

# TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper  
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

December 2024

NUMBER 303

## Bruthen Village Makers



The Tambo Rambler is proudly sponsored this month by Shoreside Real Estate Lakes Entrance

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



03 5155 3133

1/521 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance VIC 3909

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[admin@shoresidere.com.au](mailto:admin@shoresidere.com.au)



# Bruthen's latest drawcard

A very balmy and pleasant evening was recently enjoyed by about fifty arts patrons on Friday 15 November at the celebration opening of a new artistic space in Bruthen's Main Street. Bruthen Village Maker which has taken over the former gallery, has a sustainable vision for the arts, sourcing treasures from the past, tools, collectables, homewares, furniture, Japanese antique textiles, unique upcycled fashion, and artisan works from local and international makers. The first exhibition is a selection of blue and white artwork from the Rhonda Gray Art School called "Just add water" and the students produced fantastic works on large postcard-sized paper.

Three local arts and crafts lovers Lily, Sue and Penny have joined forces to create a dynamic and

interesting business. Penny who's from Metung extolled the virtues of our little town, telling attendees that they were so glad to secure their premises in such a friendly and welcoming place. The introductory speech from Rhonda was very inspirational, encouraging everyone to forget their insecurities and just go for it. Her students have certainly embraced this mantra and produced stunning art.

The food was amazing, supplied by Tanya from the Heritage Cafe and also the students. Please take a look at our newest attraction, you will not be disappointed.

The gallery is open Thursday to Sunday 10 - 4

Pamela B

## Summer Fire Preparation - Must Do's

As fire season is almost on us residents **must** implement a few basics to prepare. First and foremost, develop **your** fire plan. While there are many formats you can follow, some guidance can be found on the CFA website – specifically:

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/before-and-during-a-fire/your-bushfire-plan>

Shortly you will receive a copy of the township Local Incident Management Plan (LIMP) in the post from the Citizens Association and the Shire. Copies will also be available at local businesses. There is a quick reference guide (trifold) with a magnet. Attach this to your fridge for reference in time of need (but make sure you read it prior to doing so). You will also receive an A5 sized booklet which gives you more detailed information on what to do in the event of an emergency (fire, flood, storm etcetera). This booklet provides good examples of what to do and is tailored to Bruthen and District. Part of preparing for fire season is considering the guidance provided in the plan. So, reading at the last moment when you smell or see smoke, it's just too late. It is your responsibility to be prepared.

Part of summer preparation is ensuring the hydrant point (which provides us with reticulated water to fight a house or bush fire is maintained).

Hydrant points around Bruthen are located using markers. These could include:

- A marker post, (angled red top band), and usually a blue coloured disk is also found attached.
- A blue reflector close to the middle of a road; across from the reflector a hydrant point should be found.
- A blue (sometimes white) hydrant cap (the effect of weather and corrosion may discolour), found in grassed nature strips.

While the Bruthen Fire Brigade inspects and tests hydrant points, **We Need Your Help** to keep these operational and visible. Hydrant points should be easy to be seen; but with the advent of time, may be covered with dirt or grass. So, help us help you by

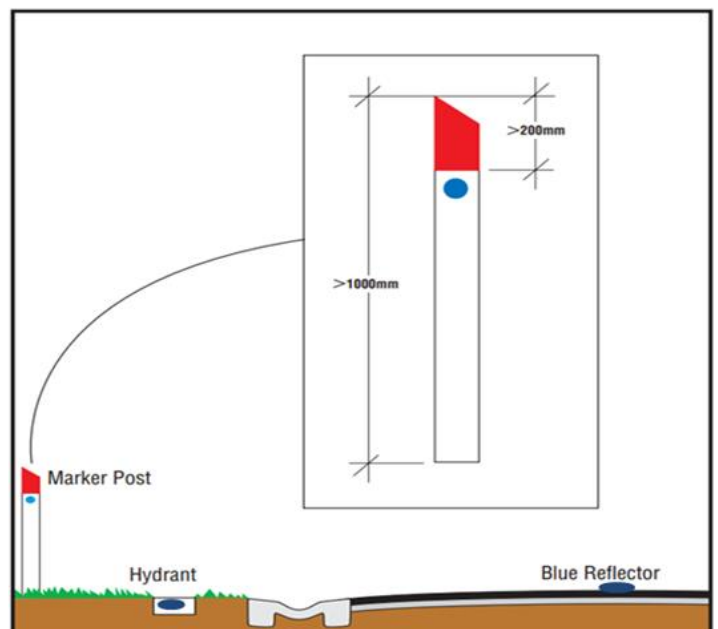
doing just a small amount of maintenance on the hydrant point outside your property. A few tips to help us:

Please do not:

- Have your designated car parking spot, on top of a hydrant.
- Plant a garden on top of and around a hydrant point (or cover with mulch).
- Stack (or maybe just dump) wood supplies on a hydrant point.
- Make a new entry to your property so that the hydrant point gets buried underneath drive way gravel.

Please ensure:

- Your hydrant cap is free of grown over grass (either whipper snip or apply some weed spray)
- We can access the hydrant easily – the more time we take to locate a hydrant that has been covered up, obstructed or buried in dirt – the less time we have to fight a fire at your or your or nearby houses.



# Reconnecting with East Gippsland

Andrew Skeoch, one of Australia's best-known wildlife recorders, recently made a return visit to East Gippsland, where among other things he gave a talk at the Bairnsdale Library, before meeting up with an old friend and colleague in Bruthen.

For over thirty years Andrew has travelled the world visiting a wide variety of wild habitats and has published more than a hundred recordings from across most continents. Some of his recordings have featured in a variety of contexts, including a number of feature films such as Philip Noyce's 'Rabbit Proof Fence', the 2016 remake of Disney's 'Jungle Book', and 'Force of Nature' with Eric Bana, released earlier this year.

Andrew first visited East Gippsland in 1994, recording at Errinundra and Rodger River in the Snowy River National Park. This trip resulted in his first CD 'Tall Forest'. In 2017 he returned to join up with Bruthen local Jenny Lawrence, who ran High Country Tours for 32 years. They travelled to Mallacoota and later to the Mitchell River National Park. Here Andrew worked as a facilitator with the tour group, including taking participants on a quiet walk to the Den of Nargun, encouraging and



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assisting them to listen deeply and interpret the natural sounds around them.

Prior to his visit to Bairnsdale in November this year, Andrew revisited Waratah Flat in the Snowy River National Park to compare his 1994 recordings of birds, mammals, insects and frogs with the situation after the 2019-20 fires. In this place at least he was heartened to discover the degree of regeneration and an increased diversity of species.

The day after his Library talk, he explored Fairy Dell before heading to Bruthen for a catch-up with Jenny. Andrew's book 'Deep Listening To Nature', published in 2023, invites us to be still and listen, to be open to nature revealing itself and telling us things. He discusses how to identify species by call and interpret their communications ... particularly birds, who negotiate their connections and habitat in such varied and expressive ways. A wonderful aid to help us learn are the links in each chapter to an online soundtrack of more than 300 audio recordings.

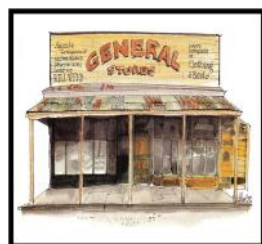
As Andrew inscribed in my copy of his book ... 'May nature sing to you'.

**Jenny C**

**54 Main Street,  
Bruthen.**

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- **Supplier of groceries, fresh fruit & vegies, hardware, fishing supplies and basic newsagency.**

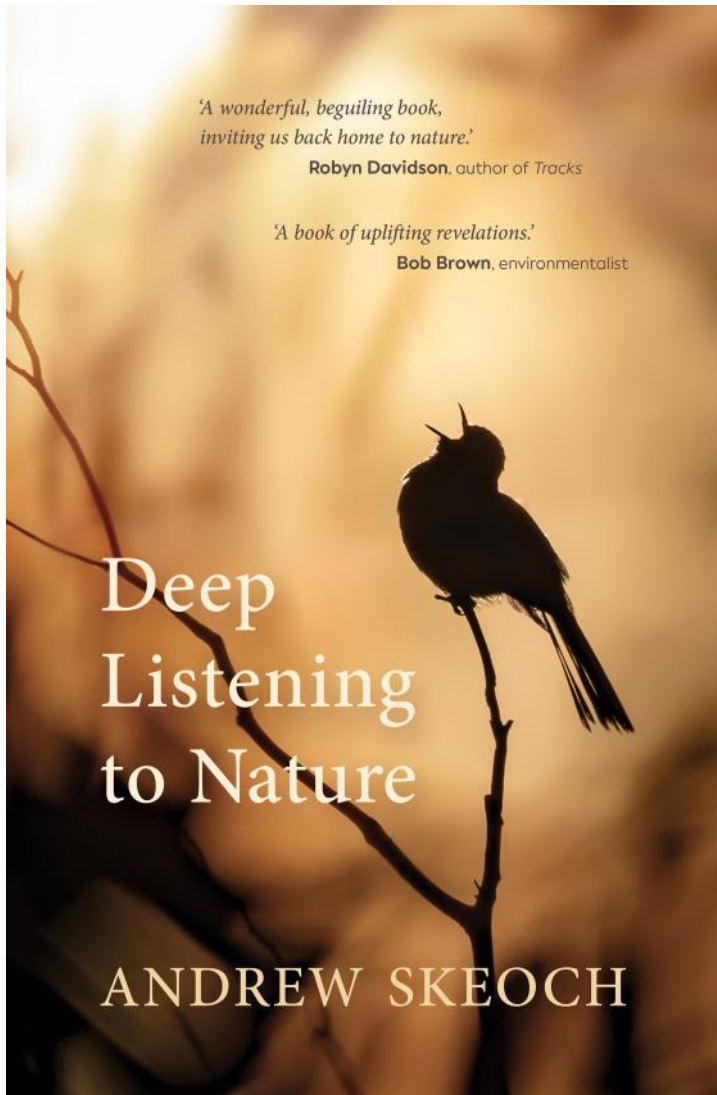
- **Beer, wine, RTD cans and ice.**

- **Swap & Go BBQ Gas bottles.**

**Shop local – support local employment**

**email: BruthenGeneralStore@gmail.com**





Grief and loss can be so painful. I offer a safe space for people to talk and freely express their grief. Talking definitely helps, but sometimes it can be difficult to talk with family or friends. I'm a qualified Counsellor and Grief Educator and volunteer Helper with Griefline. I can help you to understand your unique grief reactions and together we can find meaningful ways to honour your loss.

If you would like to know more, I'm happy to chat.

Call Karen on **0438 353 229**

[www.loveandloss.com.au](http://www.loveandloss.com.au)



## Bruthen Seniors' trip to the Back of Buchan

The members of the Bruthen Seniors Club have recently enjoyed a range of get-togethers at the Bruthen Bowls Club and the Kalimna and Nicholson Hotels. Another very special trip, organised by Kay, was to a spot on a local property, high in the hills beyond Buchan.

Here they enjoyed wonderful views in all directions to the far ranges and the Snowy River snaking through the valley below. They settled in for a picnic lunch at the Hut: a great place to be when the rains arrived and lightning flashed across the sky. Spectacular!

Thank you Kay.

### Fire Danger Period

Fire Restrictions will commence in **East Gippsland Shire Council** Municipality

Effective from:

**1:00AM Monday 9th December 2024**

Find out what you can and can't do during the fire danger period and on days of total fire bans:

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i>

## ANZAC Day 2025

Want to see ANZAC Day 2025 go ahead in Bruthen? Become a volunteer to do just a little bit, but with results that mean a lot. This year the Light Horse plan to be back in Bruthen and to add it is planned that local schools will march alongside veterans and community groups. Be part of a small community ANZAC Day commemoration.



So, if you have a small amount of time to attend a coord meeting (at the pub closer the date) and do some jobs on the day, we could do with your help. Many hands make light work, just text Nico on: 0455-988-600.





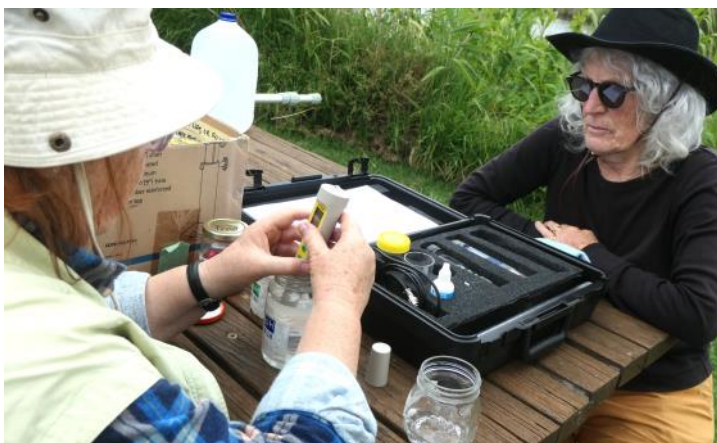
# Citizen Scientists check out our water quality



FOGL (Friends of Gippsland Lakes) President Heather Oke and Catherine van Wilgenburg having fun with the serious business of water testing in the Tambo River at Swan Reach bridge. This is one of the several sites FOGL has selected around the Gippsland Lakes to monitor the pH levels, telling us the rates of acidity and alkalinity in the water over time and throughout the seasons. Optimal pH levels are an essential factor in maintaining

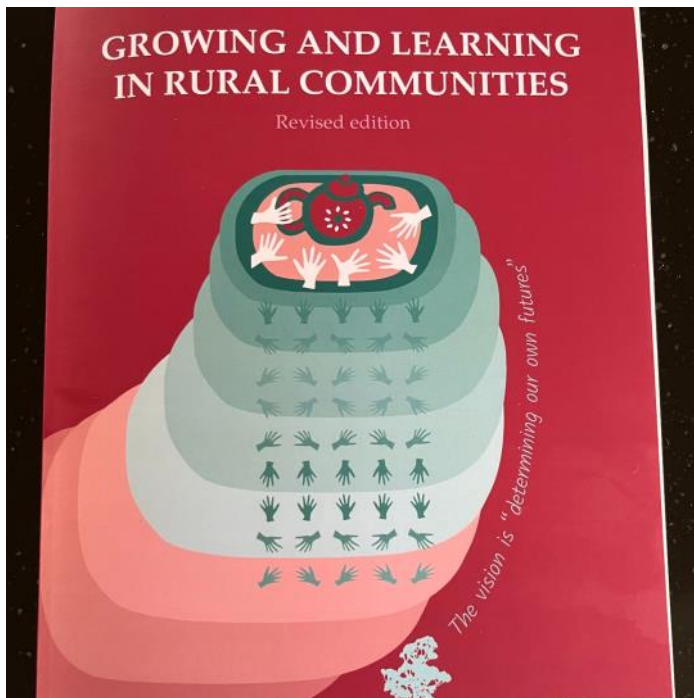
water quality and healthy ecosystems. Accurate pH testing helps keep drinking water and groundwater safe and helps aquatic plants and animals. We will also be testing for salinity, temperature and for phosphorous. Phosphorous is a vital nutrient for plant and animal life within our freshwater ecosystems, but too much can lead to an excessive growth of algae. These "algal blooms" can deplete oxygen within a water body, causing fish kills. Also some algae can produce toxins that can be harmful to humans and animals.

**Left:** Friends of Gippsland Lakes members Jenny Meddings and Heather Oke calibrate the equipment prior to testing water samples from the Tambo River to check on the levels of pH, salinity and phosphorous as well as air and water temperature. Data collection is an ongoing process to monitor the state of drinking and ground water. We are looking for more collectors of water samples to give us a real picture of what's happening in our Gippsland Lakes. Check us out: <https://fogl.org.au/home/>



**Catherine v. W.**





**Below: Michelle Dowsett, executive officer of the Gippsland Community Foundation with Author Dr Helen Sheil.**



## Helen's book launch in Lakes

### **Growing and Learning in Rural Communities**

Dr Helen Sheil, Regional Community Development researcher and former Monash University educator, launched a revised edition of her book 'Growing and Learning in Rural Communities' on November 19 at the Lakes Entrance Library.

Helen has lived in Orbost, Mirboo North, Nowa Nowa, Bairnsdale and is now in Lake Tyers: she has worked in countless community organisations across the region, including in Bruthen.

Her book, first published in 2003, is designed as a manual for organisations, facilitators and managers (paid and unpaid) across a wide range of fields. It details nine strategies to empower community engagement with issues, needs and projects involving diverse groups and viewpoints in small communities, and to shape dialogue between community members and decision makers. The book includes case studies of rural groups that have used these strategies successfully over the past 20 years.

The launch was introduced by Elder Marjorie Thorpe who spoke of her work with Aboriginal Reconciliation using study circles. Cr Tom Crook also spoke of the need to work collaboratively with a diverse range of communities and organisations, and the benefits that can be achieved through such an approach.

The launch was very well attended with people representing a wide range of interests and organisations. It was fascinating to see the many personal connections between members of these groups and communities, and there were excellent conversations to follow. Our Rambler representatives caught up with many and had a great chat with Michelle Dowsett, executive officer of the Gippsland Community Foundation, which earlier this year delivered the grant that funded our new printer.

Helen's book is a powerful and practical resource for many. It can be ordered through local bookshops and is also available at the Lakes Entrance Library.

**Jenny C**

*Staff from the Tambo Rambler are taking some time off over the Christmas / New Years period to rest and recharge.*

*There will therefore be no January edition in 2025, but we will be returning with a new edition on February 5.*

*Please feel free to keep submitting any news articles or ideas to [tamborambl@gmail.com](mailto:tamborambl@gmail.com)*



## Bruthen makes gift-giving easy; Shop Locally!

Bruthen enjoys a range of shopping options for Christmas. Why not browse locally for interesting and bespoke items produced by Bruthen and district artisans, creators and producers. Wander through town to explore gift ideas including arts and crafts, collectables and pre-loved items, wellness products, and festive beverages and produce. Below: Some of the locally-made items at the Bruthen Arts and Information Centre.





# Recreation Reserve: Works update & completion of the Community Storage Sheds

The works on the newly erected Community Storage Shed (near the recreation Reserve Cricket Nets), are now complete and will be ready for the various sporting groups to use in the very near future. The Netball Club and Cricket club now have dedicated storage space for their equipment, with the Cricket Club also having space for its pitch roller to be stored. The existing old shared storage shed (for cricket and football), at the rear of the Main Oval dug-outs; will now be for the sole use of the Football Club.

One of the new shed compartments will be used to store tennis equipment and as a temporary store for maintenance equipment.

In addition, it is planned that the old partially completed cinder brick structure will be completed to become the maintenance hut. The Committee of Management also intends to lay a concrete base with a roof extending over the surface to enable all-weather protection from the elements. Permanent benches and tables will then be fitted to allow spectators to watch football, cricket, or netball under cover. The new Community Storage sheds can also be used to support emergency response and recovery activities when needed. Many thanks must go to the Gippsland Community Foundation who provided the funds for the sheds to be constructed – another example of the key work the foundation has done across the local area. Thank-you from the local community.

The Recreation Reserve Committee has also been fortunate enough to obtain a water station that can be used to refill drink bottles via East Gippsland Water community support. Works on the new change room facilities also continue to progress and are on track to be handed over by the end of December / mid-January. These change rooms will make a great addition to the local facilities and for the first time, offer female sports and umpires/referees up-to-date and modern amenities during



GIPPSLAND  
Community  
Foundation



respective sports seasons. Finally, the old gates (once on the concrete pillars at the entrance of the oval) are being repaired and refurbished. These will make a welcome return to the oval and represent part of our history. Watch this space for further announcements regarding the official opening of facilities in the new year.

## Committee of Management – Bruthen Recreation Reserve

### Bruthen Inn Hotel



Kitchen is open 7 days

Lunch 12-2pm (excl. Tues) Dinner 6-8pm

Tuesdays open from 5pm

Friday night raffles supporting local sporting clubs—10 draws.

Catering for private functions and community meetings

Courtesy bus operates Wed, Fri, Sat nights only

For enquires or bookings contact Bruthen Inn Hotel.

Cheers and beers, Stretch

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DINE IN





# Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House



## SBA's Kitchen – Xmas Hamper Workshop

With Christmas approaching fast it was a delight to have Julie from SBA's Kitchen host a Christmas hamper workshop on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. These hampers had a slightly different style of ingredients from the usual Christmas hamper, but still embraced all the delicious festive flavours! Participants worked together to assemble the Christmas hampers, one for each person to take home and gift to someone special or indulge in themselves. The hamper included a cake, dessert sauces, jam, a breakfast treat, biscuits, a pickle and some crackers as noted below:

- Small Ginger, Orange, Pear and Cardamom Cake topped with Glace Oranges, Pears and Star Anise
- Chocolate Fudge Sauce
- Rhubarb & Rose Petal Jam or Rhubarb & Strawberry Jam
- Crunchy Granola
- Summerberry Sauce
- White Chocolate, Cranberry and Almond Biscuits
- Pickled Asparagus
- Crackers

The session ended with all participants getting to indulge in ice cream topped with freshly made Summerberry sauce and crunchy granola; crackers, pickled asparagus and creamy Maffra Cheese Co Brie; and a freshly baked White Choc Chip, Cranberry and Almond Biscuit. Stay tuned to see what special delights Julie will be back to teach us in the new year.





# Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House



## Community Christmas Carols

To finish the year off with a bang B&DNH along with the Bruthen Anglican Parish co-hosted Bruthen Community Christmas Carols and wow what a turn out we had! It was so nice to see so many faces from Bruthen and district come together for the evening. The night started with a Christmas Prayer from Reverend Brian Norris followed by everyone joining together singing the carols. The last few songs of the evening saw children from both Bruthen Primary and Tambo Upper Primary schools, as well as Bruthen Kinder/Boorai come up the front and perform some wonderful songs together. The final song of the evening of course was Santa Claus is coming to town, the children did such an amazing job singing the big man himself turned up! Families were then able to grab a Quick Pics photo with Santa. Throughout the evening the hall and outdoor area were filled with dancing, singing, joy and laughter. Special thanks to the Bruthen CFA for running the BBQ for the evening and Tara Rose for her amazing facepainting artistry!





# Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House



## Thanks

With the year quickly coming to a close we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us out over the year at B&DNH. Whether it be volunteering at our events, or around the house we value each and every one of you and your support means everything to us! We simply cannot run and be the Neighbourhood House we are without that support. Special thanks to our Committee of Management who work hard behind the scenes, and in front sometimes, to make sure the house is being run to the best of its ability. We would also like to thank Bruthen Primary School and Tambo Upper Primary School for jumping on board our Disglow and Halloween events throughout the year, it felt great to be able to give back to the schools in our community and work together as a team.

Last but certainly not least is Gippsland Community Foundation; without them none of our events would even be possible. Their generous donations are invaluable to an organisation like ours and we are very privileged they chose to support us throughout the year.

B&DNH will be closed for a break from Friday December 20, 2024 and will reopen on Monday, January 20, 2025. Thank you so much again and we cannot wait to see what will happen in 2025.

**Nikki & Kelsey**



give the gift  
of connection  
this Christmas

Scan the QR code to learn more  
about our top gifts.

[metunghotsprings.com](https://metunghotsprings.com) | 03 5141 2300



\* Locals pricing is available 7 days a week for all East Gippsland residents or anyone who works in the region. Residents must present their licence on arrival at reception.



## Workshops & Key Dates Coming up on the BDNH calendar:



### December

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Last Day Open for B&DNH

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Vic School Holidays Start

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Day

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>** Boxing Day



### January

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>** New Years Day

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>** Eat Drink Explore  
Bruthen—Bruthen Presents  
Main Street Bruthen

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>** B&DNH reopens

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>** Australia Day

### March

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>** SBA's Kitchen  
Preserving/Cooking class – product to  
be confirmed  
10am – 2pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall



**Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House is taking a break!**  
We will be closed From end of business Friday 20th December 2024 until Monday 20th January 2025

### 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](mailto: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)



# Bruthen Markets

As we approach the end of 2024, we bid farewell to Kylie Martin's dedicated leadership of the Bruthen Markets. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her hard work over the past few years.

We enjoyed a highly successful Christmas Market in November and eagerly anticipate the upcoming markets in 2025. Please feel free to follow along on our Facebook page "Bruthen Markets". We will also keep the Rambler updated.

Your new Bruthen Markets team consists of Sal Whillance, Brenda Streeter, and Nisa Giacomelli. Feel free to reach out to us at [bruthenhouse@gmail.com](mailto:bruthenhouse@gmail.com).

Bruthen Markets is auspiced by Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House





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

BLUEY      PLAYROOM      SNICKERS      MUFFIN      MUM  
 DAD      HOUSE      HONEY      BINGO      GRANDMA  
 GRANDPA      INDY      RUSTY      MACKENZIE      CHLOE  
 LUCKY      SOCKS

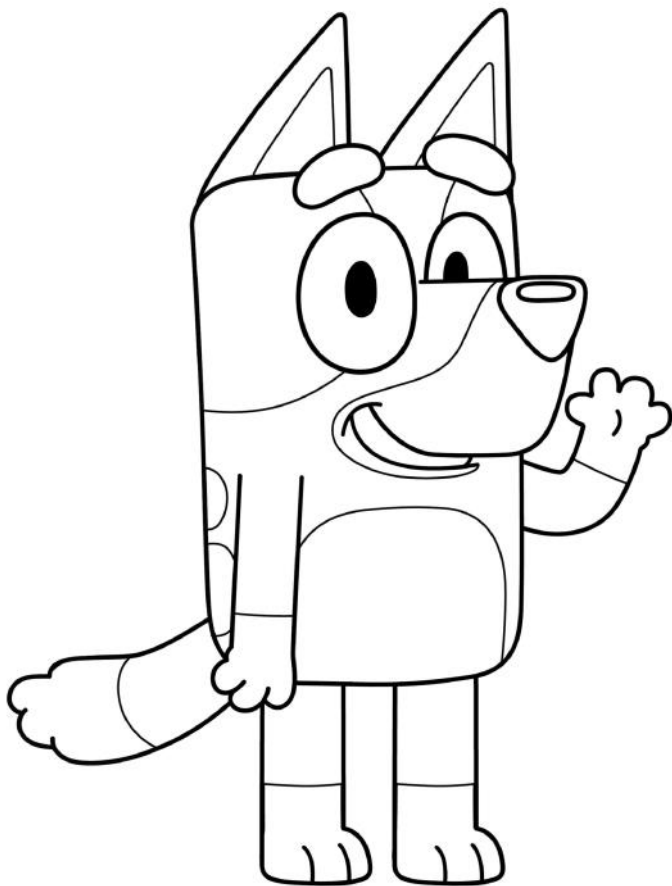
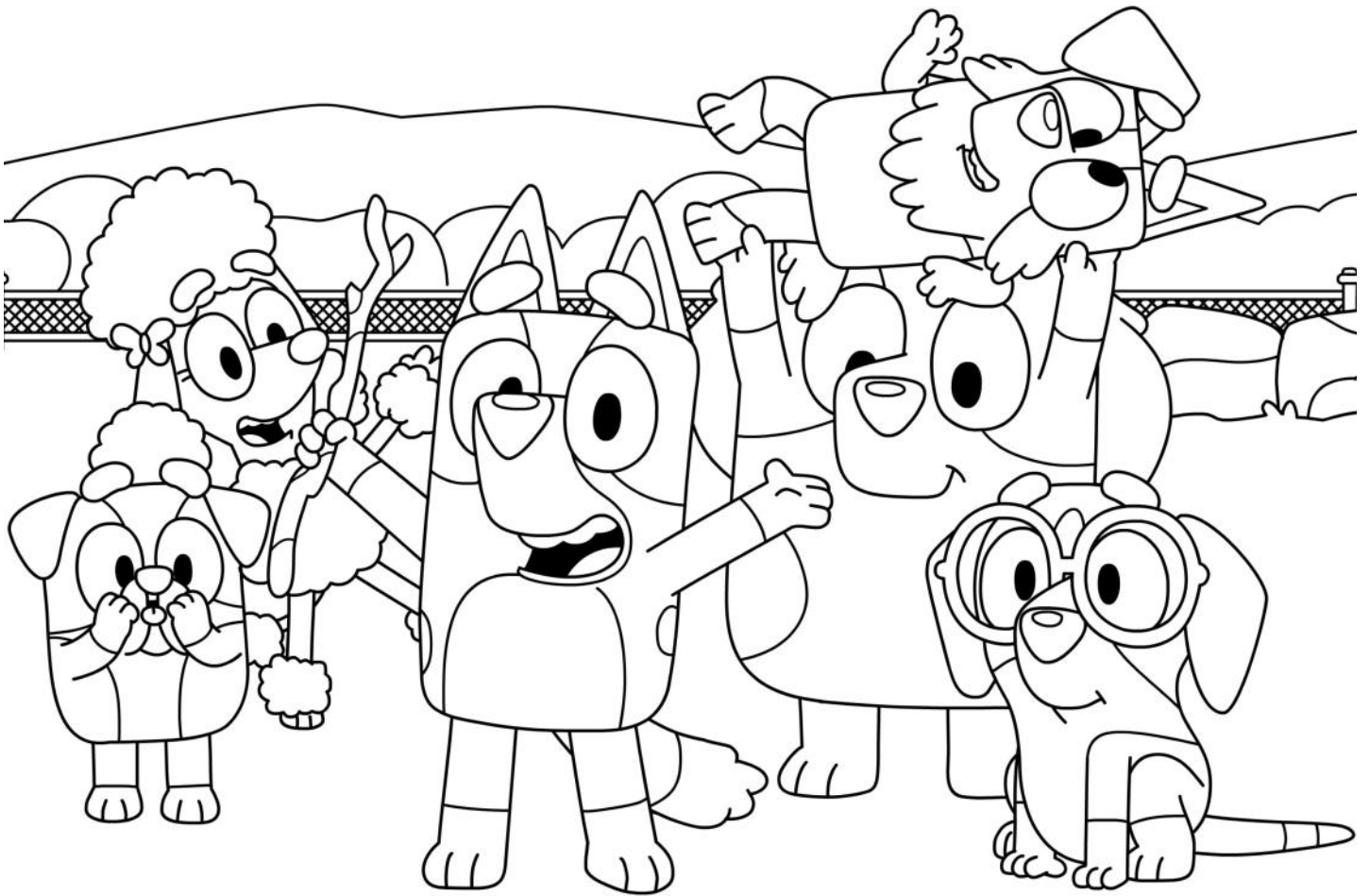


## Target Words

S	I	H
M	A	T
C	S	R

How many words of four or more letters can you find? Every word must use the centre letter, and each letter can only be used once. Plus what is the 9 letter word?







## RED-NECKED AVOCET- Bird of the Month December 2024

A regular visitor to East Gippsland and currently found in high numbers in Jones Bay Reserve, is the Red-necked Avocet. These birds live and breed in central Australia but when it's dry they migrate to Victorian coastal wetlands.

A distinctive shorebird with a very long and dramatically up-curved black bill, they appear fragile, slender and elegant. They have a dark red head and neck, narrow white eye ring and a red-brown iris. The primary wing feathers and the small feathers covering the secondaries are black, with remaining plumage being white. Legs are a pale grey-blue. Male and female are similar in colouring and size.

Native to Australia, they are fairly widespread throughout, other than in north and northeast coastal areas of the country. Like many waterbirds, they are highly nomadic due mainly to the high variation in rainfall, moving around the continent in search of suitable habitat. They prefer salt or brackish water and are generally found in shallow wetland areas that are either fresh or salt, or on estuarine mudflats.

Their diet mainly consists of small invertebrates (aquatic insects, their larvae and crustaceans) plus seeds scooped from the shallows by sweeping their slender up-curved bills from side to side through the water surface and underlying mud. Unlike other shore birds, they will swim readily, enabling them to upend like a duck and continue feeding. Juveniles are often limited to small insects and seeds until their bill is more developed, consuming food with a pecking action rather than the water skimming done by adults.

Found mostly in loose colonies during the breeding season of August-November, they generally disperse into smaller flocks for the rest of the year, though sometimes they are found in large congregations. From time to time, it is not uncommon to see over 2,000 birds in Jones Bay.

Pre-mating courtship involves bill-crossing and bowing dances, with the female indicating her readiness to mate by crouching low with wings spread, this usually occurs in shallow water. Each pair defends their nesting territory with a range of displays and postures and will swoop repeatedly at intruders. The nest consists of a shallow scrape that is lined with samphire or similar water vegetation. A single brood is raised per season, with a clutch size of 3-4 eggs, which are arranged in a circle with the pointed ends toward the centre!

Fun Fact 1: The Red-necked Avocet appeared on a 13 cent postage stamp in 1966!

Fun Fact 2: Their call has been described as 'yapping' and flocks in flight make a sound like dogs barking.

*BirdLife East Gippsland meet weekly for Monday morning outings. New members are always*



Red-necked Avocet – (photo by E-bird)

welcome. Check our Facebook page and Birdlife Australia events page for more information.

Karen Ellingsen: Media Officer  
BirdLife East Gippsland



**Eat Drink Expore Bruthen**  
**January 18th 2025**  
**Bruthen Home Grown Awards**

- Best seasonal jam
- Best honey recipe of your choice
- Best chutney or relish
- Best cake /slice /biscuit
- Biggest fruit/vegetable
- Longest /biggest vegetable
- Most unusual fruit/vegetable



## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
Aug 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
Sep 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>  
Oct 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Nov 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>  
Dec 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

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any queries about  
the service.

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Change Lives



## 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](http://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](mailto: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 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**

## #LoveGippsland Calendar Competition winners announced

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester has announced the 2025 #lovegippsland calendar competition winners.

"After much deliberation and scouring through hundreds of high-calibre entries, the three winners of my 2025 #lovegippsland calendar competition have been chosen, and their images are exceptional," Mr Chester said.

"The winning images include an electrical storm passing over the Port of Sale, captured by Grant McKillop, a crested tern flying over Lake Tyers beach, photographed by Sue Allison and a very cute, curious echidna peeping out from a tree stump taken by Jessica Owen.

"All three will receive a hamper of local products from Banksia Fine Foods and a '100% Authentic Gippslander' t-shirt."

Mr Chester said there were about 300 photo entries for the 2025 #lovegippsland calendar, and he was struck by the exceptional quality of the submissions across the board.

"This year's theme 'Love Where We Live', highlights the incredible beauty and diversity of our region with the 13 images chosen to feature in the calendar showcasing many beautiful places throughout the region, magnificent scenery, native wildlife and iconic Gippsland structures," Mr Chester said.

"Congratulations to our winners and to all the entrants for so many wonderful entries; each year, I am amazed to see the beauty of our region and the talent of Gippslanders."

Free copies of the 2025 #lovegippsland calendar are available from Mr Chester's electorate offices in Sale and Traralgon.



**Darren Chester**  
Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



**INATIONALS** for Gippsland

[www.darrenchester.com.au](http://www.darrenchester.com.au)

Authorised by Darren Chester MP, Nationals Party of Australia, Level 1, 88-92 Rous Road, Sale VIC 3850



"We will also be distributing the calendars throughout Gippsland to general stores, golf clubs, bowls clubs, op shops, and anywhere we can think of," Mr Chester said.

"Businesses and community organisations can request a box of calendars through my office by calling 1300 131 785 or emailing [darren.chester.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:darren.chester.mp@aph.gov.au)."



**Pictured:** Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester has announced the 2025 #lovegippsland 'Love Where You Live' calendar competition winners.



## TRADES AND SERVICES

**Chris Fella**

**Qualified Carpenter**

**Renovations, Decks Pergolas, New Houses, Fencing**

**20 Year Experience**

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E. [chrisfella@bigpond.com](mailto:chrisfella@bigpond.com)

**ACG**

**KITCHENS & CABINETS**

Adam & Carly Greenwood

Email – [info@acgkitchens.com.au](mailto: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 6m<sup>3</sup> & 10m<sup>3</sup>, 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 February issue is January 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.**

## Farewell & thank-you to our local Lions

It is with sadness, and a deep sense of respect and gratitude, that we bid farewell to the Bruthen Lions Club, which is in the process of closing down this local chapter of the renowned international service organisation.

The Bruthen Lions Club was chartered 36 years ago in 1988, and true to the Lions' motto 'We Serve' has provided support to the community in many diverse ways throughout that period. Its members have included a wide range of identities from Bruthen and district over the years ... some of whom (but by no means all) can be seen in the attached photos. These photos and more were brought in by Fran Cohn to be stored at Bruthen and District Neighbourhood House, where they will be keenly scrutinised by members of the group 'Bruthen Remembers'.

The current membership was down, however, to seven members: Simon and Fran Cohn, Max Harris, Peter Weeks, Alan Knewstubb and Ingrid and Mark Biram. All of them, like those before, had given so much over the years on top of their commitments to family, work and other needs. At the last meeting they realized they were not able to fill required board positions.

Closure of the Bruthen chapter had in fact been considered for some years, but the fires of 2019-20 drove an urgent need to mobilise the group's skills and resources. A major project undertaken was the East Gippsland Timber Milling Project (EGTMP), a joint venture with Rotary, DEWLP and Lions International which involved milling fallen trees into usable timber for fences, stockyards and more. This service was provided free of charge to fire-affected farmers, and was featured in Tambo Rambler articles in August 2022 and April 2023: these can be accessed online.<sup>1</sup>

With funds from the Lions International Disaster Fund they were able to replace water tanks for properties that had lost theirs in the fires. The Club also operated the Lions Tool Shed in Sarsfield, stocking around 200 items, with everything from shovels to power tools.<sup>2</sup>

They assisted BlazeAid, providing relief shifts for crew, and hosted members of the Need For Feed runs. In the post-fire period they continued with improvements to the Lions Skate Park, including installing a new toilet block.<sup>3</sup>

There were special treats too, like the kids' trip to Gumbuya Park in December 2022.<sup>4</sup> And they continued their long tradition of turning up to just about every community event you could imagine, providing coffee, donuts, food from the BBQ, drinks and raffles.



Now that they are closing down, they have been busy cleaning out their shed, and will be donating trailers, hospitality gear and more to the Lions at Licola. The EGTMP gear was purchased by the Australian Lions Foundation to be available in Victoria for future disaster responses. Remaining club funds will be shared amongst the football, netball and bowls clubs, with whom they have been in a mutually supportive relationship for many years. While we are losing our local team, it is worth noting that there are still many Lions Clubs in East Gippsland that can continue to support the Bruthen and District community.

The Bruthen Lions have been involved in a very diverse and challenging range of projects over the 36 years of their existence, and across the district and beyond we have benefited hugely from the fruits of their labours. We thank them for their dedication, hard work and generosity of spirit.

- 1) <https://bruthendistrict.org.au/tambo-rambler/> May 2021, July 2021, August 2022, April 2023
- 2) Rambler June 2023
- 3) Rambler August 2022
- 4) Rambler February 2023

**Jenny C**







Bruthen Lions Club members Desma Payne, Peter and Sonja Weeks, Dale Morgan and Peter Payne were kept busy feeding the crowds. 2.27.02



Peter Weeks (vice president), Sonja Morgan (vice president), Peter Payne (treasurer / project officer), Dale Morgan (affiliates) and Simon Lake (speakers' table), with Sonja for Gippaland, Sharon Clarke, discussing the Bruthen Lions Park upgrade on site last weekend.



Over the weekend, Need for Feed Disaster Relief with the help of a large donation from The Freemasons, took another convoy of hay to the Wellington and East Gippsland shires, who are in their third year of drought. Farmers are struggling as rainfall is again well below average, crops have failed and dams have little water. Simon and Fran Cohn, of the Bruthen Lions Club, hosted the Need for Feed crew overnight on their property at Tambo Upper on Saturday. PICTURED: Some of the Lions Need for Feed crew - Murray Goff, of Bairnsdale, George Raddford, of Lakes Entrance, Graham Cockerell, coordinator with Need for Feed, of Pakenham, Simon and Fran Cohn, of Bruthen, and Desma Payne, of Twin Rivers, enroute.

