

# TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper  
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

August 2025

NUMBER 310

## Bruthen Fire Brigade Awards Night



**Above: Lieut. Anthony Martin with a five-year certificate of service and Brigade 2024/25 Member of the Year Award.**

**Left: Life Member Colin Froud (50 years' Service to the Bruthen Fire Brigade)**



**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.*



**Above: Fire Fighter Paul Nichol & Lieut. Bryce Lewis enjoy the night.**

**Left: Ken Smith (35 Year CFA Medal)**

**Below: Marj Jones with 25-year Clasp to her National Medal.**

**More Photos on Page 23.**



**Meet The Team At**



 **Shoreside**  
Real Estate

**03 5155 3133**

1/521 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance VIC 3909

[shoresidere.com.au](http://shoresidere.com.au)

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

# Bruthen Fire Brigade's Annual Awards & Presentation Dinner

The Bruthen Fire Brigade held its annual awards and presentation dinner Saturday 26 July at the Bruthen Bowls Club. The night saw awards recognising over 220 cumulative years of service to the Fire Brigade by a number of individuals. Special guests for the night included: Chief Officer of the CFA Jason Heffernan, Assistant Chief Fire Officer District 11 Daryll Hunter & his wife Kathy, and life members Colin Froud and Ken Smith.

The night started with the presentation of five-year certificates of service to a group of Brigade members and Fire Fighters who stood up and joined the Brigade after the 2019/20 bush fires. Five-year Certificate of Service recipients included: Matt Hooton, Alan Jones, Marj Jones, Anthony Martin, Neil Streeter & Jon Whitfield.

Dinner featured a sumptuous smoked brisket and pulled pork with assorted roast vegetables and was served by Master Chef Matt Hooton (supported ably by Sue Smith & Kylie Martin). Post dinner CFA Medals were then presented to Sue Smith (25 years), Ken Smith (35 Year Life Member) and Colin Froud (50 Year Life Member). Several National Medals were also presented. The Australian National Medal recognizes long and diligent service by members of eligible government and voluntary organizations who protect or assist the community in law enforcement or during times of emergency or natural disaster. It is awarded for 15 years of service, with clasps for each additional 10 years. National Medal recipients included Bob

Cooper (15 years), James Nicholas (15 years), Marj Jones (25-year Clasp) & Shane Turner (25 & 35-year clasps).

A special certificate of recognition was presented to Alan Jones for over 50 years involvement in Emergency Service organisations across Australia. The certificate recognised service with Queensland SES, NSW SES, NSW Volunteer Coastal Patrol, NT Police, Australian Federal Police and finally service with the CFA through Bruthen Fire Brigade.

The final award of the night was made to the Brigade Member of the Year. This award is for both support and operational fire fighting members alike. It considers contributions across the spectrum of Brigade operations and events over a 12-month period. Captain James Nicholas outlined the key criteria for the award – noting that it is not for any one individual act alone. The award recognises sustained involvement in Brigade operational, support and training activities. In essence it is for *“the big things, the little things, for everything while always doing the team thing”*. The award recipient can be nominated by any active member of the Brigade for the Captain's consideration. This year the Bruthen Fire Brigade Member of the Year was awarded to Lieutenant Anthony Martin who met all the criteria, making a substantial contribution to the Brigade. Finally, many thanks must go to the Bruthen Bowls Club for hosting the Brigade in their club facilities.

## Chester launches 2026 #LoveGippsland Calendar Competition

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester is calling on Gippslanders to enter their best photographs capturing the iconic essence of the region in his newly launched 2026 #lovegippsland calendar competition.

This year marks the 14th edition of the local MP's well-loved annual photography competition, with prizes available for the best entries.

"I love Gippsland and this calendar showcases the best Gippsland has to offer, with 13 pictures chosen for the final version," Mr Chester said.

"This year's theme, 'Iconic Gippsland', will be a great opportunity for locals to share images of what they believe makes Gippsland such an iconic region, whether it's the coastline, rivers, lakes, mountains or a special building in a town you love."

"I am continually amazed by the impressive standard and sheer number of entries my office receives each year, and I look forward to seeing a diverse array of submissions again this year."

More than 30,000 free copies of Mr. Chester's

#lovegippsland calendar will be available across Gippsland at the end of this year.

Entries close at 5pm on Friday, October 3, 2025, with a maximum of two entries per person.

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.

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.

Visit [www.darrenchester.com.au](http://www.darrenchester.com.au) to enter or for more details.

## Bruthen Arts and Events Council News

As any of you who were there will know, the **Medieval Winter Fire Festival** was a great success with over 2000 people attending. We had some lovely feedback from people as they left and on social media afterwards, which was like music to our ears. It was a lot of work to pull it off once again but we had heaps of help from the East Gippsland Historical Re-enactment Society and our team of generous volunteer helpers. Thank you also to East Gippsland Shire for a small grant that, along with \$10 gate entry and bar income ensured that we could cover costs.

Once again, the volunteers came out and helped with **The Passion Of Saint Nicholas Show** and Christmas in July Dinner. Lesley and her kitchen elves produced a really tasty meal with delicious vegetables, mulled wine pulled beef and roast chicken, with trifle and pavlova for dessert. The show was an awesome mix of comedy, singing, story-telling and some profoundly sad moments. Geraldine Quinn was so easy to work with and a very talented, experienced performer.

### So what is next?

**Mixed Bag 25 (Friday Sept 19 – Sunday 21)** will fill the hall with art in many different mediums and styles. There will be sculpture to ponder about and

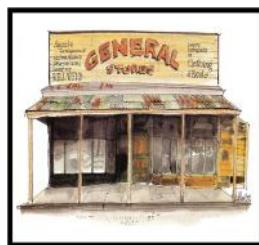
## DO YOU HAVE DEVELOPMENT IDEAS?

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.*

*Call us today for all your planning needs.*

**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)

lots of paintings, drawings, photographs and hangings on walls and screens to inspire and create discussion.

Never content with just a straightforward event the organisers are planning an art exhibition with more! It will be a weekend of activities starting with the Grand Opening on Friday evening with live music, yummy nibbles and a special guest to make sure it is an opening to remember. Saturday will be an interesting day with art and craft demonstrations and Sunday will introduce a new aspect to the exhibition with an **Art Supplies INXS Market**. Anyone wishing to sell excess art and craft supplies is invited to apply for a stall site, car boot site or simply a box site to display and sell all those bits and pieces collected over the years and never used. No junk accepted. There is a whisper that there will be some ancient craft skills on display as well but the details are yet to be finalised.

Entry forms can be found on our web page: [www.baec.com.au](http://www.baec.com.au) or email [baecarts@gmail.com](mailto:baecarts@gmail.com). You can also follow us on the Bruthen Presents page on Facebook or Bruthen Presents on Instagram.

### HELLO READERS!

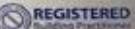
Do you have any stories or photos to share with us? On any aspect of the many strands of community life or our local environment? We always welcome new input and can be contacted at [tamborambler@gmail.com](mailto:tamborambler@gmail.com). Our team has a regular planning meeting on the third Tuesday of each month in the room at the rear of GLCH at 10.30. (Next meeting is August 19.) Feel free to drop in for a chat ... no strings attached.

Special thanks to historian Don Tylee and to Deb Squires, President of East Gippsland Family History Group, for permission to republish the fascinating story of Emma Ward. This was originally published in the June 2025 edition of The Black Sheep.

And thanks also to our great bunch of contributors who have given us such a lovely range of articles reflecting diverse aspects of our community life.



**DANIEL CALABRO** New Homes - Renovations - Extensions

Mob. 0407 524 256 [calabrobuilders@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:calabrobuilders@aussiebb.com.au) 

Specialising in new home builds – extensions – renovations – bathrooms – pergolas & decks.

Registered with over 35 years of experience – your local & trusted builder.

Obligation free quote – call Daniel on 0407 524 256.

## Todd Cook & The Rufous Whistlers Album Launch



Bruthen's own Todd Cook provided a warm, rootsy & impactful evening of music to launch his sixth studio album 'Heal Plant Grow' on July the 4th at the Bruthen Mechanics Hall as a highlight event of the East Gippsland Winter Festival.

The evening kicked off with wonderful performances by Alley Cats Community Choir and Olivia Lay as supports, before Todd and his fantastic band 'The Rufous Whistlers' (Martin Potts on double bass, Brent Hodgkins on drums, and Alex Burkoy on violin) took to the stage for an over hour-long set filled with old songs, songs from his new album and a cover song for good measure.

Todd's ability to deliver deep, emotive storytelling through song is matched by his incredible musicianship, with each song performed having an insightful story about its origin attached, providing richer context to his already powerful songwriting.

A highlight from the new album included the title track 'Heal Plant Grow', a song that utilises imagery of beautiful redgums growing as a metaphor for personal growth and healing.

A poignant moment of the night was the performance of the new song 'Butcher', a song that wrestles with the subject matter of the dark history of displacement and massacre of the Gunaikurnai people of this land, and the stone monuments that remain to commemorate the men who committed these acts.

Later in the night, the Alley Cats Community Choir joined in chorus with the band, whilst many of the

audience sang (and stomped) along.

The night was filled with powerful storytelling, skilled instrumentation and deeply moving music. The concert showcased the incredible talent of Todd Cook once again, and beautifully embodied the themes of 'Heal Plant Grow'.

-Brayden S

## 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**

Bruthen Football Netball Club Presents

the Funny & Epic team from

# Bogan Bingo

WARNING  
EXPLICIT  
LANGUAGE



Bruthen Recreation Reserve

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

Casserole Dinner from 6.30pm - Show starts 7.30pm

Drinks at bar prices Tickets available from the club

**\$25 Adults Dinner & Bogan Bingo**

**\$10 Child Dinner & Bogan Bingo**

Prizes for Best Dressed Bloke, Sheila & Juvenile  
**Dress Code : Your inner Bogan**



★★★★★

Testimonials

SO MUCH FUN!  
Yet again, Bogan Bingo has delivered!  
Adam was an absolute legend to deal with and our hosts Shane & Andrew were absolute guns! Everyone enjoyed our night, loads of laughs and fun... thanks guys!

★★★★★

Testimonials

Footy Club Function  
Had the guys from bogan bingo for one of our footy/netball club functions. They were both absolute naturals at what they do. We had a very mixed age crowd and they appealed to everyone!

# Finding Emma Ward: midwife and “proprietress of farm and bullock teams,” in Bruthen in the 1860’s

By Don Tylee

For over thirty years I have faced a brick wall when looking for the origin story of Emma – mother of the Sarah Webb who married Walter Twitchett. In my retirement I have now had the chance to do deeper research and write a story of my Twitchett family. In the process, and with the assistance of other people and more accessible records, I have found that Emma was baptised in England as Emey Redey, was sent to Van Diemen’s Land (VDL) as the convict Amy Walker, and died in Bruthen as Emma Ward (with a few other names on the way). This is a story about Emma’s life and some of the methods used to piece together her life journey.

My search started with the birth record for Emma’s daughter Sarah Elizabeth Stella Webb - she was baptised in St James church in Melbourne on 15 March 1840, having been born on 17 December 1839. Her parents are recorded as Frederick (labourer) and Emma Webb of Melbourne. This was in the days when Melbourne was part of the Port Phillip District of New South Wales, so there is no other record of her birth. Unluckily, someone has stamped a number over Sarah’s full name (see below) so some researchers suggest her middle name is Stilton rather than Stella. Interestingly, some of Sarah’s later records state she was born on the Murray River in Victoria which, if correct, indicate Emma and Fred must have roamed widely for the times.

I could not find any obvious birth, death or marriage records in Victoria for Frederick and Emma Webb, so the next source of information was from records relating to their daughter Sarah Webb. The marriage certificate for Sarah Elizabeth Stilly Webb and Walter Twitchett in 1858 in Sale shows Sarah’s parents as Frederick Stilly Webb (labourer) and Emma Jones.<sup>2</sup> Sarah died in Bairnsdale in 1922 and her death certificate shows her parents as William Ward (labourer) and Emma Ward.<sup>3</sup> To show how messy names were in this family, Sarah’s grandson-in-law, Neil Johnson of Bruthen, later had a note added to the death certificate to show that much of the family information on the certificate was incorrect and Sarah’s parents should be recorded as “unknown.”

So that meant that I was looking for a Frederick (Stilly / Stilton?) Webb and Emma Webb / Ward / Jones.

“Ancestry” shows seventy family trees for this couple – most showing them as Frederick Stilton Webb and Emma Jones or Ward. But I soon noticed that none of the trees had links to any primary birth or marriage records for Fred or Emma. Neither was there a record linked to the preferred death of Emma in 1854 although there was a record linked to the preferred death of Fred in 1878 in Bairnsdale.

Luckily there was a long obituary for the Fred who died in 1878, and it showed he was a solicitor that arrived from England around 1853 – thus making it a little late to have fathered Sarah. I was also suspicious that a labourer had turned into a solicitor in those days, and appeared in so many newspaper articles in that role. There are also no marriages or deaths recorded in Victoria that have a given name of Stilton or Stilly, so I figured that someone had incorrectly pieced together several pieces of information about various Frederick Webbs (which is a common name) and 69 other “Ancestry” users had copied it.

The only consistent information was the name Frederick Webb, so I focused on researching that name in Australia at that time, following several people to see if I could make a connection. I stumbled across a single “Ancestry” family tree that had an Amy Walker marrying Frederick Webb in VDL in 1836 – this tree had the descendants for Amy but no death. It turns out that Amy and Fred were both convicts so many records are available online. It also means that they had to get permission to marry from the government in September 1836 as

15 <sup>th</sup> March 1839	Sarah Elizabeth Webb	Frederick Webb	Melbourne Labourer	J. J. Wilson Chaplain
No. 92.	Daughter of Emma			

**Victoria baptism record for Sarah Webb 1840 \*1**

1841 Webb	Frederick John (1)	14 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	29 Sept.	Yed
1841 Amy Walker	J. Anna			

**Van Diemen's Land Convict Department record of permission to marry for Amy and Fred. \*4**

1.2. Frederick Webb	of this Parish Bachelor	and were
2. Emma Walker	of this Parish Widower	
arrived in this Church	by	
the sixteenth day of November	with consent of both	
in the year 1836.		
his Marriage was	Per	
permitted between us	Philip Palmer cur. Rural Dean Chaplain.	
	the mark X of Frederick Webb	
	the mark X of Emma Walker.	
in the Presence of	John Blay.	
	Joseph A. Males.	

**Green Ponds church register showing marriage of Emma and Fred. \*5**

When they got married two months later in Green Ponds (now Kempton, Tasmania) the register showed her name as Emma Walker – the point at which she changed from Amy to Emma. Luckily there are some good records available for convicts, including the Female Convicts Research Centre Inc. in Tasmania which has a fantastic database for women convicts and this proved very helpful in understanding more of Emma’s life.

The FCRC explained that, although Emma was not really a widow as she had a living husband and children in England, it was not uncommon for convicts to take another spouse in the new land. It was also not uncommon for them to change their name – especially once they completed their sentence.

From the female convict database, and other convict and English records, I found that Amy / Emma was the daughter of Elizabeth and Benjamin Redey (labourer) and was baptised in Coberley Gloucestershire as Emey Redey on 21 November 1802.\*6 Coberley was a small agricultural village about 200 km NNW of London and 15 km east of Gloucester and it seems that her family had worked as agricultural labourers in the village for several generations. Her convict record showed that she had some significant scars including a burn, was illiterate, and worked as a labourer / farm servant / dairy maid / and was good with milk and cheese.\*7

Amy Redey married William Walker (labourer) in Coberley on 15 November 1821 and they went on to have three kids: Ann Walker in 1824, Eli Walker in 1826, and Thomas Walker in 1828 – all baptised in Coberley.\*8, \*9, \*10, \*11 The story goes that on 5 February 1830, Amy Walker (28 year old labourer), husband William Walker (42 year old labourer) and Edwin Atkins (18 year old blacksmith) stole a sheep in Coberley.\*12 They were all tried at the Gloucester assizes on 7 April 1830 and, in spite of some discrepancies in the evidence, William was found not guilty, but Amy and Edwin were guilty. Amy and Edwin were both sentenced to death – a sentence which was then commuted to seven years transportation. Amy left England in the ship America on 6 January 1831 and arrived in Hobart on 9 May 1831, leaving husband William to raise their two remaining young children. It seems that Amy's husband William did not remarry and died in Coberley in 1844, at which time their two surviving children were Ann (20 years old) and Eli (18 years old).\*13

Frederick Webb was a 20 year-old single ploughman from Suffolk, England who had been convicted for stealing a chook, arriving in VDL on the ship John (1) in 1831 for his seven year sentence.\*14

The 1830's were a difficult time for those working in the agricultural sector in England as demand slumped following the Napoleonic wars and farmers were increasing their use of machinery and reducing labour. Many agricultural labourers were therefore feeling frightened for their future and sometimes families were going hungry. There were many convicts like Amy and Fred that had committed relatively minor theft crimes, but who were then welcomed for their skilled and "free" agricultural labour when they arrived in VDL.

Once in VDL, Amy was assigned to several masters: the first being Thomas Yardley Lowes of Hobart. It seems that in addition to running a farm where Amy worked, he was well known as an

auctioneer and business man. I can not find anything that makes me think he was a particularly bad master but I found this 1832 court report regarding another of his assigned convicts – obviously the reporter (and / or judge) found some humour but I am guessing the convict didn't.

*Monday, August 20.  
Henry Dickson, an assigned servant to  
Mr. T. Y. Lowes, expressing a great dislike  
to his food, consisting of good stall-fed  
beef, a sample of which was produced, was  
sentenced to receive 25 lashes to sharpen his  
appetite.*

Amy stayed with Lowes for about two years, which indicates a reasonably harmonious working relationship. Amy was then sent to the Female Factory for being "insolent," with a recommendation that she be sent to work outside Hobart – possibly to stop her being "tempted by" people / activities in the big town, or maybe Amy engineered this herself to get back to a more rural area. Amy got her Ticket-of-Leave in 1835, married Fred in Green Ponds in November 1836 and became free after the completion of her sentence on 7 April 1837 – and was then known as Emma Webb. Fred got his Certificate of Freedom three months later on 12 July 1837 at which point they were both free to travel and work wherever they liked.

It seems, however, that they were living in reasonable conditions as they stayed in Green Ponds for at least two years.



# WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



CFA  
BRUTHEN

HELP PROTECT  
YOUR COMMUNITY



Train now to be  
ready for the 2025  
summer season.

OPEN DAY:  
Sun 7 Sep 1:30pm  
free BBQ

FREE UNIFORM, FREE TRAINING

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

TEAMWORK | RESPECT | COMMUNITY

> CALL CAPTAIN NICO ON 0418 349 698

The advertisement below suggests that Emma and Fred were at least tenants of their own house, given they had a boarder. If they had sufficient money and any inclination, they could have legally returned to Britain, but many ex-convicts experienced better conditions in VDL than they would have had back home (and there was the little issue of bigamy). My guess is they were both good workers in high demand in that agricultural area so they stayed.

**Notice.**  
**IF JOHN POWELL does not fetch**  
**I awav his box and things, and pay me for**  
**his Board and Lodgings, they will be sold in**  
**14 days from this date.**

FREDERICK WEBB.

Green Ponds, March 22, 1839. (7629)

Frederick is still in Green Ponds in Mar 1839.\*16 (Colonial Times 26 March 1839)

At this point, being labouring class and no longer tracked by the government, it becomes very difficult to identify them in papers and records as Webb is a fairly common name. I believe they were in Melbourne for the birth of their daughter Sarah on 17 December 1839, because Sarah was christened in Melbourne and there is no birth record for her in Tasmania. It is possible they had gone to look for work in Victoria as the depression deepened in VDL into the early 1840's.

An Emma Webb gets a mention in a Melbourne newspaper in January 1840:

*Caution to Laundresses.—Isaac Bailey, a carter in the employ of Mr Hudson, was charged by Mr Chisholm, with stealing about two dozen of ladies silk waist-bands, by abstracting them when conveying them with other property from the prosecutor's late shop to his new one in Collins-street, and Emma Webb, a poor and industrious woman was charged with receiving the same from Bailey in payment for washing. This fellow told her that he had bought them at an auction a few days previously, and requested her to sell them for him; both committed. The female has been since liberated on bail. \*17*

I am inclined to think this is our Emma as she was nursing a baby at that time (which would make it more likely that she would get bail), and the description as being poor rules out any of the rich Webbs in town at that time – Melbourne having a population around 5,000 at the time. Emma later gave evidence against Isaac Bailey who was found guilty and sentenced to seven years transportation – probably to Tasmania. \*18 Emma was found not guilty as the prosecutor believed that Emma was not aware the items had been stolen – a fairly lucky outcome for Emma in the circumstances. It seems that Emma was back in VDL for the birth and death of their unnamed daughter in Hobart on 27 December 1845. \*19

After many hours of research, my best guess is that Fred died in the Benevolent Asylum in Melbourne in

July 1852 aged 40 years. \*20 There is a burial record for this Fred but it has no family details, and the State Library records for the asylum do not go back this far.

If the above is true, 50 year old Emma would have been on her own in 1852, caring for their 12 year old daughter Sarah. Given the later BDM records as explained previously, my guess is that Emma Webb then formed a relationship with a Mr Ward and / or a Mr Jones – but once again, these are common names and difficult to verify and track.

When Sarah Webb married Walter Twitchett in Sale in January 1858, they were recorded as both living in Bruthen – Walter being a stock keeper and Sarah being a spinster. \*21 What wasn't recorded is that they were both children of convicts. They got married in Sale as there was no church in Bruthen at that time, with the population reaching only 171 in 1871.

I believe Sarah and Walter Twitchett lived in Bruthen after their marriage, producing five children between 1858 and 1867. I purchased two of the birth certificates and the 1858 one shows Walter as a labourer and Mrs Ward as the witness / midwife. The 1866 certificate shows Walter is a Bullock Driver and Mrs Ward is again the midwife. I believe Mrs Ward is our Emma Webb, mother of Sarah Webb, and was most probably living with Sarah until Sarah (aged 18 years) married in 1858, and maybe even after they married.

At the government auction in Sale on 30 December 1859, Emma Ward bought a block of land in Bruthen – it being a Suburban Lot of 6 acres and 2 roods. It seems suburban blocks were close to town but bigger than Town Lots and smaller than farming blocks. Emma's block was located on what is now known as the Great Alpine Road, in between Farmers Rd and Blumes Lane. William Twitchett (presumably Walter Twitchett) also purchased some land in the area around that time. \*22



Emma Ward's land in Bruthen in 1860. \*23

I wonder where they got the money? Another point of interest is that Emma Ward is likely to have been officially single at that time or it would have to be in her husband's name as the law then stood. The next mention of Emma is in April 1863, when she placed an advertisement in the local paper asking people to stop talking about her.



### Emma's block in relation to Wiseleigh on the left and Bruthen on the right, half way across the flats.

I wonder what they were saying – was it about her work as a midwife or owner of bullocks, her multiple relationships? Or did they find out she was an ex-convict – a Van Demonian – a derogatory name Victorians liked to use to discourage convicts coming to their “free colony?” Anyway, I like her assertiveness.

**MRS. EMMA WARD, Bruthen on Tambo, gives NOTICE to those persons who have been maligning her character, that should she hear any more such reports, she will take Proceedings at Law for Defamation.**

### Gippsland Times 17 April 1863

The Woods Point Directory 1866 lists Mrs Ward as “proprietress of farm and bullock teams” and William Twitchett as carrier – both in Bruthen. I can find no likely William Twitchetts in Victoria around then, so I believe the latter should read Walter Twitchett who was known to be a bullock driver at this time.

The use of the word proprietress suggests to me that Emma may have owned the bullock teams and her son-in-law Walter Twitchett operated them. Other aspects that point to that arrangement are that Emma does not appear in folk lore in the way that Agnes Buntine bullock driver is famous – and that Walter separated from his wife Sarah and became a farmer not long after Emma died. I don't know what happened to Emma's six acres of land but it would have been a good staging post for a carrier working on the busy route between Port Albert and the gold fields at Omeo.

Emma died of hepatitis in Bruthen on 31 May 1866, aged 63, and was buried in the Bruthen cemetery the next day. \*24 Her death certificate was informed by the undertaker who described her as a 60 year midwife who had been in Victoria for 20 years – with parents, place of birth, spouse and children unknown. After seeing Emma's occupation given as a midwife, I went back and checked some of the

local and family birth certificates I have and found that Emma Ward was present at a number of them.\*25 Interestingly, there is no mention of Emma being a proprietress of a business.

Having been a convict made Emma's life harder and appears to have been disruptive to family relationships – a trait which continued to impact in the next two generations of her descendants. However, it seems to me that Emma was very resourceful in making the best of her lot in life and contributed to the community.

### FOOTNOTES

1. Vic BDM as 1840 #12325
2. Vic Wedding Cert 1858 #894
3. Vic Death Index 1922 #3752 – Sarah Twitchett
4. Tasmania Archives CON51-1-1 page 89 permissions to marry register 1836
5. Archives Tasmania RGD36-1-3 Page 65 marriage Register Green Ponds:#3591
6. Ancestry, England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975: Emey Redey; Female; Baptism Date 21 Nov. 1802; Coberley, Gloucester, England; Father Benjamin Redey; Mother Elizabeth; FHL Film Number 425391
7. Female Convict Database: Amy Walker convict #1456
8. Ancestry, Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1938: William Walker (bachelor) to Amey Redden (Spinster), 15 Nov 1821, Coberley; by Banns
9. Ancestry, Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1913: #71 baptised Coberley on 25 Jul 1824, Ann Walker to William (labourer) and Amey Walker.
10. Ancestry, Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1913: (pasted in register) baptised Coberley on 26 Jun 1826, Eli Walker to William (labourer) and Amey Walker. (indexed in Ancestry as Elithe Walk-er).
11. Ancestry, Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1913: #95 baptised Coberley on 12 Oct 1828, Thomas Walker to William (labourer) and Amey Walker.
12. Tasmania, Female Convicts Database; Amy Walker convict ID #1456 accessed 26/12/2024
13. Ancestry, Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Burials, 1813-1988: #105, William Walker, Coberley, buried 4th May 1829, age 49.
14. Tasmania Archives CON13-1-5 Image 10.
15. The Tasmanian (Hobart) 24 Aug 1832
16. Colonial Times (Hobart) 26 Mar 1839
17. Port Phillip Gazette 25 Jan 1840
18. Port Phillip Gazette 1 Feb 1840
19. Archives Tasmania, RGD33-1-2-P599; 1845 birth stillborn female Webb, mother Emma Webb formerly Walker, father Frederick Webb carpenter. Informant: Thomas Jenner inmate Liverpool St
20. Vic Death Cert #28652 in 1852.
21. Vic Wedding Cert #894 1858
22. See <https://mapwarper.prov.vic.gov.au/maps/612>;
23. Gippsland Guardian 10 Aug 1860 and 4 Jan 1861; <https://mapwarper.prov.vic.gov.au/maps/612>
24. Vic Death Certificate # 5452 1866
25. Eg Present at birth of grand dau Sarah Twitchett in Bruthen 26 Jan 1866 - Vic Birth Cert 1866 #6025. Mrs Ward was also present at birth of unnamed child of Elizabeth Lucas b. 11 Feb 1866 in Nicholson – Vic Birth Cert 1866 #6023

\* This burial would have taken place in the original cemetery at Bruthen that was located in Church Street, now under the Bruthen Bowling Club greens.

Articles written in 1928 suggest that there were still headstones at the Church Street site and questions were then being asked as to if or when any exhumations to the “new” cemetery had been or were to be carried out.



## East Gippsland Regional Waterway Strategy Renewal

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is hosting community information sessions across the region throughout July and August.

“These events are a great opportunity for community members to connect with CMA staff, ask questions and discuss priorities for the region’s environment and waterways,” East Gippsland CMAs CEO Bec Hemming said.

“Staff members, at each location, present on projects in each region and about the renewal of the East Gippsland Regional Waterway Strategy.”

At the Bruthen session the Tambo and Nicholson Rivers were the main topics including what waterway health projects have been completed, community groups in the region and the health of the lower catchment including the Gippsland Lakes. The CMA is preparing the draft East Gippsland Regional Waterway Strategy. This is strategic plan

that guides investment in waterway management activities over a ten-year period. The purpose of this strategy is to ensure the future management of our waterways keeps providing important environmental, social, cultural and economic values. The first stage of the renewal process is community consultation. We are inviting people to have their say, and this can be done by answering one or many questions on the [pinpoint website](#). There are several types of feedback that can be provided via this website including mapping feedback, completing the survey and people’s vision for the region’s waterways. **See also page 12.**

“If having your say via the website is not for you but you do want to give the CMA feedback, we’d be happy to hear from you via email, phone call or you could arrange a visit and have a face-to-face chat with staff,” said Bec.

## Learning about birds at Tambo Upper Primary School in Term 2

During Term 2, Birdlife East Gippsland volunteers visited Blue and Yellow Rooms at Tambo Upper Primary School. The Prep, Gr 1 & Gr 2 students were engaged in a nature unit and were interested in learning more about birds. President of Birdlife East Gippsland, Dr Derek Russell was accompanied by BLEG volunteer Ros Kempton who also volunteers at the school and knows the class well.

The children were engrossed in Derek's interesting presentation about birdlife, including local birds the children are familiar with. An activity of identifying an array of bird skulls displayed around the classroom caught the kids' imagination and curiosity. In addition to the numerous bird skulls, from very large to very small, there was a smaller group of animal skulls from local wildlife. All kids love a challenge involving skulls and the young students worked enthusiastically in pairs and small groups figuring out which skull matched the list provided. The session was concluded with a Q&A which included some quirky and interesting questions, observations and personal stories. The fun and informative session was enjoyed by young and old, the children, the teachers and the BLEG visitors.





EAST GIPPSLAND  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

We are renewing the East Gippsland Regional Waterway Strategy, and we'd like your input. Scan the QR code to answer one or more quick questions. You can provide as little or as much feedback as you like - every comment counts!

Or visit:  
[pinpoint.egcma.com.au](http://pinpoint.egcma.com.au)



Scan me!

## For more information

Phone: 5152 1184

Email: [reception@egcma.com.au](mailto:reception@egcma.com.au)



Below are some handy links to websites



**EGCMA**

Visit EGCMA's website for information about what we do



**Victorian Environmental Water Holder**

Water for the environment protects rivers and wetlands



**East Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy**

The Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) provides a vision for the integrated management of natural resources across East Gippsland.



**Love our Lakes - Gippsland Lakes**

The Gippsland Lakes are precious. Together we can protect them for future generations.





## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

### LET'S COME TOGETHER TO TALK ABOUT YOUR FAVOURITE WATERWAYS

The East Gippsland CMA will be coming to your community to talk about our latest projects.

This is also an opportunity for the CMA to hear from you, the community, about your priorities.

Come along for a chat, cuppa, ask questions and let us know what is important to you, your community, your local environment, and waterways.

Refreshments include sausage sizzle, biscuits and tea and coffee.

#### For more information

Phone: 5152 1184

Email: [reception@egcma.com.au](mailto:reception@egcma.com.au)



EAST GIPPSLAND  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

#### Locations

##### **Lindenow** ◀

Tuesday 29 July - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Lindenow Memorial Hall

##### **Bruthen** ◀

Thursday 31 July - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Bruthen Mechanics Hall

##### **Lakes Entrance** ◀

Tuesday 5 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Gippsland Lakes Fishing Club

##### **Buchan** ◀

Thursday 7 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Buchan Neighbourhood House

##### **Swifts Creek** ◀

Tuesday 12 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Swifts Creek Hall

##### **Cann River** ◀

Thursday 14 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Monaro Centre

##### **Mallacoota** ◀

Tuesday 19 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Mallacoota Club Rooms

##### **Orbost** ◀

Wednesday 20 August - 6pm to 7.30pm  
Orbost Senior Citizens Club

## Developing Student Leadership and Self-Regulated Learners

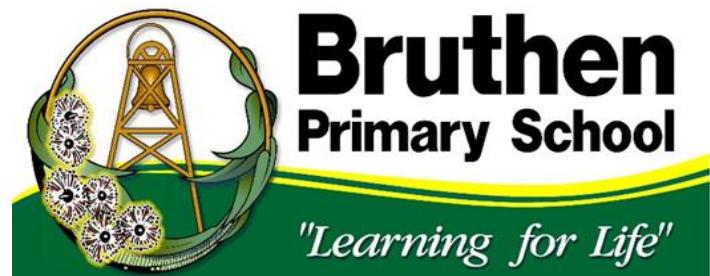
At Bruthen Primary School, we believe that leadership is not just a role or title - it's a set of capabilities that every student can develop and practise, every day.

True leadership begins with self-leadership: the ability to understand oneself, regulate emotions, take initiative, and respond positively to challenges. These are essential traits that empower students to become *self-regulated learners* - confident, capable, and curious individuals who take ownership of their learning journey.

When students learn to manage their emotions, they are better able to focus, work through frustrations, and respond with empathy and patience in challenging situations. A *growth mindset* - believing that abilities and intelligence can improve with effort - encourages students to persist through mistakes, view feedback as an opportunity, and continue striving even when learning feels tough.

We also nurture *persistence*, *determination*, and a *willingness to take risks*, as these traits help students tackle new challenges with courage. Curiosity fuels inquiry and a love of learning, while the ability to learn from mistakes supports deeper understanding and builds resilience.

These leadership capabilities are taught, modelled, and practised across the school - from the classroom to the playground - so that all students can develop the skills they need to thrive as learners and leaders. By fostering these habits early, we set our students up for lifelong learning and success beyond the school gates.



Leaders who listen and lend a helping hand.



Leaders who are curious.



Leaders who embrace challenges, self-monitor, seek feedback, and learn through effort and resilience not only grow themselves but also share their strengths to support and uplift others.



**03 AUGUST** COPPER BANGLE WORKSHOP  
Join Coral the Copper Lady from Treasure Trove  
Make Your Own Bangle or Pendant \$120pp

**MONDAY'S 9AM-1PM** BRUTHEN MEN'S SHED  
36 MAIN STREET BRUTHEN

**WEDNESDAY'S 4-6PM** LEVEL UP YOUTH SPACE  
AGES 9-13  
36 MAIN STREET BRUTHEN

**THURSDAY'S 9:30-11AM** LITTLE LEGENDS 0-5  
KINDER GYM  
HELD @ BRUTHEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

**12 AUGUST @ 10:30AM** BRUTHEN REMEMBERS  
36 MAIN STREET BRUTHEN

**14 AUGUST @ 1PM** BRUTHEN BOOKIES  
36 MAIN STREET BRUTHEN

**19 AUGUST @ 1PM** ART CREATE CONNECT-  
FREE ART CLASS  
36 MAIN STREET BRUTHEN

**23 AUGUST** SBA'S GLUTEN FREE SOURDOUGH  
WORKSHOP \$57 PP

**COMING SOON** NEURO SPICY CONNECT  
ADULT SOCIAL/ SUPPORT GROUP

FOR MORE INFO OR FOR CLASS BOOKINGS PLEASE  
CALL OR SMS 0497 544 490

BRUTHEN SENIORS PRESENTS

AUGUST- OCTOBER 2025  
SENIOR'S EVENT SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY 6TH AUGUST**

**BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB**

Hearty and comforting Shepherds Pie, generously served with fresh peas and sweet corn, all lovingly prepared by our wonderful cook, Willie. The bar will be open from 12pm, making it the perfect opportunity to socialise, enjoy a fantastic meal, and relax in a friendly atmosphere.

**MAISON SENS VIETNAMESE**

Join us for a delightful culinary adventure at Maison Sens Vietnamese restaurant, located on Main Street in Bairnsdale. To make your trip effortless, a complimentary bus service is available, departing from the Community Health building in Bruthen. Spaces on the bus are limited, so please ensure you make a booking to secure your seat.

**BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB**

Our bar will be wide open, ready to serve up your favourite beverages. For a truly satisfying dinner, prepare to indulge in our hearty baked spuds, generously loaded with all the classic trimmings. Plus, for those seeking an extra treat, we're offering tender, slow-cooked venison as an optional delicious addition.

**CENTRAL HOTEL**

Join us for a fantastic and relaxing outing to the Central Hotel in picturesque Lakes Entrancel. To ensure a hassle-free day for everyone, we're delighted to offer a free bus service departing conveniently from the Community Health building in Bruthen. Please note that bookings are essential for the bus service to secure your seat and assist with planning.

**BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB**

Details to Come

**FREE BUS SERVICE - SPACES ARE LIMITED**

This service departs directly from the Community Health Building  
Main Street Bruthen @ 11.30 am.

To reserve your seat and ensure a smooth journey,  
simply call Sue at 0407507849.

Bruthen and District Senior Citizen Club. No Venue.

Phone: 0407 507 849 or 0497 544 490

for more info



## Petition calling for Gippsland Lakes audit tabled

A petition that supports the need for an independent environmental audit of the Gippsland Lakes has been tabled in Federal Parliament.

Member for Gippsland Darren Chester tabled the petition, which was supported by the locally based 'Friends of the Gippsland Lakes' and attracted almost 1000 signatures.

"It is long overdue," Mr Chester told Parliament.

"The last audit was undertaken by the CSIRO in 1998, and this is a dynamic system which is subject to a range of external impacts and influences.

"I've previously described the Gippsland Lakes as the Great Barrier Reef of the south, such is their importance to my region.

"The Gippsland Lakes are an impressive coastal lagoon system, and their value to my region cannot be overestimated.

"Socially, economically, environmentally and culturally, we have an obligation to care for the RAMSAR-listed wetlands, and I am concerned that we are failing future generations."

Mr Chester said he supported the petition because of the lack of detailed monitoring and measurement of conditions throughout the Gippsland Lakes and the catchment.

"It's the environmental future of the lakes and rivers in my region which causes me and Friends of the

Gippsland Lakes most concern and the ongoing failure to properly measure, manage and take practical action to improve water quality, reduce the impact of pests and ensure the lakes are passed on to future generations," he said.

"Managing the lakes, as with most natural resource management issues, is primarily a State Government responsibility.

"But what do we do when a state like Victoria continually fails to meet its responsibilities?

"An independent audit would provide an effective stocktake or condition report, and I commend the petitioners for their advocacy work.

"I will continue to advocate for an environmental audit of the Gippsland Lakes and funding for practical natural resource management to ensure we protect and, wherever possible, enhance this world-class resource."





<b>EGG</b>	<b>CHRYsalis</b>	<b>WING</b>	<b>LARVA</b>	<b>FOURTH</b>
<b>BODY</b>	<b>CATERPILLAR</b>	<b>SKIN</b>	<b>NECTAR</b>	<b>LEAF</b>
<b>CYCLE</b>	<b>PUPA</b>	<b>HATCH</b>	<b>STAGE</b>	<b>LEG</b>
<b>SHELL</b>	<b>BUTTERFLY</b>	<b>TRANSFORM</b>	<b>FLY</b>	<b>EMERGE</b>



# Darren Chester

## Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



NATIONALS for Gippsland

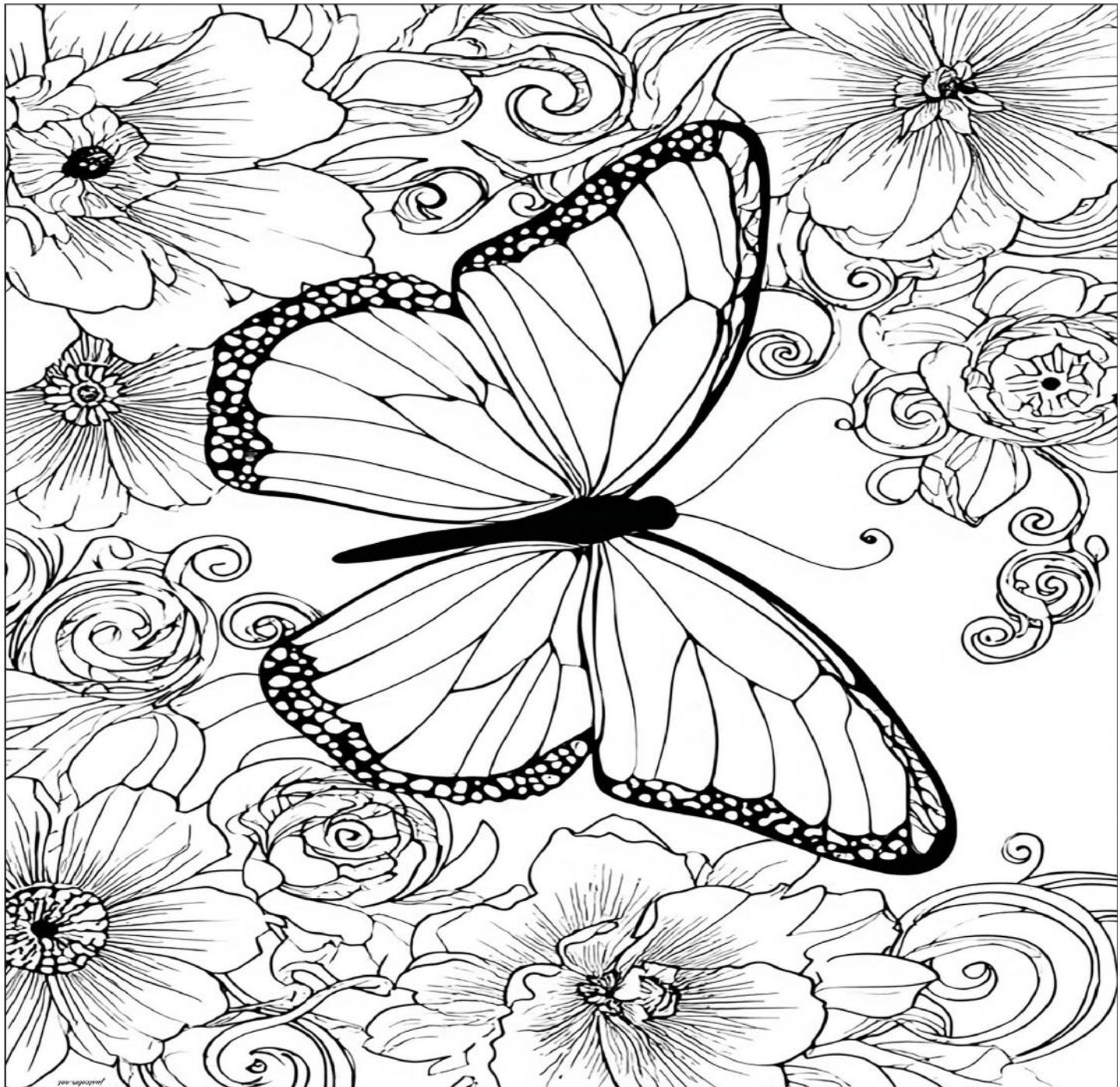
[www.darrenchester.com.au](http://www.darrenchester.com.au)

www.wanli.com

# Target Words

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. And what is the 9-letter word?

M	S	F
R	O	R
N	T	A



## BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE

Butterflies are wonderful six-legged, four-winged creatures which have an amazingly complex life cycle.

The first stage begins when the female butterfly lays her eggs on leaves or stems of plants. These little eggs have a fairly strong layer of shell, and outside this is a thin waxy coating so that it doesn't dry out. Inside the egg the larva grows until it is time to hatch. Sometimes this happens in a few weeks, but in other cases they only hatch when the weather is warm enough.

You might know the larva (or, in the plural larvae) more commonly as a caterpillar. In the second stage of the cycle the caterpillar, which has grown a lot in its time inside, eats its way out of the egg and out into the big wide world. Now it will spend its time

eating the leaves of the plant (though some caterpillars eat insects) and sleeping. As it grows it will shed its skin four to six times.

Third stage: Once it has fully grown the caterpillar forms a hard shell about itself. This is called a pupa (plural pupae) or chrysalis, and while inside this it transforms into a butterfly. The chrysalis is usually found under a leaf or in other safe, hidden parts of the plant.

And in the final fourth stage, the chrysalis splits open and the butterfly emerges. That would be a wonderful thing to see! It does not fly off straight away, for its body and wings are still soft and wet. When dry, it will take to the air to search for flowers to feed on their nectar and to meet up with other butterflies.

Beautiful creatures.

## Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House AGM

The Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House recently held its Annual General Meeting to elect Committee of Management positions for the next 12 months. The following people were elected: James Nicholas (President), Lucy Whillance (Vice President Ops), Pam Boyd (Vice President Plans & Projects), Nisa Giacomelli (Finance Officer), Martine Hersey (Secretary), General Committee Members x 3 consisting of Sally Whillance, Faye Brooks, and Cheryl Hersey. Congratulations to all office bearers.

In 2024/25 the Neighbourhood House achieved a lot in supporting the community of Bruthen & District. The 'House' continued to offer the community quality school holiday programs, and ran several fund-raising events in support of charities and the local schools. Apart from those events, the House has successfully run first aid and CPR courses, chainsaw safety and operation course, and other short courses that the community identified a need for. Likewise, two well established community groups - the Bruthen Men's Shed and Bruthen Senior Citizens became auspiced by the Neighbourhood House, which means that they can draw on the support of the Neighbourhood House program in Victoria.

Another great win for the community was the decision by the Neighbourhood House to continue to offer a Kinder Gym activity group (after the program ceased from a different provider); and, formation of a local 'Little Legends' social group (ages 9-13). Many thanks to Gippsland Community

Foundation for funding that enables both programs to take place. If you are interested in more information on these groups/activities –

drop into the Neighbourhood House (36 Main Street – up the slip road) or go to Facebook page (Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House) for email/phone details.

Recently the Neighbourhood House (with assistance from a contractor and funding from Bushfire Recovery Funds) completed our 2025-2035 Strategic Plan which will guide us in ensuring that we remain relevant to and focussed on the community going forward. One aspect of this will be renovations to the existing Neighbourhood House main building which is planned to be undertaken in the next 12 months. While this will undoubtedly cause some interruption to activities at that site, we are fortunate enough to be able to use the rear office space of the Community Health building in the centre of Bruthen. Watch this space for further announcements on the building upgrades as they approach.

Never visited the Neighbourhood House? - then why not drop in. The House operates during the following days/hours. Monday 9-12/1pm (Men's Shed only); Tuesdays to Fridays (doors open 10 till 3). Nikki, the Manager is usually available.....look forward to seeing you.



**Neighbourhood Houses**  
The Heart of Our Community

## Bruthen & District Citizens Association AGM

The Bruthen & District Citizens Association (BDCA) recently held its elections for the 2025/26 year ahead. Martine Hersey was re-elected as President with James Nicholas pulling on the boots as Secretary/Treasurer. General Committee members elected included Joy Manley, Brian Norris, Alan Jones (specifically community preparedness & resilience), Marj Jones, Ros Kepmpton and Jenny Carter. Joy continues to head up the Bruthen Art and Information Centre (BAIC) team and Jenny helps lead a small but dedicated team of volunteers on the Tambo Rambler Community paper. Both the BAIC and Tambo Rambler are sub groups of the BDCA.

The President noted that the BDCA has successfully supported many applications for community funding this year for a variety of community groups. The latest of these is a study into community-owned assets within Bruthen. This and the almost complete Street Scape (minor works only now to be finalised), have represented some of the major achievements the BDCA has undertaken on behalf

of the community. It is likely that within the next 12 months there will be the opportunity to update the five year community plan - where the BDCA (with assistance from the East Gippsland Shire Council), will look at what the growing community of Bruthen and District needs for the future.

For this to occur the BDCA will be seeking involvement from the community - especially the new residents to town over the last few years. In the coming months the BDCA will ask the community what it wants the BDCA to pursue as priorities. Likewise the BDCA will ask for residents to actively get involved in these plans (it can't be left up to the same, but small dedicated group of volunteers forever). So stay tuned for further announcements in the Rambler and on community Facebook sites. The BDCA meets five times a year on the second Tuesday of September (9th), November (11th), March (10th), May (12th) with the AGM in July. Location is the Bruthen Mechanics Hall - Supper Room at 6.30, with most meetings concluded within about an hour. Remember to stay tuned for more news in the coming editions of the Rambler.

## 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>

Phone 5153 9500 with  
any queries about  
the service.

Libraries  
Change Lives  
EAST GIPPSLAND



#### 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

## Vera DiCampli San Vito - Poet

Vera lived her early life in Melbourne and from a very early age, wrote poetry. As a youngster her favourite authors included A A Milne and Hans Christian Andersen. She speaks fondly of Milne's *When We Were 5* and poem Alexander Beetle plus Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*. Later in high school she was influenced by the Mersey Sound poets, particularly Roger McGough.

Vera's passion for Creative Writing saw her achieve a BA in Creative Writing and Music History from Deakin University and later, a Graduate Diploma in Information Services from RMIT.

After 9 years in London where she worked as a librarian and for the Poetry Society, Vera returned to Australia.

From 2013 Vera has lived and worked in East Gippsland — Tubb, Goongerah, W Tree and Buchan before settling in Bruthen. For some years she worked at the Australian headquarters of

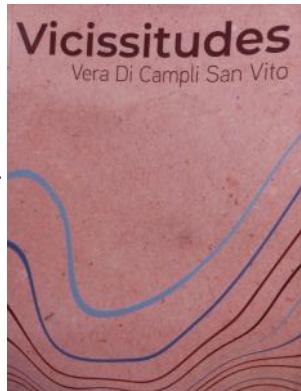
WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) program and as Editor and Co-ordinator of Buchan Neighbourhood House publication, Phoenix - the equivalent of our Tambo Rambler.

Vera recently published a wonderful eclectic collection of poems entitled *Vicissitudes* which, for the first time, brings together a selection of her poems spanning 30 years. The poems speak of life, love, longing and loss and feature humour, with a fantastic, often quirky slant on characters, places & situations.

I have loved reading her work which is exciting, imaginative and often with few words, takes the reader into a wonderland of experience.

I can thoroughly recommend *Vicissitudes* which is available at \$20 from the author by texting 0406 706 500 or from Amazon Australia at \$22.

Heather R



### Bruthen Licensed Post Office

Photocopying  
Scanning /  
Emailing  
Documents



(Est.1893)

Fax  
Service

Bill payments, Banking deposits & withdrawals, Western Union, Stationery, Wrapping Paper, Gift & Greeting Cards, PostPak & Australia Post Postal Services.

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



**IN AN EMERGENCY**

Located at:

**Bruthen Bowls Club** (on the veranda)

Note: accessible 24/7 (under video surveillance)

**Bruthen General Store**

(7days during business hours)

**Bruthen Rec Reserve**

(for sports events / caravan park)

**Bruthen & District Neighbourhood House**

(during business hours)

**Bruthen Fire Brigade**

(on responding appliances & in the station)

### TRADES AND SERVICES

## 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

## Bird of the Month: Great Egret

The Great Egret is a waterbird that is widespread in Australian wetland habitats, both freshwater and tidal, and is a familiar sight across East Gippsland waterways that provide shallow moving water for wading. They will also be sighted in flooded grasslands, enjoying the benefits following high rainfall. With its long and distinctively kinked neck, the Great Egret is the largest, lankiest long necked egret; the head and neck are about 1.5 times the length of the body. These characteristics, along with a longer bill and yellow bill gape extending past the eye, differentiate it from the smaller Intermediate Egret which has a shorter, thicker S-shaped neck. In flight, the Great Egret's legs project far beyond the tail, the hunched neck bulges prominently in front of the breast and wing beats are slower and heavier than those of smaller egrets.

For most of the year, the Great Egret's bill, facial skin and eyes are yellowish, and legs are grey black, sometimes grading to a dull yellow. Breeding season sees plumage changes in breeding adult birds with long, filmy 'nuptial' plumes developing, extending beyond the tail-tip when the bird is at rest. The beak also changes and develops a black tip then briefly becomes all black. Additional courtship signs are the emergence of green-blue facial skin, red eyes and colour changes to the legs which can flush red at the base and pinkish yellow at the top.

Great Egrets have a measured and patient hunting style, usually solitary, wading quietly and deliberately or standing motionless waiting for passing prey. Fish make up the bulk of their diet, but they will also feed on insects, small reptiles and crustaceans. At night they roost in groups.

When flushed from its perch, the Great Egret utters a low staccato ar-ar-ar-ar. Other guttural croaks and calls are emitted at rookeries where



Photo by Sue Allison

they nest in mixed colonies with other egrets, cormorants and ibises, in wetlands with flooding or fringing trees, mainly in freshwater sites and sometimes in mangroves. Both sexes build the nest, a large platform of sticks, placed in a tree over the water. Both parents incubate the 2-3 eggs and care for the young.

**Birdlife East  
Gippsland welcomes  
visitors and  
newcomers.**



*Birdlife East Gippsland meets weekly from 9am to 12pm on Mondays, including a tea break. New members and visitors are always welcome. The annual schedule of outings across the region ensures diverse locations and interesting bird observing. The records collected are submitted to the national database.*

*BYO refreshments & water; wear appropriate clothing, boots and sun protection. Binoculars are handy. Planned outings may be affected by regional weather and emergency warnings or environmental conditions. If unsure, please check via Birdlife East Gippsland Facebook page or email.*

[eastgippsland@birdlife.org.au](mailto:eastgippsland@birdlife.org.au)

### August 2025 Outings Schedule

DATE	LOCATION	9AM MEETING PLACE
August 4th	Raymond Island	Ferry Terminal Carpark, Raymond Island.
August 11th	Crisp Property	Cnr Eastwood Rd. & Bullumwaal Rd. Wy Yung.
August 18th	Macleod Morass	Morass Entrance Gate, end of Bosworth Rd. Bairnsdale.
August 25th	Trestle Bridge/Costick's Weir	Old Nowa Nowa Rd. off Princes Hwy. Nowa Nowa.

# 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 September issue is August 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 Football Netball Club Report

### Senior Football

The Bruthen Senior Footballers have had a month full of highs and lows. After defeating an improved Lindenow South at home by 51 points in Round 11, they suffered a heartbreaking 1-point loss to Swifts Creek up the mountain in Round 12, followed by an 85-point drubbing at the hands of Buchan in Round 13 — Bruthen's heaviest loss of the season so far. The run home won't be easy for the Doggies, with matches against 2nd-placed Omeo-Benambra (away) and ladder-leaders Swan Reach (at home) rounding out the regular season.

Chasing a top-two finish to secure a home final, it's crucial that Bruthen picks up a win or two in their final games. The side currently sits 4th, but a strong percentage means a couple of wins could see them leapfrog teams above.

With results fluctuating, coach Michael Boothe is keeping his messaging to the group simple and focused. When asked about the recent form and how he's preparing the group for finals, he said: "My message to the group is that we can only approach each contest one at a time. We just need to stick to the basics and not think too far ahead of ourselves. After a close loss and then a bigger one, we need to go back to basics and focus on what we know we do well."

He continued:

"Looking toward finals, we need to take each contest as it comes. Don't look too far ahead, don't get down on yourself, and don't get negative — because your next chance is just around the corner."

### U16 Football

The U16 footballers are on the verge of securing a finals berth in 2025, thanks to two important wins over Swifts Creek and Buchan. They now sit a couple of games clear of Buchan with two rounds remaining.

### A Grade Netball

A Grade netballers have held onto 3rd position after solid wins — a 9-point victory over Lindenow South and a massive 21-point win against Swifts Creek. This was followed by a narrow 2-point loss to 5th-placed Buchan in Round 13.

### B Grade Netball

B Grade netball picked up one win from their last three matches, with their most recent game ending in a tough 1-point loss to Buchan. They are currently sitting 4th on the ladder.

### U17 Netball

The U17 netballers have continued their strong run of form, winning their last three matches and sitting comfortably in 2nd place heading into finals.

### U12 Netball

The U12 netballers continue to improve, picking up a great win against Swifts Creek in Round 12. The team currently sits 5th on the ladder.



**Above:**  
**Bob & Julie Cooper – Bob received his National Medal**



**Above: Chief Officer Jason Heffernan & FF Alan Jones (Certificate of Service)**

**Below: FF Matt Hooton (Certificate of Service)**

**Below:**  
**Sue Smith (25 Year CFA Medal)**



# Do You Remember?

Bruthen, 1940s

Our thanks to Velma Calvert and her niece Margaret MacQueen who unearthed these photos of 'Back to Bruthen' celebrations (we think). Who can you identify? We would be very grateful for any information about the people involved and the nature of the occasion(s). Towards the end of the month, the Rambler will be available online at <https://bruthendistrict.org.au/tambo-rambler/> so you will be able to access the images in a larger format. Please send any feedback to [tamborambler@gmail.com](mailto:tamborambler@gmail.com). Thanks!

