healthier lives.

Pamela B







Eastern Pygmy Possum



Weighing less than a golf ball, the Eastern Pygmy Possum is one of the smallest possums in the world. They are nocturnal, emerging at night to feed on nectar and pollen from flowering plants such as banksias and eucalypts, as well as some insects.

Can you help the Eastern Pygmy Possum find the native animal names hidden below?

EASTERN PYGMY POSSUM | WOMBAT | BILBY | GOANNA | KOALA | SNAKE | KANGAROO | EMU | WOYLIE | MALA | BANDICOOT | MONJON | DINGO | PLATYPUS | SUGAR GLIDER | WESTERN QUOLL | NORTHERN BETTONG | WOYLIE | GOULDIAN FINCH | NUMBAT | COCKATOO | KOOKABURRA | MULGARA | BUSH RAT

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





Laughing Kookaburra Bird of the Month – September 2024

The distinctive laugh of the Laughing Kookaburra is one of the special sounds of the Australian bush. Their chuckling voice is what gives this species its name and is a common and familiar sound throughout East Gippsland. The easily recognisable and loud ‘koo-koo-koo-koo-kaa-kaa-kaa’ is often sung in a chorus with other individuals and can be an essential feature of any dawn chorus. But the ‘laugh’ is actually a territorial call, warning other birds to stay away. In favourable conditions, they can live for more than 20 years and are believed to pair for life.

Generally off-white below, faintly barred with dark brown, and brown on the back and wings. The tail is more rufous with broad black bars and they have a conspicuous dark brown eye-stripe through the face, with a long beak and large brown eyes. The brown and white feathers help to blend in with the environment, making it more difficult for prey or predators to see them. They are one of the larger members of the kingfisher family.

Laughing Kookaburras are found in sclerophyll woodlands and forest throughout eastern Australia. They have been introduced to Tasmania, and the extreme south-west of Western Australia. Sometimes found abundant in parks, towns, and campgrounds, where they have been known to take a sausage off the BBQ!

Feeding mostly on insects, worms and crustaceans, although small snakes, mammals, frogs and birds may also be eaten. When prey appears, the Kookaburra dives down and grabs the prey with its strong beak. Large prey items such as lizards and snakes are bashed against rocks or trees to kill and soften them before being swallowed.

Breeding from August to January they create nests in any hole which is big enough to fit an adult, such as a tress hollow or termite mounds built in trees. Both sexes share incubation and caring duties for the clutch of 2 to 3 eggs. They live in families, with siblings remaining in the family till they are old enough to look after themselves. Every bird in the group shares all parenting duties.

To protect the Kookaburra’s habitat, retain as many trees as possible around your home. Kookaburras need trees for nesting, roosting and to perch on while waiting for food. Mulching your garden with leaf litter can create a perfect habitat for worms, insects and lizards, which Kookaburras love to feed 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.

Tom McIntosh MP
Your voice in the Labor Government

tom.mcintosh@parliament.vic.gov.au
(03) 5940 5010

Authorized by T.McIntosh, Unit 1, 23 James Street, Parkville.
Victorian Labor

Karen Ellingsen, BirdLife East Gippsland

From Page 3 **Second birthday for Tambo Valley Honey**

The families who stop and enjoy watching the bees in the live beehive. The doggy friends that stop by with their owners. Floss the Cocky and her lovely handler.

The business contributes in a variety of ways to other local organisations and functions. With their team they have created a wonderful, positive and inviting space which is a great asset to the town and area. May they all fully enjoy their second anniversary.

Jenny C with Stacey M

And a little something extra: here is a poem written by a very happy customer, inspired by the Café's irrepressible worker Mike.

Lake Bunga and coffee at Tambo Honey

Sunburnt backs and salty lips
flat cardboard boxes, minimum chips
and a waiter, no tats, in straight legged jeans.
sock tan line, new thongs chafe
no masks this Christmas, covid safe
and bearded hipsters in number and some late teens.

Sea horse on the sand
couple stroll hand in hand
and the attentive waiter smiles and writes your orders.
aroma of brew, arabica beans
how you like it, flash coffee machines
and the sign that bans bare chests and all skate boarders.

Pay card, no cash money
home cooked cakes, local honey
and the waiter's smile for a dream of "at the beach".
pulled back hair, pony tail
all day breakfasts never fail
with the surf out at Red Bluff just out of reach.

An injured swan, a plover's scream
Tambo honey, scone and cream
and the call of Christmas tree and Santa everywhere.
corporate shirt, with logo on
an hour savored, an hour gone
an hour's respite in scone and coffee infused
Bruthen air.

From Sam - Menu

Tambo Valley Honey cafe is a welcoming space serving locally sourced breakfast and light lunches seven days a week, as well as a wide selection of honey inspired house baked cakes and desserts, including our famous honey ice cream. Some of our new spring menu dishes include a cured fish plate,

with pickled sardines, smoked salmon and house taramasalata, Seasalt sourdough toast and Gippsland Jersey butter, French toast with blueberry fields blueberries, Bruthen blossom honey and Gippsland Jersey sour cream, and Bancroft Bay Distillery orange blossom honey gin and tonic.

We take a lot of pride in using the produce from our local farmers and fishers, bakers and brewers, dairies and distillers, foragers and winemakers, and of course BEEKEEPERS! All the wonderful people who make up the food scene in east Gippsland.

Some of our suppliers include:

- Mitchelson fisheries
- Lakes entrance fisherman's co operative
- Bulmer's Farms
- Rinaldo's mushrooms
- Gippsland Jersey
- Blueberry fields blueberries
- Sailors grave brewing
- Wyanga park winery
- Tambo winery
- Picnic point farm
- Sapphire smokehouse
- Broadwater oysters
- Vilenzia citrus
- Cassilis estate
- Logan's distillery
- Paynesville pantry
- Bancroft bay distillery
- Lightfoot and sons
- Seasalt sourdough



Chef Sam Mahlook

Coming Soon to the Bruthen Hall near you

Arts and Events Council Inc.

Enriching our local community through creative, inclusive, sustainable and fun volunteer-led arts and events initiatives.

You're An Instrument.

Supporting and encouraging the arts for youth by bringing a quality show for school kids to town once a year is in the A&E strategic plan. This year it was You're An Instrument which proved to be hilarious, inclusive and gave a lot of food for thought. All of Bruthen Primary School attended the show.

Coming Events

Casting Off.

Saturday, September 7 at 7pm at the Bruthen Hall. Casting Off is a joyful, absurd, witty, and poignant circus show. A refreshing and uplifting conversation between three generations. Expect them to be flying through the air, hand standing on precarious chair stacks or holding each other ups. Circus with no music. Suitable for all ages.

Ticket Prices includes nibble platters on each table. Childrens play room. BYO drinks

Mixed Bag Revival

Feather. Fur. Fin. Flora.

An Art Exhibition of mixed media and styles.

October 18th, 19th and 20th at the Bruthen Hall.

After a break of several years it is exciting to see this popular art exhibition being revived. Artists, including children, are invited to download an entry form from the A&E web page to enter.

Contact us on bruthenaande@gmail.com

Web Page. <http://baec.com.au>

Or follow us on facebook and Instagram.

St Matthew's Anglican Church Bruthen Giant Jumble Sale Saturday, 21 September 2024

Parish Hall
Campbell Street
(Behind St Matthew's Church which is
opposite CFA) 9.00am -2.30pm
Come and see what you can find at
bargain prices!
Contact is the Rev'd Brian Norris on
0418 633446

Helios shines on Bruthen



What a fabulous, free, original performance Bruthen was treated to on Thursday 15 August. About fifty fortunate culture-lovers sat in a golden, globe-lit circle while the one-man star of the show Jamie McDowell roamed the centre. Jamie is a songwriter and storyteller extraordinaire with the show selling out at Edinburgh, Glastonbury and Adelaide Fringe Festival. It was written in one week by Alex Wright of Wright and Grainger and tells the tragic story of Phaeton, son of the Sun-god Helios. Set in modern times, Phaeton idolises his dad and older brother and wishes to emulate their lives. He watches his dad the airline pilot, lifting the sun into the sky each morning, waiting for his eighteenth birthday so he can take up his Dad's promise of flying.

Jamie invited members of the audience to read sections of the script with him and it was a revelation to see a couple of Bruthen's young adult sons take it on so confidently. It's a great tactic to ensure audience engagement but we were already enthralled.

All left with rapturous compliments including "I loved it- the storytelling was amazing," Kelly-Anne Lawler.

"Fabulous, we loved it," - Mez, Tanya, Alison
The show was arranged by Ash Ball, Culture and Creativity Place Officer with the East Gippsland Shire Council Arts Department and coordinated by Council, with funds from the Victorian Government through ERV (Emergency Recovery Victoria).

Above is a photo of Ben, the stage technician, MJ the producer, Jamie McDowell and Ash Ball - EGSC Arts and Culture Officer.

Pamela B

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

EAST GIPPSLAND
SHIRE LIBRARIES

Mobile Service Centre / Library Bruthen (Main St)



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 dogs and cats
- Access and complete surveys
- Learn about and provide feedback on projects in your community
- Use a computer with free internet access
- Have a chat and much more

Wednesdays
Fortnightly
11.15am - 12.30pm
Fortnightly

Jul 3rd & 17th
Aug 7th & 21st
Sep 4th & 18th
Oct 9th & 23rd
Nov 6th & 20th
Dec 4th & 18th

Phone 5153 9500 with any queries about the service.



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.



Tim BULL MP MEMBER FOR GIPPSLAND EAST

Servicing Bruthen and district community.



143 Main Street, Bairnsdale VIC 3875
03 5152 3491
tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Funded from Parliamentary Budget

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 Key Events Calander

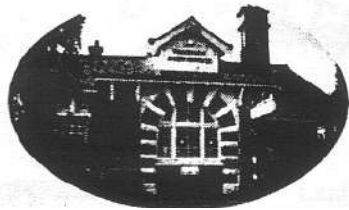
A long L 🙄 K @ what's coming up

Month 2024	Event / Theme	Group
Sept (21 st)	Bruthen Market (Spring Fair)	Market Team – N'hood House
Sept (7 th)	Casting Off Theatre Show	Bruthen Arts & Events Council
Oct (1 st -4 th)	School Holiday Program	N'hood House
Nov (23 rd)	Bruthen Markets (pre-Christmas)	Market Team – N'hood House
Dec (8 th)	Bruthen Christmas Carols	N'hood House & St Matts Parish
2025	Event / Theme	Group
Jan (18 th)	Eat, Drink, Explore Bruthen	Bruthen Arts & Events Council
Feb (15 th)	Bruthen Markets (Music)	Market Team – N'hood House
As events approach – more info will appear in the Rambler.		

BRUTHEN LICENSED POST OFFICE

(Est.1893)

East Link Toll Passes



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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

Darren Chester
 Putting Locals First
[#lovegippsland](https://www.lovegippsland.com.au)





INATIONALS for Gippsland
www.darrenchester.com.au

Authorised by Darren Chester MP, Member of Parliament, Level 1, 80-81 Riverford Street, Sale VIC 3820

**St Matthew's Anglican Church Bruthen
(Opposite the CFA in Church Street)
Church services every Sunday at 9.30am.**

Services also at St Columb's Swan Reach on the second and fourth Sundays at 11.15am, & at St Mary's Buchan on the third Sunday every second month at 2.30pm commencing in February of each year.

ALL WELCOME!!

Please come.

Contact is the Rev'd Brian Norris on 0418 633446

Volunteers are always welcome at the Bruthen Anglican Op Shop. If you are interested, please ring Trish Brogan on 0425 228 041.

TRADES AND SERVICES

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**Standard
Mental Health
First Aid**

Learn how to provide mental health first aid to friends, family members, co-workers and other adults.

Workshop details

L Date & session time:
11th and 12th September 9:30am to 4pm

H Location:
The Hub 27
Dalmahoy St
Bairnsdale.

M To register:
Contact Emma Free
E: efree@wellways.org
P: 03 562 24 100
M: 0466 025 874



The Standard Mental Health First Aid course will teach you how to provide initial support to other adults who may be experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves, using a practical, evidence-based Action Plan.

This course is based on guidelines developed through the expert consensus of people with lived experience of mental health problems and professionals.

Mental health problems covered

- Depression
- Anxiety problems
- Psychosis
- Substance use problems

Mental health crises covered

- Suicidal thoughts and behaviours
- Panic attacks
- Traumatic events
- Severe psychotic states
- Severe effects from alcohol or other drug use
- Aggressive behaviours

Note: This course is not a therapy or a support group.

Visit mfha.com.au



**Bruthen
Garden Supplies**

NOW OFFERING WATER CARTAGE

- 13,000L WATER CARTAGE.
- DOMESTIC & GENERAL 7 DAYS

Tip-trucks 6m³ & 10m³, Bobcat, Excavator,
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ALL AREAS



**76 Main St, Bruthen
M: 0429 944 297**



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 October issue is September 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.

Bruthen Pets

Introducing Raffa, a two year old English Springer Spaniel, pet of Sue and Ken Smith.

Raffa was adopted as a puppy, and was vaccinated, microchipped and registered with Council, desexed at nine months, then attended puppy school and now training camps. He is a well behaved happy dog!

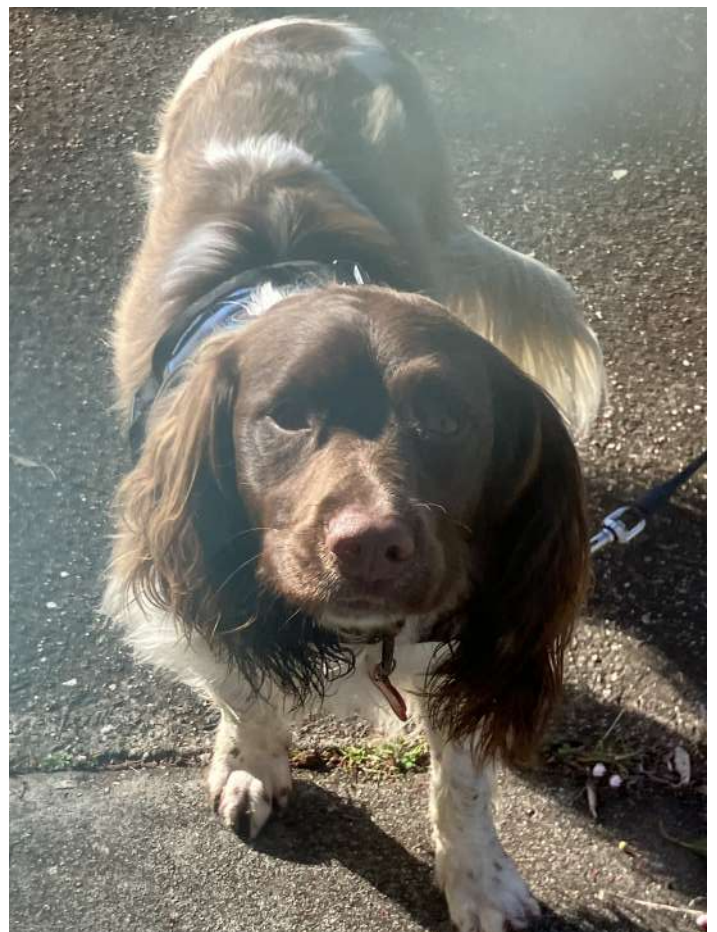
Raffa lives with two cats, Richo and Ruby and four chooks. With initial careful introduction they all get on.

Raffa was named after the tennis great, Rafael Nadal, and he does love tennis balls, often dropping one in Sue's bag so they don't go out without it. He loves chasing balls, going on trips in the Caravan, swimming, running on the beach, dog parks and socialising with other dogs.

He eats his veggies, including carrots, green beans and snow peas, and pieces of apple, as well as venison mince and kibble. For a treat he likes an ice cream.

Raffa has regular vet checks, yearly vaccinations, and monthly flea, worm and tick chews. Yes we do have ticks in East Gippsland. Another important part of his care is regular grooming, trimming of nails and the fur between his toes to prevent seeds getting stuck there.

Raffa is one happy, friendly dog! And he has a lovely smile!



Book Week Celebrations - Reading is Magic



A huge day of celebrating reading was enjoyed by all at Tambo Upper Primary School last Thursday as we got into the theme this year of Reading is Magic. It was great to see so many parents, grandparents and friends of the school join us in the morning for the parade and participate in voting for the best classroom display. Congratulations to Purple Room for taking out the honours for their classroom display of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Our best dressed awards for each classroom were taken out by Luca, Mikayla, Jaxon, Harry and Phoebe. Super effort champs, well done.

Wildflowers of East Gippsland book launch coming soon

The East Gippsland Field Naturalists Club Inc is excited to announce that Wildflowers of East Gippsland is being launched this month. The book is 380 pages with 100's of colour photos and detailed descriptions, distribution notes and threat status of each species. Most images were photographed by Club members.

The book will be launched by Neville Walsh, Senior Conservation Botanist, RBG Victoria (Retired) at 6pm Friday, September 6, at the Bairnsdale Library - *Please note there is limited attendance due to space*

A second celebration will be 2pm Saturday, September 7, at the Lakes Entrance Mechanics Hall with no attendance restrictions.

Books will be available at both these events. Copies of Wildflowers of East Gippsland will be available by mail order via www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au and from local bookshops.

Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club invites you to a

Book Launch

A Guide to Native Flora observed by Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club
JANICE MURPHY & JANE TRENCH

to be launched by Neville Walsh, Senior Conservation Botanist, RBG, Victoria (Retired)

@ 6pm, Friday 6th September 2024
Bairnsdale Library, 22 Service St, Bairnsdale
Copies available @ \$60 from 5 pm onwards

You are also invited to a 'East Gippsland Wildflower Celebration'
@ 2 pm, Saturday 7th September, 2024,
Lakes Entrance Mechanics Hall
Books will be available
Everyone welcome





Congratulations to the two Bruthen Netball teams who played in the Grand Finals at Swan Reach and made our little town proud. With much community support for both teams, The B Grade team took out the championship with back-to-back wins, scoring 37 to 17. Best on Ground was Mel Kennedy. Not to be outdone the Under 17 team also won the cup with a final score of 30 to 15. They have made the Grand Final three years running. Best on ground was Iylah Taylor.

