

# TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper  
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

February 2025

NUMBER 304

## Eat Drink Explore Bruthen



GIPPSLAND  
Community  
Foundation

GCF proudly  
supports the Tambo  
Rambler  
Community Paper

**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.*





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# The heat was on at the Eat Drink Explore Bruthen Festival

A happy crowd enjoyed the beautiful weather in Bruthen Main Street Garden on Saturday, January 18th for the Eat Drink Explore Bruthen food and wine twilight event. Enabled by grants from East Gippsland Shire and the Gippsland Community Foundation totaling \$13,700, the community-run event attracted families and individuals from across the region and further afield. Bruthen Arts and Events Council volunteers had worked hard to create an event that was much more than just a food and wine festival.

All vendors were Gippsland-based and were required to use produce from Gippsland and punters were delighted with the high standard provided. The combination of fine restaurant-quality food, beverages, family activities and arts created an event with something for everyone. The atmosphere created by positioning the dining, live music provided by Elfi, Dan Cawood, Raven and the Dove, Dog Country and IO, and market stalls in the shady Main Street gardens was relaxed and friendly. The weather was perfect as patrons found a seat and settled in for an afternoon eating, drinking and listening to the music. The fun did not stop there with some great kids entertainment at the Mechanics Hall starting with a very funny live show called The Listies, brought to Bruthen by Forge Theatre. This was followed by some children's arty workshops with cup cake decorating seeing the supply of 64 cupcakes disappearing very quickly. The series of 4 SBA cooking demonstrations covering subjects such as pickling, dehydrating



food, sour dough gluten free bread and Labneh balls were very popular as was the opportunity to talk to staff from Goodman's Seeds who answered a wide range of topics throughout the evening. Gippsland artists featured in the Sculpture Exhibition with a range of small and large works adding another point of interest. (See Pages 6 & 7). And the Highlight? It had to be the Chilli Eating Competition with entrants required to eat their way through a range of locally grown chillies, starting with mild capsicum and finishing with a very hot chilli but it seems not quite hot enough. One person was eliminated when he returned his chillies into the bucket provided while another walked away leaving five brave people. To get a clear winner a Paper Rocks Scissors competition eliminated two finalists leaving three winners. Organisers agreed that hotter chillies need to be grown for any future Chilli Eating competitions!

**J Manley**





## A quick update for the Bruthen Recreation Reserve

Building works continue to progress in anticipation of a Community Opening come April/May - at a home football game. Details will be advertised and we hope to see as many there from the community as possible, and to then stay and cheer on the Bruthen Football and Netball sides as they do battle in our local competition.

Final works include:

- Finishing of concrete works near the new change rooms and in front of the netball courts.
- Carpeting the inside of the new change room facilities.
- Erection of Netball side line shelters on the new courts.
- Landscaping works to tidy up the site.

The Rec Reserve Committee of Management would like to thank the community for their patience during the building process - not long now and we will have one of the best facilities in the district.

**One final point:** A request to the community if we may. Recently the Committee of Management sought the assistance of VICPOL due to continued and unauthorised use that could result in damage to the new Netball Courts and Cricket Practice Nets. The courts and net areas are not designed or



meant to be used as a roller skate, bike or electric scooter surface. Such use causes untold damage to what is approximately \$220,000.00 to date spent on upgrading those facilities. There are signs attached which let everyone know what is not to take place on the new surfaces. While local Police will work with those identified (repeated requests were made) - we would like not to have to take this action in the first place.

Many thanks to the community for your help in keeping our local facilities in good working order.

*Committee of Management*  
**Bruthen Recreation Reserve**

**DO YOU HAVE DEVELOPMENT IDEAS?**

**TALK TO THE TEAM AT DSV!**

*Our team is highly experienced, passionate and ready to help you make your project dreams a reality, from concept development to completion.*

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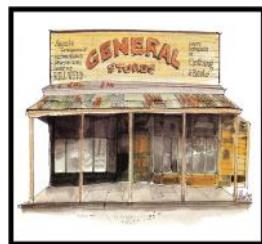
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**DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS**

## Bullant Brewery buzzes with new owners



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



- 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](mailto:BruthenGeneralStore@gmail.com)**



## Sarsfield community celebrates five years of resilience

On Saturday, January 11, the Sarsfield Community came together to celebrate its resilience with a special 5-year anniversary event and twilight market.

The occasion provided a moment to reflect on the community's recovery from the Black Summer bushfires, featuring a timeline of key events from December 2019 to the present.

One of the day's highlights was the heartfelt recognition of the incredible volunteers who helped Sarsfield in the aftermath of the fires, alongside a celebration of the community's ongoing recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Over 650 people attended, enjoying the twilight market with 40 stalls, live music performances by Emily Nock and Christine Watterson, and a delightful show from the Wacky Wombats, who entertained the children. The Sarsfield Fire Brigade brought a truck for kids to explore, while Red Cross staff were on hand to offer support to those who needed it during this emotional event.

Bruthen SES provided excellent management of parking and traffic, ensuring the smooth flow of the large crowd and vehicles.

The Sarsfield Community Association also hosted a sausage sizzle and a wood raffle, with generous



prizes donated by local businesses.

All in all, the event was a great success and a fitting celebration of the strength, resilience, and spirit of the Sarsfield Community.

The event was made possible through assistance from Gippsland Community Foundation, East Gippsland Shire Council and Emergency Recovery Victoria.

**M Kramme**



Bruthen extends a warm welcome to Tom, Jacobi and Danny - the hip new owners from Moruya who have recently taken over the Bullant and without fanfare bring a relaxed, coastal vibe to a convivial new hotspot.

With a great Mexican and local seafood focus, the food was amazing. - I've tried and recommend the freshest oysters from the NSW South Coast. The local fish in the soft-shelled tacos were crunchy and fresh with heaps of

Chipotle and fresh salsa. The crispy chicken wings with house-ranch sauce were generous and delish. Unfortunately, the popular fresh prawn tostadas were sold out. The Dinner IPA is yummy, as is their Irish Red and their home-made pink lemonade with vodka.

Their brews and moreish fare fuel the perfect way to celebrate and enjoy this warm and hospitable bar and restaurant.

**Pamela B**

## Sculpture Exhibition highlights Bruthen artists

As part of East Drink Explore Bruthen, the Sculpture Exhibition, co-ordinated by Heather Rose added a creative, artistic dimension to the day. A room in the Mechanics Hall was transformed into a black/white venue for small to medium works whilst outside offered lawn space for larger creations.

Limestone, wood, textiles and ceramics were the mediums for the indoor exhibits whilst steel and other metals, plaster and barbed wire led to a very imaginative outdoor display.

We wish to thank those artists who kindly donated not only their wonderful works but also their time volunteering to make this second year of the Sculpture Exhibition such a success. We hope they will return for the third year.

Artists involved: Lisa Buckley, Paul Gibbs, Anthony Marshall, Clare Murphy, Peter Oliver, Alan Renshaw, Heather Rose, Scott Sheil, Rachel Steinmann, Julia Trezise, Jon Whitfield.



**Top Right:** Julia Trezise's 'Gum' - wood & wool.

**Middle Right:** Paul Gibbs's Bruthen walnut sculptures forefront with Celtic symbol & Green Man small works on mantelpiece.

**Bottom Right:** Tony Marshall's fish.

**Below:** Heather Rose - 'Out of the Box' and 'I have my Eye on You.'

**Page 7 Top Right:** Heather Rose (limestone) & Clare Murphy (ceramic) works.

**Middle Right:** Scott Sheil's 'Turul' forefront, Heather Rose's 'Maori Frieze' rear both in limestone.







## ANZAC Day 2025

Want to see ANZAC Day 2025 go ahead in Bruthen? Be a volunteer to do just a little bit – but with results that mean a lot. This year a Dawn Service is being planned (on the back of the good reviews we had from last year).

Be part of your community ANZAC Day commemoration.



So, if you have a small amount of time to attend a coord meeting (at the pub closer to the date) and do some jobs on the day (prob 10-20 minutes only) – we could do with your help. A few hands make light work.....so just text Nico with your name and the word 'ANZAC Day' in the text and you will be contacted. Mobile: 0455-988-600.

HALF BROTHERS BOOKING • THE BRUTHEN INN PRESENTS

# BLUES INN BRUTHEN

FEB 14<sup>TH</sup> – FEB 16<sup>TH</sup> – 2025

SMOKESTACK RHINO  
SHOTGUN SAM AND HIS WORLD FAMOUS BLUES BAND  
BILL BARBER • THE HOLDING CELL  
PAUL BUCHANAN'S BLUES XPRESS  
MASKELL – LOVE BAND JARROD SHAW RHIANNON SIMPSON  
GEOFF ACHISON AND TOM WATERS: BRUSH WITH THE BLUES TOUR  
THE BITTER END LITTLE G OLIVIA LAY

SCAN FOR TICKETS

CAMPING AVAILABLE AT THE BRUTHEN CARAVAN PARK MARKET ON SATURDAY

## 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

**Phone (03) 51575201**

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

**BANKSIA**

**BOTTLEBRUSH**

**CHOCOLATE**

**CLEMATIS**

**CORREA**

**GRASS**

**GREVILLEA**

**HAKEA**

**INDIGO**

**LILY**

**MISTLETOE**

**NETTLE**

**NIGHTSHADE**

**SCRUB**

**STINKWEED**

**TREE**

**VIOLET**

**WARATAH**

**WATTLE**

## WORD SEARCH: NATIVE FLOWERS

Ok, this puzzle might be a bit trickier than previous ones, but at least we have (mostly) used the common names rather than their scientific/botanic names. For example, Grass-Tree is a bit easier than Xanthorrhoea, right? Give it a go!

## Target Words

<b>R</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>E</b>

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.





Invitation to a free presentation  
**Listening to Nature**  
 by renowned nature recordist Andrew Skeoch

**Presenter:** Andrew Skeoch

**Time:** February 17, 2025 - 1:00 to 3:00pm

**Venue:** Sarsfield Community Hall, School Rd  
 Just off the Great Alpine Rd, halfway between Bairnsdale and Bruthen

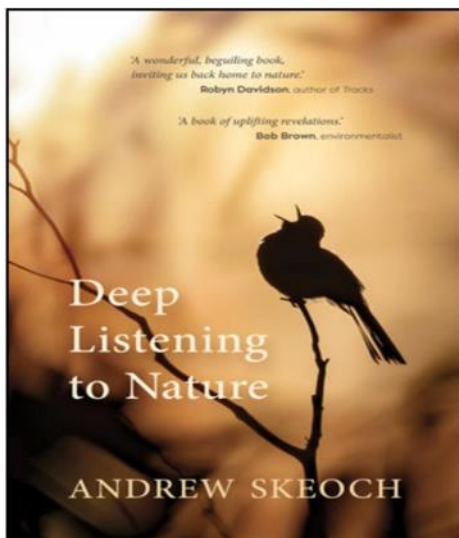
The presentation will follow Birdlife East Gippsland's AGM (9:00 to 12:00 noon) and a 'bring your own' lunch. Come early if you can and talk to members of the various environmental groups invited. Please bring along anyone who might be interested in listening to this engaging speaker.

**Andrew Skeoch - author - naturalist - wildlife sound recordist**



Andrew is an educator, author, naturalist, environmental thinker, and one of Australia's best-known nature sound recordists. Over the last thirty years, he has documented the sounds of wild environments around the planet, with a particular focus on how organisms communicate with each other and has contributed to the soundtracks of a number of major international films.

Andrew is an experienced public speaker, presenting to local community, school groups and university students. He has delivered radio features, keynote addresses and a [TEDx](#) talk, weaving spectacular recordings with visual analysis to engage a wide diversity of audiences.



Andrew is the president of the Australian Wildlife Sound Recording Group and has worked and presented in East Gippsland.

He's also a published author.

You can read more about his achievements on his website:

<https://listeningearth.com/andrewskeoch/index.html>



# Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House



## Welcome back to 2025!

After a much needed break Nikki and Kelsey are back in the House ready and raring to go for 2025. To start the year off with a bang we have our first ever COLOUR RUN! This will be an unforgettable experience that will leave you glowing inside and out. So throw on your whitest t-shirt and get ready to get coloured. This colour run isn't just about getting messy it's about celebrating life, laughter and community. Whether you're running alone, with family, or with a group of friends, this event is all about coming together and sharing joy. Please note this is a registered event so to ensure you get a spot please register early. This can be done by dropping into the house and collecting a form or emailing us at [Info@bdnh.org.au](mailto:Info@bdnh.org.au). We can't wait to see you all there.

As well as this exciting start we are very happy to welcome back our regular Bruthen Remembers Group, starting Tuesday 11th February, and Bruthen Bookies, beginning Thursday 13th February. Some of our other groups, mums & bubs and our youth group, will be take a bit longer to get up and running this year. But rest assured they will be back and with a fresh new look to match!

March looks to be shaping up well with the fabulous Julie from SBA's Kitchen returning to hold a Saucery Workshop which is sure to leave your taste buds amazed! Wednesday 12th March 10am-2pm @ Bruthen Mechanic's Hall. Please call the house for further information and to make sure you don't miss out on a spot in this amazing workshop.

As always please pop in, have a cuppa and chat or just say hi as you are going past, we love having visitors!

LIVE MUSIC AND MARKETS IN THE GARDENS

FAMILY FRIENDLY- FREE ENTRY  
WATER & COLOUR RUN FUN  
SUNGLASSES, FAIRY FLOSS & POPCORN  
FREE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

# B&DNH COLOUR RUN

WALK OR RUN JUST HAVE FUN!

BRUTHEN POLICE Paddock

11.00AM

15TH FEB '25

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - BOOK TODAY  
EMAIL [Info@BDNH.ORG.AU](mailto:Info@BDNH.ORG.AU) OR SMS 0497544490



BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
BRUTHEN & DISTRICT  
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE &  
GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

## Volunteer Call Out

The Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House is putting out a call for volunteers to help make our upcoming Colour Run a vibrant success!

We're looking for community members who are available on Saturday, February 15th, from 10 am to 1 pm to jump in and offer support. Whether you're skilled in setting up and taking down fun courses, a popcorn pro, a fairy floss fanatic, or just happy to lend a hand at the water and chalk stations, we need you! We also need a talented shutterbug to capture all the colorful fun. Your time and energy will directly contribute to a fantastic event for our community. If you're ready to get involved, we'd love to hear from you!

EMAIL [Info@BDNH.ORG.AU](mailto:Info@BDNH.ORG.AU)  
CALL OR SMS 0497544490

Can you help support our

# COLOUR RUN



15TH FEB '25

time required  
10am-1pm



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

### February

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Bruthen Remembers Returns**

10:30am – 12:00pm @ BDNH Hub

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Bruthen Bookies Returns**

1:00pm – 3:00pm @ BDNH Hub



**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>  
B&DNH Colour Run**

11:00am @ the  
Police Paddock  
(behind the  
Mechanics Hall)

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Bruthen Market**

11:00am–2:00pm Bruthen Main Street  
Gardens

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>–Sunday 16<sup>h</sup>**

**Blues INN Bruthen  
@ The Bruthen Inn  
Hotel**



### March

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Mums & Bubs Returns**

9:30–11:00am @ BDNH Hub

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Labour Day Public Holiday**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> SBA's Kitchen–Saucery Workshop**

10am – 2pm @ Bruthen Mechanics Hall

# WE'RE BACK!

2025



House is Open Tuesday to Friday  
10:00am — 3:30pm

### 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)**





Contact Kate Fox – Volunteer  
Coordinator  
0477 185 368  
kfox1@wellways.org

**wellways**

# Are you interested in Volunteering?

## About Us

The Mental Health & Wellbeing Connect team provide free information, lived experience peer support, advocacy and assistance to the families, carers and supports of people living with mental health or substance use challenges, and/or neurodivergence. We would love some dedicated volunteers to join us making a difference!



**mental health &  
wellbeing connect**  
Free for family, carers and supporters

**Do you have  
time to spare?**

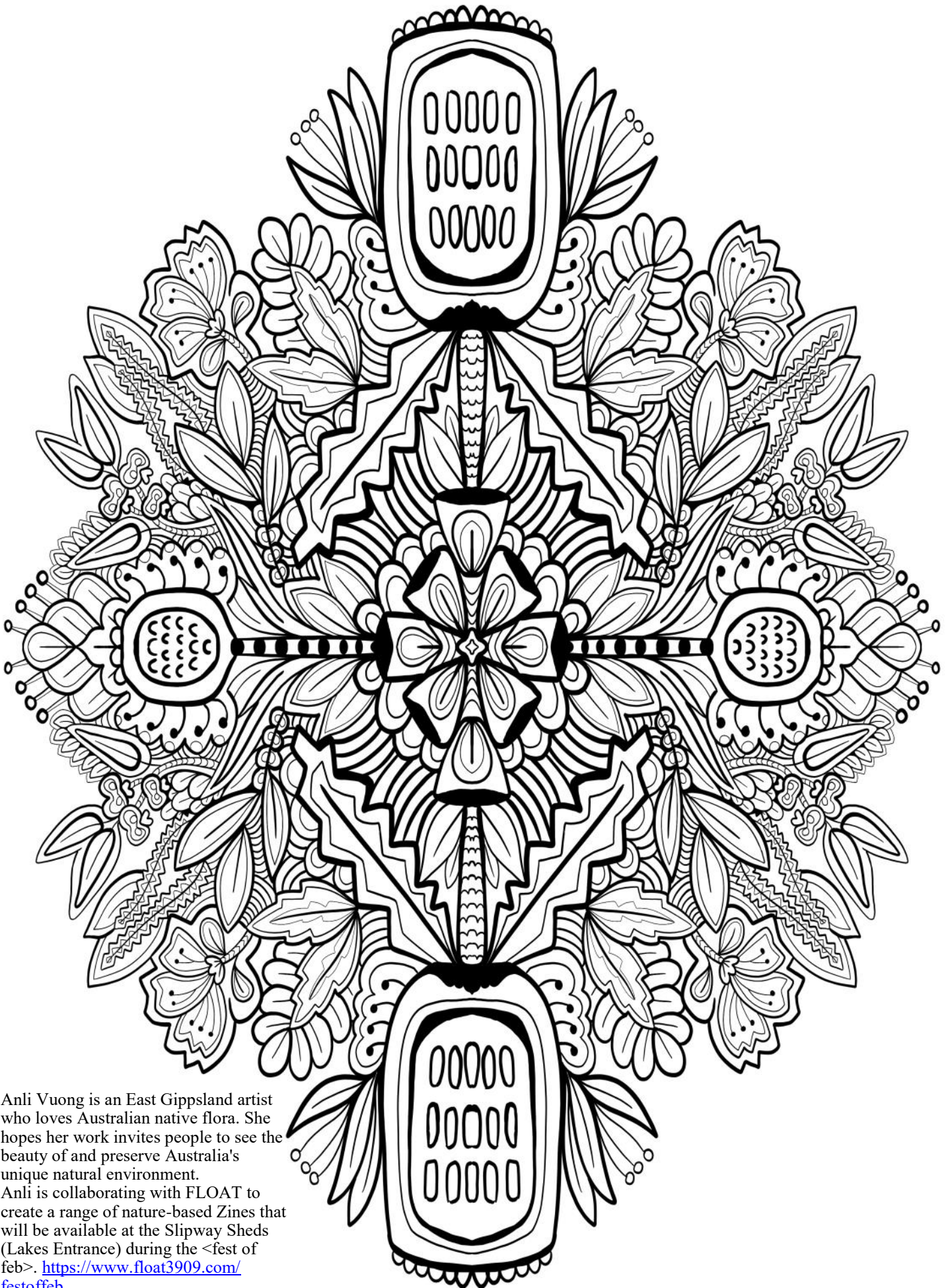
We are looking for

**Administration Support Volunteers  
&  
Lived Experience Carer Support  
Volunteers**

**Come join our amazing team and  
make a positive impact on Mental  
Health and Wellbeing in our  
community.**

Opportunities available in Traralgon &  
Bairnsdale





Anli Vuong is an East Gippsland artist who loves Australian native flora. She hopes her work invites people to see the beauty of and preserve Australia's unique natural environment. Anli is collaborating with FLOAT to create a range of nature-based Zines that will be available at the Slipway Sheds (Lakes Entrance) during the <fest of feb>. <https://www.float3909.com/festoffeb>



# Black-Shouldered Kite - Bird of the Month February 2024

Readily seen perched atop a tree, or hovering over grassland with their feet dangling, is the Black-shouldered Kite. A small to medium raptor (bird of prey), they are small mammal specialist, with a love for the introduced House Mouse.

Black-shouldered Kites have predominantly pale grey plumage, with a pure white head, body and tail and black shoulders. They have an orange-red eye, yellow nostrils and yellow legs and feet. The wings are white underneath, with a small black patch on 'wrist joint' of the underwing. Sexes are alike but the female is larger and juveniles have buff-brown feathers on upperparts.

Found throughout mainland Australia where there is suitable habitat, they typically hunt over natural grassland, vineyards or low farmland stubble that has just enough height to harbour mice or other prey. If you take notice, you can often see one along roads or in vacant lands of urban and coastal areas. They are mainly resident but may move in response to the availability of their rodent prey.

Often hunting at daybreak and dusk, they will work in pairs or alone. They ride on the wind and hover skilfully while using their sharp eyesight to spot prey from afar, then the wings move through a wide arc and they divebomb at the opportune moment. While they are normally silent hunters, they will occasionally let out a short, high-pitched whistle during the breeding season when communicating with their mate. While their main prey is small rodents, they will also eat large insects like grasshoppers, as well as other small mammals, reptiles and birds.

They can breed throughout the year with a peak during spring and autumn and may have two broods a year when food is abundant. They form monogamous pairs cemented through elaborate aerial courtship displays, which involve the male offering the female food in mid-air. For a brief moment they are locked together, each gripping the same prey with their feet as they hover. Their nest is a platform of sticks lined with green leaves, bark or fur, typically well hidden in dense leaves in the top half of a tall tree. The nest is built by the female with the male sometimes helping to gather material. The female incubates while the male either guards from



**Above: Black-Shouldered Kite (photo by Ian Wright)**

a nearby tree or hunts and passes over prey caught. Young fledge from the nest at about 35 days old.

**Karen Ellingsen, BirdLife East Gippsland.**

BirdLife East Gippsland meet weekly at **9am** for Monday morning outings and new members are always welcome. To ensure a variety of habitats, outings take place all over East Gippsland, including visits to private properties. Outings are generally for half a day, with morning tea and lunch breaks. We would love for you to join us. Check our Facebook page and Birdlife Australia events page for more information on outings or other events.

## Schedule of outings - February 2025

DATE	LOCATION	LEADER	9am MEETING PLACE
3rd Feb	Cooringle	John Hutchison	Newmerella Recreation Reserve
10th Feb	Colquhoun Forest/Barker Property	Sue Grima	Princes Hwy/Burnt Bridge Rd turn off
17th Feb	Annual & Ordinary Meetings followed by Special Guest Andrew Skeoch	Pam Hutchison	Meeting 9am Guest 1pm Sarsfield Hall & Rec Reserve School Rd
24th Feb	Canni Creek Racecourse	Jo Gillin	Racecourse Car Park Canni Creek

## 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

11.15am - 12.30pm

**February 5th and 19th.**

Nov 6th & 20th  
Dec 4th & 18th

Phone 5153 9500 with  
any queries about  
the service.

Libraries  
Change Lives



# GLCH

## Services @ Bruthen

### GP Clinic

- Available Wednesdays by appointment only.
- Ensure your appointment is scheduled in Bruthen.

### Community Health Nurse

- Available Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Fees apply, but no one will be denied service due to inability to pay.

### Maternal & Child Health

- Available once a month on a Tuesday by appointment only.

### Pathology Collection

- Open Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM.
- Nurse fees apply.

### Room & Bus Hire

- Available for bookings.

## Booking and Contact Information

### Call 5155 8300

- For GP Clinic and Community Health Nurse appointments, select Option 1.
- For Room and Bus Hire, speak with our Customer Service team.

### Learn More

- Visit: [glch.org.au](http://glch.org.au)
- Follow 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



# Getting to know the Red Gum Plains

We live in a pretty special part of the world. Victoria is split into 28 Bioregions, and the Red Gum Plains landscape is within the Gippsland Plain Bioregion. This bioregion spans from Traralgon in the West, to Lakes Entrance in the East. The Red Gum Plains

landscape comprises around 325,000 ha, where 7% is public land, and 20% has native vegetation cover. The Victorian Government's Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG) lists this area as Forest Red Gum Grassy Woodland Community, while the Federal Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) lists the area as Gippsland Red Gum Grassy Woodland and associated native grassland, as well as Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands of the Temperate Lowland Plains. Whichever name you call it, this ecological community is listed as critically endangered under the EPBC Act.

So, how do you know the bush you are standing in is the Red Gum Plains? Well, to make it a little more confusing there are two forms of this ecological community; a grassland form, and a woodland form. Obviously, if there are few trees, and mostly grasses and herbs, you are standing in a grassland form, and if there are trees, then you are standing in the woodland form. The grasses and herbs are mostly the same for both forms which makes it that little bit easier! You need to be able to identify some of the plant species within the area. A good plant identification book comes in handy.


As the name suggests, the dominant tree species is the Gippsland Red Gum, or Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis* subsp. *mediana*). Other tree species may also be present, along with the Gippsland Red Gum. These may include Drooping Sheoak, Black Sheoak, Apple-Topped Box, Coast Grey Box, But But, White Stringybark, Yellow Box, Snow Gum, Red Box, Candlebark, and Manna Gum.

The ground layer is dominated by a suite of perennial grasses, sedges, herbs and wildflowers (Lillies and daisies) which can be seen flowering mostly in Spring. Species may include: Creeping Bossiaea, Common Rice-flower, Chocolate-Lily, Kidney-Weed, Slender Bottle Daisy, Small St John's Wort, Sprawling Bluebell, Thatch Saw-Sedge, to name a few.


Shrubs are not a significant feature of this ecological community and account for less than 5 to 10% of the overall cover. Species may include: Lightwood, Black Wattle, Blackwood, and Burgan.

There are Flora species that are listed as nationally threatened under the EPBC Act. Some of these are: Matted Flax Lily, Purple Glycine, Dwarf Kerrawang, Swamp Everlasting, Metallic Sun-orchid. And, there are others listed as endangered under the FFG Act. These are: Fisch's Greenhood, Orange-tip Finger-Orchid, Coast Grey Box, Bushy Hedgehog-Grass, Spurred Helmet-Orchid, Forest Red-Box, Dwarf Kerrawang, Fringed Helmet-Orchid, Leafy Greenhood, and Purple Diuris.

There are many fauna species that rely on this ecological community for food, shelter, and for



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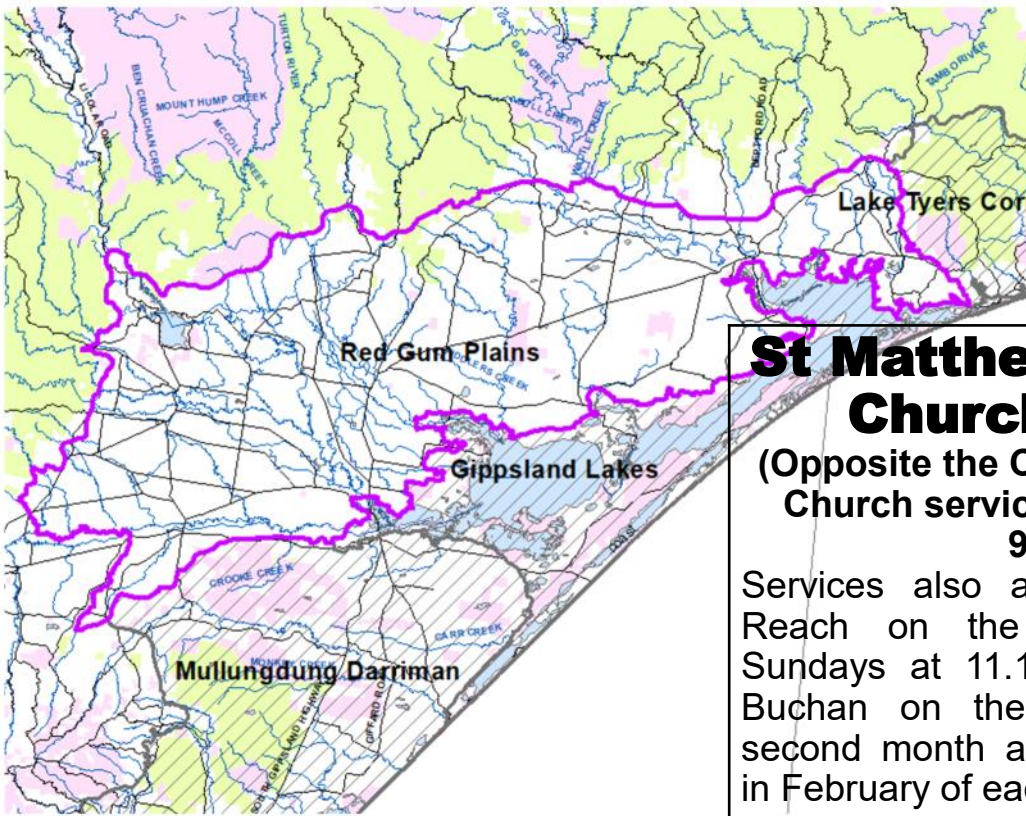
Located at

**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**



With special thanks to

**Phil Vaughan, Project Officer,**  
East Gippsland Landcare Network.

## 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.

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

(Including imposition of ashes)

Wednesday 5 March 2025 at 6pm at St Matthew's, Bruthen

ALL WELCOME!! Please come.

Contact is the Rev'd Brian Norris on 0418 633 446

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

nesting. There is a number of species listed as nationally threatened under the EPBC Act. Some of these are: Swift Parrot, Growling GrassFrog, Green and Golden Bell Frog, Southern Brown Bandicoot. The White Bellied Sea Eagle, Eastern Great Egret, Musk Duck, Blue Billed Duck, Southern Toadlet, Little Eagle, White-throated Needletail, Lace Monitor, Powerful Owl, are listed as Threatened or Vulnerable under the FFG Act. Also, the Black Falcon, Barking Owl, Swift Parrot, are listed as critically endangered under the FFG Act. The main threats to this ecological community as listed include: vegetation clearing, consequent fragmentation of native vegetation remnants, invasion by weeds and feral animals, inappropriate management regimes (grazing, mowing or fire), tree dieback and timber harvesting, and firewood collection. And, now we can add mining to the list.



**Darren Chester**  
Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



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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 March issue is February 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, 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.**

## Get ready for the Blues Inn Bruthen

The Bruthen Inn and Stretch are excited and gearing up for the upcoming Blues Festival.

The Festival will be held from Friday February 14 to 16. The music kicks off on Friday night with local guitar virtuoso Olivia Lay followed by the popular and familiar Smokestack Rhino. The Bruthen Markets are on Saturday with lots of activities for kids and families to get involved in.

The Bruthen Neighbourhood House is hosting a Colour Run at 11am which is sure to be a messy, colourful hit. There will be a selection of our open micers playing throughout the event held in the Bruthen gardens. Saturday afternoon is a free event at the pub with local band The Bitter End playing. Saturday night's opening act is another brilliant performer, Sydney's Little Gem, who at 14 is already an international artist with the first of three tours to the US at 12. She's just returned from Memphis playing gigs and soaking up the rich Blues influences. It's a real coup to secure her as this is her first Victorian gig and Stretch can't wait for the audience to hear her smash it.

The rest of the line-up is a mix of old and soon-to-be new favourites. Paul Buchanan's Blues Express (formerly Voodoo Preachers) is his new band that tends to blues rock, Bill Barber and the Holding Cells are renowned for their Southern rock and Americana-style blues. Shot Gun Sam and the World-Famous Blues Band are high energy blues, rock and party vibe. With hard hitting blues, rock n roll and rockabilly numbers they are guaranteed to get you off your chairs, and dancing. Sunday kicks off recovery day. Maskell Love Band have a unique take on classics and standards and are a refreshing change from the ordinary. Jarrod Shaw offers a soulful blues-inspired show, performing with conviction in fingerstyle and the blues of the Delta with a powerful voice. Rhiannon Simpson Music unfortunately couldn't make it last year, so we will enjoy her for an acoustic blues set in 2025. Geoff Atchison and Tom Waters need no introduction, currently on tour with their Brush with the Blues tour is not to be missed. That's our line-up for this year, with the Tambo Upper school catering Saturday night with the hotel, doing curries etc to help with the load, very tasty and affordable, all led by volunteers.

Tickets are available on [trybooking.com](https://trybooking.com) or at the door. See ya there!

Please check out the Facebook page for tickets, band links and schedule.

**Pamela B with Stretch**

# Ye Old Opp Shop helps out rural communities



Bruthen's Opp Shop has been around for a long time, servicing the local community and further afield.

The Shop was built by the Anglican Church to raise funds for the Diocese, to pay for the upkeep of three churches (Swan Reach, Buchan, as well as Bruthen) and to fund the services of a Minister.

It serves as a place for people to donate unwanted articles, in good condition, as well as somewhere to shop for good quality used clothing, kitchen items, toys, books, CDs, DVDs and linen.

The list goes on. We also have a shed full of furniture.

Recently the shop has been working with remote area Op Shops, sending requested clothes in a prepaid bag from Australia Post which holds 5 kg.

Generous people have paid for these bags, \$25. Thank you.

The shop is staffed by volunteers who as well as serving customers have a big job out the back going through all the donations.

The shop has been transformed in recent weeks, with streamlined coat hangers, more models, and clothes racks. Much easier for customers to find that special dress.

We often have sales.

We also provide car sale businesses with rags for car cleaning, using a machine to tear up pieces of sheets into equal sizes.

There is also a lot of work involved in finding ethical sources to take our "move on" items which are not good enough to sell but can be recycled.

It's a happy fun place to shop. Going to a theme party? We have the dress for you. Men's clothes too!

And it's fun to work there, interacting with travelers who call in and locals alike.

New volunteers are always welcomed to give it a go.

**Kath Gallagher**  
Opp Shop volunteer





